

June 11, 1987
K.C., Mo.

Dear Charlie,

Hope this letter finds you well. Sorry for not writing. Not much going on here, generally the same thing. Go to work & come home, then get up & go to work the next day. I must say that my job is still not boring. Only thing different is the work tempo picking up. Crime does not take a holiday.

I'm not all that much physically tired at times when I get off work. It's more of a mental exhaustion that seems to drain me.

I'm planning on going to L.A. to visit my cousin in July. The kids are excited about going on a plane ride. Be there for a week. Other than that I hope to spend a lot of time around the neighborhood pool to cool off during the summer.

I hope your job as a historian for the Army works out for you. Is this going to be a permanent move to Washington or are you going to commute to Ann Arbor during time off such as vacation, etc? Maybe someday you'll be able to work yourself into the position as a Marine historian. Be sure to let me know how you like your job & tell me about your projects. It sounds interesting. I think it will also sound neat to tell my kids who is the person that writes the text in their history books.

Boy, Charlie. I'm beginning to feel old now. Just before school let out my niece whose a (or was) a junior in high school & my nephew who is a year behind her told me that ^{they} were studying about the Vietnam War in their American History class at school. They started to ask me all sorts of questions about the war. Does it seem that long ago?

I finally saw the movie Platoon. It wasn't a bad flick &

seemed more to real life than the typical Hollywood war films. Some members of my family saw the movie also. Again I had to answer some questions about the war to them. They seemed shocked about the ~~epic~~ episode which showed the Army gups heavily involved with dope. They asked me if that scene really occurred in the bush. I replied that I never saw that with Bravo 6. It could have happened but I never saw gups ~~some~~ smoking the stuff in the field. The strongest thing I got was the warm beer or darvon from the corpsman for a headache.

With reading your book, 'The Grunts,' & seeing the movie, 'Platoon,' my family got a good impression what the war was like for me & the rest of the gups who went through Nam. Well, enough of that.

Are you still going to be working on your personal projects during your spare time from your present job as historian?

I'm going to let you go for now. Hopefully, I won't be so lazy in writing again. Just keep ~~harassing~~ nudging me so I don't get that way. You & Akiko take care.

My home phone number is

Semper Ti!

Your buddy,

Mike

MIKE RODRIGUEZ



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