

5 August 1942

MEMORANDUM:

Subject: Construction Battalions with Marine Corps

1. In a telephone conversation with Col. Purple it was agreed that the training and outfitting schedules for the 18th and 19th Construction Battalions would be so arranged that they would be available at the Marine Training Center, New River, N.C. not later than the following dates:

18th Batt.
19th Batt.

5th
10th (in this connection it may be desirable to reverse these, as the 19th Battalion is scheduled to come out of Norfolk on 7 Sept., whereas the 18th Battalion is not scheduled to come out of Davisville until 15 Sept.)

Sept.

2. It was further agreed that regardless of the point of departure it would be best to have both battalions pass through the Advance Base Depot at Davisville where all of their individual equipment and such heavy construction equipment and materials as are intended for their use would be assembled. The heavy material could then be reshipped to the appropriate port of embarkation, rather than to accompany the battalions to the Training Center, New River.

3. Col. Purple stated that the Seabees would receive their Marine Corps clothing at New River. He is having the Quartermaster (at Marine Corps Headquarters) make up a list of those clothing items which are to be furnished so that we may act accordingly.

4. In view of the short interval of time probably allowable at the Advance Base Depot, Davisville, for outfitting, it is imperative that special measures be taken to

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insure delivery of all items of material at the Advance Base Depot, Davisville, not later than 1 September, and earlier if possible.

5. In this connection, double sets of medical and dental equipment and supply and disbursing office equipment will be required because of the split up of each battalion on arrival at New River into the 18th and 19th Battalions and the two Naval Construction Battalion Replacement groups. One of these groups will be at New River, and the second will proceed to the Training Center, San Diego, after outfitting at New River.

A.J. Fay
Lt.Comdr. (CEC) USN

CC: Col. Purple, Rm. 2119, Arl. Annex
Col. Skelton
Lt. Bigelow, 1811A
C-1
C-11
Lt. Van Liew Rm. 3-2057
Lt. Darling, Rm. 3124
Op 30B-1 (Comdr. White)
Comdr. Talbert