

DET Bahrain: Turnover and Tours
By EA3(SCW) MULHERN, NMCB ONE DETAIL BAHRAIN

U. S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion ONE (NMCB-1), DET Bahrain, recently arrived in Bahrain to relieve NMCB-FOUR and commenced their seven-month deployment. The arrival of NMCB-1 signaled the end of an eight-month deployment for NMCB 4, which included action in Kuwait, Iraq, and Bahrain. The two Details completed their turnover in four and a half days, signing the final turnover letter on the fifth day.

DET Bahrain immediately went to work completing a 12,000 square foot paver (brick) patio for a local community school project started by the Chief initiates. The patio is one of many improvements the school needs. Future renovations include installation of playground equipment, basic interior restoration, and a gazebo.

The DET just embarked twelve members to Jordan to install a helicopter-landing pad outside of a local hospital. Once the detail completes the helo pad, they will begin construction on their project for Naval Support Activity (NSA) Bahrain. This project entails a new addition to and rehabilitation of the present base USO building. Currently the USO operates out of a very small trailer the new addition will provide extra space and greatly enhance their ability to cater to the Soldiers and Sailors. This rehabilitation includes: building shelves, counter-tops, and reducing the size of the current bathroom in order to provide more storage space. DET Bahrain is very eager to begin project work or as BU2(SCW) Jacob Pittman, the project supervisor, stated, "I can't wait to get to Jordan and start working so we can start being more productive".

Even though the full Detail has only been in the country for seven days, they have already arranged a cultural tour of a few sights, thanks to the Fleet and Family Support Center. Their half-day tour included a trip to the Grand Mosque, the Bahrain National Museum, and the Arad Fort. The tour was interesting, informative, and allowed the members to learn more about the local customs and traditions. According to EA3(SCW) Mark Mulhern, “The best part was the Grand Mosque was seeing ENS King in an Abaya”. The Abaya is the traditional cloak all women must wear when they enter the Mosque. “Our tour guide did a really good job of explaining the local culture and everyone came back to base a little more aware of their surroundings”.

Photos: (taken by EA3 Mulhern)



BUC(SCW) poses at Arad Fort.



Detail Bahrain at the Grand Mosque, including ENS Deb King in the Abaya.