



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

2 December 1969

Lieutenant Colonel Corwin A. Mitchell
Commanding Officer
3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry
25th Infantry Division
APO San Francisco 96225

Dear Mitch:

I was delighted to receive your letter, and to note that the return address has become "Commanding Officer" of the Three-Quarter Cav. Clint was quick to bring in the Southeast Asia book, and to point out your name on the list of commanders of major units and maneuver battalions, and sends his best wishes for a successful period of command.

There is no question that you are now entering on what will be the finest period of service you will know for several years. I know that you will respond to the challenges as you have responded to every other professional challenge - with an outstanding performance, but the opportunities go much further than that. Command in combat as you well know is the thing that we all train for, mentally prepare for, study for, and develop our own practices and techniques for throughout our entire professional lives. Fortunately, in many ways, we do not have the opportunity to try our skills too often, but when the opportunity arises, we should remember that this is the ultimate test. The satisfaction that goes with a successful command is impossible to describe to anyone who has not had the honor of commanding American troops in combat.

Our best wishes and prayers are with you.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard T. Knowles", is written over a horizontal line.

RICHARD T. KNOWLES
Major General, GS
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
for Military Operations

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19 Nov 69
Cu Chi

Dear Boss:

I arrived Cam Ranh last night at 1800 and spent the day getting down here. General Hollier gave me a hearty welcome upon my arrival this afternoon.

Thanks to you I will assume command of the 2nd Sqd 4th Cav on the 22d. I'll do my best to justify the confidence and trust that you and Gen Hollier have given me.

I'll also try to remind the VC around Tay Ninh that "longhat" still influences the operation over here.

Many thanks for your patience and many thanks.

Very respectfully
of most respects

Mitch