



CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS  
100th ANNIVERSARY  
MARCH 2, 1967

# UNITED STATES NAVY CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS **SEABEES IN ACTION**

"CONSTRUIMUS, BATUIMUS - WE BUILD, WE FIGHT"  
"CAN DO!"



SEABEES  
25th ANNIVERSARY  
MARCH 5, 1967

**JOIN THE SEABEES - SERVE THE WORLD**

U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SEVEN  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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By CES<sup>3</sup> Fred Haney

## NAVY SEABEES START SCHOLARSHIP FUND

About 50 young Vietnamese children from poor families will start their elementary education because the Seabees of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN at Da Nang, South Vietnam care enough to pay school costs.

Vietnamese Boy Scouts, headed by Captain Hos. Nguyin Van Chanh, an officer in the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, searched for the needy families in the Son Cha Refugee Village, near the Seabee's Camp Adenir.

It was Captain Nguyin who originally told Seabee Chaplain Mires C. Stine, civic action officer of MCB-7, from Wheeling, W. Va., about the need for the scholarship fund.

The Seabee scholarships cover the cost for a full year of schooling. Each scholarship is worth about \$20. Books and writing materials are provided through the international "CARE" organization. Clothing is also donated through the Battalion from Stateside donors.

"Without this opportunity, the future generation of Vietnamese may not be any better off than the present," explained Chaplain Stine. This was the underlying reason that prompted the Seabees to chip in to cover the costs of educating young Vietnamese children.

"The schooling we take for granted in the States is priceless!" commented Yeoman Second Class Tony Yberra, from Monterey, Calif. "You can't expect these people to carry the torch of democracy without giving them the light of an education."

The program was set up so that at least one child from each needy family in the refugee camp would have the chance to go to school.

"One thing stands out in this war-torn country," said Chaplain Stine, "in spite of the fact that there's a war going on, the education of the young is obviously of paramount importance to Vietnam's future."

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Soon, more needy children will be able to attend school through this expanding program.

"The way I see it, the cost of a year's schooling would be nothing compared to the benefits these kids will receive," said Construction Electrician Second Class Craig Marshall, from Little Falls, N.J. Marshall teaches English daily to classrooms full of Vietnamese. He speaks conversational Vietnamese and, as a result, can teach the children and adults the English language.

Seabees who work in or near the My Thi Village are always surprised to hear the familiar strains of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" coming from Marshall's classroom!

"We probably won't even miss the money," Marshall said, "and it does more good where it is invested. That's what the scholarships are... a personal investment in this country's future."

While the Seabees construct with hammer and nail, they are also building a new Vietnam by giving a portion of the younger generation building blocks of reading, writing and arithmetic.

1967 marks the 25th anniversary 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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