TOUR OF DUTY

103 Naval Construction Battalion
1943 1945
Plaque
DEDICATED TO

The Rear Echelon, the other half of our battalion, who keep secure the homes to which we shall return: Mothers, fathers, wives, sweethearts, and family. To them TOUR OF DUTY is cheerfully dedicated.
From the halls of snowbound Quoddy . . .
Naval Construction Battalion 103 was not among the first to go to war. World War II had been raging perilously for twenty-one months before our men mustered into boot camp. Yet this did not mean we were lax in responding to the battle call. For it was logical that the nation count on many of our kind to first build the industrial might by which we armed ourselves and our allies. Aircraft plants and planes, munitions plants and guns, shipyards and ships had to be built. Those who remained behind us had to be taught a multitude of artisan trades only the construction men could perform. Then, with the industrial potential leaping ahead, we put down our tools and tasks: We said goodbye to our families, children and friends, and solemnly shoved off for boot camp.

By average, the men in this battalion, and those who followed, are older in years of experience. When we entered boot camp a new system of military training, based on modern battlefield conditions, awaited us. When we took aboard our gear for the big overseas job, we found it to be the best equipment man could make.

This is a far different story than of our Construction Brothers who had gone on before. Ill-prepared, those men threw themselves before the yellow tide in the Pacific—and stopped it cold. Only a few bull dozers, a minimum of military training, and an amazing amount of guts did the trick. They diked up that yellow tide. Held it until we and others, well trained and well equipped, could move out into this war theater to secure and make ready the great offensive now launched from all quarters against the enemy.

Naval Construction Battalion 103, to date, has seen only the backwash of war: Marine casualties returned from tough campaigns; a handful of enemy flushed out, like sewer bugs from dank and odorous caves; a city and villages blasted to rubble and ruin; natives carrying life-time scars of torture. These sights have a profound effect upon all of us. Impulsively we want to drop the hammer and saw, take up the carbine and press on to actual combat. That chance may yet come.

We are on this tour of duty to build. We are here to construct the facilities by which the war progresses toward the unconditional surrender of the enemy. And we are bound to do these duties well for the sake of every man who came out here to fight and to build, but who will never see, with mortal eyes, his home again.

The Seabees were conceived at a ghastly, agonizing hour in our history shortly after Pearl Harbor, 7 December 1941. They emerged as a surprise force, the one BIG NEW element in the waging of a surprise war, and have proven to be neither strictly sea goin', in the Navy sense, nor landlubbers. Rather their ranks boast of men of the sea and men of the soil alike. They have brought their pontoon causeways through rough surf and shellfire to establish beachheads; they have tilled the soil of these far off lands to raise crops for desolated natives. Yet their main task has been to construct forward bases from which a mighty Navy and Army press home the attack.

Construction Battalion 103 is doing just that. And in this pictorial review of our tour of duty thus far, you will see a battalion of American men at work—and at play, too. For it is an American premise to see the lighter side, to fraternize with friendly people, to indulge in horse-play during those all too few hours of liberty.
This book is a history of your tour of duty with the 103rd Naval Construction Battalion during World War II. That tour of duty took you from the teeming metropolises of the United States to the steaming jungles of Guam, from the temperate climate of Rhode Island, the cold and snow of Maine, to the continual summer of Hawaii, and the heat and the rains of the Marianas. There have been times of high enthusiasm, and times of low monotony. There have been joy and pleasure, sadness and hard work. You have taken it as it came and have done a good job. Let us hope that when we get back home we will do as good or better job establishing a lasting peace, and that the experiences gained during this tour of duty will aid in establishing and maintaining that peace. Furthermore, may this book always bring back pleasant memories of comradeship and achievement. I am proud to have been your skipper during this tour of duty and wish all hands an early return home and a life of peace, happiness and contentment.
To all the men of the battalion—those of you who have been with us since the early days at Camp Peary as well as those who have come aboard at various times in the past two years—it is my earnest hope that this book will help keep fresh in your memories the friendships you have formed while we have been together. The pictorial record of the construction projects which we have completed should be of great interest in years to come. As Executive Officer of the battalion I have thoroughly enjoyed my tour of duty with the organization.
(1) Lt. Harold H. Baer, (CEC), USNR; (2) Lt. Quincy W. Wellington, (CEC), USNR; (3) Lt. Conover Fitch, Jr., (CEC), USNR; (4) Lt. Carl W. Capwell, (CEC), USNR; (5) Lt. (jg) Grover Green, (CEC), USNR.
(1) Edwin R. Howard, (CHC), USNR; (2) Lt. Walter D. Shorter, (MC), USNR; (3) Lt. (jg) John F. O'Brien, (CEC), USNR; (4) Lt. (jg) Loren F. Schmidt, (MC), USNR; (5) Lt. (jg) Roy L. McDonald, (CEC), USNR; (6) Lt. (jg) Lewis D. Dawson, (CEC), USNR; (7) Lt. (jg) Oren L. Christensen, (CEC), USNR.
OFFICERS

1. Ens. Gerald L. Curry, (SC), USNR
2. Lt. Lloyd G. Shadle, (DC), USNR
3. Ens. Richard P. Jones, Jr., (CEC), USNR
5. Lt. Louis J. Reilly, (SC), USN
6. Ens. Linn S. Spaulding, (SC), USNR
OFFICERS

NEW AND DETACHED OFFICERS

Chaplain H. S. Lindsey replaced Chaplain E. R. Howard in September 1945. His previous tour of duty was at Hunter College.

Chap. Alan Winn was the first “Padre” of the 103rd. He is now serving on an APA. Many will remember his service at the second embarkation leave from Lido Beach when he obtained emergency funds for them at the last minute.

Lt. (jg) G. E. Hill, first in Company D, of the 103rd. On Guam, he went to the 134th NCB, later returned as Company C Commander.

Ensign L. J. Jademarco left Company C, transferred to 134th NCB.

CWO H. M. Wilson signed on while the Battalion wintered in Quoddy, Me. On Guam he took up transportation duties with the 134th Seabees.

Dr. Maurice Siegertel, first medical officer of the 103rd.

CWO A. Smith, first in Company C, won award at Normandy beaches.

"Thirty days is all it takes. Thirty days of sweat like you've never sweat before. Thirty days of hip—hup—an' a rep. Thirty days of f'ward march, column right, column left an' to the rear. We'll make a Seabee out of you, matey. We'll take that fat off your belly.

I get it. You're a rough boy, a tough guy eh? O.K., Mac, scramble that high wall, swing out on that line over the ravine, hit the deck on the other side—an' keep goin'. Keep goin' with the belly and butt down. Keep goin' till the sweat blinds you, the dust chokes you, and your heart pounds your guts inside. Keep that piece high! You're not worth a damn if you foul it up!

Keep your helmet on, mate. That shaved head will blister. Sore arm? Yeah, they use square needles for those shots. Keep goin', mister. Keep goin'.

Listen to what the man says, Mac. No dozin' here. Keep alert. He's tellin' you—he's showing you how to kill Japs, Mac. Listen. Watch and listen! You're laughin', Mac? Think it's a joke? Figure you'll never have to do any of that stuff? Well, maybe you won't. But God help you if you do—and you can't protect yourself. God help you if you let your mate down.

'Slong men. 103rd, eh? All goin' up to Endicott. Good liberty towns up there. Providence, Boston and even New York. Remember, keep goin'. And watchin'. And thinkin'!!"
"Wednesday, 25 November, marked the high point in the history of the 103rd thus far, when the Battalion received its colors and passed in review before the commanding officer of NCTC, Endicott—Captain F. F. Rogers. With smart appearance and snappy step, the 103rd took its place right at the top of the list of battalions which have gone through this station. Lieut. Comdr. B. W. Harig, O-in-C, led the colorful ceremony, and was assisted by Lieut. J. P. Marshall, Executive Officer, and the Company Commanders."

—From THE STINGER, 103NCB Newspaper, 6 December 1943 issue.
As Battalion prepares to “Pass in Review,” Skipper and officers march in formation to reviewing site.

Mrs. Beer gives colors

Captain Rogers, staff salute the colors

Mrs. Hill presents 103rd flag
CAMP ENDICOTT

This picture of D area in NCTC, is typical of all the other barracks

Did business rush when civilians took over?

Bayonets win on drill field

CB's take "Golden Gate" bridge in stride

Cold CB's are chapel bound

Just before invasion, commandos take to nets

1700 at Gate 5, half the camp is on its way to Providence

Page four
11 December 1943. Echelons No. 1 and No. 2 arrived at Quoddy Village, Me.

"Stuck up here in a snowdrift. And with a war going on too. Lots of talk up here. A station force man told me today, "You guys are up here for cold weather conditioning. You’re going to Russia!" he says. That's pure scuttlebutt, mate. We’ve got some construction work to do here. Got to build a wing on the hospital, build warehouses, work on that big drill hall, erect a thirty-six thousand barrel tank, and then put a fence around the whole camp! Yeah, we’ll be here awhile.

Get a load of this. There’s a general draft going out. Tell me they’re getting sea duty. Regular line Navy stuff. No, I’m not goin’. Because I heard something else today. A guy in the front office told me they’re sort of shaking us down up here. Smoking out the bugs. Getting rid of the weaklings. Spotting the men who can handle the jobs. Spotting the chiefs who can handle the men. Learning to cut through the usual red tape. No, I'll stick it out. Got a liberty in Bangor this week-end anyway. What a town!

Got it straight today. We’re fixing this place up for the Guadalcanal lads. The malaria boys are comin’ up here to get well. If that’s the pure quill then we at least have started to do something worthwhile; it beats drilling out in the snow!"

20 April 1944. Departed in two echelons of approximately 500 men and 15 officers each, from Camp Lee Stephenson, Quoddy Village, Me., for ABD, Camp Thomas, Davisville, R. I.
Here, the 102nd band leads the entire battalion over an icy and sleet-covered Maine highway to their weekly review session. Sunday afternoons the entire complement of Camp Lee-Stephenson donned jungle-cloth, high-stepped four miles to Eastport airstrip to pass in review before O-in-C Howard.

The marching men pass armory—aim for the open road

Headquarters company snaps to Parade Rest!, airstrip
At Eastport airstrip miles from camp, usual conditions prevailed. Swords clattered and teeth chattered while Commander Howard, Quoddy’s Officer-in-Charge, and staff inspected the 103rd before it boarded train for training at Camp Thomas, Davisville. Realizing that this was farewell to Lee-Stephenson, the 1,000 Seabees did not gripe probably as much as they had on previous O-in-C inspections and reviews.
CAMP LEE-STEPHENSON

103rd carpenters erect drill hall, Seabee style.

Looking east, 600 foot structure takes shape.

Welders work on 1,788,500 gallon tank across street from Kendall Hall.

CWO Gunn confers with men hoisting plates.

P.M. shift takes breather. Look at the birdie.
CAMP LEE-STEPHENSON

Peaceful, Quoddy snowdrifts on a quiet weekend

Looking at Canada from E'port

Photog's camera catches familiar Maine sight

Study in white, snowy Quoddy in all its glory

Baker Bob Surber, deep in Lee-Stephenson's snow

Roach smiles pretty for lens

CB's walk to a school dance

Page nine
103rd's procuring skills developed in Quoddy

Californians keep warm in foul weather gear

The General Service draft leaves, mates bid farewell

Van Riper-Wallace top Seaman!

It's a great day for yachting

Eddie January in January scene
CAMP LEE-STEPHENSON

B-6 men, content before their tourist cottage

Nine veterans of Quoddy campaign pose for shot

Kellihder, Gain, Hoey, and Griffen like the cold

Who sang "Sack-Rat Serenade" to the Company C men?

Hugo, Frank, Ball Brothers

Chief Stewart and Duke, alert

Kettleheads set out on a hike

Page eleven
With Batt mascot, "Duke," in front, Platoon 5 of Company A looks dressed to kill.

Over a third of men in B-6 by their house which is at end of the chow hall, across from Kittery.

Groundhog gang comes out of hole. Sees warm weather hit Quoddy. Brew up big liberty plans.
Four snow bunnies squat to pose

Camera captures Company A-2 squad

Early if that's the pay hut

With Batt mascot, "Duke," in front, Platoon 5 of Company A looks dressed to kill

Over a third of men in B-6 by their house which is at end of the chow hall, across from Kittery.

Groundhog gang comes out of hole. Sees warm weather hit Quoddy, Brew up big liberty plans.

Page twelve
CAMP LEE-STEPHENSON

East wing Quoddy Ad building only sea of fire

Corner near main gate belches flame at highway

From drill field, this pic shows side crumbling

Deck of Quoddy's "heart" about to hit ground

View of $450,000 fire on wintery morn at 0200

Telephone and print shop smokes, nearly ablaze

Page thirteen
Scaringi, band lead Batt to southbound train

Company B musters preparatory to trek to train

Pass by jealous (?) Quoddyl

Skipper, NCTC gold say adios

D-Day! Back to civilization

Smiles, remorse, confusion shown on CB faces

"G'bye Mate, G'luck!" departure in April, 1944

Page fourteen
Headquarters, commonly labeled the "Waves" of the Battalion, maintain and do certain jobs, which if not properly carried out, would slow down battalion progress a great deal. Besides the 27 storekeepers and six yeomen that are contained in its muster rolls, there are 23 engineers (draftsmen and surveyors) upon whom depends every construction job that the Battalion is assigned. In the galley a force of 39 cooks, bakers, and butchers form a crew that is certainly indispensable; the sick bay of the battalion is operated by 10 Headquarters pharmacists. Lt. Grover Green is now the Company Commander but before him came Lt. C. P. Boyer who is now with the 37th NCB. Earlier yet, and the first commander of the unit, was Lt. E. C. Lechterman, now attached to Allied Military Governments. From Headquarters company come the seven steward mates who maintain the officers' wardroom and country; a majority of the men who are attached to the battalion Ship Service department as cloggers, tailors, laundry-men and barbers are in this "service" unit. Also of Headquarters and never forgotten, is the Mail Man who pleases or disappoints about 1,700 daily. The athletic specialists who feature an average of four events every week, and the photographer whose work you see on these pages, both are in Headquarters. Another important unit which is run exclusively by Headquarters is the combination of Operations and Construction offices. Procuring crews and compound details are dispatched from here. Also, Operations keeps a daily log of projects undertaken, work orders, material orders; they know at all times where each man in the battalion is working. In the last few months, a new job was shifted from the Disbursing office to Operations. Labor records and pay records of 65 civilian laborers on the island are being kept by an Operations man. Other Headquarters men are scattered throughout the First Lieutenant's department and also in transportation.
PLATOON H-1


PLATOON H-2


Page sixteen
21 April 1944. Echelons No. 1 and No. 2 arrived at Camp Thomas, R. I.

"Here we are, fella', just across the tracks from Endicott. Good to be back. Warmer now. Noticed the men stretching like a lot of bears coming down from the snow country in the Spring. We're restless, time is dragging. Plenty of liberty and familiar faces. They don't say it, but they wonder "When're you shoving off? Others have gone on. It's your turn."

More schooling here. Boat work on the bay. Picked up our gas masks today—wonder if we'll ever use them. Building a chapel too. Some of the men are driving busses, working in the warehouses, handling cargo. New men came in today. Taking up the Quoddy draft vacancies. Saw some of those general service men, and most of 'em are back in the Seabee battalions.

Talk's going around. Something about Lido Beach, and more training. Amphibious this time. Maybe we'll go in on a Pacific beachhead one of these days. Time drags and we're restless. The men are betting on our final destination. Normandy Coast? Or maybe Saipan or Tinian or Guam? If we go on to Lido the guys say we'll do a month's duty there, and then Europe. We'll see.

Seven "swabbies" at ABD seamanship school

Nick, Russ, Bill and Carl on Higgins craft

Mariners take LCV(P) on Bay for a speed trial, vibration plays havoc with lens, men and helm

FUEL FOR A MODERN WAR
From salvaging beached landing craft on the rocky shore of San Nicolas Island, to general carpenter work on the palm-studded coral of Guam, has been the realm of construction work that Company A men will boast of in many years to come. With Lt. Q. W. Wellington at the helm since battalion formation, the company has the jump as to the overall number of Naval stations visited during its tour—with the brief three week stay in Camp Oak at Ojai giving them this distinction. Company A's muster is composed largely of shipfitters and machinist mates but the other artificer rates do not take a backseat. While on San Nicolas, construction of island roadways was a main project; plenty of airstrip work was done. At the airfield, three 40x100 Quonset hut warehouses were erected. Also here on San "Nick," Company A proved to be top-notch stevedores as they transferred material and aviation fuel from LSTs and barges that had just come onto the beaches. Another minor job on the island was the revamping of the island water system. San "Nick" Seabees rated liberty every two weeks; once—a liberty of about 72 hours and next—about a 96-hour pass. Liberty transportation was either by PBY mailplane or LCI. On Guam, the pipe men and plumbers commanded a most important position on our big project, the camp for the Sixth Marine Division, as they did the majority of work on the water supply and lines. The concrete ready-mix plant at the Sixth Marine Compound was maintained and operated by Company A. The bulk of the Master-at-Arms originally came from Company A. Company A's contribution to the Public Works assignment was the maintenance and operation of four island power plants at Piti, Agana, Barrigada, and Orote. Most of the operators of these four units were of Company A, as were three out of the four Chiefs-in-charge. At publication time, Company A maintained the Agana Water Works, and worked at North Field.
COMPANY A
PLATOON A-1


PLATOON A-2


Page twenty
COMPANY A
PLATOON A-3


PLATOON A-4


Page twenty-one
COMPANY A
PLATOON A-5


PLATOON A-6


Page twenty-two
15 May 1944. Echelons No. 1 and No. 2 arrived at Lido Beach ABATU, Long Island, N. Y.

"They tell me it’s rough going here. Marine instructors to put us through our paces. We can take all they want to dish out, eh, Mac? More Waves! Look at ‘em drill. The blondie dame smilin’ all the time. Mmmm! Forty-five minutes from Boardway. Liberty every other night. Hell, I’m broke already.

Morning drill, half a day of it now. The cadence is faster, Marine style. More boat work. Tomorrow we establish a beachhead! Scheduled to go aboard LCPs, LCTs, and LCMs at 0700. We’ll carry field packs and pieces. Then put through the channel and stand two miles off-shore for rendezvous with the command craft.

The day is bright, the sea calm. Smooth running so far. They’ve posted the watch. “Enemy aircraft low at 12 o’clock”! We can hear the motors whine. Can hear, but can’t see the planes. Coming in from the east—right out of the sun. At twenty feet they lift their wings and roar at three hundred miles an hour above us! The prop wash claws at the cringing coxswain. We’d have casualties aboard if that were the real stuff.

We’re near the beach now. Can hear the surf. Can see the backsides of green, translucent combers rolling onto white sand. The beachmaster signals. Steady! Steady! We’re into it now. Trouble to starboard. An LCP hangs crazily in mid-air then careens drunkenly to a broached position on shore. Men scramble from the helpless craft, stagger on through a boiling surf. Our own craft slides up on a sandy shoal, and we hit the ramp even before it splashes in the water eddying around the bow. Up on the beach! Into the dunes beyond. The Blue army, the enemy, is near. Watch! Think! Listen! This might be the real thing—some day!"

30 June 1944. Echelons No. 1 and No. 2, consisting of about 350 men and 10 officers each, departed from ABATU, Lido Beach, N. Y., for ABRB, U. S. Naval Base, Port Hueneme, Calif.

1 July 1944. Echelon No. 3, consisting of about 350 men and 10 officers departed from ABATU, Lido Beach, N. Y., for ABRB, U. S. Naval Base, Port Hueneme, Calif.
LIDO BEACH

USO at Long Beach, New York, allows you to hold the good earth that actually comes from your home state.

Dollinger's OK means Griffin got him!

CB Rangers take a well deserved rest!

Quonsets mean films, barracks mean sack time

Looking at galley, rear of Company B and C barracks

Page twenty-four
LIDO BEACH

"Commandos" scale landing nets

Wade is sharpshooter

Semon, Patillo see fight

Crews of Chs, Barton and McClearkin look seagoin'

Is that a Company clerk?

Taylor-Delancy evade boss

Page twenty-five
MACHINERY FOR A MODERN WAR
General construction duty is the description of Company B's work. As to the number of certain rates in Company B, machinists and carpenters are high with about 50 of each. Most of the Macs are working in transportation while the carpenters are either working on specific projects or for associate jobs of the First Lieutenant. Lt. H. H. Baer has been the Company Commander since the Battalion formed in 1943. Under Lieutenant Baer, Company B, during it stay at the Mira Loma airstrip of the Oxnard airport, just outside of Port Hueneme, maintained camps of CASU and ACORN units. Supply tanks for airplane fuel were erected and a warm-up apron was laid out. This was mainly a job of leveling by heavy equipment. While at Mira Loma, Company B machinist mates laid the groundwork for the transportation department that was to stay intact until late in 1945 while the battalion was operating on Guam. In Pearl Harbor, incoming Waves had their barracks and area built on Ford Island, and Company B worked together with the other three line companies in constructing these housing units. Here on Guam, all pipefitting and shipfitting work on the camp chow hall was done by Company B pipe men. At the Sixth Marine Division camp, two areas complete with chow halls, heads, and scrub and shower heads were completed by Company B. In late spring of 1945, Company B was called for a detail to Northwest field, newest island B-29 base, to erect two large warehouses, briefing rooms and motor build-up huts. Other company men joined them later and our battalion men worked hand in hand with the Army engineers on that project. The dairy barn and installations at the F.E.A. farm North of camp, was Company B's project, originally, and later a few men from this company were working steadily at the dairy. Just before time of publication, work had been completed on a swimming pool of the Flight Rec. Camp; and a Flag Officers' home had been finished.
COMPANY B
PLATOON B-1


PLATOON B-2

COMPANY B
PLATOON B-3


PLATOON B-4


Page twenty-nine
COMPANY B
PLATOON B-5


PLATOON B-6


Page thirty
5 July 1944. Echelons Nos. 2, 3, and 1, arrived at Port Hueneme in that order.

"California bound! On the way to Hueneme, embarkation port for Jap-land. It looks like moonlight and tropics for us. Talked to a California man: "Wait'll we get past this Texas desert country," he says, "and start down the west slope of the Sierras. Everything's green! Green forests. Green olives. You'll be reachin' out of the car windows and pickin' juicy ripe oranges off the trees!! A Texan overheard him and the two of them go at it out in the vestibule.

The countryside races by in long stretches. Yet we sidetrack frequently to give roaring freights the right-of-way. They set up a metallic whine under their burden of tanks, landing craft and crated airplanes. It's war. The nation unfolds a landscape of factories and fertile farms. Food and guns. And men. We watch for familiar cities, home towns. And as we move westward, some of our men sadden, some look forward to meeting family and friends ahead.

Hueneme! Our troop train back into a spur right in the heart of camp. Great stock piles of pontoons, refrigerators, trucks and tractors spread out as far as the eye can see.

Men seem more casual here. They look older, less boisterous. What is it? Because this is the last foothold on the mainland? Possibly. Is it because some of the old outfits are here, back from the big show, for a rest and replacements? Old men who know the ropes? Possibly. Is it because of scuttlebutt, fantastic stories of torpedos, casualties? Possibly.

Military training again. Live grenades, booby traps, gas drill, firing the range. More mock maneuvers. The Battle of the Garbage Dump! Routed out at 0035. No lights. No smokes. Advance in the darkness. Deploy! Set up the machine guns. Messengers flounder over mountains of cans and crates to keep contact with CP and our flank positions. "The pass word?" The pass word, Sir, is "CROCK"!


More talk. We're moving out! We've seen the code numbers on the packing crates. We've got our heavy equipment. Trucks, jeeps, cats, tractors, and cranes. We go aboard tomorrow. To the Aleutians? The Marshalls? Philippines? China? Marianas? They'll tell us when we get under way.

Fog closes like a curtain behind us. shuts out our last view of the homeland. We move westward cautiously. Listen to the fog horn. Watch sharply ahead. Think, man! Think!

25 October 1944. Departed from ABRB, U. S. Naval Base, Port Hueneme, for Pearl Harbor, T. H.
After close order drill classes on the east coast

NBC 103 journeyed out to California to put on the

routine review given each new battalion at Rousseau

Spotless uniforms, leggings, and shiny shoes were the

rule—but steaming asphalt changed the deal quickly

Page thirty-two
Even with Atomic forces in modern-day warfare, close-at-hand fighting still continues to decide battles. Francis Loudenslager of A-5 was a top-bayonetist in the armed forces, taught the blade at Hueneme.
PORT HUENEME

With heavy guard, headed by McGrail, crew swabs Area 1

Company D man takes combat classes

Fighting Seabee with tommy

Abiney poses in recruiting pic

Hollywood inspired builders ready for L. A. operation

Page thirty-four
14 August 1944. 222 men and 5 officers arrived at USN Mira Loma field, Oxnard, Calif. Mira Loma was primarily a Company B show with this company being in residence there. Company C men worked at the airstrip with Company B and the camp chow hall served both units at noon chow. This was the first time that 103rd men lived in a tent city; also the first time that the Batt galley was split up in this way. Common sight at Mira Loma were the numerous crash-landings on the strip adjacent to the tents. CASU and ACORN units were across the way. Liberty here rated 4.0 plus!
"What's thot out thar, Ashe?"

Cock (rifle for protection)

Licata and Belgard arguing over menu

Tony Miscik takes it easy now

B-4 gang just outside their own tent

Page thirty-six
14 August 1944. 223 men and 5 officers arrived at Camp Oak, Ojai, Calif.

P.T. in the early a.m.—18 holes of golf in the afternoon—horseback riding on the bridle path every so often. Rough duty for Company A was seen as this unit was stationed near the small town of Ojai, in the hills north of Oxnard. Company A only stayed in Camp Oak for three short weeks. Details were keeping the golf course trim, caring for the mounts at the stables, and generally keeping out of each other’s way. Barracks, similar to the cabins at Camp Rousseau, offered hardly any protection against the intense heat of the afternoon or the chilling cold of the night.

This is good “hunting” country

Page thirty-seven
CAMP OAK, OJAI

Dave Bower of A-4 pauses with patrol grader

Company A men enjoy "Old Sol"

Golfcourse detachment

Keeping fairways trim

Real Skipfitter work

Prepare steeds for Santa Anita

Ojai heavy equipment gang gathers 'round
CAMP OAK, OJAI

It's a "ruf-noos" as G. Bradley would say

Mike Gagliotti on Trigger

Tom Elliot in the saddle

Platoon 2, Company A this time

SAN NICOLAS

5 September 1944. 132 men, 3 officers left Camp Oak; arrived NAAS San Nicolas Island, Calif.
7 September 1944. 100 men, 3 officers left Camp Oak; arrived NAAS San Nicolas Island, Calif.

The most forsaken, barren rock in the Pacific is what Company A men will call "San Nick." Absolutely no vegetation except weeds is what they woke up to in the morning. On a high plateau the Navy had an 8,800 foot airstrip around which work centered. Company A personnel used the Army PX store here; only eight Army men were on the island. Sheephead and lobster were hunted daily. On arrival, Company A men found extra mattresses for all bunks in the army-type barracks. On liberty, LCI's carried our CB's 75 miles to Hueneme; 25 per cent of the passengers getting sick each trip! Beer and mail—1.0!

With no docking facilities, landing Company A men waded ashore on their debarkation at San Nicolas

Page thirty-nine
SAN NICOLAS

'Dozer swings perilled barge up on the beach

Rollin' down the mountain to the far Pacific

Chief Stewart, Juby and stowaway

Yawning rocky crevasse is right in CB's back yard

Weber, Thomas guzzle prized suds

Nine Kitchen Police crew hoof over the island

Page forty
SAN NICOLAS

Company B sent diving unit to San Nicolas; Chief Smith, center

Matt Mercer being prepared for dive
Company A men on dozer with golden gate background for effect

Another angle of San Nicolas and territory
Do they expect mock gas raid?

Another transportation lineup, this time on the airstrip

Page forty-one

Keith Fleener and fuel trucks
SAN NICOLAS ISLAND

5 September 1944. 130 men, 2 officers arrive NAAS, San Clemente Island, Calif.

7 September 1944. 107 men, 2 officers arrive NAAS, San Clemente Island, Calif.

Company D on San Clemente had a little easier life than the 103rd's CB's on San Nick. For liberty transportation, Company D men boarded destroyers that took them to San Diego at 31 knots per. There was at least ONE tree on the island and it was respected! Company D shared the rock with a 100-Marine guard detachment and an Army radar unit. All enjoyed beer every night. "Clem's" airstrip was a target for practice bombing occasionally. Sheep, seals and goats were around, too.

Company D men group around San Clemente's monument made by Company D's Williamson and Dupille

Harold Cutright ran heavy equipment on Clem

Lillie, Heim, Bann, Dye at Company D office
SAN CLEMENTE


11 October 1944. Detachment of 150 men and 2 officers departed from NAAS, San Clemente, Calif., and arrived at ABRB, US Naval Base, Port Hueneme, Calif.

12 October 1944. Detachment of 222 men and 5 officers departed from USNAS, Oxnard, Calif., and arrived at ABRB, US Naval Base, Port Hueneme, Calif.


12 October 1944. Detachment of 90 men and 2 officers departed from NAAS, San Clemente, Calif., and arrived at ABRB, US Naval Base, Port Hueneme, Calif.

This is beachline that surrounds the small island of San Clemente, 75 miles from the mainland.

Page forty-three
FAREWELL TO HOLLYWOOD

Carroll's hash house—Hollywood

GI's see the stars' signatures

F. Sinatra's stomping grounds

Republic features Roy Rogers

Anything to be found on Sunset-Vine

Hollywood Bowl—Artist Haven

Durbin the thrush works here

Lights on Hollywood Boulevard

Couple more miles to Lockheed

Page forty-four
Holding down the position of a "maintenance" company can become a dull job, but to Company C it brought many jobs and a variety of work. When the battalion sent its different companies out to various stations in the Los Angeles Defense Area, while in Rousseau, Lt. Conover Fitch and his men were ordered to quarters in Camp Bedillion, alongside the embarkation docks at Port Hueneme. From here, working parties traveled to the air strip at Mira Loma, daily, where they erected quonsets, tent decks and also strung a perimeter fence around the field and adjoining units. Company C joined with the other line companies of the battalion to work on the Waves barracks at Ford Island after 103rd arrived at Pearl Harbor; at the same time, Company C carpenters back in camp were working on office furniture for the battalion. Another big job at Pearl, was the construction of the administration building at Camp Catlin, the Marine transit center on Oahu. The company was later connected to the 10th NCB, a service unit at Mauna Lua Ridge for general maintenance of all CB's there. Lastly, Marine quarters for both men and women officers were erected by Company C. Upon arrival at Guam, many Company C personnel were on the USS Bladen, the first ship, and took over the skeleton building of our own camp. They erected a big percentage of the tent decks, worked on the general outline of the area, starting with Headquarters area on through to the transportation compound. First outside work came as the Ninth regiment of the Third Marine Division was assigned. Then we began work on the Sixth Marine camp and the carpenter shop at the Marine compound was run by Company C men. All prefab buildings in the Sixth's camp were pieced in this shop. Beside this work, 3½ areas in the camp were built by Company C. At time of publication, Company C maintained Fleet Hospital 115, and aided Company A on power plant operation. A late job was more work at the FEA dairy.
COMPANY C
PLATOON C-1


PLATOON C-2


Page forty-six

PLATOON C-4


Page forty-seven
COMPANY C

PLATOON C-5


PLATOON C-6

Have never seen water so blue, hills so green, beaches so white, beautiful girls so tan! Much we see is hush-hush. The enemy wounded us here. We suffered nation-wide shock and humiliation as well as the sorrowful loss of men and equipment. This one blow brought us into the war. This one blow has brought us to these islands, and to the islands beyond.

But the wound healed quickly. Not a visible sign of carnage remains. Great new ships are afloat. We look astern, and beyond the breakwater we see them on the horizon. Formidable gray, sleek men of war. The yellow tide is catching hell; is receding rapidly.

We put ashore and are hurried in trucks to our ridge camp. Thousands of men in work clothes, thousands of men in whites pay no attention to our convoy. It is a usual sight for them, but a new experience for us.

No military training here. We work on roads, barracks, office buildings. Frequent liberties give us the chance to visit world renown beauty spots. The city's streets bulge with a crowd of thrill seekers. Best business of all goes on in the shabby photo booths where shapely, half-castes, clad only in cellophane grass skirts and flimsy top pieces, pose for a few fleeting seconds in clutching, animated embrace. The flash bulb pops, the seduction ceases, and they resume their harsh callings to passers by.

We have our first sight of the enemy today. Wizened, surly-faced Japanese prisoners are seen working nearby under heavy guard. They look well fed, well clothed and work steadily.

We're moving again. Enemy waters lie to the Westward, and we are headed out that way.

14 December 1944, Echelon No. 1, consisting of 437 men and 16 officers, departed for Guam.

15 December 1944, Echelons Nos. 3 and 4, consisting of 313 men and 7 officers departed for Guam.

18 December 1944, Echelon No. 2, consisting of 71 men and 5 officers, departed for Guam.

21 December 1944, Echelon No. 5, consisting of 178 men and 3 officers, departed for Guam.
PEARL HARBOR

LUMBER

A real day's work

Lumber yard crew was composed mainly of 103rd band members

Takes a breather

YARD

Always on the go

Yard is near dock

Lou Nunez wields hammer at main entrance to Ridge area

Patrol grading on main Ridge road near 103rd camp

Pan moves in, spreading fill from an island pit

Company C job—Catlin Ad building nears completion

Catlin open-air theater is another Company C task

Page fifty
With Company D in charge, roadmen reconditioned old Army road, Oahu

Line ran, reservoir to Pearl Harbor

Early pic of “Ad” structure of the Oahu Marine transit center

Some asphalt work was undertaken at Ford Island Wave barracks

Page fifty-one
Borof gets lots of sack time

Nite workers are sleeping in

Photog disturbs Jodon, too

They hitched a ride in from Honolulu

Shower after a tuf day

Pearl Harbor finds 'em happy

Three lightheaded A-3 youths

Page fifty-two
Palms before an Oahu background

Called a Hawaiian sausage tree

Six battalion CPO's pose front of Oriental monument

Company A men combine the surf and suds

Oahu farmers were rather skillful

Of their more luxurious products are the bananas
PEARL HARBOR

Looks like a good crap game
HQ's Woody Castle hits the brine
But they're roasting steaks

Seabees head for Nimitz beach
Main entrance of Honolulu's YMCA
Beach party leaving for home

Page fifty-four
103rd heavy equipment and grading work seem to revolve around Company D. After arriving at San Clemente Island on 6 September in 1944, Lt. C. W. Capwell and his company were assigned the complete regrading of the entire airstrip on that "rock." Procedure was to remove the clay subgrade there and replace this with select material from an island pit. Also on San Clemente, airport installations, namely a control tower, administration building, and a recreation building, were erected. In Company D's muster is contained the 103rd's two musical groups; the Military Band and the Dance Orchestra. The 31-piece band, under the direction of Chief Art Cox, played for morning colors, this being the first time any band had done this on the island. The dance orchestra played for the first dance held on the station. This combination is now led by Al Failing; it was organized in Quoddy Village, Me., by Tom Reside of Welfare and Recreation. While on San Clemente, two small goats were "adopted" as pets by Company D men and "Oliver" and "Alfred" were regretfully left behind as Company D rejoined the battalion in Camp Rousseau on 10 October. At the Ridge in Pearl, Company D operators took over the battalion assignment of road grading and road building there. On Island X, here on Guam, the entire clearing of the Sixth MarDiv camp site was under the supervision of Company D. The road system of the camp was laid out along with the construction work on four of the 12 areas. Under the Public Works assignment, Company D maintained and repaired a large part of the island highways. Under Company D supervision, the Fadian Point rock crusher was set up and also an island asphalt plant. These supplied materials for all B-29 airstrips on the island. Other small crushers and coral pits were erected and operated under Company D supervision. The S.R.A. radio range near the Third MarDiv campsite was a late Company D Project.

**COMPANY D**

**PLATOON D-1**

**PLATOON D-2**


Page fifty-six
COMPANY D
PLATOON D-3


PLATOON D-4


Page fifty-seven
COMPANY D

PLATOON D-5


PLATOON D-6


Page fifty-eight
GUAM

28 December 1944. Echelon No. 1 arrived at Guam.
2 January 1945. Echelon No. 2 arrived at Guam.
9 January 1945. Echelon No. 3 arrived at Guam.
10 January 1945. Echelon No. 4 arrived at Guam.
12 January 1945. Echelon No. 5 arrived at Guam.

For security sake our echelons travel different routes on several ships at varied speeds. But for all of us the sight of our Island X, through intermittent squalls and sunshine, is impressive. The harbor teems with activity and is full of more grim, steel-hulled men o’ war.

Water taxis jockey alongside our ship’s ladder even before we secure to the mooring buoys. Crewmen come aboard and mingle among us. Are there Japs here, we wonder? “The Boondocks are full of ‘em, Mac. Stay in your camp at night. Safe enough on the main roads and around the port here, but don’t go smellin’ around caves or lookin’ for souvenirs. And lay off the native women!” We listen to all of this attentively. How about mail we wonder? “‘Bout every other day you’ll get airmail. Boat mail takes 20 to 30 days.”

Now we have our camp completed. A small town it is, carved out of the matted jungle and over-grown plantations. We have showers, an open-air theater, a laundry. The food improves, far better than those first few days of K rations during bivouac.

The men steady down, become used to the heat. We’ve a great deal to do here. Our own camp construction has been only a drop in the bucket compared to the city-sized one we build now. The occupants are still to the Westward—fighting. We must have it ready for them upon their return. Marines they are. Young men. We’ve seen many go forward. Miss those who do not come back.

Lively incidents relieve our routine day. A Jap comes out of the jungle darkness. Stealthily approaches the marine guard. Is discovered and challenged. The infiltrator fails to halt. Two shots crack out, and another Son of Heaven goes down.

Our road gang punches through the boondocks. Japs have been watching us at night. Our guards know this but do not fire on shadows. Shadows can often be natives or their priceless caribou. We hear a shot. We wait. Soon our men return. “Got one,” they say, “but the others got away. Faded into the jungle.” And during all this excitement, the ‘dozers and graders have not stopped. The jungle, like the enemy, keeps receding. And we keep working, watching and listening.

1 October 1945. Battalion operating on Guam.

Looking south over Telefofo Bay toward still Jap infested country

Page fifty-nine
Bladen troops near beach for landing

Overlooking Agana and harbor towards North field

"Red" and mates "capture" Jap gun-ammo

Guam's shell-wrecked beach was an early eye-sore

Capital city of Guam, Agana, as it first looked to 103rd N.C.B.
For the first time after 54 weeks of training, traveling and spot jobs in the States, 103rd N.C.B. tackled a real advance base project right from the ground up. Arriving at Apra Harbor, Guam, the men found themselves convoyed into the back hills where they were plunked down in a partially overgrown plantation well inland from all facilities. Here, earlier, Marines had won a bloody battle.

Yet in 30 days' time, an almost miracle was wrought. Between the cocoanut palms, row upon row, ply-decked pyramidal tents crowded up like mushrooms grown overnight. And from the battle-fouled earth, flowers started to grow. 24 hours a day, plumbers, concrete men, carpenters, electricians, and quonset crews erected a galley, reefers, water tanks, communications and lights. A modern open-air theater, a beer garden, a hobby shop, as well as a laundry and barber shop were completed. When the big job started—virtually a city for 25,000 inhabitants—our crews had already developed a work-together system that enabled them to finish the assignment in record time.
Live with chiggers, ants, flies and lizards

Eat out of crackerjack box with combat knife

Write folks about that first night on Guam

Sit and sulk and worry about that next night
55-gallon drum full of cool water is your shower, mate

This was Doondock Palace, Jr.

'Tuf to keep 'em clean, Dick?

S'keepers change to carpenters for a day

Fifty feet from a civilian home, too
Men off USS Bladen roughed it for a few days in pup tents

Lived from helmets while nearby

was site of new camp, boondocks!

24-hour day was observed on our first compound. This was our

temporary water supply near the chow hall

where ditchers saved s'fters long hours

Page sixty-four
Fronczak holds bolo ready
Don Graham and rough life
"Link" a little skeptical

CWO's Gunn, Thomas send sugar reports home
103rd's wet canteen No. 2, open for business
Gamache, pal Gene fill 'em up with beer?
Something caught the eyes of Sully and Gus

Page sixty-five
Here's first detachment of 103rd officers on Island X

CWO Larson and CCM Haile plan campsite construction

Smiling Sue, had adopted the 103rd the first week on Guam, got pair of GI shoes.

Seabee up on caribou, not Trigger

Page sixty-six
Russ on coconut hunting trip

Job taken by Mac, Love and Riley

Well, you gotta eat something

Lt. (jg) Hill, CWO Thomas, (?), CWO Gunn in the spotlight

Bart Crichlow and Third Gyrene buddy

H. G. Bishop braves it

Just a big happy Company C "family"
Electricians prepare tent lights in Company A

Compound construction sees shops going up

Dual water tanks erected at N. end of Hq. area

Chief Marsh and crew of four snapped in pump house

Mariana's "sunshine" pours down on 103rd camp

Ceiling about "zero" near Price road and Gate 1
C rations from field kitchens while cement crews constructed own forms, started pouring for new chow hall. Company A cement finishers took over shortly Reefers for meats-fruit went up And finally after last load of concrete was in our combination galley and chow hall took shape
Chow hall seen from Belmont-J'son intersection
Torchmen weld drums to make sewer drain-off

Drainage ditch cuts headquarters company area
Main water line laid along main thoroughfare

40x100 quonset, the GSK warehouse, is erected
Construction goes on at "One Hung Low" laundry
This was the first battalion sanitation crew that used D.D.T. to route out enemy insects.

The gang carried their equipment in own truck saw that sanitary regulations were observed.
Evening sick call finds entire sick bay crew on duty

Ralph Bryant, lab man, makes a test on patient's blood

Cringing CB has dental check by Newsom and Lt. Shaddle

Photo shows hospital personnel of 103rd with meat wagon

Bryant, Docs Shutter, Schmidt attend ailing Seabee

Three men in sick ward welcome visit from Chaplain Howard

Page seventy-two
Chow bosses: Ch. Gray, Ens. Curry, Ch. Malar.

MAA's and KP's are all smiling at once, here!

Entire galley crew and boss—Lt. (jg) Ratliff

103rd Bakers were prize section of department

Butchers work on fresh meat—if they had any

Navy’s most famous KP task makes cooks laugh

Page seventy-three
103 N.C.B. CAMP

Butcher, baker and cook, watch captains, at ease

Ice cream freezers operated by George Korbel McCumber, Malara and Stinson—all chiefs now

Bos'n Dupuis controls traffic to new chow hall

Sunday finds cooks turning out sunnyside eggs

Once inside it's the infamous cold cuts today
Lopez and Rich maintain pots and pans scullery

Andy Lukacs operating a home-made dish washer

These six run Chief Petty Officers’ mess hall

They maintain galley equipment 24 hours per day

Chow side of the CPO club run by Chief Stedman

Rummy, dominoes, beer help pass time in Club
Master-at-Arms force as it looked during first months on Guam

Officer-Day, Lt. Capwell, and MAA’s inspect the brig area

J. C. Sanchez, sentry at Gate No. 1, logging CWO Anderson out
103 N.C.B. CAMP

Batt fire-eaters, headed by Chief Stedman

Fire crew readies truck No. 1 for trial run

As sentry R. G. Hoffman stops traffic on highway, rig swings past

Herring latches hose as run begins GSK warehouse "blazes" as mock fire is brought to a close

Page seventy-seven
Battalion electrical officer Hughes and shopmen

Inter-Com men maintained P.A. system and phones

Generator men attended units that gave camp power and light

Air-raid siren startled 103rd men more than once

NOW HEAR THIS! as Tom Reside reads announcement
Big mail call coming up so Friedman & Co. sort it

Careful what's said—it's Chief Stedman and censors

The five company clerks observe Hq. bulletin board

Rudy Farnsworth ran off Stinger, battalion forms

These fellows of Personnel handle your discharge

Disbursing s'keepers busy on next month's paylist

Page seventy-nine
Ens. Curry, Ch. Wood, and supply storekeepers

They operated GSK warehouse and supply compound

Howell fills order for satisfied CB customer

Crews of Wet-Dry canteens headed by Lt. Reilly

103rd clipper trio—Thomae, Turner and Majors

Cronin, Carlock of Ships Service cobbler shop
Tailor Able Cohen, Hq. of the S. S. tailor shop

Not Chinese, but laundry crew of "One Hung Low"

Laundry annex at Trans. operated by Al Treptow

Newer equipment (dryer too) makes work easy now

Backstage watch-repair shop of George Puckett's

Wm. Price repaired typewriters, adding machines
Spare parts shop supervised by Chief Soderberg

Refrigerator maintenance kept these men plenty busy

Sign-shop conducted by John "Trading-Post" Bree

Waterproofing done by Joe Lopez and Vern Jones

"Beauty" by Mal, Tony Palagonia and Ted Maier

Page eighty-two
Seven Company A carpenters in front of their project

103rd's new library building near Gate No. 1

One of the first lieutenant's many shops—sail loft

Armorers and exhibit of Jap weapons

Village Smithies Clute, Jodon sweat it out

Cablesplicers Gay, Heironimus and cargo slings

Page eighty-four
Led by Chief Jacob, 43 heavy equipment operators recorded by photog between shifts of 24-hour day

Chief Dalton lines up 44 truck drivers who jockey crews and other cargoes over the island highways

Page eighty-five
103 N.C.B. CAMP

Trans. front office with boss Lt. McDonald

Dispatch center—one of busiest spots in camp

Impossible! Are the night drivers awake during the day?

Fuel men, pump and truck, at gas station.

Coral dust comes off Frank Gamez's truck

Transportation field Lube group with seven grease-monkeys

Page eighty-six
These 16 heavy equipment operators were the batt's "strip" crew at N.W. field

Day operators of dozers, shovels, etc., at the transportation dispatch office

Complement of Motor-Mecs who operated 103rd's heavy equipment repair garage
Tinsmiths are Dick, "Rebel," Bill and Ira

Night shift of motor-equipment repair patched-up trucks, jeeps

Day crew of the same department handled emergency breakdowns

Page eighty-eight
Carpenter shop men proved to be cabinet makers. 

Press' and Mike's work on T. of D. never ended.

Company B came up first with hot water showers. 

Three 42-year-olds see news in stateside paper.

They assembled gear at MAA office and waited.

SHOVING OFF! for Terminal Island and homeland.

Page eighty-nine
Main entrance to 103rd B.O.Q.'s wardroom

Officers' country—north of camp area

Cook and officers' stewards in B.O.Q. galley

Andy, "Easy Money" at wardroom coffee urn

Officers' stewards prepare tables for a dinner at quonset B.O.Q.

Page ninety
SPORTS

103rd softballers easily captured Pt. Huenemo title

Gear locker's Kania, Isaac plan event

Al calls Cronin safe at home plate

103rd's baseball team played twice a week—won under .500

Hjerstedt, star 103rd shortstop, digs in for cut

Low, outside for ball on M'gr Heinie Schwerin

Page ninety-one
SPORTS

Mike Nunez—batt champion

Joe Augustyniak—another 103rd titalist

Company C's Al Gaut of batt team

Weight lifters union sees Gamache's barrel feet

Muscular Erwin Heim executes 235 pound pressure

Chinn and Castle, shark hunters from way back!

Kvenold landed halibut (Stateside)

Page ninety-two
Madonna and Child; found in battle debris; reconditioned.

Service for late Com-in-Ch. held in theater area by 103rd Artists, now in battalion chapel; natives are pleased.

Under leadership of Bob Johnson, Latter Day Saints meet.
First 103rd Protestant service near bivouac area

Early battalion Catholic Mass held in theater

Day before Easter, found new chapel going up

Chapel completed three hours before first Easter Mass

Seabees and local civilian families were greeted with this sight when they trekked into new chapel

Page ninety-four
THE CHURCH

Roman Catholic services held each Sunday, 0600

1000 and time for Protestant Divine worship

Nearby civilians dressed in Sunday's best for religious worship

Men of Jewish faith traveled to Hospital No. 115

Protestant quartet sang over island station WXLI

Page ninety-five
Crane raises flag pole in main area, topside

Bugler Givens sounds retreat as colors lowered

Battleground of 1944 Guam invasion now site of morning colors as O-in-C, Exec, and OOD salute
The battalion's major assignment on Guam was the construction of a 25,000 man camp which was to house an entire Marine Division, the Fifth. But in late winter, this division, during its campaign on Iwo Jima was so struck with casualties that it was ordered back to Hawaii for reorganization. About Easter-time, 1945, the camp was then re-assigned to the Sixth MarDiv, then fighting on Okinawa in the Ryukus. In the next few months, they came in slowly; first, the rear echelon up from Guadalcanal. Then, the combat vets of the Sixth came in, down from the north. Laden with souvenirs and legends of Jap homeland, the gyrenes “invaded” the 103rd area nightly, during the weekends. The leathernecks attended our theater, pur chased from our Ship’s Service, ate and in our chow hall and prayed in our chapel. Stateside scuttlebutt and snow, that Marines and Seabees were “just like that,” was proven true to the personnel of the battalion, who saw it, first hand.
SIXTH MARINE JOB

Operations-Constructions plan Marine compound which was one of the largest in the Pacific area

Huge cargoes of two transports began pouring in A cement plant was erected at the compound

Forms for one of 574 concrete slabs is built One string of 183,000 feet of pipe is laid
Storekeepers, yardmen, rig-men, operators and compound officer, group in front of Link-Belt

Gun-vehicle truss sections hoisted into place

Carpenters lay roofing onto Sixth warehouse

Chief Cox in charge of this Company A rigging gang

Company D shipfitter group headed by Chief Bello
Chief Grabenstein heads Company C pipework sextet

Preston catches panoramic of chow hall area

These two units, with Chiefs Stewart, McClarkin

and Ludgate were Company A's erection gangs

Prefabrication men readied material on time

as shop, turned out building parts, tables, etc.

Page one hundred
SIXTH MARINE JOB

Quonset hut ribs go in a hurry
Bulkhead of 40x100 warehouse set in place

Company B plumbers, led by Chief Griffin, did all Company B's piping
Quonset "skeletons" against the Guam sky

Still another 40x100 end-piece shaping up

McKinney's quick Quonset constructioners!

Page one hundred one
Work completed on the Sixth MarDiv front office: galleys were similar to this hut. Ch. Fehmel’s line gang of fitters and welders. Painter Vern Jones moves in after carpenters. These two crews, directed by Chief Moore and Weycker, laid heavy pipe lines over the camp.
SIXTH MARINE JOB

Ch. Lohrmann and boys built the General's mess

Sample of mud that challenged transportation

Those high line men were bury in all 12 areas

Completed prefed structure looks like this

Interior electricians under CPO's Arp, Polye

Ch. Cox at saw-mill with detail of that shop

Page one hundred three
Perspective pic of a completed battalion area

Another installation of galley was a GI house

CB pulls a "Flagpole Kelly" at water storage tank

Company D nears end of another 420,000 gallon tank

Dual water units, make an impressive picture
SIXTH MARINE JOB

Fifty-three of these 5,000 gallon tanks went into Sixth's camp.

This quonset deviation is the General's mess.

Ch. Matson's carpenters—Quonset hut facilities.

Unit shower heads with perfect "ventilation".

This area is ready for the 16x16 pyramid tents.

Page one hundred five.
CB SECRET WEAPON—BULLDOZER
QUARRY AND CRUSHER

450 Bangalore tubes clear out jungle underbrush at rock crusher

103rd powderman at rock crusher brought forty per cent glycerine dynamite into use for facing

Page one hundred seven
five sticks of 60% powder, later tamped full of one to two cases of 40% in each hole. From the crusher hopper the rock goes to the screening, No. 2 stage, and then the finished product goes into the mountainous pile of stock aggregate.

Crusher hopper, left, receives quarry rock. Invariably huge shots give up fossil-laden coral. Many a shot needs five thousand pounds of dynamite. 24 foot holes, 7 to 10 feet apart, are set by wagon-drill, sometimes "sprung" with thirty.
In seven months, 200,000 yards of rock were poured into hopper by these crews—an average of 350 loads every twenty-four hours! Then 3½ yard Army trucks took the aggregate to an island asphalt plant where it was processed. From the plant, it was hauled in its hot form, to Northwest field for use on the new B-29 strip, and also hauled hot to island highways being built or repaired. Five-ton 103rd trucks were used, 24 hours a day, to transport the rock from quarry to the hopper.
"Fire’n’ hole!” as CGM Cannon blasts

In the picture below, the charge set caused the blast seen, top of page 107. 450 tubes were used in this shot. Bangalore are the highest of all construction explosives used. A tube contains Amatol and TNT. In proportion, the explosive value of a bangalore torpedo is higher than that of a block buster.

The Seabee version of the bangalore is actually a Navy adaptation of the Army’s obstacle moving weapon. The Army uses the tube to clear barged-wire entanglements, and gun emplacements. Just as in pipe laying, one tube screws into the other, and can be laid through inaccessible jungle growth and thick underbrush.

Grover Noxon and Clyde Rhoden set bangalore tube charge

Page one hundred ten
QUARRY AND CRUSHER

Coral from this gang's quarry used in 103rd camp

Electrical crew installs generator at crusher

Quarry crew, CWO Gunn at right, did all drilling, clearing

Add shot: Carpenters who built the flag officers' home

Page one hundred eleven
A great geyser of coral dust engulfs this wagon drill as quarry men “blow back” the clogged up bore. The 20-foot deep shaft will later be tamped full of dynamite in preparation for an earth-shaking blast. From this jagged, solid terrain come the tons of crushed rock used to construct the great airstrips from which B-29’s and Liberators took off to topple bombs upon Tokyo, and later to fly food and medicine to long suffering, prison-freed fellow Americans in Japan.
OTHER GUAM JOBS

One of 103rd’s first P.W. jobs—ISCOM theater

We built pool at Flight Officers’ rest camp

They were temporarily detached from 103rd, working at Sub base

Crew poured foundation for ISCOM beauty salon

Under P.W., Company D maintained island highways

Page one hundred thirteen
OTHER GUAM JOBS

Pans were ordered to project at firing range where the Third Marine Division practiced daily.

These two crews worked on an early job—the building of Ammo dumps near ISCOM and CincPac.

Battalion carpenters prepare shelters at Ammunition Dump No. 15.
NINTH MARINE JOB

Japs were here! CB's worked while the enemy, like the native homes, gave way to roadmakers.

Heavy equipment began cutting through boondocks to finally complete this coral-packed road.

Coconut logs were cut to be brought into use in Ninth area as tent platform foundations.

Page one hundred fifteen
NINTH MARINE JOB

We put down pipe, laid out chow hall decking and erected storage quonsets and built galleys for Ninth Marines who returned to rest here after bloody two. They were tough and a rough unit.

Work technique was later employed while working on Sixth's camp.

Page one hundred sixteen
F. E. A. DAIRY BARN

Much publicized in the States was the FEA dairy and farm installations that the 103rd constructed. A herd of milk cows and brahma steers was brought in during the spring of 1945 from the States and milk attained during the next months was consumed only by combat casualties in the many island hospitals.

The steers were used to raise the standard of the island stock. Quonset manufacturers in the United States heard of the installations and the 103rd was associated with them in many stateside publications.

Concrete runways to stop cattle fungus

On the right are the separate milking stalls

Overall sight of the barn and cattle stockades

New quonset adaptation used in completed barn
F.E.A. DAIRY BARN

"Barn" quonset has second floor and a feed loft

Nearby natives weave palms for thatched roofs

to be put on manger and cattle breeding pens

1730 and chow call has just blown for bovies

CPO Lincoln's crew of 11 set up the dairy’s pasteurization unit

Page one hundred eighteen
In spring of 1945, HELP WANTED call was received at the 103rd construction office and in the ensuing weeks, battalion men of varied trades went to Northwest Field to assist the Army Engineers with their air-strip work. It was rush work as the strip was needed for the final aerial offensive on Japan. The strip was the main project, these other facilities built also.

Slab-finishers at work on quonset office building

Huge storage pre-fab was a main carpentry job

Enormous trusses put into position by speeder

End shot shows immensity of storage warehouse

103rd roofmen near end of chow hall structure

N.W. field used 40x100 huts for motor repairs

Page one hundred nineteen
Two bulls, pan squeezed in, break coral strata

Fleet Adm. Nimitz at opening of N.W. field

CincPac speaks at B-29 airstrip gala dedication

CPO Carter, Lt. Capwell, Lt. (jg) O'Brien, CPO Lantz before first B-29 on strip
Earth-movers, concrete men, carpenters, surveyors, and other transportation men, under Company D's supervision were called in for range work near Third Marine Division camp.
S.R.A. RADIO RANGE

"Pans Promenade" as Le Tourneaus level ground surrounding towers

Tower-shaft spires high into snowy clouds above

CWO Gunn (right, standing) led 103rd CB's on Radio Range project

Page one hundred twenty-two
With work slacking off after the N.W. field job, men turned to more lighter tasks. The surfacing of a sunken Jap barge in Telefofo bay was assumed by a Company A gang. Then, this area was not fully freed of Japs. Welfare-Recreation raised another boat for fishing and swimming excursions.

Chief Ness and Bert Streblow set driftpins on pontoon hoist

Five supposed to work but only one is

Last touch put to hoist apparatus—great moment is near

Odd sight was remodeled Jap landing craft in Trans. compound

Chief Ken Gray and Dis' stand guard
More fortunate than most battalions, 103rd men spent 12½ months in the States before coming offshore. Our assignments at five Naval stations along the East Coast and at Hueneme, gave us a chance to visit family and friends.

This fact made final parting a rough deal for our family men who left behind wives and youngsters. Rough, too, for our many gay blades who—true to Navy tradition—left a sweetheart in every port.

1 Family of Co. A's E. E. Noble
2 M. Sevigny Jr., of Massachusetts
3 Family of C-1's David Thornton
4 Joe Garner with blonde friend
5 Son of Co. A's Chuck Nethery
6 Some pose on Karen Jean Noble
7 Phil Spinetto claims this cutie
1 Mrs. Beth Welper, C.G. junior
2 Weeks' clan: Craig, Hanalla
3 F.A. Beirouski's sons: Don—Jon
4 Alex Kanle is proud of Karen
5 F. Malafronte, 2 year old Diana
6 R. Hofman's little mac, Eugene
7 Benson Sumner's fleet of three

The tons of mail—approximately 391,000 letters we mailed home during these 12 months in the Pacific—testify to the concern and affection rugged construction men have for those who await our return to the States.

The call for pictures for this chapter brought forth many a worn photo from a sweat-stained wallet, many a portrait from a locker door. These are the Rear Echelon; the swell people we'll be going home to, soon.

Page one hundred twenty-five
Don, Jr., son of Don Boichot

Ens. Curry, Mom, cousin Jan

Sweet Sue, R. Todd's daughter

K. Groll's Mom and Sis

Wm. Farrell's Mother in North Carolina

Cannella's wife, son

Cooky Licata's baby girl, Joyce

T. E. Bruce, wife

Norma Bulka sneaks a short nap
W. Foree's foursome—his wife, Barbara Joan, and Wm. Arthur

Lewis Clayton, D-3, is proud dad of these four youngsters

Ch. Howard's family
Linda, Mrs. Howard, Ed, Caryl

Dick, Nancy, Larry—Chief Miller's kids

Presenting Charles Pool's wife and girl
THE REAR ECHELON

Wife, son—Y. Bogdanchik
CPO Betters' son cavorts in station wagon
Waghorn family on leave

R. Britt's mom, niece
CWO Elbert Hughes' son, Little Bert, on first birthday
Mrs. J. Licata, "Babe"

W. Virginian Wm. Keyser's lad
It's Shorty Reynard's Jackie
J. Dauphinais' son of Mass.

H. Loeser, his family
Mrs. J. Lincoln, Judy
Al Klimo's, home town
Mrs. D. McKelvey, tot

Page one hundred twenty-nine
Cook Hanscom's wife, Amelia
Groll's friend, Joan Feeley
CPO Harwell's wife, Sarah

Corky's like his old man, Don Browne

Engineer's queen, Sandra Kay Landin

Dick Mertz's wife, Thelma
Bob Jerome Fiat of Armory and wife
Red Carlock's wife, daughter

Page one hundred thirty
THE REAR ECHELON

Red Raines, wife
J. Herring's girl
Bob Garant's wife
R. Pipp's Annie
Mel Coleman, wife

A. Disney's wife, Bartlesville
It's the John Daviditis family
Her dad is CPO Paul McCumber

Texas tots of L. G. Wilkerson
CPO Bob Thompson's beachcomber
Mr., Mrs. P. Star and Jr.

Page one hundred thirty-one
THE REAR ECHELON

Company D’s Ted Maier, Mom, Dad bask at Santa Monica

Shiplifter F. Olliger’s comely wife

She’s wife of artist Ronald Drane

Glazer’s Harriet Hyman of Tulsa, Okla.

Seen is heart throb of Harry Jaedtke—L. A.

Page one hundred thirty-two
Jean Marsh, San Francisco, writes over 500 CB's. She's voted top morale-girl, today.
Looks at Mrs. Ayres, not Chief

They’re R. Nogavica’s sisters

Tex Tucker and his home front

Oregon Sandback, wife

S’litter W. Shangle, wife, bud

Mrs. and Chief Grabenstein

Page one hundred thirty-five
CPO McCumber's lovely Neoma

Donathan sisters, Norma, Lorna

Mrs. Knape awaits return of her Y3c Shandon

It's Company D's Otho Taylor, wife Isabelle P. J. Waghorn is at home with rear echelon Jim Lee; sisters Virgie, Louise and mom
THE REAR ECHELON

Eddie McCormick of Company C, Army and friends
C-ration Commandos, families in Eastport
Berger, Stinson, the Renners and McCumbers

Herb Moak's dream, Evelyn

Marcia Bates of Flatbush

Ed Boro's clan, Sandy, Mom, Evelyn, Peene

Page one hundred thirty-seven
Miss Charlotte Lyster, fiance of our Byron Nicholson, is among the top Victory Bond saleswomen in the States. Has been cited six times by the Treasury Department, and now holds the top rank of Lieutenant General among Rear Echelon Volunteer Bond Sellers. On her own time Charlotte has sold $101,000 worth in three of the drives. Salute to Charlotte! Nuptials soon for these two people.
THE REAR ECHELON

Cowpuncher Craig is now up on Arab

Pops on Arab, now

Pat, Patsy Waghorn of Company D, Plt. 1

Vic Thomas' Lou Gardner

Maria, wife of Tony Beneventi, H-1

Mrs. Cyruli of New Jersey

Dad, wife of L. Harms, C-1

Herb Fisher's dad at butcher-time

Page one hundred thirty-nine

Wm. Davenport, Sis, and wife
MINUTE MEN

 Millions of these little fellows on Guam wage a unique war of their own. Yearly they save precious crops from devastation by devouring plant-destroying insects.
Top flight stateside entertainers, and amateur talent from our own ranks, play before the most critical audience in the world—overseas veterans. Actors learn quickly that a long, loud whistle sent yowling from the lips of a rainsoaked Seabee audience is a sign of real approval. Said Moss Hart: "If a headliner goes over out here, he'll stay tops and eat cake at home for sure."

Our own "Skeets"
This is the First 103rd dance band. Led by Tom Reside, later Al Failing, the band jumped from playing one dance a week in Quody’s gym, to a full seven night schedule on Guam at dances, shows, parties.

In formation at Hueneme is the 103rd military band. CPO-in-Charge Art Cox and Leader-on-the-March Gene Palicki led the 31-piece band at head of all bands in a Rousseau review, gave Guam concerts.

Page one hundred forty-two
103rd jives, jumps at Johnson's in Davisville

Rhode Island pulchritude appears plentiful

Knockin' 'em out—in frantic style

Bos'n Dupuis gloats at fresh sugared cookies

Skipper gives dancing prize to Nell and belle

Page one hundred forty-three
Page one hundred forty-five
Adorning left, right panels

Lt. Capwell gives bond to Fiat of Palace are these beauties

Nifty fun spot for Seabees, Marines, soldiers and civilians

Must not have appealed to him as being funny

Kids almost ready to go to aid of Roy Rogers

Page one hundred forty-six
First row, left to right: Chamberlain, Shockney, and Manelick; second row: Tigner, Kamprath, and Williamson. Above sextet salvaged Jap parts to make amplifier, played for war casualties in wards of island hospitals—worked during day, practiced at night. Strictly a bunch of good guys. 

Slave McNamara and his Swami in trance
Emcee Joe brings Price School stars to the Palace Daily, the Guam sun sends KP's, nite-workers to Third Marine pool. Precision-formation aqua stars enjoy themselves in blue Pacific. It takes old-time construction men to forget work, like this.
"Shape Ahoy" bebop wow Snabee fufniks!

Entire household incurs wrath of "The Man Who Came to Dinner." Former actor, Jackie Cooper gives rhythm for Thornhill's Combo. Brilliant cast of USO hit, "Shape Ahoy" on stage for finale.

Page one hundred forty-nine
ENTERTAINMENT

A truly fine looking gang o' gents guzzle the beloved suds

After giving up a precious beer chit—the waiting pays off

C. W. Warren and C. M. Woodward pile 'em on at R.C. Carnival
Line snakes through wet canteen for barbecued steak feed.

Cook Capwell assists Licata, McCumber, Slowinski at the grill.

Does that look on Andy Bukva's face mean he didn't do well?
ENTERTAINMENT

ARC gal does jig for 103rd
Way to games, free beer for a night
Rieck keeps batt jumpin'

Red Cross girl about to read
fortune of lucky Ben Wallace

After "El Flamo" Gonzales terrifies batt, four men try to eat fire

Page one hundred fifty-two
ENTERTAINMENT

Hula at "Palace," tonight

She sat on her head, later

She warbles sweet for 103rd

Stars of show—Ruggles and Brian

Hero snuffed by stooge's query

Mary Brian and

Good evening chanted up, as USO troop sings, "Bless Them All"

Page one hundred fifty-three
SHEEPS FOOT ROLLER

B-29 AIR STRIP JOB GUAM
TRAVEL AND LIBERTY

Probably one of the most traveled of all CB battalions in this war, is the 103rd N.C.B. Combining scenes from the next eight pages and photos throughout TOUR OF DUTY, one can readily see that the battalion has gone through many different climates, run into all sorts of races and colors, and probably has seen more stateside duty than any of the other NavConBats. The map on the inside of the front and back cover, shows the extent of battalion movements. Following it to Pearl Harbor on the rear half, one then jumps to the front half, where the itinerary arrow travels on to the Marianas. NCB 103 hit eight different Naval stations. But, while in California, each company was assigned to a temporary shore or island station in the Los Angeles Defense Area, so that actually 12 camps were visited. 103rd men have made five train trips as a battalion, totaling about 5,000 miles. Two boat trips were taken totaling about 6,300 miles. Thus, a complete total of mileage traveled since October of 1943, is in the vicinity of 11,000 miles! (And this includes Texas!)

Love for sale!

Mike Gagliotti, man of the world

Sioux traders in Arizona

Oahu natives turn out during fishing season to drag nets

Page one hundred fifty-five
V J D A Y

ON GUAM

Eight cookies prepare steaks for 1,000 Seabees

WHEN DO WE GO HOME, SKIPPER?

CHIEFS AND MEN CELEBRATE
Lockhart, Loomis, Stephens starting for Bangor?

Good time ahead for Ed Borofsky and RCAF pals

Gobs parade in grand march—President's birthday ball, Calais

Usually the way it started on Quoddy liberty

... and this is the wind-up! No, they're posed

Page one hundred fifty-seven
Malafronte, Neubecker act as desert-icemen for hot CB's
Skipper and Company B officers tried to comfort tot at left
Wasn't the first time for genial steward, Andy Britt, Hq.

Southern California greets 103rd
Company A-4 at seventh inning stretch
By Rio Grande is Tia Castenada
Company Aroute-steps through K. C.
Here's what you left behind
A water stop in the Southwest

Comin' round bend—midwest plains set stage for Texas
Lt. Jahnke, former Company B officer, relaxes during ride
Only a molehill in N. Mexico, far away from civilization
CPO Cox, part of band, find time, room to hold concert
Divine worship on topside
Today—everyday—look for land

Peaceful scene, with Pacific behind

Can't decide about that chow?

They're able to decide about chow, but . . . ?
LST men show whiskers, fatigue—but smiles

Page one hundred sixty
Everyday scene on Ada' Lykes

Preparing for their embarkation from U.S., these gents sheared off precious hair on West Coast

Another common sight at sea

They had 25 days in truck—on route to Guam

LST accommodations weren't like Hotel Penn
"Aquabees" about to be "snowed-under" by incoming tide

It's Halemaumau volcano in Hawaii

Company C men relax at Mormon Temple

Jump for money

Waikiki scenic

He lets the Pacific do the work

Native scales palm tree for 'nut

103rd saw beautiful garden scene at Mormon temple on Oahu

Page one hundred sixty-two
McCumber with friends—Hawaii
Blocking traffic in Honolulu
Another shot of Honolulu
M. Renner about to be "took"
They witness downtown fire

Royal Hawaiian, Moana hotels

Bar-maid at Kailua, T. H.

Mac in Lau Yee Chai's

McCumber with friends—Hawaii
Blocking traffic in Honolulu
Another shot of Honolulu
M. Renner about to be "took"
They witness downtown fire

Royal Hawaiian, Moana hotels

Bar-maid at Kailua, T. H.

Mac in Lau Yee Chai's

Cookie Duncan takes a dive
Street scene in the city
Fire across from the USO
Royal Hawaiian tower in back
The end of an Oahu bus tour

Gyrene buddy takes beachhead

Page one hundred sixty-three
TRAVEL AND LIBERTY

Hawaiian Hula is actually a story
Sick Bay cutups as South Sea Belles

Hoibut Moak of the Bounty
Hilo Hatti was in "Panama Hatti"

Hawaiian lush! Agana was never like this, huh?

A mass hula shown 103rd men by "them that know how"

If Chris Chinn would turn around

Page one hundred sixty-four
SINAJANA ON GUAM
The TOUR OF DUTY staff wishes to thank the officers and men who contributed many of the photos printed herein. These photographs filled the pictorial void until Stan Preston, PhotoM1c, could focus his Graflex on our cavortings. The manner in which Preston has recorded our progress from Pearl Harbor to the present is top stuff. His technique, employed under the most anti-photographic conditions, is reflected in the picture story enfolded on these pages. Ragsdale, Scanzillo and Kranz spent many a dark hour processing prints in the lab.

Credit for much of the layout and all of the art work goes to Bob Drane, CM2c, our long-time STINGER artist and cartoonist. His art treatment of the officer group is praiseworthy, while his layout balance closely knits these pages into a book we hope will hold your interest for years to come. Construimus, Drane's cartoon concept of a stumble-bum Seabee, is with us to the last.

Moe Glazer, Y3c, always in on the know, pounded out the picture captions. As STINGER editor, he's really up on names, places and projects. You've seen them faithfully recorded here.

Chronological data, those facts and figures you see boldly printed on the page margins, were prepared by the boys in Personnel. We figure that this data will settle many an after-the-war argument, as to just where and when we traveled, that may arise at bar side in some Veterans' Club.

Access to Lt. Comdr. Marshall's office, his expeditious handling of our material requests, and his consultations with Chaplain Howard and Chaplain Lindsey on advisory matters, are appreciated.

The home address muster of all hands should be of great help for those among us who choose to travel after the war. What could be better than to bust in on good old Joe Doaks, our former tent mate, meet the little woman—and then sit down with Joe for a real bull session again.

Preparing this book has been a pleasant task. We hope our fellow construction men like it.

—The Editor.
to the sun-bathed shores of Guam
### OFFICER HOME-ADDRESS ROSTER

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* Detached.

### PERSONNEL HOME-ADDRESS ROSTER

#### A

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**DISaster Before Triumph:**

**A Calendar of the Pacific War**

**1941**

Dec. 7—Japs attack Pearl Harbor
Dec. 12—Guam falls to Japs
Dec. 24—Wake Island surrenders

**1942**

Jan. 2—Manila falls
Feb. 15—Japs take Singapore
Mar. 8—British give up Rangoon
Mar. 9—Japanese overrun Java
Mar. 17—MacArthur becomes Allied Command, Southwest Pacific
Apr. 9—Japs capture Bataan
Apr. 18—Doolittle bombs Japan
May 6—Corregidor surrenders
May 7—Two-day Battle of Coral Sea ends; each side loses one carrier in first flattop battle
June 3—Battle of Midway, decisive engagement of entire Pacific war; costs Japs 2 to 4 carriers sunk and 11 ships damaged while we lose Yorktown
June 12—Japs land in Aleutians
Aug. 7—Marines land on Guadalcanal
Dec. 1—Beaten for third time, Jap fleet withdraws from Solomons

**1943**

Jan. 3—Americans take Buna
Feb. 8—Historic battle of Guadalcanal ends in victory
March 4—Airmen destroy 12-ship Jap convoy at Bismarck Sea
May 11—Attu invaded, secured in 21 days
June 30—S. Pacific offensive begins with Rendova landings
Aug. 15—Americans find Japs gone from Kiska, Aleutians
Sept. 12—Salamaua, New Guinea taken; Loe falls 6 days later
Nov. 1—Bougainville invaded
Nov. 20—Invasion of Gilbert Islands (Tarawa) opens Central Pacific offensive

**1944**

Jan. 31—Americans land on Kwajalein, Marshall Islands
Feb. 29—MacArthur invades Admiralties; becomes greatest S.W. Pacific naval base and staging area for Philippines
Mar. 22—Japs attack India as stillwell pushes into Burma
Apr. 22—MacArthur lands at Hollandia and Airape, New Guinea
June 15—Marines invade Saipan
June 16—B-29's bomb Yawata, Japan from China

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June 20—Carrier planes break Jap task force in Battle of Philippine Sea west of Guam
July 21—Guam invaded; Tinian on the 24th
Oct. 20—MacArthur returns to the Philippines, landing on Leyte
Oct. 23—In 3 separate engagements in Battle for Leyte Gulf, Japs lose 24 ships including 2 battleships, 4 carriers, 6 heavy cruisers, and 3 light cruisers. Imperial fleet no longer a threat
Nov. 24—B-29's from Saipan bomb Tokyo

**1945**

Jan. 9—Americans land on Luzon reaching Manila in 26 days
Feb. 19—Two Jims invaded
Apr. 1—Americans land on Okinawa
July 26—Potsdam ultimatum calls on Japan to surrender
Aug. 6—Americans drop Atomic bomb on Hiroshima
Aug. 9—Russia enters war; atomic bomb strikes Nagasaki
Aug. 10—Japan wants to surrender
Aug. 14—Japs accept U. S. terms
Sept. 2—V-J Day.