

THE 135TH U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION REVIEW

FOREWORD

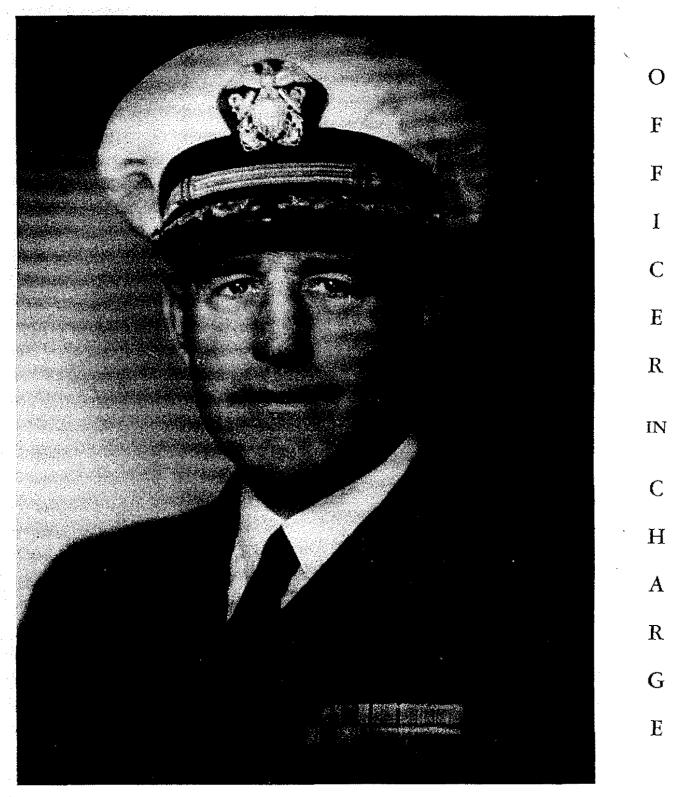
The record of the 135th Battalion laid before you within the pages of this book, reveals clearly the character of that Unit, a character built by the efforts, strong spirits, and abilities of all hands, such a character that made the 135th Battalion outstanding among the Seabees.

This book is dedicated to those loved ones at home for whom we served, worked, and from whom we were so long separated. It is a record of achievements, of hardships, of hazardous undertakings, of pleasures, of relationships, and of occasions that cemented those acquaintances into friendships that will last on through the years to come.

This record of two years service, devoted to helping win the war, to the Navy, and to our country, cannot but assure that those who accomplished so much as a unit, in the building of airfields, and camps, and in the completion of all assignments given, will keep ever before them the ideals of service and the fine records established, and as individuals, in the building of homes, of farms, and of industries, will do their part in the maintaining of peace for which we have fought so dearly.

It has been an honor to have served with the personnel of this battalion, who by their records of accomplishments have made those at home rightly proud. Judging by those records, which were not made through the efforts of any one member of the Battalion, but through the concerted efforts of all, it is certain that they will account well for their share of the great tasks that will require strong and wise men, tasks that lie ahead in the reconstruction of America, and the world.

Paul B. Tillette

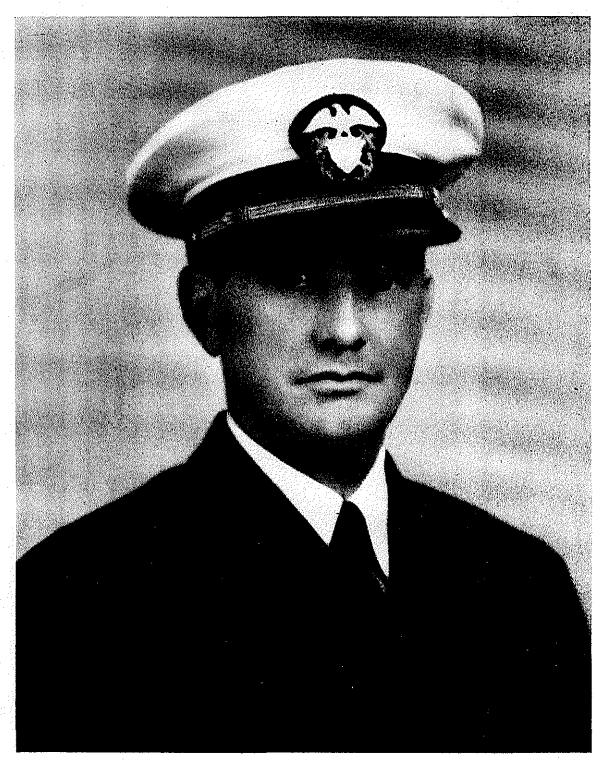


COMMANDER PAUL C. GILLETTE Civil Engineer Corps, USNR

The skipper makes his home in Arlington, Virginia. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A & M College in 1913, and in 1916-18 he did post-graduate work in hydro-electric engineering at the University of Wisconsin where he was awarded a fellowship in hydraulic research.

Commander Gillette served in World War I as a first lieutenant in the Engineer Officer Reserve Corps. In 1924 he attended Cavalry School and in 1925 the Advanced Engineering Training School.

In civilian life he supervised dredging and the building of docks and dry docks for the Panama Canal Commission. Later he was engaged in rock fill dam and tunnel construction, inventory and valuation of hydro-electric water supply, public utilities and electrical equipment and the designing of dam and reservoir structures for the War Department, U. S. Engineers. Subsequently he was employed by the U. S. Treasury Department on reports on condition and life of ships, tugs, docks and public utilities. Immediately prior to his assignment as Officer-in-Charge of the 135th N.C.B. he was assigned to the Program and Statistical Department, Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. His wife, Martha Taylor Gillette, lives at their home in Arlington.



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LIEUTENANT COMMANDER GARY C. BANKS

Civil Engineer Corps, USNR

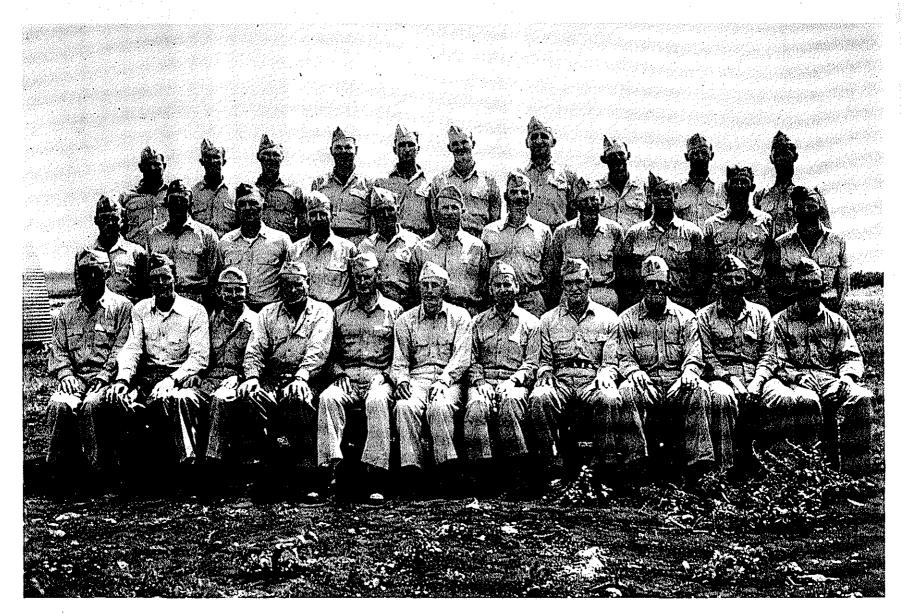
The Executive Officer comes from Windermere, Charleston, South Carolina. He attended Clemson College and received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Carolina in 1927. In civilian life he was a resident engineer and maintenance superintendent with the South Carolina State Highway Department. Mr. Banks, who was originally assigned to the 96th Battalion, joined the 135th in October, 1943, and became Executive Officer in June, 1944. He is married and has three children.



OFFICERS OF THE STAFF



	<u>.</u>
Front row, left to right:	
Lieutenant L. L. McIntyre, CEC, USNR	Construction Officer
Lieutenant Commander G. C. Banks, CEC, USNR	Executive Officer
Commander Paul C. Gillette, CEC, USNR	Officer in Charge
Lieutenant Commander W. R. Long, MC, USNR	Medical Officer
Lieutenant Commander B. L. Tulin, DC, USNR	Dental Officer
Back row, left to right:	
Lieutenant E. M. Meldon, SC, USNR	Supply Officer
Lieutenant (jg) J. R. Wassell, MC, USNR	Junior Medical Officer
Lieutenant (jg) O. A. Stoutland, CEC, USNR	Assistant Engineering Officer
Lieutenant A. A. Azlein, ChC, USNR	Chaplain
Lieutenant (jg) J. M. Wilson, CEC, USNR	Personnel Officer
Lieutenant I. I. Moore SC LISNR	Disbursing Officer



OFFICERS OF THE 135TH



First row, left to right: Lt. (jg) O. A. Stoutland; Lt. (jg) J. R. Wassell; Lieut. E. M. Meldon; Lieut. L. L. McIntyre; Lieut. Comdr. G. C. Banks; Commander P. C. Gillette; Lieut. Comdr. W. R. Long; Lieut. Comdr. B. L. Tulin; Lt. (jg) J. M. Wilson; Lieut. J. J. Moore; Lieut. A. A. Azlein. Second row: Lt. (jg) O. J. Lillevang; Lieut. J. R. Henshaw; Lieut. J. M. Curran; Lieut. J. Ritter; Lieut. J. D. Ray; Lieut. D. L. Roberts; Lieut. J. R. O'Brien; Lieut. D. Harrison, Jr.; Lieut. W. T. Horner; Lt. (jg) W. O. Peterson; Lt. (jg) W. J. McDonald. Third row: Chief Warrant Officers T. E. Stringer; J. B. White; R. Reynen; J. E. Peterson; V. J. Watson; R. S. Cromley; J. P. Zamichiei; Z. C. Davidson; J. T. Jorgenson; A. D. White.



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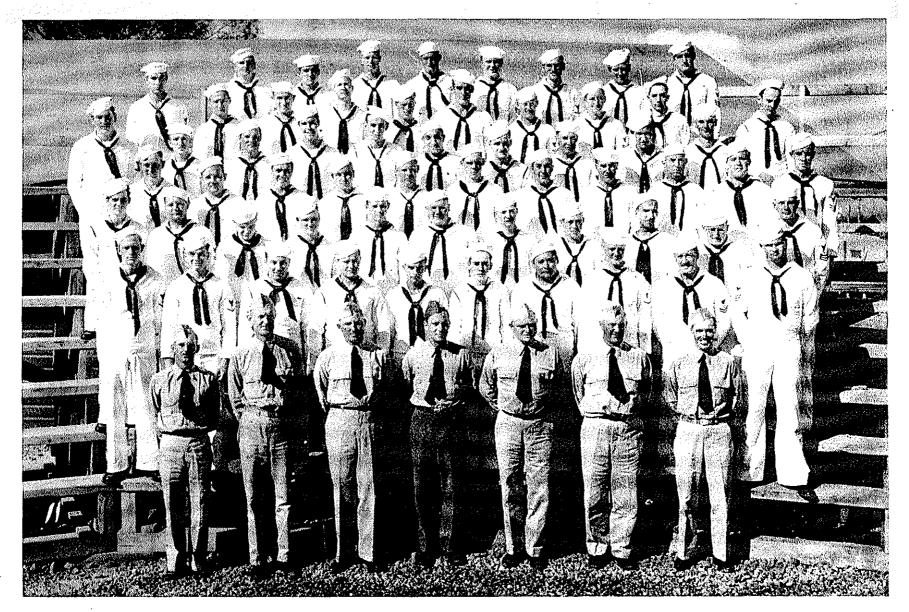
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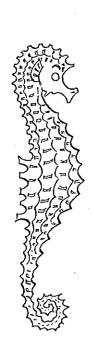
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LIEUTENANT URBAN P. KENNEDY
Civil Engineer Corps, USNR

Previous to retirement, June 1, 1945, Lt. Kennedy was Executive Officer of the 135th Battalion from its formation, October, 1943, to June, 1944. He entered the Navy, January, 1943. Attended University of Oklahoma, received Bachelor of Science degree, 1926. In civilian life he was Construction Contractor in Houston, Texas, where he now resides with wife and one child.

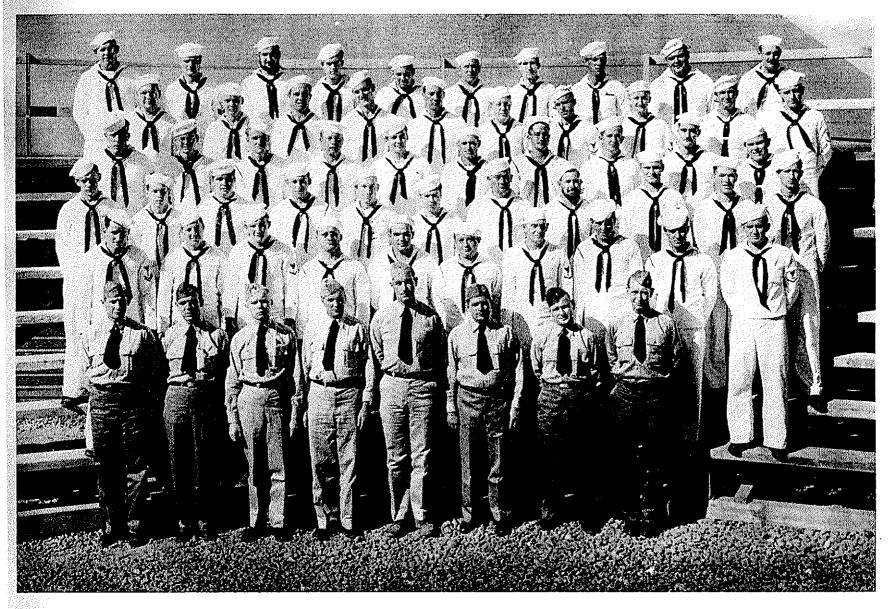


HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, PLATOON ONE



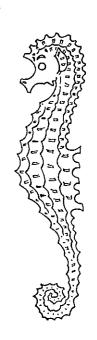
Left to right, first row: R. B. Castle, Jr., W. V. Tebay, J. S. Pilkington, R. H. Keller, W. C. Duckett, O. A. Stoutland, L. D. Danielson. Second row: L. L. Barker, P. N. Landucci, A. L. Somers, R. H. Hasstedt, W. B. Hirter, C. E. Paige, J. H. Cata, C. F. Hallam, J. R. Billingsley, O. B. Harvey. Third row: R. A. Fowler, C. W. Pritchard, H. E. Conard, S. A. Crouthamel, J. A. Dove, R. E. Pinkley, R. K. Graham, S. L. Mann, G. K. Ainsworth, L. C. Carr, E. H. Kruger. Fourth row: S. C. Anderson, P. Shirkus, E. L. Bondurant, G. C. Dahlvang, R. A. Bowers, G. G. Ellis, N. R. Quackenbush, J. N. Black, F. H. Lanham, R. C.Crawford, Jr., L. P. French. Fifth row: J. B. Carrier, A. E. Baggenstross, H. E. Baylis, G. E. Cain, L. E. Bullard, J. S. Postiglione, G. B. Mauro, C. F. Ostrander, R. A. Bond, S. H. Gordon. Sixth row: A. W. Baker, C. Youren, M. Senecoff, E. Q. Hansen, R. J. Danielski, J. B. McLean, W. N. Simmons, C. W. Wright, V. W. Salvatore, J. T. Lenahan. Seventh row: G. Holin, Jr., M. R. Sherman, G. J. Ciberay, G. W. True, Jr., A. J. Domack, W. S. Kwiatkowski, W. M. Hammond, D. M. Smith.





HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, PLATOON TWO

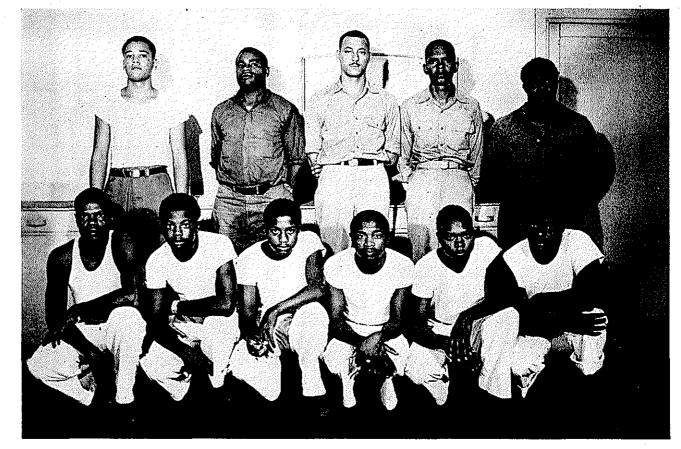
Left to right, first row: L. A. Smith, W. E. Grigsby, Jr., H. S. Bobb, W. C. Wunnicke, M. H. Burton, L. B. Schremp, T. J. Dec, E. B. Morgan. Second row: H. P. Graham, L. C. Barbarossa, D. Rubis, J. A. Costa, J. A. Jasienski, J. Sarner, E. J. Peace. W. J. Hanna, J. T. Boccio, J. J. Reagan. Third row: W. J. Unbanik, E. Reimann, R. P. Roy, M. Klein, J. C. C. Settle, E. R. Paradis, C. L. Samson, J. Edwards, E. P. Sprague, L. E. Potts, J. H. Gay. Fourth row: P. W. Nolden, J. S. Brillhart, A. D. Sheldon, J. J. Norinkavich, E. H.Royle, J. M. Davis, K. V. Barron, E. C. Dolley, W. Kurrle, Jr., C. E. Entzminger. Fifth row: C. N. Breish, J. A. Green, E. F. Nikolas, E. S. Way, J. Mann, C. H. Quinlan, W. A. Pinkham, Jr., H. M. Viele, W. Haney, Jr., T. G. O'Donnell. Sixth row: E. J. Stout, B. O. Daniels, A. A. Dobransky, W. H. Toy, Jr., A. G. Schroeder, J. O. Boisvert, E. Myrice, R. L. Chandler, C. J. Perotto, W. J. Buchner.



OFFICERS' COOKS AND STEWARDS

Left to right, front row:
W. J. Roberts, H. W. Brathwaite, J. W. Butler, A. H. Polk,
C. H. Green, Jr., J. Rogers.

Back row: E. Kimbrough, J. P. Little, E. R. Kirkland, J. C. Crittenden, Sr., M. Clemons.



135TH PONTOON DETACHMENT— VOLUNTEERS IN INVASION OF ANGAUR

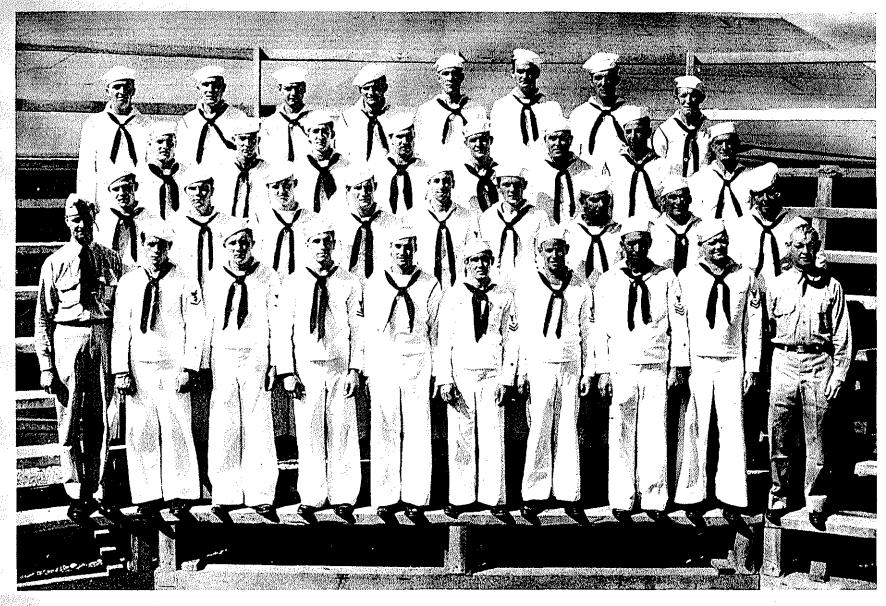


Left to right, front row:
D. E. Kirkby, S. J. Favolaro, D.

F. Bice, Jr., J. G. Krantz, E. H. Jarrell.

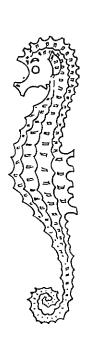
Second row: J. M. Ballweg, B. E. Lonergan, W. J. Pauli, P. E. Hilley, E. W. Chriswell, R. M. Gulley.

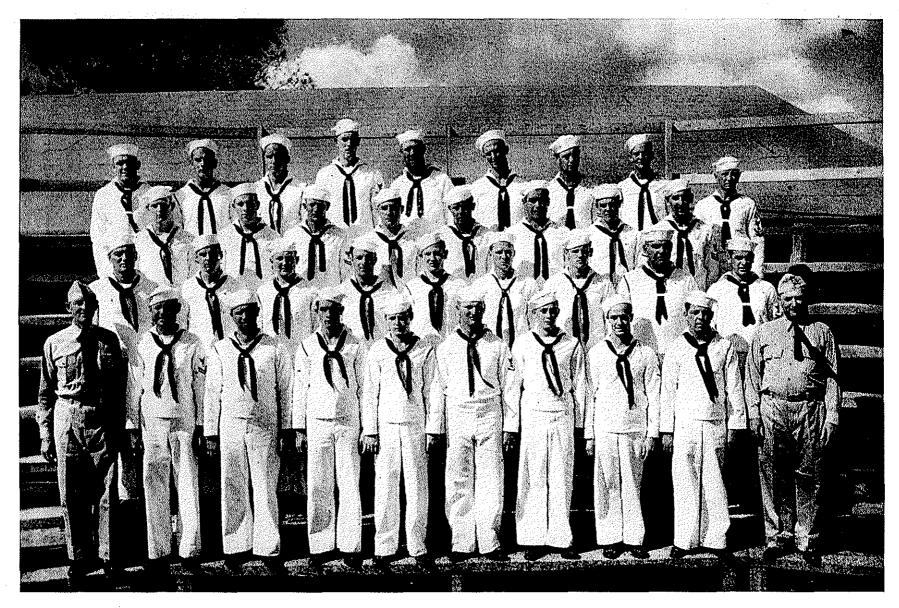
Third row: E. B. Hill, L. Hicks, W. P. Pintz, Lieut. J. M. Curran, J. W. Gray, E. Saari, G. E. Murphy.



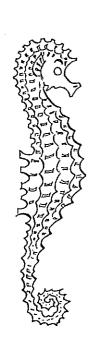
COMPANY "A", PLATOON ONE

Left to right, first row: P. H. Steelberg, W. M. Aubuchon, J. D. Carter, H. Scheer, L. O. Dunn, F. J. Hagendorf, J. Schriner, D. C. LaTourelle, H. Sheldron, R. M. Kenney. Second row: E. J. Weisler, C. J. O'Donnell, H. T. Kask, G. E. Walls, D. E. Arivette, J. H. Cook, P. E. Wright, D. E. Isabell, J. F. Nugent. Third row: E. W. Schimpf, Jr., A. V. Ross, A. R. Dickerson, E. R. Ritt, Jr., L. M. Wendell, J. P. Palsa, M. S. Olson, C. T. Avis. Fourth row: R. T. Dawson, A. F. Oestmann, E. Sabella, G. B. Rupp, G. M. Wolf, C. M. Seevers, C. B. Zielinski, E. P. Fitzgerald.

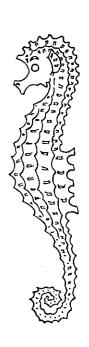


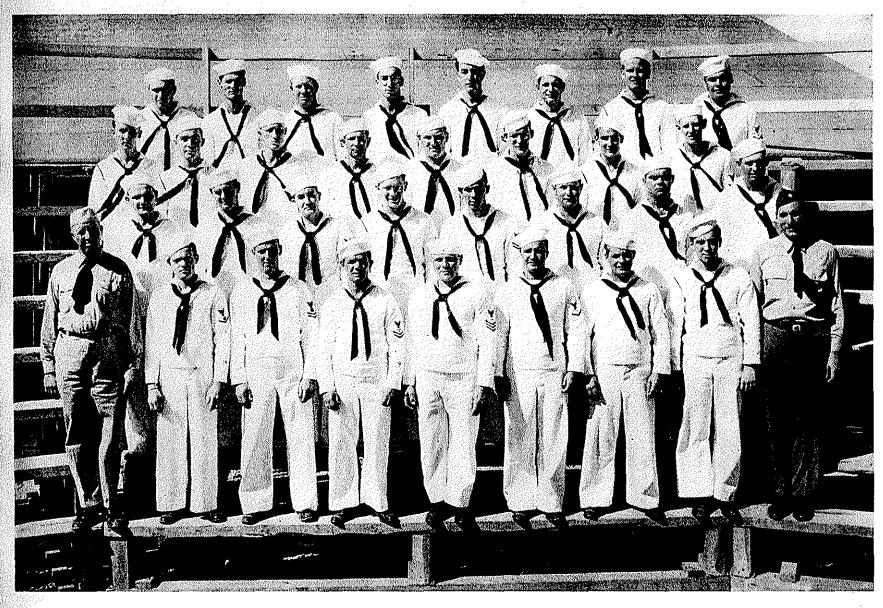


COMPANY "A", PLATOON TWO



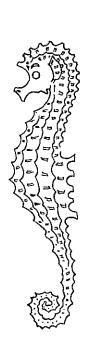
Left to right, first row: F. E. Beckman, J. E. Wilson, J. J. Wszolek, H. G. Hoden, P. J. Brunish, R. J. Pierce, J. E. Morin, A. D. LaFave, E. D. Johnston, P. Stefan. Second row: L. C. Frye, R. D. Erdman, G. S. Skog, C. J. Margello, H. Neerenberg, W. S. Wise, C. L. Gales, L. Parsetich, C. K. Ison. Third row: C. A. Wyman, S. E. Lane, P. S. Wharton, R. J. Montemurro, I. H. Lilley, W. B. Maxey, F. R. Jackson, H. A. Realing. Fourth row: J. H. Beagan, R. L. Bichelle, V. F. Grayham, T. P. Becker, B. L. Dutschke, C. S. Merryman, J. W. Bass, F. N. Lutz.

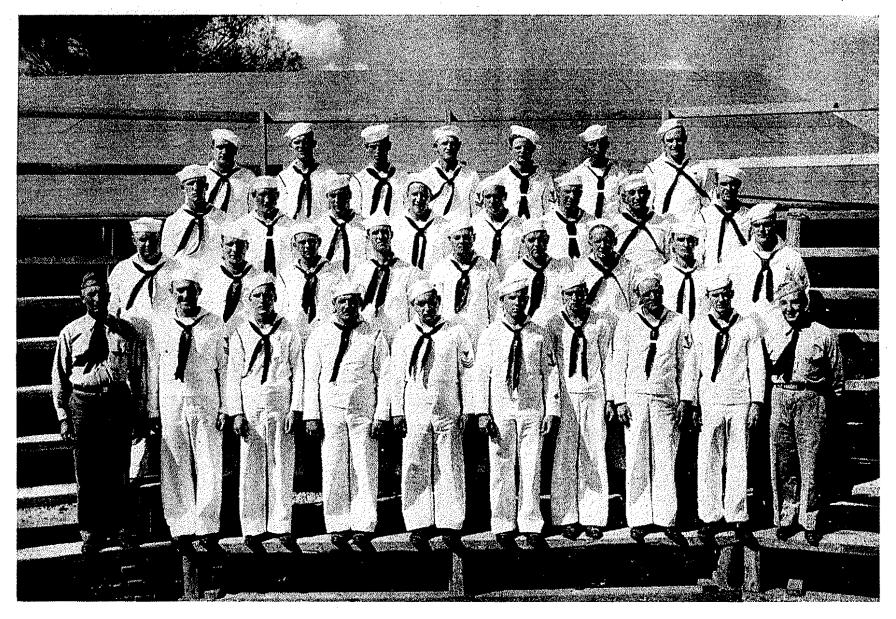




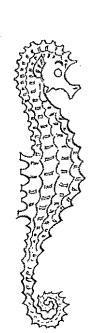
COMPANY "A", PLATOON THREE

Left to right, first row: B. White, T. L. Floyd, Jr., W. A. Hudgins, R. V. Collins, J. Y. Stahl, R. J. Charters, T. T. Trondle, D. F. Alberts, E. L. Griepentrog. Second row: A. E. Schrock, E. O. York, C. J. Fanning, E. E. Paris, B. S. Shipman, R. Patterson, Jr., J. Carter, M. Pope. Third row: J. M. Doster, Jr., R. C. Williams, J. W. Hunderman, S. I. Smith, A. J. Kronaizl, D. L. Odell, M. E. Novak, H. H. Kriegel. Fourth row: T. J. Moore, S. J. Sheen, E. F. Grimes, L. B. Cecil, T. M. Wortsman, C. J. Psikus, H. H. Allen, R. P. Morris.

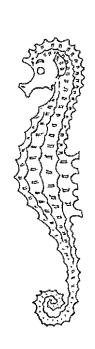


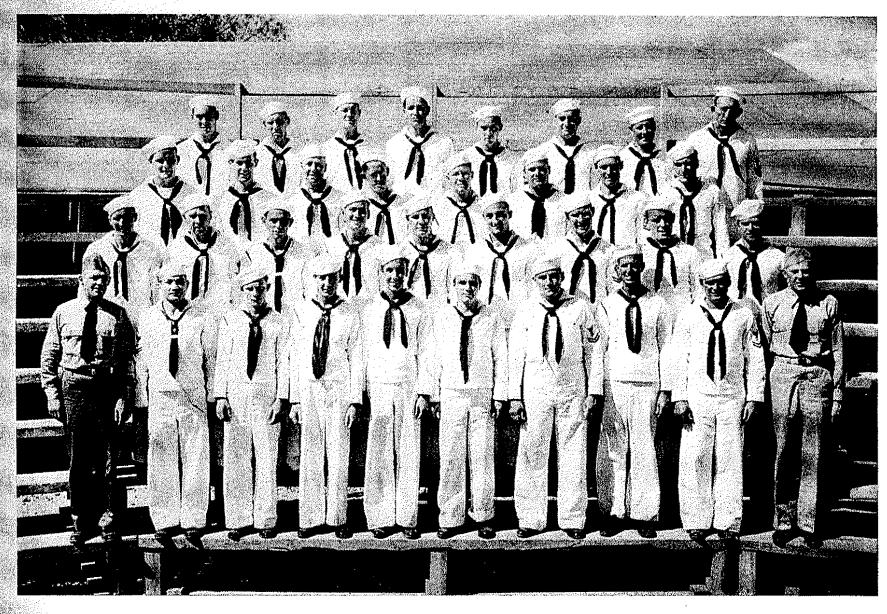


COMPANY "A", PLATOON FOUR



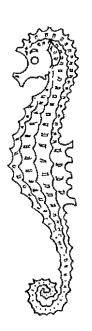
Left to right, first row: M. S. Force, H. L. Mampel, R. J. Bertrand, J. Bobele, A. Rossi, R. L. Brunies, S. Klem, C. Sherman, G. Poole, T. J. Germain, Jr. Second row: G. F. Dugan, W. H. Harper, M. L. Rauhauser, R. L. Adkins, M. H. Nelson, A. W. Lawson, L. M. Stanton, C. Davis, R. E. Normandin. Third row: S. W. Dietrich, R. E. Stafford, B. G. Rafferty, B. E. Nagy, H. G. Ontto, T. E. Foster, A. Penebre, H. F. Bundens. Fourth row: V. J. Kiddle, R. Keller, R. F. Herline, G. G. Stewart, W. P. Guess, J. R. Henson, K. W. Heavins.

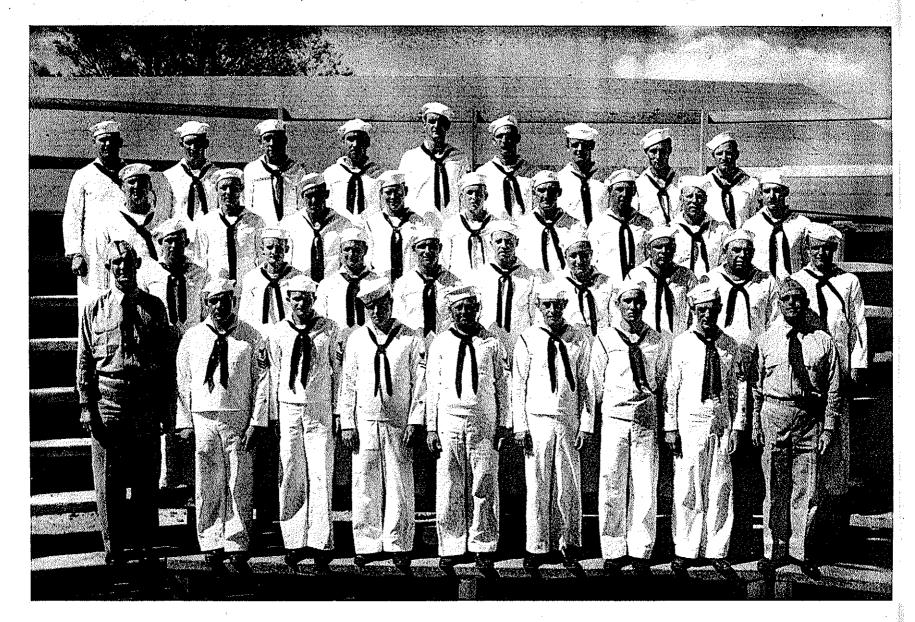




COMPANY "A", PLATOON FIVE

Left to right, first row: W. L. Wiscom, Sr., H. M. Scott, E. Case, J. P. O'Neil, A. O. Klipfel, H. Scawthorne, Jr., E. Vissell, C. Scribner, A. Valentine, W. J. Carr. Second row: C. J. Seidl, J. R. Rawlins, R. Nelson, M. M. Rudnitsky, G. E. Jacobs, C. E. Hartman, J. E. Bean, R. L. Troxell, T. P. Rys. Third row: B. Blankenship, G. H. Eckerson, W. R. Anderson, D. E. Newhouser, W. R. Lewis, F. N. Hyde, L. E. Meyer, E. C. Shaffer, Jr. Fourth row: N. T. Driver, P. H. Kinney, T. E. Walkden, J. Alexander, L. R. Halton, F. Bloom, W. E. Knell, B. G. Reining.

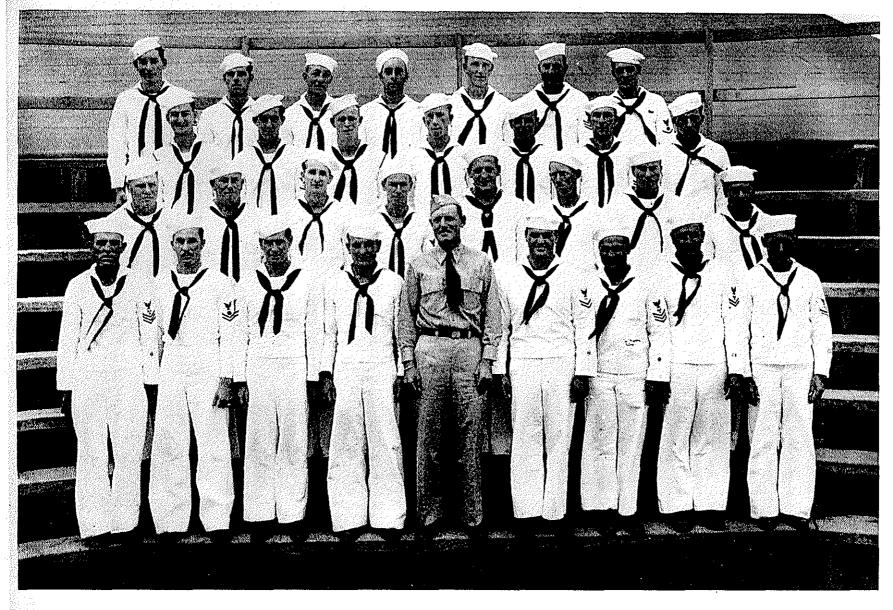




COMPANY "A", PLATOON SIX

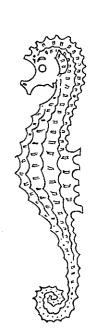


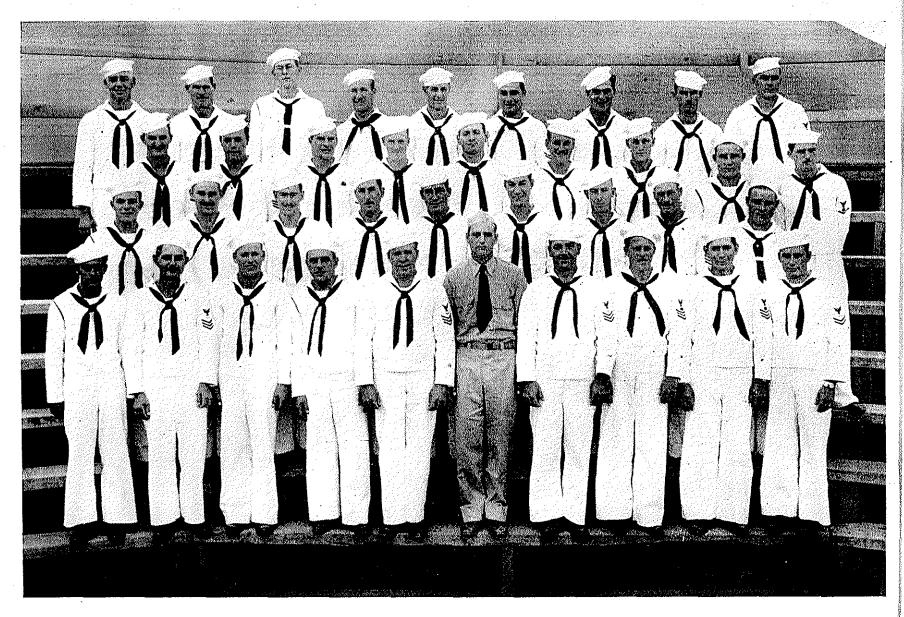
Left to right, first row: R. Naugle, G. F. Yeager, A. W. Maull, A. N. Brooks, J. A. Allix, Jr., E. Mills, W. G. Olmstead, M. J. Hogan, E. S. Smith. Second row: E. L. Wallace, J. D. Rollins, A. R. McCrory, F. E. Pintur, J. B. Emig, L. J. Samson, J. M. Mijal, F. C. Barnett, M. F. Kirk. Third row: H. K. Roach, R. E. Dickerson, V. G. Netzel, R. T. Olerenshaw, M. D. Armstrong, H. F. Stevens, H. H. Towndsend, J. A. Kozlowski, R. H. Spies. Fourth row: H. W. Shears, F. H. Waddill, E. D. Bryan, S. B. Kehoe, C. P. Jones, W. S. Johnson, A. F. Way, E. E. Feldt, A. D. Brown.



COMPANY "B", PLATOON ONE

Left to right, first row: R. L. Good, E. N. Chesser, H. E. Freeman, W. J. Graham, J. M. Knox, H. L. Townsend, C. F. Raskopf, J. M. Butz, P. F. Putney. Second row: L. R. McAllister, C. J. Hauer, E. B. Telford, F. H. Parks, C. L. Schenk, T. P. Blaney, M. A. Hays, J. R. Cooper. Third row: W. G. Burke, W. H. Emmett, J. A. Scoggins, R. J. O'Brien, B. E. Williams, G. R. Schneider, E. K. Moore. Fourth row: M. S. Parmley, G. A. Chaloux, G. B. Burns, E. W. Salmi, F. E. Liska, C. A. Schroeder, K. V. LaPointe.

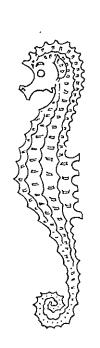


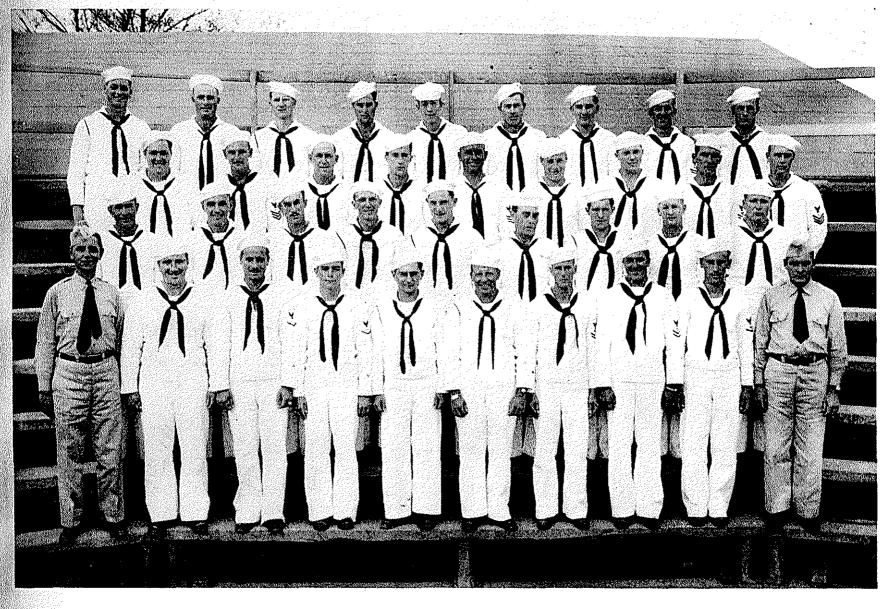


COMPANY "B", PLATOON TWO



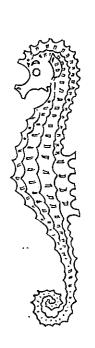
Left to right, first row: G. Lima, E. L. Goodman, V. Hensley, C. C. Platt, G. A. Chamberlin, Jr., M. J. Bowers, H. G. Cornthwaite, W. J. Rasch, E. T. Grisham, J. W. Blunt. Second row: D. S. Gurnee, Jr., R. L. Holmes, W. D. Clardy, L. J. Schmiecher, L. F. Christie, J. P. J. Weber, G. W. Bartholemew, C. J. Dickens, A. A. Carmichael. Third row: A. A. Flaminio, H. G. Reiff, W. J. Hackler, O. N. Killian, L. Rappoport, J. P. Smith, C. A. Belew, M. O. Carmichael, M. G. Hill. Fourth row: L. W. Ringrose, S. T. Wallace, A. R. Gelskey, H. B. Watson, L. H. Libby, J. S. Niegoda, S. P. Toschak, O. K. Mercer, K. B. Buell.

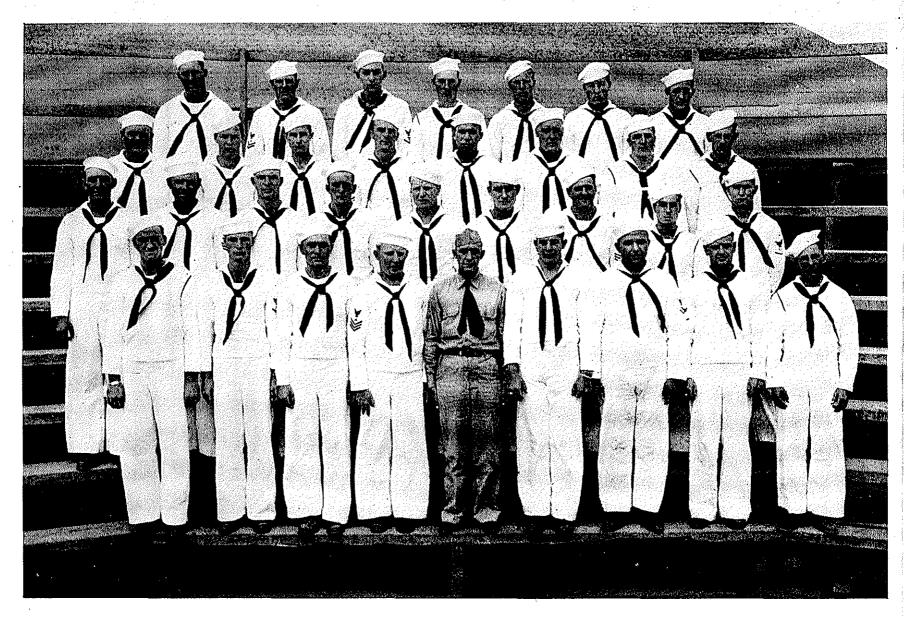




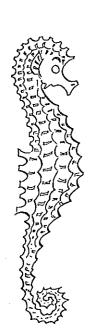
COMPANY "B", PLATOON THREE

Left to right, first row: C. J. Stickelmyer, E. C. Gallagher, O. H. Gutherz, H. E. Griffith, W. J. Schin, J. W. Rapp, H. F. Johnson, C. E. Holmgren, F. H. Ogley, D. E. Inglett. Second row: W. C. Embry, W. E. Ronka, H. E. Griffith, B. A. Nelson, M. Weintraub, L. C. Newell, F. Hickey, Jr., C. H. Ormesher, R. A. Powroznik. Third row: J. V. Kerivan, J. Nonnenmacher, W. J. Wagner, R. L. Houting, D. H. Rowden, O. J. Jungles, P. P. Kolnik, L. L. Sylva, H. R. Nelson. Fourth row: J. W. Nutt, G. E. Stewart, K. J. Moser, W. R. Baker, E. H. Gronlie, O. Gardner, J. F. Macey, F. Quarg, C. C. Cunningham.



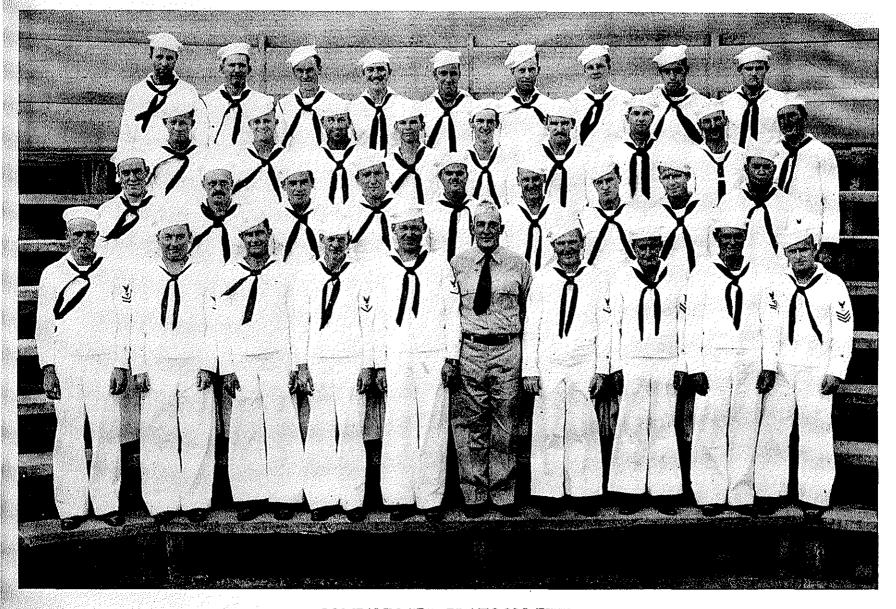


COMPANY "B", PLATOON FOUR



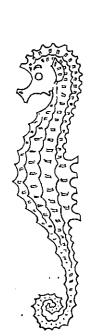
Left to right, first row: J. J. Kelly, M. C. Page, P. Gioannini, O. J. Price, J. W. Woosley, J. B. Patterson, L. Keyser, C. S. Riley, H. Martin. Second row: R. R. Morley, C. J. Austin, D. Shockley, E. E. Maki, H. S. Krieger, J. R. Miller, G. M. Jaffola, A. Costa, G. E. Brunk. Third row: R. F. Manuel, O. E. Dunn, L. I. Gardner, A. Kauppinen, J. K. McDonald, J. D. McLaughlin, D. S. Nowak, S. M. Conchewski. Fourth row: F. L. Helmbrecht, H. W. Howard, J. W. Daunhauer, L. D. Robbins, A. W. Stewart, L. R. Dalrymple, A. P. Melson.

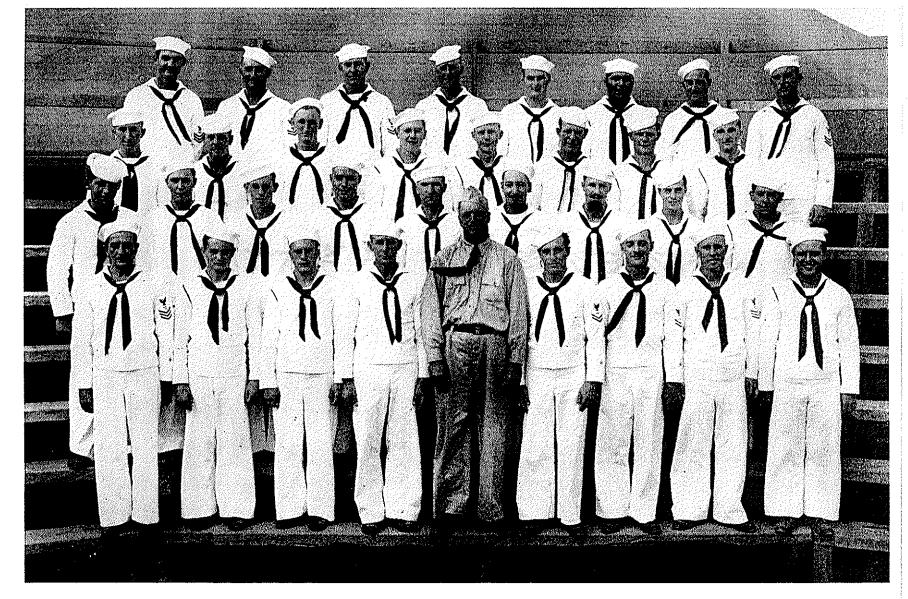




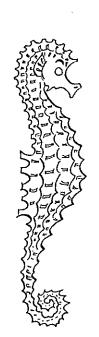
COMPANY "B", PLATOON FIVE

Left to right, first row: W. G. Hopton, Jr., J. W. Feehan, D. Borg, W. O. Blakeney, E. A. Christians, C. T. Crose, E. J. Reilly, L. J. Roy, C. F. Heinly, J. C. Sweeney. Second row: A. Perreault, A. Rossmann, J. J. Plunkett, M. Kornblatt, J. S. Latoza, G. L. Schoner, F. J. Lombard, D. A. Snow, R. B. Colborn. Third row: W. M. Crews, W. H. Cole, B. J. Bodrie, J. C. Orr, W. E. Phillips, T. S. Taylor, W. R. Peabody, A. E. Menzies, W. H. Gilmore. Fourth row: C. R. Garner, L. J. Missimer, Jr., W. D. Stanford, C. J. Spies, W. E. Feick, L. D. Paris, S. S. Olson, J. P. Bisio, F. C. Tate.

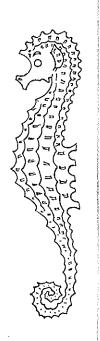


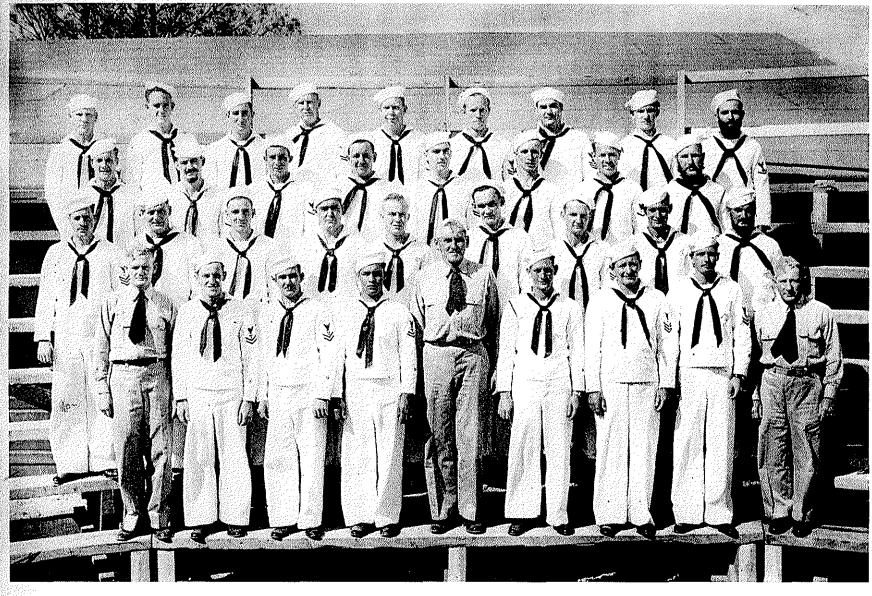


COMPANY "B", PLATOON SIX

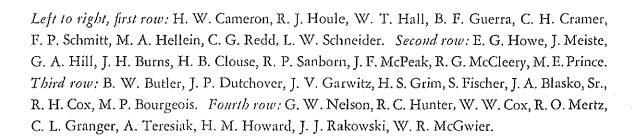


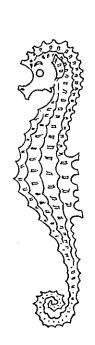
Left to right, first row: O. J. Meyerhoffer, N. L. Schott, T. J. Smith, M. B. Boyce, F. Tanner, R. M. O'Rourke, W. L. Rogers, L. M. Martin, G. G. Palinko. Second row: D. J. Spinelli, H. Schmiedel, Jr., O. C. Smith, R. D. Millhollin, V. P. Rogers, T. C. McCoy, E. R. McAdams, R. E. North, A. W. Margolis. Third row: W. R. Painter, J. E. Schulte, C. H. Nichols, A. B. Noble, L. O. Sachtler, W. O. Tuthill, G. M. Carlton, J. H. Schadt. Fourth row: W. T. Asire, H. T. Verney, J. W. Lee, W. J. Boone, E. A. Norton, J. Fernando, A. P. Shorman, C. Michalsky.

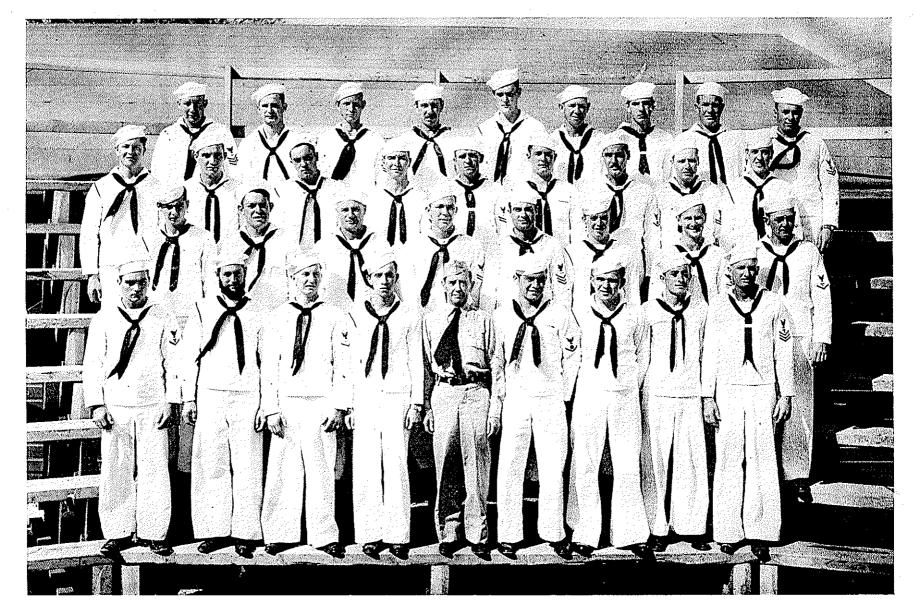




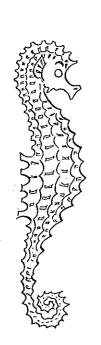
COMPANY "C", PLATOON ONE



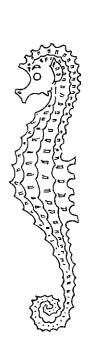


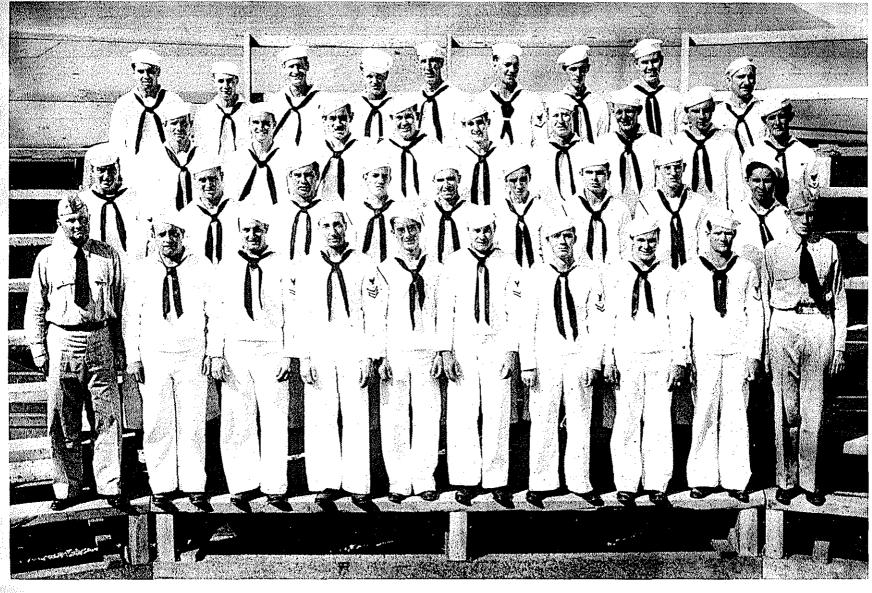


COMPANY "C", PLATOON TWO

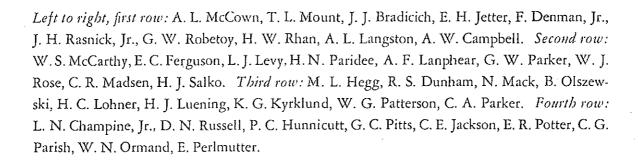


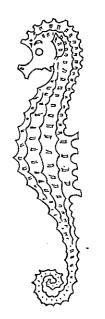
Left to right, first row: P. Jackson, J. R. Muise, L. A. Kowalczyk, G. H. Hofmann, C. M. Hallett, D. A. Leone, R. A. Papiernick, C. H. Burkhalter, H. A. Babin. Second row: B. Platt, W. A. Hayes, B. W. Douglas, H. A. Griffin, C. A. Gregory, L. B. Leet, E. W. Gray, L. H. S. Knoble. Third row: P. Machac, D. K. Eads, H. C. Christianson, W. K. Nicholls, E. F. Lounsbury, R. A. Smither, J. T. Wagnon, J. T. Beahan, W. F. O'Hare. Fourth row: N. P. Petersen, J. Buyan, L. C. Fain, B. T. Bolton, W. H. Dokken, G. W. Birch, W. K. O'Connor, Jr., C. O. Dawson, C. L. Scarlett.

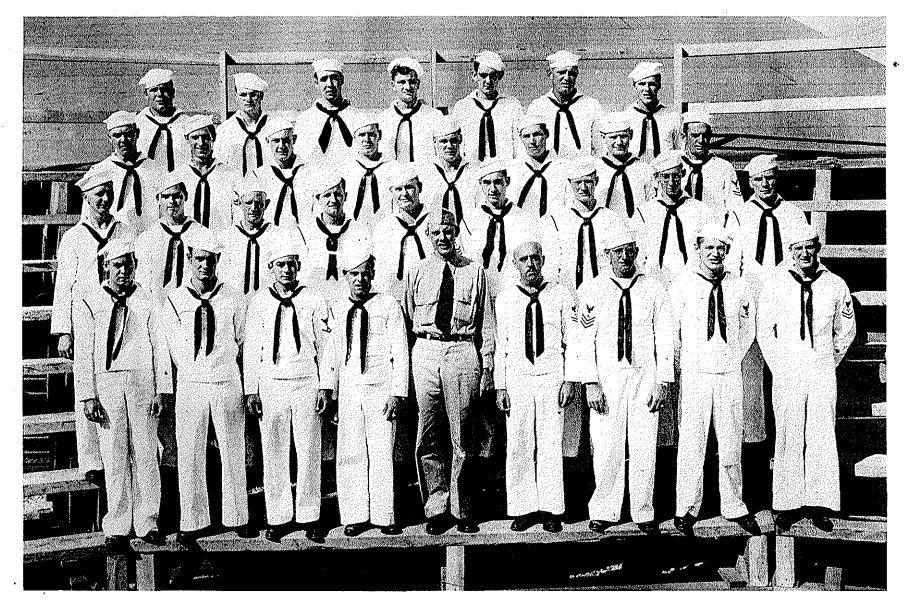




COMPANY "C", PLATOON THREE



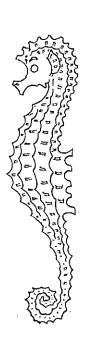


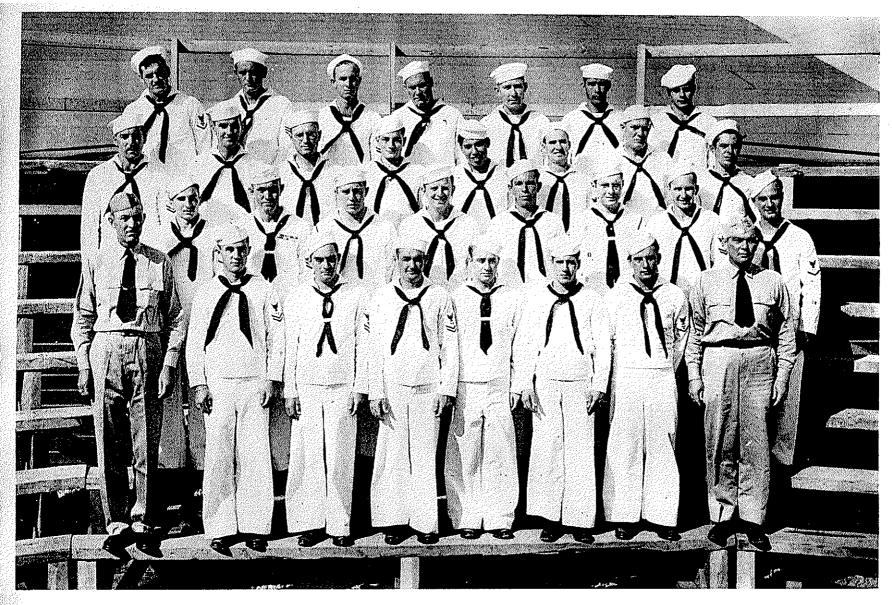


COMPANY "C", PLATOON FOUR



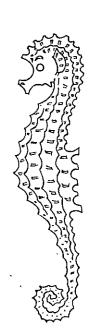
Left to right, first row: R. L. Sharp, J. D. Tomaselli, B. J. Ferraro, F. Panella, J. Jefferson, Jr., R. L. Pothier, L. C. Ahnen, R. R. Kalis, W. P. Graham. Second row: H. A. Brodin, R. E. L. Thomas, B. F. Ross, S. Nyzio, J. G. Hood, R. J. Riggs, H. L. Root, C. D. Rosendale, L. C. Seefeldt. Third row: K. A. Small, E. F. Ross, T. J. Spurlock, G. H. DesJardins, L. V. Rice, H. D. Havard, F. J. Whitington, T. J. Roche. Fourth row: R. C. Gillum, L. H. Lorenzen, W. A. Lind, H. J. Hamp, L. C. Rodman, W. A. Crawford, J. F. Rodgers

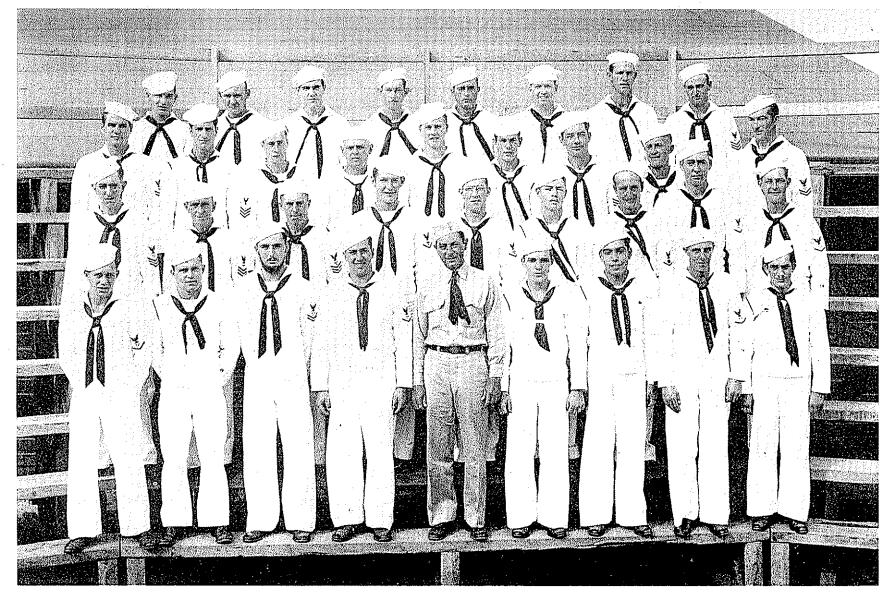




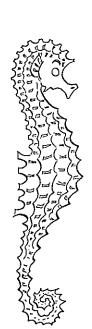
COMPANY "C", PLATOON FIVE

Left to right first row: E. R. Hinkle, W, S. Eoff, J. A. Whiteman, J. R. Owen, W. F. Schinderling, D. J. Perry, A. R. Achilles, J. J. Tuell. Second row: B. Pirofsky, A. Boucher, K. A. Rossi, M. J. Skupien, E. G. Crews, P. C. Ouellette, M. D. Hargrove, G. M. Torsan. Third row: A. G. G. Cote, R. E. Duley, M. Rosenholtz, E. I. Lewis, F. Rosales, Jr., F. J. Rene, O. M. Dollarhide, W. A. Hayes. Fourth row: B. F. Davies, J. V. Courts, R. B. Cofield, R. S. Massison, G. L. Quick, R. T. Schumacher, W. W. Hammill.

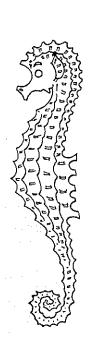


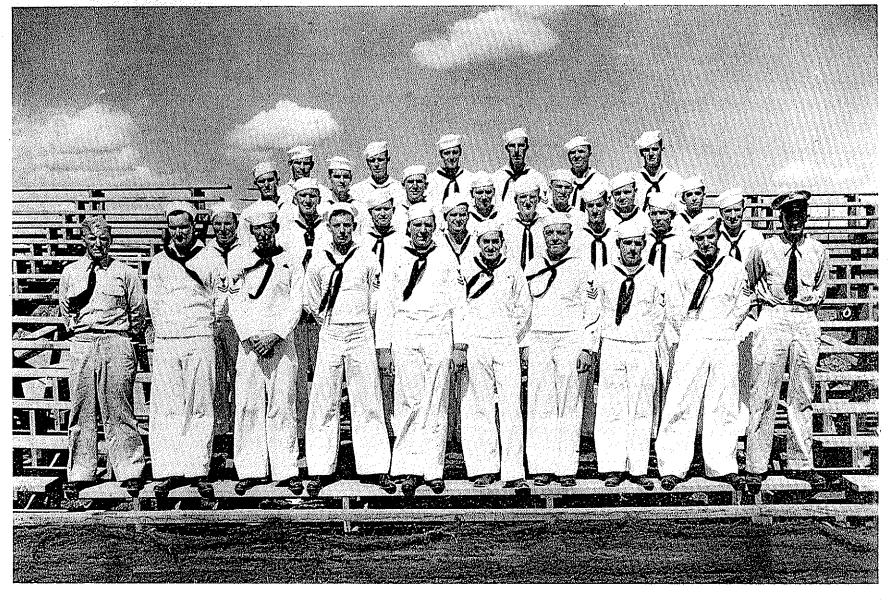


COMPANY "C", PLATOON SIX

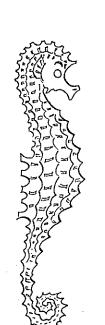


Left to right, first row: H. J. LeMieux, Jr., R. A. Schoenleber, E. P. Eckles, R. V. Girard, C. A. Kahn, F. J. Klavinski, Jr., A. C. Tapia, A. C. Hisle, J. F. Simas, Jr. Second row: C. F. Farabaugh, F. L. Benziger, B. R. Gould, J. J. Holland, E. E. Schultz, L. Williams, J. D. Henderson, E. L. Cooper, R. V. Hale. Third row: R. E. Gore, J. Roppa, E. C. Emerson, M. E. Huffman, J. L. Peresie, M. R. Simonds, Jr., T. A. Pascoe, W. H. Payton, P. J. Kiselica, Jr. Fourth row: E. A. Gaskins, J. A. Cooper, J. E. Carnes, R. C. Hunter, J. P. Cummings, L. R. Hunter, F. L. Jensen, F. C. Green, Jr.



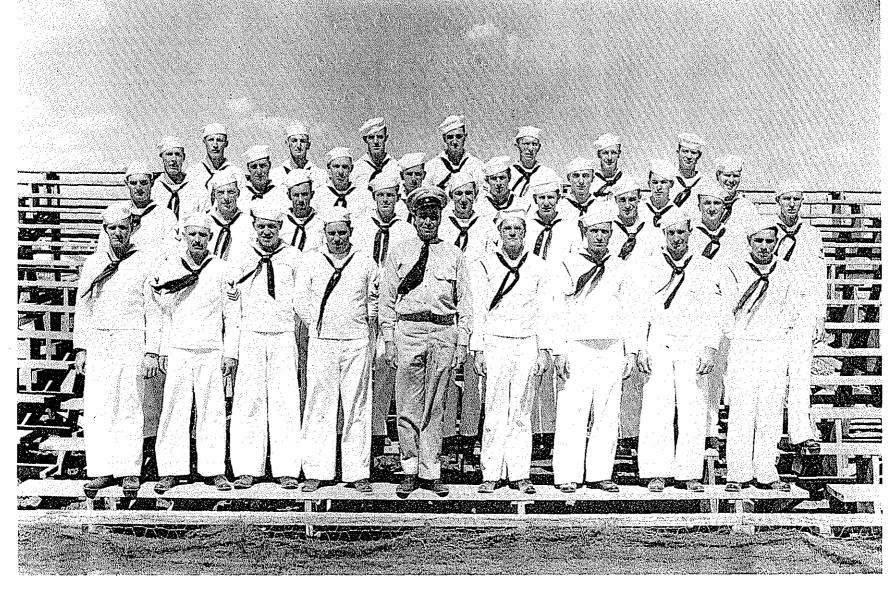


COMPANY "D", PLATOON ONE

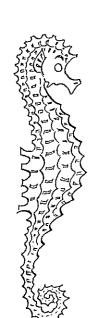


Left to right, first row: A. G. Matherly, C. J. McCarthy, W. H. McConnell, R. J. Ritchey, H. F. Urbach, N. Rosenberg, J. E. Endacott, J. J. Delaney, J. J. Calande, J. D. Riggs. Second row: W. D. White, F. H. Czaplinski, W. E. Warf, R. E. Mathis, N. J. Symons, O. L. Polfus, C. Blackledge, J. A. Babin. Third row: J. McDowell, A. H. Osterlund, A. L. Eklund, R. E. Green, E. Yannelli, J. H. Beall, J. Brancato. Fourth row: R. H. Calhoun, V. Combs, L. E. Arneson, J. F. Hammel, A. W. Giese, W. L. Steele.

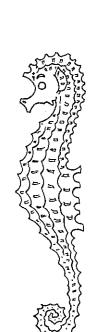


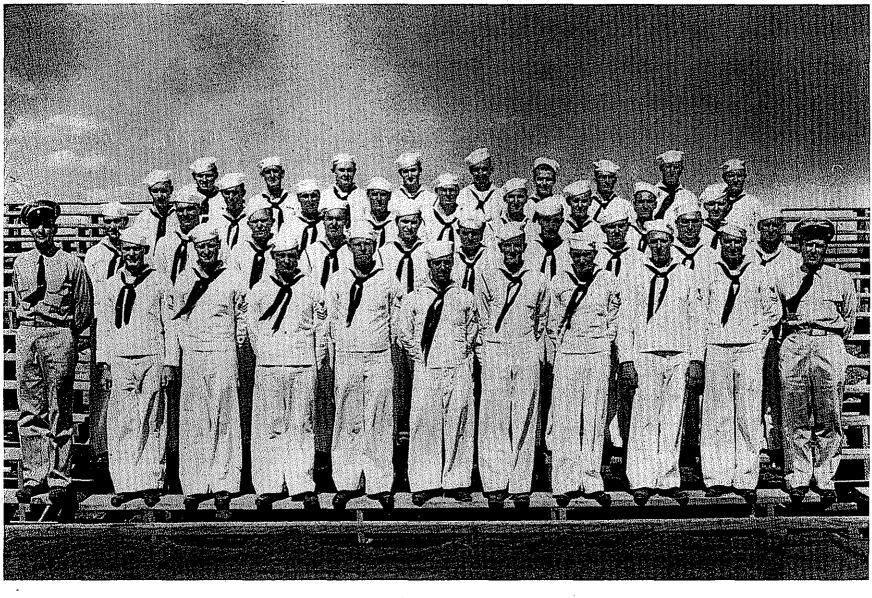


COMPANY "D", PLATOON TWO

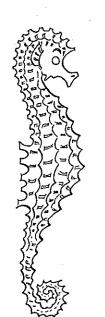


Left to right, first row: K. F. Yeager, B. R. Burton, W. D. Clapp, D. E. Perkins, R. R. Hepner, P. J. Brittain, J. R. Pires, U. F. Ryburn, E. N. Swan. Second row: V. R. Coggin, G. H. Pardee, J. B. Perkins, F. Phelps, R. A. Lansing, E. H. Ziegenfus, A. A. Arpin, N. F. Pulizzi, R. A. Bell. Third row: D. E. Johnson, M. E. Fauver, R. L. Osmundson, W. J. Ward, J. A. Ostricki, B. Alegi, C. U. Piper, O. P. Johnson. Fourth row: W. E. Helmbrecht, C. Brodie, J. D. Graham, D. C. Ritter, R. J. McLean, G. A. Kutz, R. T. Boyd.

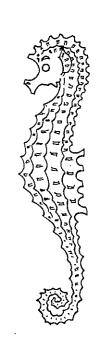


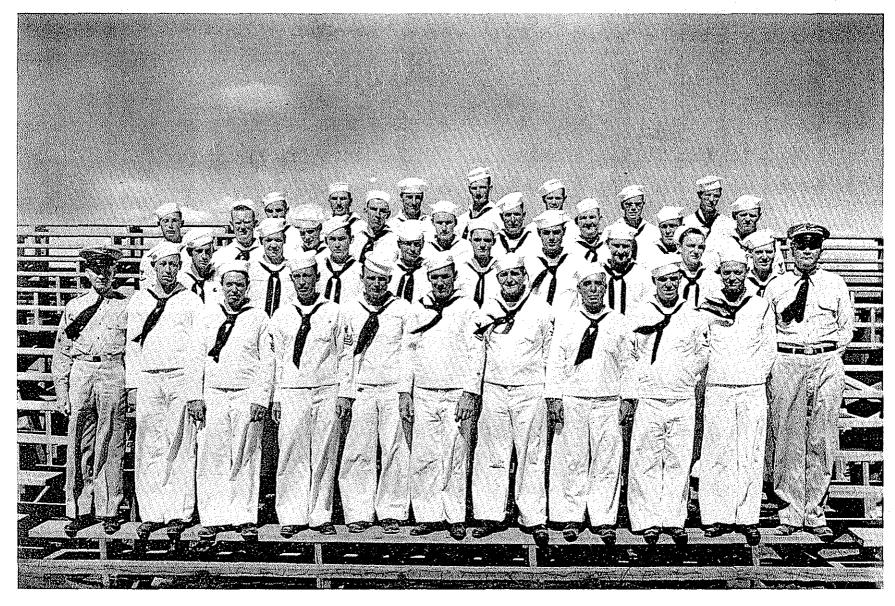


COMPANY "D", PLATOON THREE

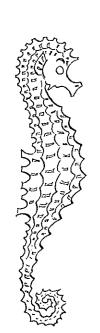


Left to right, first row: R. W. Bauer, H. J. Elliott, W. C. Powers, R. C. Gray, F. E. Evans, J. D. Convertito, D. C. Washburn, D. S. Reed, M. T. Selman, M. E. Lunn, R. L. Adare. Second row: J. A. Siverly, R. J. Nelson, J. D. Kabella, G. T. Pratt, E. A. Pirro, J. E. Kreager, H. I. Buero, E. F. Wydrych, D. C. McNally, S. P. Orzelek. Third row: G. F. Rice, N. H. Markway, A. E. Neddo, J. L. Warner, A. G. Merz, P. L. Trifoglio, L. F. Stanek, H. W. Nagele, P. Schmidt. Fourth row: P. L. Ulrich, T. Reid, L. A. Light, C. G. Puccio, E. J. Wolfe, E. W. Ritchey, R. M. St. Denis, H. H. Phillips, J. D. Case.

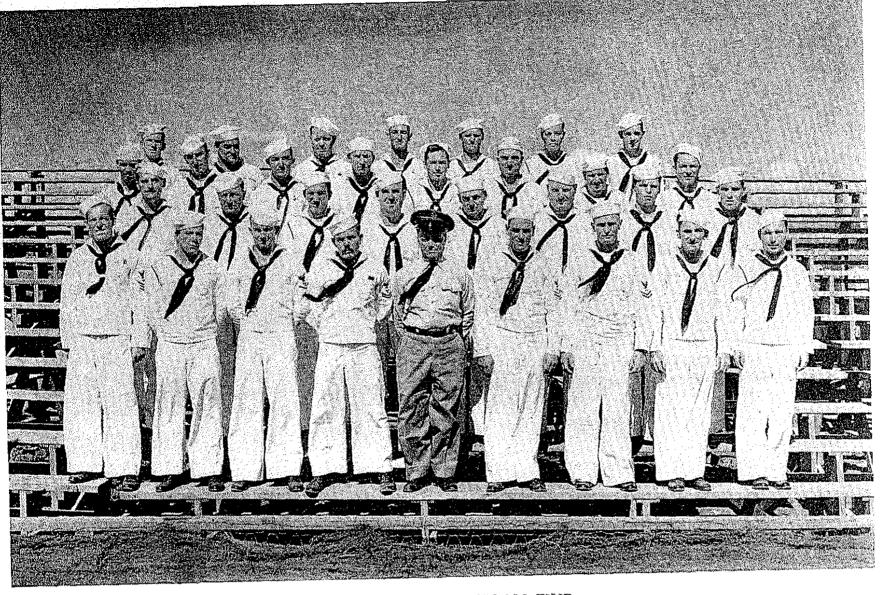




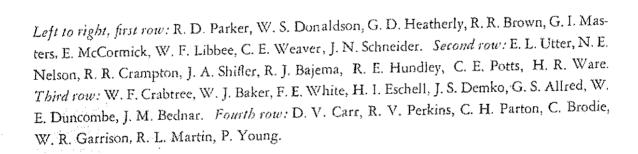
COMPANY "D", PLATOON FOUR

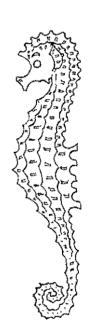


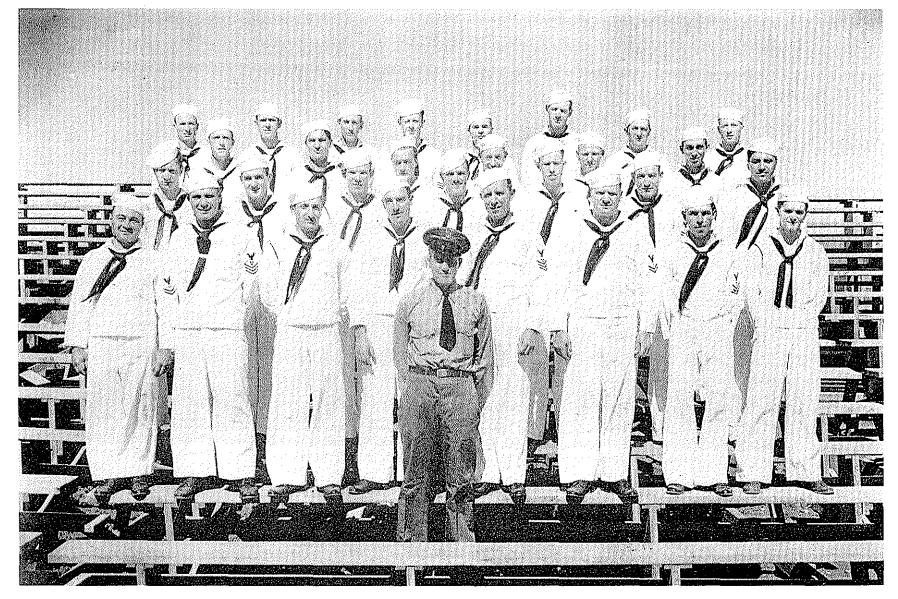
Left to right, first row: J. R. Powers, R. B. Conley, C. C. Daniel, C. E. Mershon, D. G. Zoucha, G. J. Long, T. R. Brooks, J. Iannillo, L. J. Clark, E. J. McIntosh, L. L. Shumate. Second row: R. W. McClarnon, L. E. Wilberg, F. O. Portier, J. K. McDonald, A. C. Ritter, C. E. Scheid, O. R. Schilling, W. R. Short, S. J. Kudla. Third row: H. L. Brown, W. M. Coyne, L. C. Newell, W. F. Peterson, D. N. Haywood, R. J. Rice, H. W. Overton, R. L. Morris, A. A. Opitz. Fourth row: P. E. Garlock, C. F. Agnano, E. C. Lowerree, H. T. Dudley, J. M. Beasley, C. L. Clawson, J. H. Gardner.



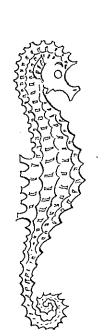
COMPANY "D", PLATOON FIVE



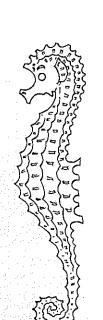




COMPANY "D", PLATOON SIX



Left to right, first row: F. L. Zello, D. H. Beason, C. V. Sanfilippo, D. G. Whitemore, F. F. Lewis, R. E. Hayes, F. L. Nameth, C. L. Dawson, W. D. Harrington. Second row: W. G. Walton, C. J. O'Callaghan, S. E. Preston, J. B. Williams, S. W. Penny, E. Ross, J. A. DiCicco. Third row: H. E. Keefauver, J. O. Sibert, V. D. Kaser, W. H. Harper, F. H. Lunn, W. P. Adkins. Fourth row: T. O. Abshire, C. H. Bell, D. Neckel, A. G. Barg, E. J. Perrott, W. C. Stolzmann, C. DeVries, D. R. Quinn.





CAMP PEARY

In September 1943, some 1100 men, ranging from lads just starting to shave to greyhaired men who had volunteered to serve their country a second time, men from almost every state, were converging on Camp Peary in Virginia. Farewells had been said; Good-bye parties were over; Next, a Seabee "boot camp." As the gates of Peary closed behind them, few fully realized the ominous meaning of the act. And it is well that such was so. A long train ride, hurrying, lines, wonder, strangeness, lonesomeness, made a two-decker bunk a welcome sight that night.

The next morning at 0400, the bugle announced a day that will remain a vivid memory to every man regardless of the age he attains. From one shed-like building to another went the initiate, shouted at, hurried, questioned, ordered to undress and put his civilian clothes in a box in 60 seconds. Now in his birthday clothes, a big number was painted on his chest and he was no longer "John Smith," but that number. The barber asked from what state he came. He was just finishing his answer when the last of his hair fell to the floor and his new friends and futures mates roared with laughter. Then they took his picture and put it on an I.D. card so that he could never forget how he looked at that moment. Innumerable physical exams, insurance and experience interviews followed.

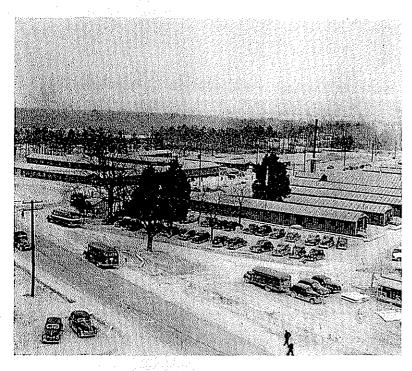
Next, the journey through the clothing issue department began where blankets, mattress, sewing kits, steel helmet, towels, etc. were rained down on the already sagging boot. Pants, shoes, blues, whites, jumpers had to be tried on. The sun was setting as this now-befuddled, exhausted future Seabee, reeling and staggering under a mattress cover, now holding some 100 pieces of clothing and equipment, made his way to the big semi-trucks. In a manner destined to remain a mystery, he managed to get himself and his gear aboard the truck which hauled him to his boot camp barracks—a barren, shed-like structure, capable of housing 60 men.

Then, for four long weeks, from 0430 to 2100, it was: fall in, fall out—Hair lip, 1-2-3-4 lectures—obstacle courses—K.P.—shots—general orders—rolling clothes—calesthenics—fire watch—hikes—military training—muster—guard duty—waiting for the first mail—washing clothes with a scrub brush—extra duty for slight infractions—living in close quarters with new, different men—close order drill—gas chamber—manual of arms—inspection that lasted two hours—rain and mud, yet stay neat and clean—scrubbing barracks and "all else in sight"—inter-regional arguments—training films—military courtesy—Scuttlebutt—work details—fading waistlines, sore muscles—dog tags and I.D. card which presaged the end of "boot." This, and much more was crammed into the recent civilian until he felt as if he had been in a tailspin, a period that might be summarized briefly as follows: If you do this, that will happen to you; If you don't do that, this will happen to you.

"Stow gear preparatory for moving in the morning." The order had finally come. On 20 October, the enlisted personnel which were to become the 135th Naval Construction Battalion, moved to the giant B-9 drill hall where awaited the officers of this battalion; men who had just been put through the rigors of officer training.

On this day, a seasoned "salt," viewing these 1100 men, likely would have commented, "They're green, raw, unpolished, but they seem to have the makings of a battalion which will write a proud record for the Seabees and the Navy."

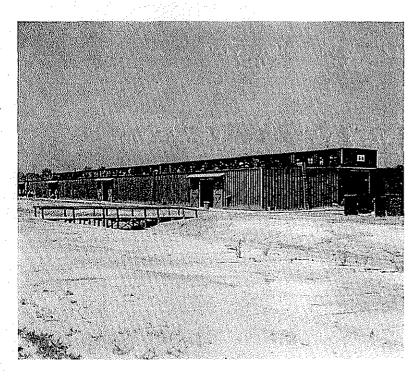
"JUST TO REMIND YOU"



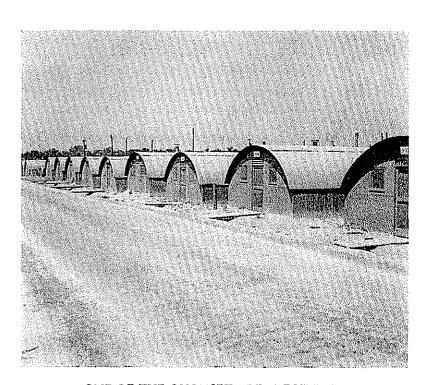
GENERAL VIEW OF "TOPSIDE" DURING PEARY'S EARLY DAYS



INDUCTION AREA "YOU'LL BE SORRY"



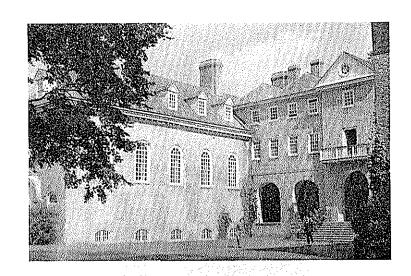
'G. I." WAREHOUSE BEDDING FOR THAT FIRST NIGHT

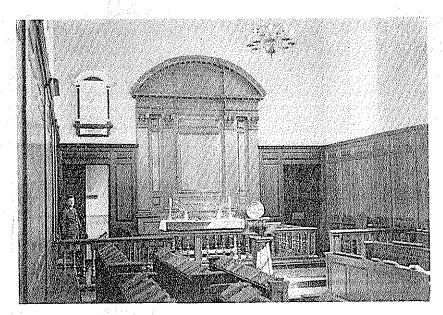


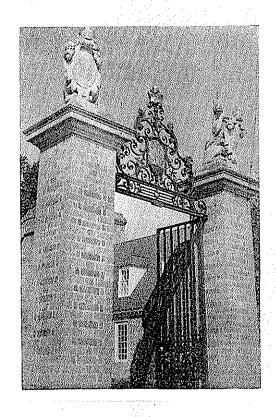
ONE OF THE QUONSET AREAS DURING THE DRY SEASON

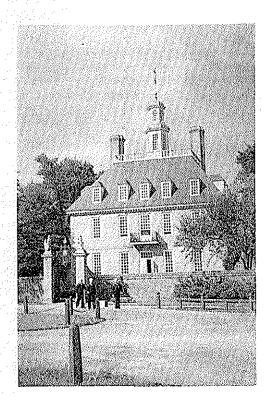
PICTURESQUE WILLIAMSBURG

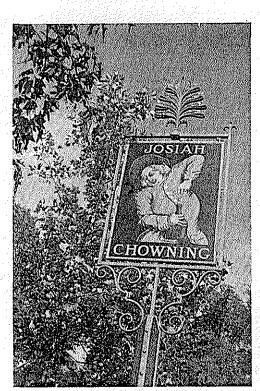


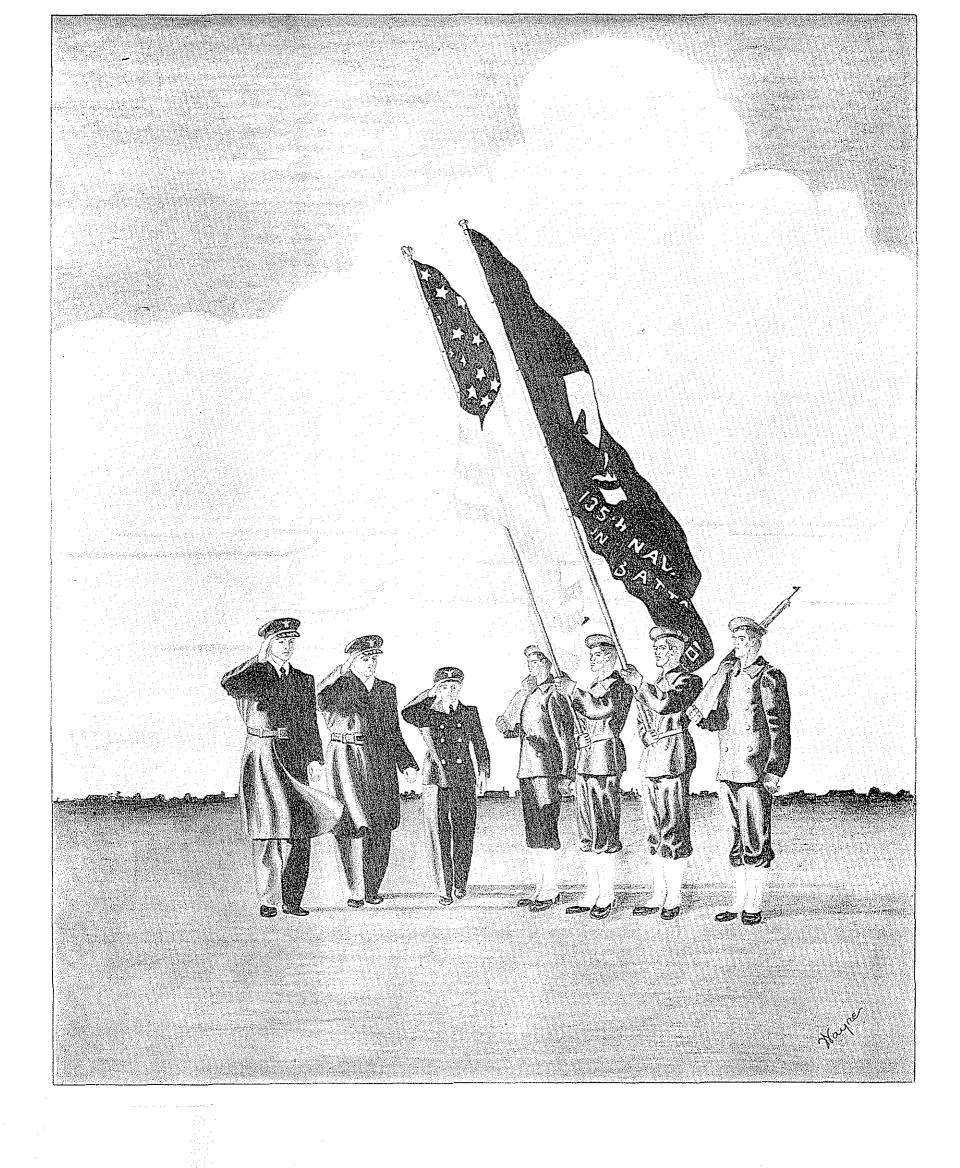












CAMP ENDICOTT

On the afternoon of 23 October 1943, a band was playing martial music as the 135th Naval Construction Battalion entrained for its journey to Camp Endicott on the shores of Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island. Here, the 135th graduate boots were to take advanced training which emphasized combat techniques. In one month, this Seabee battalion was to be trained to operate efficiently under any of the many unpredictable conditions.

Now clad in green Marine wool pants, shirts and mackinaws, 135th men began attending a wide variety of schools. Some were given extensive training in machine gun, anti-aircraft and automatic weapons; others, in extended order, judo, barge operation and bayonet and hand-to-hand combat techniques; some attended classes in mosquito control, sanitation, laundry, refrigeration, quonset hut construction and general camp maintenance practices. A Seabee battalion had to be self-sufficient. All men attended the dry fire school for training in the use of the carbine and spent a week at the Sun Valley rifle range where they lived in quonset huts for the first time. After a few days of practice firing under Marine instructors, the 135th shot a battalion score surpassed by few if any.

In spite of the busy schedule, life became a little sweeter. Liberty (those few hours the Navy allowed you to catch a fleeting glimpse and remembrance of what civilian life was like) was granted after six weeks of strict confinement. Five o'clock liberty lines two blocks long and crowded busses meant nothing to the 135th mate struggling to reach Providence, Boston or even New York, where he could relax and be himself provided he did not run afoul the shore patrol. Liberty hours passed unbelievably fast; it usually was a rush to get the chit back in the liberty box by 0630. Some failed to make it; others lost wallets containing I.D. cards; the OinC had a new duty—captain's mast.

After 1700 at Endicott, it was undress blues when you took in the movies, sipped some beer, went shopping, bowled, or attended a War Bond dance. Yes, life was a little more worth living now.

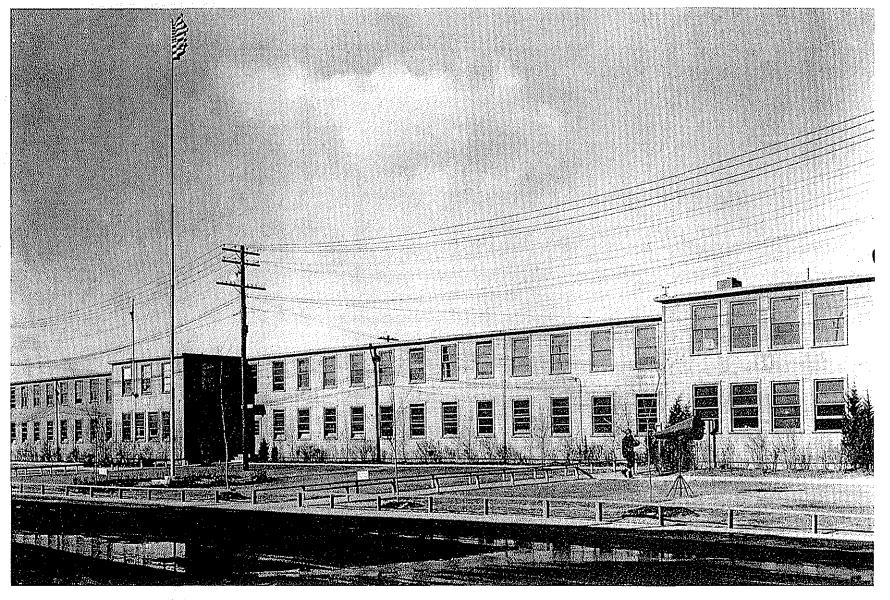
In late November, a lovely New England Indian Summer gave way to old man Winter with his sharp bite. In zero weather, short chow lines seemed and were long; hitting the deck on frozen ground was not fun; holding a piece with frost-numbed fingers did not help matters.

"Embarkation leave for men who live East of Mountain Standard Time." Instantly, it was time tables, connections, hours to, wires for money, and no mate was late for his train appointment. While the geographically eligible mates ate Thanksgiving dinner with their families and enjoyed their brief freedom, other 135th men continued the regular routine and ate their first famous Navy Thanksgiving dinner.

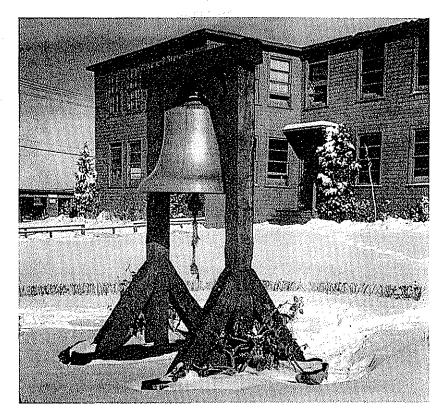
Men back from leaves; new men to fill the battalion's complement; advanced training completed; the 135th was ready for its colors. In only 75 days, from a heterogeneous group of 1100 men, the 135th Naval Construction Battalion had been trained, fused and forged into a self-reliant and competent unit.

On 7 December 1943, at a formal review on the parade grounds at Camp Endicott, the battalion was presented its colors and commissioned. It was prepared to fulfill its assignment in the struggle against the Axis.

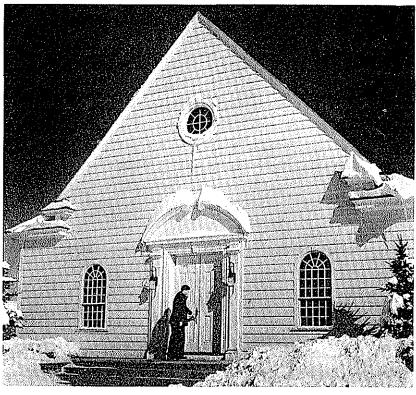
Camp Parks? Hueneme? Overseas? Gulfport? Wherever it might be, the 135th was anxious to get started.



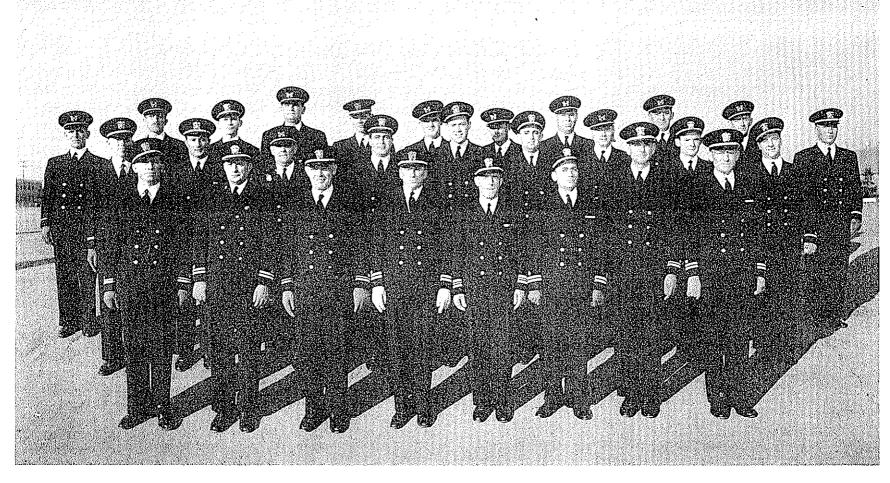
TOPSIDE—REALM OF CAPT. FRED F. ROGERS, USN



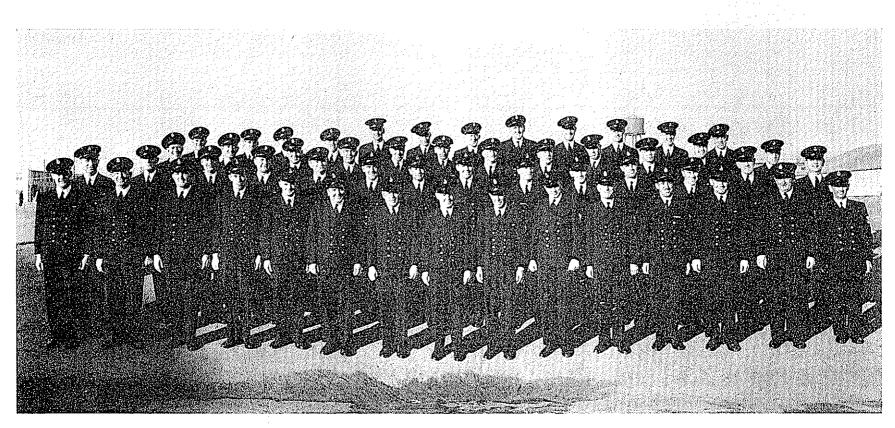
ENDICOTT'S OFFICIAL TIMEPIECE



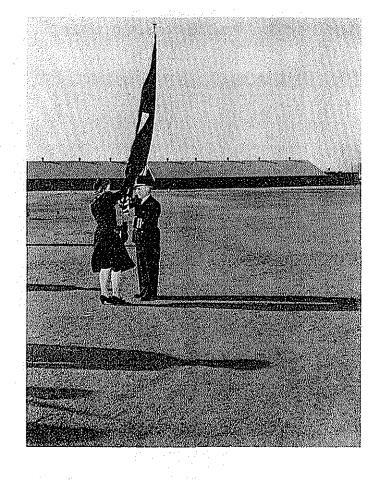
FOR SPIRITUAL CONSTRUCTION

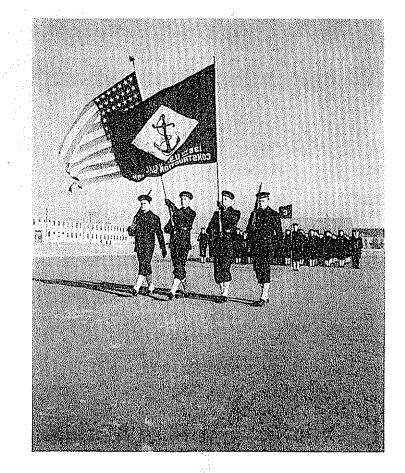


OUR ORIGINAL OFFICER COMPLIMENT



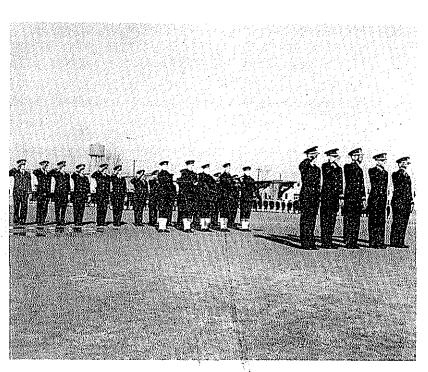
OUR ORIGINAL CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

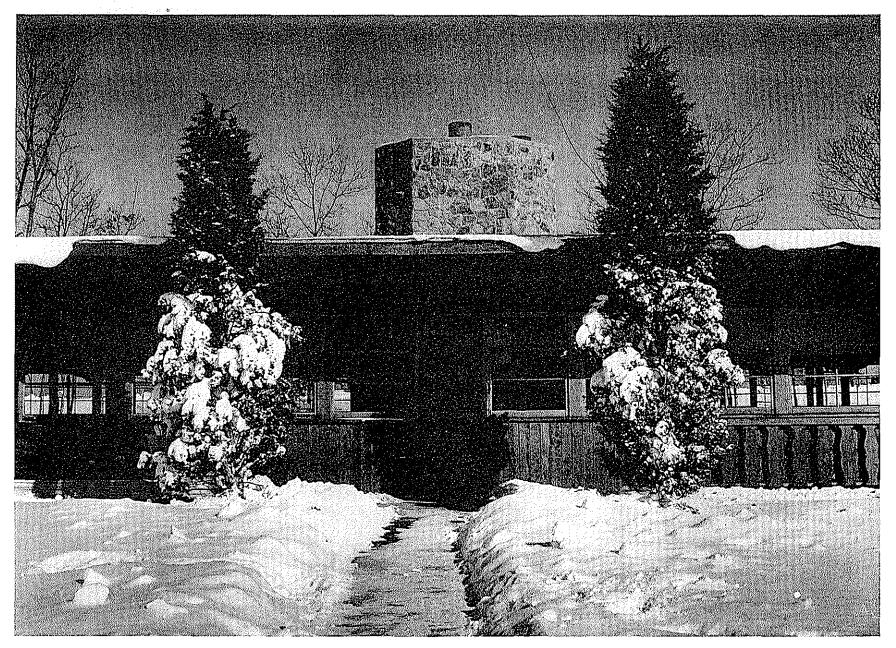




135TH
Commissioned and Reviewed

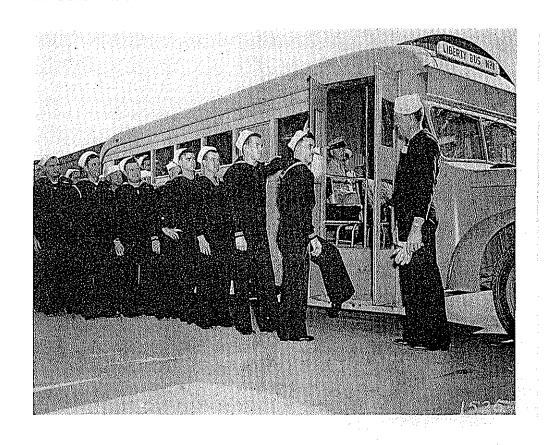


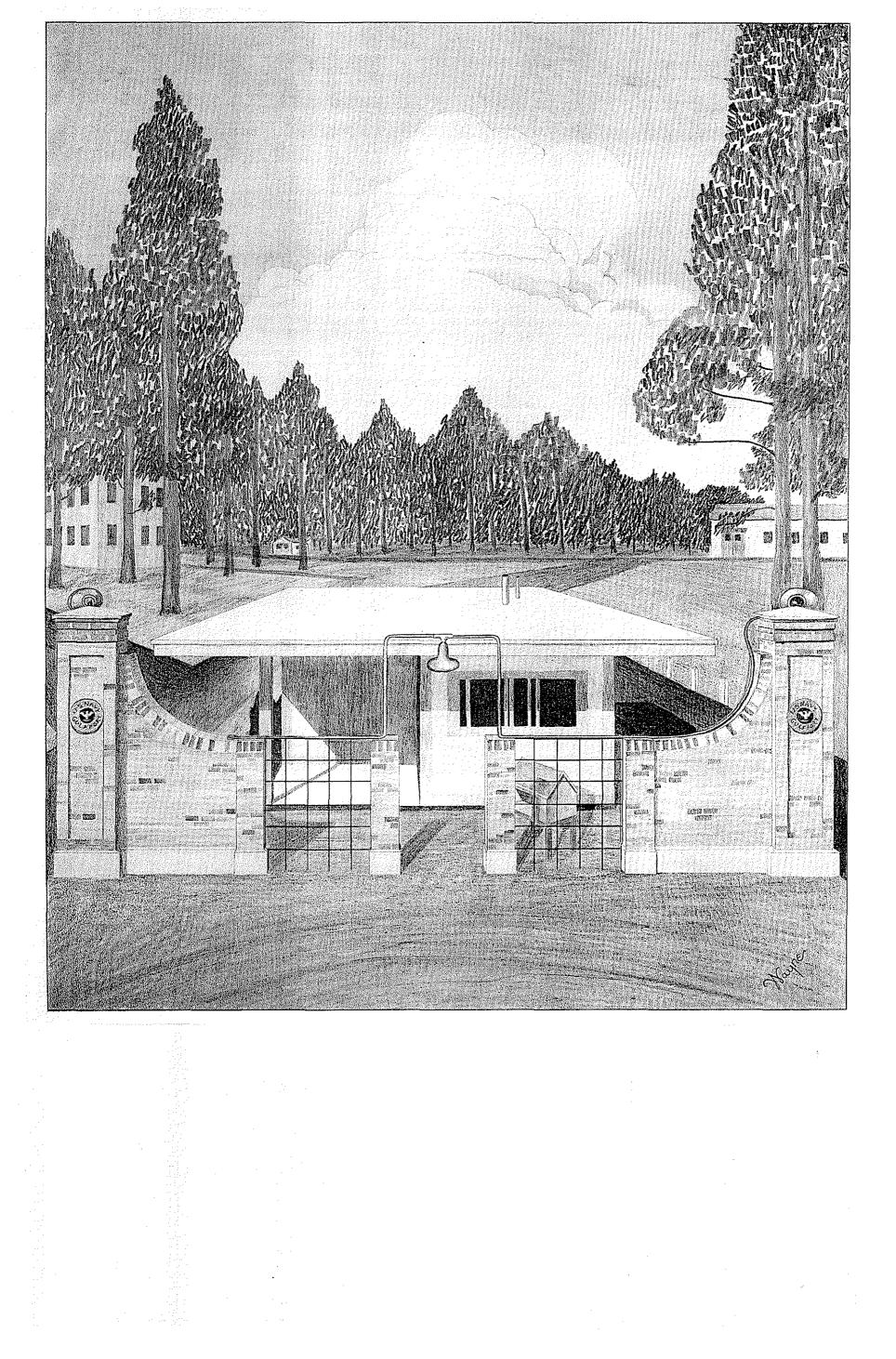




THE GUEST HOUSE

LIBERTY IN PROVIDENCE





CAMP HOLLYDAY

On 18 December 1943, the 135th entrained a second time. In three separate sections which travelled over three different routes, the battalion left wintry Camp Endicott and four days later, after a 2,000-mile pullman ride, arrived at Gulfport, Mississippi.

Soon after arrival, Westerners headed for home on embarkation leaves. For those whose freedom had been spent and who were passing Christmas in camp, it was a long, lonesome day.

Navy rules and regulations prescribe clearly how a battalion should function. Knowledge is one thing; to put it into practice is another. Actual operations were necessary. During the four months at Gulfport, the 135th handled jobs and duties of all types and sizes. Each man and each department had the opportunity to learn, understand, and iron out the kinks in himself or his department.

The largest of several sizeable construction jobs undertaken and completed was the Horn Island railroad and dock for which work the battalion received a fine commendation from Army officers. Horn Island was a secret Army experimental base. Smaller jobs were barge dismantling at West Pier, paper and tin can conservation, laying out of simulated mine fields for Army War Dog training, construction of camp structures, while mechanics worked at their trade in Navy shops. Shore patrol, fire watch, messenger, boilerwatch, fence guard were only a few of the many duties.

Military training here included the realistic amphibious landing on Cat Island and its occupation; the hike to the rifle range (18 miles one day, 18 miles the next, a week of firing, then the 36 mile march back, completed in one day); participation in the impressive regimental review; extended order; obstacle course; P. T.; and close order drill.

Camp Hollyday was a pleasant place with its southern pines, warm climate, comfortable barracks with inside plumbing, movies, smokers, stores, attractive messhalls, athletic field, quonset huts, and proximity to fun.

Once outside the gate, a mate was almost certain to have a good time in Gulport, Biloxi, Pascagoula or Mobile. And, only two hours away was the great liberty magnet, quaint New Orleans with its world famous French Quarter, good food and abundant entertainment. Here, many a 135th liberty hour and dollar went the way of all flesh.

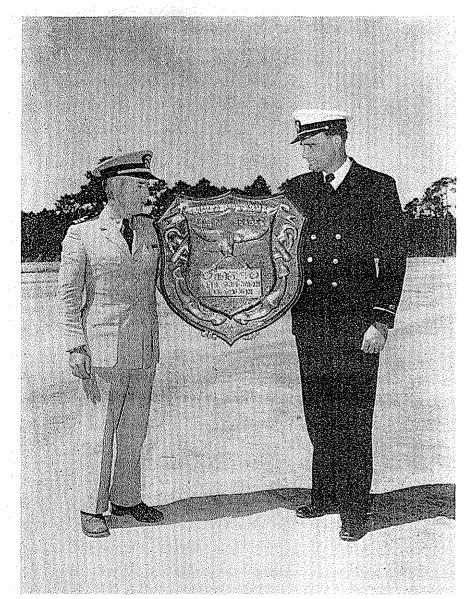
Sports came in for some attention. In a station field meet, the 135th took second place and both the softball and hardball teams left the base undefeated. The 135th military and swing bands were busy playing for dances and reviews. "Scuttlebuzz," the official battalion newspaper, made its appearance.

A Base order decreed that effective Easter Sunday, whites were to replace blues for dress uniform. Rain, red mud and whites called for lots more elbow grease on the scrub brush and bigger washings.

At this time, the Navy undertook considerable reorganizing of C. B. units. Some outfits were broken up into drafts and C.B.M.U.'s; some men transferred to general service; new men came into the battalion; units departed; the 135th was next—maybe; scuttlebutt was always plentiful everywhere. The 135th mates were getting impatient; they wanted to move on.

Four months of handling varied and multiple tasks; mistakes made, corrected, and lessons learned; "boots" of six months ago taking on a more seasoned and polished appearance; the 135th was not perfect, but it was functioning reliably and efficiently. The tempo of the war in the Pacific was increasing.

"Pack your ditty bags." On 20 April 1944, the 135th, led by a band, marched into Gulfport. No doubts this time—it was West into the shadow of the gangplank. But, that is what all had been waiting and asking for, so, "Give the highball, conductor." And he did.



THE BIRTH OF OUR PLAQUE

Selected from among thirty suggested, the plaque being held by Commander Gillette and Warrant Carpenter Robert N. Clark was designed by A. Wayne Baker, CM2/c and hammered out of sheet copper by Wellington H. Harper, M1/c. An exact duplicate was presented to Vice Admiral Ben Moreell, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, while the 135th was stationed at Gulfport, Mississippi. In addition to these two, another duplicate of the original may be seen at Camp Endicott, and replicas in wood grace the B-29 Bomb Group Officers' and Enlisted Men's Clubs on Tinian Island.

CRAFTSMEN

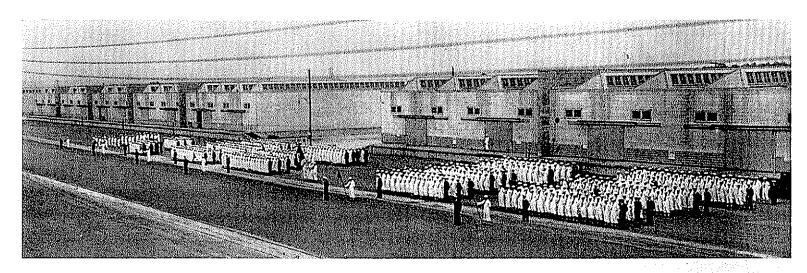
The combined talents of these men made the 135th plaque a reality. Left to right: Johannes Meiste; John H. Rasnick; Wellington Harper; Paul C. Hunnicutt.

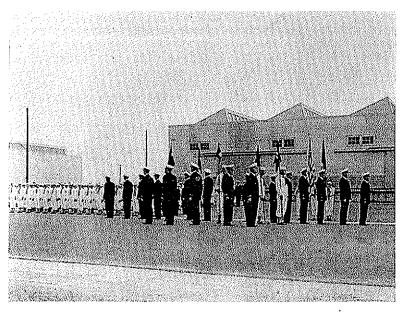


REVIEW

THIS TIME IN MISSISSIPPI DEW

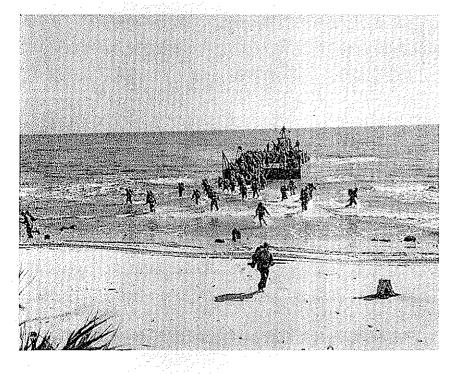


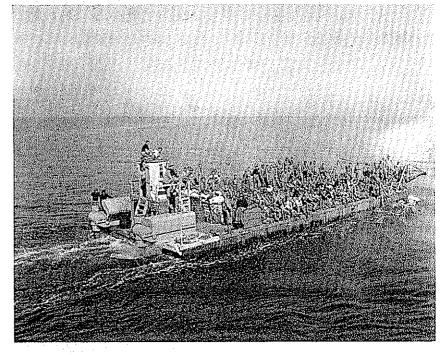




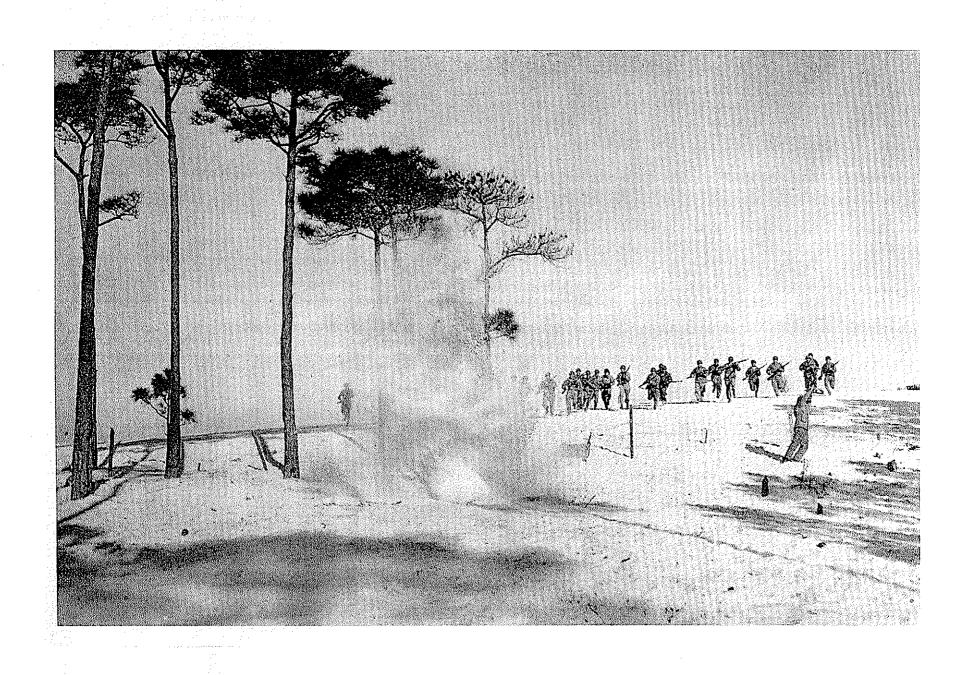








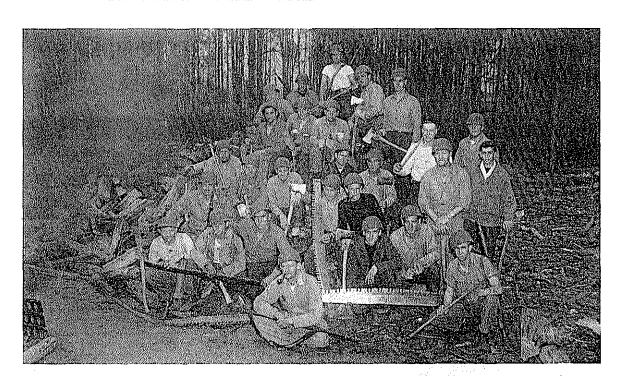
CAT ISLAND MANEUVERS

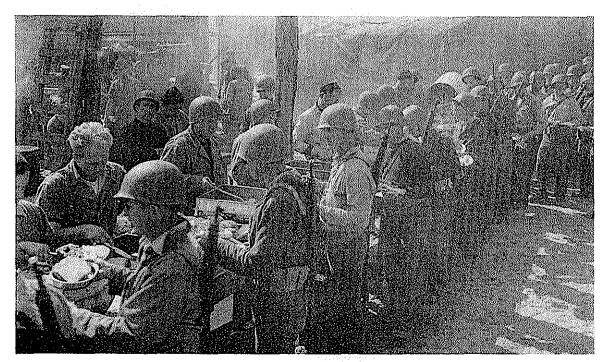




THESE IDLE GROUPS OF MEN ARE WORKING PARTIES

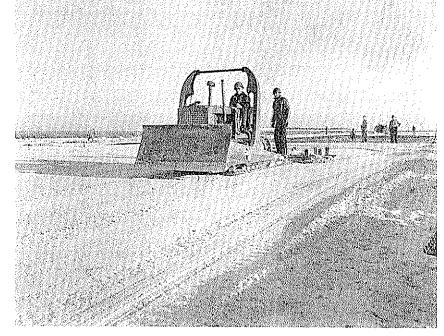
A PHASE OF THE HARDENING UP PROGRAM





OSCAR OF THE WALDORF WOULD HAVE LOVED THESE APPETITES

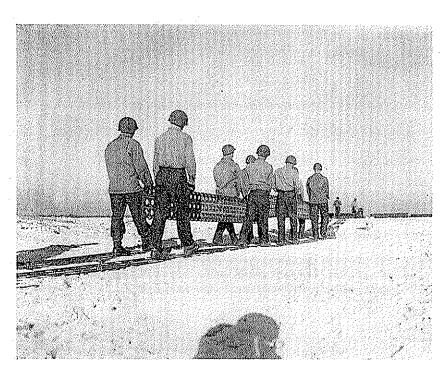




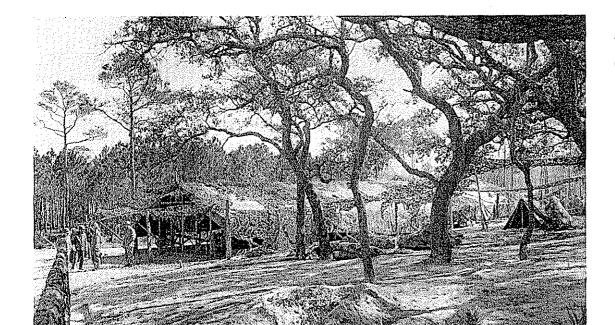
OUR EARLY
TRAINING



IN AIRFIELD
CONSTRUCTION







WE ARE TAUGHT THE ART OF CAMOUFLAGE

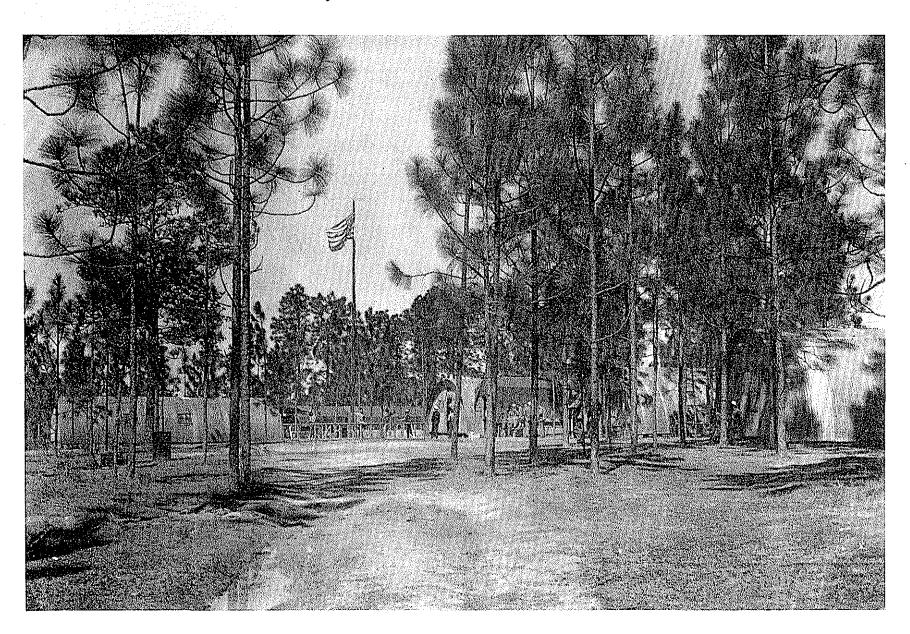
JUNGLE FIGHTING
IS SIMULATED

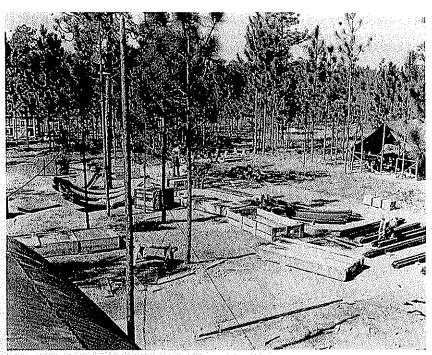


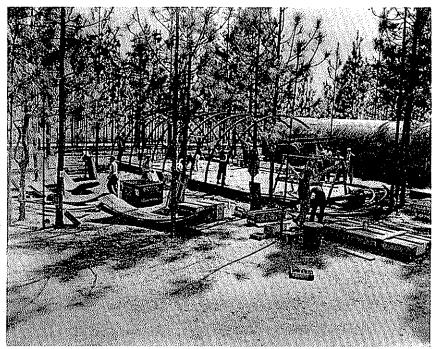
THIS PHASE OF TRAINING COMPLETED
WE LEAVE THE ISLAND

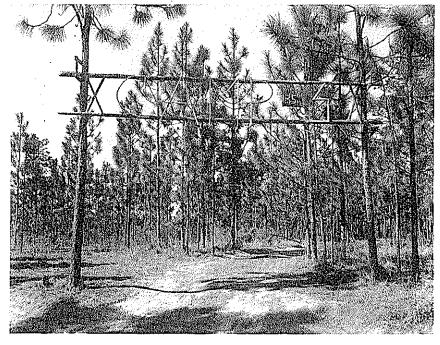
CAMPS 2 & 3





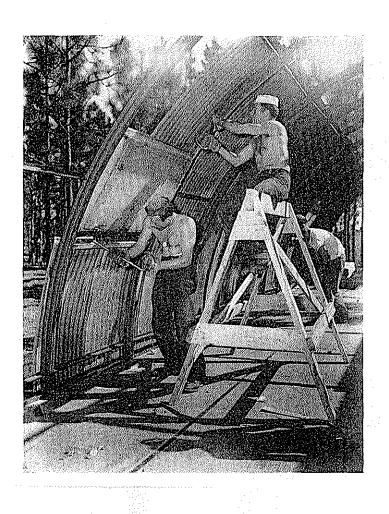


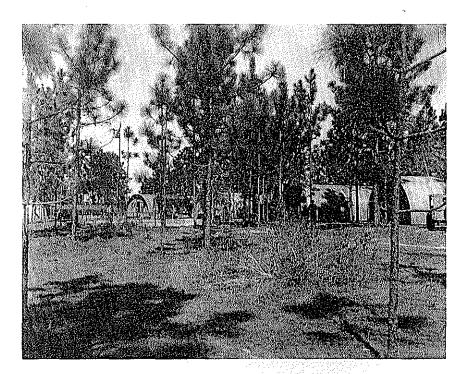


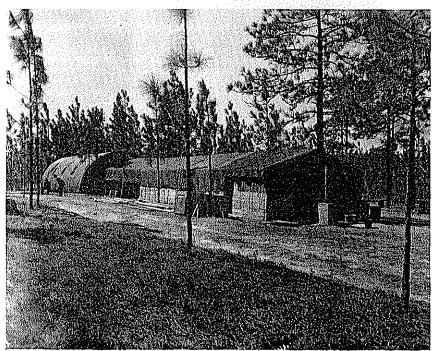




ON A HIGHLY SECRETIVE PROJECT, A DETACHMENT OF 135TH MEN LAID OUT A SERIES OF SIMULATED MINE FIELDS FOR THE TRAINING OF ARMY WAR DOGS AT TWO LOCATIONS IN MISSISSIPPI.



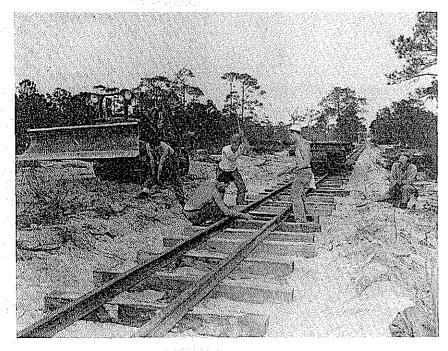




AT HORN ISLAND WE BUILD A RAILROAD AND DOCK

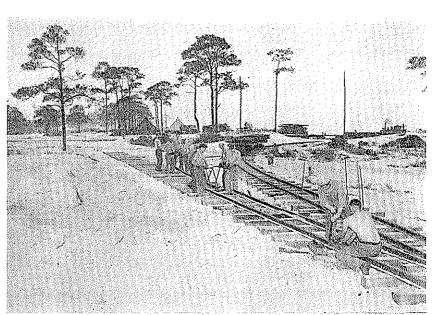


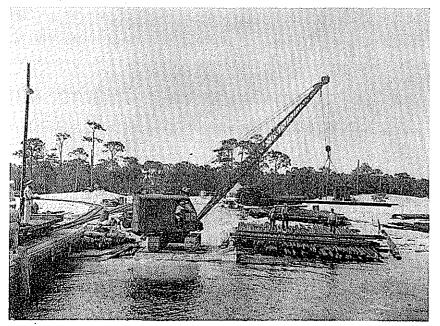


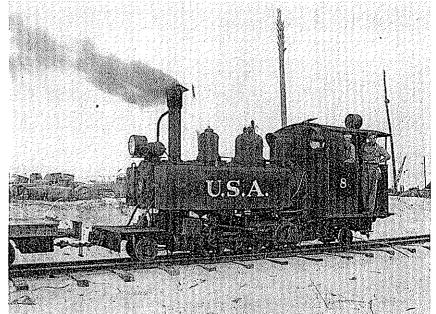


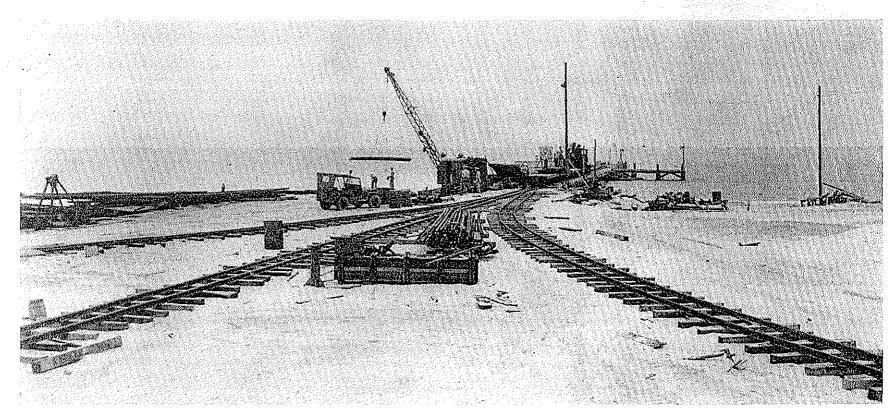


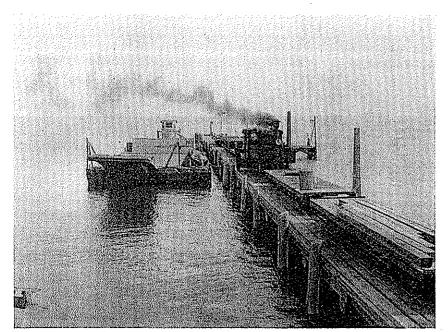


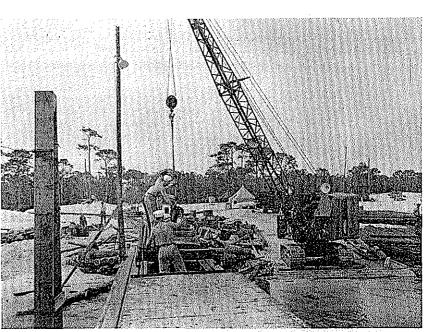


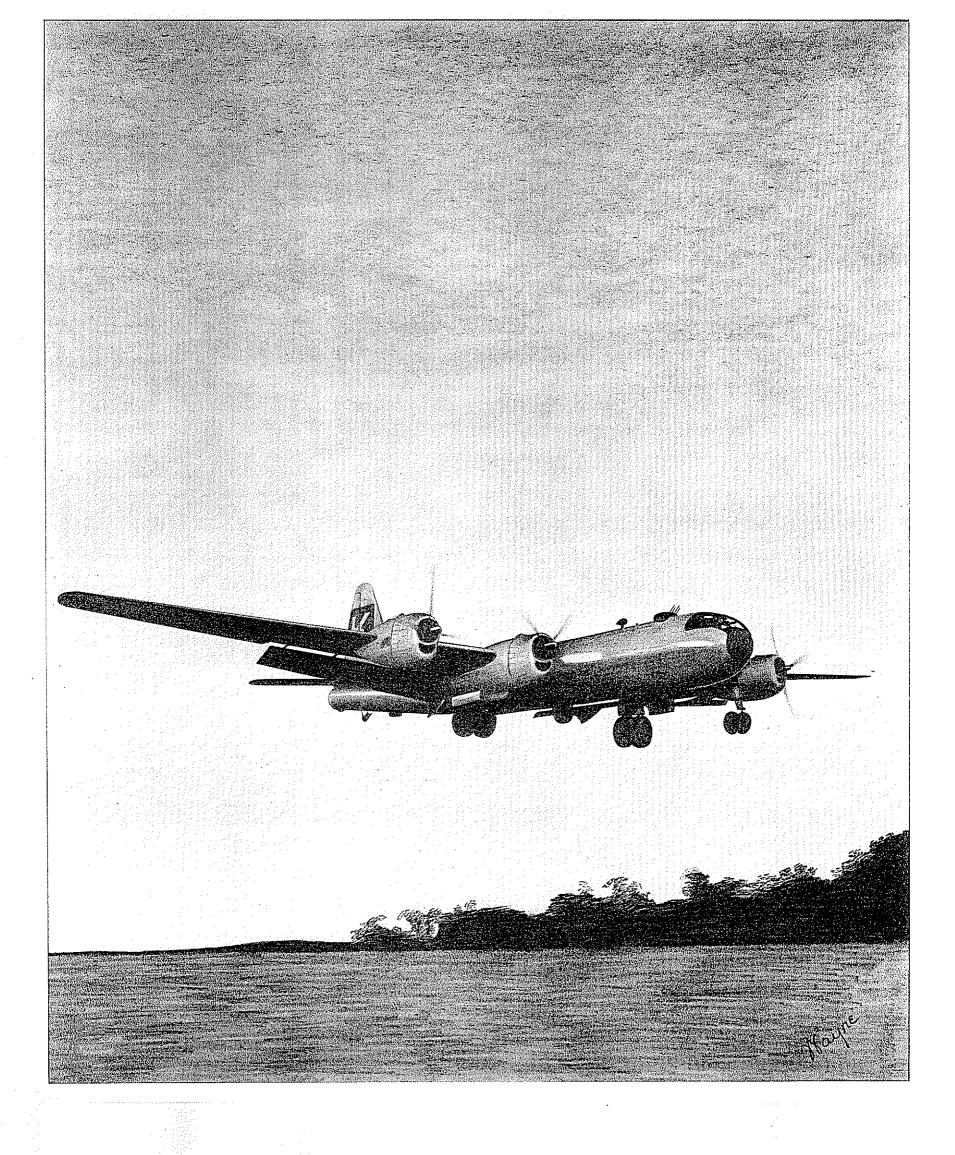












CAMP ROUSSEAU

Through the swamps of the delta country, across the endless expanses of the great Southwest, over the Rockies, into the picturesque San Fernando Valley with its colorful orange groves, vineyards and palms, then a bit north, raced the troop trains. Mates began to realize just how large their country was, of how many smaller and different worlds it was composed.

At Camp Rousseau, situated on the shores of the Pacific with the mountains in the Eastern background, home was a quonset hut, and the bed a cot.

Little time passed before men were in lines being issued their own carbines, Browning automatics, or Thompson sub-machine guns, clips, cartridge belts, ammunition, first aid pouches. Then shelter halves, a poncho, gas mask, mosquito netting, haversack, canteen, mess kit and foul weather gear.

Classes in fixing a full, a light, and a combat pack followed. Again to the rifle range to sight in the weapons. Lectures on gas defense and other military subjects were attended. The trip through the gas chamber was too realistic to be funny. A midnight maneuver, which got every man out of bed to be rushed to the defense of the dock against a fictional attacking enemy, completed the crowded three-week equipping and military program.

During leisure hours, mates enjoyed shopping in the big ship's stores, having pictures taken at the photo shop, drinking beer in the evening in the camp's cosmopolitan business district. Big league baseball, big time shows and movies filled out the entertainment menu.

But, the camp entertainment offerings simply could not compete with the glittering liberty paradise which surrounded the camp. Only an hour or so away was Hollywood with its famous canteen, Hollywood and Vine, movie stars and studios; Los Angeles with its Olivera Street, Chinatown, and about any relaxation a man might seek; Ventura and Oxnard had their atractions, too. This was too good to last. Correct.

Scuttlebutt about the shipping date had crystalized into fact. The date was near. The area became a scene of hustle and excitement; packing supplies and equipment for overseas shipment; getting personal gear in order; good-bye wires and phone calls to the folks at home; last minute purchases of everyday needs. The last days passed swiftly.

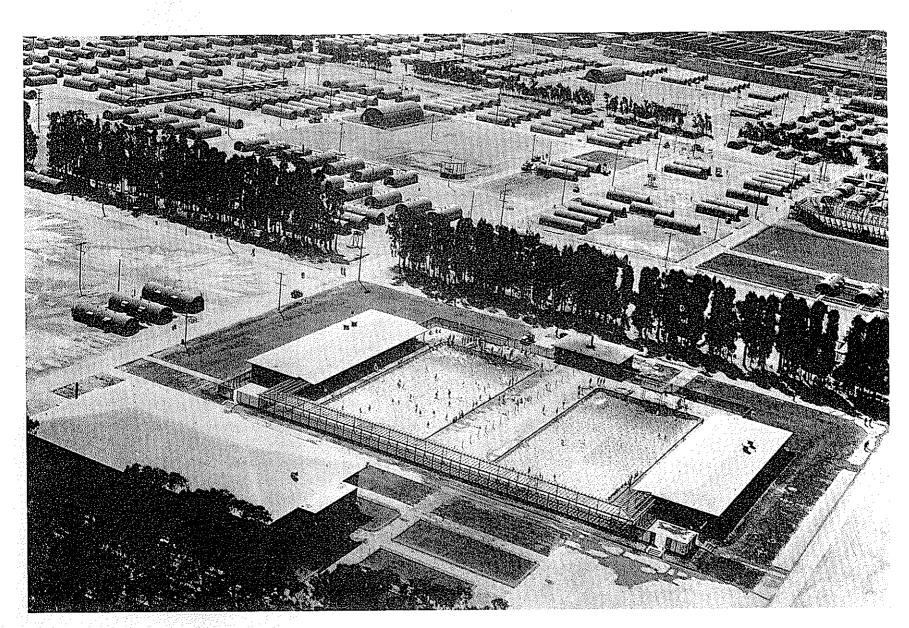
On 17 May 1944, as the sun's pre-dawn rays silhouetted the mountains, the 135th partook of its last chow in the U.S.A., last, at least, for a long, long time. Shortly, men were in platoon formation with all their gear and baggage. One man viewing his mates perspiring and plodding along with 80 pound packs on their backs, carbines or other weapons slung over one shoulder, seabags containing a mattress, blankets, pillow on the other, fully equipped belts around them, a gas mask hanging at their left, ditty bags in hand, summed up the picture in a few words when he said, "By God, this is total war."

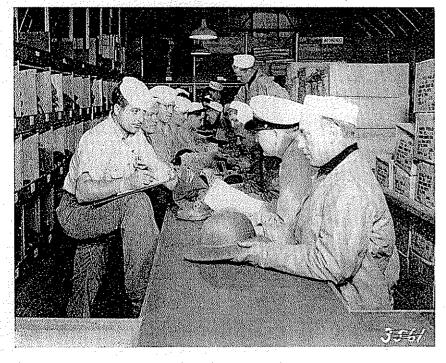
Up the gangplank, down a narrow hatch into the hold where bunks were selected, went the 1100. Lunch was served—an apple and cookies. Majestically, the S. S. Meteor sailed out of the harbor into the boundless blue Pacific.

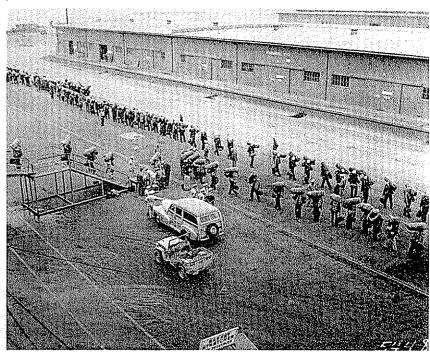
The Pacific was putting out the setting sun, twilight changed to darkness, 135th men stood quietly by the rail to catch the last glimpse of their native land, the land they loved enough that they were willing to go to far places to play their part in the defense of it.

That night, in a ship's bunk, thoughts were of home, of the unknown future lying ahead.

Our Taste of CALIFORNIA was Short But Sweet



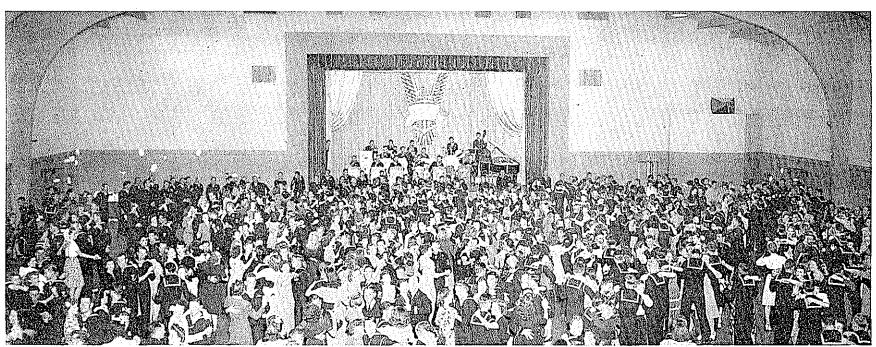


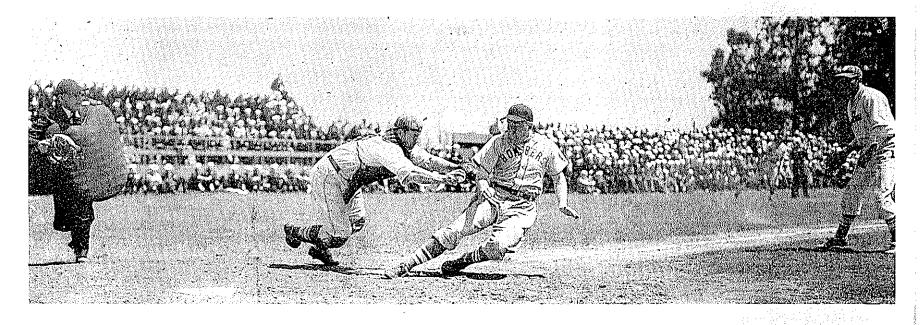


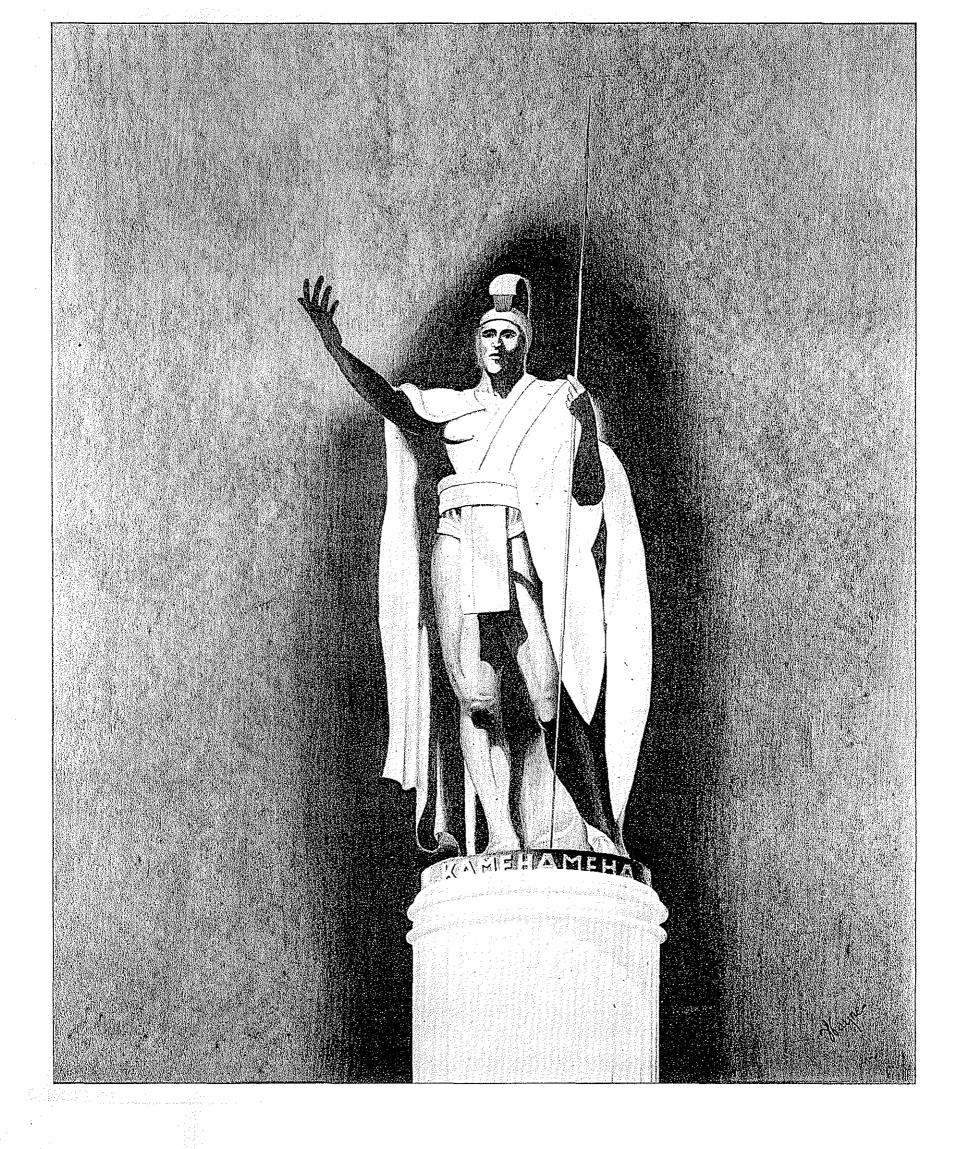
RECREATION

AT HUENEME









HAWAII

The "Meteor's" prow cut a calm Pacific. But, even a calm sea has a roll. This roll caused many a 135th mate to spend much time hanging over the rail. These rail-birds with the greenish-yellow pallor began to believe nature was reversing herself—namely, all that goes down must come up. However, all survived.

For six days it was general quarters at sunrise and sunset, lugging Mae Wests around, watching flying fish in the day, and the brilliant phosphorus in the sea at night, sky and water, water and sky. In the early dawn of 23 May a small speck appeared on the horizon and soon Diamond Head was clearly visible. Ahead was Hawaii, "the cross roads of the Pacific," the land of the Hula, poi, and lei, where rain falls while the sun shines brightly, where palms and sugar cane sway in the gentle ocean breezes, where American military might assembled and moved forward against Japan.

As the "Meteor" slowly eased its way through bustling Pearl Harbor, men jammed the rails to view an almost unbelievable array of American naval strength. Wherever one looked there were countless naval craft of all descriptions. Some ships, headed for battle, were new in appearance. Others had seen action and carried battle scars.

Amid the noise and commotion of this busy harbor, the 135th disembarked and was taken to an incomplete area on Moanalua Ridge where mountains rise to the east and Hickam Air Field and Pearl Harbor lie to the southwest and west.

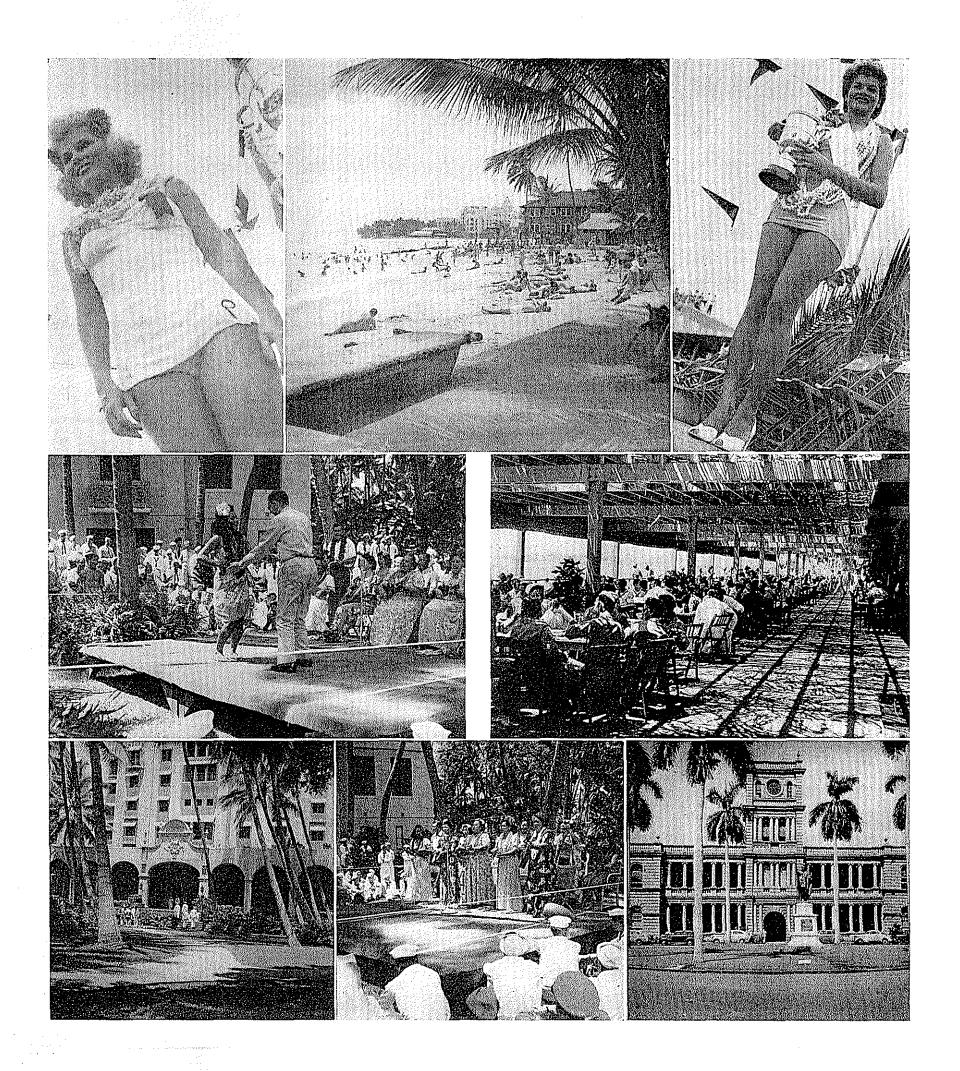
The battalion quickly completed the barracks and the area. Promptly, men of the 135th were helping to build facilities and handling other assignments vital to this gigantic base which served as the springboard of the U. S. Pacific offensive. This offensive was gaining momentum rapidly in August, 1944. An assignment in a far forward area was imminent; additional realistic military training was essential. The marches to Red Hill, the climbing of it, sitting in fox holes and crawling on one's belly on top of it were realistic enough. The eight mile trudge up the mountain to the bivouac made the eight miles back a long, long trail that day. The sham battle on the mountain top in a pineapple field was another full day. On military training days, the sun had a habit of boiling down, humidity was always high, and "water discipline" was strictly enforced.

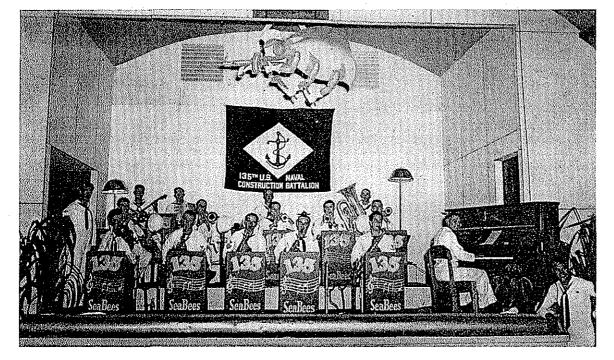
Liberty broke the work-training schedule. On Oahu were many scenic wonders and places of interest. Honolulu, with its many races of people and its mixture of native and modern life, was nearby. On Sundays, groups piled into trucks with beer and sandwiches and went over Pali Pass, where it is always raining, to the beaches for a picnic and swim. Many learned that Kanaki juice was a poor substitute for the real product.

In September the flag pole went up. The battalion was ordered to an undisclosed forward area. On 29 September, the first echelon went up the gangplank of the APA, U.S.S. Adair, and ten days later the second echelon went aboard the Dutch liner, Tjisadane. After layovers in the Marshalls, both ships headed west for Island "X".

Batting practice was over; the deciding game of the world series between the United States and Japan was about to begin. The 135th was ready to take its place in the lineup and it was well it was conditioned and prepared.

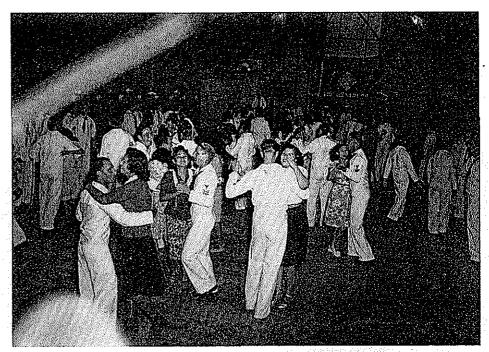
UNFORGETTABLE WAIKIKI

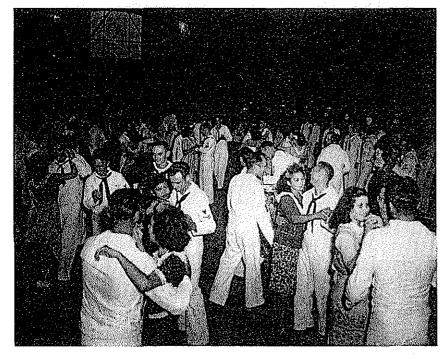


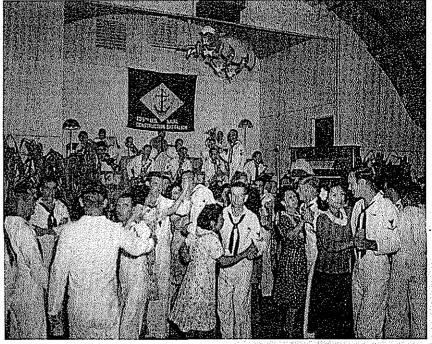


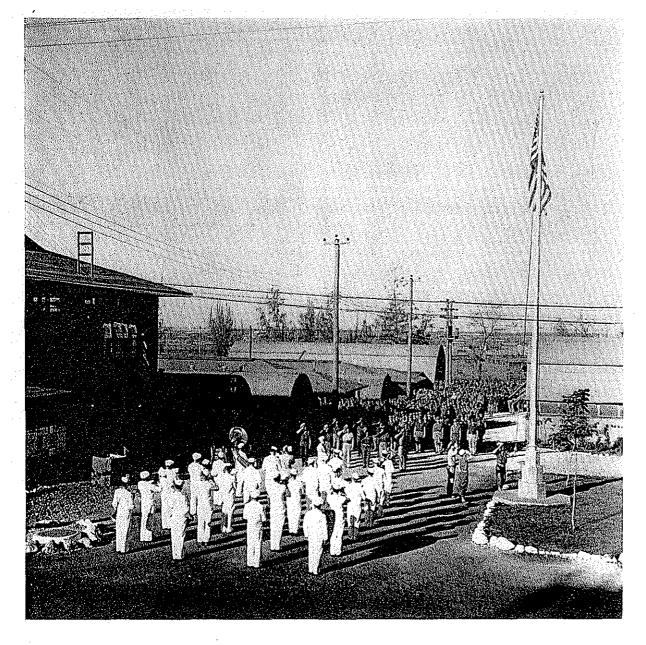
THE
135th
SWING BAND

THE CROWNING EVENT OF THE MOANALUA SOCIAL SEASON



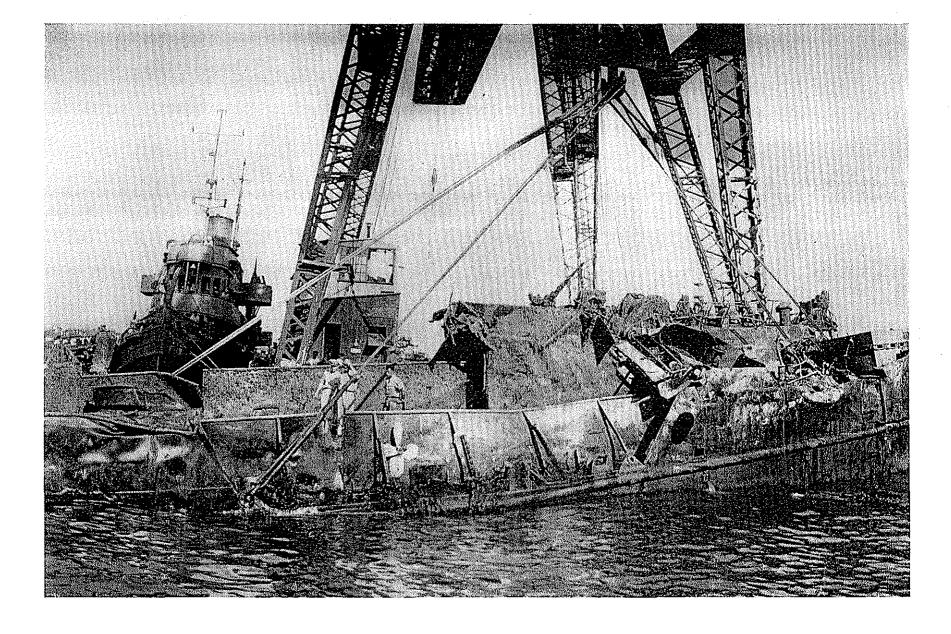




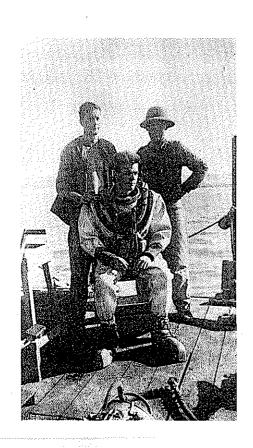


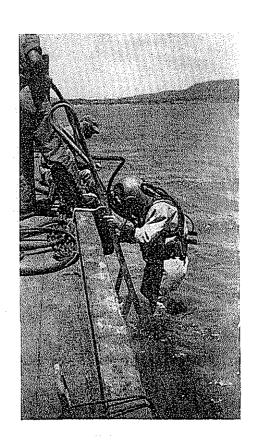
THE MILITARY BAND
THIS 135TH AGGREGATION ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS ONE OF THE
BEST ON MOANALUA RIDGE.

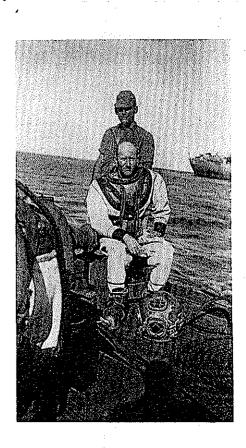




OUR DIVERS ON HUGE SALVAGE JOB

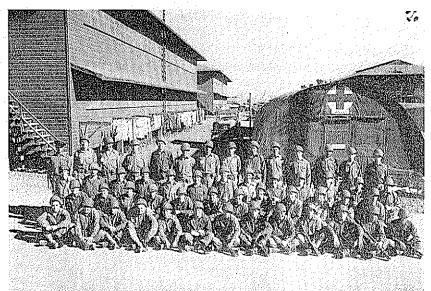




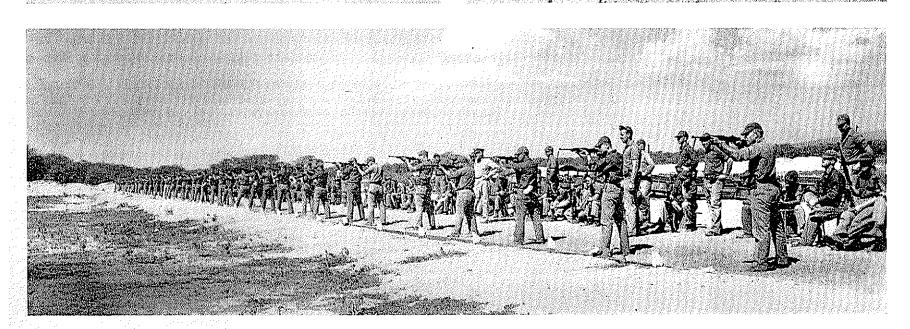




READY AIM FIRE!

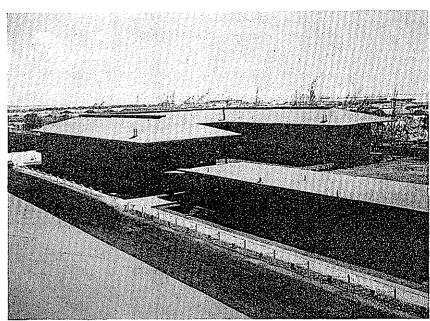


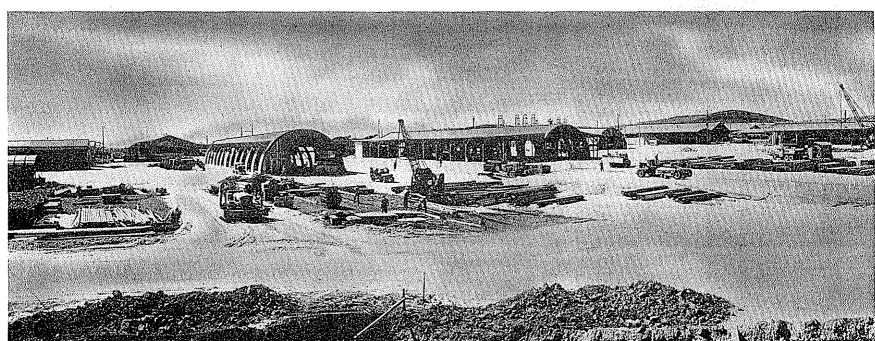




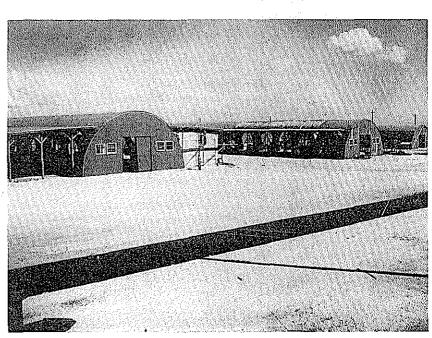
BITS OF PEARL HARBOR BASE CONSTRUCTION

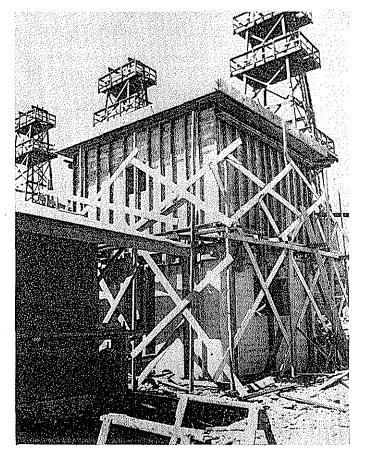




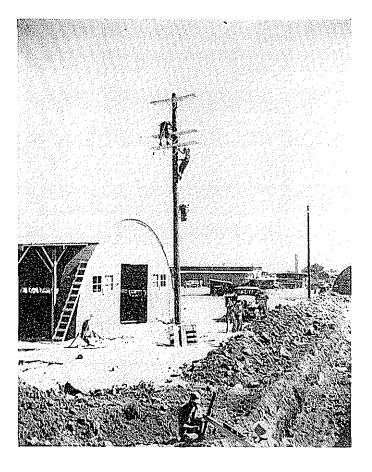


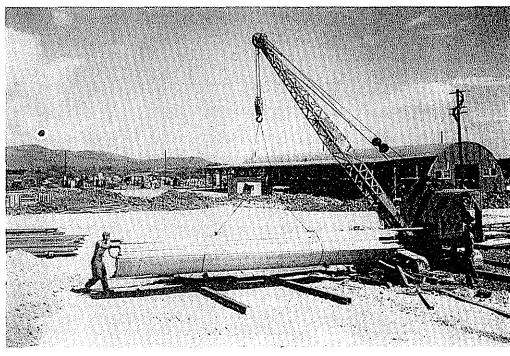


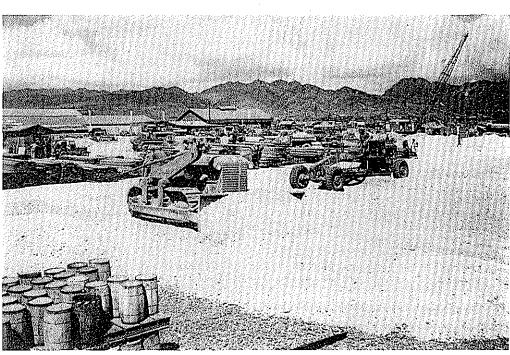


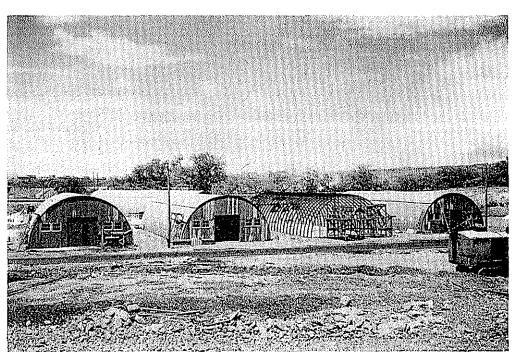


TO INSURE FUTURE SECURITY

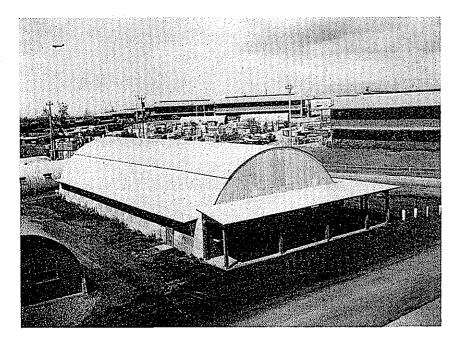


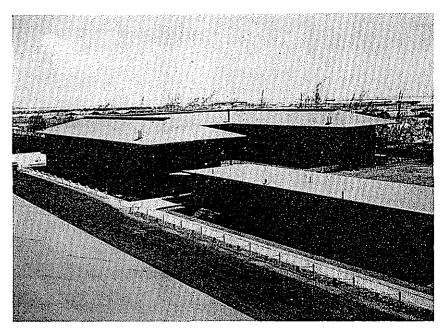


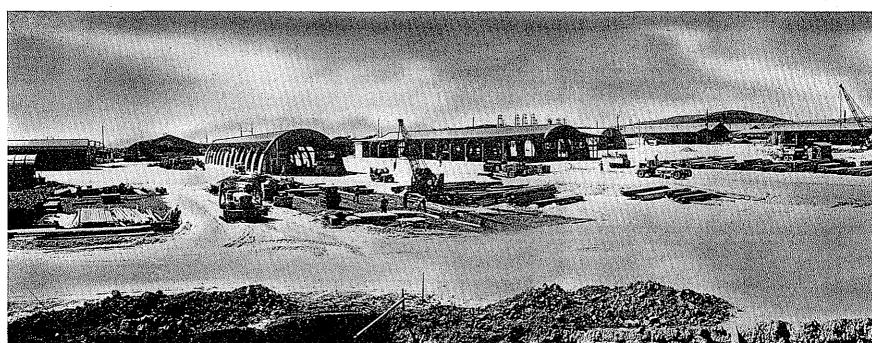




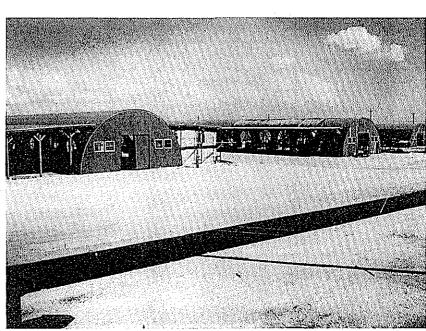
BITS OF PEARL HARBOR BASE CONSTRUCTION

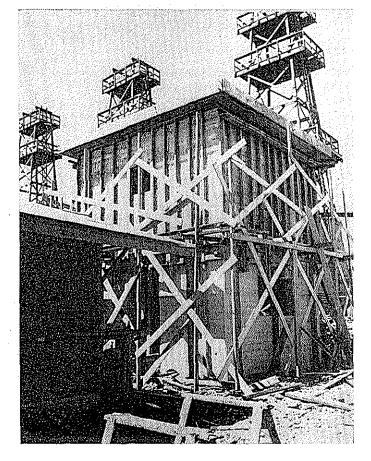


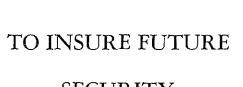


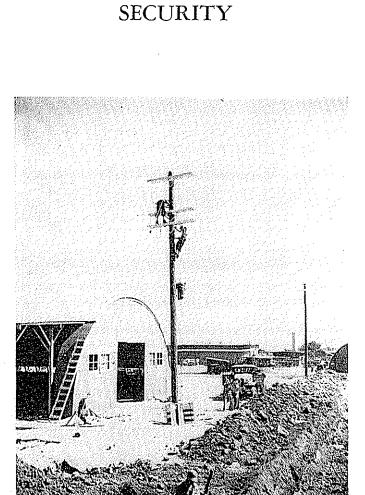


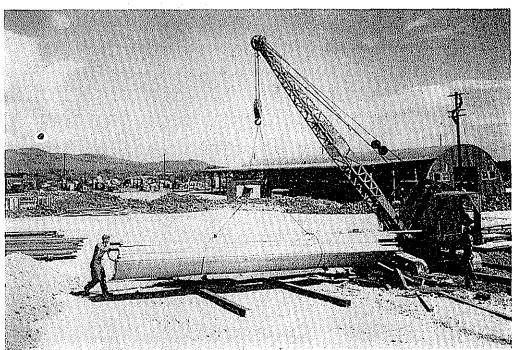


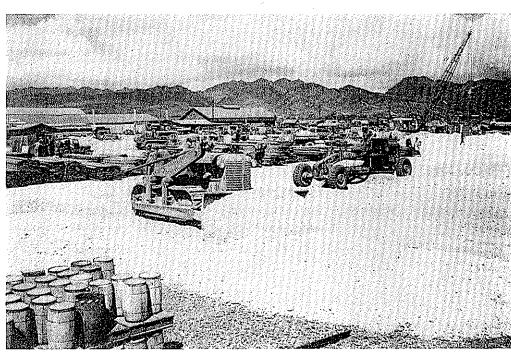


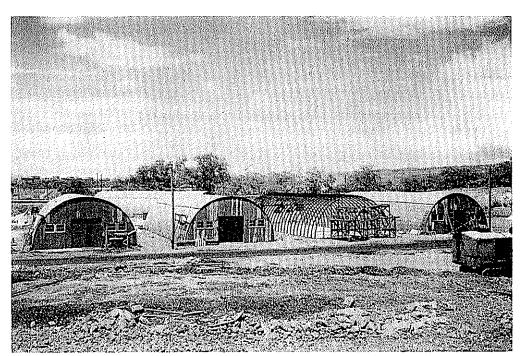




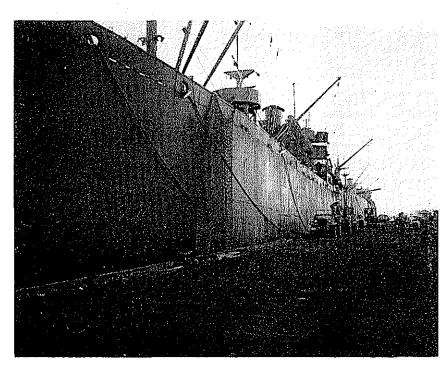


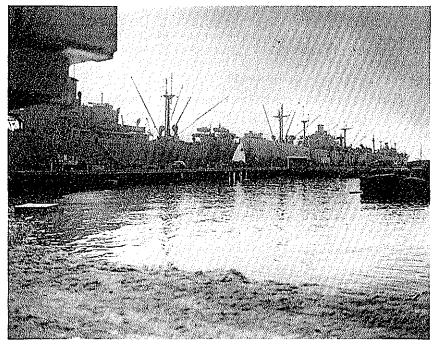




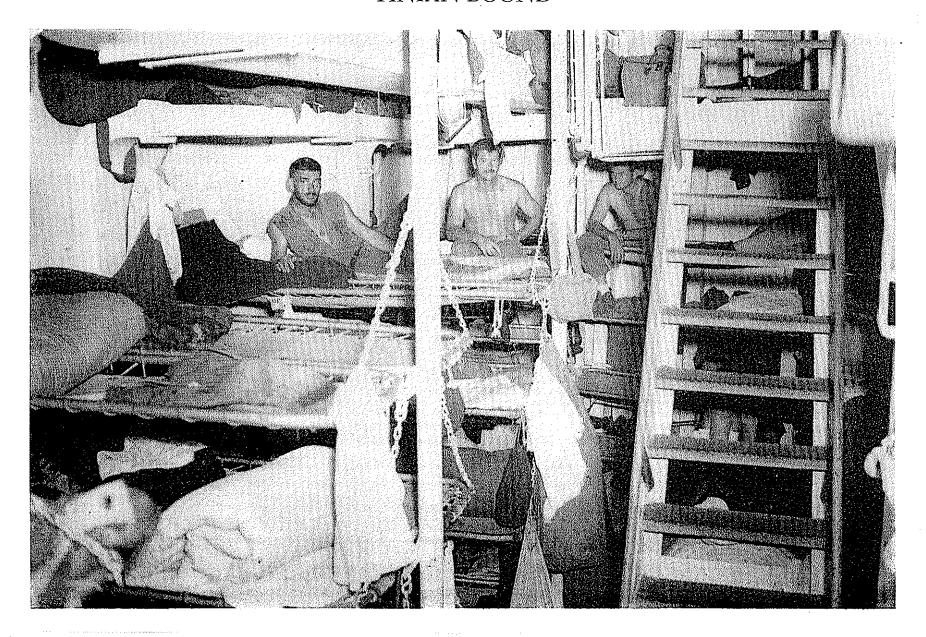


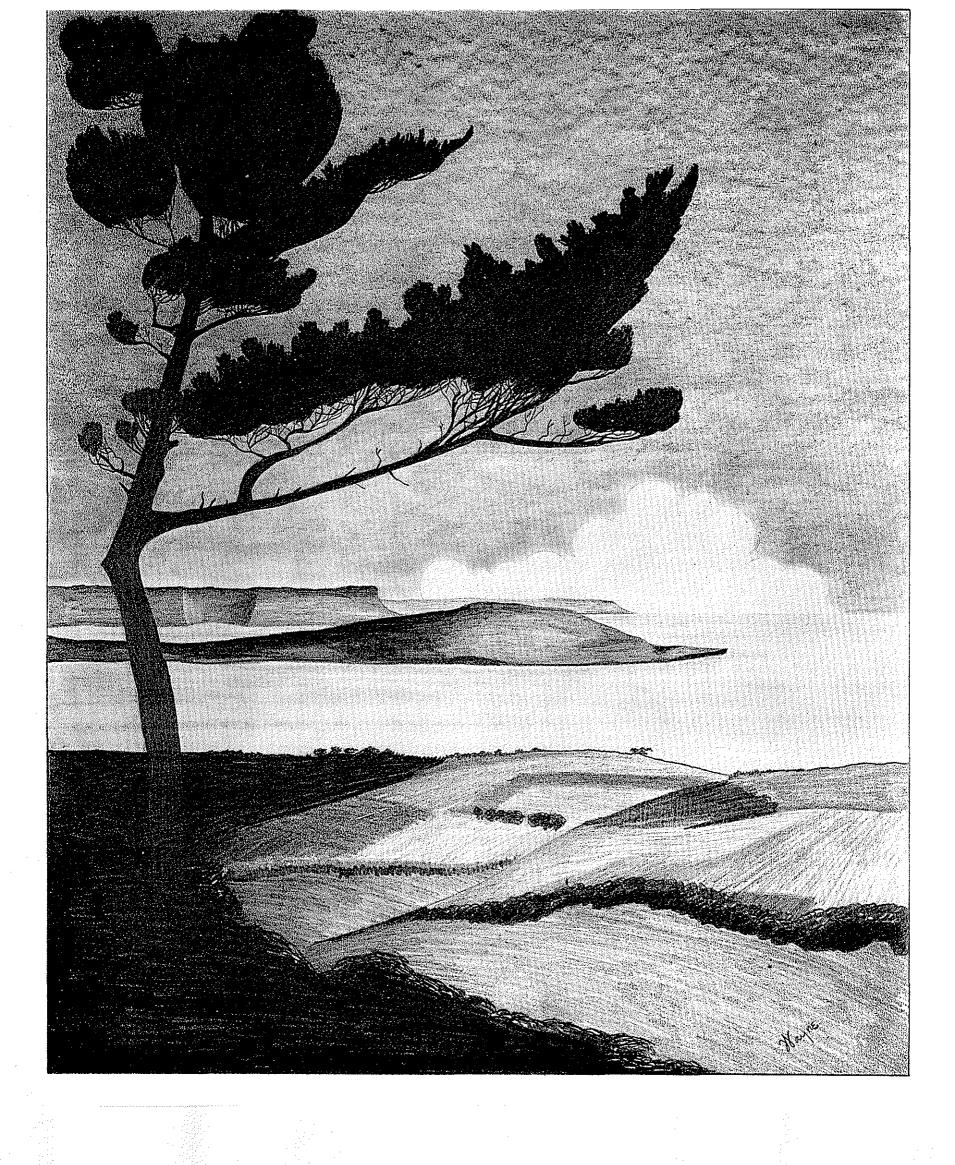
THE 135th MOVES FORWARD AGAIN





TINIAN BOUND





TINIAN

Tinian is one of the Marianas Islands lying near the southern extremity of the Archipelago. Primarily devoted to the raising of sugar cane, the island has no industrial importance, but it is an important link in the easterly of the two island roadways from Japan to the Mandates to the south. Tinian is two and three-quarters miles southwest of Saipan, is ten and one-half nautical miles long and has a maximum width of five miles. It covers approximately forty-eight square miles and has thirty-four miles of shore line consisting of steep rocky cliffs covered with dense vegetation.

The civilian population of Tinian ran close to fifteen thousand before the assault. Of these, the great majority were Japanese with the balance being made up of Koreans. The Chamorro natives had been removed by the Japanese some time previous. The Japanese were mainly Okinawahs, brought in by the Nanyo Kohatsu Kabushiki Kaisha or South Seas Development Company of Japan. Ruins of the prehistoric Taga race still remain near Tinian Town in the form of monoliths. These were discovered by Spanish explorers in 1565, but little history of the race is known.

The Second and Fourth Marine Divisions began the assault and invasion of Tinian on the morning of July 24, 1944. Lieutenant General Holland M. Smith, U.S.M.C., was in command of the Landing and Amphibious Forces. The tactical surprise was great and with the aid of Seabees and their heavy equipment, the beachhead was expanded with rapidity. Twenty-four hours after the Seabees reached the Jap North Airfield, it was being used by American supply and evacuation planes. The Stars and Stripes were raised over Tinian on August 2, 1944, after five thousand Japs had been killed and principal organized resistance had been broken up.

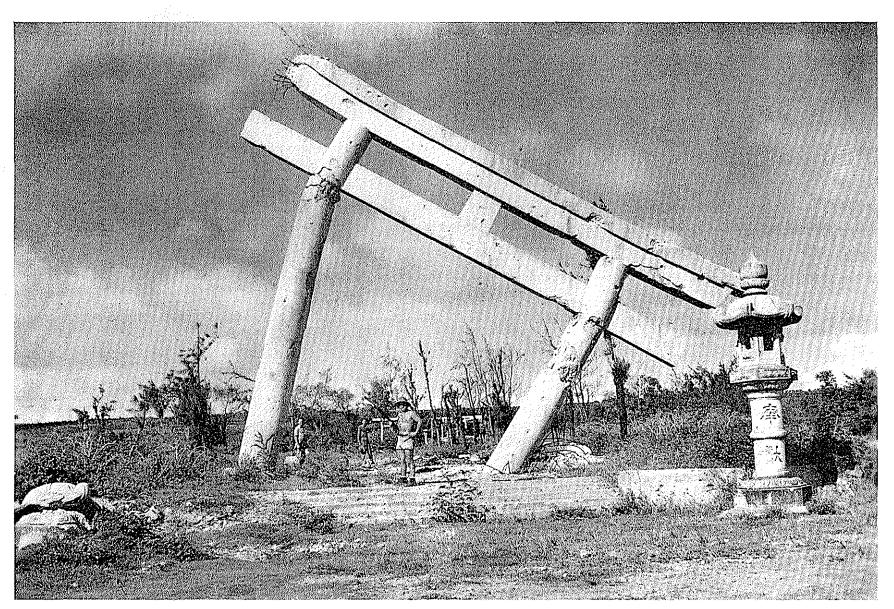
The first echelon of the 135th Seabees landed on Tinian from Higgins landing boats on the early morning of October 24, 1944. A temporary bivouac was set up at "96th Street and Broadway" and during the first few days a permanent campsite was laid out and supplies and equipment were brought ashore. For the first week, K-rations, supplemented only by hot coffee was the only food available. During the second week, the second echelon landed and C-rations became the regular diet for months to come.

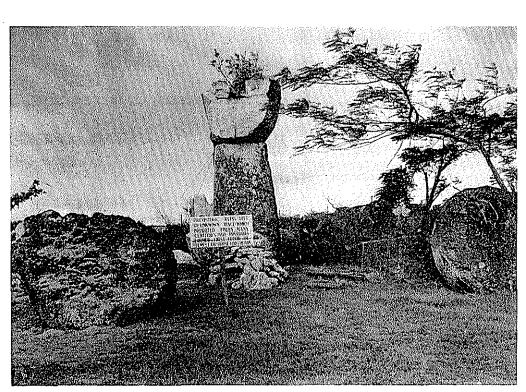
Almost at once, the bulk of construction men were assigned to airstrip construction, while battalion shops were constructed, organized and put into operation. The first of over twenty Japanese air raids was experienced during the second week, truck drivers were sniped at during night runs, and several Japs were killed by 135th perimeter guards, but these harassments failed to interfere with normal operations.

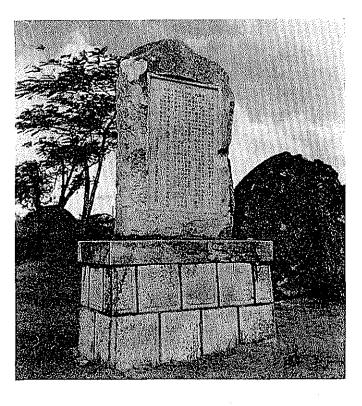
During the months to follow, the 135th participated in the construction of every Navy and Army airfield and facility on Tinian. Despite enemy bombing and strafing attacks, a 6,000 foot runway with complete facilities for Navy search and bombing planes was completed within the deadline. This job included the greatest earthmoving feat ever attempted by the Navy. On December 20, 1944, the first 8,500 foot B-29 field was commissioned and the first giant superfortress landed on it the next day. This was only the beginning and construction of a similar nature continued until, with the 135th as the "lead construction battalion," the final super-bomber strip was completed to establish Tinian as one of the greatest military airdromes in the world.

The 135th suffered the loss of three enlisted men on Tinian. Two died as the result of enemy action and one met accidental death from fire arms. In its only tactical contact with the enemy on the island, the battalion was responsible for the killing of twenty-six and the capturing of ten Japanese.

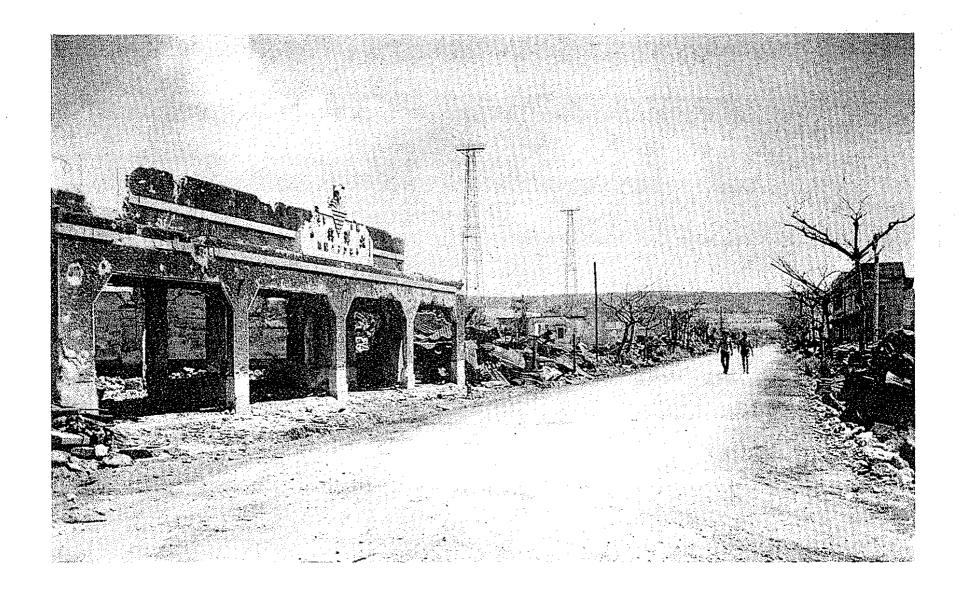
TINIAN TEMPLES



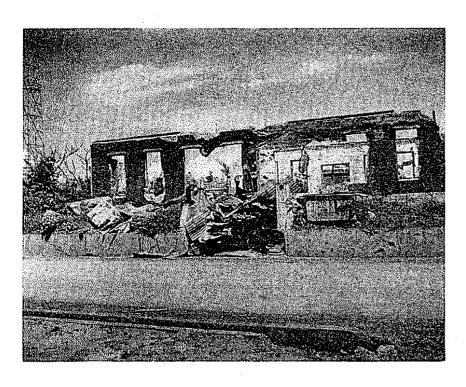


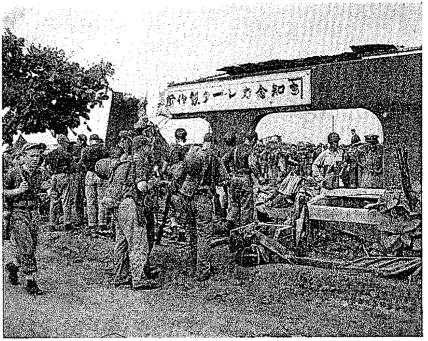


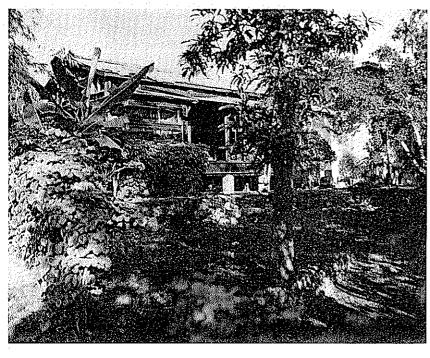
TINIAN

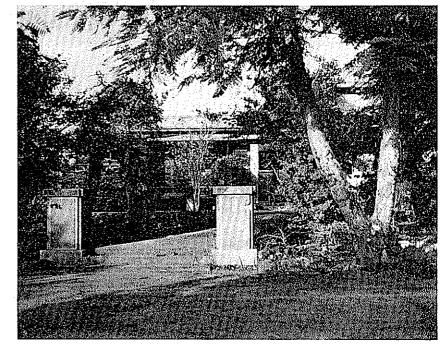


TINIAN TOWN AFTER THE BOMBARDMENT

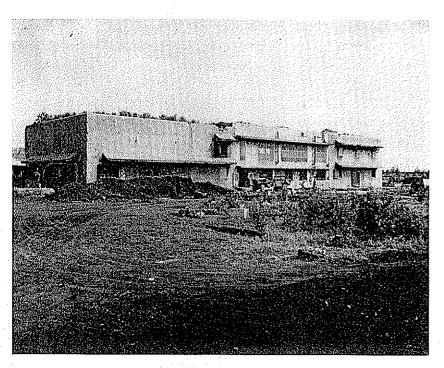








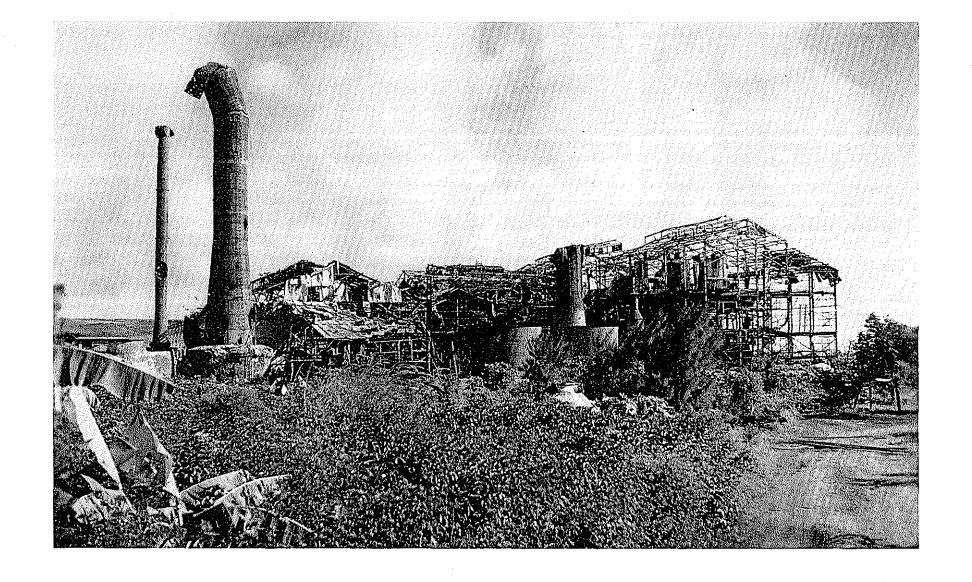
THE JAPANESE OVERLORDS ON TINIAN LIVED IN COMPARATIVE LUXURY BEFORE THE INVASION



A FORMER JAPANESE MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER



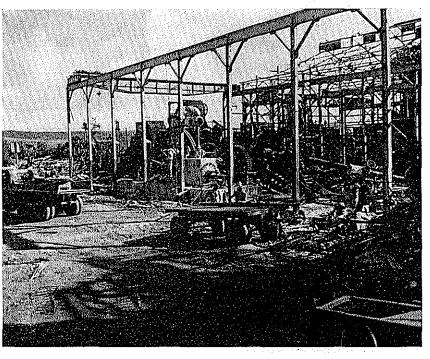
ONE OF THE MANY SHINTO SHRINES
ON THE ISLAND



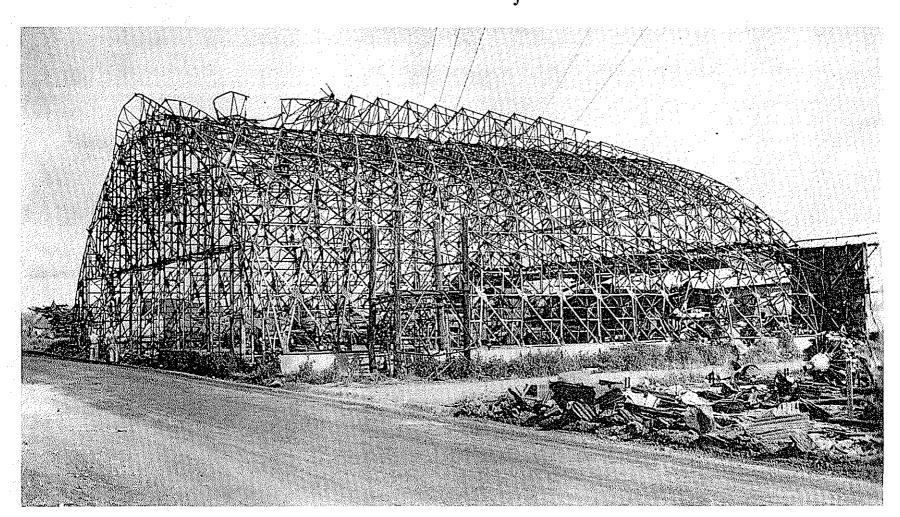
RUINS OF TINIAN'S SYRUP INDUSTRY

OUR CONSTRUCTION FORCES SALVAGED MUCH VALUABLE MATERIAL FOR VITAL INSTALLATIONS AND CAMP FACILITIES FROM THIS LARGE JAP MILL

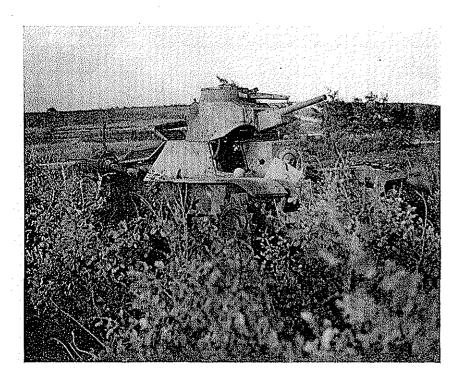




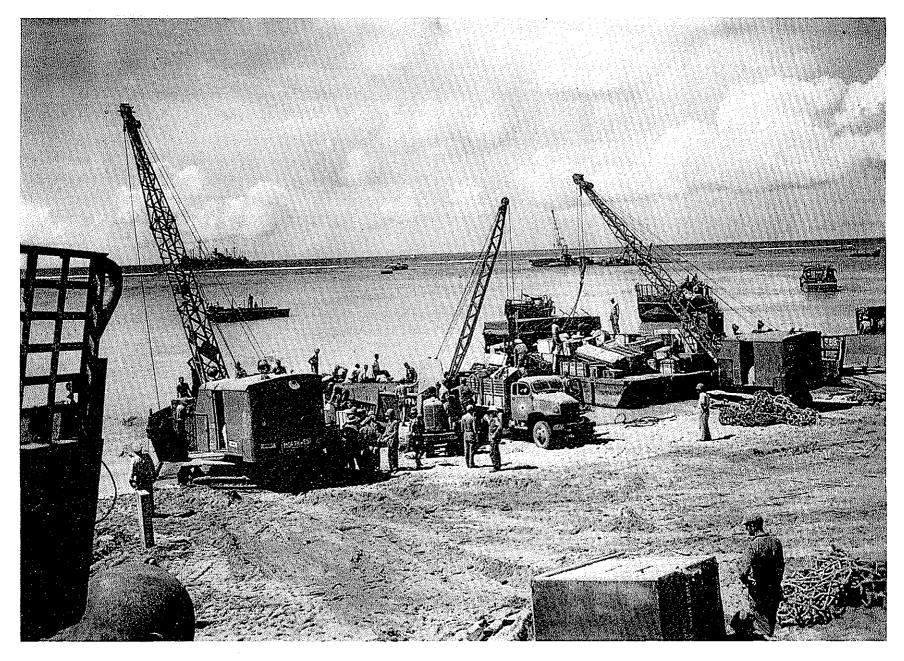
ALL THAT KEMIATINED OF THE TAL MAK MINCHINE

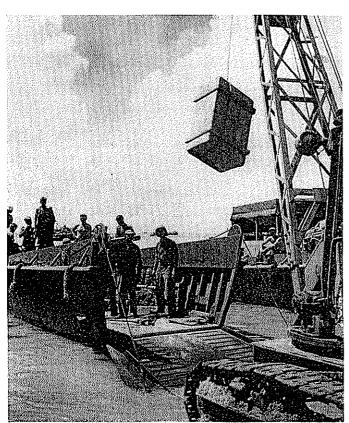


OUR LAND, SEA AND AIR FORCES TRANSFORMED JAPANESE HANGARS,
TANKS AND PLANES INTO JUNK

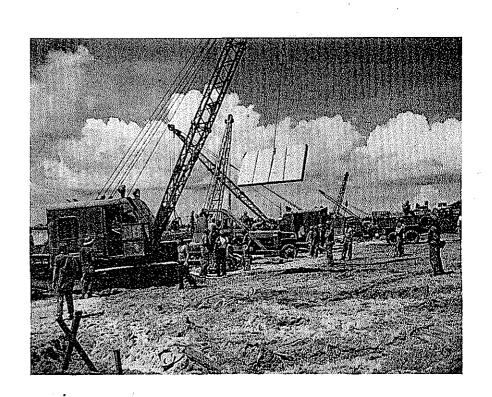




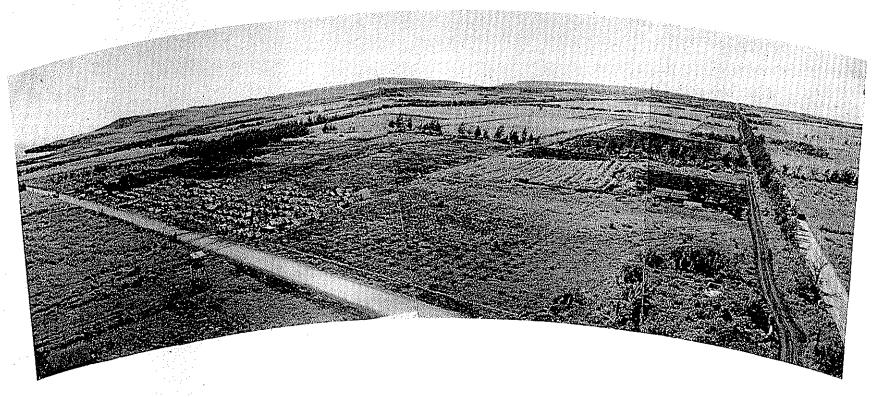




OUR EQUIPMENT HITS THE BEACH



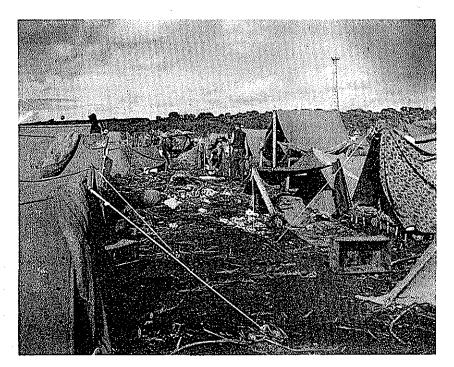
LOOKING SOUTH FROM BROADWAY AT 96th



OUR FIRST MARIANAS BIVOUAC

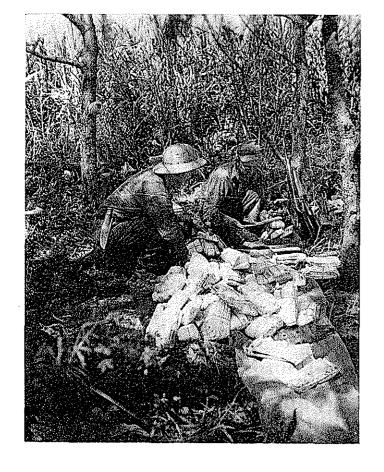


Close-ups of Down-to-Earth Camp Life

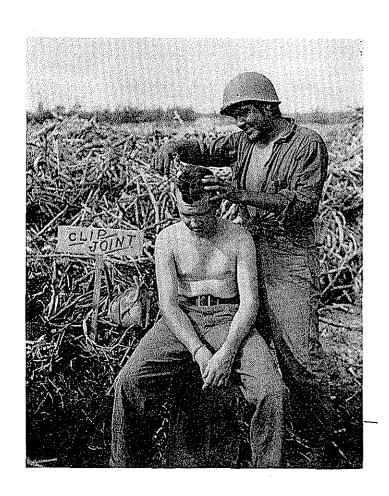


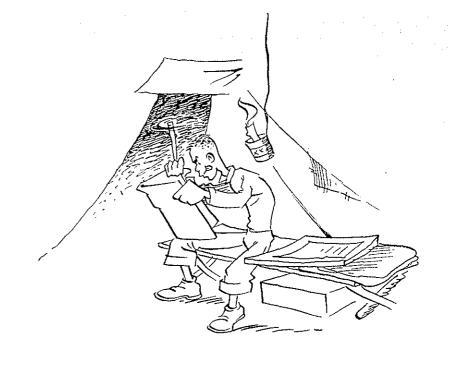


*TINIAN



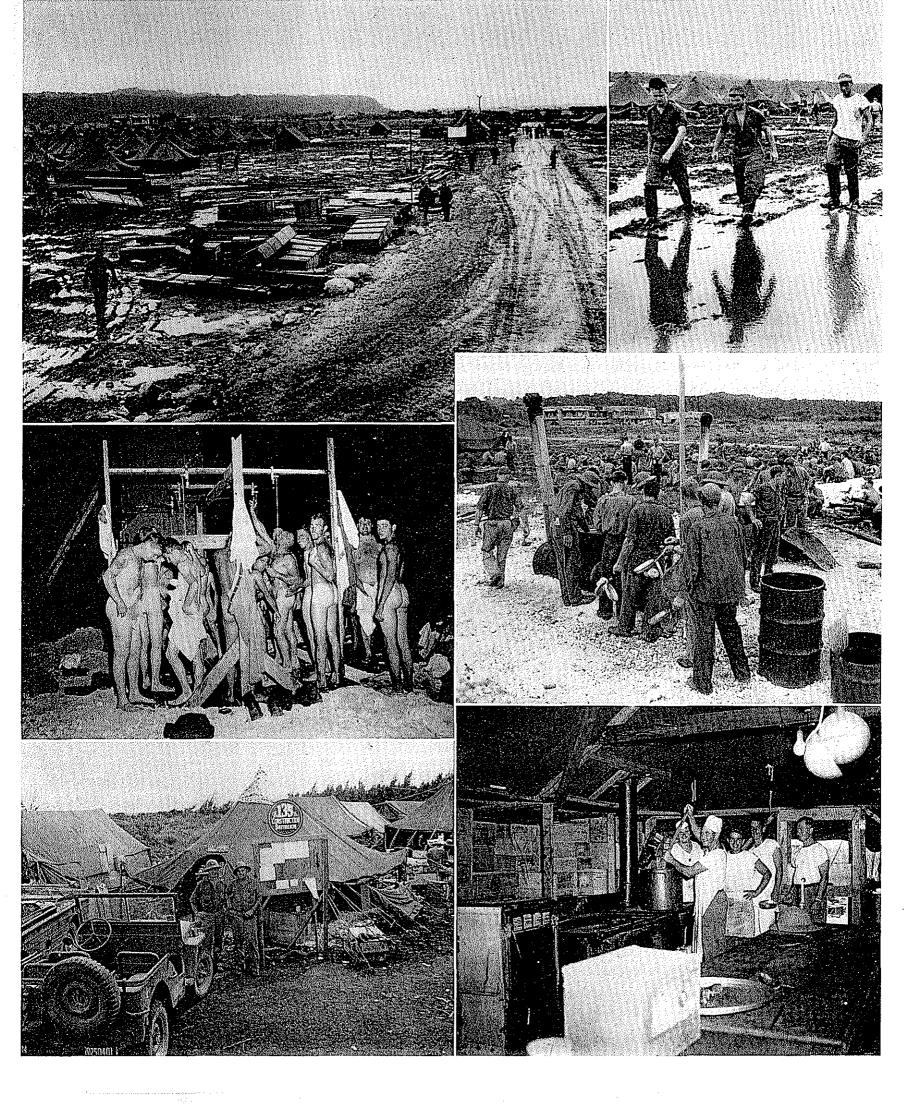
That First Rough Week
On Tinian
It Was No Island Paradise Then

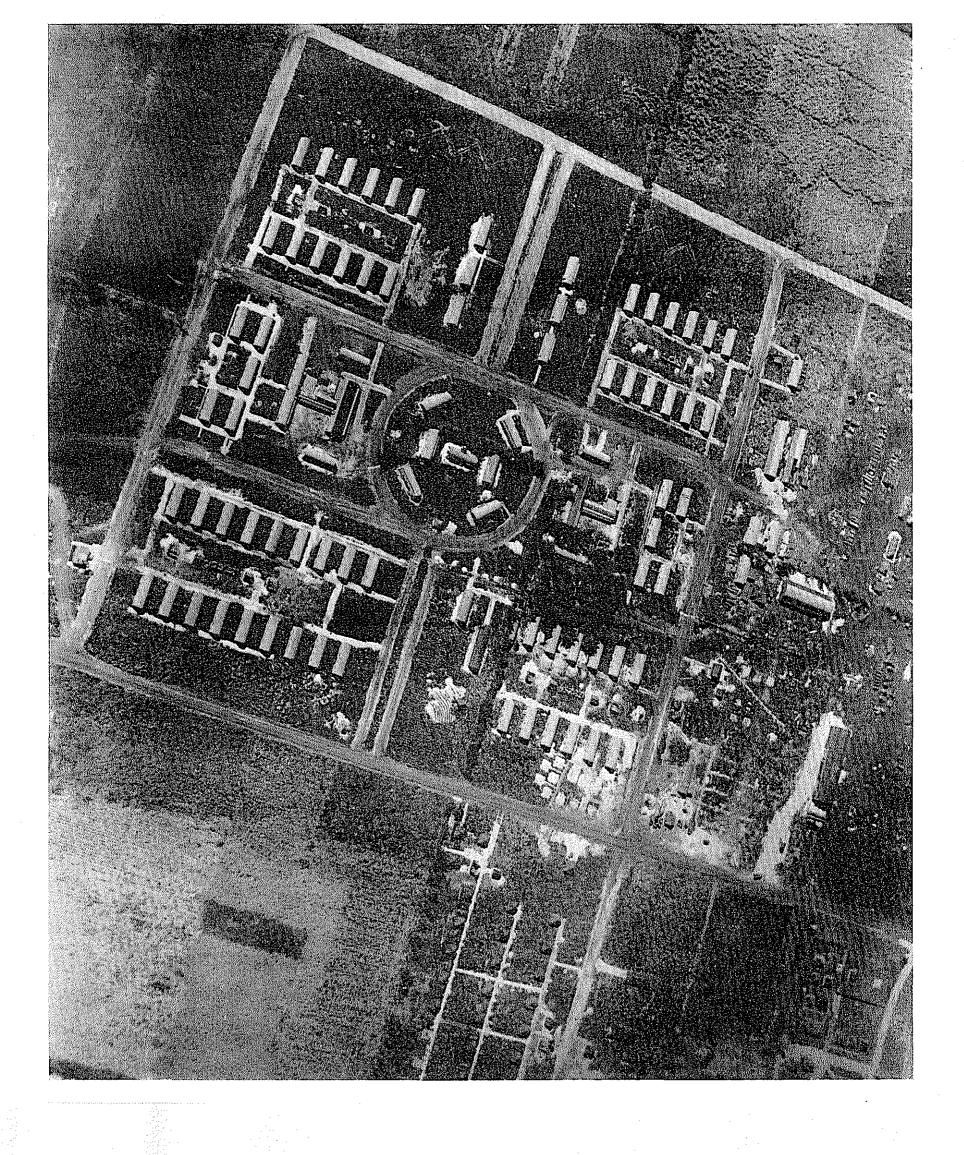


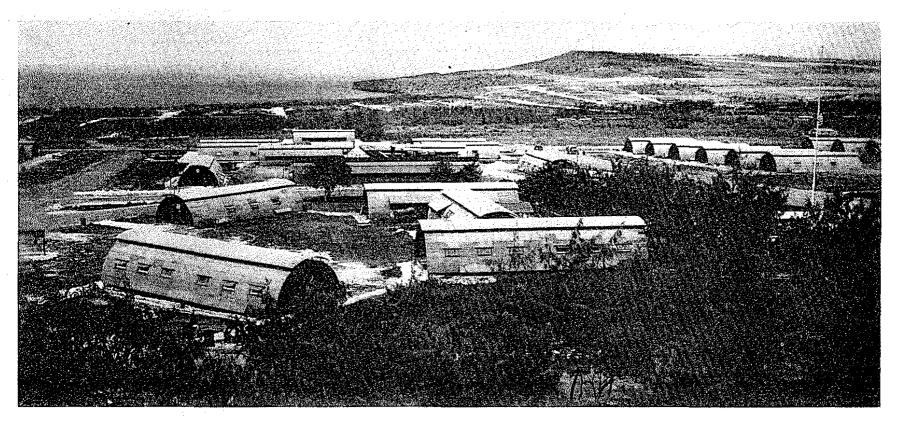


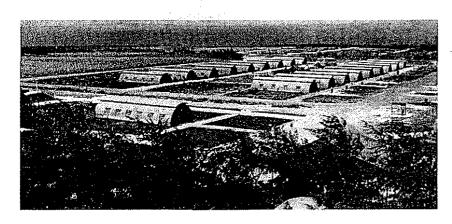


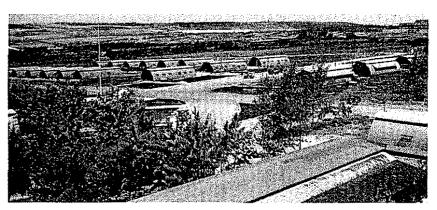


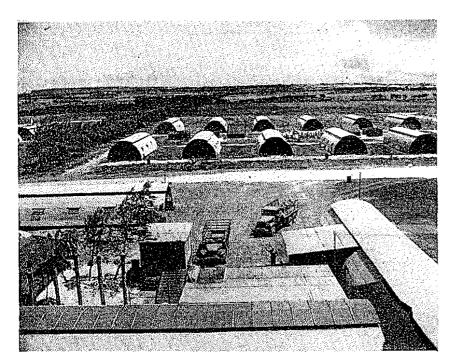


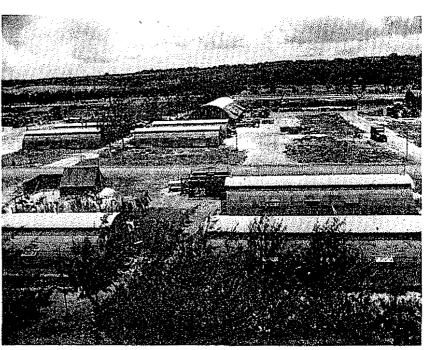












WE BUILT AND LIVED IN THIS MODEL CAMP AFTER WE LEFT IT BECAME AN ARMY HOSPITAL

NOT THE FIRST—BUT THE BEST

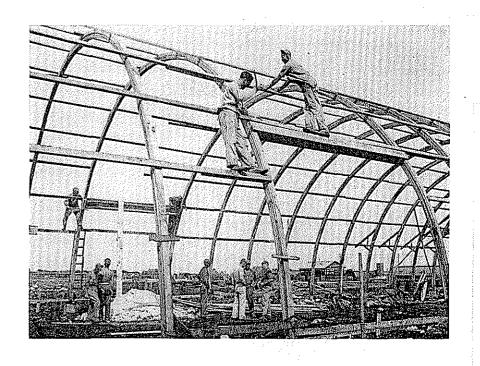
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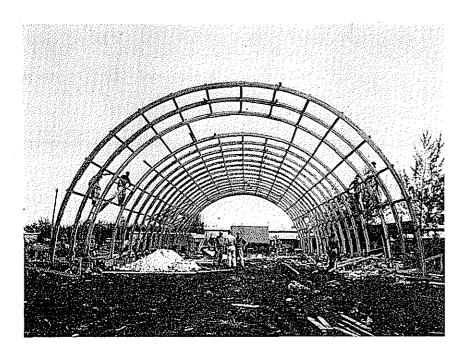
BRAINS, INGENUITY AND

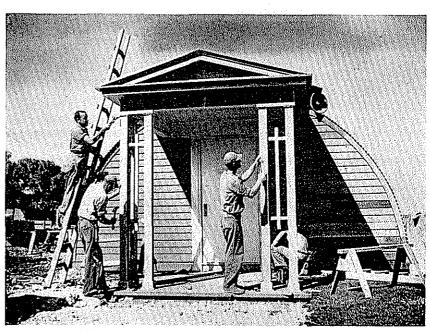
PLENTY OF SWEAT

MADE THE 135th CAMP THE

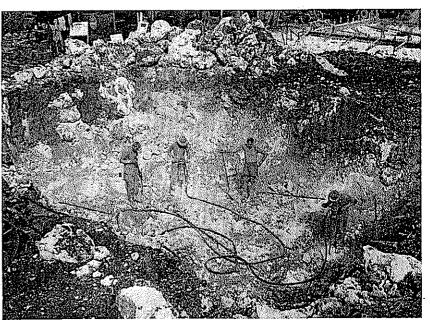
SHOWPLACE OF TINIAN ISLAND







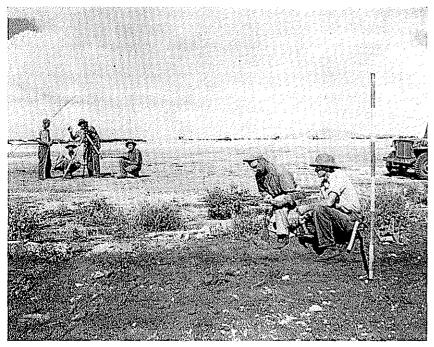




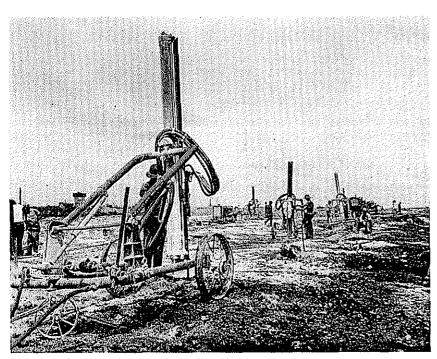


THE FIRST STEPS
OF THE B-29
AIR ROUTE TO
TOKYO





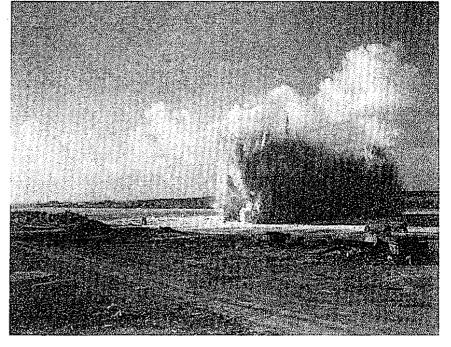


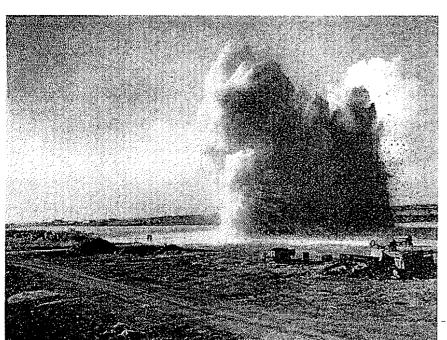


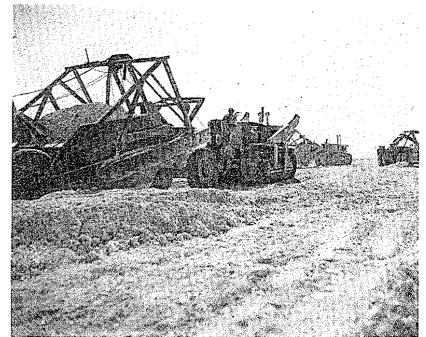


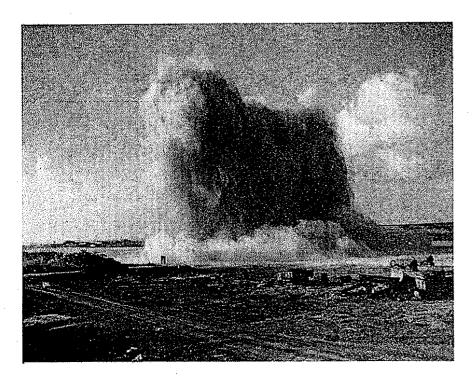
FIRE in the HOLE

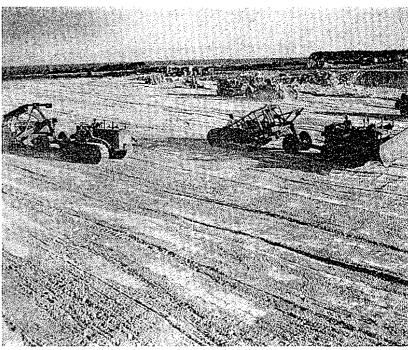
THE EARTH ROARED, THE
CORAL SOARED, AND IN CAME
THE 135th HEAVY EQUIPMENT











KING CORAL

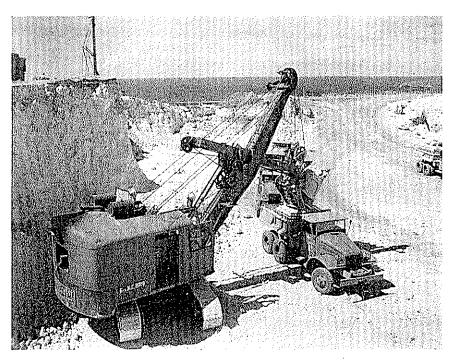
GOD'S GIFT TO THE PACIFIC

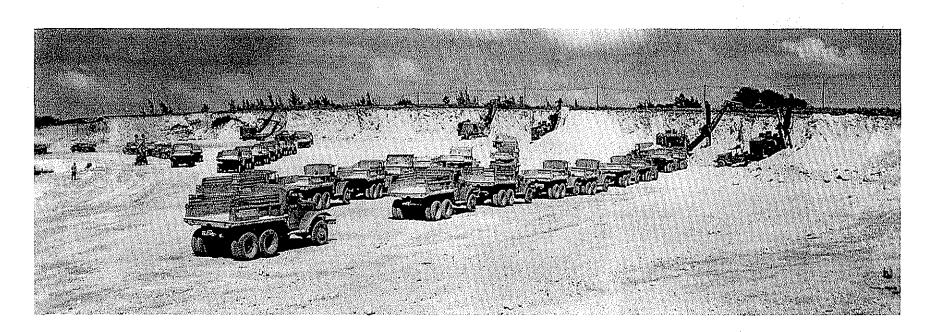
BECAME A GODSEND TO SEABEE

AIRFIELD BUILDERS

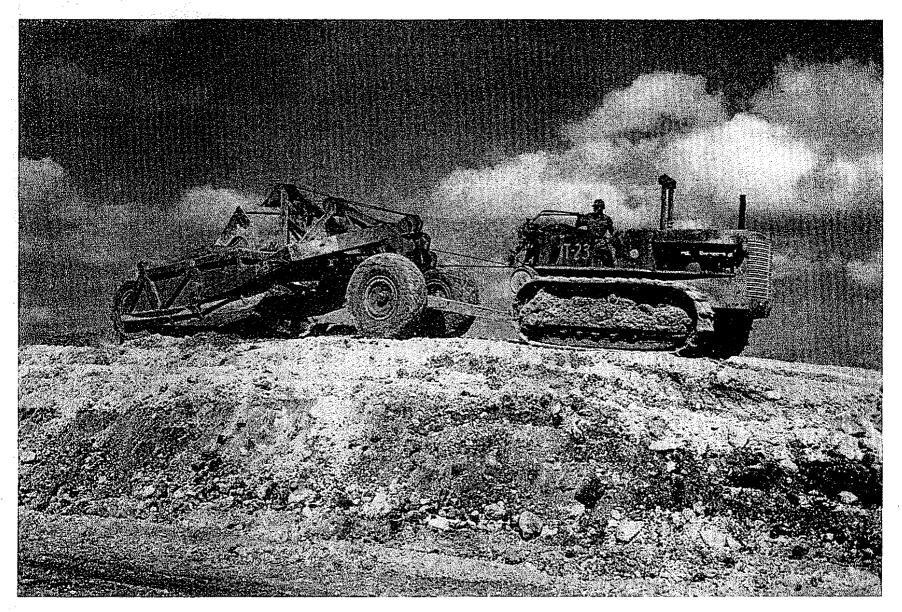


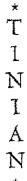




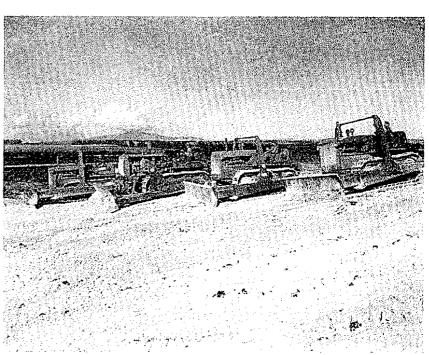


135th HEAVY EQUIPMENT MAKING WAY FOR THE ATOMIC BOMB

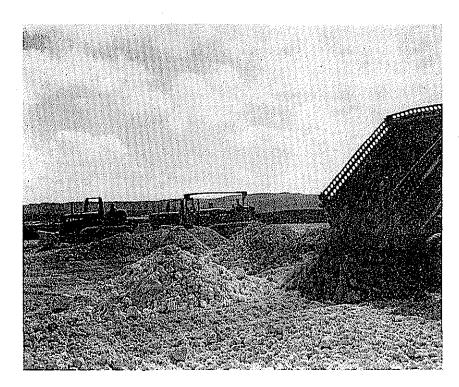


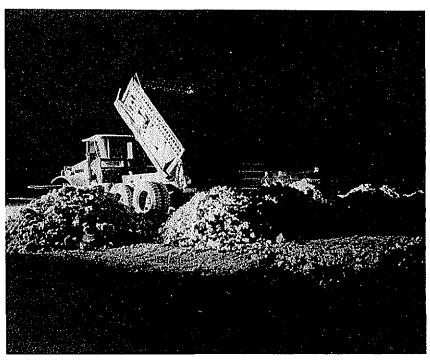




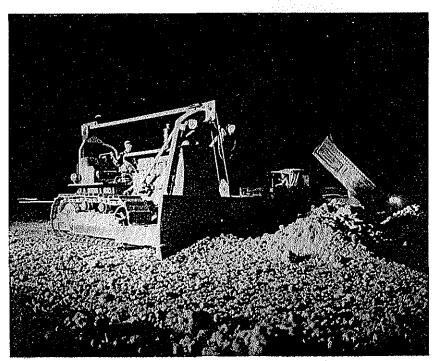


DAY AND NIGHT THROUGH BOMBINGS AND STRAFINGS B-24 AND B-29 FIELDS AND FACILITIES WERE RUSHED TO COMPLETION









A Miracle of Construction

A news commentator who visited Tinian shortly after the first Superfortress landed on the island told the American public that he had witnessed "miracles of construction"—the accomplishments of Navy Seabees in the development of Tinian Island as an operational base for planes of the 20th Air Force. The 135th Naval Construction Battalion is proud to have helped made these "miracles" possible.

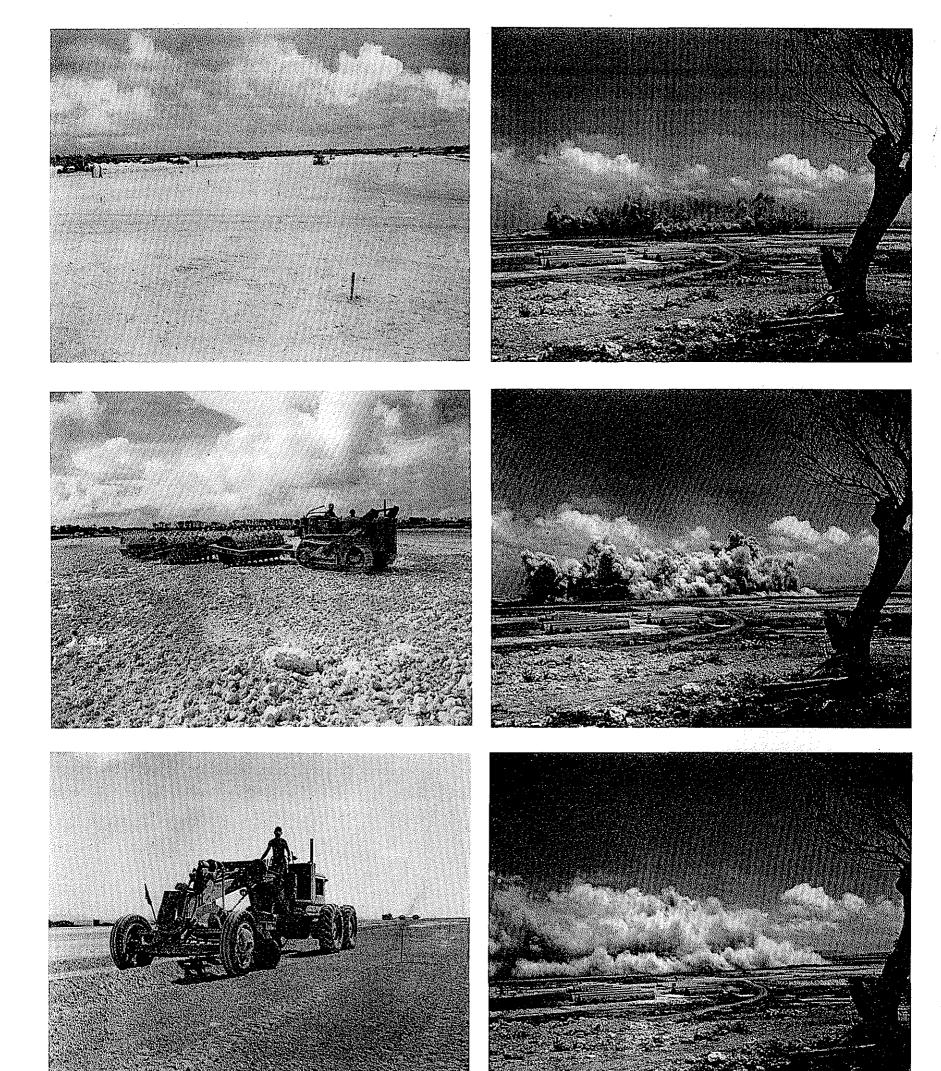
The story of the development of a B-29 airfield on Tinian is an interesting one. The north end of the island, fairly level, was the site of one 4,000 foot Japanese runway with facilities for medium bombers. American forces immediately put this field to use for evacuation and supply planes. The Seabees also made it possible for the Navy to establish there an operating base for Liberator search and bombing squadrons within a month. However, because of the proximity of Tinian to the Japanese homeland, plans were immediately formulated for the construction of a base for B-29 super bombers. Japanese propagandists said that it could not be done, but on December 21, 1944, but 36 days after work on the first strip had begun, Navy Seabees had finished an 8,500 foot runway for the first Superfortress to land upon. Seven hundred thousand cubic yards of earth had been moved, nine hundred thousand truck miles had been piled up. But this was only the beginning.

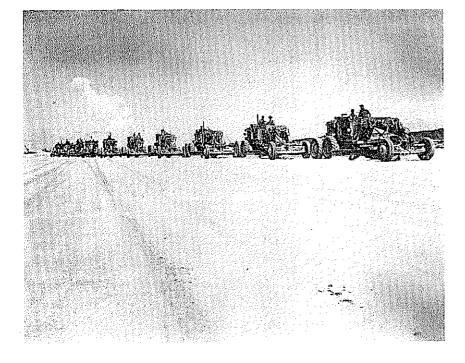
To begin with, with the exception of the inferior Jap strip, the area was covered with fields of sugar cane, Jap farm houses, enemy oil and ammunition dumps, revetments and dugouts. The first task, after the preliminary survey was completed, was the cutting of the cane and the stripping of topsoil from the solid coral formation of the island. This job took every available shovel, bulldozer, pan, carry-all and truck. Then, the area had to be leveled off before the sub-grade for the airfield could be started. Pans, 'dozers and rooters were unable to do the work without the liberal aid of dynamite, and again and again, the island shook. High points were excavated—low spots were filled. Hundreds of men and hundreds of pieces of equipment worked around the clock. The north end of the island looked like a huge jig-saw puzzle.

Huge coral pits were developed, with hundreds of trucks running day and night from the source of the material where they were filled by power shovels, to the airfield area where dumpmen regulated the disposal of the loads to prevent the slightest confusion. It was like a well-oiled machine—and with the tempo increasing, one by one, problems were overcome and difficulties remedied. The coral was spread, leveled, impacted, rolled—layer by layer—until the final surface had been reached. It was discovered that the action of the salt water, sprayed from tank trucks on the coral as it was spread and rolled encouraged a cementing process. It was also discovered that the pulverizing of the coral by sheepsfoot rollers increased the cement-like formation and speeded the action. All along the line, innovations were introduced as the men observed the results of their work. By the time the first strip was completed, and a little later, after it had been used and subjected to the tremendous weight of the heavy bombers, further improvements in the delicate process were developed and put to use in subsequent construction.

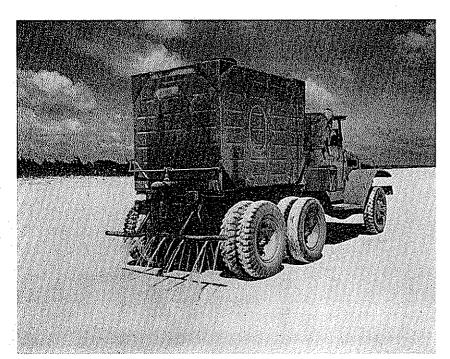
As soon as each phase of the first huge strip had been completed, similar work was started on another. It was mass production. Deadlines were not only being met, they were being beaten and the quality of the workmanship was improving with experience. Military authorities were so impressed with the original facilities planned for the island when they neared completion that additional ones were quickly authorized and further development continued without interruption. The jig-saw puzzle stage was no more.

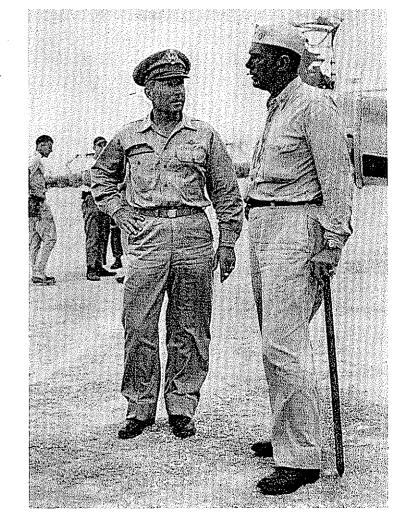
Among other things, V-J Day gave evidence that these "miracles of construction" had served their purpose well.











ISLAND COMMAND ACCEPTS

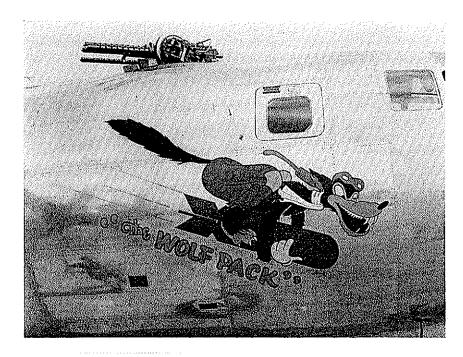
BRIGADIER GENERAL F. V. H. KIMBLE, USA, AND COMMODORE P. J. HALLORAN, USN, LAND IN FIRST PLANE ON B-29 FIELD TO DEDICATE THE "MIRACLE OF CONSTRUCTION"



THE FIRST B-29 TO LAND ON TINIAN

B-29 "WOLF PACK" SPONSORED BY 135th N.C.B.















IJ



GIRL

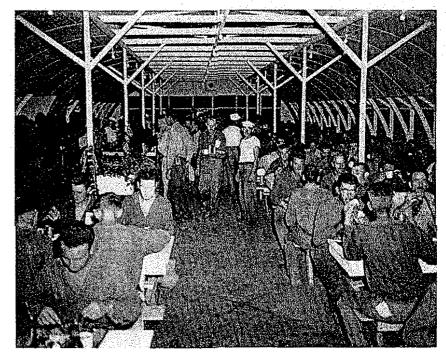
CRAZY

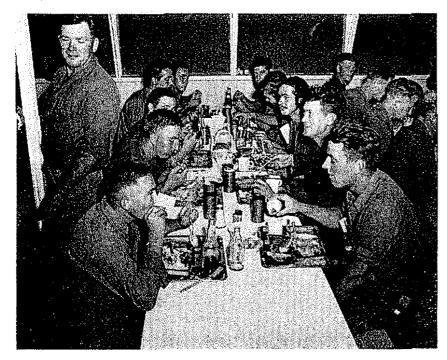
REVIEW





THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS 1944 MEANT WORK AS USUAL BUT THE CHOW WAS HOLIDAY STYLE



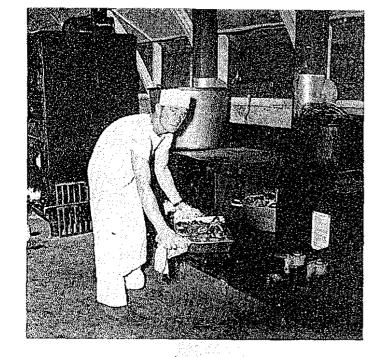








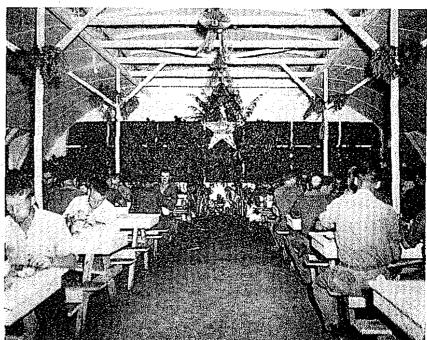


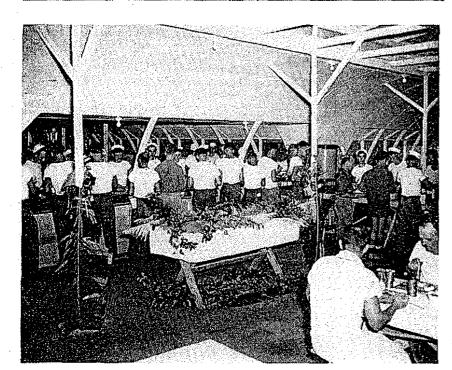


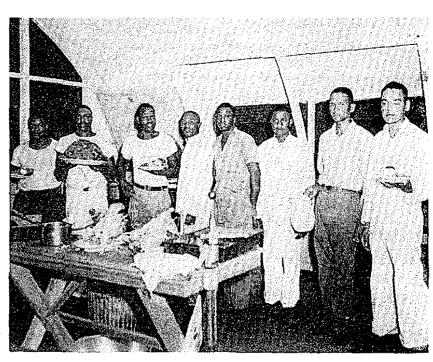
CHRISTMAS
DINNER
WITH BEER
ON TINIAN











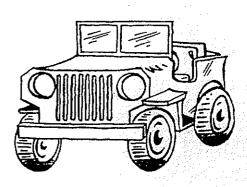
LOOK

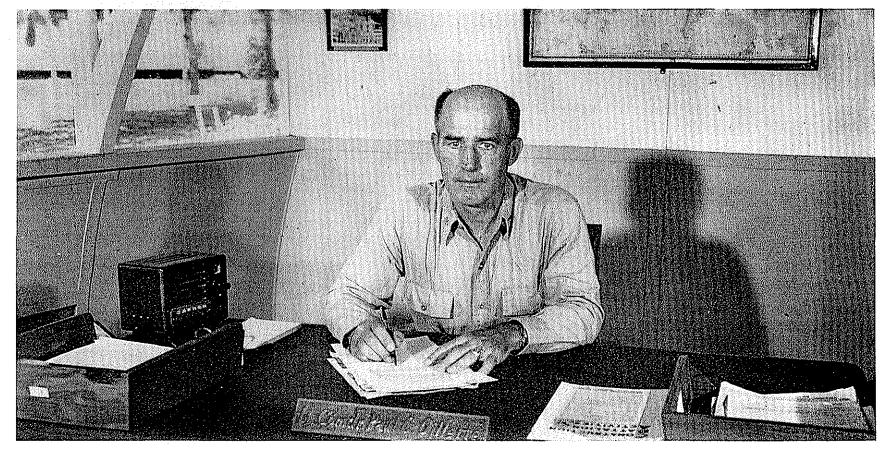
US

OVER

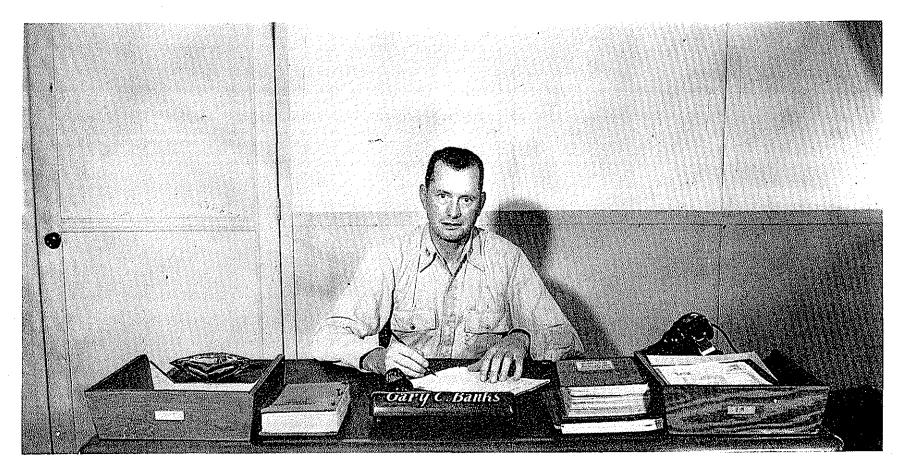








OFFICER IN CHARGE



EXECUTIVE OFFICER

P
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE STAFF



LABOR ASSIGNMENT

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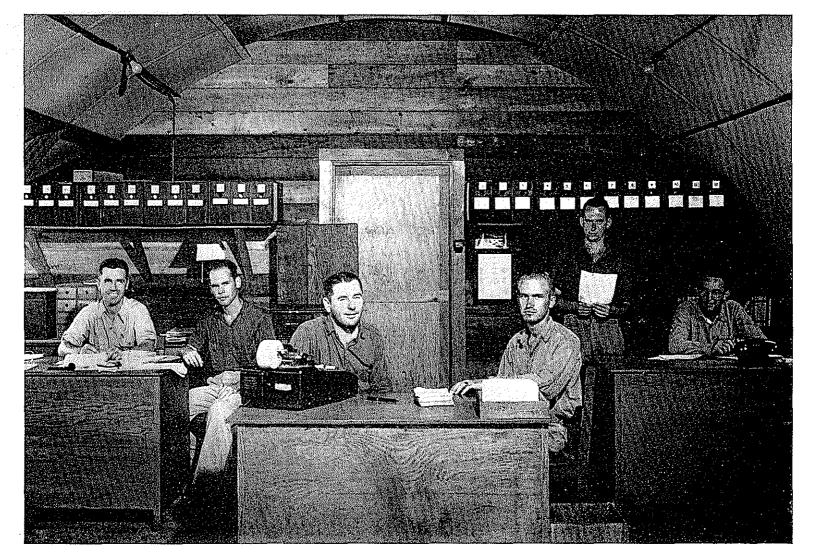
 \mathbf{R}

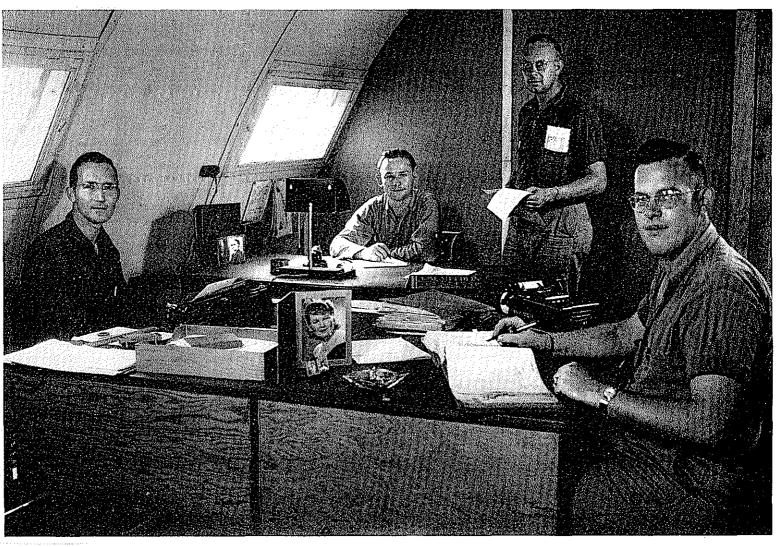
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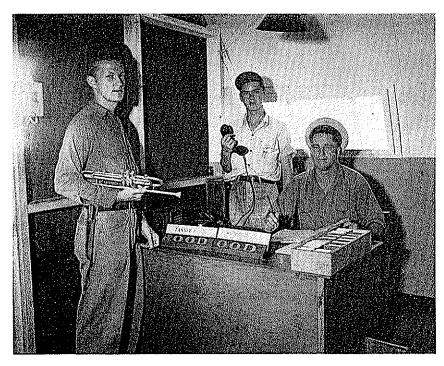




S E C U R I T Y O F F I C E R



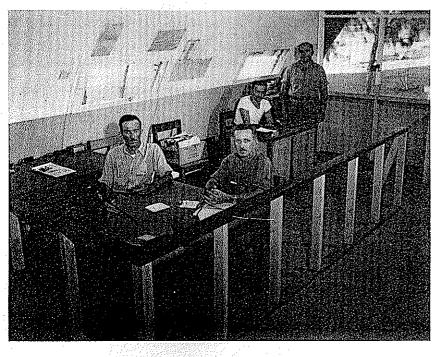
AND BATTALION MASTERS-AT-ARMS



STAFF OF OFFICER OF THE DAY



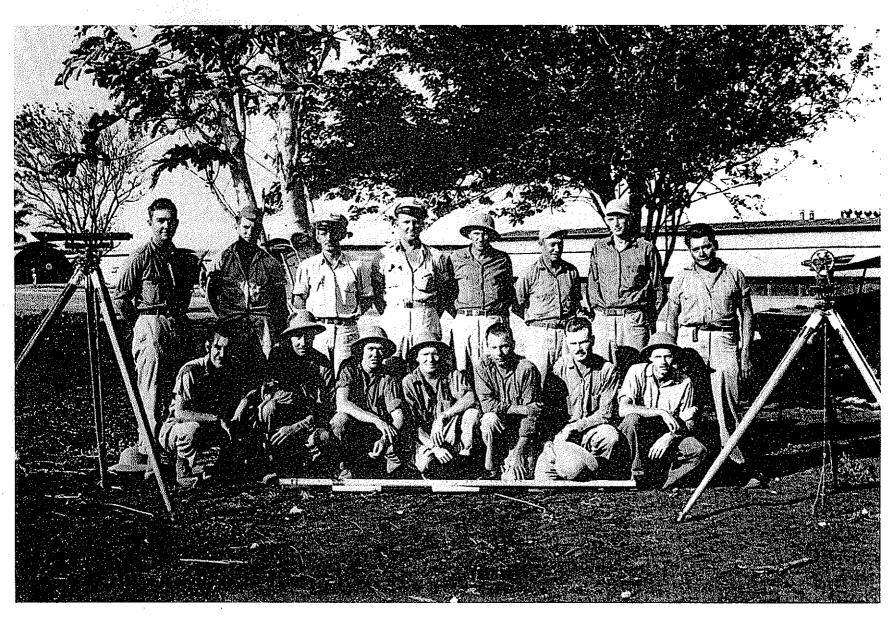
COMPANY MASTERS-AT-ARMS



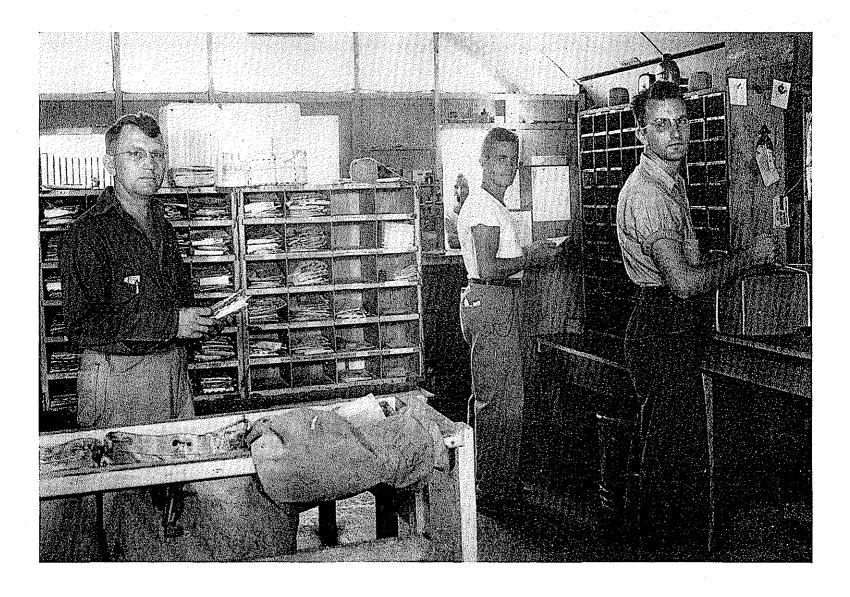




ENGINEERING OFFICE

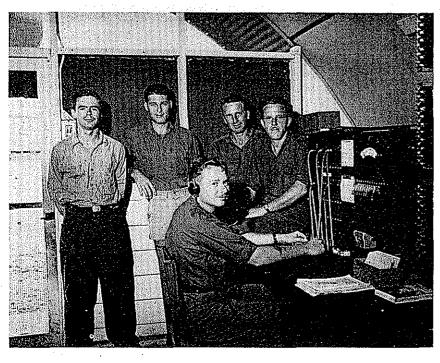


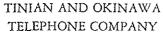
ENGINEERING SURVEY CREWS

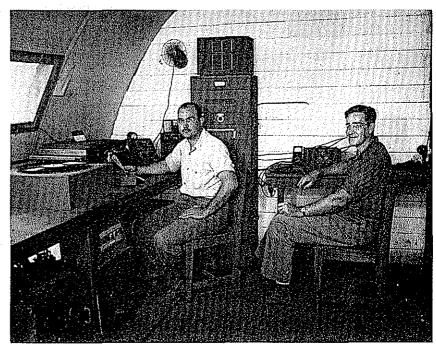




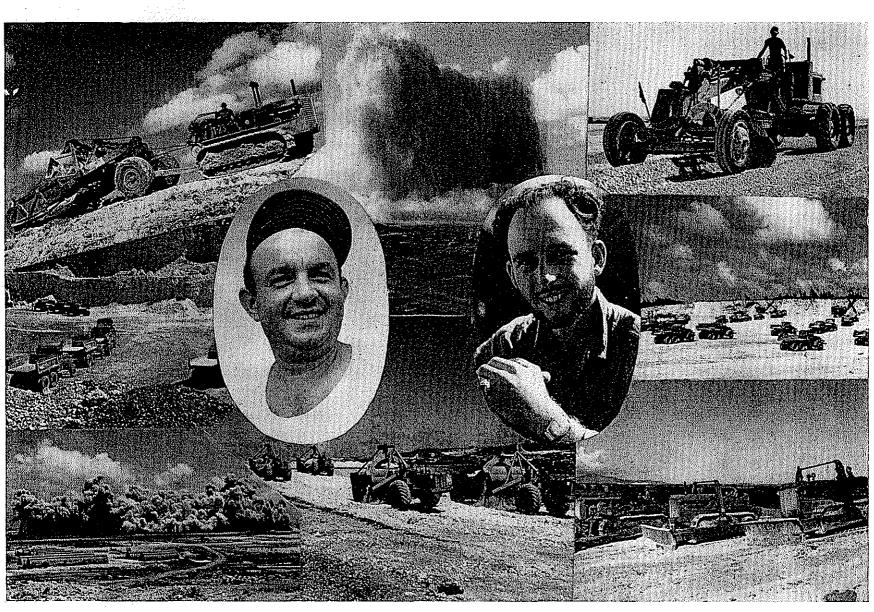




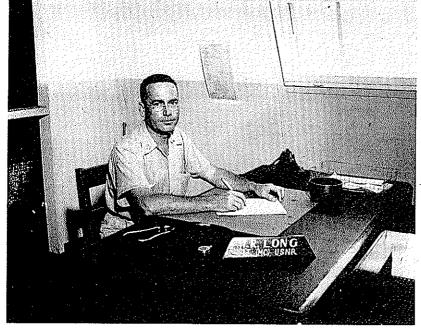




SHORT-WAVE RADIO AND PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM OPERATORS



BATTALION PHOTOGRAPHERS

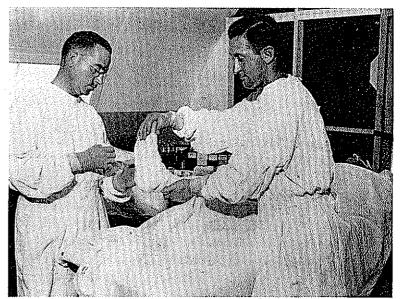


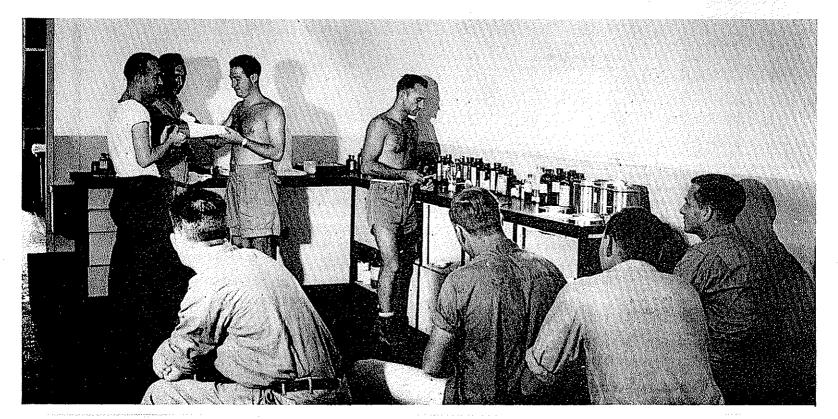




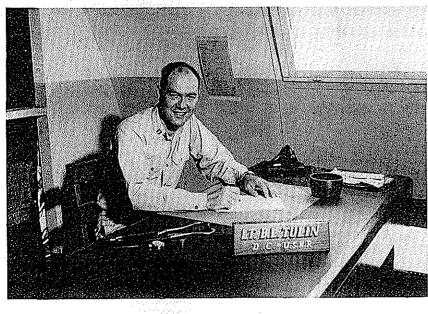
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

S U R G E R

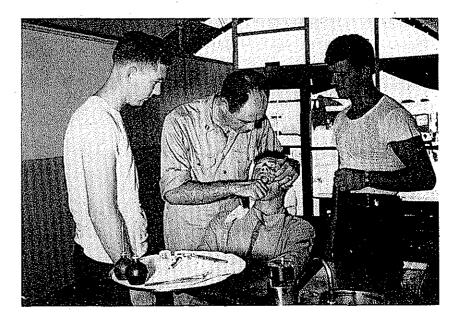




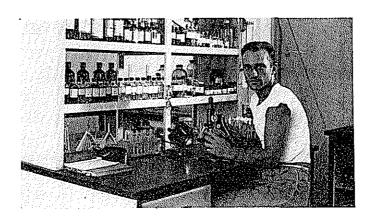
S I C K C A L L

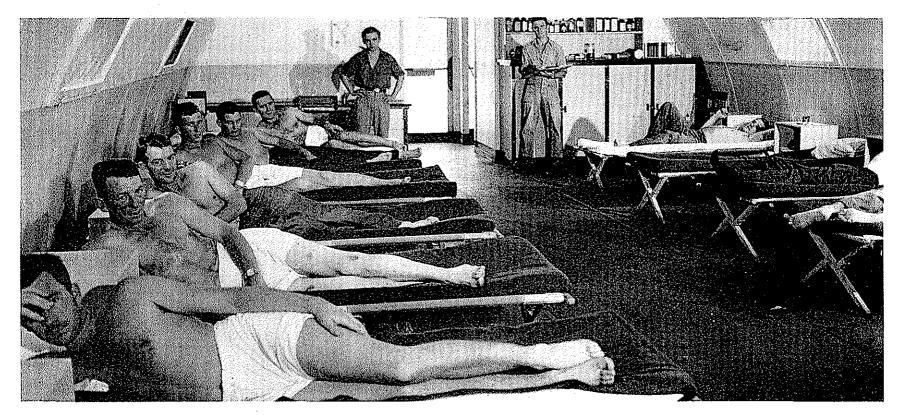






DENTAL LAB





CONVALESCENT WARD

COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT



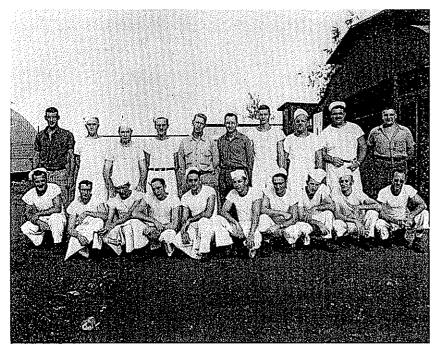
WEST GALLEY MESS COOKS



EAST GALLEY COOKS



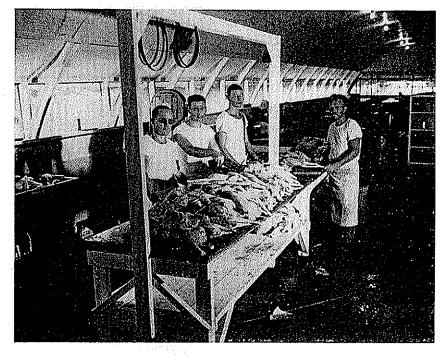
MAINTENANCE

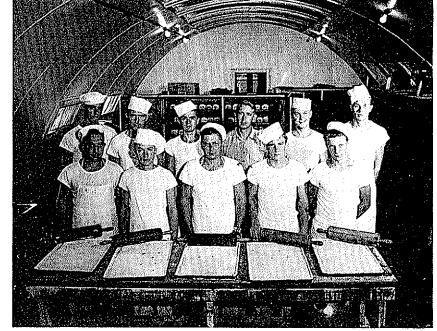


WEST GALLEY COOKS



EAST GALLEY MESS COOKS

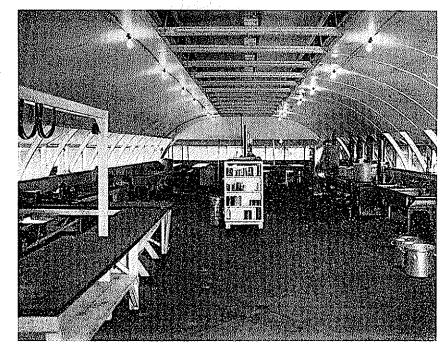




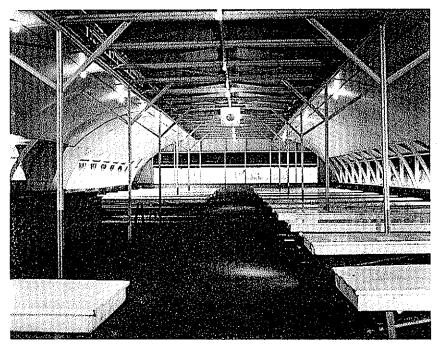
BUTCHERS

BAKERS

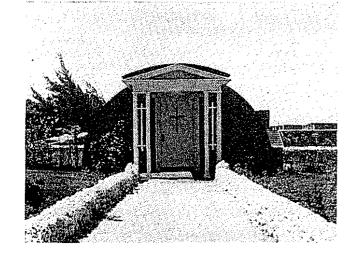


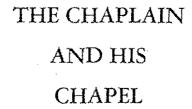


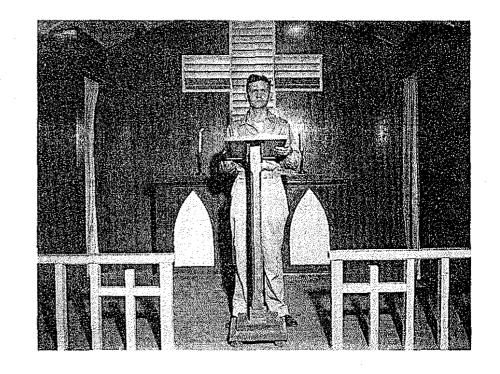
WEST GALLEY

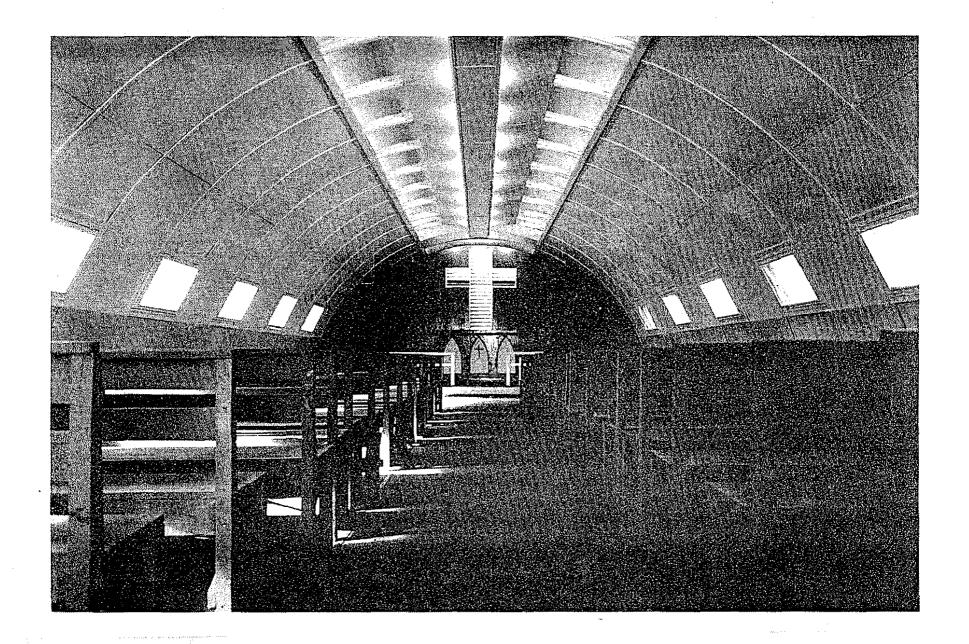


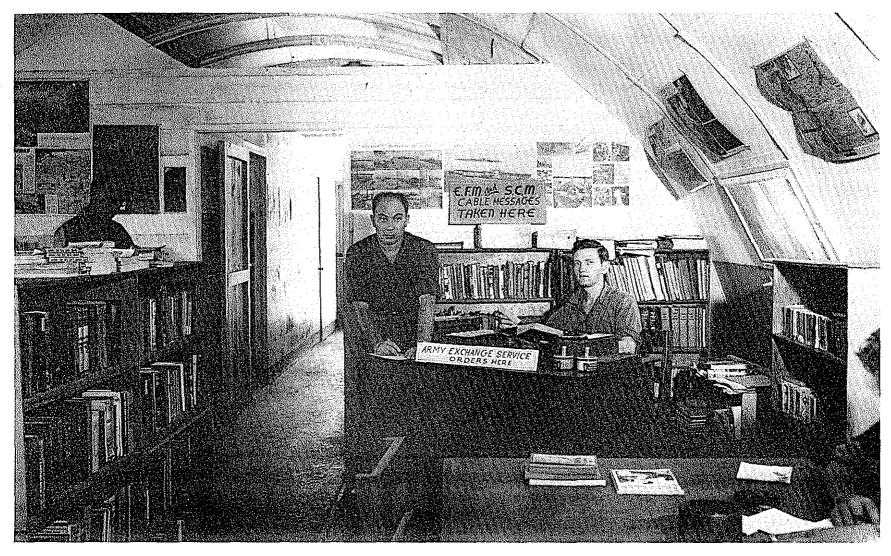
WEST MESS



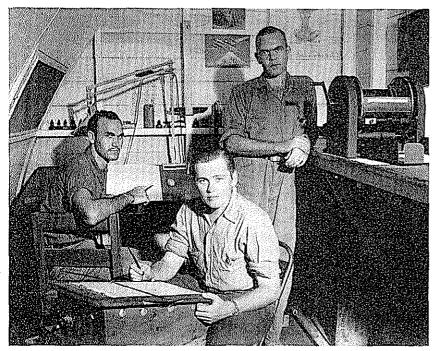




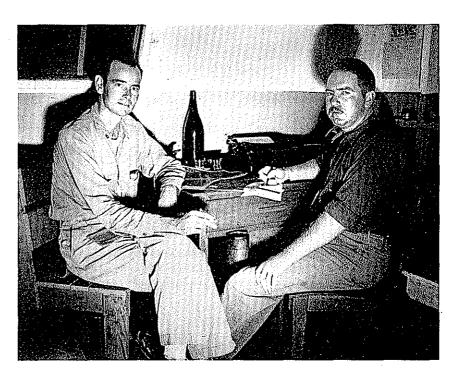




THE LIBRARY

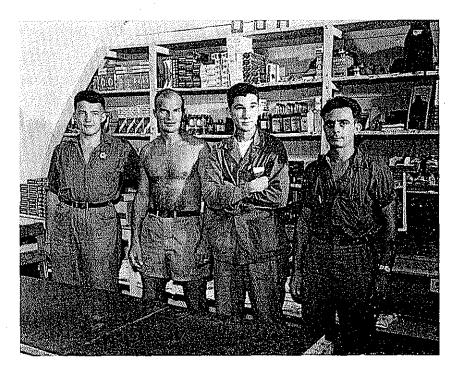


"SCUTTLEBUZZ" STAFF

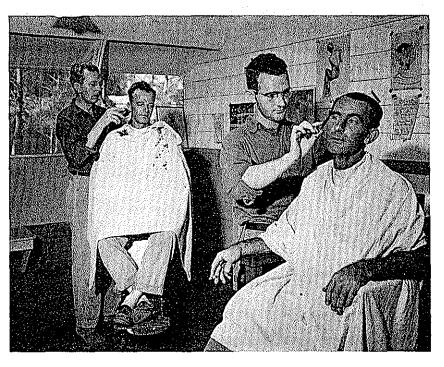


BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS AND "SEABEE" CORRESPONDENTS

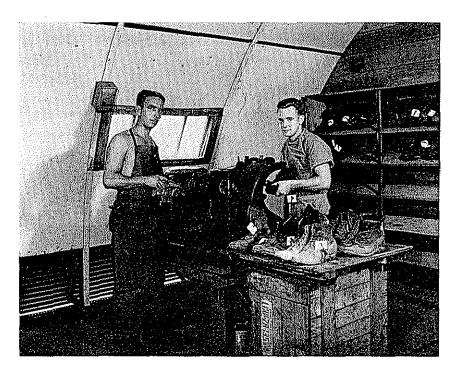
SHIP'S STORE FACILITIES



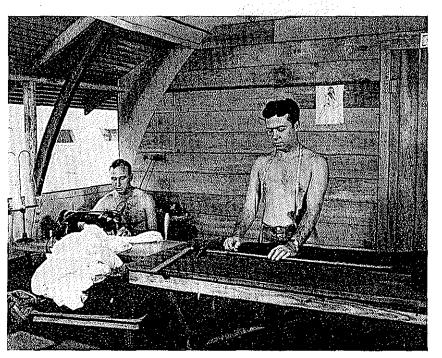




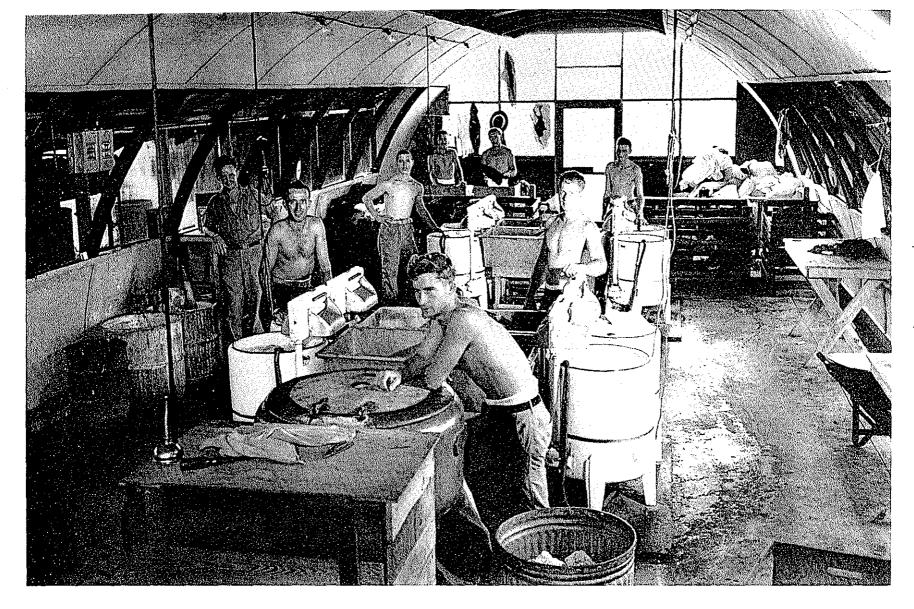
TONSORIAL SALON



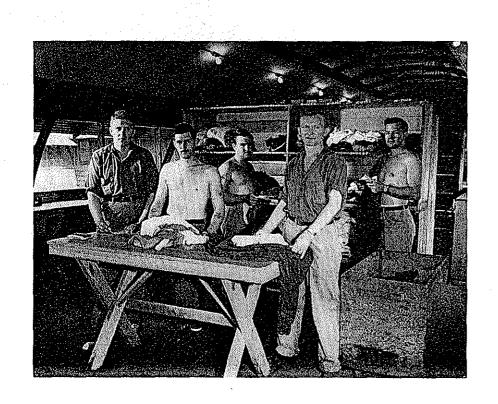
THE TOGGERY

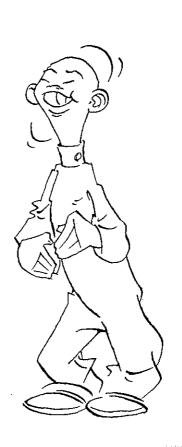


VALET SERVICE



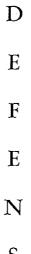
THE LAUNDRY



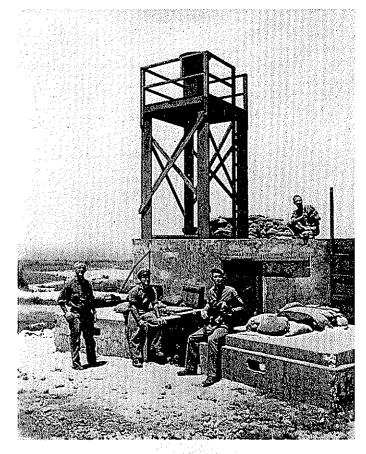




THE ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT







EASTERN COMMAND POST



PERMANENT GUARD AND COMBAT TEAM





CARPENTER SHOP



SHEET METAL SHOP



WELDING SHOP





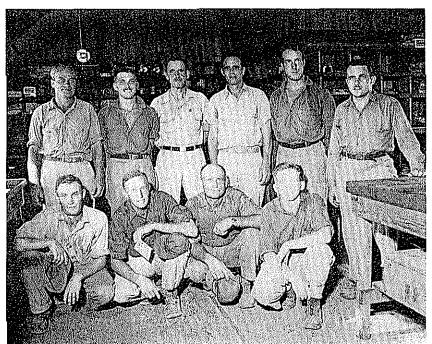
PAINT SHOP



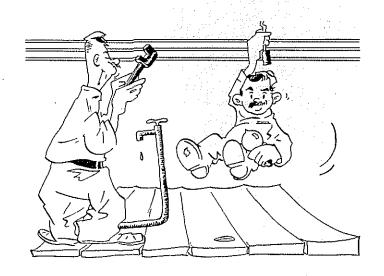
PLUMBING SHOP

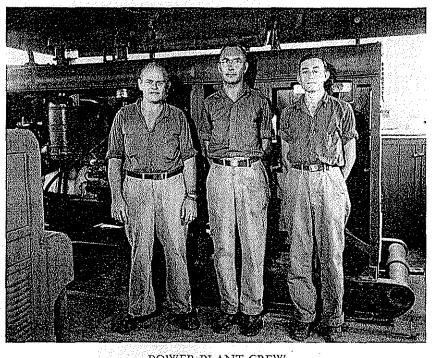


BLACKSMITH SHOP

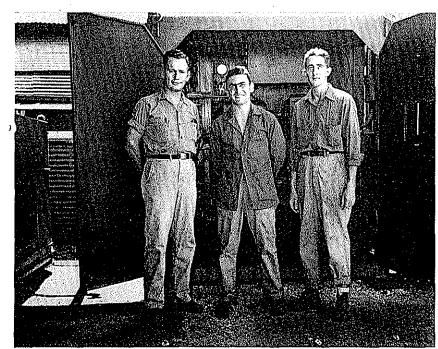


ELECTRICAL CREW





POWER PLANT CREW

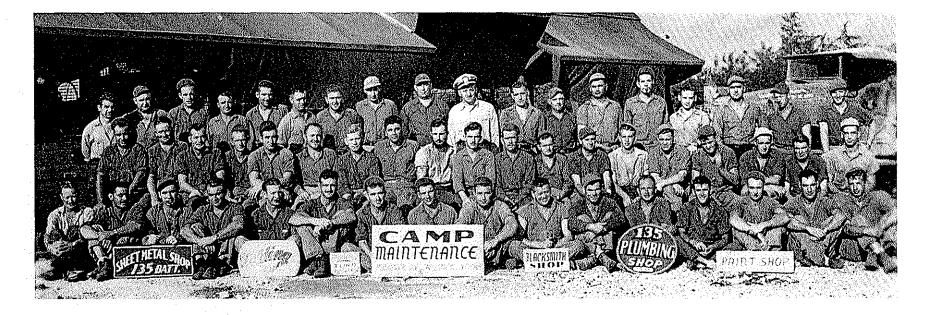


REFRIGERATION



SANITATION





HEAVY EQUIPMENT REPAIR



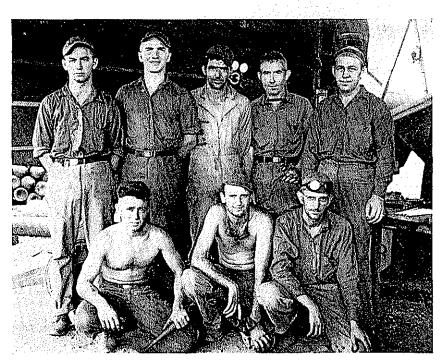
SHOP MECHANICS



REPAIR CREW



AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR



WELDERS AND BLACKSMITHS



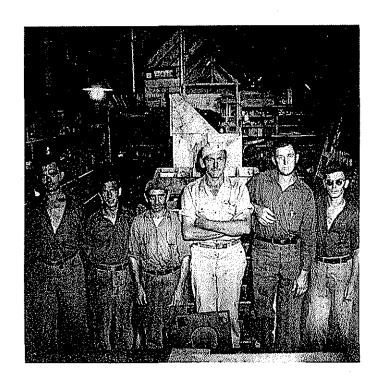
TIRE SHOP



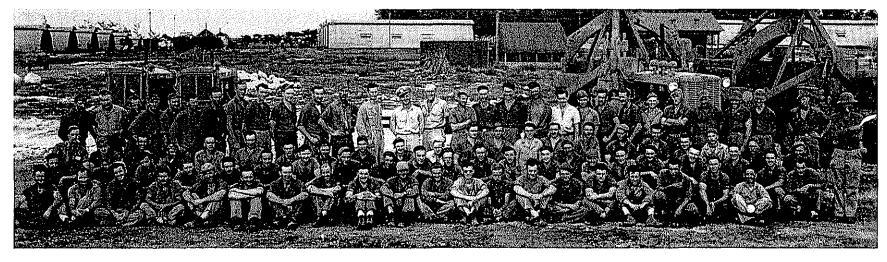
RĮGGERS



LUBRICATION AND FUEL



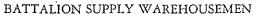
PARTS DEPARTMENT



THE ENTIRE DEPARTMENT

BATTALION SUPPLY







BUILDING CREW

CAMP CONSTRUCTION



HUT ERECTION CREW



PRE-FAB ASSEMBLY CREW

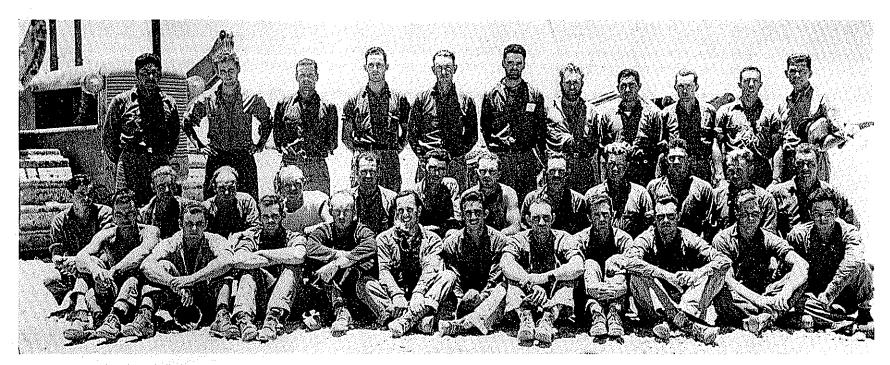
*TINIAN

AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION CREWS





CORAL PIT SHOVEL CREWS

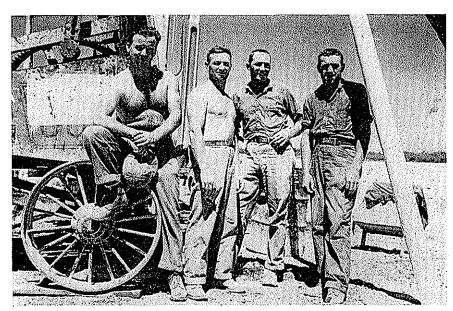


HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS



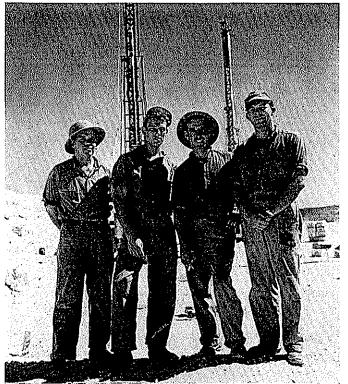


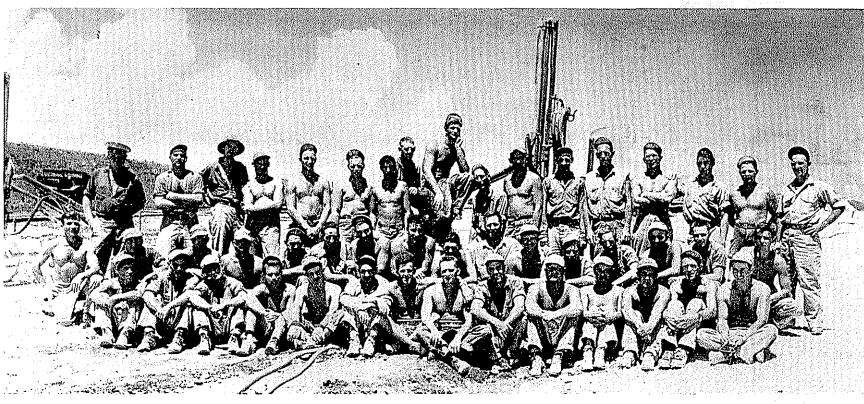
POWDER MEN



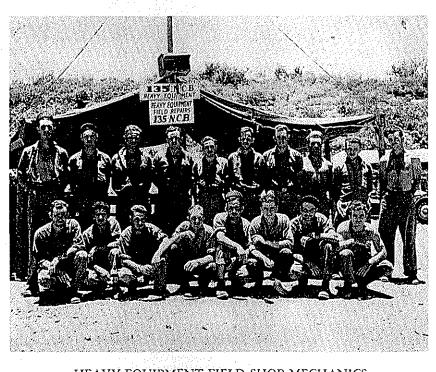
WELL DRILL CREWS



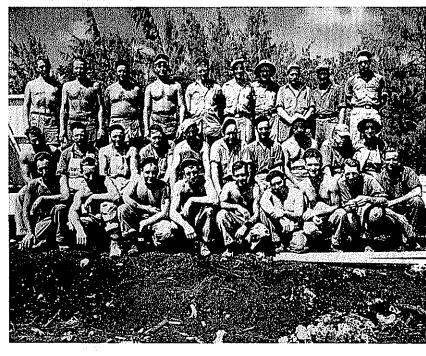




WAGON DRILLERS



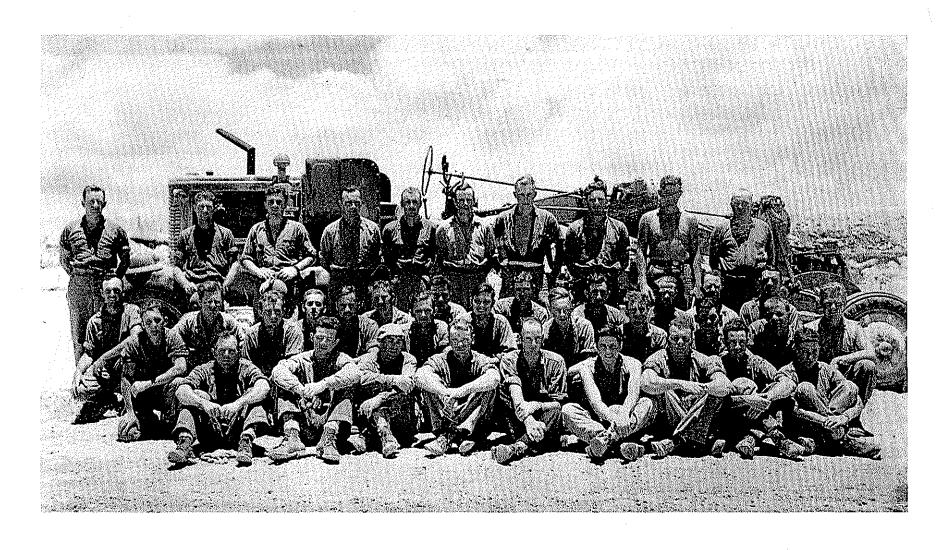




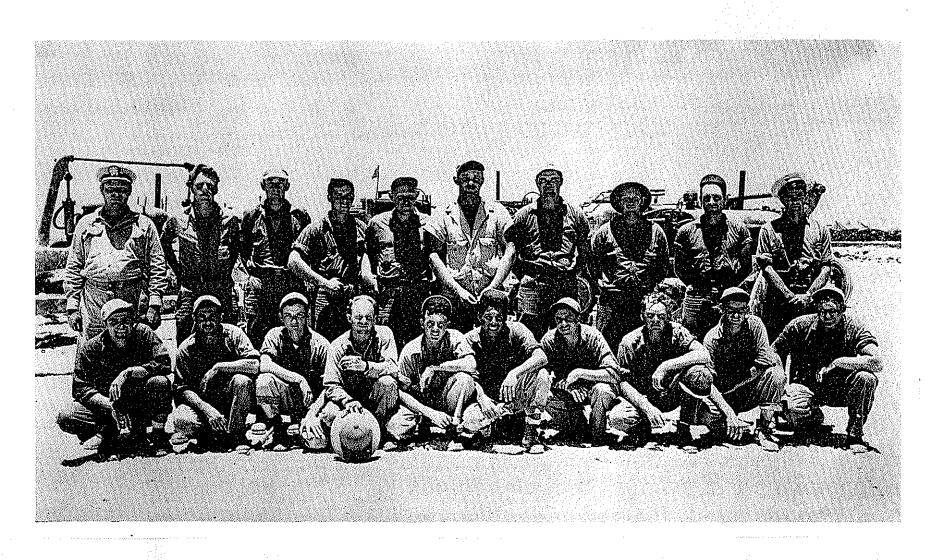
HOUSING AND FACILITY CONSTRUCTION CREW



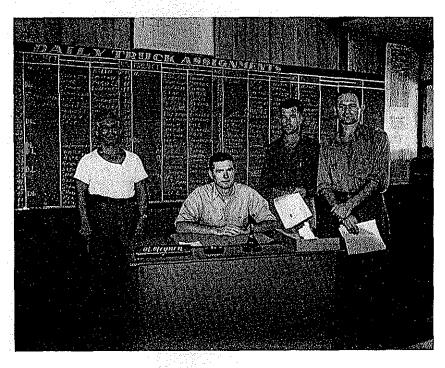
B-29 AIRSTRIP FINISHNG CREW

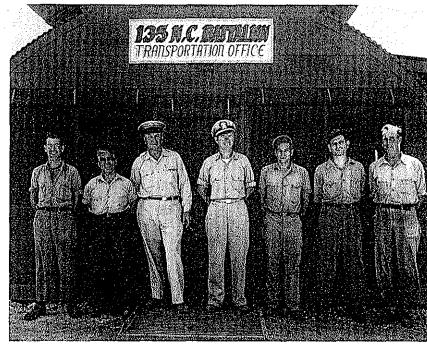


AIRSTRIP SURFACE FINISHING CREWS



TRANSPORTATION





TINIAN*

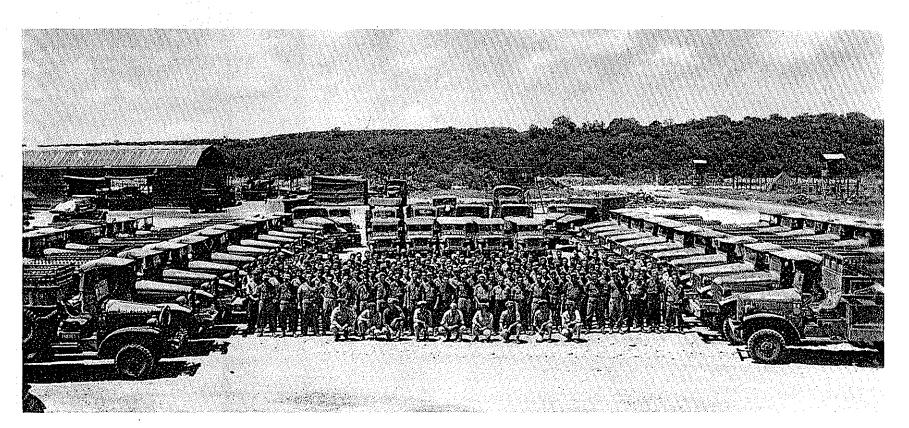
"100 TIMES AROUND
THE WORLD . . .
NEARLY 3,000,000 MILES



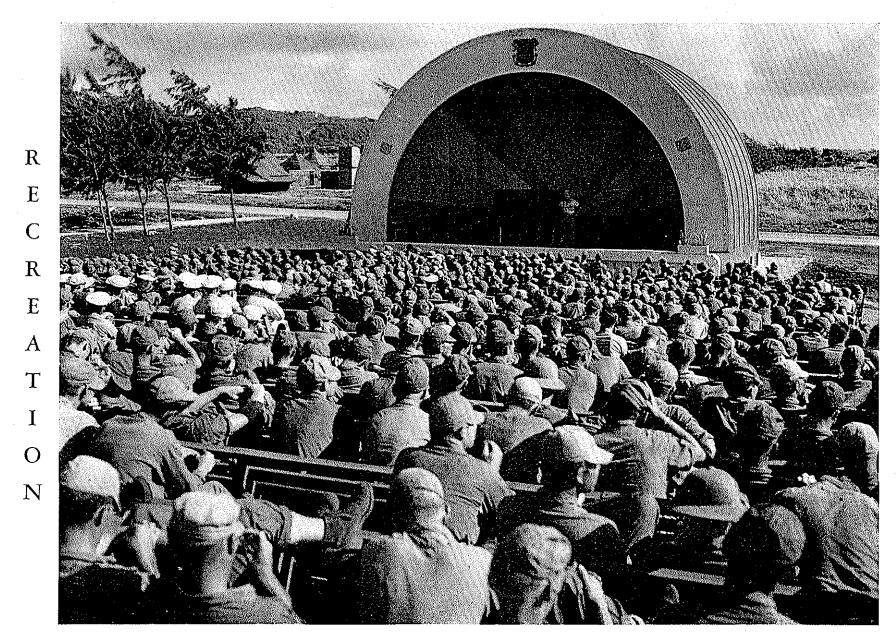
NOT ONE SERIOUS

ACCIDENT IN

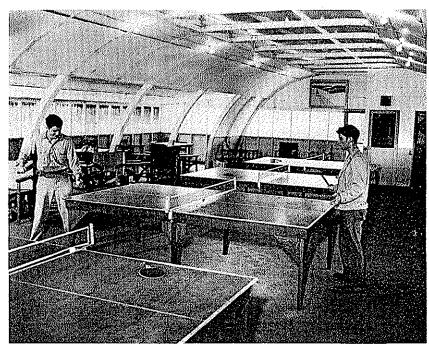
TWO YEARS"



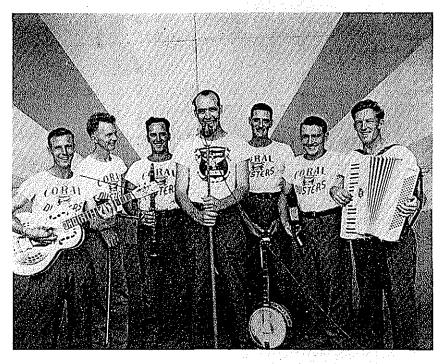
A PORTION OF TRANSPORTATION PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT



135TH RAINBOW AMPHITHEATRE



THE "REC" HALL



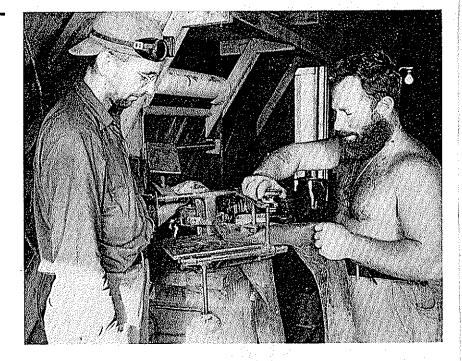
OUR "CORAL DUSTERS"

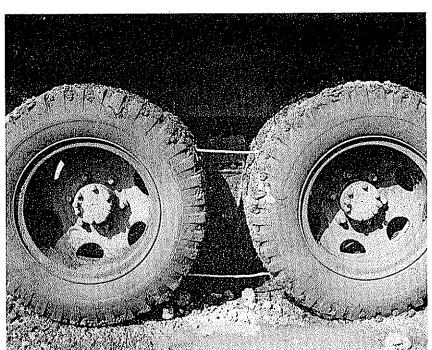
INTER-COMPANY FIELD DAY ATHLETIC CONTESTS



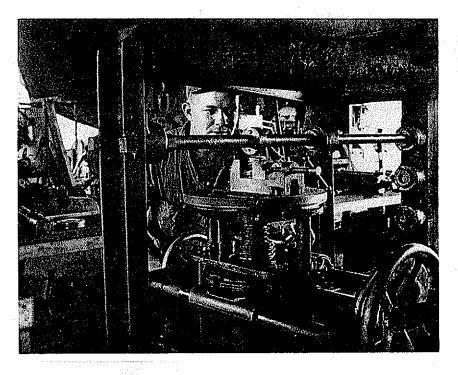
TINIAN

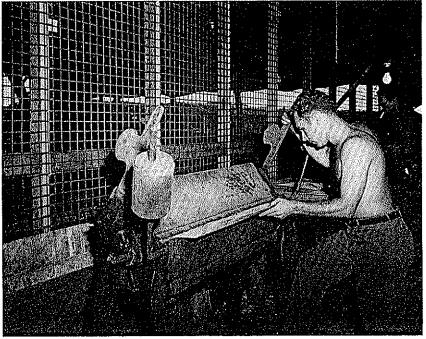
JUST A FEW EVIDENCES OF 135th INGENUITY ON TINIAN











WE DID IT . . .

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

5 May 1945

SUBJECT:

Sixth B-29 Bombardment Group Operation for 5 - 6 May 1945.

TO

Lieutenant Commander Paul C. Gillette, Commanding Officer, 135th Naval Construction Battalion, THRU: Commanding General, 313th Bombardment Wing, and Commanding Officer, Sixth Naval Construction Brigade.

- 1. The Sixth Bombardment Group Operation for 5 6 May 1945 against the Japanese Empire is hereby dedicated to the 135th Naval Construction Battalion and will be known as the "135th Seabee Mission", in appreciation for the efforts of the officers and men under your command, for the early completion of Runway #4 on North Field.
- Your Unit, through their untiring efforts, high professional skill and the ability to obtain results, is worthy of the highest emulation and constitutes a fine example of devotion to duty.
- 3. We of the Sixth Bombardment Group are pleased to have working with us an organization such as this and you can be assured the "l35th Seabee Mission" of 5-6 May will be well executed and will have its effect on the course of the war.

/s/ Kenneth H. Gibson KENNETH H. GIBSON, Colonel, Air Corps, Commanding.

First Endorsement

HEADQUARTERS, 313th B-29 BOMBARDMENT WING.

TO: Lieutenant Commander Paul C. Gillette, Commanding Officer, 135th Naval Construction Battalion.

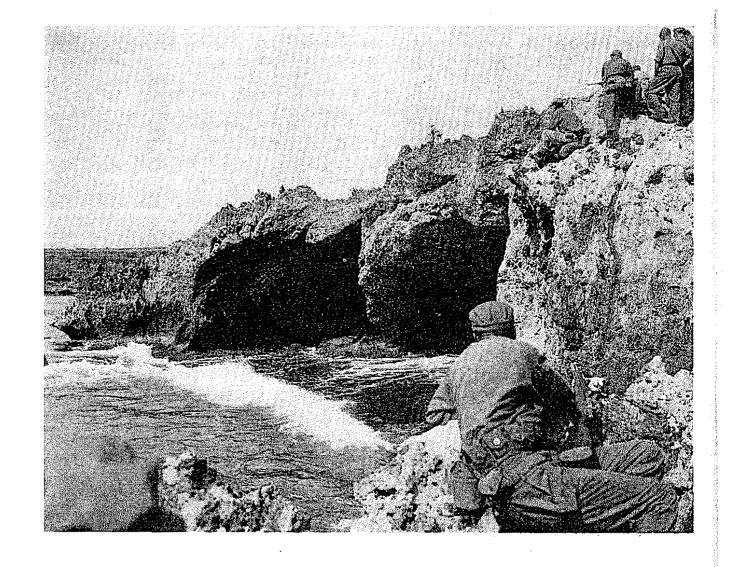
THRU: Commanding Officer, 6th Naval Construction Brigade.

- 1. It is a pleasure to transmit the announcement of the Sixth Bombardment Group's Operation for 5-6 May 1945 with their dedication of this mission to the 135th Battalion.
- 2. Your battalion, by its exemplary co-operation and untiring determination to achieve, has made an outstanding and memorable contribution to the already enviable record of the Naval Construction units, in their achieving the early completion of Runway 4 on North Field.

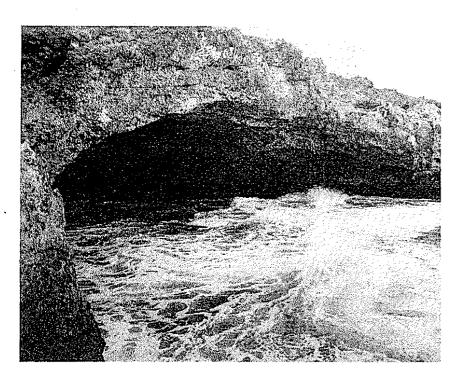
/s/ J. H. Davies
J. H. DAVIES
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding.

. . and THEY LIKED IT

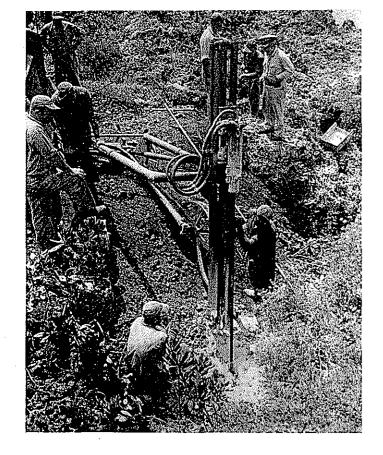
SCENES
FROM THE
"BATTLE
OF
LITTLE IWO"



After two members of the 135th were ambushed near the entrance of this huge cave, thirty-six enemy Japanese were trapped within its depth. They refused to surrender and rifle and bazooka fire failed to drive them out.



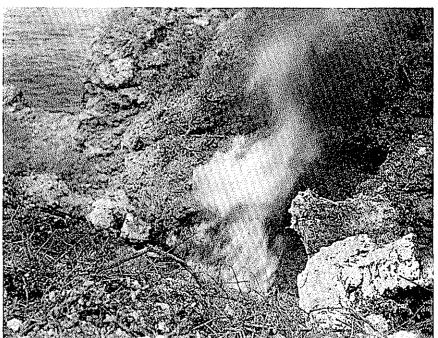


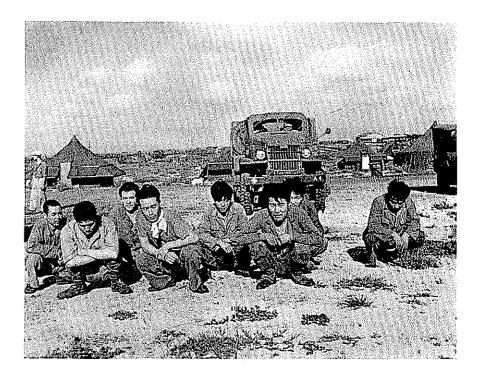


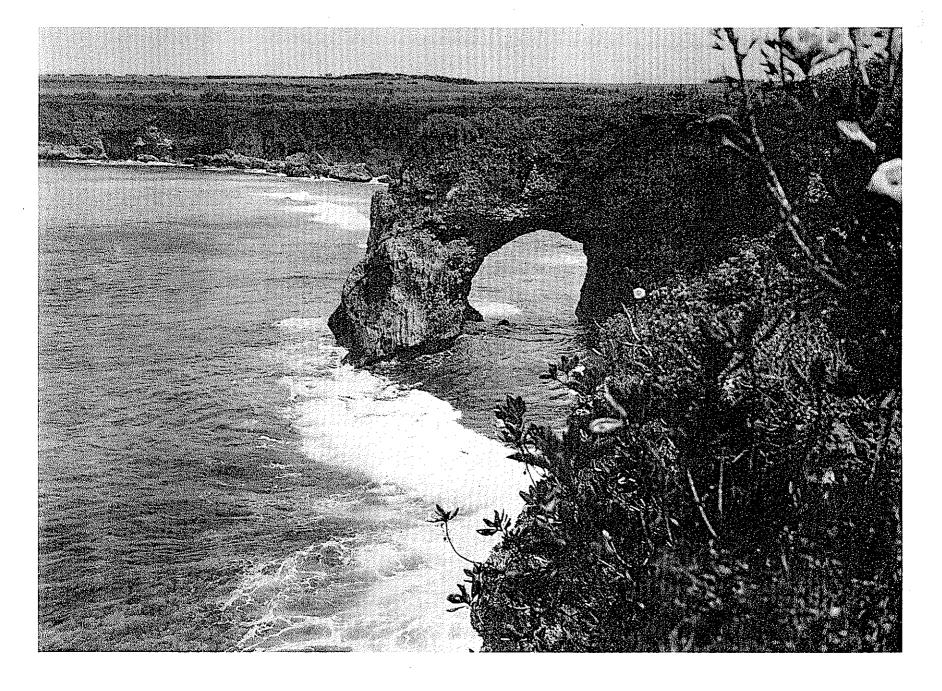


135th Seabee drillers and dynamiters opened a hole through the solid rock of the cave ceiling . . . grenades, smoke bombs and burning oil succeeded in killing twenty-six and forcing the surrender of the remaining ten Nipponese.

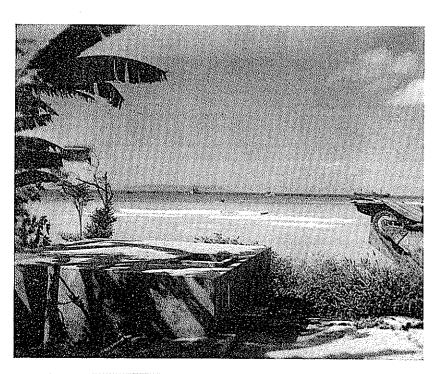


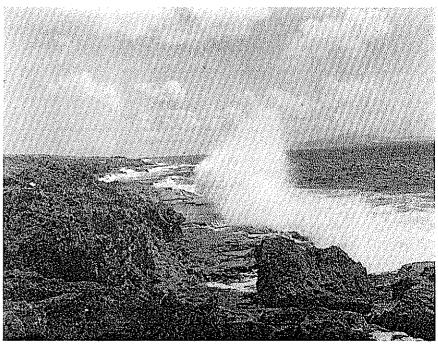






TINIAN SEASCAPES



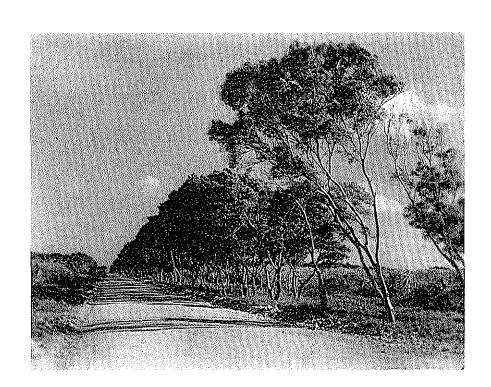






LANDSCAPES





FEDERAL ECONOMICS ADMINISTRATION

A Navy unit of the FEA became attached to the 135th N.C.B. in November 1944. Utilizing native civilian labor with the aid of military government interpreters hundreds of acres of fresh vegetables were raised for Tinian's military and naval personnel.







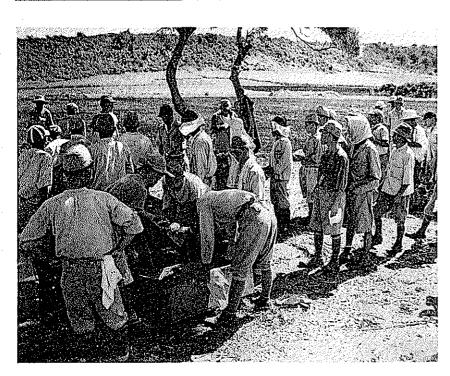




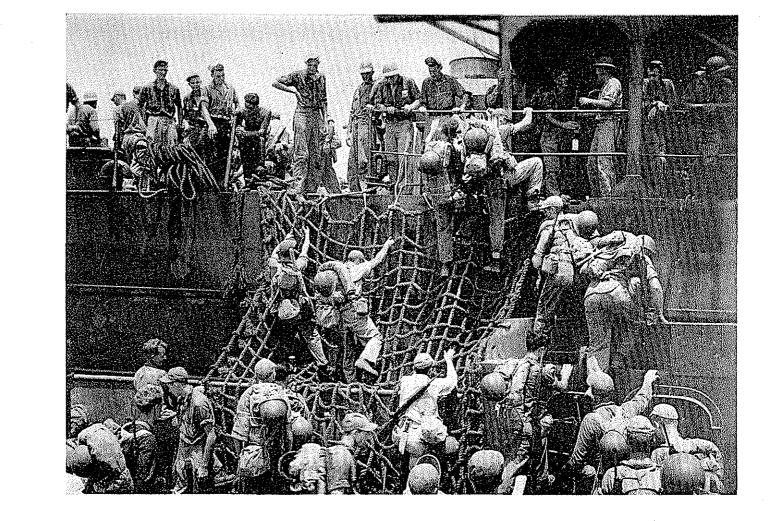




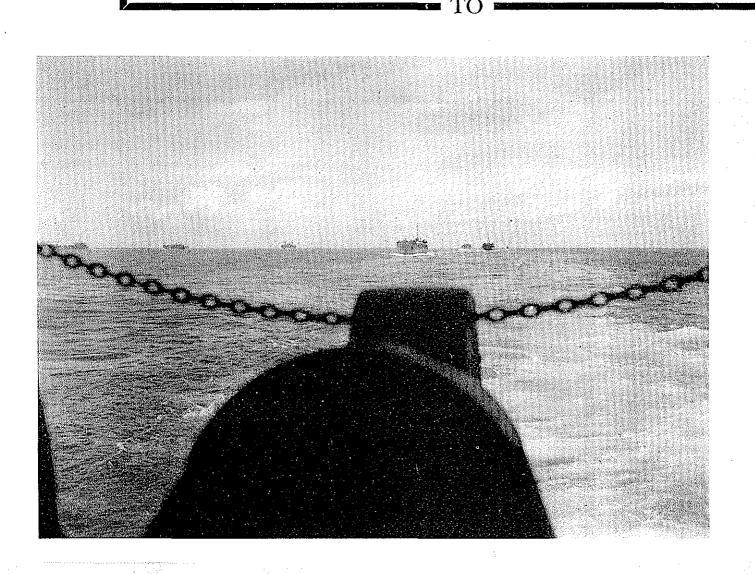








F O R W A R D



O K I N A W

A

OKINAWA

On Easter Sunday, 1 April 1945, doughboys swarmed ashore on the Ryukyus Island of Okinawa, only 325 miles from Japan. The Jap resistance was at first surprisingly light, but it soon stiffened along the Naha-Shuri-Yonabaru line and a bitter struggle which lasted nearly three months cost the lives of many American men and far more Japanese.

On Tinian, the 135th anxiously watched the news of the battle. Word had been received that the battalion was to move forward, and forward could mean only Okinawa. The departure date was originally set for 26 May, but delays because of weather conditions at sea, availability of transportation and changes in orders from the forward area postponed the sailing until 27 June. The five LST's, loaded with the battalion's personnel, supplies and equipment, steamed to nearby Saipan where they took on provisions and fuel. The ships lay at anchor in Saipan Harbor for well over a week and during this period recreation parties were taken ashore to enjoy beer and soft drinks at the Fleet Recreation Area and to tour the island which for months they had seen from across the narrow channel separating it from Tinian.

Finally, on 8 July, the large convoy assembled, the escort vessels took their protective positions and the voyage to Okinawa was under way. Because of the limited accommodations aboard LST's, a large number of men were required to bed down and live topside on the open decks. Amid the trucks, jeeps and heavy equipment lashed to the deck, the men spread tarpaulins for shelter and tried to make themselves reasonably comfortable. The 1200-mile trip was noticeably uneventful, at first. It differed greatly from previous battalion voyages. The apprehension that underwater and air attacks were imminent was not apparent as had been the case for the past several years, and the water was beautifully calm.

But upon reaching the destination, the excitement began. Arriving at Okinawa and attempting to enter Buckner Bay at night, two of the LST's ran aground on a reef. A rising wind and rough seas put these ships and their personnel in jeopardy throughout the next day. The accident occurred on the night of 14 July, and on 17 July the personnel abandoned ship, coming ashore between 2130 and 2315. They proceeded immediately to the camp area assigned to the battalion at the southern end of Baten Ko. The remaining three ships were unloading cargo and personnel at Yonabaru when a typhoon warning forced them to stand out to sea to ride out the storm.

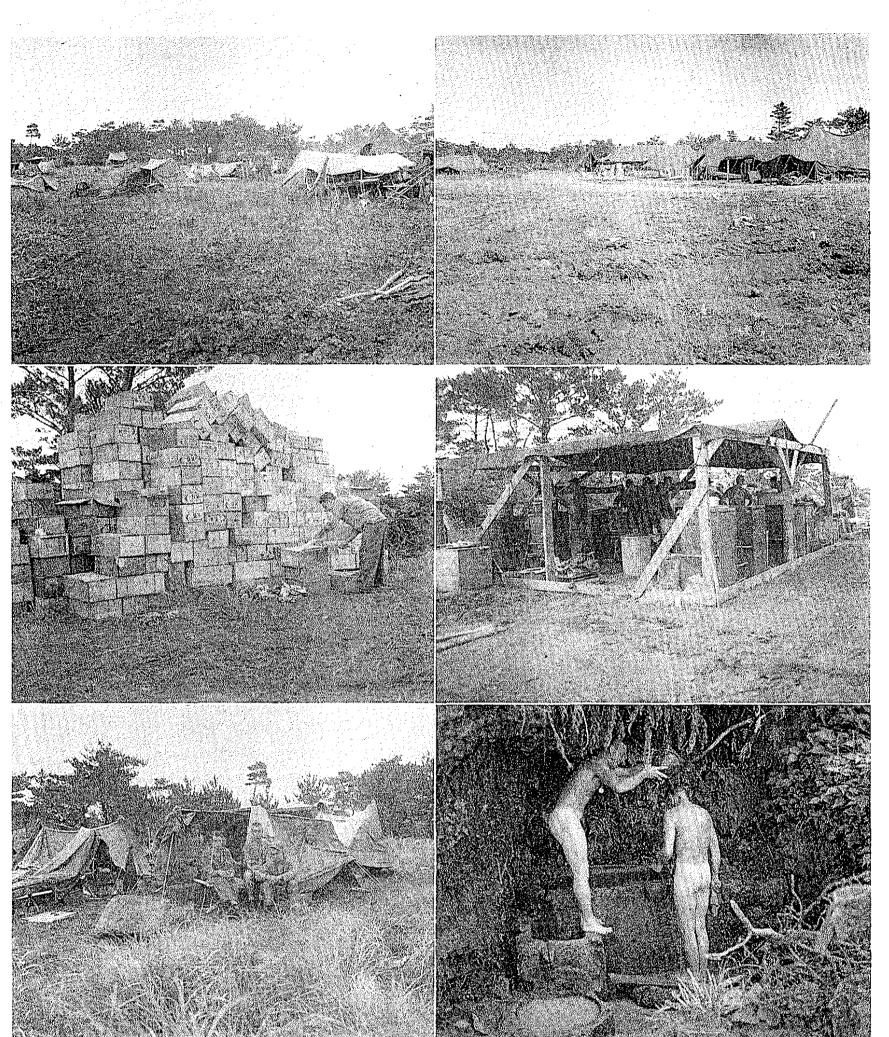
Hardly had the battalion pitched its pup tents before it began work on its assignment, that of building administrative and housing facilities for the Naval Operating Base. But when the job assignments were progressing steadily and the battalion camp was well on the way to completion came the news of the Jap surrender. There was wild shouting and shooting as the men on Okinawa celebrated. Two men of the 135th were injured by carbine bullets as a result of the demonstration. Soon after the official confirmation of the unconditional surrender came the announcement of the Navy point system for discharge. Officers and men began to leave for home and the rest waited.

On 16 September, the Battalion had its first introduction to a typhoon. All afternoon of that dreary day men worked in the driving rain to secure their tents, but in spots where the full force of the wind chose to hit these precautions were of no avail. All in all, twenty-eight tents were blown down, including the OinC's Office, Disbursing Office, Library, and living quarters. Damage to other areas of the island and to shipping in the surrounding waters was considerable.

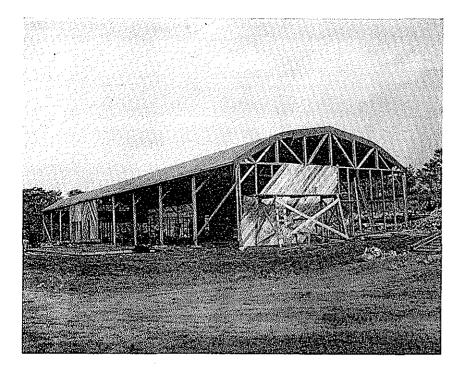
However, this storm was only a prelude to the typhoon of 9 October, the strongest and most destructive in twenty years. On that date, a wind in excess of 150 miles per hour reduced the 135th camp to just so much twisted steel, broken lumber and scattered debris. Most of the battalion spent the night in a huge cave within the camp area, emerging the next morning to begin rebuilding and to salvage scattered gear. Nearly every part of Okinawa and ships lying at anchor nearby suffered heavy damage. B-29's shuttled food and tents from the Marianas and the Philippines. Camps were soon restored and the storm was only a fearful memory.

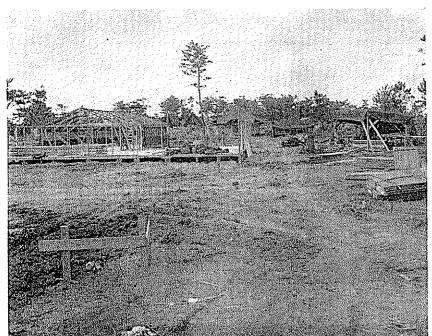
More and more men shoved off for home; replacements arrived; then deactivation orders were received. On 7 December, four years after Pearl Harbor, and nearly twenty-six months after its formation, the 135th Naval Construction Battalion ceased to exist as an active organization. It had completed its mission; the enemy had been unconditionally defeated; the ways of peace were ours once more.

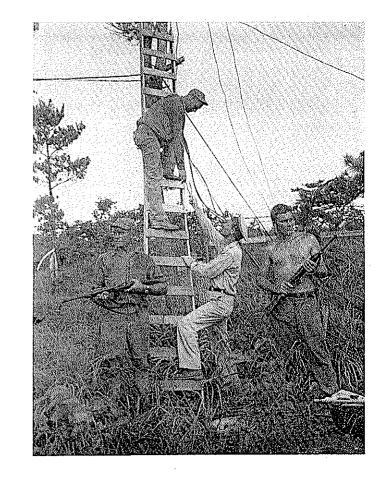
BIVOUAC ON OKINAWA



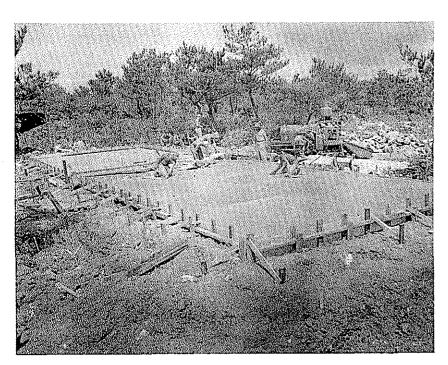
OKINHWH*

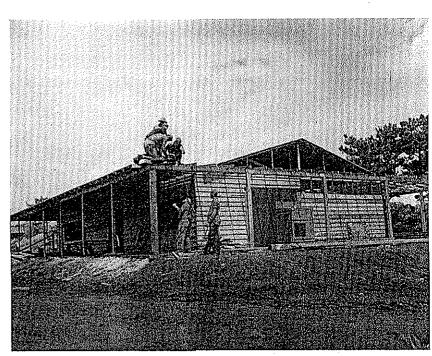




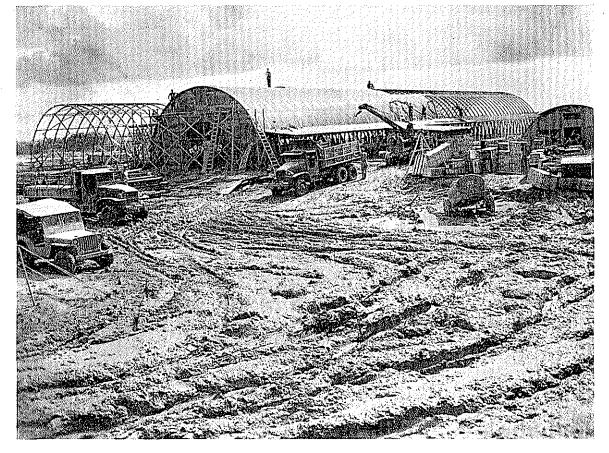


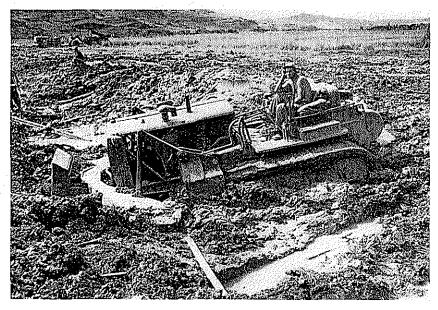
WE BUILD OUR CAMP AMID
THE TREES, BRUSH AND ROCKS
ON A PLATEAU ABOVE BATEN KO

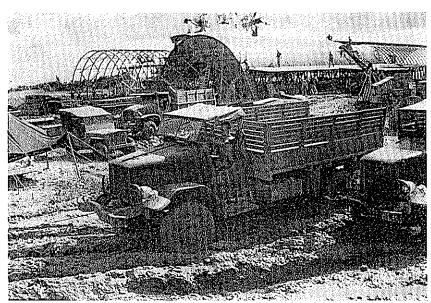




MUD
THE SCOURGE
OF
THE ISLAND

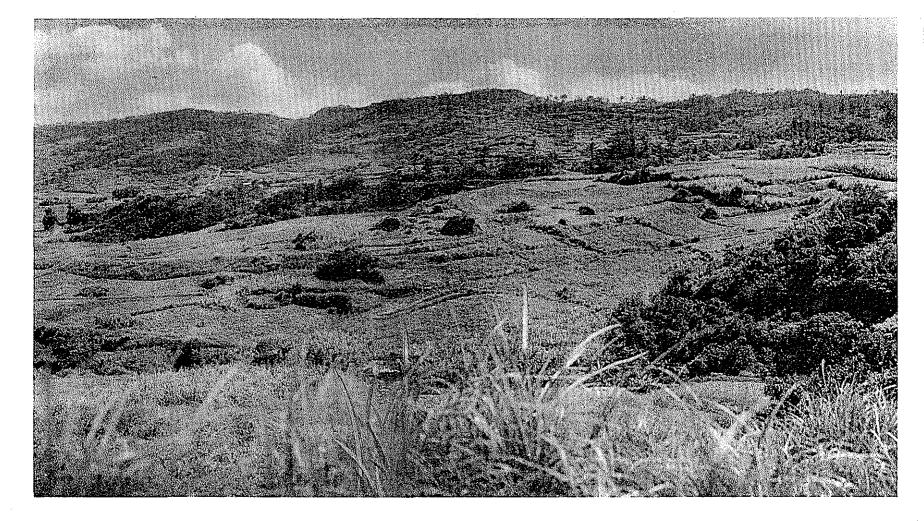






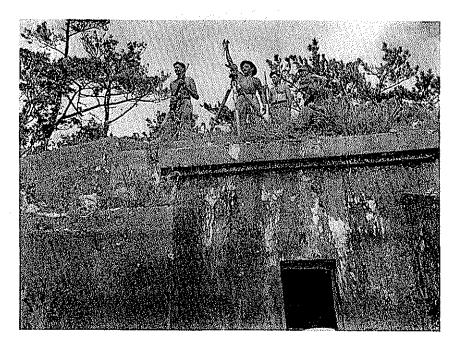






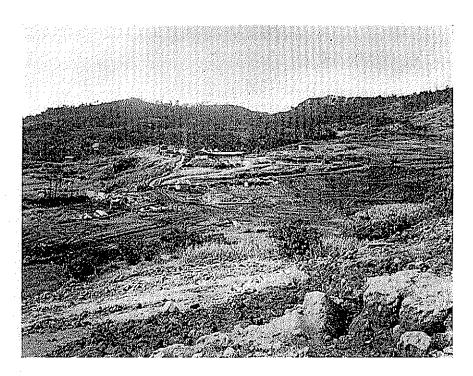
NAVAL OPERATING BASE, OKINAWA BEFORE CONSTRUCTION



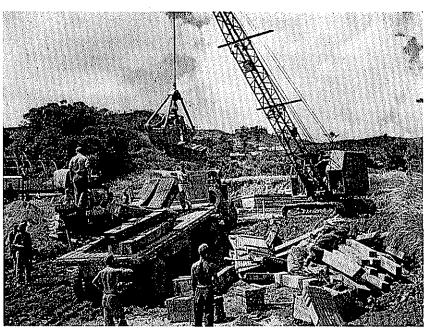




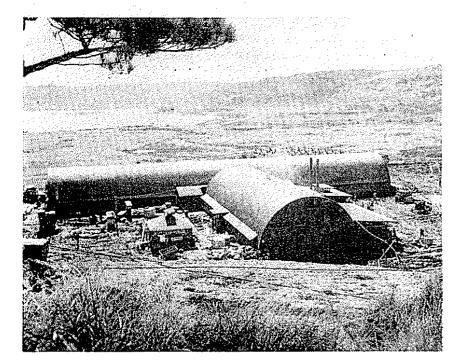
DURING CONSTRUCTION

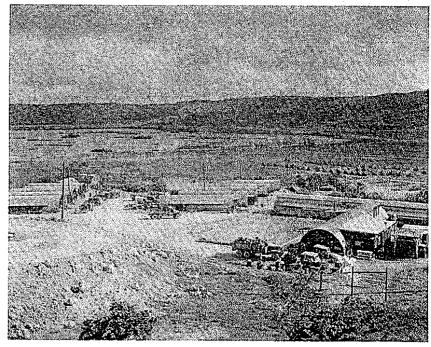


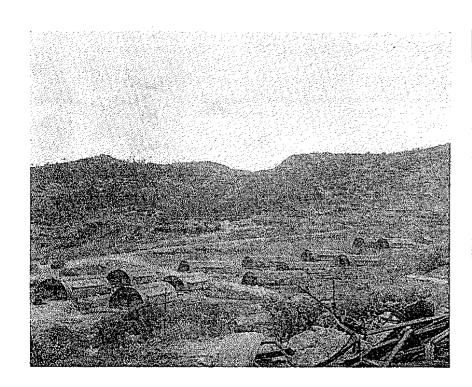


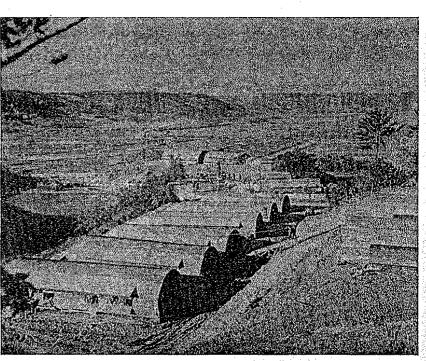


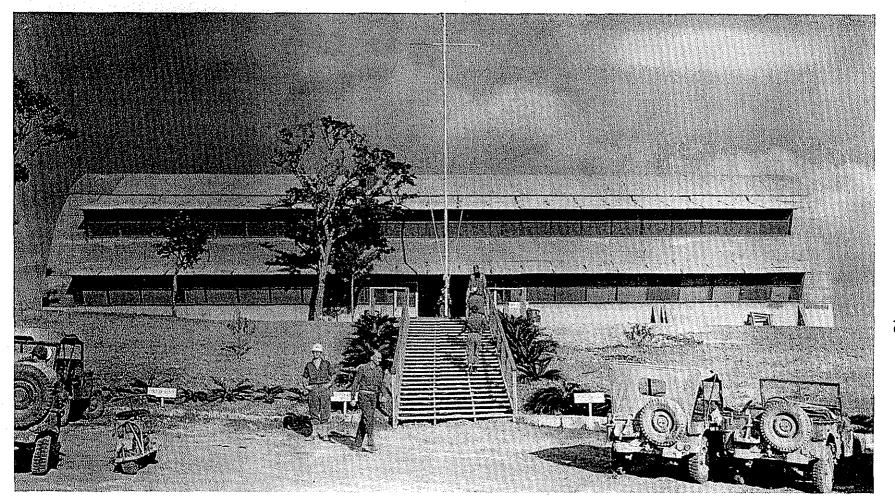
AFTER CONSTRUCTION

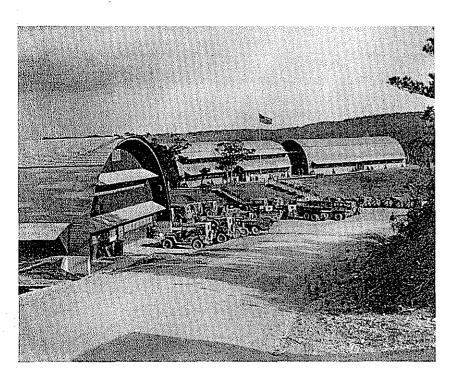


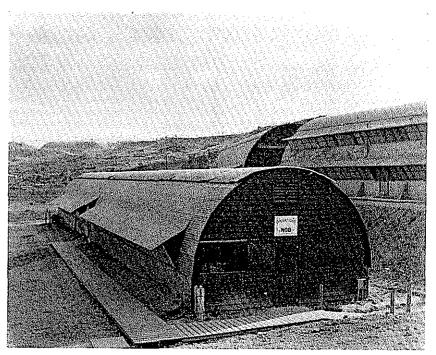






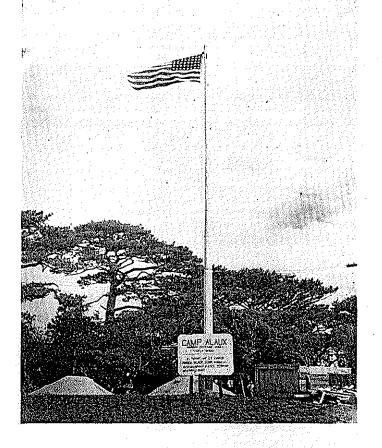




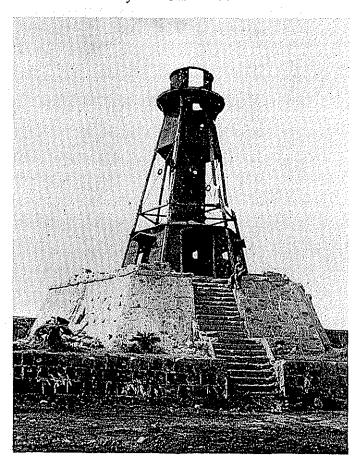


TSUKEN SHIMA

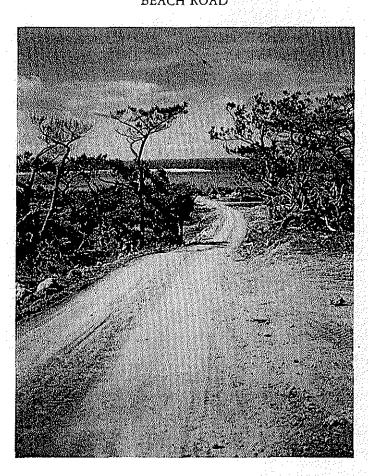
ON THIS SMALL ISLAND, LYING OFF OKINAWA'S EAST COAST AT THE ENTRANCE TO BUCKNER BAY, A DETACHMENT OF MEN FROM THE 135TH BUILT HARBOR DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS

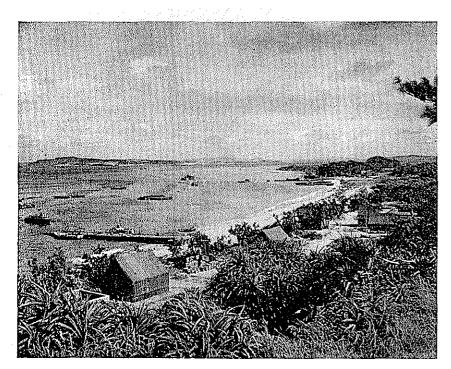


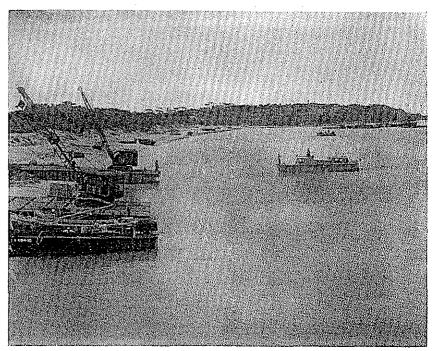
JAP LIGHTHOUSE



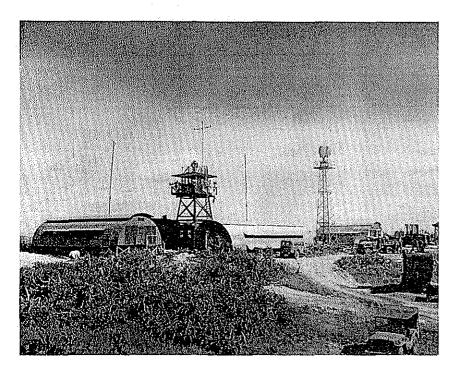
BEACH ROAD

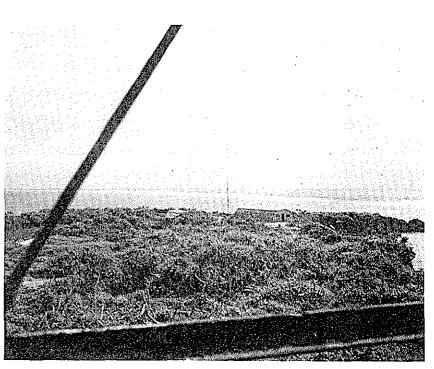








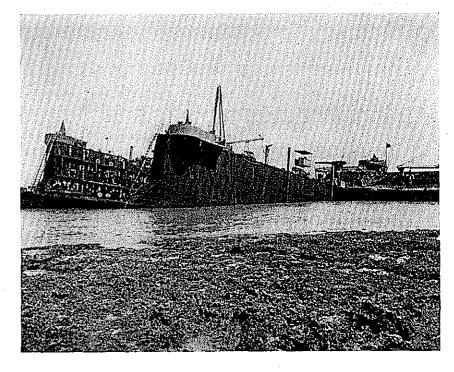


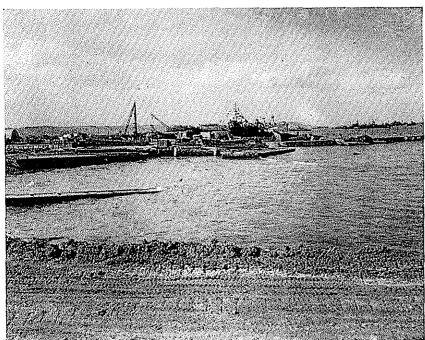


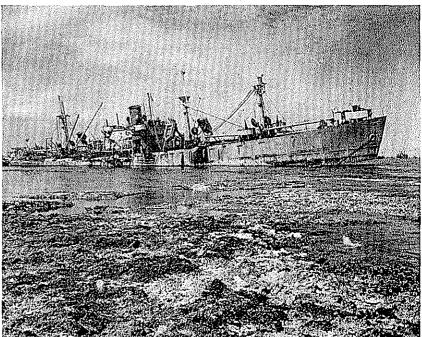
TYPHOON STRIKES

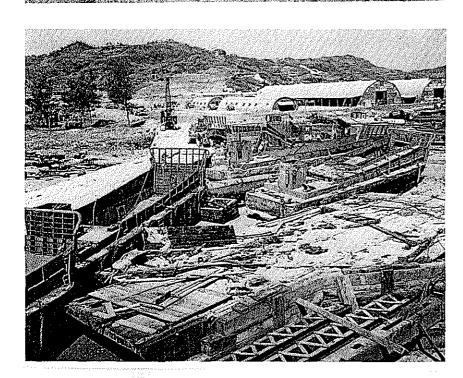
16 SEPTEMBER 1945

SHIPS AND SMALL CRAFT AGROUND AND DAMAGED IN BUCKNER BAY



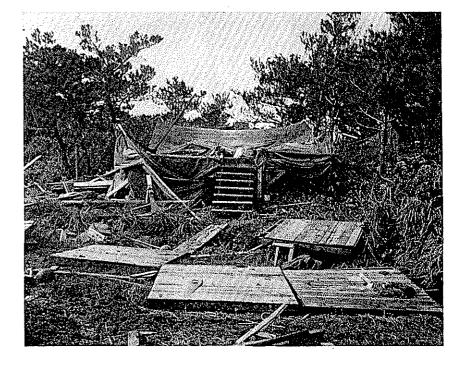


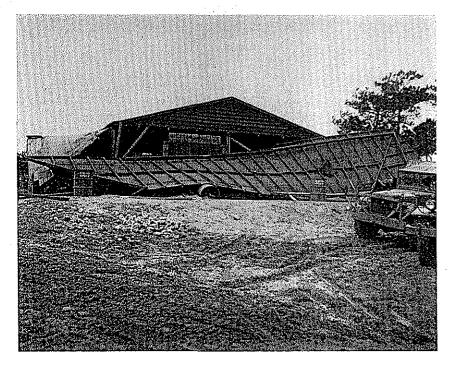






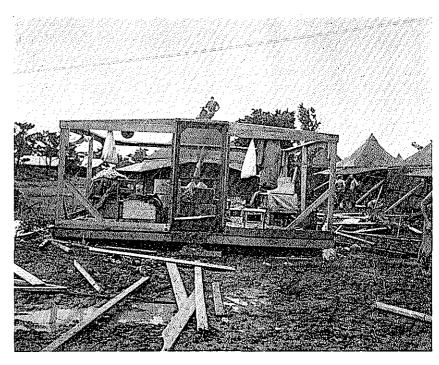
. . AND DESTRUCTION IN THE CAMP OF CONSTRUCTORS







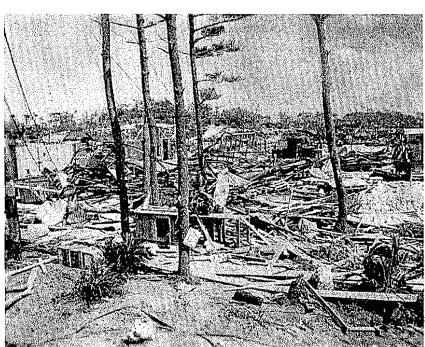




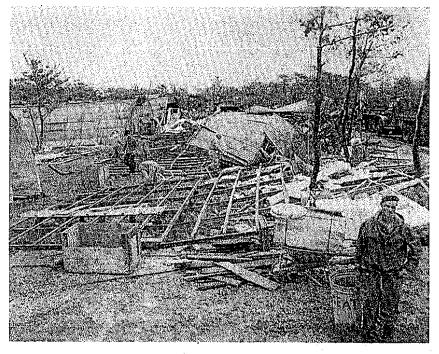
YET ANOTHER TYPHOON STRUCK ON 9 OCTOBER WITH WIND IN EXCESS OF 150 MILES PER HOUR. THE RESULTING DAMAGE WAS HEAVY. OUR CAMP WAS LEVELED . . .









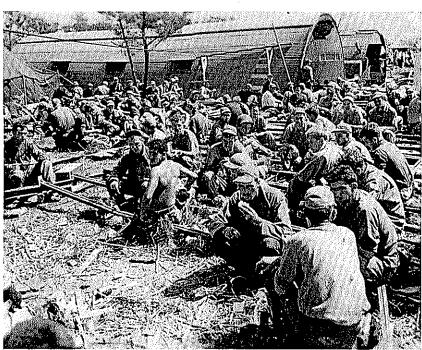


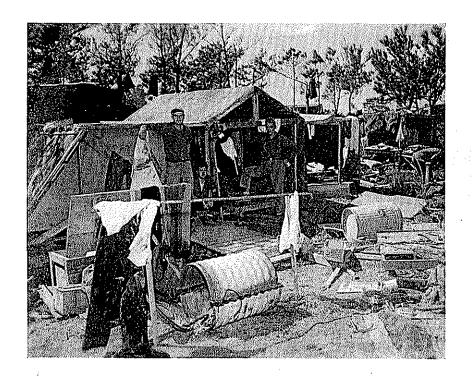
*OKINHWH

. . . AND AFTER THE STORM WE BUILT SHACKS FROM THE RUBBLE, ATE K-RATIONS, AND TRIED TO DRY OUT OUR GEAR.







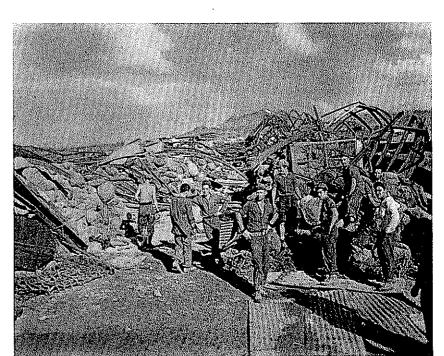




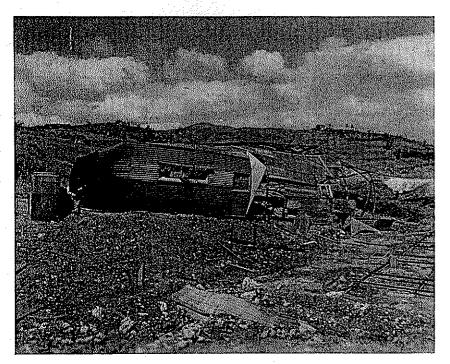
FLEET POST OFFICE







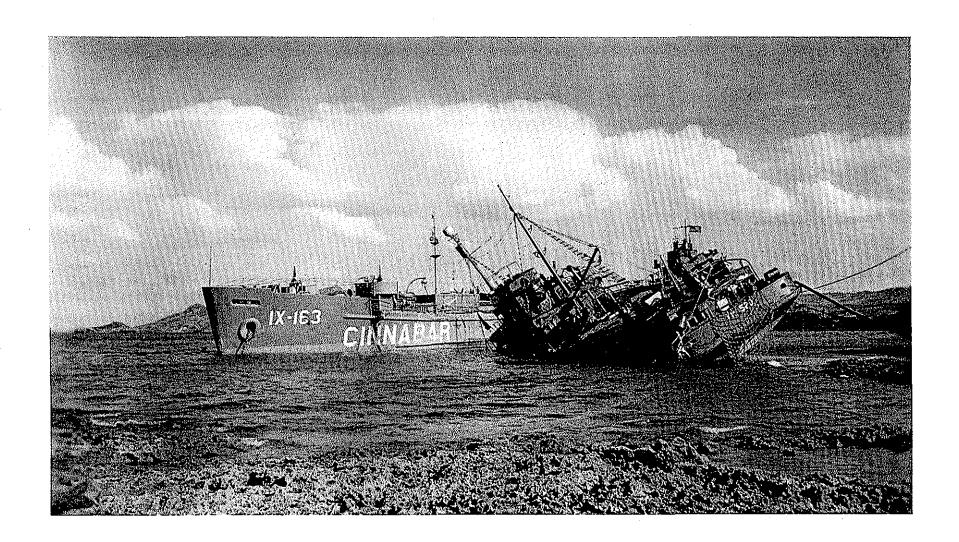
"POSTMAN, SAVE MY LETTER!"

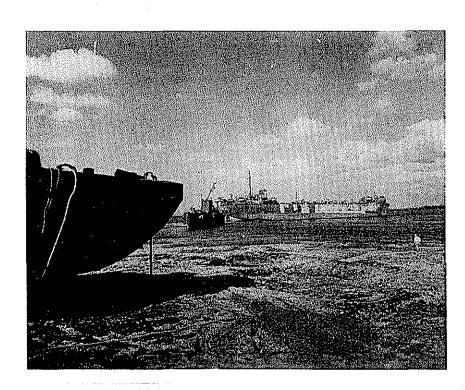


AN NOB QUONSET



More Ships Were Sunk or Damaged in Buckner Bay







THE WAR OVER, WE WAITED TO GO HOME. WE LINED UP FOR OUR CHECK-OUT CARDS, SIGNED OUT, REPORTED "WITH GEAR, READY TO GO," SAID OUR GOODBYES, AND STARTED FOR THE SHIP TO SAIL AN EASTERLY COURSE TOWARD HOME.







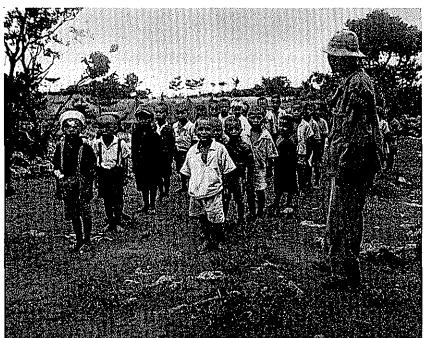




AMERICAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOSTERS A RETURN TO NORMALCY

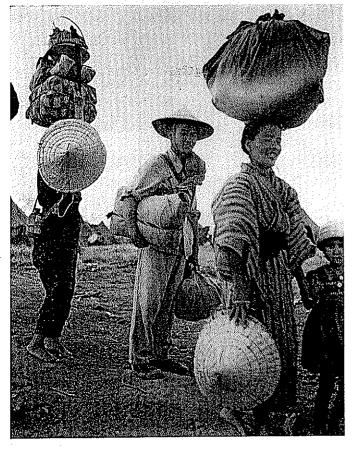
SCHOOLS ARE REOPENED FOR OKINAWAN CHILDREN, VILLAGERS RETURN HOME BAG AND BAGGAGE, TOWN COUNCILS ARE ORGANIZED, HOMES ARE REPAIRED AND REBUILT UNDER SUPERVISION.



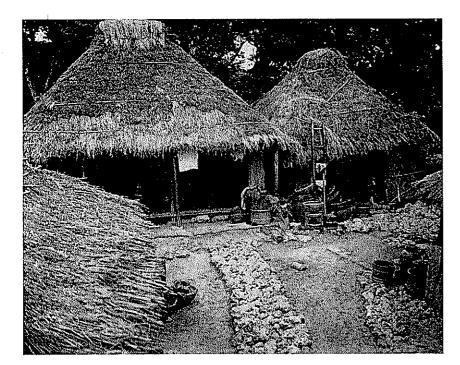








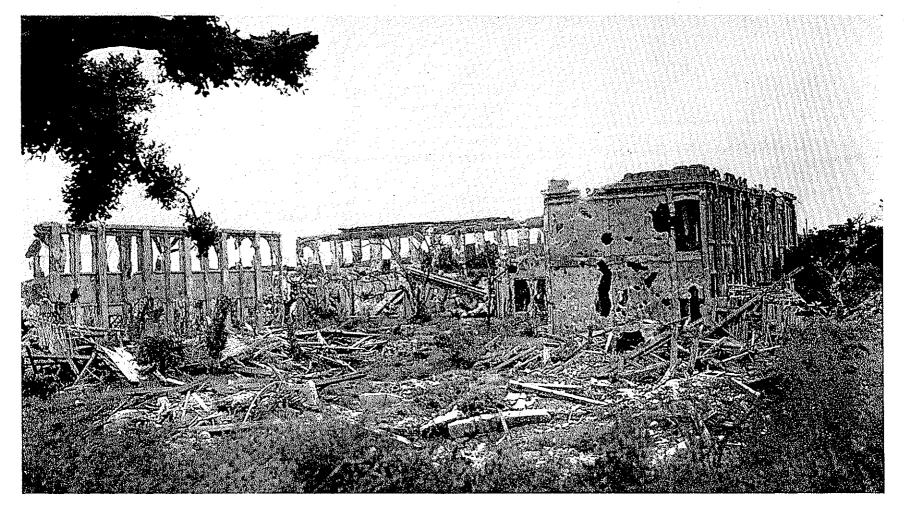












REMAINS OF SHURI CASTLE

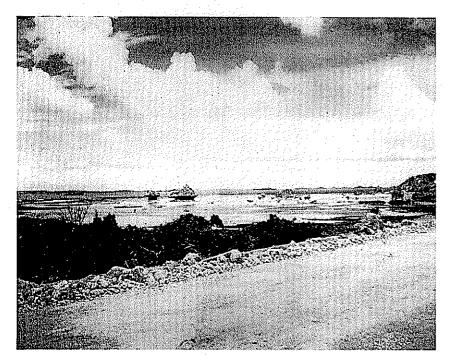


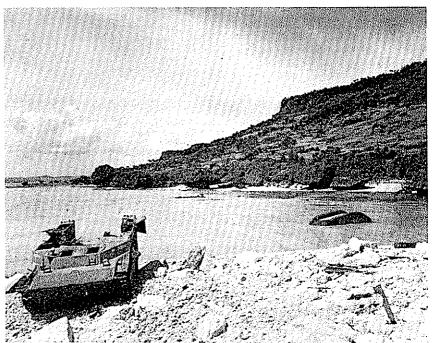


TYPICAL TERRAIN

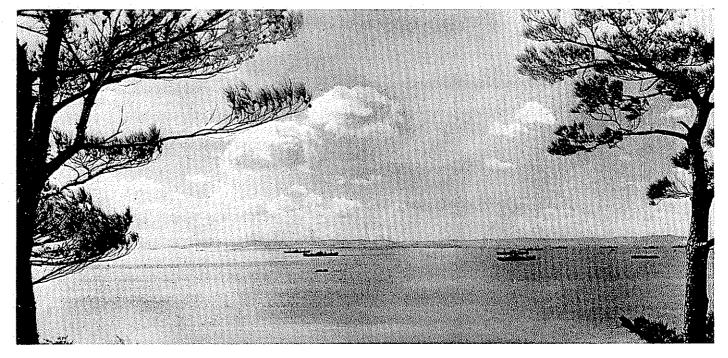


BATEN KO

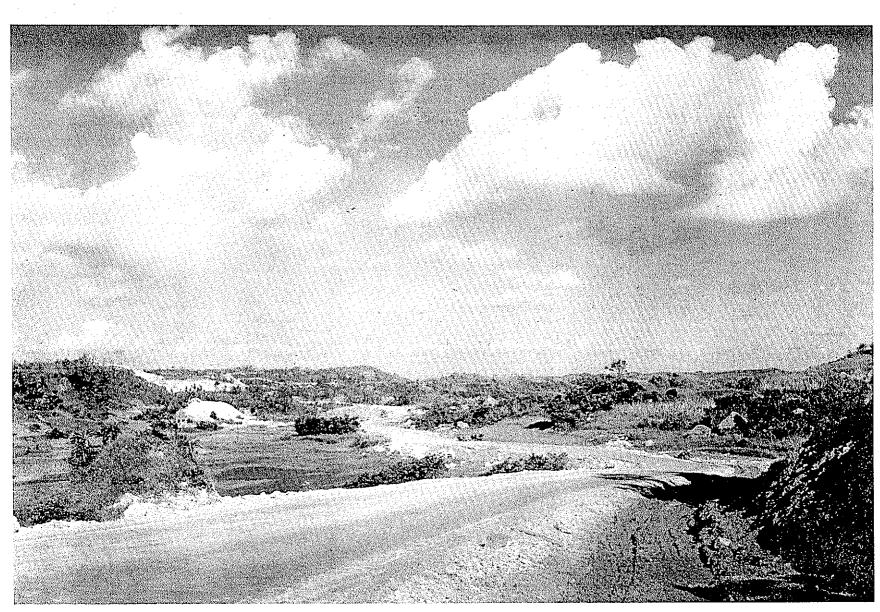




ALONG OKINAWA'S EAST COAST



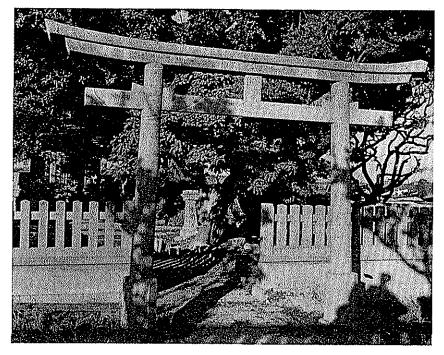
BUCKNER BAY FROM THE NORTH



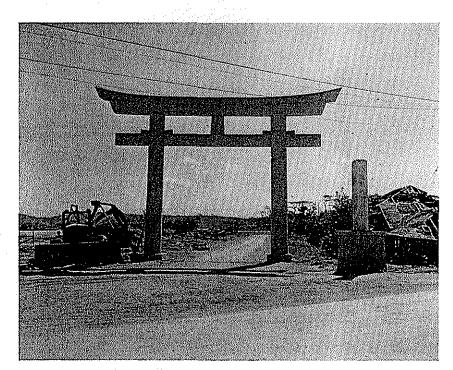
TYPICAL TERRAIN



A CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT SHURI



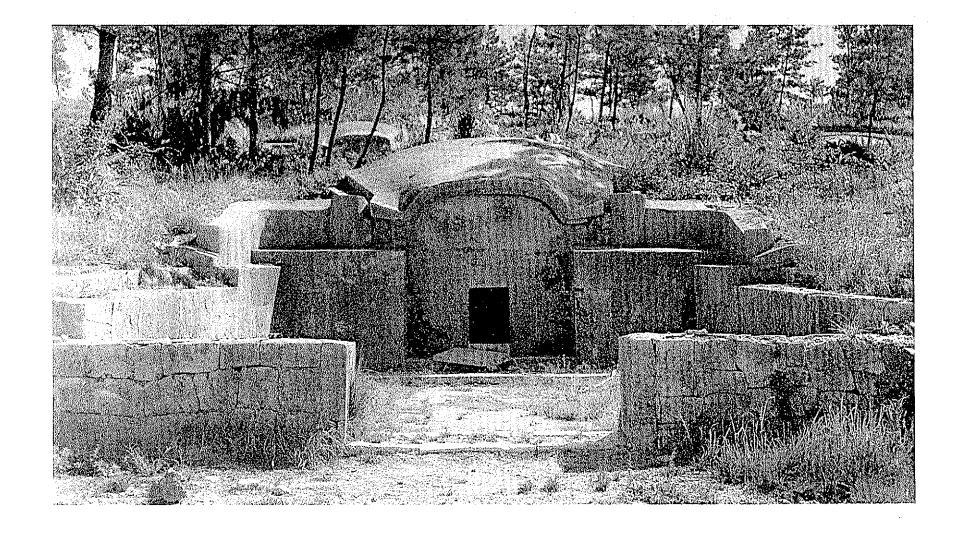
JAPANESE SHRINE



SHRINE ENTRANCE AT NAHA



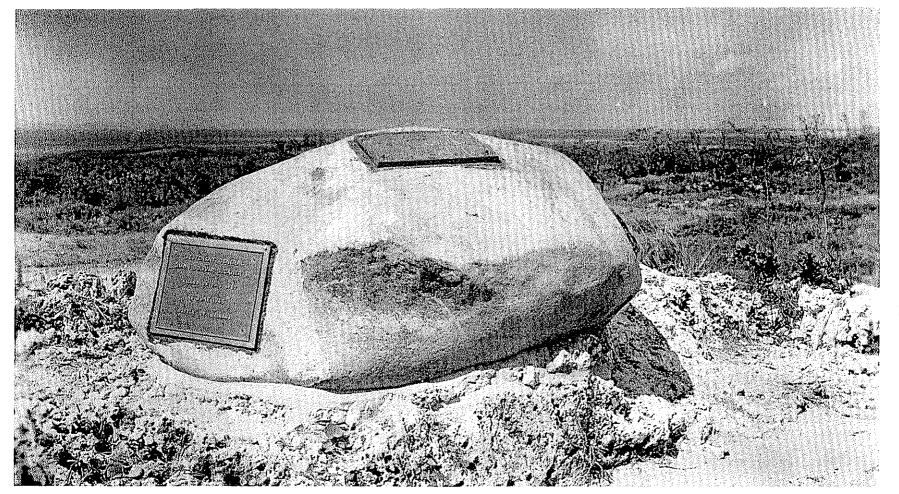
A CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT NAHA



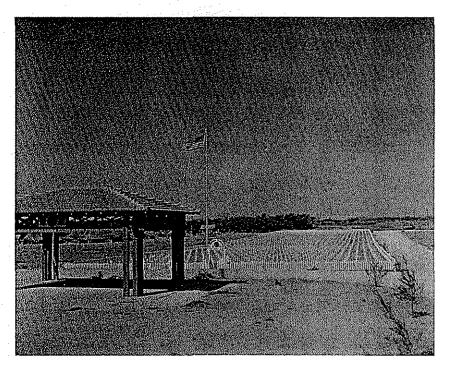
TOMBS WHICH LINE OKINAWA'S HILLSIDES

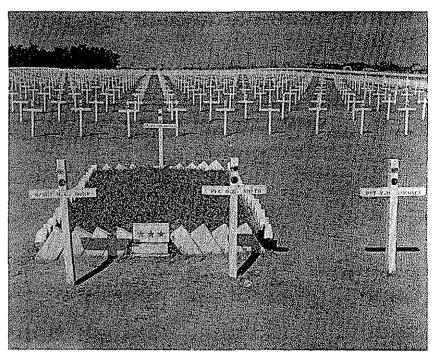




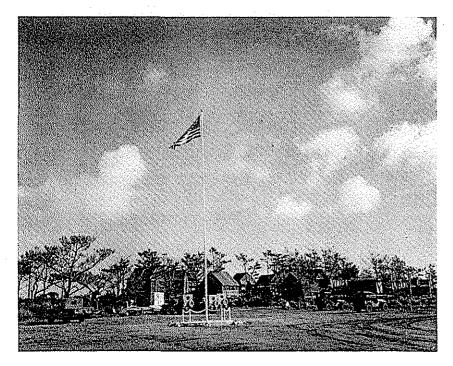


LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIMON BOLIVER BUCKNER, JR., COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE TENTH ARMY, WAS KILLED BY ENEMY ARTILLERY FIRE IN THE BATTLE OF OKINAWA, 16 JUNE 1945.





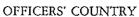
THE 135th CAMP

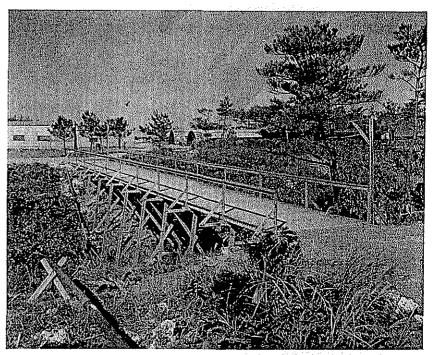




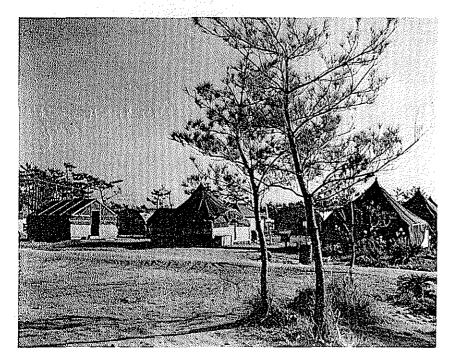
ADMINISTRATION AREA

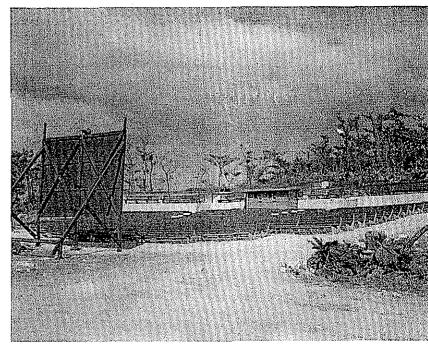


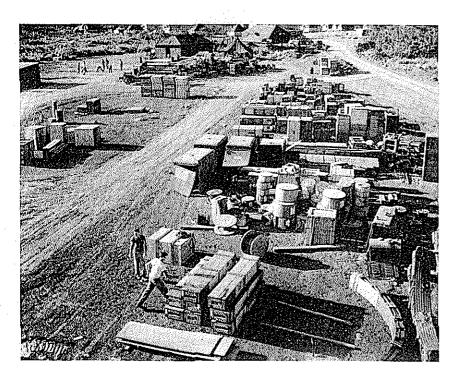




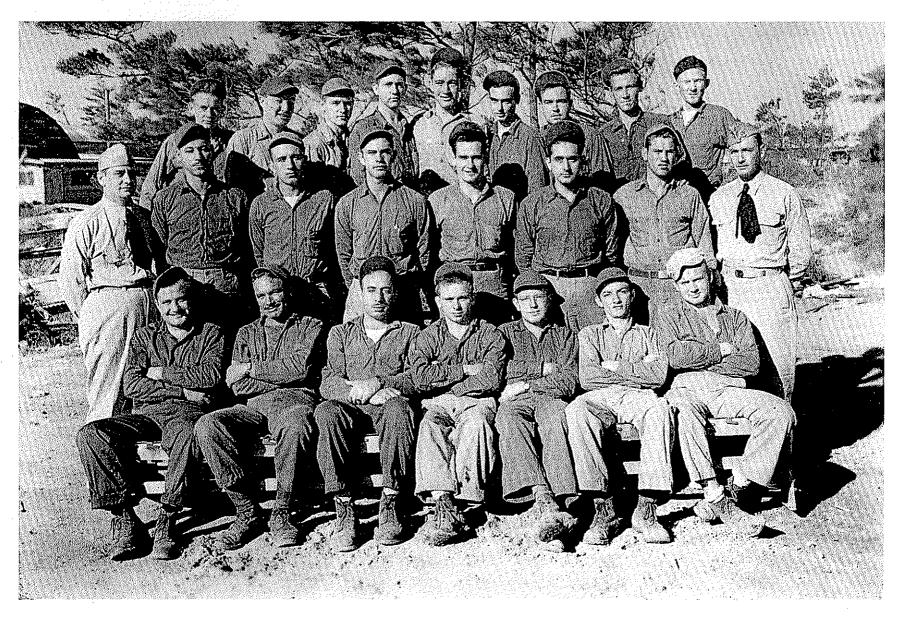
FOOT BRIDGE

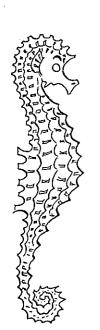




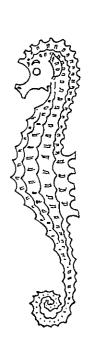




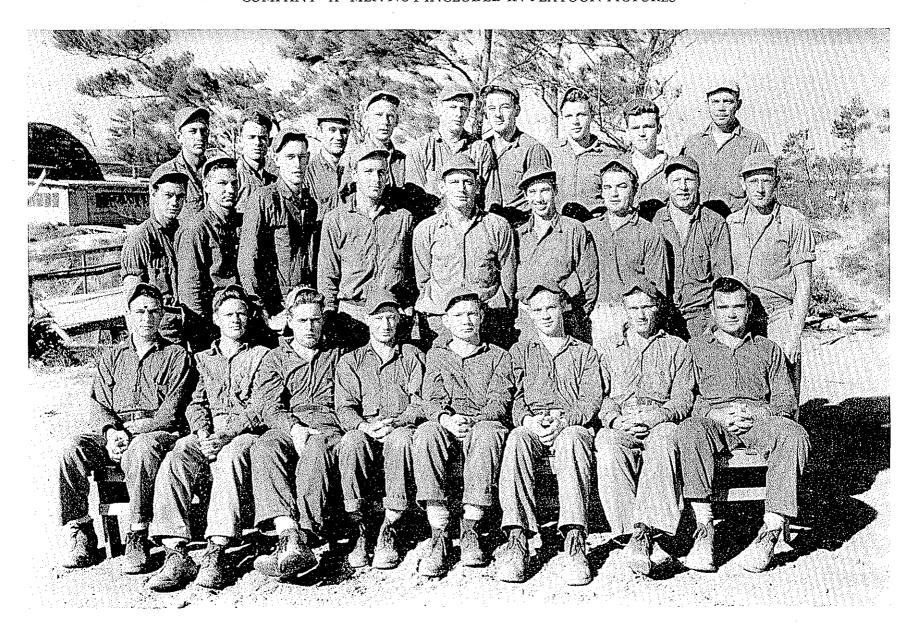




Left to right, first row: M. F. Salvo, H. D. Daily, F. D. Idoni, R. F. Kedrowski, J. E. Schread, L. Britchky, M. R. Beirnie. Second row: H. A. Crepeau, E. Kirkland, D. McHargue, W. L. Rees, J. M. Johns, N. Kyriacos, N. Davis, W. L. Coburn, F. Djuth. Third row: C. J. Kingsley, B. F. Davis, M. L. Dame, H. E. Byerly, K. H. Lee, L. M. Merrill.

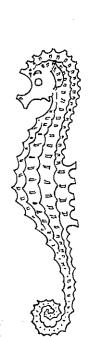


COMPANY "A" MEN NOT INCLUDED IN PLATOON PICTURES

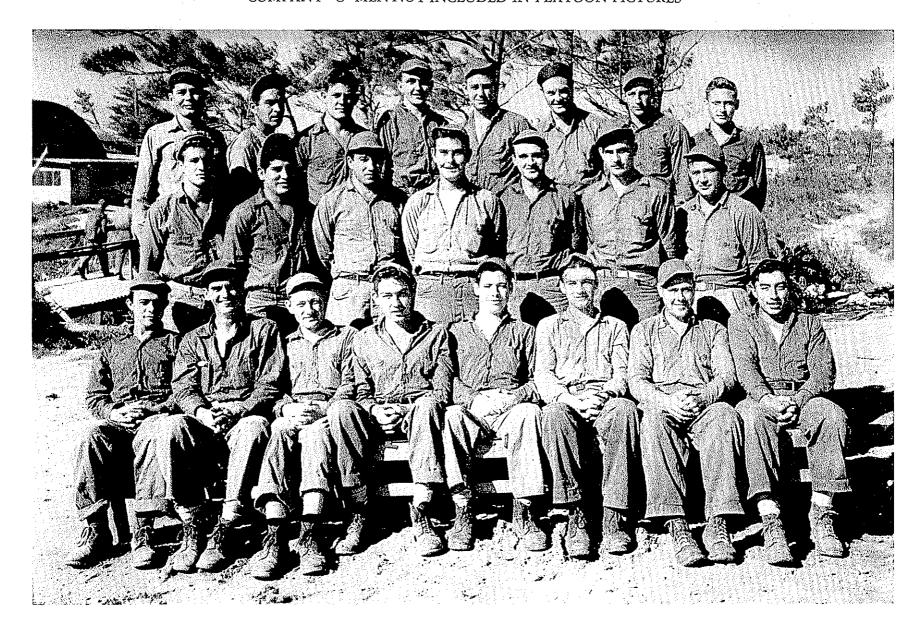




Left to right, first row: A. C. Kelley, E. J. Jackson, D. W. Patrick, C. J. Leonhart, J. T. Jordan, A. D. Hinze, E. M. Rayburn, G. R. Crowley. Second row: R. E. Kuhnhenn, H. E. Earnest, W. L. Hanson, A. C. Kirby, R. E. L. Thomas, J. G. Krantz, J. L. Hallinok, J. A. Kozlowski, G. G. Ladendecker. Third row: F. J. Scott, O. B. Lewis, V. J. Riddle, P. C. Kropp, H. L. Krause, R. J. Heinen, T. L. Kmieciak, T. P. Howarth, C. F. Kessler.



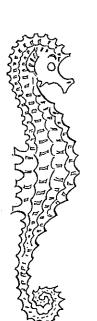
COMPANY "C" MEN NOT INCLUDED IN PLATOON PICTURES



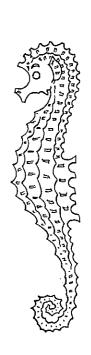


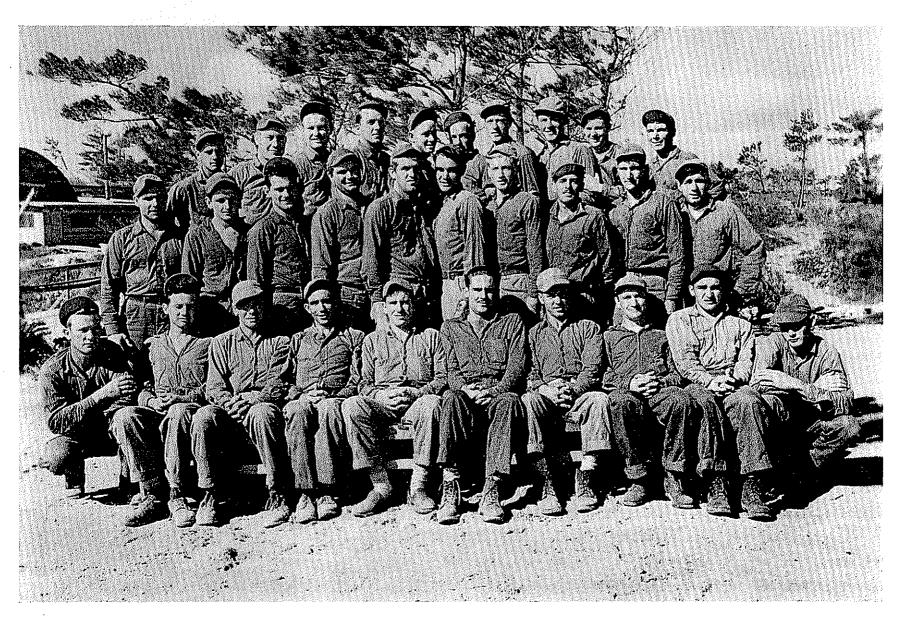
Left to right, first row: G. Knaub, E. B. Hill, H. A. Harris, D. J. Stang, W. R. Weidinger, J. E. Krisle, J. W. Gray, L. J. Rodrigues. Second row: K. H. Hickey, A. L. Padilla, W. M. Larman, J. F. Perry, G. Rabatin, J. E. Reinig, F. A. Carpenter. Third row: J. W. King, W. P. Pintz, L. A. Kainer, J. C. Klein, C. W. Danford, T. Johnson, M. C. Prindle, E. K. Huckins, Jr.





Left to right, first row: H. C. Matthews, A. A. Carmichael, M. S. Parmley, G. L. Klein, D. F. Johnson, T. C. Juhl, G. C. James. Second row: F. T. Richardson, O. J. Price, V. Hensley, D. Shockley, L. J. Missimer, Jr., S. F. King, E. E. Maki, D. E. Kirby, G. W. Lukkonen, R. J. Peltz. Third row: R. W. Johnson, G. E. Lewis, G. E. Murphy, R. L. Loudermilk, L. R. Lansford, B. E. Lonergan, G. A. Kujawa, W. W. Layman.



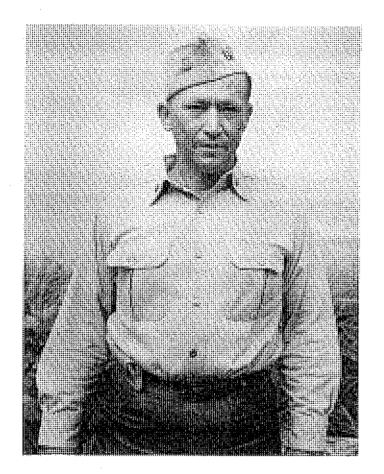




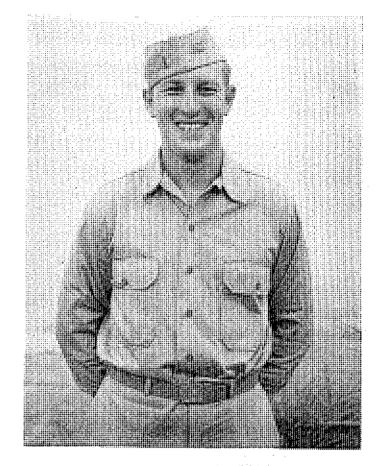
Left to right, first row: V. L. Taraba, D. F. Bice, C. L. Clawson, J. Wright, D. V. Carr, M. N. Tolbert, S. J. Kudla, J. C. Hogan, F. C. Keller, R. W. Knopp. Second row: W. L. Nice, R. W. Isenberg, A. C. Klemann, G. W. Larson, L. P. VanBuren, E. V. Parker, D. R. Quinn, C. E. Kunz, C. J. McCarthy, E. A. Pottridge. Third row: R. W. McClarnon, R. J. Korstjens, J. J. Prucnal, W. F. Beyer, D. R. Heath, V. D. Kaser, H. E. Keefauver, J. G. Lee, E. L. Hinch, G. L. Dawson.



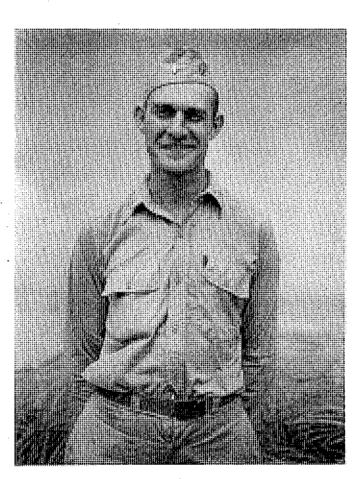
NEW OFFICERS REPORTING ABOARD AT OKINAWA



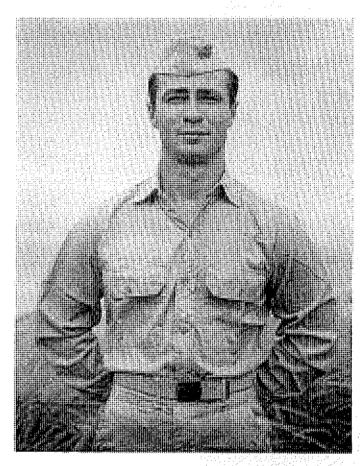
LT. BRYAN H. CARL



ENSIGN JOHN W. MAYBAUM

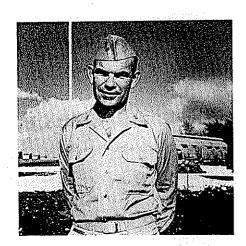


ENSIGN WALTER R. PICKENS



ENSIGN CHARLES R. BAYMAN

THESE 135-ERS WENT UP FROM THE RANKS



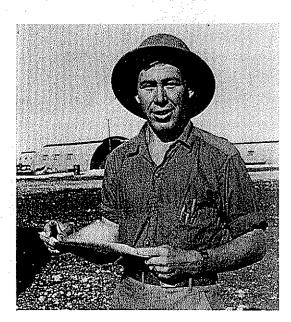
ROBERT H. CALHOUN APPOINTED WARRANT CARPENTER



COMDR. GILLETTE CONGRATULATES LT. (jg) OLIVER A. STOUTLAND



EDGAR W. GIBB SUCCESSFUL COMMISSION APPLICANT



JACK EDWARDS V-7 Candidate



KEITH J. EBNER V-12 Candidate



CLARENCE A. QUINLAN
Officer Candidate

THREE V-12 ENSIGNS JOINED 135th AT TINIAN



S. K. HOPPE



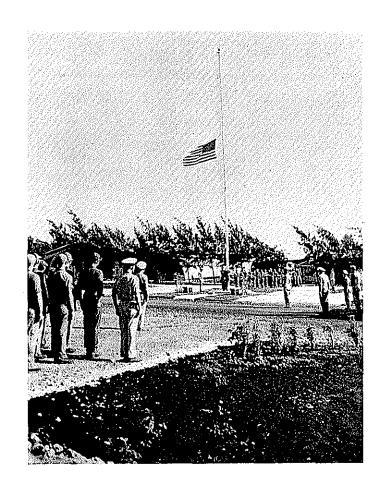
N. L. HETTLER



A. T. TWING

IN MEMORIAM

THEY
GAVE
OF
THEIR
LIVES



MAY
THEY
REST
IN
PEACE

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

April 12, 1945



KENNETH A. ROSS November 7, 1944



HOMER W. CAMERON March 18, 1945



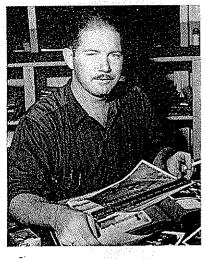
CHARLES A. SCHROEDER March 18, 1945

THE 135th

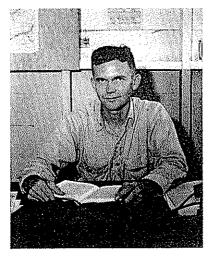
U.S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

REVIEW

Here in pictorial form is an outline of the history of the 135th U. S. Naval Construction Battalion—a Seabee odyssey. An attempt has been made to cover all phases of battalion life and activities from the time of the formation of the organization at Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Virginia in August, 1943, until the Allied victory over the Japanese Empire in September, 1945 found the unit on Okinawa, only a stone's throw from Tokyo.

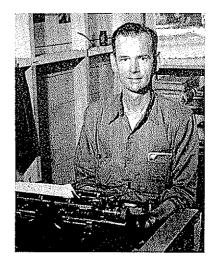


F. P. ORGAN Editor



LIEUT. A. A. AZLEIN

Managing Editor



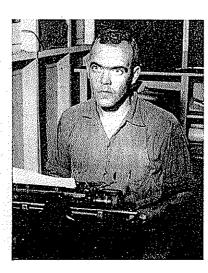
A. KEIRSEY
Associate Editor







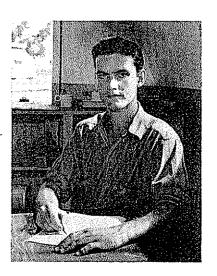
L. LISS
Photography



K. A. SMALL History



A. W. BAKER
Art



A. H. OSTERLUND

Cartoons

CHAPLAIN'S CONCLUSION

We have lived together through two full years. We came together as free men, willing to relinquish a part of our freedom in order that we might, by our common effort, assist in the defeat of enemies who attacked our way of life, our principles of morality and justice, and our property. The necessities of the military and naval circumstances demanded an additional Naval Construction Battalion and we were assigned as its personnel.

In the beginning, we were almost total strangers to one another, but as the months passed we traveled together, worked together, shared hope and disappointments, courage and fears, ease and grievances, joy and sorrows, and we came to know one another.

Now, our assigned tasks completed, our enemies defeated, we have gone our separate ways. But no organization of men who have lived as we have lived in such close association, both inspiring and distressing in its nature, can dissolve without a tinge of regret. The lights and shadows which are the body of this book recall experiences now slipping farther into the past, experiences in which the dross is now dimming and the gold still gleams. God made it ever so.

KOSTER OF OFFICER PERSONNEL

- Commander Paul C. Gillette, CEC, USNR 6106 North 22nd Street Arlington, Virginia
- Lt. Commander Gary C. Banks, CEC, USNR 22 Chadwick Road, Windemere Charleston, South Carolina
- Lt. Commander Walter R. Long, MC, USNR 5335 Castor Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Lt. Commander Bernard L. Tulin, DC, USNR 113 Evergreen Avenue Hartford, Connecticut
- Lieutenant Urban P. Kennedy, CEC, USNR 7911 Joplin-Street Houston, Texas
- Lieutenant Dwight Harrison, Jr., CEC, USNR 17673 Manderson Road Detroit, Michigan
- Lieutenant John Ritter, CEC, USNR 2033 South Harcourt Avenue Los Angeles, California
- Lieutenant John D. Ray, CFC, USNR 743 Ridge Avenue Macon, Georgia
- Lieutenant Lauchlin L. MacIntyre, CEC, USNR North Third Street Hillsboro, Oregon
- Lieutenant Bryan H. Carl, CEC, USNR 3345 Wichita Houston, Texas
- Lieutenant Arthur A. Azlein, ChC, USNR 6223 University Avenue Chicago, Illinois
- Lieutenant John R. O'Brien, CEC, USNR 32 Sanders Avenue Scotia, New York
- Lieutenant William T. Horner, CEC, USNR 5859 South Brentwood Los Angeles, California
- Lieutenant John M. Curran, CEC, USNR 1522 Hungerford Long Beach, California
- Lieutenant Daryl L. Roberts, CEC, USNR 1191 East 7th Street, North Provo, Utah
- Lieutenant Eugene M. Meldon, SC, USNR 529 West 10th Street Erie, Pennsylvania
- Lieutenant Joseph J. Moore, SC, USNR 6925 Fourth Avenue Brooklyn, New York
- Lieutenant Farrell F. Golden, MC, USNR 311 5th Avenue, East Ashland, Wisconsin
- Lieutenant Jesse R. Henshaw, CEC, USNR 1752 Broadway San Francisco, California
- Lieutenant (jg) James M. Wilson, CEC, USNR 5314 Riggs Road Overland Park, Kansas
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- PARKER, GEORGE W. 223 West 7th Street Paris, Kentucky
- PARKER, RAY D. 2443 Berteau Avenue Chicago, Illinois
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- PARMLEY, MARVIS S. 1700 San Jancito Street Houston, Texas
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- Cartage, Arkansas
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