

SWIM CALL

Another unforgettable morale-builder was the well earned swim call. South Vietnam is in the tropics where, even on cool days, the temperature soars into the upper nineties, and more often, is well into the hundreds. Fortunately, many of our living and working areas were air-conditioned. Life was nearly unbearable in those that weren't, and swim call was readily appreciated by all. Providing sea conditions were favorable and there were no pending operations, Saturday or Sunday afternoons were reserved for this event.

All hands took part—whether teaming up in an energetic game of water polo, sunning on main deck with a good novel, or simply floating in the salty water while the shark watch kept a sharp eye, it was a welcome relief from the tedium of our duties.

