

1.
----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Roman Hnatowski <mcb62vietnamvet@gmail.com>

To: Norman Hahn Jr. <normhahnjr@yahoo.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2019, 09:30:33 AM CDT

Subject: Recent NMCB62 Facebook Post

Norm,

Yesterday I had posted the following on our NMCB62 Facebook site:

Spoke with a number of Brothers Bees whose claims for Camp Lejeune Water Contamination had been rejected or delayed because they could not document their 30+ day battalion military training. Appears that not all, and in some cases any, of the training was annotated in their service records nor were individual orders issued. It also appears that research is needed at Gulfport and/or wherever battalion archives are held for any Seabee unit that trained at Lejeune during the 1960s and 70s.

Who will be the hero that solves this documentation dilemma? Will it be the Construction Battalion Center personnel in Gulfport, the Navy Seabee Veterans of America who represent so many of us? Will it be some former battalion admin type enlisted or officer, maybe a Command Master Chief or former Commander or Executive Officer. Whomever it will be, please do it quickly, before more Bees die without proper compensation being awarded to them or their families! Hope that "Can Do" is still alive and well; only time will tell!

Just wanted to let everyone know that we've just started the fight. I plan to repost on a couple of other Seabee sites eg. 'All Seabees Vietnam Era' and several other internet sites to included some individual Vietnam Era Gulfport Battalion sites. Hopefully they will help solve the problem.

If anyone has any ideas or connections, please reach out and share. You and I might not be affected, but too many of our Brother Bees are in need of help. The VA may grant service-connected benefits without a medical opinion if a veteran with the required service develops one of the following conditions:

- kidney cancer
- liver cancer
- non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- adult leukemia
- multiple myeloma
- Parkinson's disease
- aplastic anemia

- other myelodysplastic syndromes
- bladder cancer.

I'm sure a number of people have the solution to the documentation problem, we just have to find them!

V/r, Roman (End of Roman's NMCB 62 Facebook post)

Need a favor, please, if possible, keep this near the top of the page so that it gets a good read by everyone. This is a real problem that dozens of people have spoken to me about their personal difficulties in filing for compensation. I would not be surprised if this is a problem for hundreds, if not thousands, throughout the Vietnam Veteran Seabee Community.

Not sure if you have the right connections at CBC Gulfport, but I'm relatively sure that the NSVA Island X-1 in Gulfport can be a great help in solving this dilemma for our fellow Bees. It would be a great accomplishment if you could somehow help in solving this problem and in addition gain even more credibility within the NMCB 62 community.

Thanks for listening!

Take Care and God Bless,

Roman Hnatowski,

EAC USN(Ret.)

2. On Aug 16, 2019, at 1:58 PM, Norm Hahn <normhahnjr@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Captain Hilderbrand

Hi Bill,

Our friend Roman Hnatowski, EAC Retired, NMCB 62 Plankowner, has been researching this for a long, long time.

This is an issue which has been ongoing since NMCB 62 and other Seabee Battalions were sent to Camp Lejeune for pre-deployment survival training and then to Vietnam. Years later, the men started to get sick.

Apparently, there is a lack of "official" actual start and completion date documentation that says when NMCB 62, and I'm sure, other Battalions were at Camp Lejeune for that training. Years later, here

comes the Camp Lejeune water contamination problem. Many of our Seabee Brothers have been adversely effected by the Camp Lejeune water when they were there for that training. Roman has explained the problem very well in his email, below.

Can you help please? Where can we go to get that kind of information? Who do we need to contact? Are we going about this in the wrong way?

I would think that other Seabee Battalions have also had the same problem. Do you know or can you get us to the right people who have helped and can help us solve the problem?

Your help is sincerely appreciated. Best regards, Norm

Norm Hahn
NMCB 62 Alumni Group secretary
<https://www.nmcb62alumni.org>
Cell: 715-379-8482 call between 9am and 1pm CST

On Aug 16, 2019, at 3:53 PM, William Hilderbrand <bhilderbrand41@gmail.com> wrote:

Norm/Roman,

Contact Gina Nichols at gina.nichols@navy.mil (she is the senior Archivist at the Seabee Museum) and see if her files on the battalions document their training deployments to Lejeune. I was with 128 and remember well the two trips that we made there.

Let me know what she is able to provide.

Thanks.

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

From: Roman Hnatowski (mcb62vietnamvet@gmail.com)

To: bhilderbrand41@gmail.com

Cc: normhahnjr@yahoo.com

Date: Friday, August 16, 2019, 04:33 PM CDT

Thanks Capt. and Norm; will follow- up and keep you both in the loop.

V/r,

Roman

Sent from my iPad

3.

From: Roman Hnatowski <mcb62vietnamvet@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2019 6:03 AM
To: Nichols, Gina L CIV USN USNSM (USA) <gina.nichols@navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Can You Help?

Ms. Nichols,



Captain William Hilderbrand suggested I contact you concerning documentation problems a number of our Vietnam Seabee Veterans are having in filing for Camp Lejeune Water Contamination claims. Many Seabee east coast battalions trained at Camp Lejeune during the 60s and probably the early 70s prior to deployments to Vietnam. Our bees are having difficulty documenting their training which is required. I am including a recent email sent to the Engineering Aides of MCB 62 assigned during 62's first 2 deployments in 1966-68.

Very,



Roman Hnatowski

EAC USN(Ret.)



On Mon, Aug 19, 2019 at 10:27 AM SeabeeMuseumArchive <seabeemuseumarch.fct@navy.mil> wrote:

Mr. Hnatowski,

I was recently contacted by a former member of NMCB62 about this issue and was able to provide him with documentation for the Camp LeJeune training that took place in 1966, which I have attached. If additional documentation for later training at Camp LeJeune for NMCB62 is needed, can you please provide approximate dates? This would be helpful in narrowing the search.

Thank you,

Amber D. Delacruz, MLIS

Archivist

U.S. Navy Seabee Museum

Naval Heritage and History Command

Office: 805-982-6191

Email: amber.delacruz@navy.mil

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OPORD 8-67.pdf
194.4kB



1966 Command History Supplement.pdf
156.2kB



Camp LeJeune Globe Oct 1966.pdf
838.7kB

From: Roman Hnatowski (mcb62vietnamvet@gmail.com)
To: seabeemuseumarch.fct@navy.mil; amber.delacruz@navy.mil; gina.nichols@navy.mil
Cc: bhilderbrand41@gmail.com; normhahnjr@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2019, 12:50 PM CDT

Bravo Zulu to all those involved. I am hoping that the information you provided will ultimately help dozens if not more Seabee Vietnam Veteran obtain what is rightfully theirs, proof of exposure to the contaminants that caused their dreadful existing medical conditions. Thank you again for your professional and timely response.

Can Do!

Roman Hnatowski

COMMANDER NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
DAVISVILLE, RHODE ISLAND 02854

CCBL:31:slw

3121

er: 1272

1 September 1966

From: Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet
To: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion
SIXTY-TWO


Subj: COMCBLANT Operation Order 8-67; forwarding of

Ref: (1) COMCBLANTINST 3121:3A

Encl: (1) COMCBLANT OPORD 8-67; w/Annexes A, C, D, X and Z

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1), is forwarded for execution by the Commanding Officer, MCB SIXTY-TWO.

By direction of the Commander:


C. J. MATHEWS
LCDR, CEC, USN
Operations Officer

Copy to:
(Same as Annex X
of enclosure (1))

UNCLASSIFIED

OPERATION ORDER

COMCBLANT OPORD 8-67

COMMANDER NAVAL
CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS
U. S. ATLANTIC FLEET
DAVISVILLE, R. I.
010800Z SEP 67

REFERENCES: (a) COMCBLANT OPORD 29-66
(b) OPNAVINST 5450.46D
(c) COMCBLANTENST 3121.2B
(d) COMCBLANTENST 1050.3F
(e) CINCLANTFLTENST 03123.1E
(f) COMCBLANTENST 11260.1C

TASK ORGANIZATION: MCB SIXTY-TWO (Herein known as the Battalion)

1. SITUATION. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the Battalion is undergoing a training and organizational period. As part of this training, the Battalion will conduct training in individual combat and military tactics at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina under the following conditions.

a. Enemy forces. None

b. Friendly forces.

SERVLANT

20TH NCR

FMFLANT

CBC GULFPORT

MARCORBASE CAMLEJ

c. Attachment. Provisional Rifle/Weapons Company from MCB ONE THIRTY-THREE.

2. MISSION. Pursuant to reference (a), the Battalion is to deploy to CAMLEJ, in conjunction with military training requirements, for the operational readiness of Naval Construction Battalions.

3. EXECUTION. When directed about 30 September 1966, the Battalion will depart CBC Gulfport and deploy for a period of approximately four weeks. While in transit and during the training period, the Battalion will maintain readiness conditions required by its assigned contingency designation.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

a. Standard operational procedures, set forth by reference (c), will be followed.

b. Leave will be administered in accordance with reference (c).

c. Equipment assignments are made by Annex B.

1. Authority to deploy an advance party is granted.

UNCLASSIFIED
OPERATION ORDER
COMCBLANT OPORD 8-67

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL:

a. The Commanding Officer is hereby directed to report to the CG, MARCORBASE, CAMLEJ in accordance with Article 1324, U. S. Navy Regulations.


b. Movement Reports will be made in accordance with reference (e).

c. Direct liaison is authorized with MCB ONE THIRTY-THREE, the MARCORBASE and component activities.

ANNEXES:

- A TRAINING
- B EQUIPMENT ASSIGNMENT
- C PUBLIC AFFAIRS
- X DISTRIBUTION LIST
- Z RECORD OF CHANGES

By direction of the Commander:


J. J. MATHEWS
LCDR, CEC, USN
Operations Officer

UNCLASSIFIED

OPERATION ORDER

COMCBLANT OPORD 8-67

COMMANDER NAVAL
CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS
U. S. ATLANTIC FLEET
DAVISVILLE, R. I.
010800Z SEPT 66

ANNEX A
TRAINING

1. The Battalion will undergo training at CAMLEJ during the period 3 - 28 October 1966 as follows:

a. First Week

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Approx. No. Students</u>
Individual Combat Training	1st of 2 Wks.	Rifle Platoon	390
Crew Served Weapons	1st of 2 Wks.	Weapons Platoon	160
Field Medical Training	1st of 2 Wks.	Medical/Dental	2 Officers 6 Enlisted
Field Communications	1st of 2 Wks.	Designated Personnel	50
Command Communicators	1st of 2 Wks.	Designated Personnel	8
Officers/CPO Course	1st of 2 Wks.		All Officers All CPO's
Field Messing/Cooking	1st of 2 Wks.	Cooks and Stewards	15
Special LT	On the job Training		2
Armorer	On the job Training		2
Mine Warfare			10
Counter Insurgency	1st of 2 Wks.		2 Officers 58 Enlisted

b. Second Week

Individual Combat Training	2nd of 2 Wks.	Rifle Platoon	390
Crew Served Weapons	2nd of 2 Wks.	Weapons Platoon	160
Field Medical Training	2nd of 2 Wks.	Medical/Dental	8
Field Communications	2nd of 2 Wks.	Designated Personnel	50
Command Communicators	2nd of 2 Wks.	Designated Personnel	8
Field Messing/Cooking	2nd of 2 Wks.	Cooks and Stewards	15
Officer/CPO Course	2nd of 2 Wks.	Staff Officers and Designated Personnel	
Special ET	On the job Training		2
Mine Warfare			10
Armorer	On the job Training		2
Counter Insurgency			60

UNCLASSIFIED
OPERATION ORDER
COMCBLANT OPORD 8-67

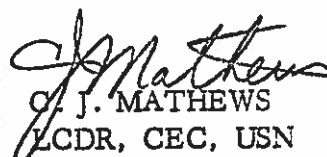
c. Third Week

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Approx. No. Students</u>
FEX	3 Days		All Hands
Parade			All Hands

d. Fourth Week

Rifle Requalification	"C" Course	All Hands
Pistol Requalification		85

By direction of the Commander:


C. J. MATHEWS
LCDR, CEC, USN
Operations Officer

MCB-62 'Seabees' Train



Under the justifiable close observation of their instructor, Constructionman James D. Flory, center, and Lt. Carl E. Christenson keep on as friendly terms as possible with 40 pounds of high explosive as they prepare to cut a steel beam the easy way.

Story and Photos By:

Lt(jg). J. D. Wilburn and JO3 K. C. Jensen, MCB-62

Those guys aren't upside down PFC's, they're Seabees. From their homeport of Gulfport, Mississippi, Mobile Construction Battalion (MCB)-62 arrived at Camp Lejeune three weeks ago to add the final polish to their military training.

MCB-62, which was recommissioned on July 2, 1966 by Rear Admiral Henry A. Renken, Commander Service Forces Atlantic, devoted a two-week slice of each Seabee's time this summer in preparing for this training. The builders, engineering aids, construction mechanics, steelworkers, equipment operators, construction electricians and utilitiesmen have been receiving specialized technical instruction in each of their fields.

At the same time, preparatory military indoctrination in the prime areas was administered by 20th Naval Construction Regiment instructors. This consisted of one week's classroom instruction and a week of living under field conditions at Camp Shelby, Miss.—a National Guard training camp.

The World War II Naval Construction Battalion 62, from which the present battalion inherited its number designation, helped make history when it participated in the invasion of Iwo Jima with the Marines during February and March of 1945, and rebuilt the bombed-out Japanese airfields there for use by the Allies.

Commissioned at Davisville, R. I., December 30, 1942, the battalion trained for three months in the United States, and then moved to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to expand the airfield, pier complex and fuel storage facilities there.

The work at Pearl approached its end as the summer of 1944 drew to a close, and the Seabees began jungle warfare training on Oahu Island and elsewhere in the Pacific.

The "Bees" were ready when D-Day came. A portion of the battalion, which came ashore the evening of D-Day, was assigned the task of keeping the beaches clear for amphibious vehicles, off-loading supplies from naval craft to the beach, and maintaining supply lines to the Marines. The entire battalion was ashore and working at this job by 2 a.m., February 26.

Artillery and machinegun fire from enemy positions in the hills raked the beach throughout the invasion, but the Seabees stayed put, took what was dished out, and kept the beans and bullets coming. Some of the battalion's men fought side-by-side with the Marines on the front lines.

As the first of Iwo Jima's three airfields was captured, the Seabees moved in with dozers and mine detectors and began the job of rehabilitating it. At times, the Japanese line of resistance was a scant hundred yards in front of the toiling "Bees."

An observation plane landed on the strip less than three weeks after D-Day, and within another week traffic on the strip was heavy enough to hamper the workers in their efforts to complete it.

Working always within range of sniper fire and subjected to attacks by pockets of Japanese resistance, the Seabees in another week had started rebuilding the second airstrip. Number Two became—at 5225 feet—the longest airstrip in the Western Pacific.

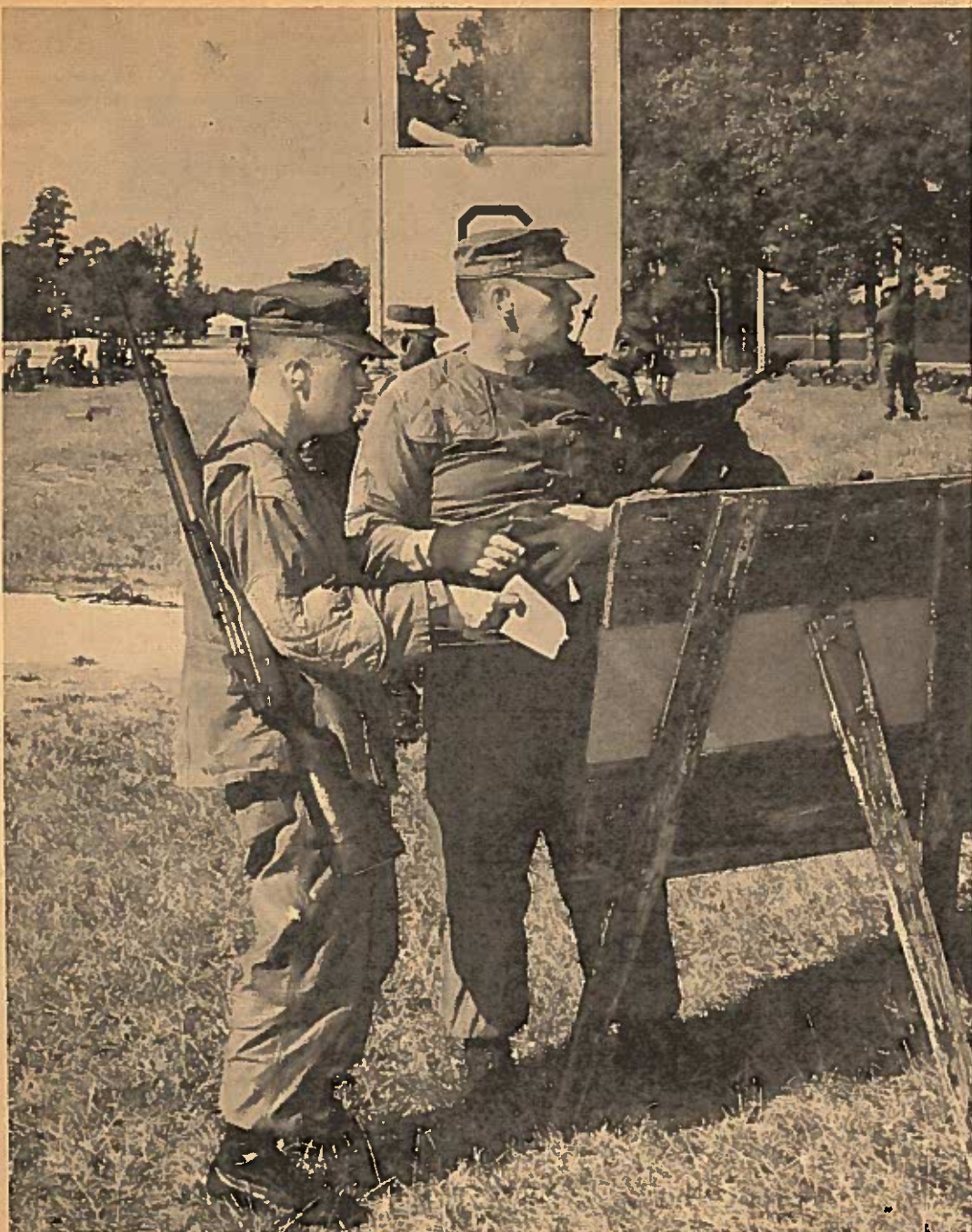
For its outstanding work on Iwo Jima, the World War II MCB-62 was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation, which the new 62 proudly wears on its color standard.

On October 1 this year, MCB-62 moved from Gulfport to Camp Lejeune to begin the final phase of its military training. Prior to commencing the first week, the officers of MCB-62 met with Lieutenant Colonel F. H. Waldrop, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, to finalize schedules and arrangements.

The spirit of the Seabee motto "Can Do" was demonstrated by the battalion Marines as they served up a thorough, in-depth program of ground warfare instruction to the construction men.

The students had not had the benefit of Marine basic training and "ITR," but they, prodded by their Marine instructors, have in most cases, equalled and in some cases, exceeded Marine expectations for "outsiders."

SIXTY-TWO spent their first training week at the rifle range—snapping in, contorting themselves into positions Ghandi wouldn't



MCB-62's Lt(jg). John M. O'Reilly and Commanding Officer, Cdr. William J. Richeson, watch for the "disk" as Cdr. Richeson's score is tallied from the butts.



Construction Apprentice Richard Bonilla places an improvised "Bangalore Torpedo" charge under the guidance of his clear

With 1stBn, 8th Marines

believe, and then live-firing to prove the pudding. Breathing, aiming, slacking, squeezing, and above all relaxing were the rules of the day. Qualification day approached and the "Bees" filled silhouettes with holes.

The day posed no problem. The morning dawned, bright but cold, and 0630 saw MCB-62 flexing cold trigger fingers into some looseness. The first targets were run up and qualification day began, and ended, with 63% qualifying with the M-14 and almost 90% with the .45.

During the Battalion's week at the rifle range, fifty-two Seabees had an opportunity to attend the Second Marine Division's Counter-Guerrilla Warfare School. The 52 "Bees" repelled ambushes, prepared and launched ambushes of their own, and assaulted a disturbingly realistic mock-up of a Vietnamese village defended by disturbingly realistic Marines in VC "costume."

Training with the elite Recon Marines and the Navy's ace SEALs, the Seabees did unexpectedly well and more than held up their end of the assault in taking the mock-up village.

The Battalion, under the guidance of the 1/8 Marines and under the instruction of at least seven Marine units, jumped off into the second week—a bit of classroom lecture, but mostly the Marines' favorite prove-it-by-doing-it-yourself practical application. The Battalion, filtered out over the 110,000 acres of the base, learning command and field communications, field fortifications, and field medicine.

In other areas, 19 Seabees are in the process of learning the art of demolition from the 2d Engineer Battalion. From first-day introduction through graduation, the Seabees will blow up, explode, ruin and otherwise polish off much of God's Green Earth, trees, posts, and chunks of metal.

The first day was caution personified, as to the crimping of blasting caps and setting of charges. But, by the last day, the 'Can Do' Seabees had improved to the point of confidence that, instead of merely cutting pieces of metal, they fractionalized it.

Other companies of the battalion had spent nights in the field smoothing the rough edges off compass problems and C Ration cookery. As Second Lieutenant Bert Calhoun of 1/8 stated, "Their attitude is outstanding and their performance is, in some cases, better than some of the Marines we have going through ITR."

The crew-served weapons personnel have been getting detailed instruction in each of their specialties: the 3.5 inch rocket launcher, M-79 grenade launcher, M-60 machine gun and 81mm mortar, and have rapidly picked up the finer points. One "Bee" is said to have set a new record for reassembling the M-60 from a detailed stripping. And M-79 rounds were dropping right on the targets.

Meanwhile, the staff officers and senior petty officers have been gaining instruction from Major G. E. Beattie, 1/8 Executive Officer, in staff functions and organizations, all of which is designed to familiarize the Seabee officers with the battalion, lines of communication and organization.

The four weeks at Camp Lejeune will conclude with a three-day field exercise during which all the knowledge gained the previous three weeks will be put to the test.

The battalion will dig in and establish a perimeter and from it operate as a self-supporting unit, handling its own communications, patrols and defenses.

The perimeter is expected to be probed by Marine "aggressors" day and night during the three days in the field. Then, back to the barracks for hot showers, food and liberty.

Concluding their training the Seabees will pass-in-review before Lieutenant Colonel F. H. Waldrop, 1/8 Commander, on October 28 at 2 p.m.

The battalion on the following day, will board C-130 "Hercules" aircraft for their airlift back to Gulfport with stored-up knowledge from the best training ever received. Builder and rifleman, steelworker and grenadier, storekeeper and machine gunner, the Seabees Have Done, Can Do and Will Do.



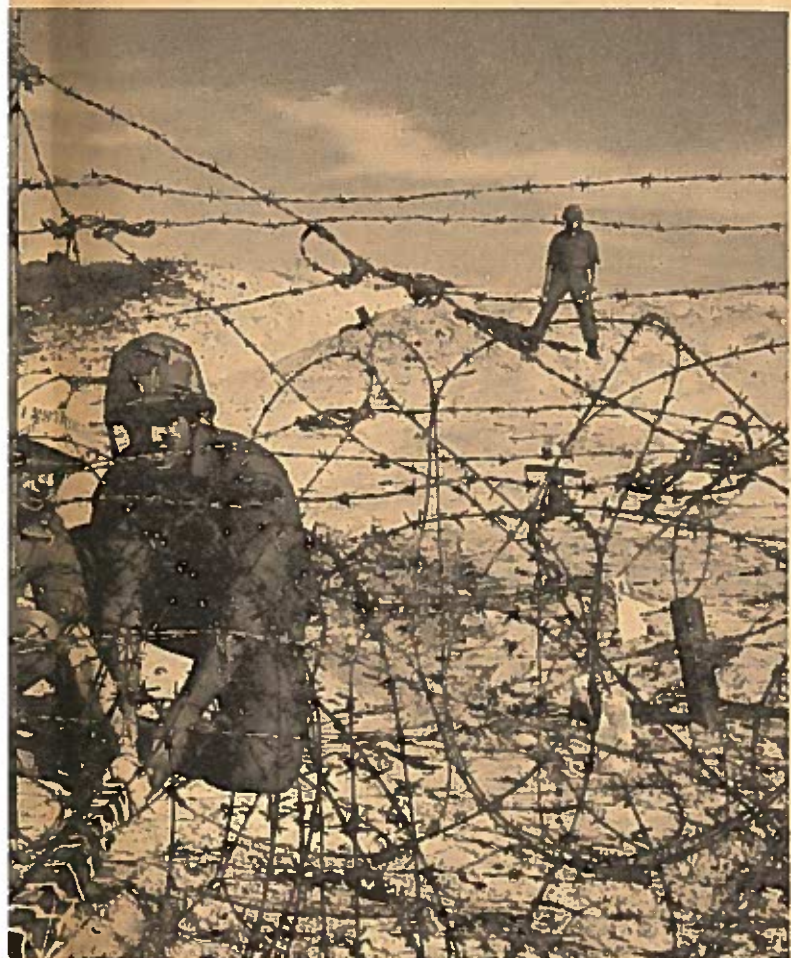
Seabees and Marines attending the 2d Marine Division Counter-Guerrilla Warfare School counterattack an ambush of a truck convoy.



Utilitiesman Third Class William A. Fienga crouches to listen for trouble during a pre-dawn assault on a mock-up Vietnamese village during the 2d Marine Division's Counter-Guerrilla Warfare School.



Seabee and Marine students learn together in the 2d Engineering Battalion Demolition and Mine Warfare School. Here, a "leapfrog" charge is prepared.



his 2d Engineer Battalion instructor. The charge is designed to clear barbed wire entanglements.

02
U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 62
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 09501

MCB-62:2010:jn

File No. 5700

Ser: 95

JAN 17 1967

From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion
SIXTY-TWO

To: Commander, Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet,
Construction Battalion Center, Davisville, Rhode Island

Subj: Command History Supplement; submittal of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.9

Encl: (1) MCB-62 1966 Command History Supplement

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded in accordance with Reference (a).


J. A. O'REILLY
By direction

COMMAND HISTORY SUPPLEMENT
U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SIXTY-TWO

1966

Mobile Construction Battalion SIXTY-TWO was commissioned July 2, 1966. It took its numerical designation from the Naval Construction Battalion SIXTY-TWO of World War II fame.

The precommissioning detail of MCB-62 was established at Davisville, Rhode Island. The first Diary entry for the detail, dated Jan. 11, 1966, records that CA James A. Wilson reported for duty to be on board for commissioning of the battalion.

An advance party of fifty men, under the leadership of LTJG W. J. Vaudreuil, Jr., COMCBLANT Force Personnel Officer, arrived March 1 at Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi. On March 15, 50 more men arrived from Davisville, and the rest of the precommissioning detail--200 more men--reported at Gulfport April 1. Only those men of MCB-62 who were attending various schools at Davisville were at this time still in Rhode Island.

The job of the precommissioning detail between March 1 and July 2 was to prepare Gulfport's unused, World War II vintage barracks, mess halls and training facilities for use by the new battalions that would soon make the Mississippi Seabee Center their homeport. At the time, only MCB's 62 and 133 were scheduled to be commissioned at Gulfport.

The work done repairing, cleaning and improving the Seabee Center living quarters earned praise for the battalion from CDR Norman L. Martinson, Commanding Officer of the Center.

Enclosure (1)

On April 12, CDR Martinson also became Commander of the 20th Naval Construction Regiment, newly commissioned on that date. MCB-62 was the only battalion represented during the commissioning of the 20th NCR, except for one man assigned to MCB-133.

Rear Admiral Henry A. Renken, Commander, Service Forces U. S. Atlantic Fleet, put MCB-62 in commission July 2, 1966. CDR William J. Richeson took command of the new battalion. Also present at the ceremony was Rear Admiral Alexander C. Husband, Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and Captain Spencer R. Smith, Commander, Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

From July 2 until the end of September, MCB-62's men busied themselves in technical training related to their construction specialties and in military training preparatory to their Vietnam deployment. The technical training was administered jointly by the 20th NCR at Gulfport, Class A, B, and C schools at Davisville and Port Hueneme, California, and by civilian industries in Gulfport and elsewhere.

On July 18, military training at Gulfport began with a one-week class of officers and chief petty officers. On August 8, the 20th NCR's Military Training Department, as new as any activity at Gulfport, began schooling classes of white hats in MCB-62. To take the training, MCB-62 was divided into four classes, each of which spent one week in classroom work and physical conditioning at Gulfport and one week at Camp Shelby, a Mississippi National Guard training facility about 40 miles north of Gulfport.

The advance party to Camp Lejeune, 93 men who would support the main body of MCB-62 when it went through military training there, left

Gulfport September 1. The men formed a provisional rifle company for their four weeks of military training with MCB-58.

On October 5, the last flight of the main body of MCB-62 arrived at Camp Lejeune. In the four weeks the battalion spent at Lejeune, specialized training was given to field and command post communications, crew-served weapons teams, counter-guerilla warfare and demolitions specialists, commissarymen and hospital corpsmen. The remainder of the battalion was trained in individual combat techniques. In addition, the entire battalion received marksmanship training, and every man participated in a three-day field exercise that climaxed the Lejeune training. On October 29, the airlift back to Gulfport began.

MCB-62's advance party to Hue Phu Bai, RVN, left Gulfport November 16 and 17 in two C-130 Hercules aircraft. The party's 115 men began the takeover of Camp Campbell from MCB-7.

Meanwhile, from the end of the Camp Lejeune deployment until just before the airlift to RVN, men in the battalion took two-week pre-deployment leaves.

From December 5 until December 13, two C-130 airplanes left each day carrying men of the main body from Gulfport to Hue Phu Bai. Each flight took approximately 50 hours, with stops at Travis AFB, Hickam AFB, Wake, Guam and Mactan, R. P.

The battalion's projects in Vietnam include offices, shops, storage buildings, refrigeration units and roads for the Marine Corps' Force , Logistics Support Unit; cantonments for the Third Marine Division, consisting of 500-man galleys, 120 living huts, eight heads, and four

showers each (MCB-62, as of January 16, 1967, is in the process of completing one cantonment begun by MCB-7, and will start two more during the current deployment); other 3rd Mar Div projects are shops, stores buildings, an exchange facility and bunkers.

Additional projects undertaken by MCB-62 are: an interrogation center in the city of Hue for use by the Army of the Republic of Vietnam; the asphalt paving of an LCU ramp at Hue; another LCU ramp with its accompanying causeway at Colco, about five miles northeast of Hue and five miles north of Phu Bai; the building of a road through Viet Cong-held territory from Phu Bai to an airfield to be built five miles east of Hue (this includes building a two-lane, 250-foot bridge over Dai Diang River); building Combined Action Company (CAC) living quarters, presently estimated at about 20 huts, in the area from the Phu Bai enclave 20 miles south to Phu Loc; building a field hospital for Alfa Medical Company, 3rd Mar Div; and redecking three bridges in the Phu Bai area.

Two major responsibilities of MCB-62 during this deployment are maintenance of all water, electrical and road systems in the Phu Bai military enclave and construction of a helicopter landing pad at Phu Bai Airport.