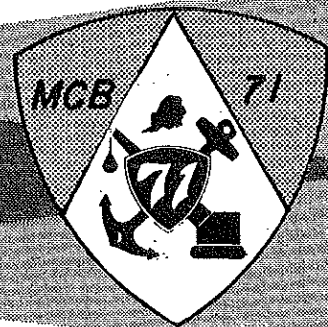


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# TRANSIT



CDR W. E. CROSSON, CEC, USN, COMMANDING OFFICER, NMCB-71

**U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SEVENTY-ONE**

VOLUME V, No. 4

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1971

# CAMP LEJEUNE AND FIELD EXERCISE

## COMPLETE MILITARY TRAINING

On August 15, approximately 200 Seabees of NMCB-71 boarded planes at Quonset Point, Rhode Island for two weeks of crew served weapons training at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. The Seabees arrived at Camp Geiger, a small world war II compound in the southern section of the world's most complete training facility.

Despite seven days of drenching rain, mud, bugs, and heat, SEVENTY-ONE'S Seabees practiced the second half of their motto, "...We Fight". Sitting in open air classrooms, marching through the mud, living on C-Rations, the Seabees listened, watched, and occasionally outdid their instructors firing rockets, mortars, and bullets, anywhere from eight to sixteen hours a day.

When Friday, August 26 came around, the Seabees were looking forward to returning home to families and friends. However, tropical storm Doria had other ideas. All flights were delayed 24 hours. Spirits were dampened, but a well earned two-day weekend restored them when the men returned to Davisville.

To complete the homeport military training cycle,



Three Seabees guard part of the perimeter during the Field Exercise at Camp Fogarty.

the entire battalion participated in a three-day and two-night Field Exercise at Camp Fogarty. After a tactical march to their designated area, the men set up a temporary 360 degree perimeter while Alfa Company's Equipment Operators bulldozed a permanent perimeter. Barbed wire was strung on posts and concertina wire rolls made the area almost impenetrable.

The men dug fox holes, set up weapons, and prepared

for two days of "enemy" (military training instructors) harrassment. The heavily barbed wire perimeter and tight security paid off.

The general opinion was that this year's exercise was better planned and more realistic than past exercises. Camp Fogarty was, for many, the introduction to helmets, rifles, and fox holes. Much was learned about patrols and ambushes, escape and evasion, and, of course, cleaning weapons.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
U. S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SEVENTY-ONE  
FPO NEW YORK 09501

NMCB71:S3:pwm  
3100  
Ser 1044  
10 September 1971

From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Mobile Construction  
Battalion SEVENTY-ONE

To: Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U. S.  
Atlantic Fleet

Subj: Operations Report for the Month of August 1971;  
submission of

Ref: (a) COMCBLANT INST 5213.4B  
(b) COMCBLANT OPORD 15-71  
(c) COM21NCR OPORD 1-71

Encl: (1) Administrative Summary  
(2) Training Summary  
(3) Labor Distribution Report  
(4) Construction Item Summary  
(5) Construction Item Charts  
(6) Progress and Performance Charts  
(7) Progress Photographs

1. This report is submitted in accordance with reference (a)  
as required in the performance of references (b) and (c).

2. Unit Movements:

16 AUG 71 - Det Lejeune, 220 man heavy weapons company  
deploys by air to Camp Lejeune for military  
training.

30 AUG 71 - Det Lejeune returns to CBC, Davisville.

3. Significant Events:

03 AUG 71 - 48 hour mount-out exercise commences.

04 AUG 71 - Mount-out exercise concludes.

06 AUG 71 - Battalion 782 gear and greens inspection.

07 AUG 71 - LCDR D. L. McCORVEY, JR, Commanding Officer;  
LCDR J. L. HATHAWAY, Operations Officer; and  
MCPO R. EVANS, Senior Enlisted Advisor; depart  
for predeployment site visit to Diego Garcia.

UNIT: NMCB SEVENTY-ONE

PERIOD ENDING: 31 AUG 1971

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The month of August was characterized by involvement in predeployment planning. The Commanding Officer, Operations Officer, and Senior Enlisted Advisor completed a predeployment visit to Diego Garcia. Island Commander and Detail Chagos concept of operations was confirmed by joint letter of 16 AUG 1971. In homeport, project planning progressed to the point where project dependency diagrams, manday estimate work sheets, and material take offs for all Diego Garcia projects were submitted to COMCBLANT Diego Garcia Planning Staff for review and promulgation. This concept of deployment planning is a unique innovation, and will enable the COMCBLANT Diego Garcia Planning Staff to completely control the planning, estimating, material expedition, and execution of island jobs.

Antarctic planning and transportation scheduling of critical project materials also approached final phases of implementation, with all major problems resolved. Since this will be the first NMCB-71 deployment to the Antarctic Continent, command and support relationships with other Antarctic activities continue to be resolved.

Homeport training continued at high level of effort, marked by the two week deployment of a 220 man Det Lejeune for heavy weapons training. On the job training on a wide variety of homeport projects and fleet details enhanced skill levels of all rates. Formal NAVSCON schools and cross-rate training tailored to identified deployment rate/rating requirements has also brought up skill levels and contributed greatly to the Battalion's ability to respond quickly to any Seabee tasking.