

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

WOLFGRAM

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COMMANDING OFFICER

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COMMANDING OFFICERS NOTE

As we start these next few months in which we have the maximum change-over of personnel, let me exhort everyone to indoctrinate the new people with everything you have learned in your time in country. Let them profit by our experiences and knowledge. There is no reason that they should have to make the same errors we made nor rediscover knowledge that should have been passed on. This is the only manner in which a unit such as "The Seawolves" progresses and can go on to higher levels of achievement rather than become stagnant. We all have a share in this organization and I would like to think we are proud of the part which we played and that we all desire the exploits of the "The Seawolves" never dim.

DET 1
USS HUNTERDON COUNTY

Once again reporting from the crossroads of South Vietnam, The Bassac River, I bring you a hearty hello from Det 1.

The month of January has been rather quiet compared to the Christmas and New Years festivities on Phu Quoc Island. Lately we have heard a few complaints (not justified however) of the numerous trips to Rach Gia. Can't understand it - everyone likes to stretch out on the hot, dusty runway for a day long siesta and to wake up to a hot meal of "C" rations.

Getting down to specifics - LTJG Pat (oops Pete) BRIDGES, the cattle baron, is anxious to get back to the land of Oz. But he leaves us with an awe inspiring record as the Commodore's personal pilot, 21 air medals, 350 combat missions and a million hours in the rack. Well, "Pete" best of luck at HC-4 and hope to see you somewhere on the seven seas.

LCDR HARTMAN has fully enjoyed his first full month as Det 1's Head Honcho. You can tell this by his big smile and cheerful voice. But don't let this fool you - he rules with an iron hand. He even is sporting a new short haircut. Can't figure out what style it is but who cares in a war zone.

LT Jerry PRATT just made LCDR - he is especially overjoyed because he has been told that now he can make decisions, hope they are the right ones. Just wait until he realizes he will have to spend another 3 years in the Navy due to this promotion. Jerry has been heard complaining about the fact that after training other pilots and "giving them the key to the car, he can't get it back." Tough luck Jerry! Time for the JO's to take over. LTJG Wild Willy WALKER has returned from his extended tour of the Orient. It seems he thumbed his way around the Pacific to Japan, Okinawa, and Taipei. On his return he didn't have much to say - just a big grin. Glad to have you back Bill; we need your talents and experience.

Oh yes, we still have LTJG Noel CAMPBELL with us. He still beeps around especially after receiving his AHAC papers. I also understand he is carrying on an extensive training program with our newest arrival LTJG Bob SHORE. Welcome aboard Bob. Well Bob, just follow those check lists and be sure your flight suit zippers are zipped and you'll succeed.

As usual there is a lot to say about Sumo Hatchet Man SOTO; unfortunately it's all unprintable. SOTO now has the honor of sleeping in the JO bunkroom. See SOTO, we told you that you're still a JO. Well Sumo don't feel bad. With the arrival of LTJG Bob SHORE and LTJG Rick SADDLER you still have two slaves in the Ops department.

At last LTJG Pretty Boy BAGLEY has left for the land of paper pushers and Aussie clubs. If he can just keep a pen in one hand and paper in the other he will survive. But knowing Chuck alias "Cuddles" this will be impossible. It will be strictly wine, song and women in that order. Good Luck Chuck.

Now we can mention the one and only LT Jim "Yule" BEEB. With his latest bald head, a bit bumpy but pretty, he is trying to set the style. That's OK Jim, we still love you anyway.

Next come the most ambitious, important, and hardest workers in the delta. Probably the biggest tragedy to hit the delta was the loss of AMH3 FRYBURGER, also known as the "Bush", love beads. Real sorry Bush but just grin and bear it. When talking about insignificants somehow A03 MCGOWAN's name is mentioned. Can't understand this since he is always out cleaning his guns and making wise cracks. But MCGOWAN don't feel bad; we all know how hard you work so we're glad to have you.

AB2 SEARLE just returned from leave to the Philippines. He said he went to see his wife but it's still not certain. He said he had a good time. Hope you took some movies SEARLE - you have to get some use of your new camera.

Bon voyage to ADJ1 HUNT and ADJ3 KELLY who returned to the states for 30 days. Have fun follas and see you back here soon.

Chief WALSH has left us again on emergency leave. Well Chief looks like you won't have to come back this time. Hope everything at home turns out OK and maybe our paths will cross somewhere on the seven seas.

AO3 McALLISTER has just made the biggest purchase of his life - enough film to cover two wars. He also is getting slap-happy as the time approaches for his Bangkok trip. Knowing Mac he will enjoy it. AMS3 VALLADARES has decided that he is the only one on the Det who hasn't been on liberty. Well Val, we all know different don't we. Just remember Christmas and don't complain.

Well that just about covers it. It puts us at the end of another month and another Wolfgram.

DET 2
NHA BE

Greetings from Sandy Point. The first month of 1969 found the Nha Be Det busy with facility improvements. The Seabees built new revetments for us to park in and then constructed a reinforced concrete ammo storage locker. Just arriving on the last day of January was our portable control tower. Now, all we need is a couple of Air Controllers to man it.

LTJG Wil "Stash" DAVIS was absent from the det for two weeks of "Volunteer" service to Saigon. Wil enlightened our leaders with his vast knowledge of the Vietnam situation.

LCDR Mike "Aloha" RETZ departed Vietnam for a week of well deserved R&R. Mike took his "See Hawaii on \$5 a Day" book with him. However, it seems he lost it so he had to settle for R&R rates.

With LCDR RETZ and LTJG DAVIS gone, it fell on LTJG Al "the Whisper" BILLINGS and our O-in-C, LCDR Dave "Budweiser" BLAIR, to keep the fire teams running. As his time in country gets shorter and shorter, Al works harder and harder to get in shape to return home. Would you believe he runs around the base wearing a 20 pound flak jacket? Not that Al needs to get in shape; he already makes the rest of us look like Don Knotts!

LTJG George "Buckeye" PIEL set the Stocks and Bonds game record with \$73,000. LTJG Tim "Mr. Fixit" HAYES set another Stocks and Bonds game record by failing to finish the first year. He didn't go broke; he just broke!

LT Tom "Picasso" COGSWELL invented a game called "Find the .45 Shell". While conducting a thorough pre-flight inspection, Tom dropped a loaded .45 shell in the main transmission area. It took four men twenty minutes to locate and extract it. We notice that Tom's co-pilots are conducting the pre-flights now.

Following the Captain's example, CDR GERCKEN, the XO, spent a few days flying with us. LTJG Dick "Blue Bono Man" HENNESSY left the det. He is returning to the land of the great PX and HC-2. Good luck in New Jersey Dick.

LT Dave "Black Shoe" O'NEILL, our new Admin Officer, has been busy flying, filing and perfecting his cribbage game. Dave has been trying to get the vibration out of the helicopter that seems to show up only when HE is flying. So far no one has told him that the vibration goes away when the pilot stops shaking the stick.

Bill "Baby San" WAGNER has come up with a recipe for a midnite snack which he would like to pass along to the gals at home. All you need are four large grade A eggs, a half pound of ground ham, a half pound of ground cheese, and a half of a bottle of catsup. Beat the eggs, fry on a grill, add ham and cheese, and fold into an omelet. Cover with the catsup and serve on a large dish. Some toast and a quart of chocolate milk, and you are ready to dig in. We thought this recipe must feed three or four, but Bill informs us that it only feeds one! Bill eats this mess every night and claims he is losing weight. It seems you burn up more calories with the nightmares than you take in.

Our "easy going" boss, LCDR Dave "Eudweiser" BLAIR, spent the month letting people know he was on the base. In fact, there were apples rolling down all the newly paved streets of Nha Be from all the carts he upset.

Our det's Petty Officer in Charge of everything, Jim "Beads" ROBINSON, begrudgingly turned over all his jobs since he will be leaving for Vung Tau on the First of February. Robby has also risen to the ranks of crew chief and has been doing a fine job at it. His only problem has been snagging the rotor blade as it comes to a stop. Robby was always on the wrong side of the helo to catch the low blade.

You may not believe it, but we have several men in training for a Seabee rating. Bob "Gunny" ARNOLD and Ed "Grape Juice" WELCH have constructed a large gun storage cabinet for the ready room and are now busy remodeling the storage room. We all wondered at first where all the plywood was going but it takes quite a bit of wood to construct wall to wall doors from the deck to the overhead. Last month we reported that Chuck "Pork" GIER was busy "raising the roof" of his gun cleaning shed. This month Chuck has been busy putting the finishing touches on his shed. These include panelling and painting. Rumor has it that the Seawolves are going to hire out the storage room and gun cleaning shed for parties in the near future.

Jack "the Comedian" CARTER also ends his tenure at det Two on the first of February. Word must have gotten back to Vung Tau about the talents Jack possesses in the field of orndance. Well, at least Jack can continue his sun-worshiping on the beach. Speaking of sunbathing, Glen "Hawkeye" SMITHEN has also taken up this strenuous pastime. Could it be that he is working up a tan to take home with him?

Our man-about-town, Jim "Sparky" EVANS, continues to fill the bill as the det's Ambassador at Large. Jim's many connections do come in handy at times and he has been our agent on several fast procurements and repairs.

The richest man in the det is now Ben "Dead Eye" SMITH. Well, not really, but he has custody of the profits of the coke mess that he has taken over from Robby. Ben's first act on the job was to call a meeting to discuss ways of spending the profits. Sounds like the money is burning a hole in someone's pocket.

Larry "Swish" TAYLOR took a week off from the war and did some relaxing, among other things, in our beautiful 50th state. Larry is now counting off the last of his remaining days in country. Yep, at six foot six inches, he is the shortest man in the det.

Our monthly summary would not be complete without a word about our two canine Seawolves. Ralph, who is now all of three months old, has developed a typically Navy habit. He is most upset if someone forgets to bring him a doughnut from the mess hall to go along with his morning coffee. Ky, sad to say, has been feeling rather poorly. She spent the entire month of January in HEAT!

DET 3
VINH LONG

We of Det 3 bid you greetings. The first week of this month, the big word from the higher ups indicated that Det 3 will be split into an operational Det on the new improved YRFM 20 and a maintenance Det at Vinh Long. They also said we would be moved by January 26. Our only question is, "What year?"

If you see some low hung smiles around here, it has to be either Hopkilo MUNGER or fearless Chuck LARSEN; they just returned from Hawaii. LT LAZO, our ex-Mad-Cuban leader, came back for a visit before leaving for the far off US of A. His visit turned into another of Det 3's infamous blowouts. The middle of this month marked a momentous occasion in Naval history. When Vung Tau lost our pay checks in the back drawer somewhere, we went on strike. Funny thing though, nobody could tell the difference. This month, our fearless aircrew chalked up few hours because of their standby commitments. Seems like we were the only det in an "up" status for more than one hour all month. Ask CATLING sometime about his .3 patrol - it seems that the fire team went off standby at 0845 and back on again at 0857. The new, reformed WILLIAMS is back off the wagon and has returned to being his 'old self with that weird growth under his nose. He joined Junglo Jim TRUEX, Hop Kilo MUNGER, Matouse RIORDAN, Mad NEUTE, Dancing in the streets PAGE, What happened in Hawaii LARSEN, and SCHAFERHOCKER, the Delta Mauler, to complete the air crew. Shortly, very shortly, Jim CATLING, (the old man of the land) will end his 18 month tour in Vietnam. The only one that's been here longer is Seawolf, our dog.

In the maintenance end of the gang, our only problem is still Det 3A (Det 7) and we hope to have a hangar especially for them soon. AMH3 "Thunder Road" SUBLETT, has one word to say - and that is "help". He's the only tin bender in the det since ABBOTT went back to Vung Tau for some schooling and SWISHER departed on leave. He says he's really hurting. The last gripe he had, he had to make an OJT tin bender out of mad dog, also known to some of the clan as "Crazy legs" HABERN. "Slin" EASLEY, alias short, is on a diet to go from a 38 wide to a 32 regular before he gets out of the Navy. He may have to ship over to do it! Congrats to "1/3 ft Taco" FERRERA who finally made second class. Now he can tell Sam JAMES to stay in his pay grade. Over in the BB locker, Alan "Short" BOEDECKER and Steve "Shorter" PASCHKE have received their replacement, "Red Man" JONES. In the tweet shop, ATN3 HABERN is busy installing stereo tape gear in our helos, "Roadrunner" SWIGGOOD is pushing First Lieutenant, and "Love Struck" DUNNIVANT is talking Hawaii. Watch out wife, here he comes!! The first LT's division has turned into a real cheerful group. Seems like they just got our present complex like they wanted it, now they have to start on a new one. Our Super Sandbaggers, CHRISTENSEN, MARK, ANTHONY, JOHNSON, and MAIRE, are starting to worry; will it ever end? Our maintenance chief, "String Bean" BARGER, is still pushing the maintenance personnel. He can be heard at 0900 every morning, saying, "Operator, give me 2175". Chief, what would you do if everyone showed up at 0800?

It has been back in the saddle month for the Det 3 pilots. Our ranks have been thinned considerably, from time to time, by those jetting off on leave or R&R. LT Eric ALEXANDER returned from Hong Kong a considerably wiser, though poorer, man - but quite a lot relaxed and rehabilitated. He was quoted as saying that he was ready for another junket if only someone would loan him some cash.

Rumor has it that he is now majority stock holder in the Star Ferry running between the Hong Kong and Kowloon side. The north also brought him a pleasant, gratifying surprise (Seawolf type) when it was learned that he was to be placed in charge of the soon-to-be-formed Vinh Long maintenance detachment. He is reported to be ecstatic over his new job. LT Bob COOPER worried for two days about not hearing his alarm on the morning he was to leave for Hawaii. Accordingly, he detailed Chief BARGER, who is probably DET-3's earliest riser, to awaken him so that he wouldn't miss his flight to Saigon. As it turned out, it was the chief who was awakened nearly a full hour before he usually got up by Bob's stirrings. At this writing, our dauntless, scarred warrior has not yet returned from his interlude so we are unable to bring you a full report on his activities there, which, now that we think of it, he would probably not want to do anyway. Our great white whale, LTJG Dick BARR, also stroked off into the great pond for a few days sunning and fanning in Hawaii. We hoped that he sent his wife a photo of his "new" self (reportedly 25 pounds thinner) so that she would be able to recognize him at the airport. He said, however, that this wasn't necessary; she would know him at once. Since he didn't elaborate on this statement, we are still curious to understand how. Perhaps he'll enlighten us when he gets back. DET-3's flower child, LTJG Randall MILLER, returned from Hawaii a couple of weeks ago with a huge grin on his face, which is rather hard for a man to do with a full wad of snuff tucked under his upper lip. At any rate, this in itself was all we needed to know about his R&R. Knowing him for the ascetic that he is, we were all interested to know if his wife really did bring his fishing tackle and bait box as he had requested, and if he really did do some fishing. After herring and having about it, he confessed to only having fished one time... and then he came back empty handed. His only significant comment on his week in the land of palms and soft breezes was, mysteriously, "a man can have a really fine time there for only pennies."

LTJG Joe HART, who had been counting on a February trip to Australia, was a bit disappointed to find that the cutoff date had been extended to March. It looks as though he'll have to wait another month. He's been kept busy assisting LT COOPER with the maintenance and of the gear out here and it is also rumored that Joe is to become the maintenance officer when Bob departs the Det for Vung Tau. According to Randy MILLER, Joe is the only guy in the Det qualified for the job. Randy says, "he can probably find more downing gripes on an aircraft than any one else in the Squadron." Confidential to Joe's girl: We are tired of playing with the inertial ball game and Joe broke both the yo-yo and the gyroscope; could you send something else for us to play with? Finally, the long-lost sweat clothes of LTJG Dick REARDON arrived and he has begun his conscientious efforts at shedding all that weight he promised to lose when he came home. He has even accompanied DET-3's perinoter runner, Eric Alexander on some of his daily jaunts. Mercifully, another pilot has arrived at DET-3, thus enabling Dick to duck out from under all the traditional taunts generally thrown at the Nobbies. Still, he remains a constant source of amusement while handling the radios on a strike. We're thinking of taking him along on every flight just to keep the fellows on the airwaves everywhere, smiling.

And so we come to our Heuble - - who came to us with a bang from recruiting duty in Jacksonville, Fla., and the training command. We welcome aboard LTJG Ed RAWLOWSKI, or, "Quick Draw", as he is known to our clan here. Really, Ed, we apologize for not being able to resist the opportunity to recount this but it is simply too good. It seems soon after he arrived he was checking his .45 in the ready room and, taking careful aim at the map on the wall, drew a deep breath, squeezing the trigger, and fired the shot heard round the world, causing our fearless (up to that point, anyway) leader to nearly concuss himself as he jumped out of bed. The episode certainly made for an easy selection for the plumber of the month award. Again, welcome aboard, Ed, and may you always have the same luck with your flex guns as you do your sidearm. We say good-bye again this month to LCDR Diamond Jim BRADY who leaves us for Staff duty in Norfolk, Va. It has been a pleasure to have served with you, Jim, and we wish you the best of luck with the trucks wherever you may go.

Our leader CDR SNYDER was to assume the mantle of Admin Officer in Vung Tau at the end of this month. However, due to a great stroke of luck, our leader will remain with us until the end of his tour of duty here in the land of milk and honey. Now his only problem is that the days are passing too slowly for him since he is scheduled for R&R near the end of this month. We can't see how we have forgotten the exact date since he generally reminds us of it at least three times daily. So that about wraps it up for the month folks - - - see you next time.

DET 4
DONG TAN

With our move to Hoc Hoa imminent, we feel a nostalgic review of the events of the past month are in order. The pageantry of Dong Tan left the crew of Det FOUR in a near state of emotional collapse. But under the dedicated guidance of our leader, Col Paul FRANKENBERGER, former Louisiana State Duckraker, we managed to walk the thin line of sanity. So here it is gang, a strictly abridged addition of the people, places and events that enriched our lives over the past month.

Who can forget the first annual Tom Jones Food Festival starring LTJG Will FARRELL in his immortal portrayal of Henry VIII and Ollie GROSS as Atila the Hun. Also featured was the rest of the Det playing the Mormon locusts. The fare was steak and lobster liberally seasoned with Delta Dust and Beer. It was truly the highlight of the winter social season.

Later that evening, the Athletic Committee staged a simulated basketball tournament. Led by Hatchet man Jake JACOBS, Dick "Hawaiian Flash" BAUSKE, Bruce "Gunner" HOOK, and Stan "Mighty Mouth" PIOS, the teams displayed finesse and skill that would have brought tears of appreciation from such aficionados as the Japanese National Karate Team. And a letter of indignation from Bill Russell. Although the results were unofficial, the consensus loser was the corpsman of midnight sick call.

One note of discord to mar our otherwise tranquil existence was the

constant threat of a labor dispute. The N.H.M.C. (National Hootch-Mons Confederation) Local 577 was calling for such innovation as a 4 hr. lunch break, free C-rations, and salvage rights to anything found adrift in the hootches. But tough management negotiators, Horn GELST and J. Paul STEUBE, squelched the walkout by threatening to deal with independent contractors. Lets hear it for free enterprise.

Bon voyage to old regular AT1 Art AINSWORTH, now with the squadron. Rumor has it that Art is also working with the USO promoting the Vung Tau Film Festival. Departing for home was LTJG Daryl SPELERING. Daryl left his legacy of the short man to LT Reul VAZQUEZ, who now sits around and means just like Daryl did. New faces on the Det include AT1 Tom GRAY, who can type 80 unreadable words per minute, (says he taught himself) and AN Bruce CARTER and LCDR Bob TOUHEY, who both came equipped with guitars. Although their music sounds a little strange to Western ears, their last concert drew huzzahs from the VC Lite Opera.

In unanimous defense of Will "Beaucoup Kilo" FERRELL, the Det would like to stop some ugly rumors now in circulation. At his last weigh-in (on the 9th Div. truck scales) it was happily noted that he is still under the maximum gross weight allowed for travel on the inter-state highways.

"Muffy" BUSH and Jess BRADBURY are now Red Cross certified swimming instructors. Sign up for their after hour lessons is now in progress. So far the turn out includes four ducks and an assortment of amphibians who reside in the Seawolf Surviving pool. The men acquired a water dog and made Dave FRADELIS the official trainer. Everyone is so pleased with results they've bought him a snazle. So far, he has refused to wear the thing, saying it would look much better on the dog.

"Sadie" SADLER is still waiting for the right offer to shave off his Fu-Man-Chu. Although some of us have our doubts, we all admire his optimism. Just the other day he was seen posing with a football and a can of Foamy.

Our Det financial wizard, LTJG Jim CARMICHAEL has finally decided to plunge into the local action. He has been frequenting the My Tho Commodities Exchange and at last report he is now firmly in control of the areas nuce nam futures. Anyone checked the nomu lately?

LTJG Bob KRUSE has just returned from R&R in Hawaii - pale as a ghost. Claims "...it rained the whole time." Sure Bob!!!

Minister of Propaganda, LTJG Paul STEUBE has come up with some sure-fire innovations to win the hearts and minds of the people. Our psychological leaflets will now include the serialized biography of Barry Goldwater's childhood. He's also planning to distribute bubble gum trading cards featuring such great Americans as Joe McCARTHY, Huey LONG, and Eddy ARFIELD.

By the clock on the wall, which indicates this issues deadline and the howls of protest, it's time to put the poison pen away for this month and wish everyone a most prosperous Tet.

DET 5
YRBM-16

Last month saw Det 5 in a state of literary exhaustion after its fine Christmas poem. Truly, we did not have any earth-shattering news. As for this month, we just plan a running commentary of the past two months events.

We will start with hello's and good-byes. LCDR Norm "One Shot" SCHRADER has returned to Vung Tau to become our new squadron Admin Officer. Replacing Mr. SCHRADER is LCDR Bruce BORGQUIST. We haven't much to say about our new Assistant OINC, except that he is a quiet, quiet, American.

This month also sees LTJG Bill OGLE making like a short-timer. By the time this article is printed Bill will be with family and friends stateside. Bill's new duty station is Okinawa with VC-5. Good luck Bill.

Some of our fearless fighters took time off to R&R in sunny Hawaii. LCDR Bill LANG finally made it after two attempts. Well, .500 isn't a bad average.

Also, in Hawaii was LTJG Tom TURNER and AO2 Charles DAVIS. Both returned with smiles and even some suntan.

LTJG TURNER jumped right back into the swing of things and became a new Fire Team Leader. Congratulations are also in order for LTJG Steve FRY and LTJG Gary SKAAR who also made FTL. Steve is on a campaign to have the lower half of the UH-1B cockpit armor plated. Word has it he is off searching the islands of Japan for reasonably priced shin guards.

LT Mel DEFRIES is busy keeping our two Huey's airborne. It seems the aircraft just can't take all the special care they are getting with washings and waxings.

LTJG Louis CAMPANA, our "sleeping beauty", is trying to set a record for getting the most sleep ever. Look out, Rip!!!

Our crewmembers have also been undergoing personnel turnovers. AE2 Bob COMA has left for the good ole USA and will soon be a civilian. ATN3 Tony "Care Package" MARINACCIO is heading for Vung Tau to be a "nine to five" worker in Aircrew Training.

A hearty "Welcome Aboard" goes out to ADJAN "Eggman" EGGLESTON and ADJAN Bruce MUELLER. Both have come to us from Vung Tau, with knowledge on how to repair our old sick birds.

A few of the Dets old-timers, ATN1 Mike CONNELLY, ATN3 Stu SEAL, AN Starks PORTER, and AMS2 Earl GUTHAUSER are just biding their time. They are getting so short they don't even worry about Tet (Lunar New Year).

Well, we have brought you up-to-date with all that's happening at Det 5 aboard the YRBM-16 somewhere near the Cambodian border. See you next month.

DET 6
DONG TAM

Dong Tam, with its scenic drydock and ship repair facility, quaint open sewers, rustic plumbing (a six holer for every two hundred men), thrilling fireworks displays at night, and gay night clubs, is now being considered as an in-country R&R center. To a casual observer Dong Tam would seem only to be the supply depot for dust in the Delta. Of course, we in the know are

aware that in the rainy season Dong Tam is also the major source of mud in the Delta. Other exports include smog, heat, artillery shells, an occasional Seawolf fire team, and Johnny HANKEL. In view of these hitherto little known facts, is it any wonder that this remarkable place may well replace Vung Tau as the R&R city of Vietnam?

After four months of foofaraw, insane slogans, silly giggles, softball, and plain hard work our irreplaceable ground pounders have departed for the mysterious donjons of Vung Tau. The old place is pretty lonely without them. No longer do we hear the ear-shattering shout "Hey NORTON!!!" or the inane little expletive, "For heaven's sake!" in a vicious half whisper. Yes, Bob ROMANELLI's own private body guard, work force, scrounge crew and personal valet troupe is gone never to return. Among the memories are CHIAPPONE's coffee, CELONE and HARKINS' trip to My Tho, Tom OLEY's knife, ALEXANDER's sunburn, POPOVIC's grin, WAKELAND's ability to sleep, VREELAND working, and Charlie YELTON as the "little old man". One thing is certain, them boys feel sooooo FRISKY!!! ADJ3 Lloyd CONNERS and AN Vince SOTO lucked out, they are still with us as radio communications watch and part-time yeoman. CONNERS has his typing up to four words per minute and improving.

As the new year gets under way "short" has become the Det 6 byword. LTJG Johnny HANKEL is shortest, he has given up conversation altogether. He is leaving the relative safety of combat for the unpredictable perils of the training command. VI-3, to be exact. LT Jeff LEWIS has been spirited off to Vung Tau and he's pretty short himself. LTJG Ed WILSON is looking forward to a little leave in Hong Kong. AMS2 Roger McELHINEY is going home in the next few days. He decided not to extend again after all. He's been here so long he gets birthday cards from the VC.

Returning from thirty days leave stateside were ADJ2 Vince PAONE, ADJ2 Jerry BARTLESON, and AZ3 Dan HIGGINS. They were a bit pale and wan, but seem to have survived the yankee winter, Christmas, and New Year without any severe or lasting damage. Dan, however, did contract a rather permanent disease called betrothal.

Our ranks were joined by two new pilots this month. LTJG Dave HLETER arrived on our little scene just in time to join LTJG Lud McKAY in an unscheduled inspection of the rice crop about ten miles south of Dong Tam, accompanied by AMH1 Roger BENISH and A03 Neil McDONALD. They were eager to report that irrigation in that area is superb, a fact readily discernible from the soil samples they inadvertently collected. Lud has assumed duty as Agricultural Officer due to his vast experience with Vietnamese farm layout. LCDR WASS, while arriving with less fanfare than Dave, has made his presence felt and looks forward to a year of satisfying duty in this Mecca for misguided souls.

AN O'BRIEN, AN KINGREY, and AN SCOTT made rate and will pin on their crowns in April. Congratulations to all three. And they said it couldn't be done! SD3 BABAO journeyed to his native Manila for R&R this month and came back well fed and all smiles. He must know somebody there. LTJG Johnny HANKEL also took R&R. He went to Japan to visit his lady fair and succeeded in moving the wedding date up five months to February instead of June. Tough luck, John. We will be rooting for you. LTJG John "Roscoe" MANN, OINC of ducks and monkeys reports said fauna in the best of health. The monkeys, Joe and Suzy, have suspended their daily floorshows until after gestation. AHAC papers have gone in for LT Charlie PITMAN. He also was picked up for LCDR and we are looking forward, with baited breath, to his wetting down. The Boss,

LCDR STREY, has taken the giant step. With complete disregard for his own safety he has gone cold turkey and quit smoking. Aside from occasionally shrinking into a corner and mumbling unhappily to himself, he seems to have suffered no ill effects. Joining him in the venture were Charlie PITTMAN and Bob ROMANELLI. Charlie has developed a pronounced stutter and Bob has a tendency not to hear what is said to him.

LTJG Dick LARSON is continuing in his campaign to become the most irritable human being in the world. That's not entirely true, of course, everyone knows that Ed WILSON already enjoys that honor. ADJ3 John BUNDY has threatened this reporter with terrible physical and mental anguish if he is not mentioned in this issue. In view of his unique powers of persuasion he now stands mentioned. And so from Dong Tam, dirt capitol of the world, we bid a fond adieu and our best wishes for a prosperous and unhindered New Year.

DET 7
BINH THUY

Once again it's time for the one who knows all to tell all. So here is the truth, as sincerely as I can present it and still retain my present state of health.

Our beloved boss, LCDR Ed "Short" FUREY, returned from R&R in Hawaii with a scowl on his face that obviously meant, "What am I doing back here."

LT Tex "Silver Tongue" RICHIE is still with us, having talked his way out from behind a desk in Vung Tau. He made his presence felt by taking the January "Log Hog" award for highest flight time.

LTJG Carl "Shorter" PETERSON has little more than a month to go. Since his new Corvette won't be delivered until May, we would recommend he visit his friendly neighborhood United Oxcart dealer for transportation.

January saw the departure of LTJG Bob "Ti-Ti Mustache" SPROSTY for Vung Tau. We will miss him, but we know Vung Tau's vehicles and latrines were never in such good shape.

A goodly number of the Det's pilots moved up a rung on the qual's ladder. LT Tom DOYLE, LTJG Bob SPROSTY, and LTJG Terry LACKEY are our newest Fire Team Leads, LTJG's Tom MARLICK and John TITCHENER are AHAC's, and LTJG's Bill CARLO and Chris STONE are AH2P's.

A hearty welcome is extended to the Det's newest pilot, LTJG Bill MATTHEWS. Bill comes to us from the Training Command via Maintenance Officers School.

Previously unknown to us here at the villa by the water, AO3 BOYD has been participating secretly on commando like operations. Acting under the code name ROVER 1 in a borrowed jeep at the seaside resort of Rach Gia, BOYD has been on such vital missions as scrounging ammo and going for fresh baked Vietnamese bread. We who still have diarrhea salute you!

Operating in the same area with more conventional methods, ADJ3 DOUGLAS and AMS2 HARTING have been contributing to the delinquency of minors by buying bananas from the kids. Realizing the potential hazards involved, DOUG and HARTING have an unbeatable system for helping the kids understand the value of money. If the tots don't accept the first price quoted, DOUG and HARTING hold the kid down and steal his bananas! As a consolation they return the peelings so the kid can have them refilled.

AE3 "Bingo" RUTLEDGE seems to have found his calling. He is bound and

determined to be the world's foremost sampan-sinker. Even off duty hours the sight of an abandoned sampan causes his eyes to sparkle, he'll lick his lips and say softly to himself...."DESTROY!!".

ADJAN Michael GOOD keeps the corpsmen at sick-bay busy. He is constantly cutting his finger, walking into fan blades, stabbing himself with screw-drivers and a variety of other minor catastrophies. With good ole' Mike around we all can breath easily, knowing all the accidents are attracted to him. But, he's happy, as long as he has enough good fingers for a pinochle game.

Our two short-timers are making this fact well known around here. The shortest is ADJ3 Jim DELORE, better known as the God of Hell-Fire and Evil. AOAN GRIFFITH - same, same GRIFF, same, same GURU, same, same "Big Gun", loudly proclaims his DEROS while at the same time taking the normal precautions of all short-timers - sleeping in the bunker, chemical analysis of his food and 37 malaria pills a week. Maybe getting out of the Navy has something to do with it!

PN1 ERICKSON finally returned from temporary duty with the "Tethered Ballon Detachment" at Heip Hoa. He tried to grow a beard and change his name but to no avail. He still had to return to good ole' Navy Binh Thuy. Heip Hoa sure is popular - they must have free beer or something.

Cle "Butterfeet" MARSDEN, has shown marked improvement in his procedures for changing the gun-cleaning solvent. He hasn't spilled a single drop in almost 4 weeks! I guess he learned his lesson well the time he tripped and spilled an entire can of the dirty, smelly stuff all over himself. We made him sleep outside for a week!

AN "The Greek" GREEN has learned not to make rash statements. Only recently he remarked that he had never been in a helo that got hit. Not too many hours later the VC modified his aircraft's fresh air ventilation system. When asked for a statement, he only replied, "Well...UHHEHHH...".

AO2 FULLWOOD returned smiling after spending Christmas in Hawaii. He was just in time to supervise the rebuilding of the helo pad's bunkers.

After a rousing Christmas and New Year, ABF2 "Pancho" SAUCEDO is still the undisputed authority on the Laser beam.

AOAN John KENDALL just returned from a 30 day romp in the winter wonderland of Canada. He lost his suntan, but gained a few pounds.

"Silver Throat" FALCO still "Favors" the patronage at the VC club with his delightful lyrics and driving music (don't laugh, that's how he explained it to me). But lately the MAESTRO has been joined by a partner ole' "Tin Tonsils" EGGGAARD. Let's face it Steve, an Elvis you're not.

AO3 DRAFER is a changed man, temporarily. He lost all his bad habits while on R&R in Hawaii with his wife. But with the help of the rest of us animals, he'll soon be his old natural self again!

AN "Hurry" HARRINGTON left us for life as a civilian in the good ole' USA.

As the night drags on I find that I have used all the paper in the ADMIN drawer. I realize that I may seem long winded and overly thorough in my narrative. It's a bad habit I must break. I'm almost too short for this!

OPERATIONS
CDR HILLE

The Operations Department was in a state of change during the month of January. CDR WHITMIRE reported aboard from the USS BOXER and he will be relieving CDR HILLE as the Operations Officer.

In the field of training LT PRICE who received his gold oak leaves departed for CONUS while LCDR HARKER who came in from Det 1 has taken over as the Training Officer. LCDR HARKER has already instituted some major changes. He is establishing an X-Division for men checking in so their transition to the squadron and Vietnam can be made smoothly. Expected also are some changes to the training syllabus for newly reporting pilots. Our Aircrew and Plane Captain schools are undergoing course revisions to keep in pace with our ever increasing experience level. All of this is part of the program to ensure that HA(L)-3 officers and men continue to be the finest gunship teams in Vietnam.

LT Dave CRANOR has packed his bags and is off to the Training Command, HT-8, with a short stopover in the Phillipines to visit some old friends. LT John CONNOLLY has come in from Det 2 and taken over the job of Flight Officer. LCDR Jack CONNELLY left for the states just as LT John CONNOLLY was coming in so the confusion was minimal. LT Jack WILSON, our Communications Officer, spent an expensive and very enjoyable R&R in Hong Kong earlier in the month. Chief JOENKS, boss of the Ops enlisted men, is still keeping our gunners top-notch by continual monitoring of our training program. Of course his strongest asset is A01 JOHNSON who is the primary lecturer to the newly designated gunners. Newcomers to training are ATN3 MARINACCIO and AN GRIFFITH. They can be seen running in and out of the training room looking for something, but we haven't been able to figure out just what it is. Up in the Ops office AN KELSEY and AN HARKSEN are frequently going over the same conversation. It seems AN HARKSEN keeps saying "8 more watches, Ken" and AN KELSEY replies "you better not stop for lunch or I'll see you in the states."

Meanwhile in the Ops trailer we have had a recent departure of PN3 RYAN. He left for the land of all things good. As for Communications, CYN3 COLLRIN and CYN3 ANDERSON can be seen these days actually working a little bit. It seems the traffic load has increased slightly. But they always find time out during the day to admire their efforts at interior decorating, wall to wall centerfold. Until next month, adieu.

MAINTENANCE
CDR DEY

MAINTENANCE CONTROL

Post time is here once again as we bid farewell to another month. For all of us it means we are just a little closer to our loved ones at home. However, it is reassuring to know that our present job on hand takes precedence over our personal feelings of yearning for home, as can be seen in the good quality of work which all departments are turning out.

Speaking of home, AN BOLLINGER is, at this writing, nearing that grand old world across the sea, better known as CONUS. Bob got orders to VP-31 at NAS, North Island. From all of his shipmates we wish you good luck and smooth sailing Bob. Also on the outgoing line we have ADJ3 SALAZAR who has his lighter out to light the fuse for his blast-off in seven days. AZ2 "Top Cat" POOLE, who just came back from leave in the states is singing "In just a little while, I'll be there, too". Our Division Officer, LCDR HICE has returned from Hawaii where he was happy to spend a well earned R&R with his wife. When asked how his trip was, he said, "and the rains came down", and "the tides came up, it's just too wet there for me". Upon his return he encountered a sand blast that seems to persist in staying with us. Please don't ask him what he thinks of all this sand. Do so at your own risk. We are all glad to have him back snapping the reins once again.

Our "Fearless Fosdick", better known as Chief ER-R-R-R EATON, the ever ready pencil sharpener, says he is trading his pencil sharpener in for a short-timers calendar that goes Zip, Zap, Zing, ER-R-R-R. Chief WILSON sports a wide grin these days as his R&R is coming up fast; he is meeting his wife in Hawaii. Have fun Chief!

Chief "Night Check" DULIN has night check well under hand and it's easy to see where he spends his daylight hours as his well done tan tells it all. I'll offer a prize to the first Seawolf that just happens to walk behind the Chief's barracks with a cold bucket of water and finds "Vic Tanny" sleeping in the sun.

AN MCMULLEN has those wild fits every once in awhile, here of late. Come on Mac, tell us your tenny weeny troubles, ER-R-R, RIP, RIP, RIP!

Petty Officer OWSLEY has the monthly reports well in hand (but somehow he can't quite figure which hand). ER-R-R-R.

Once again our trusty pen has given us the low warning light so we must make a landing for this month and refuel. So until next month, I remain your personal Vietnam correspondent, ADJ2 DORSEY. No connection with the famous DORSEY brothers of dance band fame, however, we are musicians of a sort. Our seven "orchestrated" combat teams tour the Mekong Delta daily, playing M-60 machine gun concerts for "Charlie". They are rather polite in a round-about way. They don't like the music - but they always dance. We will endeavor to keep you posted on the tours progress as well as tour completions for our individual members of the band. So long, ya'll.

MATERIAL CONTROL

AND NOW THE LOCAL NEWS:

FLASH - It's been reported that the "Grey Fox", LT BATTI, has shifted his base of operations. Conflicting reports have it that he has been sighted in the highlands around the industrial district of Material Control. The local natives have been warned, and the necessary precautions have been taken - silver bullets, sharp stakes, wolfsbane, gold crosses, and all those other goodies that help during a full moon.

The mating call of the "Grey Fox" was heard around the 20th of December and it struck terror in the hearts of the highland villagers. Around the same date one individual reported seeing him stated, "He had that lean and hungry look!". No more word of him since.

The wandering minstrel of the "Big Country", AK3 VANDERHOFF has seemingly disappeared from the local area also. Last report was that he was spied riding off into the sunset, strumming his guitar, munching a moon-pie, guzzling an R.C. Cola, and humming something about "That great silver bird." Good luck "Big" Bill, we know you're really going to need it up there at Brunswick Maine.

NOW, NEWS FROM THE "SOCK-IT-TO-ME-DEPT"....

Who was that by the initials of T.R.P. that ordered some bicycles built for two? Who was that M.R.N. spotted buying the PX out of all their comic books payday? And, who was it (G.P.B.) that got fished out of a five dollar chit book betting on a certain individual (D.W.D.)?

SPORTS NEWS.....

LT (Vung Tau Joe) PATTERSON, the dazzling, controversial quarterback of the famous Seawolf nine is once more in the news. It seems that he has sacked his football career for that rough-and-ready sport of basketball. This charming, hard-charging, versatile athlete seems to get around more than a Good-Humor Man. His night life, which has been talk of the town, seems to center around the BOQ, Maintenance Control, Material Control, the hanger-bay, the Mekong Delta, Cheap Charlies' A-GO-GO, The Club Bldge-Coolie, and various places of questionable character. Who knows where our Jack Armstrong may pop up next? Only the SHADOW knows!!!!

Material Controls' fabulous Volleyball team, consisting of AKAN PATEREAU, "BUCK" BAKER, "Nice" GUY, AN "Clint" CURTIS, and AMS2 BRADBURY, are boasting a clean record of no losses as of press time. The extra hours practice by this jolly troupe of giants of the sports world has really paid off. Every night they can be observed at the "OASIS" gymnasium going through their right-hand calisthenics.

Since their depressing defeat in the horseshoe pits last week, the Material Control team has signed on right hand tosser AKAN CELONE straight from Det 6. It seems that he has signed a long range contract (8 months) with the team. Welcome aboard, you're with a winning team.

Since AKAN PATEREAU has been gone for R&R (Rice and Rubarb??), AK3 NUCKOLIS has been showing up for night-check along with AK2 WENDZELL who is TAD from the night SEAWOLVES future home. We haven't been stoned on the way up the ladder yet, so they must be doing O.K.

Well, that's all from the Material Control hot-line for now - Until our next news coverage we'll say, "Good-night Chet" - "Good-night, ol' what's your face."

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Greetings from the blue room of Quality Assurance. As the year moves rapidly along we find quite a few changes in the division. The first of January saw Chief LOCKEY depart QA to join and lead our fine Check Crew. AMHC ROLLWITZ will be QA's new division chief after completing the Army's AARTS schools at the end of the month. AZ3 PRATER departed the division for his first love, a gunners slot with Det 1. PRATER's transfer is supposed to be temporary, but getting him back to Vung Tau may be a pretty hard job. There are two QA personnel that would like very much to see PRATER return, AE2 THOMPSON and AMH2 BRADBURY. BRADBURY and THOMPSON have taken over

PRATER's yeoman and tech library duties, and now either scream or mutter when spoken to. ADJ2 MARKOWICZ returned from his thirty day extension leave, twenty five pounds heavier, and immediately checked out of Vung Tau for Det 2, to fulfill his ambition as a gunner.

January was a happy month for three QA personnel. On the 16th AMH1 ROLLWITZ was promoted to AMHC, ADJ1 HUFFMAN to ADJC and AN PRATER to AZ3. Chief HUFFMAN also has his orders to VAW-126, Norfolk and will be leaving for the world on 21 February.

AMS1 HICKS, ADJ1 ICKE and ATL DUNN, QA's hard working night check are all now full fledged plane captain school instructors and appear to be enjoying the job greatly. Any questions that you would like answered during a late trip to Vung Tau, these three men will be more than happy to oblige you.

During the month of January, there have been numerous incidents of foddged engines. Check those intakes and surrounding areas before each flight. One minute of inspection may save several days of maintenance.

Until next month, happy flying.

POWER PLANTS

Greetings from the Mech shop. For a change the shop has an ample supply of personnel. This is a marked improvement from past days.

The shop has lost two men to the line for plane captain training prior to Det duty, ADJ3 BUSBY and ADJ3 FREEMAN. Our thanks for the fine job they did while in Power Plants.

This month we received several new men in the division. From off det ADJAN ALEXANDER, ADJAN CHIAPPONE, and ADJ3 SULLENS, who comes to us from the line. All three seem to like working in the shop. With the forthcoming transfer of personnel their help in the shop will be greatly needed.

So much from the Motor-Mounters.

AIRFRAMES

January brings in a new month and a new year. During this month there have been many changes in the administration of the shops. Chief SMITH relieved Chief DULIN in Airframes and SMITH's Hammer Slammers again come into being. There has been a movement of personnel in the shop, some from days to nights and vice versa. AMS2 CHAPMAN checked into the shop and was then sent to Vinh Long. Have a good time down there CHAP. AMS1 SHOUN assumed the reins of night check supervisor taking with him AMH3 NEWTON "The Vice Grip" EARL. AMS2 FILLION joined us from the Check Crew in exchange for AMH2 POWERS. FO2 FILLION is now one of the "artists" of the shop. AN FORTNEY now knows how to remove a hydraulic cylinder. He says just call me painted red. It seems that the cylinder bled on him. I want to say thanks for a good job this past month men, keep up the fine work.

CHECK CREW

The Check Crew branch of the Aircraft division would like to use our space in this month's "Wolfgram" to impart a little of the Vietnamese culture on our relatives back home. During the month of February from the 17th through the 19th is the celebration of "TET" (The lunar New Year). This is

the year of the Rooster. When we Americans hear the word "TET" we immediately think back to a year ago, when the Communists launched their surprise offensive and dealt out indiscriminate death and destruction to the civilian population throughout South Vietnam.

But "TET" is really a time for festivities, for self reflection, and plans for a new year. It is similar to our Christmas, New Year, Easter, and Thanksgiving all rolled into one. "TET" is a time for family reunions and the Vietnamese are no exceptions. Throughout South Vietnam there will be many tearful family reunions. And there will also be tears without reunions for, lest we forget, this is a nation divided by war. So then, even in a war-torn country as this one we will see smiles on faces of all ages. We will see the beginning of a new year. A year where most Vietnamese will be hoping and praying that the next "TET" will truly be the year of peace.

We here in Vung Tau will see a combination of festivities and preparedness. A paradox to an American in America but quite real in Vietnam.

So long until next month.

LINE

The Line Division announces the return of Chief MAC. While on R&R he lost 2 pounds.

We are all having fun trying to keep track of all our new training charts. The walls are completely full. WELCH is getting short, 30 days left. MUNDELL got orders to the USS SHANGRILA. NELSON just returned from a 30 day leave. It seems he lost his tan.

The line shack is really getting confusing - SCHELL is our new desk man, enough said!

Don't turn around Chief MAC. I think we found the missing weight!!!

PARALOFT

Yes! The three of us are still here and still waiting for the parts we need to repair the squadron's one and only sewing machine.

We're also running close competition with the AT's after bringing three taperecorders into the shop. Besides that there have been no changes, so no significant news. See you next month.

ADMIN LCDR SCHRADER

During the month of January the Admin Department changed faces completely. CDR BARTLETT departed early in the month and was relieved by LCDR PENNINGTON for about three weeks, whereupon he departed for CONUS and was relieved by LCDR Norm SCHRADER of Det 5 fame. Things have livened up a bit around here as Mr. SCHRADER likes to play his tapes of patrols back on Det. First thing in the morning he files a UNODIR.

LTJG Derek BROWN departed in the latter part of January and was relieved by LTJG Chuck EAGLEY of Det 1. As all are, Derek was one happy young man and was looking forward to his duties with HC-1. LTJG Mike WHITTEMORE turned over his First Lieutenant duties to LTJG Bob SPROSTY and when last heard

from was heading for HC-4 at Lakehurst, N. J. LT Steve PORCH was the last to leave and was relieved by absolutely nobody. Steve's duties have been judiciously distributed to LTJG's SPROSTY and BAGLEY. Can't win them all I guess. We are still on top of the stuff, but occasionally it is touch and go.

ADMIN ENLISTED

Like the gigantic Apollo rockets in the final countdown 10-9-8-7, etc., so too it is with the Admin enlisted in their final countdown. Beginning at 9 in January we started our decline and countdown. 9-8-7-6 and holding. Yes, temporarily we are holding at 6 but in March the countdown will resume. 5-4-3 and holding once more. No reliefs in sight yet? Something will have to give soon, we're just hoping the countdown won't reach 1 because at that point blastoff will surely occur and without a doubt be heard all the way to the nearest ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals).

YN1 Owen SHELSTAD seems rather lax about the entire situation. He continuously mumbles "Lord deliver me, could hell be worse than what I am about to go through?" Have no fear big "0" as you'll have the last laugh when the boys with the white jacket take you for a walk.

YN2 Sammy PARKER isn't worried in the least. When the countdown resumes he'll be NEXT!!! His favorite song that he tries to sing every morning, "Going Back to Houston", is gradually rising to the #10 spot in popularity with the office personnel. As we see that far away look in Sammy's eyes we know where his heart is and envy him. Someday, too, our time will come, but in the meantime we'd appreciate a few reliefs.

YN2 Bob HUNT isn't saying much on the entire situation. He seems content just sitting in his corner and living day for day. He realizes soon though that when the countdown resumes a large burden will be dropped upon him. "I can hack anything until June", says Bob, "then outsville for me."

YN2 Ricardo LARGADO falls among the lucky three of March to be departing. After making YN2 in January and saying "I do for four more" in February, he claims it will be a pleasure to say "Good-bye" in March. He must come from the Irish part of the Philippines to have luck like that.

YN2 Tom KLAUS, another rate grabber from January, isn't quite sure how he stands. Although he'll be leaving in March, he too will be returning in April. Claims he'll be spending his 30 days extension leave recruiting yeoman in the states to bring back. A few round-eyed secretaries wouldn't even for a start, be bad.

SN Jim KOSKINAS joined the elite class of Admin this month and from the few we'd like to welcome him aboard. He has yet to feel the impact of the countdown, but come April he'll be saying, "What am I doing here." Don't worry Jim as you'll have 10 months to find out the answer to such a silly question.

AMH1 Dave BIBEAU still maintains his quiet desk at the front of the office. He lost a tooth since our last edition but refuses to say what happened to it. The guys in the office know what happened, but how can you get a man to admit he pulled it to put under his pillow for the "Good Fairy". Come on Dave, admit it!

AN Dale HARNETT is staying rather quiet in his little private office of the mail room. With the holiday season past he seems to have it easy. Makes one wonder how a guy like Dale got such an easy job. He best be bringing in a telephoto lens soon or I'm liable to declare Christmas Season all over again.

From the countdown station in Vung Tau we'd like to declare blastoff for this month's edition to our ever popular Wolfgram. If it seems in the future months that our section is getting smaller, then please bear in mind that we are slowly approaching the final stage before blastoff. ASPCA be ready!!!

PERSONNEL

Greetings once again from Personnel. We have recently undergone another "Hail & Farewell" ceremony as LT Charles MCCASKILL was relieved of Personnel Officer by LT Jeffrey LEWIS. HA(L)-3 is not alone in losing an exceptionally fine officer, as LT MCCASKILL is adjourning his well-served Naval career and going into commercial airlines. On behalf of the Navy and HA(L)-3, we extend best wishes for a successful transition and offer sincere appreciation for a job "well done".

LT LEWIS has eagerly assumed the title of "Quill". During his indoctrination, Mr. LEWIS was gleefully looking forward to a refreshing break from Det 6. However, as time and shovels of paperwork progresses, LT LEWIS believes he was apt to be a bit forward and keeps asking for suggestions on the prevention of pen cramps. His current motto: "Tis better to be write than wrong!"

The Personnel Officer's understudy, Chief "Shanghi" KUNBERGER, is overcome with office battle fatigue. When Chief arrives in the morning with over-abundant zeal, we foresee an excruciating day. But as the manhours increase into the afternoon, Chief "Shangi" is caught in the familiar "lair of Laden". All is well in the end, he jokingly adds as he departs with little left of his predawn abundant zeal. Chief KINBERGER leaves for his 7 day R&R to Hawaii in the middle of the month.

ABH1 "We want you!" WILLIAMS is rapidly increasing his reenlistment ability to keep the Navy manned, which is highly commendable. Petty Officer WILLIAMS has undertaken a collateral duty last month in that he helped provide support for First Lieutenant. With all this scampering around, our Career Counselor is anxiously awaiting his R&R and eventual departure from Vietnam.

FN2 BLECHER will be taking the "Con" until Chief KUNBERGER's R&R expires. Larry keeps staring at his hallmark of pulchritude, wishing his shore duty orders would arrive in order that the "apple of his eye" may share his elation. With 75 and counting, Larry is making rapid plans for departure.

No one can talk to FN2 WYNN, mainly because he is rarely seen! He, also, is making last minute preparations for his change of duty to London, England. We all pity James Larry because of his disgusting orders!! I mean, who in their right mind would want three years shore duty in downtown London????? IPity, James Larry, pity, pity, pity.

Color our FN3 with smiles. At press time, FN3 MCGEE must endure a rare 83 DAYS! Rarely do sailors have 8 days left before leaving South Vietnam. He is beginning to get shakes upon shakes which doesn't mean amiable clasps. MAC will be going to the Polaris Missile Facility, Charleston, South Carolina for shore duty upon completion of his 30 day leave. His exact feelings are exemplified by an ear to ear grin.

Our new addition to the office is Airman "Kansas" DORRELL. The airman factor is short-lived as he intends to convert to seaman in a few weeks. With promise, the Seawolves might gain a new Personnelman and a strong advocate of "Kansanism", whatever that might be.

Legal/Education Officer, LT C. E. WALKER is constantly maintaining a tight ship. LT WALKER has an entirely different outlook on Vietnam, especially after overcoming a malicious postal dilemma. It seems that Mr. WALKER's mail was delayed three weeks due to circumstances beyond his control. Now that everything is ship-shape, Mr. WALKER and his immediate assistant, PN2 FADEN, are in the process of completing these ever dreadful advancement exams. Again, let us extend them a hearty "Good Luck"! PN2 FADEN is aggressively planning celebrations for the ever-so-important holiday - TET. Along with domestic support, he is looking forward to a weeksfull of gala festivities. Soon after, Phil is going for separation processing at Treasure Island, an event which is as equally important, he states.

In closing, Personnel Division wishes all hands a Happy Lincoln's Birthday and a Merry Valentines Day.

FIRST LIEUTENANT

We would like to take time out from our vital daily routine to say "Hello to our friends, loved ones, relatives, and to any one else interested.

First of all, we would like to welcome our new leader LTJG SPROSTY who is still wondering what his predecessor LTJG WHITTEMORE did and where he went so fast.

The boys in the pits are keeping busy, led by Airman HALE, who is working there part time, they say that K. R. ALLEN II will look like R. L. BROWN by the time they get out of the pits.

To guard our officers during the day we have G. P. HALE and R. L. REMMICK. With flak vests and itchy trigger fingers they are ready for everything.

The boys at the North side consisting of W. S. KERLEY, S. L. BINDER, H. T. SHELLY and led by AOL HARVEY are still wondering wheré the helicopters are. All they see are soldiers and a pink latrine.

To keep our first mech, Chief HAUN, and his able assistant R. C. ARRINGTON, busy we have our cloudy 500 drivers, E. NASH, J. R. TAYLOR, C. C. DAVIDSON, and R. C. WHITE, who is temporarily grounded.

Learning the trade of a junior Sea Bee we have J. L. ELLIOTT.

To keep our morale up we have Pony Express Seaman HESS and K. R. RING who states he would rather shovel soup than sand.

That's all until next month.

STEWARDS

The month of January saw the arrival of a new BOQ Officer as LTJG BAGLEY arrived from Det ONE to relieve LTJG BROWN, who returned to that fabled land of CONUS. LTJG BAGLEY is another one of those people who know absolutely nothing about running a mess, but is extremely fortunate in having qualified people to assure a smooth operation. Soon to leave SD1 COLLINS will be relieved by SD1 DANAN. COLLINS has done an outstanding job this year and he will be missed by all who have been associated with him. We wish him the best of luck and a happy and healthy retirement. DANAN comes in at a difficult time as our stewards are being cut back to bare minimums. He has SD2 ELEMOS (the one with the blue sunglasses), SD3 POSADAS, SD3 ESTACIO and TN DISTRITO

(soon to become our man in Dong Tam). Our current man in Dong Tam is SD3 BABAO and he is being transferred to the Naval Air Support Activity at Chu Lai, thus the reason for DISTRITO's departure.

Other than a slight manpower shortage all goes well at the Seawolf Mess. All may go well at the Mess but we have a few problems in the BOQ. The water table in Vung Tau is quite low so we are no longer supplied with clean water daily. To all Det personnel who may have occasion to stay at BOQ-21 - be prepared! Doc SPENCE has downed the water for internal consumption so therefore, toothbrushing is out.

That is about it from the land of BIG problems and papers. Myself and our undermanned group of stewards bid you all adieu until next month.

OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESSES

1. AMMONIA

The fumes of ammonia are highly irritating to the mucus membrane, eyes and skin. Exposure to a high concentration may cause sudden onset of unconsciousness with accumulation of fluid in the lungs. Respiratory arrest may ensue. Fortunately, the irritation of the eyes and nose, severe enough and irritating enough, in most cases, to make the worker leave the scene of the ammonia fumes.

The individual should be removed to fresh air at once and oxygen therapy/artificial respiration administered. If the eyes are involved they should be washed with copious amounts of water followed by washing with a very weak vinegar solution or a boric acid solution.

2. ZINC OXIDE FUMES

When metallic zinc is heated to a temperature near its boiling point very finely divided zinc oxide fumes are produced. Inhalation of freshly formed fumes may produce a brief, self-limiting illness known as metal fumes fever, or brass chills and brass pounders fever. This condition is characterized by chills, fever, nausea, vomiting, muscular pain, dryness of the mouth and throat, headache, fatigue and weakness. These symptoms usually abate in 12-24 hours with complete recovery. Immunity from this condition is rapidly acquired if exposure occurs daily and is quickly lost over holidays or weekends. Thus, it is a typical "Monday morning illness" and the individual then feels better the remainder of the week. It will be found wherever there is welding, cutting or heating galvanized metal or magnesium without adequate ventilation. No treatment is actually necessary outside of symptomatic therapy.

3. CARBON DIOXIDE

Carbon dioxide is used extensively in its gaseous form as a fire extinguishing agent and in its solid form, dry ice, as a refrigerant. In low concentrations (below 5%) it acts as a simple asphyxiant but at concentrations of 5-10% it acts as a narcotic. Concentrations of 8-15%, when inhaled may produce headache, dizziness, nausea and vomiting and unconsciousness. High concentration may cause immediate collapse, coma and death. Give oxygen and artificial respiration if the respiratory effort has ceased. Recovery is slow and the individual should be kept in bed for several days.

4. AVIATION GASOLINE

On contact with the skin, gasoline causes a local irritation owing to the defatting action of the chemical. Repeated exposure may result in sensitization. Concentration of 0.26% for a period of one hour will cause a drunken state. The usual signs are excitement, disorientation, nausea, visual and hearing disorders and if exposure is sufficiently long, convulsions and death.

5. AIRCRAFT GAS TURBINE FUELS (JP FUEL)

The JP fuels are various mixtures of straight run gasoline which contain no lead and "cracked" kerosine. The problems associated with handling these fuels is essentially no different than with ordinary gasoline.

Kerosine may cause central nervous depression and pneumonia. If the agent has been ingested, swallow quickly 4 fluid ounces (120 cc) of mineral oil and call the Medical Department immediately

Contrary to widespread belief, there is nothing in the line personal affairs to report this month, except STEPHENSON, HM2, is getting a WEE bit SHORT.

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