

Operation "Crimson Tide" Hurts Enemy

CNFV—U.S. Navy Seals and River Patrol Boats (PBRs) and Vietnamese Navy "RAG" boats attacked a major Viet Cong base camp along the Bassac River, destroying 153 camouflaged structures and fortifications, 120 sampans and 75 bunkers.



RAG SUPPORT—A Vietnamese Navy River Assault Group (RAG) "monitor" stands ready to fire its 40mm cannon in support of landing parties put ashore in enemy positions along the Bassac River in the Mekong Delta. (Official U.S. Navy Photo PH1 D.S. Dodd)

Five enemy guerrillas were confirmed killed. One Navyman was slightly wounded.

The pre-planned operation took place in Vinh Binh Province 67 miles southwest of Saigon.

Moving into their intended target area along the north side of Tan Dinh Island, nine PBRs from River Sections 511 and 512 based at Can Tho, immediately came under enemy automatic weapons and small arms fire from the island and from the main riverbank. Three of the boats made high speed runs, drawing fire and identifying positions.

After sighting the targets and relaying the information to Vietnamese Navy River Assault Group (RAG) boats, the PBRs formed a blocking force at either end of the canal to prevent any enemy attempt to escape by water.

Monitors, landing craft and gunboats of RAG 24 based at Can Tho then moved in to land Navy Seals and provide suppressing fire. The Seals rushed ashore to begin

destroying the enemy fortifications. Repeatedly inserting and extracting the Seals, the boats moved down the shoreline until the entire enemy base camp was in smoke and flames.

Three-man landing parties later put ashore from the PBRs accounted for 53 of the total structures and fortifications and 20 of the total sampans destroyed.

After the action began U.S. Navy armed "Seawolf" helicopters swept in to support the action. Pouring rocket and machine gun fire into other enemy fortifications, they destroyed 15 of them and left numerous others severely damaged.

The operation ended when the tank landing ship USS Garrett County (LST 786) poured 40mm cannon fire into the area.

In addition to the five enemy killed, 25 pounds of documents, 20 sampan motors and three individual weapons were captured. Two persons were detained by the Seals.

A MESSAGE FROM SECNAV

As Paul R. Ignatius became Secretary of the Navy on September 1, he delivered the following message.

"I assume office today as Secretary of the Navy with great anticipation and with a sense of honor and privilege in taking my place, along side the Chief of Naval Operations and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, on the Navy-Marine Corps team. Together we take on the responsibility for leadership in continuing the long tradition of excellence which marks our services. The maintenance of high standards of performance will depend on the continuing ability, spirit and selflessness of the people who make up the Navy and the Marine Corps.

I look forward to meeting and talking with personnel at all levels, uniformed and civilian, active, retired and reserve as I pursue current tasks and confront new problems.

The future for the Navy and Marine Corps is bright and challenging. Never has the capability to project

power over, under and on the seas been more important and never have we been more ready to meet any mission assigned.

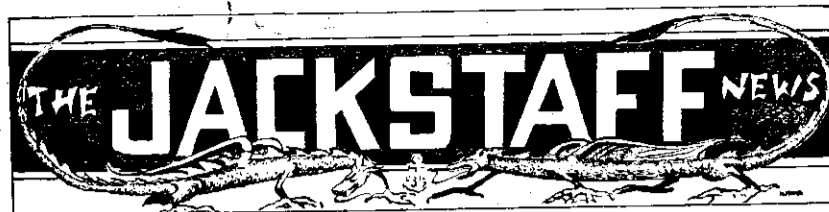
At the same time, there is a greater premium than ever before on dedication, innovation and intellect to exploit advancing technology and respond to the demands of modern warfare.

I join with each of you as an advocate of sea power and as an associate in working to attain the full range of capabilities that give sea power its broad scope.

I pledge you my best efforts and look to you to give your best in achieving our common objectives.

The accomplishments of the past four years under Secretary Nitze, Admiral McDonald and General Greene provide a high example for each of us.

Admiral Moore, General Greene and I will pursue our responsibilities for national defense, confident of your loyal support, and certain in our conviction that the Navy and the Marine Corps will be equal to the task."



VOL. I No. 25 U.S. Naval Support Activity, Saigon Oct. 6 1967

Admiral Bartlett Takes Over Seabees

Rear Admiral James V. Bartlett, CEC, USN, assumed command of the Third Naval Construction Brigade during change of command ceremonies held at the Brigade's new headquarters at Camp Haskins, at Red Beach, seven miles north of Da Nang.

Admiral Bartlett, who previously served as the Commanding Officer of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command's Chesapeake Division in Washington, D.C., relieved Captain Albert R. Marschall, CEC, USN, who was also serving as the Commander, 30th Naval Construction Regiment.

During the ceremonies, Rear Admiral K.L. Veth, Commander, Naval Forces, Vietnam, presented the Legion of Merit to Captain Marschall for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service" while serving as the Commander of the 30th NCR.

The Third Brigade was recently relocated from Saigon due to an increase in military combat construction in the I Corps area of the Republic of Vietnam. This

increase also prompted the establishment of the new 32nd Naval Construction Regiment and over the past six months the addition of two Naval Construction Battalions, bringing the total number of Seabees in Vietnam to over 8,000.

From its new headquarters, the Third Brigade controls the operations of the 30th and 32nd Regiments. Captain C.W. Turner, CEC, USN, assumed command of the 30th Regiment and thus will be in charge of Naval Construction Forces south of Hai Van Pass. Captain J.M. Hill, CEC USN, commanding the 32nd Regiment, will coordinate the activities of Seabees north of the Pass.

Captain Marschall will become the commanding officer of the Southeast Division of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, located at Charlestown, S.C.



ACCEPTS COMMAND COLORS—Rear Admiral James V. Bartlett, CEC, USN, accepts command colors of the Third Naval Construction Brigade from Captain A.R. Marschall, CEC, USN, during change of command ceremonies in DaNang.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo)

EDITORIAL

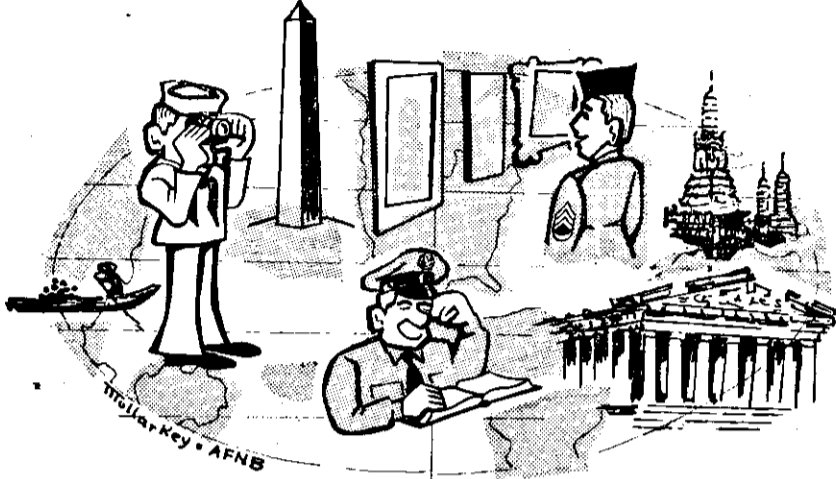
Opportunity Unlimited

HOW much are you learning from the area in which you are stationed?

No matter where you are stationed, you can broaden your education. There are sights to see, people to meet, and, possibly, a new language to speak.

Whether in this country or overseas, almost every area has points of scenic or historical interest to visit which can make your tour of duty more enjoyable.

People of the area to which you are assigned can help you gain greater understanding of the area, culture and customs. As America's



ambassadors in uniform, getting to know and understand people of a foreign country will not only make your tour of duty more interesting, but will help our nation as well.

If you are stationed stateside, there are unlimited activities to occupy your off-duty time. Most areas have museums, universities, concerts, sporting events and stage productions that furnish entertainment year 'round.

With few exceptions, servicemen have more opportunity to travel and visit new places than any other segment of our population. Millions of people spend billions of dollars each year to travel to the far corners of our own country and the world, squeezing into two or three weeks' vacation many of the sights and activities we take for granted or ignore.

Get the most from your time in the Armed Forces. Take full advantage of every opportunity you have to see and learn more about our own country and the rest of the world. (AFNB)

AUSTRALIA NOW OPEN FOR R&R TRIPS

R&R "Down Under", anyone? No it's not a quote from a Trivia Game; it is an up and coming possibility for servicemen here in Vietnam to take their R&R in Australia which started the first of this month.

The only additional requirement, however, will be a physical examination within 24 hours prior to departure and a statement by a medical officer which the individual must have in his possession upon reaching Australia.

Sydney is a major city located in the state of New South Wales. There are nearly three million

people in its metropolitan area and it offers everything of interest found in a community with a varied and active cultural life.

Packaged tours offered to the R&R visitor range from prospecting for opals in the Lightning Ridge locality and for gold in New South Wales to wine tasting in the red wine area of Hunter River.

The current rate of exchange is about \$1.20 U.S. for \$1 Australian. U.S. Armed Forces personnel planning to visit Australia should make certain they have a minimum of \$125 to cover expenses during their five day stay.

The Jackstaff News

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SNOOPY RESCUES RED BARON

A Navy helicopter proudly bearing the "Snoopy" cartoon on her fuselage allowed the pilot a face to meeting with the "Red Baron" recently. The occasion was a daring rescue in the "Indian Country" of North Vietnam under the cover of Skyraiders from Carrier Air Wing 10.

Racing his rescue helo 30 miles into the densely foliated mountains the pilot, Lt. Fritz Meyer, and crew plucked two Constellation-based aviators out of the enemy's closing hands. The pilot of the downed F-4 aircraft turned out to be none other than Cdr. Robin H. "The Red Baron" McGlohn, whose red hair and recently shorn red beard had earned him the name of "Snoopy's" arch rival.

In one of the speediest rescues of the Vietnam action, Lt. Meyer, launched from the guided missile frigate USS William Pratt (DLG-13), had picked up Cdr. McGlohn within 25 minutes. Calling for smoke to mark the location of the radar intercept officer, Lt. (jg) James M. McIlrath, Meyer took his crew in "Hedge-Clipper" fashion for the rescues.

Said McIlrath, "It sounded like a buzz saw was coming at me", as the helo's rotor blades chopped up interfering jungle growth to gain precious footage that would permit crewmen AMH3 John Freeman to penetrate to McIlrath's position.

Pronounced in excellent condition after initial medical examination, McIlrath proclaimed to

all hands that Pratt "is the most beautiful ship in the Navy". Cdr. "Red Baron" McGlohn recalling the cartoon pup on the helo admitted, "Snoopy, you're great".

Pastor Meets Parishioner Half Way Around World

CNSAS — Lieutenant Commander O.J. Fuka Jr., Fiscal Officer of the U.S. Naval Support Activity Saigon, was surprised to meet his parish pastor, Rev. Edward R. L. Elson, in Saigon, Vietnam—half way around the world from the parish church.

Rev. Elson, who is the pastor of the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., came to Saigon with the group of prominent people that President Johnson sent to observe the Vietnamese National Elections during the first week of September.

While reading over a list containing the names of the election visitors, Lcdr. Fuka was surprised to discover that his pastor was coming to Saigon. Immediately he began making all possible arrangements to meet the pastor.

Rev. Elson is the present pastor of the famous church whose past and present parishioners include presidents, cabinet members and congressmen. Rev. Elson was also personal pastor to former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Lcdr. Fuka was married by the reverend in 1954. Since then, the pastor has baptized both of Fuka's children, a son in 1957 and a daughter in 1958.

During one afternoon, the reverend and Mr. Fuka managed to get together to reminisce about old times.

HUMMEL'S VIETNAM



Riverine Sailors Praise Instructors

by JOI Jim French

The first generation of modern-day riverine warfare sailors completing tours with units of River Assault Flotilla One in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam are singing high praise for the advanced training at Mare Island, Coronado, San Diego and Warner Springs, California.

And they're singing loud and clear.

One of the men, Seaman Clyde P. Covington, III, said the training at Mare Island gave him the "feel and confidence" in his work as radio-man and gunner aboard "Bad News", a nickname of one of the armored troop carriers assigned to his unit, River Assault Squadron Nine.

"You take things too lightly," Covington admitted, "when you're in training for something you know little about. Fortunately for me," he added, "most of the navigation, communication procedures and weapons firing soaked in. Also, I can understand now, why the instructors were so tough on us in school. Over here, it's the real thing!"

The flotilla is composed of specially-designed assault boats. The workhorse is an armored troop carrier capable of carrying one platoon of combat-equipped infantrymen up the twisting rivers and streams to their objectives. Another boat, called the Monitor, after the Civil War ironclad, is designed to escort the troop carriers and provide firepower. A third boat is a Monitor-type vessel used as a command and communications boat. The fourth is the assault support patrol boat, for mine-sweeping and base security, and for quick gunfire support during operations.

"We're using the same type boat as we did at Mare Island," said Boatswain's Mate First Class Fred P. Coleman.

"I've been running boats a good part of my Naval career and this has been my toughest assignment,"

he said. As boat captain Coleman commands a 60-ton, heavily-armed troop carrier and a six-man crew.

"When you have a boat loaded with troops and bucking the strong Delta river currents," he added, "you have to be on top of everything, including 'Charlie' and his mines. I'll be rotating in a few weeks and my first stop will be in California to personally thank the instructors."

New river warriors ordered to duty with the flotilla's River Assault Squadron Nine or Eleven must successfully complete courses in counter-insurgency, the Vietnamese language, and the fine art of shallow water navigation in some of the most formidable-looking boats ever used by the U.S. Navy.

The 13-week course usually begins at Mare Island, shifts to the classrooms at Coronado, the sandy beaches in San Diego, and finally ends up in the rugged mountains near Warner Springs where they learn to live off the land by their wits.

Senior boatswain's mates are assigned as boat captains and coxswains. The other rated and non-rated men in the class are trained as enginemen, gunners or radio operators on the assault boats. All the men are cross-trained to assume any job aboard the boats.

Said Boatswain's Mate Third Class Robert E. Matthews when asked about the survival course at Warner Springs, "It was a week I'll never forget. It was tough, no doubt about that, but when you come out, you feel you can take anything the VC toss at you over here. Like one of the instructors told me, 'It separates the men from the boys'."

VC Mine Found



ENEMY MINE THREAT—Petty Officer First Class Frank Gush, Jr., a member of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team based at Nha Be explains to Commander Donald Warthen, Senior Advisor to the Vietnamese commander of the Rung Sat Special Zone, how the 36-inch diameter, command-detonated VC mine works. The mine, containing 250 pounds of high explosives, was found during operations in the Rung Sat Special Zone, 25 miles southeast of Saigon.

CINCPACFLT Presents 55 Purple Hearts

Admiral Roy L. Johnson, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet presented 55 purple heart awards on September 17, to combat sailors of the Mobile Riverine Force for wounds received in two recent engagements with the enemy.

Many of the men had been wounded only two days before in a fierce battle with enemy forces in Dinh Tuong Province some 25 miles west of My Tho in the Mekong Delta.

Asking personal questions of each man wounded, Adm. Johnson praised the work these sailors were performing with the Mobile Riverine Force.

Two PBRs Attacked Six Times

On September 20, two U.S. Navy River Patrol Boats (PBRs) came under enemy attack six times while on patrol on the Bassac River near Can Tho, 70 miles southwest of Saigon.

One Navyman was slightly wounded in the actions. The patrol was travelling south between Tan Dinh Island and the north bank of the river when they first came under automatic weapons fire from both sides. The PBRs made three firing runs, suppressing the enemy with machine guns and grenades.

They proceeded south, coming under fire two more times. After reaching the end of the island they turned their boats and re-entered the channel coming under fire from the fourth position. This time two armed Navy "Seawolf" helicopters took the positions under attack and suppressed the enemy fire with machine guns and rockets.

The extent of enemy material and personnel casualties resulting from the actions is unknown.

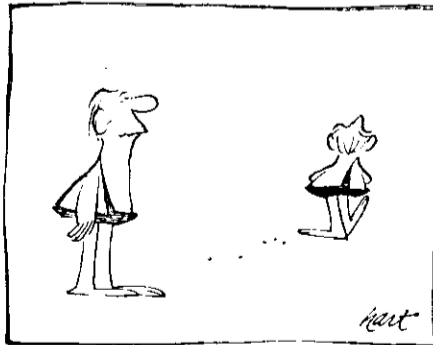
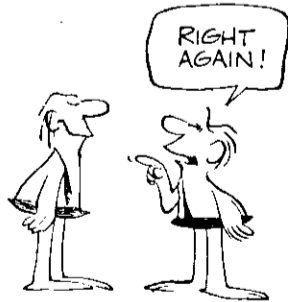
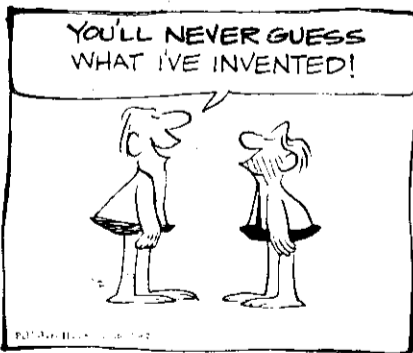
LST Rescues Downed Fliers

Crewmen of the Game Warden support ship USS Garrett County (LST 786) rescued the four man crew of a Navy "Seawolf" Helicopter which ditched in the Bassac River 100 miles southwest of Saigon recently.

The UH-1B helicopter, on a routine flight from the USS Jennings County to Can Tho in the Mekong Delta experienced fuel difficulties and radioed Garrett County for an emergency landing. The helo approached the ship but fuel loss prevented landing.

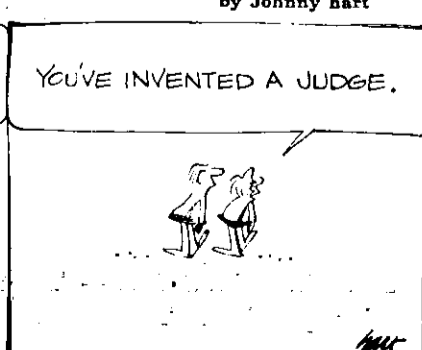
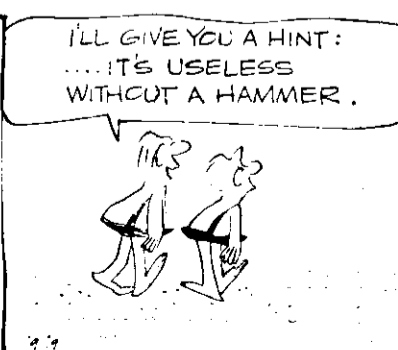
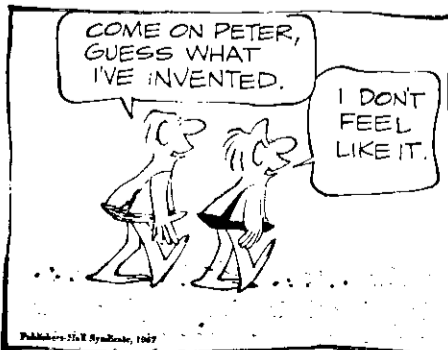
The Seawolf ditched a quarter mile from the ship and rescue boats were on the scene immediately. All four crewmen were recovered uninjured.

B. C.



by Johnny hart

B. C.



by Johnny hart



ALWAYS ALERT - - The small minesweepers don't come under fire very often, but the possibility is always there. That possibility keeps the crew and their advisor on constant alert.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Tom Walton)



EATING WITH THE CREW - - BM1 John Carkeek pauses from his work to eat lunch with his crew. Usually the meal consists of rice, fish and cooked vegetables and if the advisor brings "C" rations aboard it is set out for all to share.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Tom Walton)

Sailor Calls Minesweepers Best Duty In Vietnam

CNFV — Five mornings a week the big blond sailor straps on his .45-caliber pistol, drops his canteen, poncho, and other necessities into a green waterproof bag and makes his way across Saigon to the Vietnamese Navy Headquarters.

There he picks up a portable radio and walks across the street to the piers on the Saigon River. Soon one of two navy gray motor launches coming down the river pulls alongside momentarily and John Carkeek jumps aboard.

Carkeek, 36, is a U.S. Navy Boatswain's Mate First Class serving as an advisor to the Vietnamese Navy Mine Force. He is a native of New York City. His wife, Charlotte, and their four children — including a set of 7-year-old twins — live in Paterson, N.J.

He is a long way from home, but he volunteered to come to Vietnam, and seems to be happy with what he is doing.

The 50-foot Motor Launch Minesweeper (MLMS) pulled back into the main stream of the muddy river as Carkeek set down his gear and greeted the Vietnamese crew with a big hearty grin.

"I still can't speak very much Vietnamese, but from what I can remember from school and what I've picked up on the boats, we manage to get our ideas across to

each other," he said, nodding to his counterpart.

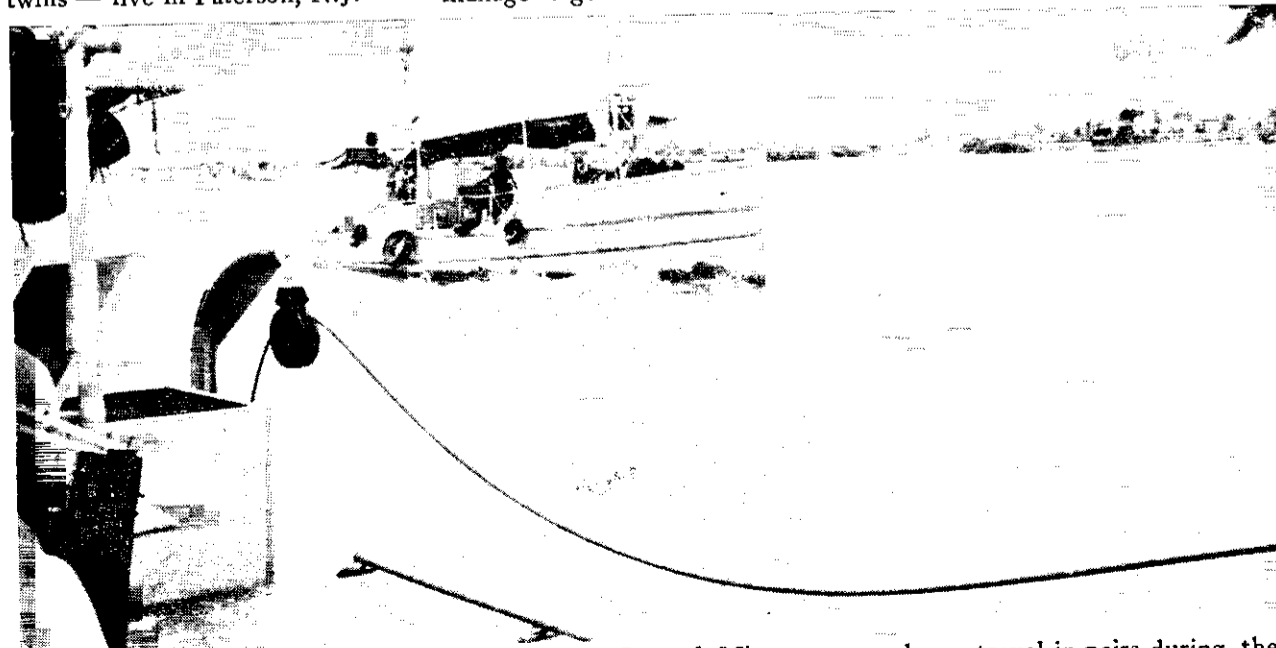
The school he refers to was 14 weeks of counter-insurgency training, which included six weeks of language courses.

The two boats cruised down the waterfront area dodging early morning river traffic and Carkeek set up his radio, checking with his control point to make sure his radio was working. There was a relaxed atmosphere as he lit up a long cigar and joked with the crew.



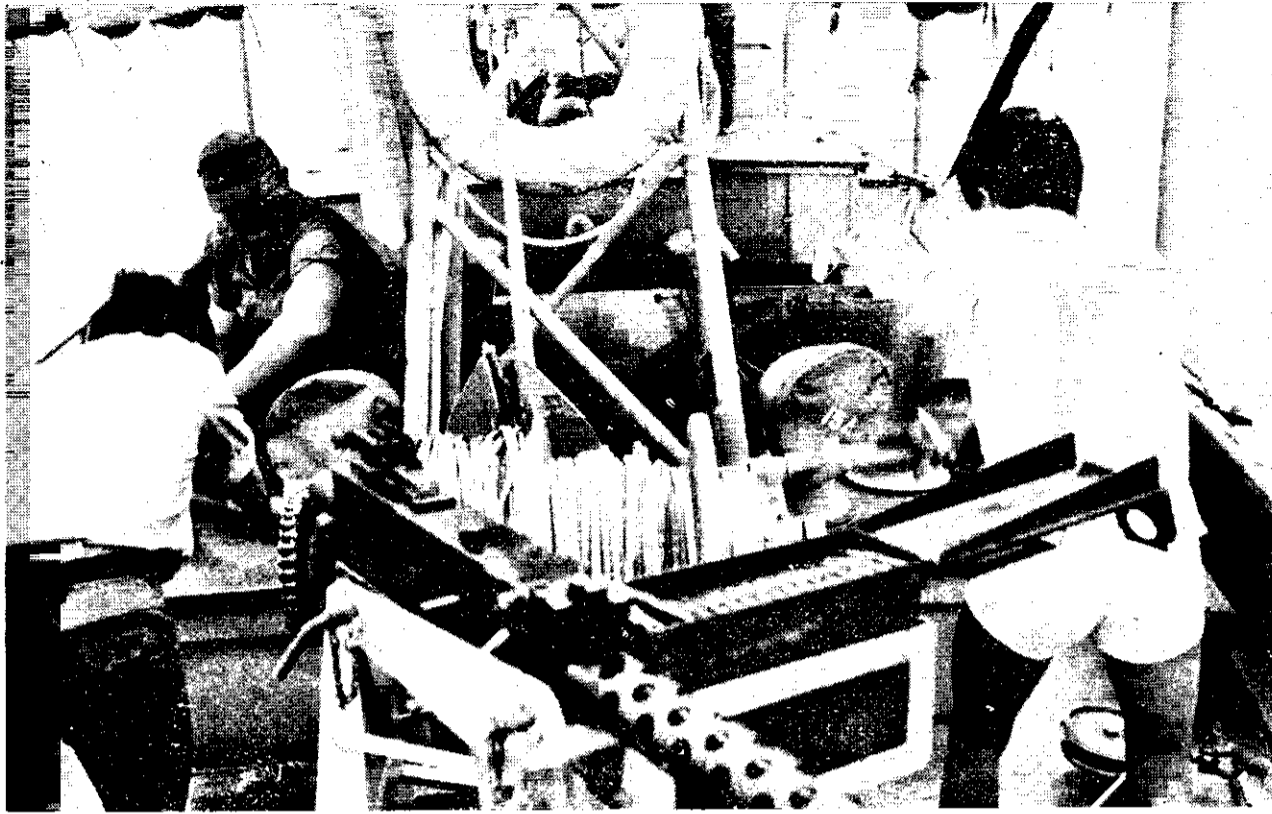
DROPPING THE DRAG - - A crewman drops the multi-bladed chain drag over the side as the minesweeper clears the Saigon harbor area. The drag is designed to cut the control lines to enemy mines planted in the shipping channel.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Tom Walton)



THEY TRAVEL IN PAIRS - - The 50-foot Motor Launch Minesweepers always travel in pairs during their dragging operations. They steam out of the Saigon harbor area before dropping their minesweeping gear.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Tom Walton)



REELING IT IN - - Two crewmembers reel in the minesweeping gear at the end of a day's drag. They know the routine well but still look to Carkeek for the nod to "wind 'er up".

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Tom Walton)

The job of the MLMS' is to sweep along the banks of the river in an effort to cut the control lines of any Viet Cong mines that may have been planted the night before. The sweeping gear consists of a six foot long anchor chain onto which steel blades have been welded. This is attached to a steel cable with a heavy brass weight. While sweeping, the rig is towed 25 to 30 fathoms behind the boat, the weight pulling it down into the silty bottom and the rotating blades digging into the mud about two feet.

"So far 'Charlie' hasn't found a way to get around our sweeping," Carkeek said, "and, even though we seldom know when we cut a line, intelligence reports indicate we are getting them."

Carkeek is one of five advisors attached to the 10 MLMS that make up the Vietnamese Navy Mine Force. Three cruises are made daily, two launches each, with one advisor on each cruise.

The heavily populated river banks began giving way to rice paddies and the crew readied the craft for the days drag. Two men stood by the winch up forward and a third stood by the drag back aft. When the coxswain cut the engines, the drag was dropped over the side and the proper amount of cable was allowed to reel off the winch. The throttle was pulled out and the MLMS was once again cruising along at its steady eight knots. The two boats performed their tasks simultaneously, and now each was dragging along the opposite banks.

The coxswain kept the boat in close to the bank while a seaman set up the .30-caliber machine gun on the bow and fed a belt of ammo into it. It was ready for instant action. A third man was distributing the crew's individual weapons.

Carkeek, puffing on his cigar, watched the activity. His job is to advise the crew in minesweeping, maintenance, weapons and combat readiness. His seven years of experience aboard Navy minesweepers well qualifies him for the position.

"These are real good boys," he said indicating the crew, "they know how to minesweep, and considering how young their navy is, they do a good job of maintaining their boats and weapons."

Glancing across the river at the other boat and then back to the nearer bank where local farmers were working the land with water buffalo, he commented, "If

'Charlie' would just leave these people alone they could become some of the most productive farmers in the world. The soil is so rich and the climate so good that they can grow three crops a year."

He looked at his watch and then at a check point tower coming up on his right. He radioed his position to his control point, puffed on what was left of his cigar, and seemed to relax.

In the past four months Carkeek has made more than 90 runs and only once has his boat been fired upon. "We were lucky," he said, "we didn't take any hits that time. But the idea it could happen again at any time keeps you from getting

drowsy, no matter how long and hot the days are."

The periodic check points were called in, the seaman, who doubled as a cook, served plastic glasses of hot sweet tea, and later on lunch. The advisors eat along with the crew, usually rice, fish and some cooked local vegetables. No matter what the activity on the boat—everyone's eyes scanned the flat land—the craft was in VC territory now. No one said anything, but everyone was alert.

When the point on the river is reached where the Vietnamese minesweepers turn back to Saigon, the two boats cross in mid-stream changing banks and dragging back over the same area.

On many of the runs, although the boats aren't actually fired upon, there will be artillery and air strikes going on along the banks of the rivers. "On one trip there was a 'Seawolf' helicopter fire team making strikes right along the bank," Carkeek said. "As we passed through the area the helos were firing rockets right over the top of the boat."

As the two boats neared Saigon once more the crew began stowing their flak jackets, life vests, and helmets and unloading their weapons. The boats slowed again and the two men on the winch began winding in the drag chain while the third man waited to hoist it aboard.

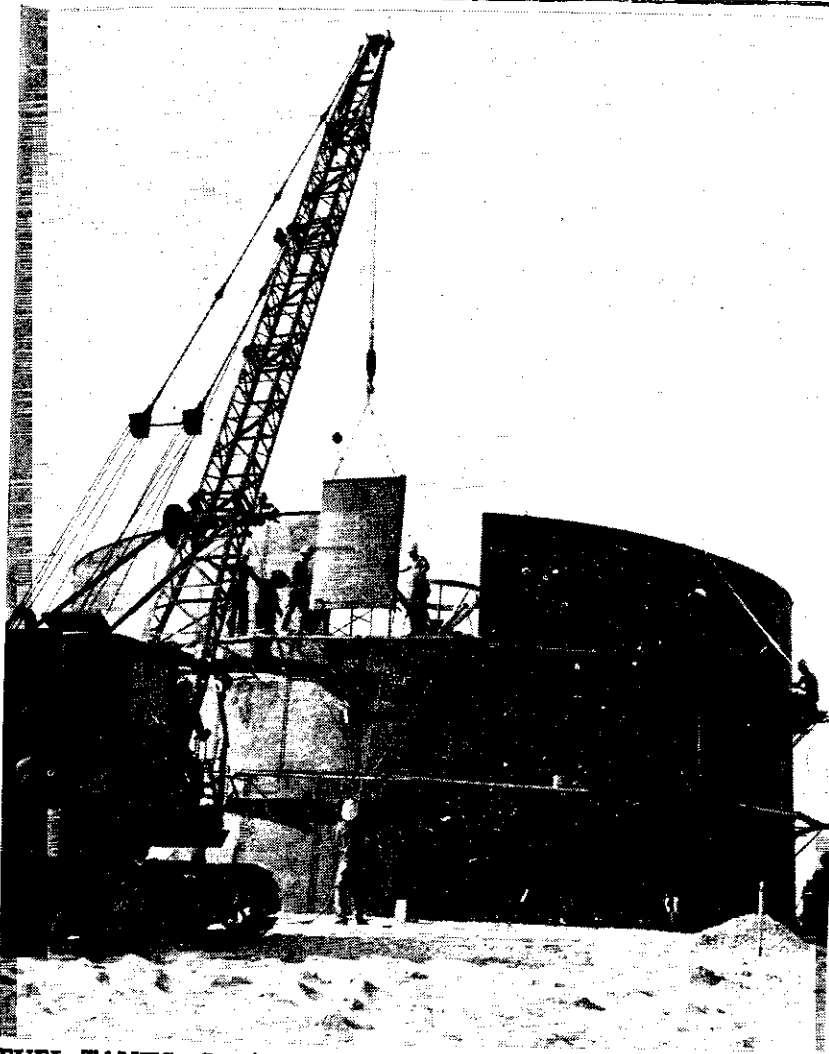
The advisor's boat edged over to the piers to let him off as he dismantled his radio and put his gear into the green bag.

"When I volunteered for Vietnam duty," Carkeek said, tossing away a stub of cigar, "I really wanted the Junk Forces, but now that I have this, I am more than happy. I think it's the best duty in Vietnam."



A GOOD RELATIONSHIP - - John Carkeek not only has a good working relationship with the crews, but he gets along with them personally as well.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Tom Walton)



FUEL TANKS—Putting up a 10,000 barrel fuel storage tank is no big thing for the "Can Do" Seabees.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo by Marion Loyd, PH2)

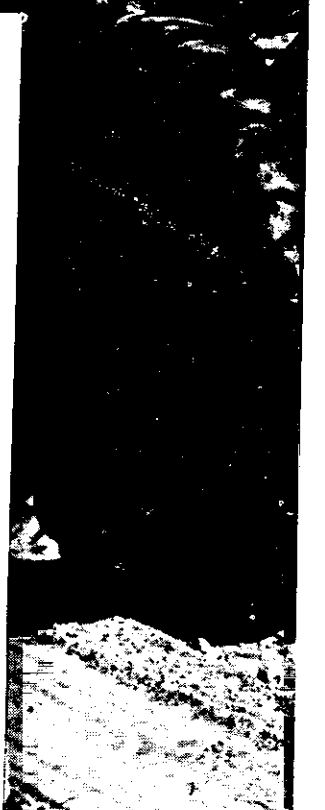


LAND STRIP—The Seabees have laid thousands of yards.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo)

SEABEE PICT



A SURVEYOR lines up one of the 800 piles supporting the Seabee built "Liberty Bridge," in South Vietnam. On far side of the Thu Bon River is the camp of the Marine company which protects the approaching bridge.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo)



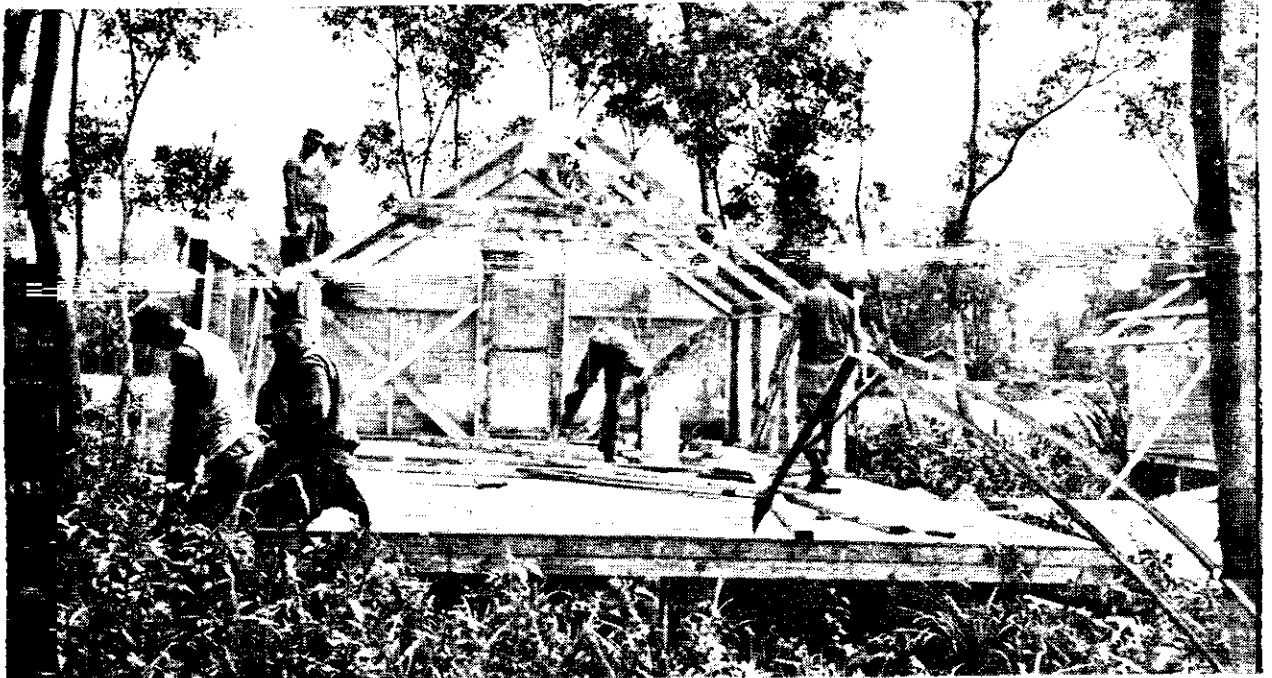


s of runway in Vietnam.
by David Lyman, JO3)

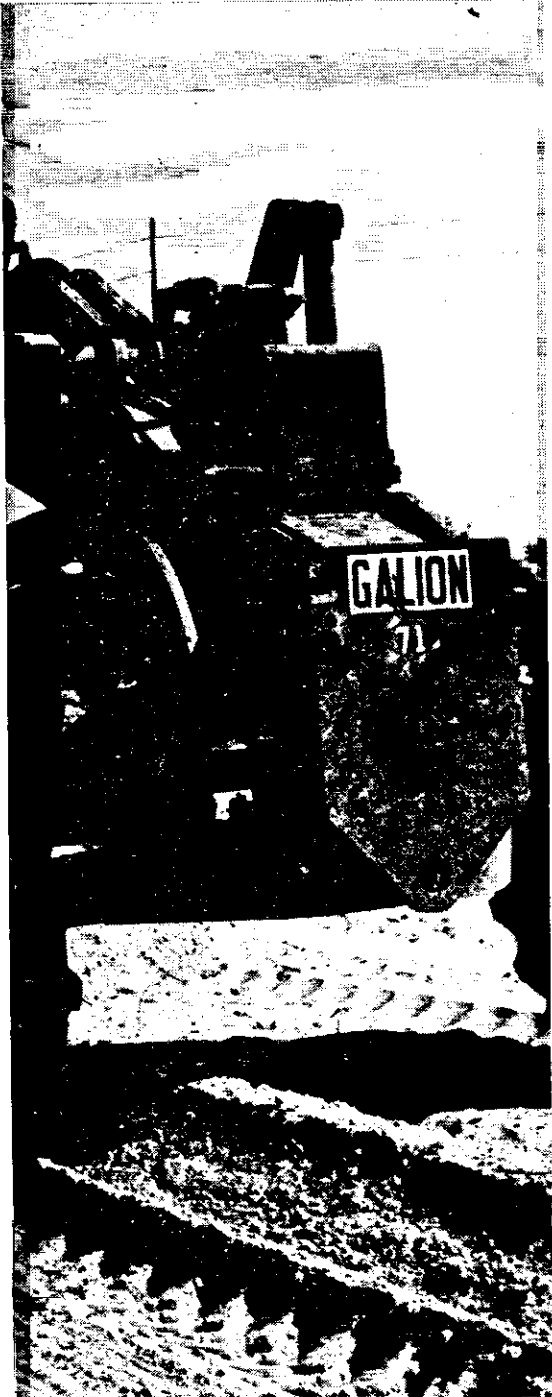
TORIAL



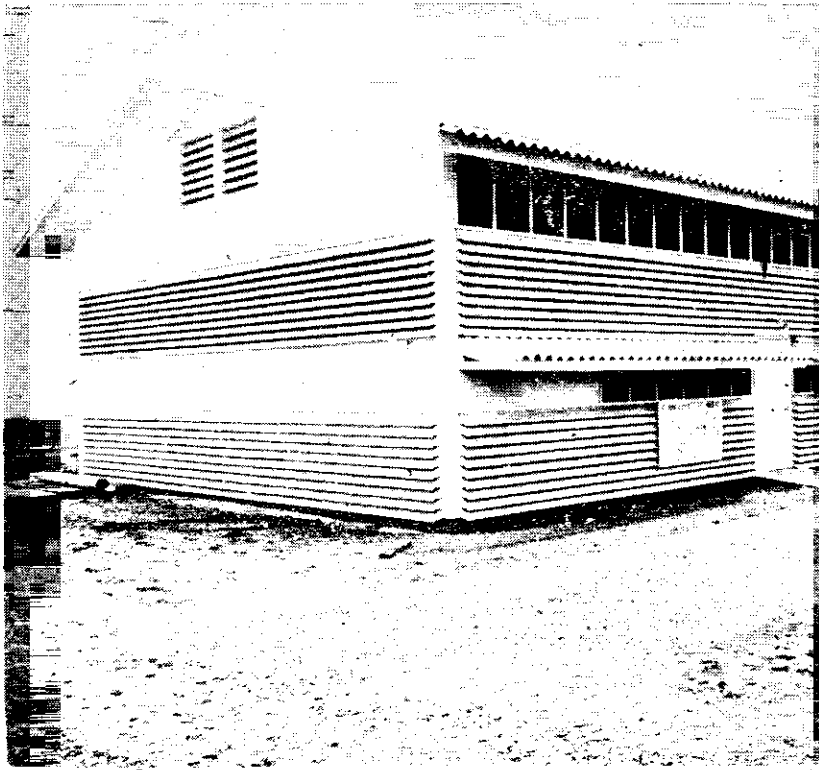
SURVEYOR—Engineering Aid Constructionman Earl Jenkins looks as peacefully engaged in his work as a surveyor in the States, but was wounded by a sniper while engaged on a similar job.
(Official U.S. Navy Photo by R.G. Dawson, PHC)



BUILDING A BASE—Seabees put up barracks for a new American base in what had been jungle just a few hours previously.



PAUSE FOR PRAYER—Seabees take time out from their labours for an impromptu religious service by a "circuit riding" chaplain.



CHAPEL-THEATER -- The newly constructed chapel-theater provides for Sunday religious services as well as a movie theater for the men at Nha Be.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PHAN F. C. West)



HOME -- These new 200-man barracks provide berthing facilities for the support personnel and river patrol units stationed at Nha Be.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PH2 L.M. Lindberg)

NHA BE KEEPS VITAL SHIPPING CHANNEL OPEN TO SAIGON

CNSAS-- In this so-called age of computers, atomic power and "pushbutton warfare", sailors of the United States Navy find themselves eyeball-to-eyeball with a vicious foe in a small boat war being waged for control of the vital waterways of South Vietnam.

Most important of all the waterways in Vietnam is the Viet Cong-harassed main shipping channel to Saigon. The nucleus of the Navy's efforts to keep this channel open in spite of mines, recoilless rifles, rockets and automatic weapons with which the enemy frequently contests passage, is the Naval Support Activity Saigon Detachment at Nha Be.

Nha Be is located between Saigon and the South China Sea at the junction of the Long Tau and Soi Rap Rivers. Here are

based the river patrol boats, minesweeping boats, armored landing craft and helicopter gunships that have thwarted Viet Cong efforts to disrupt the merchant ship traffic plying the shipping channel.

Construction of this important support detachment began in November of 1965 and the first support personnel arrived four months later. The U.S. Navy facility was built at the top of a peninsula on a site which had been several feet under water until

dredges filled it with sand and silt from the river bottom.

During construction of the new installation, space at the Vietnamese Navy River Assault Group base was utilized. A "tent city" was erected for housing and YFNB-16 was towed into a supply space for repair shops and store-rooms.

The facility was officially named "U.S. Naval Support Activity

Saigon Detachment Nha Be" on May 17, 1966.

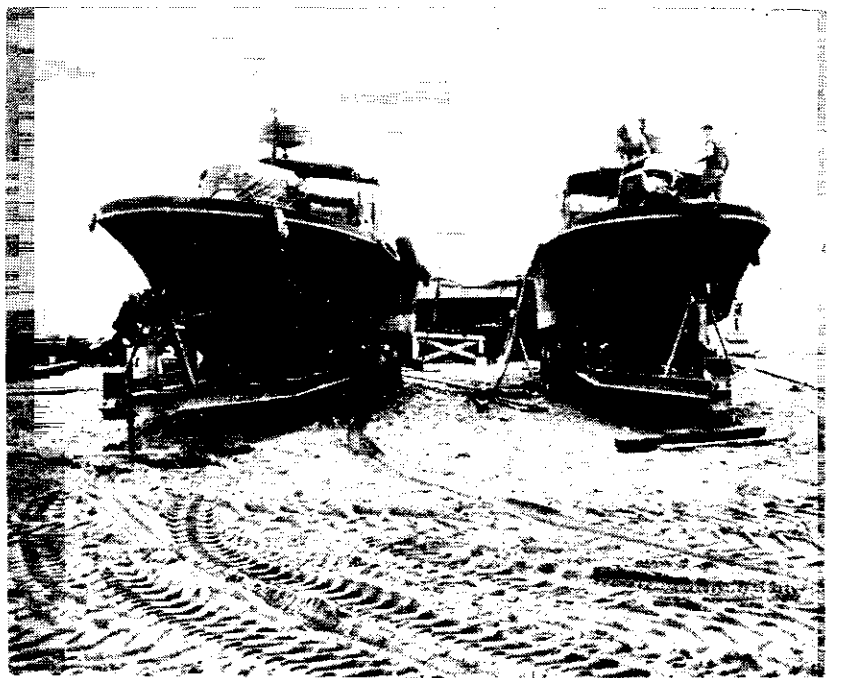
Construction has progressed rapidly in the past few months at Nha Be and as a result 67% of permanent construction is now complete. Six 200-man barracks have been erected with four more under construction.

Already completed are warehouses and ship repair facilities, administration-communications



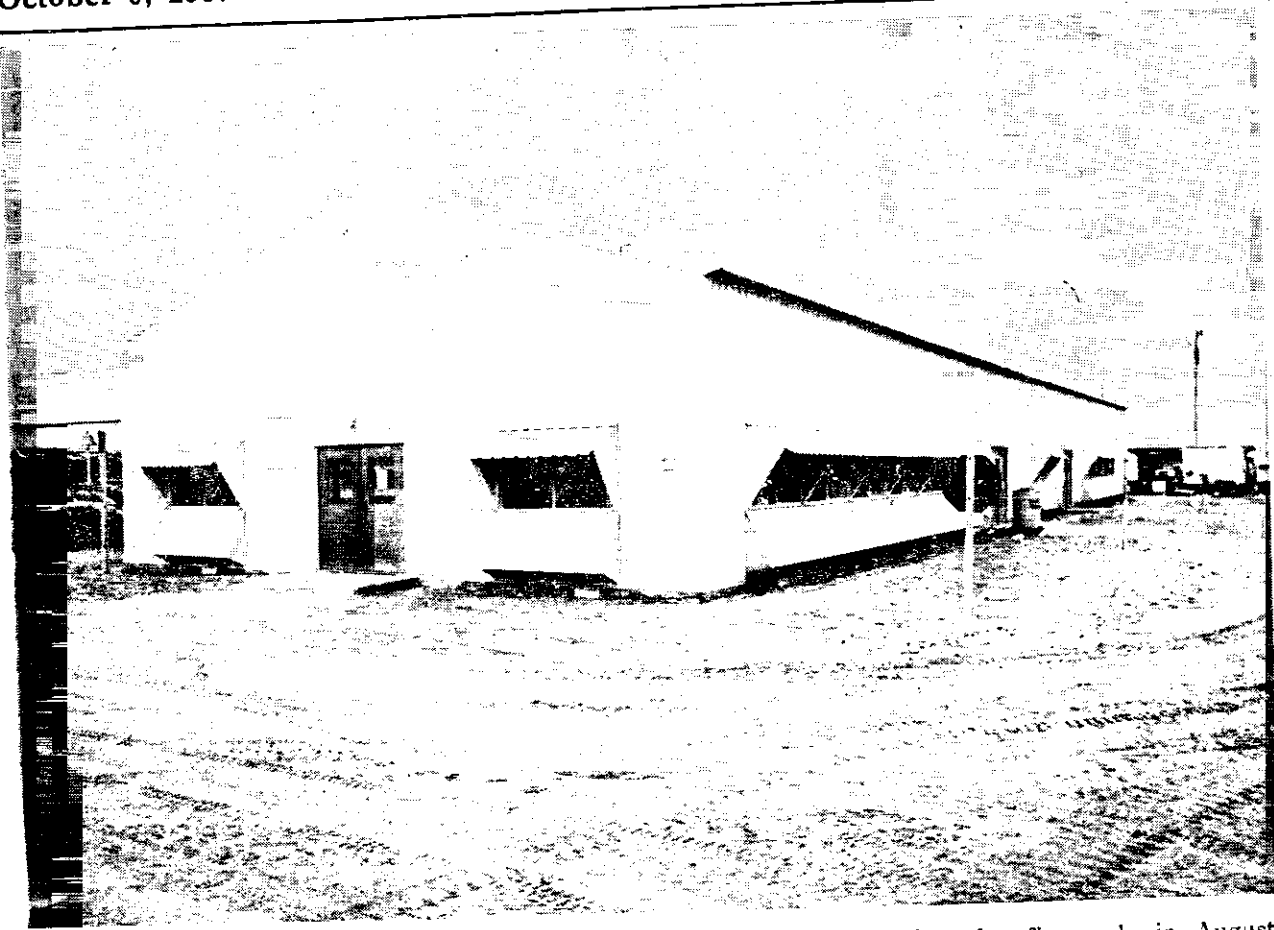
PROTECTION AGAINST CHARLIE -- This well-guarded concrete bunker is the storage compound for armament used by the base personnel and the river patrol boats in fighting the Communist aggressors.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PH2 L.M. Lindberg)



KEEPING THE BOATS FIT -- Maintenance crews at Nha Be keep the river patrol boats of the units of Operation Game Warden in top condition at all times.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PHAN F.C. West)



NEW MESS HALL - - This new 1,000-man mess hall provides the daily bread for the men. The mess hall is open 24 hours daily to accommodate personnel who work the late hour shifts.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PHAN F.C. West)

building, dispensary, 1,000-man mess hall (which is open 24 hours a day because of round-the-clock boat and helo operations), helicopter landing pad and a combination chapel-theater.

Under the direction of Commander Floyd K. Rabun, USN, the 190 personnel of the support detachment accomplish administrative and supply functions as well as complete overhauls of river patrol boats, drydocking of minesweep boats and repair and overhaul of all boat engines.

Nha Be also engages in civic

action programs to aid the Vietnamese. Many personnel have their own projects such as teaching English to the Vietnamese in the neighboring village in their spare time.

MEDCAPS (medical civic action programs) are held twice a week to make medical services available 24 hours a day to Vietnamese living in the immediate vicinity of the installation.

The Viet Cong realize the importance of Nha Be — they showed their dislike for the base by two night attacks with recoilless rifle

and rocket fire early in August. The sailors were prepared. Boat and helo crews went into action within minutes and silenced the attackers.

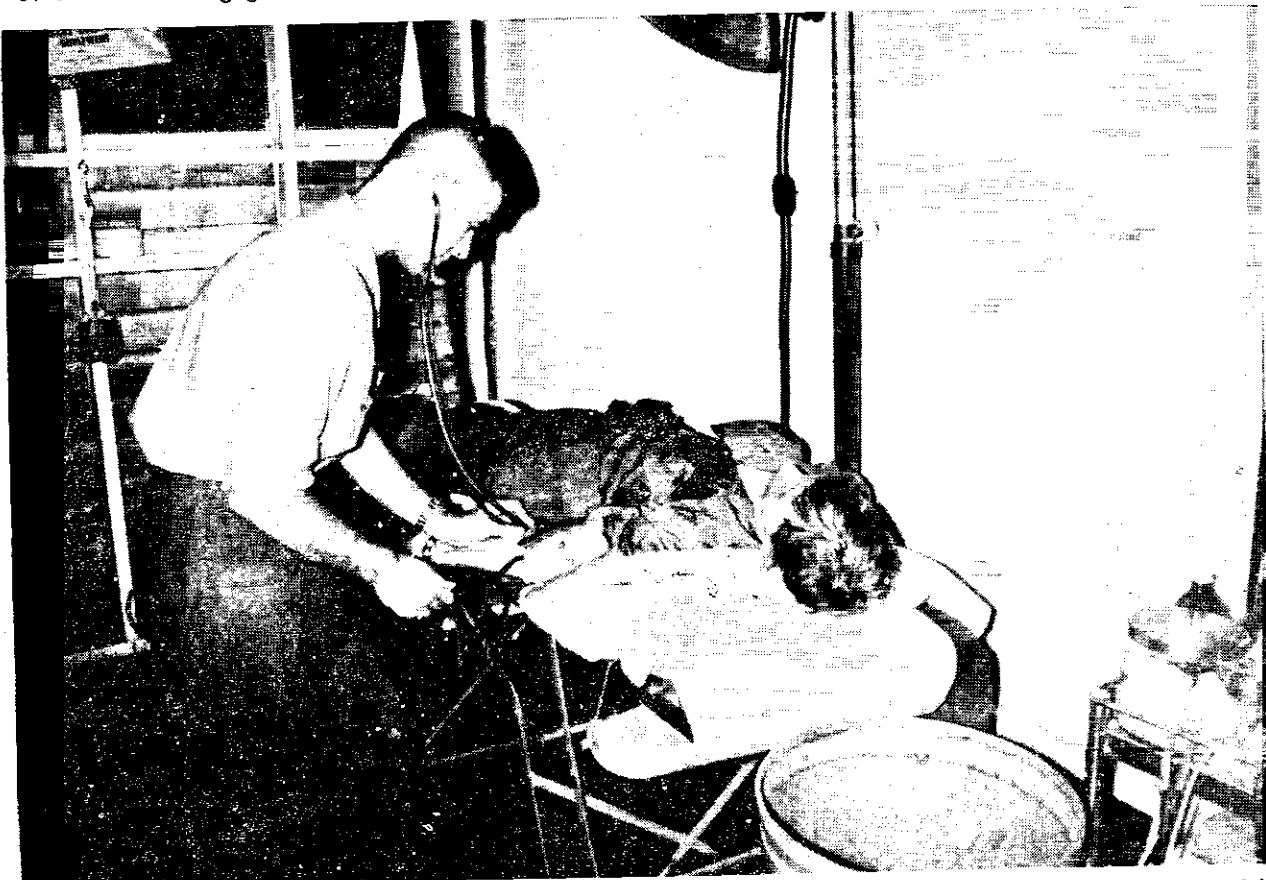
Damage was minimal. No Navy-men were injured seriously and all were returned to duty after treatment by the detachment medical personnel.

The unsuccessful attacks were just another frustration and another failure for the Viet Cong — but they have been getting used to failure ever since the Navy came to Nha Be.



MAIL CALL - - PC3 Ronald G. Kyle sorts the daily mail for the personnel stationed at the Naval Support Detachment at Nha Be.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PH2 L.M. Lindberg)



SICK BAY TREATMENT - - HM2 E. Wilson takes blood pressure of Irvan Moore during a sick call visit. A new ten bed dispensary is planned for the near future.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PH2 L.M. Lindberg)

At Cam Ranh Bay

New Navy Support Facility Commissioned

CNSAS — The U. S. Naval Support Facility, Cam Ranh Bay was officially commissioned on Sept. 1 in ceremonies held at the Market Time base. The base had previously been a detachment of the Naval Support Activity Saigon since its inception in May of 1966.

Capt. B. W. Spore, Commander U. S. Naval Support Activity, Saigon, was on hand to turn over the responsibility of leading the new command to its new commanding officer, Commander R. A. Campbell.

In speaking to the officer and enlisted members of the new facility as well as some 30 distinguished guests, Capt. Spore praised the men for the fine job they had done and for the excellent record they had established in making Cam Ranh Bay one of the most important naval bases in the III Corps area.

He went on to state that the magnitude of their abilities has steadily increased and that Cam Ranh Bay had established for itself a reputation as a "can do unit". The captain also made it clear to

the men that they are no longer followers, they are now leaders on their own and that the effectiveness of the new facility depends solely on the officers and enlisted men.

Five of the original 13 men who first reported aboard at Cam Ranh Bay back in January of 1966 were also present at the ceremonies for they are still stationed there. They are ENC W. Jennings, PN3 J. R. Gavin, SM2 R. J. Dazy, BM2 C. D. Pence and GMG1 J. A. Franklin.

The new support facility will continue to support the eight Navy commands and units which are contributing to the Navy's efforts on the water ways off the coast and within the harbors of Vietnam as part of Operation Market Time and Operation Stable Door.



NEWEST NAVAL COMMAND IN VIETNAM - - Commander R.A. Campbell, commanding officer of the U.S. Naval Support Facility, Cam Ranh Bay, cuts the ribbon to officially commission the new base in ceremonies held on Sept. 1. The support facility was previously a detachment of the Naval Support Activity Saigon.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PHAN F.C. West)

NAVY IS GOOD NEIGHBOR TO NEEDY ORPHANS

CNSAS—"Perhaps you will be surprised one of these days to find in your mail several boxes of toilet soap, wash cloths, etc. It represents the personal expression of the 'Good Neighbor Policy' from a group of American junior high school students to some orphanage in Vietnam."

This was the introduction to a letter received recently at the U.S. Naval Support Activity, Saigon, from a club advisor at the Alexander Junior High School in Frenalde, Washington. The advisor, Mrs. Bernice Van Woudenberg, requested the command's assistance in distributing the gifts to the Hoi-Duc-Anh Orphanage in Saigon.

Her knowledge of this particular orphanage had been gained through her Navy officer son-in-law, Lieutenant Commander Hugh Crisp formerly attached to the Military Assistance Command Vietnam staff. Lcdr Crisp and other personnel of his office had adopted the orphanage as their civic action program.

The Hoi Duc-Anh Orphanage,

founded in 1931 by a group of Vietnamese social workers, cares for 280 children ranging in age from one week to 20 years. Most of children are abandoned waifs whose parents could not afford to keep them.

The orphanage receives about one-third of its funds from the South Vietnamese government and about two-thirds from private donors.

One of the biggest problems facing the orphanage, according to Mrs. Le Thanh Kieu, director of the orphanage, is the ever rising cost of food. She estimated that it now costs about 2,500 piasters (\$21) for one day's food for the children. Eggs, for example, now cost 10 piasters apiece (about 8 cents). That's even high by U.S.

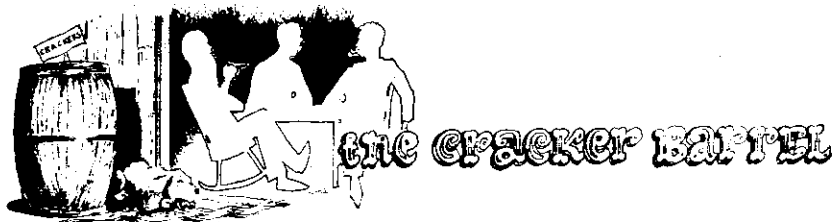
standards.

So any assistance is deeply appreciated and gifts of such necessary items as soap make it possible to use what little money is available for food and other expenses.

The boxes of soap, wash cloths, and other items were duly received at the U.S. Naval Support Activity Saigon. The gifts were then taken out to the orphanage and

personally distributed to the grateful children by two officers of the command, Lieutenant Commander H. B. Hathaway, Assistant Public Works Officer, and Lieutenant (jg) L.A. Van Rooy Jr., Public Affairs Officer.

Thus culminated a personal expression of the "Good Neighbor Policy". A small incident but one of many threads which make a mighty link between two peoples.



By Charlic Noble

Well, here I am again shipmates, and this is the recipe for Herb Roast of Lamb. Remember to stagger your pan loads so the roasts will stay hot. Remove from the oven and let the roast sit 10-15 minutes before carving. Herbed Roast of Lamb (100 servings)

Ingredients

- Lamb Roast, frozen 40 lbs.
- Cloves, garlic, crushed 5 tbsp / 1 tsp
- Salt 5 tbsp / 1 tsp
- Oregano, ground 5 tbsp / 1 tsp
- Pepper 4 tsp
- Grape juice (cd.) 8 cups
- Green onions, thinly sliced 2 cups
- Lemon juice 1 cup

Method

Cut deep slits in meat at 2" intervals. Combine garlic salt and oregano pepper, press into slits. Combine lemon and grape juice with onion; brush a little on the meat. Cook about 3 hours, brushing with sauce at 30 minute intervals (Meat thermometer will read 160-170 F. for medium, 175-180 F. for well done. Remove from oven when done.)

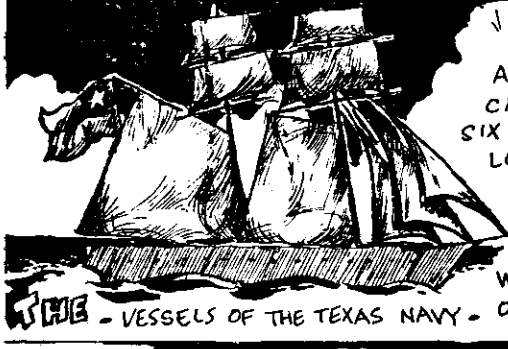
Orange juice or apple juice can be substituted for the grape juice if you are NIS at the time. Next issue will feature an oriental twist to lamb for an exotic culinary excursion.



AND ONE FOR YOU! - - Lcdr. D. B. Hathaway, Assistant Public Works Officer of the U.S. Naval Support Activity Saigon, adds a personal touch to the distribution of gifts sent by the students at the Alexander Junior High School in Frenalde, Washington to the Hoi Duc-Anh Orphanage in Saigon.

(Official U.S. Navy Photo by PHAN F.C. West)

DID YOU KNOW?



THE SAN ANTONIO
 A TOP SAIL SCHOONER
 CARRYING A BATTERY OF
 SIX POUNDERS WITH A
 LONG GUN ON A TRAVERSE
 CIRCLE AMIDSHIPS.
 THE SAN JACINTO
 AND SAN BERNARDO
 WERE SISTER-SHIPS
 OF THE SAN ANTONIO....



USS CHICAGO
 (PRIDE OF THE
 NEW NAVY...)
 MODERN STEEL
 SHIP. THE 5,000-
 TON CHICAGO WAS
 THE LARGEST AND
 FASTEST OF THE
 FOUR, WHICH WERE
 OFTEN REFERRED TO
 AS THE "WHITE SQUA-
 DRON. NUCLEUS OF THE
 NAVY DURING THE POST CIVIL WAR
 DOLDRUMS.

NAVAL EXPRESSIONS....

SAILOR: FROM THE MIDDLE ENGLISH **SAILER**, ROOT UNKNOWN.
 ON SHIP BOARD, ONE WHO HAS MADE A LONG SEA VOYAGE OTHER THAN HIS FIRST AND WHO IS QUALIFIED TO GO ALOFT AND TEND THE SAILS. A SAILOR IS NOT NECESSARILY A SEAMAN....

USS Davidson Provides New Teeth For Sea Dragon

By JOC C.H. Nelson

"Boy, I'd sure like them to put us on 'Sea Dragon'." This is the thought expressed almost daily by the officers and enlisted men of the destroyer **USS Davidson**.

Although primarily an anti-submarine vessel, equipped with ASROC (anti-submarine rocket weapons system), the most advanced sonar and anti-submarine torpedoes, Davidson does have two 5-inch, 38-caliber single gun mounts. These are the teeth that her crew would love to add to the already-powerful mouth of the "Sea Dragon".

"Sea Dragon" is the name of the U.S. Seventh Fleet's campaign to eliminate all military targets and bothersome North Vietnamese shore batteries within the range of the ship's guns. Frequently, during the tour of duty off Vietnam, destroyers are assigned to this mission... and it is here that they are participating in the war.

Sailing almost brazenly up and down the coast... looking for lucrative targets, they seem to challenge the North Vietnamese shore batteries to fire on them.

The fact that the ship has not been assigned to "Sea Dragon" is certainly not because she is not capable of performing as well as any other ship. The truth of the matter is that Davidson has a tremendously important job right where she is. Her role is to protect a powerful attack carrier task

group as the carrier launches strike after strike against North Vietnam. Hour after hour, day after day, Davidson knives through the waters of the Tonkin Gulf, her long-range air, surface and sub-surface detection equipment "sniffing" for potential enemy attacks. So far, there have been none.

The ship boasts a proud naval gunfire heritage. When the man for whom the ship is named, Vice Admiral Lyal A. Davidson, commanded a gunfire task group off Morocco in World War II, the devastation of the naval gunfire brought to bear by the ships under his command caused the German tank unit command to believe that the United States had begun to use a new, formidable anti-tank weapon. That same weapon, naval gunfire, is ready, willing and available off the coast of North Vietnam, aboard the Davidson. If the Navy's "Sea Dragon" should need some new "teeth"... this ship is ready to provide it.

Career Officers Sought

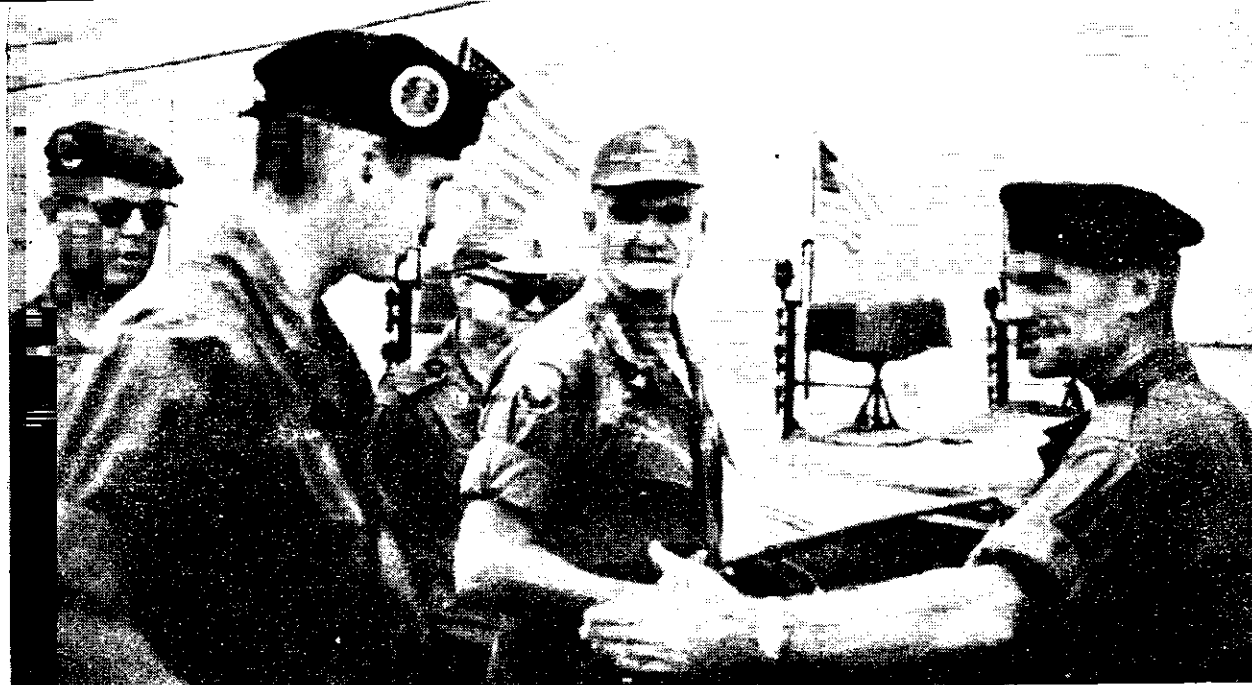
The Chief of Naval Personnel has emphasized the importance of command influence in motivating junior officers to seek naval careers.

According to BuPers Instruction 1133.19, the rate of augmentation into the Regular Navy of qualified Naval Reserve officers has not been as high as desired and effort is needed to maintain the impetus of the program through career guidance.

The instruction goes on to say that the future potential of an officer must be carefully considered and weighed during the counseling efforts. It is further stated that the privilege of extended active duty, augmentation, etc. must be reserved for those persons who have displayed the capability to progress within established standards.

It is stated that personalized counseling by senior officers created the fundamental basis for the retention program. Career guidance must be afforded to those junior officers exhibiting exceptional ability and potential on a personalized and continuing basis.

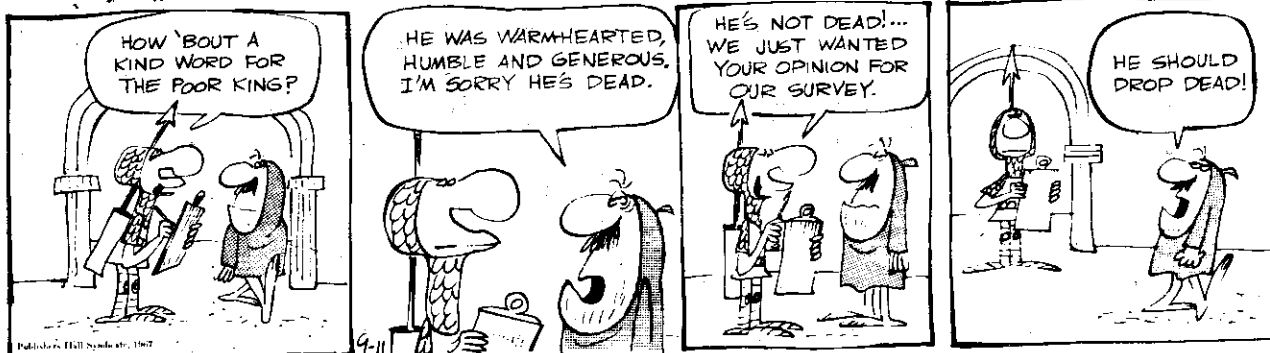
The instruction further states that commanding officers are encouraged to establish informal liaison with the Bureau of Naval Personnel concerning officers who possess sound career potential and who have expressed interest in continued active duty. Grade assignment personnel in BuPers will contact the officer concerned either by telephone or personal letter to provide and direct career appraisal and information or to assist the commanding officer as requested in any possible way to retain the officer for further service.



THE GENERAL AT NHA BE -- General William C. Westmoreland, Commander U.S. Forces Vietnam, is briefed on river patrol operations by Lieutenant Commander E.S. Stolle, Chief of Staff CTG 116.2, on his visit to the Naval Support Activity Saigon detachment. Assisting in the briefing are, from left to right, Cdr D. Warthen, CTG 116.2/SA RSSZ; Lcdr. E.A. Kingston, River Division 54; and Cdr. F.K. Rabun, officer-in-charge at Nha Be.

THE WIZARD OF ID

by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



G.I. Spending Hurts Local Economy

Another war is being fought in Vietnam, a war that is affecting the people as much as the war against the Viet Cong is affecting them. This war is waged in the cities and hamlets, in the streets, shops, markets and restaurants.

The enemy in the war is inflation and the victim is the Vietnamese economy. Inflation is caused primarily by a shortage of goods which people want which in turn causes them to pay exorbitant prices to get them. Many servicemen are unknowingly and unintentionally aiding this enemy and in doing so are reducing the importance of gains made in the military war. If the fight against inflation is lost, thousands of American lives that have been lost and billions of dollars that have been spent may all have

been in vain. The economy of the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) should be of concert to all. A strong healthy economy, free of inflation and its accompanying ills, is directly related and vital to a successful resolution of the current conflict. The spending of piasters, no matter how necessary or well intended, can, if not controlled, undo efforts made to stabilize the economy.

The main problem lies in the fact that more spending increases the amount of piasters in circula-

tion. Unfortunately, however, there are not enough goods and services to go around to meet the demands. The net result is that people are willing to pay more to obtain what they want and need. This in turn drives prices upward. It's usually the little man that suffers the most under these conditions; the man with a fixed income or small wage earner who can't compete with those in the higher income bracket.

The U.S. Government has established a piaster spending reduction program aimed at reducing the inflationary impact of spending upon the Vietnamese economy by U.S. Military and civilian agencies. A vital part of this program involves the area of "personal spending" by servicemen. If the current rate of personal piaster spending continues unabated, approximately 160 million dollars will be injected into the local economy in 1967. Each American must take an active interest in the piaster spend-

ing reduction program if it is to succeed. Personal spending must be reduced to a minimum!

The obvious question that is asked is "What can I do to help?". To help answer that question, here are a few DO's and DON'Ts to follow:

DON'T deal in blackmarket activities of any type.

DO exchange MPCs only at authorized exchanges.

Do use only piasters on the local economy.

Do purchase all your personal needs at the authorized exchanges or commissary.

DON'T over-tip for services received.

DON'T use local transportation. Make maximum use of military bus routes.

DON'T overlook the new 10% savings deposit program. It's a good way to save. The program will work—but only with your wholehearted assistance and backing. Join the fight against the "other enemy".

Mail Home

FROM:

APO

TO:

Postage

1st Class 10cents

Airmail 16cents

