

MCB#2 Reunion Association

Newsletter for former MCB #2 Personnel.....

March 1995

NOW HEAR THIS!!!! THERE IS NO TIME TO LOSE...

***YOU NEED TO REGISTER NOW FOR THE COMING
3rd. MCB#2 LAS VEGAS REUNION***

Imperial Palace

Las Vegas - Sept. 10-13, 1995

The MCB#2 Reunion will be held at the IMPERIAL PALACE HOTEL AND CASINO, Las Vegas, Nevada. Room Rates for MCB#2 are reserved at \$50.00 net, per night, per room plus 8% room tax.... single or double occupancy. Individuals are on their own for Room Reservations. Call 1-800-634-6441, and ask for "MS. BLUE". Miss Blue is our special operator that will give you our special rates, etc.

The third MCB#2 Reunion will be held starting Sunday, September 10, 1995 with check-in beginning at 3 p.m. We have a HOSPITALITY ROOM during the entire reunion for your enjoyment, sharing memorabilia, visitation etc.

On Monday, Sept. 11, will be the Membership Business Meeting, and the Memorial Service. Monday evening is open for your activities.

Tuesday, Sept. 12 daytime is held open for your own small group meetings in the hospitality room, tours, or activities of your choice. The BANQUET AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT will be Tuesday from 7:00 pm until midnight. This will be a first class affair. You need to see info on Banquet tickets on page 2 of this newsletter.

Wednesday morning, Sept 13 is open for your last minute details, and your departure.

We will have a HOSPITALITY ROOM available for your enjoyment. Check it out.

The IMPERIAL PALACE is a fine hotel and really went out of their way to give us attractive pricing on our rooms and the banquet. Everything possible is being done so you will have a good time. **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!!!!**

Order Banquet Tickets from STONEY SERRETT

Your Banquet Tickets must be ordered prior to August 1, 1995. To be safe. **ORDER YOUR TICKETS NOW!** Stoney is ready!!

The **BUFFET MENU** is all set and you can reserve your dinner tickets from Stoney Serrett. Tickets will be \$20.00 per person plus 17% Gratuities and 7% Nevada Sales Tax. This makes your total cost \$24.80 each.

What's to eat? **PLENTY, AND IT'S GOOD TOO!**

**Tossed Green Salad
Buenavista Relish Bowl
Variety of Combination Salads
Selected Cold Cuts and Cheese
Fruit Jello Mold**

**ROAST PRIME RIB OF BEEF
HONEY-GLAZED BONE-IN BAKED HAM**

(carved by Chef)

Coq-Au-Vin

**Tortellina Marinara
Fresh Red Snapper Grenobloise
Chateau Potatoes
Fresh Harvest Vegetable**

**Fresh Cakes and Pies
Coffee, Decaf, Tea, Milk**

To order your Banquet Tickets....

Write to.. **STONEY SERRETT**

9756 Mesa Verde Ave.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70814-4335

Stoney will confirm your order by sending your Banquet Tickets.

Please Get Your Room & Air Reservations Placed Now

Your Reunion Committee has been in close communication with the Imperial Palace Hotel. They discussed that one past military reunion group really got in a **SNAFU** because they neglected to get their reservation in early. September is the busiest time of the year in Las Vegas. Both hotel rooms and airlines tend to get filled up early.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY. Remember, if your plans change, you can always cancel your room reservations 48 hours in advance without any cost to you.

September is a "sold-out" month for the airlines coming to Las Vegas. You really need to reserve your airline tickets now! Besides, there are sure some attractive fares available now on some air carriers that can save some big-bucks.

There is no reason to come up short. We have a good plan. We have good rates. Make your reservations now so you and **YOUR BUDDIES** will not be disappointed.

Free Auto Show Passes

In your reservation packet will be free tickets to the Imperial Palace's Auto Collection. There are on display at any time about 220 rare cars from the 750 cars in their collection. These are world class wheels that you wanta see.

From our Chaplin
Herff Epperson

LOOKING UP TO GOD

Psalm 121:1-2 (KJV) "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth." Or as the today's English Version or Good News Bible has it, "I look to the mountains; where will my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

I love the mountains. Perhaps it is because of the Franklin Mountain here in and around El Paso. I've always viewed the mountains as a symbol of strength, stability and security. I also like to look at paintings of mountains.

In the Bible many significant mountains are found. Three especially are mentioned; Mount Sinai, where God gave Moses the Ten Commandments--Laws and Rules for the Jewish nation to live by. Mount Zion the mountain where Jerusalem is built and on the summit of that mountain is the Temple where the nation worshipped. Mount Calvary, the mountain just outside of Jerusalem where Jesus, the Son of God was crucified to bring forgiveness of the sin of all mankind. However, looking to the mountains still does not meet our needs. We must look above the mountains and get a vision of God, and a glimpse of His glory. This means looking up to God to meet the four main areas of life.

1.) Doing Wrong - the wrong we do is sin and God loves us and forgives all sin.

2.) Discouragement - whatever the stresses and problems of life, God cares and understands.

3.) Disease - God is the Great Physician and brings healing and strength for all our ills.

4.) Death - Whether the death of a loved one or our own death, when we go "through the valley of the shadow of death"; He is the "resurrection and the life" and we find life after death.

Look up to God for forgiveness, for courage, for healing and for eternal life the hope of a better tomorrow.

May God bless you in all your needs.

Your friend and fellow Seabee

Herff Epperson, Chaplain

In Memory.....

We are saddened by the passing of T.R. "Bigger" Forrester. This was omitted in the last newsletter.

The Commodore's Barge

Our leadership consists of:

Chairman: **RICHARD NELSON**

Committeemen
PETE ELLIOTT
AL GARZA
BEN PAINTER

STONEY SERRETT
TED SPEROS
SCOTT WILLIAMS

Secty-Treasurer:
ROY T. CONE

NEWS ECHOES FROM OUR CREW

Looking forward to Las Vegas Reunion.
Can't remember if I paid my 1994 dues.....
so enclosed is my check just in case...
(Good thinking and you got 'em paid now).

DANIEL P. MILLETT

I sure enjoy the newsletters.... they are
informative and bring back pleasant
memories. From reading the newsletters it
sounds as if everyone has a great time. I'll
be sure and keep this newsletter in a safe
place so I'll know where to send in the
banquet money.... **JERRY WILKENING**

We are glad to receive the newsletter.
We're looking forward to the 95 reunion in
Vegas. Am enclosing the 95 dues as well
as some extra to help out where needed.

BILLY W. PARTRIDGE

(Thank You, Thank You... we have just the
place to put the extra money.)

I truly do not believe that four-fifths of our
former members are a bunch of deadbeats.
Put the suggested dues form on future
issues of the newsletter, and you will almost
certainly note a favorable response. I truly
enjoyed the features in the Thanksgiving-
Christmas newsletter about Detachment A,
The softball team and the Echoes.

JACK L. COULTER

I hope I'm sending my dues to the right
man. If not please send to the right man.
See you in Vegas.

"Fletch" **JOHN W. FLETCHER**

(You bet, it came to the right place, at the
right time, and we will get you credited
pronto!)

GREETINGS FROM ARKANSAS.... thought
this would be a good way to say "HELLO".
I told Herff Epperson I would check with you
as I was in MCB#2 Det A with him during
1950-53. We moved thru the South Pacific
to Midway, then to the Philippines. Do not
know if we could make the annual meetings
or not, but will give it a try as we had a
good detachment and I would like to see
them again. Best of everything to you and
yours!
LEONARD R. FOWLER

Enclosed IS a check this time- hopefully - for
\$24.00 to cover the 1994 and 1995 dues.
The check (which is included this time....) is
guaranteed not to bounce. Patriotically
yours....
JACK COULTER

I am sending you my \$12.00 for dues. I
enjoy reading the newsletters. May never
attend a reunion, but enjoy reading about
some people I used to know. I served at
Sangley Point in 1953 I think. **J. D. MOORE**

Looks like you guys are whipping up a good
reunion in Vegas. See you there. I'm
sending my 95 dues at this time.....
SKI AND MARY OSTROSKI

Something to ponder..... Ski and Mary
Ostroski live on 148 "OLD NEW ROAD" in
Chalfont, Pa. **WHAT IN THE WORLD IS AN
"OLD NEW ROAD" ANYWAY?** Beats me?
Maybe Ski should explain it to me.....
HUMMMMM???.... and if Ski don't know....
Mary will know!

PAUL MUMA writes.... Last May I left for
Europe for several months. I missed the last
reunion, but I sure will try to make this one.
Here are my 94 & 95 dues. (We need you.)

ECHOES CONTINUED....

Your last newsletter sent to Oregon caught up with me in Texas. (I'm proud of the Post Office.... well kinda proud.... not too proud about the new postage rate increase however... come to think about it) Looking forward to Las Vegas in 1995.

BRUCE AND MOYA BARTON

Happy Holidays! Barbara and I are making every attempt to schedule for this years convention in Vegas. We are looking forward to it. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!...**

GLENN AND BARBARA SISCO

Yep, I retired 6/30/94. I plan to attend the Vegas reunion in September. Please keep me advised.

WILLIAM F. SHARP

Oops... you need to correct my name on the mailers from "Jenson" to "Jensen". (Picky, Picky, Picky.... that's pretty close). Enjoy the newsletter, and keep up the good work. I hope my wife and I can make the reunion next year.

DeVON C. JENSEN

Got a letter from **STONEY SERRETT** today with his dues enclosed and he is busy as ever in keeping up the banquet tickets, (HE HAS ABOUT 40 RESERVED NOW...), running down our lost members, and all that good stuff. This man works for our **MCB#2 Reunion Association ALL THE TIME. SALUTE, STONEY!....** and "thank you" doesn't have enough meaning to express our appreciation for you.

We are looking forward to Vegas and hoping to see some new faces of those Seabees who have yet to attend a reunion. Nashville was our first one. It's Great!

DAN AND JONI SVENDSEN

REUNION KEEP-SAKES....

You will be especially pleased with the **MCB#2 Las Vegas Reunion memorabilia** that will be available at reasonable prices at the reunion. There will be available the following really nice goodies...

Special blue MCB#2 coffee cups.... which can be used for coffee, tea, cocoa.... or storing pencils on your desk.... or in worst case for collecting some coins should your luck turn out horrible in Vegas <grin> .

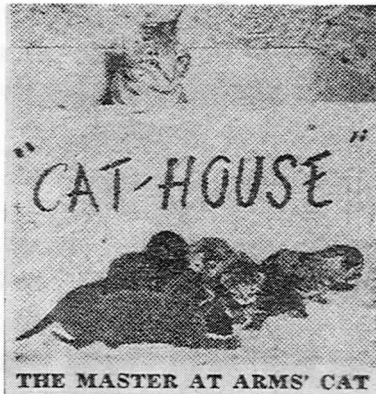
MCB#2 Custom Las Vegas Reunion Insignia Patches. These really look good, and will dress up that wind-breaker of yours. Yes, This is just what you have been wanting.

MCB#2 Reunion Base-Ball Caps. This is just the thing to set you off so you will look like Nolan Ryan.... or whoever you think looks spiffier. We got the "GOOD HATS", not the cheapies, and you will be pleased to wear these good-looking hats. When you are wearing one of these hats, you can be easily thought of as belonging to our **ALL STAR MCB#2 CHAMPIONSHIP SOFT BALL TEAM** from Subic Bay. Also, at small extra cost you can buy a stick to keep all the girls away. These hats are **GUARANTEED TO MAKE YOU ABSOLUTELY IRRESISTIBLE.**

Of course, all of our profits from the sale of keep-sakes goes into our general funds to keep your dues low.

MALCOLM AND MARGE PEARSON write "We are looking forward to the third Seabee Reunion in Las Vegas. We have made our reservations. **WE ARE SAVING OUR QUARTERS!** It sounds like a great time. Hope to see all you CB's there.

"Cat House" **THE MASTER AT ARMS' CAT**



Pictured is "Tabby" who makes her home around the MAA's shack at MCB#2 and who has evidently decided to raise a family on the station. Judging by the different coloring of each of the six kitten, their mother has been playing around on "A" street and still hasn't learned to say the word "No!"

The boys made up a pool guessing as to how many kittens would arrive and their time of arrival. That pool was won by R.W. Brown, MAA force, and he was immediately elected to take care of the kittie and her family. They seem to be doing well.

We are down \$1000 bucks.

Yes, I am sorry to say so, but Ted Speros our previous Secretary-Treasurer turned over to me \$3,837.50, plus we got from Pete Elliott almost \$100.00 profit from the sale of keep-sakes at our last reunion. Well, that is almost \$4,000.00 bucks. But today we have less that \$3000.00 available. Our expenses have exceeded the dues we have received by almost \$1000 dollars. **WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP WITH DUES.** We are careful on how your dues are used.

U.S. Naval Air Station Flyers **Far East Champions 1951**

In 1951 the naval Air Station Atsugi, Japan had a football team that won the Far East Championship. This team defeated eleven other teams from other service teams stationed in the Far East. Their opponents were teams from the Marine Corp., Navy, Air Force, and the Army.

This team was composed of players whose units were stationed at Atsugi during that time. There were from Com Far Japan, Naval Air Station, V.P.-6, Fasron 120 and MCB#2.

MCB#2 was well represented on that team and some of them were voted to the Far East ALL STAR TEAM. Members of that team who were from MCB#2 were "Tony" Schmidt - offensive guard, A.J. Ostroski - fullback, Carl Winkler- halfback, "Brute" Burgess -full back, and Leonard Hardoin-halfback.

At our last reunion in Nashville, three from that team were in attendance. They were "Tony" Schmidt, Leonard Hardoin and A.J. Ostroski. They really had a great time reminiscing about that football team. They hope that both "Brute" Burgess and Carl Winkler will be able to join with them when we get to Las Vegas in September.

All of us who were members of MCB#2 during that time were very proud, that we had the good fortune to have these players represent MCB#2.

Everyone is a winner at our reunion!

SEABEE INGENUITY

From 1950's PACIFIC STARS AND STRIPES.....

Ingenuity that keeps pace with the exigencies of materials handling is something that members of the Navy's Mobile Construction Battalion Two have demonstrated they have lots of.

MCB-2 was sent to Japan in December, 1950 to rehabilitate and expand a new naval air station. There were times when the several thousand rail carloads of rock and gravel arriving on the station almost "threw" the Seabees, but the men wound up "throwing" the rock and gravel by turning the freight cars right up on their sides.

At first the rail shipments of crushed rock arrived before the battalion's heavy equipment. There were no unloading facilities... so the work was done by hand... unloading the rock into trucks.

Soon a clamshell was put into operation. This increased production by 30 percent.... however the clamshell bucket caused damage to the flimsy wood rail car bodies.

Then as gravel arrived and the clamshell proved incapable of unloading the daily quota of cars. The first Seabee-inspired answer was a bulldozer blade modified so it could be suspended from the crane. Both sides of the railroad cars were removed and the bulldozer blade dragged across the car, spilling the gravel alongside the car to be picked up by carryalls.

The "crane-dozer" was a real improvement. Chief Construction Driver Kermit D. Hagan was responsible, and under his direction the unloading crew emptied as many as 50 rail cars per day.

All went well until MCB#2's 120 ton per hour rock crusher was installed. This required the arrival of 100 rail cars of rock per day. To meet the situation, personnel of MCB#2 drew on their collective accumulation of construction experience.

The idea had jelled in the mind of Chief Construction Mechanic Clark L. Fraser. The possibilities of his "brain storm" was tossed around among builders, drivers, steelworkers and mechanics. "Scrounged" equipment was collected from Yokosuka to Tachikawa.... then the work began on a "Car Dumper".

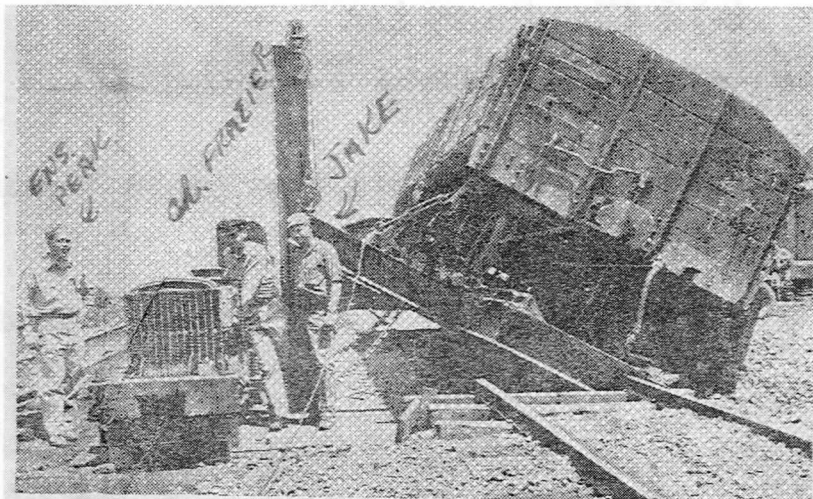
On a rail spur, a section of track the length of a railroad car was cut away. A slab of concrete 18" thick was poured in the cut-away section. In the slab was embedded a framework of 12" I-beams with protruding "eyes" at the ends of the transverse beams along one side of the track. A similar framework, with rails welded to its top, was hinged to the embedded framework.

To provide stanchions from which a 3-part wire rope tackle could be suspended for lifting the unhinged side of the track section, two I-beams were embedded vertically in concrete. A scrap GMC truck, stripped of everything except front winch and two winches driven by the rear drive shafts, supplies power for tilting the entire track section 35 degrees.

A loaded car is towed into the tilting track section by means of the front winch. The rail car is fastened to the track support frame. The rear winches are engaged after the side of the car has been dropped. The entire car and track section are then tilted so all the rock spills from the car into a sunken hopper. After dumping the car is gently lowered back to level.

A jeep-engine-powered conveyor belt removes the rock from the sunken hopper and stockpiles it convenient to the rock crusher pick-up conveyor.

Unloading a car requires 3 men for 5 minutes. Seabee ingenuity and scrap material have done the job... again. 100 cars can easily be emptied in an 8-hour day.



AND SO THE SEEBEES really had to turn things up on their sides—just like this. Strapped to a hinged section of track, carloads of rock spew their contents over dropped sideboards directly into sunken hopper, then to a conveyor which feeds the rock crusher.

REMINDER... Things To Do!

You would do well if you could get the following done within the next few days.

1.) Call Ms. BLUE at 1-800-634-6441 and make reservations for our MCB#2 Reunion. Arrival is Sunday afternoon Sept. 10, 1995. Departure Wednesday afternoon on September 13, 1995.

2.) Call your travel agency and make bookings for your flights to the reunion. You may think it is too early, but it is not because Vegas flights get sold out really early. There are some bargain fares now.

3.) Write to STONEY SERRETT
9756 Mesa Verde Ave.
Baton Rouge, La. 70814

and order your banquet tickets for September 12, 1995. The tickets cover both the dinner and the live entertainment. The cost is \$24.80 each. We will have to guarantee the banquet attendees weeks before our reunion banquet.

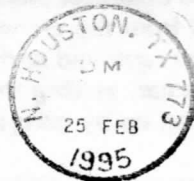
4.) Write to Roy T. Cone
815 Chadbury Lane
Seabrook, Tex. 77586

and say, "Roy, I am willing to help with our MCB#2 costs by paying my 1995 dues of 12.00 now." Each of our newsletters costs \$500 bucks with mailing costs included.

5.) Make your plans to have the greatest MCB#2 reunion ever. All systems are "GO". Scott Williams, our advance man, has all the arrangements made. Everyone will be a winner in Vegas! LET'S DO IT!

KILROY was here!

**MCB#2 Reunion Association
c/o Roy T. Cone
815 Chadbury Ln.
Seabrook, Texas 77586-4301**



Forwarding And Address Correction Requested

Send To:

***Williams, Scott
7221 Trading Post Lane
Las Vegas, Nevada 89128***