



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS AMERICAL DIVISION  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96374

AVDP-AGPC

21 January 1971

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel M. Rigoulot

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Rigoulot:

I know that you are anxious to hear that Robert has arrived safely at the 23d Infantry Division (Americal) in Chu Lai, South Vietnam. He has completed his in-country orientation and is now assigned duties as a sympathy letter composer in the Casualty Branch of the Adjutant General's office.

The Casualty Branch is located in the main Division area, within a short walk of the Commanding General's office. The area in which we are located is relatively safe. Chu Lai, home of the Americal Division, is the main supply and support center for the 24000+ men of the division and as such is well protected, so there is little need to worry.

The name, Americal, is derived from a combination of the two words America and New Caledonia, where the division was first founded in May 1942. The division's shoulder patch consists of four white stars mounted on a blue shield to symbolize the division's organization south of the equator. Hence, our motto is "Under the Southern Cross". Inclosed is a decal of the division's colors which may be displayed to show that Robert is proudly serving in Vietnam.

The facilities at Chu Lai available to Robert for morale and welfare include an all faiths chapel, a library, USO, post exchange, enlisted men's club and a service club with daily organized entertainment. I would encourage you to write to Robert often as a good letter from home is the biggest and best morale booster available. Robert's address is:

FEC Robert R. Rigoulot

23d Admin Co (Cas Br)  
23d Inf Div  
APO SF 96374

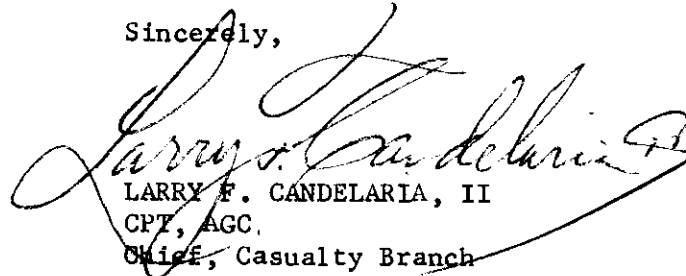
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The complete address is important to insure delivery with the least delays.

You may be assured of my personal interest and concern for Robert's welfare. Each man is important to me since it is through teamwork and cooperation that we are able to accomplish the important mission assigned to Casualty Branch.

If I may be of further assistance in answering any questions or problems please feel free to write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Larry F. Candelaria, II". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

LARRY F. CANDELARIA, II  
CPT, AGC.  
Chief, Casualty Branch