



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3D BRIGADE
5TH INFANTRY DIVISION (MECHANIZED), 'THE RED DEVILS'
FORT CARSON, COLORADO 80913

F. K. B.
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17 December 1969

MG RICHARD T. KNOWLES
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
for Military Operations
Department of The Army
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear General Knowles:

Thanks for your letter of 12 November and 2 December. I can only imagine how very busy you are and I really appreciate you taking the time to review my file and to write, thanks much.

At this point, there are only two things of which I am certain reference the subject at hand. First, I shall continue to do my best for the Army and our country and second I certainly will not become bitter. I enjoy serving with soldiers and officers and a promotion or lack of it will not change that basic enjoyment derived from working with dedicated professionals.

Whether I seek additional combat time (at the expense of continued family separations) is a matter of immediate concern to me. I enjoy most, applying in combat those principals I know so well. I would like to believe that four turns at bat (WW II, Korea, Dom Rep and Vietnam) would provide a basis for judgement, however I know you are right, there is nothing to compare with a major command in combat.

Duty with the soldiers here at Fort Carson is great - I recommend it.

Jeanne joins me in sending our best wishes to you and Barbara. Hope you two have time to really enjoy this holiday season.

Sincerely,

EARL K. BUCHAN
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

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