301st Naval Construction Battalion

Historical Information





"Construimus, Batuimus" "We Build, We Fight"

301st C.E.

- 7-12-44 (Cont.) Detechments 1, 4, 5, and 6 departed P.H. on duty assigned Suring the latter part of May.
- Lt. Yassuck is ordered to join the 1st Det. of the 301st CB at Roi. (Conf. Disp. to Bupers 191017 NCR 9637 dtd 19 Aug 44)
- 10-20-44 -1 Aug 44 report of 301st CB - operations of the detachments of 301st during July: 1st Detachment - Towed the Dredge TUALATIN and attendent plant from Midway to Roi. Set up a new dredging location at Roi-Mamur, Kwajelein Atoll. 2nd Detachment - Moved from Penrl Harbor to Guam.

3rd Detachment - Hendled material and supplies in supporting forward units of Service Squadron 12.

5th, 6th, 7th Detachments - Completed operations at Kwajalein and proceeded to Saipan where they conducted dredging operations.

(No report on 4th Detechment).

- 11- 3-44 -Comdr. Elliot, OinC of 30let CB has ascertained 257 men available for CB 301 and can be made aveilable in U.S. by 1 Dec'44. (OMO conf. disp. to Cincpos 311200 NCR 2505 dtd 31 Oct 44)
- 11- 9-44 -Cincpos requests that the 301st CB be equipped and ready by 20 Nov 44 for Guam.
- (Conf. Disp. 040010 NCR 1432 from Cincpos to CNO dtd 4 Nov 44)
 A detachment of the 301st CB is located at Peleliu. (Is Com Peleliu Sec. disp to 11-21-44 -ONO 050300 NCR 17368 dtd 17 Nov 44).
- 1-22-44 -Cincpos states "Personnel of 301st CB desired at DURA and will be accorded high position my Dec. priority list. Request they be equipped and made ready by 20 Nov'44". (Cincpos conf. disp. to CNO 040010 NCR 1432 dtd 4 Nov'44)
- A detachment of 301 is located at Peleliu. (IsComPeleliu Sec. Disp. to CNO 011016 dtd 9 Dec'44) 12-12-44 -

301st C.F.

- Formed at Huename

- Hueneme Ready Date - 20 Apr 144 Left ABD - 21 Apr 44

Location - Penal Harbor Guam (Hdotrs)

5-19-44 - 301st CB left ABD 21 Apr 44. (NRK)

6-20-44 - 301st CB detached from 2nd Brig. and assigned to Comseron12 for duty. (Comserforpacfit itr BER-65-HFK/wmb over P16-4/00 over Ser 3133-P atd 8 May 44 to Cinc 301st)

1 Jun'44 report of 301st CB - Assignments f temp. detechments by Comsercal2 to 7-12-44 -OB 301 dtd 12 May 44:

1st Detachment - 4 off. and 77 men to Midway to operated Dredge TUALATIN. 2nd Detachment - 14 off. and 736 men to report to Comserforpac for duty on USS CITY OF DALHART to embark theron for transportation to area of Seronla. 3rd Detachment - 2 off. and 28 men to report to Comserforpsc for duty handling supplies and transhipment for Seronl? at Iroquois Point.

4th Detachment - 4 off. and 80 men to report to Comserforped for transportation to Midway and eventual nesignment to Dredge INDIANA and 1st Detachment.

5th Detachment - 1 off. and 12 men for temp. duty in connection with pontoon barge equipment with ARD 16.

6th Detachment - Same duty as 5th Detachment but with ARD 17 (no list of off. eren) 7th Detechment - 12 off. and 100 men to report to CO. USS ALKES for transportation and quarters.

- 1-4-45 CNO requests that CD 2530(1 off. 27 men) be ready for overseas shipment by 1 Jan 45.

 The above personnel will board the Dredge New Jersey ETD from New Orleans 7 Jan 45 and proceed as a part of the Dredge crew to Guam where they will report to CB 301.

 (CNO conf. ltr Op30-2CK14-4c over (SC)P16-1 over Doc. 146375 over Ser. 01439530 to Bupers dtd 22 Dec 44).
- 1-13-45 A detachment of the 301st CB located at Peleliu, (IsCom Peleliu Sec Disp to CNO 030037 dtd 11 Jan'45)
- 1-24-45 -OinC 301st CB conf. ltr NCB 301 over Ser. Ol04 over (FGE/hbp) to Comserforpacflt dtd 11 Jan 45 requests an increase in complement to 93 officers. A complement of 2500 men will be requested in seperate correspondence. Comseron 12 1st End. concurs dtd 15 Jan 45.
- 2- 9-45 -Outfit and transfer approx 10 men (CD 2647) of misc ratings to Com 8 FFT to CinC YM23 (Dredge Louisiana) for duty and further transfer to the 301st CB. (Bupers conf disp to Davisville 011216 dtd 1 Feb 45)
- 2-9-45 Transfer approx 18 men of misc ratings (DD 2638) to Ft. McHenry Rec. Barracks,
 Baltimore, Md. to arrive 10 Feb'44 Fft to YM22 (Dredge Norfolk) for duty and
 further transfer to the 301st CB for duty. (Bupers conf disp to Davisville 011238
 dtd 2 Feb'45)
- 2-14-45 The 301st CB is located at Guam(Detachment ?)(IsComGuam Sec. disp to CNO 030521 dtd 8 Feb 45).
- 2-15-45 The 301st CB (Det) is located at Peleliu. (IsComPeleliu Sec. disp to CNO 020415 dtd 8 Feb 45).
- 2-17-45 The dissolvment of CBD 1037(USS Bowditch) into 301st CB approved by CNO. Bupers is requested to review & effect the transfer of personne of CBD 1037 to the 301st CB, which are now on temp add, duty with the 301st CB, (CNO restr 1tr 0p30-2CK14-UOT over Ser. 67630 to Cincpos and Bupers dtd 10 Feb 45).

301st CB

- -28-45 1 Dec'44 report of the 301st CB located at Saipan, Peleliu, Pearl Harbor.
- -2-45 OinC CBD 1037 ordered to inactivate CBD 1037 on 20 Mar 45. All enlisted personnel to be transferred to the 301st CB for duty. The OinC is to report to 301st CB for duty. (Commerformacflt restr. 1tr Ser. 9743-80 to OinC CBD 1037 dtd 18 Mar 45).
- -2-45 Cincpoa Pearl restr. disp to Comservpac 232328 Mar*45 requests necessary steps be taken to effect inactivation of CBD 1037 in accordance CNO Ser. 67630 of 10 Feb*45).
- 5- 8-45 The 301st CB (Harbor Development Bn) is located at follows:
 - P.H. -- 1st Detachment (30 men and 3 off.)
 - Saipan, Tinian-8th Detachment (Dirpacdocks S.F. Sec Rep of 15 Apr' 45)
- Palau - 9th Detachment 5-12-45 - The 301st CB detachment shown deleted from units located at Peleliu. (IsCom Peleliu Sec Disp 010057 dtd 7 Mey'45 to CNO)
- 5-17-45 1 Apr '45 report of the 301st CB Main unit located at Guam. Other detachments as follows:

Detachment	Location	Men	Off.
3rd	Pearl Harbor	31	3
8th	Tinian	211	6
*9th	Peleliu	109	4
10th	Sainen	93	2
llth	Iwo Jima	112	3

* Returned to Guam 15 Mar 45.

The first echelon of the 11th Detachment left Guam 27 Feb! #5 and arrived Iwo Jime 4 Mar! 45.

5-18-45 - 1 Jan 45 report of 301st CB - located at Guam with Detachments at Saipan, Pearl Harbor, Tinian & Palau as of 1 Jan 45.

5-18-45 - 1 Feb 45 report of 301st CB - located at Guam with detachments at Saipan, Pearl Harbor, Tinian & Palau as of 1 Feb 45.

5-30-45 - 1 Apr 45 report of the 301st CB - Main unit located at Apra Harbor, Guam with detachments as follows:

Detachment	Location	Men	Off.
3rd	Pearl Harbor	32	3
8th	Tinian	209	6
9th	Peleliu	133	4
10th	Saipan	88	2
*llth	Iwo Jima	60	3

*1st echelon left Guem 28 Feb 45.

With the exception of approx 350 men in the temp damp, the 301st CB is still

They have been been

living aboard ship. 6-15-45 - 1 May'45 report of the 301st CB - Distribution of personnel as follows:

Unit	Location	Men	Officers
301st OB Hdotrs	Guan	1073	53
Merizo Bay Project	Guam	63	1
WM-18, Indiana Dred	ge Guam	112	2
YM-20, Gulf Streem		97	4
3rd Detachment	P.H.	28	3
* VM-19, Tualatin Dre	dge Tinian	105	3
* C.B. Dredge #2	Tinian Saipan	233	3

Location - Guam (Hdctrs)

301st C.B.

6-15-45 -	1 May 45	report	of	301st	CB	(Cont)-
	Unit					Location

Unit	Location	Men	Officers
10th Detachment	Saipan	83	1
11th Detachment	Iwo Jima	132	3
12th Detachment (1st Ech)	Enroute Is "X"	103	2

* WM-19 is attached to the 3th Detachment.

Battalion and Detachment movement as follows:

Unit 11th Det	Loc.	Dest.	Departed	Arrived	Men	Off.
2nd Ech	Guem	Iwo Jima	17 Mar 45	6 Apr 145	34	
CB Dredge #2 Pers 12th Det	Guam	Saipan	22 Apr 45	23 Apr 145	23	
1st Ech	Guam	Island X	27 Apr 145	11711	103	2

* CB Dredge #2 is assigned to 10th Detachment at Saipan and this 23 man draft was sent to man said dredge.

It is planned to consolidate the activity at Saipan (10th Det) and the activity at Tinian (8th Det) to make available as many men as possible for reassignment to other 301st activities. The YM-19 Tuslatin Hydr Dredge assigned to the 8th Det has completed its assignment at Tinian and will return to 301st Hdotrs at Guam at an early date in May.

^{**} CB Dredge #2 is attached to the 10th Detachment.

7-2-45 - Request your approval to inactivate CBDs 1068 and 1069. Such units presently operating dredges in conjunction with 301st CB. Propose upon inactivation to transfer personnel and material to 301st CB. OinC 301st CB has indicated the desirability of this inactivation. (Comserved conf spdltr 03162 dtd 13 June to Cincpos).

7-10-45 - 301st CB detachment located at Iwo Jimn. (IsCom Iwo Jima sec disp 030753 to CNO)

7-11-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 301st CB - Distribution of personnel as follows:

Unit	Location	Men	Off.
301st CB (Hdctrs)	Guam	754	39 -
YM-18 Dredge Indiana	Guam	107	3
YM-19 Dredge Tualatin	Guam	102	4
YM-20 Dredge Gulfstream	Guam	101	3
YM-21 Dredge New Jersey	Guam	29	4
Ex-Jap Dipper Dredge	Guam	30	1
*CB Dredge #2	Saipan	24	1
3rd Detachment	P.H.	30	3
8th Detachment	Tinian .	68	3
10th Detachment	Saipan	77	1
11th Detachment	Iwo Jima	155	4
12th Detachment (1st ech)	Okinawa	150	3
12th Detachment (2nd ech)	Enrte Okinawa	157	8
12th Detachment (3rd ech)	Enrte Okinawa	150	5
	Total -	1924	82

* Attached to the 10th Detachment.

Location - Guam (Hdotrs)

301st C.B.

?-14-45 - 301st CB Detachment deleted from list of activities at P.H. (Com14 sec disp 100419 July to CNO)

45 - Inactivate CBD 1068 and 1069. Transfer all enl personnel to 301st CB. Inform Comservpac and all info addressees when inactivation is complete. (Comservpac

conf spdltr ser 03726 dtd 6 July to Comservron 12)

-6-45 - Request necessary orders be issued to Lt Rose, OinC of Dredge Marshall C. Harris,
YM 25 and Grew CD 2742 to proceed and report to CO ARD-31 for transp to Comservron 12 ffa OinC 301st CB. (Direastpacdocks restr TWX dtd 2 Aug to Coml1)

8-21-45 - CBD 1069 ltr dtd 8 Aug '45 to Comservpac -- Det 1069 inactivated on 8 Aug '45.

Enl personnel and recordstransferred to 301st CB.

8-21-45 - 1 Jul '45 report of the 301st CB - With the exception of approx 300 men and 10 off. living aboard the USS City of Dalhart and the off. and personnel assigned to the dredges: YM-19 Tualatin, YM-20 Gulfstream and YM-21 New Jersey; a remaining 464 men and 30 off at 301st hdotrs - Guam are quartered at the newly constructing. The 3rd Detachment of the 301st CB, consisting of 28 men and 2 off. under the chrge of Lt Duwart, was disbanded 6 June thru the orders of Commervaed. The personnel of the 3rd detachment who have represented the activity at P.H. for the past year were transfd to ABCD F.H. The 11th Detachment, assigned to the harbor development at Iwo Jima, has been suspended for the time being. Excess personnel have been transfd to the 301st CB hdotrs and a nucleus of the 11th Det personnel have been retained at Iwo Jima to carry on gen maint m d salvage operations. The 2nd and 3rd echelons of the 12th Det arrived at Okinawa on 3 and 9 June.

Distribution of personnel as of 1 July as follows:

Unit	Location	Men	Off.
301st CB hdotrs	Guan	764	40
YM-18 Dredge Indiana	Enrte Okinawa	106	3
YM-19 Dredge Tualatin	Guem	111	4

8-21-45 -	The state of the s	as of 1 Jul	as follows (O	ont.):
	Unit	Location	Men	Off.
(0)	YM-20 Dredge Gulfstream	Graniza	98	3
	YM-21 Dradge New Jersey	Guam	89	5
	YM-301 Hawks O'Hara	Gunm	4.	1
	*CB Dredge #2	Saivan	24	1
	8th Detachment	Tinian	67	3
	10th Detachment	Salpan	89	2
	11th Detachment	Iwo Jima	113	4
	12th Detachment	Okinawa	419	27
	**YD-59 Dredge	Oklinawa	32	1
	*Attached to 10th Detachm	ent		11
	**Attached to 12th Detachm	ent.		

8-27-45 - You are advised of the inactivation of CRD 1068 and transfer of personnel to 301st CB. (GinC. 301st CB conf ltr ser 0237 dtd 11 Aug 45 to Comserv. Pacific Flt).

10-6-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of 301st CB - location not stated. 42 men returned to U.S. for rotation leave. 22 men returned to U.S. for over-age discharges. 144 men rec'd from other batts (repl. included).

10-25-45 - 1 Sept'45 report of 301st CB - location not stated. 26 men transferred to U.S. for leave & reassignment. 61 men transferred to U.S. for discharge under the point system. 98 replacements rec'd and 19 men rec'd from other activities.

12-5-45 - 1 Oct 45 report of 301st CB - location not stated. 174 men transferred to U.S. for discharge under the point system. 597 men rec'd as replacements. 48 men rec'd from other units. YM-25 Dredge Harris with 54 men & 2 off. arrived at Gusm on 1 Oct 45.

Location - Guem (Hdotrs)

301st CB

- 12-14-45 1 Nov'45 report of 301st CB location not stated. 563 men transferred to U.S. for discharge. 30 replacements rec'd. 8th Detach.(Tinian) & 10th Detach.(Saipan) are being inactivated in early Nov. These detachments have completed their harbor development assignments; the pers will be transferred to 301st CB. Hagtrs. Guam.
- 2-4-46 1 Dec'45 report of 301st CB location not stated. 503 men transferred to U.S. for discharge. 12 men transferred to other activities. 66 replacements rec'd. The 8th Detach. & the 10th Detach. have been inactivated.
- 2-14-46 1 Jan 46 report of 301st CB location, Guam.
- 3-1-46 1 Feb 46 report of 301st CB located at Guam. Report via Comservron 12.
- 3-5-46 Detachment 12 of 301st CB inactivated during period 31 January to 1 March 1946.

 Exact date not given, (Comserved disp 022110 March 1946)
- 3-20-46 1 March 46 report of 301st CB located at Guam. Report via 35th Reg & 5th Brig.
- 4-29-46 301st CB inactivated as of 20 April 1946. (5th Brig. conf ltr ser 872 to OinC dtd 28 March 1946).
- 6-12-46 Final report on inactivation. All personnel transferred as per instructions.

 (OinC rpt. dtd. 20 Apr. 46 to Chief BuDocks)

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TRE	ARD

DATE 1 Jun'44 1 Aug'44 30 Sep'44	OFFICERS 50 52	1307 1321 1219	AUTHORITY R & MoR MoR Recap
1 Dec 44		1306	BNP625
31 Dec 44		1654	Recap.
1 Dec! 44 1100:45 1 Mar! 45	47 51 57 59	1655	MoR MoR BNP625 & R
1 Apr 45		1907	BNP625
1 May 145	76	1907	MoR
1 Jun 145	82	1924	BNP625 & R
1 Jul'45	87	1916	BNP625 & Roster
1 Aug 145	90	1955	BNP625 & R
1 Sept 45	95	1976	Roster & BNP625
1 Oct 45	99	2464	R & BNP625
1 Nov' 45	78	1938	BNP625 & R
1 Dec'45	54	1580	BNP625 & R
1 Jen'46	51		R
1 Feb 46	55	1192	BNP 625 & R
1 Mar 46	50	425	BNP 625 & R

301st Construction Battalion (INACTIVATED)

United States Naval Construction Battalion 301

The "harbor stretchers" was the informal sobriquet earned by

Naval Construction Battalion 301 because the outfit was especially organized
to expand and deepen harbors of Advanced Bases in the Pacific theatre.

The battalion was activated April 1, 1944 in Port Hueneme Advanced
Base Depot, California. It departed in varying casual drafts for Guam
starting April 21, 1944. The completed dredging and salvaging units were
on Guam by August 1, 1944.

The first Officer in Charge of the Battalion was Commander G.T.

Dierking, from April 1 to June 23, 1944. Commander F. G. Elliot assumed command the next day and held the command until June 17, 1945 when he was relieved by Lieutenant Commander C.E. McKay who remained Officer in Charge until replaced by Commander E.E. Harris on December 1, 1945.

Commander Harris remained with the 301st until deactivated April 20, 1946.

As a special battalion for dredging and salvaging operations, the 301st was composed of the pick of dredging men in the Seabees and maintained a high level of performance in the face of varying and diverse assignments in unique situations and often under constant enemy fire.

Headquarters for the battalion remained on Guam while 12 detachments of the battalion were scattered all over the Pacific war zone to dredge harbor bottoms at Guam, Kwajalein, Saipan, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Peleliu and Tinian.

Beginning in May of 1944 the first detachment was sent to Midway to operate and move the Dredge <u>Tualatin</u> from that Island to Roi-Namur, Kwajalein. In Roi, the detachment set up the attendent plant and personnel facilities to operate the dredge in the harbor.

The second detachment was ordered to report to Commander, Service Forces, Pacific for duty on the USS <u>City of Dahlart</u> at Pearl Harbor.

The third detachment was sent to Iroquois Point for duty preparing logistics for support of Guam Headquarters in Service Squadron 12.

The fourth detachment also went to Midway and took over the Dredge Indiana .

The fifth detachment went to Kwajalein for temporary duty aboard

ARD 16 to operate pontoon barge equipment. The sixth detachment also went
to Kwajalein for the same duty aboard ARD 17.

The seventh detachment followed the fifth and sixth aboard the USS Alkes for duty in transporation and quarters.

By the end of July, 1944 the second detachment arrived in Guam from

Pearl Harbor and the fifth, sixth and seventh detachments had completed

operations on Kwajalein and moved to Saipan for dredging operations.

The dredging operations opened up valuable harbors in Kwajalein,
Guam, Saipan until the invasion of Peleliu, Peleliu's harbor dredging
detachment was named the ninth. The ninth came under some enemy fire
but its salvage operations helped clear the harbor for improved logistic
support of the forces fighting on land.

The ninth detachment, as well as the eighth, tenth and eleventh were formed out of the headquarters in Guam. The tenth detachment was assigned to Saipan and the eighth was given the Tinian assignment.

On February 21, 1945, detachment 11 was sent to Iwo Jima to participate in the invasion of the Volcanic Island.

Detachment 12 was formed in May 1945 for participation in the invasion of Okinawa. The 12th detachment was made up of three echelons for Okinawa.

One echelon was assigned to the small island of Ie Shima, while the other two echelons concentrated on harbors at Apra and Baten Ko in Okinawa.

For the conspicuous services rendered all fighting forces in the campaigns of Saipan, Guam, Tinian, Peleliu, Iwo Jima and Okinawa the 301st Battalion was awarded the Navy Unit Citation by the Secretary of the Navy. In the citation Secretary Forrestal noted that the detachments of the 301st were almost always in the lead forces of the beach assaults and on occasion had gone into the enemy harbors to clear obstacles prior to the invasion of the assault forces.

Naval Construction Battalion 301 was inactivated on Guam on April 20, 1946.

DECLASSIFIED

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ITINEPART OF THE SOLET HAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (DREEGING)

21 Apr. 1944 Departed ABD, Port Rueness for Pearl Harbor.

12 May 1944 Assignments of temporary detechments by Commercal to Construction Battalian 301 as follows.

lat Detachment - to Midway to operate Dredge TUALATIN.
2nd Detachment - To report to Commerforpae for duty on
USB CITT OF DALHART to embark for transportation to area of Seronl2.

3rd Detachment - To Iroquois Point for duty handling supplies and transhipment for Seronl2.

4th Detachment - To Midway for assignment to Dredge INDIANA and let Detachment.

5th Detechment - For temporary duty in connection with pontson barge equipment with ARD 16.

6th Detachment - For temperary duty in connection with pontson barge equipment with ARD 17.

7th Detachment - To 00, USS ALKES for transportation and quarters.

July 1944 Operations of the detachments of the 301st Construction Battalion during July as follows:

lat Detachment - Towed the Dredge TUALATIN and attendant plant from Midway to Roi. Set up a new dredging location at Roi-Namur, Kwajalein.

2nd Detachment - Moved from Fearl Harbor to Guam.

Srd Detachment - Handled material and supplies in supporting forward units of Service Squadron 12.

5th. 6th and - Completed operations at Kwajalein and pro-7th Detachments- ceeded to Saipan for dredging operations.

1 Dec. 1944 Sponted at Saipan, Peleliu and Pearl Harber.

1 Apr. 1945 Main unit located at Guam. Other detachments as follows:

3rd Datachment - Located at Pearl Harbor. 8th Detachment - Located at Tinian.

9th Detachment - Returned to Guam from Peleliu on 15 March 1945.

10th Detachunt - Located at Saipan.

11th Detachant - The first echelon of the 11th Detachment left Guam 27 Feb. 1945 and arrived Iwo Jima on 4 March 1945.

May 1945 Personnel distributed as follows:

301st CB (Hdqtrs) - Located at Guam.

YM-18 Dredge Indiana - Located at Guam.

YM-19 Dredge Tualatin- Located at Guam.

YM-20 Dredge Gulfstream - Located at Guam.

YM-21 Dredge New Jersey - Located at Guam.

Ex-Jap Dipper Dredge - Located at Guam.

ITINESARY OF THE SOLET NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (CONT'D)

3rd Detachment - Pearl Harbor.

8th Detachment - Located at Tinian.

10th Detachment - Located at Saipan. OB Dredge #2 is attached to the 10th Detachment at Saipan.

11th Detachment - located at Iwo Jima.

12th Detachment - First schelon located at Okinawa and 2nd and 3rd schelons are enroute to Okinawa.

6 June 1945 Third Detachment at Pearl Harbor disbanded and personnel transferred to ABCD, Pearl Harbor.

1 July 1945 Personnel of the 301st Construction Battalian distributed as follows during June 1948:

YM-20 Dredge Gulfstream - Located at Guam. YM-21 Dredge New Jersey - Located at Guam. YM-301 Hawks O'Hara - Located at Guam. Sth Detachment - Located at Tinian.

10th Detachment - Located at Saipan. CB Dredge #2 attached to the 10th Detachment at Saipan.

11th Detachment - Located at Iwo Jima.

12th Detachment - Located at Okinawa. TD-69
Dredge attached to the 12th
Detachment at Okinawa.

11 Aug. 1945 GB Detachment 1068 inactivated and personnel transferred to the 301st Construction Battalion.

NOTE: This itinerary based on records available in C. B. Operations and Personnel Section of Suresu of Naval Personnel.

Date: 22 September 1945.











