

NO MAN'S  
PASTWHY STAY  
IN  
VIETNAM?

The tiny island of Noman's lies off the coast of Rhode Island, three miles from Martha's Vineyard, exposed to the ravages of wind and wave like a cast-off from the mainland. Its 860 acres of sand and clay are covered with small, scraggly bushes of bayberry, wild strawberries, and long grass; occasionally broken by small ponds and lakes connected to many marshes. Its name is thought to be derived from that of an Indian chief, Tequenans, whose territory included the island. Noman's main import today is Navy men in need of training, and its chief export is men trained in the construction trades, and the arts of war and precision bombing.

The island was, at one time, the home of some thirty-eight families, who tilled its soil, raised sheep on its meadows and reaped the bounty of fish from its waters. They raised their children in its mild climate, sending them across the bay to Martha's Vineyard for an education, and watched them grow strong and healthy leading the simple life that was their lot.

By far the most important landmarks of the island, is a large, dark-blue quartz boulder lying below the high tide mark, and only visible when the full moon creates an exceptionally high and low tide each month. The most interesting facet of the boulder is an inscription carved in its face, that if authenticated, would prove the history books wrong. The inscription is apparently in Runic lettering of the type used in Greenland and Iceland a thousand years ago. Deciphered by a professor of this ancient language, the writing reads: "Lief Ericksson- 1001". There is also an additional two lines that have been obliterated by the passing of time and the action of the wind and the waves. This date precedes the landing of Christopher Columbus by 491 years, and the Pilgrims  
(con't page 7, col. 1)

Sure, we could get out of South East Asia and save thousands of lives. Perhaps, you wouldn't have to open your morning papers to read headlines about a bloody war which you think is foolish and very costly. You would not have to worry about your sons being drafted before they are barely old enough to drive a car. And life in general might seem a lot more peaceful.

But while your thinking of how good things would be, you might also stop and remember the some 4,500 American boys who have already paid the supreme price; their lives. You might also think of the thousands who have been wounded; many of them crippled and maimed for life. Because, while people in this country hold marches and demonstrations, burn draft cards, and write their congressmen about how terrible this war is, these men were and still are, fighting and dying in a war of which few men even know its cause. Men who several months ago had'nt even seen an M-16 or a .45. Men who knew no more about the ways and means of war than the man in the moon; much less places such as Chu Li, Da Nang, or Viet Nam itself. But yet you could ask each of them why they were there, and behind every response would be an answer similar to this:

Pointing toward a battered mast, centered among weather-beaten tents and Quonset huts, there waved lazily in a quiet breeze, an equally battered and weather worn flag. Its colors bleached from the hot Asian sun and showing not only the effects of weather, but also bearing the evidence of war. Here a man might say; "I have a small son at home. Because of him, and his mother, and all peoples children, I am here.

"I am here because I believe in the United States of America. I believe in her past, her present, and her future. To her future, I will pledge My own

(con't on page 7, col. 2)

BRAVO  
BANTER

Next week will be 58's first chance to really show its stuff, when the battalion makes its initial "shakedown" deployment to Norman's Island. This little speck of sand is located off the coast of Rhode Island, about six miles from Martha's Vineyard.

This will be a tactical deployment, simulating as nearly as possible the conditions we will face in Vietnam. The battalion will make an opposed landing against an aggressor force and clear the area before we can begin our primary mission, erecting a forward base.

Once the area is secured and a perimeter set up, we can drop our weapons and pick up our respective tools. No doubt, Bravo Company will take the initiative, with its UT's setting up an outdoor shower tent, piping water from a nearby lake into an ordinator, purifying it and storing it in bladder tanks for future use. They will also provide the camp with a sewage disposal system. The CW's will wire the tent city, including the shower tent, and other necessary equipment watches. Our few, but hearty SW's, will erect a 250-barrel bolted steel tank, and the BU's will provide the cables and other wooden items necessary to our well-being.

This deployment won't be all work though; Seabees need their play too. Sunday will be a day of rest, with a battalion party and free beer for all hands. Special Services will provide us with equipment for volleyball, badminton, horseshoes, and other contests. The word isn't clear yet on swimming, but it might be a good idea to bring along a pair of trunks. Also, since this end of Buzzard's Bay is the striped bass capital of the world, you salt water fishing buffs will want to bring along some fishing gear. All reels and poles should be broken down as much as practical, and given to Chief Montoya before Wednesday, the twentieth. He will see to it that they get put into the CONEX box with the rest of the sporting gear. It would be advisable to tag your gear with your name and company.

This deployment will give Bravo Company a chance to show the battalion what a battalion is made of. When we complete the projects assigned to us, should we have two or three days left, we could be big-hearted and give some of those other companies the benefit of our expert technical knowledge and skills by helping them finish up their jobs, too. It would not be fair for us to lay on the beach, watching their fumbling attempts to complete their work. (con't page 5, col. 2)

THE  
S-KATER

There is a colloquial term that is used quite frequently in this battalion and it is called "skating", or "to skate". To some, that may seem like an elementary statement. But here in 58 it is not. What does "to Skate" mean? According to that learned man Webster, its definition is to pass along a smooth surface; to glide over the ice or to roller skate; and to proceed without being acted upon or directed. I think perhaps this latter definition is the one being used in this case.

Simply then, skating can be said to mean doing absolutely nothing; to slide by absently from Revoille to Taps. Also, the terms usage in a more realistic sense can mean to "not put forth one's best effort; or to slide through the day without accomplishing much.

A chronological description of a skater's day might go something like this:

He arises around 0700. He needs that extra 30 minutes of shut-eye to help him through his rigorous day of activities. He may have a hangover from the night before, especially if the day before was a pay day. Hurriedly, he makes his rack and then has to hustle out to be at Quarters. As he falls into rank, he hears snickers and snide remarks such as "the skater finally showed up" and/or "here comes the skater". His platoon leader casts him a cold glance.

Immediately after Quarters, he can be seen trotting at a slow gallop, heading for the go-dunk. He can hardly wait to drink the steaming, hot coffee and gulp down a doughnut or two, because he did not quite make it for breakfast. About 30 minutes pass and he is feeling somewhat better. Soon, he is joined by other members of his elite society and they begin planning their activity for the day. They will, of course, remain there until the doors close at 1000.

From there our hero decides to go next door to the retail exchange and browse around a bit. After meandering about, he may go to the library or just wait until mess call.

He is probably the first in line at the chow hall, since he has worked up a hearty appetite from the morning's vigorous activities.

After finishing chow, he checks his mail and then proceeds back to the go-dunk once again; where he remains until closing time.

Our hard worker then aimlessly wanders about until the barracks are open, where he spends a valuable amount of his time in his rack. (con't page 5, col. 2)

# CHARLIE'S CAPERS

# DELTA DEAMONS

The company is back in full commission once again, now that our advanced party has returned from Camp Logeune. The training was as well as expected and all involved were quite pleased. Many of the guys were tired after their flight back, and from the looks on their faces, they were mighty happy to be home.

Just recently our boys: Rantanon, Lowell, Phillips, and Michell tried to qualify for the East Coast Swimming and Diving Meet. Unfortunately, they did not qualify for the COM 1 team.

As far as other activities are concerned, Charlie's officers have been playing an integral part in them. Lt. Porter participated as the only Seabee and was on the second place team in the 400 meter medley relay. Also, Mr. Lord came in second in the Davisville Tennis Tournament. He is one of four Davisville Seabees playing in the COM 1 tournament, which will take place in Newport this week.

The softball team has been performing very well. We have had two wins and one loss. However, the first two were forfeitures, but there were enough players available to play an inter-company game. As the standings look now, we are tied with "A" Company for first place. The support at the games has been less than par. Let's all make an effort to get out and give your team the backing they deserve.

The project at S-18 is drawing to a completion. It is supposed to be finished within this week. Lt. Porter, Mr. Lord, and all personnel concerned are very pleased with the project in all respects. Especially with the men who worked on it last Saturday and Sunday. All those who did put in extra time on the job, were rewarded with a 72 whenever they wish to take it. The bond buyers and the Navy Relief donators also rate a 72. With all the liberty available, it appears that no one will be around for the next two weeks. The only people that will be present at Quarters, will be the Officers and Chiefs.

And who knows-- they may be buying bond allotments soon!

Is anyone joining the "Run-From-The-Cong club?"

What do you all think of that new dance that's out---The Mess?  
If you need lessons, contact Nollsch, YN3.

Well, the Delta Deamon's came through again in, typical Delta fashion--- after beating both "H" and "C" companies quite easily, we toyed with the Brave Boobs until the last few innings and then we unleashed our secret weapons. The Awesome Ault and Gorgeous Gregorio smashed the Boobs' pitcher out of the box. Both men had two towering home runs-- Ault's being grandslammers. McCain hit the game winning home run. We had some fine pitching from Salazer, Castro, Board, and Fowler. We also had some good fielding practice. We'll let this article serve as warning to all of the other companies in the battalion. Delta's Deamons enjoy their baseball, but we're always going to win. So if you don't want to be embarrassed, you better field a good team.

Our men from Logeune are back to work again after a month's vacation. You can get the straight dope on Logeune from Friling, Moore, Lisby, Quigley, Ashley, Jones, Joplin, and Murray. Murray knows all about Nisters.

We're glad to have Michael out of the hospital and we're hoping that both Chief Schmid and Chief Tardy get out soon. I expect we'll have Chief Tardy with us again by the time this article is published because I hear rumors that the head nurse over at Newport is ready to throw him out. It seems that the Chief has been telling her sea stories.

Have you noticed the smug look on Golio's face lately? You know how quiet he is and recently he has been in a cloud because he's newly married. Congratulations GOLIO!

While Charlie's Chuckles have been loafing at building S-18, Mile's crew has finished there and has also completed a job of removing railroad track on the CB Center. The second platoon did an outstanding job of painting and small repairing of the military training department's building 01; and now they have a hot job out at Sun Valley. With fine cooperation from NCR-21, we were able to get started only a week late and we are really going to town now. The job consists of building six strong-backed, sheet metal roofed huts--- the same such huts that most of the in-country battalion personnel are living in; and the same huts that we will likely be building when we get "in-country".

Have you heard that the Naval Construction Regiments have been referred to as Non-Cooperative Regiments and that they likely will be listed, along with the Viet Cong, as enemy forces.

# ALFA BITS IN AND PIECES MEMORIUM

First, we regret that the last issue of the "Blaze" had the misfortune of being published without an article from Alfa. Thier loss! "Alfa-Bits" will be found in all subsequent issues.

20th of July--"No Man's Land": 80 key men of "A" Company will be deployed to No Man's Island this coming week. The morale is high and the men cannot wait to get some of that "on the job" training. The only good scuttlebutt connected with this is that the recreation committee is planning a beer-bust on departure.

Some of the company's personnel are being transferred to the 21st NCR because of the overload of the company. Alfa Company wishes all those men the best of luck for future duties with the Boos. When Thomas Glumbig, EOH3, was asked how he felt on being transferred, his remarks were, "I regret leaving, but at the same time I understand the overload of "A" Company personnel. I hope to get stationed on the West Coast with MCB-9".

With the assistance of Green, EOH3, Chief Lear finally rounded up a strong "A" Company softball team. Fighting to get back in first place, the team will be practicing two to four times a week. Let's have a 100% turn out for our next game. Cheer your company team to victory.

Congratulations to the 8 men of "A" Company who are now undergoing training at the Warwick Fire Department. Their day begins at 0700 and secures at 1700. Their duties include learning all phases of fire-fighting and first aid. Whenever that fire bell rings, MCB-58, "A" Company team answers the call along with the fire department. Meyers, EOL, is designated as man in charge and initially had much to do with making this training possible. He has also informed me that MCB-58 is the first ever to work hand in hand (or should we say - hose in hose!) with the Rhode Island Fire Department. I am sure MCB-58 will gain 8 skilled and needed men for fire-fighting overseas and at home.

There have been some new additions to the families of two men in "A" Company. Bob and Dolores PAYNE- a daughter - Mary Lynn; 6 lbs., 9½ oz., and John and Brenda MORGAN- a son- John Jr.; 8 lbs., 2 oz.

STEVEN GENE BRUNSON, 19, of "C" Company, Mobile Construction Battalion FIFTY-EIGHT, died during the early hours of dawn on June 23, 1966, in Barracks 109. He was a construction apprentice in "C" Company and he played for the Construction Battalion Center baseball team.

His hometown was Mesa, Arizona, where his mother, Mrs. Donna M. Brunson, resides. Surviving also, are his two brothers: Dale Lee Brunson, Seaman Apprentice, serving aboard the USS COLUMBUS (CG-12), in Norfolk, Virginia; and Michael Ray Brunson, engineman third class, aboard the USS PAUL REVERE (APA-248), out of San Diego, California.

Perhaps you have noticed a new C.O. standing tall and gallant in front of the company at Quarters last week. Who was he? Why, our own Chief Morgan who has been doing an outstanding job as Company Commander by maintaining a smooth operation in Alfa.

Congratulations Chief Morgan! From all the men in "A" Company.

"A" Company personnel have just completed a month at Lejeune and returned to Davisville. Some of the comments from the men would not be fit to print in any battalion newspaper. So we will mention one comment made by Woodruff, EOH3, "I have never walked so much in my life, nor have I ever had blisters. But I have them now!

If you've been around the back of Building 118 during lunch time recently, you've seen several of the "A" Company troops knocking a little ball over a net. This is called volley-ball. But not if you see our boys play it!

## DEPENDENTS OF ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL

A parent or parent-in-law of a member serving on active duty is eligible for care in Uniformed Services Medical facilities if the dependent relies upon the member for over one-half their support and they reside in a dwelling provided or maintained by the member.

CHECK WITH YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR  
ON YOUR BENEFITS TODAY!

THE "H"  
KEYSTONE CO.

The Keystone Company noted with regret the missing of "Alfa-Rits" from the last edition of the BLAZE. This is not indicative of the word Alfa. However, the Keystone Company will hold up and support the BLAZE alone if need be.

Our very own trained killers came back from Camp Lejeune during the weekend of the 14th. REISSNER, PN2, lost 1/2 lb. of weight from his feet. However, he plans on gaining it all back in a few days. MOSS and STUBBS are in a daze; they miss the marching. To hear them talk you'd think it was rough even. HEAVIN, PNSN (PN3), plans on taking a case of beer nuts to Vietnam with him. He thinks if he plants them he can grow some beer cans with real beer in them. Incidentally, MARKS and HEAVIN are going to communication classes. Only thing wrong with that is keeping HEAVIN sober, and MARKS will be talking in the wrong end of the stick and probably be answering his own questions.

Fine bunch of people in personnel. SCHEP, PMSN, is attending the Vietnamese Language Class with this reporter, and I feel that I have to report that he has been doing poorly. All he wants to learn is words like; beer, money, cigarettes, girls, etc.

Personnel is verifying Enlisted Service Records, so if after what you have just read about the fine bunch of people we work with I know you will rush right on over and have your record checked; if they can find it. Mr. DERR, the personnel officer, has the elite group of people in his office afraid of him since he returned from Lejeune. He keeps calling everyone "Private".

We have a new journalist aboard by the name of BURNS, JO3. But don't expect a better paper because he's as bad as the last one. We expect to keep him around for laughs anyway.

I was going to mention something about the supply department in this issue of the BLAZE, but I have to submit an 1150 to do it. Are you serious about submitting an 1150 for one (1) envelope? Just don't know about that part of the company. Headquarters Company composed mainly of Fleet Sailors wishes you smooth sailing (if you know what that means!)

Does anyone beside a certain YN3 in  
Company know Wilma Witt?! !



fuck what the  
chief gave me boot

(Skater Continued)

Most commonly, his growling belly awakens him in time for evening chow. In the mess hall, he consumes all that is stopped on his tray, and then saunters to the barracks where he commences to watch his favorite television program. Before hitting the rack, utterly exhausted, he realizes his essential need for sleep that must carry him through his next hard, long day.

(Bravo Continued)

Before I wind up this blast of hot air I'd like to make a correction. In the previous issue I mentioned Mr. Ryan's wife. Well, it seems that he is a bachelor. I got the impression that he was married at the Memorial Day exercises, when I saw him with a good-looking brunette and two young girls.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE?!..... That Chiefs Cronc and Rathert were asked for their ID's at Custy's?..... That the advance party has returned from Lejeune, and Graham is again checking for unbuttoned buttons, un-squared away hats, and less-than-gung-ho shoe shines?..... That a multi-million dollar outfit like the U.S. Navy could afford to give the troops something beside Kool-Aid in the chow hall?..... That the battalion has 499 weapons and 900 men?..... WOULD YOU ALSO BELIEVE?!..... That MCB-40, in a recent exercise at Camp Lejeune, got involved in a fire-fight with some of their own troops?..... That the Marine Commandant of Lejeune lost his personal flag during 58's recent advance deployment to that resort area? It seems that two Marines were guarding it too!

ANSWER TO  
LAST ISSUES  
PROBLEM

Al's last name is not Jones (clue 1), and it is neither Koppers (clue 4) nor Lynch (clue 5). Since he caught fewer fish than at least two other men (clues 4 & 5), he is not Goodman (clue 2). And since he caught more fish than Frank (clue 5), he is not Ingersoll (clue 3). His last name must be Henderson. Since Frank's catch was smaller than some others (clue 5), his last name is not Goodman (clue 2); it is neither Ingersoll (clue 3) nor Lynch (clue 5), and it cannot be Koppers (clues 4 & 5). It must be Jones, Ed's last name is not Goodman (clue 2); it is not Lynch (clues 2 & 5); it is not Koppers (clues 2 & 4). It is therefore Ingersoll. Barney's last name is neither Lynch (clue 5) nor Goodman (clues 2 & 6), so it is Koppers. Since Charlie caught more fish than Barney Koppers (clue 4), Charlie's last name is not Lynch (clue 5); it must be Goodman, and Lynch is Dave's last name. Determining the amount of each man's catch is a matter of elementary algebra. Let Ed Ingersoll's catch, the smallest (clue 2), equal "x". Then Frank Jones' catch is "x plus 2" (clue 3). Al Henderson's would be "x plus 4" (clue 1). Barney's Koppers becomes "x plus 6" (clue 4) and Dave Lynch would be the same (clue 6). Charlie Goodman's big catch is "x plus 10" -- four times more than Barney's (clue 4). Simple addition gives "6x plus 28" for the total catch of forty fish; a value of twelve for "6x" and therefore a value of two for "x". Therefore the fishermen and figures, in ascending order: Ed Ingersoll--2; Frank Jones--4; Al Henderson--6; Dave Lynch--8; Barney--8; and Charlie--12.

(From 12th book of Dell Crossword Puzzles)

## THE GREAT CRESCENDOS

The circus life, some say, is in the blood-- and it is certainly true that in many cases whole families have become famous in this field. One such family is the Crescendos. While not every member of this clan has turned circus performer, a great many have; currently five members of the family--Harvey, Henry, Horace, Horatio, and Hugh--are carrying on the tradition (these five being related in such a way that they all have the same last name). Among the five are three generations of Crescendos, and each has his own specialty in which he stars: one is an aerialist, a second a clown, another an equestrian, a fourth a high-wire artist, and the fifth a lion-tamer, (these, in no special order and not respectively). From the facts below, give

FACING THE  
FUTURE UNAFRAID

What about the future? Is its glow to become dull, its promise unfilled, its hopes a faded dream? Or is there something now that we can do to change this course of things?

There is. And that is why the Bible asks questions. If we will answer them sincerely, facing the facts that life and our experiences have taught us, the course may be changed. We can enjoy a new kind of living that is even better than we dare to hope for.

Where have you come from?

From parents who were not perfect, how ever much they loved you. From childhood, when you wanted your own way. From youth, when you became the center of your world. From all that is past.

What are you doing here?

The same as I have always done. Seeking my own way. Living for myself. I do a lot of good and kind and worthwhile things, but mostly it is to make me feel a little bit relieved. I behave myself, but I confess it is because I would be afraid not to do so.

Where are you going?

I do not know. Who does? Things always work out differently from what you expect. So I just do the best I can. I hope it is good enough.

But is it good enough?

Who knows?

God knows. He says: "There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

But everybody sins.

Yes, everybody sins.

Then everyone dies?

No, everybody does not die. Some live and the life they live is a new kind of life that gets better every day and lasts forever. And with this life of God there come new strength and joy and love-- new everything. And it gets better every day. Then one can face the future unafraid.

Chaplain R. E. BLADE

each performer's specialty-- and also detail the relationships between the five.

1. Hugh, who is not the lion-tamer, is the high-wire artist.

2. Harvey and Horace are of the same generation.

3. Horatio is the aerialist's nephew.

4. Harvey is the aerialist's cousin and the high-wire artist's nephew.

5. Horace is the lion-tamer's uncle and the equestrian's brother.

6. The clown is Horace's cousin.

(Taken from 12TH Book of Dell Crossword Puzzles)

A will is a powerful document. It is a deed or a promise. It serves as an order of disposition for whatever you own; whether it be money, stocks and bonds, real estate or personal property. If you do not leave a will your property will be distributed in accordance with the laws of descent and distribution as they prevail in your state. Every person needs a will unless he has absolutely no property of any kind. It is the only assured way that your belongings will be handled according to your precise wishes. Your "will" dictates the distribution of your property upon your death. There is no better guarantee to yourself or your next of kin that your possessions receive proper distribution.

W.W. DeGROOT III

(Noman's con't)  
 If this indeed proves authentic, then the tale of Columbus discovering America is just that; a tale.

Many noted men have journeyed to the island to examine the rock's inscription. They have theorized that it was erected at the highest point of the island to serve as a guide to the Norsemen, and that the action of the wind and waves proceeded to erode the ninety-foot bluff that supported the boulder, until it finally toppled into the sea, only to be visible at low tide.

This invaluable piece of America's history now lies neglected and nearly forgotten on that part of the island. It seems to me to be too priceless a pearl to be left untouched. For the sea will eventually obliterate its inscription before its authenticity can be definitely determined. Why couldn't the Seabees, with their large store of knowledge and experience recover this anthropological item, and present it to a museum or historical society? As well as being historically and esthetically valuable, such a feat would provide the Boes with some much needed publicity. How about it? If any members of 58 are interested, contact Shinnick, SWEGN, through the Bravo Co. Office.

Usually, a great feast was held at the end of a successful fishing season, with all the friendly tribes in the area coming to the island. Shellfish such as quags, clams, and lobsters were cooked in large pits lined with stones that had been heated in the fire. They were then covered with a layer of seaweed and allowed to simmer to perfection. The remainder of

these feasts, a multi-colored area of the beach, is called the shell-heap.

Another facet of the island is the history of the shipwrecks that have occurred off the shore. Some of these have been with the immense loss of life, but many a soul was saved by the brave men of Noman's Island; for they were seamen all, who plied their trade in the four corners of the world.

Noman's Land is indeed an interesting island, with its history of brave men and its earliest inhabitants. And, as with all lands, it has its share of tall tales ranging from pirate treasures to rum-runners and ghouls. However, its own history; that which can be proven to date; is Noman's true tale.

(Viet Nam con't)  
 Life. I also believe in that leader swinging up there, for which millions have given their lives in its defense. And I am no different. God gave us the privilege to live in a country of which there is no equal, and I intend to uphold this right. Not only for my children, but for everyone who believes in freedom and liberty for all.

Therefore, we must stay in Vietnam until Communism is driven not only from there, but from the entire world. It is not only a threat to our way of life, but also to our very existence as a free nation on this planet. If we admit to defeat in Viet Nam we are failing our boys there, and also every American who died for America's cause. Most of all we would be negligent in our obligation to our country, and we might as well lower Old Glory forever.

I myself, would rather not see a flag flying over our country, than to see the Star Spangled Banner fluttering in shame and disgrace.

By Boyd, CA

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