

5/18/67

Dear Mom + Dad:

I've been flying every day now since i've been at this other company for training. By the time you get this letter I should be about ready to go back up to Dau Tieng. Tuesday we flew from 7 in the morning to 6:30 that evening then me and the crewchief worked on the ship until 10:30 that night getting it ready for flight the next day. All we did was fly officers and mail back and forth from place to place. Then the next day we were to fly a C.A.

I am going to start taking it with me from now on. Before we took the infantry in jets were making air strikes and artillery pounded the LZ before we came in. It's really something to see those jets making bomb runs from up in a chopper because ya can see everything. Me and my crewchief had to fire the machineguns into the tree lines while coming into the LZ to keep the VC's head down until we can get in drop the traps and get out again.

Photo when I started
to wouy. A CA is a
Combat Assault. We had
to take troops into the
LZ and drop them off.
We made four trips into
the LZ and landed one
battalion of men. one
ship out of 40 got hit
six times but didn't
knock them down.

This was my first CA
and they are really something.
I was going to take my
camera but I didn't now
I wish I would have.
Really could have gotten
some exciting pictures.

The helicopters have two guns. one on each side of the ship. My buddy yesterday chased some VC who were driving a truck. The pilot flew over the truck and he was shooting at it. He said he never seen a truck go so fast in all his life. We have radio stations over here and today the pilot turn our radios over and we listened to the Cardinals and Atlanta Braves baseball game while flying. We even have all the TV programs

here that there are
in the States. This
place here has TV.
our company doesn't have
Crap compared to this place.
Got to give it a chance
to build up I guess.

I might extend for 6 months
after my time is up because
I will have a year and
a half left to go and with
my mas they will send me
back for another year. If I
do this I will get to
come home for a month
and then come back.
That's why they sent me
over so soon so they

Can stick me for
another year after coming
back. Lots of guys here
are extending for 6 months
because they have so much
time left in the service
after their tour over here.

I didn't think they could
do that but they are.

I've never seen anything
so far as low down as
the army is.

I should have quite
a pile of mail when I
get back.

When we fly we wear
a chest protector. This is
supposed to be able to stop

a 50 calibre bullet. They weigh about 40 lbs but they have saved many lives. Some cover your back too. When we get our ships I am going to steal two of them, so I can sit on one. How is Roger coming along or have you heard? Have you heard anything from Greg lately?

Well guess I better get to bed. So keep writing and tell everyone else to.

I'll try to answer everyone.

Love Ron.

Take Care.