

20TH Special
U.S. NAVAL
CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION

1943-1945

THE MANUS REVIEW

EDITED BY DON OWEN



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20TH SPECIAL U. S. NAVAL
CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

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THE 20TH SPECIAL

1943-1945

On November 22, 1943, the 20th Special U. S. Naval Construction Battalion first gave indications of life. On that date 1,116 men and 25 officers reported aboard to Lt. Commander C. A. Graves, Officer in Charge, at Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va.

The first few weeks were a mixture of orientation, military training, and stevedoring instruction. This was followed by the first red letter day on the 20th Special calendar, when on December 8, 1943, the battalion review was highlighted by the presentation of the battalion colors. This ceremony officially designated the 20th Special as an independent, self-supporting organization.

By December 23rd, the battalion finished its required training and all hands were granted pre-embarkation leave. At the expiration of this leave the battalion reformed at Camp Peary, and on January 7, 1944, it left in three sections for a cross-country trip to Port Hueneme, Calif.

Arriving at Hueneme on January 12th, the battalion began advanced military and intensive stevedoring training. By the end of January the stevedoring gangs were put to work on actual ships, loading tons of supplies and equipment for operations in the Pacific.

During the stay at Hueneme, the battalion was taken over by Commander Fred C. Seibert.

As March 1944 began, rumors of the 20th Special's prospective move overseas became prevalent. Guess as to the ultimate destination of the battalion ranged from Britain to New Britain. Finally on the 24th of March, the battalion went aboard the U. S. Army Transport SEA FLASHER for the journey overseas to Island X.

Life aboard ship was hot, crowded, and boring. The transport was nothing more than a converted cargo ship, with men for its cargo. For the most part the trip was quiet and uneventful. In spite of thousands of searching eyes, not one enemy ship, sub, or plane was seen on the entire trip.

The continual increase of temperature as the ship proceeded westward convinced most of the personnel that Island X was not going to be Alaska. This theory was further confirmed on April 3rd when everyone was informed that the equator was being crossed.

To celebrate this gala occasion all hands took part in King Neptune's party for the purpose of initiating a large group of Pollywogs into the royal order of the Shellbacks.

On April 11th, after seemingly endless days at sea, the SEA FLASHER entered the harbor of Noumea for



the first stop on the journey to Island X. The second stop came at Milne Bay, New Guinea, and the third at Finschaven, New Guinea.

On April 26th, the SEA FLASHER, escorted by two destroyers, set sail on the last leg of the journey through the historic Bismarck Sea. Shortly after noon on April 27th, the first glimpse of Island X, the newly conquered Admiralty Islands, was seen.

As the ship entered large Seeadler Harbor everyone was impressed with the sight of a great number of fighting and cargo ships, but was equally appalled at the sight of a land without a solitary building other than a few scattered tents.

At 0600, April 28th, the entire battalion began the dual task of unloading tons of supplies and equipment, and building ashore on Manus, a temporary living camp. Before the latter could be completed it was necessary to bury the bodies of numerous enemy dead who were scattered over the campsite. The area had to be carefully examined to remove any booby traps and unexploded bombs; many shell holes had to be filled with the aid of bulldozers. Overcoming these handicaps as well as those of continual rain and endless seas of mud, the temporary camp was completed by the first week of May.

During this entire period, cargo unloaded by the 20th Special, kept pouring ashore to help in making Manus one of the United States' most advanced naval bases.

On July 3, the battalion moved into a new and partially completed camp which was destined to be "home" for

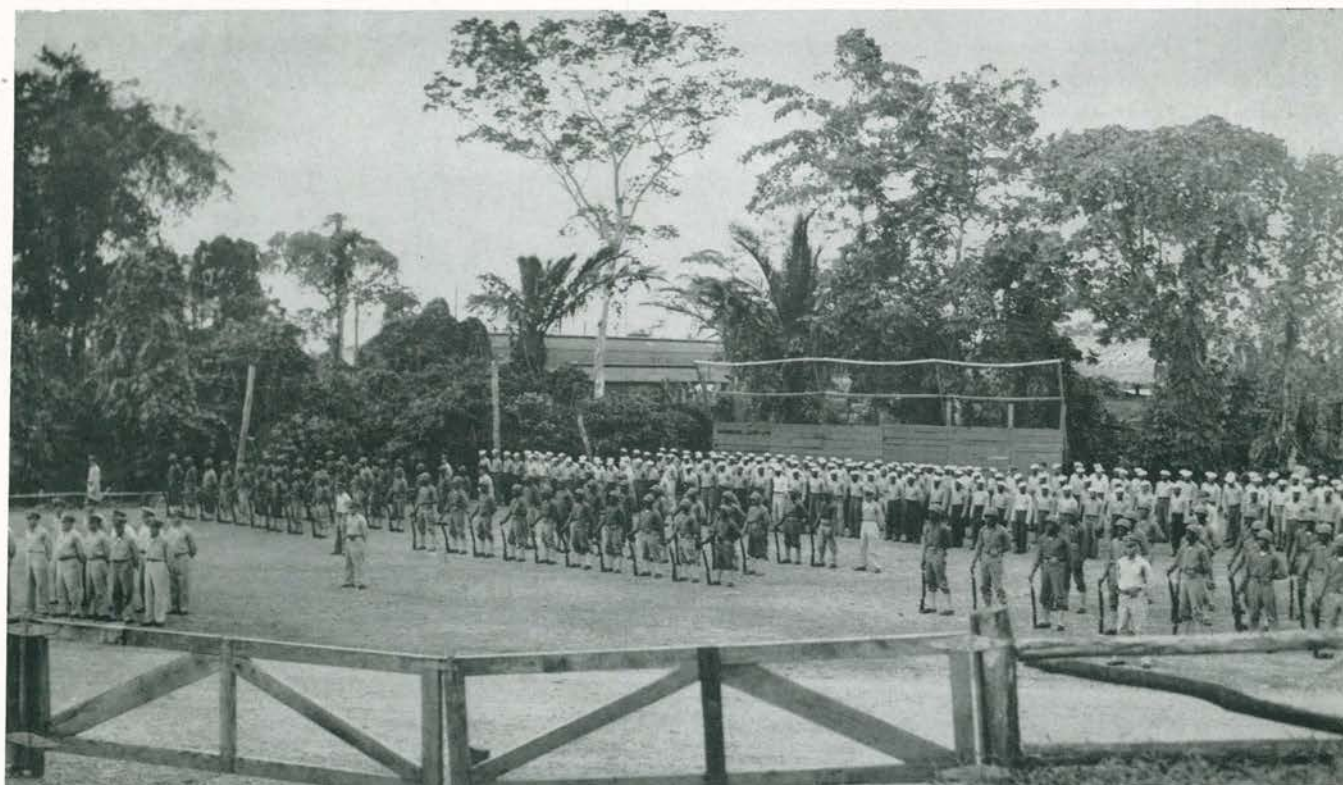
over 17 months. As before the job of completing, modernizing, and beautifying the camp fell to the officers and men of the battalion. That they were successful in building and maintaining a neat and impressive camp is evidenced by the commendation of Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, which referred to the 20th Special Camp as one of the finest in the Pacific.

Meanwhile the unending task of loading and unloading cargo continued at a brisk pace. In the course of 20 months overseas the 20th handled every conceivable type of cargo from eggs to two-ton bombs. By late July 1945, the battalion had handled well over one-half million tons of cargo. For their continual good work under adverse conditions, the 20th Special received numerous commendations from high ranking Naval Officials.

Following the end of the war, an increasing number of men of the battalion began the long-awaited trip to the United States. On October, 22, 1945, the battalion received the welcome orders to begin inactivation. On November 3, 1945, the battalion was officially decommissioned.

To help recall the days on Manus the battalion is publishing this book. On this and following pages you will find many pictures which record far better than words, the humor, thrills and boredom shared by all during duty with the 20th Special Battalion. Every effort has been made to minimize the amount of copy and captions, in order that each man may relate his own personal story for every picture.

—So, proceed, Mr. Civilian, the history of the 20th Special U. S. N. C. B. lies in your hands.





BATTALION OFFICERS



BATTALION OFFICERS



F. C. SEIBERT
Commander, USNR
Officer-in-Charge

COMDR. F. C. SEIBERT
LT. COMDR. C. A. GRAVES
LT. COMDR. E. F. KELLY
LT. V. L. VERDELLET
LT. L. T. SWITZER
LT. W. O. CHLOPEK
LT. J. F. McCOY
LT. H. WOODWARD
LT. S. F. LEICHTER
LT. N. N. JOHNSTON
LT. L. A. McGLOTHLIN
LT. J. W. BRACEY
LT. D. E. ROBERTS
LT. J. O. LAMAR
LT. R. H. BECKMAN
LT. B. F. LOVETT
LT. C. H. TOBIAS
LT. (ig) P. L. BREIDENBACH

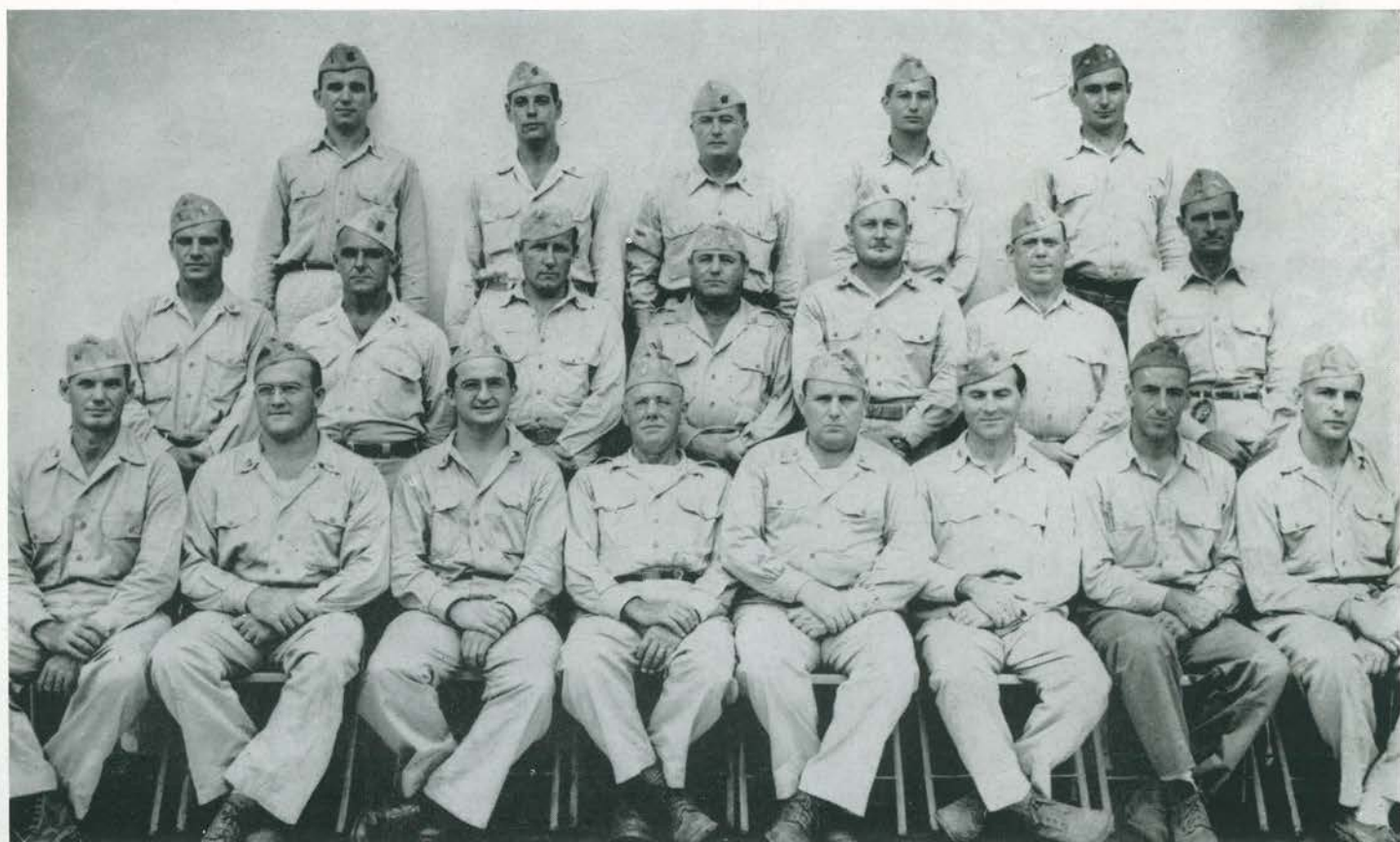
LT. (ig) T. S. SWEENEY
LT. (ig) J. I. BLAIR
LT. (ig) R. C. ELLIS
LT. (ig) G. F. DELASHMITT
LT. (ig) W. R. WARRICK
LT. (ig) A. S. STACK
LT. (ig) T. CAROLAN
LT. (ig) L. B. THOMAS
LT. (ig) R. W. KICKLIGHTER
LT. (ig) W. C. A. COSTELLO
LT. (ig) H. M. PROUT
LT. (ig) D. J. OWEN
LT. (ig) D. G. TAYLOR
ENSIGN J. M. KOPKA
ENSIGN M. W. HUEFTLE
ENSIGN P. V. KING
ENSIGN W. C. KINGSBURY
CHIEF CARP. J. J. DONOVAN
CHIEF BOSN. H. D. BOSE

CHIEF CARP. I. SAMERUCK
CHIEF CARP. J. E. KENNEDY
CHIEF CARP. F. E. COOPER
CARP. T. T. EILERTS
CARP. D. J. DION
CARP. P. D. CATO
CARP. E. D. ARCHAMBEAULT
CARP. J. R. DOWD
CARP. E. A. LUNDBERG
CARP. T. A. RITCHIE
CARP. J. J. McCAULEY
CARP. J. L. SOUTHERLAND
CARP. J. W. McKEE
CARP. J. H. WEHNER
CARP. A. R. C. IDE
CARP. H. G. BERQUEST
CARP. F. J. LEAHY
CARP. C. R. YORK



PORT HUENEME, CALIFORNIA---MARCH 1944

Left to right, front row: J. O. Lamar, B. F. Lovett, S. F. Leichter, H. Woodward, C. A. Graves, L. T. Switzer, J. McCoy, W. O. Harrell, L. A. McGlothlin, P. A. Breidenbach. Second row: J. M. Kopka, L. B. Thomas, G. F. Delashmitt, R. C. Ellis, T. T. Eilerls, H. M. Prout, D. J. Owen, A. S. Stack, D. Dion, J. E. Kennedy. Third row: T. Carolan, T. Sweeney, J. I. Blair, H. D. Bose, W. C. A. Costello, C. H. Tobias, D. G. Taylor, W. Warrick, J. J. Donovan, I. Sameruck.



MANUS, ADMIRALTIES---FEBRUARY 1945

Left to right, front row: J. W. Bracey, B. F. Lovett, E. F. Kelly, F. C. Seibert, L. A. McGlothlin, S. F. Leichter, R. Beckman, C. H. Tobias. Second row: J. M. Kopka, P. L. Breidenbach, L. B. Thomas, J. O. Lamar, N. N. Johnston, A. Stack, J. I. Blair. Third row: D. J. Owen, H. M. Prout, T. Carolan, D. G. Taylor, I. Sameruck.



E. F. KELLEY
Lieutenant Commander, M.C.
Medical Officer



V. L. VERDELLET
Lieutenant, CEC
Executive Officer



S. F. LEICHTER
Lieutenant, D.C.
Dental Officer



J. O. LAMAR
Lieutenant, USN
Commander C Company



R. BECKMAN
Lieutenant, S.C.
Supply Officer



C. H. TOBIAS
Lieutenant, S.C.
Disbursing Officer



P. L. BREIDENBACH
Lieutenant, USN
Commander A Company



L. B. THOMAS
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Commander B Company



J. I. BLAIR
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Commander D Company



R. KICKLIGHTER
Lieutenant (jg), CHC
Chaplain



G. F. DELASHMITT
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Stevedoring



A. STACK
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Stevedoring



T. CAROLAN
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Commander Headquarters Company



W. R. WARRICK
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Stevedoring



W. C. A. COSTELLO
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Stevedoring



D. J. OWEN
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Recreation Officer



H. M. PROUT
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Stevedoring



D. G. TAYLOR
Lieutenant (jg), CEC
Stevedoring



J. M. KOPKA
Ensign, CEC
Stevedoring



P. V. KING
Ensign, CEC
Stevedoring



W. KINGSBURY
Ensign, CEC
Stevedoring



M. HUEFTLE
Ensign, CEC
Stevedoring



J. J. DONOVAN
Chief Carpenter, CEC
Stevedoring



H. D. BOSE
Chief Boatswain, USN
Harbor Pilot



I. SAMERUCK
Chief Carp, CEC
Stevedoring



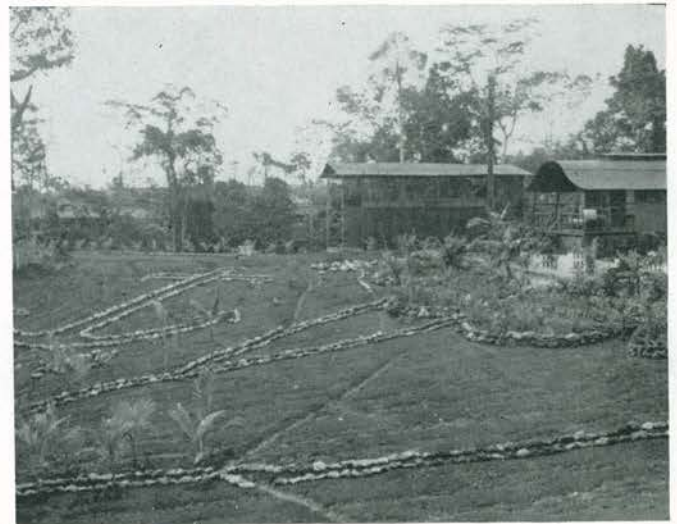
J. DOWD
Carp, CEC
Stevedoring



E. LUNDBERG
Carp, CEC
Stevedoring



T. A. RITCHIE
Carp, CEC
Stevedoring

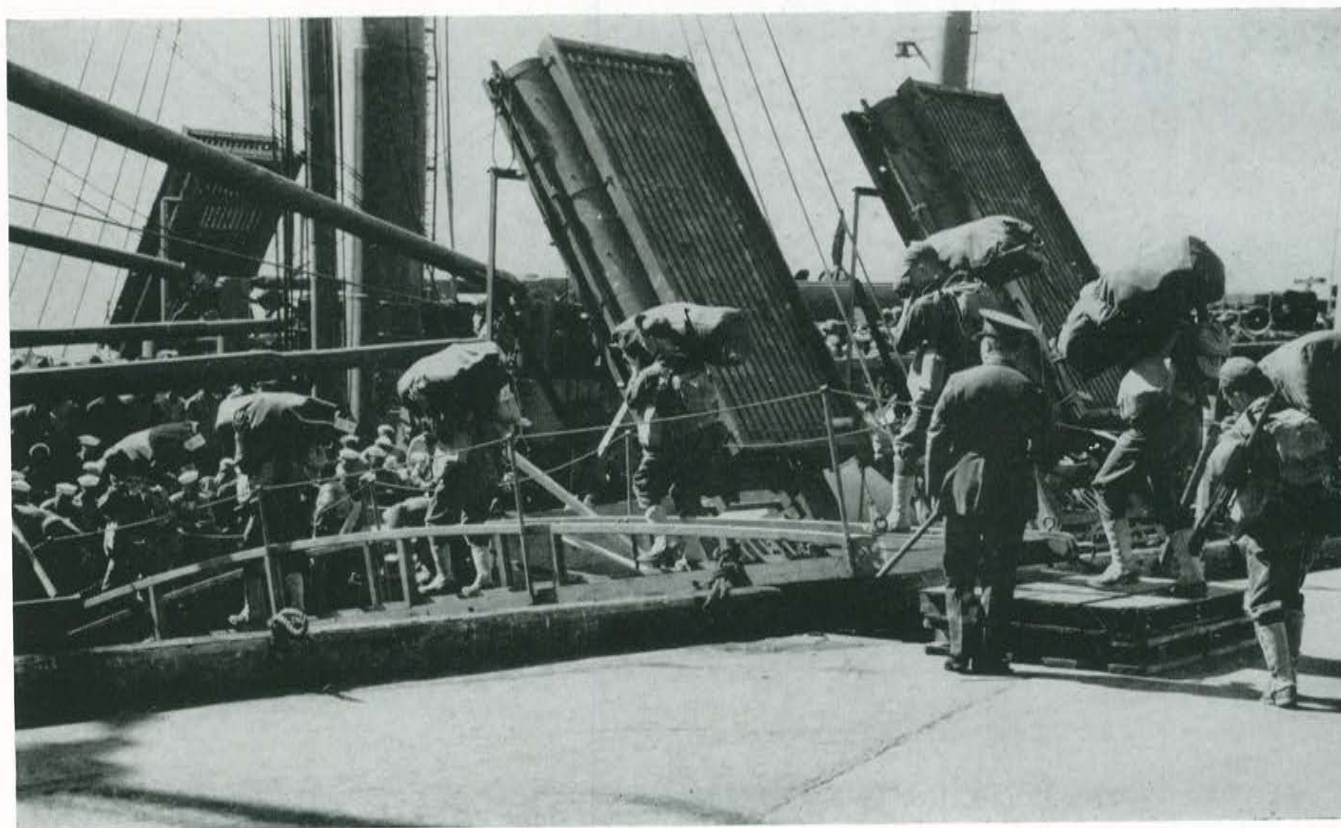


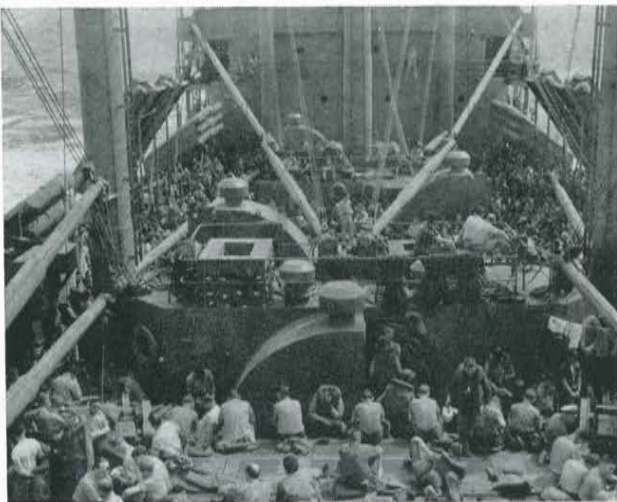


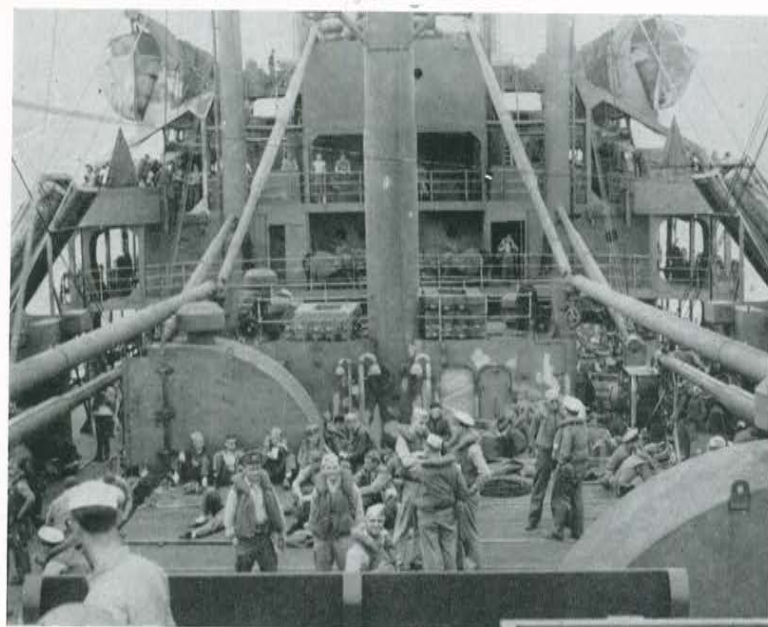
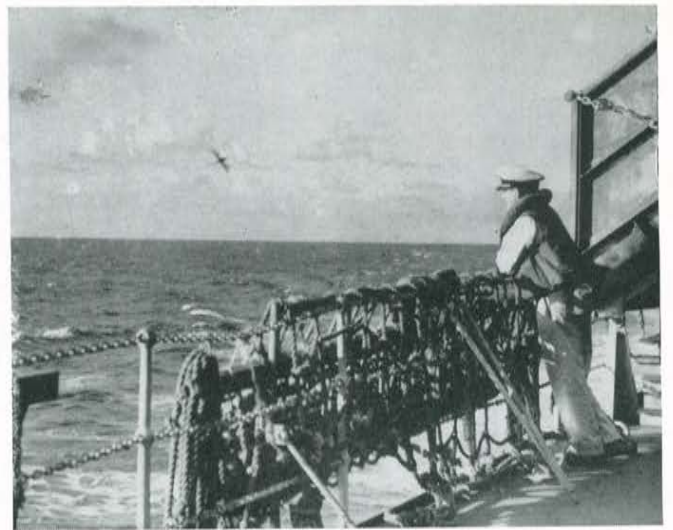
JOURNEY OVERSEAS



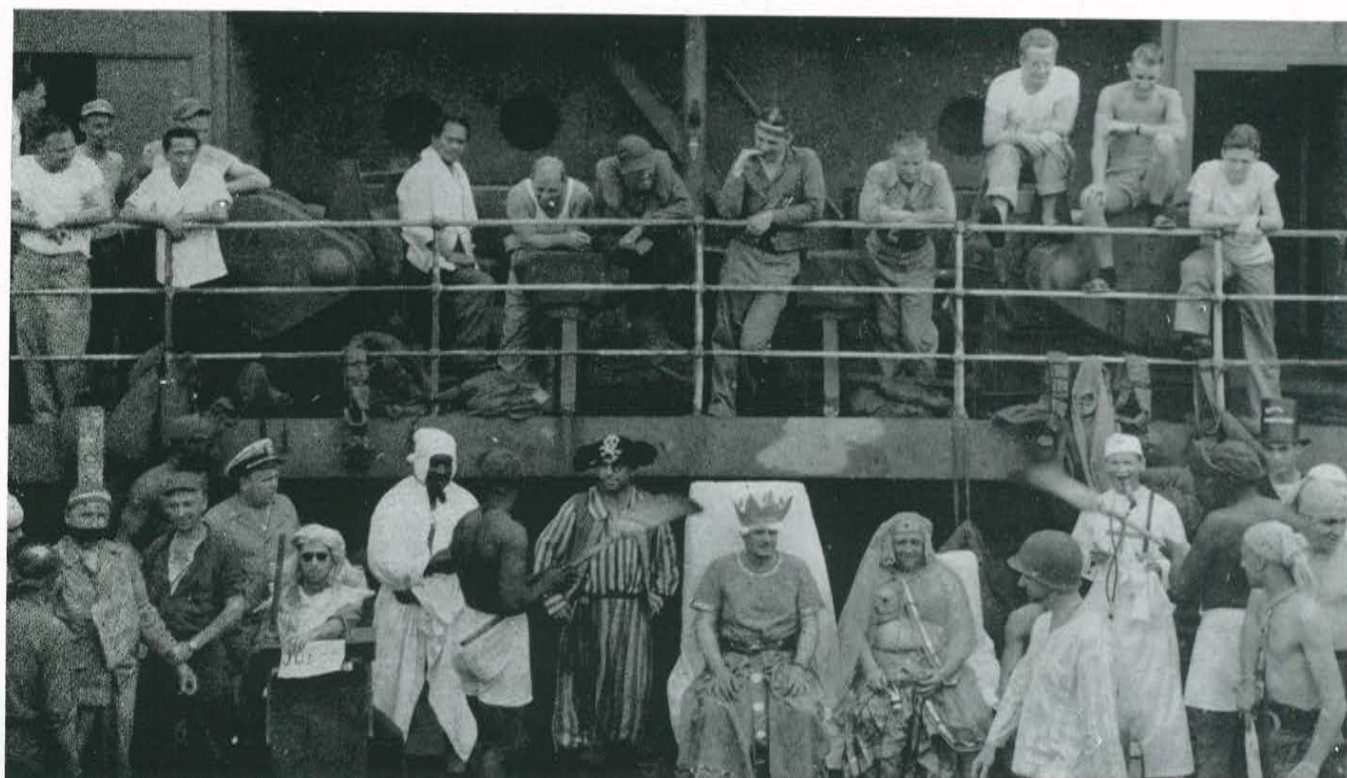
SEA FLASHER DAYS







KING NEPTUNE'S ROYAL COURT

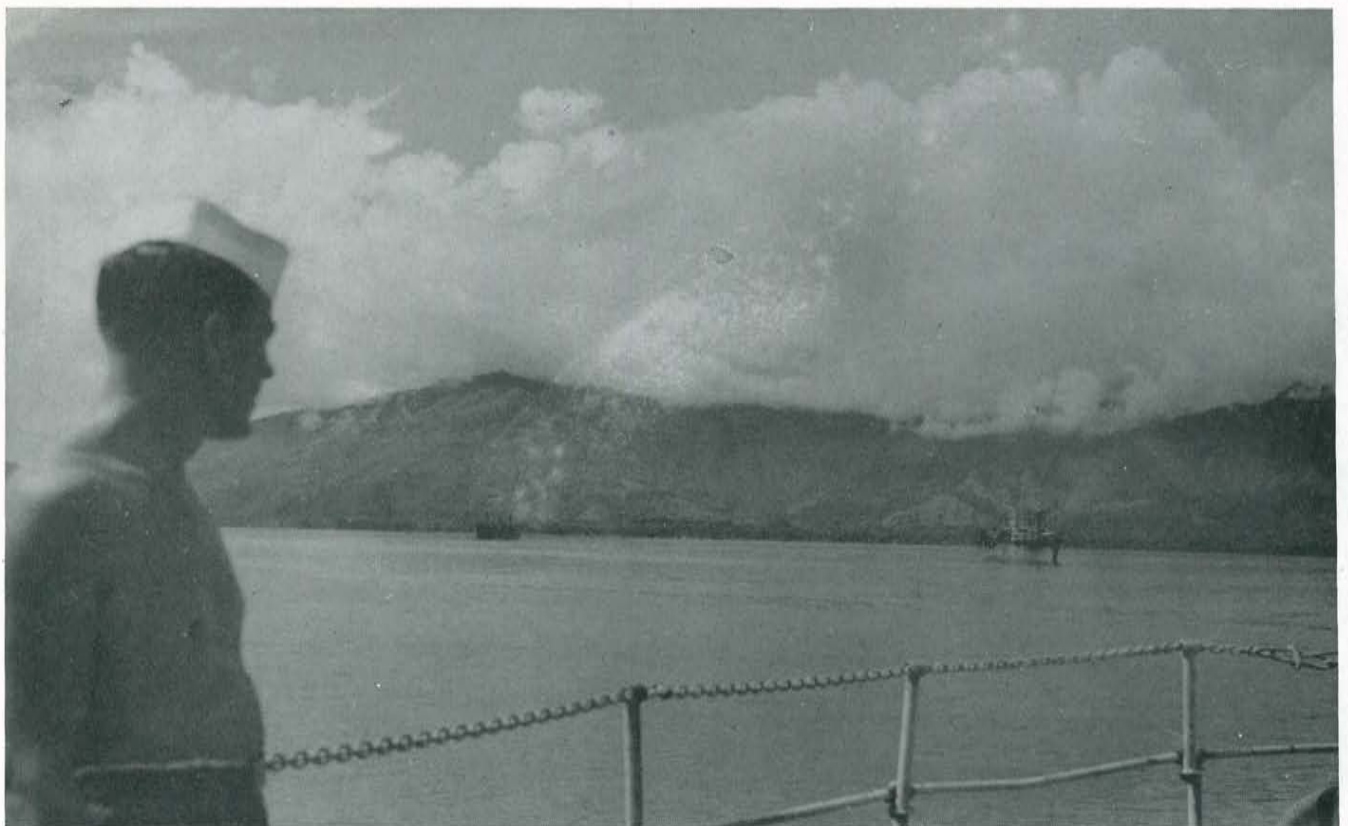


SHELLBACKS AND POLLYWOGS



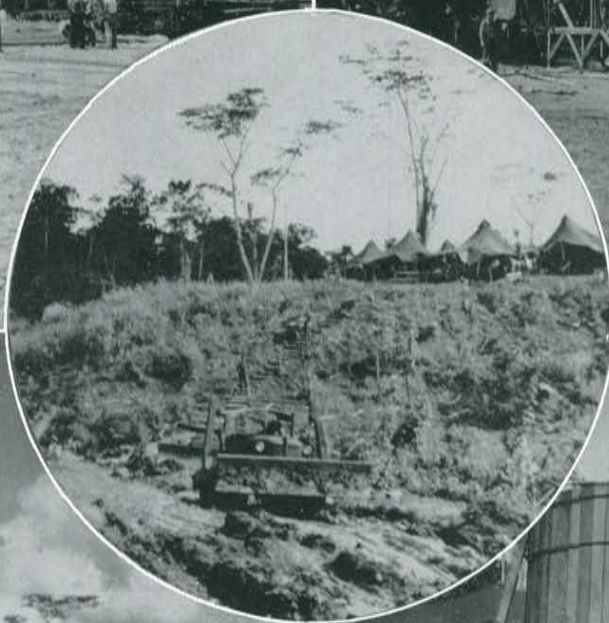
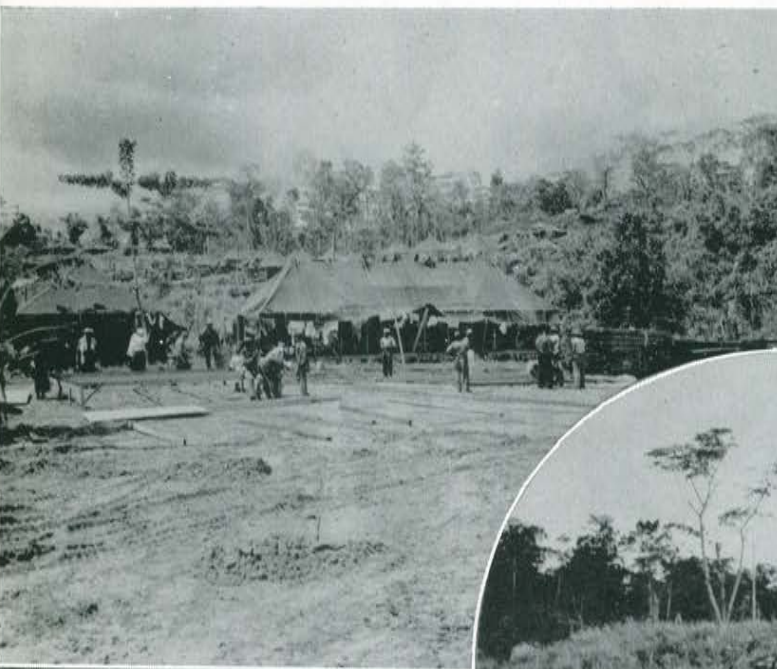


JOURNEY'S END





BLUE BEACH CAMP



BLUE BEACH CAMP



ADMINISTRATIVE AREA



SUPPLY DUMP



SHOP AREA



OLnC's OFFICE



MOTOR POOL



WATER WORKS

BLUE BEACH CAMP



BLUE BEACH



GEAR LOCKER



ROAD CONSTRUCTION



SICK BAY



CHOW HALL

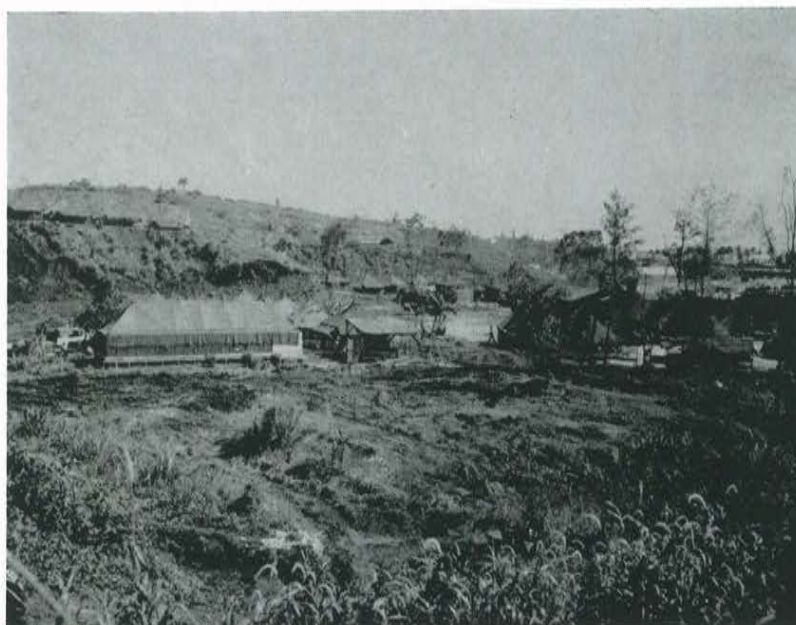


MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES



MAA POST OFFICE

BLUE BEACH CAMP



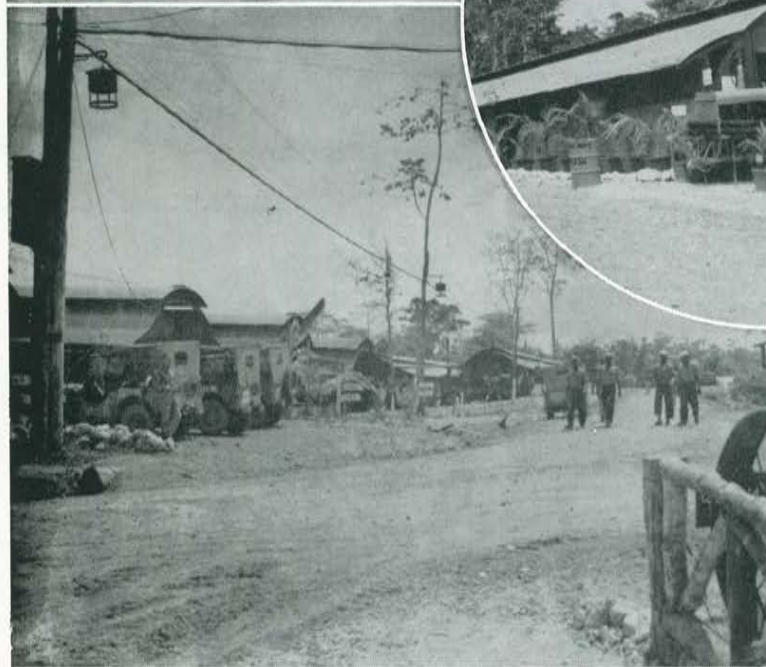
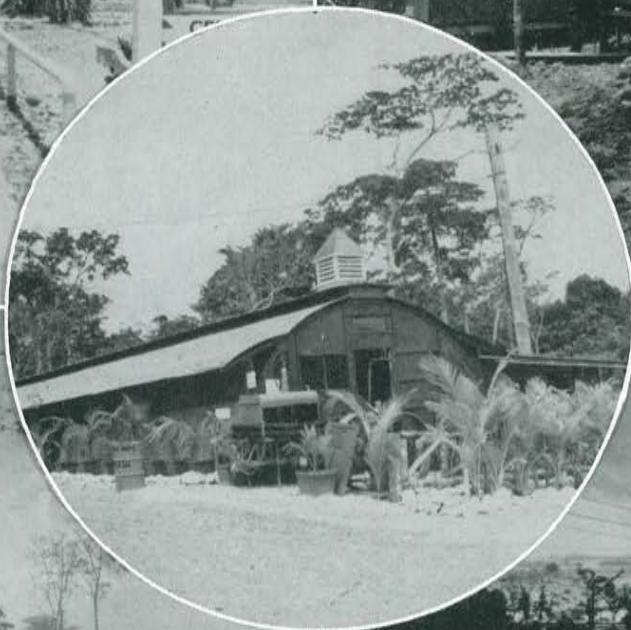
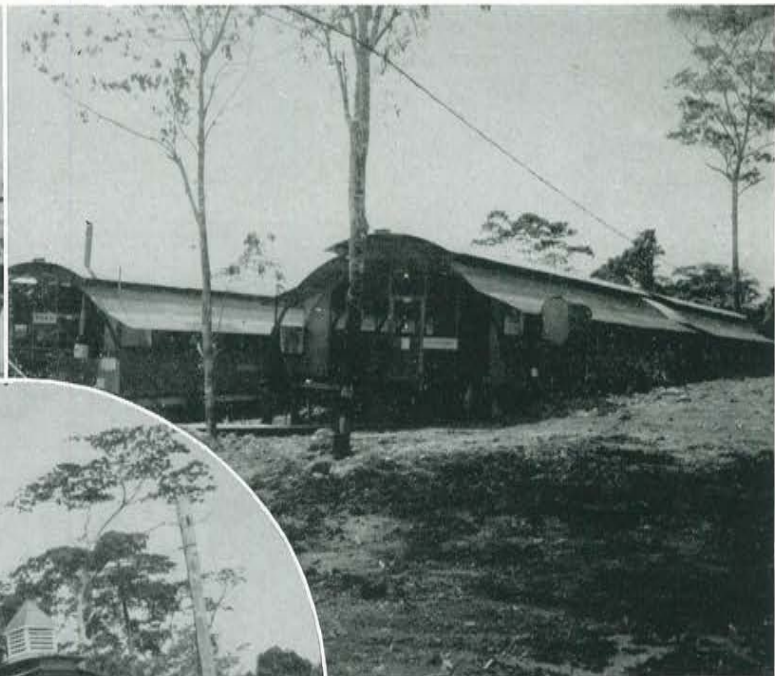
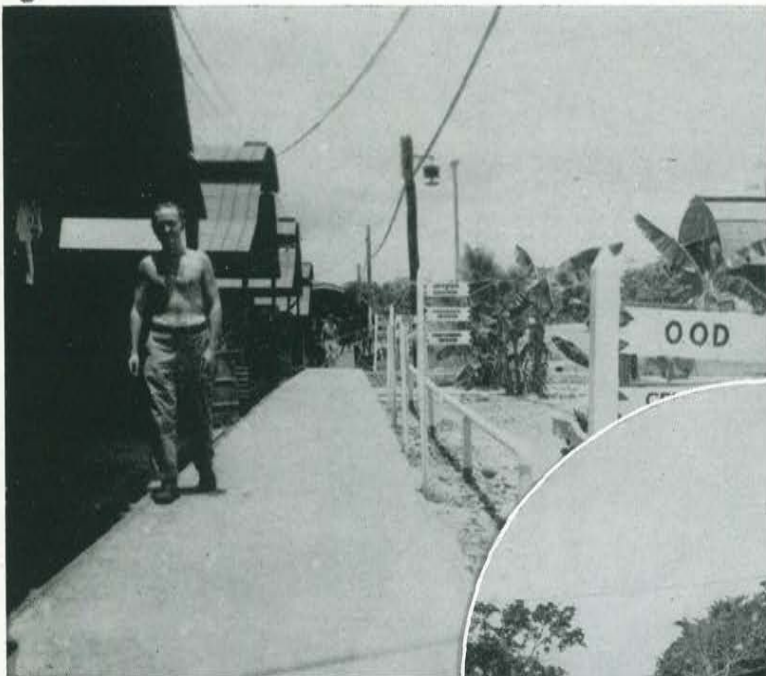
CARPENTER SHOP



BATTLE SCARS



NEW CAMP



PERMANENT CAMP—JULY 1944



MOTOR POOL



QUONSET HUT CONSTRUCTION



LIVING QUARTERS



SHOP AREA



QUONSET HUT CONSTRUCTION



GALLEY CONSTRUCTION



LIVING QUARTERS

PERMANENT CAMP—SEPTEMBER 1945



CAMP AREA



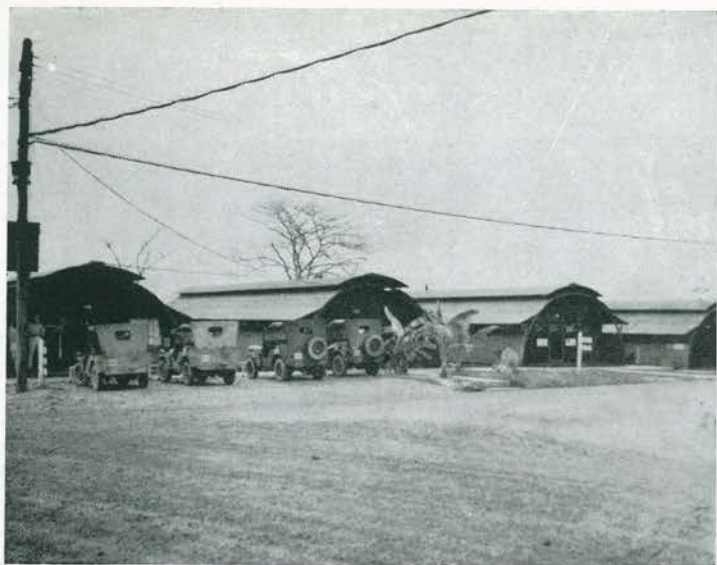
GATE TO 20th SPECIAL CAMP



BRIDGE TO SICK BAY



BRIDGE TO B. O. Q.



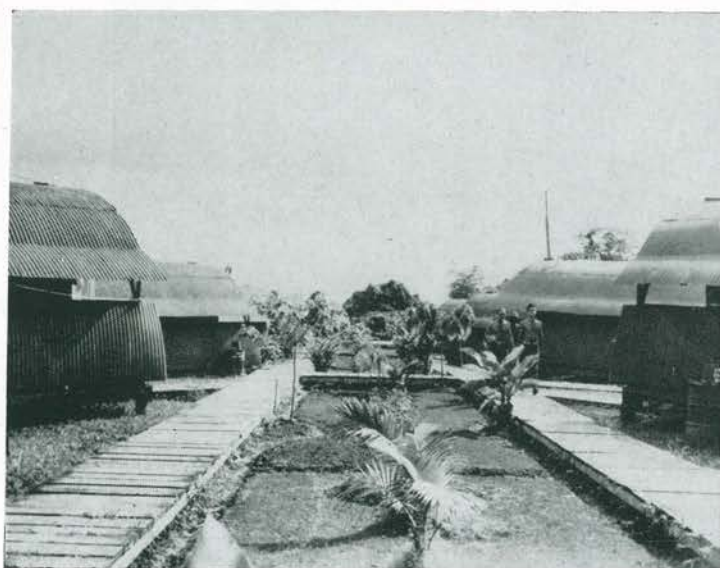
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES



CAMP AREA



ROAD TO CAMP

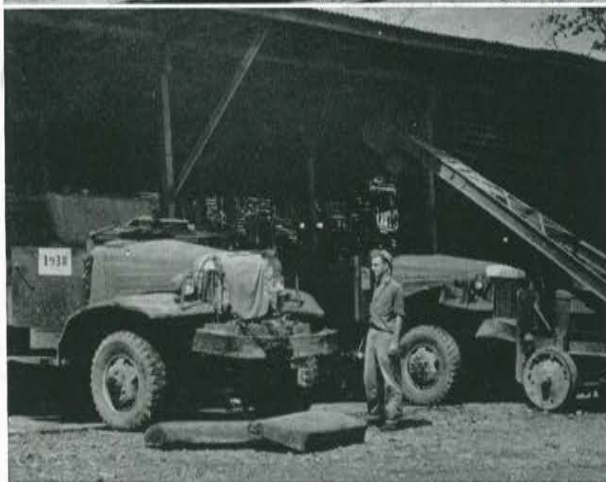


LIVING QUARTERS



CAMP AREA

TRANSPORTATION



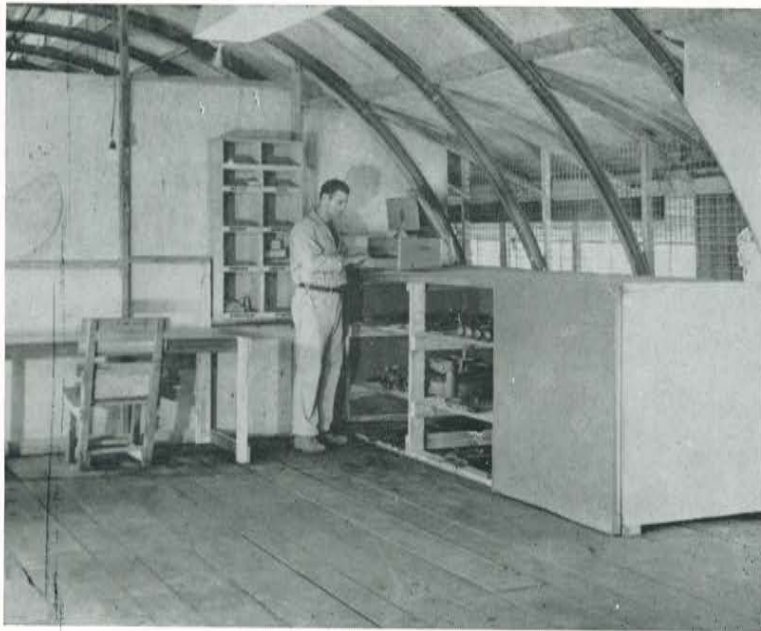
SHOP AREA



SHOP BUILDING



CARPENTER SHOP



S H O P

PLUMBING SHOP



FIRE STATION



PAINT SHOP

A R E A

ELECTRIC SHOP



POST OFFICE

ARMORY



MEDICAL DEPARTMENT



Left to right, front row: C. E. Lamb, C. H. Hanson, E. F. Kelly, S. F. Leichter, M. P. Decker. Second row: G. W. Raddatz, A. H. Tompkins, F. K. Strong, R. F. Hanslow, H. K. Pines, E. R. Connelly, H. Bader.



DENTAL CLINIC



HERNIA OPERATION



SICK WARD



SICK BAY



DISPENSARY



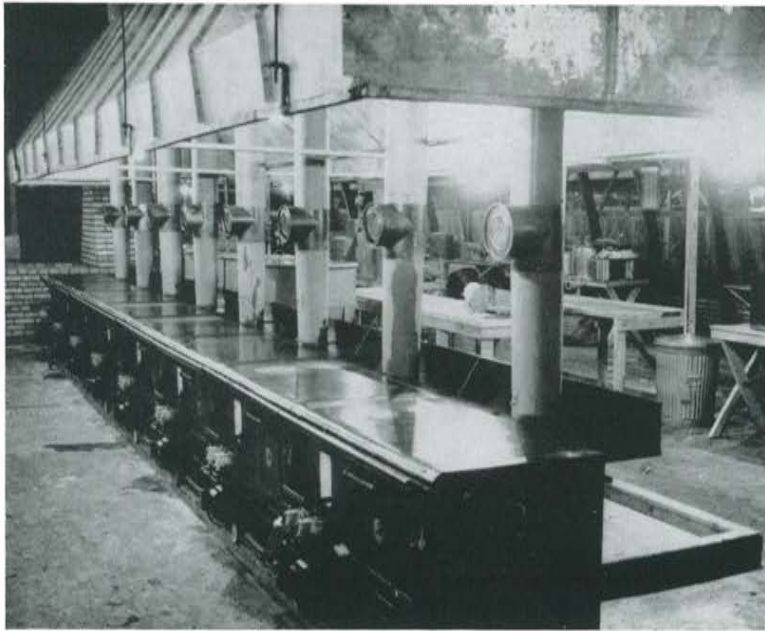
LABORATORY

GALLEY

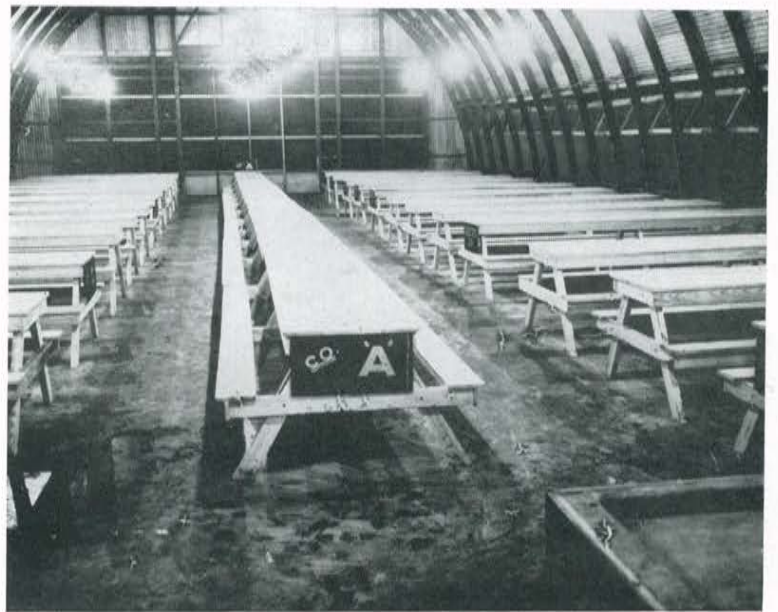


MESS HALL

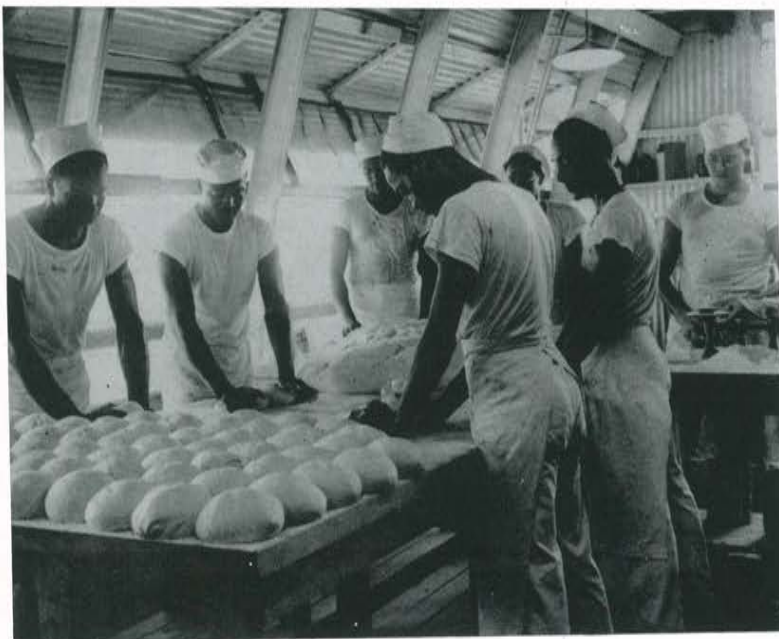




RANGES



MESS HALL



BAKERY

ICE CREAM ROOM



BUTCHER SHOP

GALLEY



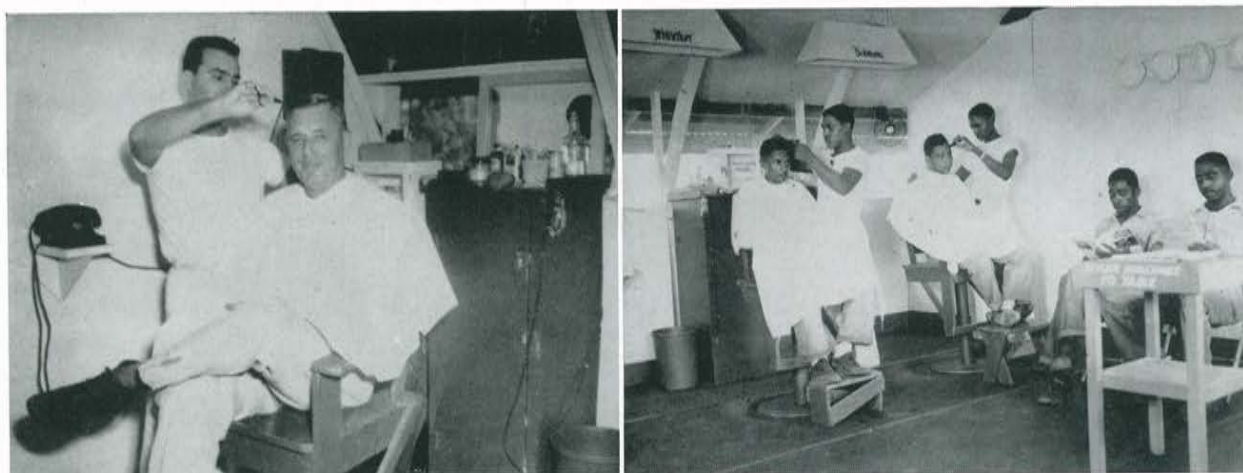
SHIP SERVICE



SHIP'S STORE



COBBLER

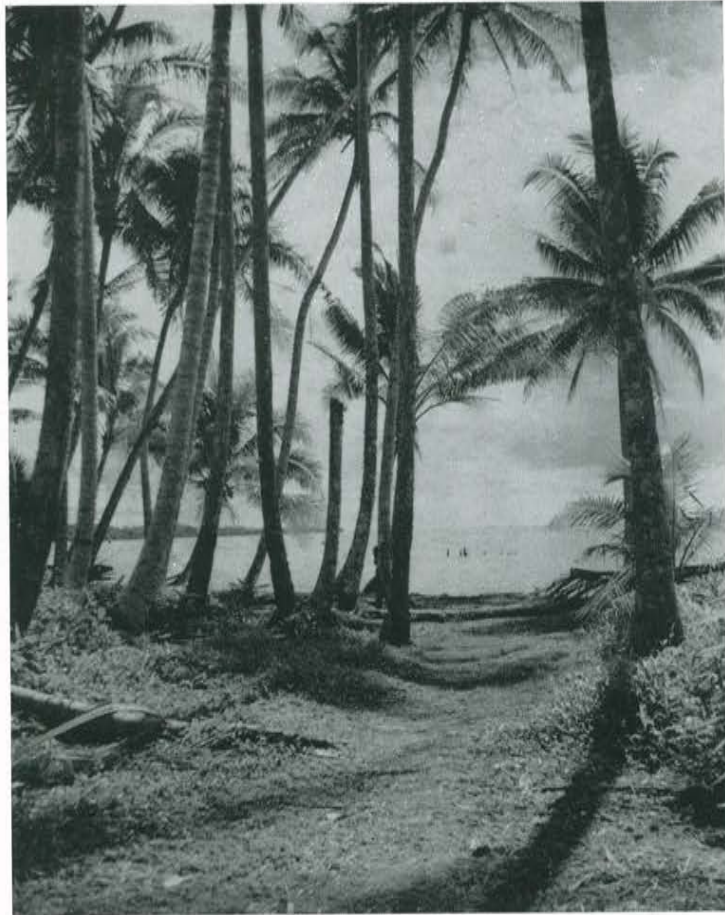


BARBER SHOP

TROPICAL STORM DAMAGE

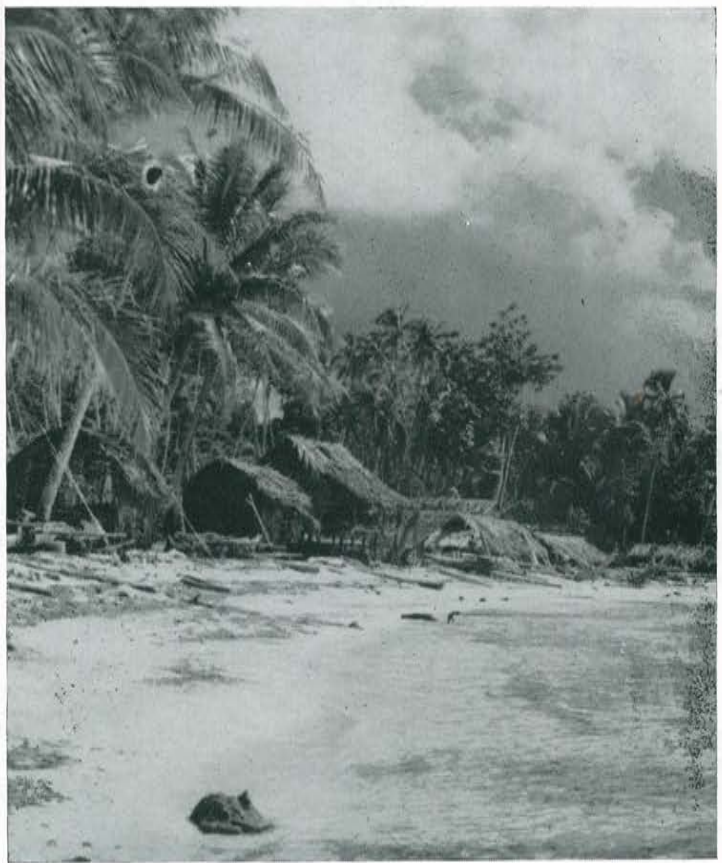
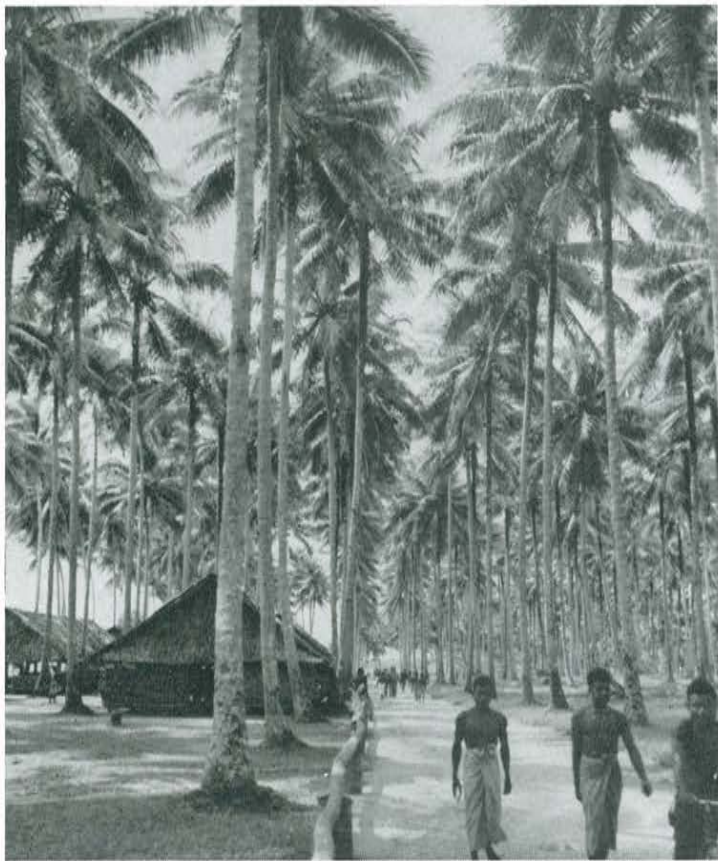


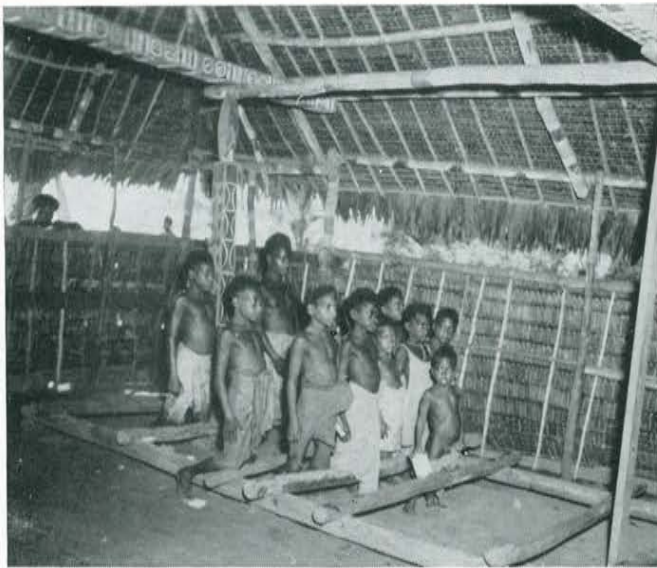
SCENIC MANUS



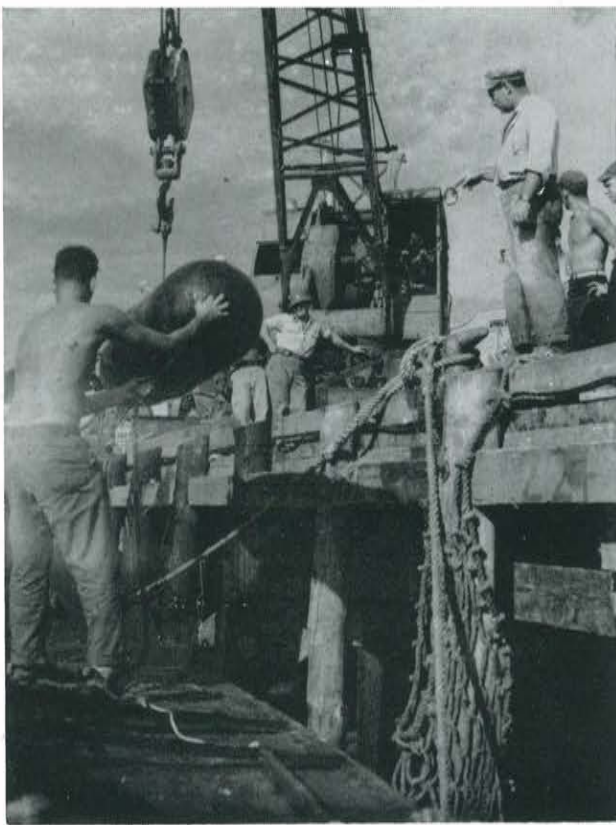
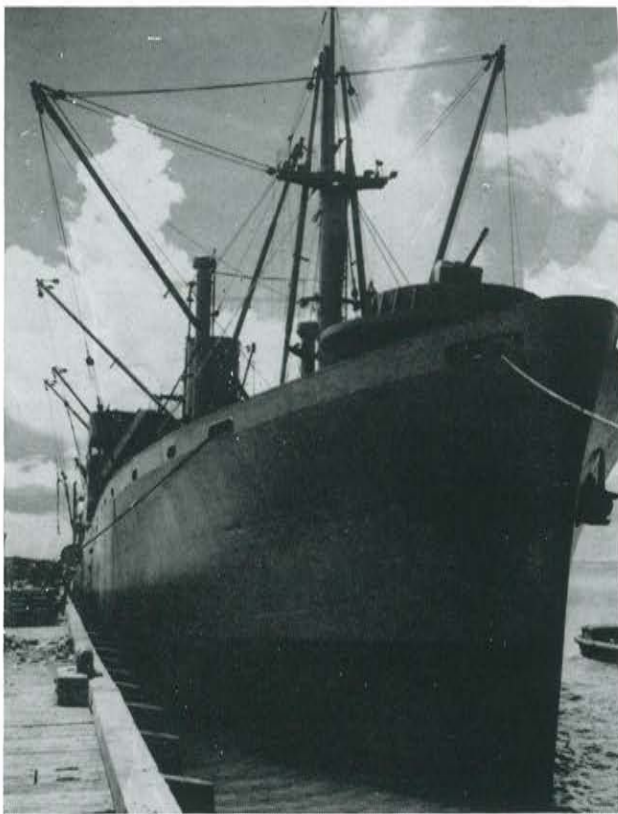


NATIVE VILLAGE VIEWS



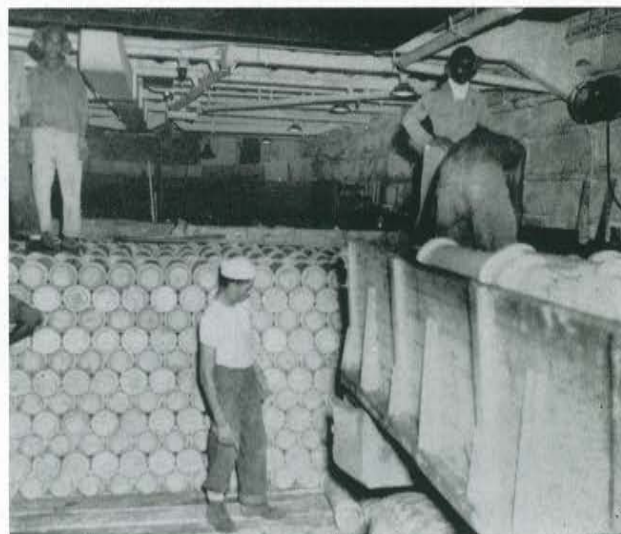
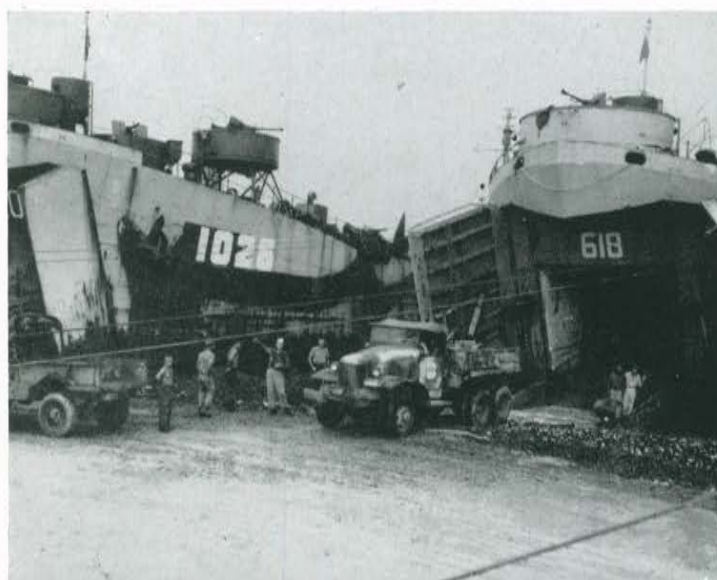


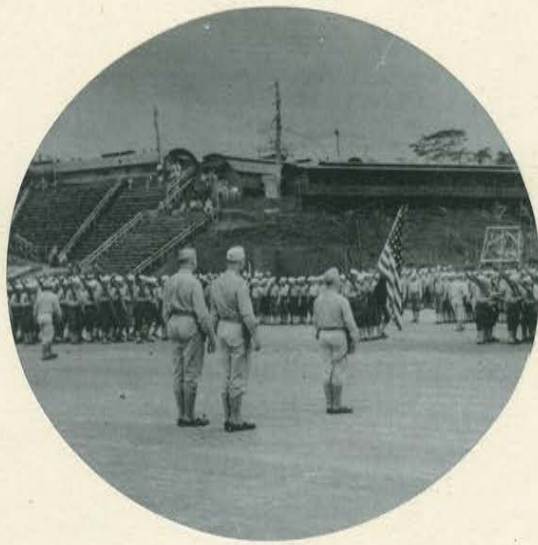
STEVEDORING OPERATIONS



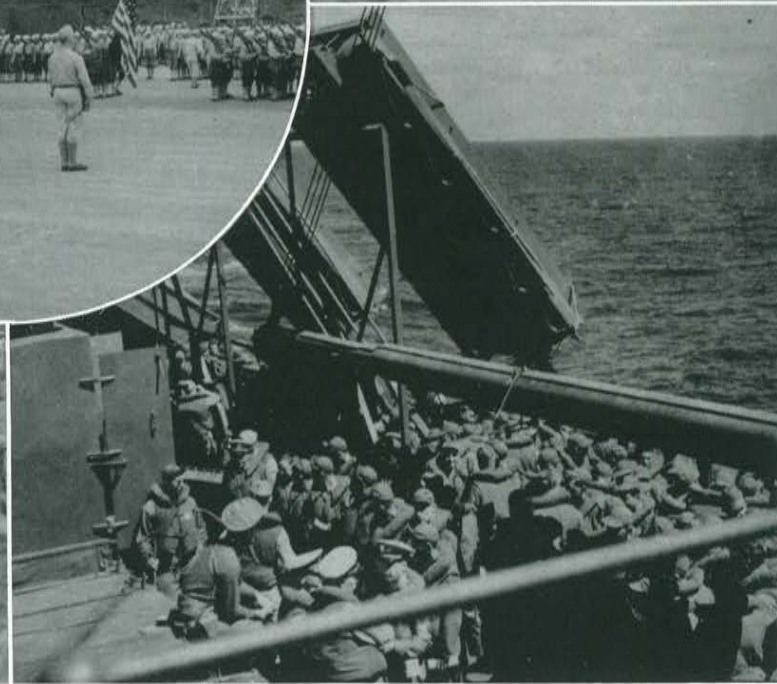
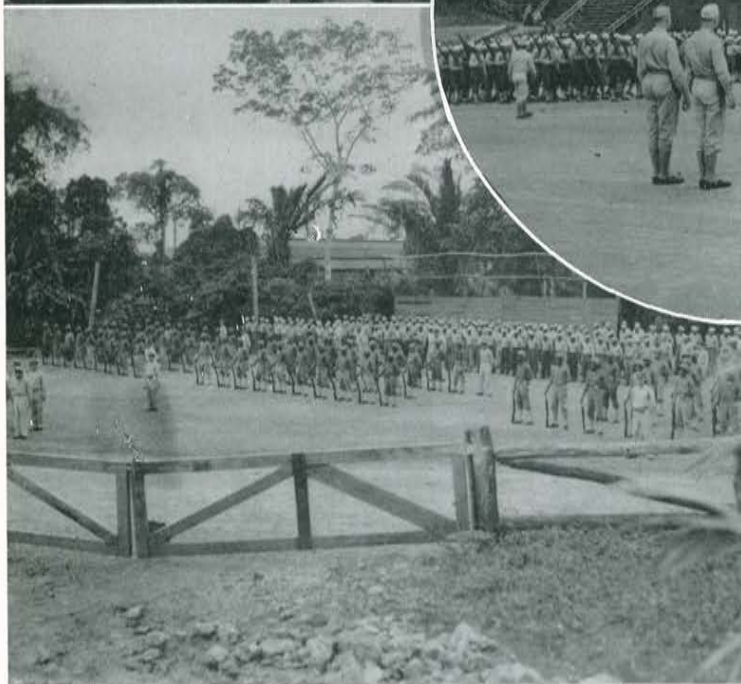
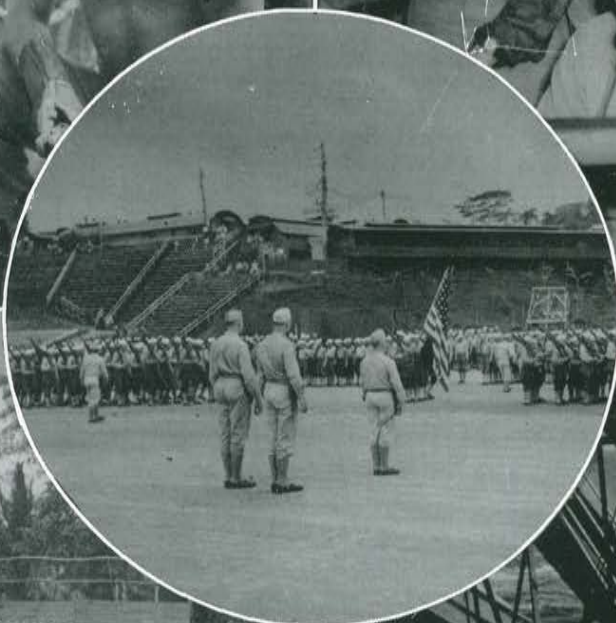
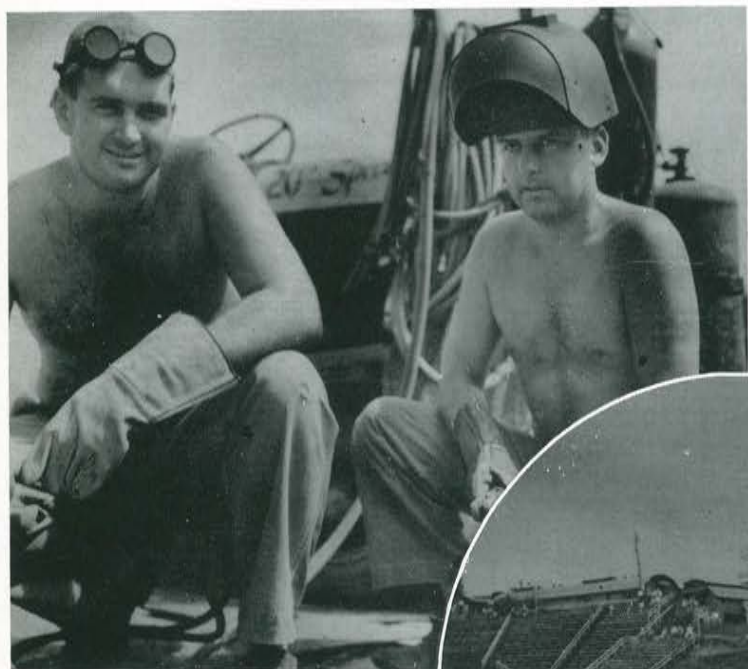


L. S. T. OPERATIONS





BATTALION PERSONNEL



CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS



HEADQUARTERS CHIEFS

Left to right, front row: R. F. Darpel, J. E. Daly, J. F. Hardin, E. J. Zanetti. Second row: J. W. Fuseler, H. R. Mitchell, C. H. Hanson, L. A. Kewin, M. Zampaglione.



HEADQUARTERS CHIEFS

Left to right, front row: R. A. Clarke, B. O. Smith, C. V. Laabs. Second row: H. A. Beideman, C. A. Beedle, G. A. Barnhorst, A. L. Gwatney.



COMPANY A CHIEFS
Left to right: F. J. Leahy, R. C. Cronian, J. J. Dwyer.



COMPANY C CHIEFS
Left to right: H. Malvezzi, K. K. McCully, W. J. Evans.



COMPANY D CHIEFS
Left to right: E. A. Lichty, J. G. McCaughey, H. D. Barron.

CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS



COMPANY B CHIEFS

Left to right, front row: K. K. Hutchinson, M. A. Vivian. Second row: V. J. Bellizzi, O. P. Wren.



CHIEFS' MESS

ADMINISTRATION



Left to right, front row: S. Prezewoznik, G. P. Ude, J. J. Kissane, J. Cagnola. Last row: J. H. Godfrey, D. L. Olson, A. Hochmuth, H. Shuttensberg, H. Fox.

TRANSPORTATION



Left to right, front row: G. San Clemente, H. J. James, E. A. Kranz, J. E. Morgan, W. Haigney. Second row: E. Dempsey, C. H. Saltzman, A. T. Riccil, R. Crowther, D. H. Witmer, R. Cartwright.

DOCK ADMINISTRATION



Left to right, front row: D. K. Novak, T. R. Jones, R. S. Larmouth, E. L. Scott, E. J. Boerner. Second row: L. Krichev, H. H. Barrett, J. Hughes, G. O. Gannet, C. Turnbaugh, E. J. Vallerand, K. C. Elliott, R. W. W. Schrader.

MAINTENANCE



Left to right, front row: W. C. Pepper, F. Gabriele, W. Slotterback, T. M. Gleason. Second row: D. J. E. Davies, H. Grobner, E. M. Crawford, L. V. Wright, H. Smith, A. P. Sarisky.

SECURITY



Left to right, front row: D. Celleme, P. Leitzel, R. T. Gabel, C. Spielberg. Second row: M. K. West, W. Schneider, C. B. Harrison, J. Castellani.

SUPPLY



Left to right, front row: J. Reisman, J. Thompson, T. Schlosser. Second row: M. D. Long, J. J. Byrne, P. P. Pinto, H. S. Marvick.

COOKS AND BAKERS



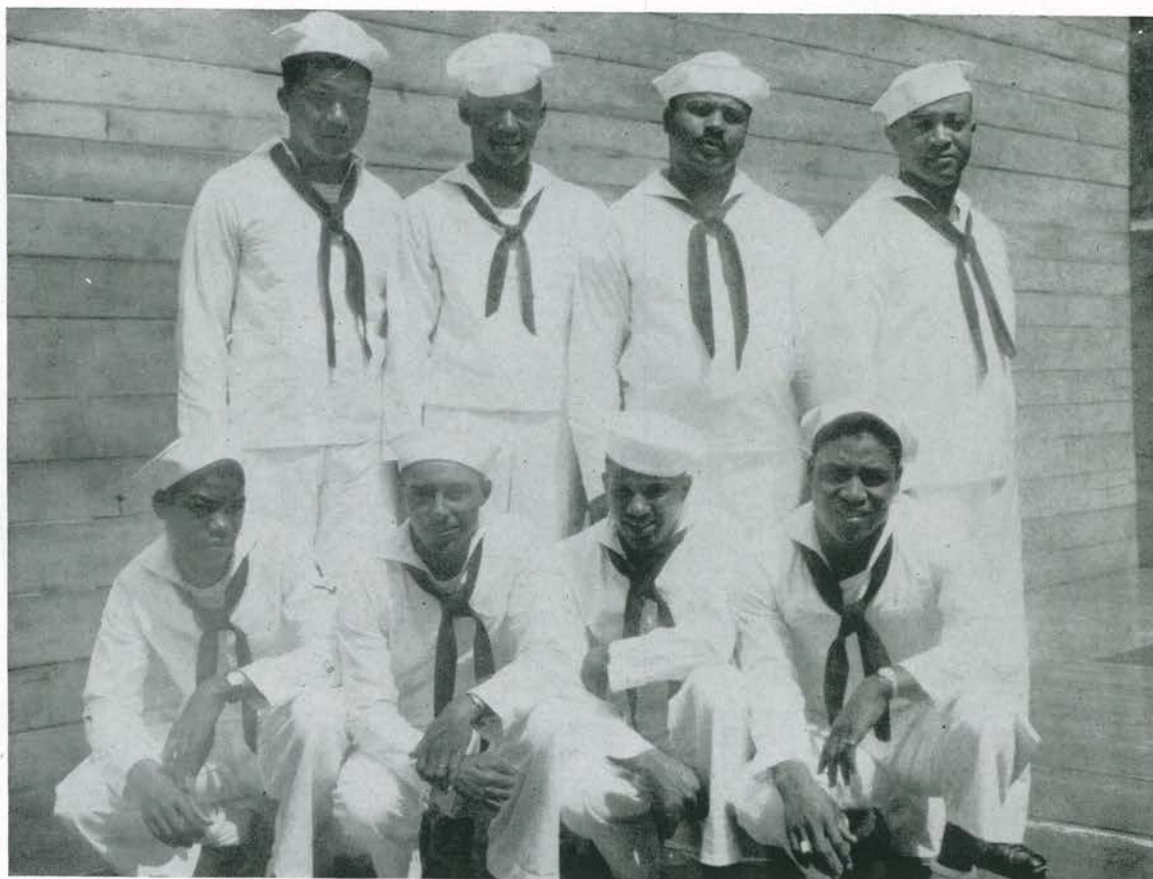
Left to right, front row: M. P. Marcus, L. E. Townsend, H. C. Bowers, J. M. Nellany, D. E. Rutland, D. D. DeLisle. Second row: R. P. Messier, J. Sojka, R. R. Blevins, W. Weber, H. J. Corn, S. Kantor, R. L. Middendorf, J. O. Jones, R. G. Baker.

COOKS AND BAKERS



Left to right, front row: L. H. Williams, D. S. Someck, F. R. Poso, R. A. Little. Second row: E. L. Healey, M. L. Flusgle, L. S. Tjaden, R. L. Stanforth, J. L. McKenzie.

SUPPLY

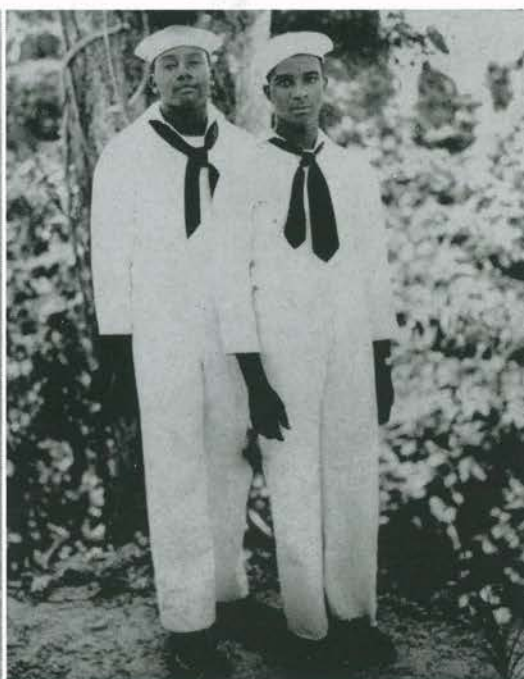


Left to right, front row: D. Gaines, J. E. Arceneaux, D. W. Powell, I. B. Whitaker. Second row: F. T. Hill, L. C. Bohanan, E. L. Adkins, W. T. Johnson.



MAINTENANCE

Left to right: H. Whitfield, C. K. Harding, P. E. Williams.



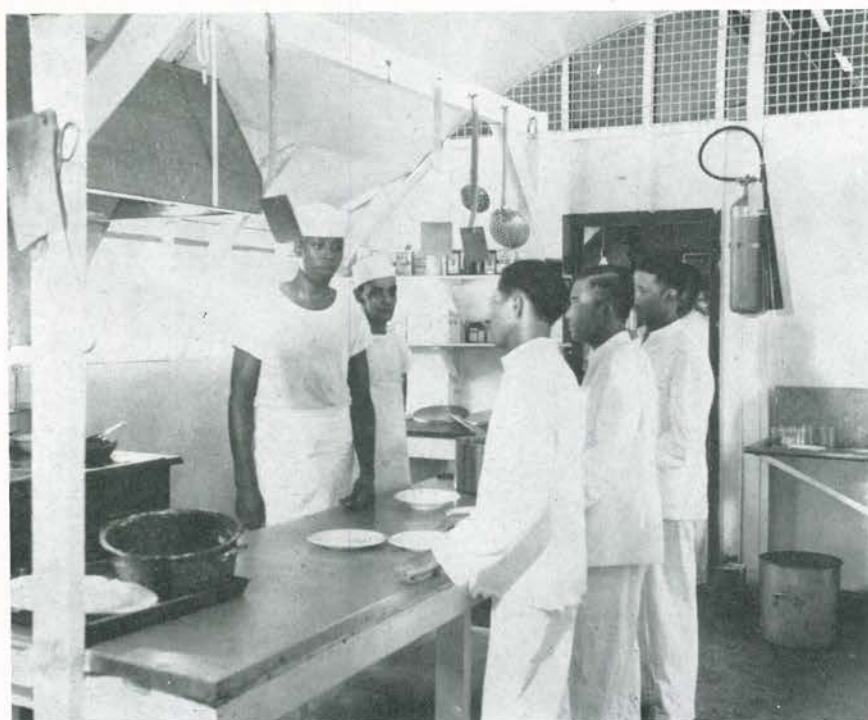
CORPSMEN

Left to right: J. A. Smith, E. L. Bruner.

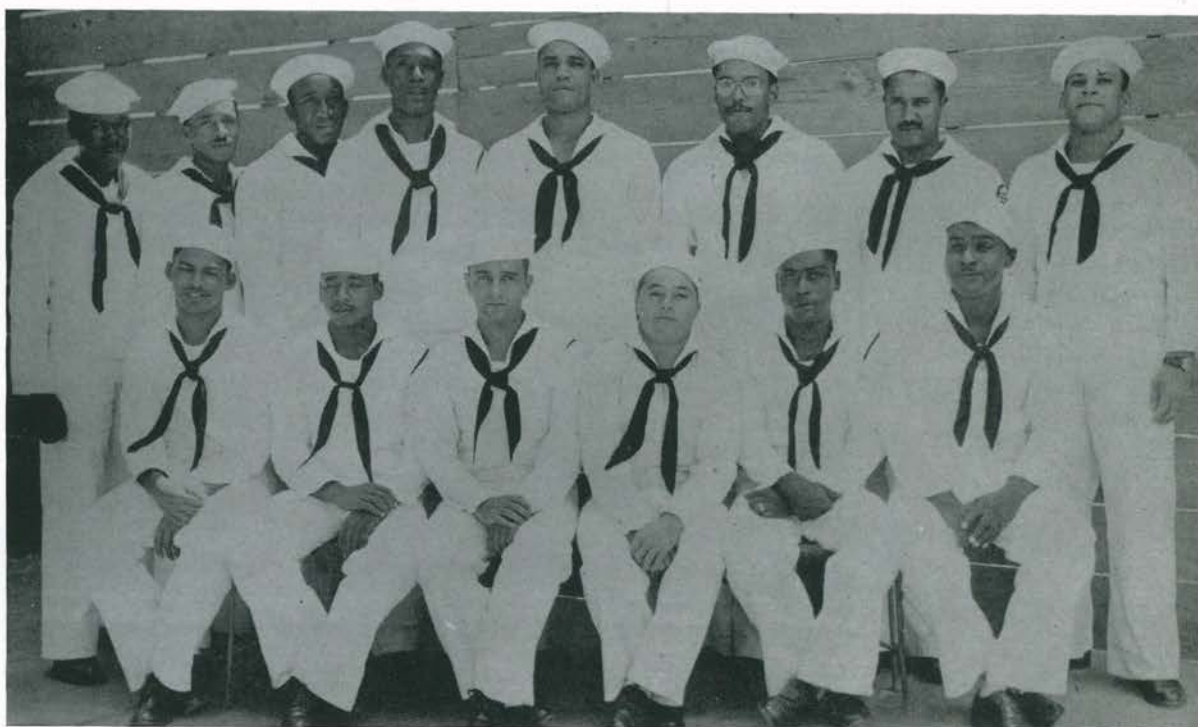
OFFICERS STEWARDS



Left to right, front row: W. S. Christie, C. N. Mickey, J. L. Duncan. Second row: C. H. Barksdale, N. P. Brown, H. E. Brinson, R. L. Felder, R. Means.



COMPANY A ADMINISTRATION



Left to right, front row: T. Bright, H. Fischer, E. Braxton, J. Jackson, L. Tucker, E. Jackson. Second row: J. Flowers, R. Jackson, S. Green, L. Maddox, J. Reed, W. Bradshaw, A. Terrell, H. Nolin.

COMPANY B ADMINISTRATION



Left to right, front row: A. Twiggs, S. A. Payne, W. Williams, G. Buckner, J. S. White. Second row: W. H. Whitaker, S. W. Brown, J. C. Mattison, J. L. Weems, W. B. Curtis, E. Mitchell, B. Demson.

COMPANY C ADMINISTRATION



Left to right, front row: B. M. Freeman, J. E. Peychaud, H. P. Douglas, W. C. Davis, S. A. Coates, E. L. Thompson. Second row: H. J. Cotten, J. G. Griffin, W. M. Fortson, V. A. Murphy, J. E. Thompson, R. T. Williams, A. Hicks, V. A. Sargood.

COMPANY D ADMINISTRATION



Left to right, front row: W. Rutledge, W. L. Copprue, B. A. Murphy, G. C. Evans, E. M. White, J. E. Randolph. Second row: E. H. Stridiron, J. B. Washington, R. P. McQueen, R. H. Nedab, W. Reese, L. Jackson, T. Silket.

MESS COOKS



Left to right, front row: A. James, L. Graham, R. Dossett, T. Roberts, J. Tate, J. L. Wright. Second row: J. Hunt, F. Young, J. Brady, E. Bocard, L. Brown, E. Earnest, R. Watts, L. V. Padron.

TYPICAL LIVING QUARTERS



G A N G 1



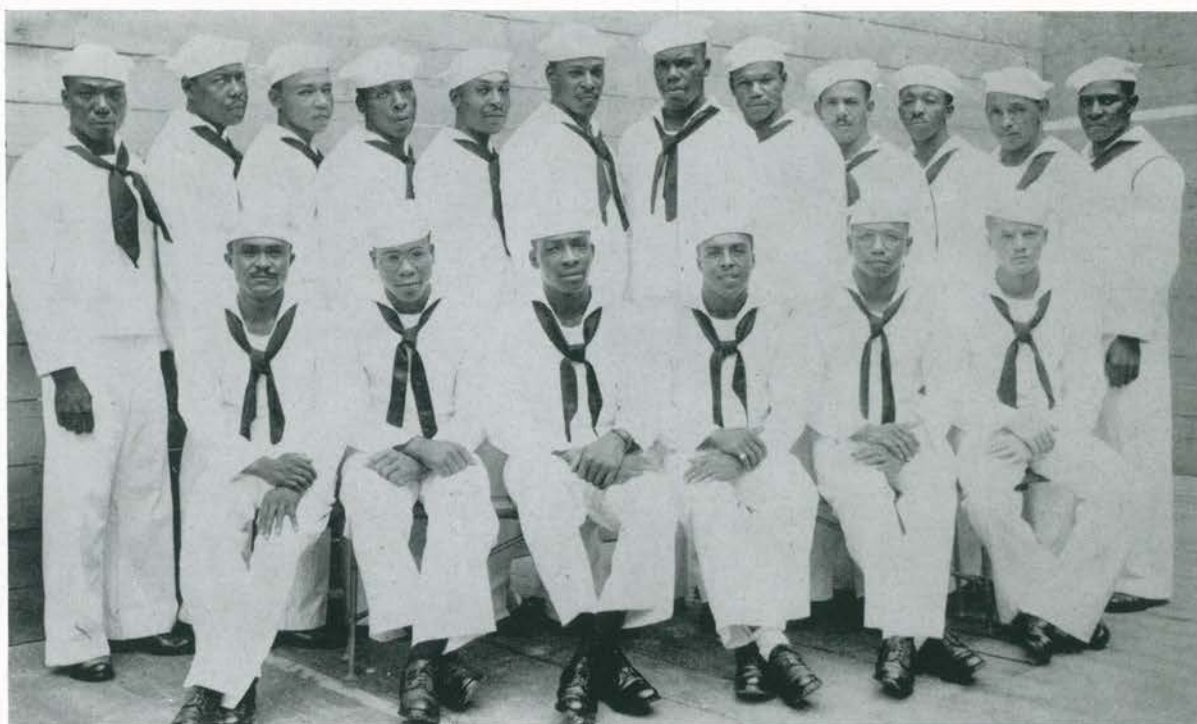
Left to right, front row: H. Black, S. Johnson, B. Johnson, M. E. Campbell, P. E. Lilley, C. Johnson. Second row: S. K. Smith, L. Douglass, S. Hunt, A. Jefferies, E. Wilson, R. Huff, E. Hurd, J. Foster, A. Freeman, L. Mobley.

G A N G 2



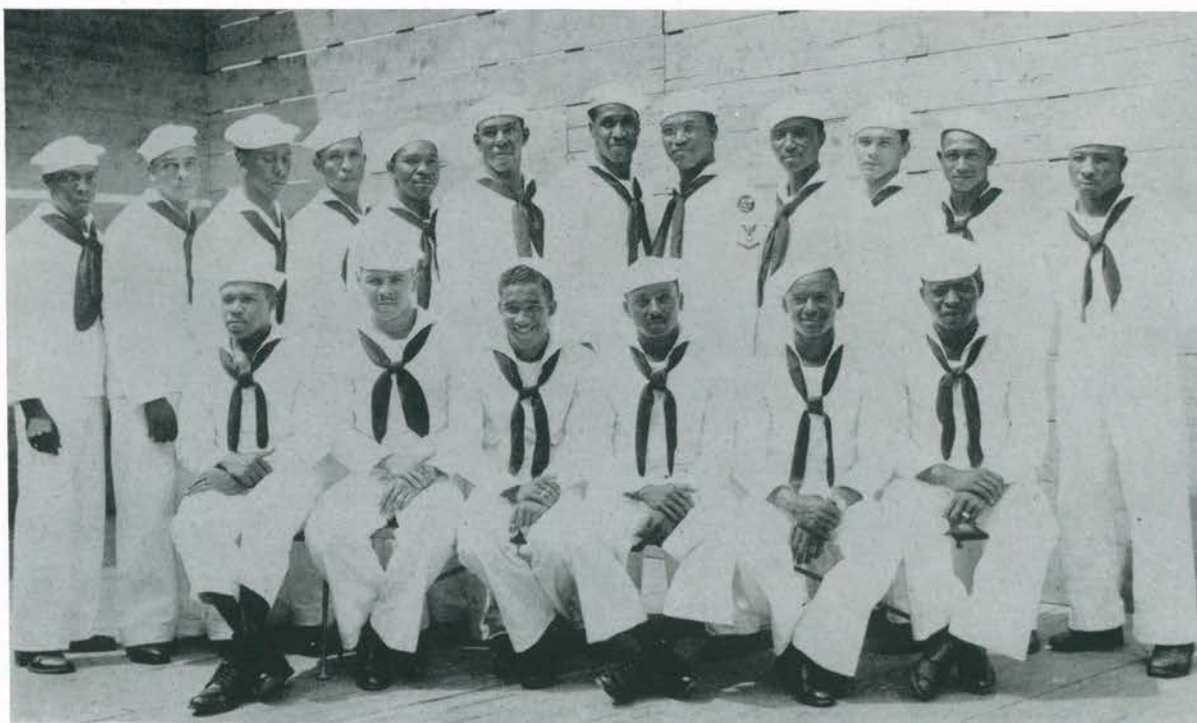
Left to right, front row: J. Goodnight, A. Johnson, G. Simmons, J. W. Hudson, W. Macklin, A. Johnson. Second row: D. Jackson, O. Gilbert, M. Johnson, E. Robinson, E. Everett, E. Green, C. Jackson, A. Hutcherson, P. Johnson, J. R. Johnson, W. Jennings.

G A N G 3



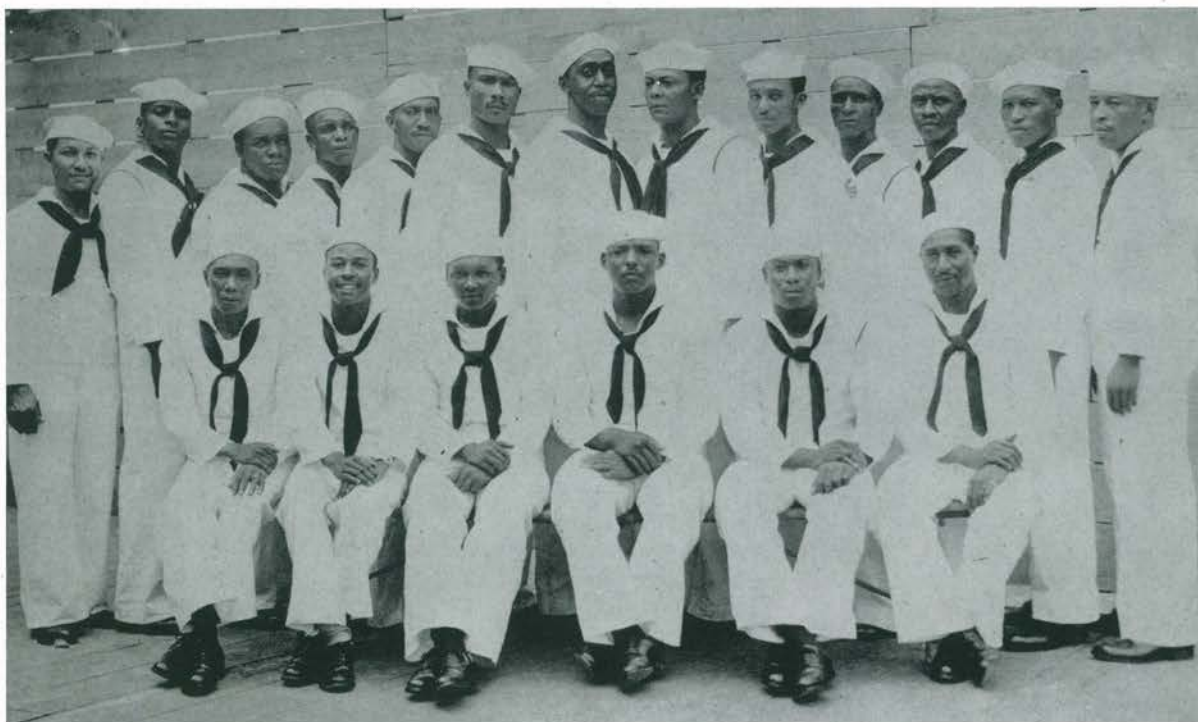
Left to right, front row: S. Evans, J. Maddox, W. Dubose, C. Baker, R. Fewell. Second row: S. Jordan, H. Lucas, C. Richardson, O. Hinton, L. Thompson, A. Fitch, R. Finch, L. Etter, J. Clay, J. Allen, R. Thomas, S. Williams.

G A N G 4



Left to right, front row: J. R. Rice, J. Jarvis, C. Barksdale, B. Tarleton, E. Easely, A. Holmes. Second row: B. Roland, W. Turner, E. Thomas, G. Hunt, T. Ballard, W. Ferguson, O. Ross, J. Lovelace, I. Hill, R. Randolph, S. Harrell, R. Felder.

G A N G 5



Left to right, front row: W. Hudson, G. Roberts, S. Vaughn, S. Smith, E. Toplin, B. Williams. Second row: G. Rich, W. Threadgill, J. Dykes, R. Kirvin, E. Benton, W. Walker, L. Madden, J. Hardwick, E. Dillion, H. Freeman, H. Drake, L. Holmes, J. Ervin.

G A N G 6



Left to right, front row: O. Williams, A. Robinson, A. Thomas, C. Brown, W. Boyd, C. L. Gray. Second row: L. Respass, M. Tucker, L. Hayden, A. Z. Evans, O. Reed, E. Cruse, C. Brogden, M. Reaves, E. Outz, J. Wagstaff.

G A N G 7



Left to right, front row: S. Feaster, T. Hicks, W. Ertha, F. Weldon, E. Green, E. Bertrand. Second row: P. Courseault, T. Rodgers, Tinnie Rogers, G. Bearard, J. Rice, J. Ballard, L. Avery, W. Green, W. Thompson, R. Roberts, J. MaGee, A. Robinson.

G A N G 8



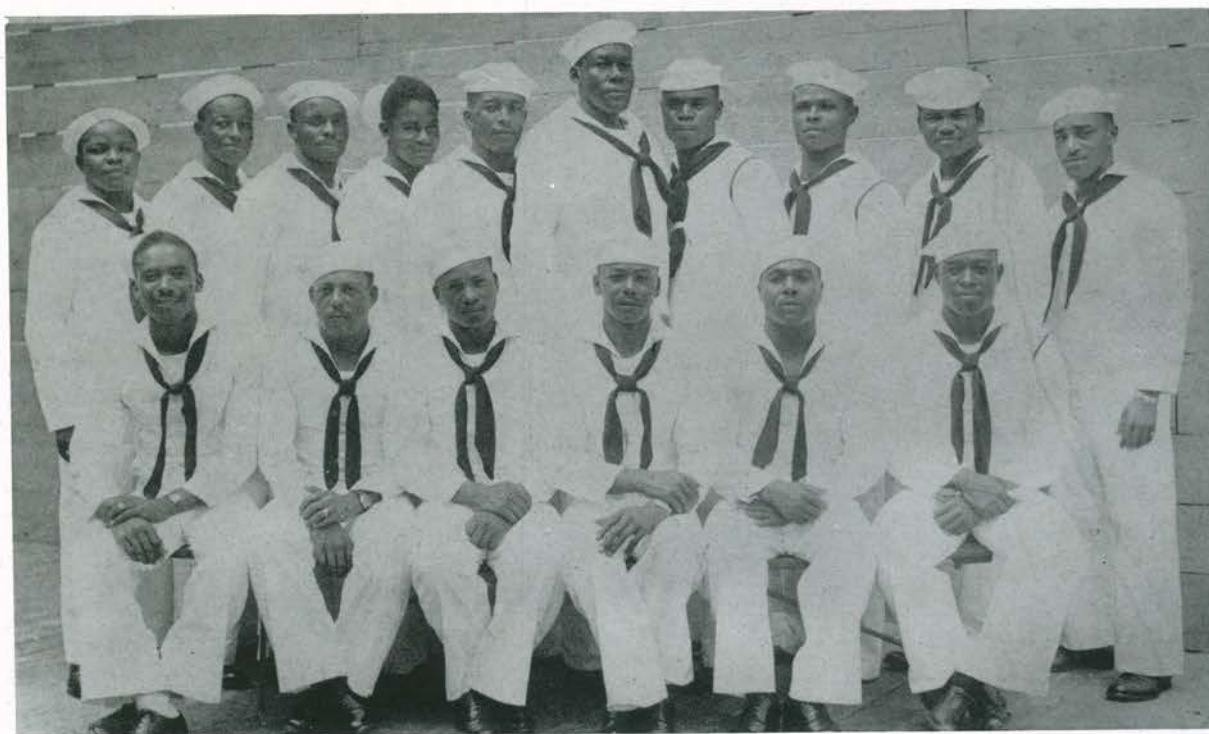
Left to right, front row: J. Holland, J. Reynolds, R. Rucker, W. Bell, N. Thigpen, T. Guerry. Second row: A. Douglas, R. C. Johnson, J. Roberson, C. Evans, I. Barrett, J. B. Bell, T. Tyler, H. Jackson, E. Reed, J. Barham.

GANG 9



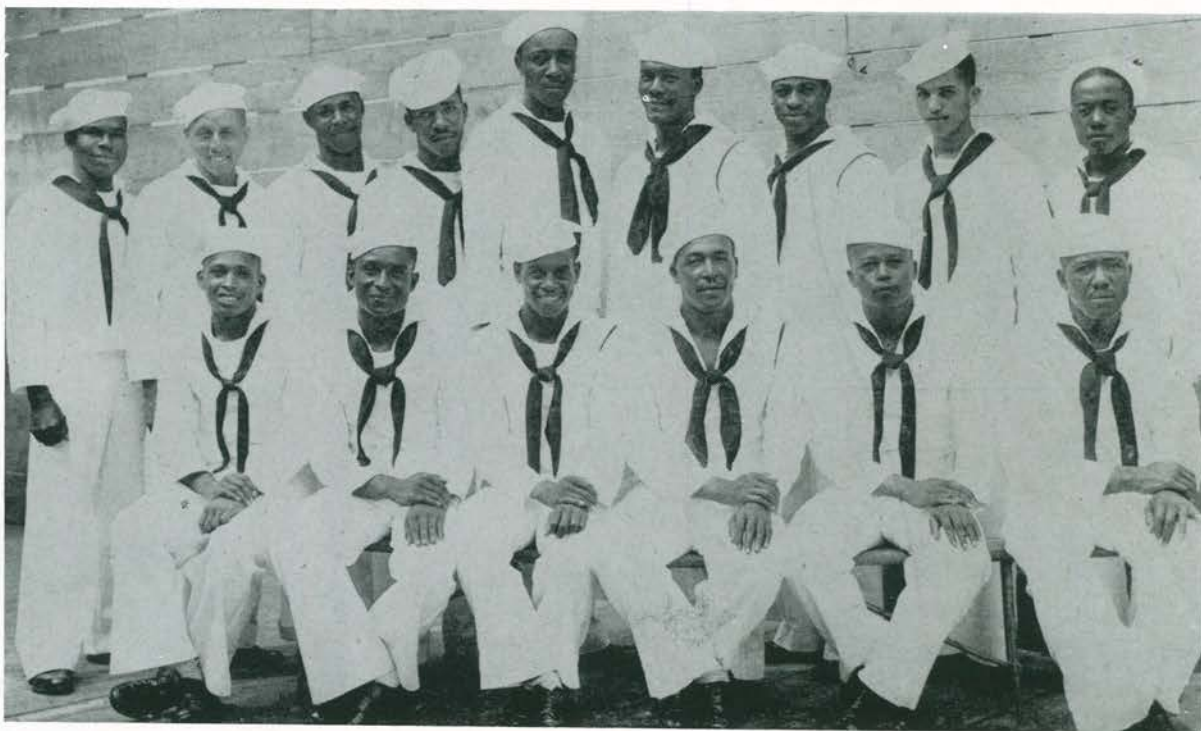
Left to right, front row: B. Brookins, C. Brown, L. Warden, C. Seamen, M. Dell, C. Dowdy. Second row: T. Cannon, J. Parker, C. Littlejohn, J. Ward, J. Kirkland, C. Burgess, A. Walker.

GANG 10



Left to right, front row: A. Twiggs, W. Collins, E. R. Ward, R. Dabney, Ed. L. Jones, J. H. Mitchell. Second row: W. Cuyler, V. S. Burdine, L. Robertson, H. M. Davis, G. Promise, J. E. Whitman, B. F. Evans, A. Bryant, M. R. Calender.

G A N G 1 1



Left to right, front row: J. Belt, J. Harrington, D. Careather, L. Smith, F. Cherry, J. Payne. Second row: P. Cannon, J. Freeman, W. Coney, C. Cushinberry, E. Bright, S. Elder, A. Ezel, L. Chaffin, P. Brown.

G A N G 1 2



Left to right, front row: E. Carter, J. Harris, V. White, P. White, J. T. Collins, J. H. Bowman. Second row: A. R. Carter, W. McGee, S. M. Perry, R. Watkins, M. J. Farmer, J. Davis, L. Hilton, W. Glenn, W. M. Smith, W. Burke, Jr., A. Mooring.

GANG 13



Left to right, front row: J. Davis, R. H. Collier, L. Carter, W. C. Butler, C. Holmes, J. C. Peters. Second row: S. H. Dixon, J. T. Shreeaves, E. Chambers, P. Ecton, E. H. Tepon, J. Burse, D. Howard, L. Busby, L. J. Burkhalter, C. Ragland.

GANG 14



Left to right, front row: E. Wells, G. I. Parker, C. Holland, C. Hollins, N. Hollister, G. N. Holly. Second row: W. E. Brown, A. Holmes, A. Newcomb, W. Horn, J. Herten, H. Holmes, J. Brown, O. W. Hicks, W. A. Brown.

G A N G 1 5



Left to right, front row: W. Watson, T. Washington, J. Caffey, A. Lee, A. Whitaker, J. W. Hertel. Second row: L. Worsham, E. Parker, W. L. Hendricks, F. Bagsby, A. Brown, E. Bolton, C. L. Burnett, H. Thomas, J. W. Collins, N. Newby.

G A N G 1 6



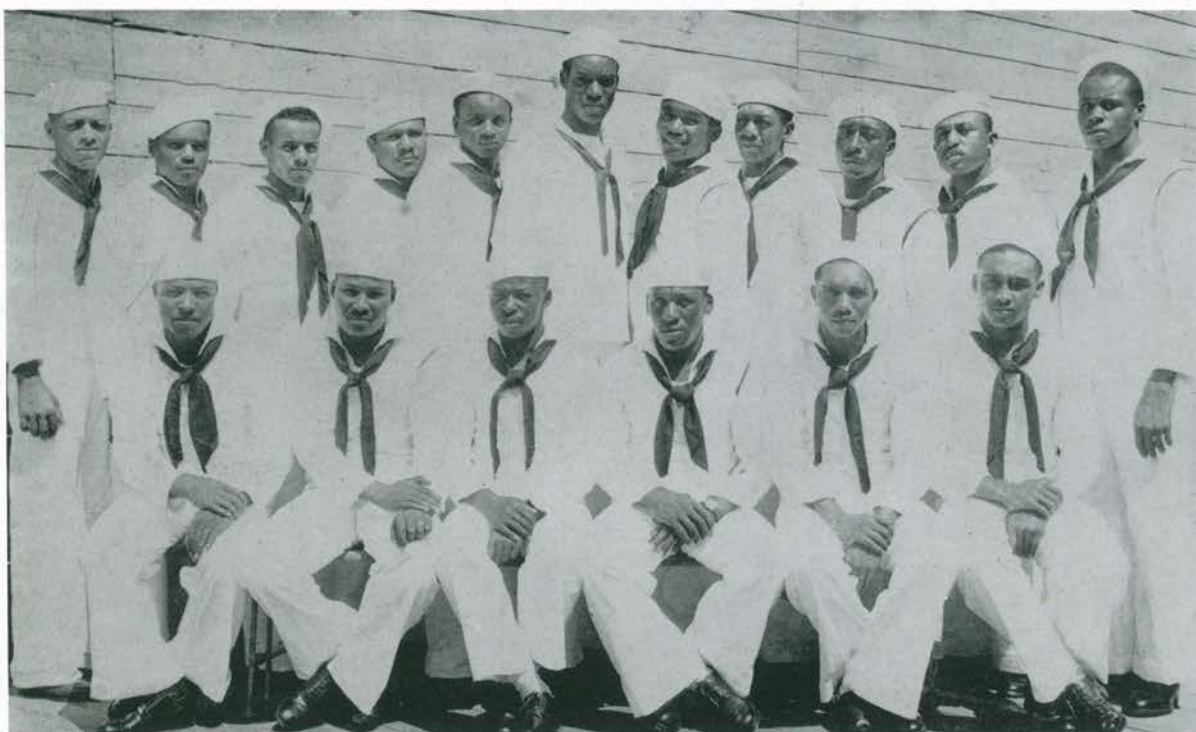
Left to right, front row: T. Warren, L. Topper, C. Perry, L. LeBlanc, R. Hopkins, U. Warner. Second row: J. Callahan, L. Anderson, V. Harmon, A. Trimble, W. C. Dixon, S. Brown, B. J. Helms, R. A. Carter, W. A. Woodard.

GANG 17



Left to right, front row: J. Jones, T. Lawrence, J. Logan, J. Randolph, C. R. Winston, B. J. Ealy. Second row: E. Stamps, J. W. Shorten, T. Hurt, Jr., H. Knox, L. Williams, J. Spencer, O. L. Jones, E. L. Orsburn, J. Stephens, J. W. Fryer, J. Randall, P. Sosa, O. Powell, G. W. Smith.

GANG 18



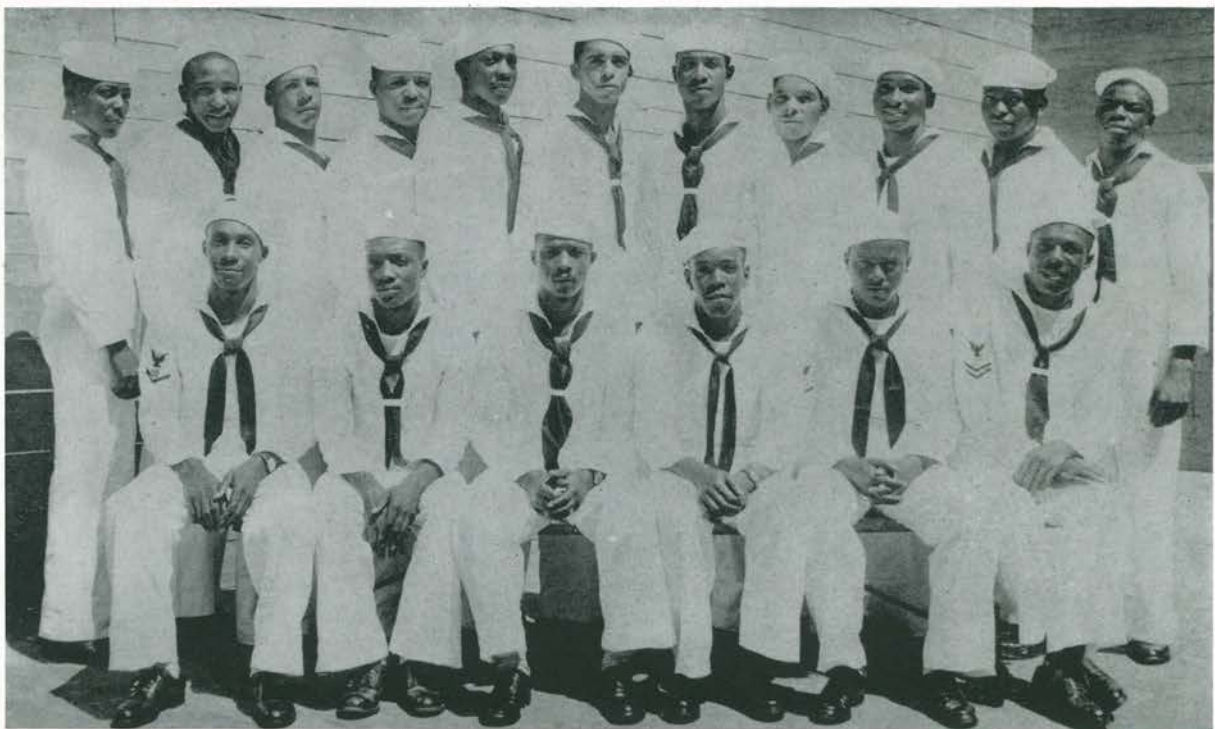
Left to right, front row: C. Fletcher, B. R. Foster, L. Gadson, G. Brathwaite, R. C. Gaines, U. Winn. Second row: H. Frazier, F. Gadie, C. M. Fowlkes, R. D. Gaines, W. J. Fulmore, J. Gardner, T. J. Gaskin, S. A. Turner, J. Garner, A. Smith.

G A N G 1 9



Left to right, front row: J. Williams, A. H. Williams, N. Austin, E. H. Carter, D. Sykes, J. O. Taylor. Second row: J. Taylor, M. H. Leftridge, H. W. Caldwell, E. W. Archie, T. C. Tartt, B. L. Taylor, H. L. Lightfoot, W. J. Martin, E. H. Davis, D. Banks, U. J. Levy.

G A N G 2 0



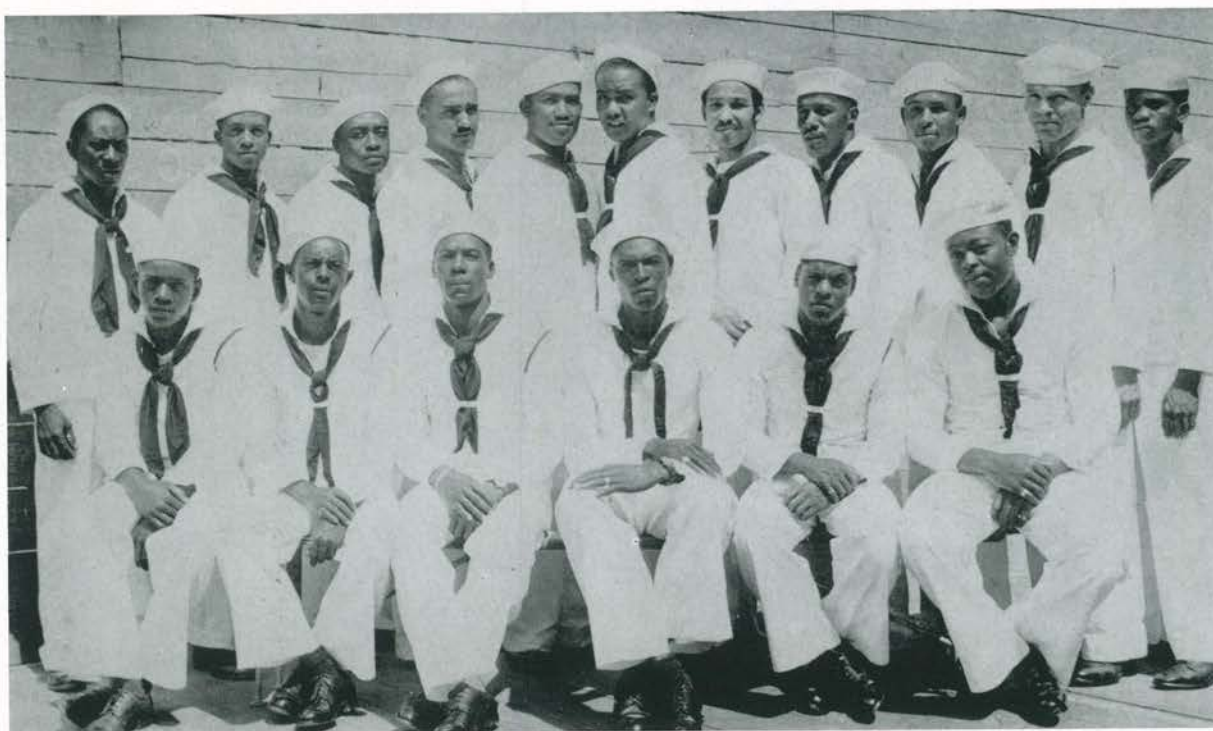
Left to right, front row: J. W. Strother, H. Garvin, R. J. Devine, W. Williams, E. Welch, W. B. Harrell. Second row: E. A. Garner, H. D. Keyes, M. Keith, Jr., B. Frazier, G. Coulter, S. Stepter, A. Jackques, J. L. Williams, G. Coleman, S. D. Kirkland.

GANG 21



Left to right, front row: J. Mallett, T. B. Shellar, C. Jones, A. Babbitt, A. Jones, Jr., J. M. Meggett. Second row: F. Kitt, J. D. Fletcher, A. Smith, G. S. Jones, W. M. Jackson, E. F. Jones, G. Smith.

GANG 22



Left to right, front row: C. Sutton, H. Varner, M. R. Toliver, S. B. Frasier, S. M. Logan, R. Lewis, Jr. Second row: L. Studevant, G. Terry, H. Leftenant, R. T. Mitchem, M. C. Anderson, P. Smith, J. A. Carbaugh, J. R. Dickens, C. E. Tucker, S. Adams, C. R. Knighten.

GANG 23



Left to right, front row: R. Johnson, A. L. Dozier, J. L. Jones, C. D. Rhea, R. L. Parker, J. A. Jones. Second row: J. Skinner, J. A. Scott, J. W. Jones, W. N. Tynes, J. H. Hudson, C. L. Hairston, R. Gainey, P. Sims.

GANG 24



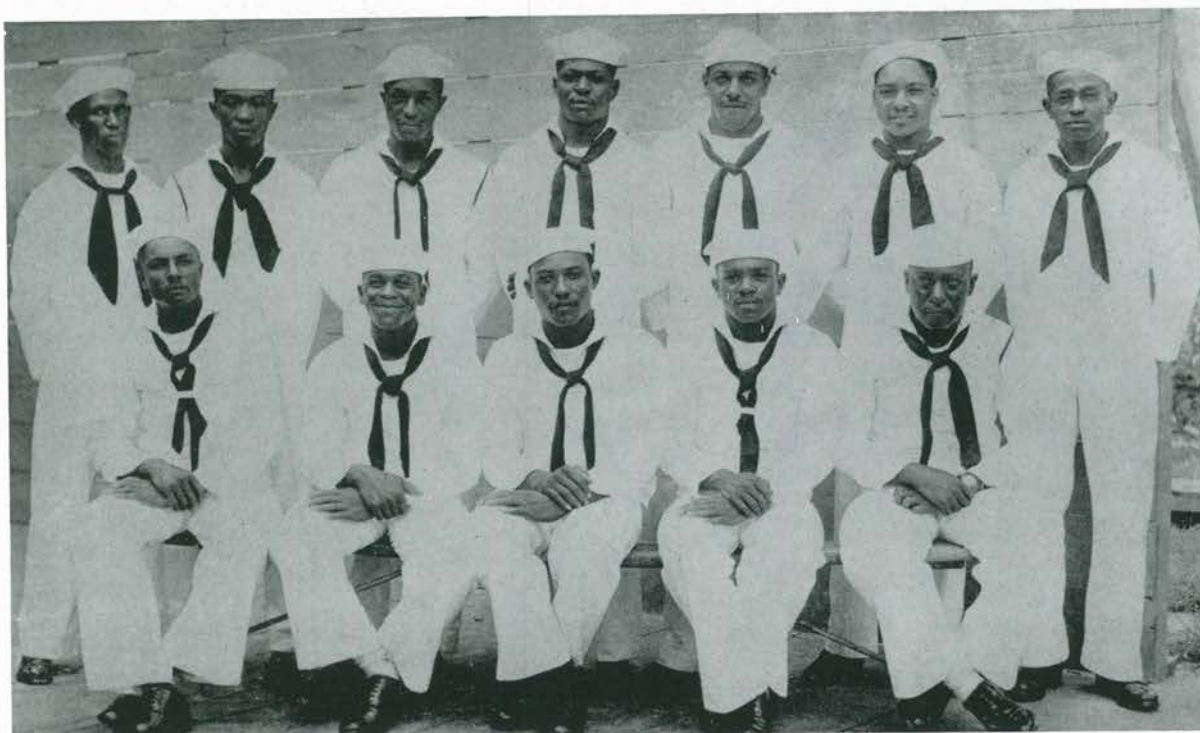
Left to right, front row: O. D. Stewart, J. M. Morrison, M. Patterson, Jr., V. E. Morgan, W. L. Steadman, D. McGree. Second row: R. E. Williams, F. Stevens, A. J. Kennedy, C. L. Lamar, E. L. Gurley, C. Martin, V. L. Jordan, J. Gardner, G. Stinson, S. A. Severin.

GANG 25



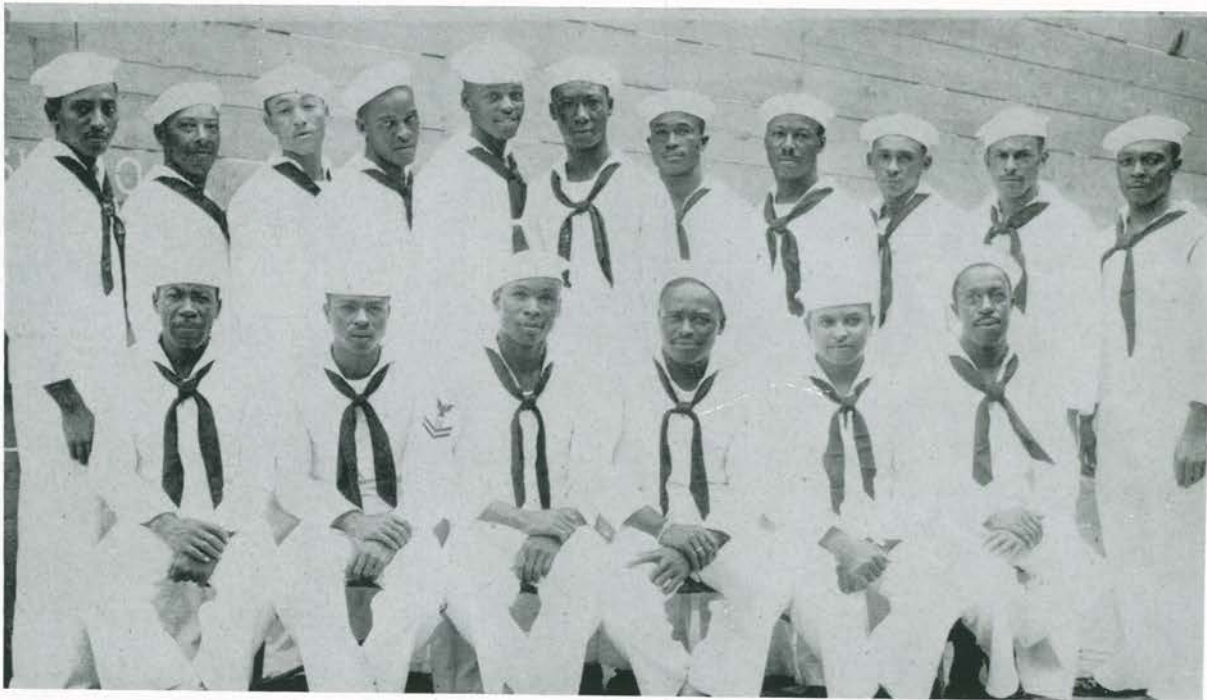
Left to right, front row: A. Aiken, A. M. Whitfield, W. Meadows, J. L. Crain, B. T. Miller, H. A. Gresham. Second row: H. L. Parker, W. R. Sheppard, C. J. Harewood, F. R. Redman, C. Gordon, N. M. Richardson, J. H. Mainor, R. Hall.

GANG 26



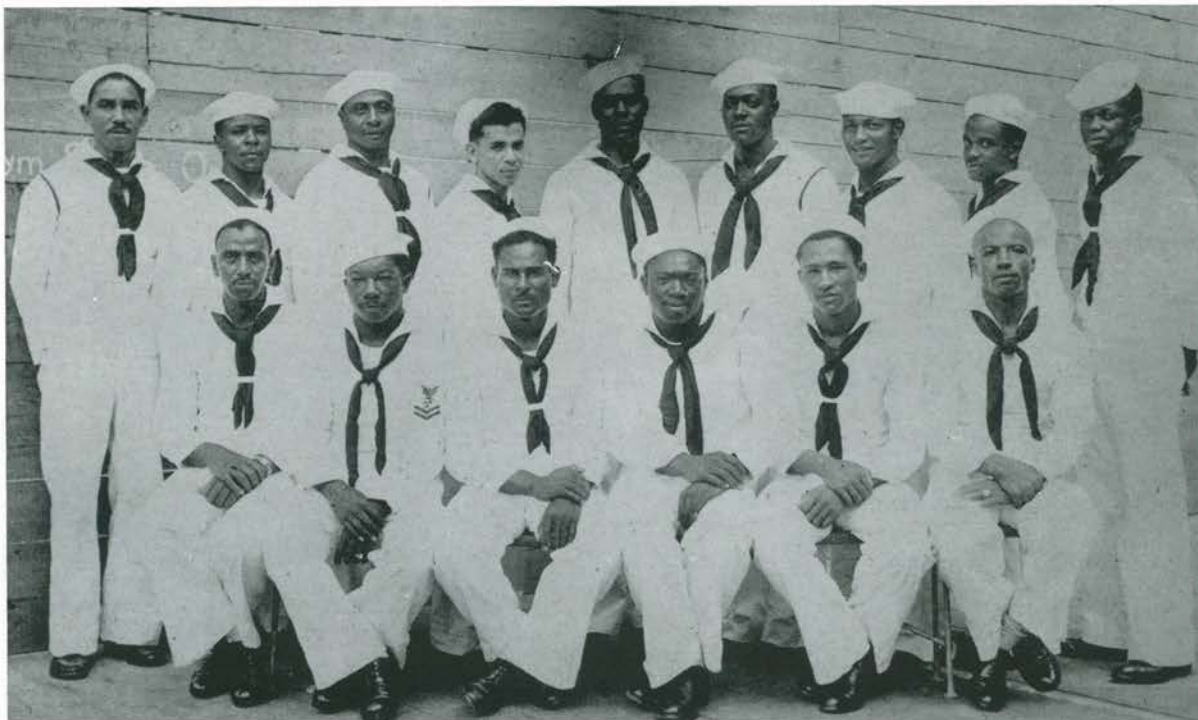
Left to right, front row: L. Parham, E. T. Granville, Z. Sanders, Jr., C. Graham, H. Rush. Second row: N. E. Alexander, J. Robinson, P. E. Cantrell, W. Green, V. Thompson, W. O. Shorter, E. L. Turner.

G A N G 2 7



Left to right, front row: M. Tarver, W. Gude, Jr., S. Bradley, S. H. McGilbray, N. L. Mitchell, S. J. Wright.
Second row: W. B. Crittle, A. House, A. Cooper, C. Greene, G. A. Goodwin, M. Green, P. A. Hatchett, B. F. Long, J. R. McGrier.

G A N G 2 8



Left to right, front row: S. N. Lipscomb, W. H. Moore, S. E. Evans, S. Austin, A. C. Jackson, C. C. Johnson.
Second row: C. F. Baker, E. Payne, B. Isom, O. Henderson, Jr., R. Brown, J. H. Woodhouse, N. E. Alexander, C. M. Lounds, M. Armstrong.

GANG 29



Left to right, front row: A. Alexander, W. Nickles, Jr., E. H. Oliver, W. B. Hill, B. T. Hollis, C. M. Powell.
Second row: C. Baldwin, L. B. Moore, T. W. Raindrop, W. L. Craig, W. Graham, Jr., H. L. Wilson, C. Gravitt, L. Seawright.

GANG 30



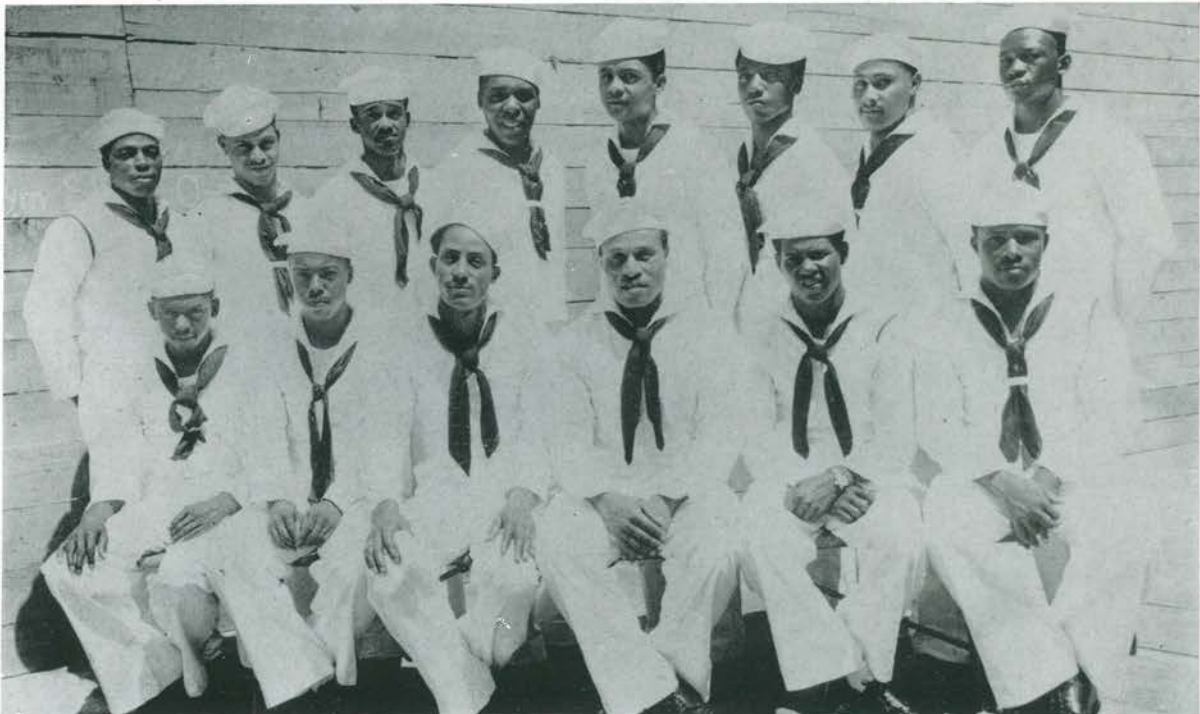
Left to right, front row: W. N. Owes, A. M. Swanson, F. L. Cooke, J. C. Stewart, B. L. Iseley, M. Peaks. Second row: J. L. Williams, W. R. Owens, H. L. Moore, V. Mixon, R. Mitchell, C. R. Crockett, R. Heath, L. B. Stewart, J. McCants, Jr., W. P. Cox.

G A N G 3 1



Left to right, front row: J. Thomas, W. E. Mickens, A. Mitchell, J. G. Hardin, J. D. McNair, G. Logan. Second row: W. L. Adams, J. Lightfoot, C. Robinson, Sr., J. J. Cross, Sr., P. J. Conoly, W. Floyd, E. V. Williams, A. Coleman, H. Washington.

G A N G 3 2



Left to right, front row: J. R. Clay, A. M. Cooper, A. Palmer, J. Leftwich, R. Means, F. L. Goyins. Second row: Z. Zanders, L. Owens, W. R. Minnis, C. McDaniel, Z. Cooper, D. Allums, W. P. Nooth, J. R. Gay.

MESS COOKS



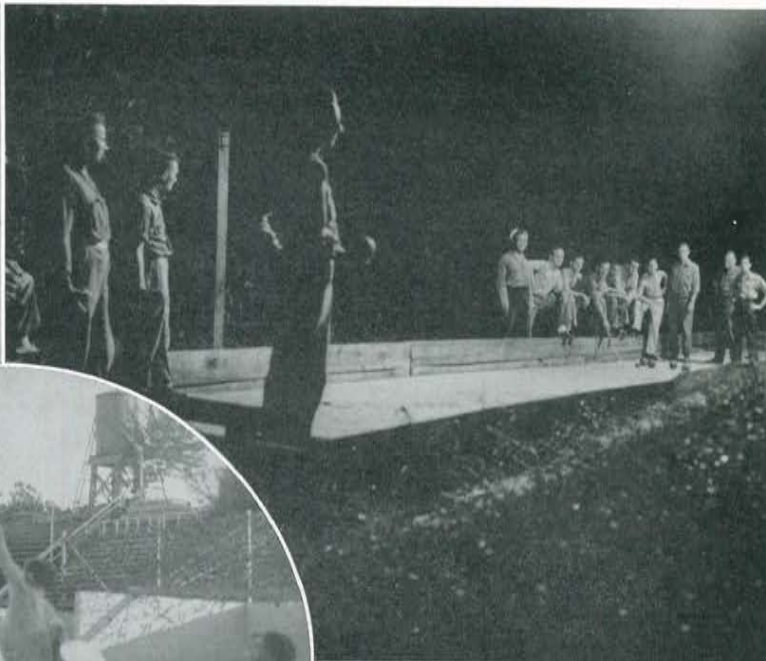
Left to right, front row: L. Fitzpatrick, J. E. Cole, O. Grice, W. Williams, C. E. Tucker, M. H. Nelson. Second row: L. G. Hall, E. J. Bolden, L. C. Wiggins, R. L. Willrich, E. Hill, B. Parker, W. Lawrence, F. E. Sivals, G. W. Blaine.



Left to right, front row: O. L. Adams, A. Authorlee, R. A. Mitchell. Second row: D. Polk, G. Foley, H. E. Porter, H. Davis.



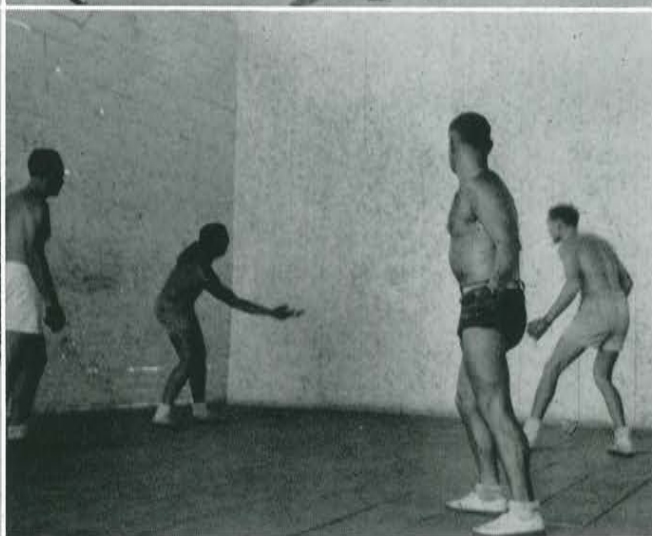
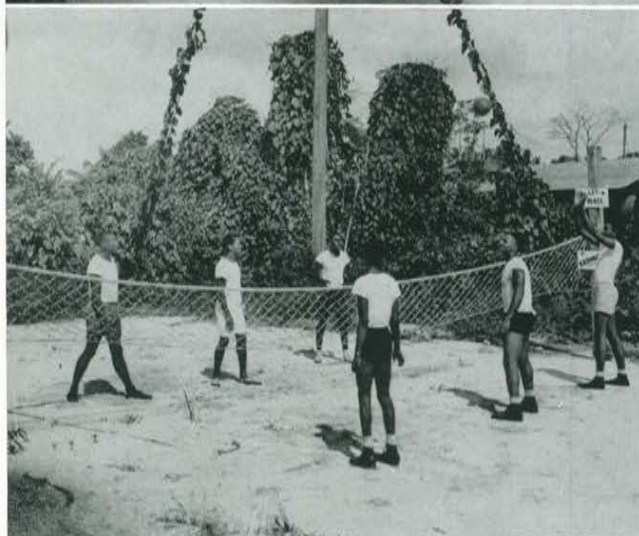
WELFARE AND RECREATION



WELFARE AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



Left to right: L. G. Williams, J. K. Colvin, J. J. Bonner, R. E. Anderson.



BATTALION CHOIR



Left to right, front row: J. Waters, L. Alexander, J. L. Tolbeer, S. A. Payne, C. W. O'Neil. Second row: R. Kichlighter, W. T. Johnson, R. Brooks, S. H. McGilbray, A. Shaw, J. Finch, H. D. Shockley.

Popularly known as "Willie Johnson's Music Airs," this group of melody makers have contributed unceasingly to the religious and recreational life of the men in the Admiralty Islands. Their activities have included four performances every Sunday: Divine Service at the 20th Special-Base Co. Chapel; Divine Service at the Naval Base Chapel; the Church of the Islands radio broadcast; the Jewish radio hour; and, for a time, they had a spot of their own on WVTD, broadcasting popular music. In addition to their Sunday performances they filled from one to three engagements during week nights entertaining the men at different outfits throughout the island, at times even going aboard major British ships to give them a sample of American music. Their singing ability has won for them the praise of the Commodore and the acclaim of all men who listened to their renditions.

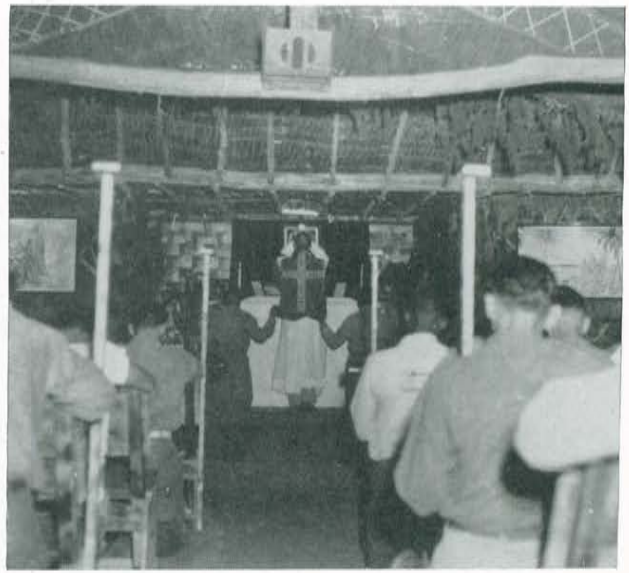
The Music Airs present all types of music in varied interpretations. On Sundays they presented Negro spirituals, classic church hymns, and even Jewish religious chants. During the week there were red-hot jive tunes, sweet and sentimental songs and American and Negro folk ballads.

The one man who is responsible for the choir's outstanding work is Willie T. Johnson. Utilizing his experience with the Golden Gate Quartet, he developed and trained these men until they performed in a style comparable to anything heard on the radio back in the states. Hats off to these men who did their regular duties and sacrificed their free time to bring tears and laughter to the men stationed in the Admiralties.

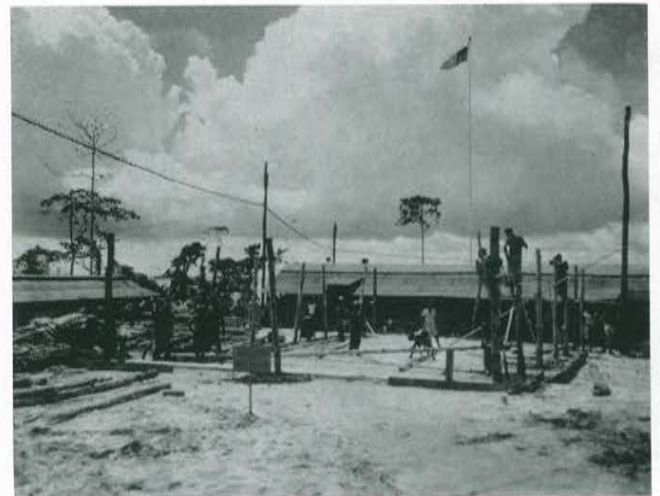


CH A P E L





NATIVES BUILD UNIQUE BEER GARDEN





BATTALION BALL TEAM



Left to right, front row: W. Jennings, H. L. Moore, J. R. McGrier, B. E. Westbrook, P. E. Lilley, M. E. Dell, C. M. Powell. Second row: G. R. Daniels, E. Hurd, W. Horn, W. B. Hill, C. M. Wayman, L. G. Williams, Mgr., A. L. Payton, A. Johnson, P. A. Hatchett, S. Green.



Closing its season with an impressive record of 49 wins against 19 losses, the battalion softball team can look back over 10 months of brilliant success. Playing with a professional-like fervor and ability, the team gained an island wide reputation for its excellent sportsmanship, as well as its fine play.

The team was formed from various company teams by Paul Hergert early in the year. With a few practice games under their belts, the team took on all comers. The early season was highlighted by a 13-game winning streak, which carried the team to the Manus Weekday League championship.

The team was taken over by Lou Williams in July, as they continued their winning ways. During the course of the season, over 25 different teams were played. The season was climaxed on September 15 with an 8-2 win over the 25th Special, Milne Bay champions.

The battalion was represented by another, less publicized team, the 20th Special Officers, who in their short season, won 22 games against six losses. This team also added laurels to the battalion by easily winning the crown of the Officer's League, and by setting the island scoring record for all games, winning a 22-0 game late in October.

For the success of the softball program, too much credit cannot be given Hergert and Williams. They were instrumental in initiating, developing and maintaining player and spectator interest, which highlighted the entire recreation program.

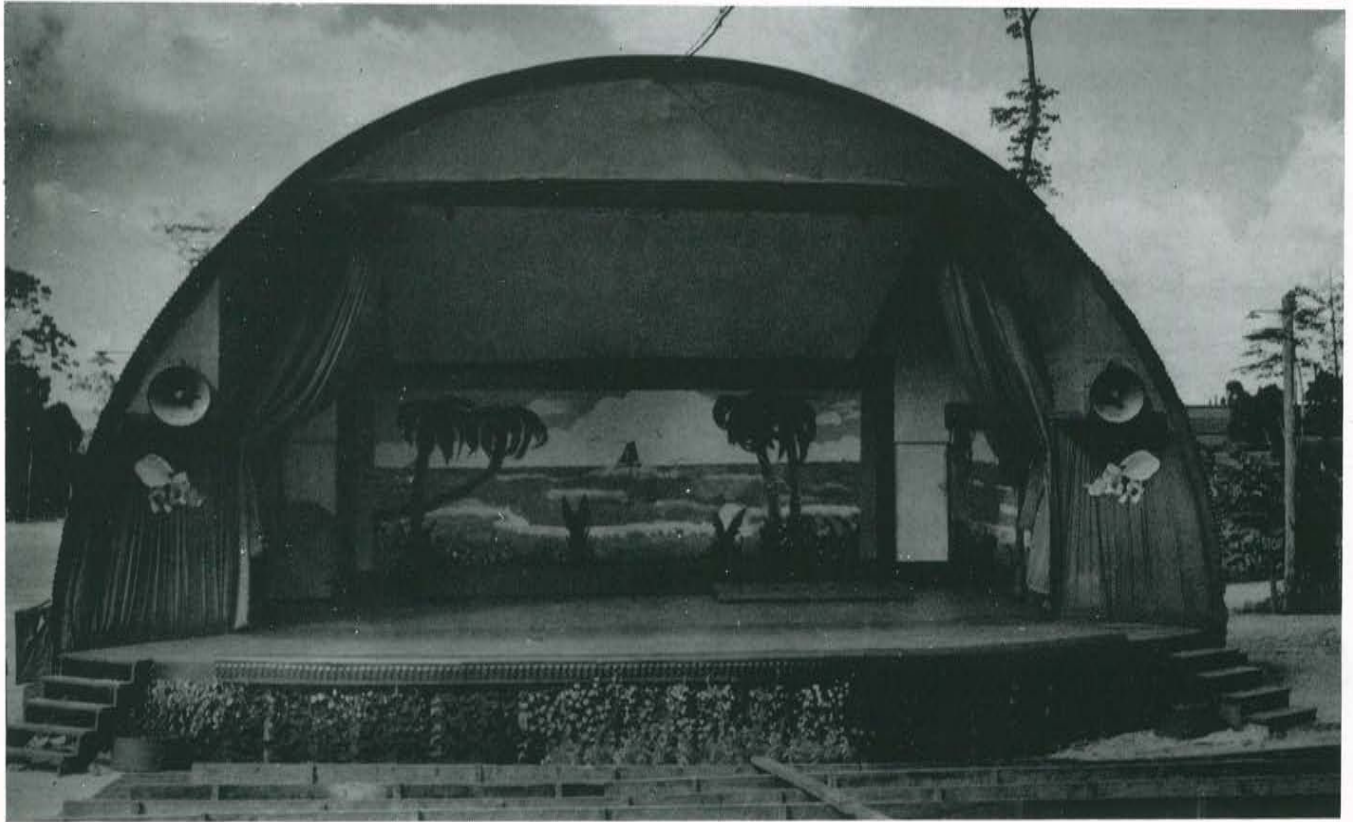


OFFICERS BALL TEAM

Left to right, front row: E. Kelly, H. M. Prout, W. H. Kurtz, D. J. Owen, Mgr., Second row: R. Beckman, D. G. Taylor, W. C. Kingsbury, W. C. A. Costello, R. Kicklighter, B. Wolf.



BATTALION THEATER





BATTALION RECREATION HALL





COMPANY B RECREATION HALL



20TH SPECIAL BASKETBALL TEAM



Left to right, front row: W. B. Hendrix, L. Jackson, G. Roberts. Second row: H. W. Caldwell, T. L. Tyler, J. A. Smith, R. P. McQueen, H. Moore.



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20TH SPECIAL U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

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