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DEPLOYMENT

COMPLETION

MARCH 73

NOV. 73

REPORT



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER SERVICE FORCE
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23511

3500
Ser N313/3187
4 SEP 1973

From: Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet
To: Commanding Officer, Naval Mobile Construction
Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR
Via: Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U. S.
Atlantic Fleet

Subj: Battle Efficiency Competition 1973

1. The annual review process for selecting the OUTSTANDING Naval Mobile Construction Battalion in the U. S. Atlantic Fleet has been completed. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR was adjudged "BEST OF TYPE" for Fiscal Year 1973, and is a winner of the Battle Efficiency Award.

2. Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet commends the Commanding Officer, the officers and men of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR for the pursuit of a vigorous, long-term training program leading to the attainment of the Battle Efficiency Award.

3. The Commanding Officer, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR is authorized to take the following action:

a. Paint or affix a white "E" to the front entrance of the Battalion's command headquarters building.

b. Display the battle efficiency pennant in the vicinity of the headquarters building. Article 324 of DNC 27 (A) gives a detailed description of the battle efficiency pennant.

c. Authorize enlisted personnel to wear the Navy "E" in accordance with U. S. Navy Uniform Regulations.

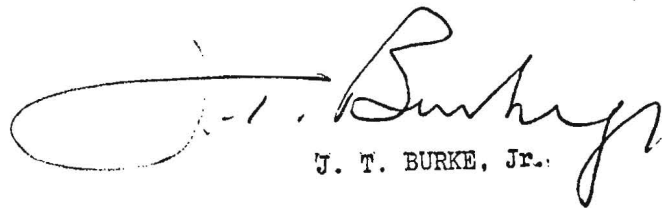
d. All of the above may be displayed until the winners of the Battle Efficiency Competition are announced for Fiscal Year 1974.

4. Further, the Commanding Officer, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR is encouraged to take appropriate commendatory action in the case of those officers and enlisted men who made a significant contribution to the achievements of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR.

3500
N313

5. A suitable plaque commemorating the presentation of the Battle Efficiency Award will be forwarded to Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, who will make arrangements for the official presentation on behalf of Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

6. Well done and best wishes to you, your officers and crew for such an outstanding performance. I am well aware that your recognition by this award is the result of a tremendous team effort on the part of all hands. Best of luck also for the coming year!



J. T. BURKE, Jr.

COMMANDER NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
DAVISVILLE, RHODE ISLAND 02854

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3500

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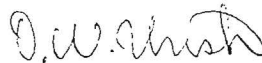
20 SEP 1973

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on COMSERVLANT ltr 3500 Ser N313/3187 of
4 Sept 1973

From: Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet
To: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion
SEVENTY-FOUR

Subj: Battle Efficiency Competition 1973

1. Forwarded for action as authorized in the basic correspondence.
2. Your selection as "Best of Type" for Fiscal Year 1973 and as a winner of the Battle Efficiency Award reflect the outstanding leadership, professional competence and devotion to duty displayed by all hands. Each officer and man of NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR can take pride in his role in earning the Battle Efficiency "E" and pennant.
3. Arrangements for presentation of the Battle Efficiency "E" Plaque will be made upon your return to homeport.


D. W. URISH
Acting

Copy to:
COMSERVLANT
COM20NCR

U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SEVENTY-FOUR
F.P.O. NEW YORK 09501

S3/jwr
5213
29 January 1974

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Mobile Construction
Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR
To: Distribution List

Subj: Deployment Completion Report

Ref: (a) COMCBPAC/COMCBLANT INST 5213.1
(b) COMCBLANT Operation Order 5-73

Encl: (1) Introduction
(2) Unit Location Summary
(3) Historical Summary
(4) Administrative Summary
(5) Supporting Functions
(6) Safety Summary
(7) Military Readiness
(8) Logistics
(9) Battalion Operations
(10) Labor Distribution Summary
(11) Equipment Status Report
(12) Project Status Report
(13) Seabee Team 74-13
(14) Lessons Learned

1. Enclosures (1) through (14) are forwarded in accordance with reference (a), as required in the performance of reference (b).

2. Unit Location: In accordance with reference (b), NMCB-74 was deployed to Diego Garcia, Chagos Archipelago, British Indian Ocean Territories from 20 March to 9 November 1973 with an average strength of 607 men. A Seabee Team of 13 men was located in Yap, TTPI from 21 April to 6 December 1973.

3. Unit Movements:

18 FEB 73 - NMCB-74 Advance Party departed Gulfport, Mississippi with 9 Officers and 164 Enlisted.

19 - 23 MAR 73 - NMCB-74 Main Body departed Gulfport, Mississippi with 8 Officers and 436 Enlisted.

21 APR 73 - Seabee Team 74-13 arrived at Yap, TTPI with one Officer and 12 Enlisted.

Subj: Deployment Completion Report

12 - 13 OCT 73 - NMCB-74 Advance Party departed Diego Garcia, BIOT with 2 Officers and 103 Enlisted.

8 - 11 NOV 73 - NMCB-74 Main Body departed Diego Garcia, BIOT with 16 Officers and 462 Enlisted.

4. Significant Events:

2 MAR 73 - Seabees Birthday Celebration

3 MAR 73 - USS NOA (DD 841) visited Diego Garcia and departed 5 March 1973.

18 MAR 73 - CDR J. E. BODAMER, Commanding Officer NMCB-74 arrived on island.

20 MAR 73 - Island Commander, Diego Garcia Change of Command Ceremony.

20 MAR 73 - Commissioning of NAVCOMMSTA Diego Garcia.

21 - 25 MAR 73 - NMCB-74 Main Body arrived.

23 MAR 73 - CDR TOLIVER, Commanding Officer, NMCB-62 departed.

26 MAR 73 - USS EXPORT BUILDER, resupply ship visited Diego Garcia and departed 29 March 1973.

26 - 27 MAR 73 - LT BURKE, OICC Thailand, Mr. WADELICH, OICC Thailand, Mr. GILLISON, PACDIV, and 17 others visited Diego Garcia for familiarization with site conditions affecting bidding on dredge contract.

4 APR 73 - Mr. REED, NAVSEECTPHIL, arrived for COMMSTA Weather Facility inspection.

4 APR 73 - Mr. JACKSON, CBLANT Representative, arrived for inspection of MCON; and departed 13 April 1973.

8 APR 73 - CA Patrick L. ROBINSON, NMCB-74 died by drowning.

9 APR 73 - Held memorial service for CA ROBINSON.

14 APR 73 - Captain R. N. VICKERS, USAF, arrived for duty.

15 APR 73 - BAMBURI, Resupply of cement.

18 APR 73 - Captain L. N. WHITE, COMNAVCOMM, arrived for three day visit.

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- 21 APR 73 - Seabee Team 74-13 arrived at Yap, TTPI.
- 2 MAY 73 - CDR M. J. MCDONALD, PACNAVFAC, arrived for one day visit.
- 4 MAY 73 - BUL William M. STONE, NMCB-74 died of natural causes.
- 5 MAY 73 - Conducted memorial services for BUL STONE.
- 9 MAY 73 - CDR W. C. CONNOR, Commanding Officer, NMCB-133 arrived for two day visit.
- 9 MAY 73 - CWO-2 M. G. THATCHER, 31 NCR and two others arrived for CBPAC equipment study and departed 11 May 1973.
- 9 MAY 73 - CDR A. H. DICKENS, Royal Navy arrived for two day visit.
- 9 MAY 73 - SS Export Bay, monthly resupply ship.
- 9 MAY 73 - Miss Carmen D'ORO and three others arrived for performance of USO Show on 10 May 1973.
- 16 MAY 73 - CDR J. R. WILLIAMS, COMCBLANT, RDS Project Coordinator, arrived for one week visit.
- 16 MAY 73 - Four Man Drug Education Team (DEFT) arrived for one week.
- 31 MAY 73 - NMCB-10 Advance Party arrived with two officers and five enlisted for turnover of RDS Projects from NMCB-133 DET CHAGOS NMCB-10.
- 31 MAY 73 - LT KANNEGIESER, CBLANT Equipment Officer arrived for one week visit.
- 31 MAY 73 - LCDR F. WATSON, NMCB-10 Operations Officer, arrived to assist in turnover of RDS Projects.
- 6 JUN 73 - USO handshake tour.
- 8 JUN 73 - NMCB-10 DET CHAGOS arrived and NMCB-133 departed.
- 8 JUN 73 - First commercial aircraft to depart Diego Garcia after sunset with the aid of permanent airfield lighting.
- 13 JUN 73 - Combat Camera Group arrived for two week film coverage of RDS Projects.

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13 JUN 73 - LT J. REEVER, BUPERS arrived on a two day visit.

13 JUN 73 - LTJG SMAT, NMCB-74, Bangkok Rep arrived for a visit.

15 JUN 73 - LCDR J. CANTER, COMBIOTREP, and LCDR SCOTT, ROICC RDS departed 15 June for predredging conference.

20 JUN 73 - Dredging contractor arrived for a one day predeployment visit.

21 JUN 73 - USS LASALLE (AGF-3) arrived for a three day port call.

27 JUN 73 - LTJG HIRSCH, Island Commander Diego Garcia PORHUE Rep., arrived for one week visit.

27 JUN 73 - Dr. E. GUNDERSON, BUMED, arrived for two week visit for study purposes.

4 JUL 73 - LCDR H. LEWIS arrived for duty as NMCB-74 Executive Officer.

4 JUL 73 - NAVOCEANO Rep arrived for two month survey.

11 JUL 73 - RADM ISELIN, COMCBPAC, PACDIV, arrived for one day visit.

11 JUL 73 - COL E. W. STEVENS, USAF, arrived for one day visit.

20 JUL 73 - Fuel resupply ship arrived.

25 JUL 73 - Mr. N. JACKSON, CBLANT Rep, arrived for one week visit.

2 AUG 73 - CDR J. E. BODAMER, Commanding Officer NMCB-74, departed for drug abuse presentation.

2 AUG 73 - CDR K. R. GREGORY, COMCBLANT, arrived for one week ASI.

9 AUG 73 - CDR J. A. WALTERS, PACDIV, arrived for one week ground water study.

9 AUG 73 - LCDR J. B. WRIGHT, COMSERVPAC, arrived for one week logistic study.

9 AUG 73 - CDR J. E. BODAMER, Commanding Officer, NMCB-74 returned.

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29 JAN 74

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10 AUG 73 - Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-FOUR is "BEST OF TYPE" in the East.

10 AUG 73 - Retrograde ship SS AMERICAN CHAMPION arrived and departed 16 August 1973.

19 AUG 73 - M. V. VISHVA NAYAK, resupply ship arrived.

22 AUG 73 - RADM J. R. FISHER, COMCBPAC, arrived for one day tour of island.

22 AUG 73 - Captain W. E. WYNNE, OICC THAI, arrived for one day tour of island.

24 AUG 73 - Resupply ship departed.

24 AUG 73 - Dredging Contractors Advanced Party arrived.

29 AUG 73 - CDR S. T. ALEXANDER, Commanding Officer, NMCB-4, arrived for pre-deployment visit and departed 9 September 1973.

12 SEP 73 - Captain CLEMENTS, COMCBLANT, arrived for a three and one-half day visit and departed 16 September 1973.

15 SEP 73 - COMCBLANT Air Conditioning Balance Team arrived.

15 SEP 73 - CDR STALLMAN, Commanding Officer, NMCB-10, arrived for visit with NMCB-10 DET CHAGOS.

15 SEP 73 - Drug Education Field Team arrived to conduct one week of classes.

23 SEP 73 - LCDR SCOTT, ROICC, Diego Garcia, departed.

23 SEP 73 - CDR STALLMAN, Commanding Officer, NMCB-10, departed.

25 SEP 73 - RFA BACCHUS, British supply ship arrived, after cargo was offloaded she departed 27 September 1973.

29 SEP 73 - LCDR SCOTT, ROICC, Diego Garcia, returned.

30 SEP 73 - RADM BURKE, COMSERVLANT, arrived for three and one-half day familiarization visit.

10 OCT 73 - SS AMERICAN RACER, resupply ship arrived.


11 - 12 OCT 73 - NMCB-4 Advance Party arrived and NMCB-74 Advance Party departed.

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29 JAN 74

Subj: Deployment Completion Report

22 OCT 73 - BAMBURI cement offload ship arrived.

9 NOV 73 - Island Commander, Diego Garcia, Change of
Command Ceremony.


J. E. BODAMER

Distribution List:

COMCBLANT
CINCLANTFLT
COMSERVLANT
COMCBPAC
DIR OF NAVAL HISTORY
NAVFACENGCOMHQ (CODE 06)
COM 31 NCR
COM 32 NCR
COM 20 NCR
COM 21 NCR
CO CBC PORHUE (CODE 17)
CO CBC PORHUE (CODE 15)
CO CBC DAVISVILLE
CO CBC GULFPORT
CO NAVSCON PORHUE
CO CECOS PORHUE
ALL NMCB's
CNO (OP-44G)
CO NCEL PORHUE
COMMANDANT MARINE CORPS (CODE AO 4E)
DIR TRAIN PUBLICATIONS DIVISION
ALL RNCB's, RNCR's, and RNMCB's

DEPLOYMENT COMPLETION REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

In contrast to our last deployment in Puerto Rico, this deployment to Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territories 20 March - 9 November 1973, had no details except one Seabee Team in Yap, TTPI, nor was the battalion required to be capable of a military readiness mount out. There was however the same high quality of construction required as was first introduced to the battalion in Puerto Rico. The battalion's primary mission was construction and the management employed emphasized this role.

The management organization was of a matrix nature. There was a project manager for each project, a project supervisor for each project, and a resource manager for each company/department. Work crews specialized and moved from project to project.

The climate is hot and humid but there were only small amounts of rain during most of the deployment. Construction problems stemmed basically from materials not being present when needed or being damaged by either shipment or exposure. Problems were also encountered with plans and material take-offs. The supply line of construction materials is very long, creating complications for any on-the-job adjustments.

Enclosure (1)

UNIT LOCATION SUMMARY

<u>TYPE UNIT & DESIGNATION</u>	<u>OFF/ENL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE</u>	<u>MISSION</u>
U. S. NMCB SEVENTY-FOUR	19/618	Reindeer Station Diego Garcia, BIOT	Advance Party 21 February 73 12 October 73	Construct U. S. Naval Comm. Sta.
			Main Body 21-25 March 73 8-13 November 73	Construct U. S. Naval Comm. Sta.
Island Commander Diego Garcia Port Hueneme Representative	1/5	Port Hueneme California	23 February 73	Logistics Support
Island Commander Diego Garcia Bangkok Representative	1/3	Bangkok, Thailand	21 February 73 4 November 73	Logistics Support
Seabee Team 7413	1/12	Yap	21 April 73 5 December 73	Civic Action

Enclosure (2)

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Enclosure (3)

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

MARCH 1973

Predeployment leave and liberty marked the threshold to Deployment '73. The suspense of the last few weeks in home-port was multiplied by the anticipation of seeing a new place that few people had knowledge of other than through the reports of others. Confusion of flight departure dates increased the anxiety by a quantum. Finally, the cargo flight departed on Sunday, March 18, and we were on our way. At 1500 on each of the five following days, a C-141 departed from Gulfport, eastward bound for Dover, Delaware; Torrejon, Spain; Incerlik, Turkey; and Diego Garcia, transplanting NMCB-74 to the Chagos Archipelago.

The turnover of Camp Cummins, Reindeer Station projects, and the Island Command, was executed on 20 March. With the arrival of the Main Body, work was in full swing Monday morning, 26 March.

At the airfield, the long term chore of mending cracks has commenced. Excavation for airfield lighting and navigational aids is in progress, in addition to the continuing effort of clearing and grading the site.

Work commenced on the Charlie Building during this period with the initial clearing of the site.

At the Industrial Site, radiators are being installed at the Power/Desal Plant in addition to some minor rework and placement of partial floor slabs. Mechanical systems and painting are the primary tasks at the Cold Storage Warehouse, while punch list and the chip collector receive attention at the Public Works Building. Forms were stripped from the 225,000 gallon water tank and cleaning, grouting, and painting commenced. Work at the Transportation Building involves interior CMU and installation of overhead doors.

In the Cantonment area, BEQ 1 received the built-up roofing crew, while BEQ 2 is worked on by block layers, rough-in plumbing and electrical crews. BEQ 3 is now out of the ground with the placing of columns and also partial floor slabs. BOQ 1 is being worked on by finish crews in carpentry, tile setting, plumbing and electrical. BOQ 2 is receiving interior and exterior block walls.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

APRIL 1973

A tragic event befell us this month with the drowning death of CA Patrick L. Robinson. He was a quiet, sensitive, and well liked shipmate and will be missed by everyone.

The month of April saw NMCB-74 get into the full swing of construction on Diego Garcia. The Project Manager system of Construction Management has been assimilated and is proving to be a highly successful orientation to the problem of crew effectiveness. Inefficiency at the crew level took time to remedy, but all crews are shaping up in excellent fashion with experience rounding out skills learned during the homeport period.

At the airfield, grinding, sawing, patching and sealing continues. The meteorological pad has been completed, and pavement lighting progresses rapidly toward a finish. Tree removal and grading work remain underway. The windows are in place in air operations control tower and the building nears an anticipated turnover to NCS at the end of May.

The permanent industrial site has seen a continuation of work on the water loop, placement of the pump house slab, painting on the water storage tanks, and grading for the fuel pumps. The Power/Desal Building received a complete floor placement in the power section and preliminary installation of terminal boards, motor control switch gear, and the lube oil system. The Cold Storage/General Warehouse saw the completion of quarry tile and reefer floor installation. Punch list work continued at the Public Works Building while overhead doors, CMU, the sprinkler system, and ceramic tile were completed at the Transportation Shop.

In the Cantonment area, the built-up roof was completed at the BEQ 1 while rough electrical and duct work continued inside. BEQ 2 received three sections of roof and continued CMU work while BEQ 3 received deck slabs and CMU. BOQ 1 saw the continuation of all finish interior work and installation of A/C piping. BOQ 2 received deck slab, CMU, and rough electrical and plumbing. Punch list and air conditioning work continues at the Admin Building.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

MAY 1973

Tragedy struck NMCB-74 this month with the sudden death of BU1 William M. Stone on 4 May. He was only 38 years old and his death by natural causes shocked and grieved everyone.

The month of May saw the final turnover of two buildings to the Naval Communications Station after punch list work was complete. The Receiver Building on 17 May, and the Transmitter Building on 31 May became the first permanent structures on the island to see the Seabees move out.

At the Transmitter Site, anchors were placed for the final RLPA and one pad was placed for the transformers at Stand-by Power #1. The Power Distribution System saw a continuing effort to complete the high voltage line from the Transmitter Site to the Industrial Site. The goal is to place SBP-1 on the line and alleviate the demand on field generators.

The permanent Industrial Site continues to progress as the water line and sewer lines near completion. The fuel pump island and fuel oil tanks were placed in addition to the slab and columns for the north hose reel house. Work continued, although hampered by design changes, on the water storage tank pump house. The Power/Desal Plant received continued effort on the installation of oil systems, radiators, and electrical systems. Punch list work continued at the Public Works Building and Cold Storage/General Warehouse, and should be turned over in June. The Transportation Shop saw a completion of most electrical systems, floor tile, and the built-up roof.

At the airfield, wiring and placement of lighting fixtures, tree removal, and grading continued while punch list work proceeded at the Air Operations Building and Regulator Vault.

The POL Facility came out of the ground this month with the concrete retaining ring, steel bottom and partial first ring being placed at the west tank, and forming begun for the concrete ring at the east tank.

Excavation and forming for column footings and grade beams is underway at the Charlie Building.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

MAY 1973
(CONT'D)

In the Cantonment area, the A/C system was completed and tested at the Admin Building, the interior finish neared completion at BOQ 1, and BOQ 2 received the first roof pour. BEQ 1 received interior finish crews in all trades, BEQ 2 received the final roof pour in addition to continuing CMU and rough utility work, BEQ 3 received the roof forming crew, BEQ 4 started out of the ground, and BEQ 5 saw placement of the east grade beam.

In the Seabee Camp, the outdoor theater was relocated to the Cantonment area to escape the light of the baseball diamond, and a new sewer line was started from the camp system to the sewage lagoon ejector pit.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

JUNE 1973

During June NMCB-74 continued to push forward on the construction of the Naval Communications Station, Diego Garcia.

At the Transmitter Site the final RLPA was erected and work progressed on the pump house and electrical substation. Power lines were strung between the Transmitter Site and the Industrial Site for the Permanent Power Distribution System.

Work at the Industrial Site included continued effort on the installation of all systems at the Power/Desal Plant, completion of three concrete lifts at the wet well and a start at placing the 8" pipe run to the Power Plant and the 14" salt water intake line. Punch list work continued at the Cold Storage/General Warehouse, and the Public Works Building. Plumbing, electrical, and painting were completed at the Transportation Shop and the water loop neared completion to all facilities at the I Site.

At the airfield, bump grinding and routing continued on the parking apron, construction and hook-up was completed for the airfield lighting and runway distance markers, the wind tee was placed and tree removal continued. Punch list work continued at the Operations Building and Regulator Vault.

The POL Facility saw the west tank erected through the fourth steel ring, the east tank foundation completed, and underslab services started at the pump house.

At the Charlie Building, grade beam and column work progressed, underslab plumbing and electrical work commenced, and the permanent access road was pioneered through the jungle.

Testing of the water main continued between the Industrial Site and the Cantonment Area.

Rough plumbing and electrical installations were completed at BEQ 1; interior CMU, rough plumbing and electrical work, and tile setting continued at BEQ 2; the first roof section was placed at BEQ 3; column footings were placed at BEQ 4; and grade beams and columns were started at BEQ 5. At BOQ 1 exterior painting was completed and punch list items continued. Tile work was completed in all heads at BOQ 2 as the roof neared completion.

In the Seabee Camp, a snack bar was installed at the galley for a needed boost to troop morale.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

JULY 1973

July marked the half-way point in the deployment to Diego Garcia. The construction effort felt a new surge of vitality as NMCB 74 reached an all-deployment "high" in direct labor ratio.

The permanent electrical distribution system received a great deal of attention as the installation of power lines and hardware progressed rapidly between the airfield and the Transmitter Site. Underslab installations commenced for the main substation at the Power Plant while the installation of transformers continued at Stand-by Power #1. Subgrade road work commenced from the Transmitter Site to the Industrial Site in preparation for asphalt paving projected to start in mid-August.

A stop order was issued on the water distribution system in anticipation of major design changes while the sewage lagoon was placed in operation to handle the camp load.

The Charlie Building, our priority-one project, received an additional influx of builders as BEQ's 4 and 5 were allowed into a "float" status in order to free the critical masonry skills.

The last piece of steel was set for the west tank at the POL Facility and welding continued while the bottom steel was laid for the east tank. Underslab work continues for the pump house.

At the airfield, routing and patching continued on the parking apron, tree removal progressed at the north end of the runway, and punch list work continued on the Operations Building.

Air conditioning and interior finish work is in progress at BEQ's 1 and 2. Interior CMU and roof placement continues at BEQ 3. BOQ 1 received carpet, cabinets, and range hoods while electrical and water hook-ups near completion. The roof was completed and interior work progresses at BOQ 2.

In the Seabee Camp the galley addition neared completion. A lifeguard chair was constructed at the swimming area and rehab of the MARS Station assisted in maintaining good morale.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

AUGUST 1973

During the month of August NMCB 74 was awarded the "E" for best of type on the East Coast. This provided the inspiration which helped boost the direct labor ratio to the highest level of the deployment.

Three projects were completed and accepted for use by the Naval Communications Station. BOQ 1, the Air Operations Building, and the Regulator Vault are now in use.

BEQ 1 is nearing completion. It is anticipated that the building will be accepted in mid-September. The built-up roof, plaster and tile work were completed at BOQ 2 as the air conditioning duct work and acoustic ceiling work continued.

Work is progressing well at the Charlie Building. Roof forming has started as the CMU walls continue. Clearing, excavating and forming for the cable trench has also begun at the Charlie Antenna Site.

Grading and spraying of the Receiver Antenna Site with "Bromacil" has begun. Work is also continuing on the electrical distribution system. The overhead line from the Industrial Site to the Air Field was completed this month.

At the power plant the west CMU wall with louvers was completed. Exterior painting, interior electrical and plumbing work continues.

The galley addition and rehab was completed in the Seabee Camp. Additional equipment was received at the MARS Station which will allow simultaneous transmissions on two frequencies to double the amount of traffic which can be handled.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

SEPTEMBER 1973

In spite of the sporadic heavy rains experienced during the month of September, NMCB 74 once again improved its direct labor ratio, boosting it to a new deployment high.

Topping the list of visitors this month is RADM BURKE, COMSERVLANT, who arrived 30 September for a three and one-half day visit. He was preceded by CAPT CLEMENTS, COMCB-LANT, who visited Diego Garcia for three and one-half days in mid-September. Upon his departure he passed word to the battalion relatives and friends that the battalion had turned in an outstanding performance. He also praised the performance of NMCB 10, Det Chagos, whose Commanding Officer, CDR STALLMAN, also visited the island this month.

BOQ 1 was completed and turned over to NAVCOMMSTA. DD 1354's were also issued for the RAWIN Building, Stand-by Power #2 and the Stand-by Communications Cable.

BOQ 2 is nearing completion and it is anticipated that this project will be inspected for acceptance during the month of October. BEQ 2 is also progressing well as air conditioning and interior work continues.

Roughly one-third of the roof has been poured at the Charlie Building and forming for the remainder of the roof is continuing.

At the POL Facility the roof sheets have been placed on the East Tank and construction of the berm continues. Significant progress has also been made on the control house.

The transformers have been placed and all steel is in place at the main substation. Work also continues at the power plant. Control wires are being pulled in and connected. Initial start-up and testing of the generators is scheduled for October.

Another step toward improved morale was taken with the grand opening of the all hands coffee house on 30 September. The new coffee house, named "The Other Place," provides an alternative to the service clubs and a gathering place for all ranks and rates.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

OCTOBER 1973

This month saw heavy activity in preparation for the turnover as the NMCB-4 advance party arrived and the NMCB-74 advance party departed. The anticipation of returning to CONUS failed to slow the construction effort, but instead provided the impetus to make the last month the best of a deployment all could remember with pride.

The Administration Building punch list was completed and the building was accepted at 100 percent complete. BOQ 2 was occupied by NAVCOMMSTA personnel this month and a form DD 1354 issued.

Also nearing completion is BEQ 2. It is anticipated that this facility will be accepted for beneficial occupancy prior to the departure of the NMCB-74 main body. The Sewage Lagoon is also ready for acceptance.

Starts were made on BEQ 4 and BOQ 3 this month as well as the Medical Facility site where the pad was constructed.

At the high priority Charlie Building, roof pouring was completed with the third pour and forms were being stripped from the sections previously poured.

Runway striping was started this month and is progressing quickly with the help of the Air Force Paint Striping Team now on board.

Another important project nearing completion is the power plant which is now in the testing stage. Four of the five Fairbanks Morse diesel generators were started this month and the tests are proceeding well.

Asphalt paving was started this month in spite of the many problems faced with unreliable equipment at the asphalt plant and unfamiliarity with asphalt design using coral aggregate.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 1973

November, the magic month we have all waited for so long, finally arrived but crews nevertheless continued working until the last minute. EOs on the road and in the asphalt plant worked especially hard on the paving operation. Inferior sections of pavement were removed and replaced with more suitably mixed lifts of asphalt, while stretches of base course were graded, rolled, then primed to receive asphalt. Meanwhile, all asphalt experts on the island carried out tests to discover the optimum mix design for use under our conditions.

In the Cantonment Area, another milestone was reached when BEQ 2 was turned over to NAVCOMMSTA. A small punch list remains due to the lack of materials, but all items have been ordered and confirmed for delivery by CBC Davisville. Other buildings in the Cantonment Area are proceeding nicely.

Work ended as flight groups started to muster, clean barracks, and go through customs inspections. The main bulk of NMCB-74 was transported to Gulfport in four flights departing from Diego Garcia between 8 and 11 November. The Embark Officer and a few other unlucky men followed on 13 November aboard the cargo flight.

With the return of the main body to homeport, a 30 day stand down period began with many taking leave to join their families and friends for a long awaited reunion. Those remaining began training in some cases or joined the flurry of activity in painting the battalion headquarters building and establishing new office spaces.

Development of CPMs has begun for homeport projects with work on many of the projects to begin in December.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUMMARY

Enclosure (4)

Unit												
U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SEVENTY-FOUR												
Grade	On board Employment Site	PERSONNEL SUMMARY										Total Assigned
		Detail/ Detachment	Seabee Teams	Rear Echelon	Advance Delay Par	Sch	Hosp	Brig	Leave	Receipts	Transfers	
E-9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
E-8	5	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
E-7	30	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
E-6	76	5	4	6	32	0	0	0	0	0	3	94
E-5	93	1	3	9	24	1	0	0	1	0	2	113
E-4	118	1	2	5	27	1	2	0	0	0	7	132
Non rated	284	0	2	1	26	4	1	0	0	1	3	301
Total	607	7	12	23	115	6	3	0	1	1	15	683
Officers	19	2	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	22

2

Enclosure (4)

REENLISTMENT STATISTICS

SEPARATIONS			
ELIGIBLE FOR REENLISTMENT		NOT RECOMMENDED FOR REENLISTMENT	
CAREER	NON-CAREER	CAREER	NON-CAREER
22	24	5	29

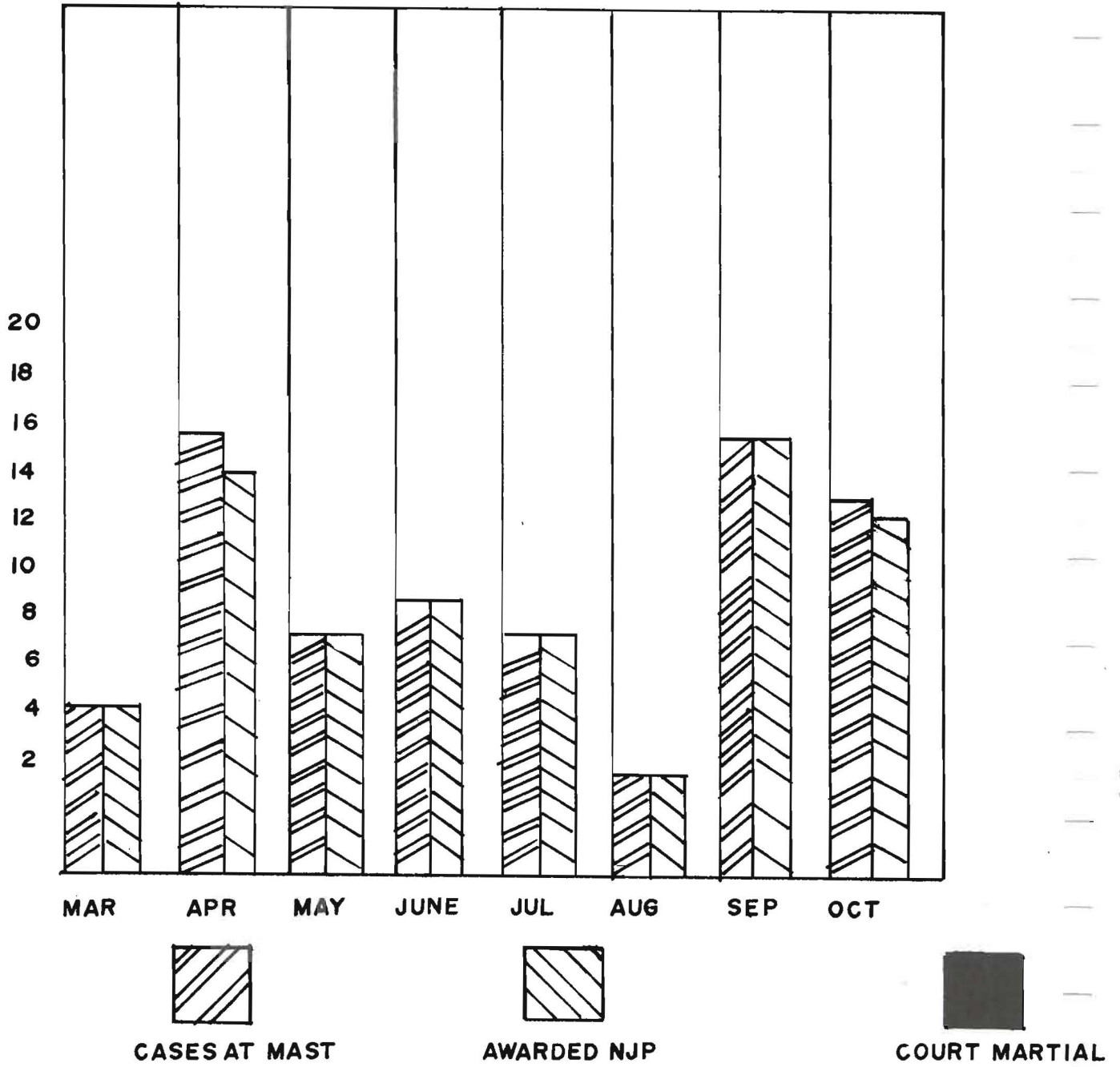
REENLISTMENTS			
CAREER	CAREER %	NON-CAREER	NON-CAREER %
17	77%	2	8%

DISCIPLINE

Unit discipline at this isolated deployment site continued at the usual battalion level maintained during homeport throughout the deployment, with an initial increase in the first full month away from homeport. Following an adjustment period, the crew became more and more involved with their job assignments and environment and the infraction rate leveled off. Significant to note is the fact that no courts-martial were convened for NMCB-74 personnel throughout the deployment in spite of the fact that three Special Courts-Martial were convened for smaller units comprising the Diego Garcia Island Command.

<u>CASES AT MAST BY TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
80 Attempt	1
86 Unauthorized Absence	24
89 Disrespect Towards Superior Officer	1
90 Disobedience of Lawful Order of Commissioned Officer	5
91 Disobedience of Lawful Order of Petty Officer	19
92 Failure to Obey Lawful Order, Dereliction of Duty	12
107 False Official Statement	1
108 Loss, Destruction, Damage Government Property	5
109 Property other than Military Property of United States, Waste, Spoil, or Destruction	1
111 Drunk/Reckless Driving	1
113 Misbehavior of Sentinel	1
115 Malingering	1
116 Breach of Peace	2
117 Provoking Speeches and Gestures	1
121 Wrongful Appropriation	2
128 Assault	6
134 General Article	11

DISCIPLINE



MORALE

GENERAL

The morale during this deployment has remained consistently high. A very significant factor was the individual's "job satisfaction." More so here than on other recent deployments, the men could conceive an end result that had meaning and purpose to their practical and technical knowledge in almost every facet of every rate.

The opening of a snack bar during the evening hours contributed, in no small way, toward sustaining the morale as did the improvements to the mess hall. Opening the roof cap to permit lower temperatures within, mural painting, and overall habitability improvements made the meal hours more conducive to a relaxed atmosphere.

Mail calls were a frustration until the waning months when two aircraft a week were scheduled. The two flights a week also provided a closer feeling to civilization, something the personnel could identify with.

More gateways were opened to the states on the MARS System and additional equipment was procured thus providing an increase in the number of calls that could be placed. The average number of calls increased from approximately 600 to 1200 calls per month.

NMCB-74's attitude toward "people programs" has contributed significantly towards the overall success of its primary mission. Special effort was made to give all request chits and suggestions from the men expeditious yet considerate attention through all levels of the chain of command. Initiative and leadership provided throughout the command motivated men to volunteer their services to expedite approved projects.



U. S. NAVY-MARINE CORPS
MILITARY AFFILIATE RADIO SYSTEM (MARS)
4401 MASSACHUSETTS AVE.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20390

IN REPLY REFER TO
NC/gg
Ser 32/887
10 Aug 1973

Dear Mr. Teter:


It is an extreme pleasure to appoint you as the volunteer Navy-Marine Corps Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) Area Coordinator Diego Garcia effective immediately for a two-year period. This appointment is based on your demonstrated vital interest in the objectives of the Navy-Marine Corps MARS Program. The call sign N0GCM is hereby assigned for Area Coordinator use.

As the Area Coordinator, you will be vested with the authority necessary to implement the responsibilities, contained in Chapter 2, Appendix C of DNC 8(A), Navy-Marine Corps MARS Communications Instructions, which you have assumed. We do not intend to establish a point system for special consideration. We will depend upon your evaluation of the echelons and individuals under your jurisdiction. You will be entrusted with establishing and maintaining the high standards of Navy Communications in your area. You must assure that your networks adhere to the assigned frequencies (within tolerances) and are operated with the proficiency and good taste expected of Naval Communicators. In carrying out your responsibilities you will remain within the scope of DNC 8(A), NAVCOMCOMINST 2070.2A and other directives and instructions issued by Chief, Navy-Marine Corps MARS and the District Director. You are assured of the complete support of this office and of the incumbents of the superior echelons of Navy-Marine Corps MARS.

The one purpose of Navy-Marine Corps MARS that overrides all other considerations is the establishment of an auxiliary and emergency capability that is responsive to the needs of Naval communications. To this end, every Navy-Marine Corps MARS member shall be afforded the opportunity to participate and contribute to the overall Navy-Marine Corps MARS mission, when and wherever feasible.

Your demonstrated interest and sincere motivation toward our Navy-Marine Corps MARS Program is deeply appreciated, and we pledge that this office will support your effort in any manner within our capabilities.

Sincerely,


C. J. WALKER, JR.
Acting Chief, Navy-Marine Corps MARS



MARS Station's transmitter and receiver
on 19 OCT 1973.



MARS Station's second receiver and trans-
mitter console on 19 OCT 1973.

SPECIAL SERVICES

All Special Services activities on Diego Garcia were operated by the Logistics Support Component and were funded by an Island Composite Recreation Fund which also contributed 20 cents per man per month for battalion functions. This was raised to 50 cents per man per month in August. The battalions sent three to five men TAD to LSC to work in Special Services' radio station or gear issue locker. These men could stay four months or the entire deployment and this augmented a regular staff consisting of one officer, one yeoman, one first class supervisor, and three or four personnel for clean-up, gear issue, and movie coordination.

The battalion's Special Services Officer helped provide personnel for Special Services and was the battalion's contact if construction/repair services were required. Though NMCB-74 purchased a limited amount of recreational equipment before deploying to Diego Garcia, the Island gear locker was amply stocked and only needed to use the battalion's fishing gear.

Many recreational activities were available to island personnel and consisted of softball, tennis, miniature golf, weight lifting, basketball, volleyball, a library and tape recording room, bandroom, movies, fishing, snorkeling on east side of island and clubs. Progress was underway to start a photo lab and archery range. Special Services operated a radio station twenty-four hours a day and coordinated with the Island Bangkok Rep to provide USO Shows for the island. Special Services set up three sports/fun days during NMCB-74's deployment and included Officer-Chief-Enlisted Star Softball Games, volleyball, golf, and horseshoe tournaments, and outdoor cook-outs provided by the galley. Special Services ran two fast and slow pitch softball tournaments in addition to the Fun days, and had good response.

R & R could be either taken as seven days in Bangkok, Thailand, or six days on the island. Special Services was responsible for coordinating Bangkok R & R requests between the battalions, LSC, and NCS. Also Special Services was responsible for providing and paying movie operators, umpires, bartenders, and golf course operators.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The primary mission of the Public Affairs Office was to keep the families at home and the general public aware of the accomplishments of the battalion and its men. Other objectives included proper recognition for individual achievements and boosting morale and pride.

In order to accomplish these objectives, the Public Affairs staff published a monthly magazine-style newsgram, the "Beaver's Tale," and general news releases on the battalion were sent to the "Seabee Courier," "Trident," "All Hands," and the "Navy Times." Articles and pictures were printed in the "Seabee Courier," "Trident," and "All Hands." In addition, the Commanding Officer wrote Familygrams which were distributed by the Public Affairs Office.

The following is a summary of activities during the deployment:

- (1) Fleet Home Town News Releases 20 .
- (2) General News Releases 133 .
- (3) Battalion Cruise Book; one edition, 148 pages, 550 copies.
- (4) "Beaver's Tale" published; 5 editions, 16 pages per edition, and 2 editions, 20 pages, 1,000 copies per issue.
- (5) Familygrams; three editions, 400 copies per letter.

The highlight of the deployment for the Public Affairs staff was the highly successful sales campaign for the Battalion Cruise Book. Sales reached 550 copies.

Due to the isolation of the island, civic action projects were non-existent, but the Public Affairs staff did accompany such visitors as Carmen D'Oro and Peter Leeds, who were sent here by the USO to entertain the men. In addition, full coverage was also provided during the visits of RADM Burke, RADM Iselin, RADM Fisher, and Commodore Clements.

Additionally, a personal notes column was added to each edition of the "Beaver's Tale" whereby any man in the battalion could send a message home and communicate with friends and family in a unique way.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

While deployed to Diego Garcia, the battalion was the main support for all educational services on the island. Despite the long working hours, personnel were encouraged and did actively participate in both civilian and military educational programs. Through the United States Armed Forces Institute (USAFI), twenty non high school graduates received their High School Equivalency Certificates.

Another USAFI oriented program was the Correspondence Course Program. Approximately 120 men enrolled in this program.

Ordering and administering enlisted correspondence courses and officer/enlisted courses was another function of the Educational Services Office. Approximately 750 enlisted courses were ordered and 350 were completed. Twenty-five officer/enlisted courses were ordered with a total of five completed prior to returning to homeport.

Another service performed by the ESO was the administration to all commands of the Military Leadership and Advancement in Rating examinations. Ninety men passed the E-4 or E-5 examinations, and 110 passed the E-3 examinations. Of the 110 who passed the E-3 examination, ninety were advanced to pay grade E-3 before the end of the deployment.

One of the more challenging and time consuming jobs of the Educational Services Office was the preparation and administration of the Semi-annual Navy Wide Examinations for advancement in rating for pay grades E-4 through E-6. The battalion had the responsibility of their own personnel in addition to the augment detail from NMCB-10 in preparing and administering the examination. The examinations were given on their respective dates without any major complications.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Expert Pistol Medal

68

Good Conduct Medal

25

Navy Achievement Medal

CE2 L. R. CULP

PROMOTIONS

LT to LCDR	1
LTJG to LT	1
ENS to LTJG	1
E-7 to E-8	2
E-6 to E-7	2
E-5 to E-6	4
E-4 to E-5	15
E-3 to E-4	54
E-2 to E-3	92
E-1 to E-2	22

MEDICAL

In March 1973, NMCB-74's Medical Department deployed to Diego Garcia with the battalion. Assigned were the Medical Officer and seven hospital corpsmen, one of which was attached to Seabee Team 74-13 in Yap, TTPI. One additional corpsman was lost when sent to U-Tapao as NMCB-74's medical representative. We were short handed to say the least. On the island were the NCS Medical Officer and one NCS corpsman. Things improved during the deployment with the addition of five personnel, one of whom was a Royal Navy Medic.

The medical facilities on hand were temporary, of course, as was the entire camp, and barely adequate for sustaining large numbers of men doing heavy construction work. Diego Garcia is a very isolated duty station many miles from the nearest hospital and many problems were experienced when a Med Evac plane was called for. The disparity between a well equipped medical facility and Diego Garcia's dispensary was quite apparent to the Medical Officers. During NMCB-74's stay several much needed additions were added. Foremost of these was a slit lamp for evaluating the numerous eye injuries encountered. Proper suction machinery for the Operation Room and whirlpool were also installed. The building itself was improved by the battalion with the addition of interior painting and air conditioning. The present medical facilities will serve the island's needs adequately but the new NCS Dispensary, when completed, will be greatly welcomed.

The Medical Department's activities and services were many and varied during our deployment. Needless to say, ordinary medical care comprised the major part of our workload with the average of the entire island population being seen each month at least once. Four island personnel deaths occurred early in the deployment, only one of which was due to natural causes. Numerous accidents were treated and of these eye injuries were the most troublesome. Activities included monitoring of water sanitation, general sanitation, pest and rodent control, quarantine inspections of ships and aircraft, etc.

It may be helpful to note that cockroaches are just beginning to appear on the island in very small numbers, coming no doubt from the supply ships. Mosquitoes are no problem until the rainy season begins, disappearing during the dry portion of the year. The big nuisance pests are the ants and rats. The rats are generally described as "coconut rats," (as good a name as any). The Norway rat is not here, thankfully, nor has the Oriental rat flea, transmitter of plague, been found. A large scale campaign against the rat would no doubt adversely affect this small island's ecology.

MEDICAL

Naturally, the common medical cases treated were lacerations, abrasions, and contusions. Minor surgery was performed in the Emergency and Operation Rooms depending on whether or not the case was elective or a trauma case such as a finger tip amputation, etc. Elective Operating Room cases were circumcisions and vasectomies usually. Occasionally moles or warts were removed, but as seldom as possible as our pathology back-up at Clark AFB was practically non-existent. The following is a very close census of patient visits, services performed and offered, injuries and types of injuries, and most common complaints.

Total patient workload	7478
Total patients hospitalized	84
Total VD cases	35
Total Lab Tests	Out-patient-1255
	In-patient- 85
Total Prescriptions filled	5000
Total X-rays	667
Total Physicals	130
Total Immunizations	1950

Injuries:

Auto	02
Liberty	330
Work	320
Medevacs	75

Most Common Complaints

- URI
- Dermatophytosis
- Cellulitis
- Otitis Externa
- Musculoskeletal complaints

DENTAL

The NMCB-74 Dental Department was housed in a mobile dental trailer consisting of two operatories, patient waiting area, and combination administrative office/storeroom. One operatory was equipped to perform all phases of operative dentistry; the other operatory was set up to implement the Navy Preventive Dentistry Program. The trailer was complete with dental x-ray unit and darkroom. Although the trailer was old, little "down time" was required for repair.

Routine sickcall was held 0630-0800 and 1230-1300 Monday through Saturday. Emergencies were seen anytime. With the exception of limited prosthetics, all phases of dental care were performed for personnel of NMCB-74, NMCB-10, LSC, NCS, and the Royal Navy contingent.

The NMCB-74 Dental Department staff consisted of one Dental Officer and two dental technicians. As of July of this year, a second class dental technician was ordered to the Naval Communication Station, Diego Garcia and was assigned TAD to the NMCB-74 Dental Department.

The assignments of the dental technicians were numerous and varied and consisted in part of the following:

(1) One DT was assigned full time to duties in carrying out the department's Preventive Dentistry Program. This entailed scaling, cleaning, polishing, and applying stannous fluoride to the teeth of station personnel. He gave group and individual oral hygiene lectures and assisted in training patients in proper oral hygiene practices.

(2) One DT was utilized as a full time chair-side assistant, enabling the Dental Officer to employ reclining or "sit-down" four handed dentistry. His duties consisted of assistance in all facets of dentistry, maintaining dental cabinets and equipment, sterilization of dental instruments, and the rendering of dental first aid treatment.

(3) The senior dental technician was assigned duties involving supply procurement, accounting, reports submission, minor maintenance, dental repair, and supervision of lower-rated men.

(4) All technicians were responsible for exposing and processing dental x-ray films, maintaining dental records and scheduling dental appointments.

DENTAL

Summation of dental treatment accomplished during deployment (approximate figures):

- (1) Total dental treatment procedures.....9,500
- (2) Total dental patients treated.....2,700
- (3) Total preventive dentistry procedures.....4,300
- (4) Total oral surgery procedures.....380
- (5) Total prosthetic dentistry procedures.....70

CHAPLAIN'S ACTIVITIES

The "Chapel in the Palms" came to mean many things to most of the men on Diego Garcia. To some it was the lighted cross that served as a reminder that there is a better way, to others the music held a special significance, and to others it was a source of strength in times of sadness. Such was the setting for four memorial services conducted on the island.

The first memorial service was on 10 April 1973. It was held on the beach in memory of CA Patrick Leroy Robinson of NMCB-74. On 20 April 1973 a memorial service was held in the Chapel for ENFA Kenneth W. McDaniel, LSC. Both men drowned accidentally. On 5 May 1973 a memorial service was held at the Quadrangle for BU1 William M. Stone, NMCB-74. The final memorial service was conducted 18 May 1973 in memory of EOCN Steve Benson of NMCB-133. This service was conducted in front of the Chapel.

The Chapel expressed its mission through the men and the two chaplains, Chaplain McManus of NMCB-74 and Chaplain Boerger of NAVCOMMSTA.

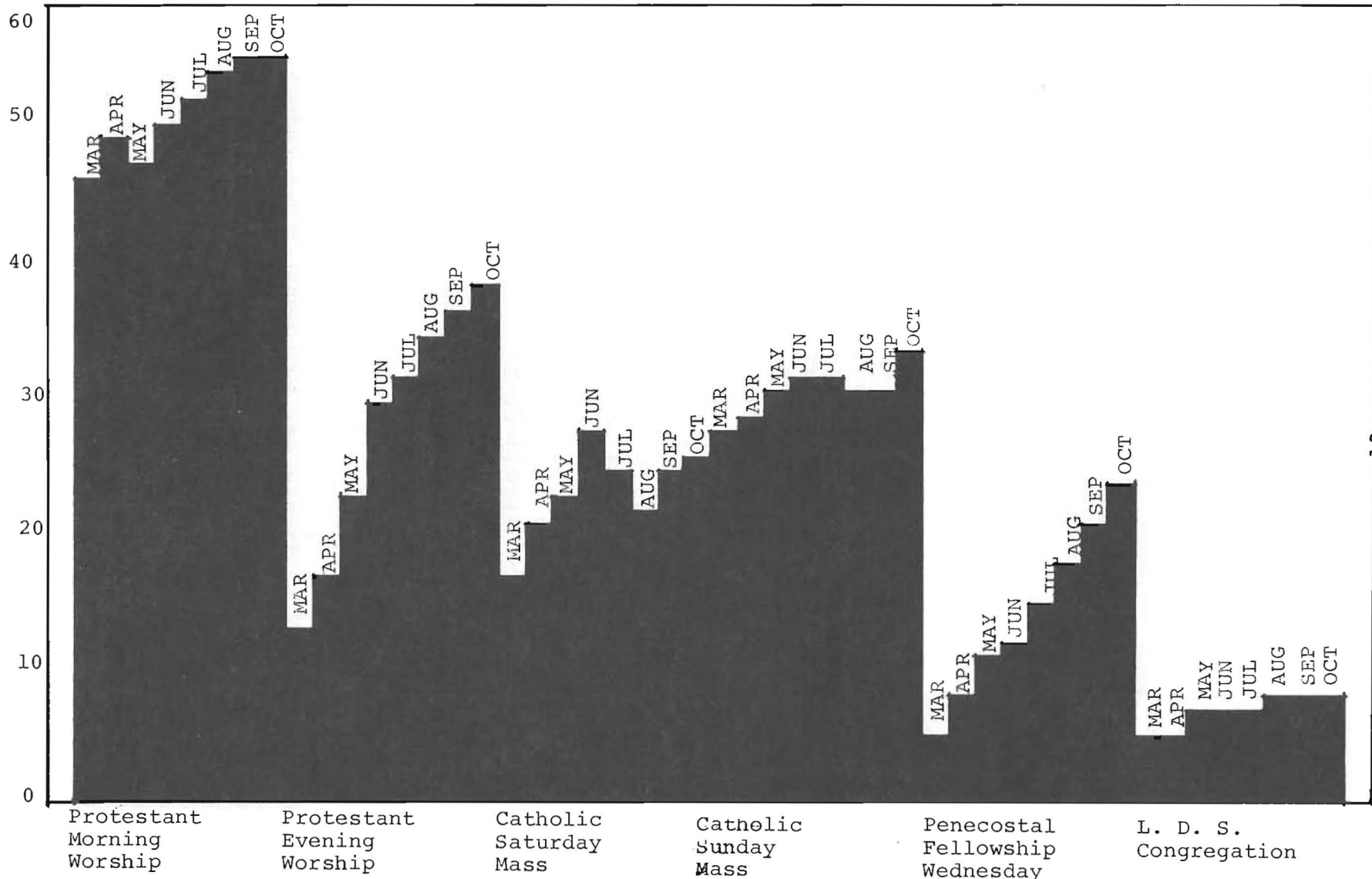
Catholic Mass was celebrated at 1740 on Saturdays and 0800 on Sundays. Protestant Divine Worship was conducted 0900 and 1900 on Sundays. Latter Day Saints personnel worshipped 1930 Thursdays and 1300 Sundays. Arrangements were made for the Jewish personnel to celebrate Rosh Hashonah with the Jewish community in Bangkok. In addition, Pentecostal worship services were conducted each Wednesday at 1930.

The average attendance at each of the above services is reflected in the graph on the next page.

During this deployment the "Chapel in the Palms" became one of the most used buildings on the island as services or activities were scheduled each night of the week. The keen interest of the men and increased attendance rewarded innovation.

A marriage enrichment session met each Monday at 1930 with an average attendance of 23. Its purpose was to aid the husband in being more aware of how to have a pleasant, workable marriage. The program was initiated during the last month of the deployment in order to be relevant.

AVERAGE WEEKLY CHAPEL ATTENDANCE FOR EACH MONTH DURING DEPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY CHAPEL ATTENDANCE FOR EACH MONTH DURING DEPLOYMENT

Enclosure (4)

Enclosure (4)

CHAPLAIN'S ACTIVITIES

Tuesday and Saturday religious films were shown in the Chapel. The films were obtained from Navy training centers and religious film outlets such as World Vision. On Thursdays, a formal Bible course entitled "New Testament Theology" was taught by the Chaplain. Eighteen persons enrolled with eleven receiving credit for the 18 week course. Also on Thursday an informal Bible class was taught by ENS Higbie.

The Chapel Choir under the leadership of Capt. Vickers, USAF, and CE3 Richard Woodard met on Friday nights with an average attendance of eight. Its music greatly enhanced Sunday worship and provided for added fellowship among the men.

Alcoholics Anonymous met twice per week in the Chapel Office with BU2 Cade leading the discussions. Average attendance was eight. Narcotics Anonymous, a program designed after the concept of Alcoholics Anonymous, met each Friday night with an average attendance of four.

The Chapel sponsored "The Other Place," an all hands coffee house. The purpose of "The Other Place" was that of offering to the men a viable alternative to alcohol and the resulting damaging behavior. Although the facility opened late in the deployment its success is reflected in the average nightly attendance of 50 with many more persons dropping by for coffee or hot tea.

In anticipation of the isolated atmosphere of Diego Garcia, arrangements were made with a local Gulfport florist to provide some means of sending flowers. The Chapel Office acted as liaison between the florist and the men. During the deployment more than \$5,000.00 worth of flowers were ordered.

The Chaplain's Office handled an average of 55 incoming and 50 outgoing messages per month. The majority of message traffic being to and from the American Red Cross. Family and personal problems generated a case load averaging 80 per month. Pre-marriage and religious instructions were conducted on an individual basis. Several family briefings were held in homeport prior to deployment. These briefings contributed to an increase awareness of the unique problems one might expect on an isolated deployment.

CHAPLAIN ACTIVITIES

With the cooperation of the local Navy Relief in homeport, an innovated program was initiated whereby funds could be advanced to a Navy wife immediately after the husband became aware of the need. Fourteen persons were helped in this manner.

Protestant Chapel funds average \$50.00 per Sunday with a total of \$1400.00. Interested persons met once a month to make recommendations on its final disbursement. The funds were used for the religious film ministry, tracts, and world missions. More than \$1,000.00 has been distributed in the above manner.

DRUG REHABILITATION

The local drug rehabilitation problem utilized both chaplains. It was designed to give maximum exposure to individual needs. The method used involved extensive individual counseling and group therapy.

The program included 5 persons identified through a second positive in the urinary surveillance testing and 5 persons who voluntarily requested exemption. The local rehabilitation program proved most successful in more than 50 percent of the men involved.

SUPPORTING FUNCTIONS

NMCB-74 operated a laundry, tailor, and barber shop at Camp Cummins for 1000 personnel with just two ship's servicemen. Group VIII and non-rated personnel were used predominantly. The laundry provided twice weekly service for all hands. Press service was provided for all officers and chief petty officers, and fluff dry service was provided for enlisted personnel. Washers and dryers were also available for officers and CPO's.

FOOD SERVICE

NMCB-74 operated a galley feeding over 1000 personnel per meal. Stocking and obtaining sufficient quantities of food supplies was a constant problem throughout the deployment. This problem was caused by unreliable cold storage facilities and an inconsistent surface shipping schedule. Although it was necessary to fly in subsistence supplies from Thailand, the galley did prepare three square meals a day in the main mess hall and also provided hot lunches at a field mess located at the Industrial Site.

A major accomplishment was the establishment of the "Diego Burger" Snack Bar in the subsistence building. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and milkshakes were available each night. In addition, the mess hall was expanded and completely repainted with attractive original murals. Dividers and a large salad bar were also built. Soft drinks were also provided towards the end of the deployment.

A separate chief petty officer's mess was established next to the CPO Club after the chiefs had worked on Sundays and at night to relocate a vacant building. Officers and chiefs subsisted from the general mess.

Picnics were popular and were held frequently. Size ranged from 1000 men at an Island Command picnic to 20 men attending a department level picnic. Party rations were also issued on most weekends.

All twenty field reefers were eventually rebuilt and the new permanent cold storage warehouse was occupied thereby alleviating the storage problem for chill and freeze items.

DISBURSING

For the first four months of the deployment, the Battalion Disbursing Office provided disbursing service for the entire Island Command, over 1000 military personnel. Many complicated travel claims were processed for the newly commissioned Naval Communications Station. Check cashing services were provided to all hands. Currency was obtained from Thailand. No foreign currency was held. The Disbursing Office remained open during noon hour and early evening hours to provide service to Seabees working on job sites. Pay days were held the 15th and 30th of each month utilizing four pay lines. A breakdown of disbursing actions is shown below for the deployment.

Military Payrolls: \$1,706,837.74

Travel Claims: 918

TR's Issued: 27

SAFETY SUMMARY

The Battalion Safety program was administered by the Safety Chief under the direction of the Battalion Safety Officer in accordance with COMCBPAC/COMCBLANT Inst. 5100.1C.

The months of March and April proved to be the most frustrating during the entire deployment, The accident rate by all units seems to follow this same trend on the island. The Safety Officer and the Safety Chief assumed much greater responsibilities than is normal, due primarily to the additional personnel under their cognizance including, NCS, LSC, PWD, Detail Chagos of NMCB-133 and NMCB-10. Safety in all areas, and commands, became the primary responsibility of the Safety Chief and his title became that of Island Safety Chief. The NCF 5100.1 Instruction Manual was adhered to extensively by all commands, and all units were included during Safety Policy Committee and Safety Supervisors meeting for complete cooperation.

Daily and weekly stand-up safety lectures were held throughout the deployment and additional safety lectures were given, as a briefing, for newly arrived personnel each Saturday. The Plan of the Day was used extensively to communicate safety messages to the men. The Safety Chief was also called on by all commands to give additional safety lectures as pertained to individual type tasks.

The entire Safety Program was based on the "Zero in on Safety" program as instituted by President Nixon. Materials and awards were ordered from the National Safety Council in accordance with the Quarterly areas to "Zero in" on, and used throughout the deployment. Each month a company was chosen, based on its safety record, and awarded a "Zero in on Safety" Certificate for their outstanding performance in hitting individual safety targets.

During 9 May through 17 May 1973, COMCBLANT Safety Chief, BUC Conley, conducted a Safety Management Inspection on NMCB-74 Safety Department and submitted his recommendations by letter to the Safety Chief for action on areas of fault. Immediate action was taken and the results forwarded to COMCBLANT Safety Inspector. On 2 August a complimentary letter was sent to Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U. S. Atlantic Fleet from COMCBLANT Safety Inspector outlining the battalion's safety conscientiousness and awarded a satisfactory to the battalion during this management advisory visit.

Enclosure (6)

SAFETY SUMMARY
(CONT'D)

The island instruction on swimming was completely revised during this deployment as a result of two waterfront deaths. COMCBLANT Waterfront Safety Instructor held an on-island training course from 27 June to 4 July producing 18 qualified lifeguards. All lifeguards are now employed by Special Services, and are assigned to designated swimming and snorkeling areas.

With an overall monthly average of 607 personnel attached to NMCB-74 comprising 117,668 productive man days, and also 478 personnel assigned to the other Island Command commands, the overall safety of all has been the primary responsibility of the battalion Safety Program. Although the first few months caused great concern, it is felt that all the factors such as enviromental changes, isolation and, to a degree, the lack of professional experience by many members of the command, were overcome to result in an effective safety program.

The overall safety record for the deployment resulted in a "WELL DONE" from COMCBLANT.

STATISTICS FROM MARCH TO NOVEMBER

	<u>ON DUTY</u>	<u>OFF DUTY</u>	<u>MAN/DAYS</u>	<u>DAMAGES</u>	<u>FATALITIES</u>
FIRST AID	210	62	N/A	N/A	1 off duty
LOST TIME	10	6	6,410	N/A	Drowning
VEHICLE	9 charge	18 non-charge		\$25,668.83	

Stand-up Safety Lectures 843 Attendance: 5040
Total Miles Driven: 891,166