

**WE
BUILD
WE
FIGHT**



USN MCB FOUR · 1965-1966

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7/25/94 Herschel Eli Wesley (Wes) 92370
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Andrew F. Mackey 39 Rousseau Hts. Greenville, NH 7/27/96

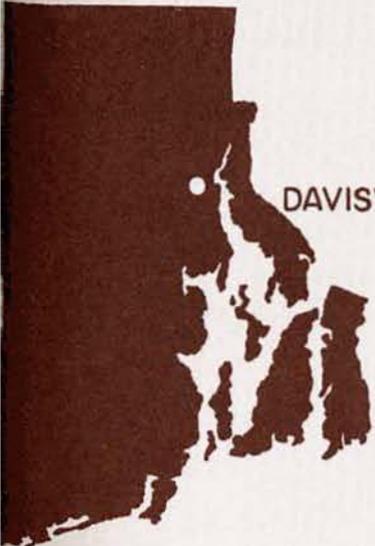
MIKE ORTT EON 2 66-67
8251 LARIBERT DR. HUNT. BCH. CA. 92647

PORT HUENEME

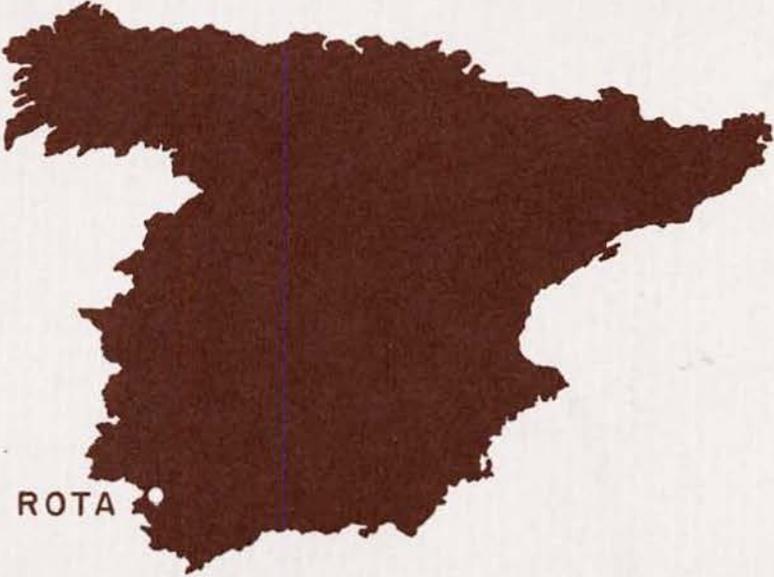
CHU-LAI

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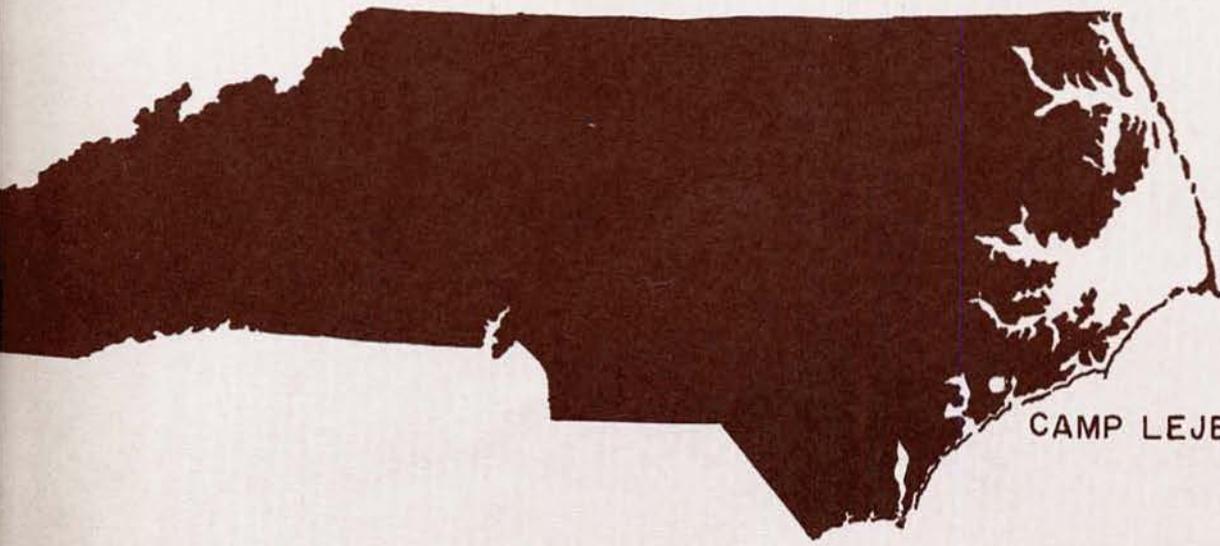
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DAVISVILLE



ROTA



CAMP LEJEUNE

Rota, Spain

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina



Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam

1965-1966

To Se

Many thrilling stories have been told through the years about the gallant American Fighting Man. During World War II, he answered his country's "call to arms" with the traditional, well-founded vigor of his forefathers who established this nation.

From the far-off islands of the Pacific, to the remote areas of the Atlantic; on land, on sea, or in the air, the American Fighting Man distinguished himself as he stood fast to preserve the cardinal value of liberty. One of the most significant stories, less widely known, is the SAGA OF THE SEABEES.

The SEABEE is a unique fighting man, unlike any other, anywhere. His watchword is preparedness; his dual capabilities are TO BUILD and TO FIGHT. He is a highly qualified professional in both skills.

Since their founding in March of 1942, the SEABEES have carved for themselves out of the rock-tableau which is world history, a distinct, rugged and hard-core reputation of excellence which today remains unequalled and unsurpassed. These magnificent men have fought and

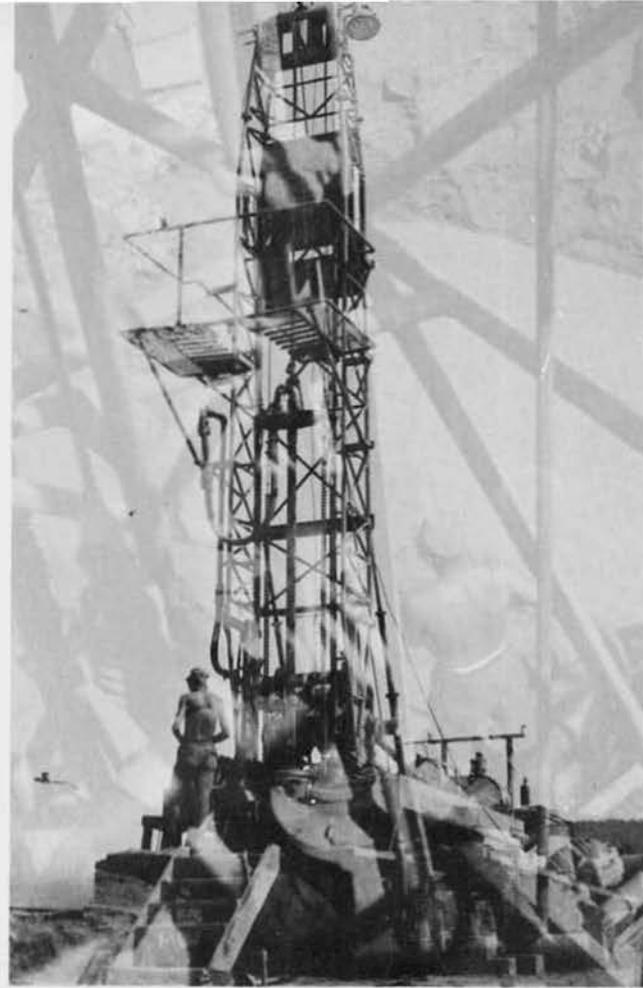


Past

Seabees:

labored through the most bitter battles of the times, and have emerged victors in their own right.

We therefore respectfully dedicate this book to the famed SEABEES of the PAST for their establishment of an outstanding tradition during World War II; to the SEABEES of the PRESENT for the vital role they are playing in the War in Vietnam; and to the SEABEES of the FUTURE who will carry on the indomitable "CAN DO!" spirit.



Present



F
u
t
u
r
e

Commanding Officer

My message to the SEABEES of FAB FOUR is one of deepest respect, enduring admiration and heartfelt appreciation for the outstanding manner in which you have responded to the difficult and challenging tasks of the trying circumstances. Your two-ocean flexibility and mobility has demonstrated the highest degree of readiness. Your swift buckling down to the serious task of constructing vital facilities to support combat operations in Southeast Asia has been in keeping with the highest traditions of the SEABEES and the Naval service.

This cruisebook is properly a pictorial record of your lives and times in the Battalion. Yet no pictures are available, and words can only inadequately describe your unquenchable "Can Do" spirit, your outstanding professional excellence, your untailing willingness to take on new challenges, your devoted dedication to duty, your steady patience, your sturdy self-reliance, and your warm and friendly ability to find and give joyful meaning to life. These attributes of yours cannot be captured in this cruisebook, yet they are in fact the very essence which brought about the success of the Battalion and your part in it.

You can be justifiably proud of your accomplishments recorded herein.

W. A. WALLS
CDR, CEC, USN





Executive Officer

For the year 1965 MCB FOUR could probably justify the title of "Most Mobile Battalion", based on the 19,000 miles of travel on deployments to Rota, Spain; Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; Port Hueneme, California, and finally to Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. The problems, difficulties and personal hardships were many, but you men of the Battalion and your families overcame them all in good spirit. As a result, MCB FOUR arrived in Vietnam ready to do the job required.

This cruisebook is a record of the events of 1965, plus the continuing job here at Chu Lai during 1966. In years to come, you may look over these pages with your family and friends and feel justifiably proud of your achievements during this period. It certainly has not been easy, but I am proud to have served with you, and I personally commend each and every one for a job well done.

T. F. STALLMAN
LCDR, CEC, USN



G. J. Bednar
LT, CEC, USN
Operations Officer



R. B. Revere
LT, SC, USN
Supply Officer



G. W. Partlow
LT, CEC, USN
Asst. A Company Commander



R. G. Bachand
LT, DC, USNR
Dental Officer



Offi



R. B. Turner
LT, MC, USNR
Medical Officer



G. J. Hollifield
LT(jg), CEC, USNR
Asst. Operations Officer



D. T. Krebsbach
ENS, CEC, USNR
Admin/Pers Officer



S. B. McGavran
ENS, SC, USNR
Disbursing Officer



J. F. Clare
ENS, CEC, USN
Special Services Officer



G. P. Kelley
ENS, CEC, USNR
Engineering Officer



W. A. Moros
ENS, CEC, USNR
Asst. H Company Commander



J. R. Elwell
ENS, CEC, USNR
Project Material Officer

cers



J. S. Davis
ENS, CEC, USNR
Legal Officer



A. T. Duncan
ENS, CEC, USNR
Asst. A Company Commander



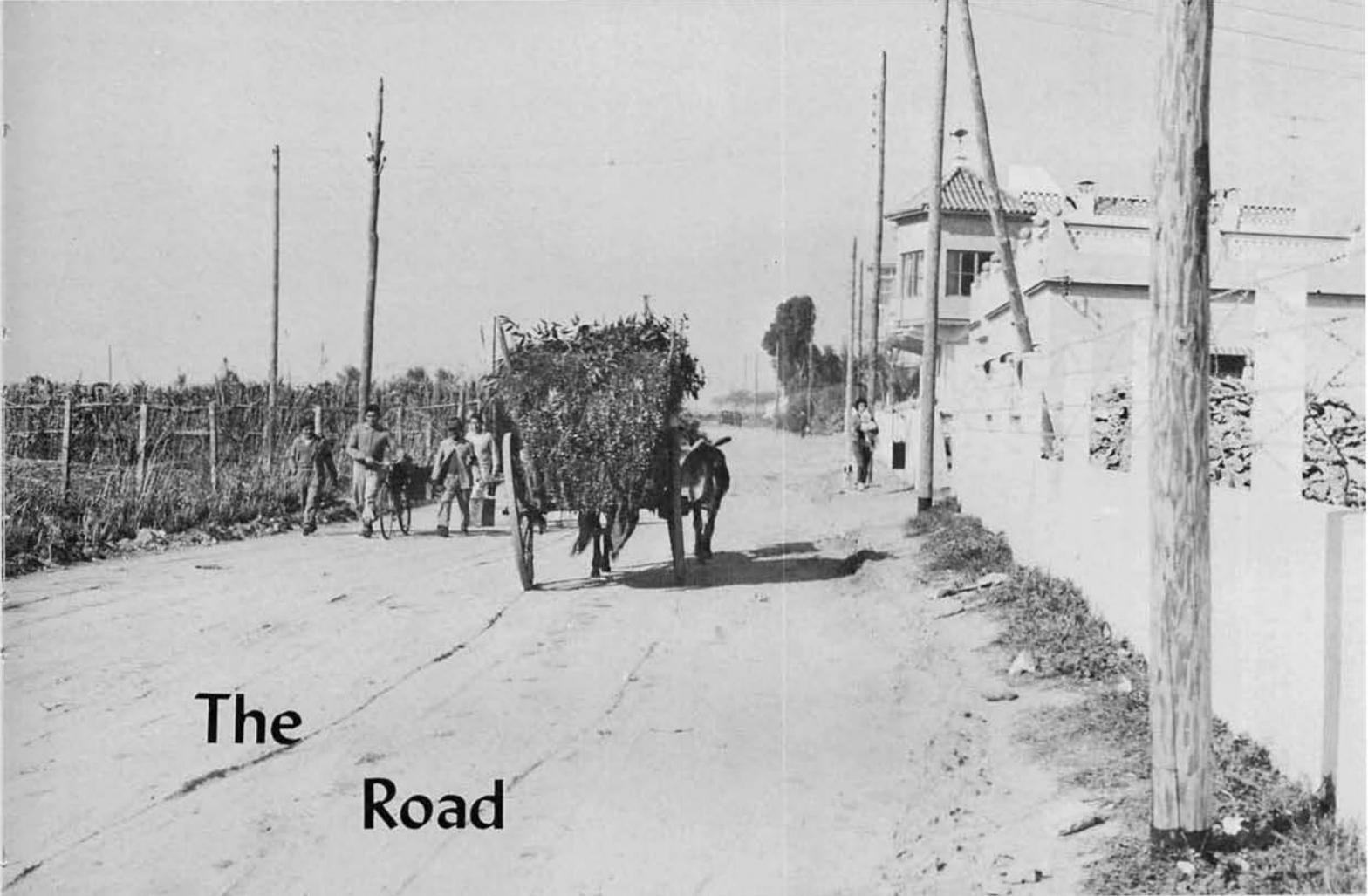
J. E. Wilkinson
ENS, CEC, USNR
Asst. D Company Commander



C. A. Everett
ENS, CEC, USNR
Asst. B Company Commander

Chiefs





The
Road

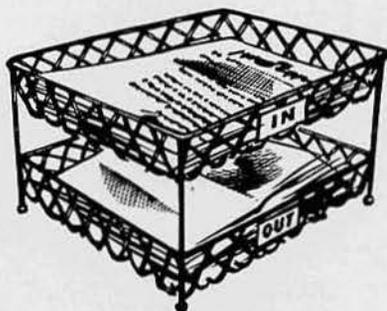


To
Rota

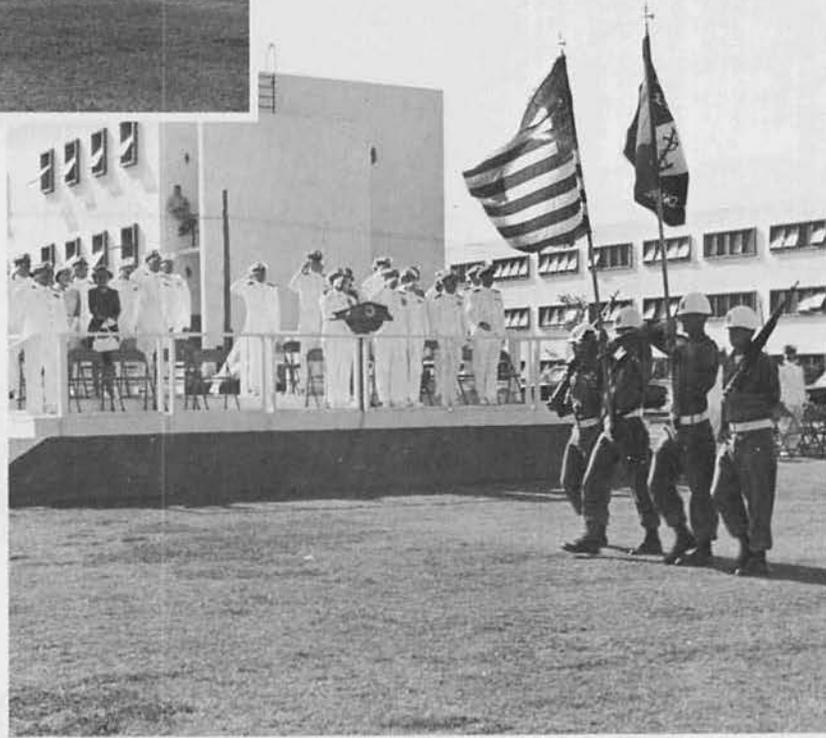
Change of Command

On July 14, 1966, CDR W. A. WALLS, CEC, USN, who had come from the Bureau of Yards and Docks, relieved CDR C. G. MILLER, CEC, USN, as Commanding Officer of MCB FOUR. CDR MILLER was ordered to Washington, D.C., where he in turn took a position with the Bureau of Yards and Docks.

In appropriate ceremonies, including a ceremonial parade, CDR WALLS was welcomed aboard by the men of MCB FOUR.



Ceremonial Parade



Pass and Review



Housing Project



The erection site of the first of 300 USA Prefabricated Homes.



Pouring the foundation for USA Home.

The Battalion was assigned the initial construction work for the erection of 300 prefabricated family housing units of USA Homes which are manufactured in Georgia and shipped to the erection site. This type of construction was new to the Battalion. Indeed, it was the first time that anyone had undertaken a housing project of such magnitude using prefabricated structures.

FOUR'S efforts were directed toward a great deal of site preparation, road work, installation of utilities, and the erection of the first fourteen housing units.



Mixing another batch of concrete.



First step in assembling homes.



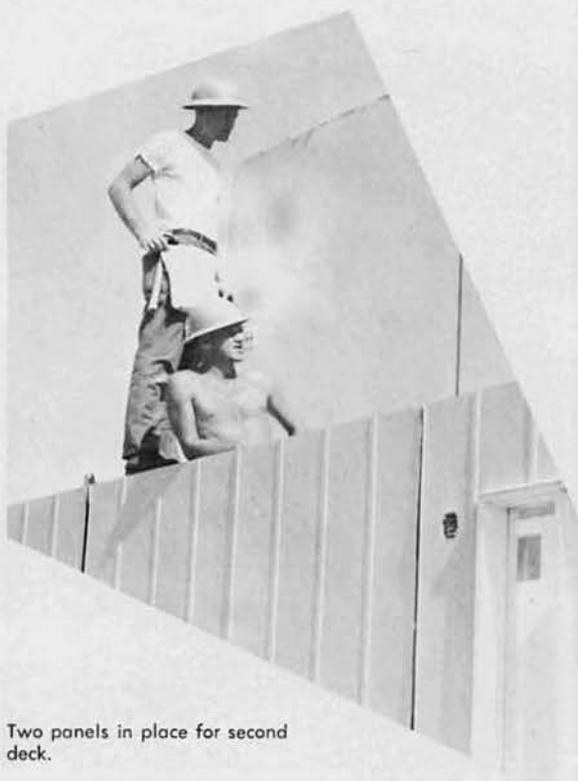


Putting The Pieces Together

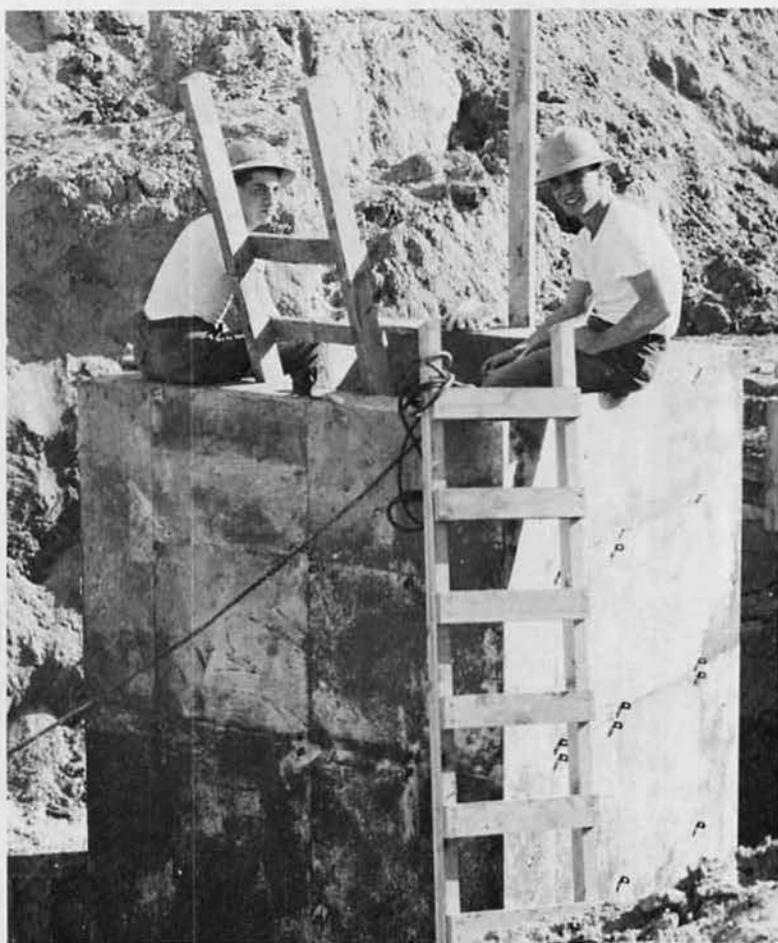




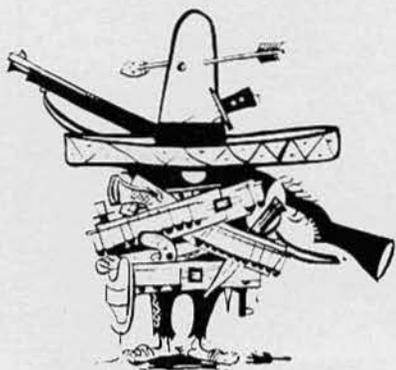
Ready to set outside wall.



Two panels in place for second deck.



"Hey Tony, it's your turn in the hole!!"



Wall panels being erected.



Home nearing completion.



Military Training



Awards and Advancements

McCrea picked SEA-BEE of the Month.



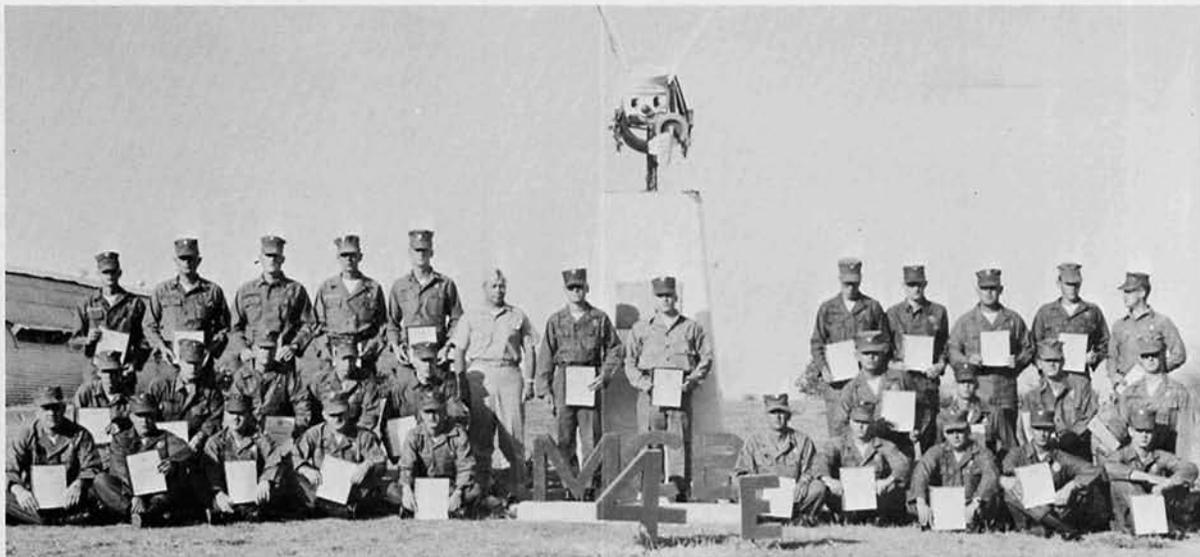
Elmer I. Fisher receives award from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for his submittal of a winning letter in the Foundation's annual competition.

"My Vote: Freedom's Privilege"

"... When the men at Valley Forge stood in snow without shoes so I could have the right to vote; left their families destitute so that I could have freedom of speech; orphaned their children to provide a government to serve men, and died to obtain my heritage of freedom, then, my vote is not just a freedoms privilege but my obligation as a citizen."



Thirty-one candidates were advanced in rate during the month of May.





"Be safe, it's better!!!"

RADM Wooding inspects "A" Company Honor Platoon.



Captain Smith, Commodore Construction Battalions U.S. Atlantic Fleet, is greeted by officers.



"Who's Fired?"



"Look buddy, I want another beer!"



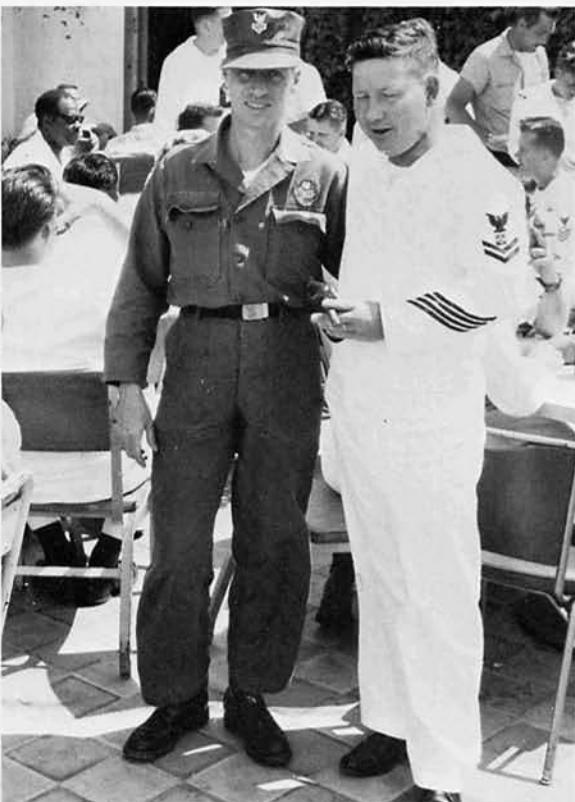
"I hope this vanilla piston holds up."



"Are we really going to Vietnam?"



"You call this a hamburger?"



"Who turned out the lights?"



"But I only had one drink!!!"



CAMP LEJUENE



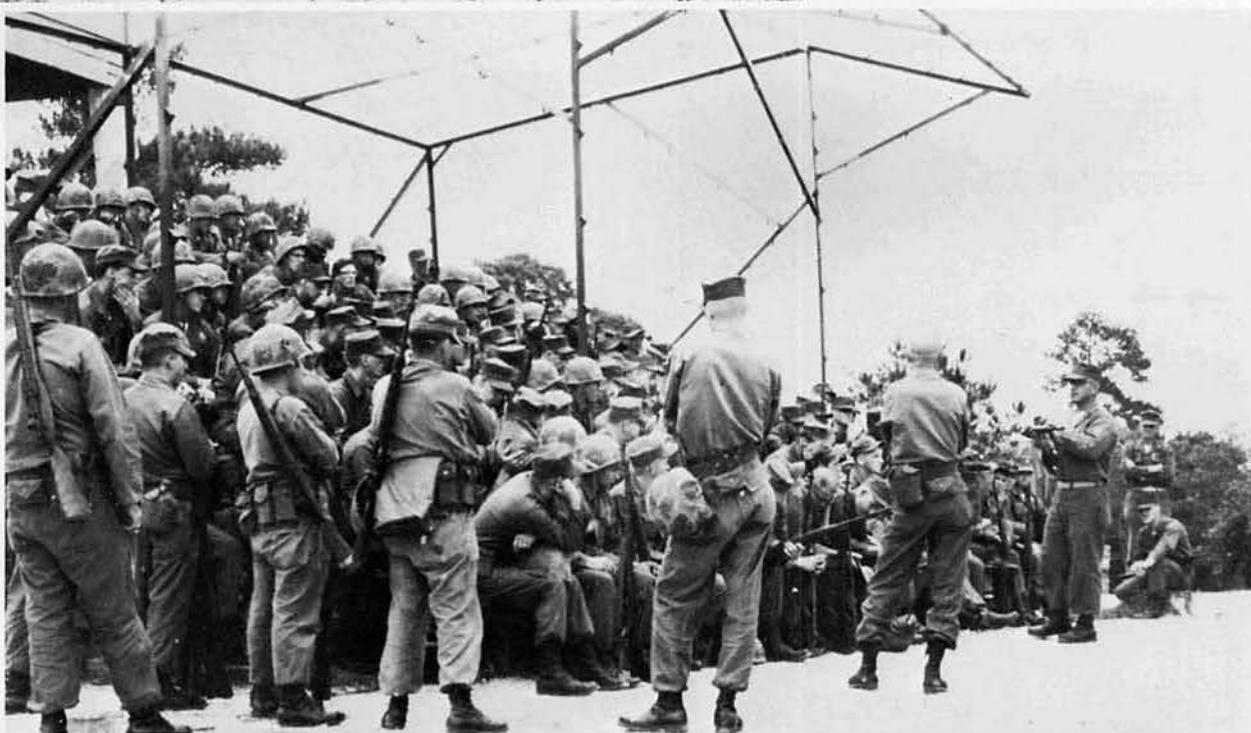
1965



Charlie Company (above)



Sgt. Wade lectures SEABEES.





The camp site.



"Talk about hard beds!!!"



Breaking camp.

"Are you sure you know how it works?"



"Which way to Jacksonville?"



"A little too much elevation."



"Now we blood brothers."



M-60's



81 MM Mortars (below)



I n s p e c t i o n



RADM H. A. Renken, Commander Service Forces U. S. Atlantic Fleet and CAPT. S. R. Smith, COMCBLANT, arrived at Camp Lejeune for a one day visit with the Battalion training in the field. The Admiral visited the various ranges and training areas.



Cover And o n c e a l m e n t



"Let's try over there!"



"Digging-up whose garden?"



"Do you really expect me to exist on two apples???"



"OK, who knows the way back to camp?"

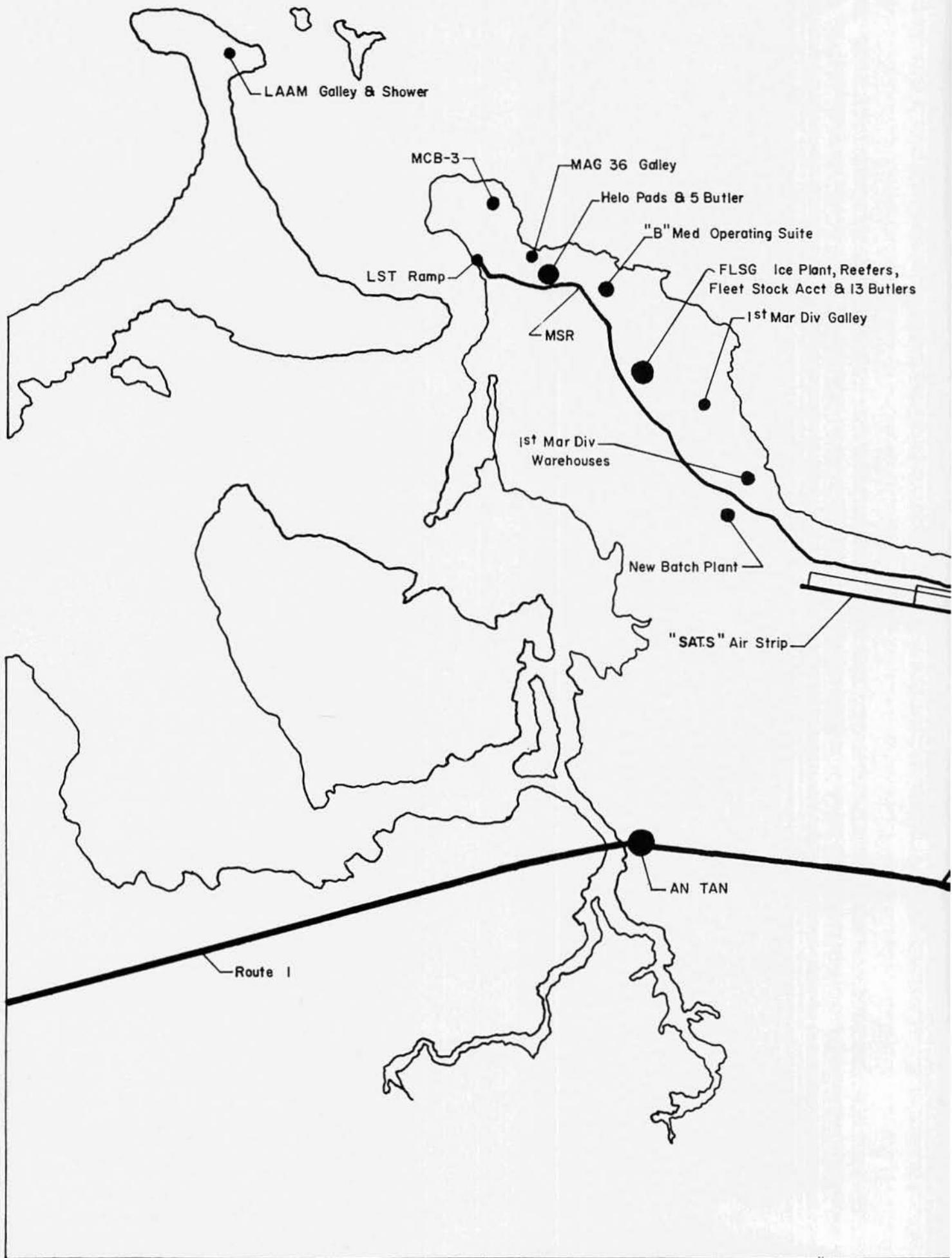


Field Communications.

"Where's the man-hauls?"

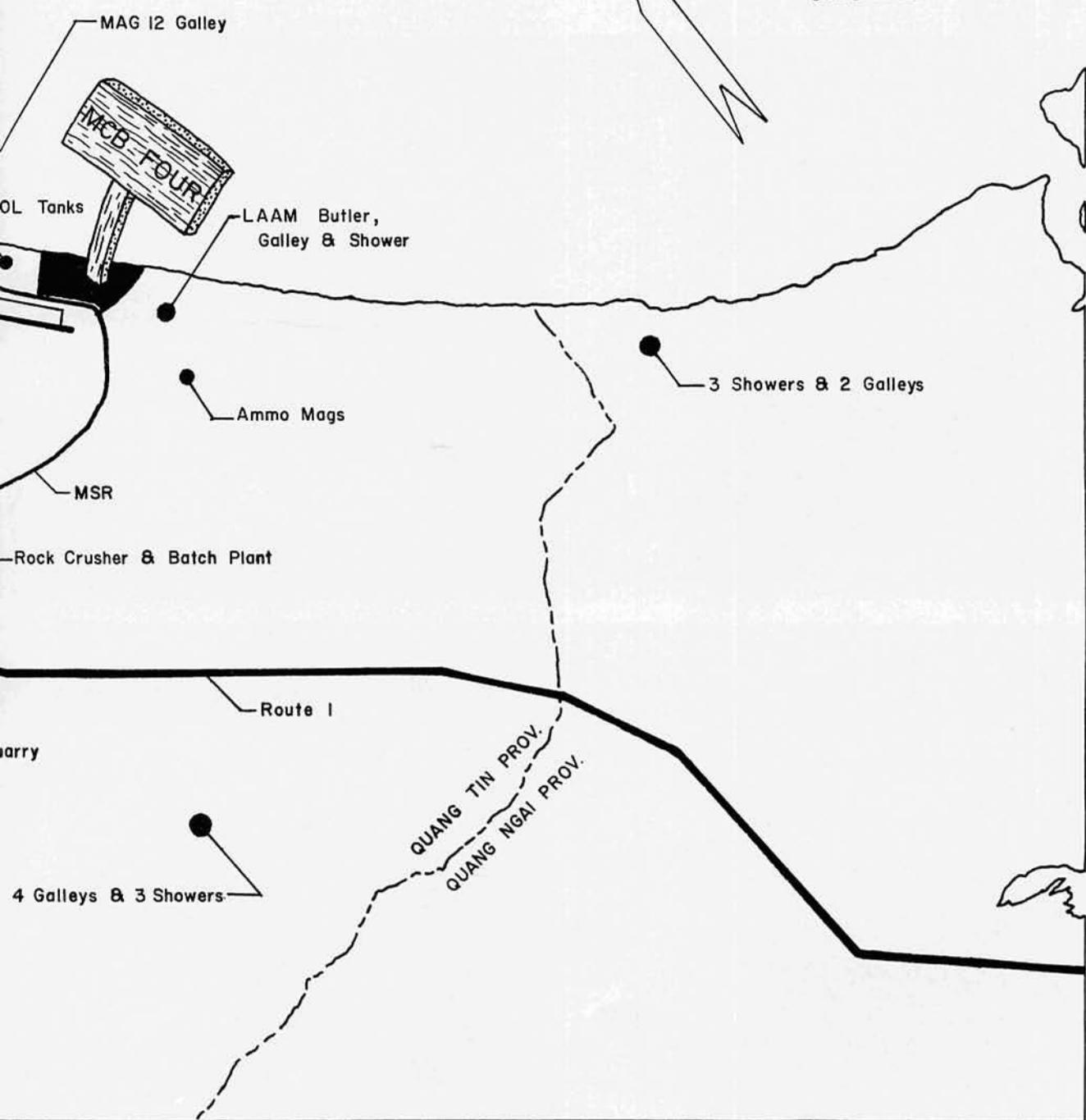
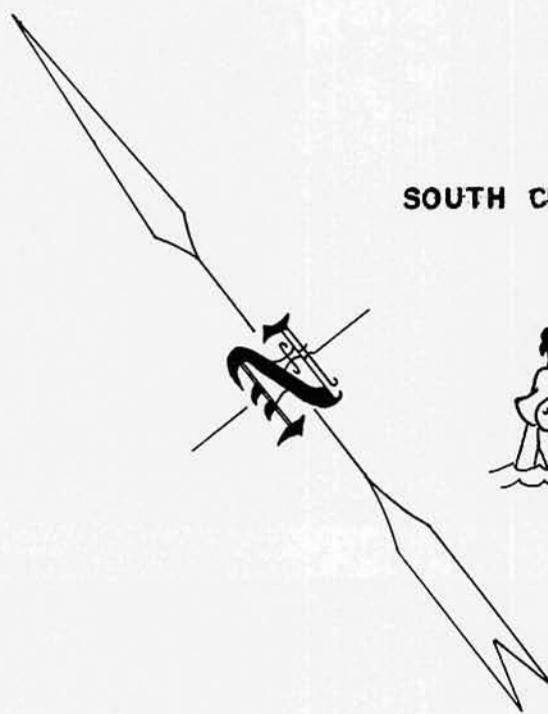








SOUTH CHINA SEA



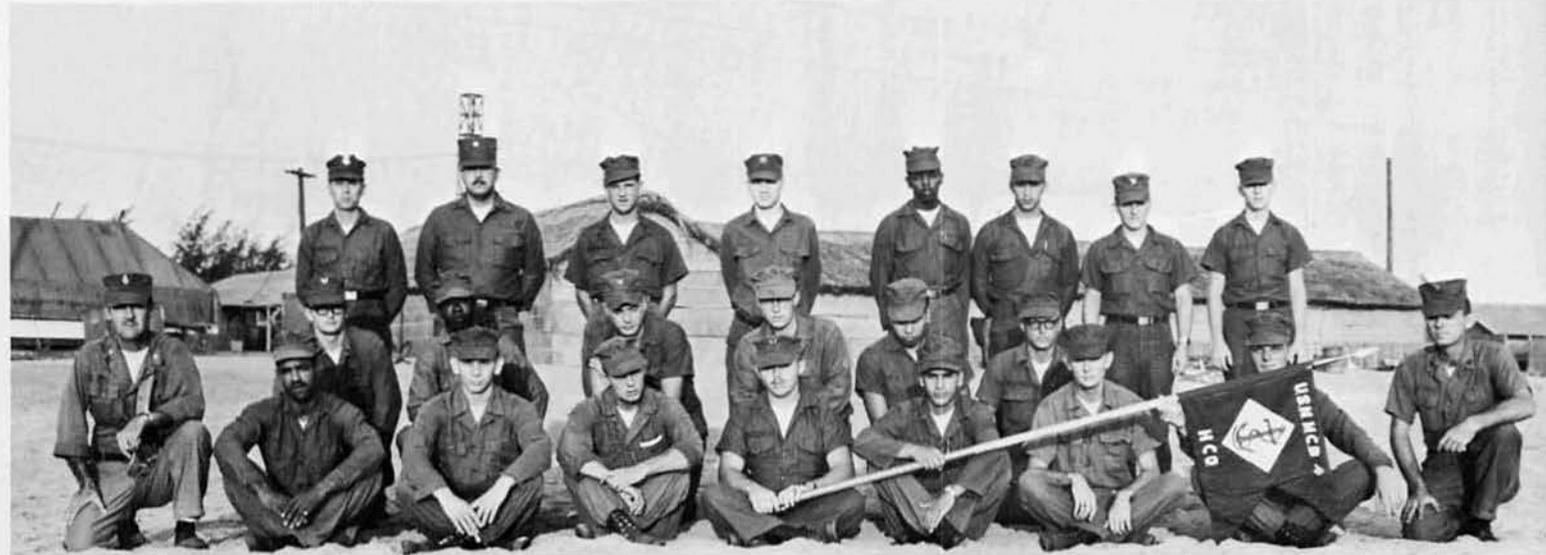
Headquarters Company



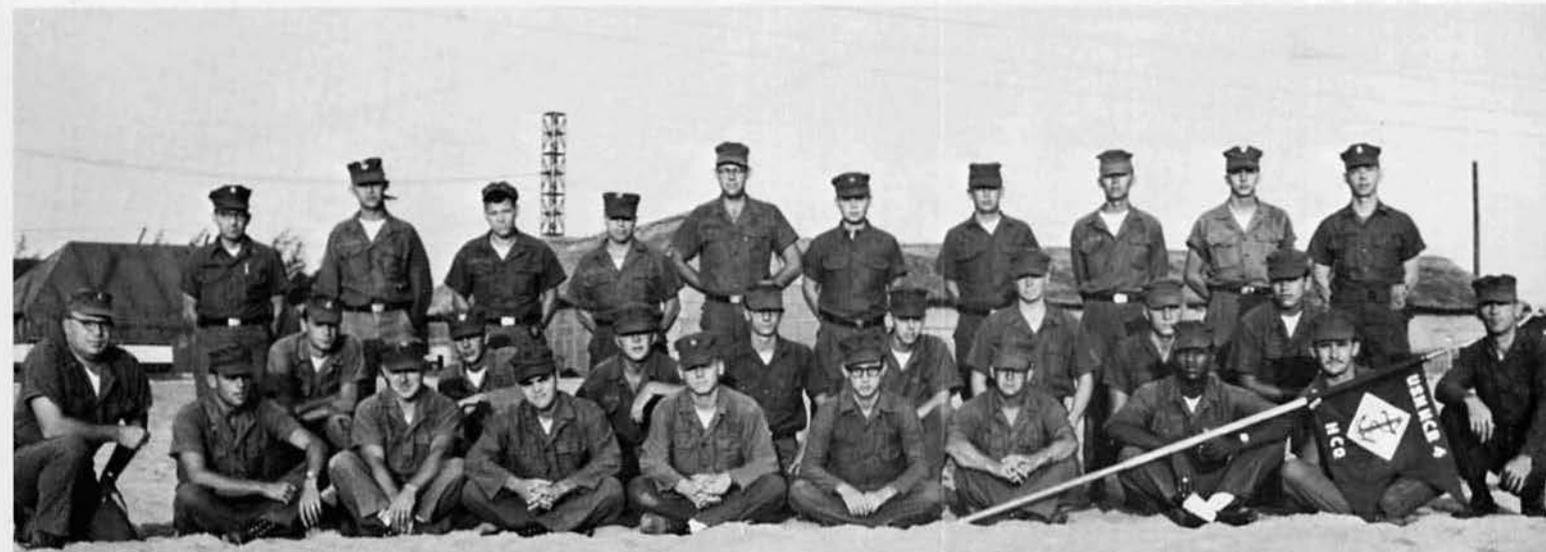
Headquarters Company can be considered as a unique organization within the Mobile Construction Battalion. Although other companies are specialized in that they do have a certain mission to perform which is different than that of the other companies, "H" Company is unique in the sense that it has the largest number of varied and specialized skills. The Battalion could not carry out its primary mission, i.e., to provide engineer/construction support to the operational forces of the Navy and Marine Corps, if the duties assigned to "H" Company personnel were not accomplished.

In addition to providing personnel to keep the vital departments operating, "H" Company has an additional duty—to defend the Eastern portion of the Camp perimeter if necessary.

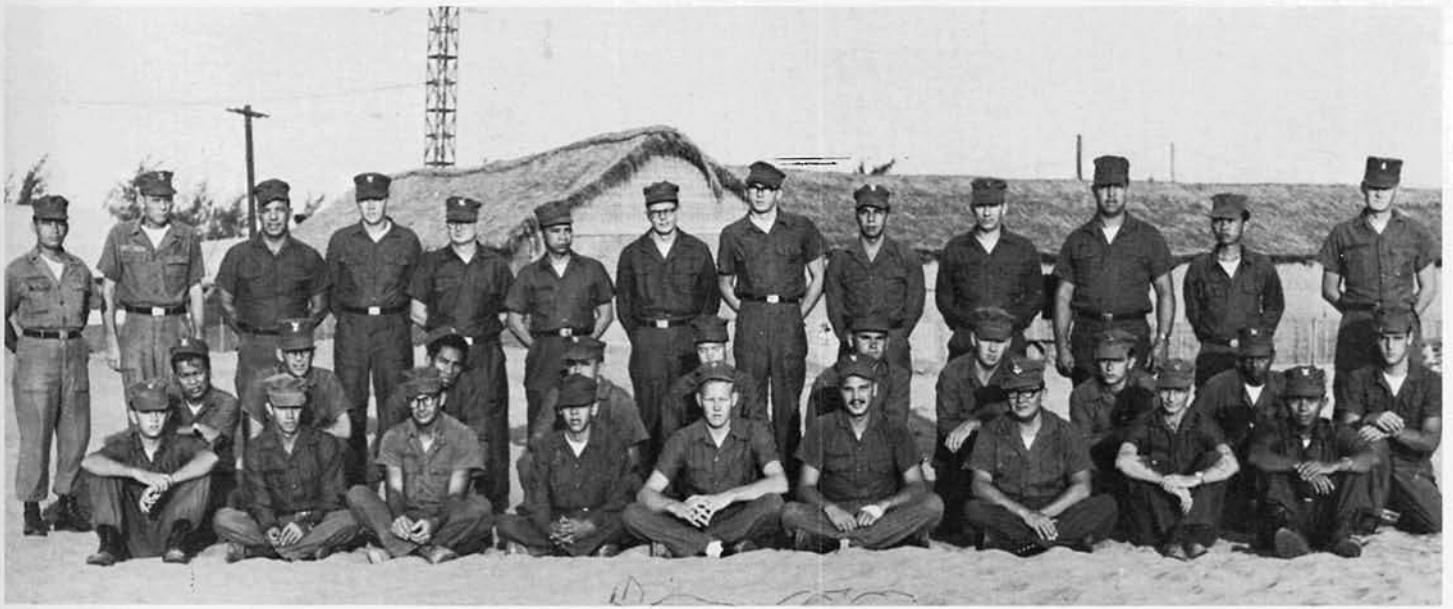
LT W. J. LAUFERSWEILER, CEC, USN
Company Commander



1ST PLATOON



2ND PLATOON



3RD PLATOON

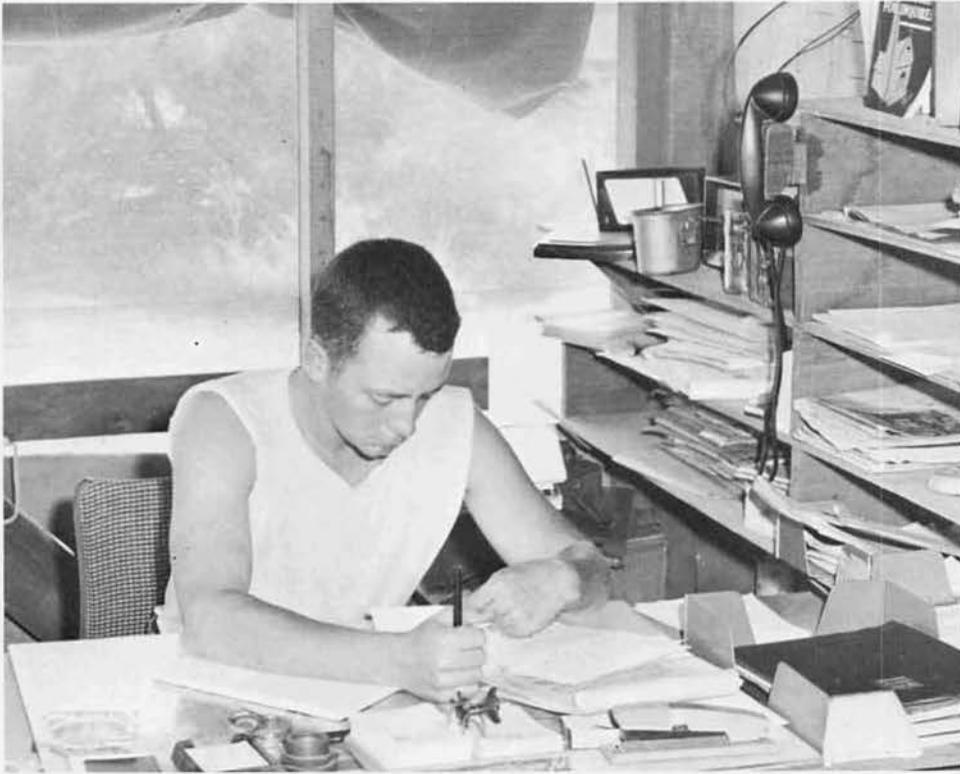


COMMISSARY MEN

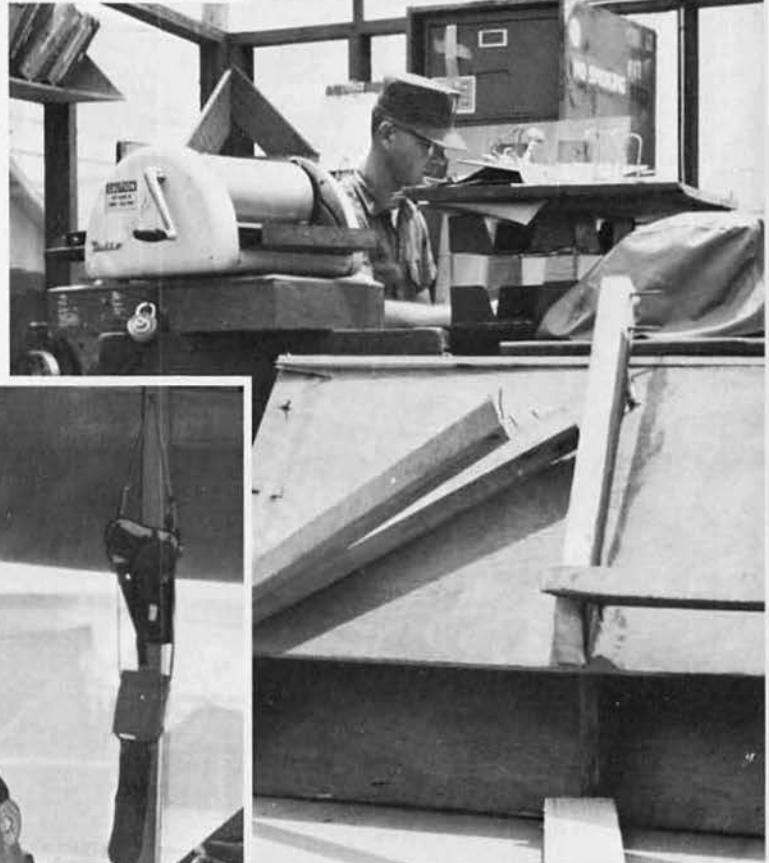


MESS COOKS

Admin-



LT(jg) Krebsbach

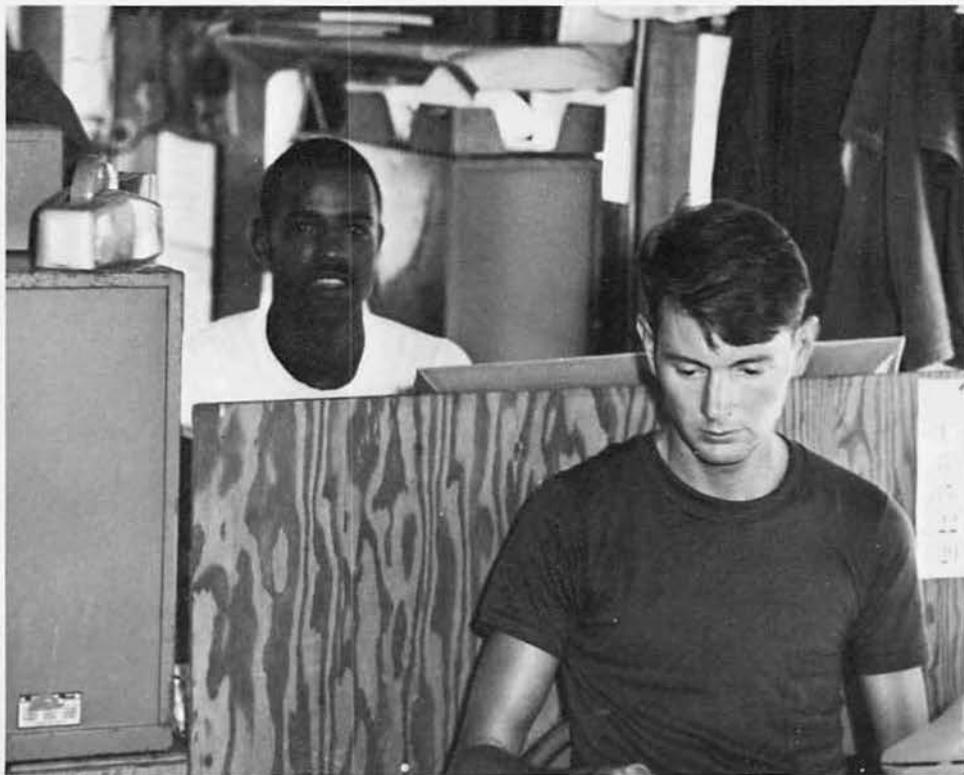


Chief Brownell



DeCrow and Kramer

-Pers



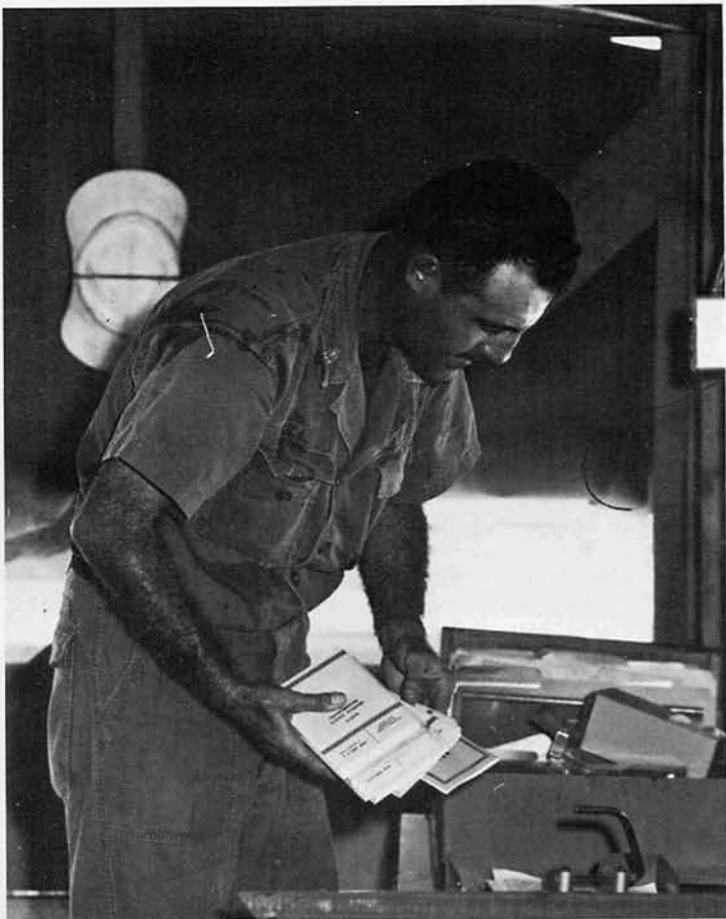
Davis and Morris



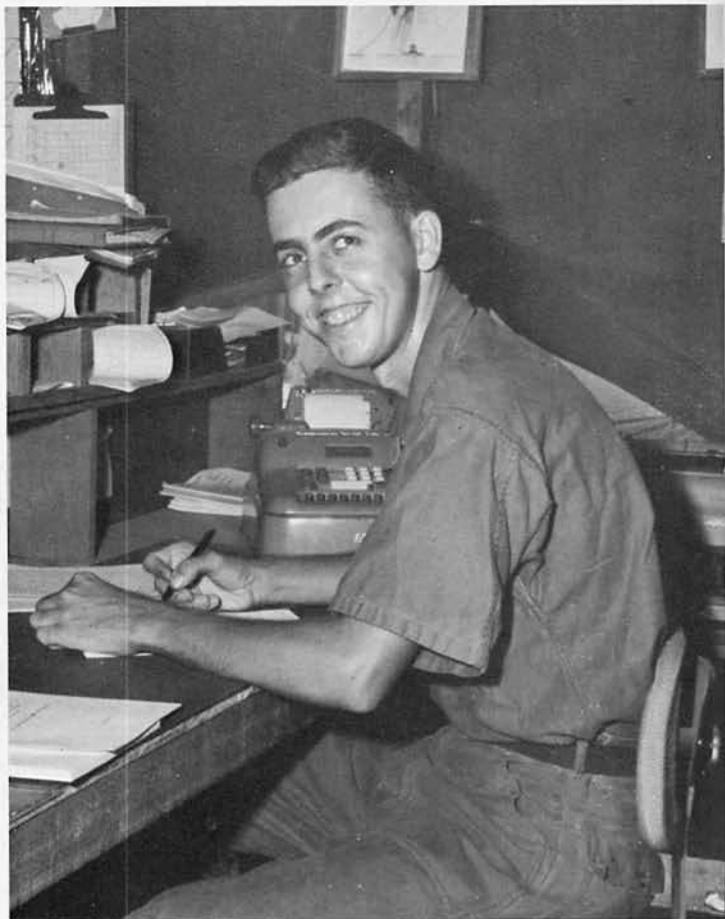
Santos



Davis



Chief Shull, Safety Chief



Gene Miller, Time Keeper



Ens. McGavran, Disbursing

Communications



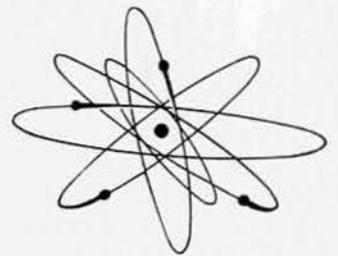
Bruce and Riddle



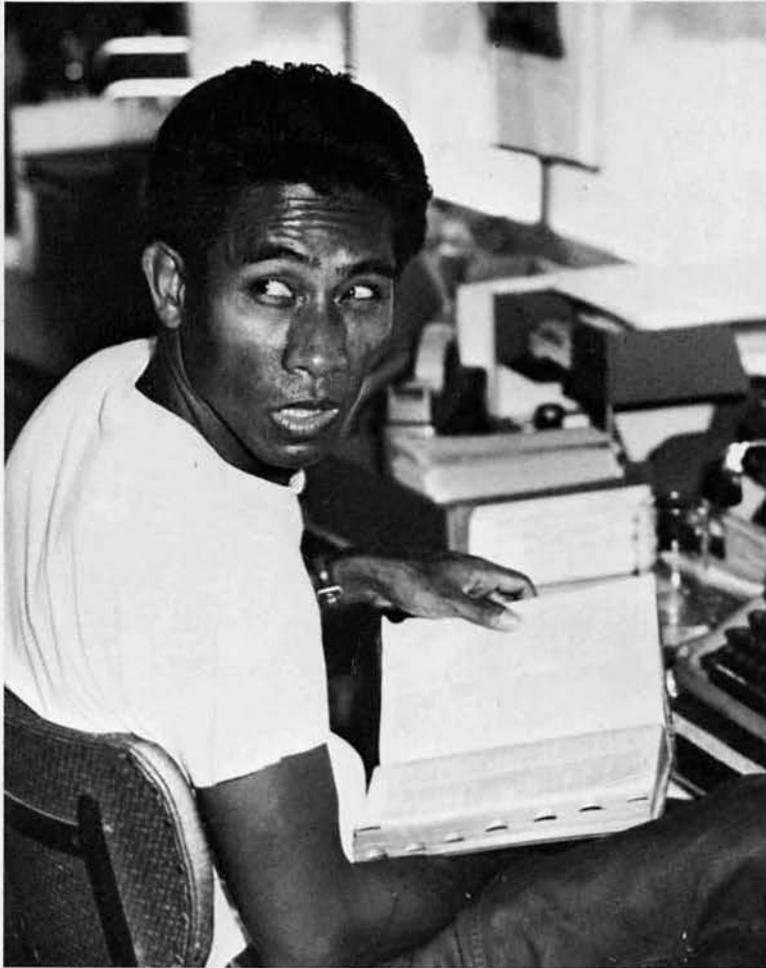
Morgan



Siedelhofer



Supply



Buccat



LT Revere and Brix



Chief Eifert and Fisher



Supply Compound



Central Tool Room



6101



Smith, Farris, Di Resta

Armory



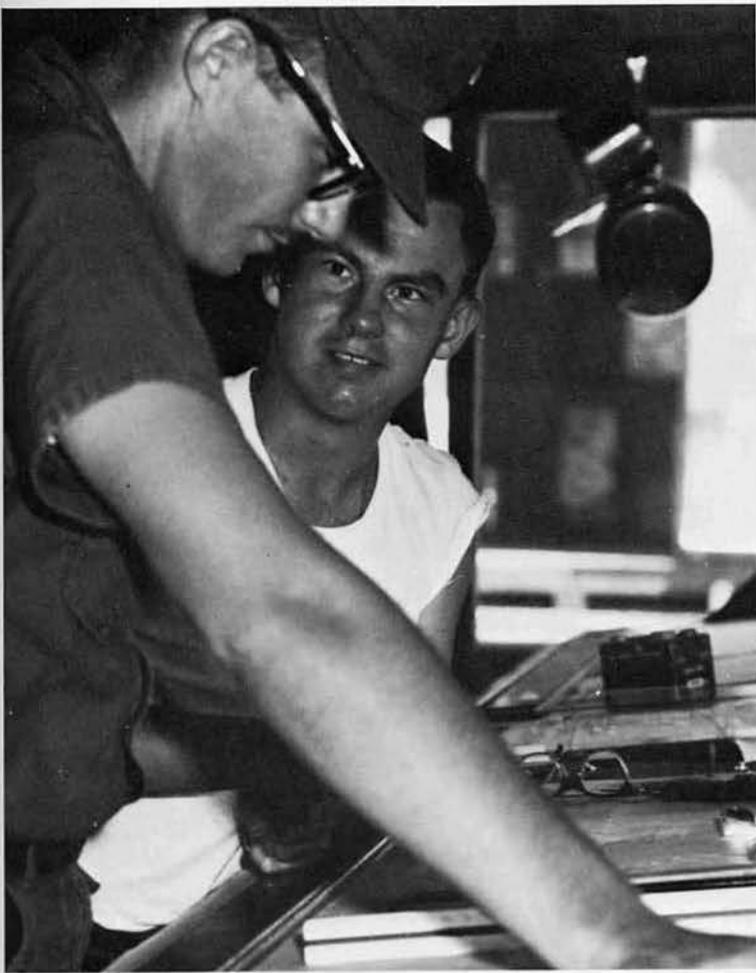
THE "GUNNERS"

Military Training



ENS. Moros and LT Laufersweiler

Drafting & Surveying



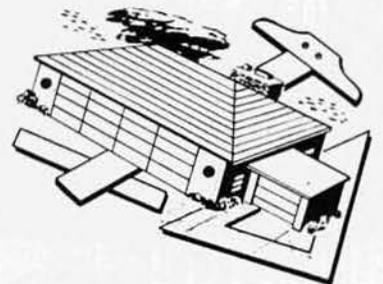
Johnson



Berlin
"One more wise crack!"



It's a hard life.



Medical



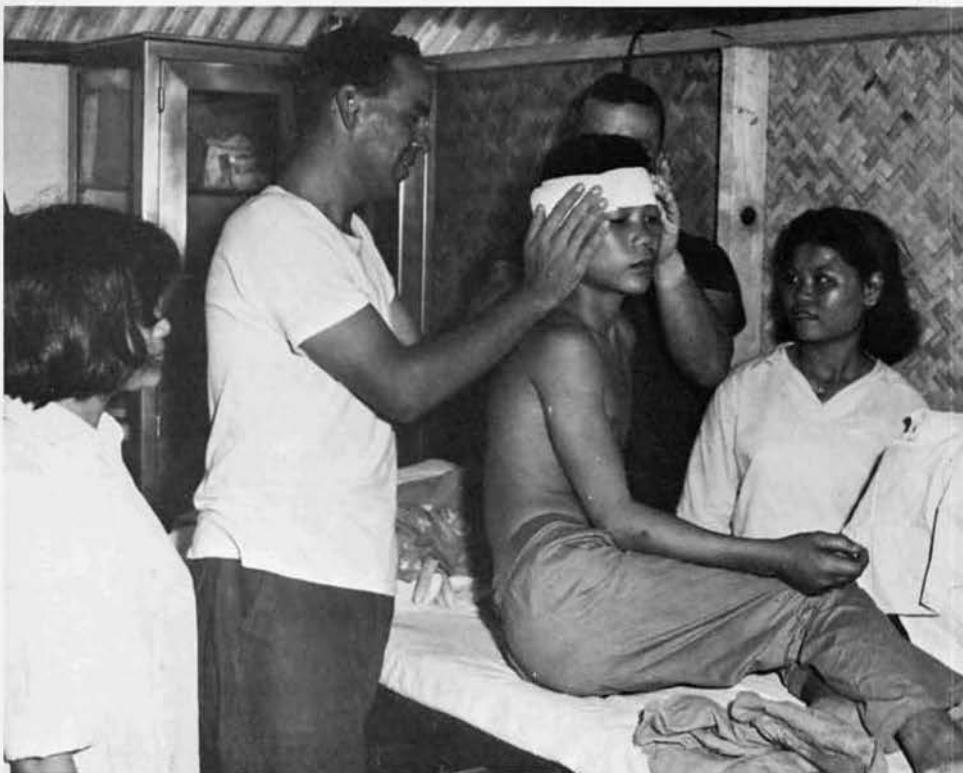
Dr. Turner operates on a Vietnamese from a nearby village.



Folk



"Even Corpsmen get sick."



"There ya go!"



"I can't read it either."



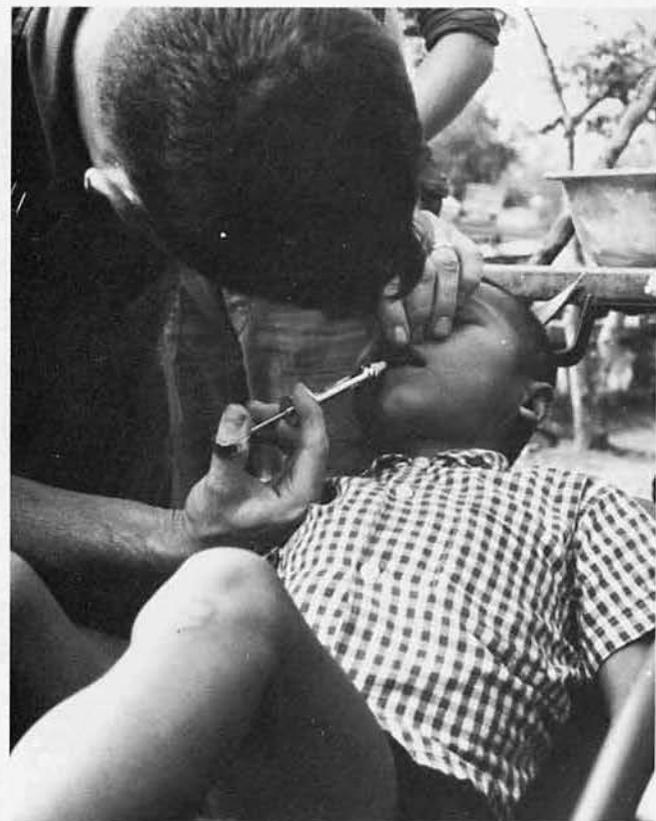
Dr. Bachand lends aid to villagers.

Dental

People - to - People



Rub-a-dub-dub . . .



"This won't hurt a bit."

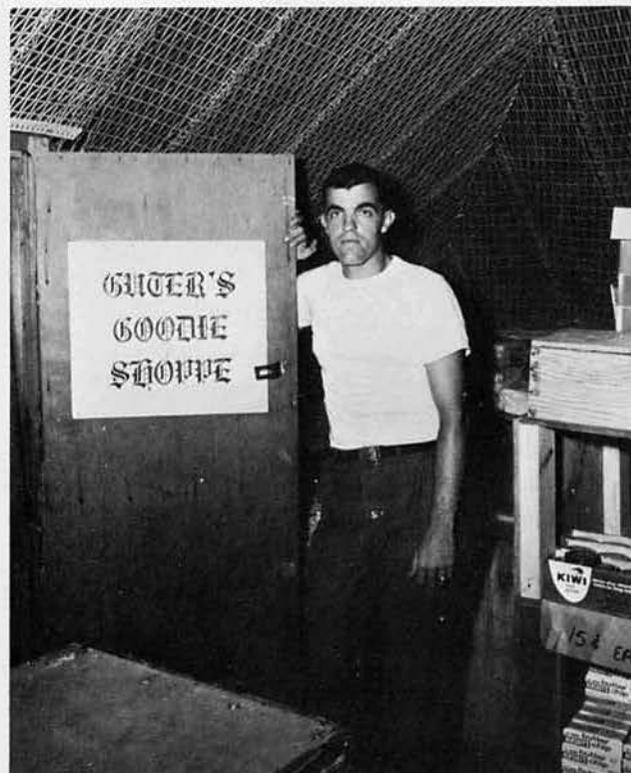
Post Office



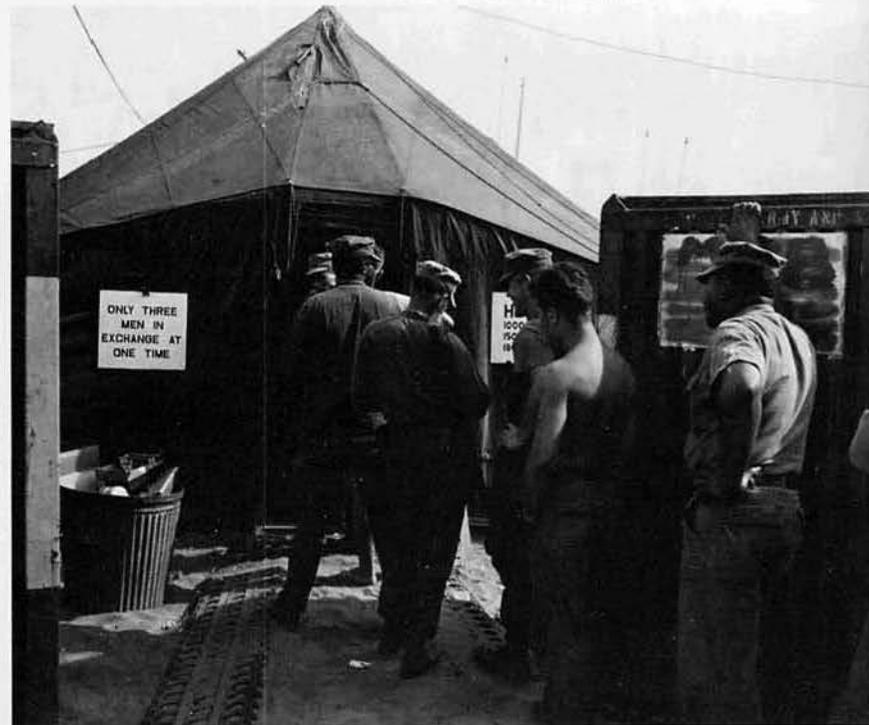
Black shoe Seabee of the Month.



"Sorry, no mail today."



"Yes, we'll be open this week."



There was always a line.

Exchange



The Deputy Dogs of Camp Shields.

Master At Arms Force

"Cooks"



"Now let's see, Ham, sweet potatoes . . ."



"The knife is stuck!"

From The Chaplain –

SEABEE CHAPELS come in many different sizes and shapes, as we have discovered during our deployments. However, each has this in common: "My chapel is a sanctuary that is hallowed by the Divine Presence. It is a gate of heaven where the eternal world meets my temporal world and they become one. My chapel is an arsenal where weapons of truth are found, a training ground where skill is required in using them.

My Chapel is a calm harbor where my soul and others find refuge from the storms and renew our strength for the further voyage of life. It is a family in which the fellowship of kindred minds results in mutual edification. My chapel is a conservatory where the music of the Kingdom awakens the chords of deepest joy in believing hearts. It is a temple from which the incense of prayer ascends to heaven and returns in streams of blessing upon the world.

My Chapel is a body with a variety of members endowed with many gifts for varied types of service. It is a society of souls in which all common social distinctions are transcended by 'royal priesthood of believers'. The blessings my chapel makes available to involve me in a debt of love I can never repay. And, when I partake of the feast of Grace at the Table on my chapel, I am prompted to say to those who perish with hunger, 'O taste and see that the Lord is good'."

"See you in the Chapel!"

J. C. HANEY, JR.
LCDR, CHC, USNR
BATTALION CHAPLAIN



Chapel of the Sands



Chaplain Haney



MCB FOUR'S Chapel, Rota, Spain

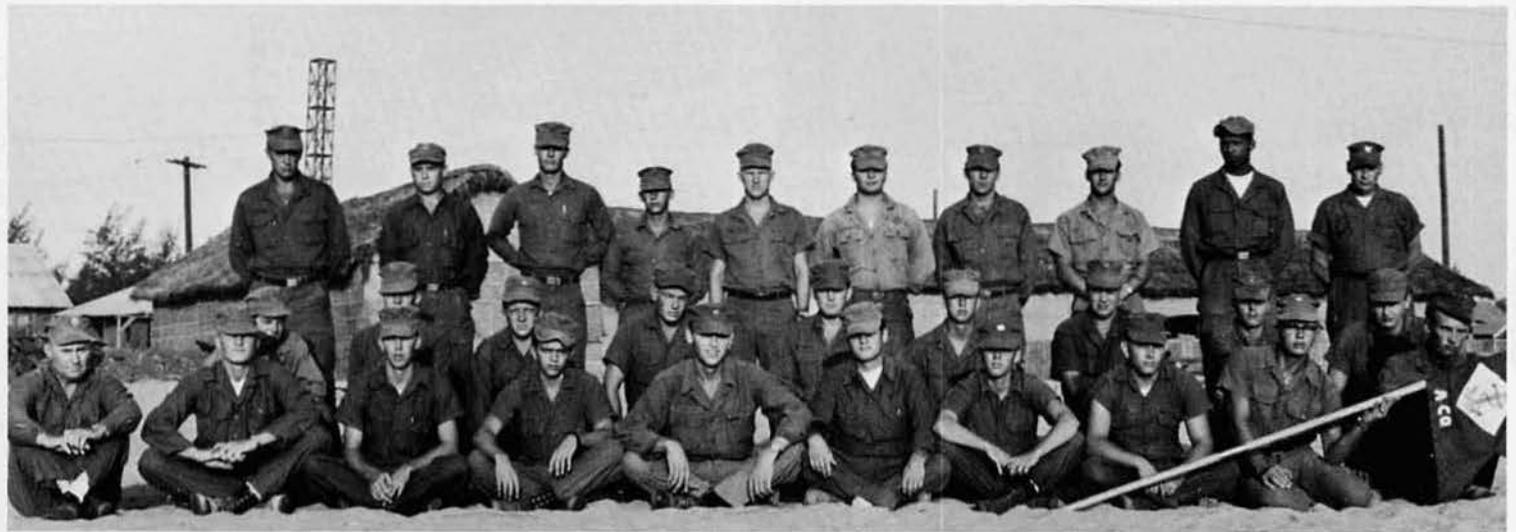
Alpha Company

Alpha Company's mission during the Chu Lai Deployment has been a challenge to both the men and the equipment used by this Company. During the deployment they met face to face the difficulties of weather, terrain, mobility and readiness. Almost immediately on arrival, the Company began the rehabilitation of taxiways. As soon as practical, a 24 hour operation of stabilizing the North 4,000 feet of runway was undertaken and completed on schedule. Road construction, runway repairs, quarry operation, rock crushing and site preparation are daily job assignments for Alpha Company. The maintenance of 300 pieces of construction equipment assigned to MCB FOUR is the job performed by our mechanics.

As part of the Nation's People to People Program, Alpha Company personnel are training and working with the people of the Republic of Vietnam. In our shops and in the field we are working for a free and better world in which to live.



LT R. D. Eber, CEC, USN
Company Commander



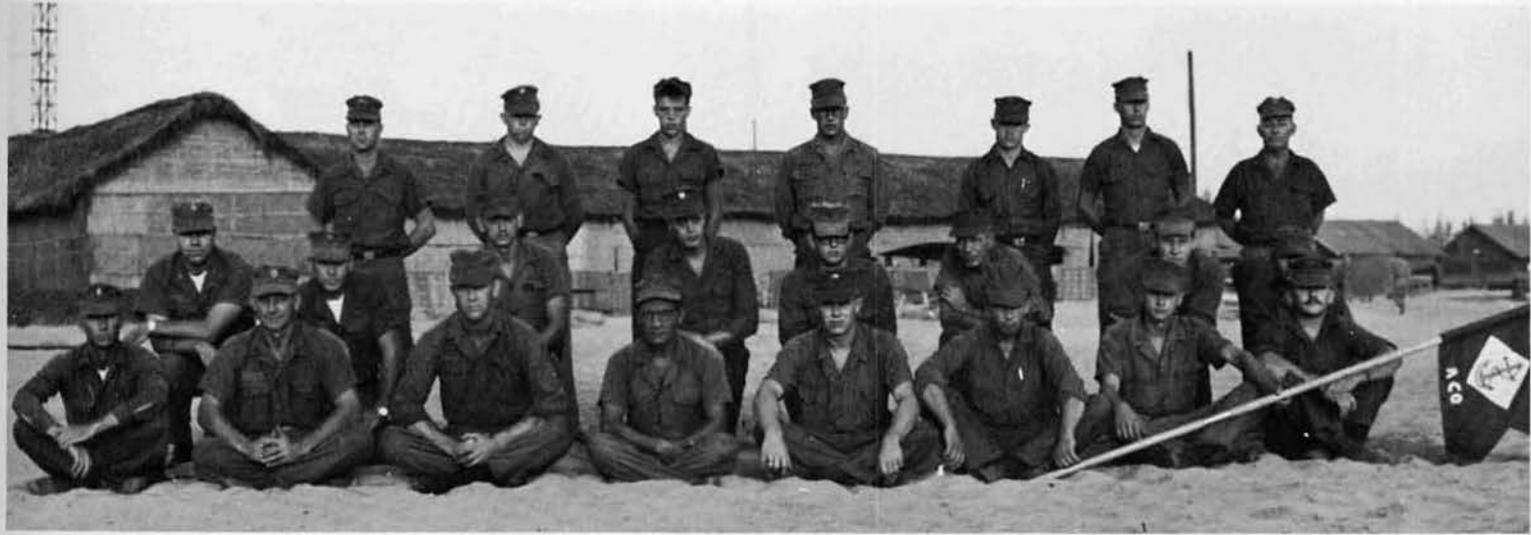
1ST PLATOON



2ND PLATOON



3RD PLATOON



4TH PLATOON



NIGHT CREW



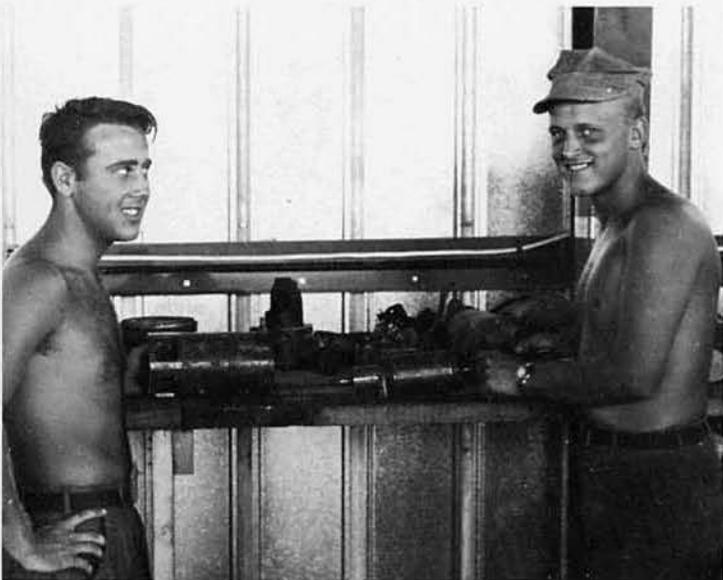
"Now, this is how it's done."



Typical PM Check



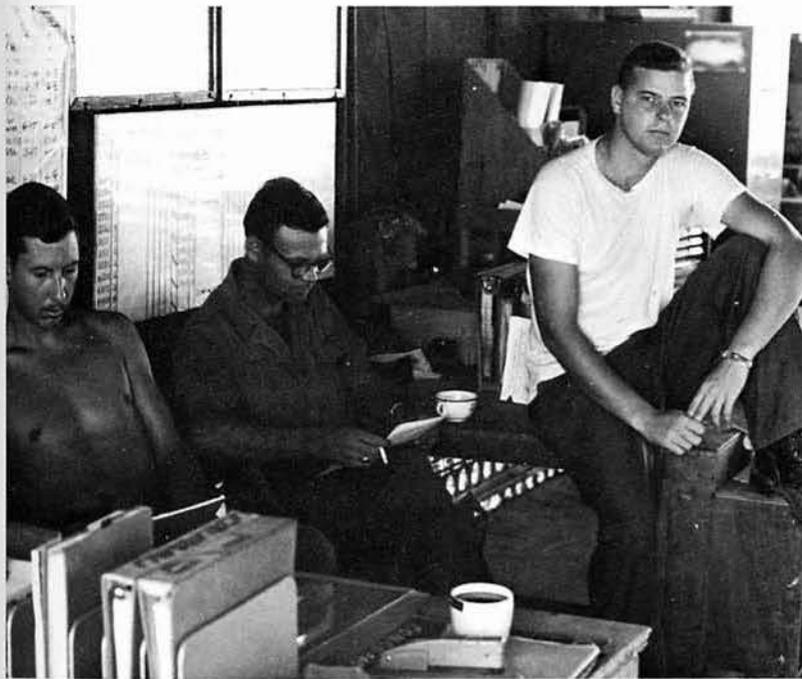
"Just a little more oil."



"OK, who took the brushes out of this generator?"



"Now these are the brakes."



Cost Control



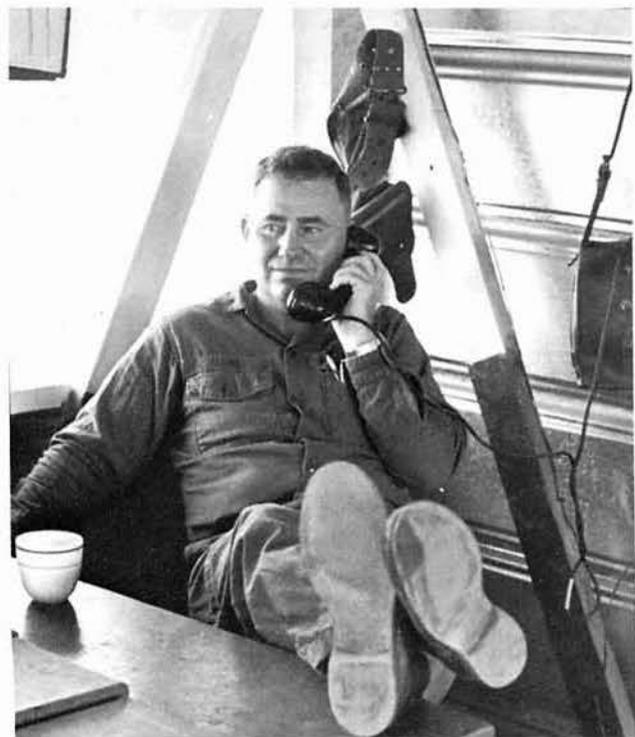
"Hey Ma, look at me!"



"Who's tired?"



"Change the air too???"



Shanks, hard at work.

The MSR



Curing the asphalt.



Preparing the base.



The finished product.

Filling and grading.



Laying a solid base.



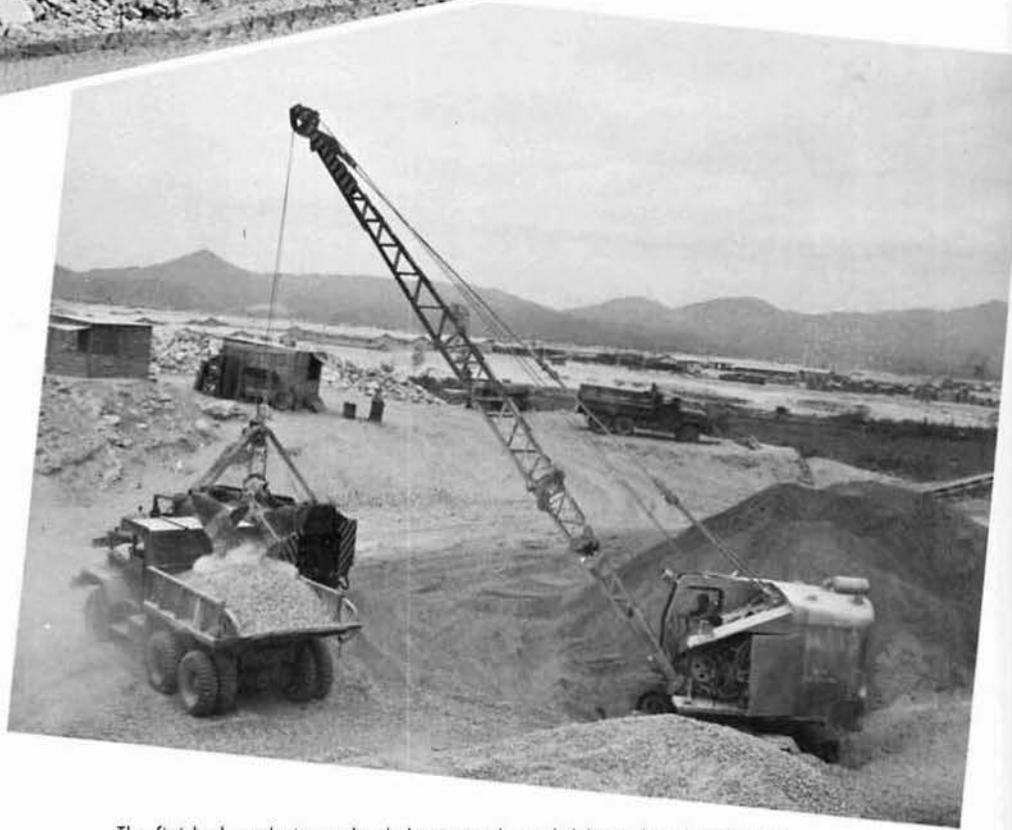
"How's this thing work anyway?"



Rock Crusher



Huge rocks were hauled in from the nearby quarry also operated by Alpha Company.



The finished products are loaded onto trucks and delivered to the job sites.



Runway Project



The rehabilitation of the North 4,000 feet of runway was a major operation. But in spite of its vastness, the men of "A" Company completed the job on schedule.



Kham Duc Construction Detail

Mobility and readiness of the SEABEES of MCB FOUR was called to a test in response to a need for emergency repairs to the Kham Duc Airfield near Camp Jackson, RVN. Within forty-eight hours of being alerted, a detail of fifteen

SEABEES with their engineering equipment and construction consumables was standing by to be airlifted to the scene of action.

The detail's primary mission was to repair the 6,000 foot runway at Kham Duc which had been eaten away by erosion. Waters from an adjacent stream and pond had virtually cut the airstrip in two, leaving only 4,000 feet of the runway usable.

The detail filled the eroded runway and provided a pavement of soil-cement mixture and alleviated the problem of drainage which had been the cause of the erosion.



The Construction Detail



Cargo is loaded on C-130



Combat Ready

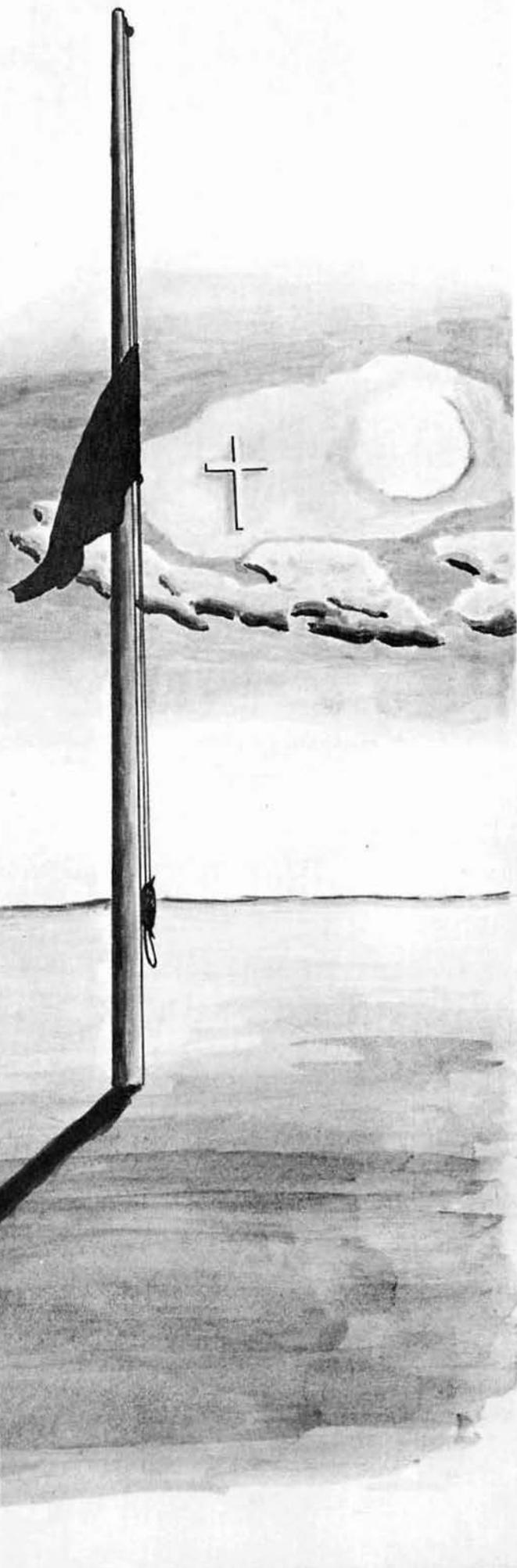
IN MEMORIUM

For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

2 CORINTHIANS: 4,11

ARNOLD JOE FAULKNER, born 28 June 1944 enlisted in the Navy on 26 July 1961. He joined MCB 4 on 14 February 1966 and was with a special detachment at Kam Duc, RVN when his earthly life came to a close on 22 March 1966.

"...grant them peace of heart and mind and comfort loved ones left behind..."



Bravo Company



Since MCB-4 left Roia, Spain, many new people have joined "B" Company, including a new Company Commander and Leading Chief. With guidance supplied by the "old hands" however, "B" Company has produced a fine record during the Chu Lai deployment. Because of a lack of electrical and utilities' material at the beginning of the deployment, many man-hours were expended by our company on work out-of-rate. The construction of our Camp Shields' galley and mess hall, completed with some assistance from "D" and "C" Companies is a prime example.

Company carpenters pre-cut hundreds of "strongbacks" for the Chu Lai Camps, despite frequent breakdowns of power saws. Likewise "B" Company Steelworkers turned out hundreds of telephone and power poles, by welding bomb racks end to end. The Electricians are credited with maintaining and improving the SATS runway lighting systems, wiring numerous buildings erected by other companies, running new secondary wiring inside and outside of camp, and keeping our camp power coming, (despite some interruptions). The UT's who bore the brunt of Camp Shields' sanitation and trash problems, came up smelling (not quite) like a rose. They also handled the water plant, the refrigeration units, and, best of all, our vaunted laundry machines. The field UT's pumped water for weeks during the SATS rehabilitation job, and, later in the deployment, got into some drain and water line jobs, as well as installation of ice-plant and refrigeration equipment at FLSG, and piping for POL tanks. Even the well drilling crew, after several crooked holes, began to bring 'em in, helping to alleviate the enclave water problem.

All in all, I believe that "B" Company personnel did a fine job in the Chu Lai deployment, with professional competence and good spirit.

LT(jg) THATCHER, CEC, USNR
"B" Company Commander



1ST PLATOON

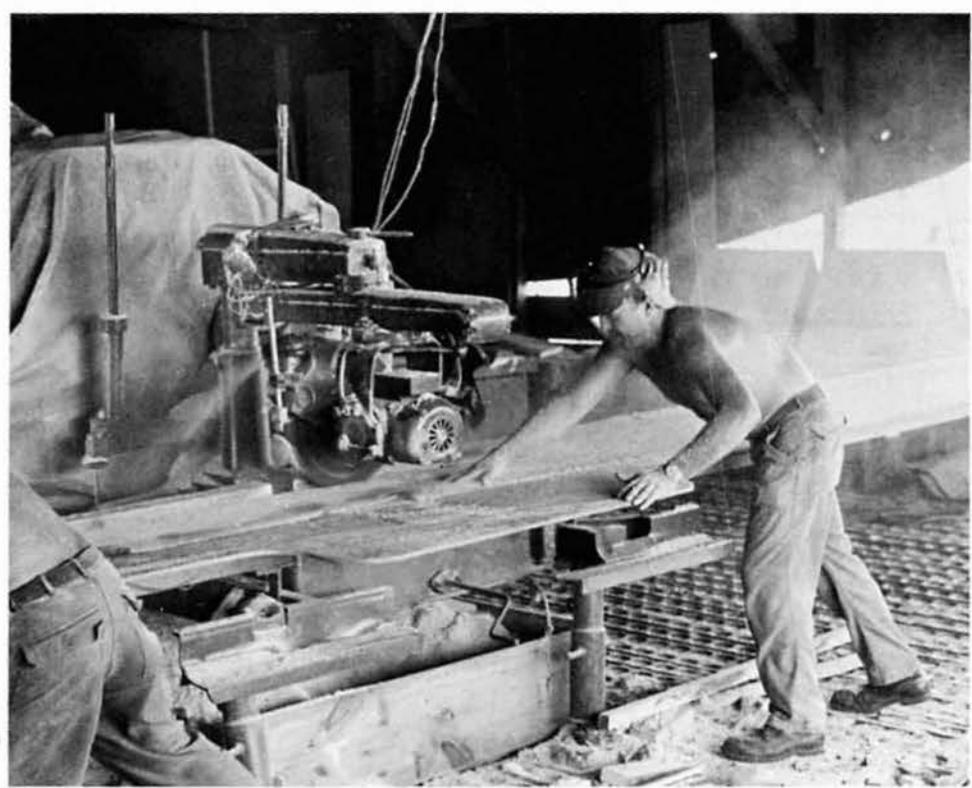


2ND PLATOON

Carpenter
Shop



"Anybody have a screwdriver?"



Carpenters pre-cut strongbacks.



Sewack



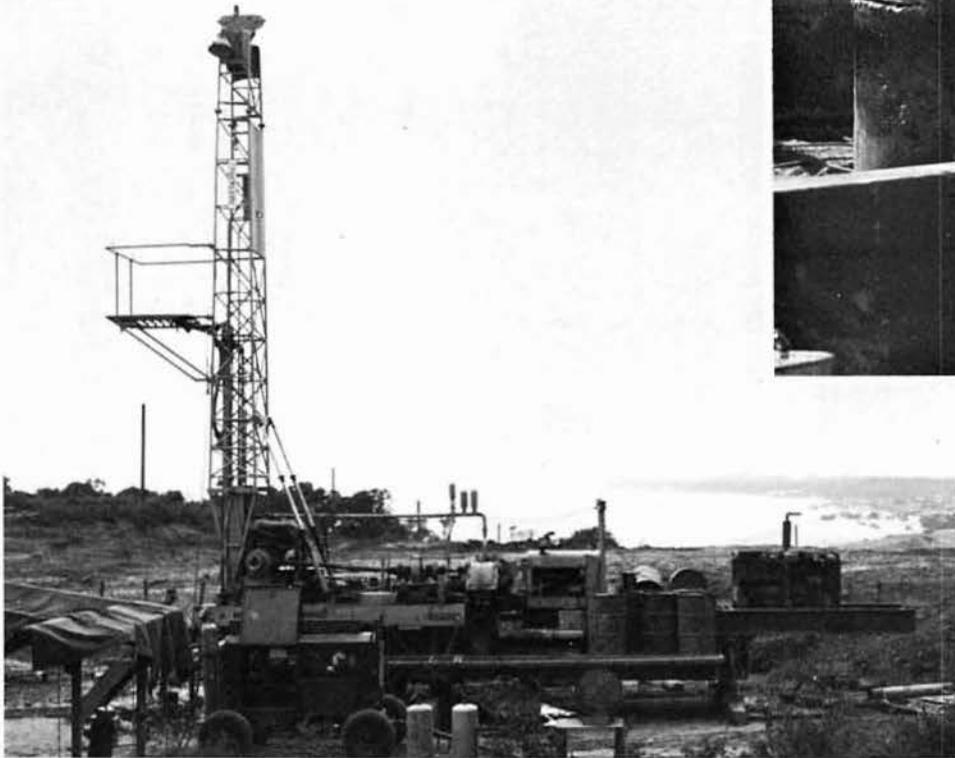
Fenes

World
Building
Shop

Well Drilling



Danner

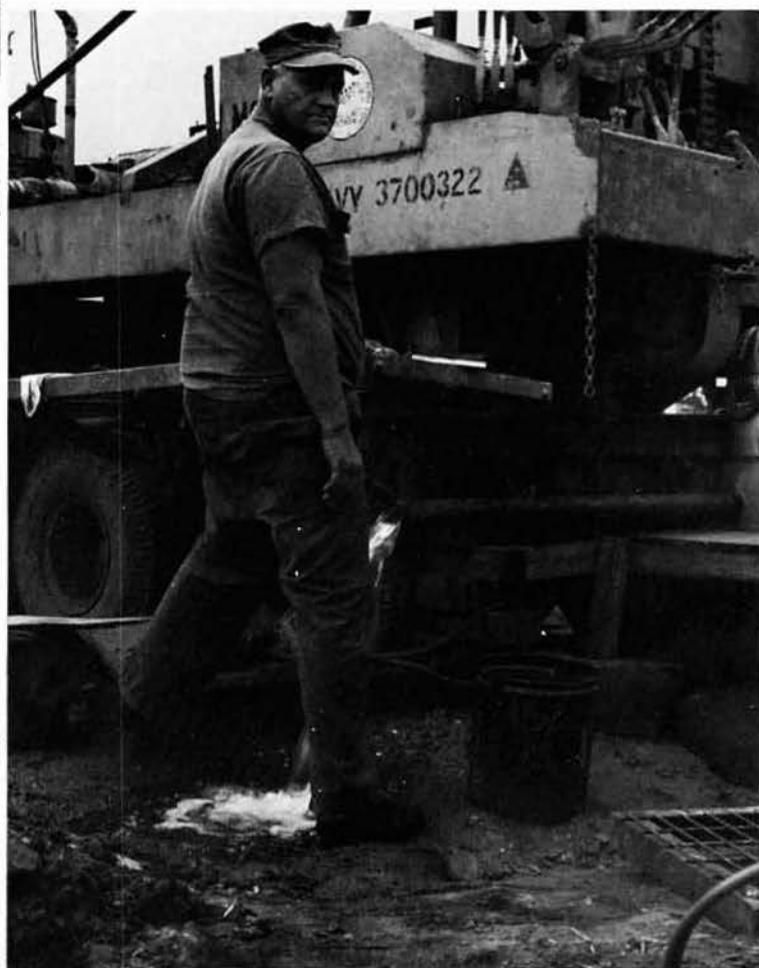


Well drilling crews worked around the clock giving water to the Chu Lai area.

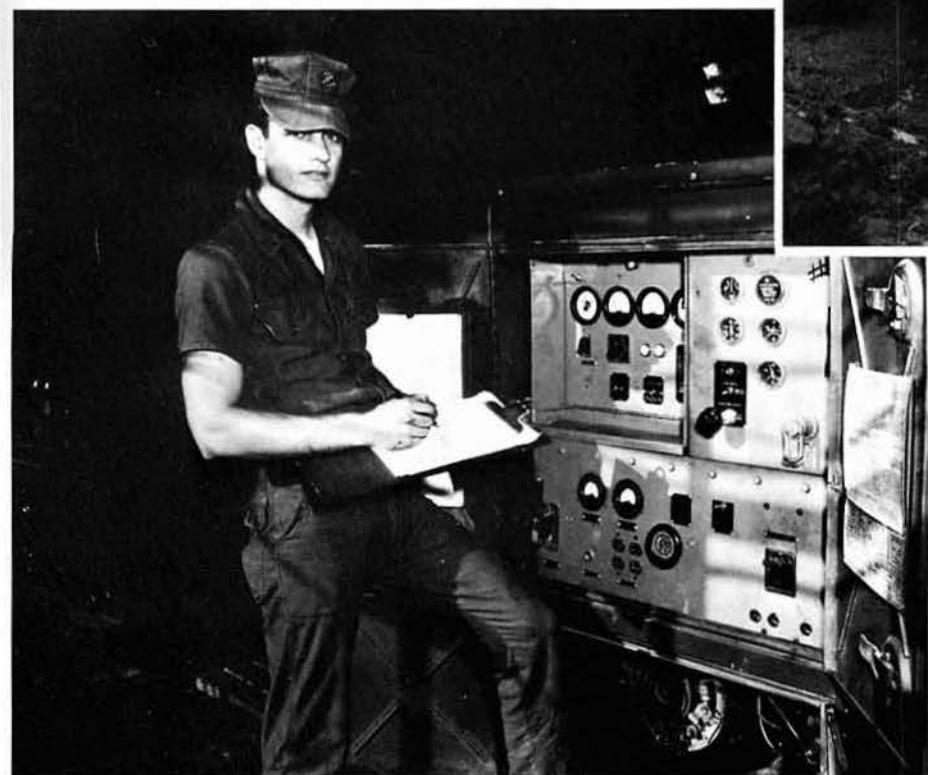




Haack, CEP3, aid in the installation of underground cable system.



Phillips, UTP2, at well drilling site.



Salmon, CES3, checks Camp generators.

Charlie Company



Today, Charlie Company finds itself in a new environment. We are building to support troops actively engaged in combat. We are building an entirely new base requiring every type of construction.

Our work ranges from the simple tent strongback erection, sand bag, and timber construction, to the large runway construction, steel erection, reinforced concrete and wood frame construction. We are experiencing the demands of an entirely new situation. In a short period of time we could be required to re-deploy and establish a new construction site. Any moment we must also be ready to cease construction and defend ourselves against attack.

The ability to adapt rapidly to new demands has not come automatically. Our past deployments have trained the Battalion and prepared it for just such a deployment as we now find in Chu Lai.

As Company Commander, I am very proud that every man in Charlie Company has done his best. Their hard work has enabled "C" Company to complete its share of MCB FOUR'S mission.

LT(jg) MELLON, CEC, USNR
Company Commander





2ND PLATOON



3RD PLATOON

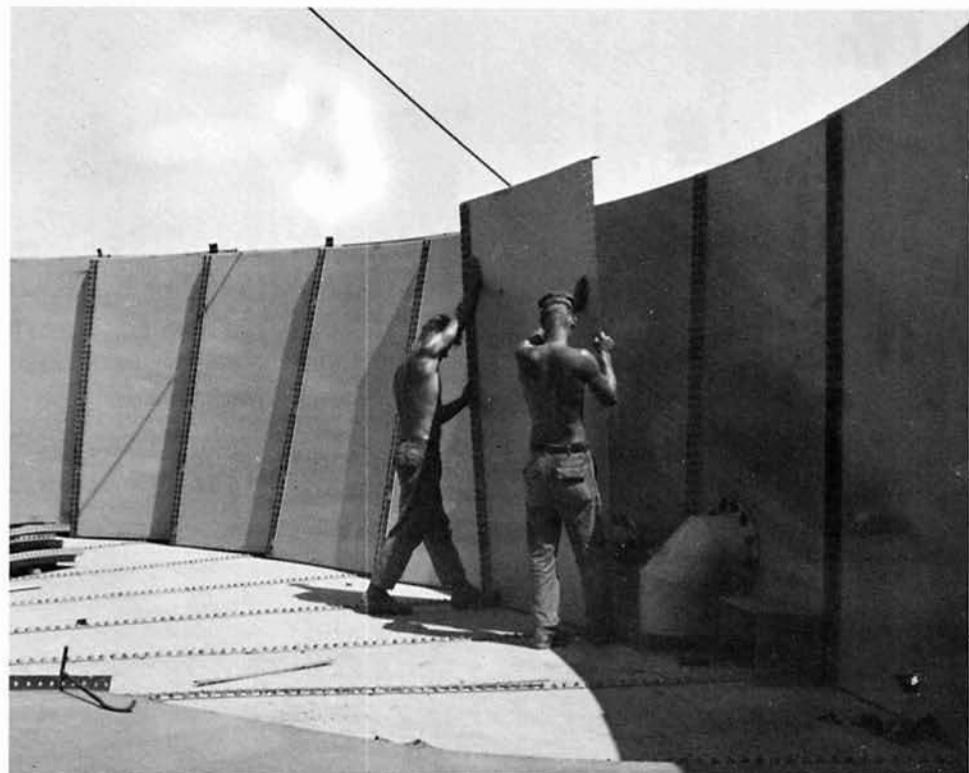
Pol Tank Project



POL Project site.



First layer of staves.



Preparing second layer of staves for erection.



Placement of gaskets.



Grege, Hannawalt, Jackson, Barber.



"Only 4,792 more to go."



Just taking a break.

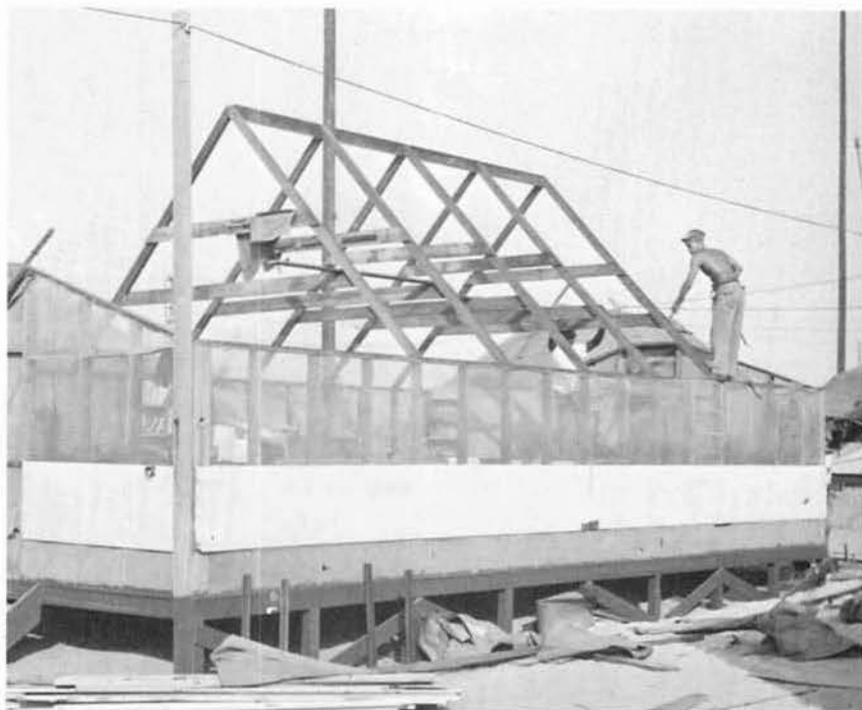


Silent hoist lifts staves into place.



Bird tightens deck bolts.

Camp Gets Metal Roofs



Preparing "strongbacks" for metal roofs.



"Of course I know how it works!"

Metal roofing is set in place.





Mag 36 Galley

Pouring pad for North wing of galley.

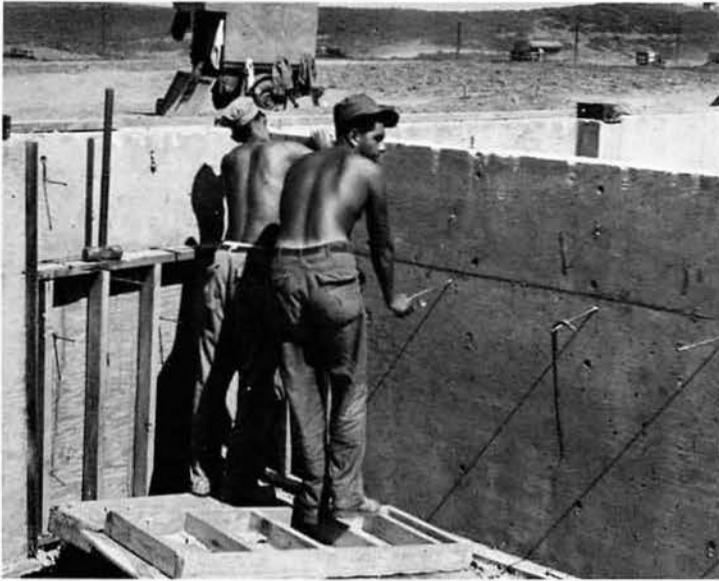


Floating it down.

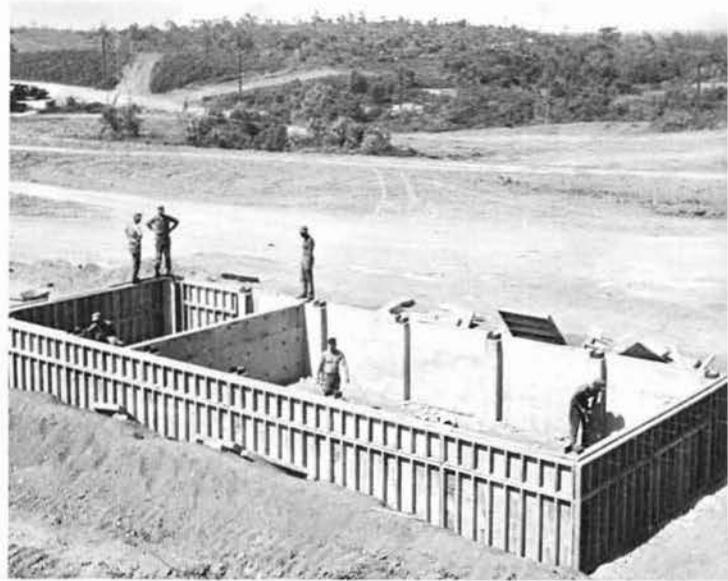


Pouring center section, North wing.

Ice Plant

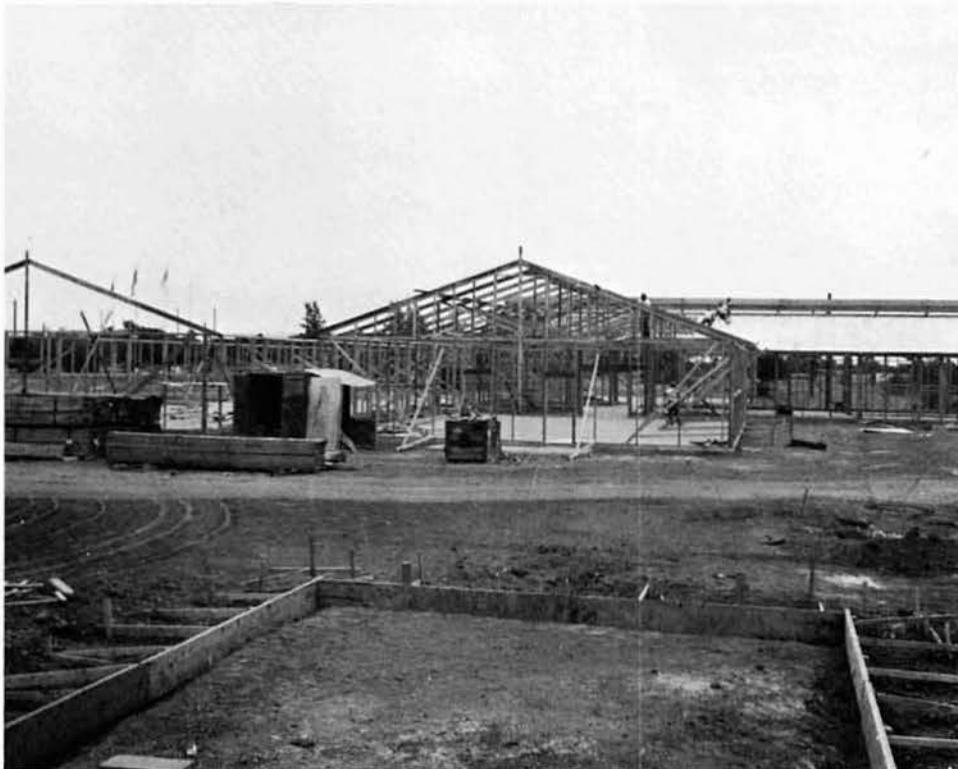


Removing forms.



Stripping outer walls.

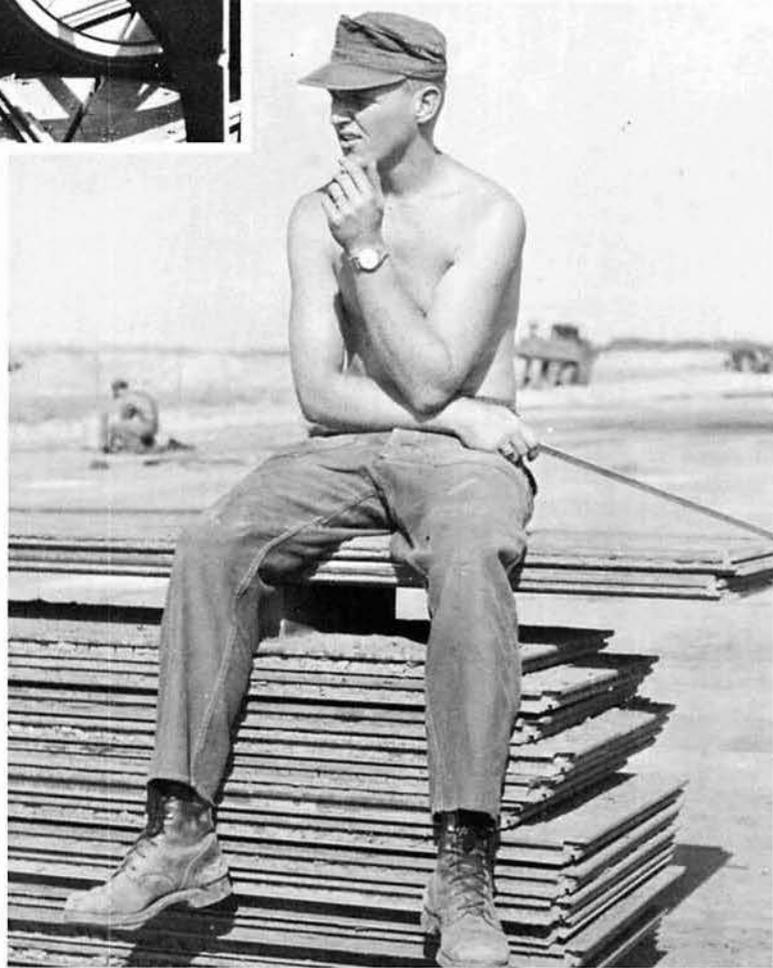
1st Mar Div Galley



2,000 man galley half completed.



Charlie Benn welds bomb racks end-to-end forming power line poles.



Garlock, CN, takes a break during the laying of runway matting.



Delta Company



Newly formed and eager for action, Delta Company came to Chu Lai with great anticipation. We were greeted with torrential rains, high winds, stinging sand, and long, hot days of work. These minor irritations were overcome as were the tremendous problems of providing engineering-construction support to Marine Combat Infantry and Logistical Support units.

In eight months, we have made our presence known, helping to improve and enhance the landscape. Where once was only ancient, barren land now stand modern facilities. Better housed, fed, and supplied are our Marines because of the efforts of Delta Company. Consequently, the Marines are better able to carry out their share of the U. S. Mission in South Vietnam.

We are proud to declare to friend and foe alike that we are glad to have served in South Vietnam!

LT(jg) MANDRY, CEC, USNR
Company Commander





2ND PLATOON



3RD PLATOON

Helo Pad



Digging footers for Butler Bldg.



Maintenance area for Butler Buildings, MAG 36.



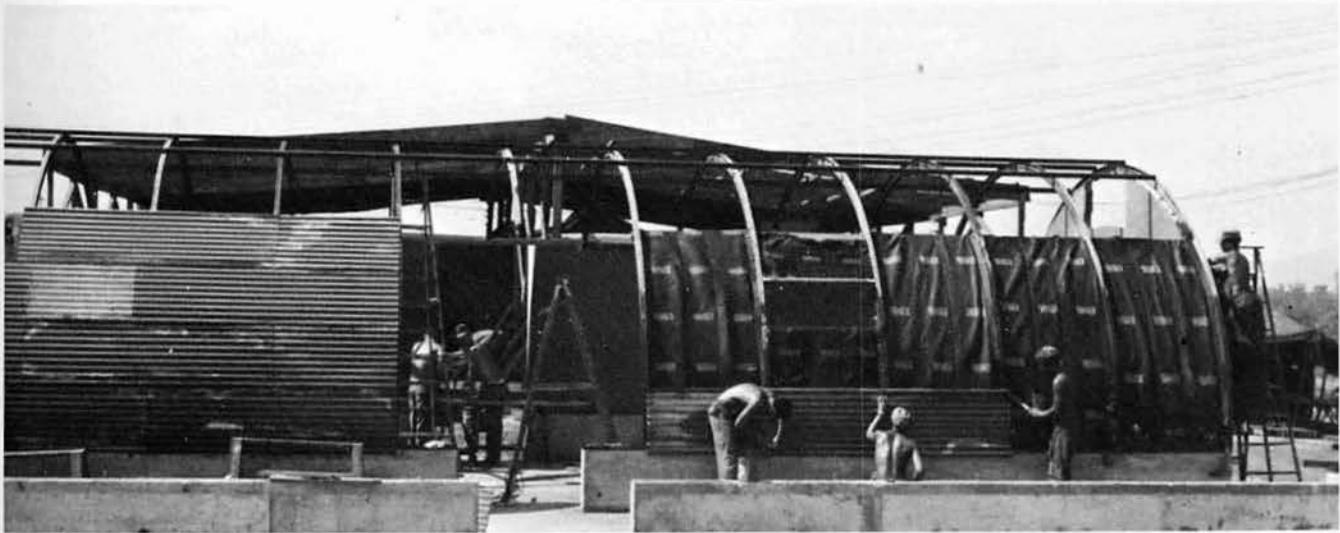
Preparing ribs for erection.



Laying matting for maintenance area.

"B" Med

Quonset Huts to be used as
operating rooms.

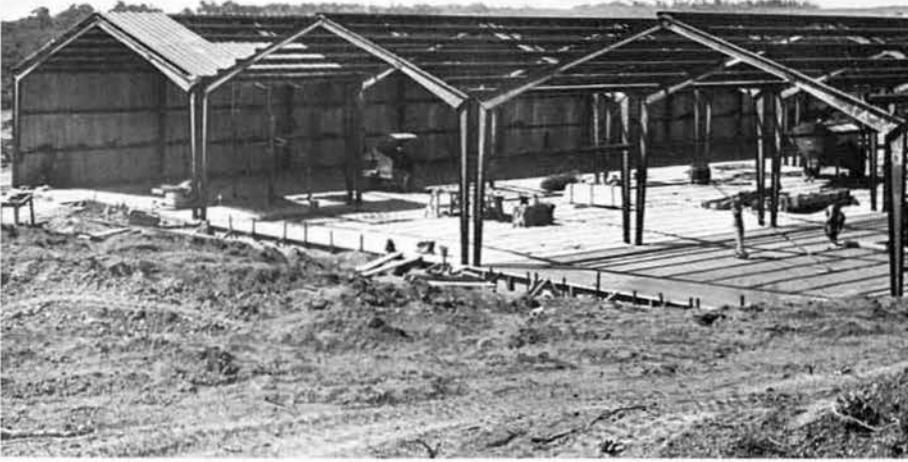


Another Quonset nearing completion.
(FLSG)



Installing suspended ceiling.
(B MED)

Six E Comp



Storage warehouse for FLSG.



Two Butler Complex, (FLSG).

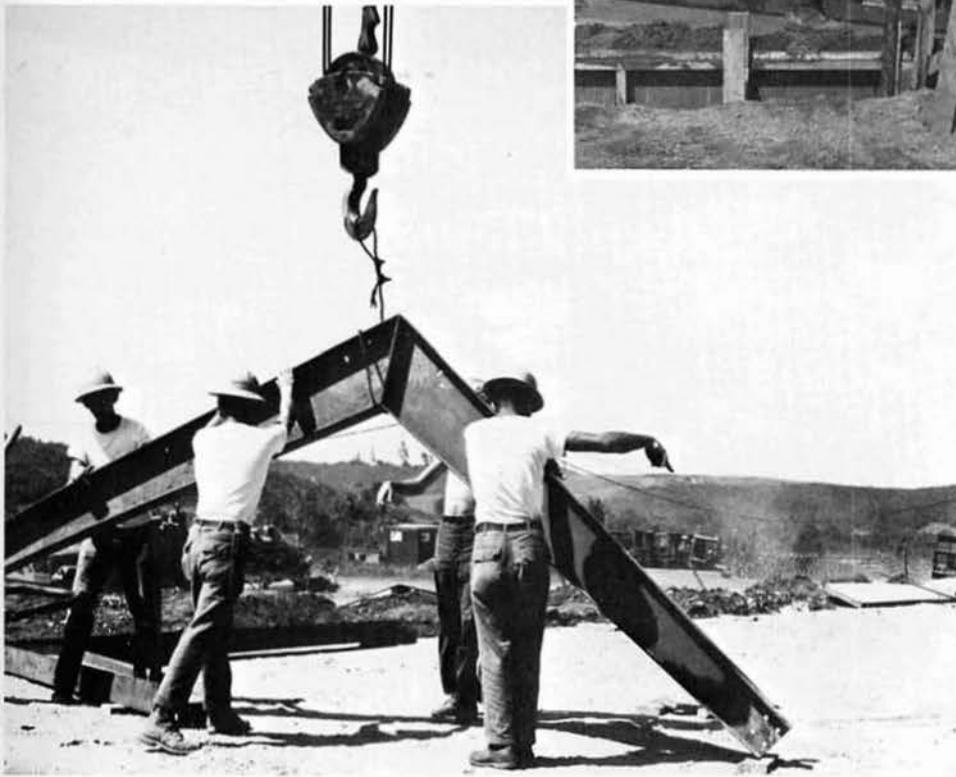


utler lex



Laying out ribs prior to erection. (Six Butler Complex)

Putting ribs together.



Installing the flashing.

Rhoades adds finishing touches.



Reefers



Site preparation and excavation.



Finisher product (background)



Reefers, 3/4 completed.



Preparation of forms before pour.
(Reefer Pad)



Leveling bottom of forms.

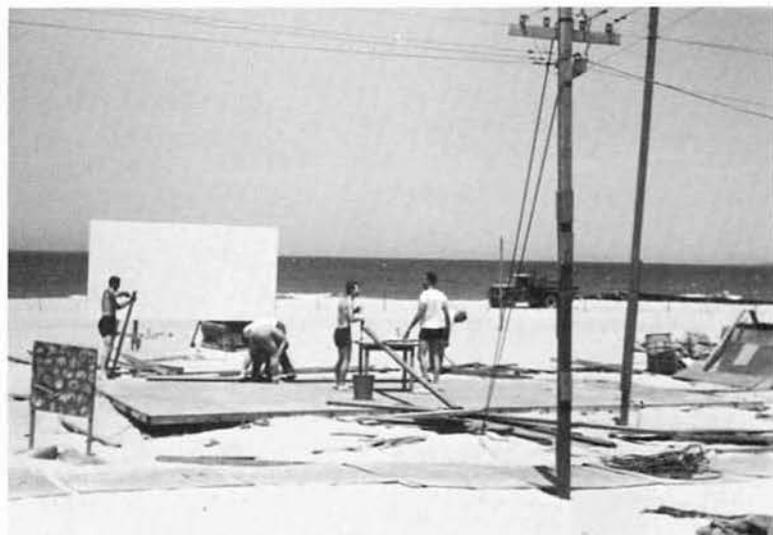


"Red" Behrens, "There must be an easier way."

Officer's Club



The Laterite Lounge



Making way for the new club.



"Just a simple flick of the wrist, and . . . #?%!"



Instruction in the use of hand tools.



"B" Company Officers



"We ran out of what???"

CPO's



"What next?"



Boot Chiefs



"You think we should give it back?"



"Congratulations"



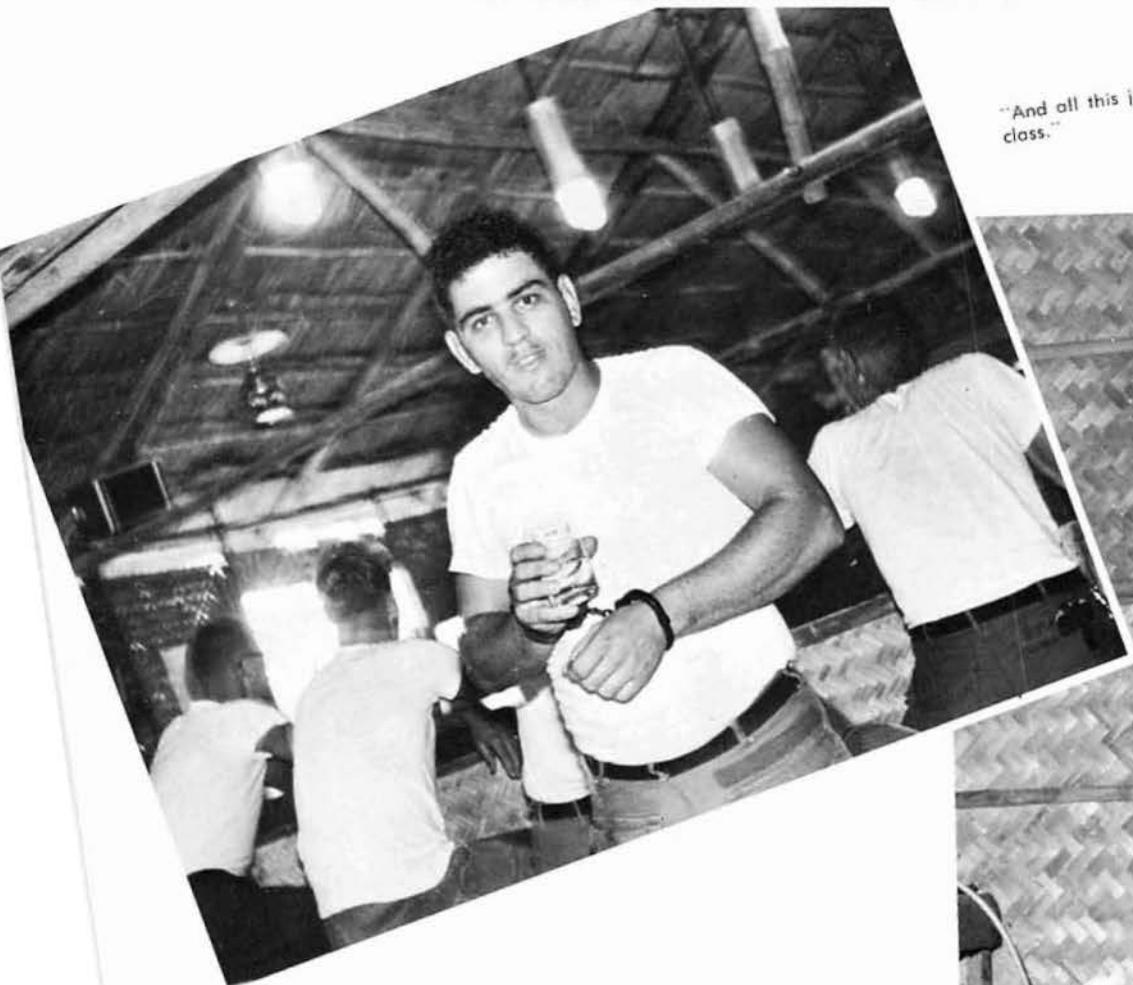
Modern construction methods of the SEABEES.

Acey Deucey

"Set 'em up!"



"And all this just because I made second class."



Schuerman

EM Club



"Sorry, only four per man."



"Who's a Teddy Bear?"

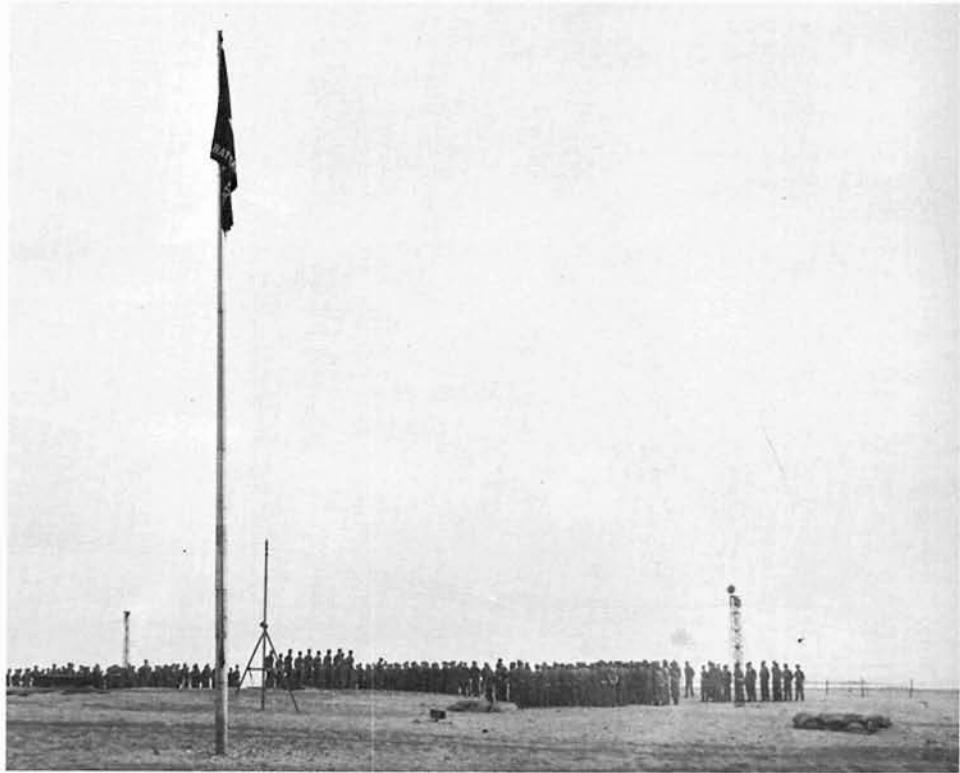


Mitchell on the "drums".



Morgan at the mike.

Inspection



Morning quarters.



Standing by for inspection.



O'Rourke makes second.



CO inspects "H" Company



"That little 'ole pop corn maker."



A little PT for the XO.



Our Chaplain.



SEABEES leave their mark.

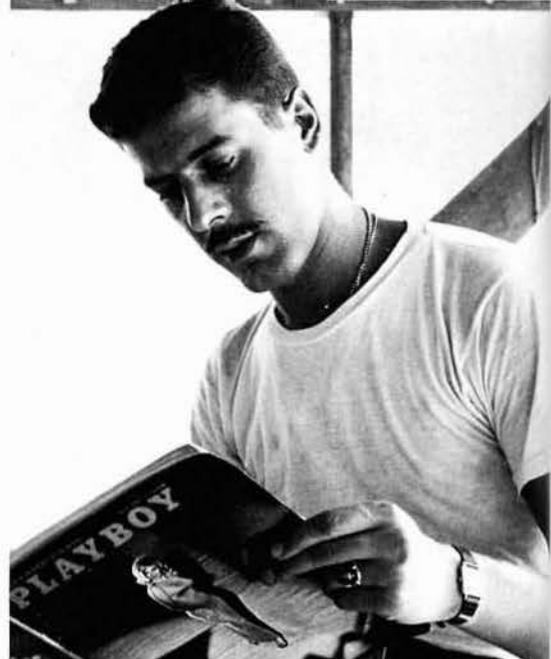


"Sorry, we're closed."

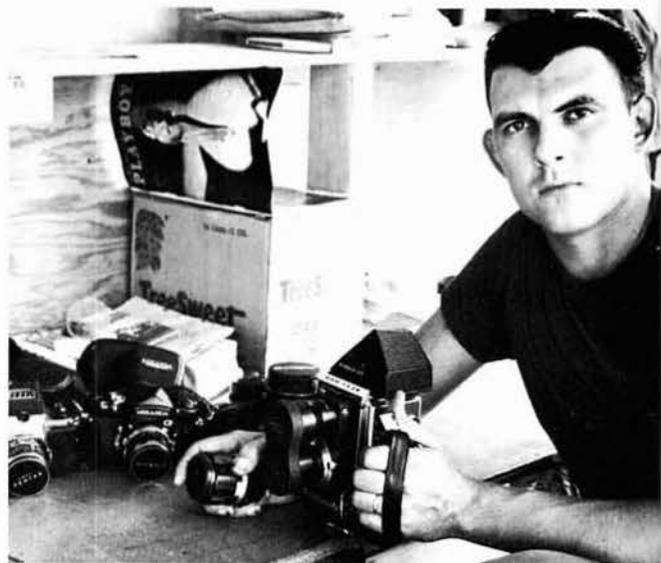
Cruisebook Staff



O. E. Miller, Artwork



J. A. Tatoes, Editor

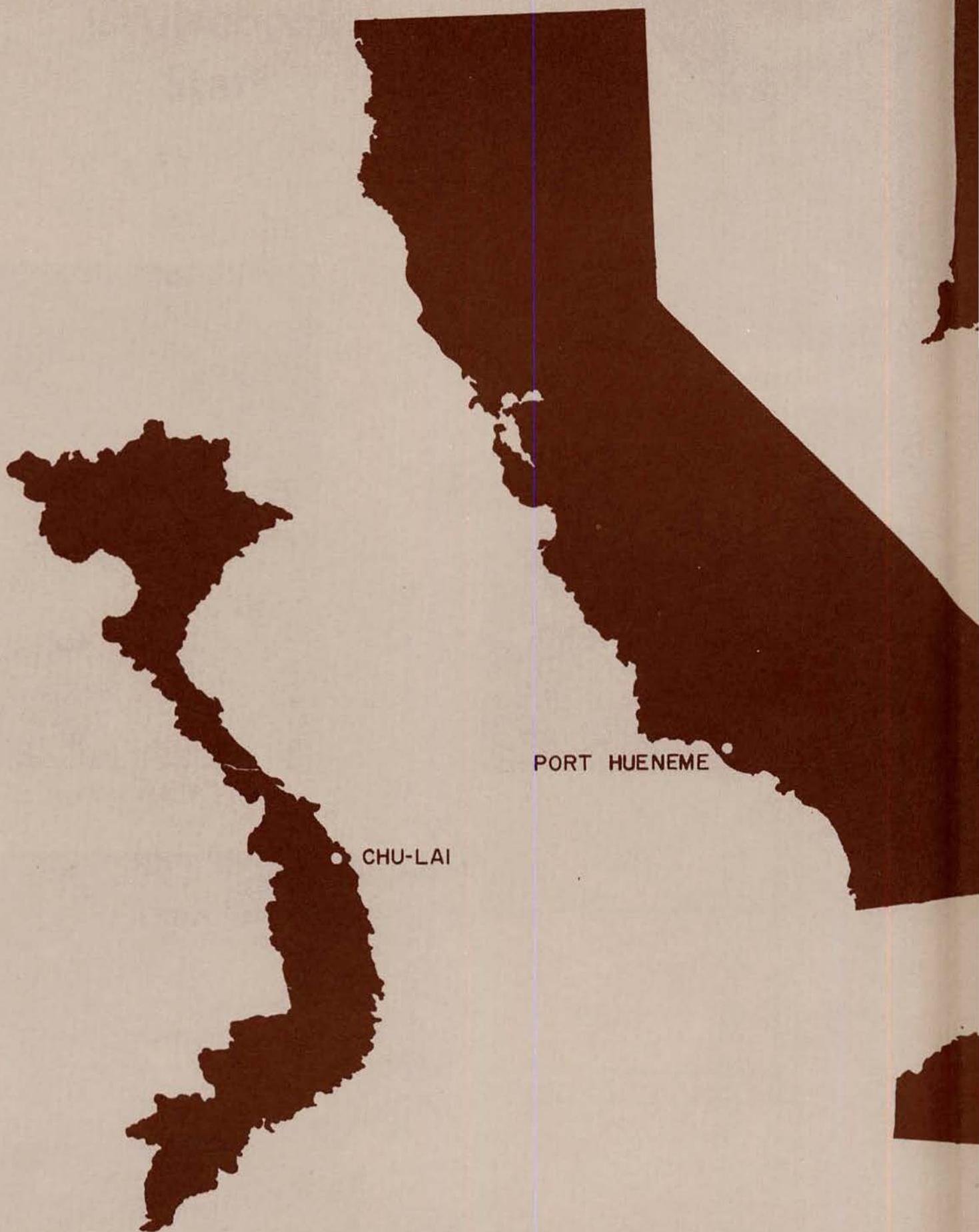


L. M. Underwood, Photography



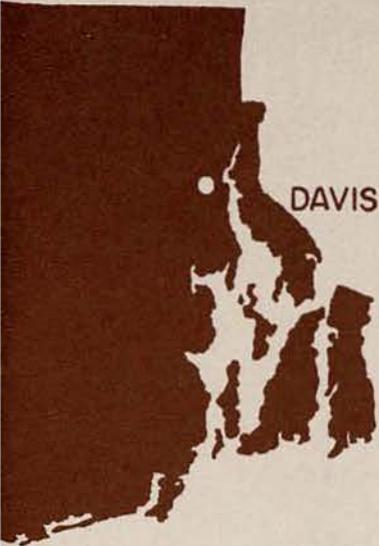
(Left) A. J. Eifert, Sales; P. N. Carriere, Distribution;
LCDR J. C. Haney, Jr., Advisor; R. D. Rombow, Sales.

(Not Pictured) E. H. O'Rourke, Asst. Editor; LT R. G.
Bachand, Photo Selection; L. E. Chapman, Sales;
C. G. Siedelhafer, Sales; R. J. Guter, Photo Captions.

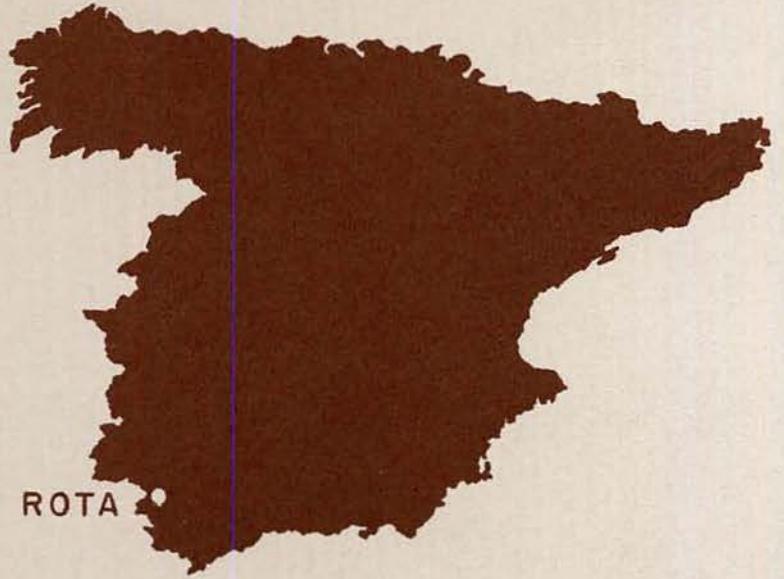


PORT HUENEME

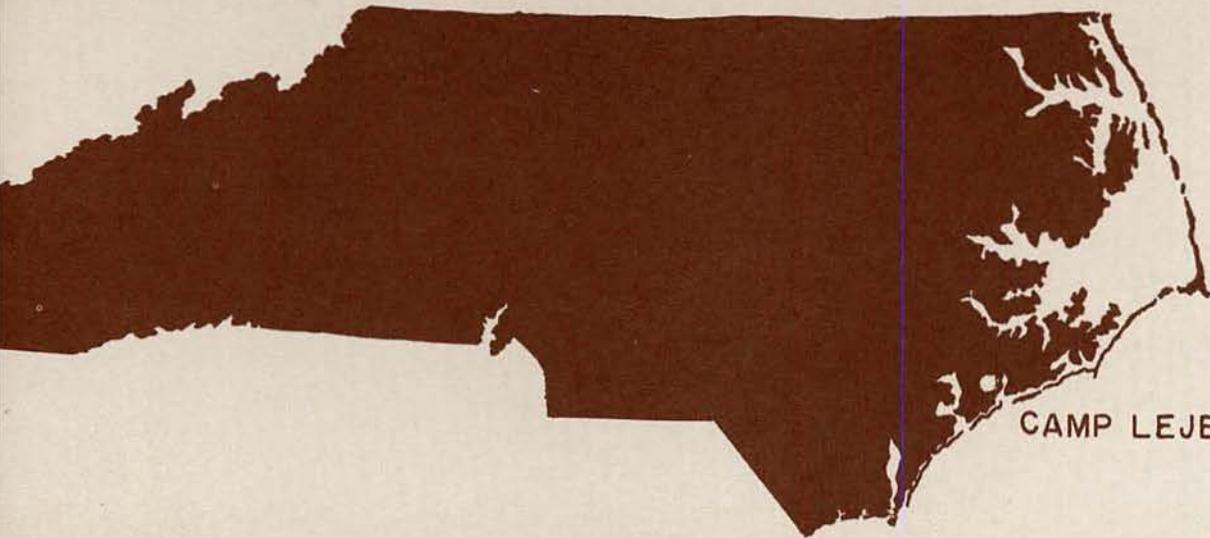
CHU-LAI



DAVISVILLE



ROTA



CAMP LEJEUNE

