



DANANG,
VIETNAM

AUGUST 1969—APRIL 1970



DEPLOYMENT
COMPLETION
REPORT

U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SEVENTY-FOUR
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

NMCB-74:10:PI

5213

Ser: 984

24 JUL 1970

From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction
Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR
To: Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, Pacific
Subj: NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR DEPLOYMENT COMPLETION REPORT
Ref: (a) COMCBPACINST 5213.1E
Encl: (1) Deployment Completion Report

1. Enclosure (1) summarizing the 15 August 1969 to 20 April
1970 deployment of NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR to the Republic of Vietnam
is hereby submitted in accordance with reference (a).

J. A. D'Emidio
J. A. D'EMIDIO

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NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR DEPLOYMENT COMPLETION REPORT
15 AUGUST 1969 THROUGH 20 APRIL 1970
DANANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

1. EMPLOYMENT:

U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR was deployed to Camp Rhodes, Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam, as established by COMCBPAC OPORD 0-69 and directed by COMCBPAC spd ltr ser CB31B-055 of 5 May 1969, during the period 18 August 1969 to 25 September 1969. On 26 September 1969, acting on verbal orders from Commander, THIRD Naval Construction Brigade, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR's main body redeployed to Camp Hoover, Danang, Republic of Vietnam and remained for the duration of the deployment until 20 April 1970. During the deployment other Battalion units were employed at various locations as follows:

a. Detail DELTA - From 1 September 1969 until 10 October 1969, one officer and 96 enlisted men from DELTA Company were detailed to Danang to reconstruct Ammunition Supply Point One.

b. Detail FOXTROT - From 15 September 1969 until 26 September 1969, one chief petty officer and 50 enlisted men from Charlie Company were detailed to Danang to assist NMCB FIFTY-THREE on improvements to Ammunition Supply Point Two.

c. Detail ALPHA - From 26 September 1969 until 15 March 1970, two officers and approximately 200 enlisted men primarily from ALPHA Company were detailed to remain at Camp Rhodes, Quang Tri after the departure of the main body to Camp Hoover, Danang, to complete Northern LOC Program and related projects.

d. Support to Cam Lo Close-Out - From 27 September 1969 until 10 October 1969, 20 enlisted men from ALPHA Company were assigned to Cam Lo Rock Crusher to assist in dismantling and closing out the camp.

e. Detail ECHO - From 28 September 1969 until 18 November 1969, 16 enlisted men from CHARLIE Company were detailed to Cam Ranh Bay to construct 7500 LF of Ammi Revetments for the Naval Air Facility.

f. Crew HOTEL - From 5 October 1969 to 16 November 1969, 12 enlisted men from CHARLIE Company were detailed to Hill 55 to make major repairs to the Golden Gate Bridge, a 450 foot timber structure.

g. Crew INDIA - From 9 November 1969 to 28 February 1970, 34 enlisted men from CHARLIE and BRAVO Companies were detailed to Hill 55 to upgrade existing and construct new cantonment facilities, including 54 SEA huts, and installation of a water distribution and filtration system.

h. Crew JULIET - From 16 November 1969 to 8 February 1970, 25 enlisted men from DELTA and BRAVO Companies were detailed to Hill 37 to upgrade and construct new cantonment facilities.

i. Crew KILO - From 16 November 1969 to 25 February 1970, 18 enlisted men from BRAVO Company were detailed to Hill 55 to install an electrical distribution system and a complete perimeter security lighting system.

j. Crew LIMA - From 23 November 1969 to 15 December 1969, 15 enlisted men from DELTA Company were detailed to Hoi An to provide additional cantonment facilities for the 2ND ROK Marines.

k. Crew MIKE - From 26 November 1969 to 30 December 1969, 8 enlisted men from ALPHA and DELTA Companies were detailed to Liberty Bridge to construct light stanchions and install security lighting.

l. Crew NOVEMBER - From 4 January 1970 to 1 February 1970, 18 enlisted men from DELTA Company were detailed to Hill 65 to upgrade and construct cantonment facilities.

m. Crew OSCAR - From 14 January 1970 to 29 January 1970, 6 enlisted men from CHARLIE Company were detailed to Hill 55 to make repairs to Golden Gate Bridge destroyed by enemy activity.

n. Crew PAPA - From 26 January 1970 to 15 February 1970, 6 enlisted men from ALPHA Company Well Drilling Crew were detailed to An Hoa to drill and install one deep Well.

o. Detail GOLF - From 14 February 1970 to 14 April 1970, 10 enlisted men from ALPHA Company were detailed to Ha Thanh Special Forces Camp to upgrade airfield facilities.

p. Crew QUEBEC - From 15 March 1970 to 18 April 1970, 22 enlisted men from Charlie and Alpha Companies were detailed to Hoi An to construct Force Support Increase facilities for the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

q. Crew ROMEO - From 16 March 1970 to 10 April 1970, 5 enlisted men from BRAVO Company detailed to Hill 65 to install a water distribution system.

r. Crew SIERRA - From 29 March 1970 to 16 April 1970, 6 enlisted men from CHARLIE Company detailed to Hoi An to construct anti-swim/sapper protection for Riverine Division 543.

s. Crew TANGO - From 3 April 1970 to 11 April 1970, 6 enlisted men from ALPHA Company Well Drilling Crew were detailed to MACV Advisory Team #15 Compound, Dai Loc, to drill and install one deep well.

2. Unit Movements:

The following major battalion movements were accomplished in execution of COMCBPAC OPOD 0-69 and directed by COMCBPAC spd ltr ser CB31B-055 of 5 May 1969.

a. NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR's RVN Advance Party:

On 1 August 1969 four officers and 105 enlisted personnel arrived at Camp Rhodes, Quang Tri, R.V.N.

b. R.V.N. Main Body Movements Element One:

From 16 August 1969 to 19 August 1969, approximately 340 men from the Main Body movement arrived from Gulfport, Mississippi to Quang Tri, R.V.N. on the first three main body flights.

c. R.V.N. Main Body Movement Element Two:

From 24 August 1969 to 25 August 1969 approximately 310 men from the Main Body movement arrived from Gulfport, Mississippi to Quang Tri, R.V.N. on the last three main body flights. The delay in the main body flight arrivals were due to Hurricane Camille in Gulfport, Mississippi on 17 August 1969.

d. R.V.N. In-country Advance Party redeployment:

On 20 September 1969 four officers and 41 enlisted men departed Camp Rhodes, Quang Tri and arrived at Camp Hoover, Danang, R.V.N. for redeployment.

e. R.V.N. In-country Main Body redeployment:

On 25 September 1969 to 28 September 1969 the Main Body of NMCB-74 consisting of 420 men redeployed to Camp Hoover, Danang leaving Detail ALPHA at Camp Rhodes, QUANG TRI, R.V.N. Detail ALPHA was concurrently established with one officer and 220 enlisted men.

f. CONUS Advance Party:

On 3 April 1970, one officer and 57 enlisted men departed Camp Hoover, Danang, R.V.N. for Gulfport, Mississippi.

g. CONUS Main Body Movement:

From 20 April to 23 April 1970, the main body of NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR transitioned from Camp Hoover, Danang, R.V.N. to CONUS utilizing MAC C-141 aircraft.

3. Significant Events:

17 August 1969 - Hurricane Camille hit Gulfport, Mississippi severely crippling the Gulf Coast. Those flights of NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR to Vietnam that had not already departed were delayed so the remaining NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR personnel, approximately 400, could assist in rescue and emergency recovery operations. Final main body flight delayed until 23 August 1969.

18 August 1969 - Camp Rhodes, Quang Tri, R.V.N. was officially turned-over by NMCB ONE TWENTY EIGHT to NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR. Commander J. A. D'EMIDIO, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer, NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR, relieved Commander J. J. GAWARKIEWICZ, III, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer, NMCB ONE TWENTY EIGHT of command of Camp Rhodes, Republic of Vietnam.

26 August 1969 - Quang Tri Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack at approximately 2200. Four rounds fell within Camp Rhodes, one partially destroying "B" Company Shop. A second round landed in deep mud approximately 50 feet behind the movie area where 250 men were viewing slides of destruction caused by Hurricane Camille. No injuries resulted from this attack.

28 August 1969 - RADM J. G. DILLON, COM3NCB, visited Camp Rhodes and toured job sites.

31 August 1969 - Quang Tri Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack at approximately 2130. 31 rocket rounds fell within the combat base. No rounds were received within Camp Rhodes.

2 September 1969 - Typhoon Doris struck Quang Tri Province causing severe damage to the combat base; Camp Rhodes included. Communications and power were disrupted. Numerous working and berthing spaces were extensively damaged. NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR provided repair crews and materials to assist local units to make repairs to damaged facilities.

3 September 1969 - RADM J. G. DILLON, COM3NCB, and Captain J. E. WASHBURN, COM32NCR Visited Camp Rhodes to assess damage caused by Typhoon Doris and review restoration plans.

12 September 1969 - Quang Tri Combat Base came under rocket attack at approximately 2230. No rounds were received within Camp Rhodes. NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR perimeter defense sector received small arms fire.

13 September 1969 - RADM J. G. DILLON, COM3NCB and CAPT J. E. WASHBURN, COM32NCR, visited Camp Rhodes.

13 September 1969 - Quang Tri Combat Base came under rocket attack. No rounds were received within Camp Rhodes.

14 September 1969 - Quang Tri Combat Base received six rocket rounds at approximately 2200. No rounds were received within Camp Rhodes.

25 September 1969 - RADM J. G. DILLON, COM3NCB and CAPT J. E. WASHBURN, COM32NCR, visited Camp Rhodes and toured the job sites.

28 September 1969 - Main Body of NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR completed the Battalion's redeployment to Camp Hoover, Danang.

28 September 1969 - Quang Tri Combat Base received seven rocket rounds. No rounds were received in Detail ALFA's camp.

6 October 1969 - RADM J. G. DILLON, COM3NCB, and CAPT J. E. POWELL, COM30NCR, visited Camp Hoover and toured job sites.

15 October 1969 - Quang Tri Combat Base received five rocket rounds and small arms fire. No incidents were reported against Detail ALFA.

15 October 1969 - Commander J. A. D'EMIDO, LCDR G.W. JACKSON, LT F. D. SCHLESINGER, EOC R. C. WILLIAMS, EAL J. W. SIMMONS, CM2 D. E. BARTON, EOL R. A. TAYLOR, EOL C. B. JACKSON and CMCN N. L. FLATT, received awards from the Government of Vietnam for their contributions to the construction of QL-1 in a ceremony in which the Government of Vietnam accepted QL-1 and QL-9.

19 October 1969 - LT R. D. PERKINS relieved LCDR R. W. DEAN NMCB-74 Supply Officer.

31 October 1969 - CAPT C. G. MILLER, Chief Staff Officer COMCBPAC and CDR B. J. HACKENSON, CBPAC Logistics Officers conducted the CBPAC Command and Logistics Inspection. CDR P. R. GATES, Chief Staff Officer, COMCBLANT also visited Camp Hoover.

14 November 1969 - Information received that personnel from NMCB-74 participating in disaster recovery operations during and after Hurricane Camille were awarded the Navy Unit Commendation by the Secretary of the Navy.

15 November 1969 - CAPT J. R. FISHER, NAVFAC code 06, and CAPT J. E. POWELL, COM30NCR visited Camp Hoover.

22 November 1969 - CDR W. L. WILSON and LT R. M. ROHRBACH, COMCBPAC Operations and Administration Inspection team arrived at Camp Hoover to conduct inspections.

24 November 1969 - CHARLIE Company commenced planning for the construction of the 730 foot, 9 span steel Cau Do Bridge. Estimated completion of project is 20 April 1970.

28 November 1969 - CWO W. L. MARR, 31st NCR, representative of COMCBPAC arrived to conduct an Equipment Inspection.

3 December 1969 - The third anniversary of NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR's recommissioning was celebrated. The festivities included a battalion barbeque, sports events, a USO Show and a formal Dining-In by the officers, with Brigadier General R. H. SPANJER, Assistant Commander, FIRST Marine Aircraft Wing and Rear Admiral, J. G. DILLON, Commander THIRD Naval Construction Brigade present. Also present were guests from the 3NCB/30NCR/32NCR and adjacent commands. The afternoon of this day was declared holiday routine.

4 December 1969 LT A. P. MASTERHAZY, SC, USN, of COMCBPAC arrived to Camp Hoover to conduct the Annual Supply Inspection.

25 December 1969 - Christmas and Mid-deployment festivities were observed as a combined celebration.

26 December 1969 - CAPT C. F. KRICKENBERGER, Jr., COMCBLANT and CDR C. F. SCHMID, Chaplain, CBLANT, arrived at Camp Hoover on a combined inspection and briefing visit.

29 January 1970 - LCDR D. PLUNNECKE relieved LCDR G. W. JACKSON as NMCB-74 Operations Officer.

6 February 1970 - Management inspection conducted by CBPAC representative, LCDR G. R. MATTHEWS and 31st NCR representative, CAPT J. B. FRANCIS, USMC. Ordnance/Communication/Military Readiness areas were reviewed along with embarkation and contingency planning.

10 February 1970 - LCDR G. R. MATTHEWS and CAPT J. B. FRANCIS were fatally injured in a helicopter crash just South of Danang.

10 February 1970 - RADM J. G. DILLON, COM3NCB and CAPT J. E. WASHBURN, COM32NCR visited Detail ALFA, Camp Rhodes and toured job sites.

21 February 1970 - A farewell party was held for RADM J. G. DILLON, COM3NCB. In attendance were 3NCB staff, CAPT J. E. WASHBURN, COM32NCR and staff; and Commanding Officer of NMCB-1 and NMCB-121.

3 March 1970 - CDR J. A. D'EMIDIO, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer and UTCS S. H. KIRSCH, USN, Acting Battalion Master Chief, and a color platoon from Headquarters Company participated in the THIRD Naval Construction Brigade Change of Command ceremony at Red Beach, Danang, Republic of Vietnam, wherein RADM A. F. MARSCHALL, CEC, USN, relieved RADM J. G. DILLON, CEC, USN.

4 March 1970 - RADM A. F. MARSCHALL, CEC, USN, COM3NCB and CAPT J. E. WASHBURN, CEC, USN, COM32NCR visited Camp Hoover for an operational briefing.

7 March 1970 - Seabee and Civil Engineer Corps Anniversaries were celebrated with ceremonies in the EM Club.

12 March 1970 - The final stringer was placed on the 730 foot Cau Do Bridge under construction by NMCB-74.

14 March 1970 - Camp facilities at Camp Rhodes, Quang Tri officially turned over to representatives of Pacific Architects and Engineers for reassignment to the 14th Army Engineer Battalion.

16 March 1970 - Final elements of Detail Alpha left Camp Rhodes, Quang Tri for Camp Hoover, Danang. Detail Alpha officially disestablished.

23 March 1970 - CAPT J. E. WASHBURN, CEC, USN, COM32NCR visited Camp Hoover and toured the construction sites.

27 March 1970 - An NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR detachment working on Hill 65, in support of Marine Corps units encountered three airbursts of unknown type ordnance. UTCN R. H. SQUIRE, received multiple minor shrapnel wounds and was subsequently awarded the Purple Heart.

29 March 1970 - One way northbound motorized traffic opened on Cau Do Bridge. Project completed three weeks ahead of schedule. A twenty five percent reduction in the original man-day estimate was achieved.

29 March 1970 - RADM J. V. BARTLETT, CEC, USN, Vice Commander NAVFAC, RADM A. F. MARSCHALL, CEC, USN, COM3NCB, CAPT J. E. WASHBURN, CEC, USN, COM32NCR and CAPT A. W. WALTON, Jr., CEC, USN, Duty Commander for Facilities Acquisition, visited Camp Hoover and met with all battalion officers and senior chief petty officers.

3 April 1970 - NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR advance party, consisting of one officer and 57 enlisted men departed Danang for Gulfport, Mississippi.

7 April 1970 - The Cau Do Bridge was formally dedicated and opened for traffic at a ceremony held at the bridge site. Public Works and Communications Medals, second class were awarded to CDR J. A. D'EMIDIO, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer, LT M. A. HOPPER, CEC, USN, and EOL B. E. TROTTER. Technical Medal first class was awarded to LCDR D. PLUNNECKE, CEC, USN. Six Technical Medals second class were awarded to NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR personnel.

18 April 1970 - CDR J. P. JONES, Jr., Commanding Officer, NMCB SIXTY-TWO arrived at Camp Hoover.

20 April 1970 - Flight #1 of the NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR main body departed Danang, aboard MAC Chartered C-141 flight for Gulfport, Mississippi.

21 April 1970 - CDR J. P. JONES, Jr., CEC, USN, Commanding Officer, NMCB SIXTY-TWO relieved CDR J. A. D'EMIDIO, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer, NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR of command of Camp Hoover, Danang, Republic of Vietnam.

12. INDIVIDUAL AWARDS AND UNIT RECOGNITIONS:

a. The following individual awards were presented during the deployment, with such presentations being made at battalion functions wherever possible to insure fullest possible recognition for individual achievements:

- (1) NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL
 - (a) SW2 P. W. RICHTER, Jr., USN

- (2) BRONZE STAR
 - (a) LCDR F. G. KELLEY, CEC, USN

- (3) NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL
 - (a) *LCDR D. PLUNNECKE, CEC, USN
 - (b) LCDR R. D. PERKINS, SC, USN
 - (c) LT F. D. SCHLESINGER, CEC, USN
 - (d) LT M. A. HOPPER, CEC, USN
 - (e) LT H. D. DEAN, CEC, USN
 - (f) *LTJG N. C. DAVIS, CEC, USNR
 - (g) *LT D. R. ROBINSON, CHC, USN
 - (h) *CE1 J. R. HADLEY, USN
 - (i) *EOC R. W. WILLIAMS, USN
 - (j) *BU1 M. L. GALLIHER, USN
 - (k) *BU1 R. S. PETERSON, USN
 - (l) *BU1 C. W. BEGGS, USN
 - (m) *EO1 R. A. TAYLOR, USN
 - (n) *CUCM N. E. DONALDSON, USN

- (4) NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL
 - (a) *LT T. E. GESHKE, MC, USNR
 - (b) *LTJG R. N. MILLER, CEC, USNR
 - (c) *LTJG J. Z. TAYLOR, SC, USN
 - (d) *ENS J. D. MCKINNEY, CEC, USNR
 - (e) *ENS J. E. MCKAY, CEC, USNR
 - (f) *ENS J. L. DELKER, CEC, USNR
 - (g) *ENS R. F. COWAN, CEC, USNR
 - (h) *ENS S. L. ANDRE, SC, USNR
 - (i) *SKCS C. K. BUTTERFIELD, USN
 - (j) *BUC J. F. SMITH, USN
 - (k) *BU1 W. J. WOLSTENHOLME, USN
 - (l) *BU3 E. E. MCCAULEY, USN
 - (m) *1SGT R. A. BURKE, USMC
 - (n) *EA3 D. R. HARRISON, USN
 - (o) *CMC W. G. ROGERS, USN
 - (p) *BU3 A. L. JENSEN, USN
 - (q) *EO2 M. D. WEEKS, USN
 - (r) *BU2 R. G. ROBERTSON, USN

(s) *SW3 R. L. SMITH, USN
 (t) *EO2 D. G. BLOODWORTH, USN
 (u) *EO1 B. E. HOLLEY, USN
 (v) *EA3 P. J. PETRETTI, USN
 (w) *CMCN L. G. FLATT, USN
 (x) *SW3 J. L. THOMAS, USN
 (y) *YN2 G. K. PRYOR, USN
 (z) *UTC J. O. OAKES, USN
 (aa) *CE2 J. E. SCOTT, USN
 (bb) *CSC R. W. JACKSON, USN
 (cc) *BU2 V. F. COTTONE, USN
 (dd) *EA3 L. M. TARANTINO, USN
 (ee) *SW1 C. E. MEEKS, USN
 (ff) *SW1 D. BURWELL, USN
 (gg) *BU2 R. W. PEPIN, USN
 (hh) *BU2 J. W. WHITIS, USN
 (ii) *UT1 J. L. PEARSON, USN
 (jj) *SW2 S. W. GARRETT, USN
 (kk) *JO2 A. C. TABE, USN

- (5) PURPLE HEART
 (a) UTCN R. H. SQUIRE, USN
- (6) COMBAT ACTION RIBBONS: 375
- (7) NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION: 515
- (8) GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL: 7
- (9) VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL: 382
- (10) EXPERT RIFLE/PISTOL: 206
- (11) VIETNAMESE CAMPAIGN MEDAL: 308
- (12) NUMEROUS LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

* INDICATES NO AWARD CITATION FOR THIS DEPLOYMENT PERIOD HAS BEEN RECEIVED AT THE TIME OF THE BATTALION'S REDEPLOYMENT TO CONUS.

b. The following unit recognitions were received by the battalion while on its third deployment to the Republic of Vietnam.