

CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS 100th ANNIVERSARY MARCH 2, 1967

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 MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION SEVENTY ONE FPO NEW YORK, NEW YORK 09501

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SEABEE KEEPS HIS 'COOL' UNDER VIET CONG FIRE

Seabee Constructionman Anthony Laktash, Jr. recently was awarded a letter of commendation for his actions during a Viet Cong mortar attack in South Vietnam.

Laktash, a member of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVENTY-ONE, was standing his post as cargo watch on the airstrip at Chu Lai when the Viet Cong began a mortar attack from the nearby mountains. The Communists dropped over 170 mortar rounds onto the airfield.

Of Seabee Laktash's action under fire, his Commanding Officer, Commander R. D. Coughlin, CEC, USN, said:

"With mortar rounds hitting as close as 30 yards from your position, your calmness and smartness, as evidenced by your clear and complete radio reports to the Battalion Command Post were outstanding."

MCB-71 is currently deployed at Camp Shields, Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam where its tasks are to maintain the Chu Lai airfield complex, provide construction assistance to the Marines and Army in the field, and to perform construction and civic action projects for the Vietnamese people.

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:

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE 09D1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY . NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND . WASHINGTON, D. C. 20390