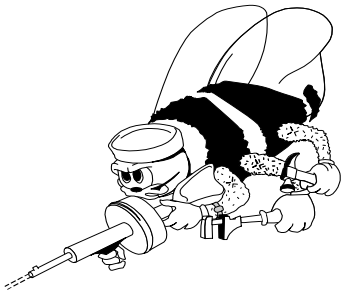


MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 4, Issue 2

January 15, 2002



Seabees

A Newsletter for Former US Naval

Mobile Construction Battalion 2 Personnel

and host to CBD 1802, CBD 1804, CBMU 1, CBMU 101 and CBMU 577

Start Making Plans For Cleveland 2003!

Re: AFRI Refunds

The reunion company we used to assist us in San Antonio, and where you sent your money, said they have refunded all money to those that missed the reunion but paid for events. They cannot send your refund to anyone other than the family that made the deposit. If you have not yet received your refund, call or write Jennifer Cashat at 1-800-562-7226 or

2001 – A Year to Remember

A message from Pete Elliott

My wife and I attended three U.S. Marshals reunions and also went to Washington, D.C., three times to see our oldest son, Pete, receive four awards for exposing and apprehending the head of an Armenian terrorist group. Pete is scheduled to be on Dateline NBC sometime in late January or early February. Dateline spent sev-

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

eral weeks in Cleveland and Washington putting the story together and even filmed me with the pipe band. I don't know how much they will use, but I hope you get to watch this television show. And, we attended what turned out to be a very successful and fun-filled reunion in San Antonio.

I made several trips with our pipe band, the most memorable being a trip to ground zero in New York City. On November 5th, our band played at a memorial service for fallen police, firefighters and civilians lost in the tragedy. We stood in awe at the magnitude of destruction and the still-smoldering ruins of the structures. All the photos and TV coverage can't even begin to create an image of what it's really like at ground zero. God bless the rescue workers. Many tears were shed and the one thing that stands out about the service is that, after we played, all our band members walked away in total silence. No comments were made about the site for the rest of the trip.

By the time you read this, I will be actively looking for a reunion site taking into consideration hotels, prices, food, parking, recreation and tour possibilities. I am setting my sights for the second week of September 2003. I will keep you informed of the progress.

Hope you all have a happy, healthy and safe 2002.

God bless you and America.

Cruise Book Update

- The 1952 Atsugi cruise book and the 1954 Cubi Point cruise book (year books) are available.
- They were at the San Antonio reunion and will be made available in Cleveland. If you would like a copy of either one or one of each, please notify Scott Williams and one will be sent. Either book is \$35 including shipping or two books for \$65.

Seabees

October – February Dates to Remember

-
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Oct. 13, 1775 | Navy Birthday |
| Oct. 16, 1942 | Eight men of the 6th NCB killed at Guadalcanal, first Seabees killed in action. |
| Nov. 8, 1942 | Seabees land in North Africa with American assault forces. |
| Dec. 7, 1941 | Pearl Harbor attacked. |
| Dec. 10, 1941 | Guam falls. |
| Dec. 23, 1941 | Wake Island falls. |
| Dec. 31, 1947 | Seabee Reserve established. |
| Jan. 5, 1942 | Bureau of Naval Personnel authorizes formation of Construction Battalions. |
| Jan. 27, 1942 | Bobcat detachment sent to Bora Bora, Society Islands, first Navy construction unit sent to overseas duty. |
| Feb. 1, 1944 | Seabees land with 4th Marine Division on Kwajalein. (Greg Karakin was with the 95th NCB landing on Mar. 14.) |
| Feb. 19, 1945 | Seabees land with 5th Marine Division on Iwo Jima. |
| March 2, 1867 | Civil Engineer Corps established |
| March 5, 1942 | Seabee Birthday |



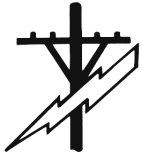
Notes from our



from **Mrs. Frank Honeychurch (Toshiko)**: [I sent her a copy of the memorial service we held in San Antonio] I greatly appreciate your kindness to send the Memorial Service from MCB 2

Reunion in San Antonio. I recall [meeting you] in 1995 with Frank and our son Rodney with his wife Lisa in Las Vegas. Our son, Rodney, is working for Hawaiian Air and his wife, Lisa, was working at school but now is at home helping her mother and taking care of the children. She is a nice person and her mother, too. Last year, Hawaiian Memorial Park held Frank's service and they helped us. Also, the Veterans cemetery personnel and the Pearl Harbor personnel helped, plus they gave me a framed US flag. It is much comfort and I will keep it on Frank's desk. Thanks, MCB 2..... from **Steve (Marylinn) Yunger**: Enclosed are the dues for **Steve**, plus a donation [thanks. That will be sent to the Museum Project]..... from **Cecil Price (Arky)**: Hope this finds you in good health [it does, thanks.] I seem to have misplaced the letter I received from Gulfport, MS, so thought I would send you a few bucks for whatever. [thanks for the support. Some will get to the Museum Project] My friend, **Wilma Parsons**, asked me to thank the whole group that was in San Antonio. She said she had never met a nicer group of people in her life. All the ladies and gentlemen. She sure didn't use me as an example, did she? [oh, I don't know, **Arky**. You seem like a good guy to me.] She is already making plans for the next reunion. [**Cecil** came by Las Vegas and visited on his way to a Teamster's reunion] They had a room for me in Amargosa Valley [near Death Valley] so I made my Teamster reunion. Kind of ended on a sour note, tho'. One person had either a stroke or heart attack and passed away. Another friends' daughter was diabetic and passed away, also. So much for my troubles so will sign off for now. Wishing you and your family good health and may God be your co-pilot..... from **Richard Todd**: My wife and I had planned to attend the San Antonio reunion but, due to unexpected circum-

From **Darla Budworth**: I would like to thank everyone that supported the tours in San Antonio..... from **Jim (Gladys) Wommack**: [Jim had ordered a Seabee flag which **Mal Pearson** sent to them.] Boy! That is quick. Thank you..... from **Joe De Franco**: [Joe sent a copy of an article from NMCB 8 about the Museum Project, which I used in the last Newsletter] Here is a copy of a page from the MCB 8 Newsletter. Check out their support for the Museum Project titled "Are We Good – Or What?" They have pledged over \$12,600. Thanks for the great job you did in San Antonio..... received dues from **Norm Eveleth** and **Gordon Gwathney** [thanks] from **Sam (Mary) Ragusa**: **Sam**, sis and I are off to Buffalo, NY, for nine days. Interring my Mom's ashes with my Dad and having a memorial service in PA. We will be very good and, if you are lucky, you won't have our reservations at the Williams Motel! Thanks, however, and if **Sam** and I come to Las Vegas by ourselves for some reason, we will try to call you ahead and maybe we four can go out for dinner [we would like that]..... from **Bill Wisnowski**: Guess you made it home all right [sure did, but rough driving home from San Antonio, even with three of us driving.]. I made some extra prints of these pictures so you could prove to Rachel that you were really there. See you next time we get to Las Vegas..... from **Rodney White**: Am sending in dues so I may keep informed on future happenings of the reunions. Hope there was a good get together in San Antonio. I had planned to go and had reservations made, but as things were, I had to cancel out. Hope there are plans for another in the future..... from **Bill Carter** and **Mal Pearson**: [sent a contribution to the Museum Project].....

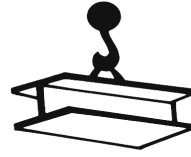


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stances, we were unable to make it. [many others were in the same boat, **Dick**.] The planned tours and sights sounded real good to us.

[they were. Try to make it to Cleve-

land.] The Twin Tower catastrophe had some unexpected twists for us. We had considered attending the American Legion 83rd National Convention in San Antonio on August 24-30. I guess all those that attended got home safely. We wonder if all the Seabees that planned to attend the reunion were able to get to San Antonio since transportation came to a standstill after September 11. I want to remain a Good Guy so I'm sending my dues [thanks]. I enjoy the Newsletter and am looking forward to the next reunion. I don't know where you and the committee find the time and energy for all the things that you do..... from **Lane (Old Salty) Freitag**: I'm sending my dues [thanks] and a 2002 calendar [thanks for that]..... from **Stanley Dauer**: I received the latest Bulletin today and it shook my small brain. It said 'Hey! Wake up and send your dues in before you get put on the Bad Guy List'. So, I did. If there is any left over I would like a roster. If there is enough, that is. [there is and it is on the way. Thanks for the dues] Well, once again I missed the reunion. I know I missed a good time and comrades. I am starting right now making plans for Cleveland. I'll have no excuse as I'm only about 80 or 90 miles away. I might as well give you my email address, too. It is kenmcb2@access.toledo.com..... from **Gary Rawlings**: Enclosed are dues and a little extra [thanks for the help]..... from **Mary Fudge**: I appreciate the copy of the Memorial Service for deceased members of the Seabees. I would appreciate my husband's name, **Jasper Fudge**, be removed from your mailing list. Each piece of mail just reopens my pain. Thank you.... from **Ray Nethercott**: It's got to be time for me to catch up on my dues. I hope this keeps me on the Good Guy List [it does and thanks]..... from **Charlie Hagemann**: I'm sure coordinating with the Museum Project puts more work on you. You should be rewarded for all your hard work



and I'm sure you will be [we all do what we can, Charlie]. The Seabees sure were good to me and this check is just a small return for all of the blessings that we have been blessed

with. [**Charlie** sent a check for the Museum Project.] from **Ken Chew**: I was packed and ready to attend the MCB 2 reunion at San Antonio but my flight was cancelled because of the Sept. 11 incident. It was nice to see **Doug Thorp's** picture in the October Newsletter. I remember **Doug**. He has the biggest feet and we had to issue a special requisition for a pair of boots, size 14, for him. Enclosed find my check for dues [thanks]..... from **Lane Freitag**: [**Lane** sent a poem that he thought I could use someday. Thanks, **Lane**.]..... from **Rodney White**: Having sent my dues in October, I see from the Seabees Newsletter that the dues have been increased \$5 per year, so am sending the difference and some extra to go toward the rebuilding of the museum at Port Hueneme. If this is not enough, let me know [just right, **Rod**, and thanks.]..... from **R.L. 'Dick' Walters**: Here are my dues and a little extra for whatever. [thanks. It all helps] I didn't know about the Charleston reunion until it was too late to make it. I found your ad in the VFW magazine and didn't know of the MCB 2 Association until I started getting the Newsletter. [**Dick** called and I sent him a number of back issues.] I was CBD 1804 & CBMU 1. I had plane tickets, hotel reservations and activity reservations for San Antonio, and we all know what happened. I'm looking forward to Cleveland. Thanks for the Newsletters and the roster. See all in Cleveland..... from **Richard Fairbanks**: I was in CBD 1804 in Korea. A short time at K-3, a full tour at K-18, until August 1952 at K-6. Prior to that I was with MCB 3 in the Aleutians. I was also in the Old Mess Hall Compound at Hueneme when MCB 3 was formed. We were all working at building heads, showers, and tents for the incoming recruits. Ha, ha! I got to come home and was released in August 1952. I stayed in the reserve program, retiring in July 1983 as a Builder Chief in MCB 15. I am enclosing my dues [thanks]. It's not likely



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that I'll be able to attend any reunions due to health..... from **Bob Colquhoun**: I visited with old shipmate **Ben Balog** in Florida last month. I hadn't seen him

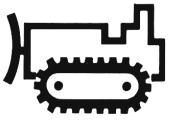
in about three years and maybe 15 years before that. We were very tight on Amchitka and at Atsugi..... from **John Wilborn**: I want to extend a well-deserved OUTSTANDING on the Newsletter. [thanks] As always, the MCB 2 paper was most informative and a wealth of information about the men from so long ago. The picture of **Sammy Ragusa** --- I hadn't looked on his face in almost 50 years, yet there was that familiar look about him -- that hearty grin. We used to tease him that he was the only 'wop/ginnie' with freckles! Good natured of course because I was known as the dumb Iowa farmer. Do I owe some money for dues or do you need any help with mailings, etc? [not yet, John. But thanks for asking]..... from **Richard Keyes**: Enclosed are my dues [thanks]. Really enjoy the Newsletter.... from **Don Grobbel**: Please send me a copy of the membership roster [on the way]..... from **Gordon Keen**: My dues are enclosed [thanks]. It sounds very much like I missed a really good beachhead landing at San Antonio. Sorry I missed. Maybe next time. Last time I talked to you I was in a little trouble with the big 'C' but after surgery, chemo, and some time, I have gotten an all clear from my doctor (last week). I'm hard pressed now to tell which aches are just old age and what might be left over chemical! I'll be taking it easy for a while yet, but I feel great! [wonderful!] I'm sorry to report the death of an old Seabee of MCB 2. **Stoney** put me onto **William Harbeck** 2 or 3 years ago. **Bill** had some very debilitating problems and has been in a wheelchair at a rest home here in Bethany [Oklahoma]. I hadn't been able to visit him for a long time because of my own problems. **Bill** was always ready to visit about MCB 2. We didn't know each other before as I was Atsugi and Korea and he was Philippines, but we were brothers anyway. My e-mail address is gandmkeen@earthlink.net.....



from **Rod Howard**: Enclosed are my dues plus a few bucks extra for whatever [thanks much!]. Thank you for all your great work..... from **Arnold**

Daisy: Enclosed is a check for my dues [thanks]. The extra is for the modernization project [that helps, too. Thanks]..... received dues from **Ed Ballerstein**, **Warren Culberson**, **William Ganske**, **Ivan Majetic**, **John Ginther**, **Bob Rasmussen**, **Riley McDaniel**, **Gene Staples**, and **Duane Weltlich** [thanks, guys]..... from **Basil Arnold**: Sorry we didn't make San Antonio. As you know, all flights were cancelled. We were all packed with tickets in hand when it happened. Hope to see you in Cleveland, tho'. We can drive that to one. As my wife, **Joan**, told you, use the refund for whatever is necessary. [**Basil**, see my note about refunds in this Newsletter.] Here are my dues and keep up the good work [thanks]..... from **Roy Peak**: I have not been to the Ventura-Oxnard-Port Hueneme area since after Christmas 1977 when I was driving my family from San Diego north back to Oakland. I remember from an even earlier visit that the museum had an exhibit about the atomic power plant the Seabees installed in the Antarctic and another exhibit about the Seabee defense of a gravel pit in Vietnam. I stopped in Port Hueneme in 1977 to show my children, ages 17, 15, & 13, the museum that might describe my work at Atsugi, Japan, and at Subic Bay, Philippine Islands. Only the museum was closed for some reason. Bummer. I have a preference for the Port Hueneme Museum because I shipped out of Port Hueneme in 1950 and I have memories of that area circa 1950-1952. I have no memories of and no interest in the Gulfport Museum. Because of the off-chance that my family may visit the Port Hueneme Museum some time in the future, I am happy to contribute to its modernization. I am making a pledge and sending a check with this letter. Note that part of this check is the reluctant refund from Armed Forces Reunions of the San Antonio activities I missed. Many thanks for your efforts in securing this refund from AFRI. Note also that another portion of this

(Continued from page 5)



check was the very reluctant refund from the Four Points Sheraton Hotel for my check deposit for my arrival on 11 September.

It has taken me six telephone calls to Four Points to get this refund. It's a lesson to me to pay deposits by credit card in the future..... from **Jack Coulter**: You're doing a great job on the MCB 2 Newsletter and I really do appreciate your efforts. I'm enclosing a check for my dues [thanks]..... Received Christmas cards from **Jo & Gene McDonagh**, **Cecil Price**, and **Richard Swallow**..... from **Clarence 'Lefty' Williamson**: Enclosed is a check for dues and some extra for the Seabee Museum. I enjoy the Newsletter but don't know most of the names. My memory is very bad. Keep up your good work and best of everything to you [thanks] from **Cecil Price (Arky)**: Hope this finds you in good health and God and the world is good to you [we are, He is, and it is, thanks]. Me, I'm off down here in Texas for the winter, a little by choice and a bit of a doctor's suggestion. I developed a slight allergy and breathing problem, so I'm down in this hot, dry climate until February, then back to Washington State for a bunch of tests. I think I am a Guinea pig. The doctors seem to think it might be the pollen from the poplar and cottonwood trees they are planting in Washington. Me, I think maybe it's the wet climate or all of that diesel exhaust I breathed over the years. [check the new address column for **Cecil's** Texas address until the end of February, then back to Washington.] from **Capers [Cynthia] Kinard**: Sorry these dues are so late in coming [that's OK, and thanks]. It's a memory thing, or lack thereof. The San Antonio Reunion was grreat! So glad to see our friends again. Everyone did a splendid job and our thanks go out to you all! Hope to see you again in Cleveland..... from **Gene Urmey**: I had a great time at the reunion. Here's my dues plus a little extra for whatever [thanks, **Gene**] from **Bill Moore**: Enclosed are my dues and I would like an up-to-date roster [on the way, and thanks for the dues]..... from **Stoney**



Serrett: Just a few lines to say hello and to send you some info on one of our Fallen Comrades, **Bill Harbeck**. Enclosed find a copy of a letter from **Gordon Keen** letting me know about **Bill** plus his news-

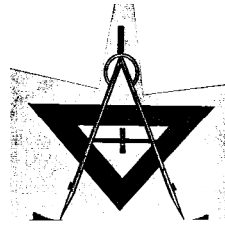
paper obit. On another subject, I am wondering what the Committee may think about members of the Committee wearing a cap, a vest, or some other noticeable garment at our reunions. I say this because I have noticed in the past that when someone attends one of our reunions for the first time, they are lost and need someone to introduce them around. Maybe wearing something that would signify Committeeman would help them get through the first few minutes of the reunion. I guess this would make us a greeter/ Committeeman. I have gone to reunions where I was completely lost and it is a lonely feeling. [Good suggestion, **Stoney!**]... from **Isabelle Karekin**: [sent an article from the newspaper about the Seabees. See pages 18-19] Thought you might find this of interest. It's rare to see anything in the press about the Seabees. [too true] Hope all is well..... from **Andy Winzler**: Enclosed are dues [thanks] and a few things I had here I thought you might like. [**Andy** sent a couple of pictures, menus, and Seabee Coverall newspapers. Thanks]..... from **Vernon Blakeslee**: [enclosed dues and sent a pocket calendar... thanks for both] Happy holidays to all. If you can't use the book, don't burn it. Throw it away. Somebody might pick it up. [I'll use it and thanks again]..... from **Rich Nelson**: Find enclosed my check for a cruise book ordered from **Mal [Pearson]** and additional dues for '02, '03' and '04. Thanks [thank you]..... from **John Fletcher**: I'm wanting to stay on the Good Guy List so here are my dues. [thanks] I'm printing this [note] 'cause my writing is so bad. [I hope you printed it slow 'cause I can't read very fast!] My perfect record was broken in September as I have made every reunion since Number 1. The terrorists saw to that. I had my round trip ticket to San Antonio and back to Cincinnati. My wife was out in San Diego with our daughter and they were coming to San Antonio on Friday.



(Continued from page 6)

That also went down the drain. Such is life. Thanks for all your work that you do. A wonderful job. [thanks]..... from **Ron (Elaine) Glasser**: Ron and I weren't planning on the San Antonio

trip because of another commitment. If we had decided to come obviously we would not have made it with the Sept. 11 attack. I was wondering how many people did attend. [we had 114 for our Saturday banquet.] We are glad to hear that Cleveland was chosen because we can drive there. Enclosed find **Ron's** dues. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God bless America. [amen!] from **Doug Emond**: Here's my dues [thanks]. I couldn't make it to the reunion because our son got married in the same time period [boy! Some excuse!] If things work out and **Shirley** and I stay healthy, we should make the next one [great! We'll see you there and renew old acquaintances.] from **Pat Hardeman**: This is to advise you that my husband, **Robert S. Hardeman** (retired Master Chief), passed away on October 9, 2001, from cancer. We were able to attend the reunion in Charleston, SC, in 1999 and enjoyed it very much. **Bob** always enjoyed receiving the Newsletter. Keep up the good work..... from **Dick Todd**: I got the MCB 2 Newsletter the other day and was glad the reunion was such a success. Sorry my wife and I missed it. I look forward to getting the Newsletter and enjoy reading the notes from the members. I noticed that the dues have been increased from \$15 to \$20. I sent my dues payment to you earlier before discovering the increase. I'm enclosing another check to make up the difference of the added cost. We are looking forward to the Cleveland reunion. Keep up the good work [I'll try!] from **Verle Williams**: Enclosed please find my check for dues plus another check for the Seabee Museum [thanks, **Verle**]. We were all packed and ready to fly from Ft. Wayne, IN, on Sept. 12th to San Antonio for the reunion. We were really looking forward to attend. After five phone calls to the Armed Forces Reunion



we finally received our tour refund in full. In your new member list I found **William C. Pemberton's** name, who was also from CBMU 577. I am going to contact him. You are doing a great job with the Newsletter

[thanks] from **Howard 'Corny' Cornwell**: Here's a check so you won't kick me off the Good Guy List [thanks..... You're still on]. I'm sending a couple pictures. Maybe you can use them, that is if Shafer didn't send them for your Nov. 2000 Newsletter [he did, but I'll use yours]. They are signs in front of our office tent. One was put up when we were transferred to MCB 2. You can tell by the sign that we didn't have too much military discipline..... from **Emil Krygier**: Enclosed is my check for dues plus some extra for the museum. We missed San Antonio and looking forward to Cleveland..... from **Ernest W. Owens**: May God bless you and those you love with good health, happiness, and prosperity [thank you, **Ernest**]. We are well, praise be to God. I have been out of the VAMC for many months, thanks to God. I feel fantastic. All of my doctors state, "Mr. **Owens** does not look as old as he says he is." I was 76 on November 27. My 39-year-old wife **Rosalina** is on her second year as a first grade bilingual teacher. We were blessed to buy a new two-bedroom, two-bath home on June 29th. Sorry to have been unable to attend the reunion as my wife is not a U.S. citizen and was obligated to take numerous courses and I had to be here to drive her there. She doesn't drive. Our six-month-old 1997 Toyota Corolla was totaled by flood waters in June. On July 26th, God blessed us with a replacement vehicle, a 1999 Honda CRV with only 7,100 miles on it. Everything like new. Love from both of us to all of you..... from **Howard Doyle**: I am enclosing my check in payment of my dues and a bit extra to help with postage or whatever else you need to pay [thank you very much]. After the occurrence which caused me to have to write the letter you published in the April 15, 2000, issue of the Association Newsletter, this time I will be sure that I check the amount for

(Continued from page 7)

which the check is written. The same secretary will be writing it and I still will be just as wrong if the amount of the check differs from the amount stated in this letter. Not having won an argument with her in twenty years on any subject, I doubt that the fact that I am now a whole year older than I was the last time we argued about the check amount responsibility will give me any edge. [sounds like a married man with years of experience!] I really was looking forward to the San Antonio reunion, had talked to **Sam Holsomback** about meeting him there and had persuaded a friend to make the trip with me. When the departure day arrived, all air traffic was locked down. With no way to get to San Antonio, I could only begin to plan for the next reunion. When I measured my disappointment against the losses the victims of the September 11 attacks suffered, I realized how insignificant my own disappointment was. I know many others were unable to attend the reunion and I hope each one of us is able to make it to the next one. Even more, I hope that every person involved in the September 11 attack pays the ultimate price for their wrongful acts..... from **Billy (Zelda) Partridge**: How much we look forward to the Newsletter! You're doing a great job [thank you]. Am sending along a dues check [thanks for that, too]..... from **Sam Holsomback**: Need to get this check to you [thanks]. It was fun in Texas and looking forward to Ohio. Keep those cards and letters coming!..... from **Clem Gregurek**: Happy New Year [and enclosed a check for dues - thanks]..... from **Don 'Ike' Eminhizer**: Hi, and a Happy New Year to you and yours and all the old Seabees on the Good Guy List. Enclosed find a check for dues [thanks] and also send an up-to-date copy of the addresses and telephone numbers..... from **C. Edner Rudolph**: Happy New Year and thanks for all the work you and the committee does. It is appreciated. I'm sorry I didn't get to the reunion. I did drive to the north end of San Antonio but, since my wife and I both have parents in bad health, when we saw the news the morning of Sept. 11, we just turned around and drove

home. Please find my check enclosed for dues [thanks, and we missed you]. I was surprised and pleased to get a full refund on my reunion deposits. Thanks for everything. from **Joe (Audrey) Sitkowski**: Enclosed is my check for dues [thanks]. Even though the September reunion followed the worst catastrophe in United States history, we still enjoyed it very much. The planned tours were excellent. We met several very nice people, especially **Cecil Price** and **Wilma Parsons**. Thanks to you and the committee for such a great time. Say 'Hello' to **John Petronka**, **Sam Ragusa**, and **Bill Sigmund**. Also 'quick-draw' **Pete Elliott**..... received dues from **Henry Benguerel** and **Lionel Vidrine** [thanks] from **Paul (Patricia) Schell**: Enclosed is an obituary notice of a fallen comrade, **Richard D. Roberts**. He was in the Seabees in the South Pacific and Korea. He was a friend of ours for 50 years that's all folks! Hope to hear from everyone soon. Scott

The Commander and Staff

Our leadership consists of:

**Commander
Pete Elliott**

Staff:

Darla Budworth, Tours

Joe DeFranco

David Haines

Rich Nelson

Roy Peak, Vice Commander

Malcolm Pearson

Stoney Serrett, Commander Emeritus

Ted Speros

Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas.



From Lt. Greg Karekin: L-R: A.W. Burgess, BULC; Lt. Greg Karekin; UT1 Robillard; Lt. Paddon



CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation

P. O. Box 657, Gulfport, MS 39502-0657 • (228) 865-0480 • e-mail: info@seabeehf.org

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CRAIG L. GRAYBAR
EO2, NMCSB, 1974-1979

WILLIAM A. HEINE III
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F. EDWARD JONES
UTC, USN (Ret.)

TED C. KENNEDY
SV3 1955-1957

THOMAS S. MADDOCK
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EOCM, USN (Ret.)

JOSEPH A. McKENZIE
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Captain, CEC, USN (Ret.)

THOMAS M. REINARTS
LT, CEC, USNR 1967-1970

RICHARD J. SCHINDLER
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Treasurer

DAVID R. DANIELS
Secretary

October 4, 2001

Mr. Scott Williams
7221 Trading Post Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89128

Dear Scott,

Thanks again for a great time in San Antonio. The turnout was clear evidence of Seabee "Can-Do". Plans were changed, re-made, adjusted, and whatever else was needed to be there. This may not have been your biggest turnout in terms of members, but it sure set a standard for Can-Do effort. Those guys from MCB 2 make their mark whatever they do!

It was great to get to talk to everyone and tell them what we have underway to preserve the legacy of the Seabees. I was very happy to report to RADM Montoya that TWO had taken up the challenge. I have no doubt that you will meet your goal.

Enclosed is the page I promised you for use in your newsletter. Feel free to change the letter as you see fit. I would suggest that you or Pete sign it so the guys know it is really legit.

Thanks again, and let me know if there is anything else I can do for you.

Sincerely,

W. C. Hilderbrand
CAPT, CEC, USN, Ret
Executive Vice President

Fellow Seabees,

The Seabee Museum at Port Hueneme, CA is in dire need of repairs. Our artifacts are rapidly deteriorating. Military funds are limited by Congress to covering the operating costs only. They cannot use Navy funds for up-grades, or rebuilding existing buildings.

The CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation has taken on the task of raising the \$8,000,000 required to not only upgrade the present Museum but to add 10,000 square feet and execute some really innovative ideas to better tell the story of the Seabees' accomplishments.

This is the largest collection of Seabee memorabilia in existence. It is our heritage. It must be preserved and protected.

At our last reunion, those present voted to support the project through a \$10,000 pledge from the battalion as a whole. At this level we will be considered a Major Donor and have our battalion included on the list of Major Donors. A number of other battalions have stepped forward and we should be in there with them.

We have five years to complete payment on a pledge, but if we all step forward and make our contribution, we can get it done in no time. The five-year period also enables each of us to "up the ante" by making a larger donation and spreading it out for up to five payments.

Please complete the attached pledge card and help make sure that we continue to be one of the "CAN DO - DID" units that we have always been.

From Bill Hilderbrand

***CEC/Seabee Port Hueneme Museum Modernization Project
MCB 2 Association Member Pledge Card***

(Name/s) _____, hereby pledge (full amount) \$ _____ in direct support of the Port Hueneme CEC/Seabee Museum modernization project. This pledge will be retired in (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 years. The first payment ___ is enclosed, or ___ will be forwarded on or about (month/day) ____/____/2001. In the case of multiple-year pledges, this date becomes the anniversary for future payments.

Notice of payment due will be sent at least 30 days ahead of each anniversary date.

Signed: _____ Date: ____/____/____ Phone: (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make checks payable to: CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation.

Mail pledge cards and all payment checks to: Scott H. Williams, 7221 Trading Post Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89128

THE GOOD-GUY LIST

Vance Adams, William Alwine, David Anderson, Lionel Antley, Basil Arnold, Jack Balding, Ed Ballerstein, Benjamin Balog, Glen Bates, Henry Benguerel, Hank Bentson, Frank Betonte, Vernon Blakeslee, John Bloem, James Bolton, Alexander Borys, Robert Bowdler, Donald Bradley, Art Bredefeld, Philip Brunelle, David Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, Ralph Burnley, Lex Camden, Patrick Carey, Bennie Carlson, William B. Carter, Mike Castelvechi, George Chang, C.L. Chapman, Ken Chew, Roy Cone, Howard Cornwell, Charles Coughlin, Jack Coulter, Fred Cozad, Ballard Credeur, Warren Culberson, John Cure, Arnold Daisy, Paul D'Angelo, Stanley Dauer, Harold Davis, Joseph DeFranco, Jim DeKeyser, George Dorge, Howard Doyle, Ike Eminhizer, Doug Emond, Ralph Evans, Norman Eveleth, Richard Fairbanks, Bruno Fanucchi, Richard Farbo, Galen Farnsworth, Frank Fibich, John Fletcher, Carl Fogelsong, Jack Foster, Bill Frazier, Willie Free, Lane Freitag, Willis Gallagher, William Ganske, Ken Gaskell, Don Gelroth, Roger Germundson, John Ginther, Ron Glasser, Bob Graf, Russ Granby, Jim Gray, Clem Gregurek, Donald Grobbel, Gerald Grubb, Marvin Guetling, Gordon Gwathney, Charles Hagemann, David Haines, Les Hall, Luther Hall, Roger Hamilton, Arlin Hardwick, Roy Harris, Arthur Hees, Ralph Heitt, Len Hershberger, Chuck Holinka, Holly Hollingsworth, Sam Holsomback, Ray Hooter, Arthur Hoskinds, Rod Howard, Charles Ingalls, William Irvine, Victor Jaccino, Robert (Frenchie) Jandreau, Bob Janson, Larry Jessop, Ambros Johnson, Charles Johnson, Ordean Johnson, Henry Jones, Chuck Kangas, Greg (Isabel) Karekin, Gordon Keen, Hark Ketels, Richard Keyes, Capers Kinard, Denise King, Bruce Kitts, William Knight, Stephen Korkes, Emil Krygier, Ken Kuper, Ervin Lampe, Art Leable, Jim Legget, L. H. Lind, Herbert A. Liverman, Jr., Bob Lohrentz, Dale Lundstrom, Ivan Majetic, Philip Matalucci, William (Jack) Mayo, Willie McCarley, Norris McDaniel, Riley McDaniel, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Richard Merit, Daniel Millett, Dan Mills, Frank Mingo, Gary (Mitch) Mitchell, Wil-

liam Moore, Finley Morrison, Hance Morton, Paul Muma, Richard Muns, Eugene Nelson, Richard Nelson, Ray Nethercott, John Noetzel, Melvin Olson, Ernest Owens, Dwight Padgett, Billy Partridge, Roy Peak, Malcolm Pearson, Ben Pedrotti, William Pemberton, John Petronka, Mike Piro, Cecil Price, David "Ernie" Pyle, Sam Ragusa, Robert Rasmussen, Gary Rawlings, Rex Roark, Gene Robinson, Dale Rogers, Albert Rubinich, C. Edner Rudolph, Thomas Ryan, Paul Schell, Millard Schneider, Stoney Serrett, Jim Sichel, Bill Sigmund, Bill Simpson, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Joe Sobczak, Ray Sonnen, Ray Sorrentino, Ted Speros, Gene Staples, Thomas Stapleton, Clyde Stenholm, Larry Stevenson, Bob Sutton, Dan Svendsen, Robert Swanson, James Taylor, Doug Thorp, Richard Todd, William Tracy, Charles Trimarchi, Paul Trotter, Al Ulman, Gene Urme, Gerald Vasquez, Larry Vibber, Lionel Vidrine, John Vidusic, Walter Waddell, Richard Walters, Harold Wardenburg, Karl Weisenbacher, Duane Weltlich, Rodney White, John Wilborn, Bill Wilcoxon, Jerry Wilkening, Marshall Williams, Pete Williams, Scott Williams, Verle Williams, C. R. 'Lefty' Williamson, Jesse Wilson, Preston Wilson, Andy Winzler, James Young, and Stephen Yunger.

All men listed above have their dues paid at least through 2002, some much longer. If you don't find your name on this list, then maybe you have forgotten to send in your dues recently. All dues are paid through the calendar year, January 1 through December 31. This list is as of January 8, 2002. There are currently 231 paid up members from a mailing list of 455. There are 787 names on the full member roster. (SW)

Need a Membership Roster?

If you have a need for an up-to-date membership roster, drop me a line with a couple of bucks and I'll send you one. We currently have 787 names and addresses of former CBD 1802, CBD 1804, CBMU 1/101, CBMU 577, and MCB 2 personnel, so this is a pretty thick directory (23 pages). Glad to have all aboard! And keep sending those cards and letters – especially the ones with checks!
Scott Williams



IT'S TIME TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES!

This is what keeps us going, so please send your dues today. Don't fall off the Good Guy List. Send your dues now while it's on your mind. There are 231 members paid through 2002. We have 525 names on our mailing list, so you see we really

Who to contact about your MCB 2 dues -

Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas.
MCB 2 Reunion Association
7221 Trading Post Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89128
(702) 254-1929
e-mail: williash@aol.com
make checks payable to:

Scott Williams/MCB 2

Dues are \$20/year
January - December

This is what keeps us going and enables us to send this Newsletter.

Dues Have Been Increased!

At our Biannual General Meeting held in San Antonio, Texas, the membership voted to increase our dues to help fund the Port Hueneme Modernization Project. As of September 13, 2001, our annual dues are \$20, \$5 of which will be donated to the Modernization Project. After the project has been funded to our commitment of \$10,000, the additional \$5 will be used to offset our expenses for publishing the Newsletter, etc. If you would care to send an additional amount to help this project, please see page 11.

How Can You Tell?

I stopped at a friends' shop the other day and found him stalking around with a fly-swatter. When I asked him if he was getting any flies, he answered, "Yeah. Three males and two females."

Curious, I asked as to how he could tell the difference.

He answered, "Three were on a beer can and two were on the phone."

Some Thoughts...

- How come we choose from just two people for president and 50 for Miss America?
- I earn a six-figure salary. Unfortunately, there's a decimal point involved.
- Be really nice to your friends. You never know when you are going to need them to empty your bedpan.

MCB 2 Reunion Association CEC/Seabee Museum Pledges

Name/Source

William B. Carter
Joe DeFranco
Charlie Hagemann
Emil Krygier
Emory "Buck" Luther
Roy Peak
Mal Pearson
Cecil Price
Rodney White
Verle Williams
C. R. 'Lefty' Williamson
Member Dues

Contributed This Period (Oct.-Jan.)

\$1,582.41

Total Actually Contributed to Date

\$1,852.41

Total Pledged to Date

\$2,520.00

Total Pledged plus Dues increase

\$2,915.00

Track the CEC/Seabee funding at:
www.seabeehf.org

Send Me A Note

Many members have expressed that they would like to be notified when their shipmates or their spouses become sick, hospitalized, or have a special event. Please send a card or letter to Scott Williams when you or your spouse have an illness or are hospitalized or have something special to report and I will put a notice in the Newsletter.

Bumper Snickers

- A penny saved is a government oversight
- If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
- The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.
- If you think there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody.

Our Fallen Comrades

Carl C. Aiello	11/01
William Harbeck	11/9/01
Robert S. Hardeman	10/9/01
Berk Inskip	10/01
Richard D. Roberts	11/19/01
Harry Robinson	2/17/01

May they live on in our memo-

Don't assume malice for
what stupidity can explain.

ALL SEABEES REUNION

1942 to Present
Enlisted, Officer, H-Co, Families and Friends

You are invited to the

FOURTH ANNUAL ALL SEABEES REUNION

Port Hueneme, CA

2002 WINTER REUNION
April 4-7, 2002

Please join us for our 4th Annual All Seabees Reunion. Our Summer 2001 Reunion was a tremendous success. We had over 250 Seabees from 32 states in attendance. We had 40 World War II Seabees join us, with the remaining Seabees representing all eras through active duty. We enjoyed the activities associated with Seabee Days, and our keynote speaker, Admiral Mike Johnson, King Bee.

But as with all of our reunions, the highlight of the weekend was the opportunity to meet old friends and new. We all enjoyed the stories of our WWII Seabees. They've had a long time to practice!

This year we are offering a Winter Reunion. Many Seabees on our mailing list have family or work obligations during the summer. Therefore, we are offering the new reunion to meet their needs. Our Summer Reunion has also been scheduled and will take place July 25-29, 2002.

If you would like further information on the 2002 Winter Reunion, please contact Ed Kloster. Information on the Summer Reunion will be available in March 2002. We hope to see you in April.

Contact:

Ed Kloster
3815 Rio Hondo Ave.
Rosemead, CA 91770
1-626-280-9495
mccb@earthlink.net

MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Ralph W. Evans
706 Hand Ave
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Leonard J. Hardoin
10450 6 Mile Rd., Lot 77
Battle Creek, MI 49014-9541

Paul Kunschman
2420 Ocean Shore Crest, Apt. 302
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-1281

Ernest W. Owens
915 Somercotes Lane
Channelview, TX 77530-4781
(281) 862-9688

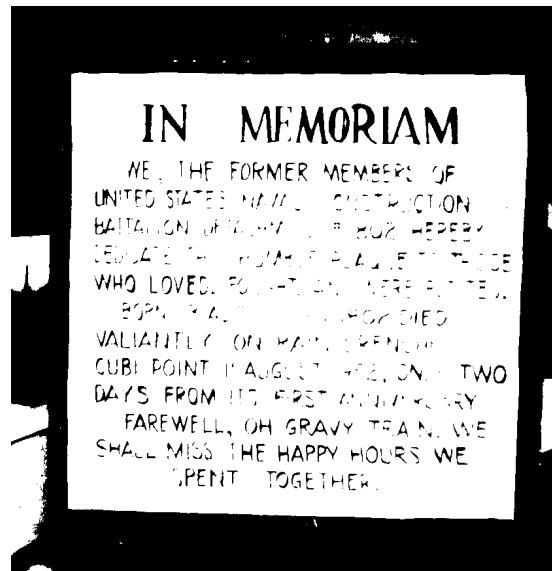
Howard Pearson
308 2nd St. W
Bowman, ND 58623-4261

Cecil Price
P.O. Box 423
Zapata, TX 78076-0423
(956) 765-4096
(until Feb., then back to Wash. State)

John Stock
96 Stornoway Dr. W
Columbus, OH 43213-2179

Congratulations!

*Clyde and Marian Stenholm will
celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary
February 9, 2002. Quite a
milestone! Congratulations from
MCB 2*

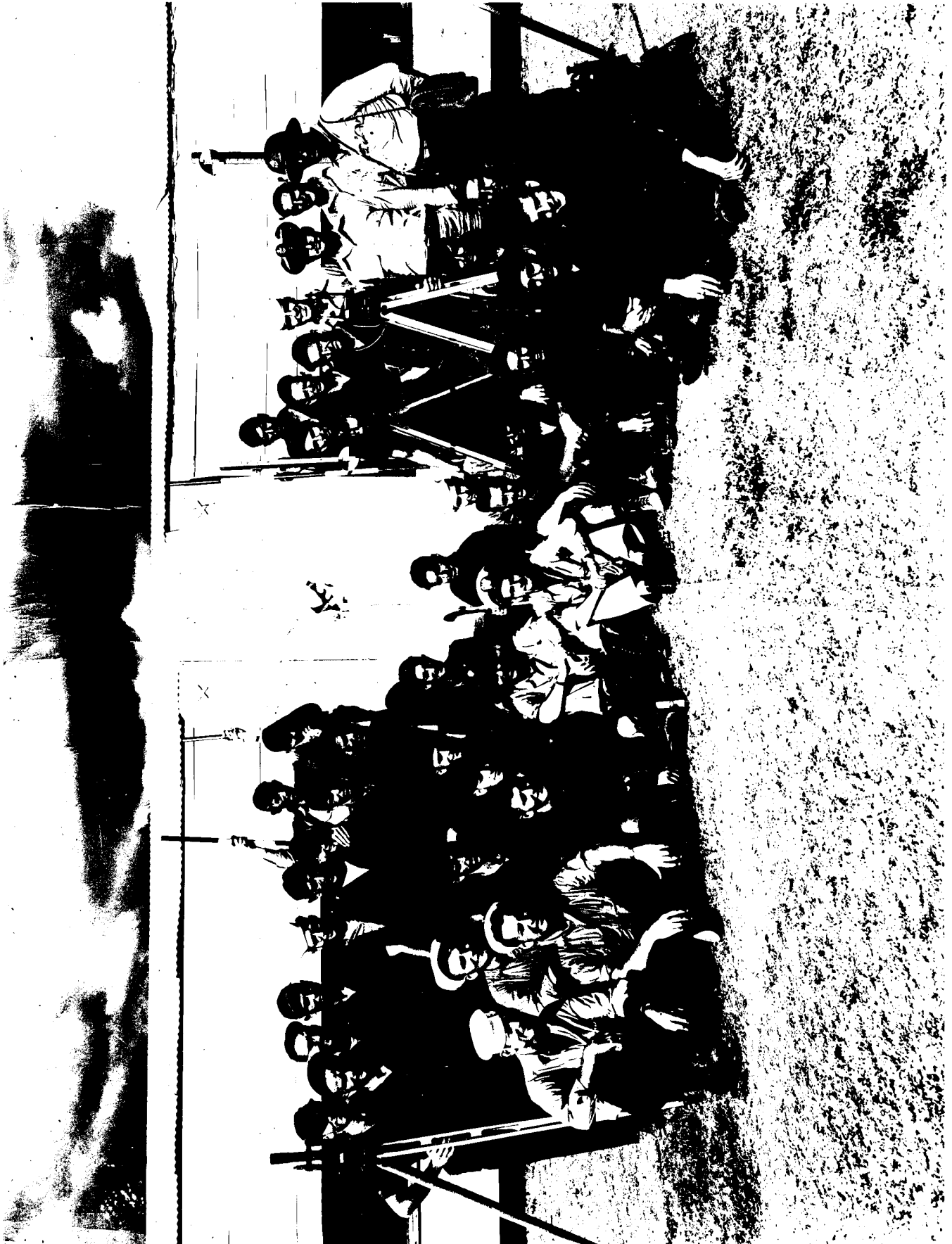


Pictures from Howard Cornwell of the CBD 1802 insignia at their office entrance, Cubi Point. The picture above is the announcement of the demise of CBD 1802 hung with the insignia.



Unknown , Unknown , Glen Sisco , Unknown 1952 / 1953

From Jim Legget- Subic Bay 1952 or 1953



The Survey and Drafting team working at Cubi Point, 1951. From Andy Winzler

This picture and the story on the following page is from Isabelle Karekin.



BETTMANN/CORBIS PHOTO

Seabees, hard at work in February 1944 on the island of Bougainville in the Solomon Sea.

A Way to Be Constructive

Let the Navy's Seabees Get Their Hands on Afghanistan

*With compassion for others
We build, we fight
For peace with freedom.
With willing hearts and skillful hands
The difficult we do at once.
The impossible takes a bit longer.*
—Seabee Motto

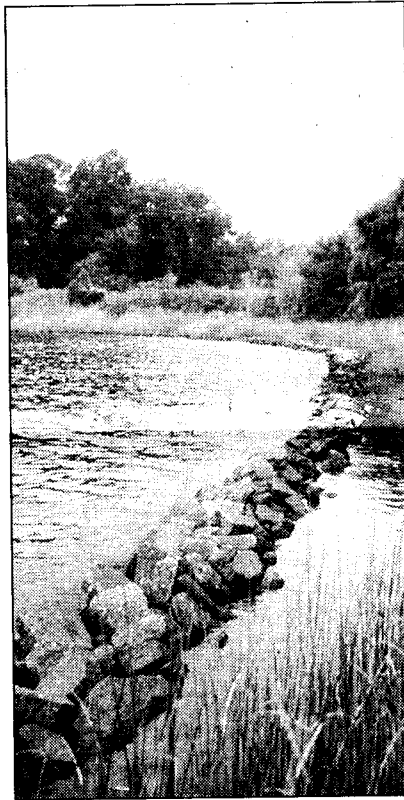
By ROBERT STEWART

Calls for rebuilding Afghanistan after the current military engagement have of course brought back to mind projects that the United States military undertook 50 years ago when World War II left our two main enemies, Germany and Japan, ravaged. Overlooked in current discussions of what might be accomplished in Afghanistan are the concrete details and methods that were successfully employed to recreate the infrastructures of countries in Europe and Asia half a century ago and have proved their value in other disasters since.

Leading our postwar rebuilding efforts in Japan and elsewhere was a unit forged in battle only years before. The Navy's construction battalions (CBs) nicknamed the "Seabees," built many of the military's installations, including the air base on Tinian Island in the Marianas from where the Enola Gay left to drop the atomic bomb in Hiroshima, Japan. Following the Japanese surrender, the Seabees were called upon to use their skills toward a new purpose: to rebuild airstrips, hospitals and homes on the island nation. Their efforts not only bred future allies, but by repairing the Japanese economy, helped prevent a global recession.

The Seabees were deployed time and again, following the Korean and Vietnam wars, for example. After the Gulf War, they proved their value in a humanitarian crisis when Saddam Hussein's ruthless response to independence-minded Kurds created a flood of refugees. Allied forces launched Operation Provide Comfort. The Seabees, along with Army and allied construction and logistical forces, built shelters

Robert Stewart is a former Army intelligence analyst who was stationed in the Near East during the Persian Gulf War. He now writes about security issues.



FILE PHOTO BY STEPHEN AILSTOCK—ASSOCIATED PRESS

Part of a tidal wetland along the Severn River in Annapolis that was rebuilt by the Seabees.

and medical facilities and maintained water supplies. They constructed roads in record time to facilitate the movement of supplies and aid workers; they'd had plenty of practice during both Desert Storm and Desert Shield when they worked under severe and dangerous conditions.

Since the 1980s, when the Soviets were defeated in Afghanistan with help from U.S. weapons and intelligence assets, Americans have been criticized for abandoning the country. The war left Afghanistan in a devastated state and health care and nutrition remain well below even regional standards. If Afghanistan is to rid itself once and for all of terrorism and maintain internal peace, we cannot leave its people to a familiar fate once the current crisis ends. Economic revival and peace in Af-

ghanistan and the region are in the best interest of those countries—and the most promising prospect for the national security of the United States.

Sending in the Seabees would be a clear demonstration of American resolve in both military and humanitarian efforts. They could in a very short time repair or replace much of the critical infrastructure lost during recent battles. Reopening hospitals along with newly created medical facilities would fill an overwhelming void in medical care, and assist both the local efforts, and those of volunteers from around the world, to treat the wounded and malnourished. Repairing roads would speed recovery efforts and allow humanitarian supplies to arrive unfettered where they're needed most. The Seabees would allow wells and other water sources to be maintained locally instead of residents having to rely on trucked-in water, freeing transportation for other supplies, such as food and winter clothing. These efforts would highlight our commitment to preventing future oppression—and helping the oppressed.

In recent years, America's military leadership has rightly complained that the stress of multiple peacetime missions, disaster recovery and humanitarian assistance have decreased readiness and increased equipment costs, for the Seabees as well as other well-traveled military assets. Thus the reconstruction mission in Afghanistan, and in any other nation where the war on terror is pursued, must be swift and effective. Troops will need to move on to other areas of need, while leaving only a small number of advisers to help the Afghans complete the rebuilding process.

Our support in the area mustn't falter, even when the Seabees leave. State Department officials have been redoubling their efforts to increase exchange programs with nations in Asia and the Middle East, not only to share expertise and techniques but also to cement bonds of goodwill. Such programs must include the fields of construction, engineering and water purification.

Our nation's construction forces must be the "tail of the dragon," following the fighters. The Seabees have a mission that can—and certainly should—be accomplished soon, with both willing hearts and skillful hands.

MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

c/o Scott H. Williams
7221 Trading Post Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89128

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We're the **Seabees** of the Navy

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