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COMMANDER SERVICE FORCE UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET NORFOLK 11, VIRGINIA

Code 32:rsc 3500 Ser 3820 7 JUL 1965

From: Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet To: Commanding Officer, U. S. Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN

Subj: Battle Efficiency Competition 1965; commendation for

1. The annual review process for selecting the "OUTSTANDING" Mobile Construction Battalion in the U. S. Atlantic Fleet has been completed. U. S. Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN was adjudged "BEST OF TYPE" for Fiscal Year 1965, and is a winner of the Battle Efficiency Award.

2. Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet commends the Commanding Officer, the officers and men of U. S. Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN for the pursuit of a vigorous, long-term training program leading to the attainment of the Battle Efficiency Award.

3. The Commanding Officer, U. S. Mobile Construction Eattalion SEVEN is authorized to take the following action:

a. Paint or affix a white "E" to the front entrance of the Battalion's command headquarters building.

b. Display the battle efficiency pennant in the vicinity of the headquarters building (Article 206 of DNC 27 gives a detailed description of the battle efficiency pennant).

c. Have enlisted personnel wear the Navy "E" in accordance with U. S. Navy Uniform Regulations.

d. All of the above may be displayed until the winners of Battle Efficiency Competition are announced for Fiscal Year 1966.

4. Further, the Commanding Officer, U. S. Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN is encouraged to take appropriate commendatory action in the case of those officers and enlisted men who made a significant contribution to the success of U. S. Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN.

HENRY A. JENKEN Renk



MCB 7 DEPLOYMENTS 64-65

CAMP LEJEUNE-GITMO BAY







HISTORY OF MCB SEVEN

U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN was commissioned on August 22, 1951 and has seen duty in Morocco, Cuba, the Bahama Islands, the West Indies, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Spain, Sicily, Newfoundland and in the United States. In its primary role of construction, MCB SEVEN has begun or finished such projects as air strips, housing facilities, gymnasiums, enlisted men's clubs, office buildings, and soil stabilization control.

Generally the work in which the battalion has united its efforts has been of a magnitude too great to allow completion during a single deployment. As a result MCB SEVEN has relieved and has been relieved by other Atlantic Fleet Battalions on single projects to enable completion of work without interruption. From October 1957 until August 1959, however, MCB SEVEN set a record by remaining deployed to three isolated islands in the West Indies, completing single-handedly the largest construction project ever undertaken by a peace-time Atlantic Construction Battalion. The project, consisting of two Coast Guard Loran Stations -42buildings, five steel structures, 15 miles of road and 16 acress of concrete catchment area — stands as mute testimony to the ability of MCB SEVEN.

The Battalion returned to Davisville in September 1959 and remained there until January 1960 when it deployed to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. MCB SEVEN returned to Davisville in August 1960 after a successful deployment.

On January 11, 1961 the battalion left Davisville for the U. S. Naval Base, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to relieve MCB FOUR. Enroute they left 67 men and two officers of Detachment MIKE at Roosevelt Roads to set up an asphalt plant and repair about eigth miles of the Naval Station roads. Guantanamo Bay proved to be an excellent deployment site for MCB SEVEN to train and work at the three-part mission for construction battalions: provide rapid and effective construction support; conduct defense operations; and perform emergency public works operation functions.

Strained political relations with Cuba generated an atmoscphere of vigilance and realism in which to train and conduct defense operations. SEVEN was a major element of the base's Defense Force, supplying two rifle companies reinforced by crew-served weapons. MCB SEVEN assured the continued operation of essential utilities by training and providing men to operate the Naval Base power, water treatment, and refrigeration plants, and critical boilers and pumping stations. These functions were assumed monthly during each two-day base wide defense drill and emergencies. For 10 days during the Bay of Cochinas invasion some of MCB SEVEN's men operated these plants.

On October 11, 1961 SEVEN returned to Davisville, Rhode Island to begin planning, training and outfitting for its Rota, Spain deployment. While at Davisville, CBLANT announced that MCB SEVEN had been selected the "Best of Type" in the Atlantic Fleet for fiscal year 1961 and also "Best of Type" 1961 in the entire Navy.

The Battalion was assigned 15 different projects at Rota. These projects covered a wide variety of construction work and served as a good example of the broad scope of construction capabilities of a Construction Battalion. The largest project was the completion of a permanent 86-man barracks started by MCB FOUR. An Aviation Fuel Truck Repair Shop, a small permanent office building and prefabricated metal office building for visiting squadrons were constructed. Other projects included road building, earth work to repair soil erosion damage, stabilization of a large area near the water front, security fencing, installation of security floodlighting, improvements to the small-arms range, and cycling of functional components.

In July 1962 MCB SEVEN and ONE participated in the first airlift redeployment in the Atlantic Seabees. MCB ONE landed at Rota with 180 personnel on July 17 and on July 18 MCB SEVEN departed with 220 personnel on three C-135 jet transports for direct airlift to Davisville. A rear echelon of 60 men completed work on the last few projects and departed from Rota on August 6.

In anticipation of their December deployment the battalion received six weeks of intensive infantry training from Marine instructors at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, during August and September 1962. Although not scheduled for deployment to Cuba until December the battalion received word in early October while still at LeJeune that SEVEN would leave for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in late October. The nature of the work in Cuba was classified and of such an important nature that SEVEN would join with MCB FOUR to hasten completion of that project.

On October 26 an LST left Davisville with 336 enlisted men and eight officers of MCB SEVEN and new construction equipment. On October 30 MCB SEVEN arrived at Guantanamo Bay and turned to with MCB FOUR. The Seabees worked around the clock in two shifts. Front line construction crews couldn't work at night but did the job so fast in the daytime it took shifts at the Seabee Camp to keep up support. This was Project MIGHT — an important and urgent project constructed by Seabees to improve the defenses of the Gitmo Naval Base.

In early July 1963 it was announced that MCB SEVEN had been selected as "Best of Type" in the Atlantic Fleet and was awarded the Battle Efficiency "E" for fiscal year 1963. The battalion was also named "Best of Type" in the entire Navy when it won the Peltier Award for the second time.

In early December of 1963 work commenced to establish a tent camp at the Naval Ammunition Depot on Vieques, Puerto Rico, approximately eight miles from Roosevelt Roads. As living facilities were completed the Vieques company was increased to 170 men. By the time the company was relieved on April 21, 1964 by a detachment from MCB FOUR, they had quarried and crushed approximately 40,000 tons of rock and spread and compacted crushed rock on approximately 12 miles of roads in the Naval Ammunition Depot. Additionally, an old warehouse was converted to a barracks, subsistance and administrative facility. Fifty-three magazines were rehabilitated and an 80' by 80' reinforced concrete LST ramp was constructed.

MCB SEVEN returned to Davisville in late April 1964 for leave, training and preparation for an August deployment to Camp LeJeune, North Carolina where the battalion undertook six weeks of advanced infantry training in preparation for its fifth deployment to the U. S. Naval Base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The officers and men of MCB SEVEN departed for their Guantanamo Bay deployment in October 1964. On this deployment the battalion completed many construction projects aboard the Naval Base which contributed to the efficiency of the Naval operational forces and made life for those living there more enjoyable. The construction projects weren't the only reason that MCB SEVEN was in Cuba. The Battalion had the important responsibility of defending their portion of the fence line, better known as the "Cactus Curtain," and provided the weapon forces in support of ground defense.

In April 1965 the battalion left Guantanamo Bay and returned to Davisville where they are training for their approaching deployment to Rota, Spain.

CRUISE BOOK STAFF

Supervisor	LT J. D. Yeich, CHC, USNR
Photographer	Michael J. Gibbs, BUR3
Layout	J. R. Rush, EASCN A. C. Clark, EAS3
Illustrations	Stephen Roberts, EAD2 Fred Haney, CEWCN
Commentary	Fred Winne, JO1



THE CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

This book describes the deployment which brought MCB 7 the Best of Type designation and the Battle Efficiency "E" for fiscal year 1965. It was an outstanding deployment in all respects and one which will bring many fine memories in the future. It marked another first for MCB 7 where the entire deployment was successfully planned and executed utilizing

the Critical Path Method, a modern management system employed by the construction industry.

Congratulations to all hands. This is the hardest working group of men I've ever been associated with, and it is a true pleasure to be your Commanding Officer.



Lieutenant Commander A. R. Socha, CEC, USN

THE XO'S MESSAGE

Our receipt of the Best of Type Award is an honor we share together. It represents outstanding performances by all hands. It also reflects extensive dedication, loyalty and personal sacrifice from ourselves, our families and friends. Their encouragement, and ability to handle affairs at home, entitles them to share equally in the honor of the Award and

in the pride of the Battalion.

Our outstanding performance finds it's strength in our relationships and our unity. Knowing you individually, performing your tasks together and participating with you in recreation is a great personal pleasure to me. This year has been the highlight of my career.

MCB SEVEN GOES TO CAMP LEJEUNE





The Seabees have long been noted for their ability to defend what they build. This was very evident in the many engagements of Seabees during World War II when Seabees were in every major theater and landing of the conflict.

In keeping with this tradition and to keep the officers and men of the Atlantic Seabee Battalions in fighting trim each battalion periodically journeys to the U.S. Marine Corps Base at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. While at Camp LeJeune in August and September 1964 MCB SEVEN underwent six weeks of intensive Advanced Infantry Training. For many it was just a refresher course while to others it was their first taste of combat training.

All who went through the training came out having gained much experience which someday may save their life or that of a shipmate. Some of the training is depicted on this and the following pages.

















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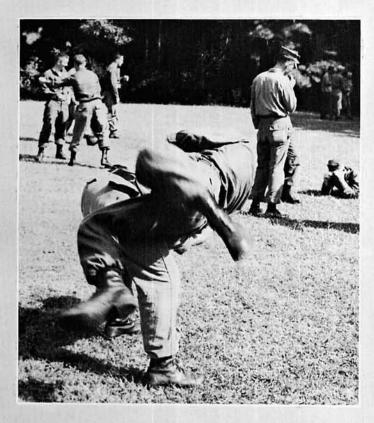






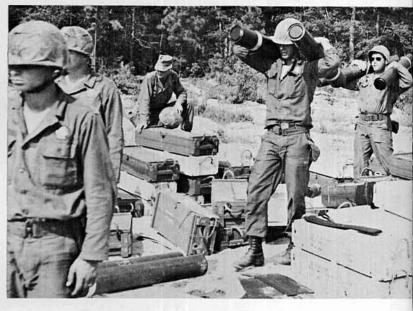




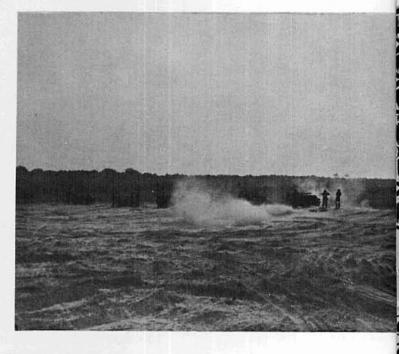




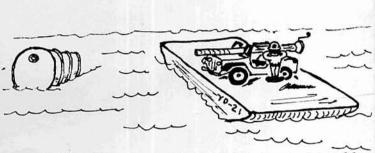




THE 106 RECOILLESS RIFLE IS THE LARGEST OF THE WEAPONS WHICH ARE IN USE BY TODAY'S MODERN SEABEAS. AT CAMP LEJEUNE 106 CREWS WERE TRAINED AND BECAME QUITE PRO-FICIENT IN HANDLING OF AMMUNITION AND FIRING ACCURACY.







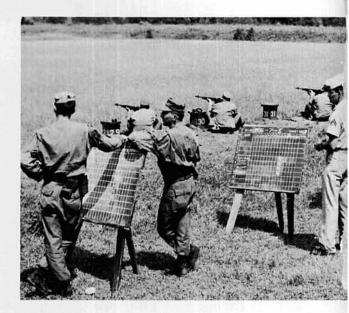
" FIRE THE 106 /// "





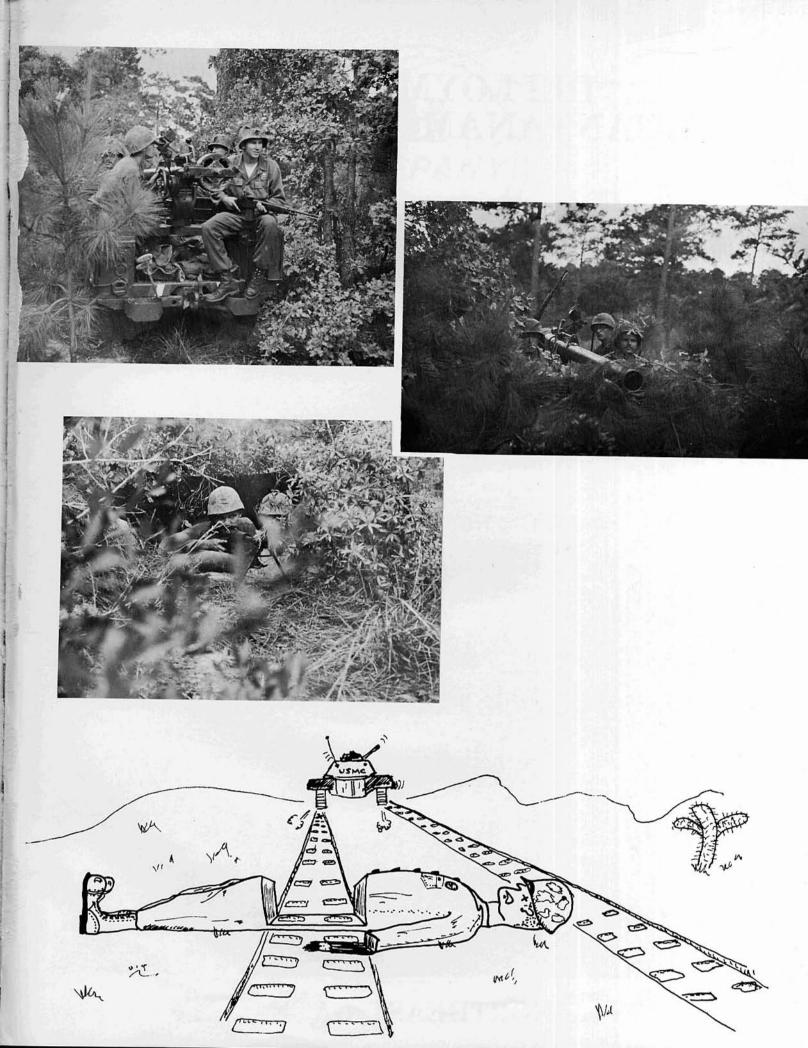










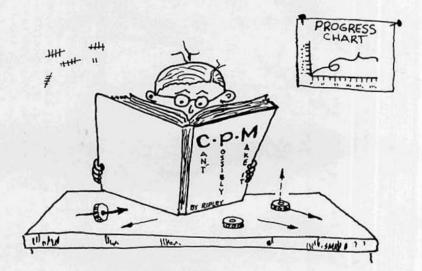


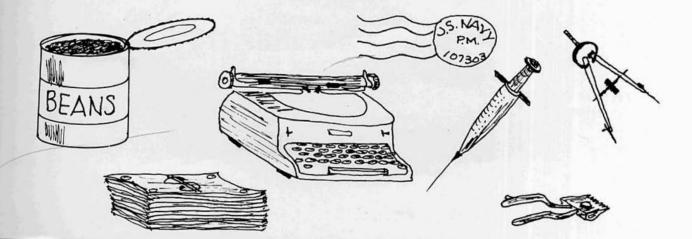
DEPLOYMENT TO GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA



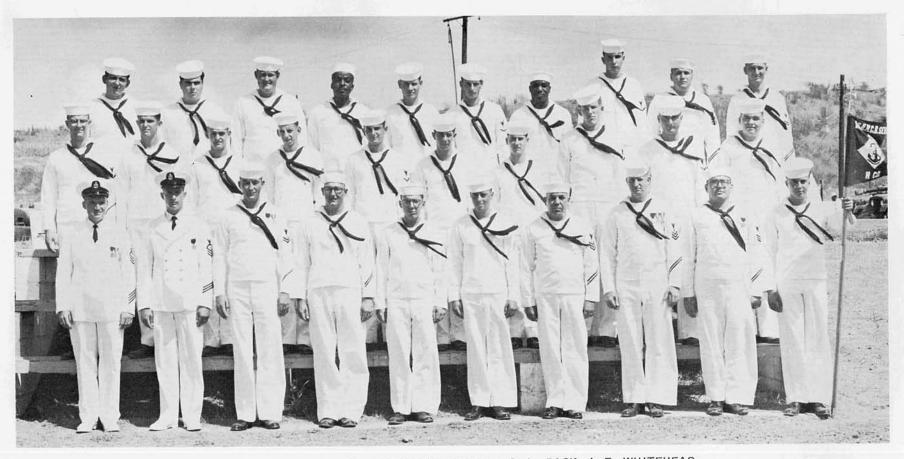
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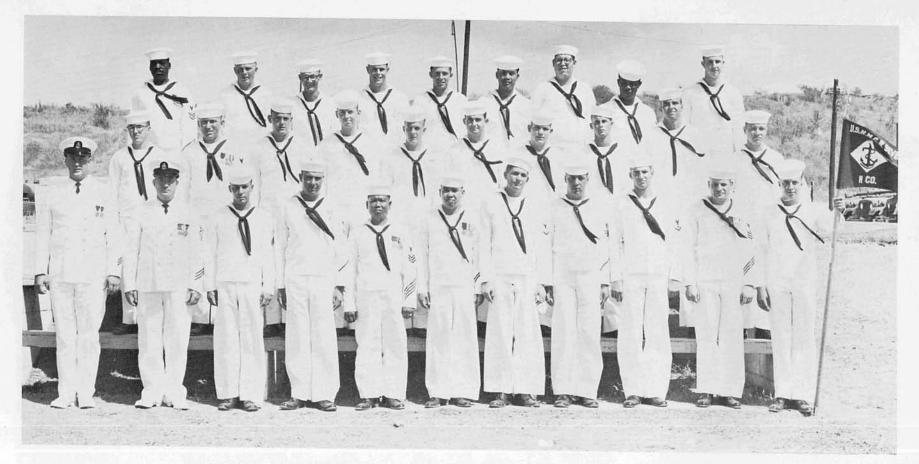


"H" COMPANY - 1ST PLATOON



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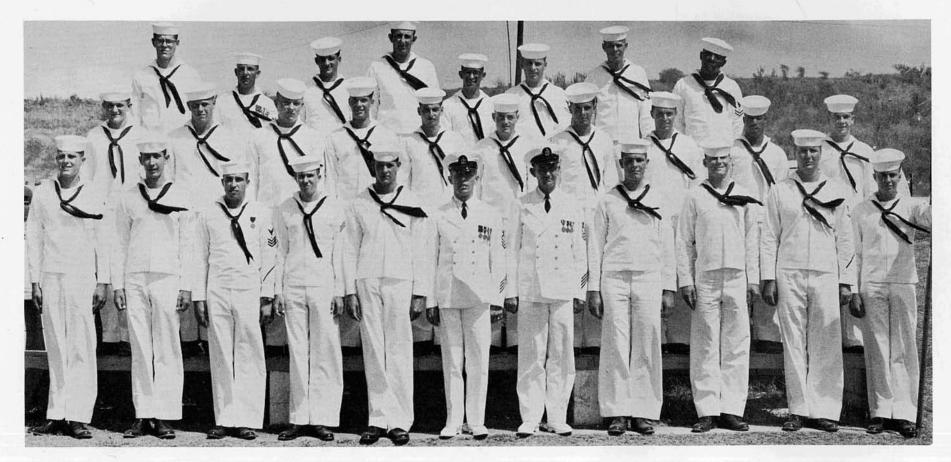
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"H" COMPANY – 3D PLATOON

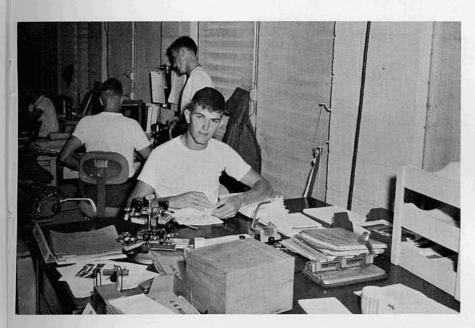


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ADMIN - PERSONNEL





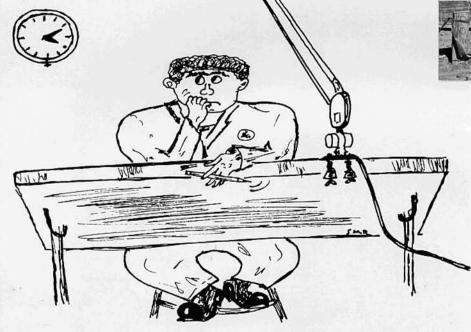








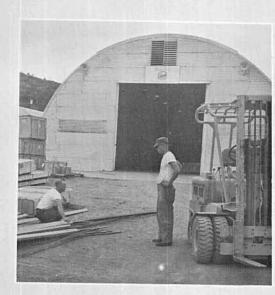








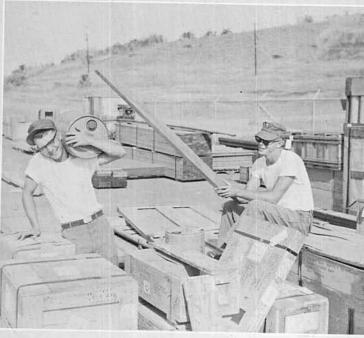










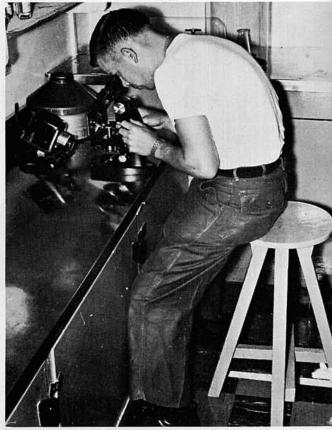


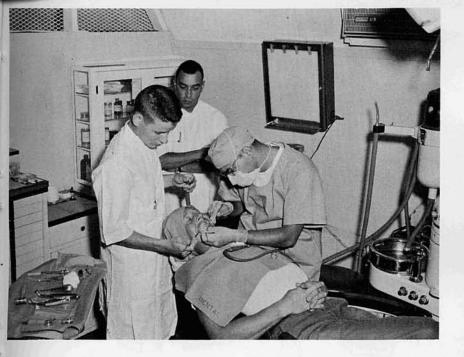




MEDICAL



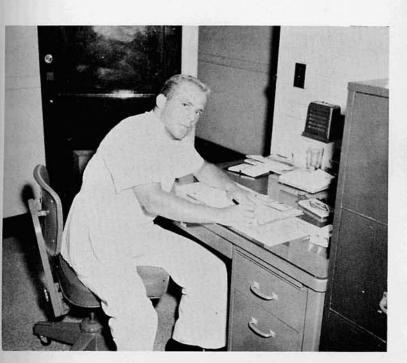


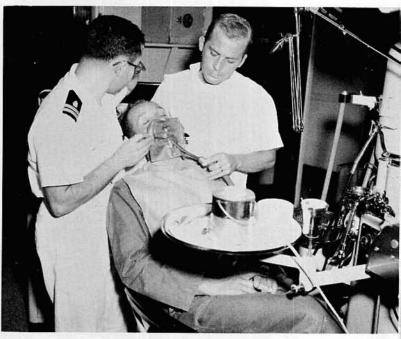




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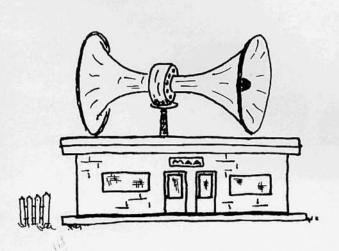


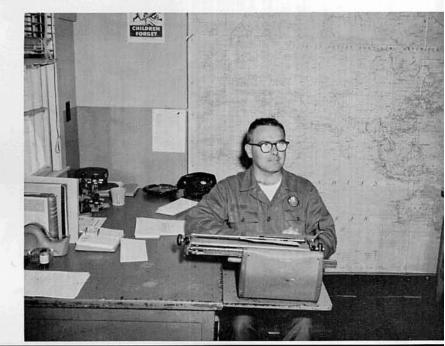


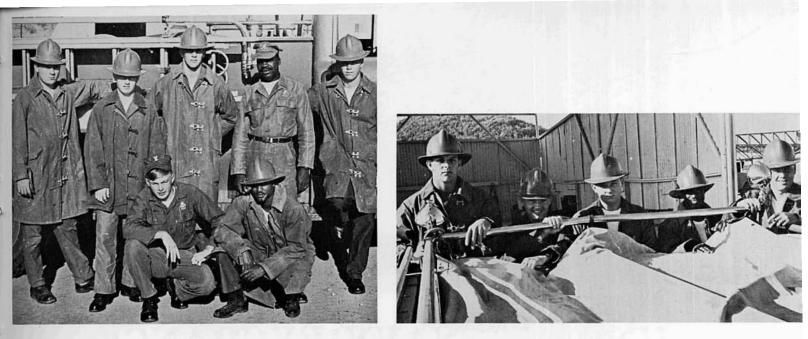




PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE AND MASTER AT ARMS







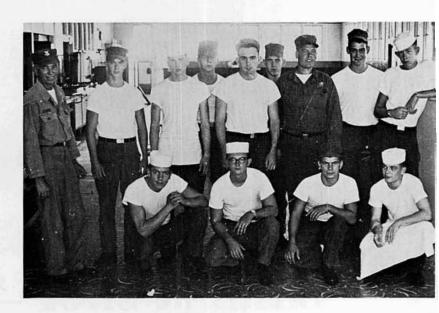
FIRE DEPARTMENT

A N D

COOKS













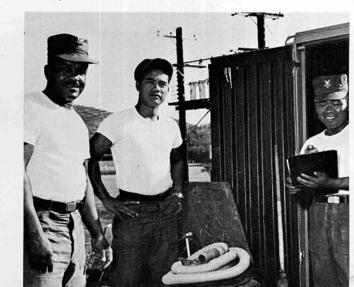
LAUNDRY - NAVY EXCHANGE





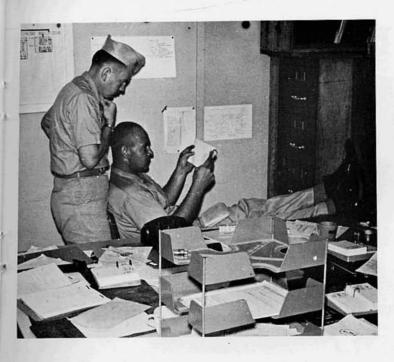
BARBER SHOP — STEWARDS







TRAINING







ARMORY



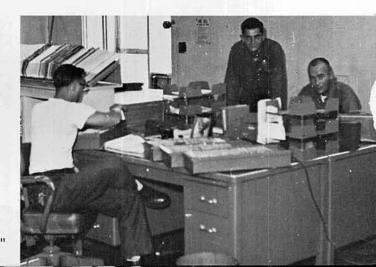


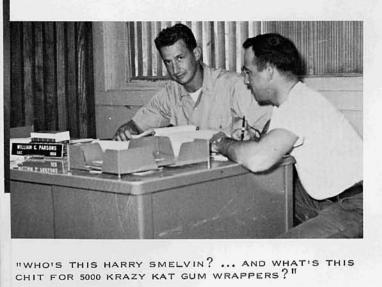






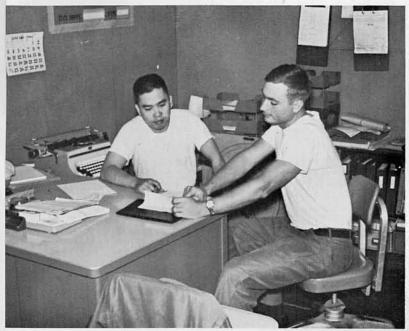
" ... AN' THEN I SIGNED IT HARRY SMELVIN"





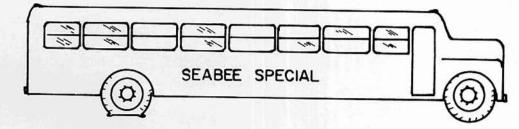


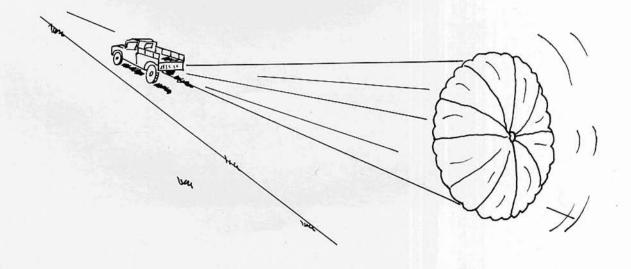
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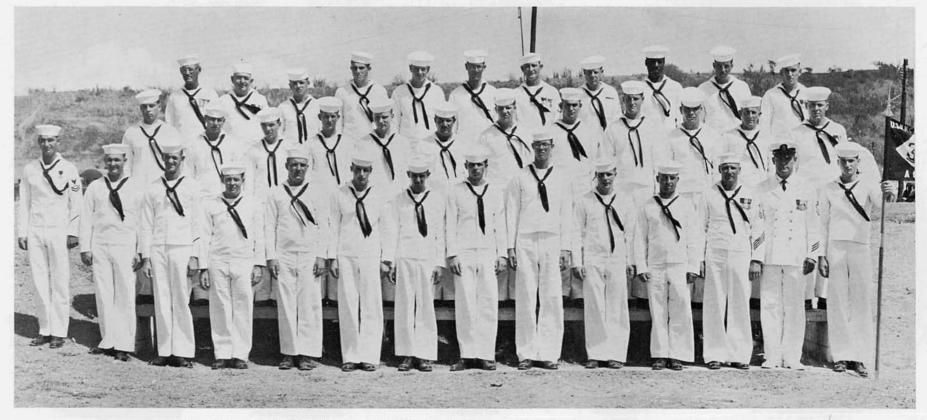
COMPANY







"A" COMPANY - 1ST PLATOON

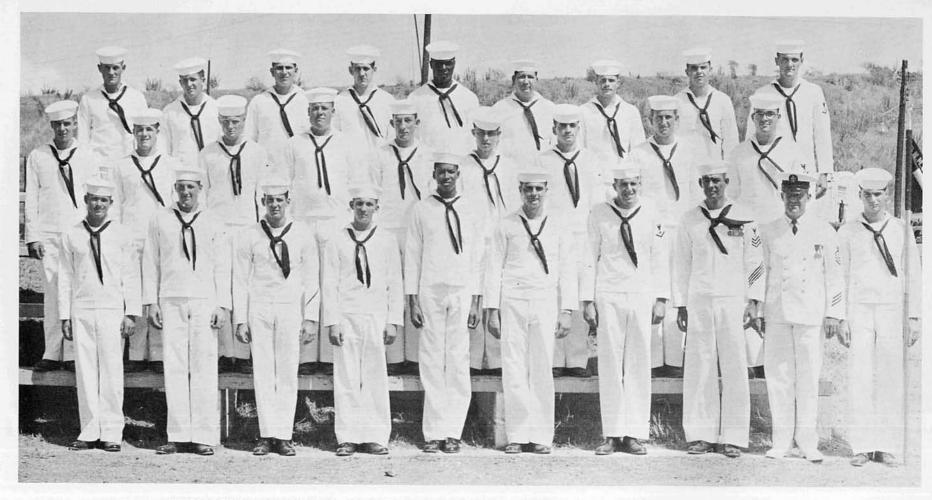


FIRST ROW. D. J. TAYLOR, R. J. VIDOS, T. A. ROBINSON, F. T. PEARCE, C. J. ANDERSON, R. D. WAINE, W. P. ALLEN, L. R. ALLEN, J. W. NULL, L. C. PADGETT, J. E. RYAN, E. D. BUSHINGER, D. L. STRICKLAND, J. J. MALONE.

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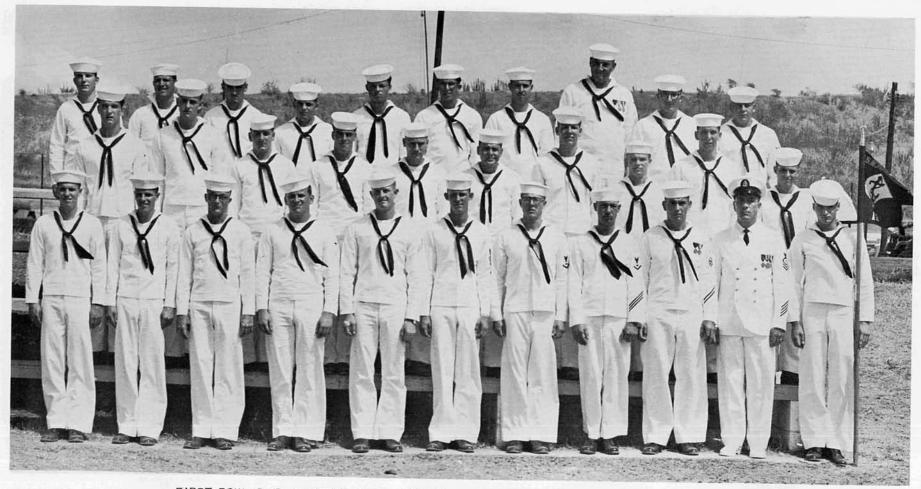
THIRD ROW. L. E. MCCLELLAN, F. M. QUINN, R. C. WICKHAM, D. C. DURFEE, D. N. LYONS, M. G. MAJORS, C. H. MILBOURN, R. P. ACKERSON, H. JOHNSON, G. T. CAMPBELL, J. R. NEWMAN.

"A" COMPANY - 2D PLATOON



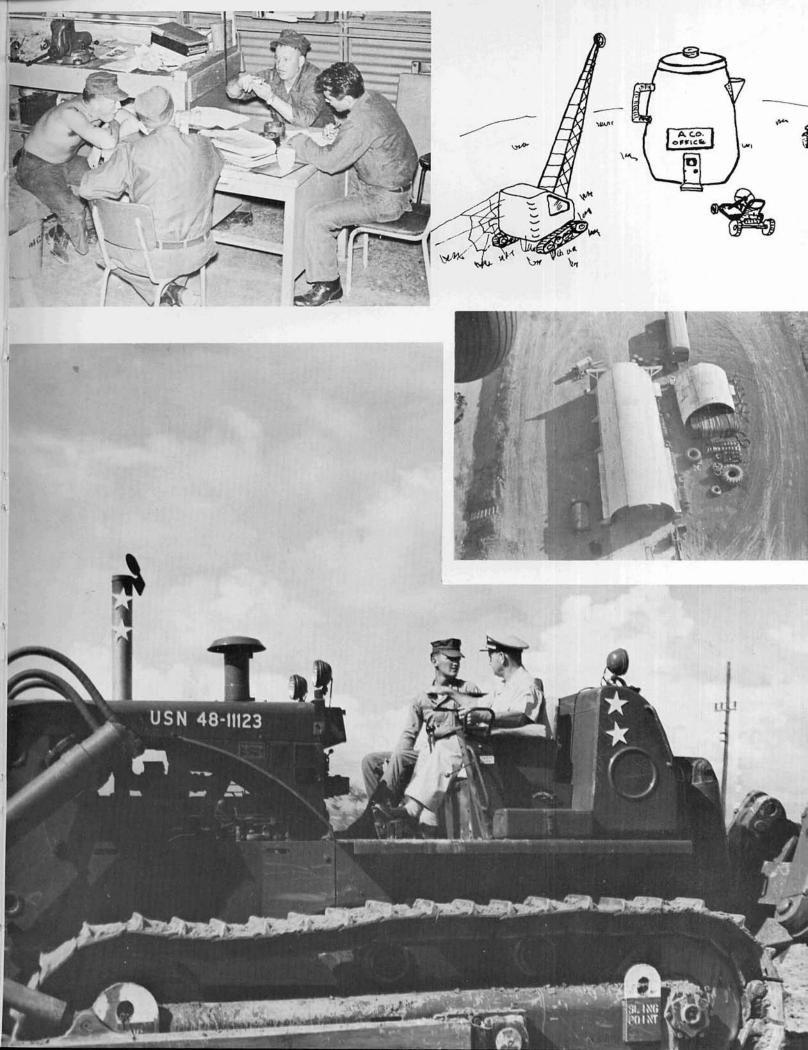
FIRST ROW. R. D. ROUG, T. W. CHAMBERLAIN, D. A. VAN EPPS, F. E. LEHMAN, H. W. HILL, D. H. HOLDER, A. R. EDWARDS, A. V. GUNN, G. W. STAPLES, J. J. MALONE. SECOND ROW. J. J. BLACKWOOD, R. J. GERARD, W. D. UPHOLD, C. L. AULDS, J. T. CUNNINGHAM, M. C. LOEWE, J. T. MCMAHON, J. P. COOK O. E. NEED. THIRD ROW. J. J. THIEL, R. E. SKELTON, D. J. BRAUCHEK, E. D. WALSTON, E. R. BALDWIN, R. GARCIA, R. H. MORSE, D. E. TERRILL, J. D. CREWS.

"A" COMPANY - 3D PLATTON



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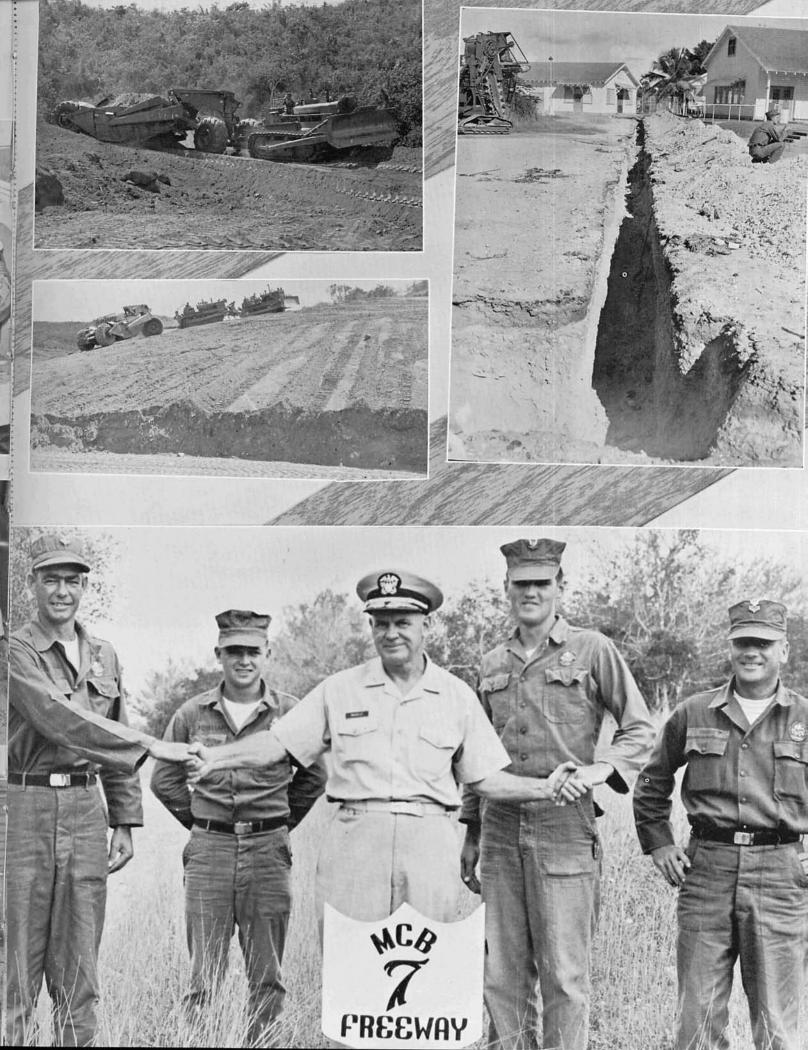
SECOND ROW. T. L. ALDERMAN, A. A. WROBLEWSKI, G. F. WARD, H. B. RESSEGUIE, T. M. GUSHWA, E. F. TILMAN, F. J. WATKOSKE, R. E. SMITH, E. J. O'ROURKE, R. L. COLE, THIRD ROW, W. L. BITTLER, F. M. THOMPSON, K. N. SHARP, J. H. GILBERT, C. S. BOOTH, C. G. VENTURA, R. A. WHITNEY, G. K. ZUGG, D. E. MULLER, T. R. BRAEGGER.

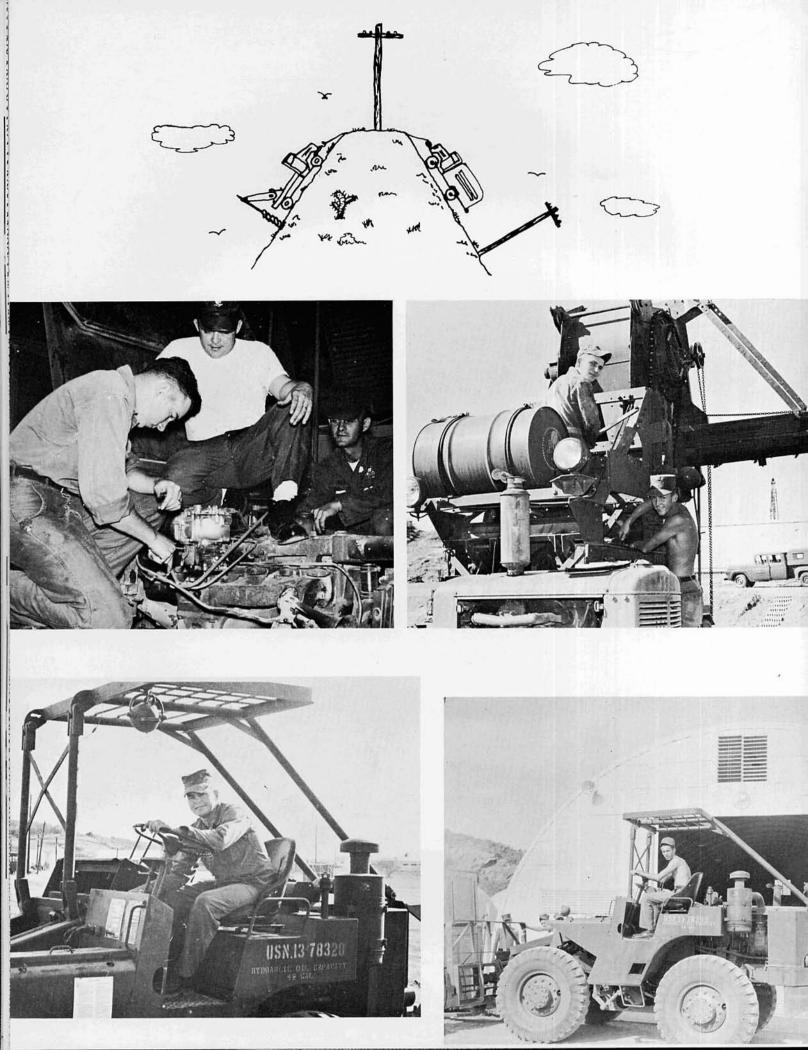


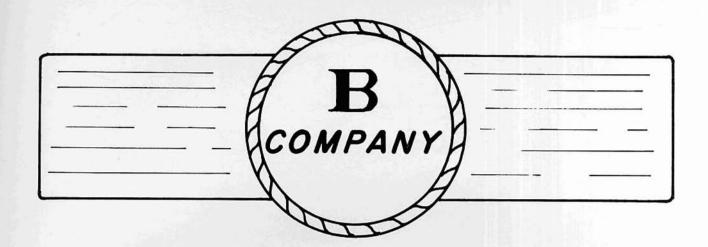












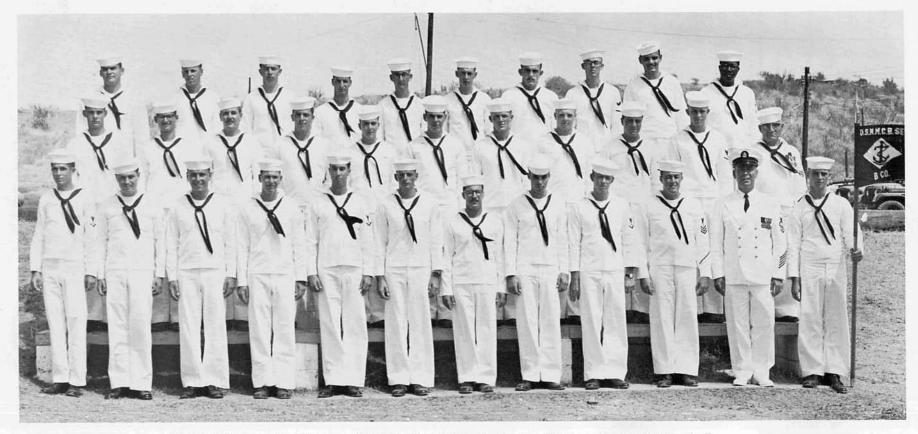








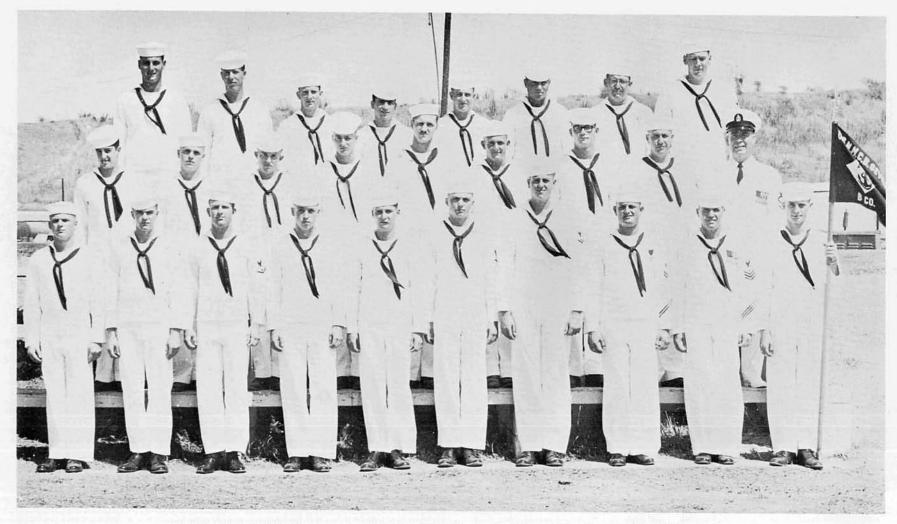
"B" COMPANY – 1ST PLATOON



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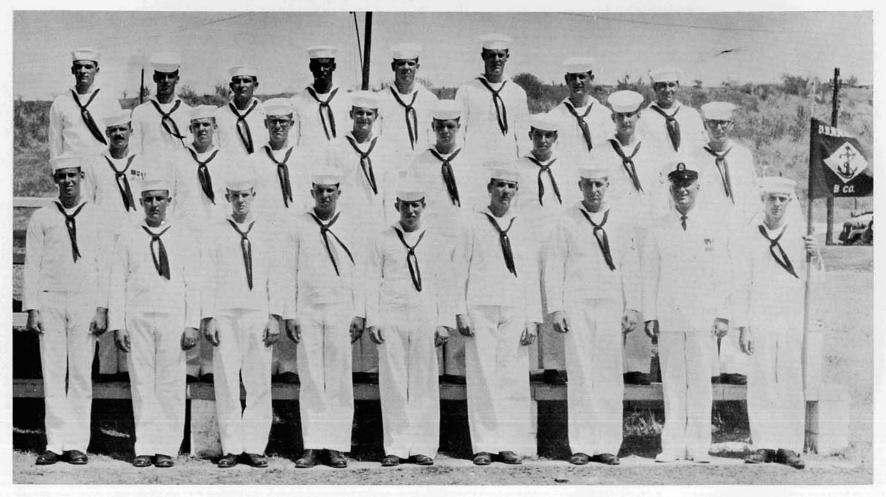
SECOND ROW. SOLESBEE, NACHMAN, G. T. WICHROWSKI, E. D. BLACK, J. H. LUDKA, BREITBACK, R. A. GILBERT, C. J. KINMAN, R. JAQUIS, T. D. BENTLEY, A. A. COCLAS. THIRD ROW. R. W. CARPENTER, J. W. SCLOFF, J. E. LAUICTOR, D. C. MAEYER, J. L. SNODGRASS, D. L. BATZ, R. H. KERN, J. T. MCMAHAN, G. M. MANDEK, H. L. JACKSON.

"B" COMPANY - 2D PLATOON

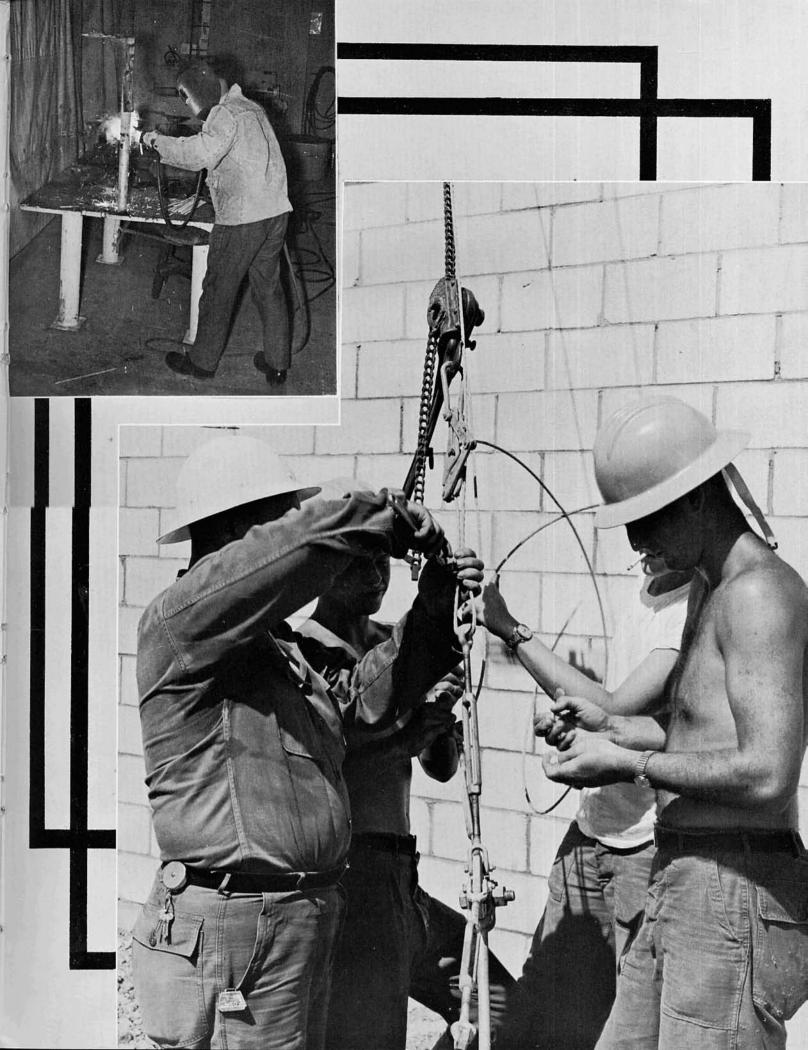


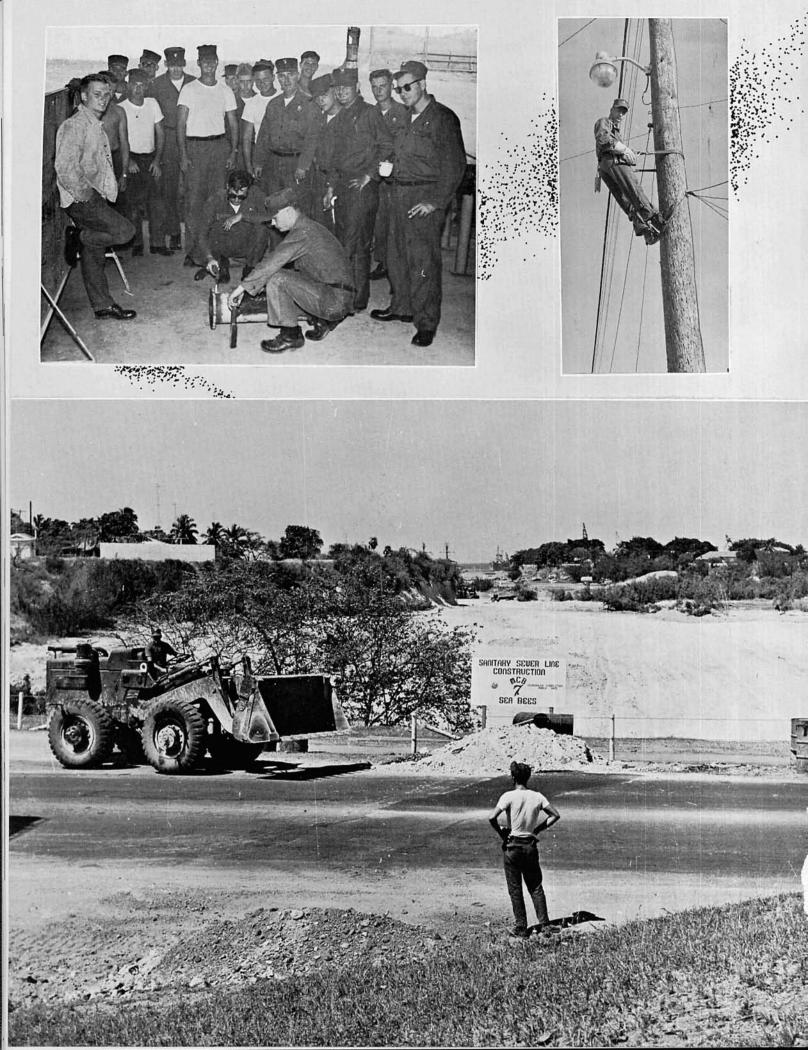
FIRST ROW. J. CAHOON, M. J. KERN, SCHULTZ, D. A. SCHEARON, R. T. ROBINSON, R. C. TAYLOR, B. L. WOOD, J. BROWN, D. F. KEMP, E. R. TAYLOR. SECOND ROW. G. SARIS, J. DOE, W. R. WYNNE, T. R. OLSEN, GOOSEN, E. P. COOK, ARMAGOST, T. V. LANE, T. F. NIELSEN. THIRD ROW. J. L. WICHMAN, W. G. KINDLE, H. W. THOMAS, L. J. DEOUDES, C. D. INGLE, D. G. CLARK, J. D. HEAD, W. G. CASTO.

"B" COMPANY – 3D PLATOON



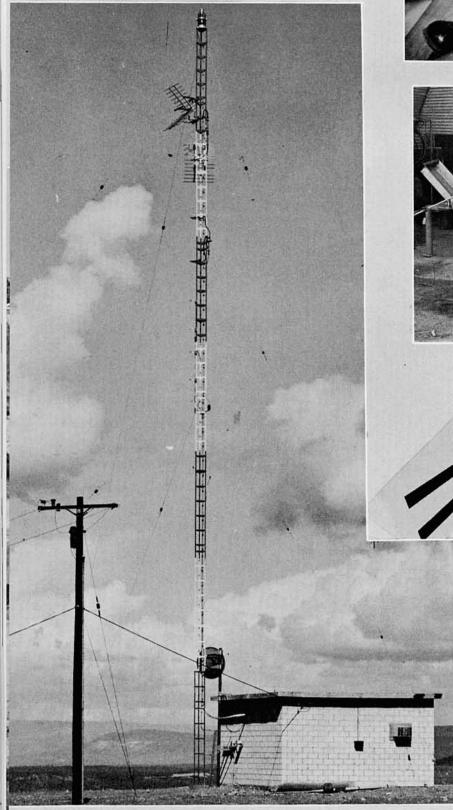
FIRST ROW. J. MILLER, R. JONES, W. RYAN, J. D. HOUSTON, SCARBROUGH, J. J. PIERCE, T. SCHNOPLE, J. L. HOOD, E. R. TAYLOR. SECOND ROW. T. L. HOWELL, O. D. YOUNG, R. E. RAMBOW, J. P. HOFFMAN, SCHERER, L. C. DROGO, R. JACKSON, K. L. HOEKSTRA. THIRD ROW. RIEGAL, D'AQUIN, P. B. HILL, J. B. HENMAN, C. D. FREEMAN, A. F. JOHNSON, C. D. ADAMS, J. N. MEOLA.





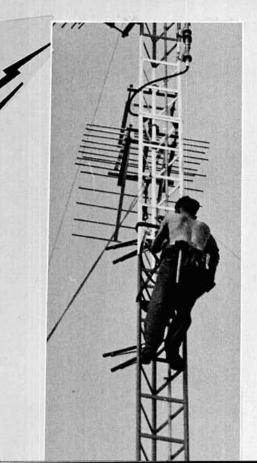


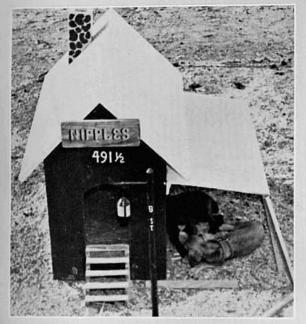




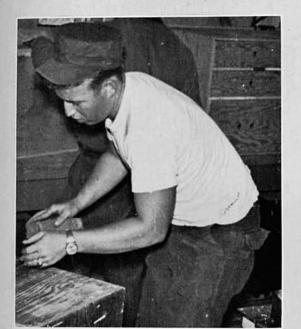




















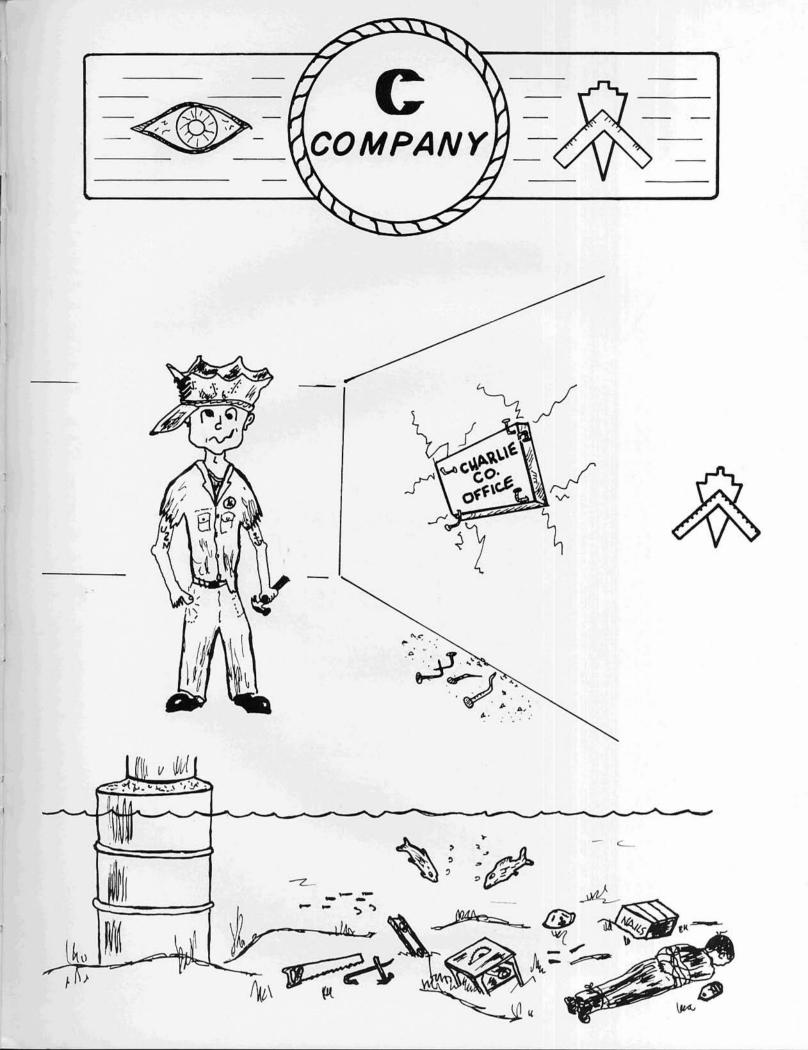




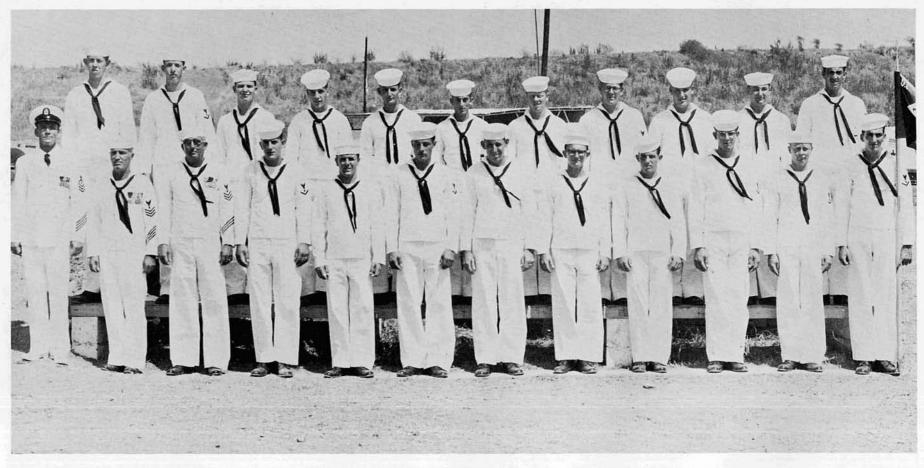






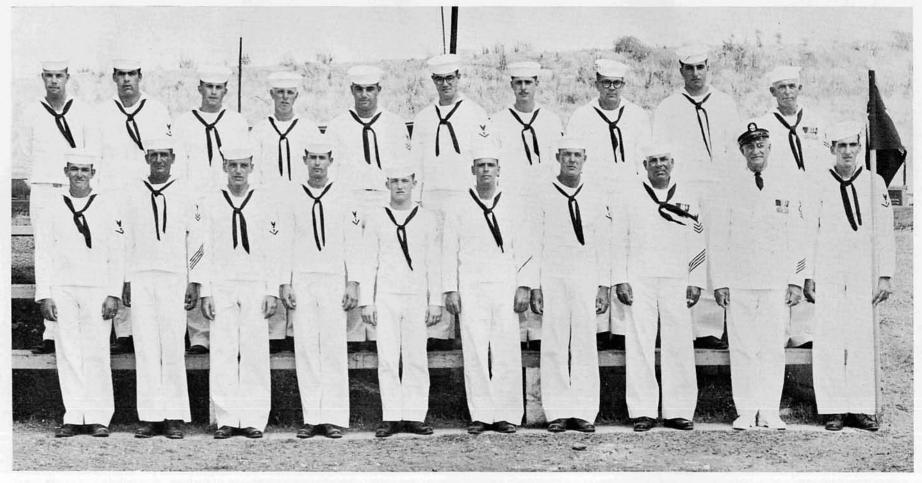


"C" COMPANY - 1ST PLATOON



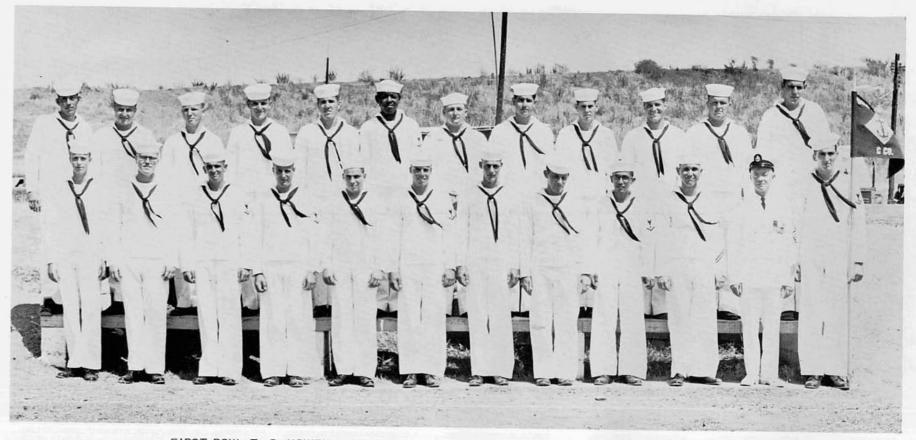
FIRST ROW. P. F. ROUKE, C. J. DUBE, J. W. WILLIAMS, B. D. KAPP, A. J. DUBE, D. R. WILSON, R. G. VERCOE, R. F. BONWELL, W. F. MCKELVY, B. A. REINHART, R. E. STUMPF, F. A. NEWMAN. SECOND ROW. J. G. BARKER, G. R. SOETERS, P. M. BURKETT, J. C. SETFORD, J. J. MYERS, R. D. ALPHA, E. B. BEATTY, W. F. ROSENART, D. N. WOODRUFF, V. QUINTRINAI, A. MAIELLO.

"C" COMPANY – 2D PLATOON



FIRST ROW, R. B. LABADIE, H. C. LUNSFORD, J. N. MATHEWS, R. W. HANSEN, W. M. SHOOT, D. N. THIERULT, G. E. AYERS, A. G. STANCHFIELD, H. W. SCHULTZ, F. A. NEWMAN. SECOND ROW. J. N. HANSON, W. S. THEXTON, J. W. LAPORTE, R. HARRINGTON, C. DONAVON, E. A. KHOLOFF, G. L. PETERSON, B. K. BERMAN, O. R. STEPHENS.

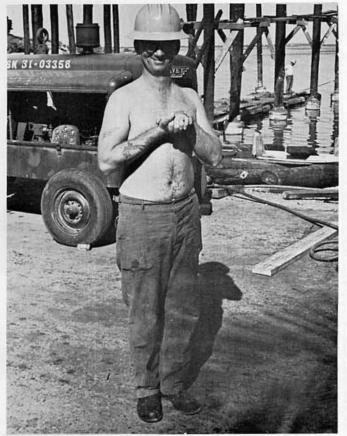
"C" COMPANY - 3D PLATOON



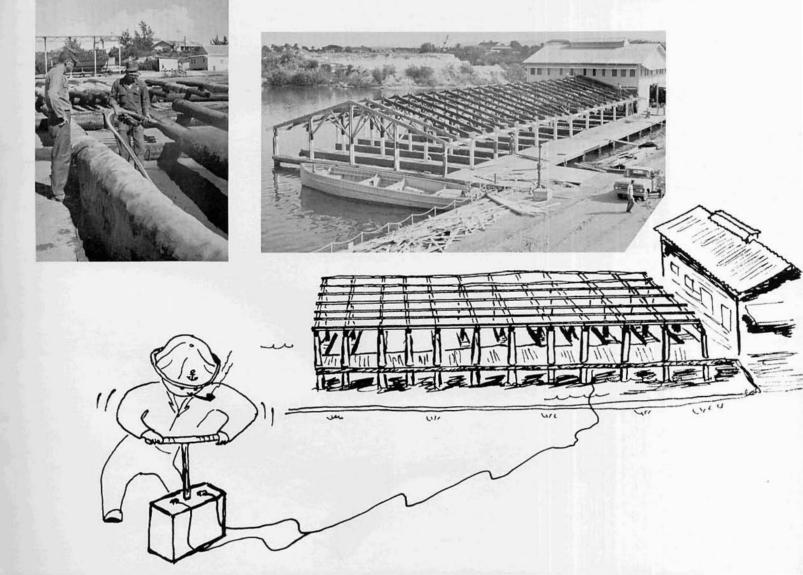
FIRST ROW. T. C. HOWELL, C. L. MARTENSON, R. J. PROCTOR, C. D. FAY, W. B. DARRAH, W. W. DORROH, J. H. BAGGERLY, T. J. ZABADA, G. B. BRINIG, M. W. O'BRYANT, J. R. BAYHAM, F. A. NEWMAN.

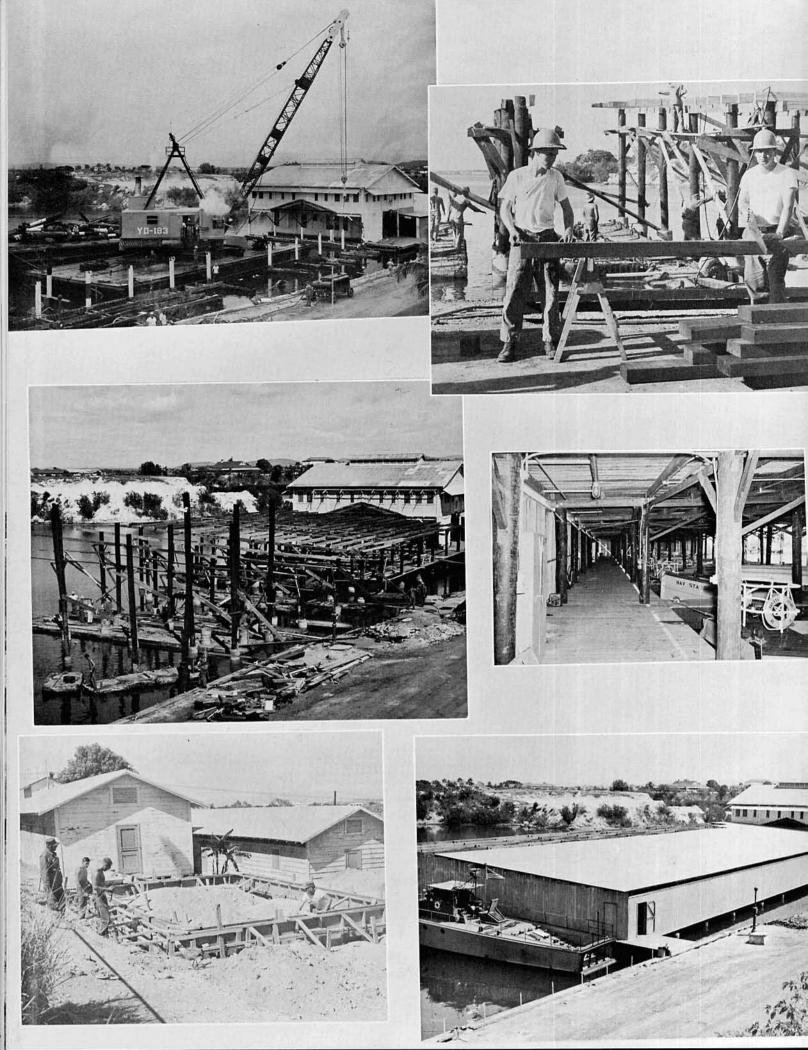
SECOND ROW. A. W. SANDERS, R. L. WALLACE, M. RAUER, H. W. THOMAS, W. J. GROH, B. L. PHELPS, R. S. PETERSON, D. E. SCHULTZ, F. H. TRIMALDI, L. E. GARLAND, J. W. JOHNSON, B. LEDERMAN.





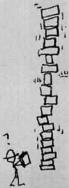
"I WANT MORE MON-EY"









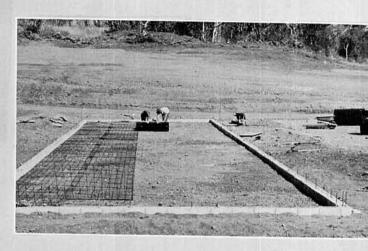
















TTO BATTEN

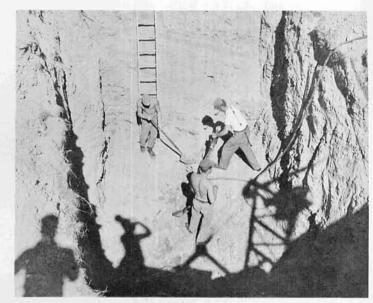


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٧٩. "YA GONNA TAKE WHO'S PICTURE?" 1 her hura . + 4 + + ..

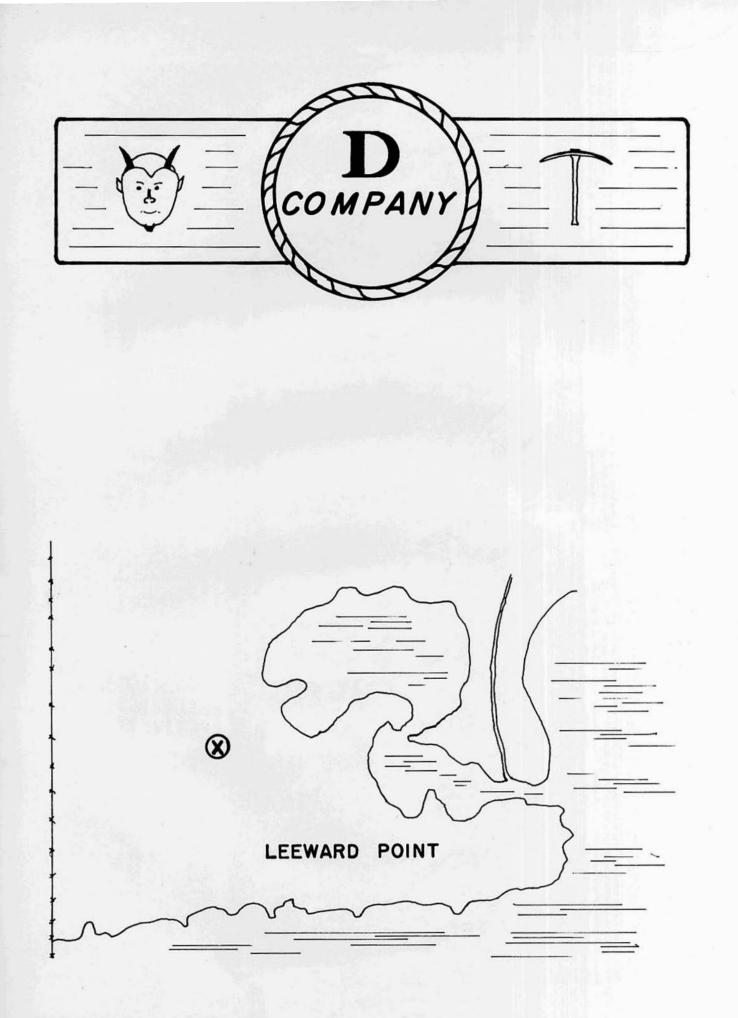
DEEPEST FOXHOLE IN GITMO





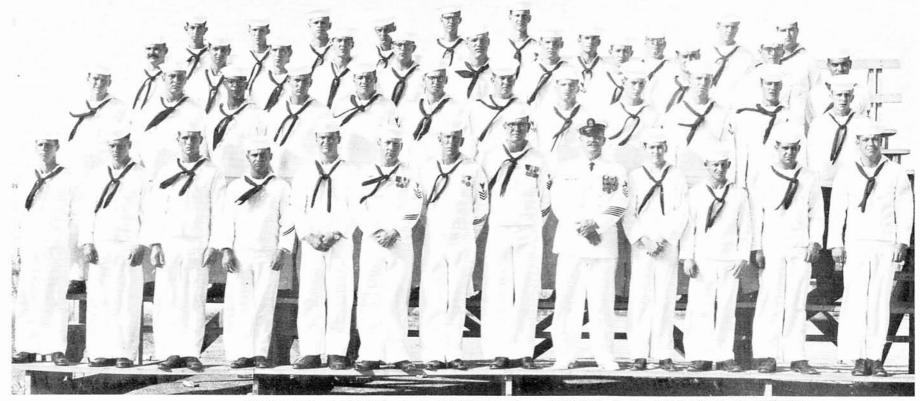
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"D" COMPANY

LEEWARD POINT PLATOON



FIRST ROW. DEATRICK, K. D. SCHIEWEK, B. E. PLACKER, R. O. JACKSON, R. T. MITCHELL, A. J. BALDWIN, W. J. KORPI, J. B. THRONEBERRY, E. D. MOORE, J. R. STANTON, T. C. YEAGER, T. W. MILLER, R. H. GREENE. SECOND ROW. H. D. WILLIAMSON, E. R. DINIUS, K. L. WILKERSON, J. L. OLDHAM, C. W. LAZORE, W. B. SCOTT, C. L. COLCLOUGH, S. B. SKLAR, M. MAYTON, W. B. CANNON, G. D. WALLACE, E. D. HEROUX. THIRD ROW. L. C. HAWLEY, R. J. DURAND, H. S. GRIGSBY, D. L. KARR, E. CEPAK, A. A. AUSTIN, T. K. LINDSAY, F. R. RUSH, J. T. POLAND, T. P. DAVIS, E. F. MONOSCALCO.

FOURTH ROW. P. K. BRUNING, F. T. SECOR, W. E. KING, DORN, A. C. CLARK, E. W. JOHANSON, M. J. STODDARD, R. A. BROWN, K. F. SWORD, J. SHULMAN.

"D" COMPANY LEEWARD POINT PLATOON



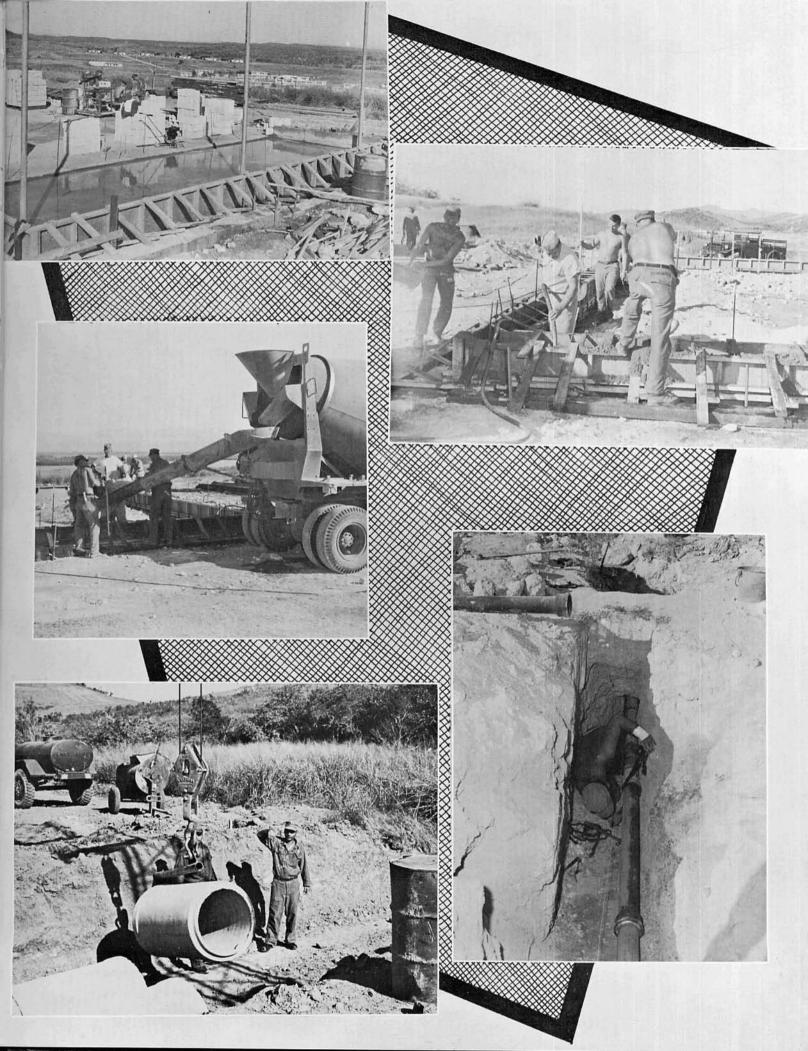
FIRST ROW. DEATRICK, K. D. SCHIEWEK, B. E. PLACKER, R. O. JACKSON, R. T. MITCHELL, A. J. BALDWIN, W. J. KORPI, J. B. THRONEBERRY, E. D. MOORE, J. R. STANTON, T. C. YEAGER, T. W. MILLER, R. H. GREENE.

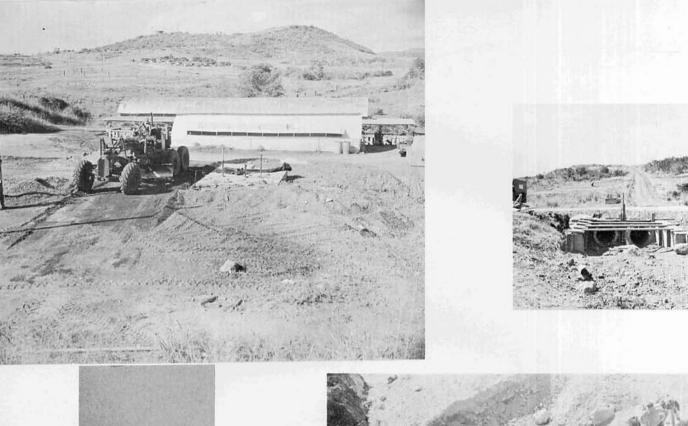
SECOND ROW. H. D. WILLIAMSON, E. R. DINIUS, K. L. WILKERSON, J. L. OLDHAM, C. W. LAZORE, W. B. SCOTT, C. L. COLCLOUGH, S. B. SKLAR, M. MAYTON, W. B. CANNON, G. D. WALLACE, E. D. HEROUX.

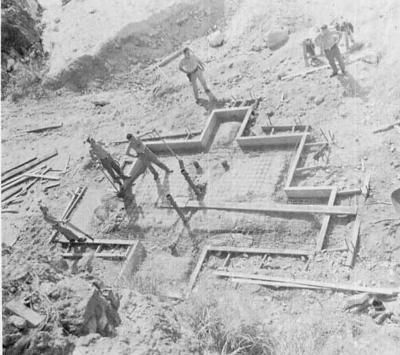
THIRD ROW. L. C. HAWLEY, R. J. DURAND, H. S. GRIGSBY, D. L. KARR, E. CEPAK, A. A. AUSTIN, T. K. LINDSAY, F. R. RUSH, J. T. POLAND, T. P. DAVIS, E. F. MONOSCALCO. FOURTH ROW. P. K. BRUNING, F. T. SECOR, W. E. KING, DORN, A. C. CLARK, E. W. JOHANSON, M. J. STODDARD, R. A. BROWN, K. F. SWORD, J. SHULMAN.











"FINE TIME TO WATER HIS ROSES!"

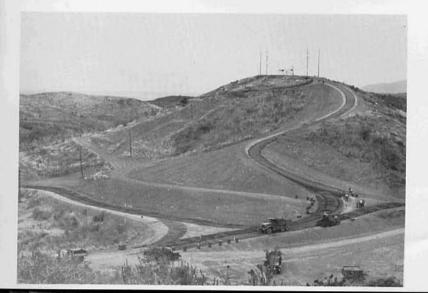




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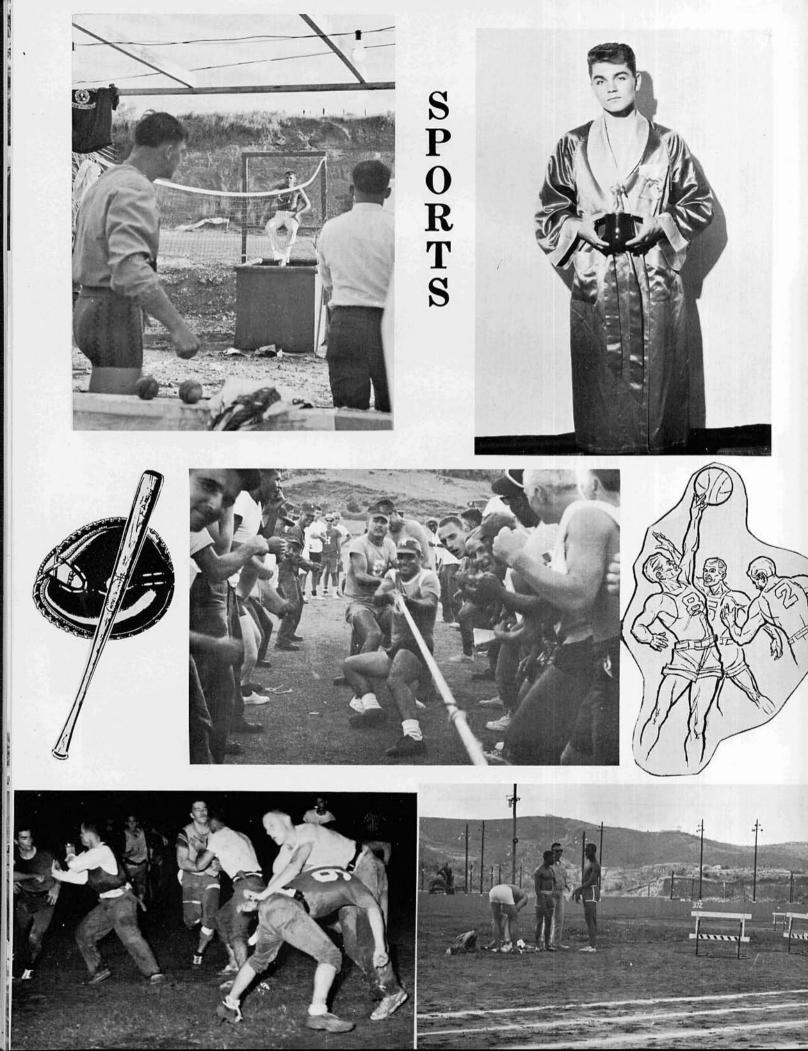












MCB 7 DRILL TEAM



FIRST ROW. DRILL TEAM MASTER, J. D. DICKERSON, S. P. AYDELETT, J. C. COTTEN, R. NEIKIRK, F. E. GIANANTONIO, E. G. STALLINGS, M. D. GORTON, M. A. EVARO. SECOND ROW. D. L. KJARLAND, V. L. HELLER, D. L. BEYER, R. N. EDINGTON, J. H. LEFOY, N. B. BARNABY, R. D. DAVIDSON, P. A. JOHNSON.



CEREMONIES

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PICKS-Syngerpite

"THAT'S WILLIAMS, ADMIRAL, SIR"

"THAT'S GOOD ... NOW HOLD IT WHILE I PUT FILM IN MY CAMERA"



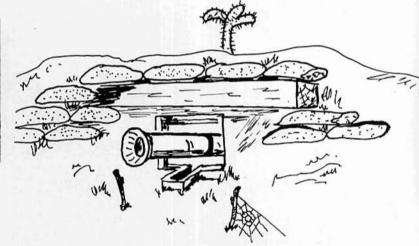
"I SAID, I THINK WE'RE IN A MINE FIELD"



"GET THAT WATER BUFFALO UNDER COVER"





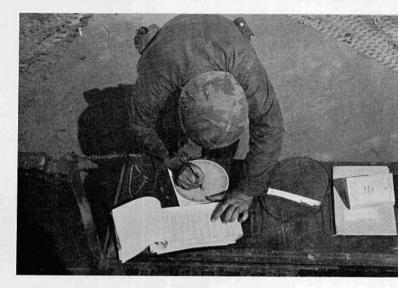


"AND THIS LITTLE PIGGIE WENT"

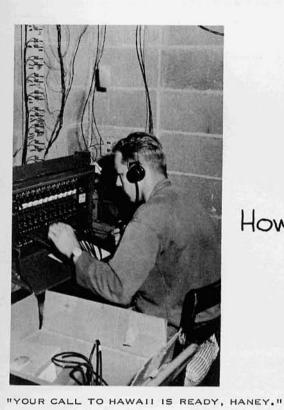




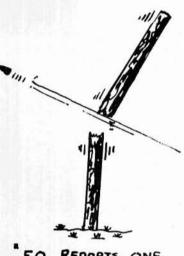




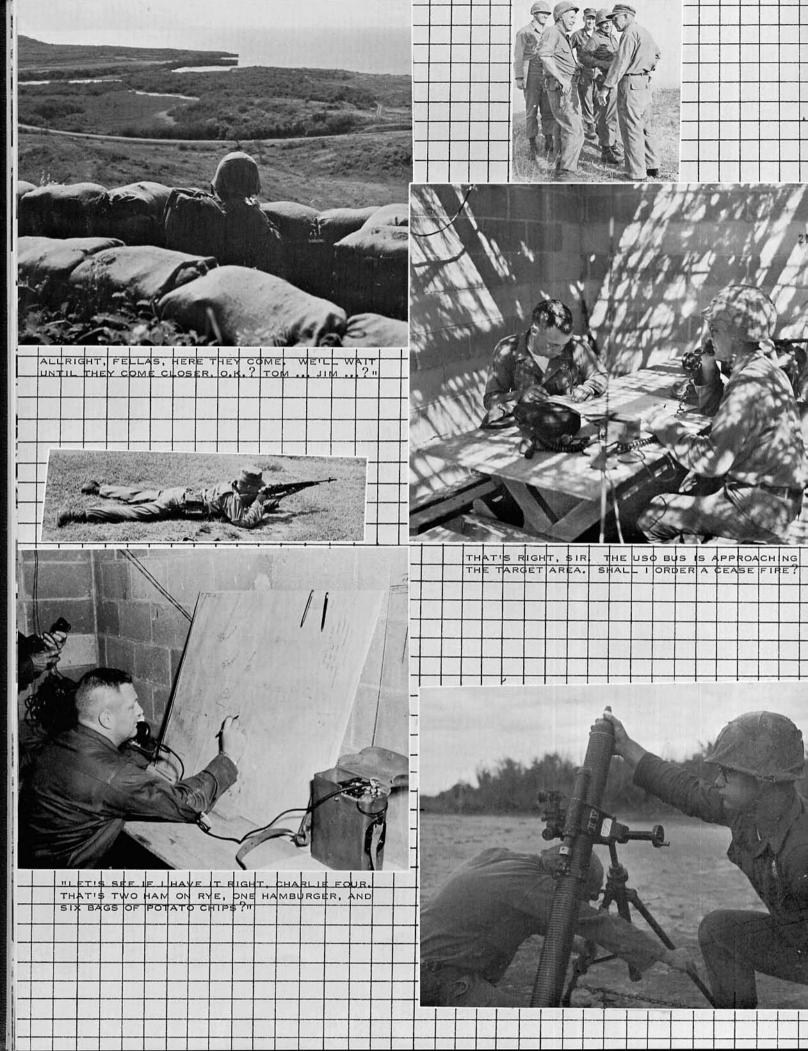




HOW SHORT CAN YOU GET ?!!

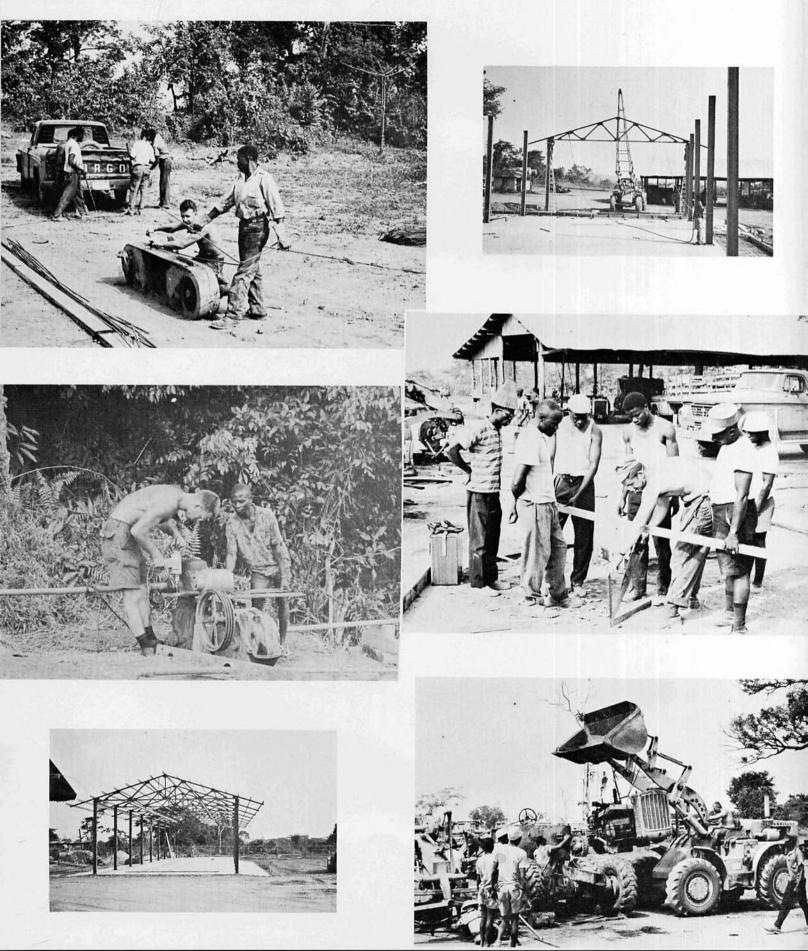


F.O. REPORTS ONE DIRECT HIT, SIR!"



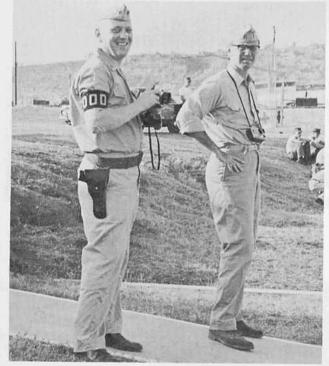


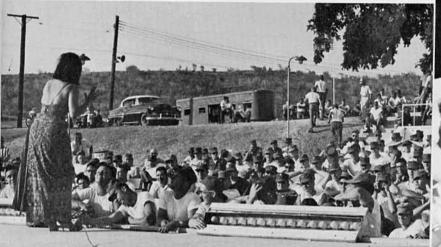
LIBERIAN STAT



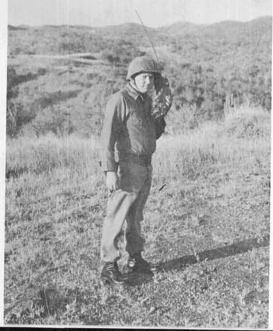
USO SHOWS









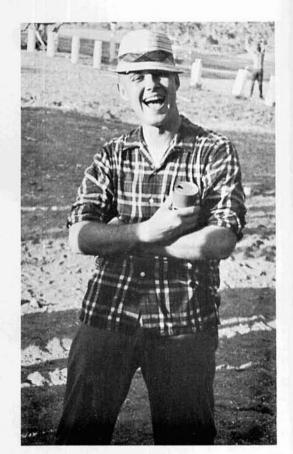








PARTIES





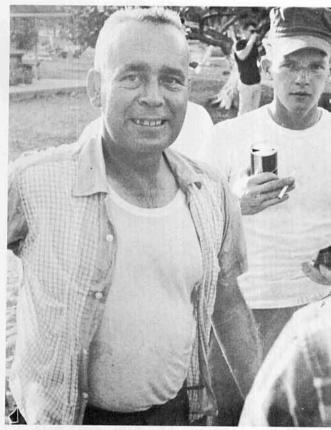












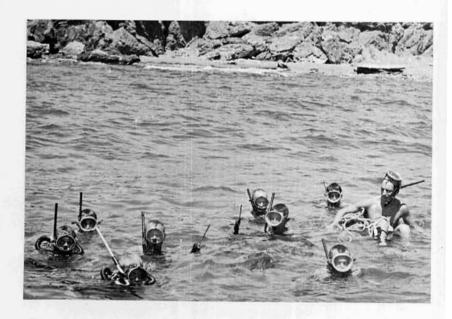
MISCELLANEOUS

















HUT MOTHER









HOMEWARD B

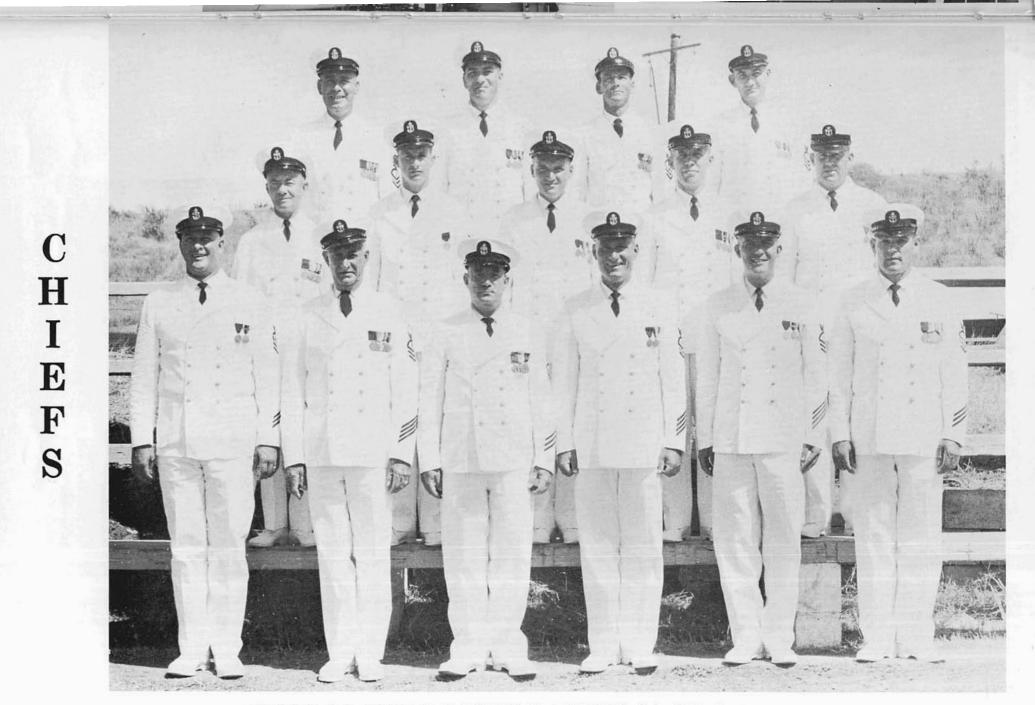




0 U N D







FRONT ROW. G. S. SPEECE, H. W. SCHULTZ, W. L. HAMPTON, J. L. HOOD, R. K. SCHWARTZ, D. L. STRIKLAND.

SECOND ROW. J. R. BAYHAM, W. G. PARSONS, P. L. MURPHY, T. W. COWLEY III, G. W. STAPLES. THIRD ROW. T. F. NIELSEN, JR., R. R. LAFRANCE, P. F. ROURKE, J. M. MILLER.



J. D. YEICH LT., CHC



M. M. DALLAM LT., CEC



J. B. CAUGHMAN LT., CEC



OFFICERS



W. D. BRENCKMAN LT., MC





J. R. SWISTOCK LT., CEC



M. D. DRINKWATER



1

A. H. JENSEN LTJG, CEC



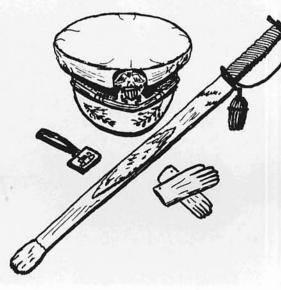
J. B. LEAP LTJG, CEC



L. D. HEACOCK LTJG, CEC



M. M. GLESK Ens, Cec





F. R. NORA ENS, CEC



D. F. MURPHY ENS, CEC



A. F. ROBERTSON ENS, CEC

