



# ALL HANDS

MAGAZINE OF THE U.S. NAVY

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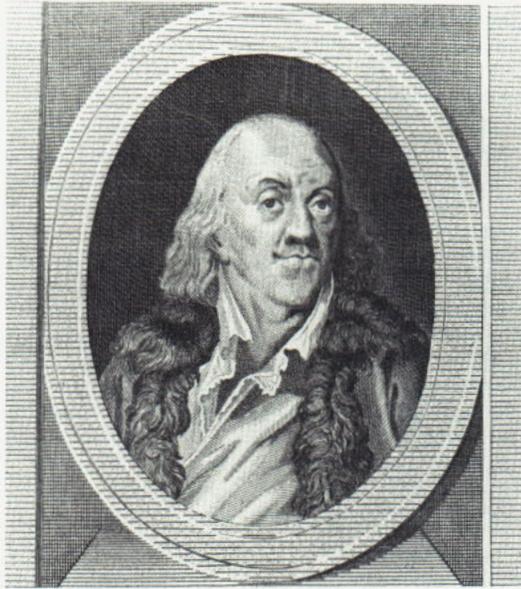
DECEMBER 1987

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**Navy SEALs**  
Special warriors

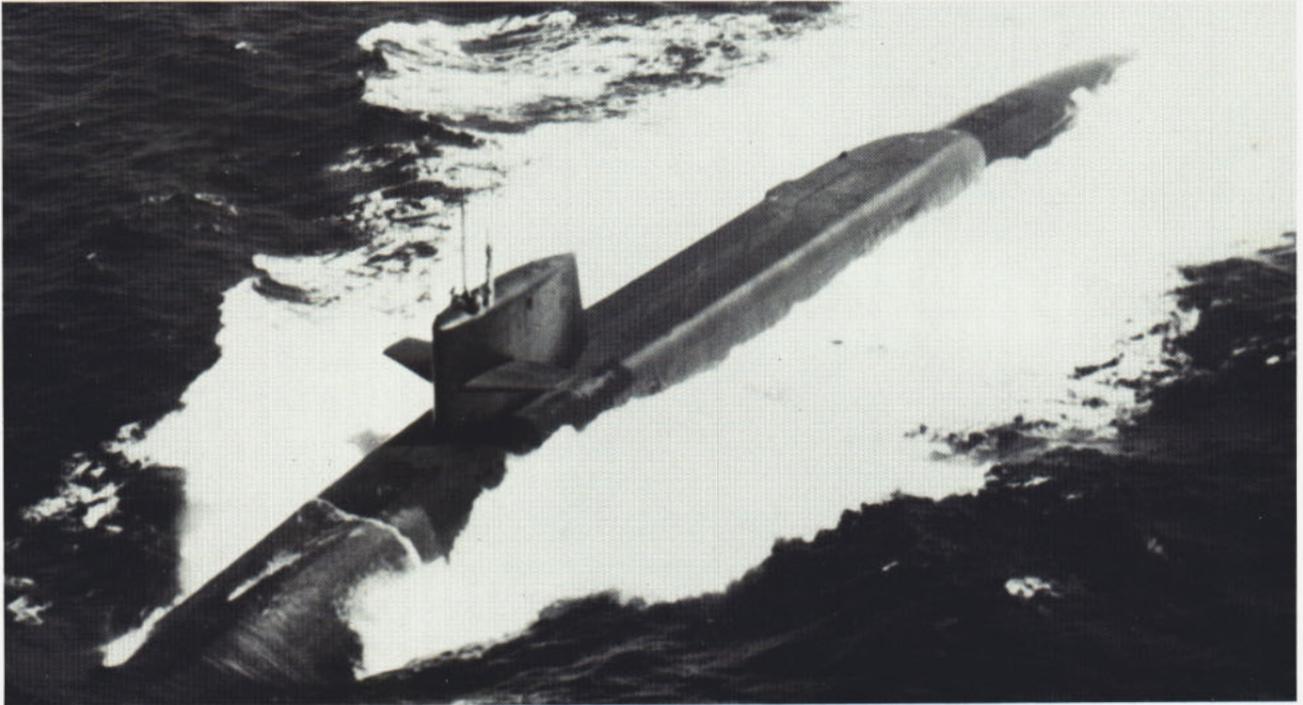
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# U.S. Constitution—signers and ships named for them



## Benjamin Franklin — 1706-1790

Statesman, scientist, philosopher and signer of the Declaration of Independence, Franklin was one of the most prominent delegates at the Constitutional Convention. Franklin's keen intelligence and humor never failed him in dousing the flaming tempers of irritated delegates who often threatened to break up the convention. Armed with words of wisdom often spiced with wit, he was able to promote a more tolerant and cooperative attitude among those assembled. Franklin's sage advice and counsel helped to promote the compromises that characterized the final draft of the Constitution.



## USS *Benjamin Franklin* (SSBN 640)

**Class:** Franklin

**Displacement:** 7,300 tons surfaced, 8,250 submerged.

**Dimensions:** length/beam/draft: 425 x 33 x 31.5 feet.

**Torpedo tubes:** 4 (bow).

**Missiles:** 16 tubes for *Trident I C4* submarine-launched ballistic missile.

**Propulsion:** steam turbine powered by water-cooled nuclear reactor.

**Speed:** greater than 20 knots.

**Complement:** 139 (13 officers and 126 enlisted men).

# ALLHANDS

MAGAZINE OF THE U.S. NAVY

DECEMBER 1987 — NUMBER 849

64th YEAR OF PUBLICATION



Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins

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**Front Cover:** A Navy SEAL participates in tactical warfare training in the forests of Fort A. P. Hill, Va. Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi. See page 10.

**Back Cover:** When SEALs "go hot" (fire live ammunition during training), they are armed with a wide assortment of the best weapons. This SEAL carries M60 rounds and a 9mm Beretta pistol. Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi. See page 17.

# Navy Currents

## Women's beret

Navy women can wear their berets until Sept. 30, 1989, NavOp 088/87 announced. The beret, scheduled to be phased out Sept. 30 of this year, was given a two-year reprieve because of delays in stocking an improved government-issue combination cover.

Once approved by local authority, the beret can be worn with Service Dress Blue, Winter Blue, Winter Working Blue, Working Khaki or Summer White uniforms. The beret cannot be worn with dungarees, Summer Khaki, Service or Full Dress White or Full Dress Blue uniforms. □

## Technology transfer office

Secretary of the Navy James H. Webb Jr., has established a Navy Office of Technology Transfer and Security Assistance. The office will formulate and implement Navy technology transfer, disclosure, security assistance and international program policy.

The new office consolidates functions previously performed by the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, the Office of Naval Research and the Naval Supply Systems Command. It will come under the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy Richard B. Levine and provide the Navy with a streamlined security assistance and technology transfer process. □

## DoD reviews women's issues

Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has formed a DoD senior-level task force to study sexual harassment in the military. The action results from a report by the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service, which identified incidents of sexual harassment at Navy and Marine Corps units in the Pacific. Another DACOWITS group found similar problems at Army and Air Force units in Europe last year.

Sexual harassment is prohibited by DoD policy, but the SecDef has decided that more than stern

statements are needed to solve sexual harassment problems. The new panel will address sexual harassment and other questions raised by the latest DACOWITS report, including women's career development and the combat exclusion law. □

## Sale! Sale! Sale!

Good news for subscribers to *All Hands*: the yearly subscription price has been cut to less than half. The new rate for domestic, APO and FPO delivery is \$13.00 for 12 issues. The rate for delivery to a foreign country is \$16.25 per year. The new price for a single issue is \$2.50 domestic, \$3.13 foreign.

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For all orders, include your name, mailing address and phone number.

Do not send your orders to *All Hands*. □

## Fact file distributed

Distribution of the eighth edition of the Navy Fact File is underway. It offers unclassified information on a variety of Navy subjects. Redesigned into a single-sheet, loose-leaf binder format, it is arranged for easy updating.

The new Navy Fact File replaces the 1984 "Ships, Aircraft and Weapons of the United States" booklet. It is being distributed according to the Standard Navy Distribution List.

Three additional copies can be ordered through the U.S. Naval Publications and Forms

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# ALL HANDS

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# SEALs

## A very special team

*Most people think they know what the sea/air/land teams are all about: clandestine commandos who routinely embark on suicide missions — deadly, daring solo saboteurs who work at night — warriors who are special because they are willing to take incredible risks that make normal people tremble.*

*But the SEALs don't see themselves that way. While the first to acknowledge the inevitable danger of what they do, SEALs are also quick to point out that they seek to minimize danger, not court it. They emphasize the importance of teamwork, noting that someone determined to be a loner will turn out to be a loser. They emphasize, most of all, the importance of the mission. The crucial thing is the successful completion of the mission. For the mission to be compromised through unnecessary risk-taking by some misguided "hero" who wants to cover himself with glory by going it alone is utterly unacceptable to the SEALs.*

*If teamwork and adherence to sensible SOPs make up the basic structure of the SEAL organization, then proper training is the foundation upon which that structure is built.*

*Training, training, training. Train until you learn every skill you could conceivably need. Once you've learned those skills, train some more until you've perfected them. Then keep training. Train new members of the team. Train to learn new procedures that have been developed. Then train some more.*

*SEALs are never satisfied with their skills; there is always room for improvement. SEALs are consummate professionals in their total dedication to the mastery of their job. That mastery may require work that is thrilling, or it may require work that is drudgery; whatever is required is what SEALs do.*

*As the Navy's Special Warfare forces seek to expand and ensure that adequate numbers of the right kind of people become SEALs, All Hands has been invited into that community to share with the rest of the Navy the kinds of demands and rewards that come with the territory when you're a SEAL.*

*The more you learn about these special warriors, the more impressed you are with the fact that Navy SEALs are not what everyone thinks they are. They are more — much more.*

**A**lthough numb with shock, his body, seconds after hitting the icy ocean, moved into action with an instinct born of countless hours of training.

With a quick thrust of his legs, the diver plunged downward. Moving with the confidence of a man who knows exactly what he's doing, the diver quickly oriented himself and prepared for the evolution.

It was going to be a long night — a three-hour op in 42-degree water — no sense wasting time.

Even with his illuminated compass board, vision was limited to six inches in the inky black water. But, as a gentle squeeze on his arm reminded him, he was not alone. His dive-buddy was down there with him. Together they shared the danger as they made their way toward the night's target.

Just another day at the office for two members of a Navy SEAL team.

SEALs are unique in the special warfare community in that their capabilities include working on and under the water. This is often a dangerous mission; the ocean is unforgiving, especially at night. It is no place for shortcuts. There is only one way to operate: by the book.

It's a book whose text was drawn from the mistakes of others — sometimes fatal mistakes.

During the Grenada invasion, a new chapter was added to the book. Four team members drowned while attempting a "rubber duck" insertion (jumping from a C-130, with a rubber boat, into the ocean). The lessons of that fateful night have been well learned and incorporated in the new SEAL SOPs. The same mistakes will not happen again.

Because of the acknowledged dangers of the job, prospective SEALs go through what is considered by some to be the toughest training in the world. "Whenever I'm really cold, wet, miserable and wishing I was anywhere but



## SEA, Air and Land

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### Surprise: SEALs' most valuable tool

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where I am, I think back and remember 'Hell Week.' Hey, I made it through that, I can make it through this," said Petty Officer 1st Class Bill Wilson, a member of SEAL Team One. One of the

reasons for such intense training is to weed out individuals who can't cut it — those who will quit when they get too cold, too wet or too tired.

"We work in small teams and depend

on each other a lot, a whole lot," said Petty Officer 1st Class Victor Wilson, a member of SEAL Team Five. "We can't have anybody wimping out."

Trusting a teammate to do his part is important to the special camaraderie that develops within a team. "We trust each other with our lives," Victor said. A snort of laughter burst out from across the room as a voice called out. "Yeah, Vic. I don't trust them with my money, my car or my girl, but I trust them with my life."

Whether performing hydrographic mapping, locking out of a submarine escape trunk or swimming up an enemy's beach for reconnaissance, team members literally place their lives in each others' hands. Working together is a concept that is taught in basic training and reinforced over and over again throughout a SEAL's career. "You learn you're not an individual, but a cog in a well-oiled machine," Bill said. "You are dependent on other guys and they are dependent on you."

Tied together by a six-foot line, dive-buddies work as a single unit to accomplish the job. If one part breaks down, the unit cannot function. "We were attempting to plant Limpet mines on a ship during a practice swim when my dive-buddy's diving rig flooded out," Bill said. Diving with the LARV-5 Draeger, a front-mounted rebreathing rig, flooding meant a "caustic cocktail" for his partner. This is a particularly nasty mixture of fumes that results when the chemicals in the tank mix with water. At the very least, it causes an extremely bad taste and mild burns in the diver's mouth. In a worst-case scenario, a diver could die from the caustic fumes burning his lungs.

Bill was able to help his dive-buddy to the surface before any serious injury occurred. "Luckily, we were near a pier when his rig flooded. We were able to surface under the pier and remain hidden."

To surface during a combat swim is the last thing divers are supposed to do,

as it not only alerts lookouts to their presence, but also endangers other, undetected teams.

"Surprise is a very important objective in our missions," Victor said. Bill agreed, adding, "to hit undetected and move out to the rendezvous point for extraction is our goal. You are usually OK if you can accomplish both objectives. If you lose one or the other, you're in trouble."

Although undetected and with the advantage of surprise still on his side, Bill couldn't finish the mission without his dive-buddy. "We were so close to our target, I could have easily left my dive-buddy at the pier and finished the job myself. All I had to do was dive under and attach the Limpet to the ship. But that goes against everything we are

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*"You don't really have the time to concentrate on how miserable you are."*

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taught. You never go anywhere without a buddy," Bill said.

By the book.

As if danger from the enemy is not enough to contend with, there are the dangers of diving itself, such as bends or oxygen poisoning. Not to mention other ocean inhabitants.

One SEAL remembered meeting a large barracuda on one dive. When the barracuda brushed past him, the SEAL said he grabbed onto his dive-buddy. "I'll never forget that moment. Two SEALs holding onto each other for dear life. All I could see were two giant eyes staring out from behind his mask. And I know that's all he saw of me."

Having encountered numerous sharks, one only two feet away, Bill has

decided sharks aren't that aggressive and their reputation is mostly hype.

Since most of the SEALs' missions take place in the middle of the night, they also must often contend with paralyzing cold and complete darkness. "You can get pretty claustrophobic (claustrophobic), pretty fast," Bill said. Even with the insulating layer of water between the diver and his wet suit, it's a cold job. That coldness is only relieved momentarily when divers answer calls from Mother Nature. But Bill said, "You don't really have the time to concentrate on how miserable you are."

Each partner has a job to do. For example, during a combat swim one man holds the compass board, which includes compass, watch and depth gauge, enabling the team to keep on course. His dive-buddy, holding onto his arm just below the triceps, serves as a lookout and counts kicks as a backup navigation aid. Using a code consisting of squeezes and pauses, the buddies can communicate underwater.

To be able to work well as a team requires a lot of practice. That's why, according to Bill, each time a new dive-buddy is assigned, the partners get together and swim a hundred yards over and over again, until they know exactly how many kicks it takes them to cover the distance and how long it will take. Somewhere between two minutes and 50 seconds and three minutes and 10 seconds is the standard.

Before the team leaves on a mission, their underwater route is carefully planned — right down to the number of kicks it will take to reach their target. This is especially helpful as the team nears a large metal object such as a ship, which renders their compass useless. By knowing how much time and how many kicks it takes to cover a designated distance, they can calculate exactly where they are.

"They say familiarity breeds contempt. Not for us. The more we practice the better off we are," Bill said. □

— Story and photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins

**B**eads of sweat form on his brow — not so much from stress, but from the heat. The wet suit that the swimmer is wearing is designed to keep his body warm in the coldest water. But in the hot, noisy aircraft it is more than a bit uncomfortable.

But then, this swimmer has been uncomfortable before. After all, he *is* a Navy SEAL — nobody ever promised him air conditioning. So sitting inside an Air Force C-130 on the simmering tarmac, while definitely not the best way to spend a hot summer afternoon, is nothing he can't handle.

None too soon, the aircraft is rolling, and then airborne. The air seems to cool somewhat, but actual comfort is still out of the question.

However, comfort is not uppermost in the SEAL's mind right now; he has to concentrate on getting ready to jump out of the plane.

As far as teaching first-timers how to jump on a static line, SEAL instructors have it down to a fine art. It's an art not fully appreciated by some trainees. "I really believe their philosophy is to make you so uncomfortable you can't wait to jump," one SEAL said.

The noise and vibration inside the C-130 rattle the fillings of the jumpers' teeth as the SEALs sit crammed together. Their parachute packs force them to sit forward, on the edges of their webbed benches. As the back end of the plane gapes open for the pending jump, there is no way to control the temperature or pressure inside the aircraft; both drop quickly.

The movement of the luminescent hour hand on the diver's watch and the drone of the aircraft's four powerful engines are the jumpers' only guide to their progress toward the drop zone.

From 1,200 feet, the emergency rescue craft and back-up inflatable boats, already in the water to assist the jumpers, appear as tiny dots on the ocean's sur-



## Sea, **AIR** and Land

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Getting there is half the battle

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face, far below. What does stand out is the yellow smoke that rises from a flare, giving important wind direction information.

On board the emergency rescue craft, an instructor checks the wind speed and then radios the inbound aircraft to relay

the information to the SEALs.

The first thing out of the plane is the pallet, heavily loaded with the inflatable rubber raft that contains the majority of the team's gear. Next will go the jumpers.

The SEALs walk heel-to-toe, lifting

their fin-clad feet high as they make their way toward the tail of the aircraft. This is an especially tricky balancing act, as the aircraft bounces around in air turbulence. Inspecting all their gear, jumpers go over their mental check list one last time.

At the doorway the jump master gives the order, "GO!"

Then the SEAL is falling, floating free in the air, but not for long; in a few seconds, he is clear of the aircraft and the static line triggers the deployment of the primary chute. Then comes the powerful jerk, one the jumper feels from the tips of his toes through the top of his skull.

Recovering from the opening shock, the jumper immediately checks to ensure he has a full canopy, for canopy malfunctions must be detected and dealt with in seconds. What's true in the sea and on land is especially true in the air: quick reaction time and proper execution of techniques learned in training can mean the difference between life and death.

Now, under a full canopy, the jumper busies himself with locating the inflatable raft, called a "rubber duck," and finding the rest of his jump team. Using the T-10 or 7-TU parachute, the SEAL can carefully control his descent to land as close as possible to the raft.

But even with these tactical considerations uppermost in his mind as he floats to earth, the sensation of the incredible "high" he has just experienced reminds him why he chose to be a SEAL in the first place.

Ever mindful of the wind direction, the jumper begins to loosen himself from his parachute by disconnecting all but the most important straps as he floats down to the water. A sinking parachute will drown the jumper in seconds.

This time, there won't be the swim to the inflatable raft that fell from the sky shortly before him, or the boat ride to an over-the-horizon target. This time, an inflatable boat pulls up to assist the

SEAL out of the water.

There are very few people who would want to jump out of a perfectly good airplane into an ocean with three- to five-foot waves during daylight. Fewer still would want to try it at night.

SEALs accomplish such feats as part of standard tactical maneuvers required to arrive on target at the scene of operations.

SEALs also make air-to-land jumps (or "insertions") as well as air-to-water. The aircraft used can be either helicopters or fixed-wing aircraft.

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*There are very few people who would want to jump out of a perfectly good airplane into an ocean with three- to five-foot waves during daylight. Fewer still would want to try it at night.*

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Helicopters are an ideal platform for SEAL operations because they are so versatile; they can hover close to the ground or higher up. The SEALs can perform basic insertion (jumping directly from the aircraft to the land or water, without parachutes or lines), or they can make the insertion through rappelling or fast-roping.

In rappelling, a pair of SEALs will balance on the skids of a helicopter, slowly lowering themselves until they are clear of the hovering craft. Once clear, it's a controlled drop to the surface, about 100 feet below.

In fast roping, the SEALs slide down a thick rope of woven wool much like firemen slide down a pole. On the "go" signal, the SEALs, one right after the other, drop from a helo hovering between 50 and 75 feet above the ground. Things happen fast. An entire squad can be on the ground in three to five seconds. In fact, the whole operation is so fast that a SEAL who doesn't get clear of the rope the instant his feet hit the ground runs the risk of having a size twelve land on his head.

Whatever the insertion tactic, the objective remains the same: getting to the target quickly and safely.

And, of course, for every insertion there is an extraction. This may be as simple as waiting for a helo to land at a predetermined point or as complicated as coordinating the McGuire lift. In this lift, the helo crew throws out lines that the SEALs attach to "swiss seats," special climbing harnesses. They are lifted clear and flown out of the area. The real trick is in the landing. The SEALs have to hit the ground running and must unhook before the helo drags them back into the air again.

It's all in a typical training day for the SEALs.

"Once you graduate from BUDS and are assigned to a SEAL team, you realize what all that training was for. During BUDS, you are strictly survival-oriented," said one SEAL. "After BUDS, you become more oriented toward the tactical objective of the mission. A person gets a chance to go out on some of the most interesting and demanding missions in the world," he said. "The only place you can get that is in the Navy."

To some people, comfort is a warm spot under the covers or a favorite couch. To a Navy SEAL, comfort is more likely to be that warm fuzzy feeling that comes from a job well done — even if the job requires you to jump from a hot airplane into a cold ocean. □

— Story and photo by PHI Chuck Mussi.

**D**eep in the tropical rain forest, camouflage-clad men are working their way carefully through the jungle, posting guards as they cross rivers, blending in with the undergrowth as they move silently toward their target.

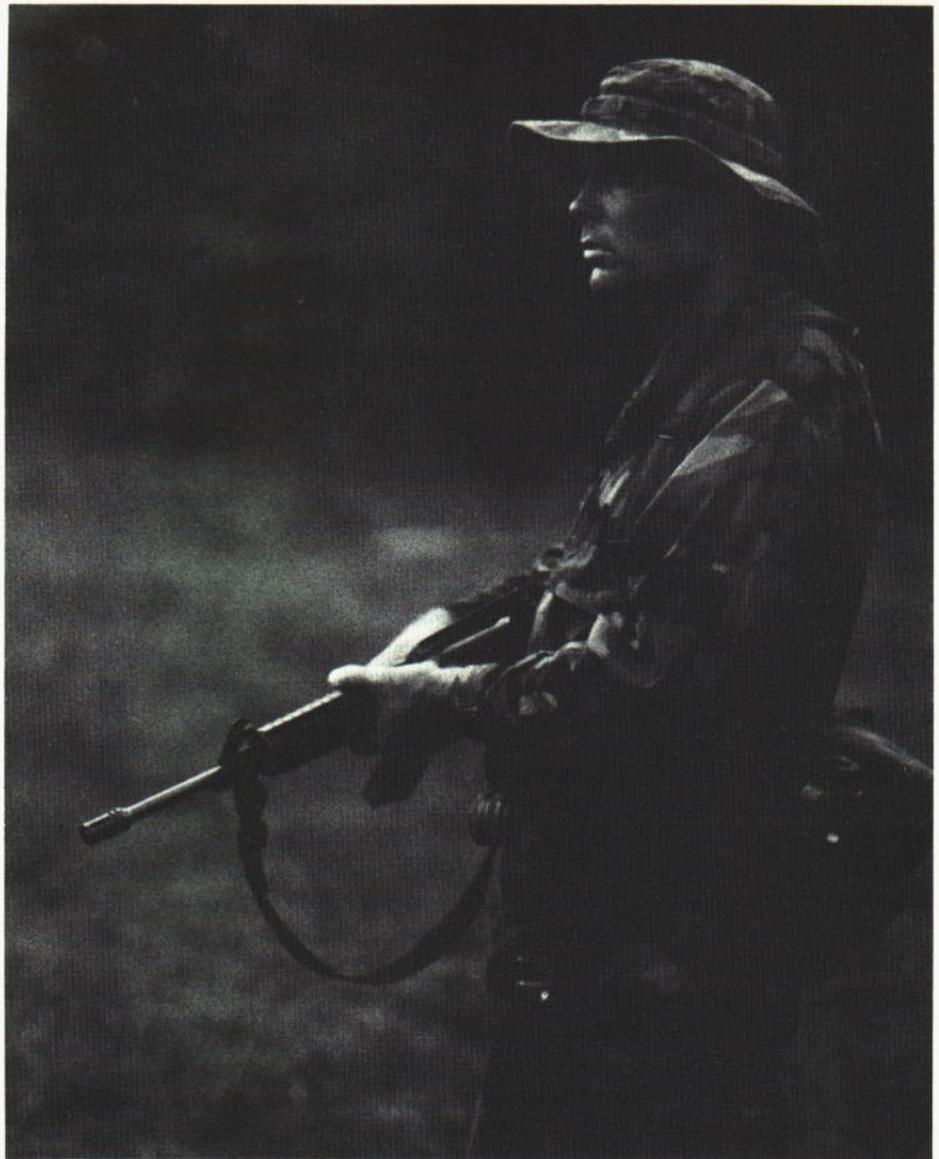
High on a snow-covered ridge, sniper team members — all but invisible in their white cold-weather exposure suits — set up their rifles and spotter scopes. They work quickly and carefully, oblivious to the sub-zero temperatures and swirling snow.

On the sun-baked desert floor, a small group of men in desert cammies move carefully among the mesquite and take up positions surrounding their objective. Suddenly, the simmering air erupts with the detonation of a Claymore mine and the heat is made that much more unbearable by the billowing dust.

These three land missions have not been carried out by Green Berets or Rangers or Marines — not by soldiers at all — but by sailors, very special sailors.

Many people think the U.S. Navy SEAL is strictly a combat swimmer and underwater demolition expert. There is a tendency to believe that the SEALs' operational environment is confined either to water or the well-defined perimeter of a beachhead. It is popular to think of the SEAL exclusively as a frogman — a webfooted warrior who carries out daring underwater attacks against enemy shipping and clears beaches and landing sites of enemy obstacles. That image is accurate — up to a point. But it is just a part of a more comprehensive role played by SEALs in special warfare operations. To classify these highly-trained sailors solely as sea raiders, more at home in the water than out, belies the overall adaptability and versatility of these unique, multifaceted fighting men.

SEALs are certainly experts at waterborne combat missions above or below the surface, but they are also specialists in land warfare operations, especially



## Sea, Air and **LAND**

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**It's the training that counts  
when you're behind enemy lines**

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adept at small-unit infantry tactics. Proficiency in the use of infantry-type combat arms and jungle, desert and mountain tactics are essential elements in their training. This is because SEALs may be called upon to infiltrate well beyond the beaches, deep behind enemy lines, for reconnaissance, surveillance, or intelligence-gathering. And though a mission of this type may begin with an assault from the surface or beneath the sea or

a parachute jump from fixed- or rotary-winged aircraft, once on land, the SEALs transform from frogmen or paratroopers into an elite infantry unit capable of carrying out a high-risk, land-based mission quickly, efficiently and thoroughly.

SEAL land warfare training covers combat weapons familiarization and marksmanship, combat first aid, land navigation, fire movement and maneuvering, patrolling, ambush and counter-

ambush techniques, river and stream crossings, mountaineering, demolitions, radio field communications, setting up base camps, and preparation of drop and landing zones for helicopter support.

The land warfare training has a standard curriculum used by all SEAL teams. Although each team has its own specific mission and area of responsibility, the land tactical warfare curriculum is adaptable to any type of terrain or climate, ranging from heat-seared desert and boulder-strewn mountains to the steaming jungle and bone-chilling Arctic. Teams may add other training that is specifically applicable to their particular mission and the type of terrain in which they will be operating.

SEAL team members are first introduced to land warfare during their training at the Basic Underwater Demolition School at Coronado, Calif. The intent at BUDS is to familiarize the trainee with basic land warfare techniques. It isn't until the BUDS graduate is assigned to an actual SEAL team that these techniques are polished and augmented by additional skills.

This polishing of skills also applies to SEAL veterans who have served with other teams. Upon their transfer from one team to another, they have to learn some of the SOP variations of their new unit. "I've been in other teams over a period of three or four years," said one SEAL, "and there are always new techniques to learn, since each team has its own way of doing things."

The tactical portion of land warfare training is geared to honing those combat skills, which, when used in combination with the proper timing and imagination borne of experience, will ensure a successful mission behind enemy lines. Through unremitting practice and drill, each man builds up his proficiency. With proficiency comes confidence and unerring trust in one's own abilities. But it requires the blending together of the professional skills of each man to make an effective combat unit.

In tactical training, the men are working as infantry on squad levels, with each

squad made up of seven or eight men. It involves constant maneuvering with loaded weapons. Thus, safety is emphasized at all times. And although safety is paramount in all phases of SEAL training, it is extremely critical during land warfare training.

The training cadre constantly remind the men to treat their weapons as if they were loaded with live ammo ("goin' hot") at all times. All weapons are kept on safe during troop movements and are not switched to the firing mode until "enemy" contact is made. Once "enemy" contact is broken or during maneuvers to break off that contact, weapons are always put back on safe. It is a well-known fact of infantry life that men have accidentally killed their comrades through disregard of weapons safety.

The land warfare skills are taught in progressive stages. Each particular subject is first introduced in the classroom

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*"In training, there is always the pressure to improve upon everything you've learned."*

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and is then followed by practical walk-through or hands-on experience in the field under the watchful eye of the training cadre. Following each walk-through the men are critiqued on their performance and given guidance and suggestions for improvement. Then, when the men feel confident with the evolution, they are allowed to practice the skill as a unit on their own against a simulated enemy force, first without ammo, then with blanks and finally with live rounds.

Although there is constant repetition during training, there is still a low boredom factor. After having spent a partic-

ularly long, hot afternoon repeatedly working on a single maneuver, one member of a team training at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia, remarked, "It's hot — I'm sweaty, dirty and I smell nasty, but I still stay pumped up. When you're in the middle of weapons tactical training and you're 'goin' hot' and everyone is laying down a base of fire, it becomes a real 'rush.' It's so noisy you can't hear yourself talk — or scream for that matter — it's exciting."

The training is a constant process and never lets up. It is intensive. As one SEAL pointed out, "In training, there is always the pressure to improve upon everything you've learned — the pressure to improve your accuracy, timing and teamwork. Our opposition is doing the same thing and that's something you always have to be aware of." He added emphatically that survival is a matter of good training.

The troops train night and day in every conceivable terrain and every type of weather. Each training evolution, every maneuver, is practiced and rehearsed over and over until it is done right and becomes second nature and can be performed with acrobatic precision. It is a continual, grinding round of patrols, combat maneuvers, immediate action drills and weapons firing. It's learning how to set up a skirmish line and lay down an effective base of fire. It's learning how to get out of an enemy ambush in one piece and setting up a counter-ambush of your own. It's learning how to move through a danger area with just hand signals for communication. It's knowing where to be, when to be there and what to do when you arrive.

But, more importantly, it's learning to work as a team. It is this reciprocal reliance and trust between the individuals that make up the team that provide that all-important cutting edge in combat. It makes the SEALs as formidable on land as they are in the water. □

— Story by JO2 Mike McKinley  
— Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi

# Chief Nelson

## A role model for new SEALs

Walking tall in his khakis, the SEAL enters the workspace at Team One. Although a large man, he moves with the lithe grace characteristic of athletes. His very demeanor speaks of control. He is a man in control of himself and his surroundings.

“The first time I saw the Chief, I knew

it was right,” says GMM1 Diederik “Didi” Molenaar, talking about Andrew Nelson, a newly frocked chief petty officer. “In my eyes, Andy has always been a chief wearing a 1st class crow. He’s deserved the promotion for a long time now.”

A demolition and weapons instructor,

Nelson is a part of Team One’s training cell. The Team is home-ported at Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, Calif. “I see Andy as a role model,” says Molenaar, a fellow instructor. “He doesn’t even need to use a lesson guide when he conducts a class. Andy has forgotten more about demolition than I’ll



ever know. Whenever someone has a question or is looking for a better way to do the job, they call on Andy.”

Nelson attributes most of his knowledge to the training he received from other SEALs. “I grew up in the old tradition,” he says. Joining the teams right after Vietnam, Nelson was trained by men who drew their knowledge from actual combat experience.

“Rules were written in blood,” Nelson says. They are rules that he sees as being forgotten by some of the younger team members. “I was taught by people who learned how to operate in life or death situations.” With the passage of time, many of these veterans have retired, taking with them their first-hand knowledge.



Nelson says he tries to keep those lessons fresh so they will not have to be rewritten in the blood of a new generation.

“All anybody has to do is express an interest in learning and Andy will immediately take the newcomer under his wing,” Molenaar says. “He really enjoys training the new people.” Another co-worker agrees, “Andy is always putting himself into situations where he can teach others.”

Thirteen years ago, Nelson, a lumber grader in Tacoma, Wash., made a decision that forever changed his life. It was a payday Friday and he had just finished a long day rating the quality of wood at the local mill. “Just like every other payday, the guys I worked with were getting together to drink and gamble away their paychecks,” Nelson says. Suddenly, in an older co-worker, he saw a reflection of himself 20 years into the future: two bucks in his pocket, waiting for payday Friday to roll around. “The very next day I was in the recruiter’s office saying, ‘Get me out of here.’ ”

The son of a retired Air Force master sergeant, why did Nelson pick the Navy? And why SEALs? The answer: a special friend, someone with whom he shared experiences dating back to high school. A good friend of Nelson’s, Mitch Croft, had joined the Navy and volunteered for SEALs. Whenever Croft came home to visit, the two would get together, often for deer hunting. It was there, while stalking game deep into the forest, that Croft would tell Nelson of his latest SEAL adventures. “It just sounded pretty exciting to me,” Nelson says. “Besides, SEALs can do everything other special warfare units can do and more — more because of our underwater capabilities.”

Nelson’s mother, Joyce Nelson, says she was surprised at first when her son decided to volunteer for SEALs. “He was always such a gentle person, bringing home hurt animals and such.” But, she says, she is *not* surprised that Nelson has become a demolition and weapons expert.

She remembers how Mitch and

Andrew would gather up old garbage cans from around the neighborhood. “They took the garbage cans down to a nearby swamp and blew them up with firecrackers. Even way back then, Andrew loved making things go bang.”

The two boys were always shooting, plinking away at something. “We’re having a great time in the SEALs,” Croft says, laughing. “We now have bigger toys, make bigger noises and have more responsibility.”

When Croft heard that Nelson had joined the Navy and was attending BUDS, he was happy for his buddy and pretty confident Andy would survive the training. “I remember Andy teasing me, ‘if *you* can do it *I* can do it,’ ” he says. “It’s not all that easy, but I figured Andy had the drive and good sense needed. Besides, it was probably a matter of pride — not only had I made it through, but he told everyone he would be a SEAL. So a SEAL he was going to be.”

Determination is one trait Nelson has always had. “He doesn’t give up,” Joyce says. A member of his high school wrestling team, Nelson separated his sternum just before a big regional tournament. His doctor told him he was finished for the year. Joyce recalls, “Andrew just looked the doctor in the eye and told him he was wrong. ‘Show my mom how to tape my shoulder. I’m going to regionals.’ ” Nelson went on, not only to win the tournament, but also to post the record for the fastest pin. “He pinned his man literally seconds into the match,” Joyce says. “He later told me that the tape had blocked off his breathing and he had to pin his man fast or else.”

According to Nelson, it wasn’t just his determination that helped him through the BUDS training, but rather an extreme fear of failure. “I never once thought of quitting,” he says. “Out of the 125 guys that started in my class, only 25 of us graduated. I knew I wouldn’t quit, but I was afraid of being dropped. I don’t think I could have handled being told ‘you’re not good enough.’ ”

# Chief Nelson

Nelson's determination and intense desire to be the best at whatever he undertakes are emotions he keeps to himself. To the world, he presents an easy-going image. Even those who know him best describe him as a laid-back kind of guy — someone who “doesn't sweat the load.”

Master Chief James “K-bar” Kauber tells of an experience that would have rattled most men, but didn't seem to faze Nelson. During a C-130 jump in Okinawa, Nelson was a jumpmaster. It was the first time a fixed-wing jump had been attempted at this DZ (drop zone). The DZ was surrounded by dense jungle that measured 200 by 100 meters. After landing half the squad safely, Nelson returned for a second drop. “Andy not only missed the DZ, but he landed four men in the trees.” Andy's reaction — rather his lack of reaction — was, “Whoops — guess I missed.”

But Nelson, as a jumpmaster, knows full well that there is always danger when jumping from a plane. As he says, “after you have put the men out of the plane, you don't really breath again until you see all good canopies.” He added that “landing in the trees can be very hazardous. All a jumper can do is make himself as small as possible and hope he slides through the branches.” He really didn't feel relieved until he saw them all safe and walking. “After it was over, and I learned everyone was OK, I took a lot of ribbing and verbal abuse from the guys. All the ‘atta boys’ in the world are erased by one ‘oh, #\*@!!’ ” he says.

“Whenever I feel down or bummed out, I jump free-fall to recharge the batteries. It's the ultimate high as far as I'm concerned,” Nelson says. But it wasn't always that way. He can still remember asking himself just before his first jump without a static line, “Do I really want to do this?”

SEALs are required to jump on a static line, but, even though they are not required to learn free-fall, almost all do. It's part of the image. Nelson felt he needed to cut the umbilical cord of that static line to fully join the fraternity. “I

wanted to be free-fall qualified.”

Off duty, Nelson is a very sociable guy. According to co-workers, he and his wife, Debbie, are always having team members over to the house for a barbecue and a couple of beers. A considerate host, Nelson warns first-comers in advance about his strange collection of pets. As a guest enters the Nelson's home he is likely to be greeted by an animal which appears to be all muscle and teeth. Don't worry, it's just Knuckles or J. W. (pronounced “J-dub”), one of his two Pit Bulls, looking for a scratch behind the ears.

Also scary to the uninitiated is his pet Red-Tailed Boa, “Mrs. Snake.” Nelson enjoys snakes and sees nothing out of the ordinary in having one for a pet. However, it was just this fascination with snakes that earned him a permanent file in the drawer of stories SEALs like to dust off and share for a laugh among good friends.

It all started when a friend of Nelson's, Senior Chief Bill Nehl, was standing camp guard at a desert training camp in California. Nehl had caught and caged three rattlesnakes before turning the watch over to Nelson. “When I returned to camp, I heard that one of the guys had been bitten by a rattler. I just knew it had to be Andy. Sure enough, Andy couldn't keep away from the snakes. He had stuck his hand in the cage and gotten bit,” Nehl says. Andy survived with no permanent damage, but the episode did put an end to capturing snakes at the camp.

Rattlers aside, Nelson has built himself a reputation as a “good operator.” In 1986, he was named Team One's Sailor of the Year and, according to his Command Master Chief, Master Chief Petty Officer Girardin, “Nelson has been a cornerstone in his command. He's the type of guy we can always rely on.”

A seriously injured SEAL found out just how reliable Nelson could be. During a jump that went awry, Nelson could see one of his fellow SEALs land in and become entangled in high-tension wires. Barely clearing the wires himself, he saw

his buddy arc, catch on fire and fall to the ground. Quickly landing, he grabbed the first aid kit and raced to his buddy's aid, where he began an IV, treatment for shock and radioed for a medivac. “In our job, sometimes things go wrong. You try to avoid this but accidents are going to happen. All you can do is be ready to act,” Nelson says. Nelson's quick action earned him a Navy Commendation medal, but more importantly to him, he saved his buddy's life.

Nelson's command values him not only for his coolness under pressure but also his expertise with demolitions and firearms. Nelson, a team sniper, is frequently called upon to give precise information on the team's firearms. “With Andy, you know that any information he tells you has first been thoroughly researched,” Girardin says.

“I like to operate. I like doing SEAL things,” Nelson says. “This is the kind of job where you can go as far as you want.” Nelson sees one advantage the SEALs have over the rest of the Navy. In the teams, everyone has a voice, an idea worth listening to. It doesn't matter if it's a seaman's or master chief's, a good idea is a good idea. “Whoever has the knowledge, does the job. You're not stuck by an inflexible chain of command.”

A man who likes to be on the road, involved in operations, “Andrew is just like his father,” Joyce says. “If a job has to be done, they'll do it.” She used to worry about Nelson because the job he felt he had to do was so dangerous. But one day he sat her down and told her to stop worrying. “He said, ‘Mom, you must remember, I'm doing exactly what I want to do: what I love. And if I die doing something I love, well, how many people can say that?’ ”

Joyce has decided to place her son's safety in God's hands. “He's not foolhardy and he's had the best training available.” □

— Story and photo by JOI Lynn Jenkins

# Bullfrog of the pond

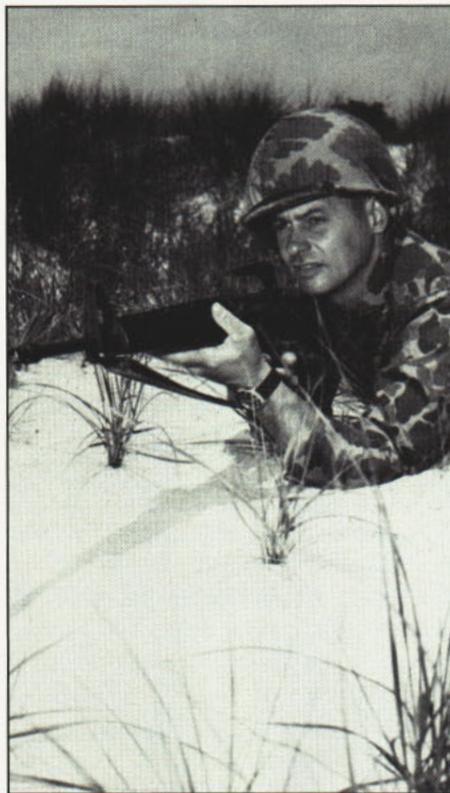
Master Chief Boatswain's Mate Rudy Boesch has spent the last 42 years on active duty with the U.S. Navy and he looks it, with his close-cropped, silver hair and his tanned face, well-weathered by wind, sun, and sea. Boesch says he has wrung more saltwater out of his socks than most sailors have ever sailed on. Although he has served in the Navy just eight years short of a half-century, Boesch still doesn't quite fit the image of an "old salt." Even if he has spent the last 35 years in Navy special warfare (specifically in UDTs and SEALs), Boesch, 59, is no dowdy, bewinkered, sea-going sexagenarian, but a fit, active, hard-working sailor.

Boesch needs to stay fit, since he is presently the enlisted ramrod of SEAL Team Two, based at Little Creek, Va. He is also the only Team Two plankowner still on active duty and holds the distinction of being the senior enlisted man within the special warfare community.

"I'm what the SEALs call the 'bullfrog,'" said the Rochester, N.Y., native. "That means I'm the senior guy in terms of length of service in special warfare." In recognition of this honor, a replica of a large bullfrog sits in the showcase at SEAL Team Two headquarters. "That frog is mine until I retire," said Boesch. "Then I turn it over to the next guy with the longest time in."

But retirement is not on this SEAL's agenda at the moment. "With any luck, when I leave, it'll be because I died on the quarterdeck," Boesch said. "I don't even want to think of retirement. Even though the Navy can pay three seaman for what they pay me, by letting me go they would lose all I know," he said.

"Maybe the policy is to put out anyone who has been in over 30 years . . . but they haven't said anything about those with over 40 years," he said with a smile.



**BMCM Boesch at Little Creek, Va., shortly after the SEAL teams were formed in 1962.**

Boesch first enlisted in the Navy in 1945, just before the end of World War II. Although the war in Europe ended while Boesch was in recruit training, Japan was still undefeated in the Pacific when he completed boot camp.

Boesch recalls that, one day shortly after graduation from boot camp, his company was lined up and the company

commander asked if anybody wanted to volunteer for duty with a special outfit. Boesch was the only one to raise his hand. At that moment, his long association with Navy special warfare began, for Boesch had just volunteered to serve with the UDTs, otherwise known as the Scouts and Raiders.

Sent to Fort Pierce, Fla., then home of the UDTs, Boesch became part of one of the most illustrious special warfare units to come out of World War II and one that would become the nucleus of the present-day SEALs.

Boesch said that the UDTs at Fort Pierce learned demolition, small boat handling, combat swimming and small arms, and were taught how to help organize guerrillas in Japanese-occupied China. These guerrilla units would have supported the planned Allied invasion of Japan had the war not ended in August 1945.

With the war over, the Scouts and Raiders were soon disbanded. Boesch recalled, "We had to tear our base down at Fort Pierce. We did it overnight. It wasn't very difficult, since we were living in tents."

Following the decommissioning of the Scouts and Raiders in 1945, Boesch was assigned duties with, as he put it, "the regular fleet." For the next six years, the former commando served both at sea and ashore at duty stations ranging from Shanghai, China, to Grosvenor Square and the American Embassy in London, before rejoining the UDTs and the special warfare community in 1951. He hasn't left since.

Boesch remained a combat swimmer with the UDTs for 11 years until 1962,

# Bullfrog of the pond



**BMCM Boesch served with the SEALs in Mekong Delta and Cam Ranh Bay during the Viet Nam war.**

duty. There is no question with anybody in the team — if it's Tuesday and your hair is getting long, Rudy's going to tap you on the shoulder and you *will* have the duty."

The member also added, "Rudy sets the standard. When he says 'complete uniform,' it's complete uniform with brass polished and shoes shined. Nothing changes from one year to the next. You always know where you're supposed to be, when you're supposed to be there and how you're supposed to look when you arrive."

Boesch's rank, experience, and seniority allow him considerable latitude in his duties with the team. "He really does it all," as one member put it. During training exercises, Boesch may do all the administrative chores so that the training cadre can devote their full energy to training SEAL teams in the field. On the other hand, he may decide to assign the administrative details to others and take personal charge of the team, leading the men in a regimen of PT, running and swimming that would make the most fanatic fitness freak cringe in terror.

Boesch has seen a lot of changes in the Navy over the years, but he is impressed by what he sees today. "The Navy is in good shape right now and we are getting some real high-caliber people, especially in the SEALs," he said. "We have men in this outfit who can do anything. They're intelligent, they learn quickly and can think for themselves."

Boesch admits that if he had it all to do over again, he wouldn't change a thing. "In the SEALs there is always something new and different to see and do all the time," he said. "It's an exciting life."

Rudy Boesch, a satisfied bullfrog, summed up his career with a smile. "Just being with the SEALs has been one good, long experience." □

— Story by JO2 Michael McKinley

when the mission of special warfare was expanded and the UDTs took on a new name and role. They became known as "SEALs" because they would operate in the three environments of Sea, Air and Land and would be called upon to conduct unconventional warfare at sea and in coastal and river areas. The initial muster role was made up of men already in the old UDT organization. Initially, two SEAL teams were established; Boesch was one of the first members of SEAL Team Two, formed at Little Creek, Va. That was a long time ago.

Boesch joked, "I have more time at Little Creek than some of the barbers do in the barbershop there. Military barbers are like permanent fixtures at some bases — they never seem to leave. But I've seen a lot of them come and go at Little Creek, which gives you an indication how long I've been there with special warfare."

According to Boesch, it takes a very special person to be a SEAL. It requires excellent physical conditioning, motivation and determination. Parachuting from fixed-wing aircraft or helicopters, swimming or rafting long distances to shore from a ship or submarine, exposure to arctic water, jungle swamps and survival in enemy-controlled areas

are all a part of being a SEAL. Just thinking about such demands make some men shudder. But for those in the SEAL teams, like Boesch, these challenges are the spice of life.

Boesch, who served with the SEALs in the Mekong Delta and Cam Ranh Bay during the Vietnam War, says, "being a SEAL is one of the best things in the Navy. I obviously like what I'm doing or I wouldn't have stayed in so long. If I got out I couldn't duplicate what I've got now. It's an exciting life. When you get up in the morning, you don't know whether you'll soon be finding yourself 30 feet underwater or 10,000 feet in the air. That's what I like about it. There's something different every day."

The men who work closely with Boesch in Team Two accord him the highest respect with their genuine praise. "Rudy Boesch is one heck of an individual," said one team member. "He sets a good example for all of us. He's a real morale builder."

Another member in the training cadre said that, thanks to Boesch and his extensive experience, there is a lot of continuity in the team. He said, "nothing changes with Rudy. For example, on Tuesdays, he always looks for haircuts. If you don't have a haircut, you stand

U.S. Navy Photo

# SEALs



Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi

*Pictures often speak louder than words. This special 14-page collection of images captures the men of the Navy's SEAL teams in action.*



Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi

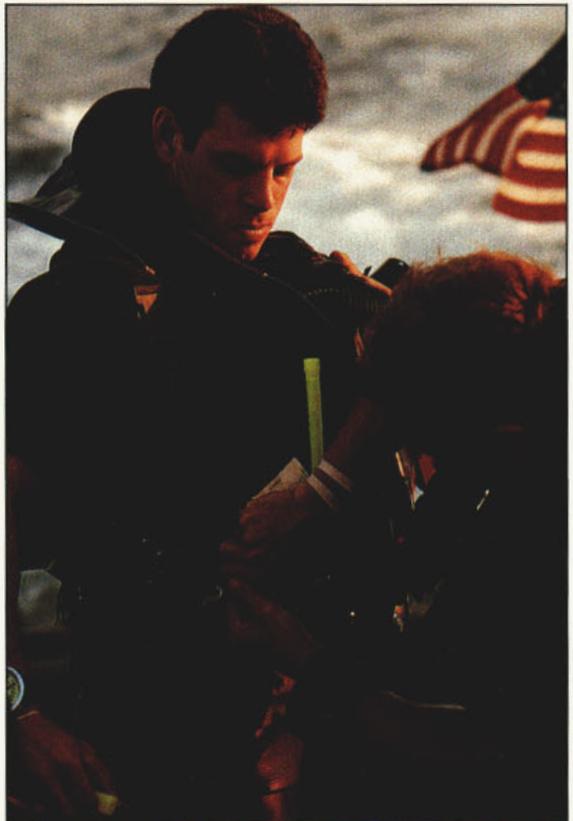


Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins

# The men, the mission



U.S. Navy Photo

*During the six months of BUDS, one of the most important lessons prospective SEALs learn is how to accomplish their goals through teamwork. Learning to wallow in the mud as a team in BUDS can save their lives as SEALs in battle.*





*Two SEALs perform reconnaissance while at a military installation in Norway as part of their cold weather training. Arctic, desert or jungle, SEALs train for all-weather, all-terrain operations, virtually anywhere in the world.*

*SEALs emerge from the water ready to hit the beach. Mission profiles often call for a SEAL team to combine its various skills, such as using the water for cover before hitting a land target.*



U.S. Navy Photo



U.S. Navy Photo

*If you need an engine . . . go and get it.  
A member of SEAL Team Five carries  
an outboard motor down to the team's  
inflatable raft. Even though teamwork is  
paramount, sometimes extraordinary  
individual effort is required.*

*An instructor (purple T-shirt) from Team Two's  
training cadre keeps a close eye on a live-fire  
drill during a simulated casualty extraction.  
To keep these exercises as realistic as possible,  
the "wounded" wear hidden pouches filled  
with fake blood and act as if they are  
actually injured.*



Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi

*BUDS trainees attack yet  
another obstacle. Over or under,  
these potential SEALs must find  
a way to successfully negotiate  
the treacherous path toward  
graduation if they want to  
become a member of the Navy's  
elite special forces.*



Photo by David Masci



Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins

*In an operation that will combine all three elements — sea, air and land — a SEAL parachutes with full dive gear into the ocean. Once in the water, he will rendezvous with other teammates and a rubber raft which will take them to shore.*



Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins

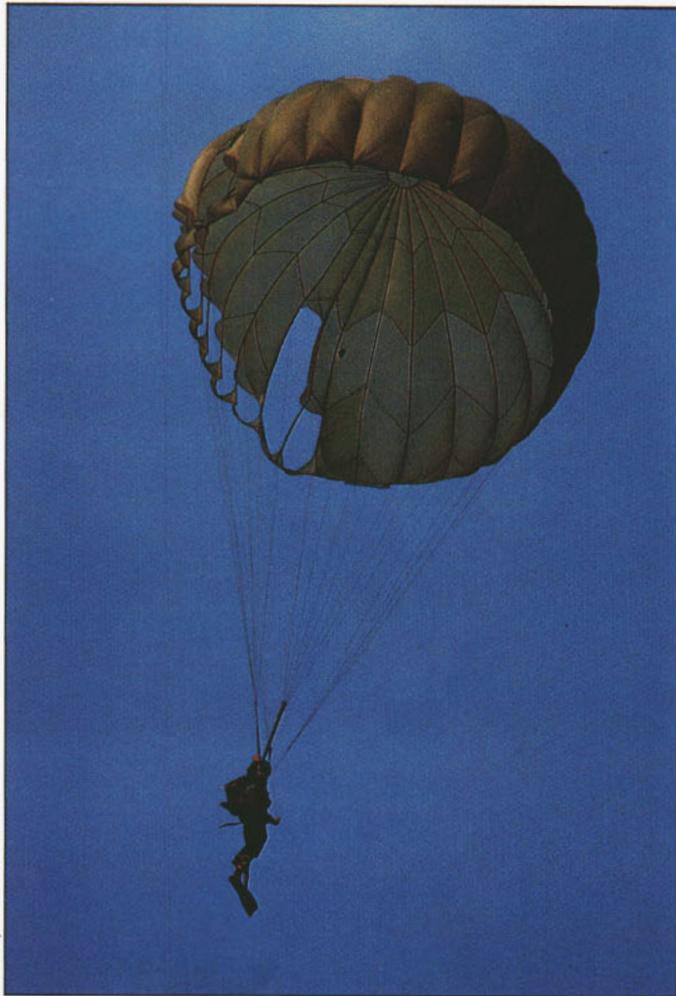


Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi

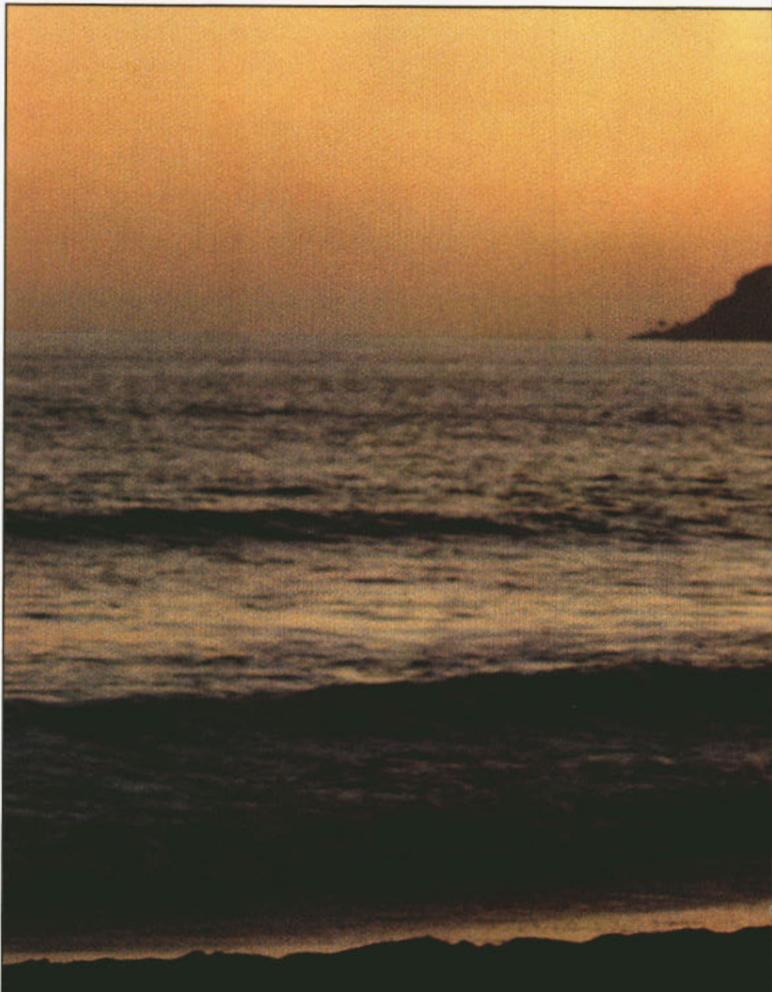


Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins



*A SEAL lays low in the water as he provides rear security for his teammates. Wearing camouflage gear and using a flotation device to minimize swimming movement, he is able to remain hidden in the foliage surrounding the river's bank.*

*Men from Team Five prepare to enter the water for a night combat swimming exercise at Coronado, Calif. The objective of the swim, which will last anywhere from three to four hours, is to practice placing explosives on the hull of a ship and escaping undetected.*



*Just off the coast of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, a SEAL enters the water from an inflatable boat in preparing for a stringline recovery operation.*

Photo by PH1 Patrick C. Wilkerson





*A member of Team Five waits for the sun to set, signalling the start of a four-hour combat swim exercise where his ability to navigate underwater in zero visibility will be tested.*

Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins



U.S. Navy Photo

*BUDS' trainees take obstacle training one step (or hand) at a time. The reason for such intense training is to test students' physical, emotional and mental abilities under adverse conditions.*



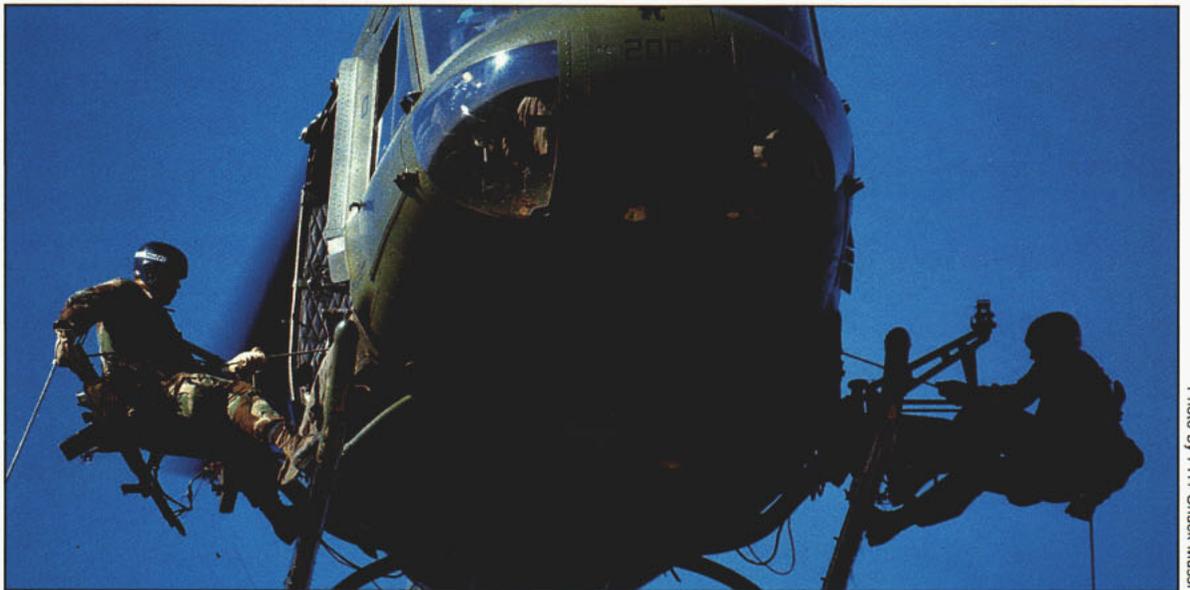


Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi



Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins

*Two SEALs poise on a helo's rails before beginning their rappel to the ground, 90 feet below. They will lower slowly until clear of the helo, then drop rapidly.*

*A member of SEAL Team Three is engulfed in desert dust following his detonation of an anti-personnel Claymore mine.*

Photo by PH1 Chuck Mussi

*An M60 gunner stops for a moment's rest and to apply camouflage makeup. The ability to blend into the environment is crucial if the SEALs are to meet one of their primary objectives: surprise.*



Photo by JO1 Lynn Jenkins

*A SEAL performs a helo-swimmer cast — one of the most basic “insertion” techniques — through the “Hell Hole” of a CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter in the Grande Island area of Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.*





*A member of Team Three emerges soaking wet following a river crossing at the desert training camp in California. The end of his M16 is taped over to help prevent mud from entering the barrel so the SEAL can be sure his weapon is ready for action.*

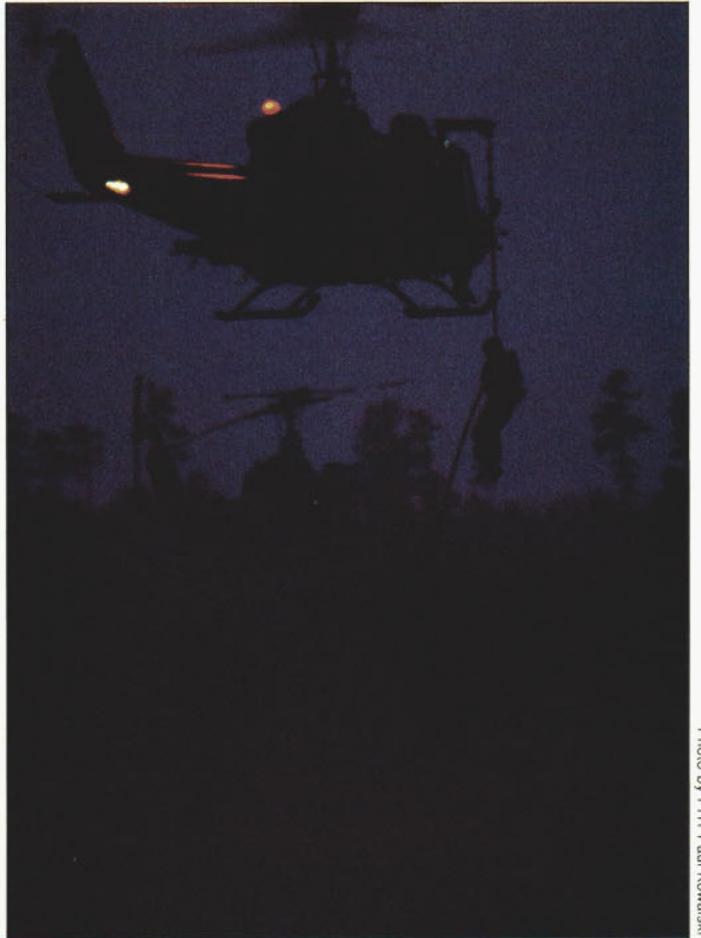
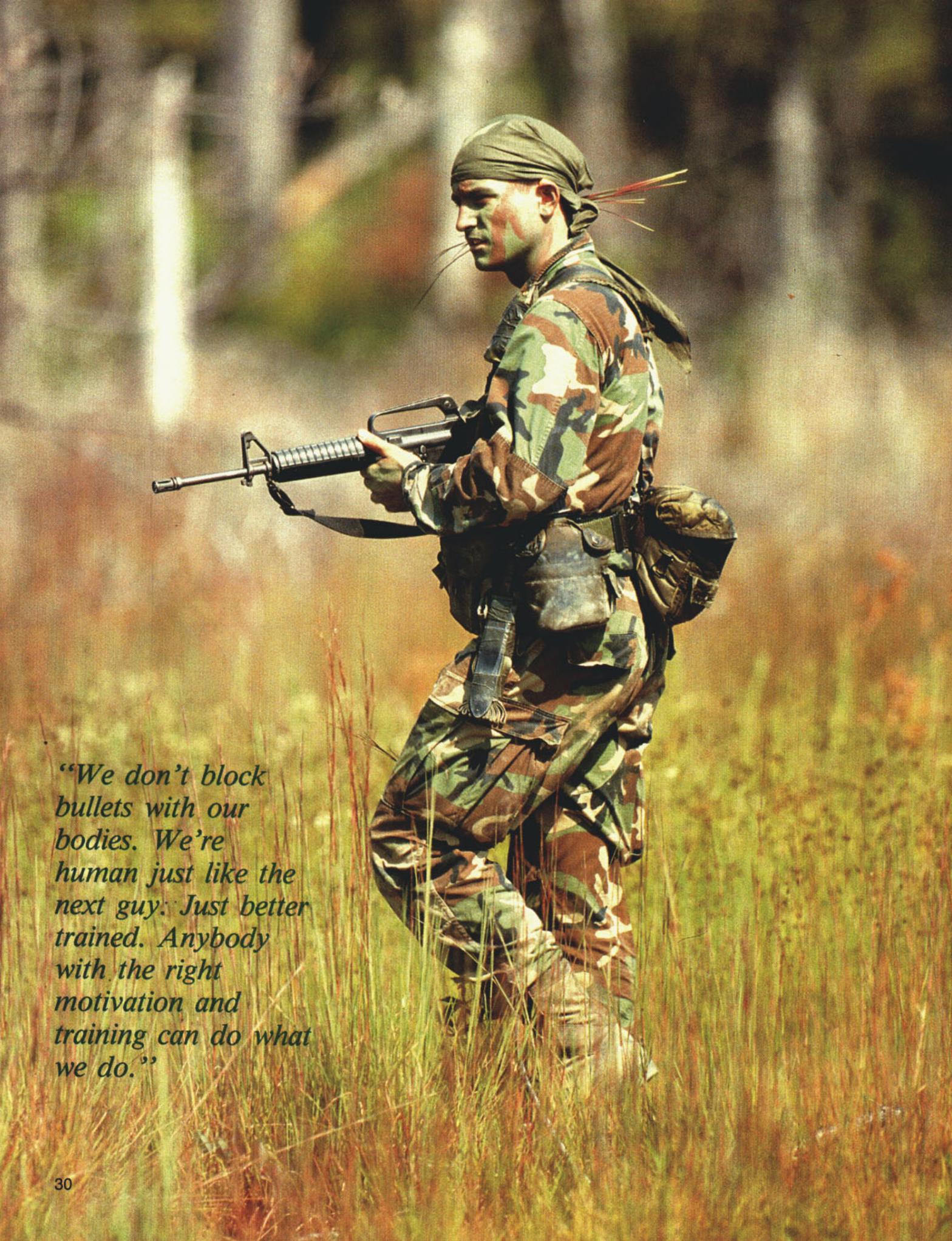


Photo by PH1 Paul Kowalski



Photo by PH3 Bruce J. Wallace

*SEALs fast-rope into a landing zone during a night training exercise at Fort A.P. Hill, Va. Using the fast-rope insertion method, the SEALs can put an entire squad on the ground in three to five seconds.*

A full-page photograph of a soldier in profile, facing left. He is wearing a green and brown camouflage uniform, a green headscarf with a red and white feather sticking out of the back, and a tactical vest. He is holding an M16-style rifle. The background is a field of tall, dry grass with a blurred forest in the distance.

*“We don’t block bullets with our bodies. We’re human just like the next guy: Just better trained. Anybody with the right motivation and training can do what we do.”*

# SEALs in action around the world

In the Caribbean and the Middle East, South America and the Far East, Western Pacific and North Atlantic — anywhere, in fact, the U.S. Navy goes — Sea Air Land Teams are either already there, or can be, in a matter of hours.

The 1,500 plus enlisted and officer personnel who make up the SEALs not only take part in special operations, such as in Grenada and Beirut, but are forward-deployed with the fleet on a daily basis, according to Capt. Michael Jukoski, Director of the Naval Special Warfare Division in Washington, D.C.

Units in places as far flung as Scotland and the Philippines provide the numbered fleet commanders with forward-deployed SEAL Team members. "About 50 percent of the SEALs are forward-deployed with the fleet," Jukoski said. The remaining half of the SEALs are either preparing to deploy overseas or just returned from deployment.

"SEALs support amphibious operations through reconnaissance and intelligence gathering," he explained. "In support of carrier group operations, we can provide surveillance, targeting information or bomb damage assessment. We can also conduct anti-surface warfare in the form of sneak attacks on ships in harbors."

In addition, SEALs take part in exercises with other special warfare organizations. "We participate in joint unconven-

tional warfare exercises both with our allies and with special forces from the other branches of the armed services, such as the Army's Green Berets and the Air Force's Special Operations Squadrons," said Jukoski.

Sometimes other countries request assistance from SEAL teams for training. A mobile training team will work with a unit that's engaged in special warfare operations similar to the work SEALs do.

Of course, it's the well-publicized jobs such as Grenada and Beirut that are commonly associated with SEAL operations.

"In Grenada, the SEALs performed their traditional role of hydrographic reconnaissance near the airfield and at the landing sites to determine if various locations were suitable prior to the Rangers parachuting in and the Marines landing," Jukoski said.

In Beirut, SEALs performed similar services, doing reconnaissance and gathering intelligence. "The operation included personnel from special boat units that give waterborne mobility to the SEALs," he said. "There is a special boat squadron, with its assigned special boat units, on each coast that provides this support to the SEALs. They are an integral part of the team." Duties of the boat units off the coast of Lebanon included security for ships at anchor in

addition to supporting the SEALs. Boat operators are not SEAL-qualified.

Originally, SEALs operated their own boats, but in Vietnam the mobile support teams concept, using sailors familiar with small craft, was developed. The system worked so well it evolved into the special boat squadrons of today.

Currently, SEALs are serving in another Middle East trouble spot. "We have a number of craft in the Persian Gulf," Jukoski said. "Again, this is a special boat unit commitment. We have SEALs there, also. They both support the joint task force and could be used in their various roles — like reconnaissance — or surveillance, if necessary."

Jukoski expects an increased role for SEALs in the future. "I think we see today a situation where Third World countries can threaten our interests with a very cheap investment in military hardware," he said. "It's a situation in which conventional force may not be able to provide the optimum answer because it would be judged inappropriate. In situations where use of heavy conventional weaponry would send the wrong signal, SEALs could provide a low-visibility, tailored, and highly effective response."

In any country, on any ocean, SEALs are ready to serve. . . . □

— Story by JOC Robin Barnette

# Behind enemy lines

## The life of a 'true warrior'

Lured by surf, sand and the stunning Pacific sunset, throngs of tourists flock to the Silver Strand at Coronado in San Diego, Calif., vacationing in leisure and comfort at the massive, red-roofed Hotel del Coronado.

Occasionally, the view from the hotel's stacks of white Victorian balconies is interrupted by a small offshore swarm of what appear to be seven-legged black water bugs with orange polka dots. As the "bugs" fan out and draw nearer to the cluster of rocks at the surf's edge, illusion transforms into reality.

The legs become paddles and the polka dots become kapok life preservers strapped around the occupants of a black inflatable raft.

These men are drawn to the beaches of Coronado by a different lure, pursuing a life far from leisurely and comfortable. They are training to become members of one of the most demanding special warfare units in the world — U.S. Navy SEALs.

A mile down the Strand from the landmark hotel lies the newly dedicated Phil H. Bucklew Center for Naval Special Warfare. The center houses basic and advanced SEAL schools and is home to the Navy's top special warfare planners. The largest division within the center is dedicated to Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training.

Every six weeks, a BUDS class starts its first phase of the three-part school. Most of the students will not graduate. "Anything less than excellence is unacceptable," said the center's executive officer, Cmdr. Bob Nelson. "Consequently, only the strongest survive the rigors of training."

BUDS students are forced to expand their physical and mental limits while raising their self-confidence and learning

teamwork. The center's motto: "The only easy day was yesterday."

According to Nelson, the commitment necessary to complete the BUDS program requires all the desire, ingenuity, dedication and integrity an individual can muster.

With those ideals in mind, the center honored retired Navy Capt. Phil H. Bucklew, who served with distinction as a special warfare officer in three wars. His achievements, spanning 40 years of active and reserve service, have inspired "wannabe" BUDS students and seasoned tacticians alike.

At the dedication of the Bucklew Center for Naval Special Warfare last winter, the 72-year-old Bucklew was described as a "legendary" naval officer by Capt. Larry Bailey, commanding officer of the special warfare school. And, according to Vice Adm. Joseph Metcalf, III, Assistant Chief of Naval Operations for Surface Warfare, Capt. Bucklew is a "true warrior" symbolizing the dedication of today's Navy SEALs.

At the ceremony, a bronze plaque, which will become a permanent monument at the special warfare school, was unveiled honoring Bucklew. Inscribed on the plaque is the following:

***Dedicated in honor of Captain Phil H. Bucklew for his heroic and lasting contributions to the inception and permanence of Naval Special Warfare.***

***This center of excellence is a lasting monument to his courage, foresight and leadership.***

With his wife Helen at his side, Bucklew, now confined to a wheelchair, expressed his appreciation for the dedication: "I'm very proud of the honor extended to me." In referring to Met-

calf and Bailey and all the SEAL/UDT personnel at the school, Bucklew added, "These guys always keep me up to date on what's happening in the special warfare teams. I love 'em all."

Adventure and high drama are the main ingredients that made up Capt. Bucklew's life, always spiced with a pinch of the unconventional. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, on Dec. 19, 1914. While still a student attending North High School in Columbus, he joined the Naval Reserve at the age of 14. Graduating from high school in 1932, Bucklew went on to attend Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

While at Xavier, Bucklew excelled as a football player. His prowess on the gridiron was such, that after graduating from college in 1936, he turned pro, playing for the old Cleveland Rams. Bucklew would later go on to coach the Columbus Bulls of the American Football League and would be named in 1961 to *Sports Illustrated's* Silver Anniversary All-American Team.

Shortly after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Bucklew cut short his coaching career with the Bulls and reported for active duty as a Chief Boatswain's Mate. In 1943 he received his commission as an Ensign.

Serving in both Europe and the Pacific, Bucklew was an original member of the U.S. Navy Scouts and Raiders for Special Operations, the forerunners of today's SEALs. It was the mission of the Scouts and Raiders to act as guides for Army assault troops prior to invasion landings by scouting, locating and

**Admiring the bronze plaque honoring Capt. Phil Bucklew are (from left) Mrs. Helen Bucklew, Vice Adm. Joseph Metcalf, III, Capt. Larry Bailey and Capt. Bucklew.**

maintaining a position at a designated beach, hours before a landing.

While with the Raiders, Bucklew collected intelligence, conducted beach reconnaissance and helped plan the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Normandy.

During the invasion of Sicily, code-named *Operation Husky*, in July 1943, Ensign Bucklew was awarded his first Navy Cross for his part in the landing. The mission called for a night reconnaissance of the beach from a submarine-launched kayak. He had to locate the designated beaches for each wave of landing boats and guide them in. In spearheading the invasion, Bucklew met withering machine gun fire from the enemy as he moved in under the glare of searchlights. Disregarding the hail of bullets that repeatedly slammed into his

scout boat, Bucklew and his men made it ashore and guided the invading waves of assault craft to their designated beaches.

In the invasion of Italy in September 1943, Bucklew and his men were again the first on the beach, this time at Salerno, to guide in General Mark Clark's 36th Infantry Division, of the U.S. Fifth Army. During this invasion, Bucklew and his men were forced to maintain an exposed position in a hail of enemy lead while directing the landing craft in.

For his role at Salerno, Lt. J.G. Bucklew was awarded the Silver Star. His citation read in part, "by his brilliant leadership and thorough training of scout boat gun crews prior to the invasion, Lieutenant, Junior Grade, Bucklew contributed materially to the high

combat efficiency of our forces during the successful assault in this vital war area."

Bucklew was also on the Normandy beaches six months before the invasion of June 6, 1944. Operating at night and often under the noses of German guards, his mission was to scout the beaches and gather sand samples. The buckets of sand collected were sent back to England to be tested and analyzed to determine if the beach could support heavy vehicles, an important factor in the invasion planning.

During the actual Allied invasion on D-Day, Bucklew was a scout boat officer, embarked on one of the first craft to approach the heavily defended coast. Again, it was his job to locate the assigned beaches for the waves of assault boats and guide them in. This perilous



# Behind enemy lines

mission was carried out in a rough surf under continuous enemy gunfire.

After leading in the first wave of tanks to the beach, he fired his boat's rockets over the tanks at enemy targets in support of the landings and also directed his guns at German machine gun nests in houses along the beach. As subsequent waves of landing craft came in to hit the beach, Bucklew and his men continued to cover the assault troops against heavy enemy fire. At the same time, they rescued wounded soldiers from burning landing craft and directed the flow of traffic to the beachhead. A gold star in lieu of a second Navy Cross was awarded to Bucklew as a testimony of his courage that day on the beaches of Normandy.

In 1945, a third Navy Cross was recommended for Bucklew in recognition of his heroism during a three-day recon behind Japanese lines in China. Disguised as a Chinese peasant, he set out to make an amphibious reconnaissance in the vicinity of Japanese-held Kitchioh Wan on the southeast coast.

Playing the role of one of the local rustics required that Bucklew walk with a stoop in an attempt to conceal his six-foot, two-inch frame, which would be a dead giveaway in a land occupied by considerably smaller people. Because of this feigned physical characteristic, Bucklew would later be referred to by his comrades as "Big Stoop." The exploits of Bucklew behind enemy lines would become the basis of the "Big Stoop" character in the popular syndicated comic strip of that time, "Terry and the Pirates."

Travelling through extremely rugged country and under constant danger of capture or ambush, Lt. Cmdr. Bucklew skillfully penetrated the Japanese lines about 35 miles from Kitchioh Wan to bring information needed by General Douglas MacArthur.

Once during this scouting adventure Bucklew found himself surrounded by Japanese as he lay hidden in a haystack. Twelve Chinese guerillas who were travelling with Bucklew and protecting him

sat in a circle around the stack with their arms folded, Lugers hidden under their arms, as a Japanese patrol scoured the area looking for the lone American.

Capt. Bucklew left active duty in 1946 to coach football at his *alma mater*, Xavier University. A year later, in 1947, he returned to active duty as NROTC instructor and football coach at Columbia University, in New York City. While at Columbia, Bucklew also found time in his busy schedule to earn his Ph.D.

In 1951, Bucklew became the first commanding officer of Beach Jumper Unit II.

Bucklew remained as C.O. of Beach Jumper Unit II until 1956, when he was reassigned to Commander, Naval Forces Far East, in Yokosuka, Japan, as Officer-in-Charge of Korean Special Operations. He remained at this post until 1958, when he was ordered to Coronado, Calif., to take over the reins as commanding officer of the Amphibious Intelligence School.

Following his duties at the intelligence school, Bucklew served as Intelligence Officer for Amphibious Group I, also located at Coronado, and then in 1963 he broke new ground by becoming the first commanding officer of the Naval Operations Support Group in Coronado. This group was consolidated under one headquarters and included Underwater Demolition Teams 11 and 12, Beach Jumper Unit One, SEAL Team One and Boat Support Unit One.

It was during this tour, in 1964, that Bucklew led a study team tasked with investigating communist infiltration and guerilla activities in South Vietnam. The information for the study was gathered first-hand as the team travelled throughout the Republic of South Vietnam, especially in the Mekong Delta region.

With all the information in, Bucklew compiled what came to be known as the *Bucklew Report*, an important narrative that laid the groundwork for early U.S. action in assisting the Republic of Vietnam.

Bucklew's last assignment began in 1966 when he went to work at the Pen-



Phil H. Bucklew

tagon in the Special Warfare and Special Operations Division. His active military duties ended there in 1969 upon his retirement. And, until a recent illness limited his activities, he worked in the civilian community as a consultant on small-craft design and sales in Washington, D.C.

During his distinguished military career, Bucklew has been awarded several of the highest military awards. These include the Navy Cross with a gold star in lieu of a second award, the Legion of Merit, Silver Star and Joint Service Medal, the Croix De Guerre with Palm (France), the Ulchi Medal (Korea), commendations from the Republic of China and Great Britain, and the Navy League Meritorious Citation, which is the highest Navy League award that can be made to uniformed men or women of the Department of Defense.

At the dedication in San Diego, retired Capt. Del Giudice, who commanded the first SEAL team at Coronado in 1962 and is now a defense consultant in Washington, D.C., said, "SEALs perform well under duress, but Bucklew was a cut above that. He was not a 'shouter' or 'screamer' like some of the officers I've known." And in a statement that may well summarize Bucklew as a man and officer, Giudice added that Capt. Bucklew "was calm in the field or here at the center and one of the truly great leaders." □

— Story by JO2 David Masci, NIRA Det 5, and JO2 Michael McKinley. Photos by JO2 Masci.

# BUDS

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## Confidence + Teamwork = Survival

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Side-by-side, their arms linked, the snake-like row of men in green fatigues stood waist-deep in the murky water under the clear, midday sky. There was no emotion on any of the 24 faces — their chafed and battered bodies hurt too badly for that.

After four hours' sleep in five days, all the concentration they could muster was riveted on the man standing on the sea wall above them. Despite the fatigue, despite the pain, they stood poised to perform at his command.

The only sound was the lapping of wavelets against the wall. Suddenly, the man shouted: "Sing 'Gilligan's Island!'"

In perfect unison, but slightly flat, the men sang: "Now sit right down and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a fateful trip. . . ." They droned on to a close: ". . . heeere on Gilligan's Iiiiiisle." Then silence fell again.

Finally, the man spoke again: "BUDS Class 147, secure from Hell Week!"

The men were stunned. They had done it. Slowly the grim-faced trainees let the emotion well up from their water-logged feet to their hollow eyes. Some cheered, some laughed, some cried. Those who couldn't climb out of the water were lifted out by jubilant classmates.

Hell Week is the highlight of Phase One, the physical conditioning phase of Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training. During the five-day whirlwind of non-stop action, the students are

pushed beyond what they thought their limits were.

"During the first three weeks, we're conditioning them for Hell Week. That's the toughest week at BUDS," said one instructor, Lt. Steve Simet of Pierre, S.D. "We test their mental skills and physical conditioning, and we observe the student to see how much he can take."

From the mud flats of south San Diego Bay to the demolition pits at Camp Elliott to the punishing obstacle course within sight of the posh Hotel del

Coronado, the would-be SEALs learn the value of cool-headedness, perseverance, and, above all, teamwork.

"There were times when I didn't even want to move anymore, but the other guys had the spark," said BUDS student SMSN James T. Ruppenthal of Concord, Calif. "We held each other together. If somebody was losing his wind in the boat, someone else would take care of him and the other four would bring up the stroke."

Class 147 was only the third BUDS class to earn the "no bell" prize, so named because any student can ring a brass bell three times if he wants to quit. "The class has to be really tight, with good leaders and good students, to win the 'no bell,'" said Simet. "In this class we had strong officers who the men looked up to a lot. That helped them pull through Hell Week without anybody quitting."

Officers and enlisted men go through the same training, Simet said, except the officers get more respect. "By this I mean we say, 'Yes, sir. No, sir. Sir, do this. Sir, do that. Sir, get wet. Sir, get down in the mud,'" he chuckled.

Simet said that when there is a question of leadership, the instructors actually come down harder on the officer



**During BUDS training, would-be SEALs learn the value of teamwork and how to think under pressure.**

# BUDS

students. "If you're in an emergency situation in a SEAL team, you want a guy who can react on a moment's notice with the right decision," he emphasized.

To an outsider, BUDS training in general and Hell Week in particular look like cruel punishment, but Simet said the students' mental and physical stress level is carefully calculated.

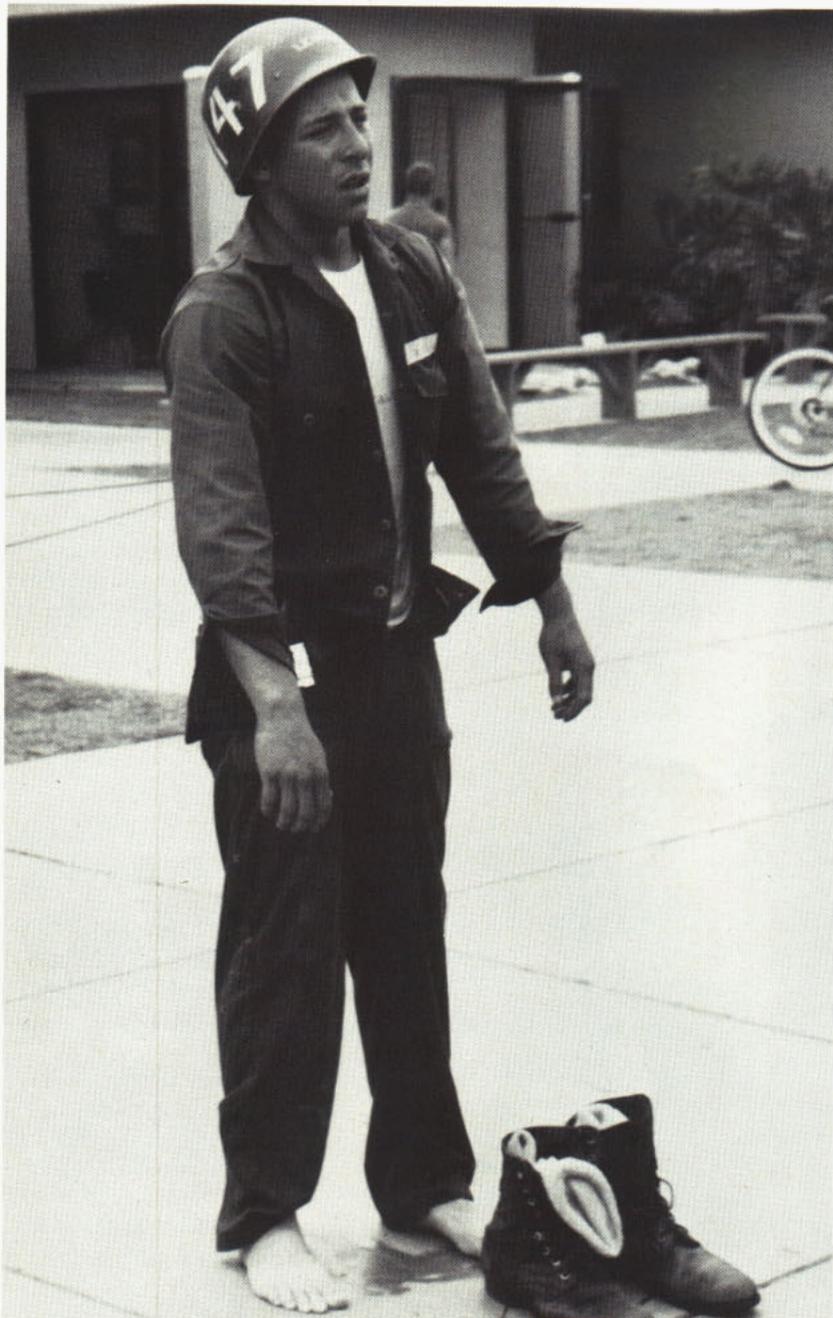
Ruppenthal described one confusing drill he went through. "We thought they

were playing head games with us," he said, describing some very strange exercises. "They kept blowing the whistle, we kept falling down every 30 yards, covering our ears, opening our mouths and crossing our legs." The class later learned that this position will help protect them from a nearby explosion.

"They're always wondering what we're going to do next," Simet said. "That's good. It keeps them so sharp

that we just snap our fingers and they're doing what they should."

Because he was taught how to react in all situations he could encounter as a SEAL, Ruppenthal said he trusts the instructors not to hurt him. "Crawling under the barbed wire in the demo pit with simulated charges going off and smoke everywhere, I thought how I could actually be doing this in some combat situation," he said. "You can't



get up, you can't scream. You have to think of what you need to do to get out of that situation."

Thinking under pressure is a must for BUDS students, according to HMC Calvin A. "Andy" Dalton, the senior corpsman in Phase Two training. "They don't necessarily have to tolerate a terrible amount of pain, but they have to be able to think through a problem, whether they're under stress or not," he said.

Dalton said all Hell Week students are checked daily by a corpsman. "Their systems are pretty well stressed, so they're susceptible to infections," he said.

The biggest danger to BUDS students is stress fractures, according to Dalton. "The corpsmen are always after them to come in right away if they feel anything, because if it's caught early it can be handled," he said. "A lot of these

kids wait, because they don't want to start over again. They'll try to run on an injury and it'll get worse."

That kind of attitude will not get a student through BUDS, Ruppenthal said. "The instructors tell us, 'Rambo types don't make it,' " he said.

According to Simet, the ideal BUDS student is between 5-foot-8 and 6-foot-1, weighing from 150-190 pounds. "He's got a medium build, and he's somebody who can just go and go and go," he said.

"The biggest difficulty is the mental aspect of BUDS — getting up the confidence to know you can make it through," Simet said. "If we see a guy whose confidence is wavering, we can pick it out right away. I think we ought to be psychologists sometimes."

The Phase One instructors use "confidence builders" like 25-yard underwater swims. "Once they do that, their confidence starts building. If we can get them to do a 50-yard swim, and in most cases we can, their confidence is way up again," Simet said.

Ruppenthal said the 50-yard underwater swim was his low point in BUDS. "I kept quitting," he said. "I couldn't handle an evolution that I now feel isn't all that difficult." Ruppenthal was rolled back to the next class, where he had to face the same test.

"The instructors told me, 'Everybody else here has done it. We've done it. There's no reason why you can't do it.' My high point was passing the swim the first time I tried with my next class," he said.

"I'm getting it into my head that the limitations I used to carry were needless," Ruppenthal said.

"Anybody can make it through here if they want to do it." □

— Story and photos by JO2 David Masci, NIRA Det 5



"Anybody can make it through here if they want to do it."

# SEAL team



*The Navy SEAL — rough and tough, ready for any mission, anytime, anywhere. Armed with only cunning and a knife, he can single-handedly overcome all odds!*

It's an exciting "Rambo" portrait, but not exactly accurate.

In fact, in the current drive to increase the number of personnel in Sea-Air-Land Teams, if you're a Rambo, the SEALs aren't looking for you.

"We're looking for someone who is mature, well-motivated and anxious to do a professional job," said Capt. Michael Jukoski, Director of the Naval Special Warfare Division, in Washington, D.C.

He emphasized that the Rambo image, the lone warrior taking on all comers, is not a realistic one for SEALs. "In fact," he said, "Rambo wouldn't be able to complete SEAL training.

"We're looking for a *team* member — you have to be a member of a fairly small group, people who are highly dependent on one another to accomplish the job. We have no need for a person who isn't mindful of being a part of that team," Jukoski said.

"Can you think how scary it would be during a parachute drop in the middle of the night and 'Rambo' wants to take off on his own? There's just no place for that," he pointed out, "because, number one, he would compromise the success

of the mission — everyone is interdependent on one another — and number two, he would imperil the rest of the members."

Teamwork is the key to SEAL training and operations. "Our people are taught to function as a group," Jukoski said, "and the greatest rewards come from accomplishing success as a group."

The standards that prospective SEALs must meet are high, and the drive to recruit more SEALs hasn't changed that.

"We will not sacrifice quality for quantity," said Jukoski. "We've had a tough time making our personnel goals because of that. However, we have maintained very high standards and in the long run, that pays off."

He said attitude is an essential part of the successful SEAL. "Mental attitude is one of the real determinants. . . . We have a group of well-motivated people who are willing to give the extra 10 percent to get the job done," Jukoski explained. "You have to have a person with the mind-set toward *always* making that effort — he's not satisfied with just getting the job done, but doing the best possible job *consistently*."

The present recruiting drive is part of an effort which began in 1982. After U.S. forces encountered difficulties in the attempted rescue of hostages in Iran, the Reagan administration wanted to revitalize the special operations forces in

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*"Can you think how scary it would be during a parachute drop in the middle of the night and 'Rambo' wants to take off on his own? There's just no place for that."*

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# program expands

all the armed services. For the naval special warfare force, this meant doubling the number of personnel in the program between 1982 and 1990, with a goal of more than 2,000 enlisted men and officers. Jukoski said SEALs are eventually expecting a 60 percent growth from present levels.

The majority of new SEALs are being drawn from the civilian community. "Our present emphasis is on recruiting through the Divefarer program," Jukoski said, "which guarantees you a shot at Basic Underwater Demolition and SEAL training if you meet the basic

requirements." Active duty personnel can also apply for SEALs. "There are lots of good people in the fleet. In many cases, they are more mature, have a more informed opinion about what they want to do in life."

One of the attractions of the SEAL community is the close-knit, almost family atmosphere. Some SEALs express concern that the increased numbers in their community will change that.

"We have been very small," Jukoski said. "I can remember when I knew every officer in the community by name.

Now we're going through a period of transition from a small family to a larger one. . . . We will still be small enough that we are not going to lose our identity as team members. We'll still have the same name."

*The Navy SEAL — rough and tough; ready for any mission, anytime, anywhere. Armed with cunning and a knife, ready to overcome all odds . . . not as a lone "Rambo," but as part of a highly organized team. □*

— Story by JOC Robin Barnette

## Recruiting sailors for SEALs

There are a number of basic qualifications for sailors applying for the SEAL program. These qualifications can be waived in certain circumstances, except the physical fitness requirements. The specific qualifications are:

• **Pass a physical fitness test** — The test includes swimming, push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups and running. Revised fitness test standards are planned in the near future.

You are required to give maximum effort in each area. For instance, run as fast as you can, do as many push-ups as possible in two minutes, etc. Meeting the minimum requirements will make you eligible for the program, but your scores will be compared with those of others. Only the most competitive will be accepted.

• **Pass a diving physical examination** — This exam is more stringent than regular physical examinations.

• **Meet vision standards** — Your vision must be correctable to 20/20, within certain limitations. Colorblindness is disqualifying.

• **Have a good overall performance record** — Evaluations of 3.6 or higher are required.

• **Have your 1306/7 endorsed by your commanding officer**

• **Have minimum ASVAB scores** — You need a minimum combined score of 104 on the ASVAB test in arithmetic reasoning and verbal expression.

• **Be psychologically and emotionally stable** — Any history of psychiatric problems is disqualifying.

• **Have source ratings** — You must be a member of a source rating for SEALs (examples include specialties in engines and machinery, electrical and electronics work, supply and medical care.) Or, you must convert to a source rating within one year of graduation from the SEAL program.

• **Have minimum obligated service** — At the class convening date, you must have obligated service for 36 months, or extend/reenlist to 36 months.

• **Be under maximum age** — The age cutoff for the program is 28 years.

• **Men only apply** — Because of laws prohibiting women from combat assignments, only men are eligible.

To apply for the SEAL program you must submit a package to Commander, Naval Military Personnel Command (NMPC N-401D), Washington, D.C., 20370-5000. The package must be forwarded by your commanding officer with an endorsement, and include an enlisted personnel action request (1306/7)

from you requesting to enter the SEAL program. It must also contain your PT scores, diving physical and certified ASVAB scores. Keep in mind, your application is processed at NMPC and the determination to accept you into the program is made there. A negative endorsement by your CO is not an automatic disqualifier.

For further details, consult MilPers Manual 1410380 and the Manual of Medicine, chapter 15-36. Most issues of *Link* magazine also contain further information about SEAL, explosive ordnance disposal and fleet diver programs.

Personnel known as "SEAL/EOD/Diver Motivators," are available at each of the three Recruit Training Commands, Orlando, Great Lakes and San Diego, to provide information and assist with screenings. Their commercial telephone numbers are: RTC Orlando, (305) 646-4725; RTC Great Lakes, (312) 688-4643; RTC San Diego (619) 225-3520.

Also, if you meet the criteria, you can use the Selective Training and Reenlistment program to get into Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training. Your career counselor or command master chief can help you get more information or you can call the SEAL detailee, Autovon 224-1091, commercial (202) 694-1091. □



## Divefarer tailored for new recruits

*If you are young, fit and willing to spend six years in one of the most challenging jobs in the world, the Navy Divefarer program may be for you.*

The Divefarer program brings people directly into the Navy's programs for SEAL combatant swimmers, Explosive Ordnance Disposal and second class divers.

In return for a six-year enlistment, Divefarer offers you guaranteed assignment to one of these three diving programs. This also includes entry into an appropriate class "A" school or apprentice training.

You must volunteer for diving duty, which requires a more stringent physical screening than other ratings. The initial physical exam for entry into the Navy will be rechecked for diving qualifications. Also, a physical fitness test is administered during recruit training and at the selected dive school.

Specific requirements you must meet to qualify for Divefarer are:

• **Age** — The maximum age for applicants is 27.

• **Test scores** — In addition to the ASVAB scores required for your rating, you must meet minimum scores in arithmetic reasoning, word knowledge/verbal expression and mechanical comprehension. See box below.

• **Medical** — You must meet the medical standards outlined in the Manual of the Medical Department, U.S. Navy, article 15-36.

• **Physical fitness** — Same standards as in-

### Diving

AR + WK/VE = 104

MC = 50 (Second Class Divers)

### SEAL

AR + WK/VE = 104

### EOD

AR + WK/VE = 110

service recruitment. See page 39.

• **Drug usage** — Because of the hazards inherent to these programs, use of controlled or illegal substances can result in disapproval of an application. Drug waivers will be considered on a case-by-case basis for applicants who have experimented with drugs.

• **Character** — Those applying for SEAL and EOD programs must be judged trustworthy enough to have access to classified information. You must meet reliability standards for the Personnel Reliability Program, according to Bureau of Personnel Instruction 5510.11 paragraph 7.

• **Prior service** — If you have prior service, you can apply for Divefarer, depending on your reenlistment code.

• **Service schools** — You will be assigned to a class "A" school appropriate to diver, SEAL and EOD programs. Only certain Navy ratings are used in these fields. Called "source ratings," these include specialties in engines and machinery, electrical and electronics work, gunnery, supply and medical care.

• **Training cycle** — Divefarer personnel begin with recruit training in Orlando, Fla., continue with class "A" school, and then take part in appropriate diver training. Duty assignment is made in accordance with the needs of the Navy.

• **Term of enlistment** — You must enlist for four years and concurrently sign an agreement to extend for two more years, for a six-year total commitment. You will also be required to sign a form acknowledging that you understand the exceptional physical and medical requirements of the program.

• **Advancement opportunities** — Applicants accepted into Divefarer are usually enlisted in paygrade E-1, with accelerated advancement to E-2 when recruit training is completed successfully. In some cases, individuals are enlisted in paygrades E-2 or E-3. Advancement to paygrade E-4 is authorized after completion of class "A" school and diving training.

For further details, talk to your Navy recruiter. □

# Navy takes part in Constitution celebration

Story by Cmdr. Al Rossi

During the long, hot summer of 1787 our founding fathers worked together to write the Constitution of the United States. On Sept. 17, our nation first celebrated the signing of that Constitution. But it wasn't until Dec. 7, 1787, when Delaware became the first state to accept the new constitution, that the ratification process began. Critics, such as Patrick Henry, had been objecting because a bill of rights was not included. Only after the Congress had agreed to add the Bill of Rights was the new Constitution ratified.

The Constitution formed the basis for our national government and defined our rights and our liberties.

In celebration of these liberties, people across the country took part in bicentennial festivities. Navy people were no exception. In Boston, the home of USS *Constitution*, a warship almost as old as the document it's named after, the Navy participated in a special celebration.

"I may be old-fashioned," retired Rear Adm. Grace Hopper said to the celebrating crowd, "but I think we're celebrating two things tonight, the U.S. Constitution and the USS *Constitution*. The document gave us our rights and privileges, and the ship — the U.S. Navy — taught us that with privileges comes responsibility. That's why the two belong together."

"Old Ironsides," yesteryear's symbol



Photo by Ernie Myett

# Constitution celebration



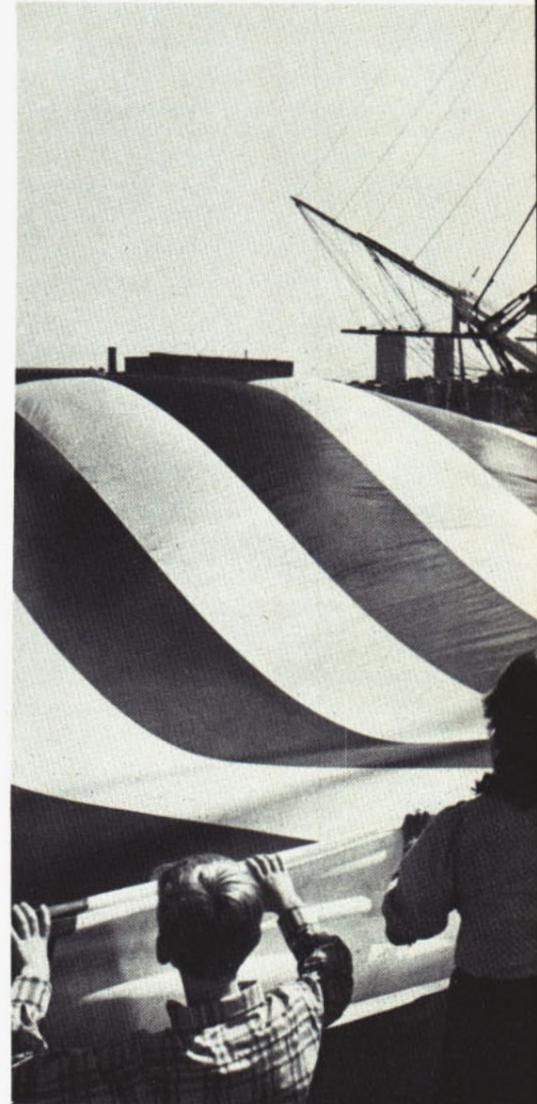
Photo by Lt. Emmett Francois

A USS *Constitution* crew member (above) gives a tour to Rear Adm. Ming Chang, Navy inspector general, who spoke at a naturalization ceremony in which 12 Navy personnel took part. Boston school children (right) join with *Constitution* sailors to unfurl a giant flag. Cmdr. David Cashman, (lower right) commanding officer of *Constitution* congratulates PN3 Georgina Penfold on her new citizenship following the naturalization ceremony.

of America's seapower, played a significant role in Boston's Constitution Bicentennial Week. The city that has long been a Navy town also hosted six ships representing today's seapower. They were the USS *Hercules* (PHM 2), USS *Saipan* (LHA 2), USS *Conyngham* (DDG 17) and USS *John Hancock* (DD 981). In addition, a Canadian ship, HMCS *Assiniboine* (DDH 234), and a French ship, FN *Commandante Birot* (F 797) joined in the celebrations. The ships brought more than 2,000 sailors to Boston.

Early in Bicentennial Week, near "Old Ironsides," 1,200 youngsters joined with sailors from *Constitution* to unfurl a huge version of Old Glory. A color guard performed its routine for the crowd and the ship's commanding officer presented awards to students who had won an essay writing contest.

A special event took place on *Constitution's* pier, as about 100 men and women, including 12 active duty Navy members, took the Oath of Citizenship. The Navy personnel were from countries such as England, Canada and the Philippines. Non-U.S. citizens are eligible to enlist in the U.S. military provided they



hold a "green card" from the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

"The same as you, I also came from another land and culture," said Rear Adm. Ming Chang, the Navy's inspector general, in an address to the new citizens. "The same as you, I chose America and her way of life as my own. America, the land of the free and of opportunities." Chang was born in Shanghai, China, and became a naturalized citizen in 1952.

"I could open all the doors to my future," he said, "no matter how heavy the door and no matter how difficult the hinges, because none of those doors was locked. It only took personal resolve, lots



of hard work and the conviction that the only thing that ultimately could stop me was myself.”

Also at the ceremony was Lt.j.g., Yuri Tabach, born in the Soviet Union, who became a U.S. citizen in 1962. He extolled his adopted land and urged his listeners to always support it. “I was not born a free man,” he said, “but I will die a free man.”

In another Bicentennial Week activity, *Constitution* and Boston joined in a Navy-wide program, “Bells Across America.” Crew members sounded the ship’s bell at 4 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time along with Navy ships worldwide. The bells were rung in remembrance of the 39 men who hammered out the document and signed it 200 years earlier at that same hour.

At last it was “Old Ironsides’ ” turn to get underway. Taking her into Boston harbor, *Constitution’s* crew fired a 21-gun salute to honor the two-centuries-old document. Later that night, the ship headed for the harbor again, this time to serve as a viewing platform for a massive, city-sponsored fireworks display and to fire a broadside of her own.

Unfortunately, all did not go as planned. A heavy rainstorm whipped by strong winds kept “Old Ironsides” from going as far downstream as scheduled. Also, the winds blew smoke from the fireworks across her decks, obscuring her from the crowds gathered onshore for the event. But in spite of inclement weather, the enthusiasm of all participants seemed undampened.

Planners of Boston’s Bicentennial Week, including the men and women of the USS *Constitution* Museum, the Boston Bicentennial Commission and the U.S. Navy, attended the “Constitution Ball” and watched *Constitution* battle the elements from a skyscraper overlooking the harbor. □

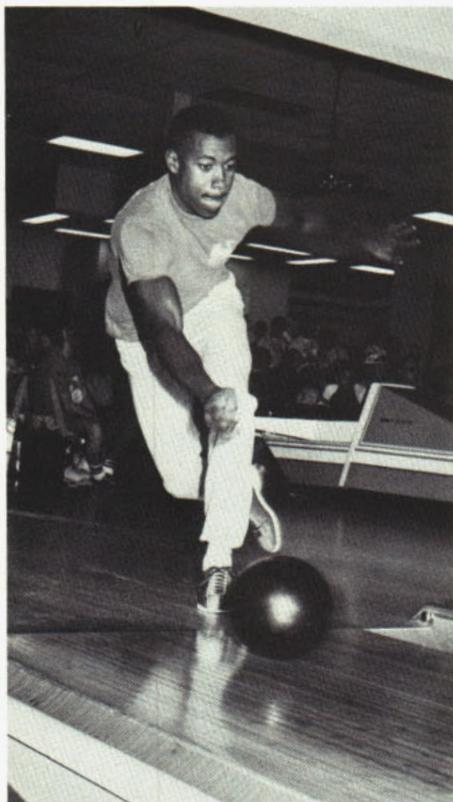
Photo by JOCM T. R. Nugent



Photo by Lt. Emmett Francois

— Rossi is a reservist with the Naval Reserve NavInfo 101, Boston.

# Bearings



## Military athletes combine fun, fitness

Strength, courage and endurance were only some of the traits displayed by military men and women who converged on the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, for the first Chief of Naval Air Training Olympiad Games.

Participants agreed that sponsor Rear Adm. David R. Morris' idea for an Olympiad was a fun way to engage in Navy physical fitness while promoting camaraderie.

Novice and seasoned athletes from the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard competed against each other in a variety of sporting events.

Active duty and reserve military units assigned to naval training commands throughout California, Texas, Mississippi and Florida were eligible to enter personnel. Participating units along with tenant commands of NAS Corpus Christi, totaled 26 ten-person teams.

Featured team events included a 10K

relay race; tug-of-war; rubber raft race; swimming race and bowling. Bench pressing, freestyle swimming, 100-yard dash, longest golf ball drive and the 5K run were the individual contests.

"Cooperation between participating organizations and individuals was incredible," said Lt. Cmdr. Bill Stewart, an Olympiad judge. "The positive attitudes and enthusiasm made the event a complete success."

Well-planned social activities such as an all-hands dance at the NAS O'Club, a fajita cookout at the USO and a barbecue picnic at the NAS campgrounds gave participants a chance to relax while making new acquaintances.

When the dust settled and the scores from all the events were totalled, Training Air Wing Two, NAS Kingsville, Texas, was declared the winner. ■

— Story by JOC Bill W. Love, Public Affairs Office, Chief of Naval Air Training.

## 'Big E' sailors eat right

Unlike the average land-dwelling serviceman, a sailor aboard USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65) doesn't enjoy the luxury of driving to the nearest hamburger stand or grocery store to get something to eat. His meal is more or less limited to what's on the menu.

When *Enterprise* is miles away from the nearest supply ship or land base, it's not always able to get the freshest foods possible.

So, can a sailor aboard the "Big E" be assured he's getting a well-balanced meal?

Yes, he can, according to Chief Mess Specialist Rodolfo Tiamzon, of *Enterprise's* Food Service Division.

"Each meal that we serve is prepared from an Armed Forces recipe that has been researched by professionals in the food service industry to contain a balance of food products from the basic food

groups," Tiamzon explained.

"Using those guidelines, we set up menus that are rotated on a 30-day cycle. This provides the necessary nutrients, a variety of textures and color contrasts, and, of course, it tastes good.

"I think a crewman can rest assured the nutrition is there," said Chief Warrant Officer Paul Saine, a physician's assistant aboard *Enterprise*. "The problem is that the calories in a meal can vary drastically according to how much fresh food we have on board and how much canned goods are needed to make up the meal."

Diets on some Navy mess decks are notoriously high in calories, not only because of the way they are prepared but also because of quantities served, Saine said. "The problem is when we're going down the line to get some chow, we're getting more than one serving. We have

to realize our limits and not go back for seconds or thirds."

In *Enterprise's* kitchens, steps have been taken to cut down on calories. More selections of chicken and fish, which are lower in calories, are offered. Also, the Big E offers salad bars on the mess decks that are stocked with a variety of lighter foods.

According to Tiamzon, the crew is a captive audience when a ship is out to sea. "That is why we provide a variety of food items that are well-prepared and pleasing in aroma and sight."

So just how much food do 5,000 crewmen eat? According to Tiamzon, during an average lunch meal, *Enterprise* serves some 2,000 beef patties, 160 pounds of cheese, 248 pounds of rice and 2,800 desserts. Chow down! ■

— Story by JO3 Steve T. Moos, USS *Enterprise*

## Calling home

Service members stationed around the world who have access to amateur radio facilities may have their radio messages relayed to their homes, in any part of the continental United States, toll-free by telephone during holidays and personal emergencies.

The service is provided by U.S. Service Personnel Radio International Network Traffic, a volunteer group of amateur radio operators with headquarters in New Orleans, and 20 or more operators at various locations throughout the United States. The long-distance phone

expenses are picked up by the U.S. SPRINT telephone company.

Principal areas where the service is currently available include ships at sea, Central and South America, Cuba, Antarctica and Hawaii. In general, the service is available worldwide where third party amateur radio traffic is permitted — that is, a transmitting station, a receiving station and a patch to a telephone system. There is no third-party agreement with European countries, however.

To use the service, locate an amateur radio operator on your ship or base.

That operator should know if the service is available in your area and how to use it. The primary frequency is 14.313 megahertz, and the secondary frequency is 14.280, both on the 20-meter band.

“The service is available 24 hours a day for service members,” said Tony Paladino, founder of the program, “but our operators gear themselves up for especially heavy traffic on holidays, such as Mother’s Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.” ■

— Story by Hal Haskins, *American Forces Information Service*

## Toy trucks save Navy money

Members of the Navy’s technological community are learning that playing with toys can lead to better understanding of complicated concepts thanks to one scientist’s innovative teaching techniques.

Dr. Carter Ward, a senior mechanical engineer for the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory, Port Hueneme, Calif., relies on a fleet of toy tractors and trucks to explain his computer-aided Construction Planning and Control System. The system mathematically plots the moving and shaping of tons of earth during major Navy construction projects.

ConPaCS takes most of the guesswork out of planning a schedule and selecting equipment for a specific construction site. To prove his point visually, Ward pushes his scale models of bulldozers, front end loaders, dump trucks, and similar equipment into different positions to perform various functions. The toys demonstrate activities that the computer already has programmed.

“It’s amazing how people of different professional and engineering backgrounds quickly understand my program as I push and roll the models through a

series of planned operations and positions,” Ward said. “Most logistical questions are answered and technical problems explained.”

A typical Navy earth-moving job requires 20 pieces of equipment to move, push, haul, shape and remove thousands of tons of materials over a 10-acre site within 25 days. Relying on ConPaCS, construction time can be reduced by a full week. With each piece of equipment

costing an average of \$50 per hour, savings would be about \$50,000.

With a teacher’s appreciation for visual aids, Ward said he will continue the show-and-tell demonstrations until the system becomes fully operational in 1990. ■

— Story by Jerome A. Thomas, *Public Affairs Office, Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory, Port Hueneme, Calif.*



**Dr. Carter Ward uses toys to show the practical applications of his construction planning system.**

# The Log Book

*"What's past is prologue." To help keep us mindful of our past, to help keep the present in perspective, and to give some insight into the future, All Hands presents a short review of articles that appeared in previous issues.*

## 10 YEARS AGO

in the December 1977 *All Hands*

- A Navy navigation satellite was launched from the Western Test Range in California on a four-stage *Scout* rocket. The spacecraft brought to six the number of TRANSAT satellites in the Navy's navigation satellite constellation. In addition to navigational equipment, this satellite also contained two specially instrumented transponders, or radio-relays, which would be used to test a *Trident* missile tracking system and calibrate range safety ground stations and equipment. The satellite constellation navigation system is used by Navy ships and submarines to pinpoint their positions to better than one-tenth of a mile in any weather, day or night, anywhere in the world.

- The destroyer USS *Richard S. Edwards* (DD 950) arrived at the South Pacific island of Puka Puka with relief



provisions for a Smithsonian Institution expedition that was in danger of running out of supplies. Responding to a request for assistance from the Smithsonian, *Edwards* delivered food, camera equipment, vitamins and other supplies. The expedition, made up of a man and his wife, were on Puka Puka filming one of

the last traditional cultures left in the world. The provisions were picked up by *Edwards* at Pago Pago, 394 miles from Puka Puka. *Edwards* proceeded to an anchorage outside the reef at Puka Puka and transferred the supplies to a small boat from the island which ferried them ashore. □

## 20 YEARS AGO

in the December 1967 *All Hands*

- During the previous fiscal year, there had been an astounding 619,179 enroll-

ments in various types of formal Navy schooling. Enlisted men accounted for 542,651 of these enrollments, with officers accounting for 76,528. It was estimated that more than 90 per cent of all naval personnel ashore and afloat were in-

involved in the previous year in some form of self-study courses. In the sea service, on-the-job training approaches 100 per cent participation — an essential requirement for specialized personnel in the electronic, supersonic and nuclear Navy. □

## 40 YEARS AGO

in the December 1947 *All Hands*

- Last in a class of the Navy's three largest ships in point of sheer bulk, USS *Coral Sea* (CVB 43) joined American sea forces five and one-half years after the battle for which it was named. The new CVB, along with sister ships *Midway* (CVB 41) and *Franklin D. Roosevelt*

(CVB 42), was too large to pass through the Panama Canal. It was launched in October and was completely outfitted by January 1948.

- In a move to put more power into its first-line planes, the Navy installed new 3,500 horsepower Pratt and Whitney Wasp Major engines in the 92-ton *Constitution* aircraft which was capable of carrying 168 people. The new engines, which delivered an additional 2,000

horsepower, reduced the size of the take-off run by about 12 percent.

- Speedier rescues of pilots and salvage of larger planes would be possible with a new mobile crash crane being tested on board USS *Franklin D. Roosevelt* (CVB 42). With a lifting power of nearly 24,000 pounds, the mobile apparatus can move at a rate of 10 m.p.h. Compared to older models, the new crane could lift 10,000 pounds more. □

# Frigate (FF)

## Koni Class

*Today's Soviet navy presents a growing challenge to the United States and its allies. All Hands is presenting a series of articles describing the ships of the Soviet fleet, to provide the U.S. Navy community with a better understanding of Soviet naval developments and fleet battle capabilities.*

**Displacement:**

1,900 tons full load;

**Length:**

95 meters (315 feet);

**Propulsion:**

Gas turbines/diesel, 27 knots;

**Main armament:**

One twin SA-N-4 SAM launcher;

Two twin 76mm DP guns;

Two twin 30mm guns.

Aside from the first unit, the *Koni*-class is built for export. Fifteen units have been delivered to East Germany, Poland, Yugoslavia, Cuba and Algeria, each country receiving three *Konis*. Its armament, which also includes ASW rockets and depth charge rails and sensors, is very basic. □



# Mail Buoy

## Neptune launch date in doubt

I just finished reading the December 1986 *All Hands* and I must call your attention to the Trivia Quiz on pages 32 and 33. Your question 50, concerning the launch of a PV2-3C Neptune from USS *Coral Sea* (CVB 43), gave the incorrect date as 1945.

As a plankowner and an eye witness from the flight deck, I feel compelled to inform you that the date was either late 1947 or early 1948. We did not commission the "Ageless Warrior" until October 1947.

—Bill Thayer  
Dorchester, Mass.

◆ *Correct you are on the year of the Neptune launch off Coral Sea if you are referring to the P2V-2 type. According to United States Naval Aviation 1910-1970, NAVAIR 00-80P-1, 1970, on April 27, 1948, two P2V-2 Neptunes, piloted by Cmdr. T.D. Davies and Lt. Cmdr. J.P. Wheatley, made takeoffs from the USS Coral Sea off Norfolk.—Ed.*

## Dog days

Thank you for your article *Opportunities in the MA rating* that appeared in the February 1987 edition of *All Hands*. There were, however, a few errors that need to be corrected. They involve the Military Working Dog Program.

The corrections involving the dog handler schools at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, are as follows: Patrol/Drug Detector Handler - 23 days; Patrol/Explosive Detector Handler - 44 days; Patrol Dog Handler - 33 days; Kennel Master - 20 days. The corrections for the NECs are as follows: 9541 - Patrol Dog; 9543 - Patrol Explosive; 9542 - Patrol/Drug. Again, thank you for your coverage and keep up the good work.

—Gary M. Comerford  
Washington, D.C.

## More on advancement

I enjoyed your fine article in the February 1987 issue on the enlisted advancement system. However, one item in the article titled *Regular or Early - Which Candidate Are You?* is misleading.

The section should have indicated that the candidate must meet the Total Active Federal Military Service (TAFMS) requirement by the end of the fiscal year in which the terminal eligibility date (TED) is computed. The number of months remaining in the fiscal year following the TED are automatically added

to the candidate's computed TAFMS in making the determination.

For example, a candidate for advancement to PO1 who participates in a September examination with accrued TAFMS of 06 years and 04 months computed to the TED of 1 January (and as indicated on the exam worksheet), will have the remaining months of the fiscal year (January through September) automatically considered as part of the TAFMS, giving the member a TAFMS of 07 years and 01 months, making the member a regular candidate instead of an early candidate. A chart listing these automatically added months appears in the Advancement Manual, BUPERSINST 1430.16C. I have copied it below: Exam for Nomination For Paygrade TED Months Added to TAFMS January E-7 1 January 9 Months March E-4/5/6 1 July 3 Months September E-4/5/6 1 January 9 Months November E-8/9 1 October 1 Year.

Again, thanks for a very interesting and informative article.

—R.M. Day NTC  
Orlando, Fla.

## Dress standards for travelers

Having just read "Europe on ten bucks" from your March 1987 issue, I want to applaud your writer, JO1 E. Foster-Simeon, on a job well done! The piece was clear, to the point, and offered several practical tips on making the most of "Space A" travel. I hope all new travelers have a chance to read this article before planning their first trip.

Although the "Your questions answered" section on page 37 offers the correct information, I would like to clear up the common misconception given on page 34 concerning "... the MAC requirement that they be in uniform to fly Space A." We can't take credit for that requirement. Each of the Services has set its own dress standards for travel, including space available, and it is those standards, not a MAC rule, which require all of us to be in uniform while traveling on DoD-owned or controlled aircraft.

Again, our compliments on an article that shows MAC Space A as it really is — an economical way to see the world during valuable leave time.

—Col. Earl B. Boyanton, Jr. USAF  
Scott AFB, Illinois

## Correct to a point

Upon returning to my NJROTC Unit here at Iroquois H.S., among the mail awaiting me

from summer break were the June/July issues of *All Hands*. The June edition had a response to a letter in the Mail Buoy section concerning the first involvement of the Navy in midair refueling. You used the United States Naval Aviation 1910-1970 (NavAir 00-80P-1) as your source for the answer.

Your answer is correct up to a point. I believe what VMA 212 and VMA 214 accomplished was the first Trans-Pacific flight of Naval aircraft on Oct. 8, 1958. However, the Navy was involved in midair refueling long before that. I do not know when the first time occurred, but I was involved with midair refueling in the spring of 1956.

My air group, ATG 202, had as a mission, Special Weapons. My squadron, VA 46 (F9F-8) and VF 102 (F2H-3) were required to be qualified in midair refueling as part of our mission readiness. VAH 11 (AJ-1) was the refueling squadron. All our pilots qualified daytime only. Night refueling was somewhere down the line. We then deployed in USS *Randolph* (CV 15) to the Med. To my account, this is some 30 months prior to the Marine TransPac.

—R.P. Youngjohns  
LCDR. USN (Ret.)  
Louisville, Ky.

# Reunions

◆ **VS squadrons from World War II** — Reunion planned. Contact Bob Croman, 5014 Elberta Ave., Canton, Ohio 44709; telephone (216) 494-0673.

◆ **USS Seattle (AOE 3) 1982-1985, S-3 Division** — Possible reunion. Contact Bradford R. Scott, 1452 Marlboro Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15221.

◆ **Auburn University NROTC Unit** — Reunion planned. Contact Commanding Officer, NROTC Unit, William E. Nichols Center, Auburn University, Auburn, Ala. 36849-5512.

◆ **USS Iowa (BB 61)** — Reunion planned. Contact Henry A. Schwartz, 921 South High School Rd., Indianapolis, Ind. 46241.

◆ **Patrol Craft Sailors Association** — Reunion March 17-21, 1988, Jacksonville, Fla. Contact J. Ollie Durham, 3921 May Breeze Rd., Marietta, Ga. 30066; telephone (404) 926-7430.

◆ **USS Cowell (DD 547)** — Reunion May 1988, Las Vegas. Contact Jacob Jacobs, 1633 South 48th St., Lincoln, Neb. 68506.



Under a darkening sky, AB3 Reynaldo Olavarria signals to a CH-46 helicopter from Marine Helicopter Squadron 166, embarked aboard USS *Tripoli* (LPH 10). Photo by JO2 (SW) Greg Lewis.



**Tools of the SEALs' trade**