

March Seventeen
IZ Mary Ann, R7W

Dear John,

I am going to borrow the typewriter a few minutes tonight and write a few letters. As usual I have let myself get behind and will be busy for a little while. It is a good way to spend some time so there is no sweat as far as I am concerned.

I am using the typewriter that belongs to the clerk that keeps all the records here at Mary Ann. It is ten o'clock at night so as long as I don't wake anyone up I will be able to continue to use it. I don't particularly like to use a typewriter but I was interested in finding out how much I still remember from my college. ~~Added~~. I think I remember more than I would have ever guessed.

Not much has been happening around here out of the ordinary. The battalion is supposed to be moving to another fire base pretty soon. It is called Mildred and is about five miles from Mary Ann towards Chu Lai. We are going to build it up for the Vietnamese and then come back here and tear down Mary Ann. The battalion is then going to move up to the Danang vicinity to a new area of operations that was left when the Marine units went home. I don't figure to be around long enough to have to worry very much about the whole thing. I only have 70 days left and will probably get a pretty good drop from that.

I was in Chu Lai a week or so ago to have a tooth filled. I am supposed to go in again in a few days for an E-5 board. It is for promotion to Buck Sergeant. I don't think my chances are too outstanding since I have very little time left in the service and there is a retainability minimum for the promotion. As far as everything else goes I am as qualified as anyone so I just might get a break.

The snow should just about be over by now back home unless it is going to be a fluke year. We had a stretch the last week here that was just like the monsoons but they have been over for a month or more now. I should be on my way home by the time that it starts to get real hot again.

This typewriter is not the hottest one in the world. It sticks where it is not supposed to and where it is supposed to it doesn't. I guess the next letter that I write I will do it by hand.

It is almost eleven now, I have to go finish out the daily journal and get some things ready for the morning shift so I will close for the time being. Have a care and write when you can.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mary', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sp4 Gary L. Noller

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FREE FREE FREE FREE

VIA AIR MAIL

John F. Noller

