

CDR Westberg Takes Command



Vol. IX, No. 5

CAMP WILKINSON, PHU BAI, RVN

AUGUST 1968

Newsmen Interview BU3 Agnew



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—Photo by PH3 B. A. Farley

Crews Finish Tan My

By CN J.E. Alumbaugh
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Last week, this reporter, at the invitation of BUC A. J. Morris, went out to take a look at the projects being constructed at the site. The projects, according to a briefing from the Chief, involve a cantonment designed to provide quarters for 300 NSA personnel who maintain the LST ramps and petroleum farm on and near the island. The construction of the cantonment was planned in three phases and is nearly complete (Aug. 7).

The first phase placed the emphasis upon housing and went up in three short weeks under the leadership of BU2 A.D. Vincent (who has since checked out of the Battalion). The projects included: twelve 60' huts, three 32' huts, two 16' x 32' shower houses and a 40' x 120' mess hall with two 20' x 20' wings for the E-6s and CPOs respectively. The mess hall was

designed to accommodate 500 personnel.

All of the buildings were constructed with pre-cut wood frames prepared by BU2 B.L. Swenson and BU3 T.J. Sullivan on the job site. The floors of the mess hall and the shower houses were made with concrete slabs mixed at the job site by BU2 L.J. White and crew.

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 5)

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(Continued On Page 7)



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In Ceremony

EIGHT Gets New C.O.

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CDR O'Leary served as the Battalion's skipper since April, 1967. He is enrolled for a year of studies at the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.

The new Commanding Officer, CDR Westberg, had had his eye on EIGHT since before the Battalion's last homeport stay. He was a close acquaintance of CDR P.A. Phelps, EIGHT's Captain 1965 to 1967, and of LCDR H.P. Davis, EIGHT's Operations Officer, 1967 to Jan. '68. CDR Westberg also met most of the Battalion's junior officers through Civil Engineer Corps Officers School, Port Hueme.

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Participants in the Change of Command Ceremonies included a troop formation of one platoon from four Battalion companies, a color guard supplied by Echo Company, the 101st Air Cav Band and five distinguished guests. Full honors were given the guests with a piping aboard and piping over the side by BMC C.L. Fisher. Members of NMCB FOUR volunteered as sideboys.

RADM J.V. Bartlett, Commander Third Naval Construction Brigade, was guest speaker. He presented a resume of the Battalion's accomplishments at the Hue Bridge, pipeline, Marine hospital, Col Co Road and the Tan My Port Facility. Senior man present at the ceremonies was Brig Gen Webster, Commanding General of Task Force X-Ray, Phu Bai. Also present, were representatives from the 101st Air Cav, Brigadier Generals Clay and Lekson, and Capt. J.M. Hill, Commander 32nd Naval Construction Regiment.

CDR Westberg is a registered professional engineer in the District of Columbia. He is a member of the Society of American Military Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Institute of Plant Engineers.

The Civil Engineer Corps Officer is a native of California and attended Humboldt State College for two years prior to entering the Naval Academy. On graduation from the Naval Academy in 1955, he received a

(Continued on Page 6 Col. 2)



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—Photos by PH3 B. A. Farley

the hard hat EDITORIAL PAGE

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MCB EIGHT Stays Ahead

By JO2 A.L. GONZALES

SEABEES rarely have to pat themselves on the back. If their product is worthwhile, someone else always steps up to do it for them.

Last year, MCB EIGHT proved it in Chu Lai, and the year before, construction crews proved it at Da Nang.

This year, it is already evident that the Battalion is well on its way toward its most successful deployment with major projects concentrated in the Hue-Phu Bai area.

When a battalion works around the clock, completion deadlines are only hours away. This has been proven again and again with crews building bridges and ramps around the city of Hue, and northeast, toward the Tan My Port Facility blazing Col Co Road. This is where MCB EIGHT has paved the way for

progress—where progress is becoming a reality—an indelible gift left behind by determined men racing to the end of another eight-month endeavor. And their speed is not a race, but merely the by-product of organization, spirit and skills.

Skill is not saved for any one particular site, but rather, is distributed throughout all of the working assignments. The PACV and Tan My complexes on Col Co Island, LST Port Facility, Hue ramps, and the warehouses, clubs, showers, helo pads, taxiways and Marine Hospital of the MAG-36 area, as well as bunkers, Pasco Buildings, messing and sanitation facilities for the Army units in the Gia Le Combat Base are standing confirmations of the special skills which have molded EIGHT's personality through the years since its re-commissioning in November of 1960.

Navy Achievement Medal Winner

Lieutenant Richard B. Hamer, CEC, USN, was presented the Navy Achievement Medal by the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet on behalf of the President. The Commander of the 32nd NCR, Capt. J. M. Hill, made the presentation at an awards ceremony in camp July 14 for

LT Hamer's performance during the current deployment.

LT Hamer, Delta Company Commander, has demonstrated outstanding leadership and engineering ability since arriving with the Battalion shortly after the Tet Offensive started. He provided invaluable assistance

in getting the Battalion organized and running smoothly in spite of the continuous enemy harassment.

As Delta Company Commander, LT Hamer is in charge of some 140 skilled construction men. He and his men were instrumental in reopening the city of Hue after the Tet Offensive by repairing and rebuilding critical bridges at the entrance of the city. This is but one of the many vital projects that have been successfully completed under the Lieutenant's guidance.

LT Hamer attacked projects with confidence, determination, and unequalled drive. His leadership was reflected through the swift, hard working and dedicated efforts of his men. He demanded and received the respect of his men and in return gave them inspiration.

MCB EIGHT drew upon LT Hamer's excellent engineering experience countless times in designing, organizing and constructing various projects. He extended his daily working hours to insure that every detail was ready for the next day's work.

As stated in a citation prepared by the former Commanding Officer of EIGHT, CDR J. F. O'Leary, CEC, USN:

LT Hamer's work and service for the Battalion was truly meritorious in every way... His effective leadership, construction and engineering skill, and dedication to duty reflect honor and credit to the SEABEES and uphold the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

a two-year tour as Station Chaplain at Adak, Alaska. He is a graduate of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Ill. and leaves the Battalion next month to add his magic touch to the Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

LT J.D. Well, who served with the Battalion as Operations Officer this year, was also presented the Bronze Star Medal and Combat "V" by Capt. Hill. His citation read, in part:

"For consistently carrying out duties with outstanding professional knowledge and ability, contributing directly to the success of military construction operations of the Naval Construction Force in Vietnam."

Since then, LT Well has left the Battalion to serve as Travel Communications Inspector at Naval Communication Command Headquarters, Bailey's Cross roads, Va.

Citations for the Bronze Star Medal were signed by ADM John J. Hyland, USN, Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet.

The Best

Two Get Bronze Star

Presented in behalf of the President of the United States, LCDR James F. Harris, EIGHT's Chaplain, was handed the Bronze Star Medal by Capt. J.M. Hill, Commander of the 32nd Naval Construction Regiment.

"For meritorious service in connection with operations against the enemy while serving with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion EIGHT during two separate deployments to the Republic of Vietnam," reads the Chaplain's citation. "In Chu Lai from December 1966 to August 1967, through unselfish and dedicated performance, he ensured religious activities service to many units, conducting over 12 services each week.

"Simultaneously, he displayed extraordinary organizational, leadership and motivational ability in initiating and conducting an influential civic action and people-to-people program; melding the efforts of many groups into a unity that culminated in support enabling the Vietnamese to construct a school/orphanage complex.

"On deployment to Hue-Phu Bai from February 1968 to April 1968, Lieutenant Commander Harris continued his meritorious service, conducting an average of 14 services a week and bringing religious coverage to units that had not previously had the opportunity in Vietnam," the citation goes on.

"He particularly distinguished himself in his service and assistance to the refugees from the city of Hue made homeless by the enemy Tet Offensive. LCDR Harris' concern for mankind, ability to convert ideas to action and high degree of devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

LCDR Harris is authorized to wear the Combat "V."

Chaplain Harris joined the Battalion in October, 1968 after

CO's Column

CDR Westberg: First Impression

By CDR R.J. WESTBERG

Before starting this column I reviewed the mailing list for "the Hard Hat" to see who the readers might be. I found that the distribution is about 1200 copies with most readers being MCB EIGHT families and former officers and men of EIGHT. Therefore, in this, my first opportunity to communicate with you, I think it is appropriate for me to relate my first impression of the Battalion.

In my first trips around the camp, and out on the jobs, I was pleased to see the competence which exists in the Battalion. Wherever I went, I found men who know their jobs, are enthusiastic and proud of what they are accomplishing.

The tasks which MCB EIGHT has had on this deployment have been some of the most difficult and demanding jobs which have ever faced a Battalion. Most of

the jobs were high priority with short completion schedules. The Col Co Road project which has already been mentioned and referred to in former editions of the Hard Hat, is truly a magnificent piece of work by MCB EIGHT. When I see the product nearing completion and looking like some of the finest U.S. highways, it's hard to imagine that it was once not more than a trail. Keeping the heavy equipment going to support this job was a monumental task. The maintenance shops worked night and day and did it. Shortly after I arrived, I visited a job just starting—the forms were in for the concrete slab. The next opportunity I had, a few days later, to get back again to see how it was progressing, I found four buildings complete and the project turned over to the customer. This kind of performance is repeated again and again by the men of EIGHT. The "Better Built by EIGHT" signs can be found practically everywhere you go.

The superior performance of the Battalion is not only in the construction area. There would be little enthusiasm for the hard work if the personnel support functions were not performed well. Here I find that MCB EIGHT is particularly fortunate as our galley puts out the best meals in Vietnam, we have a dental clinic that is a pleasure to visit, a well run hospital and I could go on and on.

If I were to then summarize my impression of MCB EIGHT after these first few weeks in command, I would say that the work the Battalion is doing is hard work, the hours are long and the weather is hot, but the men of EIGHT are really putting out the work and we can all be proud to be associated with MCB EIGHT. I certainly am.



CDR R. J. WESTBERG
EIGHT's new Commanding Officer

Executalk

Trip to Malfunction

By LCDR J.T. PATTERSON
Executive Officer

Several days ago, I paid an overnight visit to Malfunction Junction, the NMKB EIGHT camp on Col Co Road, east of Hue at Tan My. The trip was arranged through LTJG Schneider, the OIC of the detachment. Thanks to the efforts of CMI GOODMAN, the senior Petty Officer at Malfunction, my accommodations were more than adequate and appreciated. The meals prepared by CS2 "Frenchy" WADEAU and CS2 GALLETTA would have pleased the most critical of gourmets. With chow like that, it's obvious why morale is high at Malfunction.

This detachment has its own personality, but then again, it's similar to the several others which have existed so far during the deployment. With considerably less conveniences than we have at base camp, these men at Malfunction Junction, as in other detachment camps, have complained very little about primitive living facilities and

the hardships that go with being semi-isolated from the main body. The men at Malfunction work hard and with enthusiasm. It's easy to see how the many unforeseen construction and equipment problems which arise on Col Co Road were overcome resulting in construction now being on schedule. Such attitudes and performance are typical of those that are displayed regularly by this breed of Navy men called SEABEES, who for the most part are preoccupied with getting the job done. Certainly, these men I saw at Malfunction Junction are contributing significantly to the SEABEE "Can Do" reputation. At least that's the way it looks from the XO's point of view.



LCDR Patterson



The HARD HAT is a service publication of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion EIGHT, PPO San Francisco 9601, published in accordance with NAVSO P-1035 on a monthly basis. It is printed with appropriated funds. For Pacific Stars & Stripes in Tokyo, Japan.

No material herein should be construed to represent the views or opinions of the Commanding Officer or the Navy Department. All photographs belong to staff photographers unless otherwise credited.

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Civic Action Proves Positive

HM2 Potter, Man of Deeds

By CN J.E. Alumbaugh

Civic action in a country struggling with the tensions and anxieties of civil war compounded by the proxy of foreign military influences is not a movement physically nor sensationally endowed to compete for the limelight of the public's sentiment.

Nevertheless, it plays a vital, necessary role in the positive development of the Vietnamese sovereignty.

MCB EIGHT has discreetly, generously contributed to this long range plan, civic action, during the current deployment.

HM2 John C. Potter is surely one of the most obscure participants of this plan. Since the beginning of the deployment, and the end of the Tet Offensive, corpsman Potter has been a sponge absorbing from those who have and providing for those who need. Medicine is his business and he knows something about it, having been graduated from the University of Montana with a B.S. in bacteriology in 1966. His talent, however, springs not so much from technical competence, but from his empathy for humanity and his disgust with its apathy. Although he works with the people on a medical premise, his lasting product may very well be a social one.

To this end, Potter has devoted his time to the medical care (MEDCAPS) of inhabitants of the refugee camp located in Phu Luong, a community of some 30,000 Vietnamese eight miles south of Hue.

Last February the Tet Offensive filled the camp with patients. Even more resulted when sanitation within the refugee camp became inadequate for the bulging population. Potter made daily MEDCAPS to the area to treat the refugees. His hospital was a shade tree or a tent. The children "borrowed" his medical supplies. Patients were reluctant to confide in him because he wasn't established.

If the work was to continue, a hospital would be needed. Potter formed an informal partnership with two Vietnamese nurses who ran a nearby ARVN dependents' hospital which they were using at the time as a maternity ward. With some scavenged materials and volunteer labor, the building was shortly refurbished into a hospital complete with waiting room, office and operating room in addition to the maternity ward. The hospital is now open to all of the people in the area. Potter has also familiarized the nurses in some of the better techniques available in muscle relaxants, antibiotics and local antiseptics. With the aid of the Battalion interpreter, Huynh Thanh Long, the patients are admitted to the hospital/clinic each day and placed in line on a priority basis depending upon their need for medical attention. With the new system, 80 patients are treated daily and the nurses deliver on an average of 100 babies per month.

Children who once took his medical equipment now give souvenirs to him and bring patients to him. His rapport with the villagers is thick.

"The success story of Potter" in the words of LCDR J. F. Harris, Battalion Chaplain, "deals with his energy and enthusiasm in not remaining static."



WITH A PROFOUND INITIATIVE—HM2 John C. Potter treats a small Vietnamese girl in the maternity hospital and clinic he organized. The girl's mother watches as Potter cuts the child's hair to clean out a cyst. She also took eight stitches on her forehead for a wound. —Photo by HM2 A. D. LOCKE

LTJG Promotions

Three Turn Gold Bars to Silver

Three officers turned in their gold bars for silver ones last month when they were promoted to LTJGs.

The three affected officers are LTJGs William D. Mackey, Personnel and Public Affairs Offi-

cer; Nicholas A. Noell, Disbursing Officer; and Bruce W. Powell, project coordinator for the Hue-Phu Bai area.

LTJG Mackey was commissioned in January 1967 after being graduated at Officer Candidate School, Pensacola, Fla. Prior to entering the Navy, he attended the University of Cincinnati where he earned a B.A. in English during the Spring 1966 semester.

After serving with the Battalion for 14 months, LTJG Mackey will move on to Subic Bay Naval Station, Philippine Islands, and will assume the duties of Personnel Officer there. His duties in EIGHT will be taken over by LTJG Steven B. McBride, Admin Officer, who reported aboard last month from duty on the Destroyer USS WALLER.

LTJG Noell was commissioned from OCS in April 1967, and has served with the Battalion since reporting from Supply Corps School, Athens, Ga. last November. Prior to enlistment, LTJG Noell attended Beloit College, Beloit, Wis. where he was graduated in April 1966 with a B.S. in Economics. He was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity and played on the varsity hockey team.

LTJG Powell joined the Battalion last September and assumed the duties of S-2 Alpha in Echo Company. In May he was assigned to the Sierra Detachment. Most recently, he ex-



LTJG B. W. POWELL
Promoted July 15.



LTJG N. A. NOELL
Promoted July 1.



PART II:

0808 in Thailand

(This is the second of a two-part series on SEABEE Team 0808.)

Through and with the Border Patrol Police, the SEABEE Team member must interest the Thai villager enough in a project so there will be some sort of an investment in the work by the people. The BPP/SEABEE activities in Thailand are in no way a "give-away program." The villager investment and output most often manifests itself in the form of labor assistance: help in doing the project. Most often, seals for a water sealed privy are purchased by the people in the village — frequently through collection from the community. Wood for forms and privy houses is cut by hand, by the people. Through this input, each person feels a pride and sense of partial ownership in the end product. It is something they obtained through their own efforts and the interest of the Thai government in their village. Actually, very little of a monetary or material nature has been given them.

The type of work done is usually of a short-term, high-impact project such as a hand dug well or installation of a water sealed

privy. This type of project can be easily duplicated by the people and the construction time is relatively short so that interests do not lag.

There is a great deal of interest shown by the BPP and villagers for equipment work. This is quite natural, for equipment has never been in many of the areas where the Teams are located and work, but the people do know what it can do.

Equipment is primarily used in cutting access tracks into remote villages where civic action self-help projects have been requested. This work does not keep the equipment busy all of the time and other projects are selected keeping in mind the necessity for having villager input and maintaining this as a BPP program. It does little for the Thai government if the people only see a SEABEE operating a piece of SEABEE equipment.

The greatest number of requests come to clear school yards. Through cross rate training, anyone on the team is capable of doing this work. Villager input is maintained by having the people cut and remove all brush and trees prior to the dozer removing the stumps.

Working daily with the Thai people is a singular experience. They are clever in their business dealings and pleasant and open in their highly important social lives. Team members soon come to look upon the Thai people as some of the warmest, most generous and friendly people in the world.

The program in Thailand presents a great challenge to each man on a SEABEE Team. The responsibility is great and the frustrations are many, but the rewards are numerous and gratifying. Despite the problems each SEABEE must face during the deployment, it is certain that not a man would trade anything for the experience.

(Thanks go to LTJG J.W. Owens, SEABEE Team 0808 Officer in Charge, and his men who made it all possible in Thailand.)

EO2 Williams Named May's 'Seabee of the Month'

For a job well done as Petty Officer in charge of the Security detachment occupying the Hue Stadium during April, May and June EO2 W. E. Williams was selected May's Seabee of the Month.

Along with the title, goes a \$25 U.S. Savings Bond, a plaque and Letter of Commendation from the Battalion.

Williams' responsibility entailed construction and manning

of defensive positions, and the coordination of area security with Allied units.

As Petty Officer in Charge of the platoon, tact and diplomacy were necessary in coordinating with officers and higher ranking personnel of both the detachment and other military units. He maintained constant communications with the U.S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam Headquarters and the Province Interrogation Center.

During situations of actual or expected military action, Williams' cool and competent manner was reassuring to all detachment personnel. While assigned to the detachment for three months, the Stadium received sporadic sniper fire, mortar fire and rocket rounds nearby.

With limited personnel and material, Williams established a valid defensive perimeter. When camp expansion and change created constant problems in repositioning defensive placements, he coped with the problems objectively with attention to detail.

In each circumstance, Petty Officer Williams proved to be an effective leader and steady influence on all personnel concerned.



EO2 WILLIE WILLIAMS
May's Seabee of the Month.

Personnel Readiness Capability Program

Battalion Processes Men in Selection

By JOE A.L. GONZALES

Within a month after the Battalion started to employ the Personnel Readiness Capability Program (PRCP), 70 per cent of EIGHT's strength was processed.

All SEABEE battalions returning to the states are required to start the PRCP during the homeport deployment. The program is over two years old in the Atlantic Fleet. The Pacific Fleet has been introduced to the program this year, and MCB EIGHT got a "head start."

The program came into existence as a ready solution in training and assigning such a large number of men as found in SEABEE units. A system for selection according to a variety of requirements had to be formulated to cope with the diverse backgrounds and skills of each man.

Since the SEABEE Battalion strength is derived from four major sources, and each individual falls into distinct groupings; the program's effectiveness is self-evident.

The mechanics used to put the program into effect are simple. Here, the term "simple" is used with reference to operation and practicality. The three major components used to make up the PRCP are:

1. A keysort card system. The cards provide for the availability of any desired item or combination of items of information contained in the card as well as the identification of the men who match those items right down to serial number, birthdate and company.

2. An addressograph plate embosser. The embosser is used to imprint the name, rate, serial number, active duty base date, end of active obligation, date of birth and branch of service of each man.

3. An addressograph printer. The printer affords speed in preparing any list, either original, carbon or stencil, of the men selected from the keysort card sorter. The

printer may be adjusted to provide any or all of the lines of information contained in the addressograph plate for printing.

The above constitutes the raw material to be later fed into COMCBPAC Data-Input. The electronic data processing equipment there will analyze submitted data and process it for use by all levels of command: COMCBPAC, the regiment and the individual battalions.

The key to the system is the keysort card. The card is designed so that a single card form can be used for all personnel in the Naval Construction Force, both active and reserve. The card presently contains 105 items of information, with two spare columns for additional items to be determined by COMCBPAC, and 22 additional columns for use by the individual battalions. Of the 105 items of information listed on the card, 82 of these are coded so that the level of proficiency of the individual is listed. The three levels presently employed are basic knowledge, journeyman knowledge, and expert. The card is filled out by the unit's training department through interviews with the man and checks of his service record and training record. His proficiency level is verified through consultations with his crew leader and his immediate superiors.

At the COMCBPAC level, the raw data forwarded by the battalion from its keysort card is transferred to two 80-column business machine cards by the use of keypunch equipment. In order to identify the cards, the first 20 columns are reserved for personnel data which is duplicated on each card. The business machine cards on each man are retained at CBPAC, separated into groups by units, and also by company assignment within the unit.

The data is easily updated both at the battalion and headquarters levels. The S-2



PRCP UTILIZES A SORTER to separate cards according to a variety of information desired. LTJG R. W. Clark, S-2 Officer in charge of PRCP, approves procedures carried through by CEC M. W. Russell, career counselor and Administrative Training Chief. Each card contains 105 items of information.

—Photo by PH3 J. W. Fiscus



ADDRESSOGRAPH PLATE EMBOSSE AND PRINTER—LTJG R. W. Clark drops the plates into the printer as SN D. C. Lind, PRCP Yeoman, readies to print a Company roster. The printer affords speed in preparing any list, whether original, carbon or stencil.

—Photo by PH3 J. W. Fiscus



THE EMBOSSE is used to print the name, rate, serial number, active duty base date, or branch of service of each man. CEC Russell verifies information embossed on each plate. The printer affords speed in preparing any list, whether original, carbon or stencil.

n-PRCP

ction System

Officer, LTJG R.W. Clark, is responsible for the implementation, maintenance and updating of the PRCP.

The program originated from LCDR J.G. Bauer, CEC, USN, Planning Officer, Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet who made use of "Keysort" cards to catalog capabilities of men on a unit level only. It appeared to LCDR Bauer that a similar system could be developed for use by the entire force, incorporating on a single "Keysort" card for each man not only the data required for military and technical skill evaluation, but also personal data which could be used to determine berthing, messing, housing and personnel replacement requirements.

This foundation was developed into the PRCP during the Spring of 1966 and placed into operation in August 1966. It is an integrated system providing information necessary for the command of Naval Construction Forces at all levels in matters of military readiness, personnel requirements, training, and some logistic support requirements.

Six major criteria were established in developing the program. PRCP had to be a flexible operation to provide for changing requirements and situations. The system also had to be simple to minimize the skill level required for personnel operating the program. Speed is important for rapid response. Because of limitations on manual systems, the program had to be adaptable to modern computer techniques. With changing requirements, the program had to be capable of change, while still retaining the basic principles of operation. The system also had to be able to operate at the unit level in homeport or at any remote site in the world.

MCB EIGHT has rapidly adapted to PRCP thanks to the enthusiastic efforts of LTJG R.W. Clark and staff.



NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY CANTONMENT consisting of living quarters, 500-man mess hall and galley, Post Exchange, fire house, laundry, dispensary and fuel farm was constructed by MCB EIGHT personnel in three phases. The three phases included building of huts and utilities and soil cementing. The complex features a 16-point well system which draws water for a 500-barrel steel tank resting on a 36-foot timber tower.

—Photo by PH3 R. F. Cotter

Tan My Crews Finish Job...



FROM COL CO ISLAND BY THE SEA—The Tan My fuel tanks feed the pipeline which carries the fuel to a pumping station near Hue where the fuel is routed north and south.

—Photo by PH3 R. F. Cotter



THE TAN MY CANTONMENT houses personnel of the Naval Support Activity on Col Co Island. The 72 huts shown provide shelter for the facility's enlisted men. Showers and a 500-man mess hall are also included.

—Photo by CM1 J. W. Whitlow

(Continued from Page 1)

Utilities marked the second phase of the cantonment's construction. The seven projects were: a 30' x 32' power plant housing three 10 kw generators, a 16' x 16' guard house, a 20' x 100' exchange, a 20' x 48' fire house with living quarters, a sick-bay with concrete sidewalk and floor, a 20' x 100' laundry, and three Pasco buildings tied together for a supply storage room. Also, a fresh water pumping station is now being completed. It features a 16-point well system which draws water for a 500-barrel steel tank resting on a 36-foot timber tower.

Many of the buildings constructed have a concrete foundation. That meant mixing it in a 16-S mixer—one-half of a cubic yard at a time. To complicate matters, the mix then had to be hauled to the forms with a two-wheeled "Georgia buggy" across the loose sand. Chief Morris, wanting to improve production, designed a steel bucket with a one cubic yard capacity that could be mounted upon a forklift. This innovation increased production by 100 per cent. That adds up to quite a few man/hours saved when one considers that approximately 450 cubic yards of concrete were poured at this site.

The third phase, elevating and soil cementing the cantonment area, is rapidly approaching completion. The EOs of Alpha Co. hauled in 25,000 cubic yards of fill to raise the grade almost two feet.

The cantonment has been the product of a joint effort of critical skills from various companies, but most of the work was done by Delta Company personnel. LTJGs R. D. Laine and G. A. Metcalf split the coordinating activity at the site. Chief Morris was the Project Chief.



of active obligation, date of birth and e by SN D. C. Lind. The machine to the or all of the lines of information con—Photo by PH3 L. W. Fiscuz

Detail INDIA Returns to Main Body

Men Start Modern Base

Camp Wilkinson recently welcomed aboard the 64 men of MCB EIGHT's Detail India.

For five and one-half months Detail India had been constructing a permanent SEABEE base on the island of Okinawa. Okinawa is approximately 1500 miles northeast of Phu Bai.

Before being relieved by a 100-man detachment from MCB THREE, the SEABEES of MCB EIGHT made substantial progress towards the completion of the first of several barracks complexes.

The first complex consists of six 80-man concrete block barracks, a Chief Petty Officers' barracks and an accompanying mechanical equipment building.

Detail India left Okinawa with three of the barracks in the near-completion stage. Barracks No. 804 was nearest to com-

pletion with only the concrete roof slab and second deck interior walls left to be completed. Barracks No. 807 had the second deck completed with construction beginning on second story exterior walls. Barracks No. 808 had the first deck poured and exterior bearing walls completed. The mechanical equipment building pads, grade beams and columns were completed.

One-half of the floor slab was also completed, with work beginning on the exterior walls. Preliminary grading was finished for layout of the CPO Barracks. The sanitary sewer for the entire complex was 90 per cent done.

Interior plumbing and air conditioning were in progress in each of the six buildings. Storm drainage facilities were also nearing completion.

Detail India's men were busy 'BEES while on Okinawa and their efforts can be evidenced by the buildings now standing. The job was an interesting feat of construction, and most of the men were reluctant to leave it unfinished. The men of Detail India have the satisfaction of knowing that they have left their share of construction in Camp Kinser "Better Built by EIGHT."

For the remaining months of the deployment, the majority of Detail India's men have been organized into a new construction company led by the Okinawa OIC, LT William Klaus, CEC, USN.

The men of the "new" Charlie Company are currently adjusting to their new life and are setting a construction pace which will undoubtedly earn them another "well done" for their efforts in Vietnam.



JOB SITE AT CAMP KINSEY, OKINAWA—MCB EIGHT's Detail INDIA left its mark on Okinawa with five and one-half months of work on six concrete block barracks.

—Photo by PH3 J. W. Fiscus



ON THE JOB FOR BRAVO COMPANY—UT3 L. D. Wyatt Jr. turns the valve back—flushing the filter for the water purification process in Camp Wilkinson.

—Photo by HM2 A. D. Locke

Bravo Fills One Day With Work, Play, Rest

Bravo Company slowly comes to life before the sun, as the sleepy voices of a hundred tired men, gathered for quarters, fill the shop. The company is called to attention, the men mustered, the plan of the day read, the Company Chief passes a few words from the Company Commander, and another day has begun.

UTs and CEs ride together in the few vehicles to their jobs. UT1 Jackson gathers his pipeline crew, composed entirely of CEs from CE1 Stille's crew, for another day's work in Hue. Surprising but not unusual, we're versatile! UT1 Storer and his crew head out for 22nd Surgical to work on the Nurse's quarters, while UT2 Weichman's crew goes to 151st Aviation to work on their showers. The CEs have already finished their part of the work, and the company commander is pleased with the work of both crews.

CEC Meyers starts out on his daily journey which covers a lot of territory. First to Phu Loc to check with progress on a perimeter lighting job by CE1 Barba's line crew. They've been living with an MCB-71 detachment while working on the project. Returning, Chief Meyers stops off at MAG-36 where CE1

Gill and his crew are working on a maintenance shop and chapel. From there he returns to our camp to check on CE2 Vortman and CE2 Bonny, camp maintenance crew, who take care of all electrical jobs in camp. Then on to the generator shack where he checks with RM2 Dennis to see if any problems have developed with the two generators upon which the camp depends for power.

Senior Chief Galusha has returned from Tan My to take over briefly as company chief. At Tan My he was head of the electrician crew now working for Chief Campat on some fuel tanks. On detachment by himself is CE2 Bear who provides power and maintenance for Sierra detachment at the cornfield.

As the day ends, the Bravo Company softball team meets for a little league practice. And on the court the Bravo Company basketball team runs through a few plays. So goes Bravo through the day, but work has not ended, for there is a night crew headed by CE1 Emory remodeling our galley, and there are watches to be stood at the generator shack, while the rest of the Battalion sleeps. . . .

—By J. Dennis RM2

(Continued from Page 1)
dry, fire station, three Pasco Buildings and showers. He has also participated in building forms for quonset huts at the neighboring Marine Air Group 36.

Agnew was also with EIGHT's working group which rebuilt the Special Forces camp on National Route No. 1 north of MAG-36 and south of Camp Wilkinson.

"While it (Vietnam) is an unpleasant place to be," says Agnew, "we all get along fine in the crews. We're like one big family."

Basically quiet, but socially active, Agnew expected Vietnam to be "all jangle—a land

without buildings" and was surprised at the amount of construction going on by both U.S. and Vietnamese governments.

The 21-year-old Naval Reservist will turn 23 next month and plans on registering as a Republican in the State of Maryland.

He reported aboard from NAVSCON summer school in October 1967 and plans on returning to college upon release from active duty. Having previously been a pre-law major at the University of Baltimore, he now plans to study physical education.

His father, Gov. Agnew, was in the Army Infantry during WW

II for five years and served as a 2nd Lieutenant. He was a lawyer on the Court of Appeals, was a candidate for Judge in 1961, and six years ago was appointed Baltimore County Executive before being elected Governor of Maryland. The Governor was also a professor of law at the University of Baltimore while serving in the County Executive's post.

BU3 Agnew is married to the former Ann Herbert of White Marsh, Md. and is the father of an 11-month-old daughter. Upon returning to the States with the Battalion soon, he plans on a 30-day leave period which he will spend with his family at Annapolis, Md.

Camp Runs Large Supply Yard

By JOE A.L. GONZALES
"The biggest SEABEE project supply yard in South Vietnam," that's what the Battalion has at one corner of Camp Wilkinson.

And Headquarters Company personnel make the wheels turn. Operating much like a small battalion within the Battalion, the Project Yard utilizes men experienced in most of the SEABEE rates—and then some.

LTJG Floyd R. Smith is Material Liaison Officer in charge of the yard. LCDR J.A.

Mehrens, Supply Officer, assures the financing and issue of material.

"We work both under Supply and Operations," says LTJG Smith. "Operations gives us the needs, and we work through Supply to obtain the material."

SK1 D.T. Ervin leads the working force composed from a variety of skills. Storekeeper third W.D. Baucom handles most of the paperwork along with Seaman K.M. Higgins who also works as a storekeeper. Higgins also has data processing skills.

To accurately account for, as-

sign and dispatch classes of material stored in the vast yard, a builder, electrician, plumber and equipment operator head the rest of the cast. Builder third J.J. Defer Jr. is responsible for lumber materials. Electrician third J.R. Wendell keeps tabs on the electrical goods. Utilitiesman third M.E. Desrochers controls the issuance and flow of plumbing hardware. With other small jobs to handle, Equipment Operator J. K. Lowrey puts around the yard on his forklift.

In addition, five expeditors are appointed from three Battalion companies. Bravo Company supplies three: CEC J.L. Howe Jr., UT1 L.D. Nicks and CN G.L. Thede. BU3 J.D. Williams keeps the peace between the Project Yard and Charlie Company. BU3 W.A. Bricking referees in behalf of Delta Company.

Supplying material to the job sites is the major concern. The other half of the job is handled in Da Nang where Builder Chief R.R. Gore, electrician second C.E. Hopkins and CMI R.H. Rowan work with the Third Naval Construction Brigade to get material.

A "huey" helicopter borrowed from and operated by the 1st Air Cav is also included in the Supply Yard facility.

"It keeps us supplied from Da Nang with critical material small enough to carry," says LTJG Smith.



A UT IN 'H' CO.—UT3 M. E. Desrochers handles inventory and issue of all plumbing hardware supplied by the Battalion's Project Yard.

—Photo by PH3 R. F. Cotter

Hunger Pains Along Route No. 1, RVN

Here chop-chop
There chop-chop
Everywhere chop-chop
Gimme chop-chop
I give chop-chop
But the kid wasn't
Even hungry!



Next time I shall
Stop and ask his
Name, and maybe
Where he lives, and
How Many brothers
And sisters he has,
And does he go
To school, and
How old he
Is, and are his
Parents well.
And in return he
Will ask me all
The same-same questions.
We will smile at one
Another and he will
Grab my arm or leg
And ask me where
I learned his language.
And both of us
Will hunger for more.
By LCDR J.F. HARRIS



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