

Marine Maintenance Acty, Logsa, Aug 66-67, Cam Ranh Bay

SP5 V.M. STEWART [XXXXXXX service number removed] email interview 5 Feb 04

I arrived in country in August of 1966 and several weeks later was flown to Cam Ranh Bay. There I was assigned to Marine Maintenance Activity, a unit subordinate to U.S. Army Support Command-Cam Ranh Bay and 1st Logistical Command. MMA was charged with the maintenance of various water craft but our mission evolved primarily into servicing the components of the LARC-V. My MOS was 61C2, marine engineer, and I was placed in charge of a section responsible for repair of the LARC's transmissions. At the time of my arrival the basic billet was the squad tent and our power was supplied by diesel generators. I believe it was in May of '67 that our unit moved to a new location near Cam Ranh Bay but somewhat further back from the beach itself where our company had billeted up to that time. At this site we had wooden barracks, with the obligatory screen ventilation system, and metal building for our shop area. In the previous area our shops were large canvas tents shaped somewhat like a Q-hut.

We were not issued jungle fatigues or boots until about November of '66. Until early '67 we kept our M-14s racked in our tents but this changed. After a shooting incident, in which one company member was wounded, the arms were secured in an "armory" hut. I was assigned an M-60 machine gun and an ammo bearer in the early winter of '66. I did do some familiarization firing of the M-60 but never used it in combat. We were issued two magazines of ammo for our M-14s.

We wore the 1st Log insignia. The unit was awarded a Presidential Citation sometime during my tour. I saw LBJ at the Bay sometime in '67 I believe and Bob Hope at Christmas of '66. Billy Graham visited us around the New Year of '67.

I hope this helps.