

naval mobile construction battalion one
deployment completion report
june 1968 - january 1969

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CMMW 8/13/69

Historical Record

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U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION ONE
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From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion ONE
To: Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, U. S. Pacific Fleet

Subj: Deployment Completion Report for June 1968 to January 1969; Submission of

Ref: (a) COMCBPACINST 5213.1E
(b) COMCBPACOPORD 9-68

Encl: (1) Administrative Summary
(2) Equipment Summary
(3) Training Summary
(4) Labor Distribution Summary
(5) Construction Summary
(6) Significant Construction Projects
(7) Supply Summary
(8) Security Summary
(9) Civic Action Summary
(10) Lessons Learned

1. The subject report as contained in enclosures (1) through (10) is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

2. UNIT LOCATION: In accordance with reference (b) U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion ONE was deployed to Camp Hoover, DaNang, Republic of Vietnam from June 1968 through January 1969.

3. UNIT MOVEMENTS:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|--|
| a. | 5 May 1968 | The first increment of NMCB ONE's Advance Party consisting of 76 Personnel deployed via C-141 aircraft from Davisville, R. I. to DaNang, RVN. |
| b. | 15 May | The second increment of NMCB ONE's Advance Party consisting of 48 personnel deployed via one C-141 aircraft from Davisville, R. I. to DaNang, RVN. |
| c. | 13-31 May | Detail ECHO, two officers and 144 men, deployed via marine aircraft to Phu Loc, RVN to perform quarry operations. |
| d. | 29 May-3 June | NMCB ONE's Main Body deployed via three DC-8 and two C-141 aircraft from Davisville, R. I. to DaNang, RVN. |
| e. | 29 May | Detail ALFA, 46 men, deployed via marine aircraft to NMCB EIGHT in support of the Road Augment Program. |
| f. | 27-30 June | 1 officer and 27 men deployed via marine aircraft and vehicle convoy to Detail ECHO to augment personnel for 24 hour-a-day operations. |
| g. | 27-29 June | Seabee Teams 0101 and 0102, 2 officers and 24 men, deployed via one C-130 aircraft from Davisville, R. I. to Saigon, RVN. |
| h. | 15 July-
25 September | The 46 men of Detail ALFA returned individually from NICTZ Battalions. |
| i. | 28 August | Detail CHARLIE, 1 officer and 50 men with associated equipment, deployed via marine aircraft and one LCU to Landing Zone Sharron, Quang Tri, RVN in support of the Minimum Essential Requirements (MER) construction program in the NICTZ. |

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- o. 20 September Memorial services were held for LTJG A. D. MOSCRIP and BUC W. W. McGINN at Camp Hoover, RVN.
- p. 8 October An NMCB ONE dozer clearing for the western sector of the Da-Nang Barrier struck a mortar round, exploding it and wounding the operator, EO2 S. F. WALKER. No damage to the dozer resulted.
- q. 8 October CAPT C. G. MILLER Jr., COS COMCBPAC, CDR B. J. HACK-INSON, and LCDR V. YOUNG conducted the annual COMCBPAC Management Inspection Visit in the areas of Command and Logistics.
- r. 12 October Detail CHARLIE completed a very successful MER construction program of 189 SEA Huts, 55 strongbacks, 35 Messhall and 11 dispensaries in 44 days.
- s. 14 October The ARMY's 101st AIR-BORNE DIVISION assumed responsibility for the TAOR that included Lap An Bay, Detail FOXTROT, and Phu Loc Quarry.
- t. 14-18 October 34 inches of rain fell in the DaNang, RVN area, no NMCB ONE projects halted.
- u. 25 October CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR, and staff attended a NMCB ONE / 30NCR mid-deployment briefing held at Camp Hoover RVN.
- v. 31 October Visit to NMCB ONE's Civic Action projects by CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR.
- w. 7 November CDR R. B. WILSON, CO, NMCB FIVE and a party of four visited NMCB ONE for the pre-deployment visit.
- x. 9 November NMCB ONE assumed security watches for the 1st Medical Battalion during their Marine Birthday celebration.
- y. 11 November 1 officer and 7 men from 10th ARVN Engineers reported to NMCB ONE for 30 days training on all equipment operated by the SEABEES. 3 men trained at Camp Hoover while 1 officer and 4 men trained in crusher/quarry operations and equipment at Phu Loc Quarry.
- z. 14 November Railroad bridge #1, the first of 3 around Lap An Bay being rebuilt by Detail FOXTROT, was completed and carried its first train since being originally blownup.
- aa. 15 November Obtained final approval of plans and began work on the expansion of Phu Loc Quarry to include, in addition to the existing two quarries and two 200 ton per hour crushers, one 75 ton per hour crusher, and a 150 ton per hour asphalt plant and facilities to support 2 asphalt paving crews.
- bb. 27 November LCOL PHU, COM10ARVENGR, CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR, and staffs visited NMCB ONE job sites to see ARV Engineers training with NMCB ONE.
- cc. 1 December Completed BEEP on all augment equipment at Phu Loc Quarry transferred from NMCB 71 to NMCB ONE. NMCB ONE now holds a total of 422 pieces of organic and augment equipment.
- dd. 2 December NMCB ONE was assigned and started restoration work of the recently blown-up Phu Loc Railroad Bridge. Completion of repairs required prior to arrival at the bridge of the Hue work train; i. e., 1 January 1969.
- ee. 3 December Railroad Bridge #2, the second of 3 to be rebuilt around Lap An Bay, was completed.

- ff. 3-15 December NMCB ONE was assigned, started and finished a high priority Helicopter Landing Pad for the 1st Medical Battalion, DaNang, RVN. During one 10 hour night shift NMCB ONE hauled and placed 7,300 tons of the approximately 33,000 tons of rock incorporated in the construction.
- gg. 5 December Assumed single battalion management of all crushers and quarries at Phu Loc Quarry.
- hh. 5-10 December Received TAD from NMCB NINE 1 officer and 99 men to assist in the operation of Phu Loc Quarry.
- ii. 8 December At 1740H 7 rounds of 82mm mortar were received in the immediate vicinity of the Detail FOXTROT camp site and Bridge #1. No personnel injured and no equipment damaged.
- jj. 14 December CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR, LCDR H M. ADDRESS visited Detail FOXTROT to view completed Bridges #1 and #2 and the works in progress on Bridge #3.
- kk. 23 December Railroad Bridge #3, the last of the 3 bridges being rebuilt around Lap An Bay, was completed.
- ll. 30 December Arrival at Camp Hoover, RVN of NMCB FIVE's Advance Party.
- mm. 31 December Railroad Bridge #4 (at Phu Loc), the last major bridge to be repaired between DaNang and Hue, was completed by Detail FOXTROT.
- nn. 1-16 January 1969 BEEP conducted on 474 pieces of organic and augment equipment and turned over to NMCB FIVE at the BEEP critique of 16 January 1969.
- oo. 8 January RADM J. V. BARTLETT, COM3NCB, dedicated the new two story high school at Bo De School, NMCB ONE's Civic Action project.
- pp. 13 January The Republic of Vietnam Medal of Honor, 1st class, was presented to CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR, 2 officers from COM30NCR Staff, and 3 officers from NMCB ONE; and the Republic of Vietnam Medal of Honor, 2nd class, was presented to 7 men from NMCB ONE for the rapid reconstruction of 4 DaNang to Hue railroad bridges.
- qq. 16 January CAPT D. G. ISELIN, COMCBLANT, and CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR, visited Camp Hoover, RVN, toured NMCB ONE's job sites in the DaNang area, and were honored guests at the traditional going away party in the evening hosted by NMCB ONE.
- rr. 21-28 January NMCB ONE deployed to Davisville, R. I. having completed its 3rd deployment in Vietnam. Personnel and airlift cargo were flown in 5 commercial aircraft accommodating both personnel and cargo in each plane. NMCB ONE's entire surface cargo was shipped to CONUS in SEA-LAND Vans.

5. MAJOR PROBLEMS: Although no major problems were reported throughout the deployment on the Monthly Operations Reports because we were always able to accomplish our assigned mission, in retrospect, it is seen that certain challenges were presented to the Battalion as major problems which should be made a part of any summary of Battalion Operations.

a. Military Security. During the deployment, this constituted a significant (average 11.5%) drain on Direct Labor mandays and lowered the production accomplishments of the Battalion. The largest requirement for security personnel was Phu Loc Quarry which averaged 50 men per day until December 1968, when, with the departure of the NMCB SEVENTY ONE security force, an additional 40 men from NMCB ONE were required. This additional requirement coming at this time presented serious personnel reshuffling challenges to meet all assigned priority tasks (see subparagraph c. below). On the positive side was the experience gained by the Seabees standing security watches and firing over 4100 rounds of 81mm in support of many operations and security

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