

May 25, 1967

Dear Mom + Dad: ①

Haven't been doing too much for the last couple days. I am going back to our company tomorrow morning. I've been here Phu Loi now for seven days training. Sure will be glad to get back and read my mail. I am going to send some film this week if I can they should be good pictures. I took some from the helicopter of 3 jets making an airstrike on some VC positions with 750 lb. bombs. I sure wish I had a movie camera over here. I might buy one and you could use some projector.

We were carrying some officers who were observing the strike and plotting some LZ's. We sure had a ringside seat.

I got quite a few aerial pictures of the country, and some of villages and rice paddies when we landed let me know how they turn out. I have 3 rolls of film taken. Did you develop the film that was in that box? If so how do slides turn out with this camera? I never did see any of the slide pictures I took.

The other day we took a VC prisoner to a POW camp. He was the first VC that I know ive seen for sure. Almost wanted to kill him when I saw what they really were. The South Vietnamese who are fighting with us have to be watched real close when we drop them off the helicopter in an LZ. The pilots told me that if one even turned around and looked back towards the ship with his weapon pointed toward us to shoot all of them.

They are called ARVN's. the South Vietnamese. when they get out they will turn on the helicopter and start shooting at it. When ever we carry any and they get out we have to check the ship for bombs or handgrenades that they may have left after getting off.

From what I hear they do this quite often. We were carrying some the other day and the pilot told me and the crew chief over the radio to keep an eye on them so we did. This sure is a dirty lousy kind of war you never know who they are or where they are.

we're sitting here watching the Pirates and the Giants play at forbes field.

The pirates are ahead 5 to 4. Sure will hate to go back to Dau Tieng after being down here.

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Have you heard how Roger is coming along? Guess heq will be home sometime around the first of June. Maxine said his mom is going to open a dress shop someplace on the corner of 18th and Chambers. Have you heard anything about it? Did heq's mom ever say for sure what heq is going to be doing after basic training? I wrote to him the other day but I don't know if he answered it or not. If he doesn't have to come over here he will be lucky. When I get home I'll be proud to say I was there but while here it sure is lousy. A person will never realize how good and easy he has it in the US until he comes to a place like this. I really didn't realize how good home was until I got over here, and every single guy I've talked to said the same thing. The people in the United States have the easiest life and softest life in the world and I don't care what kind a job he has or what kinda place they live in. We've really got something to fight for. I've been here now 21 days, almost one month gone already. I got a letter from Judy last week so I guess I better write to her. Did you get that Vietnamese money I sent?

If I get a chance I am going to try
and buy a new car over here. If I
buy it here I won't have to pay any
taxes on it and it will be quite cheaper.
I'll have it delivered to Kendalls and
have it for when I get home. But this
won't be for quite awhile yet. I'll
have to check into it first.

Well guess I better go eat some of this
real fine food they have over here so
tell everyone I said hello and all of
you take care and don't worry about
me because I'll be alright.

Love all of you.

Ron

Say hi to Judy and Mary Kay.
Alan to.

But dad and Alan are doing quite
abit of fishing now.

If you ever send envelopes
don't send the ones to be licked
because they all sealed themselves.
Those press together type are pretty
good.