

# THE GULFPORT CENTER COURIER

HOME OF ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES



Vol. 1, No. 9

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

November 7, 1969

FOR GULFPORT SEABEE CENTER

## NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION UNFURLS

### 82 Win Medals For Camille Work



**NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION** - The predominantly wintergreen pennant denoting an award of the Navy Unit Commendation to a military unit is attached to the flag of the 20th Naval Construction Regiment by Rear Adm. Means Johnston Jr., Office of Legislative Affairs. Assisting is Capt. Custer F. Krickenberg Jr., Commander, Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. Bearing the 20th NCR flag is Builder Second Class Harold D. McNair. The Gulfport Seabee Center was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for its rescue and recovery work before, during and after hurricane Camille.

Seabees and Marines assigned to the Gulfport Seabee Center stepped into the limelight Oct. 31 - despite an overcast, rainy day on the Golden Gulf Coast - and walked off with the nation's second highest military unit award and an array of 82 medals.

The 2 p.m. naval awards ceremony at Gulfport's Milner Stadium marked a day of tangible appreciation for the Navymen and Leathernecks who over the weeks have carved their way into the hearts of Gulf Coast citizens for their rescue and recovery efforts following hurricane Camille's vicious attack on the southern tip of the Magnolia State, Aug. 17. Fifty-seven civilian awards were also presented at the ceremony to Center personnel.

The military population at the Gulfport Seabee Center was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation by the Secretary of the Navy for "exceptionally meritorious service from 16 August to 1 October, 1969, just prior to, during, and after the devastating forces of Hurricane Camille struck the Gulf Coast, west of Gulfport, Mississippi on the night of August 17, 1969." During the ceremony, the pennant denoting an award of the Navy Unit Commendation was attached to the flags of the seven units assigned to the Center at the time of the hurricane and its aftermath.

The predominantly wintergreen pennants blew briskly in the afternoon breeze.

Principal Naval officer for this portion of the ceremony and the medals presentation was Rear Admiral Means Johnston Jr., Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, D. C., who represented the Chief of Naval Operations.

SEE MORE PHOTOS  
OF CEREMONY ON  
PAGES 4, 5, 6

The highest military award presented was the Legion of Merit Medal. It was awarded to Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Commanding Officer of the Gulfport Seabee Center, for "exceptionally meritorious services." Eighty-one other officers and men from the Seabee Center staff; Mobile Construction Battalion's 121, 128, 74; the 20th Naval Construction Regiment; the Construction Training Unit and the 4th Amphibian Tractor Battalion, United States Marine Corp

COMMENDATION

Cont'd page 6



**LEGION OF MERIT** - Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Commanding Officer of the Gulfport Seabee Center, receives the Legion of Merit Medal from Rear Adm. Means Johnston Jr., Office of Legislative Affairs. Capt. Hill was cited for "exceptionally meritorious service", before, during and after hurricane Camille.



Umbrellas were the "order of the day" as more than 2,000 persons gathered at Gulfport's Milner Stadium for a Naval Awards Day ceremony.



## The Chaplain Speaks

BY LT. WILLIAM F. MALONEY  
OF CBC

The expression "tell it to the Chaplain" is not uncommon in the military. Hopefully, it is one of confidence, where a person will find understanding, compassion and guidance in the solution and acceptance of his problem.

It is impossible to come up with a concise answer to all the day to day disappointments and frustrations. We can go a long way if we have a mature attitude toward life. This is difficult because we are not always honest with ourselves.

However, here are a few observations:

An immature person exaggerates what is not important in life and passes over what really matters. What really matters is getting to heaven. "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:32, 37)

A mature person also seeks to contribute - not destroy. He realizes that he is part of a family, community, or society and he must make an effort to improve it.

How many problems do we have because of our selfishness. How wonderful it would be if we were always conscious of the needs and feelings of others. Driving an automobile is a good barometer of this quality.

How well do we control our emotions? We all have them, but they must be governed by common sense. We should not respond to minor irritations in the same manner as we would if somebody just deliberately killed our best friend. So if we get violently angry for a slight reason, laugh wildly at things slightly funny, nurse hurt feelings for long periods of time, weep at the least offense or sulk at the slightest criticism we must re-evaluate our emotional maturity.

Finally, a balanced attitude - everything can't be wonderful all the time. Rejoice in the good things, appreciate them and try to solve the bad things in life.

God expects us to be reasonably happy in this life. Try not to make it worse by an immature attitude.



LEST

WE

FORGET

## Seabee Center Chapel

### PROTESTANT

### CATHOLIC

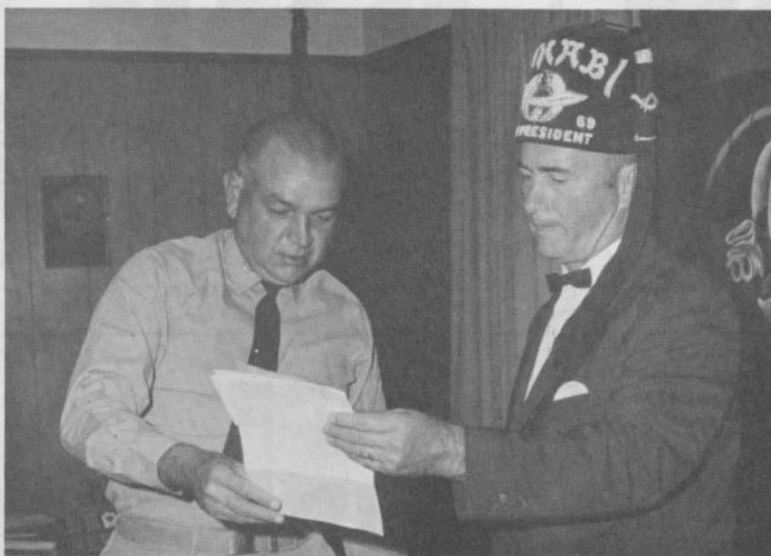
Church School 9:30 a.m. Sunday:  
Divine Worship 10:30 a.m. Confession 8 a.m.  
Mass 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday: Monday-Friday  
Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Confession 11:15 a.m.  
Mass 11:30 a.m.

Lt. William F. Maloney, USNR  
Chaplain

Extensions 454, 455 - Chapel Building 169

JEWISH PERSONNEL - Transportation is furnished to Keesler Air Force Base each Friday.

PWOC - Meets first Thursday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Chapel.



**SEABEES AID FUND** - Money orders totaling \$325 were added to the Janet Roberts Fund, when MCB-133 Seabees in Vietnam sent that amount for the 13-year-old Mobile, Ala., girl who is battling cancer. Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Commanding Officer of the Gulfport Seabee Center, here presents the money to Curtis E. Seymour, Gulf Coast Shrine club president, whose organization is handling the fund drive.

## JANET RECEIVES \$325 FROM MCB-133 'BEES

Gulf Coast Shriners have nearly \$500 which they banked recently in the Janet Roberts Fund.

Seabees of MCB-133, deployed to Vietnam, read of Janet's life-long fight against cancer and sent money orders totaling \$325 to Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Seabee Center Commanding Officer. Capt. Hill presented the money to Curtis Seymour, Gulf Coast Shrine club president.

Other donations direct to the Shriners, who are sponsoring the fund drive on behalf of the spunky 13-year-old are more than \$130.

A \$2 check came from a retired Navy Chaplain who said that he was wiped out by Camille, but "my wife and I consider ourselves more fortunate than this poor girl and want to help."

Janet is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. T. (Bill) Roberts, an employee in the Center's Construction Equipment Department. The family lives in Mobile. She has spent most of her 13 years in the hospital fighting the crippling disease. She has had eight major operations.

At one point in her life she thought that she had licked cancer and in her joy gave \$5 of her own money to the Lurleen Wallace Cancer Fund.

She and her doctors still feel there is hope for recovery and intend to continue the fight.

Donations to the Janet Roberts Cancer Fund may be sent to Toby Raspilar, at Toby's Neon and Plastic Sign Co., Broad Avenue, Gulfport.

## ★SEABEE THEATER★

Nov. 7

"The Trouble With Girls" - (G) - Starring: Elvis Presley, Marilyn Mason

Nov. 8

"Emily" - (G) - Starring: Julie Andrews, James Garner, James Colburn and "Where Were You When The Lights Went Out" - (G) - Starring: Doris Day

Nov. 9-10

"The Illustrated Man" - (M) - Starring: Rod Steiger, Claire Bloom

Nov. 11-12

"The April Fool" - (M) - Starring: Jack Lemmon, Peter Lawford

Nov. 13-14

"The Gay Deceivers" - (M) - Starring: Larry Casey, Michael Greer

Nov. 15

"Hombre" - (M) - Starring: Paul Newman and "Nevada Smith" - (M) - Starring: Steve McQueen

Nov. 16-17

"On The Way To The Crusades I Met A Girl Who..." - (M) - Starring: Tony Curtis, Lomica Vitti

Nov. 18-19

"Swiss Family Robinson" - (G) - Starring: John Mills, Dorothy McGuire

Nov. 20-21

"The Love Bug" - Starring: Michele Lee, Buddy Hackett

## Safe Habits Depend On Attitude . . .

Strictly defined, an attitude is a predisposition on the part of a person to respond in a given way. It is manifest when an individual will respond to an initiating cause in a predetermined manner each time. What the reaction will be depends upon the previous experiences of the individual.

A certain work evokes different feelings in different people. The words, "union," "management," "labor," even "safety" touch off different reactions in individuals.

The supervisor must be sure that he does not create attitudes which will be negative to the safety program. If the foreman insists upon workers wearing protective equipment, he himself must also do so.

A worker who gets the impression that safety is a "don't-do-as-I-do-but-do-as-I-say" routine, will, despite all other re-educative processes, develop a negative attitude toward the whole program.

To change attitudes, one must substitute new learning for old concepts and ideas. To change behavior, one must teach better means by which the goal can be achieved. In each case, some new learning must be substituted for the old.

The supervisor must ever keep in mind that if his workers are going to learn safe procedure, they must be so motivated. To merely point out that accidents cost the company money will not motivate them. Rather, point out the hazards which are risked when using unsafe work procedures: the probability of serious and painful injury and the possible loss of earning power.

The cost, not only in dollars but also psychologically to both the worker and his family, is of paramount importance to him and will motivate him to learn safe work methods.

Through experimentation, psychologists have found that learning reinforced by reward is more efficient, sure and complete. Publicity given to a safety record bonus, a promotion, or anything which satisfies individual needs would serve as a reward to reinforce whatever learning has brought about the desired behavior.

Shortcut, hazardous methods or any other unsafe acts must not be rewarded. In fact, in such situations, reprimands should be given.

Action must concentrate on the error and not on the personality involved.



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Commanding Officer

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Public Affairs Officer

MARCO J. BILLANTE, PHC, USN

Leading Photographer

CAROLYN N. LANGHOLZ, JO1, USN  
Editor





GRAVES

## This Chief Remembers When . . .

By Irma R. Shows

Twenty five years and 14 service ribbons later, Senior Chief Petty Officer Eugene C. Graves returned to the Gulfport Seabee Center.

And how did he find it? "My old barracks, No. 23, even after Camille, is still standing. Really there was not much change on the Center. I missed the old dispensary. Midnight curfews do not exist as we had them," and reminiscing about off-base, "The old USO in Biloxi is gone. The oyster house on the beach in Gulfport was missing. Angelo's was the only familiar landmark," when he returned in July 1969, "but, as a whole people are much more friendly this time."

Chief Graves reported aboard the Seabee Center on a rainy Christmas eve, 1943, a day "he'll never forget." At that time he was assigned to MCB-143. His tour at the Center was preceded by training at Camp Perry, Va. as a Fireman First Class.

In March 1944, MCB-143 was broken up and he joined Maintenance Unit 598.

His tours of duty since leaving the Seabee Base in 1944 have included the invasion of Guam along with MU-615, in the Western Caroline Islands. He worked on various destroyer escorts.

In 1948 Graves left the service where he briefly enjoyed the civilian life in Oxnard, Calif. working with the Oxnard Police Dept.

But the call to the military life returned and in September 1952, Graves entered the United States Army as a Warrant Officer. It was during this tour that his unit, "A" Company, 981st Field Artillery, received the Presidential Unit Citation for support action in Korea.

## BSA TROOP 323 HAS FIRST EAGLE SCOUT

By CN Stephen A. Fink

The first Eagle Scout Award to be earned by a member of the Gulfport Seabee Center's Boy Scout Troop 323 was presented in traditional ceremonies at the Navy command, Nov. 3.

Receiving Scouting's highest award was 14-year-old William "Bill" H. Lewis, the son of Cmdr. and Mrs. Frank H. Lewis Jr.

Graves other awards includes the Good Conduct ribbon with silver star; American Defense; Asiatic Pacific with three stars; World War II victory ribbon; Army of Occupation Japan Medal; National Defense Ribbon with one star; Korean Campaign Ribbon with one star, Vietnam campaign ribbon with three stars and Marine Corps insignia, United Nations ribbon for Korea; the Sygmon Rhee Presidential citation for the same action as the Presidential Unit citation and the Vietnamese Medal w/clasp.

Graves tours of duty have taken him to Saipan, Adak, Alaska where his family joined him, the Philippines, Japan, and in Port Hueneme, Calif.

Senior Chief Builder Graves recalls this tour as a 22-year old in 1944 aboard the Gulfport base: "I never will forget while in training we went on a two-day hike to Desoto National, camping overnight on the way. We were told if we could make the return trip in one day we could have liberty -- and believe me we made it. Those three hours were just great. We also trained at Cat Island and had quite a time."

As an instructor in Disaster Recovery Training, Senior Chief Graves added a star to the Navy Unit Commendation which he had previously received while with the 30th Naval Construction Regiment, Da Nang as Operations Chief. DRT was a vital part of post-Camille base activity.

Senior Chief Graves has completed the circle and in July 1970 after 23 years active duty, with a total of 25, he will return to Oxnard, Calif. where his wife, the former Edith Rosen a native of that city is now employed in the Supply Department at Port Hueneme.

Their children are Mrs. Theda Howard, Cincinnati, Ohio; John, a student at the University of Southern California; son, Gary and daughters, Barbara and Janet, Oxnard, of 1074 Walnut Drive.

FOR SALE: 1968 12 x 50 Detroit mobile home, two bedroom. Call 864-6029.

WANTED: Young woman, no children to come in and stay with my wife while I am overseas. Contact Daniel Kelmar, "Alpha" Co, MCB-121.

On hand to present the coveted Eagle Scout pin at the 7:30 p.m. ceremony was Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Commanding Officer of the Gulfport Seabee Center. The captain said, "I know how much the award means to you, because I've gone through it twice myself." Captain Hill and his son are both Eagle Scouts.

Eagle Scout Lewis began his scouting career in Oslo, Norway, just a little less than three-and-a-half years ago. He attained the rank of Life Scout while overseas. When his father, who is the commanding officer of MCB-133 and presently deployed to Vietnam, transferred to Gulfport in 1968, Bill joined the local Center troop. At the Gulf Coast Navy command, Lewis has won the God and Country Award, and represented the troop at the National Jamboree in Farragut, Idaho earlier this year. The Lewis family currently resides in Biloxi, Miss.

Following the ceremony Constructionman Stephen A. Fink, who calls Syosset, N. Y. home, took over as Scoutmaster for BSA Troop 323 from Petty Officer First Class Charles R. Smith. Fink said he was pledged to making the troop one of the most active in the area, with "fun and adventure for all the boys." For further information on the Center's Scouting program, which is open to both military and civilian personnel—call Fink at 864-6220, Ext. 454.



LEADER - Mrs. Fran Howard, wife of Equipment Operator First Class Bob Howard now serving with MCB-74 in Vietnam, was elected secretary for the Navy Wives Club of America Inc., at the 31st Annual Convention in Little Creek, Va., during October. Mrs. Howard is an active member of the local chapter of the Navy Wives Clubs of America, "Honeybees No. 257."



EAGLE SCOUT AWARD - The first Eagle Scout in the Gulfport Seabee Center's BSA Troop 323, William "Bill" H. Lewis, receives the coveted pin from Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Commanding Officer of the Gulf Coast Navy command. Capt. Hill also holds the Eagle Scout Award. Overseeing the ceremony is out-going Troop 323 Scoutmaster Charles R. Smith.

## MCB-74 Has Top Priority Assignment

The top priority construction job in Vietnam, the reconstruction of Ammunition Supply Point One has been assigned to Mobile Construction Battalion 74 by the Force Logistic Command.

ASP-ONE was the scene of an explosion caused by a grass fire that raged out of control and set off the stored ammunition approximately seven months ago.

"Alpha," "Bravo" and "Delta" companies are working hand in hand in the reconstruction of ASP-ONE.

Delta Company Seabees are rebuilding headwalls on the bunkers and storage areas, rerouting drainage culverts, building storage sheds and constructing administration and emergency facility buildings.

Rewiring the entire perimeter lighting system and wiring the interior of all the new working facilities is being done by the men of Bravo Company.

Rebuilding and resurfacing of

blown out protection berms with asphalt and burying the storage units has been assigned to "Alpha" Company.

Overseeing the construction performed by approximately 150 men from MCB-74 is Lt. H. D. Dean, Delta Company Commander.

Commander Joseph A. D'Emidio, is the battalion's commanding officer.

## Club Notations

The Naval Officers Wives' Club met Oct. 23 for an 11:30 a.m. luncheon meeting at Rhodes Hall.

Guest speaker, Miss Doris Elkins, the Midwest Division Home Economist for the Overseas Service Corporation of Dallas, Tex., highlighted the meeting. She featured holiday ideas and menus. Grooming aids and food products were distributed to various members.

Four new members were welcomed to the club, Mesdames Patricia Ables, Susan Purinton, Pam Hooker and Dene Hines. Three members are leaving the area, Mesdames Joyce Lewis, Ruth Fegley and Betty Hall.

A guest at the meeting was Mrs. Joseph Gleba, the mother of Mrs. Joseph J. Gawarkiewicz III.





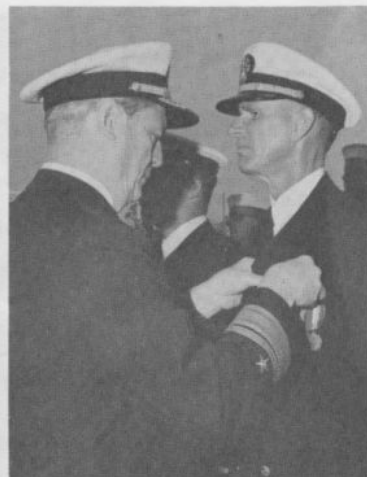
Lieutenant Commander Donald B. Campbell, MCB-128, receives the Navy Commendation Medal.



Chaplain (Lt.) William F. Maloney of CBC, receives the Navy Commendation Medal.



Lieutenant Commander L. B. Purinton III, MCB-121, receives the Navy Commendation Medal.



Chief Warrant Officer Gerald M. Lamb of CBC receives the Navy Achievement Medal.



Lieutenant Commander Richard C. Truesdell, CBC Public Works Officer, receives the Navy Commendation Medal.

### For Hurricane Recovery Work

# NAVAL AWARDS CEREMONY -OCT. 31, 1969



Gulfport Mayor Philip W. Shaw presents a certificate to Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Commanding Officer of the Gulfport Seabee Center, making the Navy command "skipper" an honorary citizen of Gulfport.



Mississippi Governor John Bell Williams reads a proclamation to Capt. James M. Hill Jr., Commanding Officer of the Gulfport Seabee Center, naming Oct. 31 as "Seabee Awards Day" in the State of Mississippi.



Chief Construction Mechanic Louis A. Bruney of 20th NCR, receives the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.



Master Chief Commissaryman Albin J. Coffa of CBC receives the Navy Achievement Medal.



Staff Sgt. Michael B. Schrantz, USMCR, Co "A", 4th Amphibian Tractor Battalion, USMCR, receives the Navy Achievement Medal.



Builder First Class R. L. Smith of CTU receives the Navy Achievement Medal.



Lt. Billy H. McCaleb of CBC receives the Navy Achievement Medal.





Harold J. Levron, the CBC Industrial Relations Division Officer, is congratulated upon receiving the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.



Mrs. Betty M. Price of the CBC Industrial Relations Division, receives the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.



James O. Bowling of the Construction Equipment Department receives the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.



John W. Davis, Planning Officer for the Gulfport Seabee Center, is congratulated upon receiving the Department of the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award.

### COMMENDATION

Cont'd from pg. 1

Reserve, were recipients of one of four medals - the Navy and Marine Corps Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal; the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

A host of national, state and coastal officials were on hand for the event, including Rep. L. Mendel Rivers, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, who brought "good news" to the more than 3500 persons assembled in the stadium and on the parade field. "You will be a permanent base. . . I bring this message to you from Washington," the Democrat from South Carolina stated. A resound-cheer arose from those in the stadium seats. Rivers earlier in his remarks said, "Never have I been more proud of you," he told Seabees and Marines, "You have rendered a service unparalleled." Rivers helped create the Navy Construction forces in 1941.

Representative William M. Colmer (D-Miss.) also on hand for the singular event, commented that with all deference to the National

Guard and the Air Force, "the outstanding service was that rendered by the Seabee organization." Applause again broke out for the personnel of the Gulfport Seabee Center.

Joining the host of dignitaries in praise for the Seabees and Marines was Mississippi Governor John Bell Williams. He expressed his "profound gratitude" from the State and also proclaimed Oct. 31 as "Seabee Awards Day" throughout the State.

Civilians from the Gulf Coast Navy command were also recognized with awards for their part in rescue and recovery operations along the coast before, during and after hurricane Camille. Rear Adm. Johnston made the presentations. The top award - the Department of the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award - was presented to John W. Davis, the Center's Planning Officer. Others awards received by the civilians, were the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award; the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award; five Department of the Navy Awards of Merit For Group Achievement and vari-

ous Department of the Navy Special Act or Service Award.

The military's citation for the Navy Unit Commendation, signed by Secretary of the Navy John H. Chafee, also states, "Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport quickly took action to provide effective communications links with local Civil Defense Headquarters, and to effect a massive effort to move civilian and military personnel into shelters at the Center. When the hurricane reached its peak of intensity, leaving a trail of devastation along the Coast, the Center provided the primary and, at times, the only communications link between Civil Defense Headquarters and other units. Many instances of heroism took place as the Seabees rescued victims of the storm. Over twelve hundred persons were evacuated to safety, despite hurricane-force winds, driving rain, darkness, downed power lines, and scattered debris. During the days following the hurricane, the Center continued its widespread actions to assist the local communities. Center personnel secured gas mains and power lines which posed potential hazards and

succeeded in making streets and roads passable. Medical teams gave aid to the injured. Due to rapidly-deteriorating sanitary conditions and the consequent possibility of epidemic, the Command was tasked with the mass evacuation of Pass Christian, the most seriously devastated area along the Gulf Coast. These victims were provided food, medical attention, and transportation to Jackson for shelter. The tireless assistance and humanitarianism shown the civilian populace by the personnel of Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Mississippi during the above-designated period, or any part of, are hereby authorized to wear the Navy Unit Commendation ribbon."

The citation's final paragraph states, "All personnel, including assigned units, attached to and serving with the United States Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Mississippi during the above-designated period, or any part of, are hereby authorized to wear the Navy Unit Commendation ribbon."

The top ranking Seabee official at the ceremony was Rear Adm. James V. Bartlett, Vice Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Washington, D. C.

Other highlights of the ceremony included the presentation of the

Mississippi Magnolia Cross to Captain Hill, presented on behalf of the state, by Maj. Gen. Walter Johnson, state adjutant general.

Governor Williams also presented certificates of appreciation to Captain Hill on behalf of the State Civil Defense Council.

The Mayor of Gulfport, Philip W. Shaw presented a resolution from the city for the Seabee Center's duties, and also turned-over a certificate to Captain Hill making him an honorary citizen of Gulfport.

Lieutenant Governor Charles Sullivan served as master of ceremonies for the awards ceremony.

The four chambers of commerce in Harrison County - Biloxi, Gulfport, Pass Christian and Long Beach - drafted a citation read by Will Barrentine from the "Pass" chamber. The citation is to be engraved on a plaque and placed in one of the new permanent structures to be constructed at the Gulfport Seabee Center.

Music for the "full dress blue" ceremony was provided by the Atlantic Fleet Seabee Band, which is headquartered at the Seabee Center in Davisville, R. I. Receptions followed the ceremony at the Center's officer, chief and enlisted clubs.



IT WAS TRULY NAVAL AWARDS DAY . . . .



Luther F. Ladd of the CBC Public Works Department, is congratulated upon receiving the Department of the Navy Superior Service Award.





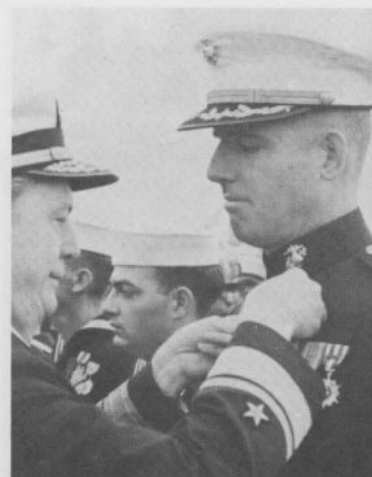
Chief Construction Electrician Henry S. McPherson of CBC receives the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.



Cmdr. John J. Shanley Jr., Seabee Center Executive Officer, receives the Meritorious Service Medal.



Lt. Joseph B. Leap, Commanding Officer of CTU, receives the Meritorious Service Medal.



Maj. Stanley E. Jones, USMC, Inspector-Instructor, Co "A", 4th Amphibian Tractor Battalion, USMCR, receives the Navy Achievement Medal.



Cmdr. Jack B. Moger, Commanding Officer, MCB-121, receives the Meritorious Service Medal.

## 1969 - MILNER STADIUM, GULFPORT, MISS.



Rep. L. Mendel Rivers, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, has "good news" at the Naval Awards Day ceremonies. The Gulfport Seabee Center will be a permanent facility.



Congressman William M. Colmer of Mississippi addresses the assemblage at the Naval Awards Day ceremonies Oct. 31, at Gulfport's Milner Stadium. The military personnel were cited for Camille work.



Hospital Corpsman First Class Roger L. Moor of CBC, receives the Navy Achievement Medal.



Cmdr. James H. Clary, CBC Supply Officer, receives the Navy Commendation Medal.



Constructionman Edward R. Slawinski, of the 20th NCR, receives the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.



Lieutenant Commander Theodore S. Myers, CBC Construction Equipment Department Officer, receives the Navy Commendation Medal.



Commander William C. Connor, Chief Staff Officer, 20th NCR, receives the Meritorious Service Medal.



## NEW MASTER CHIEF NAMED BY MCB-121

A former winner of the Atlantic Seabee Leadership Award was recently assigned as Battalion Master Chief for Mobile Construction Battalion 121.

Master Chief "T" Norman Jones, winner of the coveted award for 1965, is now the senior enlisted advisor for MCB-121. As Battalion Master Chief, Jones said his main objective is to counsel the men and "... see that everyone gets a fair shake."

A navyman with 18 years service, Master Chief Jones came to MCB-121 from the Naval Examining Center at Great Lakes, Ill., where he worked as a rates writer for the Builder Petty Officer advancement examinations. Prior to this he served with MCB-6 and MCB-7, homeported in Davisville, R. I.; MCB-4 and MCB-8, homeported at Port Hueneme, Calif.

Chief Jones spends much of his spare time building and rebuilding all types and sizes of water craft. At present he owns and sails a 19-foot outboard boat which he built.

Southern Mississippi is not new to the Battalion Master Chief. He was born in Hattiesburg, Miss., nearly 43 years ago. Chief Jones presently resides in the Gulfport area with his wife, the former Mary Elizabeth Carter of McLaurin, Miss., and children, Barbara Jean, 13, Thomas Norman, 12, and Roy DeWitt, age 9.

### CLUB NOTATIONS

The MCB-74 Wives' Club will hold its next meeting on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 2:30 p.m., in the Gulfport Seabee Center's Scout Hut.

A club spokesman said that members may bring their children to the gathering. Refreshments will be served.

The next meeting of the MCB-133 Wives' Club will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 18 in the Bldg. 1 wardroom at the Seabee Center, beginning at 7 p.m.

The club reported that its Halloween Party was a huge success. Color movies were made of the mothers and children - who all came in costume - and the film is slated for viewing in Vietnam over the holiday season by the officers and men of MCB-133.

At the October business meeting, Mrs. Sharon Green was installed as the MCB-133 Wives' Club secretary.

### WANT AD

FOR SALE: Sears 8MM movie camera, zoom lens, \$50. Call CPO M. Billante at 863-0723.



**ON 'CRUISE'** - Two Seabees of Mobile Construction Battalion 121 recently put to sea for a month-and-a-half cruise to Vietnam. Aboard the supply laden S.S. American Charger were (from left) Construction Electrician Second Class K. D. Wintermuth (White Plains, N.Y.) and Seaman R. L. Watson (Barnardville, N. C.). Scheduled to arrive "over there" shortly before the battalion re-deploys later this year, their "landing" will mark the beginning of MCB-121's third deployment to Vietnam since recommissioning in early 1967. The battalion's two previous deployments have taken them to Phu Bai and Gia Le, both in the area of Hue.

## Battalion Newsmakers

Disassembly of the Cam Lo rock crusher was recently completed by the Seabees of Mobile Construction Battalion 74 in Vietnam.

The crusher nicknamed "CRUNCH", was located near the DMZ and was used by MCB-74 during their second Vietnam deployment last year. At that time the battalion's Detail Victor, during an eight month period, crushed more rock for use on northern highways than any other Seabee battalion with a comparable crusher.

The Third Naval Construction Brigade gave the Seabees 15 days to take apart the crusher; but, the "Does More" battalion completed the job in a record five days.

The crusher will now be packed and shipped to the States for a complete overhaul.

Equipment Operator First Class J. E. Reaves was the Petty Officer-in-Charge of the 12 man team which took their old friend "CRUNCH" apart while a security force of MCB-74's men protected the job site.

Mobile Construction Battalion 121's Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Jack Moger has released a newly revised training schedule for his battalion during their upcoming deployment to Vietnam.

In an effort to maintain the Navy's high regard for education, short seminars will be offered to interested personnel. Classes varying from Vietnamese Culture to Rear Axle Assemblies—a total of 87 different courses will be available. Slated to deploy later this year, the battalion is preparing for its third Vietnam tour.

Builder Second Class Frank R. Neal III was recently named a Seabee of the Month in MCB-133, which is serving in Vietnam.

Neal is the shop supervisor of the "Bravo" Company builder shop. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Ray Neal Jr., of Portland, Maine, and is married to the former Cynthia Anderson also of Portland.

The Seabee was especially cited for his "personal attention to quality control ... and leadership performance."

A section of Vietnamese National Route 9 has been dedicated to MCB-62's first combat fatality, Equipment Operator Third Class Glen C. Ludban, by his former crew members from 62's "Alpha" Company.

Ludban was killed June 30 as he stepped on and detonated an anti-tank mine on the shoulder of a section of road where he was working.

A short dedication ceremony was attended by about 15 members of Ludban's former crew. A marker was placed on the location of his death naming the section of Route 9 from Gia Creek to Elliott Combat Base the Glen Ludban Memorial Highway.

Equipment Operator Third Class Willis E. Darden of MCB-62 has received a letter of commendation for his actions in reporting a Vietnamese contractor who was "padding the books" and forging the quantities of rock he was hauling to the battalion.

Darden, who was directed to keep an accurate tally of the number of rock loads hauled to stockpile by the Vietnamese, reported the incident rather than accept what were termed as "attractive bribery overtures" from the contractor. Darden's report was instrumental in exposing the fraud.

## MCB-74 Seabee Teams In Action After Storm

BY CPO JODIE DICKERSON

Seabee Teams in training, and the instructor staff from the Seabee Team Training Department of the 20th NCR aboard the Gulfport Seabee Center, responded to the recent disastrous Hurricane Camille despite personal hardship and loss.

Seabee Teams 7403 and 7404 were given the task of clearing an emergency route to Pass Christian. After completing this difficult job their efforts were directed toward helping clear the streets in the Long Beach and the East Pass Christian area to give search and rescue teams more mobility in their search for survivors.

The week prior to Camille, Seabee Team 7404 was deployed to the Camp Iti Kana Girl Scout Camp on a Field Operational Exercise to construct a 300 foot bridge. Due to the approach of Camille, Seabee Team 7404 was recalled to Gulfport and arrived back aboard the Center the day before Camille struck. This marked the completion of an intensified 18 week training program Seabee Teams are given before they deploy to underdeveloped countries around the world. Despite the fact that their team had to be completely re-outfitted due to storm damage, of supplies and personal gear, they worked to help the people of the Gulf Coast area until they departed for their new duty assignment.

Seabee Team 7403 continued the cleanup by shifting their efforts

to county roads, Gulf Park College and the Marine Laboratory at Ocean Springs. Six buildings sustained major damage at the Marine Laboratory. The small boat harbor, sewage disposal plant and thousands of specimens of marine life were washed away by tides that were recorded in excess of 19 feet. One faculty member lost a file cabinet containing three years of laboratory notes on an experiment he was conducting. Seabees of 7403 helped complete the clean-up, rebuild the boat harbor, and began work on the main laboratory as a training project before they deployed to Vietnam.

Seabee Teams are comprised of an officer in charge and twelve veteran Seabees. Their mission is to train men in underdeveloped countries in construction skills while building badly needed hospitals, schools, roads and bridges. They are sometimes called the Navy's Peace Corp because of their effort to help others to help themselves.

Although their mission is a peaceful one, Seabee Teams have proven their worth in combat by winning every major medal except the Distinguished Service Cross.

In the letter, signed by his Commanding Officer, Cmdr. John Paul Jones Jr., Darden was commended for his "honesty, personal integrity and moral courage in refusing the contractor's bribes and revealing his attempts to cheat the United States Government."

"By your actions", the letter continued, "you have done a great service to both your Command and your country and have brought credit upon yourself."

Three MCB-133 Seabees have reenlisted for a total of 18 years of service and received some \$14,000 in reenlistment bonuses in Gia Le, Vietnam.

Commander Frank H. Lewis Jr., Commanding Officer of MCB-133, administered the oath of enlistment to Construction Mechanic First Class John D. Brown Jr.; Equipment Operator First Class Andrew H. Griffith, and Steelworker Second Class Bruce R. Greene Jr.

This is the second Vietnam deployment with MCB-133 for CM1 Brown and SW2 Greene and the third deployment for EO1 Griffith who joined the battalion in July, 1966.

Ammunition Supply Point Two is the site of vital construction work being done by Seabees of Mobile Construction Battalion 74 in Vietnam.

The battalion's Charlie Company is constructing 16 weather proof sheds to be part of the storage units at the ASP. The job was assigned to the battalion by the Third Marine Amphibious Force.

Builder First Class Thomas Coomer and his eight man crew are making the concrete piers for the sheds and prefabricating the sheds on the job site.

Equipment Operator Second Class Thomas J. Liesfield, heavy equipment dispatcher for MCB-62 in Vietnam, has been named as a Seabee of the Month with the battalion.

He was presented a letter of commendation by 62's Commanding Officer, Cmdr. John Paul Jones Jr., citing the Seabee's "leadership and technical ability." Liesfield enlisted in the Navy under the Direct Procurement Petty Officer Program in 1968. The Navyman received a three day in-country R&R, a check for \$25 and a battalion plaque.



**LORRAINE STUTSMAN OLSSON**, "Stutsy" for short (top), captured the first Military Wife of the Year Award in 1967. Stationed in Germany, she became concerned with the image of Americans overseas; worked hard to improve that image on a local level. It was her help in rehabilitating escapees from East Berlin that brought her the award.



#### SHIRLEY BRITT

(middle photo) is the pert and pretty wife of a Marine Lt. Colonel who served as military advisor to the Korean Marines. She was awarded the title in 1968 for her "people-to-people" relations program while stationed in Korea.

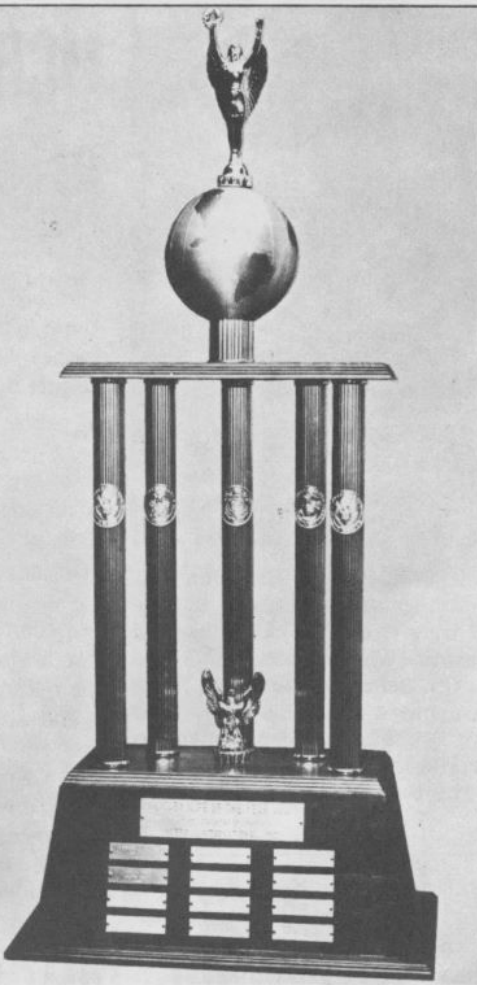
Shirley learned Korean customs, folk dances and language; taught English to the wives of her husbands counter-part officers; participated in an all-Korean fund raising show, and still found the energy to earn herself a Black Belt in Karate.



#### EDREL ANNETTE COLEMAN

(bottom photo) earned the title for 1969. Native of Seminary, Mississippi; wife of an Army Chaplain stationed at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska, her work in launching HELP DAN — a crusade to educate children to the dangers of narcotics and alcohol — gained her the top award.

On the right is the Military Wife of the Year Trophy representing the five military services. It is on permanent display in the Pentagon.



## Little Battalion Set To Join Big Battalion

When Mobile Construction Battalion 62 returns to Gulfport soon, it will find a "baby sister battalion" already gathered at the home port. Since the battalion deployed to Vietnam seven months ago, nearly 250 Seabees have reported to the 20th Naval Construction Regiment (90 percent during the past month) for further transfer to MCB-62.

While awaiting the arrival of the mother battalion, the men have been kept busy in carrying on the tradition of the Navy's construction corps.

Assigned to the Regiment's Ready Company, they have been formed into five platoons. Their skills are being utilized accordingly around the Seabee Center.

One platoon of 40 men is working at the new military training camp near Keesler Air Force Base. Under the supervision of EO1 Donald Shoves the group is clearing road ways and preparing sites for a galley, generator pad and central tool room. On Nov. 3 a squad of builders set up saw mill operations and begin cutting lumber for the camp's construction. Working closely with the training camp platoon is a group of Engineering Aids headed by EA 1 Jack Ulmer. They are performing the surveying tasks of the project.

Back at the Seabee Center CM1 Josef Woolfson, BU1 Eugene Michels and CE1 Jose Marquez are directing Seabees in other activities. One group is reroofing buildings damaged by hurricane Camille. Buildings 3, 51, 53, 57 and

171 have already received new shingles. Another area of work is on-the-job-training. An LST ramp is being constructed, and electrical and general base maintenance is being conducted. More men are assigned the chore of hurricane clean-up on the Center grounds. Still others are working in the galley, at the armory, transportation and shore patrol.

But no matter what the job, the new Sixty-Twoers continue to fulfill the "Can Do" motto until the "little battalion" meets the big battalion.

Queen Elizabeth I was addicted to dancing, National Geographic says. Even at 66, she tried a dance called the Spanish Panic — but in the privacy of her room.

**INFORMATION WANTED:** Any married Navyman just reporting from Cuba, please contact CPO M. Billante at the CBC Photo Lab, Ext. 389.

**THE MCB-133 WIVES' CLUB IS COLLECTING \$\$\$\$\$\$ FOR THE JANET ROBERTS FUND. (SEE HER STORY PAGE 2). WATCH FOR THEIR DONATION TABLES AT THE SEABEE CENTER'S NAVY EXCHANGE AND THE POST OFFICE - EVERY FRIDAY.**

### A Yank Classic

Navy Mustn't Sink Own Army Anymore

The U.S. Army has a sensitive soul. It has just complained to the Robbins Musical Corporation, publisher of "Anchors Aweigh," the official Navy song, because of a line in the chorus: "Sail Navy down the field, and Sink the Army, Sink the Army Grey."

For the duration of the war this line is out. Henceforth at all Army-Navy football games midshipmen will sing instead, "Until we meet once more, here's wishing you a happy voyage home." —From YANK, August 12, 1942.



JANET ROBERTS

## ARE YOU THE MILITARY WIFE OF THE YEAR?

For the past three years a search has been made to find the Military Wife of the Year -- the one service wife whose actions epitomize the real and important contributions being made by military wives in improving people-to-people relationships wherever they are stationed.

The Contest in the past was confined to nominations submitted by military wives clubs in the European theater 1967, the Far East 1968, and the United States 1969. This year, sponsors of the contest -- Harrell International, Inc., a world-wide marketing firm based in Westport, Connecticut -- have announced that wives clubs throughout the world may submit their club's candidate for the coveted title of Military Wife of The Year 1970.

All women's clubs whose membership are wives of active duty Armed Forces personnel stationed throughout the world are invited to submit an entry in behalf of the candidate they feel best meets these qualifications:

—She must be a military wife active in her club's community service activities.

—She must have made noteworthy contributions to the improvement of people-to-people relations not only in the military, but in civilian communities as well (e.g. work with underprivileged children, social work, education, hospital volunteer, etc.)

—She must be poised and sufficiently articulate to be able to tell her story, and the American Military Community's story, to U.S. television audiences and the press.

All entries should be submitted on Official Entry Forms. These forms and complete details of the contest are available at your Center Public Affairs Office. Entry blanks must be in Florida no later than Nov. 20.

Initially, each of the five services will conduct its own contest to determine the individual who best represents that service as Military Wife of The Year. Services will determine their own preliminary contest structure.

Final selection of the Military Wife of The Year for each service will be made at the Washington level by a panel of senior officer and NCO wives coordinated by

the wife of the Chief of Staff of each service.

After the five service selections have been finalized, a tour will be made by television's Art Linkletter, wherever possible, to the locales of the various winners. There he will stage his show -- based on Art's famous "House Party" format and film the finalists doing the things that brought them recognition.

All winners and their husbands will be flown to Washington, D. C. Here they'll take part in a host of luncheons, receptions, dinners and press interviews culminating in a formal Awards Ceremony Dinner at which they will be presented to a distinguished audience of dignitaries and military officials. Final judging for the title MILITARY WIFE OF THE YEAR 1970 will be made that evening by an international panel of prominent women selected by the General Federation Women's Clubs. Hollywood personalities will introduce each candidate for the top award and the films taken of her during the Linkletter tour will be shown as part of a special televised program.

Although club nominations should be considered as a rule, nominations may be submitted for unaffiliated individuals in those circumstances where women's organizations have not been formed.

The winning Military Wife of The Year will receive an all-expense trip to Hollywood as Art Linkletter's guest. She will visit Congressmen, Senators and other Washington dignitaries and make a personal appearance tour across the United States where she will have the opportunity to tell her story and that of the American military community on TV panels, to the press and in guest appearances before women's groups.

The Military Wife of The Year program has received the official endorsement of the U. S. Department of Defense.

### Christmas Mailing Deadline Set

**WASHINGTON (AFPS)** — The latest mailing deadlines listed by the U.S. Postal Department for surface and air includes:

**PAL (Parcel Airlift)** — PAL mailing costs the regular parcel post rate to the APO or FPO departure point plus \$1 for air service from your city to the overseas base. Packages are accepted up to 30 pounds in weight and 60 inches in combined length and girth. Mailing is from Oct. 28 — Nov. 30.

**SAM (Space Available Mail)**

—SAM mailing parcel post rate to APO or FPO departure points is the only fee. SAM parcels can be up to five pounds in weight and 60 inches in combined length and girth. Packages are airlifted overseas from the APO or FPO departure point. Mailing is from Oct. 20 — Nov. 23.

**Air Parcel Post** — For small package mailing, Air Parcel Post should be considered. On parcels weighing two pounds or under, airmail postage should be used and packages mailed Nov. 30 — Dec. 11.