

August 21, 1979

Mr. James Sloban

Painesville, Ohio 44077

Dear Jim:

How has the "Slob" been all these years? Maybe you don't remember me. I was one of your platoon commanders, possibly your last, at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina back in 1969-70. I also attended your wedding.

After I left the Corps I did some travelling in Asia, mostly in Japan but also a couple weeks back in Vietnam, as a tourist no less, while the war was still going on in 1971. That remains one of the strongest entries in my lifetime record book, but at least I saw Saigon. The way things are going it looks like none of us will ever see the Nam again. Then after a couple years in graduate school I came to Japan in 1974. At the end of 1977 I married a Japanese who works for an American company you probably know a lot about -- Lubrizol. Their head office is in Wickliffe and they have a Painesville plant. I didn't know anything about Lubrizol until I met her, but she knows all the top executives.

The main reason I'm writing is to report that I wrote a book about my Vietnam tour, entitled The Grunts, and your name is in it. If you would be interested in having a copy you can use the enclosed form. The book came out in 1977 and has done alright for a first effort. I am now close to finishing my second book, this one about Japan.

You must write and tell me what you've been up to the last decade, as well as what your Vietnam experience looks like now after more than ten years. I enclose an envelop for your use. And what did you think of Vietnam Veterans Week this year? I never thought I'd see any official recognition like that. I've heard from a few ex-grunts I knew in the Nam, after they saw the book, and they've got growing families now, as you probably do. Let me hear.

Sincerely yours,



Charles R. Anderson

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Lncl.