

DET 15, 600TH PHOTO SQUADRON

Binh Thuy AB, Vietnam

Det 15 was designated and organized effective 1 Oct 66 at Binh Thuy AB, RVN, on SO G-157 dated 20 Sep 66. There were no personnel or equipment assigned to the Detachment at that time. The photo requirements were being met, when possible, by one information photographer assigned to the base Information Office. On 14 Nov 66, SSgt Roger G. Hulse arrived TDY from TSN to organize a detachment, and make advance arrangements for equipment and additional personnel. On 21 Nov 66, ALC Harry R. Borders arrived TDY from TSN. On 2 Dec 66, SSgt Hulse, ALC Borders plus the information photographer formerly assigned to the 632 Combat Support Group (SSgt Franklin D. Spencer) were assigned PCS to Det 15, bringing the personnel strength to its present level of 3.

EQUIPMENT:

When the detachment was organized, there was no equipment except for two Speed Graphic 4 x 5's and one Rollei which then, and as of 31 Dec 66 belonged to the Base Information Office. In the latter part of November a 35mm Asahi Pentax was obtained from TSN. This was the only piece of equipment actually assigned to the detachment.

PROBLEMS:

On 31 Dec 66, they did not have a darkroom facility and relied on a local VN studio to process and proof exposed film, or send it

to TSN. The local VN studio processed and proofed exposed film through a contract with the AP for the Base Information Office. The quality of his work was acceptable, but resulted in a 3 day delay before receiving finished prints.

MISSION:

The prime job of the detachment has been to support the Base Information Office.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BASE:

The detachment supported the base with limited amount of base photo lab work; Spec Assignment Photos, UR's vehicle accident photos, color slide briefings, etc.

MAJOR PROBLEMS: The major problem on 31 Dec 66 was the lack of a darkroom facility. There were assured that they were scheduled for a trailer sometime in March 1967. Then they will be able to fully support the base requirements.