

9 November 71

Today I received two letters from you both saying the same thing but addressed to different addresses. I was glad to receive both.

The biggest battle of the war (for me) is over. The 3rd Regiment killed 25 North Vietnamese 2 miles ~~south~~ southwest of T Bone. No friendly troops were hurt. I never saw the dead bodies but yesterday I did see the booty as it was brought to T Bone. Seventeen enemy rifles, one East German machinegun, documents, a cloth picture of Ho Chi Min, one Russian flag and other odds and ends. I took three pictures with my camera.

At the height of the battle the two artillery battalions on T Bone were in a contest to see who could fire the fastest. For about five minutes they were really firing.

Let me point out that all of the enemy dead were killed by Infantry small arms fire but that others were probably killed by artillery but their bodies were carried off by the MIA, so they were not counted.

Let me also point out that up till today I still have not fired my weapon at the enemy nor have I been shot at, except by that 122 rocket that hit Eagle a month ago. It hit a mile away. I

could see the smoke from the battle as well as the artillery rounds hitting but I could not see the Infantry because of the dense jungle. Things are quite now with no enemy contact reported.

Last night one sensor was activated about 20 south of T Bone and 80 rounds of Artillery was employed. A sensor is a instrument that gives off an alarm when someone or something moves near by. The activation last night could have been one soldier or 50. It ^{could} have also been a large family of monkeys. We kill a lot monkeys with artillery.

One of my men fell asleep on radio watch last week. I wrote a note back to the rear saying that if he could not stay awake I would ask that he be replaced. I also talked to the person involved. Yesterday the person returned from Eagle and told me that he would not make Spec/4 and was being replaced. He will leave Vietnam on December 9. He was arrested to prison after going AWOL in the states from Vietnam for one month. He ask me "how could you do this to him". I replied how could you go to sleep on radio. He is a very poor soldier. The MACV colonel and major have both talked to me about him. He is always out of uniform and just flat does not do his job. He just ask me to sign a statement saying that I did not ask for him to be replaced. I said no. If I had my way I would run him up and send him to the field. As the Vietnamese say he is a number ten.

I was surprised to hear that you ~~had~~ not received any of my letters during the month of October. I must be because of the weather and a mail backlog. Please check the dates on my letter heads because I did write. Maybe I also should start numbering my letters to see if any are being lost. It took nine days for one of your air mail letters and five days for the other to arrive.

I am glad you received and liked the candlesticks. Did they arrive in good condition? I will file a claim if they did not. I hope the Christmas gifts will arrive on time. I think they will all except the one for Mom and Dad. It might arrive in mid-January. Did you have to pay any customs on the candlesticks?

I know Kent's gift arrived. Don't let him open it till Christmas. That was all I could find for him. All he ever does is go to New Mexico & dig. I can't think of anything.

One gift will be addressed to the Jener's () and another will be address to Aunt Vi (). I do hope another typhoon doesn't slow them down.

Also a screw ~~is~~ is coming on a slow boat for me. I can't wait to get home and see it.

The next time I am in Camp Eagle I will see about mailing a catalog to you. All orders must be placed through me and my Vietnam address. You can not order directly from the U.S. I will mail it the next time I am in Eagle.

It is good to hear about Daddy's lesson car going to school. I was worried about the electrical system.

Tom is getting old. I hope he is still all cat.

It is raining now but the sun has been out a number of times during the last few days.

I have to go back to work now, will write later when I can find another envelope.

Bh

1 Lt Jim B. Green
1st Brigade 24th (5-3)
101st Airborne Division (Airmobile)
APO San Francisco 96383

9 Nov

free



Raymond K. Green

Plainview, Texas

79072