



The MCB Eleven

STINGER

Vol. V, No. 20

Camp Barnes, Vietnam

September 10, 1967

A DAY TO REMEMBER

September 3, 1967 - the day there was no Stinger. However, it certainly wasn't due to a lack of newsworthy items or exciting events.

Early Sunday morning the paper was nearing completion when a short round landed near the Dong Ha Combat base.

Then a few minutes later at 8:53 a.m. it happened. Another round came in. Then another. Then another. Then three hours of explosions, earth tremblings

(along with treatment) Seabees) and flying shrapnel.

Firing 152mm artillery the enemy lobbed 40-50 rounds into the base detonating one of the base ammunition dumps. As members of MCB-11 scrambled for their helmets, flak jackets and the nearest hole, red flashes cast an eerie light over the base through the shrouds of black smoke.

Concussions from the blasts caused extensive

damages to the northern side of Camp Barnes but there were no major structural damages.

As quite finally settled, everyone gave a sigh of relief. But there was more in store.

Again that Sunday the battalion went into condition red and for the ensuing four days - September 4, 5, 6 and 7 the siren was sounded ten more times.

During the five-day ordeal 24 men of the battalion were wounded by shrapnel. They were:

SEPTEMBER 3

LTjg R. H. Cahill	E*
BUH2 C. W. Davis	E
CN S. R. Dodson	E
BUL2 W. E. Savage	E
HN P. H. Beals	R*
EDH2 J. H. Pope	R
CN R. A. Brown	R
EONCN R. T. Lachausse	R
ENS G. A. Howell	R
HM2 I. R. Wisted	R
EDH2 G. Lopez	R

(Cont'd. page 4)

WATCH REPAIR Purple Hearts

Purple Hearts were presented to three men who were wounded during the rocket attack on August 28.

They were: BUHCN E. J. Stier, RM1 H. E. Caldwell and CN E. E. Pugh.

Two other men have been evacuated for medical treatment and will receive their Purple Hearts at the hospital. They are: BUHCN R. L. Sheets and BUL3 R. A. Martindale.

SAIGON (PACEX)--Does your Bulova watch need repairs?

You can send it to the Bulova company's Hong Kong office. Pack the watch enclosing a note that it should be forwarded to Bulova, 14-16 Pender St., Hong Kong for repair then mail the package to: Hong Kong Procurement Office, PAC-EX, Box 10, FPO San Francisco 96659.

When the watch is repaired, the Bulova company will deliver it to the procurement office for return to you through your FPO address.

We may be down but we are never out and next week the Stinger will again resume normal publication with all company articles.

MCB 5

A five-man predeployment inspection party from MCB-5 arrived at Camp Barnes August 30 for a 6-day visit.

MCB-5 is scheduled to relieve Eleven later this year.

The party consisted of Cdr. E. J. Williams, CO MCB-5, LCdr. D. G. Hartlieb, Lt. J. M. Davis, Lt. R. T. Hudspeth and EOCM Derr.

CO's Comments



Cdr. W.K. Hartell

These past two weeks have been difficult ones for all of us. The loss of four of our fellow Seabees in addition to several wounded brought the conflict closer to each of us. We must expect continued harassment by the enemy. However, we cannot assist the enemy in the harassment by becoming depressed or not giving the maximum effort to our job. The enemy knows the psychological affect of these attacks, in addition to the physical damage. Only the enemy will benefit if any of us let up in our efforts.

We must all renew our dedication to the tasks which face us here. Only by confronting the future with faith can we possibly do what is expected of us. The support we are giving others is not merely necessary to secure the freedom of the future but to fulfill our responsibilities to those who gave their lives for this cause.

As I have said before, the men of NMCS-11 are the best. Your spirit, your dedication, your unity, and the knowledge of the vital necessity of our construction efforts will sustain us through the months ahead. Let us look to the future and the tasks that remain and not behind. To carry us through the days ahead, we must renew our faith and strength by prayers for God's grace.

XO's Corner

LCdr. J.C. Totten

Here is the latest on the early outs.

Group VIII ratings in their first enlistment who have completed two deployments to Vietnam with NMCS Eleven, may request an early release from active duty. This release will be granted if the expiration of active duty falls within 364 days of the individuals arrival in CONUS. That is if you arrive in Port Hueneme, on December 10, 1967, and you are due for release on December 9, 1968, you can request release to inactive duty early and can be discharged before Christmas 1967. If your expiration of enlistment is December 10, 1968, you are not eligible and therefore must serve out your enlistment.

For non group VIII, the rule is 180 days early

LTjg W.E. Dodson, CHC

This prayer was written in a letter from Jackie Judd a 16 year-old girl from Morre, Oklahoma. It was addressed, "Dear Soldier(???) August 18, 1967.

"-----here is a prayer I say almost every night! It is a prayer for peace!

"Our Father, who are beyond our fondest hopes and deepest dreams, who sent Thy Son into our midst to shatter forever the bonds of hatred and sin; we Thy unworthy children, turn to thee in prayer for peace and goodwill in our world.

"As young people, we have stumbled and fallen in our attempt to follow Thee. We turn to Thee for renewed strength that we may witness more
(Cont'd. Page 4)

out. Using the example above this would mean if you met all other eligibility requirements and you arrived in CONUS on December 10, if your expiration date for enlistment was June 8, 1968, you will be released before Christmas 1967. If your release date is June 9, 1968, you are not eligible.

If you have any questions contact the Personnel office. Remember you must request an early out. It is not automatic.

USAFI MEANS ADVANCEMENTS

Commanding Officer
Executive Officer
Public Affairs Officer
Staff

Cdr. W.K. Hartell, CD1, USN
LCdr. J.C. Totten, CDG, USN
Ens. J.E. Bolling, USNR
B.F. Findley, JO2, USN
F.A. Crowell, JO3, USN

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Memorial Services

Memorial services were held September 3 for four men killed during the early morning rocket attack on August 28.

Killed were BUR2 Jerry L. Newman, BURCN Anthony J. Grasso, BUHCN Richard J. Wager and BURCN Jerome D. Patterson.

Deadline Near

SAIGON (MACV)--Approximately two months remain until the deadline for entry in the 1967 Freedoms Foundation contest for servicemen and women on active duty who this year write on the subject, "Freedom--My Heritage, My Responsibility."

Entries may be in the form of a letter, an essay or poetry and should be no less than 100 nor more than 500 words in length. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$50 cash and are accompanied by a George Washington Honor Medal.

Anyone on active duty may submit as many entries as he desires, including regular reservists while on active duty status.

All entries must include the typed name, rank, serial number, branch of service, complete unit address and permanent home state address and zip code of the author.

Entries may be sent anytime before Nov. 1 to Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa., 19481.

Through the 1967 subject, Freedoms Foundation hopes to stimulate

The men were all in their hut which took a direct hit shortly after the attack began at 6:05 a.m. Three other occupants of the hut were wounded.

During the attack 20-25, 140mm rockets landed within the Dong Ha Combat base with five impacting in Camp Barnes.

Wounded were BUHCN Richard L. Sheets, BUL3 Robert A. Martindale and BUHCN Edward J. Stier. All were members of Charlie company.

EDN3 Leland F. Petersen, of Alpha company, was wounded during the artillery attack at 10:55 a.m. the same day.

BUR2 Newman was born on May 16, 1944, and enlisted in the Navy on A-

the thought of servicemen and women on the subject of freedom as it is known in the United States of America.

The Foundation seeks also to call attention to the obligations which all citizens, particularly those serving in the Armed Forces, have in maintaining and protecting this freedom.

Official announcement of awards for the 1967 contest will be made Feb. 22, 1968, from Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. Distribution of awards will be made through individual services following the official announcement.



pril 1, 1964. He graduated from BU "A" school at Port Hueneme on November 20, 1964, and reported to MCB-11 on December 5, 1964.

Petty Officer Newman is survived by his parents Wendall Lloyd and Myrtle Flora Newman of Agenda, Kansas.

BURCN Grasso was born on March 8, 1946. He enlisted in the Navy on March 25, 1966, and completed BU "A" school at Davisville on September 23, 1966. He reported to MCB-11 on October 9, 1966.

Constructionman Grasso is survived by his parents Ralph and Lucy Grasso of Chicago.

BUHCN Wager was born on July 27, 1947, and enlisted in the Navy on April 26, 1966. He graduated from BU "A" school at Davisville on November 4, 1966, and reported to MCB-11 on November 22, 1966.

Constructionman Wager is survived by his mother Mrs. Marion Ether Wager of Millington, Michigan.

BURCN Patterson was born on November 28, 1945. He enlisted in the Navy on November 1, 1965, and graduated from BU "A" school at Port Hueneme on June 3, 1966. He reported to MCB-11 on July 22, 1966.

Constructionman Patterson is survived by his mother Mrs. Phyllis Anna Jean Patterson of Pleasanton, Kansas.

Of the four men who were wounded BUHCN Stier and EDN3 Peterson were treated and returned to duty.

BUHCN Sheets and BUL3 Martindale were evacuated for further medical treatment. Both suffered burns and shrapnel wounds.

A DAY CONT'D.

EDHCN J. W. Urbina	R
BUHCA R. C. Rizzo	R
BUC R. J. Hannigan	R
DT1 R. W. Stafford	R
CA G. L. Souza	R

SEPTEMBER 5

CES3 J. F. Harris	R
UTW3 G. W. Lamothe	E
TN P.C. Pasco	R
SH3 T. J. Walstrom	R
SD3 T. C. Gallilia	R
CMHCN P. J. Dolan	R
CN W. L. Stewart	R
CMHCN S. W. Butler	R

*E- Evacuated for medical treatment.

*R - Treated and returned to duty.

CHAPLAIN CONT'D.

fully to the gift of love which Thou hast sent into our midst through Him who was and is the Prince of Peace.

"Awaken us, O Lord, lest we thoughtlessly receive so great a gift of love. Grant us courage and insight to find ways to share this glorious gift with our troubled world. This we pray through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen."

UNFINISHED POEM

LTjg T. R. Pine

Twas the day of elections
around Dong Ha town,

Not a VC was stirring till
an incoming round,

Started people A' running
to get underground,

And listen so carefully for
that familiar sound,

They first hit the airstrip
and then ASP,

Things then began jumping
for us busy bees,

We stayed in our holes for
that night and next day,

Hoping the VC would soon
come our way.

