

# World Trade Center work crew harkens back to iconic Depression-era photo

By CHUCK BENNETT

*Last Updated:* 8:43 AM, July 26, 2012

*Posted:* 12:55 AM, July 26, 2012

One thing hasn't changed in 80 years — it still takes nerves of steel to erect a skyscraper.

A breathtaking photo of a 1 World Trade Center inspection crew toiling on the boom of a crane 93 stories above the ground brought back memories of a gang of hard hats from another era.

Those workers were photographed in 1932 having lunch on a 69th-floor beam of the under-construction RCA Building (now the GE Building) in Rockefeller Center.

The fearless crew at the WTC, photographed last week as they worked 1,200 feet above the ground, are employees of CAN USA who were inspecting a crane for possible lightning damage.



AP

**HOW'S IT HANGIN'?** Crane inspector Tim Barry (top right) and colleagues at 1 World Trade Center look for lightning damage 93 stories — and about 1,200 feet — above the ground.

“It’s like every other day. This is what we do,” said Tim Barry, one of the inspectors in the photo. “You just get used to it and go on with your work, and your mind doesn’t even register the danger at that point.”



REUTERS

**NERVES OF STEEL:** This famous photo from 1932 shows a group of fearless ironworkers enjoying a break while building what's now the GE Building in Rockefeller Center.

And these guys will even take a break for a sky-high snack.

“A lot of time, you don’t want to go up and down,” Barry said. “You’ll stay up until the work is done.”

Barry said the current job is 600 feet short of his personal record. He also inspected the antenna on the top of the 1,800-foot CN Tower in Toronto.