



COMMANDING OFFICER  
U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION  
FIFTY-EIGHT  
FPO NEW YORK 09501

Familygram  
30 September 1969  
Chu Lai, South Vietnam

Greetings:

We are winding up the final weeks of what has been a successful and memorable deployment to the Republic of Vietnam. Before we center our attention on our trip home, I would like to comment on our third deployment to Vietnam since the battalion was recommissioned in March of 1966.

Over the past eight months we have been tasked with a wide variety of assignments ranging from bridge building to providing medical help to the Vietnamese. We have placed over \$2 million worth of construction material. It certainly has been a satisfying deployment. We have received numerous compliments for the quality and quantity of work produced and of equal importance, many favorable comments on the "Can Do" spirit displayed by our Seabees. It has been a personal source of pride to see the energy and enthusiasm with which our Seabees have worked right down to the end of the deployment to get the job done. Their attitude reflects the unfailing support received from the home front. You at home have borne the long months of separation and worry with a great spirit of self sacrifice and determination to see your Seabee's tour as successful as possible. Let me take this opportunity to tell you that you have every right to be proud of your Seabee for his service to our country and to thank you for your unfailing support. The next issue of the Blaze will provide a review of the battalion's major accomplishments during the deployment.

The Quarry Detail is due to return to Camp Shields this week. They did an outstanding job, producing a record breaking 254,547 tons of rock for use in the northern I Corps. A message from Rear Admiral J. G. Dillon, Commander Third Naval Construction Brigade, sums up everyone's feelings about the great job they did. "You and your crew have achieved an outstanding record in producing crushed rock during your Cam Lo deployment. I attribute this to professional skill and a positive attitude under all circumstances. You have met every adversity with ingenuity and a "Can Do" spirit. You have met, even exceeded, every demand. Now your work at Cam Lo is

finished. Secure your crusher and prepare to go home. Go with my sincere appreciation and deep admiration. Go with pride in what you have done and pride in the lasting contribution you have made while in Vietnam. Well Done."

Our preparations for returning to Davisville are well underway. The advance party departed Sunday, September 21, and included the men required to prepare for the return of the main body. The rest of the battalion will be following shortly and I hope as many of you as possible will be on hand to greet us at the Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, R. I. on our return.

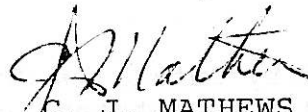
An information center has been set up at Davisville to inform you of the arrival time of your Seabee's flight and will operate on a 24 hour a day, seven days a week basis beginning about ten days prior to the departure of the main body flights. The telephone number is 294-3311 (Area Code 401) extension 3046. The information center (Mount Out Control Center) will have the rosters of personnel on the various flights as well as the estimated times of arrival. I urge you to use this source of information to the utmost as it will have the most accurate and current flight information available.

In homeport our mailing address will revert to Fleet Post Office New York. If you do not live in the Davisville area and will be writing to your Seabee use the following address:

James R. Doe, CN, USN  
Ser. No., Company  
USN MCB-58  
FPO New York 09501

In closing let me again extend thanks to you for your support and a "WELL DONE" to your Seabee.

Sincerely,



C. J. MATHEWS  
Commander, Civil Engineer Corps  
United States Navy

P.S. The latest BLAZE, which is enclosed, will give you more of an idea of your Seabee's accomplishments.