



3D MARINE DIVISION (REIN), FMF, VIETNAM.

9 APR 69

Parents + Steve -

I'm really living in the mud now. We're in the highest mountain range areas now. This is real Amazon-type virgin jungle - vines, leeches, poison centipedes - the whole show. We were dropped in here two days ago. This is a razorback-type ridge of peaks, easy to literally fall off either side. We're to build a Fire Support Base big enough for 2 batteries - 12 guns. Now we have to clear all the tangled underbrush to get the lay of the land + set in a perimeter. When bulldozers come in + flatten the top for the gun-pits + bunkers, should take a couple weeks to build. We usually use C-4 to blow down the larger trees but we ran out of it + it's the thickest fog up here so we can't get any chopper re-supply.

The troopers get a bang out of attaching the largest tree they can find with their K-bars (Bowie-sized knives). I've been here six weeks & have seen no action except 12 rounds of goose mortars a couple hills back. That got me another ribbon, tho - hostile fire ribbon - means I came under "intense, concentrated enemy fire!"

I made 1st Lt, 1 APR & am waiting for the paperwork & silver bars. Don't think they'll let me keep the platoon after I make it so I'm having the 1st sergeant "lose" the warrant for a few more weeks.

Time still flies - almost time for R+R - in May sometime for me.

Dues says they're expecting in August - I'll bring it home for them.

LT, C.

LT. C. R. ANDERSON 0105003

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3d PLT., B'CO.

1st B'N., 3d MARINES

3d MAR DIV

VIA

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USA