

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Three

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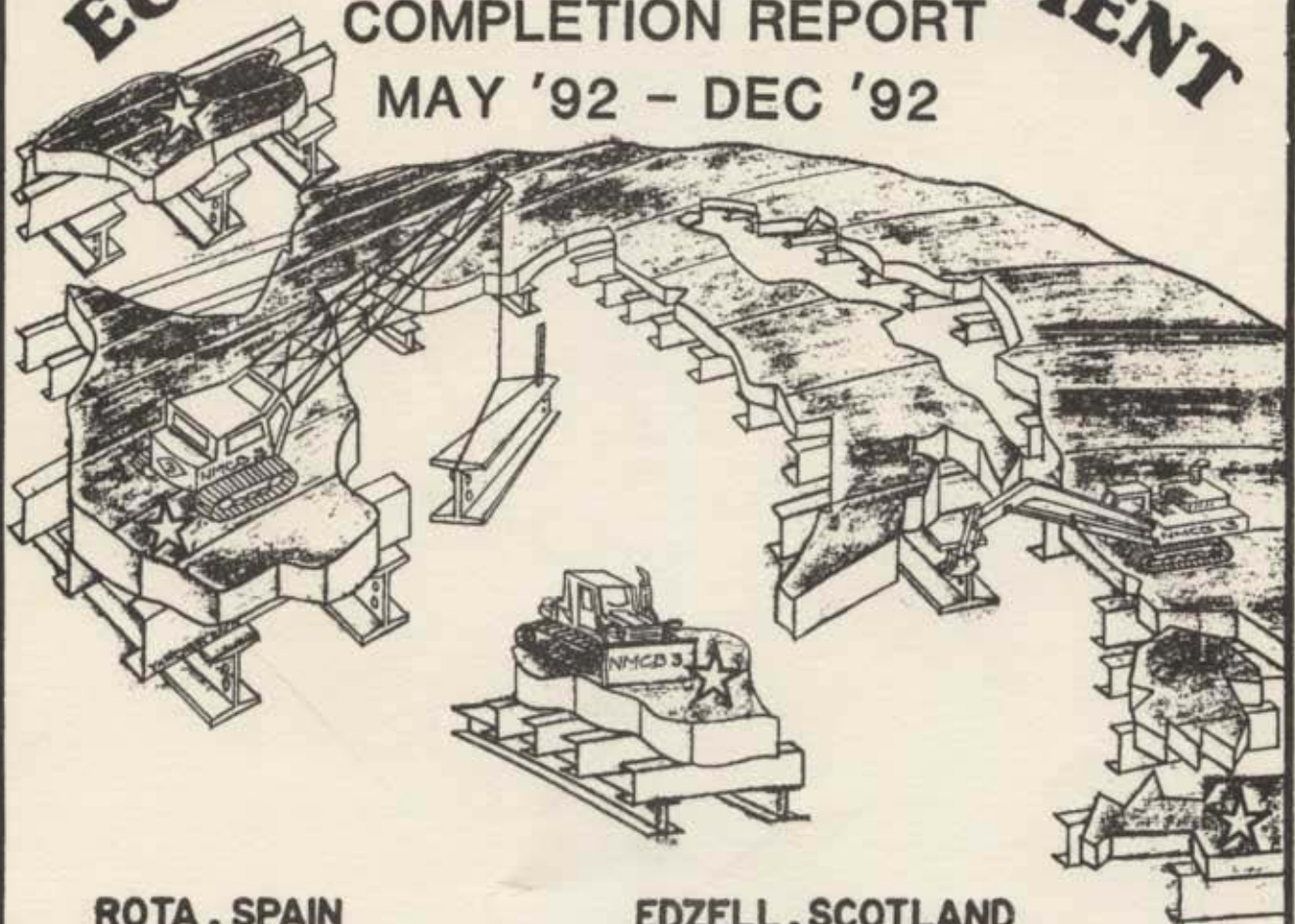
" BETTER THAN BEST "

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EUROPEAN DEPLOYMENT

COMPLETION REPORT

MAY '92 - DEC '92



ROTA, SPAIN
SIGONELLA, ITALY
SOUDA BAY, CRETE

EDZELL, SCOTLAND
THURMONT, MARYLAND
SAROS BAY, TURKEY



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION THREE
UNIT 25269
FPO AP 96601-4921

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From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion THREE
To: Distribution

Subj: SUBMISSION OF DEPLOYMENT COMPLETION REPORT

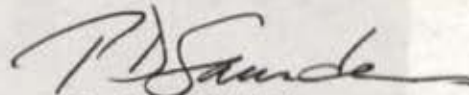
Ref: (a) COMCBPAC/COMCBLANTINST 3121.1B
(b) COMCBLANT OPORDER 7-92

Encl: (1) Executive Summary
(2) Administration/Special Staffs
(3) Training
(4) Operations
(5) Supply and Logistics
(6) Equipment
(7) Camp Maintenance

1. Enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted per reference (a).

2. In accordance with reference (b), U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion THREE deployed to Camp Mitchell Rota, Spain from 04 May to 11 December 1992, with Details deployed to: Sigonella, Italy; Souda Bay, Greece; Edzell, Scotland; and Thurmont, Maryland. The Battalion also deployed a detachment to Saros Bay, Turkey for four weeks in conjunction with Joint Exercise Display Determination '92 to drill a water well and repair approximately 3km of road.

3. The Battalion's mainbody and details were tasked with 31 projects and expended 35,073 mandays of direct labor to accomplish this tasking. Additionally, the Battalion placed strong emphasis on military readiness, training, and supply accountability. Seabees from NMCB THREE worked closely with military units and local communities at five sites throughout the Atlantic and Europe, meeting their needs and enhancing the reputation of the United States Navy and the Seabees. The accomplishments of the 'Better than Best' Battalion during our 1992 European deployment are recorded in this deployment completion report.


P. D. SAUNDERS

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Entrance to Camp Mitchell, Rota, Spain



Staged Material during Somalia Mount Out



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion THREE found Rota and its associated detail sites operationally and professionally challenging. Relations with local communities flourished as the Battalion completed several beach reclamation projects, repaved a local road on Crete, and participated in numerous local community events. Military relations were enhanced by providing top quality construction and through social and athletic interaction. The cooperation received from Commander, Naval Activities, Spain, the Resident Officer in Charge of Construction, and other tenant commands was excellent.

ADMINISTRATION:

The administrative department provided all administrative and personnel support services for the battalion at Camp Mitchell. Additional battalion services included medical, dental, legal, religious, drug and alcohol counselling and testing, and educational services.

TRAINING:

The Battalion successfully completed training in Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist curricula, cretemobile operations, water well drilling, Rapid Runway Repair, physical readiness, and conducted five general military training sessions. Thirty-one members of the Battalion successfully completed their SCWS qualifications and were awarded their Warfare Specialty pins. 84% of the battalion scored 'outstanding' or 'excellent', with 355 'outstandings', during the October Physical Readiness Test. The 8-12 June 1992 Joint US-Spanish amphibious landing exercise (Phiblex 1-92), provided joint training for U.S. and Spanish Marines, and provided an opportunity to test our tactical skills and demonstrate how Seabees could support Marine Operations.

OPERATIONS:

High quality construction was accomplished during the 1992 deployment at all sites. The Battalion's goals of safety, quality, customer service, and efficient production were fully met.

The Rota Mainbody performed more than 20,200 mandays of direct labor on a demanding, comprehensive construction program. Completed work included gaining Beneficial Occupancy on three 'old dog' projects: construction of the new housing office, construction of an air terminal addition, and renovation of the photolab facility. Other projects completed included constructing a 4000 SF addition to the Naval Communications Station Operational Storage Warehouse, constructing concrete hardstands for Seabee Camp Mitchell TOA containers, and demolishing the Naval Station SE Breakwater Trestle. A major addition to the base gymnasium was the largest project undertaken. Finish work was completed with significant assistance from Reserve Seabees who were journeymen ceramic tile setters and sheetmetal mechanics in civilian practice. This Reserve augment, a total success by any criteria, clearly demonstrated how Reserve Seabees can be utilized to simultaneously train their active duty

counterparts, produce more work for the NCF's customers, and strengthen the one NCF concept. Although the project was turned over to the follow on battalion, 5000 mandays were expended, frequently using two shifts, in order to expedite final completion of the project. Significant progress was attained on two other projects: the 14,336 SF addition to the base club and construction of a 4000 SF replacement Fire Station. The CO Discretionary program was pursued aggressively and assistance was provided to the Naval Station and many tenant commands. The most significant project was the transportation of more than \$5 million worth of excess equipment and material from Zaragoza AFB, which was being closed by the US Air Force, to NAVSTA Rota.

The 85 man Sigonella Detail completed 6313 mandays of high quality construction on five challenging projects. They gained valuable experience during a Rapid Runway Repair exercise which included handling simulated CBR, and blowing and repairing craters on a simulated runway. Completed projects included constructing a hazardous material storage warehouse building addition, constructing a hazardous waste storage shed, renovating 24 barracks rooms, and completing critical, extensive erosion control repairs at the Nisemi transmitter facility when the private construction contractor was defaulted. Significant progress was attained on the Reactionary Force Building Addition and an aggressive OIC Discretionary program made the Detail's presence felt throughout NAS Sigonella.

The 68 man Souda Bay Detail overcame frequent logistical and operational obstacles to complete 5787 mandays of quality construction on nine challenging projects. Major completed projects included construction of a 3000 SF Combined Reconnaissance Operations Facility (CROF), an emergency and technical electric power generation facility, complete with diesel generators and switchgear, an underground Satellite Communications Ductbank network, and Construction of the new Seabee Camp. The Taxiway/Apron Repair Phase I and Repair/Alter GSE Hangar punch lists were closed out. Significant progress was made on constructing a new Supply Warehouse, expanding the underground the sewer collection system, and earthwork was begun on the new MWR facility.

The 27 man Edzell Detail completed 2693 mandays of high quality construction on three projects. Construction of Family Housing patios and fences was completed, and significant progress was made on constructing the Galley addition and new NEX Gas Station/Convenience Store.

The 17 man Thurmont Detail completed 1613 mandays of high quality construction on two projects. Renovation of the Camp barracks was completed and significant progress was made on the construction of two guest cabins.

SUPPLY AND LOGISTICS: An energetic supply team met a fast paced series of logistical challenges and established a strong record of operational success. Seventeen supply rated personnel served with details during the deployment. The battalion received a satisfactory inspection with grades of excellent in the majority of all functional areas during the SMI's. To make room for a new TOA, most of the existing TOA was prepared and retrograded to Gulfport, MS as the new TOA was received between July and September. A total of 91 Seabee containers were received. The Supply Department's hard work and preparation to inventory, validate, and stage the new TOA resulted in significantly improving the Battalion's readiness to deploy.

EQUIPMENT: The SECOND NCB's goal of 90% Equipment Availability was surpassed at the mainbody and detail sites. A peak of 96.5% availability was achieved in mid November.

CAMP MAINTENANCE: An intense effort of more than 3900 mandays resulted in major improvements to Camp Mitchell. The preventive maintenance program was revamped and a backlog of specific projects were developed with plans and material take-offs. Major camp projects included renovating building 397 for use as the Command and Admin Offices, demolishing the old quonset huts which had been used for Camp Command offices, Admin, Personnel, and Operations, installing spill containment barriers for heating oil tanks, renovating the camp soils lab, installing several drainage ditches, and replacing two central A/C compressors. Restricted men were used extensively to supplement the camp maintenance organization and worked to improve the overall camp appearance.

MOUNT OUT TO SOMALIA: Based on anticipated tasking NMCB THREE was directed to begin mounting out the battalion TOA for transport to Somalia. NMCB THREE established an MOCC and staged most of the Air Detail TOA just prior to NMCB ONE'S deployment. Working with NMCB ONE'S Advanced Party, NMCB THREE assisted in mounting out the Air and Sea Echelon TOA equipment during the turnover period.

ADMINISTRATION

1. LESSONS LEARNED: None.
2. NARRATIVE: The Battalion Administrative and Personnel offices worked closely with the local Personnel Support Detachment at Naval Station, Rota. Excellent services provided included identification cards and commercial travel arrangements.

DENTAL DEPARTMENT

1. LESSONS LEARNED:
 - a. PROBLEM/ITEM: Reserve personnel reporting to the mainbody site were in poor dental health.

DISCUSSION: Reservists arriving for ACDUTRA frequently needed serious dental treatment. Most reservists had not had examinations documented in their dental records for at least several years, with some dating back to the late 1970's. Many reservists were missing radiographs and dental forms. Several were in need of emergency dental care.

RECOMMENDATION: Reserve centers and parent reserve NCF units should ensure that personnel receive routine dental care. Prior to annual ACDUTRA, personnel should have a current T-2 dental examination and a panorex radiograph. If significant dental treatment is required, it should be completed prior to deploying.

- b. PROBLEM/ITEM: The new TOA in camp is not complete or fully portable.

DISCUSSION: While the TOA dental equipment arrived in new or excellent working condition, it had 72 items missing including the #9,072 portable X-ray machine. The portable X-ray machine is essential when embarked to the field. The Dental TOA CONEX box is also full, so when the X-ray machine and other missing items arrive, a separate container will be needed to transport them.

RECOMMENDATION: Pursue obtaining another container and prepare to receive and store the new equipment when it arrives.

2. NARRATIVE: The Dental Department consistently maintained a dental readiness averaging greater than 90% during the deployment. The goal of quality, timely care was fully met. A total of 912 patients were treated and 7,001 total procedures performed.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

1. LESSONS LEARNED:
 - a. PROBLEM/ITEM: Lack of X-ray capability on Camp Mitchell, Rota, Spain.

DISCUSSION: Because the Camp Mitchell, Rota, Spain Medical Clinic does not have an X-ray machine all X-rays must be taken at the Naval Hospital and the battalion X-ray technician NEC (8451) is not being utilized.

RECOMMENDATION: Purchase and install X-ray equipment.

- b. PROBLEM/ITEM: Camp Mitchell, Medical Clinic Facility is inadequate.

DISCUSSION: The clinic has inadequate space to examine patients with adequate patient privacy or for handling emergencies.

RECOMMENDATION: Either upgrade this building or construct a new facility with X-ray capabilities.

2. NARRATIVE: The Medical Department consisted of one General Medical Officer and six Hospital Corpsman with the mainbody, and another corpsman in support of the Sigonella Detail. Specialty care in Orthopedics, General Surgery, ENT, Dermatology, Urology, Internal Medicine, Optometry and Emergency Room Services was provided by Naval Hospital, Rota, Spain. The Naval Hospital staff were exceptionally supportive of Seabees. During the deployment the mainbody Medical Department received 3,195 patient visits, 59 men were admitted to the hospital, 3,162 prescriptions were filled, 87 no shave chits were issued, and 1,977 light duty days assigned. There was a total of 104 Physical Examinations, 182 audiograms, 104 eye exams, 420 eyeglasses were issued, 67 accident injuries were treated, 159 Specialty Exams, 475 Laboratory Procedures, 812 Immunizations, 148 Sanitation Inspections, 80 Industrial Health Physical Examinations, 64 Sexual Transmitted Diseases, and 26 Alcohol Incidents/Physical Examinations.

TRAINING

1. LESSONS LEARNED:

a. PROBLEM/ITEM: Ammunition availability at the NAVSTA magazine does not match the training allocation of ammunition authorized for Camp Mitchell.

DISCUSSION: Since Desert Storm, ammunition for the M2, M203, and 60MM Mortar has been in limited supply. The general non-availability of ammunition is exacerbated because ammunition is drawn from a pool that also supports other commands. The NAVSTA weapons magazine's capacity can not store the full training allowance for all local commands; therefore, ammunition is distributed on a first come, first serve basis.

RECOMMENDATION: Keep abreast of ammunition availability at the NAVSTA magazine. Place orders for ammunition as early as possible.

b. PROBLEM/ITEM: Recent Spanish PHIBLEX scenarios conducted with the incoming MEU have not been conducive for Seabees to work with the Marine Corps in our traditional role.