

Public Affairs Office
U. S. Naval Construction Battalion Center
Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Phone: 864-6220, Ext. 21

OFFICIAL U. S. NAVY NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release No. 3-66

June 24, 1966

SEABEE BATTALION TO BE
RECOMMISSIONED AT GULFPORT

GULFPORT, MISS., June 26 -- Mobile Construction Battalion 62, one of the Seabee units that rose to Naval fame during World War II, will be recommissioned at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Seabee Center here.

The recommissioning of this fighter-builder unit is to be part of a large-scale build-up in the Navy's construction forces. MCBs 40 and 58 were commissioned earlier this year at the Davisville, Rhode Island, Seabee base. September 15 has been set as the approximate date for the recommissioning of MCB-133 -- an event also scheduled for CBC Gulfport.

Gulfport will be the home port for both MCB-62 and MCB-133.

Rear Admiral H. A. Renken, Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk, Virginia, will serve as the commissioning officer for MCB-62. Admiral Renken commissioned the 20th Naval Construction Regiment in ceremonies at Gulfport on April 11. MCB-62 is to be one of the 20th NCR's battalions.

- more -

OFFICIAL U. S. NAVY NEWS RELEASE - 2

Rear Admiral A. C. Husband, Commander Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Chief of Naval Civil Engineers, Washington, D.C., will present the Navy Unit Citation to the newly recommissioned unit.

Among the dozens of other dignitaries invited to the recommissioning of Mobile Construction Battalion 62 are U. S. Senators John C. Stennis and James O. Eastland, both of Mississippi; U. S. Representative William M. Colmer; Mississippi Governor Paul B. Johnson; and Gulfport Mayor R. B. Meadows, Jr.

The Pensacola Naval Air Station band, under the direction of Chief Warrant Officer E. L. Emond, will provide the music for the ceremony.

The Seabee Center at Gulfport, an installation that has been generally inactive since Korean War days, was given an increased mission in mid-February of this year. Since that time more than 1100 officers and enlisted personnel have been assigned to the base. A further build-up -- to approximately 1600 military personnel -- is expected by September.

Naval officials have described as "substantial" the economic effect this build-up will have on Gulfport and neighboring cities. The Seabee base will put an estimated \$7¹/₂ million annually into the economies of these cities, according to Commander Norman L. Martinson, Commanding Officer of the base.

- more -

OFFICIAL U. S. NAVY NEWS RELEASE - 3

Commander William J. Richeson will serve as Commanding Officer of Mobile Construction Battalion 62. Cdr. Richeson, who entered the Navy as an aviator in 1944, is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York. He has served in various Naval capacities around the globe, the most recent being Assistant for Facilities Management at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command's Northwest Division, Seattle, Washington.

Other officers on the staff of MCB-62 are Lieutenant Commander J. R. Williams, Executive Officer; Lieutenant Carl E. Christenson, Operations Officer; Lieutenant (junior grade) John M. O'Reilly, Administrative and Personnel Officer; Ensign Cecil G. Stellyes, Planning and Training Officer; Lieutenant Commander George W. Cronin, Jr., Supply and Logistics Officer; Lieutenant Thomas E. Hale, "A" Company Commander; Warrant Officer Lawrence J. Allemand, Assistant "A" Company Commander; Lieutenant William L. Wood, "B" Company Commander; Lieutenant (junior grade) Thomas M. Kelty, Assistant "B" Company Commander; Lieutenant Robert H. Shackelford, "C" Company Commander; Lieutenant (junior grade) Alexander L. Carter, Assistant "C" Company Commander; and Lieutenant (junior grade) Arthur M. Harden, Assistant "D" Company Commander.

Six other officers are due to report to the battalion within the next month.

OFFICIAL U. S. NAVY NEWS RELEASE - 4

The original Naval Construction Battalion 62, which was commissioned late in 1942, gained its first honors in work done in Hawaii. While there, the Seabees of NCB-62 built repair and servicing facilities for the Pearl Harbor submarine base, completed a dike at Loko Eo and set up landing craft facilities at Waipio Point.

Following 2 1/2 months of amphibious, marine, jungle and weapons training, the battalion left Saipan for Iwo Jima in mid-February of 1945.

NCB-62's task at Iwo Jima was the rebuilding of three bombed-out Japanese airfields. Snipers' bullets, banzai attacks and mortar fire made the job a tedious and a dangerous one, but work went on day and night.

The battalion's efforts netted American flying forces the longest airstrip -- 5225 feet -- in the western Pacific.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

(108) P

SYMBOLS

- DL = Day Letter
- NL = Night Letter
- LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.

NSA088 CTA373 WK379

WW NFA181 GOVT NL PD=NF WASHINGTON DC 30 502P EDT=

1936 JUL 20

CDR NORMAN MARTINSON=

NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER GULFPORT MISSS

ONLY BINDING PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT PREVENTS MY BEING WITH YOU FOR OFFICIAL ACTIVATION U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 62. I KNOW YOUR FACILITY AND THIS BATTALION WILL CONTINUE TO REFLECT OUTSTANDING CREDIT TO ALL INVOLVED AND OUR COUNTRY. BEST WISHES TO ADMIRAL RENKIN, ADMIRAL HUSBAND AND ALL THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF SEABEE 62 REGARDS=

JOHN STENNIS UNITED STATES SENATOR=

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

(53) FALL SENT

SYMBOLS

- DL = Day Letter
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The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.

NSA086 SSG180

NS 3ZA372 PD=FAJ JACKSON MISS 28 139P CST=

COMMANDER NORMAN L MARTINSON=

US NAVAL SEABEE CENTER GULFPORT MISSS 28 JUL 2 00

ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICIAL FAMILY OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, MAY I OFFER MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE COMMISSIONING OF MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BN 62. MISSISSIPPI IS PROUD TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS THE LOCATION OF THIS NEW UNIT. SINCE MY MARINE SERVICE IN WORLD WAR I I HAVE BEEN DEVOTED TO THE US NAVY'S SEABEES AND I WISH ALL OF YOU GODSPEED IN THIS NEW UNDERTAKING= SINCERELY YOURS

PAUL B JOHNSON GOVERNOR

Time: 1:30

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R. W. McFALL
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

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NSA720 CTC557 WK353

WW NFBO07 GOVT DL PDENF WASHINGTON DC 29 502P EDT:

COMMANDER NORMAN E MARTINSON US NAVY 1966 JUN 29 PM 3 5

CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER GULFPORT MISS

I REGRET VERY MUCH I AM UNABLE TO BE PRESENT FOR THE COMMISSIONING OF THE U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SIXTY-TWO AND I DO WANT TO EXTEND MY CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN COMPOSING THIS UNIT. DURING WORLD WAR TWO THE COMMUNITY AND STATE WERE PRIVILEGED TO HAVE THE PRESENCE OF SIMILAR UNITS OF THE NAVY. WE WELCOME YOU BACK AND HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY YOUR STAY IN MISSISSIPPI. ON BEHALF OF THE STATE AND

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R. W. McFALL
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

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COMMUNITY I WELCOME EACH OF YOU AND PLEDGE OUR COOPERATION TO MAKE YOUR DUTY IN MISSISSIPPI BOTH PLEASANT AND MEMORABLE

JAMES O EASTLAND USS.

TWENTIETH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION REGIMENT
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI 39501

COM 20TH NCR NOTE 5060
Code 1000:mlp
27 Jun 1966

COM 20TH NCR NOTICE 5060

From: Commander, Twentieth Naval Construction Regiment
To: Distribution List

Subj: Commissioning Ceremony for U.S. Naval Mobile Construction
Battalion Sixty-Two

Ref: (a) Landing Party Manual, 1960

Encl: (1) Sequence of Events
(2) Diagram of Parade Formation
(3) Company in Mass Formation

1. Purpose: To direct a battalion commissioning ceremony for U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Sixty-Two on 2 July 1966 at 1000 hrs.

2. Scope: The organization of troops, uniforms, formations, rehearsal and administrative instructions are set forth.

3. General: In accordance with reference (a), the procedures set forth herein are promulgated for the commissioning ceremony of MCB-62.

a. Adjutant's call will be sounded at 0940 on 2 July 1966.

b. The Commissioning Officer will be Rear Admiral H. A. REMSEN, USN, Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

c. Rear Admiral A. C. HUSBAND, CEC, USN, Chief of Naval Civil Engineers and Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command will present the Unit Citation.

d. Capt. S. R. SMITH, CEC, USN, Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet will present the individual awards.

4. Organization of Troops:

a. The battalion will consist of the following companies: "H", "A", "B", "C", and "D".

b. Each Company will be organized in a column of platoons and massed at the commissioning site.

5. Uniform and Equipment:

a. Uniform: Participants-full dress whites with large medals.
Guests-service dress whites w/gloves and ribbons.

b. Equipment: (1) Officers: Swords and belts.

(2) Color Guard: White belts, white bayonet scabbards, white leggings, white helmet liners, rifles with white slings.

6. Assembly Area and Formations:

a. The battalion will be formed in column by 0935 in front of Warehouse 13.

b. Formation on the parade ground will be Battalion on line with Companies in mass.

7. Rehearsal Plan:

a. Rehearsal for key personnel will be announced.

b. Rehearsal for all hands will be conducted at 0900 on 30 June and on 1 July 1966.

8. Administrative Instructions: Company Commanders will ensure that color guard and all guidons are properly instructed in their duties prior to the rehearsal.

9. Cancellation: This Notice is cancelled on 3 July 1966.


J. B. GROFF
Chief Staff Officer

Distribution:
ALL 20TH NCR OFFICERS
ALL MCB-62 OFFICERS

MCB 62 . . .

Recommissioning Set At Navy Base

The recommissioning ceremony of Mobile Construction Battalion 62, U. S. Navy, inactive for over 20 years, will take place Saturday morning at the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport where it will be home ported.

MCB 62, the first of two Seabee battalions to be commissioned for training at the Gulfport center, will be commanded by Cmdr. William J. Richeson, CEC, USN.

MCB 133 is to be commissioned at the center in September.

Both battalions will be trained at the center, then will be home ported in Gulfport for deployment to overseas posts, including Viet Nam, on seven to eight-month schedules.

The commissioning ceremony takes place at 10 a.m. with Rear Adm. Henry A. Renken, commander of Service Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, from Norfolk, Va., as commissioning officer.

He will present the battalion colors to Commander Richeson, who in turn will have the colors posted by his battalion adjutant,

marking the official recommissioning.

A unit citation held by the former MCB 62, decommissioned on Sept. 15, 1945, will be presented to Commander Richeson by Rear Adm. Alexander C. Husband, chief of Naval Civil Engineers and commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command. The citation was presented as a result of outstanding duty in World War II.

Master of ceremonies will be Cmdr. Norman L. Martinson, commanding officer of the center and of the 20th Naval Construction Regiment.

Capt. Spencer R. Smith, commander of Naval Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, from Davisville, R.I., will be among Naval personnel giving remarks at the ceremony. Music will be provided by the band from the U.S. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

Honored guests will include Lt. Cmdr. Rudolph Y. Taggart, USN retired, of Elkton, Md., and Lt. Cmdr. Stewart J. Schuler, USN retired, of Rome, N.Y., the first and third com-

(Continued On Page Two)

—The Biloxi-Gulfport Daily Herald
Thursday Afternoon, June 30, 1965

Recommissioning

(Continued From Page 2B)

manding officers of the original MCB 62.

Other guests expected include Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), Rep. William M. Colmer (D-Miss.), Gov. Paul B. Johnson and other local dignitaries.

Commander Richeson, the new commanding officer, is a native of Atlanta, Ga., and comes to Gulfport from Seattle, Wash., where he served as assistant for facilities management, Facilities Engineering Command, Northwest Division.

He attended Georgetown University at Washington, D.C., for two years as a pre-medical student prior to his enlistment as a Naval aviation cadet on Dec. 8, 1942. He was commissioned as a Naval aviator at Pensacola on May 2, 1944.

He served with the 95th Bombing Squadron until his separation from the Navy on Dec. 8, 1945. Commander Richeson later graduated from the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., in 1949 with a bachelor of architectural engineering degree.

After working as an architect in Baltimore, Md., he was recalled to active duty in No-

vember 1950 and has served at various billets in the United States and overseas since that time.

The son of Col. and Mrs. M. G. Richeson, U.S. Army retired, of Deland, Fla., he is married to the former Miss Rosemary Anne Kelso of Linthicum Heights, Md. They have seven children.

Following the commissioning ceremony, a reception will be given for guests by the recommissioned battalion.

Seabee Unit Reactivated In Gulfport

The Clarion-Ledger
Jackson, Mississippi
Monday, June 27, 1966

GULFPORT — Mobile Construction Battalion 62, one of the Seabee units that rose to Naval fame during World War II, was recommissioned Saturday at the Seabee Center here.

The recommissioning of this fighter-builder unit is to be part of a large-scale build-up in the Navy's construction forces. MCBs 49 and 58 were commissioned earlier this year at the Davisville, Rhode Island, Seabee base. September 15 has been set as the approximate date for the recommissioning of MCB-133 — an event also scheduled for CBC Gulfport.

HOME PORT

Gulfport is the home port for both MCB-62 and MCB-133.

Rear Admiral H. A. Renken, Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk, Virginia, will serve as the commissioning officer for MCB-62. Admiral Renken commissioned the 20th Naval Construction Regiment in ceremonies at Gulfport on April 11. MCB-62 is to be one of the 20th NCR's battalions.

Rear Admiral A. C. Husband, Commander Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Chief of Naval Civil Engineers, Washington, D. C., will present the Navy Unit Citation to the newly recommissioned unit.

Among the dozens of other dignitaries invited to the recommissioning of Mobile Construction Battalion 62 were U. S. Senators John C. Stennis and James O. Eastland, both of Mississippi; U. S. Representative William M. Colmer; Mississippi Governor Paul B. Johnson; and Gulfport Mayor R. B. Meadows, Jr.

LONG INACTIVE

The Pensacola Naval Air Station band, under the direction of Chief Warrant Officer E. L. Eisold, provided the music for the ceremony.

The Seabee Center at Gulfport, an installation that has been generally inactive since Korean War days, were given an increased mission in mid-February of this year. Since that time more than 1100 officers and enlisted personnel have been assigned to the base. A further build-up — to approximately 1600 military personnel — is expected by September.

Naval officials have described as "substantial" the economic effect this build-up will have on Gulfport and neighboring cities. The Seabee base will put an estimated \$7½ million annually into the economies of these cities, according to Commander Norman L. Marham, Commanding Officer of the base.

ROBINSON IS CO

Commander William J. Robinson will serve as Commanding Officer of Mobile Construction Battalion 62. Col. Robinson, who entered the Navy as a lieutenant in 1941, has graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, California, and served in the Pacific during World War II.

Other officers on the staff at the base are Lieutenant Commander J. B. Williams, Executive Officer; Lieutenant Carl E. Christensen, Operations Officer; Lieutenant (Junior grade) John M. O'Reilly, Administrative and Personnel Officer; Captain Cecil G. Sellyas, Planning and Training Officer; Lieutenant Commander George V. Grean, Jr., Supply and Logistics Officer; Lieutenant Thomas E. Hale, "A" Company Commander; Warrant Officer Lawrence J. Allama, Assistant "A" Company Commander; Lieutenant William L. Wood, "B" Company Commander; Lieutenant (Junior grade) Thomas M. Kelly, Assistant "B" Company Commander; Lieutenant Robert H. Shagorford, "C" Company Commander; Lieutenant (Junior grade) Alexander L. Carter, Assistant "C" Company Commander; and Lieutenant (Junior grade) Arthur M. Barden, Assistant "D" Company Commander.

Six other officers are due to report to the base within the next month.

The original Navy Construction Battalion 62, which was commissioned into 1942, earned its first honors in work done in Hawaii. While there, the members of NCB-62 built roads and servicing facilities for the Pearl Harbor submarine base, completed a dike at Lohia Bay and set up landing craft facilities at Waipio Point.

Following 3½ months of amphibious, marine, jungle and weapons training, the Battalion left Saipan for Iwo Jima in mid-February of 1945.

NCB-62's task at Iwo Jima was the rebuilding of three bombed-out Japanese airfields. Snipers' bullets, bazooka attacks and mortar fire made the job a tedious and a dangerous one, but work went on day and night.

The battalion's efforts netted American flying boots for the longest straggle — 522 feet — in the western Pacific.

Seabee Battalion Revived Following 20-Year Rest

Colors Presented in Gulfport Rites

GULFPORT, Miss. (AP)—With the presentation of the battalion colors, the 62nd Mobile Construction Battalion was re-commissioned Saturday morning at the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center here.

Rear Adm. Henry A. Renken, commander of service forces, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, from Norfolk, Va., presented the colors. The colors had been in storage for over 20 years since the original MCB 62 was decommissioned on Sept. 15, 1945. They were presented to Cmdr. William J. Richeson, the new battalion commander.

Rear Adm. Alexander C. Husband, chief of Naval Civil Engineers and commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, attached the Naval unit commendation ribbon to the colors. The commendation was held by the original MCB 62 for outstanding accomplishments in the face of combat on Iwo Jima during World War II.

The battalion, one of two regular Seabee battalions to be re-commissioned for assignment

as part of the 20th Naval Construction Regiment, will be trained and home-ported here for overseas duty, including support activity in Viet Nam.

MCB is expected to be re-commissioned here Sept. 15. In addition, the recently reactivated center will be responsible for training of 18 reserve Seabee battalions.

Naval commendation medals were also presented by Capt. Spencer R. Smith, commander of Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, to Lt. William M. Gibson, center chaplain, and to CPO John C. Meredith, training officer assigned to the 20th Regiment. Both men received the commendations for service in Viet Nam.

Admiral Renken, prior to presenting the battalion colors to Commander Richeson, told the officers and men of MCB 62, "as members of MCB 62, yours is a proud heritage."

Admiral Husband, in his remarks, acknowledged the community support shown by the city of Gulfport. Mayor R. B. Meadows Jr. of Gulfport responded by saying, "Gulfport is always has been and always will be proud of its Seabees."



—AP WIREPHOTO.
CMDR. WILLIAM J. RICHESON (left), Atlanta, Ga., commanding officer of Mobile Construction Battalion 62, hands the battalion flag to Lt. Carl E. Christenson, Pontiac, Mich., battle adjutant, during recommissioning ceremonies at U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Miss., Saturday.

Seabees . . .

Battalion 62 Is Recommissioned

By RICHARD GLACIER
(Daily Herald Staff Writer)

To the accompaniment of military marching music and flashing swords, Mobile Construction Battalion 62 was recommissioned Saturday in Gulfport after 20 years of inactivity.

The battalion colors were presented to Cmdr. William J. Richeson, new battalion commander, by Rear Adm. Henry A. Renken, commander of service forces, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk, Va., at the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center.

The battalion, one of two scheduled to be recommissioned here, will be home-ported in Gulfport and trained for assignment to overseas duty stations, including support activity in

Viet Nam. MCB 133 is scheduled for recommissioning on Sept. 15.

"As members of MCB 62, yours is a proud heritage," Admiral Renken said prior to presenting the battalion colors. The presentation of colors marked the official recommissioning of the battalion, noted for its outstanding duty during World War II in the Pacific.

The colorful ceremony took place under a mid-morning sun before the eyes of Navy and local dignitaries and those of guests of the new battalion and the 20th Naval Construction Regiment, recommissioned at the center earlier this year.

The hot sun, responsible for over a dozen enlisted men leaving formation during the ceremony, however, did not prevent the occasion from taking on all the pomp of Naval dignity.



Passing Colors . . .

Rear Adm. Henry A. Renken from Norfolk, Va., left, officially recommissioned Mobile Construction Battalion 62 Saturday as he passed the battalion's colors to Cmdr. William J. Richeson, the unit's new commanding officer. The ceremony took place at the U. S. Navy Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport.
(Daily Herald Staff Photo)

GET RIBBON

Rear Adm. Alexander C. Husband, commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and Chief of Naval Engineers, Washington, D. C., was present to attach a Naval Unit Commendation Ribbon to the battalion colors. This honor was held by the original battalion for the outstanding achievements by its officers and men in rebuilding airfields on Iwo Jima in the face of enemy fire and harassment during the famous assault and capture of this island.

In his remarks, Admiral Husband acknowledged the community support shown by the city of Gulfport and assured the families and friends of the battalion's personnel that every effort was being made to insure their comfort and safety now and during their later assignments.

Capt. Spencer R. Smith, commander of construction battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Davisville, R. I., also presented two Naval Commendation Medals to personnel at the center.

Lt. William M. Gibson, chaplain for the Seabee

Battalion

(Continued From Page One)

Center, was recognized for providing religious encouragement and services for over 32,000 personnel in Viet Nam, including men of all faiths.

CPO John C. Meredith, assigned as a training officer with the 20th Regiment, was honored for "meritorious achievement while serving as construction superintendent for the Headquarters Support Activity, Saigon."

The intensified program at the Seabee Center in Gulfport, stepped up earlier this year, and the recommissioning of MCB 62 and MCB 133 as well as several other battalions, is designed to meet the construction commitments of Seabees in Southeast Asia.

The battalions home-ported here will undergo Seabee training at the center and will receive their military training at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Both MCB 62 and MCB 133 are part of the 20th Regiment, commanded by Cmdr. Norman L. Martinson who is also commanding officer of the center. Maj. Richard D. Buttolph, inspector-instructor of the 2nd Amphibian Tractor Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Gulfport, is responsible for local military training for the Seabees.

RESERVES

In addition to the two regular Seabee battalions home-ported here, the center will be responsible for the active duty training each year of 18 reserve Seabee battalions.

Mayor R. B. Meadows Jr. of Gulfport was on hand to respond to the credits given the city by saying, "Gulfport is, always has been and always will be proud of its Seabees."

Joining with the mayor in honoring the new battalion were Sens. James O. Eastland and John C. Stennis and Rep. William M. Colmer, all Mississippi Democrats, and Gov. Paul B. Johnson, all of whom sent

congratulatory telegrams.

Master of ceremonies was Commander Martinson, who added his congratulations to the newly recommissioned unit. Invocation was pronounced by Lieutenant Gibson and the benediction by Lt. C. W. Erickson, chaplain for MCB 62.

Music, including the National Anthem and the Navy Hymn, was provided by the Pensacola Naval Air Station Band under the direction of CWO F. L. Emond.

CAPTIONS FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Commander Norman L. Martinson, Commanding Officer CBC Gulfport, Miss./ Commander 20th Naval Construction Regiment welcomes Rear Admiral Henry A. Renken, Commander Service Force Atlantic Fleet, to Gulfport for commissioning of MCB-62.
2. Color guard carrying National Flag and battalion flag come to present-arms while national anthem is played during commissioning ceremony for MCB-62.
3. Men of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SIXTY-TWO execute marching maneuvers on parade field at Gulfport in preparation for commissioning of MCB-62 on July 2, 1966.
4. CDR Martinson introduces distinguished civilian and military officials attending commissioning ceremony for MCB-62.
5. RAdm Renken, commissioning officer for the new battalion, delivers his remarks during commissioning ceremony.
6. Commander William J. Richeson, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer MCB-62, delivers his remarks after accepting command of the new battalion.
7. Rear Admiral Alexander C. Husband, CEC, USN, Commander Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Chief of Navy Civil Engineers delivers his remarks at commissioning ceremony for MCB-62 after presenting the Navy Unit Citation held by the first 62nd Naval Construction Battalion to the new battalion.
8. Captain Spencer R. Smith, CEC, USN, Commander Naval Construction Battalions Atlantic Fleet, delivers his remarks to assembled guests and men and officers of new Atlantic Seabee Battalion which will be under his control.
9. CAPT Smith pins the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" on Lieutenant William M. Gibson (CHC) USN, Chaplain for the Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi, in recognition of his religious services to more than 32,000 military men in Vietnam, including men from many different faiths.