




FEBRUARY-MARCH 1969 • VOL. 1 • NO. 5 • MCB TWENTY-TWO

*The Bug*  
DA NANG, VIETNAM



# The Bug

MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION TWENTY-TWO  
CAMP HASKINS NORTH, DA NANG, VIETNAM

COMMANDING OFFICER: CDR ROY "L" DUNLAP  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER: CDR MAX H. POST  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER: LCDR WILLIAM J. SCHELL  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF: CEC O. WAYNE TARTER  
EDITOR: SN ROY G. SLUZIS  
ASSISTANT EDITOR: CN DOUGLAS J. DURYEA  
PHOTOGRAPHER: PHC RUSSEL L. BOEGEMAN  
ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHER: RODNEY G. GRIFFIN

THE MCB-TWENTY-TWO "BUG" IS PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY  
WITH APPROPRIATED FUNDS BY THE MCB-TWENTY-TWO PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS OFFICE, IN COMPLIANCE WITH NAVEXOS P-35  
(CURRENT REVISION) ON GOVERNMENT EQUIPMENT AT THE  
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, OKINAWA. STATEMENTS  
OR OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN  
ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED THOSE OF THE  
COMMANDING OFFICER, OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT, OR  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. UNLESS  
OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL PHOTOGRAPHS  
ARE OFFICIAL U.S. NAVY PHOTOGRAPHS.

## WE'RE GOING HOME

The Professionals of TWENTY-TWO, characterized by a tradition of hyperactivity and high morale, reached a new pinnacle of excitement when the long-running rumor of the battalion's early release became confirmed. In early January, the Chief of Naval Operations directed the deactivation of Mobile Construction Battalions TWENTY-TWO and TWELVE; they are to be retained as reserve battalions on inactive status. TWENTY-TWO's deactivation will follow the completion of the present deployment within 30 days of its return to Gulfport; those who were recalled to active duty are planning to reunite with their families in time to celebrate Easter.

In the meantime, TWENTY-TWO's men are dusting off AWOL bags, mailing home excess weight, planning in detail



how to fill a 72-hour pass and filling in the good parts of their short-timer calendars. BUC Ernest H. Oertli, chief in charge of embarkation is seen with his measuring tape, determining size and number of mount out boxes needed for the Big Move. Admin personnel have exhausted themselves preparing DD-214 Release Forms (since TWENTY-TWO is notorious for setting records, it is speculated that our Admin Office now holds the record for the preparation of DD-214 Forms in a single ten-hour period); and the Corpsmen have gotten in their last licks with their "Going Home Shots"; with a name like that, they couldn't possibly hurt.

Traditionally, the short-timer is a member of a definite minority group in a military organization who flaunts his good fortune on the majority with such statements as, "I'm so short that I don't have time to carry on an extended conversation with you," or "I have less days to go than you have years"; but in the case of TWENTY-TWO, it is the majority who falls into the category of short-timers and the pleasures of teasing are somewhat frustrated by the lack of victims.

By the time TWENTY-TWO reaches CONUS, the oldtimers will have assembled a new collection of sea stories which will become a little more remarkable with each telling. There is no doubt that TWENTY-TWO's deployment will be the topic of discussion at many a reserve meeting; it is questionable that anything will be accomplished at the very first gathering throughout all the training centers of the Eighth Naval District. Because the Professionals have all shared the common experience of this deployment and because, as Reserves, they will keep in personal touch with each other through meetings at the Training Centers, an exclusive organization will emerge more cohesive than any branch of the V.F.W.; whatsmore, the two-week training periods, which will gather all the Professionals from five states, will be the setting for some of the grandest reunions in history. It is easy to see how the spirit which has so characterized TWENTY-TWO will be carried on by the men for many years to come.



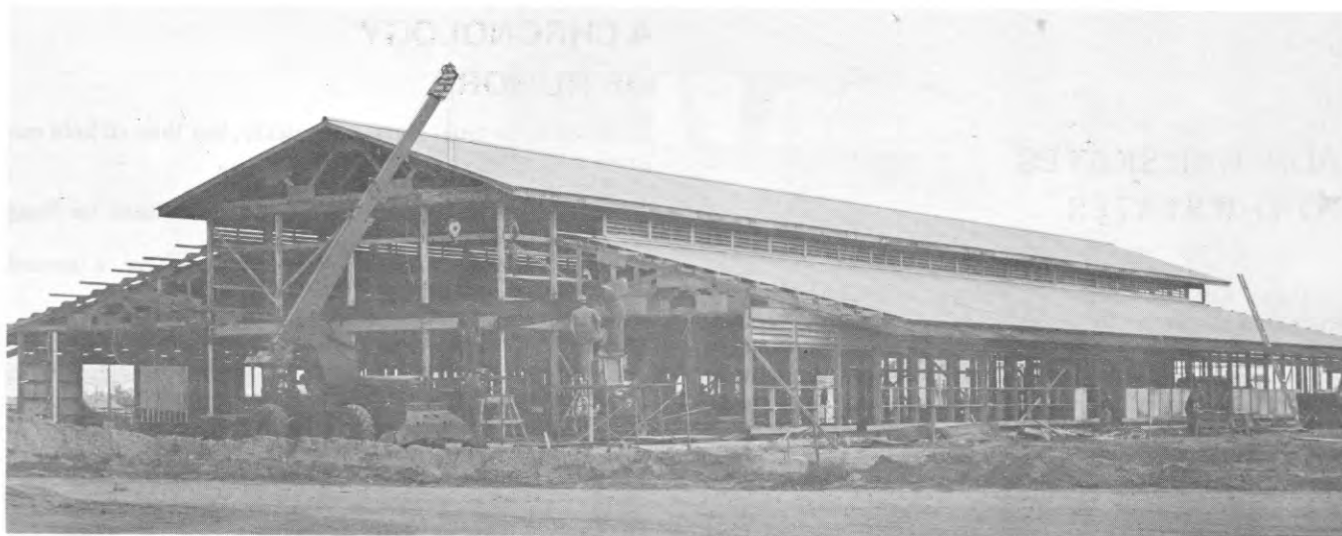
## AND A LEGEND IS BORN . . .

With the coming of each new year it is as much a part of the tradition to establish New Year's resolutions as it is the Southern tradition to eat blackeyed peas to insure good luck for the new year. To most people, a new year means a new leaf, renewed faith, and new opportunity. With this in mind, January will probably be one of the periods of the deployment that the men in the Battalion will remember most. Great was the relief when the official notification of our eventual deactivation upon return to CONUS was released, thereby ending the speculation and fantasies about our future.

Armed with a new year and spirits rejuvenated by the good news, TWENTY-TWO started the new year with the unspoken resolution to leave behind a sort of reserves-on-active-duty-legend. With the same pride and enthusiasm that won us the RADM John Perry Award in 1966, TWENTY-TWO strengthened the "Can-Do" tradition and has left behind impressions and records which will remain long after our final departure.

One of our major projects, the Air Passenger Terminal at Da Nang Airbase, is not necessarily a record, but it is a matter of pride and is unique because there are few Seabee battalions that are involved in the construction of a major facility from the drawing board to the completed project.





Typically, like most other battalions, we receive our plans from Regiment and perform our construction from that point. In this case the plans required extensive revision and under the guidance of LT William J. Schell, the facility was redesigned architecturally and esthetically from the ground up. It is also expected that we will complete the facility before the end of the deployment.

The revels of the New Year's celebrations still rang in our ears as EOC C.R. Trotter and his crew from our concrete batching plant proceeded to mix, transport and pour a record volume of concrete by a Seabee battalion in Vietnam; 845 cubic yards batched and poured during a normal ten hour working day. Machinery clattered and roared and a cloud of dust settled over the site as Seabees matched muscle and skill against the clock. It is interesting to note that one of our messcooks, CN Fred J. Jeansonne was especially called on to operate the clamshell crane because he was one of only a few men who were able to maintain the pace and dexterity required to set the record. Once the concrete was poured, it had to be finished. CHARLIE Company worked late into the night smoothing and finishing the concrete.

Moving up north to the rock crusher site at Vinh Dai, the men at the site established a record with 2268 tons of rock crushed in a single work shift. This record was not to stand very long: they had soon crushed over 2500 tons of rock and then again exceeded 2800 tons of rock in a single shift. They now hold both the daily and weekly production records. Under the guidance of their "favorite people," LT George F. Sears, the crew now has their eyes set on the existing record of 3500 tons in twenty-four hours. It is their expectation that this record will be replaced with a new one furnished by the TWENTY-TWO Vinh Dai detachment. "The BUG" extends a WELL DONE to both Chief Trotter and LT Sears and their respective crews.



## ADMIRAL SKATES TO THE STATES

Texas Admiral Fotios, P. Vamvoras, TWENTY-TWO's champion skater, broke his ankle in attempting to perform a "wheelie" at the Chief's Club patio early in January. Admiral Vamvoras had gone through a flawless performance up the time of his fall, executing figure eights, pirouettes and his famous "Vamvoras Vertebrate Vault" (a very difficult maneuver whereby the skater leaps into the air and lands on his posterior, then bounces back to his feet) without spilling a drop of his drink; however, as he was setting himself up for his finale, a right "wheelie", his ankle gave way and the Admiral's skating days were put to an "end." Because of this mishap, Vamvoras was sent to the States for treatment, thereby beating the rest of TWENTY-TWO home, and keeping in the spirit of professional skatesmanship.



## A CHRONOLOGY OF RUMORS

Some came true, some die quickly; but they all held our interest.

Remember these?

- 27 Aug.—10,000 Gooks are going to try to take Da Nang tonight at all costs.
- 27 Aug.—TWENTY-TWO will not return for a second deployment.
- 1 Sept.—TWENTY-TWO will be going home in 90 days.
- 7 Sept.—The biggest and bloodiest battle of the war will take place at Red Beach, Saturday, September 15 — according to Jean Dixon.
- 8 Sept.—Everyone is going to get two R&R's.
- 17 Sept.—MCB-TWELVE has a congressional hold on them in Gulfport.
- 20 Sept.—TWENTY-TWO will be deactivated in May.
- 3 Oct.—TWENTY-TWO will be home in November because all of the battalion projects are nearly completed.
- 6 Nov.—TWENTY-TWO will start going home in December.
- 17 Nov.—Hanoi Hanna and friends will blow up the EM Club today.
- 4 Dec.—We're going to be extended until August.
- 17 Dec.—All the rumors were in vain; we will serve two deployments.
- 24 Dec.—TWENTY-TWO will be home with their families by Easter.



## A NEW FIND FOR COLLECTORS

Perhaps one of the more interesting benefits of Camp Haskins North is the proximity to Da Nang Bay. It has become the pastime of several of the battalion's members to stroll along the beach collecting odds and ends washed up on the shore. Shell collecting is probably one of the more popular hobbies because of the availability of a great variety of conical and multicolored shells scattered along the beach. If one were to look closely enough he would locate the specialty of the area; small bead-shaped varicolored shells.

Recently a very uniquely contoured, medium complected specimen was found drifting in the sands of Red Beach; the Billieschell. This is a quite rare and priceless item and if added to your collection, it will contribute infinite interest, fun, and humor.

## "TOP CAT, THE IMPOSSIBLE JEEP"

(UNABRIDGED)

by CSC George J. Ray



In Vietnam, you travel anyway you can; most of the time, by thumb. If you're lucky, you "acquire" a piece of transportation.

A particular vehicle was deadlined for lack of parts and manpower hours to fix it. Inquiring as to its ownership and troubles, I was told, "Chief, if you can fix it, you can have it; we ain't got time to be messing around with small stuff; all our time is spent fixing big equipment." I got a tow rope and a bigger vehicle and pulled the jeep to my area; that night, I went around looking for the necessary parts to put the vehicle back together. I "acquired" the transmission, bell housing and whole clutch assembly. After 21:00, I went to work to rebuild the most priceless vehicle in Vietnam.

At anytime, day or night, "Top Cat" was called on to haul loads and it responded to every need. For example, one night, countless trips were made to carry filled sandbags weighing at least 30 pounds apiece. Three of us put at least 300 bags on that jeep each time and "Top Cat" pulled the load.

Every day, "Top Cat" was called for one thing or another, mostly for hauling. Each and every time, the load was beyond "Top Cat's" capacity by standard limits, and each and every time it carried the load with no trouble.

One day, "Top Cat" saw a young Army Lieutenant standing by his jeep begging for a push. "Top Cat" was already wounded in the radiator and had to carry a number ten can of water; but "Top Cat" stopped, asked what was wrong, and pushed that young Lieutenant to his motor pool, seven miles away, stopping only to get water for the thirsty radiator. When "Top Cat" pulled into the motor pool, it somehow went under the front jeep and bent the grill all to hell. A headlight was also knocked out. The Lieutenant invited us in for a drink, but the only drink we got was for "Top Cat's" radiator so that we could get home.

Many is the time that "Top Cat" saw some G.I. thumbing a ride; he'd pull over and the G.I. would bail in,

then bail out either at his destination or closer to it. The jeep gave many a man a ride and carried anything and everything; it had the attitude that there was nothing that couldn't be done and the impossible took a little longer.

"Top Cat's" rear was going bad, but there was no time for repairs; he had to stay in the game. In early December, "Top Cat" was called on to carry two cooks on a good 18-mile round trip over roads that were just wheel tracks. About two miles out, the shotgun rider smelled something burning, but the jeep kept going forward. With the luck of the Irish riding on their shoulders, they got to their destination. On the way back, "Top Cat" was stopped by the M.P. patrol and was told that the right rear tire was leaning real bad and was smoking something awful; but the jeep moved forward, carrying his master and shotgun rider homeward bound, determined to complete its assigned task.

Reaching the gate of his home, "Top Cat" stopped for water because his radiator was reading 280 degrees. It then turned left and headed for its stall. Ten yards away from his stall, "Top Cat's" right rear wheel just gave way and wouldn't move forward another foot. Bound and determined to get his master all the way home (namely, another ten yards) the jeep went into front-wheel-drive and dragged the rear wheels into its stall.

The radiator was full of holes, the grill work and front bumper bent all to hell, muffler knocked off, holes all through the floor and the top was so full of holes that when it rained, more water came through the roof than the sides. The front wheels were out of line so badly that anyone who drove it had to be checked out; which usually took three hours to learn how to handle "Top Cat" on the road; and now, the rear end was shot to hell.

"Top Cat's" master considered rebuilding it over again; but after long thought and consideration, his master thought best to "mercy kill" the jeep and bury it with honors.

"Top Cat" served with pride and always in the highest traditions of the service. He DID!

## VIHN DAI: WHERE THE ACTION IS

For the past few weeks there have been many rumors circulating around Camp Haskins about "what's going on up there at Vihn Dai. It seems as though most of the personnel here are being transferred to the crusher site. Nearly every day there are men wandering around with check-out sheets in their hands. When asked if they are going home, they replay with a touch of enthusiasm, "Nope, goin' to the Quarry!" Before too long, the rumors have grown in scope and magnitude: They had constructed a complete R and R center underground and camouflaged it with a sign reading "Medical Bunker". Then we heard that because the site is nestled between rolling hills complete with running brooks and streams, all incoming personnel should bring their fishing rod and tackle because the fishing is superior. Thus it is no wonder that we have had men check out for Vihn Dai never to be heard from again. Occasionally when someone manages to escape, we hear that life up there is as close to being a civilian as anyone could want.



The crusher site was officially handed over to TWENTY-TWO by MCB-SEVEN on December 22, 1968. SEVEN has taken on the responsibility of preparing the site prior to TWENTY-TWO's move from the quarry site at Nam Hoa. It was wet and cold, but the rain failed to dampen the spirits of the occasion. Seabees worked through the morning building a stage in the mechanics shed and by noon the festivities were ready to begin. The "World Famous TWENTY-TWO Dance Band" kicked off the program, and was followed by the presentation of the camp to TWENTY-TWO by Commander Jack C. Rickels, Commander MCB-SEVEN. Commander Dunlap then presented commendations to our recent Purple Heart winners, EO2 J.A. Savage and CN F.W. Dressel, and commended EO3 E.D. Sandoval for his bravery in the face of enemy action. The ceremony was immediately followed by a USO show and plenty of beer and steaks for everybody.

The popularity of the Vihn Dai site is attributed to several reasons. But the superb leadership is number one:

LT George Sears (soon to be LCDR) and LT (jg) Richard J. Flaker. Recently LT Sears wanted to give his men a day off in return for the tremendous effort put out at the site. Regulations wouldn't permit shutting down the operation, so the officers, chiefs and Admin staff took over and crushed rock while the men took a well-deserved rest.

Sometimes it can go too far. The story was passed on to us that Vihn Dai had been having a few problems with one of their personnel frequenting the club too often and was found too drunk to fulfill assigned duties. The other night, after consuming eight beers and passing out in the club, Vihn Dai's mascot, Queen Bee, had to be carried to the CP where she would be safe for the night. She was immediately put on report and after due consideration of the incident, Commander Post restricted her from the club for one week.

## IN RETROSPECT

by Lt. Gerald Smith

Approximately April 13, 1968 we all heard word over radio or thru someone who heard it over the radio that RMCB 22 was being recalled to active duty and had to report to Gulfport, Mississippi in a month. Needless to say, mixed emotions, ranging from surprise, fright, reluctance, sadness and anticipation were felt by all. Following a period of several weeks after the news broke and after we had our families resigned to the fact that we must all accept it and make the best of it, we headed for Gulfport. There, after joining with the rest of the battalion, we all felt a little more comfortable since we all had similar problems. After a few short months at CBC, a few week-ends at home and up to 5 days leave, we all left that grand country for Southeast Asia.

Emotions were again felt by us as we approached Da Nang by air, landed, and made the trip to Camp Haskins. This was a strange, new world to us, the land of water buffalo, the rice paddies; the land where the woman works as hard and oft times harder than the man, and above all, the land of the Viet Cong. Strange places, strange names and a strange Southeast Asia SEABEE camp was our lot, and construction and support was our mission. We knew construction, due to our wealth of experience, better than any active duty battalion, and from the beginning, the C.O. let it be known that we were going to excel in this area.

And so we started, with a backlog of unfinished projects, an awesome schedule of new projects, a stone quarry to operate more than 60 miles away, which was relocated to 90 miles away at a site 8 miles from the DMZ, and with a 7 month tour ahead, we had our work cut out for us. With hot weather, many sleep-interrupted nights caused by the VC and several false alarms, with the monsoon rains that brought 38 inches of rain in 5 days, the spirit of the professionals of MCB-22 prevailed. With the completion of the projects came compliments from the regiment and the brigade to the deserving construction men of the battalion. Projects which were given up by other active duty battalions were brought to speedy completions, and records were set which will not be equalled by other battalions during this conflict. Who can forget the day that this battalion poured 845.5 yards of concrete to nearly double the present in-country record, or how proud LCDR SEARS was when, after being in production for less than 2 months at Vinh Dai, his group set a record for weekly and daily rock production. How proud this made us all feel. The feeling of a job well done is one of the finest feelings a man can experience.

And who can forget the brotherhood we shared in our off-duty hours, the nights we sat and listened to the fabulous MCB 22 band, the Christmas eve and New Year's eve parties, or even the nights we spent huddled together in the mortar pits praying that the Lord would watch over us as the helicopters whirled overhead searching for the enemy. The spirit of men joined together and working together, laughing together and fighting together, is an

experience almost always peculiar to the military. Many times it was this same spirit which radiated from us that kept despair and loneliness from getting the best of many of us.

But now it is all over, we are going back home, most of us to be released to inactive duty and to be reunited with our families. Some to remain for a time until their enlistment is up and some to make a career of the Navy. This last homeport tour in Gulfport will be an enjoyable one. Soon we will be back with our families and our jobs. However, we will take something back with us when we go. We will take back the fact that we were available and responded freely to our country's call, we will take back an experience that should enrich our lives for having lived with it, we will take back a feeling of patriotism for having performed our jobs well, and we should all stand a little taller for it. Most of all, we have proven that we are proud to be called Americans for having heeded our country's call, and we all know, that in our small way, we have helped to pay for the privilege of living in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

## "THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS"

Chaplain Taylor

"Beloved, if God so loved us (to send His Son), we also ought to love one another." (I John 4:12)

And Ogden Nash once defined marriage (which we usually associate with "love") as "a legal and religious alliance entered into by a man who can't sleep with the window shut and a woman who can't sleep with the window open . . . one of whom never remembers birthdays and the other never forgets . . . That is why marriage is so much more interesting than divorce. Because it's the only known example of the happy meeting of the immovable object and the irresistible force."

However, you and I know that there are numerous such encounters of immovable and irresistible which are not happy marriages, which smoulder or break apart. Real love is not there to bridge the gaps, to assist the adjustments, to supply patience and kindness, to pull down jealousy, conceit, selfishness, arrogance and rudeness. (I Corinthians 13:4ff)

And life in the neighborhood we call the World is like that. Immovable people encountering irresistible people. Sometimes they insist on clashing and/or breaking apart in hostile groups. Or simply pulling back in indifference. But sometimes real love is there and overcomes.

The Christian ethic teaches that God loved us, gave and gives to us, not because we were so nice and endearing, but because He loved. And we are likewise called upon to help people, who frequently are irritating and certainly not engaging. We are called upon to love people that we may not like! To help people for whom we have reason to hate! Not because they are lovable, but because they're there. And because we have been loved.

## TAKING A WALK THROUGH THE YARD

by LCDR Spencer I. Mann

With the rapid approach of our deployment end, lets take one last walk around the Alpha Company yard and see how things are going. MILLER promises the PRCP cards, after 8 months work, will definitely be ready in time to select a delayed party at Gulfport. Chief JACOBS is elated because his figures show that he will move 100 cubic yards of paperwork by 1 March. LT WILLIAMSON is on R&R again — speaking of R&R, what every happened to CM1 SMITH?

As we walk toward transportation, that cute little dark-haired girl that just ducked out of sight was DOE; she's more self-conscious than ever. In the safety office, UT1 MOORE is explaining to McKENZIE that the accident wasn't the operator's fault and because it was under \$50.00 we won't have to report it to the Bureau. WEMMER is waiting patiently for another driver test. I guess Chief DAVIS is over at the knife and ashtray factory. In disbatching, Chief DAERR is smiling today: maybe RABELAIS has finally found a stereo tape that pleases. HAMILTON is on the radio trying to locate an airlift dozer for HIMES, who is trying to determine if his cigar will make it through the rest of the deployment.

That smiling First Class is MARTINE dreaming about a new hat and pay raise. The man with the "ball peen" hammer is ADAMS. GLASGOW's have finally become accustomed to the daylight, so he left the nightshift to CONWAY and CISNEROS.

Out in the yard, it looks like a freight train staging area, but its MOERBE trying to pull a longer string of trailers than KLUMP. BAKER is standing by making bets with MOSS and STITT as to which one will have to be hauled home with a wrecker.

That man with the red hard hat and cigar squinting up the boom of the mobile rig is EICHLER. His helper with round glasses and big leather gloves is WOODARD.

Let's go over to Cost Control and say good morning to RAVEN, that ought to start an argument. There's VINT building a mailing box for his mule Chief SCHULTZ is marking the box, "Tapes Do Not X-Ray." I see the water cooling system on CORTEZ's typewriter is off. He must be out driving an MRS. The overstuffed armchair in the light shop is now exclusive property of Chief SUTTON, except when Senior Chief SUTTON is aboard. We already miss Frank CASTANEDA. I see they have the ambulance in again for an operation. That's a good crew of surgeons, PETTIES, ROBBINS, BEECH, BENNETT — who is that man in the dark, red blazer with the saxophone around his neck? Drop two APC in the gas tank and tell them to give it light duty.

Keep on the move past the paint shop, the last time I stopped to see what was going on, WELLS painted me green. Actually, it looked pretty good with the yellow Seabee.

FARMER's 5,000 shop is busy: it gets its name from the average dollar value of damage done to the equipment we loan to other commands. GRAHAM and TRONCOSO will get it turned right-side-up and running in short order.

The Electrical shop looks like business is good; voltage regulators from all over Vietnam are piled up to MALZAHN's knees. Careful you don't step in the Sulphuric Acid when we go by McDONALD's battery farm.

PYLES is polishing his getaway ca... his weapons carrier. Its the sharpest one around; the bullet-proof glass idea should be passed to all expeditors. Since he teamed up with ROYBAL, crime is paying better than ever.

LUCAS' special tool room now supplies everything from skyhooks to a complete set of left-handed metric crescent wrenches. In passing supplies' spare parts room, I notice shot timer calendars are leaving nothing to the imagination. Over at the heavy shop, I wouldn't believe MADISON's explanation for the "C" on his dog tag for blood type, so I went by the dispensary and looked at his health record; sure enough, there it was — Blood Type: Catapillar! HARRISON just finished another stationary engine rebuild. Only one of his jobs came out noisy and that was easily fixed by dropping a few more cigar ashes in the accessory drive gear train housing.

While UTHOFF is checking off practical factors at the galley, CRANDALL is helping WASIELEWSKI carry on the famous name of "Quarry proven ski-built trucks."

What is this in JONAS' tool box? It looks like a reground mule camshaft. HYATT's field truck piloted by MURRELL is still the sharpest one in the business.

Now that we shut down the night crew in the heavy shop, Chief HAMMOND runs the only all-night garage.

"BIG SMITH" is busy in the welding shop. About once a day I have to go by and run off all the people with com-shaw jobs. If we don't tend strictly to authorized projects, we'll never get that boat trailer finished.

In the tire shop, WIL. FERREL of Chief Hall's crew had his first MRS flat tire. It takes a full-grown man to change a 29.5x25 tire. The tire is 5 ft. 11 in. high and weighs 1000 pounds! Meanwhile O.P. BROWN has been designing a pair of davits for his D-8. He is going to hang the International TD 6 over one side like a life boat.

Out on the heavy equipment yard, you see T.C. WILSON and his crew repainting the "LORAIN" sign with his mobile rig to give it a "Professional" look.

Up at the concrete batch plant, the jolly grey giants, BATTEN and SOLARINO are trying to achieve the challenging and elusive "quadruple": four complete medair somersaults of a cement sack before it lands on the hopper cutting edge. TURINI claims he can already do it. ODOM is taking bets that MCB-TWENTY-TWO has batched in one single day, 10% as much concrete as MCB-TWELVE will batch in their entire deployment! Any takers?

On the asphalt tank where BEATTIE and his sticky crew are refilling the "Major CONNALLY Express" for another high speed delivery.

Well, better get back to the office, I've been gone 10 minutes, so there will be a call or two waiting from the X.O.



## GLOMP!

The "Friendly Dragon," featured in TWENTY-TWO's Mid-deployment parade gives forth a mouthful of candy, toys and balloons to visiting Vietnamese children. The unprecedented parade marked the highlights of the battalion's Mid-deployment party in December. 17 colorful, eye catching floats were made by decorating mobile machinery with crepe paper and tempera paints.

## TRIBUTE

Our main objective in Vietnam is construction. One by one the projects have materialized, seemingly springing up overnight like mushrooms which appear during the dark hours to greet you in the morning. The construction companies in the battalion, ALPHA, BRAVO, CHARLIE, DELTA, and in part HEADQUARTERS, concentrate their efforts toward the end product — the projects. Concurrent to this effort, there are activities which indirectly support the construction effort. These functions are handled by the balance of HEADQUARTERS Company. These are the crews that give us three meals a day, seven days a week; deliver our mail as soon as it arrives, trim our hair, clean our clothes, operate our clubs and recreation facilities, entertain us in our after-work hours, pay us, and in general make our stay here comfortable and a little less lonely.

In tribute to the staffs and men of the support activities, "The BUG" staff salutes "the silent services." A thank you and a hat tip to: The Commissarymen and Stewards under the supervision of CSC G.J. Ray; the Supply Department and LCDR F.C. Cornell; Disbursing and LT (jg) J.A. Dennis-Strathmeyer; SH2 A.P. Accardo and SH3 B.L. Taylor at the Barbershop; SH2 W.J. Kirkes at the Ships Store; PCC J. McAngus and his crew at the Post Office; SH2 A.D. Archer, SH2 R.D. Caples and the crew at the Laundry, CWO2 C.W. Corder, BUL2 J.R. Breen and the staff at Special Services; CM2 I.J. Joubert and the three bands; CS1 J.J. Ortega and the bartenders at the Clubs; and for the inspiration and the library, Chaplain C.H. Taylor, Jr. and JO2 D.H. Stephenson. WELL DONE!



## DELTA COMPANY PARTY

DELTA Company, well known in the battalion for their construction ability and repeated capture of the cock-of-the-walk pennant, recently held their allotted monthly party at the EM Club. The party was unique in that they were hosting a group from the ARVN Special Forces.

DELTA furnished the steaks and beer while the ARVN's furnished entertainment in the form of a Vietnamese Rock and Roll Band complete with pretty girls to dance with. It was amazing to watch these seasoned Seabees transform into a perfect concept of a gentleman. A few of the men ventured forth to dance, but for the most part they just stood back in the shadows and enjoyed the music and the sights. It was agreed that a good time was had by all, and regrettably the afternoon ended all too quickly.

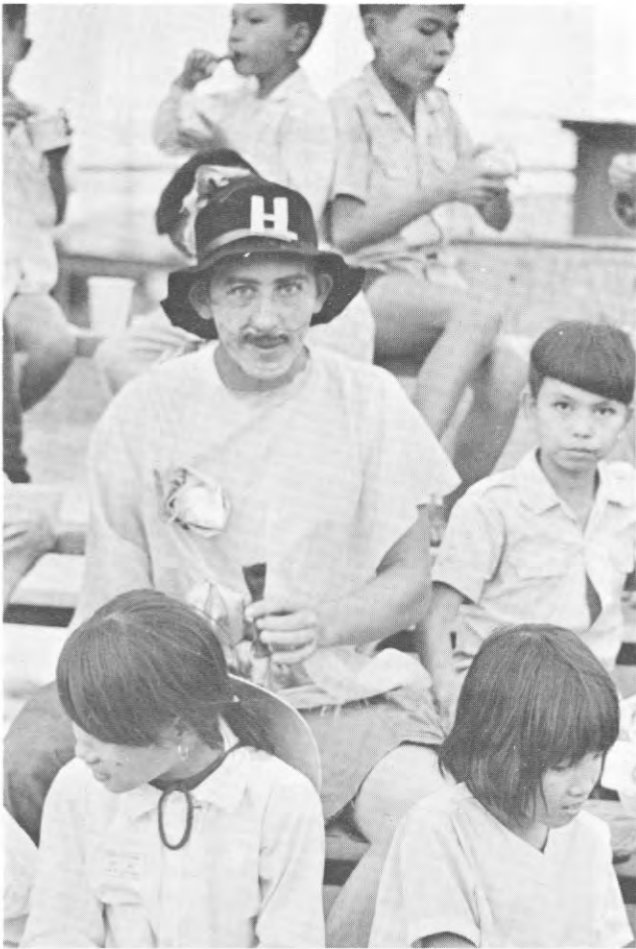


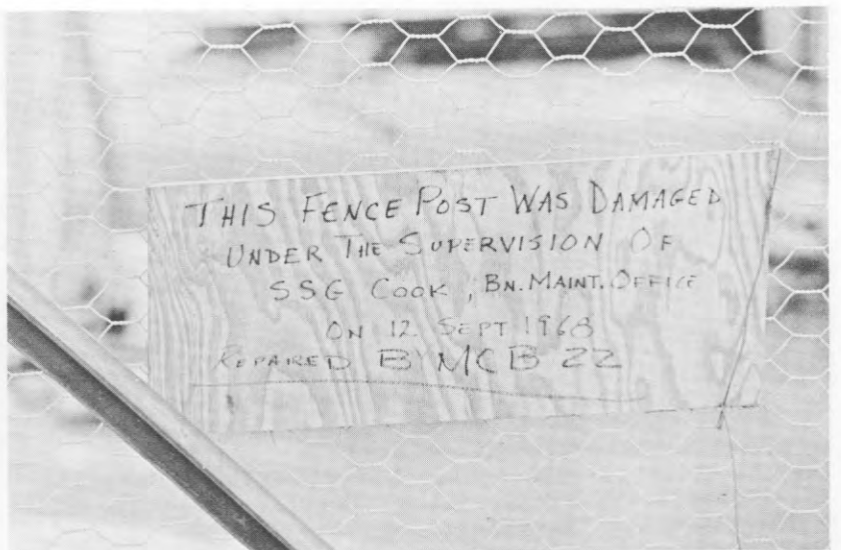
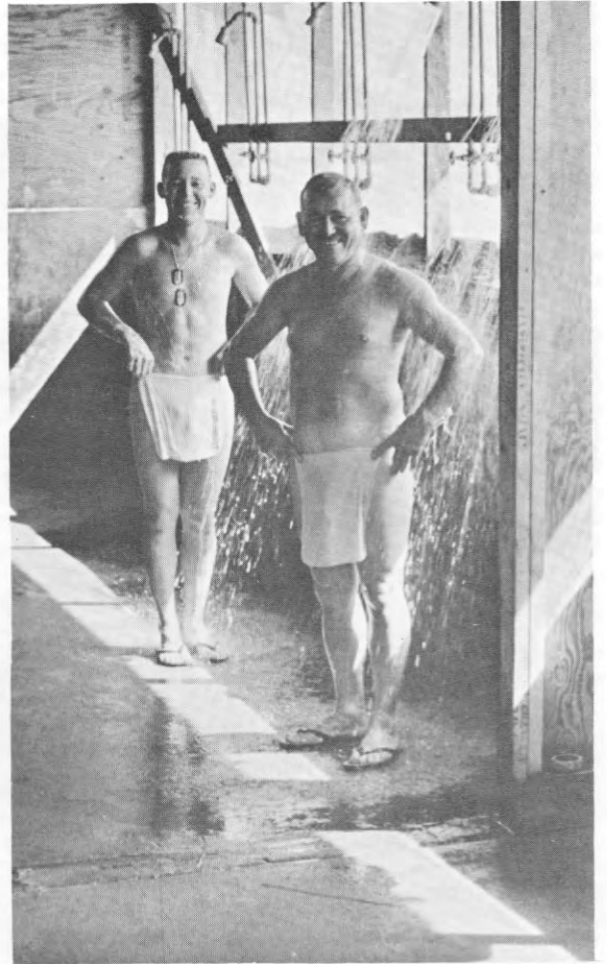
# POTPOURI













## COMMENDED

Colonel Paul C. Watson, Commander, 336th Tactical Fighter Wing sent TWENTY-TWO congratulations and thanks upon completion of the Base Operations Building and Air Mail Terminal at Da Nang Air Base.

Commenting on the Base Operations Building, Colonel Watson said that it was "... one of the finest facilities on Da Nang Air Base." He cited six men who "... overcame many material problems and worked extra hours to maintain construction schedule." The men were CN Ronald F. Coutu, CN Jerry L. Fancher, BU1 Donald L. Le Blanc, CE1 Alvin F. Meyer, BU3 Ruben Pedroza and BU2 Clovis C. Weston.

Commending those who worked to complete the Air Mail Terminal, Colonel Watson pointed out six additional men whose "... aggressive attitude brought about outstanding results and promoted a level of morale that is rarely achieved in any organization." Special thanks went out to: CN Robert H. Lucias, CN Joseph A. Lauria, BU1 Pete Montoya, CN Timothy Roberts, CE3 Ronald D. Turley and BU2 Eugenio Torres.



## COMCBPAC VISITS

When TWENTY-TWO reached mid-deployment, Rear Admiral William M. Heaman, Commander, CBPAC, visited Camp Haskins and toured our major job sites which included FLC, III MAF Transient Facility and TRI-ATCO area at Da Nang Air Base. Operations Officers, LT Glen C. House points out a specification to Admirals Bartlett and Heaman at Freedom Hill's R and R Center.



## KEEPING SAFETY MINDED

One of the main concerns of a Seabee battalion is project safety; insurance that both men and machinery are utilized properly to avoid unnecessary injuries and lost time accidents. The Safety Chief UT1 T.O. Moore, who heads the battalion safety program, conducts lectures and training classes, maintains safety statistics, and checks the projects to make sure safety methods and equipment are used. The record speaks for itself. TWENTY-TWO is well below the average in the number of on-the-job and off-the-job accidents as the new safety record board at Camp Haskins illustrates.

## CHIEF COMMENDED

Builder Chief LeRoy L. Sonnen received a letter of appreciation from the Commanding General, Second Marine Brigade, Republic of Korea Marine Corps recently for outstanding cooperation and service rendered while serving as Sergeant-in-Charge of construction in the Hoi An area of Vietnam. Chief Sonnen, a dynamic member of TWENTY-TWO's Delta Company was appointed to help supervise the setting of Delta's Security Towers for the Republic of Korea Marines. While at the Marine Brigade, he and his men also made efforts to improve base facilities, which included leakage prevention for buildings during the rainy monsoon season.

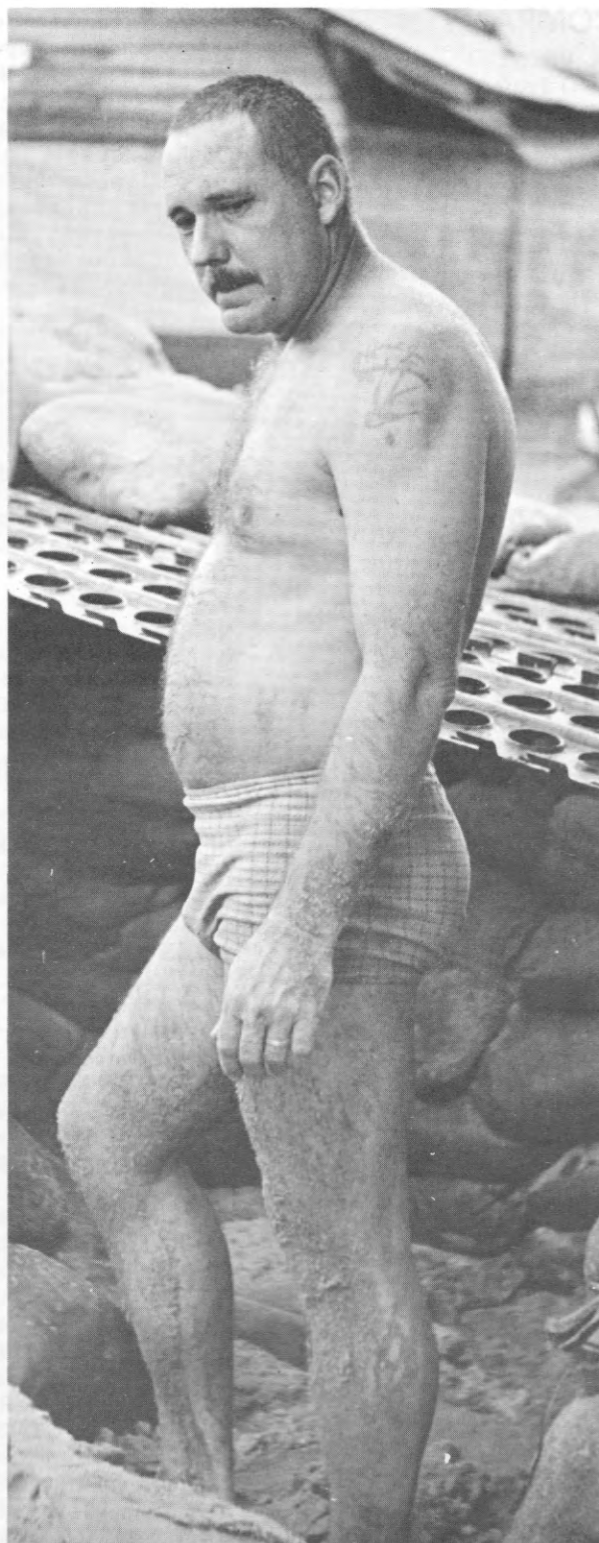
In his letter, the Commanding General stated, "His professional competence and unselfish devotion to duty have greatly contributed to the efforts for peace in Vietnam and strengthened the ties of friendship between the Republic of Korea and the United States."

Chief Sonnen remarked that the men who worked under him were equally deserving of commendation.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE



PLAYMATE  
OF THE  
MONTH  
MR. FEBRUARY  
CWO 2  
CLIFFORD W. CORDER



*The Bug*

## HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

by Clifford R. Vinson

Since the MCB TWENTY-TWO Professionals are in the habit of breaking and setting records Headquarters Company would like to establish a new record for the most packages logged out to the Post Office. As of 20 January 1969, 742 packages have been logged by MRC M.E. Ewing and SKC Don Derryberry.

CE2 Robert Anspach would like to put forward his collection of 76 chess sets to see if anyone can top it. CN C.R. Vinson and EO2 E.E. Miller thought they would throw in their latest lengthy conversation for record purposes. Ask CN M.W. Wells and CN Gary Rutherford who lay awake and listen to the six hour, never ending, on rush of hot air.

All right, who pinched the Gunney's tennis shoes? GYSGT John Mattia showed up at muster in his civies without them so someone must have misplaced them for him.

Being Postal CPO must be nerve racking. PCC Jesse McAngus unwinds by pulling such stunts as putting all of BUC Knight's belongings, everything from boots to toilet articles, in the middle of his rack. "Neighbor" simply armed them up and deposited them on the nearest table.

The Public Affairs Office is known for a lot of things, and as of now will be known for another. They have a large walk in closet that is used for releasing pent up emotions. Their Scream Room has been used quite extensively since the last issue of the Bug. Everyone knows how talented the P.A.O. personnel are, but do they know that CN Doug Duryea plays the Slide Whistle and SN Roy Sluzis plays the Ocarina.

At least H-Company has one undefeated softball team thanks to S-4's 1-0 record. Some people never learn. Isn't that right Pn2 H.R. Lake. Did anyone see W.O. Bierman's "crip" - shot?

Born to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Wilson 28 November 1968, one Paul Raymond Wilson weighing in at 6 lbs. 2½ ozs.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Arroyo 30 December 1968, one Dawnell Arroyo weighing in at 8 lbs. 6 ozs.

## ALPHA COMPANY

by EO2 Earl E. Miller

The men of Alpha Company were a motley crew of men of many origins, various abilities, races and rates. Out of respect due to our reserve organization, we must mention the fact that primarily our supervisory personnel were recalled personnel. Our Commander, LCDR Spencer I. Mann and his able assistant LT Wilber H. Williamson and all of our chiefs as well as the great majority of our senior petty officers are Reserves. Our company has a large number of IPO's and some regular Navy men who have been a credit to the company and become our good friends. We have trained, worked, played and lived together to these many months sharing gripes, chow, disappointments, and now triumph. We more fully realize the depths sounded by the sage who unequivocally stated, "No man is an island."

In the midst of our more glamorous endeavors such as heavy equipment operations and repair, perhaps it behooves us to reflect upon the men who have performed the menial duties of preparing our food, making boring rounds at weird hours and manning the bunkers to insure our sleep and safety. This, by tradition and necessity became the lot of our lower rated personnel. It is to these men, the unsung, that this final issue is hereby dedicated.

Our greatest achievement here, without a shadow of a doubt is the fact that to date not a single man has been lost due to an accident or hostile action.

To our friends, relatives and especially our wives and sweethearts, we give earnest thanks for your support and understanding. Only those who served among us can possibly know what the goodies, pictures and more especially your letters meant to all of us.

In summary, we feel that Alpha Company has established an enviable record of equipment operation and maintenance in keeping with our mission.

It is now my pleasure to inform you that Alpha's coming home.

## BRAVO COMPANY

by UT2 Dale Scott

Bravo Company Steel Workers Shops was host to approx. 20 personnel from various battalions at a welding clinic held on the 14th thru 17th January. Mr. Don Chalmers, a representative of Eutectic Corp. was the instructor. SWC C.A. PAGE and the men of SW Shop did a fine job of providing a place for the clinic and acting as host for the affair. Along with being an informative class, we got our welder fixed.

In case you are wondering where the volleyball courts came from all of a sudden. The team work of BU, SW, & CE Camp Maintenance personnel laid them out and had them operational in short order.

W A R N I N G!!! Skating may be hazardous to your health! Too late for UTC F.P. VAMVORAS, but maybe others can profit from this experience. The Chief is resting comfortably somewhere between here and San Antonio and the skates are now hanging in a prominent spot in the CPO Club. Sorry about that Chief.

E.O.S. separations have thinned the Bravo company ranks down considerably since December. Those gone home to date are: CEC E.R. RAINES, CE1 G.G. BRATTON, CE1 A.F. MEYER, CE3 J.M. OWENS, UT3 R.G. HARVEY, Jr., Best wishes from Bravo Company to these men.

Congratulations to the following "B" Company men on advancement in rate on 16 January 1969: Clyde A. LaFEVERs to CE1 and James R. SMYTHE to CE3.

Guests at the Bravo Company party on 15 Jan. included: Major FAMBROUGH, Lt. BROWNFIELD, Sgt. JOHNSON and Sgt. OXENFORD, all from VEL. Thanks to Major FAMBROUGH and his guitar for some good sing-along type music. Thanks and "well done" to Sam JUNDA and "Pappy" KALINEC for the planning and the good steaks. The softball game wasn't bad either, but I still say that Lt. BROWNFIELD's hit was a foul ball.

Have no fear about the concrete walkways now. We finally got our No. 1 concrete finished back from Charlie Company and off of R&R. BU2 ORTIZ says he is rested, ready and raring to go.

Don't let anyone tell you different, but R.A. BRYANT, Bravo Company CO, is a real pro at sandlot softball.

Speaking of softball, Dale Scott, our company clerk is not winning any popularity contests, but is doing a real good job of umpiring. "Begging your pardon, Sir, I just calls them like I sees them."

"B" Company won their first game by blanking S-3 with a 7-0 score. Grover Honeycutt hurled the win for the BANDITS of Bravo Company.

The project crews, both UT & CE are doing an outstanding job of keeping up with the two building companies, despite the lack of warm bodies. Much credit should go to the project Chiefs and crew leaders for their job of planning and lay-out.

## CHARLIE COMPANY

by CN Charles A. Courchesne

Charlie Company has done its part in promoting that wonderful institution known as "Rest and Recreation" by completing the Freedom Hill R & R Center. The project consisted of constructing 5 butler building encompassing some 20,000 square feet of office space, waiting rooms, and storage space.

The project was under the general supervision of BUC E.H. Oertli with the capable assistance of BU1 R.R. Wooten, BU1 R.J. Nunez, BU1 H.L. Collins. Ironwork was done under the direction of SWC H.W. McNeal, SW1 R.H. Edwards, SW1 A. Minero SW1 R.C. Raute, and SW1 L.E. Smiddy.

After the completion of the ironwork, all of the assigned builders went to work finishing the inside with plywood walls and ceilings which taxed their every resource.

While the work inside was progressing, Chief Oertli requested and received BUC J.B. Hammond and BU1 B.L. McArthur's assistance together with their crew, in pouring the outside walkway and erecting the building overhang. Such fine cooperation, then as always, resulted in another job well done.

Meanwhile back at the Air Cav. BU1 B.D. Spillman and BU1 J.C. Cottingham were helping the Army to make the life of those poor soldiers a little more comfortable.

Now Charlie Company has accomplished another first, that of placing and finishing 750 cubic yards of concrete in one day. This project was under the direct supervision of BUC J.B. Hammond, with the outstanding assistance of the

following men: R. Wooten, J. Cottingham, B. Spillman, J. Rosales, H. Skloss, E. Shackelford, G. Rodriguez, J. Coodey, J. Barber, H. Williams, G. Barnes, T. Davis, R. Almand, R. Avalos, C. Babin, D. Beckman, H. Benedict, J. Burton, J. Byrum, M. Castoe, J. Cheatwood, C. Dixon, B. Downing, W. Giles, J. Glass, D. Hall, B. Jordan, P. Kagar, M. Legler, M. Lichtenfels, W. McArthur, E. McCarthy, H. McNeal, J. Meredith, A. Minero, L. Peck, M. Pundt, R. Raute, A. Segura, L. Swackhammer, W. Thomas, W. Wallman, J. Willison, K. Winniestaffer and C. Wooten.

Charlie Company has surely had it's ups and downs with man power. Upon arrival to R.V.N. Charlie Company had a small group. Approximately one month later we received delayed reinforcements to help with our never ending accomplishments.

Since getting these new men, we have lost others back to Alpha Company who have moved up to the quarry. Other people have been lost as a result of E.A.O.S. BU1 Harold Collins and SWC Howell Steele left us on Dec. 23, 1968 going home for discharge.

SW3 Richard Herrera left us on 10 Jan. 69 for CONUS for discharge. We know that Richard will miss the good times with his fellow steelworkers in Charlie Company.

SW3 Charlie Joe Roshto another steelworker is leaving for CONUS 15 Jan. 69. We all know that Charley will be sad to leave us, but also he'll be looking forward to arrival in CONUS and discharge. We send our best along with these men on their travel to CONUS.

Just recently we have also lost Michael "Ponch" Kelly and Byron "Dale" Volkerts. These two men have put out an outstanding performance working for Charlie Company. Although not first hand experienced, they worked well as builders and steelworkers. Also Donald Pace and Domingo Crisantez who along with others have gone to the new quarry on a volunteer basis to help out there.

A lot of us have for the first time in our life spent a lonely holiday away from home in another country. We have some men that have been away before and knew what to expect, but for others of us it was very lonely. Charlie Company would like to express their appreciation to the Chaplain and his help who gave us a Merry Christmas Eve and helped lift our spirits with the gifts he had sent from home by loved ones.

We congratulate BU2 Gustave J. Rodriguez who has recently gained a baby girl. Gus is a proud father of three now.

Also we would like to congratulate CN Darryl Reed on the birth of a baby girl. Darryl really has something nice to look forward to when he returns home.

Our concern and best wishes of getting well go to T. Davis who has gone to CONUS for a dislocated shoulder; To SW2 Frank Hernandez who has returned to the states for an injured knee.

We also send out a welcome back to Lt. Harry who had a nice stay in Japan having repairs made on an injured knee. Guess we're not as limber in our old age. His injury was not serious enough to keep him away from the company.

## QUARRY DETACHMENT

by EO3 Robert C. Newberry

Vinh Dai, RVN, site of a rather shabby village. There is often activity in the area, not all of which is friendly. Each night MCB TWENTY-TWO's Quarry team is faced with a problem other than crushing rock. The area around the crusher site is one of varied certainty, and a force of men is tasked with the internal security of the base. Headed by BMC Connell, and assisted by EO2 Ty Tyll as well as QM3 Jim Austin, the security force has done a job thus far for which the remainder of the camp is thankful. A secondary portion of this security team is led by EO2 Parker Ream; they provide daily security for the quarry site work crew, located a few miles away at the desolate river site. To them also we extend a measure of gratitude.

Recently, on 5 December 1968, the quarry site was hit by an enemy mortar attack. Two men were injured: EO2 Jim Savage and EOCN Fred Dressel. Fortunately no further injuries were sustained, and all men were evacuated. Savage and Dressel received the Purple Heart for their wounds, but without the quick thinking of EO3 Eduardo Sandoval there may have been more extensive losses. He returned to the impact area to rescue three remaining men of the security force. For his action he was awarded a commendation. This was but one instance in the daily record of the quarry/crusher team.

Within the camp, the center of activity is the rock crusher itself. Being the primary cause for the camp, the rock crusher is vital. Each day, a crew goes to the crusher under the guidance of EO1 Stanley Simonson to wrestle rock for a number of hours. These men have come to take pride in their work, and have developed into one of the finest teams of their kind in Vietnam. Accord, Bassham, Steckler, these are but a few of the men who are responsible for making the crusher put out the desired product. Closely aided in this operation by a support group, they are producing rock at near record pace. When the crusher does have a malfunction, it is usually due to a fault in the metal supports of the machine itself. At this time a welding crew, headed by SW2 Jack Egerton goes into action, mending the faulted metal. The steel workers keep the machine in working order, and together with the crusher crew combine to make an outstanding crew.

The detachment team has been supported to a much greater degree within the past two months, and through this improvement production and morale have risen together. The detachment operations are still on the upswing, and the records are speaking for themselves. The aim is to leave Vietnam with an air of proficiency . . . we are on the way.

## DELTA COMPANY

by BUC Luis A. Rosales

DELTA Company finally had their company party which turned out to be a very good time for everybody. The party committee got together and invited some of the Vietnamese Special Forces who in turn brought a band of their own and the music added to a very enjoyable time.

Chief Rosales added to the good time by trying to do some kind of a MEXICAN war dance or some other weird step. Mr. Maddox got with it too with OKLAHOMA bow and arrow stomper. The men of Delta Company presented the guests with engraved lighters as a reminder of Delta Company and MCB-22. Due to a slight error in numbers Senior Chief Waters was forced to part with his own lighter so as to use it as a gift. Thanks to the Vietnamese Special Forces and the party Committee for a great party.

Once again Delta Company has won the title of "Cock of the Walk" an honor and title held by Delta Company for more than 50% of the Deployment. The men in Delta Company are responsible for winning the title and do not plan on losing it in the future. Everyone in the Company contributed to the winning of the title and the honor which it brings.

Delta Company regrets the loss of one of our fine 1st Class crew leaders. Charles R. Seaman left on Sunday 19 Jan. 1969 for the land of the free and the rat race. Due to the end of his enlistment he was forced to get on that great freedom bird and leave all of us and this great vacation land. Many of the men in the battalion and all of Delta Company's men wish him all the luck for his future and family. Bon Voyage!!!

BU1 Seaman and his crew have been responsible for the building of the Timber Towers for the R.O.K. Compound and the great job up at the Quarry where they built bunkers and Timber Towers for the Security and safety of our men at the quarry. He has also been associated with many of the other jobs done by Delta Company but there is not enough paper to list them all.

BU1 Montoya is doing an outstanding job on the Air Passenger Terminal with the help of the fine men working under his supervision and leadership. BU1 James, BU2 Weston, and BU2 Kennedy are just a few of the men working under and with BU1 Montoya on this project and they too are doing an excellent job if not outstanding.

BU1 White did an excellent job on the Maintenance Control Center and BU1 Leblanc did an outstanding job on the Base Operations Bldg. and the 42 man head.

BU1 Stewart did an excellent job on the Public Works Bldg. and SW2 Dooley has done an excellent job on all the projects with his steel crew.

BU1 Sonnen and his crew have completed the towers for the ROK Marines in Hol An and did an outstanding job.

Last but not least we want to say thanks to everybody in the battalion who helped make all the projects done by the battalion through cooperation and working together. Soon we will all be back in the states with our loved ones again and it is most likely that many of us will not see each other again. We would like to say Bon Voyage and good luck to everybody in everything they want or do in the future.

Last of all we want to give CDR. Roy L. Dunlap a hand for being a great Commanding Officer and we are happy to serve under you. CDR. Dunlap's wishes for this to be the best CB Battalion have come true due to his great leadership and the men's hard work.



## NOT FORGOTTEN

The ravages of war are inevitable. Thousands of men, women and children are displaced from their homes: running away from something they fear, or running towards something they believe in.

Scattered the length and breadth of Vietnam, there are hundreds of orphanages filled with children of all ages, many of them scarred by disease, poverty and war injuries. Perhaps they were orphaned because one or both parents were lost in the conflict. Some are Vietnamese-American origin and are left at the orphanages because, as one Vietnamese woman put it, "He would much rather eat American food."

But regardless of their origin or background, the GI is naturally susceptible to the sad eyes and the quick smile of a child. Within moments after a GI enters an orphanage, he has his arms full of children, each one asking for a little attention.

TWENTY-TWO accepted responsibility for several orphanages, furnishing milk, food and medical aid as part of the continuing Civic Action program. Each Sunday afternoon, men in the battalion spend half day off playing with the children in the orphanages; each man delighting a child with a skill or technique known only by him. And quite often we receive packages from home stuffed with toys, clothing and necessities to be donated to the orphanages and to the needy in the villages. Know for sure that when this Seabee returns home from his Vietnam tour, the smile that the little kid with the droopy britches gave him in exchange for a toy will not be forgotten.





Seconds tick away and hours turn into days  
And days turn into months.  
That final moment when we climb onto the plane  
Seems within reach.

Yet like the watched pot that never boils,  
Those last few days and hours seem to grow beyond measure  
Until you wonder if the time to depart  
Will ever arrive.

And as we count our last few hours  
Our minds become cluttered with a thousand thoughts  
Of home and of experiences and happenings  
We've shared here.

And whether one likes a place or not,  
It is almost impossible to leave a home away from home  
Without a twinge of nostalgia, or final fleeting glance  
Of what briefly had been yours.

No matter where you go or where you have been,  
You will always be taking something with you  
And leaving something behind  
Be it a smile, a tear, or a memory.

And when time has caught up with you  
And you think you have nothing left  
Forget not those memories you have collected like small sparkling jewels  
And share them with pride and delight with generations ahead.

CN Doug J. Duryea — Da Nang, Vietnam