

[REDACTED]
O'Fallon, Illinois 62269
27 June 1996

Dick,

I just got your letter, but I'll get one off to you now while I've still got time to get a letter off today.

I knew you'd want to know about that tragedy at Fort Campbell. I hated to have to tell you who it involved, but -as I am sure you remember too well from Vietnam- those things do happen. By the way, a buddy of mine who is a GW3 and a Black Widow pilot and safety officer is still investigating that mishap. EVERY TIME I try to call him (he lives in Clarksville, Tennessee), he is either working late or is on the phone with someone else about that mishap! It has had him working some long days and late hours!!

By the way, he wholeheartedly agrees with me that he and I SHOULD have been together in the 188th back in '67 and should have been in the Spiders. He is one of not many Vietnam vets still in the Army today. In 1970 he was a gunner on a Chinook; he was in the "Pipesmoke" unit at Phu Loi. Like me, he got out of the Army once and came back in. Unlike me, he made something with it. I kick my ass every time I think about how it all could have been better!! I sure do wish I could have it to do again.

I'll get that map off to you soon. Also, I'm going to send a copy of that sketch map to my former infantry squad lead and see ^{if} he can add to it. He now lives in Greenbrier, Arkansas. He got to Dau Tieng in 1966, when the base camp site was just then selected!

I remember Greg Allen! Didn't he go over to Vietnam with the 188th? Wasn't he one of the originals in the company? I'll write again soon. Take care now.

Clear Right,

Frank

PS - I'm going
to join VHCMA.