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Chu Lai
14 June

Dear Family -

Again, a very brief note... or at least that's what it looks like its going to be. It's raining right now (9:20 A.M.), very soft but insistant rain, and the sky is completely overcast. I don't think you could see more than half a mile for the mist. Despite the fact that you can't go more than a few fact without rain-gear (rubberized overalls with boots attached and a jacket) I rather like the weather. For one thing, it's cooling Chu Lai down quite a bit, keeping the usual odors that permeate a military base close to the ground, and generally giving a pleasant feel to the air. But that's three things, isn't it?

Your two food packages yesterday. The selection is excellent ("is," I haven't managed to eat my way to the bottom of both of them yet, although I'm trying.) and very much appreciated. The yo-yo has passed to the general possession of the office, and we have people demonstrating just how they spent their misspent childhood most of the time now. To repeat, just in case you didn't get my last letter: All the glasses have now arrived, even though in reverse order to how they were sent. It's nice to be able to see comfortably again. In regard to the two books that Lois mentioned as being reviewed in Christian Century; while I'd be interested in going through them, I don't think the price justified buying something I could use in a library for occasional reference. The thought is appreciated, though; I don't think that I really have to own every book that I read (although I may feel that way, sometimes).

Sham has grown to about twice his original size, and is becoming active. Before, as befitted his almost-new-born status, all he wanted to do was crawl into an enclosed space and sleep. Now, though, he's beginning to play quite a bit - and he learned to run when a Great Dane-ish type (no pure-breds around here!) of dog tried to eat him. However, without a mother to teach him, I'm not sure that it's a dog that he's growing up to be. First of all, he looks a little like a bat, with pointed ears and teeth. Second, because of the way people play with him, he acts a little like a cat... boxing at the things and people he plays with.

Now all we have to see is just how this pay-raise is going to work out - after all, when I get out and back to school, it's all going to come in handy. I do hope it works out the way it's supposed to ... although, considering the way the Army handles things, that's a rather great supposition.

That's about it. I love you all very much.

Rob

