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FREE

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OK 16 Feb 69

Greetings,

How is this old world treating you? Where are you and what are you doing? Let me sort of catch you up to date on what's happened to me since I left Benning in June. Landed Bien Hoa 1 Aug 68. Went directly to 4<sup>th</sup> Div and then

on to the 40<sup>th</sup> ~~Co~~ <sup>Co</sup>. The very first thing I learned was that the 40<sup>th</sup> had become part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Detachment (War Dog Provisional). Lt. Dolan ~~was there~~ is here in command of the 33<sup>rd</sup> IPSD. Lt. LaFame in command of the 50<sup>th</sup> IPSD. The 64<sup>th</sup> IPCT is also part of the Det.

The senior platoon commander <sup>is LaFame</sup> is automatically Det commander. To make a long story short, there was nothing right with the Detachment or the commander. I've had to fight ~~for~~ <sup>to</sup> struggle for every thing I've got. I have expanded and am now working two forward CPs. I turned in 260 missions for the month of December with 14 handlers. We built permanent kennels for my dogs during the same month. The platoon furnished ~~all the~~ the majority of the labor. ~~They are fighting a~~  
~~My~~ My platoon sergeant is SFC Benson. He came over here on E-6 with Lt. Ryan's 57<sup>th</sup> IPSD. He is very good. I hope that SFC Strickland who is scheduled to arrive next month to take his place is as good.

Our people are the best!  
Lt. Stewart (now Cpt.) walked in unannounced  
in November. We are to meet for the monthly  
meeting at USARV Det. on 10 Jan. He has the 981<sup>st</sup>  
Sentry Dog Company out of Cam Ranh. It is  
presently split up into 7 Detachments one of which  
is here in the highlands near us. He wishes very  
much that he were still in the program with us. We  
sure could use him. The first 5 months in country  
I could not find time to attend the monthly meetings.  
We have no replacement for LaTone who leaves in  
3 days. The new commander of the 64<sup>th</sup> is a Transportation  
Corp officer half way through his year detailed to the  
infantry. He knew absolutely nothing about Tracker  
or Scout Dog operations until he came to us. He is  
the ranking platoon commander and will command the  
Det. when LaTone leaves. Will say hello to Capt.  
Stewart for you. Must write the lovely little woman  
yet tonight. Take care.

John A. Dusen

P.S. Sorry for the mess - typewriter is in for repair