



VIETNAM

NEPTUNE BOAT PATROL, 1970

BROWN WATER SP

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I just read your request for members who served on boat patrols in Vietnam. I pulled that duty quite a few times on our Neptune Boats at Cam Ranh Bay AB. We were moored at *Myca Village* and had a Navy coxswain and one or two Vietnamese QC's on board. I was the M60 man along with Grenade Launcher. Our call signs were *Neptune-19* (one-nine) and *Neptune-20* (two-zero). My hooch mate Wayne Kasper was permanently assigned to that duty. I often wondered why no one ever recalled the presence of the SP duty on the water.



Neptune-19 Boat Patrol (left graphic art) is pretty representative of the boat at night. From what I remember (and that is fading fast!) most of our work was done in deeper water, mid bay.

The Coxswain didn't like going in close to shore unless it was absolutely necessary, making too easy of a target for an RPG, and our boat wasn't as fast as a *Swift Boat* or *PBR*, nor did we have any armor other than flak vests.

[Note submerged sapper to right of boat]

USAF SECURITY POLICE, NEPTUNE BOAT PATROL



The Stars and Stripes article below, points out

we would be sent on calls of suspected swimmers / sappers. We would make a *grenade run* up and down the bay and wait and see what floated up, the QC's loved that because they would collect dinner from the fish that floated to the top.

We checked sampans and some times just cut the engine and drifted with the tide. Once in a while we would take small arms fire from the shore and we would *Dee Dee* from the area while I returned fire with the M60.



QC Hut, Myca Ville, 1969-1970. Note Neptune-21 Logo on right-front of Hut.



12th SPS Neptune Boat Dock. Myca boys setting on rock, 1969-1970



12th SPS Neptune Boat Dock (Wayne Kasper) 1969-1970

Neptune-19
Stars and Stripes article.



On a night patrol are (from left) policeman Nghia Duong-Tuan, Sgt. Dale W. Peterson, a security policeman. They were Boatswain's Mate 2.C. Robert W. Paden, the boat handler, and at Cam Ranh Bay.

Neptunes
Keep Bay
'Spotless'

CAM RANH BAY AB, Vietnam (Special) — "Defense Control to Neptune 19, be advised Oscar 39 has spotted an object in

the bay. Proceed north and check out!"

Six men scramble for their Neptune patrol boats at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base, and speed out to intercept an unknown object in the bay.

Two boats make up this nightly patrol. Each crew consists of one U.S. Navy man who handles the boat, a U.S. Air Force security policeman of the 483d Security Police Sq., and a Republic of Vietnam Marine policeman who

acts as an interpreter and adds fire power when needed.

Patrolling the bay was begun through the joint efforts of the Air Force and Navy to strengthen defenses of the Cam Ranh Bay peninsula during the night hours when enemy action is most likely.

The patrol boats have been on duty since September 1969 and patrol approximately five miles of bay area.

*Article
COPS
Stars & Stripes*

Neptune Patrol Boat, USAF Security Police, Cam Ranh Bay AB: On a night patrol are (QC) policeman Nghia Duong-Tuan, Boatswains Mate 2.C. Robert W. Paden, the boat handler, and Sgt Dale W. Peterson, a Security Policeman.

Also read: **SAPPERS!** by **James R. Randall** (BSM w/V)

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