

# Naval Construction Maintenance Unit 501

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*Historical  
Information*



*“Construimus, Batuimus”  
“We Build, We Fight”*



CBMU 501

NOTC - Norfolk  
ABD - Huoneme  
Ready Date -  
Left ABD - 18 Apr'43  
Location - Yelp, Reap, Jerk - Auckland, N.Z. Russells

LOG

3-19-43 - CBMU 501 arrived Huoneme from NOTC Norfolk.  
4-18-43 - CBMU 501 departed for Yelp, Reap, Jerk.  
5-11-43 - CBMU 501 is now enroute to Auckland. (ComNavBasesSopac area to Comsopac Sec. ltr dtd 5-11-43)  
3-25-44 - 1 Feb'44 report of CBMU 501 - located at Auckland, N.Z.  
5-11-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of CBMU 501 - operating at Auckland.  
7-14-44 - 1 May'44 report of CBMU 501 - operating at Auckland.  
8-1-44 - 1 Jun'44 report of CBMU 501 - operating at Auckland. At present is dismantling and crating Mob. Hosp. 4 & 6 and will remain at present location until completed.  
9-9-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of CBMU 501 - located at Auckland.  
9-13-44 - 1 Jul'44 report of CBMU 501 - operating at Auckland.  
10-20-44 - CBMU 501 has moved from Auckland to Russells. (OinC of CBMU 501 Conf. ltr P16-3 (64) over Ser 515 to Bupers dtd 1 Oct'44)  
10-23-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of CBMU 501 - then located at Auckland.  
10-30-44 - CBMU 501 arrived at Russells from Auckland 18 Oct'44 - at Tillotson Cove. (CNB Russells Sec. Disp. to Comseronsopac 180359 NCR 12203 dtd 25 Oct'44)

CBMU 501

11-18-44 - 1 Oct'44 report of CBMU 501 - located at Auckland during Sep'44.  
12-6-44 - 145th CB directed to report to ComGen 1st MarDiv for temp. addt'l duty. 145th to be detached from duty at ABCD Annex when relieved by CBMU 501 prior to 30 Dec'44 to stage for forward movement. (Comsopac Sec. Disp. to CNB Russells 02232 dtd 3 Dec'44)  
12-13-44 - 1 Nov'44 report of CBMU 501 - operating at Russells.  
1-3-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of CBMU 501 - located at Russells.  
1-20-45 - CBMU 501 ordered to proceed and report to CNB Russells as relief for the 145th CB. Assigned add. duty as OinC of the ABCD Annex, Russells. (CNB Russells Ia. Sec. ltr P16-4/00/MM over Sec. 00264 to OinC CBMU 501 dtd 30 Dec'44).  
2-10-45 - 1 Jan'45 report of CBMU 501 - Unit has been engaged in preparation for assuming the supervision of Advanced Base Construction Depot Annex in addition to other assigned duties.  
3-17-45 - Comseronsopac requests that the CBMU 501 be returned to the U.S. when they become surplus in Sopac area. (Comseronsopac sec. ltr Ser. 00256 to Comserforpac dtd 6 Mar'45).  
4-20-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of CBMU 501 - located at Russells.  
4-4-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of CBMU 501 - Unit is engaged in operation of ABCD Annex, Russells.  
4-19-45 - Transfer CBMU 501 to Saipan to arrive approx 11 May'45. On arrival report to CO Acorn #49. (Comservpac Sec Disp 152153 to Comsopac dtd 16 Apr'45) ~~Cancel my 152153~~  
4-24-45 - CBMU 501 is operating ABCD Annex, Russells in entirety and all personnel reports are covered in the reports of CBMU 501. (ABCD Annex Restr ltr Ser 1667 dtd 13 Mar to Budocks)  
4-25-45 - Cancel my 152153 (Req 501 rep to Acorn 49 approx 11 May). Transfer CBMU 505 with impediments to Saipan to arrive approx 11 May. On arrival report to CO Acorn 49. (Comservpac Sec Disp 192251 dtd 30 Apr to Comsopac)

Location - Russells

CBMU 501

- 5-25-45 - Comsopac orders transfer of personnel of Det 1008 to Parks who have served outside cont for 41 mos, all others to go to CBMU 501. (Comsopac conf disp 140030 May'45 to CNB Tulagi)
- 5-30-45 - 1 May'45 report of CBMU 501 - operating ABCD Annex, Russells. 46 men were trfd to States for rehabilitation.
- 5-8-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of CBMU 501 - operating ABCD Annex, Russells.
- 6-9-45 - CBMU 501 included in list of units earmarked and ready later but no destinations assigned. (Comsopac sec disp 290635 May'45 to conservpac)
- 7-2-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of CBMU 501 - operating ABCD Annex, Russells.
- 8-3-45 - Your sec 150312 of July nominated CBMUs 501 and 530 for inactivation in lieu of CBMUs 538 and 550 nominated for forwd movement. Inactivate CBMUs 501 and 530. Advise Conservpac and all info addressees when inactivation completed. (Conservpac conf spdrtr ser 04103 dtd 21 July to Comsopac)
- 8-31-45 Inactivate immediately 5th (Sp). CBMU 501 & BCDD, Neuman. Do you proceed with inactivations or advise. (Conservpac Sec disp 242159 to Comsopac).
- 9-11-45 CBMU 501 inactivated on 5 Sept'45. (Conservpac/consopac conf disp 040351 Sept'45 to Bullock & others).
- 10-10-45-1 Sept'45 report of CBMU 501 - located at Russells Is.

(INACTIVATED)

CBMU #501

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
1/9/44	-	Auckland, N.Z.	-	Left U.S. April 1943
1/12	-	Russells	Comdeveoro - On board 190340 Sept.	Detached - to proceed Russells - about 34 lept.
0/26	-	Russells (DIAW)	Russells sec act diag oct 190359.	assumed from Auckland 12 Oct '44
1/1/45	-	(Saipan)	Comdeveoro - sec. 152153 April	Transfer to Saipan to assume appeargns May. Report to Co Acorn Hq.
1/17	-	Russells	Comlogroc sec 160540 April	not to be moved Can offer 504 or 505.
1/21	-	-	Comdevepec sec 192251 April	cancel 152153. (cancel 505)
9/6	-	-	Comdeav Pondopao & 060351 Sept.	Inactivated 9/5.

ON BOARD

DATE	OFFICERS	MEN	AUTHORITY
1 Jun '44	5		MoR
30 Jun '44		243	Rec., p.
1 Aug '44	5	242	MoR
1 Sep '44	5	242	MoR
1 Oct '44	5	240	MoR
1 Nov '44	5	237	MoR
1 Dec '44	5	239	MoR
1 Jan '45	5	239	MoR
1 Feb '45	5	241	MoR
1 Mar '45	5	243	MoR
1 Apr '45	5	239	MoR
1 May '45	5	189	BHP625 & R
1 Jun '45	5	194	BHP625
1 Jul '45	5	186	BHP625 & R
1 Aug '45	5	174	BHP625 & R
1 Sept '45	5	169	BHP625 & R

USN C. B. MAINTENANCE UNIT 501  
Report of Unit Activity - August 1945

Enclosure (A)  
Item # 4

Comments & Recommendations Regarding Personnel.

Through reductions by discharges and drafts returning to the United States for leave and rehabilitation, the complement has been reduced to 169 men.

With completion of August, this Unit has served outside the United States for a period of 28 months. Orders are in hand for the inactivation "on or about September 15"; this latter fact has stimulated the efforts of the men so that morale has continued to be good, considering the length of service overseas.

CEMU 501 came from the states in April 1943 without equipment, tools, instructions or knowledge of the nature of the assignment. Basic equipment which was requisitioned in August of 1943 was received in July of 1944. In spite of these handicaps, ways and means were found to accomplish all the various assignments received. Many duties were onerous but the policy of doing every job as well as could be done, regardless of its nature, earned a reputation for the organization which made the going easier but which in turn called for further efforts and more varied tasks. In short, the organization received the usual Seabee reputation of being able to accomplish anything.

The Unit did considerable construction work as well as usual maintenance operations for a period of seventeen months in Auckland, New Zealand. Then, it was ordered to the Russell Islands for further duty, where for three months the assignment consisted of road and strip maintenance, generator and well operations, building of a recreational area and miscellaneous maintenance.

Since January 1945 the Unit has operated ABCD ANNEX. The services of a battalion could have been profitably utilized in this operation. Due to unfortunate storage conditions, all material and equipment required careful examination and re-crating before shipment. The past five months have been devoted largely to the program of processing and shipping the Annex stock to the forward area. This assignment is now completed and it is believed in a manner satisfactory to higher command. Enclosure (B) is evidence of the satisfactory performance of this duty insofar as the local command is concerned.

- (b) No part of the Unit is on detached duty.
- (c) No movement during August.

## **CBMU 501**

CBMU 501 was commissioned at Camp Peary, March, 1943. The unit arrived at Port Hueneme March 19. One month later it left the United States and went to Auckland, New Zealand. On Oct. 12, 1944 the outfit transferred to the Russells and in January 1945, began operation of the ABCD Annex in the Russells. The unit was inactivated on July 21, 1945.

~~SECRET~~  
**DECLASSIFIED**

**ITINERARY OF CONSTRUCTION BATTALION MAINTENANCE UNIT ASW**

Turned at 1000, Camp Pandy, Magruder, Va.

19 May 1943 - Arrived ABD Mariana from 3070 Camp Pandy.

18 Apr 1943 - Departed U.S. for Auckland, N.Z.

12 Oct 1944 - Arrived Russell Islands.

Jan 1945 - Assumed duties of operating ABG Annex, Russell.

21 Jul 1945 - Commenced atomic inactivation.

**NOTE:** This itinerary based on records available in the GS Operations and Personnel Section, Bureau of Naval Personnel.

Dated 29 August 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL  
COMPTON CTCB

Arvin S. Weller  
Compt



**NO  
LOGO  
AVAILABLE**

