

# ***MCB#2 Reunion Association***

*Newsletter for former MCB#2 Personnel*  
*September 15, 1996*

## **SCOTT WILLIAMS HAS SOME GREAT INFO ABOUT DENVER SITE!**

I would like to address the membership and let all know a little bit about the sights that they can see in Denver. Some of this comes from my background as a Mining Engineer, some from being a numismatist (coin and paper money collector), and some from just being a tourist. Here goes:

In Denver, there is the State Capitol Building with its dome of pure gold. The "Mile High City" gets its name from the fact that the top step of the entrance to the Capitol Building is 5,280 feet above sea level. The architecture of the building is gorgeous inside and out, so please take the time to see it.

In Denver is the historic Denver Mint where all the coins are minted that have the "D" mint mark. Very interesting tours. They have a die shop there and you can see them making dies for the coins. There is a gift shop.... but Scott told me they did not "give away samples." You can buy uncirculated and proof coins and medals. They have sheets of uncut currency available. 32 \$1 notes in one sheet or 16 \$2 notes in a half sheet. This is an

interesting tour and unusual gifts are available.

In Golden, there is the Coor's brewery which is a very interesting tour. If you have never been through a brewery this is a must see. At the end of the tour they have free beer, which most Seabees would enjoy. (Wonder where he got that idea.... <grin>)

In Golden is the College of Mines Mineral Museum. I have a couple of nice mineral specimens in there that I have donated. Really some beautiful minerals on display from all over the world. This doesn't take too long to see and could be coupled with a tour of the Coor's brewery.

Now, down to Colorado Springs ("The Springs" as the natives say..... otherwise you will be pegged as a tourist.) About an hour's drive south of Denver is the Air Force Academy and is a must see. Air Museum and just the sights of the Academy are worth the trip. (The Chapel is wonderful.... Roy)

Downtown "Springs" at 818 North Cascade Avenue is the headquarters of the American Numismatic Association. On display in their museum are some of the rarest and most expensive coins of the

## ***Scott Williams Continued.....***

U.S. Lots of beautiful old silver and gold coins and a nice selection of old U.S. paper currency. There are coins of the world on display also. An interesting tour stop in the "Springs."

On the way to or from the Springs is the "Garden of the Gods", a beautiful drive through rock formations that are breathtaking. If you have seen and enjoyed the Painted Desert or Zion National Park you will really enjoy this drive.

In this same area is Pike's Peak. A winding, steep drive to the top and a gorgeous view of Colorado.

And for those that have the time and the adventurous spirit, the drive north from Colorado Springs to Cripple Creek takes about an hour and back about one hundred years. This is where the Colorado gold rush began and millions of dollars were made.

There is something in Denver for everyone. Denver is a lot of fun and has a lot of sights to see. I didn't even mention anything about the casinos on the reservation. Buses leave the hotel and will bring you back if that is of interest. Enjoy your stay in Denver! Stay as long as you can and see all the sights. Rachel and I will see you there!

**Best to all! .... Scott**

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## **1997 Denver Reunion**

Stoney Serrett says, "Let's don't lose any time in getting our plans in order for the MCB#2 Denver Reunion. We want to make the Denver Reunion the best ever!" Sounds like a great plan to us!

The ***Holiday Inn – Denver Southeast*** was chosen by your Site Committee. They have everything that we need.... geared and waiting for our 1997 reunion.

The Holiday Inn Denver Southeast has 475 deluxe guest rooms, and 23 suites overlooking the Rocky Mountains... by far the best view of any hotel in Denver. There are plenty of non-smoking rooms and handicapped accessible rooms available. All of the amenities of a fine hotel await you.

The rooms chosen for our MCB#2 reunion hospitality, business and banquet rooms are excellent, and you will enjoy them thoroughly.

***Great Prices....*** The Holiday Inn Denver Southeast has offered us very special pricing of \$68.00 single or double occupancy, plus 11.8% state and local taxes. Rate is applicable for 1-4 per room.

***Great Location...*** at 3200 South Parker Road in an affluent suburb of Denver. The hotel is easily accessible to all major freeways and the new Denver International Airport. The hotel overlooks

### ***Holiday Inn – Denver Southeast cont....***

Cherry Creek Reservoir and Recreational Park. There is great shopping in six nearby malls, squares and plazas.

***Come Early & Stay Late...*** For those of you that can come a few days early or stay a few days late to do some sight-seeing, we have 50 set aside rooms reserved for your convenience.... at the special reunion prices.

***Free Shuttle to and from Denver International Airport, Free Parking, and Plenty room for your RV's...*** The Holiday Inn Denver Southeast will offer **complimentary** round trip airport transportation. This will save you \$25 bucks itself. In addition, for those that drive... parking is always complimentary.

### ***Reservation Procedure...***

Please make your reservations directly with the Holiday Inn Denver Southeast. You can call either (303) 695-1700 or (800) 962-7672. You will need to

- (1). **identify yourself as being with MCB#2 REUNION, and**
- (2). **be sure to tell the reservation clerk your day of arrival**

to obtain these special group rates. .... Reservation cut-off will be 3 weeks prior to the reunion. After that date.... all remaining of our guaranteed block of rooms and our guaranteed special prices will be released for general sales.

What if something happens and you must cancel? If a guaranteed room is cancelled prior to 6:00 p.m. the hotel will release that room and there will be no charge to you. Soooo..... it is not too early to make reservations now.

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### ***Agenda for Reunion...***

Thursday, 9/11/97	Registration	9am-9pm
Friday, 9/12/97	Late Registration	9am-
	Business Meeting	12pm-3pm
	Memorial Meeting	4pm-5pm
Saturday, 9/13/97	Hospitality	9am-
	Dinner/Entertainment	7pm-12am
Sunday, 9/14/97	Hospitality	9am-noon

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### ***Order Dinner Tickets NOW!!!***

NO... Stoney is not running out of tickets... but YES.... let's get this done.... Right now! This will help keep Stoney from being overwhelmed at the last minute.... and besides Stoney likes to hear from you! So write to....

Stoney Serrett  
9756 Mesa Verde Avenue  
Baton Rouge, LA 70814

Our MCB#2 Dinner Buffet will cost us \$24.50 per person, including all costs.

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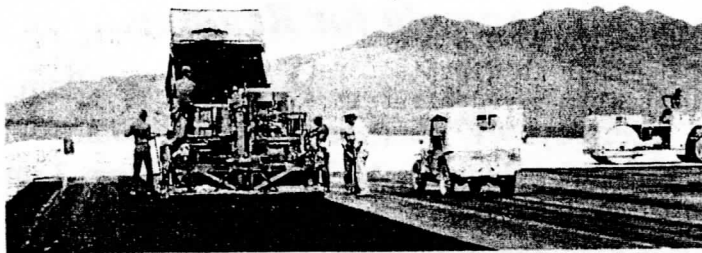
### ***Let's Step Back Fifty Years***

Dave Budworth says..... "I found this article on the history of Cubi Point in one of the old Q Bee Pointer newspapers that I have saved."

"I thought it might be interesting to put in the newsletter." Best Regards.... Dave  
..... ***Check out the next 4 pages.....***

# A SHORT HISTORY OF CUBI POINT

Within the THIRTIETH Naval Construction Regiment, Mobile Construction Battalions 2, 3, 5, 9, and 11, have, since September 1951, been engaged in the largest construction project ever undertaken by the Seabees. A milestone was reached on 15 May 1954 when Captain Madison Nichols, at that time Commanding Officer of the Regiment, tamped the last square foot of asphalt into place, and the main 8,000-foot runway at Cubi Point was completed. To the men who witnessed this act it was a goal reached after a two and a half year fight with the elements.



The main 8,000-foot runway at Cubi Point was completed 15 May 1954. Chief Short of 30th NCR supervises a portion of the asphalt paving operation just before its completion.

The Korean War emphasized the need for a Naval Air Station close to the Southeast Asia trouble spots. Congress agreed with the need to the tune of an initial seven million and a prospective sixty million. Cubi Point, which juts out into Subic Bay about fifty miles north of Manila, was selected as the most strategic and typhoon sheltered location for the required combination of seaplane, land plane and carrier operations. To the Navy Admirals, it was a natural choice and, it is submitted, the subsequent course of history has affirmed their selection.

The story starts in the summer of 1951 when Construction Battalion Detachment 1802 under LT Randall made an initial survey.

In September 1951 Commander James Douglas, CEC, USN, stepped ashore at Cubi Point as Command-

ing Officer of the Philippine Construction Regiment (later redesignated Thirtieth Naval Construction Regiment) to carry out that first order to move a mountain and build an airstrip. Less than a month later he was joined by Commander E. I. Mosher and the men of Mobile Construction Battalion THREE. These were the pioneers. During the ensuing year due for arrival at Cubi Point from Port Hueneme were Mobile Construction Battalions 2, 5, and 9, Detachment Able, Construction Battalion Detachments 1802 and 1803. Together these units were to initiate one of the largest earthmoving projects in the world.

The first order of business involved the movement of an entire native fishing village and nearby cemetery to another area of the Naval Reservation five miles distant. Soon after the men of MCB-3 began to clear roads, build a 600-man camp on top of a hill overlooking the proposed airstrip and carve out a reservoir and dam to assure a water supply for men and machines.

Within a month after MCB-3 disembarked, Commander H. W. Whitney and the men of MCB-5 arrived. Thereafter, the Seabees of both battalions worked side by side constructing the airstrip, although MCB-3 had been assigned the overall supervision of airstrip construction. Meanwhile, completion of the tent camp allowed all of the men to move ashore from an APL (floating barracks) where they had been temporarily berthed. This move was soon followed by assembly of a rock crusher and the beginning of quarry operations at Mancha Blanca Bluff by MCB-5. In the months to follow, the rock crusher and quarry were to produce thousands of yards of crushed stone and riprap, basic materials for the huge construction program.

Through the sunny months of 1952 work went on at top speed to enlarge the camp facilities, and see to the disposition of the thousands of cubic yards of coral spewed forth by the Dredge Norfolk for base course, hydraulic fill and miscellaneous projects. By 10 May 1952 enough of the strip had been constructed and graded to enable the first small airplane to land on the subgrade.



Cubi Point as it looked before the Seabees arrived in the summer of 1951

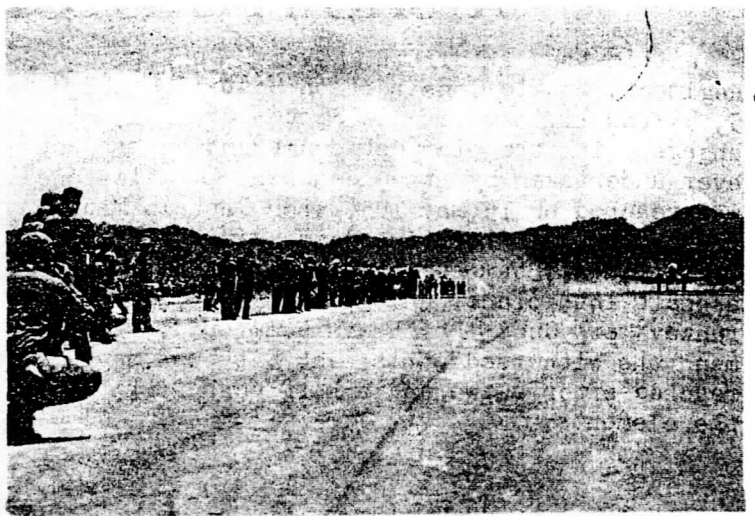
In the heavy heat of June 1952, MCB-2 arrived from Port Hueneme to pitch in. This battalion immediately took over the Mt. Maritan project, a job requiring removal of about 85 feet totaling 212,000 cubic yards of rock from the top of the mountain which was an obstruction in the glide path approach to the airstrip. Next on the list of assignments for the newcomers was the dry fill of a swamp and the erection of a temporary petroleum tank farm on the fill including the necessary pipelines, pumps, filters and pier. Construction of the pier itself was undertaken by MCB-5. This pier and other piers, sheetpile wharfs, bridges and riprap work earned MCB-5 the title of "Waterfront Gang" of Cubi Point. As of today, the temporary petroleum tank farm has been completed and turned over to the Naval Station, Subic Bay for operation.

When the project was a year old, the airstrip was a red scar across the three fingers of land where once green jungle stood undisturbed. At this point, the population jumped another 600 as MCB-9 and the second construction or dry season arrived simultaneously. After building their own tent area, these newcomers were assigned projects which included the permanent water supply system for the Naval Station, Subic Bay and the construction of the first three permanent Cubi Point buildings, two enlisted men's barracks and a subsistence building. The barracks project is well along now, with both reinforced concrete shells completed and interior finishing well underway. In addition, the men of MCB-9 completed erection of a concrete block plant and a portion of the project thereof was utilized by an MCB-9 and MCB-2 detachment to build dependent housing at the Naval Station, Sangley Point, 80 miles away.

MCB-3 completed the erection of an asphaltic concrete mixing plant in January, 1953. Within the next month, the paving of the airstrip began with the hot mix from this plant. Aggregate and fines used in the making of the asphalt were from the MCB-5 project at West Quarry, a source of the best quality sand and aggregate located at a point westerly across Subic Bay from Cubi Point. A separate camp was erected at West Quarry and frequent mail, supply, and liberty boats utilized to keep that camp in touch with Cubi Point, the Naval Station, Subic Bay and the liberty town of Olongapo.

On April 22, 1953, Admiral RADFORD landed on the strip and thus earned the distinction of being a passenger in the first airplane to land on the paved airstrip and the largest to land to that date, an R4D. His expression as he looked down the wide, straight swath and his avid photographing of the project revealed how impressed he was with the work that the Seabees had accomplished.

But still another phase of the Cubi Point project was started by MCB-2 during the first



ADM Radford, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff, passenger in first aircraft to land on the partially paved airstrip - 22 April 1953.

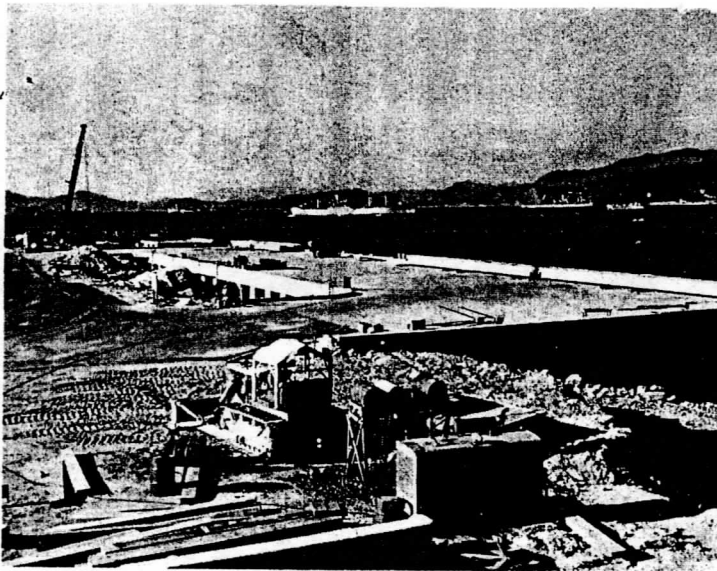
part of 1953, the erection of the Ammunition Area at Camayan Point. Another group of Seabees, Detachment ABLE, MCB-2 came to Cubi Point from Midway in January 1953, to supplement the personnel of MCB-2 and this group was assigned supervisory responsibility. CBD 1802, MCB-2, and Detachment ABLE and the 10th Naval Construction Brigade Detachment ABLE all contributed to the surveys of this ten square miles of rough terrain, heavily overgrown with jungle. Meanwhile, a group of MCB-5's waterfront gang moved out to the Camayan Point tent camp and began construction of the Ammunition Pier.

During the rainy season of 1953, MCB-9 continued the more urgent projects as well as continuing work on their three concrete buildings while the other battalions were deployed to Port Hueneme for the period of the rainy season.

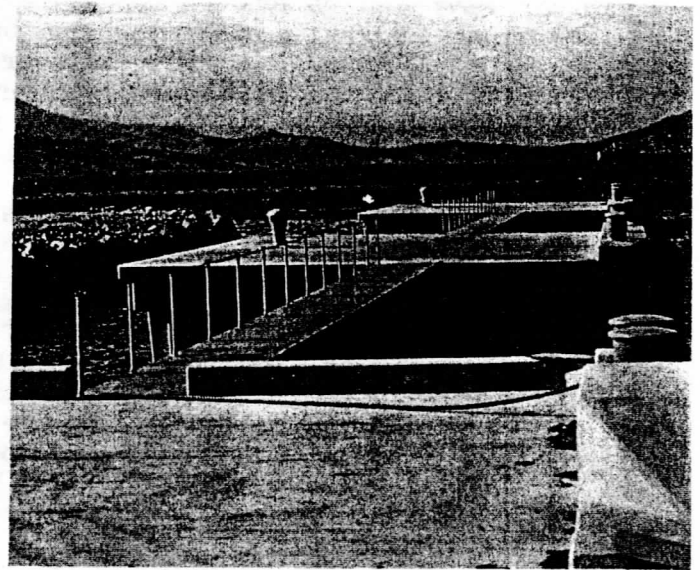
In October 1953, Captain Madison Nichols, CEC, USN, took over as Regimental Commander, and MCB's 2, 3, 5, and 11 arrived at Cubi Point while MCB-9 went back to the States. During the ensuing construction season, MCB-2 roughed in a super highway through the jungle from Cubi Point to Camayan Point, completed about one-fifth of the water line for the Naval Station water supply, and started construction of the permanent Cubi Point water reservoirs.

MCB-11 continued work on the permanent barracks and subsistence building, started work on a steam plant and two Public Works buildings. MCB-3, the largest battalion aboard, carried on with the largest project airstrip construction. Briefly, this includes grading, paving and drainage of runways, taxiways, and plane parking areas and the overhaul of all heavy construction equipment.

MCB-5 started work on another important project, the carrier wharf. Still the waterfront gang, this battalion also engaged in the construction of the Camayan Point Ammunition Pier, riprap placement around the airstrip



Construction of the carrier pier having been first undertaken by MCB-5, MCB-2 took over



upon 5's departure, reporting the pier useably complete in January, 1955.

proper and construction of the seaplane ramp.

Captain Neil E. Kingsley, GEC, USN, assumed command of the Regiment in September 1954, relieving Captain Stanley P. Zola, GEC, USN, who had succeeded Captain Nichols the previous June, and is now Staff Civil Engineer with COMNAVPHIL, Officer in Charge of Construction, NOy Contracts, Philippines, and Assistant Officer in Charge of the Tenth Naval Construction Brigade. Plans having been laid for the fourth construction season, MCB-2 returned in October, relieving MCB-5. Shortly, thereafter, MCB-3 relieved MCB-11. MCB-2 took over 5's work on the carrier wharf, and reported it useably complete in January.

MCB-3 continues as the earthmoving battalion, having to date brought the south taxiway up to final subgrade, and currently working on the land plane parking area.

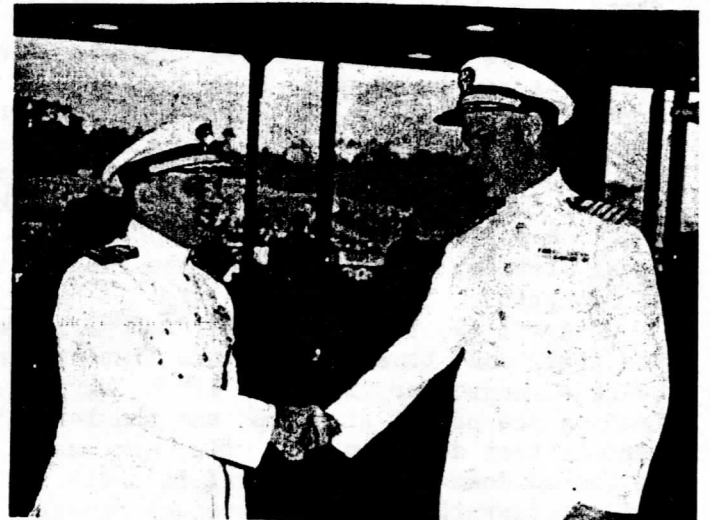
MCB-5 and MCB-9, the latter having had a year's tour of duty in Adak, Alaska, returned simultaneously in January, and the fourth construction season at Cubi Point began in earnest. MCB-5 continued work on the sheet-pile bulkhead, and is slated to commence operation on the seaplane ramp. MCB-9 has been completing the permanent barracks and subsistence building, as well as building magazines at Camayan Point.

To summarize, Cubi Point has undergone a substantial change since the first men stepped ashore into the jungle some three and a half years ago. An airstrip, a carrier wharf, ammunition pier, magazines and many of the permanent buildings for the naval air station have been constructed. By 1 July 1956 the Cubi Point Naval Air Station is expected to be useably complete, and the Seabees will once again have demonstrated their "Can Do" spirit. Cubi Point is the story of the Seabees. It represents a bold experiment in training and in construction. There have been many problems, many headaches; but there have also

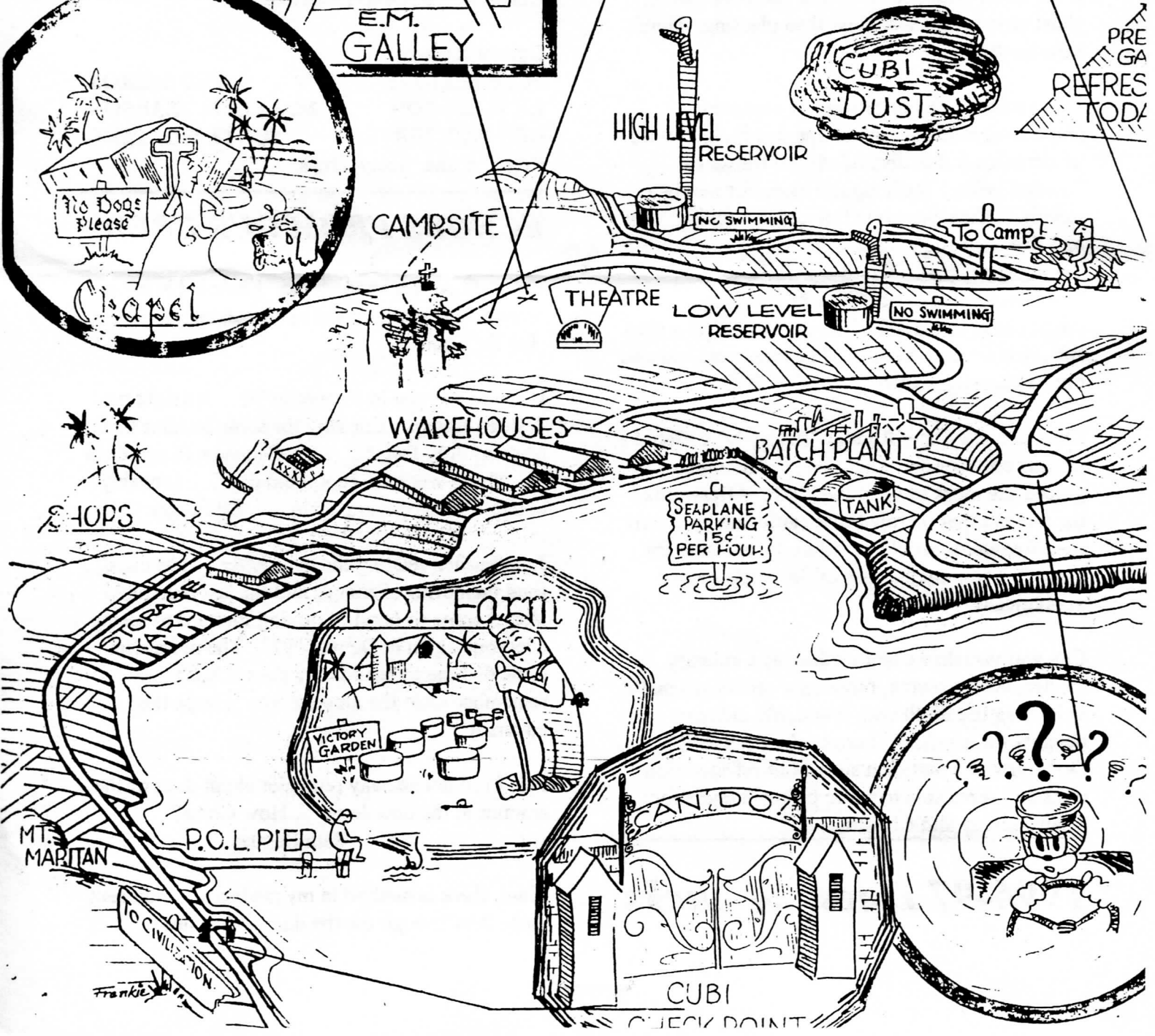
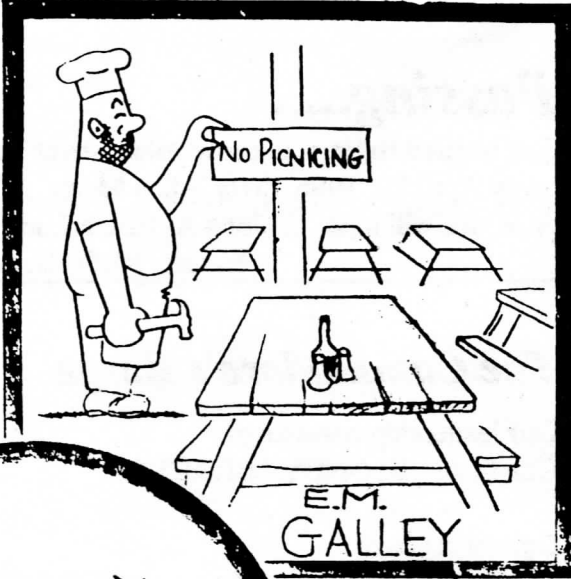
been achievements to which the Seabees can point with pride, and which are being officially displayed on 5 March, the Seabees' 13th birthday anniversary. In this story much has been omitted. Space is too limited to mention all the projects which had to be undertaken in the construction of a Naval Air Station. Little mention has been made of the time and the effort which has been spent in planning the Seabee camp and in the construction of the roads, both temporary and permanent. Much remains to be done but most of the approximately 23 million cubic yards of earth and hydraulic fill have been moved, and construction has become more localized to individual areas.

Cubi Point Naval Air Facility is far from complete at this writing, but the bronze you men in Seabee greens can justly be proud of the job they are doing.

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Capt. S. P. Zola congratulates Capt. Neil E. Kingsley, his successor as Commanding Officer of the 30th NCR. The change of command ceremony took place 18 September 1954.



## Remember SEABEE COOKS

(From the Internet.....) Seabee cooks make food shortages look like a feast.. If it were not for the efforts of one Seabee chef, Chief Commissary Steward C. Rudder, the Sixth may have had a much more arduous first three months ashore in August of 1942. Chief Rudder was faced with a problem that troubled many galley chiefs during the early days of the war: How to feed acceptable, nutritious meals to his troops using short rations that were less than pleasing. Here's how he did it:

"Two meals a day consisting of captured (Japanese) rice and oats or spaghetti, along with an occasional side dish of canned franks or "corned willie." made up the menu for nearly a month. There was boiled rice, rice pudding, chili and rice, rice and raisins....."

The history of the unit, *Saga of the Sixth*, continues with a detailed description of how they subsisted on native cattle. The men were ordered not to harm the cattle.

Then one day Chief Rudder "strangely" suffered a vicious cow attack. That night, hamburgers graced the mess trays of the Sixth. Afterwards, the powers that be ruled that cattle "hit by enemy shell fragments would be officially available for chow." The morality rate of the cattle surged dramatically.

Can you visualize Chief Rudder as a culinary master, taking scarce, redundant provisions and sustaining the Sixth with wonderful culinary delights for his men? True to the Seabee "Can Do" spirit, the battalion soon built refrigeration units and were able to serve turkey dinners for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

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## 1996-97 Dues. 24 bucks

## Passing.....

Just wanted to let you know Allen Mertz passed away April 20, 1996. Mrs. Allen Mertz  
Also, we will miss..... John A. Noetzel, and  
Russel "RED" Dane

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## The Commodore's Barge

Our leadership consists of:

Chairman: STONEY SERRETT

Committeemen:

PETE ELLIOTT

TED SPEROS

RICH NELSON

MALCOLM PEARSON

BEN PAINTER

SCOTT WILLIAMS

Roy T. Cone, Secty-Treas.

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## ECHOES FROM OUR CREW

Your efforts are appreciated. Enclosed is some more \$ to keep the good news coming.  
Joe De Franco

Hope to see you in Denver in '97.... it's right next door to Kansas. Looking for some buddies from Midway July-Dec 52. Also Camayan Pt and Cubi Pt. Those were the (good old days).... probably couldn't survive them again. Ed Ediger

Just finished reading the newsletter and as usual, fond memories of friends and the last reunion in Vegas come to mind. Looking forward to seeing everyone again in Denver "97". The newsletter reminded me to send in my dues.... can't remember what the amount was.... hope this covers it.

P.S. I did not see any reminder about dues or the amount in the newsletter.... How Come?

Sam Ragusa

(Sam, there is method in my madness..... you sent more than enough for the dues.. <hee hee>



***Echoes from Our Crew continued....***

We enjoyed the reunion in Los Vegas very much, and it was nice to remember the things that happened in "the old days."

Preston Wilson

After my name appeared in the newsletter, I had three telephone calls from my old pals. I just could not make Vegas, but hope to make Denver.

Dick (Herbie) Schreiner

I haven't received a newsletter this year. Do you send them out anymore? Had a great time in Vegas seeing all of you guys again.

Jack E. Wilson (This one's for you Jack)

Well made it through another year.... wife has been sick.... but I am O.K. Give my best to all!

C.R. "Lefty" Williamson

Seems like each reunion get better and better. Thanks to all of you who work so hard to make the reunions such a great success. Hi to all my wonderful friends. See all of you in Denver.

L.P. Burleigh

It was good to see you at the reunion in Vegas. I think we all had a good time. Looking for some MCB#2 patches..... do we have any of them left that are for sale?

Harry Ladley

You may know me.... or may not. I sure wish I could have been at the "Reunion". Take note of my address. Let me know how much the dues are.....

Dennis Surratt

(Dennis, Dues are 12 bucks per year.... I guess I should include it in every newsletter,)

Please find enclosed check for the dues to help cover the newsletter expenses.....

Nelson Boudreaux

Don't know if I can make the 1997 reunion, as I am still working. Can you locate Russell

Grandby (Helena, Montana), Tom Barton (Michigan); Patrick Henry Caney (Beloit, Wisc)..... . Glen C. Grimes

(Glen.... well 2 outa 3 ain't bad..... Russell Grandby, 407705 Lamont Road, Prineville, Oregon, 97754. Patrick H. Carey, 3775 E. Denton Ave, Apt 60, Saint Frances, Wisc. 53235-5934 No don't have a Tom Barton..... but would you go for Ben or Bruce..... I have both of them. Roy T.)

A great big CB "HOWDY"..... It's always good to hear about the "MOB". (Don't let Tom Padden read this... that was a thorn in his and McFarland's side when we first arrived at Atsugi.) Wonder what happened to Paul Muma.... he was going to be at Las Vegas.... but he couldn't make it. Sure hope to see him in Denver. Any one heard from Whitie Wigman? I wonder if he ever learned how to play cribbage? It was sure good to hear about "Andie and his Supply Department". That guy was always ready to help someone out. I am looking for a tape of the SeaBee Song..... Cliff Schorr

Got the newsletter returned with no forwarding address for James A. Jackson..... does anyone know where he is now? Roy T.

We enjoyed the last newsletter and do look forward to our Denver reunion. Summer weather has been good in new England.... feels like fall at times with plenty of rain. Malcolm Pearson

I was glad to get the newsletter. I was really glad to hear that Bill Partridge and B.D. (P.Pork) Arnold are still with us. We were all at Cubi Point for a couple of tours. I would like to contact B.D. Arnold.... ( Try B.D. Arnold, 902 Schoolhouse Lane, Lewisberry, PA. 17339).... Also Yates from Mississippi.... who had a good buddy Barnett. They came to #2 in 1954. I was saddened to hear that Simmons passed away in 1967.... We were together at Cubi Point. A

***Echoes from Our Crew continued.....***

real good Seabee. Does anyone know of Theodore "Teddy" Myers from Louisiana. He was at Sangley Point..... Jack L. Adams

Here are my 96 dues and some extra (Thank you very much!). It was a great meeting with you guys in Vegas. We're not sure if we can make Denver but we'll be seeing each other again. Tell Stoney I was asking about him. Nice newsletter ..... Ray P. Nethercott (Ray, these reunions are two years apart..... better not miss out on Denver..... it is a long time until 1999)

Thanks for a terrific newsletter. You bet your sweet patooties Jeanne and I will be at Denver. We have been to all the reunions. Las Vegas was a real winner. If anyone can find Woodburn Oregon in the summer or Sun City Arizona in the winter..... give us a hello..... Don Hofstetter

See you all at the Denver reunion next year.... Lord willing. I won't need hotel reservations as I can commute in an hour..... Hank Bentsen

Can't remember the amount of dues.... (hee hee.... he sent more than the \$12). Since Holiday Inn is only 5 or 6 miles from us.... We'll be there! Sorry we missed the Vegas reunion..... Dan Peleaz

Hi Podnah: This ole Cajun war-hoss here in Coasta Rica salutes you. It was most unfortunate that I missed yet another reunion of the great MCB#2. Enclosed are my dues.... if short, holler. I am teaching Rosalina my wife from Coasta Rica to eat crawfish. I see mention of MCB#2 patches..... are there any available now..... if so, please let me know. God bless you all! .... Earnest W. Owens  
(Thank You, Earnest. we all need God's blessing)

MR. VERNON BLAKESLEE..... we profusely apologize for murdering your last name in our last newsletter..... Roy T.

After all these years! Yes, you did find me. I've been at this same address for 32 years. Nice hearing from you.... and YES, I would like to receive information on MCB#2, Det. A. Thanks  
Dean D. Railton

You are right.... I was real surprised to hear that you were having reunions. I remember Jack Schrader.... and do you have any information on Russell Harding (Kansas City), Raymond L. Cherry (Culver City, CA), and Robert Campbell (LaCross, Wisc.) Ken Holly  
..... Hey, Ken.... here is a couple of guys to write  
Jack Schrader  
1944 Stone Road  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601-8967  
..... Russel E. Harding  
423 W. Hayes  
Lebanon, Missouri 65536  
Sorry, no info on Cherry or Campbell.... Roy T.

Thanks for the pleasant surprise. I have been several years looking for MCB#2 reunions in veterans publications. I am most interested in the next MCB#2 Reunion..... Bob Pagel

After forty-six years.... what a surprise! I have often wondered if there was an organization handling reunions for any of the CB units that I was associated with. I was on Midway Island prior to MCB#2. I would certainly like to hear more about MCB#2 and the coming reunions.  
.... a golfer.... James W. King

ALL RIGHT!!!!.... glad you took the time and trouble to locate me.... Thank You, Stoney. I am interested in the MCB#2 reunions and the MCB#2 Newsletter. I served at Sangley Point in the Philippines with CBD 1505 in 51-52 and with MCB#2, Det A in Subic Bay.... and on Midway in 53-54. Darl M. Schmidt

Enclosed find my "nickel" for the newsletters. I am very interested in hearing from anyone assigned to Amphibious Construction Battalion

## To The Ladies of MCB#2

Several months ago Stoney asked me if I could put together a city tour of Denver for the Ladies of MCB#2. With the help of Around and About Tours of Denver, I think we have an excellent tour planned for you, at a reasonable price. After enjoying this tour, NO ONE will go home and say that they didn't see Denver.

There is even time for Lunch and shopping in Larimer Square. All the tour details follow:

To make this Tour happen, we need to have 35 or more Ladies sign up before August 29, 1997, otherwise the Tour will be cancelled and your money will be refunded --- So please send your reservations in as early as possible..... even right now!

If you have any questions regarding this tour, please feel free to call me at 707-545-1086, or write me at.....

1310 Park Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-3543

I will see all in Denver in 1997. You will certainly enjoy this tour!!!!

Best Regards,  
Darla Budworth

## A Denver Reunion Tour Designed For The Ladies

The City of Denver has a rich frontier heritage emerging as a booming metropolis from an unpretentious past of Western History. View Denver's earliest streets following a route along "Millionaires' Row" to see the residences and lifestyles of the silver and gold barons, and the most historic block in the city where saloons and houses of ill fame once prevailed and now the Victorian buildings still portray the "early life of the gold rush days....."

Visit our State Capitol, built in the 1880's entirely of granite, housing the office of the Governor, the House and Senate, and the Colorado Hall of Fame - all encompassed with marble and rose quartz walls and covered with a 24 carat gold dome.

The highlight of the tour will be an inside guided tour of the "unsinkable" Molly Brown's house - this Cherry Creek Gothic Victorian mansion is reminiscent of the early wealth lavishly displayed by those who "struck it rich". Included will be a short visit to the famous Brown Palace Hotel.

In contrast... walk through the quaint Ninth Street Park of middle class Victorian residences now a landmark nestled among the academic buildings of Denver's downtown Auraria Campus. On to Larimer Square, where 120 year old buildings offer a variety of shops, art galleries and restaurants. See where Bat Masterson and Wyatt Earp operated the gaming tables and where Colorado's first legislators made decisions and laws. There will be time for lunch and shopping in the Square. The drive continues through Denver's most exciting, revived area in lower downtown - LoDo. It's upbeat, vital and active with new restaurants, galleries, bookstores and, above all, Coors Field, home of the Colorado Rockies.

**To the Ladies... continued...**

Date: Friday, September 12, 1997  
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$23.00 (includes transportation, tour, guide and house fee)

Tour will depart from the Holiday Inn Parker Road. The minimum guarantee for all tours is 35 passengers unless otherwise noted. Tour will be subjected to cancellation if minimum number are not met by the pre-registration deadline of

August 29, 1997. No refunds after that date... The tour reservation desk will be open for on site reservations on a space available basis only.

**Remember, Pre-Registration deadline August 29, 1997. No cancellations or refunds after that date. Tours depart from Holiday Inn Parker Road... right where we are staying. On-Site tour registration on space available basis only. Contact Darla Budworth at (707) 545-1086 if you have any questions.**

**MILE HIGH CITY HIGHLIGHTS - Reservation Coupon**

Date: Friday, September 12, 1997  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$23.00 # Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this registration form with a check or money order in U.S. funds for the total due to

**AROUND & ABOUT TOWN TOURS & EVENTS  
7500E. ARAPAHOE ROAD,  
SUITE 380  
ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112  
Phone (303) 694 -6133**

*(Please Print)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION:**

VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MASTER CARD \_\_\_\_\_  
CHECK \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed  
\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number  
\_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date  
\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

***Echoes from Our Crew continued.....***

One in Korea. I went to MCB#2 on Midway and then to Subic Bay. Detachment Able was sent to Camayan Point to Cubi Point.

Curtis "Tex" Ellisor

First, I would like to express my appreciation to Stoney for his efforts in helping me find my old buddy from Cubi Point. I would like to thank everyone who took the time and made the effort to form this reunion group. I will certainly try to attend any future reunions in the hopes of getting reacquainted with some old buddies.

Jack Schrader (you are at the right place Jack)

Just a quick note to let you know I enjoy the newsletter. Recognized quite a few names from the letter. Sorry I missed "Reno"..... But I have definite plans for "Reno 97" <Rex, I've got some news for you.... we went to Vegas and we're gonna go to Denver.... O.K.? {This sure sounds like me.... because I wrote a newsletter a couple of years ago.... and had Atlanta all over it.... but Stoney caught it and told me the reunion was in Nashville and not Atlanta} <grin> Roy T>

Rex Roark

Thanks a million for your letter and the address list for NMCB2. We are very happy to be able to add the information to our database. I hope your reunion goes well next year in Denver. When you think about future reunions, consider Gulfport or Port Hueneme. A lot of support is available at both SEABEE MUSEUM locations including base tours with the Navy picking you up at your hotel and providing a four or five hour guided tour, with a return trip to your hotel.

If you have a list of people you are trying to locate (cruise books work great for creating the list), call one of your people in this area and get them to bring the list to our office. We have a printout of 45,000 names in our database, and a little effort on their part will turn up a lot of names for you.

W.A. Hilderbrand, CAPT, CEC, USN RET.

***Welcome to our  
NEWEST MEMBERS***

Acord, Calvin E.  
Chesser, Elwood  
Dalby, Marvin  
Duensing, William  
Gelroth, Don  
Holley, Kenneth L.  
Jessop, Larry  
Kriege, Daniel  
Layton, Lilbern  
Maere, Tom  
Mangerino, Robert  
Odin, Ovay  
Railton, Dean  
Schmidt, Darl  
Smith, Finis

***Gentlemen:*** We give you our warmest welcome into our organization. We have a ton of FUN here and we hope that you will enjoy our group. We sincerely hope that you will start making plans to come to Denver in September of 1997. You can then begin to see what it is that we have been bragging about.

When you can come, you help make this coming reunion our best one ever!

---

***PLANK OWNERS....***

by the way, one of our most recently found members, Lilbern Layton was on board when the Battalion was commissioned on September 15, 1950.

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***Our Newsletter is on Internet***

<http://www.phoenix.net/~roycone>  
E-mail address is [roycone@phoenix.net](mailto:roycone@phoenix.net)

***Check it out! Links to other military sites.***

***Gee, I hate to beg for dues...  
BUT HERE GOES.....***

Your committee has set the your membership dues at \$12.00 per each calendar year. No one makes even one nickel in this organization.... the committee donates all their travel expenses and time in making these reunions possible out of their pockets. Words cannot express how much work Stoney, Speros, Scotty, and others do for this organization.. because it's important to them.

And yet at current count today, 110 members have paid the their 1996 dues. Well, our mailing list includes 514 former members of MCB#2. If my arithmetic is right there are 404 who have not paid their 1996 dues.

Well, that means that about 20 percent of our members pay the bills and the rest wanta ride free. How do you feel about this? (It stinks!)

Now let me say. so I won't be mis-understood.....

If you are on a very limited budget....

If you are in extremely poor health...

Don't worry about the dues, we are glad to cover you. We have Sustaining Members to help you.

However, if you paid some dues back in 1992, and 1994.... kinda procrastinated and we never ever hear from you.... don't be too surprised when you don't get anymore newsletters in 1997.

Did you know that a few special members are so interested... they have paid their dues thru 2002?

If you are not interested in this organization... If you don't want any more MCB#2 Reunion Newsletters.... please say so. So we can save on the postage and printing costs. We have no interest in filling your trash cans.

But you can still get on the list of the "good-guys".

Your 1996 & 1997 dues are \$24.00.

Mail to... MCB#2 Reunion Association  
Attn Roy T. Cone, Secty-Treas  
815 Chadbury Ln.  
Seabrook, Texas 77586-4301

MCB#2 Reunion Association  
c/o Roy T. Cone [roycone@phoenix.net]  
815 Chadbury Ln.  
Seabrook, Texas 77586-4301



Forwarding And Address Correction Requested

Send To:

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

