

Dear,

11 Apr.

What a day! Sure hope I
used up all the bad luck
& left you all the good
for your comps today.
The fates seemed to be
against me all day. Maybe
I should have read my
horoscope, I'm sure it
said stay in bed. Well,
I got up at 8 AM to go
into Phu Cat. Fred & I
rushed around because
the carrier said he wanted
to leave early, we left
at 9:10 - blat! Then we
got down to base camp
where I processed in
turned in our weapons, etc.
& started hitchhiking into
the AF base area. We got
a ride OK and after we
got out we met a guy
coming from the BX. Well,
he says "Might as well"
not walk over to the
BX, it's closed for

inventory today." They probably have inventory twice a year & we hit it - oh, lucky us! So we walked back to the road to base camp & got a ride back on a jeep. Well, we decided we should try to get back here by noon so we could eat & clean up & catch a little sleep before work. Sgt. Hashins (my boss) was down at base camp, too but they had 3 men already in their jeep & 4 is max. So we got a ride out to the main gate & then tried to hitch a ride with someone going all the way north.

An ARVN truck came by (S Viet army) & asked where we were

going. We said Uplift, he said jump in. So he goes to the north end of Phu Cat city & says "that's where I stop." So there we were stranded in the city where it's off limits (never knew who's the enemy, you know).

Well, along comes a ROT's' truck (Koreans) & gives us a lift. They stopped about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way home, said that's where they stop. This time it was even worse, because we were out in a field on the side of the road. So we waited 25 minutes & guess who came along - Sgt Hashins. Oh, great it's off limits & they're full & what a mess! Well, he did let us get

on + we get back for
lunch. But to add
insult to injury, as
we drove in the Co.

Commander walks out
of our office hootch here
& sees us with 5 people
in the jeep + hauls
Sgt. out. Well, I felt
pretty bad and got a
lecture from Sgt. Perkins
about making sure a
thumbed ride goes all
the way back, if we
go to the BX again. I
told him I'd gladly
comply to his wishes.
Well, he's an easy going
man + was much less
worried about the Brass'
reaction than our ~~own~~
safety in the situation.
He doesn't hold grudges
+ I think he really is
I'm pretty green altho

maybe Fred could have known better. Well, no harm done + everyone had a good laugh (me included) over the rash of rotten luck. It was such a bust. But there was some good in it. While we were stranded, we did get to talk to some of the people + the Koreans. They really were friendly and we got to see them up close - around their homes + city streets.

And as you go ~~by~~ the areas for a second time, you notice more. I noticed the insides of the open homes more this time. They're very plain - not much furniture, with usually a basic (sq?) to lie in on the living room instead of

our usual couch. Also, they like to collect US pop tin cans for color & pile them in pyramids on shelves & the floor as decoration. When we were in N. Phu Cat, we were in front of a VN school just let out for lunch. The kids acted much like any old US bunch, but stayed clear of us with our rifles.

Honey, don't worry so much about me. We found that this main road we travel is not mined that often & any travelling I do will be well after the early morning traffic has "tested" the road.

After getting your "jumpy" letter today, I was afraid today's experience would frighten you. I'll never get caught

like that again, I assure
you. And ~~that~~ really
wasn't all that dangerous,
it's all just for absolute
safety that they suggest
we not get put into
certain areas alone. These
areas are safe, but there's
always the possibility of
some tragic event. It
really wasn't my doing
to place myself in the
slightest danger. I'll know
how to do it next time.
Sgt. Hastings said that
even if I have to wait
for the carrier to come
back (~~the~~^{the} doesn't get
back here until 4:30
supper time) he'll under-
stand & not get angry
for a delay in getting
there.

Well, needless to say,
I got nothing accomplished
today. Didn't get the

money order, either.
I'll try it again next
week sometime. Hope
the money isn't that
important now.

Haven't decided what
type of stereo system I'm
really interested in.
Everyone here suggests
a non-console type
system - just an amplifier,
turn-table + speakers
(like Lew's setup).

That type of system
really is more versatile.
You can put it in a
book case or cabinet
set-up of your choice
& set the speakers for
best sound. Actually,
consoles don't give as
nearly as good a sound
or stereo effect, first
because they're usually
less powerful & equally

built and the speakers
are too close together.
Also, you don't nearly
get the end result
you want - good sound
for your money. Well,
we can think about
it, let me know your
thoughts on the subject

We had a great meal
for supper tonite. We
had baked potatoes,
hot rolls, salad, corn,
charcoal broiled steak
(on broilers outside),
apple pie, ice-cream,
and freezees to drink.
Really filled up and
feel great now.

Really, I got a big
kick out of today. I
was getting too much
in a rut and bored.
Feel so much more
relaxed + new that

your writers are over,
will relax a bit.

Sweeney & I had a
political discussion
last nite about ABM.
He says if it were built
just to stop some mad
Chinasso move, it
might be worth it. But
if it's for anti-Russia
bombing it's worthless.
I said but that's what
they say it's for the
Russian part & thus for
against it. Also, China
won't have 1000's for
a few years at best &
even then of such small
quantity, we could
probably handle them
with present weapons
if (+ I don't think they
might be) they are
workable in that they
can even hit the USSR
without going off course.

But it was great to be
able to talk politics a
bit. Actually, it's been
a damned good week.
Been able to keep busy,
break monotony,
increase friendships,
prove I'm human,
got beaucous letters,
wrote " letters, read
alot, think alot, see
some good movies, stay
well-fed, and hopefully
help you thru this
tough time. Still have
to receive your package.
Packages move much
more slowly than the
letter mail. Got another
letter from Mom's today.
Sounds like things
are going fairly well in
KC, altho she + Grandma
haven't been all that
chummy.

Oh, and I am a bit

disappointed in Masha.
First I'd rather not
see her get involved
in a complex situation
that may hurt her. But
more, I may sound old
fashioned but I think
she may be making
things rough on her
wife. One might say,
"well if it weren't Masha,
it'd be someone else."
But is it good to be the
person in that position?
In my eyes she's no home-
wrecker - but she's
a catalyst and that
relationship can bring
as much hurt on others
as love between the two.
You said you didn't
think it was wrong
morally & maybe not.
I can't really see religious
arguments in a matter
like this anyway. But

I don't like a relationship
that helps block
marital problem-solving,
or gives the joys of love
only at a relatively
high price of hurt & maybe
hate. Since I don't know
all the details, I can't
say. But there's something
about it that sets it
off from a relationship
with a divorcee or one
that might as well
be (as in Susie's case) for
all involved. But again
maybe it's just my
reaction to any sticky
case like this, that
in a way mocks an
institutionalized bondage
(that has roots much
deeper than the institution)
that I've experienced to
~~the~~ be the greatest
reward of life.

I love you, my
wife. Hope your edginess
is abated now and

This letter finds you
in as happy station
as I am writing it. Yes,
you're with me. I
feel you so close, so
much involved in my
experiences (for they
are always ours). And
I especially liked the
pressed flower. Can
you imagine the flowering
bushes this spring outside
our home. Isn't it great to
be alive? I love you.
Until tomorrow,

Lynn