

HERES THE WORLD -
FAMOUS FTL ABOUT
TO LIFT OFF ON
ANOTHER RUNG SAT
PATROL.

PITCH PULL!
EVERYBODY SET AFT?

GRRRR!
GROWL!

THESE GUNNERS ARE
AN AGGRESSIVE LOT!



OPERATIONS

HA(L)-3 Operations has become a corporation. The company charter was filed in the state of New Jersey and we are now enjoying the benefits and loopholes afforded us as the DELTA TAXI SERVICE, INC. CDR "Godfather" ARTUSO is chairman of the Board, President, and Vice President. Right after the Army banned their slot machine operations, the Godfather went to Hong Kong. Ostensibly it was for his R&R trip, but he really went to see Angelo and Vito about setting up a steak-house franchise (with slot machines) all through the Delta.

Harry ISHIGURO pinned on his oak leaves and spent most of the last few months telling newbies Arne BARDEN, Ron BECKER, and Bill BONNER to get their "stuff" together. In spite of his promotion, Harry is still very much the entertainer, whether it be dramatic readings of the SOI callsigns or falling on his head when taking his shoes off. He is now performing at Det Four.

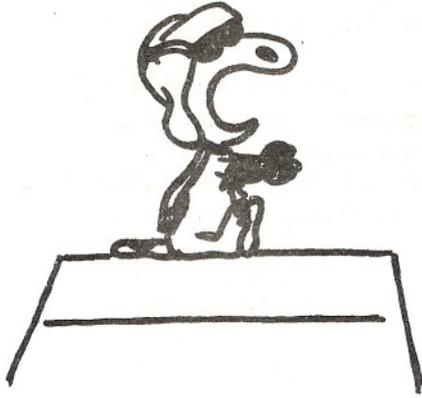
Sam DENNARD, Mike REID, Dave CONNELL, Spence ROBBINS and Joe LOVE have all left for Det. Sam forgot to say good-bye to his Mamasan and she spent several days sitting at the foot of his empty rack crying and moaning as only a forgotten Mamasan can do. She was last seen boarding a sampan express for Ca Mau. Rick LAUSTEN, as always, is still trying to keep track of all the confidential gear and is, as always, convinced that the pilots are losing it on purpose. Rick is toying with the idea of blackmail as a result of his photo coverage of the last OINC meeting. Stand forewarned whoever you are! After carrying on heavy correspondence with the Hawaiian hotels and cultivating his mustache, Bob RODGERS departed for leave in the islands.

Gary FINDLAY came to OPs from Det Eight. Everyone has high hopes that he'll start a branch of the reknown Findlay's Bar like the one located in Rach Gia. Greg RHODES came in from Det Five to teach the aircrew training department the elements of water-borne helicopters and to try and balance his checkbook. He is still singing the praises of the Australian frontiers. Terry ANDERSON came in from Det Seven to take on the Admiral's Staff, harass the Schedule's Officer and work on his tan. Then they all followed Dick KRULIS, Bob FLYNN, and Tim WRIGHT back to the land of the big PX.

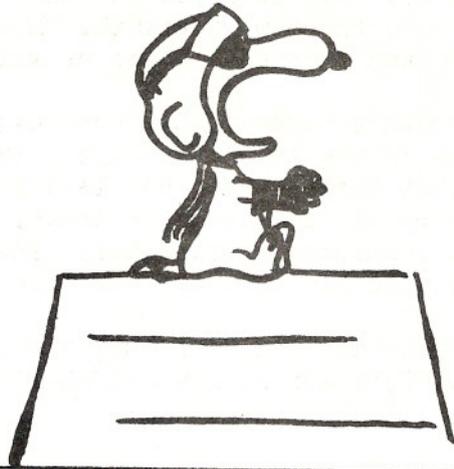
The "E's" have completed their New Year's project: teaching all the JO's how to play cribbage. Ray JOSLIN's girl is asking for a Hawaiian wedding, but we think she may lose out to OPIE. "Mac" McCONNELL is still working on his own brand of personal response programs, while Duane FREAUFF has been named honorary mayor of Ben Xe Mor. Bud SANDBORN is moonlighting as life-guard at the Eaton Compound pool when he isn't washing Rick's crying towels. Tex MORGAN is achieving some sort of notoriety as the author/artist of the Chicken-Hawk Grams and Leroy STROBEL is still relocating assets.

A hearty welcome aboard to super newbies LT George ALEXANDER, who is Air Crew Training Officer, to Comm Yeoman Rick SHELLGREN, to YN1 SHEPARD, and LT Chet HARRISON, and a farewell to Iron Mike, CDR ARTUSO who is returning to the States (Would you believe Hawaii!)

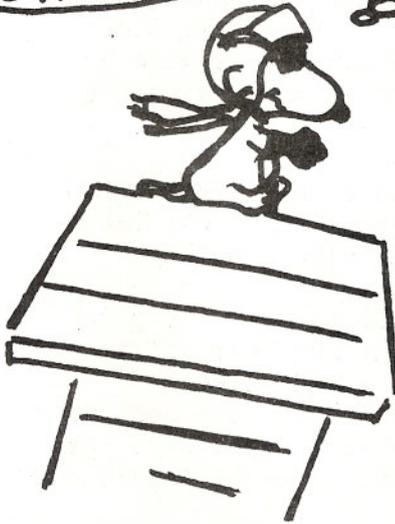
CLEAR!



COMING HOT!



HERE'S THE WORLD-FAMOUS
FTL HOVER CHECK COMPLETE
ON THE ROLL!



WHOP WHOP
WHOP!



BUMP!
BUMP!
BUMP!



THUD!
THUD!
THUD!

WHOP!
WHOP!
WHOP!



HMMM! PRETTY
SMOOTH FOR
A "BRAVO!"

SAFETY/NATOPS/TACTICS

Quite a turnover in personnel here ... LCDR REDMAN, LT RIBOLLA and LTJG WALDBEESER have all departed for the World. LT HOWELL is the new SafetyWolf, with LTJG WOOD the new SafetyCub. LCDR CAMPBELL is wearing two hats now, both NATOPS and Tactics. Maybe he will now have twice as much to say??

This month's Save of the Month Award went to LTJG DYER, for spotting a small crack in the trunnion bearing race of A/C 317. Further investigation revealed that the race was completely split, with eight additional cracks found in normally inaccessible areas. The rotor blades could have separated in flight, resulting in disaster. The keen eye of a very professional aviator enabled him to spot this discrepancy. Well done, Ed!

NATOPS/Tactics has been busy during this period, turning out check rides for 19 new FTL's and 27 new HAC/AHAC's.

MEDICAL

The first few months of the New Year have kept the Medical Department jumping. Our Lord and Leader Doctor "Gill" VASQUEZ has kept himself busy with his work at the Can Tho Orphanage, going on Medcaps, and keeping the squadron physically fit and mentally alert. He took a short trip to the Phillipines to try his hand at jungle survival. Must have been nice living, because he said he really enjoyed himself. He also spent a few days at Det 4 with one day stops at Dets 2 and 6.

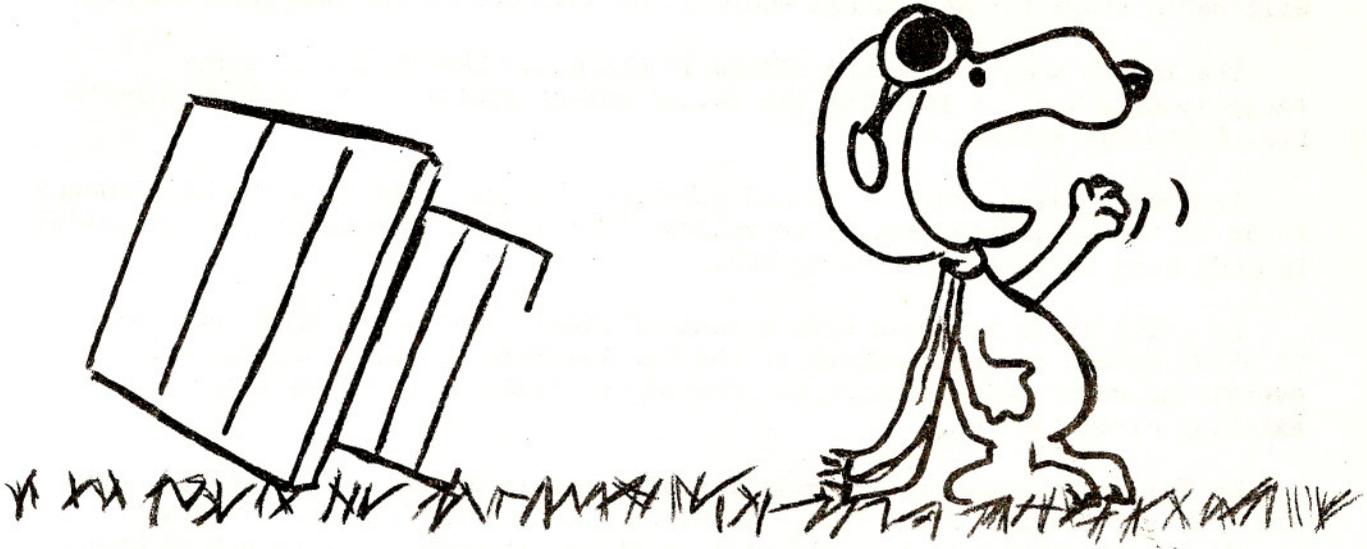
We've added another man to our little group of mercenaries. HM2 Richard GUERIN checked aboard from NAS Jacksonville. He's an Aviation Medical Tech, and presently has the job of keeping our Record Office running smoothly.

HM2 MULLINS continues fighting his never ending battle to keep the pilots and crewman up to date on their physicals. He started the New Year off in style with R&R in Taipei. From the stories he tells, it sounds like a wonderful way for a New Year to begin. HM3 FARROW tells us he's the best Navy X-ray man in the Delta. Course he's the only one, but what can you say? He keep's yelling this funny little word lately, "Short", but we can't figure out exactly why. Maybe he's trying to tell us something.

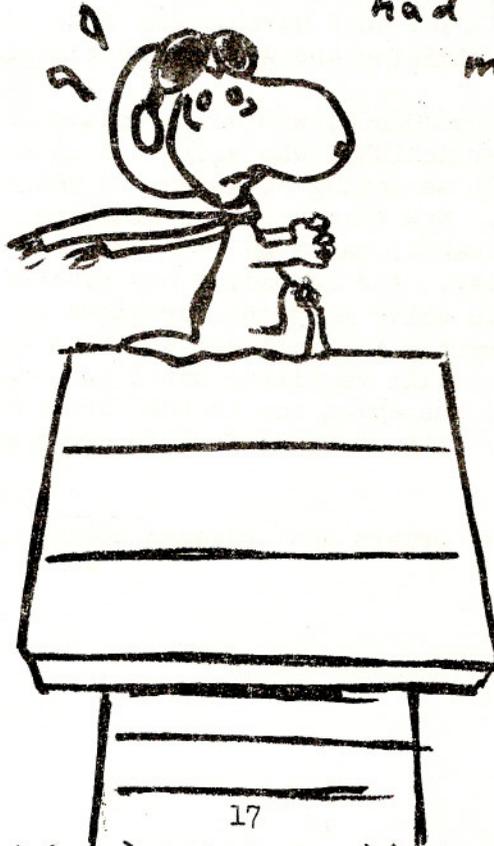
HN MAYWORTH just returned from the P.I. He said he really liked jungle living too. HM3 GRAY and HM3 HALL have lead an uneventful life for the past two months, but hope to have some good scoops on them next time.

Guess that's all from the DOC's for now. May all your Medical Problems be small.

"DAMN CHINOOKS!"



"I've always heard War is Hell,
but I didn't know I
had to fly without
my supper dish!"



MAINTENANCE/MATERIAL CONTROL

Here is the latest from the AZ Flying Book Section. Congratulations will be in store for AZ3 TURNER who will be advanced to AZ2 the first of May.

The latest addition to the office is AZ2 Bill BENNETT who is doing exceptionally well in learning the rather unique system involved in HA(L)-3's Logs & Records section.

Another smiling addition is AZC McDANIAL who has moved from the Maintenance Admin to the Analysis section to relieve ADRL BEDWEIL who caught the beautiful FREEDOM Bird on 6 March, so long BED.

LT McGEE still controls with a hand of steel. While LT JOYCE relieved LT MEARS as our foremost expert in the Oil Analysis Program. All in all everything seems to be running as smoothly as could be expected under existing circumstances.

As far as Maintenance Control, the high morale section of HA(L)-3, there are a lot of changes being made. Chief PRINCE is preparing for his trip to the World. Airman WASHBURN is finally getting his wish to go to the AT Shop, AMSC KIRK has deserted Maint. Control for the less hazardous duty of Air Frames. New men assigned to take up the vacant spots are; AMS1 EDDINS, AE3 CRANE and ADJAN RISER. We want to wish to these courageous men all the luck in the world, they'll need it.

MATERIAL CONTROL

A big turnover of personnel in Material Control during the months of Jan. and Feb. Chief STEWART and AK3 Lynn AKIN left in Feb. and Chief TURNER and AK3 Morgan BROOKS left for CONUS on 8 March. All four of these gentlemen have been mainstays of the division and will be sorely missed.

New arrivals are ADJ1 Lee JORDON, who will replace Chief STEWART as Tool Room Supervisor and AN Roger MCKINNY, who will work in Material. AK1 George DICKENSON will fill the bill as acting Division CPO until the arrival of AKC SLANGS latter in the month. New things in the wind are first - an expanded program for the repair of Seawolf parts by FASU which should help to reduce time lost due to supply delay. And second, a new procedure for rotating torque wrenches which should solve many det. problems in this area. Still no aviators watches - apparently ASO in their infinite wisdom - has negotiated a new contract and no orders will be filled until this contract is in effect. Also the issue of greens is suspended due to the warehouse fire which NSAD had in February. Hopefully both of these problem areas will clear up before the end of the month.

In the interm keep those orders and messages coming in, it makes us feel wanted.



19



The AO Shop, or more commonly known as "The Devestators" have been quite busy lately (a little more than usual that is!). Besides the usual check of aircraft and everyday gripes we have been installing bomb racks of four of our world famous Sealords. This, we are proud to mention also includes the wiring of the aircraft for this system. As a point interest we'll add that believe it or not, they work.

We are proud to mention the strengthening of our shop personnel with the new arrivals of A01 DORAN, who came to us from FATUELANT and has assumed responsibility of being day check supervisor, and AOAN WEBB, joining us from NATTC, Jacksonville, Fla. We are all hoping that he made Third Class on the last exam. Our third new arrival isn't really new at all, but finally realized that the good life was really at Binh Thuy rather than Det 4. Right, AO3 HAYNES?

We are sorry to say, or maybe secretly happy to say that by the time this paper is released AO2 HUGHES, AO3 PARKS and AO3 WILLY will have departed. They all spent 18 months in HA(L)-3 and will be a great loss to the shop. However, we'd like to wish VA-46 the best of luck because they're all headed that way.

We would also like to add that everyone else is nearing the 100 day mark and are beginning to feel "Short", so expect to see some new faces around the shop in May and June. However, one old face will be here forever, AO3 GRAFF extended!

AIR FRAMES

Since Air Frames missed the last Wolfgram, many changes in personnel have taken place. Branch Officer LTJG Tom SCHILLING left Binh Thuy for Det. 7. His replacement, LTJG Ian REFO, alias "Night Turn" headed to Det 9. AMS3 ARNOLD finally left for the States after a short involuntary extention. Rumor control has it that ARNOLD has aspirations to be a Major League pitcher. AMS2 "Red-eye" RAINWATER finally got back from his extended extention leave. CHIEF HOPKINS is so short that he is getting hard to find around the shop. After a year at the helm of the Air Frames Shop, CHIEF HOPKINS says he can handle anything the Navy can give him. AMH1 SOLWAY made Chief on March 1. After his initiation to the exalted status of CPO, SOLWAY took over the shop. AMS1 HAYDEN has been transferred to Maintenance Control, where we desperately need a friend.

New arrivals include AMS1 FERINE, AMH3 SALVATORE, and AMH3 COLE. They all seem to have adapted well to the nice climate.

February 20th Air Frames and Power Plants finally got to stage their party. Power Plants, led by their "All-Navy" coach sneaked by in the vollyball game. Later, after all the steaks and beer had been consumed, everyone had a chance to "Bathe" in the beer tub.

Well, that's all from Air Frames. Hope everyone had a Happy Valentines Day!

Power Plants Shop held their beer party on the 20th of Feb. - although it was a combined affair with Airframes Shop, all went off well. The party turnout was very good with 90% attending and the other 10% heading for the town (just like brown baggers). There were games played - especially volleyball. Power Plants waxed Airframes three straight, but Airframes did manage to score as much as 8 points once, and that was against the second string who were well on their way with the "Suds"! The party finally ended with just about everyone being dumped into the beer tub (brrr).

We've lost quite a few people lately to the World, and it looks like an all "Newbee" Maint. effort now, except for Chief JONES, who's here for his second time around. He spent his earlier tour here during 67-68 (a good year we hear, especially the Tet).

Jack CRANEY is now on his extention, after 30 days back in the World. We've decided he is our very own "Mario Andretti" of the Mekong. Ask him about the "Big One" that didn't let him get away!

Butch CHAMBERLAIN is short-short-short, in fact he's just about next, everytime you start to talk to him he looks at his watch.

Did you hear ADJ3 "Yokohama Joe" JACOBSON has been running a "Osoga" noodle stand in his cubicle. Stop in sometime if you know how to handle Chop Sticks. His cube mate ADJ2 COSNER also wants to express his thanks to whoever it was that returned his shaving kit he absentmindedly forgot in the head one night - "Must have been one of Jake's satisfied customers" says Cos.

Anybody hear about ROSADO's knock down, hook and jab fight with a "Cyclo" driver awhile ago? Seems the driver didn't like the idea of an intoxicated "Pineapple" latching on to one of his tires with his bare teeth no less!

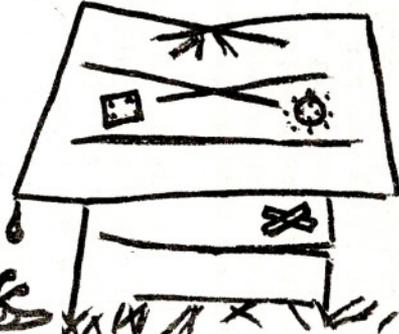
ADJ2 Pete PETERSON, soon to be ADJ1, really know's how to pull liberty - with just 500 piasters only! Can you imagine that?

New man in shop - ADR3 BROTHERTON, after spending 7 months in the Tool Crib, he can finally define what tools are what, now all we have to do is show him how they are utilized.

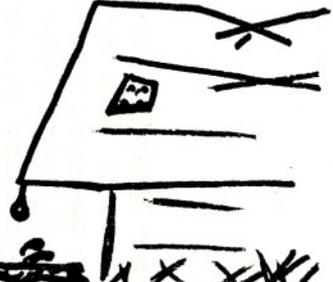
As for the "O"s part of Power Plants Branch, there has been a turnover in power at least once a month, after all a man can stand only so much (shop note!). LTJG "Barney" BARNES was relieved by short timer LTJG DYER, alias "Deadwood of Det 9". Barney set up house keeping at Det 6 and rumor has it that he took his first salt water bath early one morning in Feb. and was last seen floating around on his back in the Gulf of Thailand giving the international distress signal with his outstretched hand to some H-46 overhead. Power Plants sends, "Keep swimming Barney!"

About the time everyone in the shop figured out that they had a new "O" (LTJG DYER) they also found out he had checked out, the last anyone heard from him was when he ran through the hangar yelling, "What time is it?" Well lets hope he made it to the World OK and good luck to him in HM-12.

HERE'S THE WORLD-FAMOUS
FTL, WITH HIS ENTIRE
FIRE TEAM DOWN BECAUSE
OF MECHANICAL PROBLEMS.



I'VE CALLED THE PEOPLE
AT DET 4, I HOPE THEY
CAN BRING A "BIRD" OVER SO
WE CAN AT LEAST KEEP THE
CHANNEL COVERED.



AH! HERE
THEY COME
NOW!



Don't repeat this but it has been rumored that the HA(L)-3 electricians have been recommended for the Plastic Cross, the well known medal given by the Vietnamese Red Cross for life saving. It seems that three officers had to be rescued at an AV/Weps party after they fell into icy and troubled waters. My source says that each decoration will be pinned on by Commander STARBUCK, one of the three officers present at the party.

I hope the awards come through. These men are the most deserving humans I have ever known. They work three shifts, keeping the shop open 24 hours a day. This is amazing when you consider the three shifts. Well, here it is.

At 7.30 in the morning you will see a white haired old man, AE1 WELLS, leading his "Melting Pot" in for the first shift. Melting pot? You had better believe it babes. Its consists of a Polock, a Greaser, a fatman, a blond, a judo expert, a duck, and a FRIS. They are, in that order; AE2 KRAWCZYNSKI, AE3 MUSEO, AE2 PROFFITT, AE3 MAHR, AE3 MOORE, AEAN SCHABEL, and AE1 FRISBIE. FRISBIE isn't a toy to be thrown back and forth between people. I'm not sure what he is, but he's so short it doesn't really matter.

If this group makes it through the day without electrocuting themselves, they are replaced by Night Check. Those fearless men working with the night breeze whipping through their hair and the bugs sticking between their teeth. This is, in my opinion, the closest knit group in the world. Kind of reminds me of Snyderley Whiplash and his gang; AE1 GARVER played by Whiplash, the gang; AE2 VAUGHN played by Lurch, AE3 MAGUIRE played by Charles Atlas, AE3 MURRAY played by Babysan John, AE3 ARMSTRONG played by a laughing hyena. These men are kind and gentle except for MAGUIRE when Connie's letters fail to make it.

The last crew, the misfits, come on at 11.15 (2315H for those over four), just in time for chow, after a nourishing meal at the cafeteria they are ready to turn and burn, just like their stomachs are doing. The boss; AE1 BARNEY is backed by AE2 UNDERWOOD, AE2 COLWELL, and AE3 HARDY. They finish up what is left by the other two shifts and work off daily gripes. They are a hard working crew and take second to none.

There it is. The men that sweat out the electrical functions of the wonderful Bell aircraft. Yes, they sweat, because there is no doubt in my military mind that the AE Shop is the hottest in the U.S. Navy. The air conditioner has been broken for months but no one cares except Jesus.

Until we meet again, don't worry about it cause everything ain't going to be alright no how.

QA DIVISION

Well its that time of the month again. Since our last Wolfgram, Q.A. has seen two of our men depart Binh Thuy for greener pastures. AMS1 HICKS to NATC Pax River, AMSC BOYER to VA-86 Cecil Field, Florida. We wish them well in the land of the big P.X. Also with these we inherited some fine talent with the gain of ADJ1 SWEITZER and MYNTTI and for metalsmiths we gained AMS1 RAY.

With the new men Q.A. is finally back up to allowances. Also Tech Rep John HEISER is back and this time time will be with us until June. He states that our Engine problems are going to Fini. We sure hope so at any rate. Guess thats about it from here. Remember if you want a little more horse- power at no extra cost "Keep that engine clean".

AT SHOP

Since Jim NORTHCUTT left with the Rock Python he sported, the pet scene has changed from a reptilian house to an aviary. Hal HOBBS recently purchased a parrot from one of the budding Horatio Algiers of the native population. One can get a clear picture of this bird by imagining the label of Corby's whiskey. Unfortunately, the parrot never makes any exciting noises. This, coupled with tendency to walk rather than fly, lends us to believe he is a little slow. We do not even know if he is a he.

People receiving orders since the last Wolfgram are; Chief MATTOT, VP-49, ATN3 HEIGER, HC-6, ATN3 RUSSO, North Island, and ATN3 WILSON, Lemoore, Calif. WILSON is still hoping to extend if he can get Vietnam for a second time.

Eight people have received advancements in rate lately, either by examination of field promotion. By test, making Second Class were: Bill RUSSO, Tom JOHNSON, and John KENNEDY, Doug EPPLER, Boyd KEEFER, and Hal HOBBS are being "Ho Chi" advanced. Those advanced to Third Class were John TALBERT and Jeff HEIGER. The field promotions do not actually go into effect until May 1, but they have been confirmed. Congratulations to all!

LINE

Well here we are again, time is passing right along, faces are changing and everybody is getting shorter. We would like to welcome our new additions to the line: ATR2 RUSSEL, AMS2 THALMAN, ADJ3 HIXON, ADJ3 KERR, AE3 MARTIN and ADJ3 MILLER.

We have also acquired a new Division Officer, LT CORKERN, who in turn has acquired a new addition to his family, a seven pound, fourteen ounce baby boy, their first. Bring on the cigars.

AMSC GALLINEAU has replaced MASC SCHRIEBER as Line Chief and immediately set about endearing himself with the men by shifting from an 8 on/16 off work day to a 12 on/12 off work day.

Our number ONE Sealord AT1 GREGORY departed for the World, with never a backward glance and AMH1 McCACKEN will be taking his place.

ABH1 BOOKER is head honcho of Day Check with the Night Crew being driven be "Where's my jeep" SJOBERG and "Gramps" CLARY.

Now in all fairness to the war effort, Det applicants will be considered for the Sealord Program after serving a nominal qualification period on the line. "Sin Loi".

PARALOFT

Buenos dias, from the halls of life vests, helmets, and survival radios. As this new Wolfgam period rolls around, many changes can be witnessed in the Loft.

PR1 NIX, the new Loft honcho, still walks in a daze refusing to believe he is in Vietnam for a year. Our newbie boss has found consolation in many new friends and their coffee mess. He's been keeping himself busy by working as a shore patrol on his off hours to keep all of us on the straight and narrow.

PR3 SMITH alias "KING RAT", was advanced to Second Class by the Bureau and Field Waiver Board. Smitty has gone to the jungles of the Phillipines and JEST school this month to acquire first hand information to pass on new flying personnel when they attend ground school. We breathlessly await his return to see how he feels about the training in the P.I.

PR3 "Woody" WOOLBURY is beginning to grin. When this Gram was being written he had already begun to flaunt his short timers ribbon around. Woody, a reserve, is being separated from active duty and returned to his parents, friends, university and Naval Reserve Board in Olatha, Kansas.

PR3 WHITE Ain't Too Short ... But with 5 and a wake up and an 11 month early out, it seems incredible that he had the time to write this last Wolfgam of his career. I've finally come to the realization of what is meant by "a day in Nam is an eternity".

AN LOCKE, our newest newbie, found himself in the Loft after 8 months of Det life. LOCKE came to us just in time for him to depart on his 30-day extension leave. We're all looking forward to his return from the world and resumption of war stories and tales of the great Det life.

Most people in Maintenance have noted the division of the A/F, P/P work bench. It isn't really hard to recognize the area that belongs to our work center, it is clearly and "NEATLY" marked. Nuff said, eh Power Plants?

A hearty "glad to have you" and welcome aboard to the following -- AMS1 WILCOX, AMS1 MORRIS, AMH2 BARCELONA, AMS3 NAWACHEK, AMS3 STEWART and AMSAN ANDERSON. From other areas in HA(L)-3 our assets have increased with the inter-department transfer of AMS3 CRIBBS, AMH3 DENTON and AMSAN HUFFSTUTTER.

In case you Det guys are wondering "those ain't new aircraft you're getting after check". They just look so "purty" as the results and efforts of our reorganized Paint Crew under the able direction of AMS2 THALMANN. Well done fellows.

Using the term we are all familiar with in our many letters to friends and family, "I've run out, that's it for now".

POWER PLANTS

Chief FARWELL's men in Power Plants -- they're the people that ~~specialize in engine changes and hot end inspections --~~ are in the process of breaking in "newbees" ADJ2 CHAMBERLAIN, ADJ3 COSNER, ADJ3 WANTLING, ADJ3 BURRINGTON, and ADJ3 CALDWELL, also LABELLA is returning to the shop from Detachment.

ADJ2 REAL, ADJ3 NEWCOMB, ADJ3 BEAVERS, WRENN, and NEWBAUER are heading up the crew to break in the "newbees" but these guys just sit around and say "SHORT"!

Well, it can all be turned over to HATCLIFF and GRAY when they return from leave. And since TIENSVALL got an "atta boy" he should be very useful.

Power Plants extends a hearty welcome to newbee ADJ2 JACOBSON who came to HA(L)-3 from NAS Patuxent River.

CHECK CREW

Check Crew has had about a month to evaluate their new system of aircraft through check. In that time aircraft in check turned out in 5.7 days vice 9.1 and are requiring less time to be tested. What this really means is that Dets are now having aircraft brought to them on time instead of waiting 2 or 3 days after a 10 hr. extension. It's true the new system helped but it's no better than the men, so standby while we pat ourselves on the back.

CAMBODIA

AN LONG
YRBM 21
DET 9



SAIGON

Feb 8 - 2nd

BEN LUC

DET 4 DET 7

NHA BE
DET 2

CHAU DOC
YRBM 20
DET 5

MEKONG
RIVER

MY THO

VINH LONG

Loi Phu

BASSAC
RIVER

BINH
THUY

CAN
THO

Aug 1st

RACH GIA
DET 8

GULF OF THAILAND



CA MAU
DET 3

BAC LIEU

SONG ONG DOC
DET 6

SOUTH CHINA SEA

NAM CAM

MEKONG DELTA REGION
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
"SEAWOLF COUNTRY"

SOLID ANCHOR
DET 1