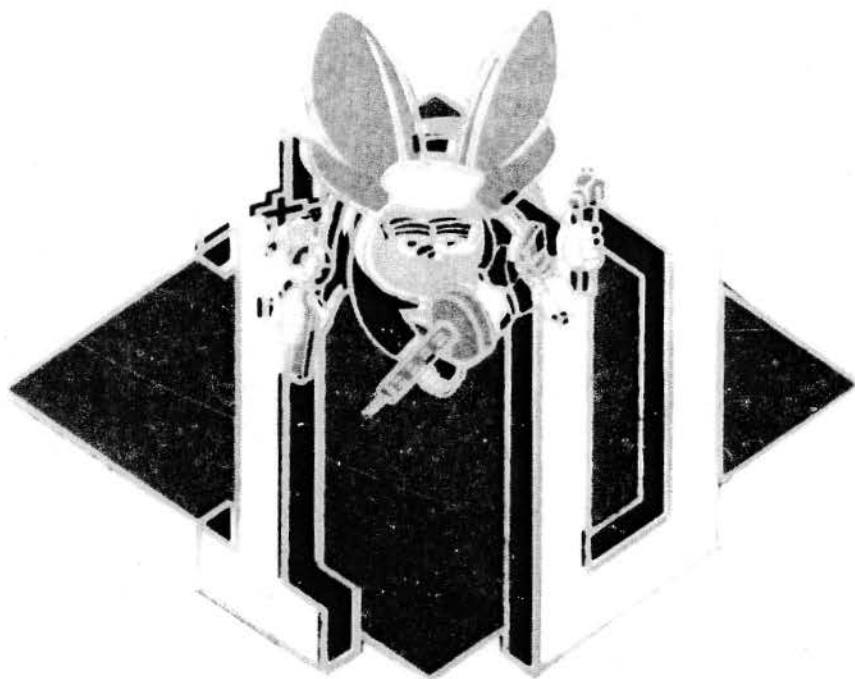


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**U. S. NAVAL
MOBILE CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION TEN**



**DETAIL ALPINE
AIR DETACHMENT
MOUNT - OUT**

Report

July - September

1971

30 December 1971

REPORT OF
U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION TEN
DETAIL ALPINE
AIR DETACHMENT MOUNT-OUT
JULY-SEPT 1971

REPORT ON NMCB TEN AIR DETACHMENT MOUNT-OUT

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REFERENCES

- a. COMCBPAC Air Detachment OPLAN 1-YR of 17 June 1971
- b. COMCBPAC Air Detachment OPLAN 1-YR of 7 April 1970

ABSTRACT

On 29 July 1971, NMCB TEN, while serving on the Pacific Fleet Battalion, actually mounted-out its Air Detachment, under the name of Detail Alpine, from Camp Shields, Okinawa, to Camp Fuji, Japan, to construct quonset huts and other facilities for the 3rd Marine Division. Detail Alpine was prescheduled for return to Okinawa not later than 10 September 1971 in order to rejoin the Battalion in sufficient time for the normal redeployment to homeport. Inasmuch as this was the first actual mount-out of an air detachment, in accordance with references (a) or (b), the MEN of TEN had the opportunity of testing every aspect of the Air Detachment concept: the preparation, the mount-out, the loading of aircraft, utility of the air transportable construction equipment and the validity of the allowances. This report represents a self evaluation of the exercise, a critique of the applicable Operation Plans, and provides observations of lessons learned from this exercise which may prove useful to others in similar exercises.

INTRODUCTION

On 24 July 1971 NMCB TEN, as the Pacific Fleet Alert Battalion, received COM3ONCR MSG 240427Z JUL 71 which issued instructions and guidelines for the Battalion to conduct an Air Detachment mount-out exercise, deploying two officers and approximately eighty-four men to Camp Fuji, Japan for a period of approximately six weeks to construct facilities for the 3rd Marine Division. Since reference (a) had only recently been issued and all previous practice exercises had been conducted utilizing reference (b), COMCBPAC and the THIRTIETH NCR instructed NCMB TEN to conduct the exercise in accordance with reference (b). For this reason, this report serves as a specific critique of reference (b) rather than reference (a). It is recognized that a number of the deficiencies found in reference (b) have already been corrected in reference (a), however, since this is a critique of reference (b), they are identified herein for completeness. Because of the similarities in the two plans it is considered that this report is an evaluation of the effectiveness of the latest OPLAN, as well as reference (b).

The report is divided into two basic sections. The first section presents a historical narrative of the NMCB TEN and Detail Alpine preparation for the mount-out, the loading of aircraft at Kadena Air Force Base, Okinawa, the off-loading at Atsugi, Japan, the construction and the execution of the eventual return to Okinawa. The second section deals with problem areas encountered in carrying out this exercise, with recommendations for the alleviation of these problems in the future. Although it is recognized that each mount-out is different and is beset with its own set of problems, NMCB TEN's mistakes and experience should help others to avoid similar problems. Appendix II describes specific preparations found to be required to make equipment acceptable for loading on Air Force aircraft. Appendix III deals with suggested additions to the "Medical Supply Kit".