

Seabee

U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SIXTY-TWO



AUGUST 1971

Seabeacon

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ON THE COVER

Headquarters Company personnel secure tent they erected during a weekly military training session at Camp Moscrip, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

Chaplain's Communique

Your life's goal

The Trends of our time point to the one fact, many show signs of drifting along the course of least resistance. There appears to be much waiting to see what develops next before we publicly make up our minds to move in any certain direction. When this sort of activity or lack of it takes effect then we cannot hold any position in life. The individual cannot afford to become discouraged when confronted with the least resistance but needs to persist or strive harder to reach his or her goal.

Maybe the lack of proper goals in and for life are the reason for the troubles so easily acquired but extremely difficult to remove. The desire for short cuts to success could be another reason mankind is getting nowhere fast. Yet for these and other numerous excuses concerning modern man's plight there is an ancient but eternal answer worth thinking about which may hold the key to release from self destruction.

To the christians at Philippi, Paul the apostle wrote, "I have not yet reached perfection, but I press on, hoping to take hold of that for which Christ once took hold of me...Forgetting what is behind me, and reaching out for that which lies ahead, I press toward the goal to win the prize which is God's call to the Life above, in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:12-14 NEB). What Paul is saying here is, you don't have to be perfect, but you can be better off than you are, by working toward the highest goal which our Faith has to offer, Christ likeness. You do not have to make this effort alone because Christ has taken hold of us and stands ready to assist as we individually call upon Him.

The truth is you do not have to be a drifter but an accomplisher in your own right. However, you have got to make changes in your attitude toward life, and with the Lord's help it is possible. Take the time and receive the blessing which God has for you in establishing worth while goals for Life in the name of His Son.

CHAPLAIN ROY C. WOOD

I don't recall ever meeting a man who was completely satisfied with his immediate situation in life. This is only natural since it is human nature to desire to improve ones education or improve ones station in life.

While you are in the Navy, career or not, one of the really valuable fringe benefits available to you is the multitude of educational opportunities available to you at little cost.

Did you fail to complete high school? If you did, have you considered taking the general educational development (GED) courses and obtaining your High School Equivalency Certificate? I sign one of these certificates weekly or so. I experience a feeling of admiration each time I do. For the certificate means that some Seabee has taken it upon himself to correct a situation which may or may not be of his own doing.

We have set up tutoring courses in Mathematics and English to assist anyone in these areas for both GED purposes as well as for promotion purposes.

Wouldn't you like to earn more money each month and have a more responsible position in the Battalion? You can earn it by successfully competing in the Navy-wide examinations for advancement in rate. It is not too soon to start preparing for next February's exam. The Educational Services Office personnel can assist you in selecting the necessary Navy Correspondence Courses to qualify you for those exams. And as mentioned above, we in the Battalion are ready willing and able to continue the Mathematics and English tutoring or

other courses so long as there are personnel interested.

Correspondence Courses available through the Armed Forces Institute can be of great value to you for promotion purposes or just to broaden your education.

College level night classes are available right here at Roosevelt Roads from Inter-American University. What better way is available to you to start or continue your college education.

This is just a brief review of the opportunities available to you to improve your education while you serve. But you have to make the first move. You have to sign up for whatever course you desire. It is as easy as falling off a log.

And while we are on deployment, every man can devote one or two nights a week to studying to improve himself.

Won't you make this small investment in your future? Go talk to the Educational Services Office personnel. You'll never regret it.



CDR. F. M. NEWCOMB

F. M. Newcomb

F. M. Newcomb
CDR, CEC, USN
Commanding Officer

**View from
the bridge**

The July issue of the Seabeacon contained a center spread on the successful Battalion mountout drill held on June 23-24. The 48-hour drill observed by umpires from the Commander, Construction Battalions, Atlantic Fleet tested our ability to move all of our men and necessary equipment in a limited duration of time.

Additional tests involving many men will be held in the future to determine our continued readiness



**From
the
XO's
desk**

posture as the Atlantic Fleet Alert Battalion. These tests, with key personnel identified, are not necessarily in the order they will be held.

(1) Automotive administration inspection to determine the maintenance and operational readiness of the equipment assigned to us. LT. Marshall, ENS. Steimer, and Senior Chief Weinman are the key men in this area

(2) Supply inspection to evaluate the effectiveness of our supply department headed by LT. Hines, with the support of LTJG. Murff, Chief Williams and Petty Officers Miller and Ondriezek.

(3) Ordnance inspection of the Battalion's weapons and our maintenance and training program Petty Officers Oglesby and Wynn, and Seaman Apprentice Bruen are the key men involved in preparing for the inspection with supervision by LTJG. Gross and GYSGT. Wilson. (Held Aug. 18.)

(4) An inspection of communications equipment, both vehicle mounted and stationary. The communications department with Petty Officers Bollinger, Teders and four other men will be involved in that inspection.

(5) Security inspection of documents, their retention, proper routing and dispositions. WO1 Woolnough and Petty Officer McEwen are the key individuals in this responsible position.

(6) The drill and inspection of the 89-man air detachment group headed by LT. Keith, ENS. Steimer and Chief Gibson is the next important drill of this Battalion. An elite group of men staff this detachment and must be available for deployment within 48 hours or less.

This list excludes daily and weekly intra-Battalion inspections and drills down to and including the squad level. These inspections and drills in combination with a sufficient level of training will find NMCB-62, the Minuteman Battalion, ready to meet its assigned missions.

We are nearing the mid-point of our first peace-time deployment. We can look back on some of our activities here in the Caribbean and we can say that MCB-62 has restored the adventure and fun of being a Navy Seabee.

We are also helping to improve the quality of Navy life and bring back the fun and zest of being of service to the Navy and to other people. There is no better way to live than to be of service to our fellow man.

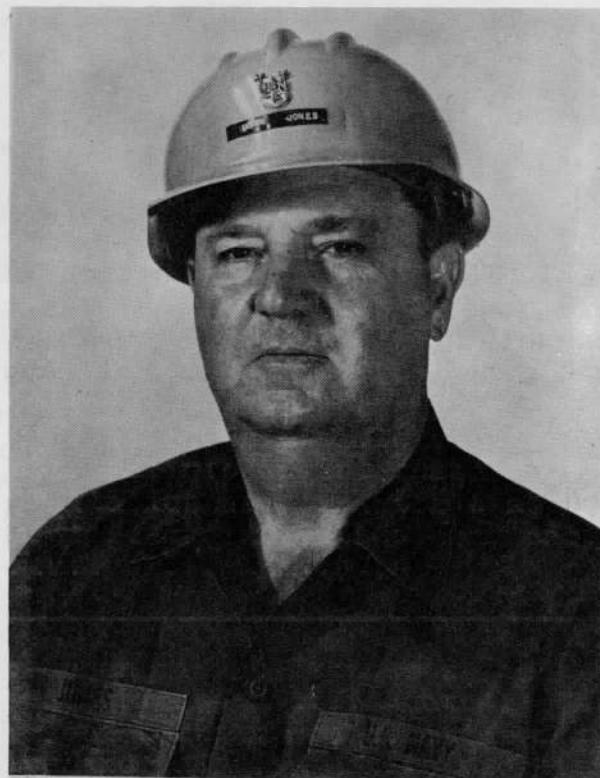
If you are a "MARS" operator and help a man talk with his family, or if you construct a ball field for others to play on, or if you build a safety device that might save lives, this is service of the best kind.

Seabees have it all. Every job we do is a service for someone. Helping ourselves and our fellow man is our profession. Ours is a satisfying job. We are lucky.

As we look forward to the next half of our deployment we know that the rest will be just as satisfying as the first half.

You know if you are a good Seabee that you don't want to leave this kind of life. So see your career counselor and reenlist.

MCPO's Pen



Artist's conception of Seabee Memorial by BU3 Thomas Veit.



A CHICKEN DINNER, conversation and curiosity were the order of the day as the Sisters, counselor and children from St. Dominics Convent dined in the Seabee Cafe Aug. 17.

A dream comes true

Seven children from St. Dominics Convent in Blauvelt, N.Y., have quite a tale to tell the other children after they complete their tour of Puerto Rico.

They are the eyes and ears of 133 other children at the Convent, most of them of Puerto Rican heritage.

Their objective is to see as many sights as possible and get to know the people of Puerto Rico.

Part of their story will be about Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Sixty-Two.

The group, accompanied by Sisters

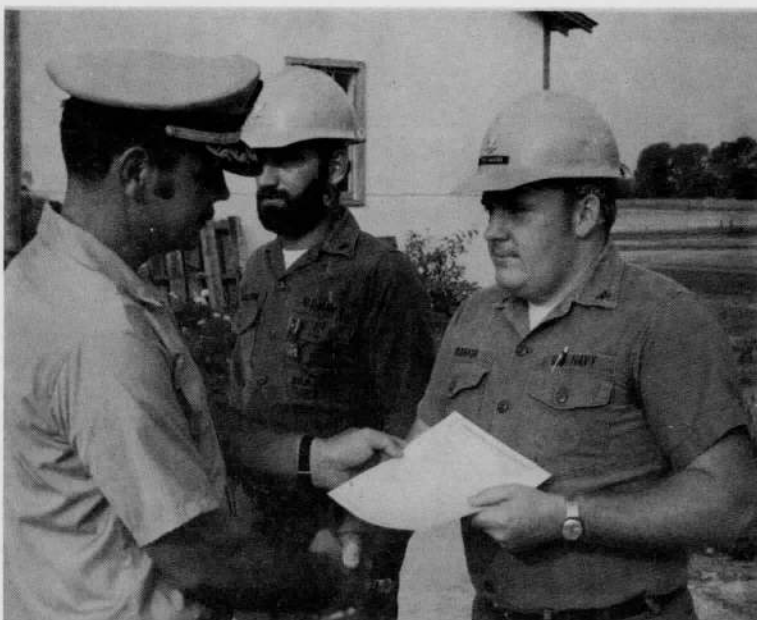
Catharine Jerome and Catharine Patrick and counselor Judy Bourdon, arrived at Camp Moscrip at noon Aug. 17.

They were greeted by Chaplain Roy C. Wood who accompanied them during their lunch in the Seabee Cafe. Later, Chaplain Wood conducted a tour of the Camp and told them of NMCB-62 and its mission at Roosevelt Roads and as the Alert Battalion.

Sister Catharine Jerome, a dorm mother at the Convent, planned the trip for two years. The trip was financed by savings from raffles, used furniture sales and bingo, in addition to other assorted techniques.



GETTING THE WORD--Chaplain R. C. Wood tells the youngsters and Sisters Catharine Jerome and Catharine Patrick of Alpha Company's function of keeping NMCB-62's vehicles and construction machinery operating.



ENGINEERING AID THIRD CLASS R. G. BARKER receives a Letter of Appreciation from Commander F. M. Newcomb, NMCB-62's CO, at Solomons, Md. Equipment Operator Third Class J. A. Nelson was presented the Navy Achievement Medal with Combat 'V' for performance of duty in Vietnam.



XO PRESENTS--Equipment Operator First Class C. A. Dixon receives a Combat Action Ribbon from Lieutenant Commander J. W. Ster, NMCB-62's executive officer, during a ceremony at Camp Moscrip.



CM1 B. H. RUDDOCK
Seabee of Month
for July



SH1 F. DICKERSON
Seabee of Month
Runner-up for July

People, Places and Things

(Continues on page 13)

Detail Vieques "Can Do"



NEW ROAD--Equipment Operator Second Class R. T. Bundang spreads fill at the foot of Mt. Cerro Matias where Detail Vieques had to cut a new road into the side of the mountain. Below, Equipment Operator Third Class J. R. Connolly adds finishing touches to the new section of road.



Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Sixty-Two Detail Vieques is hard at work on the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range (AFWR) on the island of Vieques, 17 miles from Camp Moscrip, NMCB-62's home at Roosevelt Roads.

The Detail is tasked with upgrading 11 miles of road leading from Camp Garcia to the Observation Point (OP) at the AFWR-target sites on the east end of the island.

At the OP, the men have various other jobs, including the installation of two 3,000-gallon tanks to hold water and fuel for the men who must man the OP 24 hours a day during target practice.

Detail Vieques has also erected a 24- by 48-foot "baby" butler building which houses two 45-kilowatt generators in one end and a workshop in the other. In an already existing butler building at the OP, the men have installed two heads, two showers, a galley and built an observation deck.

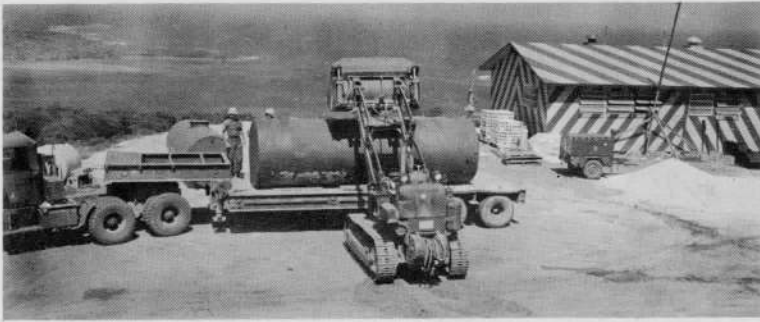
Other projects on Vieques include a fence around the OP and two bombing runs which they must clear of all vegetation and place marker drums at intervals leading to a target 300 ft. in diameter.

The Seabees on Vieques will soon rejoin the Main Body at Camp Moscrip.

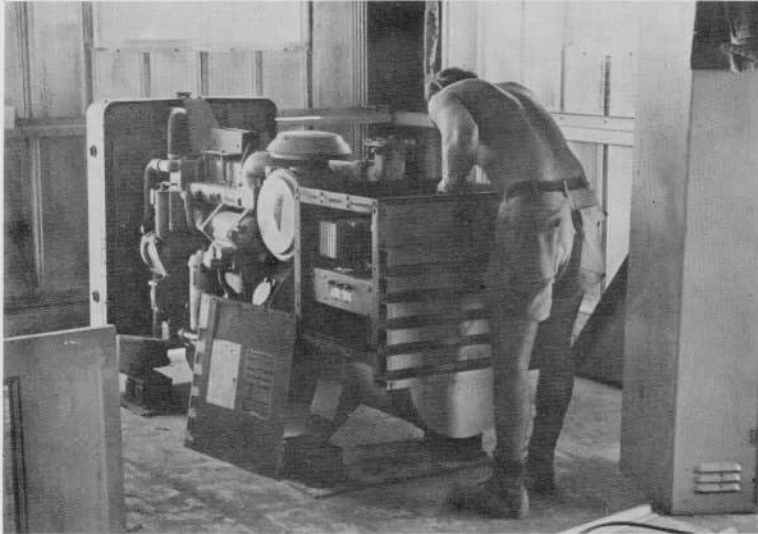
Pictures and Story

by

CE3 W. R. Adams



SEABEE "CAN DO"--Detail Vieques doesn't have a crane so they use an end loader and plenty of chain to unload two 3,000-gallon tanks on Mt. Cerro Matias.



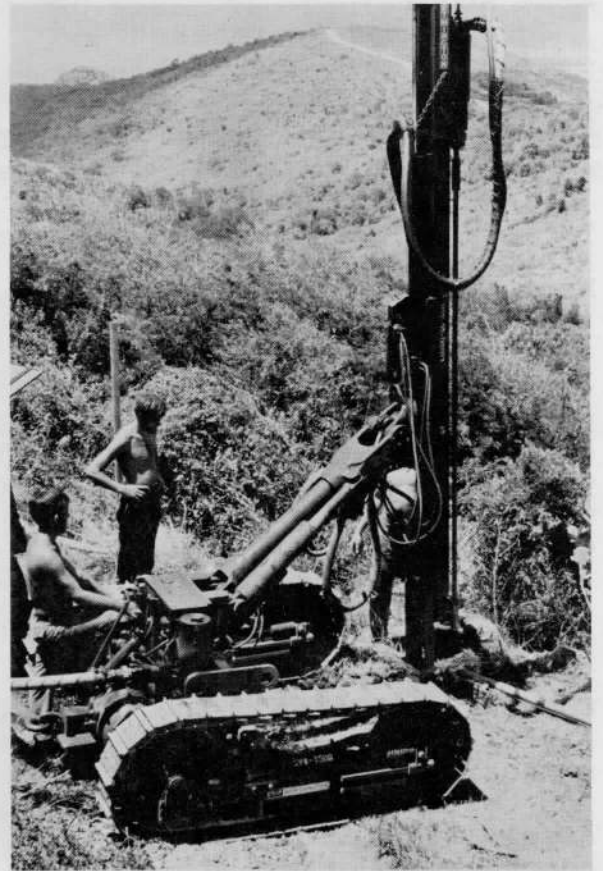
CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN THIRD CLASS R. E. SPIRE wires up one of the 45-kilowatt generators that will provide power for the Observation Point.



FIGHTER-BOMBERS will soon be coming down this bombing run to drop bombs on a 300-foot wide target. Two such bombing runs were built by Detail Vieques.



UTILITIES MAN THIRD CLASS RALPH COPELAND places a section of sewer pipe in place at the Observation Point. This was part of the task of upgrading the site for men who must live there during firing exercises.



LINING UP--Steelworker Second Class W. L. Mathis moves a drilling rig into place to drill a hole for a fence post.

At 7:20 a.m. in Camp Moscrip, the time for reverie has passed as the Seabees and support personnel assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Sixty-Two get the word on the tasks for the day.

Thoughts of home and family, problems and ambitions not related to the job must be relegated in deference to the day's tasks.

There are four companies located at Camp Moscrip, the home of Atlantic Fleet Seabees at Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. They are Alfa, Bravo, Delta and Headquarters Companies.

Alfa Company is responsible for keeping the Battalion's wheels rolling. Men assigned to Alfa operate the transportation pool, machine shop and automotive and heavy equipment shops.

Equipment Operators operate the machines and the Construction Mechanics keep them running.

Bravo Company takes care of Camp maintenance. The Utilities Men, Construction Electricians and Shipfitters insure operation of boilers, sewage disposal equipment, and electrical and refrigeration equipment. The maintenance personnel of Bravo also install and service air conditioners.

The Builders and Steelworkers in Delta Company furnish the Battalion with construction skills needed for towers, water tanks steel frame buildings, concrete slabs and other structures.

Headquarters Company personnel operate the offices, galley, ware-
(Continues on page 11)

NMCB-62: capability



GETTING IN OVERHEAD--Seabees of Detail Guantanamo install a ceiling in a berthing hut for Marines on Camp Bulkeley aboard the Naval Base, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.



NEW SHOES--Construction Mechanic Third Class Thomas West replaces the brake shoes on a one-ton truck at NMCB-62 automotive shop at Camp Moscrip.



MORALE BOOSTERS (top)--NMCB-62 postmen, (l-r) Seaman Apprentice A. Paulk, Postal Clerk Second Class D. Magness and Postal Clerk Third Class W. N. Beaudin, sort mail in the Battalion's Post Office. (below) SMOOTHING THE WAY--Equipment Operator Second Class B. E. Perry grades a road section near the Marina Support Building at Solomons, Md. He is also a member of the Alert Battalion.



houses, medical facilities, laundry, etc.

These men do not go on job sites to swing a hammer or drive a bulldozer, but they stand ready to fight side by side with the Seabees whenever necessary.

Headquarters Company is comprised of Yeomen, Personnelmen, Disbursing Clerks, Commissarymen, Storekeepers, Hospital Corpsmen, Ship's Servicemen, Engineering Aids, Dental Technicians, Postal Clerks, and some non-rated men.

Radiomen and Electronics Technicians handle installation and maintenance of communications equipment.

While the dispersment of Seabee personnel is as stated, it is not uncommon to find one or two Seabees assigned to Companies that doesn't have his rating in numbers.

Directors of NMCB-62 activities are Commander Frank M. Newcomb, his executive officer, and department heads and their assistants.

The accomplishments of NMCB-62 are completed through teamwork. Seabees and support personnel work together within their respective Companies, then combine as one unit to see a job through. That is the "Can Do" spirit.



NEW RUBBER--Construction Mechanic Apprentice H. E. Webster changes a tire on a wheel off a five-ton truck at the automotive shop.



LAUNDRY DAY--Every working day is laundry day for Seaman Apprentice E. L. Derrick (l) and Ship's Serviceman First Class F. E. Dickerson. These men operate the Battalion laundry with the assistance of Seaman E. A. Gagnon and Seaman Apprentice J. A. Delso.

CHAMPUS claims need proper identification

Denver, Colo. (NAV-NEWS)...CHAMPUS officials continue to report that payment of numerous claims for care received under the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) is being delayed because sponsors and beneficiaries are not completing their portion of the claim form properly.

Item 5, Identification Card Date, causes particular difficulty Sponsors and benefi-

ciaries have been reminded to include the card number and both the effective and expiration dates. They must also be careful, CHAMPUS officials point out, not to confuse the issue date with the effective date. The effective date of a dependent's card is on the reverse side of the card. In the case of

retirees the effective date is the date of retirement.

Uniformed services sponsors have also been instructed to keep the ID card for their families current. When care is provided after the expiration date of an outdated card, CHAMPUS fiscal agents reject the claim.

Seabee early outs set at three months

WASHINGTON, D.C. (NAV-NEWS)...The early out program for Seabees is being continued but has been reduced from four to three months.

Personnel in the Construction Group VIII accepting early release from active duty will

be told they cannot be guaranteed reenlistment if they are separated more than 24 hours.

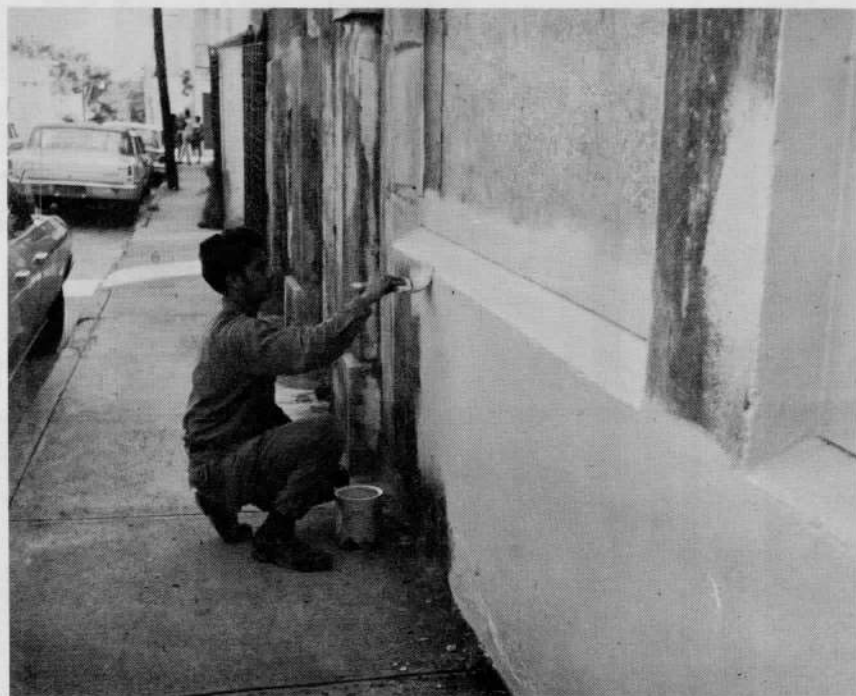
For those separated longer than 24 hours, it will be necessary to get approval from the Bureau of Naval Personnel to reenlist.

People, Places and Things

(Continued from page 7)



AWARD CEREMONY--Builder Third Class C. F. (Chopper) Hernandez puts a collar around the neck of "Little Chopper", Delta Company's mascot, during morning quarters. Little Chopper has his own private hooche (house) in the Delta Company area.



CIVIC ACTION--Builder Third Class A. Medina paints the outside of the therapy room, converted patio by NMCB-62 personnel, at the Mental Health Center in Fajardo, Puerto Rico.

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FIRST CLASS B. L. WOOD recently received a Combat Ribbon during a ceremony at Camp Moscrip.

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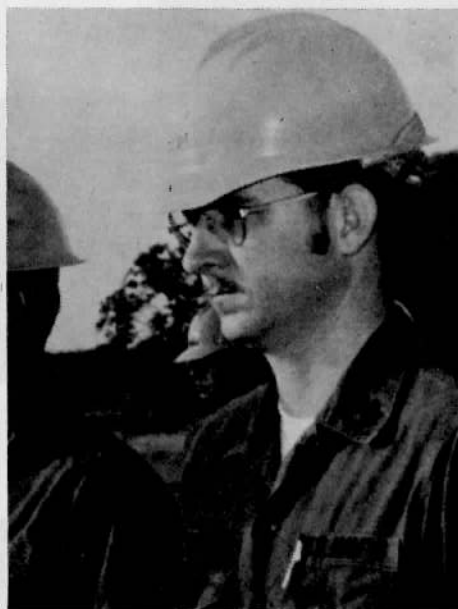
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CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN J.R. JARRELL recently received a Good Conduct Award during Battalion quarters.



E01 W. R. GIBSON
Gets Good Conduct Award



EA2 T. H. ALEXANDER
Advances in pay grade.



EACN L. M. LAUTHER
Gets Appreciation Letter



PN2 W. M. McElwee
Gets Good Conduct Award



CHAPLAIN R. WOOD tells new men
of his function with NMCB-62.
Lt. L. E. Palanuk looks on.



'H' COMPANY personnel put up a
tent during military training
at Camp Moscrip.



DELTA COMPANY personnel "change
class" weekly military training.



DELTA COMPANY PERSONNEL work on concrete slab for a new vehicle wash rack in the Alpha Company yard.



A PLUS B EQUALS B OVER A--Alpha and Bravo Companies tangles in a volleyball game Aug. 18. Bravo Company won, 15-6.



PILING IT ON--Equipment Operator Third Class W. M. Reinhardt operates a front end loader at Borrow Pit in Solomons, Md. where he is serving with a detachment from NMCB-62.



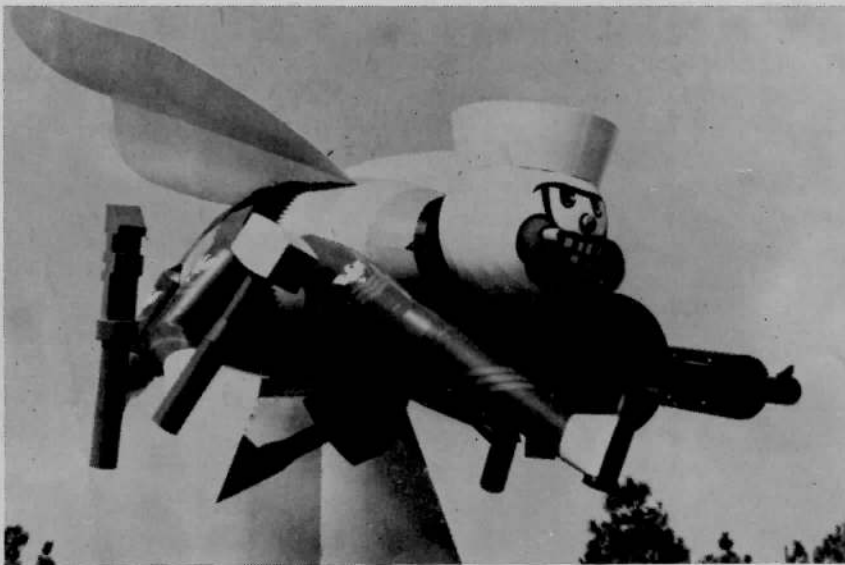
FINISHING TOUCH--NMCB-62 personnel put the finishing touch on a Navy Exchange warehouse at the U.S. Naval Station, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

SEABEES ON THE ATTACK--The action was swift and slippery when NMCB-62 lined up against VC-8 in a touch football game Aug. 20. Though they played valiently, the Seabees lost, 27-6.

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 62
Fleet Post Office
New York, N. Y. 09501

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

SECOND CLASS



Seabees to become immortal

The National Seabee Memorial Association has embarked on a venture to immortalize the memory of Seabees who have served during the "life span" of the Naval Construction Forces.

A memorial fund drive is being conducted in an effort to raise two million dollars. Of this amount, about \$250,000 will be used for a memorial. The other funds will be used to underwrite an annual scholarship award program for sons and daughters of all Seabees, active, retired, reserve or deceased, and personnel

in "fleet ratings" who have served with the Seabees.

The scholarship program will be a living memorial to the Navy's construction forces.

The memorial will depict the Seabee as a builder, fighter and "Ambassador of Good Will." It is to be erected on the Avenue of Heroes near the entrance of the Arlington National Cemetery.

(See artist's conception on page 5.)

Target date for completion of the memorial is March 1972, the 30th anniversary of the Seabees.