



HEADQUARTERS 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General
APO San Francisco 96383

AVDG-CG

14 August 1969

Major General Richard T. Knowles
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
for Military Operations
Department of the Army
Washington, D. C. 20310

Dear Dick:

Just a note to express my deep appreciation for the splendid letters you wrote to Senator Brooke, Mr. Willhoite, Mr. Schuster, and Mr. Rosenfeld. Fred Karhohs gave me copies of these letters during his visit to the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) on 12 August. You had a very difficult problem to handle and you certainly did it in a thorough and most effective manner. I must say I was a little embarrassed (but flattered) to read your kind words about me.

Had a good visit with George Blanchard and Fred Karhohs. I had about five different gaggles of visitors that day but abandoned all of them so that I could spend the entire afternoon with George and Fred, looking over our area of operations. I won't bother you with any war stories; perhaps George and Fred will do that.

The 101st Airborne Division (AIRMOBILE) is truly a great division and is very rapidly becoming airmobile in fact as well as in name. I have been walking a tightrope as I have tried to build on the airborne tradition and esprit while, at the same time, trying to generate the same pride in the airmobile division as so many of the paratroopers in this division felt in the airborne. This has been a pretty good trick, but we'll make it.

AVDG-CG

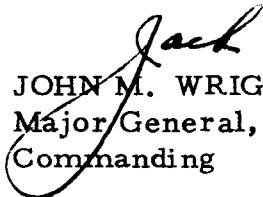
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We have been doing some hard fighting in the A Shau Valley. While I'll admit it is not quite airmobile, it is amazing to see three armored cavalry troops and a self-propelled 105mm battery driving all over the Valley floor. Just in case, we dozed off the top of Dong Ap Bia so it will now hold twenty choppers. Ask Fred to tell you about Fire Base Sledge, on top of the Bach Ma.

I hope you will be able to come over for a visit someday. Please give my love to Barbara. Warmest personal regards and best wishes, always.

Sincerely,


JOHN M. WRIGHT, JR.
Major General, USA
Commanding