



The MCB Eleven

# STINGER

Vol. V, No. 2

Port Hueneme, California

Feb. 24, 1967

25 Years

"AYE-AYE", "CAN-DO" SEABEE

*Man The*

*RAILS*

Approximately 180 men from MCB-11 will participate in a five-day amphibious training exercise beginning on 27 February and ending on 3 March.

The exercise is scheduled to get underway on the morning of the 27th with the on-loading of the USS OUTAGAMIE COUNTY (LST 1073) and the USS STONE COUNTY (LST 762) at 0730 for transportation to White Beach near Coronado, California.

Off loading at White Beach is scheduled to begin at 0730 on the 28th from the USS STONE COUNTY and at 1000 from the USS OUTAGAMIE COUNTY.

The exercise at White Beach will include securing the beach from aggressors, provided by ACB ONE, setting up a construction camp with defensive security, construction of a 40' by 72' landing pad, erecting five strongback tents, electrical generating system, shower trailer and camp fortifications.

Following the exer-

Often working under the most trying conditions, the Navy Seabees have become the "aye-aye" (Imagination - Ingenuity) troops and have proven by their "Can-Do" spirit that they can build and fight and do it right during their first 25 years.

Presently engaged in Vietnam in the largest construction job in world history, Navy Construction Battalions have put almost \$1 billion worth of construction into place this year. This has been accomplished over a span of 10,000 miles from major supply centers.

The history of the Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps date back to 31 August 1842 when the Bureau of Yards and Docks was established. BUDOCKS was given the responsibility of maintaining the Navy's Shore Establishment (this bureau was replaced by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in 1966).

On 2 March 1867 the CEC became a reality when Congress passed an act allowing the President to commission CEC Officers. On 5 March 1942, the designation "Seabees" was authorized by the Bureau of Navigation.

During the early years the CEC was operated by a minimum number of men and on the eve of World War II its ranks included only 126 members. However in four years, their number increased to 250,000 officers and men, 200,000 of whom were serving overseas in 1945. The Seabees became a legend during the war while building some 400 advance bases from the Rhine River to Iwo Jima.

In the Korean War, the Navy's fighting builders once again proved their value as they continue to do today in Vietnam. The first Seabees landed in Vietnam with assault Marines on 7 May 1965 at Chu Lai. Since then, 13 Seabee MCB's and elements of one ACB have once again built and defended.

the USS STONE COUNTY will depart for Port Hueneme at approximately 1000 on 2 March and the USS OUTAGAMIE CTY. will get underway at 1300.

Off loading at Port Hueneme is scheduled for completion by 1200 on 3 March with the exercise

secured by 1600 following the return of equipment to the 31st NCR.

For those personnel participating in the exercise the uniform will be utility greens.

Equipment required for the exercise will be full 782 gear.

# CO's COMMENTS

By CDR W. L. Wilson, CO MCB-11

The battalion has just completed two weeks of military training at Camp Pendleton and it is very gratifying to note the results achieved and the comments received from other commands.

I think everyone is aware of the importance of small unit leadership. These are the petty officers, the squad leaders and fire team leaders. You all did a fine job and contributed much to the success of the exercise. It was evident from the Battalion and Company spirit that each man was putting forth his best to do his individual assignment.

From the comments I have heard, the Battalion left a good impression with the Marine Units with which we had contact at Camp Pendleton as well as those personnel representing the 31NCR. Congratulations on your fine performance throughout the training.

# CHARLIE CHATTER

In our last episode LT Noble and his loyal band of fighters were beating back the aggressors at Conejo grade. Since our last show they have secured the area and moved south to Camp Pendleton leaving SW1 Arnold, SW1 Coons and BUL3 Marshall behind to hold the Port Hueneme area.

Our camera takes us to the landing zone where we see CUCS Owenby holler, "Head 'em up, Move 'em out." The trusty soldiers heave their packs onto their backs and start marching.

"Hit the deck!" comes the cry as the enemy begins firing on the column. "What?" "It's dirty down there," complains the assistant company communicator. (The communicator has already fallen under the weight of his pack.)

Back to the action: BUL Virgil moves to envelop the enemy machine gun position with a squad of men. He captures the position killing the enemy gun crew. The enemy continues firing until the director reminds them that they are the bad guys and are supposed to die easy.

A mortar round drops behind LT Noble as he is running and shrapnel strikes him in the--what do you mean I can't show that on TV. It's my script and I'll tell it the way it happened. What? Say that the company reporter is now an E-1? But Mr. Noble.

COMMERCIAL: Our group had 21 percent fewer casualties because we lubriplate after firing.

## THE STINGER

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# CHAPLAIN'S Corner

The recent movie, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe?" poses an old question in new terms - "What is hell like?" The questions of heaven and hell are as old as religion itself.

When Jesus was asked "What is heaven like?", he responded, "The Kingdom of heaven is within you. It is God's reign in your life." That is when you live as one of God's children you are not far away from heaven.

Another time when presented the same question he placed a small child in their midst and told them "Look at this child. If you want to know what heaven is like, you must be like this child. You must be ready, eager, willing and humble enough to learn." He called his followers to a child-like faith based on trust, not a childish faith based on immaturity.

Some people do not know of what Jesus was speaking. Their lives are a literal hell. Those who follow Christ believe many of heavens joys are gained in this life.

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## EDITORIAL

## Heritage Of Service

GEORGE Washington, whose birthday we observed on 22 February, is perhaps the outstanding example of famous men in the history of our Nation.

WASHINGTON's life was governed by an unalterable personal code built on duty and honor. To him, no duty was greater, no honor more satisfying than service to one's country.

WHEN he could have been enjoying the pleasant life of a prosperous country gentleman, his country called him. He answered that call, suffering personal hardship and exposing himself to almost constant danger during the long, arduous and often frustrating campaigns of the war.

AS military commander of the small, ill-equipped, ill-trained American Army during the Revolut-



ignary war, his leadership and genius were instrumental in the American success against the finest army in the world at that time.

WHEN he was chosen as President, he again unhesitatingly left the quiet comfort of Mt. Vernon to serve in the political arena, risking his honor and reputation.

AS our first president under the Constitution, his tact, judgment, ability and devotion, guided our government through its critical formative period, establishing a solid foundation on which future generations could build.

BUT equally important is the other heritage left by Washington; that of selfless, dedicated service to his country regardless of the hardships or sacrifices.

HIS example is no less inspiring today than it was to the cold, ragged men at Valley Forge. If this Nation is to continue as the beacon of freedom for the world, Washington's example of selfless dedicated service must be followed. (AFNB)

SEABEE OF  
The Month

CMA2 Stanford K. Chai was named MCB-11's Seabee of the Month in battalion ceremonies on 26 January.

His citation read: "As petty officer in the Alpha Company training section, petty officer Chai was directly responsible for the success of the company technical program. In addition petty officer Chai's efforts and initiative contributed greatly to the morale and success of the MCB Eleven Drill Team."

Petty Officer Chai received a Savings Bond, portrait and battalion plaque in recognition of his selection.

He and his wife, Martha and their five children reside at 735 Pearson Rd., Port Hueneme. Chai is from Honolulu.

## 4 PO's

## PROMOTED

Four MCB-11 men were promoted on 16 January and four were designated as strikers.

The PO promotions were: RM1 H. E. Caldwell, CS3 R. E. Alexander, CS3 H. R. King and UT83 E. Myron.

Those designated as strikers were: BULCN G. H. Cooper, BULCN R. L. Wilson, BULCN S. L. Birdsong and EADCN J. M. Lyerla.

In addition two men were authorized late advancements. They were: RM2 G. L. Lindsey -16 December and EON2 A. E. Chacon - 16 December.

# HQS Hotline 59 E-2's R & R ON

## PROMOTED OKINAWA

By JO2 Findley  
Things around H Co. are still confused - but organized - since the return of all the TK's who underwent military training with the battalion.

There are still a few sore muscles, the after effects of all the marching, and some complaints still linger on but for the most part it is agreed that H Co. had an outstanding group of "Fleet Sailors" participating in the training.

It is even rumored that some of the company enjoyed it so much that they volunteered for more but a couple of trips to the local psychiatrist and they should snap out of it.

Our thanks go to CPD Hernandez and CPD Herrick who played a big part in pulling, and sometimes pushing, us through the ordeal.

According to an unidentified source the battalion's corpsmen are considering charging for house calls during any future training. It seems that there was a large increase in the number of ailments just prior to the three-mile hike and overnight bivouac.

Our two scholars, Mr. Guglielmino and VN3 Cook, have returned from Naval Justice School and according to the grapevine are considering producing a television show to rival "Perry Mason".

If you have noticed a long line of H Co. personnel outside sick bay lately it is all the people who will participate in the amphibious training stocking up on their sea sick pills. Sea legs - what's that?

Fifty-nine battalion E-2's were advanced to E-3 effective on 16 January after passing the E-3 examination of 27 January.

Those personnel who were promoted are listed here: G. L. Flesner, E. L. Johnson, J. W. Chalmers, D. V. Cook, W. H. Revels, D. N. Hixson, J. R. Ansell, L. A. Kotrys, J. L. Kitelinger, D. A. McMakin, D. H. Frank, F. W. Metzmeier, R. E. Potts, T. E. Howard, C. J. West, R. P. Chapman, R. D. Wiedman, E. E. Pinault, D. K. Clemons, D. J. Frank, R. E. Brooks, L. A. Cherry, J. C. Hansen, P. F. Howell, G. M. Bjerk, G. R. McNutt, L. R. Ansell, D. F. Krom, D. C. Shoreack, T. D. Reed, R. L. Helm, K. A. Bolton, R. M. De Vries, E. L. Erickson, J. D. Cronin, D. C. Johnson, M. F. Heckler, H. M. Wadin, T. W. Harris, R. D. Macleod, G. F. Kittelman, P. W. Lawter, G. V. Olson, D. W. Turrisi, M. R. Collier, T. A. Boone, D. L. Broderick, D. J. Lautenback, D. W. Griffith, S. L. Kuhry, C. M. McNemar, P. M. Carpenter, G. L. Honey, R. W. Howe, L. A. Davis, F. M. Mewborn, K. E. Beasley, D. D. Babson, J. G. Maguire.

Six additional men took the exam but failed to pass.

If you are a liberty hound as every true sailor is the upcoming tour on Okinawa should be right down your alley.

Special Services operated recreational activities abound on the island for members of the military. To give you an idea of what is available to you during your off-duty hours the STINGER will print a series of articles on the facilities offered on Okinawa.

When you get ready to hit the beach you should have no problems - Okinawa is approximately 15 miles wide at its widest point. However, due to coral, dangerous sea life and pollution, personnel are advised to swim only at approved locations.

Three such locations are Ishikawa and Yaka beaches both located on the eastern side of the island and Okuma beach situated on the western shores.

Ishikawa is operated for both officers and enlisted men while Yaka is open only to enlisted men and Okuma serves as an officers rest center.

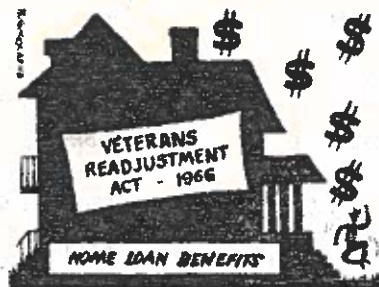
Ishikawa beach offers snack bars, cocktail lounges, dressing rooms, showers and athletic facilities such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, tennis, miniature golf, glass boats, sail boats, prams and fishing boats.

Yaka beach also features similar recreational and athletic facilities in addition to air conditioned accommo-

(Cont'd. P.6 Col.3)

EDUCATION

THE KEY TO PROMOTIONS



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Port Hueneme, California

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## Letters From Snuffy

Dear Mama,

I really know now that war is heck. We went on a bivouac to Conejo grade a few weeks back. It rained. The wind blew. My shelter half collapsed. I couldn't find the latrine and I set fire to the battalion's CP when I knocked over the kerosene lamp. That was only half of the problem. I had to climb two hills. I was the point of the formation. My job was to clear the cactus out of the way for my Company Chief. It is a very important task. I sure hate to see Chief Herrick get all upset. I didn't get a chance to see my Company Commander because he was just a voice. It came from inside a rain poncho which occasionally sent out a puff of smoke. It chattered its teeth once in awhile too.

After Conejo, later in the week, we had promotion time. It was rather interesting seeing all the officers get another stripe. All the guys with the crossed bananas on their arms got their commissions. The guys with the star just stood by. I guess it pays to be down to earth instead of up in the sky. After I discovered that you can be a ICD I definitely decided that the CEC is for me. I guess the DPPO program applies to CEC officers too.

The CB base here has got a new game organized. It is called Barracks A Go-Go. You go from one barracks and then go to another one and then go to yet another one. Except for moving all your gear it isn't too bad. I moved into the wrong barracks because I misheard the number of the barracks into which I was supposed to move. It was a good thing that I discovered it soon because I almost got put on mess cooking for NAVSCON. I have learned to cheat a little during this Barracks A Go-Go game. I put my stuff into a pile and then grab a couple of guys from X Division and tell them Pappy wants this pile moved from this barracks to another one. I hope no one finds out because I've managed to get my moving time from barracks 54 to 55 down to 6 minutes and 24 seconds.

The last five weeks I have been in military training. I've learned to fire the M-60, M-79, 3.5, 45 and the DS-28. The last weapon is my Company Officer. He fires off whenever I tell him that he's getting old and can't hack it. I'm sure all these skills will be useful when we get to Okinawa. If I can sneak one of the weapons off Camp Kinser, I'll be in a better position to bargain with the local people. I can tell them that I'm going to Vietnam pretty soon and they should give me a better deal on things I want to buy. I'm sure that they will appreciate the American fighting man.

Military training is just like basic all over again. I guess they figure that we forgot a lot so they send the Seabees through basic every year to remind them of what it is all about. The best fun is Camp Pendleton. You can go down there and throw rocks at the Marine barracks at night. Or better yet, wait until 2300 and then go into one of the trainees' barracks and yell "Attention On Deck!" Boy can they stand at attention. You really have to admire their unquestioning obedience to orders. We also shot on the range for a week. I didn't qualify. I guess it was because I kept getting the hasty sling mixed up with the loop sling. I almost choked myself one time. I did hear through the grapevine that anyone who shot a 173 or better will be qualified on the M-14. They said the XO passed the word.

We also had another camp out. I didn't do too good. They sent me out on a one man listening post but I couldn't find the post. I ended up walking through Charlie Company's mine field. After they threw me out of that, I got blown up by one of Headquarters' booby traps. Alfa Company made me stand the latrine watch for awhile. I had to make sure nobody missed it. It gets pretty dark at night. The Captain was smart, he had an escort when he went. I do know one thing, don't get captured and put into the POW compound. They had a crazy steward there who wanted to "cut" me and hang me. I kept telling them that I wasn't a VC and that I was running an errand for Bravo Company. They turned my loose after awhile and I kept wandering around. I finally ended up by the EM Club and decided to call it a night. I figured that they would eventually come back from wherever they were and I would meet them in the morning.

This coming week, I'm going to ride a LST. No, Mama it isn't a new drug, but a Naval ship. I can't understand why a Navy Seabee is going aboard a ship. I'll write to you later about this.

Love,

*Snuffy*

# MCB-11 One DELTA NOTES Year Ago

The lead story in the 23 February 1966 issue of the STINGER concerned the visit of RADM Robert R. Wooding, USN, DIC Construction, Republic of Vietnam, and BGEN Dunn, USMC, Engineer, U. S. Military Assistance Command, Republic of Vietnam.

The two officers visited MCB-11's Naval Support Activity storage site on 17 February where they were greeted by CDR W. W. Barron, CO MCB-11, and several other officers from nearby commands.

Other visitors that week included CAPT E. G. Underhill, USN, Chief of Staff, COMCBPAC; CDR Charles Swift, USN, Force Chaplain; and LTCOL D. Ridderhoff, USMC, DIC, Military Training, Port Hueneme.

It was reported that LTCOL Ridderhoff was caught reading the latest issue of STARS & STRIPES looking for news about a war in Southeast Asia.

The STINGER included a welcome aboard for two new officers - LT(jg) D. E. Sanger and ENS E. A. Page. Mr. Sanger reported from the USS ATAKAPA (ATF 149) and Mr. Page came from the USS LUZERNE COUNTY (LST 902).

Special Services was offering honest - to - goodness American entertainment for Thursday 24 February. Miss Carol Robbins, her guitarist and base accompanist were being featured in a program of rock-and-roll music, folk songs and twisting.

The big news with D Company is our trip to Camp Pendleton. We knew it was going to be quite an experience when the first thing we heard after getting off the bus and jumping in the chow line was some boot Marine saying to his buddy, "What's a Seabee. A Marine on sea duty?"

Well, that was only the start. After chow those men in Delta Company seeking to better themselves and accept more responsibility rushed to a shack where they took the Petty Officer examination. We are all confident that those carefully screened men did well on the test and will become exemplary PO's.

The next day saw Delta Company out on the rifle range for a week of target shooting. The official results haven't come in but there is a rumor that our eagle-eyed Ensign edged out our Company Commander on qualification day.

The second week was very interesting as we engaged in several training activities including such things as a tactical march, a single envelopment maneuver and hand grenade throwing class.

On the march we had such a good time we walked home. I don't think anyone has seen a more frightened bunch of Marines than those on the grenade range. They must have just returned from RVN and been a little jumpy.

Anyway as the week came to a close Friday found us on the march again this time to bivouac.

On the march and later during the night we encountered the enemy often and established a brilliant record knocking out enemy positions and capturing many aggressors.

We did have one fire team that didn't follow in the footsteps of the Company. They got themselves captured. Then they tried to tell the rest of the company that was the plan so they could get information on enemy strength, position and the like?????????

### R&R Cont'd.

For 110 single men. Room rentals are \$.75 per day and reservations must be made in advance.

Okuma beach also offers recreational and athletic facilities along with overnight accommodations. The rates vary from \$1.00 to \$2.75 per day for individuals.

Both Ishikawa and Yaka are located close to the military bases on the southern tip of the island and are readily accessible by local bus service.

A military bus service is offered to Okuma which is located approximately 50 miles north of Camp Kinser.

