NAVY DAY

1963
NAVY DAY 1963: - The Four Ocean Challenge.

Saturday, 27 October is NAVY DAY: the date selected by the founders, the Navy League, for two reasons: First, it was on this date in 1775 that a bill was sent to the Continental Congress providing for the creation of a fleet; and: Second, it is the birthday of Theodore Roosevelt, whose vision and farsightedness made our Nation a first-rate naval power.

Founded in 1902, the Navy League of the United States is the pioneer civilian organization for National Defense and, although the years which have passed since then have brought to us two World Wars and tremendous advances in the worlds of weapon systems, technology and science, the basic aims and objectives of the Navy League, written many years ago, have remained virtually the same.

As we celebrate NAVY DAY this year, let us, as a Nation of free men and women, give well-deserved honor and recognition to our great Navy and reverently express gratitude for its contributions in war and peace.

Don Laubenz, the first member of the S.V.A. to be elected to two terms as National President of this organization, is well-deserving of the special honor. A member of the Ohio MEYER-JANNEY ISLAND X-1, Don has served in just about every office of the Island and also the Ohio Department. He was Chairman of the National Convention held in Toledo, Ohio, and since that time has worked hard and long for the S.V.A.

His work on the National Constitution and By-Laws is known to all members; also his work as Chairman of the Life Membership Committee. The S.V.A. is indeed fortunate to have a member so dedicated and devoted to the ideals and principles on which our organization is based. Our sincerest congratulations to Don Laubenz and to the membership that recognized this talented man. Our congratulations also to his wife, Dolores, who contributes in no small way, to the talents of the 1963-64 National President.
From Our President's Desk

Now that the 17th Annual National Convention held at Miami Beach, Florida, is a matter of record, and we go into another business year of the S.V.A., I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the officers that were elected and appointed to serve during the fiscal year 1963-64. It is my expressed desire that they will fulfill the duties of their respective offices with a sense of obligation to do their utmost to coordinate the work of their office with other offices of the National Headquarters and offices of the Departments and Islands. With this sense of obligation and greater cooperation between all National Officers and the various offices of the Departments and Islands, this can be a year of great progress.

The national by-laws are well on the way toward being brought up to date and our next item of importance is membership. In numbers there is strength and through strength in membership we are more capable of carrying on the work and projects of the S.V.A. as a Veterans' Organization.

All National Officers, Departments and Islands will receive, from time to time, bulletins that will contain information and directives. You are requested to abide by these directives and are directed to pass on the information as contained therein to their respective members and Seabee Veterans as prospective members through all means possible. You are requested to procure through duplicating process, sufficient numbers in stock for future use with your respective office, Department or Island.

The officers of National Headquarters will by all means possible, assist you when requested. Address all letters of correspondence and requests to either of the below offices. Please submit an original and at least one copy of all correspondence and two copies when correspondence pertains to the office of the Treasurer.

PLEASE ADVISE THIS OFFICE IMMEDIATELY OF YOUR PRESENT ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS, DEPARTMENT AND ISLANDS, SUBMITTING THREE (3) COPIES.

Submit these names and addresses, ZIP zone code numbers and office held even though this may have been done in the last month or so. Include date of termination of office.

National Secretary:
Elmer W. Pegorsch
2917 131st Street
Toledo, Ohio, 43611

National President:
Donald E. Laubenz
298 Mettler Street
Toledo, Ohio, 43608

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PAGE THREE
Rear Admiral Peter Corradi, CEC, USN, Chief, Bureau of Yards and Docks, Washington, D.C., addressing members of the 17th National Convention of the S.V.A. 10 August 1963 at Miami Beach, Florida.

Salutation.

This is an occasion that I have looked forward to ever since I received your invitation to be with you. And I must say I am enjoying myself immensely.

The last time I saw some of you gentlemen was in places like Espiritu Santo, Green Island, Peleliu and Okinawa. Only then we weren't wearing neckties. In fact, a good deal of the time we weren't even wearing shirts. And we hardly dared to dream about the kind of lovely ladies who are gracing your tables this evening. I would say that things have definitely improved for the Seabees of World War II.

STORY

As I look around me tonight though, I can't help being reminded of a friend of mine who drove into his neighborhood gas station one day and saw a big sign that said, "Under New Management." He was quite surprised, and he said to the boy who waited on him, "What does this sign mean--Under New Management? Isn't that Jerry inside there the same as usual?" The boy said, "Oh sure, he's still here. Only, he got married yesterday."

Your gentlemen also have gone under new management. But I notice a great deal of reminiscing being done this evening. This is to be expected, because World War II was a pretty big event in the lives of all of us. And especially you who played such an important part in winning it. It is natural that you should remember it and want to talk about it with your former mates.

YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

And, believe me, you have something to talk about. The jobs that you accomplished during the deadly struggle may have faded from the front pages of the newspapers. But they will not fade from the memories of the men who were there with you. No one who fought in the Solomons will ever forget the job you did in keeping Henderson Field operable despite repeated bombings by the Japs. And veterans of all the military services still tell stories of the bridges you built at Hell's Point, the fuel storage tanks you put up at Bora Bora, and the airfields you built in record time in places like Munda, and, on the other side of the world, in Iceland.

General MacArthur was a distinguished witness to the work you did in many parts of the Pacific. And some times it was infantry work in places like Los Negros. At the same time General Eisenhower could personally testify to your outstanding accomplishments in Sicily, Normandy, Cherbourg and in the Rhine River crossing. These men still remember how great was your contribution to World War II victory. And they, like the rest of us, will remember your work as long as they live.

PIONEERS

But one fact interests and pleases me about this meeting and the others you hold all over the United States. They are not mere "Wakes" for something dead and gone. And you are not the last survivors of a dying race. Instead, you are the pioneers of a strong and vital force that is helping to keep our country great--the Seabees of the United States Navy.

That is what I'd like to talk to you about this evening.

BUILDING A BRIDGE

In a sense, I am here tonight to build a bridge...a bridge between the past and the present. A bridge that will connect you pioneer Seabees with those of today...It will preserve your great accomplishments and enhance our capabilities for the future. And you can help to build it.

I don't think there's any doubt about the need for this bridge. So let's take a look at the accomplishments and see what we find.

WORLD WAR II SEABEES

On one side we have the "Can Do." spirit and ability that you men built and demonstrated during World War II. You volunteered for service at a time when your country needed you.

(Continued on Page 14)
Meeting opened by President Laubenz at 10:00 a.m.
First order of business: President Laubenz appointed Elmer Pegorsch, X-4 Toledo, Ohio, to serve as National Secretary for 1963-64.
Roll call taken. All officers present and accounted for.

Secretary and Treasurer report: Motion made to dispense with.
Report on Time and Place: Don Engel, Ill.--Las Vegas in "64". Although they have no island, they were given 30 days to organize and submit a bid for the convention. Chicago in "65". Motion by Al Greco, Mo., to accept report. Seconded by Stew Gasfield, Ill. Motion carried.

Report by Bill McKnight, X-1 Mo., on decals. Anyone wanting decals contact him at 962 Glenbrook Ave., St. Louis 22, Mo.
Report by Harry Tuchman, Convention Chairman: After same, he was given a rising vote of thanks for a job well done.

President asked for appointments from the floor to fill the vacant offices:

V.P. Hawaiian District: Don Engel moved, seconded by Cousins, to appoint Earle E. Daniels of Kaneohe, Hawaii. Motion carried.

V.P. Alaska District: Tom Reside, Calif., moved, seconded by Bill McKnight to appoint Dale Hollingsworth of Eugene, Ore. Motion carried.

Counselors (2): McKnight moved, seconded by Al Greco to appoint Robert Stewart of St. Louis and Celsus A. Falconer of Calif. Motion carried.

Chaplain: Mitchell, Calif., moved, seconded by Stew Gasfield to appoint J. Joseph Perkins, Ariz. Motion carried.

Historian: Smithart, Ariz., moved, seconded by Tom Reside to appoint Henry L. Hawkins, Ariz. Motion carried.

Master-at-arms: McKnight moved, seconded by Greco to appoint Charles A. Herron, Jr., X-1 Mo. Motion carried.

Constitutional Chairman: Smithart moved, seconded by Don Engel that Pres. Laubenz continue in this job for the coming year. He accepted. Motion carried.

Parliamentarian: Don Engel moved, seconded by Stew Gasfield to appoint Max Sherman, Decatur, Ill. Motion carried.

Service Officers: Lugo, Ariz., moved, seconded by Mitchell to appoint John Curran, X-1 Ohio, Leonard Cousins, X-18 Ill., and Arthur Decima, S-1 Ariz. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Ed Kipple regarding new island in Oregon: moved that Secretary send transmittal sheets through and charter for 12 members, seconded by Greco. Motion carried.

Don Engel on Charter Fees: They have always been $10.00 per island charter and $20.00 for a State Department Charter to National. However, State Departments may charge islands more for their proportions, if they so desire.

President spoke on duties of Trustees, District Vice President, and all other officers.

Art Planitz announced the coming convention of 88th Batt. in Cincinnati. He intends to welcome them to join S.V.A. and attend convention in '64.

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Screening 26 Tons of
Records to Document the . . .

Saga of the Seabees

By Marie Levi
Assistant Editor, SEABEE COVERALL
Port Hueneme, California

In an almost deserted warehouse, far removed from the main stream of business, at the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, California, a small gray-haired lady with sparkling blue eyes is methodically sorting through 26 tons of letters, reports, and transmittal sheets so that the history of the Seabees may be preserved for posterity.

The woman is Miss Helen R. Fairbanks, and the mountain of paper is made up of the files of correspondence and records accumulated by the 54 regiments, 12 brigades, 150 battalions, 136 maintenance units, 39 special battalions, 118 battalion detachments, and 5 pontoon assembly detachments that saw action during World War II.

As they now stand, the records are almost worthless. They are too big, too cumbersome for people to use. They are also filled with a great deal of paper that has no worth at all. What Miss Fairbanks is doing is sifting through the reports. She is looking for material which, when put together, will summarize the history of each battalion. She will put this in a concise, workable form which will be available to anyone in the Navy's Bureau of Yards and Docks. The extraneous material is being thrown away.

When she has completed her work, the Bureau will have permanent records that will include all vital dates, training, strength, movements, personnel, projects, enemy action, casualties, citations and awards, and other miscellaneous facts pertaining to the wartime battalions. The report will go into the National Archives in Washington to become a permanent source of information.

Miss Fairbanks stresses that the work she is doing is not a history of the Seabees. The history of the Seabees cannot be written until their records are in order. When this is done, anyone can rewrite the history, she says.

In the entire country there is probably no person better qualified to judge the worth of the material contained in the hundreds of boxes stacked in Warehouse 354 than Miss Fairbanks. On March 17, 1944, she enlisted as an apprentice seaman in the Navy. She was commissioned as a lieutenant in May 1944 and promoted to lieutenant commander on March 19, 1945. During all this time she was working as historian of the Bureau of Yards and Docks. When she went on inactive duty in 1947, she stayed on the same job as a civilian service employee until her retirement in 1960.

Miss Fairbanks' work brought her into intimate contact with the living history of the Seabees. She dug deep into reports that were flowing into the Bureau and is responsible for the two-volume work, "Building the Navy's Bases in World War II," the early history of the Seabees, published in 1947.

While she was at the Bureau, most of the WWII battalions were disestablished. It was their practice to send their records into the naval records centers, with an authorization that they could be destroyed within two years. Of course, this is standard practice in Washington, where from time to time the call goes out to "clear the files," but the idea of losing the story of the Seabee battalions forever was appalling to Miss Fairbanks.

Navy record centers were located all over the country, from New Orleans, Louisiana, to Garden City, New York, to San Bruno, California. Finally, the CB records were all moved to Clearfield, Utah, a supply depot, to be held until called for.

When the Bureau was ready to organize the records of the wartime battalions, it felt there was only one person who was really qualified to do the job properly—Miss Fairbanks. She was no longer employed by the Bureau, but when she was offered a contract for the project, she accepted with humility. It meant a great deal to her—it was a chance to finish a job she had started. She began the tremen-
Saga of the Seabees
(Continued from Page 6)

ous task single-handed on July 1, 1961.
Miss Fairbanks finds the work tremendously exciting. She is finding drama in the spirit of service to country and fellow-citizen that pervades the records.

She believes in the importance of records, not as a means of being able to justify our actions, but to help others understand our position.

"What I think of as history is really our government's experience in doing things. That experience is bigger and more involved that any one person can remember. That is why I think the records are tremendously important," she states.

Miss Fairbanks says that only within the last few decades have Americans awakened to the importance of keeping records. The general attitude has been that records were just something for the historian or antiquarian to be interested in. This attitude is gradually changing, but in her opinion, we're still not very good about keeping records.

What are records? According to Miss Fairbanks, they should be the general story of the organization, its personnel, the general principles that govern it and change in its policy. They are not the entire contents of its files.

She breaks down the contents of standard files into three categories:

1. Reference material. You go to these when you need to get all the supporting facts and supplementary data. Directives and letters carrying requests or orders for action belong to the inititor. An organization operates under them, but they are a part of its reference material, not its records.

2. Housekeeping records. These are letters of transmittal, requisitions and requests of various kinds.

3. Permanent records of the organization. These are the only important ones in the long run.

Miss Fairbanks would like to see every organization develop an efficient record-keeping system. This doesn't mean keeping every scrap of paper—that is not efficient.

She would like to see people thinking in terms of records so that on a day-to-day basis they would decide when a thing is of value and should belong to the permanent record. She stresses that one copy of anything is enough for the record, not 10 extra copies to take up space.

If you keep good records, Miss Fairbanks says, you can go back for any information you need to have. From this record you can make up any kind of a report. "It is like banking—as important as your checkbook. By being continuous, you save repeating what went before."

The person who should decide when a thing is of value and should belong to the permanent record is the person who makes the record, she asserts. Only the head of the unit, branch, or whatever, is in a position to know which items are the things that belong in the permanent records. She would like to have them, as standard practice, mark valuable material with a "P" for "permanent" or use some other symbol. The file clerks would then be spared the unfair task of having to make that decision.

Miss Fairbanks always finds records fascinating.

On several occasions she has found them exciting, also. One such occasion was when she was called on the phone from New York to check on a former Seabee who was accused of a crime. From her records, she could tell the authorities that on the date the crime was committed, the battalion to which the Seabee was attached was far away in the Pacific.

She has been called upon to furnish reports which discussed the advantages of using one construction material over another. One such report was submitted by ADM Ben Morell during World War II at a congressional hearing, but the information contained in it has proved of value many times since then.

Questions are constantly arising which need reference to the records, and the only way to find answers quickly and efficiently is by the right kind of record keeping, Miss Fairbanks feels.

The enthusiasm which Miss Fairbanks displays for historical records is consistent with the zest she has shown for all her undertakings since graduating from Columbia School of Journalism.

She worked for ten years as a reporter on various publications in the east, and taught journalism at St. Mary's College, in Indiana.

One of her most rewarding experiences was with the American Red Cross in France during World War I. She served in an evacuation hospital along the front and worked with men who had been taken right off the battlefield.

She volunteered for similar service during World War II, but was asked to organize a service for armed forces women. An American Red Cross assistant field director for women in the Washington, D.C. area, she was responsible for providing services to 20,000 women at one time. These were women attached to our own armed forces and to allied services in Belgium, France, England, Canada, and others.

She also worked as manager for a symphony orchestra in Toledo, Ohio; research assistant in geology at Columbia University; assistant advertising manager of "Civil Engineering"; and operator of a dude ranch in Wyoming.

For the present, nothing in her varied past work history is more absorbing than providing for all-time the story of the Seabees during World War II.

One of the big faults in much of today's record keeping, Miss Fairbanks points out, is that the decision of what to keep and what to throw away is often left to someone who just has the responsibility of moving the records.

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READY FOR RETIREMENT?
CHECK YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

Are you approaching 65 and retirement? If so, it's best to contact the regional Social Security office two or three months before retirement day. The idea is to file your claim for benefits and get all the paperwork cleared up to avoid any hitches and delays in your monthly payment.

Take along with you your latest income tax return and a copy of your latest W-2 wage withholding statement. You will also need proof of your age. If you can't dig up a birth certificate, use the oldest record of age you have, such as a family Bible, marriage record, or service record.

Everyone who works usually gets a nip taken out of his pay check for Social Security, yet the majority of people come up to retirement knowing little about some of their most important rights. People seem to forget that Social Security is the cornerstone of most retirement programs, can often mean as much as $30,000 in taxfree payments to husband and wife.

One area, for example, where there is a lot of confusion pertains to just how much you can earn after 65 and still collect Social Security checks. Basically the law provides that if you work every month of the year after 65, you lose one month's Social Security for every $80 (or fraction) above $1,200 you earn during the year.

However, if you don't work every month of the year you don't have to worry too much about the $1,200 limitation. For example, if you work two months of the year and make $700 a month, you won't receive checks for those two months, but you will for the other 10 months.

The second point to keep in mind is that this $1,200 rule applies to money earned by wages or salary. You can receive other income -- dividends, interest, rentals, annuities, pensions--without this counting as earnings.

After age 72, you can work as many months as you choose, earn any amount and still get full benefits.

On the other hand, if you work after having retired and do not report your earnings you could lose your Social Security payments.

Actually it makes good sense to check in with the Social Security Administration about once every three years to see if their records jibe with yours in terms of money credited to your account, and the number of years for which you are covered. You can do this by mailing a postcard to the Social Security Administration, Candle Building, Baltimore 2, Md. Give your social security number, name, and present address.

An amazing group of young octogenarians, the Spanish-American War Veterans of Massachusetts, surprised doctors at the Boston Veterans Administration outpatient clinic who checked them out expecting to find them tall and lean, but discovered they were shorter and rounder than average... and healthier.

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MISSOURI ISLAND X-1

We were happy to receive copies of THE ISLAND BREEZE, publication of this very active Island, and written up by Past National President William H. McKnight.

A permanent meeting place has been obtained for Missouri Island X-1, located at the Goff-Moll American Legion Post #101, 2721 Collier Street. Collier Street is one block west of Brentwood Blvd., on Manchester Road. It does not extend north of Manchester Road but dead ends on Manchester Road from the south.

A big sign reading Goff-Moll American Legion Post is erected on the Southwest corner of Collier and Manchester Road directing the way. Watch closely.

Also the privilege of a permanent mailing address is available, which: Island X-1, Missouri, S.V.A. and/or the Ladies Auxiliary, c/o Goff-Moll Post 101, American Legion Bldg., 2721 Collier St., Brentwood 17, Missouri.

Watch for future information regarding dates of all meetings. MORE...ON MISSOURI ISLAND X-1.

ARIZONA GETS CHARTERS

Saturday, 14 September 1963, was a gala evening for the Department and Island X-2 of Arizona. Past National President Tom W. Reside presented the Charter to Island X-2 President who is also National Vice President Al Large, Jim Smithart. Jim Smithart then presented the Department Charter to Sam Wenger, Department President.

Tom Reside presented or rather delivered the National Headquarters membership Trophy to Department President Sam Wenger, won by the Arizona Department with an increase in membership of 22%. Arizona has served notice to the rest of the Islands in the nation that they intend to keep the Trophy in Arizona until it has been won three times. Any argument?

SAN DIEGO ISLAND X-2

Tuesday evening, 17 September, San Diego Island X-2 heard a report on the National Convention and Reunion of the S.V.A. by Past National President Tom Reside. Island President John Andrews presided, and after a combined meeting of the Island and the Auxiliary, members discussed a recruiting campaign, to assist the California Department retake the membership Trophy next year.

LAS VEGAS ISLAND X-7-11

An excellent dinner meeting was held at Frank Jansen's DANTES Supper Club in Henderson, Nevada, on Monday, 9 September. President Wally Tollin presided, and introduced Past National President Tom W. Reside, National Vice Presidents Jim and Edith Smithart, from Phoenix, National Chaplain Joe Perkins and National Trustee and Mrs. Dick Lugo, also of Phoenix, Arizona. Also introduced was Al Landisman, Convention Chairman for the approaching 18th National Convention and Reunion to be held in Las Vegas 13-16 August 1964, who announced plans for the coming meeting, and stated that the Hotel Sahara would serve as Convention Headquarters.

Guests in attendance included LCDR Harry R. Witt, CEC, USN, the Public Works Officer at the Lake Mead Base, and Mrs. Witt; also Chief Warrant Officer Charles B. Chet-Wynd, USN, also stationed at Lake Mead, and one of the newest members. Frank Jansen was appointed Chairman of the Membership Committee and immediately named the members of his committee, and started right off signing up new members Chas. ChetWynd and Harry Witt.

Edith Smithart, National Auxiliary Vice-President, met with the ladies and stirred up interest in the formation of an Auxiliary Island in Las Vegas.

SAN DIEGO ISLAND X-3, INCORPORATED

President Orville VanLiew called the meeting to order, and asked for a report on the Convention from Bill Dossett, Island X-3 Treasurer and Past President Tom W. Reside. Discussion followed on "THE SEA-BEE" and plans developed to improve the mailing facilities. New member Bill Boynton (103rd, 104th NCB, MCB3, MCB4) was introduced and welcomed. It was noted that we had picked up four new members since the Convention, and that Frank E. Ware, Dallas, Texas, who attended the National Convention and applied for a Life Membership was temporarily a member of both Miami Beach Island X-1 and San Diego Island X-3, Incorporated, pending the formation of an Island in Dallas, Texas.

(Continued on Page 20)
It is with sincere regret that we announce the passing of our Past President Martin Richards in August. Past President Richards was the 5th National President and served as the 5th President in the Ohio Department. Martin Richards served with the 38th NCB during World War II.

Past President Richards was responsible for the introduction of a bill in Congress to incorporate the Seabee Veterans of America on a National scale. The bill was introduced in the last session of the 83rd Congress on 27 June 1953 by Representative Ayres of Ohio. He was also responsible for a booklet, CAN-DO, dedicated to those Seabees who made the supreme sacrifice. In collaboration with the late Dick Lamb, past National Historian, the booklet was printed for the purpose of informing the congressional members of the work of our organization. Copies of this booklet are now in the Congressional Library, schools and libraries throughout the Country.

Although the Seabee Veterans were unsuccessful in obtaining a Federal Charter, we all know that through the tireless efforts of Martin Richards and Dick Lamb and other members of the National Executive Committee, we have learned a lot, and that all was not in vain as the work these gentlemen completed did much to publicize the work of the S.V.A.

Martin Richards will be a symbol of perseverance to the membership in the S.V.A. and his name will be long remembered as one of the group who contributed much to the Seabee Veterans of America.

Martin was a Life Member and lived at Akron, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Mona.

DEADLINE FOR GI EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS APPROACHES

Veterans taking education or training courses under the Korean GI Bill may have to "cram" or double up classes to reach their goal as the deadline for such courses is now less than two years away, according to the VA's Southern California Regional Office.

Congress has set January 31, 1965, as the cut-off date for the Korean readjustment program of education and training for veterans without service-connected disabilities, it was announced.

Most Korean Conflict veterans have been eligible for about forty-two months of readjustment courses but now less than twenty-four months remain before the final deadline.

To be eligible for such readjustment education or training the veteran must have had active service at any time between 27 June 1950 and 31 January 1955. He also must have served at least 90 days unless discharged sooner for a disability incurred in active service.

Eligible veterans may choose their own type of training in any school or establishment approved by an appropriate state agency.

They may enroll in schools or colleges, take on-the-job training, enroll in institutional on-farm training or other programs which combine school and job training or select correspondence school courses.

Veterans will receive an allowance each month to meet part of their training and living expenses.

The first step is to obtain the necessary application forms at the nearest VA Regional Office.
Membership in the Seabee Veterans of America is limited to Seabees who served under honorable conditions under the cognizance of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, United States Navy, or were attached to or served with Naval Construction Components or other Units under the cognizance of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, during a war, insurrection or expedition for which the U.S. Government shall issue a Campaign Badge or Medal.

* * * * *

Any Island (local unit) shall consist of five (5) or more members meeting the above qualifications. At an assembly of those eligible for membership, a chairman should be appointed and a meeting called to order. A list of the names, addresses, city, zone, State and battalion number should be taken and an election held for the temporary principal officers: President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The Temporary President then continues the meeting and action may be taken on business before the body that is assembled for a meeting. During this business meeting the amount of Island dues should be established and a motion is in order to form an Island within the S.V.A. The Secretary at this time (by motion) may be instructed to apply by letter of application to the National Secretary for an S.V.A. Charter.

The Island Secretary shall forward the following to the National Secretary:

1. Letter of application for Charter to include the following:
   a. List of names, addresses, city ZIP zone code number, State and Battalion or Unit of persons desiring membership.
   b. List of names, addresses, etc., of elected temporary President, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. A check payable to the S.V.A., National Headquarters account for per-capita dues of $2.00 per member.
3. A check payable to the S.V.A., National Headquarters account for $10.00 for the Island Charter fee.

The National Headquarters shall then cause to be issued and present a Charter to the Island, after which the temporary Island Officers shall call a regular meeting and the Island shall elect permanent officers (may be same as temporary if so desired) to serve until the end of the fiscal year. The remaining offices as desired, Vice President, Service Officer, Master At Arms, Chaplain, etc., may be elected and committees appointed at this time to meet the needs of the Island.

The National Secretary will forward National By-Laws, ritual, transmittal forms, membership cards and other materials as requested by the Island. The Island shall be placed on the National Headquarters roster of active Islands. The Island shall establish their respective By-Laws and rules to conform with Department (if applicable) and National By-Laws.

When there is an active Department in the State of the Island applying for a Charter, said respective Department may request, from the Island, a Department proportion of charter fee as pre-

(Continued on Page 22)
SEABEES WORKED, FO

In these thumbnail sketches, there is assembled a record of Seabee units, where they worked and fought in all theatres of World War II. Construction Battalions had the singular distinction of participating in every amphibious operation of the Pacific Campaign. They served with every branch of the U. S. armed forces. Beginning at Bora Bora and Guadalcanal, they kept pace with the Army and the Marines and splashed ashore with the first occupation troops on atomized Japanese home islands. Each month, The Seabee, will print additional battalion histories.

102ND BATTALION

Formed at Camp Peary July 6, 1943, the 102nd Battalion was officially commissioned at Camp Endicott Aug. 19, 1943. After a brief stay at Camp Parks, the Battalion arrived at Hueneme Oct. 21, 1943. On Dec. 22, one officer and 60 men were detached to form CBD 1069. The Battalion embarked at Hueneme on Feb. 21, 1944 and arrived at Finschaven, New Guinea, via Milne Bay Mar. 24. A small boat detail was detached on May 6 for duty with the 113th Battalion. On June 13, the outfit arrived at Hollandia. Between October 1944 and February 1945, five detachments were ordered for temporary duty in the Philippines. On Feb. 19, 1945 the Battalion departed for Subic Bay and arrived on Feb. 29. On March 15, another group was detached from the outfit to form CBD 1082. At the end of hostilities the Battalion was still stationed at Luzon.

103RD BATTALION

Formed at Camp Peary on Oct. 15, 1943, the 103rd Battalion moved to Camp Endicott Oct. 16. From Dec. 11, 1943 to April 20, 1944, the outfit was stationed at Quoddy Village, Maine, and then returned to Camp Endicott. From May 15 to July 1, the unit served at Lido Beach, New York, and then moved to Port Hueneme. During August, September, and October the Battalion had detachments serving at Ojai, Calif., Mira Loma Airport, Oxnard, Calif., San Clemente Island and St. Nicholas Island. On Oct. 25, 1944, the Battalion shipped overseas from Hueneme, arriving at Pearl Harbor Nov. 1. Moving in five echelons the outfit sailed for Guam landing at that island on Dec. 28, 1944, and Jan. 2, 9, 10 and 12, 1945. At war's end it was still on Guam.

104TH BATTALION

Organized at Camp Peary, the 104th Battalion had brief duty at Camp Endicott and four months at Gulfport, Miss., before it sailed for Milne Bay Dec. 15, 1943. Arriving at Milne Bay Feb. 2, 1944, the Battalion was stationed at Gamadodo until March 26. Sailing for Los Negros, the Battalion arrived there on April 1, for four months duty before returning to Milne Bay Aug. 4. On Sept. 7, 1944, a draft of 100 men was assigned to PAD 3. These men returned to the outfit on Dec. 2. On Sept. 25, 1944, a draft of 224 men was sent to Australia and returned on Nov. 22. On Dec. 13 a draft of 56 men was ordered to Sual Port to build a PT base. This job was completed on April 9, 1945, and these men returned to the Battalion. On Jan. 6, 1944 the Battalion left Milne Bay and reported at Leyte Jan. 22, 1945.

105TH BATTALION

Formed at Camp Peary in August 1943, the 105th trained at Camp Parks and Hueneme during September and October. On Oct. 19, a detachment of 225 men left for duty on San Clemente Island, returning Nov. 10, 1943. On Dec. 15, the entire Battalion shipped out from Hueneme and arrived at Milne Bay, New Guinea, Jan. 13, 1944. During January and February, 1944, small detachments were sent to Hilimo and Gamadodo, and on April 1, the major part of the Battalion moved to Gamadodo. On Sept. 4, 1944, the 105th returned to their original base on Stringer Bay and remained there until Oct. 11, when the first echelon embarked for Tacloban, Leyte. They landed Oct. 24, and the next day, sent 400 men to Anabong Point, Leyte. The second echelon left Milne Bay Oct. 29, arriving at San Pedro Bay, Leyte, Nov. 12. On the same day, a part of the Anabong detachment left for San Antonio, Samar. From November 1944 to June 1945, small groups of the 105th Battalion were sent on
duty assignments to Samar, Tuiuan, Balingaga, Osmeña and other localities in and around Samarn. At war's end, the 105th was still operating in the Philippines.

106TH BATTALION

The 106th Battalion was formed at Camp Peary Oct. 19, 1943, and was stationed at Camp Endicott and Camp Parks before arriving at Port Hueneme Feb. 29, 1944. On April 1, 1945, the Battalion was split into two sections. Section Two sailed for Tinian via Eniwetok, and disembarked on Tinian on Sept. 10. At war’s end the Battalion was still on duty at Tinian.

108TH BATTALION

The original 108th Battalion was formed at Camp Peary in August 1943. On Aug 30 it was moved to Gulfport for duty until Dec. 13. On that date the outfit moved back to Peary and was inactivated. In July 1943 the 97th Battalion was split into Section One and Section Two at Camp Endicott. On Oct. 20, 1943, both sections were shipped overseas from Davisville and landed at Rosneath, Scotland. From December 1943 to March 1944 the outfit operated at Rosneath, Plymouth and Netley. In April the 97th was redesignated as the 108th Battalion. On June 6 (D-Day) the outfit took part in the Normandy invasion. On Aug. 3, the outfit moved to Tilbury, England, and on Oct. 18, 1944, sailed from Teignmouth bound for home. The Battalion reported at Davisville, R.I., on Oct. 25. It was inactivated at Davisville Dec. 1, 1944.

109TH BATTALION

Formed at Camp Peary in July 1943, the 109th Battalion had brief tours of duty at Camp Endicott and Camp Parks and arrived at Port Hueneme Nov. 10, 1943. Shipping overseas from Hueneme Feb. 20, 1944, the Battalion arrived at Iwo Jima Jan. 16, 1945, and landed on Feb. 19 (D-Day). The second echelon of Section Two arrived at Iwo on March 25. The unit operated at Iwo until September, 1945, when it was inactivated at Iwo. Section One stayed at Port Hueneme for 13 months and shipped out in March 1945 bound for Ie Shima. War's end found it still there.

110TH BATTALION

Commissioned at Camp Peary Aug. 12, 1943, the 110th Battalion moved through Gulfport, Miss., and arrived at Port Hueneme on Oct. 23, 1943. On Nov. 10, the outfit was officially attached to Acorn 22 at Hueneme. The first echelon traveled to Oakland, Calif., and embarked Nov. 22. On the same date the second echelon embarked at Hueneme. Both echelons arrived at Pearl Harbor Dec. 1, 1943. The two echelons embarked at Iwo Jima Point, Oahu Feb. 10 and 12, 1944, and landed at Eniwetok on Feb. 22 and 24. Sailing westward again, this time in five echelons, the men went ashore at Tinian on Sept. 9 and 18, and Oct. 1, 9 and 20, 1944. At the end of the war, the outfit was still on Tinian.

111TH BATTALION

Commissioned at Camp Peary in September 1943, the 111th NCB was transferred to Camp Endicott on Sept. 10, 1943. Leaving Davisville, R.I., on Jan. 29, 1944, the outfit sailed for England, where they operated at Plymouth, Falmouth, Dartmouth and Swansea. On April 27, 1944, CBD 1048 was disbanded and the personnel attached to the 111th Battalion. From D-Day until late in July, the Battalion operated Rhos Fords and pontoons tugs. On Oct. 18, 1944, the first echelon sailed for the States and reported at Davisville Oct. 26. On Oct. 24, the third echelon was assigned a special inland water-
most urgently. You entered a brand new, unknown branch of the Naval Service to do a job that badly needed doing. Some of you entered at an age when you could have stayed home without criticism from anyone. And all of you brought with you experience and ability that made any job possible in your hands.

SEABEE REPUTATION

You put these skills and experience together with the spirit that had made you volunteer for service in the first place. From this combination you built this unknown branch into a legendary group that achieved undying fame as America's Master Builders. And then you went home to your civilian jobs knowing that you had served your Country well.

PERMANENT SEABEES

But the job you had done was even better than you realized. It so impressed the nation that the Seabees were made a permanent part of the Naval Service. Some few of your mates chose to remain on active duty and tutor the recruits. They lead the younger men in accomplishing today's outstanding projects. And they have instilled in the new men something of the same spirit that made you original "Bees" so great.

What you built was required to solve an immediate need; to accomplish an immediate objective. Expense was no item, ingenuity was at a premium, and regulations went out the window. Your civilian experience was our greatest resource.

Today's recruit frequently enters the Seabees to make a career. He is involved in a long-term cold war situation which could at any time and in any place become hot. He is in for the long haul. And what he builds frequently has to be considered with the long view. Regulations become important in maintaining units that must be alert now or five years from now. So military training is vital to the success of his battalion. And construction experience is gained along the way.

Second, you were fighting enemies. He is helping friends. Many of your projects were accomplished in any way possible and at the expense of any other outfit that happened along. Much of his present-day work is done to help the military or civilian needs of friendly, underdeveloped countries. Diplomacy and people-to-people generosity by the Seabees have taken the place of the moonlight requisition.

MCB'S

Third, the requirements of the military are such today that the Seabee structure is quite different from the wartime organization. Our present battalions are smaller as well as younger than yours were. Today we need a more flexible unit with a high degree of mobility. It must be able to get in fast, do a job and then move on. We have ten such units—units with a 10-day readiness. These Mobile Construction Battalions are composed of 21 officers and 563 enlisted men. Five operate out of Davisville, on the East Coast, and five out of Port Hueneme on the West Coast.

ACB'S

We also have two Amphibious Battalions composed of 31 officers and 635 enlisted men each. They are equipped with revamped gear and smoother procedures to provide over-the-beach support. Primarily they supply amphibious landing support. But the ACB's also have some construction capability. They are completely responsible for ship-to-shore fueling. They operate the shore end of the newly developed highline technique for getting cargo ashore. Instead of the old-type pontoon causeway, these men use an end-connected causeway. It speeds up the movement of cargo and vehicles from ship to shore. All of these—the new gear and the new procedures—stress speed. This is a vital ingredient in modern warfare.

STATS

Another Seabee unit you never saw in action is the so-called STAT. These Seabee Technical Assistance Teams are flexible, air-transportable nuclear forces. There are two in each MCB. They can take off for a special assignment even faster than the 10-day period of responsiveness I mentioned before. Normally they are composed of one officer and from 10 to 15 men. But their size can vary according to the job assigned them.

These STATS are somewhat like firemen who must be prepared for immediate action whenever the alarm sounds. You might be interested to know something more about these groups and the alarms they answer.

STATS PROJECTS

No doubt you have read of the President's Counter-Insurgency Program. This program makes two-fold use of our Military Engineering Force. It contributes to our so-called deterrent posture. And it makes use of these forces to assist our less fortunate neighbors.

In this regard, our Seabee Technical Assistance Teams are making people sit up and take notice. Even before the STAT concept was developed, a detachment from ACB TWO accomplished an outstanding pro-
In South Vietnam, we're helping build the recently publicized strategic hamlets. We're rebuilding roads and bridges destroyed by the Viet Cong, and improving water supply using local labor when possible.

In the short time they have been in Vietnam, one of our STAT teams has reopened a road destroyed by the Viet Cong in 1959. For the first time since the road was closed the villagers can come to town to shop for necessities like soap, clothing, and kitchen utensils. This work is being done in an area of active guerrilla warfare. Nearby villages are being attacked, and some burned. The local people desperately need our help if they are not to become engulfed in crisis. We intend to continue our help.

CB CONTRIBUTIONS

Meanwhile our battalions are performing other important functions in the struggle between freedom and tyranny. They contribute to the strategy of deterrence.

DETERRENT FORCE

First, the maintenance of a deterrent force. There are Seabees in Cuba today. They were there when the situation first became serious. When the first Fleet Marine Force troops arrived at Guantanamo Bay, they found their defensive positions already manned by men in green, Marine Corps type, utility uniforms. To quote the "LEATHERNECK" publication of the Marine Corps, "they could have passed for Marines anywhere, except for the Navy Rank Insignia they wore on their caps." They were MCB-4 Seabees, who had been on a routine training assignment at Guantanamo when the crisis opened up. One of the Seabees reported, "When they told us we could have all the ammo we wanted, instead of counting it out, I knew things could get serious." Seabees manned the Base Defense Perimeter positions for two days before the Fleet Marines landed. Then they built permanent defensive positions, bunkers, and command posts.

MEDITERRANEAN

In the Mediterranean, the Seabees are doing a similar job. At the southern tip of Spain we are using an MCB to build needed facilities at our Naval Station at Rota. This gives us a pre-positioned Battalion, fully equipped and ready to move on a moment's notice, if trouble should start in the Mediterranean area.

OKINAWA

Mobile Construction Battalions also are in an alert status on Okinawa. They are in the Aleutians, South Vietnam, Thailand, and on Guam. These are existing, pre-positioned forces with a deterrent effect on prospective enemies.

ACTIVITY

The Seabees were with the Marines when they landed in Lebanon. In fact they have participated in every brush fire war since 1945 except the Berlin Airlift.

At McMurdo Sound in the Antarctic, the Seabees assembled a Nuclear Reactor Power Plant, the first such plant in that part of the world. The Seabees' work in the Antarctic has not been limited to this powerplant. They built the original seven bases in support of the International Geophysical Year. They have provided on-site maintenance and construction support since the inception of the Antarctic research program.
Corradi

TRAINING

I said a bit ago that, for the modern Seabee, military training is vital. This training includes qualification in weapons of all types, slanted toward defense combat type operations.

As to construction experience, the present-day Seabee is much younger and less experienced when he joins a battalion than you were. But he has shown inherent ability at construction work in his aptitude tests or he wouldn't have been placed in the Construction Battalions in the first place.

Once he arrives at the CB Center he attends one or more of the technical schools. And at an overseas location he undergoes intensive training in his specialty. The result is that today's Seabee is well trained technically and militarily.

THEY'RE STILL THE SEABEES

I mentioned this for a very important reason. You have been told about units and projects unlike anything in World War II. And you may well have gotten the impression that these men are nothing like the men you served with.

Nothing could be farther from the truth. The work the STATS are accomplishing in Southeast Asia is a fine example of "Can Do!" spirit and Seabee ingenuity today. They're using local material for the most part and subsisting largely on local foods. And they are overcoming handicaps that aroused our admiration for them. For example, recently a bulldozer operator in that area was startled when a tiger jumped onto his dozer. The operator survived, but we have no word about the fate of the tiger. In spite of such occurrences, this Battalion requested that it be allowed to complete the job it started there.

And listen to this remark by a Marine Major: "These Seabees are wonderful, but you've got to be careful when you work with them. If you give them a job you've got to step back in a hurry or you'll get your shoes filled with concrete." Sounds like a World War II remark, doesn't it. Yet it was made during the crisis at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Make no mistake about it. The Seabees are still the Seabees.

RESERVE CB'S

Right now we have 18 Reserve Mobile Construction Battalions throughout the Continental United States and Hawaii. These men, from over 200 Reserve divisions, have enough spirit and interest in our Construction Forces to train periodically in the same manner as our active forces. And their records in weapons training and Perimeter Defense Problems with the Marines have been as good as one could ask for.

LET'S START THE BRIDGE

So you see, here we have three groups of men of whom we are extremely proud. We have the gentlemen and others like you, who began the great story of the Construction Forces. We have the men who are now serving in our Battalions and keeping the reputation of the American construction men bright. And we have the members of our reserve component, old and young, who are training with fine spirit to keep this important auxiliary force in fighting trim. All of these men are working to keep the "Can Do!" spirit alive. Why should we not all work together toward this end?

THE VETERAN'S ROLE

Ours is a privileged position. In just 21 years we have achieved an esprit de corps which even the Marines admire. Throughout the Fleet and even the other services, "Can Do!" is used as an expression meaning both acceptance of any job and the ability to do it. And this accomplishment is traceable directly to you Seabees of World War II. You are the pioneers. You are the men who laid the foundation for this great force. You are the men whose spirit is still lively enough to bring you to meetings such as this and to keep your interest in this organization high.

I know that you want to preserve the heritage for which you all worked so hard. And we need the backup of your motivation to keep our Seabees strong. You, and only you, can make this an organization with a future as well as a past. Only you can build the Seabee Veterans of America into the organizational bridge necessary to link the past and the future.

There is no good reason why membership in the Seabee Veterans of America can't be strengthened. We will assist you in any way we can.

We are trying to locate as many reunion associations as possible. Each association seems to want to maintain its Battalion identity in some way. But I'm sure you could work out a way to make membership in the SVA satisfy both your goals. I've reviewed your aims and objectives. I am pleased to see that you have taken on responsibilities which make the SVA much more than just a meeting ground for old friendships.

The Reserve CB's can provide a nucleus around which the SVA can grow in over 200 cities throughout the United States.

CONCLUSION

There is strength in numbers

(Continued Next Page)
Corradi

...particularly with good leadership. Let me repeat: A strong Seabee Veterans of America organization can help preserve the "Can Do!" spirit and support the national defense by linking all Seabees everywhere. By doing this, you will make an outstanding contribution to your government in protecting freedom throughout the world. You, who are here, can start the ball rolling.

THANK YOU.

This could be you, loaded down with silver dollars as is Wally Tollin, President of Las Vegas Island X7-11, if you attend the 18th National Convention and Reunion of the S.V.A. 13-16 August 1964.

The Veterans Administration has made grants totaling $69.2 million to provide special housing for paraplegics.
Stew Gastfield, upon suggestion by President, made motion to print a reasonable amount of credential cards for National officers. Seconded by Greco. Motion carried.

Kipple made motion to pay Harry Tuchman for Court Recorder and making up of convention minutes. Seconded by Greco. Motion carried.

Eichelberger: Question on refund to 60th Batt. for ad not printed in Seabee Magazine. Engel made motion to take money out of Can-Do fund to pay 60th Batt. $50.00. Seconded by Tom Reside. Motion carried. Eichelberger to send check to Ed Kipple.

Bonding of committees handling money: Upon suggestion of President, Stew Gastfield made motion to have them bonded for twice the amount that they handle. Seconded by J. Joseph Perkins. Motion carried.

Motion by McKnight to have issuing authority of Island sign membership cards rather than National Secretary as printed on card. Seconded by Greco. Motion carried.

Tom Reside volunteered to see that the trophy that Arizona won will be engraved exactly like the old trophy.

Motion by Tom Reside, seconded by Greco to adjourn. Motion carried. Time: 11:30 a.m.

REMEmber!!

"Remember When" is a familiar caption to many of our S.V.A. members. Written by John F. Vanek, of Denver, Colorado, this interesting article from his World War II diary provided many lines of nostalgia, as readers recalled some of the same type of incidents in their past military careers.

John F. Vanek, National Vice President for the Northwest District, S.V.A., served with the 15th Special NCB during World War II, seeing action in the Milne Bay, Finchaven and Hollandia, New Guinea areas.

His wife, Mary Ethel, also holds an office as National Vice President in the Auxiliary and both are very active in S.V.A. matters.

Our readers may look forward to John's column, "Remember When," appearing in the December issue of "The Seabee," and each month thereafter.
Admiral William "Uncle Bill" Calhoun began a long and illustrious career in the United States Navy with his appointment to the Naval Academy in 1902.

After being commissioned in 1908, Admiral Calhoun served on various duties until the First World War found him as Commander of Submarine Flotilla 1 in the Atlantic, and Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Air Station and Submarine Base, Coco Solo, Canal Zone.

During the peace-time period following the war, he served as Navigator of USS Maryland, as Commander of Division 31 of the Destroyer Squadron, Battle-fleet. He attended the Senior Course at the Naval War College and upon completing the course, served for two years as head of the Department of Navigation at the Naval Academy.

He commanded USS Rochester and served as Chief of Staff to Commander Base Force U.S. Fleet. In 1937 he commanded USS California and remained there until 1938 when he was designated Chief of Staff and Aide to Commander Battleships, Battle Force. In 1938 he was commissioned a Rear Admiral. In February of 1942 he became Commander, Service Force US Pacific Fleet with the rank of Vice Admiral. Among his many decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit.

Since his retirement, Admiral Calhoun has served as Special Delegate with the Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company, a company founded in 1934 for the express purpose of serving the military.

Today GPM has more than $265,000,000 of insurance in force. Admiral Calhoun offices with GPM at 1014 West Washington Street in San Diego.

The "big three" benefits of the GI Bill of June 22, 1944, were education and training; GI loans; and readjustment allowances. Only the GI loan program is still actively being supervised by the Veterans Administration today.
LOS ANGELES ISLAND X-4

Los Angeles Island X-4 held the September meeting at the Chateau Briand Restaurant in Picu Rivera on 7 September. President Joe Gordon conducted the meeting following an excellent dinner, and introduced Past National President Tom W. Reiside who gave a report on the National Convention and Reunion held last month in Miami Beach, Florida.

Tony and Virginia DeBlasio from Fontana commented on plans to form an Island in the Fontana - Riverside area, and announced that a meeting would be scheduled sometime in October or early November. Members were also advised to make early plans to attend the 1964 National Convention and Reunion of the SVA to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, 13-16 August 1964 at the Hotel Sahara. Incorporation of the Island is in process and President Gordon commented on the urgency of completing this action.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT President Bob Esterbrooks announced that the Annual Department meeting would be held 11 January 1964 in Las Vegas, Nevada. He proposed that this meeting be considered a Regional meeting of the Western States and will send notices to Departments and Islands West of the Great Divide, including Colorado. This will provide an excellent opportunity for the new Islands to get acquainted with their Western Brothers. More on this later.

40th NCB ASSOCIATION (MUD and THUNDER)

A copy of MUD and THUNDER, the official publication of the 40th NCB Association was received and announced the 19th annual 40th NCB Association Reunion was held in San Francisco on Oct. 5, 6 and 7. LYLE A. BRAMSON, Secretary and Treasurer at 15 Crane Drive, San Anselmo, California, is always alert for any information relative to 40th NCB members who may not receive the word. Two meetings a year are held, April and October. Watch for future information on these.

CONVENTION NEWS

The Seventeenth National Convention and Reunion of the Seabee Veterans of America is past history, but like so many important historical events, the 1963 Convention will be long remembered. Perhaps as in the past, many of our members who did not attend, will be saying, "I certainly wish I had attended." This is to advise all members; we know that the 1964 National Convention and Reunion will be in Las Vegas, Nevada, 13-16 August at the Hotel Sahara. Don't wish you had attended; make plans now to attend.

Chairman HARRY TUCHMAN and the members of host Island X-1, Miami Beach, Florida, went all out to ensure that every person who attended the Convention had a wonderful time. From the early, early arrivals, it was evidenced that a good time was to be expected, and we were not let down. The spacious lobby of the Deauville Hotel had Seabee Veterans occupying spaces and chairs on a continuous basis. Acquaintances were re-established or made as Seabees came from Arizona, California, New York, Massachusetts, Texas, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, and so many other States it is difficult to name all those that were represented.

President Ed Kipple formed his various Committees as fast and as soon as possible, enabling them to get started. The Credentials Committee, first to get underway, and headed by Stew Gastfield, spent long hours getting their job completed.

Informal meetings and gatherings prepared the way for the main attraction of the Convention, the opening ceremonies. The get-togethers provided an excellent opportunity to compare notes on procedures and to discuss the various resolutions previously submitted or new ones to submit.

President Kipple called the Convention to order Friday afternoon, with the colors being presented in a very smart fashion by members of the Naval Reserve Training Center in Miami Beach. Joe Perkins, acting Chaplain, gave the invocation in the absence of National Chaplain, Father Kulwicki.

Harry Tuchman, Convention Chairman, was introduced to the members, and in turn introduced the Vice-Mayor of Miami Beach who welcomed the Seabee Veterans to Florida and Miami Beach, and expressed the best wishes of Mayor M. J. Richard, who was unable to attend.

President Kipple called for a break to permit the ladies to reconvene in another room and the regular business of the Convention went on.

The banquet and dance Saturday night as usual, was the highlight of the Convention. Rear Admiral Peter Corradi, CEC, USN, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, was the principal speaker. His topic, devoted to the past and present skills of the Seabees was timely, informative and very well received. (Admiral Corradi's speech is printed on page 2.)

The dinner was excellent, the dancing was excellent and the people present were even better. The 17th National Convention is over; we now look forward to number 18. Make your plans to attend now.
1964 CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS
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DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

Department organization (State) is similar to Island organization, except that a Department organization meeting is called to all Islands within the respective State, as defined in the National By-Laws and the National Charter fee for a Department is $20.00.

Two (2) or more active Islands are required to form a Department and application shall be submitted to the National Secretary with charter fee and a list of names of Department officers elected, their addresses, etc. The Department Charter shall be approved as provided in the National By-Laws, Article 8, Department and Unit Organization (1963 revision).

Information in regards to the formation of a ladies' Auxiliary may be obtained by writing direct to the National Auxiliary President or may be obtained from the National Secretary on request.

NOTE: Where there are less than the required number to form an Island, membership is available in the S.V.A. through the National Island At Large. Forward name, address, city, zip zone, state, and Battalion or Unit number, with National Island dues of $4.00 to the Secretary of the National Island At Large: Ray Gartski, 4148 Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Membership may be transferred at the time an Island may be formed in your respective area or city.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP is also available in the S.V.A. by application for membership and L.M. dues of $50.00 to the Life Membership Committee Chairman, Donald L. Engle, 3830 North Lake Blvd., Danville, Illinois. Upon receipt of the application and dues, the Chairman will forward the Life Membership card and the Island and Department portion of the dues to the respective offices.

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