

Dear Ted::

Thank you for your great letter. It warmed my heart to read of your great experience as a Daspo cameraman and of your equally great success in civilian life. One of the most satisfying aspects (among many others) of my military career is to learn of the success of so many of the men I worked with in different military units over the years. To mention a few: Johnny Auld who became president of North America Phillips; Joe Flaherty who became the Chief Engineer of NBC; Ira Levin who wrote training film scripts for me such as "Operation of the Kitchen Range, M-1" and moved on to write "No Time for Sergeants," "Rosemary's Baby," and others. There are many others who have gone on to great careers based on their military experience, and now I will add your name to the list of those I know about. Thank you.

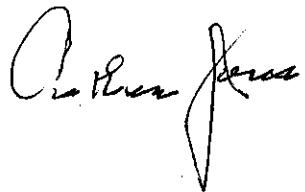
It is interesting that you and I were in Viet Nam at the same time. In June, 1967, I was transferred from The Army Photo Agency in the Pentagon to be CO of the Armed Forces Viet Nam Network. I recall that some Daspo men whom I had known came to see me, but now I cannot recall their names. You mention the Tet Offensive. That stands out in my memory principally because we lost our TV station in Hanoi where all our men, except one, were captured by the North Viet-Namese. The man who escaped (I forget his name) came to visit me in Frankfurt, Germany, some six or seven months later, where I was CO of AFN-Europe. All the men who were captured were, I am happy to say, released at the end of the war, and I remember that one of them became the civilian public affairs officer at Ft. Mead, MD.

I was very interested in your mentioning the book "IA DRANG - The Battle That Changed the War in Viet-Nam." Yamaguchi and Schiro were both with Daspo when I was. In fact, Yamaguchi was one of the original members of Daspo, and I think Schiro was, too. When Yamaguchi was in Hawaii (usually on his way to VN) he used to send my wife orchids. Hawaii was his home and he and his wife raised orchids. In 1995 or 1996 my wife and I spent a month in Hawaii and I tried diligently to find Yamaguchi but with no success.

I enjoy hearing of any Daspo reunion and regret not going to them. I just turned 87, and thank the Good Lord am in pretty good health. However, my wife is incapacitated by arthritis, and has so much difficulty walking that our travel is severely limited. However, I hope Daspo keeps on having reunions and I look forward to hearing about them.

I must say again that your letter made my day. Over the course of my 28 years in the Army I had some 9 or 10 major assignments, in the US, Asia and Europe, and many of them were great, but of all my assignments I look back on Daspo as the most rewarding.

Thanks again and best regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur J. Derosa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Arthur" on the top line and "J. Derosa" on the bottom line.