

Naval Construction Maintenance Unit 539

Historical Information



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



NOTE - Peary (103rd)
ABD - Gulfport
Ready Date - Oct. 15, 1943
Left ABD - 27 Dec '43
Location - Espirito-

CBMU #539

LOG

- 9-23-43 - Original officers assigned from the 103rd CB.
- 2-29-43 - CBMU 539 left ABD 27 Dec '43. (WRK)
- 3-21-44 - Officer roster checked with 1 Mar '44 Espiritu Santo Roster and OK.
- 4-17-44 - CBMU 539 detached from 5th Reg (Comsopac conf. disp. 290602 Mar '44 to subj. unit and others).
- 4-28-44 - Officer roster checked with Espiritu roster for 1 Apr '44 and OK.
- 6-1-44 - Officer roster checked with 1 May '44 report and OK - operating at Espirito.
- 6-10-44 - Ens. Bowers detached to CBD 1055 (Bupers Spdltr 262693 18 May '44 to OinC CBMU 539).
- 7-7-44 - Officer roster checked with 1 Jun '44 report and OK - operating at Espirito.
- 8-21-44 - 1 Jul '44 report of CBMU 539 - operating at Espirito.
- 9-9-44 - 1 Aug '44 report of CBMU 539 - operating at Espiritu Santo.
- 10-9-44 - 1 Sep '44 report of CBMU 539 - operating at Espiritu Santo.
- 12-4-44 - 1 Nov '44 report of CBMU 539 - operating at Espiritu Santo.
- 12-6-44 - Divide CBMU 539 into 2 sections. Lt. (jg) Dorenkemper as OinC and 52 men. Proceed fagtrans and report to CNB Efate for duty as relief for CBMU 550. CBMU 539, 1st Sec. will retain necessary control of both units. (Comseronsopac Sec. Disp. to CNB Espiritu Santo 012328 dtd 3 Dec '44)
- 12-6-44 - CBMU 550 on or about 20 Dec '44 ordered to report to Noumea and the 17th Reg. for duty in connection with outfitting and staging. Ordered to transfer part of equip-

Location - Espirito Santo Efate CBMU 539

- 12-6-44 - (Cont.) ment to CBMU 539, 2nd Sec. to maintain the base. (Comseronsopac Sec. Disp. to CNB Efate 022340 dtd 4 Dec '44)
- 12-12-44 - CBMU 539 located at Espiritu Santo. (CNB Santo Sec. Disp. to Comseronsopac 012231 dtd 9 Dec '44)
- 1-4-45 - CBMU 539 (DET. 2) now located at Efate. (CNB Efate Sec. disp to Comseronsopac 150001 dtd 28 Dec '44).
- 1-17-45 - 1 Dec '44 report of CBMU 539 - Located at Espiritu Santo.
- 2-19-45 - 1 Jan '45 report of CBMU 539 - operating at Espiritu and Efate. A detachment from CBMU 539 known as CBMU 539 Section 2, consisting of 1 officer and 42 men were assigned temp. duty under NAB Efate on 4 Dec '44.
- 3-10-45 - 1 Feb '45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Espiritu Santo, AND EFATE.
- 4-7-45 - 1 Mar '45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Espiritu Santo.
- 4-23-45 - 1 Apr '45 report of CBMU 539 - location not given. Routed via CO NAB Esperitu Santo.
- 5- 8-45 - CBMU 539 located at Espiritu Santo. Small detachment to relieve CBMU 550 at Efate. (Dirpadocks S.F. Sec Rep of 15 Apr '45)
- 5-24-45 - 1 May '45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Espiritu Santo with a detachment at another location. On 19 Apr '45 this unit moved its camp from the Turtle Bay area to the camp formerly occupied by CBMU 534 in the Pallikule Bay area.
- 6- 9-45 - CBMU 539 included in list of activities at Santo earmarked and ready later but no destinations assigned. (Comsopac sec disp 290535 May '45 to Comservpac)
- 6-20-45 - 1 Jun '45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Espiritu Santo with a detachment of 1 off. and 42 men on duty at NAB Efate since Dec '44.
- 6-25-45 - When transp available about 30 June, order Sec 2 CBMU 539 proceed and report to CNB Santo for duty. Upon reporting, Secs 1 and 2 dissolved and unit consolidated. (Comseronsopac sec disp 200324 to CNBs Efate and Santo)

- Location - ~~Espiritu Santo~~ Okinawa CBMU 539
- 6-27-45 - CBMU 539 available 1 Aug'45. (Comsopac sec disp 350416 to Cincpac/Por P)
 - 7- 7-45 - CBMU 539 alerted for early move to Okinawa. (Comservpac sec disp 040059 July to Comsopac)
 - 7-20-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Espiritu Santo. Maintenance of facilities in the Pallikulo and Surundu Bay Area including all CBMU 541 duties were assumed by CBMU 539 on 4 Jun'45. 1 officer & 40 men who have been detached from the Unit for duty at Efate since Dec'44 returned to the main unit on 1 Jul'45, after departing Efate on 30 Jun'45. On the reporting of Sec.2 to the main unit at Espiritu Santo Secs. 1 & 2 were dissolved and consolidated.
 - 7-26-45 - On Approx 25 Jul'45 detach CBMU 539 & CBMU 542 from present duty. Proceed and report to ComConstTroops 10th Army for duty. (Comseronsopac Sec Spdltr Ser 00339 dtd 15 Jul'45 to CBN Espiritu Santo.)
 - 8-6-45 - When shipping is available approx 25 July, CBMU 539 detached from present duty at this base and ordered to proceed to CCT 10th Army for duty. (CNAE Esp Santo sec orders ser 001036 dtd 20 July to CinC CBMU 539)
 - 8-13-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Espiritu Santo. Awaiting transportation to forward area. Dismantling at present location was completed on 15 Jul'45.
 - 8-17-45 - Upon receipt of these orders, you as CinC CBMU 539 detachment and the 71 men in your charge are detached from CBMU 539. You will proceed via transp furnished to CCT 10th Army and report to CinC CBMU 539 for duty. (CinC CBMU 539 sec orders ser 79 dtd 3 Aug to Ens Stein)
 - 8-21-45 - Sailing list of CBMU 539 from Esp Santo dtd 5 Aug '45 shows 4 off. and 141 men on board.
 - 10-17-45 - CBMU 539 reported to CNCT, Okinawa on 6 Oct'45 & will further report to 11th Brig. for assignment to 39th Reg. (Comdr. Naval Constr. Troops, Okinawa sec end ser 00597 dtd 6 Oct'45 to CinC, CBMU 539).

- Location - Okinawa CBMU 539
- 10-30-45 - 1 Oct'45 report of CBMU 539 - this rpt also includes the 1 Sept'45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Okinawa. Report via 39th Reg. & 11th Brg.
 - 11-28-45 - 1 Nov'45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Okinawa. Report via 39th Reg. & 11th Brig. 144 men transferred to U.S. for discharge. 32 men transferred to U.S. for leave & reassignment. 30 replacements have been rec'd.
 - 12-17-45 - CBMU 539 is directed to report to CNCT, Okinawa upon inactivation of 39th Reg. on or about 30 Nov'45. (CNCT, Okinawa conf ltr ser 6289 dtd 24 Nov'45 to 39th Reg).
 - 1-14-46 - Off. & men of CBMU 539 reported 30 Nov'45 to CNCT, Okinawa. (CNCT, Okinawa 1st end. ser 6477 dtd 30 Nov'45 to CinC, CBMU 539).
 - 1-29-46 - 1 Dec'45 report of CBMU 539 - located at Okinawa.
 - 2-20-46 - 1 Jan 46 report of CBMU 539 - located at Okinawa. Report via 48th regiment.
 - 3-1-46 - 1 Feb 46 report of CBMU 539 - located at Okinawa. Report via 48th Reg.
 - 3-1-46 - Comservpac orders inactivation of CBMU's 533, 539, and 617. (Comservpac disp 220136/Feb to 48th Reg.)
 - 3-19-46 - Roster of Officers submitted by CBMU 539 on 18 Feb 46 states unit has been completely inactivated and all officers transferred as of that date.

INACTIVATED

RD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
30 Jun'44		265	Recap.
1 Jun'44	4		MoR
1 Jul'44	4	265	MoR
1 Aug'44	4	266	MoR
1 Sep'44	5	265	MoR
30 Sep'44		264	Recap
1 Nov'44	5	263	MoR
1 Dec'44	5	258	MoR
1 Jan'45	5	253	MoR
1 Feb'45	5	251	MoR
1 Mar'45	5	255	MoR
1 Apr'45	5	256	MoR
1 May'45 Sect.1	4	214- Esp Santo	Det. MoR
1 May'45 Sect.2	4	40	BNP625 & R
1 Jun'45 Sec.1	4	212 -Esp Santo	BNP625
1 Jun'45 Sec.2	4	40	BNP625
1 Jul'45	6	247	Roster & BNP625
1 Aug'45	5	210	BNP625 & R
1 Sept'45		206	BNP625
1 Oct'45	5	137	
		73	BNP625 & R
1 Nov'45	4	74	BNP625 & R

C.B.M.U. #539

ON BOARD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
1 Dec'45	11	426	BNP625 & R
1 Jan'46	10	313	R
1 Feb'46	6	199	BNP 625 & R

C.B.M.U. #539 (INACTIVATED)

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
8/14	Aug. report shows	Es. Santo (assid)		

DECLASSIFIED

CBM #539

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
6/13/44	-	Espinita Santo EBOH	-	Left U.S. Dec. 1943
12/9	-	✓ 2 nd Sect. Efate.	Combesonopac sec. 012328 Dec.	Divide into 2 sections. 2 nd sec proceed Jagham Efate.
12/12	-	✓ ES Santo EBOH	ComNavBase Santo sec act disp. 019931 Dec.	
4/14	-	Super-(Efate)	ComNavBase Efate det # 2 sec. 042220 April.	
6/21	-	ES Santo	Combesonopac sec. 200324 June	012328 cancelled. Section 2 report ES Santo - all to be one section.
7/3	-	-	Efate sec act disp 302230 June.	delete Super.
7/3	-	-	Combesonopac sec 250416 June	available 1 Aug.
7/4	-	(Bine)	Combesonopac sec 041009 July	all set early month

CBMU 539

Formed at Gulfport Sept. 23, 1943, CBMU 539 was shipped overseas Dec. 27 and reached Espiritu Santo Feb. 7, 1944. One officer and 42 men forming Section Two were detached Dec. 3, 1944 and sent to Efate, New Hebrides. Section One was still at Espiritu and Section Two at Efate in June, 1945.

ITINERARY OF CBMU 539,
September 1943 - February 1946

- 23 September 1943 -- Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit (CBMU) 539 was activated at the Advance Base Receiving Barracks (Camp Hollyday), Gulfport, Mississippi. It was one of four CBMU's formed from the personnel of the 103rd Naval Construction Battalion (q.v.), which had just been decommissioned for this purpose.
- 27 December 1943 -- CBMU 539, consisting of 5 officers and about 265 enlisted men, departed from Gulfport for overseas.
- February 1944 -- The unit arrived at Espíritu Santo, New Hebrides Islands, to perform maintenance work and minor construction. Its main task was to maintain the Naval Air Base at Santo.
- 4 December 1944 -- A detachment known as Section 2, consisting of 1 officer and 42 enlisted men, was assigned temporary duty at the Naval Air Base, Efate, New Hebrides Islands. Lieutenant (jg.) Carl J. Dorenkemper, CEC, USNR, was officer in charge.
- 1 July 1945 -- Section 2 returned to Espíritu Santo and was consolidated back into the main body of CBMU 539. At this time the unit had 6 officers and 247 enlisted men on its muster roll.
- 5 August 1945 -- CBMU 539 set sail from Espíritu Santo for Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands.
- 1 October 1945 -- By this date the unit was on Okinawa and had reported to the Commander, Construction Troops, Okinawa, and to the 39th Naval Construction Regiment.

1 December 1945 -- CBMU 539 was still located on Okinawa. On this date the unit comprised 11 officers and 426 enlisted men.

18 February 1946 -- CBMU 539 was inactivated on Okinawa. As of 1 February, 6 officers and about 200 enlisted men remained on board.



**NO
LOGO
AVAILABLE**

