

## UNITED STATES NAVY CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS

## SEABEES IN ACTION

"CONSTRUIMUS, BATUIMUS - WE BUILD, WE FIGHT"

"CAN DO!"



## JOIN THE SEABEES - SERVE THE WORLD

U. S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI 39501

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EXPERIENCED CONSTRUCTION MEN OFFERED NAVY SEABEE PETTY OFFICER RATINGS

The first of an estimated 5,000 Direct Procurement Petty Officers scheduled to be trained at the Gulfport (Mississippi) Seabee Center is Robert J. Farnam, a 20-year-old electrician from St. Louis, Mo.

He recently enlisted in the Navy for 30 months and was given an immediate rating of Construction Electrician Third Class.

Before enlisting, Petty Officer Farnam graduated from high school and a mechanical trades school in St. Louis. He also worked as a construction men and trouble-shooter for a boiler-making firm.

Petty Officer Farnam is extra happy about the whole thing, because-by coincidence his father was an Electrician's Mate during World War II.

DPPO training at Gulfport is planned for a five week period. There, each man will be given his initial physical examination and his first issue of Navy uniforms. Medical, dental and service records also will be established and pay records and other administrative forms will be set up. He will learn to drill and to swim.

The work-day for newly enlisted Petty Officers begins at 4:30 a.m., and continues until after sundown. Military drill occupies more hours than any other subject. Individual responsibilities, physical fitness, first aid and practical firefighting techniques are also stressed.

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The five-week training cycle will convert a civilian construction worker into a Seabee Petty Officer, ready for assignment to a Mobile Construction Battalion at Gulfport or one of the other Seabee Centers at Davisville, R.I., and Port Hueneme, Calif. Additional training will be scheduled should he wish to join a combat construction team.

Advanced rates to Petty Officer grades are available to construction workers who can meet the qualifications to become a Seabee. Navy recruiters want to enlist 5,000 during the next 12 months.

After completion of military training at the Gulfport Seabee Center and technical training with a Battalion, the men usually will deploy with their unit to a forward combat area.

There are some 7,500 Seabees in Vietnam doing construction work for Department of Defense units and teaching building techniques to Vietnamese and Thais.

1967 marks the 25th anneversary of the U. S. Navy Seabees; the 100th of the Navy Civil Engineer Corps whose officers lead the Seabees in action; and the 125th of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (formerly Bureau of Yards and Docks).

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(DEAR EDITOR: We Seabees hope you can use this copy and we would appreciate a tear sheet mailed to:)

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