

u.s. naval mobile construction battalion seven
dong ha, rvn, july 1968-april 1969

17°00' LAT.

PROVISIONAL DEMARCATION LINE

DEMILITARIZED ZONE

NORTH VIETNAM
SOUTH VIETNAM

A-5

L A O S
SOUTH VIETNAM

KHE SANH

CAMP CARROLL

ECB ("ROCK PILE")

L.Z. STUD

VANDERGRIFT
COMBAT BASE

Ca Lu

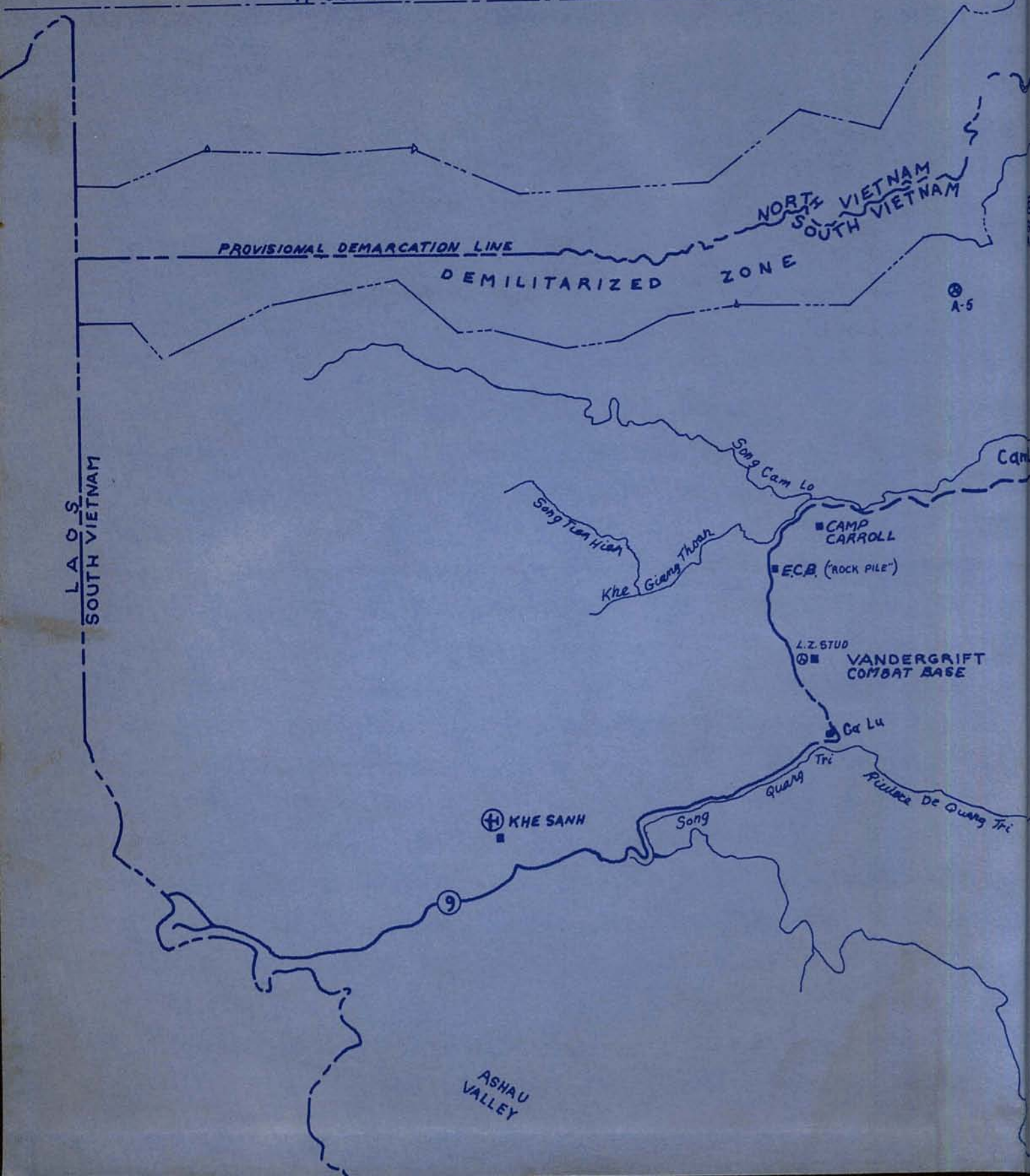
Quang
Tri

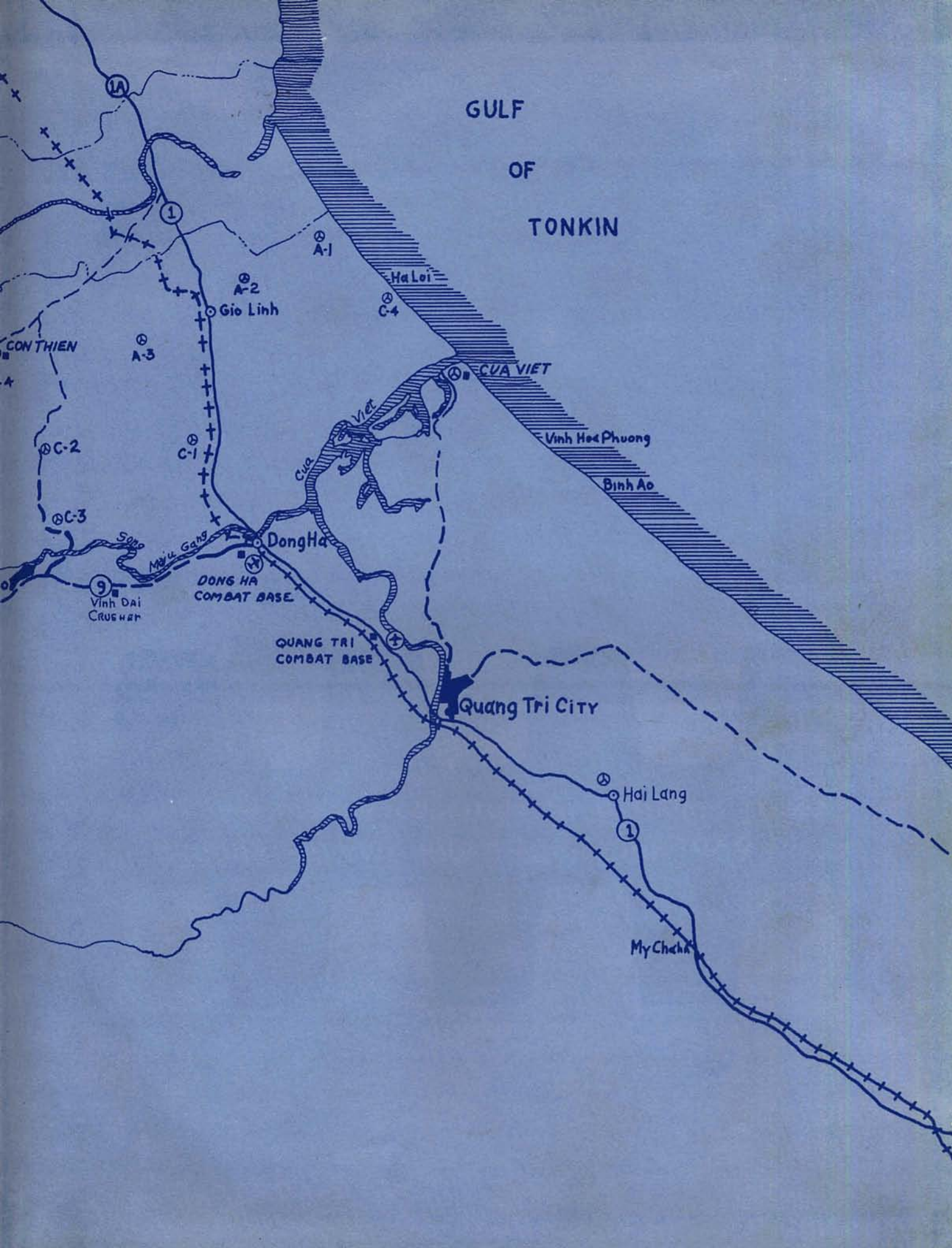
Ruộng De Quang Tri

Song

ASHAU
VALLEY

9





GULF
OF
TONKIN

Ha Noi

Gio Linh

C-4

A-3

A-2

CUA VIET

CON THIEN

C-2

C-1

Vinh Hai Phuong

Binh Ao

Cua Viet

Dong Ha

Song Mao

Mau Giang

DONG HA
COMBAT BASE

Vinh Dai
CRUSHER

QUANG TRI
COMBAT BASE

Quang Tri City

Hai Lang

My Chanh

**u.s. naval mobile construction battalion seven
dong ha, rvn, july 1968—april 1969**





... ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.

Remember that quotation from the late President John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural address?

For eight months, the men of MCB SEVEN worked, ate, slept, defended, played, trained, traveled and prayed together — doing for their country — accomplishing the Seabee mission in Vietnam.

Now we are home — to re-group, re-train, re-outfit and re-deploy — to do more for our country. Dong Ha, eight months of construction in a desolate battlefield called the Northern I Corps, is but a proud memory of "our team's" accomplishments.

What was it that made every man proud of "his team?" It was the simple fact that MCB SEVEN was his battalion; Dong Ha his deployment; and most of all, those eight months were for his country. What we did there, what we contributed and how we helped, was done as a team that will be remembered - especially by us. When every man looks back on those eight months, he can feel proud

that he is an American. He can feel proud that he gave part of his life to help his country — to do what had to be done.

In years to come, when the dust is shaken off this Dong Ha cruise book and we individually reminisce about "Ol' Camp Barnes," our team spirit will still be there. Who will ever forget . . . those long days and longer months . . . the blowing dust and the soupy mud . . . those projects built and those projects sweated . . . those half-days off and those nights at the club . . . those muddy trenches and that wailing siren . . . that fabulous chow and those R & R trips . . . and the man on the left and the man on the right?

These proud memories can never be taken away from the men of MCB SEVEN. Each of us will remember . . . not only what our country has done for us; but what we have done for our country.


CDR, CEC, USN
Commanding Officer

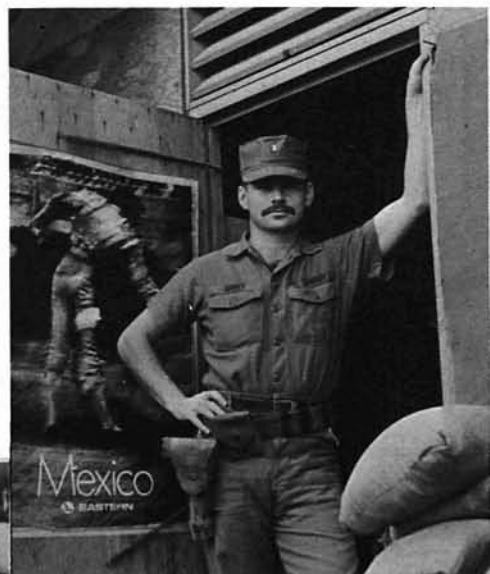
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charlie company
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camp life
headquarters company
portrait of vietnam
security company
awards
memorials**



lt(jg) grant
cruise book officer



jo2 stevens
editor



ph1 phillips
photographer



lt(jg) grant
jo2 stevens
jo2 cardwell
jo2 barre
bu3 starros
contributing
photographers

jo2 cardwell
associate editor

credits



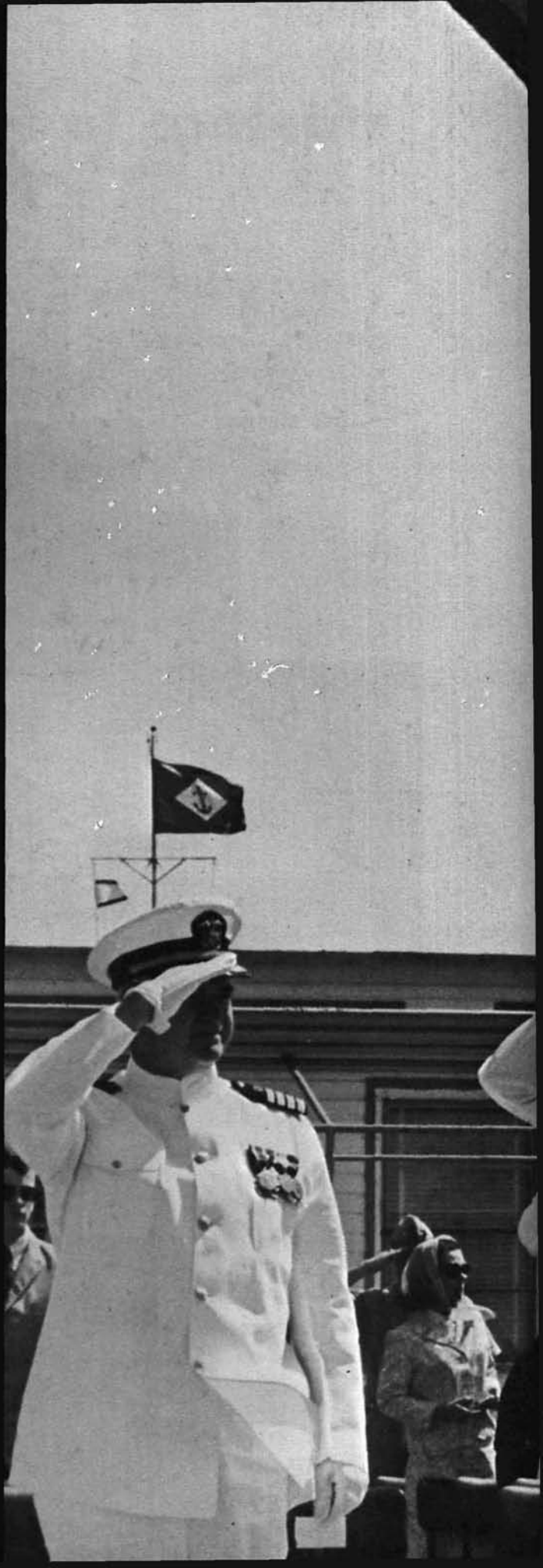
homeport

Homeport and training were synonymous to the men of MCB SEVEN. After a well deserved leave period for those men returning from the battalion's second deployment to Vietnam, a schedule of intensive professional and military training was launched.

Many weeks were spent in Navy construction schools improving techniques and increasing knowledge of construction methods. There were three different three-week sessions of military training and a three-day embarkation exercise to No-man's Island that tested the battalion's construction and military capabilities. To insure that the battalion was ready to deploy, there was a military readiness inspection that involved close scrutiny of individuals and their gear and the administrative facet of the companies and various departments within the battalion.

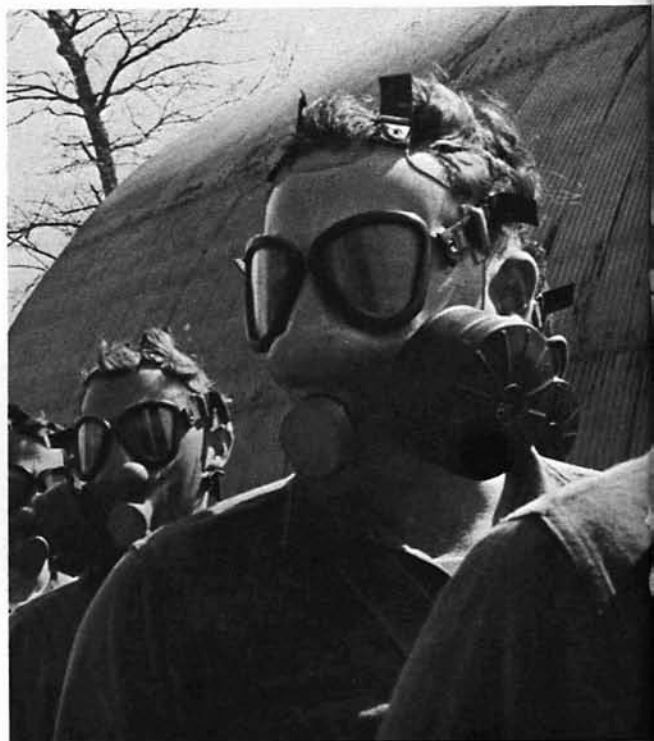
Homeport was important—vital to our success while deployed. It was there our team was formed and molded into the effective unit it proved to be at Dong Ha. It was a time for the men to become acquainted with their fellow Seabees; a time to learn to work as a team, effectively utilizing the talents of individuals for the benefit of all; a time to learn to work and pull together.

That MCB SEVEN'S homeport period was a success is evident in the outstanding accomplishments on the Seabee's proving ground — Vietnam.





Two periods of training were held at Camp Fogarty. The first three-week period was a basic course of study for those men who had no previous exposure to Vietnam. The second such period entailed more detailed instruction both in the classroom and in the field. Subject matter ranged from first aid to booby traps; .45 caliber pistols to 3.5 rocket launchers; Vietnamese customs to escape and evasion. During this training period, personnel fired their M-16's for qualifying scores.



military training



camp fogarty





camp lejeune

In May 1968, the entire battalion boarded military aircraft and flew to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, for three weeks of Marine supervised military training. The detailed instruction included familiarization firing of M-16 rifles, M-79 grenade launchers, 3.5 mm rocket launchers, instruction and field practice of day and night patrols, convoy security, troop movement by helicopter, techniques of fire, mines and booby traps, reconnaissance patrols, camouflage and concealment, communications, and evacuation of wounded men by helicopter. Special courses and exercises were held on the 81 mm mortar, 106 mm recoilless rifle, demolition and bridge building. Many petty officers attended the Marine non-commissioned officer leadership school.



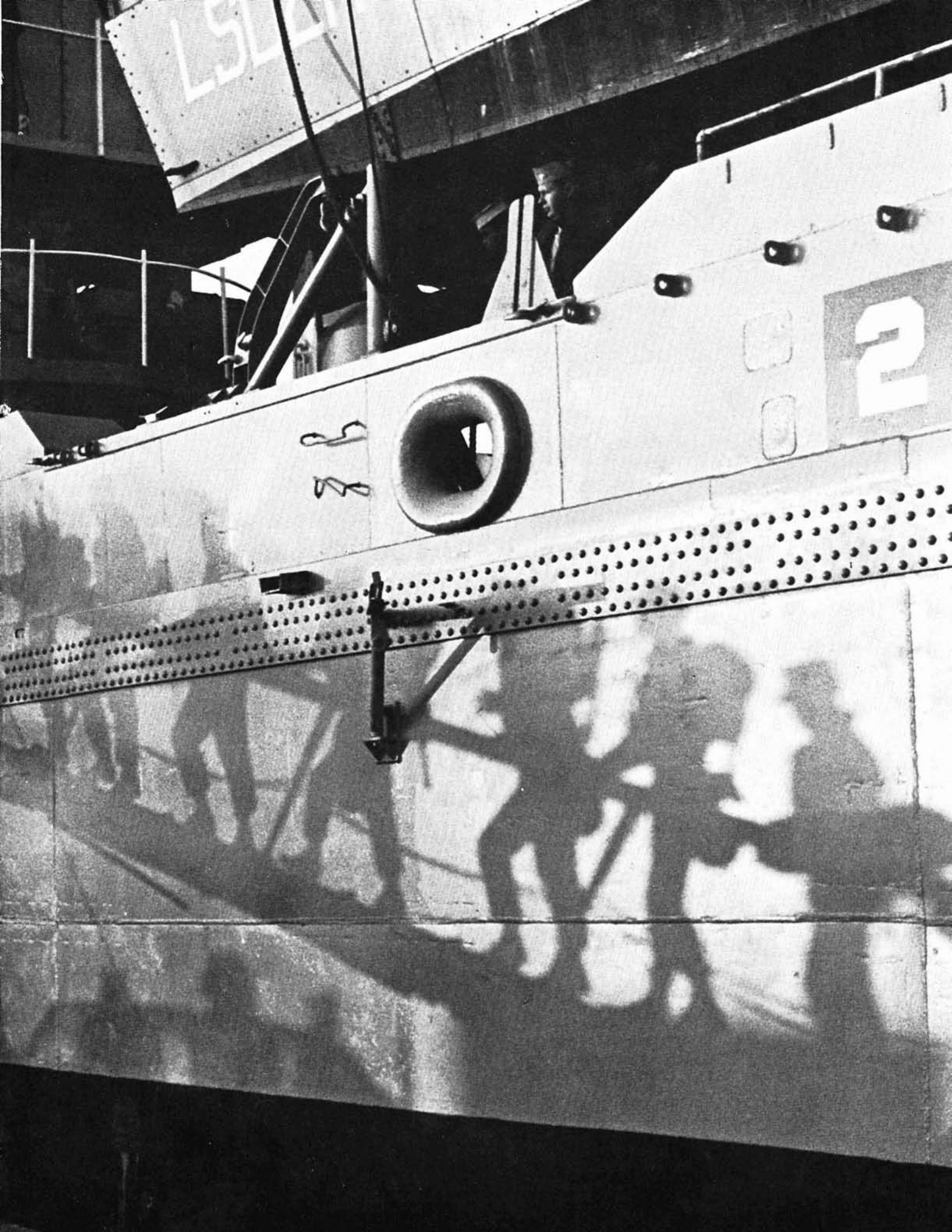


Training received at the Marine Camp was put to use during a three-day field exercise in the battalion's last week at Lejeune.

Mrs. Nanci Dahl, Seabee Queen, accompanied her husband, Lieutenant (junior grade) T. N. T. Dahl to Camp Lejeune and observed and participated in some phases of training.

A pass in review highlighted the training deployment to Camp Lejeune. Brigadier General E. B. Wheeler, Commanding General, SECOND Marine Division, reviewed the combat ready troops of MCB SEVEN.

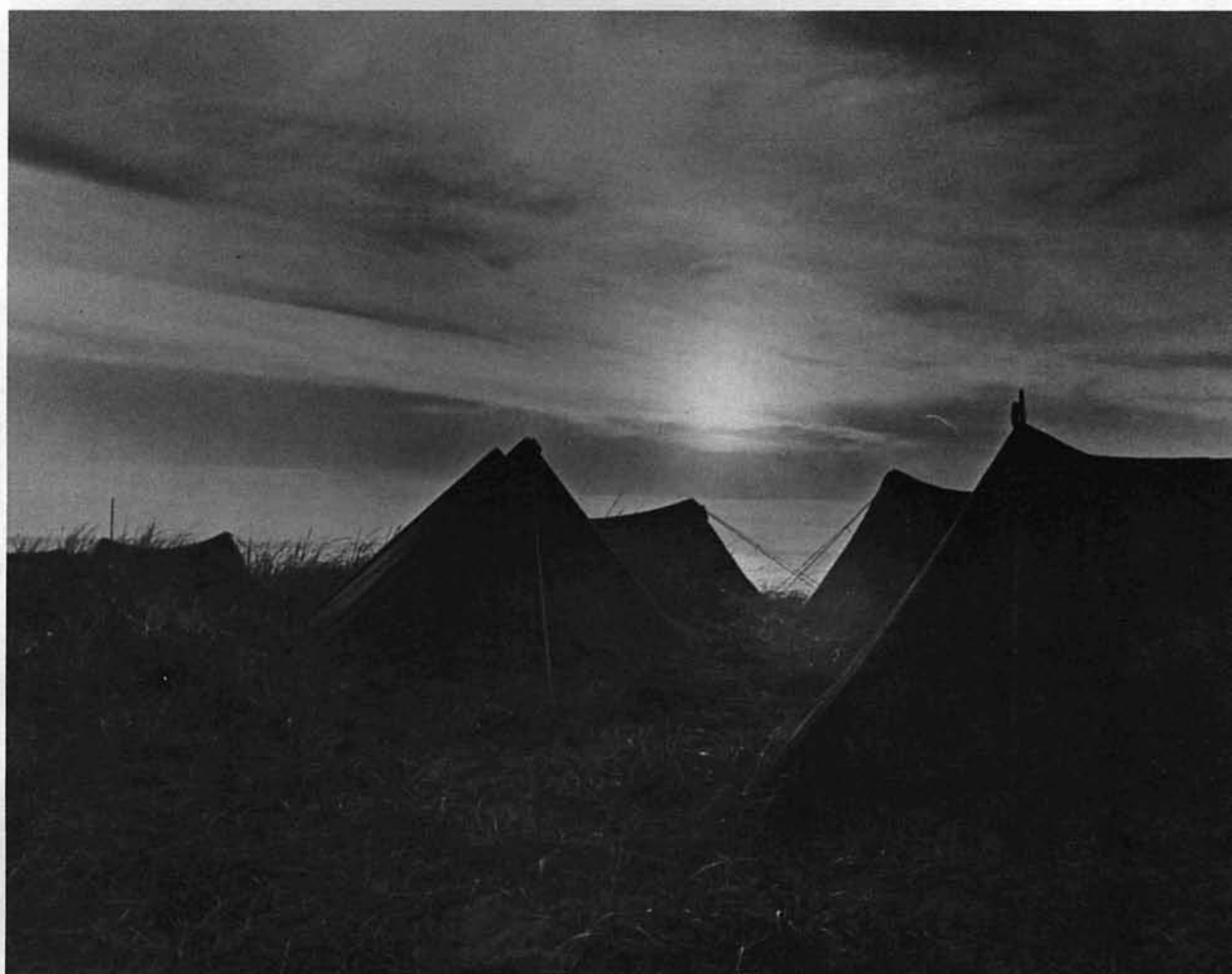








embarkation exercise







readiness inspection

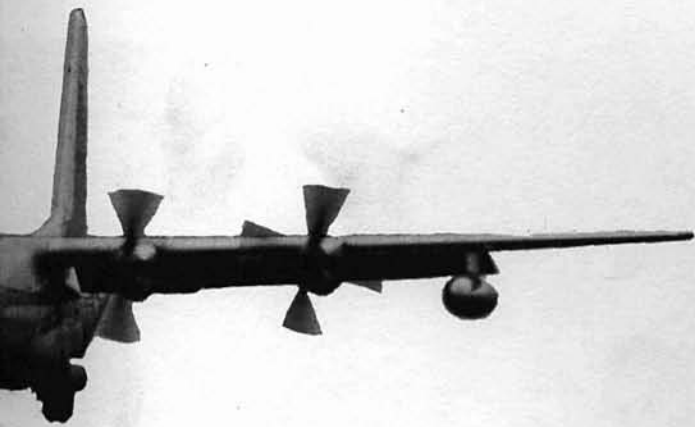


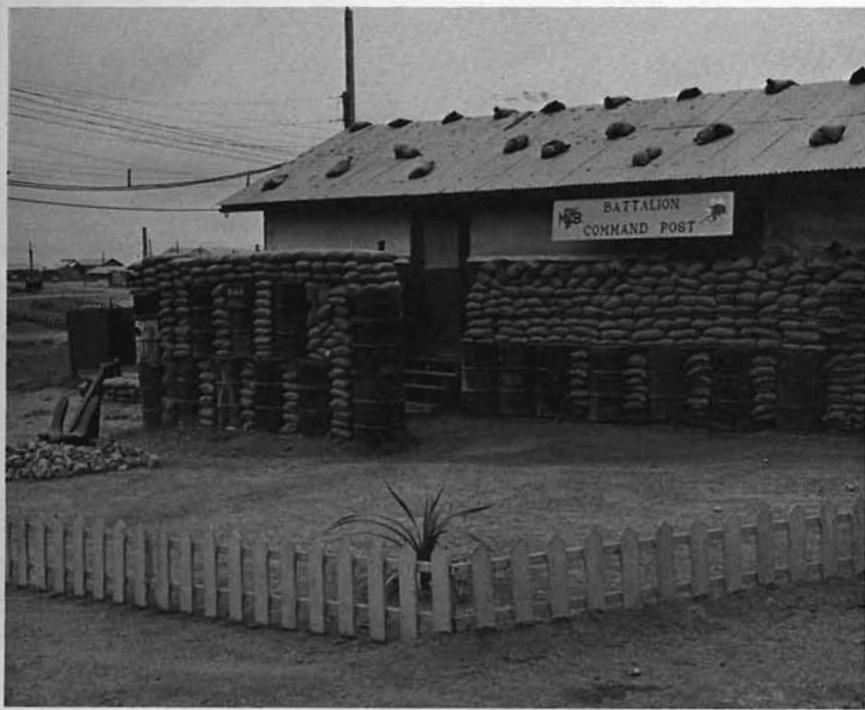
Before a battalion deploys, it must be checked to insure that it is capable of fulfilling its mission. After two days of intensive inspection of personnel, weapons, 782 gear, barracks, office spaces and administrative readiness, word was received that MCB SEVEN was graded EXCELLENT . . . the battalion was ready for its next deployment.

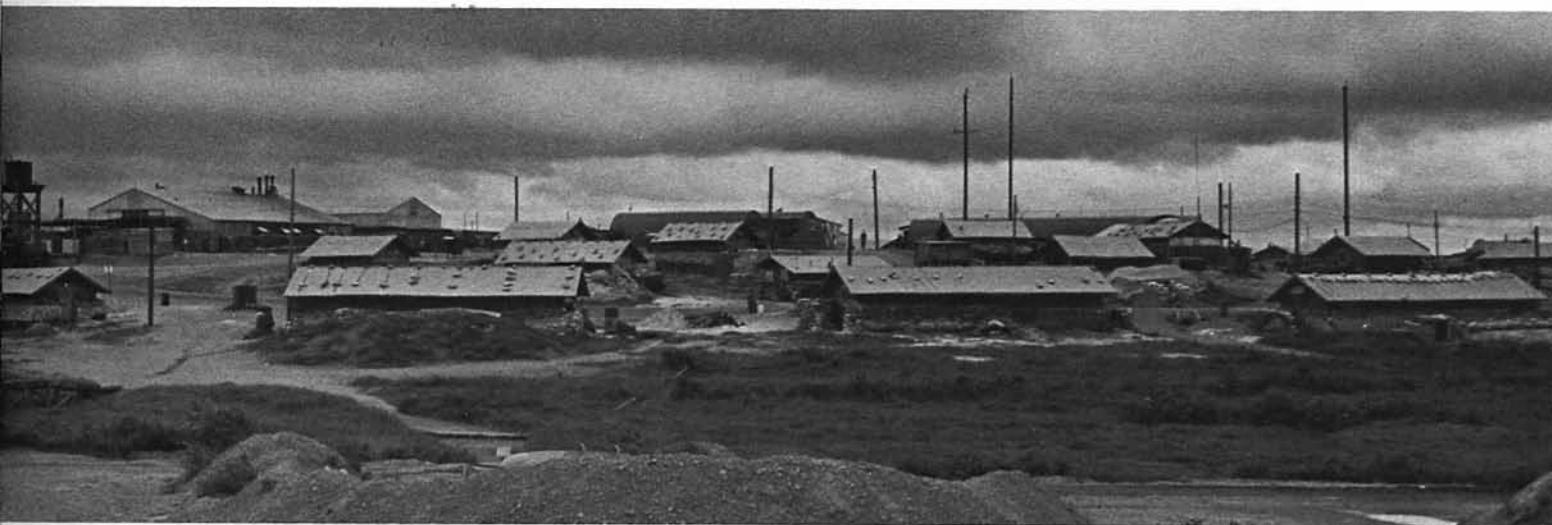


westward bound

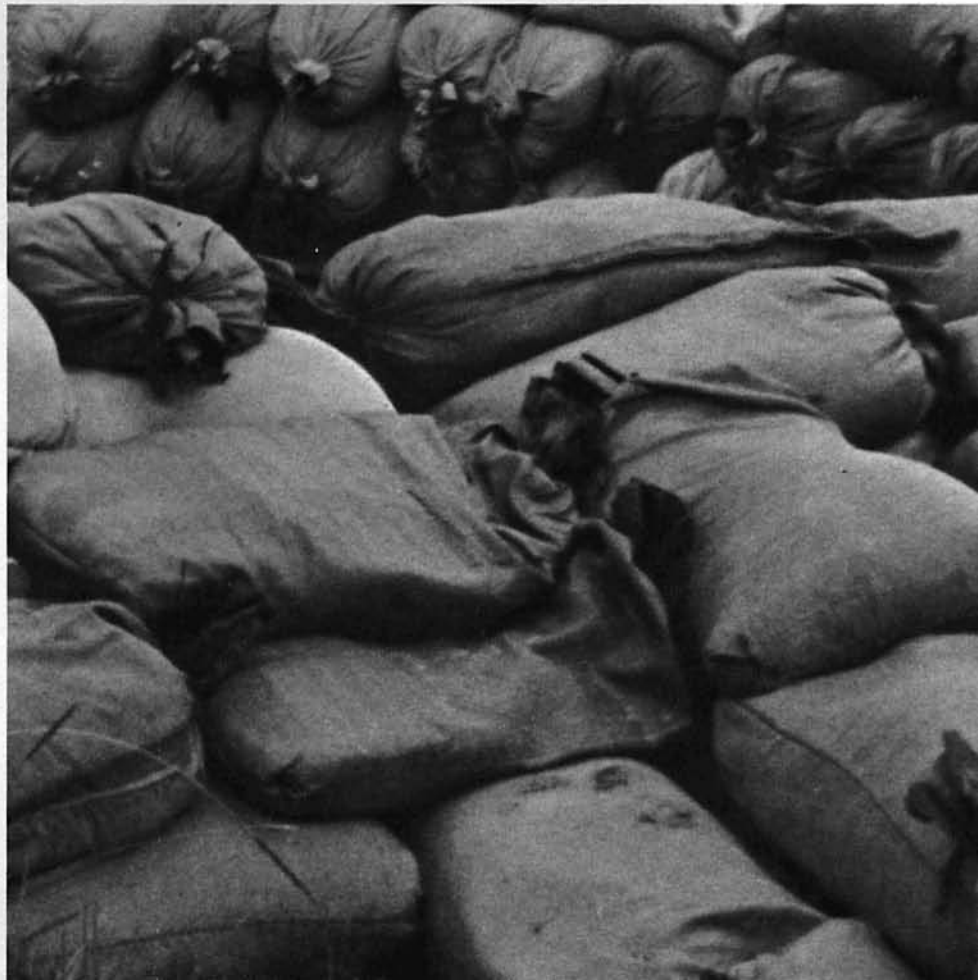








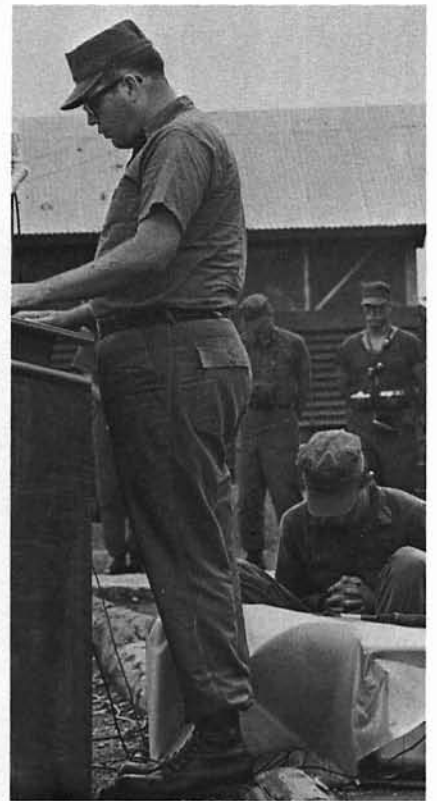






change of command





Cdr. Jack C. Rickels, CEC, USN

COMMANDING OFFICER



With orders: "Go to the Northern I Corps . . . go to Dong Ha . . . and go build for the Third Marine Division," each of you went with strength, loyalty and determination to do what had to be done and to insure that it was done and done successfully.

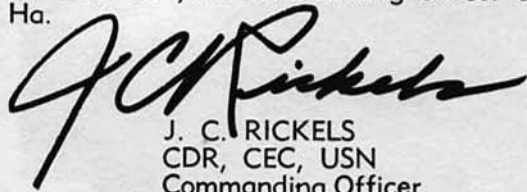
Each of you has earned the right to be extremely pleased, sincerely proud, and full of satisfaction in what you have done and how well you have done it at Dong Ha, Vietnam.

For 27 years, Seabees have been called upon to serve around the world and they have earned the respect and admiration of all men in uniform and the entire public. Your accomplishments at Dong Ha are now etched in the history of one of the finest of military organizations — the Seabees.

Your sweat, toil, and diligence; your ingenuity, resourcefulness, and perseverance; your esprit de corps, CAN DO spirit, and "let's get it done" attitude were the ingredients that made your battalion and your Dong Ha deployment a story of success.

"Build and build it now" were your simple directions. And, as a result, you built everything imaginable in that hostile, war-torn land.

The proudest and most rewarding experience in my life has been the opportunity that I had to serve as your commanding officer at Dong Ha.


J. C. RICKELS
CDR, CEC, USN
Commanding Officer

Commander Jack C. Rickels, Civil Engineer Corps, USN, took command of MCB SEVEN on Aug. 13, 1968, at Camp Barnes, Dong Ha Forward Combat Base, Vietnam.

CDR Rickels began his naval career as a midshipman in the NROTC at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he earned his bachelor of civil engineering degree in 1952. In 1964, he received a master of science degree in management from the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School and he is a 1968 graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk.

CDR Rickels came to MCB SEVEN from Washington, D. C., where he was Military Personnel Officer and Public Affairs Officer at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his vital role in the Navy's Direct Procurement Petty Officer program and his public relations program that "reawakened the American people to the importance of the Seabees today."

During his 18 years as a Naval Officer, CDR Rickels has served in the Boston Naval Shipyard as Maintenance and Utilities Officer; the Area Public Works Office, Guam, as Assistant Planning and Design Officer; the Naval Receiving Station, Washington, D. C., as Public Works Officer; Public Works Officer and Staff Civil Engineer for Commander Naval Activities, Italy and as the CEC and Seabee Personnel Plans and Policies Officer, Bureau of Yards and Docks, Washington, D. C.

The 39-year-old member of the Society of American Military Engineers and the American Management Association is married to the former Helen I. Troutman of Valley View, Pa.



Lcdr. J. L. Dettbarn, CEC, USN

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander John L. Dettbarn, Civil Engineer Corps, USN, graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1959 and attended the Civil Engineer Corps Officer School at Port Huene, Calif. He received his bachelor of civil engineering degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1961 and a master of science degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois in 1965.

During his Naval career, LCDR Dettbarn has served as Assistant Shops Engineer at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Va.; Engineering Co-ordination Officer for the Director, European and Middle East Docks, London, England; Planning and Engineering Officer at the U. S. Naval Academy. He became MCB SEVEN's Executive Officer in December 1967 while the battalion was deployed to Camp Adenir, Danang East, Vietnam. He is presently serving as Presidential Aide at Camp David, Thurmond, Md.

LCDR Dettbarn, 32, is married to the former Gloria Ann Bush and has two children; John Jr., 7 and James, 4.



1968 was one of MCB SEVEN's finest years. The Dong Ha deployment, while difficult and demanding, was rewarding and highly successful. Nowhere in Vietnam were Seabees more actively and directly supporting our combat troops. The battalion's accomplishments in rebuilding the National Road System and in the unprecedented Civic Action Program were major contributions to the welfare and advancement of the people of Vietnam.

For those of you returning to civilian life, you have every right to be proud of your accomplishments and experience with us. For those of you transferring to other duties or remaining with the battalion, continue to do the outstanding job that has become synonymous with MCB SEVEN.

As the deployment ended, so did my tour with the battalion. Service with the Seabees has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience. I look forward to serving with you again.

J. L. DETTBARN
LCDR, CEC, USN

**Captain A. W. Walton Jr. CEC, USN
Commander, Thirty-second Naval Construction
Regiment**



**Major General R. G. Davis, USMC
Commanding General, Third Marine Division**



vip's

**Rear Admiral A. C. Husband, CEC, USN
Chief of Navy Civil Engineers
Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering
Command**



Rear Admiral W. M. Heaman, CEC, USN
Commander, Construction Battalions, U. S. Pacific Fleet



Rear Admiral J. V. Bartlett, CEC, USN
Commander, Third Naval Construction Brigade



Captain D. G. Iselin, CEC, USN
Commander, Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet

the deployment

To a Seabee, the completion of a construction project is a satisfying and rewarding accomplishment. MCB SEVEN's Dong Ha deployment was abundant in such satisfaction.

Seven hundred fifty individuals pulling together as a single man provided the fighting men on the doorstep of North Vietnam with the construction power they needed to fulfill their combat mission as easily as possible.

From Cua Viet to the Laotian border and Quang Tri to Con Thien, our "team" dug, hammered, sawed, welded, cut, dozed, leveled, paved, hauled, drilled, built and laid concrete under many hazardous and adverse conditions. The multitude of projects completed speak for themselves of the abilities and quality of workmanship of the men of MCB SEVEN.

Such projects as roads, MER, Quang Tri Fuel Farm, Microwave, Mithras Bunker, trussless steel hanger, ASP, gun pads, bunkers, bridges, culverts and Vinh Dai Rock Crusher Site stand as monuments to the sweat, long hours and back-breaking labor put forth by MCB SEVEN for eight months.

In addition, the battalion undertook an extensive Civic Action program that saw the completion of three elementary schools and a hospital. We defended 1,000 meters of the Dong Ha Combat Bases' southern perimeter and fired over 1,000 rounds of high explosive and illumination mortar ammunition.

There was leisure time too. USO Shows, basketball games, nights at the club, special occasions such as the battalion's anniversary, the Seabee's anniversary and Christmas all had a place in the Dong Ha deployment.

But the things remembered most will be the projects—lines drawn on paper and converted to steel, wood and concrete structures that stand as mute testimony that MCB SEVEN was there.









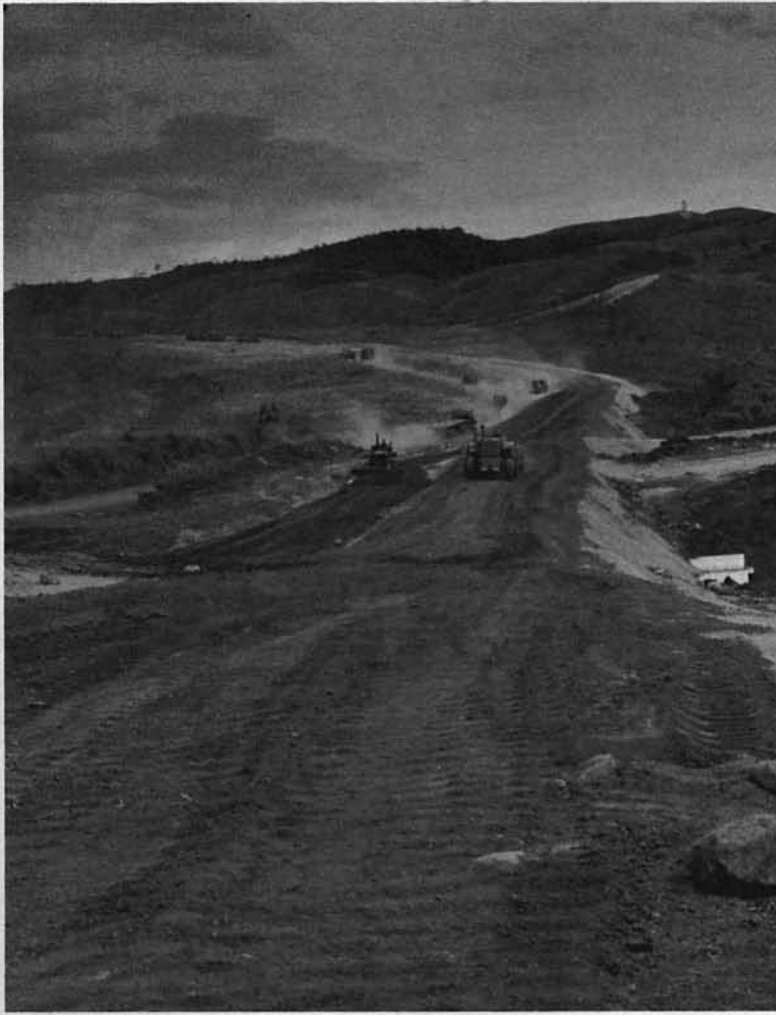
roads

In Vietnam, mobility is one of the most important and effective strategic maneuvers used against the "hit and run" tactics of the enemy.

MCB SEVEN was not only "mobile" itself, but through its extensive road building projects, it enhanced the mobility of every unit in the northern I Corps. The continuous project included leveling, straightening, scraping, dozing, packing and paving over half-a-million cubic yards of earth on more than 45 miles of South Vietnam's national road system.

Work on a 20-mile section, from south of Quang Tri to Con Thien, of National Route One that runs from Saigon to Hanoi and a 25-mile section, west from Dong Ha to Vandegrift Combat Base, of National Route Nine that runs into Cambodia, included both upgrading and maintaining existing roads and constructing new roads.

Crews often worked under adverse and hazardous conditions in their continuous, successful "push to the end of the road."





alpha company

MCB SEVEN arrived at Dong Ha in July 1968, only a few days after the Ammunition Supply Point east of Camp Barnes "went up" during an enemy artillery attack. The ALPHA Company area was a mess. Shrapnel, pieces of equipment and parts of buildings were scattered everywhere. It was very obvious to everyone that we had our work cut out for us.

One of our first jobs was the restoration of the ASP. With men working 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the job was done by November and the storage area was ready for use.

Another of our initial efforts was the upgrade of National Route Nine from Cam Lo to the Camp Carroll cut-off. We were in a race with the monsoons and had to get the job done before bad weather set in. By October the road was open.

At the same time, 40 men were working from Landing Zone Stud to the Rockpile on that section of Route Nine. By the end of the deployment, LZ Stud had become Vandegrift Combat Base, the Rockpile had become Elliot Combat Base and the 40 men had hauled almost 150,000 cubic yards of fill to make the road connecting the two bases a safe, fast, all-weather highway.

These major projects were only part of the overall picture of ALPHA Company's contribution to the battalion's third deployment to Vietnam. There was well drilling at A-3, Con Thien and Vinh Dai; site preparation at Vinh Dai, the Fuel Farm at Quang Tri, wonder-arch building and Microwave; culverts, the rock haul from Cam Lo to Quang Tri for the upgrade of the roads to the south and there was asphalt.

The asphalt plant was damaged when MCB SEVEN arrived, but with just the right combination of skill and enthusiasm, we started producing and laying asphalt. When we left, more than 3½ miles of road were paved.

The backbone of ALPHA Company is the shop. Any machine will eventually give out after 12 - 14 hour days, week after week. The men in the shops not only kept them running but got a lot of them running that were "down" when we got there. As the weeks progressed, the deadline went down — and down — and down. When parts were not available, they were made or borrowed or something else was made to work. The deployment saw the deadline go from over 15% when we got there to less than 3% when we left. The mechanics of ALPHA Company left a record that will be hard to match. MCB SEVEN had fewer pieces of equipment out of commission than any battalion who ever occupied Camp Barnes in Dong Ha.

So this was the deployment. Hard work, long hours, artillery, snipers, ambush, all added to the strain and sacrifice of the men of ALPHA Company. But when we came home, every man knew he had done his job and done it well. In the years to come, every man can look back on Dong Ha with pride.

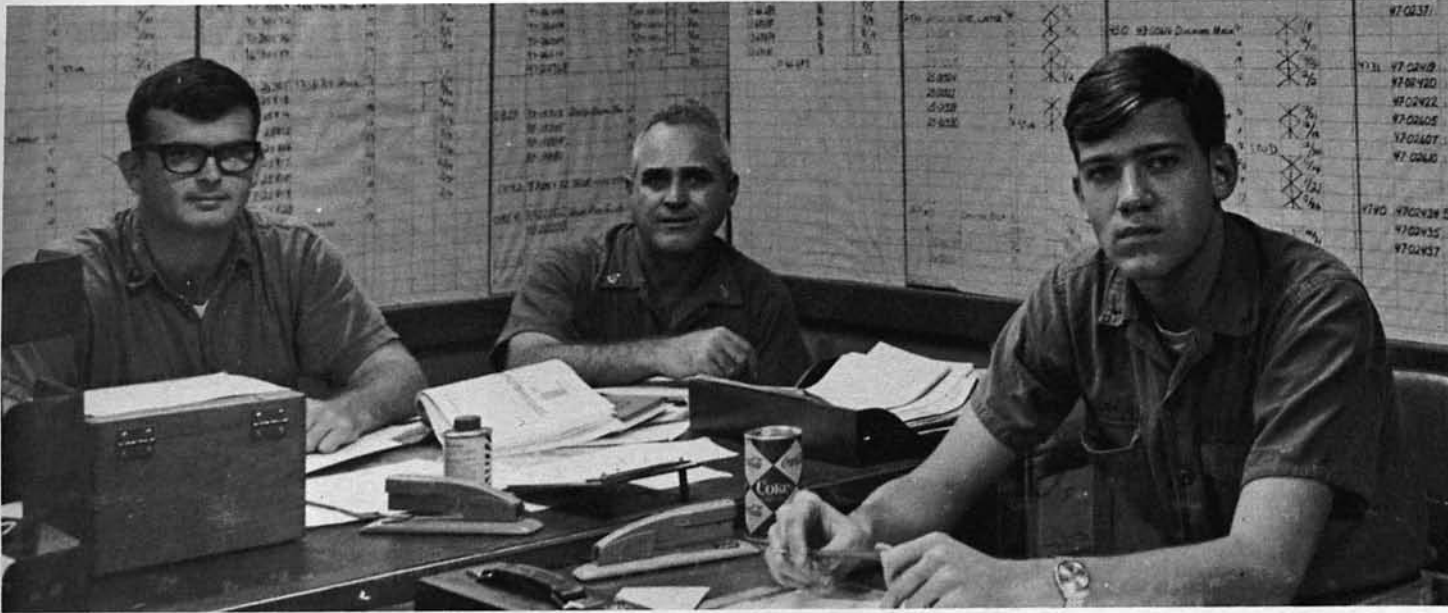




Lieutenant Commander B. L. Jackson, CEC, USN
Alpha Company Commander

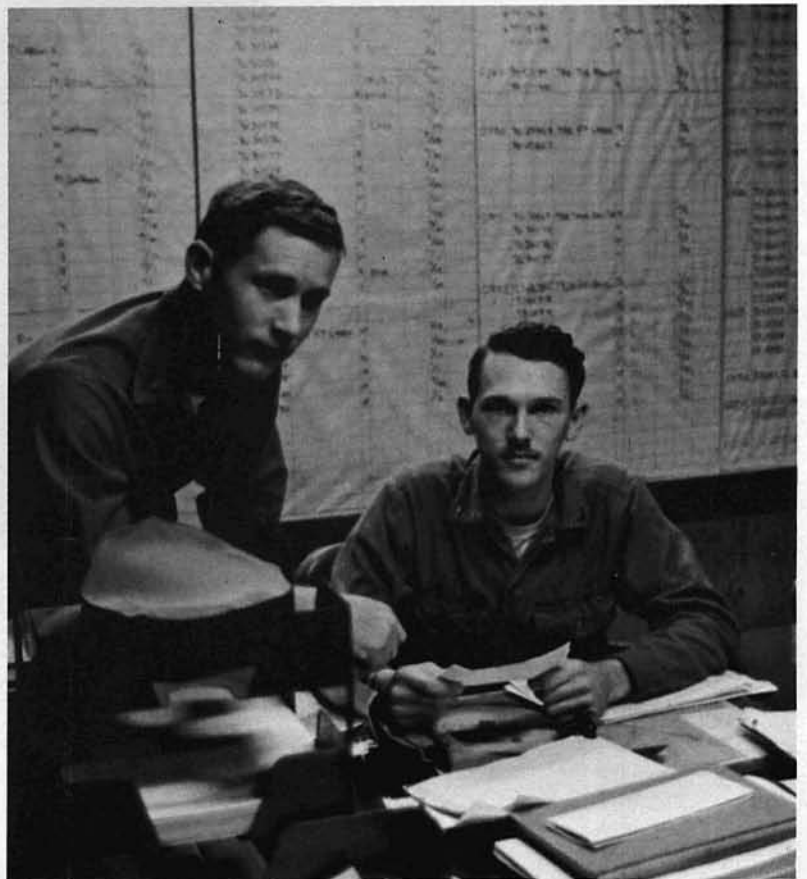
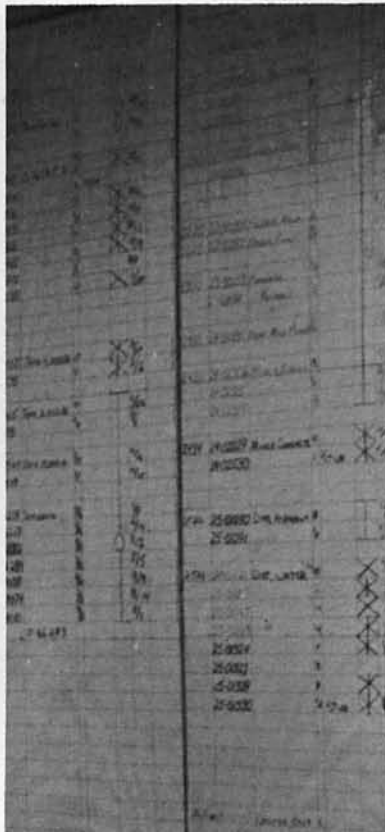
OFFICE PERSONNEL — CMC H. R. Cheney, CWO2 F. E. Acosta, CMCS M. J. Carpenter, EOCS J. O. King, EO2 W. J. Koser.





COST CONTROL — CM2 C. T. Leech, CMCS M. J. Carpenter, CM3 R. A. Carver.

COST CONTROL — CM1 C. E. Link, CM3 E. H. Forbes.



TRANSPORTATION — CN J. A. Walker, E02 C. M. Grainger, E02 L. R. Ovitt, E02 F. E. Costello, E03 R. O. Greenman, E03 L. T. Coleman.



DISPATCHERS — E03 M. E. Cooper, E03 C. G. Christianson.

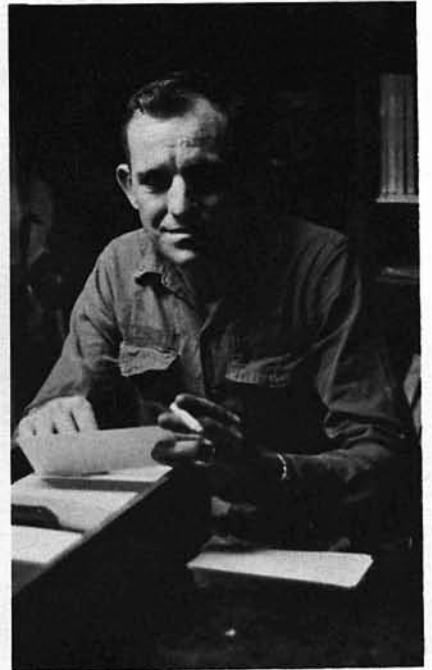


DRIVER'S LICENSE — EOC B. F. Quinn, E01 M. J. Ford, III.



TRANSPORTATION — E03 S. W. Brady, E03 T. E. Frank, CM C. M. Marquez, E03 M. E. Cooper, E03 D. D. Hoiten, E03 M. W. White, E03 L. L. Bentkowski.

PARTS OFFICE — CM2 L. C. Ingleberger.



TRANSPORTATION — E01 W. M. Grimes, E02 W. R. Jeffrey, E03 A. R. Reath, E03 L. N. Spencer, E03 B. E. Rosier.

GAS STATION — E03 A. R. Reath, E02 L. R. Ovitt.



MACHINE SHOP — CMC G. C. Ranne, FN M. J. Lesperance, MR3 K. E. Geweniger.



CRANE CREW — E03 L. J. Nelson, E03 S. W. Purdy, E02 D. N. Pope, E03 M. L. Isaacson, E03 J. M. Piccotti, E02 J. L. Dittmer.



ASPHALT PLANT — E03 J. S. Ulrey, EOCN G. M. Gonzales, E03 T. L. Doty, E03 R. H. Wright, E02 J. W. Dunkleberger, E02 D. R. Zeni, E02 J. L. Neel, E01 J. B. Newman.





BATTERY SHOP — CN J. B. White, CN A. D. Davis, CM2 W. A. Wolf.



TIRE SHOP — EOC L. G. Quinn, EO3 R. D. VanSickle.





ASPHALT CREW — CM2 G. M. King Jr., EO2 P. Bair, EO3 J. S. Ulrey, CN J. E. Lacefield, CN C. D. Davis, EO2 J. L. Neel.



ASPHALT CREW — EOC A. P. Maiorano, EOCN R. L. Miller, EO3 D. W. Ahrens, EO3 J. D. Mullins, EOCN D. L. Ordorff, EOCA P. N. Stockus, EO2 W. R. Oleksak.



STEEL SHOP — CN M. W. Rogers, SWCN W. B. Ross, SW3 J. A. Barker, SF3 J. T. Talley, SF3 K. J. Curik, SW1 K. N. Ries.

ASPHALT CREW — E03 R. C. Richardson, E02 J. W. Dunkleberger, E02 R. E. Telfer, E02 D. R. Zeni, E03 L. Murphy, EOC A. P. Maiorano, E03 R. H. Wright, E03 A. K. Bradt, CN M. A. Watkins.





LIGHT SHOP — CM1 D. K. Williams.

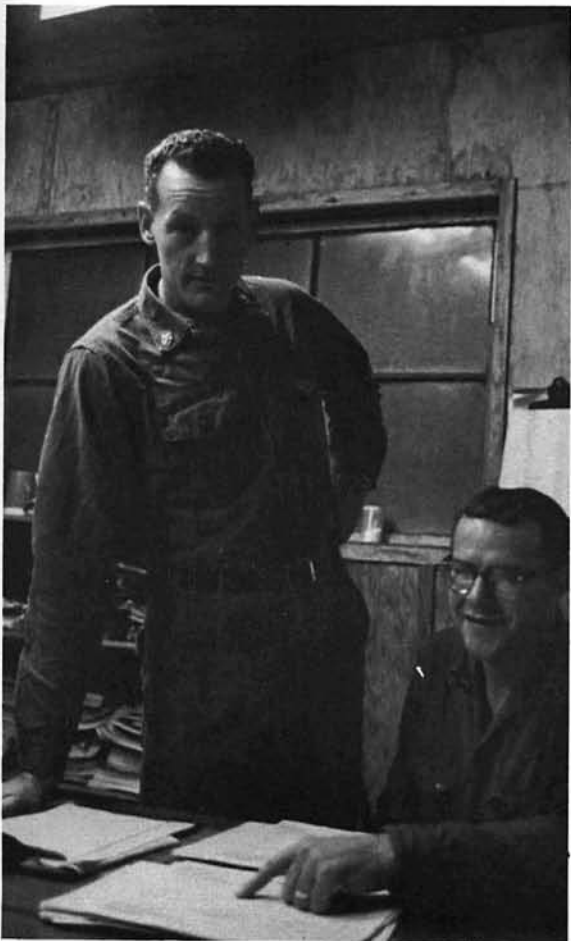


LIGHT SHOP — EO3 R. D. VanSickle, CM3 E. T. Kelley, CM3 H. E. Trotzky, CN L. E. McConnell, CM3 S. Striker, CM3 M. E. Dahlstrom, CM3 D. B. Lavigne, CM3 J. M. Di-maggio.



LIGHT SHOP — CM2 F. P. McGrath, CE3 D. M. Madden, CM3 H. A. Opsahl, CM3 A. L. Presnell, CN L. W. Laue, CM2 R. R. Reid, CN W. J. Beynon, CM2 D. T. Leech.

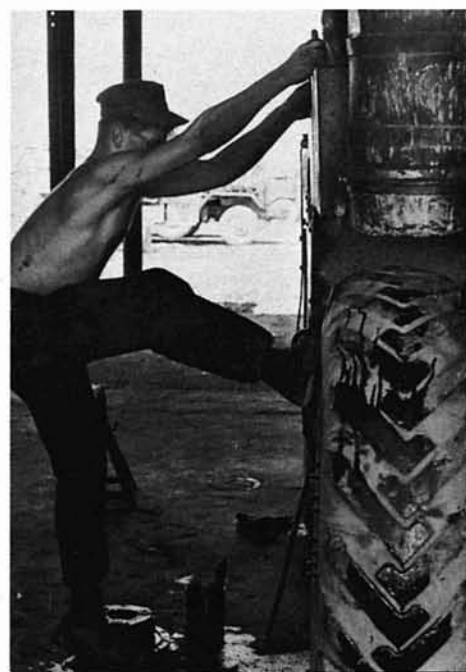
GARAGE, NIGHT CREW — CMC W. R. Clem, CM1 R. Lehman.



LIGHT SHOP, NIGHT CREW — CN K. W. Searfoss, CMCN K. C. Krois, CM3 J. L. Walker.



HEAVY SHOP — CM3 R. B. Carawon, CM3 J. D. Bugyi, CN J. H. Riggs, CM3 F. D. Nicas.



HEAVY SHOP — CN C. B. Brock.

LIGHT SHOP, NIGHT CREW — CM3 R. J. Leendertsen, CM3 R. S. Miles, CM3 R. L. Davis, CN D. D. Presnell, EO3 L. L. Yates.





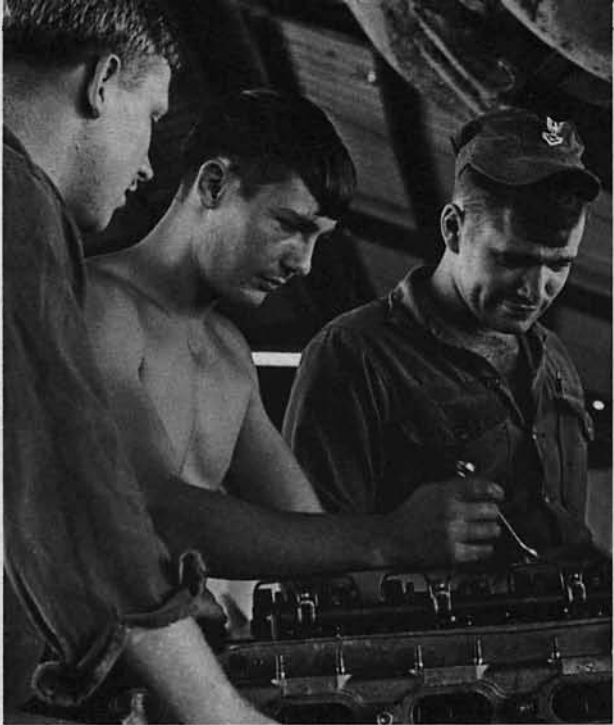
HEAVY SHOP — CE3 D. M. Madden, CN B. A. Goslin.



HEAVY SHOP — CN W. P. Lear, CN D. B. Tomlinson, CM3 R. J. Ower.



HEAVY SHOP — CN H. W. Ruter, CN W. D. Bell, CN D. N. Jones, CN J. A. Zaragoza, CN J. F. Smith.



HEAVY SHOP — CM3 L. V. Hoag, CM3 W. R. Hinnant, CM2 J. P. Wasson.



HEAVY SHOP — CN B. W. Campbell.



HEAVY SHOP — CN W. J. Potter, CN R. A. Homeier, CM3 L. D. Faler, CM1 T. L. "Hoot" Gibson, CM3 L. D. Huber, CM3 D. L. McFarland.



LIGHT SHOP — CM3 R. J. Hudson, CN A. R. Honeycutt.



LIGHT SHOP — CECN J. G. Burch, CN E. S. Rublesky, CN O. L. Sevison.



HEAVY SHOP — CM3 D. P. Katona, CN C. B. Brock, CM3 M. L. Michaud, CN R. L. Miller, CN V. M. Boner, CM2 T. J. Davis.



HEAVY SHOP — CN R. A. Homeier, CM3 L. V. Hoag, CN R. E. Howe, CN B. W. Campbell, CN D. J. Lacourse.



HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO3 D. E. Emmott, EO2 T. E. Maguire, EO2 B. W. Corbett, EO2 T. F. Bowen, EO2 T. A. Bernatz, EO2 R. R. Baker, EO3 R. G. Waldo, EO3 R. E. DeGraffenried, CN D. E. Keeton, CN J. M. Freres, EO3 F. H. Hager.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO2 R. D. Clark Jr., EO2 F. T. Goldman, EO3 R. E. Sloan.



HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO2 F. T. Goldman



HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO1 B. F. Sutphin.



HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO3 L. T. Coleman, EO2 M. J. Catching, EO3 T. L. Doty, EO2 K. E. Woodard, EO3 D. E. Anderson.

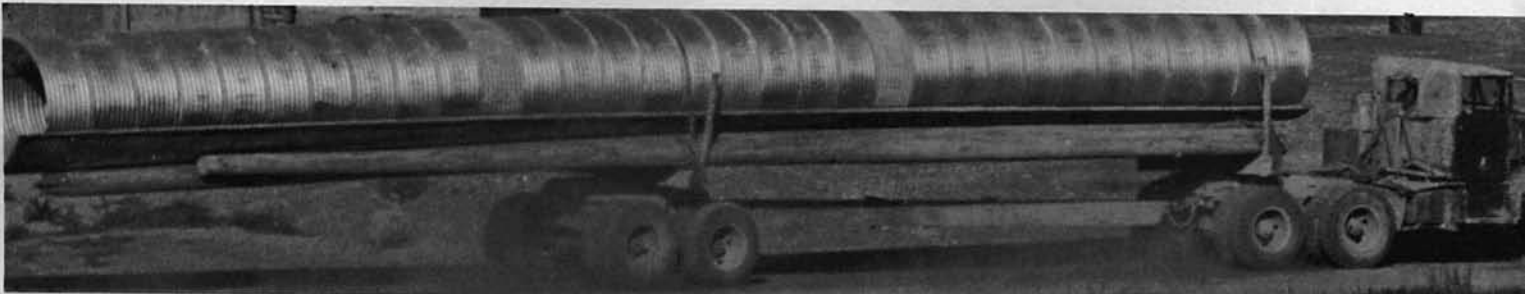
HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO2 R. Bittner Jr., EO3 D. B. Holsenback, EO3 G. A. Dancer, EO3 J. A. Schumann, EO3 G. T. Petrigliano, EO3 J. Thompson.



HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO3 S. W. Ball.



HEAVY EQUIPMENT — EO2 R. D. Clark Jr., EO3 D. B. Holsenback, EO2 R. A. Stafford, EO3 D. E. Emmott.





fuel farm

Enough fuel to take an automobile around the world approximately 2,000 times is stored in the largest "gas station" in the Northern I Corps, one of MCB SEVEN's most important construction projects completed during the 8½-month deployment to Dong Ha.

With support from four other Seabee units, MCB SEVEN built, at Quang Tri, the largest fuel tank farm in the Northern I Corps in only 24 days after it was placed at the top of the construction priority list.

The 18 acre complex consists of five 420,000-gallon and three 125,000-gallon tanks, over two miles of pipe, five 600-gallon per minute pumps, five 60 KW generators, four filter - separator chambers, four relaxation chambers and four fill stands or "gas pumps." Over two miles of gasket and nearly 250,000 half-inch nuts were installed by hand during the construction.

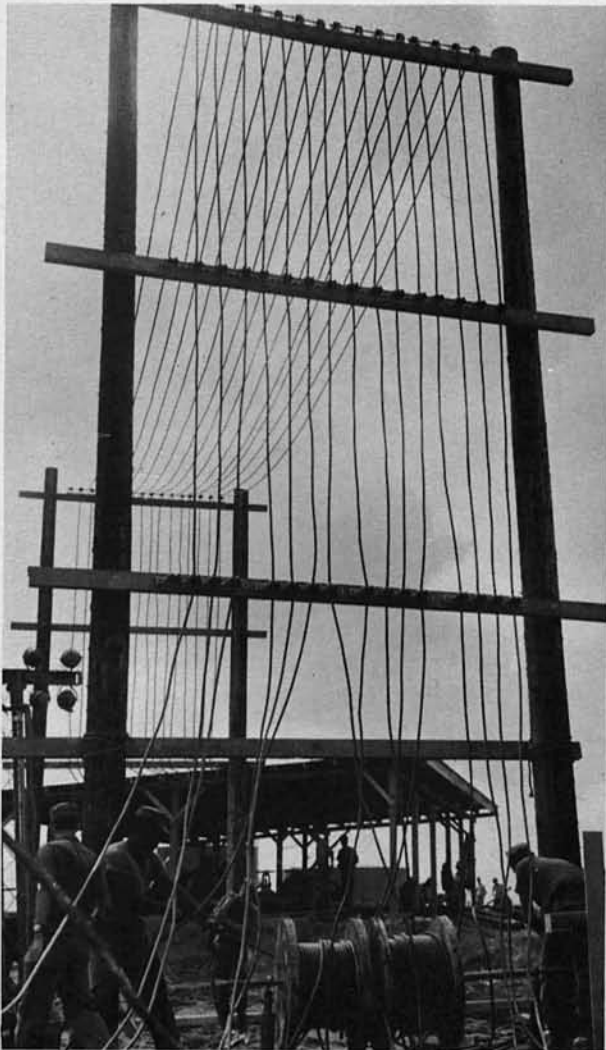
More than 500,000 cubic feet of fill was hauled raising portions of the construction site three feet to convert a swampy area into a firm foundation.

The facility, built for the Army, supplies four different types of fuel to all units in the Northern I Corps.

In praising the men who worked together night and day to meet the project deadline, Rear Admiral James V. Bartlett, commander, Third Naval Construction Brigade, stressed that though it was a group project, it was the efforts of the individual men that made the project a success.













bravo company

It has been said that everybody takes Bravo Company for granted until the water quits.

Bravo Company is often thought of simply as a camp maintenance company. However, on top of keeping Camp Barnes livable by repatching the patches that had been patched, Bravo Company was subcontractor on virtually all vertical construction jobs and prime contractor on the single, most costly and sophisticated job built during the deployment.

During the months at Dong Ha, the Construction Electricians wired 460 structures, installed 196,000 feet of power distribution line and erected four communications facilities at Dong Ha, Quang Tri, Cam Lo, Ca Lu, Cua Viet, Gio Linh and Vinh Dai.

The Utilities men, in addition to installing 30,000 feet of water pipeline and the plumbing for all showers and messhalls, spent a major portion of the deployment constructing and reworking the Quang Tri Fuel Farm until it finally went into full, satisfactory operation.

The shops personnel and camp construction crew labored long and hard to upgrade the camp facilities and provide the necessary services to make Camp Barnes a better place to live.

Remember the electricity in your hut, the hot running water and, best of all, that cold beer served at the end of the long, hot day in a remodeled club? It all came to you compliments of Bravo Company — the men who do the "little things" that count.

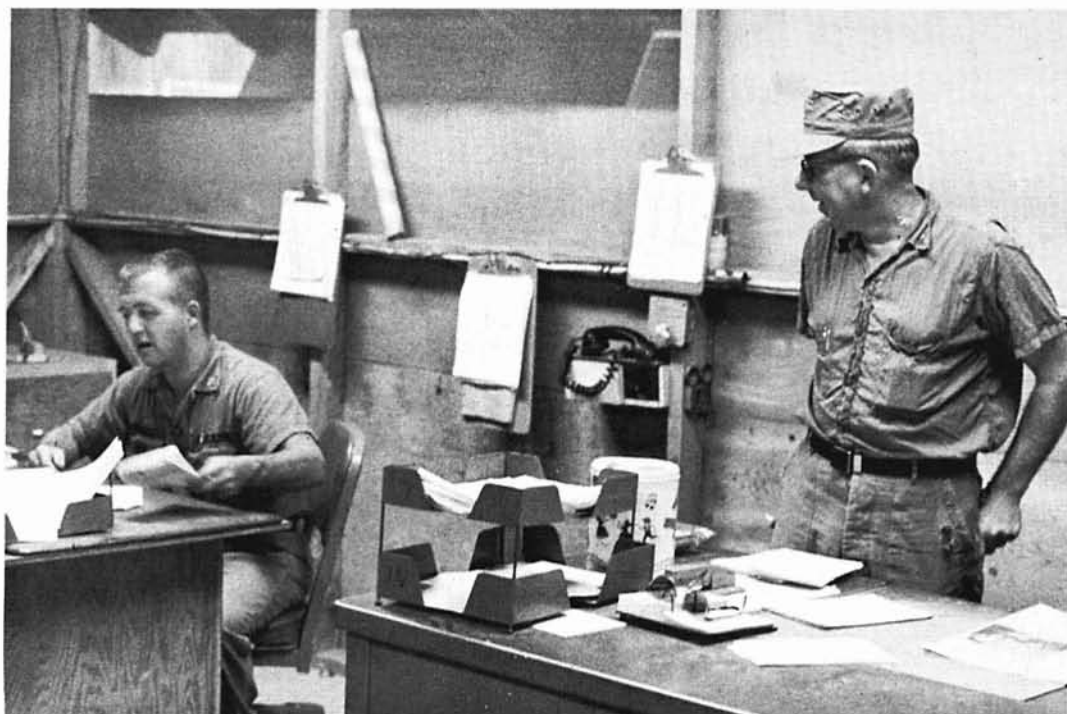


COMPANY COMMANDER, RELIEVED
Ltjg. G. E. Richie



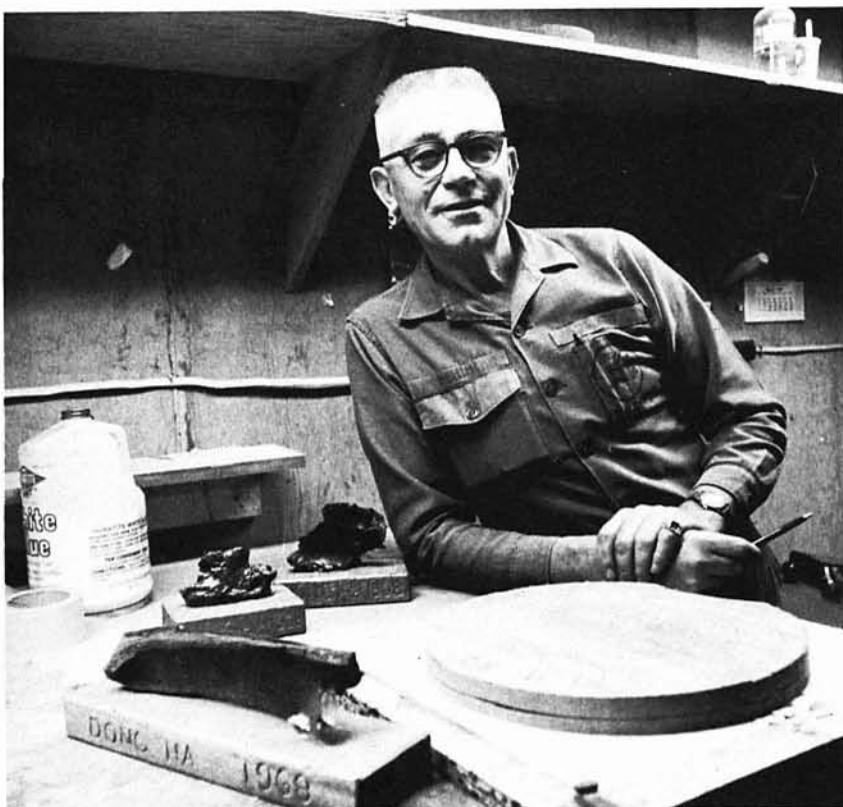
BRAVO COMPANY COMMANDER, RELIEVING
Ltjg. M. W. Lynch

BRAVO COMPANY OFFICE — LTJG Lynch, CEC J. Jeschke Jr.





SHOPS OFFICE PERSONNEL — UT1 W. D. Temple, UTC P. Kazanjian, BU1 E. M. Younger, UT1 J. E. Arnold.



WOOD CARVING — BUC R. W. Mueller



ELECTRICIANS — CEC A. J. Germain.



MORTARS — CE2 R. W. Burkhardtmeier.



MORTAR CREWS — CECN D. A. Grogg, EACN R. G. Basciano, CN D. W. Streng, SN D. E. Tessmer, CE2 R. W. Burkhardtmeier, UT3 R. J. Petroski, SN R. Byers, UTCN R. R. Dorfner, UT3 M. C. Hansen, UT3 M. J. Albert Jr., UT3 A. A. Culmer, SW2 J. B. Christensen, UTCN R. H. Woelper, SWCN J. Spiers.



CAMP CONSTRUCTION CREW — EA2 J. E. Cox, UTCN S. R. Sorrell, BUCN R. R. Hudd, CECN C. J. Leblanc, BU1 J. A. Shoup, BUCN T. D. Milbourn, EO3 B. F. Howlett.

SANITATION CREW — EACN R. G. Basciano, CECN D. A. Grogg.



SANITATION CREW — CECN R. L. Heid, UT2 M. J. Albert Jr., UTCN R. H. Woelper.





LINE CREW — CECN R. L. Heid, CE3 J. C. Rowland, CE3 L. L. Ambeau, CE3 T. R. Aspan.





REFRIGERATION REPAIR — UT3 R. J. Petroski, UT3 A. A. Culmer, UT 3 M. C. Hansen.



BOILER PLANT WATCH — CE3 L. A. Houman UTCN D. A. Russell, UT3 J. E. Connelly.



CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIANS — CE2 J. A. Suarez, CE3 T. J. King, CE2 A. C. Sojourner, III, CE2 L. I. Leach, CE3 T. L. Edwards, CE2 T. H. Ratchford, CE3 J. R. Hickenbottom.





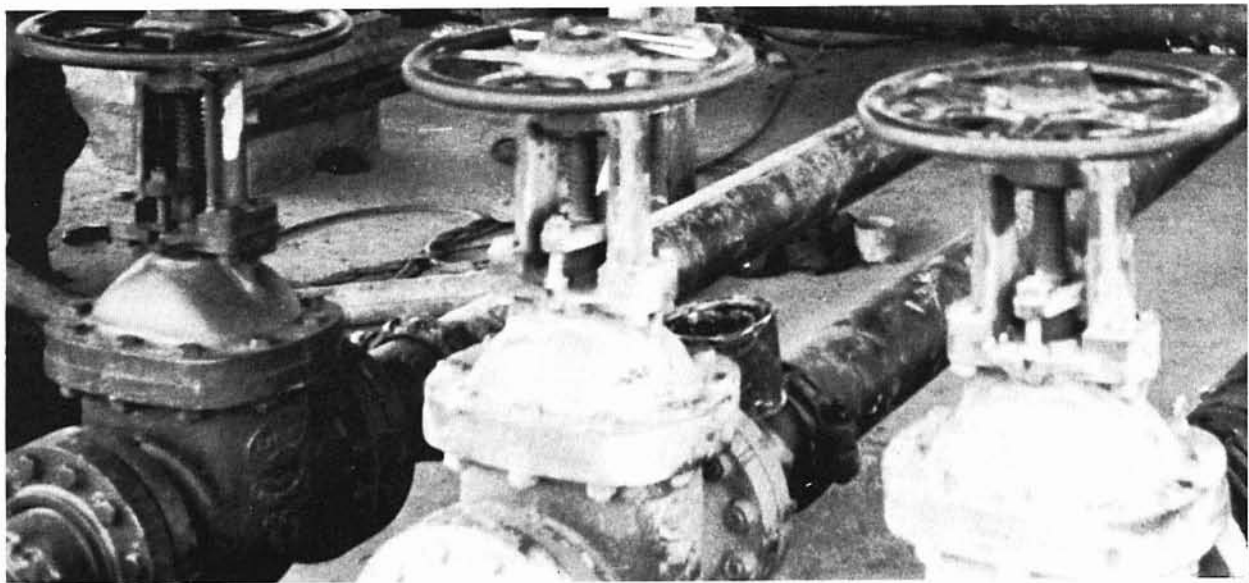
LINE CREW — CE3 E. B. Strang, CE3 L. M. Laraja, CECN T. P. Millea, CE3 T. W. Porr, CE2 J. M. Emerson, CE3 C. A. Kalis, CE3 C. E. Wilder.

UTILITIESMEN — UT3 M. Johnson, UT3 J. W. Ballou, UT3 F. W. Bindsiel.



UTILITIESMEN FIELD CREW — UT2 F. M. Havelka, UTCN B. G. Blakenship, SW2 V. M. Ferack, UT2 D. D. Swiger.





**GENERATOR WATCH — CE3 R. R. Campbell,
CE2 B. R. Kurth, CE2 D. B. Johnson.**



UTILITIESMEN FIELD CREW — UT3 R. E. Treser, UT2 I. D. Harrow, UT3 M. Johnson, UTCN K. B. Wynne, UT3 F. W. Bindseil.



UT3 J. H. Robinson Jr.



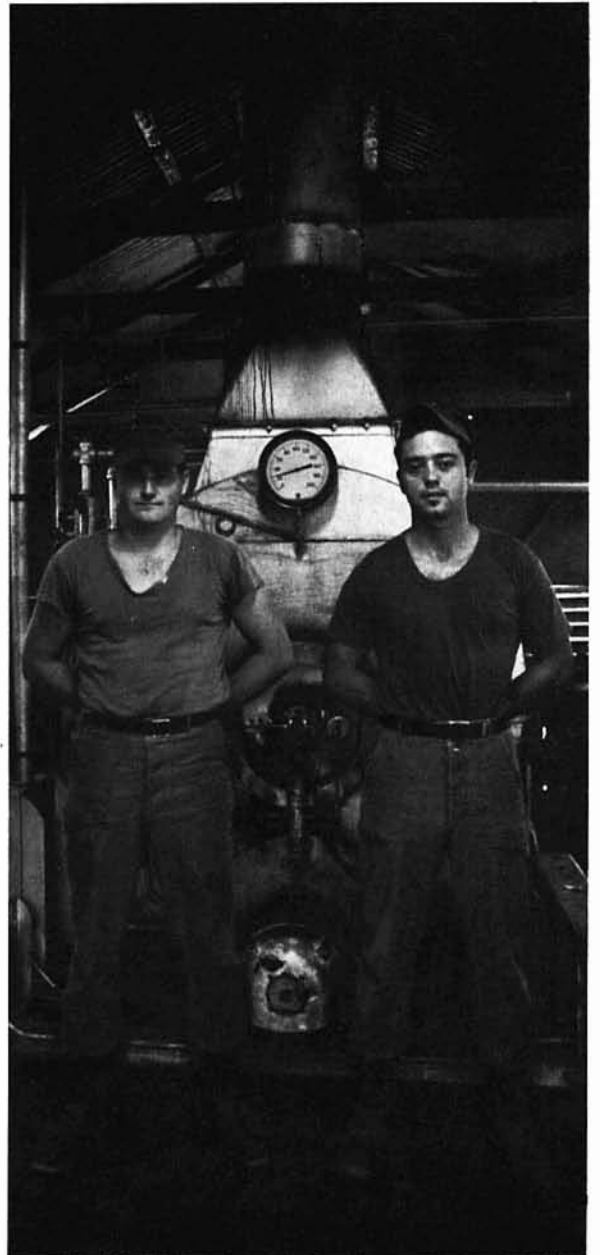


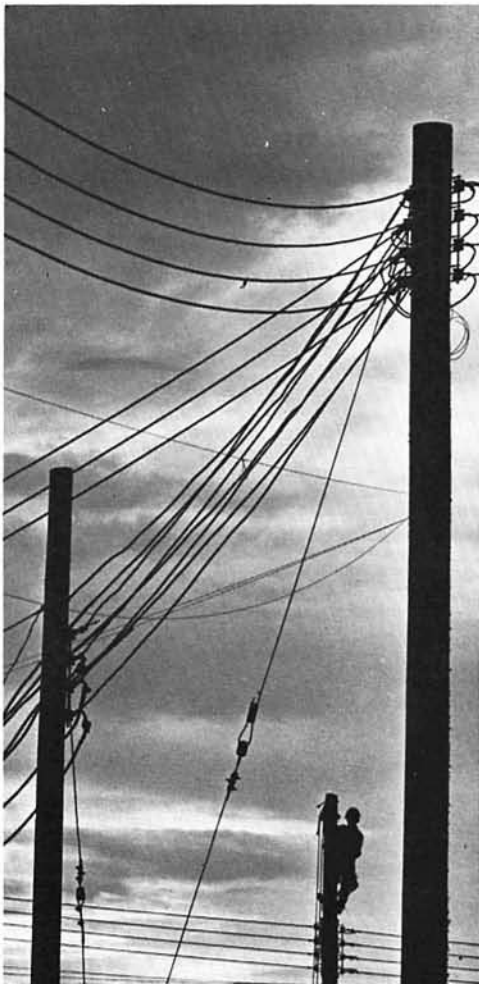
**CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIANS — CE2 D. C. Metell,
CECN E. L. Scott, Jr., CE2 R. C. Fulcher.**

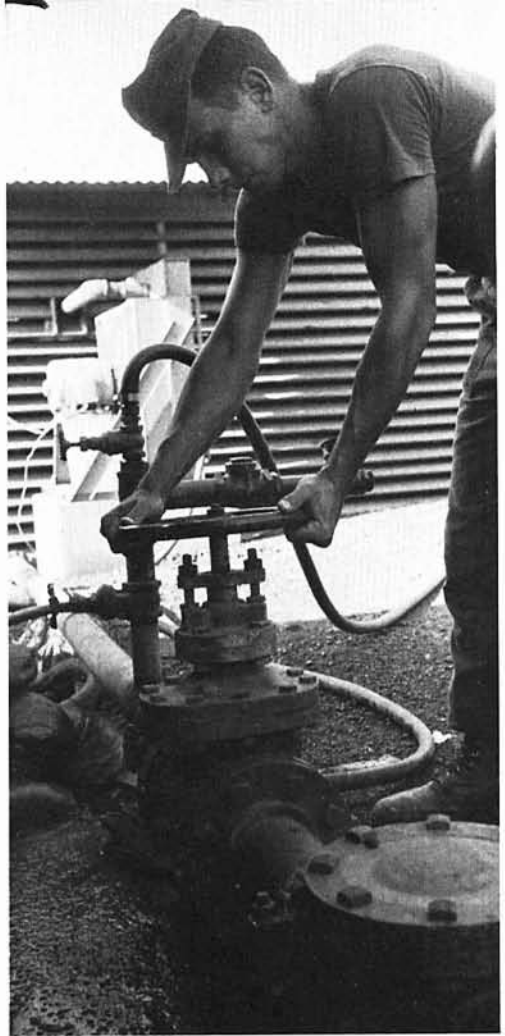
**WATER PLANT WATCH — UTCN S. W.
Glass, UT3 G. D. Unrein.**



**BRAVO SHOPS — CECN D. W. Streng, BU2
R. C. Vayansky, BU3 Crawford.**







BU2 M. D. Wright, UTC G. D. Girard, UT3 D. H. Lindley.

vinh dai

MCB SEVEN increased rock production in the northern I Corps by 400 tons per hour through construction of a 200-acre crusher site with complete camp facilities for 250 men at Vinh Dai.

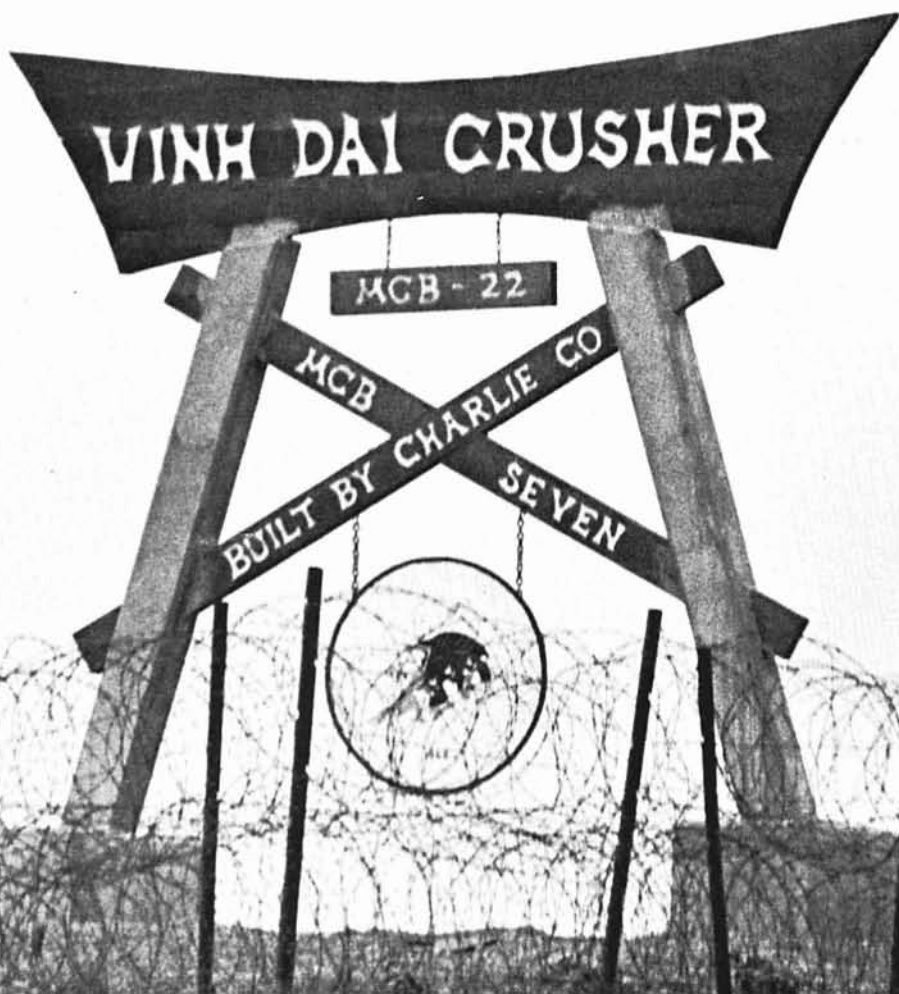
In only six weeks, the battalion converted brush covered rolling hills into a complete "city" that includes 23 Southeast Asia Huts, a galley and mess hall, showers, work shops, an exchange, bunkers, two crusher foundations and head-walls and the foundation for an asphalt plant.

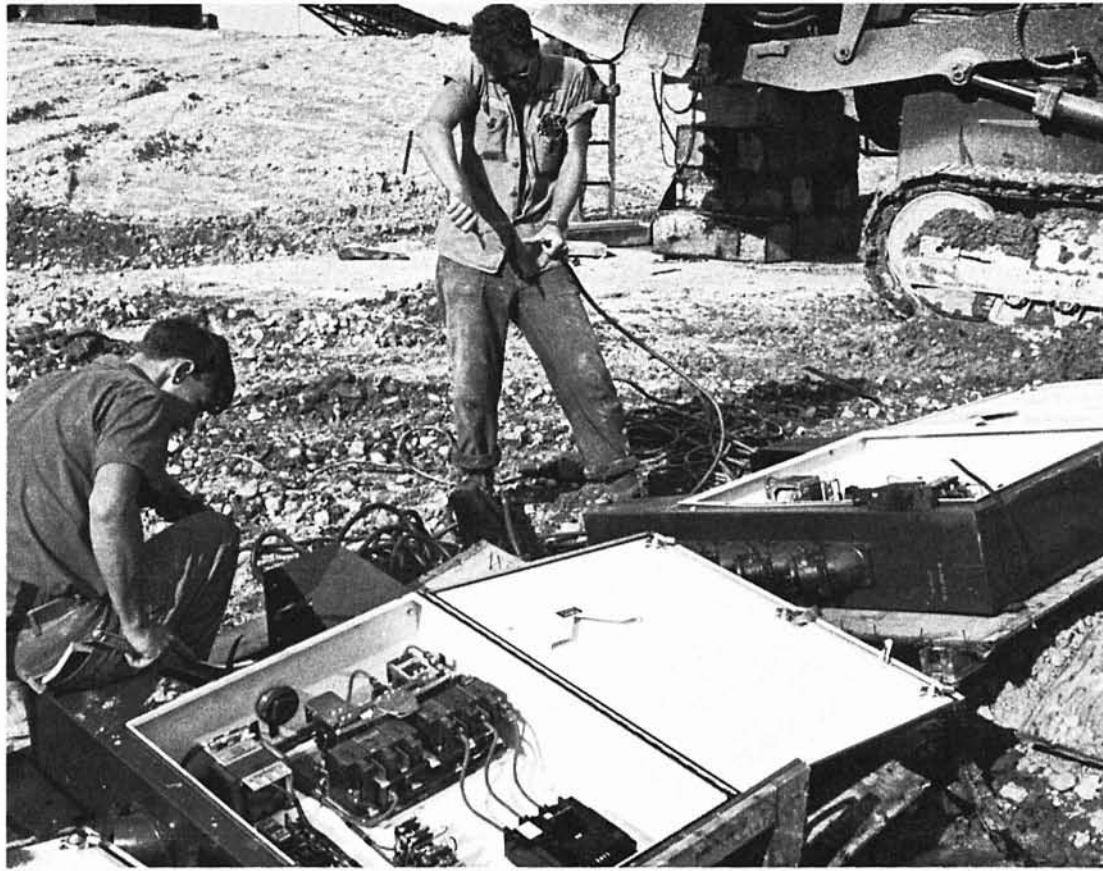
The new rock crusher facility received a high priority due to the increased emphasis on upgrading the national road system in the northern I Corps. Prior to the completion of the new crusher site, rock was barged up the Cua Viet River or received from the less productive crusher site at Cam Lo.

The completed Vinh Dai crusher site encompasses a greater area than the battalion's Camp Barnes on the Dong Ha Combat Base and cost over \$250,000 in materials alone.

















charlie company

Charlie Company started the deployment at Dong Ha with an enthusiasm that never diminished. The sign above the door read, "Charlie Company, there is a difference," and the men of the company continuously proved this to be true during the 8½ months in the northern I Corps.

Their projects were as diversified as their locations. They mass-produced precast concrete bunkers and prefabricated Southeast Asia Huts at Camp Barnes and built bunkers at Camp Carroll and Vandegrift Combat Base. They were also called upon to construct a trussless steel arch for use as an aircraft hangar and a steel revetment structure for a microwave communications installation at Dong Ha. Other projects of high priority for which Charlie Company provided its skills were the Fuel Farm at Quang Tri and the rock crusher facility at Vinh Dai.

The Vinh Dai project, the largest single company effort and presently the largest rock crusher facility in the northern I Corps, saw the completion of 60 structures in six weeks. Construction of the 250-man campsite included 23 SEA Huts, a galley and mess hall, a laundry, showers, work shops, an exchange, bunkers, two rock crusher foundations and headwalls and a foundation for an asphalt plant.

Detachments located in areas throughout I Corps found Charlie's Seabees at Cua Viet, Con Thien, Vandegrift Combat Base, Quang Tri Combat Base and Elliott Combat Base where they constructed bunkers and gun pads for the Marines.

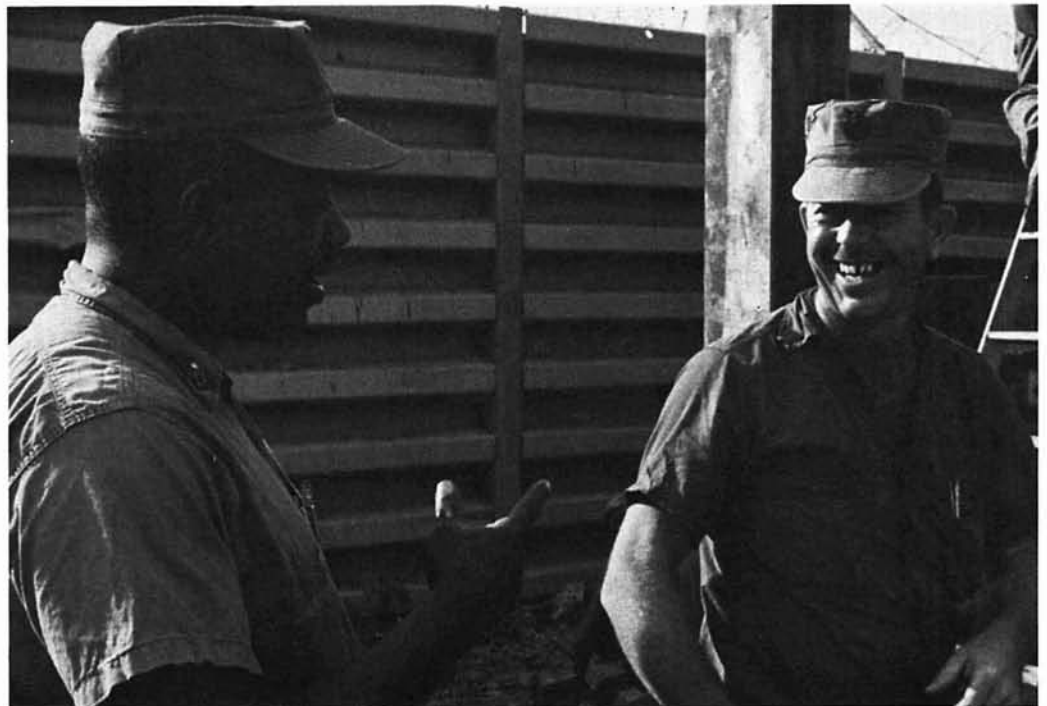
Looking back on the deployment, Charlie Company can take pride in the many construction projects completed because we worked together throughout the deployment with determination and cooperation. Like the sign reads, ". . . there is a difference."



COMPANY COMMANDER, RELIEVED
— LT. W. J. Zaist.



COMPANY COMMANDER, RELIEVING
— LT. L. J. Sleight.



MICROWAVE BUILDING — BUCS E. H. Burris, SW1 D. P. Canfield.



COMPANY SECURITY — CA D. R. Prahm, SW2 W. J. Hamilton, SWCN H. P. Ritchey.



WEAPONS — SWCN Louis, BUCN, Hertz.



PRE-CAST YARD — CN L. E. Beasley, BU3 R. L. Frazier, CN T. A. Irving and BU3 C. L. Harness.



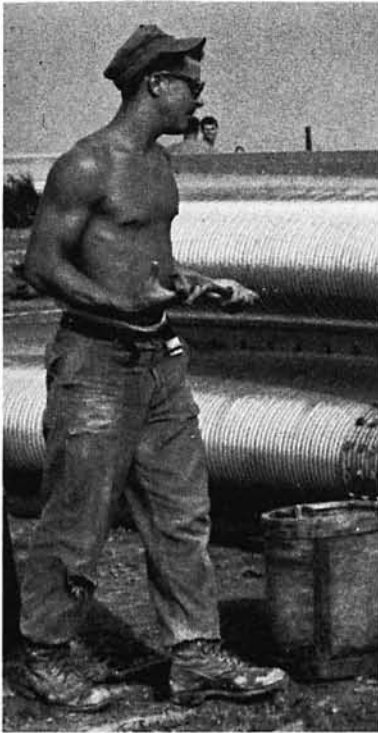
PRE-CAST YARD — CN D. W. Giddings



PRE-CAST YARD — BU3 "Charlie" Becker



PRE-CAST YARD — CN J. R. Azaltovic



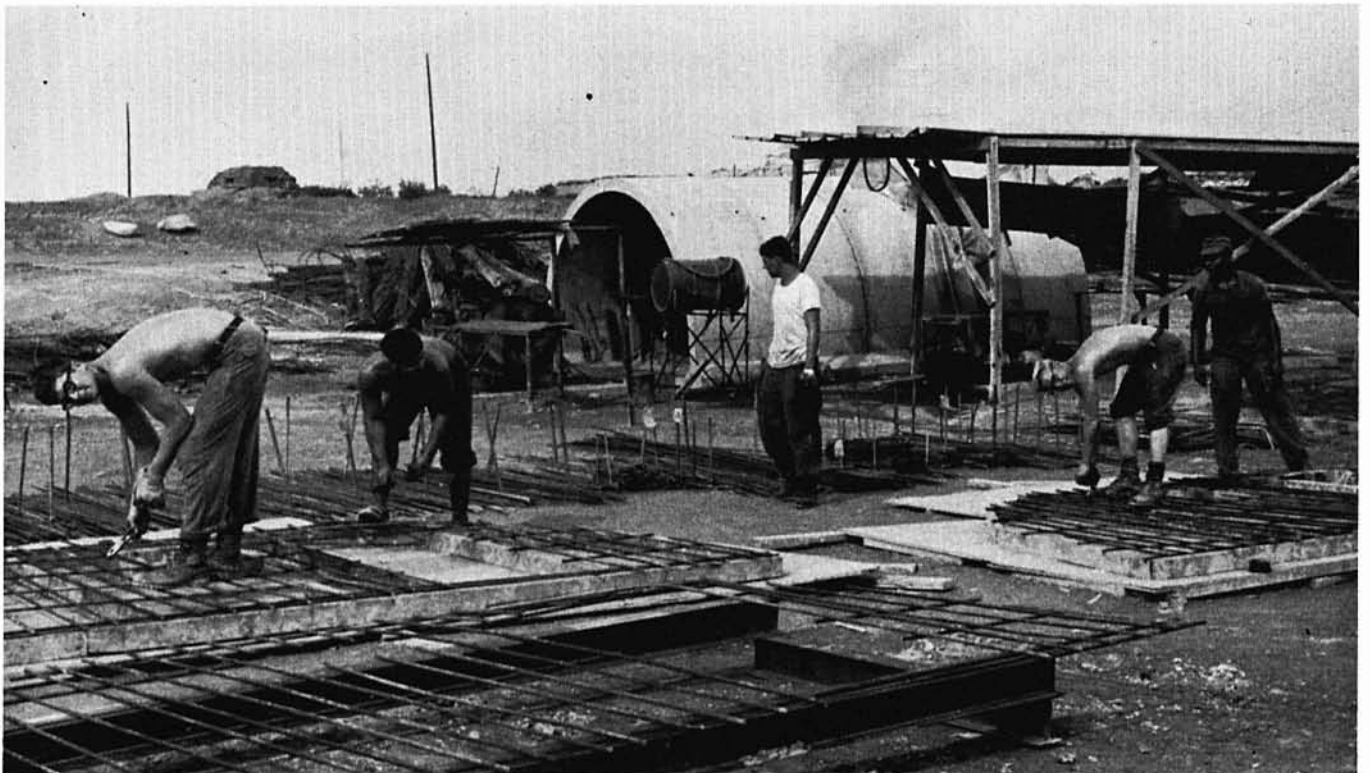
WONDER ARCH — BU3 P. D. Haack



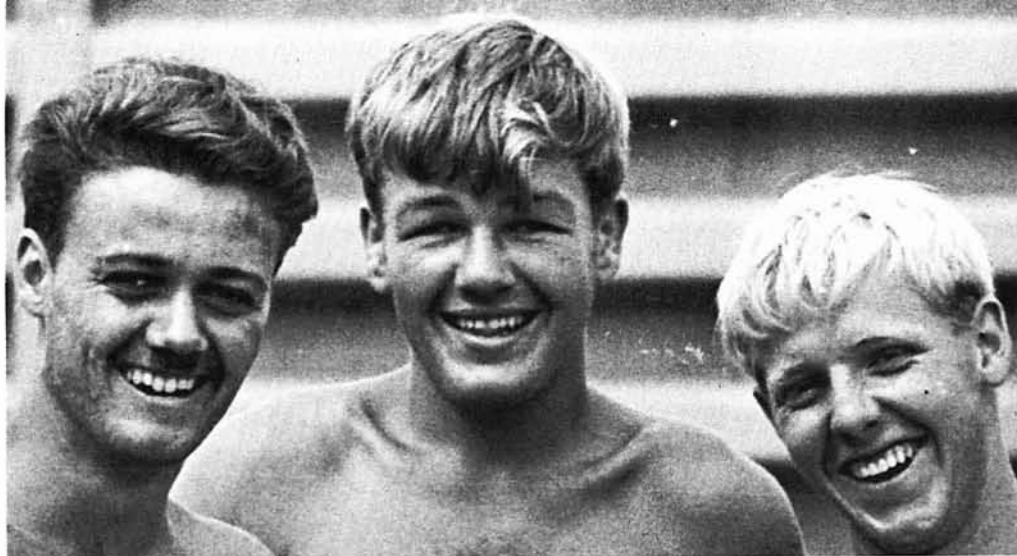
WATER TRUCK — CN W. A. Babin



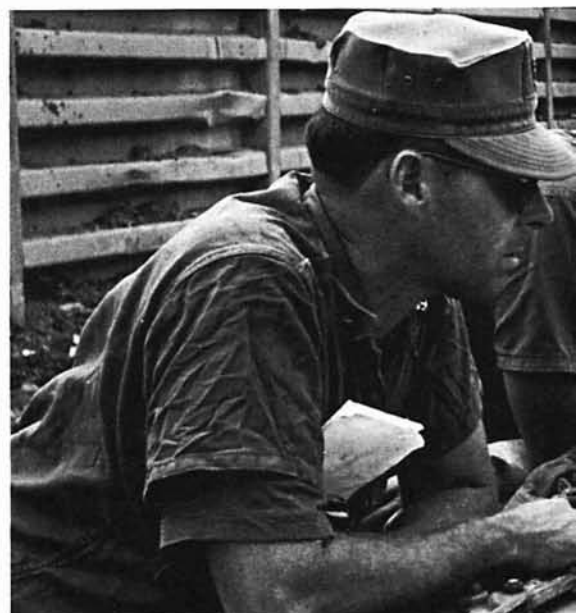
GATE WATCH — BU3 T. G. Huemmer



PRE-CASTING — BU2 Don Roach, CN Walt Spurling, CN "Greek" Cavadias, BU3 Bob Verba, and CN "Puppy" Douglas.



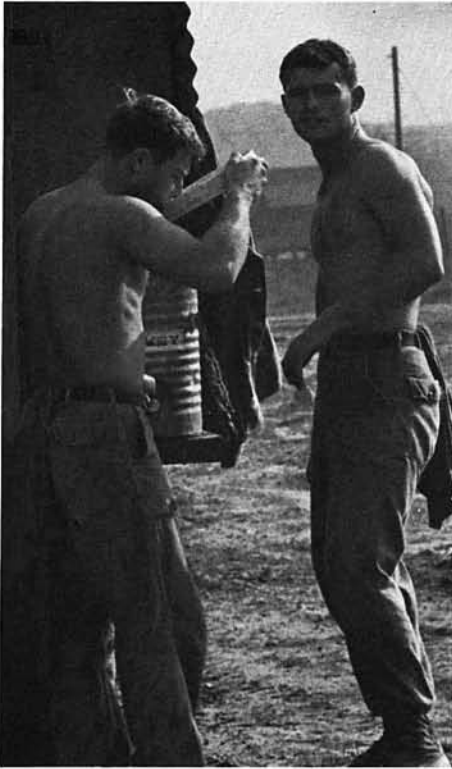
MICRO WAVE BUILDING — BU3 R. L. Frazier, CN L. E. Beasley, BU3 C. L. Harness.



MICRO WAVE BUILDING — BUC D. N. Hayden.



MICRO WAVE BUILDING — CN J. J. Kegley, CN W. R. Forest, SW2 R. L. Keith, CN R. E. Jackson.



MICRO WAVE BUILDING — CN G. J. Sutton, BU3 L. W. Shellenberger.



MICRO WAVE BUILDING — SW3 R. J. Fidely, SW3 D. Allman, SW3 J. J. Knighton, CN J. N. Frew.



MICRO WAVE BUILDING — BU2 I. A. McMillen.



MICRO WAVE BUILDING — BU1 A. L. Sisson.



WONDER ARCH — CN R. J. Pavlick, CN W. P. Scott, and BU2 S. G. Kuna.

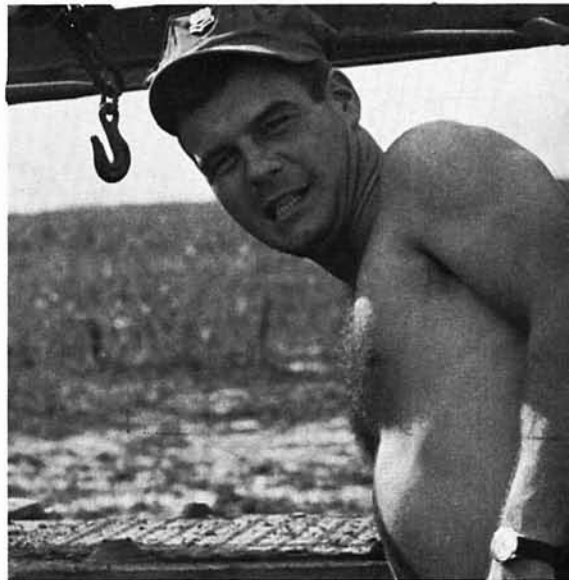


WONDER ARCH — BU3 J. P. Starros



WONDER ARCH — EO2 J. L. Dittmer

WONDER ARCH — EO2 M. B. Delisle

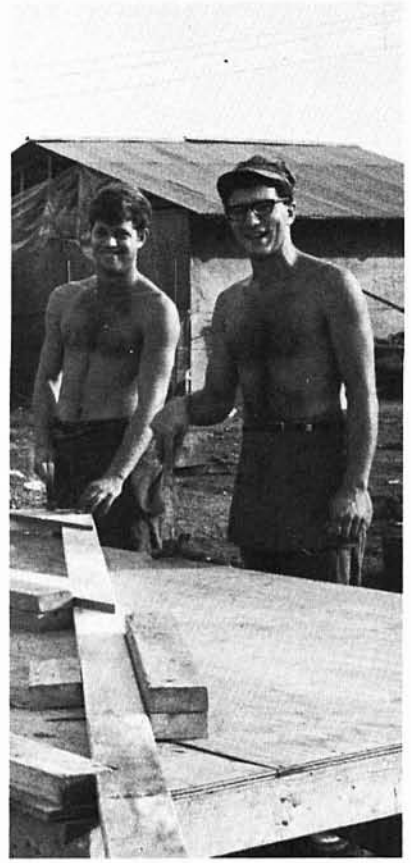




**PRE-CASTING YARD —
BU3 R. R. Henry**

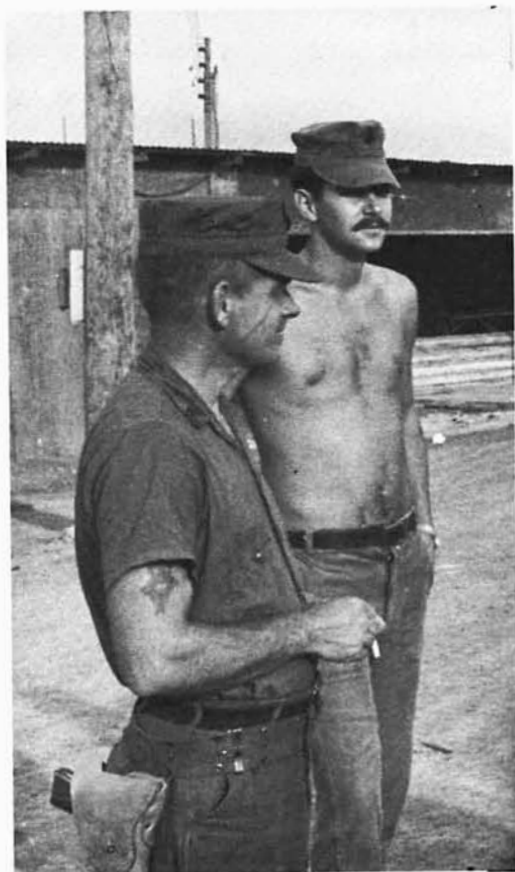


**PRE-CASTING YARD —
BU3 A. L. Fritz**

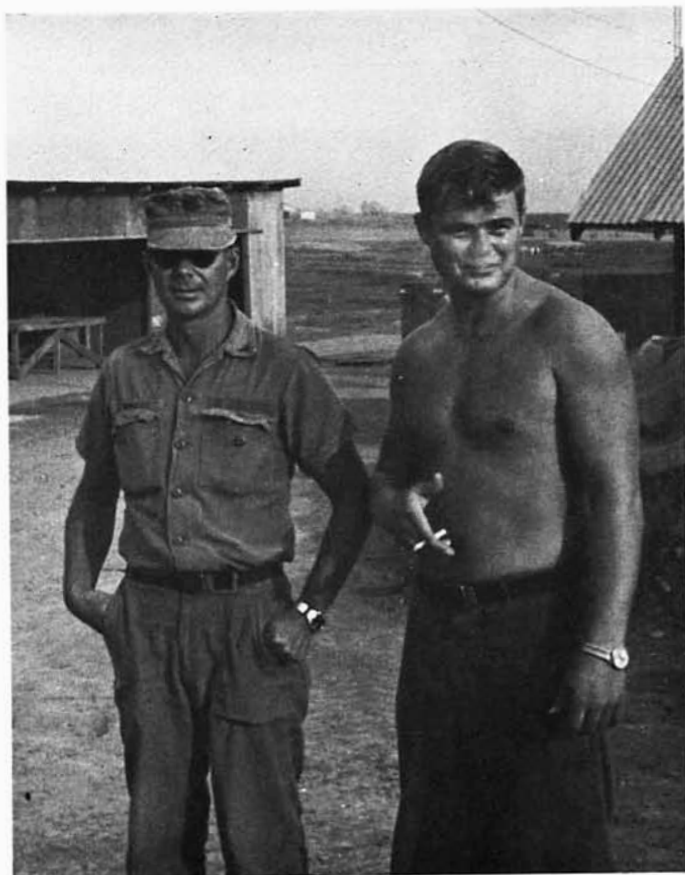


**PRE-CASTING YARD —
BU2 B. M. Hunsberger
and BU2 R. L. Iannucci**



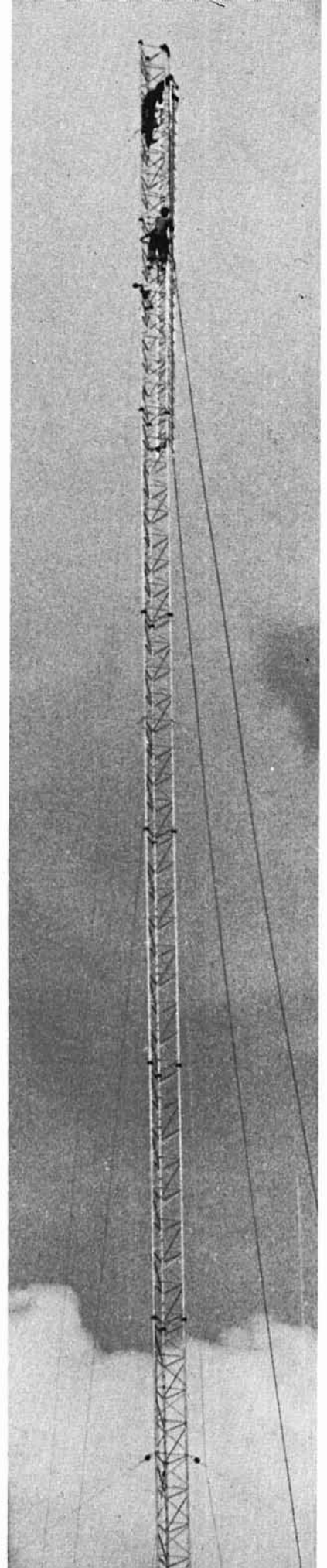
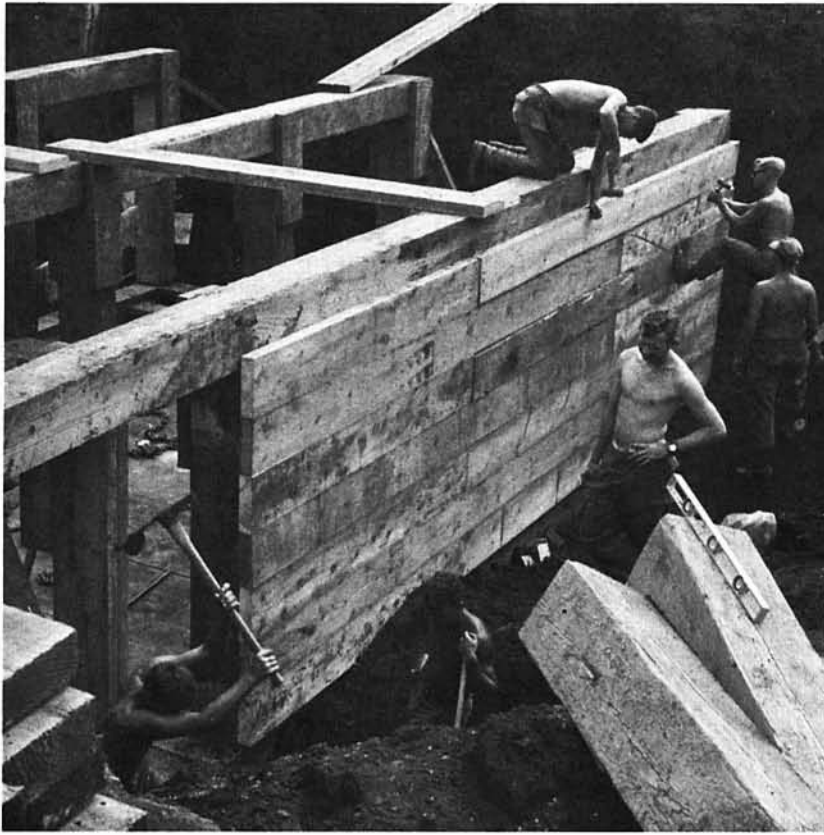


**RELAXING — BUC O. Riddle, BU2
L. A. Nelson.**



**CIGARETTE BREAK — BU2 M. D. Wright, BU3
Brown.**





CHARLIE COMPANY



"there is a difference"

SIMS SIGNS

bridges and culverts

MCB SEVEN widened, maintained or rebuilt 13 bridges and installed several thousand feet of corrugated metal culvert during our lengthy stay in the northern I Corps.

Enemy action, a mid-September typhoon and normal wear kept crews continuously busy on bridges of timber-steel construction.

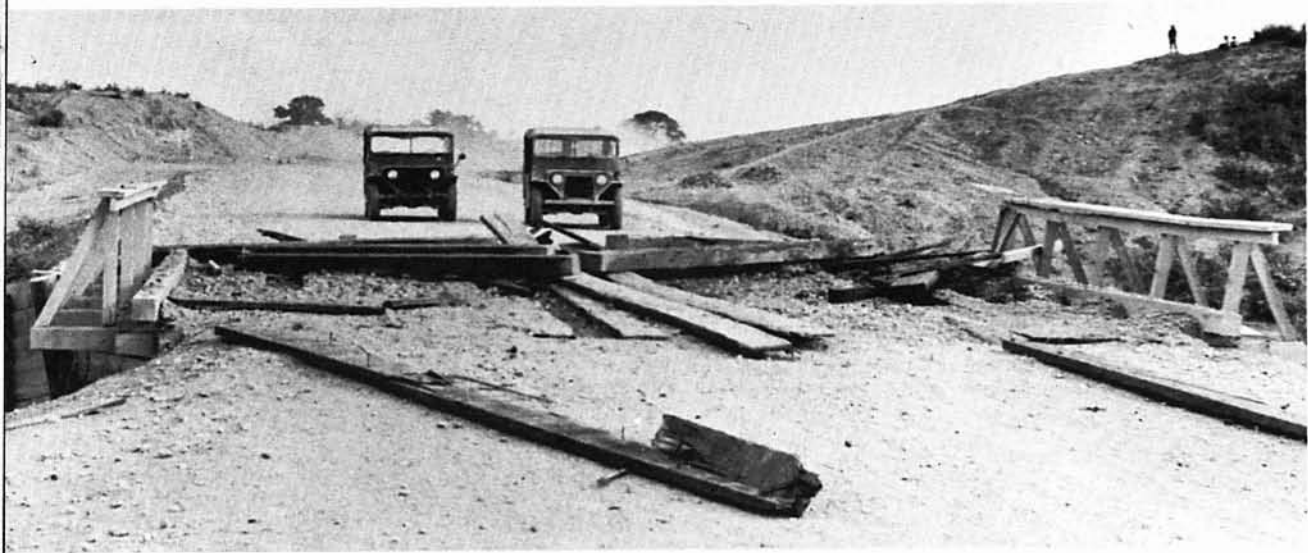
Bridges built ranged in size from 40 to 160 feet. The most noteworthy being Bridge 9-12 on Route Nine, approximately 15 miles west of Dong Ha.

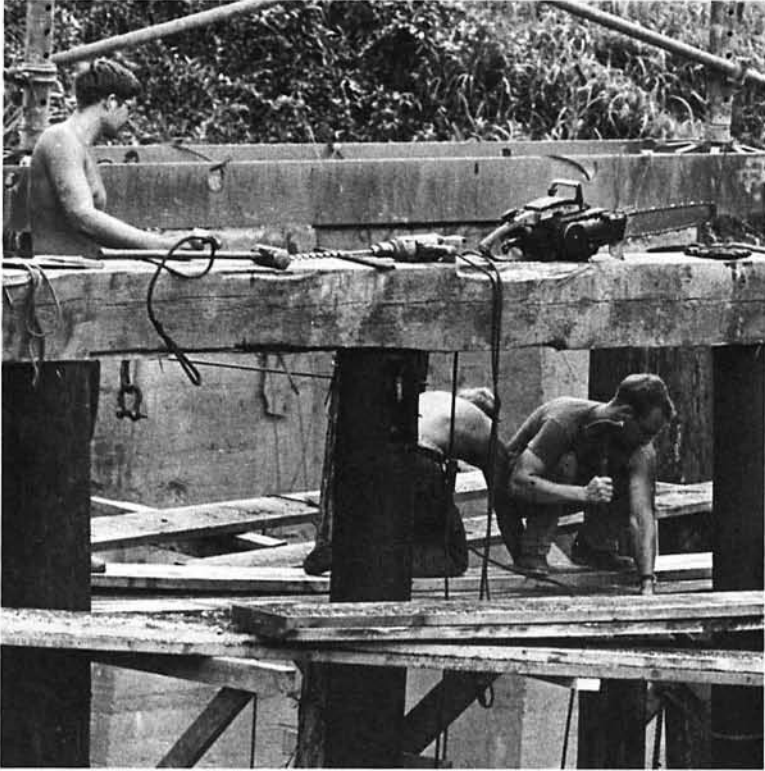
This 160 foot structure, which took SEVEN'S Seabees three months to complete, represents the fourth bridge erected at the narrow and vital pass at Khe Gio, and is presently the largest bridge along Route Nine.

In addition to bridge construction, crews were responsible for fabricating steel bolt culverts which were used along Routes One and Nine to prevent washouts.

















delta company

Throughout my tenure as Delta Company Commander, I have had the privilege of working with Seabees who considered no task too difficult and no goal unattainable. During our homeport period we represented SEVEN as its color company. This representation did not end in homeport.

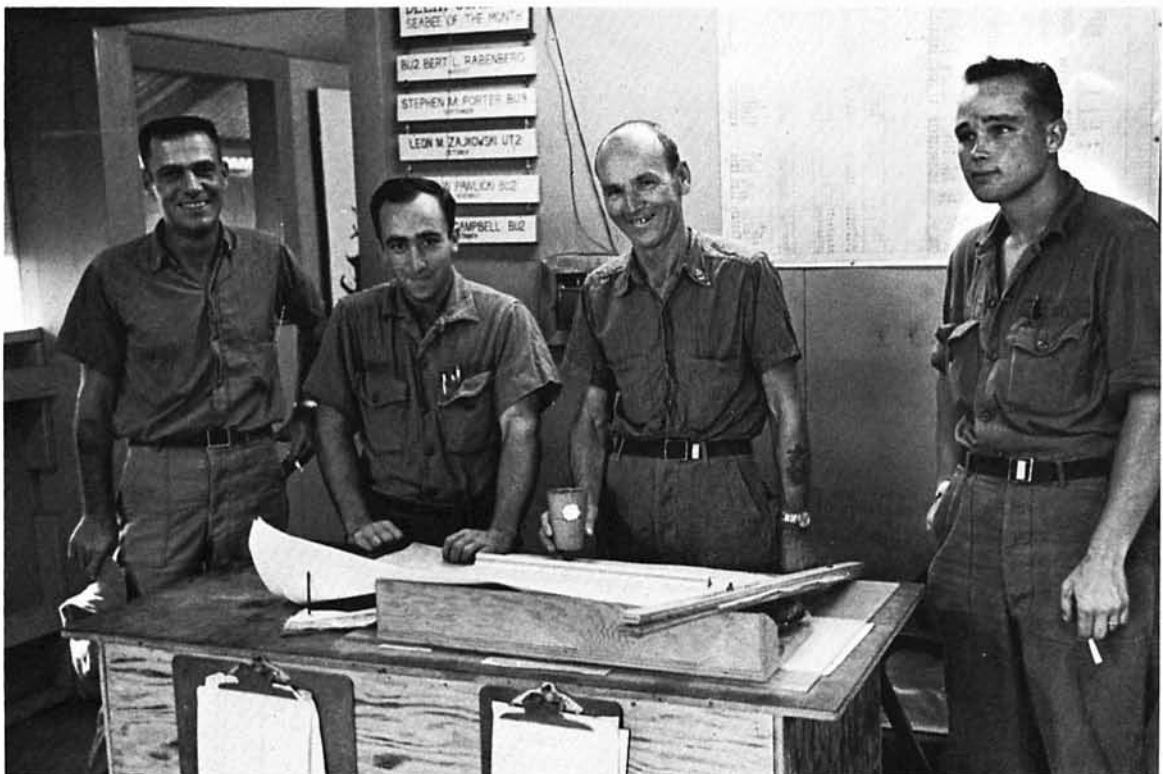
Throughout the deployment at Dong Ha, we undertook each task assigned us in the same manner that won the company its distinction of being SEVEN'S best. We supported elements of the THIRD Marine Division at remote fire bases scattered along the DMZ as well as other areas in the northern I Corps. The accomplishments and contributions of this company were far too numerous to mention here but they are every bit the result of and a part of the members of this construction company. This was a difficult and yet rewarding period. A period in which you, the men of Delta Company, gave unselfishly of yourselves to insure the successful completion of our mission.



COMPANY COMMANDER, RELIEVED —
Ltjg. J. H. Somes.



COMPANY COMMANDER, RELIEVING —
Ltjg. P. C. Sayers.



COMPANY OFFICE STAFF — SWC W. G. Bryzinski, SA G. S. Doucette, BUC P. F. Rourke, CECE C. A. Kalis.



**CARPENTER SHOP — BUCN G. A. Pizzuti, BU3 A. M. Murray, SW3 G. E. Hill, BUCA J. H. Faile
BU3 F. N. Clark, CA W. D. Martin.**



**OFF-LOADING DOCK — BU3 S. M. Porter,
SWCN G. D. Daniels, BU2 F. W. Pawlicki,
SWCA J. C. Tate, BU3 F. L. Maker, BU3 T.
Jackson, SW3 G. E. Schroeder, SW3 S. W.
Lappe.**



**BATCH PLANT — UT3 H. R. Shepard, CN J. R.
Langdale, UTCN J. G. Reed, BU2 J. E. Wilson.**



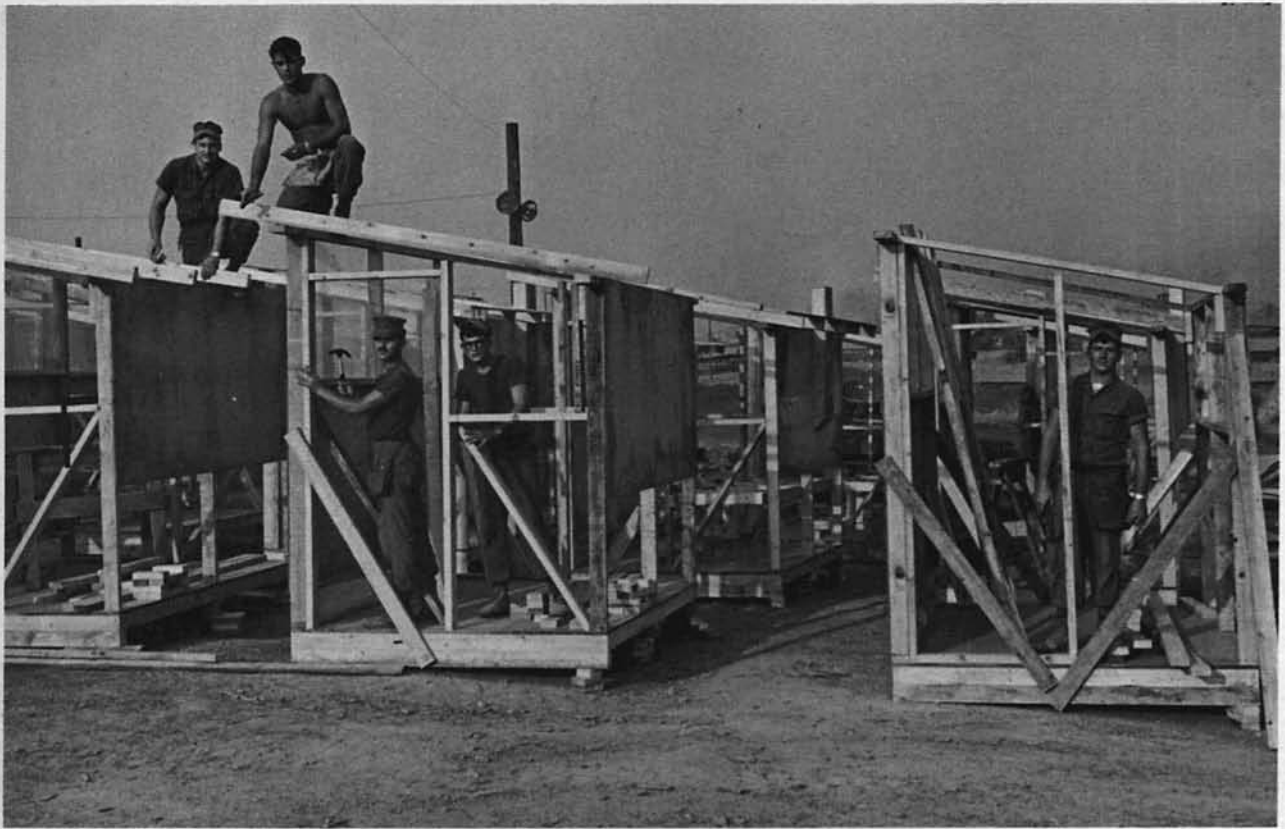
BATCH PLANT — SWCN R. H. Pitman, CN W. E. Leland.



BUILDERS, 2nd PLATOON — UT3 L. M. Zafkowski, BUCA J. H. Faile, BU3 A. M. Murray, BU3 F. N. Clark.



STEELWORKER'S SHOP — SW3 G. W. Lanoue, SW3 G. A. Mann, SW3 J. W. Hill.



BUILDERS, 1st PLATOON — BU3 J. A. Fisher, BUCN G. P. Johnston, CN V. M. Russo, BUCN L. S. Adams, CN G. R. Ketterman.



BUILDERS 2nd PLATOON — BU3 F. N. Clark, CECN C. A. Kalis, SW3 G. W. Lanoue, SW2 R. E. Warren.



BUILDERS 1st PLATOON — Front Row, BUCA P. R. Verbos, BU3 L. A. Pepin, BU3 D. L. Mertz, BU3 T. M. Conners. Back Row, SWCN R. R. Wilhoit, BUCN D. J. Padova, BU2 C. J. Campbell, BU3 M. F. Lopez.



1st PLATOON (CON THIEN) — BUC R. Baptiste, BU2 B. L. Rabenburg, BU1 D. A. Adkins, BUCN I. B. Hulme, SWCN R. D. Drudge, BU3 R. T. Pakulski, CA G. E. Brigham, BU3 N. K. Honaker, SWCN R. H. Quast.

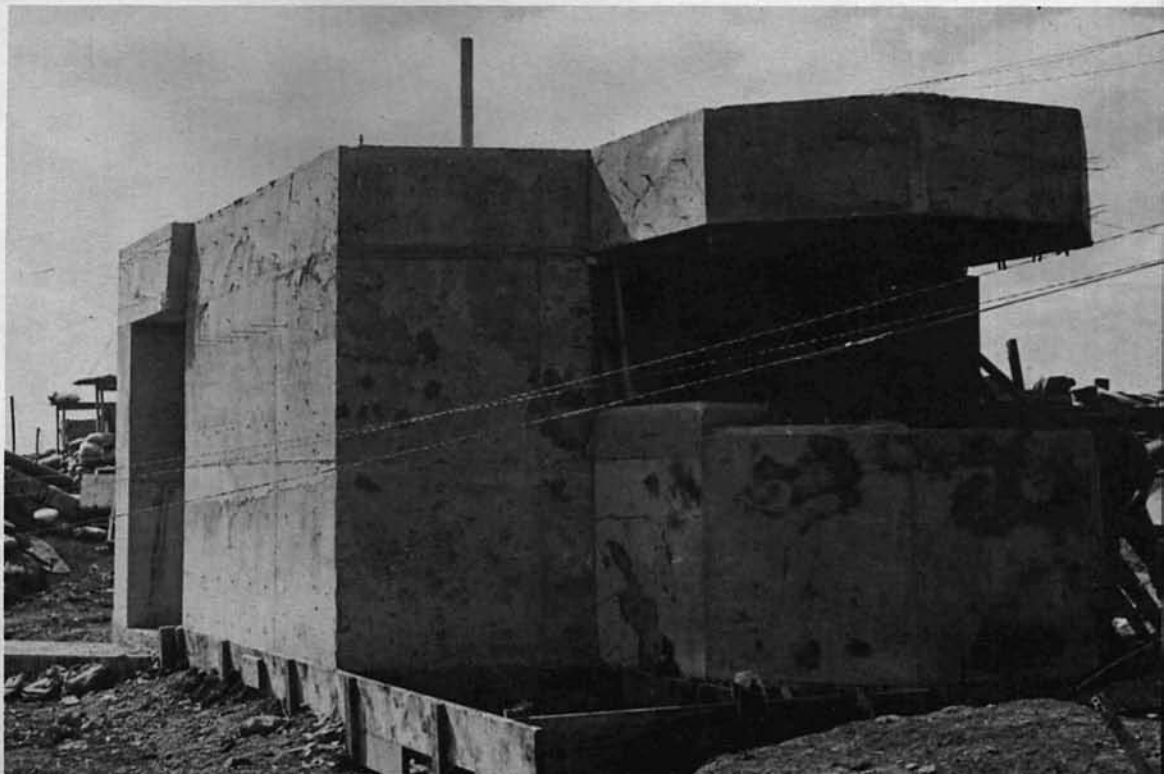


**FUEL FARM — SWCN R. D. Drudge, SW2 R. E. Warren,
SW3 J. W. Hill, SWCN L. P. Lejeune.**



**BUILDERS 2nd PLATOON — BUCN I. B. Hulme, CN G. R. Ketterman, CN J.
D. Atwood, CN J. E. Chapman, BUCN G. Lane.**





camp life

In the evenings, after long hours of blistering heat, dust, wind and rain, tools were laid aside and all but those on watch were free to pursue whatever recreation they desired.

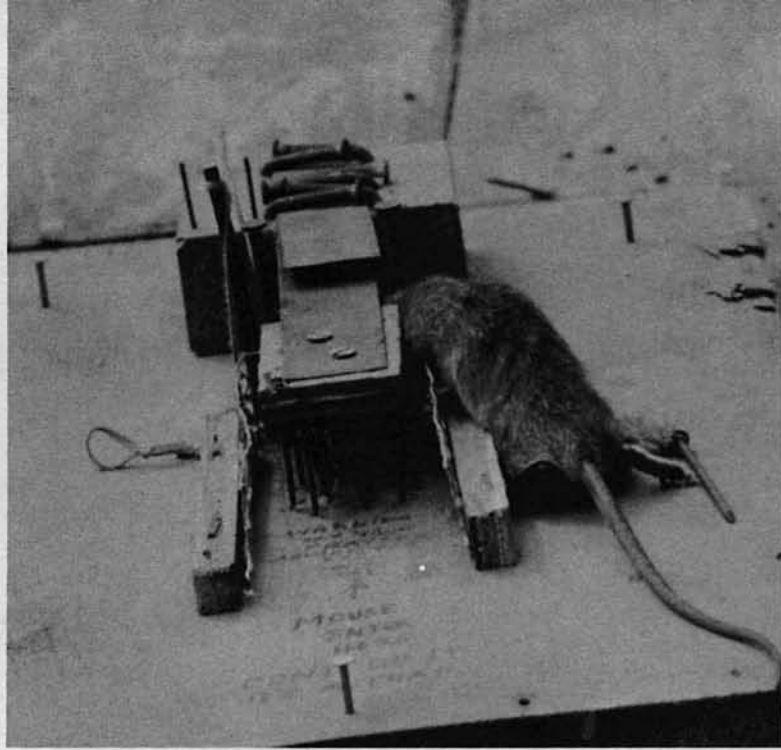
Whether it was intramural sports, cards, pool, lifting weights, reading, writing letters, watching television or a movie, or just a "quiet" evening at the club eating popcorn and sipping soda or "suds", the men of MCB SEVEN enjoyed their leisure time.

In addition to these "standard" recreational facilities, there were numerous special entertainment programs. USO Shows, special celebrations at Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Seabee's Anniversary, MCB SEVEN's birthday as well as several shows featuring battalion personnel offered much needed change in a tedious routine.

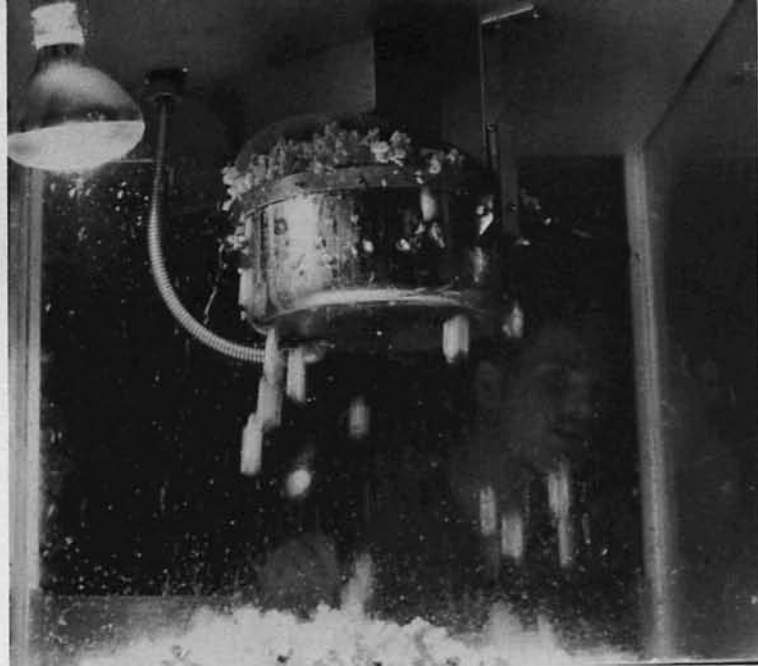
These many breaks in routine were planned and executed by the men of the battalion's Special Services Department — a department devoted fully to raising morale. Without these welcomed and anxiously awaited breaks, eight months along the DMZ would have been unbearable.

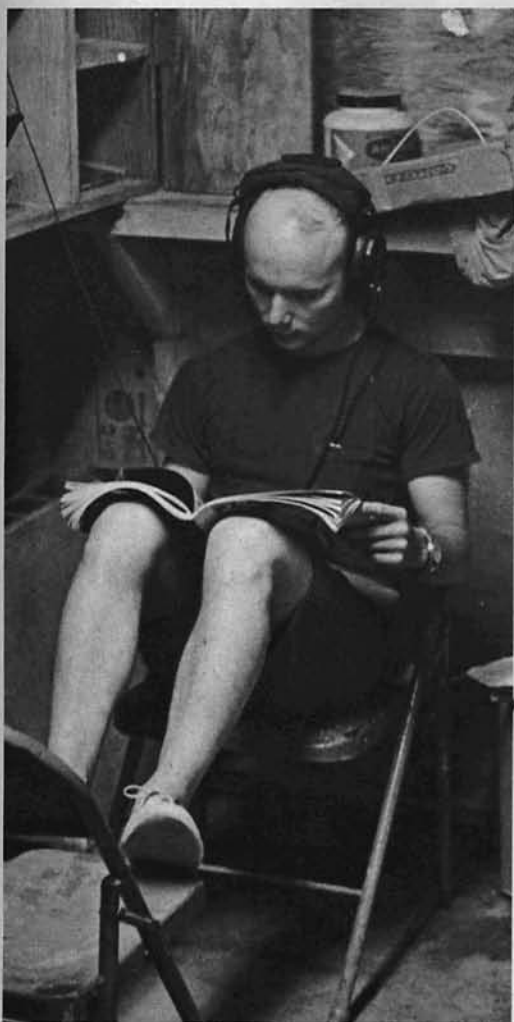














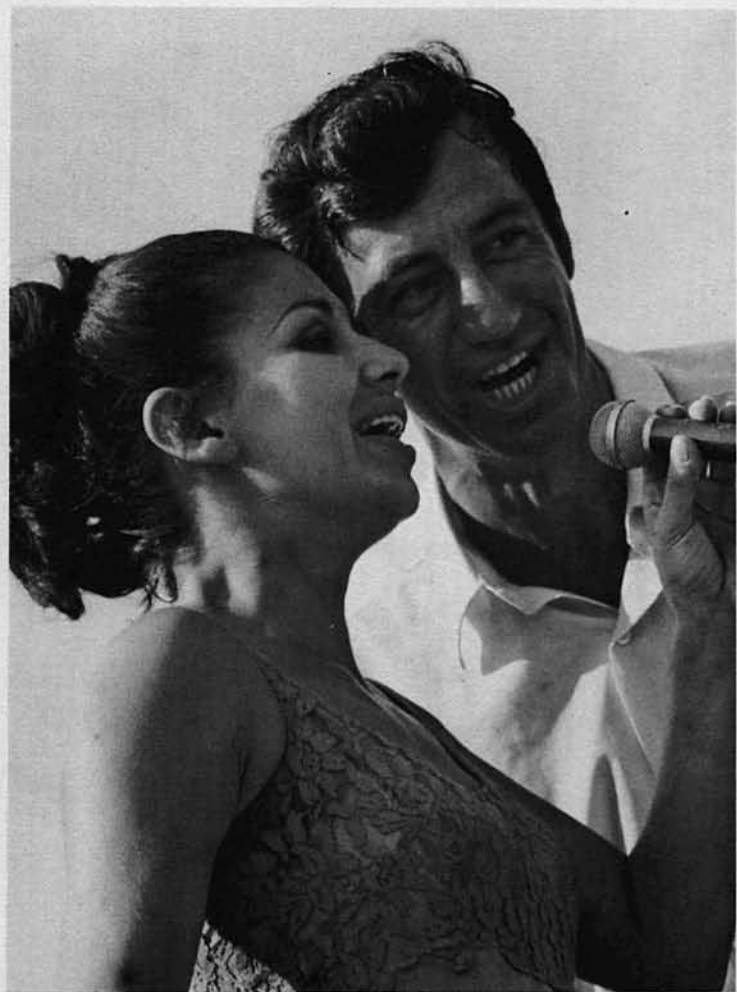














headquarters company

When recognizing the construction efforts of our battalion, justice dictates that we pay tribute to the men who provide the administrative and support capabilities which enable our construction efforts to progress. These men are not afforded the satisfaction of seeing a project completed, for theirs is a never ending job, one carried on behind the scenes, often void of glory. I am referring to the Administrative and Personnel people, the planning and readiness people, the operations people, the supply people, the medical and dental people and the civic action group.

It is to these men of Headquarters Company that this section is devoted. In recognition of the vital role they play in helping the battalion accomplish its mission and for the manner in which they carried it out.

I know I speak for each department head and staff officer when I say: "Headquarters Company, WELL DONE!"



DEMGARTEN
5725 1/2
WASH. D.C.

7 NEWS

REYNOLDS
STAMP &
STENCIL
WORKS

RELEASED

NO CREDIT



PERSONNEL — PN1 J. L. Ashcraft, PN3 M. J. Carpenter, ENS. T. L. Kippa, PN3 J. W. Dow, PN3 R. G. Scott.



PERSONNEL — SN W. L. Ogletree, SN A. Kornblum, YNSN A. D. Birnie.



ADMINISTRATION — YNC H. H. Williams, LTJG J. E. McDermott, YN3 S. F. Barmer, YN2 A. N. Donoho.



MASTER-AT-ARMS — BM3 S. A. Mapp, BMC M. Carter, BM3 L. R. Ubl.



CAREER COUNSELOR — UTC T. R. Kent.



SPECIAL SERVICES — YN3 W. R. Pease.



SPECIAL SERVICES — PC3 R. F. Ruxton, LTJG Swan.



CO'S YEOMAN — YN2 G. R. Moore.



**POST OFFICE — PC3 D. W. Smith,
SN M. I. Kaplan.**



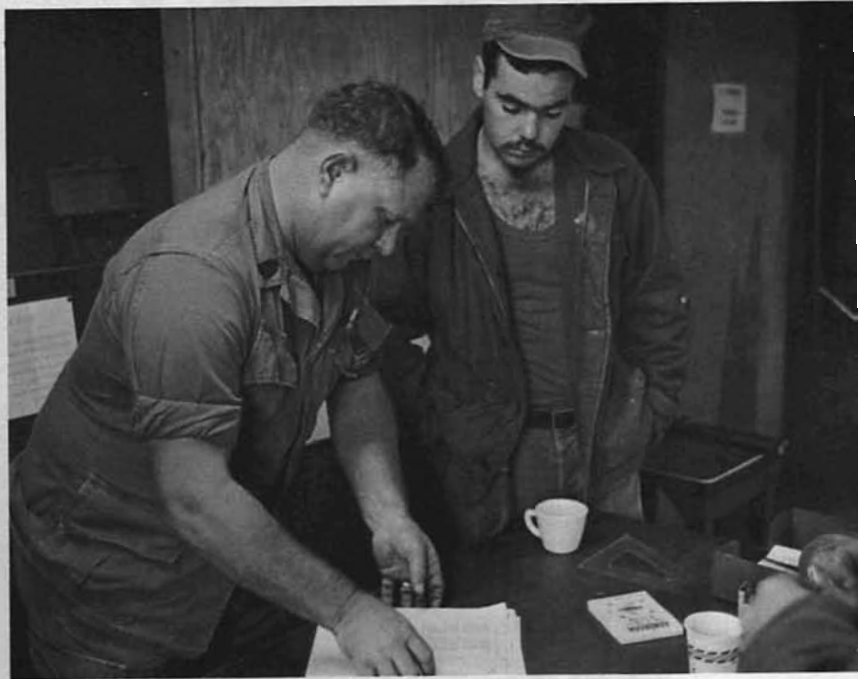
**EM CLUB — BU1 J. J. Fitzgerald,
SHB3 D. G. Marshall.**



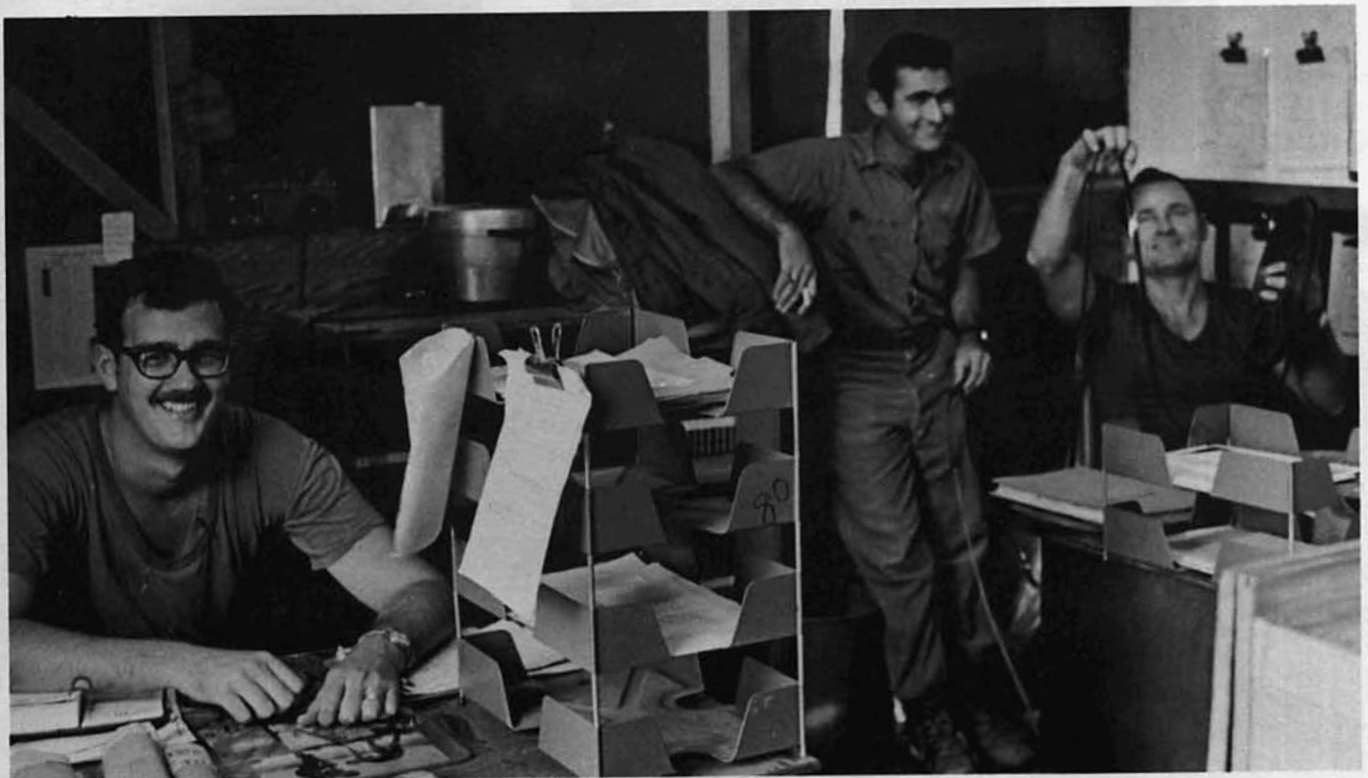
**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE — SN J. M. Coleman, JO3 J. R. Stevens, SN L. Crofwell, JO3
F. D. Barre.**



S-2 — LT C. D. Greene.



S-2 — G/SGT W. G. Stahl, SN R. C. Gilpin.



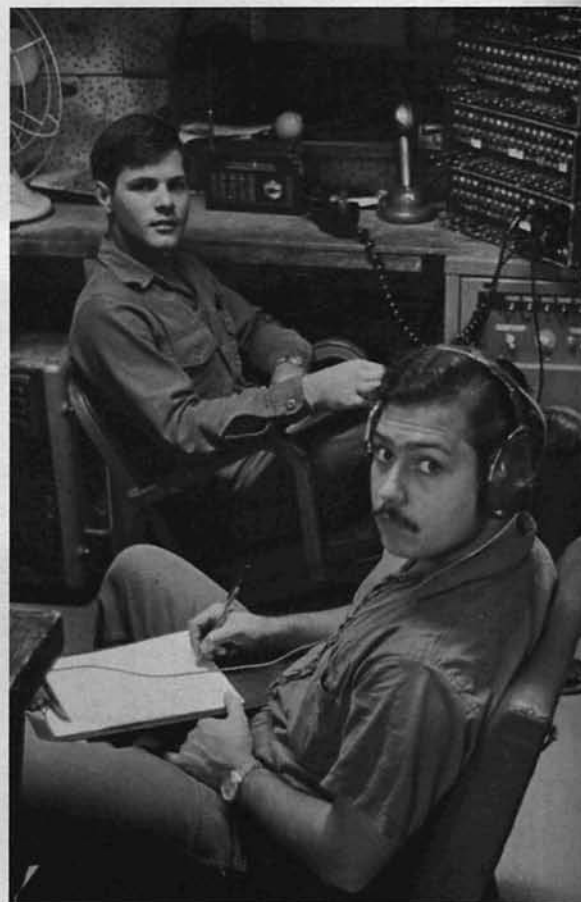
TRAINING — PN3 D. Markle, SN H. A. Stasio, EO2 M. N. Feller.



COMMUNICATORS — CE3 S. R. White, RM2 C. F. Adair, CE2 J. K. Harrison, CE1 G. E. Murphy.



COMMUNICATOR — CE3 E. J. Fox.



COMMUNICATORS — CECN J. J. Kearney, SN R. O. Bianco.

ET SHOP — CE3 T. F. Quick, CE3 T. F. Hooker, ETN2 D. W. Pagel.





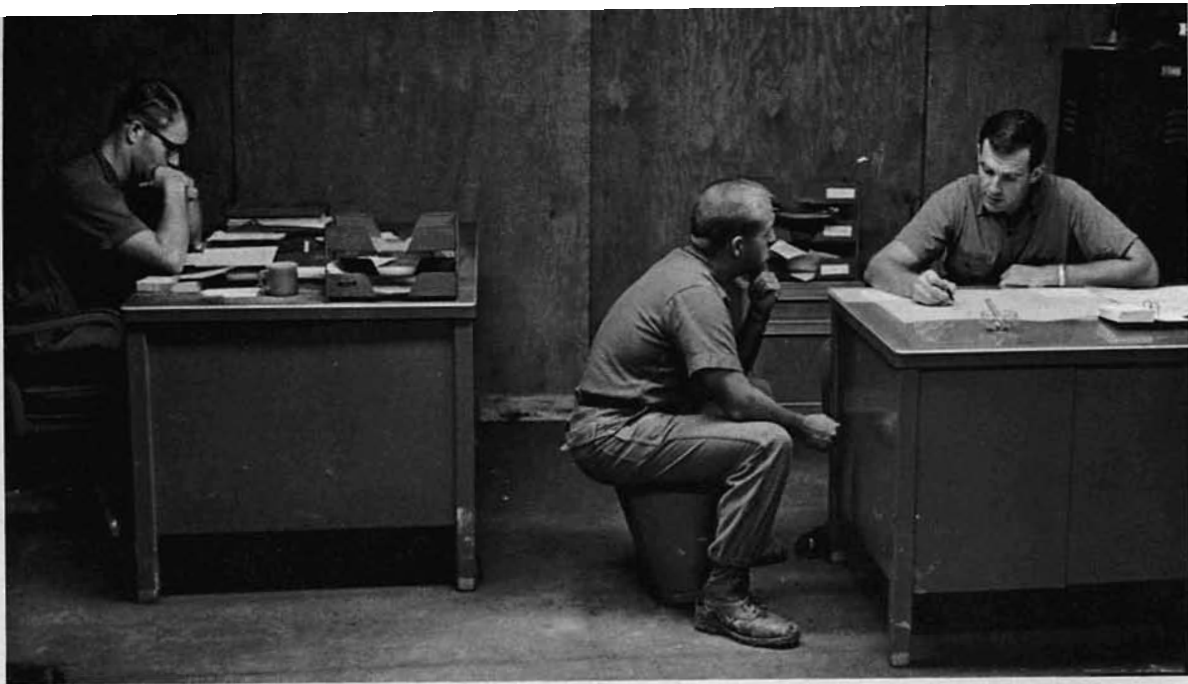
MARS STATION — CE2 P. J. Kreiger, ET2 T. R. Anderson, CE1 Dias.



ARMORY — GM1 Floyd.

ARMORY — GMG3 D. C. Hippe, GMG1 M. J. Barber, GMGSN J. H. Hoffman.





OPERATIONS — LTJG T. Dahl, LTJG Lynch, LCDR T. J. Heffernan



OPERATIONS — CUCM H. B. Alford Jr.



OPERATIONS — EA3 D. A. Rutkowski, YN3 R. N. Briggs, EA2 R. E. Constantino.



OPERATIONS — CECS J. A. Woods.



ENGINEERING — EA1 R. P. Breitenbach, EAC J. B. Buckler.



ENGINEERING — EA3 G. E. Howe, EA3 J. B. Gamble.



ENGINEERING — EA2 J. D. Moore, EA D. A. Trantham, EA3 G. E. Howe.



SOIL TESTING — EA2 D. E. Clopton.



MLO — E03 S. T. Trammel, E03 J. F. Clancy, BUC Calahan, LTJG Sayers, SN J. J. Breen, CEW2 L. N. Jackson, CECA T. M. Middleton Jr.



OPERATIONS — UT1 R. Anonuevo, CE2 C. A. Sprik.



SURVEYORS — Back Row - EA1 R. P. Breitenbach, EA3 J. J. Pfister, EA3 T. A. Willard, EACN J. L. Kasierski, EA3 R. A. Lemieux, EA3 D. R. Minniear, EAC J. B. Buckler. Front Row - EACN D. E. Chadburn, EA3 R. H. Harms, EACN L. J. Reilly, EA3 R. H. Mertz, EA2 B. T. Reeves, EACN J. F. Jensen.



SUPPLY — LCDR E. B. Underhill, LTJG V. L. Machunski, SKCS C. E. Siebott.



SUPPLY — SK3 A. C. Benner, CN C. T. Hannon, SK3 D. M. Settlemier, SK3 T. D. McCloskey, SK2 N. B. Rose.



DISBURSING — DK3 L. Sabella, DK2 W. L. Brewer, DK3 R. R. Pellum, DK1 C. H. Rosenbalm, DK1 Kubricky, DK3 G. A. Carlson.

**GALLEY — CN N. L. Connors, CSC
C. E. Delancy.**



**GALLEY — CS3 D. L.
Welch.**



GALLEY — CS2 H. M. Herr.



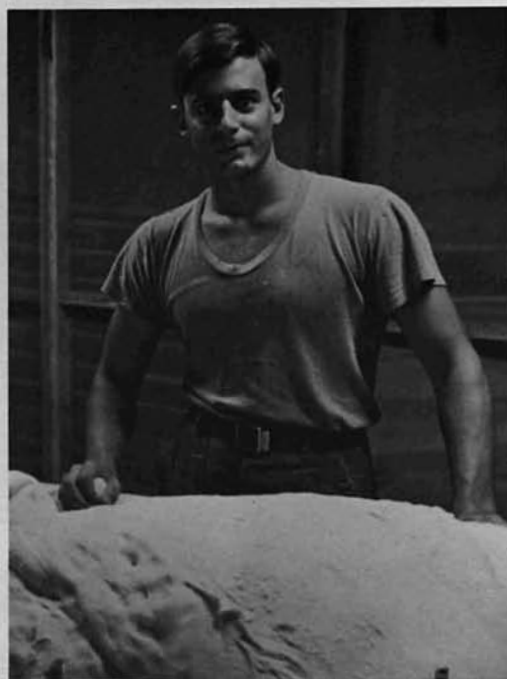
**GALLEY — CS1 R. D. Lawler, CS2
H. P. Eaton.**



**GALLEY — BU1 W. E. Singleton, CN
K. R. Wood.**



GALLEY — CN Nix J. G., CS2 S. L. Grim.



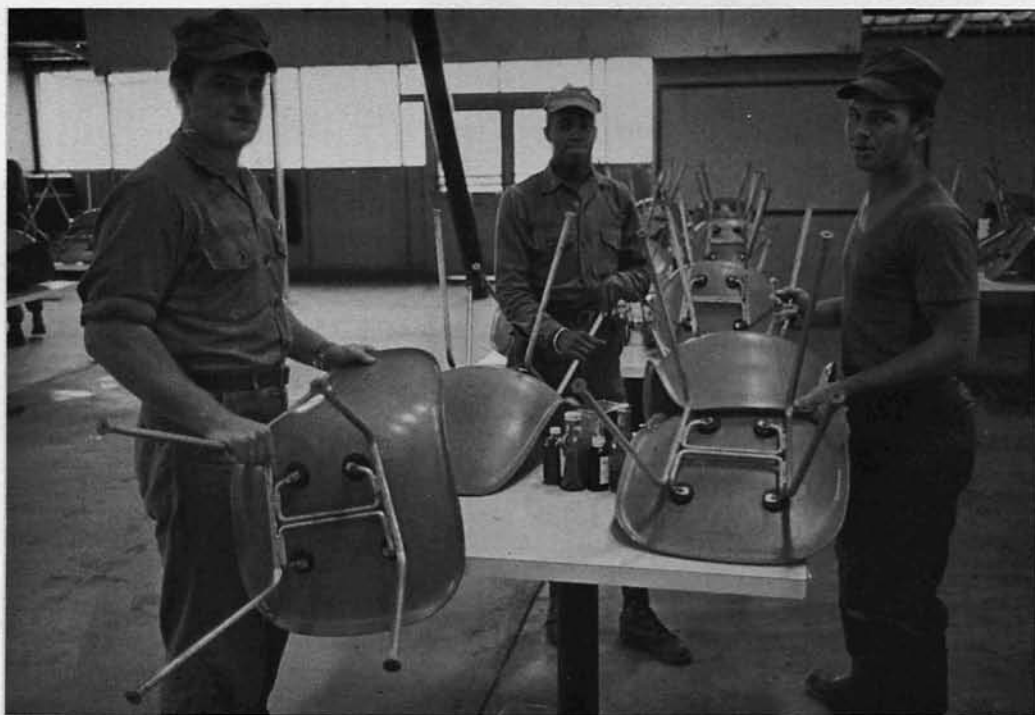
GALLEY — SN R. L. Peruso.



GALLEY — CS2 D. L. Hazen.



GALLEY — CN J. B. White, BUCN L. D. Smith, BUCN M. L. Glover.



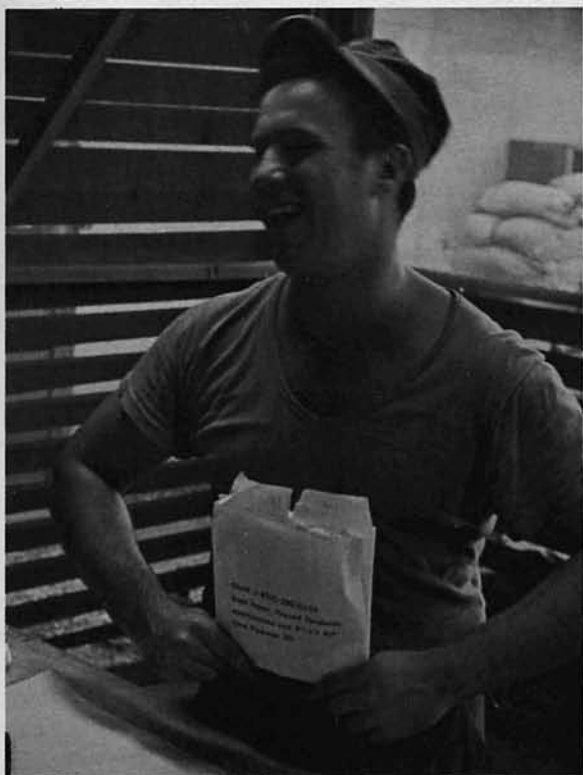
GALLEY — CN G. J. Sykora, CN McManus, CN B. G. Blakenship.



GALLEY — CN J. W. Keith.



GALLEY — CN T. L. Pfeifer.



GALLEY — CSSN E. A. Clemens.



GALLEY — SN G. W. Hammer.



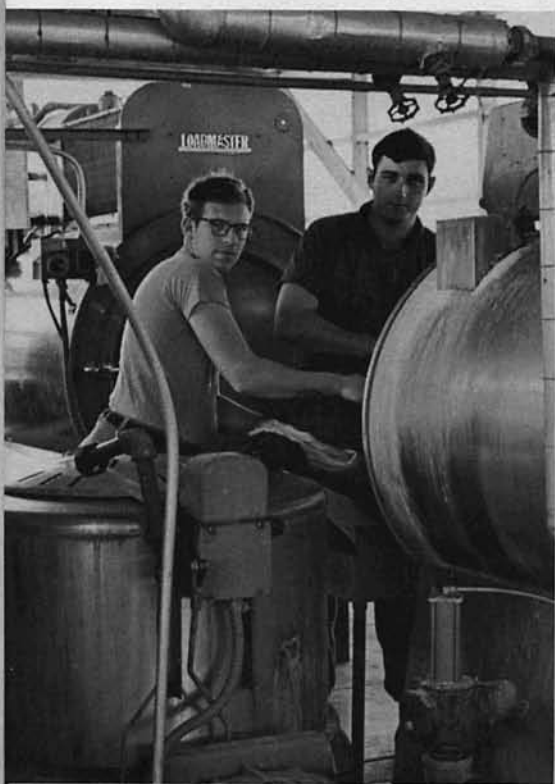
STEWARDS — SD3 S. T. Lardizaball, TN Raise, SD 3 W. E. Aquino, SD3 C. C. Alberto, SD2 Dial, SD1 W. B. Armstrong, SD2 Lawson, SD3 E. G. Govan, SD3 F. R. Deguzman.



BARBER SHOP — SN J. F. Lehane, SN D. G. Marshall.



GREENS ISSUE — SK2 P. J. Krieger.



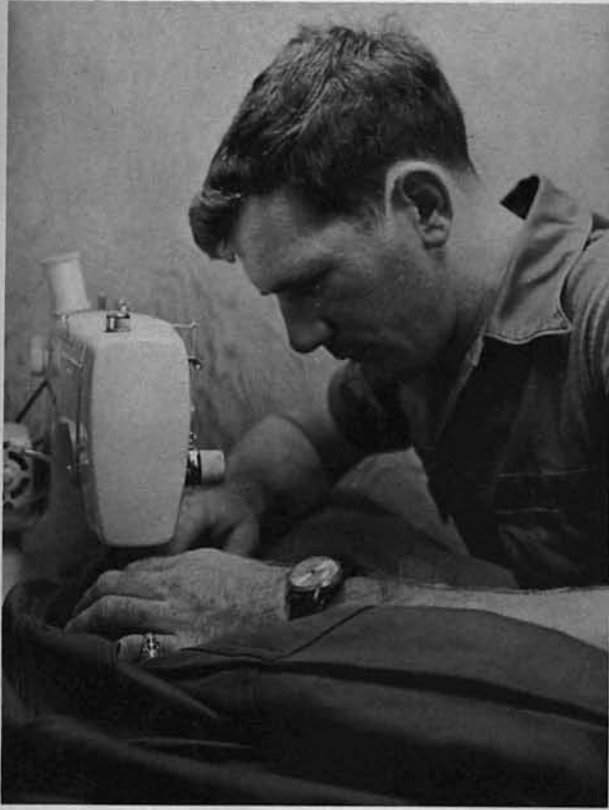
LAUNDRY — SHB3 A. J. Cutone, SN N. A. Cannon.



PARTS — SN R. T. Parker, CM3 R. G. Davis, CMCA J. M. Lorenz, SK1 R. D. Mast, CMCA R. C. Rumsey.



EXCHANGE — SH2 B. Booth.



TAILOR SHOP — EO3 J. A. Nalley.



EXCHANGE — SH2 A. Escobedo.



CTR — BUC Beaulieu, BU3 W. R. Horstmann, CE2 R. E. Jackson, SK3 K. G. Booth, SK1 E. D. Dybus, UTC Howarth, SK3 T. Wasik, SN D. R. Allison.



MEDICAL — LT J. J. Greco.



MEDICAL — HMC R. W. Davenport, HMC M. A. Arive.



MEDICAL — HM2 A. Villanueva, HN D. N. Godfrey, HM2 W. E. Sullivan.



DENTAL — DT3 J. N. Slay, DT2 A. Duran, LT M. R. Goldman.



MEDICAL — HM3 J. E. Bradley, HM3 C. L. Sykes, HM2 G. A. Carlson.

civic action

Civic Action is an integral part of a battalion's efforts during a deployment to Vietnam. During its last deployment, MCB SEVEN took an aggressive step in its Civic Action Program through the formation of the first permanent Civic Action Team from battalion personnel.

The team of six enlisted men, working under Chaplain J. P. O'Connor, the battalion's Civic Action Officer, and assisted by LT (jg) E. S. Grant, the program's architectural design and technical officer, sought a total involvement of the people and took an active role through teaching and advising the people.

Construction was not done for construction's sake alone. Chaplain O'Connor, working through Civil Affairs (G-5) arm of the Third Marine Division and the Vietnamese Government, met with district and local leaders to determine the needs of the people in a specific area.

With the needs of the people established, projects were constructed using functional designs integrated with the Vietnamese concept of art and beauty with respect to their natural surroundings.

Following these guide-lines, the Civic Action Team was responsible for the construction of the 240-pupil Vinh Dai School and the Dong Ha School, built with funds donated by the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, Third Marine Division in memory of the members of the 2nd Regiment, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, who fought alongside the Marines at the battle of Dai Do in May 1968. In addition, the team supervised the renovation of a 28-bed in-patient hospital complex at Dong Ha and initiated the establishment of a dispensary at the village of Trung Gian in the Cam Lo Refugee Village Complex.

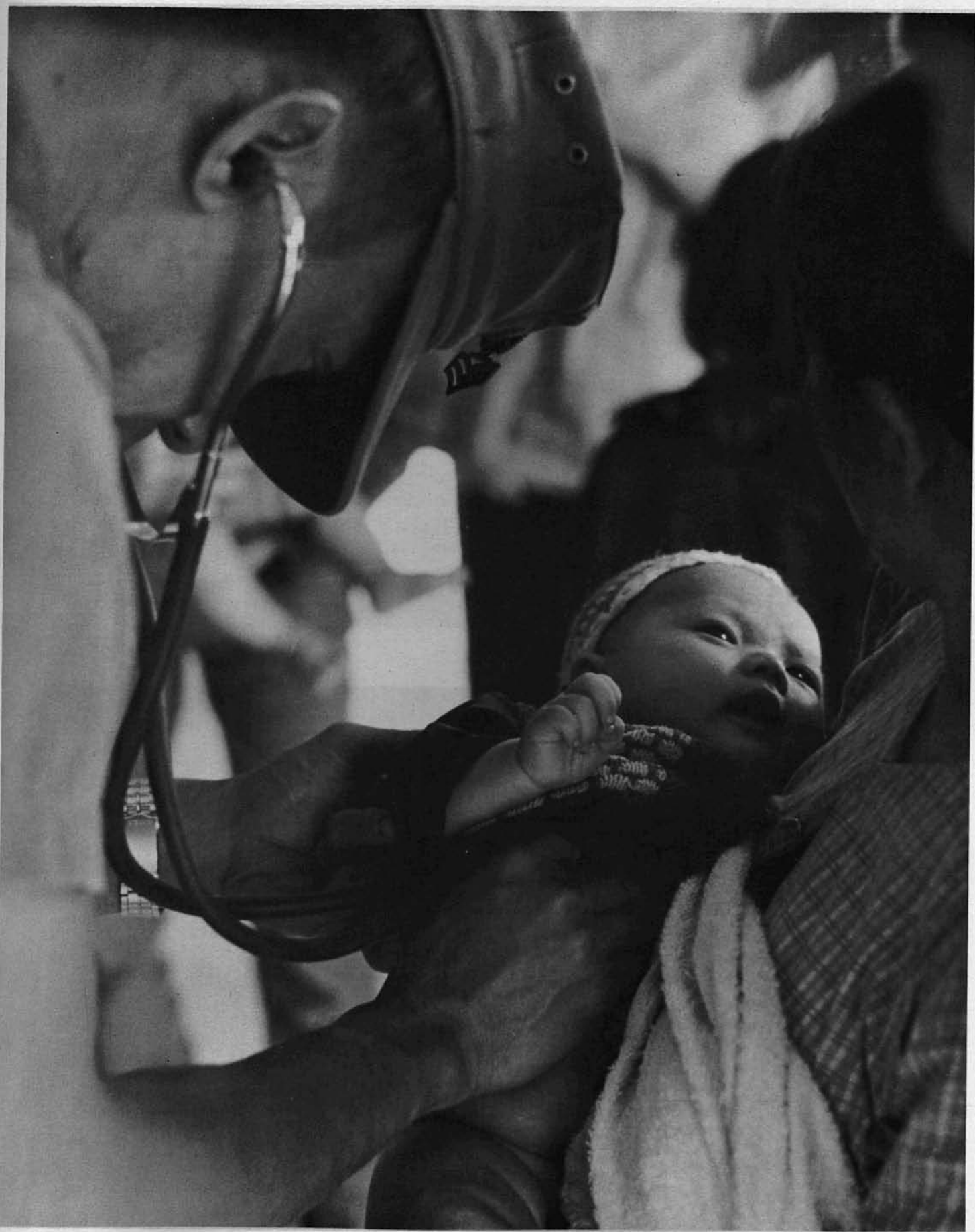
In addition to the medical construction, MCB SEVEN undertook an extensive Medical Civic Action Program (MEDCAP) that saw the treatment of over 1,000 Vietnamese by our Medical Officer LT J. J. Greco and the battalion's corpsmen.

During the latter portion of our deployment, the Civic Action Team gave technical advice and assistance in repairing six high-volume irrigation pumps that will support 10,000 farmers forced by the war to leave their homes and fields.

Civic Action efforts also included technical and material aid to other sites. Local artisans were encouraged to utilize and develop their skills. A brick factory and two furniture factories that were a direct result of the battalion's Civic Action Program employed many local people.

Through this aggressive program, MCB SEVEN did a great deal toward revitalizing the economic, agricultural, technological and educational potential of a war-torn area filled with idle, displaced persons. The program's success was self-evident.







CIVIC ACTION TEAM — SN D. J. Pybus, BUC E. G. Lostutter, BU3 D. F. Lamanque, ENS E. S. Grant, BU3 D. E. Byers, LT J. O'Connor, CE3 J. R. Leik, BU3 R. C. Wyatt.







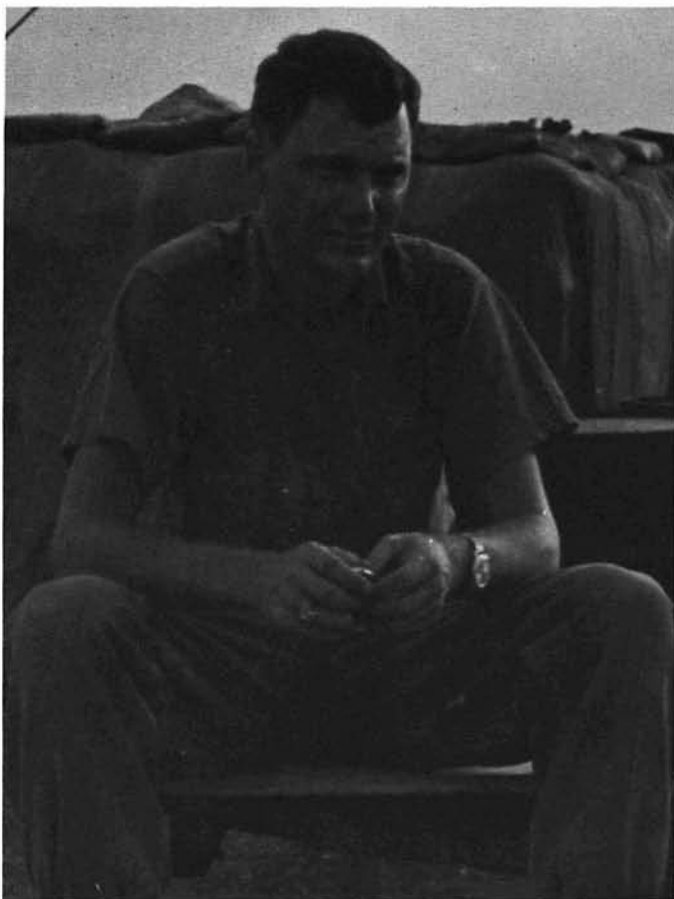


sierra company

For approximately 277 days and nights, SECURITY Company maintained a constant watch on their assigned section of the perimeter on the southern border of the Dong Ha Forward Combat Base, and ultimately, Camp Barnes. The evolutions that required correction or improvements are now part of our education through experience. Our many undertakings, completed in a highly professional manner, are now memories that can never be taken away from any of the men of SECURITY Company. The members of this company excelled; they are worthy of the Seabee's "Well Done." "We hacked it!"







COMPANY COMMANDER — Ltjg. L. E. Townley.



PETTY OFFICER IN CHARGE — BM1 W. J. Dorn.



**CLEANING WEAPONS — SWCA C. S. Page, BU3
E. J. Trombley, BU3 Mitchell.**





CHECKING THE MINES — SN H. W. Smith





BRIEFING — Left: R. C. Skeates, VonGruenegan, EO3 N. L. Sapia, BU3 E. J. Trombly, UT3 J. H. Robinson, SWCN D. D. Cooper.



FILLING SANDBAGS — EOCA G. L. Foster SN H. W. Smith, EACN G. L. Snyder, CMCN W. G. Mundine, EOEN E. L. Flinn.

faces of vietnam

Basically, people are the same the world over whether they are Americans, Europeans, Indians, Arabs, Africans or Vietnamese. Men and women work while children laugh and play games that all children play with minor variations. Each people has its society, religion, fun and problems; all similar, yet each in some way completely unique.

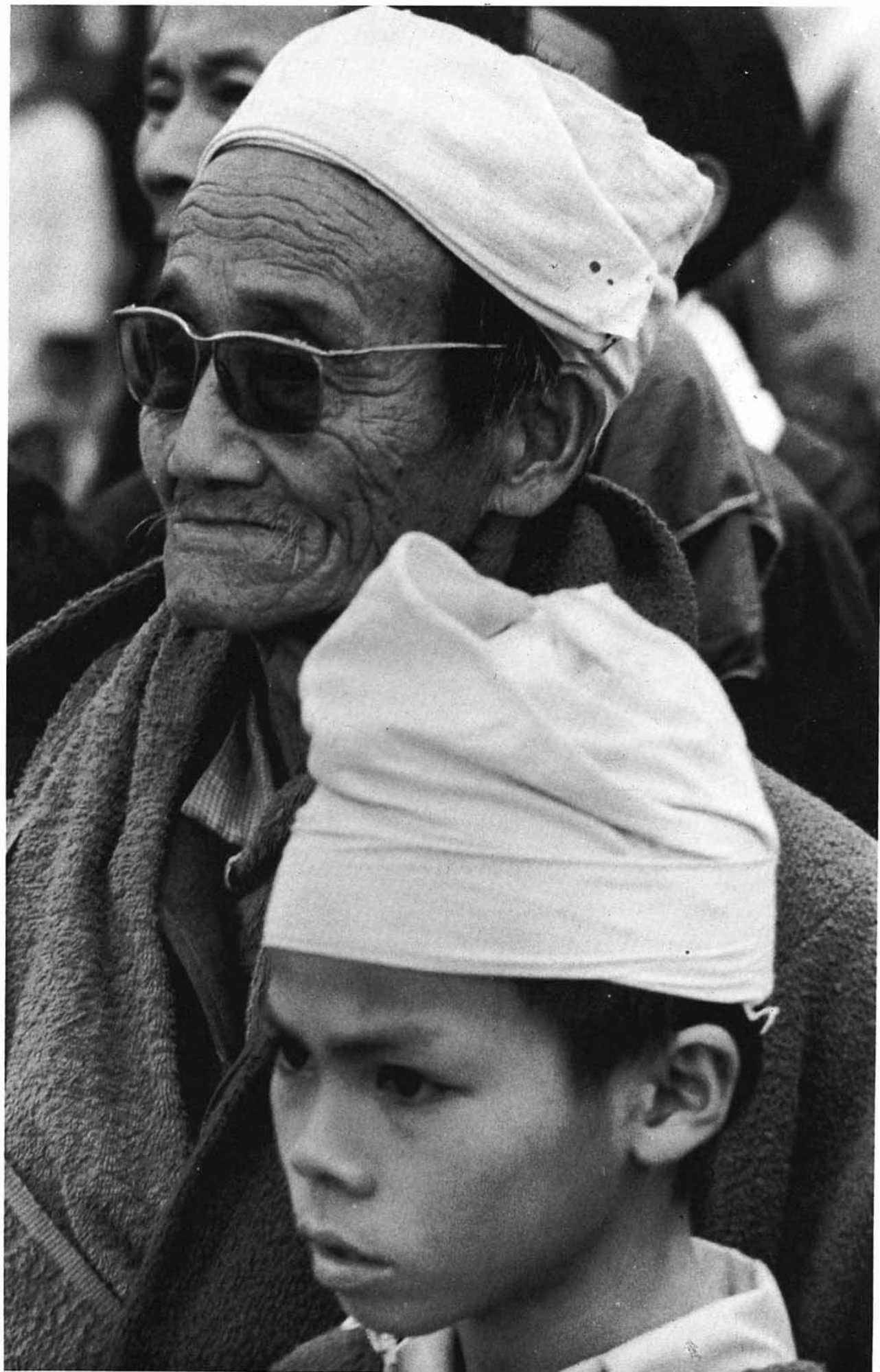
The uniqueness in Vietnam stems from the seemingly total acclimation of the people to war. For centuries, Vietnam has been in a turmoil of physical violence and yet, the natives, the Vietnamese, have remained basically unaffected. The years of war seem to have inoculated them against emotional reaction to combat. To them, the war seems to be no more of an inconvenience than rush-hour traffic in America.

The following section of photographs is an attempt to describe a small cross section of the people, their work and their play, in the Dong Ha area. It is by no means a complete picture of the situation there, but will suffice to give the viewer at least a glimpse of a small portion of the Face of Vietnam.

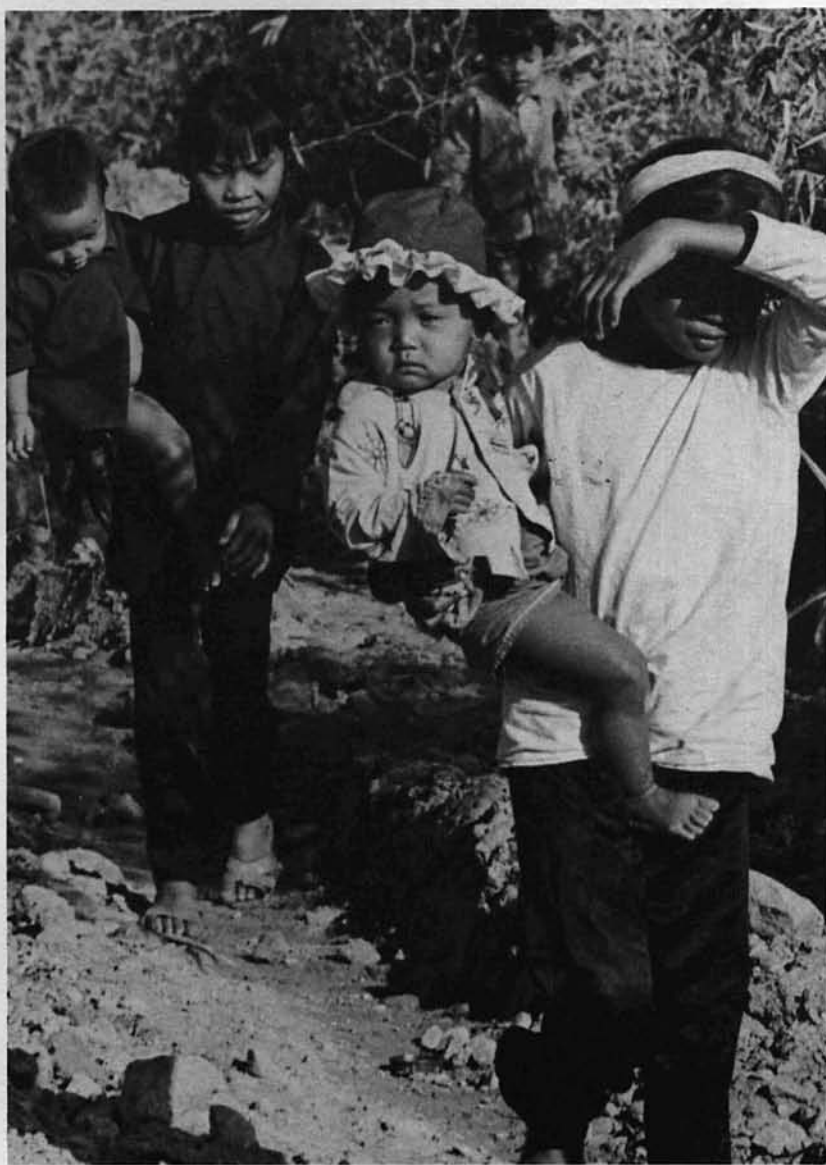




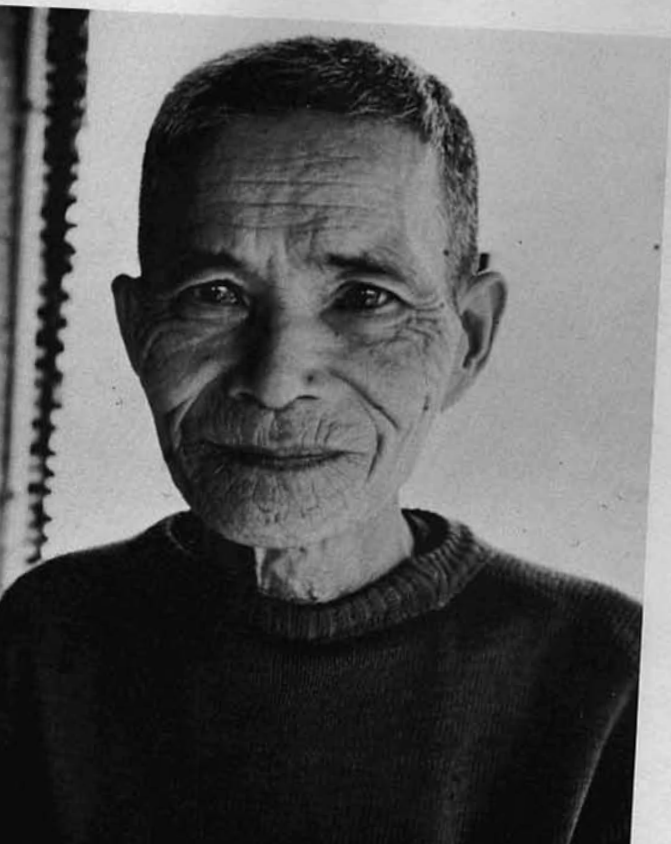


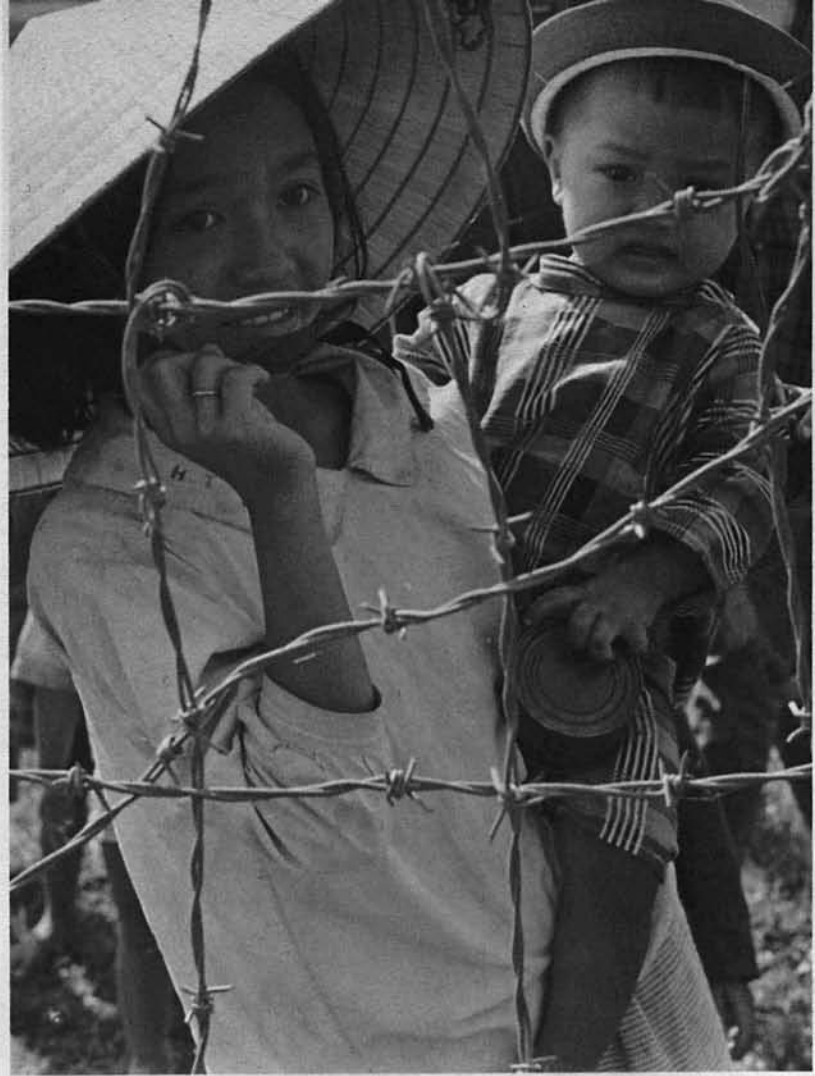


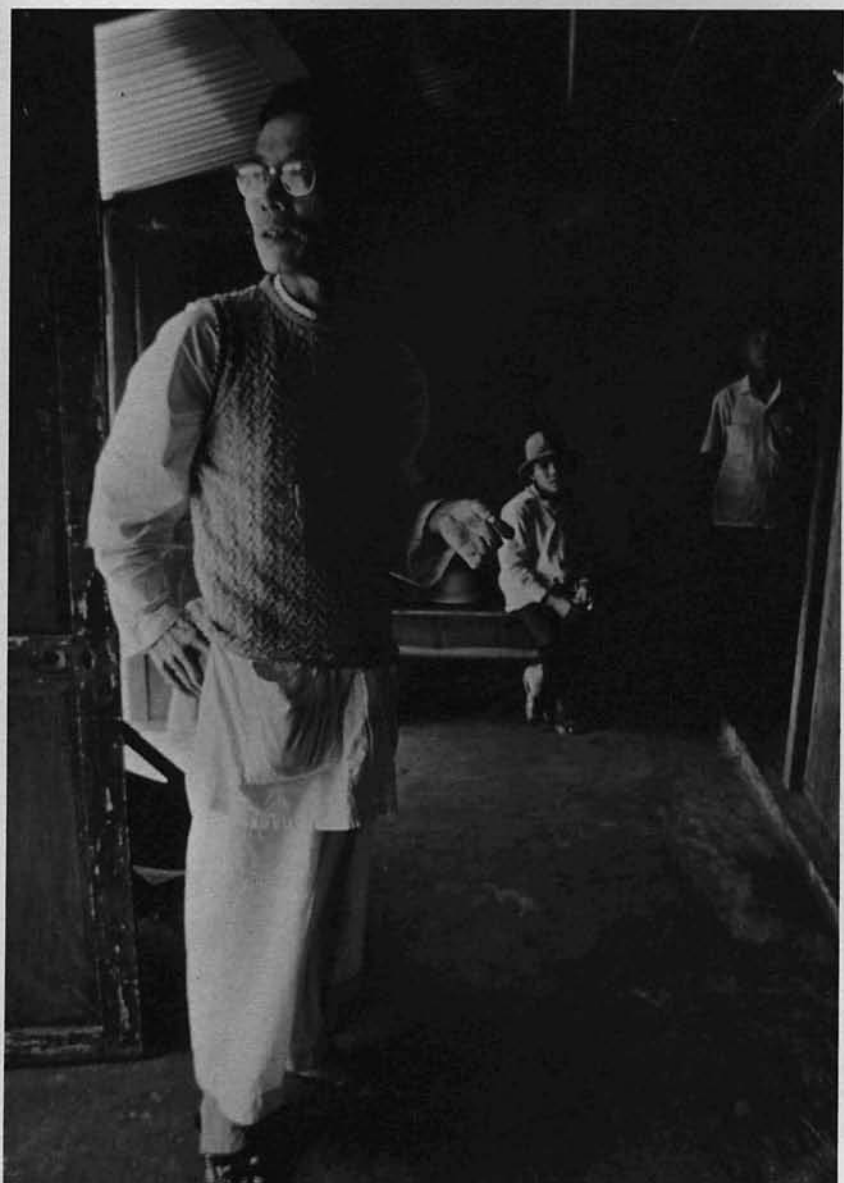






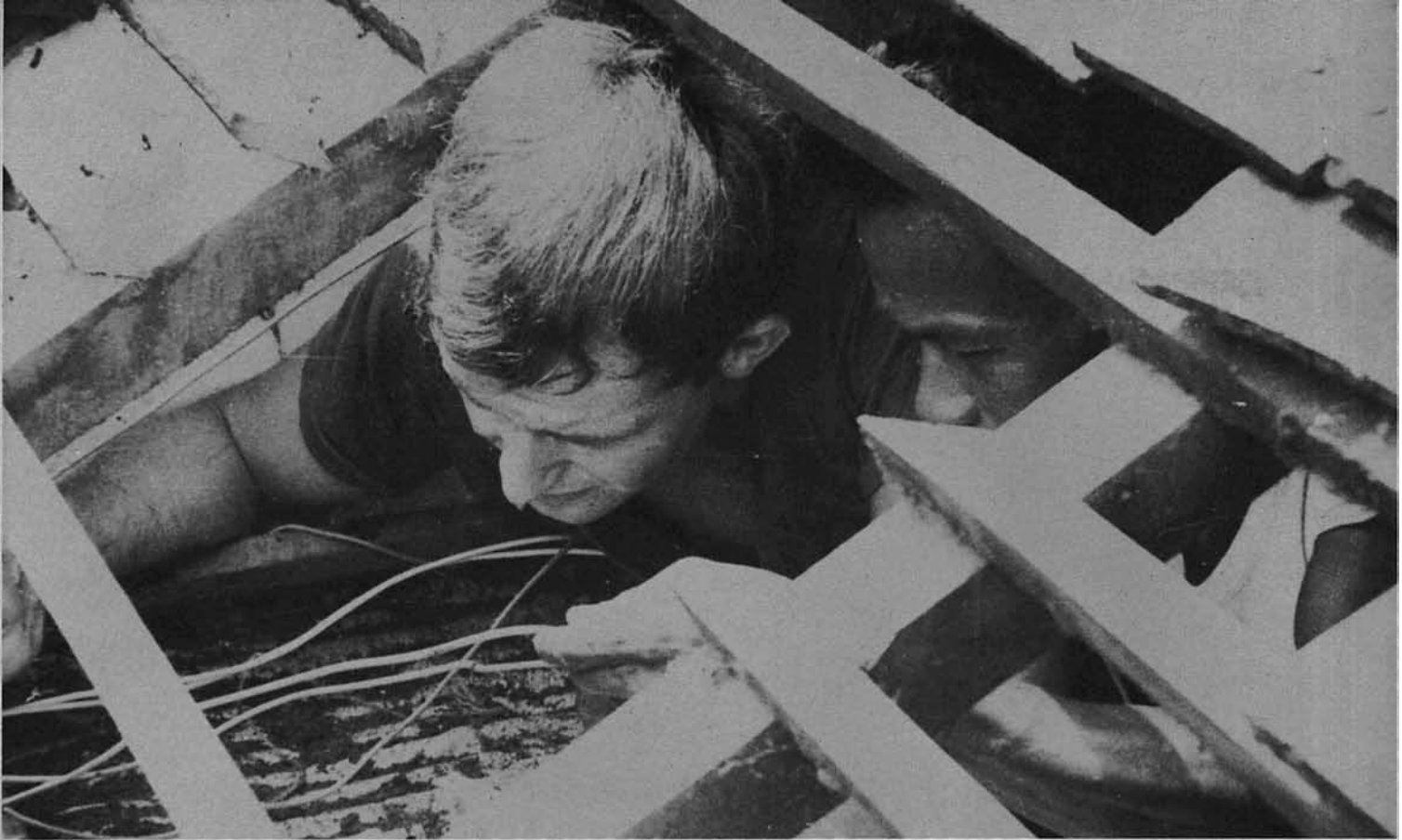










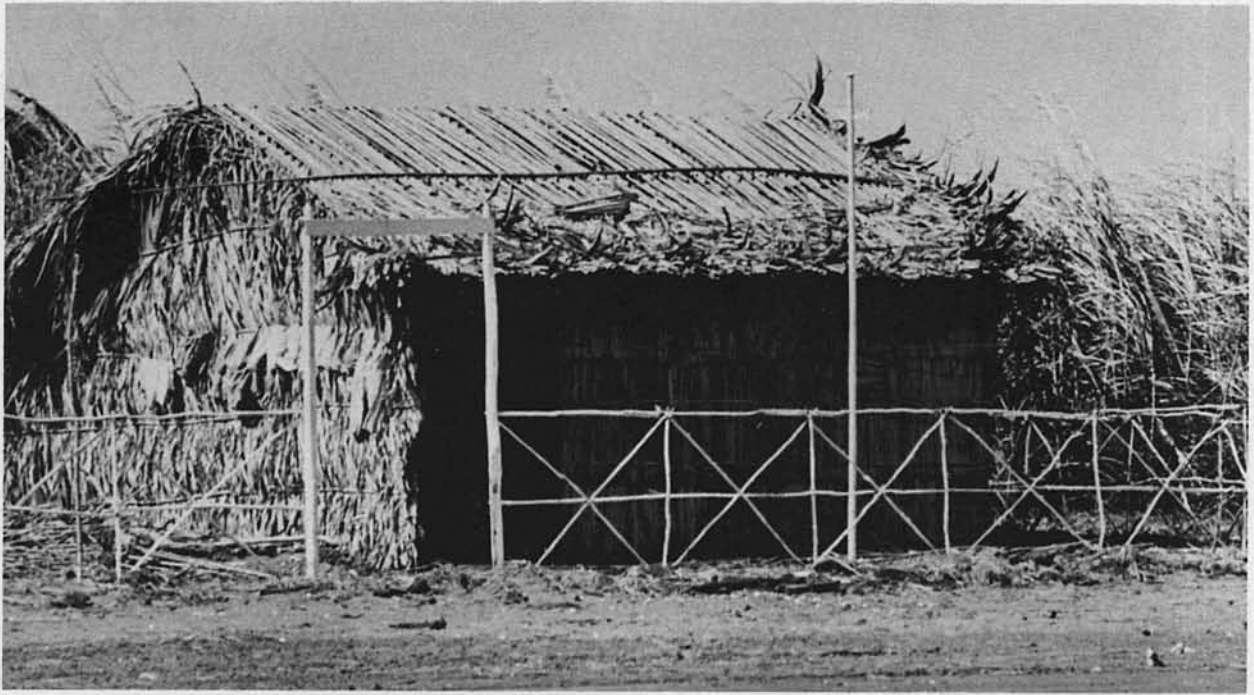


seabee team 0703 soc trang





SEABEE TEAM 0703 — Top: Ltjg. Szczesny, OIC, CEC W. H. Moore, CM1 Brick, SW2 C. R. Hilton, HM1 C. W. Johnson, BU2 D. L. Argall, CE2 R. E. Forsht, EA2 L. D. Fitzgerald. Bottom: CM2 F. J. Fink, EO2 M. McConkey, UT2 J. J. Miller, EO2 Marquart, BU2 J. M. Jones.



seabee team 0704 go cong

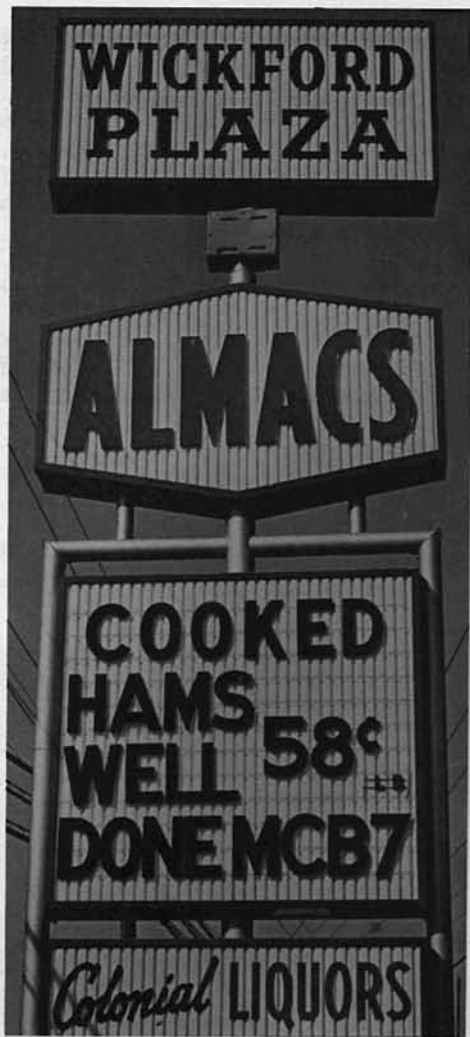


SEABEE TEAM 0704 — Top: Ltjg. G. C. Reinhardt, OIC, HM1 K. L. Wells, EO2 G. C. Ulery, EA3 C. E. Bright, BU2 F. Hopwood, SWC P. Penny. Bottom: SW2 D. E. Kurzhals, CM3 R. D. Tanner, CM2 W. H. Morgan, BU2 E. L. Davidson, EO3 K. Swereddoski, UT3 J. R. Bourgoin.





WELCOME HOME — Left: Capt. C. C. Heid, CDR. J. C. Rickels, P. E. Kettell, President of the Town Council of North Kingstown, Capt. D. G. Iselin, LCDR M. Hopper.



- 20 Jul 68** Sector II command assumed by Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN.
- 1730** MCB SEVEN road crew received small arms fire while clearing brush for Rt. 9 upgrade. No casualties, contact broken.
- 22 Jul 68
2010** Bunker 22 reported .50 cal. fire coming from his one o'clock position. Approximate range 2500-3000 meters. No casualties.
- 30 Jul 68
0010** Movement observed in front of position one. Fired one round illumination. Negative results.
- 0147** Five personnel observed outside gate by bunkers 10 and 11. Fired nine rounds illumination. Engaged with M-79. Received seven minutes artillery illumination. Results unknown.
- 1230** Road crew, Rt. 9, received three rounds RPG fire. Requested air support, searched area with negative results. No casualties or damage.
- 7 Aug 68
1630** Received eight rounds 130mm artillery. Hut B-1 took a direct hit. Hut destroyed by blast and fire. 3US/WIA/Minor, several huts sustained shrapnel damage.



- 1900** Received approximately eight rounds 130mm artillery in the Dong Ha Combat Base. No casualties in Camp Barnes.
- 8 Aug 68
2213** Set condition blue. Incoming mortars. Tower 83 reports muzzle flashes 3285 mills at three kms near base of mountain. Counter battery fire requested by Tower 83. Rounds reported impacting well forward of perimeter.
- 9 Aug 68
2232** Received incoming artillery. Set condition blue, notified Base Defense. Tower 83 observed active artillery position at 2550 and 2540 mills, range eight kms. Requested counter battery, air support.
- 2252** Rounds still coming in, mostly impacting in ASP causing secondary explosions.
- 2345** Estimated 50 rounds impacted in the Camp Barnes/Sector II area. No significant damage.
- 14 Aug 68
0010** Received one incoming grenade vicinity bunker 12. Under flare illumination, observed three enemy in wire. Engaged 32 rounds small arms fire and two rounds illumination. Action completed 0050. No casualties or significant damage.

22 Aug 68
1500

Detail Alpha One, in vicinity of Ca Lu, reported that a dozer that was stripping a hillside area hit an unknown type explosive device. No casualties or equipment damage.

26 Aug 68
1717

Received incoming 130mm artillery from northwest. Set condition blue, 55 rounds impacted in Dong Ha Combat Base area. Approximately 30 rounds impacted in Camp Barnes/Sector II area. 2US/KIA, 1US/WIA/EVAC, 3US/WIA/Minor and 1US/WIA/Minor (USMC). Potable water tank sustained direct hit. Six power and communication lines severed by shrapnel. Secured from condition blue 2030.

1 Sep 68
1425

Five 1-1 ton dump truck hit mine on Rt. 1. No personnel casualties. Truck sustained extensive damage to front end.



1500

While engaged in electrical construction at Con Thien, three "B" Company men assisted a unit of the 1st Brig., 5th Div. (Mech) in warding off two platoons of NVA attempting to breach the perimeter wire. 65NVA/KIA. No MCB SEVEN casualties.

19 Sep 68
1620

MCB SEVEN Rt. 9 survey crew received six rounds unknown type mortars. No casualties or equipment damage.

20 Sep 68
1845

An explosion initiated by incoming small arms fire occurred in bunker 13, Subsector B, resulting in 2US/KIA, 1US/WIA/EVAC.

28 Sep 68
1730

An MRS scraper hit an unknown type/size mine while proceeding east on Rt. 9 near Cam Lo. Right rear wheel damaged. No injuries sustained by the driver.

1 Oct 68
0820

Recon patrol from Sector II observed five NVA in brown utilities moving 1000 meters south of the Song Vinh River. Coordinated with Division Recon who later ambushed five NVA in the same area killing three.

17 Oct 8
1240

A jeep carrying two CPO's proceeding on Rt. 9 near Vinh Dai Village received two rounds of incoming small arms fire from north of the Cam Lo River. No casualties or equipment damage.

20 Oct 68
1400

EO2 Woodward received several rounds small arms fire while operating grader in vicinity 9/4 Bridge. No personnel casualties or equipment damage.

22 Oct 68

Dong Ha Combat Base received a total of 20 rounds incoming 130mm artillery during the day and early evening. No personnel casualties or equipment damage this command. Other units incurred 6US/KIA, 13US/WIA and damage to buildings and huts.

- 23 Oct 68**
1100 Two rounds small arms fire impacted at Vinh Dai crusher site near front entrance. Firing came from tree line near Cam Lo River. Neighboring CAC Unit contacted. A sweep was conducted and two suspects were apprehended.
- 30 Oct 68** Dong Ha Combat Base received 40 rounds, 130mm artillery between 1634H and 2005H. No casualties at Camp Barnes. Other units incurred 3US/KIA and 11US/WIA. 11th Engr. Class III ammo dump hit with secondary explosions following.
- 31 Oct 68** In anticipation of follow-up of previous day's incoming, Dong Ha Combat Base went to a tactical condition from 1450H to 1943H. No incoming received.
- 1 Nov 68** Dong Ha Combat Base in tactical condition between 0847H and 1210H, 1302H and 2022H. Total of 62 rounds, 130mm artillery impacted in the Dong Ha Base. No casualties in Camp Barnes. Other units experienced 1US/WIA/Minor.
- 1715** While proceeding east on Rt. 9 near Bridge 9/4, an MRS operator observed a mortar round (unknown cal.) impact in the road behind him. No personnel injury or equipment damage.
- 6 Nov 68**
1620 Vietnamese work crew with Seabee security near Bridge 9/11 observed two men in green uniforms moving towards them. Received three rounds sniper fire. Fire was returned with .50 cal. and small arms. Movement stopped, unknown results. Work crew and security returned to Dong Ha Combat Base.
- 9 Nov 68**
1930 Vinh Dai Rock Crusher site received 25 rounds, 60mm W. P. mortar fire. Perimeter was probed by small arms fire on north portion. Twenty suspected enemy sighted southeast of crusher site. CAP Unit also observed enemy. No personnel casualties or equipment damage.
- 19 Nov 68**
1530 Work crew on Rt. 9 received two rounds sniper fire. No casualties incurred. Crew searched area with negative results.
- 4 Dec 69**
0841 MCB SEVEN Sector II daylight recon patrol discovered a homemade booby trap consisting of a C-Ration can filled with explosive with a pull-wire device and nearby booby trap consisting of buried mortar fuse with point up. Site was previous sniper position as evidenced by spent small arms brass in the area. Found another C-Ration booby trap on tank trail. Abandoned house nearby had old family-type bunker. All booby traps had been in place for a long time. Three booby traps and bunker destroyed.
- 7 Dec 68** During evening hours, Bridge 9/2 was partially destroyed by a VC Sapper Unit.
- 19 Dec 68** Jeep on Rt. 9 received one round of sniper fire. No casualties.
- 23 Dec 68**
1430 Detail Alpha XRAY at Vandegrift Combat Base received five, 140mm rockets in Seabee camp area. No personnel casualties. Light damage to mess hall and showers. Minor equipment damage.
- 10 Feb. 69**
2224 Two rounds of incoming mortars impacted directly in front of bunker 6, Sector II. The rounds were later determined to be friendly fire.
- 13 Feb 69**
1030 An MCB SEVEN cargo truck following a Marine supply convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base received three rounds, 60mm mortar fire near Bridge 9/11 when the convoy was ambushed. No casualties or equipment damage sustained this command. Other units incurred 3US/KIA (USMC), 11US/WIA (USMC).
- 15 Feb 69**
1145 An MCB SEVEN 6x6 cargo truck transported a reaction force to insert site near Elliot Combat Base when local ground troops detected an enemy ambush in the area. No action ensued by MCB SEVEN Personnel.
- 1630** An MCB SEVEN jeep, traveling east on Rt. 9, received six rounds sniper fire from suspected enemy location north of river.

21 Feb 69
2120

MCB SEVEN fired 108 rounds, 81mm HE and 128 rounds, 81mm illumination in support of a combined action company at a blockhouse just forward of MCB SEVEN perimeter. The CAC was in contact with an estimated VC platoon. A search of the area revealed two VC KIA (by CAC) and good coverage by mortars. Two AK-47 rifles were captured by the CAC. A daylight recon patrol composed of Seabees found the harboring sight used by the enemy. Six sleeping bags were captured and turned in to G-2.



23 Feb 69
2355

Night observation devices and TPS-25 battlefield radar detected six enemy moving just forward of main defensive perimeter. MCB SEVEN fired 1 claymore mine, 31 rounds, 81mm mortar and 16 rounds, 81mm illumination on movement. Sweep of area at first light yielded negative results.

16 Mar 69
2347

Ground surveillance radar detected movement of at least five enemy in front of MCB SEVEN defensive perimeter. MCB SEVEN fired 5 rounds M-79 and 41 rounds, 81mm HE. Movement ceased. Sweep of area at dawn yielded negative results.

19 Mar 69
1500

MCB SEVEN scraper operator at borrow pit adjacent to Cam Lo Bridge project site received several rounds automatic weapons fire (possibly two clips AK-47). Returned one round M-79 with negative results. No hits sustained.

25 Mar 69
1145

Army $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton weapons carrier following MCB SEVEN vehicle to Cam Vu Civic Action pumping station hit mine and was totally destroyed. MCB SEVEN personnel assisting Army personnel received sniper fire but sustained no hits.

27 Mar 69
1415

MCB SEVEN flatbed utility truck traveling west on Rt. 9 with four Army vehicles near the Rock Pile received sniper fire and two rounds unknown type/size HE which detonated just behind the truck. No damage or casualties.

28 Mar 69
1330

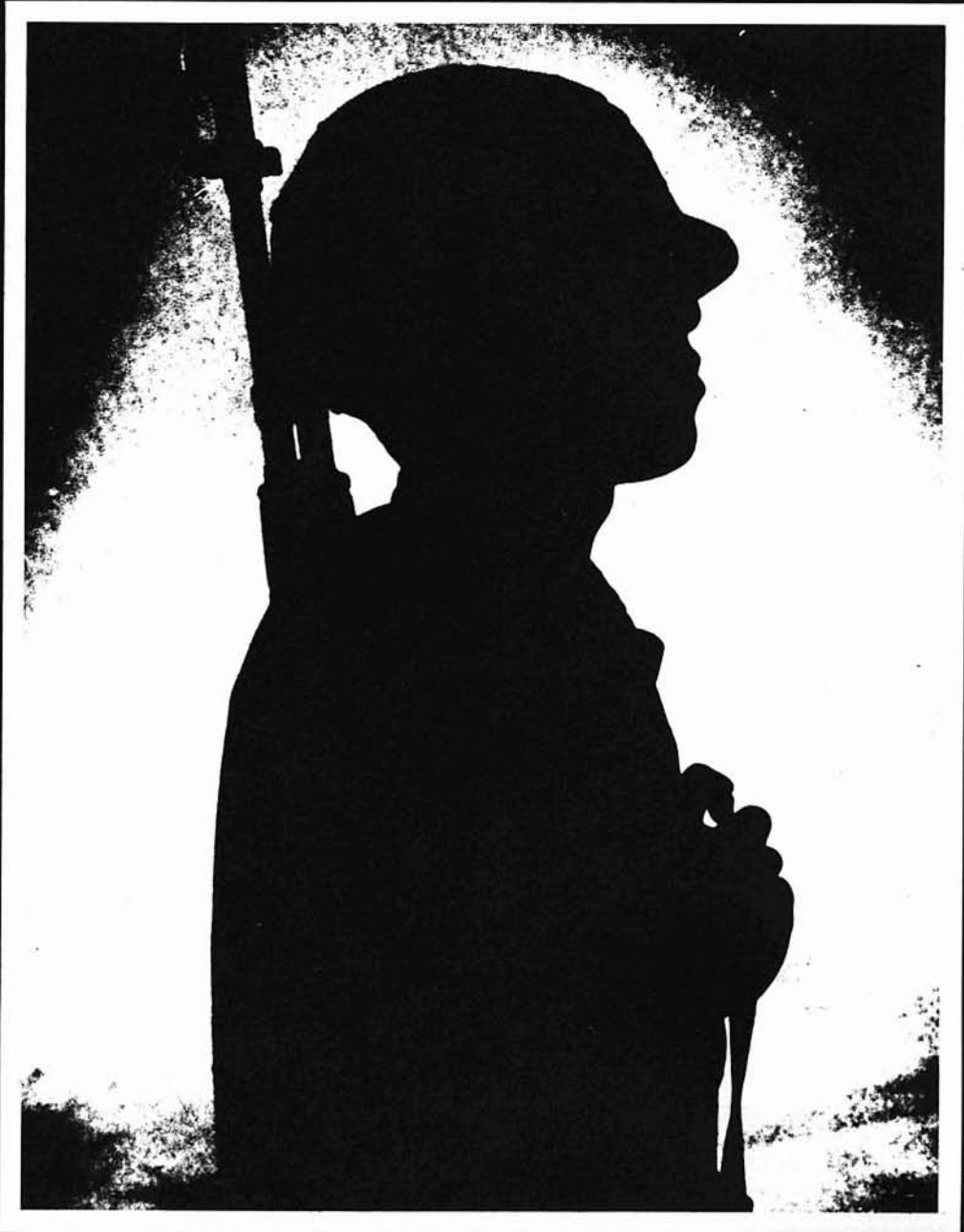
Commanding Officers of MCB SEVEN and MCB 121, along with MCB SEVEN shotgun rider, received six rounds small arms fire which ricocheted off objects in their immediate area at Vinh Dai Civic Action School site.

1530

MCB SEVEN $2\frac{1}{2}$ -ton truck following 11th Engr. sweep team on Rt. 8B to Cam Vu Civic Action pump station hit unknown size/type mine which destroyed truck by blast and fire. Four Seabees were injured and sweep team radio operator was killed.

2020

Several units between Dong Ha and Quang Tri reported receiving enemy mortar fire. MCB SEVEN fired 40 rounds, 81mm HE and 100 rounds, .50 cal. API/APIT on possible enemy mortar positions. Results inconclusive.



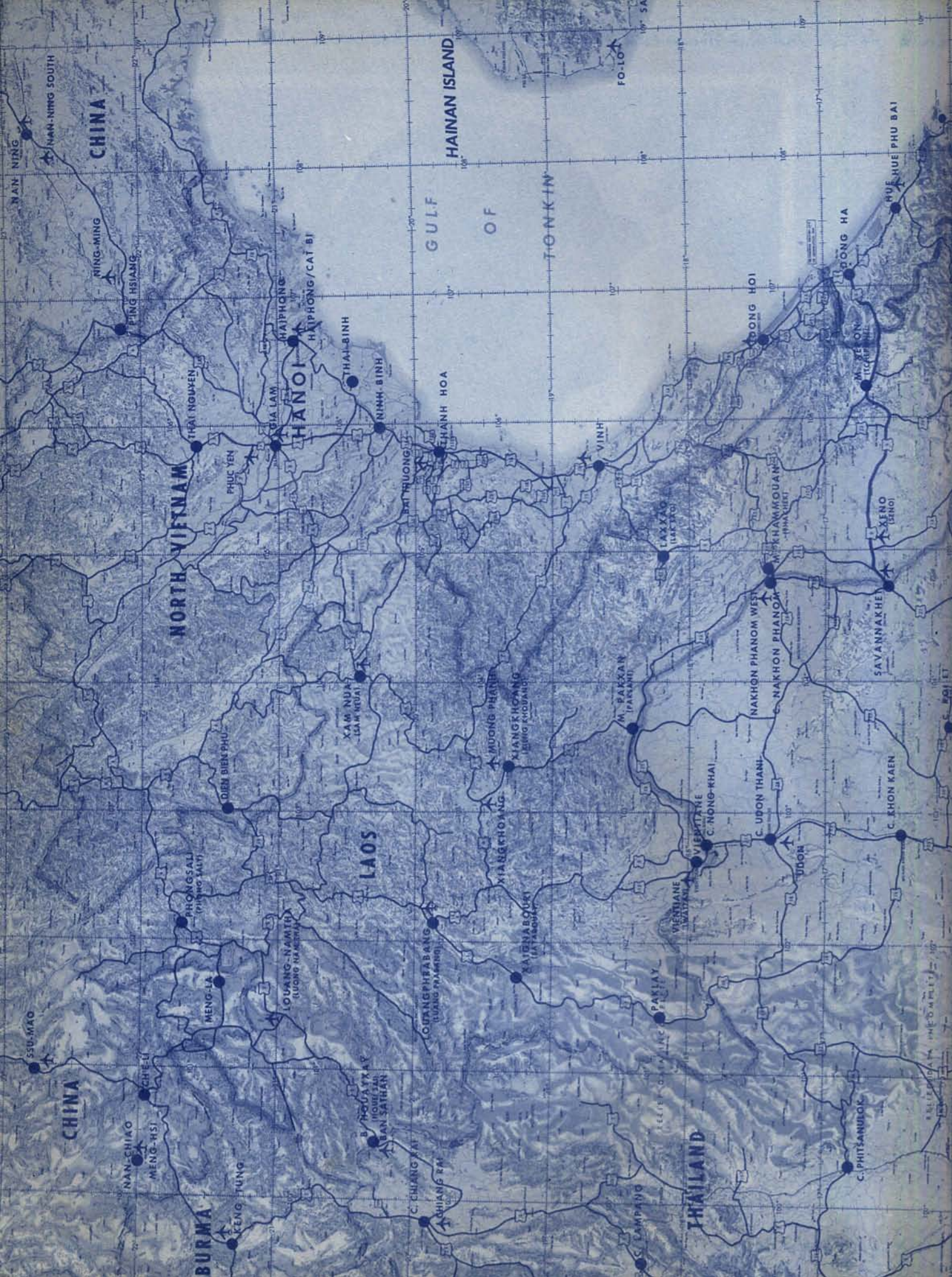
CM3 R. M. Sprout

CMCN R. L. Davis

UTCN J. P. Van Dusen

SN R. H. Schoener

. . . they were not heroes, for Seabees are not heroes; they are constructionmen. But, let none of us ever forget that those we left behind have no superiors in honor and service to their country . . .



CHINA
NAN-NING SOUTH
NING-MING
PING HSIANG

HAINAN ISLAND
GULF OF TONKIN
FO-LOI

NORTH VIETNAM

HANOI
THAI BINH
NINH BINH
HAI PHONG / CAT BI
YEN LAI
THAI NGUYEN
PHUC YEN

HANH HOA
VINH

DONG HOI

DONG HA

HUE PHU BAI

CHINA
SU-MAO
NAN-CHIAO
MENG-WSI
CHE-LI

LAOS

PHONGSALI
(PHONG SATH)

LOUANG-NAMTID
(LUANG NAKHAY)

MENG-LA

BURMA
KENG TUNG

BOUAKHAY
INOUAN
BAN SATHAN

LOUKANGHABANG
(LUANG PHANHONG)

XIANGKHOANG

MUONG PHATHI
XIANGKHONG
(XANG KHOUANG)

M. PAKKAN
(PAKAN)

VIENTIANE
WATIAN
(VIENTIANE)

C. NONG-RHAI

C. UPON THAM

UDORN

NAKHON PHANOM WEST
C. NAKHON PHANOM
(PHANOM)

SAYANNAKHEE

C. KHON KAEN

THAILAND

ST. LAMPHONG

C. PHITSANULOK



SOUTHEAST ASIA BRIEFING

SERIES 3213
EDITION 1-1-65

- LEGEND
- Populated Place
 - ✈ Airfield
 - National Route

Scale 1:2,000,000

CON SQN

NAKHON SI THAMMARAT

