

**U. S. NAVAL
CONSTRUCTION BATTALION
MAINTENANCE UNIT
THREE ZERO TWO**



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| 200 | OK |
| 201 | OK 3/72 |
| 230 | K 3/20 |
| 232 | Rgn 4/12 |
| 231 | 1/8 |

**Deployment Completion
REPORT**

AUG 67 — JAN 72

U.S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION MAINTENANCE UNIT THREE ZERO TWO

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96601

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From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit THREE ZERO TWO
To: Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Subj: Deployment Completion Report; submission of

Ref: (a) COMCBPACINST 5213.1F

Encl: (1) Introduction
(2) Narrative Summary
(3) Summary of Significant Events
(4) Administrative Summary
(5) Training Summary
(6) Communication Summary
(7) Equipment Summary
(8) Labor Distribution Summary
(9) Construction Summary
(10) Supply Summary
(11) Embarkation Summary
(12) Lessons Learned
(13) Construction Photographs

1. In accordance with reference (a), the completion report for the deployment of U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit THREE ZERO TWO during the period September 1967 through January 1972 is submitted as enclosures (1) through (13).


D. G. WILSON

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1 . INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

In September of 1967, U. S. Naval Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit THREE ZERO TWO deployed to the Naval Support Facility, Cam Rahn Bay, Republic of Vietnam to perform base maintenance and public works services for naval activities in Military Region TWO. The manning level of the battalion to perform these functions was eight officers and two hundred fifty enlisted personnel.

The battalion performed in this capacity throughout its tour in Vietnam while receiving many additional taskings which surpassed the scope normally attributed to a CBMU. Instead of a single unit homeported and supported on the premises of a naval activity, CBMU 302 became a wide-spread unit at one time comprising fifty-two detached elements reporting to the command unit.

When the battalion was tasked with construction of dependent shelters in 1969 and later when the range of its taskings was extended throughout all four military regions of Vietnam the size and composition of the battalion was altered significantly. Instead of a unit of moderate proportion requiring support from another naval activity and capable of providing only base maintenance and public work support, CBMU 302 became a fully self-supporting unit capable of providing base camp services not only for its own personnel but for those of another Seabee battalion as well. It grew in strength to become the largest Seabee battalion since World War II with 1400 men and considerable construction capability. In essence CBMU 302 had evolved into an organization having all of the characteristics and capabilities of a Naval Mobile Construction Battalion.

The battalion was maintained at a comprable strength to that of an NMCB until its redeployment from Vietnam in January 1972.

2 . NARRATIVE SUMMARY

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On November 6, 1971, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIVE hauled down its flag and departed Camp William L. LOGAN at Bein Hoa, leaving Naval Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit (CBMU) THREE ZERO TWO as the last remaining Seabee unit in Vietnam. CBMU 302 at that time was made up of twenty officers and five hundred eighty enlisted men. It was homeported at Bien Hoa's Camp Logan and had Naval Construction Action Teams scattered throughout Vietnam at twenty-two locations ranging from Thuan An in the north to the island of Poulo Obi, the southernmost location in Vietnam.

An unusual unit originally conceived to perform base maintenance and public works functions at established naval bases, CBMU 302 was commissioned in August of 1967 and deployed to its first homeport at the Naval Support Facility (Market Time Base), Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam. The unit was, at that time, composed of eight officers and 250 enlisted men to augment the base maintenance services provided to naval units in Military Region TWO by the Army under its contract with Pacific Architects and Engineers.

Since that time, CBMU 302 has experienced major changes in both manning levels and functions. In 1969 when then Vice Admiral ZUMWALT, the Commander of Naval Forces in Vietnam, implemented the navy's Vietnamization Program, he gave a top priority to the construction of dependent housing for the families of Vietnamese servicemen who would co-man and ultimately take over the myriad of naval bases in South Vietnam from the U. S. allies. CBMU 302 and her sister organization, CBMU 301, worked on the initial construction of the shelters, with 301 building in Military Region ONE from its headquarters in Danang and 302 working in Military Regions TWO and THREE from its Cam Ranh Bay base. Various deployed Naval Mobile Construction Battalions were operating in the Mekong Delta (Military Region FOUR) locations.

As the first U. S. personnel drawdown was announced in November of 1969, many U. S. naval personnel who had not completed a significant portion of their year-long tours in Vietnam became available for reassignment in-country. Many non-rated personnel in the airman, fireman and seaman ratings were ordered to CBMU 302, and in November of 1970 she became the largest Seabee unit since World War II, with more than 1,400 men permanently assigned.

The types of work performed by the scattered units also increased. While continuing to perform its base maintenance functions in Military Region TWO, CBMU 302 deployed construction action teams throughout Military Region TWO and THREE, undertook a variety of minor construction projects urgently required, and operated a school which taught the methods of base maintenance and public works to Vietnamese officer and enlisted personnel. This school, which operated from December 1969 through December 1970, was vital to the ability of the Vietnamese Navy to take over these bases within such a brief time.

3 . SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- a. 7 April 1967. Commissioning ceremonies were held for Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit THREE ZERO TWO, LT M. H. HARPER, CEC, USN, Commanding. Four officers and 118 enlisted men were assigned. Rear Admirals E. T. REICH and W. M. ENGER attended the ceremony held at CBC Port Hueneme, California.
- b. April-August 1967. CBMU 302 participated in rate training at CBC Port Hueneme and military training at Conejo Grande and Camp Pendleton, California.
- c. 12 August 1967. COMCBPAC message 120558Z AUG 67 directed the deployment of 50 men to NSA Saigon Detachment at Cam Ranh Bay, RVN.
- d. 19 August 1967. Advance party of LTJG B. B. EMORY, CEC, USN, and 50 enlisted men left Port Hueneme via Point Mugu for Cam Panh Bay aboard a C-118 aircraft.
- e. 27 August 1967. Advance party commenced preliminary shop construction at Cam Ranh Bay.
- f. 16-20 September 1967. Main body of CBMU 302, 3 officers and 97 enlisted men, deployed from Point Mugu to Cam Ranh Bay.
- g. 1 October 1967. A 30 man detail, led by ENS BANKERT, deployed from Cam Ranh Bay to Qui Nhon, RVN.
- h. 7 October 1967. SS VANTAGE PROGRESS arrived carrying CBMU 302's building materials, equipment and tools.
- i. 6-11 November 1967. Construction was completed on the first of the unit's two buildings at Cam Ranh Bay. Administration, Supply and Operations Departments occupied these buildings.
- j. 17 December 1967. A 20 man detail, led by BUC T. G. WOLFE, deployed from Cam Ranh Bay to NSAD Vinh Long and NSAD Sa Dec, RVN.
- k. 23 December 1967. NSAD Qui Nhon attacked by VC snipers. EOC R. L. SEARS was critically wounded by charge placed against barracks and he was Medivaced to Japan. Minor to moderate injuries were sustained by BU1 ODOM, CS2 TURNAGE and CET3 SNYDER.
- l. 26-30 December 1967. A new automotive shop at Cam Ranh Bay was occupied by Alpha Company.
- m. 17 January 1968. Two 40 X 100 foot butler building were completed and occupied by the automotive and facilities maintenance shops.
- n. 19 February 1968. Permanent details were established at Dong Tam and My Tho. Temporary details were sent to Bung Ro to construct storage and shop spaces and install pontoon pier for Unit 5 of Inshore Underwater Warfare Group ONE, Western Pacific Detachment.
- o. 16 February 1968. 1968 Tet Offensive disrupted work at all istes. There was a brief small arms attack at NSAD Qui Nhon. NSAD Vinh Long, housing 9 CBMU 302 personnel was overrun for two days.

- p. 19 February 1968. CBMU 302 assumed all transportation functions at Naval Support Facility, CRB.
- q. 16 March 1968. Rear Admiral COMBS, COMSERVPAC, visited CBMU 302 facilities at Cam Ranh Bay.
- r. 23 March 1968. New Enlisted Men's Club opened at NSF, CRB.
- s. 28 March 1968. Captain DUNCAN, New Commander, NSA Saigon, inspected CBMU 302 facilities.
- t. 1 April 1968. Construction of a 60 foot watch tower was completed at NAVCOMSTA, Cam Ranh Bay.
- u. 23 April 1968. Rear Admiral HEAMAN, COMCBPAC, visited CBMU 302 facilities.
- v. 2 May 1968. Work started on soil-cement stabilization project for an open storage area including four supply warehouses.
- w. 6 May 1968. An Thoi detail returned to Cam Ranh Bay.
- x. 14 May 1968. Work was completed on dynamoter and engine test stand at NSF, CRB.
- y. 15 May 1968. Dong Tam detail completed construction of fire main system at CTF 117 headquarters. Twenty-five man detail sent to NSAD Binh Thuy.
- z. 5 June 1968. A 40 foot observation tower was completed at NSF, CRB.
- aa. 9 June 1968. Seventeen man detail was sent to Cat Lo for minor construction and maintenance.
- bb. 24 June 1968. CBMU 302 was assigned to construct eight 50 X 128 foot ammo storage pads consisting of three sides and a roof.
- cc. 1 July 1968. CBMU 302 began construction of ammo storage pads at NSF, CRB.
- dd. 18 July 1968. CBMU 302 personnel completed a hardstand of the supply warehouse for NSF, CRB.
- ee. 5 August 1968. A six man detachment was deployed to Vung Ru to construct quarters and administrative spaces for the ISB.
- ff. 2 September 1968. LCDR H. W. FILBRY, CEC, USN, relieved LCDR M. H. HARPER, CEC, USN, as Commanding Officer of CBMU 302. CBMU 302 was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation during the change of command ceremony for the period ending 1 January 1968.
- gg. 4 October 1968. CAPT RIZZA, Chief of Staff, COMNAVFORV, visited CBMU 302.
- hh. 27 October 1968. Vice Admiral E. R. ZUMWALT, Jr., COMNAVFORV, visited CBMU 302.
- ii. 28 October 1968. The advance party for Detail GOLF was deployed to NSF, CRB.
- jj. 9 November 1968. The Enlisted Men's Club at NSF, CRB was opened.
- kk. 23 November 1968. CBMU 302 personnel effected repairs to roads at CRB damaged by Typhoon Mami.

ll. 20 December 1968. Construction commenced on 40 X 100 foot raised bunker at NSF, CRB to provide protected area for repair of reverine craft.

mm. 3 December 1968. Rear Admiral HEAMAN, CEC, USN, visited CBMU 302 in company with Rear Admiral H. J. JOHNSON, OICC, RVN, and CAPT M. J. HARPER, Jr., ROICC, CRB.

nn. 16 December 1968. Dong Ha airstrip parking apron and taxiways leading from the airstrip were resurfaced. 1,800 square yards of matting was installed for the FIFTEENTH Aero Port Squadron. A 36 X 45 foot rough terrain forklift repair shop was completed at the Dong Ha LCU ramp.

oo. 1 January 1969. Enlisted Men's Club at NSF, CRB was completed and formally opened.

pp. 15 February 1969. 40 X 96 foot Butler building completed at Qui Nhon. Nha Trang construction included reinforcing retainer walls, extension of galley and a five foot walkway into the bay.

qq. 16 March 1969. PCF overhaul structure was completed at NSF, CRB. The access road was completed at radar site on Con Son Island. 20 X 40 foot structure was completed at Cau Mau Peninsula.

rr. 12 April 1969. Mobile Team 30206 was deployed to Newport to construct two 20 X 150 foot and one 20 X 50 foot wood frame paint and oil storage sheds; one 26 X 54 woodframe sealand van ramp shelter; one 40 X 72 foot butler vehicle maintenance building and one concrete grease rack.

ss. 22 May 1969. The Honorable J. H. CHAFEE, Secretary of the Navy, visited NSF, CRB. A representation of CBMU 302 officers and men was introduced during the Secretary's tour of the area. Vice Admiral E. R. ZUMWALT, Jr., COMNAVFORV, accompanied the Secretary.

tt. 27 May 1969. The installation of a 440 volt system to NSF, CRB galley and the erection of the MARS antenna was completed

uu. 28 May 1969. Detail India deployed to Ben Luc RVN to perform maintenance and construction in support of NSAD, Ben Luc.

vv. 4 June 1969. Facilities on ammi pontoons for Operation SEAFLOAT were completed.

ww. 24 July 1969. Mobile Team 30216 was deployed to NAVSUPACT DET Ben Luc, RVN to initiate a self-help pilot program for the construction of Vietnamese Naval Personnel Dependent Shelters.

xx. 16 July 1969. Mobile Team 30215 was deployed to Saigon to make electrical repairs and improvements to Navy assets in the Saigon area.

yy. 16 August 1969. LCDR. H. H. HARRELL, CEC, USN relieved LCDR H. W. FILBRY, CEC, USN as Commanding Officer of CBMU 302.

zz. 28 August 1969. Admiral MOORER, Vice Admiral ZUMWALT, Captain RAVCH and party visited site of Team 30216 and inspected dependent shelter project.

aaa. 8 October 1969. Mobile Team 30219 was deployed to Qui Nhon as supervisors and advisors to the Vietnamese Navy to convert existing building to dependent shelters.

bbb. 4 November 1969. Seabees of CBMU 302 aided the village of CRB in recovering the carcass of a dead whale from the surf. The whale is sacred to these fishermen and its recovery and subsequent burial would be the greatest event in the history of the village. Seabees worked most of the night on the project, securing the good will, gratitude and admiration of the village elders and clergymen.

ccc. 25 November 1969. The block plant at NAF, CRB was placed in operation.

ddd. 21 December 1969. Initial construction was begun on the electrical improvements at Vung Tau.

eee. 1 January 1970. Team 30226 was deployed to Tho Doc to construct 200 dependent shelter units.

fff. 4 January 1970. Detail JULIETTE was deployed to Dong Tam to commission the Public Works Maintenance Training School in support of the ACTOVLOG Vietnamization Program.

ggg. 23 January 1970. NAVCAT SIX was deployed to An Thoi to construct 194 dependent shelter units at Hon Kho.

hhh. 16 February 1970. Construction was initiated on the dependent shelter units at Hon Kho.

iii. 5 March 1970. The first phase of the dependent shelter project at Ben Luc was completed.

jjj. 27 March 1970. Rear Admiral BARTLETT and Rear Admiral MARSCHALL visited CBMU 302 headquarters at CRB.

kkk. 14 April 1970. Construction was begun by NAVCAT EIGHT on the dependent shelters at Cu Long.

lll. 13 May 1970. Assistant Secretary of Defense Roger T. KELLY visited CBMU 302.

mmm. 22 May 1970. NAVCAT FOURTEEN was deployed to An Khon to construct VNN dependent shelters and to provide technical assistance for the Vietnamese to construct VNN dependent shelters.

nnn. 2 May 1970. The staff of CBMU 302's Familygram was awarded the CHINFO Merit Award.

ooo. 19 June 1970. NAVCAT ELEVEN completed their project at Hon Khoi.

ppp. 28 June 1970. Secretary of the Navy John H. CHAFEE and party visited Ben Luc and Nha Trang sites.

qqq. 24 July 1970. Mobile Team 30238 completed the construction of several structures at the NAVFORV compound.

rrr. 14 August 1970. CDR H. E. KEPPEL, Jr., relieved LCDR H. H. HARRELL as Commanding Officer of CBMU 302 at NSF, CRB, RVN.

sss. 14 August 1970. The turnover ceremony was held at NSF, CRB for 185 of the projected 575 dependent shelter units.

ttt. 18 August 1970. NAVCAT FIFTEEN completed construction of 74 dependent shelters at NSAD Qui Nhon.

uuu. 5 September 1970. Forty dependent shelters at Binh Ba were turned over to the Vietnamese Navy.

vvv. 15 September 1970. ECHO Company took over operations from CBMU 301 in Military Region ONE and commenced assigned construction at Tien Sha and Thuan An with NAVCAT ONE and NINETEEN respectively.

www. 7 October 1970. Constuction was completed on the NAF, CRB Chapel.

xxx. 24 October 1970. At Thu Duc 130 VNN dependent shelters were completed. The remainder of the tasking was to be completed by NMCB ONE THREE THREE.

yyy. 25 November 1970. Detail JULIETT, the Public Works Maintenance Training School at Dong Tam completed the tasking. The school functions were turned over to Logistic Support Base, Dong Tam.

zzz. 22 December 1970. NAVCAT SEVENTEEN was deployed to Rach Soi to begin construction on dependent shelters.

aaaa. 21 January 1971. Project Protein at CRB was completed. This included 1 feed mill and 1 furrow barn.

bbbb. 25 January 1971. Phase I of 108 dependent shelters at Cuu Long was turned over to the VNN.

cccc. 7 February 1971. 116 dependent shelters at Camp Tien Sha were turned over to the VNN.

dddd. 18 February 1971. 120 units of dependent shelters at Nha Trang were turned over.

eeee. 27 February 1971. 174 housing units were turned over in ceremonies at Ben Luc.

ffff. 8 March 1971. 27 dependent shelter units at Tan My were turned over.

gggg. 15 March 1971. 160 units of dependent shelters turned over to VNN at Cam Ranh Bay Naval Training Center. A school and convent were also turned over.

hhhh. 15 March 1971. 94 dependent shelters turned over to VNN in ceremonies held at An Khan.

iiii. 30 March 1971. 285 units of dependent shelters turned over to VNN at Dong Tam.

jjjj. 20 April 1971. A 5 room schoolhouse was built at Tan Binh Orphanage.

kkkk. 27 April 1971. Advance party of CBMU 302 was deployed from CRB to the new base camp at Bein Hoa.

llll. 10 May 1971. Headquarters of CBMU 302 was shifted from CRB to Bien Hoa.

mmmm. 10 June 1971. NAVCAT TWENTY was deployed to Nam Can to construct 100 dependent shelters.

nnnn. 31 July 1971. Vietnamese mess hall at NSF, CRB and a warehouse for VNN personnel at Saigon were completed.

oooo. 2 August 1971. CDR D. G. WILSON, CEC, USN relieved CDR H. E. KEPPEL, Jr., CEC, USN as Commanding Officer of CBMU 302.

pppp. 7 August 1971. Potable water system completed at Cat Lo. 226 units of dependent shelter were completed at Danang.

qqqq. 28 September 1971. MACV Annex construction including modification to administrative spaces, construction of a vault for disbursing office and construction of urinalysis collection point was completed.

rrrr. 30 September 1971. Saigon Block Plant closed down.

ssss. 16 October 1971. 34 units of dependent shelters were completed at Cuu Long.

tttt. 20 October 1971. Drainage improvements were completed at Air Cofat facilities in Saigon.

uuuu. 15 November 1971. Cam Ranh Bay Block Plant was renovated into mechanic ship for NAF, CRB.

vvvv. 29 November 1971. 150 units of dependent shelter were turned over at Thuan An. Word received for CBMU 302 to return to Port Hueneme with 175 Seabees to remain in-country to complete unfinished taskings. Battalion return was to be initiated in January 1972.

wwww. 17 December 1971. 16 dependent shelters were completed at Chu Lai.

xxxx. 22 December 1971. Supply Receiving Building at VNN shipyard in Saigon was completed by NAVCAT EIGHT.

yyyy. 28 December 1971. Improvements on Monkey Mountain ACTOVRAD site were completed by NAVCAT ONE.

zzzz. 29 December 1971. Dependent shelter construction was completed at Nam Can and Cu Lao Re Island.

aaaa. 30 December 1971. Three buildings comprising Danang protein project were completed.

bbbb. 12 January 1972. Advance party, Detail LINUS deployed to Port Hueneme.

cccc. 22 January 1972. Turnover ceremony was held at Camp W. L. LOGAN signifying the redeployment of CBMU 302 to Port Hueneme and transfer of the base camp to the U. S. Army.

dddd. 24 January 1972. The main body arrived at Port Hueneme, California.

A. PERSONNEL

The personnel office was very active due to the one year tour of personnel and the continuously changing manpower requirements. Receipts and transfers at peak months were over 600 personnel and on a normal month involved receiving 60 personnel and transferring 60 personnel.

From an initial strength of 190 in December 1967 the battalion grew to 1400 in August 1970. Group VIII personnel were initially used but with the large increase in personnel; AN, SN and FN augmentees were used. The drawdown from 1400 to 500 by 1 May 1971 created a great demand on the personnel office.

The redeployment of the unit again created unusual demands. The unit of 600 became one of approximately 100 in the period of a month. Of the 500 personnel transferred, 180 were in a mass transfer to NSA Saigon and the other 320 were transferred to CONUS for either separation or transfer to a new command utilizing normal MAC flights.

With the majority of the personnel spread throughout Vietnam, to provide proper services to the men on detachments and answer their many questions, personnelmen visited each site at least monthly.

Reenlistments

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Career</u> | <u>Non-Career</u> |
|---|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Separations eligible for reenlistment | 1264 | 126 | 1138 |
| Separation not recommended for reenlistment | 59 | 7 | 52 |
| Number of reenlistments | 101 | 84 | 17 |

B. DISCIPLINARY SUMMARY

During the deployment approximately 260 cases were heard at Captains Mast. Of these, 209 were awarded non-judicial punishment. There were 30 cases awarded court martials.

While in Cam Ranh Bay, legal assistance was obtained from the legal staff at NAF, Cam Ranh Bay. CBMU 302 conducted the majority of its summary court martials using its own officers while all special court martials were held at NAF, Cam Ranh Bay utilizing their facilities and JAG officers provided by NSA Saigon.

In Bien Hoa, legal assistance was provided directly by the NSA Saigon Legal Center at Nha Be. In all special and many summary court martials, the court was held at Nha Be utilizing the facilities and lawyers of the legal center with CBMU 302 providing only the suspects and witnesses.

The NSA Saigon Legal Center provided services through JAG Officer visits to answer the legal questions of the command and its personnel. In these visits more than 150 interviews were held. The legal department also assisted in investigations by providing advice and pointing out specific areas to be investigated.

Civilian legal assistance was available to personnel in Saigon at a nominal charge.

C. MORALE

(1) SPECIAL SERVICES

During the period September 1967 through May 1971 while homeported at NSF Cam Ranh Bay, the Battalion participated in the special services program of that command. Activities included intra-mural softball and basketball, swimming, sailing and a variety of other sports forms.

Funds for Battalion parties were made available from the Consolidated Recreation Fund of the Naval Support Activity at Saigon. This activity also provided stereotyping equipment, television sets and a variety of games and equipment.

After the Battalion's move to CBC, Bien Hoa in May of 1971, it was necessary to organize athletic leagues to serve personnel in base camp. This was done using the company structure within the Battalion. Intramural softball and volleyball were played regularly contributing substantially to morale. Softball, volleyball and basketball teams were formed and participated in the Air Force Base League at Bien Hoa.

At the sites, teams were provided with stereo equipment, games and sporting goods. Each team organized its own recreation program to combat the ills of boredom and fatigue. Special Services contributed greatly to morale among all members of the Battalion. This program is visualized as a key to preventing drug abuse among members of the Battalion.

(2) CLUBS AND MESSSES

During the time CBMU 302 was permanently homeported at NSF Cam Ranh Bay, the Battalion utilized the Clubs and messes available at that activity. The battalion provided an SH1 who served as the night manager of the club, stewards to assist in the operation of the officers open mess, and various masters at arms to keep order in the club.

The move of the battalion to Bien Hoa involved assumption of the responsibility of operating the system of clubs and messes at CBC, Bien Hoa. In April 1971, CBMU 302 commenced operation of this system which consisted of an enlisted mens club and an officers and chief petty officers mess. Turnover of the club system was completed on 1 April 1971 with CBMU 302 relieving NMCB 74. CBMU 302 also operated the club system in support of NMCB 5 from April 1971 through November 1971.

During the nine months of operation of the club system from April 1971 through January 1972, total sales through the CBMU 302 club system amounted to \$112,805.91. This included branches of the clubs sales which were opened in support of deployed NAVCAT teams at various remote sites. The average monthly sales for the club system was \$11,280.59. During this nine month period, wages paid to approximately seventeen Vietnamese and seven Seabee employees totalled \$16,702.59. Entertainment provided for from club receipts including several shows which were

made available to personnel at the remote sites cost \$15,319.81. At the time of its disestablishment, the CBMU 302 club system included a net worth of \$6,434.86 which was turned over to the Chief of Naval Personnel as a Successor in interest.

(3) MARS OPERATION

General: During the period September 1967 through April 1971, CBMU 302 received MARS station services from the station operated by NAVCOMMSTA Cam Ranh Bay. This service was extremely good, and the MARS personnel constantly strove to improve their level of service. In March of 1971, CBMU 302 constructed a new MARS facility behind the CBMU 302 office spaces at Cam Ranh Bay. This facility greatly improved the quality of service in that it permitted the separation of the MARS telephone facilities from the MARSGRAM facilities. Upon arrival at CBC Bien Hoa, CBMU 302 received MARS services from NMCB FIVE which operated the station NEFO. The services provided by NMCB FIVE during this period were exceptional and contributed substantially to the morale of all hands.

CBMU 302 Operation: Having never operated MARS prior to taking over the function from NMCB FIVE in October 1971, CBMU 302 assigned its two ETs and a CE who had a HAM operators license to work with the NMCB FIVE operators to learn the procedures for MARS station operation. While working in this capacity, these personnel assisted the NMCB FIVE operators in renovating the MARS shack to make it a more pleasant environment for its patrons. A daily schedule was operated by CBMU 302 from October 1971 until January 1972 as follows:

0700 - 0800 CONUS (As available)
1400 - 1700 HAWAII (Except Sunday and Monday)
2100 - 0200 CONUS (Through CBC Port Hueneme)

Perhaps the greatest shortcoming of the service was the irregularity of the evening schedule which was caused primarily by weather variations and the inadequacy of the antenna provided with the MARS equipment. Approximately 1,800 telephone patches and 130 MARSGRAMS were processed during the five month period of operation by CBMU 302.

Other Sources: Personnel on detachment were served by the MARS station located on the base on which they were employed. Additionally, at Bien Hoa the Air Force and Army MARS stations were available to CBMU 302 personnel. The Air Force Station also had provisions for making commercial telephone calls to CONUS. There was also the potential to receive incoming telephone patches from dependents through the Ton son Nhut Air Force Base MARS Station and also through Rhan Rang Air Force Base Mars Station.

Evaluation: Throughout the deployment the MARS service available to CBMU 302 personnel provided a primary source of good morale.

(4) PUBLIC AFFAIRS

General: During its four and one half year deployment in Vietnam, CBMU 302 pursued an active public affairs program including: Fleet Home Town News Releases, Articles released to various media in and outside of Vietnam and its own publications, the FAMILYGRAM.

Fleet Hometown News Releases: The Battalion made maximum utilization of the services of the Fleet Hometown News Program to publicize certain events of a personal nature affecting individual members of the command. Typical events which were reported upon through this program included: promotions, arrivals and transfers, awards, general battalion information including its redeployment. A total of 1,405 Fleet Hometown News Releases were processed.

Published Magazine and Newspaper Items: Public Affairs releases were drafted and released to in-country and out-of-country media throughout the battalion's deployment. Normally articles were sent to COMNAVFORV for release to RVN correspondents and to CHINFO for out of country clearance. The battalion has known articles in a variety of publications including Navy Times, Pac-Facts, CBC Port Hueneme Coverall, COMNAVFORV HAI QUAN, Ventura Free Press, Oxnard Press Courier, and The Navy Civil Engineer.

Cruise Books: Two hardbound cruise books were published during the years 1969 and 1970. These books provided an excellent photographic and narrative summary of the battalion's efforts over the year. However, these publications were very expensive to produce and due to the nature of a tour of duty in CBMU 302, it was frequently difficult to deliver them to battalion personnel who had purchased them prior to their DEROS.

Familygram: CBMU 302's Familygram was the principal source of information between the command and the dependents of its members. This publication was produced and distributed monthly to members of the families of the battalion's personnel. Distribution of this publication averaged more than two thousand copies monthly. Fifty-one consecutive issues of this publication were produced between November 1967 and January 1972.

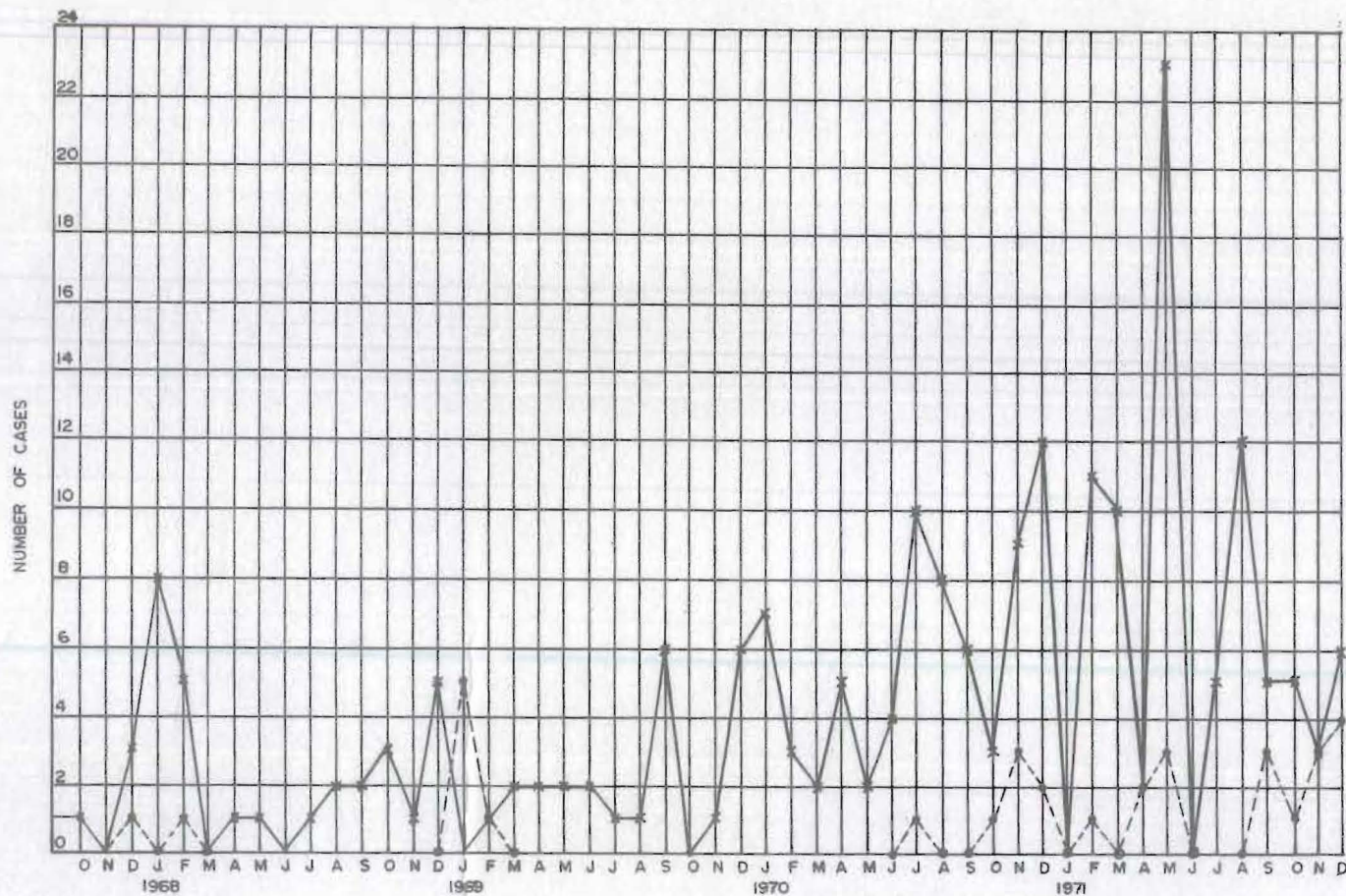
Awards and Reenlistments: On the occasion of receiving a personal award or upon reenlistment, personnel were presented with photographs which preserved the event and made it possible for them to share it with their families. This service was very well received by the members of the command.

(5) DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

During the period September 1967 through May 1971, drug abuse was not considered to be a significant problem among members of the battalion. This was due in part to the abundance of recreational outlets available in the Cam Ranh Bay area and also to the fact that the area was so vast that the possibility of observing drug abuse among members was extremely remote.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

— NJP
- - - COURT MARTIAL



D. SAFETY SUMMARY

From the start of its deployment in Viet Nam, CBMU 302 placed great emphasis on the Safety Program. An experienced Group EIGHT Chief Petty Officer was selected on the basis of exceptional performance and construction knowledge to serve as Safety Chief on a full time basis. The Engineering Officer was designated as the Safety Officer because of his immediate concern with this topic. The Safety Officer and Safety Chief developed a program which included monthly safety meetings involving enlisted and officer supervisors, frequent lectures as a part of the battalion's regular training program, displays of safety posters on the units bulletin boards, contests which encouraged the individual members of the command to submit their slogans and posters emphasizing safety, publication of statistics and details of past accidents together with information on how these could have been avoided, notices run in the Plan of the Day and encouragement of safety supervisors to "think and talk safety".

As the unit shifted to a detachment-oriented organization, officers in charge of teams were required to designate a senior petty officer as the safety supervisor for the site. These petty officers were given guidance and direction in safety practice from the safety officer and safety chief in base camp. On a monthly basis, these senior petty-officers would review progress with the Safety Officer and Safety Chief either during their observation trips to the field or at safety meetings conducted in base camp.

Vehicular safety posed one of the more imminent dangers to the safety program and also involved the greatest opportunity for creating international incidents with the Vietnamese. This problem was compounded by the fact that CBMU 302 drivers frequently averaged as many as 70,000 miles of driving on the Vietnamese road system. In order to avoid vehicular accidents, a very comprehensive license examining program was developed to ensure that personnel were competent operators and aware of conditions on the Vietnamese highways prior to being allowed to operate vehicles. A unit traffic court was instituted, and members of the command who were cited for unsafe driving practices were tried before a senior officer of the command. Frequent violations would result in revocation of licenses and a requirement for requalification. The unit operated its own vehicular patrol while assigned to NSF Cam Ranh Bay to ensure that its personnel did not violate local regulations. The battalion ALFA Company Commander, license examiner and accident investigator continued to emphasize the need for safe driving practice and lessons learned from prior accidents. Vehicular accidents involving CBMU 302 personnel were frequently attributed to the dangerous driving conditions which exist throughout Viet Nam. During the Vietnamese election period

in such activity, it was learned that a primary rationale for drug abuse is individual boredom and dissatisfaction with environmental conditions. Development of suitable activities capable of attracting the interest and activity of personnel was given high priority. To improve the environment, materials were made available for individuals to improve their barracks areas in their off-duty hours. Competition was provided through the "hootch of the month" program to inspire individuals to participate in this effort and to recognize outstanding results. Also on a self-help basis, a swimming pool was constructed to provide individuals with more activity for their leisure hours. Special services conducted an active athletic program including intramural competition in softball and volleyball, tape-room services, quarterly battalion parties, motion picture service in the galley, and many other fine programs. The Enlisted Men's Club was also recognized as a vital element in this program. In addition to floor shows and bands, Las Vegas nights and Bingo were conducted to provide additional recreational activity with proceeds being sent to the Seabee Memorial Fund.

Exemption: In May of 1971 the Navy in Vietnam launched an experimental drug exemption program which later was extended to all of the Navy. This program made it possible for persons who had become dependent upon the use of drugs and wished to receive help in breaking their habit to seek medical help without fear of punishment. A young officer (ENS/LTJG) and several key enlisted personnel were appointed as drug exemption representatives and empowered to grant exemption upon voluntary disclosure by users provided:

- (a) They were not under investigation for drug abuse.
- (b) They made full and complete disclosure.
- (c) They had not previously been granted drug exemption.
- (d) They had the intention not to use drugs in the future.

Persons granted exemption were transferred to NSA Saigon for withdrawal and rehabilitation as required.

Statistics obtained from seven members of this command who sought and were granted drug exemption plus nine additional persons who were charged and convicted of drug abuse violations of the UCMJ indicated:

- (a) That the incidence of drug abuse is highest among persons in the 19 - 21 year old age groups.
- (b) That the probability for drug abuse was greatest among those who had completed high school. 11½ years of education was the average achievement level of this sample.
- (c) That 60% had been users of drugs prior to reporting to Vietnam and that 35% had used illegal drugs in some form prior to joining the naval service.

After the move to Bien Hoa, however, evidence of drug abuse became visible. Marijuana was found in barracks areas and empty heroin vials were found on the grounds in and around the bunkers. Although the battalion had always included drug lectures by the Executive Officer in the check-in procedure for newly arrived personnel, it became urgent to develop a multi-faceted drug abuse control program. This was done incorporating the six elements of education, prevention, detection, prosecution, diversion and exemption.

Education: Following upon the introductory drug lecture given to each man upon arrival in the battalion, quarterly lectures were scheduled for all hands and were given by the drug team of Commander, U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam. Additionally, all senior petty officers and all officers were given quarterly briefings by the Naval Investigative Service Office (NISO), Vietnam. These lectures were given to introduce these senior command representatives to the characteristics of drugs (odor, effect, etc.) and to the procedures for detection, search and apprehension. These sessions proved very valuable in that on several occasions petty officers were responsible for conducting legal searches in convicting drug abusers at summary and special courts martial and had the background information from which to act in these cases.

Prevention: Due to the necessity of Vietnamese workers on base, arrangements were made with the Army to conduct a routine search of Vietnamese laborers entering the base for drugs. Additionally, it was widely publicized in the battalion that any person or vehicle entering the base camp was subject to a possible search and seizure. Occasionally, such searches were conducted at random and this served to deter would-be traffickers. Base regulations were rewritten to prohibit certain situations which might be used by members of the command to conceal or disguise drug abuse such as loitering in bunkers, burning incense in the barracks, etc.

Detection: Random unannounced barracks and locker inspections were conducted as one means of detecting the presence of illegal drugs on base. Occasionally "sniffer" dogs were introduced into the barracks as a means of detecting the presence of marijuana. Unannounced urinalysis testing of all personnel on the base was conducted on a random date once each quarter as a means of detecting heroin or barbiturate users. Roving patrols were instructed to report any unusual gatherings of personnel and suspects were placed under surveillance by the Master-At-Arms Force.

Prosecution: In order to discourage drug abuse among members of the command, violators were prosecuted to the maximum extent possible. In many cases this was confined to experimental user entries in the service record of offenders due to problems associated with the legality of evidence.

Diversion: In discussing the problem of drug abuse with persons who have been involved

E. MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

(1) GENERAL

During the period of the battalion's assignment to NSF Cam Ranh Bay, CBMU 302 received medical and dental support from that activity. The battalion was provided with some indigenous support in the form of hospital corpsmen who were assigned to work with the medical department of NSF Cam Ranh Bay. The service provided by NSF Cam Ranh Bay in these areas are quite satisfactory.

(2) BIEN HOA

In May of 1971, CBMU 302 was relocated from Cam Ranh Bay to CBC Bien Hoa. At Bien Hoa, medical and dental support were provided by NMCB FIVE which shared the camp with CBMU 302. Again the battalions' medical and dental personnel were integrated with those of NMCB FIVE to offset the workload generated by the battalion. Back-up support for more detailed and extensive treatment was provided by the Army's TWENTY-FOURTH Medical Evacuation Facility at Long Binh and also from the Air Force Dispensary at Bien Hoa Air Force Base. With the redeployment of NMCB FIVE scheduled for November 1971, CBMU 302 submitted an allowance change request which sought to establish the billets of medical and dental officer along with the enlisted staffing necessary to man medical and dental facilities needed to support the needs of the six hundred man battalion. This change was not approved by COMNAVFORV on the basis that medical and dental support could be obtained from "in-country assets." COMNAVFORV Senior Medical Officer tasked the Army to provide medical and dental treatment to the battalion's base camp personnel and guaranteed that personnel at deployed units would be provided for by COMNAVFORV. After the departure of NMCB FIVE, this system was very effective in answering the needs of the battalion over a short term operation. When remote units at which medical facilities were not available were established, COMNAVFORV provided corpsmen on a TDY basis so that medical department personnel could be sent to the sites. For situations beyond the capability of the corpsmen in the field, medevac helicopters were available usually within forty-five minutes of the request.

Incidences of venereal disease were very isolated during this deployment due to the fact that in general liberty was non-existent among the battalion's personnel. However, when such incidences were observed, they could usually be attributed to personnel who were on detachment or had just returned from R and R to a high incidence area.

from August 1971 through December 1971, COMNAVFORV issued strict rules regarding the operation of vehicles off U. S. Military installations in an effort to prevent unfavorable confrontations with Vietnamese nationals in the area of vehicle operation. These regulations included: restriction of off-base traffic to "mission essential only, requirement for an E-5 (later reduced to an E-4) to ride in every vehicle and to act as a petty-officer-in-charge, designation in writing by the Commanding Officer of one commissioned officer to serve as the single point of dispatch for off-base traffic, and a requirement for a commissioned officer to ride in convoys consisting of three or more vehicles. These restrictions created severe problems in terms of diversion of senior supervisors from their construction-oriented missions and at times seemed overly restrictive for particular circumstances involving the small teams deployed to remote areas.

After taking over the responsibilities for operation of the CBC Bien Hoa Base Camp from NMCB 74, CBMU 302 was faced with the operation of the fire department. A fire crew was maintained on a twenty-four hour day basis. It was charged with answering all fire alarms, ensuring that fire fighting equipment was available to the crew and that all fire fighting equipment in the barracks and office areas was charged and operable. The safety chief also served as fire marshall and was responsible for conducting periodic inspections of camp facilities and monthly fire drills. Liaison was established with the Army Garrison, Bien Hoa fire station, and their professional help was solicited in establishing a "Fire Safety Program." The fire marshall also visited the team sites to ensure that adequate fire safety precautions were in effect at each job site and berthing area.

Safety equipment was made available to all sites and in base camp. Safety supervisors were empowered to stop any job involving gross violations of safety practices and to discuss any minor violations with the job supervisor when found. Citations were issued to any crew leader who failed to take corrective action after being advised of unsafe practice, and if he continued to ignore the situation he was brought to NJP for proper disposition. The construction accidents most frequently occurring in CBMU 302 included those caused by collapse of wood scaffolding as a result of dry-rot and other climate-caused deteriorations, eye injuries due to failure to utilize safety glasses and injuries caused by dropped or mis-aimed tools.