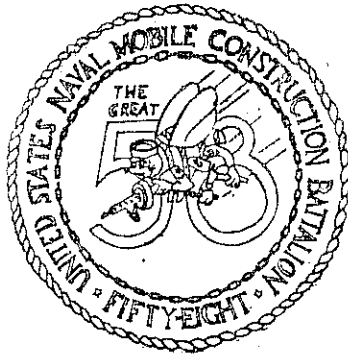


MCB Fifty-Eight



Family Gram

25 April 1967
Camp Haskins
Danang, Republic of
Vietnam

Greetings:

I hope that April finds spring well under way for you. Here in Vietnam, we have recently had a mixture of warm sunny weather with daily highs in the 90's and a period of April showers bringing cool, spring-like weather to Red Beach.

Last December I mentioned some of the recreational facilities then available in our camp. Since then, we have made various improvements to the camp to give our Seabees more after-hour diversion. I thought a brief run down would be of interest to you. Of course, the warm weather has made the beach a popular spot and, on Sunday afternoons, the ocean is usually a delightful place to cool off. Incidentally, we always have two fully qualified lifeguards on duty. A recent improvement in our Special Services photo lab which is currently one of the most popular hobby spots. Flood lights have been added to our outdoor basketball court to make evening play possible. A volleyball court has been constructed as well. Our tape library with well over 100 master tapes, is being utilized extensively. Improvements to all of our clubs have been made throughout the deployment. At very little cost, using Vietnamese labor, the deteriorated bamboo walls of the Enlisted Club and Acey-Aweey Club have given way to attractive native stone walls. Thatched roof cabanas have also been constructed. At the 30th Naval Construction Regiment, our immediate neighbors here in Camp Haskins, a fine hard cover library has opened to supplement MCB-58's small paper-back library. A little off the subject of recreation, but related to factors that help maintain morale, the new Foremost Dairy Plant in Danang began making chocolate ice cream last week. This well received treat complements the recombined milk, vanilla and strawberry ice creams provided for the first time last month.

Our backlog of work to be accomplished has increased substantially with the assignment of a major project on Monkey Mountain. We presently have a sizeable detachment of men working on this very important project. Also, thanks to the efforts of MCB-58's Seabees, all of the main roads in the area north of Danang are greatly improved. These major new jobs, along with a multitude of other work projects, are keeping our Seabees as busy as ever.

Along with what I've said about work, and diversions, and morale factors, please remember that your letters from home are the best diversion and morale builder we can get. Keep them coming.

Sincerely,

W. W. DeGroot 111
COR, CCC, USN
Commanding Officer

P.S. Our latest special "Spring" edition of Blaze is enclosed. Hope you enjoy it.