

01 August 1970 letter  
Paul Sauer to James B. [Jim] Evans

Monterrey, Calif.  
1 August 1970  
High Noon

Dear Jim,

Have not been home to Ohio yet, but know there is a letter there from you as I called home. I'm enclosing a check for the \$26 I owe you from the \$40 you gave me to buy the silk in Bangkok and to mail your gear. Hope your Mother was pleased.

I was in B Med<sup>i</sup> on 18 July and hence missed my Deros.<sup>ii</sup> I went in on the 15<sup>th</sup> and got out on the 18<sup>th</sup>. I wouldn't have gone there, but Dave Lindert,<sup>iii</sup> Kiger [91-C],<sup>iv</sup> Sgt. Hibbits,<sup>v</sup> and a couple others were out at Vandergrift [2/3 rds of way to Khe Sanh – You left just in time] with the rest of the Battalion. A guy named Hill<sup>vi</sup> took over from Burke as CO of the Brigade and apparently was to up the number of kills – on both sides. The battalion was supposed to return the day I left Quang Tri [21<sup>st</sup>] and then go out to FB Elliott 48 hrs. later. Elliott is just across QL-9 from FB Fuller, and is atop a hill, though not as high. I got out of Vandergrift on the 14<sup>th</sup> by chopper and rode back with a convoy. The countryside is beautiful. Vandergrift is just over the first big ridge as you look west from Quang Tri. They didn't get into anything the whole time they were out there. The [Bttn.] went south and came back through the Ba Long valley.

I didn't sell the refrigerator, but just left it there. I'm sure Dave L. will send you the cash if you write him and he still has his sanity. I was glad to leave and be back here.

For the entire month I got back from Bangkok, I battled the worms I had. First they found hookworm and I took treatment for that. Then, upon being retested, I was found to have roundworm. They were out at Vandergrift so I took Piperazine on my own. I think it was a reaction to that that put me in B Med. The last day I took it I drank 3 beers right afterward and as I hadn't eaten much, the doc at B Med. Figures I suffered from a toxic reaction to the combination, though he wasn't sure. They took malaria smears and all as my temp got up to 103o.

My out processing was fast and efficient. I got to Cam Ranh at midnight on the 21<sup>st</sup> and took off at noon on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. I got a shower and sleep in that period too. Facilities were much nicer than at Long Binh.

We got into McChord [Ft. Lewis]<sup>vii</sup> at noon on the 22<sup>nd</sup> [12 hrs. flying time, plus we crossed the Int. Date Line]. We made one stop at Yakota.<sup>viii</sup> In addition to a well stocked PX & Pacex order facilities, they have many nice little shops, including a camera accessory shop. You can get just about anything you forget to get in

Vietnam, plus somethings. They have smoking jackets similar to those in Nam, which have 10X the quality at less cost than in Nam.

I was completely outprocessed at Ft. Lewis by 6:00 p.m. of the 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can do it within 3 hrs., and most guys usually do. I stayed in Portland that night [150 mi. – or 2½ hrs. by bus] and got to visit with Zak<sup>ix</sup> the next day. I left that next evening by plane for S.F. and was met by Gene, who I'm staying with now. I'll leave the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> by car with my friend, who took the tour to Expo, for Canada and eventually Ohio. I should be home by the 17<sup>th</sup>. Till Then Stay Chilly, and Good Luck,

Paul

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<sup>i</sup> B Medical Company, 1/5 Brigade [Mechanized] at Quang Tri

<sup>ii</sup> DEROS, date expected return from overseas service

<sup>iii</sup> Dave Lindert, M.D., battalion surgeon 1/7 Armored Battalion, 1/5 Brigade [Mechanized. He became battalion surgeon when I [James B. Evans] transferred to 91<sup>st</sup> Evacuation Hospital, Chu Lai.

<sup>iv</sup> 91-C or 91 Charlie, medical specialists who followed Mark Doom and Jaan Goad with 1/77 Armored Battalion.

<sup>v</sup> Sgt. Hollis Hibbits, NCO for medical platoon, 1/77 Armored Battalion.

<sup>vi</sup> Brigadier General John C. Hill, Jr. succeeded Brigadier General William A. Burke as commander 1/5 Brigade [Mechanized].

<sup>vii</sup> Near Seattle, Washington.

<sup>viii</sup> Yakota Air Force Base, Japan

<sup>ix</sup> Zak had been a medic with 1/77 Armored Battalion. Last name is unknown.

Paul L. Sauer



AUG 13 1970

Cpt. James S. Evans  
91 Evans Hospital  
APO, SF, 96325

MAIL 11 1970

Porteray, Calif.  
1 August 1970  
High Moon

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Wandergrift is just over the <sup>big</sup> first ridge as you look ~~south~~ west from Quang Tri. They didn't get into anything the whole time they were out there. They <sup>went</sup> west south and came back through the Ba Long valley.

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efficient. I got to Cam Ranh at midnight on the 21<sup>st</sup> and took off at 2000 on the 20<sup>th</sup>. I got a shower and sleep in that period too. Facilities were much nicer than at Long Binh.

We got into McChord (Ft. Lewis) at 2000 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> (12 hrs. flying time, plus we crossed the Int. Date Line). We made one stop at Spokane. In addition to a well stocked PX & PaceX order facilities, they have many nice little shops, including a camera accessory shop. You can get just about anything you forgot to get in Vietnam, plus somethings. They have smoking jackets similar to those in Nam, which have 10X the quality at less cost than in Nam.

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