

July 9, 1979

Mr. David M. Stamps

Elgin, Illinois 60120

Dear Dave;

Thanks very much for sending the Vietnam Veterans series. It was really well done, very professional. You probably beat the big papers on the observance. The Gerndt piece was especially interesting, and no doubt something of a reportorial scoop.

Your coverage of the Chicago air crash was really complete. The Courier has a different look about it since I was last there, in '73. The Saturday morning and Sunday editions must be your innovations, as I never saw them before.

About your previous questions . . . . I did hump through and spend a few nights in areas that had been sprayed to remove undergrowth, and I watched spraying operations on several occasions, but as far as I can tell none of my postwar blunders can be attributed to Agent Orange. As for a draft, I favor it but for reasons more sociological than military. I feel it is important in a democracy to have institutions where people from all economic stations and geographic areas can meet. And I see nothing wrong with drafting females.

My next question is about your article and the participants. If I understand correctly, Dick Rodgers was with you at the Firebase 29 action. You might want to update his file. A look in an old little black book reveals this address:

Mr. Dick Rodgers

Bement, Illinois 61813

Russell is Dick's father and an insurance salesman in Bement. He will certainly know where the "cowboy" is, as Dick was known to us in ATO.

As for Pete Kovacs, he's a nice guy and I'll always respect his basketball record, but don't give him my address. I'm not ready for his insurance sales palaver yet! Which leads to another Monmouthian you know, Keith Koppen ('68). It seems a few years back Pete Kovacs pulled Keith into the insurance business in Elgin. Keith's wife is some relation to Pete. Track 'em down.

Later,

CRA:aa

Charles R. Anderson