

# Tudor Engineering Company

NOVEMBER 1, 1962

## NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 1

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY FOR TUDOR  
ENGINEERING COMPANY PERSONNEL

### A MESSAGE FROM RALPH TUDOR:

This is the first issue of a company news letter which we hope will serve to keep the employees-- and their families--up to date as to what is going on. It is not intended to be a company organ for advertising purposes and will not be distributed outside of our own personnel.

The intent is to cover such matters as new jobs, interesting events on current jobs, jobs completed, new employees, new assignments and promotions, travels of employees and their families, personal news items, and similar matters. Louis Riggs and Bert LaVigne will be responsible for publication and anyone who has news that should be included is automatically a reporter--this includes wives.

I am sure it will fill a need to keep all of us informed of what is going on in the company and which has been lacking since we have spread so far.

### NEW JOBS AND JOBS COMPLETED:

Following up on the study and report on Increasing The Water Supply at the Panama Canal, a contract has been negotiated with the Panama Canal Company covering studies for the fill structure across the Trinidad Arm of Gatun Lake. Art Reitter recently returned from a trip to Panama where he coordinated the foundation exploration work of subcontractors Shannon & Wilson. The scope of work includes investigations of foundation conditions of a proposed fill structure, preparation of a comprehensive engineering report, and the preparation of final design drawings, cost estimates, and contract documents for the dam.

Carl Otto's port facility study in Chimbote, Peru has led to additional work in Peru in the form of an engineering and economic feasibility study of a fish meal processing plant and pier facilities.

During the last three months, i. e., FY 1963, the Washington, D. C. staff worked in 34 countries, the major portion of the work being in the central section of Africa and Senegal to Tanganyika. In addition, 44 technical reports on subjects ranging from straight pins to atomic energy, including chewing gum, were returned.

### INTERESTING EVENTS ON CURRENT JOBS:

**WASHINGTON CHIEF JOHN MARR REPORTS:** We had 13 consultants on trips to Africa, South America and the Near East. Most of our projects were in the public works fields of roads, highways, water supply, sewage, with some in telecommunications, power plants, railroads and

### POET'S CORNER

by Bob Repp

With this issue, you have the first in line of occasional bits of news and such. Your thoughts are spread under the Tudor sign and they can be great or small or just not much. And if you will but write and tell us when you have done something worthy of some note You will tell your friends in the Tudor den from Thailand, Yemen to Portuguese cote.

(Washington continued)

industrial activities.

Noticeable among the consultants was the fact that we sent Bill Reinhard to Yemen. He left to attend the funeral of the Imman and arrived in the midst of a revolution. He suffered the indignities of "house arrest" and restricted travel movement. He was "lost" as far as the Washington office was concerned for awhile, but found a way to escape and returned home safely.

Ralph Wadsworth managed to spend three or four weeks in Tanganyika on water supply and highway projects, after which he promptly returned to California on annual leave.

The only trip that was of importance included one to Nantucket by two staff members. These were two separate trips, ostensibly for the purpose of catching fish. With the wind, rain and fog, it was found that the fish were temporarily blinded, with the net result that the fish secured averaged well over \$100 per pound. It was impossible to figure the cost of the fish for one member because he had to divide by zero.

In accord with current practices, the office had its Christmas party on July 2 with Les Helgesson present to pick up the tab. Syd Harwood was lucky since he arrived the day of the party and was included along with several of the consultants who were in town at that time.

All of the Washington staff wishes all of the California and international staff all of the best.

We have officially designated Syd Harwood as the Washington "correspondent" (no typographical error).

### ORAL CONYERS REPORTS FROM LISBON ON THE TAGUS RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT:

The six-month mobilization period allowed for the project is nearly over, resulting in many visible

(Lisbon continued)

changes to the work areas. Construction offices, shops and warehouses have been completed and the testing laboratory is nearly ready for use. All major pieces of equipment have arrived, have been assembled and are working. The two construction docks on the north bank are ready for use and the piling is being driven for the one on the south bank. The north side batch plant is partially assembled.

The Pier 4 caisson assembly area has been prepared and one corner of the cutting edge was assembled on October 5. Tests will soon be under way to determine the feasibility of launching the caissons with TEFLON, a new fluorocarbon plastic, between the launching shoes and the launching rails.

Three survey crews are presently establishing vertical and horizontal control for the Main Bridge, Viaduct and North and South Approaches.

The approach subcontractors are mobilizing equipment and building work yards with intentions of starting construction during November.

In summary, the construction phase is now beginning.

At the present time, three Americans are working for Tudor Engineering Company on this project: Oral I. Conyers, Project Engineer; Robert A. Wilkinson, Quality Control Engineer; and Dewey S. Harwood, Engineer in Charge of Surveys. In addition, there are 25 Portuguese employees composed of engineers, computers, surveyors and office personnel. Additional Portuguese will be employed as the inspection program increases in scope.

Oral has been in Portugal since June, 1960. To quote John Armitage, Morrison-Knudsen Project Manager, "Conyers was here waving goodbye to Vasco de Gama."

Bud Harwood arrived in late July and Bob Wilkinson arrived in mid-September of this year to assume their respective duties.

Oral reports that the Lisbon monsoons have begun. Cascades of mud and drowned rats poured from the streets and sewers of Lisbon which were deposited at the bridge site. There is a distinct possibility that by Spring, access to the south bank may well be via an "earth-ratfill" dam.

#### FRED MADIGAN REPORTS:

The Bangkok office was so busy working and making delivery on two projects that only the wives could take time to attend the Royal Barge Parade to Wat Arun, Temple of the Dawn.

Andy Lamore is Chief of the Civil and Structural Sections and Bob Thomas is Chief of the Specifications Section. Andy is also project engineer for the design of Naval Facilities at Cam Ranh and Saigon, Vietnam. Bob is project engineer for the Da Nang Naval Facility Feasibility Study.

#### MORE . . . RAINER RUNGALDIER REPORTS:

He recently returned from Bangkok after working there for about seven weeks on the structural design of

(Bangkok continued)

various projects.

The amount of work load in the Bangkok office of TECPAE is determined by the submission procedures of OICC/SEA which bring about alternately close deadlines and stop orders. Particularly affected in this manner was the Saigon Medical Training Center, the biggest job in the office at the time. Other work in progress consists of design and/or site adaptation of communications facilities and water front developments. The majority of job sites is in Vietnam, the remainder in Thailand. TECPAE still maintains a reduced office staff in Saigon and field teams for survey and soil testing.

Personnel in the Bangkok office varies in number: There are between 5 and 15 American engineers and architects; 20 to 30 Japanese, Philippine, Chinese, Indian and Thai engineers, architects, draftsmen and various office workers. The normal working hours are 7:30 to 4:30 with one hour for lunch, Monday through Friday, and 7:30 to 12:00 on Saturday.

#### TOM MACKENZIE REPORTS:

Work on the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway involves heavy construction in some of the most rugged and inaccessible terrain where such work has been attempted. Scaling cliffs and hanging from ropes becomes commonplace for all of us on the job and all transport to work areas above the first cable support tower is by helicopters which land on 20-foot square wooden platforms. The contractor had to expend most of his effort during the first several months providing access to several work sites and in construction of working platforms and a temporary ("Joe Magee") work tram to haul heavy freight up to the mountain. This has been completed and almost all work is toward erection of the two terminal stations and the tramway itself. The first of four 58.5 ton reels of 2.5 miles each of 1-7/8 inch track cable has arrived at Palm Springs and special items produced in Switzerland are being received.

The main effort now is to get as much done as possible at the higher elevations before the winter weather becomes more inhibiting. There have been two snow storms above the 5,000 foot elevation, one of more than 6 inches of the white stuff. This most interesting job in a unique community of 15,000 permanent residents, which bulges with more than 100,000 people during the peak of the "winter season," is a most pleasant experience. We have especially enjoyed our many visitors which we must "schedule" at times to be able to entertain them properly. The temperatures, ranging from frosty nights to more than 120° in the shade, have not really bothered us and we have become very fond of the almost rainless climate. The field crew includes: T. T. Mackenzie, Resident Engineer; Hans Pokorny, Assistant; Frank Paul, Chief Inspector; and Alex Singer, Inspector. Four employers share our secretary, Dorothy Dorfman.



The photograph above sets the mood for what we all hope will be a festive and happy Holiday Season for all of us. It is true that few of us will see much snow this Christmas, but among those who will are the staff in Palm Springs, of all places. This photograph lets us view Palm Springs much as the passengers of the aerial tramway will next season along the slopes of Mt. San Jacinto.

ON THE HOME FRONT, bids for the first portion of Bear Creek Road in Contra Costa County were opened on September 11. The engineer's estimate was smack in the middle of seven bidders, about 10% higher than the low bidder. Unfortunately no pool was conducted on low bidder's estimate, somebody with a lot of faith in our engineers could have won it. The low bid is \$987,157.

The design of the second portion is in progress. Submittal of final tracings will presumably take place in December.

Much local interest is focused on regional rapid transit for San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. An overwhelming number of responsible civic groups, citizens, political bodies and newspapers have voiced and demonstrated their support of Proposition "A" on the November 6 ballot. Your editorial staff is too close to the project to guess the outcome. A 60% favorable vote will hold promise for much interesting engineering work on this project.

We believe our joint venture engineering team (Parsons Brinckerhoff-Tudor-Bechtel) is the most logical choice to carry on the detailed design of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District system.

Francine Mulron designed this to launch Technical Computing Center:



## technical computing center

The contest for a new name for Paul Potter's electronic toy "Computec" produced some original and fanciful monikers demonstrating the imagination and resourcefulness of the Tudor Engineering Company staff.

The contest committee was torn between a catchy composite name and a prosaic but descriptive title. Finally upon the advice of our attorney, we adopted the signature "Technical Computing Center" which seems to be acceptable to everyone and is now registered with the State of California.

There were no entries which exactly matched the adopted name but the entry "Technical Electronic Computer Center" submitted by Bob Edwards has been adjudged the nearest and he will be awarded the prize of a dinner for two at the Sheraton Palace Tudor Room.

Thanks to all for your interest in the contest and congratulations to Bob Edwards!

### NEW EMPLOYEES

The following employees have been welcomed to the staff of Tudor Engineering Company during the past year:

Additions to the San Francisco office have been Bob Repp, Keith Bull, Don Bruzzone, Dixie Tomlin, Dan Yavorsky and George Harvester. Bob was associated with Coverdale & Colpitts in New York as a staff engineer in the field of economic feasibility studies prior to joining this company last November. Keith was previously associated with Pregnoff and Matheu of San Francisco and Don with District 4, Division of Highways. Dixie was employed by B. M. Dornblatt and Associates in New Orleans and joined our staff when her husband was transferred to the San Francisco office of Parsons Brinckerhoff. Dan Yavorsky, formerly of New York, worked with Earl and Wright prior to his joining this firm and George Harvester was formerly a draftsman with J. H. Pomeroy Company.

Oak Hom has been on the TCC staff since our joint venture was established with International Engineering Company, and became an employee of Tudor Engineering Company early this year. Frank Paul and Al Singer joined the company and are working with Tom Mackenzie as inspectors on the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway.

Sydney Harwood has been a member of the Washington office staff since June, when he received his Master of Science degree from Stanford University.

Jack Hess joined the staff in our Bangkok joint venture office in July. Jack was formerly

(New employees continued)

associated with Wilson Associates with whom we have joint ventured on a number of projects in the Hawaiian Islands.

Dewey (Bud) Harwood has been working with Oral Conyers and Bob Wilkinson as chief surveyor on the Tagus River Bridge since July.

**NEW ASSIGNMENTS**

In addition to recent personnel assignments covered in reports from branch offices, the following items are noteworthy:

Bela Vadasz has carried on the detail engineering direction for all phases of the design activities on the Bear Creek Road projects since Bob Wilkinson was assigned to Lisbon.

Dan Yavorsky has been assigned the responsibility of coordinating all of the Chimbote, Peru port study work in the San Francisco office for Carl Otto who is directing the projects from Peru.

Keith Bull is the engineer coordinating all work in connection with the North Approach highway and structures for the Tagus River Bridge.

Sam Seifert has about finalized all of the designs he has been directing on the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. Carrying out his responsibilities often requires substantial efforts to keep abreast of the contractor's new ideas.

Ray O'Neil is in charge of engineering on SFBART and is waiting breathlessly for November 6.

Bob Janopaul is coordinating design changes and Vic Subbotin is inspecting the construction of a 180 unit mobile home park at Milpitas, California.

Hans Pokorny will be returning to the office from the San Jacinto job in Palm Springs about the middle of November. Our grapevine tells us he will be glad to get back with his wife and son who remained in Berkeley during his absence.

Bill Reinhard will be back in the office soon and several possible jobs are waiting for him. The Calaveras County project always seems to have some activity.

**PERSONAL NEWS ITEMS AND TRAVELS**

The travels of Wilkinson and Harwood are primarily confined to numerous trips to the Custom Office where they are allowed to gaze at their worldly possessions sitting on the Lisbon Docks absorbing moisture. The Conyers make frequent travels around an open field near Estoril looking for little white balls usually embedded in sand.

Rainer Rungaldier left Bangkok by MATS DC-6 on September 10. He met his wife in Honolulu and they enjoyed three weeks of Hawaiian vacation with

(Personal news items and travels continued)

surfing, relaxing and nightspotting. For the trip back to California, MATS finally came through with a jet liner.

Gloria Otto and five children are on their way to join Carl in Peru. Their travels will be highlighted by visits to Disneyland, Marineland, Mexico City and Panama. Carl has found a house to rent in Lima which will be available for a couple of months. This should give the busy Ottos a chance to catch their breaths before the next exciting adventure.

The Conyers are pretty well established in Portugal, the family having been there two years this month. Oral is manager of the Lisbon Ravens, a so-called softball team, and is Corresponding Secretary of the American Men's Lunch Group. Julia is Secretary of the Lisbon Women's Club. Their older daughter, Tamea, attended the University of Madrid last year and is now attending a new Liberal Arts school in Paris, the American College in Paris.

Bob, Jeannine and Amanda arrived in Portugal on September 20 after a short in-route visit with Bob's family in Indiana. They have rented a home in Cascias but are living in a small hotel in Carcavelos until their furniture arrives.

The latest word from Bangkok stated that Baki Thomas was busy rehearsing to model in THE annual style show of Bangkok which is a benefit for the Girl's Guild at Chulalong Kom University, and attended by the King and Queen.

The rainy season in Bangkok is about to end and so will the occasional leaks in the office roof. Jack Hess' table has been the focus of many of the catastrophic leaks. Some mornings he has come to work to find the drawers full of water. The landlord and his contractor have a real "manana" attitude about repairs which has everyone betting and guessing where the next leak will appear.

Big social event -- the Queen's Charity Ball for Blind Children. TECPAE engineers and their wives will wear black tie and formals having bought tickets from OICC wives. November 9 is the date. Rumor has it that champagne may be served.

Barbara Mackenzie says: "Assignment in Palm Springs cannot be classified as a "hardship." Kelly, our dog, and I are enjoying it here and Tom and I feel very much a part of the community. We even enjoyed the summer. In September, we became the "foster parents" of a lovely 17-year old girl, Gita Sanker, from Kerala State, India. She is attending the new College of The Desert and getting many "A's." The people here have more than repaid us in friendship and reciprocity for any contribution we make through participation in community activities. We do seem to get involved!"

Carl and Gloria Otto were the hit of the annual picnic at the Tudor home in Atherton. They each danced the hula and added a delightful note of Hawaiiana.

## ILLNESSES

We are happy to report that Erwin Rungaldier's wife is home after a brief stay in the hospital, and we wish her well.

Tommy Lamore spent a week in the hospital with typhoid fever. Fortunately his case was mild because of the typhoid shots he had before going to Bangkok.

We are all pleased to know that Charlotte Repp is doing well following major surgery at the Palo Alto-Stanford Hospital. Bob, Neil and Debbie are doing pretty well at home too -- kind of because before Charlotte went into the hospital, the Christmas shopping was done and the orders cut to keep the household functioning for the "duration" (about ten days) of Charlotte's hospital stay. Best wishes for a speedy recovery!

Fred Madigan is suffering from a skin fungus infection and not being one to do something half way, he has performed with distinction. The doctor in Bangkok has been quoted as saying, "The worst case of its kind I've ever seen!" We hope you are winning the battle, Fred!

Eva Madigan invites you girls to write in for her reducing technique, "How I lost 20 pounds without even trying (or even wanting to)."

## H E L P!

Maxine Calnon has suggested that we all bleed a little for a good cause. . . . establish an account for TEC employees. Take out some of the rush rush in an emergency and also relieve the patient of that additional expense (\$25 to \$50).

Supplementary information will be distributed to employees in the U.S.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Of Tudor Engineering Company's 80 employees and officers, 34 are in the main office, 4 are in the Technical Computing Center office, 9 in the Washington office, 4 in the Palm Springs office, 4 in Bangkok, 1 in Peru, and 24 in Lisbon. The staff in Lisbon is made up of 3 engineers from the San Francisco office and 21 local personnel.

We invite you all to send in news items by mid-January to be ready for the next issue which will be published February 1, 1963. Please send us any news concerning former employees.

Louis and Bert say thanks to all those who contributed to this issue:

Maxine Calnon  
Oral Conyers  
Stan Froid  
Dewey Harwood  
Syd Harwood  
Les Helgesson  
Tom & Barbara Mackenzie  
Fred & Eva Madigan  
John Marr  
Ruth Mattox  
Paul Potter  
Art Reitter  
Bob Repp  
Rainer Rungaldier  
Alyce Storey  
Ralph Tudor  
Bob Wilkinson  
Bela Vadasz

As we go to press, we are pleased to add the following:

### Messina Strait Bridge

Ralph Tudor spent three weeks of fine October weather in Rome and returned home with an agreement for a nice bit of engineering work on the proposed bridge between the Toe of Italy and Sicily at Messina Strait. This agreement is with an Italian group known as SASSIM. This group is seeking a concession to build the bridge from the Italian government and it appears that it has a better than even chance of success. In that event, Tudor Engineering Company will make a feasibility study of the project and, when financing is arranged, will design and supervise construction of all the foundations. This is a tremendous project and several of the piers will be in water around 300 feet deep -- the deepest in the world!

Many good wishes for Christmas and the New Year