The MCB Eleven

STINGER

Vol. V No. 12 | Dong Ha, Vietnam | July 16, 1967

MORE FREE MAIL

Saigon (MACV)--You may now mail taped recorded messages free of charge to all foreign countries.

Postal authorities granted the additional service in extending servicemen's free postal provileges in the combat zone. Sound recorded communications having the character of personal correspondence will be air lifted on a space available basis.

Before the recent change, taped recorded messages could only be mailed to the United States free of charge.

11 BUILDS CITY FOR MARINES

One of the battalion's larger construction projects is here on the Dong Ha Combat base for Force Logistic Support Unit One (FLSU-1).

When completed the Marines' new camp will include living facilities, a galley, fire station, bakery, special services buildings and both cold and covered storage areas. A network of roads is also being pioneered at the site by Seabees from the battalion.

Construction on two of the larger projects, the covered and cold storage areas, is already underway. Using a type of structure the Seabees made famous during World War II, the covered storage area will consist of two butler building modules.

One will include four buildings. The other will consist of two butler buildings. The combined modules will provide 24,000 square feet of storage area. At the cold storage site, Seabees are busy installing 60,000 cubic feet of refrigerated space.

Preparations are also underway for the construction of a bakery, 500-man galley, fire station and a special services facility.

For the Marines who will be working at the new facility, MCB-11 is erecting 51 huts to be used as living quarters and relocating another 30.

THIS IS THAT REFER I WAS WORKING ON.

DEAR SEABEE

Dear Sir (Any Seabee),

How are you? I am fine. My name is Kelly P. Toledo. My father is in Vietnam also. He is in your battalion (PNC Toledo). I have two brothers. I am the only girl in my family. My brothers are 8 and 6. I am 10 years old. My mother is watching TV and ironing.

How do you like it in Vietnam? Is it hot at night or cold at night? Would you like to come back? It is nice here. The pool is opened now. Swmming lessons have started. I might go this month. Well I have to go now.

Bye for now,

/s/ Kelly

Ed/ The above letter was received this week addressed to "Any Seabee", MCB-11".

WHAT'S INSIDE

C'O's COMMENTS

Cdr W. L. Wilson

I recently had the opportunity to make an official visit to our Seabee Teams 1108 and 1109. Team 1108 with LTJG O'Neal as OIC and Chief Van Ryswyck as assistant OIC is located at Lai Thieu village which is about 13 miles north of Saigon. They have completed their living quarters and work compound including shops, sanitary facilities, bunkers water supply, etc. The team is getting along real fine with many projects lined up for accomplishment.

I also visited Seabee Team 1109 located at Chiang Kham in the northern part of Thailand near the borders of Burma and Laos. LTJG Gibel is the OIC with Chief Knowles as assistant OIC. The tean is working with the Thailand Border Patrol Police Team assisting the government in developing some of its most remote border areas. The team covers an extremely wide area with small groups assisting

(Cont p.6 col 2)

XO's CORNER

LCdr J.C. Totten

Project completion means 100%. In my tours around the camp during the past week I have noticed that many of our camp buildings are between 95-98% complete. That final small percent appears to be a goal that is beyond our grasp.

Some of the items are actually so minor that the occupants of the building with a small effort could finish the job. We are at the point in the deployment when we must all work together to insure 100% completion of all facilities.

Don't sit back and wait for so-and-so to complete it. Take the initiative, find out why that last few items have not been finished. Then take some action.

One other item. Personnel inspections will be held regularly. All men have had ample time and opportunity to take advantage of the free tailor service. Green utility shirts should have the person's name over the right pocket and U.S. Navy over the left. If you haven't received the embroidered name tapes, put in your order with Supply. In the meantime stencil your name over the right pocket. Again, uniforms are at the 99% level. Let's all push for 1005.

MARS CALLS

LT T.A. Saygers

The MARS station is now in operation and it is a great asset to the men of our unit.

Many times just talking to your wife or family can help morale 1000 percent. Urgent questions can quickly be answered and the familiar tone of tee voice of a loved one has a magic way of quieting the pains of homesickness.

There are some real drawbacks for some people however, even in this blessing. If emergency messages are transmitted this way instead of through the Red Cross, additional pain is added. A serviceman cannot be sent home upon the basis of a MARS call.

Sometimes young children are more upset by hearing the voice of a parent they long to have home. There are few things so disruptive to the morale of a man than a hysterical type phone patch.

If the phone patch is used wisely, it can be a great boost and help shorten the deployment. Used foolishly it can bring great pain. On both ends, think before you call or converse.

(Cont p.7 col 2)

Commanding Officer.....Cdr W.L. Wilson, CEC, USN
Executive Officer.....LCdr J.C. Totten, CEC, USN
Public Affairs Officer.....Ens J.E. Bolling, USNR
Staff.....B.F. Findley, JO2, USN
F.A. Crowell, JO3, USN

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Letters For Freedom

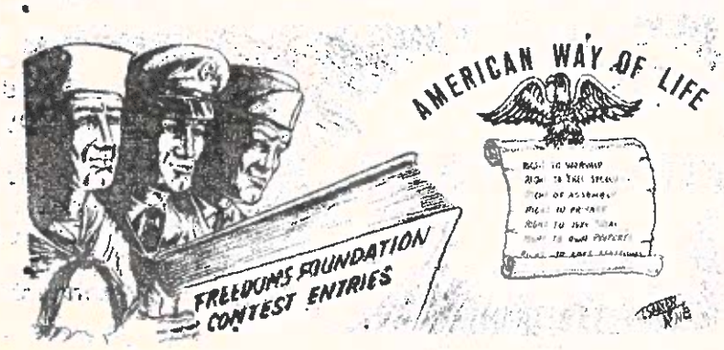
"IT's up to every American to fight for the freedom we hold so dear. If we don't, the smells of free air could become dark and damp as a prison cell."

THIS was written in a letter by Army Private First Class Hiram O. Strickland last year which won the George Washington Award from the Freedoms Foundation.

PFC Strickland never received the award. It was presented to his family because he was killed in Vietnam defending the freedom he held so dear.

THIS freedom for which so many have sacrificed their lives on the battlefields of the world is the basis for the 1967 Freedoms Foundation Awards Program. This year's subject is, "Freedom - My Heritage, My Responsibility."

EVERY serviceman and woman on active duty is eligible to submit as many entries as he may desire. Each entry may be in the form of a letter, essay or poem of not less than 100 or more than 500 words in length. Entries must be sent to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa., 19481, prior to Nov. 1, 1967.



MEMBERS of the Armed Forces may also compete for the other Freedoms Foundation awards offered. Dependents of service members, who are not eligible to enter the Letter Awards Program, may compete for awards in other categories.

ADDITIONAL information on the Freedoms Foundation Awards Program may be obtained by writing to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa., 19481.

WHEN you submit your entry, be sure to include your full name, rank, service number, branch of service, organization, and home state address.

THIS is your opportunity to be heard, to express your fellings about those freedoms you have sworn to defend and for which PFC Strickland and thousands of others have given their lives. (AFNB)

The Dangers Of LSD

2nd of a series

LSD has been called the "consciousness-expanding drug." In fact, it is quite the reverse. It decreases one's ability to select and pay attention. Sight and hearing are distorted. LSD may permanently dull the user's objective judgment.

This effect has been noted by psychiatrists as well as by law-enforcement officials. LSD does intensify sensations-but the momentary thrills, if in fact they can be considered thrills, are overshadowed by long-term effects, appearing with increasing frequency, which add up to chronic mental derangement.

During an 18-month period, LSD put 130 patients into New York City's Bellevue Hospital for treatment of mental illness. Fifteen patients suffered profound terror; 14 exhibited uncontrolled violence; 10 attempted either homicide or suicide. Most of these patients were men, of an average age of 23.

Sensations become intensified and perceptions are distorted under the influence of LSD. One man slept on the floor the night he took LSD because he was sure his bed was only two inches long.

Faces often appear to be melting. One high school student cut the tendons of her wrists because she looked into the mirror and saw her face begin to dissolve.

BRONZE STARS FOR RVN SERVICE MEDAL

Bronze stars have been authorized for the Vietnam Service Medal for personnel who served in Vietnam during any of four designated campaigns.

In making the announcement, the Secretary of the Navy designated the following four campaign periods: Vietnam Advisory Campaign, March 15, 1962 - March 7, 1965; Vietnam Defense Campaign, March 8, 1965 - December 24, 1965; Vietnamese Counteroffensive Campaign, December 25, 1965 - June 30, 1966; and a campaign yet to be named dating from July 1, 1966, to a date to be announced.

A bronze star 3/16 of an inch in diameter is authorized for each of the above periods. This means personnel who served with the battalion at DaNang last year prior to June 30 are eligible for two stars. All other MCB-11 personnel are eligible for one star unless you served in Vietnam with another command during one of the above campaigns.

The stars, unlike the medal itself, are not provided by the Navy but must be purchased by each individual. It was emphasized that the stars are not to be worn on the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal since stars on that medal denote participation in more than one area of operations such as Lebanon, Taiwan, Cuba, etc.

The personnel office will make appropriate entries in service records authorizing the purchase and wearing of the stars.

HQS HOTLINE

PNC Toledo

Charlie surely kept us busy the whole week. Headquarters company shared in the glory (or should I say gory) events of the past few days.

Safety Chief Thomas (again reacting swiftly) from the sound of the incoming oversize firecrackers dove/jumped, he can't recall how, to the mortar hole landing head/ feet/ back/ elbow first, another puzzle, and came up with a skinned head, backache and a skinned elbow.

Safety suggestion - mortar holes should be padded.

CMH3 Nelson said his adieu...good luck Red. JO3 Crowell and CN Noriega (quite a twosome) were DaNang bound the first of the week to get some rest (?). They heard the steaks are good at China Beach.

SK2 Pearcy insisted on his right to get a quota for China Beach. Must have heard something good from DK1 Armstead who just returned from an official TAD at MCB-4. Heard Al made the rounds of all our friendly Bee bases with all the detours enroute.

R&R quotas arrived for August. Everybody is scrambling for their quotas and Hq company is no exception.

Admin/Pers lucky ones are counting days..... looks like the majority of the married ones are aloha bound. Senior Chief Miller the shortest; LTJG Pine, shorter; PNC Toledo getting

(Cont p.7 col 3)

Letters Of Appreciation

Letters of Appreciation were presented to eleven men from the battalion during ceremonies in the commanding officer's office on Friday morning June 14.

The letters were from the Commander, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery, Lt Col Augustino L. Merolla, for the construction of a combat operations center for the Army command.

Receiving the letters were BUC Richard J. Hannigan, BU1 Ivan H. Johnson, BUH2 Walter R. Beals, BUL3 Donald E. Magnan, BUH3 Woodby R. Creasy, BUH3 Richard C. Schonfeld, CN Daniel P. Browne, CA Dennis L. Behnke, CN William Stewart, CN Daniel C. Van Hooser, SN Kenneth O. Klein.

WHAT IS FHTNC

The Fleet Home Town News Center at Great Lakes was first established in 1945 to provide news to home town papers and has since grown into an organization which today services more newspapers than the largest wire service.

In a recent year the center distributed more than 2 million Navy stories to more than 9,000 U.S. newspapers as part of a continuing effort to inform the American public about today's Navy.

The bulk of these stories dealt with Navymen like yourself and their jobs. Perhaps, to you, your job is just a routine assignment but to the folks back home it is interesting news and this is what FHTNC is looking for.

Each Navy command is responsible for providing news articles to the center. However, your help is needed in getting the job done. The first step in getting the story back to your home is the filling out of a FHTNC form. If you haven't completed one of the forms, make a trip to the Public Affairs Office where the forms are available. PAO is located next to the chaplain's office.

When the battalion arrived here in April, a release was forwarded to the center for the 253 men who have filled out the forms. Since then a second release concerning the Vietnam Service Medal has been sent in.

WELCOME ABOARD

NAME	REPORTED FROM
MR2 Jerry L. Blaylock	MCB-8
SA Leonard E. Hines	NAVSTA Long Beach
EO1 Randall K. Reneer	NAVSCON Port Hueneme
CS1 Ralph W. Range	NAVSTA Lemoore, Calif.
SN Donald R. Miller	NAVSTA Long Beach
CA James A. Denney	USNTC San Diego
CA Devoyal Tallant	31st NCR
CR Johnny Webb	NAVSTA Pearl Harbor
UTC David M. Edwards	CBC Port Hueneme
SN David M. Shea	Treasure Island

SAYONARA

NAME	DESTINATION
BUC James L. Brown	RESTRACEN Hollywood
SFC George E. Teigland	USS TICONDEROGA (CVA-14)
SWC Richard C. Davis	NAVSTA Keflavik Iceland
CMACN Alvin L. Flynn	Seperation
BUL3 Donald J. Greene	Seperation
CMH3 Michael L. Nelson	Seperation
CHA3 Carleton J. Smith	Seperation

CHARLIE CHATTER

BUHCN Stupka

Things are finally starting to take shape around Dog Patch now that our hard working first platoon is busy erecting living huts for Alpha, Bravo, and Delta companies. This should put a certain UT2 of Bravo company at ease.

This week BUCS Owenby returned, for the second time, from Lang Vei smiling as though he just returned from R&R. The men of Charlie company are beginning to think perhaps Lang Vei is an R&R center. Especially judging from the number of requests for the detachment there.

This week Charlie company lost our expediter, BUL Vigil, to Special Services. Good luck Joe.

BUH2 Beals, SN Ganas, SWE3 Eischeid and CN Hocker have been on R&R. Eischeid and Hocker were quite enthusiastic about Malaysian food. Beals and Ganas must have found something better than food for they have not yet returned.

OFFICER ARRIVAL

Ens Daniel J. Huberty reported aboard the battalion on July 11 ans is scheduled to assume the duties of the engineering officer.

Ens Huberty is a 1966 graduate of the Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa, here he earned a bachelors degree in architecture. He entered the Navy on September 23, 1966

Prior to coming on active duty, Ens Huberty worked for the city of Detroit's city planning commission. He is from Dyersville, Iowa.

BRAVO BANTER

Jingle Bells, Mortar shells,
VC in the grass,
But Christmas in July
With a little harass
Aren't you a little early Uncle Ho?

Could be he was just saying hello to UTC Edwards but the new chief said he could do without it. Welcome aboard chief. Hope this was not a sign of the long "hot" summer ahead.

CE1 Brown and CEP2 Mwnti, as usual, are on their skate boards having made it to Bangkok after Charlie sent his first calling card.

RM2 Cook never, but never, had anything like this happen to him at sea. Too bad about the accident. Next time you'll take it easy going on to the hole. Chief Smith gave the platoon a safety lecture about getting down in the hole and leaving the entrance open when he comes steaming thorugh.

Back on the work front, Doemland and boys are firemen now. While returning from a condition red, a common thing around here these days, they put out a fire in Charlie company area, using water from a 55 gallon barrel which was in the area.

Wrage and the steel workers are repairing tanks and barrels in the steel shop. The CE's are still getting plenty of trouble calls.

The second platoon of CE's are busy installing the power throughout the base. However, with the wind blowing around here the poles will soon be bent in the middle.

The third platoon UT's are getting plenty of PT going from their mortar holes to their fighting holes and jumping all the trenches in between. It seems UTA2 Webber has built in radar because he fell into three in one night. The allotted two cans of beer must be getting to him. UTC Smith has an omen about this place. It seems he can't wait to leave.

My Squad Leader, The

PROMOTIONS

Night I Got Bit!

Fifteen men from the battalion were promoted today. The men and their new rates are: CMA3 William L. Arick, EAD3 Burton B. Burks, CEW3 Jay W. Chalmers, CMA3 Donald V. Cook, CMA3 John A. Earlywine, EAS3 Michael Ellsworth, CMA3 Donald L. Francett, GMG3 Tom E. Hyatt, CMA3 Theodore L. Lafon, YN3 Francis L. Lindsey, DT2 Michael D. Nelson, CMA3 Bernard G. Perry, SK2 Gerald L. Smith, CEW3 Ben R. Stephens, CMA3 David D. Warnken.

CO CONTINUED

The Thai villagers who volunteer their labor in the construction of water wells, bridges, sanitary facilities, etc. The team corpsman in conjunction with the border patrol police treated over 2500 patients in one month.

I was very impressed with both teams and the work they are accomplishing.

DELTA DROPPINGS

BUH3 Rapp

Two more times this past week the steelworking men of the third platoon donned their helmets and flack jackets to go to the airstrip to repair damage caused by rocket and artillery attacks. They do the job faster each time--wonder why?

During the past week, frequent harrassment by Charlie Cong has really fouled up work schedules but the men of Delta haven't fallen behind. A typical example of Delta's determination was shown by the crew of builders when several rounds came in as close as 30 yards to where they were working. Mahr's crew hit the closest mortar hole and waited until the alert condition was lifted and then proceeded to finish the concrete.

The third platoon welcomed aboard this week two new men. They are James Denny and Donald Miller. Later in the week, Miller, a fleet sailor, was given a special welcome when he was sent in search of a sheet metal stretcher. Well, he looked and looked but couldn't find anyone who had one.

When he came back empty handed his crew leader told him not to feel bad and that it would be OK if he would just go get a wood cutting attachment for the acetylene torch. Needless to say Miller is getting a lesson in [illegible] and to help him here is this week's question. What does a sheet metal stretcher look like?

ALPHA ANTICS

By Don Nohlquist, Alpha company

CMA2 McCully Well, here is the number one company back again this week working diligently as usual.

Alpha company had another man get on the big bird going to the States this week. C.J. Smith, as far as we know, was the only Guatamalan Seabee in MCB-11.

It seems that these trap doors in the new huts are presenting a problem for the mechanics. From what I can hear they are rather hard to open while sitting or standing on them during condition red.

We have an announcement to make this week. CMA3 Warnken, our company yeoman, became the proud father of a 6 lb. 11 ounce baby boy. Congratulations Dave!

Chiefs Burger and Griner are going on R&R to Bangkok soon. I seem to remember something about a haricut in 1965 when the battalion was on Okinawa. Is this going to be another haircut excursion chiefs?

Mr. Smith, our company commander, is also going to Hawaii for R&R. For, we think, seven days. He has no comment about that. He just sits there at his desk and smiles. Would you believe a UA Lt?

Chief Irish has returned from three weeks on the hospital ship Sanctuary. Welcome back chief.

It seems one of the road crews had a hair raising experience when an ARVN truck hit a mine in the road near where the men were working.

EOH2 Talley and EO1 Downey, the license examiners, are now open for business in their new ultra modern office.

After this article Alpha company is going to have to find themselves a new reporter because I will be leaving in just a few days.

The way things look, if the company has all the short timers leave, there will hardly be anybody left. Even our leading chief is leaving soon.

FIVE MONTHS

We were checking the date sheet
The other day,
Seems the end of deployment
Is five months away.

Just five wonderful months--
That's got to be wrong,
It can't be that we've been
Here that dog-gone long.

How we're going to miss
Charlie and the crack of the rockets,
Staring into the dark until
Our eyes burn in their sockets.

The chow lines, the beer lines,
The shower lines t o,
All this we have to give up
For that line at Mugu.

Now don't get me wrong,
It's my weird sense of humor,
I miss California and that
Isn't a rumor.

Five months isn't long,
So hold on to your bonnet,
When the plane touches down,
We're all going to be on it.

CHAPLAIN CONTINUED

Know what you will say and use it to help those you love.

Make those phone patches accomplish the best possible good for all.

H COMPANY CONTINUED

short and Ens Bolling, well a few more weeks.

YN2 Bacusolie and SO1 Manglicmont, Manila here we come. PN2 Myers studying his Mandarin phrases for Taipei, ETN3 McDonald and EAS2 Derbyshire listening intently for pointers on Bangkok from CUCM Hanby and EAC Willis. I wonder what they will learn????

Other quotes are still being discussed/fought/scratched at this writing.

Two more official TAD orders find our Doc Ball on medical matters and S-2's Chief Flaherty laborously gathering intelligence reports on the goodies at DaNang.

From the EA's the word this week is helo pads and more helo pads.

SAM SEZ

Accidents we have. Our total is now 49, seems to still be going up. At least it was as of July 13. Current score Alfa 16, Delta 10, Headquarters 8, Bravo 7 and Charlie and Security 4 each. So only Delta and Security had an accident free week.

On our accident review, let's go back to June 23. Delta com any had a man who was completing a cut with a skillsaw. He placed the skillsaw on a table after he finished the cut but the guard stuck in the up position and the blade caught on the table and backed up across the man's finger. Result: severe laceration of the left index finger, took 12 sutures to close. Here the crew leader and our man had a responsibility. This saw had been recently overhauled but as far as the 108 goes, no one--CTR, crew leader, or the man himself--really inspected the saw throughly before use. Sam Sez, know the hazzards involved, don't trust to chance, take that few extra minutes to check power tools prior to use.

Our last accident for June involved Alfa company. A man on the way to the head tripped on something and struck his wrist and arm on a sharp object. Result: 1½ inch laceration of the right wrist. Guess he didn't listen to old Sam. Sam said bedfre-- after dark stick to main roads, use a flashlight, avoid cutting through areas in the dark.

Our first accident for July involved a jeep that was overturned by a man in Headquarters company. He was licky, only multiple bruises and one day lost time. However the lesson is there for all of us. Our man was driving too fast for existing conditions and not paying proper attention to the road and hazzards involved. Sam Sez, know how to drive a vehicle before you get behind the wheel. This is Vietnam not Port Hueneme, road conditions are anything but ideal. Last word the jeep is still in the sop trying to get well.

Our last accident for the week occured with a bang on the 4th of July. Our man from Bravo company was loading a pump on a truck when it slipped and fell on his thumb. No 108 available to analize but I bet two things were involved. Not knowing the hazards involved and not using the proper tools or methods. We will never know exactly unless Bravo company returns the 108. Will let you know next week if I was right.

Think safety.

MAIL THE STINGER HOME

FROM:

MCB-11 Company
FPO San Francisco 96601

TO: