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NARRATIVE

because of Dengue. Two (2) weeks after the landing of the unit, the breeding places of flies in the camp sites were cleaned up, and the flies departed almost entirely. Their departure came with such speed that it was a source of wonder to all hands. Part of the explanation for the disappearance of the flies lies in the fact that decaying sugar cane was burned.

About 1 Sept. 1944 the unit moved into a 16 x 16 tent camp which had been erected nearby, and from then on living conditions ceased to be a major problem.

Squadron ~~VMTB-242~~¹ landed at the field on 19 Aug. 1944 and immediately began anti-submarine searches. The ground personnel of the squadron had not arrived as yet, and therefore it was necessary for the CASU to furnish the squadron with facilities for about five (5) days. There was no problem connected with this work due to the fact that little maintenance was necessary. After the ground crews for the Marine squadron arrived, the CASU had no connection with the squadron except to provide them with gasoline and oil.

During the last week in August, squadrons VPB-102 and VPE-116 arrived at North Field after flying from Eniwetok, and with their arrival maintenance and operation problems began in earnest. The situation on 28 Aug. 1944 was as follows:

- (1) VPB-102 and VPE-116 were to start flying search and bombing missions on 1 Sept. 1944.
- (2) It was anticipated that one (1) additional PB4Y squadron would arrive shortly, as well as two (2) PV squadrons.
- (3) Shrapnel had been removed from about one-half of the parking area. It

1 See Appendix, Encl. 6 - Squadron Statistics.
6 - Squadron Statistics.