

I found the book to be extremely factual, interesting and gratifying to read. It answered many questions I've had as a proud minesweeping boat engineer of the February 1968–February 1969 era. Having served on MSBs *16*, *31*, and *32* at Nha Be, and the *30* and *50* boats with Detachment 1 in Danang, I had always been curious about many of the things presented in the book.

So little was known of Mine Squadron 11 Detachment Alfa (and later, Mine Divisions 112 and 113), and the publicity so scant that after I had completed my tour, I could not find reliable information about what had gone on prior to my arrival (sea stories and myths prevailed), or what later happened to the people and equipment.

I was REALLY tickled to see MY boats mentioned time and time again and also my first ship, the USS *Higbee* (DD-806) in print. I also found in the book the name of an early B-boat skipper, BM1 Larry Rooks, who had been a leading seaman in 1st Division on the *Higbee* when I'd been a seaman apprentice. Good Boatswain's Mate, and a great guy to work for as he always explained why we did things, which was pretty unusual for a BM of that era.

I enjoyed the book, cover to cover, and will see if I can tempt some of my Army and USMC friends to read it and see written proof that not all sailors in-country hung out at an Acey-Deucey club night-after-night during their 'Nam tours.' This book should appeal to anyone who participated in Operation MARKET TIME or GAMEWARDEN. I'm sure the PBR types and ASPB guys would be interested as well, basically anybody that rode a boat in Vietnam, or their descendants.

Thanks again Dave for an interesting and entertaining read.

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