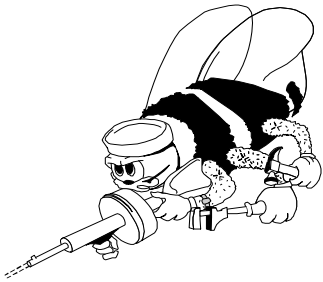


MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 10, Issue 2

February 19, 2014



SEABEES

A Newsletter for Former US Naval

Mobile Construction Battalion 2 Personnel

and host to CBD 1802, CBD 1804, CBMU 1, CBMU 101, CBMU 553 and CBMU 577

All Cubi Point Seabees!

Join With us in

BRANSON, MO!

MCB 3, MCB 5, MCB 9 & MCB 11!!

Happy 72nd Birthday, Seabees!

March 5, 1942 the Seabees came into being through the efforts of Admiral Ben Moreell (see pages 8 & 9). Probably the most recent book written about Admiral Moreell is the one written by our own member, Capt. (ret.) A. N. 'Al' Olsen, *The King Bee*. This is an excellent book and well worth having in your library. It is available at bookstores or on-line at Amazon. Another book, long out of print but may be found at used bookstores is *Builders For Battle* by David Woodbury, that tells of the origins and the reasons to form the Seabees.

Big Change in Distribution For This Newsletter

As noted in the last Newsletter, this issue is primarily sent to those members of MCB 2, CBMU 1/101, CBD 1802, CBD 1804, CBMU 553 and CBMU 577 by electronic means. If you are receiving this as a printed copy and would prefer an electronic version, please send your email address to Scott Williams at his email address: williash@aol.com

This cost-saving measure is intended to help save the expense of printing and mailing, how-

See **Big Change** (Continued on page 2)

Bubba at the Revival

Bubba goes to the revival and listens to the preacher. After a while, the preacher asks anyone with needs to come forward and be prayed over.

Bubba gets in line and when it's his turn the preacher says, "Bubba, what you want me to pray about?"

Bubba says, "Preacher, I need you to pray for my hearing."

So the preacher puts one finger in Bubba's ear and the other hand on top of his head and prays a while.

After a few minutes, he removes his hands and says, "Bubba, how's your hearing now?"

Bubba says, "I don't know yet, it's not until next Tuesday."

The Commander and Staff

Our leadership consists of:

**Commander
Pete Elliott**

Staff:

Paul D'Angelo

David Haines

Vic Jaccino

Don McLain

Rich Nelson, Vice Commander

Malcolm Pearson

John Petronka

Stoney Serrett, Commander Emeritus

Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas./Publisher

See our web page:

<http://mcb2seabeereunion.com/>

(Continued from page 1) Big Change

ever there are still printed copies mailed to those for whom I do not have an email address and also to those affiliated organizations or individuals that do not pay dues to the MCB 2 Reunion Association but reciprocate with their Newsletter.

Thank you for your understanding in our efforts to save costs of printing and mailing. We have lost so many of our members it is becoming difficult to operate with one-third of our dues from just a few years ago. Thank you, Scott Williams

SEABEES

*March - June
Dates to Remember*

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Feb. 19, 1945 | Seabees land with 5th Marine Division, Iwo Jima. |
| Mar. 2, 1867 | Civil Engineer Corps established. |
| Mar. 3, 1944 | NCB 8 landed on Iwo Jima |
| Mar. 4, 1945 | CBD 1077 landed on Attu, Aleutian Islands. |
| Mar. 5, 1942 | Seabee Birthday. |
| Mar. 6, 1944 | CBD 1040 began operations at Salerno, Italy. |
| Mar. 10, 1968 | MCB 1 arrives in Da Nang; first Atlantic Battalion to deploy to Vietnam. |
| Mar. 19, 1942 | Civil Engineer Corps officers given military authority over construction units. |
| Mar. 22, 1945 | Seabees ferry General Patton's armored units across Rhine River into Germany. |
| April 1, 1945 | Seabees land on Okinawa. |
| April 6, 1909 | CDR Robert Perry, CEC, USN, reaches North Pole. |
| April 8, 1942 | Doolittle Tokyo raid. |
| April 9, 1942 | Bataan falls to Japanese. |
| May 8, 1945 | V-E Day, Germany surrenders. End of WWII in Europe. |
| June 1, 1950 | MCB 2 Commissioned. |
| June 4, 1942 | Battle of Midway. |
| June 6, 1944 | Seabees land at Normandy as Naval Combat Demolition Units. |
| June 15, 1944 | Seabees land on Saipan. |
| June 25, 1950 | Korean War begins. |
| June 29, 1952 | MCB2 arrived at Cubi Point for first time. |



Notes from our members:

From **Pam (Schell) Bennett**: Dad and I got home last at 7:30. We were lucky in getting a parking spot right in front of the house. We had a great week and want to thank you for all the work you do to make the reunion the great time it is. We talked a lot on the way home about the next reunion and have some ideas. We women talked during the reunion and a lot said it would be great if we didn't have so much running to do and got to do more socializing. I used to get together with friends from all over the country for a 3 or 4 day weekend. We would pretty much stay at the hotel, gather around the pool during the day, just visiting and talking. I thought that for Branson we could make it less expensive if we don't have a lot of tours. I've never been there and have no clue what's there, other than the shows. I know it is early to start thinking about the next reunion when you are still recovering from the last one. Dad and I talked about maybe just giving a list of what shows will be there when we are and the cost of going to them. Then, we could see who wants to go to any of the shows. For example, Donnie and Marie, Kenny Rogers and Wayne Newton (just as examples) and the cost is \$35 for any of the three, but we can get in for \$25 each if we have a group of 10 or more. If we get 10 that want to go to each show, we could break it up for dinner and show and go our separate ways. Anyway, you get the idea and we could arrange that when we get to Branson. [Not really, as all that must be worked out weeks or months ahead.] Dad and I thought the night we did an impromptu dinner group for that Italian restaurant in Seattle was the best. We ended up with a nice group and had a great time. Maybe we could figure out a way to do something like that... find out what there is to have and put up a notice that on Thursday we are going to dinner at 6:30 to the great Italian place up the road from the hotel, then Friday morning we could put up a notice that dinner was at 6:00 to a steak house. Everyone



could meet in the lobby and the hotel could shuttle us there. (Branson doesn't run shuttles.) Dad said he didn't understand why a couple of people said that MCB 2 couldn't afford another reunion. Does MCB 2 help fund any of the events or is everything paid for by the people who attend? [It's not the MCB 2 can't afford to host another reunion, it is a matter of attrition and age. Many of our members could not attend Washington, D.C. because of health, so it may not be much different for Branson. It has been suggested that we open our reunion to all Seabees that worked on the Cubi Point job which would get a few more Seabees to join our reunion that have never been to a reunion for their battalion.] Oh, well... that's enough for now. Let me know when I can help in some way

..... from **Mal Jaeger**: [Mal had gone to Port Hue-neme this past summer to see the new museum and I asked him to give me a report and send some pictures of what he saw.] I just returned from the museum and it is beautiful but very sterile. It did not have the feel to me to have been made up by Seabees. There was very little Korean War stuff and nothing any place about MCB 2 in Japan or Cubi Point or anything about CBMU 1 in Korea. No plaques, nada. They no longer let you make an appointment to see the archives. Two different excuses: not enough money and too much classified info. The new museum is available to the public without going through the main gate... no guards. But, to me, it was a wasted trip all around.....

from **Julie Henrichson**: Enclosed is a CD with most of the pictures on it from Washington, D.C. I am kind of a photo fanatic and had over 500 pictures! Some of them are of us just being silly. I also am sending a copy of the videos we took. I thought you might enjoy that also [I did! All the pictures and the video are super. I'll try to put a few in each Newsletter issue. Thanks.]. We had a great time with everyone! Thank you!!.....

from **Dave & Clare Manley**: I received and enjoyed the reunion Newsletter! Sorry we could not be there due to family illness. Maybe Branson, God willing! Have a great New Year! PS: Enclosing a check for my dues [thank you]

from **Bob Colquhoun**: Thanks for the help and have a nice Thanksgiving. Enclosed is a check for dues plus a bit extra [thanks]..... received a check for dues from **Charles Kangas, Jim Green, George Gustin, and John Jurkash** [thank you]..... received a check for dues plus a Newsletter for NCB



(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

103 from **Wayne Heple**, which **Wayne** publishes... received a Christmas card from **Paul & Wanda D'Angelo**: Sending dues plus a little extra [thanks]. Keep up the good work. We always enjoy the Seabees Newsletter. Thanks so much..... from **Bernard Johnson**, son of **Charles Johnson**: As per our email conversation, enclosed is a donation in memory of my Dad, **Charles E. Johnson**, CBMU 101. [thank you very much]..... I received many Christmas cards with dues [some with notes]: from **Gordon Gwathney**, **Joe Sitkowski**, **Sam Ragusa**, **Ivan Majetic**, **Les Keller**, **Sharon** (in memory of **Larry**) **Jessop**, **Tony DeLeon**, **Allan Alberg**, **David Haines**, **Richard Tittle** (**Richard** was in CBMU 1502 in Atsugi), **Doug Emond**, **Stoney Serrett**, **Gene McDonagh**, **Hank Balconi**, **Paul Miles**, **John Petronka**, **Jim Green**, **Bill Knight**, **Roger Hamilton**, **Tom Dowd**, **Hank Bentsen** and **Betty** (for **Emil**) **Krygier**..... from **Wayne Bulgerin**: Please send me a list of dues, who to make my check out to, your phone number and a receipt. Thanks [thank you!]..... from **Doug & Shirley Emond**: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I am just getting done with my Mom's Probate Court and so on. Her will was destroyed in a fire at the attorney's office. What a pain after that. Wisconsin weather is here. It's been zero and below for two weeks. I don't know why we stay in Wisconsin [kids and grandkids, maybe? Plus, **Shirley** wants to be close to the great-grands!] Here is a check for my dues and a little extra for whatever [thanks]. As of right now, we plan to be in Branson..... e-mail from **Naomi Morris-Landers**: I received your phone message today [I called about her dad, **Pat Morris**] and I thought it might be easier for me to write rather than speak on the phone. My dad's Parkinson's is progressing. When you last spoke with him on the phone and he seemed confused, it was probably more to do with his inability to say the words he is thinking in his head. I have not spoken with him on the phone for quite some time now. I could tell the last time we spoke on the phone that it was very stressful for him. There are certain connections not being made in his brain, so it is hard for him to figure out how the phone works or how to button his shirt. And not being able to get his mouth to say the words he is thinking in his head is very frustrating for him. His comprehension of what is said to him is fine, and he can respond appropriately, it just takes him some time and he feels embarrassed

about that, especially on the phone. He does have periods of extreme agitation and confusion, which sometimes results in his being hospitalized overnight for observation. The last time that happened when I was visiting, I stayed with him at the hospital and he could recognize me and communicate with me just fine, but everything else was confusing for him for about a 12-hour period, then he was fine and totally lucid. He has a really nice roommate now who is quite young—35, I think. His name is Keith and he is recovering from a stroke. He really looks out for my dad and is kind of his guarding angel, making sure dad gets to meals on time and also making sure he doesn't fall. My dad is very unsteady and shaky on his feet now, so he uses a walker full time. Thank you so much for calling to check on my parents..... from **Charles Loeffler**: Here's a check for my dues and thanks for the great job you are doing [thanks]. Some great reunion pictures..... from **Gene Staples**: Enclosed is my check for dues and the flags. If more is needed, e-mail me. I'll send more if needed [all is well, **Gene**, and thanks]..... from **Tony DeLeon**: [I received a Christmas card from **Tony** showing Mt. DeLeon in Antarctica.] Inside, the card read: A mainly ice-free mountain, 780 meters in altitude. Located along the south side of Entrinkin Glacier, 9 miles west-northwest of Cape Douglas. Named by U.S.-ACAN for **Emilio A. DeLeon**, Equipment Operator, USN, a member of the Byrd Station Party, 1963..... from **Frank Hayes**: I don't have a need for a complete roster but I would like the address and any other information on **Tony Marcella** who was listed on the Good Guy List [info sent]. **Stoney** and I were with **Tony** with the 103rd NCB in 1950. Please send me **Tony's** address and any other you have for him. I talked to **Stoney** recently. He turned 89 on November 25th..... from **Dick Sim**: [enclosed a check for dues. Thanks] Thanks again for all you do for us. I wish you and **Rachel** the very best for 2014 [thank you!] a Christmas note from **Roy Peak**: I enjoyed my second year at the Chateau and the many activities here. But it was another year losing visual acuity due to glaucoma. I use a long white cane when I go out shopping or to take a walk. I now walk like an old man: bent forward and taking short steps. The highlight of the year was the Peak brother's September reunion hosted by **Paul** and **Jane** in McLean, Virginia. **Pam** took me by the arm through the airports and byways so that I could enjoy the trip. All four brothers and available wives attended and Paul (age

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

90) seemed most healthy of us brothers..... from **Richard Tittle**: I received your letter and information [**Richard** and I have corresponded regarding the Seabee unit he was with]. I have always wanted to know what battalion we were part of [CBDET 1502]. A few years ago, someone said MCB 2. That is why I joined your Reunion Association. We were, I believe, 'Public Works.' I was there in Atsugi from 1953 to 1956. The word was that they were turning it over to the Japanese. I went home from there. I served four (4) years active duty and spent the rest of my 31 years in the reserves, retiring as an E-9 EQCM. I was Command Master Chief, 25th Reserve Battalion, and then Command Master Chief of the 2nd Regiment out of Kansas City..... from **Al 'Ole' Olsen**: Enclosed is a check for dues [thank you]. I really appreciate your efforts to keep the Newsletter coming and all the event schedules. **Inger** and I are looking forward to the Branson get-together. Happy New Year!..... from **Bill Morin**: Happy New Year! We enjoy reading the Newsletter. Some day, we will meet at a reunion. How about New Hampshire?!..... from **Sam Holsomback**: The weather is fine with me, how about you and yours? [nope, **Rachel** keeps saying she wants to move back to Las Vegas, or at least somewhere that is warmer!]. I would like to have a small Seabee patch for my cap and have enclosed a check for the patch and dues. Sorry to read about **Cecil Price**. I was given a cap with US Navy and Seabees Can Do on it! The first one I have seen. Do good and hope to see you some time..... from **Jack Schrader**: Dues time is here again so I thought I would send my check to stay on the Good Guy List [thanks]. Thanks again for your work on the last reunion. It was as good as could be considering the obstacles we had to overcome. Your last Newsletter was great and brought back a lot of good memories. I'm looking forward to the next one and I hope we have a good attendance. I hope you and **Rachel** have a great new year [thanks]..... from **Dan Beran**: My check for dues is enclosed [thanks]. And my email address for the next Newsletter is dcbcr1542@localnet.com..... from **Vic Jaccino**: I am beginning to learn how to write again and am sending some pictures of my operation [shoulder surgery]. Also, when I got home, I remembered that I forgot to pay for two wood plaques and am enclosing a check [thanks]. If not enough, please let me know. If it's too much, just

add to the fund [you are OK, **Vic**, and thanks.] I am also enclosing some info about Branson that might be some help. [thanks]..... from **Bob Hoare**: Thanks for sending the address. I'm still traveling and adding pictures to the collection from the last sixty years, going back to Korea. I hope all is well with you and yours. Enclosed is my "Good Guy" dues [thanks. You are still a Good Guy!]..... from **Dick Sim**: This enclosed obituary was sent to me by a friend in Salem, Oregon. I did not know the man, **Roscoe (Rocky) Baptiste**, but we were at Subic at the same time. Maybe some of our members might know him. Hope all is well, take care..... from **John Wilborn**: I meant to send this along sooner. So easily distracted by ??? Can't remember what [but thanks, **John**]..... from **William C. "Pete" Taylor**: Enclosed is a check for my dues and a few dollars for postage [thank you]. Thanks for doing such a great job..... Well folks, that looks like about all the letters for this issue. Check for your name on the Good Guy List and, if it isn't there, send a check for dues. Stay warm! Spring is around the corner but we will have a few more weeks of cold winter. Best to all... Scott

Who to contact about your dues

Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas.
MCB 2 Reunion Association
725 Summer Ridge Dr.
Villa Rica, GA 30180
(770-456-4246)

e-mail: williash@aol.com

make checks payable to:

Scott Williams/MCB 2 (or CBMU 1, etc.)

Dues are \$25/year

(more, if you can)

January - December

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

Web page: <http://mcb2seabeereunion.com/>



Jim Stauffer (NMCB 133) with his latest project, a stained glass picture for POW-MIA. Jim had two tours in Vietnam, 1968 – 1969.

THE ZIPPO LIGHTER – A GI'S BEST FRIEND

From WW2 through the Vietnam war, the Zippo lighter was a valued possession among many American GIs who took the opportunity to have them engraved with artwork and personal messages. According to collectors, over 200,000 Zippos were used by GI's in Vietnam. The Zippo played a part in almost every daily activity. The shiny top provided a handy mirror and the lighters' flame warmed their food at meal time. GI's kept salt in the bottom cavities, called canned bottoms, of their Zippos, to replenish lost body salt. Other legendary Zippos were used to transmit signals or even provided a shield against enemy bullets. Staff Sergeant Naugle, who was saved because he was able to signal his position to the rescue helicopter, had a Zippo in his hand. Among men that had a close call with death, one of the luckiest was Sergeant Martinez, who kept a Zippo in his chest pocket. A bullet struck his chest, only to be stopped by his Zippo. This was reported in Life magazine and also appeared in various advertisements attesting to the Zippos' finest attributes.



Vietnam era Zippo lighter

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Zippos were also used in military operations, where Marines and Soldiers would spray gasoline over the area to burn enemy compounds and dwellings. A soldier would usually carry a Zippo in the chest pocket of his jungle fatigues. Some would insert one in the camouflage band of the helmet or put one into the magazine pouch of an M-16. Alcohol, diesel oil and even gasoline were substitutes for lighter fluid when this was not available. Zippos were made of tough stuff! Zippos were also used as IDs and canvasses. Post Exchanges in Vietnam carried a large amount of Zippo lighters, which explains the reason why there were so many Zippos in Vietnam.



Carried on helmets to keep them dry

By this time, Zippo merchandise quickly found its way onto the black market. Soldiers were able to buy brand new Zippos without having to go to the PX store. Vietnamese craftsmen would engrave anything from pictures to phrases onto the Zippo. The most popular motif engraved on a Zippo was the map of Vietnam. Zippo lighters used by the GI's during the Vietnam War have become collector's items. Every Zippo from the war bears mute witness, conveying a great sense of having been there on the battlefield. The GI's who faced death and stood on the brink of hell, carrying their Zippos, transformed these simple lighters into an integral part of their own bodies and souls. Zippo lighters have since become valuable collectors' items commanding high prices at auctions.

SOME ZIPPO INSCRIPTIONS:





King Bee and Father of the Seabees, Admiral Ben Moreell

Ben Irene Moreell

Admiral Ben Moreell (September 14, 1892 – July 30, 1978) was the chief of the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Yards and Docks and of the Civil Engineer Corps. Best known to the American public as the Father of the Navy's Seabees, Moreell's life spanned eight decades, two world wars, a great depression and the evolution of the United States as a superpower. He was a distinguished Naval Officer, a brilliant engineer, an industrial giant and articulate national spokesman. As a young civil engineer with a Bachelor of Science degree from Washington University, St. Louis (1913), he chose to defend his country by joining the ranks of the Navy during World War I. He was commissioned in June 1917 as a Lieutenant (junior grade) in the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps and spent the next 30 years in the service of his country. During the war, he was stationed in the Azores, there getting to know an Assistant Secretary of the Navy named Franklin D. Roosevelt, and afterwards served at Navy yards and installations in Massachusetts, Haiti, Virginia, and Washington. Recognized early for his exceptional capabilities he was sent as a Lieutenant Commander, to the École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris to study European military engineering design and construction practices. In 1933, he returned to the States to supervise the planning of what would eventually be called the David W. Taylor Model Basin in Carderock, Maryland.

Admiral Ben Moreell On December 1, 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt personally selected Commander Moreell to be the Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks and the Chief of Civil Engineers of the Navy, and advanced him to the rank of Rear Admiral (without having ever been a Captain). With foresight and prudence, Moreell urged the construction of two giant dry-docks at Pearl Harbor and initiated Navy construction projects on Midway and Wake Island long before Japanese bombs began to fall on December 7, 1941. The docks were completed in time to repair battleships damaged at Pearl Harbor, and the

facilities at Midway were completed in time to play a strategic role in the Navy's first significant victory over Japanese forces.

World War II requirements for advanced bases strung throughout the Pacific called for construction crews to be able to drop their tools and take up weapons at a moment's notice. Moreell had the answer – sailors who could build and fight. The need for a militarized Naval Construction Force to build advance bases in the war zone was self-evident. Therefore, Moreell determined to activate, organize, and man Navy construction units. On December 28, 1941, he requested specific authority to carry out this decision, and on January 5, 1942, he gained authority from the Bureau of Navigation to recruit men from the construction trades for assignment to a Naval Construction Regiment composed of three Naval Construction Battalions. On March 5, 1942 permission was granted for the construction battalions to use the name "Seabees". This was the beginning of the renowned Seabees, who obtained their designation from the initial letters of Construction Battalion. Moreell personally furnished them with their official motto: *Construimus, Batuimus* – "We Build, We Fight." Seabee History: Formation of the Seabees and World War II.

Moreell's Civil Engineer Corps was given command authority over what was to become an organization of 250,000 people that built \$10 billion worth of facilities to support the war effort. In 1943, Moreell became the Chief of the Navy's Material Division; and at the request of Vice President Truman, negotiated a settlement to the national strike of oil refinery workers. When the government seized the nation's strikebound bituminous coal industry a year later, Moreell was designated the Coal Mines Administrator. On June 11, 1946, he became the first staff corps officer to achieve the rank of Admiral and transferred to the retired list three months later. For the next 12 years, Moreell turned his attention to industry, serving first, briefly (October 1946 – March 1947) as President of Turner Construction Company then as President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board of Jones and Laughlin Steel Company.

Operation Ivy Bells Sea of Okhotsk, Russia, 1970s-1981

In the early 1970's, the U.S. government learned of the existence of an undersea cable running parallel to the Kuril Islands chain, connecting the major Soviet naval bases at Vladivostok and Petropavlovsk. At this time during the Cold War, the Sea of Okhotsk was aggressively claimed by the Russians as territorial waters, off limits to foreign vessels - especially U.S. warships. To this end, the Soviet Navy constructed a net of sound detection devices along the sea floor to warn of any unwanted visitors. Additionally, the entire area was the location of frequent surface and subsurface naval exercises. Nonetheless, despite these formidable obstacles, the potential for an unprecedented windfall of intelligence was simply too great to pass up.

Thus, a joint Navy-National Security Agency (NSA) mission was initiated, code-named Operation Ivy Bells, involving the use of U.S. Navy fast attack submarines working in conjunction with specially-trained Navy combat divers. Working in tandem, they would make monthly incursions into these dangerous waters to "tap" the line. One of the first such missions involved the USS Halibut (SSN-587) and the installation of a miniaturized, waterproof pod on the cable. This "wrap around" device, developed by the NSA, could eavesdrop on - and record - all communications passing through the line without the need for actually penetrating the wires inside. This capability was deemed necessary to prevent any possible damage to the cable that might then attract unwanted attention. In the event that the Russians chose to perform routine maintenance, the pod was designed to break off and fall to the seabed in the event the line was raised for any reason.

Once the device was in place, subsequent missions were required in which a submarine would return to the location to pick up the six to eight weeks' worth of recordings inside the pod. For this operation, the frogmen would depart the sub's escape trunk, swim to the cable (reportedly with the aid of a minisub on occasion), remove the recorded tape, and then make their way back to the waiting submarine. This tape was then delivered to the NSA for processing and dissemination to the appropriate military and civilian agencies. Not long after the recovery of the first tapes, it was discovered that the Soviets felt so sure of the security of their undersea communication line, that the majority of the conversations recorded were

completely uncoded! Needless to say, the eavesdropping on traffic between senior Soviet officers provided an invaluable look inside military operations in the region.

In 1981, however, this windfall came to an abrupt end when Western satellites photographed a small fleet of Russian warships gathered over the exact location of the listening device. One vessel was a unique deep salvage ship that had been monitored hurriedly making its way across the globe to the site. This development caused a wave of concern through those assigned to the project, raising concerns that the operation had somehow been discovered. In what would later come to be viewed as one of the most dangerous missions of Ivy Bells, the USS Parch (SSN-683) was sent in to retrieve the next tape. Upon arrival, divers discovered that the pod had been removed. They quickly made their way back to the boat and the team exited the area, reportedly without incident.

It was clear that their fears had been well founded. A major, but covert, investigation ended with a startling revelation: This operation (along with at least seven other code-word operations) had been betrayed to the KGB in January 1980 by Robert Pelton, an employee of the National Security Agency for the sum of \$35,000. Mr. Pelton was later convicted and sentenced to life in prison where he currently resides.

Operation Ivy Bells remains one of the most successful intelligence gathering operations in modern U.S. history, and could not have been accomplished without the daring and skill of U.S. Navy submarine officers and crew - and a handful of Navy frogmen.

(Postscript: The seized seafloor recording device is now on display in the museum at the former KGB headquarters in Moscow.)



USS Halibut (SSN-587) running at speed on the surface

The Story of Taps

Of all the military bugle calls, none is so recognized or more apt to render emotion than the call Taps. The melody is both eloquent and haunting and the history of its origin is interesting and somewhat clouded in controversy.

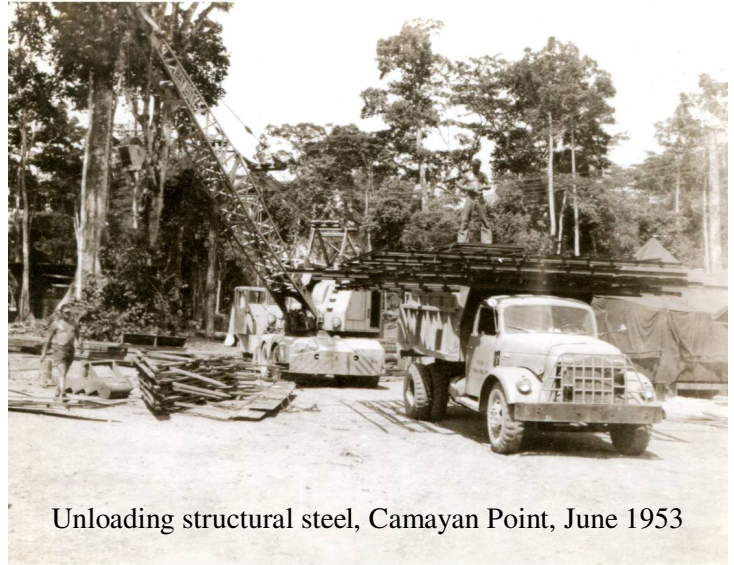
Taps began as a revision to the signal for *Extinguish Lights (Lights Out)*, a bugle call that was used as the final call of the day and, as the name implies, it was a signal to extinguish all fires and lights. Up until the Civil War, the infantry call for *Extinguish Lights* was the one set down in Silas Casey's (1801-1882) *Tactics*, which had been borrowed from the French. The music for Taps was adapted by Union General Daniel Butterfield for his brigade in July 1862.

As the story goes, General Butterfield was not pleased with the call for *Extinguish Lights*, feeling that the call was too formal to signal the days end, and with the help of the brigade bugler, Oliver Wilcox Norton, wrote Taps to honor his men while in camp at Harrison's Landing, Virginia following the Seven Days battle. These battles took place during the Peninsular Campaign of 1862. The new call, sounded that night in July 1862 soon spread to other units of the Union Army and was reportedly also used by the Confederates. Taps was made an official bugle call after the Civil War.

Why the name Taps? The most likely explanation is that the name was borrowed from a drummer's beat. The beating of a bedtime roll-call called *Tattoo* by the drum corps would be followed by the Drummer of the Guard beating three distinct drum taps at four-count intervals for the military evolution *Extinguish Lights*. Following the call, three single drum strokes were beat at four-count intervals. This was known as the "Drum Taps" or, in common usage of soldiers, "The Taps" or simply "Taps."

It is not clear how or why Taps became associated with funerals. However, it's earliest official reference for use at military funeral ceremonies is found in the U.S. Army Drill Regulations for 1891.

More pictures from Harley Fender (MCB 9) and Bruce Risley (Coast Guard)



Unloading structural steel, Camayan Point, June 1953



Unloading lumber, Camayan Point, 1953



Outdoor theater, Camayan Point, with chairs, 1953



Vic Jaccino sent these: With CBMU 1 in Korea. A fighter that made it down on the base, but only good for spare parts now. And below, Vic trying to see if he can make a big flash. What are those, Vic, 500 pound bombs?



A Letter From a Citizen to the Secretary of Agriculture

Dear Secretary of Agriculture:

My friends, Darryl and Janice, over at Jonestown, Oklahoma, received a check the other day for \$1,000 from the government for not raising hogs. So, I want to go into the "not raising hogs" business myself next year.

What I want to know is, in your opinion, what is the best type of farm not to raise hogs on, and what is the best breed of hogs not to raise? I want to be sure that I approach this endeavor in keeping with all government policies. I would prefer not to raise Razorback hogs, but if that is not a good breed not to raise, then I can just as easily not raise Yorkshires or Durocs. As I see it, the hardest part of this program will be keeping an accurate inventory of how many hogs I haven't raised. If I can get \$1,000 for not raising 50 hogs, will I get \$2,000 for not raising 100 hogs? I plan to operate on a small scale at first, holding myself down to about 4,000 "not raised" hogs, that will give me an income of about \$80,000 the first year, enough to buy an airplane.

Now another thing: these hogs I will not raise will not eat 100,000 bushels of corn. I understand that you also pay farmers for not raising corn and wheat. Will I qualify for payments for not raising wheat and corn not to feed the 4,000 hogs I am not going to raise? I want to get started not feeding as soon as possible, as this seems to be a good time of the year to not raise hogs and grain. I am also considering the "not milking cows" business, so please send me any information on that also. In view of these circumstances, I understand that the Government will consider me totally unemployed, so I plan to file for unemployment and food stamps as well.

Be assured that you will have my vote in the coming elections.

Patriotically yours,

Duster Benton

PS: Would you please notify me when you plan to distribute more free cheese?

Note from Scott: This 'letter' was under the glass on my dad's desk at work for years..... in the early 1950's.





This is the picture that was in the Washington Post Sunday, October 20, 2013 taken while we were at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum on Thursday. This is a portion of our group and I'll see if I can identify all: L-R: Mary Henrichson (in the foreground), above Mary wearing a ball cap is Rich Nelson, Carol Nelson, the back of Joyce Badgett's head, Pam Bennett (above Joyce's head), tour guide with arm raised, Hallie Young (David Haines' daughter), Pete Elliott, Scott Williams. There are some others in the picture that I should know but can't identify now.

You're getting old when you don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

Old age is when it takes longer to rest than to get tired.

Our Fallen Comrades

Charles E. Johnson CBMU 101 9/7/13

May he live on in our memories

A Note About the Branson Reunion Progress

I have been in touch with the Convention Bureau in Branson and contact has been made with some hotels, but then it turned cold! I have spoken with some of the sales people at a couple of the hotels and told them that Pete and I would come for a preliminary check of their hotels, but not until it warms up, which is about May. As soon as we know something, it will be in the next Newsletter.

The Good Guy List

For 2014

Allan Alberg, Basil Arnold, Pat Badgett, Hank Bentsen, Daniel Beran, Alexander (Cat) Borys, Robert Bowdler, Don Bradley, David Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, Pat Carey, Ben Carlson, Ed Carlson, Frank Chambers, Chuck Chapman, Bob Colquhoun, Pat Cunningham, Paul D'Angelo, Jim DeKeyser, Tony DeLeon, Ted Devit, Mary Dick (for all the Good Guys), Tom Dowd, Howard Doyle, Bob Elder, Pete Elliott, Doug Emond, Richard Farbo, Richard Forster, Jack Foster, Robert Gardner, Bob Graf, Jim Green, George Gustin, Gordon Gwathney, Pauline (for Charlie) Hagemann, David Haines, Roger Hamilton, Ruth (for Alex) Hamilton, Roy Harris, Bob Hart, Frank Hayes, Ralph Heitt, Mary (for Duane) Henrichson, Wayne Heple, Althea (for Gerald) Herr, Bob Hoare, Ray Hooter, Charles Ingalls, Vic Jaccino, Mal Jaeger, Bob Janson, Sharon (for Larry) Jessop, John Jurkash, Chuck Kangas, Les Keller, Yung Hark Ketels, Denise King (for her Dad, Don Truskey), Bill Knight, Betty (for Emil) Krygier, Ron Landrum, Thomas Lightbody, Charles Loeffler, Dale Lundstrom, Ivan Majetic, David Manley, James L. Marshall, Gene McDonagh, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Charles Minert, Gary 'Mitch' Mitchell, Bill Morin, Pat Morris, Paul Muma, Rich Nelson, Opal (for Paul) Neusetzer, Don Nitsche, Joe O'Brien, Al Olsen, Don Pastell, Mal Pearson, John Petronka, Sam Ragusa, Bob Rasmussen, Gary Rawlings, Gerry Rice, Gene Robinson, Dale Rogers, George Rosenvold, Tom Roy, C. Edner Rudolph, Paul Schell, Jack Schrader, Stoney Serrett, Dick Sim, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Ray Sonnen, Gene Staples, Tom Stapleton, Clyde Stenholm, Lucy (for Lee) Stevens, Stiles Stevens, Larry Stevenson, John Stock, Willis Struecker, James Taylor, William C. "Pete" Taylor, Richard Tittle, Judy (for Richard) Todd, Wayne Turley, Dick Walters, Bud Wheless, Rodney White, John Wilborn, Mar-

shall Williams, R.G. 'Pete' Williams, Scott Williams, Bill Wisnowski, and Gladys (for Jim) Wommack.

Everyone listed here has their dues paid at least through 2014, 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 (no dues card sent out). This list is as of February 8, 2014. There are currently 119 paid up members through 2014 from a mailing list of 316. If dues have not been sent for at least four years, they do not receive the Newsletter. There are 713 names on the full member roster (22 pages).

The Newsletter is sent primarily by email. If you have an email address and are not receiving the Newsletter by email, please send an email to Scott at williaash@aol.com (SW)

MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Thomas Lightbody
3971 Capital Ave. SW, Lot 72
Battle Creek, MI 49015-8405
MCB 3

Walter E. Ahern
117 Langford Valley Way
Cary, NC 27513-2805
CBMU 1 & MCB 2

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 713 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 (22 pages). Glad to have all aboard! And, if you would like a directory sorted by ZIP numbers, let me know. You can see who lives close to you or use it when you travel. And keep sending those cards and letters – especially the ones with checks!

Scott Williams

MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

c/o Scott H. Williams
725 Summer Ridge Dr.
Villa Rica, GA 30180

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