

Naval War College Museum Announces New Exhibit on Operation DEEP FREEZE

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The exhibit runs from 4 January to 20 May 2016

NEWPORT, RI—The Naval War College Museum is commemorating the 60th anniversary of Operation DEEP FREEZE I with an exhibit on the Navy’s efforts to support the U.S. scientific program in Antarctica—the least explored and coldest continent on earth. Opening on 4 January, 2016, *DEEP FREEZE! The Seabees in Antarctica, 1955-1956* occupies the museum’s temporary exhibit gallery on the second floor.

The exhibit features twenty-eight paintings, illustrations, and sketches on loan from the Navy Art Collection. These artworks document the role of the Seabees of the U.S. Navy Mobile Construction Battalion (Special) Detachment One. Based in Davisville, Rhode Island, the Seabees, used equipment designed for extreme cold weather to construct permanent buildings, fuel tank farms, and airfields that could survive the harsh climate. The exhibit features the work of two artists assigned to the operation: Commander Standish Backus, USNR, and Rhode Island-based artist Robert Charles Haun. “Their work,” said John Pentangelo, Managing Director of the Naval War College Museum, “reveals the harsh weather, desolation, innovation, and dramatic scale of the Navy’s operation on the frozen continent.” The exhibit also displays artifacts, equipment, memorabilia, and clothing from nearly forty years of Antarctic missions loaned by the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington, D.C. and the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum in Port Hueneme, California. The exhibit closes on 20 May, 2016.

You can follow what’s new at the [Naval War College Museum just LIKE them on Facebook](#) and following their blog – [Soundings in Narragansett Bay’s Naval History](#). One of nine official [Department of the Navy Museums](#), the Naval War College Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits artifacts and documents dating from the 1500s to the present day to interpret the naval history of Narragansett Bay, the Naval War College, and the history of naval strategy. Located in the historic Founders Hall built in 1820, the museum is open to the public although advance reservations are required. For more information, visit www.usnwc.edu/museum or call 401-841-4052.