

HELICOPTER ATTACK (LIGHT) SQUADRON THREE
HA(L)-3

JULY - AUGUST 1970

WOLFGRAM



CAPTAIN M. J. TWITE, JR.
COMMANDING OFFICER

The WOLFGRAM is a publication of Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron THREE, HA(L)-3. It is published in accordance with NAVSO P1035 in order to keep HA(L)-3 personnel abreast of current policies, missions and activities of the Squadron.

FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Military operations in Vietnam are undergoing major realignments. The Vietnamese are assuming more and more of the direct combat action with U. S. forces providing air and logistic support. As part of the larger picture, the Vietnamese Navy in the Mekong Delta is also moving toward self sufficiency. Over half of the river craft have been turned over, with more transfers due shortly. Several of the operations areas have come under direct Vietnamese Navy command. Ready Deck, Giant Slingshot, Barrier Reef, and Vinh Te Canal have become Tran Hung Dao V, II, IX and I respectively. Operation Search Turn and Breezy Cove will soon become Tran Hung Dao XI and X.

The above changes coupled with results of the Cambodian operation are having a direct effect on the Seawolves. Action in direct support of the boats is temporarily low and priorities are changing to match the need. Detachment SEVEN is operating in support of a new Task Force and will soon be repositioned. Detachment THREE is moving about in response to the LST's position and the need for its services. Other readjustments will be made as time goes on. The only constant in this environment of change is the outstanding performance of all hands.



M. J. TWITE, Jr.
Captain, U.S. Navy

INDEX

FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER.....	I
DET ONE.....	1
DET TWO.....	2
DET THREE.....	4
DET FOUR.....	5
DET FIVE.....	6
DET SIX.....	7
DET SEVEN.....	7
DET EIGHT.....	8
DET NINE.....	9
ADMINISTRATIVE.....	10
PERSONNEL.....	11
MEDICAL.....	11
OPERATIONS.....	12
LINE.....	13
AO SHOP.....	13
QUALITY ASSURANCE.....	14
MAINT-ADMIN.....	14
MAINTENANCE/MATERIAL CONTROL.....	15
PARALOFT.....	15
AVIONICS/ARMAMENT.....	16
AIR FRAMES.....	17
POWER PLANTS.....	17
CHECK CREW.....	17
MAP.....	18

DETACHMENT ONE

(NAM CAN AND ABOARD THE USS WESTCHESTER COUNTY)

The times they are a changing! Stagnant is defined as inactive, sluggish or dull. The definition of progress is growth or development; continuous improvement and advancement in general. And now for some Det 1 news: Changing? Yes, we're preparing to move to solid anchor; Stagnant? Det 1 is definitely not, and last but not least we continue to progress.

Since our last get together we have changed LST's. Captain WRIGHT, after transferring all the Seawolf gear from his 1165 to Captain LANG's 1167, was seen steaming into the horizon heading for Japan. A well done to the entire crew of LST 1165. Hopefully our rotor wash and his wake will meet again. Our next big move will come in November when we move the entire Det to solid anchor and stage from there completely. The SEABEES have completed our hooches and helo pad so our next communique should come from land. The move from the middle of the Cua Lon River to our hooches is only about 500 meters but you all know how cumbersome moving can be. Besides we have a couple tons of junk that will have to be airlifted from the "T" to solid anchor. In addition to their flying and maintenance duties the crew on their off days have been tiling, painting and bringing a more homey atmosphere to our new home. AT3 OLBY and a new member, AN ELTMAN, really got the new home ball rolling and were even stranded there for several days with just their tile and paint brushes. Another new member to the Det is LTJG Charile COLLINS who came to us from Binh Thuy and got himself in an overboost situation his first day aboard, when the Sealords forgot his mail. LTJG Carl NELSON is also a recent transfer from Binh Thuy. Carl brings with him a new sense of humor to the Det and the muscle to make one laugh even if he doesn't get the funny. Carl also has LTJG LAGOW and LTJG LAMBERT on a weight lifting, reducing program. Let's hope it works. Another new addition to the Det was AO3 SMALE who came to us from Det 7. The crew had a recent visit from the NATOPS man, AO1 NESBY; everyone passed and NESBY even enjoyed himself.

The ole standbys have asked for equal time so I'd best let you know what they're up to. Our fearless leader, CDR SCHMITT, Alias "Uncle Art", is pulling his hair out with the moving, the growing size of his Det family, plus he's on the verge of becoming a short timer. The CDR will be away from the Det a few days in September as the Navy is sending him to Japan on a secret mission. LCDR "Scotty" GORDON who replaced LCDR ROY as Assistant OINC is presently enjoying R & R with his wife in Hawaii but not before he shaved off his Doctor VanDyke disguise. LTJG Ray WIKSTROM had such an enjoyable R & R in Australia that LTJG Richard "Max Gross" LAMBERT also went "Down-Under" and had a most memorable time. "Sleazy" WIKSTROM made FTL (Fire Team Leader) before R & R and "Max Gross" gained his Number One from Det 1 right after his pleasure cruise. Ray and Rich both are short (only 30 days left) and received orders to the East and West coast, respectively. LTJG "Beast" WALDENBEESE and AMS1 WHITE just returned from the Philippines and a week of Jungle Environmental Survival Training and sight-seeing. LTJG Mike "Now Beardless Garu" LAGOW and

LTJG Ted "Hibernation Actual" DOOLIN recently made AHAC (Attack Helicopter Aircraft Commander). Mike was trapped into escorting Miss California around the Binh Thuy hangar on the recent USO Miss America Show as he was the only pilot around from California. "Dools" is still trying to work out the bugs on his flying while sleeping or now to beat the sandman at Acey-Ducey. Mike is also Assistant Movie Officer. He has run the water out of the film on "Little Mike in the Pool", and we do hope this proud father gets some new footage soon.

The crew is still led by Chief REYNA who is one of the few 50 gunners who can fire while standing. AN LOCKE had a recent stroke of genius with dual sixties and is still reaping the benefits. AE3 DOBSON is still awed by it all at Det 1 and wondering what will happen next; ADJ3 CHRISTENSON has regressed to a one word vocabulary -- short.

Before we go to press we'd like to say goodbye to LTJG's Rus HALLAUER and Jack LUDWIG who both returned to influential jobs in Binh Thuy. A goodbye and well done to crewman/door gunners JESSUP, BROOKSHIRE and TIMOTHY.

A late note: we didn't forget LTJG Mike "Suds" SULDO - he's still with us but was at the PX when we were gathering info. He's also preparing for a December wedding in addition to flying FTL. The latest addition is LT Jim PETROVICH who came to us from Binh Thuy Ops and he brought the Det a lot of nice gifts.

Det 1 is now engaged in Operation Move so this correspondent must close and help with packing until our next get together.

DETACHMENT TWO

(NHA BE)

July and August found Det 2 flying constant overhead cover for all shipping on the Long Tau shipping channel leading into Saigon as a result of an increase in enemy shipping harassments. "The Godfather", CDR ARTUSO, has been seen peering off into the horizon in search of our third aircraft. The Binh Thuy Syndicate claimed it a month ago. C'est la Guerre.

July was a busy month for several pilots and crewmen. LTJG Larry WOOD was the first officer member of the monthly Century Club. AMS3 Fred MEEKS had his second hundred-hour month. LT Clint "I never get enough flight time" DAVIE was a distant third in hours with 98.2 (Clint is Operations Schedules Officer by coincidence). Clint recently received orders to HT-8. LT Roger EK and AMS3 Steve DONNELL attended a week's seminar at the Olangapo School for Wayward Girls and Jungle Fighters in the Philippines. LTJG Joe COOK is busy collecting pieces of UH-1B's (they don't make 'em like they used to). He is elated over the orders he received: Station pilot at NAAS, Fallon, Nevada. Anyone in a wagon train headed west is welcome to pay Joe a visit when he returns to the "land of the big chuck wagon" in October. Joe performed an emergency medevac in July that was

instrumental in saving the life of a critically wounded Vietnamese soldier. His recall to the squadron in August cost the Det one of its most personable pilots. We still receive Joe's fan mail. An article Joe sent to "Western Horseman" concerning the bucking barrel he made at Nha Be prompted a deluge of mail from equestrian enthusiasts across the United States. LTJG Don DOWNING went back to Binh Thuy grumbling in July, but his promotion to lieutenant eased the pain of his departure somewhat. Should any officer need a BOQ room or Volleyball at Binh Thuy they can check with Don. Don reports to HS-8 in October after a stint with the "hot shot" program at NAS Glenview.

Qualifications and training continued at a steady pace throughout the last two months. CDR ARTUSO qualified as Fire Team Leader in August, as did Assistant Officer-in-Charge LT Roger EK in July. LTJG's Jim NELLIS and Gordie PETERSON made AHAC in July and LTJG Charlie FOWINKLE followed suit in August. Roger EK attended the squadron's test pilot school and will serve in that capacity for the detachment. Future qualifications should see LTJG's Dave RUCKER and Craig VOSSETEIG make FTL and AHAC, respectively. Craig and Gordie PETERSON returned from their month's stay with Det 1 in the middle of July. Craig stopped long enough to say hello before departing on emergency leave to visit his ailing father. He returned 27 July to report all is well. LTJG Will "I can get it for you retail" FELLNER left for a week in Hong Kong and returned early but broke. The Nha Be Post Office had to open a new CONEX box to hold all the goodies he had shipped back. Will left the Det for Binh Thuy in August to take over the Award's Officer spot for the squadron.

July and August provided several men with the opportunity for a well earned rest and recuperation period. LTJG Gordie PETERSON returned from Hawaii in August and proclaimed it the best week of his life. LTJG Charlie FOWINKLE stumbled into the O'Club fatigued and bleary-eyed upon his return and could barely utter a cheerful Aloha. LTJG Larry WOOD's first night on duty after a week in Hong Kong was an eventful evening complete with two scrambles. Larry did an outstanding job helping a Marine District Advisor "do his thing" against the bad guys. LTJG Craig VOSSETEIG picked up a souvenir in the process and the ready room received another war trophy. Larry returns to Binh Thuy in September and then it will be on to HS-2.

CDR WETZEL dropped in after R & R for some flight time until CDR DUFF winged in and told him to get back to work. LCDR's WEBER and THOMAS were also here on their way to R & R flights; word of Nha Be's good chow and pool travels fast. LTJG Jim CURTIS returned looking for a ride back to Binh Thuy. Rumors are circulating to the effect that Jim must own part of Hawaii after his expenditures there.

Welcome aboards are extended to LT Bob GOODRICH and LTJG Bill GILBERT. Both pilots checked into our Det after spending time at Binh Thuy.

Another new addition to the Det is AMS3 Craig PAULY's small tail-less Rhesus monkey. He lives in a cage big enough for Gargantua. ADR3 Larry ROGERS is now a world traveler. He began his European jaunt 7 August as part of his thirty-day extension leave. Our leading Petty Officer, ADJ1

"Red" FAIRBANKS, departed on his extension leave 17 August. AN Randy LINDBERG is looking forward to his return to the States in September as an ADJ3. AE2 Karl PETERS should be a young first class soon if he passes his test this month. ADJAN SLAWKO also contemplates a promotion. AMS3 Otto TALLEY has been under medical treatment. His talents are sorely missed. AMS3 Fred MEEKS has been accepted at the University of New Mexico to continue his civil engineering studies. The Det owes him a "well done" for the outstanding jobs he did designing and supervising the construction of a large work shop.

The new Navy-wide policy on beards has prompted several men to sprout growths. One officer took the initiative to establish the example for the enlisted men to follow. As our wise Guru says, "When you're number TWO, you always try harder". Best of luck and good flying to all our Dets until next month.

DETACHMENT THREE

(SONG ONG DOC)

Greetings from Det 3; or if it's Tuesday this must be Song Ong Doc! Det 3 has found itself in the unique position of floating up and down the coast of Vietnam. As a result, the Det has decided to move to Ca Mau. "Hello 2 foot rats, goodbye air conditioning".

It's really not too bad down here. Det 6 has been very kind and has on more than one occasion donated "Stately Wayne" for Det 3's use. Det 1 has also told us about the war - "Man! You wouldn't believe how rough it is here!"

Det 3 has had quite a few happy people around here. Dennis "Pop" ANDERSON went on R & R and returned with a large but worn out smile. Strange how much sleep he needed when he got back! Buss SMITH also had somewhat of a smile when he returned from "JEST". Perhaps this is in part due to the decision to get married on R & R. Jim "Slick" THOMSON, Rack Champion of Det 3, has not let Smitty forget the joys of bachelor life -- come on Jim, in Ca Mau? "Slick" also has a partner in AEC Johnnie "Don Juan" RATLIFF. Chief RATLIFF is also the "Mail King" of Det 3. We didn't think that there were so many women in the "World" who could write. Share a little Chief!

Bob "Snoopy" BARATKO and Tom HEINTZELMAN wore smiles as the result of the PTL checks. The skies of Vietnam will never be the same. Congratulations, it gives the rest of us faith.

Det 3 welcomes some Newbees to the fold, ADJ3 TAYLOR, AN STIENMAN, a mean man with a rock, AOAN NELSON, our youngest member, and LTJG "Buzz" BUZZELL. We now have a hot race between NELSON and AE3 CONNOR. They are waiting to see who has to start shaving first. Don't worry boys your voices will change any day! TAYLOR has proven to be a valued member of the team already. His ever present tape recorder with 10,000 Clyde and the Family Stone selections have saved some of those dull quiet nights.

We have a wonder in "Buzz" BUZZELL, the only man with a minigun mouth. When his head hits the outboard stops, his mouth kicks up to 4,000 words per minute.

We also wait with baited breath to find out what LCDR Steve FIELD will have to say about his present R & R in Hawaii. We sort of feel that he will be carried off the plane when he returns - our boss sets the example for his men.

Thus ends this month for Det 3. Stay tuned for more amazing facts and lies from the Jet Set of HA(L)-3.

DETACHMENT FOUR

(BEN LUC)

Greetings from Ben Luc, the Avis Rent a Plane facility of the Delta, with Det 2 as our best non-paying customer. As the war goes on with the fervor of Hannibal's elephants stuck in the Alpine snow, Det 4 has continued its penchant for creating hardship on the little people that sneak across the border into the Gross Loop for Suspending a Load (Giant Slingshot). Others kudos go to LT RIBOLLA who took on singlehandedly the tremendous responsibility of the Det SACLO, and has made several VR's into Nirvana, returning unscathed with a wicked smile on his face.

Gary KITCHEN, "Wierd Harold" BLACK, and "Pistol Pete" BUELOW have been challenging the gunners "Limpy" BOWMAN, "Five O'clock Shadow" ZARAGOZA, and "Pigpen" HATTON in the game called Round Ball. The only winner for certain is the Palmolive PEET Company, who courageously donated enough Five-Day Deodorant pads to make the hootch livable after the games. "Colonel" HAMMAN has been dragging "Baby Fat" STEHLE over to shove the iron around with the only visible results is their increased consumption of Cokes.

Jim CHURCH has been buried under a pile of rocket boxes murmuring things like cubits, nails, and "\$%#&\$" when he hits his thumb, all to improve the isolation booth in which he resides. Flash - The hootch is proud to announce the establishment of a Coiffeur-Stylist, none other than beautiful Bruce ROWLEY, who admittedly does cut hair a little shakily, but says that he will smooth out as soon as he gets used to his high heeled pumps.

Tom HAYES has returned from his two-week journey to the Liquor Store finally, returning with a case of Coors which he jealously guards. Bill RULDICK has fallen in L*O*V*E with his .50 calibre and insists on being called the big gun from Ben Luc. Rich MACE and "Goose" ENNIS have earned their seats as gunners and were last seen sitting on the bunker watching

the sun set saying - "We think that we shall never see, gunners as squared away as we, of this we no not kid, until whoops - we shot a skid". "Muscles" DUTTING makes his daily appearance in the weight room and keeps discovering that the weights don't seem to get any lighter. "Olongapo" LEDUC has been relating how he survived in the Philippines saying that the jungle part was easy.

As we close this epistle we all will go out to our Rent a Plane revetment, clean the ash trays, check the gas and oil, and standby for business.

DETACHMENT FIVE

(CHAU DOC)

My fellow Seawolves! The month of July on the plains of Trung Hung Dao was slow-slow. Our interest were quickly turned from ravaging Pagodas to plunking away at training targets. Because of Det 5 the entire northern border was pacified and we suffered in our success. However, it did have its advantages. Our new FTL, Pat McGOVERN, had "boocoo" practice in leading our Fire Team to Binh Thuy and into Maintenance Control. This was July's hottest target. His new AHAC's Ben FRANKLIN and Dick KRULIS wanted to roll in on the area, but Pat said "next time". As most of you Super-Newbees know, Doug DUNN is now out on Det. We were really glad to trade in our '69 model Jim TOONE on a new DUNN, and also during the month of July, Rick FRENCH made straight A's in test pilot school. And as all colorful things, such as the hand-held machinegun, escape the Det, so have DORSEY, FLYNN and Shielas. We welcomed aboard GREGORY, LANG, HAMMER, FANELLO, PARENT, BRENNAN, NAM and PHOOS. We've Newbees on top of Newbies! CLR STARBUCK succumbed to the Binh Thuy recall, but not before meeting the enemy again in mortal combat. He did get the last lick in.

CDR MUNRO our new OINC beginning in August, suffered his first combat wound. Shortly after arriving on Det he contracted a sprained ankle while playing basketball in town with the local grammar school kids. He soon recovered and now has the reins in both hands.

The month of August started off with several "bangs" both in Chau Doc and on the Vinh Te Canal. The action picked up and so did the morale of the Det as it always does when the flying is good. The Seven Mountains area provided us with many good targets and two FTL checks. Frank ISSI's outlandish spotreps and "Tee-Tee" KRULIS's devastating fire squeaked them both past their check rides. And shortly thereafter, on a dark and rainy night Louie MADDEN shows up. Hi Louie, glad to have you. And as a warning to all squadron personnel, Felix RHODES is now studying for AHAC test, mercy, mercy! That's all for now from your comrades-in-arms at Det 5.

DETACHMENT SIX

(SONG ONG DOC)

This month, Det 6 Seawolves have continued work on their base at Song Ong Doc. The high point in finishing off the interior of the two hootches, has been the construction of a bar, in each. The Det 6 gunners have added a touch of real class to their bar with a brass foot rest. Not to be outdone, LTJG Bob FLYNN brilliantly decided to put a fiberglass finish on the officers' bar. I'm sure that when Bob is done, it will be a real nice looking job.

There have been many people going and coming in Det 6 this month. LTJG's Bob WOLFE and John DICKINSON went on R & R to Sydney. Both are fighting the temptation to return to Australia on leave, in order to take a look at Hong Kong. Returning recently from R & R to Hong Kong was Johnnie "Red" CUMMINGS. "Red" reportedly spent his hard earned money very frugally. Bill FLARIDA has also returned from R & R, which he spent in Hawaii with his wife. Bill is off of Det and back resting in Binh Thuy now. [REDACTED]

We had some new men report to Det 6 this month. LCDR DANIELS left his post in Admin at Binh Thuy and is now our new [REDACTED] OINC. Another new pilot is LT Dave SUEIDEL. The gunners' ranks increased by two also. Recently coming to the Det are Hank SEAMAN and Joel TRAMMELL. Both men are now learning the finer points of the gunner's trade from our old hands on Det.

Captain TWITE visited us in the middle of the month. The Skipper put in some good hard flying hours, and presented awards to Det 6 Personnel. LTJG Bob WOLFE received three Single Action Air Medals. LTJG Bob FLYNN, LTJG Bob GODDARD and gunners "Red" CUMMINGS, Joe RAMOS, and George VALDESPINO all received air medals. LTJG Bob FLYNN and gunner Jim FLONA also received Purple Hearts.

DETACHMENT SEVEN

(BEN LUC)

With the close of another month, Det 7 finds quite a few changes taking place and the inevitable happening. . . . a move to a new home. However, relocation is nothing new as we just add another patch to our already cluttered seabag, the newest one being Dong Tam or "ski beach" as we commonly refer to it.

LCDR John PEEPLES joined the elite of the Delta as he assumed the responsibilities from our ACE warrior LCDR REDMAN who is now the squadron NATOPS Officer. "Facing" Mr. PEEPLES is the dynamic dai-uy duo LT Howie CLARK and LT Norm HICKS who are now flying incognito with a strange cultivation on or about the head. LT CLARK's contribution would have Ho Chi Minh proud. However, LTJG Keith WHITE our intrepid Maintenance

Officer and sometimes test pilot is still the undisputed champ with his giant red handle bar mustache. LTJG Terry ANDERSON presently at the jungle survival school in the Philippines has been a contestant in this contest for quite sometime. He has little to show for his efforts, but is still the number one yeoman and statistician in the OPS Department.

LTJG Jay PATE just returned from Hong Kong in debt but richer in memories as he heads for Binh Thuy and the land of the morning musters. He joins LTJG Sam FEOLA who reported there earlier to re-establish a combination that haunted "Charlie" for many months. However, their interests are now on terrorizing Sydney the 16th of September on R & R.

LTJG Denny HOLMES hopes to return to the hard clay of Georgia sooner than he expected as he anticipates release in October. However, his sleeping habits have yet to change with the good news.

We welcome a couple of Newbees to our society; LTJG Tim ZILMER who has overwhelmed the mamasans with his command of the language and LTJG Kirk TODD who greeted our numbers with his constant verbal assaults on everyone. He seems to be out of line. The main responsibility is Watch Officer of the Det's primary conditioner to remind him of his Binh Thuy days.

DETACHMENT EIGHT

(RACH GIA)

August has meant more change and a reorganization here on Det 8. We've changed our living quarters again. Almost everyone was sad to leave the Seawolf House (as it became known in the short while we were there). The Cam Do Hotel, which we are in now, does have a few advantages. The rooms are larger and we have more individual bedrooms, so almost everyone is more comfortable or at the least, less crowded.

We've had quite a few changes among the enlisted. AEL Bill RUTLEDGE moved back into Binh Thuy to work with Sealords his last few months in country and AEL Russell "Underdog" UNDERWOOD has taken over POIC. AN Gary SCHMITT had a broad smile as he boarded his aircraft back to the World. Everyone here will miss his spontaneous humor which salvaged us all from some otherwise glum situations. New aboard are PR3 HENNING, AN Tom JACKSON and ATAN Mike MADRID. Only one change among the officers but a big loss was the departure of LT Marty REED. A few changes in qualifications; LTJG Jim CURTIS moved up to FTL and both LTJG John MONROE and LTJG Gary FINDLAY moved up to AHAC.

It was another big month for the Det 8 Jet Set. LT Mike HOWE and LTJG Jim CURTIS got together with their wives for a wonderful week in Hawaii. LT Mike HOWE spent his time on Maui while LTJG Jim CURTIS split his time between Maui and Honolulu. Nothing but good word about either place, wonder why? ADJ3 Dave FARLEY added another to the growing list of travel talks of Sydney after his week down under. And that pleasant note of better places, about wraps up the news from Rach Gia. From everyone here, smooth sailing and the best of luck.

DETACHMENT NINE

(YREM-21, ATSB PHUOC XUYEN, MOC HOA)

After Det 9's blaze of glory in Cambodia, things have settled down a bit. The black-shoes found a great little place for us to stage out of - ATSB Phuoc Xuyen. It's really quite a resort area - completely underwater, filled with mosquitoes the size of H-19's, nary a sandbag in sight and famous for serving cold spaghetti 3 meals a day for weeks on end. We finally talked our way out of Phuoc Xuyen and moved to Moc Hoa International Airport. We have a bunker built next to the runway and that's our temporary home at night. Of course, our first night there we were met by the girls from the welcome wagon who brought us lemonade and cookies. The dust and sand at Moc Hoa are not unlike the Gobi desert during a wind storm. For excitement last night we watched two rats carry off an unattended L-19 and eat it. We heard that our old boss "Uncle Mel" ADEN went to Hawaii on a special plan called R & R for the aged. He was seen hobnobbing around with the "Gerito for lunch bunch," and he actually won the forth event in the wheelchair races on Kalakaua Avenue. Keep poppin those glycerin tablets, Mr. ADEN -- make your heart hold out at least until your liver goes bad.

Our new OINC, LCDR Hugh "130 knot, down wind rocket run" WYNN is just about getting over the Binh Thuy syndrome. We're trying to get him all squared away before leaving country. Our AOINC, Terry CAMPBELL has really taken a liking to his role of "Straw Boss." He planted two acres of cotton north of An Long and he takes a road gang of VN's over every afternoon to work in the fields. Our latest FTL, LTJG Jack HOGAN has gone to the dogs since he came back from R & R. Anytime any work comes up, he mumbles something about "I've paid my dues, let the newbees do it" and then goes back to bed for another 14 hours.

LTJG Tim WRIGHT came back from JEST School in the Philippines with all kinds of exotic stories. He still has a grin on his face and he wants to put in for Navy Liaison Officer to Olongapo. LTJG Phil CANTNER, between trips to Hawaii and Hong Kong, stops out on Det long enough to fly his four hours a month and catch up on his average 18 hours of sleep a day. Phil still claims that he's ill and that's why he has to drink so much medicine. LTJG "Easy" Ed DYER has moved up to Maintenance Officer. He figured a Huey couldn't be too much different from his John Deere tractor back home in Nebraska. Good luck, Deadwood! Twas a sad day in the annals of Det 9 when LTJG Ramsey "Mr. Warmth" HAWLEY was transferred to Binh Thuy; Old Mr. Sweets (as the gunners called him) took his kind, even disposition and his quick smile to the line division in Binh Thuy.

We received 3 newbees since the last wolfram. LTJG Bob "Guinea" MANGENE was deported from Sicily and then spent 2 years in the Egyptian Air Force and has since come to HA(L)-3. LTJG Mitch BROWN showed up all set to win the war single-handed. He keeps checking the skids for grenades before every take-off (even when we're on the YRBM). If anybody finds any sappers, please send them up here so we can keep Mitch happy. LTJG Tom DAVIS just got here and he still can't understand why we don't let new Co-pilots use seats in the aircraft. Don't worry, Tom, somebody newer than you will eventually come out here.

ADMIN DEPT

It seems as if with each new edition of the Wolfgram, the Administrative Department does a complete changing of the forces - some people think the Admin Officer does this just so he'll have something to put in the Wolfgram!

We'd like to welcome aboard the following officers who have reported for duty since the last publication of the wolfgram and are in the process of relieving now for their new jobs:

LT HARRISON - Personnel Officer
LTJG LOVERING - Public Affairs Officer - Now off to Det 2. LTJG MIZEL relieved him before he expected it. Boy is he relieved!
LTJG SHAUT - First Lieutenant
LTJG FELLNER - Awards Officer
LTJG Ken WOOD - Classified Material Control Officer/Postal Officer/Assistant Awards Officer
LTJG FARR - ESO/Assistant Personnel Officer
LTJG THOMSON - Special Services Officer/BOQ Officer

In addition, YNSN Dave BAKER reported on board last week and YN1 Jack LA BRAKE has decided to sit back and let yeoman BAKER do most of the work -- he keeps telling Dave that it's the only way for him to learn. YN1 LA BRAKE received orders to the USS ENTERPRISE (CVAN-65) and he's so happy; he smiles all the time; a real airman at heart. He's due to leave us in October.

YN3 SAUNDERS has decided that YN1's GRINDSTAFF and LA BRAKE were too much for him so he transferred himself back to the Operations Department - he was always saying he liked to stand radio watches instead of duty yeoman; understand he's trying to become a plane captain now too.

Congratulations are in order for YN1 Hank GRINDSTAFF who was promoted to E-6 on 1 August 1970. Seems as if all he does now is carry a coffee cup around the Admin Office and think of his new duty station at VF-162, Miramar, California. Hank leaves us in November.

Also congratulations go to YNSN and Mrs. Bob HINSHAW. Bob's wife gave birth to a son, Jeffery Allen, on 25 July 1970. Bob was passing out cigars for a week he was so proud. He's just departed for R & R in Hawaii to see his wife. We hope that he gets on the right plane; when he was headed out the base gate to go, he had forgotten his Game Warden orders to get to Saigon. Fortunately, the guy's helped him out so he should make it to Hawaii.

We'd like to bid a farewell to our old timers who have now departed for the new world:

LTJG Michael McNAULL - HS-7 next duty station
LTJG Michael BRINK - HS-7 next duty station.
Quonset Point will never be the same again.

That's about all from the Admin Department for now. Oh yes, we've just got a new group of officers on board so by the time this is published most of the Admin Officers will have changed again. Xin Loi!!! (Sorry About That).

PERSONNEL OFFICE

Since our last Wolfgram entry the Personnel Office has had a considerable personnel shuffle of its own.

There are quite a few newbees on the scene. LT Chester HARRISON arrived July 23rd from NAS Albany, Georgia, to take the place of LT Tom PADON as Personnel Officer. LTJG Gary LOWE also arrived on July 23rd from Training Command. He has replaced LTJG Bil GILBERT as Assistant Personnel Officer. Bill has been assigned to Det 2.

The new Educational Services Officer is LT Rudy DeATLEY who arrived here June 24th from NAS, Key West. He has acquired an Assistant ESO, LTJG John FARR. John has come to us from the Training Command.

The latest entry to the Personnel Trailer is LTJG Don THOMSON as Assistant Special Services Officer. He was previously attached to NAS Jacksonville.

On August 21st Tom PADON and Rudy DeATLEY went on a week's R & R at JEST School. Unfortunately, Rudy and Tom contracted a disease in the Philippines -- the Flu.

We regret the loss of two valuable assets to the Personnel Office. PN1 John "Wally" SHARRAH and PN3 Mike "Fitz" FITZPATRICK. Both took their long awaited flight home on September 2nd.

MEDICAL

From the Aviation Hypodermic Department:

New arrivals to our hootch of fini dau (Medical Department), include LT, MC, Gill VASQUEZ, (No nickname as yet), who for all practical purposes is the relief for Doctor SPENCE, since our last Doctor couldn't hack rice and fish heads and went home.

Others aboard are HM3 Marcia FARROW (Capt. Midnight), also with the distinction of being Chief Gynecologist in Ben Xe Moi, and HN Paul MAYWORTH (Capt. Marble). If you need your ears cleaned, and who doesn't, Paul's the specialist. HN "R" "C" HALL became the No. 1 vampire when he took over the laboratory.

Al MULLINS, HM3, has been put back behind his typewriter to bring all those delinquent physicals to bear. So that our aviation types don't feel forgotten on their birthdays, Al has a present for them; a complete physical examination. In his spare time he's ordering glasses for all personnel, so that they can read those letters from home when they come.

OPERATIONS

Once again another report from Operations and Sealord Airlines. The faces around the department have changed considerably since the last issue.

To begin with, we have a new boss, CDR Tom STARBUCK, and a new Assistant Operations Officer, LCDR Jim CALDWELL, who will be leaving soon to join the real war on somebody's Det.

As LT Jim PETROVICH left for Det 1, we welcomed a new Flight Officer, LT Dick BARR who is here for a second tour at HA(L)-3. Acting as his faithful assistant is LT Skip SOPER who recently returned from emergency leave in CONUS.

LCDR Dick STRAND has assumed duties of Training Officer, and LTJG Sam FEOLA came in from Det just so he could help out in the office.

Continuing on with our list of recent additions and replacements, we find LTJG Al GEORGE assigned with the frustrating task of discovering and correcting errors on the new yellow sheets, with LT Bob TURUNEN helping him in his endeavors.

Our schedules board, and the job of keeping in the air the slicks that Maintenance manages to keep flyable, is governed most ably by LTJG's Ray WAITS and Bill BELTZ, both old pro's in the squadron.

LTJG Rick LAUSTON, beloved Air Intelligence Officer and faithful Indian companion, is bound and determined not to let the war effort affect his taste for the "good life". He, along with our Division Officer LTJG Bill McCAMY and an unmentionable maintenance type, have been making like interior decorators in their charming BOQ room which is also boubling as a J.O. lounge. Assisting Rick in his communications billet is LTJG Jay PERKINS, who is fast earning the reputation as one of the most dangerous puck-sliders in all of Binh Thuy.

Chief WARRINER is still trying to make ends meet in his cold drink concession, but unfortunately he's not so successfull. A01 HARVEY and AMS1 HICKS are trying to keep the Training Office in working order along with AN CHICK.

Our bearers of good and bad tidings, SN FREAUFF, SN SANBORN, and CYSN JOSLIN, are keeping the Communications Trailer in confusion, but only to eliminate it for the rest of us.

In the Ops Office itself, AMS3 BRYANT, YN3 SAUNDERS, ATN3 EVENS, and SN MATHAE are all making like secretaries and doing well, even though they are not as good-looking.

From us here in Operations, who strive to get you where you want to go in the Delta, we say, see you next issue!

LINE DIVISION

As it comes time for the Wolfgram the Line is in great shape and doing their thing. As usual we have a huge group of newbees and can't really list them all so we'll settle with "YOU GOT IT FOR A YEAR NEWBEE".

The outstanding Sealords made a first by slinging a three holer from Binh Thuy to Song Ong Doc. The only mishap that marred the first was that they seem to have forgotten one of the seats.

We still haven't been able to get a comment out of our Division Officer, LT "Lew" MADDEN, on why LTJG "Charlie" COLLINS, our ex-Assistant Division Officer beat him out to Det. "Oh well" you'll make it one of these months Mr. MADDEN. We now have as our Assistant Division Officer LTJG R. M. "Big Fella" HAWLEY who insists he's going to throw us all in the CONEX box. Actually I think Det 9 got to him a little bit. Chief BARTON is still with us and hard charging as usual.

It seems as though ABH1 THORSELL just can't seem to get along with the local populace. On his way back from town he ran into a duece and a half (truck). Good job Boat's. Getting back to the Sealords we now have a new POIC who goes by the moniker of BRANNON. He took the place of AS1 "Wild Bill" SIMPSON who is eating up being at Det 9. Now if they would just let him shoot the guns he would be completely satisfied. But then there's BRANNON who never ceases to amaze us with his daring tales of the Seven Seas.

Our new day check supervisor, ADR2 CLARY, gets so shook up during the day he thinks he's a Boatswain's Mate. That's okay CLARY you have a whole year to adjust to this place so stick with it. On night check ABH1 BOOKER is at the radios and is doing a good job for a newbie. ADR2 HARDER is the honcho on mids and is fairly happy, as if it matters. Ask him if he wants to fly as crewman and all you get is "Who me?". Well as the sun sets in beautiful southeast Asia we have one closing comment -- TUCKER's SHORT!!

AO SHOP

The Weapons personnel, under the leadership of AOCS PATCH, have really had their hands full lately, pulling 100-hour checks, trying to make gunships out of the Sealords, repairing M-60 and .50 cal. machine guns and mini-guns.

We would like to welcome three newcomers. AO1 STARK, AO2 HUGER and AO3 SKEFN, to our group.

Three of our Third Class P.O.'s, AO3 WHILEY, AO3 PARKS and AO3 HUGHES are now back in the States enjoying their 30 days extension leave, and we look forward to seeing them again soon.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Howdy everyone, not much new here at Binh Thuy except another change of personnel. LCDR GORDON has joined Det 1 and LT JOPLIN is now head man and chief test pilot. Both Chief JODRY and Chief COLEMAN are back in maintenance and our new comers are ADJ2 McCLAIN and AMS2 TRUTTMAN. We haven't been able to get too much out of P.O. TRUTTMAN yet because he recently became the proud father of 20 inch long, 6 lb. 3 oz. baby girl named Traci. Our congratulations. One more addition to QA is AN SCHMIDT who is our typist and publications assistant.

To those who haven't been back to Binh Thuy in a while the Material Office and Quality Assurance have swapped spaces. Guess who got the best deal in that trade.

One other small item; it would be highly appreciated by Senior Chief BOYER if you Det people would keep on hand an extra razor and some flight suits. He forgets to take his own bag sometimes and after four days he becomes a little rank. Thanks to Det 2 who just put up with him. That's about it for this time so take care and come see us once in a while.

MAINT-ADMIN

Hello World! As another edition of our word to you begins, we would like to inform all that this branch is proud of the whole department that it represents. Lots of steam has been generated and released from this office and the department has felt it, but it's for the benefit of all. We're proud of CDR CARSON and LCDR ADEN who have helped approve shorter working hours and better efficiency on the job.

Since the last Wolfram we saw CDR Jim CARSON go to Hawaii in July, "ALOHA"! It's amazing what a week like that can do for a man. Chief RICHAU will vouch for that, as he just returned from "ALOHA LAND", still full of enthusiasm and dedication. Our last R & Rer LCDR Mel ADEN made it there too, and offers himself as an example of "a happy man". Sorry Airman JOHNSON -- no newbees allowed on those trips.

We acquired a new "shadow" in the office -- AFCM Dick RAND -- who moves very mysteriously about the Maintenance Department, trouble shooting any strange malfunctions. Keep up the good work, Chief, and thanks for sitting in at the office in Chief RICHAU's absence; we enjoy your suggestions. Over and out from the Boss's Corner.

MAINTENANCE/MATERIAL CONTROL

During July, Material Control moved next door to a new space, displacing Quality Assurance which is now occupying Material's former place of business. All direct exchange Army items, Army repairables, and Navy repairables are now being turned in directly to the Material Branch for disposition. New bins were erected to handle the storage of these items. All RFI items will now be picked up by maintenance shops directly from Material Control's new office. The Tool Room, under Chief Jim STEWART, now strictly handles tools. Material Control painted their new space before building bins as a kick-off of a general paint program throughout the maintenance spaces. This was one of the last major projects effected by AK2 Jim REMICK, who is on his way to Kingsville, Texas, for shore duty. Filling this vacancy will be AK1 George DICKINSON, who has arrived from Brunswick, Maine.

Maintenance Control has reorganized a bit. LCDR Leo WILLETTTS departed for CONUS to serve with the Naval Air Basic Training Command at Pensacola, Florida. LT Mike SMITH relieved him after serving on Det 6, and an earlier stint as Aircraft Division Officer. Within a month he will be going to NAAS, Fallon, Nevada, to ski, hunt, and fish. During his off-duty hours he will be working in Maintenance at the Naval Auxiliary Air Station.

Jesse WITT, AE3, will be on his way to Minnesota soon. In fact there he goes! Did you ever see him move so fast? His current plans seem to be early retirement.

To alleviate the heavy workload involved in sending aircraft to the Army for retrograde, BUPERS has sent us two very capable LDO's. LT Jim McGEE is now the Production Control Officer. It was his efforts of reorganization which have led to shorter working hours, and less confusion in the shops. Also coming from the temperate climate of Brunswick, Maine, LT Cliff CORNELL has taken the reins as Material Officer. AZ3 Marion TURNER has just arrived from VT-1 at Pensacola. He will be keeping up the aircraft log books for us. Airman Steve MARTIN will be sharing with us all the knowledge he has gained while serving at Miramar, California; while Airman Earl WASHBURN is already thinking of returning to Point Mugu. He's the "newbee" of the office. Wow, if we all had that much time to do....

PARALOFT

Contrary to popular belief, HA(L)-3's PARALOFT is alive, well and thriving in the east wing of the line building. At present there are four Aircrew Survival Equipmentman in the loft. The "Bearded Boss", PR1 Doug HUBBARD and his sidekick, PRAN Steven H. WOODBURY, provide the one-two punch on days. PR2 (jump qualified) C. D. ORR can be found two-stepping it on nights, while bearded PRAN Gil WHITE (soon to be 3rd class) brings up the rear by tap dancing through mid-check.

In closing, stop by the loft and amaze at the Jum Jum tree named "Spiro".

AVIONICS/ARMAMENT

LT HOWELL has recently relieved LT O'HEARN as Av/Arm Officer, and LTJG COOK has taken the reins from LTJG FORD as AE/AT Branch Officer, Mr. FORD has been sent to Det 6. LTJG HALLAUER is still hanging on as Armament Branch Officer.

ELEC/INST Branch

To the friends, families and loved ones of the men of HA(L)-3 AE Branch. This issue of the Wolfgram is to let you know "All is Well".

The beginning of each day starts out with the appearance of the wide awake day crew. Among the first to arrive on the scene are AEAN ROSS and AE3 HEARD. Moments later the rest of the men arrive and the day begins.

A call for help comes from Maintenance Control! With tool box and meter in hand AE2 KRAWCZYNSKI, AE3 SCARISBRICK and AE3 VAUGHAN tackle the task. After hours of hard work and excellent trouble-shooting the bird is up and in action again.

As the time goes by, day check is relieved by night check. The night crew is few in number, but they do the work of many. Under the supervision of AE1 RUTLEDGE, AE3 PHILLIPS, AE3 GERLEMAN and AE3 MAGUIRE can handle anything that comes their way. AE2 ROSARIO is also a member of the night check team. He will soon be leaving for Det 9. We all wish him good luck and know that he'll do a fine job on det.

As the night wears on night check gives way to mid-check. There are only two men on mids, but they are both hard workers. AE3 SMITH and AE3 COLWELL make up this team. Shortly, SMITH will be leaving us; he's being transferred to England, where he will complete his tour of duty.

There are many men in our branch that weren't mentioned this month, but we'll write about them and the important part they play the next time.

ELECTRONICS Branch

The only changes in the AT Shop recently are those of personnel. The shop was finally turned over to our new and very capable Chief, AEC MATOTT, from our previous one, AEC BOWMAN, AEC BOWMAN unfortunately, finished a very successful tour a few days early by falling down some stairs which resulted in a Medevac to Japan. We all wish Chief BOWMAN the best of luck on his return to the States from Japan.

We have since then lost ATR2 LANDER and ATN2 DIAL. ATN2 DIAL distinguished himself while serving with Det 9 by winning an Air Medal for action encountered as a gunner. Both DIAL and LANDER will be returning to the civilian world upon their return to States. Our short-timers now are AT2 COOPER, leaving in August, and ATN3 EWERT, who will leave in September. COOPER will be heading for HC-4 on his return to the civilian world.

AIR FRAMES

Most people in Maintenance have noted the division of the A/F, P/P work bench. It isn't really hard to recognize the area that belongs to our work center, it is clearly and "NEATLY" marked. Nuff said, eh Power Plants?

A hearty "glad to have you" and welcome aboard to the following -- AMS1 WILCOX, AMS1 MORRIS, AMH2 BARCELONA, AMS3 NAWACHEK, AMS3 STEWART and AMSAN ANDERSON. From other areas in HA(L)-3 our assets have increased with the inter-department transfer of AMS3 CRIBBS, AMH3 DENTON and AMSAN HUFFSTUTTER.

In case you Det guys are wondering "those ain't new aircraft you're getting after check". They just look so "purty" as the results and efforts of our reorganized Paint Crew under the able direction of AMS2 THALMANN. Well done fellows.

Using the term we are all familiar with in our many letters to friends and family, "I've run out, that's it for now".

POWER PLANTS

Chief FARWELL's men in Power Plants -- they're the people that specialize in engine changes and hot end inspections -- are in the process of breaking in "newbees" ADJ2 CHAMBERLAIN, ADJ3 COSNER, ADJ3 WANTLING, ADJ3 BURRINGTON, and ADJ3 CALDWELL, also LABELLA is returning to the shop from Detachment.

ADJ2 REAL, ADJ3 NEWCOMB, ADJ3 BEAVERS, WRENN, and NEWBAUER are heading up the crew to break in the "newbees" but these guys just sit around and say "SHORT"!

Well, it can all be turned over to HATCLIFF and GRAY when they return from leave. And since TIENSVALD got an "atta boy" he should be very useful.

Power Plants extends a hearty welcome to newbie ADJ2 JACOBSON who came to HA(L)-3 from NAS Patuxent River.

CHECK CREW

Check Crew has had about a month to evaluate their new system of aircraft through check. In that time aircraft in check turned out in 5.7 days vice 9.1 and are requiring less time to be tested. What this really means is that Dets are now having aircraft brought to them on time instead of waiting 2 or 3 days after a 10 hr. extension. It's true the new system helped but it's no better than the men, so standby while we pat ourselves on the back.

CAMBODIA

AN LONG
YRBM 21
DET 9

SAIGON

CHAU DOC
YRBM 20
DET 5

MEKONG
RIVER

BEN LUC
DET 4 DET 7

NHA BE
DET 2

BASSAC
RIVER

MY THO
VINH LONG

BINH
THUY

CAN
THO

RACH GIA
DET 8

GULF OF THAILAND



CA MAU
DET 3

BAC LIEU

SONG ONG DOC
DET 6

SOUTH CHINA SEA

NAM CAM

SOLID ANCHOR
DET 1

MEKONG DELTA REGION
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
"SEAWOLF COUNTRY"

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