



Diego Garcia

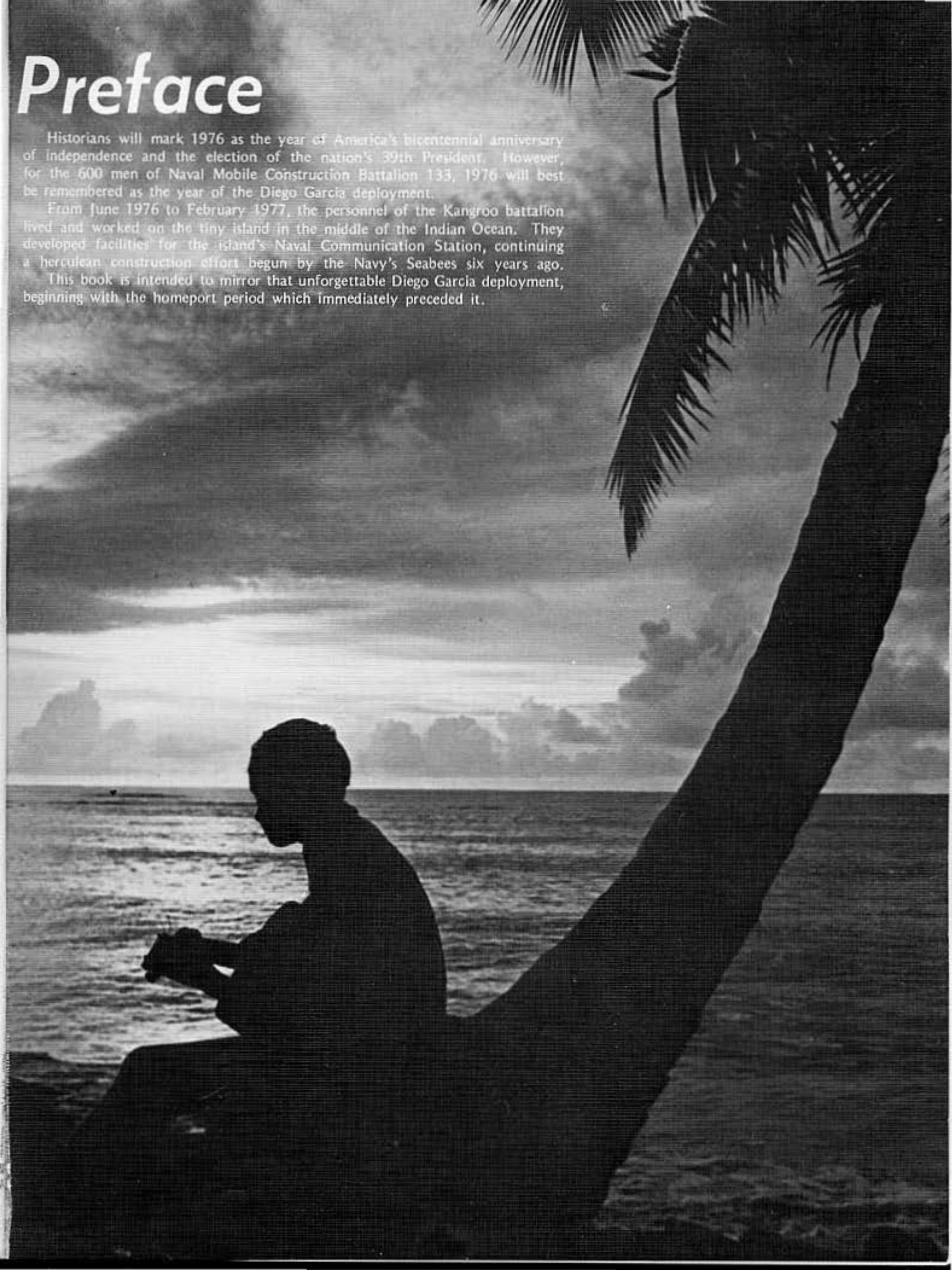


Preface

Historians will mark 1976 as the year of America's bicentennial anniversary of independence and the election of the nation's 39th President. However, for the 600 men of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, 1976 will best be remembered as the year of the Diego Garcia deployment.

From June 1976 to February 1977, the personnel of the Kangaroo battalion lived and worked on the tiny island in the middle of the Indian Ocean. They developed facilities for the island's Naval Communication Station, continuing a herculean construction effort begun by the Navy's Seabees six years ago.

This book is intended to mirror that unforgettable Diego Garcia deployment, beginning with the homeport period which immediately preceded it.



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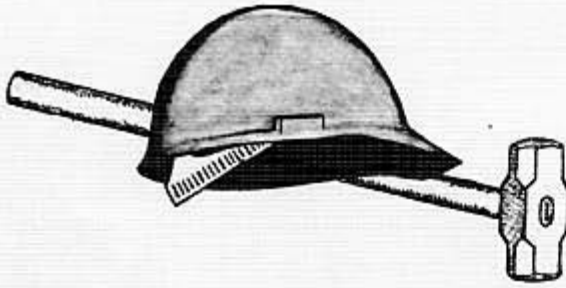




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The Kangaroo

On September 17, 1943, U. S. Naval Construction Battalion 133 was commissioned at Camp Perry, Williamsburg, Va. The battalion adopted the kangaroo for a mascot and "Kangaroo-Can Do" for a slogan, because the first scheduled assignment was to Australia. However, Naval Air Station, Honolulu, became the first deployment site where NCB 133 was tasked with helping expand and improve the air station. The work involved raising and leveling of the airfield and building seaplane docks, fuel tanks and buildings.

NCB 133 played a key role in the battle of Iwo Jima, which began with the U. S. invasion on February 19, 1945. NCB 133 accompanied the invasion force. Although the initial landing was relatively easy, the Japanese held their first line of defense and delivered murderous fire from guns high on Mount Suribachi, and the entire beach was covered by mortar, artillery and machine-gun fire from the surrounding hills. The Seabees were in a position even more precarious than the Marines on the front lines, but they stayed, took what the enemy threw at them, and carried on the job of establishing and operating supply lines to the fighting men. The battalion was presented the Navy Unit Commendation for its part in the battle of Iwo Jima. Less fortunate is the fact that the battalion also took the heaviest battle casualty count ever sustained by a Seabee battalion. NCB 133 was decommissioned in December, 1945.

With the recommissioning of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 on August 12, 1966, another proud and quality construction-filled chapter began for the battalion.

Upon completing military training in the fall and winter of 1966, the battalion deployed to DaNang, Vietnam. NMCB 133 received its second Navy Unit Commendation for support of friendly forces during its first Vietnam Deployment.

Phu Bai was the site of the battalion's second Vietnam deployment in 1968. The major project at Phu Bai was the monumental task of overlaying the Hue-Phu Bai airstrip with over 18,000 individual sheets of matting.

A third deployment was made to Vietnam in 1969 where the major project was the reconstruction of the 286-foot center span of the main highway bridge at Hue, badly damaged during the 1968 Tet offensive. The

Tradition



most extensive project undertaken by the Kangaroo battalion was the upgrading and maintenance of some 70 miles of paved highway.

With the winding down of the Vietnam conflict, NMCB 133 deployed to Guam in June, 1970. Major projects during the Guam deployment were the construction of the first permanent mobile homes at NAS Miramar, California, and the assistance in the San Miguel, Philippines, Self-Help Program, one of the Navy's first self-help programs. NMCB 133 was assigned to Okinawa in 1972 as the first Atlantic battalion to serve as the Pacific alert battalion. In 1973 NMCB 133 deployed to Europe with the main body in Rota, Spain.

The battalion returned to Okinawa for deployment in February, 1974. Details journeyed to the Philippines, Taiwan and Japan. A hanger facility at Cubi Point Naval Air Station in the Philippines was completed within 100 days by a detail from the battalion.

The deployment was marred by great tragedy when Captain Thomas J. Mitchell, Commander of the 30th Naval Construction Regiment; Commander Leland R. Dobler, NMCB 133's Commanding Officer; and Lieutenant Charles H. Jeffries, the Philippine Detail Officer-in-Charge, were killed in a jungle ambush in the Philippines. They were killed while making a routine inspection of a work project site.

In April, 1975, NMCB 133 departed CBC Gulfport for deployment to the Caribbean area. The main body was based at Camp Moscrip, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. From the base, details were sent to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Bermuda, the Azores, Bolivia, and Yap Island in the Pacific.

The battalion returned to homeport in December, 1975, and deployed to Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean in June, 1976. The major Diego Garcia assignment for NMCB 133 was the extension of the existing runway and over-run by 2,000 feet and the expansion of the parking apron. The battalion returned to CBC Gulfport in February, 1977, after an eight and one-half month deployment.

Since recommissioning, the Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi, has been homeport for the Kangaroo Battalion.





HOMEPORT

A Time to Prepare



A successful deployment begins with a successful homeport. Homeport is the time for Seabees to prepare for the next deployment; a period of training in both military and construction skills, as well as a time of reunion and togetherness with loved ones. The men of NMCB 133 enjoyed a six-month homeport prior to the Diego Garcia deployment.



Homeport Calendar

JANUARY, 1976

- The homeport training period commenced, following a holiday stand-down period in December, when NMCB 133 returned from deployment in Puerto Rico

- A Cold Weather training detail was sent to Fort Drum, N.Y., returning the next month

FEBRUARY

- Men of NMCB 133 participated in a Mardi Gras parade in Long Beach, Miss.

MARCH

- Men of NMCB 133 marched in a bicentennial parade in Gulfport, Miss.

- NMCB 133 was briefed on the up-coming Diego Garcia deployment by the Commanding Officer and Operations Officer

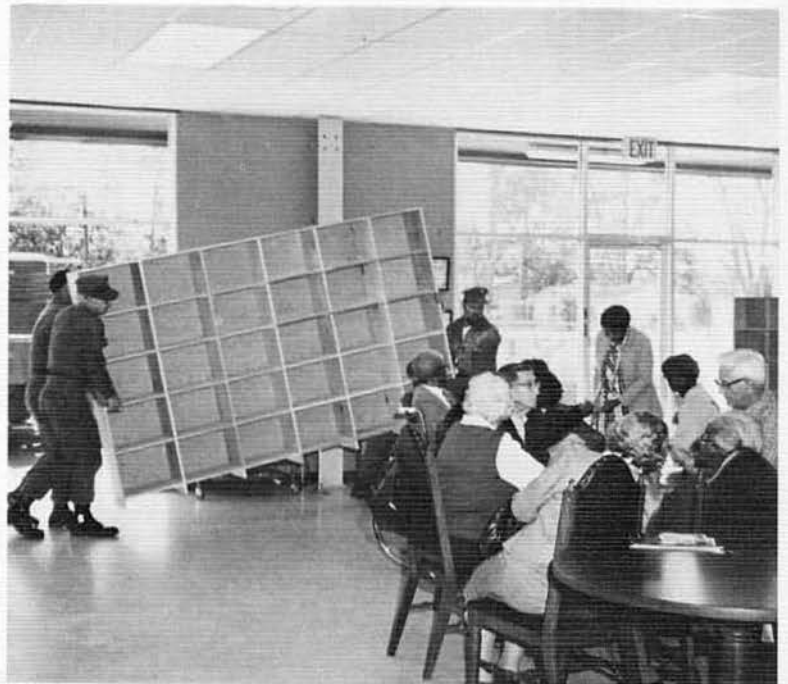
- Mount Out exercises Vulcan and Elastic Ribbon tested NMCB 133's capability to mount out

MAY

- Military training concluded, with 93 per cent of the battalion qualifying with weapons

- Homeport projects were concluded. NMCB 133's two biggest projects were construction of new classrooms for the Naval Construction Training Center, and paving of a street outside the base gate

- The advance party and main body flights departed for Diego Garcia



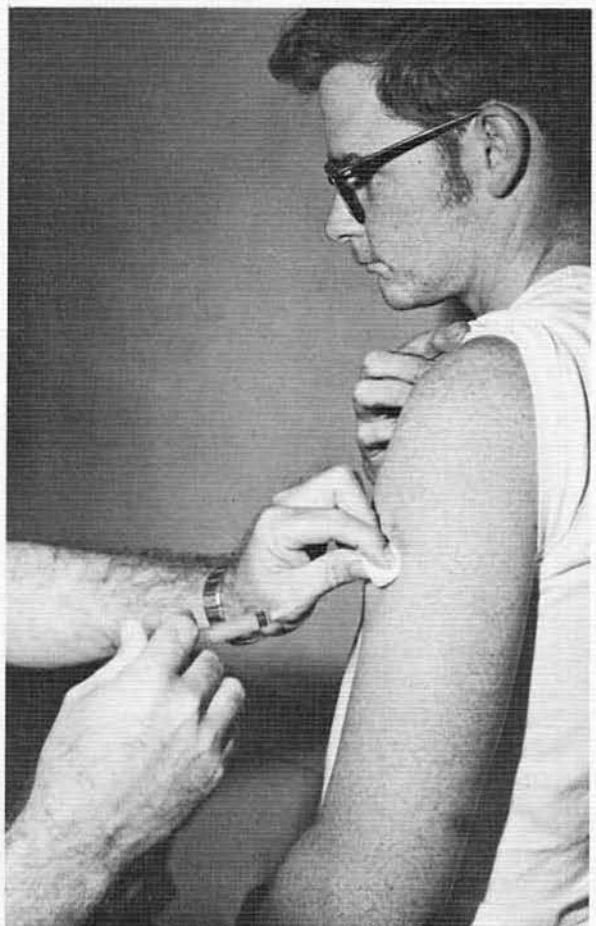
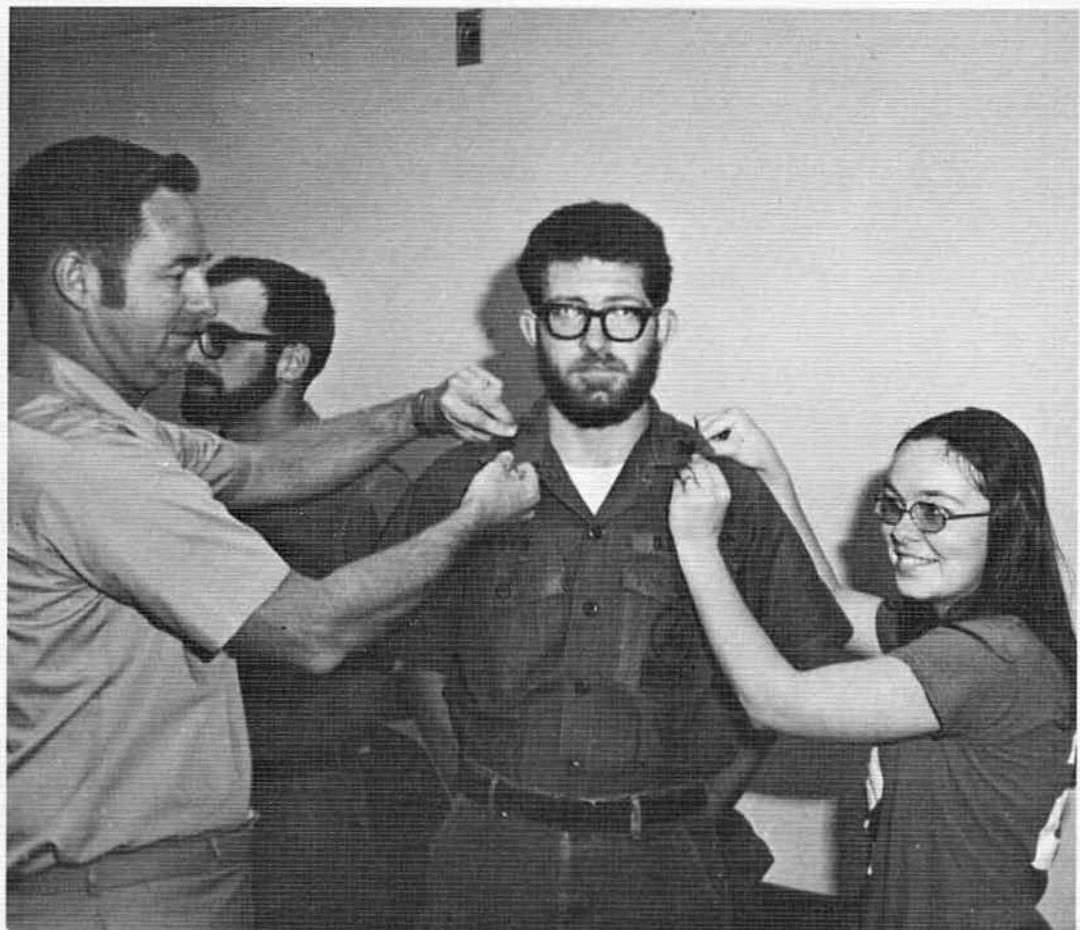
A Time of Activity

Homeport was a busy time for the men of NMCB 133. Activities included on-the-job construction training...building and installing shelves in a community senior citizens' center...paving a highway...and participating in Gulfport's gala bicentennial parade.

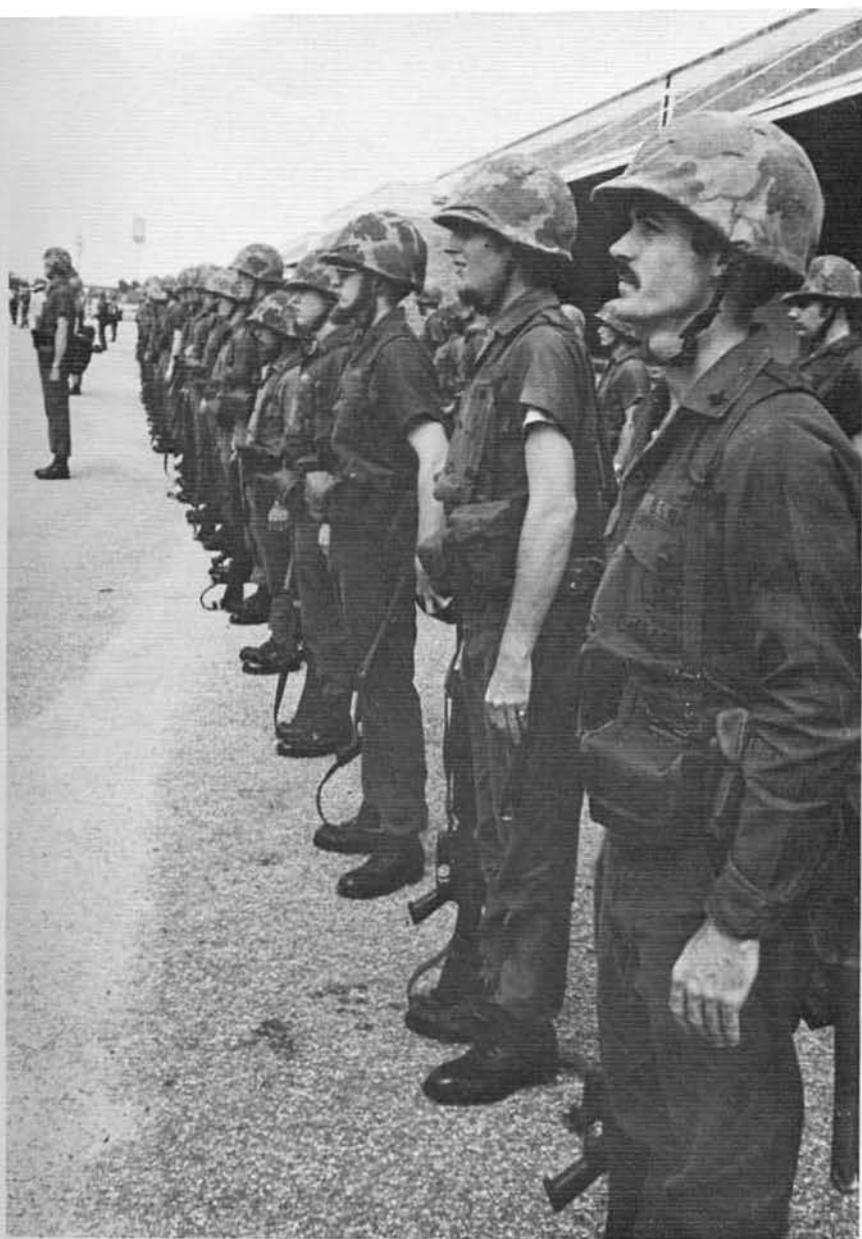












Ready for Anything



"We're ready" is an implied part of the Seabee motto, "We Build, we fight". Varied homeport training helped ensure that readiness. Although we were bound for tropical Diego Garcia, a detachment from the battalion attended three weeks of cold weather training at snow-covered Fort Drum, N.Y., for the experience. Two mount-out exercises proved the battalion's capability to mount-out at only 48 hours' notice. Heavy weapons training familiarized men with the crew-served weapons (such as mortars) Seabees use to defend themselves. A two-week course taught battalion personnel the basics of defensive combat. The course culminated in a day-night mock combat exercise.







***Kangaroo Hot Shots
Won Marksmanship Trophy***

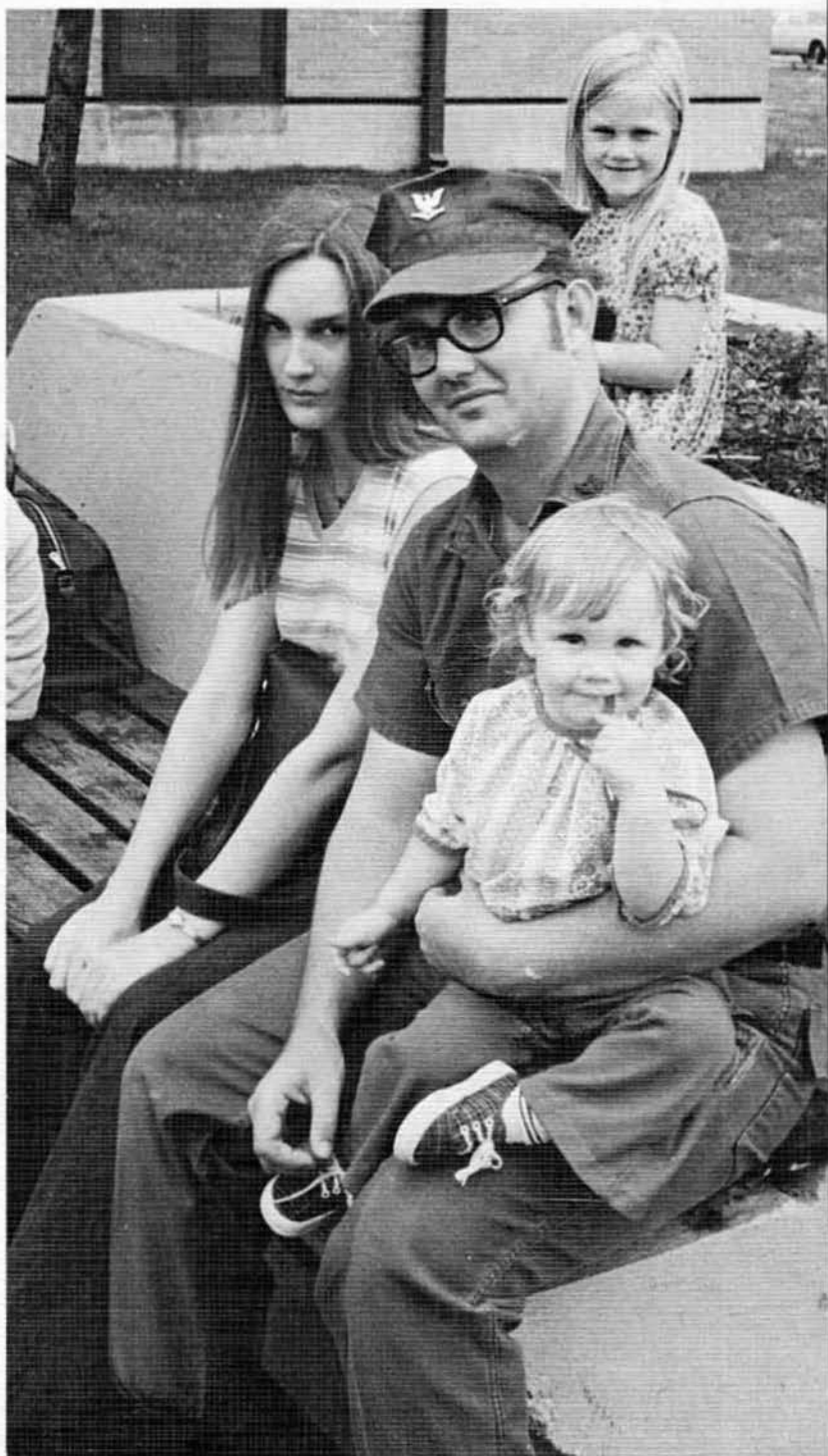
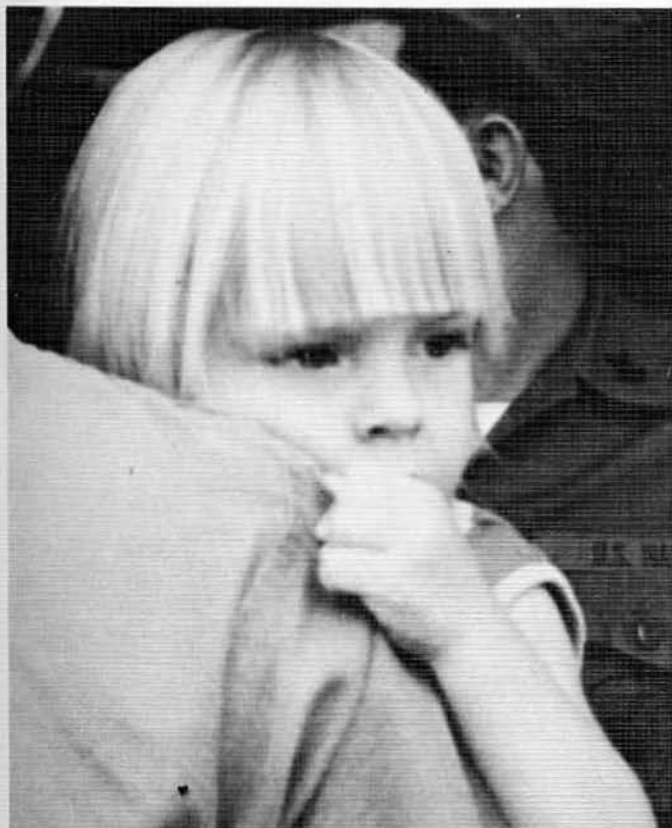


All hands in NMCB 133 were required to shoot for scores at the firing range during homeport, either using the M-16 rifle or the .45 caliber pistol. For their performance on the range, the men of NMCB 133 received the first annual Marksmanship Trophy awarded by Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, Atlantic Fleet (COMCBLANT). NMCB 133's percentage of 93.49 per cent qualified shooters topped all other Atlantic Seabee Battalions. In a congratulatory message, COMCBLANT declared that NMCB 133 had demonstrated... "an extraordinary level of marksmanship proficiency."

No Homeport Lasts Forever



Homeport '76 ended in mid-May for members of the advance party, two weeks later for main body personnel. On the days of departure, families came to exchange precious final smiles, kisses and hugs. Buses transported battalion personnel to waiting aircraft at Gulfport Municipal Airport, at which time the long journey to Diego Garcia began.







Departing 'Heroes' Were Saluted



The 200 men who departed Diego Garcia on May 28th on the Alfa main body flight received a special sendoff. Just before boarding buses to catch their flight, they were addressed by a group headed by Senator John C. Stennis (Dem-Miss.) and Secretary of the Navy J. William Middendorf II. Senator Stennis told the men, "You are going on an assignment where you will literally make history...One hundred years from this year, that American flag will still be flying if we continue to have men like you, willing to step out and do the hard things." The Secretary of the Navy also had praise for the departees, declaring, "Each of you who are going to Diego Garcia tonight are true heroes for America."





DIEGO GARCIA



Arrival





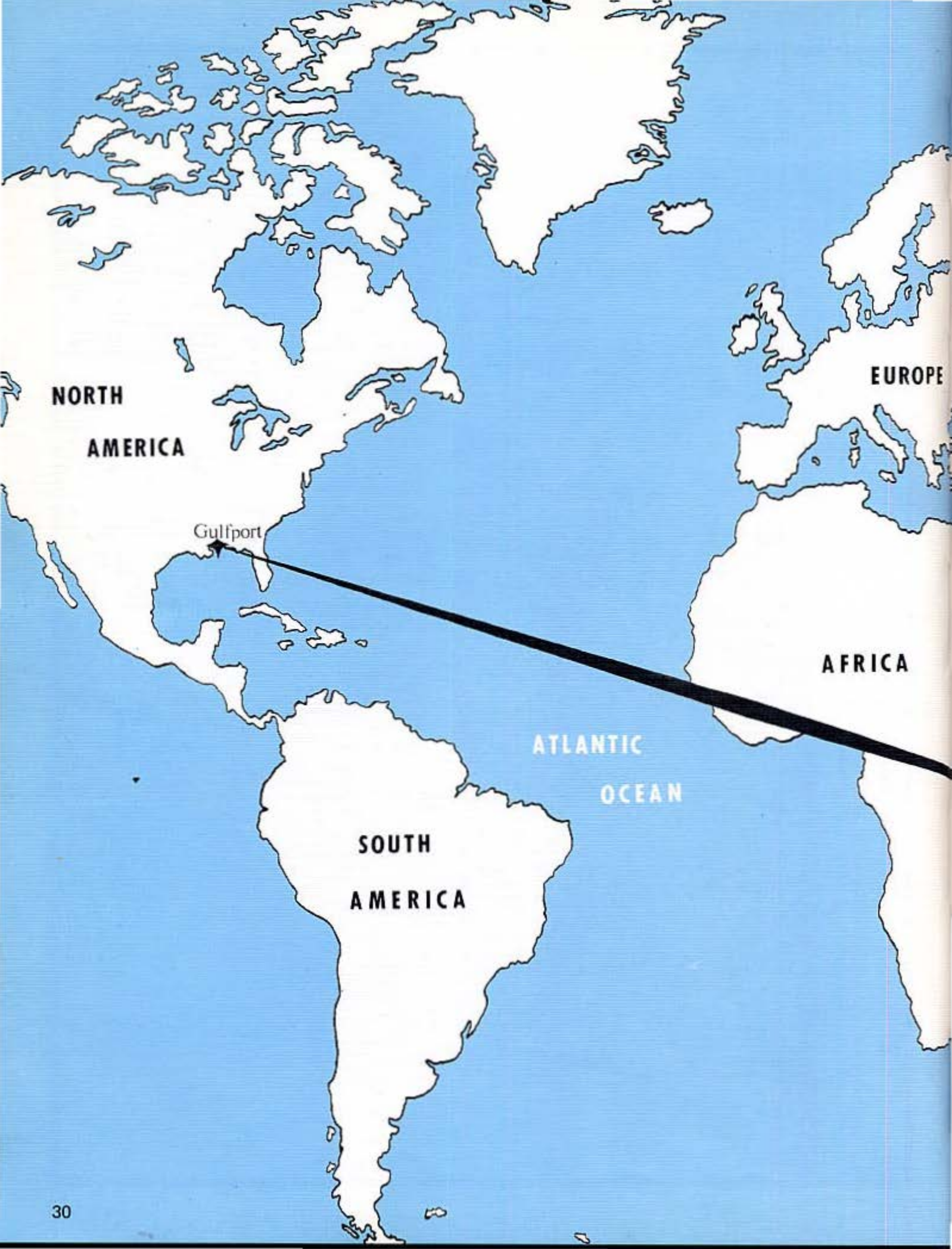


Why Are We Here?



"Why are we here on Diego Garcia?" was a question many of the men probably asked upon arrival or sometime during the deployment. Admiral Noel Gayler, USN, (Ret.), answered that question several months ago in the following manner:

"It is vital that the Indian Ocean remain what it is now -- an ocean available for peaceful trade and commerce, and the interconnection of all nations. And it is important that no one should perceive that Soviet military capabilities are dominant in the Indian Ocean area. We have no desire to dominate that ocean but we cannot see it fall under the domination of any single power. Our strategy, therefore, is not to maintain a large force in the Indian Ocean area, but occasionally to go in there with a sizable naval force in order to demonstrate that the Indian Ocean is no one's lake. And here is where the tiny atoll of Diego Garcia comes in. It's right in the middle, an ideal place for communications and for observation; potentially a fleet anchorage, a storage place for oil; a few spare parts and a runway to support heavy logistic and patrol aircraft . . . It's a big convenience and a cost avoidance, and it makes sense. . ."



**NORTH
AMERICA**

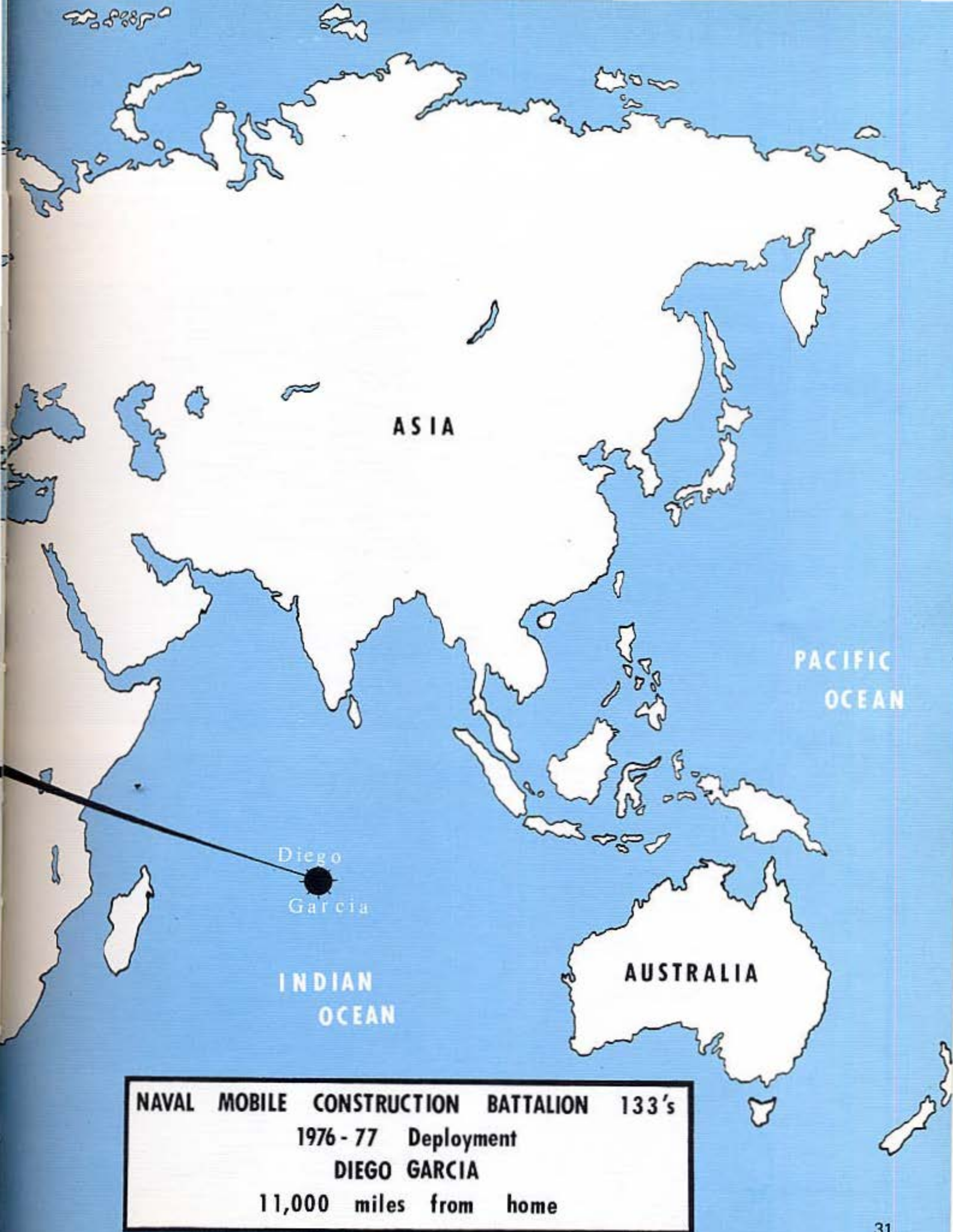
EUROPE

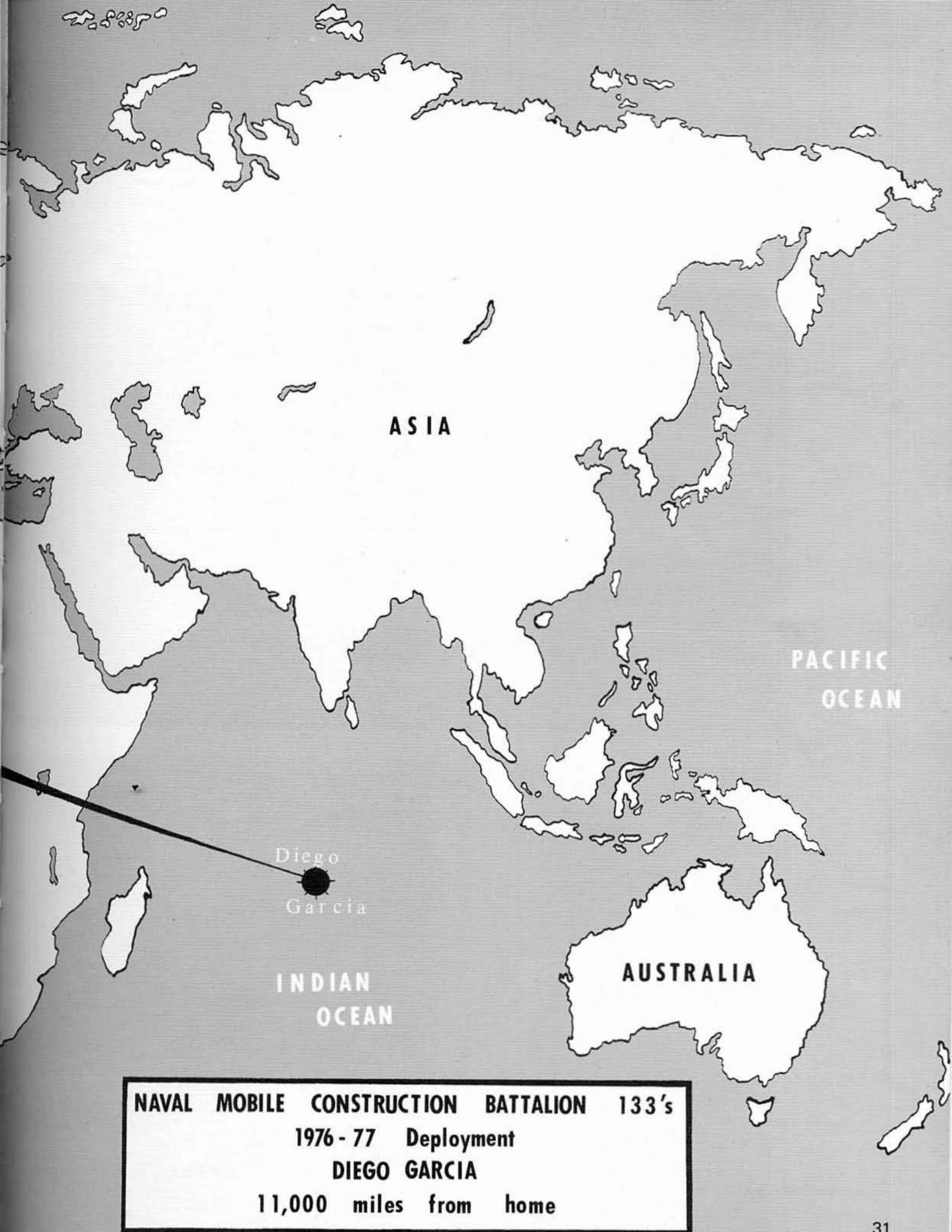
Gulfport

AFRICA

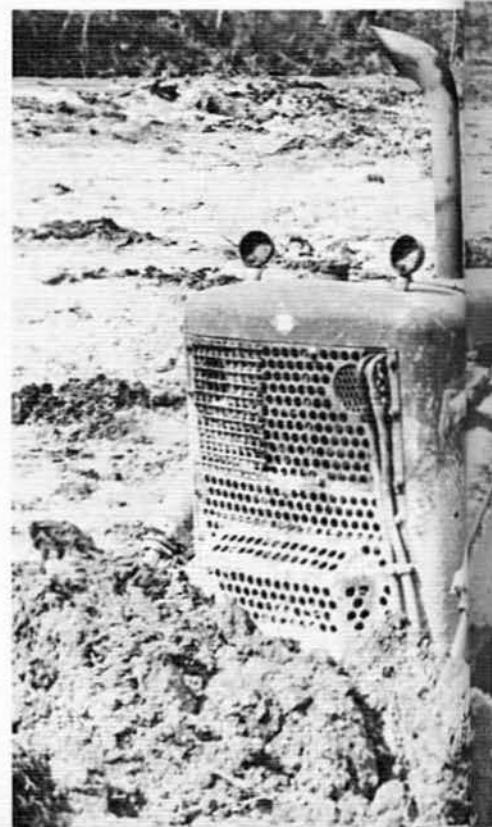
**ATLANTIC
OCEAN**

**SOUTH
AMERICA**





Heavy Workload Demanded Top Effort



Shortly after settling into living quarters at Camp Cummins, the men of NMCB 133 tackled the assigned workload. Major taskings included expansion of Diego Garcia's airfield runway/parking apron, construction of a gymnasium, enlisted men's galley, enlisted men's club, and rehab of the Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) facilities. In brief, the tasking was great and demanded the finest Seabee effort.



Deployment Calendar

JUNE, 1976

- Camp Cummins was turned over from NMCB 5; All NMCB 133 personnel mustered on Diego Garcia
- LCDR Ronald S. Hadbavny relieved CDR Bruce L. MacCall as battalion Executive Officer

JULY

- RADM Fisher, COMCBPAC, and CAPT Dixon, Commander, 31st NCR, visited Diego Garcia
- CDR Gene Davis relieved CDR Richard A. Lowery as battalion Commanding Officer

AUGUST

- Record amount of supplies was off-loaded from the supply ship SS TRANSCOLORADO

SEPTEMBER

- NMCB 133 completed work on the island's new ship's store, which opened for business the following month

NOVEMBER

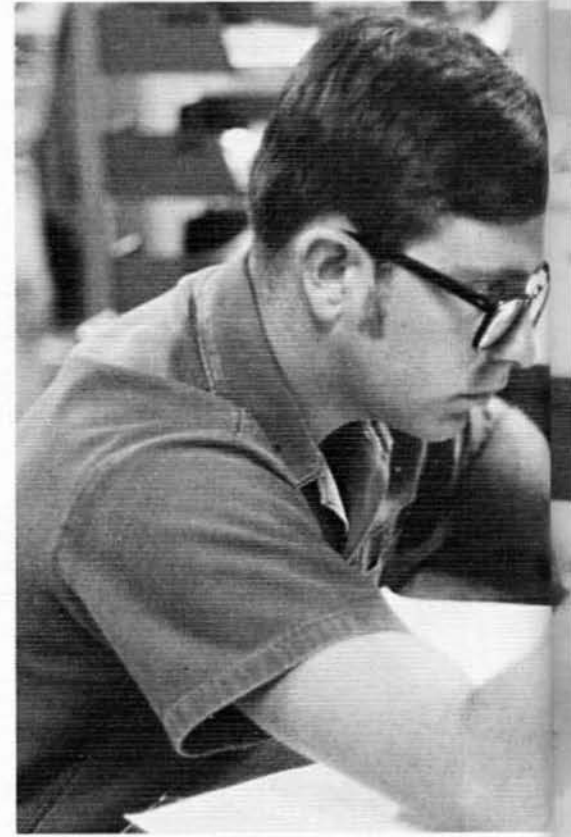
- CAPT J. P. Jones, Jr., COMCBLANT, visited island
- The second off-loading of the SS TRANSCOLORADO again set a record

JANUARY, 1977

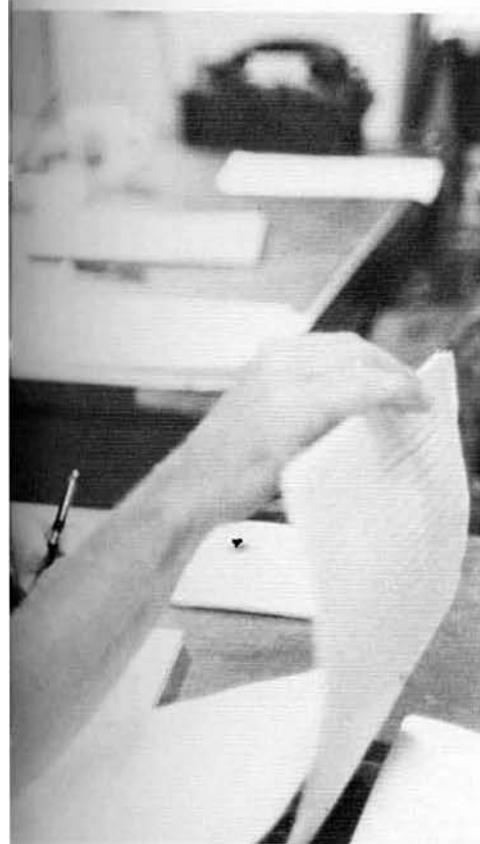
- Advance party departed for Gulfport

FEBRUARY

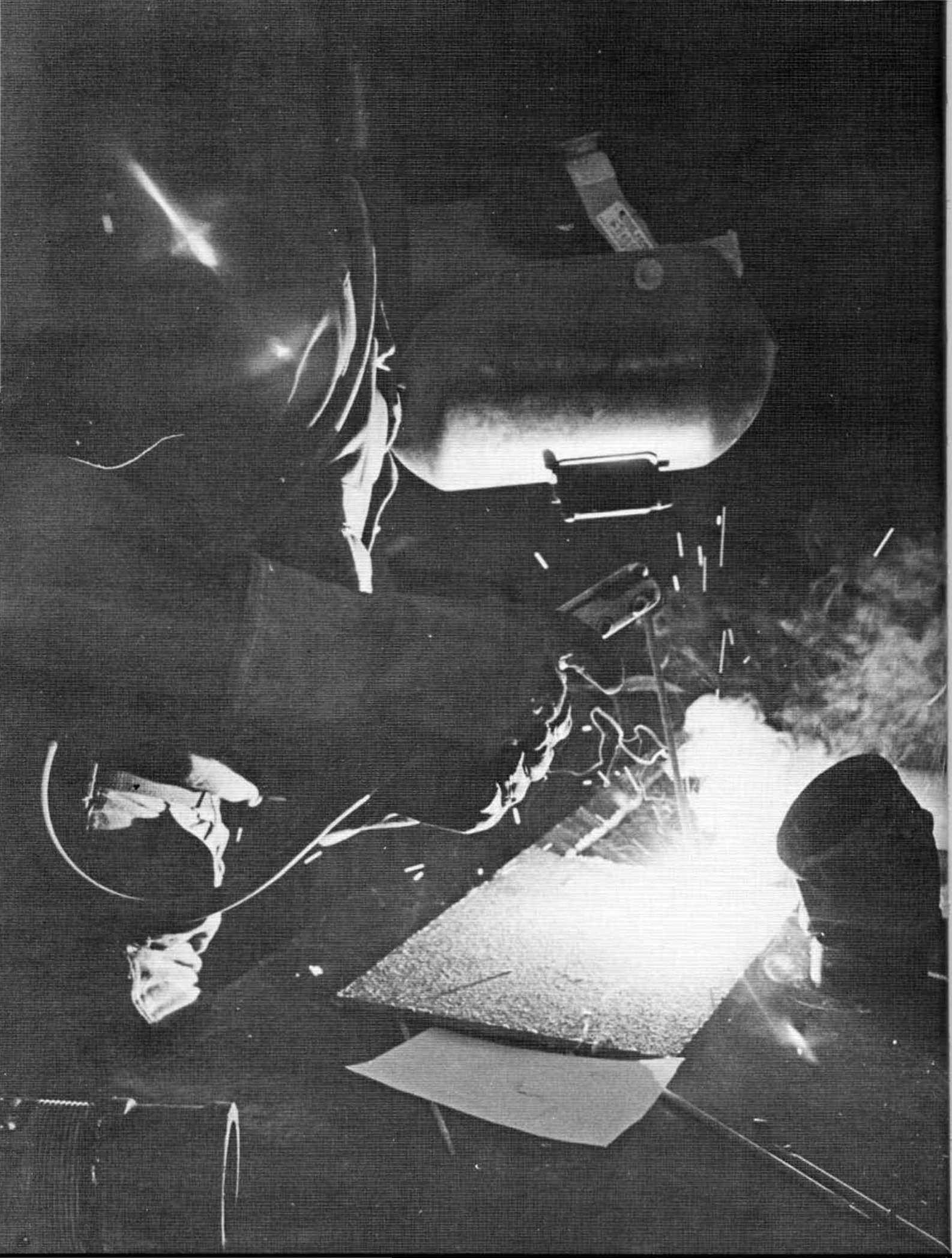
- Camp Cummins was turned over to NMCB 62
- NMCB 133 main body departed for Gulfport to commence homeport period

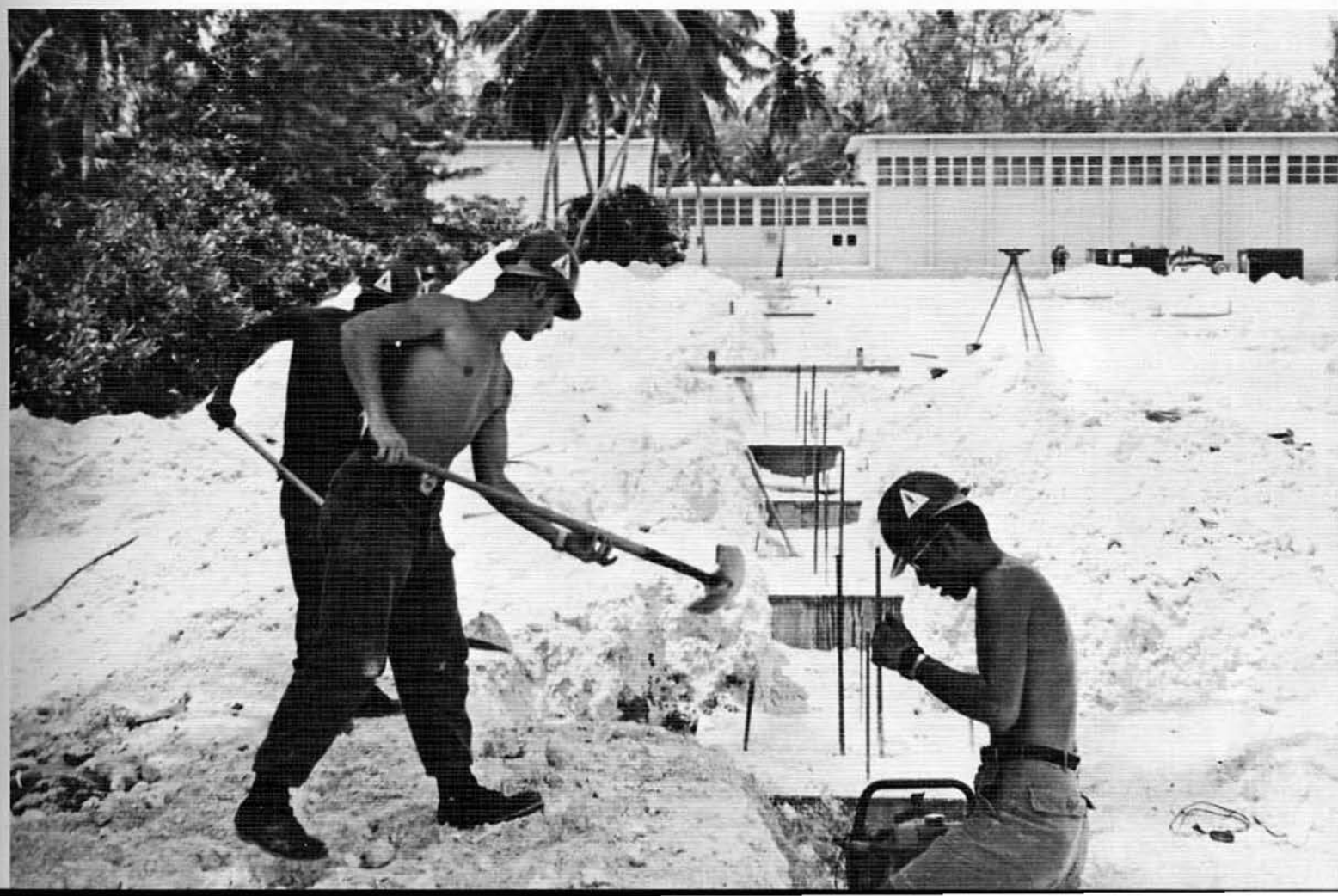


100% Employment

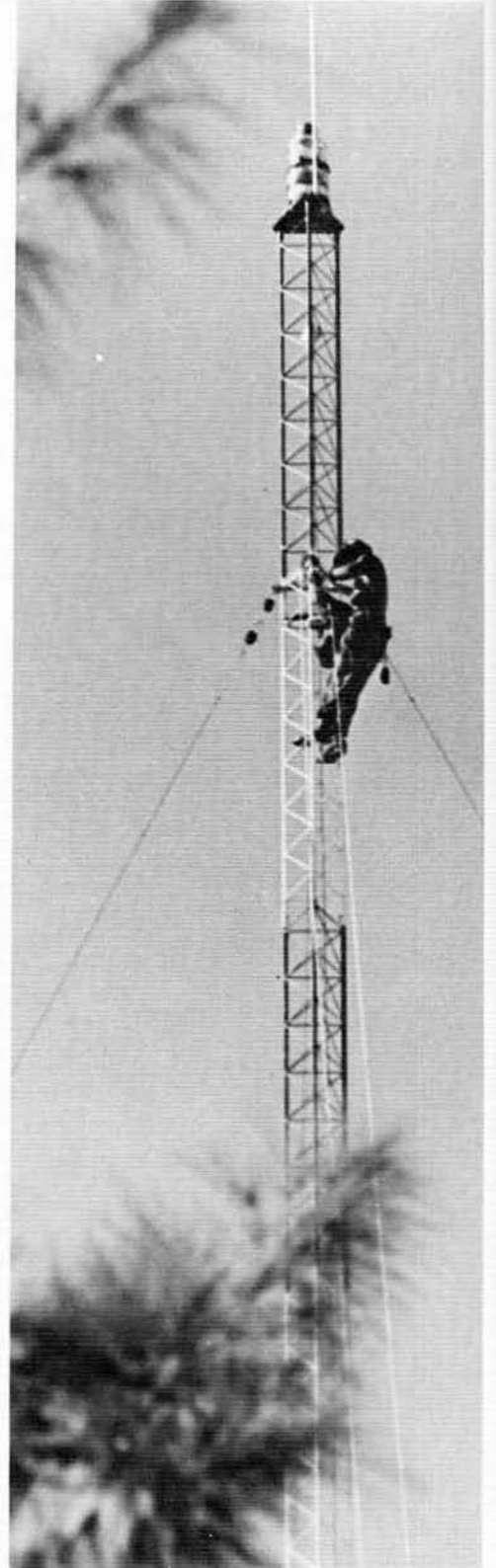


Everyone had a job to do on Diego Garcia. A variety of work had to be done, including digging, sawing, moving earth, moving paperwork, and tying rebar steel. Each job was important to the deployment's success. The work was hard, the hours long, and the satisfaction great.

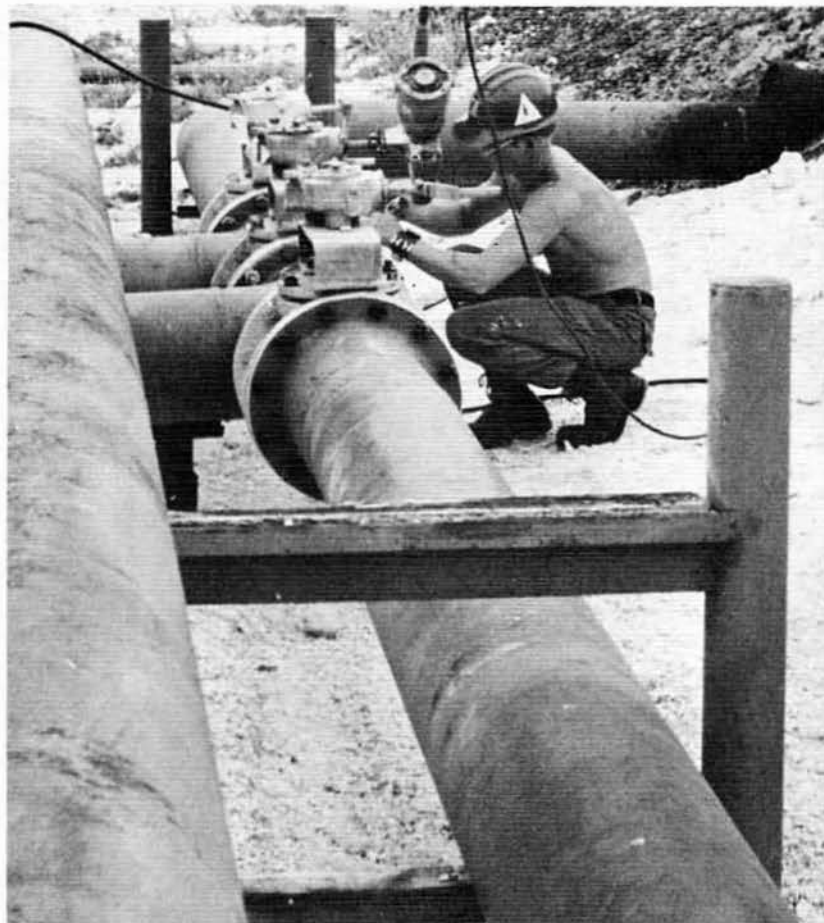




Accomplishment Was Our Legacy

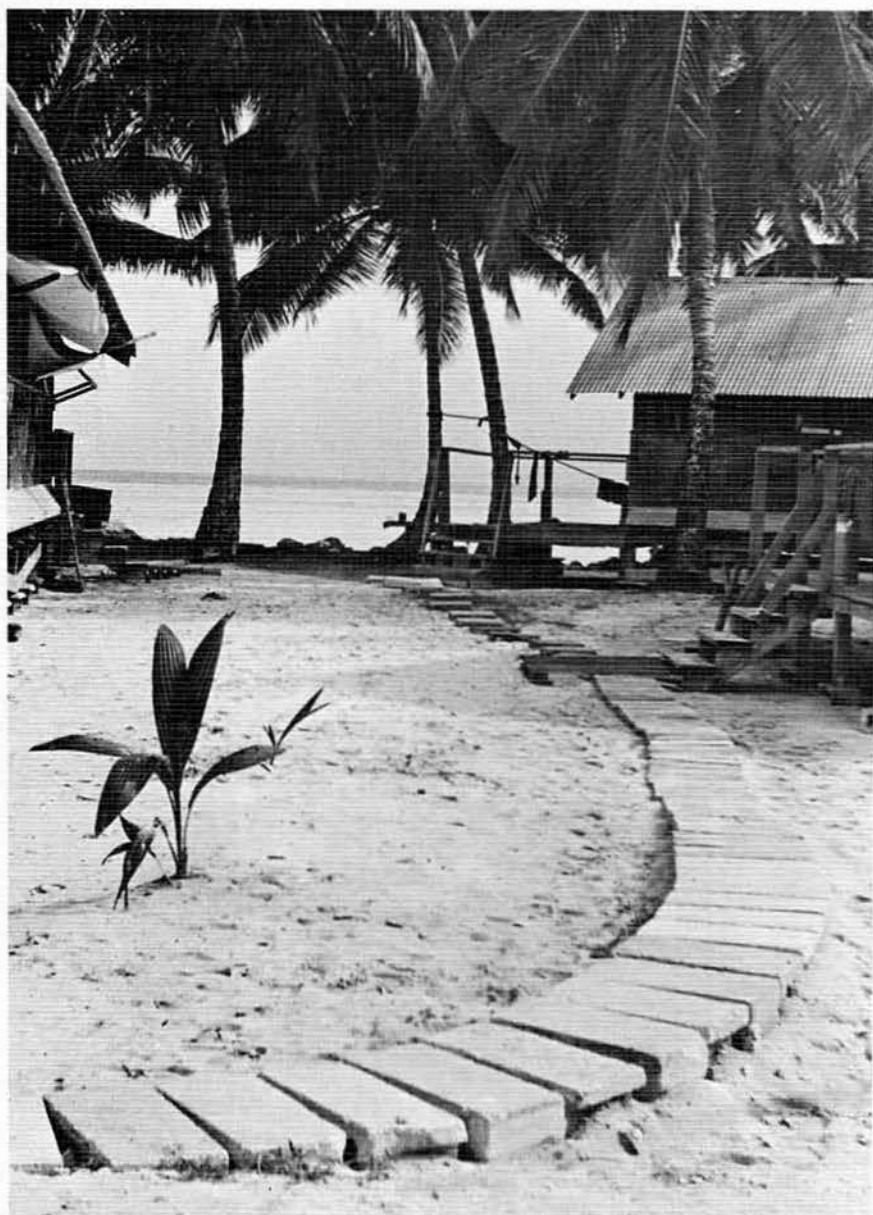
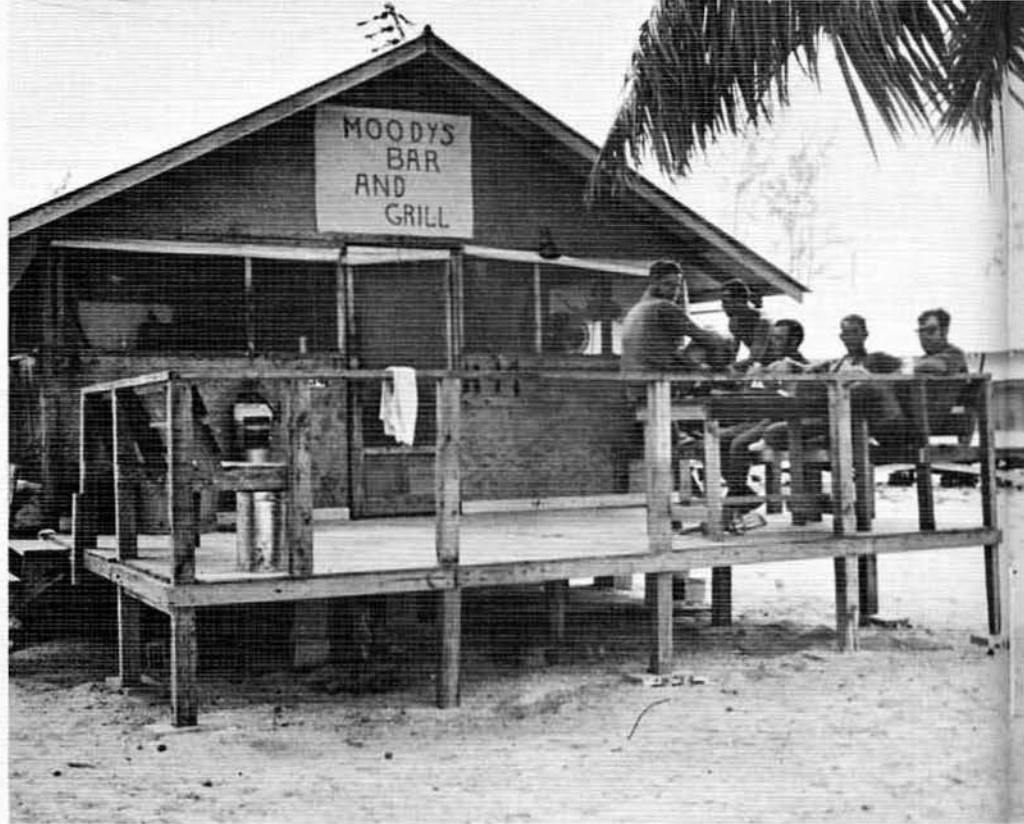


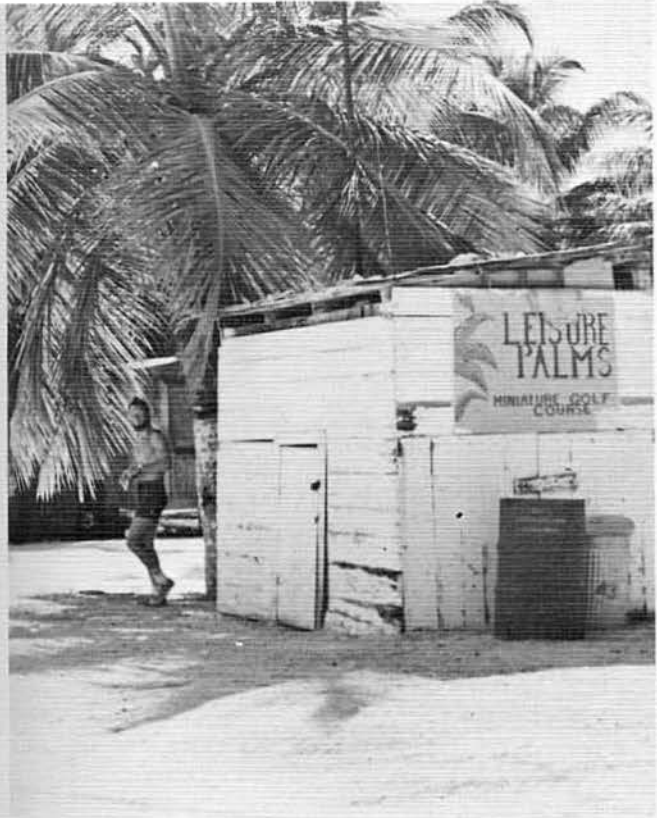
During the Diego Garcia deployment, the men of NMCB 133 worked on 80 project taskings, ranging in size from minor rehabilitation projects to the multi-million dollar runway and parking apron expansion. The majority of the battalion's taskings were completed and substantial progress was made on long duration and new-start projects. Additionally, on four occasions, NMCB 133 personnel off-loaded ships which brought needed materials to the island.

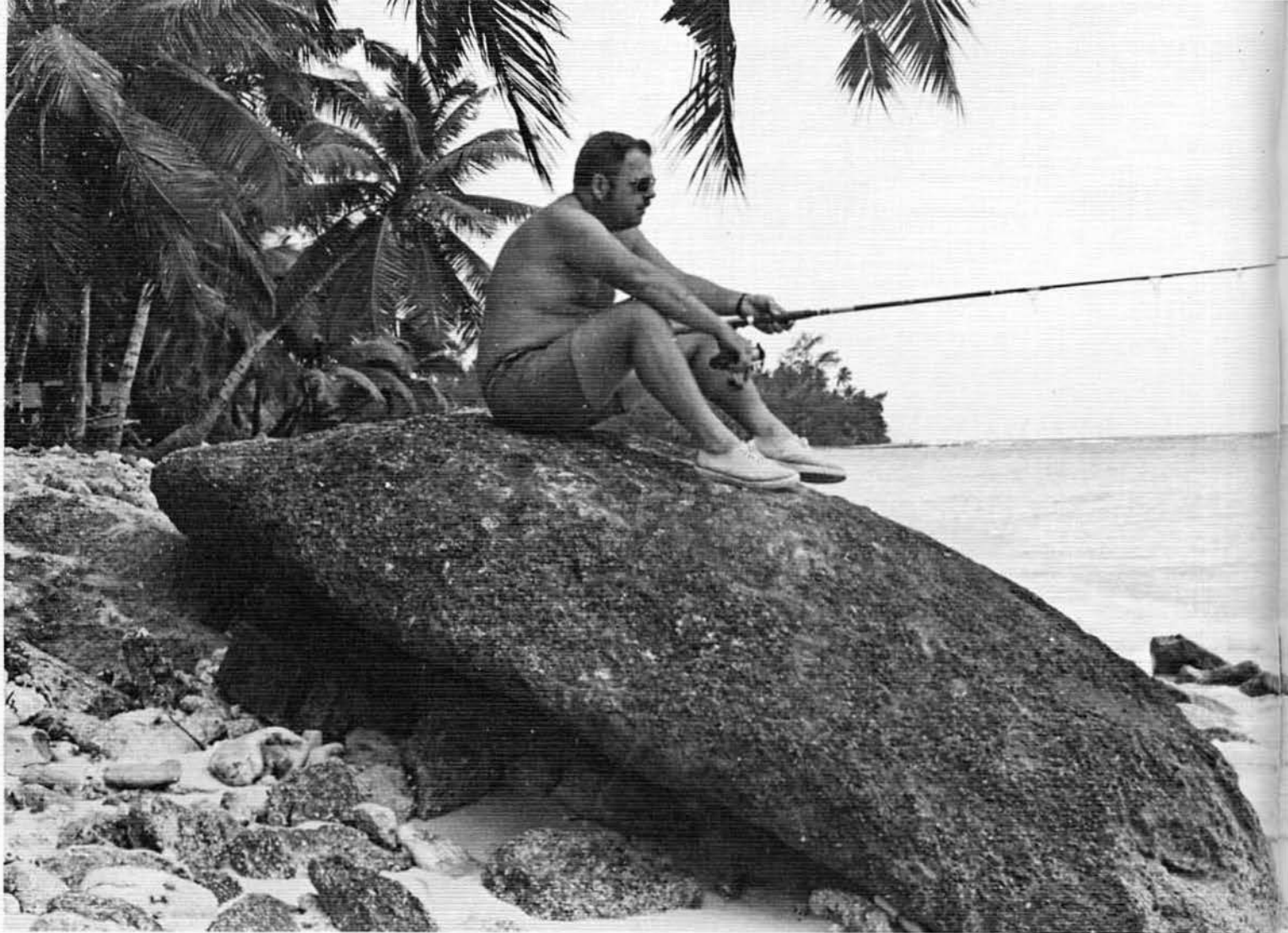


Daily Living

Daily living on Diego Garcia, part of the British Indian Ocean Territory, was an unforgettable experience. Housed in either 12-man sea-huts or four-man porta-huts, men of NMCB 133 shared the cantonment area with Seabee detachments from other battalions, the 30th Naval Construction Regiment, fleet sailors of the Naval Communication Station, and a small British Royal Navy detachment. A typical day began with morning physical training and in many cases concluded with a trip to the "Leisure Palms" soda/beer stand for that pause that refreshes. Unusual events, such as a visit from a four-legged friend, spiced the routine.

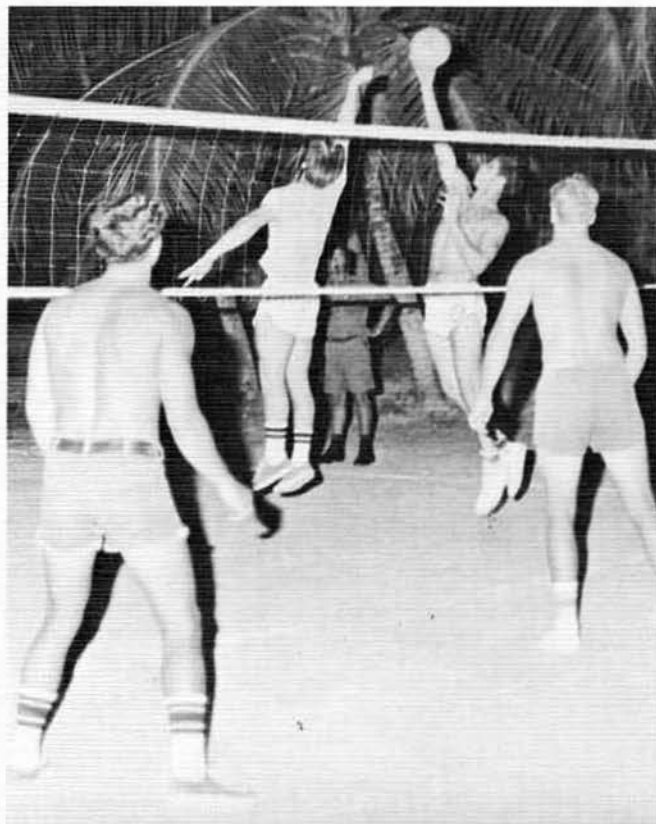


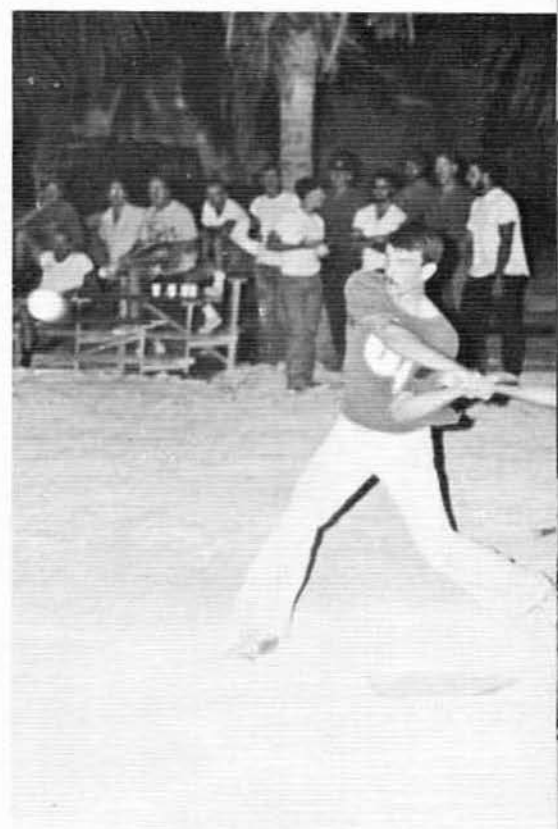
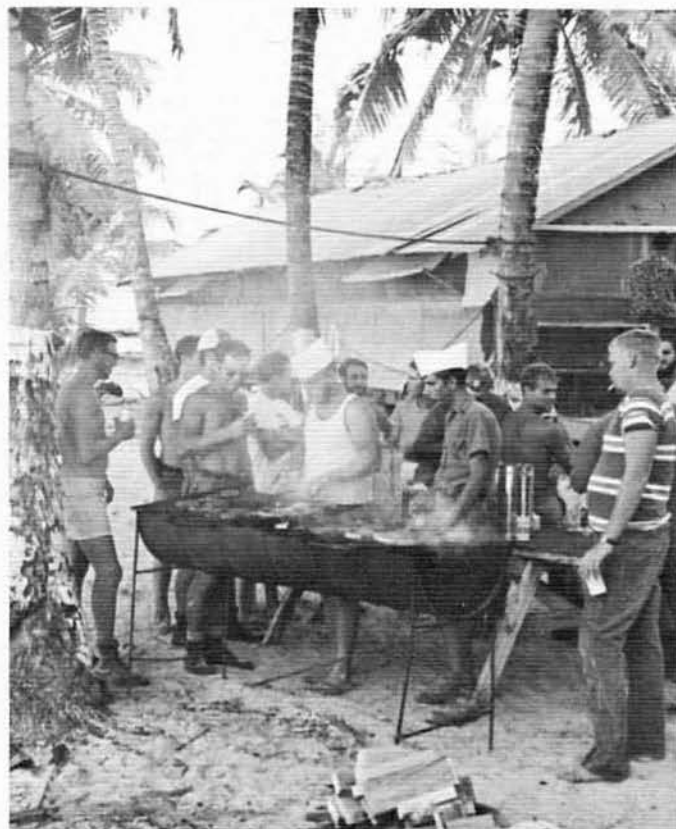




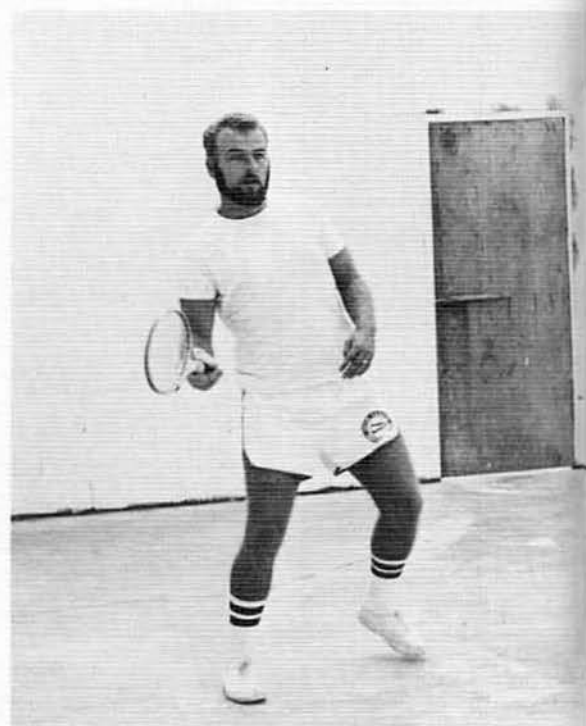
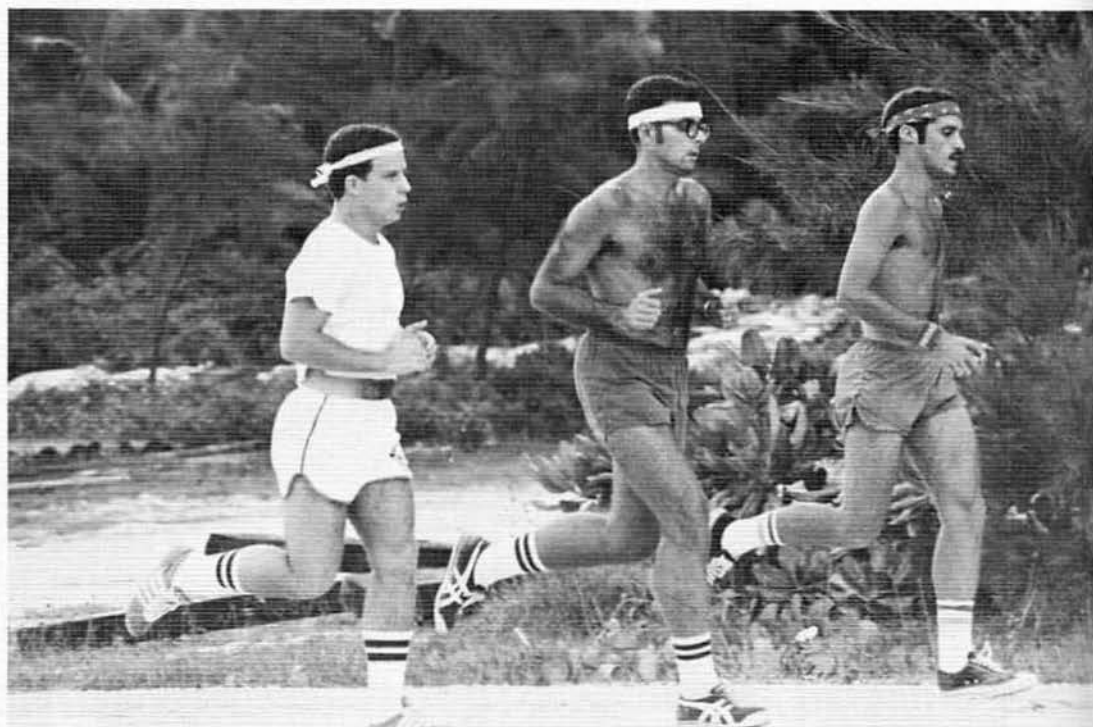
Off Duty On Diego

During off-duty hours, there was nothing to do on Diego Garcia. . .except for fishing, boating, swimming, diving, go-carting, jogging, weight-lifting, and playing softball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, handball, racquetball and tennis. There was nothing to do. . .except shelling, reading, movie-going, picnicing, picture-taking, letter-writing, playing card games and attending the extremely-popular USO shows.





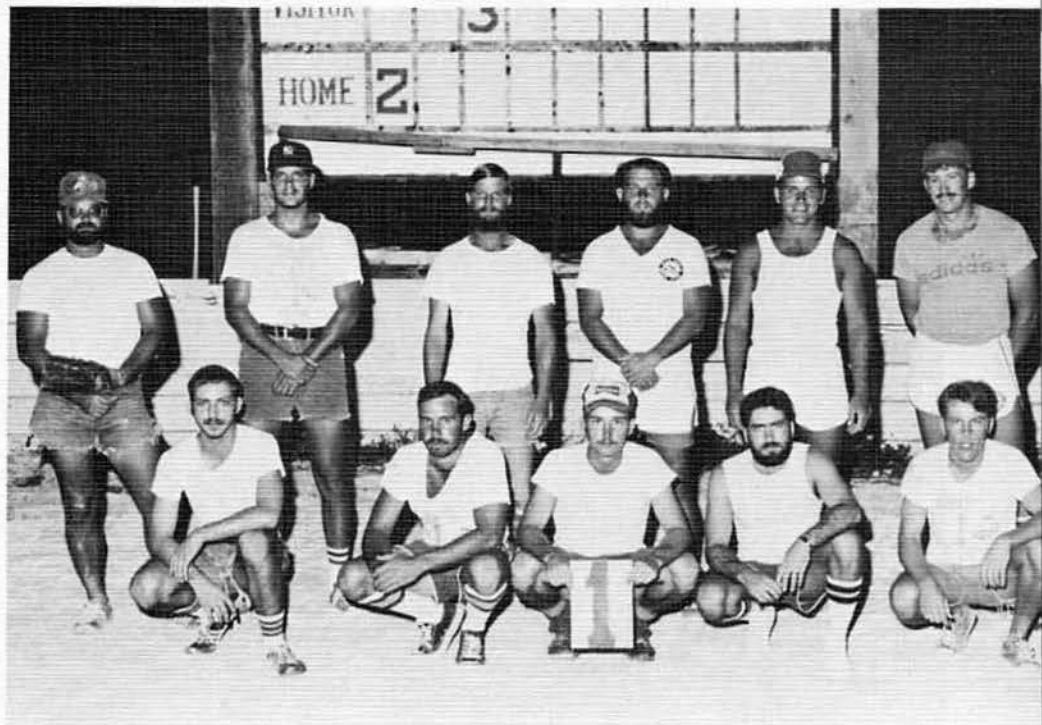
A Great Place to Get In Shape...



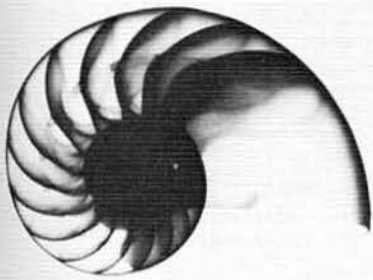
...And Have Fun!

"Creased file folders, tattered record sheets, stand in the cabinet drawer like silent testimonials to days of battalion achievement and recognition in the field of sports. Frolicking, carefree moments when the most important matter in the world was to win that game, defeat that opponent. Days of good fellowship and sportsmanship."

-- from Seabee battalion 133's first cruisebook, 1945

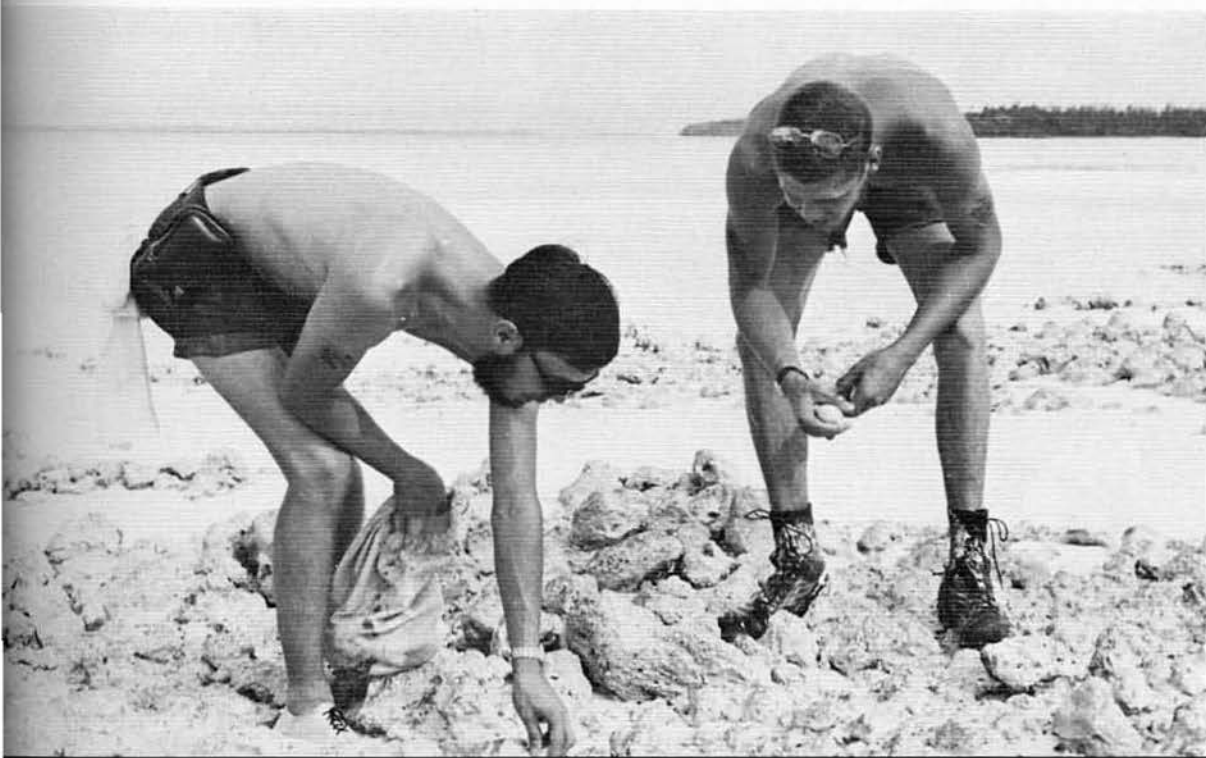




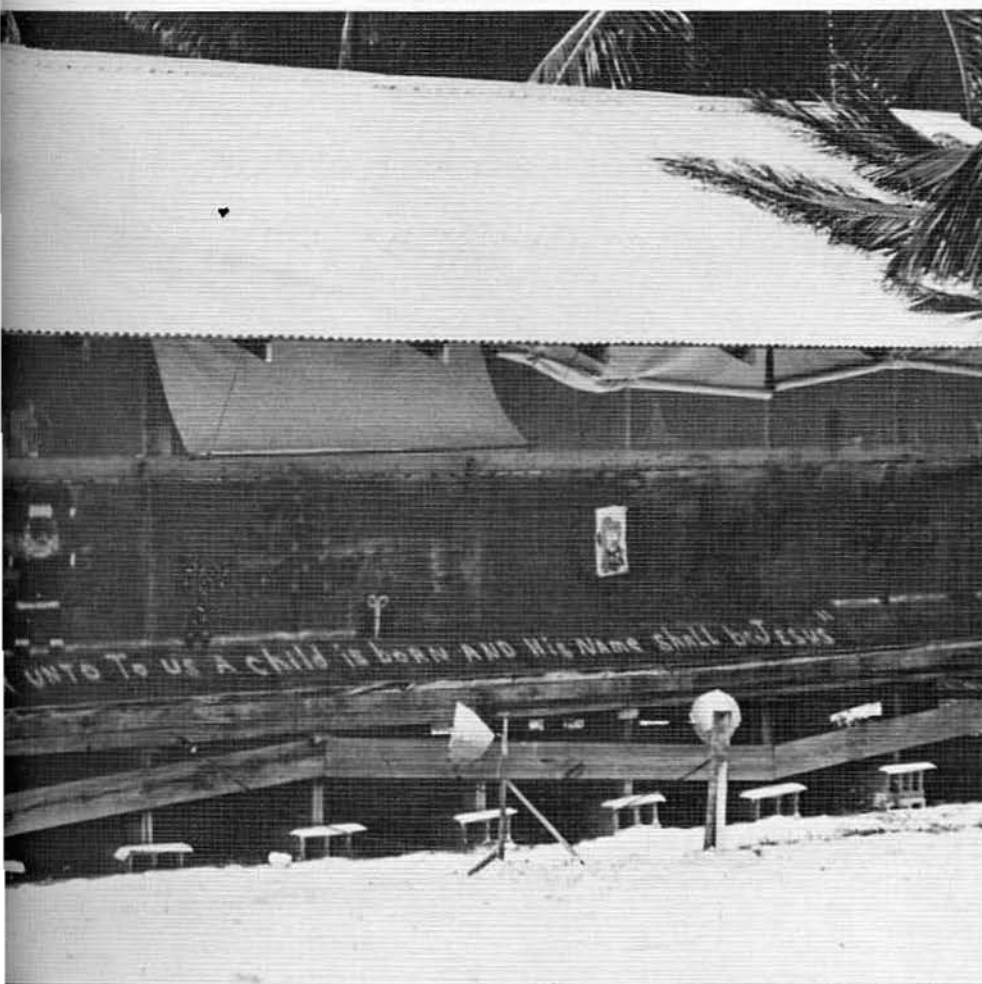


Sea Shelling

The sea shells found on Diego Garcia, rich in color and variety, lured almost everyone to go shelling at least once during the deployment. For some men, shelling became their favorite pastime. Periodic low tides afforded excellent shelling opportunities. Among the common finds were cowrie, cone and top shells.







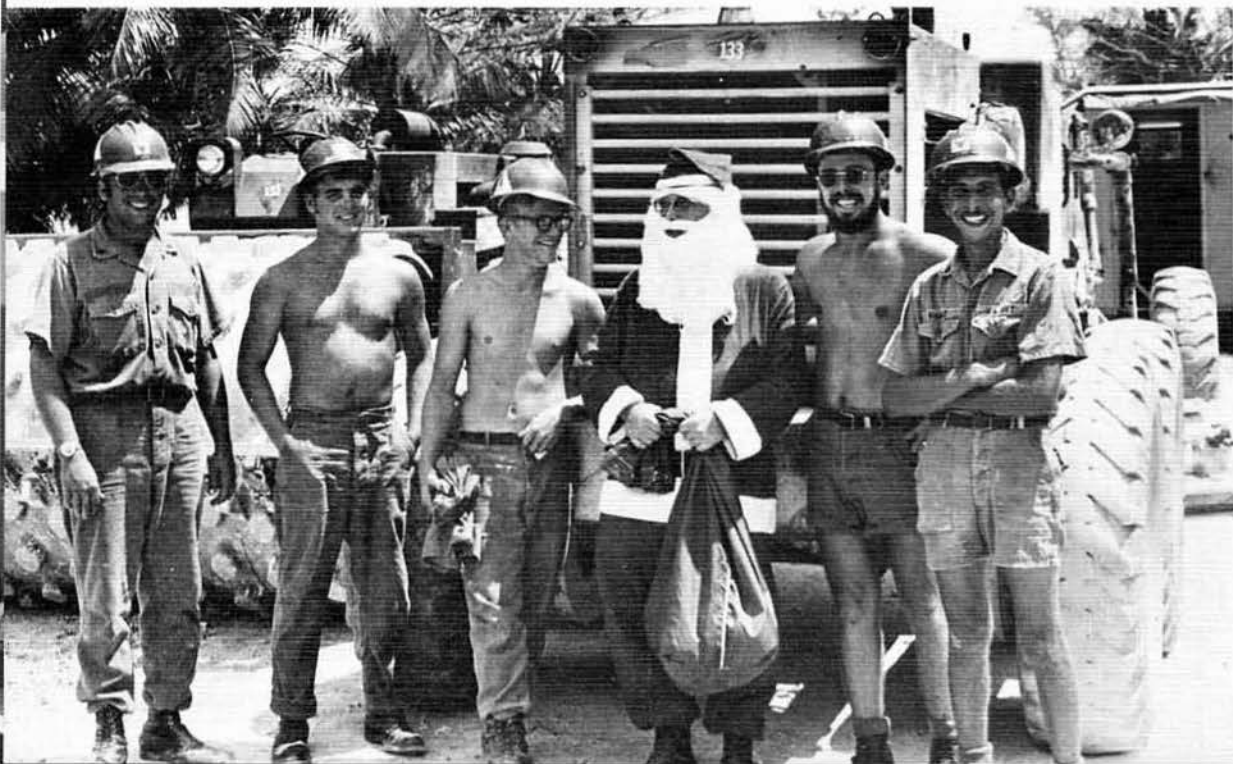
Happy Holidays

NMCB 133 was deployed on Diego Garcia during almost all of the major holidays and special dates of 1976. Personnel on the island marked each special occasion with modest celebration. On the bicentennial Fourth of July, an all-hands picnic was held near the beach; Halloween was marked by a party in the enlisted men's club; and Thanksgiving Day observation included the traditional turkey dinner, served in the galley. For Christmas, men of NMCB 133 put their Seabee ingenuity to work and decorated their living quarters.

Santa Didn't Forget Us



Santa Didn't Forget Us



Proving once again his consummate skill as an aviator and navigator, Old Saint Nick arrived on Diego Garcia in time to spread holiday cheer for Christmas '76. The jolly old elf brought smiles wherever he went, and he went almost everywhere on the island. Men sat on Santa's lap for the first time since childhood. Only the most cynical were disturbed by Santa's striking resemblance to Storekeeper First Class Bud Cunningham.







Glimpse Into the Past

For nearly 200 years, the main activity on Diego Garcia was coconut harvesting. Men of NMCB 133 spent many off-duty hours exploring the remains of the old coconut plantations on the island. Most of the buildings were constructed for French owners in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The largest building is the East Point plantation manager's house, which still contains a stove and several pieces of furniture. Among the other buildings are a church, dispensary, stable and post office.

Also, although no combat action has ever taken place on the island, evidence of a military presence during World War II remains, in the form of a beached seaplane and two rusted artillery pieces.









Diego Garcia's Natural Zoo

Despite the ongoing construction, most of Diego Garcia is still in a natural state. Coconut trees, Australian pines, ferns and other vegetation compose dense jungle areas. These areas are home to the island's permanent residents — donkeys, wild horses, crabs and birds. These creatures made excellent subjects for patient photographers.





*Diego
Garcia
Perspectives*



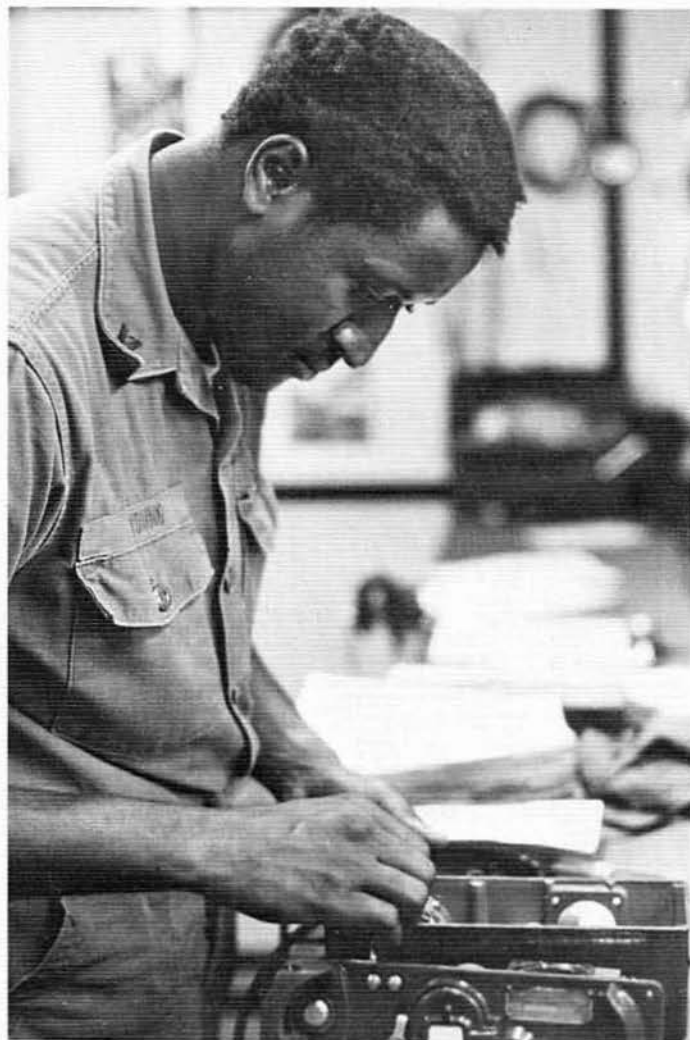


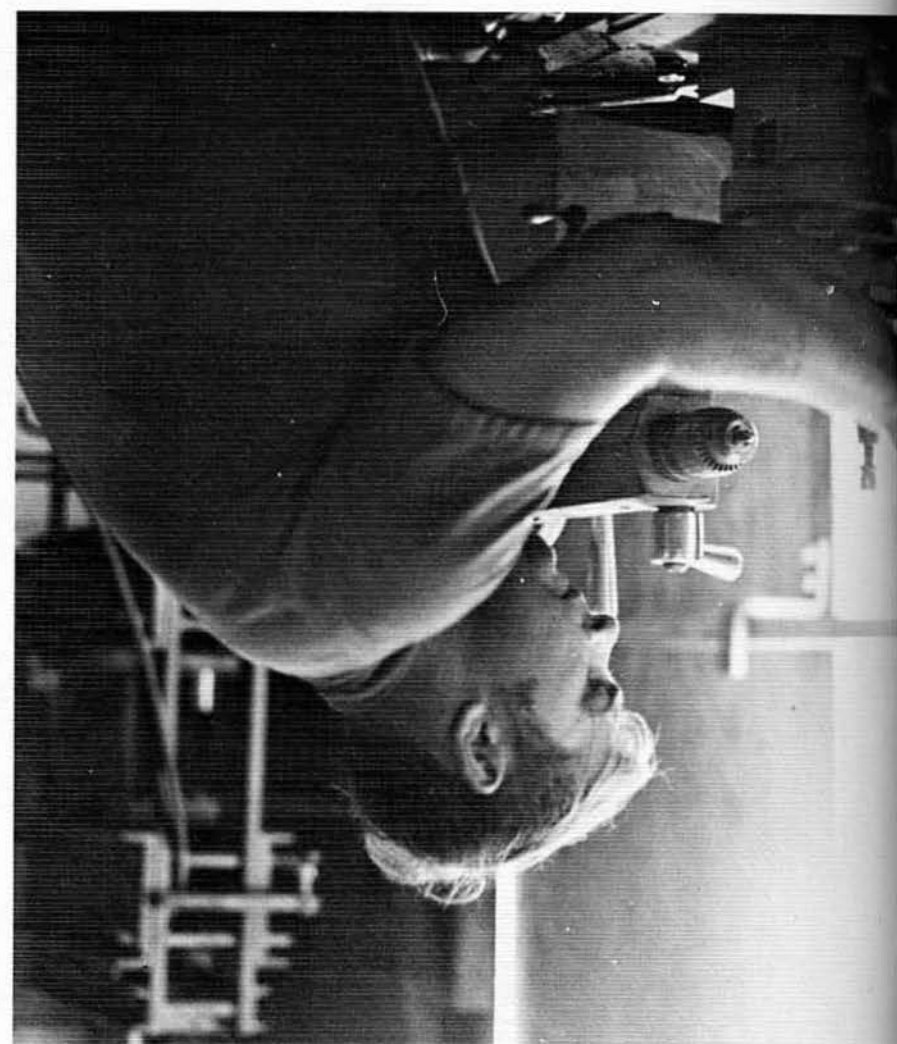
KANGROO PEOPLE



The Human Factor

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 operated with machine-like efficiency on Diego Garcia, but unlike a machine, the battalion was composed not of cogs, but of individuals. All the men in the battalion had different dreams, hopes, fears, beliefs and backgrounds. In the American tradition, they worked together, did their best professional work, and left the island with a record of accomplishment they could all be proud of. These men are pictured on the next 66 pages. They are the "Kangaroo People" of 1976-'77.





Commanding Officer of NMCB 133

Gene Davis CDR, CEC, USN

Commander Gene Davis relieved Commander Richard A. Lowery as Commanding Officer of NMCB 133 on July 17, 1976, in an all-hands ceremony on Diego Garcia.

Commander Davis brought to the job 16 years of experience as an officer in the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps. A native of Thomasville, Ala., CDR Davis graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering. He was commissioned an Ensign in the Navy in 1959.

His previous duty assignments include: Resident Officer In Charge of Construction, Thailand; Staff Civil Engineer and Assistant Deputy Officer In Charge of Construction, Cape Canaveral; and Executive Officer of NMCB 121. Before coming to NMCB 133, he served as Director, Requirements and Planning Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

Commander Davis graduated with a Master of Science degree in management from the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, California. He is also a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College.

Commander Davis, his wife Betty and their four children call Long Beach, Miss. home.



Executive Officer of NMCB 133

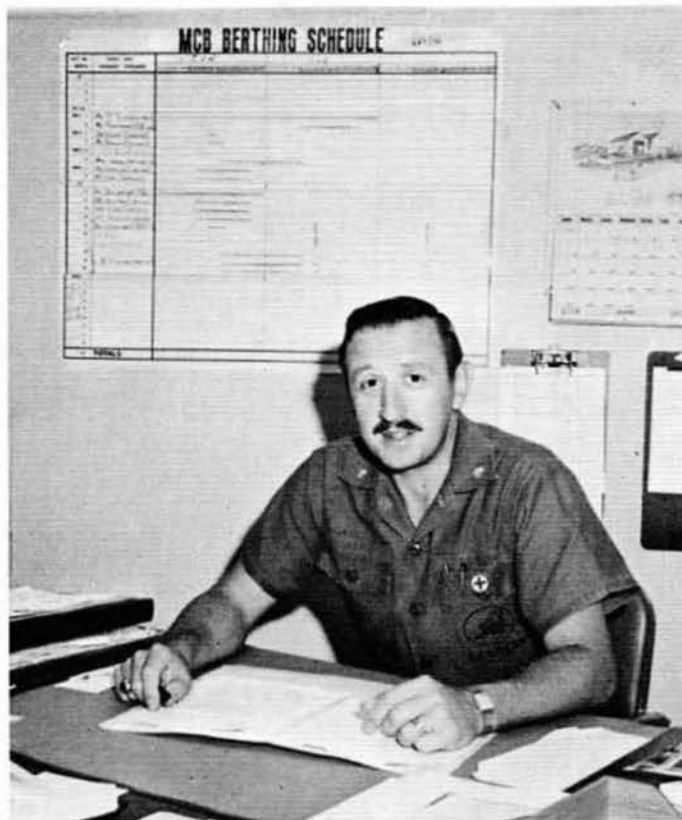
Ronald S. Hadbavny LCDR, CEC, USN

On June 9, 1976, less than two weeks after the Diego Garcia deployment began, Lieutenant Commander Ronald S. Hadbavny relieved Commander Bruce A. MacCall as Executive Officer of NMCB 133.

Lieutenant Commander Hadbavny was commissioned an Ensign in the Navy in August, 1964. His career includes duty assignments as Alfa company Commander, PHIBCB-TWO, Little Creek, Va.; Equipment Officer and Line of Communication Officer in the 32nd Naval Construction Regiment in Vietnam; Public Works Officer at U.S. Naval Activities, United Kingdom, in London; and the Senior Assistant Resident Officer In Charge of Construction for the sub base and surrounding naval activities at New London, Conn.

LCDR Hadbavny is from Canton, Ohio. He did both his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Notre Dame and was awarded a B.S. in civil engineering in 1964, and a M.S. in the same field in 1966.

Lieutenant Commander Hadbavny is married to the former Margelia Pauline St. Pierre, and they have two children. The Hadbavny family currently resides in Long Beach, Miss.





COMMAND

Standing

LCDR Ronald S. Hadbavny
CWO3 John W. Hays
LTJG George F. Gilbert, Jr.
LT Jimmy D. Franklin
LCDR Edward R. Hamm
LCDR David J. Powell

LT William T. Parker
LT Lynn R. Oakleaf
LTJG Richard A. Ratte
LTJG Mark R. Hammer
CDR Gene Davis



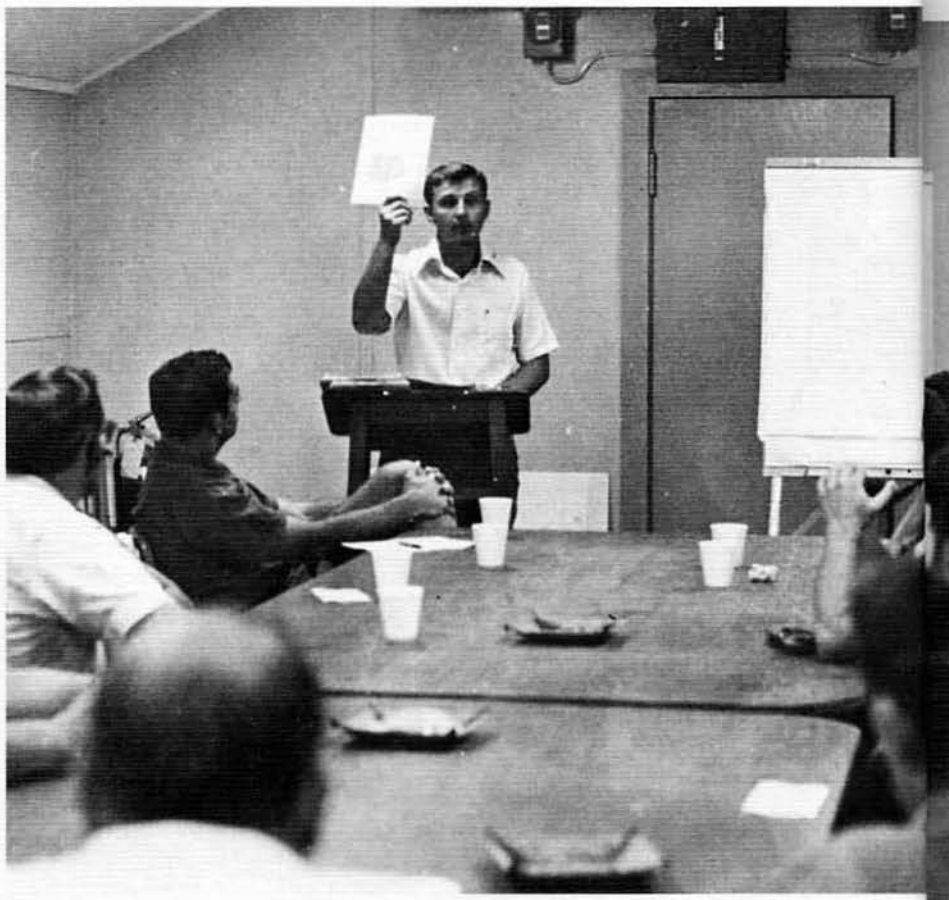
OFFICERS

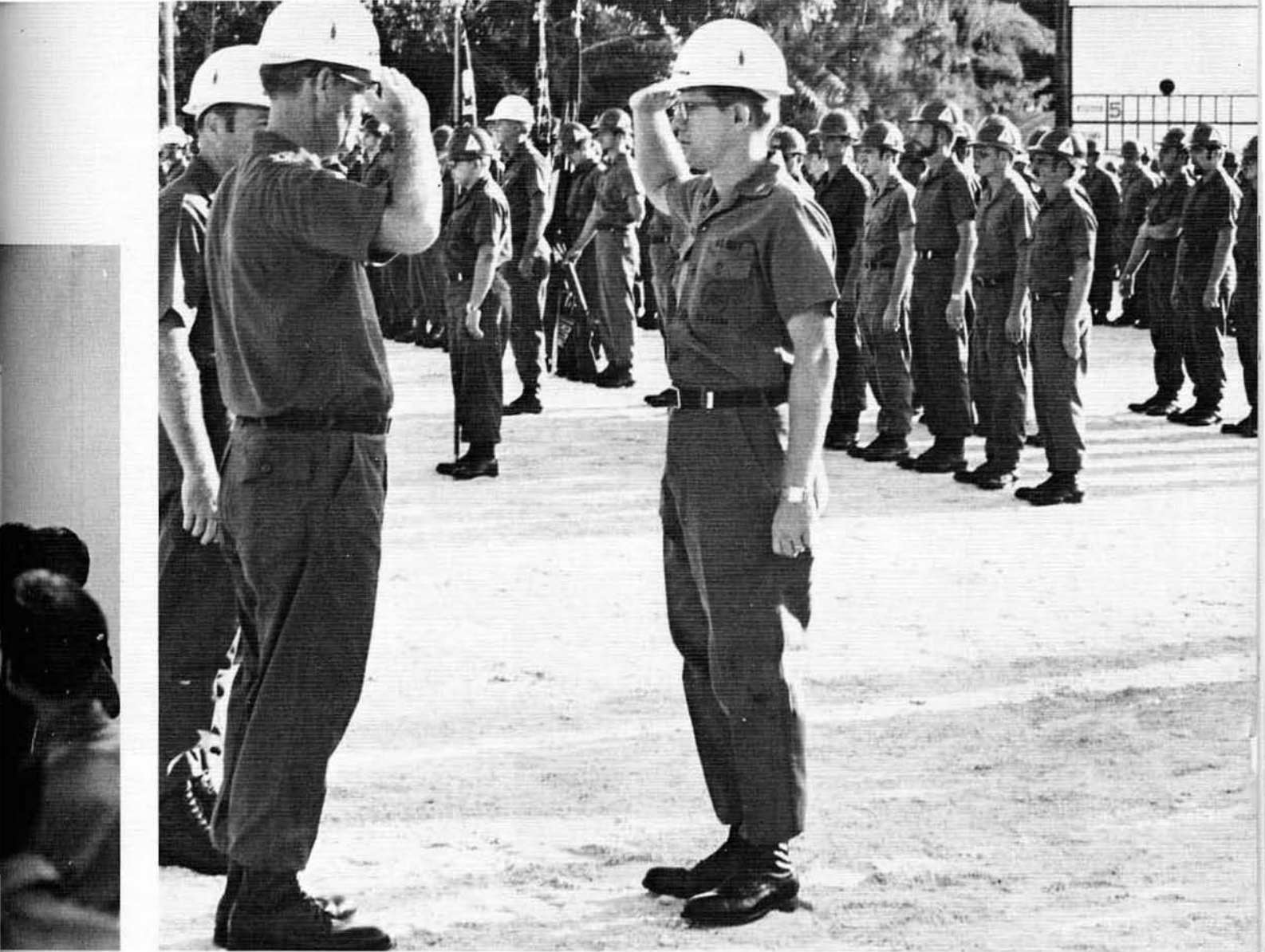
Kneeling

ENS Thomas W. Nielsen
LTJG Benjamin S. Konopka
LT Daniel J. Devescovi
LT Robert H. Powell
ENS Thomas H. Pike

ENS Raymond K. Alexander
ENS Steven C. Dodge
LT Michael D. Mackan
LCDR Charles E. Vandever

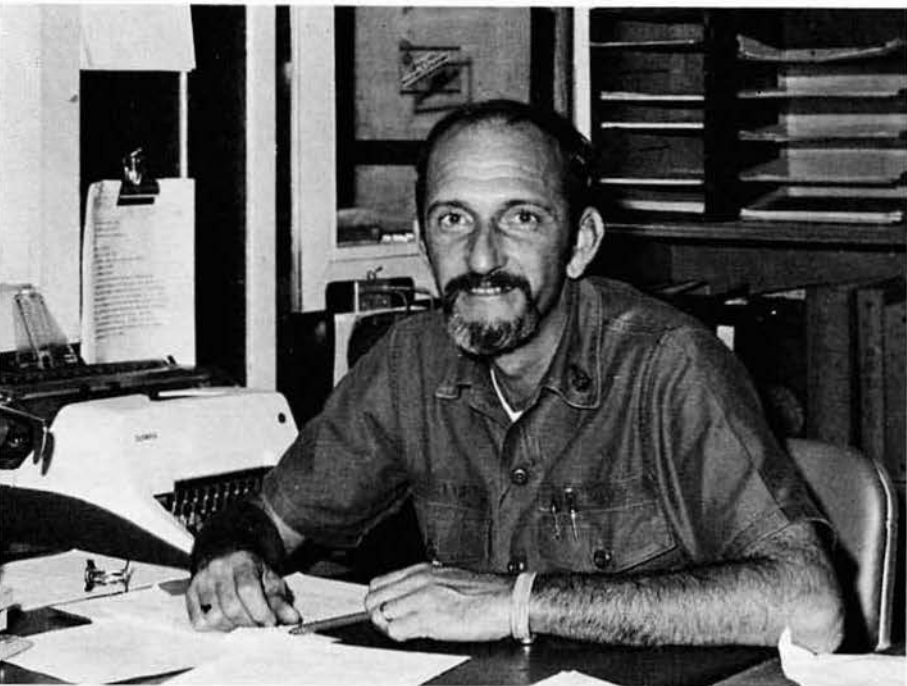
Leaders of Men



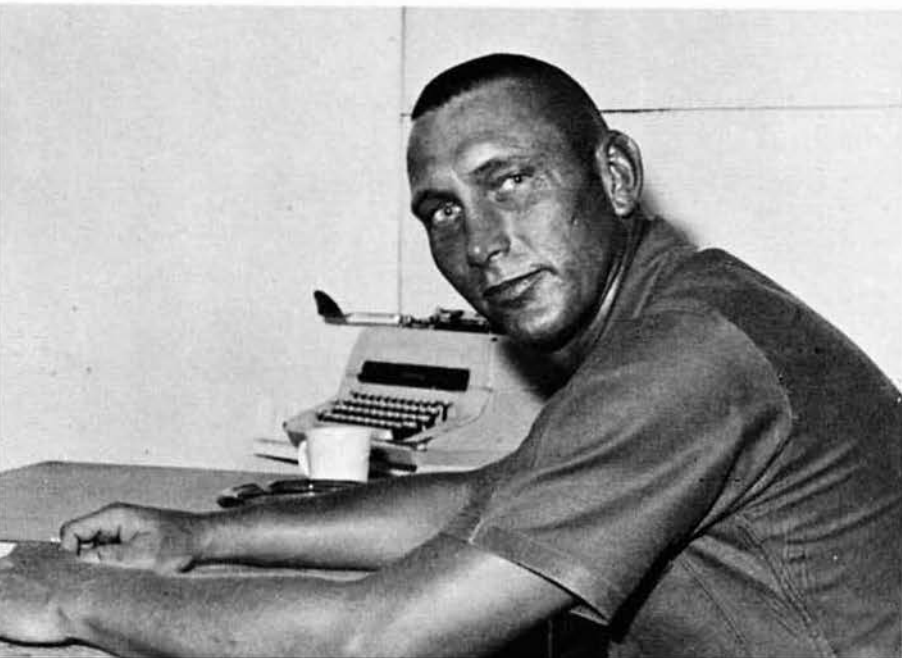




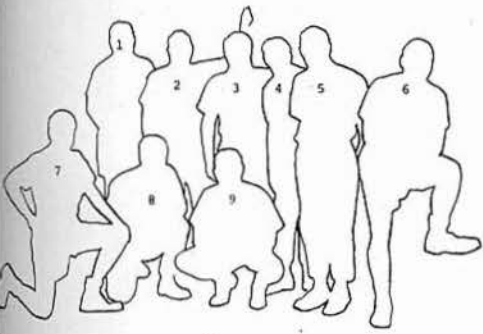
MCPOC
CUCM James W. Curley



Career Counselor
NCCS James W. Goodnight



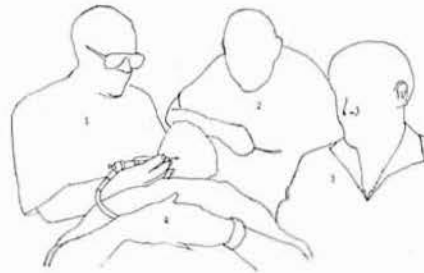
Marine Advisor
MSgt. Jimmy H. Bell



MEDICAL

1. HM2 Donald Shenosky
2. HM1 Raymond Tilley
3. HM2 Michael Tiberio

4. HM2 Timothy Maris
5. HMC Thomas Crowl
6. HM1 John Nagel
7. LT Michael D. Mackan
8. HM3 Gary Nickelson
9. HMC Martin Lipscomb

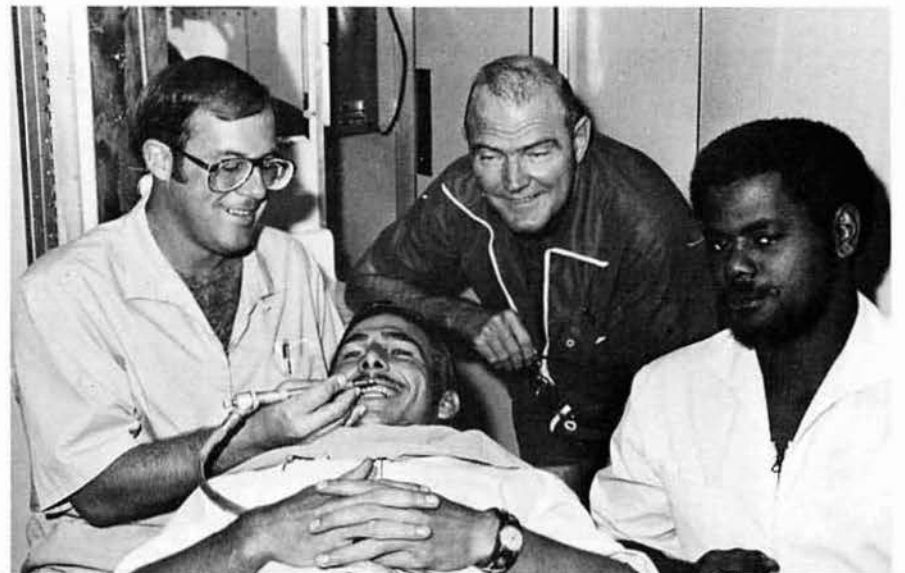


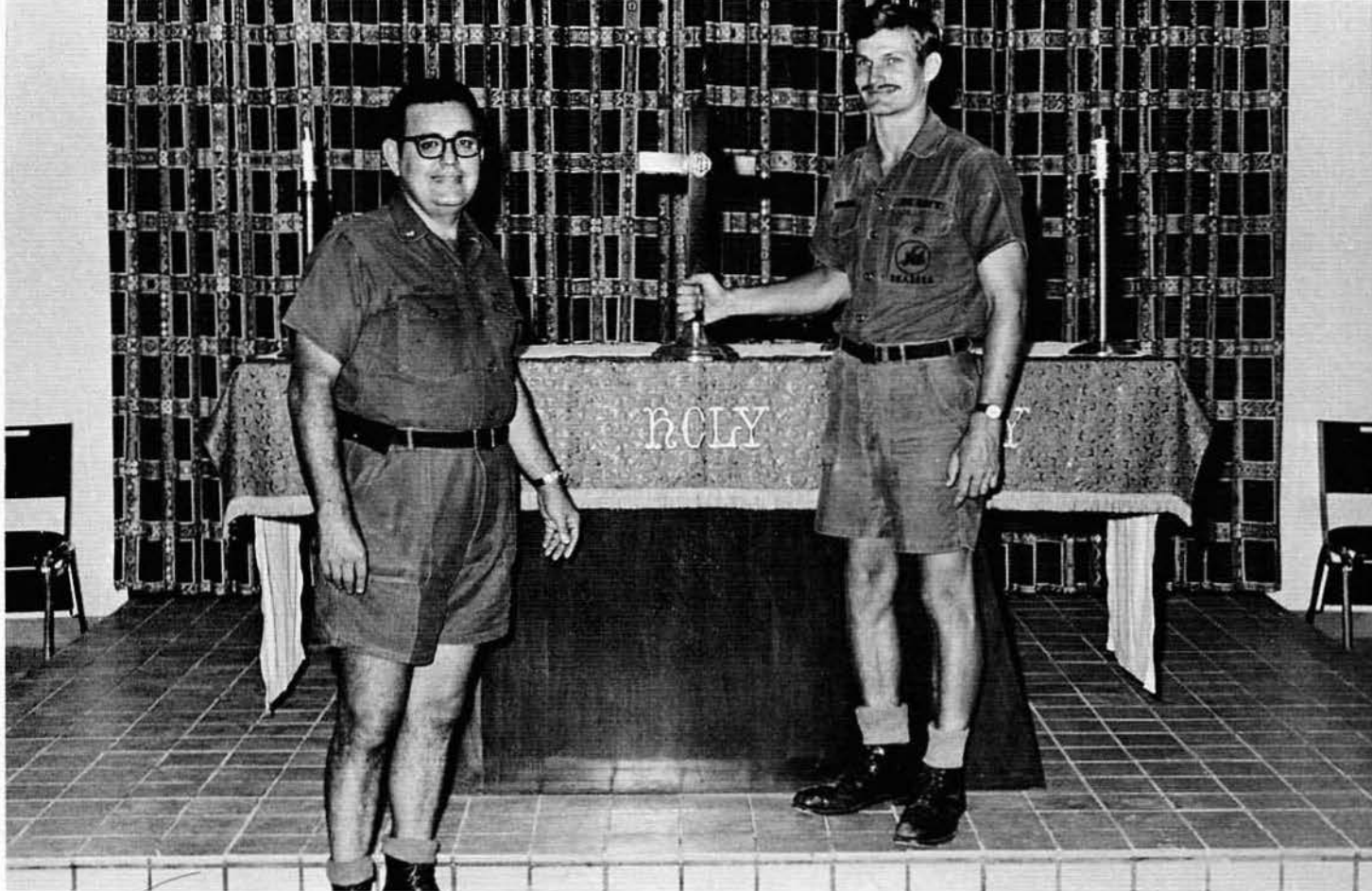
DENTAL

1. LT Lynn R. Oakleaf
2. DT1 Howard Kinslow
3. DT3 Tyrone Collins
4. SA Charles Sullivan

PEST CONTROL

CECN Luis Rodarte
CECN Michael Foster





Chaplain

LCDR David J. Powell

Yeoman

EOCN Brian Wubbena

Counselors

BU1 James Wilson
BU2 Henry Alvarez

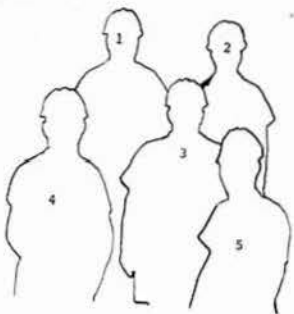
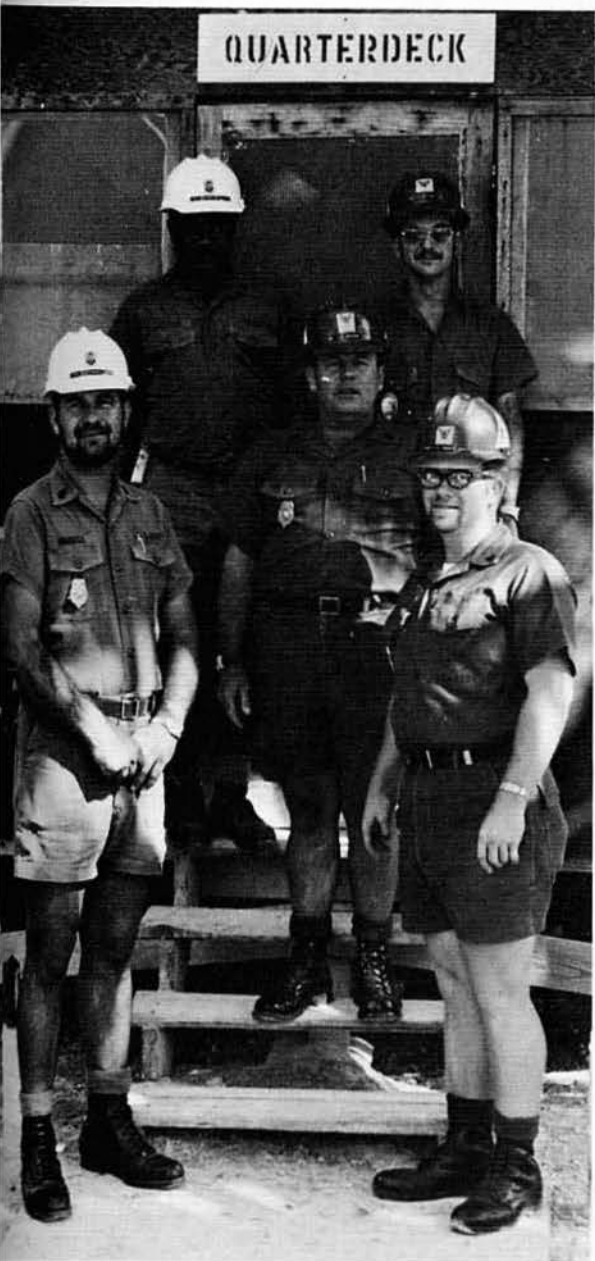
CHAPEL



DMZ

Special Services

BU3 Gregory Peacher
BUT Willard Robbins
BUCA Larry Hunt



MAA Force

1. BMC ONeal Broughton
2. BM3 Richard Rotundo
3. EO1 James Pearce
4. MAC Virgil Dorrell
5. GMG3 Darwin Perkin

Postal Clerks

PC1 Steven Cottini
BUCN James Middleton

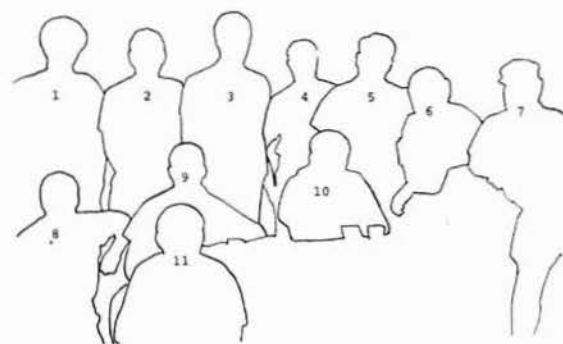




The Yeomen

1. YN3 Ronald Francis
2. YN2 William Perkins
3. YN2 "C""D" Fortson, Jr.
4. YNSN Paul Pierce
5. YN3 Gary George
6. YN3 Johnny Bartram

7. YNSN Joshua Taylor, Jr.
8. YN3 Jeffery Dennler
9. YN1 Tom Click
10. YNC Benjamin Curry
11. YNSN Michael Landry



The Personnelmen

Front Row

- PN1 Gerald McKnight
 PN1 Lawrence Boudreaux
 PN1 Larry Johnson
 PN3 Severo Contreras, Jr.
 LTJG Richard A. Ratte

Back Row

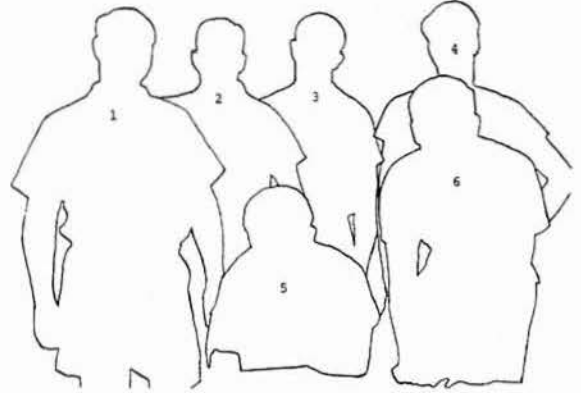
- PN2 James Bowie
 PN3 Donald Williams
 PN3 Roger Hurt
 PN3 Cecil Wallace



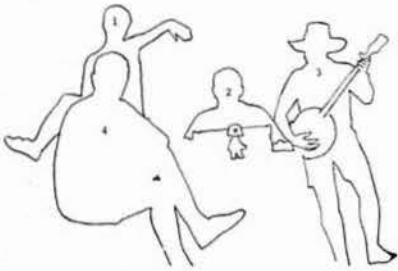
Training Office



1. LT William T. Parker
2. SWC William Bourland
3. BU2 Timothy Courter
4. BU3 William Oliver, Jr.
5. BU1 Douglas Nantz
6. YN3 Johnny Bartram



PAO



1. EO3 James Pridgen
2. JO3 Alan Weston
3. YNC Benjamin Curry
4. PH1 Jerry Richards



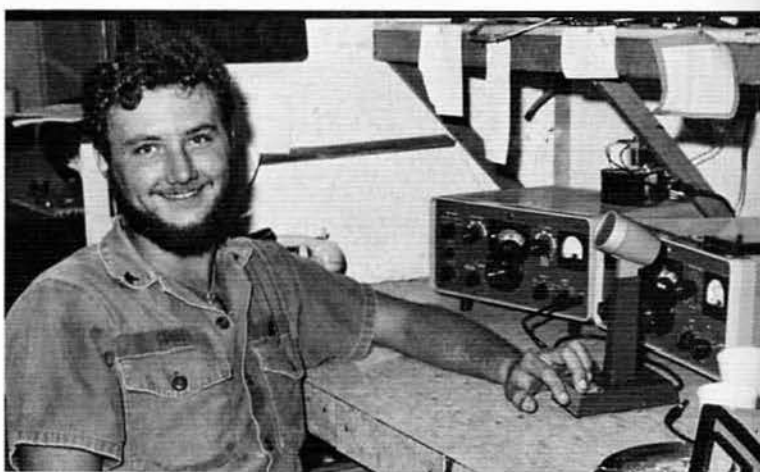
Armory

GMG2 William Pickell III



MARS

UT3 Cecil Conner



ET Shop

ETR2 Patrick O'Rorke
ETN2 Thomas Young, Jr.
ETR2 Dale Ridgway





Punchlist

Front Row

CECN Kim Pierce
 UT3 Lester Flaherty, Jr.
 CE3 Mark Collins

Back Row

BUCS Ivan Johnson
 BU2 Robert Burns
 SW2 John Floyd
 LTJG Mark R. Hammer



Quality Control

Front Row

EO1 Carl Russell
 SW1 Walter Baer
 BU1 Gerald Hinds
 EO1 Kenneth Woodard, Jr.

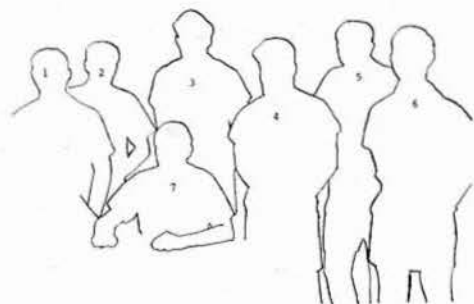
Back Row

BU1 William Dunlap
 UT1 Forrest Churchill
 BUC Clarence Kuehling
 CE1 Clayton Brown
 BU1 Paul Taylor



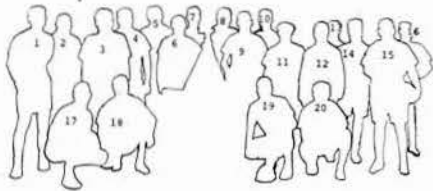
OPERATIONS

1. ENS Raymond K. Alexander
2. LTJG Benjamin S. Konopka
3. BU2 George Boothby, Jr.
4. BU2 Michael Morgan
5. BUCS John Meyer, Jr.
6. YNSN Michael Landry
7. LCDR Edward R. Hamm



S-3 Stragglers

BU2 James Schultz
EACN Dayton Spain, Jr.
EACN George Quigley

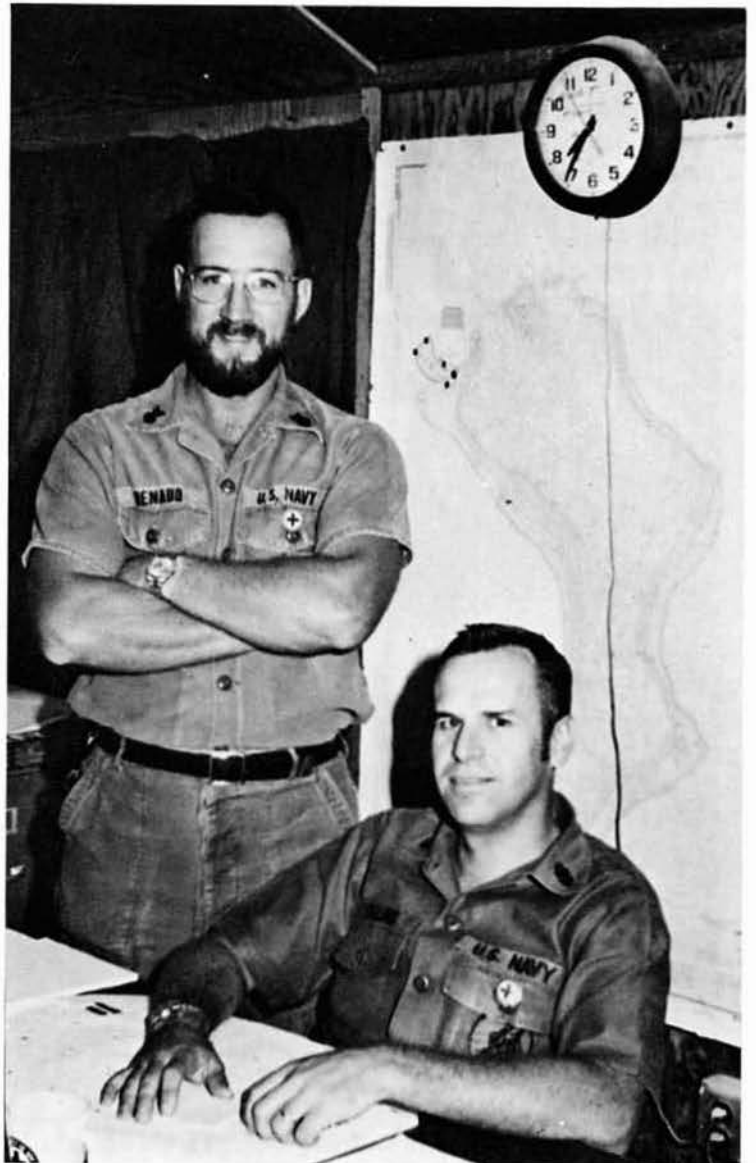


ENGINEERING

1. EACN George Wheatley
2. EAC William Kinney
3. EACN William Newton
4. EA2 Gerald Price
5. EACN Arlin Phelps
6. EA2 Jerry Henderson
7. EA3 David Goodwin
8. EACN Mark Jourdan
9. EACN Michael Daggs
10. EA3 James Davis
11. EACN Paul Sweetser
12. EACN Vern Woods
13. EACN Steve Melanson
14. EACN Daniel Calkins
15. CUCM James Sisson
16. ENS Thomas W. Nielsen
17. EACN Kenneth Chord, Jr.
18. EACN Dennis Robinson
19. EACN Rick Mantsch
20. EA1 George Bright

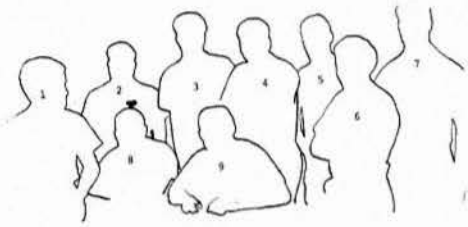
SAFETY

BU1 Paul Renaud
BUCS Chris Salling

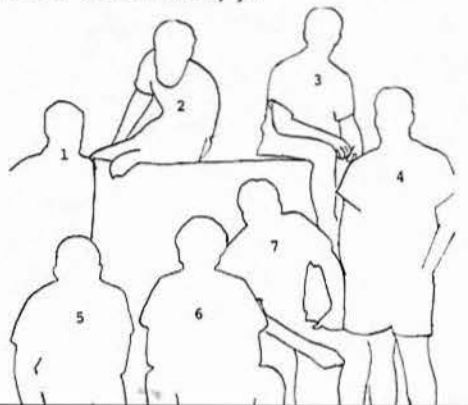




1. SK3 Robert Cummings
2. SK3 Leslie Daniels
3. SK3 Edward Balkema
4. SKC Cecil Parker
5. SK1 Wilbur Witt
6. LCDR Charles E. Vandever
7. SK2 Robert Harms
8. SK2 Timothy Rhodes
9. SK1 Buddy Cunningham



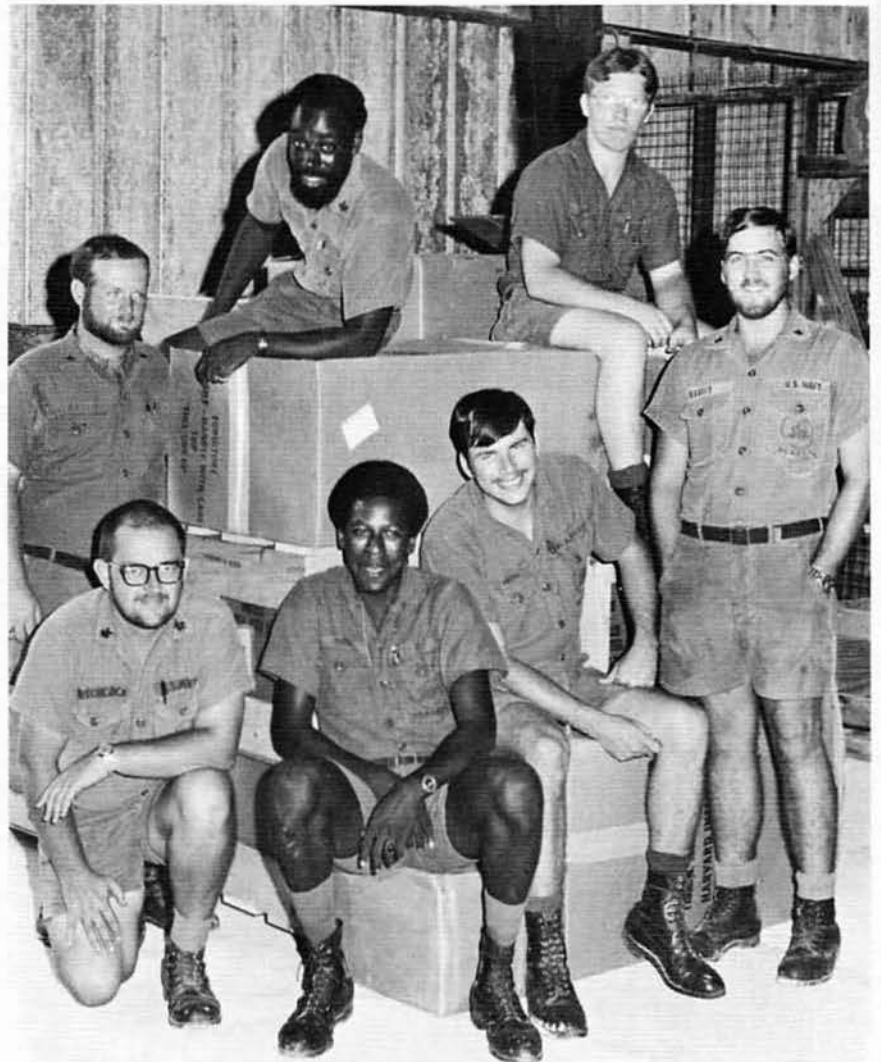
1. SK3 Martin Fairchild
2. SK2 George Epps III
3. SN Russell Crow
4. SK2 Steven Barkes
5. SK1 Dennis Hitchcock
6. SKSN Martin Parson
7. SN Warren Rose, Jr.



**S
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AND

**C
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Repair

Front: SN Stephan Moore
CM1 Andy Flick

Parts

Back: SK1 Tom Cannon
SK3 James Templer



CTR

Front: UT2 Carl Weber
BU3 Robert Morton
BU3 Howard Flateland

Back:
BU3 Harry Lanning
CE3 Ramon Martin
BU1 David Collis
CM3 Benjamin Kitto



BU3 Kurt Zumdick
UT2 Robert St. Germain

MLO

BU2 George Chisenall
LT Robert H. Powell, Jr.
EO3 Norman Bloom



GALLEY

Front Row:

MS2 Angelino Icasiano
 MSSN Ricky Devries
 MS2 Rodolfo Casison
 MS1 Wendell Smith
 MS2 Agustin Delapena
 MS1 Robert Collins

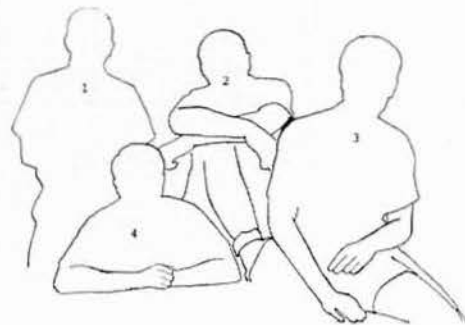
Back Row:

MS1 Eli LaFleur
 MS2 Edward Crane
 MSSA William Colvin
 MS2 Charles Schleve
 MSC Angeli San Agustin
 MS1 Ernesto Poblete
 MSSA Kenneth South
 MS3 Phillip Nestor



DISBURSING

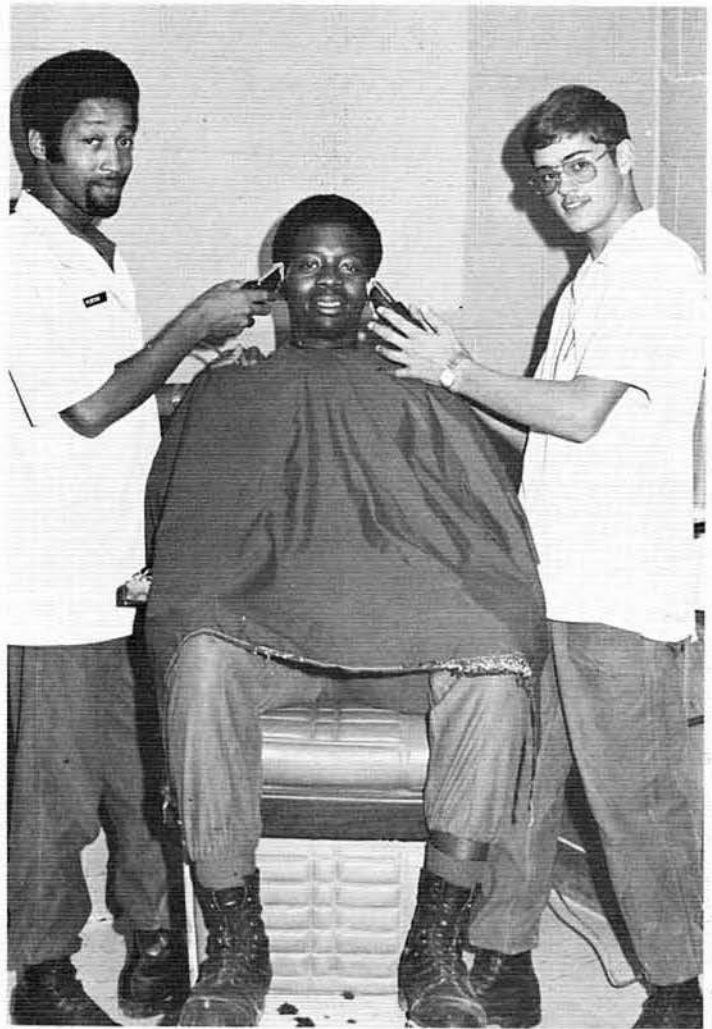
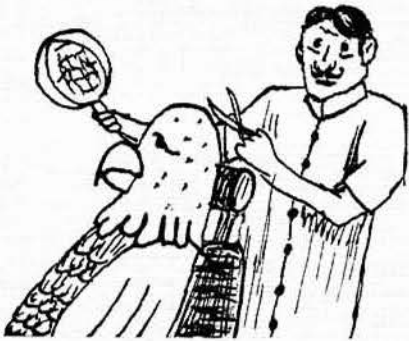
1. DK1 John Lingard
2. DK3 Randy Noffke
3. DK3 Leon Jordan
4. DK3 Mark Smith



BATTALION

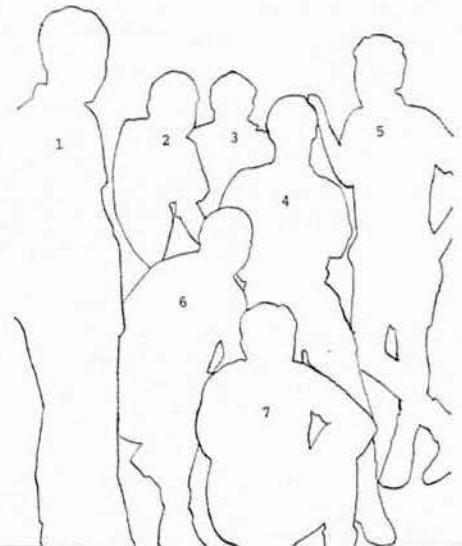
BARBERS

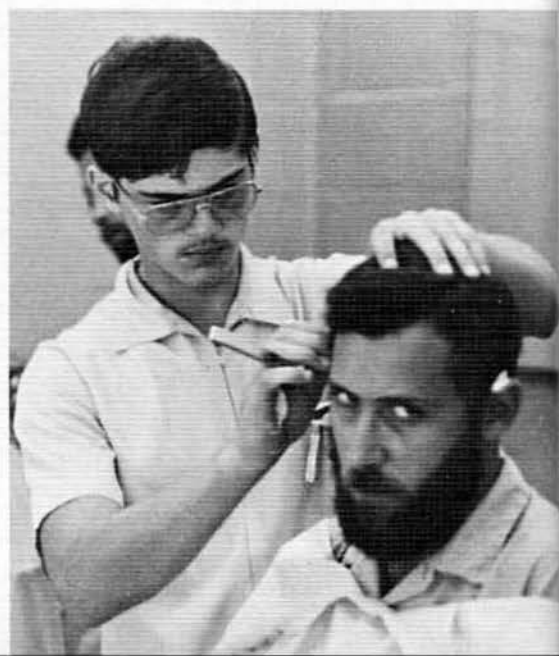
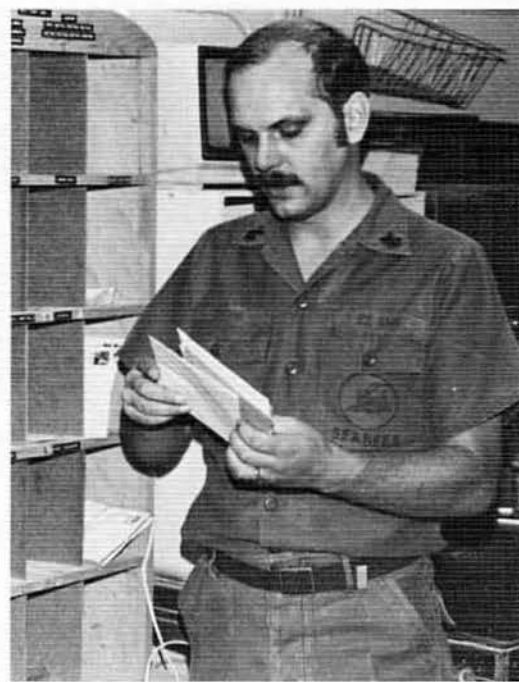
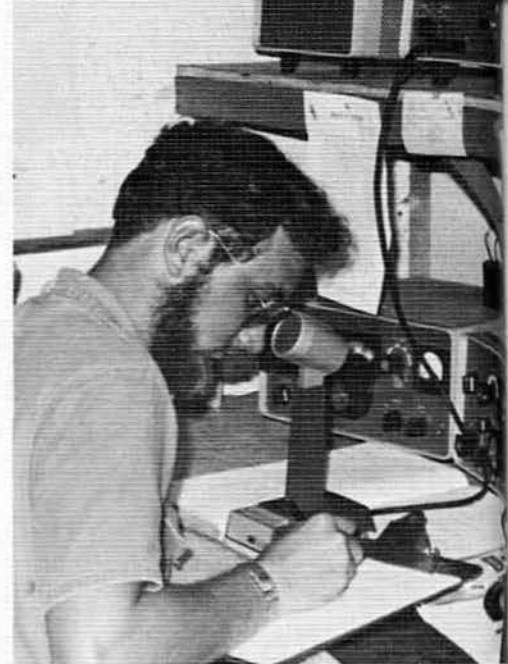
SH1 Leroy Porter
SN Richard Reid, Jr.
SHSN Vaughn Bigger

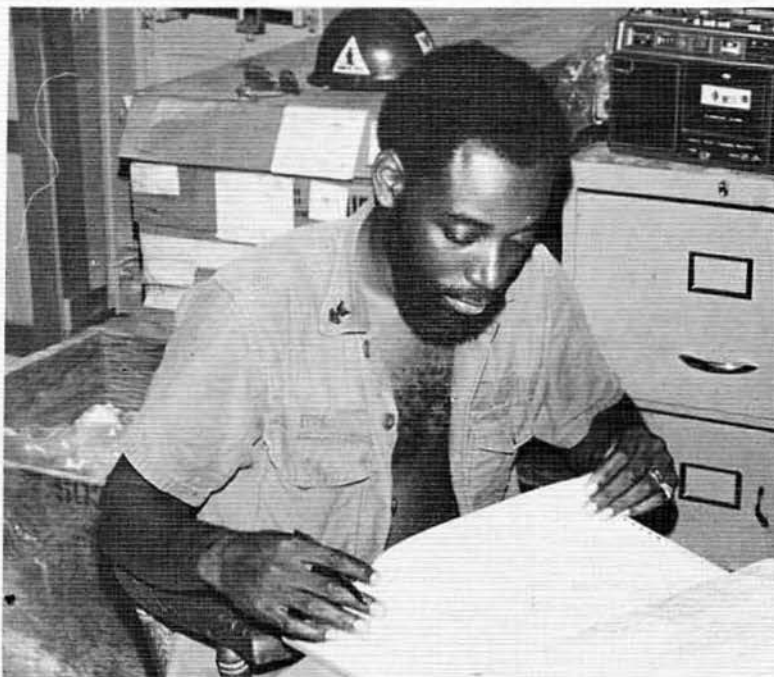


L A U N D R Y

1. UTCA Michael Davis
2. SN Michael Scott
3. BUCN Kevin McMullin
4. BUCN Donald Riley
5. BUCN Eduardo Maldonado
6. SH1 Lavoun Joyner
7. SWCN Jeffrey Cooksley







H COMPANY

The pen and paper, rather than the hammer and nail, are the tools of many of the men of Headquarters company. The personnel of "H" company fall primarily into the fleet ratings — Yeomen, Personnelmen, Postal Clerks, Hospital Corpsmen, Dental Technicians, Storekeepers, Disbursing Clerks, Boatswain's Mates, Mess Management Specialists and other similar type personnel. Engineering Aids and other Seabees comprise an important minority in the company.

The tasking of "H" company on deployment and in homeport is to provide the diversified support services without which a Seabee battalion could not function. By fulfilling their many responsibilities, Headquarters company personnel contributed significantly to the success of the Diego Garcia deployment.



Alfa Company Office Staff

E01 Harold Cannaday
EOCN Bernard Pederson
EQCM Marshall Ramsey
CMC Jonny Ireland

Alfa Operations Chief

EOCS Marvin Howard





Roadmasters

CMCS Charles Ryan
EO1 Landon Bargin

Dispatchers

EOCA Thomas Depersis
EOC Billy Johnson
EO2 Kenneth Colaluca





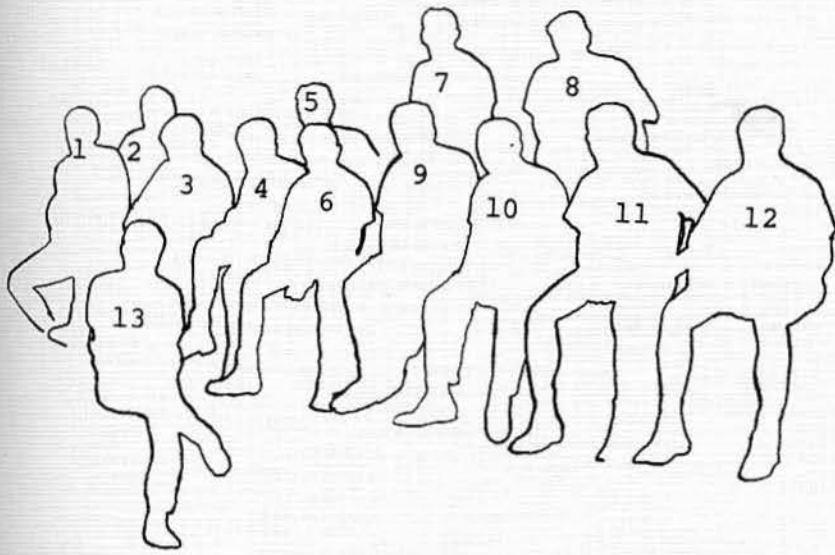
TRANSPORTATION

EOCA Jimmy Davidson
EO3 Calvin Limbocker
EOCA Gary Roe
EO2 James Beck

EOCA Peter Ambler
EOCN Randal Kelley, Jr.
EO3 Roy Rauch

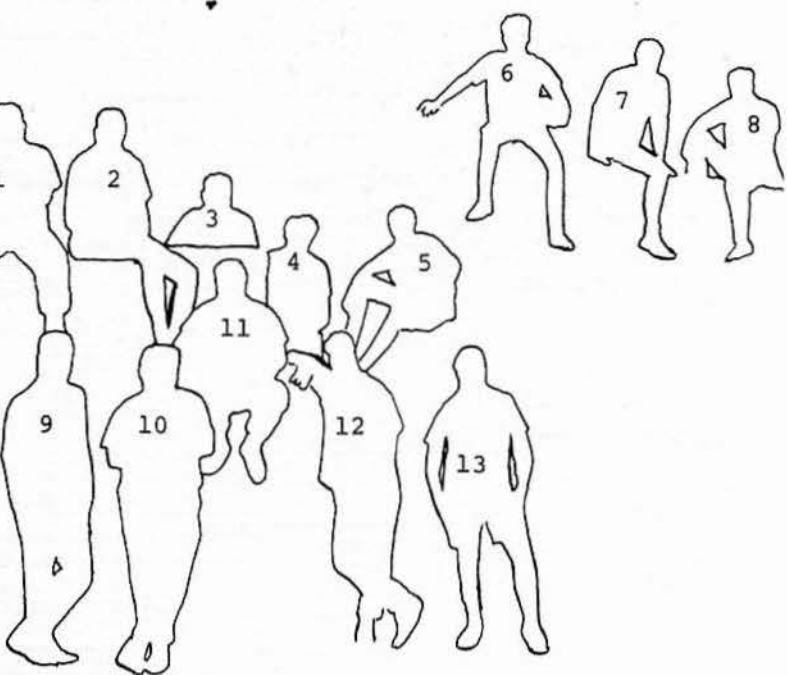
EOCA William Coleman
EOCN James Baker
EO1 Ronald Watkins
EO3 Lesley Simons

Soil Cement



1. EO2 Sidney Howard
2. EOCN Jesse Bunker
3. EOCN Bryan Dial
4. EOCN David Parrish
5. EOCN Ronald Pare
6. EOCN Daniel Godin
7. EO2 Arthur Johnston
8. EOCN Lewis Collins
9. EOCN Paul Dube
10. EO3 John Levesque
11. EOCN Sandor Kissh
12. EOCN James Deavers
13. EO1 Antonio Rodriguez





Runway Crew

1. EO3 John Pitman
2. EO1 Freddie Kuehling
3. EOC John Murley
4. EOCN Alan Koch
5. EOCN John Mozena
6. EOCN Randall Schulz
7. EOCN Jeffrey Rogers
8. EOCA Frank Zimmer
9. EOCN Ronald Hubbard
10. EO3 William Claeys
11. EOCN Paul Couch
12. EO2 Michael Sewell
13. EOCA Donald Frazier



Tire Shop

EOCA David Bandazian
 EOCA Gary Roe
 EOCA Benjamin Cariaga, Jr.



Concrete

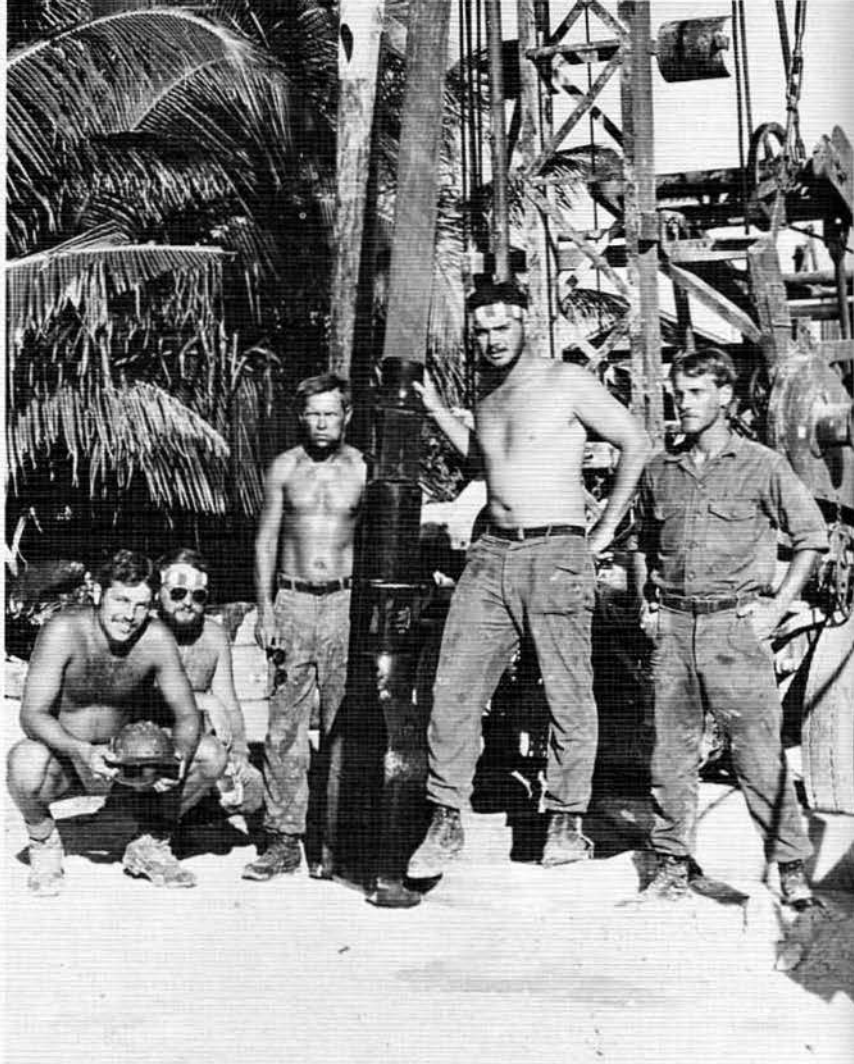
Batch Plant

EO1 Harry Hutchingson
 EO2 Mark Lockhart
 EO3 Charles Glenn

EOCN David Bates, Jr.
 EOCN William Zimmerman
 EOCN Joseph Armitage

Well Drillers

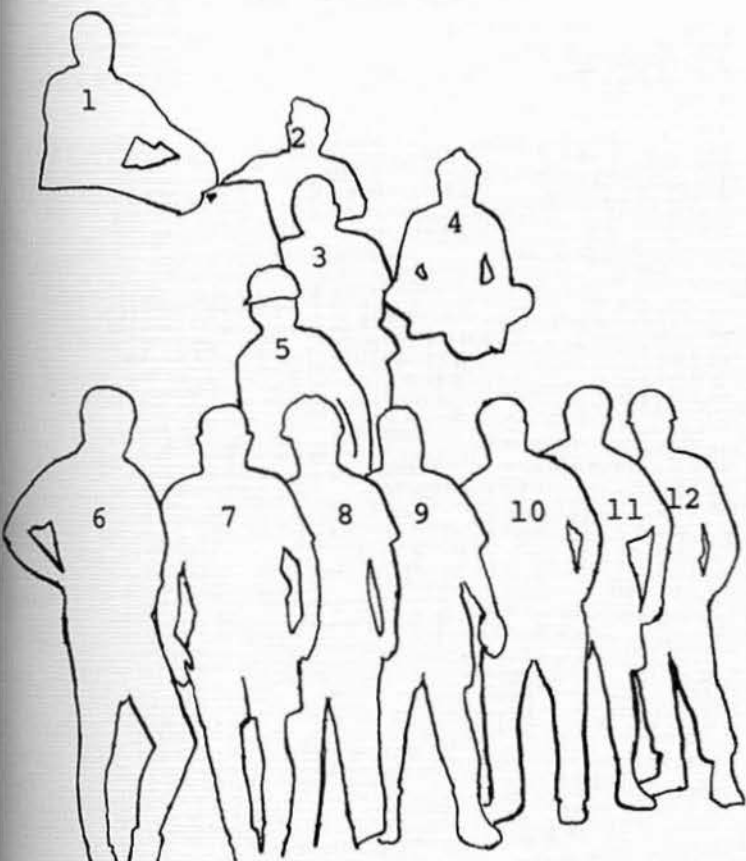
EOCN Samuel Scott
EO3 Richard Hrastich
EO1 Leslie Howard
EO3 Calvin Limbocker
SWCA John Goslin



Crane Crew

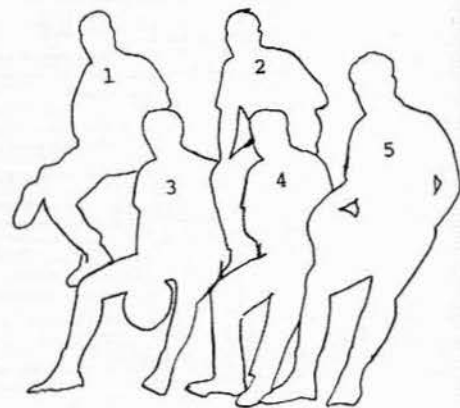
EO1 Hugh O'Neal, Jr.
EO3 Steven Munro
EO2 Eddie Miears
EOCN Gary Holbach
EO3 John Verdon





POL Crew

1. EOCA Robert Wickes
2. EOCN James Spielman
3. EOCA John Wojcicki
4. EOCN Richard Spinello
5. EO2 Robert McGuffin
6. EOCA James Sobeck
7. EO2 Martin Oliver
8. EOCN William Potter
9. EO1 Harold Valder
10. EOCN Stanley Whited
11. EO3 Lesley Simons
12. EO2 Richard Metzgar



Tidehaul Crew

1. EOCN Kevin Nordtvedt
2. EO2 Richard Kirby
3. EOCN Richard Reich
4. EOCN Michael Birka
5. EOCN Joseph Czech

Fuel Tank Operators

EOCA Jeffery Ferguson
EOCA Dan Gunter



Sanitary Landfill

EOCN David Comstock



BEQ/BOQ

Jobsite Crew

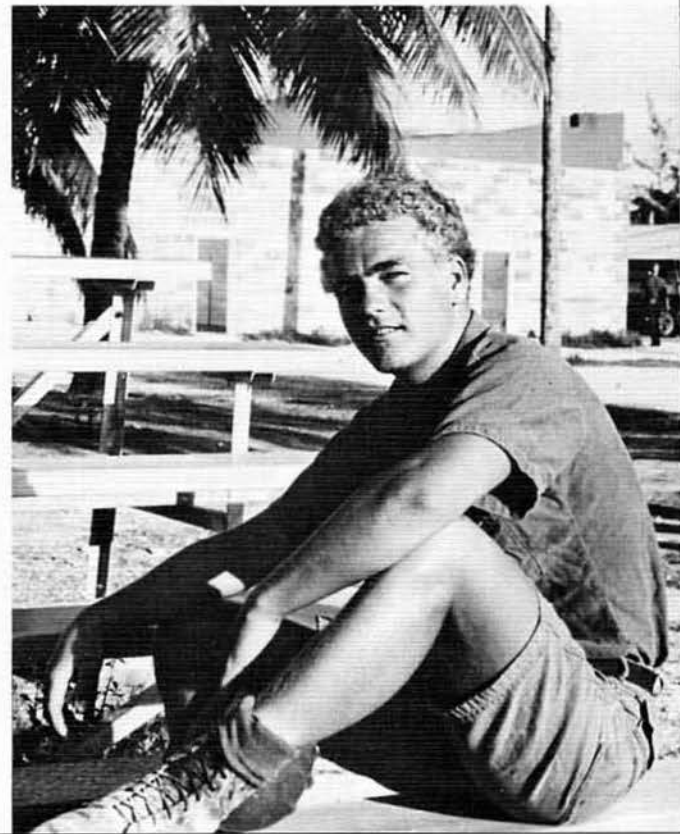
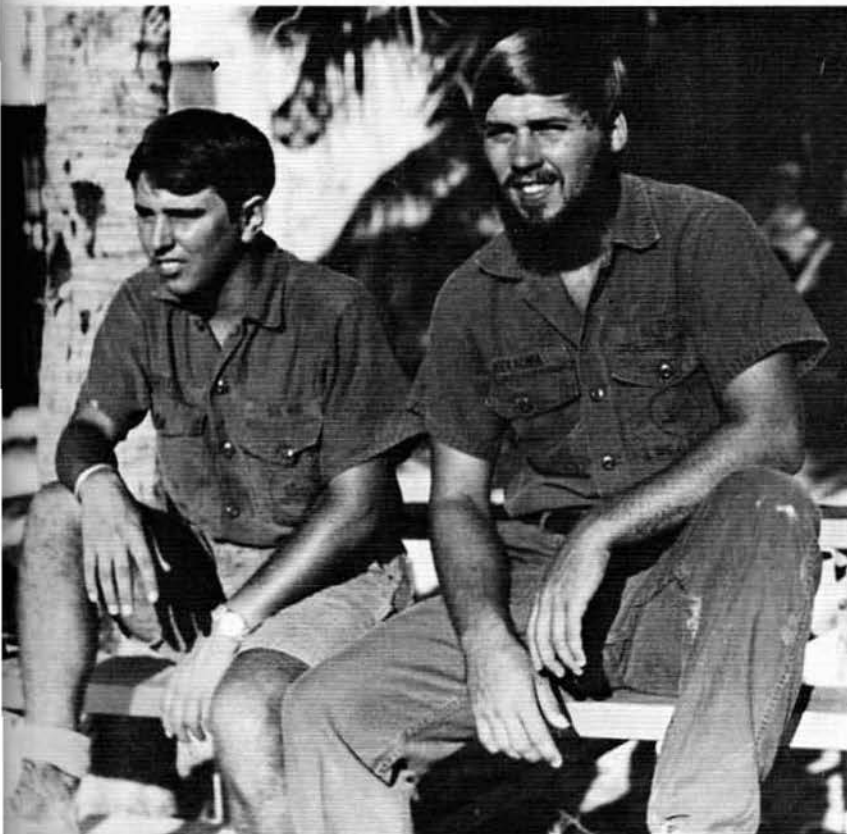
- EO3 Peter Jasper
- EOCA Bryan Chance
- EOCN Shawn Babb
- EO1 Stanley Simonson
- EO3 James Rinehart



- EOCA Michael Horvath
- EOCN William Weilacher, Jr.

Stragglers

EOCR Steven Bertoldo



Fuel Crew

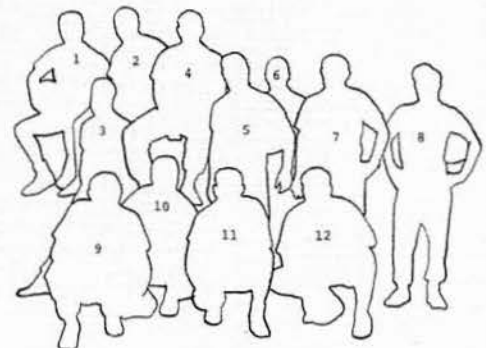
CM1 Michael Musgrave
 CM3 William Clark II
 CMCN Dennis Davies
 CM3 Alvin Thomas

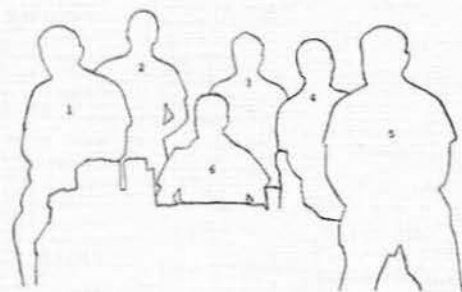


AUTOMOTIVE STAFF



1. CMCN Michael Arbia
2. CM3 Lawrence Sterrett
3. CMCN Henry Gatewood
4. CM3 William Rowe, Jr.
5. CM3 John Stavlo
6. CMCA Richard Bierenga
7. CM2 Allen Palmer
8. CM3 Gary Barnett
9. CM2 Martin Spraker
10. CM3 Wayne Jolivet
11. CM1 Douglas Joyner
12. CM3 David Gelmers



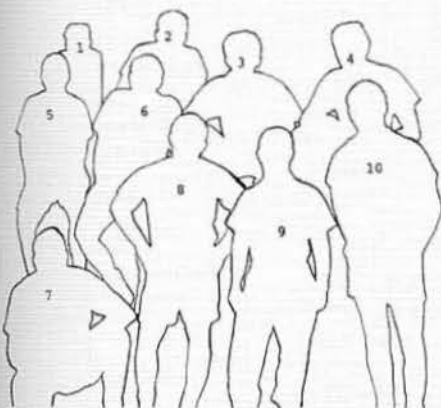


CM
Maintenance
Office Staff

1. CM2 Allen Palmer
2. CMC Hubert Graves
3. CMCN Thomas Barts
4. CMCN Ralph Mastrianna
5. CM2 William Cano
6. CMC Don Butler

HEAVY Shop

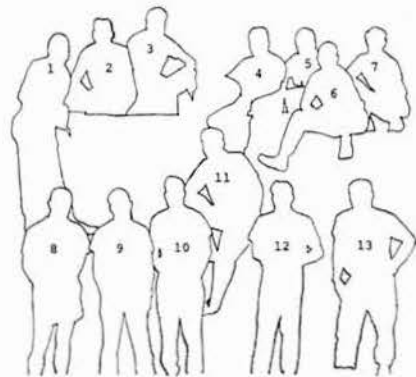
1. CM3 Jerry Fisher
2. CM2 Mark Nickerson
3. CM3 Craig Johnson
4. CMCN Daniel Pantle
5. CM2 Maximo Aquino
6. CM2 Thomas Sachs
7. CM1 Melvin Webb
8. CM1 Raymond O'Connor
9. CM1 John Brown, Jr.
10. CMCN Ryan Young





Night Crew

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. CM2 James Zugg | 8. EOCN Jeffrey Bennett |
| 2. CM1 Leonard Lowder | 9. CMCN Daniel McKinley |
| 3. CM3 Joseph Graham, Jr. | 10. CM2 John Walton |
| 4. CM3 Hollis Avery, Jr. | 11. CM3 Edward Matreski |
| 5. CM3 William Braden | 12. CMCN Lester Hagerdon |
| 6. SW3 Donald Cohron | 13. MR1 Jack Eason II |
| 7. CMCN Malcolm Johnson | |



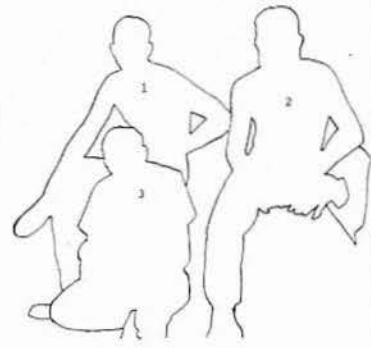
Body Steel Shop

- HT1 Dale Davis
 CMCN George Codekas
 SWCA Gary Jeranson
 CM2 Jerry Burrows



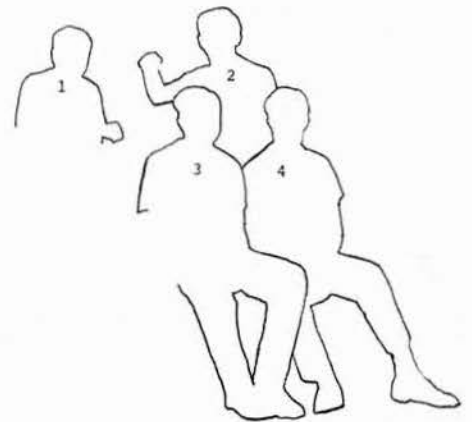
5000 Shop

1. CM3 David Lilly
2. CM3 Robert Swallow
3. CM1 Lawrence Walling



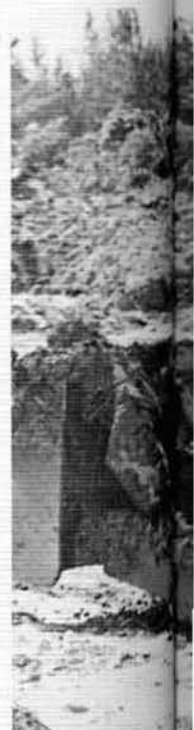
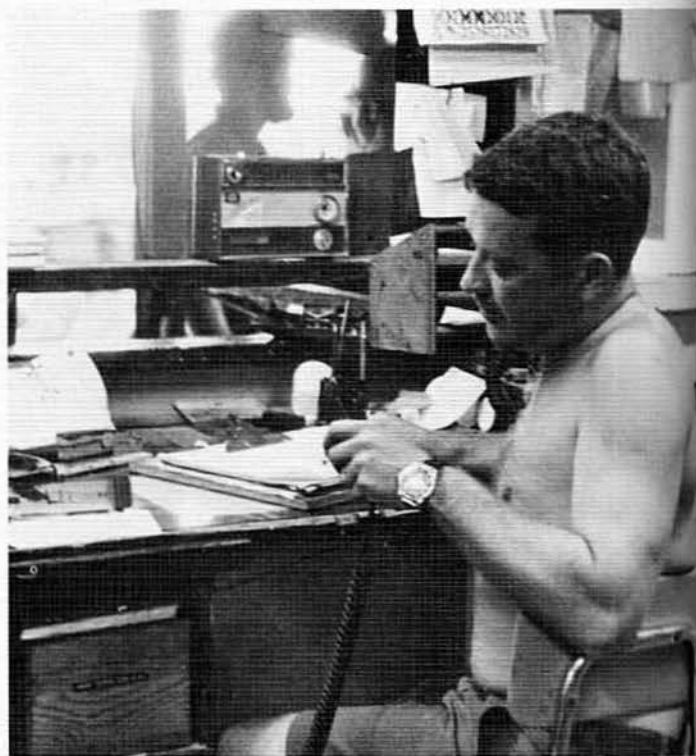
MR Shop

- FA David Hardy
 MRFA Morris Anthony
 MR2 Philip Ruggiero



Electric Shop

1. CM1 Agustin Amador
2. CM3 James Hatch
3. CMCN Philip Roberts
4. CM2 Elmer Flamer, Jr.





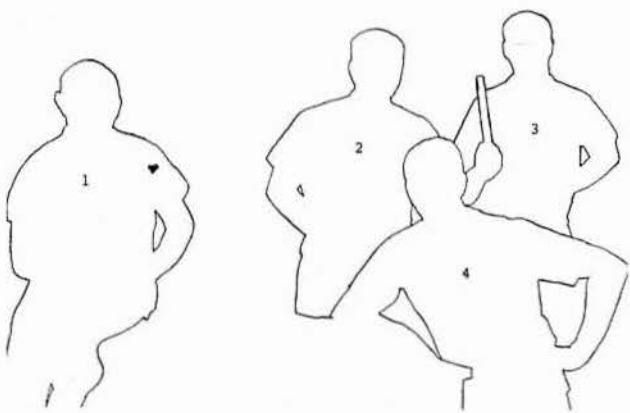
A COMPANY

The big wheels of NMCB 133 are found in Alfa company. The company of Equipment Operators and Construction Mechanics is the transportation company of the battalion. With 180 men, Alfa is also the largest of the four line companies.

During the deployment, the runway/apron expansion project eclipsed all other projects tasked to Alfa company. Crews worked day and night, moving earth and surfacing with soil-cement. By the end of the deployment, Alfa company had completed the fill and soil cement requirements for the north runway expansion. For the apron expansion, all fill had been put in place and 60% of the soil cement process completed.

Other major assignments for the company included operation of the concrete batch plant, well-drilling, the tide-haul operation and placement of fill for various new building sites.

Behind the scenes at Alfa company were the construction mechanics. Handling probably the most critical support area of the deployment, Alfa's Construction Mechanics maintained all of the battalion's rolling stock and construction equipment, which at deployment's end numbered in excess of 500 pieces.



BRAVO BOSSES

- 1. UTCS Clinton Becker
- 2. CEC Wallace Brooks
- 3. CEC Russell Brooks
- 4. CWO3 John W. Hays





UT MAINTENANCE

Office Staff

UT2 Jaime Bautista
CECN Wayne Ogg

Front Row:
UT3 Richard Highton
UTCA Ramiro Munoz
HT3 Thomas Weatherwax
UT2 William Bartholic
UT1 Bennie Barnes

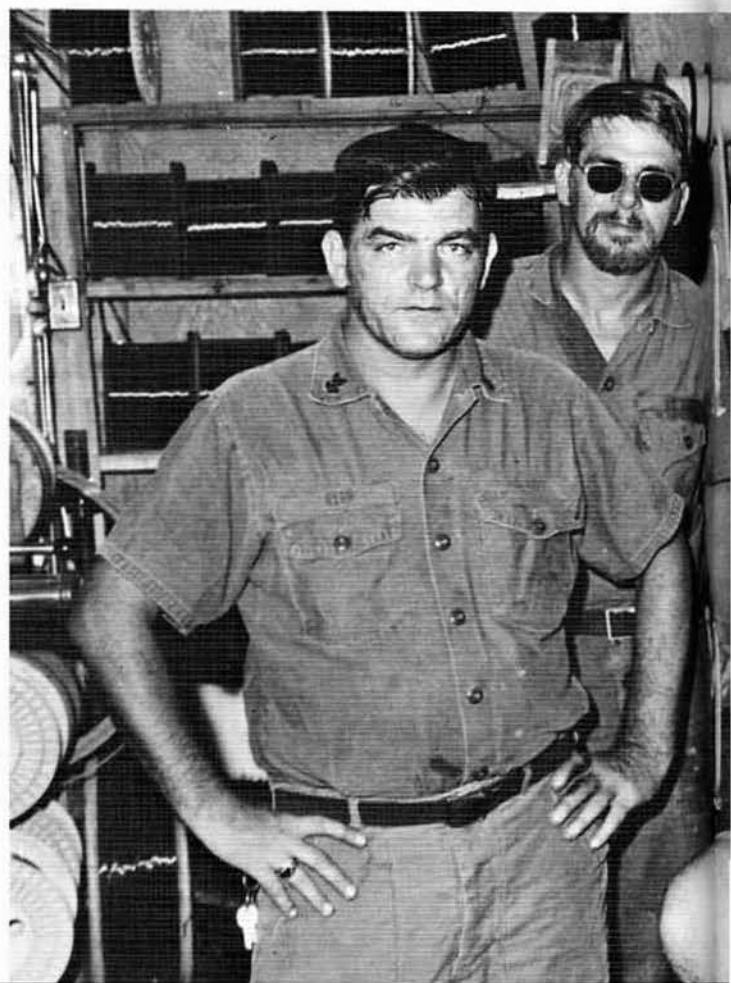
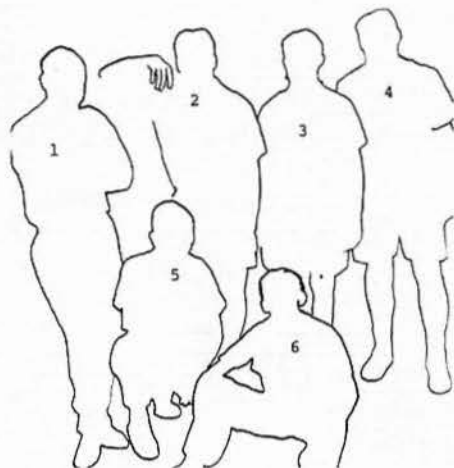
Back Row:
UTCA Kraig Griffis
UTCN Lee Loomis
UTCA Daniel Lee
UT3 Rodney Burden





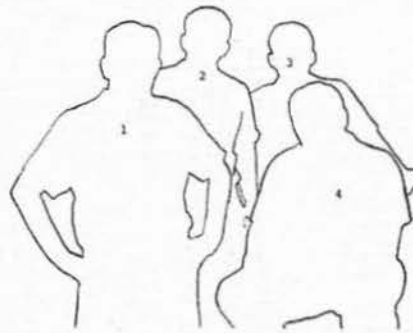
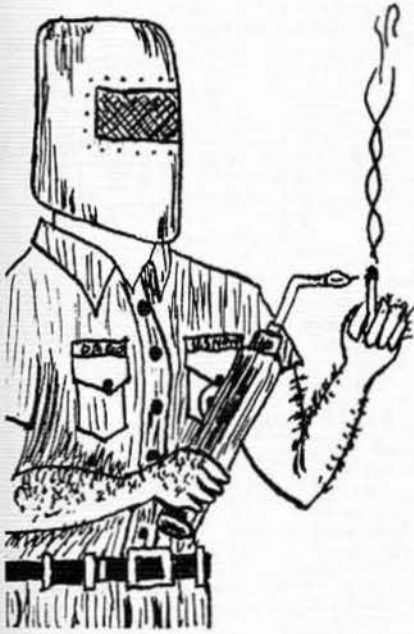
BRAVO Builder Shop

1. BU2 Ian Ordway
2. BU1 Stanley Saunders
3. BUCN David Atchison
4. BU3 Steven Brecht
5. BUCN James Burkes
6. BUCN Lawrence Stump



Steelworker

SW3 Randall Sheets



CE

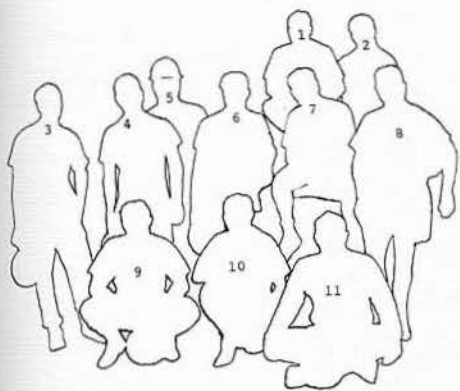
Maintenance Shop

1. CE2 Robert Ryan
2. CECN Bryan Rowe
3. CECA George Tarbell
4. CE2 Charles Stuckey



***Subsistence Bldg.
Project UT's***

UT3 Ralph Arnsberger
UT1 Junior Sims
UT2 Richard Umstatt



Runway Project

CE's

1. CECN Kevin Connor
2. CECN Michael Foster
3. CECN Kenneth Ash
4. CECN Dwight Oylear
5. CE3 Bernard Rothermel
6. CECN Jeffery Keas
7. CE2 Vincent Reynolds
8. CE1 Charles Davidson
9. CECN Paul Burnham
10. CE2 William Scaife
11. CE2 Bobby Baker



Gymnasium Crew

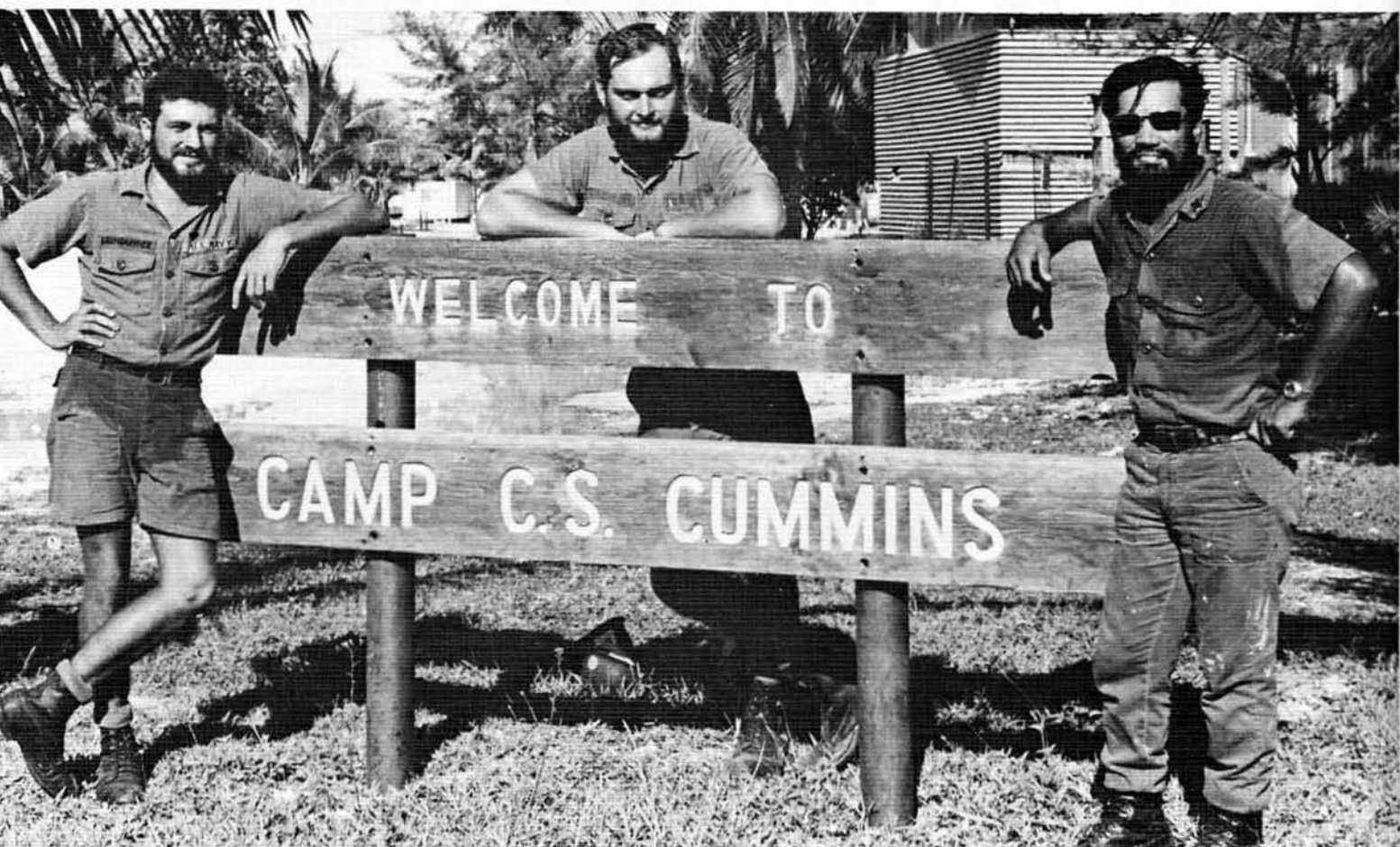
- CE2 Marciano Axibal
 CE3 Dale Zanrndt
 CE3 Walter Best

Enlisted Club Project UT's

- Front:
 UT3 Blake Lee
 UTCN Bernard Bell
 UTCN Gary Migliacci

- Back:
 UT2 Carson Potts
 UT1 Ronald Stubblefield
 UT3 Steven Webster





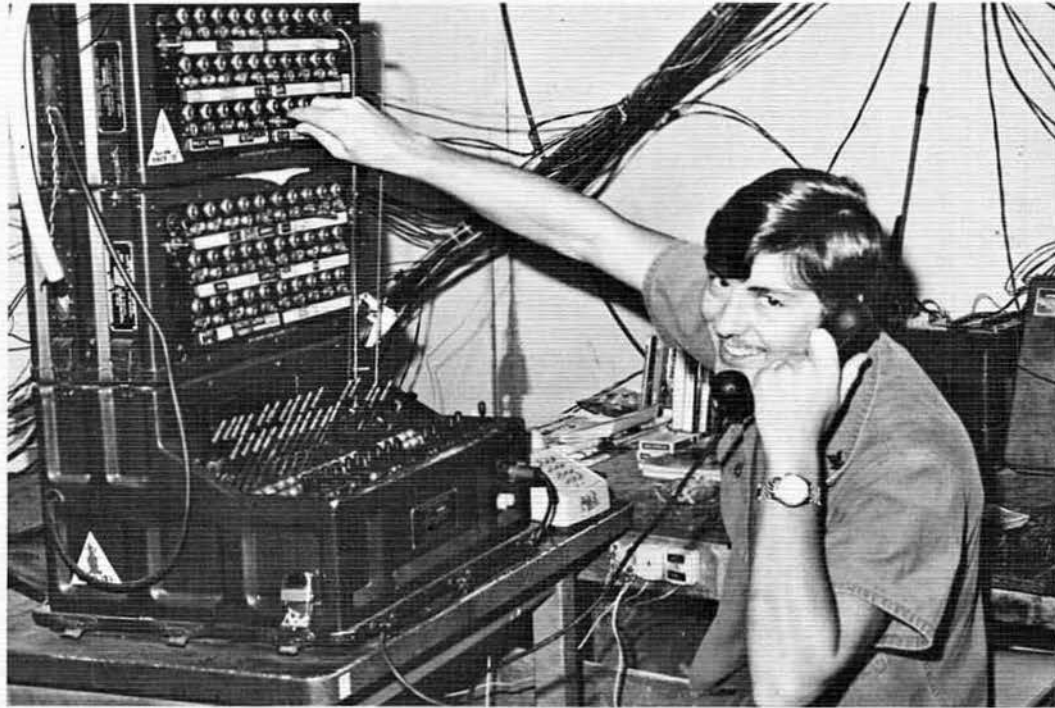
POL UT Crew

Front Row:

- UTCN Michael Skaaland
- UT3 Ronald Turner
- UT3 Robert Sorg
- UT1 Edgar Couch

Back Row:

- UT3 Glynn Callender
- UT2 Frank Gardner
- UT2 Leonard Compton
- UT3 Lester Stillwell



Telephone Operator

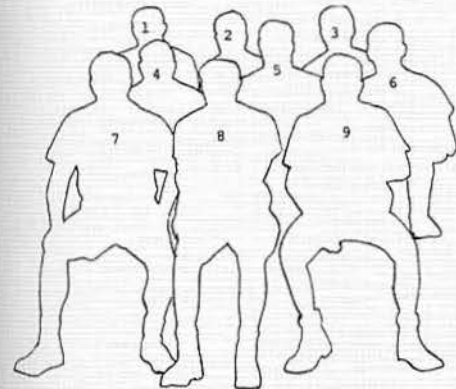
CE3 Hugh Crotty

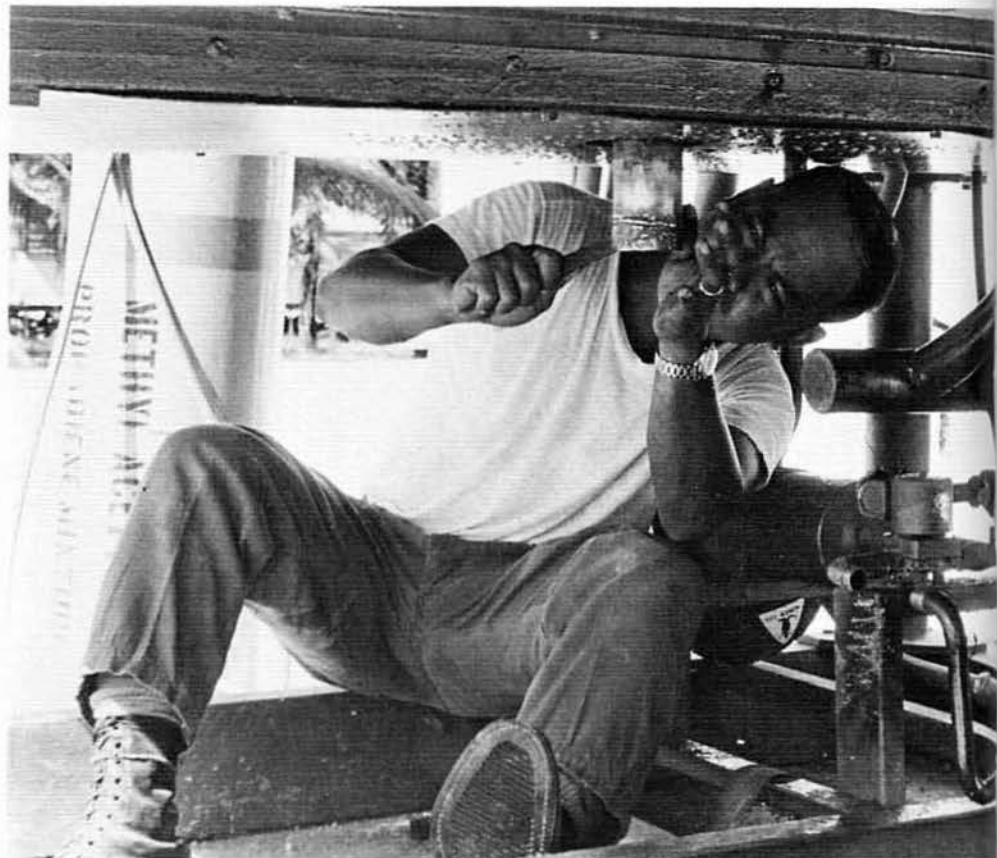
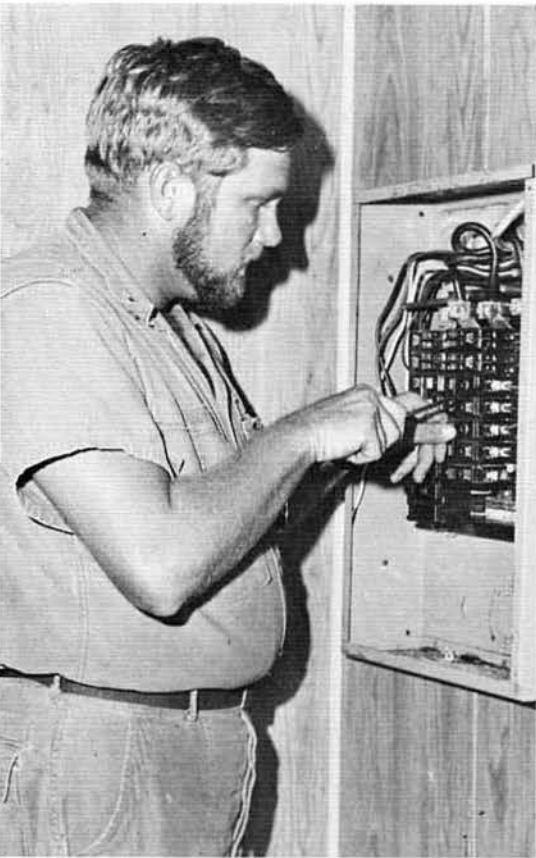
Stragglers

left and right

- UTCN Terry Baumgardner
- UTCN Patrick Leonard
- UT2 David Montecino

1. CE1 Walter Carillion
2. CE3 Gerald Shekell, Jr.
3. UT3 Robert Jensen
4. CE2 Clyde Wilson
5. CE2 Gerald Russell
6. SW3 Beecher Trail
7. CE2 Lewis Hoops
8. UT1 William Tullock
9. UT1 Harry Bradbury





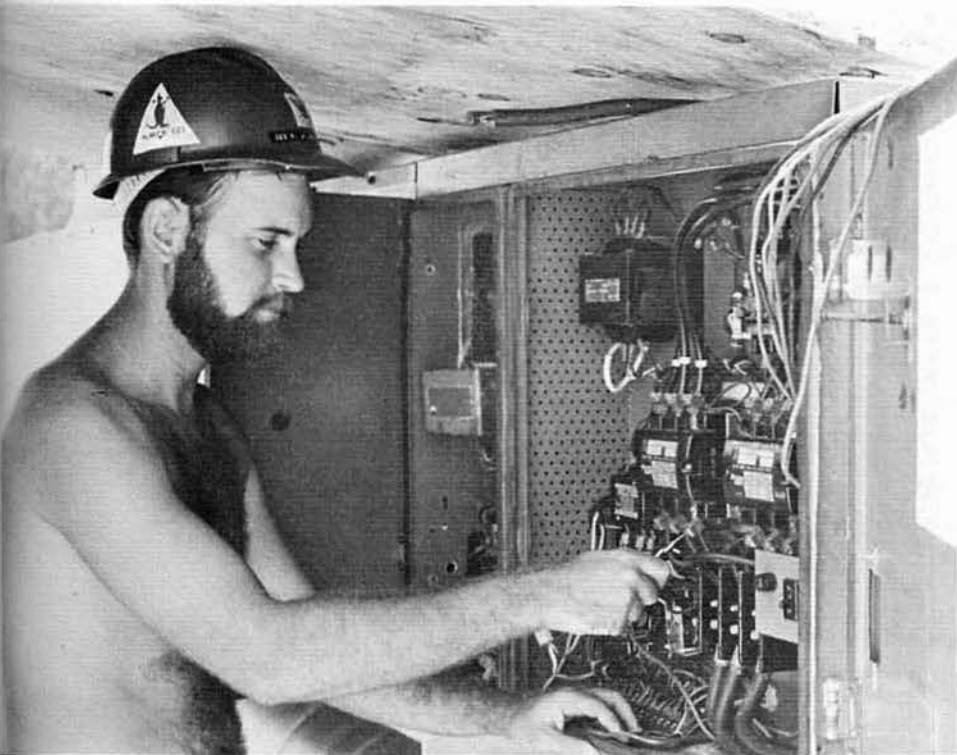


B COMPANY

Utilities installation is the name of the game for Bravo company's Utilitiesmen, Construction Electricians, Builders and Steelworkers.

Bravo's no. 1 construction project during the deployment was the rerouting of the runway communication and power system. Another major Bravo project was the completion and turnover of the island's Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) facilities. In addition, the company improved electrical capabilities on the island by a variety of additions and extensions to the underground power system.

Many of Bravo's jobs on Diego Garcia were of a continuous nature, such as camp maintenance and operation of the island fire station.

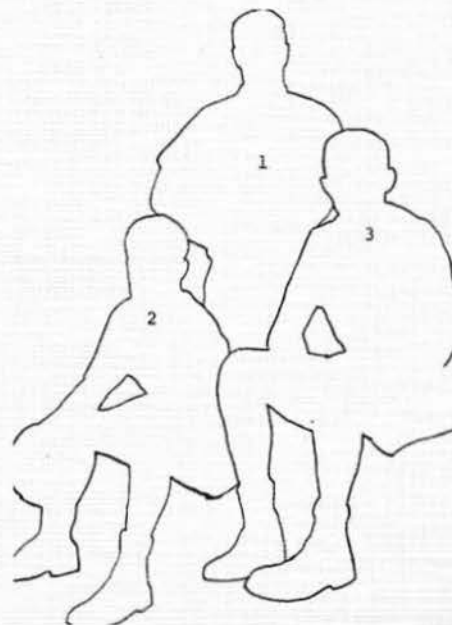




Charlie Company

Staff

1. BUCS Wayne King
2. BU2 James Coffman
3. LT Jimmy D. Franklin





Gymnasium

Builder Crew

Front Row:
BU1 Allan Ballor
BUCN Martin Benson
BUCN Malcolm Moseby
BUCN Barry Toth

Back Row:
BU2 Robert McKeegan
BU3 Richard Wharton
BUCN Brett Beuch
BU3 Donald Cone
BUC Claud Cripps

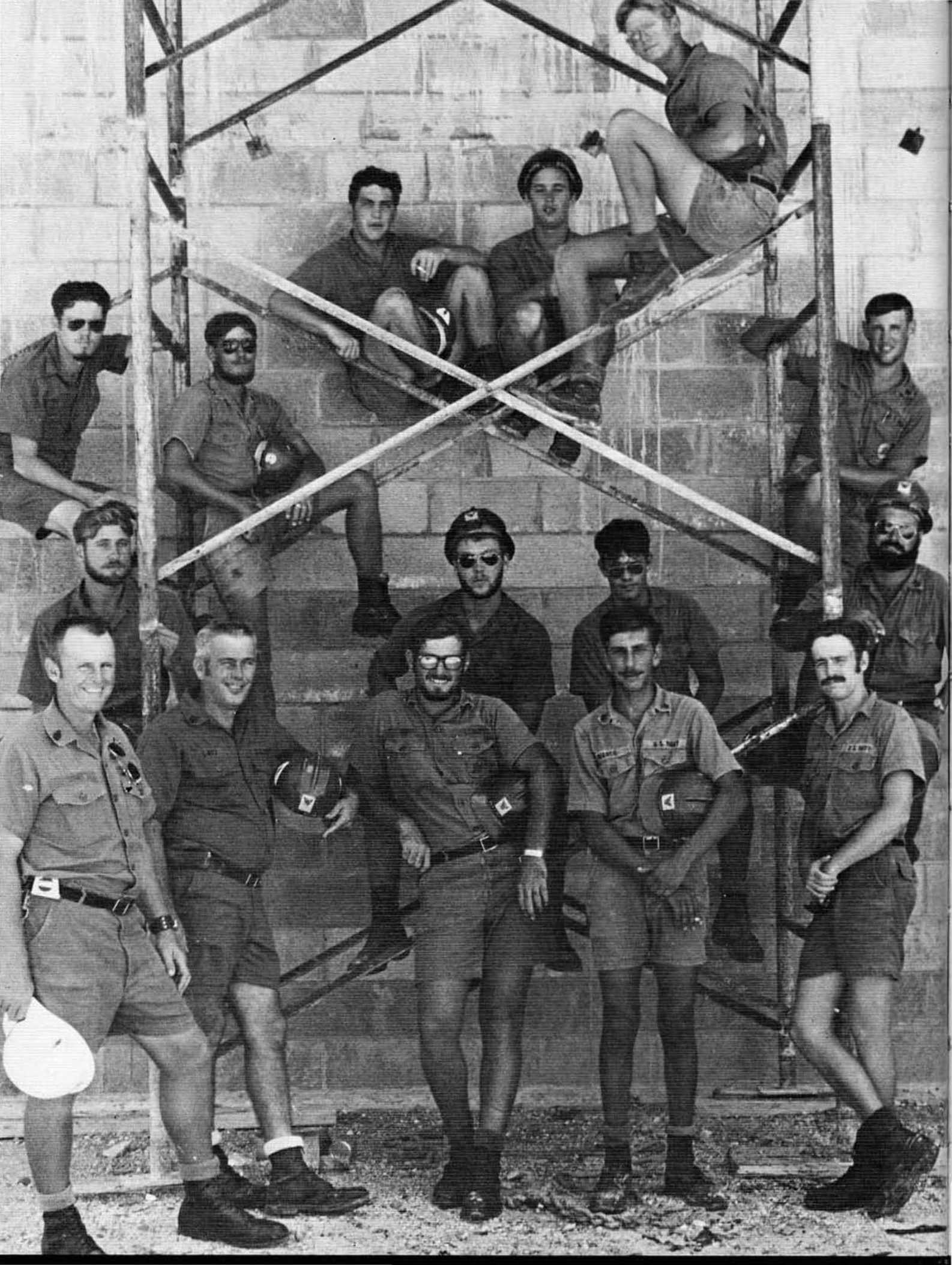


Stragglers:

BU1 James Brown, Jr.
BUCN Timothy Madigan
BU3 Gary Roedema

and

BU3 Edward Barbehenn



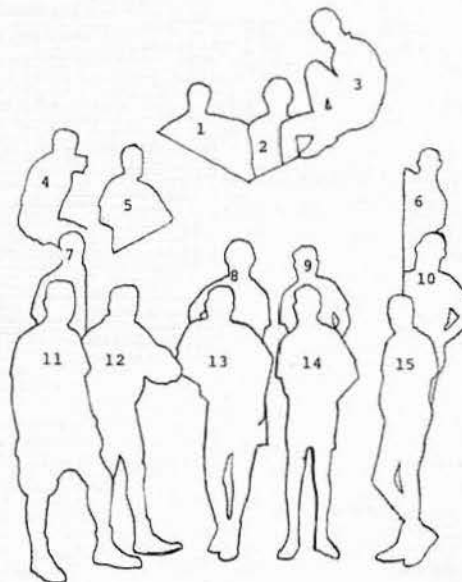


EM Club Builders

left

Day Crew:

1. BUCA James Comee
2. BUCA Floyd LaBrake, J
3. BUCA Keith Peterson
4. BUCA Michael King
5. BU3 Raymond Johnson
6. BU3 Richard Townsend
7. BU3 Richard Stangle
8. BU3 Mark Maguire
9. BUCN Samuel Pearson
10. BU2 William Hammond
11. BUC Peter Guidry
12. BU1 James Sapp
13. BU2 George Gooch
14. BU2 Stephen Bianco
15. BUCN Daniel Hughes



above

Night Crew:

Front Row:

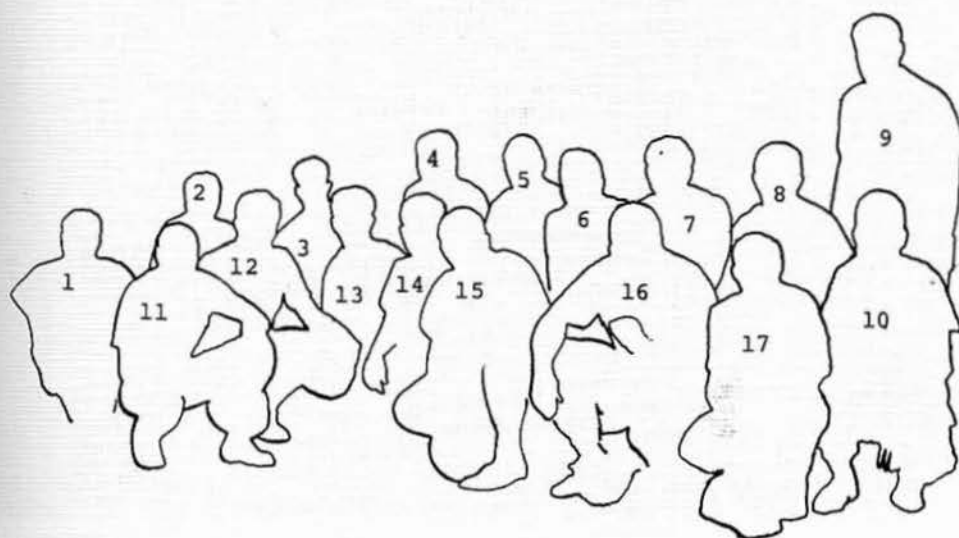
- BU3 Gordon Hamm
- BUCN David Johnson
- BU2 Thomas Block
- BU1 James Vanderpol

Back Row:

- BU1 George Maahs
- BUCN Michael Reush
- BUCN Duain Huegel
- BU3 Michael Wawer
- BUCN Jose Vargas
- BUCN Stephen Anderson



Steelworkers



1. SW3 Donald Milam
2. SWCN Jerold Miscavage
3. SWCN Daniel Engemann
4. SWCN Lester Broome
5. SW3 Don Frankenbery
6. SWCN Matthew Carter
7. SWCN Jeffrey Cooksley
8. SW3 Dennis Fischer
9. SW1 David McMakin
10. SW3 James King
11. SW1 Willie Boggan
12. BU2 Robert McKeegan
13. SWCN Nel Larson
14. SWCN Rodney Bell
15. SWC Edward Grady
16. SW2 Napoleon Williams
17. SWCN Dale Sawyer

C COMPANY

Charlie company's Builders and Steelworkers get paid for vertical construction, and they earned every cent they made on Diego Garcia.

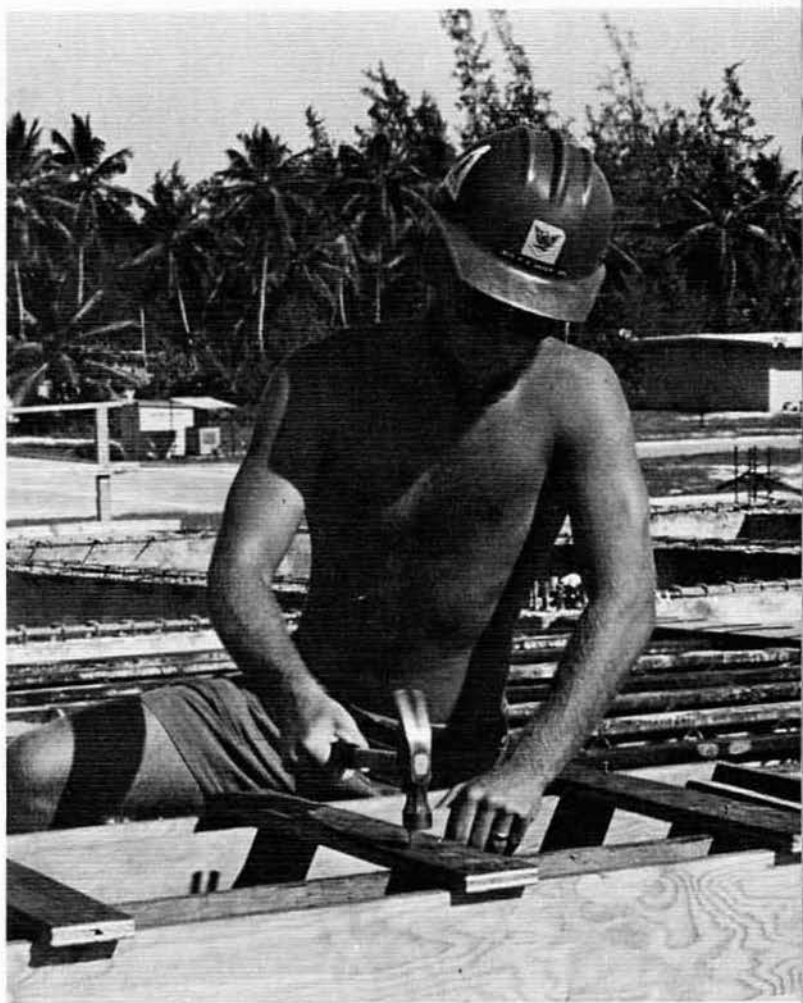
The company's biggest project was construction of a new enlisted men's club. Starting from scratch, the company had the club building approximately 70 per cent complete upon departure.

Charlie company personnel also completed the gymnasium project, which included a weight-lifting room and two indoor handball courts.

On a smaller scale, the men of the company also completed two other projects: a camp laundromat and a new circle of porta-huts. Both projects were designed to increase the habitability in the Seabee camp.

Late in the deployment, Charlie company began work on new officers' living quarters and a 50,000-gallon water tank.







DELTA Bosses

and

Office Staff

Front:

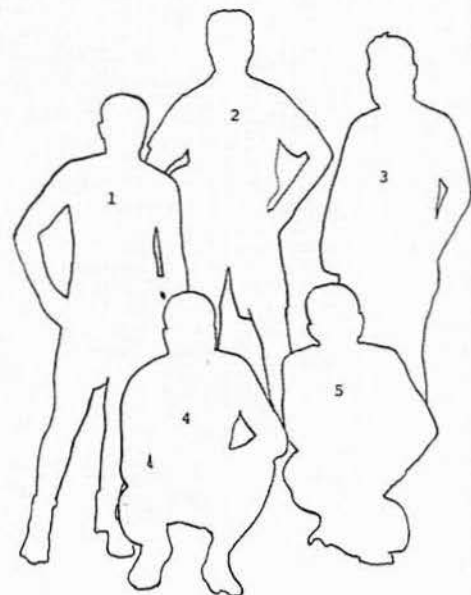
BUCN Scott Houghton
 LT Daniel J. Devescovi
 BUCN Peter Brusie II

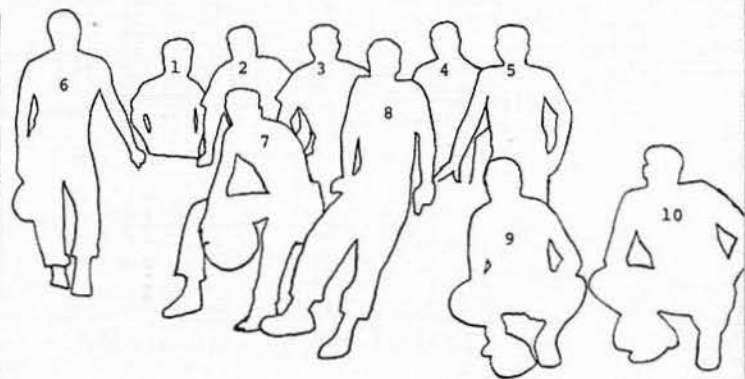
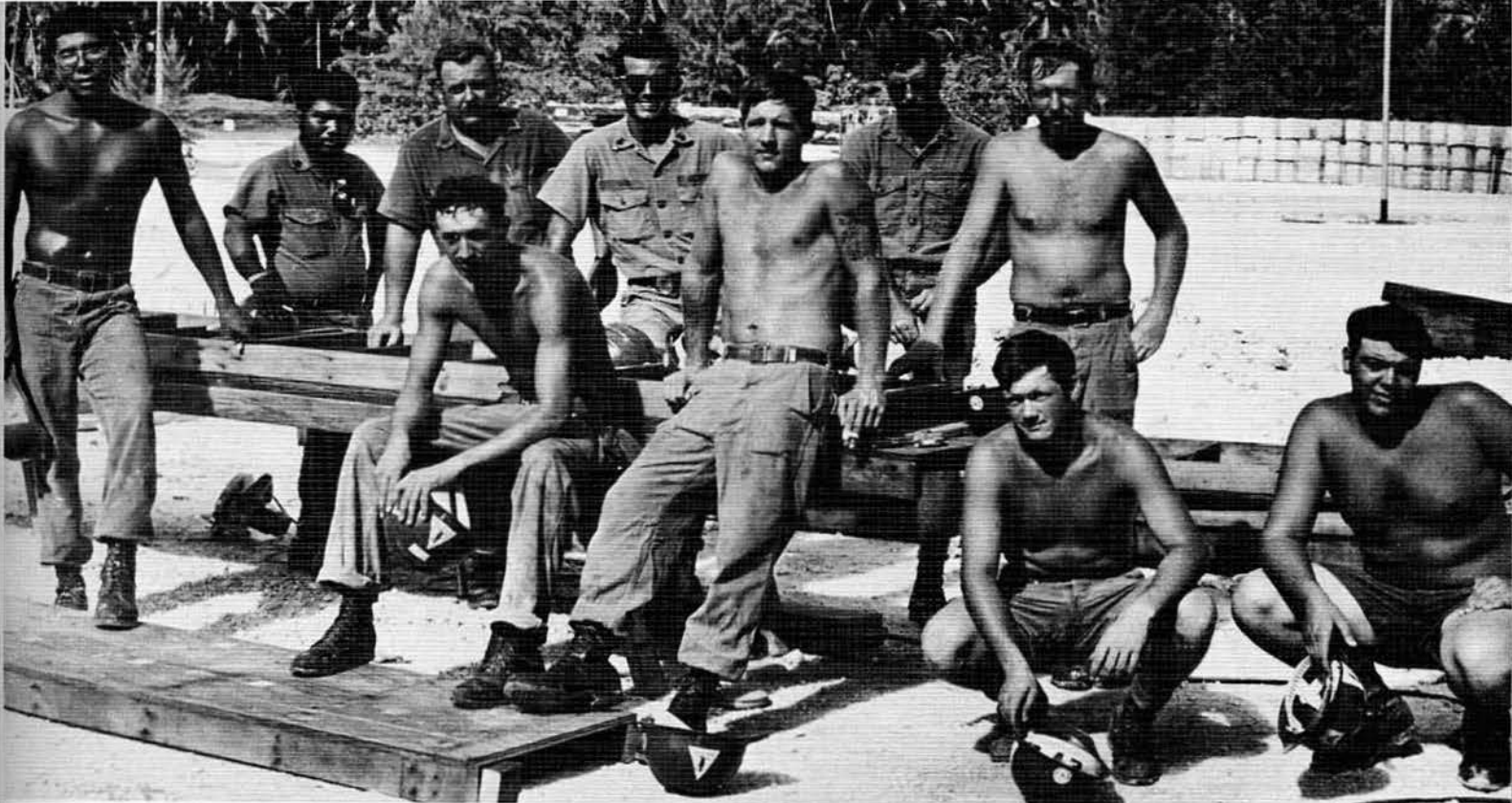
Back:

BUC Prentice Walker
 BUC Eugene Johnson
 BUCS Warren Haynes
 SWC Leroy Ciesinski

BEQ 7 Project

1. BU2 David Brown
2. BUCN Michael Foryan
3. BU3 Gary Miller
4. BU1 Billy Henegar
5. BU3 Kenneth Martino





BEQ 6 Project

1. BU1 Oscar Miranda
2. SW1 Bruce Greene, Jr.
3. BU1 Michael Kinas
4. SW3 Jimmie Eaves
5. BUCN Thomas O'Donnel, Jr.
6. BU3 William Conner, Jr.
7. BU2 Charles Jones
8. BU3 Robert Gardisser
9. BUCN Mark Corlett
10. BU2 Jeffrey Krentz



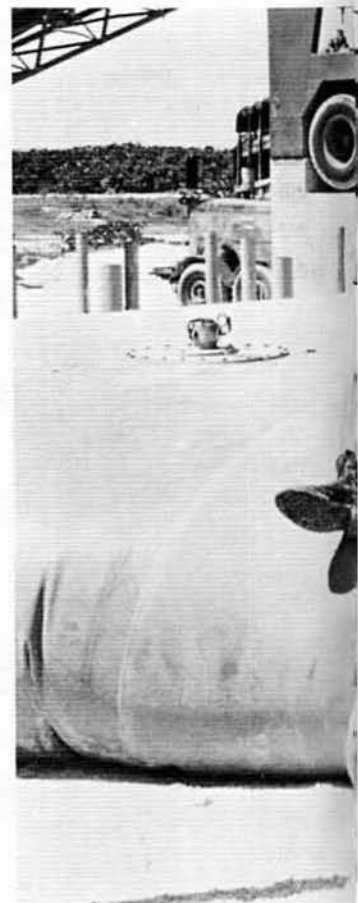
North Runway Crew

Front Row:

BU1 Michael Sorenson
BUCN Kevin McMullin
BU1 Danny Carlstrom
BU2 Edward Jenkins
BU2 Edward Skomurski
BUCN Michael Akre
SW1 Ronald Sears

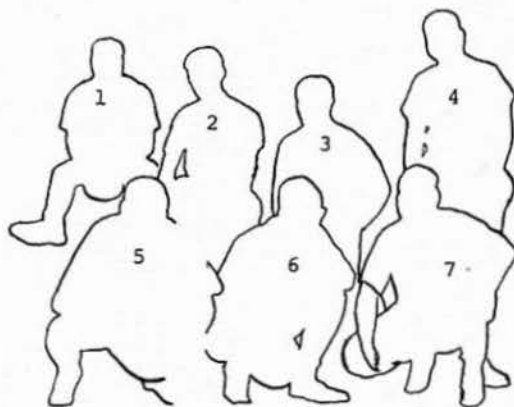
Back Row:

BU2 Timothy Tucker
BU2 James Adams
BUCN Mark Helbling
BUCN Kevin Smith
SW2 Lee Fredrickson
BUCA Stuart Probst
SW3 Aaron Dismuke





REX Batch Plant



1. BU3 Ricky Mishler
2. BUCN James Martin
3. BUCN Danny Chauvin
4. BU1 Leonard Kalus
5. BUCN Dale Northway
6. SW1 Donald Canfield
7. SW1 Herbert Cortez

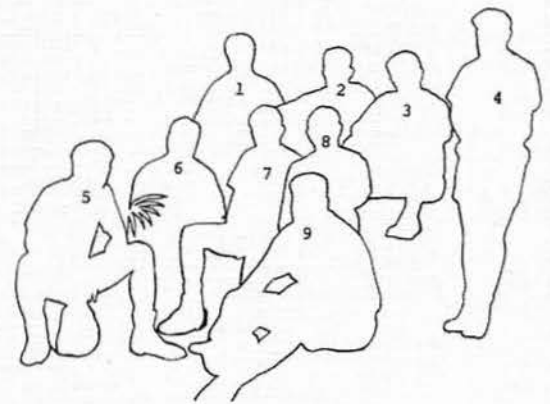




Stragglers

1. SWCN Celedonio Ayala
2. SW2 Howard Woods
3. BU3 Kevin Sigety
4. BU2 Paul Felker

5. BUCA Robin Goslin
6. BUCN Michael Wright
7. BUCN David Meier
8. SW3 Johnny Leffler
9. BUCN Dennis Anderson





Subsistence Bldg.

Crew

Front Row:

- BU3 Willis March II
- BUCN Charles Scicluna
- BU2 Rosalio Asper
- BU3 James Hurd

Back Row:

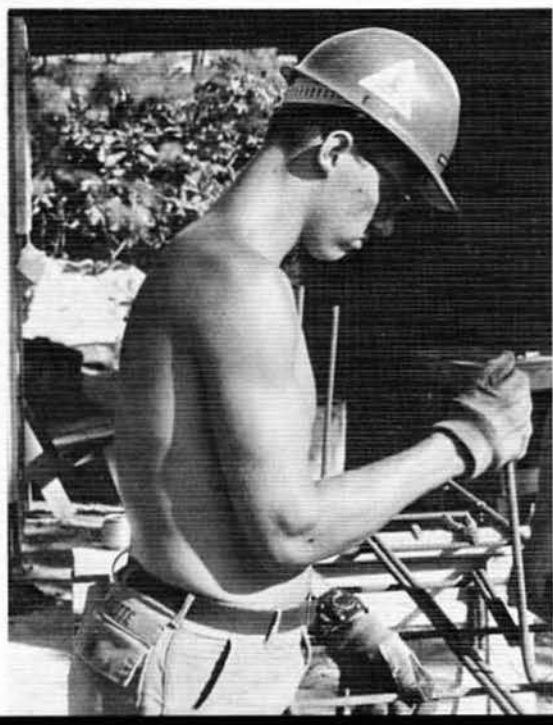
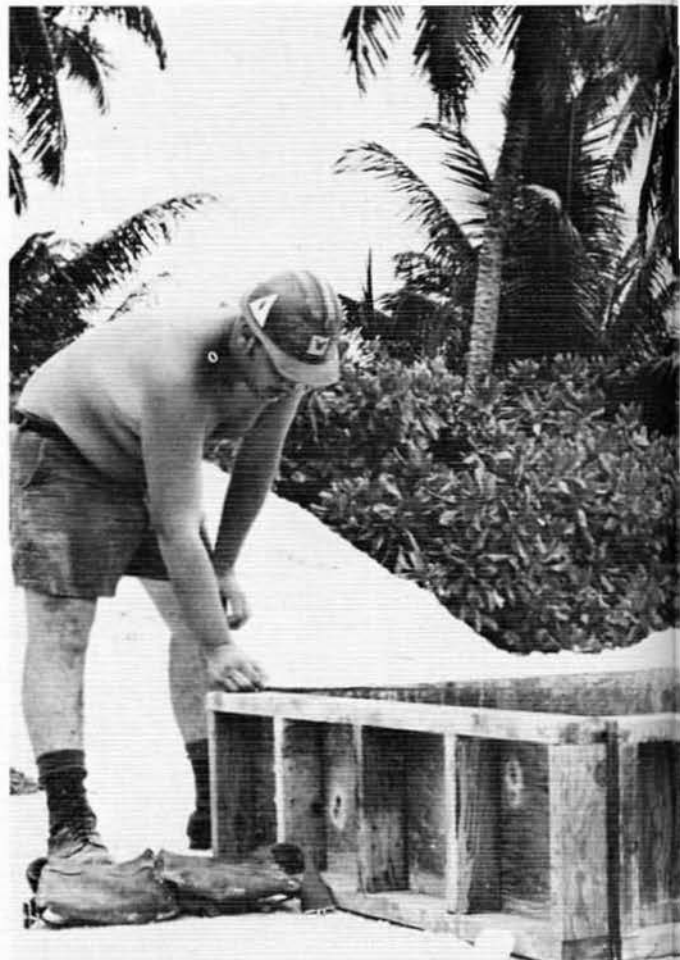
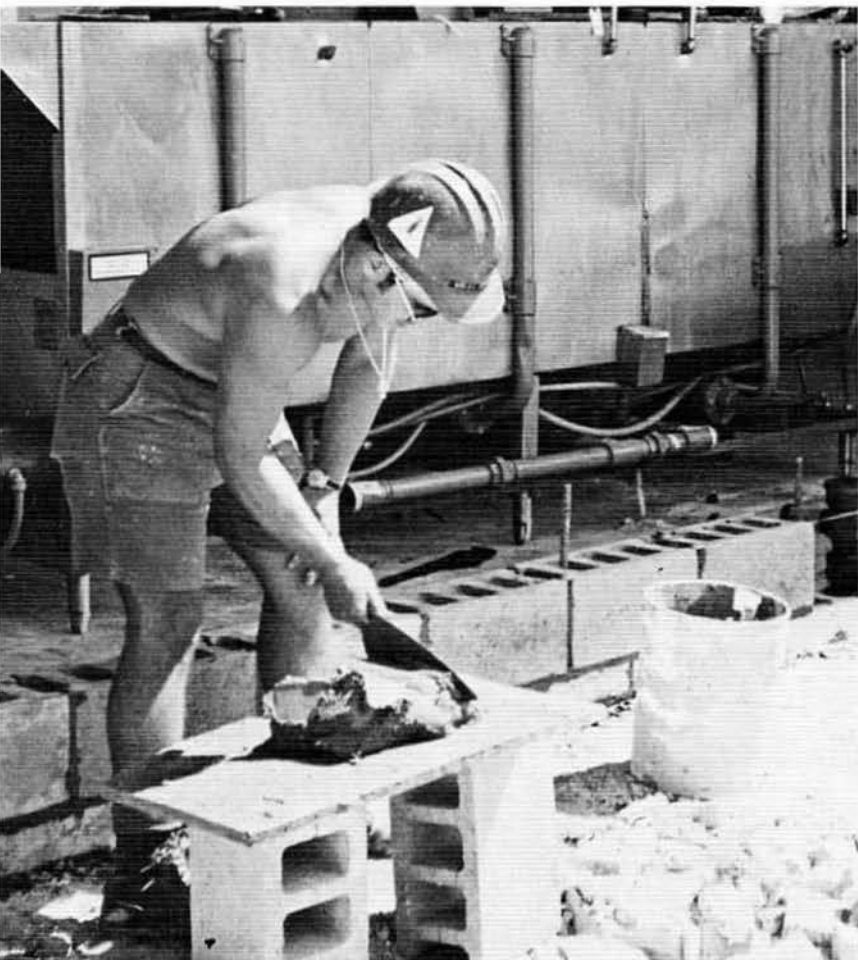
- BUCN William Darrah
- BU2 Gary Klemetson
- BU1 Billy Roach



D COMPANY

Delta company's top project of the deployment was construction of a new subsistence building (dining hall). At deployment's end, the building was 95 per cent complete.

Delta company also had a prominent role in the airfield expansion project. Company personnel constructed the underground distribution system for the permanent power and communication grid for the parking apron portion of this project and also



completed all precast structures for the north-end runway expansion phase.

Other projects undertaken by the company's Builders and Steelworkers included: construction of a new concrete batch plant; rehab of the pipeline used in off-load of cement ships; installation of navigational aids on the island; and expansion of the soils lab building. In the latter part of the deployment, Delta also began work on new enlisted men's quarters and a swimming pool.





Expeditors

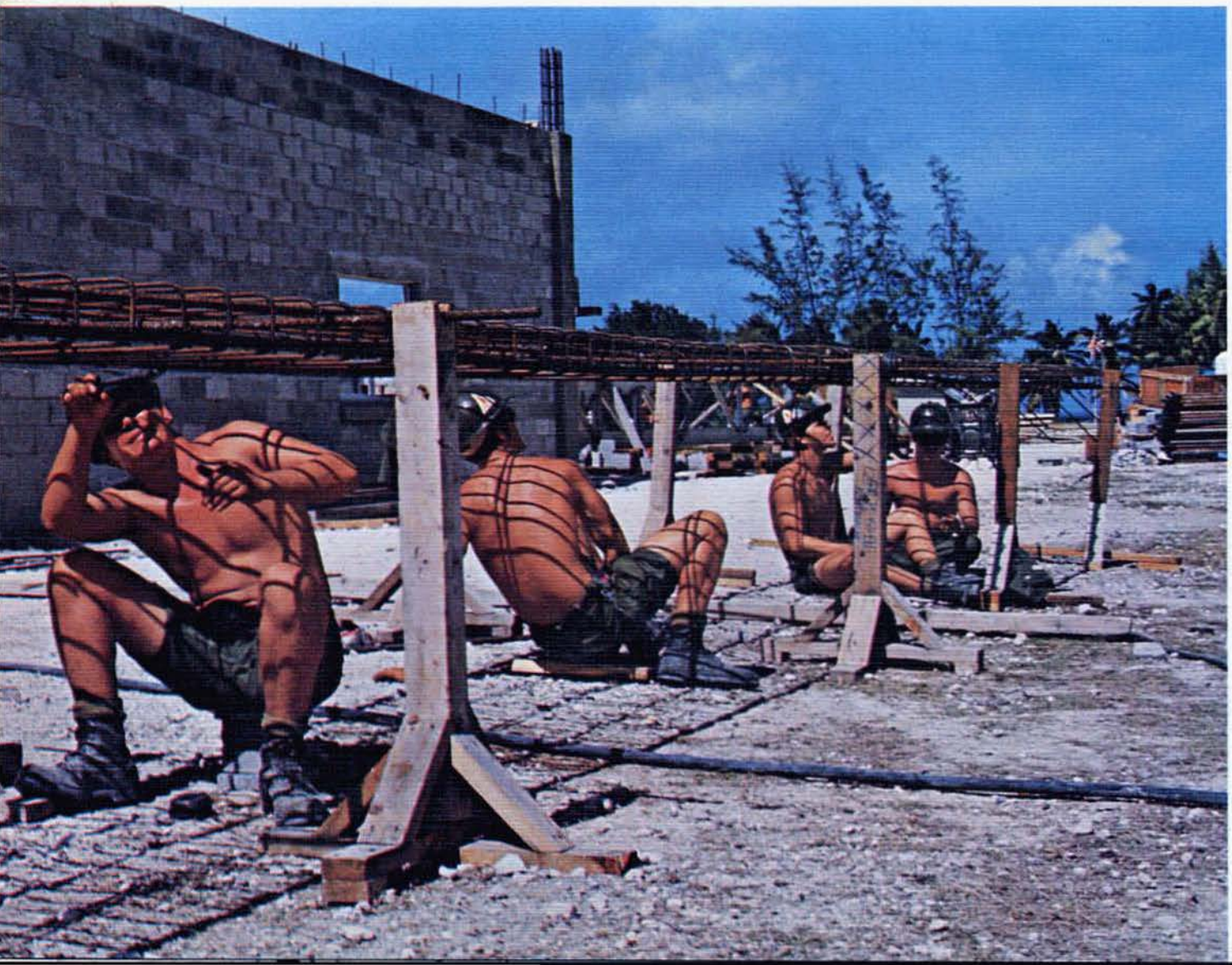
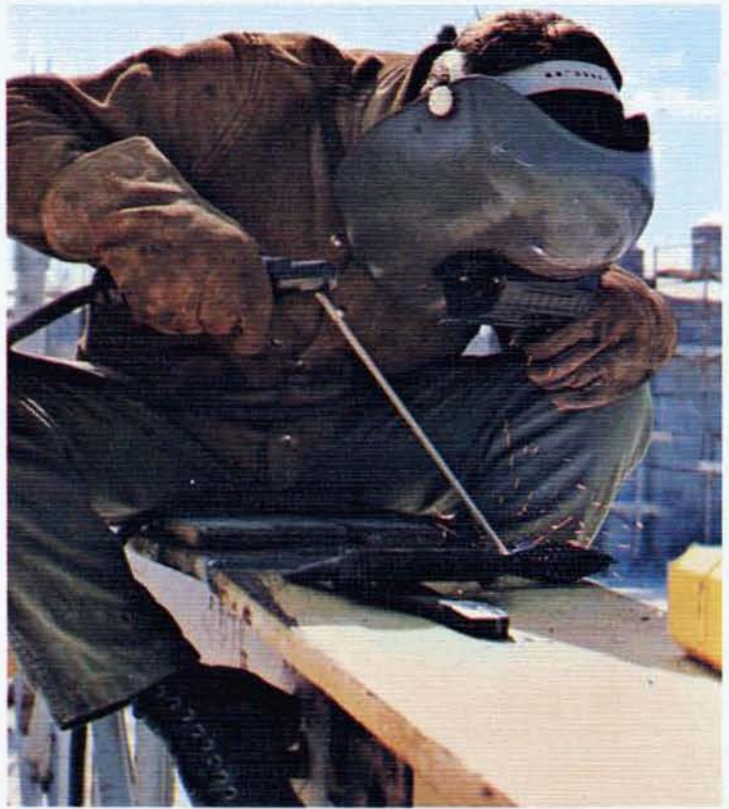
PNC Godofredo Reyes
BU2 Michael Jones
LT Robert M. Cosgrove

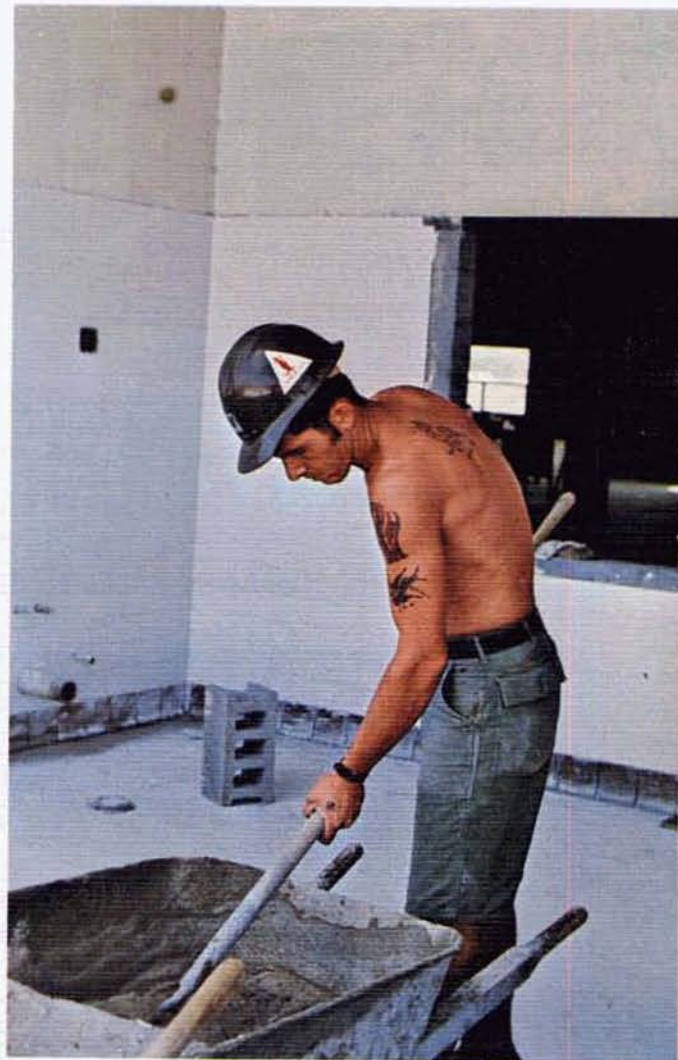
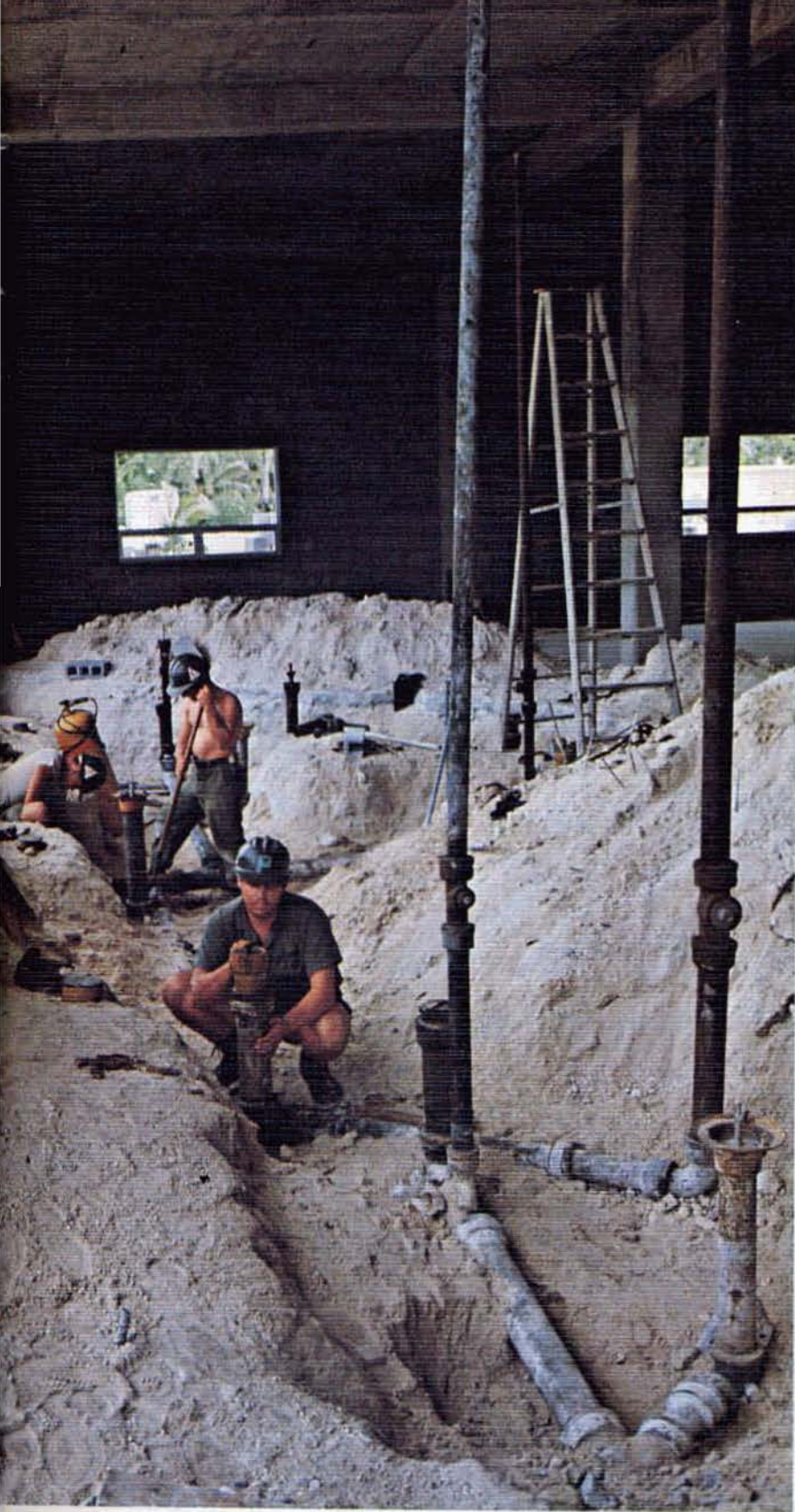
A handful of NMCB 133's Seabees spent the Diego Garcia deployment in the Philippines, serving the battalion as expeditors in obtaining supplies. In addition to this primary responsibility, they also assisted Kangaroo battalion personnel on leave in the Philippines. The work of the expeditors, thousands of miles from Diego Garcia, was a major factor in the success of the deployment.

A COLORFUL DEPLOYMENT

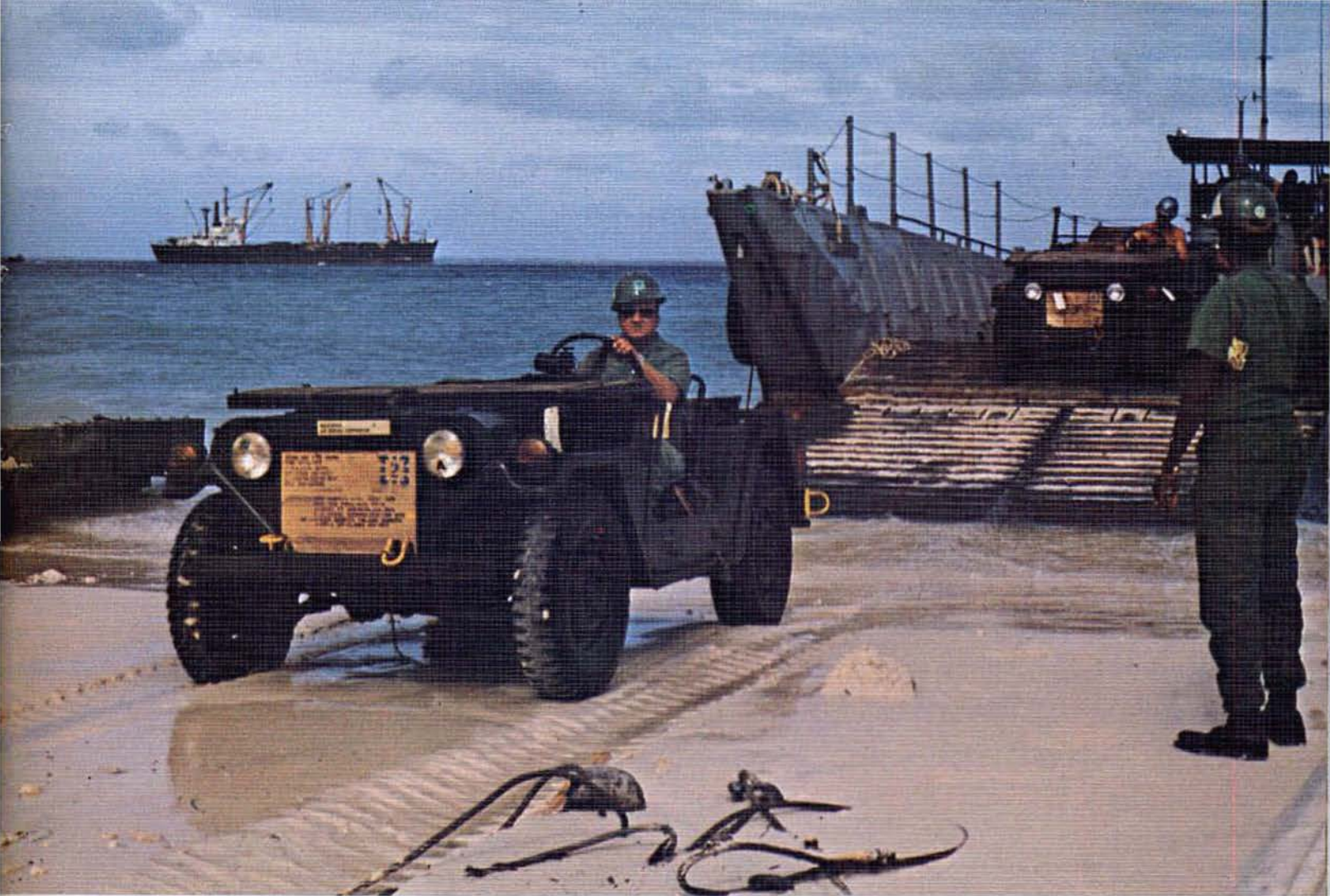


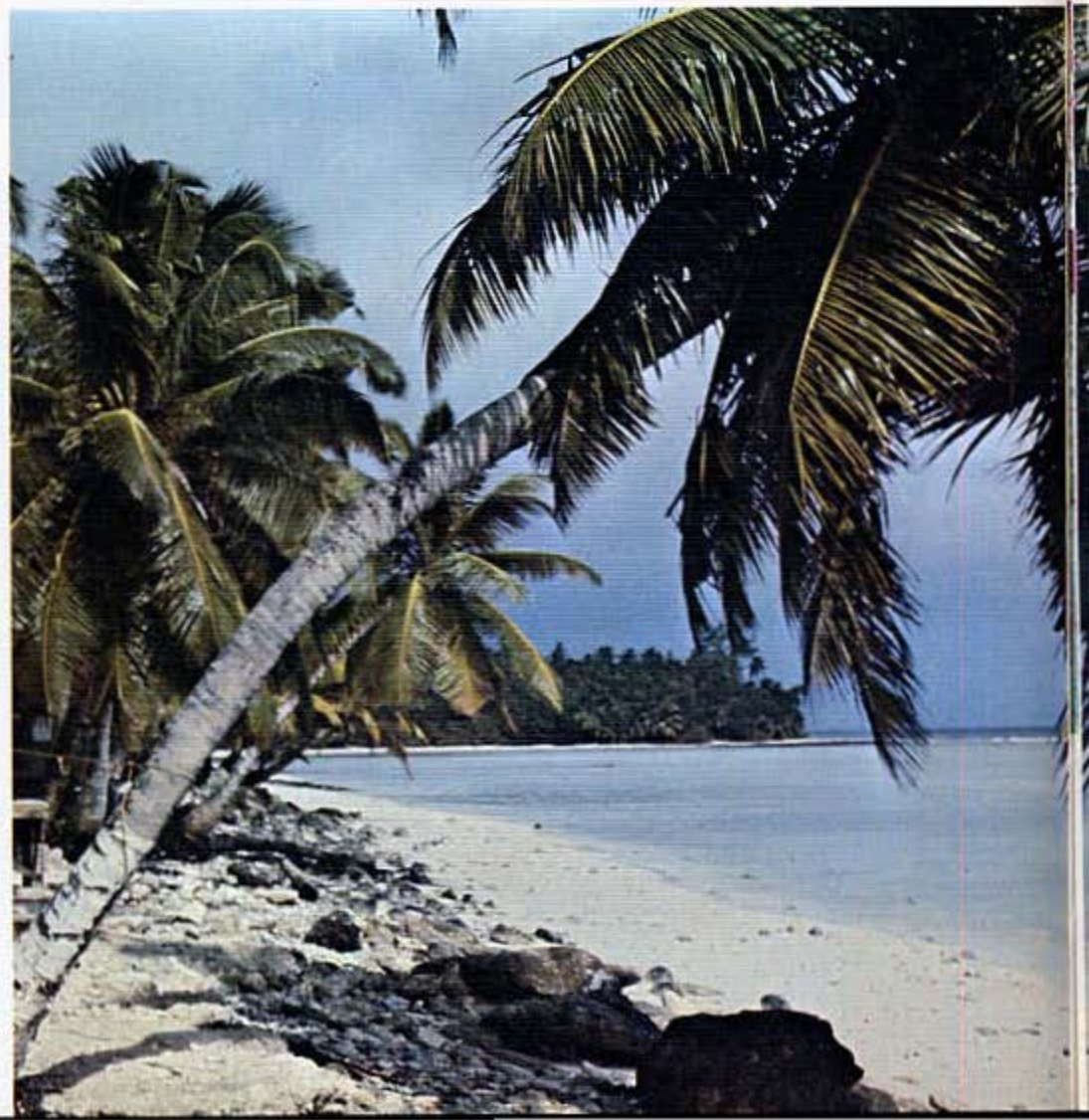
Work

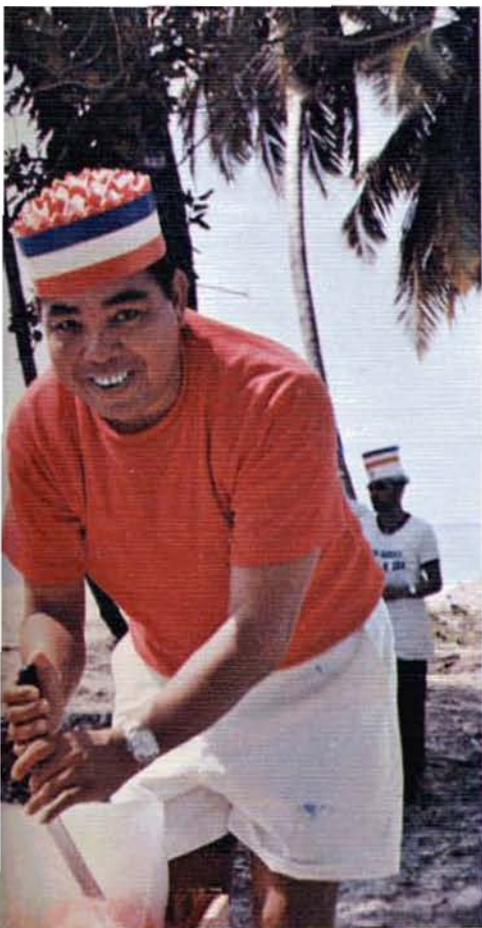




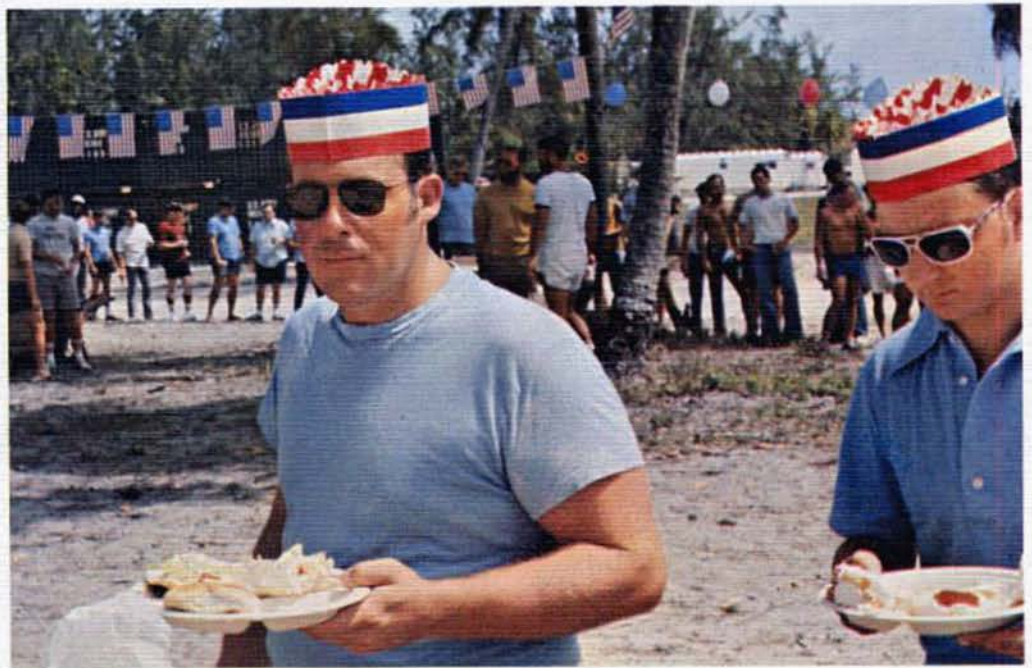








Parties



Entertainment

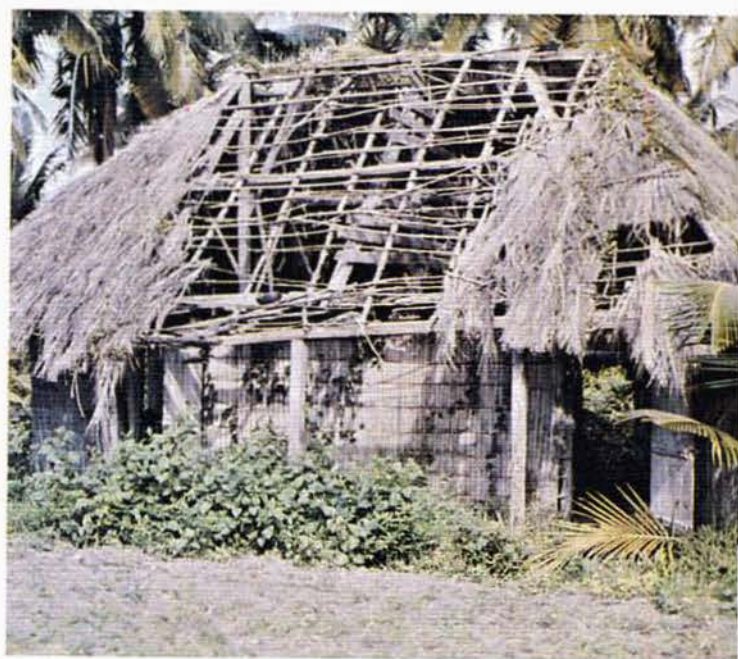






History

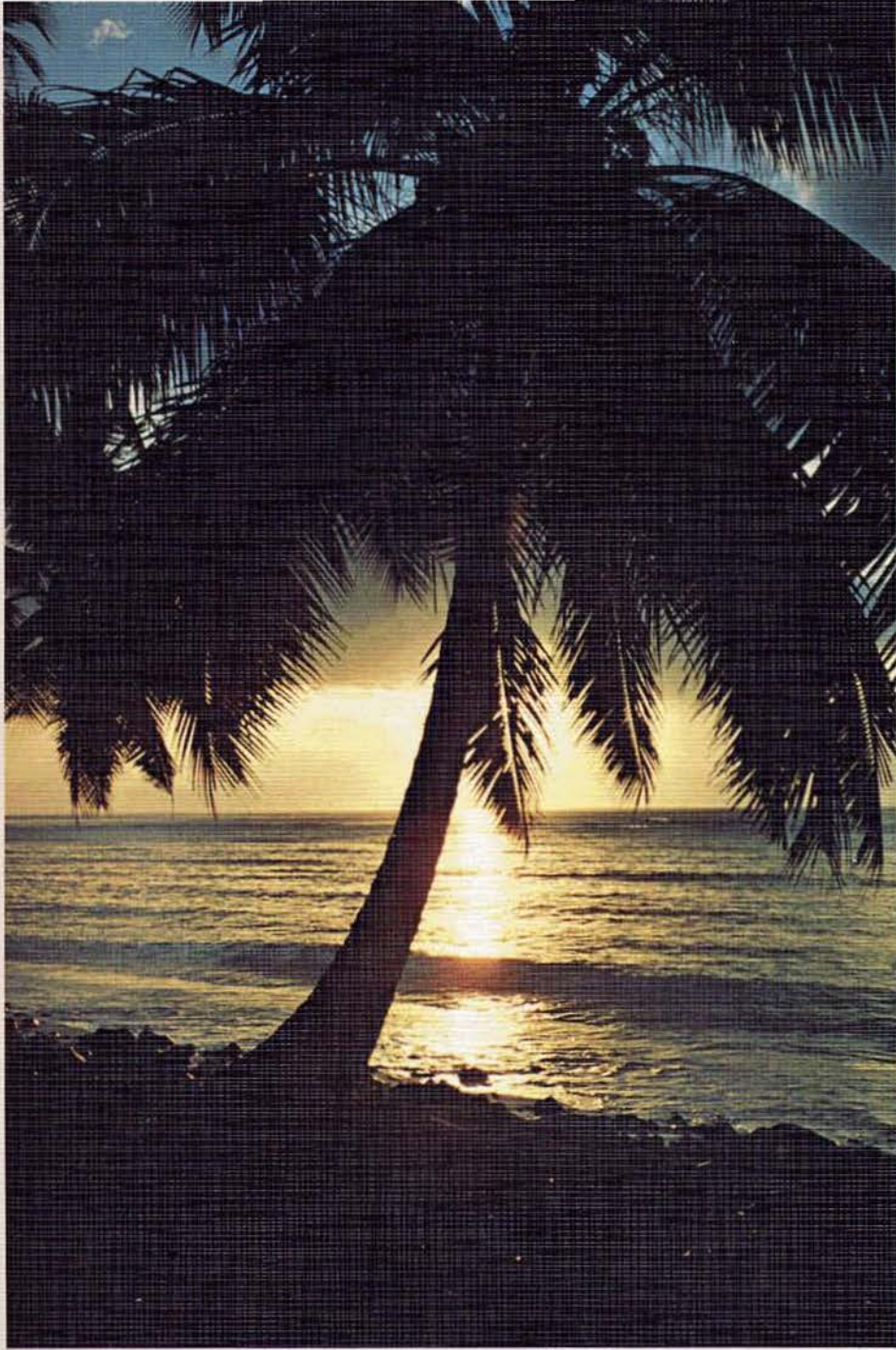


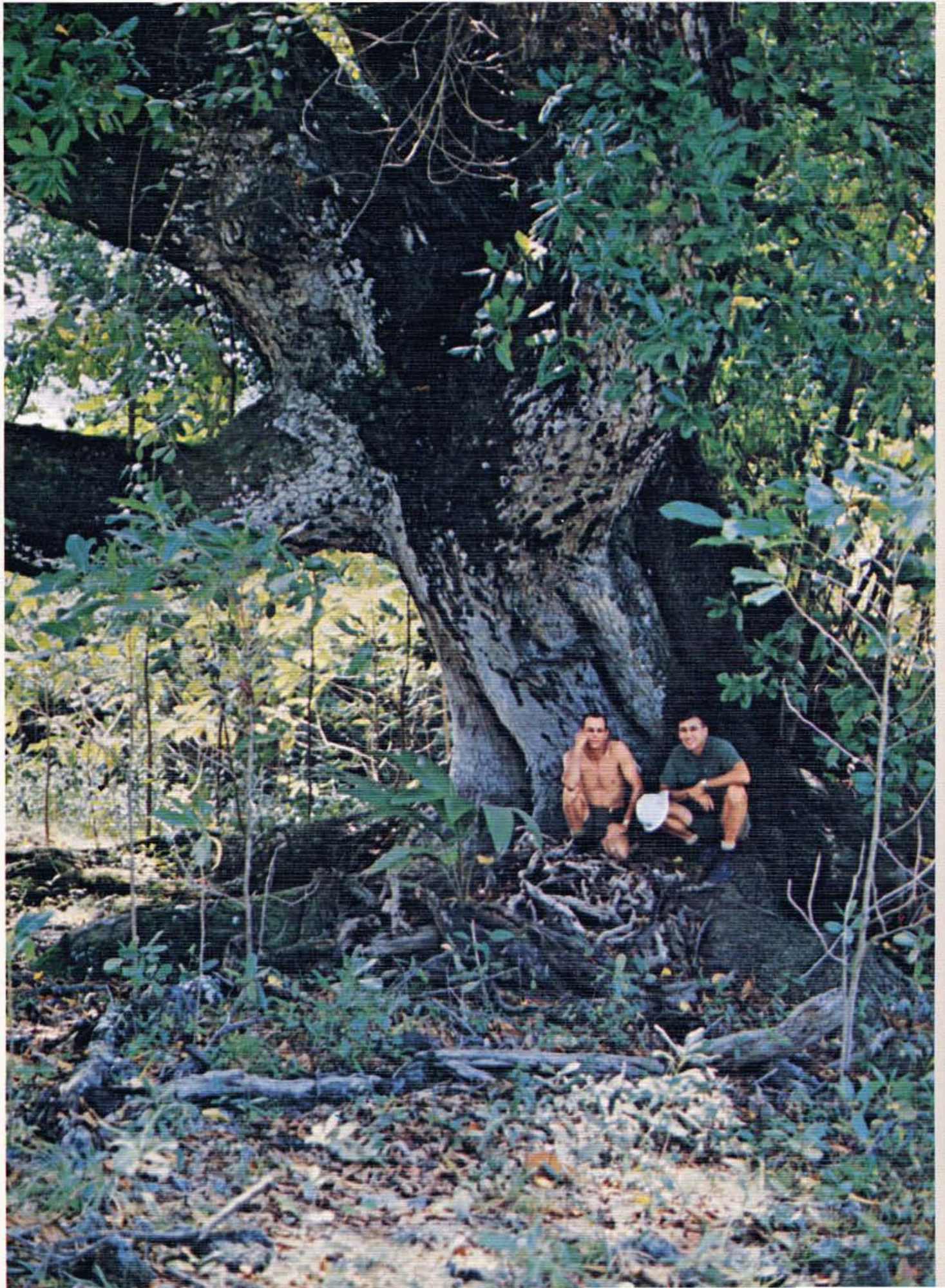


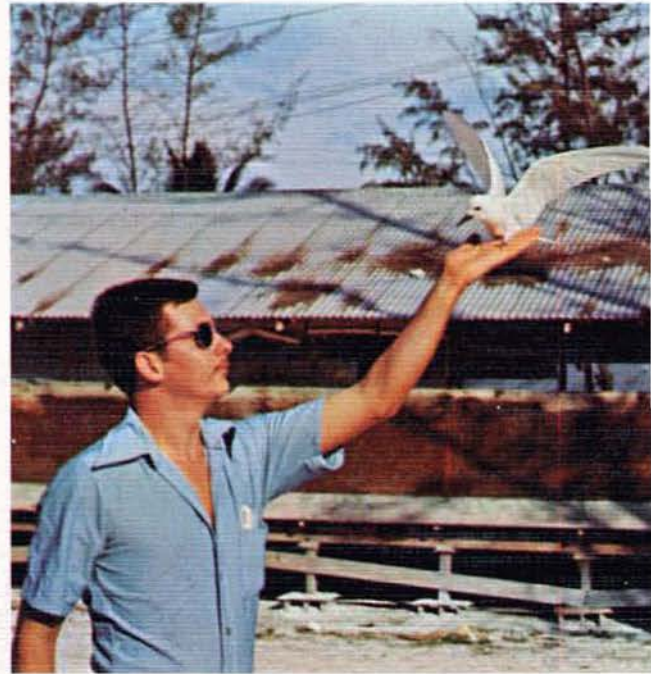
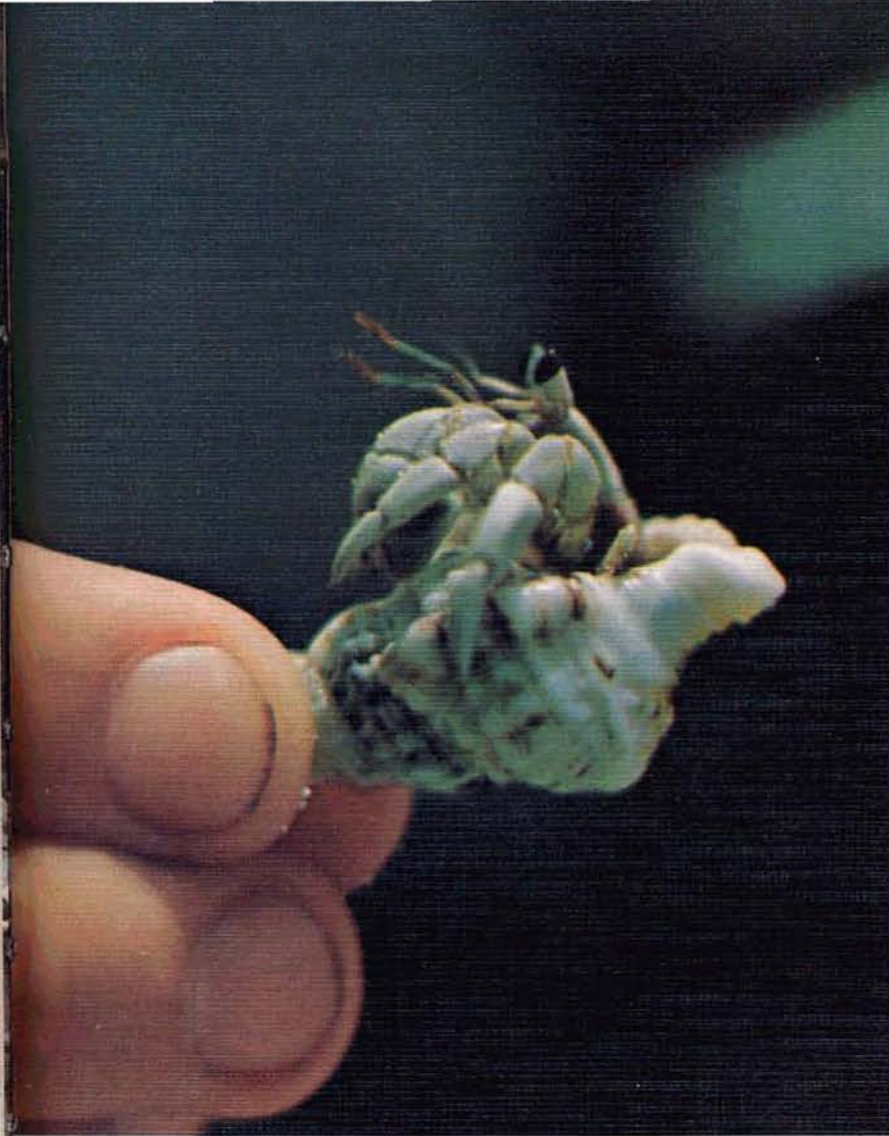


Beauty











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