

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

**DEPLOYMENT
COMPLETION REPORT**

**CHU LAI, RVN
1967-1968**

U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SIX
CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

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From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SIX
To: Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, U. S. Pacific Fleet
Subj: NMCB-SIX Deployment Completion Report; forwarding of
Ref: (a) COMCBPACINST 5213.1D
(b) COMCBPAC OPORD 15-67
Encl: (1) Deployment Completion Report

1. ENCLOSURE (1). A summary of U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SIX's deployment to Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam, during the period August, 1967 through March, 1968, is forwarded in accordance with reference (a).

2. EMPLOYMENT STATUS. In accordance with reference (b), U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SIX was deployed to Camp Miller, Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam from 3 August 1967 to 7 April 1968. The primary mission of the unit was construction in support of the Commander, THIRTIETH Naval Construction Regiment. The following units were employed at other locations as follows:

a. Detachments; None

b. Details;

(1) Eight enlisted men were deployed to Binh Son (vicinity BT 593935) from 3 August 1967 to 10 October 1967 to rebuild bridge #13 which was destroyed by the Viet Cong.

(2) One officer and 55 enlisted men were deployed to Tam Ky (vicinity BT 288231) from 14 August 1967 to 6 April 1968 to construct two FSI cantonments for ARVN Forces and a CORDS sponsored hospital addition.

(3) Six enlisted men and eight pieces of equipment were deployed by airlift to Thien Phouc (vicinity BT 110150) from 17 November 1967 to 18 December 1967 to upgrade the existing airstrip at that location.

(4) Twenty enlisted men were deployed to Danang from 27 November 1967 to 31 December 1967 to assist in reducing the backlog of vertical work in Danang East.

(5) Eleven enlisted men and fourteen pieces of equipment were deployed to Quang Tri from 17 February 1968 to 28 March 1968 to assist in horizontal construction work in that area.

(6) Seabee Team 0601 deployed to Thu Duc, RVN.

(7) Seabee Team 0602 deployed to Phouc Le, RVN.

3. UNIT MOVEMENTS.

a. To Vietnam:

(1) 29 June 1967 NMCB-SIX Advance Party, composed of four (4) officers and one hundred and twenty-one (121) enlisted men, arrived in Camp Miller, Chu Lai, RVN.

(2) 17 July 1967 LST's with cargo shipped from Davisville R.I. arrived in Chu Lai, RVN.

(3) 24 July 1967 LST's with cargo shipped from Port Hueneme, California arrived in Chu Lai, RVN.

(4) 3-6 August 1967 NMCB-SIX Main Body, composed of nineteen (19) officers and five hundred and thirty-three (533) enlisted men, arrived in Camp Miller, Chu Lai, RVN.

(5) 2 October 1967 Seabee Team 0601 arrived in Thu Duc, RVN.

(6) 28 October 1967 Delay Party One, composed of twenty-two (22) enlisted men arrived in Camp Miller, Chu Lai, RVN.

(7) 22 January 1968 Seabee Team 0602 arrived in Phouc Le, RVN.

b. To CONUS:

(1) 9 March 1968 NMCB-SIX Advance Party, composed of two (2) officers and twenty-four (24) enlisted men departed Chu Lai, RVN for Davisville, Rhode Island.

(2) 5-14 April 1968 NMCB-SIX Main Body, composed of twenty-one (21) officers and five hundred and eighty-five (585) enlisted men arrived in Davisville, Rhode Island.

4. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS.

- a. 8 August 1967 CAPT A.R. MARSHALL and CDR C. HEID, Commander and Chief Staff Officer respectively of 3NCB, visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller for an arrival conference.
- b. 2 September 1967 RADM W.M. ENGER, Vice COMNAFACENGCOM; RADM J.V. BARTLETT, COM3NCB; and CAPT C.W. TURNER, COM3ONCR visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller.
- c. 4 September 1967 a bulldozer was damaged on Route #1 (vicinity BT 593936) by a Viet Cong road mine. No injuries resulted.
- d. 6 September 1967 a crane was totally destroyed on Route #1 (vicinity BT 593935) by a Viet Cong satchel charge. No injuries resulted.
- e. 17 October 1967 CAPT C.W. TURNER, COM3ONCR and Dr. AMIRIKIAN of NAVFACENGCOM visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller.
- f. 16 October 1967 RADM J.V. BARTLETT, COM3NCB, visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller.
- g. 22-23 November 1967 LCDR F.M. NEWCOMB, of COMCBPAC, visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller and inspected contingency plans, material readiness, and embarkation.
- h. 2-3 December 1967 CAPT C.G. MILLER, Chief of Staff, COMCBPAC, CDR HACKENSON, Logistics Officer, COMCBPAC, and CDR DONNELLY, Logistics Officer COMCBLANT, visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller and held a management inspection.
- i. 3 December 1967 RADM A.C. HUSBAND, COMNAVFACENGCOM; RADM W.H. HEAMAN, COMCBPAC; and CAPT C.W. TURNER, COM3ONCR, visited Chu Lai.
- j. 16 December 1967 a grader was damaged on Route #1 by a Viet Cong road mine. CETCN John F. ILKOVICH, USN, 919 85 46 was wounded by shrapnel.
- k. 17 December 1967 EGEN G.A. YOUNG, Assistant Division Commander, Americal Division, visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller and presented EOC WILLIAMSON with the Navy Commendation Medal.
- l. 20 December 1967 RADM J.V. BARTLETT, COM3NCB; CAPT C.W. TURNER, COM3ONCR; and Mr. CROSS of the American Embassy Staff visited NMCB-SIX CORDS Hospital site in Tam Ky.

m. 23 December 1967 the two 100 ton/hr rock crusher operation was terminated after producing over 125,000 cubic yards of crushed rock since 3 August 1967.

n. 4 January 1968 EOL H. C. COUSINEAU, 802 51 27, was killed when struck by enemy fire while riding in a helicopter north of Tam Ky, RVN.

o. 7 January 1968 the NMCB-SIX detail at Tam Ky received twenty-three 81mm mortar rounds in their cantonment at 0115. There was minor damage to huts and CMHCN D.L. SMITH, B41 19 16, USN was wounded by shrapnel.

p. 21 January 1968 Congressman TALBERT, 12th California District Representative, and Congressman CEDARBERG, 10th Michigan District Representative visited two of NMCB-SIX's Chu Lai construction projects.

q. 22-24 January 1968 CDR C.H. SWIFT, COMCBPAC Chaplain held an administrative inspection.

r. 26 January 1968 BGEN COLLINS, C.G., 44th Medical Brigade, visited Chu Lai and inspected construction at the 400 Bed MEDEVAC Hospital site.

s. 31 January 1968 the Chu Lai combat base received 122mm rockets, 82mm mortar rounds, and small arms fire. Camp Miller was not damaged.

t. 31 January 1968 a coordinated enemy attack was launched against Tam Ky city at 0500 in the morning with mortar, rocket, and ground forces. The NMCB-SIX detail of one (1) officer and fifty-five enlisted men participated in the successful defense of province headquarters. The main enemy force withdrew at 1030 but sporadic sniper fire was received for the next 48 hours. NMCB-SIX was credited with 46 confirmed enemy kills during the attack in which the enemy had a total of 581 killed. BUR2 Peter F. MOORE, B30 69 06, USN, was wounded in the arm by enemy fire and was evacuated by helicopter to 2nd Surgical Hospital.

u. 1 February 1968 the main power plant and power lines of the Chu Lai power distribution system were energized by CDR T.A. HARDY, Commanding Officer, NSAD.

v. 17 February 1968 RADM S.R. SMITH, OICC RVN; BGEN ROLLINS, MACVDC; CAPT C.W. TURNER, COM3ONCR; CAPT C.C. HEID, Chief of Staff COM3NCB; and CAPT H.H. LOEFFLER, DIRCONNORTH visited Chu Lai.

w. 23 February 1968 LCDR F.M. NEWCOMB and LCDR G.R. MATTHEWS of COMCBPAC and MAJ. TYSON of COM31NCR visited NMCB-SIX Camp Miller for a plans and security inspection.

x. 4 March 1968 NMCB-SIX and NMCB-FORTY jointly entertained the Commanding Officers of Navy, Marine Corps, and Army units in the Chu Lai area at a mess night at NMCB-SIX Camp Miller in commemoration of the 101st and 26th anniversaries of the Civil Engineer Corps and the Seabees respectively. RADM. J.V. BARTLETT, COM3NCB; CAPT. C.W. TURNER, COM3ONCR; BGEN. C.W. RYDER, Jr. DCG Americal Division; and MGEN. S.W. KOSTER, CG Americal Division, the guest of honor, attended.

y. 5 March 1968 NMCB-SIX officers and men celebrated the 101st anniversary of the Civil Engineer Corps and the 26th anniversary of the Seabees with a USO show, moustache contest, presentation of "Seabees of the Deployment," and the cutting of the 1,300 pound birthday cake.

z. 24 March 1968 CAPT. C.W. TURNER, COM3ONCR presented the Navy Achievement Medal to Robert F. SMALL, BUC, 884 99 63, Richard H. GERN, EOC, 454 33 99, and David L. SMITH, CMACN, B41 19 16.


aa. 7 April 1968 NMCB-SEVENTY-ONE relieved NMCB-SIX.

5. MAJOR PROBLEMS.

a. Continual delay in delivery of construction materials to Chu Lai, especially electrical materials, caused delays in project starts and caused many projects to remain in the 90% complete category.

b. The large requirement coupled with slow delivery of explosives for use in the rock quarry operation had a marked effect on crushed rock production.

c. Slow delivery of spare parts, especially those for the rock crushers, greatly hampered production throughout the entire deployment.


R. D. KEEGAN

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