

CAPTAINS CORNER

My natural tendency is to think of DISCIPLINE in the sense of training or teaching, not as punishment. At least the training and teaching must come first. Punishment is to be reserved for those who do not accept the standards taught, or who prove themselves irresponsible by continued violation of these standards.



CDR R.A. BOWERS

I do not demand perfection, but I do demand that men be responsible, that they try to accept the standards set for them by society and the Navy. If a man makes a mistake and is corrected, I do not expect him to make the same mistake again. If a man is told in specific terms that an item is important, that certain standards **must** be met, then there little excuse for even a first violation of these standards.

Many standards assume greater importance in Vietnam. In this hostile atmosphere mistakes are costly. For example, I consider the standards set for the use of alcohol of great importance. I intend that every man enjoy his leisure hours in camp to the fullest, but I must insist, at the same time, that every man be fit to man the line 24 hours a day. He can do this only if he is responsible in his drinking habits. The standards in this case are given on page 10 of the Adenir Routine and Regulations (MCB-53 Notice 5000 of 11 Jan. 1968). Any man who is charged with violating these drinking regulations will see me at Mast. If he is adjudged incapable of manning the line because he has had too much to drink, he will fill sand bags until he is sober. The OOD, the XO, or I will be the judge. After he fills sand bags, he will then see me at Mast.

Marijuana is another important item. We've explained the importance of its control here in Vietnam by MCB-53 Notice 6710 of 5 FEB 68. The standards, and the penalties prescribed, as far as I'm concerned, for its **use** or **possession**, are cut and dry. I can think of no extenuating circumstances affording any mitigation of punishment for a man found guilty of this offense. I expect this regulation to be observed without exceptions.

Sleeping on watch is obviously important, as every man in camp depends on the men in the towers for his security. Standing watch here in Vietnam is obviously a job of great responsibility. If a sentry finds himself unable to stay awake he must be responsible to call for help - coffee, temporary relief, and conversation are available from the CP. He must not go to sleep. Because of the seriousness of this offense, any man charged with sleeping on watch will automatically be tried by a summary court for his first offense.

Naturally this article today is addressed to the few men who find it hard to accept the standards I've set regarding these subjects. I'd like to convince these few that I'm completely sincere in believing that the welfare of the battalion demands absolute responsibility in these areas. The command as a whole cannot be jeopardized by the irresponsibility of a few. I expect the cooperation of all hands in enforcing these standards.

XO - XCLAMATIONS

I like beer, but I hate beer cans! Every time I see a beer can laying in the sand I get a little sick and my taste for beer seems to diminish a little bit. Now, it's unfortunate that I get so upset over beer cans laying around but I just can't help myself, so all hands will have to pitch in and help me so I don't lose the taste for beer completely.



LCDR R.H. KNAUF

Seriously, we should all be grateful that Camp Adenir is our home for this deployment. Those of you who have had an opportunity to visit some of the other camps in the area no doubt agree that we have the most pleasant and most comfortable camp around. Let's be proud enough to make it the sharpest looking camp also. Maintaining the fine reputation you've already established will require attention by all hands to all facets of our living here in country. You must continue your outstanding work on the job; you must continue to maintain the commendable general conduct I've seen so far; you must make that little extra effort to learn all you can about your jobs; and you must pay attention to little details like keeping the camp cleaned up. A clean, sharp camp will only help to leave no doubt in anyone's mind that **FIFTY-THREE** is really the best outfit around.

Remember:

Beer cans laying on the deck
Make the XO a nervous wreck!



Being greeted by CDR. Richard A. Bowers (right) during their "welcome aboard" visit to Camp Adenir are RADM. James V. Bartlett (center) Commander of the 3rd NCB and Captain C.W. Turner, Commander of the 30th NCR. The two VIP's were the first official visitors to MCB-53 since arriving in Vietnam.

FOUR MORE BEES WIN AWARDS

By F.F. Hutchins, SN



George B. CUMMINGS (left) BU1, USN, 31, son of Mrs. Mary Edna Cummings of Berkley, Massachusetts and Dan N. CALDWELL (right) EON3, USN, 28, son of Mrs. Norma Lee Caldwell of Memphis, Tennessee.

October, 1968's "Seabee of the Month" Award went to BU1 GEORGE B. CUMMINGS, a crew leader in Delta Company, for his "extraordinary professional performance" during battalion operations in Davisville.

At this time, Petty Officer Cummings was the senior enlisted man in Bravo Company. He assumed his duties eagerly and responsibly and quickly earned the respect and admiration of his contemporaries and superiors alike.

BU1 Cummings' service life

Four of 53's Seabees have distinguished themselves by earning a new award. They have each won a "Seabee of the Month" Award; an honor which is based on a man's professional ability, as well as his qualities of leadership, initiative, resourcefulness, loyalty and devotion to duty. In all, it is a man's everyday performance, both on the job and away, that brings this award to a "squared-away" Seabee every month.

Each man chosen for this award receives a letter of commendation from the Commanding Officer, an inscribed battalion plaque, and a \$25.00 savings bond. This "special" Seabee also gets top priority on his choice of R & R and he becomes eligible for MCB-53's "Seabee of the Year" honors.

The months of October, 1967 through January, 1968 have added four new Seabees to 53's "Seabee of the Month" Awards list.

In these first few weeks since being in Vietnam, I'm sure there have been times when various questions have come to mind particularly during the long nights of Condition I. Questions like, "Why am I here anyway? What is

CHAPLAIN CHATS



CHAPLAIN FIOLE

right up until the end of the age there would be "wars and rumors of wars", A first possible answer to this question might be to ask another. "Has God ever promised to prevent or prohibit war?"

To rephrase the last question, "Why should God prevent war?" It is certainly right that we expect and desire peace, but under the blessing of peace men and women have constantly forsaken and insulted the Lord. They have settled down to a life that is essentially materialistic, and a life of pleasure-seeking.

It might be well to also ask, "What if we have war because we are not fit for peace, because by our godlessness and sinfulness we have so utterly abused the blessings of peace? Have we a right to expect God to preserve peace merely to allow us to continue a life that is an insult to His holy Name?"

It's not that war, as such, is sin; or that war is one of sin, but that war is a consequence the expressions of sin. When we ask God to prohibit war, we ask him to prohibit just one sin, because this one is particularly more unpleasant than others and causes more personal suffering. If we meant business why not ask God to prohibit all sin, immorality and vice. But no, we enjoy these too much.

(Cont. on Page 12)

the purpose of war? It all seems so senseless. If God is who he says he is a loving God, why does he allow war?"

It seems the history of the world is one long story of war. In the span of the last twenty years there have been more than 240 wars of one kind or another. We any wonder if there will ever be a time when man is not involved in war.

If we look at the chief source of information about God, the Bible, we will find that the question "Why does God allow war?" isn't really considered. The Bible does not promise that there shall be no war before the return of Christ. The Lord himself prophesied that

The MCB Fifty-Three Esprit

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SUPPLY COMMENDATION

From: Commanding Officer, CB Center, Davisville, R.I.
 To: Commander Naval Construction Battalions, Atlantic Fleet
 Subj: MCB-53 Allowance; packing of

1. "During the past twenty-three months, this Command has documented and shipped to deployment sites the unit allowances for all Mobile Construction Battalions homeported at CBC, Davisville. Eleven individual unit shipments have been accomplished to date. Each battalion has packed and unitized their materials after receiving guidelines and instructions from CBC Packing and Preservation Branch and the Marine Terminal Branch personnel."

2. "The accomplishments of MCB-53 in this area were so outstanding in all respects that it is being made the subject of this official letter. MCB-53 materials were packed and effectively unitized, the weights and cubes listed on items were accurate, and the entire allowance was properly marked and documented."

3. "Such proper material processing prior to shipment not only provides the required protection while in transit, but assists in effecting efficient and low-cost loading and discharging, accurately identifies cargos, and insures timely receipt by the consignee. In the opinion of this Command, the outstanding performance of the MCB-53 Supply Department and other personnel who assisted in the preparation of their unit allowance is considered commendable and truly exemplifies the fine "Can Do" spirit of the Atlantic Seabees."

Captain John D. Burky, CEC, USN
 Commanding Officer, CBC, Davisville, R.I.

THE READY MIX CORNER

By Lt. B.L. RUNBERG

Crew leaders and finishers alike bemoan the somewhat tardy arrival of 53's spanking new TM's at the newly assigned job sites. All personnel connected with Scrapper Central's Ready Mix radio jam sessions have all learned that a great deal of coordination is required at all levels in order to accomplish pouring the desired quantities of concrete each week. Most important is the fact that a delay of one or two days in a concrete pour result in a weeks delay at later stages of construction.

MCB-53 Operations and Bravo Company plan to make improvements at the Batch Plant to increase batching capacity.

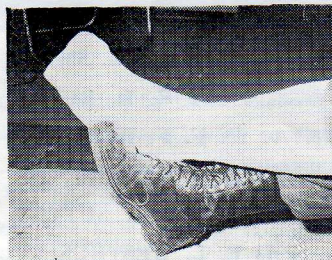
This will speed up delivery and should help to reduce the number of times crews come in late for dinner. It should be noted that MCB-53's Batch Plant personnel batched 1050 yards of concrete during the first week of operations; which was equal to MCB-7's second highest weekly quantity!

In the foreseeable future better service is promised but this can only come about through concerted efforts by TM drivers, concrete crews, mechanics, and personnel scheduling and ordering concrete.

Remember 53's old proverb of service: "YOU CALL, WE HAUL!"



Starting a pre-TET (Vietnamese New Year) celebration off with a bang, this Vietnamese in the village of Hoi Long lights the string of firecrackers which symbolize happiness while the children look on in anticipation (above). During the same ceremony, CDR BOWERS presents a gift to the widow of the village chief who was killed by the Viet Cong. More than 5,000 gifts were distributed to the children of Hoi Long by various Seabee, Marine, and Army commands in the DaNang East area (below).



A war casualty, no; a clumsy photographer, yes! PH3 Westhusing was photographing a hole in the roof of the Club and once through with this task decided to show how agile and physically fit he was by jumping from the roof. As you can see "Wes" is neither.

Student Scholarships

By R. D. Burns, JO2

North of Camp Adenir, DaNang East, is a village that is similar to many of the refugee villages throughout South Vietnam. The village, known as Son Cha, has more than its share of poverty and disease. Keeping food in their children's stomachs is a full time task for the Vietnamese parents and financing an education for them is practically impossible.

Help was needed and was given by MCB-7 and is now being continued by the Seabees of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIFTY-THREE, which is presently deployed at Camp Adenir.

A scholarship fund, initiated by MCB-7, has been turned over to MCB-53's Civic Action Officer, Chaplain J. Robert Fiol from St. Louis, Missouri. Through his direction and the donations of Seabees in MCB-53 who want to help, 49 children of Son Cha will be able to continue their elementary education.

The Seabee scholarships average approximately \$2.25 per month for each sponsor (according to the child's grade). Each monthly payment is directed to the battalion's Civic Action Fund for the Scholarship Program and from there is given to the school's superintendent. One scholarship is worth about \$20.00 and covers only the child's tuition fees for one full year of education. Books, writing materials, and other needed school supplies are provided for by the international "CARE" foundation.

Chaplain Fiol summed up the purpose of the program in this way: "Even though we have only been at Camp Adenir a short time we have already noted many of the problems and injustices associated with the war in Vietnam. As so often is the case, the children are the ones who suffer the most. We feel that one small part that we, as Seabees, can do to help the future of the Vietnamese is to assist in the education of the unfortunate victims of this war. For this reason we have presented to the Seabees of 53 the possibility of sponsoring Vietnamese children in school. These children are ones who would not ordinarily have the opportunity of having a formal education. The program has received enthusiastic support from the men of the battalion, and we anticipate increasing the number of children that we are able to send through school."



The local vender was on hand to put on a show of his own at Camp Adenir. CES3 James CASINO passes out popcorn during a recent Special Services Show in which the "Nuts and Bolts" were performing. Partially because of Casinos selling ability and the rest due to the Seabees ability to consume vast amounts of "chow", 85 pounds of popcorn were sold with the proceeds going to funds for charity.

Remington Raider

By F. F. Hutchins

Here we are in the Southeast Asian paradise that has more than it's share of beautiful women; and the VC still insist on faking war! Making love sounds much more appropriate under the circumstances. Things weren't always this way. As a matter of fact it wasn't until Ltjg SMITH decided to plant flowers throughout the Public Affairs Office that things started to change. I was plain to see that JO2 Richard BURNS and myself were soon to become the flower boys of Fifty-Three!

YNSN Robert STEIN was placed on the garbage truck and all he had to say was, "They can give me any — detail they want to because I'm too short to care." The very next week Bob was cleaning out the heads! All he had to say this time was, "I've been promoted."

Recently some of the guys were in the showers and noticed this first class come in with nothing on but his towel, his M-16 and magazines. You might say that PC1 NICHOLS wasn't going to get caught with his pants down!

Congratulations is due to EADCN Alan Kaufman because of his outstanding performance as a mess cook. It just goes to show you that experience does pay off!

The night of 12 February brought a Special Services Act of 3 men and 2 quite attractive women called **The Nuts and Bolts** to Camp Adenir. Seabees were requesting different songs and at one point of the show DK2 CORMIER presented his to the girl like so; "Why don't you put some happiness on me!" The girl looked at him somewhat disgusted and Ernie was forced to walk away to the sound of someone else's request.



Showing how to place a call to the States are MCB-53's MARS operators (l-r) EAS3 James T. MOODY from Seattle, Washington and BU2 Chuck (NMN) LIYZELLE from Rutland, Vermont.

EDITOR'S NOTE

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first issue of the MCB-53 ESPRIT since we arrived in Vietnam. At the present time our objective is to publish one issue of the Esprit once a month in Okinawa.

All contributions from companies and or departments are welcome. The material may include either text or photographs or both. All submissions will be screened and equally considered for publication.

Remember, 53 Seabees, the ESPRIT is **your** newspaper! So contribute to it.

Buddy-Bee Sez...

The oldest tools known to man are crude hammers made of stone. Today the tool most commonly used is the hammer, or some member of the striking tool family. Because there are so many in use and because the action of striking things is sort of violent, hammers are usually involved in more accidents

Even the household claw hammer gets cursed for mashed thumbs and fingers. Usually these injuries are not serious and are not reported. On the job hammers often knock chips off of cold chisels and bars.

Heavy hammers, three pounds or more and sledges, ten to twenty pounds, are reported more often in serious accidents. But even though big fellows look dangerous, it takes a lot of muscle to use them. They are much safer for heavy work than a light hammer that has to be swung so hard that we lose control of it.

USE THE RIGHT HAMMER FOR THE JOB.

MAKE SURE THAT THE TARGET IS STATIONARY.

HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE HAMMER.

WHEN STRIKING METAL WEAR SAFETY GLASSES.

Safety Sam

≈ PRACTICE SAFETY WITH TOOLS ≈



The two lovelies that enhance this otherwise "dull" page initiated 53's "wild" Seabees with their first show on February 12. Their names are Barbara (left) and Tiger (right), (or should we say Tigress!), who belong to a group called "The Nuts and Bolts".

The lovely ladies kept to the fad of 10 inches above the knees much to the delight of 53's Seabees! Obscurely hidden in the background is the group's drummer, Lorin.

Granpappy Bee

Dear Granpappy,

The other night I was sleeping peacefully in my hut when this siren went off. All of my hutmates bolted out the door and nearly knocked me down. Why did they do this?

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled,

What you saw was called the "Camp Adenir Shuffle". In this dance you sprint for your mortar pit as soon as the music starts. Select the biggest partner you can, since you are both to dive into the narrow opening at the same time; and the two people doing the most damage to each other will get an honorary purple heart.

Granpappy

Dear Granpappy,

Since I arrived in Vietnam, I have had girl problems; namely, there aren't any! What can be done to help me?

Anxious

(Cont. on Page 12)

CHARLIE PEANUTS

There aren't enough illustrious words, picturesque phrases or admirable adjectives to describe the actions of Charlie Company since our arrival in the Republic of Vietnam.

Our job as prime contractor has been brilliantly praised by our fellow officers and men as an example of just what a well organized crew of hardworking, dedicated SEABEES can do. Our rapid mobility and instantaneous response to the Condition I siren these last few days is an excellent example of brave, well-trained fighting men in action, whose moves, counter-moves and defensive effort would cause even the most famous strategist to gaze in awe. It is also noted that most bunkers and fighting holes are deeper.

High atop Monkey Mountain, a group of builders, led by BU1

Richard B. SCOTT worked diligently to complete in record time a complex of fortified bunkers for the Marine component stationed there. The Marines are still talking about BUR3 Dave (CHARLES ATLAS) BARLOW who can drive a five foot stake into solid rock with one blow of his own personal sledge hammer, which never leaves his company.

Early in the week of 21 January, BUH2 B.J. WILLIAMS took a crew of builders to the NSA Hospital to complete construction of a medical ward facility. The ward was constructed to care for wounded Marines, Soldiers, and Fleet and other men who were injured while carrying out their primary duty - support of the SEABEE Program here in Vietnam.

At the China Beach recreation center a band of MAD-DEN'S MARAUDERS have been constructing a new berthing hooch, shower and food and drink facility for men spending their R&R in-country. These men, bossed around by a conscientious and able leader, BUR2 OUSLEY, have set a new record in the Material expedition department.

Tien Sha was lucky enough to acquire the men of BU1 W. HALEY for the rehabilitation of several barracks groups. Although Tien Sha is the site of a well equipped exchange, a finely stocked bar and Club, the men of Haley's crew have easily resisted temptation and are at this time putting forth with their whole-hearted effort.

Petty Officer OGLESBY is assuring his future by being the crew leader of a squad of men

(Cont. on Page 8)

HUTCH'S SPORTS HOOCH

LEAGUE STANDINGS

	W	L	GB	PCT.
1. THE UNTOUCHABLES-H CO.	2	0	—	1.000
2. MADDEN'S MARAUDERS-C CO.	1	0	½	1.000
3. THE DRAGONS-D CO.	1	0	½	1.000
4. ROAD RUNNERS-A CO.	0	1	1½	.000
5. CHARLIE BROWN FIVE-C CO.	0	1	1½	.000
6. THE FILTHY FIVE-A CO.	0	1	1½	.000
7. THE HONCHOS-Officers	0	1	1½	.000

The basketball season has gone into full swing with all seven of MCB-53's teams having played a least once. The night of February 15 brought the UNTOUCHABLES of "H" Company face to face with the HONCHOS of Officer Country. The officers, due to "ugly fat" and lack of coordination, were soundly trounced 41 to 25 amid the cheers and catcalls of half the enlisted men in the battalion. Good hustle and scrap by the officers, however, kept the game from being a complete run-away. The victory brought the hoop men from H Company into undisputed first place.

The FILTHY FIVE A Company team showed plenty of go-power and team spirit, but their game just wasn't up to par as they dropped a big 71 to 7 decision to MADDEN'S MARAUDERS of C Company. Fortunately, the "beer runner" for the FILTHY FIVE was in terrific shape!!!

The games, which are played every Tuesday and Thursday nights between 1900 and 2100, are a part of the Special Services Recreation Program during our deployment.

MCB-53 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

The following is the MCB-53 Basketball League Schedule for the remainder of the season:

DATE	TEAM	TIME
27 Feb.	Charlie Brown Five "C" Co. vs Marauders "C" Co.	1900
	The Untouchables "H" Co. vs The Filthy Five "A" Co.	2000
28 Feb.	The Road Runners "A" Co. vs The Filthy Five "A" Co.	1900
	The Dragons "D" Co. vs The Honchoes Officers	2000
5 March	The Untouchables "H" vs Charlie Brown Five "C" Co.	1900
	The Road Runners "A" Co. vs The Dragons "D" Co.	2000
7 March	Madden's Marauders "C" Co. vs The Honchoes Officers	1900
	Charlie Brown Five "C" Co. vs The Road Runners "A" Co.	2000
12 March	Madden's Marauders "C" Co. vs The Untouchables "H" Co.	1900
14 March	The Filthy Five "A" Co. vs The Dragons "D" Co.	2000
	Charlie Brown Five "C" Co. vs The Honchoes Officers	1900
19 March	The Dragons "D" Co. vs The Filthy Five "A" Co.	2000
	The Honchoes Officers vs The Filthy Five "A" Co.	1900
21 March	PLAY-OFFS	1900



SPORTS QUIZ

(AFPS FEATURE)

1. How many times in the 21-year history of the NBA has the season's individual scoring leader been a member of the championship team?
2. What play holds the major league record for stolen bases in a single season?
3. Who are the top four men on the National Hockey League's All-Time list of shut-outs by NHL goalies?
4. When was the first NFL title game played?
5. Who holds the all-time World Series hitting record?

ANSWERS

1. Only three times, but not once in the last 17 years.
2. Maury Wills stole 104 bases for the L.A. Dodgers in 1962.
3. Terry Sawchuk, George Halmesworth, Harry Lumley and Glenn Hall.
4. In 1933 between the Chicago Bears and the New York Giants. Chicago won 23-21.
5. Babe Ruth with .625 in the 1928 Series.

From The Operations Corner

Many of the pieces of the operation puzzle have fallen into place since MCB-53's initial arrival at Camp Adenir. Mobilization was completed on January 21, 1968 and formalized schedules of work initiated during the following week. Biweekly scheduled meetings take place now on Wednesday and Sunday whereby all line company commanders and the operations officer plan the week's work.

It looks like MCB-53 will be picking up a great deal of work within the next few weeks. This includes a concrete apron, an ammi-bridge for "D" Company, electrical work at the DaNang airbase, revetment covers, wells, barracks, and bunkers.

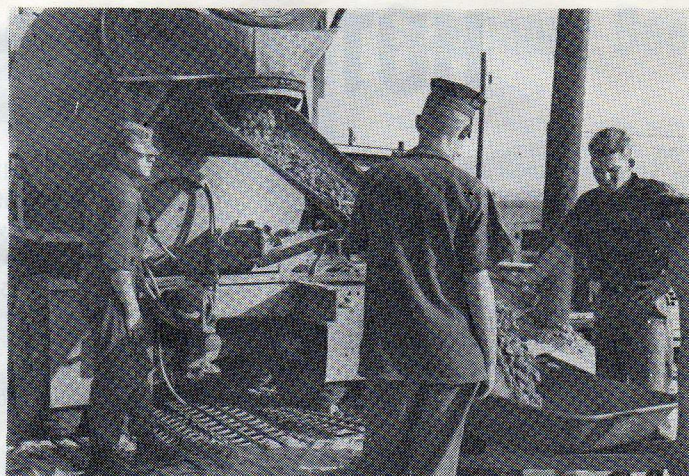
At present all companies are concentrating their efforts in completing the expansion to the NSA hospital. Because of the present tactical situation this has become an ever more important and vital construction project.

Delta Company is starting work on the Third Marine Amphibious Force. It is expected that this first model ammi-bridge installation could result in an expanded use of these bridges in the I Corps with MCB-53 leading the way in their construction. Also of note is the storage buildings being constructed for the 5th Special Forces.

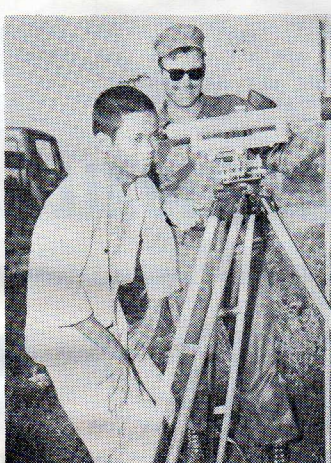
Charlie Company is concentrating on the ever important hospital as well as the Tien Sha barracks which will help to increase the productivity capacity of NSA DaNang.

Bravo Company and Alpha Company are not to be forgotten for we realize that their valiant efforts are supplid on each and every project and also that much support is supplied through their many jobs.

MCB-53 completed its first big project last week when "C" Company finished the bunkers on Monkey Mountain and the project was turned over to the Marine Corps. Another case of "Can Do" for the Seabees of MCB-53.



Anyone for mudpies! Making the first concrete pour during initial construction on an Intensive Care Unit at the DaNang Hospital.



SPYING ON THE VC?!! No, this Vietnamese soldier, recuperating from wounds at a rehabilitation hospital near Camp Tien Sha, is "checking the lay of the land" through a surveying level. Assisting him is EADCN Thomas P. FITZGERALD from Salem, Virginia, during a survey for a by-pass road near the hospital.

From: Commanding General,
III Marine Amphibious
Force

To: Commanding Officer,
USN MCB-53

1. It is a pleasure to welcome your battalion to the DaNang area on its maiden deployment to Vietnam. Your troops are a valuable addition to the forces of the free world engaged in the battle to protect the destiny of this small nation.
2. I am certain that you will extend the fine name of the Seabees during your coming deployment. Welcome aboard.
R.E. CUSHMAN, JR.

CHARLIE PEANUTS - - -

(Cont. from Page 6)

who constructing an OFFICERS mess at the Hospital. Lets see now, "Edward", how many points does that make ?

BU1 CARAWAY and his men are assisting the hospital effort by building a medical storage building. His crew was taking no chances. They used enough bracing to guarantee their pour and someone else's!

The hard-working list of Charlie Company is receiving competition from each of our crews, but none can really say that the honor doesn't belong to a clique of knuckly-busting men at the hospital who are constructing a barracks for patients. BU1 KELLY is the leader of these CAN DO SEABEES, who appear to be the first crew in the Battalion to complete a project from the floor up.

At present, Charlie Company is working on several other jobs, all of which receive special notice due to our fine craftsmanship and sportsmanlike attitude about working overtime if need be. Petty Officers BELCHER and COPSON are impressing the people of the DaNang area with their versatility and the excellent morale of their Steelworkers. At the hospital Copson has been adopted by a group of children who have nicknamed him "No. TEN THOU"!



At a by-pass road at the Vietnamese Amputee Hospital near Camp Tien Sha, a 53 heavy equipment operator uses his grader to level the surface.

TIRED OF YOUR PRESENT JOB?—

WANT TO GET AHEAD?—

WANT REAL JOB SECURITY?—

LISTEN TO THE ADVISE OF FAMOUS CHIEF "SMOKEY" BURGESS!!!

"I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT REAL JOB SECURITY WAS UNTIL I STARTED WORKING FOR LTJG MACKINNON IN THE "SECURITY COMPANY". I WOULD RECOMMEND THE EXPERIENCE TO ANYBODY. I MEAN, JUST LOOK WHAT IT'S DONE FOR GUNNY MARTINEZ!"

CAREER MINDED

SMC Donald S. Williams, a representative of the COMSERVPAC Career Information Team, stopped at Camp Adenir from 13 to 18 February to give 8 presentations on careers in the U.S. Navy. Chief Williams discussed the educational benefits, as well as many other rights and benefits eligible to a Navy career man. He also made a comparison between Naval professions and their civilian counterparts.

The 8 presentations included slide shows and lectures on the various Navy sponsored education programs: USAF1, STAR, NESEP, etc. Chief Williams also covered extensively the rights and pension benefits of career Navymen, and those of their dependents.

Chief Signalman Williams is attached to COMSERVGRP-3. San Francisco, California. He travels throughout the U.S. Naval bases in the Pacific and will give presentations to all Seabee battalions and Navy units in Vietnam.



MARVIN E. HOLMGREN, CN, USN, 20, son of Mrs. Maynard V. Werner of Prestone, Minnesota, and the late Mr. John E. E. Holmgren.

R & R Poem

Here are the "Remington Raiders",

Their intelligence is that of sixth-graders;

When they have something to say,

It will take all day.

And you had better have on your waders.



The only structural damage done during the mortar attack was to this unoccupied office building.

VIET CONG MORTARS - - -

(Cont. from Page 1)

For the two nights following the mortar attack, continued Viet Cong activity in the DaNang area resulted in a high alert status for the battalion. Camp Adenir received sporadic small arms fire throughout the night of January 30, resulting in minor injuries to another Fifty-Three Seabee.

During an attack on the allied compound at Hoi An, 20 miles south of DaNang, on January 30, the sixteenth Seabee from Fifty-Three was wounded by shrapnel. He is attached to a 16 man detail providing needed sanitary and electrical facilities to a Vietnamese civilian hospital and was returned to duty after minor treatment.

Welcome Aboard Messages

Following is the message sent by Rear Admiral William M. Heaman, Commander 3rd Naval Construction Brigade:

On the occasion of NMCB FIFTY-THREE's first deployment since recommissioning it is a great pleasure to welcome you to the Pacific and Southeast Asian theater of operations. Your special talents will be put to immediate use in the I Corps combat support construction program the Seabees are presently undertaking. It is a big job that faces the Seabees of NMCB FIFTY-THREE in Vietnam, but I am certain that your efforts as those of FIFTY-THREE's Seabees in World War II will be a major contribution to our can do tradition which is making miracles possible in the Republic of Vietnam today. Please accept my heartiest welcome aboard and most sincere wishes for a fruitful tour filled with can do success.

Following is the message sent by Read Admiral Paul W. Sarver, Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet:

From: COMSERVLANT

To: MCB FIVE THREE

1. This your first deployment offers responsibilities and challenges that will demand the maximum of your leadership, construction skills and physical labors. Your endeavors in Southeast Asia will have a definite influence on the future of your country and the entire free world.
2. I have every confidence that you will accomplish all tasks assigned to you in the finest Seabee "CAN DO" tradition.
3. I join with your family and friends in wishing Godspeed and good fortune in the months to come.



Beginning their 20 mile journey south for Hoi An are 16 Seabees from 3 different companies. The detail was the first to embark to a construction site outside of the DaNang area. The purpose of the convoy, which departed on the 24th of January 1968, was to deliver materials and men to Hoi An for the rehabilitation of an old French hospital that had been converted into a hospital for Vietnamese civilians.

FOUR MORE BEES WIN AWARD

(Cont. from page 3)

BUL2 JOHN D HOWARD of Delta Company received the "Seabee of the Month" Award for November, 1967.

Petty Officer Howard enlisted in the Navy in July, 1966. He arrived at MCB-53 in April, 1967 after previously serving with MCB-71 in Davisville, R.I.

Builder second class Howard's letter of recommendation states in part: "Your consistently outstanding professional ability has contributed greatly to the performance of this battalion. You have an unnatural ability to produce quality work with unskilled workers. Your tremendous pride in your unit, the Navy and most of all, in your squad, has made your squad outstanding".

Petty Officer Howard is married to the former Miss Wilma J. Mason who resides with their

states: "Your performance as transportation dispatcher for the Battalion while deployed to Camp LeJeune, was well above average. You greatly assisted the Petty Officer in Charge of Transportation Support Personnel in meeting the many requirements imposed upon the group. Your cooperation, ability and initiative are commendable and greatly appreciated."

Petty Officer Caldwell enlisted in the Navy in October, 1959. He was an ADR3 until 16 August 1966 at which time he cross-rated to his present rate of EON3, Helicopter Squadron 4 out of Imperial Beach, California, the Naval Air Technician Training Center in Memphis, Tennessee, and Port Lyautey, Morocco are a few of Petty Officer Caldwell's previous stations before coming to MCB-53 on 7 July 1967.

Married to Linda Carol Cald-

sently with MCB-52's Hoi An detachment, won the award for his "outstanding initiative and job performance" and his "willingness to follow instructions and orders thereby promoting good morale among his crew members".

A further commendation for UTA3 Kendall was for his strong sense of duty and military performance during the attack by the VC on Hoi An. He "carried out his assigned defensive position in the highest Seabee tradition" and while in the line of duty sustained minor shrapnel wounds, for which he was awarded the Purple Heart.

Utilitiesman Kendall joined the Navy in June, 1966 and was assigned to the 21st NCR before reporting to MCB-53 in January, 1967.

FOUR MORE BEES - - -

(Cont. from Page 3)

dates way back to August, 1956, and includes duty stations such as MCB-3, with which he deployed to Okinawa, and CBC, Port Hueneme, California as an instructor. He attended Instructor Class "C-1" School, San Diego, California; Planning and Training School, Port Hueneme; and Petty Officer Leadership School, San Diego. He reported to MCB-53 in April, 1967.

Cummings is married to the former Miss Ruth V. Ingle who now resides in North Kingstown, R.I. with their two children, Rebecca and Bradley.

Never "TOO" Short

MCB-53 appears to have a good number of men whose enlistment expires before our deployment is over. "H" Company has more than its share of such men and each has his calendar with the remaining days marked. This is all fine and dandy, but what if you are in YNSN Gilbert (bootcamp) DALE's place with still 2½ years to serve and everyone telling him that they will take care of his girl for him while he is away. It is definitely bad for the morale, and in Dale's case really insulting, for he probably doesn't even have a girl! If it were possible to name all the short-timers it would be done, but seeing how it isn't, here are just a few whose enlistments expire in May: YN3 Warren FREDRICKSON, YN2 Curt CLAUSS, PN3 Harold BARKEY-USNR, and EAS3 William "IRA" DEVALCOURT-IPO, all of H company; CMA3 W.F. RHODES of A Company; SWE2 J.E. ROARK and SWF3 Roger WHITE of D Company. Don't feel bad though Dale, for when you get out in 2½ years you can look up my girl.

Seasick

There are classes coming in the near future on Judo and the Vietnamese language.

The Judo classes will be held at China Beach, while the language classes will be conducted by Chaplain Fiol. This instruction will help in both self-defense and to learn many of the customs of the Vietnamese people. Also when you come in contact with a Viet Cong, you can show him your newly acquired weapon as well as ask him "Why" in his own language!

Look for more information on these two items in the coming issues of the ESPRIT and in Special Services newsletters!!



John D. HOWARD, (left) BUL2, USN, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Howard of Las Vegas, Nevada is congratulated on his "Seabee of the Month" Award by Commander Richard A. Bowers (right), Commanding Officer of MCB-53.

son, John David, and daughter, Stacy Rae, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

For his "outstanding performance while deployed at Camp Lejeune, especially since arrival in-country," has brought "Seabee of the Month" to EON3 Dan N. CALDWELL of Alpha Company for the month of December.

His recommendation further

well, Petty Officer Caldwell is the father of two girls, Vicky Lynn and Catherine Clair. His family is now living in Memphis, Tennessee.

MCB-53's most recent "Seabee of the Month" to be chosen for January was UTA3 STANLEY W. KENDALL, a project crew member from Bravo Com-

Petty Officer Kendall, pre-

APPLICATION FOR A DATE WITH A SEABEE

NOTE: This is an official NAVY document and you are hereby strictly charged not to let it fall into the hands of civilians, doggies, zoomies, or grunts.

1. NAME _____ NICKNAME _____ TEL. NO. _____
2. ADDRESS _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____
3. PERSONAL DESCRIPTION: WT. _____ HT. _____ HAIR _____ EYES _____
COMPLEXION _____ BUST _____ WAIST _____ HIPS _____
4. OCCUPATION: CAREER GIRL _____ SALES GIRL _____ HOME GIRL _____
MY GIRL _____ SOMEONE ELSE'S GIRL _____ OTHER _____
5. TYPE OF RESIDENCE PREFERRED: PRIVATE HOME _____ APARTMENT _____ MOTEL _____
CAVE _____ HOTEL _____ DOGHOUSE _____ PIGPEN _____ OTHER _____
6. DO YOU HAVE A SHAPELY GIRLFRIEND IN CASE OF ILLNESS? _____
NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
TEL. NO. _____ (PLEASE ENCLOSE GIRLFRIEND'S PICTURE)
7. ARE YOU MARRIED? _____ IF SO, DOES YOUR HUSBAND TRAVEL? _____
IF NOT MARRIED WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE? _____ WHY? _____
8. DO YOU MAKE ENOUGH MONEY TO SUPPORT A HUSBAND? _____
9. WHERE DO YOU PREFER TO GO ON A DATE? CHURCH _____ MOVIES _____ RIDING _____
WALKING _____ DANCING _____ DRINKING _____ STAY AT HOME _____ OTHER _____
10. WHAT KIND OF PARTIES DO YOU LIKE? HOME _____ BEER _____ SMALL _____ BEER _____
LARGE _____ BEER _____ STAG _____ LAKE _____ OTHER _____
11. WHICH ENTRANCE IS CLOSEST TO THE SOFA? FRONT _____ BACK _____ WINDOW _____
CELLAR _____ OTHER EXIT _____
12. DO YOUR FOLKS OWN A SHOTGUN? _____ WHICH IS THE BEST SHOT? _____
13. DO YOUR FOLKS LIKE SEABEES? _____ WHY? _____
15. DO YOU LIKE PARKING? _____ WITH WHOM? _____ WOULD A SEABEE DO? _____
16. WHERE DO YOU LIKE TO BE KISSED? LIPS _____ NECK _____ EAR _____ OTHER _____
17. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN LOVE? _____ HOW MANY TIMES? _____ WITH WHOM? _____
ARE YOU NOW? _____
18. DO YOU FALL IN LOVE EASILY? _____
19. CAN YOU COOK? _____ IS IT EATABLE? _____
20. WHAT KIND OF DRINKS DO YOU LIKE? BEER _____ WINE _____ SCOTCH _____ BRANDY _____
VODKA _____ GIN _____ SODA _____ MILK _____ WATER _____
21. DO YOU REALIZE A SEABEE IS A PRECIOUS THING? _____
22. DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HANDLE A SEABEE? _____ HOW? _____
23. ARE YOU WILLING TO TRY ANYTHING ONCE? _____ TWICE? _____
24. WHAT UNIFORM DO YOU PREFER ON A DATE? CIVIES _____ DRESS BLUES _____
WHITES _____

I HEREBY SWEAR THAT THE ABOVE APPLICATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

SIGNATURE _____

PLACE LIP PRINT HERE

ENCLOSE PICTURE WITH APPLICATION.

THE UNITED STATES SEABEES THANK YOU!

Granpappy Bee

(Cont. from Page 6)

Dear Anxious,

Don't worry, you have what is known as the "creeping horns". This disease, while serious, is not fatal and can be cured by a return to the USA. Another cure is to go down Route No. 1 and see Dr. "Rosie", but Dr. Rushforth advises that this cure may be worse than the disease!

Granpappy

(Cont. from Page 3)

God permits war in order that men may see, through it, more clearly than they have ever seen before what sin really is. We are forced to examine the very foundations of our lives. What is it in human nature that leads to such calamities as war?

It is only as we suffer and

see our folly and utter bankruptcy and helplessness of man that we shall turn to God and rely upon Him. It might be well to consider, "Why does God not allow the world to destroy itself entirely in its sin? Why does He set a limit beyond which they cannot pass?"

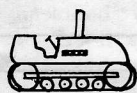
Yes, the Lord is patient and loving. He is giving the world's people time; much time in or-

der that they, themselves, may improve their world and prevent their wars.

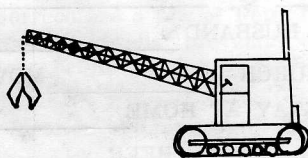
In summary, it is solely up to us to make sure that we are learning the lesson of hardship and repenting before God for the sins in our hearts and those of the entire human race that lead to the catastrophes of war.

NEW FRANCHISES AVAILABLE

(In Northern Areas)



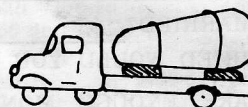
JOHNSON'S
GRAVEL
PITS



"We deliver anywhere"

To find us, just look for the shiny DOME! That'll be Mr. Johnson!

INSTANT
SERVICE



NEWEST
EQUIPMENT

RUNBERG'S READY-
MIX COMPANY

"You, call, we haul"
(eventually)

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

COMMANDING OFFICER

U.S.N. Mobile Construction Battalion Fifty-Three

FPO New York, New York 09501

To : _____

