To all hands:

In a period of less than three years, the Seabees have built a proud name and a fighting tradition. They have thrived on the difficult and refused to acknowledge the impossible. Wherever they have gone, they have adapted, improvised, and accomplished. They have built, fought, bled, and died. They have made American craftsmanship and ingenuity a living legend in the far corners of the world.

As one of the principal Seabee bases, Camp Parks has played an important part in the evolution of this new branch of the service. At Camp Parks, we have all tried to keep clearly in mind the two-fold intent expressed in the Seabee motto: "We build—we fight!" Our program has been conceived with an active regard for the full significance of that motto. It is an ambitious program and one which requires men of a high caliber, both as students and instructors. As your Civil Engineer Officer in Command, I am proud to say that the men of Camp Parks are now, and have been from the beginning, that kind of men. It has been a privilege to hold a position of responsibility among you.

J. D. Wilson
Captain, CEC, USN
Officer in Charge
J. D. WILSON
Captain, CEC, USN
Civil Engineer Officer in Charge

W. H. RANDIG
Commander, CEC, USN
Executive Officer
HISTORY OF CAMP PARKS

Commissioned about two years ago, Camp Parks—the Seabee Battalion Replacement Depot near Shoemaker—has grown from a vast muddy expanse into a huge naval training and replacement center and has taken its place as a vital unit in the Navy’s Seabee program. Captain James D. Wilson is Civil Engineer Officer in Command of Camp Parks.

In January, 1943, Camp Parks was commissioned before a complement of 150 men and a handful of officers. Since then, about 90,000 officers and men have been trained and assigned to duty. Today—on its huge paved parade ground—Camp Parks can muster more than 20,000 men and hundreds of officers.

The physical properties of the camp have grown from the original four buildings to a size comparable with a modern small city. Nearly sixty barracks and more than 1,000 Quonset huts house the enlisted personnel. A large group of administration buildings command the parade grounds while sprawled over the rolling acres are a dispensary with hospital facilities, recreation centers, picture shows, bowling alleys, swimming pools, chapels, libraries, officers’ quarters, classrooms, a hostess house for enlisted men and their guests, refrigeration plants, bakeries, warehouses, and the like. The outdoor facilities include a rifle range, a Commando course, and grounds for baseball, football, and other games.

Hard-surfaced roads interlace the camp from end to end and bus service is provided thereon to facilitate movements within the camp.

During the past year and a half, Camp Parks has received thousands of men direct from the battlefields abroad. These are the men—skilled in the arts of peace and the latest science of destruction—that form the newest arm in the nation’s first line of offense—the Naval Seabees. Behind these Seabees is a thrilling chapter of achievement under fire in the red tumult of war. The recent bloody encounters at numerous beachheads have added throbbing passages to the story. At Camp Parks are the men responsible for the glowing tradition that has already grown about this stripling—but stalwart—Seabee organization. They came from the remote islands of the South Seas where they tore out jungles and built the bases that assured victory in the Coral Sea battle. They came from Guadalcanal where they rode their bulldozers in building roads and airfields during the thick of the fighting. They came from Guam, Saipan, Bougainville—from wherever the fighting took place. They came from the Aleutians where they had moved in with the assault forces on Attu and Kiska. They have returned for a short visit home, training and reassignment—these men from remote corners of the world who were but lately from the farms, the factories, the arts, the sciences, and the whole broad expanse of America.
For the Seabees, the best of medical treatment is provided. These fighter-builders need to be in trim at all times, and the best trained doctors using the most modern methods and equipment see that they are fit to fight and work for victory.
Station Master At Arms.

Above: Can't you read, Sailor?
Below: You’d better have those passes ready and in order.

Liberty line at the Main Gate. And that’s just one more line you’d better not try to buck.
Fire, the everpresent danger on shore and on sea, is kept under control by these firemen and their shipmates. Looks sort of like the station back home, doesn't it.
THE PHOTO LAB

Important for purposes of security and intelligence, the photo lab is equipped to take pictures, develop and print them, enlarge, and do any of the other photographic processes that the most exclusive photographic studio is equipped for—and some that the others can’t do.
MORTAR SET UP + SIMULATING FIRE
Where We Live and Work

Familiar scenes where the Seabees live and work during their stay at Camp Parks, the Construction Battalion Replacement Depot. On the opposite page, the Seabees are busily engaged in building a drill hall. Below, warehouse 46 from transportation garage. At right, the Quonset Huts and the Machine Shop.
Garden of Hostess Building.

They shall have music—the Station Forces Orchestra rehearses.
The Seabees 'WILL DO'
HOBBY PAINTING

SIGN SHOP
Above: That Monday morning wash line means that the personnel can stay spick and span in navy blue.

Lower Left: After being washed—well, not only the clothes have that wrung out look in the middle of the week. Lower Right: After they're all clean and dry the pressers get to work.
SHIPS SERVICE
Saws and lathes, hand and electrical—all of the tools that you wish you had at home—are here to be used...to build equipment the Seabees need.
Libraries

Magazines and books, for every field of study and recreational reading, mean that the personnel of Camp Parks can spend leisure hours profitably in the Station Library.
Heavy work creates hearty appetites, and the chowline is always popular. Good food, and lots of it, for the Bottling Builders of Camp Parks.
CAMP PARKS • SKATING RINK

BOXING
BASEBALL
With all sorts of equipment powered by the intricacies of electricity, the Seabees must become conversant with the many types of electrical units. Here are the Seabees with their instructors in the Electrical School.
Left: Welding splice. Above: The knot board gets the old look see.
Splices

Photography

Reading clockwise from top right: The staff of the Camp Parks Log: Please enlarge to 6 1/9 by 13 or some such size...

... Will you send us a negative from this print—and the copy man gets to work; five more minutes, Sir, and this will be dry enough to give you.
SHIP'S COOKS
AT
WORK

What's for supper?

Scrambled?
Station Forces Optical Shop.

Legal Staff.

The Public Relations Staff.
CATHOLIC CHAPEL

PROTESTANT CHAPEL
J. D. WILSON
Captain, CEC, USN
Civil Engineer Officer in Charge

W. H. RANDIG
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What's for supper?

Scrambled?
Autographs

Paste your photo here...

Mail this book home.
You will appreciate it
... in years to come...

NAME ________________________
UNIT _________________________
DATE ________________________