



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS 2D INFANTRY BRIGADE

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIR ASSAULT) AND FORT CAMPBELL

3962 55TH ST

FORT CAMPBELL KY 42223-5912



26 January 1998

Mr. Dick Detra

Brisbane, California 94005-1576

Mr. Detra,

Thank you for the letter, and the offer of a copy of your photo of LZ Sally. I gladly accept, and will fully reimburse you for any expenses incurred for reproduction and mailing. I also accept the offer of a copy of your unit history, when completed.

I have some photos from Vietnam here in the headquarters, and the Pratt Museum on post has several binders of negatives. During my research, if I see anything applicable to your project, I will make copies and forward to you.

If you'd like, I can put you in touch with some of the 502nd veterans from the Vietnam War—in particular, Mike "M-60" Kelly, who lives in Sacramento. If you haven't already contacted him, you should—he's a veritable encyclopedia of information. What's more, he's connected via the Internet to VVA groups across the country. I'll pass your address along to him.

I'll also pass your request for information to the commander of the 159th Aviation Brigade. They were just activated here last summer, when the "slick" battalions split off from the 101st Aviation Brigade (which is now exclusively an attack helicopter brigade.) I'm sure he and his staff will be able to help in your quest for information. The 9th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment still uses the Black Widow moniker today for one of their companies.

Thanks again for your offer, and on behalf of Colonel Robert E. Smith, Commander of 2nd Brigade, and all the soldiers of the 502nd Infantry, thank you for your service to our nation. Few Americans know the true price of freedom; you and your comrades paid that price in full. Strike!

Thomas E. Hanson
Thomas E. Hanson
Captain, U.S. Army

Adjutant
2nd Brigade/502nd Infantry Regiment
101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)
Fort Campbell, Kentucky 42223-5912