mobile construction battalion 71
deployment completion report
april - october 1968
From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-ONE

To: Commander Naval Construction Battalions, Pacific

Subject: Completion Report for Deployment April 1968 through October 1968; submission of

Ref: (A) COMCBPACINST 5213.1E
(B) COMCBPAC OPORD 3-68

Encl: (1) Section I - Administration Summary
      (2) Section II - Equipment Report
      (3) Section III - Training Report
      (4) Section IV - Labor Distribution Report
      (5) Section V - Construction Report
      (6) Section VI - Supply and Logistics Report
      (7) Section VII - Photographs
      (8) Section VIII - Civic Action Report
      (9) Section IX - Lessons Learned

1. This report is submitted in accordance with reference (A) as required in the performance of reference (B).

2. UNIT MOVEMENTS.
   
a. 9 - 10 March MCB-71 Advance Party consisting of 6 officers and 105 men was airlifted aboard two C-141 aircraft from Davisville to Chu Lai, RVN.

b. 28 March Detail ALFA ONE consisting of 15 men departed via Marine aircraft for Dong Ha, RVN.

c. 4 - 13 April MCB-71 Main Body consisting of 18 officers and 641 men was airlifted aboard 2 C-141 and 4 B-707 aircraft from Davisville to Chu Lai, RVN.

d. 8 April Detail CHARLIE TWO consisting of 1 officer and 61 men moved via surface convoy to Tam Ky, RVN.

e. 5 May Detail ALFA ONE returned from Dong Ha, RVN via Marine aircraft.

f. 17 May The Advance Party of Detail ECHO consisting of 1 officer and 60 men departed for Phu Loc, RVN. Transportation from Chu Lai to Phu Bai was via Marine aircraft. The detail then moved from Phu Bai to Phu Loc via surface convoy.

g. 31 May The second echelon of detail ECHO consisting of 55 men moved to Phu Loc, RVN via Marine aircraft and surface convoy.

h. 23 June Detail ALFA TWO consisting of 1 CPO and 31 men departed for DaNang, RVN via Marine aircraft.
i. 24 July
Detail ALFA THREE consisting of 13 men departed for Camp Evans, RVN via Marine aircraft.

j. 27 August
Detail DELTA ONE consisting of 1 officer and 50 men deployed to Quang Tri, RVN, to accomplish construction under the Minimum Essential Requirements (MER) program.

k. 2 - 3 September
Detail ALFA TWO returned from DaNang.

l. 22 September
Detail ALFA THREE returned from Camp Evans.

m. 4 October
MCB 71 celebrated the 2nd Anniversary of its recommissioning on 4 October 1966.

n. 6 October
The Advance Party of 2 officers and 17 men deployed to Davisville, Rhode Island, via 1 C-141 aircraft.

o. 9 October
Detail CHARLIE TWO returned to Chu Lai from Tam Ky after completing the Quang Tin Provincial Hospital and closing their camp.

p. 10 October
Detail DELTA TWO consisting of 1 officer and 60 men departed for DaNang, RVN.

q. 18 - 23 October
The main body of MCB 71 consisting of 11 officers and 265 men deployed to Davisville, Rhode Island, utilizing 2 B-707 and 1 C-141 aircraft.

s. 18 - 19 November
7 officers and 180 men from the delay party deployed to Davisville, Rhode Island, utilizing 2 C-141 aircraft.

t. 4 December
Balance of delay party including details ECHO and DELTA TWO returned to Davisville, 6 officers and 189 men, utilizing 3 C-141 aircraft.

3. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS.

a. 7 April
NM CB 71 assumed OPCON of construction projects from NMCB 6.

b. 10 April
NM CB 71 assumed command of Camp Miller.

c. 18 April
RAD M J. V. BARTLETT, COM3RDNCB attended NMCB 71 awards ceremony in Camp Miller.

d. 24 April
RAD M W. M. HEAMAN, COMCBPAC visited NMCB 71.

e. 30 April
CDR G. H. BROWN was relieved as Executive Officer by LCDR W. A. SIMMONS.

f. 18 June
RAD M J. V. BARTLETT, COM3RDNCB visited NMCB 71.

g. 9 August
CDR W. H. ANDERSON, relieved CDR R. D. COUGHLIN as Commanding Officer at a formal Change of Command held in Camp Miller. RAD M J. V. BARTLETT, COM3RDNCB was the guest of honor. Major General GETTYS, USA, CG American Division attended the ceremony.

h. 9 August
Eleven vertical construction projects placed in an OPHOLD status by COM3ONCR to conserve materials for priority work in the Northern I Corps. Approximately 80% of the Battalion's stock of 2" x 4" lumber, 1/2" plywood and roofing tin were also shipped North.
i. 18 August  
NMCB 71's Detail ECHO at Phu Loc came under enemy mortar attack. Nine NMCB 71 personnel were wounded, including two seriously, but there were no fatalities. Night operation of the Quarry/Crusher was halted temporarily.

j. 22-24 August  
CDR W. L. WILSON and LT J. L. HENLEY conducted the annual COMCBPAC Management Inspection of the Operations, Training and Administrative Departments.

k. 1 September  
Completed Chu Lai Power Distribution System.

l. 9-11 September  
LT F. GOHRBAND of COM31NCR conducted an inspection of the Supply Department.

m. 13 September  
Major General ROLLINS, USA, MACV Director of Construction, and CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR, toured Chu Lai projects.

n. 19 September  
LCDR G. R. MATHEWS and Major TYSON conducted the annual Management Inspection Visit of the Planning, Military Readiness and Embarkation Departments.

o. 27 September  
RADM J. V. BARTLETT, COM3NCB, and Major General BRADLEY, Director of Construction, COMUSMACV toured MCB 71 job sites and visited Camp Miller.

p. 4 October  
CAPT C. G. MILLER and CDR B. J. HACKINSON conducted the Annual CBPAC Management Inspection visit of MCB 71.

q. 6 October  
The new Quang Tin Provincial Hospital, constructed by MCB 71 was dedicated. CAPT J. R. FISHER, COM30NCR and CDR ANDERSON, Commanding Officer, MCB 71 were guests of the Vietnamese Government for the ceremony.

r. 16 November  
Class Va Ammunition Supply Point completed.

t. 18 November  
Camp Miller officially closed.

u. 5 December  
Detail ECHO at Phu Loc relieved by MCB 1. Last MCB 71 personnel departed Vietnam.

Copy to:

COMCBPAC  
COM3RD NCB  
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2

CINCPACFLT  
COM 30TH NCR  
1  
2

COMSERTANT  
COM 31TH NCR  
1  
2

SEABEE HISTORIAN  
COM 32ND NCR  
1  
2

DIR OF NAVAL HISTORY  
COM 20TH NCR  
1  
2

CG FMFPAC  
COM 21ST NCR  
1  
2

CG III MAF  
COBCEN FORHUE  
1  
1

NAVFAC (Code 06)  
CONAVSCHOLCONST  
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NAVFAC (Code 063)  
CONAVSCOL CEC OFF  
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COMNAVFORV  
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I. PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM

a. Battalion Newspaper. Six issues of the Battalion's monthly familygram, THE TRANSIT, were published during the deployment from May to October 1968. Of the 3000 copies per issue that were printed, approximately 2000 copies were mailed to relatives and friends of the Battalion's men. THE TRANSIT is printed with appropriated funds. The Armed Forces Writers League awarded THE TRANSIT Honorable Mention in the Sea Service Newspaper of the year competition under the 1968 Silver Anchors Awards Program.

Another monthly, THE SURVEYOR, was mimeographed in Camp Miller primarily as an internal publication. 500 copies of each issue were printed and distributed to the men. Six issues of the SURVEYOR were published during the deployment from May to October 1968.

b. News Releases. 98 releases were sent to the Fleet Home Town News Center. 34 project releases were sent to an average of 30 addresses and publications per release.

c. Cruisebook. A contract was signed with Liskey Lithographic in Norfolk, Virginia, for the publication of 800 copies of a 144 page cruisebook with 16 pages of color. A cruisebook committee, composed of company and department representatives, was established to insure that the book's style and format were in accordance as much as possible with the men's wishes. The committee also served to promote more interest in the cruisebook among Battalion personnel, and many suggestions that otherwise would have gone unnoticed were received as a result of the representative's wide contact with the men. Thus, layout of the cruisebook was worked on throughout the deployment, and some of the material sent to the printer before the Battalion's return to Davisville.

d. Other Projects

1. A "Know Your Leaders Board" was assembled and displayed in a prominent place in Camp Miller showing the battalion's chain of command structure with photos of all officers and chiefs of the battalion.

2. Color slides were provided for the Battalion Wives Club, and a color slide presentation was assembled for the Public Affairs Officer of COMCBLANT.

3. The Battalion history and the Commanding Officer's and Executive Officer's biographies were updated.

4. 200 copies of a 12-page Change of Command Program were printed by the Tokyo News Service in Tokyo, Japan.

5. The Public Affairs Officer, who also serves as Battalion Historian, briefed officers and men on the Battalion's history in an effort to increase the men's interest and knowledge of the Battalion's distinguished heritage.

6. The men's response to the Battalion's Public Affairs Program was gratifying. In addition to a general everyday support of Public Affairs, a number of enlisted men and officers wrote and submitted articles to the Battalion's publications, and several officers submitted technical articles to outside publications.

J. AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

1. Promotions

   a. ENS to LTJG 8
   b. LTJG to LT 1
   c. Total Officer Promotions 9

2. Advancements

   a. E-8 to E-9 0
   b. E-7 to E-8 2
   c. E-6 to E-7 2
   d. E-5 to E-6 14
   e. E-4 to E-5 64
   f. E-3 to E-4 119
   g. E-2 to E-3 80
   h. Total Enlisted Advancements 281.
3. Personal Decorations

NAVY COMMENDATION W/COMBAT "V"

LTJG Charles F. MISURA, CEC, USN
SWCN John E. BROADHEAD, USN

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT W/COMBAT "V"

LTJG Talbot W. BONE, CEC, USNR

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT

SW2 Bobby H. SHEPPARD, USN
SK3 Charles T. WINK, USN

PURPLE HEART

CN William A. AKINS, USN
EO2 Arthur BASKEL, JR., USN
EO3 Donald L. CARTER, USN
EO2 Everett C. GONSALVES, USN
EO3 Charles W. HENDRICKS, USN
EO3 Roy K. HICKOK, USN
CN Donald W. KNOX, USN
BUR2 Jackie T. MILLER, USN
HM2 Donald L. UREY, USN
EOCN John D. WOHLEB, USN
EO2 Craig T. WOOD, USN

USARV CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

BU2 Paul R. ROSEBRUGH, USN

A total of 231 MACV Certificates of Achievement awarded during deployment.

K. UNIT RECOGNITION

FM: COMCBPAC
TO: NMCB SEVEN ONE

BT
UNGLAS

1. TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF NMCB SEVEN ONE. I EXTEND MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE OUTSTANDING MANNER IN WHICH YOU ACCOMPLISHED YOUR ASSIGNED TASKS DURING YOUR UNIT'S SECOND DEPLOYMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

2. MAKING YOUR BASE CAMP AT ROSEMARY POINT, CHU LAI, EACH OF YOUR PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED IN A TIMELY AND EFFICIENT MANNER. SOME OF THE CONSTRUCTION ITEMS COMPLETED INCLUDED THE INSTALLATION OF AN ELECTRICAL POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR MASS-3, A NEW 42,000 SQUARE YARD PAVED AREA AT THE KEY HA CARGO HANDLING FACILITY, VARIOUS STORAGE STRUCTURES FOR NSAD CHU LAI, TWO BUILDINGS FOR MAG-12, AND THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE MAG-13 CANTONMENT AREA JUST TO NAME A FEW. DETAIL WORK INCLUDED THE OPERATIONS AT THE PHU LOC QUARRY/GRUNSER SITE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CORDS HOSPITAL AT TAM KY.

3. BEST WISHES FOR A WELL DESERVED HOMEPORT PERIOD AFTER A DEPLOYMENT "WELL DONE." RADW M. HEAMAN SENDS.

BT