

FROM OASU DET WESTPAC

Several arrivals and departures took place during the past month. 15 Feb saw Cohen and Goode depart for the land of the "Big PX." On 22 Feb LT's McCormick and Jordan, CWO "inslew and Burke arrived with smiles on their faces, after having just left the PAX "Cold Wave." On 3 Mar LT Setterberg and Overshiner departed for the cold and snowy "home over yonder." On 9 March our new Leading Chief, AMCS Churchill, arrived in dress canvas, with Dill, Moore, Stancavage, Ahin, Ulmer and Works in tow. The 11th of March was the pleasant day for Wallace, Caldwell, Walker, Newlin, Ross and Mooney, for they were finally on their way home! Newlin was busy worrying about how to get his tropical fish back to PAX, and Ross really didn't want to go, but he had no choice "cause" softball season is drawing nigh. On 14 March Rodgers left the "Land of Sunshine."

Early on the morning of the 24th LCDR Ferris departed for PAD in Adin. Later that day Tutko, Ferguson, Marinsky, and to the delight of the 1st LT, Stephens, Lassiter and Holtclaw arrived in WESTPAC. If Chief Bagley arrives, ASWEPs will have taken over JEMMY!! After several unsuccessful starts, LT Kintigan, along with Richard and Miller, finally got off on 4 April. Joe kept coming back to the Meyerkord, just couldn't tear himself away. Prentiss got here on the 5th, by his lonesome. On the 12th Goode and Strogen, the "harbingers" of 627, arrived in good health but looking rather pale. A couple of days in the glorious Saigon sun fixed them right up.

Back on the 3rd of March, the second Officer Horseshoe Tournament was completed. Dark Horse Ferris came from behind to wallope the "odds on" favorite Setterberg. After the match, it came to light that Foxie Ferris won horseshoe championships back in 1945-46. In basketball our team was forced to drop from the Air Force League due to "Operational Commitments." An Electronics Division party was held 9 March on the banks of the Saigon River. After many steaks and some beverage, a football game was played. The winners were never determined, but a known fact is that LT McCormick lost. (At least the use of an ankle for awhile) Softball is the popular sport now and the Detachment WESTPAC slow pitch team took the field against an Air Force team on 5 April. Chief Churchill represented LBJ by tossing out the first four balls, couldn't be out done you know. The Detachment is the smallest unit participating in this National League. Braun set up a concession stand on the side and, after many kanuses were handed out, the Blue Eagles handed in the following line up: Churchill, 1B; Jacob, 2B; Vito, 3B; R.W. Moore, SS; T.A. Moore, LF; Oster, CF; Works, RF; Sanders, SF; Tutko, C; Browning, P. Braun was ably assisted by the cheering section consisting of Stancavage, Prentiss, Warner and Flowers. At the end of the sixth "Sandy" Browning had allowed only two hits, and one run across the plate. The score was 4 to 1 in favor of the home team. Unfortunately at the end of the seventh, due to the heat and the cooling effect of those little red cans, plus two "scratch" hits, the score was 7-4. The last two hits were each three run "Gopher Balls." The longest Blue Eagle hit was by Chief Sanders (about 2 feet) and the outstanding play was turned in by "The Jaker" Jacob at second base. The only problem was that Jake was playing soccer instead of softball. On 12 April the All Star Game, officers and chiefs versus white hats, was held on field No. 1. The RCA Tech Rep, Civilian First Class, "Blind Bill" Dougherty, performed in the classic manner of all umpires. "I calls 'em as I sees 'em" sez Bill. Possibly that accounts for the 11-6 score in favor of the white hats. Vito is to be congratulated for the outstanding job of coaching the umpire, from third base and the batter's box. The two most outstanding plays were made by "Willie Mays" Winslow in left field. His long runs and sparkling catches kept the score as low as it was, "And thats a fact." Well done, Bob. Again, Braun kept the game going with his concession stand.

On 22 March, prior to LCDR Ferris departure, an all hands meeting was held in front of the Horseshoe pits. LCDR Ferris praised Eaton and Stier for their work in building the shower and coffee mess. After a few farewell remarks by the departing Cinc, Chief Churchill, representing the men, presented a "Blue Eagle" baseball cap to LCDR Ferris as a memento of his tour as Cinc OASU DET WESTPAC. Hatchell and Leblanc then presented to LCDR Ferris his official Cinc sign.

The following day at the all hands party, again on the shores of the Saigon River, everyone realized who the most unobservant LCDR in the Navy is. A small package placed on LCDR

Ferris's gear was not noticed, but moved several times, even after repeated hints and remarks by various personnel. LCDR Ferris finally observed the package and opened it. To his apparent great delight he found a plaque, extremely well done, depicting the duties and places he had served while OinC of the Detachment and an etched outline of the Republic of Vietnam. The plaque was in tribute to his outstanding leadership and contribution to the extra ordinary high morale of the Detachment.

A vote of thanks is extended to Vito, Hut 810 Petty Officer, for setting up an all hands TV lounge in 810. The big 23 inch TV was installed primarily through his efforts on 19 March. Vito also remains the only undefeated enlisted handball player. That he is the only enlisted handball player is also a well known fact.

The "Honda Club" made its bow into existence in March. The present members include Elan, Lively, Bourm, Walker, Bordeaux, with Flowers acting as the president, because he has the "sharpest" machine. Stancavage is hopeful of becoming a member shortly. LTJG Pierce has been barred from the club for leaving Honda parts strewn about the fair streets of Saigon.

At the rifle range Trotter was seen trying to "butter up" Lively by shooting his target full of holes. Lively fired six rounds and had eight holes in the target. Braun had an itchy trigger finger. Would you believe, "Ready on the right?, Ready on the "BANG" left?"

An around the clock work schedule was set up on the 4th and 5th of April to change an engine on Blue Eagle SIX. Due to the determined effort of Chief Hagwood, Bain, Dill, Ripley, Braunlich, Joerger, Turner, Stier and Ulmer the aircraft was operational within 48 hours, and are to be congratulated for a job well done. Dill and Joerger were responsible for many saved "Man Hours," through their initiative and resourcefulness. They had all tools and work stands available and set up when and where they were needed.

"Grumbling" Grenon holds the record for locating, confiscating, and disposing of 586 cigarette butts and 3 cigar butts. It is suspected that he utilized a flashlight with mirror and grabbers as he policed the area perimeter.

On 11 April EML Lively and ETI Warner reenlisted on board for a period of four full years. This was the second reenlistment for both men. Income tax free monies came to an aggregate of \$3500.00. Congratulations and good sailing to both.

Congratulations are in order for the following men in WESTPAC Detachment on being selected for advancements:

16 Apr 67

AT1 Flowers
AE3 Merinsky

16 Sep 67

ADRAN Turner
ADRAN Ulmer

On 18 April 1967 the Electronics Shop's stillness was shattered by the announcement from LCDR Odee that AT1 Flowers was out of uniform. It seems that he should have put on "his" chief's hat on the 16th. A somewhat "informal" initiation was held in the "Little Saigon River" otherwise known as the "Benjo" ditch. On hand to assist in the initiation was Warner, Oster, Wosika, Grantwit, Braun, Goode, Stancavage and Strogen. The rest of the Detachment watched from a "safe" distance. Warner was so excited that he joined the new chief as he sailed into the "Clear Blue Water."

A new "feature" has been added to the Detachment Newsletter. Each month the Newsletter will have a section devoted to the men and happenings of the featured Hut.

BE THE MAN WITH A SAIGON TAN

HOT NEWS FROM HUT 814

During the month of March, the R&R Camp, Hut 814 had many changes and new faces. First off the new comers, Works, Stancavage, T. Moore, Ferguson, Stevens, Merinski and Tutko checked into the BEQ with the new Hut P.O. Herbie Braun. All the Old Timers were at the door to meet them, Walker, Grantwit, Trotter, Holloway, Richard, R. Moore and Miller.

Now the personnel of Hut 814 are doing some remodeling as follows; they have already painted the messing area, washed the complete outside of the Hut (The Air Force personnel are disturbed about this. It seems that the Base Commander likes the idea and all Huts will be washed from now on), and are in the process of tiling the deck, expanding the messing area approximately two feet and have hopes of finding some paint for the interior of the sleeping quarters. The Hut P.O., ETN2 Braun, is out scrounging around for some new termites to replace the old ones in the foundation.

The men of Hut 814 also partake in various types of recreation, which at this time happens to be slow pitch softball and, of course, they have a nice cheering section at the games. The first game was lost with a score of 7 to 4. The Hut P.O. has started a concession stand at the games. He said, "There's money in that type business." Ask the men from the other Huts.

The boys are looking for an upright bunk to cure the sleeping problem of the Hut P.O. Three confiscated unused normal type bunks could be used for barter.

You have heard of the Detachment's Phantom. Well, the boys of Hut 814 have started a Detective Agency and are trying to find out who he is. So far they haven't found out, but they think it may be more than one person.

Many people think that with Jim gone, there is no fish farm here. Well the Hut P.O. has taken over. He had six small fish, but on the 5th of April taps were held for Little Herbie. It seems someone gave him a "Modified Coke" and some cigarettes to go with it. The funeral was real nice with a half gun salute.

Well, that does it for another month. Everyone here says, "Wish you were here!"

