

DEDICATED

то

THE MEMORY OF OUR MATES OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH U.S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR TOUR IN THIS LIFE ON OKINAWA GUNTO



"THE SPIRIT ITSELF BEARETH WITNESS WITH OUR SPIRIT, THAT WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD; AND IF CHILDREN THEN HEIRS; HEIRS OF GOD AND JOINT HEIRS WITH CHRIST; IF SO BE THAT WE SUFFER WITH HIM, THAT WE MAY BE ALSO GLORIFIED TOGETHER."

Komans 8:16-17

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THIRTY-FOURTH U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

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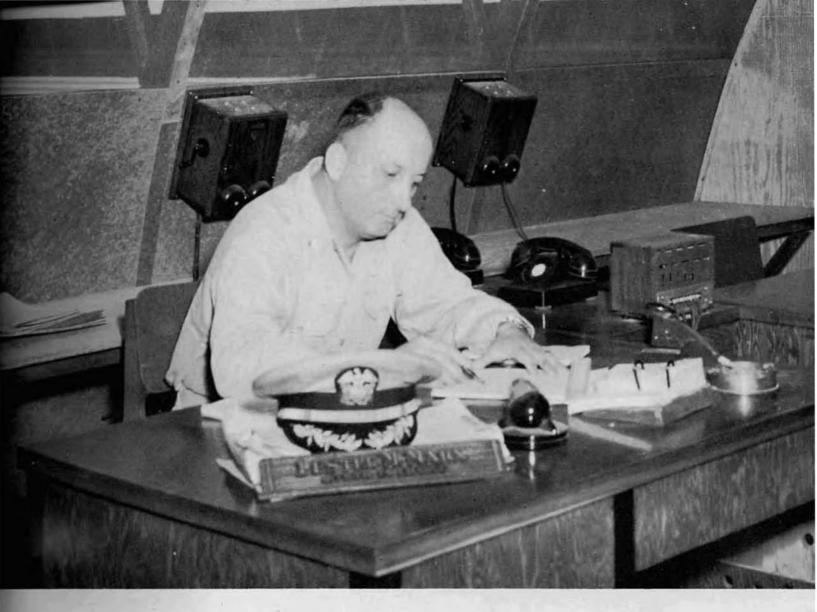
FOREWORD

THIS BOOK is published for the benefit of all the members of the crew of the Thirty-fourth U. S. Naval Construction Battalion in order that they may have a pictorial record of their last tour of duty with this Battalion. Because it was a short tour of duty, the volume of work shown is not as impressive as it might have been had our tour of duty been longer. However, all that we did was important as the facilities we built were an important aid in "Servicing the Fleet" in the last final blow against our enemy. We take pride in our accomplishments and know that those who read this book and see the conditions under which we worked will appreciate the fact that each member of

this Battalion did perform a vital and necessary task.



Lester M. Marx, Commander (CEC) USNR Officer in Charge Thirty-fourth U. S. Naval Construction Battalion



GORN IN Rochester, New York. Graduated from Ohio Northern University as a Civil Engineer. Worked for engineering and construction firms in various parts of the United States and in Central and South America, and just prior to entering the Navy in 1942 was Regional Director and Regional Engineer for the Federal Works Agency. While with the Navy, served as the Officer in Charge of the Sixty-second U. S. Naval Construction Battalion, Engineering Officer of the First Naval Construction Regiment, Operations Officer of the First Naval Construction Brigade, Executive Officer of the Fifth Naval Construction Regiment, Officer in Charge of the Fiftyseventh U. S. Naval Construction Battalion, and Officer in Charge of the Thirty-fourth U. S. Naval Construction Battalion. On a drill field of Camp Rousseau, Port Hueneme, California, the last home of the 34th Construction Battalion before embarking for duty overseas, the men rather gloomily await transportation to the ship that will carry them to Island "X". The large building in the background is the Chapel, a few of the administration buildings can be seen to the left of the Chapel.



All aboard for Island "X"! This picture bears out the statement that a sailor wears or carries all his earthly possessions. The officers and chiefs seated in the foreground are not taking tickets—merely mustering the men on board. This ride is on Uncle Sam, and it might be added that it is a very poor policy to arrive at this particular dock AFTER the ship has sailed.



EMBARKATION

7HE THIRTY-FOURTH U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION embarked from Port Hueneme, California on its second tour of duty in the Pacific at about 1430 on the 19th of April 1945 with 1045 enlisted men and 24 officers on board the Troop Transport S. S. JEAN LAFITTE. The first stop was made at the Hawaiian Islands at approximately 1100, 26 April 1945. No enemy action or "Alerts" were encountered during the first leg of the voyage. At approximately 0700, 27 April 1945 the S. S. JEAN LAFITTE left Hawaii and proceeded toward Island "X".

The following is a log of the stops made by the S. S. JEAN LAFITTE after leaving Hawaii:

- 1 May 1945-Crossed International Date Line.
- 2 May 1945-Lost this day in crossing the Date Line.
- 6 May 1945-Anchored in Eniwetok Harbor at 1000.
- 8 May 1945-"VE" Day announced while anchored in Eniwetok Harbor.
- 9 May 1945-Left Eniwetok at 1300.
- 14 May 1945-Arrived at Ulithi at 1430.
- 15 May 1945-Left Ulithi at 1800.
- 21 May 1945-Arrived at Okinawa at approximately 1304.



Divine Services being conducted by the 34th Seabee Chaplain Franklin E. LAHR. The singing is being led by W. B. SEXTON, SK2c, Director of the 34th Male Choir. The organist is a member of CBMU 618.



Catholic Services being held aboard ship. As there was no Priest aboard, the men just said the Rosary.



Both Catholic and Protestant Services were well attended. This is a scene showing members of the 34th Seabees, CASU 11, and CBMU 618 waiting for Church Services to begin.



Chow time aboard ship. It was sometimes wondered which was the warmer, this chow hall or Lucifer's residence.



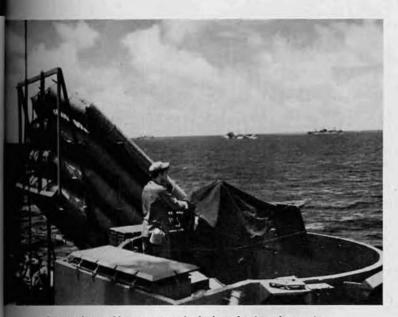
Officers' Mess. Officers of the 34th Seabees, CBMU 618 and CASU 11 at chow.



Enlisted Men's sleeping quarters on the ship. It is now 12:00 o'clock noon, and most troops are top-side. John Henry HENDERSON, CM2c is resting during this period.



Officers' sleeping quarters aboard ship.



Gun watches on 20mm guns on the lookout for Jap planes. At this time the ship is in dangerous waters.



Another view of the gun watches on 20mm guns on the lookout for Jap planes.

HITTING THE BEACH

At 1314 the 22nd day of May instructions were received that all cargo and personnel should go to Awassi (Gray Beach). Company "C" was the first group to go ashore, this company left the ship at approximately 1500. Following Company "C" were Companies A, and B. These troops bivouacked at Gray Beach for one night. During this time it had been raining for several days, and the beach was just one great sea of mud. As the troops hit the beach they immediately began setting up their pup tents in an effort to make themselves as comfortable as possible under the extremely adverse conditions found at the beach. A large number of our troops were raw recruits fresh from "boot" camp that were a little skeptical of their surroundings, and would require a constant check to prevent "trigger happiness" or other unintentional misdemeanors that might add to our fatalities. To add to the men's discomfort, the air raids were so frequent that it might have been called one continuous raid lasting all night. Besides this, the battle for Naha, which was only a few miles away, was at its bitterest point. The ships shelling shore positions could be plainly seen, star shells of various colors were constantly arching across the sky, and the constant rumble of the heavy artillery of both sides contributed greatly to a very uncomfortable night. At 0900 the following morning, Headquarters Company landed on the beach and the four companies prepared to move inland to begin setting up the temporary camp. Company "D" remained on board as the unloading crew.

Landing on Okinawa. At this point most of the men were ready to give this rack to the Japs. It was hard to believe that in a matter of days after the Seabees landed, this island was transformed into one of the mightiest air bases used by the Allies.



Assembling a convoy of trucks to move inland. The trucks moved in convoys of 6 or more as a precaution against Jap snipers, and small pockets of resistance that had not been cleaned out.

A small detached unit remained on the beach to handle and guard supplies and equipment as it came ashore. Their camp can be seen in the center foreground.



MOVING INLAND

7_{HE SITE} of the 34th Construction Battalion Camp was located a little over six miles inland. The route from the beach to the camp site was unoccupied and as yet had not been "mopped up". For this reason all trucks moving inland were well guarded and traveled in convoys of six or more trucks. The roads were in very bad shape due to almost constant raining.

The setting up of the temporary camp was as usual a very trying and disheartening task. For the first few days the men lived in pup tents, and ate "K" Rations. Water was scarce even for drinking and cooking purposes, so a bath was just out of the question. There was a stream running through the Camp, but the Doctors prohibited the men from using the water to bathe because the water was polluted.

With officers and chiefs experienced in the construction of camps, the temporary camp began to take shape rapidly, the necessary shelters taking shape almost immediately. Within a week after landing, the temporary camp included a Galley, Heads, 16'x16' tents without decks, Office Buildings, Storage areas and tents, Barber Shop and a Dispensary. All of these structures were roughly constructed using very little, if any, finished lumber which was saved for the permanent camp. The roads presented quite a problem, but were being filled with coral hauled from a nearby coral pit, daily, until in a short time we were pretty well out of the mud. The water purification plant was installed, eliminating the necessity for hauling water from other units and making it possible to construct a "gang" shower to serve the entire Battalion. The "gang" shower was very much appreciated by all hands, who were greatly relieved to wash some of the mud and dirt from their bodies.

In the early days of our camp construction, mud was our primary obstacle. At no time could one be free from mud even while eating as the men are doing here.



Living in the open always sharpens one's appetite, and living on Okinawa was no exception. Here the men patiently await their ration of dehydrated food which was readily consumed and very little wasted.





Very necessary items in any camp are facilities for sterilizing eating utensils. In a temporary camp this is sometimes a very smoky job—but it pays off later in man hours by reducing the number of dysentery cases and other diseases.

Main Street of the 34th Seabees Camp at the beginning of its construction. The four tents shown here are the temporary offices for the Supply Office, Disbursing Office, Personnel Office and Post Office—reading from left to right.





One of the items high on the priority list is mail. While the men on the front are always eager to get a letter from home, the folks back home are always just as eager to hear from them. However, before the mail can be sent on its way, Uncle Sam has to make sure that no military information is falling into unauthorized hands. This checking is being done by the censors shown here. The Chief Censor is Bryce HENDERSON, CM1c, the man working on the extreme right.

A temporary Administration Building to house the O. O. D., Project Control Office, Chief Master at Arms and Executive Office. The Dentist, yeoman, stewards and carpenter turned to in order to construct this building in the shortest possible time.



Another view of main street of the 34th Seabees Camp at the beginning of its construction. The storage tent on the extreme right served as a commissary warehouse.

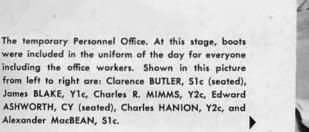
Before surfacing the road with coral, it was necessary to remove about eighteen inches of mud with carryalls. The road shown here is ready to be surfaced. The few Japs who were hiding in the hills shown in the background were captured by 34th Seabee patrols.

A section of the highway running past the 34th Seabee Camp. The two water trailers shown in the foreground were the only sources of drinking water for the men. The "parade" coming down this highway is composed of native farmers, ninety per cent of whom were female, on their way to till the fields. These natives were kept in camps, and marched to and from their work by military police.





The Dispensary. One of the first structures to be erected, this building was in operation almost immediately and ready to take care of any emergency cases. Note the sugar cane growing to the right of the tent.







The temporary Engineering Office. This hurriedly erected structure served to house the draftsmen while designing and drawing plans for future jobs. Shown in the picture from left to right are: R. G. RAMSEY, CM1c, F. L. SNYDER, CCM, (kneeling), W. TAYLOR, CM2c, S. HOWARD, CM2c, and T. McCULLOUGH, SF2c.



The temporary Executive Office. The shipping crates and boxes proved to be very valuable for office furniture for these temporary offices. Shown in this picture are William EASTER, S1c, in the left hand corner, Warren ROCHESTER, Y2c, in the right hand background, and Thurlow SIMONS, CY, shown in the right foreground.



The temporary Post Office. Shown here getting the "sugar reports" out are: Arturo CRUSE, MaM1c, shown in the left foreground, and Roy EASON, MaM2c, right center.



The temporary Building Division Office. The planning and erection of all structures was controlled by this office. Shown in this picture from left to right are: A. DONATTO, SF3c, D. WILKINSON, CCM, and Julian A. OTT, Ensign, (CEC) USNR. The temporary Armory. While in the war zone, the weapons had to be kept in first-class condition at all times. Accomplishing this job are from left to right: C. M. DEWEES, GM2c, L. RICHARDSON, S2c, J. F. AVERY, S2c, and J. M. JONES, CGM.







One of the necessary items to provide for the health of the crew is the Dental Office. The office shown here was put in operation almost immediately. The officer at the instrument box is James C. STEINRUCK, Lieut. (DC) USNR. Seated is Harold H. BLANK, Lieut. (DC) USNR.

The temporary Administration Building. The front section of this office was used for the Master-at-Arms Office, Officer of the Day, and the Project Control Office. The radio seen at the extreme right was one source of getting air raid alerts. Shown in this picture from left to right are: Charles F. WILSON, S2c, Masterat-Arms, Joseph R. GORENFLO, CM1c, Robert M. WELLBORN, BM1c, Officer of the Day, Frasia D. TRICE, CCM, and William C. BANKS, CM2c, both of Project Control.





CONSTRUCTION

7 HE ORGANIZATION of a Construction Battalion is very similar to that of a construction company in civil life; however we do have the additional responsibility of taking care of our men twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week which, in addition to the military aspect, is necessary and important. Approximately two hundred of the personnel of the battalion are used in what we like to term our "housekeeping." This includes the work in the Galleys, Offices, Master at Arms (Police Force), Guards etc. Another group approximately the same size takes care of our camp utilities. Remember that we have our own Water System, Light and Power System, Shops (Carpenter, Electrical, Metalsmith, Plumbing, Communications, Sail Loft, Heavy Equipment and Transportation etc.). In these shops much prefabrication of construction items is done, also the finished products used in the buildings, which you will see on the following pages. The balance of the personnel of the Battalion work on the jobs, the pictures of which are shown.

The important projects which were completed on this tour of duty follow:

ABCD Cargo Handling. Automotive and Equipment Spare Parts Depot. Naval Ammunition Depot. JCC Radio Transmitter Station. Magazines for Dynamite storage. Road Construction and Maintenance. Coral Pit Operations. Mine Assembly Depot Number Eight. Awashi Air Strip. 34th C. B. Camp. C. B. Provisional Trucking Company.

The main feature of the work involved on these projects included the following:

500,000 man hours.	200,000 sq. ft. of concrete
1,750,000 sq. ft. of grading.	7,500 lineal ft. of culverts built.
Over 15 miles of roads built and/or main- tained.	42,000 heavy equipment hours. 77,000 cu. yds. of coral quarried and hauled.
61,000 truck hours.	



Highway #8 at outskirts of 34th Camp. Even at this stage, there is a great improvement over the muddy, deep rutted trail we found.

ROADS



The old adage "Necessity is the Mother of Invention", or the Seabees motto, "If you haven't got one, make one", is shown in this picture. A drum of gasoline was shipped from the States, contents used in a truck or tractor—now the empties are welded together for very efficient culverts.



Culvert made from oil drums being installed beneath Route #8 which drains 34th Transportation area and main road.



The remains of Okinawan bridge—either destroyed by an American or Jap shell. In the next picture it will look entirely different.



Yes, it is the same bridge or location rather, but a few hours of Seabee labor and ingenuity produced a bridge capable of supporting our heaviest vehicles. Note the hand work in the rock retaining wall to the left, which was built by Okinawans.



A finished product. A few days before, this would have been a wagon trail, but now a four lane, coral surfaced super-highway.



The mighty blast which opens up new food for the hungry bucket of a power shovel. Note the uniformity in all directions of the shot's intensity which gives credit to the Gunner's Mate

who planted the charge.

CORAL PIT OPERATIONS

Drilling holes to plant dynamite in coral pit. Impact of blast loosens coral so that it may be scooped up by a power shovel. In the tropics and semi-tropics coral is the only available material for road surfacing, foundation material and concrete aggregate.





Of course in a sense this could be called a production line. Trucks lined up to receive two mouthfuls of the one and onehalf cu. yard bucket, then journey to a road bed, warehouse site or concrete mixing plant.

Close up view of shovel and trucks doing their part in building the road to Tokyo.



JCC RADIO TRANSMITTER STATION

View of the foundation of the building erected to house the Joint Communications Center.



Steel erection of the Joint Communications Center Building. This is the only job where Native labor was used by the 34th Seabees.

View showing the Joint Communications Center Building partially completed. This picture also shows one of the ways in which a standard Quonset Hut can be modified to suit its many useful purposes.

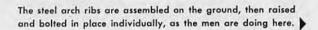


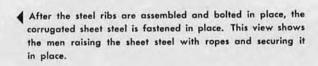


The completed Joint Communications Center Building. This building will house the facilities for receiving and transmitting all Island communications.

AUTOMOTIVE AND EQUIPMENT SPARE PARTS DEPOT

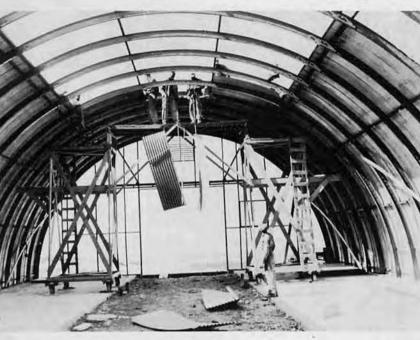
Erecting the steel for one of the Spare Parts Depot Warehouses. This view shows the method of securing the building to its foundation.





The partially completed warehouses that will house the Automotive and Equipment Spare Parts Depot. All Naval Construction Units on Okinawa procured spare parts from this depot when it was completed.







MINE ASSEMBLY DEPOT NUMBER EIGHT

Access road and graded building site for the first warehouse to be erected to house Mine Assembly Depot Number 8.



◀ 40'x100' Stran Steel Warehouse under construction.

Completed 40'x100' Stran Steel Warehouse being used as Mine Assembly Building.



Officers and Enlisted Men's Galley at Mine Assembly Depot Number Eight nearing completion.

 Officers and Enlisted Men's Galley under construction at Mine Assembly Depot Number Eight.



MAGAZINE FOR DYNAMITE STORAGE

First sheets of Magazine being erected where dynamite will be stowed for further use in construction.



R. E. WALLACE, CM2c is using an air gun to tighten the thousands of bolts in these Magazines. The air gun is the greatest labor saving tool in proportion found in this type of construction work.

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 Inside view of 20'x50' Steel Magazine. Making a re-check on tightening all bolts.

Magazine completed except for a covering of dirt which is used to lessen the danger should the explosive content be set off. Bombs and other types of ammo, are also stored in this type of magazine.



"GOAT BUGGY" As welcome as the Ice Cream Buggy to the kids of Central Park. Since so much of our work was quite some distance from camp, too much valuable time was lost in transporting the men back and forth for noon chow, so the men were compelled to eat "K" Rations. This is why the "Goat Buggy" was born, to insure every man a hot meal three times a day wherever he worked without any extra loss of time from the job.







THIRTY-FOURTH U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CAMP

 \mathcal{G}_{N} THE preceding pages you have seen how a battalion leaves the States, conducts itself aboard ship, lands, and starts its temporary camp. We are sent out to work, we therefore have shown you next the work we have done. While working on these various projects, we too try to improve our living conditions so that the health and the morale of our men is kept at a peak at all times.

It can be seen from the pictures that follow that we were set up to do a big job. We did only a portion of it and the war was ended. We are happily awaiting the day when we too may end this tour of duty and return to our families. Because the individuals of the Battalion are being returned to civil life under the point system, the Battalion is being broken up here at Okinawa, and we have no pictures or story to tell of the return. Each of us will tell you that story individually.



TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Forms being set on one of the best Transportation and Heavy Equipment Shops ever seen overseas.



Here it is in final stages of construction. Shed portion on left is the Heavy Equipment Garage, center section houses the Parts Room, and Machine Shop, while on the right we have Light Equipment Shop and Grease Pit. All concrete deck, work benches, bins and tool racks are the latest design.



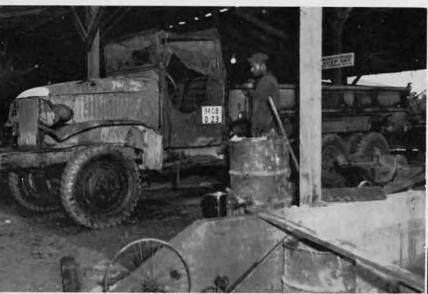
A very practical and time saving device—Steam Jenny. Motors and different automotive parts can be cleaned throughout by this live pressure steam. This 32'x32' Stran Steel building will be a consolidated Operations Office Building which houses the offices of the following depts.: Transportation, Mechanical Division, Building Dept., and Road Dept.



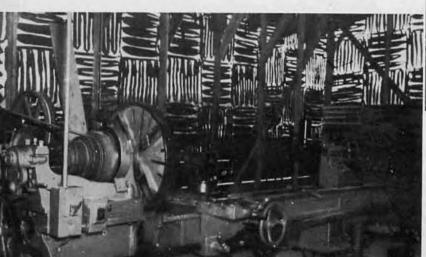


The most important operation in performance that involves equipment is proper lubrication. A good "grease monkey" is one of the unsung heroes of this war.

Interior view of our well equipped Garage. Incidentally this truck in the foreground is being assembled from salvaged parts.

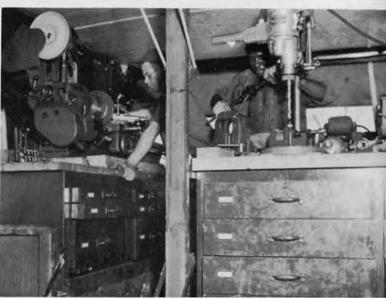


Portable Machine Shop in which anything can be made, that is, almost anything. At advance bases where parts are so very scarce it would be impossible to keep equipment running without this Shop.





D-23 is the completely assembled truck of salvaged parts you saw under way in the preceding picture.



The Japs did leave some good sized machinery. Here is a lathe, salvaged, repaired and installed in our Machine Shop.

"SHOPS"

PICTURES of all shops are not available, but in addition to above, we had the following installed in one 40'x100' Stran Steel building: Electric Shop—Telephone Shop—Sheet Metal Shop— Plumbing Shop—Paint Shop—Sail Loft and Typewriter Shop.



Interior view of a small portion of Carpenter Shop showing the manufacture of office chairs.



A hot locker like this was built for each tent, serving a threefold purpose, to stow gear, preserve clothing, and a writing table. Another feature, all tents are uniform in appearance and conveniences.



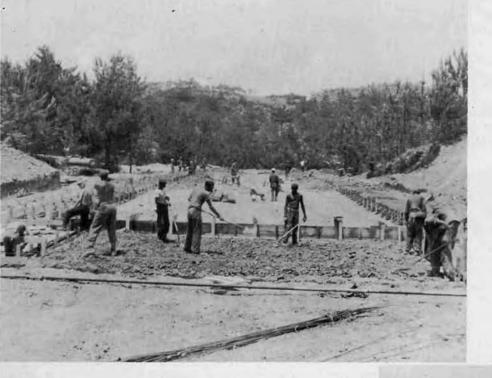
One of the most useful shops in a Construction Battalion is the Sail Loft. All canvas work, such as tent repair, tarpaulins, truck and jeep tops, rope work etc., saves a lot of equipment and material. Large sewing machine is a salvaged Jap machine.



A Jap sewing machine being repaired for use in Sail Loft. Similar one is being used in Cobbler Shop.

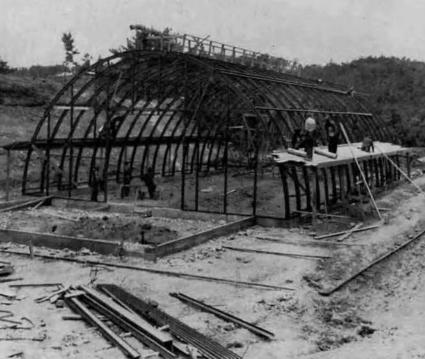


Our Typewriter and Radio Shop was one any Stateside mechanic would envy. We were also very fortunate in having experienced mechanics in this field.



MAIN GALLEY

As in all camps one of the most important buildings is the Galley. This is a view of the beginning of the foundation work on our Main Galley consisting of Chow Hall, Store Room, Bakery, Scullery, Butcher Shop, and Mess Hall.



Foundation laid, the superstructure is begun and the Mess Hall portion of the Main Galley begins to take shape.



The outer shell of the Quonset portion completed, the frame structure which is the proposed store room, nears completion. After days and nights of hard laborious work and intricate engineering feats the final product stands in all its glory. This Galley and its staff is capable of feeding one thousand hungry Seabees an hour.





Interior view of the Galley showing its modern equipment and neat arrangement of utensils. A good meal in a man's stomach means a good day's production in the field, and these men have done their part most efficiently.



It's not a bakery back in the States, but the pastry, loaves of bread and home-made rolls that came forth from those ovens are just as good as any Stateside product.



WATER SYSTEM

Purification and Pumping Station in the early days. All drinking and wash water is drawn from a creek, then filtered and purified.



Canvas settling tanks used in early stages. Later Wood Stave Tanks were erected.



5,000 gallon Drinking Water Storage Tank. All tanks are built on high elevation platforms to assure good gravity fall to all areas. 15,000 gallon Settling Wood Stave Tank which replaced the old canvas type.





Pouring concrete foundation for 126,000 gallon Raw Water Storage Tank.

126,000 gallon Raw Water Storage Tank. At present we have an up-to-date water system that would supply a small city. Several other activities haul water from our storage in tank trucks.





HEADS

Our first type Head before we were able to obtain Stran Steel huts. Pit type, wall urinal and lavatory, with concrete deck makes it comply with the most rigid sanitary regulations.



Later the same type of head was built out of Quonset Hut material.



Each Company area has a centrally located Head, Shower and Scrub Room in a 20'x56' Quonset Hut. In foreground notice automatic oil fired water heater which furnishes plenty of hot water twenty four hours a day.

No Stateside camp Head has any advantages over this finished product. After a day's work in the field in mud and muck this building is the most welcomed sight on return to Camp.



SICK BAY

Forms and foundations for the three modern equipped buildings housing the Battalion's Medical Department. Large tent on left is the Dispensary, which was set up the first day ashore.





The three Medical Department buildings after completion. Left to right: Sick Bay Ward, Dispensary, which includes treatment room, laboratory, operating room and office, and Dental Hut, which includes the Records Office, Dental Office and Storeroom.



Corpsmen Edgar and Evans folding bandages in the waiting room of Dispensary.



A modern up-to-date Dental Office under direction of Lt. STIENRUCK assisted by GAYLORD, PhM1c.

Close-up view of Sick Bay Ward. Frame 16'x50' covered with tent. We were very fortunate in having a minimum number of patients to patronize this room.





Interior view of Sick Bay Ward showing patients reading and relaxing.



SHIP'S SERVICE AND RECREATION BUILDING

Digging foundation and leveling for deck of 40'x100' Stran Steel building which will be known as Ship's Service and Recreation Building.



Rib construction of the Ship's Service and Recreation Building.

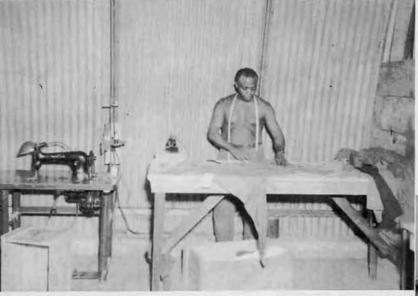
A later addition is the Beer Garden built as a lean-to shed

Here is the finished product which houses Ship's Store, Small Stores, Barber Shop, Cobbler Shop, Tailor Shop and Recreation Room on lower floor. Second floor has Chaplain's Office and Library.

and lot. Here many happy moments were spent by the enlisted men and the tall tales grew taller with each bottle of beer.



Interior of Barber Shop. Men getting their hair cut, from left to right: MYERS, J. L., SK2c, NEWMAN, J. C., S1c, REVADA, V., CM2c. The Barbers are: C. L. LATIMORE, CM3c, D. RUSHELL, S2c, and R. THOMPSON, SSMB3c.

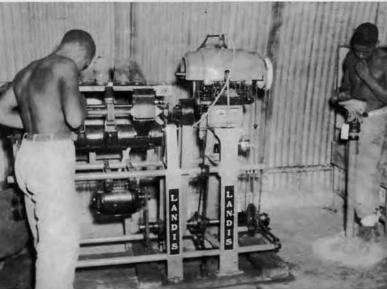


◀ Tailor Shop. D. E. WOODS, CM3c, Tailor.

Cobbler Shop: W. S. ROBINSON and J. T. RUSSELL, both S1c, Cobblers.



Enlisted Men's Library and Reading Room.



A. J. HARMON, SF1c, and J. W. VICKERS, CM1c, making purchases from our well stocked Ship's Store. J. C. NEWMAN, S1c, is the man behind the counter.





Stateside or civilian life didn't have a thing on us when it came to a laundry. This 75 lb. washer washed for all men of one company each day, returning them the same day damp dry. Officers and chiefs also had a one day's service with clothes returned ironed and dry.



Laundry being delivered. Men from left to right are: M. M. BARBER, CM2c, in charge, C. R. WALLACE, SSML3c, O. RUBEN, SSML3c, and G. A. TUNSTILL, CM1c, picking up his laundry.

LAUNDRY

Although not located in large Ship's Service Building the Laundry also falls into this category.

"GSK"

"GSK" is the Navy way of saying, "General Store Keeping." In a sense it is similar to the traditional country General Store found in many of our rural districts throughout the United States. To a Construction Battalion the GSK means a place we can turn to when in need of clothing, tools, office supplies, galley equipment and many other things that might be needed. When setting up a camp, among the first buildings to appear, if only temporary, is the GSK, for it is here that our supplies are kept and tools serviced. In the two pictures below are shown our temporary and permanent warehouses with the large storage area around the permanent structure.

Temporary Warehouse made up of two 16'x50' tents to keep supplies under cover. Permanent Warehouse. 40'x100' Quonset Warehouse where all general storekeeping items and tools are stored. It has a concrete deck with hundreds of cubicle bins for proper storage of countless items. In addition there is an upper deck for bulk storage.







ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Early stages of construction of the 34th Battalion's Administration Building. The partially erected portion at the left will be the Personnel Office, Disbursing Office and the Communications Office.



This view shows the completed foundation and deck for the Personnel Office, Disbursing Office, Cammunications Office, Chief Master-at-Arms Office, Officer of the Day and the Supply Office. The erected portion at the extreme right will be the Personnel Office, Disbursing Office and Communications Office. Note the temporary lights installed above the work to enable the men to work after dark.



View of the completed Administration Building, showing the Post Office at the extreme right, the Executive Office in the center and the Engineering Office at the extreme left. This building was erected with small crews in approximately 18 days, while the majority of the skilled workmen were working on higher priority jobs. View showing the completed Administration Building, Parking Lot, and the two Dispensary Buildings at the extreme left.





Battalion Officer of the Day Office and Master-at-Arms Office. This is the first office one enters when entering the Administration Building.

The Disbursing Office. Shown in this picture at the left is, Warren E. ABRAMS, Ensign, SC, USNR, and Robinson P. BLUDWORTH, CSKD (T), USNR. In the right foreground is Herbert C. FREEMAN, SKD3c, and to his left are, Harold L. HOGAN, S1c, James E. VANLEER, SKD3, and Charles A. GIBBS, Jr., SKD2c. The partition shown at the left divides the Personnel and Disbursing Offices.



The Personnel Office. Shown in this picture from left to right are: Clarence BUTLER, Jr., S1c, William C. EASTER, Y3c, Alexander H. McBEAN, S1c, (standing), George WILLIAMS, Ensign, (CEC) USNR, dictating letter to Charles R. MIMMS, Y2c, and John E. ASHWORTH, CY (T), seated in the right foreground.

The Supply Office, shown in this picture from left to right are: Bonnie O. WHITE, CSK (T) (AA), Albert F. ELROD, CCS (T), Lloyd R. LAPIC, SK2c, and Irvin A. LORE, Lieut. (jg), SC, USNR. This office is responsible for the procuring, storage and issue of all supplies including food, also controls the Ship's Service and Ship's Store activities.





The Executive Office. Shown in this picture seated in the background is James M. BLAKE, Y1c, standing at the files is Warren E. ROCHESTER, Y2c, and seated in the foreground is Thurlow B. SIMONS, CY. This office is adjacent to the Officer in Charge's Office. The Project Control Office. Shown in this picture are: George W. PETTIFORD, Y3c, William C. BANKS, CM2c, and Frasia D. TRICE, CCM(T)(AA). This office is responsible for all construction reports, and controls the assignment and distribution of all personnel. This office is also adjacent to the Officer in Charge's Office, and is considered a part of the Executive Office.





This spacious well-lighted office is the Engineering Office of the permanent Camp. This office was as well equipped as a Design Office in the States. Shown in this picture from left foreground to right background are: Frank L. SNYDER, CCM (CB), William J. PEARCE, CCM (CB), William G. TAYLOR, CM2c (T) (CB), Steele L. HOWARD, Sr., CM1c, Taulton McCULLOUGH, SF1c (T)(CB), and Charles A. WILSON, CM1c, (CB).

The Post Office. With a place for everything and everything in its place, this one-half Quonset Hut makes an ideal Post Office for an advance base. Shown here getting the mail out are: Alic A. CRUSE, MaM1c, Charles C. BELLFIELD, MaM3c, and Roy EASON, MaM2c.





The Censor's Office. This office is adjacent to and works in conjunction with the Post Office. Shown here censoring the mail are: Lawrence HOWARD, CM2c (CB), left foreground, Daniel A. THOMAS, Sec., right foreground, J. R. DUNDERDALE, CM1c(CB), left background, and B. I. HENDERSON, CM1c(CB) right background, Chief Censor.

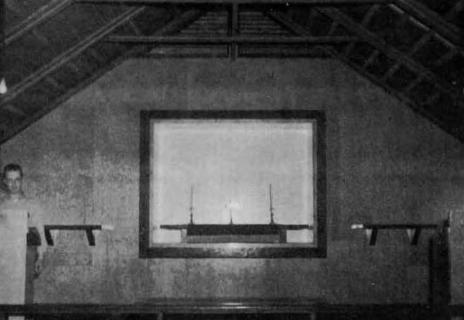


CHAPEL

Although we are at war and many of our civilian ways of life are laid aside, there will always be a time and place for meditation and prayer. This view shows the early construction stage of our plain but efficient temple of worship.



Exterior view of our completed Church and part of the landscaping done by the men of the 34th.



Interior view of the Church and Altar with our Chaplain, Franklin E. LAHR, Lieutenant (ChC) USNR, in the pulpit.

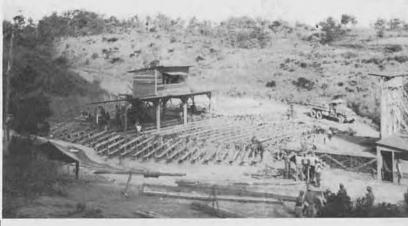


RECREATION

One of the favorite pastimes of our nation is the movie, and so it is over here. The 34th can say with great pride that we had the Radio City Music Hall of Okinawa, better known to all as "MARX THEATRE", which featured comfortable seats for all, a continuous show and air-conditioning. This view shows the seating arrangement and early construction of the MARX THEATRE.

Almost completed, a better idea can be had of our Theatre by this picture. To the left can be seen the projection booth with the officers and chiefs seats beneath. At the extreme right can be seen our stage, screen and dressing rooms. The seating capacity of the MARX THEATRE is nine hundred.





The Thirty-fourth Band giving their first public concert which wasn't bad considering the handicaps under which they had to work. If they were too loud or too soft or out of tune it didn't matter, for the main purpose of their efforts was accomplished, and that was to entertain the crowd.

Whenever you get a group of YANKS together you are bound to have plenty of fighting talent. Ask the JAPS. We found ours and mixed them up in the square circle and watched the flukes throw the flanges out to hit the flywheel and—well what a show it was. The gladiators here are Harry JOHNSON (facing the camera) and Willie AUSTIN. Referee is Allen PERRY.





R. W. GIDTREY and Paul HOUGHTON seem to be ready to let that hay-maker go simultaneously while referee Allen PERRY watches closely for any refraction of the rules.



The Thirty-fourth Seabee Soft-ball Diamond. Many exciting games were played here with the men of the Thirty-fourth coming out on top.



An unidentified batter takes a healthy cut at the ball and from the look on the catcher's face it's in there for a base hit.

We can't see what Morris JAVERS, 34th Catcher, is calling for but it was probably a strike. The team only had a chance to play four games before the outfit was inactivated but they won three out of the four.



OFFICERS' COUNTRY

A crude shower the officers used in the early days of our stay on Okinawa. Two drums filled with water supported by two-by-fours and a wooden deck and bench was quite the thing in those days.





The foundation laid, a Quanset Hut can now be erected for the Officers' Mess.

After the ribs are put in place, masonite is then tacked on which is being done in this picture. The building is the Officers' Head which is a far cry from shower in the first picture.





View showing the Battalion Officers in their new Mess Hall.

Interior view of the completed Officers' Mess.



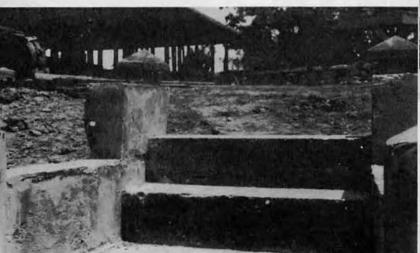


The Officer in Charge and his Chief Yeoman checking over the books with the Stewards and Mess Attendants of the Officers' Mess.

Interior view of the Officers' Club where after a hard day on the job a little peace and quiet may be found.



One of the retaining walls that was built in Officers' Country.





It wasn't Stateside but a mighty fine substitute considering the place was on Okinawa. The man behind the bar is Martin WALKER, St1c, and they say he knew his business.



Among some of the remaining Okinawan architecture found around the Camp area were these stairs. Notice the plain design at the top.





Forms being set on 1½ Quonset Huts for Chiefs' Mess. With 52 Chiefs in the Battalion at this time, ample room will be assured with this size building.

CHIEFS' COUNTRY

Erection of ribs on Chiefs' Mess. For some reason, which has never yet been brought to life, this building was constructed in record time. In fact it was going up so fast, work had to be suspended from time to time.



Tables being set up just before supper. A nicer dining room could not be found nor could any better food.



This is the time of day every Chief looked forward to, could be Spam and dehydrated potatoes, but sometimes there were steaks and ice cream. Even five servings for Tim CHARLES.





"Sloppy Joe's" may be a popular place in some localities, but nothing in comparison to the popularity of this Club with the 34th CB Chiefs. The building was one of the better homes on Okinawa, but after Chief COMER made a few inside alterations and additions, it looked as swell as any "Cocoanut Grove" to us. Yes, there was even a floor show occasionally, but the actors didn't like to mention it the next day.

TYPHOON DAMAGE

THE SURRENDER of Japan did not mean that Okinawa was entirely safe because it happens to lie in a typhoon belt. Wind and very wet blowing rains which sometimes exceed 100 miles per hour can render conditions rather uncomfortable at times. Several scenes below portray what a small blow can do to a camp.

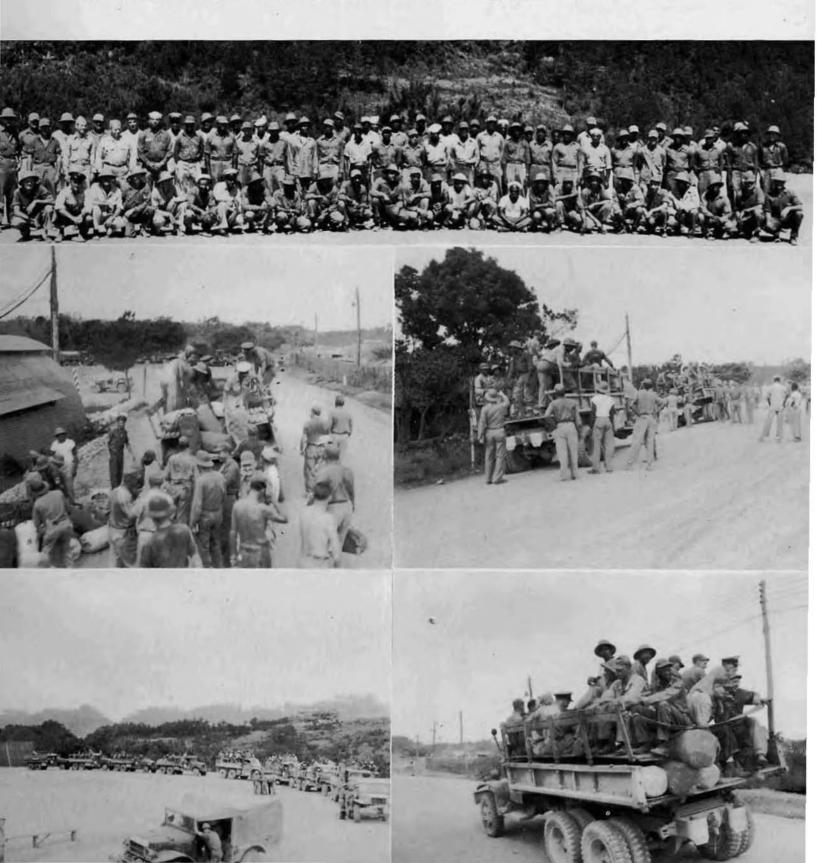
FFP OFF





GOING HOME

YES, GOING back to the "Old Country" and to soon being a civilian again. With the satisfaction of knowing they did a job well, as a part of the vast armed forces who made the Axis yell "Uncle", these men are ready to embark on their most pleasant ocean trip. If any gloomy faces or unhappy countenances can be found in these pictures, they belong to men seeing the lucky ones off, not on a forty-four pointer.



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TYPICAL SCENES

An overall shot taken from ridge above Officers' Country. Note in this picture as well as individual scenes the camp was concealed in every possible way due to enemy air raids at that time.





A typical scene of Okinawa showing terrain from lowly rice paddies to mountainous ranges. For natural beauty this island is tops, just on the wrong side of the world.

Scene taken from top of hill on Rt. #13 overlooking Tidal Flats of KATSUREN-WAN, one of the principal anchorages around this Island.



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(CONTINUED)

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1645 3rd St., (NW) Washington, D. C.

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Joe Donald Wood 811 Clarence St., Lake Charles, La. Eddie H. Woodcox

Rt. 1, Box 31-A, Pickens, Miss. David E. Woods

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Mathew Yancy 17229 Main St., Detroit, Mich.

Eddie Young 232½ Flant St., Asheville, N. C.

Charlie S. Wright 1017 4th Ave., Birmingham, Ala.

Raymond Zugliana 268 Beaver St., Leetsdale, Pa.

Jesse Wise 111 Brighton St., La Porte, Ind.

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Marvin Elton Moore 77 Stoksland Ave., Schoolfield, Va.

William A. Brewer Rt. 3, Plant City, Fla.

Ezikial Hill, Jr. Peterson, Ala.

Robert S. Register Hawthorne, Florida COMPILING and editing this book. We hope that you and your families and friends will enjoy it. Keep it as a memory of that phase of your Naval career that was to us and we hope to you a pleasant memory.

The Officers and Chiefs of the Thirty - Fourth U. S. Naval Construction Battalion



DISPOSAL OF WELFARE AND RECREATIONAL GEAR

THE FOLLOWING two letters with their attachments are reprinted here to inform all hands regarding

the method of disposal of Welfare and Recreational Gear.

No information was ever received from the 10th Brigade, 44th Regiment, Budocks, N.S.D. 3256 or N.O.B. 3256 regarding the gear mentioned in the letter of October 15, 1945.

	TH U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTIO	IN BATTALION
	HU. S. NAVAL Post Office	
THIRTY-FOON	c/o Fleet Pass San Francisco, California	15 October 1945
	San Francisco,	15
	The Officer in Charge	u e Naval
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romt	The Officer in Charge The Officer in Charge, Construction Briga	de-
To:	Construction of the Co	instruction Battanon
10.	The Omics Construction Briga Disposition of 34th Co	nstruction Battanon on Gear still in transit. ed from Ship's Store Profits etment, 34th
	Welfore and Recreation	I from Ship's Store 14th
Subject:	List of gear purchase	on Gear still in Store Profits ed from Ship's Store Profits creation Department, 34th Battalion which is still in
	for Wenner	Rattonon
Enclosure:	Staught Constant	tion
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	realosure (A) is a	list of Welfare and Recreation ore Profits of the 34th U. S. Naval bre Profits of the 34th U. S. Naval
	d out of Ship's Sto	test or shortly ofter article respectfully
1hich	was purchased out we left the 5	is all enroute. It is town and
equipment which Batta	alion either beior received to date	I list of Welfare and Recreation ore Profits of the 34th U. S. Naval tates or shortly after arrival here. It is all enroute. It is respectfully to be sold at the figures shown and backs properly marked, "Thirty-fourth backs properly marked, "Thirty-fourth to if it can not be sold it should charge, Naval Air Station, Anacostic ified.
None of that w	hen this gear of Yards and be	Scks properly means be sold if shown 5," or if it can not be sold if shown charge, Naval Air Station, Anacostic ified. LESTER M. MARX, Commander (CEC) USNR
requesto	t to the Battalion Welfare to	harge, Naval All
the proval Cor	struction Supply Officer in	ified.
then be shipped	to the Yards and Docks so	LESTER M. MARX,
D C., and the B	to the Naval Supply Officer in a to the Naval Supply Officer in a surreau of Yards and Dacks so not	LESTER M. MARA, Commander (CEC) USNR
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cc: 44th Hor	al Construction New 3256 pply Depot, Navy 3256 perating Base, Navy 3256	
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GEAR PURCHASED FROM SHIP'S STORE PROFITS, NAVY FOR WELFARE AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT 34TH N.C.B., WHICH IS STILL IN TRANSIT.

	Deep Sea Fishing Kit\$ Catchers Mitts, Baseball.	23.42 24.04	12 Volleyballs 2 Athletic Scales	65.28 9.16	Drum Outht	99.00
5	Pr. Knee Pads, Basketball Shallow Water	5.74	12 Radios 2 Doz. Practice Golfballs	393.00 7.30	String Bass Outfit	93.00
	Fishing Kits Rods	48.84 19.80	1 Columbia Record Kit #2 1 Decca Record Kit #2	10.50	1 - 36 - U - 500 Ukelele 1 Box 2 Phonograph	4.70
6	Reels	34.20	1 Record Cabinet	13.50	Motors (206)	20.00
	Dart Boards	15.96	1 Racket Restringing Kit _	20.00	6 Handi Tools	111.00
	Darts	7.00	2 Portable Phono and P.A.	142.00		
12	Whistles	1.44	1 - 36 - 0 - 580		\$1	,175.63

RECREATION AND WELFARE GEAR GIVEN TO BOYS' CLUB NO. 2, METROPOLITAN POLICE WASHINGTON, D. C.

Item

Quantity

GAMES Anagrams 3 Parchessi 3 Ping Pong Paddles 29 Acey-Ducey 3 Bingo 3 Snake Eyes 3 Carriede 3 Cavalcade Checkerboards Sets, Checker Men Dominoes Cribbage 21 Dominoes 21 Cribbage 6 Chessmen 3 Pinochle Decks 6 Standard Decks 26 Jig Saw Puzzles 41 Dart Boards 10 Sets, Darts 10 Checker Sets 3 Jiffy Loom 1 Checker and Chess Boards 7 Parcheesi Pleces 2 Playing Cards, Decks 28 Football Games 2 Strategy Game 1 Diplomacy Games 1 Service Game Kits 3 Monopoly Board 1 Golf Clubs (5 woods, 13 irons) 18 Finance Board 1 Cribbage 5 Sets, Dominoes 3 Tennis Racquet Presses 12 First Basemen's Mitts, Softball 4 Football, rubber, with inflating 1 needle 1 Symponets 5 Ocarinas 9 boxes 8 4 pr. Ocarinas Ocarinas Instruction Books

KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

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Frying Pans
Ladles
Butcher Knives
2" Slicers
Paring Knives
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spoons, 15"
qt. s/s Pans

MACHINES

Mitsubishi Sewing Machine ... Singer Sewing Machine Sewing Machine Typewriters

BARBER SUPPLIES

Towels				9
Mirrors				
Stand Bottles	2 C. C. C. C. C. C.			
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Mr. Harry E. Polk, Director, Boys' Club No. 2, Metropolitan Police Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Polk:

On behalf of the officers, chiefs and enlisted men of the 34th United States On behalf of the officers, chiefs and enlisted men of the 34th United States Naval Construction Battalion, it is my pleasure to present to you the complete Lond and other items listed in inclusive (a) This secretarian and Welfare agent was Naval Construction Battalion, it is my pleasure to present to you the complete band and other items listed in inclosure (a). This recreation and Welfare gear was to present the sector of the sector barrier barrier and Welfare outful that was putted and band and other items listed in inclosure (a). This recreation and Welfare gear was that portion of the Battalion's Recreation and Welfare outfit that was purchased with Welfare money as distinguished from News issue This latter (News issue) was that portion of the Battalion's Recreation and Welfare outfit that was purchased with Welfare money as distinguished from Navy issue. This latter (Navy issue) was turned over to the Pagiment and Bringde of Okington turned over to the Regiment and Brigade at Okinawa. The 34th C. B's, were inactivated in October 1945, after their last tour of duty The 34th C. B's, were inactivated in October 1945, after their last four of duty on Okinawa. It was decided that rather than sell at a reduced price or in other ways on Okinawa. It was decided that rather than sell at a reduced price or in other ways break up the band as a unit, more good could be accomplished by donating it to come worthy promission which through the medium of a medium of a more sell to a donating it to break up the band as a unit, more good could be accomplished by donating it to some worthy organization, which through the medium of a memorial band could be accomplished by donating it to be accomplished by d perpetuate the memory of the C. B's. The marvelous work of the C. B's. in World War II was possible only because The marvelous work of the C. B's. in World Wor II was possible only because of the organization, teamwork, and "Can do" spirit of the individual members of the world that is basing proceeding to the individual members of

April 1, 1946

of the organization, teamwork, and "Can do" spirit of the individual members of the various units. The wonderful work that is being accomplished by "Boys" Clubs throughout the country is a casult of that some basic principle of promiseding the various units. The wonderful work that is being accomplished by "Boys" Clubs throughout the country is a result of that same basic principle of organization. throughout the country is a result of that same basic principle of organization, teamwork, and "Can do." The "Can do" of character building-the instilling into institute to same the work and comparison work and compared to be teamwork, and "Can do." The "Can do" of character building—the instilling into individuals the wish, will, and intestinal guts to sacrifice, work and accomplish good for the benefit of all. This letter will become a part of the Battalion-book now being published. As This letter will become a part of the Battalion-book now being published. As each member of the Battalion will receive a copy of this book, they will all look forward to coming the accomplichments attained by trave ship theory will all look

each member of the Battalion will receive a copy of this book, they will all look farward to seeing the accomplishments attained by your club through the use of that book will be forwarded to use for use in forward to seeing the accomplishments attained by your club through the use of their former band and gear. Copies of that book will be forwarded to you for use in the second and gear and the second acculation and with the bistory and their tormer band and gear. Copies of that book will be forwarded to you for use in your library where your young men' can become acquainted with the history and accomplishments of the 34th C. B's. It is our privilege to serve you by these gifts, knowing that many worthy young It is our privilege to serve you by these gifts, knowing that many worthy young men will be enabled, by their use, to equip themselves to better serve still more of membership in your club. men will be enabled, by their use, to equip themselves to better serve our young citizens who have the privilege of membership in your club.

LESTER M. MARX Commander C.E.C., U.S.N.R.

Lyres 6 Tuning Forks		
Tuning Forks 3 Trombone Slide Oil 7 bottles		
Valve Oil		
Assorted Valve Springs 1 box		
Music Holders	French Charcoal	boxes
Bass Drum Heads	Eagle Turquoise Pencils	boxes
Snare Drum Heads 18	Microntonic Pencils	box
BBb Sousphone 1	Crow Quill Penholders 1	box
Popular Orchestrations	Brushes	
March Orchestrations	Fine Artists Pastels	boxes
Large Manuscript Paper	Owl Sketch Blocks	nones
Small Manuscript Paper	Penholders	A second second
Music Books	Grimbecher Artist Colors	boxes
Sheet Music 10	Round Pointed Pens	boxes
Trombone 2	Thumb Tacks 1	box
Tenor Sax 1	Water Proof Drawing Ink 4	bottle
Mellophones	Draftsman's Erasing Shield 3	
Flute 1	Mongal Pencil Set 1	
Clarinets	Drawing Scale 1	
Bass Drums, complete 1	Water-Colour Painting Book 1	
Batons 2	Short Wave Radio and Speaker 1	
Drum Sticks	V50 Oxygen Regulator 1	
Baritone Saxophone 1	V60 Ocelipan Regulator 1	
Guitar 1	#980 Adapter 1	5. C
ART MATERIALS	#3900 Under Water Cutting	
Air Compressor 1	Torch 1	
Drawing Board 1	#3, 4, 5, & 6B W Tips 1	each
Sheets, Clear Peareal Paper 48	#600V Torch 1	
Ream, Clear Pic Paper 3/5	#801, 803, 805, 810, 811 Tips 1	each
14x17 Sketch Buds 4	6 Ft. Brold Red Hose 1	
9x12 Sketch Buds 12	Thor Drill 1	
Paper - Stamps 48	Photo Printing Frams 1	
Kneaded Erasers 5 boxes	Tracing Paper 2	rolls



