

107th Naval Construction Battalion

*Historical
Information*



*“Construimus, Batuimus”
“We Build, We Fight”*



6/3/44 - *Endicott* - *Feb 1944*
Ebeye

7/19 - *Ebeye J.* C.B. report
Marshall Is. 1 July 1944
CASA also
Com Marshalls
Sub area sec
Act. disp. 250849
July.

10/14 - *Linian* C.B. report
 1 October

11/10 - *LIRP (Linian)* *20. Linian*
sec act disp
010521 nav.

107th C.B.

NCTC - Peary
 ABD - Hueneme
 Ready Date - 22 Oct'43
 Left ABD - 20 Feb'44
 Location - ~~Acorn 23~~ - Ebeye Is., Kwajalein Tinian

LOG

on 24 Jul'43

- 6-19-43 - Budocks requests transfer of the 107th CB from Peary to Endicott! (Budocks ltr to CNO dtd 19 Jun'43)
- 8-27-43 - Budocks requests transfer of the 107th CB from Endicott to Parks on 2 Sep'43. (Budocks ltr to CNO dtd 27 Aug'43)
- 1- 6-43 - CNO orders transfer of the 107th CB to Hueneme about 9 Nov. Assigned Acorn 23. (Conf. Disp. 051715 NCR 162 dtd 6 Nov'43 from CNO to Parks)
- 2-25-44 - 107th CB left U.S. 20 Feb'44. (AES). Left for Fray.
- 5- 9-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of 107th CB - Left Hueneme and sailed 20 Feb'44; arrived P.H. 26 Feb'44 and debarked at Iroquois Pt. 27 Feb'44; left Iroquois Pt. 29 Feb'44 and arrived at Kwajalein 6 Mar'44. On 7 Mar'44, 242 men and 4 off. made the initial landing on Ebeye Is.
- 6-22-44 - 107th CB assigned to the 29th Reg. (See kardex under 29th Reg. - same date)
- 6-29-44 - 107th CB report of 1 Jun'44 - operating at Ebeye and Bigej Is. on Kwajalein Atoll.
- 7-18-44 - 1 Jul'44 report of 107th CB - operating at Ebeye and Bigej Islands on Kwajalein.
- 8-26-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of 107th CB - operating at Kwajalein. Date of completion of assignment at Ebeye Is. 31 Jul'44.

Location - Kwajalein Tinian

107th C.B.

- 9-13-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of 107th CB - operating at Kwajalein. Date of completion of assignment on Bigej Is. 31 Aug'44.
- 11-14-44 - 107th CB returned to Pearl Harbor. (Com Marshall Gilberts Area to Comservpacoff: Sec. ltr F15-1/MM/00/J2-mb over Ser 90932 dtd 3 Nov'44)
- 11-17-44 - 1 Oct'44 report of 107th CB - Batt broke camp at Bigej Island, Kwajalein Atoll and on 1 Sep'44 proceeded to Tinian Island in the Mariannas Group. Arrived at destination 10 Sep'44. Report endorsed by 29th Regiment.
- 11-30-44 - 1 Nov'44 report of 107th CB - operating at Tinian. Report endorsed by 29th Reg.
- 1-5-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of the 107th CB - no info on location. Report endorsed by 29th Regiment.
- 2- 7-45 - 1 Jan'45 report of the 107th CB - no info on location. Report endorsed by the 29th Regiment.
- 3- 10-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 107th CB - location not given. End. by 29th Reg.
- 3-31-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of the 107th CB - located at Tinian. End. by 29th Reg.
- 4-26-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of the 107th CB - located at Tinian. End. by 29th Reg.
- 5- 8-45 - The 107th CB is located at Tinian. (Dirpaddock's S.F. Sec Rep of 15 Apr'45)
- 5-29-45 - 1 May'45 report of the 107th CB - located at Tinian. Report end. by 29th Reg & 6th Brig.
- 6-28-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 107th CB - located at Tinian. Report end. by 29th Reg & 6th Brig.
- 7-30-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 107th CB - located at Tinian. Report via 29th Reg & 6th Brigade.
- 8-28-45 - Remove from alerted status my 091943 July of higher classification, CBs 82, 72, 92 107, 110, 121. (Comservpac Sec disp 242213 to Commarianas).

Location -

107th CB

- 8-29-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of 107th CB. No info as to location. Report came via 29th Reg. & 6th Brig.
- 9-24-45 - Comservpac directs CinC, 6th Brig to inactivate 107th CB. (Comservpac conf's altr ser 05220 dtd 15 Sept'45 to CinC, 6th Brig).
- 10-4-45 - 1 Sept'45 report of 107th CB - location not stated. Report via 29th Reg. & 6th Brig.
- 10-31-45 - 107th CB was inactivated on 15 Oct'45. (CinC, 6th Brig. ltr dtd 19 Oct'45 to Comservpac).
- 11-1-45 - 1 Oct'45 report of 107th CB - location not stated. Report via 29th Reg. & 6th Brig.

INACTIVATED

ON BOARD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
1 Jul'44	30	958	MoR
1 Aug'44	30	1045	R & BNP625
1 Sep'44	30	1043	MoR-BNP625
1 Oct'44	30	1036	MoR
1 Nov'44	30	1019	BNP625 & MoR
1 Dec'44	31	1020	BNP625 & MoR
1 Jan'45	32	1017	BNP625 & MoR
1 Feb'45	32	1011	MoR
1 Mar'45	32	1011	MoR
1 Apr'45	31	1006	BNP625 & R
1 May'45		996	BNP625
1 Jun'45	30	1092	BNP625
1 Jul'45	31	1107	BNP625 & R
1 Aug'45		1056	BNP625 & R
1 Sept'45		1004	BNP625
1 Oct'45	26	962	BNP625 & R

107th Construction Battalion (INACTIVATED)

107TH BATTALION

Formed at Camp Peary in July 1943, the 107th Battalion had brief tours of duty at Camp Endicott and Camp Parks and arrived at Port Hueneme Nov. 10, 1943. Shipping overseas from Hueneme Feb. 20, 1944, the Battalion arrived at Iroquois Point, Oahu, Feb. 25. Leaving Oahu on Feb. 27, the outfit arrived at Kwajalein atoll March 6 and the following day four officers and 242 men participated in the initial landing on Ebeye Island. Transferring to Bigej, another of the Marshall group, in two echelons, the sections landed on June 1 and July 4, 1944. Moving again on Sept. 1, 1944, the outfit sailed for Tinian, via Eniwetok, and disembarked on Tinian on Sept. 10. At war's end the Battalion was still on duty at Tinian.

Outline History of

The 107th U. S. Naval Construction Battalion

- 24 July, 1943 - Battalion officially organized at Camp Pearyland, Lt. Comdr. James Rex Ritter, CBO, USA, Officer in Charge, at 30 Union Street, San Francisco, and Lt. Howard Evans Mc Kay, CBO, USNR, Instructor, Officer, of 216 Leany Avenue, Springfield, Pa. Left for Camp Lintcove and advanced training.
- 31 July, 1943 - Commissioned and reviewed by Admiral L. A. Conner and others presented. Personnel engaged in advanced military and technical training, range practice with Carbines at Sun Valley, and men from East had embarkation leaves.
- 4 Sept., 1943 - Boarded trains for Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California.
- 10 Sept., 1943 - Arrived at Camp Parks, men from West took embarkation leaves. Personnel engaged in additional military and technical training, ship's service details, quonset construction, roads, and range practice with 1903 Springfields. Stood prepared with sticks and stones to repel "invasion" of Lt. Diablo by the 4th Battalion, although the 4th was only there in someone's imagination. Took further hardening exercises playing "King of the Hill" nearer camp. The vanquished automatically fell or rolled into the creek at the foot of the hill.
- 9 Nov., 1943 - Moved to Camp Rousseau, Port Hueneme, for further military training, issue of equipment and preparation for embarkation. On night of 19 November, the whole Battalion was called out to participate in "West Coast Defense Maneuver". The 107th successfully defended (without ammunition) the camp lumber yard on Bird Avenue. This was just a gag pulled on each battalion going through the camp.
- 23 Nov., 1943 - Moved to Acorn Training Detachment area, Port Hueneme. Sent detail to Oakland Supply Depot to prepare and crate materials for shipment abroad. Construction details sent to Morro Bay and Point Lugo. Detail sent to San Clemente Island to build experimental models of Japanese gun positions. Carpenters built guest house for Splinter City. Equipment issued and jeeps named for "the girls left behind".
- 18 Jan., 1944 - Commissioned as part of the Acorn Unit 23, Comdr. William R. Hopf, Commanding, and Lt. Comdr. John H. Hertz, Executive Officer.
- 17 Feb., 1944 - Heavy equipment loaded and shipped aboard the U.S.S. Otto Hears.
- 20 Feb., 1944 - Personnel and remainder of equipment and supplies sailed on Army Transport, the Sea Pike, with 2100 passengers aboard, mostly sea sick for first couple days of voyage.
- 27-28 Feb., 1944 - Ashore at Pearl Harbor. Camped on Iroquois Point at the Advance Base Reship Depot. Hungry after eating fruit or soup for daily noon chow menu.
- 6 March, 1944 - Arrived at Kwajalein in Marshalls. No stevedores available to unload supplies and equipment. 107th men with no previous experience in operating electrical winches took over the job. First full construction battalion unit on Ebeye Island and the first battalion to raise the American flag over former Japanese possession. Constructed air base facilities, roads, parachute landing zone, tank farm, admiral's quarters and offices, and repaired dock. Naval Air Base, Ebeye, commissioned 14 May, 1944. Designed and built sectional galley and mess buildings for facilitating transfer of new project. Made section tent decks to contain sea bags when pulled out for removal to new project.

10 June, 1944 - Battalion moved to Higoj Island on Kwajalein Atoll, the natives having previously left, and raised the first American flag over the island, flying it from the top of a bare coconut palm. Cleared the island of mines and explosives, erected tank farm, tanker mooring facilities, U. S. Pacific Fleet recreation facilities, including "Golden Gate Park".

1 Sept., 1944 - Sailed for new advanced base project, Tinian and en route were caught in a lashing rain driven by tropical storm wind.

10 Sept., 1944 - Arrived at Tinian, took over share of defense and protection of island from roaming enemy personnel, dug fox holes, and dodged falling shrapnel aimed for enemy bombers. Came close to catastrophe when enemy bomber flew low over Officers' Country, coming over the island undetected. Two men, unarmed, captured a Jap soldier. Set up portable buildings and built camp from salvaged Jap lumber, dismantled sugar mill and Jap radio towers, installed submarine fuel lines, tanker mooring, tank farm, and island fuel distribution system. Erected 58th Wing, 313th Wing and Army Garrison Force camps and utilities, established livestock facilities, built roads, north causeway in Tinian Harbor and furnished men and equipment for work on air strips and naval hospital. Erected 210 ft. steel homing tower for use by Navy, 58th and 313th Wings.

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

ITINERARY OF THE 107TH CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

To Facilitate
Administrative Handling
Classification changed
from:

- July 1943 - Formed at MCTC, Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va.
- 24 July 1943 - Transferred to MCTC, Davisville, R. I.
- 4 Sept 1943 - Departed MCTC, Davisville, R. I. in three sections.
- 10 Sept. 1943 - Arrived CBRD, Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California.
- 9 Nov. 1943 - Departed CBRD, Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California.
- 10 Nov. 1943 - Arrived ABBRB, Port Hueneme, California.
- 23 Nov. 1943 - Departed ABBRB, Port Hueneme, California.
- 23 Nov. 1943 - Arrived ATD, Splinter City, Port Hueneme, California.
- 17 Feb. 1944 - First Echelon departed with heavy equipment, 1-officer and 12-men, from ABBRB, Port Hueneme, California for overseas.
- 20 Feb. 1944 - Second Echelon departed with 30-officers and 960-men, from ABBRB, Port Hueneme, California for overseas.
- 25 Feb. 1944 - First Echelon arrived at Iroquois Point, T. H.
- 26 Feb. 1944 - Second Echelon arrived at Iroquois Point, T. H.
- 27 Feb. 1944 - Debarked at Iroquois Point, T. H.
- 29 Feb. 1944 - Second Echelon, 29-officers and 960-men, departed.
- 4 Mar. 1944 - First Echelon departed Iroquois Point, T. H.
- 6 Mar. 1944 - Second Echelon arrived in Kwajalein Atoll.
- 7 Mar. 1944 - 4-Officers and 242-men made the initial landing on Ebeye Island.
- 10 Mar. 1944 - All of 2nd Echelon on Ebeye Island. Battalion initiated and completed the stevedore work of Acorn #23 and Battalion gear. Constructed Seaplane Base.
- 15 Mar. 1944 - First Echelon arrived Kwajalein Atoll.
- 13 May 1944 - Naval Air Base, Ebeye Island, Commissioned.
- 1 June 1944 - First Echelon departed Ebeye Island for initial landing on Bigej Island, 15-officers and 500-men.
- 1 June 1944 - First Echelon arrived Bigej Island.
- 4 July 1944 - Second Echelon departed Ebeye Island for Bigej Island, 15-officers and 489-men.
- 4 July 1944 - Second Echelon arrived Bigej Island. On Bigej Island, constructed Tank Farms, Tanker mooring facilities and U.S. Fleet Recreation facilities and park.
- 1 Sept 1944 - First Echelon departed Bigej Island, 29-officers and 1008-men.
- 3 Sept to
6 Sept 1944 - At Eniwetok Atoll.
- 10 Sept 1944 - First Echelon arrived Tinian Island, 29-officers and 1008-men.
- 12 Sept 1944 - Second Echelon departed Bigej Island, 1-officer and 30-men.
- 22 Sept 1944 - Second Echelon arrived Tinian Island, 1-officer and 30-men.
- 4 June 1945 - Still on Tinian Island.

Irvin S. Rasmussen
CSC-700-100

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ENCLOSURE 1

[Signature]
J. R. RITTER, Lt. Col. (S) USMC.

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED

ITINERARY OF THE 107TH CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (CONT'D)

4 July 44 Second Echelon arrived Bigej Island. On Bigej Island, constructed Tank Farms, Tanker mooring facilities and S. Fleet Recreation facilities and park.

1 Sept 44 First Echelon departed Bigej Island, 29-officers and 1003-men.

3 Sept to
6 Sept 44 At Eniwetok Atoll.

10 Sept 44 First Echelon arrived Tinian Island, 29-officers and 1003-men.

12 Sept 44 Second Echelon departed Bigej Island, 1-officer and 30-men.

22 Sept 44 Second Echelon arrived Tinian Island, 1-officer and 30-men.

1 Oct 45 Still on Tinian Island.

NOTE: This itinerary has been checked and authenticated by the Officer-in-Charge of the 107th Naval Construction Battalion.

15 October 1945.



U.S. NAVAL

BATTALION

CONSTRUCTION







GASOLINE
PIPE LINE
KEEP FIRE AND
VEHICLES AWAY



