

5 Oct. 1965

Dear Mom + Dad,

Well I haven't written for 4 days because we were out on convoy escort duty. We went to Bien Hoa & back.

I have been alright and will be. The only way I see it is that if it is my time to go it wouldn't make any difference where I was at. I think though that somebody has more planned for me than to just get shot over here, so don't worry he is taking care of me.

While we were at Bien Hoa one of the Lieutenants here

got badly wounded by a
grenade. He was air lifted
out of here to Saigon. I guess
he will be alright.

So far we haven't been
in the real heavy fighting.
We haven't been very far
from our compound. We go
on search and destroy missions
once every three days. So
far we have blown up 1 VC
camp. I haven't lost anyone
as yet. I hope I never do.
I have only lost 2 patrols
so far. One of them we got
pinned down by enemy fire
so that was where we stayed
for the night. We got back
safely the next day.

We start on extended operations deeper into the Zone D in about 2 weeks.

Then is when we probably will start to loose men.

These operations will probably last 3 or 4 days. I only hope we can find some VC to pay them back for all the Americans who have died.

It means a lot to the men to get letters here. I have received about 15 letters from all over the country from people who read that article in the paper. They really appreciate what we

are doing & are praying for us all.

I wrote Rev. Pearson and asked him to see if AC could send us sand bags & things. Well we don't need sand bags any more so please tell him if you see him.

I don't see why you aren't getting letters, I write at least 4 times a week. Mail must be slow.

I'll try to write every day now.

Could you send some tropical seal envelopes. Air mail ones though.

There isn't much else
doing here.

I guess I should close
now. It's getting too dark
to see ~~to~~ we go on a
search ~~to~~ destroy tomorrow
will write when we
get back tomorrow.

Love Ray

Don't worry about

me.