U.S. Navy Seabee Cruise book

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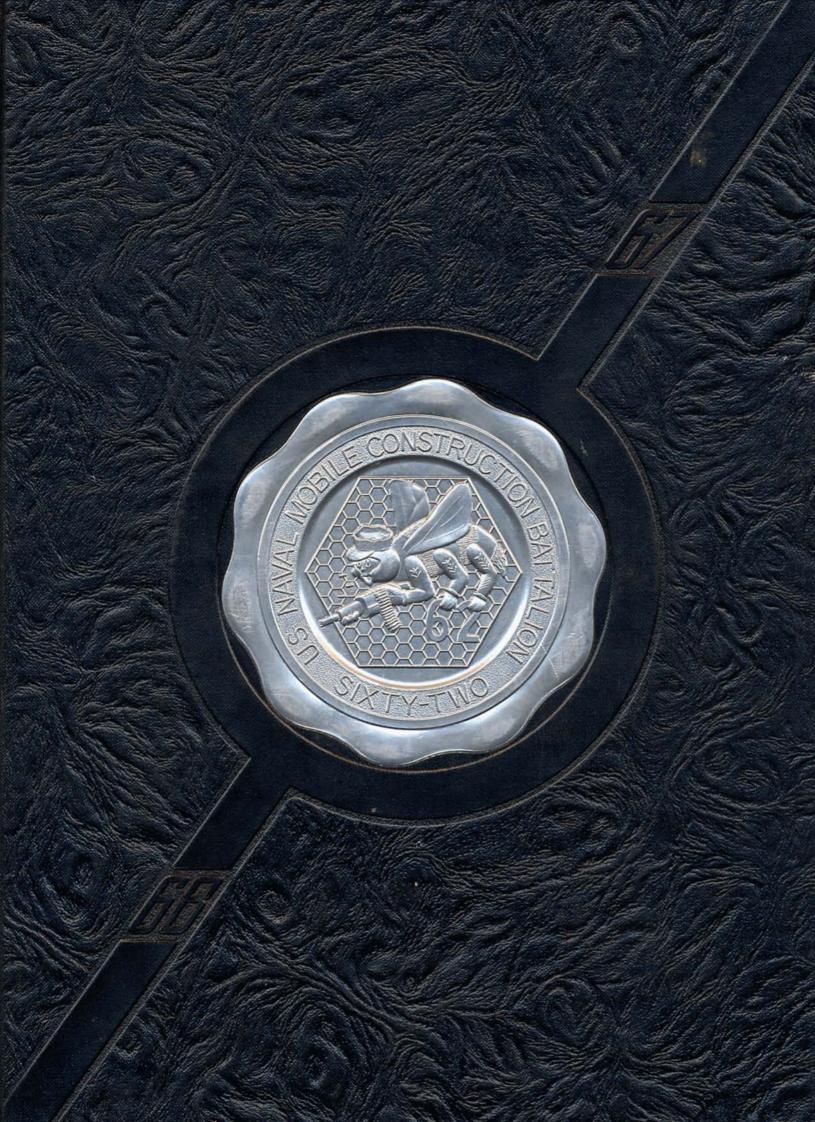
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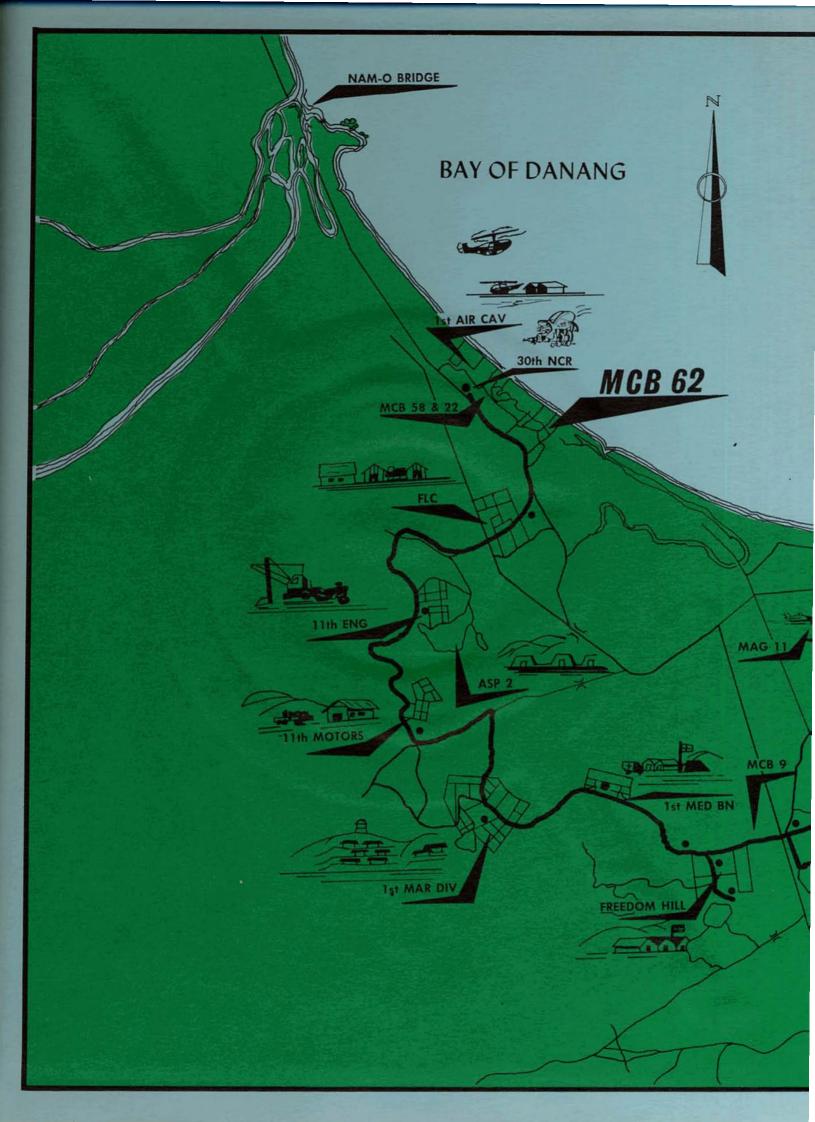
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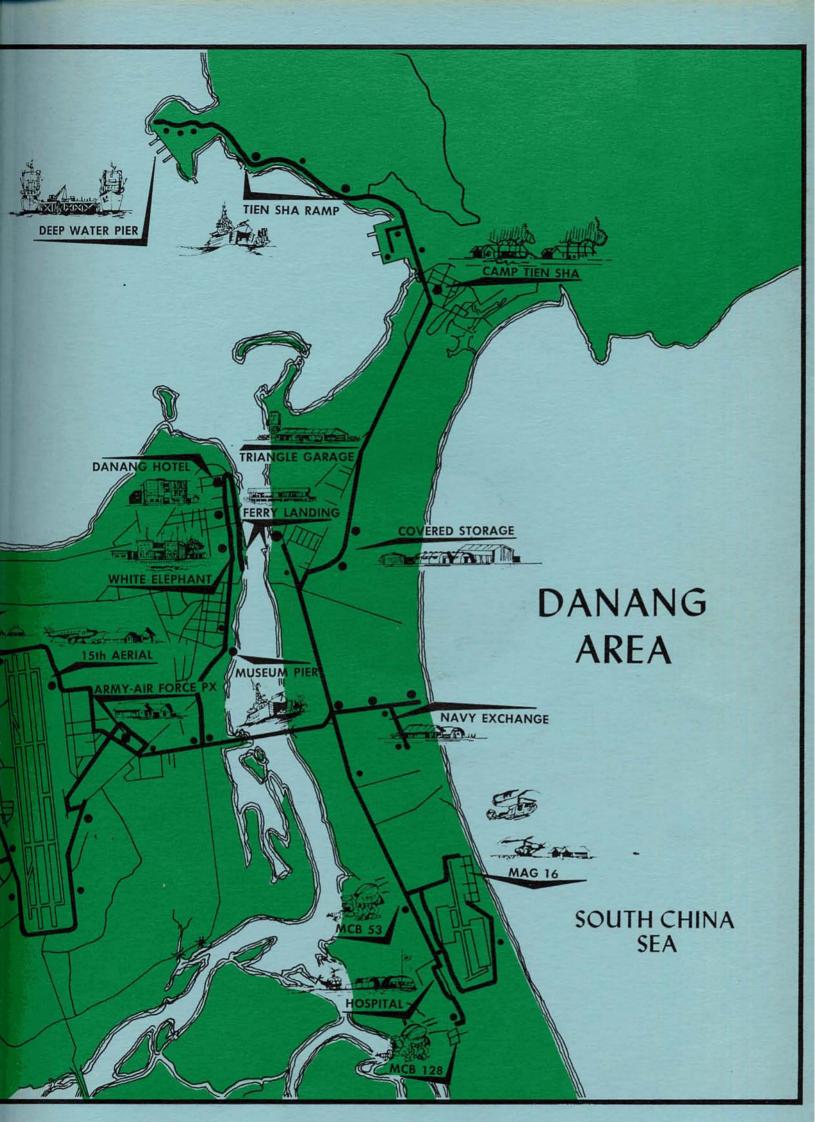
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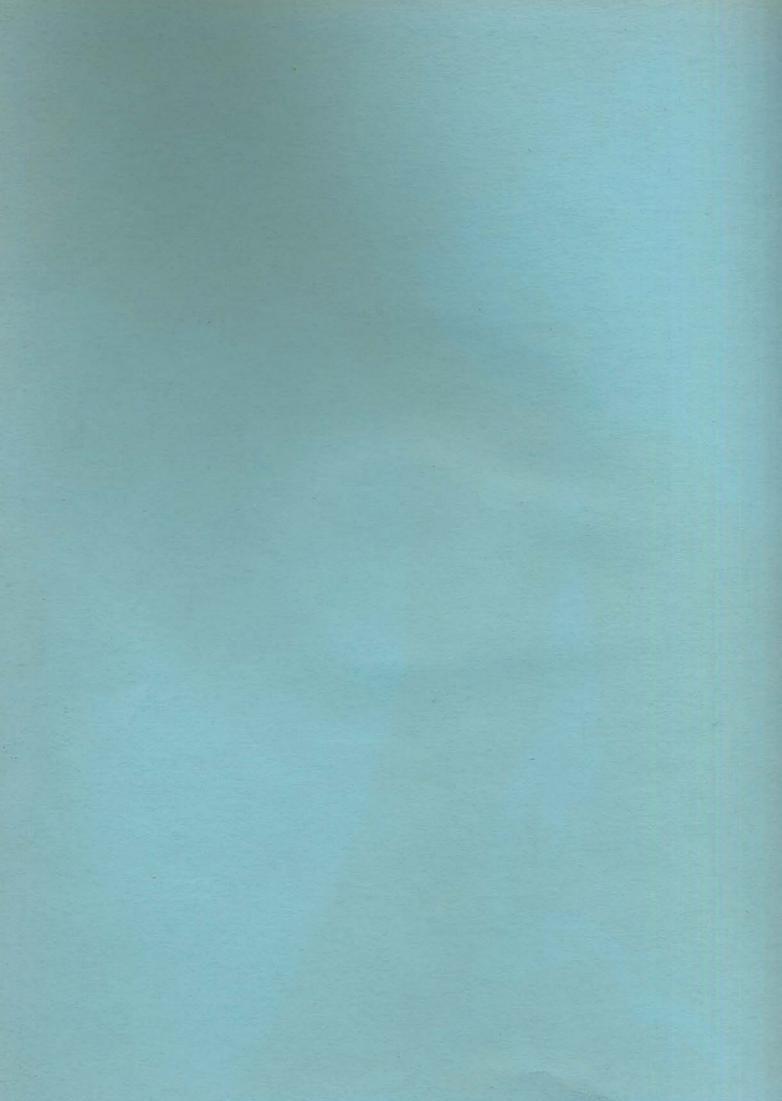
- MCB-8 Association.
- Steve Thomas of Steve Thomas BMW: Former member of MCB-4, 1967-68.
 In memory of Ronald Harrison MCB-4, Equipment Operator Third Class, KIA Vietnam.
- Vietnam Era Seabees (VNES)
- Navy Seabee Veterans Of America, Island X-7 Port Hueneme
- Paradise Chevrolet, Ventura
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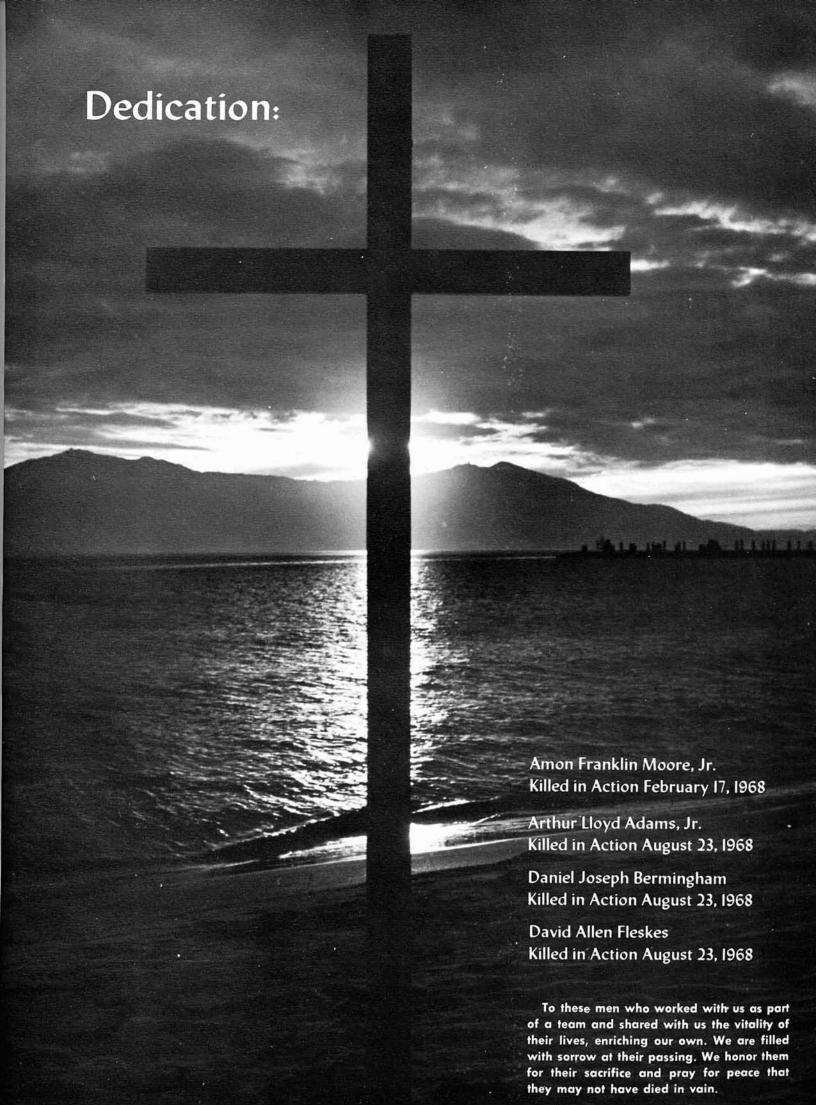
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The Minuteman

Published by the Public Affairs Office of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 62

Commanding Officer . . . John Paul Jones, Jr. Executive Officer . . . Charles E. Fegley, III

It wasn't the easiest deployment ever made. From the moment that your legs, stiffened by the long hours of flying time, carried you down the ramp to begin a steady stream of unprintable language directed against the heat and dust, you knew this wasn't going to be another romp through Keesler or LeJeune. This was for real.

We all took it in different ways. The wideeyed "boots" looked as though they expected Charlie to step from behind every bush, much to the amusement of the "vets" of Phu Bai with faces carefully set in a "seen it all" expression of unconcern. The lifers, after a quick look around, got back to counting the years till retirement on that chicken ranch or sandy beach. The officers tried desperately to bring some order out of that chaotic time of adjustment to strange surroundings.

We started differently, but we shared a lot. We saw our Battalion take shape and become an effective force ready to tackle any job. We made friends and drank an awful lot of beer at the clubs. We cursed the heat, the food, the living conditions and many a 2:00 a.m. siren. We did our job.

It's over now and already the memories are getting faded and blurred around the edges. We hope that these pages will bring some of these almost forgotten times into a sharper focus — that the faces and the scenes will help to recall that time in your life when you helped to preserve the spirit and legend of the fighting SEABEES of "Can Do" SIXTY-TWO.







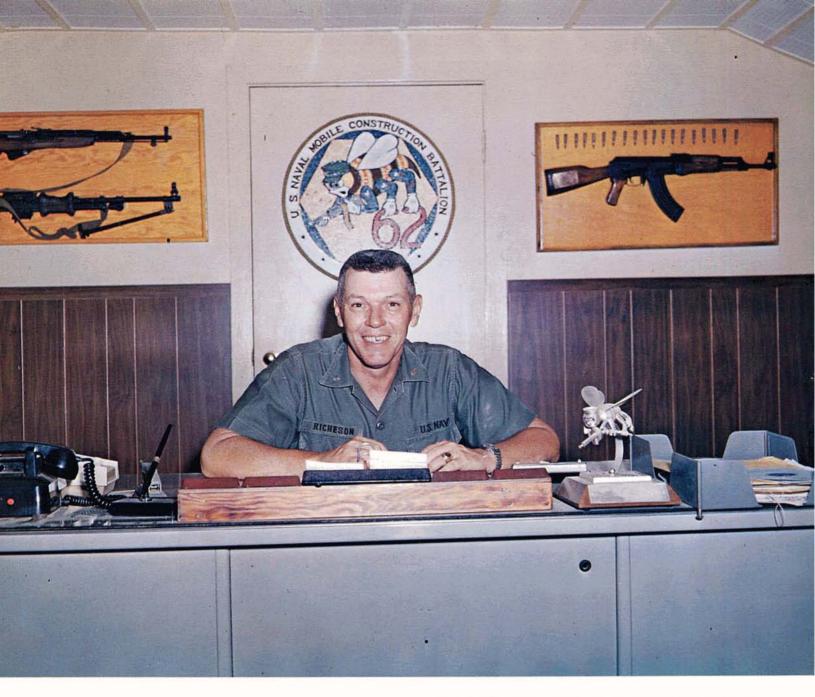


CONTENTS



Homeport	11-22
First Impressions	23-32
Alfa	33-50
Bravo	51-64
Charlie	65-80
Delta	81-96
Headquarters	97-112
Memorabilia	113-160



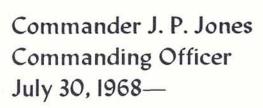


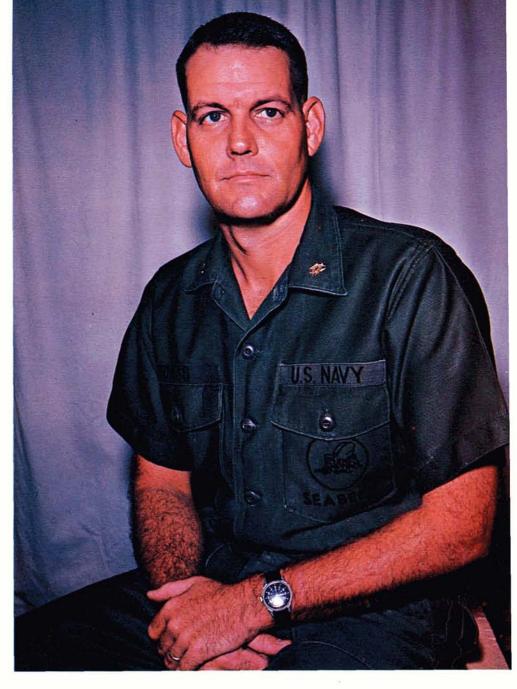
Commander W. J. Richeson Commanding Officer July 2, 1966—July 30, 1968 This Cruise Book provides a record of MCB 62's accomplishments on its second deployment to the Republic of Vietnam. It begins as we did with the homeport training period and follows the Battalion through to the completion of eight months at Camp Haskins, Red Beach, Danang.

Regretfully, it was a deployment I could not finish with my shipmates, for shortly after the second anniversary of MCB 62's recommissioning, I concluded my tour as Commanding Officer. In those first 24 months, the men of the Battalion spent half their time deployed to the Republic of Vietnam working in vital construction support of combat operations. I was with MCB 62 to see these men complete significant construction projects in the northern I Corps area. This work earned for MCB 62 a well-deserved reputation as the "Can Do" Battalion.

I share with every MCB 62 SEABEE a justifiable pride in this Battalion's achievements, and I will always look back on my tour as Commanding Officer as the high point of my Navy career. I am proud to have been a part of MCB 62 and to have worked with the many fine men who have made this an outstanding Battalion.

Best of luck to all of you individually, and continued success to you collectively as a SEABEE Battalion.





On July 30, 1968, during my brief remarks to the assembled officers and men of United States Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 62, I stated that the ceremonies of that day marked a highpoint in my Naval career — one that probably never will be equalled for me. Now, as I write this message for the Cruise Book, I realize that even that remark was an inadequate expression of the personal feelings of pride and satisfaction that I experienced daily as your Commanding Officer.

As many of you know, I have served before with the SEABEES on more than one occasion. Consequently, I have learned to expect a great deal in performance, professionalism and military capability from the SEABEES. Not once have you men of MCB 62 failed to live up to (and frequently exceed) my expectations. I knew from the start that 62 was a fine organization. Now, a few months later at the close of our Danang deployment, I know that MCB 62 is a truly outstanding Battalion.

Each of you can look back with pride on this entire deployment as one in which MCB 62 discharged its responsibilities and accomplished its assigned tasks in an unexcelled manner.

The majority of you, those who helped to recommission the Battalion in the summer of 1966 and have now completed two deployments in the Republic of Vietnam, will soon be leaving us for duty in another area or for return to civilian life. I congratulate you on having made such a superior contribution to the successful performance of this command. Your loyalty and devotion to duty have been exceptional. I wish you Godspeed and the best of success in all your future endeavors.

The remainder of you will stay with MCB 62 for further deployments. You I charge with the task of continuing to build on the foundation of the past year in order that this Battalion may rise to an even higher level of readiness to accomplish an assigned task, no matter how difficult. I am certain that together we can meet this challenge.

Finally, may I remind each of you that your country and your Navy are proud of the job you have done and the splendid contribution that you have made toward the attainment of freedom for the people of the Republic of Vietnam.

Well done!



LCDR Charles E. Fegley, III

CDR J. Ronald Williams served as Executive Officer of Mobile Construction Battalion 62 from its commissioning in July of 1966 until just before the beginning of its second Vietnam deployment. He was with the Battalion through the homeport training period prior to the Danang deployment. CDR Williams was relieved by LCDR Charles E. Fegley in January, 1968. Before leaving MCB 62, CDR Williams wrote:

It is with a deep sense of personal loss that I report to you that I will not be deploying with the Battalion to Danang because I have been ordered to the Armed Forces Staff College. I want to thank each of you for the outstanding support you have given the Battalion since

our commissioning in July, 1966.
Your direct support of our brothers the Marines during the last deployment (to Hue/Phu Bai) was magnificent, and you established an enviable reputation as the "Can Do" Battalion. I know that each of you will add to your accomplishments and even further enhance the SEABEE tradition as the Navy's finest men.

I know you will continue to give your best to the best 62. I leave the Battalion with proud remembrance of having served with the greatest group of men serving their country today.

To all — May God Speed.

The printing of this Cruise Book marks the closing of another proud chapter in the two-year history of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 62. With one highly successful deployment to the Hue/Phu Bai area already to your credit, the majority of the homeport training period was used to sharpen military and professional skills in areas not previously studied or used in practical applications. Movement from homeport to Danang was old hat to most of you, so the assumption of construction projects and camp equipment turnover from the relieved Battalion went smoothly.

As you thumb through this Cruise Book you will no doubt recall the many humorous, enjoyable, memorable and tragic moments of our deployment — the shipmates we came to know so well, the finest camp in Vietnam and the many construction accomplishments of the "Can Do" Battalion.

Reflecting upon the actual list of construction projects completed in our eight months at Camp Haskins (South) and by our many details in other areas, it is readily apparent that we had a diversified and dispersed construction program, yet one that was most productive and responsive in the finest SEABEE tradition. 62's many details brought praise to the Battalion through their construction experience and superb performance.

The support personnel of the Battalion also deserve a

great deal of credit for their splendid performance while providing essential services. Without their continuous dedication and conscientious effort, the success of the

construction program would not have been possible.

With the return of the Battalion to homeport, large numbers of personnel will be departing the Battalion and replacements will begin arriving. It is not a pleasant job bidding farewell to such a fine construction force as you who have been with the Battalion since commissioning. However, I am confident that the new men will be capable of living up to the high standards you have established and will continue to carry MCB 62 right up to the top. All the men of 62 have contributed immeasurably to a record of which you and all your successors can be proud. -LCDR C. E. Fegley



CDR J. Ronald Williams

Quarter Century of Tradition

From Pearl Harbor in 1943 to Vietnam in 1968 is a jump of 25 years and several thousand miles, but the tradition and spirit of Mobile Construction Battalion 62 has carried on.

MCB 62 is the namesake of the Sixty-Second Naval Construction Battalion whose "Minutemen" gained fame during World War II as one of the hardiest groups of that new breed of fighting man, the SEABEE. NCB 62 was commissioned at Davisville, Rhode Island on December 20, 1942, and after a short training period, the Battalion left for Port Hueneme, California. There they boarded ships bound for Pearl Harbor where they would construct repair and service facilities until September, 1944.

Finishing its work in Hawaii, the Battalion went through three months of jungle training, marine, amphibious and weapons instruction. NCB 62 was ready then

for the big job ahead — Iwo Jima.

The Battalion landed on Iwo Jima on D-Day plus seven. The island was not yet completely secured and living conditions were squalid, but they were SEABEES and there was a job to be done. They started on that first day, working continuously despite mortar attacks and sniper fire. The SEABEES moved inland with other American forces and began to repair captured enemy airstrips as soon as they were taken. This was the first chapter in the gallant history of 62.

The Battalion went to Japan soon after V-J Day and was disbanded there. The Sixty-Second "Minutemen" returned to their homes and families leaving behind a record of valor and something new—something called

"SEABEE Spirit."

Twenty-one years later, on July 2, 1966, Mobile Construction Battalion 62 was commissioned in Gulfport, Mississippi, under the command of Commander William J. Richeson. On that day, the men of the new 62 began to write another chapter in the saga of the 62nd.

From July 2 until the end of September, MCB 62's men busied themselves in technical instruction related to their construction specialties and in military training in preparation for their first deployment to Vietnam. The military training consisted of one week of classroom work and physical conditioning at Gulfport and one week in the field at Camp Shelby, a Mississippi National Guard training facility.

With this behind them, the Battalion left, in the last week of September, for four more weeks of intensive training at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. There they practiced marksmanship, specialized combat skills and construction under field conditions. The SEABEES also went through a three-day simulated combat exercise before returning to Gulfport. . . . Next stop — Phu Bai,

South Vietnam.

Arriving at the Phu Bai Combat Base in northern I Corps just as the monsoon season started, the Battalion assumed sector command of a 2,000 meter portion of the defensive perimeter. Construction on numerous urgent projects essential to combat operations of the III Marine Division and Army and Marine aviation units started immediately despite the foul weather, knee-deep mud and unstable ground.

During the eight-month deployment, the Battalion completed 250,000 square feet of rigid-framed galleys and hootches; 156,000 square feet of hangars, shops and warehouses; 8,000 square feet of permanent brick and concrete buildings; 21 miles of new or rebuilt roads; seven 50-foot mortar observation towers; a number of open storage areas, wells, and defensive works; and

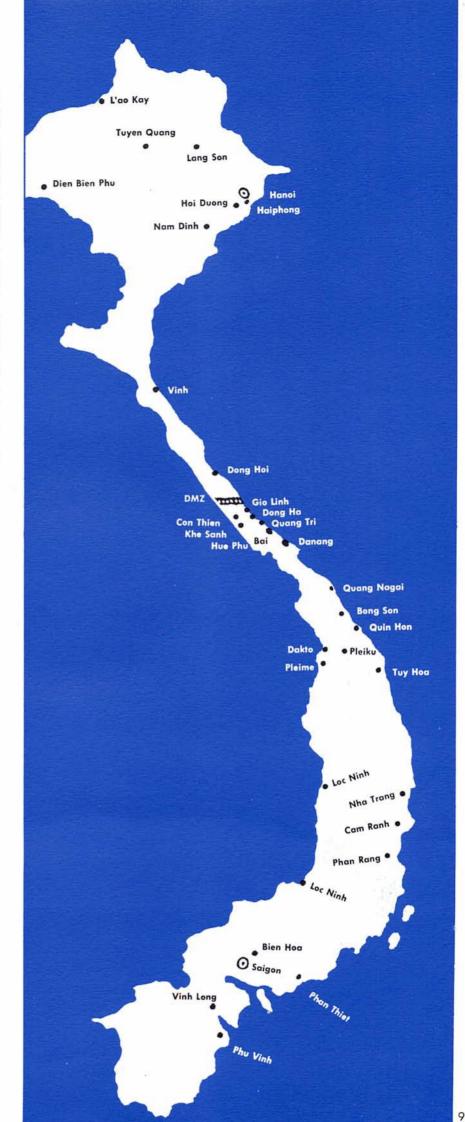
water and electrical systems.

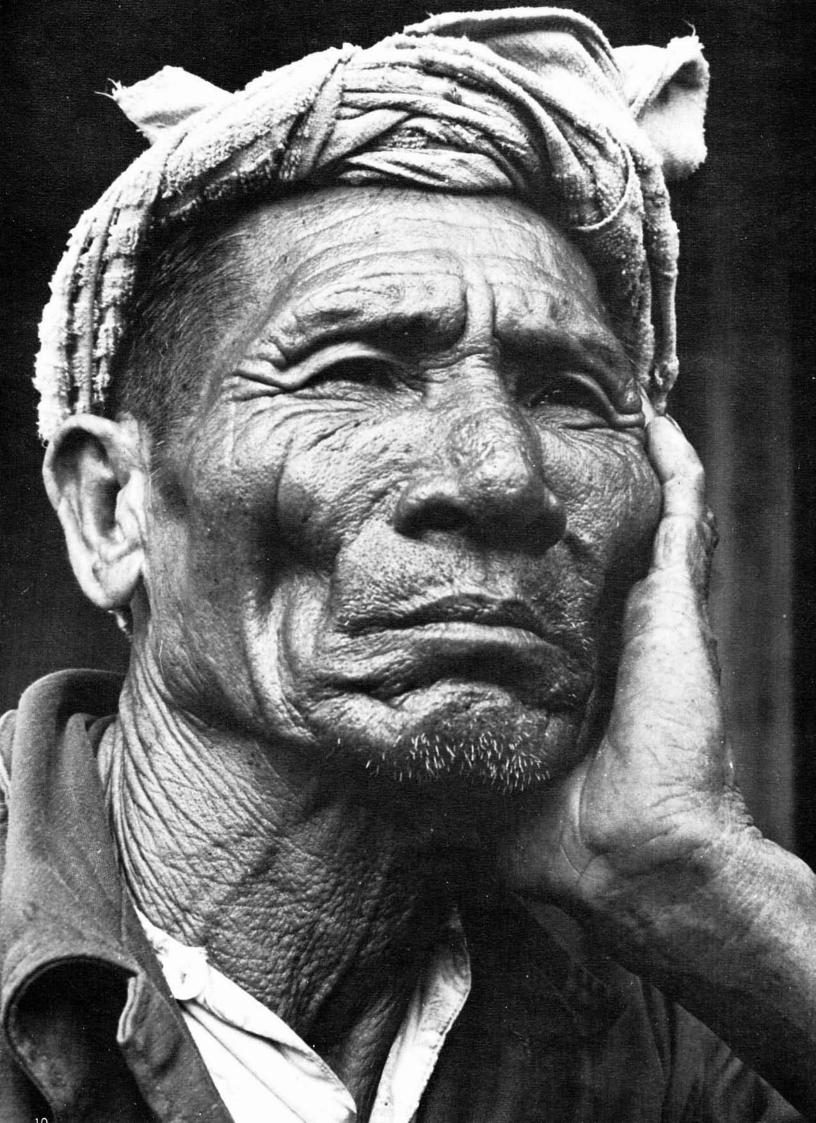
Finishing its first deployment to Vietnam, MCB 62 returned to the United States and homeport at Gulfport. After a one-month leave period, the men began preparing for the Battalion's second tour in the war-torn country with a program of construction and military training similar to that they had taken prior to the first deployment.

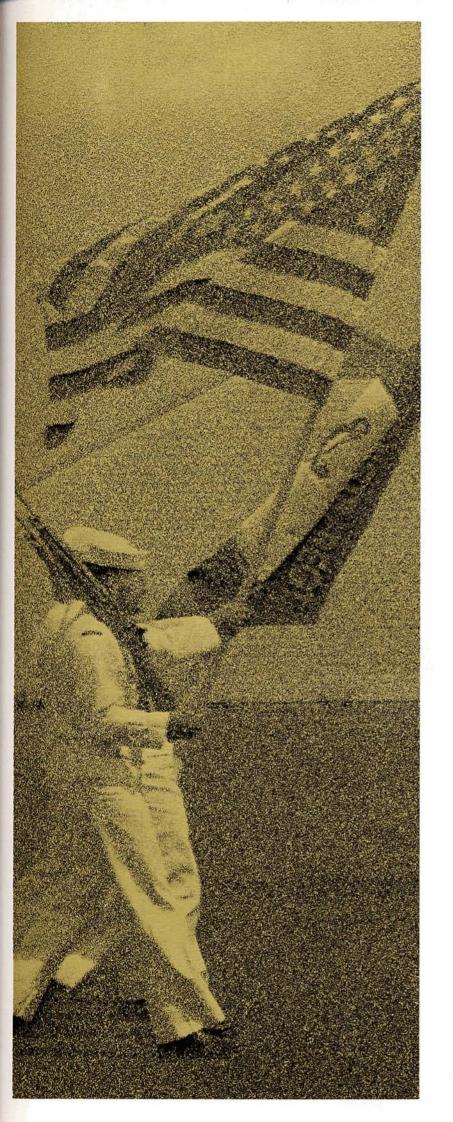
At the end of the homeport period, the Battalion's advance party left for Vietnam on December 27, 1967. The main body followed in the middle of January. By the 25th of January, the entire Battalion was at its new home for the next eight months — Camp Haskins, Danang, South Vietnam.

The following pages are a record of the deployment at Danang — a continuation of this history. They are another proud chapter in the story of you, the Sixty-Second

other proud of Minutemen.







HOMEPORT



Parades and Ceremonies

Drums rumble, banners are raised, and the men march in cadence to execute a sharp "eyes right" as they pass the reviewing stand.

All SEABEES are familiar with the pomp and color of Naval ceremonies, and we all know the excitement and pride which we feel when participating in them — despite the ever present grumbling and complaining as we dress and

assemble.

During the homeport deployment the men of MCB 62 took part in three major ceremonies. These were the parade for our return, Veterans' Day, and the

bearing of the National Ensign in the 1968 Sugar Bowl game.

Upon return to Gulfport after our first deployment to Vietnam, we found ourselves getting ready to parade around the grinder at the SEABEE Center to welcome ourselves back. Although many of us greeted this prospect with moans and grunts, we had to modestly agree after it was all over that we looked good.







Sugar Bowl

On New Year's Day, 1968, 100 SEABEES of MCB 62 stepped out proudly to bear our country's colors at the annual Sugar Bowl game in New Orleans.

Before a crowd of about 80,000 the 62 Bees, led by LTJG H. P. Beasley, Security Officer during the Red Beach deployment, took part in pre-game ceremonies including the flag raising and playing of the National Anthem. The Sugar Bowl honored MCB 62 as all major bowl games of the 1967 season featured construction battalions to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the SEABEES.

The 100 volunteers were rewarded for their efforts with an exciting football game as Louisiana State University defeated Arizona State University in the annual classic.



Veterans' Day







On Veterans' Day, 1967 we paid tribute to all those men who have served in the military service of the United States. The true meaning of this day was especially clear in our minds for we had just completed our first deployment in Vietnam. Like many before us have done, we stopped for a moment to remember and honor comrades who fell in the service of their country.

Third class Equipment Operator Francis E. Camden, Jr. and Constructionman Builder Murlin E. Boon died after Viet Cong mortars smashed into MCB 62's camp at Phu Bai in the pre-dawn hours of January 20, 1968.

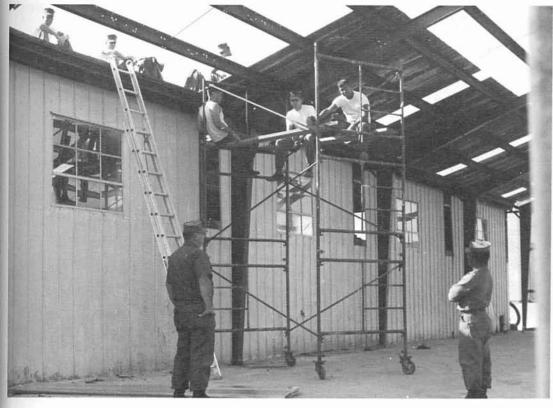
The Camden-Boon Armory was dedicated to stand as a permanent monument to their memory.





Projects





Cities located near military establishments often cast a rather leery eye on servicemen. The citizens of Gulfport, however, treat MCB 62 men warmly. They know that 62 SEABEES are the best of neighbors.

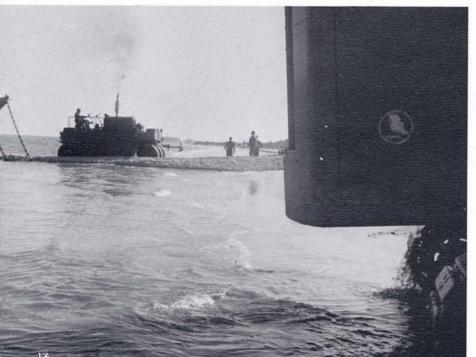
Working in an extensive community service program, the 62 'Bees undertook various projects in the area including a swimming pool and director's office at the Ita Kana Girl Scout Camp, a shoreline survey for a proposed lake boundary, finishing work on a structurally complete teen center in Long Beach, and painting and remodeling of an addition to a retarded children's home near Gulfport. We also helped with base improvements at the SEABEE Center.

Through projects such as these, MCB 62 has won the respect and friendship of the residents of the Gulfport area, proving that SEABEES are indeed good neighbors.



Embarcation Exercise . . .







... Ship







One weekend in October we hit the high seas for an assault operation reminiscent of the old days of the 62nd Naval Construction Battalion. Our mission was to capture a beachhead on Ship Island, about 12 miles off the coast of Gulfport.

We hit the beach ready for anything. Quickly moving our heavy construction equipment from the landing craft that had brought us to worksites on the island, we dug in and went to work.

Of course, the whole operation was a training exercise, and the sessions of instruction in such things as the proper way to lay runway matting made it difficult to keep up the illusion that we were scoring a momentous victory. Still, it made for an interesting weekend and we did learn something.

And if the enemy had been there . . .





Military Training

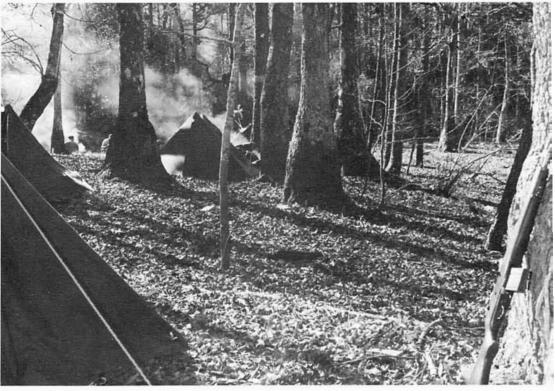
Military Training started with a week of trying to stay awake while being taught the importance of azimuths and how to avoid weakening your spring by filling your M-16 clip too full. This was followed by a week of lying on your belly in the mud and counting those little red flags someone kept waving across your target.

The fun really started, however, the third week when we learned that playing war was more than the John Wayne movies led us to believe. The flicks never showed foxholes being dug in the frozen ground or SEABEES huddling under a poncho waiting to yell "Bang-Bang" before someone shoots off a blank three feet from their noses









. . . On November 17 we were transported to Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, and placed under the tender, loving care of the Marines. There our military skills were (supposedly) honed to a razor sharpness as we attended various specialized classes. This was all climaxed by a field exercise where we set up a defensive perimeter and prepared to stave off our Marine "aggressors".

The Marines overran our lines (mainly because they wouldn't 'die' when they were supposed to) but did not capture our Command Post. Due to the quick thinking and action of a SEABEE, they were led to believe that the CP was Sick Bay. The aggressors proceeded to hurl smoke grenades into the real Sick Bay, nearly asphyxiating the doctor and two or three corpsmen.

Finally, we started back to homeport to prepare for mount-out. Trained and indoctrinated, we were secure in the knowledge that we were combat ready. Watch out, Vietnam! Here comes 62!



We learned to build bridges . . .

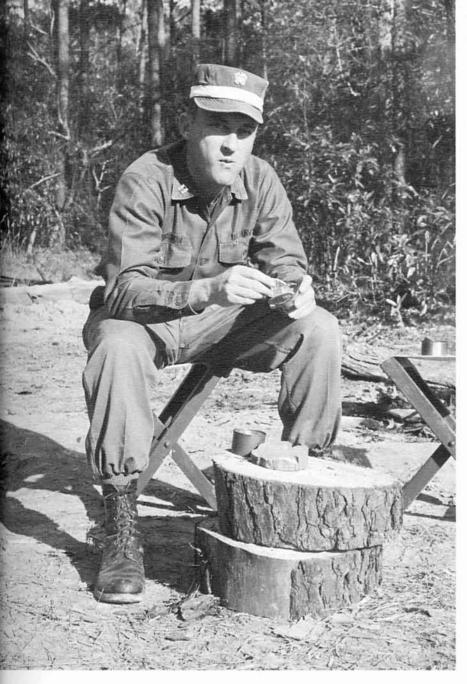




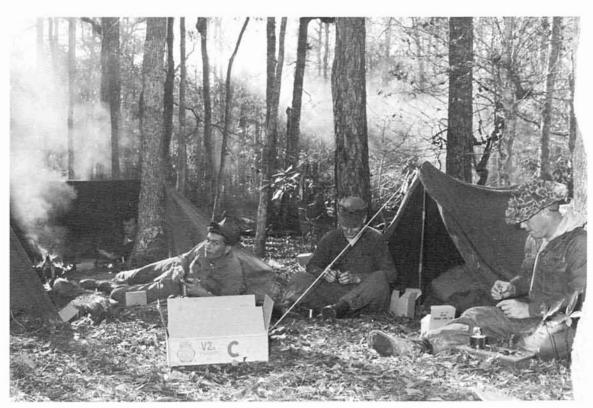
... to conduct patrols ...

... to take our medicine.



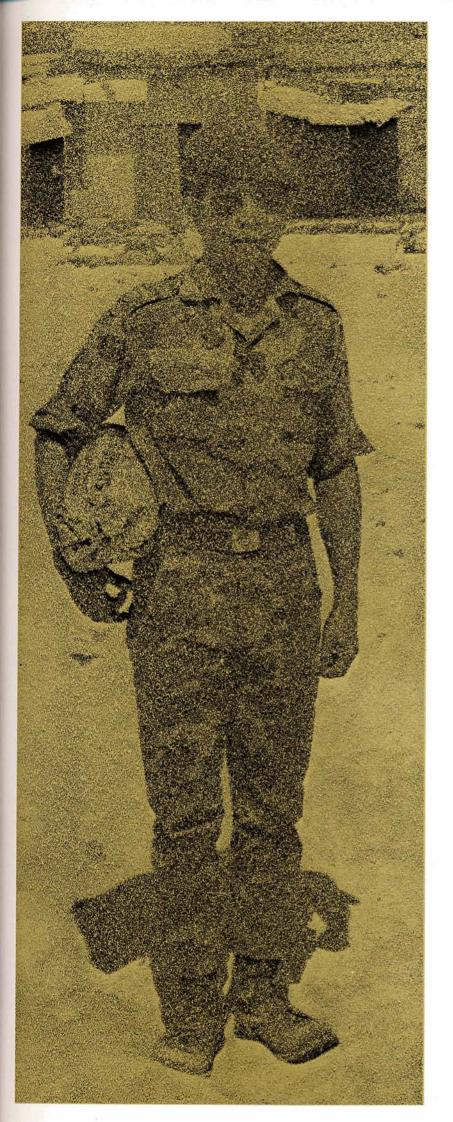


But most of all . . . We learned to LOVE C-rats!



Off to Vietnam





FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Good Morning Vietnam!



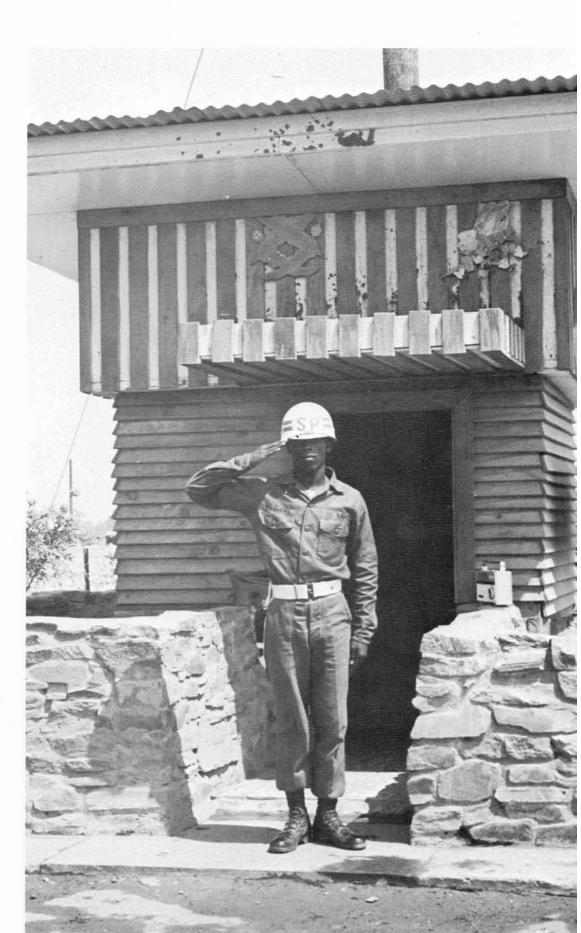




Welcome to the war!









No Place Like Home

We were really there. The dust and heat told us it wasn't just a bad dream. Muster (Nobody skipped out in Japan?), into the man-haulers (All right, let's knock off that 'mooing' back there!), through the gates of the airport, and we were on our way to our home of the next eight months.

We had heard a lot of rumors about this place called Red Beach . . . resort area of Vietnam, completely surrounded by Grunts and never yet been hit. Most of us didn't really believe it — but we still hoped.

We all crowded around the windows of the cattle cars to check out the situation. The shacks, the strange landscape, the bodies and the funny little cars and busses all blurred by — all except the faces. They kind of stayed with you. Faces of a million kids and faces older than time itself. Faces of laughter and faces of fear.

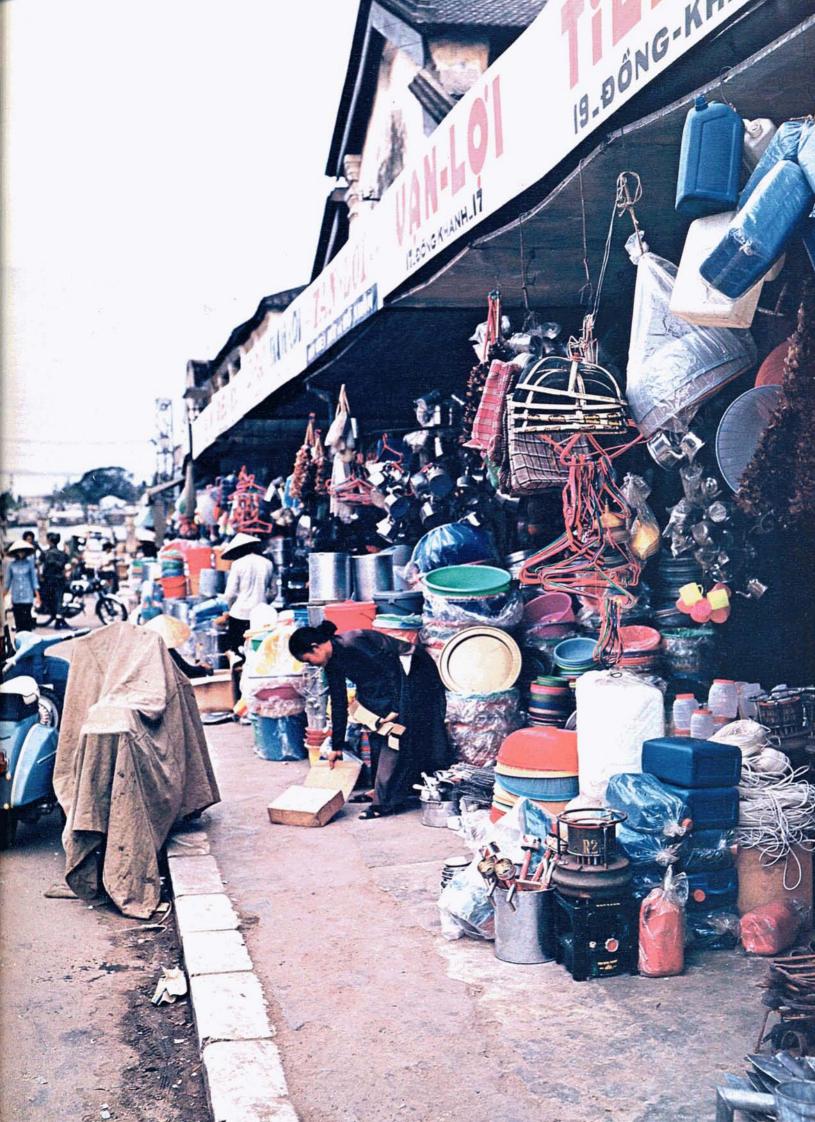
Finally, a long stretch of sand, a couple of turns, and there it was Home?

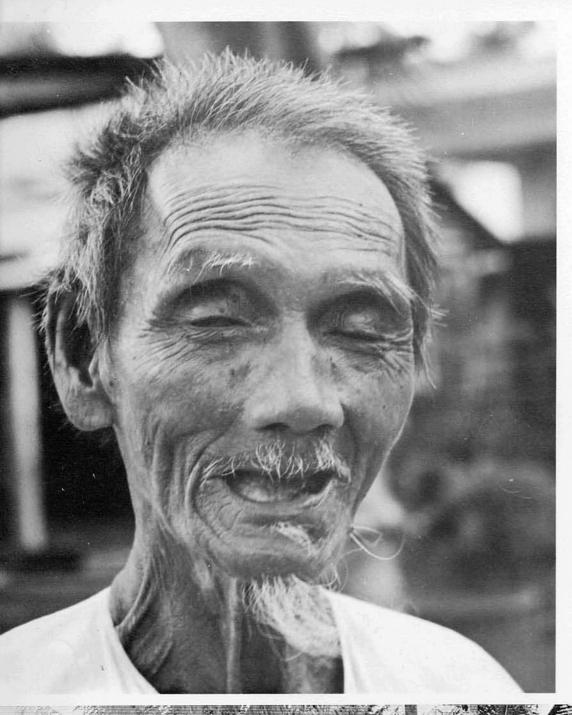






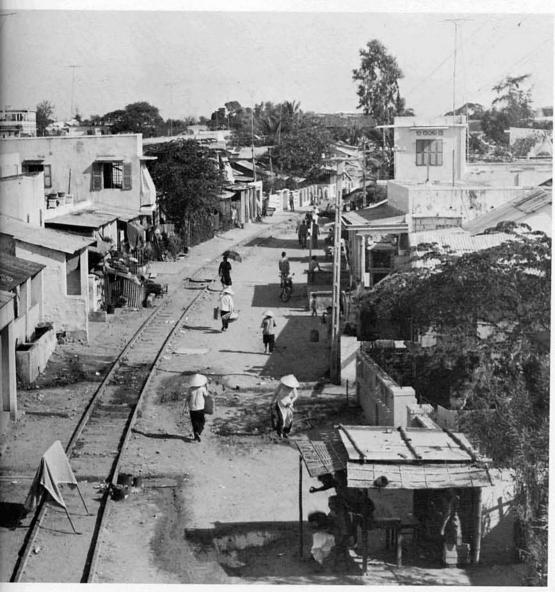




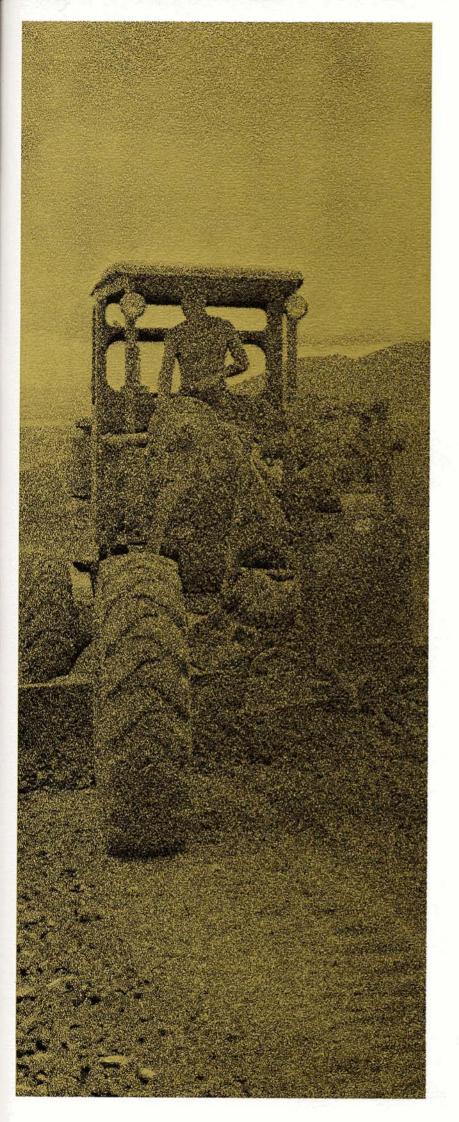






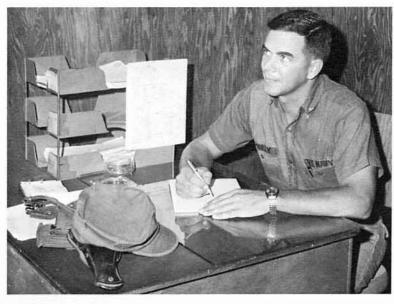


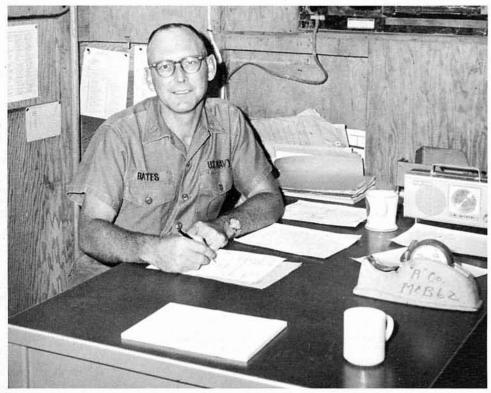




ALFA

Alfa Officers





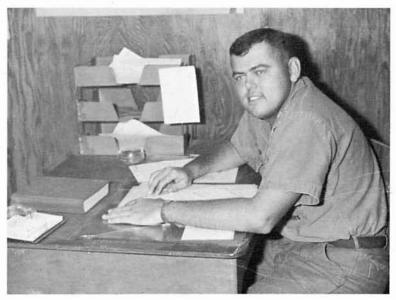
Top: LTJG Philip D. Gully, Assistant Company Commander. Left: LT Ronald G. Bates, Company Commander. Below: LTJG Thomas W. Dutsch, Assistant Company Commander.



LCDR Thomas E. Hale, former Company Commander.



LTJG Billy McCaleb, former Asst. Company Commander.





Drilling wells is one of Alfa's special functions.

MCB 62's construction effort would not be nearly as effective were it not for the trucks, bulldozers, cranes, ditch diggers and many other pieces of mobile equipment used on almost every project the Battalion undertakes. The men who operate and care for these mighty mechanical monsters comprise 62's Alfa Company.

The "Alfa Animals", as they are (usually) affectionately called, were responsible during the deployment for keeping the Battalian's wheels rolling. They operated the transportation pool, machine shop and automative and heavy equipment maintenance shops. They supplied both the machines and the men to handle them.

The company served as subcontractor for site preparation, excavation, hauling, pile driving, concrete batching and numerous related activities. They also served as prime contractors on earth moving projects and paving.

Alfa is the company that literally moved mountains. At Ammunition Supply Point #2 (ASP-2), EO's on bull-dozers and graders moved more than 500,000 cubic yards of earth to form berms for munitions storage.

In addition to mountains of earthwork, the "Alfa Animals" paved many roads in the Danang area. They used 16,000 tons of crushed rock and 400 tons of asphalt paving material on the roads at the First Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion camp. They covered 80 per cent of the project's roads with rock, paved 15 per cent of these roads and completely paved a huge parking lot.

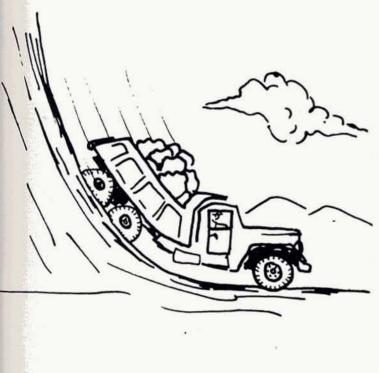
Besides plenty of asphalt, there was a large amount of rock used by the Equipment Operators. Alfa used over 11,000 tons of crushed rock at the Force Logistics Command (FLC) camp. The rock was spread over and ditches were dug around 750,000 square foot graded area to be used as open storage by the Marine support group.

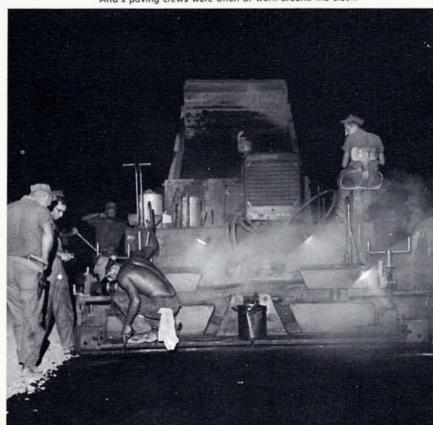
Not all the work Alfa Company did was in the area where MCB 62's base camp was located. Company details went as far north as Phu Bai and 20 miles south of Danang to Hoi An-

A contingent of men was sent north to lend support to MCB 133 maintaining and improving National Route One in that area. EO's drove trucks and operated other equipment while the CM's kept the vehicles on the road.

During the Red Beach deployment, Alfa Company played a major part in these and many other projects, The "Animals" contributed much to the success of the Battalion.

Alfa's paving crews were often at work around the clock.



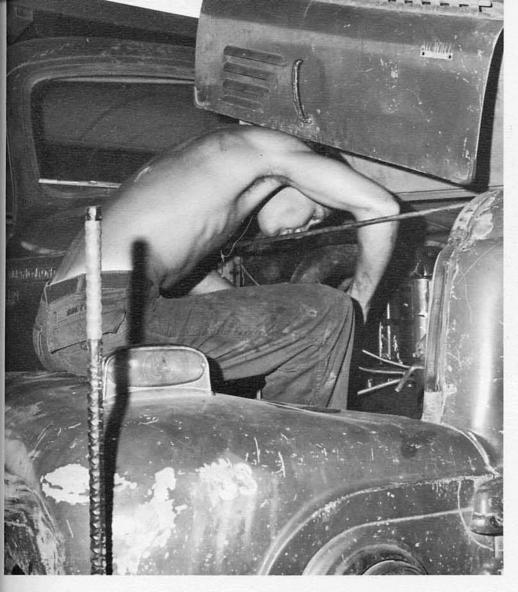


Right: EO3 Howard P. Boehme compacts gravel at the first Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion parking lot. Below: MR2 Gary Purdue at work in Alfa's machinery repair shop. Lower right: 62 SEABEES work with Marines to clear a defensive perimeter near Danang.









Alfa Does a Little of Everything

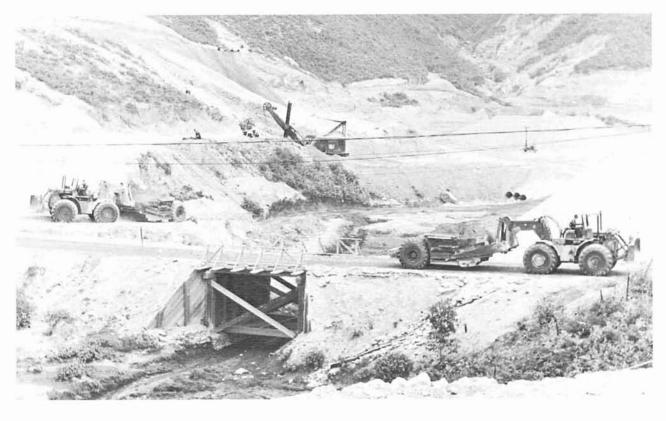
Left: Kenneth W. Buettner, CMCN, works on a truck motor. Lower left: Alfa's mulching machine was responsible for the few bright patches of grass on the Red Beach sands. Below: EO3 A. H. Altrock and EO3 K. L. Clolinger work to keep the big trucks rolling.

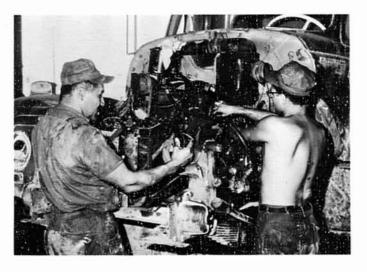


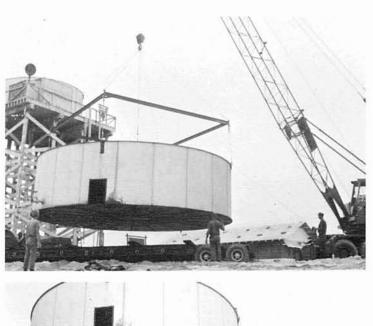




The machines are extensions of the men—a little more muscle for a little bigger job.













Alfa's giant crane lifts a 42,000 gallon water tank into place atop a 36-foot tower.

Phu Bai Detail

We worked with other SEEBEE units to help improve National Route #I, a vital logistics and communications link in South Vietnam.



Battalion SEABEES hauled thousands of tons of fill dirt as they widened and improved route

Albert H. Altrock, EO3 Michael J. Anthony, CM3 Louis K. Atkinson, CM2 Jimmy A. Austin, EO3 Timothy K. Bärry, EO3

Richard D. Baugh, CM3 Robert Lee Baylis, EO2 David P. Becker, EO1 John C. Beecher, CMCN Dean I. Bellmer, CM2

Joseph R. Benno, MRFN Neal W. Bicknese, EO1 Curtis W. Bierer, CMCN Howard P. Boehme, EO3 John R. Boliek, EO3

Phillip L. Bondie, EO2 Rodney C. Boss, EO3 Raymond R. Bost, Jr., EO2 Joseph E. Bowles, CMCN Neil C. Bowman, EO3









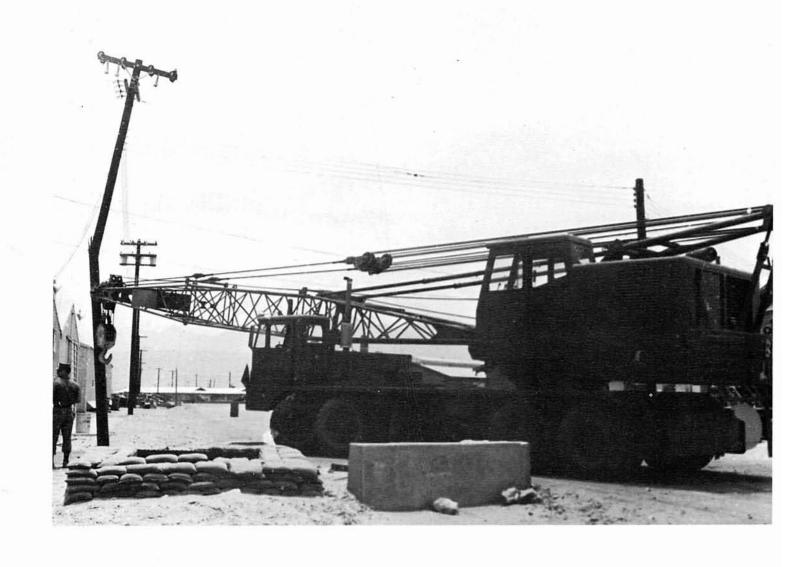
Roy M. Emmons, CMC Whitney Meyers, EOC

Perry S. Morris, CMC Benjamin C. Wray, EOC





Above: MCB 62 Equipment Operators level fill dirt on highway #1 near Phu Bai. Left: Donald E. Rouse, EO2, cleans a discharge chute on MCB 133's asplfalt plant. The Phu Bai detail worked with MCB 133 and other Battalions to upgrade route #1.

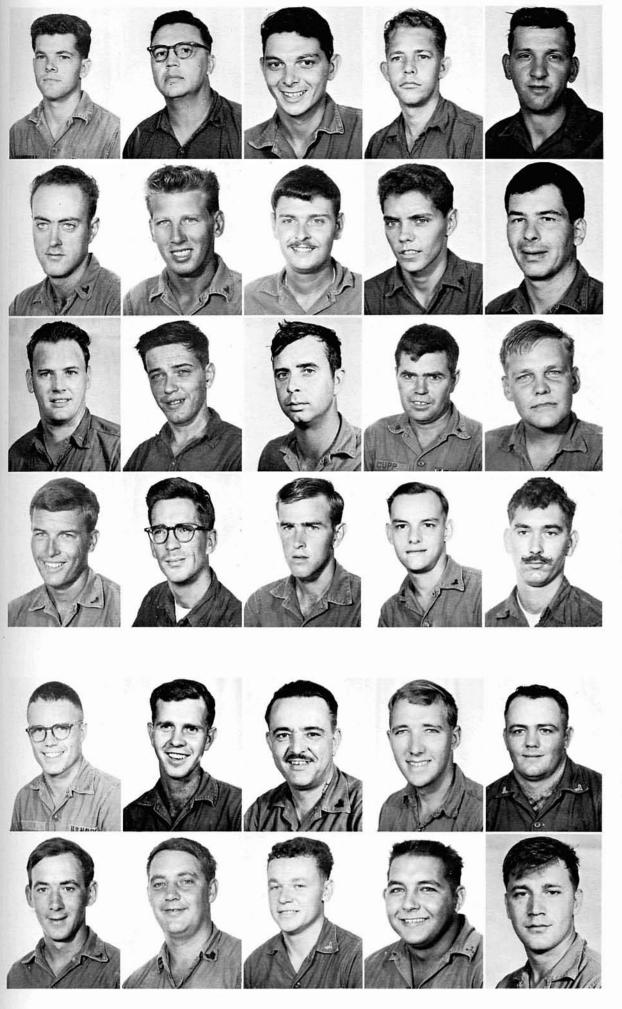


Alfa Helps Remodel Camp

Timothy E. Bragg, CM3 Robert L. Brast, EO3 Gerald W. Brookshire, CM1 Franklin D. Brown, CM3 Keith W. Brown, EO2

James H. Bryant, EO2 Thomas R. Buckley, CM3 Kenneth W. Buettner, CMCN Climmon T. Burnette, EO1 Marvis J. Cameron, EO2





James J. Campbell, CM2 Gilbert S. Carnighan, CM2 Ronald A. Carter, EO3 Roger D. Champine, SN Francis J. Cheschi, EO2

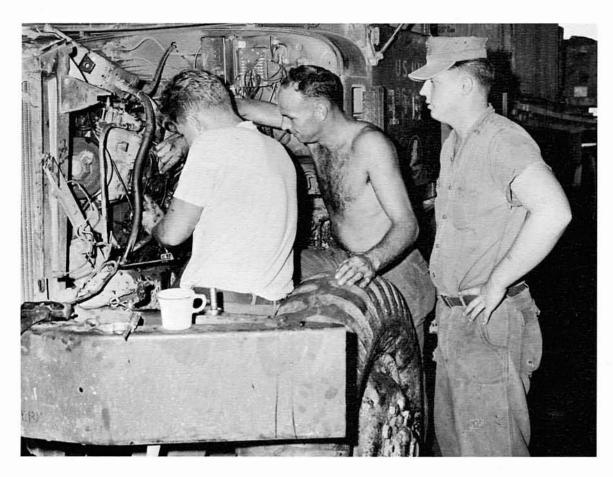
Douglas R. Church, EO2 Kenneth L. Clolinger, EO2 Michael J. Collins, EO3 John L. Connelly, EO2 Joseph W. Cotten, Jr., EO3

Bill R. Crawford, EO3 Hiram W. Crossett, III, CM2 Claud R. Cruse, EO3 William K. Cupp, EO2 Robert J. Dacy, EOCN

Claude R. Daigneault, EO2 Charles G. Davis, EO3 William F. Davis, EOCN William R. Degon, CM2 Bobby F. Dehart, EO3

John E. Desch, CM2 Robert L. Dobler, EO3 Henry E. E. Dopler, CM1 John A. Durkee, EO3 James A. Ferrell, EO3

Robert D. Fisher, EO2 Claude W. Fortner, EO1 James A. Fournier, EO2 Joseph R. Frigon, EO2 Fredrick F. Fuchs, CM3



H. T. Kelly, CM3; D. I. Bellmer, CM2; and D. L. Ironmonger, CM3, work on a truck in the Alfa Company automotive shop.

Auto Shop Services Gas Powered Vehicles

Robert E. Fugleberg, Jr., EO3 Richard L. Furne, EO1 Warren E. Garrison, Jr., CM2 Charles E. Gatlin, CM3

Ralph E. Gill, CMCN Wayne H. Hammack, CMCN Charles E. Haray, Jr., CN James H. Hartman, EO2

Richard D. Harvey, CM3 Daniel M. Henne, EO3 Gerald R. Hill, CM2 Leon C. Hirst, EO2

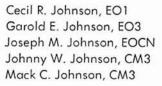




Cale M. Hoffman, EO3 William L. Hood, CM3 Henry Hopkins, CN Lawrence L. Howard, CN Danny E. Hughes, EO2

David E. Hulfachor, EO3 John R. Hunt, EO3 Raymond W. Hunt, EOCN Vernon L. Hunt, CN David M. Husby, EO3

James C. Idell, III, EO3 Pablo Illas Bourdon, CM2 John R. Ingalls,EOCN Essix J. Jackson,EO1 Robert Jackson, Jr., EO3



Automotive Shop. (left to right) Danny Ironmonger, CM3; H. W. Crossett, CM2; G. R. Hill, CM2; A. L. Martinez, CM2; H. T. Kelly, CM3; D. I. Bellmer, CM2; R. E. Gill, CMCN; W. R. Degon, CM2; and G. W. Brookshire, CM1 (kneeling). Vietnamese boy, Lop, works as a shop helper.



Richard B. Johnson, CM3 Wiley T. Johnson, CM3 Arthur Judd, EO3 Bradford D. Kallerson, EO3 Orien A. Kastl, CM3

Harry T. Kelly, CM3 John E. Kendrick, Jr., EO2 Jimmy L. Kennedy, CM2 William G. Kirchner, EO2 Curtis J. Kiser, CM3

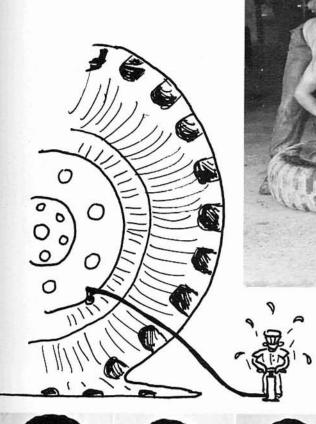
Thomas J. Knoerl, CM2 Gerald D. Koenen, CM1 Douglas A. Kratzer, EO3 William R. Kvarnstrom, CM1 Larry R. Lawrence, EO2

Jessey D. Lefevere, EO3 Bertram C. Legg, EO2 James H. Lemon, EO1 Dayle Lewis, EOCN Edmond L. Lish, EO2

James C. Locke, EOCN Glen C. Ludban, EOCN Charles L. Magness, Jr., CM3 Edward L. Malecek, CM2 Thomas D. Margetich, CM3

Robert L. Martin, CM3 Alberto L. Martinez, CM2 Stephan Mate, EO2 Robert E. Matthews, EOCN Fred C. Maynard, CM3





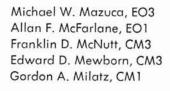


Tire Shop Always Busy





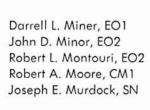












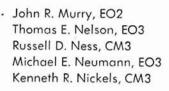






















Robert E. Northup, EOCN Lloyd B. O'Brien, EO3 Arthur S. O'Bryant, CM3 Edwin L. O'Bryant, EO3 Dennis C. Ohmer, CM3

Delos L. Oliver, EO2 David L. Owens, EO3 John R. Parmeter, EO1 Arthur V. Peymbroeck, EO1 William M. Pierce, CM3

Charles Polacek, EO2 Garry R. Price, CM3 Robert V. Priest, EOCN Roy D. Puckett, EO1 William E. Pugh, CM3

Gary F. Purdue, MR2 William E. Railey, EO1 Zack W. Rainwater, CM3 Herman Rambo, EO1 Charles W. Rea, EO3

Robert B. Reddick, EO2 Karl L. Reiser, CM3 Fred B. Reynolds, CM3 Francis M. Risley, CM2 William L. Roll, CM2

Donald E. Rouse, EO2 Leland B. Senn, CM3 Alonza A. Shade, EO2 Donald B. Sidaway, EO3 Richard L. Simmons, EO3

Alvin E. Simonson, EO2 George R. Sims, EO3 Richard D. Sims, EO3 Jerry W. Smith, SN Arthur E. Snyder, EO3







Curtis H. Speak, CM1 Howard T. Speed, EO1 Jerry W. Stanfill, EO3 Elbert L. Sullivan, CM3 Terry D. Surrette, EO3

James T. Tadlock, CM2 William G. Tankovich, EOCN David R. Tarbet, EO3 Alan B. Tarpley, EO3 Richard H. Thomas, CN



Buel T. Thompson, EO3 Ronnie E. Vansickle, EO3 Clifton L. Vantine, CM1 Kenneth S. Vodden, SW2 Patrick A. Voelkel, CM3

Tommy R. Wagner, CM2 John L. Wallace, CM3 Robert M. Ward, CM3 Eric R. Wendt, CM3 Keith B. Williams, EO1

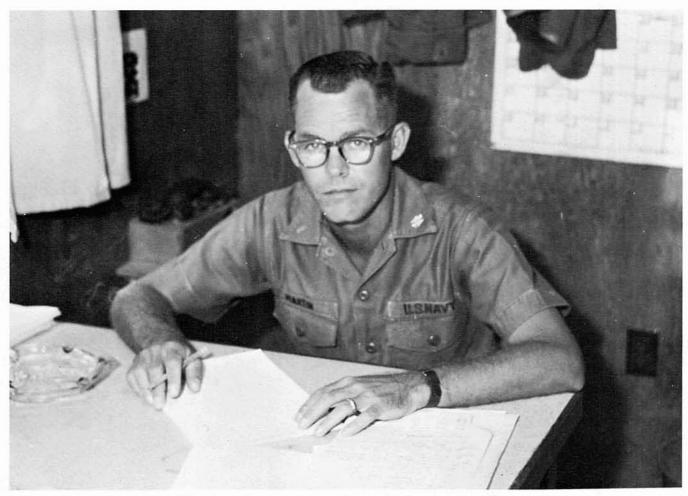
Cecil M. Wilson, EOCN Thomas A. Wilson, MR3 Joseph D. Winburn, EO3 Gary Winningham, EO3 Michael G. Wood, CM3

Jerald L. Wright, EO2 Virgil P. Yablonski, EO2 Robert M. Yager, EO2 James L. Yoder, CM3 Phillip P. Zimmerman, EO2





BRAVO



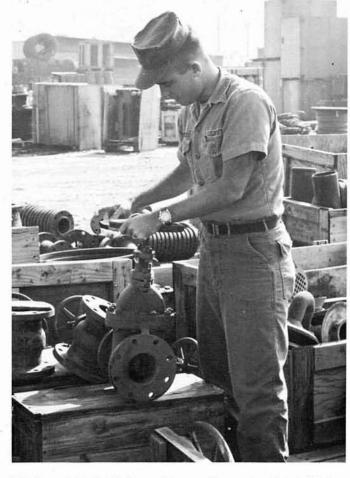
WO1 Norman R. Martin, Company Commander, Communications Officer.

Bravo Officers



LT Clifford Street, former Company Commander.





 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{LTJG}}$ Kenneth W. Lovell, former Company Commander, Material Liaison Officer.

Pipes and poles were among Bravo's pet projects.





They provided a steady flow of water, power and communications.



Howard Dugger, UTCS, checks work in the Bravo electricians' shop.



Bringing in water lines was part of Bravo's job.

The days were hot, the work was hard and dirty, and the evenings were often filled with unbearable ennui. We were able to "hack it" only because of the comforts of a refreshing shower, a cooling fan, a cold beer at the club and, possibly, a tape recording of our favorite music.

Bravo Company, which kept a constant supply of water and electricity flowing our way throughout the deployment, was responsible for these things. Through their efforts we were a lot more comfortable than we may have expected when we first saw the barren sand and drab huts of Camp Haskins.

Aside from the obvious comforts made possible by water and electricity, Bravo Company was also responsible for maintaining and operating the hundreds of communications lines in the camp, and the boiler room which provided steam and hot water for the galley and the laundry, and the ice plant. An average of 1,800 pounds of ice was produced each day for use around the camp.

The company also installed and serviced the air conditioning and refrigeration equipment used around the camp. The refrigeration equipment allowed storage of perishable food items in the galley and cooled the beer and soft drinks for the various clubs.

To support the Battalion's camp maintenance projects, Bravo operated carpentry, steelwork and painting shops. Besides handling any camp improvement jobs, these shops worked on materials that were used by other MCB 62 Companies on assigned construction projects.

The Utilitiesmen and Electricians not only maintained the water and electrical service, but they made several additions and improvements in these areas.

Our water reserve was provided by five wells located within the confines of the camp. An intricate plumbing system connected the wells with the water plant, three ground tanks and the tower tank. The system served MCB 62 and the Third Naval Construction Brigade located adjacent to our Camp Haskins South base.

In addition to their work in the camp, Bravo men worked on numerous Battalion projects in the Danang area. Among these were showers for the Seventh Maintenance Battalion, water and electrical systems for the Marines at Ammunition Supply Point #2, three wells for the Force Service Regiment, rehabilitation of the communications system at the First Marine Air Wing camp, and plumbing and electrical work for the new chapel, also at the First MAW base.

Thanks to Bravo's work, both within Camp Haskins itself and on Battalion projects, our deployment was more pleasant and more successful.



Variety of Tasks In Bravo Shops







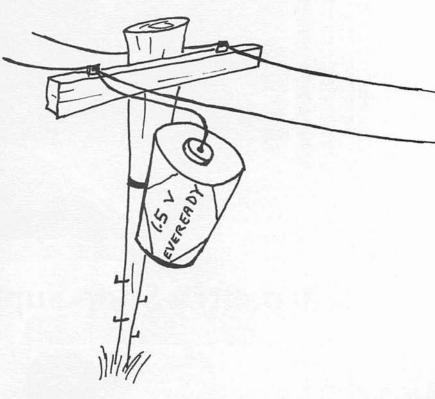


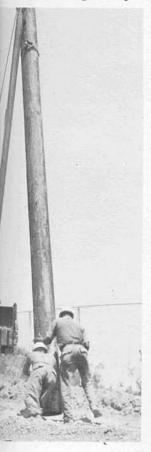




Across rice paddies, over mountains. Poles go up at ASP-2

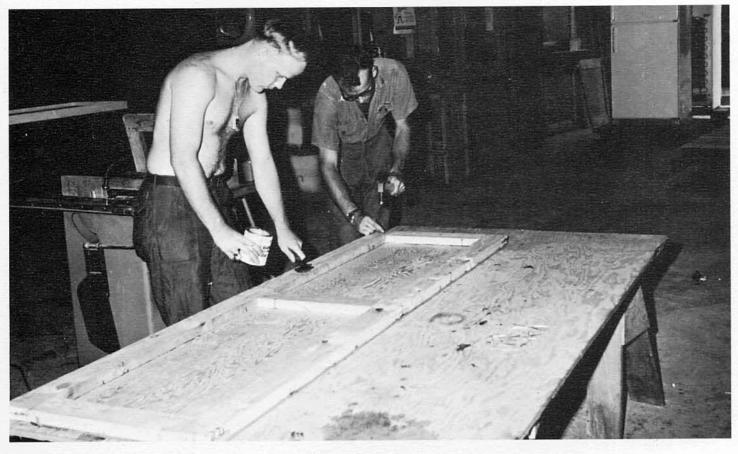
Putting up Power Lines, A Bravo Co. Specialty











Larry Jarrach, CN, and Michael Brogan, BU2, make a door in the Bravo carpentry shop.

Carpentry Shop Supports Construction

Robert L. R. Ashley, CEC Howard D. Dugger, UTCS Donald C. Lawrence, UTC Randell L. Monahan, UTC

James D. Anderson, UT3 Wesley F. Atkins, CE3 Gary R. Atnip, UT2 Lawrence A. Boehle, CE3

Paul C. Bree, CE3 Michael D. Brogan, BU2 Gary M. Brooks, UT3 James M. Broomfield, CN





Dennis R. Brun, UT2 Horace F. Brundrige, Jr., UT2 Robert C. Campo, UT3 John R. Carr, CE3 James R. Cartier, SWCN

James R. Cobb, UT1 Marvin E. Cornett, CE3 Frank J. Csordos, UT2 Guye H. Daniels, CE3 Robert J. Davidson, UT3



Arnold J. Davis, UTCN Milton T. Davis, III, UT2 Roy M. Day, UT2 Craig R. Delaughter, BU3 John J. Doherty, UT3

Malcolm D. Donaldson, CE2 Vern E. Doty, CE3 Michael R. Dougherty, BU3 Charles T. Dunn, CE3 John R. Enfinger, CE3

Kenneth J. Erickson, CE3 Harold J. Forshey, CE3 William H. Frenette, CN Stephan G. Gibson, RM1 Robert F. Goodman, CE3

Phillip B. Goodnight, BU2 Charles R. Graves, CE1 James L. Hardison, CE3 Harold L. Hart, UT3 Donald L. Haskins, CE2

Electricity . . . Communications





Lemuel W. Heflin, Jr., UT2 Robert B. Hinshaw, UT2 Gary W. Hjelm, UT2 Stephan J. Hoosier, CE3 Stephen E. Hornack, CE2

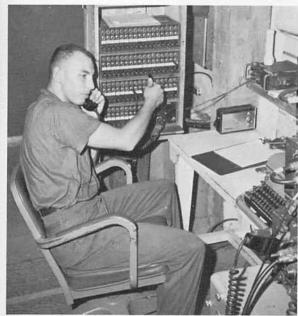
Steven H. Huber, UT3 Donald D. Huinker, SFM2 Lawrence W. Jarrach, CN Larry E. Jennings, CE2 Harold F. Jessmore, CE3





Ferrell D. Johns, CECA Robert E. Johnson, CE2 Denis T. Jolley, CE3 Alvin A. Kennedy, UT3 Harold S. Knowles, CE3

Curtis K. Lott, UT2 Donald A. Macintosh, UT3 Jerry R. McGee, SW2 James W. Medley, CE3 Donald P. Milligan, CE2



R. A. Richards, ET3, at Battalion switchboard.



W. L. Rayfield, ET1, maintains communications equipment.



Howard A. Muse, Jr., CE3 James A. Oakes, SW3 Joseph P. Oravsky, CE3 Ronald J. Orona, CMCN Ronald J. Ouellet, UT1

Larry M. Owsley, ET3 David C. Parker, CE3 Darrell L. Parrott, UT3 Leo J. Paskov, CE3 Marco A. Perez, CE3



Ice for construction crews' water jugs was of prime importance.

Ice Plant Averages 1,800 Pounds a Day

Robert W. Phillips, UT3 Cloyce E. Pillow, CE1 Michael J. Prieur, UT3 Larry J. Raburn, CE3

George A. Race, UT2 James L. Ray, BU3 William L. Rayfield, ET1 Richard A. Richards, ET3

Franklin J. Rivera, SA Richard T. Romano, CE3 Lowell A. Ross, UT3 Fredrick W. Rowe, UT3





William E. Schonemann, SWCN Gene R. Seidl, CN Lawrence J. Siebold, EA3 Ronald D. Singer, BU3 Otis D. Smith, SW2

Ralph C. Steszewski, CE3 Barry H. Stone, UT3 Ravis E. Stotts, CE2 Frank D. Taylor, UT3 Wayne E. Temple, UT3

Stephen Toris, BU1 Joel P. Webber, BU3 Larry W. Wheeler, UT3 Richard B. Whitman, CE3 Donald O. Wiek, UT3

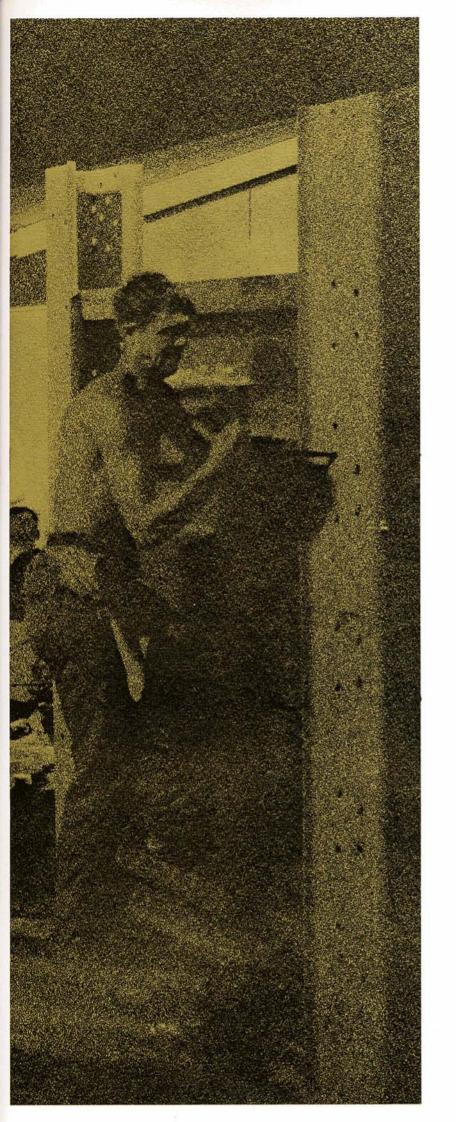
Edgar J. Wilson, CE2 James A. Wilson, CE3 Frederick J. Withrow, CE3 Jerry L. Yarbrough, UT3 William E. York, CE3

Pure Water was Always Plentiful

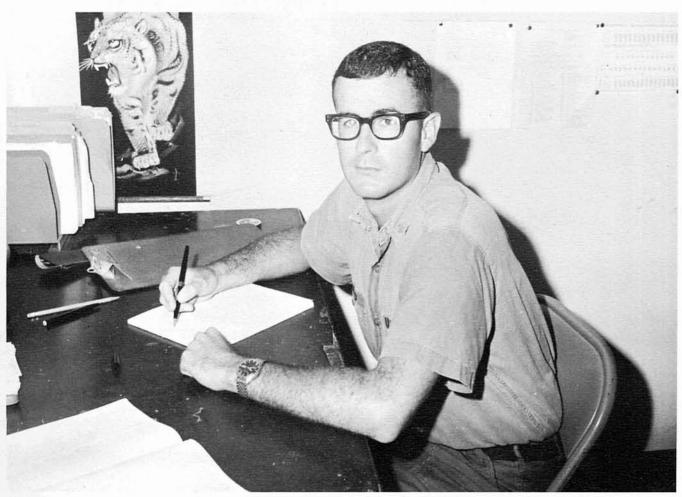


Barry Stone, UT3, checks a valve in the Camp Haskins water purification plant. Maintaining our water supply was one of Bravo's many jobs.



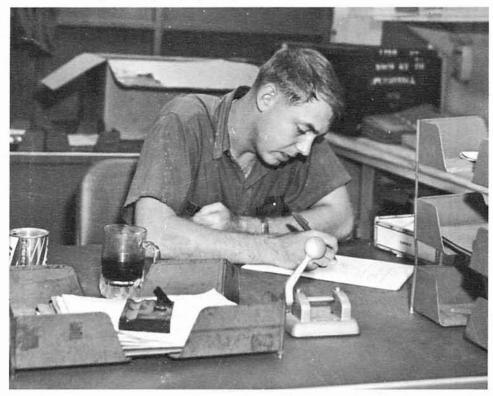


CHARLIE



LTJG Jeffrey E. Howard, Company Commander.

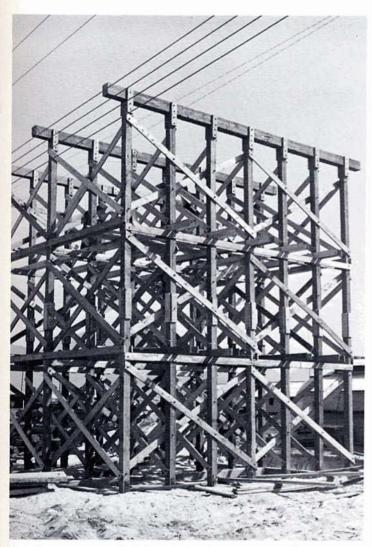
Charlie Officers



LTJG Eugene A. Graves, Assistant Company Commander.



Zilba Bacus, BU3, and Johnathon Grohs, BU3, place a support stanchion in a Butler Building at FLC



A 36 foot water tower built by Charlie Company as part of a joint effort with Alfa and Bravo Companies on the FLC water supply system project.

As one of the two general construction companies in MCB 62, Charlie Company furnished steelworking and building support to Battalion projects during our deployment to Red Beach.

Builders and steelworkers, the rates which make up the "C" Company organization, are primarily responsible for wood, concrete, and steel construction.

Often "C" Company Builder crews will work from the beginning of a project until the very end, contributing their various skills to different phases of the job until it is completely finished.

Usually the first step is erecting forms for the foundation of a structure and then pouring the concrete. They then build wooden framework, partitions and walls. After the job is completed the crew applies the finishing touches with paint and varnish

In some cases, such as the MCB 62 wardroom and the 3rd NCB Officers' Club, the men do special finish work on fireplaces and bars.

Other jobs with which the Builders are tasked are the building of towers. During the deployment "C" Company BU's erected a 50 foot high timber observation tower for a unit of the Army's First Air Cavalry and a 35 foot timber tower topped by a 1,000 gallon water tank for the FLC Marine base.

Road and bridge work came under the jurisdiction of Charlie Company too. On the Nam-O River Bridge just north of Camp Haskins, steelworkers and builders replaced 600 feet of rotten timber planking and rusted steel catwalks, and constructed six guard houses for the Marine sentries who stand watch at the bridge.

More bridge work was done when a detachment of Charlie Company personnel went north to repair the Truoi River Bridge which was damaged by Viet Cong mortar and rocket fire. For their fine work and hasty completion of the job, the men on the detachment were awarded with letters of commendation.

Elsewhere on detachment, a group of Charlie Company Builders and Steelworkers worked jointly with Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 302 at Nha Trang in setting up a Naval communications center.

Other Company projects included steel reinforced pre-cast concrete bridge beams, rigid frame steel Butler buildings for FLC, wood frame buildings for the 7th Marine Engineers and for the First Marine Division, the placing of a 24' steel beam for an addition to the Marine Headquarters at FLC, machine gun bunkers and steel-lined foxholes and camp improvement projects such as sidewalks.

In camp, the Builders were responsible for the operation of a shop which sharpened saws for the entire Battalion. The shop was also responsible for the care and inventory of "C" Company tools and equipment.

Working with all other departments in the Battalion, Charlie Company applied its special technical skills to all phases of a project to achieve its construction objectives.

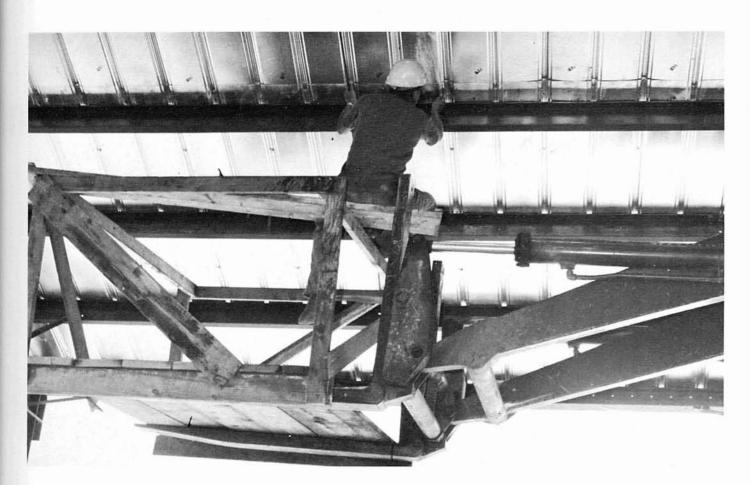
Butlers At FLC

One of the last projects of the deployment was a Butler Building complex for the FLC Maintenance Battalion.













John P. Dauria, BUC

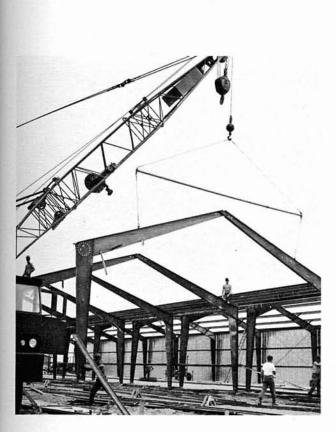






Concrete work was a major part of Charlie's task during the Danang deployment.





Erecting pre-engineered Butler Buildings was another of the assignments that kept Charlie busy.



Terry W. Albertson, BU3 Allen R. Anderson, BU2 Jesse C. Ashley, BU2 Zilba L. Bacus, BU3

Ronald J. Barwick, CN Rene N. Beauchene, BU3 Robert R. Bertrand, BU3 Michael A. Bertucci, SWCN

Stewart F. Bishop, SN Allen Blide, BUCN John D. Bracaliello, BU3 Kerry D. Brewer, CN

Stephen G. Brown, SW3 Billie T. Burtchett, SW3 John A. Byrd, SW2 Steven M. Calande, BU3 Armando B. Campa, BU3

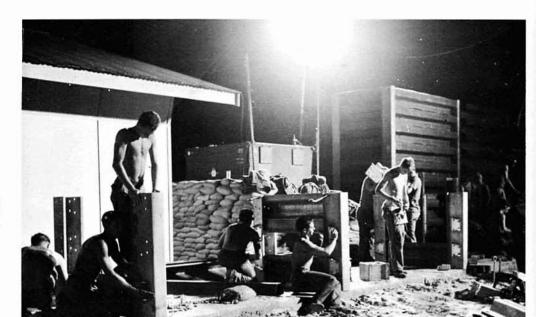
Richard W. Campbell, BU3 James M. Capps, SW1 Larry D. Cargill, BU2 Glenn S. Caron, BU3 Ralph E. Cowan, BU3

George J. Curtin, BU3 Theodore R. Day, BU2 Thomas A. Eudy, BU3 James D. Flory, CN Jerry L. Garard, BU3

Wilbur Garrett, CA Billy W. Gilbert, SW3 John P. Gravellese, Jr., SWCN Johnathon P. Grohs, BU3 Gerald C. Haas, CN

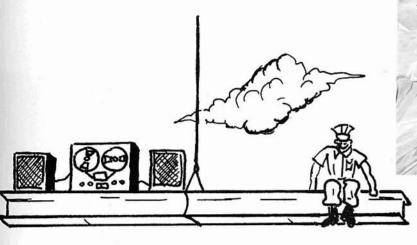


Work Went On Round the Clock



Charlie Company worked night and day on a revetment at the Force Logistics Command communications facility.

Teeth Sharpened





Joseph Lisuzzo, CN, makes a minor adjustment to the saw sharpener in the Charlie Company tool room.









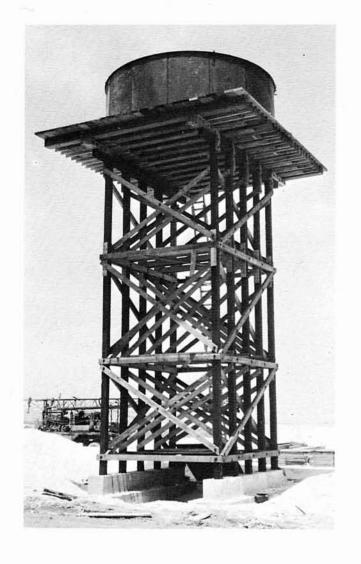






Roy P. Haley, Jr., BU2 James C. Hall, BUCN Richard D. Hodges, BU3 Charles E. Hoffman, BU3 James E. Howe, II, SW3

David L. Kemp, BU3 Matthew J. Konsack, Jr., CN Robert F. Krauss,BU1 Robert M. Kurczynski, BU3 Kenneth R. Laetsch, BU3





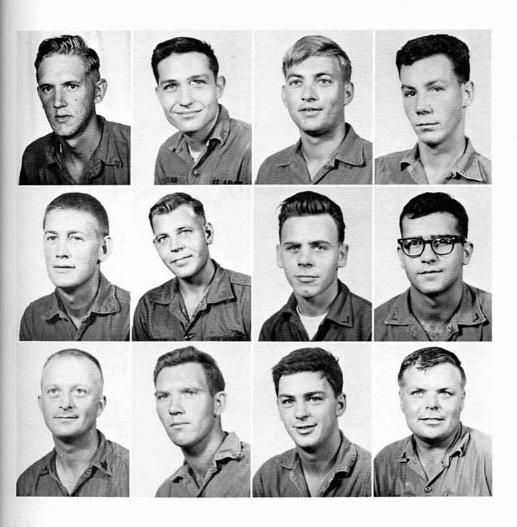
Tower Specialists . . . First Platoon

Earnest G. Lail, BU3 Gene Landavazo, CN Michael E. Lappert, BU2 Denis G. LaRoche, BU3 Donald J. Latiolas, CN

Larry R. Lauterbach, BU3 Joseph Lisuzzo, BUCN Loren A. Lohrbach, BU3 Leslie C. Long, SW2 Joe F. Love, CN

Patrick D. Lyons, CN William T. MacQuarrie, BU2 Jerry A. Magourik, BU3 Robert W. Maines, BU3 Nathan W. Marple, Jr., BU3





John P. Matson, BUCN Edward J. McCloud, BU3 Frederick K. McGee, BUCN John T. McGee, SW3

Bobby G. Meece, BU3 Dennis T. Meiman, SW3 Richard A. Meyers, BU3 Richard J. Micucci, SW3

Edson J. Middleton, SW1 Clinton G. Morphies, SW3 Robert D. Murray, SWCN George M. Nesbit, BU2



Charlie Builders Help with Hospital



Above: Mike Nesbit, BU2, and Stanley Sanford, BU3, the two MCB 62 men who supervised the construction of a new children's hospital at the Force Logistics Command camp, check progress against the plans. Left: Nesbit explains brick laying techniques to two of the Vietnamese laborers working on the project. He and Sanford supervised a crew of about 30 Vietnamese to build the 200-bed hospital.



Concrete Pad For FLC Warehouse

George M. Newport, BU3 Glenn W. Novotny, SWCN Keith W. Nunn, Jr., CN Douglas W. O'Haver, BU3



Henry J. Ringleburg, SW3 James A. Ritchie, CN Richard A. Rogers, BU3 Ronald P. Rozanski, BU3





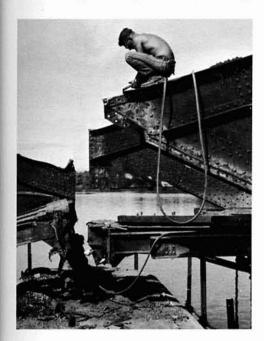


Joseph W. Rozgony, SW2 Ralph A. Sacramone, BU2 Elmer C. Salling, BU2 Ronald F. Schauer, SW2 Charles L. Stewart, SW3

Rodney J. Studer, BU3 Victor Sultana, BU3 Luke Tomison, III, BU2 Olaf J. Tonnessen, SW2 Thomas J. Vito, CN

Gary E. Weir, BU3 Johnny L. West, BU3 Richard W. Whitaker, BU3 Glenn C. Williams, CN Michael W. Woolley, SN

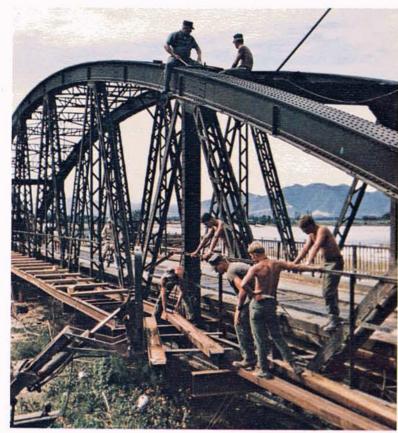
Charlie Company
helped rebuild the
Truoi River railroad
bridge after it was
destroyed by Viet Cong.







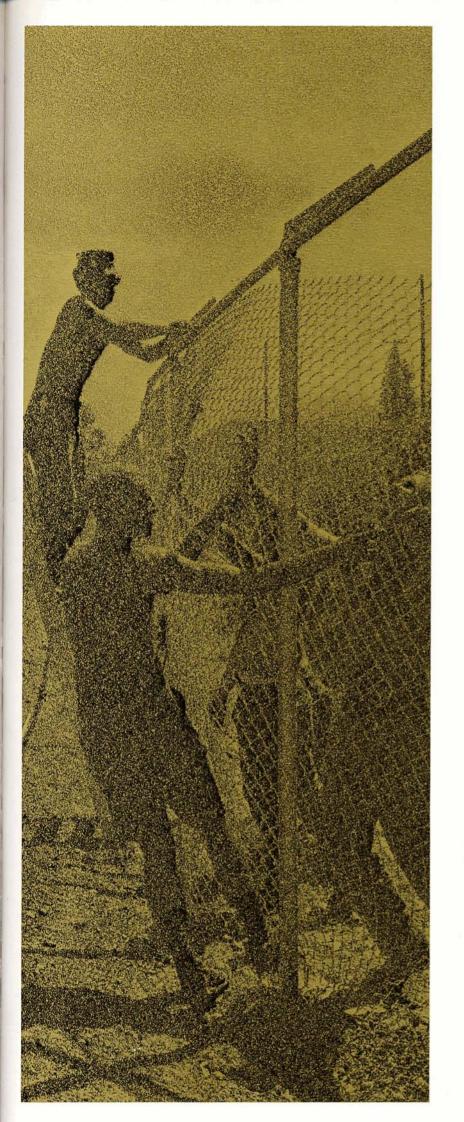
Charlie Company manufactured more than 250 three-and-one-half ton reinforced concrete beams for use as instant road bridges.



A catwalk for the Marines at Nam-O and one of the many Butler Buildings at FLC show the diversity of Charlie Company's projects.







DELTA

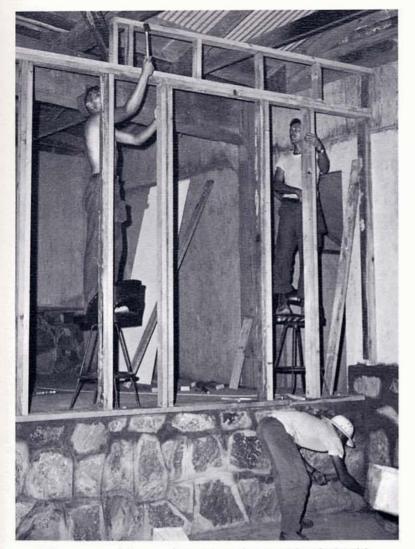
Delta Officers

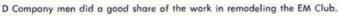


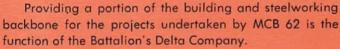
Above: LTJG Charles P. O'Neill, former Company Commander. Right: LTJG John T. Bouey, Company Commander. Below: ENS Daniel T. Schultes, Assistant Company Commander.











Consisting of Builders, Concrete Workers and Steel-workers, Delta Company furnishes the Battalion with construction skills needed for towers and water tanks, steel frame buildings and other structures. The company is characterized by teamwork. The different ratings within the company work together, and the entire unit combines with other companies in the Battalion to see a job through from start to finish.

Once the Engineering Aids of H Company have surveyed a site and drawn up plans and A Company has leveled and graded the area in preparation for actual construction work, Delta Company steps in to go over the plans and decide exactly what the project entails.

With the plans worked out, the first step in erecting a structure is usually taken by Delta's concrete workers. They pour the footings or foundation and form the base for the vertical construction. Then the Builders begin the structural work. Handling everything from masonry to carpentry and finish, including painting and other detail work, the Delta men bring the project to completion.

On jobs requiring steel work rather than carpentry, the erectors and fabricators handle the construction chores. Fabricators join units and sections of steel and



Delta workers fabricated and installed culverts.



sheet metal, and they form, cut, weld and rivet ducts, panels and reinforced steel. The sections thus fabricated are raised, positioned and welded together by the erectors. They put up and dismantle such structures as steel towers, tanks, pontoons, steel buildings and other prefabricated shelters.

Aside from these duties, the men of Delta Company build and install culverts, erect fences and pour concrete sidewalks, gutters, curbs and so on.

Although each man in the company has his own specific rating, he is not restricted to that one type of work. Each man assists as needed on all phases of the job, distributing the work evenly and completing the project in the shortest possible time.

Some of Delta's accomplishments during the Danang deployment included the construction of an Enlisted Men's Club for the 11th Marine Regiment, the building of quonset huts in various parts of Vietnam for the Army's Special Forces, erection of about 8,500 feet of chain link fence over the rocky, mountainous country surrounding ASP-2, and completion of a new chapel for the First Marine Air Wing camp in Danang. These are just a few of the projects Delta worked on, and listing them tells only part of the story for, in addition to their volume of work, Delta's quality helped strengthen MCB 62's reputation as the "Can Do" Battalion.



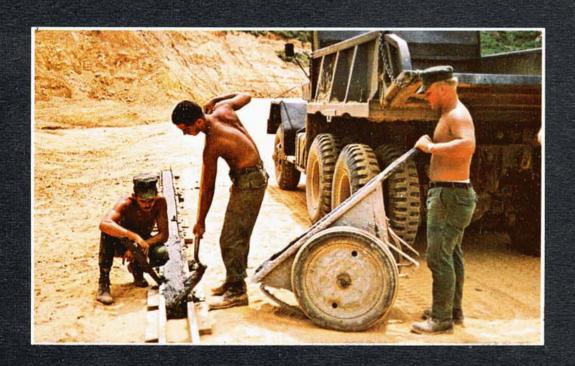
Mountainous terrain at ASP-2 challenged concrete crews as well as fence crews.



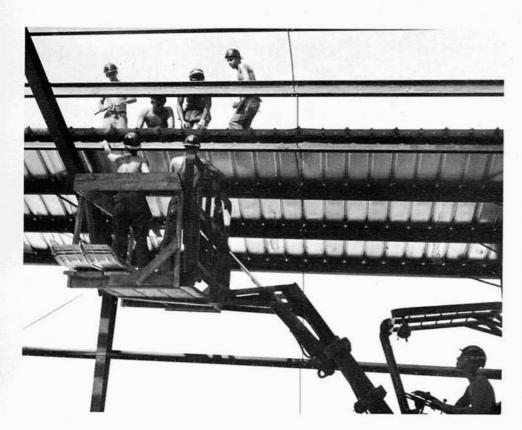
ASP-2 tested all Delta skills, Building ammo bunkers was just part of the job.



Delta demonstrates its effectiveness on a wide range of assignments.



Butler Buildings Spring Up: Delta Does it Overnight

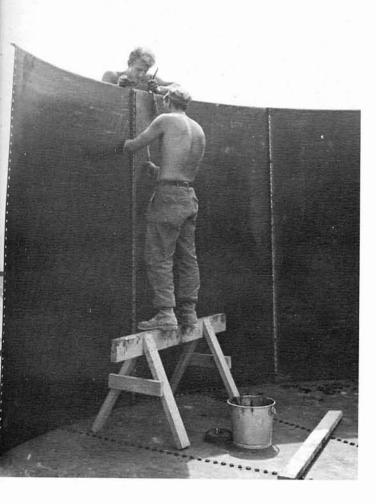








Water Tanks: Nothing to it





James A. Dendinger, SWC Nash B. Kennedy, Jr., SWCS James W. Paddock, BUC Robert F. Richmond, BUC

Sammy L. Allen, BUCN Alvin C. Barker, BU3 Darrell L. Beaver, BU3 Samuel R. Behimer, BU2



Delta Does All Kinds of Building







Shoring an ammo bunker at ASP-2.



Finishing off living hootches with sheet-metal roofing.



Jack G. Bickley, BU2 Martin M. Blersch, SW2 Robert E. Bly, BUCN Barry W. Bostwick, BU3 Ronald A. Bowen, BU3

Boyd C. Burnett, BU3 John A. Capozzi, BU2 Robert J. Caron, SW3 Kenneth R. Cassisi, BU3 Lester C. Cauffman, CN

Michael Chencharik, BU3 Charles D. Collins, CN Michael L. Coots, BU2 Aaron K. Coulter, CN Eldridge E. Crocker, BU3

Forest R. Dale, BU3 Uldis Dallas, EA3 Joseph A. D'Amico, BU1

Jerry E. Daniel, BU2 Ray Davis, BU2 Edward A. Dinges, BU2

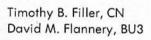


Concrete goes on the roof of a building at the First Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion camp.

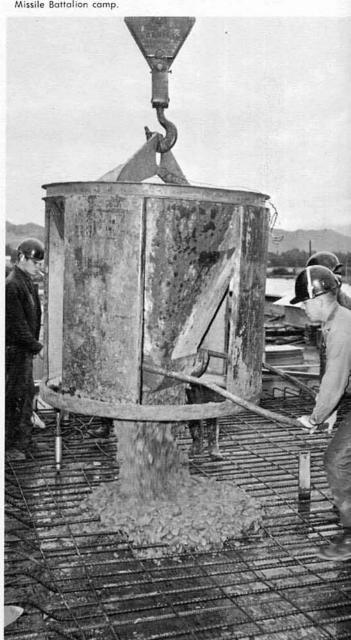
Concrete Important to Most Delta Jobs

John D. Elliott, CN Alfred Elwick, CN

Albert J. Eymer, BU3 Michael P. Fehrenbach, BU3







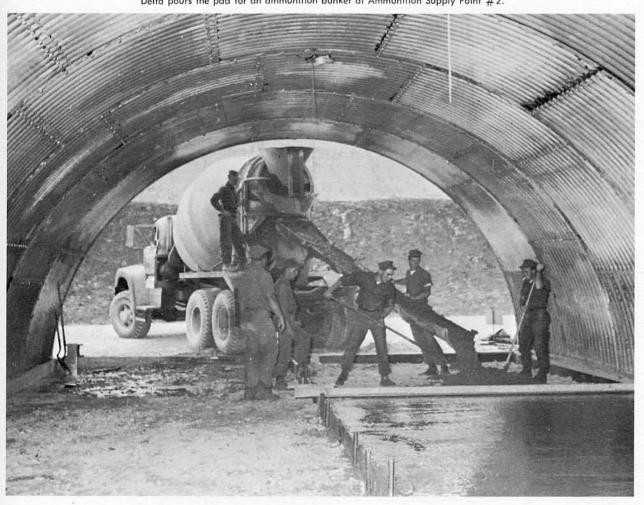


Martin G. Flynn, BU3 Roger R. Giese, BU3 John K. Gilpin, BU3 James L. Harrington, BU3

Homer P. Harrison, BU2 Reginald A. Hodge, BU3 Jerome T. Jacob, BU2 Paul M. Kitchens, BU3

Roger E. Krause, BU3 Jeffery R. J. Lacroix, CN Francis E. Larrabee, Jr., SW3 Thomas W. Larson, BU3

Delta pours the pad for an ammunition bunker at Ammunition Supply Point #2.



Leo G. Letourneau, BU2 Ronald W. Long, BU3 James D. Luper, BU2 Jeffery T. Mabe, SW3 Charles R. Manuel, SA

Francis A. Marcella, SW3 James H. Martin, BU3 Richard L. McClenaghan, BU3 Gerald J. McNabb, BU2 James M. Mennucci, SW2

Kennard D. Miller, SW3 Marvin Morgan, BU3 William L. Murray, SW3 James W. Nicholson, BU1 Robert P. Nowik, BU3

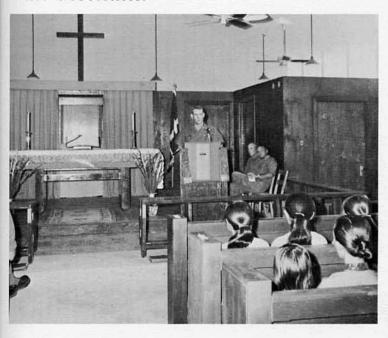




First Marine Air Wing Chapel

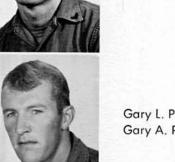
A Delta Company crew constructed a chapel for the Marine camp. Worship services had previously been held in a converted barracks. CDR Jones spoke as the church was dedicated to men who have died in Vietnam.











Charles P. O'Hara, BU3 Richard H. Oyster, CA

Anthony J. Pagliaroli, BU3 Kenneth W. Penick, BU3

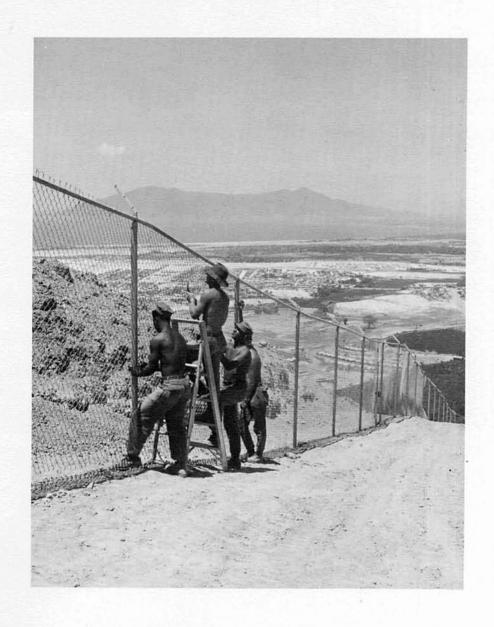
Gary L. Perschau, SW3 Gary A. Prince, BU2

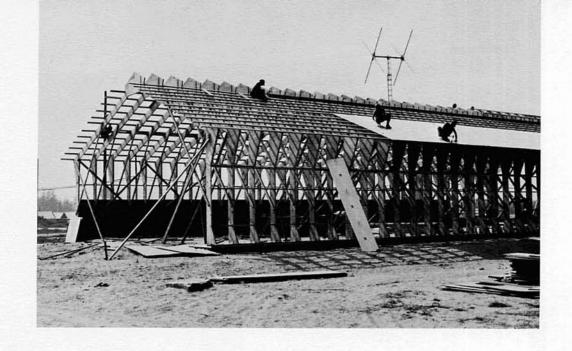
Douglas L. Riley, SW2 Robert F. Rogal, BU3 William J. Rohn, CN Charles H. Ruff, BU1

Loren W. Schreiber, BU3 Kurt E. Sickles, BU3 Walter J. Slekis, Jr., BU3 Jimmy J. Smith, SW2

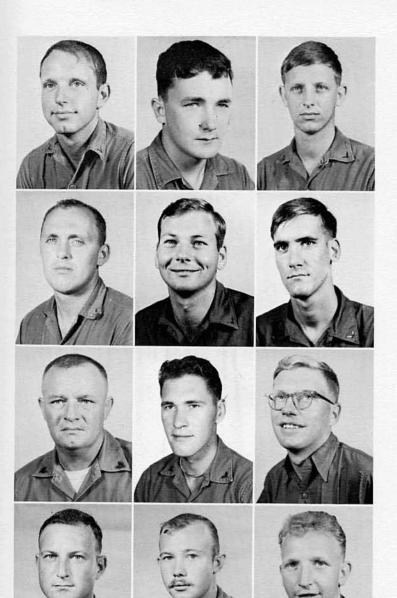


Fence Over Mountaintops at ASP-2





Delta Built EM Club for IIth Marines



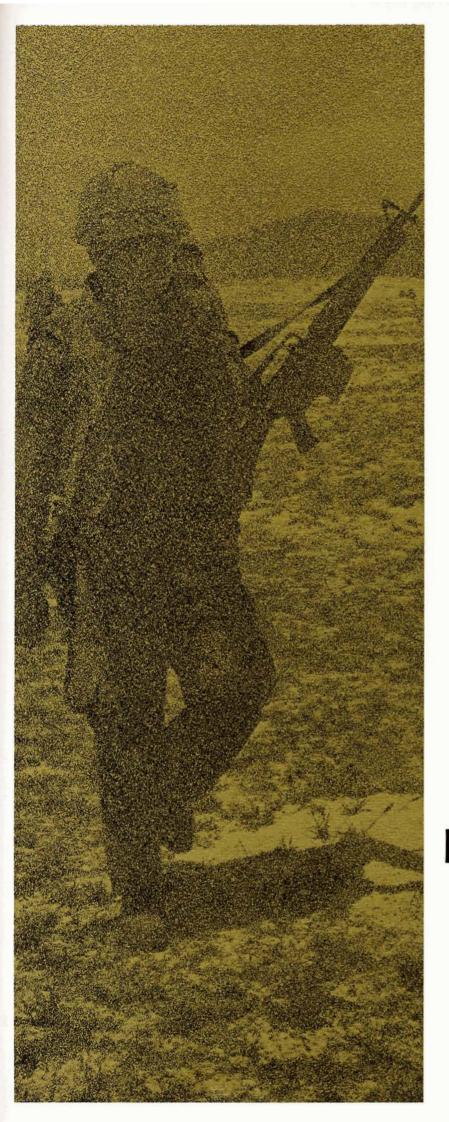
David R. Stark, BU3 James H. Henry, BU3 Gayle W. Struss, BU3

James J. Sutkowski, BU3 James G. Vaughn, BU3 Michael L. Walters, BU3

Jeff D. Warr, SW1 Richard L. Wendt, BU2 Michael C. Wieland, BU2

Vernon J. Willaims, BU2 Harry L. Wise, BU3 Raymond J. Wortel, SW2

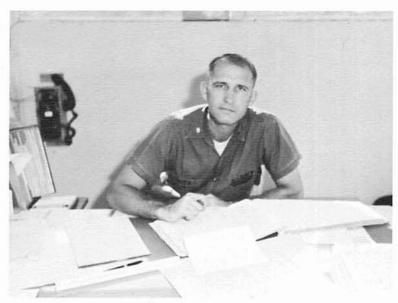




HEADQUARTERS

LTJG James M. Ramsey, Company Commander, Administrative Officer.

H Co. Officers



LCDR Bobby P. Keith, Supply and Logistics Officer.



LT Richard R. Crowe, Chaplain, Public Affairs Officer



LTJG R. G. Schneider, Assistant Company Commander, Assistant Operations Officer.



LCDR W. L. Wood, former Operations Officer.



Melvin A. Bell, CUCM, Battalion Chief.

Headquarters Company is made up of the seldom publicized but nevertheless essential group of men who provide the administrative support nucleus vital to the efficient, successful completion of 62's construction mission.

Operating the Battalion's offices, galley, medical facilities, laundry, warehouses, and so on, the men of H Company do not go to the job sites to swing a hammer or drive a bulldozer, but they stand ready to fight side by side with other SEABEES whenever necessary.

The Battalion's reaction platoon, three rifle squads which serve as a special force to strengthen the lines or sweep the camp in case of enemy attack or infiltration, is composed of Headquarters men.

These men go through the same combat training as the Battalion's construction workers, and in addition, they receive specialized instruction in the use of small arms and bayonets and make practice patrols through the villages surrounding the camp

Medical and dental care are among the prime requisites of any military organization. During the Danang deployment, the Battalion's Hospital Corpsmen and Dental Technicians, members of H Company, saw to it that we had the best in health services. In addition, they played an important part in MCB 62's Civic Action Program, holding daily sick call in local villages. While we were in Vietnam they treated the ailments of between 2,000 and 3,000 Vietnamese each month.

Other necessary functions which fall in H Company's area of responsibility are camp cleanliness and internal security, weapons issue and care, and stocking and distribution of supplies of all types. The men responsible for these things are, respectively, Boatswain's Mates, Gunner's Mates and Storekeepers.

Disbursing Clerks, Yeomen and Personnelmen are responsible for the masses of paperwork pertaining to pay and service records and for the tremendous volume of correspondence and official instructions which filter through the chain of command each day. Postal Clerks see to it that mail goes in and out of camp as quickly as possible.

One group of construction men who work as part of H Company is the Engineering Aids. They plan jobs, estimate material needed, draft blueprints and survey the construction sites

The Commissarymen prepare meals for the Battalion's day and night crews and for men of the Third Naval Construction Brigade and the 30th Naval Construction Regiment (at Camp Haskins). Stewards provide meals and personal services for the officers. The Camp Haskins exchange, laundry and barber shop are operated by MCB 62's Ship's Servicemen.

All of these men are members of Headquarters Company, and while most of them are in fleet (seagoing) ratings rather than construction jobs, they are integral parts of the Battalion and of the SEABEES.



GMG2 Leo J. Coulombe and GMG1 Billy W. Long maintain M-16's in the armor



BM1 "Mitch" Mitchell, one of the Battalion's Boatswain's Mates works as Master at arms.



LTJG James A. White, former Disbursing Officer.



LT Carl Erickson, former Chaplain.



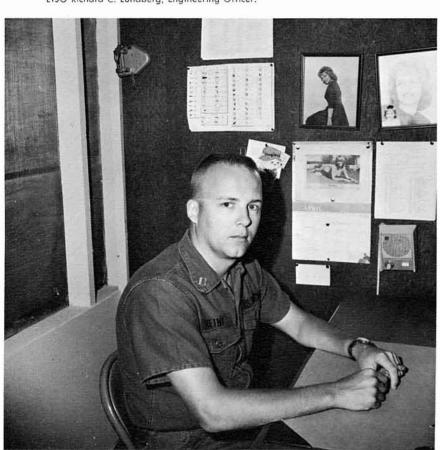
LT Michael Ellis, former Medical Officer.



LCD2 George W. Cronin, former Supply Officer.



Operations



LT William A. Heine, Operations Officer,



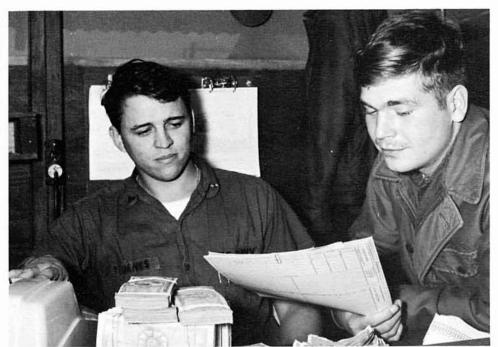
Above: EACN Dennis Fink works on a blueprint in the drafting office. Below: Engineering Aids put together a monthly operations report.



Administrative Offices



Keith Goodwin, SN; Gene Gorham, YN2; and George Trogdon, YN2, are among the Yeomen who handle the Battalion's paperwork.



D. L. James, DK2, and Joe Popovich, EO3, of the Disbursing Office check over a pay record.



Robert Baldus, PN3, (right) goes over a service record with a Battalion man. Keeping these records up to date is part of the job of the Personnel Office.





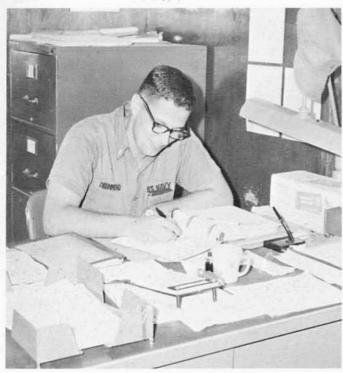
Above: LTJG David C. Sopko joined the Battalion toward the end of the deployment to become Special Services and Assistant Operations Officer, Left: LTJG William R. McDowell, Training Officer, gives a going home briefing to men of the advance party.





Ted Pelczar, SN, in greens issue.

The Supply Office.



LTJG William A. Drummond, Embarkation Officer, former MLO.



LTJG John B. Downey, Disbursing Officer, Assistant Supply and Logistics Officer,

Supply

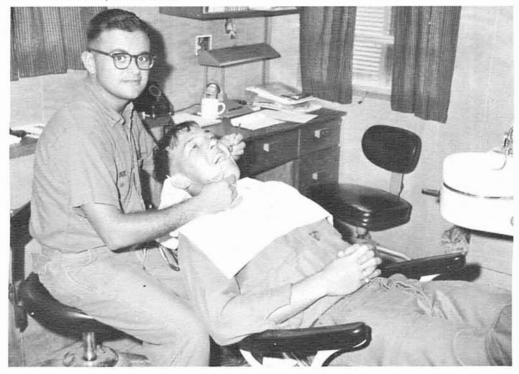


Medical and Dental

HM3 R. J. Brady holds sick call,



 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{HM2}}$ Lewis Brewer treats a Vietnamese girl at a MedCAP clinic.



LT Walter W. Sope, Battalion Dentist and drill sergeant.



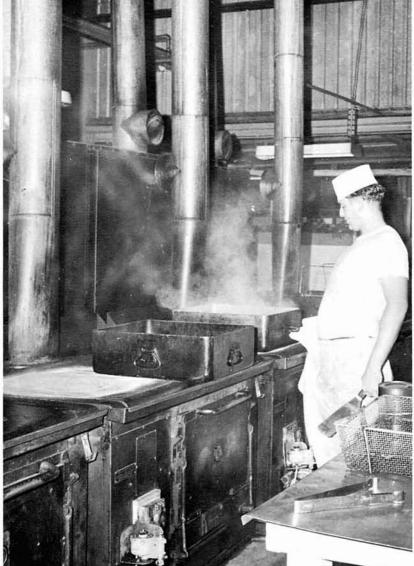
Jeff Frye, SN, instructs Nguyen Van Vinh in Corpsmen's duties. Interested in medicine, Vinh was trained by 62 men and later employed at FLC dispensary.



LT Carl J. Orfuss, Medical Officer.

Right: Robert Preston, SN, at work in the Camp Haskins galley. Below: Jerry Donley, SN, sells stamps at the Post Office. Lower right: Guy Nadeau, SH3, operates the laundry.









H Co. Provides Services

Preparing meals each day for 800 men . . .

Making the sure the mail arrived on time . . .

Operating a laundry for the Battalion . . .

Selling luxuries and necessities in the exchange . . .

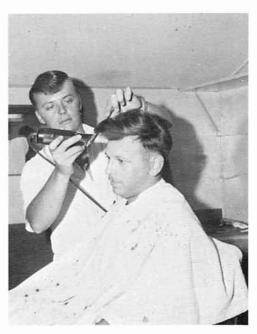
Keeping the SEABEES neatly trimmed.

These are some of the services Headquarters

Company handled during the deployment.



Robert McCoy, SH3, serves customers at the Camp Haskins exchange. Vietnamese girls were employed as cashiers.



Glenn Novotny, SW3, gives a haircut to Ted Pelczar, SN.



David L. Ball, EOCS Billie P. Clark, HMC



John F. Crasco, CSC William H. Kangas, CUCM



Lyman B. Pierce, YNC James T. Richmond, BUC



David K. Robinson, BUCS Roger G. Williams, SKCS

Vernon H. Abbott, EACN Albert Ashe, SD1 Jack A. Augustine, GMG3 Robert S. Baldus, PN3 Patrick M. Barnett, EA3

Daniel L. Benjamin, HN Russell J. Brady, HM3 Alvin A. Breaux, SN Lewis W. Brewer, HM2 Harold A. Bricker, SN

Nicholas S. Bright, CE3 Rodney F. Brink, HM2 David S. Bryant, SN Conrado D. Cajulis, EA2 Anthony Campos, YN3

Richard S. Carney, BU2 James E. Catron, EA3 James J. Cenicola, SN Alvin D. Cissel, EA3 Bruce D. Clay, EA2



Special Services Provided Shows, Recreation



LTJG Jerry R. Gouge, Special Services Officer. Assisted by EA2 Frank Pirrello, he saw to it that recreation and entertainment were plentiful throughout the Danang deployment.



Dennis F. Clinton, SK3 Arthur N. Collins, Jr., EA3 Leo J. Coulombe, Jr., GMG2 Jerry A. Crotts, EA3 Celson P. Cueno, SD2

Charles H. Culpepper, SN William J. Dacey, BU3 Wallace L. Dahl, SN Ira Davis, CM1 Melvin H. Dawley, HM3



Dalmacio K. DeClaro, SK1 David R. DeLancey, DK3 Donato A. Desantis, EACN Joseph C. Dixie, SN Jerry D. Donley, SN

Donald E. Doyle, SN Harold T. Edwards, Jr., SK1 Teofilo O. Espino, SD2 Gerald R. Esposito, SN Leslie J. Fatica, SN

Dennis E. Fink, EACN Norman D. Fitzpatrick, CM2 Jean F. Forbes, DT2 Robert G. Franke, SN James R. French, SN

Jeffery L. Frye, HN John D. Fuller, SN Romeo R. Gameng, TN Carlito J. Gan, Jr., SD3 Roy L. Glass, Jr., SN

Fleet-Bees



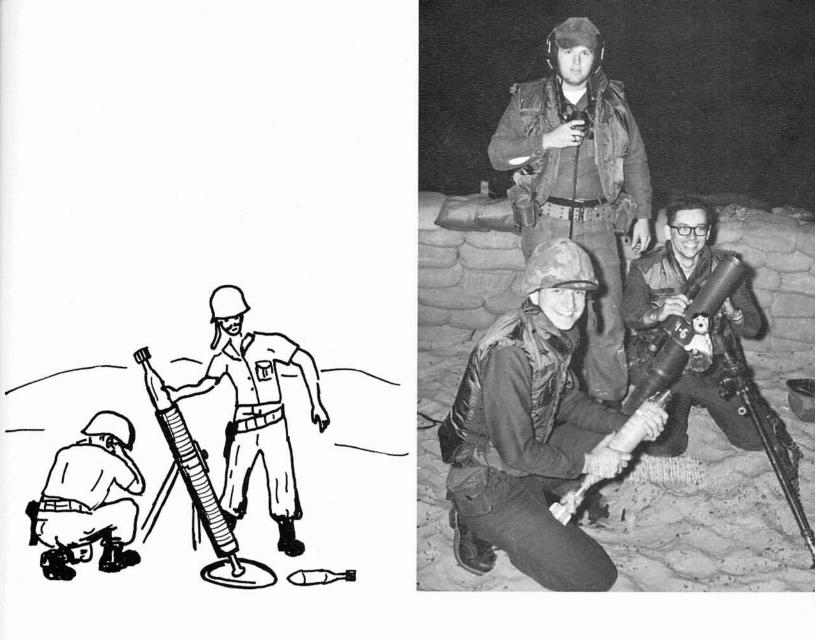
We Drink;

We Fight;

We Type;

We Write





Engineering Aids Man Battalion Mortars



Joseph S. Gonzales, SN Keith A. Goodwin, SN Clarence E. Gorham, YN2 Lynn W. Greenwald, CS3 Stephen A. Hatras, HM3

William Hawryszczuk, YN2 Ralphord R. Hight, EA3 Glenn Hill, PN2 Richard H. Hochrein, EACN David L. James, DK2

Bobby E. Jones, EACN William T. Kinney, EA1 William C. H. Kressly, SK1 John J. L'Heureux, SN Manley E. Locke, PC3

Billy W. Long, GMG1 Robert McCoy, SH3 Hugh M. McIlroy, Jr., EA2 Charles D. Miller, PN3 Norris J. Miller, Jr., PC3

Arthur L. Mitchell, BM1 Jack L. Moore, SK3 Tony M. Moore, HM2 John A. Mott, SHSN Guy F. Nadeau, SH3

Frank J. Niswander, SN Thaddeus J. Pelczar, SN Mitchell L. Perry, SN Wendell C. Phillips, DK1 Edward G. Pinette, YN2

Frank R. Pirrello, Jr., EA2 James M. Pollard, SN Joseph M. Popovich, EO3 Robert W. Preston, Jr., SN Cleo T. Pulsifer, HM1

Magno L. Quismondo, TN Charles L. Riggs, BU1 Rawlins D. Riley, EA3 Richard T. Romano, SN Raymond R. Ruiz, PN3





Richard Ruiz, PN2 David R. Salitza, SK3 Stanley E. Shaw, EO3 David L. Shirley, PNSN Robert E. Sillery, CS1

Aurelius Simms, CS1 Alvin T. Stahl, HM2 Richard D. Steffen, YN1 David L. Stelly, EACN David R. Swindell, YN3







Donald D. Thompson, EA2 Harry F. Tickell, DK3 George E. Trogdon, YN2









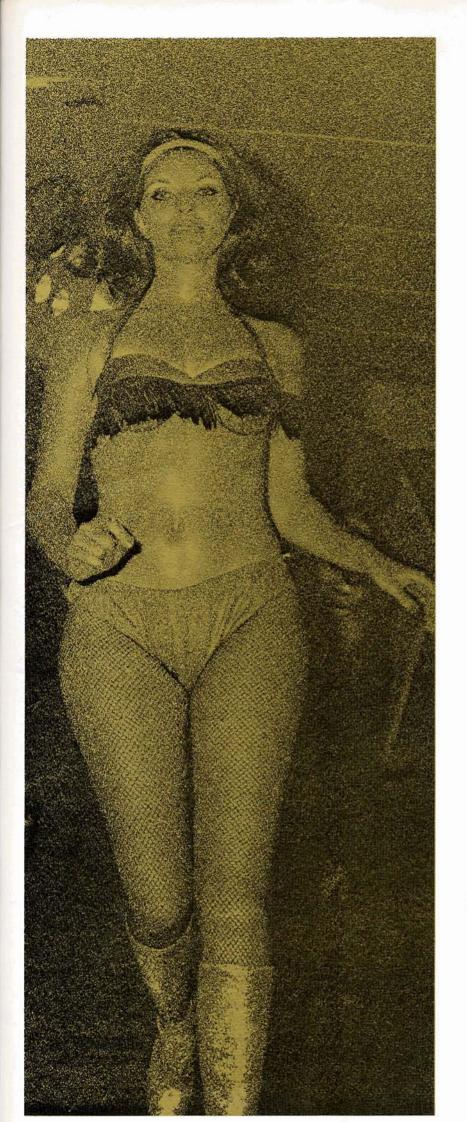


Roger L. Tudor, SN Robert A. Van Winkle, EA3

Johnny C. Vega, CS2 John A. Weaver, SK3

Robert B. Wendt, CS3 Wayland W. Yoder, CSSA





MEMORABILIA



Change of Command

Commander John Paul Jones, Jr. relieved Commander William J. Richeson July 30, 1968



Above: CDR Richeson presents the Battalion Standard to CDR Jones as LTJG W. R. McDowell renders a salute. Top right: LCDR C. E. Fegley, Executive Officer, and the two CO's review massed troops.



Above: CDR Richeson meets one of the performers in a show given at a party following the change-of-command ceremonies. Right: Battalion officers present CDR Richeson with a tape recorder.



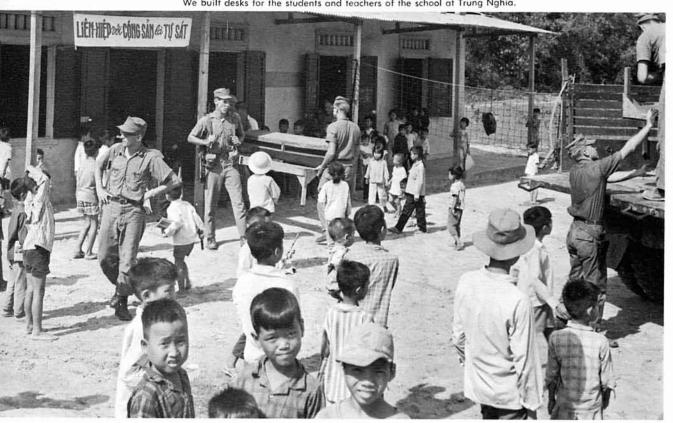
We installed pumps and shelters for wells.

Civic Action

Distributing food and clothing helped us win friends.



We built desks for the students and teachers of the school at Trung Nghia.





Children's Laughter Was the Reward





Top left: Children of the Catholic grade school at Cho Ma enjoy the Beach at Camp Haskins during an outing hosted by the MCB 62 Security Force. Lower left: The school children are treated to lunch by the galley staff. Upper right: Ron Logan, PN1, and other Battalion men hand out goodies sent by Logan's church. Above: Gunnery Sergeant Anthony Margiotta's church also shipped goods to help the Vietnamese. The Gunny distributes them in the village of Bac Ninh.



SEABEE Team 6201

Helping the Vietnamese people, improving their country, and gaining their friendship was part of the job for all of us during the Danang deployment. But for the 13 men who made up SEABEE Team 6201, building goodwill was a full time job.

Like all SEABEE Teams, often referred to collectively as the Navy's Peace Corps, Team 6201 worked with local residents on civil assistance projects of many different kinds. From their main camp in Phan Rang, the 13 MCB 62 SEABEES spread out each day to work with the people of the city and its outlying districts.

On the various jobs the team members, singly or in pairs, did a good share of the work, but their first interest was in training Vietnamese laborers in construction skills. Once they had trained a crew well enough to handle a project, the SEABEES turned over most of the work to the Vietnamese and provided only necessary supervision.

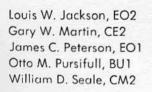
Arriving in February, the men of SEABEE Team 6201 built and supervised such diverse projects as bridges, flood control dikes, wells and schools. The team's Hospital Corpsman provided medical aid for more than 2,000 patients each month.

SEABEE Team 6201 contributed a great deal to the people with whom they worked. They helped make life a little better for many Vietnamese, and in the process, they made a lot of friends for America.

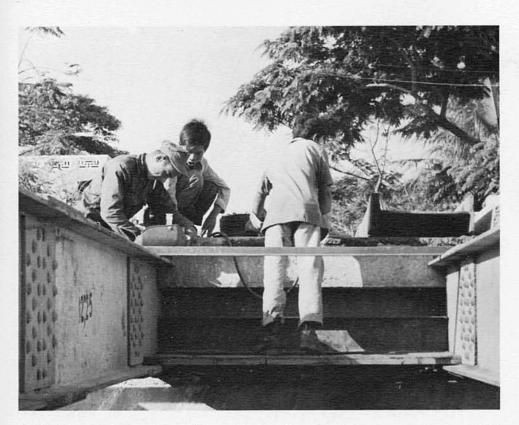


EO1 James C. Peterson (left) and UT2 Timothy J. Cline (not pictured below) drill a well for a village near Phan Rang. Before the well was completed, villagers walked more than a mile for their water.

James E. Alley, EA2 Conrad F. Dauphinais, HMJ Norman J. Flowers, CM1 Darvin T. Gainous, SW2 Jaque Hanna, EO2







LTJG David B. Herrmann Team Leader



I. W. Hornkohl, BUC Asst. Team Leader

Darvin T. Gainous, SW2, teaches welding techniques to Vietnamese laborers as, together, they rebuild a bridge destroyed by Viet Cong.



Right: Conrad F. Dauphinais, HM1, his assistant and a village health worker treat a Vietnamese boy. Dauphinais held sick call regularly in ten villages. Below: With assistance and supervision from SEABEE Team members, Vietnamese workers build a school addition near Phan Rang.





Alerts







Sandbags may not make the softest bed, especially when you are sleeping in a flak jacket with your helmet for a pillow, but during alert conditions, we were usually too tired to care.

Every so often we found that we had to give up our comfortable racks and set up housekeeping in, on, or near our mortar holes. At these times, SEABEE spirit and ingenuity really showed.

During condition II, for example, we were faced with an exhausting, confusing and harrowing schedule. Camp Haskins went on 50 per cent alert with the men taking shifts to man the defensive lines. At night there were some strange scenes as the men shuttled back and forth between the huts and the mortar holes replete with mattresses, blankets, empty C-ration cans, television sets, radios, electric fans and other essentials. Most of the holes were better appointed than the huts.

Through the night, gear bedecked bodies sprawled in odd positions in the vicinity of the holes, but with the dawn came the all clear. The men put their gear and weapons away and prepared for another day's work, including the never-ending job of filling sandbags and repairing and improving the mortar holes. Business as usual.





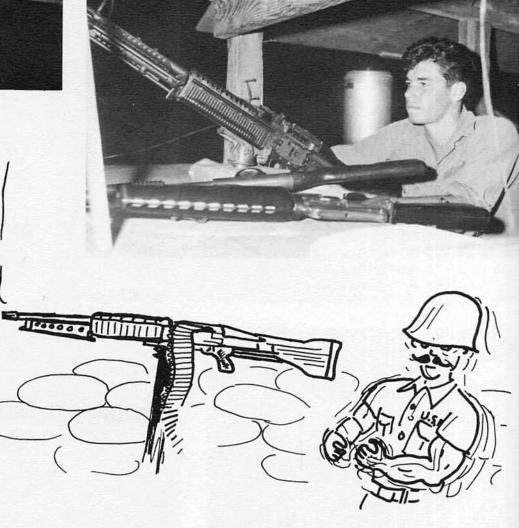


Security

While the camp sleeps they stand watch.



Above: LTJG H. P. Beasley, Security Officer in his lamp Haskins garden. Right: Gunnery Sergeant Anthony Margiotta, the Battalion's Marine military idvisor, demonstrates a Soviet RPG7 rocket launcher aptured in 1 Corps.







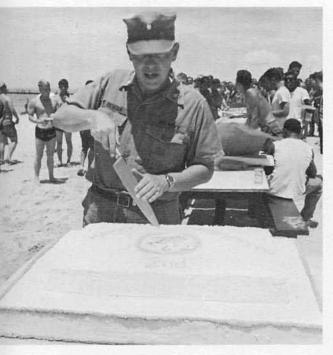
Rear Admiral James V. Bartlett, Commander Third Naval Construction Brigade, (center) crowned a SEABEE Queen at the Battalion's 26th SEABEE Anniversary celebration.

SEABEE Anniversary and Battalion Birthday

While we were deployed in Danang, several significant dates were marked off on the calendar. For us, the most memorable were the 26th anniversary of the establishment of the SEABEES, the Civil Engineer Corps' 101st anniversary and our Battalion's second birthday celebration. These were important not only because they relate to our service, but also because they meant beach parties, free beer and time off from work.



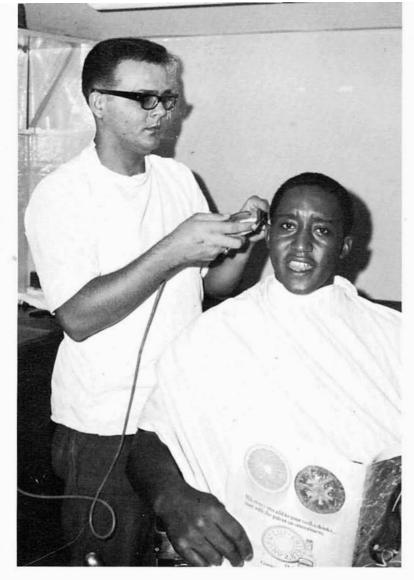
A go-cart race was one of the highlights of MCB 62's second birthday party.



CDR Richeson cut a huge cake baked for the Battalion's second



Officers and chiefs challenged the enlisteds as part of the 26th anniversary.







Camp Life Diversified, Hectic, Sometimes Humorous

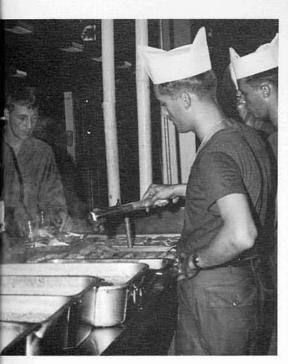
The hard work and long hours SEABEES put in to carry out their construction tasks are common knowledge these days. Their seemingly impossible accomplishments under the most adverse of conditions in Vietnam have gained a lot of publicity.

But there is another side to the SEABEES' lives in the combat zone that is not so familiar. That's the side that is evident only in those hours between work and sleep when a man tries to unbend, to make a home for himself in Vietnam.

We packed a lot into those few precious hours of leisure each day. We saw friends, went to the clubs, watched the movies or just stayed in the huts to prepare for the day ahead. Sometimes we went to the exchanges to buy magazines, cigarettes, sunglasses, cameras, and all those little things that help to make life more pleasant. Some of us built model cars, played ping pong or lifted weights. Occasionally we went to the library to read, study, write home or just think for a while. On Sundays there was chapel.

The days were often a seemingly endless monotony relieved only by the possibility of a new job and those few hours of leisure. They were important. There wasn't a great deal to do and there weren't many hours a day in which to do it, but it helped to pass the time . . . and eight months is a long time.

















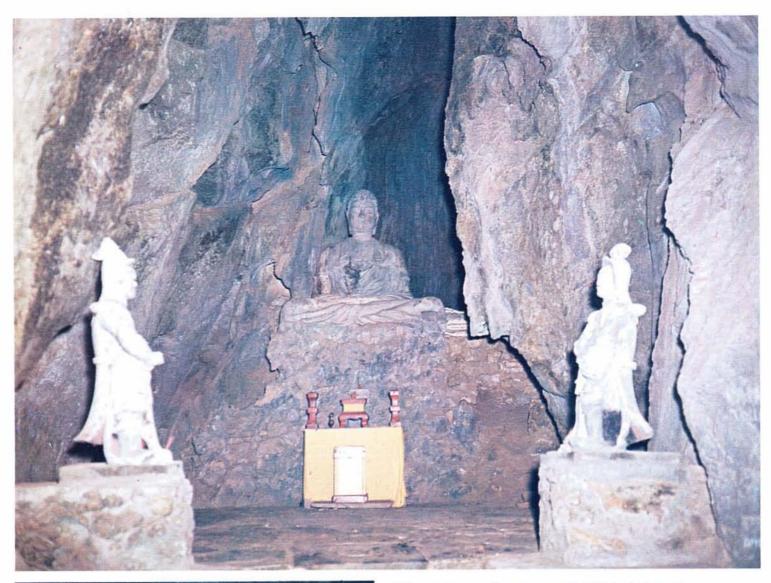


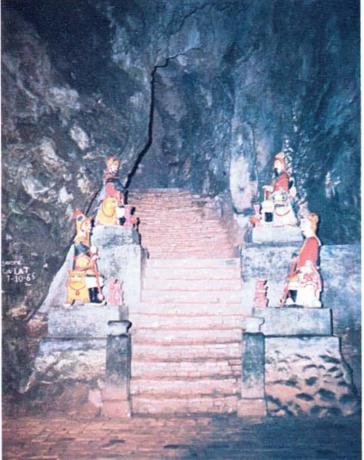












This and preceding page: Buddhist shrines at the caverns of Marble Mountain near Danang.

Vietnam, a land of startling contrast and unrelenting change, is filled with vivid rainbow scenes of past splendor against the harsh, dissonant backdrop of a war-torn present. It is a land where the traditions of antiquity meet the hopes of progress. Automobiles, bustling street markets, naked children, ox-carts, hut villages and military construction projects—all are parts of the composite picture of Vietnam today.

Temples, shrines and churches preserve the grandeur of the culture that has flourished for centuries, long before the ravages of war. But they are very much a part of the present in Vietnam too. Men of MCB 62 fortunate enough to have visited these sacred landmarks have gained insight into the values, customs and thinking of the Vietnamese people.

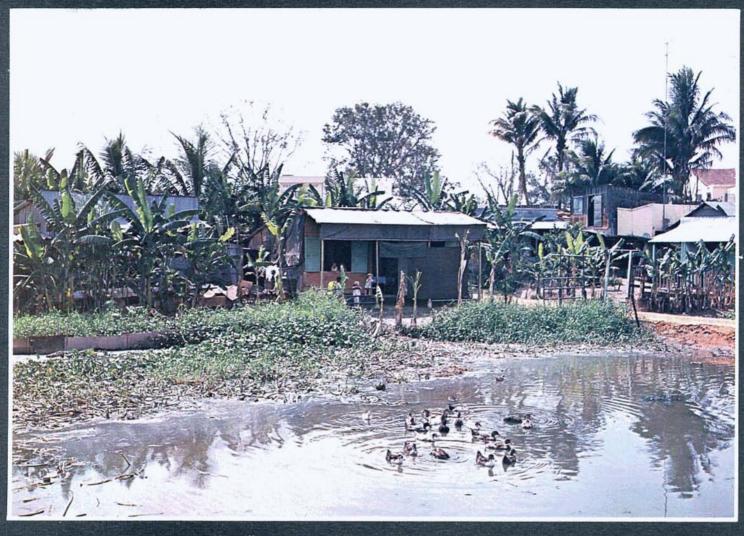
Like most Orientals, the Vietnamese integrate their religious principles into almost every aspect of their everyday living. Many of their habits, manners and even their modes of dress are influenced by their sacred beliefs. At least four of the world's prominent religions—Buddhism, Animism, Confucianism and Taoism—have had a profound impact on the people and their culture. Christianity, introduced into South Vietnam in the 16th century, is also a strong cultural force.

Contrast and change . . . Two young Vietnamese make lumber as it has been done for centuries while in the background is heard the rumbling of giant machines changing the face of the country. A small village carries on its traditional way of life beneath the scream of jets and the pounding echoes of artillery. Children pay homage at the shrines of their ancestors as metal skeltons are hastily erected to shelter the activities of change. A study in anachronism—Vietnam as we saw it.

The Catholic Cathedral in downtown Danang.

One of the many Buddhist temples found throughout the Danang





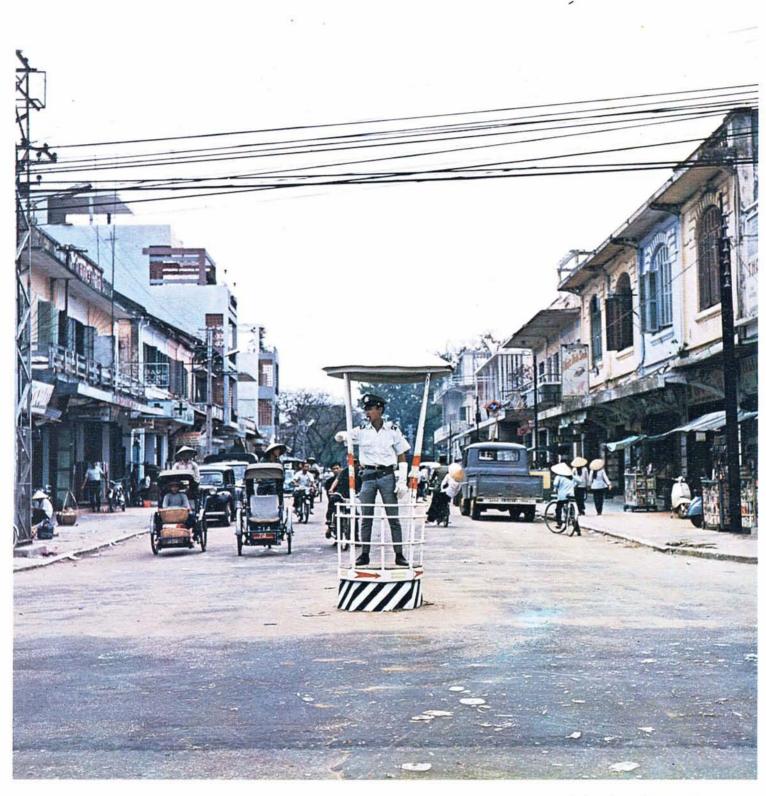
Hut villages surround Danang. Many shelter refugees.



Junks and sampans are familiar sights in Vietnam.



An open air market in the heart of Danang.



A bustling Danang intersection. Trisha taxis are a favorite means of transportation.





Two Vietnamese youths cut lumber from a large wooden beam.

The boards are used by workmen building a house nearby.



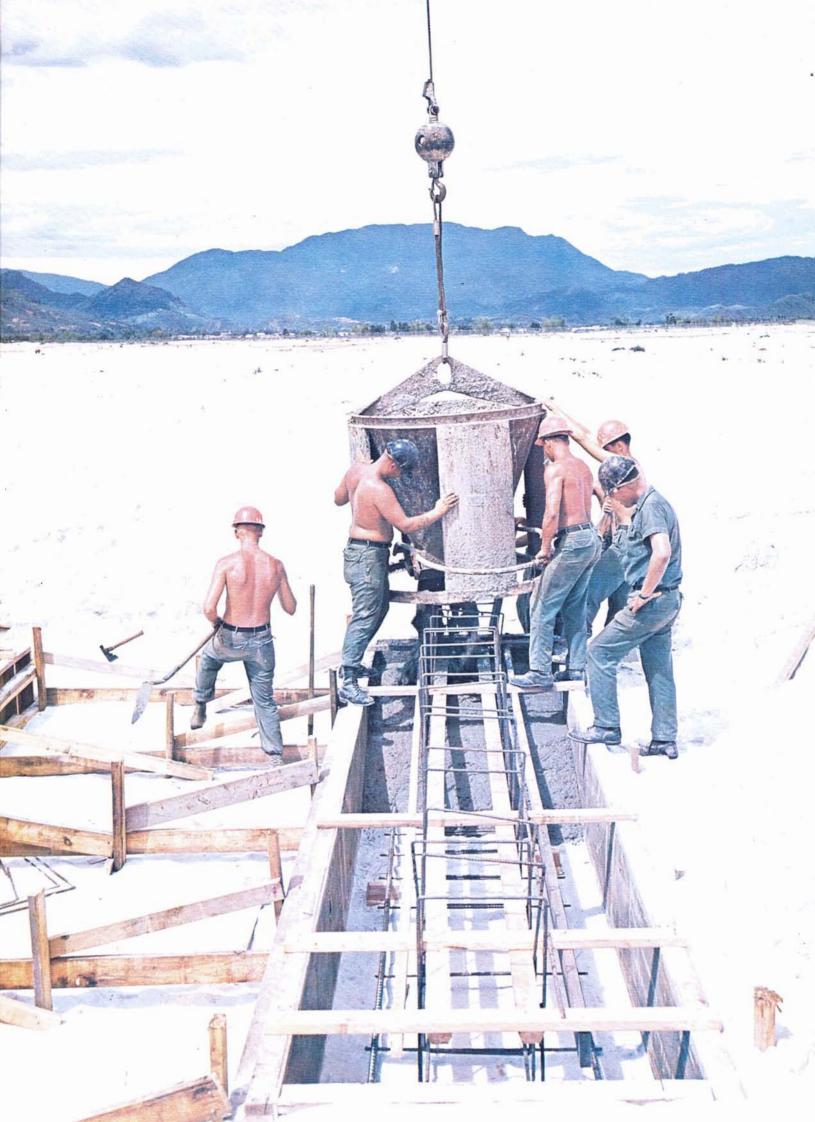


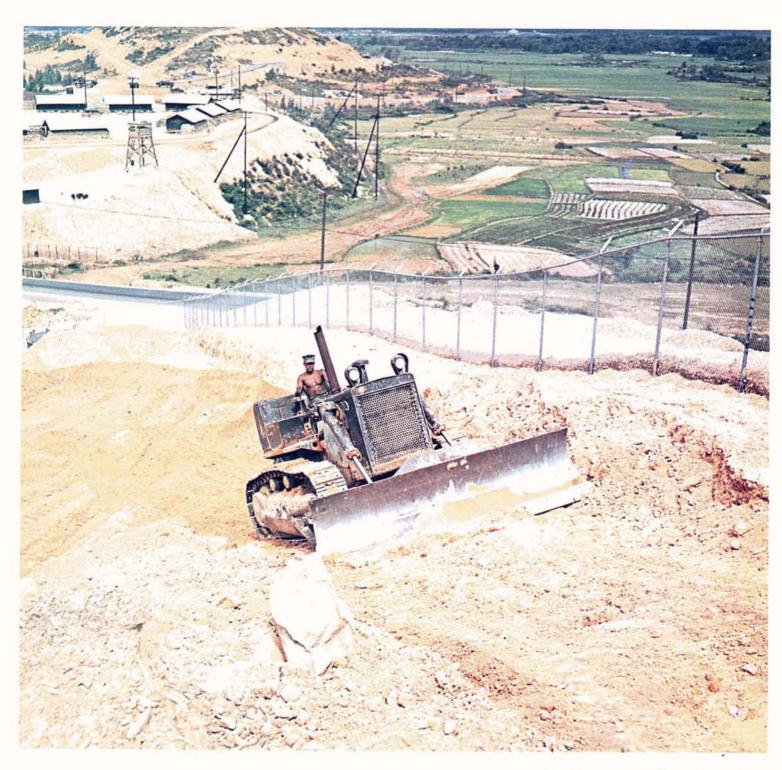


We were charmed, surprised, and sometimes shocked by the contrasts and incongruities of the sights, traditions, and manners of this land. However, as charming as the past may be, we knew that progress must come and that it comes about only with change. Change we did. Through military projects and the Civic Action Program we set about forming a new way of life for the people of Vietnam. We sought to make them realize that a country cannot go forward by looking back, that their very existence lay in building for the future, that building means changing.

The earth was ripped and molded and moved from place to place by claws of steel and the lumbering, roaring machines of change. Overnight the wood and metal bones of strange mammoth creatures were thrown against the horizon. By day the sweating bodies were accompanied by the powerful symphony of hammers and rumbling engines. The evening filled with the hiss and blinding flash of welders creating their own miniature suns. Much was destroyed. More was created. In the morning's glare, the afternoon rain's cold curtain, and the unearthly shadows of night the work continued. The changes were made — we had a goal.

The motto is "SIXTY-TWO - Can Do" . . . and we did.

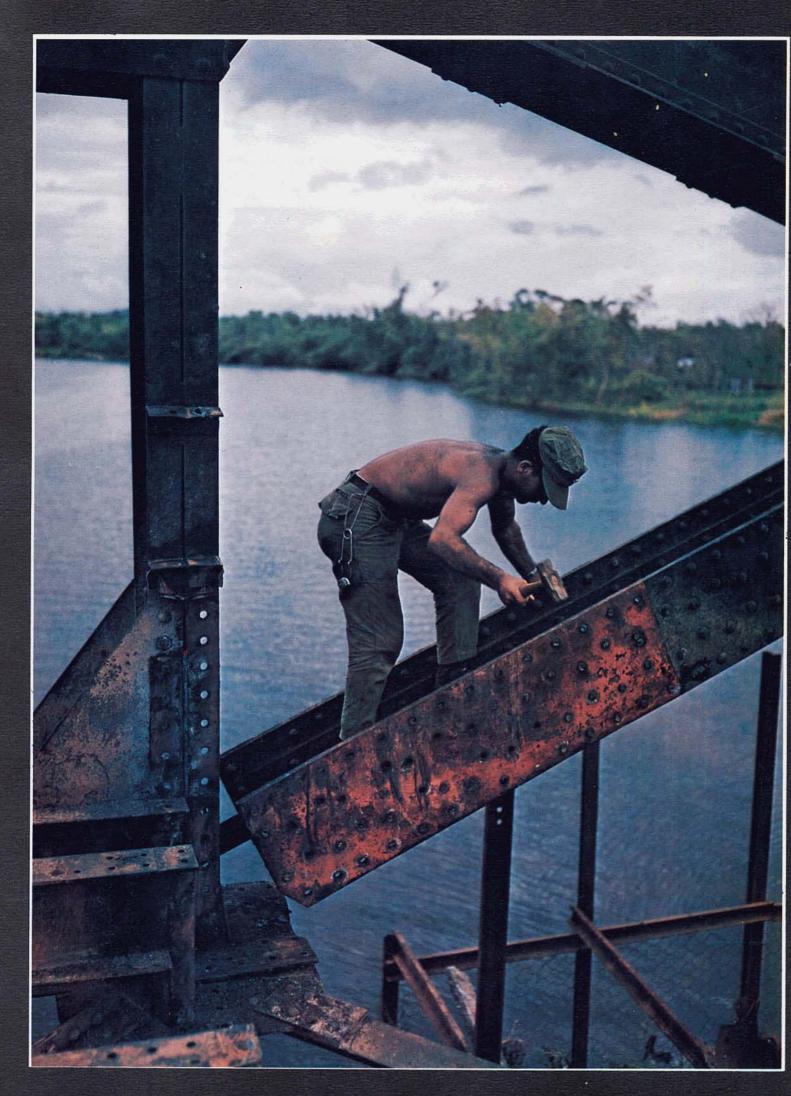




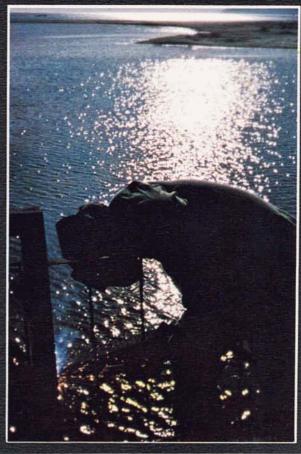
From a mountainside we carved out tons of earth, molding it into great mounds called berms. We waded through rice paddies to bring in power lines and we scaled mountainsides to put up a fence to protect our handiwork. When we were finished, we had created Ammunition Supply Point #2, one of the largest ordnance storage areas in I Corps.

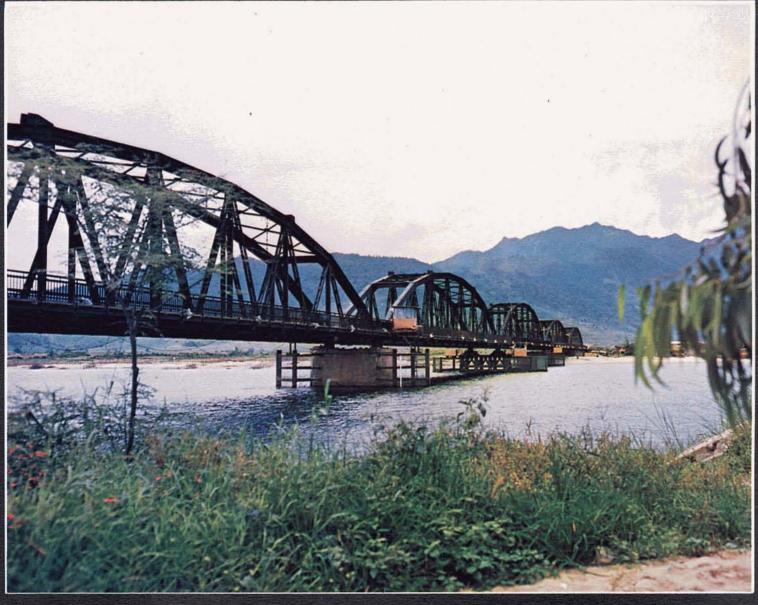


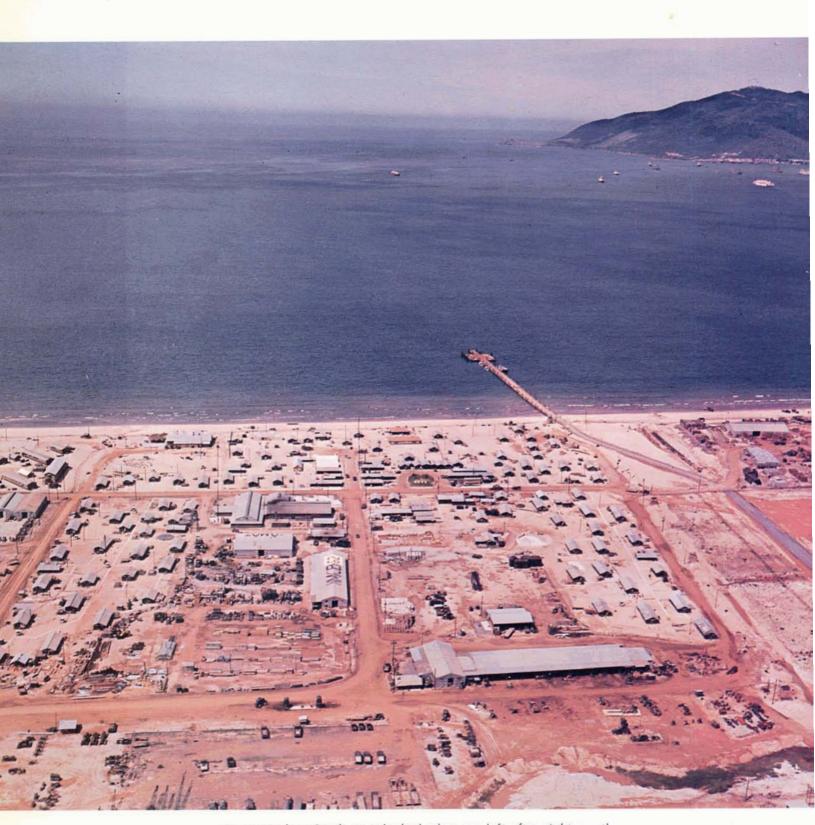




At the Truoi River we lifted the twisted, broken wreckage of a railroad bridge from the murky water. We cut and hammered and welded and pulled it back into shape to move men and supplies. At Nam-O we redecked a bridge to help protect it from the elements and we built guard booths and walks to help protect it from the enemy.







Camp Haskins South as it looked when we left after eight months.



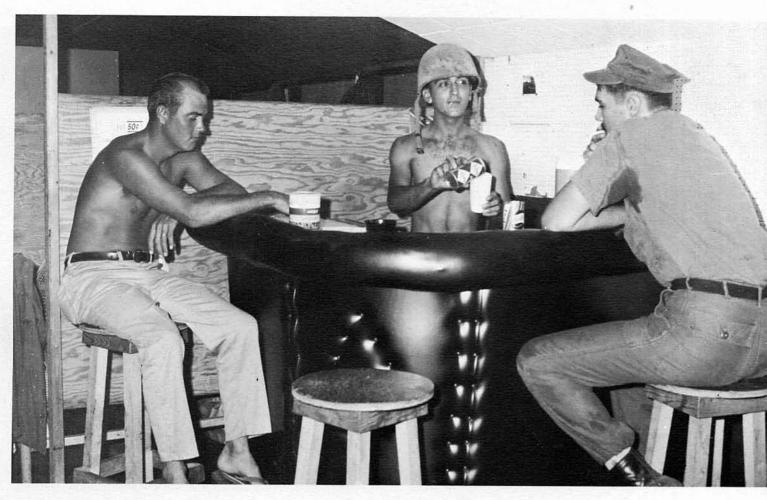
Camp Life

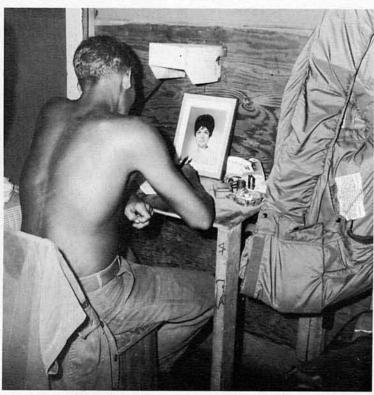
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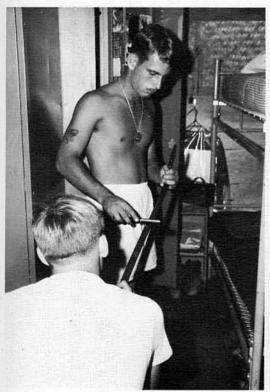














With Soft Songs of Love . . .





... Pounding Rock ...



... Frantic Bugaloo ...



... Special Services
Shows ...



... Made Vietnam ...



... Almost
Like Home??



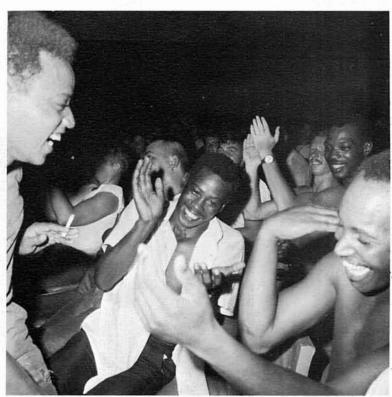


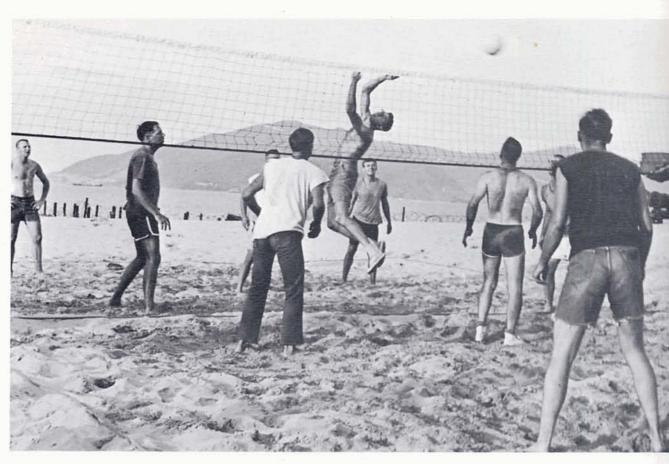


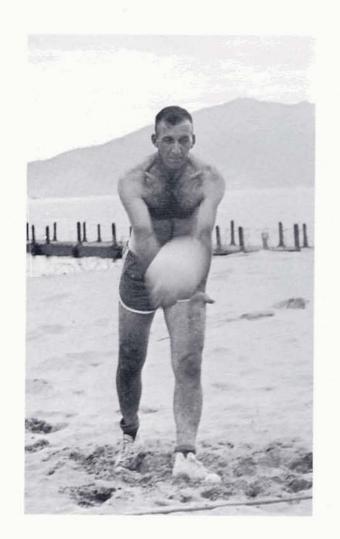


















The Spirit of Competition . . .



Volleyball was a popular way of letting off steam during the Danang deployment, particularly in the Spring and early summer. Teams were put together, disbanded and reorganized. They were named, renamed and, in the heat of competition, called still other names. Sometimes a bit bumbling, the play was nevertheless spirited as each team did its best to gain the Battalion championship.

The Officers' team, just about the only one to finish the season with nearly the same roster as it started with, staved off a late season threat by Headquarters Company's Les Pro to emerge as overall champions. Bravo Company's "A" Team and Alfa Company also finished with winning records.

The officers took top honors in Battalion competition, but they received their come-uppance when they tried their luck out of the league. The expression on Warrant Officer Martin's face (above) illustrates the point.

... The Taste of Victory ...

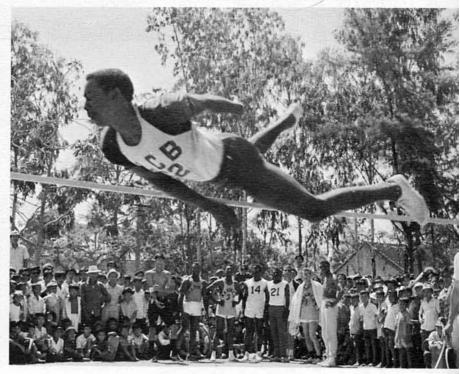
Les Fatica umpires as Al Breaux and J. P. Webber challenge an instant of uncertainty. Isolated Moments are crucial. Their sum is victory.



Paul Richmond, YN3, ties for first in the Danang Sports Festival high jump.



Glenn Williams, CN, gave it a good try but did not place.



Victory was almost too much for excitable George Trogdon when his team won its first volleyball game.



Charles T. Dunn, CE2, took top honors in the middleweight division of the I Corps Wrestling tournament.



"Ajax" Hargrove scored a knockout to win a heavyweight boxing title.



Sports of many kinds were a big part of the lives of many of our men in Vietnam. Athletics provided an outlet for the tension and monotony of camp life in the combat zone. No matter how tired the men may have been, they always seemed to find the energy for competitive sports.

We all shared the taste of victory as men from 62 won honors in such events as the Danang Sports Festival, the Danang area Boxing Championships and the I Corps Wrestling Meet. We also knew the sinking feeling of "almost" as our men tried for Camp Tien Sha Softball League honors. We cheered our victories and bemoaned our defeats and kept on trying.

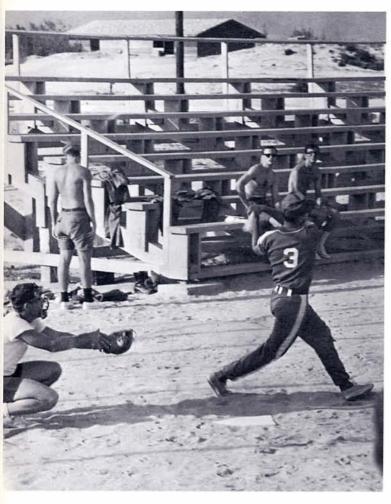
Intra-Battalion events or area-wide championships, win or lose, we played hard and competitively. At the end of a game there was usually a slap on the back for everyone, and the winners bought the first round at the club.



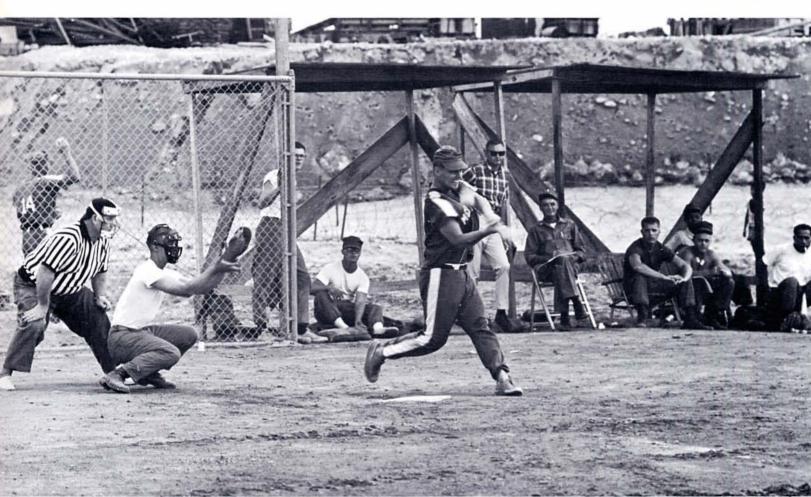
... The Bitter Sting of Almost.

The Battalion softball team finished second in the camp Tien Sha softball league, but two straight defeats in the play-offs smashed our hopes for the championship.









All Over But . . .

Yes, it was finally over. Eight long months in Vietnam were behind us and we packed up to return to our families and friends in the States.

Many of the men were completing their second deployment with the Battalion, and they said good-by to Vietnam for the last time, ready to ship out to new duty stations, new homes and, for quite a few, civilian life. Perhaps to them this Cruise Book will be a means of stepping back into the past for a few moments to relive some of the hard work, tension and (as they will recall long after other things are forgotten) laughter and pride.

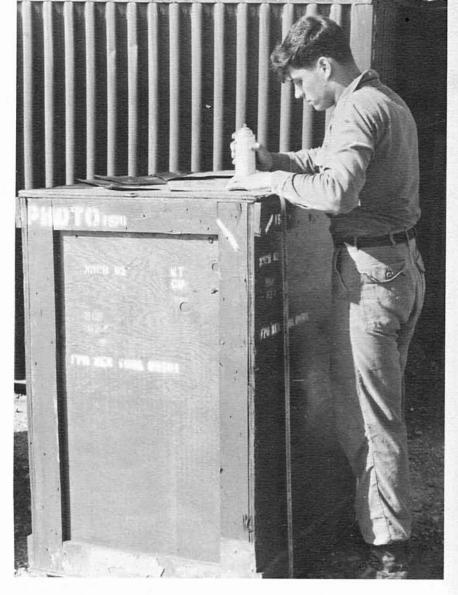
The rest of us will carry on. There will be new faces, different jobs and strange surroundings, but we will still be the "Can Do" Battalion. To these men, perhaps this book will be a reminder of the spirit and ability of the SEABEES who have gone before.

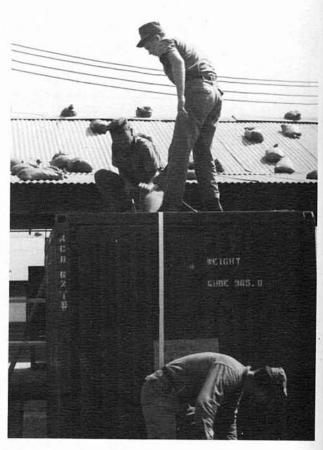
The new men of 62 will have a lot to live up to — some big shoes to fill. But they will continue the tradition proudly and achieve even greater things, for, after the strange has become familiar, they too will be 62.

To anyone who may see this book in the years to come is offered a share in the memory, spirit and history of the "Can Do" Battalion, Mobile Construction Battalion SIXTY-TWO.

To Be Continued



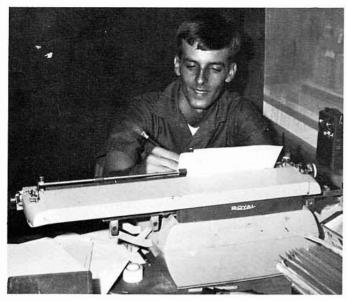




Top: Joe Gonzales, SN, stencils a mount-out box. Left: Les Fatica, SN, loads mount-out boxes into a CONEX box for shipment. Above: Ted Pelczar, SN, (upper left), John Weaver, SK3, (standing), and Joe Gonzales band the CONEX to go to the States.



Minuteman Staff



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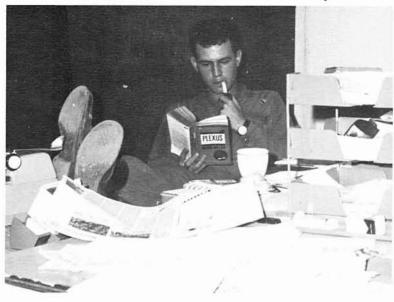
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Minuteman also owes special thanks to John Roach, SN, Navy combat artist, for the painting on pages 136 and 137 and to Ronald T. Garrison, AN, Naval Support Activity, Danang, for the photograph on page 10.



