

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN DIEGO  
NAVAL MOBILITY CONSTRUCTION



CREW'S BOOK

1975-76



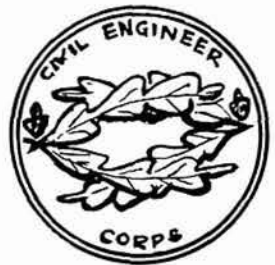




# A short history

## of the

# U.S. Navy Seabees



Seabees are both building fighters and fighting builders. From the island hopping of World War II, and the cold of Korea, to the steaming jungles of Vietnam, the Seabees have built entire cities, bulldozed and paved thousands of miles of roadway, and flattened numerous airstrips in now long forgotten places.

Simultaneously they have fought hand and arm with the Marines and the Army, taking precious earth, improving it, then defending it.

In October 1941, with an eye on the developing stormclouds across both oceans, Rear Admiral Ben Moreell, Chief of the Navy's Yards and Docks, began laying the foundation of the Naval Construction Force. With the attack on Pearl Harbor, and our entrance into the war, he was authorized to organize the Construction Battalions that would be necessary for the long march to Tokyo and Berlin.

The earliest Seabees were recruited from the ranks of the civilian construction trades, and were placed under the leadership of officers of the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps. With an emphasis more on experience and skill than on physical standards, the average age of Seabees during the early days of the war was 37, which gave rise to a famous Marine Corps barb: "Don't hit that Seabee, he may be some Marine's father!"

Over 325,000 men served with the Seabees in World War II, fighting and building in over 400 places before the war's end.

Their list of accomplishments is impressive. In the Pacific, where most of the construction work was needed, the 'Bees built 111 major airstrips, 700 square blocks of warehouses, hospitals for 70,000 patients, storage tanks for 100,000,000 gallons of gasoline, and housing for 1,500,000 men.

The Seabees landed with the Marines at nearly every invasion in the Pacific, and proved their value in both theatres many times over.

With the general demobilization following the war, the 'Bees were all but disestablished, with only 3,300 men on active duty in June 1950.

In Korea as in WWII, the Seabees performed admirably, landing with the forces at Inchon, providing pontoon causeways within hours of the initial landing.

With the end of the Korean War, Seabee demobilization did not occur. The old Naval Construction Battalions (NCB) gave way to two distinct Seabee units: the Amphibious Construction Battalion (ACB) and the Mobile Construction Battalion (MCB).

ACBs are landing and docking units, and have the mission of placing causeways and pontoons, and performing other functions necessary for landing personnel and equipment in the shortest possible time.

MCBs are responsible for land construction of a wide variety, including military camps, roads, bridges, tank farms, airstrips, and docking facilities.

Both are highly mobile units whose mission includes maintaining a high state of readiness to perform any mission, including disaster recovery, in a minimum of time.

The lessons learned in WWII and Korea were learned well. During the years of peace following Korea, Seabees deployed to nearly every major Naval Base outside of the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, building and training to be ready.

With the escalation of the Vietnam War, Seabees proved their readiness. They built from the Delta region to the DMZ, providing airstrips, camps, hospitals, exchanges, roads, warehouses, storage tanks, towers, fences, and anything having to do with fighting a war or providing creature comforts for American forces.

While Civic Action programs are nothing new to the American fighting man, they played an important part in Seabee tasking in Vietnam. Civic Action Teams (CAT), or Seabee Technical Assistance Teams (STAT), now called Seabee Teams, were a result of President Kennedy's goal of providing organized civic action assistance to the people of Vietnam and Thailand.

The 13-man teams, throughout the war, provided schools, health programs, dental care, and similar village improvement projects, lending a friendly hand to a war-torn land.

Since the end of the Vietnam War, Seabees have maintained a high degree of readiness, and have helped meet construction needs in the cold of Antarctica and the heat of the Philippines and Diego Garcia.

# A history of pride and professionalism

One of the first Seabee units to be organized was the 5th Naval Construction Battalion (5th NCB), the forerunner of NMCB-FIVE. Organized May 25, 1942 at Camp Allen, Norfolk, Va., it deployed from the west coast for Pearl Harbor on June 21 at a strength of 1,014 men, 24 officers.

The 5th's notable accomplishments during their first war-time deployment were: the repair and expansion of naval air facilities at Midway, Johnston, Palmyra, and the French Frigate Shoals, plus construction of the Naval Air Station, Honolulu. They redeployed to Port Hueneme on March 19, 1944, and after a period of rehabilitation was reassigned to Guiuan, Samar in the Philippines.

There they built a Naval Supply Depot, and fought the tough coral construction of Calicoan Island while blasting and bulldozing out the 2.5 mile Calicoan Highway. Detachments were sent to Parang, Mindanao, to Balikpapan, Borneo, and to Cebu City, Cebu. The Cebu detachment experienced the only enemy fire, with no casualties.

The 5th NCB was disestablished in the Leyte-Samar region of the Philippines on December 3, 1945.

The Battalion was reborn in March, 1951, at Port Hueneme, and was officially re-established July 10. NMCB-FIVE's first mission was to assist the 30th Naval Construction Regiment and NMCBs TWO and THREE in the largest peace-time construction effort ever--the construction of Cubi Point Naval Air Facility in the Philippines from virgin jungle and formidable mountains.

Second in size only to the digging of the Panama Canal, the project involved FIVE for three full deployments, of 22 months, 13 months, and 10 months duration. FIVE's tasking involved mostly quarry operations, waterfront construction, and work on the airstrip itself.

The Battalion went "North to Alaska" on the next two deployments, to Adak and Kodiak. The workload was mostly maintenance, public works, and rehab work, with every Seabee rating getting it's full work-load.

The sixth deployment, to Midway Island, was FIVE's first "shot-gun" deployment, with details at Pearl Harbor, Kahoolawe, Saipan, and Chichijima.

The seventh deployment returned the Battalion to the Philippines, where FIVE earned the first of five Best

of Type awards.

Deployment number eight put the Battalion on Guam, where housing, magazine and ordnance facilities were built. With less than four days notice, the Battalion mounted out for successful participation in a classified training exercise with Marine and Fleet amphibious forces.

Okinawa, Japan was the site for the following two deployments, where FIVE built warehouses and air facilities for the Marines. Mother Nature hurled four typhoons at Okinawa during FIVE's two trips, and the Battalion proved each time their disaster recovery capabilities.

Deployments eleven and twelve returned FIVE to Guam, where they played key roles, not in construction, but in disaster recovery and operational readiness. Typhoon Karen smashed into Guam in 1962, leaving 9,000 people homeless and an estimated \$200 million in damage by winds of up to 170 miles per hour. During the first three days following Karen, FIVE was the only outfit on the island organized and working toward recovery. Two Seabee Teams were dispatched on each deployment, and the Battalion participated in varied mount out exercises.

Camp Kinser (now Camp Shields), Okinawa was home the next year, where housing and warehouse work occupied most of the time not spent on air det and mount out exercises. Off-time hours were spent helping in civic action programs, including a children's home. The Battalion entered the jet age, returning from the deployment aboard C-135s.

FIVE deployed for the first of six Vietnam deployments in 1965. It is not within the scope of this history to detail the building program of the Seabees in Vietnam. Their value was proven many times over to the fighting forces. Deployment summaries will mention especially noteworthy or unusual events.

The 1965 Da Nang deployment civic action program was centered around the World Evangelical Crusade Orphanage and the training of Vietnamese in technical skills. Notable visitors included Bob Hope, Ann-Margret, Cardinal Spellman, Charlot Heston, General Westmoreland, and Senator R. Mendall Rivers.

It was Da Nang again in 1966, with the Battalion centering efforts on non-tactical projects. FIVE distributed 6,000 bars of soap and dental care kits,

taught 28 hours of English to 1240 students, and gave hundreds of plague inoculations to local inhabitants during house-to-house checks. Bob Hope and Cardinal Spellman were joined by Billy Graham in giving shows and programs at the 5,000-man amphitheatre at Hill 327, which was started by FIVE the year before.

FIVE's following deployment, to Dong Ha, was in support of Naval and Marine Forces, with more than 22 detachments sent out to build throughout the northern I Corps region. Five Seabees were killed during the deployment in two separate actions.

The seventeenth deployment, to Camp Hoover, Da Nang, was highlighted by roadwork, airstrip, and riverfront construction. Ninety per cent of Camp Hoover was destroyed when Ammunition Supply Point One exploded. After twelve hours of continuous explosions, the men crawled from their holes, shaken, but ready to clean up and rebuild.

Half the next deployment was spent in Da Nang, and half in Bien Hoa, in the Delta region. Thirteen details were dispatched throughout 'Nam.

The Battalion swelled to over 1,000 men for its nineteenth deployment, to Bien Hoa and Guam, with details throughout the III and IV Corps Military

Regions of South Vietnam, to Alaska, the Philippines, California, Nevada, and Washington State.

After settling down to work on Okinawa as the Pacific

Alert Battalion the next year, the air det, followed by the main body, was mounted out to Nam Phong, Thailand, where FIVE carved a fully operational air strip out of almost nothing for the Marines. Their efforts during fiscal year 1972 earned them the coveted Best of Type for the fourth time.

The twenty-first deployment returned them to Okinawa, Japan, with details in the Philippines; Taiwan; Sasebo, Iwakuni and Yokosuka, Japan; and Guam. Seabee Team 0522 spent most of the deployment aboard the hospital ship USS Sanctuary in South American waters, visiting Colombia and Haiti. The Battalion hosted Miss America and her court, and 83 underprivileged/orphan children were recipients of a Christmas party.

The Battalion ventured from Pacific waters for the first time in 1974, deploying to Camp Moscrip, Puerto Rico. Major projects included a massive BEQ complex for Roosevelt Roads, quarry and road work on Vieques and Grand Turk islands, a pier reconstruction and bowling alley at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and other details were dispatched to Sabana Seca and West Annex, Puerto Rico, plus Antigua, B. W. I. Seabee Team 0523 spent the deployment doing civic action work on the island of Yap, Trust Territories of the Pacific.

The following pages chronical our twenty-third deployment, where FIVE finally got its piece of the action in the number one priority construction job in the Naval Construction Force--Diego Garcia.

#### The 5th NCB deployment sites

Pearl Harbor; Midway; Palmyra;  
Johnston Island; French Frigate  
Shoals; Canton; Kauai

Jun 1942--Mar 1944

Calicoan Island and Cebu City,  
Philippines; Parang, Mindanao;  
Balikpapan, Borneo

Jan 1945--Dec 1945

#### NMCB-FIVE deployment sites

Cubi Point, Philippines	Oct 1951--Jul 1953
Cubi Point, Philippines	Sep 1953--Oct 1954
Cubi Point, Philippines	Jan 1955--Oct 1955
Adak, Alaska	Mar 1956--Nov 1956
Kodiak, Alaska	Mar 1957--Oct 1957
Cubi Point, Philippines	Sep 1958--Apr 1959
Guam, Marianas Islands	Jul 1959--Mar 1960
Okinawa, Japan	Jul 1960--Mar 1961
Okinawa, Japan	Jul 1961--Apr 1962
Guam, Marianas Islands	Jun 1962--Dec 1962
Guam, Marianas Islands	Jun 1963--Feb 1964
Okinawa, Japan	Aug 1964--Apr 1965

Da Nang, Vietnam	Sep 1965--May 1966
Da Nang, Vietnam	Oct 1966--Jun 1967
Dong Ha, Vietnam	Nov 1967--Jul 1968
Da Nang, Vietnam	Jan 1969--Oct 1969
Da Nang, Bien Hoa, Vietnam	Mar 1970--Oct 1970
Guam, Bien Hoa	Mar 1971--Nov 1971
Okinawa; Nam Phong, Thailand	May 1972--Dec 1972
Okinawa, Japan	Jul 1973--Feb 1974
Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico	Aug 1974--Apr 1975
Diego Garcia, B. I. O. T.	Oct 1975--Jun 1976

#### Battalion Awards

1942-45	Brigade Commanders Commendation
	Pacific Theatre Medal
	American Theatre Medal
	Pacific-Asiatic Medal w/2 bronze stars
	Victory Medal
1958	Best of Type
1959	Best of Type
1967	Navy Unit Commendation
1968	Best of Type
1968	Peltier Award
1971	Meritorious Unit Commendation
1972	Best of Type
1972	Navy Unit Commendation
1974	Best of Type
1974	Golden Anchor Award



HM2 Bob Oliver scrubs for surgery.



LT Rich Haas, assisted by GYSGT Carl Fletcher, inspects EA1 Ernie Santos' .45 caliber pistol.



EOCN Jon Crutcher stands a tight watch on his mess kit.



Who says you can't get comfortable in a fighting hole?

## Broome Ranch



A valuable part of the battalion's arsenal is the 3, 5 inch rocket launcher.



**1975**

The basic combat weapon for the Seabees is the M-16 automatic rifle. Rifle firing and familiarization is done in homeport, although only blank rounds are issued on field exercises.

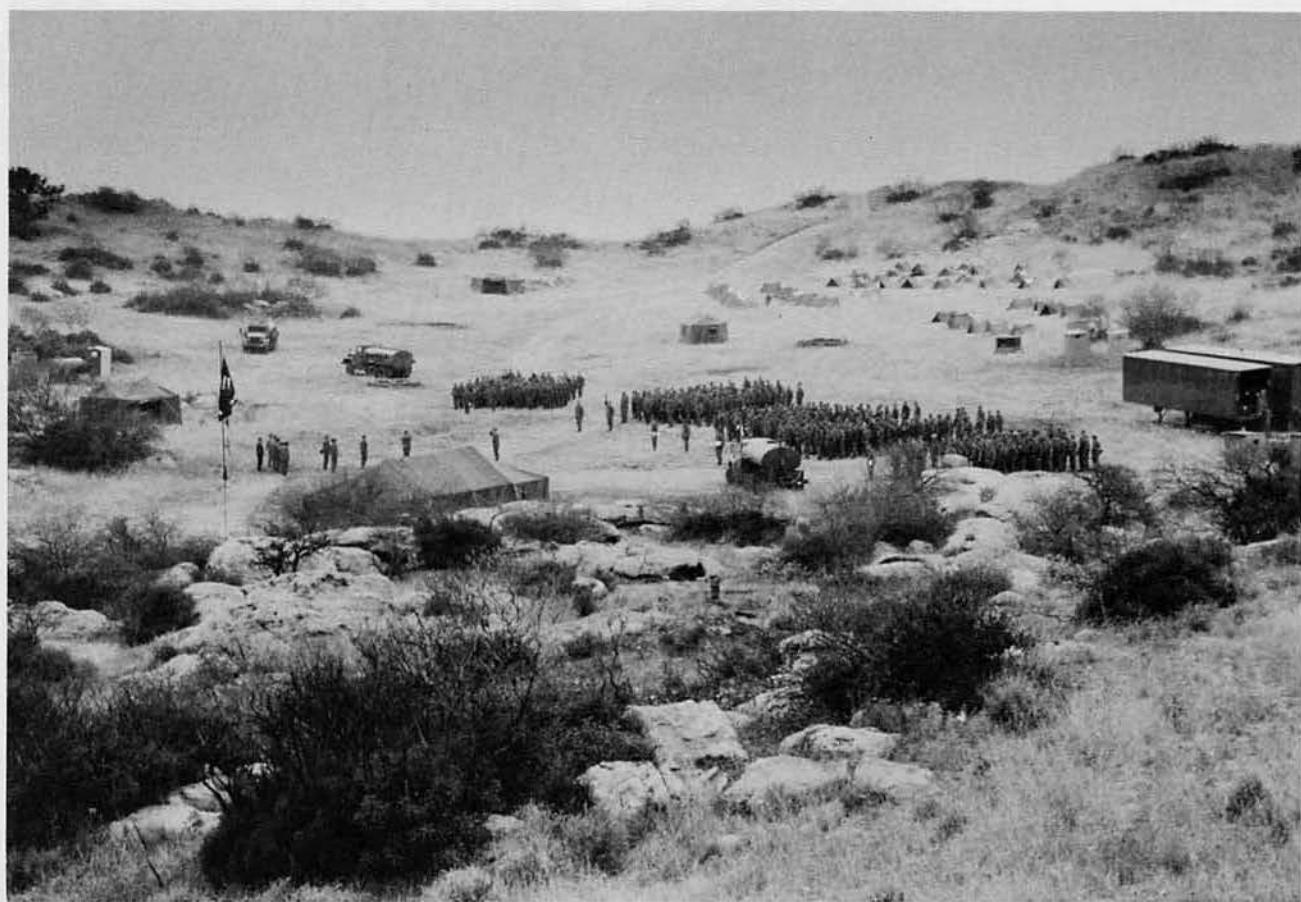




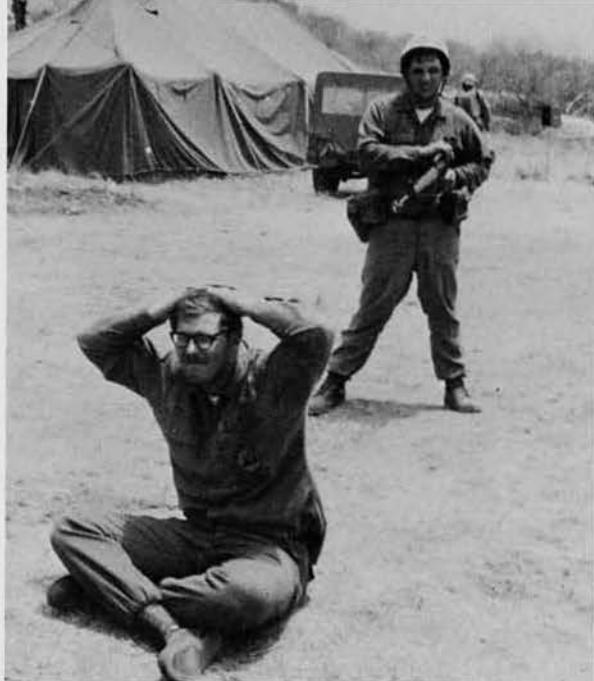
HM2 Michael Rigsby lurks in the rocks.



The engineering section man



Morning quarters in the boondocks of Broome Ranch.



SKSN Andy Piecuch, although not an aggressor, ventured out without his helmet and was held captive by HT1 Bill Wurtz.

the 81 mm mortar.



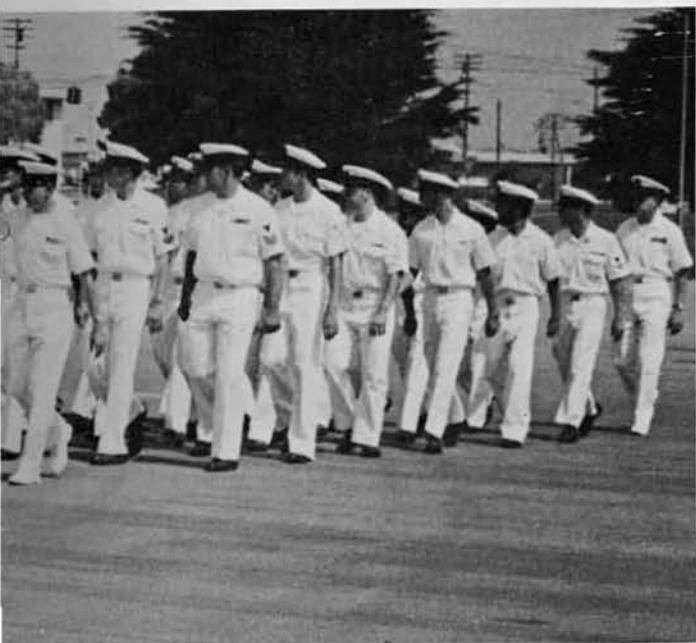
EO2 Earl Waddle: "Sure beats home cookin'."





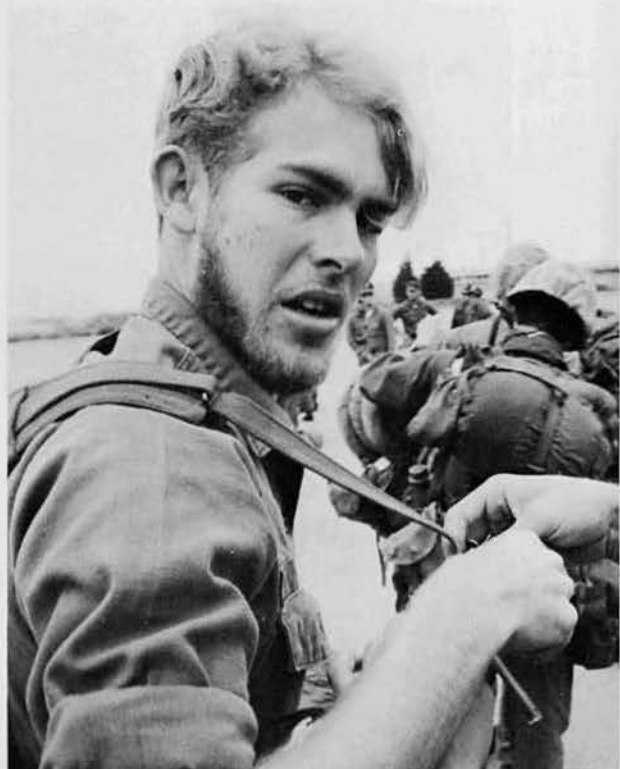
On August 8, 1975, Commander David C. de Vicq, CEC, USN relieved Commander Ralph W. Auerbach Jr., CEC, USN as Commanding Officer of U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIVE at Port Hueneme, Califor-

nia. The top four photos depict the actual moment of the change of command, when the battalion flag is passed from the outgoing to the incoming skipper. Following the inaugural address by the new skipper and



remarks by Captain Paul W. Forehand, Commanding Officer of the Construction Battalion Center, the battalion, including Bravo Company, ABOVE, passed in review.

# China Lake



BUC John Guiher: "Son, has that Frisbee got a Federal Stock Number?"

Looking very pleased, BUCN Tom Douroux is prepared for China Lake.



China Lake is probably the hottest classroom the Seabees of FIVE will ever encounter.

UT2 Ronnie Homer conducted a desert survival class.



The China Lake Hilton.



LT  
Bill Scarborough orchestrated the war.  
RIGHT: Rumor control had it that the road  
into China Lake was built by the Army Corps  
of Engineers.



CE2 Perry Holland: "Who says it doesn't rain in the Mojave Desert?" Heavy rainfall collapsed most of the shelters, and will undoubtedly become the most remembered event of the exercise.





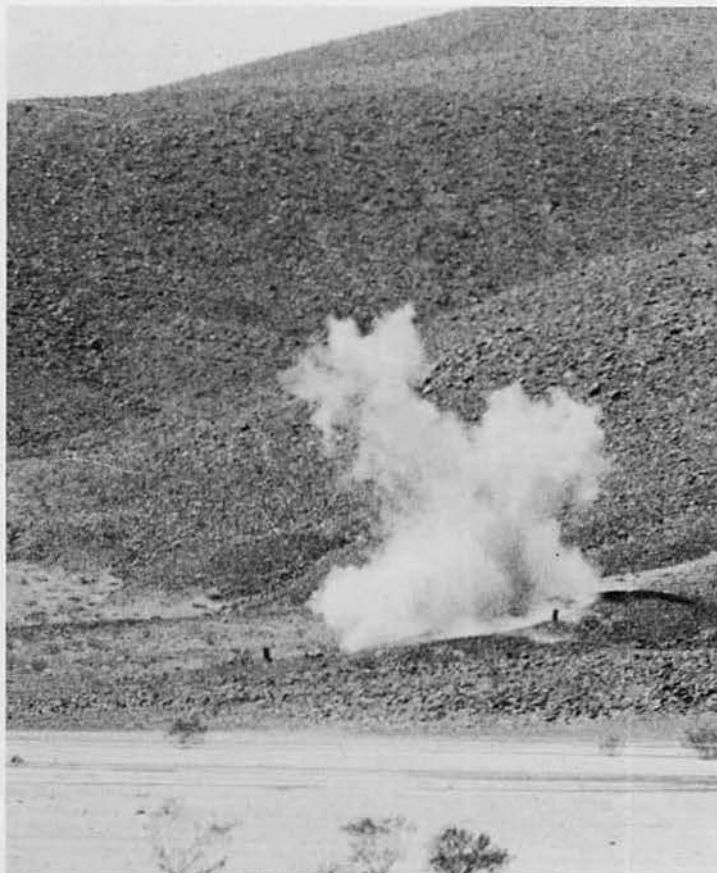
We practiced. . .



LEFT: GMG1 Stephen Levine collects autographs in exchange for weapons. ABOVE: . . . and practiced. . .



. . . and practiced. . .



. . . and practiced. . .



. . . then cleaned. . .



. . . and cleaned.









BM2 Robert Doris: "This one's mine!"



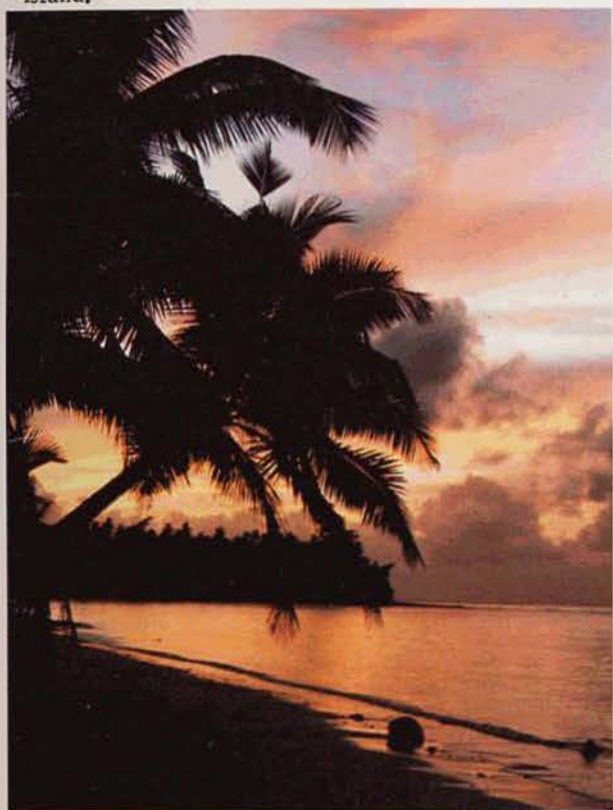
JO3 Doug Sanford: "That's OK!"



LCDR Charles Hamilton and LCDR Donald Looff are the first off the plane.



No two days on Diego Garcia end the same. Sunsets were hands-down the most photographed commodity on the island.





Diego Garcia is a classic coral atoll, horseshoe shaped, enclosing a lagoon 12 miles long and up to six miles wide, with three small islands at the mouth of the lagoon.



Most of the Seabee's activities took place from Camp C. S. Cummins, BOTTOM LEFT, to the airstrip, TOPLEFT.



Camp C. S. Cummins, home for NMCB-FIVE and the Naval Construction Force on Diego Garcia. Aerial photos were taken January 17, 1976.



The plantation dominates the eastern half of Diego Garcia. It is a reminder of the days when the island was a production center for coconut products.



The stately old main house was the home of the plantation owner, and center of activity during the island's plantation days.



During both World Wars, Diego Garcia was a small British outpost--a coaling station during WWI, and a small seaplane base in WWII. This cannon guarded the entrance of the lagoon.



A cross now stands silent in the plantation cemetery.



If this old motorcycle could speak . . .



Some of the graves are above ground because of the high water table.





This old structure shows the beautiful stonework done by departed workmen, and stands in stark contrast to the symmetrical concrete blocks used today.



The plantation is an ideal spot for the curious photographer.



"Well, no mail today!"



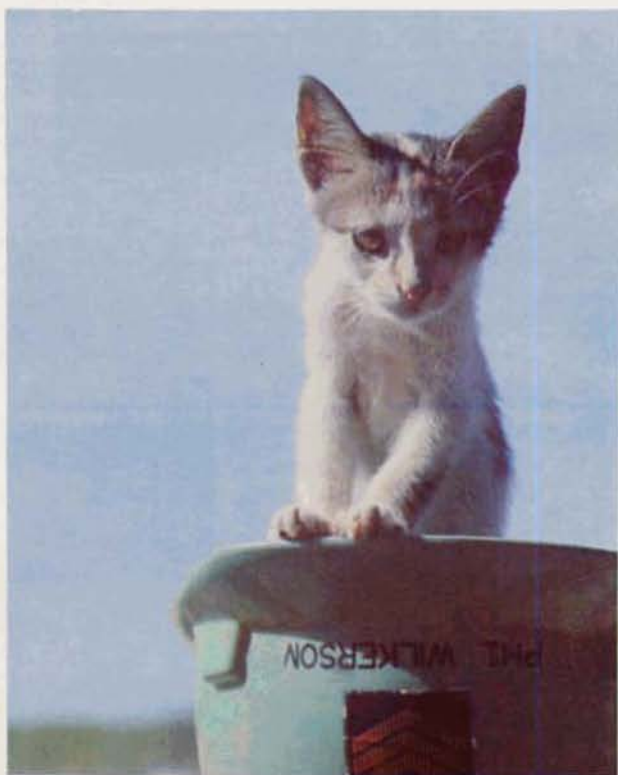
Grass huts can be found in several locations on the island.



Coconut crabs are a constant hazard to fingers, if provoked.



Donkeys were used before the mechanization of the coconut plantations. They were set free for use as an emergency food source.



The Cat in the Hat



A majestic old banyan tree stands guard over the plantation.



Coconut palms thrive in the hot, humid climate and coral sand of Diego Garcia.



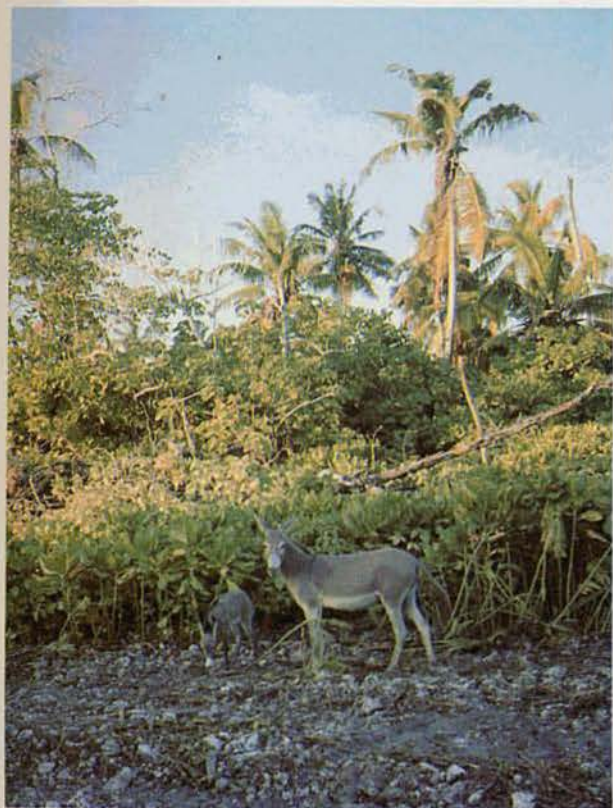
Although there is not an over-abundance of flowers on Diego Garcia, those that are here are beautiful.



Heavily foliated lanes are the only access to most of the island.



Natural symmetry can be found nearly everywhere, even in simple crossed palm fronds.



Everywhere the Seabees went, the donkeys were sure to follow.



This delicate trinity was found all but covered up by underbrush in a thicket near the plantation.



Although green and brown in color, this tree appears blue-black against the overcast sky.



Some of the many varieties of sea shells that can be found in Diego Garcia waters. For identification, see page 33.



This unwary parrot fish became the dinner for some Engineering Aids.



Jellyfish are common near the beaches--pretty but dangerous.



Landlubbers missed much of the underwater beauty.



Among the common and colorful sea life were butterfly fish. . .



. . . surgeon fish. . .



. . . sea turtles. . .



. . . and *construimus batuimus* in pursuit of a sergeant major fish.



Graceful but never-the-less dangerous sharks prowl the reef.



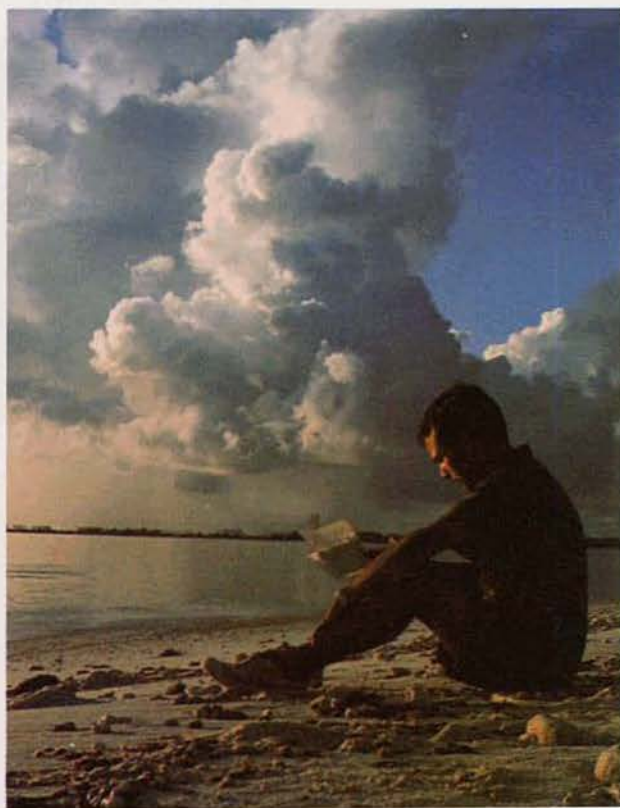
A Bravo Company sunrise--a moment of reflection before beginning a new day.



Some of the real "finds" were fishing net floats. They regularly wash up on shores littoral to the Indian Ocean.



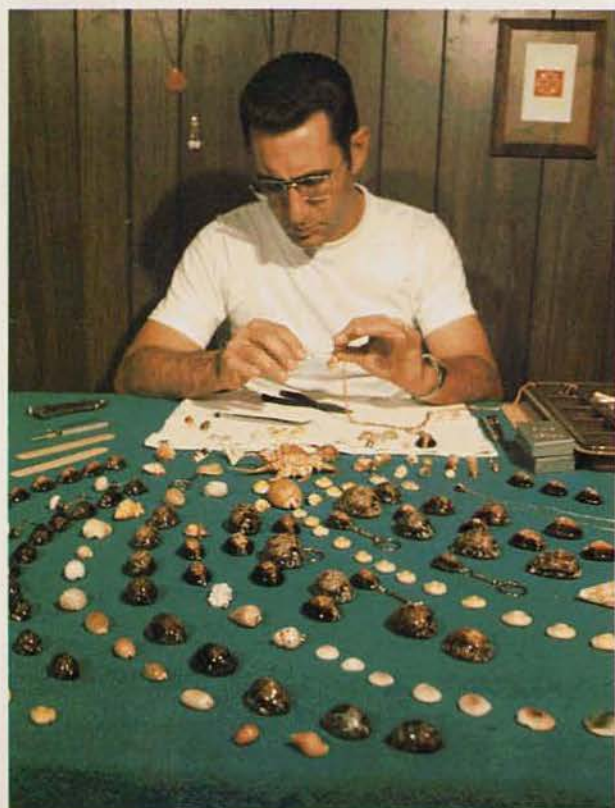
The ocean, like the sunset, has many different moods.







Seabees can find some interesting forms of recreation. In addition to organized and competitive sports, and the quieter pursuit of hobbies, there is always good old American "horsing" around.



Making jewelry from sea shells was a popular, and profitable, hobby for many.



USO shows, such as the Miss America Show, were also popular diversions.



Sailing was popular for the experienced, and novice, seaman.



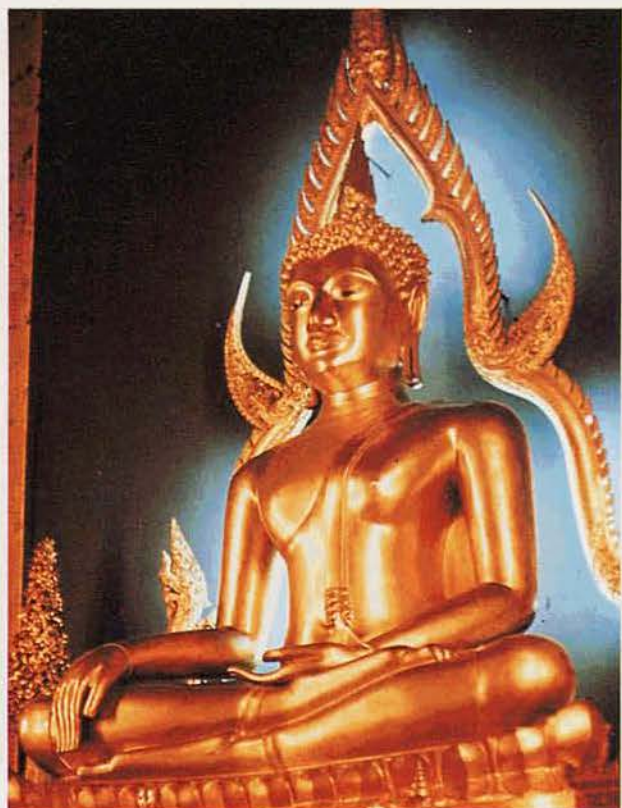
Diego Garcia's ballet company, the organized softball league which ran for most of the deployment.

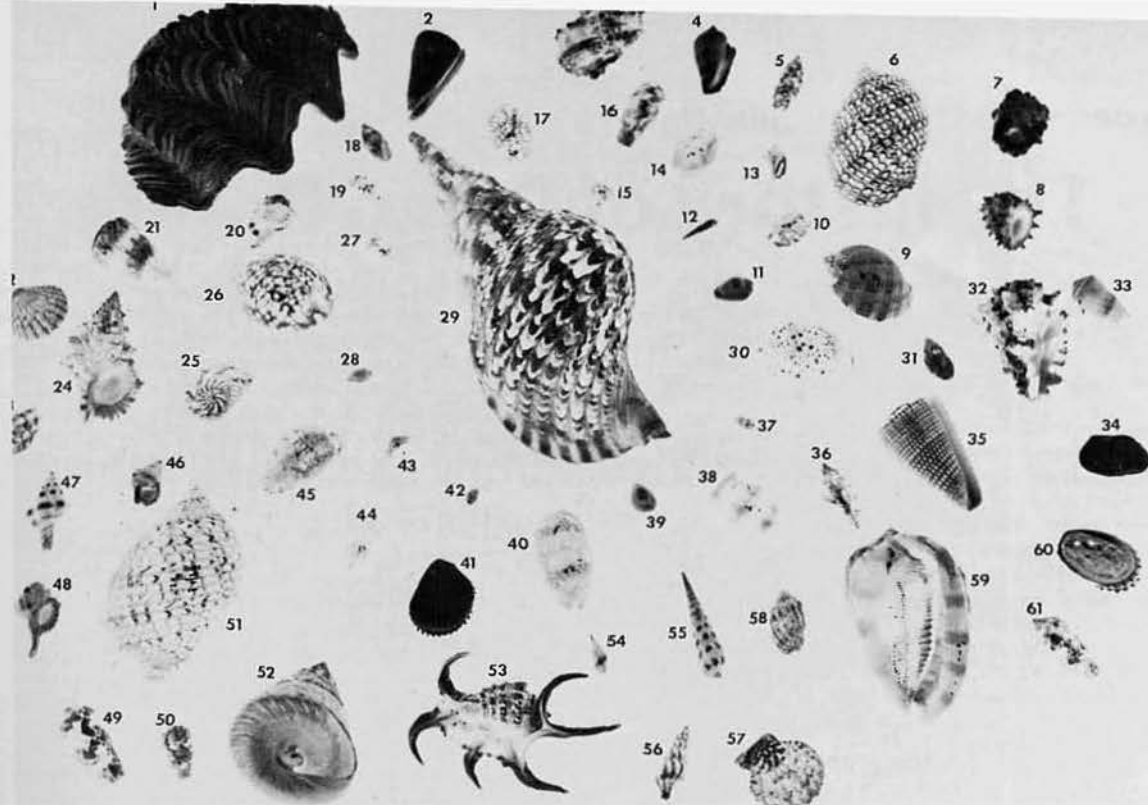


Fishing was one of the prime off-time activities for the Seabees. Catches were large, and the fish fries were many.



A six-day R & R to Bangkok was available to everyone who wanted to see Thailand. Among the sights to see are the "Marble Temple" in Bangkok (ABOVE), the "Temple of Dawn" in Thonburi (BELOW LEFT), and the "Golden Buddha", the most beautiful in Thailand.





Identification of the shells illustrated on page 26. The general availability of the shells is shown following its scientific and common names. Frequency of the shell on Diego Garcia is shown following its world-wide availability, if different. Key: VC--very common; C--common; F--frequent; UC--uncommon; R--rare; UNK--unknown.

- |                                                                        |                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Tridacna Squamosa</i> Lamarck (Scaly or Fluted Clam), C          | 28. <i>Cypraea Nucleus</i> Linnaeus (Nucleus Cowry), F                |
| 2. <i>Conus Distans</i> Hwass, C                                       | 29. <i>Charonia Tritonis</i> Linnaeus (Pacific Triton), C, UC         |
| 3. <i>Turbo Argyrostomus</i> Linnaeus (Silver-mounted Turban), C       | 30. <i>Cypraea Vitellus</i> Linnaeus (Pacific Deer Cowry), C          |
| 4. <i>Strombus Decorus</i> Roding (Mauritian Conch), C                 | 31. <i>Nassarius Papillosus</i> Linnaeus, C, F                        |
| 5. <i>Mitra Stictica</i> Link (Pontifical Mitre), UC, C                | 32. <i>Vasum Turbinellum</i> Linnaeus, UC, C                          |
| 6. <i>Tonna Perdix</i> Linnaeus (Partridge Tun), C                     | 33. <i>Conus Distans</i> Hwass, C                                     |
| 7. <i>Bursa Bufonia</i> Gmelin, UC, C                                  | 34. <i>Gafrarium Pectinatum</i> Linnaeus, C                           |
| 8. <i>Drupa Clathrata</i> Lamarck, UC                                  | 35. <i>Conus Litteratus</i> Linnaeus (Lettered Cone), C, F            |
| 9. <i>Tonna Chinensis</i> Dillwyn, F, UC                               | 36. <i>Cnicoreus Brunneus</i> Link, C                                 |
| 10. <i>Cypraea Lynx</i> Linnaeus (Lynx Cowry), C                       | 37. <i>Cypraea Felina</i> Gmelin (Kitten Cowry), F, UC                |
| 11. <i>Cypraea Moneta</i> Linnaeus (Money Cowry), C                    | 38. <i>Cypraea Talpa</i> Linnaeus (Mole Cowry), F, UC                 |
| 12. <i>Terebra Affinis</i> Gray, C                                     | 39. <i>Cypraea Annulus</i> Linnaeus (Gold Ringer), C                  |
| 13. <i>Strombus Mutabilis</i> Swainson, C                              | 40. <i>Cypraea Argo</i> Linnaeus (Eyed Cowry), UNK, UC                |
| 14. <i>Cypraea Carneola</i> Linnaeus (Carnelian Cowry), C              | 41. <i>Fragum Unedo</i> Linnaeus, C                                   |
| 15. <i>Cypraea Histrio</i> Gmelin (immature)                           | 42. <i>Cypraea Punctata</i> Linnaeus (Punctate Cowry), F              |
| 16. <i>Conus Geographus</i> Linnaeus (Geographic Cone), C              | 43. <i>Cypraea Helvola</i> Linnaeus (Honey Cowry), C                  |
| 17. <i>Cypraea Histrio</i> Gmelin (Histrio Cowry), C, VC               | 44. <i>Cypraea Depressa</i> Gray (Depressed Cowry), C                 |
| 18. <i>Bulla Mauritiana</i> Gray, C, F                                 | 45. <i>Cypraea Mappa</i> Linnaeus (Map Cowry), F, UC                  |
| 19. <i>Cypraea Caputserpentis</i> Linnaeus (Snake's Head Cowry), C, VC | 46. <i>Bursa Granularis</i> Roding, C                                 |
| 20. <i>Cymatium Pyrum</i> Linnaeus, C, F                               | 47. <i>Latirus Polygonus</i> Gmelin, C                                |
| 21. <i>Conus Miles</i> Linnaeus (Soldier Cone), UNK, F                 | 48. <i>Cymatium Pyrum</i> Linnaeus, C                                 |
| 22. <i>Cnamys Senatorius</i> Gmelin, C, F                              | 49. <i>Conus Episcopus</i> Hwass, F                                   |
| 23. <i>Nerita Polita</i> Linnaeus, C, VC                               | 50. <i>Conus Arenatus</i> Hwass (Sand-dusted Cone), C                 |
| 24. <i>Bursa Bubo</i> Linnaeus, C, F                                   | 51. <i>Tonna Canaliculata</i> Linnaeus, F, UC                         |
| 25. <i>Haliotis Varia</i> Linnaeus (top side), C, F                    | 52. <i>Tectus Pyramis</i> Born (Pyramid Top), C                       |
| 26. <i>Cypraea Tigris</i> Linnaeus (Tiger Cowry), C                    | 53. <i>Lambis Arthritica</i> Linnaeus (Arthritic Spider Conch), UC, F |
| 27. <i>Cypraea Caputserpentis</i> Linnaeus (immature)                  | 54. <i>Pisania Townsendi</i> Melvill, R                               |
|                                                                        | 55. <i>Terebra Guttata</i> Roding, R                                  |
|                                                                        | 56. <i>Latirus Craticulatus</i> Linnaeus, F, UC                       |
|                                                                        | 57. <i>Cnamys Senatorius</i> Gmelin, C, F                             |
|                                                                        | 58. <i>Harpa Harpa</i> Linnaeus (Common Harp), C                      |
|                                                                        | 59. <i>Cypraeacassis Rufa</i> Linnaeus (Bull's Mouth Helmet), C, F    |
|                                                                        | 60. <i>Haliotis Varia</i> Linnaeus (underside), C                     |
|                                                                        | 61. <i>Conus Pennaceus</i> Born, C, F                                 |

# The history of Diego Garcia

An extensive chain of islands lies off the southwest coast of India, forming into three main groups--the Laccadives, the Maldives, and the Chagos Archipelago. The Chagos group, of which Diego Garcia is the largest member, is the southernmost member of the chain.

Diego Garcia lies at 7 deg. 20 min. south, 72 deg. 25 min. east, being an elongated roughly "V" shaped atoll, some thirty-five miles from tip to tip. It has one of the most continuous land rims of any atoll in the world, and this surrounds a spacious lagoon, over twelve miles long and four-and-a-half miles wide at one point. Most of the land area lies just a few feet above sea level, the highest point being less than twenty feet.

The Chagos Islands were most probably discovered by the Portuguese in 1500. Early charts label Diego Garcia as "Digo Grahosse," "Gratia" or "Graciosa," and the likelihood exists that the island bears the discoverer's name to this day.

Although certainly discovered by the Portuguese, the principle impact on the island has been French and British. For the first quarter of the century, both French and English vessels roamed freely throughout the ocean, and in 1717 the French annexed Mauritius and Reunion Islands, which became principle French bases in the Ocean. Clashes between the two powers were frequent, as the British had their principle seaport in the area at Bombay.

The cartographers continued throughout the century to plot the positions of the islands of the Chagos Archipelago based on visits to the islands by flags of both nations. The French landed a few settlers on Diego Garcia in the 1770s, the first human inhabitants of the island.

By 1785 the British began eyeing Diego Garcia as a possible base for warships and vessels sent to check on French activities at Mauritius. Eight ships (of which six were loaded with topsoil for use in growing vegetables and cereals) were sent from Bombay with instructions to occupy the island.

The expedition arrived safely at Diego Garcia in April 1786. The French settlers, who had been there since around 1776, were forced to leave, and they departed for Mauritius to inform the French of the British actions. Barracks and warehouse construction began immediately, as did surveying of the harbor and island itself.

Disagreement between the leaders, the lack of building materials, the difficulty in fortifying a low island, and the difficulty in growing crops due to the effects of rain and erosion on the imported topsoil were all factors which caused the British to withdraw from the island in failure. By the time the French frigate "Minerve" arrived from Mauritius to remove the British, they were gone.

The "Minerve," however, left a "stone of ownership" on the island, proclaiming the possession of Diego Garcia by France. The era of the plantations was about to begin.

Due to general economic depression following the recent war between France and Britain, many basic commodities were in short supply on Mauritius. One particular item in short supply was coconut oil, used as fuel for lamps and stoves.

One man, a M. Normand, was granted the concession for harvesting coconuts on Diego Garcia on the condition that he provide a refuge for a number of lepers. The Normand plantation must have flourished,

for in 1793 M. Laportaire obtained permission to establish a factory on the island to export the oil itself, instead of the entire coconut.

With the Napoleonic Wars over the next 15 years came an increased British blockade of many of the French possessions in the Ocean. As a result, coconut oil production ceased due to the increasing visits by British ships, who would not hesitate to seize the oil, and only coconuts and copra were exported.

On December 3, 1810, Mauritius (and thusly the Chagos Island) capitulated to the British, and for the next thirty years the impact on Diego Garcia of the British takeover was the emancipation of the slaves. As a consequence donkeys were imported to turn the heavy apparatus which crushes copra to produce oil.

In 1838 Captain Robert Moresby, of the Royal Navy, carried out a full hydrographic survey of the lagoon and ocean coast of Diego Garcia. His soundings still form the basis of the charts used today. While there, he recorded the following concerning the island and its produce: There are ". . . maize, tobacco, cabbage, greens, sweet potatoes, onions, carrots, turnips, leeks, garlic and all common vegetables cultivated in India. Also limes and citrons. Pumpions and plantains grow wild and cotton is widespread." He introduced breadfruit to the island, which thrived and formed a useful addition to the Islanders' diet.

Throughout the first half of the 19th century, the plantations had remained firmly in the hands of the owners, and very little government supervision of island affairs took place. But reports of conditions of slavery on some of the islands of the Lesser Dependencies kept filtering back to Mauritius, and in 1859 the governor sent two special commissioners to visit the islands of the Chagos Archipelago to report on conditions in the plantations. While this affected the Diego Garcia plantations minimally (they adhered fairly strictly to the 1838 Order of Council concerning the emancipation of slaves), it did bring the island more closely under British law.

The era of the travelling magistrates continued in one form or another until the closing of the last plantation in 1971. Even today, the Officer-in-Charge of the Royal Navy Party on Diego Garcia is the representative for the British Indian Ocean Territory, with magistrate powers.

In 1880, J. H. Ackroyd filed the following report on Diego Garcia life: "On the island, aquatic birds are numerous and the edible and hawksbill turtles exist, but are scarce. Horned cattle do not thrive, but there are some goats, and they do well. Except for the managers, sub-managers and their families who are Europeans, the population consists of Africans, Creoles, and Malagashes. The work is generally carried out by task. Five hundred coconuts have to be picked up per day and husked, a task which is easily accomplished. The breaking and shelling are afterwards done by women, who have to do 1,500 per day. The coconut, after having been picked up and broken, is dried in the sun and crushed in a mill of primitive construction, consisting of a heavy wooden roller working in a hollow block of wood, the rollers being turned by donkey.

"Generally the men are in good health and frequently save from one-quarter to one-half of their wages. They live in good huts, made of coconut leaves and having a wooden framework. Most of them grow pumpkins, bananas and a fruit called the papaye

(paw-paw). There is, however, no provision for the education or religious instruction of the laborers or their children; and a great disproportion of women to men exists. This evil has existed since the time of slavery. The population at present is 227 men, 86 women and 87 children, a total of 400."

In the 1880s, coaling stations were established on Diego Garcia for the purpose of refueling the steamers which were taking the place of the great sailing clippers. The overall effect of the stations was small, however, and by 1890 the depots had closed as an unprofitable enterprise.

Of the three plantations that operated on Diego Garcia before the coal years, only two, Point Marianne and East Point, survived. The Minni Minni plantation was closed in 1883. In the 1890s the main buildings at East Point were renovated, and in 1895 the church was built. By 1910 the East Point Estate had become the main commercial center of the island, with all copra processing being carried out there. Oil production had virtually ceased by that year, and copra became the principle export of the island.

For over a hundred years, the Chagos Archipelago had been known as the "Oil Islands," but this name now became obsolete. The annual yield from Diego Garcia in the early years of the 20th century was around five million nuts, half of the total yield of the entire Chagos group.

In 1899, two German warships, the "Bismark" and the "Marie" anchored in the lagoon for awhile, and shortly afterwards the British warships "Hampshire" and "Empress of Russia" paid a visit. It seemed that the great powers were keen to check the potential of the harbor, a possible haven in the event of future conflict.

During these years (and during the 1950s and 1960s) several scientific surveys of the geology, geomorphology, ornithology, flora, fauna and sealife of Diego Garcia took place. These reports proved valuable to the scientific community's study of the unique construction of atoll formations and the myriads of life forms associated with them.

In August 1914, the First World War broke out. Apart from one isolated incident, life carried on pretty well as normal on Diego Garcia. Full copra production was maintained, and there was little or no interference with ships carrying the copra to Mauritius. The one incident which did take place has itself been the subject of numerous books.

Barely a month after the war had started, a fact of which the Islanders were not yet aware, the German cruiser "Emden" called at Diego Garcia. The "Emden" had carried out a number of successful raids against British property in the Indian Ocean area, but was now being hotly pursued by a British squadron. For this reason, the Captain of the "Emden" urgently needed a safe anchorage to carry out repairs, take on supplies and move coal.

Diego Garcia was the nearest harbor of any consequence, so he decided to enter, reasoning that any hostile natives would be quickly subdued when faced with the "Emden's" fire-power. However, immediately upon anchoring, the Assistant Manager of the plantation came aboard, ". . . came into the ward-room, and made very good practice with the iced whiskey and soda." This surprised the Captain until ". . . conversation became interesting from the moment that we recognized that this manager and the inhabitants had no idea that there was a war on in the world." The Captain explained the battle damage to the ship as having been caused by storms. The Island-

ers gave the ship a live pig, fish and fruit, and received wine and whiskey in return. With much cheering from the population, the ship then proceeded to sea.

Shortly afterwards, the group of British warships arrived and the Islanders discovered their mistake. The British ships took off in pursuit, and the "Emden" was hounded for some weeks until on November 9, 1914, she was destroyed at Cocos Keeling by a naval force led by HMAS Sydney.

Life continued as before until once again the island was to play a role in another war. The coconut production reached its peak in the 1930s, with the export of "cocos barbes," the coconut of the green-grocer's shop, at one stage running in excess of 100,000 nuts per year.

With the outbreak of World War II, the British established a small outpost on the island to fortify it against "island-hopping" such as the Japanese were doing in the Pacific. Six-inch guns manned by Indian troops were installed at Eclipse Point to guard the entrance to the lagoon, and an RAF squadron of Catalina Flying Boats was sent to East Point.

In September 1944, Diego Garcia took a heavy battering, not from enemy action but from natural causes. A violent cyclone, mercifully rare in the area, ripped across the southern half of the atoll. The plantation, together with the RAF installations, suffered severe damage. The moored Catalinas were swept onto the beach--one remains there to this day--and hundreds of coconut palms were blown down or stripped bare, but damage to buildings was slight. Worse, however, was to come.

Within a few days a large part of the population, including most of the airmen, had succumbed to dengue, or trench fever. Some of the Islanders died from the disease, which is not normally fatal, but all of the servicemen recovered. Within a few short months after the end of the war, the island had returned to its normal state of stability.

The post-war years did see several notable changes to the island. Visiting doctors, sanitary inspectors, agricultural experts, police officers, labor officials, mid-wives and school teachers all made their contributions. Tractors replaced donkeys as the "beast of burden," and the donkeys were released to roam wild as a possible future food source.

Export of guano deposits, left by sea birds over the millions of years of the island's existence, were exported for use as fertilizer in the 1950s, and by 1957 one-third of the value of exports from Diego Garcia were in the form of guano shipments. Other exports included brooms and brushes, grain, and dried fish.

The winds of change came from different directions in the 1960s and 1970s--specifically from London and Washington--as a new species of wildlife was introduced to the island in 1971: the Seabees.

(condensed from "Under Two Flags" Lt. Commander L. W. Spinks, MBE, R.N. and R/S D. Melville, members of Royal Navy Party 1002, Diego Garcia, editors. To whom we owe a debt of gratitude.)

# "To build a link" The Seabees make history on Diego Garcia

"In six little vans nestled under coconut trees,  
With six little gennys buzzing like bees,  
Twenty-two men in Seabee greens,  
Worked three days eating but pork and beans,  
Gave to NavCom its life-long dream,  
Round world communications as smooth as  
cream."

With that transmission the Naval communicators brought Diego Garcia "on the line" March 25, 1971. The six-line message signalled the closing of a gap in the world-wide Naval communications system between Australia and Ethiopia.

But the true story of Diego Garcia belongs not to the Naval communicators, but the Seabees of the Naval Construction Force (NCF).

The groundwork began with a bi-lateral agreement between the British and American governments signed in December 1966. The pact recognized the military potential of Diego Garcia, and set up a 50-year joint development use agreement.

The first practical use of the agreement was authorized by Congress in the 1971 Military Construction Appropriation Act, which provided for the construction of a joint U.S./British Naval Communications Station on the island.

In the intervening five years, the communications station has been all but completed, and additional funding has been approved for the addition of ship and aircraft refueling and repair facilities. It has been the Seabees that have done the job.

When the Seabees of NMCB-FORTY waded ashore on March 9, 1971, they became the first of 17 units to represent the NCF on island. Accompanying FORTY to Diego Garcia were members of Amphibious Construction Battalion TWO (ACB-TWO), and representatives of the Commander, Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet (COMBLANT).

In short order the Seabees cracked out living facilities, a coral-soil cement runway 3,500 feet long, with 1,000 feet of overruns, capable of taking C-130 aircraft, a fuel farm, a beachhead port facility, a coral aggregate processing facility, and a concrete batch plant.

The supply pipeline to the island is some 11,000 miles long, and requires a month transit time by ship. The bulk of the materials and supplies still comes via ship, but delivery time of personnel and priority items, such as mail and equipment repair parts, was greatly shortened by the arrival of the first C-130 on July 9, 1971.



A reminder of the Reindeer Station days of Diego Garcia remains in the sign advertising the enlisted galley.

Two important construction materials are present on the island, however--water and aggregate. Three 100,000-gallon-per-day desalinization barges supplied water to the early Seabees. The transition from distilled water to a fresh-water well system was one of NMCB-FIVE's projects.

Since the highest point on the island is only about 25 feet above sea level, normal quarry operations were ruled out. The Seabees turned to the hard coral reef to supply their all-important aggregate. By drilling into the reef at low tide, and blasting with dynamite, suitable aggregate for concrete, concrete block, asphaltic concrete and compacted fill is readily supplied.

By mid-July 1971 the emphasis shifted to the permanent facilities that would become Naval Communications Station, Diego Garcia. In October NMCB-SEVENTY-ONE's Detail Chagos arrived, the first of a series of detachments from other deployed battalions to augment the on-site battalion. NMCB-ONE relieved FORTY in November 1971, which in turn was relieved by NMCB-SIXTY-TWO in July 1972. NMCB-TEN Detail Chagos relieved SEVENTY-ONE's detachment, and was relieved in November 1972 by NMCB-ONE-THIRTY-THREE Detail Chagos.

From the start, the Navy's construction project was known as Project Reindeer Station. Then on December 28, 1971 a boiler ruptured and exploded on a desalinization barge, and gravely injured 23-year-old Utilitiesman Third Class Charles S. Cummins, of NMCB-ONE. Petty Officer Cummins died of burns two days later in a U.S. Army hospital in Japan. On February 28, 1972, the Seabee Camp was named "Camp C.S. Cummins" in his honor.

Two significant events occurred in December 1972.

Construction had progressed sufficiently on the communications facilities to allow the precommissioned NCS detachment to arrive to take over the communications facilities, and on Christmas Day the first C-141 arrived over the skies of Diego Garcia to land on the nearly completed 8,000 foot runway.

On board the C-141 was Bob Hope and his troupe of entertainers, who were soundly welcomed by the Seabees of NMCB's SIXTY-TWO and ONE-THIRTY-THREE. It should be noted here that throughout the Diego Garcia construction era USO shows have visited the island regularly, bringing much-appreciated stateside entertainment to the island.

The first British Royal Navy personnel arrived in February 1973, and on March 20, 1973 NAVCOMSTA Diego Garcia was commissioned, two years to the day after the arrival of FORTY's main body. Concurrently, NMCB-SEVENTY-FOUR relieved NMCB-SIXTY-TWO as on-site battalion. NMCB-TEN Detail Chagos returned in June to relieve NMCB-133's detachment.

The contract for clearing a ship channel and turning basin in the lagoon was awarded to a Chinese construction firm from Taiwan, and they arrived in August 1973. NMCB-FOUR arrived the next month to relieve SEVENTY-FOUR. Because of the size of NMCB-FOUR, no relieving detachment was sent to replace NMCB-TEN's detachment which returned to Port Hueneme in December. No NMCB detachment was to return to Diego Garcia for two years.

NMCB-TEN returned again, this time in its entirety, to relieve FOUR in June 1974. From its inception,

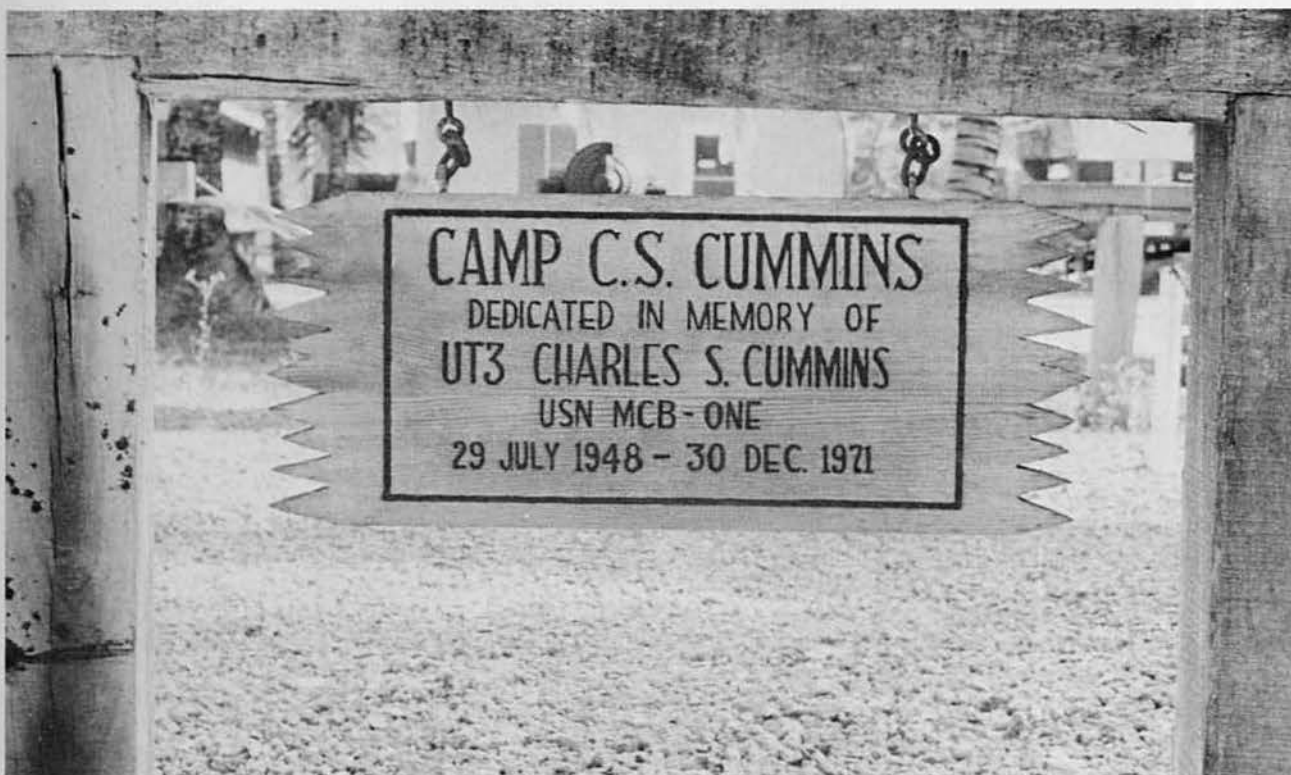
the Seabees working on Project Reindeer Station construction had been under the operational control of COMCBLANT, in Davisville, R. I. In July 1974, however, the Construction Battalion Center, Davisville, closed down, and the operational control of the Diego Garcia project was passed over to the Commander, Construction Battalions, U. S. Pacific Fleet (COMCBAC), where it remains today.

NMCB-THREE relieved NMCB-TEN in February 1975, and was relieved by NMCB-FIVE in October 1975. Underwater Construction Team ONE (UCT-ONE), from the Atlantic Seabees at Davisville, and UCT-TWO from Port Hueneme have both sent divers to aid in clearing operations and underwater construction support.

During FIVE's tour on Diego Garcia, the 16th and 17th NCF units deployed members to Diego Garcia--Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 302 (CBMU-302), from the Philippines, and the 30th Naval Construction Regiment (Forward), from Guam.

Following FIVE's arrival in October, five deployed battalions have situated details on the island--NMCB-ONE in December, NMCB's FORTY and SIXTY-TWO in January, NMCB-FOUR in March, and NMCB-THREE in May. NMCB-ONE-THIRTY-THREE's advance party arrived in May 1976 to relieve NMCB-FIVE.

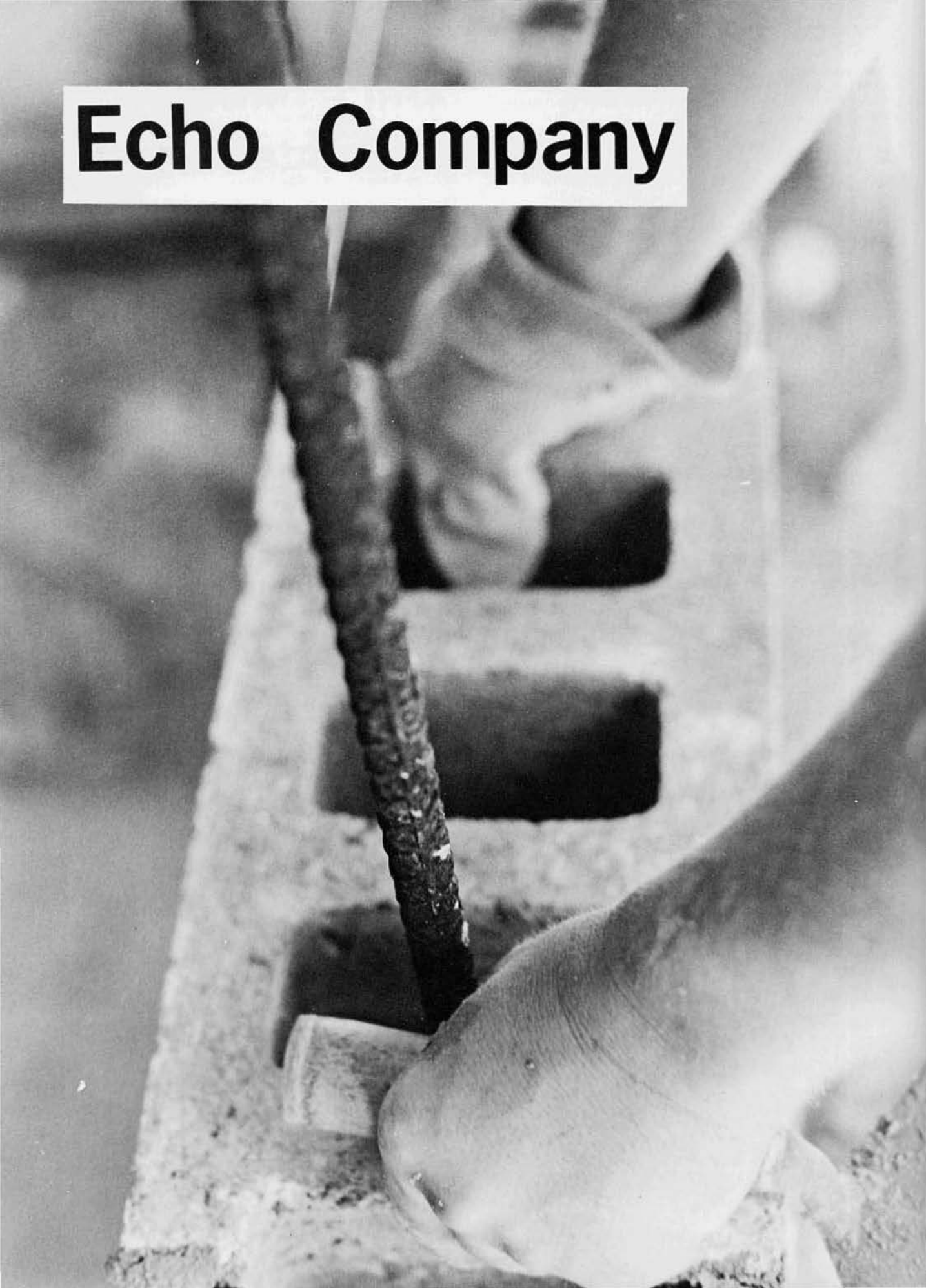
This book is the story of the eight months FIVE spent on Diego Garcia, and its shot at the number one priority construction project in the Naval Construction Force--Diego Garcia.



Camp C. S. Cummins is named for a Seabee who died while serving with NMCB-ONE on Diego Garcia in 1971. One of the customs which has remained with the Seabees is the addition of a plaque to the quadrangle area of Camp Cummins. NMCB-FIVE's plaque brought the number to ten different battalions that have served the island.



# Echo Company



Normally, deploying battalions contain two vertical construction companies, Charlie and Delta. But Diego Garcia is no normal deployment site. For Diego Garcia, Charlie and Delta companies were merged to form a single company, called Echo Company.

Within the company were two divisions--Resources and Projects. The resources people form the military organization of the company. They do the mustering, process the special request chits, keep the company personnel files, schedule training, and see that their builders and steelworkers advance in rate as quickly as possible.

The projects office is in charge of the construction end of Echo Company. They see that concrete is ordered, that material is drawn from MLO, that the best use of available manpower is made, that project reports and time cards are filed, and that quality construction is done in a safe manner as quickly as possible.



LT Gene Talmadge, Coronado, Ca., was the Echo Co. Commander and Public Affairs Officer.



LTJG Ed Kaniecki, Amherst, Mass., served as the Echo Company Projects Officer.



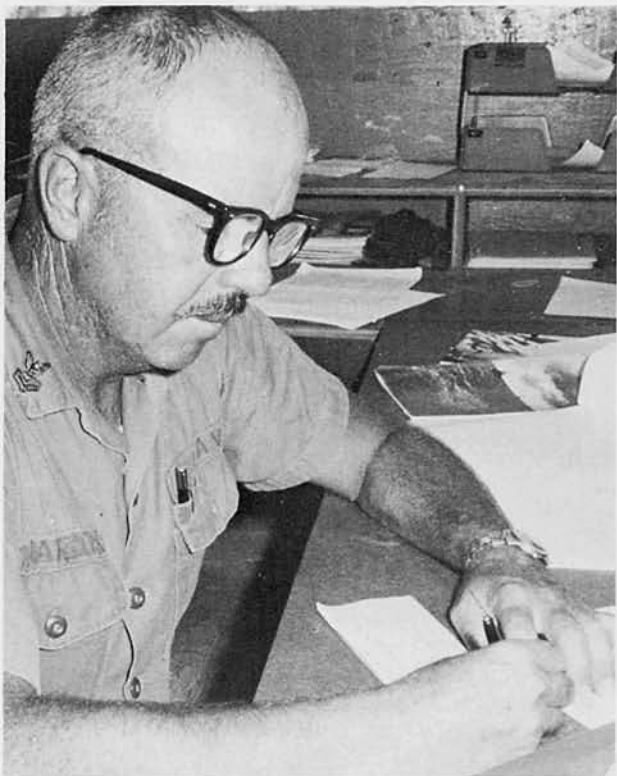
BUCS Ted Poff, project chief, left in April for duty with UCT-TWO in Port Hueneme.



BU1 Dennis Cutschall, Rapid City, S.D., researches Echo Co. personnel files. He was company chief for about a month.



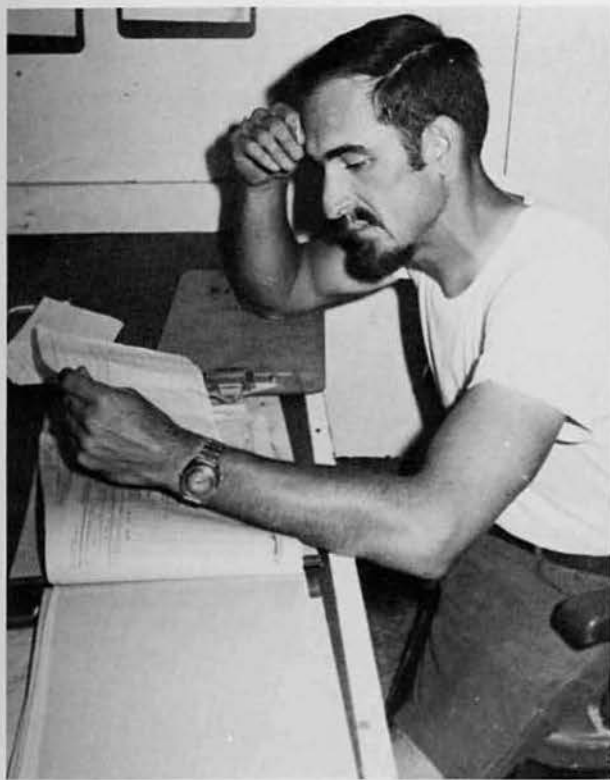
BUC John Hueston, Diego Garcia, B. I. O. T., was the company chief.



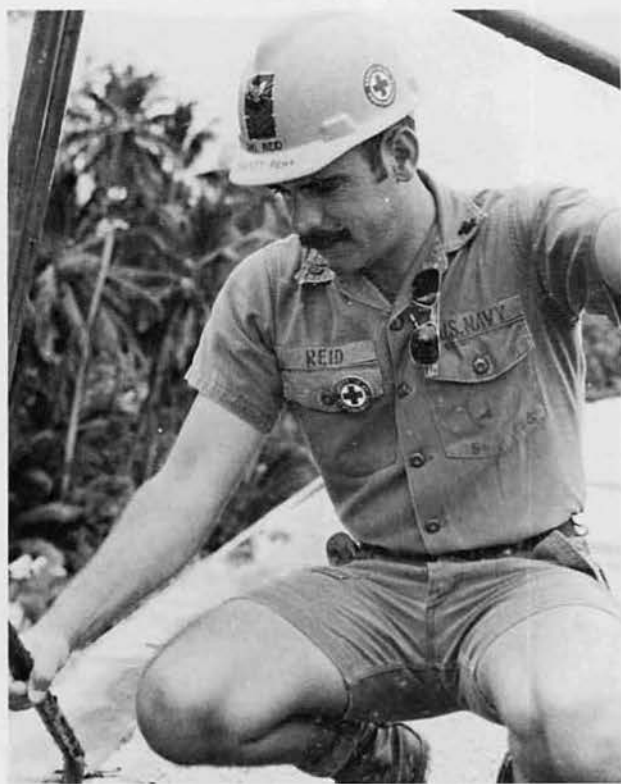
BU1 Keith Richardson, Woodland, Ca., was second platoon commander and company quality control inspector.



BU1 Dave Scoville, Couer D'Alene, Idaho, was third platoon commander, training petty officer, and incinerator supervisor.

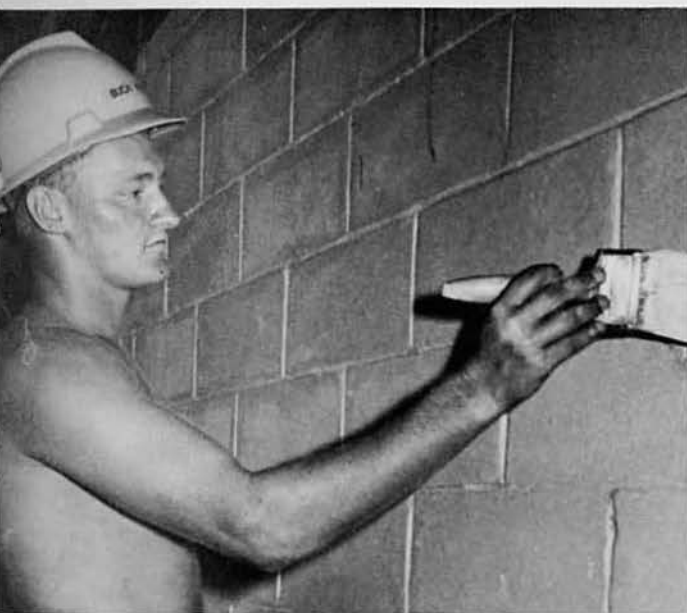


SW1 Stephen Cisco, as company MLO rep., was responsible for drawing materials from MLO and delivering them to the site.



SW1 Mark Reid, as Company Safety Sam, inspected the job sites for safety hazards and un-safe conditions.

## Resources



BUCN Charlie "Charkie" Pringle, Rock Cave, W. Va., paints at the chapel. He replaced BU3 Emmons as company yeoman.



BU3 Tom "Little Tee" Emmons, Kalamazoo, Mich., began the deployment as company yeoman.

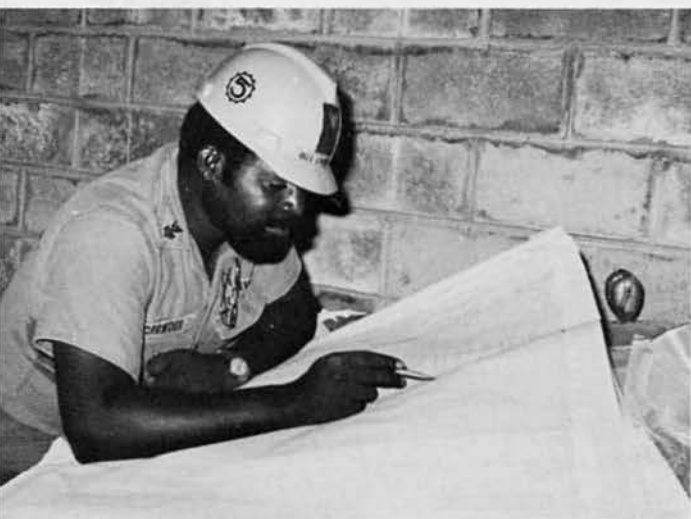


YN3 Archie Topps and BUC Robert Kemp, Silsbee, Texas, unload advance party gear. Chief Kemp was a projects supervisor.



BUC James Williams, Grandview, Mo., levels a transit at the sub building.

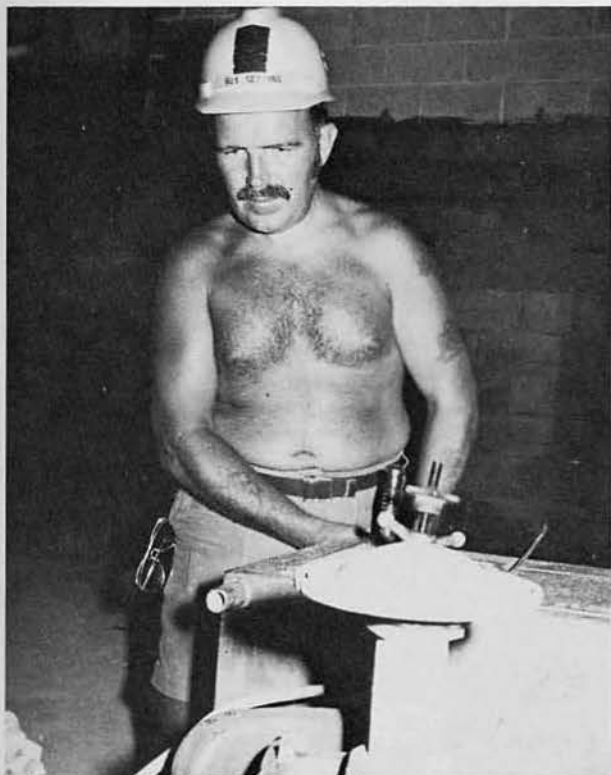
## Projects



BU1 Charles Crowder, Topeka, Kansas, was the gymnasium supervisor for the entire deployment.



BU1 Gene Florendo, Los Angeles, Ca., served as the job supervisor for the subsistence building.



BU1 Robert Seamans, Oneida, N. Y., was the NEX supervisor.



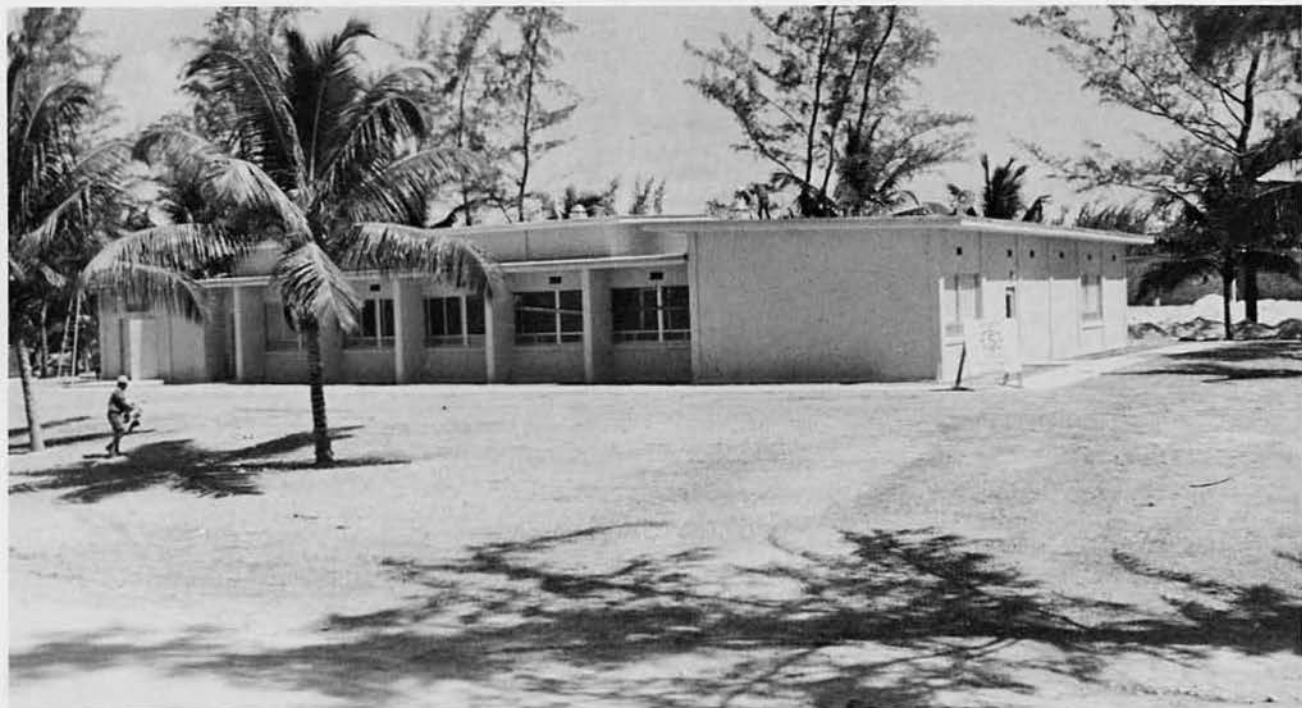
BU1 Ronald Wilson, Marysville, Wash., took over as NEX supervisor when BU1 Seamans left the battalion.



BU1 Grover Thatcher, Clovis, N.M., points out discrepancies to BU2 Chris Rauch at the chapel job site.



BU1 William "Stew" Stewart had charge of the subsistence building crew.



The chapel was turned over to NCS in April. In addition to worship facilities, it has educational classrooms and a spacious library. Battalions FOUR, TEN, THREE and FIVE all worked on the project.

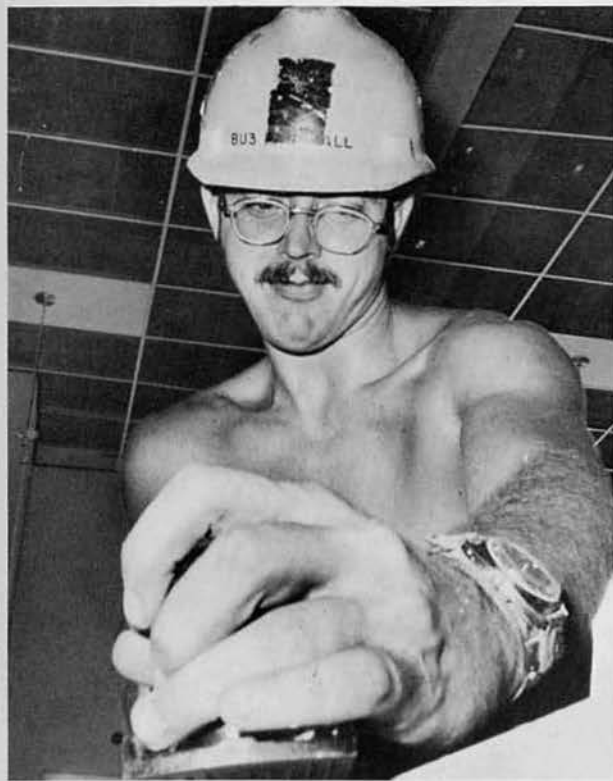


The completed chapel sanctuary provides an atmosphere for worship for sailors of all faiths. BU1 William Stewart built the altar.

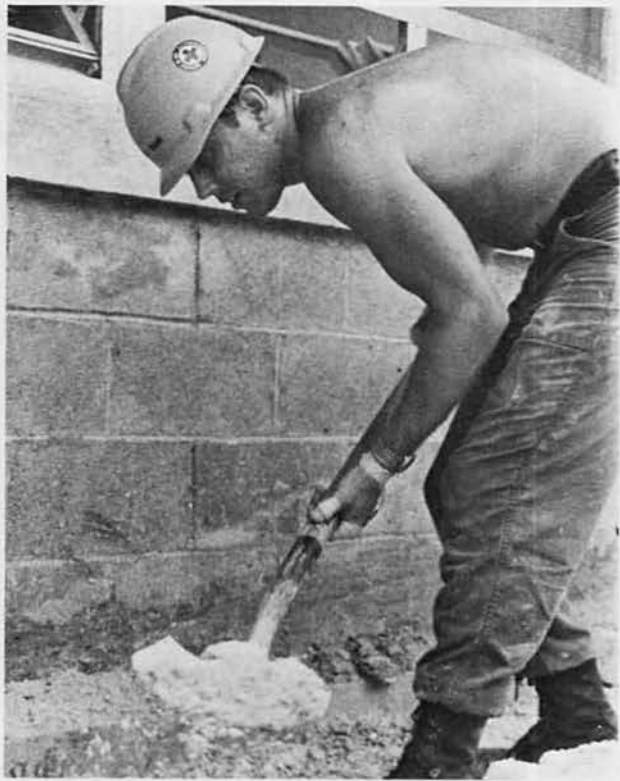
## Chapel finishing crew



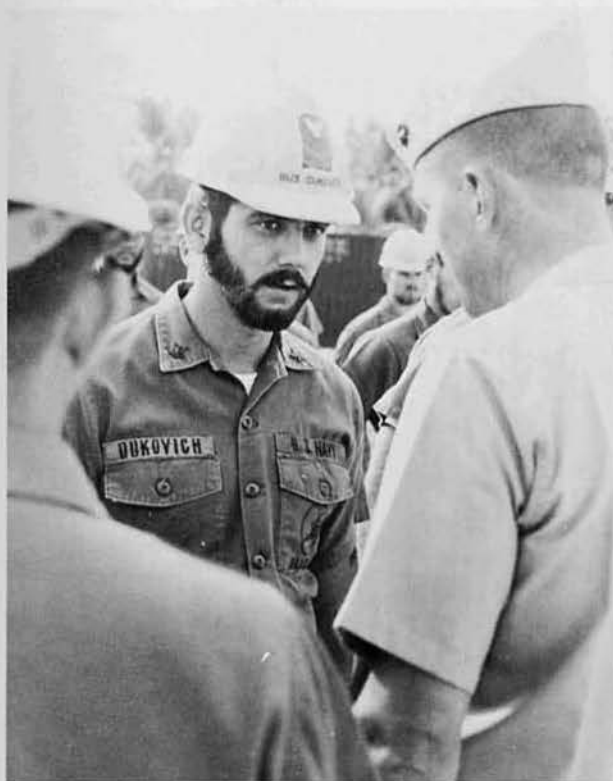
BU3 Jay Cannon, Costa Mesa, Ca., mops altar base in the chapel as BU2 Ed "Stinky" McCracken, project supervisor, observes.



BU3 Allen Paschall planes woodwork in the chapel.



BUCA Dave Shaw, Villanova, Pa., does finish landscaping to the chapel grounds.



BU3 Charles "Duke" Dukovich, North Bend, Ore., is inspected during the annual operational readiness inspection.



BU3 Dennis Hamilton, Portland, Ore., puts in a vent in the chapel drop ceiling.





The subsistence building showing progress through late April. When FIVE arrived, only 15 of the 53 columns were in place, and some of the underground utilities were present. FIVE left with the overhead poured, most of the deck slabs in place, and a good start toward the completion of the exterior block walls.



ABOVE LEFT: BU2 Carleton "Mac" McKenney adjusts tamper used to compact the ground before a concrete pour. LEFT: BU2 Don Underwood forms up the roof for an overhead pour. ABOVE: BU1 Ricardo Amposta and BU3 Dan Foster, Greeley, Colo., position and steady a concrete bucket on an overhead pour.





BU3 Dave Maez measures off lumber for formwork for the subsistence building.



BU2 Vic Eagan, Newport, Ore., levels the pad for a concrete slab pour.



BU2 Joe Graves, Shelbyville, Mich., spreads concrete on a slab pour.

## Subsistence building



BU2 Mike Morin, Taft, Texas, signs his reenlistment contract while CWO3 Robert Goudy watches. Mike worked for Mr. Goudy in Gitmo Bay, Cuba last year.



BU3 Bill Hastings, of the subsistence building forming crew, measures a beam for overhead formwork.



BUCA Perry Mace, New Castle, Dela. , pulls stakes holding sidewalk forms in place.



BU2 Don Underwood and BUCN Daryl Mackenthun, Allen Park, Mich. , discuss overhead forming placement.



BUCA Charles Gordon, Ballston Lake, N. Y. , nails in chamfer strip in an overhead bond beam.



BU3 Bob Haverkost lays out rebar for the roof slab.



BUCA Scott Long, Bernville, Pa. , spreads concrete during an overhead pour.



LEFT: BUCA Francis Sanker, Altona, Pa., cuts timber for a roof support beam.

RIGHT: BUCA Mike Temperly, Galena, Ill., squares up form for a floating slab.



LEFT: BUCN Bill McKibben, Inglewood, Ca., mess cooks in the scullery. Bill was a member of the subsistence forming crew.

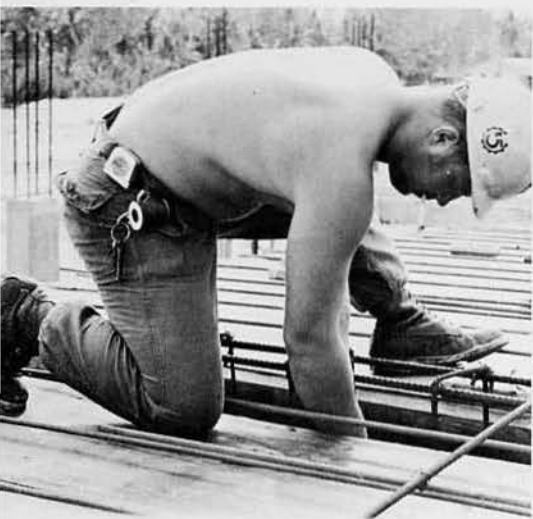


RIGHT: BUCN Chris Dallas, Palmyra, N. Y., sets up scaffolding for the forming crew.



LEFT: BUCN Daniel Jimenez, Porterville, Ca., earned the Seabee of the Month award in February for his work on the subsistence building forming crew.





SW3 Lance Carver, Craig, Colo., sets high chairs on subsistence building roof beams.



SW3 Bill Everett, Cabool, Mo., places the second rebar mat in place on the sub building roof. RIGHT: SW3 Don "Whitey" White, Oxnard, Ca., helps move the second mat into place.



TOP LEFT: SWCN Dave Ahrens, Yuba City, Ca., and SW3 Bob "Pete" Peterson, Montgomery, Ala., tie the first rebar mat. TOP RIGHT: SWCN Dave Ahrens and SWCN Ray Herbine, West Lawn, Pa., also tie the first mat. RIGHT: SW3 Vic Joy, York, Neb., and SW2 Mike "Sandy" Sancrant, Anacortes, Wash., tie cages for roof beams.





BU3 George Monroe, Arvada, Colo., finishes a concrete slab on the subsistence building.



BUCN Tom Peterman, Tucson, Ariz., puts up a safety sign at the steelworker pre-cast yard.

## Concrete forming crew



LEFT: BU3 Greg Olson finishes concrete at the incinerator. RIGHT: BUCN Tony Wright, Detroit, Mich., also helped erect the first porta-huts.



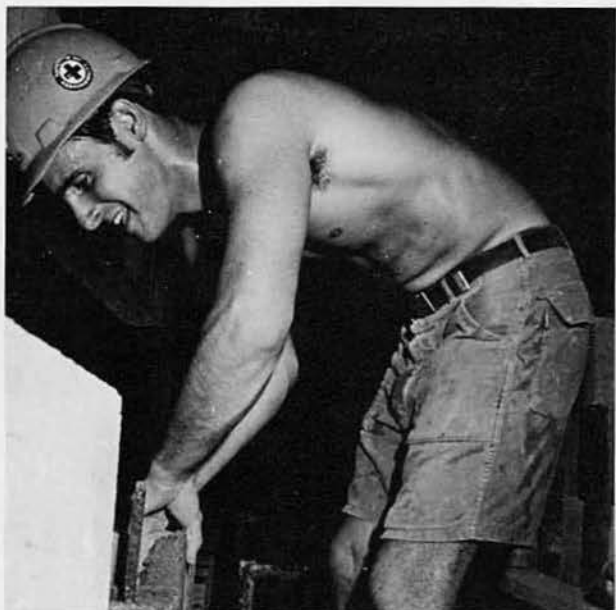
BOTTOM LEFT: BUCN Jeff "Zac" Zalac, Wheatland, Pa., slices meatloaf for the officers. BOTTOM RIGHT: BUCN George "Lark" Larko, Coraopolis, Pa., cuts formwork at the incinerator.





The main room of the Navy Exchange as it nears completion. The building was taken from 17 per cent to virtual completion by the 'Bees of FIVE.

## NEX block & tile setting crew



BU3 Mike Reilly, Redding, Ca., places block in the NEX. Mike went to Special Services later in the deployment.



BU2 Israel Mirador, San Jose, Ca., opens a packing crate at the NEX.



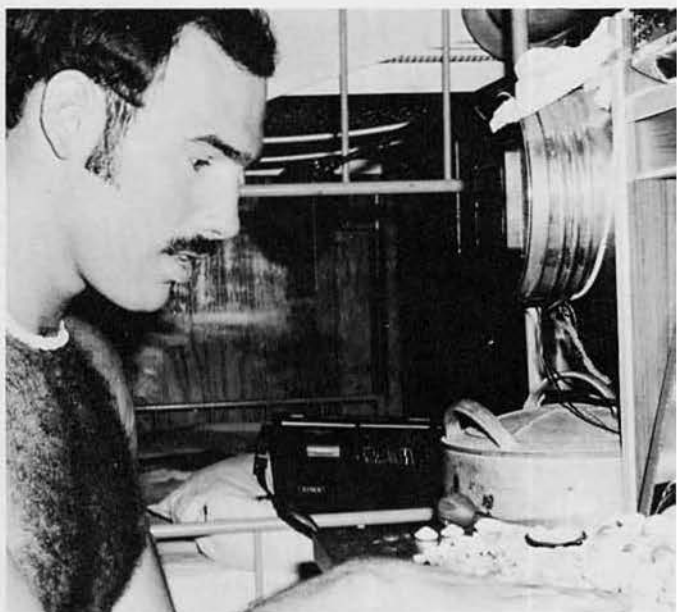
BUCN Gregg Zellers, Denver, Colo., aligns edge angle strips for the NEX suspended ceiling.

BU2 Ed Tait, Mikado, Mich., studies block plans at the NEX.





BU3 Rick Friel, Renovo, Pa., paints one of the NEX block walls.



BUCA David "Ket" Ketler, Oakland, Ca., sorts shells in his porta-hut.



BUCN Dennis "Buffalo" Hebert, Newport, Vt., and BUCA Neal Camp, Merced, Ca., repair a door at the chapel.



BU3 Walt Mistler, Portland, Ore., prepares the gymnasium shower room tile for upper molding.





The gymnasium facility, when completed, will boast two handball courts, a weight room, gear issue and office spaces, a full size basketball court, and shower facilities.

## Gymnasium crew



BUCA Al Daub, Lindenhurst, N.Y., points out "holidays" to BU2 Barry "Red" Waklee, Pine Grove, Ca. Holidays are spots in the painted wall that will need retouching.



BU2 Dale "Rosey" Rosenthal, Fairbury, Neb., uses the floor hammer to side nail hardwood boards to the sleepers underneath.



BU2 Sergio Lavilla drills holes for finishing nails on the side of the hardwood maple floor.



BU3 Grant "Mighty" Young, American Fork, Utah, puts up scaffolding for finishing the support beams.



BU3 Willie Wetmore lines up floorboards for the hammer. The boards were tongue and groove.



BUCN Mike Raarup, Pasadena, Ca., was the tool man, responsible for care, inventory and issue of tools.



BU3 Tom "Moose" Mossman checks the level of block being laid in the shower rooms.

BU3 Rickey "Flu-Flung" Rapp rehabs office spaces in preparation for Naval Construction Forces due in.





BU3 Mike "Rowdy" McCabe, Dalton, Neb., assembles window winches.



BUCN Richard Blodgett, Worthington, Mo., was Seabee of the Month, main body, for October 1975.



The basketball court should improve the quality and spirit of future hoop teams.

LEFT: BUCN Robert Thomas, Coshocton, Ohio, cuts 12" block for weight room and office space walls.



BUCA Freddie Walker, Doniphan, Mo., applies rubber-base paint to the walls.



BU3 Mike "Mr. Gunk" Guck, Muscatine, Iowa, checks out of the battalion for the flight home.



BUCN Kevin "Butch" Coffey, loads the floor hammer.



BUCN Mark Wyngarden, Madras, Ore., does patchwork on block walls. Mark is an avid bowler.

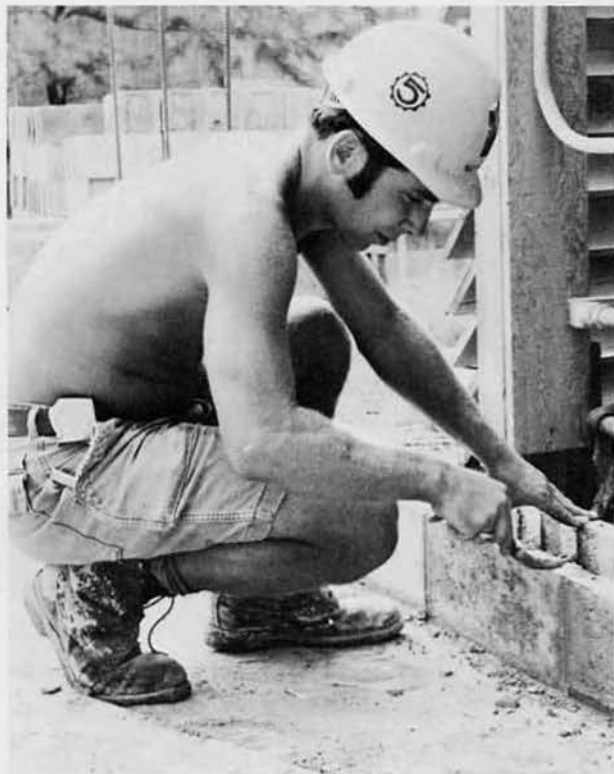


BU3 Dave Minkler, East Aurora, N. Y., applies "Slurry" coat (cement and water) to block wall prior to painting.



BUCA Steve Quealy, Swampscott, Mass.: "Only four days old and it's dirty already!"

# Builder support



BU2 Mike Owens was the crew leader for the builder support crew. He's laying block at the new laundromat.



BUCA Tommy "Purple" Hays, Rockford, Ill., puts in formwork at the incinerator.



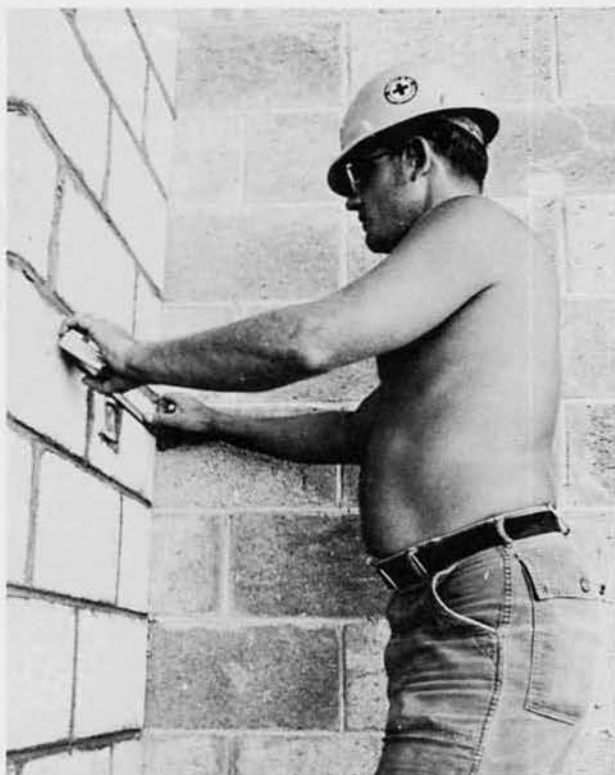
BUCN Ralph "Swamp-rat" Farr, Waycross, Ga., nails the ceiling in at the I-level maintenance building.



BUCA Bill Schultz, Rochester, Minn., prepares to cut block at the laundromat.



BU3 Don "Pooh-Bear" Russell, Fresno, Ca., shovels the concrete bucket clean at the incinerator.



BU2 Bob Kunka, Dayton, Ohio, checks the position of a wall outlet at the gymnasium.



BU3 Jimmie Vaughn, Benton, Ky., nails walers (side braces) into place at the incinerator.



BUCR Joel "Cal" Callahan, Park Forest, Ill., carries two-by-fours at the incinerator.



BU3 David "Good Old Norm" Norman, Yonkers, N. Y., puts batter-boards in at the subsistence building.



BU3 Al Krieger, Titusville, Fla., chops tar at the chapel.



## Roofing and Tex-cote crew



BU2 Tim Pedrick, Johnstown, N. Y., stands by for the ORI. He was the Tex-cote crew leader.

RIGHT: BU2 Bill Toensing, St. Louis, Mo., was the roofing crew leader.



BELOW RIGHT: BUCA Richard Brovitch, St. Paul, Minn., and BU2 Mariano Monis set a support beam into a screw jack.





BUCA Stanley "Buck" Blakely paints the tar kettle after cleaning and before turn-in.



BUCN Jerry Lunderville, Manchester, N.H., masks a wall off before Text-coting.



BUCN Rich "Black Bean" Yrigollen, Madera, Ca., tapes gravel stop around the top of the chapel.



BU2 Chris Rauch, Oxnard, Ca., works sub-base material at the subsistence building.



BU2 Thomas "Pete" Peters, Elmira, N.Y., fabricates incinerator formwork.



BU3 John Hicks prepares pool cue for a tip. He left Special Services for the roofing crew.





BUCN Esau "Mitch" Mitchell was an Echo Co. MLO expeditor.



BUCN Tom Hoyt, Joliet, Ill., unloads sheets from the drier.



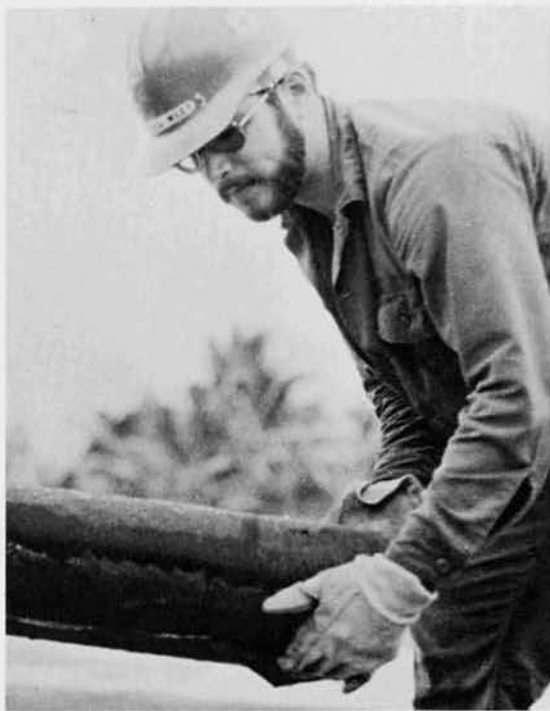
BUCN Michael "Adam 12" Gagnon, Biddeford, Maine, projects job procedures in the company office.



BUCN Ed Marple, DePue, Ill., sprays Tex-cote on.



BUCA Steve "Buzz" Smyth, Ft. Pierce, Fla., installs suspended ceiling in the NEX.



BUCA William Wiley, Valley Park, Mo., prepares to lay out tarpaper on the gymnasium roof.



BUCA Al Parker, Port Lavaca, Texas, lays in tile in the gymnasium shower room.

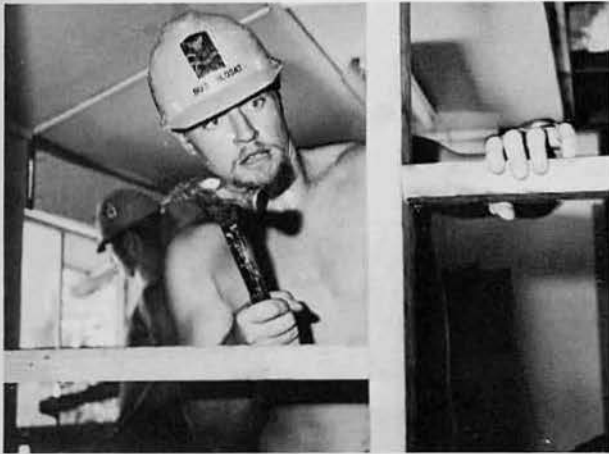


BU2 Earl "E. J." Copeland cuts dunnage during the January ship off-load. He was the curb and gutter crew leader.

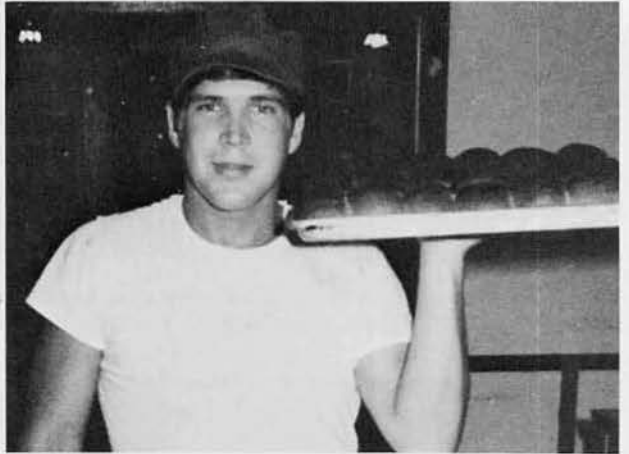


BU3 Robert Siuda, Palos Heights, Ill., does finish work on a dumpster pad.

# Curb and gutter crew



BU3 Paul "Burnout" Blosat, Pittsburgh, Pa., re-habs one of the office spaces.



BUCN Michael "Modey" Modderman, Austin, Minn., carries piping hot rolls for hungry Seabees to devour.



BUCN Carl "Nordy" Nordback, Stone Lake, Wis., carries fill to a curb and gutter site.



BU3 Eric "Red" Nelson, Redondo Beach, Ca., prepares a site for forming.



BU3 Marvin Nelson, Little Falls, Minn., cleans a shovel off after use.



SW2 Fred Palmer, Cuba, Mo., and SWC Jack Egerton, Childress, Texas, during clean up of temporary POL tanks.



SW1 Vincent Barnes, Oil City, Pa., receives the gold-stinger award from LT Talmadge. SW3 Bob Peterson watches.

## Steelworker support



SW2 John Tippet, El Paso, Texas, verifies MLO inventories.



SW1 Bobby Hamlett, Clovis, N.M., was superintendent of the I-level maintenance building and a steelworker supervisor.



SW3 Len Gaskins, Lake City, S. C. , cuts rebar in converting a man-hole into a weir sump for the POL farm.



SW3 Dan Kavanaugh, Butte, Mont. , operates a sheet metal brake in the Bravo Co. shop.



SW3 David Riley, Granger, Utah, installs fence post at the incinerator.



SW3 Jim Russell, Newman, Ca. , bends rebar at the pre-fab yard.



SWCN Ricky Barnes, Independence, Kansas, guides pipe into a power tong at the temporary POL.



SWCN Steve Stancer, Rio, Wis., uses a brace and bit to form a dead man brace at the incinerator.



SWCA Billy Cook, Baytown, Texas, and SWCN Philip Latronica, Los Banos, Ca., make a rebar cage for a lintel at the chapel.



SWCN Clarence Love, Kansas City, Kansas, and SW3 James Bill, Bay City, Mich., fabricate duct work at the chapel. Love was Seabee of the Month for March.



SWCA Thomas Bowler, Kalamazoo, Mich., at the NEX.



SWCA Richard Garrett, Wheatland, Mo., fits a pipe into the power tong at the temporary POL facility.



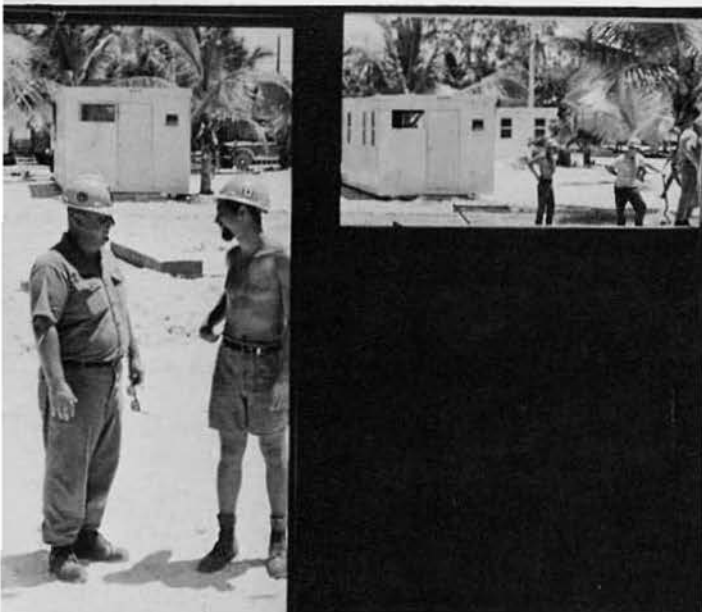
SWCN Phil Latronica welds a window winch into place at the gymnasium.



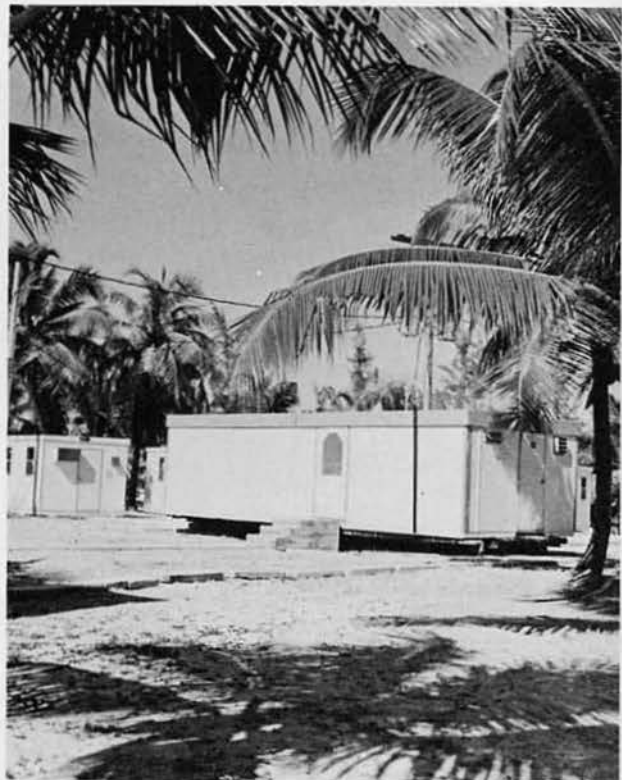
SWCA Jerry Woods, Red Hook, N.Y., adjusts insulation on ductwork at the NEX.



SW3 Richie Wimberley, Paterson, N.J., installs supports for air handling unit at the NEX.



BU1 Russell "Wiz" Wisswell, and BU3 Ralph Hager outside the shell of a porta hut. Wiz was the crew supervisor of the porta-hut team.



The new porta-camp facilities provide clean, cool and comfortable living spaces for hard-working Seabees.

## Porta-camp



BU2 Jerry Martin, Holdenville, Okla. , left at mid-deployment to be a Bangkok rep.



BU2 Glenn "Sonny" Dailey, Worcester, Vt. , and BUCN Dennis Robillard, Springfield, Ore. , pour porta-camp sidewalks.



BU3 Alfred "Freddie" Noyes, Roseburg, Ore., uses tie wire to set formwork to correct width.



BU2 Manuel Rivera rehabs one of the SEA huts into a conference room.



BUCN Carver "Gep" Gepford, Fort Jones, Ca., cleans silverware in the scullery.



BU3 David Bullock rehabs the conference room.



BU3 Ralph "Hagar the Horrible" Hager covers a window temporarily.

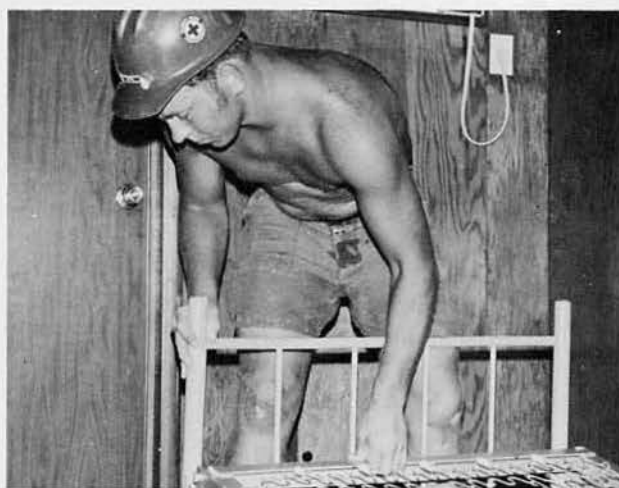




BUCA Perry Fish, Corry, Pa., screeds a porta-head pad.



BUCN John "Dutch" Hamilton, Palm Springs, Ca., and EO1 Dennis Wooley at the concrete batch plant.



BUCA Jeff Millington, Ballston Spa, N. Y., sets up furniture inside a porta-hut.



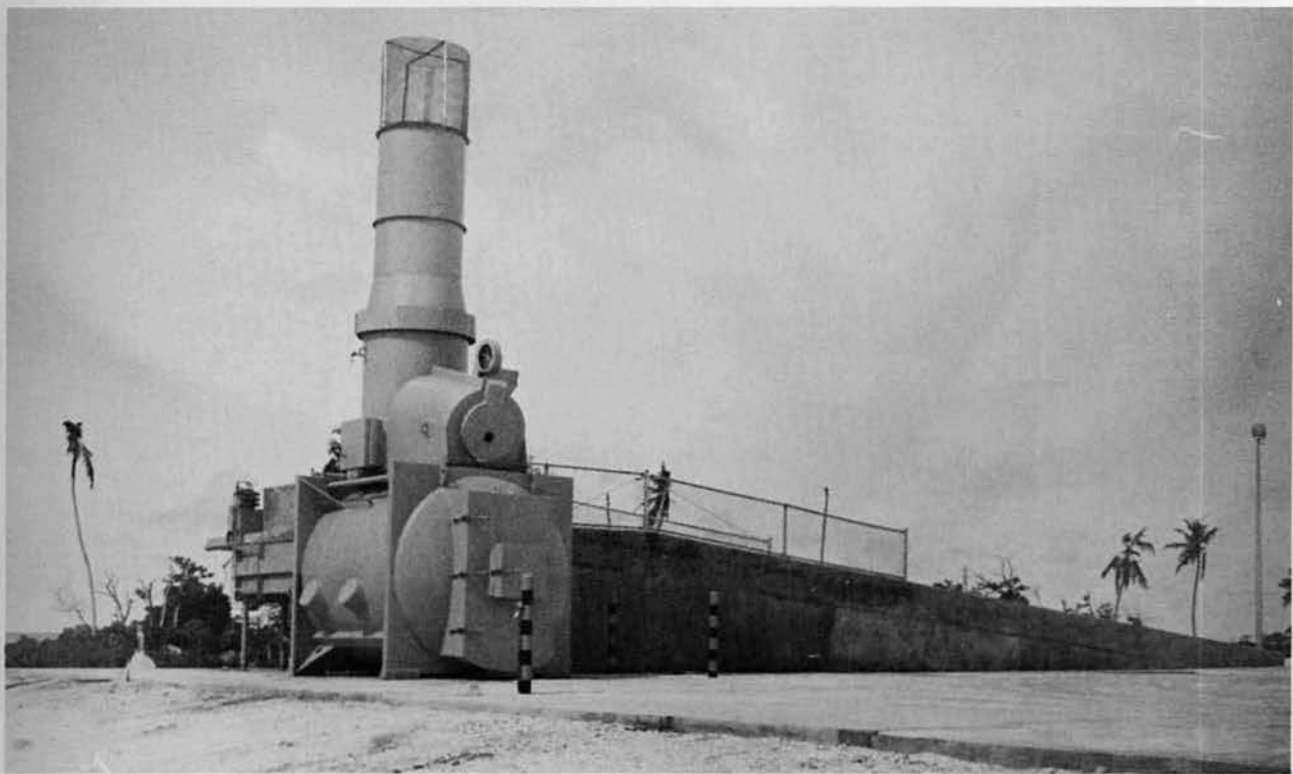
BUCA Jim Hunter, Quincy, Ca., cleans out expansion joints in the chapel.



BUCN Tom Douroux, Covina, Ca., deals poker at casino night. Tom worked as a driver for Alpha Co and on the MAA force.



One of the smaller projects finished early in the deployment was the I-Level Maintenance facility at the airfield. FIVE arrived to find the footings in place, and Echo Co. had it completed by year's end. The project supervisor was SW1 Bobby Hamlett, Clovis, N.M.



Another small Echo Co. project was the incinerator located about mid-way between Camp Cummins and the airfield. Presently trash is disposed of in sanitary landfill operations. The project supervisor was BU1 Dave Scoville, Couer D' Alene, Idaho.



The concrete silos are loaded by blowing the cement from the cement ship through pipeline to the top of the silos.



The temporary POL facility is the repository for the diesel fuel, MOGAS, and jet fuel used in island operations. Echo Co. steelworkers assembled 5,000 feet of six-inch pipe for use in off-loading.

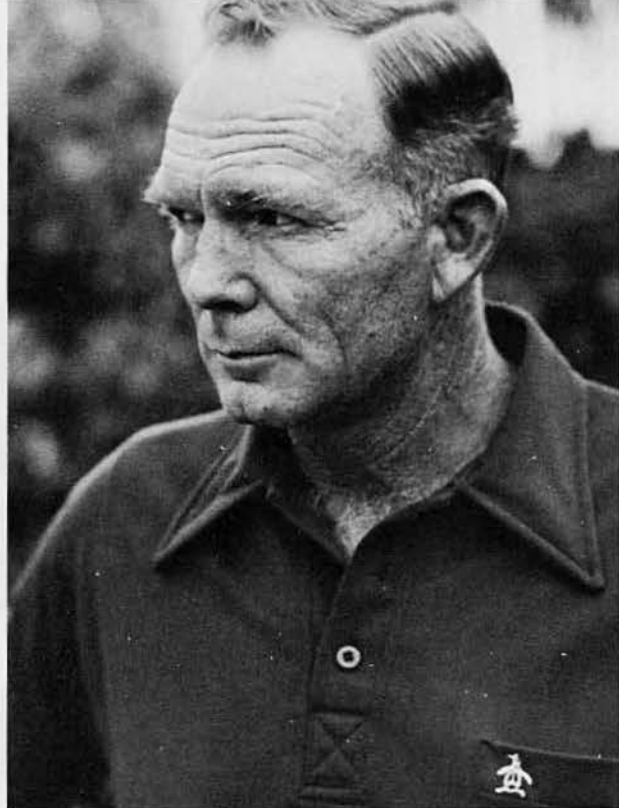
The Echo Co. Island Championship Softball Team. BACK ROW: BUCN Gregg Zellers, BU3 Allen Paschall, BU3 Paul Blossat, BU3 Scott Grogg, SW1 Mark Reid, BU1 James Fowler, and BU2 Sonny Dailey; FRONT ROW: BUCN Dennis Hebert, BU3 Dan Foster, BUCN Jerry Fowler, BUCN Mike Chisholm, and BU3 Dennis Hamilton.



The Island Championship Soccer Team. BACK ROW: BU3 Marvin Nelson, EOCN Michael Obrien, BUCN Mike Modderman, BUCN Chris Mulcahy, and BUCN Carl Nordback; FRONT ROW: BUCA Scott Long, BUCN Dennis Hebert, CMCA Vicente Fuentebella, BUCA Perry Mace, and CE3 Al Arias.

# Alpha Company





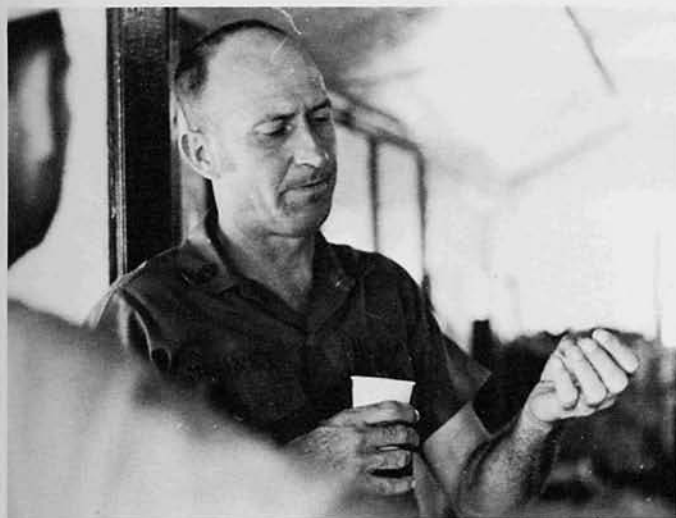
CWO3 Robert K. Goudy, Fowler, Colo., Alpha Company Commander, rose through the builder rating to senior chief before receiving his commission in 1968.



CMCS Joe A. Harris served as the assistant company commander.



EOCS Clyde K. Marion was on Diego Garcia with NMCB-THREE before joining FIVE in mid-deployment.



EOC Burris Mooney, first platoon chief. First platoon, or transportation platoon, provides the manpower to operate the semis, transit mixers, fuel trucks, taxis, etc.

## First platoon— transportation



EO2 Joe Shelby, Jonesboro, Ark., served as Roadmaster, or the Garcia Highway Patrol. As FIVE's Smokey, he was responsible for enforcing traffic laws.



EO1 Ray Keller, first platoon commander, was Chief Mooney's right hand man.



EO2 Gene Morrow, Taft, Calif., was the battalion license examiner and assisted in the investigation and reporting of accidents.



EO2 Don Stringham, Mount Ayr, Ia., served Alpha as the day dispatcher. Vocal Alpha Dispatch, Vocal Alpha One-One--Where to now?"



EO2 Craig Deal, Council Bluffs, Ia., was night dispatcher. The only man on Diego that never saw daylight!



EO1 John Pope, Newport, Ky., headed up collateral equipment, storeroom for tarps, jacks, seats, chain, cutting edges, pulleys, and nearly everything else that isn't attached permanently to equipment. RIGHT: EO2 Richard "Sam" Suomela, Norway, Maine, was named Seabee of the Month for the advance party while serving as yard boss. The yard boss has overall responsibility for the Alpha Co. yard, from parking problems to maintenance cycling.



EOCA Mike Carson, Elliot, Ia., as taxi driver, averaged 125 to 200 miles a day, and never really got anywhere.





EOCN Dan "Tiny" Ellerbach, Holy Cross, Ia., was the primary driver for the biggest tractor/trailer on the lot, a 25-ton Mack with a 100-ton Low-Boy.



EO3 Tom Wren, in the tire truck, carried with him the full capabilities to repair tires on the job site.



EO1 Steven Zimmerman grades a pad for the porta-heads in the camp area. Zimmerman was also yard boss for a spell.



EO3 Wally Chappell backfills a utility trench at the subsistence building with a 175 IH back-hoe/front end loader.



EOCA Ed Young, Berwyn, Ill., clears and covers trash at the sanitary landfill with a 175 IH.





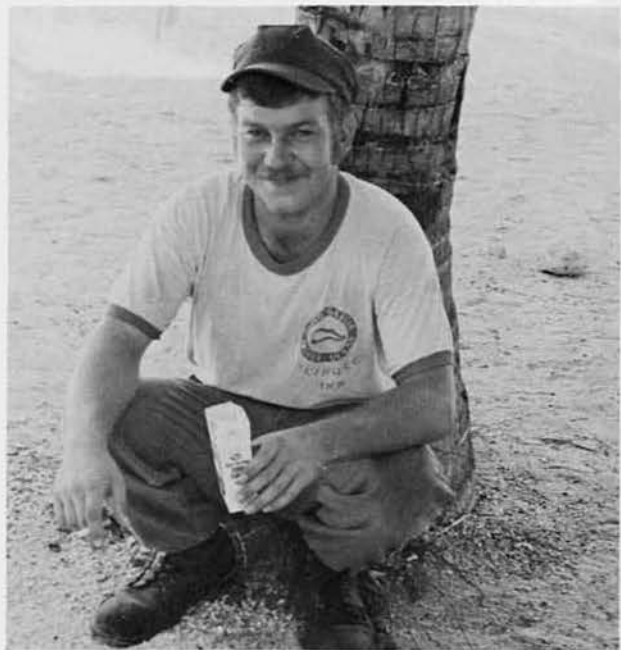
EOCA Craig Graybar, St. Francis, Wis., unhitches a low-boy from its tractor.



EO3 Dennis Holtzinger, Novato, Calif., at the wash rack. The salt air was especially hard on equipment.



EOWA Randy Waite, Orange, Calif., as a pool driver, spent some time at the batch plant.



EOCA Randy Hazel, Chino, Calif., takes a break from mess cook duties. Randy spent the deployment as a pool driver, and operated the fuel truck before going to the galley. LEFT: EOCA Harold Fuller kicks back in one of the many hammocks strung between coconut trees in the camp area.





EOCA Jim Kelly loads the fuel tanks at Alpha Co. The fuel truck delivers fuel to the outlying job sites and to permanently emplaced equipment, such as generators.



EOCN David Rosendale, Minneapolis, Minn., operated "Rosie's Fuel Service--Service with a Smile."



EOCA Doug Meers, Kokomo, Ind., at the fuel truck radio. "Break 1-9, good buddy of mine, you've got a smokey in a plain green wrapper on the side near the Brit Club!"



EOCN Ken Butler chains a load on a Low-Boy. Ken gave the XO a run for his money as FIVE's most avid sheller.



EO2 Tom Solbeck on the chip spreader, which lays an even layer of aggregate along the roadbeds.



EO2 Gaylord Allen, LEFT, Arco, Id. , EO1 Dennis Wooley, and EO1 Michael Cook, Woodville, TX of the Betty Crocker Concrete Corp. : "We use an old family recipe." As the source of Echo Company's concrete, the concrete wizards were happy to get the new batch plant off the January ship.



EOCA Steve Brandt, Pittsburgh, Pa. , was one of the transit mixer drivers.

EOCA Randy Weiman, St. Cloud, Minn. , removing the lumps from the "old family recipe at the silos."

EOCN Jim French takes a few minutes to wind down after a long day and write home.



## Concrete batch plant and transit mixer crew



EOCA Paul Vornbrock chips the old family recipe from the inside of a transit mixer.

EOCA Paul Vornbrock, Merrill, Ia. , EOCN Kenneth C. "Kaycee" White, Plainfield, Ind. , and EOCA Jim "Tinker" Bell, Salt Lake City, Utah "take five" atop one of their transit mixers.



EO3 John "Watah" Powell, Boulder, Mont., uses the 10-ton cherry picker to literally raise the roof on a porta-hut.

## Crane crew



EO1 Alois Briski signals "boom up" to EO1 Pacula, whom he relieved as POIC of the crew late in the deployment.



EO1 Ed Pacula, Lowell, Mass., POIC of the crew. When a dozer can't move it, and a forklift can't lift it, the cranes are called.



EO3 Bob Hanke, Jayton, Texas, on the 50-ton Lima, the biggest crane in the yard.



EO2 Joe Maestas, Romeo, Colo., was the APOIC of the crew.

EO3 Ron Metcalf, Ayer, Mass., charges (loads) the concrete batch plant hoppers with aggregate.

## Tide haul

EO2 Earl "Ducky" Waddle, Kenedy, Texas, sets off a tide haul blast on the coral reef off Diego Garcia. The aggregate gained from blasting operations was used in roadwork, asphalt, and concrete. NMCB-FOUR relieved FIVE of tide haul operations upon their arrival in March.



EO3 Ervin Bradley ties dynamite into det cord trunk lines preparatory to blasting.



EO3 John "John Boy" Fulford and EO1 Owen Westberry load dynamite into the holes. One of the side effects of working with dynamite is a splitting headache, which tide haul learned to live with.



EOCN Dwight Mahaffy, Inglewood, Calif., hauled coral to the rock crusher in an MRS (Mississippi Road Service) side dump.



The rock crusher takes coral "rock" from the tide haul operations and crushes and sorts it by size for use as aggregate in concrete, concrete block, asphaltic concrete, and fill and landscaping operations.

## Rock crusher



EO3 Dave Bruce, El Sobrante, Calif., cleans up excess spillage from under the conveyor, an everyday, all day long job. RIGHT: EO3 Jeff "Little Willie" Williams, Mt. View, Calif., pre-starts a Euclid rock dump. The Euclid has a 20 cubic yard capacity, four times that of a regular dump truck.



EO1 John Jozwiak, Clintonville, Wis., and EOC Phillip Knowles--"Bubbles and Mugsy"--inspect the new 200 ton/hour rock crusher.





EO2 Don "Fitz" Fitzpatrick, Roseburg, Ore., operates a Super 20 in the MLO yard.



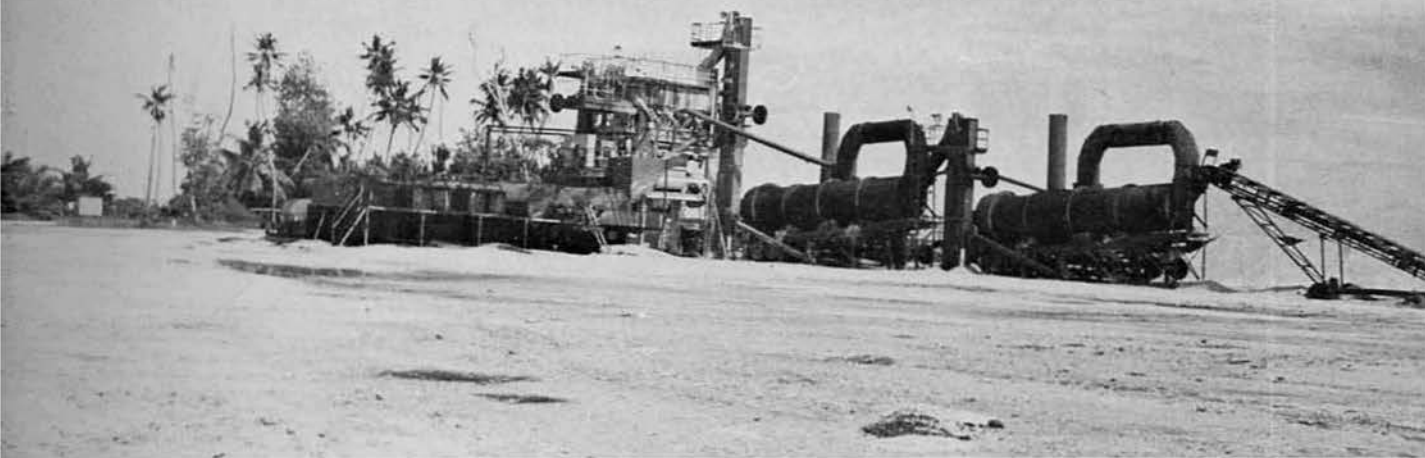
EOCN Andy "Kid" Creevy frees rocks from the crusher jaws--Preventive Dentistry?



EO3 Vic Lovell and EO1 James J. "JayJay" Smith, Cascade, Ia., check out the hydraulic level on a 120 Hough front end loader. The 120 hydraulic system holds 55 gallons of fluid.



EO3 Frank Hibbs, Yukon, Ok., replaces a shear pin on a grader while clearing alongside Hwy. 1.



At the asphalt batch plant aggregate is dried to remove the water, and added to hot asphalt to form asphaltic concrete for use as paving material.

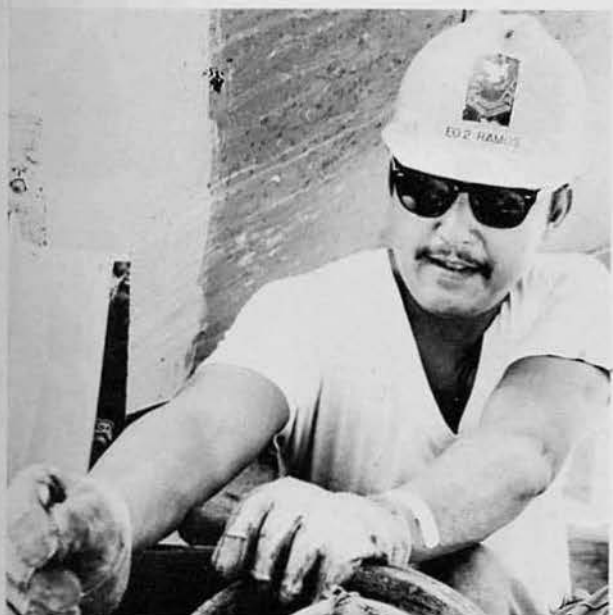
## Asphalt Batch Plant



EOCA John Butrum, Englewood, Colo., and EOCN Gary Gray, Lawton, Okla.: "Do you know what it does?" "No. Push it and I'll pull this one."



EO1 Charlie Copeland controls the entire process from the control tower. He knows what everything does!



EO2 Roman Ramos tightens the conveyor belt leading from the hoppers to the driers.



EO1 Don Medine forklifts barrels of asphalt to the melters. Medine was TAD to the Island Command Security for part of the deployment.





EOCN Bob "Lappod" Leppanen checks the thickness of the finished asphalt mat. Rollers will finish the job.



EOCA Clint Arrowwood, Corona, Calif., empties RC-250 asphalt into the melting pots. As with most of the Seabee jobs, a strong back is needed.



EO3 Ralph Felter, Sidney, N.Y., clears the screen over the aggregate bins. Ralph also worked on the POL and operated the crane during the ship off-load.



EOCA John Shaffer, Delmont, Pa., cleans the pug mill, where asphalt, aggregate and fines are mixed for a final product.



EO3 Chris Potter, Scotts Valley, Calif., at the controls of a Telescope cleaning up a cement spill at the silos.



EOCN David "Gritz" Gruetzmacher, Merrill, Wis., brings asphalt to the POL crew. "All my friends drive low-riders!"



# POL

The POL (Petroleum/Oil/Lubrican) causeway stretches into the lagoon, and when completed the facility will serve as Diego Garcia's gasoline service station for the fleet. FIVE's operations involved paving the causeway, completion of the burns and pipe hook-ups for the two completed tanks. Following battalions will be tasked with the installation of more tanks.



TOP LEFT: EO1 Joe Kirby, Sulphur, Okla., uses a Hough 120 to load rock haulers at the POL. ABOVE: EO2 Jim "Tiny" Widner, Montague, Calif., was FIVE's grader man. LEFT: EO1 Noble "Uncle Matt" Mathis, Whitney, Texas, POL crew leader, atop the asphalt finisher.



EO2 Andy Fuller, Campwood, Texas, on a TD-20 dozer. He also worked on the tide haul and porta-hut pad crews.



EO3 Bruce Baust operates an MRS scraper on the causeway. The MRS is an ungainly monster that was a real workhorse for A Co.



EOCA Scott Magley compacts the POL causeway with a RayCo roller. The entire POL crew put in many long hours completing the job.



EOCA Loyd Hastings, Morristown, Ariz., atop a top a TD-20 dozer.



EOCN Michael "the Mangy Dog" O'Brien operates a roller on the causeway, preparing it for paving.



EOCA Randy Granger, Thompson, Ohio, hauls asphalt to the POL via 5-ton dump.



EOCN Dan "Three-Five" "Pig Pen" Looman hauled aggregate and worked with the asphalt crew.



EO3 Jon "Crutch" Crutcher on a RayCo Roller at the POL.



EO3 Steve "Wedge" Josephs on an MRS side dump. He was the asphalt finisher operator for the battalion.



EO3 Bill Lovlien, after being deadlined in a ditcher accident, operates a TS-24 scraper.

# Mechanics



CMC Tom "Smacky" Ackerson, Mahwah, N.J., was the maintenance supervisor--head cheese in the CM organization.



CM1 Clarence "CeeBee" Parr helped make the turn-over BEEP from NMCB-THREE run smoothly.



CMC Richard Widerburg gets a refresher course in the TD-25B International dozer from CM3 Dave Glover, Medford, Ore.



CM1 Robert "Mac" McKenzie, Colome, S.D., special orders parts from the DTO office.



CMCA Mike Stephens was side-lined by a foot injury into the heavy shop office secretary slot.



CM2 Richard Marendt, Indianapolis, Ind., as the heavy shop inspector, lists work that needs to be done.



CM3 Ron Pockrus with two bags of Floor Dry. Ron is a motorcycle enthusiast in his off-time.



CM3 Terry "Harko" Zaharko negotiates a cherry picker into the shop.



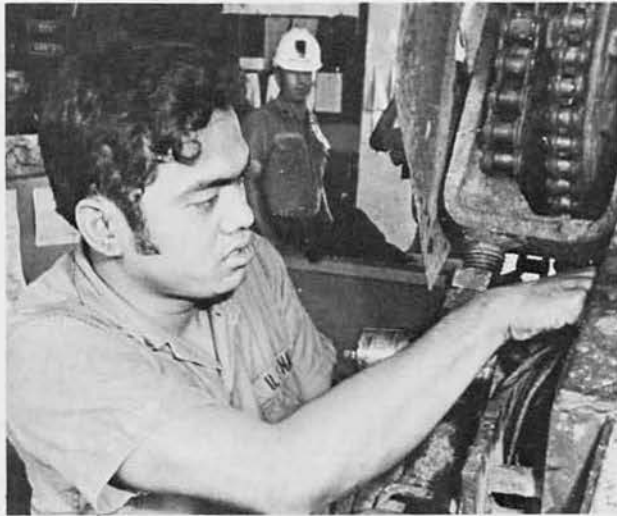
CMCA Mark "Andy" Andrews Bloomington, Ill., and CM2 Bill Hoadley, Kenmore, N. Y. Bill served with FIVE in Nam Phong, Thailand before missing our last two deployments.



MCMCN Bob "Brillo" Thomas, Kansas City, Kans., digs into a TD-25B. RIGHT: CM1 Ed Pittman was the assistant supervisor.



## Heavy shop



CMCA Vicente "Tepepa" Fuentesbella works on a ditcher.



CM3 Mark Smith, Aurora, Neb. and CMCA William "Hernando Revolver" Sandoval reseat TD-20 head valves.



CMCN Tony Guenther, Oceanside, Calif., turns the crankshaft in an MRS over so CM3 Glover can remove the bolts from the flex-disc which is attached to the torque converter on the Allison 4460-2 transmission. RIGHT: CM2 Lilio C. Balmes, a submariner, now proudly wears his dolphins on Seabee Greens.



SA Richard "Swabbie" Martinez, Bolingbrook, Ill., "turning and burning." RIGHT: CM3 Dave Glover, the Happy Hooker.





CM2 Art Mitra installs a gauge in an MRS dashboard.



CM3 Bryan Walz, Stapleton, Neb., "If it isn't a John Deere, don't let me near it!"



CM3 Kevin D. Thompson, Fort Bragg, Calif., brings a forklift in for servicing.



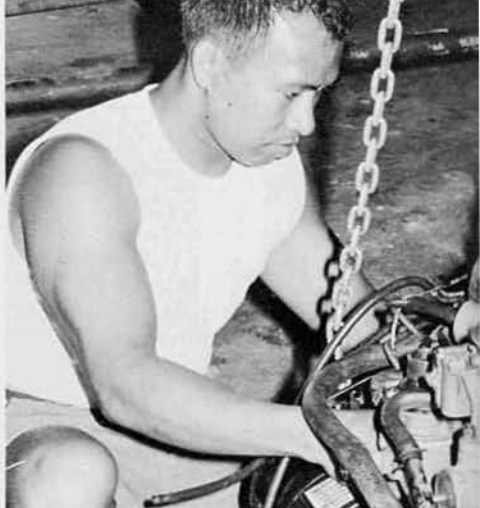
CM2 Jose Cruz checks differential lubricant at the heavy shop lube shop. LEFT: CMCN Rick "Jake" Jacobsen, Portland, Ore., works on a boom lift ram hydraulic hose on a Hough 120.







CMCN Jerry "Judge Bert Bean" Neuman, Emmett, Id., and CMCN James "Webby" Webster replace a balanced and blueprinted dipstick.



CM2 Rolando Camilon readies a weapons carrier engine to go back in the vehicle.



CM2 Tony Tugade and CM2 Apolonio Barcena remove the propeller shaft (i. e. drive shaft) from a 5-ton.



CM2 Frank Ballesteros works under the hood of the chow wagon.



CM3 Garry "Flick" Flickinger, Boone, Ia., and CMCN "Webby" Webster replace a radiator in a 5-ton.

## Light shop

CM1 Robert "Old Man" Lane, Pittsburgh, Pa., and CM2 John "Robbie" Robinson, Richland, Wash., change the air in the air cleaner of one of the school buses.





CMCN Joey Durall and CMCA Bob Davis, Largo, Fla., replace a fuel line on a Baker forklift.



CMCN John Merry, Walla Walla, Wash.:  
"This ain't as easy as my Tonka toys!"



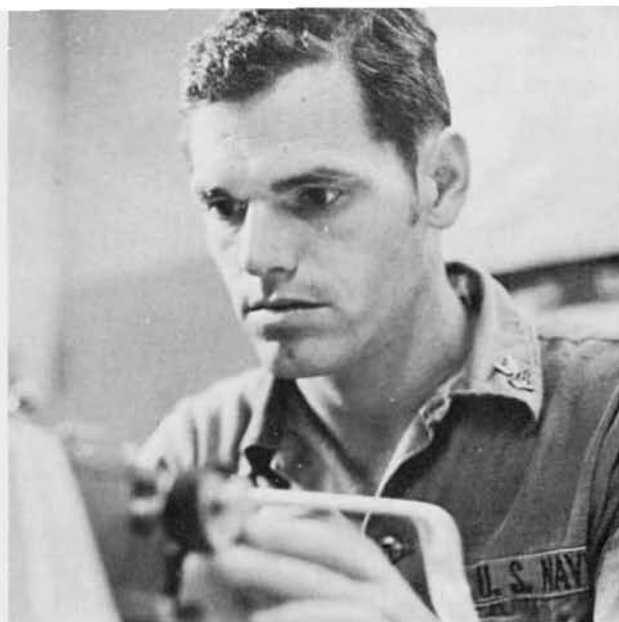
CM2 Jim Spillman, Fayetteville, N. C., works on the front end of a transit mixer.



CMCA Larry McQuin fixes the brake lights on a 5-ton.



CMCN Dan Harriman, Jackson, Calif., grinds away in the body shop.



CM1 Cecil R. Hinson, Greensboro, Ala., was the field crew supervisor.



CM3 Dan Moore, Aurora, Neb., was the tide haul mechanic, whose charges included the rock crusher.

## Field crews



CM3 Ken Martinek and CMCA Barney "Perma-Tex" Engel, Forks, Wash., were the mechanic field crew. "Can we use Perma-Tex... Please?"



CM3 Bill "Honky" Hovorka had charge of the industrial plants care and maintenance.



CM2 Bernabe Delosreyes worked in the 5,000 shop, responsible for maintaining and repairing support equipment such as generators, pumps and light plants. LEFT: CM3 Butch Wiczorek, Sawyer, Mich., and CM1 Don Lindblom, Abilene, Kan., work on a generator in the 5,000 shop.



MR1 Domingo Abdon heads the machinery repair shop, which can make many of the repair parts that supply doesn't stock.

## Support shops



MR3 Frank Hayes, Flint, Mich., works on round stock on the metal lathe in the MR shop.



CM3 Charles "Big Kid" Brenden, Whiting, Ia., and CM2 Rick Hoke, Lower Lake, Calif., operated the electric shop. "Hoooooold it...right there!"



SW2 Sam "Spot" Whittaker, Eldorado, Kan., and SW3 Dan "Stanley" Weldon in the steel shop. If you can't bolt it or Perma-Tex it, S & S Welding are the ones to call.

RIGHT: HM1 Dave Orum, Wheeling, W.V., and CM3 Paul "Pablo" Saucedo, Phoenix, Ariz., at the body shop: "If you don't like white, OD green is in this year. And NO tuck and rolls this week!"





SK1 Bert Mones, Long Beach, Calif., and SK3 Al Castillo, Lockhart, Texas, ran Repair Parts, the Battalion's auto parts store.



SK3 Mike Weis issues parts during the BEEP from NMCB-THREE.

## Repair parts



SA Brian Riffe, Woodbridge, Va.: "The number's right, but it doesn't look like an MRS inner tube to me!"



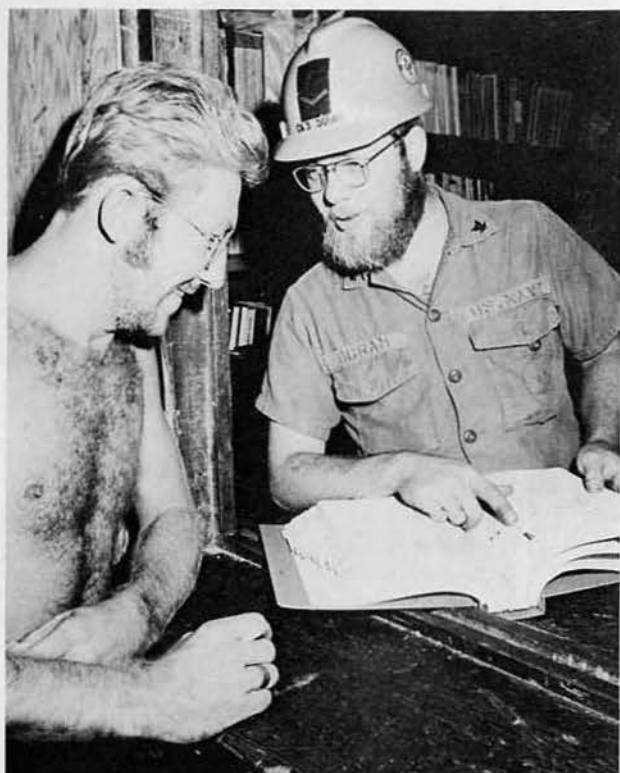
CMCN Steve Kleinjan, Chinook, Mont. --Caught in the act--Midnite Auto Supplies.



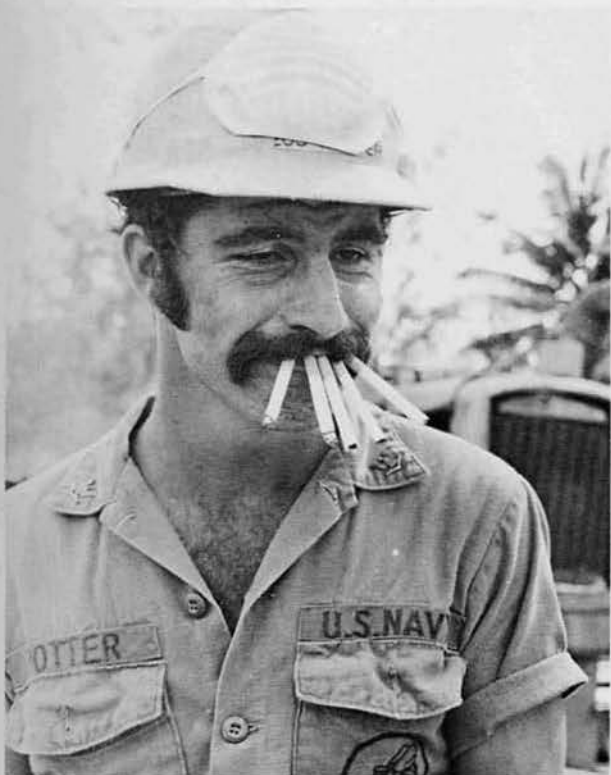
HT3 Lee Richards, Redding, Calif., issued tools from the mechanics tool room, and ran the CM soda mess.



SKSN Maingat Sevilla helps keep the repair parts files in order.



CM3 Dan "Dan O" Ogram and CMCN Leon Korotenko, Wheeling, Ill., : "Want that part? Try Western Auto!"



EO3 Chris Potter: "But Chief, I only get one cigarette break a day!"



CMCA Don Durall and CMCA Joey Durall are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Durall, Vine Grove, Ky. Don joined the Battalion in March.



CMCA Dave "R.T. Boot" Richardson during the BEEP from NMCB-THREE in October.

## Alpha . . . . . . at ease!



EO3 Ron Spray provides special music at a Sunday morning worship service. He worked with tide haul and night dispatch.



EO3 Bill "Flash" Lovlien was deadlined in a ditcher accident and spent some very frustrating days in the hospital.



EOCN Gary Toro, Ogallala, Neb., was the proprietor of Toro's Tire Shop. "Thank heavens bike's don't have split rims!"



CM3 John "Sick John" Sickler, Los Angeles, Calif., was an avid sailor on weekends.

# Bravo Company







LTJG Raymond Mello, Fall River, Mass., BUC Robert Hines, St. Louis, Mich., and CE3 Al Arias take amperage readings at the MUSE emergency generator.

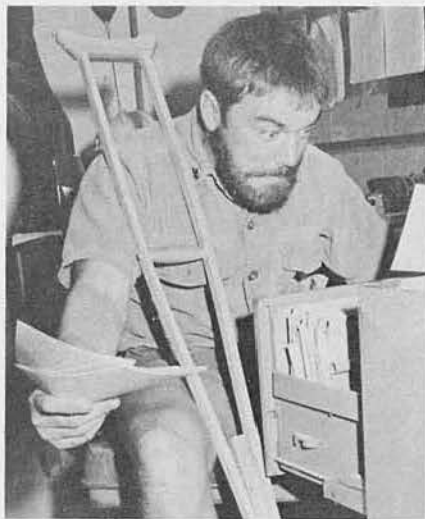


LT William Scarborough and CE1 William Bridges check Bravo Company CE work on the main relay panel in the sick bay operating room. LT Scarborough moved to the Training Officer slot in preparation for homeport.

## Bravo Company



Bravo Company is the battalion utilities department. It is divided into three platoons--two projects platoons and a maintenance and shops platoon. Also falling under Bravo Co. cognizance are such functions as water point, telephone services, and pest control.



UT3 Marshall "Buffalo" Thompson, San Rafael, Ca., shows a study in frustration in the Bravo Co. office. He injured his ankle playing baseball, and served his light duty time shuffling papers.



CE3 Al Arias and CE2 Johnny "Sandy" Sanderson place a grounding line for a transformer for the Camp Cummins electrical distribution system.



CE2 John Weaver, Cedar Rapids, Ia., CEC Joseph Dorn, Clarks Hill, S.C., and CECS Neil Gooley check over Quality Control paperwork in the projects office.

## Construction Electrician Projects



CE1 Lorenz Mudell reviews MTO (Material Take Off) forms, showing how much material is needed for a project.



CE1 Jovelio Juanero, one of the CE project supervisors, installs cable for quadrangle wells. RIGHT: CE2 Joseph Pittman, Hanford, Ca., runs wires to the main breaker box in the chapel.





CE2 Ben Capiendo packs his gear to leave for Aviation Electricians "A" school late in the deployment.



CE2 Howard "Greenie" Greenman, Titusville, Fla., conducts a military training class on the .45 caliber pistol.



CE2 Joel Barber just cut his finger working on the I-level maintenance generator.



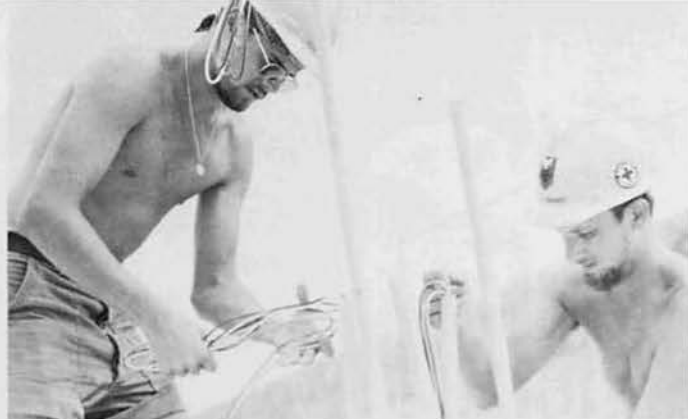
CE2 Tim Baird, Cass Lake, Minn., tightens anchor bolts for rehab wiring done at the coffee house-TV lounge.



CE2 Art Violanti, Riverside, Ca., replaces the cover to a breaker box in one of the new porta-huts.



CECA Bob Wheeler, Moberly, Mo., carries plastic conduit from the CE CONEX box at the subsistence building.



CECA Don Lowry, Dixon, Ill., and CE2 Gary Lockhart, Yakima, Wash., run wires through conduit at the incinerator site.



CECN Jeff McSharry, Livermore, Ca., inventories electrical gear in the MLO yard. He served as a Bravo Co. expeditor.



CE3 Dan "Mac" McKeen, West Islip, N.Y., installs wiring in the handball court in the new gymnasium. RIGHT: CE3 James "McGinney" McGuinness wires up a motor on top of the cement silos.





TOP LEFT: CECA William "Scamp" Scampoli, Bronx, N. Y., puts a loop in a guy wire. TOP RIGHT: CECN George Weatherford, Holly Springs, Miss., digs a trench between the exchange and the sub building. RIGHT: CECA Joel Kelloway, Nashua, N. H. installs a rheostat in a porta-hut.



CECA Earl "Grif" Griffith, Marion, Ill., "in the trenches" with Weatherford.



CECN Jim Kartes, Minneapolis, Minn., scrubs down the fire truck. RIGHT: CECA Bob Pironti, Commack, N. Y., installs a connection box in the new exchange.





CE3 Larry Pival bolts a wire gutter over the power panels in the NEX.



CECN Jose Anzilotti, Ukiah, Ca., served his mess duty time with the departementé de sanitacion.



CECN Emmet "Rod" Rodriguez, Redlands, Ca., loads food onto a deuce-and-a-half bound for the chief's mess.



CECA Robert "Newt" Newton, Ojai, Ca., and CECA John "Cookie" Cook run new power line in the camp area.



CECA Scott Emrick, East Greenbush, N. Y., and CECA "Scamp" Scampoli atop one of the porta-huts. "What now, chief?"



UT1 Robert Conway, Kansas City, Mo., and UTC Gary Widener read blueprints for water line at the subsistence building.

## Utilitiesman



UTC Gary Widener flashes a smile while running an RT forklift in the MLO yard during the advance party's arrival.



UT2 Marvin Winters, Tacoma, Wash., was a crew leader at the subsistence building.



UT1 Ed "Max" Maximo holds material inventory in the projects office.

## Projects



UT1 Cal Bolton, Atlanta, Ga., puts a coupling on pipe at a porta-head, where he was a crew supervisor.



UT2 Constantine Ruiz insulates pipes on a chapel air conditioning unit.



UT1 Dave Borg checks his crew's work on a storm sewer at the Navy exchange.



UT1 Ron Rutter, Dallas, Texas, picked up first class in November. RIGHT: UT2 Danny "Guf" Guffey, UT2 William "Doc" Doctor, and UT1 Gil Briones, Albuquerque, N. M., at the galley rehab.



UT2 Nicky Dordon sets a up chain hoist in the UT trailer.







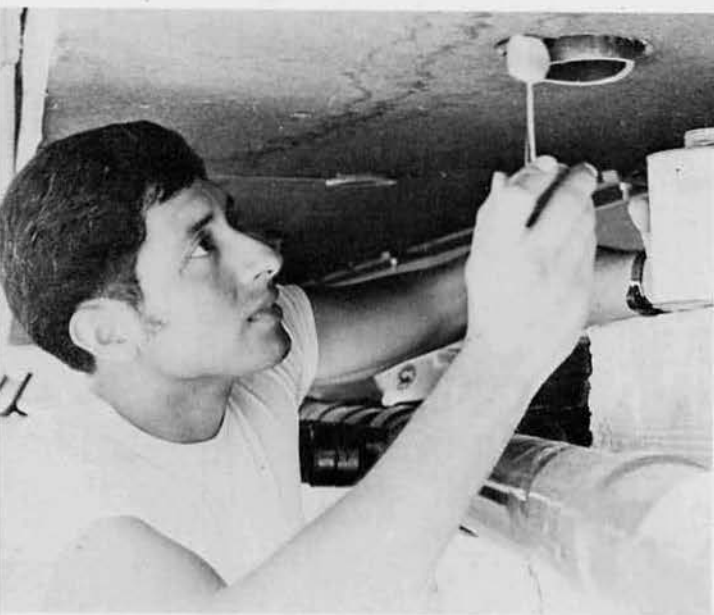
UT3 Doug "Babbitt" Beckwith, Babbitt, Minn., had a hand in installing the NEX sewer line.



UTCN Frank "Skip" Baird hooks up a pump at a well site. Rehabbing and improving the wells was one of FIVE's major projects.



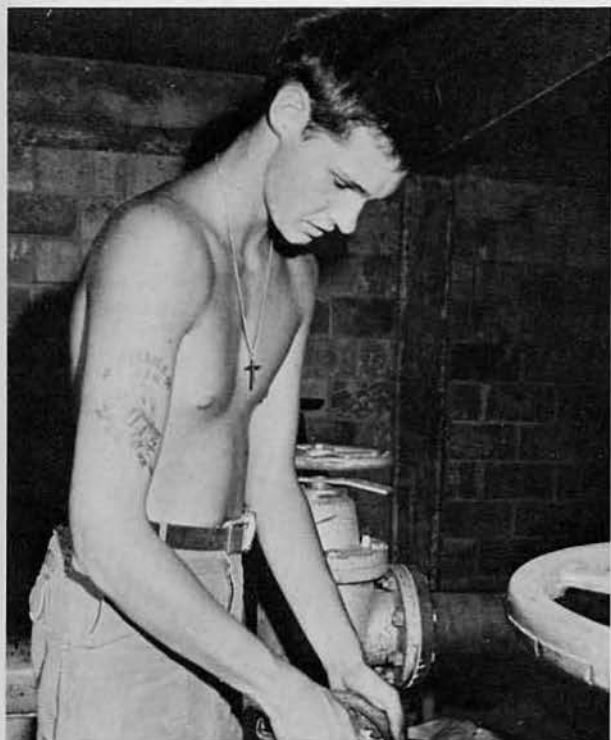
UT3 Paul Escajeda, Santa Clara, Ca.: "What d'ya mean, the sewer's backed up! It ain't even installed yet!"



UT2 Ron Lopez, Phoenix, Ariz., puts PVC cement on a porta-head pipe junction. The completely self-contained units were a boost to the battalion morale.



UT2 Jeff "Barney" Laurent turned his wrist hitting a softball, and joined the Bravo Company walking wounded.



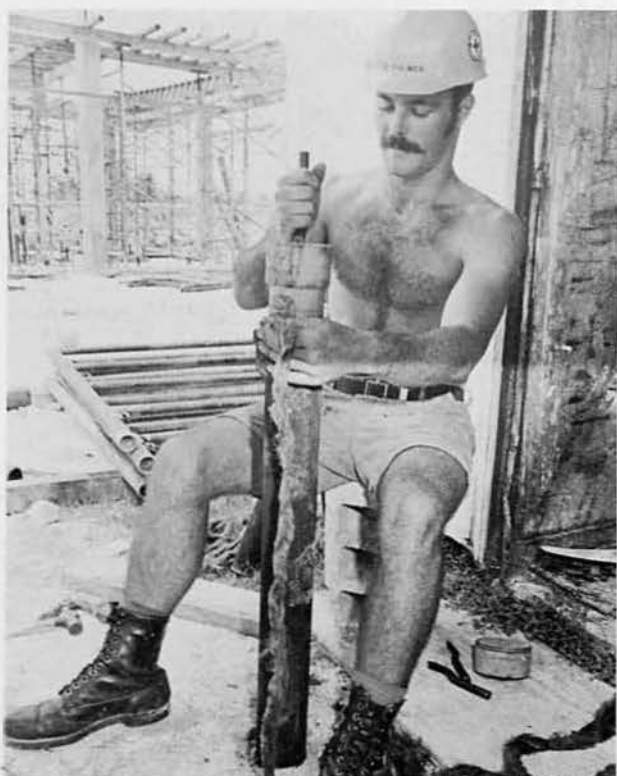
UTCA Ian Barrett, Lindenhurst, N. Y., installs new steam lines to the galley boiler.



UTCN Ron Longworth, Columbus, Ohio, pours hot lead to a pipe joint at the subsistence building.



UT3 Marion "Bud" Hill, Bandon, Ore., inventories UT material at MLO.



UTCN Bruce "Bruno" Fulmer, Ramona, Ca., oakums a cast iron pipe at the sub building.



UTCN William "Oz" Osborne, Monsey, N. Y. , insulates an air conditioning line at the chapel.



UTCN Alan "Zobe" Zobel, Roosevelt, Utah, also works on chapel air conditioning line insulation.



UTCN Tim "Buddy" Hopkins, Crystal, Minn. , fixes a toilet tank. The salt water flushing system caused many problems.



UTON Ed "Big Eddy" Tatro, Beloit, Wis. , repairs a shower in a camp head.

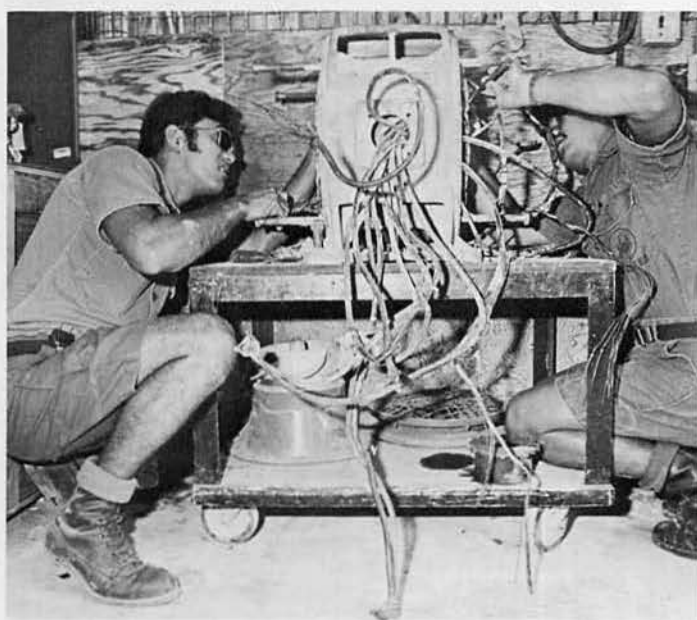


CE1 George Wilson, Austin, Texas, in addition to being company expeditor, served as the battalion fire chief.



CEC Alvin Schuchhardt checks something out in the Bravo Company technical library.

## Construction Electricians Maintenance



CE1 Melvin Ha, Wahiawa, Hawaii, and CE3 Edison Delosreyes rewind a motor from the asphalt batch plant. LEFT: CE1 Robert "Artichoke" Pantekoek, Portland, Ore., fixed a fire alarm system so good that he began picking up AFDG radio.



CE2 Mike Angerstein, Akron, Ohio, punches out a safety switch.



CE3 Steven "Trax" Traxinger, Minot, N.D., strips wires for a light switch in the chapel.



CE2 Gene St. Louis, Roseville, Minn., and CE3 Bob "Booby" Steil, Arroyo Grande, Ca., rewire the galley grill.



CE2 Jerry Gonzales checks out his fishing tackle.



CE2 Sandy Sanderson and CE3 Ron "Mondegrove" Monreal, Ajo, Ariz., finish installing a new light fixture in the coffee house.



UT3 Junior Allen shipped over in February, shipped out in March.

## Utilitiesman Maintenance



UT1 Jim Ahearn, Arkport, N.Y., the man who headed up most of the night-time emergency lift station repair crews. They just never seem to break down in the day-time.



UT2 Billy R. Haley, Dearborn Heights, Mich., fits an elbow to a straight pipe for a camp sewer line improvement.



UT2 Clarence "C.W." Warden, New Castle, Pa., oakums a cast iron porta-head joint.

RIGHT: UTCA Steve Jacob, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., was picked to test a new permanent press uniform under field conditions because the trousers fit.





UTCN Gerry "Willie Wonka" Williams, Lawton, Okla., super-chlorinates the water in a new quadrangle well to purify it.



UTCA Tom Gray, DeFuniak Springs, Fla., "fills the milk cow" at the galley.



UT2 John "Taz" Henderson, Rexburg, Idaho, makes a dialysis check of well water at the water point.



UTCN Dave Keller, Seattle, Wash., checks the chlorine content of fresh water at the water point.



UTCN Richard "Kemper" Kemp, another of the injured, answers the Bravo Co., phone.



UTCN Larry "Smut" Ahlheim, Bellflower, Ca., was another of the battalion's fresh water kings.



UTCN Lawrence "Dad" Evans, UTCA Mike Meszaros, Alton, Ill., and UTCA Tim McMains start the hole for a new lift station.



BU3 Rickey Rapp, Medford, Ore., and HT1 Bill Wurtz, Monrovia, Ca., weigh CO2 canisters at the fire house.



UTCN Dick "Night Train" Lane and UTCN Jim Lontz tend bar at Hut 58 Christmas Eve.



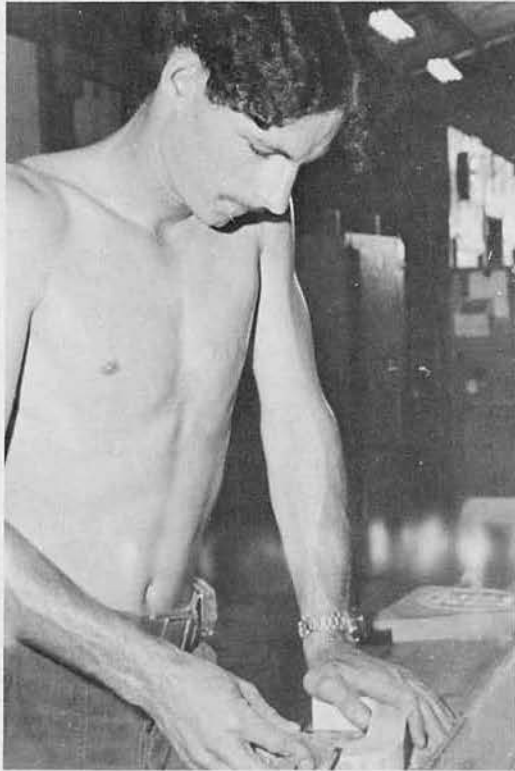
UTCN Williams, UT3 Allen, and UTCN Tom "T.R." Ryan, Albuquerque, N.M., unload a scuttlebutt.



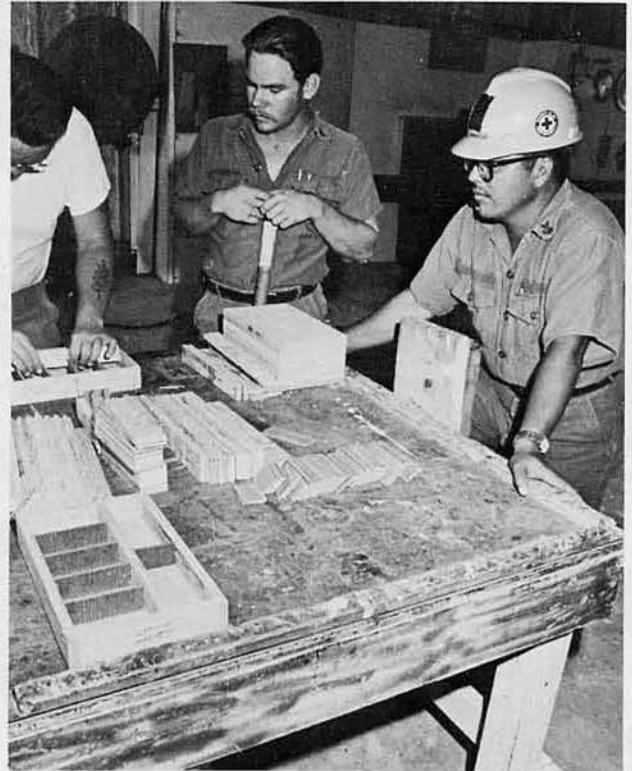
UT3 Ken "Hook Kadrmas, Dickinson, N.D., turns on the fresh water. RIGHT: UT3 Norman "Wats" Watson and UTCA Jimmy Braaton, Hardin, Mont., tighten a pipe.



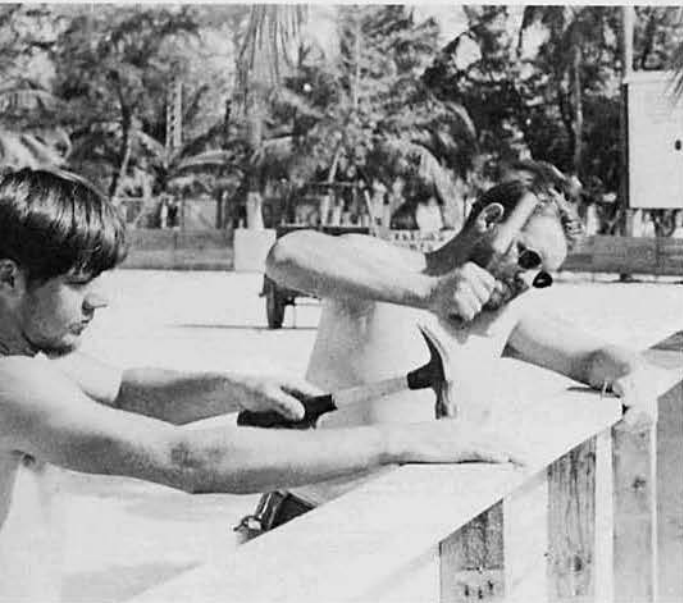




BUCN Dave Parsons, Fredericktown, Mo., makes a screen door handle.



BU3 Doug "Wag" Wagenman, Lake Park, Minn., and BU1 Al Ambrose, BU shop supervisor, take a break to watch.

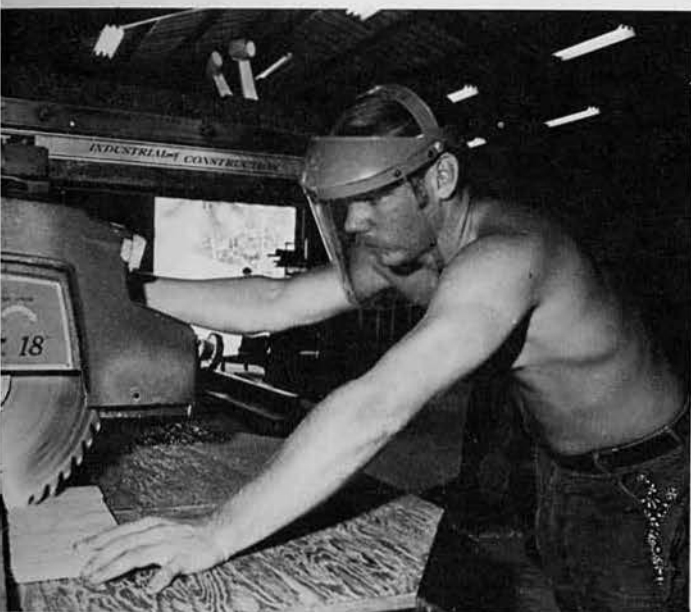


BUCN Gary Clawson, Owensboro, Ky., and BU2 Dave Clausen, Ellensburg, Wash., rehab the ball field fence.

## Builder Support Shop



BU2 Mike Marrier, Colchester, Vt., sizes up a sheet of plywood.



BU3 Doug Wagenman operates the radial arm saw. The Bravo builders always had 1,001 odd jobs going on at once.



BU1 Valentin Banaay was the builder shop supervisor until his retirement in January.



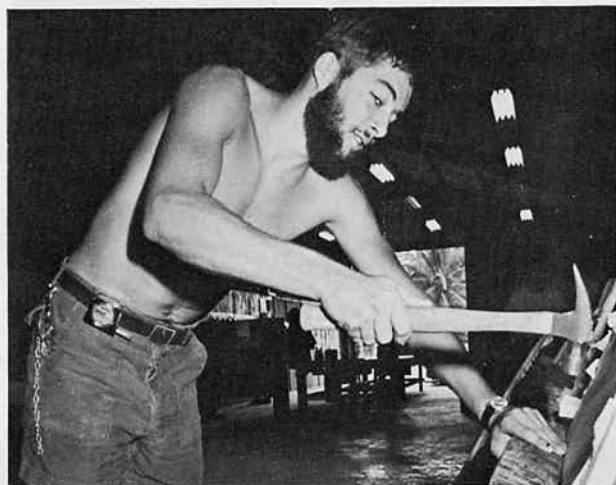
BU3 Billy Stanfill, Grants Pass, Ore., repairs a SEA hut roof.



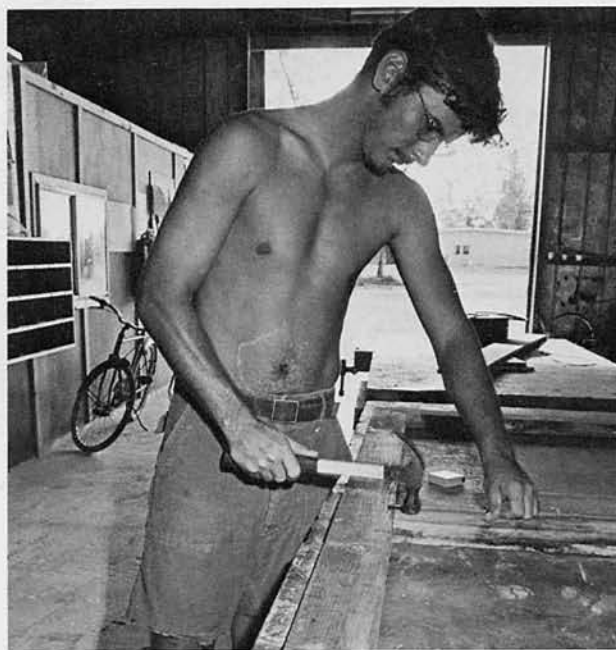
BUCN Mike Freitas, RIGHT, talks with a hometown buddy, HM3 Mike Threlfall. Both are graduates of the same Carlsbad, Ca., high school class. Threlfall is a crew member of the USS Fox, which made a short port call at Diego Garcia in March. Freitas was one of the island fire fighters, another Bravo Co. function.



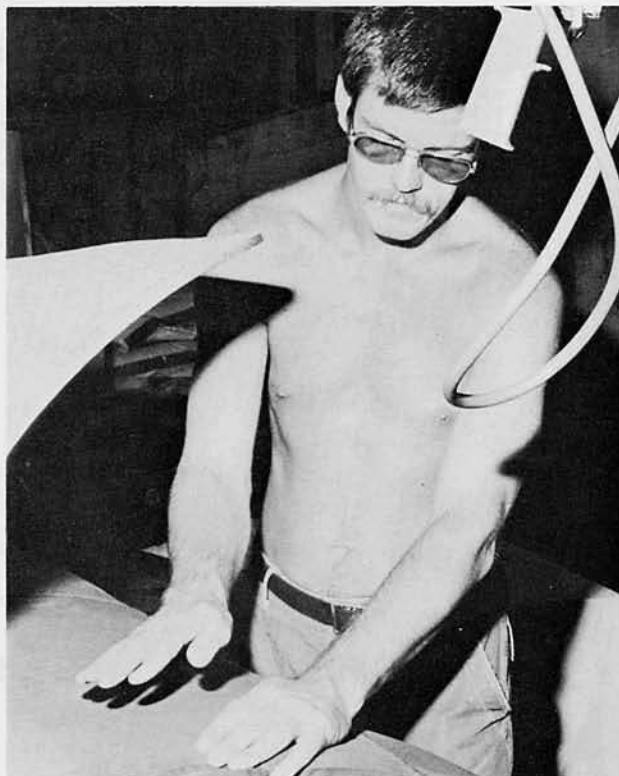
BU3 Dennis Stender, Saranac Lake, N.Y., paints NMCB-FOUR's detail sign, still another Bravo function.



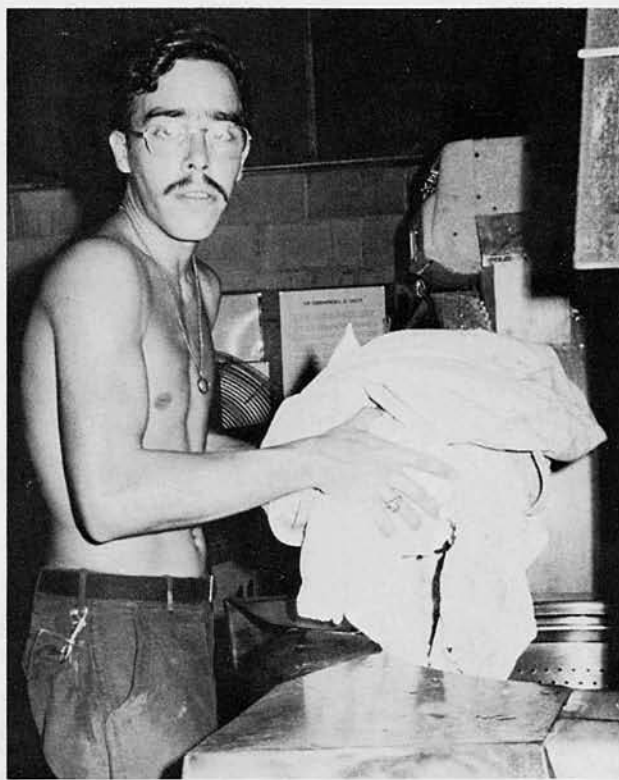
BUCN Chris Mulcahy, Woodstock, VT., "Watch your finger, Chris!"



BUCN Doug Holt, Oregon City, Ore., repairs a screen door at the builder shop.



BUCN Ray Hughes, North Bergen, N.J., presses greens in the laundry.



BUCN Robert Shuff, Auburn, Ind., loads a washer at the laundry.



BUCN Michael "Dunny" Dunn hooks up the bug sprayer on the pest control truck.



BU3 Tom "T.W." Tanner, Bedford, Mass., worked closely with Preventive Medicine to keep the pests in check.

## Pest control



SW3 Bruce "Big Bruce" Comes, Holly Hill, Fla., makes a fly trap from steel rebar.



SW2 Lawrence Leonguerrero, San Jose, Ca., does a simple weld in the steel-worker shop. LEFT: SWCN Tom Pharo on the reefer warehouse rehab job.



## Steelworker support shop



CE3 Art Janney, Marietta Ga.  
"I am a lineman for the county  
...."



ETN2 James Newsome, Laurel, Miss.,  
checks a radio out in the communications  
shop.



BUCN Richard "Andy"  
Anderson, Avoca, Iowa,  
strings comm wire for  
Diego Bell.

## Diego Bell Telephone Company



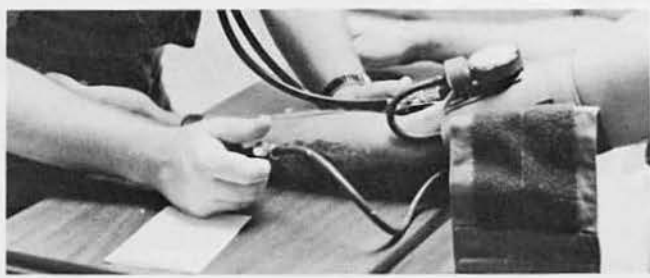
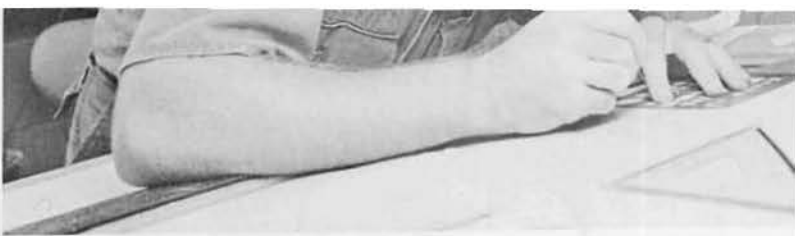
ETN3 Rich Hoffman does the  
morning ritual--making coffee.

LOWER LEFT: CECN Cliff Garman,  
Booneville, Ark.: "Number  
please." The battalion still de-  
pended on field phones, although  
touch-tone dialing is being phased  
in. LOWER RIGHT: FA Gary  
Bowman, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.,  
locks up the communications  
MILVAN.



BU3 Jeff Holland, Vallejo, Ca., in the  
MARS station, which kept us in contact  
with our loved ones.





# Headquarters Company





YN3 Stan Taylor, Ft. Worth, Texas, sorts S-3 department mail. The ops yeoman helps prepare ops reports and daily message traffic.



LCDR Charles Hamilton, Vero Beach, Fla., BUCS Billy Rose, and BUC John Guiher, White Cloud, Mich., listen to SW2 Michael Sancrant, Anacortes, Wash., as he answers questions about the subsistence building. Operations is the department



CUCM Clyde "Cheap Charlie" Walker, Alton, Mo., as Ops Chief, was a key reason for the success of the two ship off-loads.



LEFT: LCDR Hamilton and SWC Tom Massey, Manistique, Mich., on top of the subsistence building as the crew prepares for a pour. SWC Massey is the Safety Chief, who coordinates the battalion safety program.





that is directly responsible to the skipper for construction. Line company commanders report directly to LCDR Hamilton, the Ops Officer, in construction matters.



BUCS Ronald Norton, Snohomish, Wash., ramrodded the porta-camp construction.



LEFT: ENS Ken Frey, Hay Springs, Neb., was Assistant Ops Officer for reports, and also served as photo officer.



LT Michael Casey plots out the porta-camp locations. LT Casey moved from Assistant Echo Co. Commander to Engineering Officer.



SWC Tom Massey, the safety chief, inspects BUCN Gary Watsabaugh's hard hat.



# Planning and Estimating; Quality Control



The Planning and Estimating/  
Quality Control crew coordi-  
nates and schedules the  
projects, and sees that each  
phase of construction is done  
right before the next one  
starts. They are, FROM  
THE TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT:  
CE2 John Weaver, Cedar  
Rapids, Iowa; BUC John  
Guiher; BU1 Joseph Cesario,  
Long Beach, Miss.; EA3  
Arsenio Pacho, Santa Clara,  
Ca.; UT2 Ben Frataccia,  
Fulton, N. Y.; EO3 Odean  
Johnson; and UT1 Phil  
Horner, Oxnard, Ca.





BU1 Jim Fowler, North Franklin, Conn., checks punchlist finish work at the medical facility. "Holy Catfish!"



BU3 Scott Grogg, San Diego Ca., makes a counter top for the medical facility.

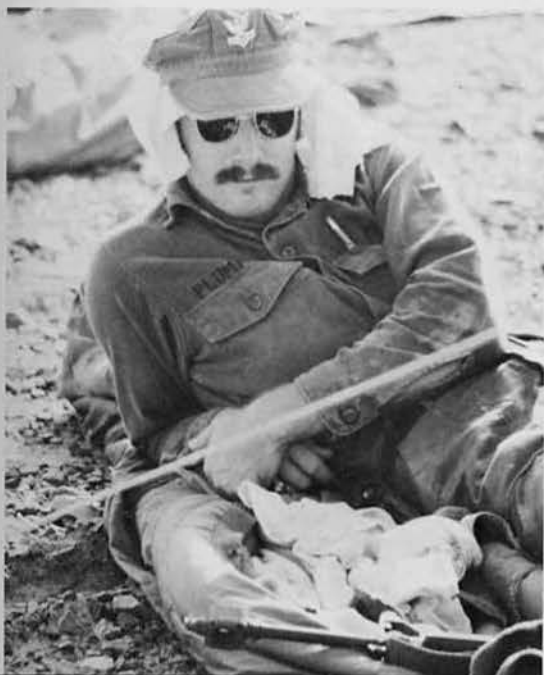


ENS Scott Huebner, Sellersville, Pa., and CE3 John L'Engle, Winter Park, Fla., inspect the I-site (Public Works) fire pump control panel.



UT3 Angel Panganoran, Waipahu, Hawaii, makes a system check on the I-site fire water supply pump system.

## Punchlist



After the battalion "sells" its projects to the customer, the Punchlist crews move in to fix discrepancies and do necessary re-work.

LEFT: BU2 Paul Plummer, Woodlynne, N.J., on his last field exercise, to China Lake. RIGHT: BUCN Gary Watsbaugh, Kent, Wash., works in the Bravo builder shop on medical facility punchlist items.





EA3 Ron Warner, Spring Valley, Ca., levels the laser plane, which simplifies surveying chores by eliminating the instrument man.

## Engineering



EA1 Ernie Santos was the drafting supervisor for the department. RIGHT: EA3 Rick Okerholm was ROICC yeoman. Rick had the only pet dog on the island.

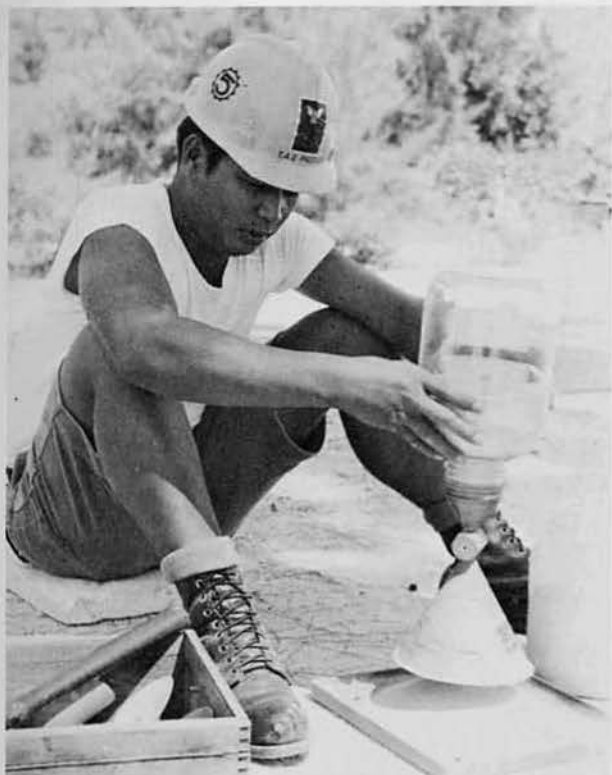


EAC Clyde Hood acts as recorder for EA1 Jon Purcell, Bakersfield, Ca., the instrument man on the transit.



EA3 Kevin White, Raleigh, N. C., and EA2 Marty Miranda, Pinos Altos, N. M., with the laser plane Philadelphia rod, which senses the laser beam.





EA2 Gerry Padilla takes an in-place density test for compaction on the road project.



EA3 Butch Gima, Lanai City, Hawaii, cleaning up following an in-place density test.



EA3 Gene Taday plugs the laser plane into the battery.



EA2 Ron Baclig on the transit, which is the basic surveying tool for the EAs.



EA3 Larry Anderson, Sedro Woolley, Wash., was FIVE's soils lab expert before cross-rating to OT.



EACN Andy Wylie, Frenchville, Maine, served in timekeeper, surveying, and humor control slots.



EA2 Tom Fischer, Medford, Ore., at the drafting table.



EACN Andy Recasas served as a draftsman and survey crew member. LEFT: SN Steve Wardlow, Omaha, Neb., of "Wardlow's Printing Press and Visual Aids Department," makes blueprints on the Diazo machine.





SKSA Keith Pankey, Brooklyn, N. Y., in the CTR office. "You see, man, it's like this. . ."

## Central Tool Room



BU1 Barry Hunter, Royal Oak, Mich., inspects a Hilti stud driver. "Uh oh, trouble. It's got two moving parts!"



SKSN Rosendo Ruiz, Waipahu, Hawaii, worked at CTR, Repair Parts, and in the galley.



ABOVE: BU2 Doug Smith, Jackson Twp., N. J., maintained builder power tools. RIGHT: CE2 Tony Helland, Ellensburg, Wash., handled electrical tool repair.



CM3 Paul Johnson, Seattle, Wash.: "Well, chief, if it doesn't start now, you'll have to read me the instructions!"



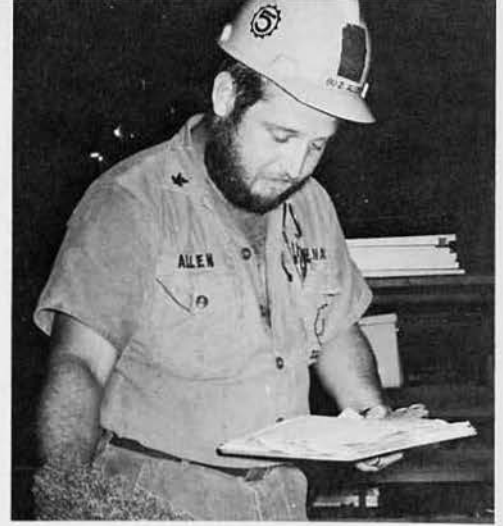


BU1 Don Seitz, Trenton, N.J., whose favorite phrase was: "PIECUCH! COME HERE!:"

## Material Liaison Office (MLO)



SW3 Roger Gasmann, Minot, N.D., inventories one of the building materials in MLO--lumber.



BU2 Steve Allen, Toledo, Ohio: "They've got to be kidding--1,000 electric blankets?"



UT2 Clarence Levingston, Salt Lake City, Utah: "It all adds up to this--somebody goofed!"

BELOW: SWCS Laron Leedy and SK1 Ronald Fortin, of the 30th NCR, in the MLO warehouse.





UTCN Gerry Curtis, Tucson, Ariz., opens a shipping crate with glass windows for the NEX.



CE2 Paul Zenker, Lamar, Colo., and UT1 Charles Dvorak, Cresco, Iowa, went TAD to MLO from Bravo Co. to inventory building materials.



SK1 Felix Samson and ENS Arnie "BooBoo" Bertsche, Honesdale, Pa., Material Liaison Officer, in camp maintenance material.

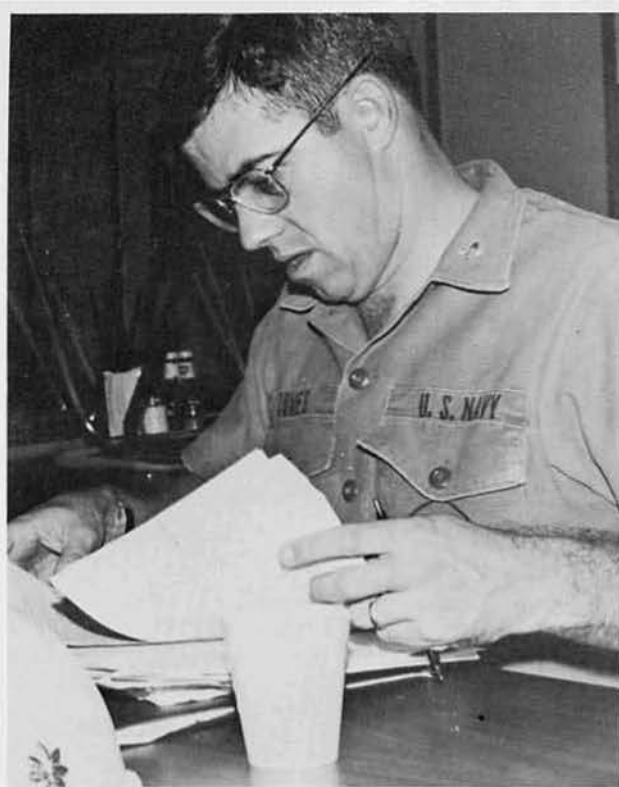


SWC Wilfred Fukino, Honolulu, Hawaii, assistant MLO officer, checks out reorders.



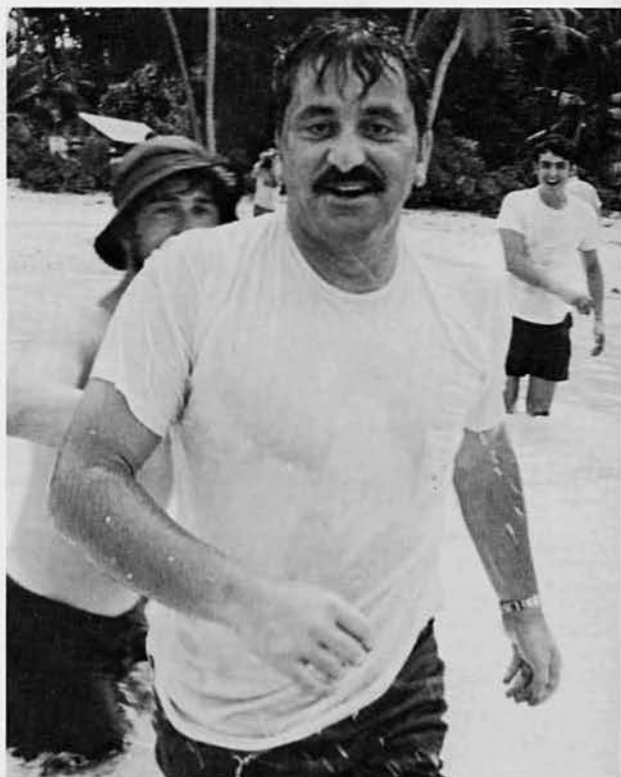
BU3 Dave Foster, Herkimer, N. Y., operates a fork-lift in the MLO yard. "Indianapolis. . . here I come!"





LCDR William Jones, Yakima, Wash., Supply Officer, worked so many over-time hours that no one knew him in civvies.

## Supply office



LT Mel Pereira gets a farewell dunking from his crew at his going-away party.



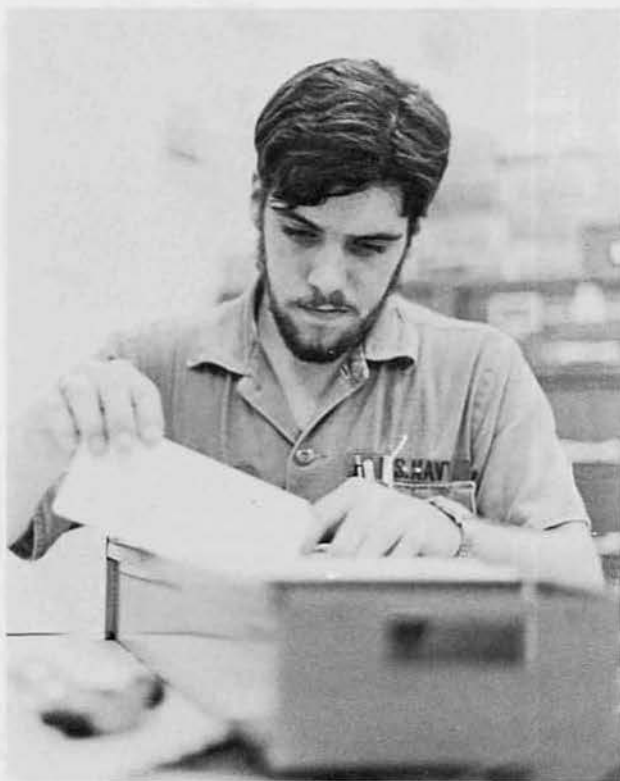
SKC Thomas Finley, Checotah, Okla., Supply Chief, taste tests some of CTR's popcorn.



SKSA Todd Rhode, St. Paul, Minn., was the assistant accountant for supply.



SK2 Mike Camacho, Clovis, N.M., was the OPTAR accountant. OPTAR is the battalion's operating fund.



SKSN Steve Chasse, Lewiston, Maine, did requisition follow-ups, and made tracers on unfilled orders.



SK1 LeRoy Jones and SK1 Frederick of NMCB-THREE survey the MLO yard during the turnover.



SK2 Ponciano "Tino" Tolentino, and YNSN Jim Veres in the supply office. Tino was in charge of supply admin and greens issue.

## Central Supply Room (CSR)



SKSN Benny Hernandez, San Antonio, Texas, stocks the CSR shelves with duplicating paper.



SKSN Allen Proctor at the microfilm reader. He worked in shipping and receiving.



LTJG. Forrest Hindley, Long Beach, Ca., and SK2 Efron Glover, POIC of CSR. CSR is the battalion department store, where the office consumables, such as paper, staples, and pencils come from.



SK1 Solomon Gray, San Diego, Ca., was supply's trouble-shooter, working where his experience was most needed.

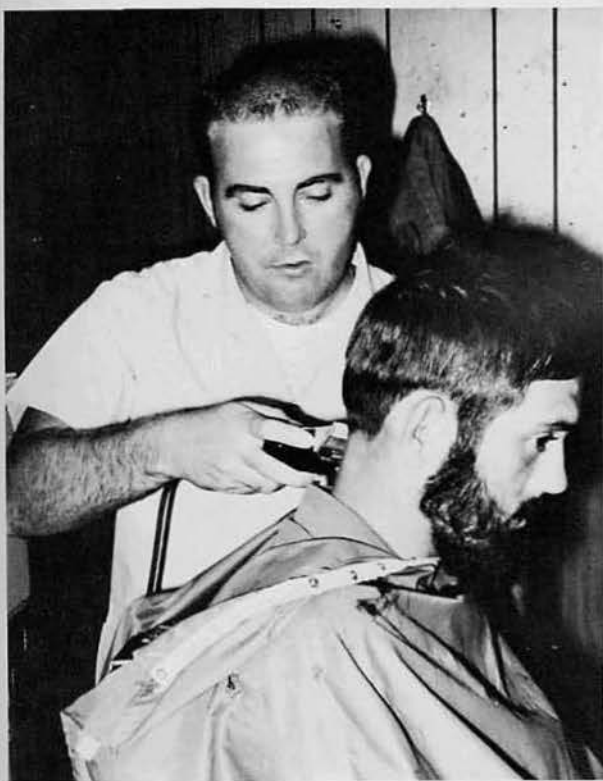


SH1 Joe Harrison nails a footlocker together. The laundry crew did a superb job keeping the Seabees in clean clothes.



SN Elijah Hill, Los Angeles, Ca., tends the till in the package store. He worked with SH1 Harrison in the laundry.

## Laundry/Barber Shop



SH2 Jerry Dixon went from the laundry to the barber shop, where he kept island personnel shorn of excess hair.



In addition to broadcasting "Gene's Country Corner" on AFDG, SH2 Gene Timperley served as a barber and the battalion tailor.



# Galley

LEFT: MS1 Mel Chapman served with FIVE in Nam Phong, Thailand, then left us for two years before re-joining us for the Diego Garcia deployment.



MSSA Rod Miller to MSC John Wilken: "Just you and me, right chief, just you and me."



MSSA Terry Snyder, Oxnard, Ca., at the galley books. "Argh! I wish you guys would quit eating."



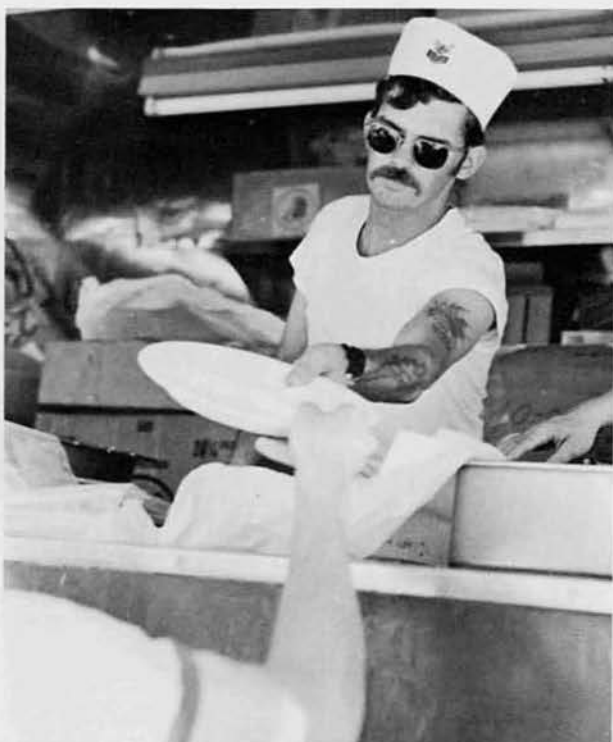
MS3 Rick Biondo, Annandale, Va., and MSSA Francisco Taroc, Los Angeles, Ca., inventory the issue room. "I can SEE it says spaghetti!"



MS2 Don Gries, Metamora, Ill., as jack-of-the-dust, is responsible for receiving and issuing from reefer and dry stores.



MSSA Jim Trice, San Luis Obispo, Ca., grills pork chops. "In sub school we had steaks!"



MS1 Arnie Tighe, in the chow wagon at the Seabee Birthday picnic. "No potato salad for you! You're on a diet."



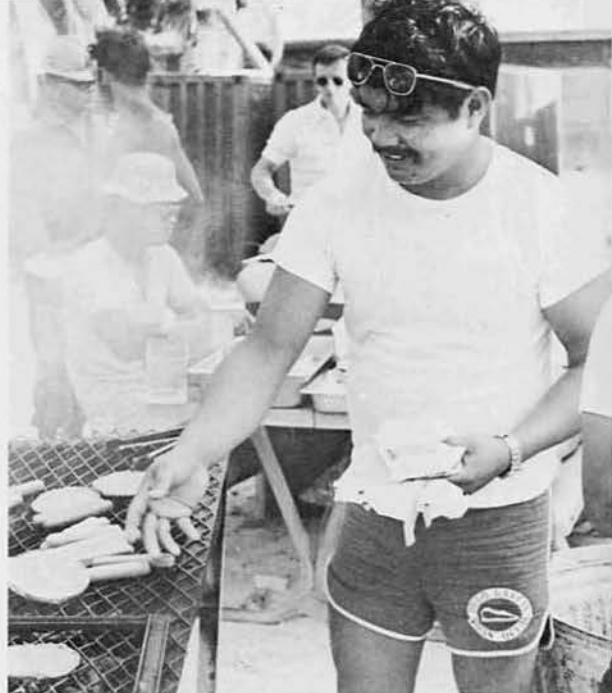
MS2 Artemio Garcia cuts a pineapple upside down cake for desert.



MS2 Romeo Salamanca worked for a spell in the barber shop. "I'd rather be cutting hair!"



MS2 Edgar Mondejar helped issue out more than 2,000 hamburger and hot dog buns at the Seabee Birthday celebration.



MS3 Jose Mencio tosses hamburgers at the Seabee Birthday. "This is more fun than Frisbees."

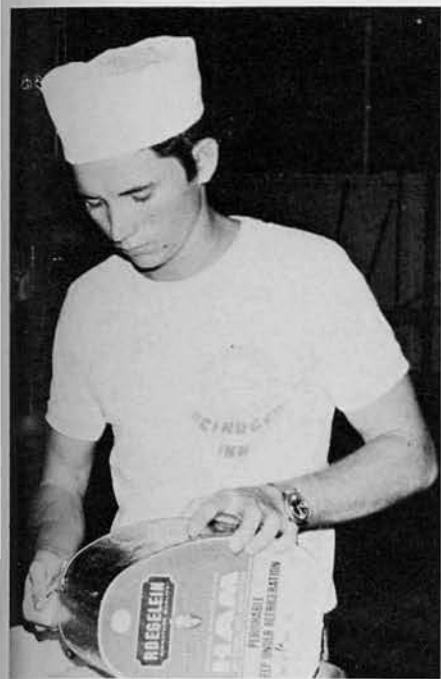


MS2 George Beshai: "Man does not live by bread alone. You've got to have ketchup!"



MS2 Pepito Paule opens a package of bacon in the pantry. BELOW: MS1 Vic DeVera breaks down recipe cards. The food service personnel prepared between 1,100 and 1,200 rations per meal.





MSSN Mark Bishop, Eldorado, Texas "hams" it up for the camera.



MSSA Isagani Alforja eats only "Elmer's Bread"--sticks to the roof of your mouth.



MS3 Jaime Fernandez: "The leg bone's disconnected from the thigh bone, the thigh bone's disconnected from the breast bone."



MS1 Anastalon Roldan prepares tuna fish salad for the officer's wardroom.



MS3 Fidel Interior says "It's all in the wrist. . . Art Touché'!"





DK2 Rudy Arruejo, as roll keeper, is responsible for maintaining pay records.



ENS Charles "Slim" Richmond, Temple, Texas relieved LTJG Forrest Hindley as disbursing officer in February.



DKSN Bob Feagins, DK1 Jain, LTJG Hindley, ENS Richmond, and DK1 Villanueva play a little "pay-day stakes poker."



DK1 Frank Villanueva, disbursing's leading petty officer. "Was that 36 right, or 36 left?"

## Disbursing



DK1 Ray Jain, in charge of fiscal and travel, reviews per diem vouchers.



YNC Charles Duncan, Tuscaloosa, Ala., and LT John Hsu, Cleveland, Ohio, were Admin Chief and Admin Officer. Admin handles battalion correspondence, records, and officer service records.

## Admin (S-1)



YN2 Joe Valdez, San Antonio, Texan handled the officer service jackets.



MS2 Ken Thompson, LaCrosse, Wash., handled S-1 supplies after leaving his legal yeoman slot.



YN3 John McKinney, Cincinnati, Ohio, reads the Sunday comics from Stars and Stripes which arrived with each plane.



YN1 J.C. Callagan, as office supervisor, assigned the yeomen their workloads.



YNSN Jim Veres, Woodland Hills, Ca., was the message yeoman. Because of the island's location, the message traffic was our link with the world.



YNSN Joel Crawford, Kenmore, Wash., was the Captain's yeoman. He typed the CO/KO correspondence, received visitors, made fresh coffee, served as "go-fer" for the skipper.



YNSN Bruce Stone, Cromwell, Minn., relieved YN2 Thompson as legal yeoman. The legal yeoman is the legal officer's assistant in preparing and processing captain's masts and courtmartials.



YN3 Archie Topps, Denver, Colo., was the officer records yeoman, and also accompanied the advance party for the Admin turn-over.



YNSA Joe Massa, Bronx, N.Y., served as the Chaplain's yeoman and as the guard mail runner for the battalion.



YNSN James Richardson, Chicago, Ill., was the operations yeoman and the Chaplain's yeoman.



SA Robert Howard, Sanford, Fla., was the reproduction yeoman in charge of the Ditto, mimeograph, and Xerox machines.



YNSN Andy Rohde, Watertown, S.D., in the Alpha Co. office, where he served as yeoman.



PC1 Fred Williams, Oklahoma City, Okla., prepares a money order. PCs were popular people throughout the tour.



The two most often asked questions during the deployment were: "Is the plane coming in?" and "How many pounds of mail?" PC3 Rich Mahrer, Crosby, N.D., unloads the mail from the low-boy.

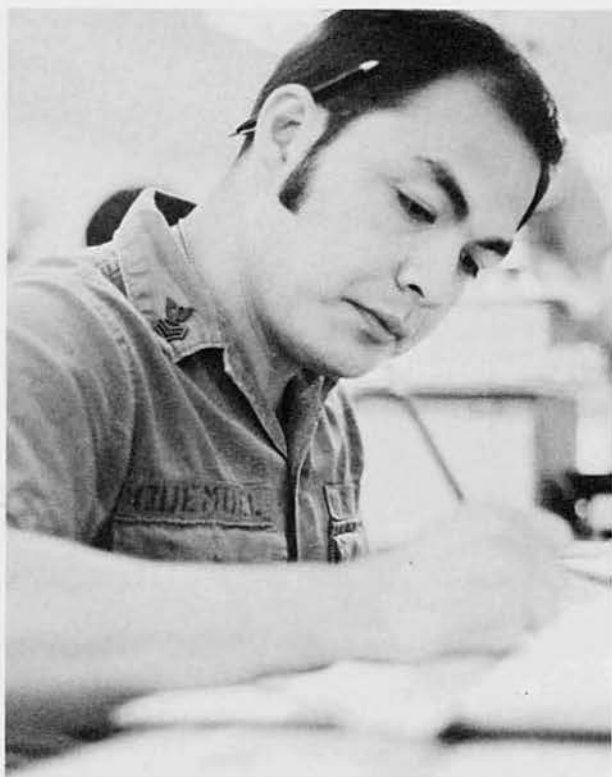
## Post Office



PN1 Dave Aquiningoc, Barrigada, Guam, was the office supervisor before the arrival of PNC Ortiz.



LTJG David Fencl, Aurora, Colo., was the Personnel Officer, Legal Officer, and Educational Services Officer.



PN1 Nestor Quemuel was the OCR documents specialist, and did the enlisted distribution and verification reports.



PNC Reggie Ortiz, Pueblo, Colo., arrived in mid-deployment to take over as personnel office supervisor.

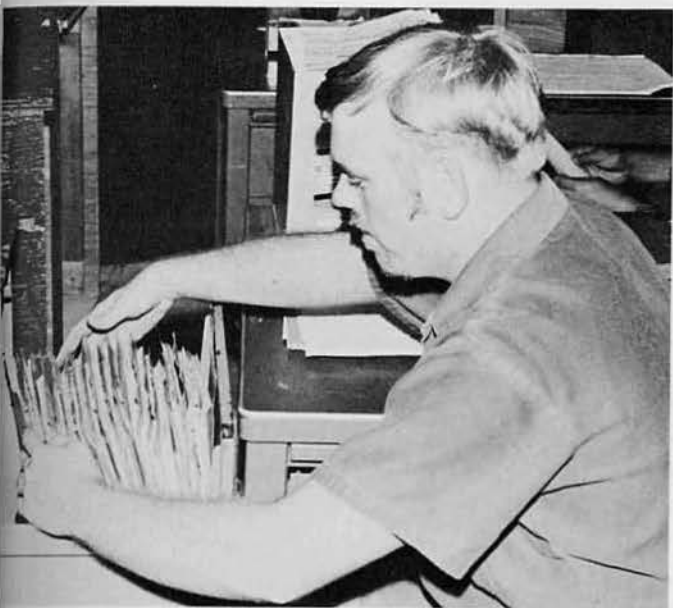
# Personnel



LTJG Fencil and PN3 Vic Yablonski, Schwenksville, Pa., ESO personnelman, pack up college correspondence course materials.



PN3 Ron "Yeah Daddy" Yesda, Brandon, S.D., as TAD clerk and enlisted evaluations PN, advises CMCA Fuentebella.



PNSN John Tipton, Brooksville, Fla., prepared re-enlistment and separations for the Seabees.



PN1 Mike Sanchez, Merced, Ca., was the transfers and receipts PN.

# Training (S-2)



CEC Robert Banks, Griffin, Ga., updates Personnel Readiness Capability Program (PRCP) forms in his role as training chief.



GMG3 Riley Garnanez, Farmington, N.M., is the battalion's only full-blooded Navajo Indian.



ENS John Smithey, Roanoke, Va., reviews his filing system. ENS Smithey took over as Assistant Bravo Co. Commander late in the deployment.

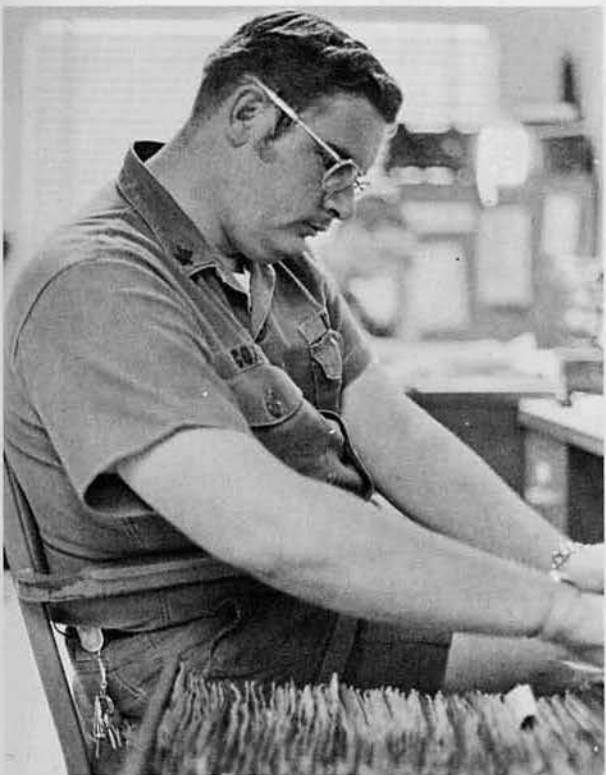


GMG2 Walt Swarthout, Kingston, N.Y., repairs the recoil group from an M-16 rifle in the armory trailer.

S-2 Plans and Training, schedules the battalion training program, acquires school seats for personnel, maintains contingency plans, and schedules the battalion's homeport time.



HM1 Dave Orum, Wheeling, W.V., and HM1 Ed McBear were the battalion medical leading petty officers.



HM2 Dave Coxon, Beaumont, Texas, kept the medical records in order.



HMC James Hitchings and LT Lou Suarez, Middleton, Wis., check LTJG Dave Fencil's progress in recovering from the flu bug. LTJG Fencil was the first officer patient in the new dispensary.

## Medical



HMC Clifton "Hawk" Hawkins, Pine Bluff, Ark., examines the defibrillator.





HM2 Mike Rigsby, Santa Rosa, Ca., takes BU3 "Roscoe" Tanner's blood pressure.



HM2 Dan Feese, Columbia, Ky., examines UTCN Ian Barrett's right ear.



HM/BU2 Mike Jenson, Sunset, Utah, irrigates EO3 Ron Matcalf's arm infection with hydrogen peroxide.



HM2 Richard "Mom" Janes, Aberdeen, S.D., X-Rays a patient's broken finger.



HM2 Bob Oliver, Lake Hughes, Ca., checks water cultures. He is the battalion preventive medicine specialist.



HM2 Bob Lafarelle, Alpine, Texas, prepares a biological specimen for examination.



LCDR Chuck Ketcham, Thousand Oaks, Ca., is the dentist. DN Chris Achleithner, Klamath Falls, Ore., is his assistant and X-Ray technician.

## Dental



DT1 Steve Dufalo, Trenton, N.J., cleaned the battalion teeth. He also ran dental supplies and administration.

# Special Services



SW 1 Dennis Updegrove, Reading, Pa., was POIC of Special Services, which checks out recreational gear and operates the weight room.



BU3 Harold Smith, Lyndonville, N.Y., checks out swim fins in the gear room.



NC1 Jim Satterley and CE1 Tom Holstein help BU2 John Feeley, Roslindale, Mass., fill out a duty preference sheet. The career counselors assist Seabees in making important career decisions.

## Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)



EO2 George Conner, with CE2 Perry Holland (page 11), ran the Demilitarized Zone, where Seabees could go for assistance and information on alcohol and drug related problems.

# Career Counselor



Chaplain (LCDR) James C. Williams, Columbia, S.C., tries a wad of BUCS Ted Poff's Big Red. The chew went over the side of the new chapel roof a minute later.



Chaplain Williams, a frequent job-site visitor, spreads sun-screen on BU3 Walt Mistler's back at the steelworker pre-fab yard.



Island personnel pause after a busy work week for Thanksgiving Sabbath worship services in the battalion's own "Chapel in the Palms."

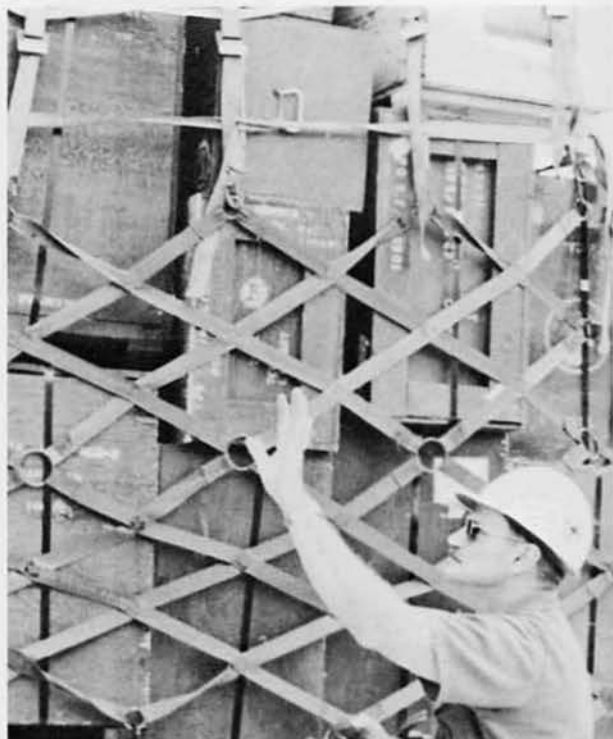
## The Chaplain



A cross is raised on the lagoon beach for Good Friday services. Chaplain Williams, who left us in June for duty at the Naval Academy, encouraged lay leaders to take an active role in the spiritual guidance of the Battalion.



BMC Thomas Monaghan, as Chief Master-at-arms, is the Executive Officer's primary assistant in maintaining good order and discipline in the battalion.



FIVE's Executive Officer, LCDR Donald Looff, Oak Harbor, Wash., acts as the Commanding Officer's chief of staff and second in command.

## Executive Officer



BM2 Jim Crowder, North Little Rock, Ark., prepares a watch bill in the MAA shack.



GMG1 Jim "Uncle Cleav" Cleavinger, Potlatch, Id., prepares a report chit for a minor infraction.



BM3 John "Little Boats" Irwin, Humboldt, Kansas, mans the quarterdeck radio. The quarterdeck is the one spot that is never left un-manned.



BM2 Robert Doris frisks CM3 Pockrus in a customs search. He was a customs inspector, and was also TAD to NCS master-at-arms for much of the deployment.



GMG1 Steve Levine rejoined the battalion in mid-deployment, and served a tour as mess deck master-at-arms.



BU2 Joe Longmore, Stoneham, Mass., served as mess deck master-at-arms for much of the deployment. The mess deck MAA maintains order in the galley.

## Master-at-arms



RADM D.G. Iselin, Vice Commander, NAVFACENGCOM receives a \$1,000 check for the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Fund from Master Chief Metzger. The check is from all the NCF units on the island.



EQCM Donald F. Metzger hails from Youngstown, Ohio. He is the skipper's top advisor on matters affecting the enlisted men.

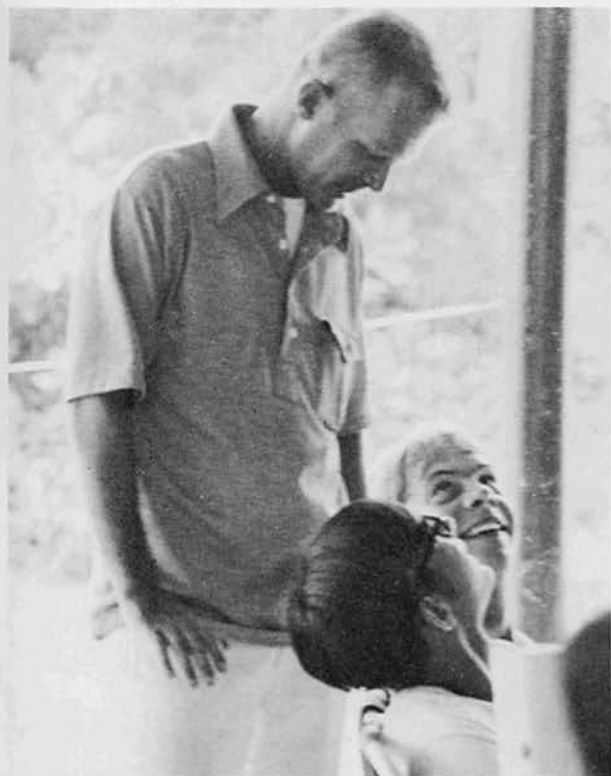
## The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Command (MCPOC)



Listening to EQCM Metzger are EQCM Johnny McCully, MCPOC of NAVFACENGCOM and top enlisted Seabee in the Navy, CAPT. R.H. Nelson, of NAVFACENGCOM, and the skipper.



The XO congratulates the Master Chief following his shipping over ceremony in October.



The skipper spent much of his time with the troops. Word got around quickly that he was an easy touch for a beer.



The XO welcomes the skipper to Diego Garcia on an uncharacteristically wet, chilly (65 degree) day. CDR de Vicq is a native of Gloucester, Mass.



CDR de Vicq with Rear Admiral D.G. Iselin, Vice Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command. RADM Iselin is the second ranking Civil Engineering Corps officer in the Navy.

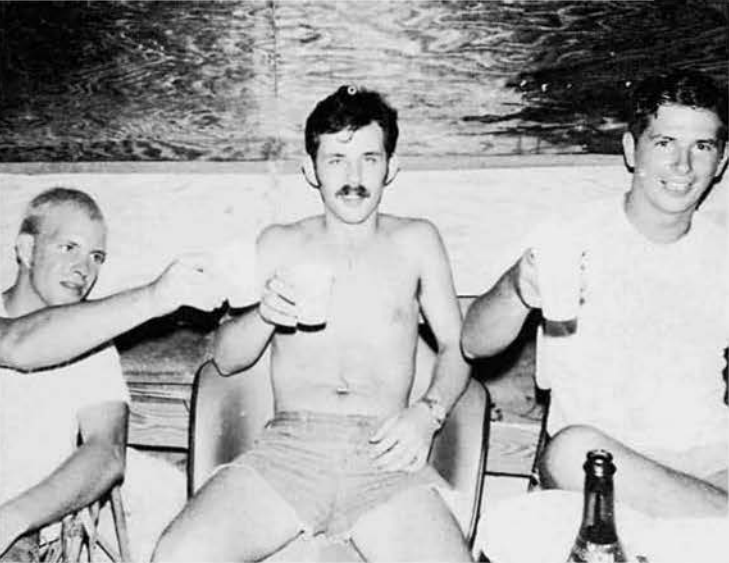


The captain with BU2 Barry Waklee in the gymnasium. The skipper is a constant visitor to the job sites.

## The Commanding Officer

David C. deVicq,  
CDR, CEC, USN





BUCN Gary Watsabaugh, YN3 John McKinney, and ENS Ken Frey offer a New Year's toast.



CUCM Clyde Walker, ENS Bill Sironen, Minneapolis, Minn., and PNSN Don "E-Z" Ezell trade cigarettes??

## H Company . . .



LEFT: EA3 Don Namanny, Antioch, Ca., gets his first elephant ride. No, we didn't have elephants on Diego Garcia. He's on R & R in Bangkok.



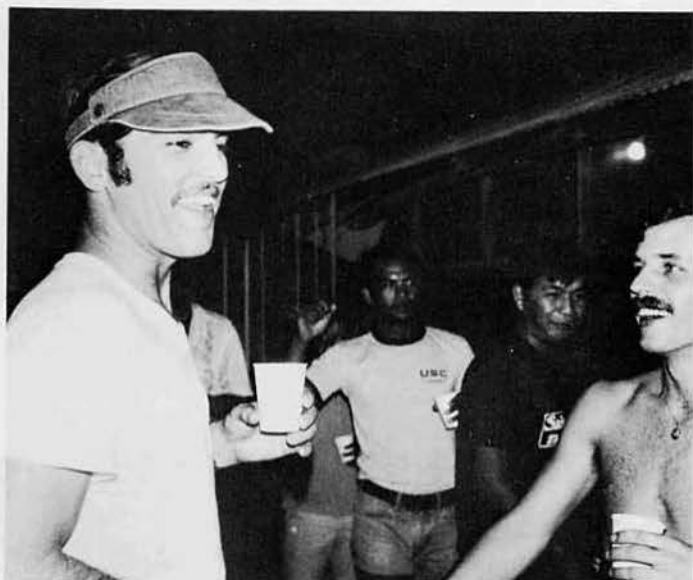
CEC Robert Bands, MSC John Wilken, CYSGT Carl Fletcher, BUC Robert Kemp, and BUC John Guiher, at ease.

RIGHT: BUCN Jerry Fowler, White Settlement, Texas, was a member of Echo Company's championship softball team. Jerry worked for the Punchlist crew.





While UT1 Robert Conway, UT2 Billy Haley, and UT2 Clarence Warden finish up a long day, PN1 Dave Aquiningoc goes fishing.



EA 3 Kevin White and YN 3 John McKinney celebrate New Year's with some of Engineering's special recipe punch.



LCDR Charles Hamilton, the Ops Officer, had much to smile about as FIVE accomplished much during its deployment to the number one construction job in the NCF.

... at ease



BU1 Endrino Parra, of Planning and Estimating, does leatherwork on a purse during slack hours.



LT Gordon M. Campbell,  
Fort Myers, Beach, Fla.



GYSGT Robert M. Rigdon,  
Jacksonville, Fla.



UTCS Herbert J. Jessen,  
Oxnard, Ca.



CE1 Donald R. Hoskins,  
Stockton, Ca.



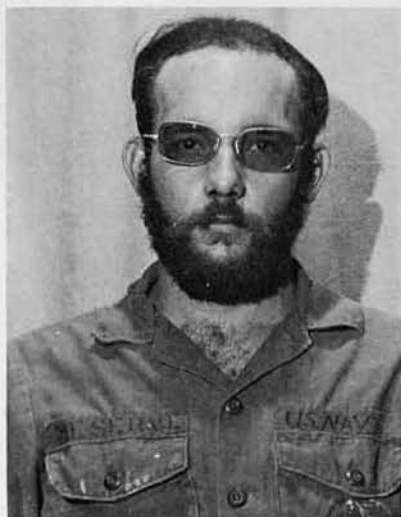
EO2 Robert K. Fletcher,  
Richmond, Ky.



SW3 Wayne, R. Hubbard,  
Union, N.J.



BUCN William B. Kellerman,  
Tempe, Ariz.



BUCN Michael R. Meserve,  
Anaheim, Ca.



BUCN Thomas R. Overturf,  
Spokane, Wash.



SWCN Mark S. Hogan,  
San Diego, Calif.



SWCN Curtiss S. Burns,  
North Fork, Ca.



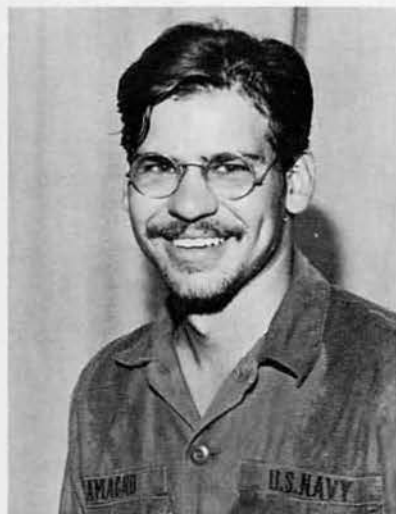
EACN Karl H. Johnson,  
Spanaway, Wash.



EOCN Nathan D. Thompson,  
Hartstown, Pa.



ECCA Michael J. Belford,  
Port Angeles, Wash.



SWCA Chris Camacho,  
Miami, Fla.



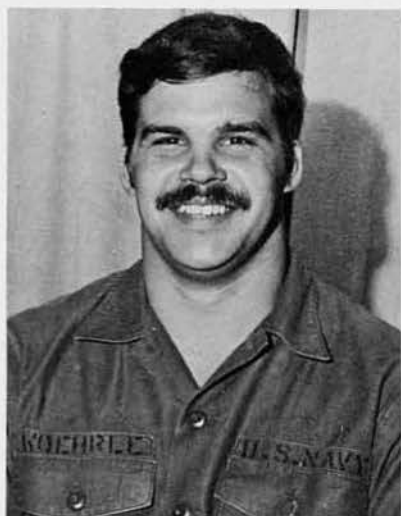
CECA Richard G. Pelt,  
Canoga Park, Ca.



EACA Robert K. Etteldorf,  
Tacoma, Wash.



EACA Thomas J. Enkelmann,  
St. Louis, Mo.



DKSA Joseph J. Woehrle Jr.,  
White Bear Lake, Minn.



SKSA Mark L. McCaslin,  
Cheyenne, Wyo.



The 30th Naval Construction Regiment (FORWARD): BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT, EQCM Robert L. Weimmann, LT James W. Carl, CAPT William J. Burns, Jr., CUCM Chester P. Barwick, YNC Charles R. Hensler. FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT, EOCN Walter L. Myers, SK1 Ronald A. Fortin, SK1 Cesar A. Diaz, SK2 Enrique L. Dauz.

## COM 30 NCR (FWD)

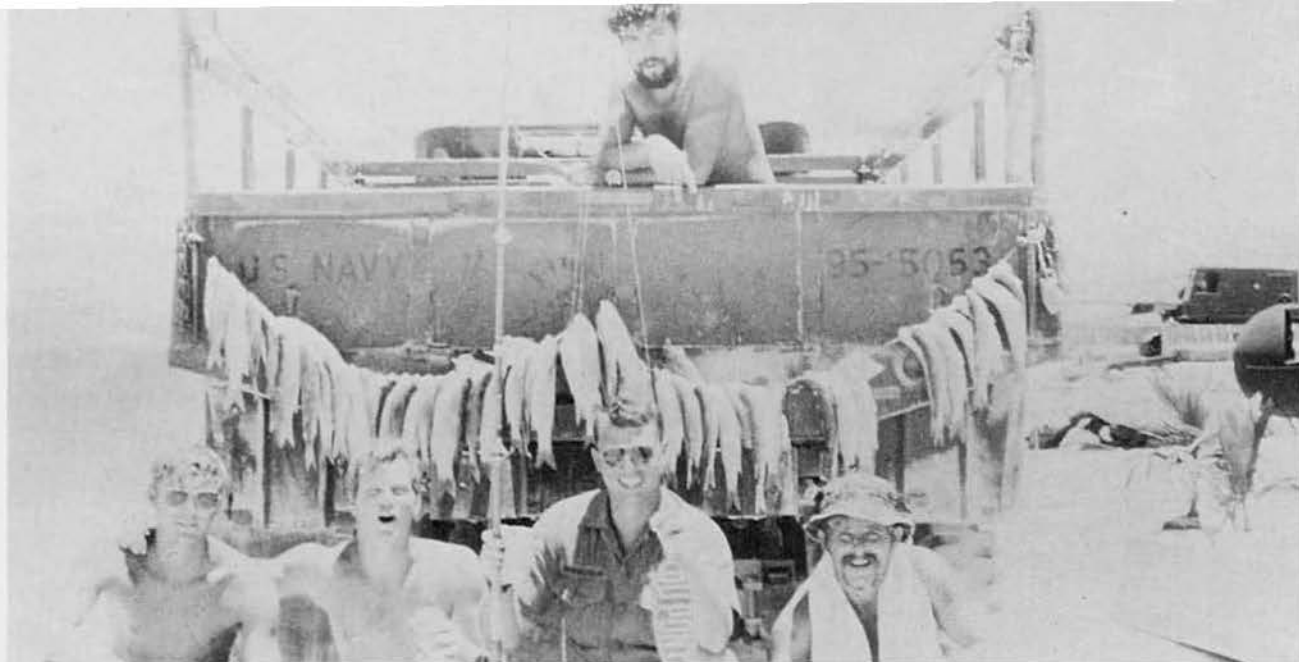
For the first time in the post-Vietnam era, a true regiment of Seabees exists in one place at one time on a deployment site. Most battalions, upon deploying from homeport, find themselves dispatching detachments hither and yon. But for the first time since the mid-fifties, FIVE found itself all in one place. And it found itself working side-by-side with detachments from NMCB's ONE, FOUR, FORTY and SIXTY-TWO, CBMU 302, and UCT-TWO.

With as many as six NCF units working together on Diego Garcia, the 30th Naval Construction Regiment (30th NCR), based on Guam, established a forward office on the island. Under the command of Captain William J. Burns Jr., the 30th coordinated the efforts of all NCF units, as well as taking charge of such functions as MLO.

The trend should continue, too, since NMCB-FIVE is scheduled to send a detachment of Seabees to Diego Garcia when it deploys to Rota, Spain late in 1976.



Captain William J. Burns, Jr., Commander, 30th Naval Construction Regiment.



## UCT-Two

The divers from Underwater Construction Team TWO: TOP: SW3 (DV) Dan Trujillo. BOTTOM, FRON LEFT: SW3 (DV) Rudy Sturgeon, CN (DV) Thumper Stumpf, CEI (DV) Dave Handley, and UT3 (DV) Goody Goodwin.



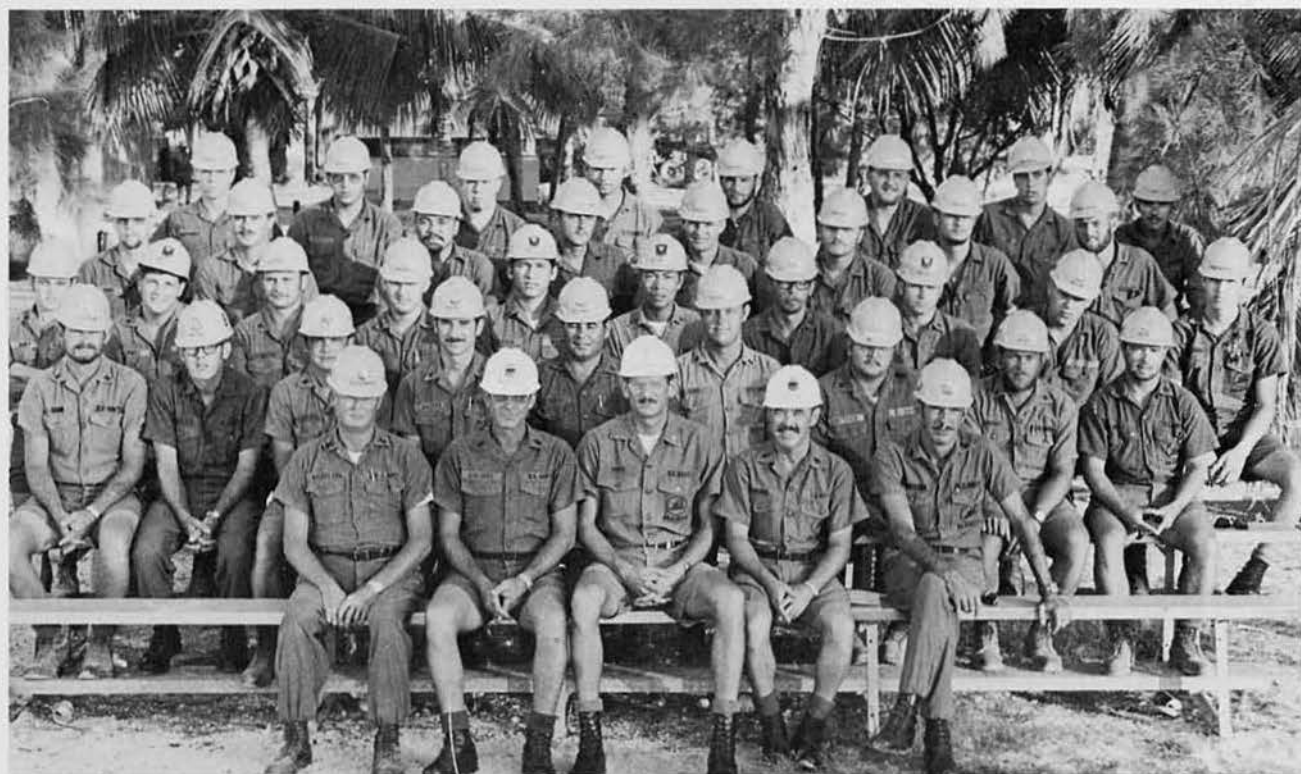
## CBMU 302

Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 302, BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: UTCN Cronk, EOCN Brister, EOCN Ball, CE3 Obenza, CE3 Bassett; MIDDLE ROW: UT3 Stirtz, CE3 Reisdorfer, CM2 Renales, CM3 Hostetter, CE3 Siron, CE3 Fox; FRONT ROW: CE2 Banta, SW2 Watson, EA1 Pagsanjan, CEC Rominger, UT1 Phillips, and CE2 Matic.



## NMCB-One

Members of the NMCB-ONE detail were: ENS Zimmerman, SWC Gooch, BU2 Hopkins, BU2 Hall, BU3 Keene, BU3 Lauer, BU3 Picciano, BU3 Mantout, BU3 Hughes, BUCN Quintana, BUCN Fortner, BUCN Fisher, BUCN Deutsch, BUCN Leith, SW3 Oakes, EO1 Moscheken, EO2 Hughes, EO3 Bernbe, EO3 Hodges, EO3 Dickenson, EO3 Halloran, EOCN Evans, EOCN Powell, EOCN Lane, EOCN Henle, EOCA Gaittens, EOCN Connors, CE2 Miller, CE3 Marx, CECN Bailey, CECN Thornburg, UT2 Laroche, UT3 Ritter, UTCN Estep and UTCA Mahannah.



## NMCB-Four

BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: EOCN D'arcangelo, EOCA Allen, EOCA Johnson, EOCN Veazey, EOCN Karlson, EOCN Linhart, EOCA Wolson, EOCN Sisk. FOURTH ROW: EACN Kibbe, EOCN Duff, BUCN Galarza, EOCN Lawson, EOCN Olson, CMCN Johnson, EOCA Musser, EOCA Kazaroff. THIRD ROW: EO3 Guet, DM3 Spires, EO3 Streeter, CM3 Redding, SK3 Heredia, EO3 Gonzales, EO3 Geiter, CM3 Wells, EM3 Long, EOCN Blacksher. SECOND ROW: EO2 Shaw, CM2 Jones, Bishop, EA2 Moore, EO2 Ramagos, EO2 King, CE2 Hetrick, EO3 Maxcy, EO3 Metts. FRONT ROW: EO1 Gilbreath, BUC Clolinger, LTJG True, EOC Young, and EO1 Somerton.





## NMCB-40

BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: EOCN Moffitt, EOCN MacNeil, CMCN Haner, EACN Parcon, EOCN Coldren, EOCA Moen, EOCN Fillbrandt, CMCN Hohn. SECOND ROW: EOCN Lessard, EOCN Poppe, EOCN Wicke EO3 Maderich, EO3 Lovelace, EO3 Maddox, EO3 McManus, EOCA Langle. THIRD ROW: EO3 Hedlund, EO3 Tenney, SK3 Blair, EO3 Francisco, CM3 Verayo, EO3 Van Sickler, EO3 Leach. FOURTH ROW: EO2 Durkee, EO2 Campbell, EO2 Martinez, EO2 Hibbard, EA2 Flores, CM2 Cuenca, YN2 Davidson, EOCN Hanover. FRONT ROW: EO1 Deen, LT Givens, OIC, EOC Roche, AOIC, EO1 Snuffer.

BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: EO1 Foster, EO2 O'Neal, EO3 Roelfs, EO3 McWatters, SWCN Harriman, EOCN Richard, EO3 Barrow, SW2 Garbe, SW3 Williams, BU3 Gumpy. SECOND ROW: EO3 Barger, SWCN Pitman, UT3 Kraleman, CM2 Carf, BU2 Warner, EO3 Akers, SK2 Tinsley, CECN Drescher, BU3 Saucedo, SWCA Weldon. THIRD ROW: BU2 Seefeldt, BU3 Mioduski, EOCN Bultinck, EO3 Kahler, BUCA Rooney, EOCN Stringer, CM2 Imhoff, BU2 Rogers, BUCA Morris, CMCN Fuller. FOURTH ROW: BUCN Woolever, EO3 Hardnack, EO2 Meachum, EO2 Jensen, EO3 Bammert, EA3 Larson, UT3 Sturm, BU3 McLaughlin, CM3 Doane, UT2 Bailey, YNSN Beck. FRONT ROW: BU1 Davis, EO1 Bruce, BU3 Dennis, EOC Jenkins, LT Webb, OIC, SWC Belcher, EO3 Allen, EO3 Burdett, CMCA Pikul.

## NMCB-62





## The Thailand detail

The task of supplying the island of Diego Garcia rested with a six-man detail stationed in Thailand. Led by LT Richard F. Haas, Jr., the detail established itself with the Officer-in-Charge of Construction, Thailand, in Bangkok, and with the Fleet Air Support Unit (FASU), in U-Tapao.

Collectively and colloquially known as "the Bangkok Reps," each of the men had their own specific tasks. The AOIC of the detail, EO1 Willie J. Lawrence, was stationed in U-Tapao, and was responsible for the coordination with the Air Force for on-loading all cargo and passengers destined for Diego Garcia. Assisting him were SW2 Michael D. Endecott and BU2 Jerry Martin.

In Bangkok, CE2 Eric L. Hassler had the responsibilities of the R & R representative. His task was to meet R & R and leave personnel and brief them on Thailand. He also took care of passports and visas, and met dependents arriv-

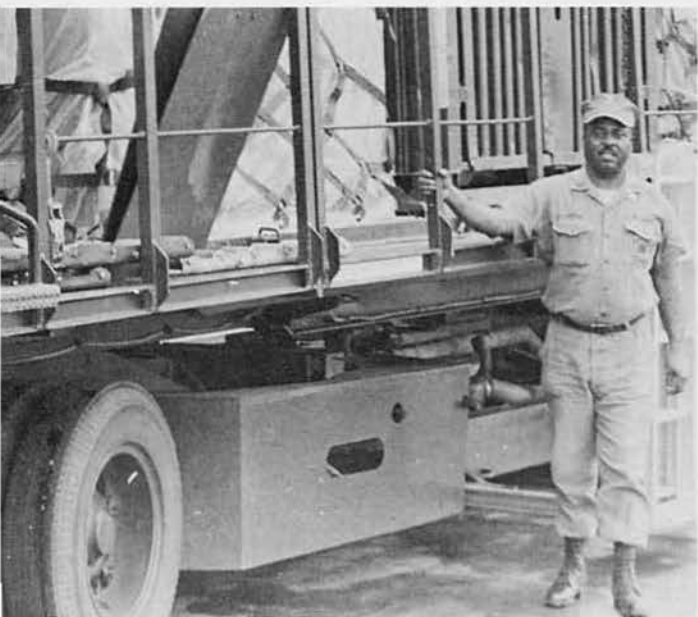
ing in Bangkok to share their husband's leave or R & R period.

BU1 Robert D. Peterson was assigned the task of Procurement Rep. He ordered all subsistence items for both the galley and the island exchange. Construction equipment/material, machinery repair, all printed material and other necessary facets of procurement were his responsibility. He also coordinated with the OICC Thailand when it became necessary for him to customs inspect gear they designated Diego Garcia-bound.

LT Haas was the man who oversaw all areas of the detail, both in Bangkok and in U-Tapao. He worked long hours and weekends to ensure the smooth operation of the detail and all work that could have possibly been done was done prior to the twice-weekly flights to Diego Garcia. His constant attention and leg work were key factors in the success of the detail.



LEFT TO RIGHT: BU2 Jerry Martin, LT Rich Haas, CE2 Eric Hassler and SW2 Mike Endecott transferred to Clark Air Base in the Philippines late in the deployment to continue island logistical support.



EO1 Willie Lawrence was the last of the detail to leave Thailand, where he served as AOIC of the detail. RIGHT: BU1 Bob Peterson tells BUCN Paul Blosat of his Thailand experiences. He returned to the main body in April.



Many temples and shrines line the rivers of the centuries-old Thailand. Many of FIVE's Seabees got the chance to tour the rivers of Thailand before R & R to the country closed.



BU2 Jerry Martin and SW2 Mike Endecott check the load aboard a C-141 bound for Diego Garcia from U-Tapao.

# Officers

CDR David C. de Vicq, CEC, USN, 157  
LCDR Donald L. Loof, CEC, USN, 154  
LCDR Charles D. Hamilton, CEC, USN, 124, 159  
LCDR William M. Jones, SC, USN, 134  
LCDR Charles W. Ketcham, DC, USN, 151  
LCDR James C. Williams, CHC, USN, 153  
LT Gordon M. Campbell, CEC, USNR, 160  
LT Michael F. Casey, CEC, USNR, 125  
LT Richard F. Haas Jr., CEC, USNR, 4  
LT John J. Hsu, CEC, USNR, 143  
LT Melvin T. Pereira, SC, USNR, 134  
LT William L. Scarborough, CEC, USNR, 11, 102  
LT Louis A. Suarez, MC, USNR, 149  
LT C. Eugene Talmadge, CEC, USNR, 39  
LTJG David A. Fencil, USNR, 146, 147, 149  
LTJG Forrest G. Hindley, SC, USNR, 136, 142  
LTJG Edward J. Kaniecki, CEC, USNR, 39  
LTJG Raymond Mello, CEC, USNR, 102  
LTJG William A. Sironen, CEC, USNR, 158  
ENS Arnold E. Bertsche, CEC, USNR, 133  
ENS Kenneth P. Frey, CEC, USNR, 125, 158  
ENS R. Scott Huebner, CEC, USNR, 127  
ENS Charles E. Richmond, SC, USNR, 142  
ENS John J. Smithey, CEC, USNR, 148  
CWO3 Robert K. Goudy, CEC, USN, 47, 74

# Chief Petty Officers

EQCM Donald F. Metzger Jr., 156  
CUCM Clyde C. Walker Jr., 124, 158  
CECS Neil C. Gooley, 103  
CMCS Joe A. Harris, 74  
UTCS Herbert J. Jessen, 160  
SWCS Laron L. Leedy, 132  
EOCS Clyde K. Marion, 74  
BUCS Ronald L. Nortrn, 125  
BUCS Theodore R. Poff, 39  
BUCS Billy L. Rose, 124  
CMC Thomas J. Ackerson, 90  
CEC Robert L. Banks, 148, 158  
CEC Joseph A. Dom, 103  
YNC Charles Duncan, 143  
SWC Jack D. Egerton, 64  
SKC Thomas Finley, 134  
GYSGT Carl L. Fletcher, 4, 158  
SWC Wilfred M. Fukino, 133  
CMC Terrence G. Green

BUC John H. Guiher, 10, 124, 126, 158  
HMC Clifton Hawkins, 149  
BUC Robert F. Hines, 102  
HMC James E. Hitchings, 149  
EAC Clyde N. Hood, 128  
BUC John S. Hueston, 40  
BUC Robert L. Kemp, 42  
EOC Phillip L. Knowles, 83  
SWC Thomas C. Massey, 124, 125  
BMC Thomas E. Monaghan, 154  
EOC Burriss D. Mooney, 75  
PNC Reggie J. Ortiz, 146  
EOC Gail J. Parsons  
EOC Deane W. Powell  
GYSGT Robert M. Rigdon, 160  
UTC Gary L. Widener, 108  
CMC Richard L. Widerburg, 90  
MSC John R. Wilken Jr., 138, 158  
BUC James C. Williams, 42

# Builders

- BU1 Albert D. Ambrose, 118  
 BU1 Ricardo G. Amposta, 46  
 BU1 Valentin G. Banaay, 119  
 BU1 Eller O. Blankenship  
 BU1 Herbert M. Bradey  
 BU1 Joseph M. Cesario, 126  
 BU1 Charles E. Crowder, 42  
 BU1 Charles E. Curran Jr.  
 BU1 Dennis R. Cutschall, 40  
 BU1 Eugene M. Florendo, 42  
 BU1 James E. Fowler Jr., 127  
 BU1 Barry E. Hunter, 131  
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 BU1 Robert D. Peterson  
 BU1 Keith S. Richardson, 40  
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 BU1 Robert A. Seamans, 43  
 BU1 Donald E. Seitz, 132  
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 BU1 Grover D. Thatcher, 43  
 BU1 Ronald D. Wilson, 43  
 BU1 Russell F. Wisswell, 68  
 BU2 Steven J. Allen, 132  
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 BU2 Michael G. Jenson, 150  
 BU2 Robert A. Johnson  
 BU2 Robert J. Kumka Jr., 59  
 BU2 Sergio C. Lavilla, 54  
 BU2 Joseph A. Longmore, 155  
 BU2 Michael A. Mrier, 118  
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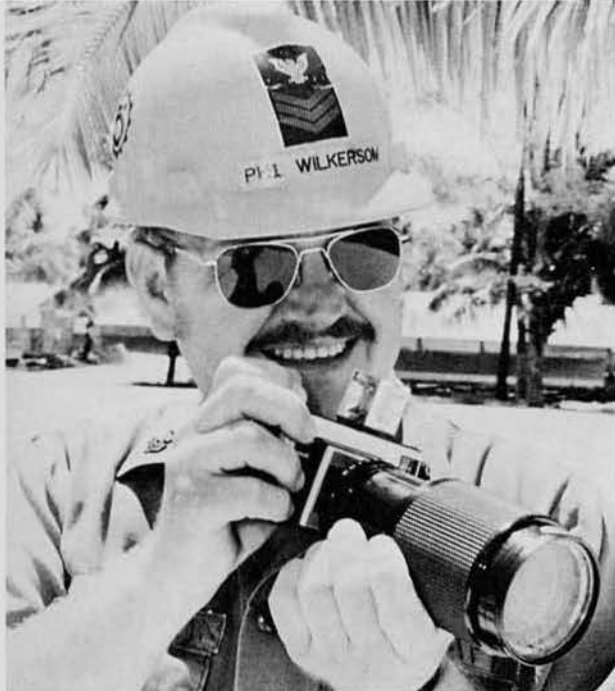
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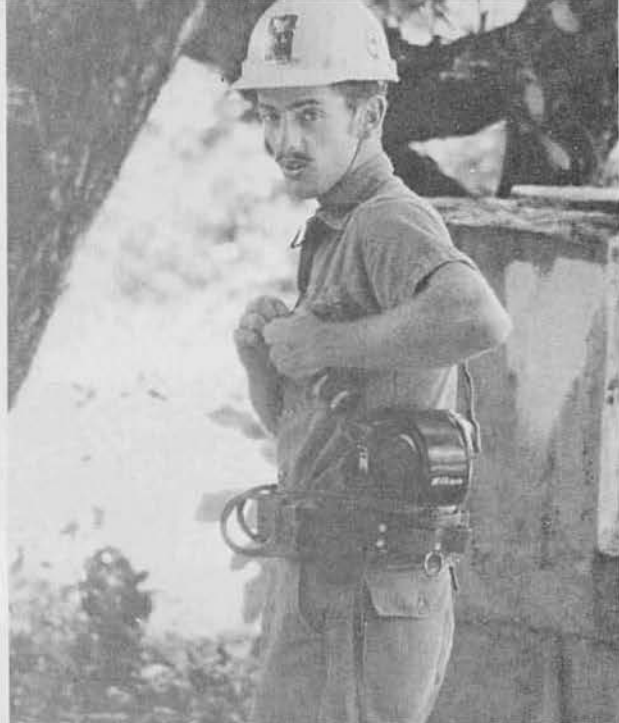
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PH1 Dave Wilkerson, San Antonio, Texas, POIC of the Photo Lab. Without this airdale, the production of this book would have been nearly impossible.



BU3 Ed Knapp, Klamath Falls, Ore., served as night shift when the enlarger was going literally 24-hours a day.



PHAN Kevin McAnnany, although attached to NCS, was an integral part of the team that photographed and printed this book. BELOW: While photographing the arrival of the USS Fox, PH1 Wilkerson trades scuttlebutt with a Fox crewmember.

## Photo lab



BUCN Mike Chisholm, San Francisco, Ca., "soups" a print. Mike carried the burden of producing most of the prints for this book.





The 1975-76 NMCB-FIVE cruisebook Staff: EQCM Donald Metzger (with clipboard); Doc Ketcham (on bench); ENS Ken Frey (with beer); JO3 Doug Sanford (at typewriter) Editor; Doc Suarez (in hammock); and LEFT TO RIGHT with the cameras, BU3 Ed Knapp, PH1 Dave Wilkerson, and BUCN Mike Chisholm.

No cruisebook is completed until credit is given to the many people without whose help the book could not have been produced. My list is long.

Dr. (LCDR) Chuck Ketcham and Dr. (LT) Lou Suarez served as the cruisebook officers. As treasurer, Doc Ketcham kept track of our funds, paid the publishers, and kept us in the black. Doc Suarez was the word doctor, proofing the text throughout for grammar and continuity. Both of these men supervised the overall production.

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I am also indebted to the following for help in writing the company section captions: BUCN Mike Gagnon, BUCN Charlie Pringle, BUCN Kevin Coffey and SW2 Mike Sancrant, for Echo Company; EO3 Chris Potter and CM3 Dave Glover, for Alpha Company; CE3 Jim McGuinness, BUCN Dennis Stender, and UTCN Dick Lane, for Bravo Company; and a host of others who willingly helped identify and label the pictures.

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The Editor







