

Donaled hy Mr Gerard E. Taylor mastic, n.y. 11950 Jim Fenningham 1/30/57 18736 Romar St Northridge balif 91324 Ja Lerber ave. Delmar, N. of. 12054 N. S. KENDALL P.O. BUX 1898 HOUSTON TEXAS 77008 a.R. Randußight. 107 Westminetes Wr. yonkus, Tr.y. 10710 John R andrews 4726 49 th St San Wiego, Ca. 92115 (PENN) William F. Hirst 3413 Freedship H- Phola Pa W. L. MAR MEannik, 107-5-12 MAL attenta, Sauce (2-8-83)
michael & unestigne 58th 7-30-83 Homosassa Springs Fla. John R andrews 58th 4726-49 Ch St SAN DIEGO-CA 92115 Donald to Deni 58th y Harris St - Enfield Ct.

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CHARLES J. ARMSTRONG CO. D-5

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albert I Tan Per May Charles F. Spauhe 8334 Wilher and 521 MARLOWEDR. Northridge Ca, 81324 July 27, 1986 FT. WALTON BEACH FLORIDA 32548 James S. Tropp Ptr. 1°C 6315 S.W. 38 Tu St. al antisdel 721 crain ave. Ra Canada, Calif. 91011 (818) 790-1088 miomor, Floida, 33023 ang. 16, 1971 Dewain E. Crouch Vinient arcieri RR#1Box 269 221 CEDAR Ct. COPIA GUE, N.Y. OSAWATOMie, KANSAS 66064 MAY 30,1989 -may 18-1973 Frank Domings John a. Sundberg 451 North Via Colenar 11 Beech St Westlot Village 91362 Kane Pa 8.05 -495 24721 may 17 1976 John R. Williams 334 W. 186 th 5x. ROBERT W MALCULM Westfield, In. 46074 R.B. FRANKLIN MMIC (8-11-92) 34132 VILLAGE 34 5222 LANTERN LANE CAMARILIO CALF 93010 1980 DALLAS 75234, /EX 1944 MANUS (35TH) 1944 LOS NECROS (58 774) BERNARD SCHNEIDER ACZ14-298-0670 3390 OAK HARBOR RP FREMONT, OHIO 48420 Frank Domingo 6062 Irena ave Camarello Ca. 93012 9-1-84 805-388-1161 Richard Strahler Frank Flores 2501 38th and 569-94 Avo. 940 25 Sacramento, Calif Monlo Partes CA 415-369-3876 95822

History

of the

Fifty-Eighth United States Naval Construction Battalion



1942 - 1945



Best Wishes Am Le. 10-2

Herard E. Taylor

History for Deri's

of the 58th Seabees



Edited By
C. EDWARD GIDEON

Photographic Material MIGUEL GASCO

FOXCROFT COMMERCIAL PRESS, Inc. Brooklyn 21, N. Y.

Overseas Itinerary of the 58th United States Naval Construction Battalion

13 April 1943	Departed Port Hueneme, California, for Cub 3.
4 May 1943	Arrived Vunda Point, Fiji Islands.
23 July 1943	Departed Vunda Point, Fiji Islands.
30 July 1943	Arrived Guadalcanal, B.S.I.
August 1943	The 58th C. B. moved to Vella Lavella, B/S. I., in echelons as follows:
11 August 1943	Advance party, consisting of four (4) officers and two (2) enlisted men embarked for Vella Lavella.
13 August 1943	lst Echelon, consisting of thirteen (13) officers and five hundred twenty-four (524) enlisted men, embarked for Vella Lavella.
14 August 1943	2nd Echelon, consisting of three officers and one hundred fifty-seven enlisted men, embarked for Vella Lavella.
17 August 1943	3rd Echelon, consisting of five (5) officers and two hundred fourteen enlisted men, embarked for Vella Lavella.
23 August 1943	4th Echelon, consisting of one (1) officer and sixty-six (66) enlisted men embarked for Vella Lavella.
2 January 1944	Departed Vella Lavella for Auckland, New Zealand.
9 January 1944	Arrived Auckland, New Zealand.
11 February 1944	Departed Auckland, New Zealand, for Russell Islands.
17 February 1944	Arrived Banika, Russell Islands.
28 March 1944	1st Echelon departed Russell Islands for Admiralty Islands.
3 April 1944	2nd Echelon departed Russell Islands for Admiralty Islands.
17 April 1944	Both Echelons arrived Admiralty Islands.
20-22 April 1944	Debarked Los Negros Island, Admiralty Group.
9 December 1944	Departed Los Negros Island, for Guadalcanal.
12 December 1944	Arrived Guadalcanal.
11 March 1945	lst Echelon, consisting of twenty-six (26) officers and eight hundred fifty-one (851) men, departed Guadalcanal with Sixth Marine Division, for Okinawa Island, Ryukyu group.
1 April 1945	lst Echelon, consisting of twenty-six (26) officers and eight hundred forty-four (844) enlisted men arrived at Okinawa in assault echelon of Sixth Marine Division.
9 September 1945	Departed Okinawa for San Francisco.

22 September 1945 Arrived San Francisco.

In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Bureru of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

Refer to No. Pers-10

NAVY DEPARTMENT BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



To: All Hands

Subject: Navy Unit Commendation awarded to the 58th United States Naval Construction Battalion.

- 1. The Secretary of the Navy has awarded the Navy Unit Commendation to the 58th United States Naval Construction Battalion for outstanding heroism in action against enemy Japanese forces during the invasion and establishment of a fighter air base on Vella Lavella, Northern Solomons, from 13 to 31 August 1943.
- 2. By virtue of your service in the 58th UNITED STATES NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION during the whole or a part of the period from 13 to 31 August 1943, you are hereby authorized to wear as a part of your uniform a Navy Unit Commendation ribbon one of which is transmitted herewith.
- 3. This authorization has been made a part of your official record in the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

By direction of Chief of Naval Personnel:

Medals and Awards.

Encl:

1. NUC Ribbon.

6499

UNITED



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INTRODUCTION

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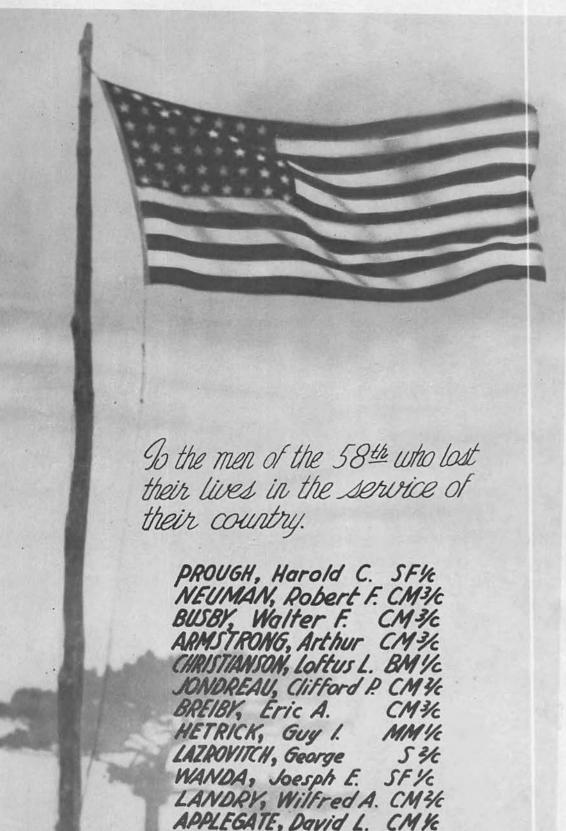
This log of the activities of the 58th Construction Battalion has been constructed under adverse conditions. The Editor has assembled the pages that follow long after the battalion was decommissioned and no real records are available.

For more than three years the 58th Battalion had been engaged in the construction of advanced bases in the South Pacific area. During this time millions of man hours of productive labor in the forward areas turned countless acres of virgin land into the construction of mighty offensive springboards.

The purpose of this book is to show photographically in a measure, the nature of our work, the places we have been, and how we have lived. A complete record would be impossible and actually the pages that follow need no introduction to the battalion members. The scenes in most instances all too familiar. In fact as you gaze at them the odors of the steaming South Pacific jungle islands should be recreated. However, we do hope in a pleasant way they will recall old friends and shipmates and will give your family and friends ample though belated opportunity to really know just how we spent some of our time while away from home and loved ones.

May God grant in His infinite wisdom, that this shall be the only history of the 58th Construction Battalion.

CONSTRUCTION BATTALION



WOOLIVER, Robert B.

51/0

TO THE MEN OF THE 58th WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY, WE HUMBLY DEDICATE THIS BOOK

ZS

Victory has its inevitable price. Never is there a time when the meaning of victory is more thoroughly searched than when its price includes the loss of human life. Some gave their lives that others might live. We will never quite understand why. Without exception, the men, who made the Supreme Sacrifice on our cruise, left their places in the role of a true shipmate. They were heroes doing their jobs with unwavering devotion.

They gave their time and talents, leaving home and loved ones to fight for a great cause. In dying, they gave their everything for this cause in order that we, who are left behind, might have a better world in which to live.

It is our solemn duty to see that they have not died in vain.

S

"Greater love bath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."—St. John 15-13.

HONORABLE MENTION

B

As stated in the introduction, the purpose of this book is to portray the life of a 58th Seabee. The material turned over to the Committee was not sufficient to do a complete job.

We issued an appeal to you for additional material in the form of pictures, articles or anything you thought would be good copy for the book. The response was tremendous and we assure you that without your assistance this book could not have been published. If the book had been constructed during the period the battalion was in commission we know that the history would be more complete. However, after a lapse of many years we do hope that the highlights of the 58th's tour of duty have been covered.

We regret that we are unable to publish pictures of all the officers and enlisted men but the pictures are not available to us at this time.

Lt. Cdr. L. I. Quayle was O-in-C of the battalion from September, 1943 to October, 1944. His tour of duty with us was at Vella La Vella, New Zealand, Russell Islands and the Admiralty Islands. Under Mr. Quayle's direction the 58th worked many construction miracles.

We can say that the members of the 58th still "Can do" and to this we add a simple but heartfelt thanks.

58th C.B. BOOK COMMITTEE

Michael Dandry, Chairman

C. Edward Gideon, Secretary-Treasurer

Miguel Gaso Walter Beaudel

Douglas Rubb

Walter I. Tamyln, Jr.

Kenneth Brown, M.D.

Donald Reid

These few lines of verse are for Bob Neumann, the first man to leave his shipmates and enter the command of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe. We all loved him and tho we miss his cheery smile, we are content to be safe in the knowledge that he is with God. It is only a short goodbye until we meet again and once more enjoy his fellowship.



BOB NEUMANN

Bob Neumann was a Hero and he met a hero's fate on a lonely South Sea Island, victim of the heathen's hate.

But he struck a blow for Justice
'ere they laid him in his grave
and went to join the others,
who in freedom's cause were brave.

Where the jungle meets the ocean,
There's a narrow coral sand
and 'twas on that bloody beachhead
that our ships were forced to land.

God had made a spot of beauty, washed by Pacific swell But the dogs of war had turned it, into an earthly hell.

But the ships must be unloaded, for they carried our supplies. Bob knew in spite of the danger "It's there, my duty lies."

For, we'd landed on their Island, the Marines were on the beach and the Army boys were also there to keep them out of reach.

But, they slipped thru with their bombers, and as they dove upon our ships every man amongst us, had a prayer upon his lips.

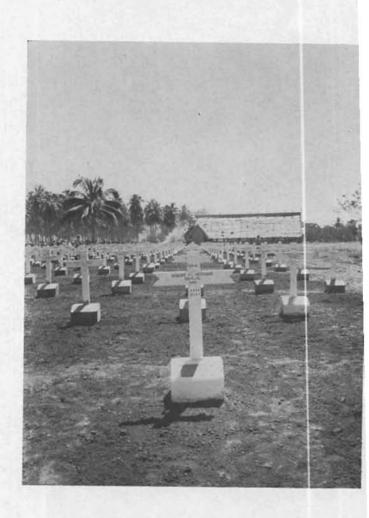
For our faith in God sustained us, thru those awful days and nights It was ever thus with free men, when fighting for their rights.

But, Bob will be remembered, by his friends across the sea and by his comrades in the 58th as we fight on for Victory.



"BOB"

ROBERT F. NEUMANN, C.M., 3/C
Born July 30, 1919
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Died August 21, 1943
Vella LaVella, B. S. I.



CLIFFORD P. JANDREAU, C.M., 2/C
Born October 4, 1915
St. Francis, Maine
Died November 4, 1943
Vella LaVella, B. S. I.



"ERIC"



"CLIFF"

ERIC A. BREIBY, C.M., 3/C Born October I, 1914 Toronto, Canada Died November 4, 1943 Vella LaVella, B. S. I.



"GUY"

LOFTUS L. CHRISTIANSON, B.M., I/C

Born April 15, 1908

Boston, Mass.

Died October 4, 1943

Vella LaVella, B. S. I.

GUY I. HETRICK, M.M., 2/C Born March 10, 1904 Reynoldsville, Pa. Died November 27, 1943 Vella LaVella, B. S. I.



"BABE"



"BOB"

ROBERT W. WOOLIVER, S., I/C Headquarters Died September 27, 1945 Okinawa, Shima

DAVID L. APPLEGATE, C.M., I/C Born September 18, 1918 West Farms, N. J. Died April 15, 1945 Okinawa, Shima



"DAVE"

WILFRED A. LANDRY, C.M., 2/C
Born September 4, 1907
Died March 15, 1945
A.S.S. Arthur Middelton at Sea



"WILFRED"



"JOE"

JOSEPH E. WANDA, S.F., I/C Born January 25, 1898 Eldred, Pa. Died July 18, 1944 Manus, Admiralty Islands

TO: All Hands

It is with great pride and pleasure that I am able, through the medium of this Battalion History Book, to express my appreciation to the officers and men of the 58th for their outstanding loyalty and co-operation extended to me during my tour of duty with you as your Commander.

I hope that this book will bring back fond memories of your participation in the great struggle for the preservation of our democratic way of life.

Sincerely,

andrew D'Lewis

Andrew D. Lewis

Cdr. CEC. U.S.N.R.



The Skipper

ANDREW D. LEWIS Commander, CEC., U.S.N.R. 1942 - 1943

Camp Peary	Williamsburg, Va.
Camp Rosseau	Port Hueneme, Calif.
Vita Levu	Fiji Islands
Koli Point	
Vella LaVella	B S L



The Exec.

ARTHUR JOSEPH BENOIT Commander, CEC., U.S.N.R. January 1943 — March 1944

Camp Peary	Williamsburg, Va.
Camp Rosseau	Port Hueneme, Calif.
Vita Levu	Fiji Islands
Koli Point	Guadalcanal
Vella LaVella	B. S. I.
Auckland	New Zealand

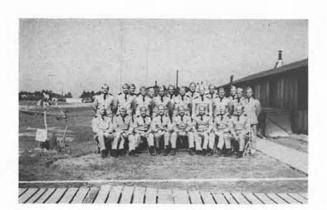


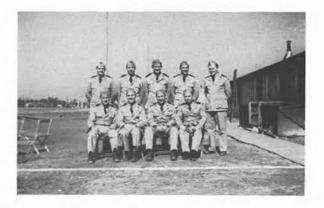
Commanding Officer

ROBERT E. TURRENTINE, Jr. Lieut.-Commander, CEC., U.S.N.R. October 1944 — September 1945

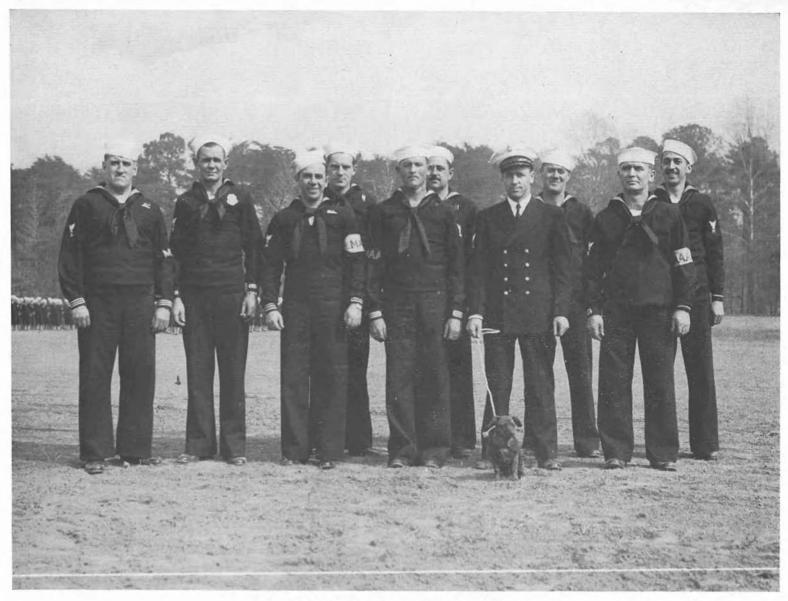
Los Negros Admiralty Islands
Doma Cove Guadalcanal
Okinawa



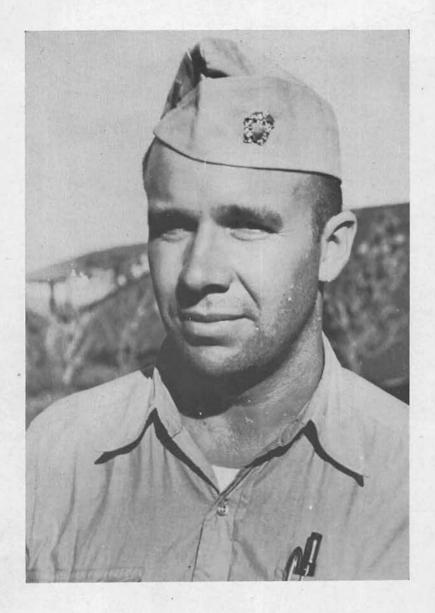




ORIGINAL STAFF OFFICERS



MASTERS AT ARMS FORCE, CAMP PEARY



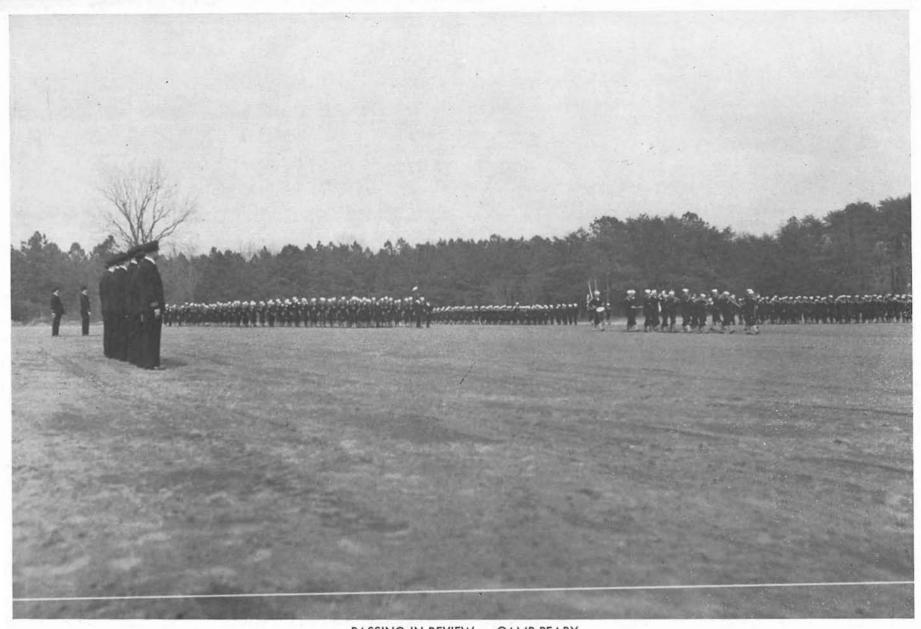
KENNETH BROWN Lt.-Cdr. (MC) U.S.N.R. 1943 - 1944

Camp Peary	Williamsburg, Va.
	Pt. Hueneme, Calif.
Vita Levu	Fiji Islands
Koli Point	Guadalcanal
Vella LaVeila	B. S. I.
Auckland	New Zealand
Banika	Russell Islands
Los Negros	Admiralty Islands

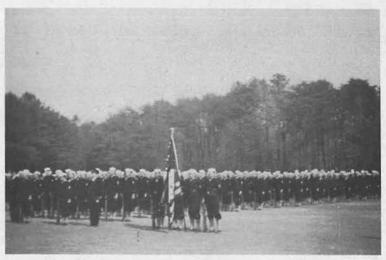
HAL E. MONROE Lt.-Cdr. (MC), U.S.N.R.

Banika Russell Islands
Los Negros Admiralty Islands
Okinawa

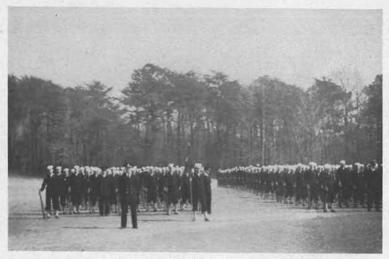




PASSING IN REVIEW — CAMP PEARY



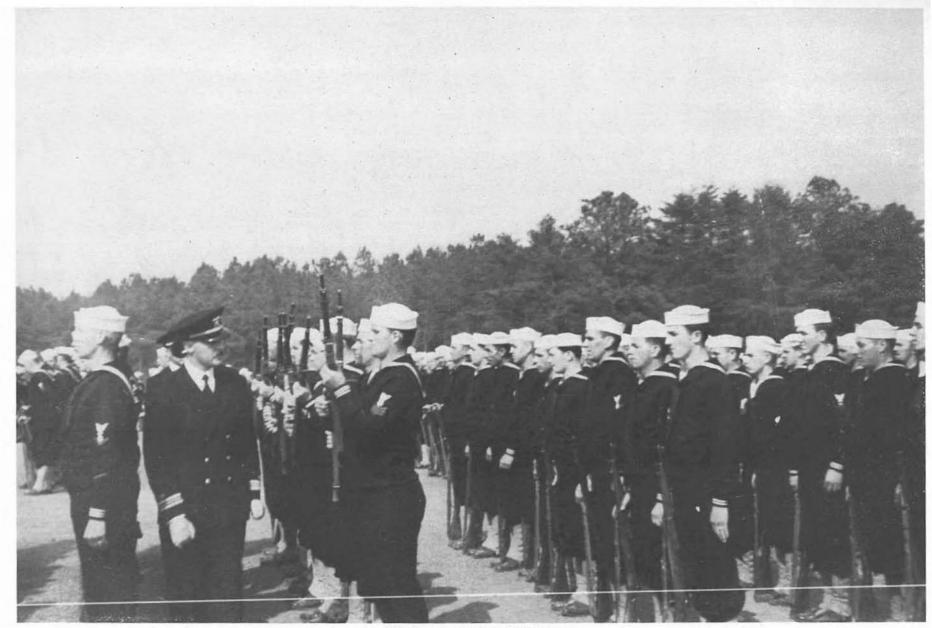
ATTENTION



AT EASE



COLOR GUARD



INSPECTION BY THE SKIPPER



REV. JOHN L. SHELL Lt., C.H.C., U.S.N.R. January 1945 — December 1945 Guadalcanal Okinawa

REV. FRANK J. DOBIAS Lt.-Cdr. , C.H.C., U.S.N.R. February 1943 — May 1944

Camp Peary	Williamsburg, Va.
Camp Rosseau	Pt. Hueneme, Calif.
Vita Levu	Fiji Islands
Koli Point	Guadalcanal
Vella LaVella	B. S. 1.
Auckland	New Zealand
Los Negros	Admiralty Islands











T O P O R T









HISTORY OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 1942 — 1945

STATESIDE

During the discussion on the makeup of the Battalion Cruise Book, it suddenly occurred to us that there really had been a time when we had not been in the Navy.

In spite of what all of us thought and that our service was timeless, it is true however, that the Battalion was commissioned on 26, December 1942, at Camp Allen, Norfolk, Virginia. Of course to all intents and purposes that was the date we became a real part of the United States Navy. However, just a few weeks prior to the launching of the 58th, most of the "original gang" entered that horrible phase of Navy life known as "boot", on the 30, November 1942.

It was on this day that something new was added, for prior to then, we had always known that there were two ways to do something, "the right way" and "the wrong way." The new way we were soon to discover was the "NAVY WAY."

The main body or at least the East Coast gang arrived about 0530, the balance in all stages and times in the next few days. Upon the arrival of the advance group, we immediately lined up for chow, the first of what was to become the longest line in the world. As we stumbled through the dawn's early light, we were given the pass-word for welcome, "You'll be sorry—you'll be sorry." How true it was to be.

After chow, were assigned to particular barracks and, after several uncertain musters, each of us finally was assigned a company and platoon. Orders to fall in and, for heaven's sake, you jerks, try and look like sailors . . . we were off to the receiving hut of all boots . . . line up and strip down . . . take all your valuables, tie them in a handkerchief around your wrist and stow your civilian clothes in a cardboard box to send home or donate to the

Red Cross . . . (did they ever get home) . . . thus ended the last vestige of civiliam life—what a sight—a few hundred guys standing around naked as the day they were born.

Some guy, we learned later was a corpsman, probably it was Mike Maloney, remember the shinner) or Johnny Riggs, painted a big red number on your chest and off you go for the physical—bend over—hop on one foot, now the other—cough—open wide—ouch! a shot—and out the door—boy, the Navy was hard up to pass us guys—into the clothing depot, take this, sure if it don't fit, you can exchange it—off to the barber, as they were called, and back to barracks for first assignments.

Our recollection of ourselves as a boot -was a sub-human with a close cropped haircut (for fifty cents, we will not cut off too much), ill-fitting clothes with not enough to keep warm at times—a very definite awe of our Seaman First as pushers . . . after a few days of wondering if we ever had a house or home . . . we heard our name mispronounced so many times we were not sure of it ourselves . . . our pride and dignity vanished upon being assigned the head detail . . . shots . . . mess cooking . . . shots . . . pearl diving . . . washed enough pots and pans to supply the City of New York . . . we hupped one, two, three, four, and your left until we were sure that the pusher was the Mother-in-Law we thought had been left behind.

Finally, when we did have time for ourselves, rest was out of the question because there was the laundry problem . . in fact, the only joy we ever had in a life of a boot was to hear of the arrival of other boots . . . madly we rushed to the wire enclosures and practically spread-eagled ourselves on it screeching . . "you'll be sorry" . . . "you'll be sorry."

Remember just before taps, the bull sessions . . . the women in our lives . . . and the swell job we left to come into this crum outfit . . . those wonderful Christmas packages from Mom, the Missus, Sis and the best gal that kept us from starving to death . . . But the day of liberation was soon on hand. On the evening of 26, December, 1942, after we had received our colors and passed in review, the gates were open and we were free . . . sailors at last . . . look out, Tojo, here we come.

The next morning, after scanning the bulletin boards for our permanent companies and platoons, we reported to our new Chiefs for orders . . . Dress Blues and off to . . .

CAMP PEARY, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, 27 DECEMBER 1942.

Only one word is possible to describe our stay at Peary M — U— D— By now, we were well acquainted, and after a day or so of squaring away, we entered several weeks of military and technical training, which was designed to prepare us for overseas duty.

Those who were selected for schooling in "boot" at Camp Allen continued their courses and others were assigned to technical training that was not available while in "boot", such as small boat handling, cargo loading, water purification, deep sea diving and a number of other courses essential to the security and welfare of the battalion in the field.

The balance of the battalion were assigned to other details which in the most part consisted of building Camp Peary for future battalions. There may have been civilian contractors working in the Camp but they were not too visible to the 58th.

Living was rugged at Peary and heating was a problem and all hands hit the sack at night in full dress, socks, skivies, coveralls, peacoat and in some cases, gloves and watch caps. However, the 58th being very talented soon solved the heating problem

by striking oil in the right places and, shortly thereafter Quonset Huts were cheerfully lighted with oil stove glow and were comfortably warm.

Chow grew from bad to worse and then improved after the medical officers did a bit of checking. Sick bay lines were long and most everyone had some sort of a cold, as a result the first stop on liberty, was the local drug store for some recommended patented medicine.

Liberty was not the best in the world but it was liberty—and after a 5-mile hike to the main gate via thumb or foot, one was ready to turn back. The return was even more rugged and, after flopping in mucl up to here, several times on the way in, you approached the catwalks leading to the barracks and some shipmate on guard duty would bellow out: "Halt, who goes there, etc.," and give you the business for about ten minutes. Guess some of us really tried to be salty or something or perhaps five minutes before the Sergeant of the guard had asked him what general order Number 4 was and neither of them knew it. (What the dickens was it any way). After much scuttlebutt from the Captain of the head, we learned that we were shipping out to Gulfport, Mississippi. Of course, leave was on everyone's mind.

Railroad arrangements were drawn up for a special train to take us from Gulfport to Boston, making stops enroute for the East Coast gang. However, this idea was short



STOPOVER EN ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA

lived and, in a few days, we checked our gear, got final shots, bought more clothes at small stores than we ever used, stood Captain's inspection by Captain Ware, had a dress parade, boarded buses to the Railroad Station at Williamsburg and off to California.



The battalion moved across country in three different train sections and this was a wonderful trip—as most of the East Coast gang had never crossed even the Hudson River heretofore. When we stopped at various towns along the way, the people there seemed genuinely glad to see us and loaded us down with magazines, cakes, cookies, candies and fruits.

CAMP ROSSEAU, PORT HUENEME, CALIFORNIA

We arrived at Camp Rosseau at Port Hueneme early on the morning of 29 February 1943 and it was a typical California day. We were directed to our camp area which was a cluster of Quonset Huts accommodating twelve men each, with Army cots as bunks.

In spite of the many weeks of past training, we found we still had much to learn and all entered into the advanced training with real spirit. One memorable event of this training was that hike with full packs and the sham battle on the beach.

After spending about ten days getting squared away, it was announced that all

were to receive a nine day leave. This order caused a flurry of excitement and all sorts of attempts to secure transportation back East for the majority of the battalion personnel. The distance and the shortness of leave caused many to return overleave and the less said about this the better.

With Hollywood, the Mecca of the entertainment world only sixty miles away, liberty was something to look forward to now. Remember the Hollywood Canteen with its array of glamorous stars from the movie colony, big name bands and radio celebrities. Here the gang danced with Betty Grable, Carole Landis and a host of others.

Hollywood, of course, was not the only town there was. Santa Paula...Camcrillo...Ocean Park...Beverly Hills...Santa Monica...and of course good old Oxnard and Ventura where some of the boys were able to locate apartments and bring their wives in for a last visit.

¡Quite suddenly, we were secured, final letters home, and, on April 13, we boarded the U.S.S. LaSalle and shipped out overseas for Island X.

U.S.S. LA SALLE

Life on the LaSalle was not too pleasant; being overcrowded, chow lines were the longest in the world and, except for a few cases of seasickness, about the only event of importance on this trip, was the coming aboard of King Neptune's Court. Nearly all the gang were Pollywogs and it took all day to complete the ceremony of initiating all as shellbacks.

During the trip, we stood relief gun watches, held target practice, acquired a real sun tan, lost a few bucks in the various games of chance . . . had about ninety-eight general quarters' drills and sighted nothing but flying fish—most of the time was spent in the idle scuttlebutt as to our destinations and the navigators in the gang made all sorts of predictions as to our loca-

tion on the broad Pacific and even had definite news of another battalion, that left about the time we sailed being sunk with all hands lost. Early on the morning of 1, May, 1943, a small patrol boat was sighted and, from the roar that rang out, you'd thought we had come upon the whole Pacific Fleet. Shortly thereafter, we found out it was a pilot boat to guide us into the harbor of Lautoka off the Island of Viti Levu of the Fiji Group.

THE FIIIS

We laid in the harbor for twenty-four hours before any particular element of the battalion went ashore . . . much of this time was spent gazing at the sights along the shore line, expressing complete wonderment at the huge jelly-fish that floated by countless thousands, past the ship and some of the deep sea fishing experts threw some drop lines over the side to see what was biting. Notive boats came alongside to garner some of the tourist trade and the boys as usual were taken for coconuts at twenty-five cents to a buck a nut. Other chaps who had not seen top side for the entire voyage exposed their green colored faces to the South Pacific sun for the first time.

After much ado about nothing, the gold braid decided that we had arrived at the proper place and cargo booms were set in operation and we began to discharge our cargo. As we cleaned out each hatch, it was discovered that the bulk of the outfit had been quartered directly over barrels of high octane gas which of course made everyone a bit squeamish of what might have happened if we got a fish on the way over.

Alter three or four days of unloading cargo, the battalion went ashore, was quartered in tents on a hilltop at Uvunda Point overlooking the harbor. We forgot to mention Cub 3, the outfit that made the trip with us, was also quartered

on the adjourning hill. The only real interest we had in this outfit was mainly that they had a motion picture projector and were left behind when we shoved off from the Fijis, otherwise the less said the better.

Company D of the 3rd Battalion was located down the road from our new camp site and much time was spent with them until they shipped out and were replaced by a C B M U Battalion.

Life in Fiji was pleasant and, after a few weeks of squaring away our camp site, we had time for sports, movies and liberty in Lautoka, Nandi and MBA. The weather was ideal rarely topping 90° or lower than 60° and, with the exception of one real heavy fall, we had little rain. Viti Levu, meaning big island, was the largest in the Fiji Group and contained three-fifths of the island group's population. The native Fijians were Melanesians, copper brown, fuzzy headed, tall, lithe, gentle and easy going. Their forefathers were the world's foremost head hunters and this particular custom was used to great advantage against the Japs in the Solomon's campaigns.

Shortly after setting up camp, our laundry problem was solved by having the natives do it; most of whom spoke very good English with a mixture of American cuss words. Boola was the new pass word and a pack of butts was the medium of exchange.

Liberty was granted and desired in the village of Lautoka which offered ice cream made from condensed milk and spiritous liquors made from something else. The bar at the local pub was filled to overflowing immediately upon opening and an amusing sight was to watch the native bartenders opening soda bottles with their teeth. After a few liberties, it was found necessary to establish a shore patrol to keep the battalion intact, as some of the boys would come out of the pub and overlook the fact that

there were steps (ladders to you old salts) and take off, the net result being a bruised and bloody return from liberty. Sick bay was quite a busy place and many much delayed operations were performed by Doctors Pelow and Brown. Doctor Brisken, the battalion dentist, hung out his shingle and overhauled many mouths. A softball league was formed and "D" Company took the championship with a few ringers from Headquarters-later they played several Army unit teams stationed on the island. One of the sporting highlights was the games, between Cub 3 officers and the 58th gold braid. Lt's. Reynolds and Carton formed the battery with Ensign Cox as Captain and Lt. Jaqua as cheer leader. Time passed very quickly and quite suddenly we received our orders and struck camp, loaded our gear on the U.S.S. John Penn and off to another Island X.

USS JOHN PENN

The trip on the John Penn was quite different than the LaSalle. She was a larger ship and we were her only passengers. Many of the crew were from the East Coast and they made us welcome aboard. Chow was good. In the morning, each platoon mustered on the top side to take atabrine a substitute for quinine as we were soon to enter malaria infested islands. We made a stop over of 24 hours at Numea, New Caledonia, to pick up a convoy and destroyer escort. When it was announced that we were in the Coral Sea, or "Iron Bottom Bay", as it was known to Navy men, we then realized that we were entering the real business part of the South Pacific War.

On 31, July, we dropped anchor in the roadstead off Koli Point, Guadalcanal, and over the side on cargo nets and into Higgins Boats for the landing. We were assigned a place on the beach alongside of the 24th Battalion rear echelon and had chow with the 4th Special Battalion.

Guadalcanal was still within the range of Japanese bombers from Vila on Kolombangara and other enemy held airfields farther north on Bougainville and the Shortlands. They came down regularly on moonlit nights, dropping their bombs on dumps, shipping and airfields along the northern coast of the Island which was the only occupied part at that time. Here we were introduced to air raid warnings as sirens moaned a warning of approaching aircraft that were picked up by radar. Lights went out immediately, leaving only vague shapes of tents and trees as the men took to the foxholes.



WHAT, NO POWDERED EGGS?

Camps and dumps of material stretched for over sixty miles along the coast, and over the length of the island dust rose like mist on a summer's morning. A ceaseless stream of vehicles carried troops and supplies from dump to camp, and from camp to the loading beach. Night and day, this work went on. Guadalcanal in 1943 was a scene of continuous activity—as feverish as the colonies of ants which infested its earth and trees. Two years previously, barefooted natives padded silently through cathedral like aisles of coconut plantation, peacefully gathering fallen nuts, and only a few canoes and an occasional trading launch broke the tranquil surface of those sapphire waters between the Islands.

Along the beaches, lay rusty craft and relics of ships and landing craft, scarred palms and trees told the tale of the bitter fighting that had taken place between the Japs and our forces. We spent much of our free time here on sightseeing tours of the battlefield where even pieces of shrapnel were to be seen imbedded into the trunks of the trees.

VELLA LA VELLA

On August 11, 1943, the 58th prepared to embark from Guadalcanal for the landing on Vella LaVella. An advance party went ahead to survey the site for the air strip and mark the beach for the landing. This party was composed of the Skipper, Cdr. Lewis, Lt. Reynolds, Lt. (jg) Currie, W. O. Smith, W. Moss, CCM, and F. J. Dowling, CCM.

The scouting party boarded PT Boats at Canal on the afternoon of August 11 for the overnight run up to Vella LaVella. It was a rough trip and not only did the party suffer PT sickness but were spotted by Jap planes who bombed and strafed them for nearly two hours.



VELLA LaVELLA NATIVES

Lt. Reynolds said afterwards, "there was nothing else for us to do but lie under the torpedo tubes and pray. After awhile of praying that the bombs would not hit us, we thought better of it and decided that the bombs were not as bad as the sea sickness."

However, none were hurt and the party sneaked ashore just before daylight on August 12. The island was alive with Jap patrols but they evaded them and began surveying the landing and air-strip sites. However, they did encounter some Japs, who were wiped out to the man. The skipper said, "we sure were looking forward to the 15th, when the first detachment of the battalion was due to land, because the patrols of Japs were becoming larger."

Well, if the advance party were having trouble with the Nips, so was the main landing party. The first detachment to embark boarded two LCI's and two LST's at Koli Point on August 13th. On the night of the thirteenth, the craft were lying off Lunga Point when Jap planes attacked them. The attack lasted three hours and, during it, the Nips sunk the John Penn, the ship we had come to the Canal from the Fiji's. We all were saddened by the loss of this veteran of European and Pacific warfare because of the many friendships made while aboard her. On the morning of the fourteenth, the convoy shoved off and, at dawn of the fifteenth, it approached the beach at Vella LaVella.

It was a beautiful sight. The tropical green of the Island was framed in the blue of the sea and the sky. Everything was quiet and the sun was just coming up like a burst of gold. Comment was heard on all sides, "Looks just like the Fiji's and just another Pacific Island."

We began to unload the cargo from the ships at Barakoma Village. The boys with the BAR's were acting as guards, and the unloading proceeded very swiftly as we had practiced it many times back on the Canal. As the ramps of the LST's came down, men and vehicles rolled out, as most of our equipment was on six wheelers, and bumped into the jungles. Bulldozers were sent ashore and soon coconut and palm trees came crashing down and pushed over with yards of coral to form ramps to the ships. Meanwhile, long lines of men waist-deep in water passed boxes of supplies

and equipment, for on LCI's all cargo must be man-handled. We all worked feverishly because we knew it was only a matter of a short space of time before the Jap planes would be on us as the whole landing operation could be observed from enemy lookouts on Kolombangara only thirteen miles across the water. Quite suddenly, the alarm was sounded and all hell broke loose. Every one took off for the boomdocks or the ships. High in the sky, planes zoomed and droned, their machine auns spitting leaden death. It seemed as if the sky were made of cloth which was violently being torn to shreds by giant invisible hands. The first attack lasted five minutes and seemed hours, then it began again, through some miracle, none of the gang were hurt. When this attack was over, we completed the unloading and moved up a hill to dig in for the night as best we could in "foxholes". There were so many attacks during all of the day and the night that it was a continual "Condition Red."

The second echelon landed on August 17 at 1800 and this landing was a mistake, since there was no air coverage from Munda at this late hour in the day. The only defense we had was the few anti-aircraft guns that had been set up. Attempts were made to unload the ships but the constant air attacks made this impossible. The LST's pulled off the beach and one of them was hit and had to be sunk. We lost considerable equipment on this ship. The next day, the remaining two were beached and were unloaded.

The third wave landed on August 22nd. This bunch really got the business for, by now, the Japs really had us spotted and knew what we were about to do.

In the early morning about 1000, they came over and bombed us at about 800 feet. At top speed, screaming eerily over the jungle, the Jap bombers flew to the attack. The ship's gunners returned their fire, but still the planes came in and re-

leased their loads of destruction. In a formation of six, one suddenly wavers and, to the cheers of the gang, it bursts into a bright pyre of flames as the gunners found their mark. The other five however broke through and plastered us. They didn't miss the target at this range and of the fifteen bombs that fell, not one was less than a hundred yards from the ships. It was a literal rain of death, when the bombers pulled out of their shrieking plunge, not a man on the ship's deck was left standing. The guns were either blasted to scrap or choked with coral dust.

While the smoke and dust of the explosions still blanketed the ships, the gang on the beach and below the decks swarmed aboard to clean up. They found the decks littered with coral boulders, wounded and dead shipmates. Many men of the battalion had manned guns during this raid and Roger Poulin, Sam Barker and Steve Pavlick of Company "D" were badly wounded and on the beach lay Bob Neumann, CM3C, our first fatal casualty of the enemy. This was a bitter blow for Bob was loved by all who had come in contact with him.

The fourth wave arrived on August 28th and the fifth on August 31st and by this time the raids were lessened due to the Marine Defense Battalion being set up in action.

During the first few days of the landings over 34 Jap planes were shot down with only a loss of two of ours.

After the landings, we set about to build a camp site and establish an airfield previously surveyed by the advance party. Our supplies and gear were strewed from one end of the beach to the other in haste to unload the landing ships and countless hours were spent locating this equipment. Slow progress was made because we were constantly under condition red because of the lack of air protection in the first few days. Vella LaVella was captured by by-

passing other islands fortified by the Japs, such as Kolombangara, Ganongga, Gizo and several other smaller islands north of Munda in the New Georgia group. The Munda airfield was still subject to night attacks which were quite frequent and, of course, Vella being north of Munda, the Japs had us coming or going.

Soon galleys were setup and the cooks got together something hot with which to start the day.

Slowly but surely the Camp took shape and the airfield began to look like something. Presently the center strip was completed and well bedded down with coral. This was not too soon for out of the skies one morning came a wounded Dauntless Dive Bomber. He buzzed over the strip and came in for a crash landing. We all were thrilled that he walked away from the wreck that was once a fighting ship. A few days later, a P38 crashed and the pilot also walked away from this one.

The night bombing by the Japs continued and, though they didn't do much damage to our installations, they did shatter our nervous systems. Chow got better as living improved and the lines at sick bay grew shorter. The overworked medical staff were great morale builders and the cheery smile of "Doc" Brown and his corpsmen Riggs, VanZandt, Harris, PeeWee and Doug Rubb were always welcome.

Along about the end of September, Dr. Pelow and Commander Lewis were relieved and sent to new commands and were replaced by Dr. Feldman and Lt. Cdr. Quayle. It was here at Vella we lost most of our shipmates through accidents or the result of the enemy bombing. Many of the men came down with various tropical diseases and were evacuated.

Scuttlebutt was the order of the day and all hoped to start home to the States by Christmas. However, after completing the fighter strip, we packed our gear and left for a well earned rest in New Zealand.

It was many months before the 58th finally went home but even today, when ex-members meet, seldom is anything spoken of about our cruise in the Pacific except Vella LaVella. Every now and then an article will appear about the Pacific Warfare and reference is always made of this all-important outpost. Major General Twining, Commander of aircraft in the Solomons at that time said "it was the toughest, densest jungle in all the South Pacific," and the 58th CB's have constructed a modern field set up for bomber fighter transport craft, whipped the field in shape in record time making it the best in the Solomons although the hardest to construct."

On our trip to New Zealand on the USS Tryon, which was a hospital transport ship, the chief medical officer said, "we were the sorriest looking bunch," he ever saw and gave orders that all the men were not to have any duty whatsoever.

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND



TOP OF QUEEN STREET

The harbor of Auckland was a wonderful sight and even more pleasant was the sight of white women with shoes on. We were billeted at what was formerly a race track and, though it was not much better than other camps, no one minded because we

seldom were there. After making alterations to our blues, which in the main now were much too large, off we went on liberty.

The people in Auckland were wonderful and opened their homes to us and many made lifelong friendships while there. They were a lot like us and enjoyed having Americans around. Into their two big islands is packed a little bit of almost every country in the world an all agreed that it was one country that would be nice to come back to after the War.

We were warned about tossing our dough around but, as usual, we bought everything we could lay our hands on including the famous "Tiki".

Quite a number found their way out of Auckland and the surrounding Village of Roturua where they took the baths, fished and climbed over mountains. Chow was great and meat was once again plentiful with Hash and Mae, our canine mascots, at long last having bones to gnaw on.

All too short was the stay here and on 8, February 1944, we held a "Farewell Dance" at the town hall, and as the committee put it:

"We came, we saw, we were conquered. Our sincere thanks to the hospitable and friendly people of New Zealand."

Again we packed our gear for another trip to parts unknown leaving behind in Mobile Hospital 4 and 6 a goodly number of men who were just too worn out to go back up again to the islands.

BANIKA, RUSSELL ISLANDS

After leaving Auckland, New Zealand we landed on Banika, of the Russell Islands, 17 February, 1944. Here we spent our time securing new equipment, small arms, etc., for our next job. This was the island that we lost our mascots, Hash and Mae, and



their sons and daughters for some gold braid didn't like dogs. We were all saddened by this loss for they had given all of us many a happy moment.

LOS NEGROS, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS

A major naval and air base, capable of service, supply, and repair forces afloat, air forces, and other allied units in the forward area, was established early in 1944 at Manus, in the Admiralty Islands, about 300 miles north of Lae, New Guinea, and, apart from the St. Matthias group, the northernmost group of islands in the Southwest Pacific area. Manus lay close to the enemy line of communication between Truk and Rabaul and also near the route between Kavieng and Wewak.

Manus and Los Negros comprise the major islands of the Admiralty group, which includes over 160 small islands and atolls and three first class harbors.

Seeadlee Harbor, one of the largest and best in the Southwest Pacific, lies within the ellipse formed by Manus, the curving shore of adjoining Los Negros. Its protected waters were capable of accommodating a large fleet of capital ships. Los Negros was separated from Manus by a narrow passage. The island was low and, for the most part, swampy, with coral just below the top soil.

We landed in the Admiralties 17 April, 1944, and were assigned a construction job at Papitalai Point. The next day, survey crews were sent ashore to select a camp site. Constant heavy rainfall and the unfavorable terrain, however, made progress difficult. Quarters were finally erected on coconut log footings at least two feet above the ground.

The first major construction assignment was the building of a 30-foot primary road from Lombrum Point to Papitalai Point.

For a dry dock storage area and personnel camp we built seven, 40 by 100 foot warehouses, 29 quonset huts, a mess hall, a galley, a water system, and a accountlog, coral-fill jetty, 40 by 80 feet, the site of which required considerable fill.

Heavy rains, which turned the area into a mass of mud, considerably delayed construction of a PT-boat overhaul base and



WORKING PARTY - ADMIRALTIES

personal camp. However, the lessons learned in the Fiji's and Vella in the use of coral came in handy and were put to use. Due to the lack of roads we built a jetty to this base by hand labor and when it was completed consisted of seven 40 by 100 foot warehouses, three quonset huts, one 30 by 50 woodframe building, and a frame galley and mess hall.



CB WAVE

The major project at Papitalai, a tank farm with sufficient storage of fuel and diesel oil to supply a large base and major units of the fleet, was begun June 23rd. Lack of suitable coral for surfacing, again proved a handicap. Material for tank foundations had to be ferried across the harbor, and roads deteriorated to such an extent that corduroying was the only solution. However, the 58th met the task head-on and by August 15th the first 25 tanks were completed on schedule and work continued until 63 tanks were erected, each having a 10,000 barrel capacity. A two-way pumping system and a drum filling plant completed the farm which was split into sections, making it possible to operate from any single unit or series of units.

Over four miles of pipe were installed throughout the area and well over two million bolts were used in the construction of the tanks. The job took over 38,000 manhours to complete. The engineering garg under Lt. (jg) Gene Gieger were respon-

sible for the layout and location of the tanks; Lt. (jg) Rudy Peters was in charge of tank construction, and C.W.O. Charlie Gartrell of piping and pumps. Lt. Reed, Officer in Charge of the Papitalai Fuel Dock, stated that, throughout the water testing and construction, the receiving and delivering of oil was carried on with a minimum of trouble, due to the excellent cooperation of the 58th crews."

Commander P.L.A. Keiser, Officer in Charge of the Second Construction Regiment, wrote to the 58th the following letter of commendation:

- 1. As the time approaches for the departure of the Second Construction Regiment from the Admiralty Islands, the Officer in Charge wishes to commend the officers and men of the 58th Construction Battalion for the excellent job they have accomplished in preparing this base for the needs of the fleet.
- 2. The fine spirit in which the men carried out early construction operations despite the fact that they were working with a minimum of equipment in a very muddy terrain was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Navy.
- 3. If the past performance of the 58th Construction Battalion is an indication of future operations, the Officer in Charge feels confident that the 58th Battalion, under the capable leadership of Lt. Comdr. Turrentine will be destined to be one of the best Seabee Battalions of the Navy.

While at Los Negros we found time from work to engage in boxing bouts, song fests, baseball games with the other units on the Island. In addition, we purchased over \$32,000 of war bonds, the largest bond being bought by Earl Tupper MM 1/c, of W-W-I the amount being \$2,675.



Having completed our task we hauled anchor again and set sail for a return trip to:



DOMA COVE, GUADALCANAL, arriving

on December 14, 1944. It was here that we staged for Okinawa. A complete Jap village was skillfully assembled of forty wooden buildings, some of two stories, complete with bank, grog shop and a gisha house. This village was named Bonegiville for its location on the banks of the Bonegre Line. This village was the training site of the 6th Marine Division and many a marine later at the battle for Naha expressed his undying gratitude to the 58th for the training he had received in this well simulated city.

We entered into real advanced training for the invasion of Okinawa and were completely briefed on this particular Island X that no one up to this time had ever heard of.

During March we shoved off for Okie in various groups for the biggest job in the 58th history.

OKINAWA

Easter Sunday, April 1, 1945, a day long to be held in our memories. The largest war fleet ever to sail the seas was assembled off the shores of Okinawa and the din of their heavy fire was deafening.

The landing was made with the assault troops and it was not to be compared at all with Vella LaVella, for by 1030 the Marines of the 6th Division had their days objective with few casualties.

Soon as we were ashore our work began, serving as combat engineers in support of ground troops, rehabilitating and improving native roads and bridges, and clearing enemy mines and demolitions. We located and developed, and operated water supply points for all units, installed communication systems and began the ground work for permanent installations. These activities were carried on night and day in spite of enemy sniper activity, artillery fire, and air attacks.



The Marines had quickly captured Youtan Airfield on "D" Day and shortly after evening chow they were amazed to see a Japanese plane circle the field and come in for a perfect landing. The pilot got out and started to walk away and then suddenly realized that something was amiss. He reached for his pistol and by doing so completed his last act in this world.

None of the words written up to this time can fully describe what the men of the Battalion had gone through and in a letter your editor received from Chaplain Shell during the make-up of this book I thought it would prove interesting to pause and listen to his opinions.

MEMORANDUM FROM JOHN L. SHELL LT., ChC., USNR Attached to 58 N. S. NCB January 1945 - December 1945

I found a sad looking bunch of men when I joined the 58th CB's on Guadalcanal at the beginning of the year in 1945. The men had returned from the Admiralty Islands after many months of hard work in the South Pacific with the hope that they would soon be on their way home. Instead, rumors were flying around that the 58th would be attached to the 6th Marine Division for combat training for the next invasion. I will never forget the blue language that was used when these orders were officially announced at the movie—it was language that one could not use in the pulpit.

Then followed a week of outspoken griping on the part of practically all hands. From all corners you could hear such expressions as these: "I'm gonna blow my top and get out of this outfit", and "You have heard of the Lost Battalion, Mac. Well, this is it!" After a couple of weeks, the griping had strangely quieted down and the men settled down to hard work and preparation for the rough days ahead. The conversation took another turn as we all started speculating about where we would

hit for the invasion. The guesses ran anywhere from the South coast of China to Tokyo itself, but as the "scuttlebutt" sifted down everything seemed to point to an island by the name of Okinawa. Anyhow we were told if we ever managed to get on the beaches we would then have to fight poisonous snakes and deadly typhus, as well as the enemy. It sounded bad!

None of us will ever forget the unbelievable bombardment on Easter Sunday, 1945. that preceded the invasion of Okinawa Then the work of the 58th really began in earnest! I saw men of the 58th, many already tired by long months of jungle warfare, buckle down to the hard job of building roads, building Yontan Airfield and a dozen other jobs. The work went forward in spite of the bombing, constant air raids at night, and mud that was sometimes knee deep. It was there I learned to know the men of the 58th, and I found them to be a wonderful bunch of men. I was pleased that so many found time for church services during those tiresome weeks. I found the deep comradeship within the Battalion when we buried our shipmate, David Appleaate.

I am deeply proud to have served with the 58th. It was an experience that has enriched my life and reassured me of the faith that is to be found in the hearts of most men.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN L. SHELL



On April 3rd we took over the repair and new construction of the Youtan Airfield and on the next day April 4th, we had one strip ready for fighter operation.



During the latter part of April we resurfaced the existing runways and constructed taxiways, hardstands, warmup aprons, pilot housing, and gasoline storage facilities. Damage control parties filled bomb croters on one end of the runways while enemy planes were strafing the other end. In spite of enemy interference, the runways were thus kept serviceable almost without a break. At the end of April, construction was started on an new bomber strip at Youtan.

Although the initial landings were accomplished without great difficulty, the Japs thereafter did his utmost to harass our forces and hinder the occupation of the island and the development of the base.

There were 261 air raids in the period from April 1st to June 30th. Enemy night bombings were frequent and suicide attacks against shipping in the harbor damaged construction equipment and material making our task that much more difficult. Much danger was added to this by falling fragments from our own anti-aircraft shell bursts and misdirected automatic weapons fire from ships in the harbor.

However, in June all organized enemy resistance ceased and construction work moved forward rapidly.

Personnel of the 58th began now to shove off for home and very few of the original battalion were left. It would be impossible to cover every phase of the battalion activities at Okinawa, but all should be interested that by the close of 1945, naval facilities on Okinawa covered 20,000 acres, and included 4.180 lineal feet of wharves, 712,000 square feet of general covered storage, 11,778,000 square feet of open storage, 193,000 cubic feet of cold storage, as well as storage for 8,820,000 gallons of aviation gasoline, 30,000 barrels of diesel oil, 50,000 barrels of fuel oil, 13,000 square feet for ammunition. Aviation repair shops covered 324,000 square feet and general



repair shops 91,000 square feet. Hospital space amounted to 338,000 square feet and quarters 4,755,000 square feet. All of which the 58th had an important share.



Seabees

The navy needed fighters And the navy needed men So they organized the Seabees Who could fight and work again.

They took welders, riggers, boilermen Butchers, cooks, and bakers too And they put them in the navy And showed them what to do.

With a machine gun and a rifle The Seabees learned to shoot They used a big machete A thousand things to boot.

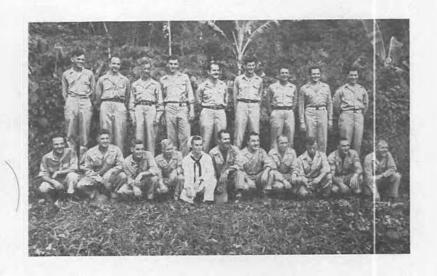
They taught us how to march and drill They taught us how to dress And we even learned to manage To get "seconds at the mess".

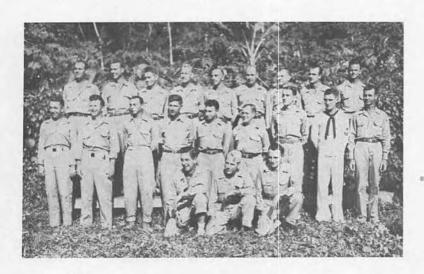
We learned the navy lingo We called it "head, deck and swab" We even learned to "knock it off" Like an other gob.

They taught us all these many things In 13 weeks or less And what they didn't teach us We later had to guess.

When we were through our training We left for Island "X" We had all our equipment It loaded down the deck.

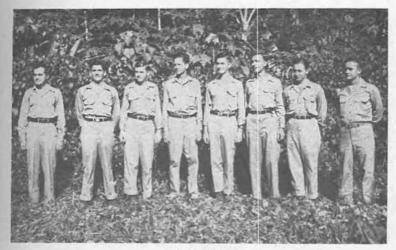
The Japs they held the island When at last it have in sight We knew that they were ready So we got prepared to fight.



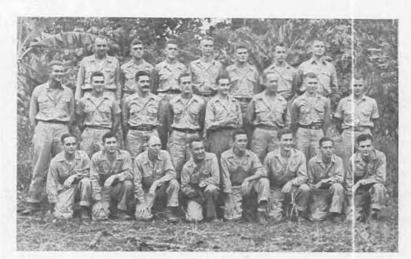


HEADQUARTERS COMPANY





YEOMEN



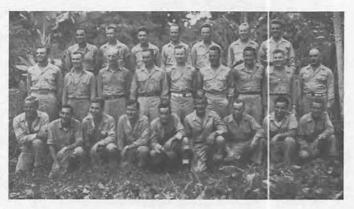
G.S.K.



GALLEY FORCE

"A" COMPANY













CORPSMEN AT VELLA

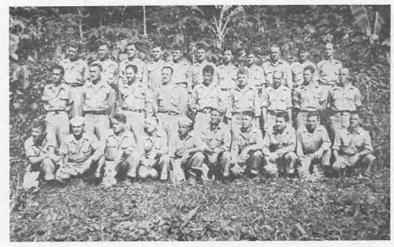




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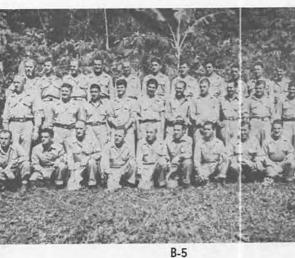


MEDICAL STAFF IN FIJI



B-3





B-4

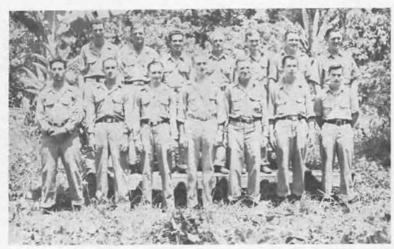


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"C" COMPANY



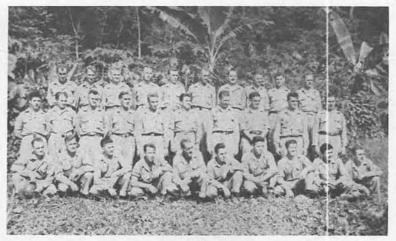
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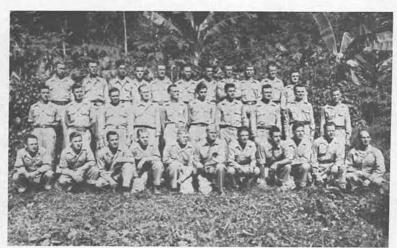
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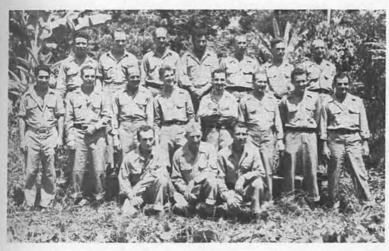


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COMPANY

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B-2

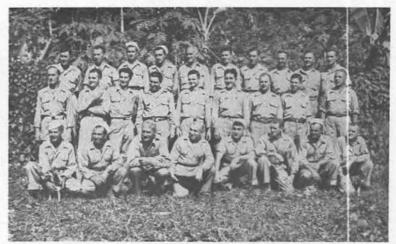


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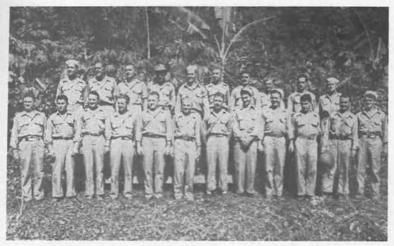




"D" COMPANY

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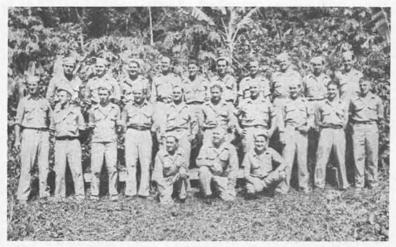




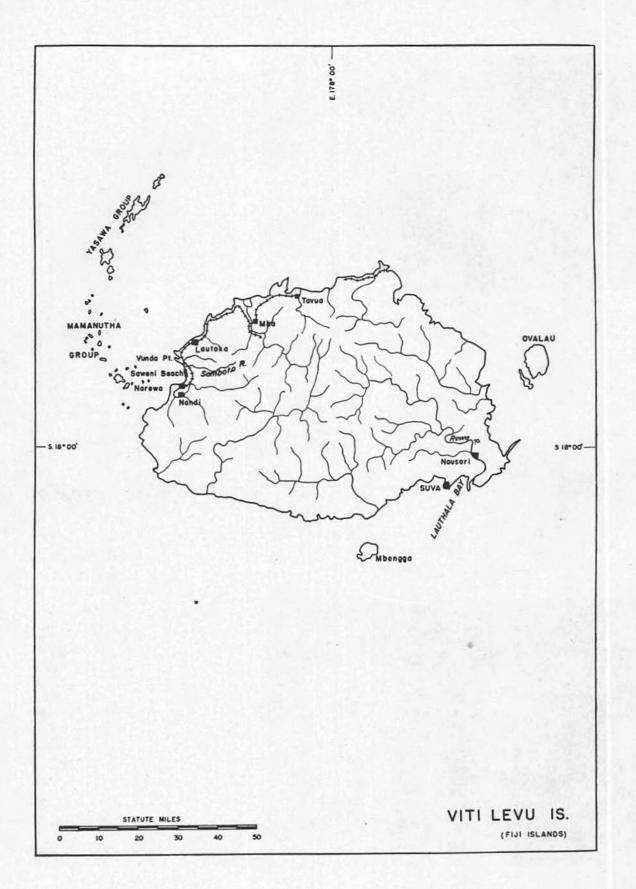
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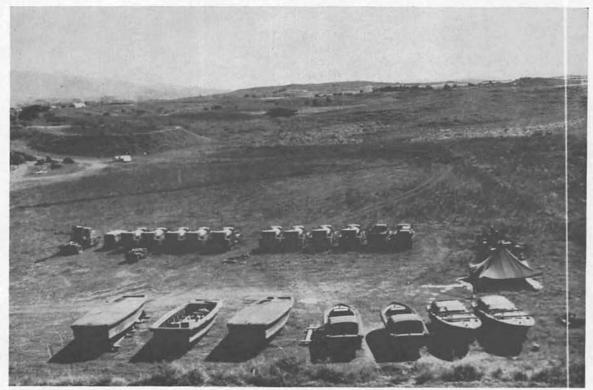
D-5



D-6



THE FIJI ISLANDS



BOAT POOL



GENERAL VIEW OF CAMP

CLEARING TALL GRASS FOR CAMPSITE



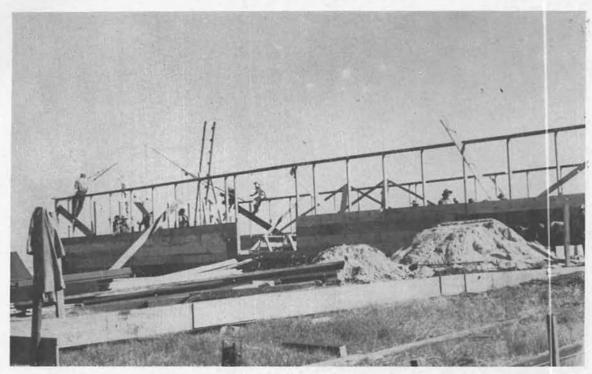
UP GO OFFICERS TENTS



ANOTHER VIEW OF CAMPSITE



CONSTRUCTION OF STORAGE TENTS

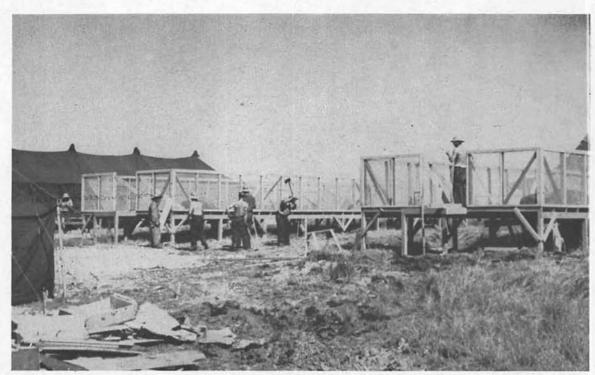


CHOW LINE



SHOPS





G.S.K.



SICK BAY



TRUCK LINE-UP



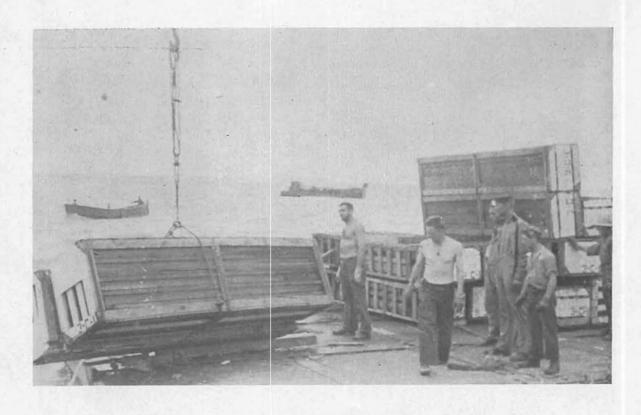
WASHING TRUCKS AND JEEPS



TRANSPORTATION

UNLOADING CARGO

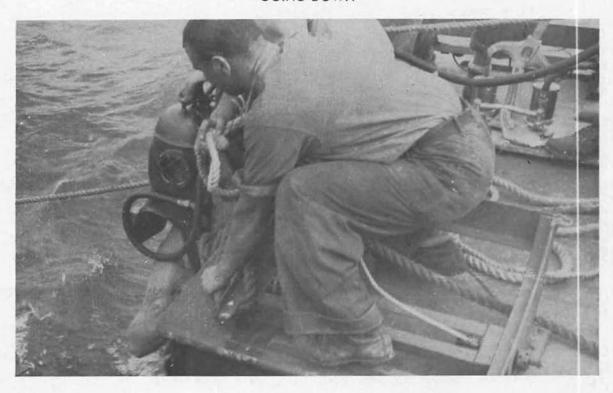




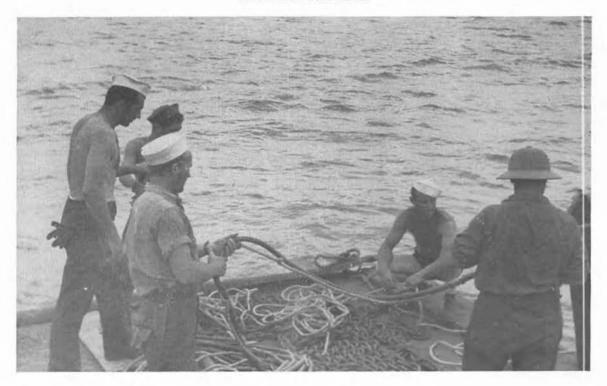
PREPARING DIVING EQUIPMENT TO LOCATE CARGO AND EQUIPMENT THAT WENT OVER THE SIDE OF A PONTOON BARGE



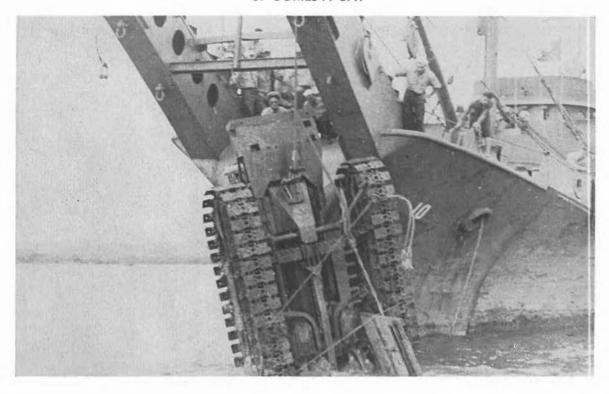
GOING DOWN



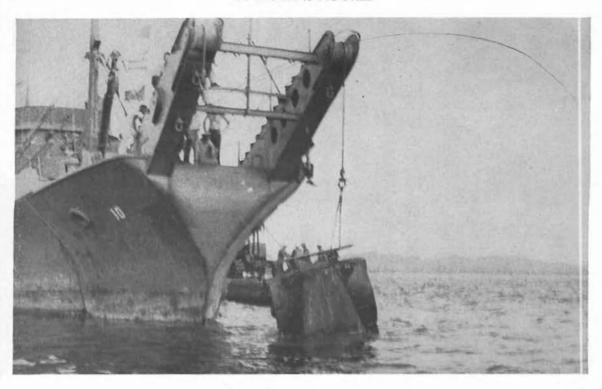
MANNING AIR LINES



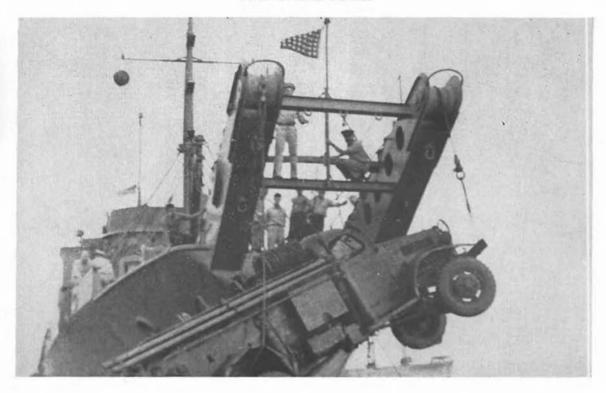
UP COMES A CAT



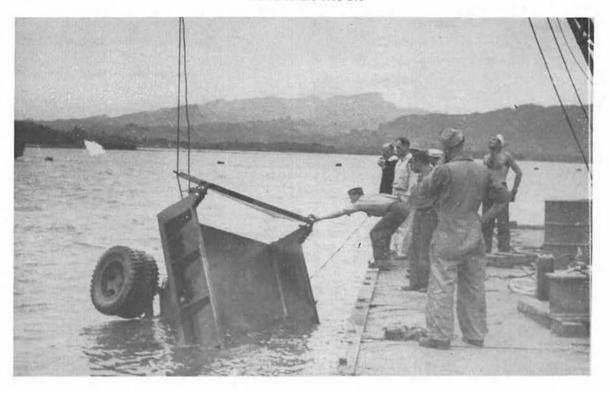
A TRUCK IS HOOKED



AND UP SHE COMES



ANOTHER TRUCK



HAULED IN THE 58th WAY





FOUNDATION FOR AIR RAID SHELTER



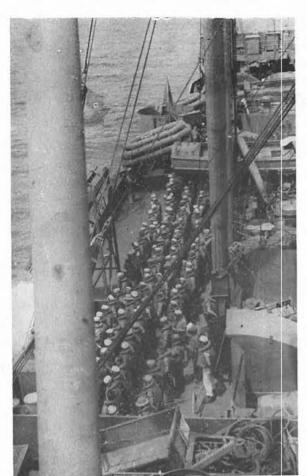
COMPLETED SHELTER

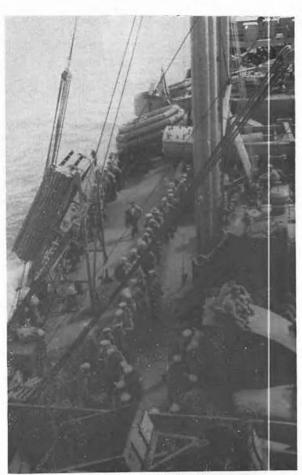


BUCKET OF BLOOD

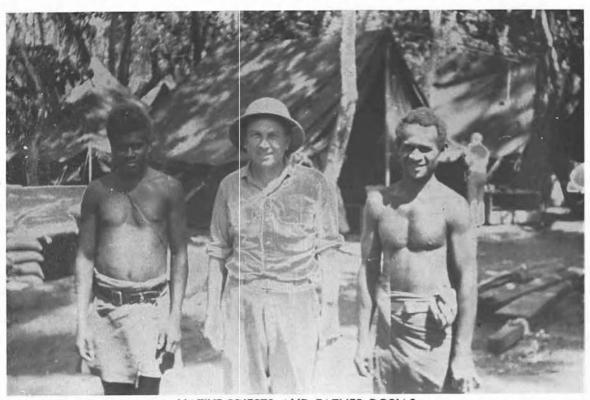


SMALLEST RAILROAD IN THE WORLD





EN ROUTE TO GUADALCANAL GENERAL QUARTERS ABOARD USS JOHN PENN



NATIVE PRIESTS AND FATHER DOBIAS

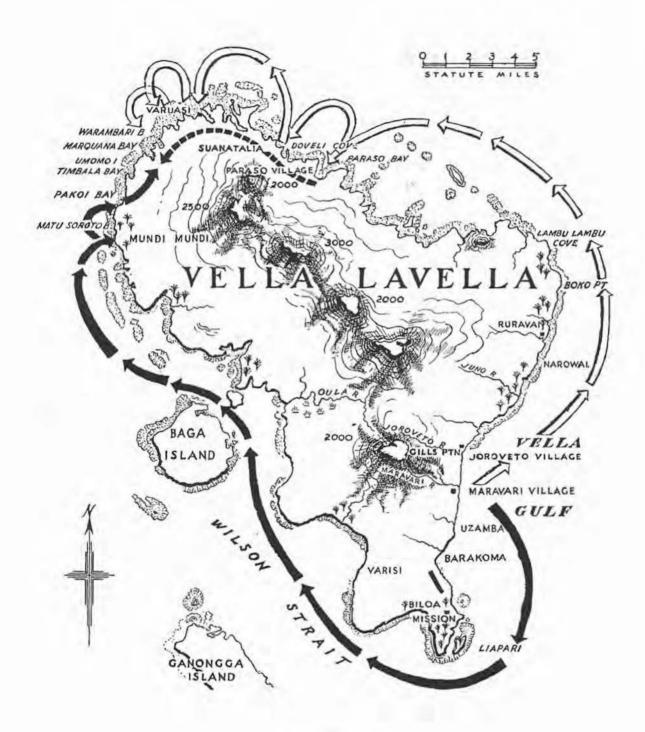
EN ROUTE TO VELLA LaVELLA



JAP SHIPS AND ONE MAN SUB BEACHED AT GUADALCANAL







In Rear of Foe Taken by U.S.

Troops Land in Force on Vella Lavella and Hasten Bairoko Garrison Doom

By The Associated Press ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST . PACIFIC, Aug. 17 (Tuesday). - American troops have landed in force on Vella Lavella Island, in the central Solomons, by-passing Kolombangara Island and hastening the doom of Japan's encircled garrison at Bai.oko, on New Georgia, forty-five miles southeast.

The occupation, achieved in force on Sunday and disclosed today by General Douglas Mac-Arthur in a communique, was such a surprise move that it apparently was unopposed. Meager reports made no mention of enemy (Continued on page 5, column 2)

a delayed dispatch Leif Erickson, Associated Press war correspondent, who went ashore from a landing barge with the troops, first disclosure was made that waves of Japanese planes tried to break up the invaders after the first boats had been unloaded. He said the divebombers, escorted by Zeros, falled to hit a single boat but did suc-ceed in strafing some of the boats winding up the landing operations.

(Taken on in furious dogfights, 34 of the enemy planes were shot down at a cost of only two of ours.) Yanks By-Passed Kolombangara

The Japanese obviously believed that the Americans, now wiping out bitter-end enemy resistance on New Georgia above the captured Munda airfield, would hold to island-by-island strategy and strike next across the Kula gulf at the Vila air base,

Instead, the Americans passed Kolombangara island, on which Vila is situated, and over-whelmed Vella Lavella, 45 miles northwest of New Georgia. Seizure of this northernmost island of the New Georgia group seemed to seal the fate of all other intervening islands—Ganongga, Gizo, Wan-awana and Arundel as well as Kol-

"This places our forces north of enemy positions at Vila on Kolombangara island and renders its continuous supply problematical," today's communique pointedly

(Erickson's dispatch, written the day of the landing, said the obviour strategy was to starve out the Vila garrison, thus obviating the necessity of prolonged fighting in Kolombangara's jungles).

Solomon Island Yanks Capture Vella Lavella Island in Central Solomons

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC UP -Japan's holdings throughout the central Solomons are virtually doomed and the enemy bases still barring the way to his fortress of Rabaul are gravely menaced as

the consequence of a surprise invasion of Vella Lavella island.

United States forces in considerable strength seized it Sunday in a move so unforseen by the enemy that the invaders accomplished the hitherto unheard of feat of capturing 350 Japanese

> By Andrewed rires U. S. BEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWASIFIC Aug. 19.—Hundreds & Supanese troops were killed of appured during an enemy attempts to land on newly-conquered Vella Lavelia island early yesterday merning.

> The enemy forces were packed n possibly 20 to 30 large barges holding approximately 75 men each, indicating a force of 1500 to 2200 men, and not more than 300 of them were believed to have reached shore.

were believed to have reached shore. Four Japanese destroyers which were escorting the barges "took off for home" when U. S. warships engaged them, two were seriously damaged, one probably sank, and a third enemy destroyer was hit.

The American force broke off its action against the Japanese destroyers to go after the enemy landing barges, crowded with troops.

troops.

The Allies Take Another Solomon Island



Herald Tribune may Allied headquarters reported the taking of Vella Lavella (1) and the capture of 350 Japanese there. The occupation bypasses Kolombangara. Fighting is still in progress on New Georgia (2)

Japanese

Yesterday's Japanese communiqué, as broadcast from Tokyo and ecorded by The Associated Press:

Imperial Japanese haval air units, which had been keeping close watch on the movement of an enemy convoy fleet with es-cort vessels moving westward aince Aug. 13 from the direction of Guadalcanal Island, having detected signs of the convoy fleet moving toward Vella Lavella Ismoving toward venta Lavella Is-iand since the night of Aug. 14, launched early in the morning of Aug. 15 repeated attacks on the enemy convoy and obtained the following war results: Firstly: Off the southern coast of Vella Lavella our first attack blane unit launched.

of Vella Lavella our first attack on the enemy convoy fleet escotted by approximately fifty enemy fighters which was approaching the coast and sank instantly one large-size transport, set ablaze three large and medium size transports and shot down thitten enemy fighter planes.

Secondly: Our second attack

plane unit attacked the afore-mentioned enemy convoy fleet again and, defying the resistance put up by enemy fighters, sank two large-size transports and one landing motorboat, sccred near hits on one large-size destroyer and one amphibian truck, strafed approximately ten landing motor-boats and shed down eleven onboats and shot down eleven en-

Thirdly: Our third attack pland unit, engaging in serial combats with enemy fighters, raided the vicinity of the enemy landing points and scored one near hit on one cruiser, set afire two landing places and shot down four enemy fighters.

Fourthly: Our fourth attack plane unit assaulted the enemy convoy fleet in waters ten nauti-cal miles north of Simbu Island, as well as in waters fifteen nau-tical miles southeast of Bilos, and sank one large-size destroyer and heavily damaged another de-

Fifthly: Another attack plane unit which moved out to attack another convoy fleet at midnight Aug. 14 spotted the enemy con-voy fleet in waters ten nautical miles east of Gatukai Island and, launching a torpedo attack, sank instantaneously one large-type cruiser, sank one large-size transport and another enemy warship which was either a light cruiser or a large-type destroyer. In ad-dition it scored one direct tor-pedo hit on one cruiser and one destroyer.
In the above attacks seventeen

of our planes either deliberately crashed themselves into enemy objectives or have not yet returned to base.

CITATION



TO ALL MEN OF THE 58th

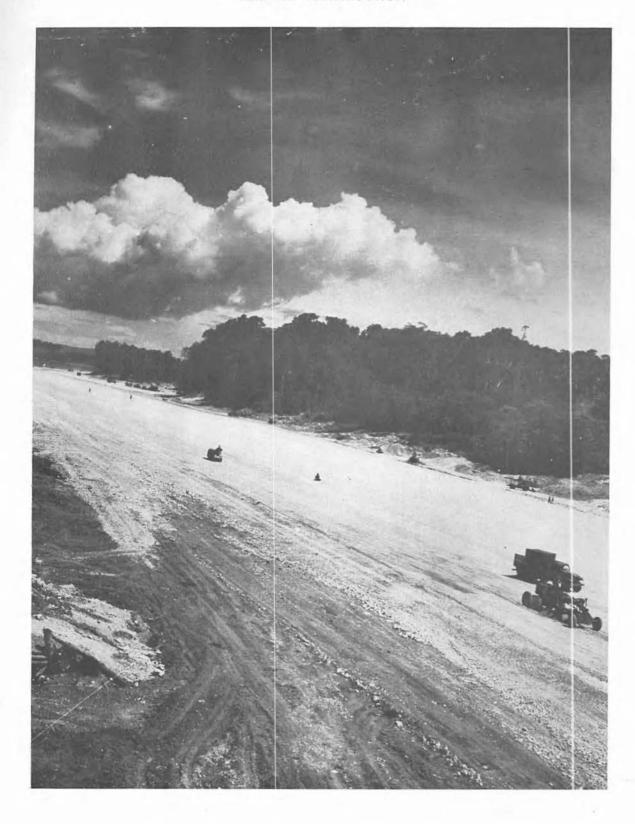
- Commander Task Force Thirty-one notes with pleasure the remarks made in the following extract from a letter of 2 September 1943 from the Commanding Officer of USS LST 354.
 - "While the dust and smoke of the explosions still covered us the men of the 58th C. B.'s came aboard to assist us. No orders were given them and no orders were needed. Gray headed veterans of the 1st war manned gun stations, cleaned guns and cared for the wounded. On the cargo deck the C. B.'s continued to discharge cargo without interruption. The calm words of action report were inadequate to express; this commands admiration of the workings and fighting qualities of the 58th Construction Battalion."
- Such exemplary conduct by the members of the 58th Naval Construction Battalion is most highly appreciated; and it is considered that the initiative, devotion to duty, and disregard of personal safety displayed are in keeping with the best standards of the naval service.

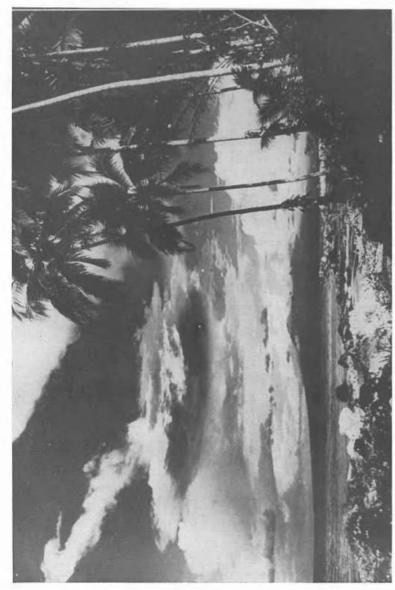
Admiral T. S. Wilkinson

- A copy of the above has just been received by this office. No words of praise can be sufficiently expressive to commend men for carrying on under the hazard of enemy bombing. The report quoted above and the Admiral's remarks indicate that the men of the 58th have found themselves and have made a niche for themselves in the history of Naval service.
- 2. It affords this command great pleasure and pride to serve with the men of the 58th, who not only can complete a mission successfully under enemy fire, but also can pitch into less glamorous aspects of war, hardwork and make out of the jungle area the best fighter airfield in the South Pacific. Well done.
- Please see that all personnel of your command are acquainted with the contents of the above.

/a/ E. R. Wilkinson Commander, U.S.N. Vella La Vella

AIRSTRIP CONSTRUCTION





KOLOMBANGARA



LANDING

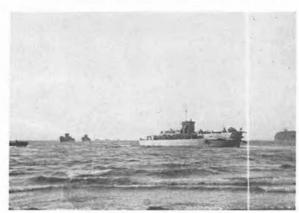
72

ADVANCE PARTY WITH CDR. LEWIS LEAVING GUADALCANAL FOR P.T. BOAT TRIP TO VELLA LaVELLA











INITIAL LANDINGS



UNLOADING AT BARAKOMA



PACKING SUPPLIES UP THE HILL



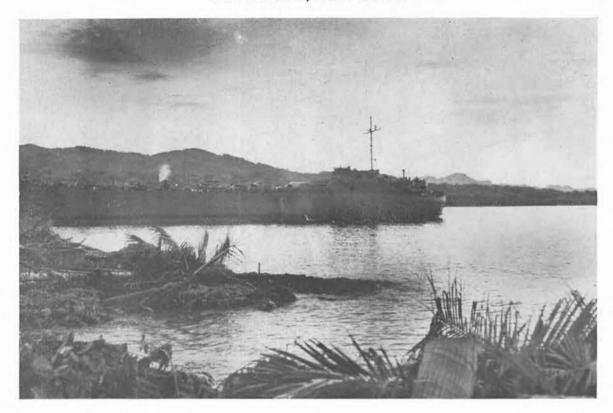
FIRST CHURCH SERVICE



UNLOADING CARGO



L.S.T. LARGE SQUATTY TARGET





76

CAPTURED JAPS BY NEW ZEALAND FORCES







SOME OF THOSE 350 NIPS CAPTURED ON LANDING



L.S.T. HIT



BUCKET BRIGADE



OIL BARGE



LOGGING



CLEARING FOR STRIP





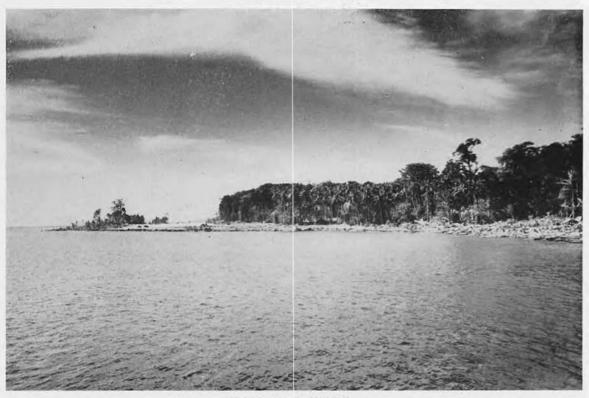
PROGRESS







NEARLY COMPLETED



SO-O-O BEAUTIFUL



CARRY ALL



FIRST TO LAND





DUMBO FIRST TO LAND RIGHTSIDE UP





A WORKING AIR STRIP





REVETMENTS







REVETMENT



TAKE OFF



COMMUNICATIONS



CONTROL TOWER



PAPPY'S GANG



TAKES OVER



OPERATIONS

ROAD BUILDING

INSPECTION





ONE OF THE BOYS



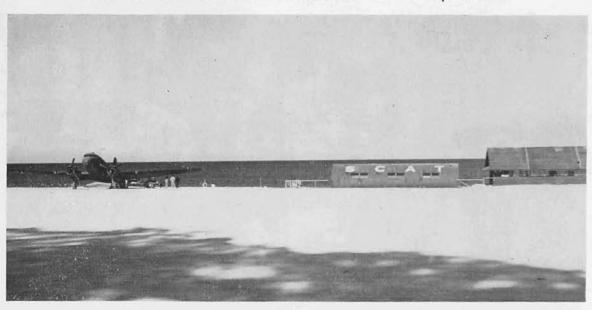
GREETINGS



GOLD BRAID



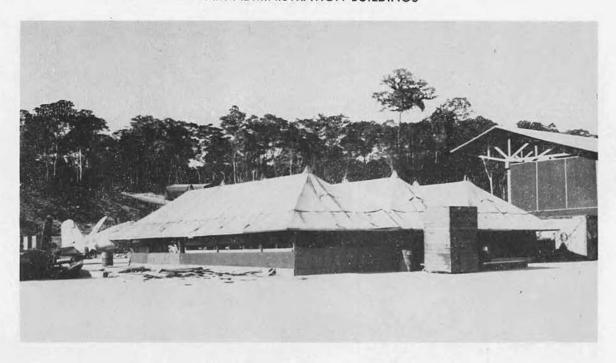
SOUTH PACIFIC COMBAT AIR TRANSPORTATION HEADQUARTERS







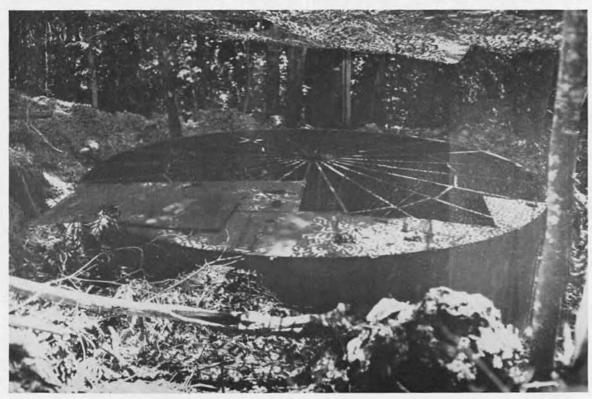
AIR ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS



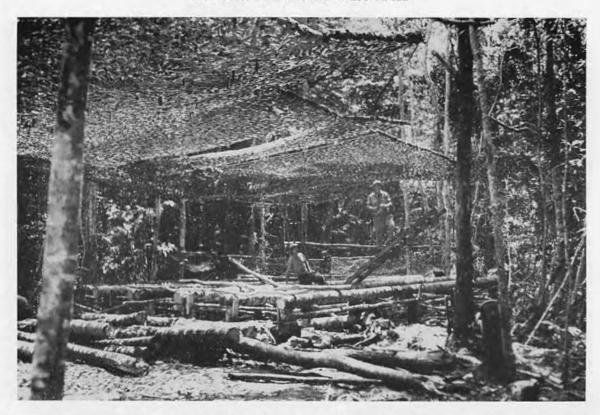


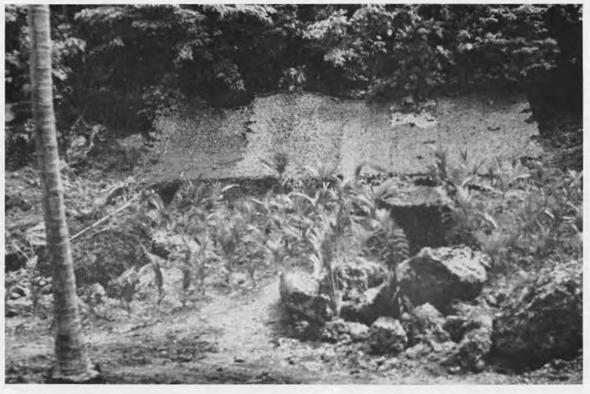
TANK CONSTRUCTION





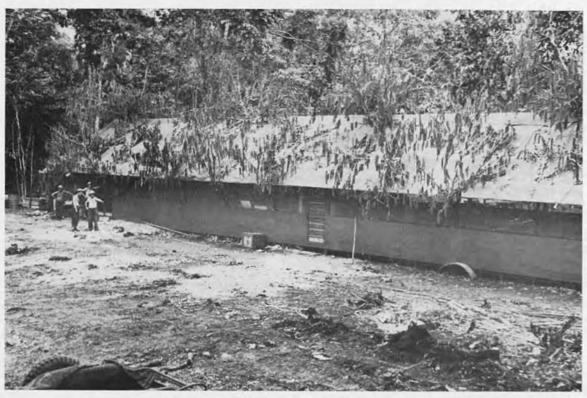
CONSTRUCTION STRIP MESS HALL

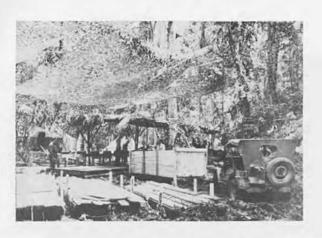




FINISHED STRIP MESS HALL









SAW MILL



A TYPICAL SEABEE





LOGGING

GENERAL VIEWS OF STRIP CONSTRUCTION





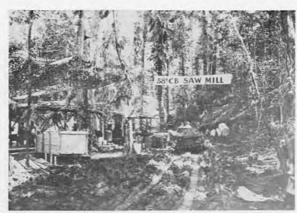












SAW MILL



A TYPICAL SEABEE





LOGGING

GENERAL VIEWS OF STRIP CONSTRUCTION













FIRST FLAG RAISING



DOC BROWN ON CALL







ON THE LINE



BEER STORAGE

ROBINSON AND GALLERY



WORLD WAR I VETS



BACKBONES OF THE NAVY



GENE GIEGER AND THE PADRE





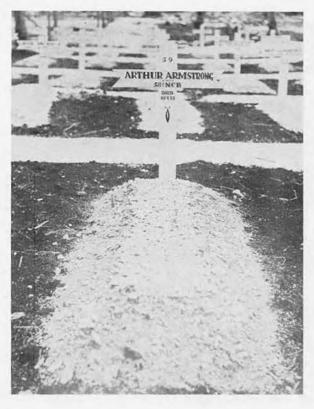
CHRISTMAS MASS

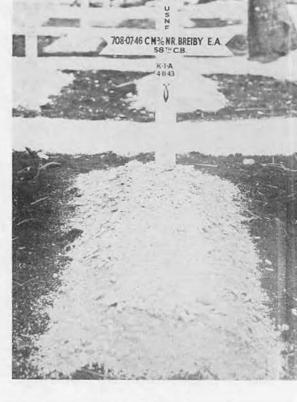
ISLAND CEMETERY















KIWI SHOW





NEW ZEALAND



QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND, N. Z.

VIEWS OF AUCKLAND, N. Z.











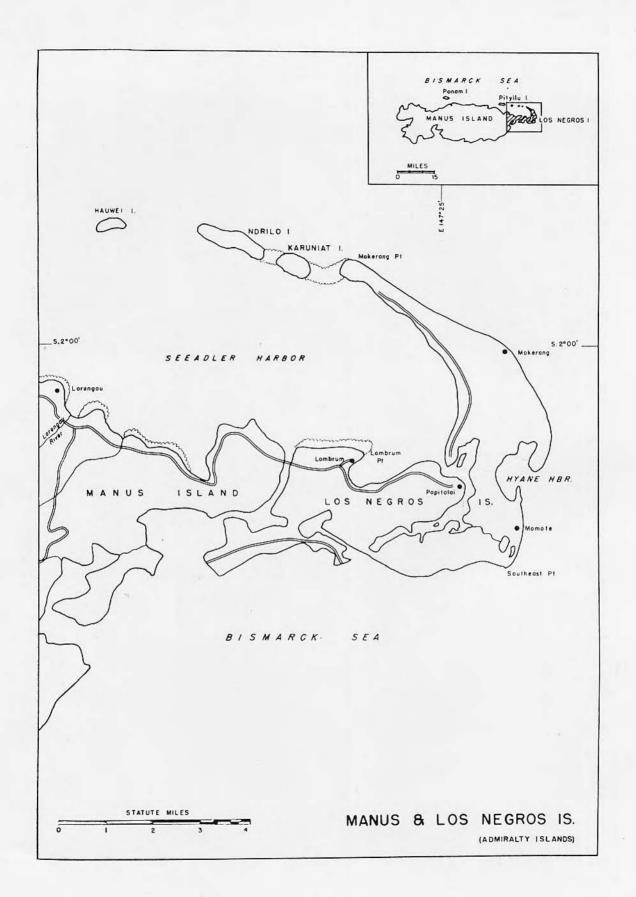


SOFTBALL GAME WHILE ON LEAVE



FAREWELL DANCE - AUCKLAND





ADMIRALTY ISLANDS



PAPITALAI POINT TANK FARM

FIRST CAMPSITE





FIRST GALLEY



CAMPSITE





W.P.A. LABOR

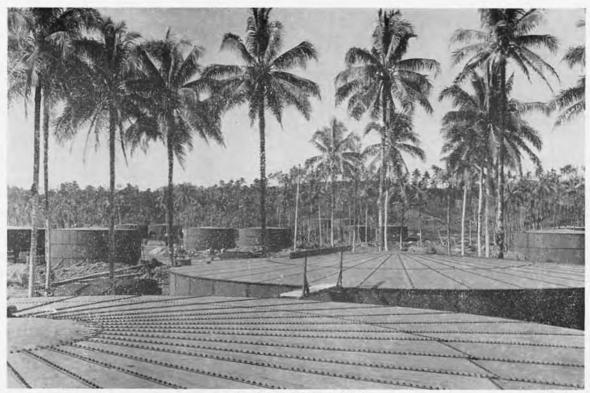


COMMUNITY BATH TUB

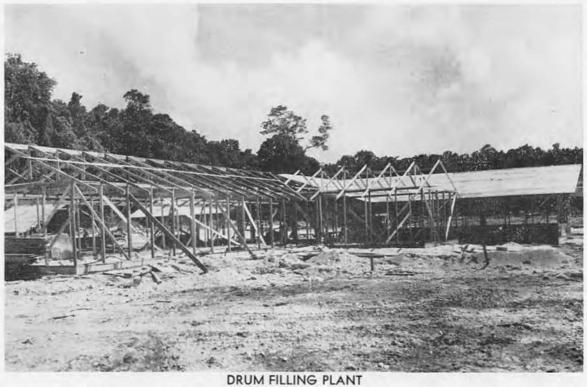
TANK FARM







OIL STORAGE TANKS



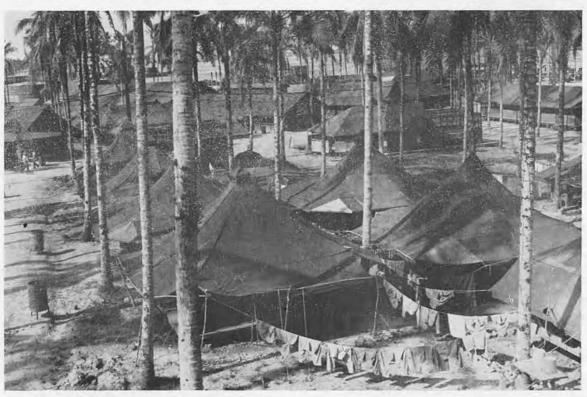
58th HIGHWAYS





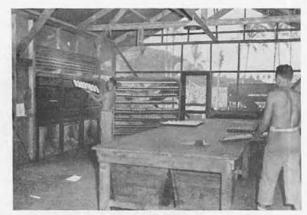
CAMP AREA







CHOW HALL



BAKERY



58th LANDING



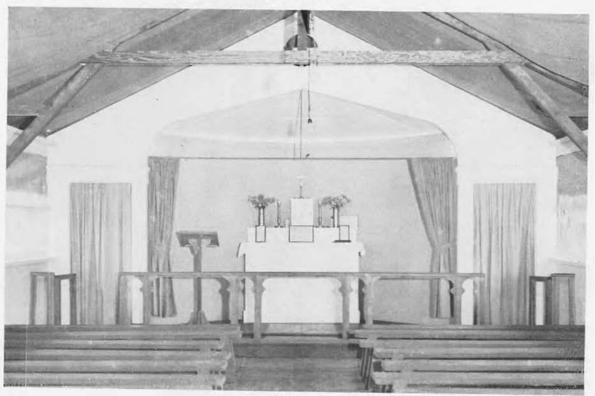
O.D.D.



GALLEY

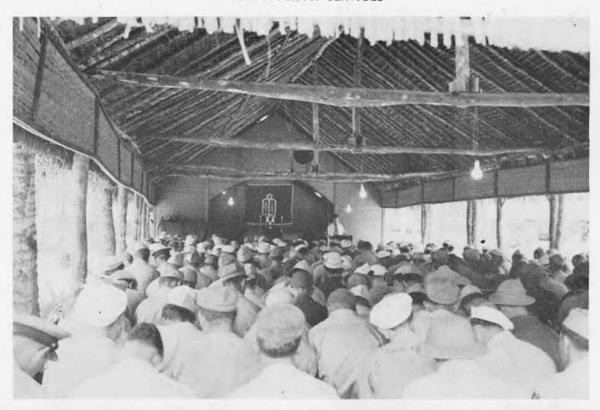


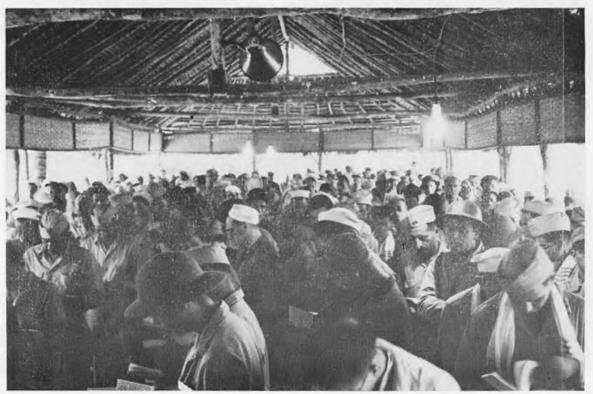
OFFICERS' MESS



CHAPEL

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES







OFFICE OF CENSOR



THE GIRL FRIEND???



SHOPS



WASTE AMMO



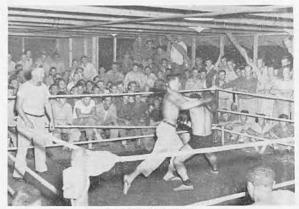
BASEBALL



BOXING



BIG BOYS



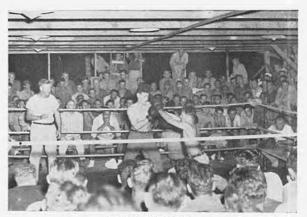
SMALL BOYS



FIGHT MOB



TEAM



TWO HANDS

VELLA LaVELLA ANNIVERSARY SHOW















U. S. O.







RED CROSS

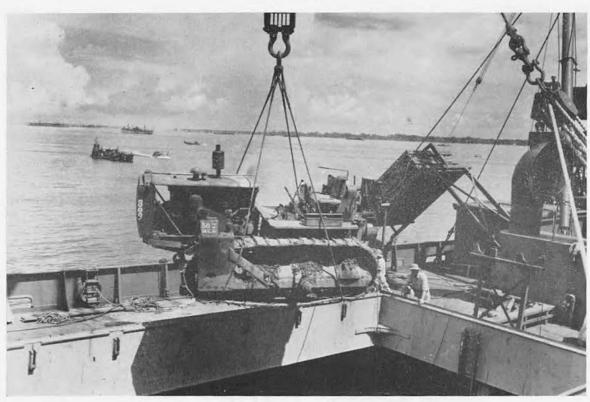


BREAKING CAMP



LOADING

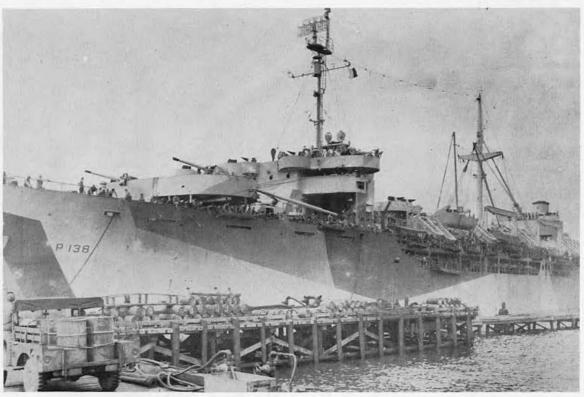
LOADING

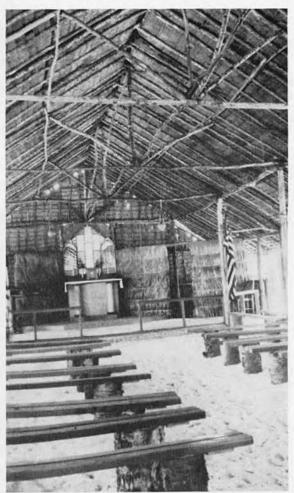




USS GEN. C. G. MORTON







CHAPEL



ALTAR





WORKING PARTIES



GRADING GANG



PIPE GANG



SHOP MECH'S



JUNGLE JUICE

RETURN VISIT TO GUADALCANAL



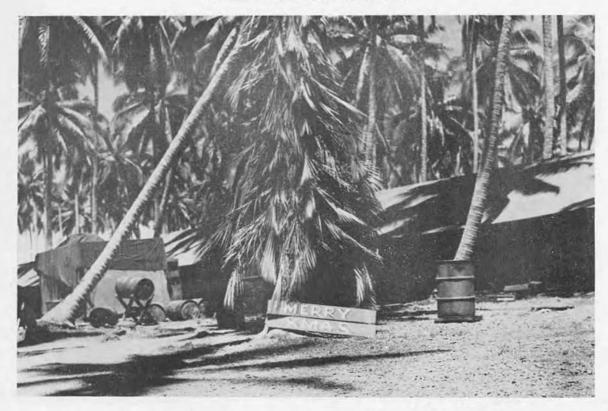
BACK TO GUADALCANAL

FIRST CAMP AT DOMA COVE





CHRISTMAS TREE AND DINNER





SECOND CAMPSITE





SITE OF CHOW HALL





CONSTRUCTION AND FINISHED CHOW HALL







GALLEY



REEFERS



BAKERY



LAUNDRY



G.S.K.



BUTCHER SHOP



ARMORY



PROJECTION BOOTH

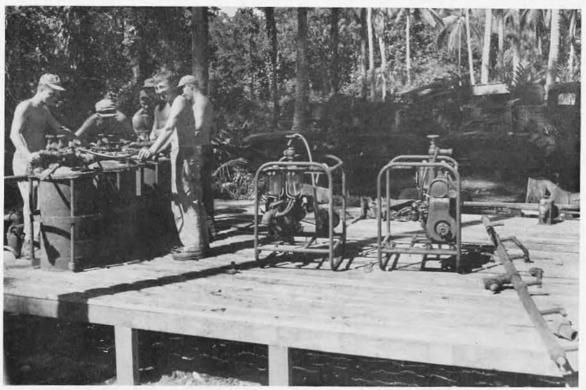
ANOTHER CAMP VIEW



WATER TOWER

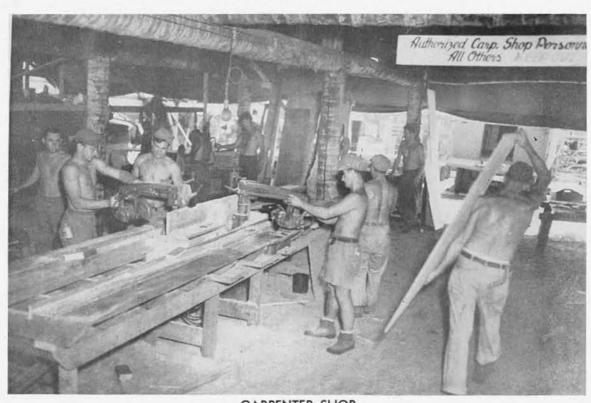








WATER PURIFICATION



CARPENTER SHOP



POST OFFICE



MAIL CENSORS



ENGINEERING AND PERSONNEL



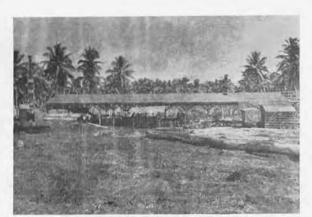
YES, WE HAD A BRIG



TRANSPORTATION



BARBER SHOP



CARPENTER SHOP





TIRE REPAIRS



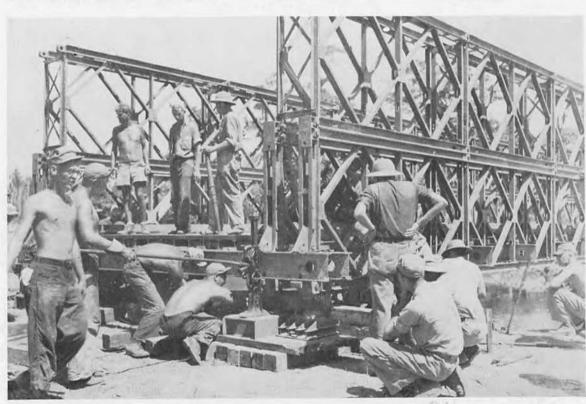
BAILEY BRIDGE CONTEST





THINK ABOUT IT, BOLT IT DOWN

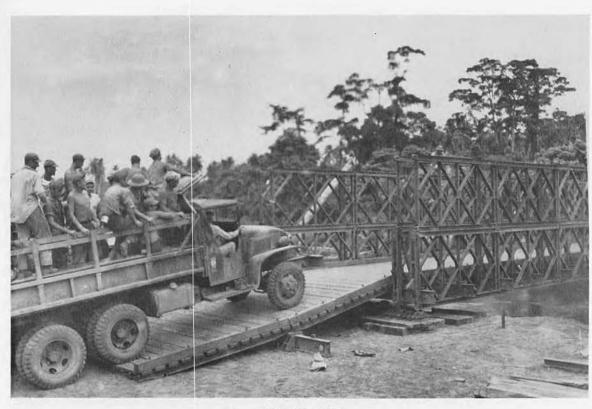






AND YOU HAVE A BRIDGE





AND TRAFFIC



CONSTRUCTION OF JAP VILLAGE



BEFORE



AFTER

SOME OF THE VILLAGE BUILDINGS







REAR ECHELON CAMPSITE





GAS MASK DRILL WITH LIVE GAS





SUNDAY SIGHTSEEING SAVO ISLAND



CHAPEL ON SAVO ISLAND

LOADING FOR OKIE







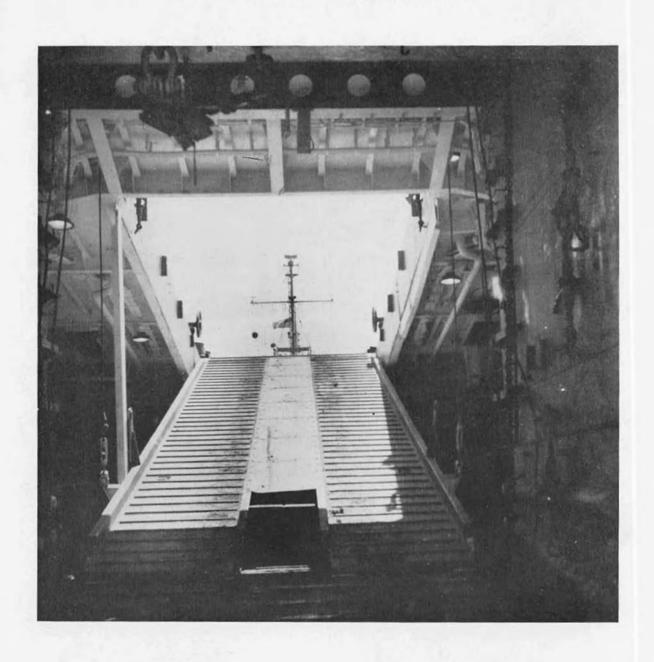








AND SO WE PUT OUT TO SEA ON AN L.S.T.



L.S.T. RAMP

OFF TO SEA IN A L.S.T.



ULITHI AND SOME BEER ENROUTE TO OKINAWA









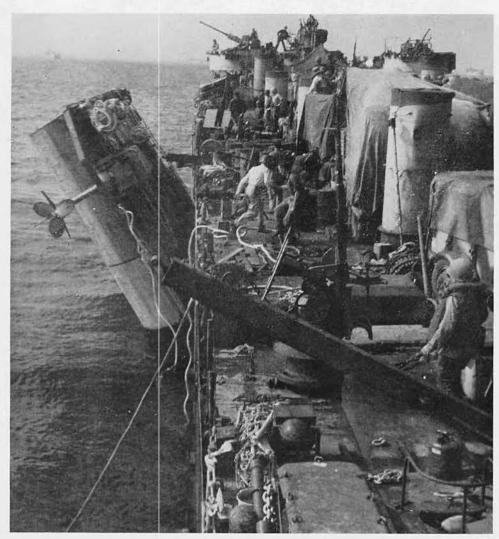
BURIAL CAVE

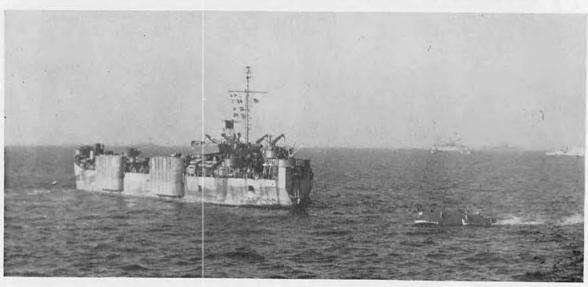


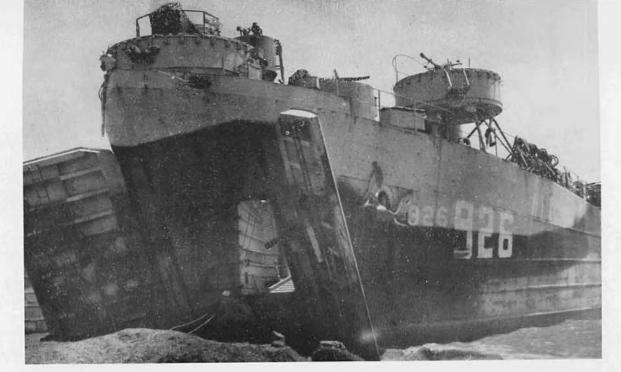


LANDINGS

PONTOONS OVER THE SIDE









HOME



THE FIRST FEW DAYS



IN A NATIVE CEMETERY

CHOW DOWN







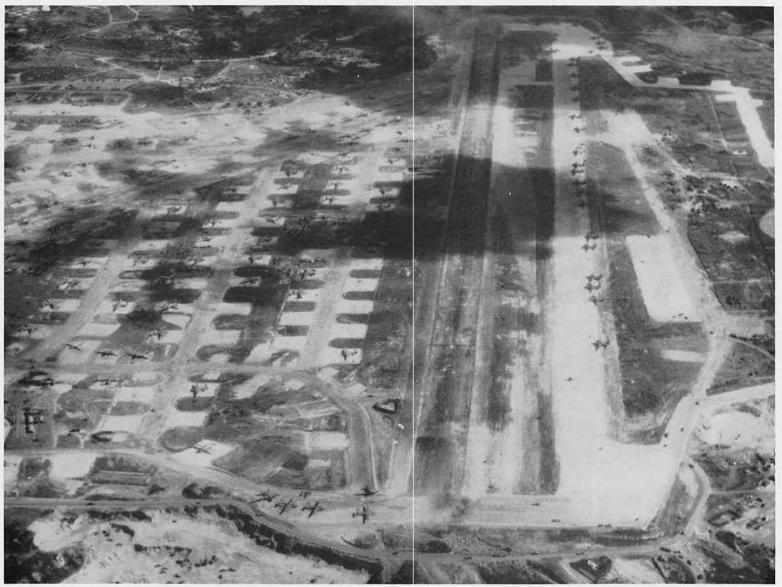
NATIVE WORK DETAIL



WATER DISTILLING PLANT







AIR VIEW YONTAN AIRFIELD



FIRST FURROW



JAP REVETMENT

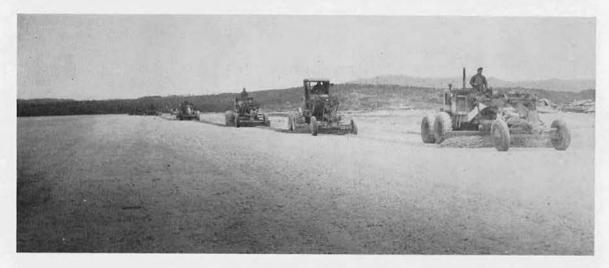


SURVEY GANG



CARRYALLS AT WORK







REPAIR WORK ON YONTAN



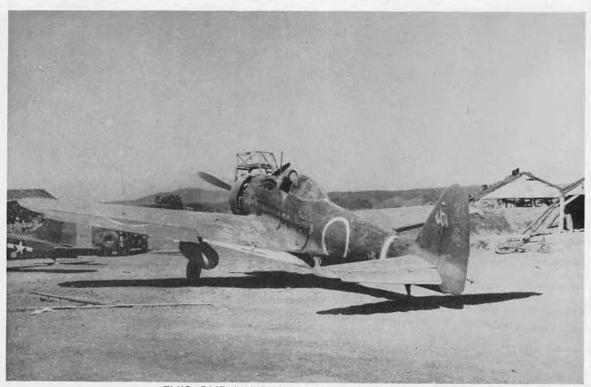




"CAT"



DUMP TRUCK



THIS ONE LANDED AFTER WE ARRIVED



BONE YARD





BAKA BOMBS



JEEP PLANE



BOMB CRATER









FIRST TO LAND



ONE THE NIPS LEFT



JAP TAMPERS



HOME GROWN



CUSTOMERS



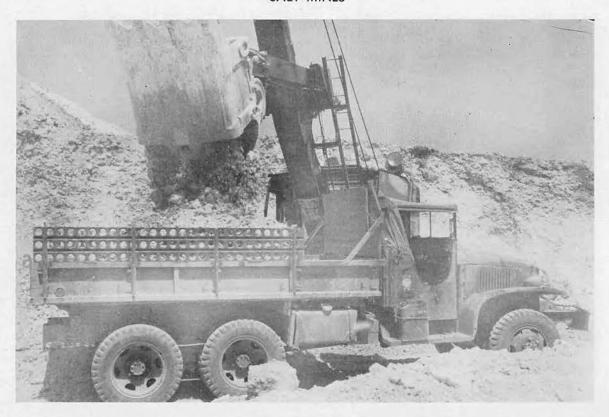


CORSAIRS OF COURSE





SALT MINES





ROAD BUILDING







MORE ROADWORK

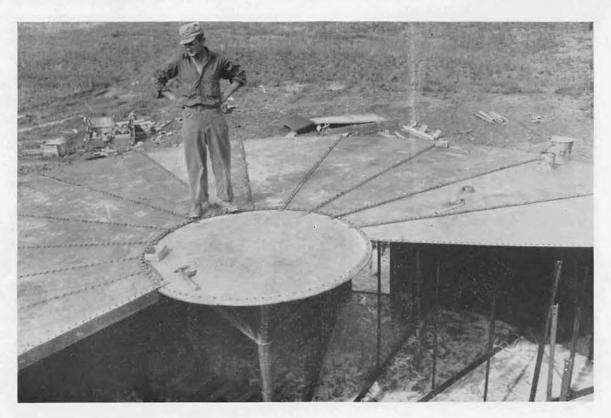




AND MORE

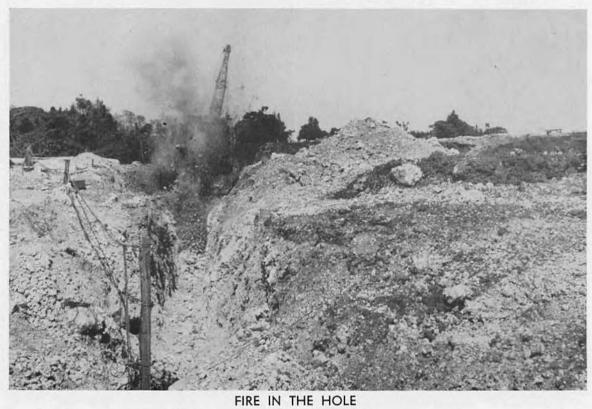








LESS THAN 1/2 OF ONE PER CENT





LAYING CORAL



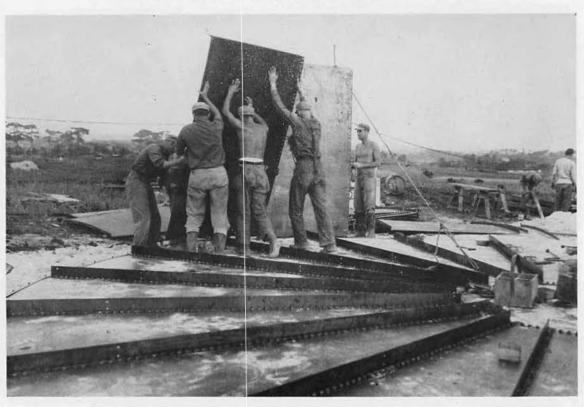
ROLLING AND GRADING



CHINA ROAD
THE FINISHED JOB

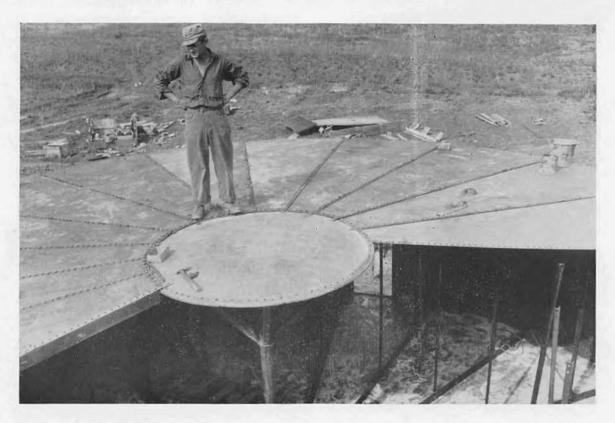


GAS TANK CONSTRUCTION





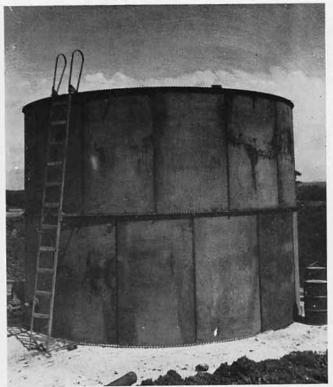




COMPLETED TANK







BEFORE



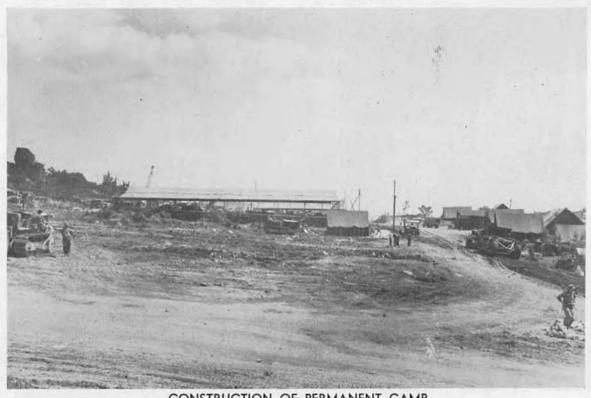
AFTER



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF THE 58th CAMPSITE



FIRST CAMPSITE



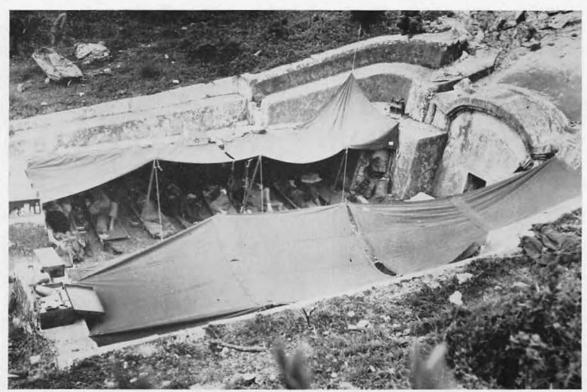
CONSTRUCTION OF PERMANENT CAMP



AMERICAN POLE REPLACES JAP



GRADING FOR MESS HALL



FIRST SICK BAY



HOME IS WHERE I HANG MY HAT



REALLY CHOWDOWN



NEW CHOW HALL



OFFICE



SWITCHBOARD



MACHINE SHOP



EARLY CAMP VIEWS















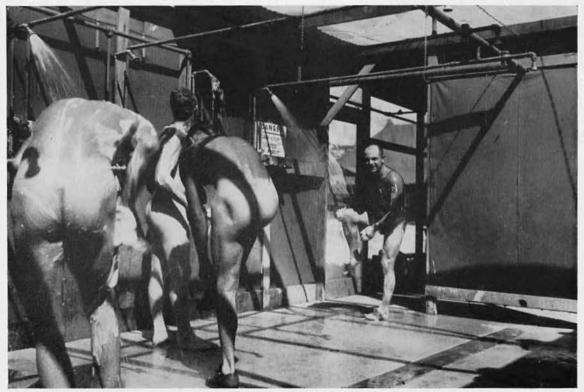
CHOW HOUNDS



A BAKER'S DOZEN

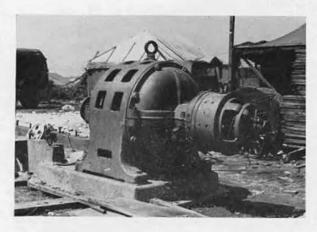


A SEABEE SLEPT HERE



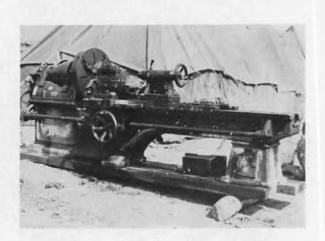
TURN ON THE COLD WATER FIRST

CAPTURED JAP EQUIPMENT









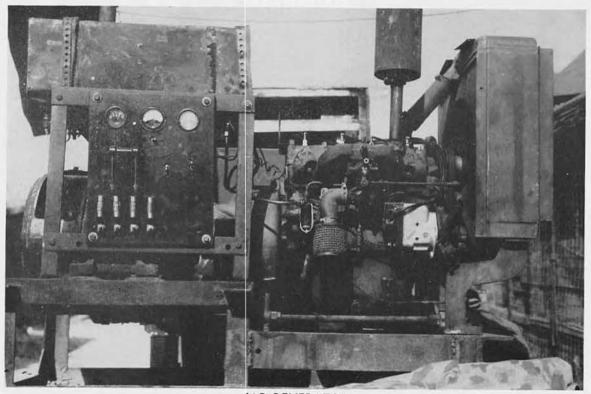
NATIVE WORKING DETAILS







THE PUMP



JAP GENERATOR

CONSTRUCTION OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGE — TOWN OF CHINA







CHINA TELEPHONE EXCHANGE



FINISHED BUILDING

CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETED RED CROSS BUILDING AT YONTAN







OFFICER'S COUNTRY



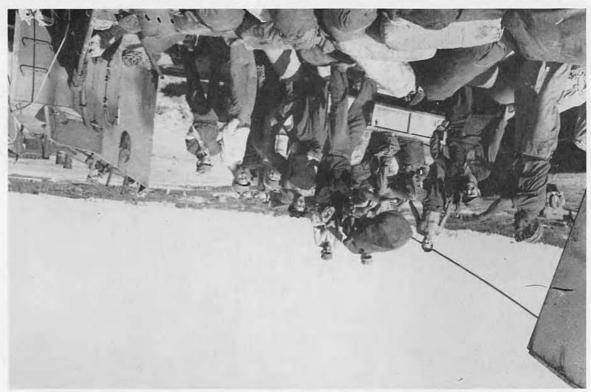
WHAT A STENCH

ARRIVAL OF REAR ECHELON









METCOME 10 JONE NEW HOME

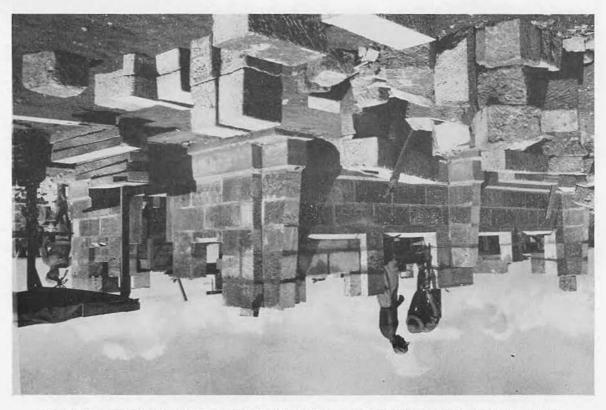


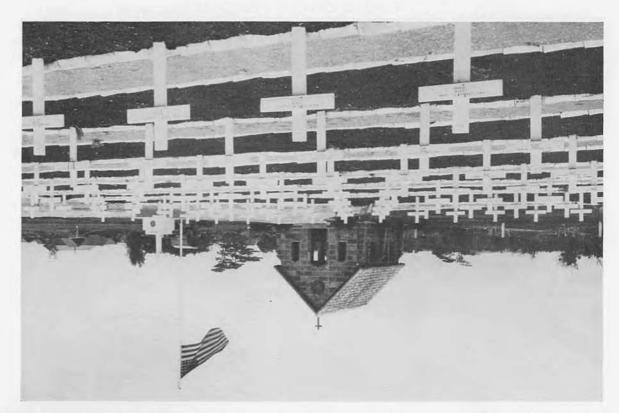
GATEWAY TO CEMETERY



WOODEN BIBLE BUILT BY 58th CB.

CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETED SIXTH MARINE DIVISION CEMETERY CHAPEL





















HEADQUARTERS SIXTH MARINE DIVISION IN THE FIELD

4 July,1945

SO: 179-45

war__

1. This cemetery, established by the Sixth Marine Division on lApril 1945, the day of our landing on Okinawa, is hereby officially designated

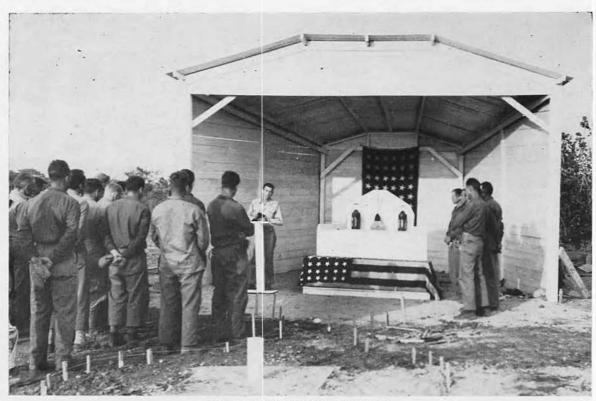
SIXTH MARINE DIVISION CEMETERY
OKINAWA SHIMA RYUKYU ISLANDS

LEMUEL C. SHEPHERD Jr.,
MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS,
COMMANDING, SIXTH MARINE DIVISION

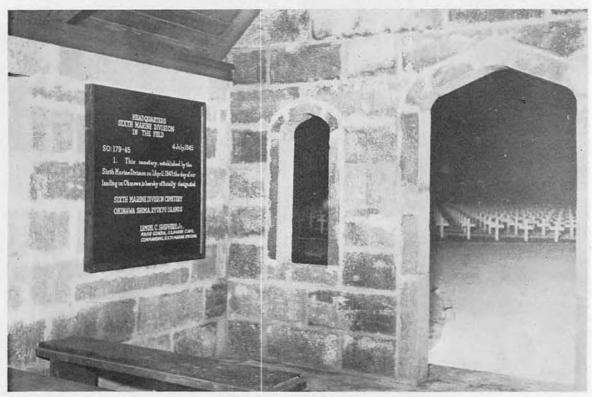
"In this hallowed ground lie the remains of our friends and comrades-in-arms_the men we have lived with and fought with in the months gone by.

Their place in our hearts can never be filled_
their memory shall remain with us always. They have fought courageously in our Country's cause and have brought honor and glory to our Division and the Marine Corps. We deeply grieve that it was their fate to die to make our victory on Okinawa possible. We humbly bow our heads in silent tribute to their memory. They are indeed the heroes of this

LEMUEL C. SHEPHERD, Jr.,
MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS,
COMMANDING, SIXTH MARINE DIVISION.



DAVE APPLEGATE'S SERVICE



INTERIOR OF CHAPEL



DEDICATION OF CHAPEL



NO SEATS



CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANTS

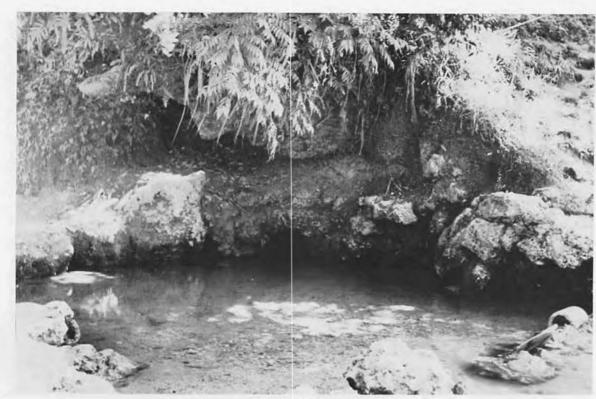


TELL YOUR TROUBLES





BUILDING CROSS



TENGAN RIVER



AND WATER HOLE FOR NEW CAMP



COMPANY "A" AGAIN



OFFICER COUNTRY



GALLEY



BARBERS



LAUNDRY



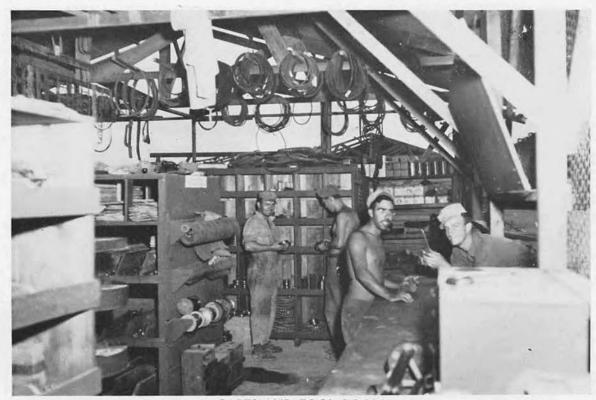
COBBLERS



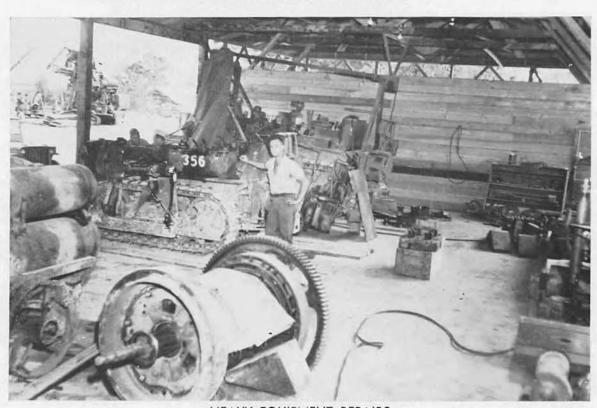
MACHINE SHOP



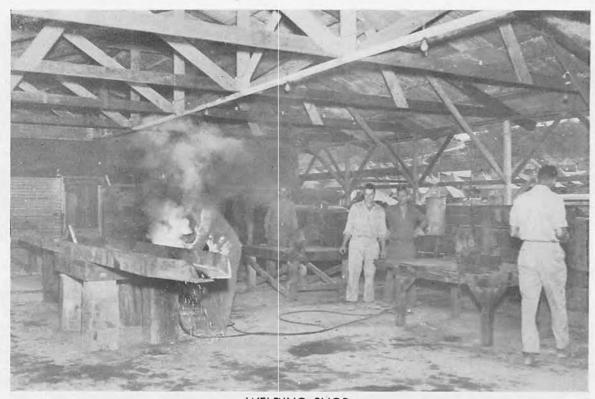
TAILORS



PARTS AND TOOL ROOM



HEAVY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS



WELDING SHOP



A BUTLER BUILDING



FINISHED CULVERT



REMEMBER! JUST LIKE PEARY



ENG. OFFICE



STATESIDE BOUND

CRACKERJACKS FOR SUPPER





OCTOBER TYPHOON DAMAGE





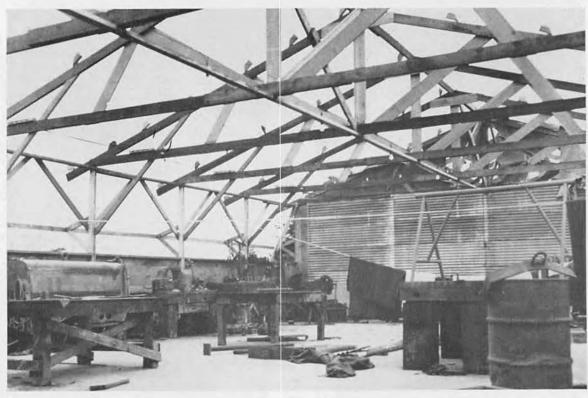






THESE WERE BUILDINGS





ROUTE 13





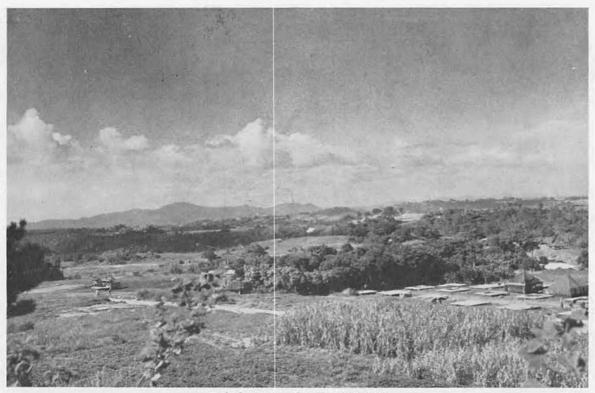
BEFORE AND AFTER







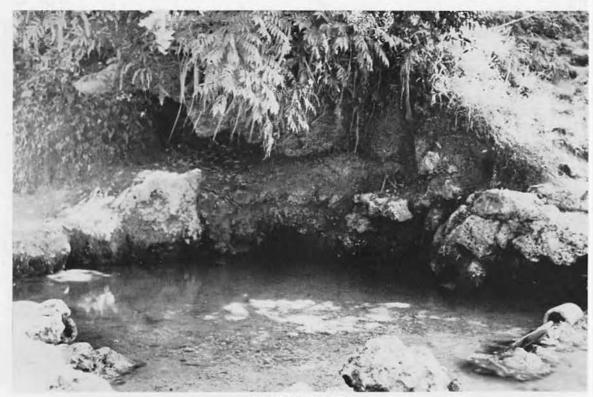
BUTLER BUILDINGS



2nd CAMP - COMPANY "C"



COMPANY "A"



TENGAN RIVER



AND WATER HOLE FOR NEW CAMP

ROUTE 13





BEFORE AND AFTER







BUTLER BUILDINGS





HARDBALL

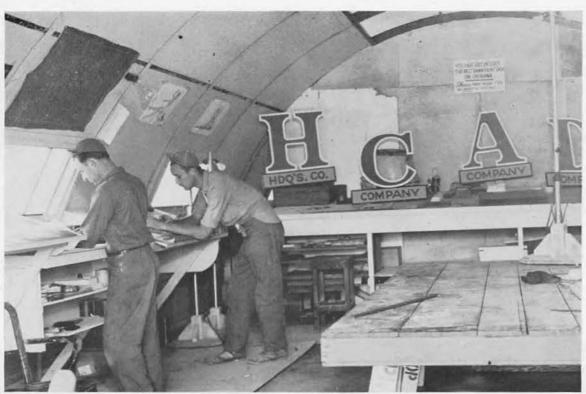


HIGHBALL

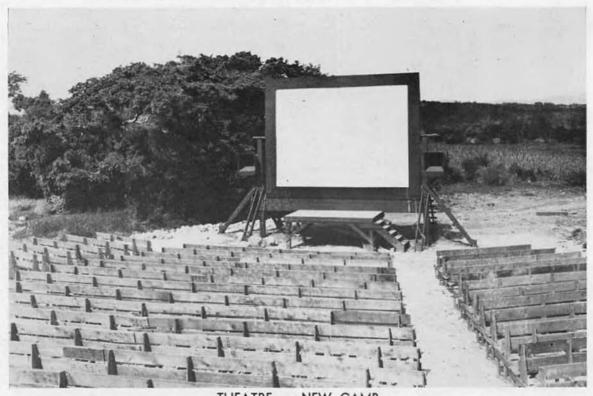




SOFTBALL

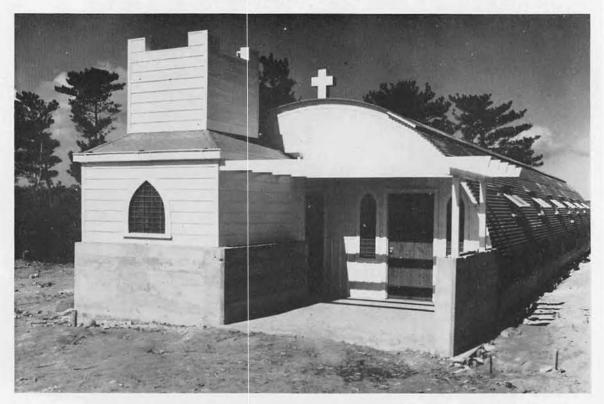


PAINT SHOP



THEATRE - NEW CAMP

BATTALION CHAPEL







THE SIGN



REPLACEMENTS

FIRST OF THE GANG GOING HOME











MORE HOMEWARD BOUND

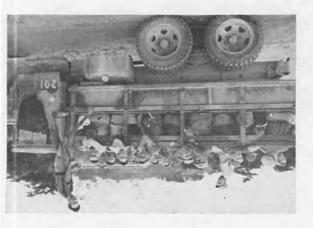


















OPEN WIDE THE GOLDEN GATE

REUNION

S

No history of the 58th would be complete without an account of many reunions held since V-J Day.

During 1944 and 1945, many of the 58th returned to the States. Those who lived on the East Coast or were on leave pending new duty stations in the main passed through the City of New York. One of our former shipmates took it upon himself to be a one-man reception committee to those who were in the vicinity of New York. That shipmate was Walter Beaudel, Ex-C.M.M. of "D" Company.

Beau held open house and hardly α week passed by that four or five of the 58th gathered to swap tales and indulge in α few beers. Dinner somehow always had α steak as the main course.

In 1946, Beau hit upon the idea of contacting all the Ex-58th members in metropolitan New York and holding a reunion in the month of August at his home. Your editor sent out cards and the response was terrific. Over 150 former officers and enlisted men put in an appearance. The cost of the first reunion was borne entirely by Beaudel and, at this reunion, plans were laid for the ones that have followed each year.

The History Book, of course, was uppermost in the minds of all the men and your editor was nominated to see that it would be published. Of course, it is now in your hands and I do hope it meets with your approval. The task was difficult and, without the help of all who contributed pictures, addresses and accounts, the history would not have become a reality. All pictures sent in will be returned to you as fast as I can get them in the mail.

This year, 1950, will be the Fifth Annual Reunion and we are planning to secure a hotel in New York for it. Details should be forthcoming in April.

We have found that reunions are wonderful occasions to renew old friendships. Now that you have most of the addresses, why not hold one in your area. Would you like to have a news bulletin about the doings of exshipmates of the 58th say once a year? If so, I'd be glad to put it out, just write me a letter about what you are doing and, if the response warrants it, you'll get the bulletin.

Until we meet again somewhere, sometime, God Be With You.

C. EDWARD GIDEON.

Cadward files

PERSONNEL OF THE 58th UNITED STATES NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

DECEASED

APPLEGATE, DAVID. L.

c/o Mrs. Nelson Applegate (Mother) R.D. No. 1, Box 92, Farmingdale, New Jersey

BREIBY, ERIC

c/o Mrs. John Brieby (Mother) 1 East Harriet Avenue, Palisades Park, N. J.

CHRISTIANSON, LOFTUS LINWOOD c/o Mrs. Tillie Christianson (Mother) Washington, Maine

DOYLE, GEORGE J. c/o John J. Doyle (Son) 59 Cedar Street, Somerville, Massachusetts

c/o Mrs. Sarah Peaco (Daughter) R.D. No. 1., Gibsonia, Pennsylvania

JANDREAU, CLIFFORD P. c/o Mrs. Felix Jandreau (Mother) St. François, Maine

LANDRY, WILFRED A. c/o Mrs. Regina Lemay (Sister) i5 Fairmount Street, West Warwick, R. I.

NEUMANN, ROBERT c/o Mrs. C. Harrington (Sister) 1407 South Park Place, New Hyde Park, N. Y.

WANDA, JOSEPH E. c/o Martha M. Hurley (Sister) 810 Washington Street, Jamestown, N. Y.

WOOLIVER, ROBERT c/o Mrs. Callie R. Wooliver (Mother) 73 Sibley Street, Detroit, Michigan

ALABAMA

CONNERS, HAROLD L.
Enterprise, Alabama.
HARCROW, TYSON McK.
Route No. 2, Jacksonville, Alabama.

McMILLIAN, CHARLES N. 149 North 57th Street, Birmingham, Alabama.

MONROE. HAL Alabama

PLUNKETT, RUSSELL A.
P.O. Box No. 16, Cullman, Alabama.

WORLEY, HUGH M., CM 1/c Route No. 3, Florence, Alabama.

ARKANSAS

KNACKSTEDT, LESLIE

Box 442, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

MATTINGLY, JOHN A.
Route No. 7, Box 726, Little Rock, Arkansas.

TURNER, S. R. 903 West 4th Avenue, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

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HATCH, EDWIN J. Box No. 64, Winkelmen, Arizona.

CALIFORNIA

ALLEN, CHARLES E. Crestline, California.

ARP, JAMES ADDISON 1517 - 3rd Street, Bakersfield, California BAUER, VERLE VICTOR
P.O. Box 881, Concord, California.

BENEDETTI, HENRY E. 1070-B 45th Street, Emeryville 8, California.

BENNETT, JOHN N. 1837 South 6th Street, Alhambra, California.

BORMANN, VALENTINE B. 3407 Wyoming Avenue, Burbank, California.

BROUGHTON, FRANK S. Route 2, Box 882, Elm Street, Fontana, Calif.

BROWN, WALTER A. 2372 Tyrolean Way, Sacramento 15, California.

CORNELL, KENNETH S. 4915 Grant Avenue, Fresno, California

COSTA, ALBERT JOSEPH 1507 - 79th Avenue, Oakland 3, California.

CROWDER, FRANK PARKER Route 1, Box 521, Ventura, California.

EWING, WESLEY C. 2514 - 45th Avenue, San Francisco 16, Calif.

HANSTEN, ROBERT E. 505 Joost Avenue, San Francisco 12, California.

HARRIS, SOLLY 39 Rose Avenue, Venice, California.

JAIN, THEODORE 1229 D Street, Marysville, California

KING, WILBUR D. 2130 West Avenue 30, Los Angeles 65, Calif.

LOBDELL, ROBERT B. 1817 - 15th Street, San Francisco, California

LUND. LEVAL 3245 Lowry Road, Los Angeles 27, California

McCUTCHEON, VERNON L. 366 East Street, Quincy, California.

McADAMS, DAVID E. 742 Junipero, Long Beach 4, California.

MONDEAU, SAMUEL L. 15956 South Hunsaker Ave., Paramount, Calii.

MONIA, MARTIN V. 210 Avenue R, Palmdale, California.

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NOLL, RANDOLPH C. Madison, California.

NUNNELLY, JOHN DUKE 6507 East Fairfield Street, Los Angeles 22, Calif.

PAGE, GORDON M. 251 South Dearing Avenue, Fresno, California.

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SMITH, WILLIAM J., GM 1/c 518 Sacramento Street, Vallejo, California.

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TAYLOR, ROBERT B., BM3 U.S.S. Virgo Aka 20, c/o Fleet Post Office San Francisco, California.

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WILLARD, RICHARD M.

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MULHAUSEN, GEO. W.

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CLARK, HENRY B.

Higganum, Connecticut.

CONNOLLY, JAMES B.

65 Highland Avenue, Groton, Connecticut

DAKE, LEWIS H.

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95 Mechanic Street, New Haven 11, Conn.

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LUCKY, LOUIS S.

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McGEE, WM. H., Jr.
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MAYCOCK, ARTHUR

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PECKA, STEVE J.

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PERKINS, WILLIAM GEORGE, Jr.

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ROEHR, EDWARD

702 West 76th Street, Chicago 20, Illinois

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RUDCKI, JOSEPH A.

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WAGNER, JOHN F.

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DE LATTE, PHILIP J.

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HANKS, STANHOPE NOLAND

Clinton, Louisiana

JONES, TILLMAN E., Sr.

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Grosse Tete, Louisiana

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AUTER, KENNETH J.

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GRAHAM, PHILIP M.

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HINCKS, KARL W.

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MURRAY, FRED E.

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PILLSBURY, ARTHUR M.

R.F.D., W. Scarboro, Maine

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STAPLES, JOSEPH L.

North Vassalboro, Maine

WAGNER, FREDERICK L.

Cape Porpoise, Maine WHITMORE, HERBERT J.

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Glyndon, Maryland

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CARTON, JOHN P.

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CASS, FRANCIS A.

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CUMMINGS, JOHN J.

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DELISLE, RENE J.

Brick Yard Court, North Adams, Massachusetts

DENAULT, EVARISTE J.

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DE STEFANO, JOHN M. 214 Laurel Street, Melrose 76, Massachusetts

DOMICANO, PAUL R.

19 Glenwood Street, Holden, Massachusetts

DONOVAN, HENRY TIMOTHY

31 Garrison Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts

DOTY, DOUGLAS

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DUBUQUE, ROGER B.

9 Canal Street, Ware, Massachusetts

DUGA, THOMAS R.

Box 246, Pine Street, Huntington, Massachusetts

DURANT, JOSEPH J.

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DWYER, WILLIAM P.

45 Monmouth Street, Squantum, Massachusetts

EATON, JOSEPH F.

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EAYRS, WALTER G.

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ELLISON, CHARLES V., Jr.

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GETHIN, THOMAS

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GIBBS, GEORGE P.

R. F. D., Sterling Jct., Massachusetts

GOUTHRO, THOMAS M.

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GRAY, CECIL R.

Main, Russell, Massachusetts

GREENE, ALLAN C.

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GREENWOOD, RAYMOND

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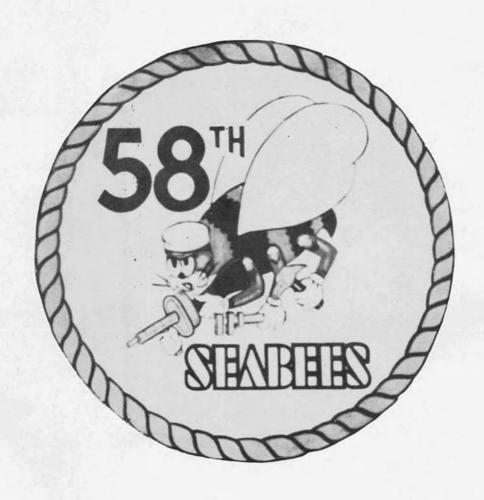
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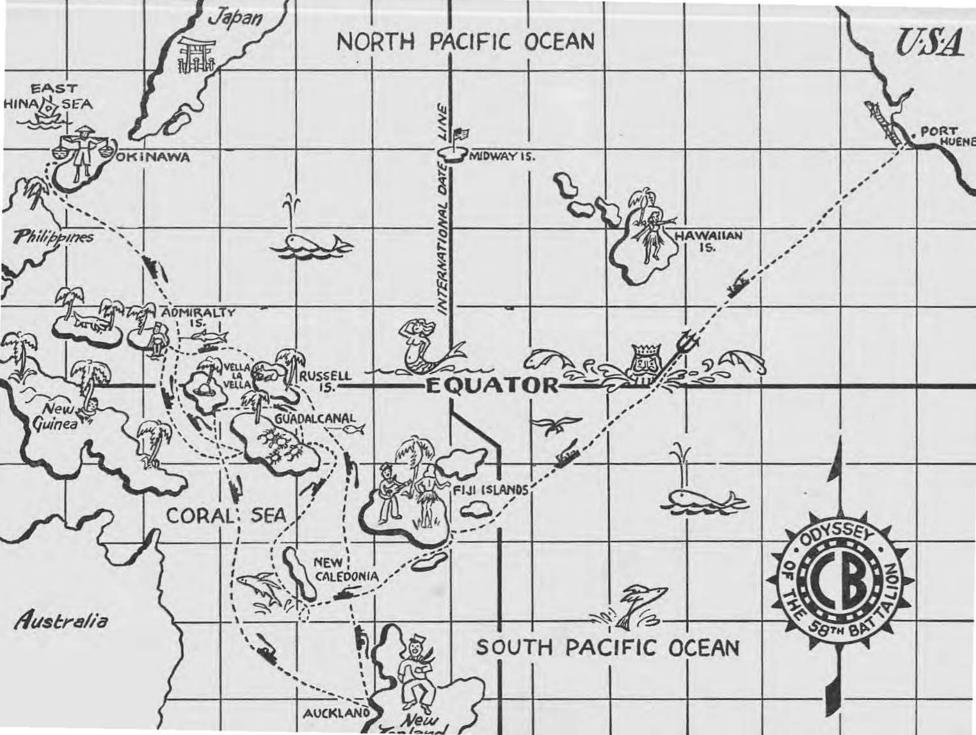
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