

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 Returns to Indo-Pacific



[From Petty Officer 2nd Class Alexa Trafton, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11](#)

OKINAWA, Japan – Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 completed Relief-in-Place / Transfer-of-Authority (RIPTOA) with NMCB-4, returning to the U.S. Indo-Pacific area of responsibility (INDOPACOM) for the first time in more than a decade. This deployment marks a significant milestone for the East Coast-based Seabee battalion and reinforcing U.S. Navy expeditionary construction capabilities in the region.

The battalion's presence at Camp Shields represents both a strategic operational posture and a symbolic return to a place

deeply rooted in NMCB-11's heritage. Camp Shields is named for Marvin G. Shields, the battalion's namesake and the only Seabee to be awarded the Medal of Honor, whose legacy continues to define the spirit and mission of "Lucky Eleven."

"Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11's return to the U.S. Indo-Pacific area of responsibility, and especially to Camp Shields, represents both a strategic posture and a symbolic homecoming," said the battalion's commanding officer, Capt. James Angerman. "Not only for an East Coast battalion, but for NMCB-11 specifically."

From its base in Okinawa, NMCB-11 will operate across multiple detachment sites throughout INDOPACOM, providing expeditionary construction, general engineering and force-protection capabilities in direct support of U.S. Navy, joint and coalition forces. The deployment positions the battalion to rapidly respond to operational requirements while enhancing readiness across the theater.

"Camp Shields, named after Marvin G. Shields, nods to an important piece of history for NMCB-11, and serving from this location reinforces the legacy of Seabee excellence that defines Lucky Eleven," said Angerman. "From Okinawa and our detachment sites around INDOPACOM, we are positioned to rapidly project expeditionary construction, general engineering and force-protection capabilities in direct support of the fleet and joint forces."

The return of NMCB-11 to the Indo-Pacific comes at a critical time for regional security and cooperation. The battalion's mission emphasizes interoperability with Allies and partners while supporting contingency operations, exercises and infrastructure development throughout the area of responsibility.

The presence of the battalion in INDOPACOM underscores the enduring role of Seabees in delivering combat-ready

engineering solutions and sustaining the Navy's forward-deployed forces, while honoring a legacy forged in the same region decades ago.

NMCB-11 is forward deployed under Commander, Task Force 75, which executes command and control of assigned Naval Expeditionary Combat Forces across the 7th Fleet area of operations to defend U.S. allied and partner interest.