

Naval Construction Maintenance Unit 550

*Historical
Information*



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



ON BOARD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
1 Jul'44	5	234	BNP625
1 Aug'44	5	237	R & BNP625
1 Sep'44	5	233	BNP625 & MoR
1 Oct'44	5	235	BNP625 & MoR
1 Nov'44	5	235	BNP625 & MoR
1 Dec'44		235	BNP625
1 Jan'45	5	234	BNP625
1 Feb'45	5	226	BNP625 & MoR
1 Mar'45	5	236	MoR
1 Apr'45	5	233	BNP625 & R
1 May'45	5	230	BNP625 & MoR
1 Jun'45	5	228	MoR
1 Jul'45	5	207	BNP625 & R
1 Aug'45	5	201	BNP625 & R
1 Sept'45	5	178	BNP625 & R

C.B.M.U. #550 (INACTIVATED)

CBMU 550

NCTC - Peary
 ABD - Hueneme
 Ready Date - 30 Nov'43
 Left ABD - 11 Jan'44
 Location - Efate Russells

LOG

- 11-2-43 - CBNO orders transfer of CBMU 550 to ABD Hueneme about 6 Nov'43. (CNO conf disp 021301 NCR 9590 to Peary dtd 2 Nov'43)
 1-17-44 - CBMU 550 left U.S. 11 Jan'44 for destination. (WRK)
 3-16-44 - CBMU 550 arrived Efate sometime in Feb'44 to secure the maintenance duties of the 1st CB as of 12 Feb'44. (Jan'44 monthly report from CBMU 511)
 4- 3-44 - CBMUs 511 and 550 organized into a Maint. Detachment on Base Maintenance at Havannah Harbor, Vila, and Quoin Hill. (CBMU 511 mo. report for Feb'44)
 5- 8-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating at Efate.
 6- 3-44 - 1 May'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating with CBMU 511 at Havannah, Vila, and Quoin Hill with CBMU 511.
 7- 7-44 - 1 Jun'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating at Efate.
 7-26-44 - 1 Jul'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating at Efate.
 9-13-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating at Efate.
 History of CBMU 550 submitted with 1 Aug'44 report; CBMU 550 was formed from the
 (Continued on following card)

CBMU 550

15th Batt at Peary 5 Nov'43. Left Camp Peary for Huonewa 6 Nov'43; arrived Burness 11 Nov'43; left Huonewa 9 Jan'44 for port of embarkation where on 11 Jan'44 they sailed for Efate. Arrived at a So. Pacific Base on 24 Jan'44 to visit transportation to Efate; sailed for Efate approximately 2 weeks later. CBMU 550 was separated from CBMU 511 on 1 Aug'44 - each operating at a different base on the island.

- 10-3-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating at Efate.
10-10-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of CBMU 511 - MAint. Units Nos. 511 and 550 organized into a Maint. Detachment of Maintenance at Havannah Harbor, Vila and Quoin Hill.
10-19-44 - CBMU 550 is located at Efate. (CNB Efate Sec. Airmailers to Comseronsopacfor 030315 NCR 18626 dtd 12 Oct'44).
11-5-44 - 1 Oct'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating at Efate Island (Havannah Harbor, Quoin Hill and Vila Area).
11-16-44 - CBMU 550 is located at Efate. (CNB Efate Sec. Disp to Comseronsopacfor 01011 NCR 15382 dtd 10 Nov'44).
11-21-44 -- 4 CBMU's are needed at Manus. CBMU 550 can be available early in Jan'45. (Comsopac Sec. Disp to Cincpoa 172142 NCR 5183 dtd 18 Nov'44).
11-28-44 - CBMU 550 is at Efate. (CNB Efate Sec. Disp to Comseronsopacfor 150431 NCR 18378 dtd 24 Nov'44)
11-30-44 - 1 Nov'44 report of CBMU 550 - operating at Havannah Harbor, Efate. Quoin Hill Base Secured. Activities at Vila handled by CBMU 511.
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 equipment to CBMU 539 2nd Sec. to maintain the base. (Comseronsopac Sec. Disp. to CNB Efate 022340 dtd 4 Dec'44)
12-6-44 - Comseronsopac orders BMU 539 divided into 2 sections. Lt. (Jg) Dorenkemper as

CBMU 550

- 12-6-44 - (Contd) OinC and 52 men. To 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)
1-15-44 - CBMU 550 is located at Efate. (CNB Efate Sec. Disp. to Comseronsopac 010415 dtd 12 Dec'44)
1-4-45 - CBMU 550 is departing for Noumea about 20 Dec'44. (CNB Efate Sec. disp to Comseronsopac 150001 dtd 28 Dec'44).
1-15-45 - CBMU 550 departed Efate for Noumea on 27 Dec'44. (Muster of Unit dtd 27 Dec'44 submitted by OinC CBMU 550 to BuPers)
1-15-45 - CBMU 550 is located at Noumea. (CNB Noumea Sec disp to Comseronsopac 031053 dtd 13 Jan'45)
1-14-45 - Retention of the 9th (Sp) and CBMU 550 for rollup per disp 142236 approved. (Cincpoa Sec Disp to Comsopac 180059 dtd 18 Jan'45)
1-14-45 -- 17th Reg. ordered to detach CBMU 550 upon completion of outfitting and order subject unit to proceed FAGERANS to Russells for duty about 1 Feb'45. (Comseronsopac Sec. disp. 270445 Jan'45 to 17th Reg.).
1-17-45 -- CBMU 550 departed Noumea 4 Feb'45 for Russell Islands. (OinC CBMU 550 ltr to BuPers dtd 4 Feb'45).
1-19-45 -- CBMU 550 report for Dec'44 dtd 23 Jan'45 - located at Noumea this date.
1-5-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of CBMU 550 - located at Noumea. Report end. by 17th Reg.
1-6-45 - CBMU 550 arrived Russells 9 Feb'45. (Sec Disp 210315 from CNB Russells to Comseronsopacfor)
1-2-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of CBMU 550 - located at Russells.
1-30-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of CBMU 550 - located at Russells.

Location - Russell Islands

CBMU 550

- 5-30-45 - 1 May'45 report of CBMU 550 - located at Russell Islands.
- 6-9-45 - CBMU 550, at Russells, included in list of activities earmarked and ready to let out no destinations assigned. (Comsopac sec disp 390535 May'45 to Comservpac)
- 6-19-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of CBMU 550 - located in Russell Islands.
- 6-27-45 - CBMU 550 available 1 Sep'45. (Comsopac sec disp 250416 to Cincpac/Poa P)
- 7-16-45 - CBMU 550 has been ordered to assist in the operation of ABCD Annex, Russells. (Comseronsopacfor 2nd end dtd 7 Jul'45 to CBMU 501 ltr Ser. 357 dtd 15 Jun'45.)
- 7-23-45 - Inactivation of CBMUs 538 and 550 approved. (Cincpac conf spdltr ser 031029 dtd 14 July to Comservpac)
- 7-27-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of CBMU 550 - located at Banika, Russells. Recently this Unit was alerted for forward movement, and was made available, insofar as this base is concerned, as of 1 Jul'45. Later, word was recvd that Comseronsopac was reporting the Unit available for forward movement as of 1 Sep'45. Still later word was recvd that early lifting of the Unit was improbable and that two other units which were initially listed for movement along with this Unit were being inactivated. Request inactivation.
- 8-2-45 - Your sec 160131Z of July nominated CBMUs 501 and 520 for inactivation in lieu of CBMUs 538 and 550 nominated for forward movement. Inactivate CBMUs 501 and 520. Advise Comservpac and all info addressees when inactivation completed. (Comseronsopac conf spdltr ser 04103 dtd 21 July to Comsopac)
- 8-20-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of CBMU 550 - located at Banika, Russell Islands.
- 8-22-45 - Comseronsopac reports CBMU 550 earmarked for forward move but no dest set. Originally planned to inactivate but CBMU 520 substituted. Being outfitted for forward move. (Comseronsopac Sec Rep on Redelpoymnt of Nav Pers dtd 1 Aug'45)

Location - Russell Is.

CBMU 550

- 8-28-45 - Removed from alert status, CBMUs 536, 537, 538 & 550. (Comservpac Sec disp 342159 to Comsopac).
- 9-4-45 - Comservpac reqs approval to inactivate CBMUs 536, 537, 538 & 550. These units released from alerted status by Cincpac adv 230729 Aug of higher classification. (Comservpac conf spdltr ser 04961 dtd 27 Aug'45 to Cincpac).
- 9-15-45 - Inactivate immediately CBMU 550. Inform Comservpac when inactivation is completed. (Comservpac conf spdltr ser 05130 dtd 7 Sept'45 to Comsopac).
- 9-24-45 - CBMU 550 inactivated 18 Sept'45. (Comseronsopac conf disp 200616 Sept'45 to Comservpac).
- 9-25-45 - 1 Sept'45 report of CBMU 550 - located at Russell Is.
- 10-17-45 - 134 men from CBMU 550 are directed to proceed to the West Coast for leave & reassignment. (CBMU 550 sec ltr dtd 18 Sept'45 to C.W.Martilla, CSF).

(INACTIVATED)

CBMU 550

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
3/5	-	Efate (Russells)	Russells see arrived act disp. Feb.	D-18. 2/9/45.
6/25/44	-	-	Comsoroc see 25-0416 June	available , left.
9/22/44	-	-	Comsoroc see Conf 200616	Instructed Sept. Sept.
10/1	-	Coronado (Bases)	deleted. dict. Russell Islands Sec. 300147 Oct.	dict.

CBMU #550

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes	DECLASSIFIED
1/13/44	-	Efate Is. (Savo)	-	Left U.S. Jan 1944	
2/11	-	"	efate see act disp. 010847		
1/13	-	B EDO (Efate)	Dept. ,, see act disp Oct. 030215		
2/9	-	(Noumea)	Comsoroc see Sec 022340 Dec.	detach present duty about 20 Dec. report Noumea with 12th regt.	
2/12	-	Efate (Surf)	act disp 010415 Sec	still at Efate	
2/20	-	-	Efate see disp delete Efate - departing 150001 dec	for Noumea about 20 dec.	
2/27	-	EPIC (Noumea)	Noumea see act disp. 031053 Jan.	added. (Noumea see disp 162220 Feb.)	

CBMU 550

After forming in Camp Peary in October 1943, CBMU 550 went to Hueneme, then shipped out in January 1944 for Efate, New Hebrides. After ten months of operation at this base, the unit sailed for Noumea, New Caledonia, arriving Jan. 1, 1945. In February they shipped out to Banika, in the Russell Islands, where they were at war's end.

U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION
MAINTENANCE UNIT #550
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Item #4 - Comments and recommendations regarding personnel:

H-O-N-E

Commented in detail in June 1945 report.

(b) ITINERARY OF CONSTRUCTION BATTALION MAINTENANCE UNIT #550:

- Oct. 1943 - Formed at NCTC, Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va.
6 Nov. 1943 - Departed NCTC, Camp Peary.
11 Nov. 1943 - Arrived ABDRB, Port Hueneme, California.
9 Jan. 1944 - Departed ABDRB, Port Hueneme, California.
11 Jan. 1944 - Sailed from U.S. for Efate.
24 Jan. 1944 - Arrived Noumea, N.C. (P.P.T. Efate).
5 Feb. 1944 - Departed Noumea, N.C. in route to Efate.
7 Feb. 1944 - Arrived Efate.
27 Dec. 1944 - Departed Efate for Noumea, N.C.
1 Jan. 1945 - Arrived Noumea, N.C.
4 Feb. 1945 - Departed Noumea for Banika, Russell Islands.
9 Feb. 1945 - Arrived Banika, Russell Islands.
1 Aug. 1945 - Still located at ~~Banika~~
~~Administrative Bureau~~
~~Classification charters~~ Russell Islands.

DECLASSIFIED

TM

Lynn D. Roscoe
Comdr. CEC-V(S), USA



**NO
LOGO
AVAILABLE**



