

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

WOLFGRAM

Vol. II, No. 6

5 July 1968



CAPT A. H. MUNSON
COMMANDING OFFICER

The Wolfgram is a publication of Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron THREE (HA(L)-3). It is published in accordance with NAVSO F1035 in order to keep HA(L)-3 personnel abreast of current policies, missions and activities of the squadron.

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CO'S NOTE
COMMANDING OFFICER
CAPT A. H. MUNSON

During the past month we have detached a great number of officers and men upon their completion of twelve months in-country. Without exception, of those who have stopped in to see me, they were leaving with happiness, yes, but also with sadness upon the completion of this short tour in the squadron. We are also happy with them in their return to the states, but sad to lose all the talent.

During this month I lose my strong right arm when CDR Bill MARTIN is detached. He stepped into the not too easy task of being Executive Officer at the same time I arrived as C. O. He provided continuity within the squadron and good sound advice to the new Commanding Officer. I have learned quite a bit about Bill during these past couple of months. He is Navy through and through. Through his efforts in MedCaps and Community Relations Programs as an amateur magician the picture of the Navy Seawolves has been enhanced immeasurably.

CDR MARTIN we all wish you a safe voyage home and an outstanding tour at NAS, New York.

XO'S NOTE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CDR W. D. MARTIN

The other day, a special request chit for tour extension crossed my desk. The reason for the request was stated simply and directly: "It would be a privilege to extend in HA(L)-3, the best helicopter squadron in the Navy". It would be difficult for anyone to turn down such a request. It is pleasing indeed to see the growing sense of pride that you all share in "the best helicopter squadron in the Navy".

On the third of July, Chief R. P. HEROLD was piped ashore during retirement ceremonies in his honor. Chief HEROLD was the Squadron's first Leading Chief. He organized X-Division and conducted the excellent indoctrination program for all newly arriving enlisted personnel. His many services to the squadron were superlative. Chief HEROLD has earned a well deserved retirement following 20 years of faithful and devoted Naval Service. His squadron mates join in wishing him smooth sailing in his new career.

On the same day, the new Executive Officer, CDR O. E. GERCKEN reported aboard. He comes to us from Lakehurst, N. J., where he was the Commanding Officer of HC-2. I know that CDR GERCKEN will enjoy the continued support of all hands.

I wish to state that it has been a real privilege to serve as your Executive Officer during the latter part of my tour. Your spirit,

cooperation, and professionalism, have made my job completely enjoyable. I shall miss the Seawolves and our close association with all Game Warden personnel. You will be remembered in many sea stories in the future. When you pass through the New York area, please drop by to see me at NAS New York. I will make time for a cup of coffee.

DET ONE (USS HARNETT COUNTY)

The month of June saw the departure of LCDR WANTZ, our past OinC, and LT Mike HAMMERGREN. Both were observed dabbling tears from their eyes as they boarded the helo for Vung Tau. LCDR WANTZ has done an outstanding job as DET ONE's OinC and has done an equally fine job indoctrinating LCDR HARKER, our new OinC. "Rice Mill" HAMMERGREN and "Curly" WANTZ are currently at Vung Tau and are anxiously awaiting the trip on the great iron bird that will take them to the Western Hemisphere. LCDR WANTZ is headed for NAS Los Alamitos and LT HAMMERGREN for HT-8 at NAAS Ellyson. We wish both of you the best of luck and continued happy flying.

ENS (excuse me, Rear Ensign* Dave MINAHAN returned from R&R in Hawaii sporting a ring on the third finger left hand and one of the worst tans we have seen in months. Dave appears to have enjoyed himself immensely and if he ever stops whimpering we'll be able to find out for sure. Anyway, congratulations to Dave and the new Mrs. MINAHAN; we wish them the very best.

LTJG Dave (oh, how I love the Far East) CRANOR returned from leave to the Philippines where he visited his old stomping grounds at NAS Cubi. Dave also enjoyed himself but says he is happy to be back here with all the guys once again.

LT John ABRAMS has had a rough go of it lately as he is DET ONE's Maintenance Officer. Things do appear to be getting better and now John only sees the mountains of Vung Tau twice (or thereabouts) a week.

LT "Sumo" (any mail for me, I know I got at least one) SOTO is doing a fine job as our Operations Officer and can be seen working on his "jellow" sheets at all hours.

LTJG Dick (this isn't the war I dreamed of) HENNESSY is back from an extended tour of the Delta and is currently cultivating a moustache. "Can we look at your sister's picture just one more time please?"

LCDR HARKER is now our OinC and must cope with problems that are peculiar to the Bassac. His humor and fine leadership are an inspiration to us all; but please Mr. HARKER a little less of the former?

The 3,000th landing was recently made on the USS HARNETT COUNTY and

"Vung Tau" ABRAMS was gracious enough to give the landing to a newly arrived pilot, LTJG C. J. BAGLEY, who claims to be the hottest pilot in the Delta.

DET ONE has welcomed three new gunners, AOC WALSH, AOAN MCALLISTER and ADR3 ENGAVO. Chief WALSH comes to us from Vinh Long, MCALLISTER recently crossed the "Big Pond" and ENGAVO comes to us from Vung Tau. ASE3 CHAFFEE recently returned from R&R to America. CHAFFEE had a great big smile and rumor has it that wedding bells will ring in the future. Please, say it ain't so!

AM (my gun is jammed can I just shoot it in the water to check it?) GIBSON and AMS3 RECORD returned from one night of liberty at Vung Tau and appeared quite happy. More liberty runs are being planned as it is proven that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy (Jack who?).

AMH3 "Heartbreaker" ROBINSON and ATN3 NIMMO are looking forward to a trek to Sydney in the fall.

AE2 SEARLE is looking forward to a little bit of leave and has borrowed LTJG CRANOR's "Manila or bust" sign.

That is about it from this scribe on the Lower Bassac. We now, and will continue to go forth with heads held high trying to live up to the immortal words of ENS Dave MINAHAN - "I'd rather be safe than pretty." Anyone who can figure that one out please drop us a line. We are in Vietnam on the Bassac, alright Vazquez?

DET TWO (NHA BE)

Greetings from Nha Be where "every day's a holiday and every meal a feast." The transition to the new breed is nearly completed with the additions of LCDR Mike RETZ from HC-6, LTJG Bryan CUDEBACK from HS-9 and LTJG Tim HAYES and ENS George PIEL, both fresh from the hallowed hangars of Ellyson Field. During this month we also acquired four new gunners. AE3 Jim EVANS has consistently let the airmen feel the weight of the crow and AOAN "Porky" GIER is living proof that one can stay "healthy" even in a war zone. Our two newest gunners, AN Glen SMITHEEN and AN Ed WELSH have been kept busy on the deck as their flight skins do not become effective until the middle of July. May saw the departure of AMH3 Terry REASNOR who will be monitoring the controlled (?) crashed by aspiring aviators aboard the LEXINGTON and ADJ2 Doug WOSNIAK who is headed for Rota, Spain. Our "Boss", LCDR Ron PENNINGTON, is bringing pressure to bear on the powers in Victor Tango to get a check ride for another Fire Team Lead and is enthusiastically participating in "barge quals" aboard MST-2 anchored in Nha Be harbor. LT "Easy Ed" McCASSELL has, during the last month, required a twenty-four hour watch which has been ably shared by LTJG's "Willowly Wil" DAVIS and Derek BROWN (our waived AHAC). This watch became a necessity when Ed leaped from his rack in the bunker entreating those around him to divulge the whereabouts of his Fire Team. Strangely enough it was

his Fire Team who provided the answer to this perplexing although obvious question. LT John (Dai Uy Babysan) CONNOLLY has received his AHAC papers and is seldom seen without his bowling ball bag. LTJG Al "The Diplomat" BILLINGS claims he is ready for his FTL check but after being notified by the Red Cross that his wife had given birth to a daughter, nearly a week after the occasion, some people have their doubts.

Three of our assemblage are showing signs of weakening to the "black shoe" propaganda. ENS "Lonesome George" PIEL, ADJ2 Larry TAYLOR and AMH3 Steve BARRETT have viewed the Rung Sat Special Zone from those fiberglass wonders, the PBR's, during off duty periods during the last month. AE2 Gary NOYD is attempting to augment his income by learning the finer points of cribbage. He rarely has any difficulty finding opponents. AO3 Morriss PENDLETON claims that sleeping in the aircraft during a rainy night in Vung Tau is easier than de-arming the "bird". Our two "Knights Errant", AMH3 George HEADY and AMHAN Bob FARRELL finally returned from an extended R&R in Vung Tau. Upon his return HEADY acquired another (his third) dog, this time through slightly more conventional means. ADJAN Jim ROBINSON and ATMAN Ben SMITH have greatly improved their marksmanship, both now keep the majority of their rounds in the Rung Sat. ADJ3 Bruce BOISSEY has removed the bandages from his hand and has been harrassing the Awards Officer about a Purple Heart for his fall during a scramble. The latter has been heard saying something about the difficulty of chewing gum while walking. That's about all the news that's fit to print from Saigon's scenic suburb.

DET THREE (VINH LONG)

Sad it is that the legendary "colonel", OinC CDR Chuck SAPP, is about to leave his faithful. Even for an intrepid, second tour "colonel", all good things must, at some time, end. But perhaps, sir, now is the best time to leave. We didn't really mind when you started to carry that mouse around with you, or when you made a place for him as your "roomie". We didn't even mind when you talked about him all the time, but colonel, when you started taking him flying, and even day "T" qualed "my little fluffy" aren't you going a little far?

Elsewhere around the Det, Bill "crash" MACKEY is also preparing for departure. Be it known to all that this fine young man has done a tremendous job throughout his tour, and has nothing but thoughtful words about his past seniors. Planning on social calls to your friends in Pensacola when you're back in the states, Mac? Any more demo landings for the Army Major up river?

Word is being spread that LTJG Tom CRULL is up for Army Aviator of the Month for the third straight time. Any truth, Tom? I personally doubt it. Why, it was only a few weeks ago that I saw you with a Navy flight suit on, and actually socializing with some Naval officers!

Rumor has it that the building architecture award will be presented to LT Ray LAZO. Maybe now he'll divulge his recipe for concrete. But I digress.

The arrival of LT Bob COOPER and LTJG's Randy MILLER and Dick BARR was welcomed by all. Coop, back for his second tour, takes over as Operations Officer from "P-Ski". Hear you did a real job up north, Bob. Dick BARR relieves LTJG Mike PETERSEN as 1st Lieutenant thus giving our prospective Charlie Atlas more time to devote to his Canadian Air Force 5 BX physical training course. Ain't nobody ever gonna kick sand in Mike's face. Our new guys are led by none other than CDR Ralph "Tiger" WILLIAMS. He states that it's "watch out Charlie time" and judging by his recent exploits, the tiger definitely means what he says. Welcome aboard, Commander.

A hasty farewell also goes to LCDR Steve TOBEY. Steve received hurried word to return to that heart of the combat zone, Vung Tau and is resolutely preparing for that harrowing duty. Best of luck, Steve, and we're pulling for those DFC's for you and Tom CRULL.

The flight crew extends a hardy welcome to AO3 TRUEX. It seems his "shootin iron" is too heavy to shoot "over" the side of "Baby Huey". Our new "man on the ground", Daniel, is publishing his book on the do's and don'ts of ammunition handling. AMH3 STONEKING has brought much humor and viriety to our gang at DET THREE, (we think he missed his calling). A rumor has been spreading that CONKLIN and MEUSSNER are the best crew chiefs in the Delta. Seems somebody gathered this information from a wall in Vung Tau.

We are sorry to see WILSON and LASSITER leave us as everyone knows they are the best gunners in the Delta. We are wondering why MEUTE is buying so much western literature lately-guess he doesn't dig the far eastern stuff.

CHASE is now part owner of one of the clubs on base but we hear profits have been down lately. Say who's that snoring over there? Must be FRAZIER as he sleeps 25 hours a day. We would also like to pass along that the "arm" ANDRES has completely recovered from his first encounter with his M60.

Work on DET THREE's new crew hootch has begun again after a 2 week delay. The interior layout was designed by a Chinese puzzlemaker and would make Frank Lloyd Wright green with envy. Not too bad for us rank amateur builders.

Some new material was "appropriated" and the building crew plans to have the exterior finished by 30 June. Now that the special service's pool is being refinished it should be groovy living down here.

Our lone ordnanceman, AURAN, will soon get a much needed break when our second BB stacker arrives to help him out. AURAN is presently

working 8 days a week and 25 hours a day.

SWICEGOOD and BRUCE have the AE situation well in hand and now that BRUCE knows where supply is he shouldn't have any delays for parts.

AKI, FERRERA, and "man mountain" SHERRILL are going strong in the Mech department and doing a fine job on the A/C. Biggest problem here is getting parts. Anyone seen a 1/16 cotterpin?

TICE, GRAY and ROBERTSON are our full time tin benders and they are becoming experts at patching holes. TICE now has his C.D.I. rating and gives a critical eyeball to all the various repair jobs. AMS2 HARTING is now dividing his time between flying and maintenance. He has also extended 6 months to go gunning. Lately the metalsmith crew has been sporting some wild tiger suits of unknown nationality. Ah, if only mother could see them now! Our lone AT, WARRICK, is anxious to see the hootch completed so another AT can be ordered in. As soon as he gets his partner checked out, he can get some time off for a change - maybe!

SALAZAR is handling the paperwork and keeping banking hours. He'll be hard to replace as we don't know what he does really. Wish we all had it so good.

ADJI CATLING is now enjoying some well deserved R&R in the States and will be coming back for 6 more months of flying with DET THREE. Some guys just don't know when to quit.

ADJI ENGH has his hands full trying to keep everything under control and taking over where CATLING left off. As soon as he finds out where all the parts are hidden in the Mech's conex things will be much easier for him. He's absolutely wild about "Mortar City" and doesn't know why he couldn't get down here sooner. To him, leaving Vinh Long is going to be hard to take.

Between mortar attacks things are running well and all hands are keeping the HA(L)-3 birds in good shape for 99 and 9/10% availability. The men living out at the Navy Villa will be sad to leave the fine Navy chow there when the new hootch is completed.

So much for now from DET THREE.

DET FOUR (USS GARRETT COUNTY)

How do you say goodbye to an OinC who has been an outstanding and admired leader? Well, regretfully, the time did come and LCDR A. R. CLARK left recently to become a Vung Tau warrior; but not before a small party and plaque presentation was held. Keep in mind too, that ole' OinC's don't just fade away, they melt, especially after a full year of everything which included anything from putting up with heckling J.O.'s to "fish steaks". So to you Mr. Clark, from the officers and men

of DET FOUR, the best of luck and smooth sailing, sir, in your work at the War College in Newport, R. I.

A hearty welcome goes out from DET FOUR personnel to our new boss, LCDR J. R. PRIESTLEY. There's probably no one that can match machetes with this man! Mr. PRIESTLEY comes to DET FOUR from COMOP-TEVFOR Staff (Project Potlid in Panama) where he flew Huey "slicks". The West Virginia native, who almost always gets out a smile, suggests that if anymore APM's takes place in the "stern-anchor freeway" that a permanent pilots' ready-room be constructed (a keen place for an OinC change of command, too).

AN Merrit BUSH is the newest addition to our family. The Michigan native comes to us from NAS Agana, Guam and crash crew duty which talents we hope he never has to exercise. By the way DET SIX, you lost a good man!

The ole-grey fox, Assistant OinC LCDR Paul FRANKENBERGER is keeping tab on all the quirks coming from the PBR peanut-gallery. A warning: Anything said from now on in a derogatory manner against the Seawolves can only be used as ammunition in the future. However, the floor (wardroom) is still, contrary to popular belief, open and all conversation/debate is welcomed.

We're wondering why an ole-timer goes around with a smile on his face. Could it be Mr. BARNES that you're a short-timer? Well, with 29 days left, "wild" Bill has earned quite a reputation and will long be remembered in the Delta for doing an outstanding job. How about a suitcase for all those medals?

On the subject of medals, our recent OinC change of command also saw ADJ3 R. L. BAUSKE and AE2 M. D. KORMAN earning their 1-3 and 3-11 Air Medals, respectively. Congrats - well done.

Happiness to LT Bill BAILES is earning his Fire Team papers and having a lot of good targets of opportunity. Congratulations also go out to LCDR FRANKENBERGER and LT Raul VAZQUEZ for earning their AHAC papers. All we need now are available helicopters.

LTJG Paul STEUBE says the headaches are gone now. The remedy was quite simple - less sleep - more coffee, coke and ice cream. Also we're asking LTJG Bob HAGGERTON to be more cautious when walking near the helos, as they have a bad habit of walking into people - two head wounds in one week? What are you trying for Bob, a Purple Heart?

Dennis ROBERTSON has been acting like "puff-the-magic-dragon" these days with anyone getting in his way receiving a cigar in celebration of the birth of his first born earlier this month. His wife, Jeanne, and baby girl, Audria, are doing fine. Statistics: 6 lbs. 3 oz. Congrats Daddy!

We say goodbye to AMS3 (the kid) Gary WEAVER as he departed for Vung Tau recently to strengthen his rate. Word has it that the "kid" was in for a "shocker" as he stood duty his first week in Vung Tau. Think of good things Gary - think of R&R your first week in July.

Speaking of R&R, we lose two good men (for awhile) next month as BAUSKE and ROBERTSON to hand in hand to Bangkok, Thailand. Yes, you guessed it, as usual the "pineapple" will play the role of interpreter.

Well, that's the story on this end for now. May we appropriately say: Toi Phai Di. Hen Gap Lai.

DET FIVE (USS HUNTERDON COUNTY)

The month of June finds DET FIVE continuing their extended pleasure cruise on the clear beautiful waters of the Ham Luong River. Several fortunate people have been allowed to join DET FIVE in this land of plenty, where pineapple and other tropical fruits abound. DET FIVE is proud to welcome three new pilots to their spacious living quarters on board the HUNTERDON COUNTY. These include LT Jon WALKER, LTJG Tom TURNER, and LTJG Steve (Rick-O-Shay Rabbit) FRY. Also we have A. B. JENKINS who is serving his second tour as a gunner in Vietnam, Stuart PORTER and J. W. PRATER.

LT WALKER has gotten right into the swing of things by using his spare time for getting a good bronze sun tan. The only problem is that the tan is just coming in spots. But, if all those little spots ever run together, he will certainly have a good tan.

This month has seen LT Steve PORCH assume a new duty. He is now the all night officer's head watch. He has taken his job very seriously it seems. It has been reported that he spent the whole night closely inspecting the porcelain fixtures. It also has been reported that he has a helper named "Ralph", but no one seems to know who Ralph is. Someone said he is a new man Steve brought back from Ben Tre.

LCDR SCHRADER has had a full month. He is DET FIVE's newest AHAC, flight time hog, and social representative to Ben Tre. Also he has shared the duty of LST Qualls with LTJG GOZA. Together they have LST qualified "Rick-O-Shay Rabbit" FRY, which is no small feat. By now, LTJG FRY can bash skids with the best of them.

ENS Bill OGLE is still DET FIVE's gun dealer. I hear he has a letter from the Viet Cong wanting to know if they can buy some AK-47's.

LT Jerry PRATT has made a new investment. It seems he has bought a little gold ring to take to Hawaii when he goes.

LCDR CALKIN has just returned from R&R in Hawaii. He and LTJG GOZA have had big smiles on their faces ever since they got back.

COMA and CONNELLY, two of our more experienced gunners, have been giving WILLIAMS lessons in care and holding of the M60. When WILLIAMS gets finished shooting his M60, he just throws it away. They had a hard time convincing him he was supposed to keep the gun for the next day.

In conclusion, DET FIVE is ending the month of June with a det party in Vung Tau, and a midnight swim in the beautiful Ham Luong River. The swim will be supervised by ATAM SEAL who will give diving lessons to anyone interested.

DET SIX (DONG TAM)

It has often been said of Dong Tam that if one is not entirely satisfied with the present weather one need only wait a few minutes. Now that the season of deluge is upon us these words have never rung more true. It must be said of the place, however, that as a quagmire it is superb. As for our bedraggled and beleaguered little group, the past month has seen considerable change. There are new faces everywhere, and some old familiar ones are no longer with us.

We welcome aboard, in order of appearance on our little scene here, LTJG Jeff LEWIS, LTJG Lud MCKAY, LCDR Bill LANG, AN Ron KINGREY, AN Brian MUNGER, AN Mike O'BRIEN, AN Gary HALE and AN Charles LARSEN, who is returning from gunner's school. AN Merritt BUSH barely had time to unpack before he was whisked away to the dark environs of DET FOUR.

Some of our more frivolous colleagues found solace in the form of R&R in Vung Tau during the month. The fun lovers were AN Neil McDONALD and AN Terry SCOTT. Their appearance when they returned gave mute evidence to the hilarious times they must have had there. AMS2 Roger McELHINEY is stateside on leave. Man, you never saw anybody grin like that before.

Leaving us for Vung Tau in preparation for going home were ADJ3 Joe KRZYSLAK, AO3 IBARPA, ADJ3 Alan ROPER and ADJ3 Bobby BOONE. They are good men and will be sorely missed. Good luck, lads.

Shortly after his arrival Lud MCKAY pinned on his "Jaygee" bars for which we heartily congratulate him. Speaking of promotion, Jeff LEWIS and Ray LAROCHELLE are "expecting" on the first of July. Can you imagine Ray as anything other than an Ensign? Just imagine, from bull Ensign to boot Jaygee of the world in one swell foop.

LTJG Johnny HANKEL is in Vung Tau for test pilot school. At least that's what he claims to be doing.

In the category of laurels we had two outstanding award recipients in June. AO3 IBARPA received the Distinguished Flying Cross and LCDR Hugh CHILDRESS received the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. High honors for high courage. We are proud of them both.

LT Howie PRICE is looking forward to leave in Bangkok. AN Dan HIGGINS, Lord love him, has made crew chief and is doing a fine job. LCDR Chuck OYLER, ENS Ray LAROCHELLE, and AMS1 Dan OAKLEY are getting so short they have to stand tiptoe to see over their boots. LT Jack WILSON has received his AHAC papers and is doing great despite the fact it takes him away from his beloved paperwork.

LTJG Dick LARSEN, LTJG Ed WILSON, ADJ3 Jerry BARTLESON, AO2 Bob HARVEY, ADJ3 Vince PAONE and AN "Kramer" CAMPBELL seem not to have done anything particularly newsworthy so they won't be mentioned, alas.

11-72-05
DET SEVEN (BINH THUY)

Well, summer is finally upon us. And I do mean upon us; everything is soaking wet. Three of our pilots have left on summer vacations. Jim SMITH, Mariner COX and Pete MADLEY have all returned to that plush paradise in Vung Tau for the duration. Jim and Mariner just returned from R&R in Hawaii and they tell us that they hated every minute of it and are glad to be back here with their buddies. Anyone believe that?

Replacing our three new staff types are two new guys fresh from the states, Bob SPROSTY and Terry LACKEY. Welcome to the war zone, fellas.

We also have a visitor to the Det this month. Drew JONES is receiving a little instruction from us on fighting the war. Actually, Mr. JONES is just out here for a month of the good life before heading downriver to the LST to become DET ONE's Assistant CinC. Hope you don't get sea sick.

Ed FUREY spends his time, when not hunting the hated enemy, pursuing his new self-assumed duties as J.O. Control Officer. We wish him luck as he has a big job ahead of him.

Now that Ed has taken these duties upon himself "Cactus Jack" CONNFELLY, our beloved CinC can take a break. His nerves are a little frazzled from having to keep his eye on his J.O.'s in the club.

Old "Fly-Em-All-The-Time" BEEM is at it again. There is a rumor circulating that the Navy is going to start paying him double flight pay. There's never any doubt about who'll have the most flight time for the month with Jim making out the flight schedule.

Pete PETERSON, our maintenance type has set a record in the Officer's mail box. He has more girls writing him from all over the States than any man deserves. Mail call is pretty dull for the rest of us at the Det compared to Pete, so come on folks back home, help us beat Mr. PETERSON.

"Little John" MESERVE recently received a picture of a beautiful woman he claims is his wife. He sits in his room and stares at it every night. Can't say we blame him. By the way John has finally learned how to shoot rockets.

Pat BRIDGES has finally answered all the letters an 8th grade class sent him to pick up his spirits. Most of us would have sent out a mimeographed form letter but Pat figured if the kids took the time to write to him the least he could do was to answer them all personally. We didn't think the angry young man had such a soft spot in his heart.

Whit WHITTEMORE is starting to get bags under his eyes. He spends every duty night staying up till one or two A. M. trying to reach his wife via the MARS telephone hook up so he can wish her a happy birthday. So we'll do it for him so he can get some sleep. Happy Birthday Mell!

We want to welcome two new gunners to the Det, Rodney GRIFFITH and Gordon DOUGLAS. Griff has been initiated into some liberty spots (Navy barracks). Poor Gordie has been on duty trying to get checked out as a gunner. Maybe we will give him a day off sometime. Derrick HUGHES, of course, had his famous array of war stories to capture the awe and amazement of the newcomers or anyone else who is "lucky" enough to come within earshot. By the way did he ever tell you about.....

Dennis WOBBE has returned! He has managed to get hold of some drums and guitars and every so often a few of the crew attempt a jam session. Hey guys, we're getting awfully sick of the "Midnight Hour".

James DELORE and Mike MOLINA came back from the club last week and must have thought there was a fire in the barracks. One of them knocked over a fire extinguisher and couldn't get it to stop squirting. Everyone appreciated the shower at midnight. Also helping to keep the name of the Seawolves in the highest esteem among the personnel at NAS Binh Thuy was Charles "the quiet one" TAYLOR. He had his own show going at the chow hall the same night. The PBR sailors lost their mascot monkey Jocko last week. Maybe TAYLOR is applying for the part because that monkey could sure act.

Don "Hostile Man" SMITH took a little R&R in Vung Tau this month. He relaxed everything but his mouth. He still has the gift of finding something to gripe about.

Jim HELMS has almost completed his project for the month. It has taken him the whole month to build a ping pong table. Slaving diligently; sacrificing long hours of his off duty time, we doubt if he plans to let anybody touch it much less use it. Jimmy where are you going to put it? Oh, the next project is a rec room?

Seriously, the "Boots" have done an outstanding job of taking over responsibilities from the "G-Boys". It is a good thing too, 'cause we hardly ever see the latter. Dayne BELL splits his time between putting Campho-phenic on his sunburn and cooking Mexican dinners (no wonder they taste so funny). Bob "Gabby" SCHOCK gets out of his rack long enough to go eat and mark off another day on his calendar. John WEIL and Steve WRIGHT spend their days on top of the bunker, bagging the rays that BELL let's slip by. The "Lifeguards" report Bassac surfing conditions nil except when a "Mike" boat passes. Then we get five fast six inch waves. Bob FULLWOOD, master slave driver, has been keeping a tight rein on his ground crew. It's hopeless with guys like Wayne "Parnelli Jones" DRAPER, John KENDALL, who got his tape recorder in 14 days (right Mr. BRIDGES), and Ed PEARSON. Ed by the way has taken over as the recipient of the most enlisted mail. Could it be because he became the newest dad. His wife Sally gave birth to a 7 lb. 3 oz. baby boy named Edward Joseph. Congratulations Papa Eddie!

Well, that's the news for this month folks. Wish you could all be here with us to enjoy Vietnamese Chicken with Rice Day on the Fourth of July. We all ask that you please drive carefully over the holiday weekend so that we'll have something to come home to.

OPERATIONS CDR HILLE

The month of June saw further change in the Operations Department. CDR HILLE is in the saddle and riding herd on his boys. It is rumored that they come to work in the evenings some days. Anyway the guys are really whipping out the paperwork.

Among the new faces around the Ops Office is LTJG "Pistol" Pete MADLEY who is relieving LT Raleigh SMITH as Flight Officer. Raleigh along with LCDR Roger McPHERSON and LTJG Willie ORR are getting mentally ready for the big trip home in July. They say things can really go wrong if you aren't "ready" for CONUS. Mr. McPHERSON will soon be relieved of his duties as Assistant Ops Officer by LCDR TOBEY.

Down in the Ops trailer LT Jim WALKER has finally dug in as head of the Training Division. He just returned from Hawaii where he rendezvoused with a young friend (his wife). After a couple days of rest ole Jim was back in the office and out on the beach in the afternoons with the "Ops-Jogging-Club". LTJG Stan ZAJKOWSKI has been getting checked out in Communications for the past few weeks, and is now ready to relieve Willie ORR, who will now devote all of his energies to the BOQ Bar as manager. The "Seawolf Club" has a swinging atmosphere and has prospered the last few weeks. There will be a big party for all the "Old Wolves" at the end of the month.

Lately there has been an increasing number of "Det Wolves" inhabiting the "Wolves Den" here at homebase. The place is becoming more popular with the troops.

Elsewhere in the department LCDR "Diamond Jim" BRADY and LTJG Bob "AIO" CATHCART have been overheard swapping war stories from the Delta. We let them out for a few days and they get into all kinds of action. Ole Bob really has a sharp set of eyeballs when he's up in a Huey.

We really have a savvy group of men in Ops. PM2 BLECHER has taken hold of the reins in the Ops Office. BLECHER along with AM HARKSEN and KELSEY run a smooth front office topside. Chief SWART and ADJ2 KRZYSLAK are pushing a lot of paper in Training. And there's always our Comm yeomen ANDERSON and BRANHAM who can send a message anywhere, any time.

As we close out the fiscal year and a year in the "Nam" for many "Wolves", all of the old timers bid farewell to the Squadron, the country and it's people. We will remember many things - the flying, the clubs, the beach, and our many experiences here as the original "Seawolves". So now we turn it over to the new wolves and say "Chow-ong".

MAINTENANCE
CDR DEY

The first two weeks of June saw the maintenance crew going full blast on two twelve hour shifts. With some real fast shuffling of parts from aircraft to aircraft the long hours paid off and we kept the Dets flying.

We turned in two of our war-weary Hueys and received a couple of shiny new aircraft. These were a welcome addition to our stable.

The material condition and appearance of our squadron aircraft and equipment are significant factors in the reputation the Seawolves maintain with neighboring services. A major program is underway by our Airframes Rembrandts, under AMSI "Dud" FITE, to repaint all our aircraft.

Three new officers checked into the "good guys" department this month. LTJG Dick SIDNEY in Material Control; Ev MILLER as Quality Control; and LT Vince PRZYBYSZEWSKI as prospective Aircraft Division Officer

Welcome aboard!

QUALITY CONTROL

Quality control has had it's share of goodbyes during the month of
LT (low-level) BEGUIN is enroute to HC-5. But, as usual Maint-
has come up with another top replacement. We are now under LT
R. Vinh Long's loss and our grateful gain. Chief GARRISON has
retired also for Lakehurst and HC-4. GARRISON did leave us with a
legacy (a chit to pick up his uniforms when they come, if ever).
LOCKEY is now QC chief via HT-8, Ellyson. The big "D-D" (BECK)
still with us. Maybe we can keep him extending his tour by offering
E-8. So far, BECK is supposed to pick up Chief CELLA's, PERKINS
GARRISON's uniforms. We can only surmise that when "D-D" is promoted
will really have a wardrobe to fall back on.

The rest of the QC crew is floating. AE2 SEASE is on extension leave
in CONUS, AE2 STEVELEY is in Australia on R&R. We keep up with his
exploits via unexplained telegrams. As for our main mission (Quality)
it's not at the highest level but we expect a large improvement in the
near future. One final note - Mechanics! Count your tools. If Bell
A/C wanted a screwdriver stuck through a bellcrank or scissors they
would have issued an airframe change. Pilots - pre-flight to be sure -
especially your main rotor blades as well as the tail rotor blades. We
have found a lot of cracked blades lately.

MECH SHOP

Our prayers have been answered this past month, our shop grew in
size as 9 new men have checked in. ADJAN EGGLESTON went to night shift
along with ADJAN GRIFFITH, ADJAN BARE and ADJAN FREEMAN. Checking in
on the day shift we have ADJAN BEAIRD and ADJAN ATHA who is, at this
writing, attending Engine school. Also ADJAN LEE, ADJAN RIORDAN and
ADJAN GOOD, who comes to us from the 1st Lieutenant. It's said that
one can see GOOD following LTJG MUMSON around and pleading "but
sir, I can't fly in trucks!". ADJ3 MORAN came to us from the line
where he was a regular ball of fire for the first few weeks; now,
however, HUNT makes spot checks on him. Closing out the list we have
ADJ2 MILBOURNE. He gave us a shock yesterday when he got up off his
chair; we thought he was heading for the tool box, but, it was a false
alarm - he was just going to the water jug (it wasn't work he had
on his mind). ADJ2 HACKMAN has the mumbles these days. I heard him
mumble something about "fini 9 days and a wake up". ADJ3 YOUNG keeps
saying, "Florida, Florida", like he can't really believe it's time to
go home (Jacksonville, he says). Sometime during the past few weeks,
HUNT bent his big stick. I think it was during one of our 12 hour work
days. Hear ye, hear ye, power plants has finally had a chance to give
our hangar Queen (A/C 302) a face-lifting. Drop by, and see her - she's
sporting a new engine. Me, I'm still praying for more second class.
Maybe I'll get to fly one of these days; HARVEY. See ya next month.

AIRFRAME SHOP
(SMITH'S HAMMER SLAMMERS)

The rumor is now truth, MARTIN's Metal Maulers are now SMITH's Hammer Slammers. (We fix anything)

The moaning that was heard for a couple of weeks when we were working twelve hours a day has now subsided. Everyone is happy again to be on an eight hour day. But even while they worked the twelve hours, the men displayed a very conscientious attitude and did an outstanding job. Many thanks men.

The short-timers are chafing at the bit, getting a little restless as departure time draws near. We want to thank AMS1 Charlie (Chuck) FIELDS (Lakehurst Sailor #1), AMS2 THOMAS, AMS2 MOSLEY, and AMSAN WINKLE who are leaving for the world. We wish them Bon Voyage. We want to say well done for the job they did with the obstacles that were in their way.

Welcome aboard to AMS1 Dave BIBEAU, we have been looking forward to your arrival. Other arrivals in the shop are AMH3 BECKER and AMS FILLION. Glad to have you aboard.

AVIONICS/WEAPONS

WEAPONS:

In the past month Weapons has gained several new faces and lost some of the "old-timers". The new arrivals AO2 ISAACS and AO3 SLOAN. To those who have departed we wish you smooth sailing at your next duty station. They are AO1 MEDRANO, AO2 LEEPER, AO2 VITTEERS and AOAN KENY.

The Weapons Shop now has the distinction of having become known as the "Fox's Den", with "Grey Fox" LT BATTI; "Silver Fox" AOC McGRATH and "Foxy" AOAN SLOAN.

The "Grey Fox" is limping around the squadron area and refuses to incriminate the XO as the culprit who "unintentionally" stomped on his foot.

We welcome back our two stateside leave boys, AO2 VALENTINE and AO3 DOUBLER, remember men, no more R&R.

AVIONICS:

The Avionics gang, says welcome aboard to their latest "tweeties"- AT1 GRAY, ATR2 ARNOLD and ATAN TERRY.

Smitty from DET SEVEN says the luck of the AT's still same-same.

This Navy is getting as bad as the Army - every time AT1 CONNELLY,

"The Gunner", comes in we have to listen to war stories. Just one more like "The Gunner" and we should all be going home before Christmas.

A suggestion has been received from the metal shop that a rope with knots be suspended from the tail of all UH-1B aircraft with the following lable: "APN-171". LST crews will then become knot counters.

Joe PERRY for some unknown reason picks up a drill when he is sent out to remove screws from an aircraft.

ELECTRIC SHOP:

Welcome back to "Big John" WILLETT, safely returned from thirty days leave in the "Real World". Too bad that he had such a rough time, but we imagine he really enjoyed himself just the same.

We understand that AE2 ROTHAMEL is thinking of shipping over. The Navy is always looking to retain good men. Stick around Paul, the water's fine.

If the men in the shop can't stay awake after noon chow I suggest that they find a new place in which to eat.

AE1 ANCRUM has just returned from three days in-country R&R.

Here is a note to Mrs. Tom GRUBBS, the electric shop wishes to thank you for all those Care packages that Tom has been receiving, they have helped the shop stay in shape.

We understand that Ron HAMILTON has been running around the hangar yelling "I'm short", but the gang has just about convinced him that it is just a rumor.

MATERIAL

Whoa! Stand-by (possibly for a year) for the grand opening of the expanded local Sears and Sawbucks. Yep, the old cracker-barrel, RC Cola, and Moon-Pie shopping center is going to go first class. Just like downtown in the big city, goodies-galore.

With the help of a kind old Army SSCT, HA(L)-3 now has an ASL and "buku" parts on order. Now, all that's needed is 36 bilge coolies and 18 screemin' seamen to erect storage facilities. ANY VOLUNTEERS? Speak up, there one each type personnel, Seabee PENNELL.

Now that LT "Candid Camera" CALVERT has departed for Twin Cities, and the new skipper of our cherished, hard-working, moldy crew of AK's has taken over, things have changed. You no longer hear that famous cry of "It's on order and should be in any time". Our new Material Officers' reply is "I don't know Nothing!"

The change of command ceremonies for the new Material Officer was

quite impressive, especially the farewell speech by LT Dan CALVERT which went something like this, "Have fun, SUCKERS," and a word to LTJG SIDNEY as to the location of the hair-dye. Tears of sorrow were flowing as LTJG SIDNEY beat his fists on the deck and stated, "Take me now Lord, I'm ready."

Well, he's finally here. The only one of his breed. Yep, your AKL door gunner has arrived, fresh from hacking school. Smilin' Mike NASH has extended his little hand out to you one and all, and invited you to stop by the shop any time.

Gone, but not forgotten, that's what the word is on AKL Jimmie CRANK. We shall light some incense sticks and mutter a prayer for him and his fight with the Bureau over those wonderful orders. GET 'EM TIGER.

Does anybody know where Material can get hold of a gorilla? If so, we're going to team it up with "Big Bill VANDERHOFF and match them against the Army to wrestle some supplies out of them.

Another outstanding AK has been voted into Materials' Hall of Fame. Presented to AK3 Jack COPELAND for the outstanding job he had done while attached to HA(L)-3, was the coveted NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL. I know that the gang at Moffett Field will really be impressed, Jack.

AN (Vung Tau Lover) KERLEY is puzzled about the 2x4 attached to the 2½ ton trucks key. He was heard babbling something about "Be nice, G.I."

Talking about gunners, AK3 BRIGHT has visions of going bang, bang. The way he's been flying lately, doubts are arising. Auto-roties from 10 feet? A.Y.S.M.R.!!!

Our happy soda-jerks, AN DEVERELL and AN TOREZESKI have put the word out that the Maintenance party fund is thriving. We ain't planned a party yet?

Our night-owl shift closely resembles Mutt and Jeff. AN BAKER and AN PATEREAU are really hard chargers though.

So much from your local Sears and Sawbucks this time. By the way! Don't forget we have free parking for purchases of \$5.00 or more.

LINE CREW

The line crew added ADJ3 BOONE to its compliment of seasoned personnel. BOONE reported 20 June 1968 to Vung Tau after a tour as a gunner with DET SIX. We hear he was just "guns-au-go-go". The line crew is planning some additions to their operational residence. It seems that some G. I. had a few large crates. They were "found" and with a few alterations they shall help enlarge the line shack - the envy of all Vung Tau warriors.

Chief HAUN "the quiet ramrod" has just checked in as the Chief of the line crew. Short-timers are constantly smiling or walking around smirking - wonder why???

Anyway the work is there - the personnel are there - so just beware of low flying yellow gear.

ADMIN DEPARTMENT
CDR BARTLETT

The last of the "new blood" has been infused into the squadron. Didn't know that there were still Ensigns in the Navy. But, lo and behold, we had three gold bars bouncing through their check-in. The next officer input, barring BUPERS surprise, will not be until November of this year. With the majority of the "new guys" moving rapidly through their lectures, then on to one of the dets, the BOQ officers breathed one long sigh of relief. The BOQ bed situation was approaching the point where serious consideration was being given to the proposal to punch holes into the walls and installing hammocks to accommodate all the officers. It was either that or having the officers move in with some of our Vietnamese neighbors.

Flash: LTJG "Pot" KEELEY is legally absent. Pat, of awards fame, had detached for duty with the "fun" people of NAS Lemoore. Good luck, Pat. (We'll miss your biting Irish humor.)

LTJG Gerry MUNSON, our bewilderingly fast 1st Lieutenant, was just warming up to the job when LTJG "Big Jim" SMITH arrived from DET SEVEN to bail him out. Gerry is sure to be missed at the CPO Club where 80% of the 1st Lieutenant's tasks are successfully accomplished. Gerry is bound for HS-11 on the East Coast

LTJG Wally "the Ancient Mariner" COX has just been discovered in the Vung Tau area (with that sideways shuffle, he's hard to pick up). Wally burrowed into the awards mountain and has not been seen for a week. As an added benefit, "the Ancient Mariner" has been saddled with the BOQ Billeting Officer/Mess Treasurer job. What can we say, Wally, except that we know you can "hack" it.

More notes from YN1 Gary McCLURE's team:

Don't worry "Fick", (YN2 Walt FICKLIN), after the July officer departures something is sure to come up to keep you busy.

We thought YN2 Walt JUTKOFSKY was hard of hearing, not the case, he's just tuned to the Armed Forces radio network.

YN2 "Sad Sam" PARKER is sad no more, people don't climb over him to get to the phone anymore.

YN2 Dick BROWN, the Fort Lauderdale flash has quietly bolted himself to the desk for his tour in Vietnam.

YN3 Tom KLAUS, continues to amaze all, he can talk, smile and type simultaneously.

YN3 Rick LARGADO, the office interpreter, is out from under those fitness reports. Good to see you again, senior.

ADJAN Mike CALHOUN can sort mail in the dark. Those mechs aren't so bad after a while.

PERSONNEL DIVISION - LT COGSWELL

June was the month of multiple changes in the Personnel Office. It seems that moustache mania was the watchword, with the men vying with each other for the "Gruesome Caterpillar" award. In the lead so far is "Winsome" Jim WYNN, who appears to be Pancho Villa reincarnate. Second in the race is Tom ARMSTRONG, known to his friends affectionately as "Hey Boy!!!". His bright blond bombshell is blossoming forth under his nose in wondrous proportions for one so young.

This was also the month that saw the installation of a Personnel Office Night Crew, to alleviate the conscience of PNC "Cheap" WOOD, who couldn't stand to see his boys working only 24 hours per day. The night crew, consisting of "Razzle-Dazzle" Ray JAURIGI and "Rapacious" RYAN is under the leadership of Mike MORRIS, the "Four-eyed Wonder", and what a job he is doing!!! It is the unalterable opinion of many that since his night check was established, the Post Office has been overwhelmed with letters to the states.

Doing all the work, or so they say, is "Hootch" HUNT and Bill MCGEE. They claim an efficiency unparalleled by any in the Navy, but it seems as if the efficiency is in the field of swapping sea stories. Too bad there isn't a fantail in Vung Tau.

On the distaff side of the trailer, "Tiger" Tom WARLICK has led the Education Division in a miraculous recovery. Although nothing gets done, the scenery is always titillating since "Photo" FADEN got to town. In addition, the hole in Tiger's floor, where once a commode resided, has now been re-tiled, so he can have the pleasure of no longer falling into the "Hole of Iniquity".

"Eric" ERICKSON (nobody has found out his first name yet) has also found himself in a challenging new position. He isn't quite sure what his job is yet, but whatever it is, he works mighty hard at it. We are

all waiting to find out the results of his labors, but so far, to no avail. It appears that he is the assistant in charge of anything and everything, and claims to be the beer drinking champion of the office, when he isn't drinking martinis.

All the above is under the stupendous leadership of our new Personnel Officer, LT Tom COGSWELL - the world's only able Blackshoe/Airdale. And as if that weren't enough to place him in the Hall of Seawolf Fame, he has also made it possible for each and every lush in this squadron to enjoy his off-duty hours (WHAT'S THAT!?!?!?!?!). How? He's the Ration Card Officer, too!

PAO
LT PRESS

The number of stories released this past month totaled 100. The stories ranged from "reporting aboard" to awards presentations. Continued cooperation from the home guard and the dets in submitting stories and/or photos will keep us going at a healthy clip.

We have a Combat Camera Group team down from Saigon to shoot a "Seawolf" documentary. This team will be traveling from det to det compiling material for the film. We would enlist the cooperation of all detachments in assisting the camera team in their work.

A current Wolfgram mailing list has been compiled. In this regard, we, in PA, would like to know of any squadron member whose family is still not receiving the publication. A note from the individual stating the name and address of the person to receive the Wolfgram will correct the situation. We would also like to know of any address changes of the people listed to receive the Wolfgram.

The PAO has available a number of order blanks for "Killer Kopter" sweatshirts (\$4.49) and T-shirts (\$2.49). Anyone interested, let us know, we'll forward some order forms.

An Awards ceremony was held last month at Vung Tau. A special note of congratulations to:

LCDR William N. ELDER - Silver Star & Navy Commendation
LT William G. BARNES - Silver Star
LTJG William C. MACKAY, III - Silver Star
CDR Charles S. SAPP - Distinguished Flying Cross (3rd award)
LTJG Richard W. SIDNEY - Distinguished Flying Cross & Navy Commendation
AO3 Arthur G. IBARRA, Jr. - Distinguished Flying Cross
ADJ3 Glen L. WILSON - Distinguished Flying Cross
ADJ3 Allan ROPER - Navy Commendation
AE3 Thomas M. STEVELEY - Navy Commendation
ADJ3 Bobby L. BOONE - Navy Commendation

As a closing note, I will be officially relieved in several days by LTJG John TITCHEMER. Stop in to say hello. John, will be more than happy to serve you in any way possible.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
LT SPENCE/LT TAYLOR

HOW TO AVOID MAKING A DECISION:

1. Find a scapegoat and ride him. Americans can always blame the Russians, and the Russians the Americans. Both can blame the general apathy of the people, or the H-bomb, or everybody can, of course, blame the social order.
2. Profess not to have THE answer. That lets you out of having any.
3. Say that we must not move too rapidly. This avoids the necessity of getting started.
4. For every proposal; set up an opposite and conclude that the middle ground (no motion whatever) represents the wisest course of action.
5. Say that the problem cannot be separated from other problems. Therefore, it cannot be solved until all other problems have been solved.
6. Ask what is meant by the question. By the time it is clarified, it will be time to go home.
7. Discover that there are all kinds of inherent dangers in any specific formulation of conclusions: Danger of seeming too Pro-Russian; too Pro-Chinese; too anti-semitic; too anti-Negro; of having your statement in the hands of the wrong people; or of committing the organization too deeply.
8. Appoint a committee
9. Wait until an expert can be consulted.
10. State in conclusion that you have clarified your thinking. This completely obscures the fact that nothing has been done.
11. Point out how the deepest minds have struggled with the same problem. This implies that it gives you credit even to have thought of it.

IT IS HOPED THAT NO ONE FALLS IN THE ABOVE CATEGORIES. MAKE A DECISION NOW TO HELP US HELP YOU TO REMAIN HEALTHY AND FIT FOR DUTY.

Now that Dr. TAYLOR's relief has arrived, he (Dr. TAYLOR) is on leave in Hong Kong, enjoying the pleasures of the Orient.

Having just come from a Marine F-4 squadron, it is quite a change of pace, but no less interesting. I am looking forward to an exciting and challenging tour with the "Seawolves".

Since man is dynamic, there will be administrative changes. New training programs will be instituted and old ones improved.

We must assume that the first incoming round will make a direct hit on the dispensary and all medical personnel will become incapacitated. It is our ultimate goal that everyone becomes so well versed in the principles of basic first aid that he can save himself and someone else in a mass casualty situation. This requires complete cooperation on the part of everyone. Many phases of a training program will be repeated because: REPETITION IS THE ESSENCE OF LEARNING.

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