

February 22

Dear Mom,

Hee hee! I received your letter today and I'm glad that everything is fine. I'm still doing fine.

I don't know where Ellen got her information but it's wrong. I went to Tokyo the 8th of this month. I didn't even know I was going until the second. I had a real good time. The reason I didn't call was because I didn't have enough money, and I didn't want to call collect.

I don't really know how to tell you this but I'll give it a try. I've extended my overseas tour. If things work out I'll leave here in the latter part of April for Japan. I've even extended my tour in the Marine Corps. I guess that sort of puts a twist in the plans. I don't know whether to be angry or what. I want to go to Japan but Pickie sounds as if he was real enthused about the

whole thing. There isn't anything I can do if my request is accepted. We'll see how things work out. I'll know one way or the other in about five weeks.

I already know that Rickus whole class wrote me. How in hell's name am I suppose to answer all those letters? I'm going to write one to the teacher and explain that it isn't possible to answer all the letters. I'll send them something, possibly a Vietnamese flag or something like that.

I can't take them when I leave. After I leave they will leave her alone for about a week and then give her to a new handler.

There has always been a war over here and you never very far from it. Don't worry about me though, "only the good die young." Right?

I haven't made any plans on going to college. I'm really thinking about staying in the Corp. I have it pretty slack and I would have to work if I

got out.

Right now Monroe is still
here in Da Nang. I'll be leaving within a
couple of days. I'll still have the same
address no matter where I go.

That's about all for now. Take
care of yourself.

Love.

Joe