

File *02*
U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION FORTY
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New York, New York 09501

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From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FORTY
To: Director of Naval History

Subj: MCB FORTY's 1969 Command History; forwarding of

Ref: (a) CPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) Chronology of Highlights for the period 1 January 1969
through 31 December 1969
(2) Command History Basic Narrative for 1969

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are forwarded.

R. G. Berry
R. G. BERRY
By direction

U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION FORTY - CHRONOLOGY OF
HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 1969 through 31 DECEMBER 1969

- 12 Jan Listening Post reported contact with an unknown size enemy force. Fire was returned and a possible hit was reported.
- 15 Jan The Asphalt Batch Plant became completely operational on a production basis.
- 15 Jan Captain A. W. Walton, COM 32NCR and Major General Drake, USMC, Deputy XXIV Corps Commander, came aboard Camp Campbell to visit.
- 21 Jan NMCB Forty Security Tower reported receiving approximately 30 rounds of small arms fire.
- 22 Jan Captain D. G. Iselin, Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, came aboard Camp Campbell to tour job sites.
- 14 Feb Security Bunker #12 reported receiving 1 round of enemy fire from 2 individuals sighted in front of their position.
- 20 Feb Listening Post X-ray was fired upon by an enemy unit and returned fire while a 3rd CAG unit was called in by Base Defense. The CAG unit engaged the enemy and the Listening Post withdrew to our lines.
- 3 Mar RADM J. V. Bartlett, COM3NCB and RADM J. G. Dillon, Prospective COM3NCB, visited Camp Campbell on a familiarization tour.
- 7 Mar NMCB Forty established a new single-day production record of 1,000 tons of asphaltic concrete, breaking the previous Phu Bai record of 825 tons.
- 10 Mar Detail Alfa, consisting of eight men, departed for Quang Tri to support NMCB One Twenty-eight in sil stabilization of the Quang Tri airfield.
- 11 Mar RADM H. J. Rotridge, CINCPACFLT Fleet Chaplain, visited Camp Campbell.
- 19 Mar RADM J. G. Dillon, COM3NCB, visited Camp Campbell and toured job sites.
- 20 Mar Phu Bai Combat Base came under mortar attack at approximately 2400. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 22 Mar RADM W. M. Enger, Deputy COMNAVFACENGCOM, and RADM J. G. Dillion, COM3NCB, visited Camp Campbell and toured job sites.
- 22 Mar Phu Bai Combat Base came under rocket attack at approximately 0645. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 22 Mar Captain C. G. Miller, Chief Staff Officer, COMCBPAC, and CDR B. J. Hackensen, CBPAC Logistics Officer, visited Camp Campbell and conducted the CBPAC Command and Logistics Inspection.
- 27 Mar NMCB Forty survey crew received 12 rounds of sniper fire south of the Phu Bai Combat Base check-point. No injuries resulted.

- 28 Mar Phu Bai Combat Base came under rocket attack at approximately 0045. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 11 Apr NMCB Forty graduated its first class of 8 ARVN engineer trainees.
- 13 Apr NMCB Forty mid-deployment celebration was held.
- 26 Apr Phu Bai Combat Base received seven rounds of 122mm rocket fire at approximately 2200. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 5 May Pre-deployment party from NMCB One arrived for visit and tour of job sites.
- 9 May Camp Campbell came under 122mm rocket attack at approximately 0110. Two 122mm rockets impacted within the camp area. One rocket demolished CPO Hut 6 and caused severe damage to CPO Hut 7. A total of sixteen men were wounded. Two men were seriously wounded and were evacuated. The remaining men were given treatment at the NMCB Forty dispensary and returned to duty.
- 9 May Pre-deployment party from NMCB One departed Camp Campbell for CONUS.
- 9 May COMCBPAC Admin and Operations Inspection team arrived at Camp Campbell.
- 9 May NMCB Forty asphalt plant and fire truck personnel assisted in rescuing 2 pilots from an Air Force O-2 aircraft which had crashed near the asphalt plant.
- 10 May COMCBPAC Inspection team departed Camp Campbell.
- 11 May NMCB Forty asphalt plant personnel assisted in re-railing a car on The Vietnamese national railroad after it de-railed near the asphalt plant.
- 14 May Asphalt plant set a new daily production record by producing 1,146 tons of asphaltic concrete.
- 17 May Asphalt plant set new weekly production record by producing 5,319 tons of asphaltic concrete for the week of 11-17 May.
- 25 May Asphalt plant set new monthly production record by producing 17,080 tons of asphaltic concrete for the month of May.
- 30 May EO2 Buck was hit by sniper fire in the left forearm, while performing Civic Action work north of Hue.
- 1 June Phu Bai Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack at approximately 2110. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 10 June Camp Campbell came under 122mm rocket attack at approximately 0120. One rocket impacted within the camp area. The generator plant and equipment and a 5 ton truck suffered major damage. There were no personnel injuries.
- 16 June Phu Bai Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.

- 18 June Phu Bai Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack at approximately 1950. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 20 June RADM Heaman and RADM Dillon arrived at Camp Campbell for a visit of camp and job sites.
- 26 June Phu Bai Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack at about 1940. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 29 June NMCB Forty's Advance Party departed for Davisville.
- 30 June NMCB One's first flight of their Advance Party arrived at Camp Campbell.
- 2 July Battalion Equipment Evaluation Program (BEEP) began.
- 7 July Phu Bai Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack at about 0120 and 0200. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 8 July Commander R. K. White, CEC, USN took command of NMCB Forty from Commander W. R. Daniel, CEC, USN at a change of command ceremony held at Camp Campbell.
- 11 July Battalion Equipment Evaluation Program (BEEP) was completed.
- 11 July Phu Bai Combat Base came under 122mm rocket attack at about 2225. No rounds were received within Camp Campbell.
- 13 July Second Flight of NMCB One's Advance Party arrived at Camp Campbell.
- 17 July First Flight of NMCB Forty's main Body departed Camp Campbell for Davisville, R.I.
- 21 July CDR T. J. Mitchell, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer of NMCB One, took command of Camp Campbell from CDR R. K. White, CEC, USN, Commanding Officer of NMCB Forty.
- 14 Aug Leave period ended.
- 11 Sep Parade at 21st NCR parade deck for change of command. Captain D. G. Iselin was relieved by Captain C. F. Krickenberger as Commander, Naval Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.
- 18 Sep CDR R. K. White, Commanding Officer NMCB Forty departed for Washington, D. C. on command business.
- 19 Sep Seabee Team 4003 transferred to the OpCon of the 21st NCR.
- 22 Sep LT J. A. Caparrotti, Training Officer and GySgt R. E. Minehart, Military Advisor, departed for Camp Lejeune, N.C., for the pre-deployment visit to arrange for three (3) weeks military training beginning on 3 November 1969.
- 26 Sep Lt J. A. Caparrotti and GySgt Minehart returned from pre-deployment visit to Camp Lejeune, N.C.

- 29 Sep The battalion started Block Military Training at Camp Fogarty, N. Kingstown, R.I. The training will last for three (3) weeks.
- 6 Oct Seabee Team 4004 came under the OpCon of the 21st NCR.
- 13 Oct Seabee Team 4005 came under the OpCon of the 21st NCR.
- 17 Oct NMCB Forty completed three weeks of Block Military Training at Camp Fogarty.
- 20 Oct Seabee Team 4006 came under the OpCon of the 21st NCR.
- 20 Oct 248 men departed for two weeks of military training at Camp Lejeune, N.C.
- 3 Nov A 248 man detail commenced two weeks of military training at Camp Lejeune, N.C.
- 3 Nov A 100 man detail commenced three weeks of military training at Camp Fogarty, N. Kingstown, R.I.
- 16 Nov The 248 man detail returned from two weeks of military training at Camp Lejeune, N.C.
- 19 Nov CDR R. K. White, Commanding Officer of NMCB Forty departed for a two day pre-deployment visit to Puerto Rico.
- 9-11 Dec COMCBLANT Conducted its annual administrative inspection of NMCB Forty.
- 12 Dec The Advance Party Leave period commenced.
- 17 Dec The first Main Body leave period commenced.
- 24 Dec The second Main Body leave period commenced.
- 29 Dec Advance Party consisting of 84 enlisted men, 8 chiefs, and three officers departed for the deployment site.