Marines, Corpsman:

I'm amazed Captain Snowden made time everyday to write an entry in this journal with all the duties he had out in the bush as well as contending with his own personal thoughts. Then it is nothing short of a miracle that he kept it preserved from all the relentless rain and sweat that seemed to penetrate everything in our backpacks. .

In typing his personal journal, it was sometimes difficult to decipher the spelling of words or names. If I had a question with a particular word, I put an* or ?. My auto correct went crazy trying to correct spelling and sentence structure, I kept it as he wrote it. Under all the command pressures, combined with fatigue after humping all day through the sweltering heat, I imagine him under a poncho with that anglehead flashlight with its dim red light trying to write on the 3x5 pocket notebook. We understand why not all of the sentences are completed. He's trying to document the day's key actions – just the facts. An entire book could be written about one day's action detailing events and the effects on the grunts of that day. September 12th 1968 is one of those days.

I hope you enjoy this treasure of what he recorded as it resonated with me. I am so grateful he took the time to record our life experience.

If you have a remembrance of a particular day, we invite you to share your memories. Type on the email or a separate page and get it back to me. I've attached a couple of remembrances from Marines & Doc Fowler in bold below the diary entry for that day. I've also added the KIA's name and comments from The Wall of Faces. "The Virtual Wall Vietnam - Veterans Memorial" it's website for comments is currently down.

Our plan is to collect a number of comments/ stories and then we'll place it on the Lima website...

Questions call/text Dan C. 360-739-6104 or email dancantrell1@yahoo.com

The Diary of Captain Robert Snowden

June 24th 1968 through 12th December 1668

24 june 68

Joined % in field- flew by chopper from Phu Bai to An Hoa- from An Hoa to LZ. Because S-3 (A) will get company after this operation.

25 june

Marched all day- extremely hot- up & down- had to use ropes at times- no contact- one man wounded by boody trap.

26 june

Continued march - light contact - found 3 packs, 1 helmet (2 holes in it) and blood trails.

27 june

Continued march- Light contact- 1 K, 5 W - no enemy.

KIA-Luperto Garcia, Kilo Co.

POSTED ON 3.24.2014

THANK YOU.

Hello My Brother, I want to thank you for being wonderful son to our parents, who loved you and missed you sooooo much. And also a wonderful brother to me. You were so good to us and I just want to say "Thank You" we miss you so much and even though I was only six years old, I remember so much about you. Till we meet again, please give mom and dad a big HUG for me. Love You Always. Your sister Bertha

P.S. A big "Thank You" for serving our country.

28 june

Killed two enemy- no friendly casualties. Rained like all hell in late afternoon- miserable, wet, cold.

29 june

Continued attack- killed 3 NVA - lost one to a boody trap & wounded one- wounded due to enemy fire- found large enemy compound- at least 20 bamboo huts- beating enemy at their own game.

KIA- David W Yarber. India Co.

POSTED ON 6.27.2014 POSTED BY: GARY YARBER

DAVID WAS MY BROTHER

I was only 15 when David left for Viet Nam, I can remember the last days we spent together and the heartbreak of the news when he was killed. Time has passed and I am saddened by him not being able to see his nieces and their families but my heart rejoices that they know him and love him also. Thank you all for your comments and messages. They help to ease the pain in my heart even now, after all these many years of missing my brother.

30 june

Took whore's bath in steam from waist up. Feel fairly clean again. Marched through jungle all day- killed 2 NVA - no good guys hurt. Finally got resupplied at dusk by choppers. Only had 2

chocolate bars, 6 salt tablets, 1 malaria pill, 2 headache tablets, and 1 canteen water all day until resupply at night. Even had fresh bread. PB +jelly sandwiches. Peaches, juice. Slept well.

1 july

Got 2 gooks today. Both were wounded, but died before we could get them out. Poor bastards. Found 3 or 4 NVA. base camps- destroyed them plus 2 tons of rice. First wounded told us his company had moved out south this morning- 100 men. Too bad we couldn't have got there first. This is first time any U.S. units have operated in this area. They can't believe were here. I think they have been using it for an R&R center. The area is lousy with gooks, Got resupplied in late evening. Slept around bomb crater and burnt out area on a hill top. Could see open skies and stars for the first time. Also today Mike company was strafed by a U.S. army [cobra] helicopter. They were on target, but no hits on our guys.

2 July

Got 3 more gooks today. Ambushed two & got one at a hooch complex - he was lying in hammock and started to run - hit with an M-79. Heading down out of mountains and jungle. Should be in lowlands tomorrow. Hotter than hell. Destroyed about 3 or 4 enemy base camps. We were sniped at and now I know what bullets sound like going over my head. Crazy man! Watched air strikes and spooky (large plane with many machine guns) work over enemy at night, from our hill where stopped for the night. Haven't shaved in 9 days. (Ugh)

3 July

Come out of the foothills into the lowlands- rice paddies and a few scattered houses. This is to be the last day of operation. Only two sniper incidents - no casualties either side. We forged a river about waist high and were met by trucks & jeeps to take us into An Hoa. Took shower, shaved, roast beef dinner- Great! Had four cans of warm beer- it was great also. I think I've got the G.I. runs. Went to sleep on a cot. very blissful.

4 July

We came back to Phu Bai today. From An Hoa to Danang by choppers and from Danang to Phu Bai by C-130. I saw Doc White at Danang & he gave me a "cold" pepsi. Had cold beers and a good cool shower. Since it was the 4th of July, everybody was shooting off flares and different colored star clusters. The skie's stayed lighted up for hours. Machine guns were shooting tracers & artillery joined in. The gooks probably didn't know what to think of it, but the C.O., Col. Graham was pissed. Good to be back in the rear.

5 July

Got haircut and shampoo from gook barber shop on base- first one in 21 days, Lt Col.Rexroad told me l'Il take over lima Co. on Monday, Talked with 1st Sgt Meyer and Gy Sgt Loucks over a few beers. Found out at CO's meeting that enemy is building up to the south of us. Saw Dr. Zhivago at club. Going out to Lima Co. tomorrow.

6 July

Lt. Clements, Lt. Barron and I went to bridge which "L" Co is guarding. I will relieve Clements and Barron will be my X.O. Looked over defense and talked about situations over cold beers. Buy ice from local village - \$4.00 for 25-30 lb chunk. Slept on cot outside bunkers. Clear night - good for sleeping. Ambushes and mines set up for the night.

7 July

Attended church services. Played volleyball, wrote letters, and read books. Nothing much exciting today.

8 July

Officially assumed command of Lima Co. Spent day getting organized. Spotted enemy gooks crossing road 100 meters away. Tried to ding some, but couldn't go check. Had two men in 1st Platoon wounded by chicom grenades while sitting in ambush position, brought back in. Heloded out at first light. Fairly lively evening and night.

9 July

Iced down some cans of cokes. 25 lb cake of ice cost \$4.00 from local village. Buy cokes every chance we get since they taste better than water. No movement around my perimeter tonight. Took shower from a 55 gallon drum attached to the bridge. Water is dirty, but it feels good each night.

10 July

Put up large tent outside my main bunker to have place to sit out of sun. All sides on tent stay rolled up. Continuing to improve defenses. We know the gooks are in the area and building up for something big. Received tea from home - only took 4 days. Talked to tank Lt. about armored patrol. Quiet evening, shower and bed.

July 11

Went into Phu Bai this afternoon and stopped by 1st Med Bn. to see GySgt Mohoz? and SSgt Legg. They are trying to drive the Navy crazy. Doing a pretty good job, too. Ate at mess hall - had roasted beef, peanut butter & jelly sand, and 4 glasses of cold milk! Brought back olive jar full of milk for Lt. Barron. Quiet evening for us, but Kilo next to us had some movement around their perimeter. Couldn't sleep well tonight.

July 12

Had quite a rain this afternoon - came down in buckets - stripped off my clothes and took a great shower. Very refreshing, one corner of my bunker collapsed.

July 13

We had a shower today, but not as hard as yesterday. Lt. Col. Rexroad came by to look over my positions. Will improve and change some. Received quite a few cases of beer today. It will last us a few days. Gunny Louche brought me back a jar of milk - Great. One of my ambush squads had about 10 grenades. thrown at them - lots of shooting, on casualty.

July 14

Attended church service this morning. Today marks the start of my second month in Westpac - 12 more to go. Talked to each Plt. commander separately and informed him of my policies. The rebuilding of the collapsed bunker is coming along, Gunny louche is continually scrounging

gears and material from the Seabees and everybody else. Saw gooks over the road, but couldn't fire mortar or artillery due to friendly village. They were about 700 meters away.

15 July

We were told to expect attacks tonight. Went into Phu Bai this afternoon - drank lots of milk for supper along with fried chicken. Went to bed early so I'd be refreshed for the fight. No attack so got lots of sleep.

16 July

Special (Classified) unit operated in my AO tonight. Bob K was with them. A man in 1st Plt medevaced out of country - He wanted to kill his Plt Cmdr. Had a little cognac before going to sleep.

17 July

Talked to special units leader and gave him a cold beer. They got what they went after. One of their captures died during interrogation! One of my ambush squads tripped a V.C. booby trap 100 meters from our position. They were on their way to their ambush site. Three men wounded of which one died. Medivac chopper was here in 15- 20 minutes. They do a good job. We did our best to keep the one man alive, but his heart kept stopping.

KIA-Randolph T. Jefferson

POSTED ON 4.6.2012

North Philadelphia 18 Years old.Randy enjoyed singing in church and dancing, but people were his greatest love. His sense of duty and obligation to other people is what led him to enlist, a cousin said.

POSTED ON 12.23.2004 POSTED BY: JIM MCILHENNEY

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER - JULY 23, 1968

The Philadelphia Marine wrote his father, William M. Jefferson Sr., "I understand what I'm facing in Vietnam." He said he wanted his Dad to be proud of him.

18 July

Lt Barron transferred to S-4. Now I'm the only officer present in Lima Co. Hate to see Barron go. Plenty of action in the mountains south of us. Lots of air strikes. Walked through local ville - just looking it over.

19 July

We got a new Bn CO today due to Lt Col Rexroad being in hospital with bad case of malaria. At least that's what it is thought to be. Many in the Bn are coming down with it. Lt Col. Seymore is the new C.O. knew him from Quantico.

20 July

Visited Lt Col Rexroad in sickbay to say goodbye. He will be medivaced to hospital ship tomorrow because of malaria. Got new F.O.in today - 2Lt. Cathey. Appears to be a good man.

21 July

Loafed around today after attending church service. Told to be on the alert for possible attack. Nothing became of it.

22 July

My 1st Sgt came down with malaria. Don't know how long he will be away. Played volleyball in late afternoon. 1/26 started moving in near Bn C.P. so they will be all ready to relieve us in a few days. Finally got an air mattress that holds air. My back has been killing me lately. Can't hardly move when I first get up.

23 July

Bravo Co 1/26 moved into our position today to prepare to relieve us. Picked up pay for Lima. Marines & P. F. were test firing some weapons in early evening. A civilian woman was killed in a ville 1900 meters away. Probable that bullets come from PF firing BAR in that direction. Marines were firing from bridge into water. Death is being investigated. Flew over area of next operation in helicopter on recon.

24 July

The investigation of the dead woman was dropped by our CO since no Marines were responsible. Got word that our operation has been changed. Instead of flying by chopper to our area, we are going to another area by marching. Things sure change fast around here.

25 July

Our operation changed again today. Now we're going to completely different area. Into Phu Bai for the night. Went to club for movies and drinks.

26 July

Orders changed again. We flew by C-130's to Danang - just Lima & India companies - India went op con to ½ and Lima to 1/7. Don't know how long we'll be with 1/7 working in the rocket belt. I don't know where 3/5 is. We were all going to An Hoa, but now the battalion is spread all over. Had bad hang over all day today, not used to booze anymore. We're on Hill 10 just outside of Danang. Bernie Cauley is S-3 of 1/7.

27 July

Hill 10 is a fairly nice little camp, but they get a few rounds in now & then - like almost every day. Sent all three platoons out on patrols & ambushes tonight. 2nd Plt. had contact with some gooks - one USMC slightly wounded in the arm. Last night some rockets from this area hit Danang. This is a very lively area.

28 July

Patrols & ambushes out again today. The mortars & artillery of ours here on the hill keep busy day & night - it almost shakes you out of a chair or rack. Talked to Col. Hall today when he came by to visit Hill 10 & 1/7. He asked about my company. We had grilled (Bar-B-Que) steaks today and a movie in the evening. (The Dirty Dozen) I still don't know where my battalion, 3/5, is. It's scattered everywhere, from last report. It's a hell of a nutty war. To say the least.

29 July

Bn HQ and Mike company arrived at hill 10 today. It appears we will go on 3-day operation tonight. The gooks threw a few mortar rounds at hill 10 just before Mike CO & BN HQ arrived. Three of my men were slightly wounded - nothing serious.

I was in the shitter, pants down, when the VC 61MM began to walk in from about 40 yards in front of me. They popped about six rounds, the last few hitting behind me. I scrambled into the same five man bunker with 10 guys. Hoffman casually mentioned I was bleeding on him. "Oh God, I'm hit". Walking over to sickbay and they plucked out several pieces of fragmentation from my back and arms. Went back to the unit with a swagger and a Purple Heart -I'm bad now been there.... Robert Henry

30 July

We left at 2000 last night. Lima had the point. I navigated us to our objective and hit it right on the nose. The going got pretty rough at times and we crossed and recrossed a stream many times. I prep fired on own objectives for this morning with artillery. Mike also reached their objective. Set in for the hot part of the day. One man tripped a booby trap - wounded fairly bad. The more men were medivaced due to heat stroke, One of the hottest days I've seen. Sent water parties down to the river for more water. Gunny Louchs was sick this evening with upset stomach and headache. Sent patrols & ambushes out. One ambush had a grenade throwing contest with some - Charles- no casualties.

31 July

Headed for all next objective early this morning. My point hit a booby trap. Killed one man* and wounded three. Called in the medivac chopper, after securing own objective and getting set up, I let groups of the company get down to the rivers for water and swimming. The water is dirty, but it felt good, sent out patrol and ambushes. Some gooks slipped up to my perimeter and through grenades. One man picked one up and threw it back. I'll recommend him for a Silver star. Only two men were very slightly hit with fragments

KIA-Richard Douglas Sullivan Jr.

POSTED ON 5.30.2022 POSTED BY: PATRICK ROLFE

Remembering my childhood best friend

Ricky and the whole Sullivan family were wonderful people . The years we spent playing sports and just hanging out were the best of times. His family was touched by tragedy in the loss of both Kevin and Ricky. I hope Colleen found happiness. God bless you. Remembering Ricky this Memorial Day LCPL Richard D. Sullivan Jr. is buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego,

1 Aug.

Come back in to hill 10 this morning - ate good chow & cleaned up. At 1400 we moved out by trucks to another area for a 2-3 day operation. Got off trucks at liberty bridge and walked a mile out in Bush to set up night position. Tore up area with artillery & mortars before going in.

2 Aug.

We killed two gooks last night when they came walking by our positions. Five or six got away. The dead had plenty of documents and papers on them. Also captured 4 weapons. Also last night we shelled a position where we heard gooks voices. Heard some yell, but didn't find anything when we checked it out this morning. Gooks were all around our perimeter last night throwing grenades & we threw back and fired. No USMC casualties. We haven't received any mail since 25th july. Hope it catches up to us soon. When we were resupplied this afternoon, the chopper brought in 16 gallons of ice cream. No sooner did we start digging into it good, then we got the order to move out ASAP. Mike CO. had heavy contact & we were to move to a blocking position. As we returned to Bn. C.P. To receive details, the CO. had a trailer of beer and cokes for the troops. It was dark when we moved toward our objective. We set in at the wrong place, but killed one gook anyways. My first platoon is attached to Mike CO. & it had 3 KIA & 2 WIA due to friendly mortars.Operation Mamaluke Thrust.

KIA- Kenneth Ray Jones,

Waco TX. In Nam 30 days, 18 years old.

The foster family of Kennth Jones would like anyone who may have served with Kenneth or perhaps was with him when he died. Please email me if anyone has information

DavidMorris.d-morris158@hotmail.com.

Donald Blue Scott

Harrison NJ 19 year old machine gunner nickname "Red"

POSTED ON 8.9.2002 POSTED BY: ANTHONY D.

YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN!

I went to high school with Don, and we graduated in June of '67. I entered the Army twelve days after Don was killed in action. At the time I didn't know about his death.

His death haunted his mother and father, and his mother took it especially hard. She was never the same after his death, and she never received any recognition of any magnitude from the town where they lived. That lack of compassion, coupled with the country's growing disdain for the war, made the pain that much harder to bear for her and the family.

For six long years, I pleaded, begged, and finally embarrassed the mayor and council into erecting a fitting memorial to the Veterans of Harrison who were killed in WW II, Korea and Vietnam.

In 1995, VFW Post # 340 requested the "Moving Wall" and three years later, in 1998 we hosted the "Wall" in Harrison during the week of Memorial Day. At the end of that week, we had the street name, where Don lived, changed to Scott/Mobus Place, in honor of Don and another Harrison Vet, (Joe Mobus), who was

also KIA. This took four years of prodding and pushing before the mayor and council agreed to change the street name after these deserving Veterans.

So to Veterans like Dave Grady, we too miss Don, and at least now we've made it more difficult for others to forget him and what he gave up for his country and his beliefs, the ultimate sacrifice, his life. Thank you Don.

God Bless America.

Anthony D.

Harrison, NJ

POSTED ON 2.26.1999 POSTED BY: DAVID A. GRADY

REMEMBERING A FRIEND

Red was a good marine and friend through some very difficult times. Although I knew him for only months we shared much and I felt he was like a brother. I never recovered from his loss and will always remember him. I hope he is at peace wherever he is. Semper Fi Dave Grady

"Dave Grady was wounded 12 Sept and Oct of 1968 He was so severely wounded when medevac out many assumed he would die. years later with a shuffling walk leaning heavily on a cane Dave entered the hospitality room at our reunion. A Marines recognized him, greeting him with I thought you were dead. After Vietnam he attended Princeton and became an author and a practicing psychologist."

KIA-AI Dewitt Memory

HOME .Eatonville FL . 18 years old. In Country 11 DAYS

POSTED ON 1.21.2012 POSTED BY: PATSY MEMORY HARRIS

LOVE YOU; I will always remember you in my heart. Thank you for being my brother. Love Always!

3 Aug.

Realized our wrong position & moved to right spot. Found no gooks - searched the area. Marched back in - hottest day of my life - ran low on water - sweated like a dog. Had new mission waiting for us as we got to Bn. C.P. Sgt. Maj. supplied us with kool aid, cokes & beer, Filled canteens with water & moved out again. Had to keep stopping due to heat exhaustion taking toll. Medivaced one man for heat stroke and shock. Picked up old man who turned out to be V.C. - had been high on wanted list long time. Arrived at old position of day before. Men rested for 1 1/2 hours and then went out on ambushes. Received a few grenades around my C.P. perimeter and we threw some back. Negative results on both sides. Rained like hell at night. Everybody miserable.

4 Aug.

Fairly quiet day - patrols are out. Wrote Joe Fedor & took good nap in afternoon. I was feeling blah all morning. Felt better after a nap. Gooks threw some grenades at my lines during the

night and slightly wounded two men. One of my patrols was fired at late in the evening. We called in a atry. Don't know if we got any.

5 Aug.

Had one man accidently shoot himself in his right big toe. Sent him back on the resupply chopper. Moved my company C. P. late in the evening to new location since Charlie knows where I am. He might have me zeroed in. Got word we're going back in tomorrow morning. We'll have one day of rehabilitation at 3/7 area. Quiet night.

6 Aug.

Came in today - Hot chow, showers, shaves and dry clothes. Makes you feel like a human instead of an animal. Received orders for our next operation which starts tomorrow. Went to hill 65 to look out over area we'll be operating in. Capt. Robb has his C.P. there and he gave us a briefing on the area. Drank beer and cokes all day, ate good hot chow and played bridge. Even had a movie at night. Life can be so pleasant at times. Also received first mail call in 12 days. Actually most of our mail is still at An Hoa I think.

7 Aug

Thought we would be moving out today, but we didn't. Great to have another day off- chow is great- so is beer and cokes. Supposed to go into new area.by chopper tomorrow.

8 Aug

We were supposed to leave at 1300 by chopper, but the op was canceled and we went by truck and amtracks to hill 41. A phantom jet was shot down a few miles from there this morning. Our mission is to locate the enemy force in the area.

9 Aua

We left hill 41 at 2000 last night and walked 8,000 meters. We then took a 2 hour sleep- it was 0345. Delta 1/7 took objective Alpha with no resistance. Mike Co. hit resistance on obj Bravo and didn't take it. Mike Co. did capture a 50 cal. anti-aircraft M.G. and one prisoner after killing a few NVA. Lima set in as a blocking force for the night. The hill we climbed (obj A) was over a thousand ft. and heat was taking its toll. The gooks are pulling up a stiff fight for this area. I finally ate something before going to sleep. Slept like a log.

10 Aug

We stretched our lines across a few fingers and ravines as a blocking force. Bravo 1/7 and Mike Co. are going to hit Obj. B from two sides. Mike Co. couldn't advance due to heavy fire and Bravo got chopped to pieces- lost 8 KIA,34 WIA and 14 due to heat. They left one KIA on the hill. We were called to move to their position. We had just moved for the second time today through heavy brush and ravines. Getting to Bravo Co. was even worse since we were low on water & carrying wounded. The wounded was hit by a grenade pretty bad when his squad went

to outpost Obj C. The way to Bravo Co was terrible terrain - sweating like a dog and then it rained on us. Bravo Co. had pulled back and when I reached their position they were in bad shape. They still had their dead and some of their wounded. Many were totally exhausted and some in shock. I was told to assume command of Bravo Co. and help get things straightened out. We set in for the night and it was raining heavily - soaked to the skin- a most miserable night- cramps in my leg, Never did eat today. We take a crack at hill 310 (obj B) in the morning.

Hill 310, I heard the cry Corpsman up.... I went to the area and started up the hill to the wounded Marine (don't know who). The next minute Doc Joy came over to help me get the Marine down, we looked up and saw an NVA soldier draw down on us. but for some reason he didn't fire. Doc Joy thought that it was because he could tell we were Corpsman. The next day Doc Joy was shot and killed in action. Going to the aid of a fallen Marine. Doc Fowler

11 Aug

Air strikes on hill 310 during the morning to soften it up before Lima Co. attacks. We got all Bravo's casualties out during the morning also, I had Bravo form their remaining men into two platoons and had them standing by to support my attack. We know the gooks are dug in very good with bunkers and trenches. If I meet much resistance I'm to pull back and let air strikes blow hill 310 away. Lt. Ryan took 1st Plt. up, but ran into heavy sniper fire. The snipers are well concealed and hard to spot. Lt. Ryan took six casualties real quick so I ordered him back. He was hit in the helmet, but only had scratches on his cheek and ear. I told Lt. Col. Seymore to have the hill split apart with delayed bombs, Mike Co. could *advance either. The hill Is honeycombs with tunnels, trenches and bunkers. Air strikes all the rest of the day and more due in the morning. My sniper scout picked off one gook. I had 1 KIA and 5 WIA. The KIA and 2 of the WIA we* Corpsmen, "Doc" Joy was a good man. Every time I see one of my men killed or badly wounded, I get filled with bitter hate. We pulled back 500 meters so the plane could do their work, but dirt clods, rocks and shrapnel still came down on us occasionally. Dirt clods injured two men - broke one's leg and the other's ribs. A piece of shrapnel, the size of a penny came down on one man's thumb and broke and gashed it.

Sure wish I still had my camera. These airstrikes used rockets, 20 mm cannons, all size bombs and plenty of napalm. We gassed the hill first thing this morning with CS gas bombs. We found out 1st PLT has a man missing, don't know if he's on the hill or jumped on the medevac chopper after the attack. Gunny Loucks got hit with a piece of shrapnel in the side, but just bounced off. He can't be kept down anyhow. He's always looking for the action. Got in 2 new corpsmen.

KIA-Doc William A Joy

POSTED ON 6.24.2018

FRIEND OF MY FATHER

After 50 years, most of names have been forgotten by my dad. One name, after all these years, he remembers down to his laugh and sense of humor is HN Joy. We have visited him at both the

Memorial in DC and the moving wall. I hope his family knows that after all these years, he is remembered by one of his fellow combat Corpsman. And our family respectfully honors his life.

KIA-JOHN APOLLO Tesauro

POSTED ON 11.11.2023 POSTED BY: GREG HUDDAS

ANOTHER YEAR PASSES

Well John, It's cousin Greg. Veterans Day is here again and we still miss you every day. At your funeral I promised your mom that if I ever had a son we would name him after you. After two tours and twelve years later we had a baby boy "On Memorial Day" and named him John after you! Not only was he born on memorial Day, but he ended up being an aerospace engineer named after John Apollo Tesauro. Talk about carma. By the way, as an Army guy I was given a marine coin to carry for a free beer. I am saving it for you, when we meet again. Your cuz, Greg

12 Aug

We had more air strikes all morning. Before they started, Lt Ryon took 4 men to search for the missing man. His body was spotted just a little way uphill 310 behind a tree. The patrol tried to get him down but after dragging him only a few meters, sniper fire drove them back. The air strikes then blew the hell out of 310 again. After the strikes, we moved back to our attack positions and 2nd Plt assaulted. There was* a shot fired. Hill 310 is torn up completely - only a few bare and limbless trees and crater. The tunnels, trenches and bunkers were quite a network. We recovered our two marine bodies. There was what was left of a few gooks laying around. The gooks tunnels and caves are all caved in. There must be quite a few buried inside the hill when they pulled in to avoid the planes. The hill stinks of dead.

13 Aug

Lima attacked obj C during the morning and was met by numerous grenades & rifle fire. We pulled back - Sgt. Mckeon shot through foot. 3rd Plt. had made the assault. Worked over the hill with napalm,but it didn't hit where I wanted it- also mortared hill. 3rd Plt went up again and met by more grenades- 3 Marines wounded by shrapnel- not serious. Pulled back and Delta Co, enveloped from the left and over run the gooks position. Found one gook barely alive. Lima went on to northern part of obj C with no resistance- set in for the night, "D" Co, got mortared during the night...

14 Aug

I called in air strikes, artillery and mortars on obj D (hill 270) this morning prior to Lima assaulting it. Supporting arms really gave it a working over, 1st & 2nd Plt. assaulted with 3nd in reserves. We met no resistance- the gooks had pulled off. A chopper caught 15 of them leaving the hill earlier and killed at least 4. One of my men was killed by friendly overhead fire from Delta Co. An accident of war which is always a shame. We found bunkers, trenches, caves and fighting holes on top of 270. Most of them dug out of rock. Hill 270 was almost straight up in places- glad the gooks weren't on top- I'd have lost many Marines. Set in for the night, I was appointed investigating officer on death of Parish.

KIA-Leonard Monroe Parrish

28 days in country

POSTED ON 5.31.2019 POSTED BY: TERESA HERRING MCLEOD

HOME

Dear Uncle Monroe, You are my first memory as a child. I remember Paris Island and when you came Home. My Mother misses you so much. I am a Civil Servant to People of the United States of America. I am proud of your Service to our Great Country and proud to be your niece. I have dedicated my life to those who serve our Country. You will never be forgotten. Love Teresa

*Parrish, Records under casualty type: hostile, died out right and casualty detail: gun or small arms fire.

15 Aug

Come down off hill 270 and back to the top of hill 310. Mike Co. is going on recon in force to 302. The walk to the top of 310 just about did me in- not as young as I used to be- leg felt like rubber. Got new Lieutenant in today, Lt. Bob Hudson. Now I have 3 Lts. Rested up during the day- actually shaved- feel cleaner even tho I'm not. New missions are in store for us during the next few days. Bn HQ and "D." Co. got ice cream & cold milk. Lima & Mike are pissed off. Promised that we would get some tomorrow. Win some & lose some.

16-17 Aug

Chopper in to hill 55 which is 7th Marines HQ. Showered and hot chow with plenty of cold milk & ice cream. Then during the evening meal we got the word to move out by chopper to An Hoa. We were supposed to get a few days rest. Moved out from An Hoa 0400 by foot. Moved into attack positions during the morning. Had a few tanks with us. Lima ended up as a blocking force as Mike Co. pushed against the NVA. We saw a few trying to escape and Gunny Louche took off after one and captured him. Few minutes later the gunny & some more men got two more, but both gooks were wounded. They later died. We had quite a shooting gallery going which included M-79's and 60mm mortars. One gook came trotting down along the rice paddies right in front of us. I let him get to within 30 feet before cutting loose. Scratched another. Flare ships kept our area lighted up all night. I didn't have anyone even hit. I like it that way.

18 Aug

Found another dead gook this morning in front of our lines. We spent the day searching for enemy weapons and food clashes plus a couple of aid stations. The Battalion found 28 tons of rice (most of which was from the U.S.), 96 mortar rounds, plus other ammo and a few more bodies. Also we captured 85,000,000 units of penicillin. This was the most fortified area anyone had ever seen. Our air and artillery tore it all to hell. A couple hundred NVA that left before we arrived ran into "G" & "F" Co's of % and they had quite a battle. I think over a hundred NVA were killed. The air is still working themover. All is quiet in our area. The Gunny rounded up about 78 civilians for interrogation. All were women & children except for one old man. Our corpsman held sick call for the civilians & passed out pills after treating their aches, pains, and sores.

19 Aug

We continued to search the area. Around 1700 I got the call from Bn that Lima Co was to move out immediately on a special mission. A chopper picked me up at the Bn C.P. and flew me into An Hoa to be briefed by Col. Graham the Regt.C.O. My Co. began moving and I joined them around 2000 after the chopper put me down. We had to move about 8,000 meters to set in as a blocking or reaction force because An Hoa was expecting to get hit. We marched until 0400 & then waited until 0530 and went into An Hoa . The troops were beat & I'm glad we didn't have contact. It rained on us plus we sloshed through rice paddies. Stayed soaked most of the night. These are the times I wonder about my volunteering to come over here.

20 Aug

Got 2 hours sleep today, seen the Col. and then went on a jeep recon out to the area where we were last night and will be going again tonight. Got a care package from home plus about a dozen letters.- Most of them were back mail. We moved out at dark and came back in just before first light. We saw nothing.

21 Aug

Ate chow & took a shower. Discovered I had picked up crabs from either the head or the gook houch we stayed in where I had by C.P. set up.Got some ointment from sick bay and it killed them,real good. Got a call from Regt. that Lima was to be choppered to Danang and then trucked a few miles to a new position. The rest of the Bn would follow. We packed up and were gone in less than an hour. We arrived at Dia Loc and most of the Bn arrived shortly after we did. So once again we were shifted around. I never know where we'll be one day to the next. Everybody is expecting a new enemy offensive at any time.

22 Aug

Lima took over AO for patrols and ambushes. I ran Co. from Bn. C.P. Nice to sleep on a mattress & have cold beer & soda around. It's not much but we call it home.

23 Aug

Moved my C.P. group out to the field near 2nd Plt. Had no sooner got there when we got a call to pick up and be ready to move in 30 minutes. We were sent to Danang where the NVA tried to break through the day before. We were under control of 1 M.P. Bn. The part of town that the NVA got into was tore all to hell. They got within 2 blocks of the air strip. When we got there, bodies were still lying around. The place smelled of death. We set in a defense for the night, which was fairly uneventful except that two of my men were wounded by their own grenade. Had a medivac called in-the pilot did a great job of flying.

24 Aug

We headed back to 3/5 today after eating and showering at 1st MP. area. They really live good with running water and a good messhall & living quarters. We went back out to our area and this time I set up my C.P. IN some old French bunkers. Two men out on a ambush got hit by a chicom grenade - they were only scratched. Lt Richterer shot one of his own men through the leg by mistake when the man came in the wrong way.

25 Aug

Continue to send out patrols and ambushes. I knew there are parts of two NVA companies in my area, but they stay hidden most of the time. Went by a CAP unit & found out they were in bad need of grenades, claymore's, flares & ammo. I told them I would help them get these supplies. The Sgt. in charge gave me a grease gun since he was so glad somebody was taking an interest in them. They got their supplies that night. Now I have something to trade if I don't want to carry it.

26 August

Still waiting for the gooks, but they don't seem to want to come at us. Danang and other areas seem to catch Rockets & mortars at night. Nothing much happening around my area.

27 August

Half of the Bn. went to China Beach today for hot dogs, hamburgers, beer + sodas. The other half goes tomorrow. I went today - swimming was great as was the chow and drinks. Sure did boost the morale of the troops.

28 Aug

Wouldn't you know it - no sooner had the other part of the Bn got to China Beach when the word came to prepare to move out. We went by truck convoy to Liberty Bridge. Started walking at 1845 towards our objectives which is a blocking position about 10,000 - 11,000 meters away. The roads shown on the map are quite deceiving since many are not used or haven't been for years and are no more than an overgrown footpath. Gunny Loucks got another gook. We were the point company and had stopped to allow the Bn to close up and he wandered on ahead to check out a gook houch. Two gooks ran out and he cut loose. One went down wounded in the leg, but the other one got away even though he had been hit also. The column was sniped at 2 or 3 times, but nobody was hit. Cross one stream that was 4 ft deep - this area has really been torn up during a previous operation. Bulldozers had leveled all the villages. Frump and Warren, my two radio men fall sound asleep every time we stop for a little bit. I think some guys are walking in their sleep. We finally reached our objective at 0700 -12 hours of marching, backs aching from the packs, feet and legs still wet and tired.

29 Aug

After finally getting here, I deployed the company and layed my weary body down. I managed to get a few hours sleep between radio calls. We are deployed along the river as a blocking force while 1/7, Arvns and ROK Marines are pushing toward us. Air strikes are giving the enemy area all sorts of hell. All we can do is sit and wait for them to come at us. Hope they do.

30 Aug

We spotted a few gooks on the other side of the river and shot some mortars at them. Couldn't tell if we got any, but we were on target. Slipped down to the river for a shave & bath- felt real good. Got 14 new men in today which helps out a lot.

31 Aug

Fairly quiet day. I took a bath in the river as did most of the troops. Didn't see any more gooks. It was actually a boring day.

1 Sept

The chaplain came by this morning & held church services. I was called out during the services to go to a meeting. We got the word we would be moving out on another operation in the morning. We had to shift down the railroad & set in for the night. My new 1st Sgt. come out to the field for the night. His name is Bennett. I think he'll do real good. This railroad we have been next to for the past few days no longer exists. All the bridges have been blown & the rails are missing. It's been destroyed for quite some time. Tomorrow is Labor Day, but no holiday for the Grunts.

2 September

Attacked eastward about 4000 meters, but met no resistance. This is Operation Sussex I think. There is supposed to be an NVA battalion in this area, but I'm sure they will move out when we start coming at them. Set in for the night, resupplies, plus some mail. Heck of a way to spend Labor Day.

3 September

Continued attack eastward. India & Mike companies ran into some resistance from snipers on our right flank. Mike hit a NVA strong point and had 4 KIA and 7 WIA before we set in for the night. We had snipers shooting at us for a while, but I had my 60 MM mortars fire on the tree line where we thought they might be and we had no more sniping. Hoi An to our east was hit with rockets around 2100, but I don't know if there was a ground attack. It has been raining on us for a few days now.

4 September

Continued attack east-blowing up bunkers and tunnels along the way. Detained many civilians for questioning. Raining like mad, Mike Co finally tied in on my right flank for the night. Put CP under a small leaky hooch everything we have is soaking- everyone miserable.

5 Sept

Spent one of the most miserable nights ever- wind and rain. Typhoon hit around Hue with winds up to 165 MPH. Still raining & windy today. One man woke up being gored in the leg by a water buffalo. Received a 3 in. gash in left thigh. Shot the water buffalo. Shot a few more that were acting up. One man was hit in back by stray bullet from those shooting water buffaloes. Pretty serious wound. Finally got a medivac chopper in for both men. Rest of Bn is pulling back. Lima is to stay. All four tanks with us are stuck in the mud. We have to stay with them. Even 2/5 on our left flank is pulling out. Don't know how long Lima will be out here alone or pull back. I have a total of 179 men & 4 tanks. Two of the tanks at my position got unstuck and joined the other two at 3rd platoons position about 300 meters away. There 3 became stuck again & 1 broke down. Finally dried out after moving to bigger hooch and building a fire. Everybody that left gave us their chow since there is no telling when we'll get resupplied. Men have been eating one of

the dead water buffaloes. Quiet night - manage to get some sleep. Hope this weather clears soon.

6 Sept

The weather cleared up this morning. I was able to get the 4 tanks back to my perimeter even though one is not running - it was towed by another tank. Tank battalion C.O. came out to look over the situation and try to figure away to get the tanks out. The water is still rising around us. Might be here for a few more days. The rain uncovered a piece of plastic & further investigation revealed a rice cache of the NVA. We uncovered 35 100 lb bags of rice in one place and 144 cubic feet of loose rice in an underground storage bin. We now have plenty of rice! Probably had it taken out by the chopper tomorrow. Continuing to search other areas. Received resupply today.

7 September

Receive resupply today and send out 4,200 lb of rice. Received platoon from "A" Co. 1/5 to provide security for 2 amtracs which had to be abandoned a few nights ago when the Battalions pulled out. The water level is going down all around so maybe the tanks & amtracs will be able to get out in a couple days.. Now have about 210 men plus 4 tanks under my command. Found almost 2 tons of ordnance near amtracs which was supposed to have been blown up the night amtracs were abandoned. Actually the explosion just scattered everything- mortars, grenades, etc. Ordered 500 lbs of C-4 with blasting caps, det cord etc. to destroy the ordinance. Will try to move tanks tomorrow. Split a miniature of Brandy with air officer and the gunny tonight. Still got one left - been carrying them for about 3 weeks.

8 Sept

Got 3 tanks across the river today, but one is broke down & will have to be fixed tonight & taken across in the morning. The two Amtracs will go out tomorrow also. The ordinance will be blown at that time. We will go out after the tanks & Amtracs so we've been told. The water level is slowly going down. Things are going fairly smooth at present.

9 Sept

Had to shift some of my forces around last night. Got the last tank across on the ferry & the amtracs went in the river to swim home. We walked 6,000 meters to Hotel Co. 2/5 position & were helo lifted back to An Hoa. Hope to have a few days to rest up. Had 2 cold beers and a good shower. Have plenty to do around here, new or clean clothes for the troops plus haircut, shaves and showers. Mail and care packages were awaiting us

10 Sept

Saw Skip Bartlett who is C.O. of ITT. Tried to take care of paper work - not enough time. We are to leave in the morning by choppers to rejoin the Bn.. They have been having some fairly good contact the past two days

11 Sept

We moved out by chopper from An Hoa around 0930 and joined the Bn in the field. I carried a can of fudge that Aunt Marge sent in a care package. Mike Co. hit heavy resistance as they moved towards their objective. The gooks are well dug in & have plenty of firepower. We were following behind Mike Co. so I went up to talk to *Boney Barron (C.O. of Mike). Before they pulled back to pound it some more, Mike Co. had 5 KIA and 12 WIA. Lt.Joe Walters was hit in the left knee. He was in bad pain, but the war is over for him. Lima pulled back & went around to the right & got in behind them. We questioned some civilians and they said there was around 100 VC & NVA in the area. The gooks fired on my column once & hit an old lady in the leg. We patched her up as best we could. As we approached our objective, we saw at least 10 gooks running N.E. on the other side of the treeline. Jets were on their way in and drop napalm & bombs right where the gooks were headed. We all cheered. Bob Hudson's 3rd Plt. had point & they killed one gook as we entered the tree line. Others fired on them as they move further in, past the tree line. They opened up on two more gooks & later found an AK-47 & some shot-up packs & pans. I know we got at least one more, but we couldn't check out the area until later & there were no bodies. 3rd Plt had a .50 cal. M.G.firing at them also. Finally got defense set in for the night. No casualties so far - we're lucky.

12 Sept

We continued to search out this area all morning and found two rifles - an AK-47 & an SKS -44, about 12 enemy packs, .50 cal. M.G tripod and two boxes of .50 cal. ammo. Lima moved out at 1315 to lead the attack north. After crossing a stream, the 1st Plt started entering a village. 2nd Plt set up a base of covering fire. The village had about a platoon of gooks in it located in trenches, holes & bunkers. The gooks were mainly firing from a tree line across an open place. 1st Plt started taking casualties of which one was laying out in the open between both lines - he had to lay there throughout the fight. Lt. Ryan got a bullet in the side and was in bad shape. Lt. Richter went in to take control - did a good job. The gooks had all areas zeroed in especially the wounded man in the middle. Anybody who tried to help him was shot at. Air strikes dropped napalm as close as 75 meters but the enemy was too close to us. Cpl Martin finally got the exposed man back, but he was wounded in the jaw & armed doing it. I ordered the platoon to pull back under cover of mortars and covering fire. Then we pounded the area with air & mortars. I had to leave my one KIA in a trench. I had 13 wounded. We'll pound the area with more air & artillery and go at it again in the morning. It was a hell of a day and tomorrow is Friday the 13th. The battalion has lost 4 lieutenants to wounds in the past 3 days This area is thick with VC and NVA. We killed four today and the Bn has a total of 41.

KIA-Richard Hathaway Arruda

PON 3.23.2013 POSTED BY: BONNIE LEE (ENGLAND) KENDRIGANOSTED

THANK YOU, RICKY

I see Ricky's grave fairly often as a very good friend's father is buried close to his grave and I visit that grave as well. Sometimes, I place a flower or two on Ricky's grave. I had the biggest childhood crush on Ricky when I was in the third grade. I thought he was so 'cute'! Ricky came from a very loving family. Thank you for making the ultimate sacrifice. I salute you, Ricky. God Bless You. You are safe now.

Friday-13 Sept

We prepped the objective area we didn't take yesterday with air & arty and then moved into it. We recovered the one body left there yesterday and moved through and found one wounded NVA. He told us everything we wanted to know. There has been an NVA battalion in there when my 1st platoon hit it yesterday, but they moved out during the night. We continued on to our next objective and killed a civilian on the way. He ran when our point approached which they know better than to do. Also there are not supposed to be anybody living in this area. Most anybody living around here supports the V.C. anyway. We helped bury him & moved on. After we reached our obj. and started to set in our perimeter, automatic weapons opened up on us. Bullets were flying thick and accurate. There were a couple of NVA in the tree line 20 meters from my C.P. Bullets were clipping away the C.P. hooch and kicking up the dirt. I couldn't even get to my radio. The gooks had a chance to wipe out the CP group, but didn't open up until we had spread out a little. We couldn't see them, but we threw grenade, shot M - 79's, LAAW's, rifles & machine guns at them. They were well dug in. I threw about 6 grenades & fired 8 magazines at them. We finally worked around behind them, but we were taking sniper fire from a couple hundred meters. Also took at least 5 mortar rounds. We had one man wounded lying about 15 meters from them, in the open. I finally crawled up to him & then another Marine helped me pull him back to safety. He died about 30 minutes later. He had been hit through the chest. I lost 2 killed & 4 wounded. One of the wounded wasn't medivaed & the other weren't too bad. Cpl Petchell was shot through the foot and one man shot through the neck - not too bad and one had shrapnel wounds. It turned dark but we had them surrounded. Really had a close call that time! We threw plenty of ordinance at them

KIA-.Arley George Abraham

POSTED ON 7.22.2004 POSTED BY: GARRY SMITH A

HE WAS A COUPLE YEARS AHEAD OF ME IN SCHOOL.I remember this great guy from our days at Williamson High School. The first time I visited the wall in 1986, I found his name there and wept as though it had just happened.

Will always remember you, guy!!

KIA-Eugene Joseph Feeley Jr.

29 davs in Nam

POSTED ON 12.16.2005

It's been a long time since we were in boot camp together,we were just kids huh.Semper Fi my dear brother and rest till HE comes again.Glenn.Marine

POSTED ON 5.27.2014 POSTED BY: THOMAS FEELEY

If anyone has more information on Eugene or any information on living relatives I would like to hear from you.

Eugene is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington, NJ. PH

14 September

Closed in on the gooks and found one dead. He had been shot by the Gunny after he had shot Petchell in the foot. The other gook was hiding in a trench & covered by tall grass, but was spotted by our Vietnamese and shot. Those two gooks had done their damage before we killed them. They both had AK-47 rifles and plenty of ammo. A chopper took our two dead Marines out & we moved on. We went to Mike Company's position, got our resupplies and moved out. The people we questioned said the NVA had passed through this morning. When we got to our objective, some people said the NVA had been there, but left a couple hours before. They were carrying some wounded with them. They also had a female VC as a nurse. There had been at least 50 to 60 of them. We set in because of darkness. They seem to stay one step ahead of us.

15 Sept

Searched out surrounding area, but found very little. Questioned some of the people & they all said the NVA left just before we arrived. They seem to stay one step ahead of us. It is Sunday so we all took our malaria pills. Move back to Mike Co. area to set in for the night. The chaplain, Fred Thompson, held service for both companies at 1800. There was a good turnout & it was one of the finest church services I ever attended. There was no singing since the enemy was in the area, but the message was really good. Fred is one of the finest chaplains I've seen. He goes where the troops are and has a closeness to the Marines which is sincere. When men are wounded he helps to comfort them & ease their worries. He talked in a down to earth manner-the kind the troops understand. We got the hot dogs on the resupply, but no bread. We roasted them & put ketchup on them. They were different & good.

16 Sept

Moved out at 0630 this morning to sweep back the way we came. About 1,000 meters from our objective, we spotted some gooks crossing a rice paddy and opened up on them. I think we got a couple because they fell and the others kept running. They were too far away to really tell. Also fired mortars machine guns. After we medivaced 2 men for heat stroke, we moved on to a small hill. While there, our sniper picked off a gook at 1200 meters. I left one platoon on this hill as an outpost and pushed on to the tree line along the river. Set up a C.P. and called our resupplies in. We sent a gook V.C. suspect out on the chopper for further interrogation. His wife and child cried a lot, but that's the breaks. Cooked some canned hamburger & put them on a

slice of bread that somebody brought in on the chopper. Doesn't sound like much, but it sure tasted good. Especially since it was my first meal of the day.

17 Sept

Moved out this morning at 0730 to sweep a village on an island. Didn't see much or run into anything going through. Lots of people and crops. On the way back, I saw three young men jump in the bushes and run. I didn't have a rifle since mine had received shrapnel holes in it a few days ago and was sent out. I spread out my C.P. group and moved in towards them, but they had taken off. Then one came walking right at me & Ski yelled to him. He saw us & started to run, but Ski cut him down with a burst. We walked up to him & his left leg was almost blown off below the knee. The other leg had a hole in it, but he was still very much alive. He had a grenade, money & gold bracelet which I got. We chopped him out, but I think he may die from loss of blood. We moved back off the island to near where my C.P. was last night and set in again. The men started searching and digging up the area. They found a cave entrance & threw a grenade in and heard screams. The Gunny threw in another grenade and went in with a .45 pistol & flashlight. Three were still alive, but the Gunny finished them off for a total of 4 V.C. dead. We found about 235 in piasters, 2 rifles & one pistol plus many documents. I think at least two of them are ones that ran from us this morning. We also questioned two men and kept them for the night. We now have about \$250 for our company beer and soda fun thanks to Ho Chi Minh. Hope we get a chance to enjoy it someday. One of these we killed this afternoon was a V.C. tax collector. The cave was only 30 meters from my C..P. and inside my perimeter. This is getting to be a habit-setting up my C.P. with gooks within spitting distance. Also one of the 4 we killed was a doctor

I just stowed my gear around my finished foxhole. It was about an hour before dark, and I needed to take a leak. Lima's perimeter was set up with one of the VC trails running through it, just behind my foxhole. I walked out on the trail a short distance, and turned onto a small side trail about 20 ft long. I proceeded to water the grass. The trail puzzled me because it went nowhere. I started searching through the short grass and discovered the most clever trap door I had ever seen. I could have walked across it a hundred times and not noticed it. I opened the trap door and I could see Charlie had done some serious digging. I had my M16, but no grenades. I didn't want to leave the trap door unattended and go back to my gear. I hollered over to a Marine that was setting up and asked for a grenade, he only had a smoke grenade. I said I'll take it. I flipped the trap door open and yelled chu-hoi a couple times half-heartedly, not thinking there was anybody even down there. I pulled the pin, threw the smoke grenade in the tunnel and put the lid back on. Waiting for the smoke to expose any secondary entrance, I opened the hatch a couple times and listened for sounds, shouting a few chu-hoi.

I kept asking Marines passing by for a grenade. Finally I got one. I pulled the pin, threw the grenade in, shut the trap door and stepped back. The boom wasn't that loud, I thought, but it sure did draw a crowd. The blast blew the trapdoor off and now I could hear voices. I stepped back waiting for somebody to come out. Gunny showed up and I told him I heard voices. In a flash he drew his 45 and jumped in the tunnel. I was aghast —who would ever do that ? Then the shooting starts. Gunny kills the 4 NVA soldiers, then resurfaces from the tunnel unscathed. Cantrell

18 Sept

Continued to search the area, but found very little. Picked up a 16-year-old boy who our interpreter thinks is a V.C. He tried to hide from some of my Marines. We questioned him, but he said he didn't know anything. We'll keep him tonight & send him in to An Hoa in the morning. for further questioning. I ate a few meals today which is unusual for me. Sometimes I only eat one meal a day or just nibble on candy and crackers. I went down to the river to shave & take a bath. It felt real good, but I must change that razor blade real soon. Held office hours on 2 guys. Ate hot dogs, a hamburger (canned) & some chili tonight. It was different is about all I can say about it. Used crackers instead of bread. We did blow up some more tunnels today..

19 Sept

I sent 3rd Platoon on a recon in force to a tree line & then sweep down it. They left before daylight and got there at first light. They didn't see any gooks, but two grenade booby traps were tripped wounding 7 Marines. None were very serious & one was not medevaced. the other six were. Lt Hudson also found 3 booby trapped 105 mm artillery rounds which the Gunny blew in place. If those 3 had gone off or been tripped, 3rd Platoon would have really suffered some bad casualties. Went to Bn. headquarters for plans of our next move. We were told we would make a night March and take some objectives tomorrow morning.

I was the one guy not medevaced, Doc just gave me a bandaid. It was my 20th birthday. Jim Andrulewicz (Andy)

20 Sept

The night march got underway with India Company in the lead, Mike Company & Bn. C.P. in the middle and Lima bringing up the rear. India ran into two ambushes which caused 1 KIA and a few wounded. After the 2nd Ambush, we sent in for the rest of the night-it was about 0300 at that time. We moved out early and went on towards our objectives. After India Co. reached theirs, they spotted some enemy with packs & rifles. There was 2 or 3 and India opened fire. They killed one and wounded one in the leg. They were VC women not over 20 years old. We moved on through to our two objectives and set in for the night. We searched out the area, but found very little. The NVA had been there, but left before we arrived. I seemed to be very tired-this hot sun has no mercy on anyone.

21Sept

We passed on through India Co. towards our next objective. We made the objective with no problems and began to search out the area. The Gunny took a few men and went after a few gooks spotted in a tree line about 500 meters away. The gooks got away. A new lieutenant reported to the Co. 2/It Carl Schultz. We were sitting around talking when a Marine brought in a small anti-personnel mine. I took it and called for an engineer to take it away and blow it up. The engineer took it and as he started walking away, he must have set it off. It killed him and wounded 4 men in my C.P. including Lt Schultz. The wounded weren't serious, but they were medlvaced. The engineer was blown all to hell. I was only 10 ft away, but since his back was to me. I didn't get hit- just splattered with bits of flesh and a hell of a ringing in my left ear. I was

lucky it didn't go off in my hand, but I don't fool with things like that. We had the gooks probing our lines at night. They threw one grenade in and one man got a few scratches on his back.

KIA-Lawrence Eisbrie Garron Jr.

POSTED ON 8.4.2019 POSTED BY: MARJORIE CROSBY TELFORD

REMEMBERED FOREVER

I think of you often. Our love was young and tender. I have never stopped wondering what might have heen.

I do hope I will see you in heaven! 1 Corinthians 13

22 Sept

Attended church services at 0800 and then began to get ready to move out. We swept down one side of a small river with India Co.on the other side to our left and Mike Co. on the high ground to our right. Lima spotted two gooks run into a small tree line at the river's edge and we killed one. He was an NVA I think but we couldn't find the other. We got to our objective and began to set in for the night. I picked a small piece of shrapnel out of my chest about the size of a pinhead. It was from yesterday's mine explosion that killed one & wounded 4. We got canned hamburgers and bacon plus some bread on our resupply. Also, some of the guys got care packages with lots of cookies so we have a regular feast. It rained pretty hard for a while. Our lines got probed a little during the night with a couple of grenades, but nobody got hurt.

23 Sept

Had a fairly easy day- even got a couple letters written. I sent out to patrols and one of them spotted a gook or two, but they were too far away to get. My two radio operators, Cpls Frump and Warren, got back from R&R in Hong kong. Received orders that we will be pulling out in the morning to new positions about 3 or 4 miles away. We will be staying in this area to help protect the rice harvest. I think the monsoon are about to start also.

24 Sept

We left about 0700 & it was still drizzling. The point platoon of Lima spotted 3 gooks running towards a tree line and opened up on them. They killed one and the Gunny took off after the other two. He killed one more, but the last one got away. They were NVA and one had a note from a doctor stating he had been ill with malaria since June & was now well. He was on his way back to his unit. At least he didn't have to worry about having a relapse of malaria. I took his pack because the gooks have better packs. The NVA carry hammocks & if we keep killing them, everyone in the company will have a hammock. We got sniped a couple of times before we reached our objective, but nobody was hit. An air strike was run about 600 meters from*up & shrapnel & dirt clods landed all around us, but again nobody was hit. I set up the C.P. in a hooch with half a roof. We stay wet from the rain, rice patties and crossing streams. It's a miserable existence.

Send out patrols and search parties for V.C. and enemy caches. One search party spotted 3 V.C. and captured one, but the others got away. Also got a rifle & pack. The pack contained a list of all the V.C. in the immediate area which is a total of 88. We also rounded up 5 more suspected V.C. and sent them into An Hoa. I have a very aggressive mortar platoon who are good at searching and finding enemy and equipment. We are to to be in this area to protect the rice harvest. It may last a week or so. It rains every day now so the monsoon must be just around the corner. A little boy who had an open sore on his foot put the finger on our captured V.C. confirming him an* enemy. We gave the boy C- rations, candy & told him to come back for further treatment.

26 Sept

Brought in 6 more V.C. suspects whose names appear on our V.C. list. One is a 17-year-old female Vietnamese V.C. nurse. We'll hold on to them until we get the word to send them to An Hoa. Sent out our one V.C. plus a ton of rice this afternoon. Brought in about 30 - 35 people, but released them when their names didn't appear on our list. Moved my C.P. to a new location about 500 meters from last one. Don't want the gooks to get us pinpointed for a mortar attack. Received 5 cases of cold beer & 5 cases of cold Pepsi on resupply this evening. What a good treat that was! One of the men we brought in used to be in the South Vietnamese Army for 3 years and the V.C. have been making him carry rice & ammo for them. He wants to stay with us as a Kit Carson Scout so I hired him. Actually they are hired by the S.V. govt. & sent to a school for a month. Also they are former V.C. or NVA, but since he knows this area and who the V.C.are, I'll pay him with the money we took off dead gooks. He likes this idea. I'll probably send him to school later when we get in a more static position. He's glad to be liberated. Lt. Schultz came back out today. The fragment wounds on his neck & head weren't too bad at all. He hopes to be with us longer than a few hours this time. Also got another KCS from Bn.

27 Sept

My 3rd Plt patrol knocked off another V.C.this afternoon. A couple other V.C. got away in the thick brush. The men found some rice caches hidden around the area. I managed to get a letter or two written. Actually a fairly quiet day except for the killing of that one V.C.. Mail and newspapers are coming in regularly and most*everyone is content with that.

28 Sept.

A local V.C. surrendered to us this morning. He is a Chieu Hoi which is a result of our "Open Arms program. As a Chieu Hoi, he will be treated much better & rehabilitated. My patrol also brought in two more suspects-one 35 year-old & the other 15 year old. My Kit Carson Scout (the one I hired personally) says they are both V.C. The boy is a messager* boy. I'll send them out tomorrow. I think my hired mercenary is going to be a big help to me. We moved our C.P. again so it won't be pinpointed by enemy mortars. The Chieu Hoi must be a barber because he has clippers in his pocket. He gave many of us haircuts & we paid him out of our dead gooks funds. We sent out the five V.C. suspects which we have been holding for two days. That makes 12 sent in and 3 killed so far since we came into this area four days ago. They are desperate for rice & we're not letting them have it. It could get hairy around here soon. The other companies

are doing okay, but I think Lima has got the most enemies with 3 KIA & 14 captured or detained counting the two from today

29 Sept

We captured an NVA Sgt. this morning. He had come down out of the mountains to get some food, but my patrol found him hiding in a bunker. He was hungry and said the NVA is running very low on food in this area. We sent this in NVA out on the resupply chopper along with the two V.C. suspects. The P.O.W was telling us everything we wanted to know. The Company 1st Sgt came out on the resupply chopper. and brought plenty of cold beer and pepsi. We also got hot chow (Steaks). The Bn. C.P. got hit last night & a couple positions were overrun. Two Marines were killed and five wounded. Four gooks were killed. I don't think they were alert and probably didn't think the gooks would ever hit them. They were lucky they didn't have more casualties than they did. The Chaplain, Fred Thompson, came by this afternoon and held church service. As usual, he was a great inspiration to all of us. It was nice to have a few beers in the evening. The Battalion C.O. called me & said Lima Co. was doing a real fine job & to keep up the good work. Morale is still high in the company.

30 Sept

Today is Gunny's birthday.(34) He said he doesn't feel any older though. It was a fairly slow day and rather boring. I'll be glad when we move on to another area and get back to killing off the gooks. We had a few around our lines last night, but nothing developed. The 1st Sgt. went back in. Lt. Richter went in to pick up our pay. I will keep him in the rear since he has only about 30 days to do. Lt Schultz will take over 2nd platoon. I tried to get a man out of the bush when he gets pretty short. It would be a shame to get hit with only a few days to go. We were probed a little after dark, but we had nobody hurt. Our grenades and claymores kept them away from our lines and then it quieted down. Some of the other Bn. positions were also hit.

1 Oct

India got hit pretty hard last night and they had 3 KIA's and 13 WIA's. India killed at least 5 gooks because their bodies were right at the perimeter. There were many blood trails found also this morning. I took a recon patrol out to find a new location to move to. India and Lima combined and formed one position during the day. The gooks probed us after dark and hit us with a few mortars. I had 2 men killed, but the gooks never did attack. The grenades & claymore's plus M-79's kept them away. The two men were killed by a mortar round. Bn C.P. and Mike Co. were hit also and killed a few without any Marines being hit. I think they killed 8 gooks.

KIA-Curtis John Krauhs

POSTED ON 5.23.2001 POSTED BY: DOMINIC GIOVANETTI

YOU MADE A YOUNG CHILD SMILE

Curtis John Krauhs, thank you for remembering me while you were serving your country proudly. I was a second grader, with a pen pal so far away. Every time I wrote you, you returned my letter. I grew up remembering your words, and keeping your letters. The letters have long been lost, but your memory is

not. I grew up and never knew what happened to you, till I as a teacher took my class on a trip to Washington DC. There out of a curious nature I looked your name up in the book, there it was. I stood and cried for close to an hour, never knowing that my pen pal had given his life.

Now when I return every year I take my students to your name, and show them that this young man befriended a second grader for life. My own children also visit with me, to express our thanks John. To your family, thank you for giving a young boy so long ago a wonderful and fantastic young man I called friend

dominic giovanetti

KIA-Feddie McQueen

From Jamaica, New York,He had just turned 19, and was in Nam for 13 days. No postings from family or fellow Marines.

2 Oct

We got orders to move to Battalion position and be prepared to make a night movement north. India Co. followed me out to Bn where Mike Co. was also located. Spoke to Lt. Col. Seymour and met the new S-3 Mgi Burt. The Col said Lima had been doing a real fine job. He will be leaving soon, but doesn't know the date. "M" Co. led out with Lima, Bn. C.P. and India in trace.. We got to our objectives and set in around 0130. We met no resistance and Mike Co. only got a little off course.

3 Oct

I led the company on a patrol after being awakened to an early morning firefight. We saw a few V.C. running across a paddy about 0700 and opened up on them. They had got to some brush, but we kept shooting and even had the spotter plane come in to fire rockets and machine guns. We looked the area over and the Gunny killed one. The rest got away. The patrol started out and then got new orders so we turned around and headed north to a river. India Co. was to set in a blocking position while we pushed toward them. We got sniper fire as we approached the village next to the river, but moved on after throwing some lead back at him. We swept through the area and killed 5 NVA /V.C.. The air strikes I called in killed 6 more. We picked up a V.C. suspect and also a young girl. The girl got a small piece of shrapnel in her back during the firefight. We'll send her to the hospital in An Hoa. We got back just before dark. It was a good day. We killed 6, picked up 2 V.C. suspects to be sent in, called in air which killed 6 more and didn't have any Marine scratch. Some have bad feet due to walking so much and staying wet. The Gunny killed four of the six which shows how aggressive he is. Sometimes he scares the hell out of me, but he's the best Marine I've ever seen.

4 Oct

We went back into the same area as yesterday to look for more gooks. This time Mike Co. followed us in. We got hit, but the gooks aim was off so no Marines were injured. We quickly swept through the area and killed three V.C. around 30 more ran off to the east. We found more rice and destroyed it. I have been quite pleased at the way my platoon leaders have reacted to enemy contact. The civilians tip off the enemy we were coming today. You really can't trust

anyone these days. When we got back, there was hot chow, cold milk and a little bit of ice cream waiting for us. Also the chopper brought in beer and sodas. Even though it was warm it was pretty good. The artillery blasted the hell out of a lot of areas near us during the evening and on into the night. It was a good show & we just sat on the hill drinking beer and watching the fireworks.

5 Oct

Lima moved out on a company size patrol along with Mike Co. Lima killed one VC and took a few objectives. We headed back to our camp on the hill early so we could take it easy for the rest of the day. Even take a bath and shave in a little stream. Before we even got back to the hill, we were told to pack up as soon as possible and march back to An Hoa. While burning trash before departing an explosion went off in one of the fires. Someone must have accidentally thrown a grenade in the fire. One man was seriously wounded & 4 others received minor wounds. After the medlyac, we started our march out. It started raining like the skies had opened up. We crossed one stream which was up to our waist and later another stream up to our necks. It was dark before we got everyone across the stream. When we got to the main river, we went across in civilian sampans. which would only hold two marines each. The Marine Corps travels in style. Trucks were waiting on the shore to take us on into An Hoa. That was one miserable march. I have no skin on the tops on my toes on my left foot due to all the walking during the last few days. This march really tore them up. We got hot chow, beer and soda. My feet are in bad shape. We got into An Hoa at 2230 and supposed to be choppered out at 0700 in the morning. I went to a briefing and then briefed my lieutenants. Put the troops to bed and made arrangements for supplies. We'll be going up into the mountains. I sat down to read the paper & drink a few beers. I went to bed at 0400. This has been one miserable day with no rest for the troops. I feel the worst is yet to come.

KIA-Henry Ellis Carmichael

From Chicago Illinois, no postings from fellow Marines or family no. Newspaper article saying he died while burning trash.

6 Oct

We got up at 0600 to get prepared to be lifted out. My feet felt a little better after putting some ointment on them last night. India Co. was finally lifted out, but they came back because the landing zone was too hot. Enemy fire was quite heavy. The enemy must be thick in there because B-52s, Artillery and other air strikes have been working over that area for a few days. We were finally lifted out to another area so that we can walk into the mountains. The area we were lifted to is the same area we left yesterday to march into An Hoa. The Battalion set in for the night on a small ridge line. We have "C" Co. 1/1 attached to 3/5 for this operation and the C.O. is Hank Trautwein, an old buddy of mine. After settling in for the night, artillery started putting a few rounds in my position. We got a check fire before anyone got hurt. The man that was wounded yesterday by the explosion in the fire died during the night.

Lima Co. was the point for the Battalion as we started for our objective. It is hot as hell and we're going up a ridgeline. We had to cross a valley- more like a ravine with a stream in it and go up to the top of hill 604. It is over 1,800 feet high & was a hell of a climb. We waded down the stream bed for almost a mile before starting up. The stream bed was mostly big rocks we climbed over. The Bn was really strung out for a long way. We used ropes & climbed on our hands & knees at times to finally reach the top. India was following me and after getting to the top of 604, we were told to move on to the next ridge. Most of Lima made it before dark and India finally got here a while later. The Bn. C.P. didn't quite all make it to the top of 604- Mike Co. was half in the stream bed and half started up the hill and "Charlie" Co. was still all in the Stream bed when darkness fell. They set in for the night where they were. We were all fully exhausted, but spent a peaceful night. Mike Garolla, C.O. of India, came over to have coffee & a snack with me. He was pissed about the day's movement, but was more tired than anything. We ate and talked for a while and then crapped out for the night. There had been a few people in the Bn injured during the day by falls and trips.

8 Oct

Lima was to follow in trace of India to our next objective this morning. I was to follow as soon as I received a resupply of water. India started off since they had adequate water, but later stopped when some was coming in for him. I was told to take point and I chose another route. We hacked our way down the hill to a stream and started up the objective when I was told to return to my last night's position for another night. India had continued going the way they had started. First platoon had point today and Lieutenant Overtone's Marines did a good job cutting a trail. Too bad all we did was go down and then back up. Some of us shaved while down at the stream. The stream was cool & clear. We took turns pouring the water over each other. Plenty of air strikes and artillery being thrown around this area. We still haven't seen any of the enemy yet. Probably won't either. The gooks don't hang around when we move into their area. Climbing around these jungle covered mountains takes a toll on the company due to the falls, cuts, heat and infections. It's rained on every day that we've been out here on the operation (Maui Peak)

9 Oct

We moved through the Bn. C.P. and set in for the day. We finally got an easy day. The other three companies will move out. While we were tied into India waiting for them to move out, a chopper came in with a load of water for them. It came down too fast or something because it crashed and almost rolled down the mountain, but some trees held it. Only one man was hurt & that was just a cut on the leg. The chopper crew was lifted out by another chopper and also took the injured Marine. It seems like everybody around the Bn. C.P. was in a bad mood so when I went by I didn't stay very long. I read some Stars & Stripes newspaper which came in and saw that the Gators won again. We stripped the .50 cal. machine gun from the down chopper so the gooks can't have them and the pilot shot up the radio before they were pulled out. Quiet night and it didn't even rain. Wish we could have gotten our mail in today.

10 Oct

We took off in trace of India Co. at first light this morning & headed for our next objective. India blaze a pretty good trail. We got on our objective in the afternoon and had a chance to give the

troops a little rest. Some of this terrain is almost unbelievable, but we just chugging along. Air and artillery have really been giving this area a workout. The more they do, the easier it is for us. We got water in this evening, but no chow. Maybe tomorrow we'll get everything including mail. I only had one meal today, but it will do me until tomorrow. Talk to Lt. Col. Seymour as he passed through our position & he said Lt. Col. Atkinson would be relieving him in a few days. I hate to see Col. Seymour leave because he's a great C.O., but Lt Col. Atkinson will do a fine job. I'm sure. Sure hope we get chow tomorrow morning. I ate the last bite of food this afternoon.

11 Oct

The day started off with fog & rain so it is not likely we'll get chow today, but we keep hoping. We kicked off for our next objective at noon and it was raining like the sky had fallen out. It's bad enough to be hungry, but wet and miserable! It's weird to be up above the clouds like we have been these past few days. We got to our objective on another mountain and cleared an LZ and waited on our resupply. Two choppers have collided in midair so everything was slowed down. As a result we didn't get our chow. Lima Co. is really hungry now. The weather closed in again and it rained like hell again. If we can't get choppers in to us in the morning we'll have to send a patrol down the mountain to get some extra chow from India Co.. as they pass by. India Co. got a double resupply this afternoon. It's now been over a day since I put any food in my mouth. Most of the troops are in the same fix.

12 Oct

The fog and rain came early this morning and no chopper came in. We sent a patrol down the hill to pick up 32 cases of c-rations which they had extra. We ate like it was going out of style. Everyone else had pushed off in the attack early and Lima kicked off at 1100. The terrain is up & down and the rain makes it slick as glass. We bumped into Mike Co, Charlie Co. and Bn. C.P. on the way to our objective because they were way off course. I climbed a big tree to verify my position since some doubted my position. I prove them all wrong. We arrived at the objective* cut an LZ for the choppers to bring in our resupplies. We got plenty of chow, but most of the plastic water jugs busted when they were dropped. It rained some more and we got the word we will be jumping off early again in the morning. Still no enemy contact by our battalion. Some of my men are in bad shape from cuts, bruises, fever and infections from this stinking jungle. I try to get them out, but the choppers can't come in due to the time involved and they have to lift out people on a hoist. The man has to be a priority or emergency medivac. We'll make out - these young Marines are pretty tough and will keep going until they fall.

13 Oct

Packed up and moved again. The terrain is still rugged and it's continued to rain on us. We linked up with Charlie Co. in the late afternoon and got resupplied in the evening. I had time to talk with Hank Trautwein for a little while and had a cup of coffee. We are all hoping this operation will soon be secure. My two radio operators, Gunny, and I build a large hooch with our ponchos. The Gunny built & designed most of it. He made me a "private" room. We may have

enemy contact on tomorrow's objective and Lima is to lead the attack with India. There are three NBC reporters that came into the Bn. C.P. this afternoon on a chopper and were supposed to come to Lima Co. and be with us during the attack tomorrow. Mike Co. was supposed to provide them with a patrol and get them to my position, but the patrol never got to me so Mike kept the NBC reporters. We ate plenty of chow and then laid down and listened to it rain all night. Lt Col Atkinson arrives today.

14 Oct

We left a* first light after a short breakfast of beans and weenies. We linked up with India Co. and led them to the objective. It rained on us all day. India and Lima hit the objective together and we encountered sniper fire & light enemy resistance. India had no casualties nor killed any enemy, but I had one Marine killed and two wounded. One wounded was just grazy and the other got a bullet in the shoulder. We killed 4 gooks (NVA) Gunny Loucks got one - blew his brains out. It was the Gunny's 16th kill and the anniversary of his 16 years in the Marine Corps Mike Co. came on in took up part of the perimeter with India & Lima. The Gunny came walking up to Mike Gurrola and me while we were eating chocolate bars and crackers and we almost gagged. He had pieces of flesh, brains and blood all over him from the gook he shot at close range. Ok well, all in a day's work. The Bn. C.P. set up in the middle of the perimeter and Charlie Co. set up on a ridge overlooking us. It continued to rain so the medivaces didn't go out and no supplies came in. This was one of the most miserable nights of my life. We were all cold, wet and stayed wet. Chuck Coletum came over to mine & the Gunny's hooch and was miserable with us until it let up enough for him to dash back to his Hooch. I also fed him since he hadn't eaten but one meal in two days. I had some saved and he inhaled it. Truly a very miserable night - everything I own is wet. I keep getting cramps in my legs from the wet and cold.

KIA-John Robert Parsons

Comb, Ky

POSTED ON 1.5.2002 POSTED BY: WILGUS FORTNEY

TO AN OLD FRIEND

YOU WERE A GOOD FRIEND. YOU ARE MISSED MORE THAN YOU KNOW.

15 Oct

At 0730 I took my officers and staff NCO's to meet Lt. Col. Atkinson and said farewell to Lt. Col. Seymour. It was a brief informal change of command. Lt Col Seymour had mixed emotions about leaving. He wanted to stay with the Battalion yet he was anxious to see his family again. I then took the company out on a patrol. We found some well built bunkers and many which had not been completed. We followed a trail up towards the top of a mountain. When we stopped for a few moments to check our position an NVA Soldier walked up on the trail of the column and my rear man shot at him. and wounded him. The NVA jumped into the bush and when we searched out the area, we found his AK-47 rifle, helmet and one sandal. If the Marine had went after the gook right away, we would have had him. We returned to the Bn.perimeter and the rains had finally let up so there were some fires going. We dried out fairly well, but it kept starting up with the rain ever so often. Company commander had a meeting with Lt. Col.

Atkinson and he is trying to get us a day of rest for tomorrow. Some resupplies came* in between downpour so that each man got two meals. The skies cleared up at night and it felt good to be able to sit around outside and talk while being dry.

16 Oct

The battalion got a day of rest and it rained all day without stopping. It slowed down some, but never stopped. I have one meal left that I have been hanging on to and since I can see there will be no resupply again today, I'll wait until tomorrow to eat it. Gunny and I sat under our hooch all day talking about our favorite foods and what we're going to do next July when he and his family come down to florida. Charlie Co. has been without food for two days now and tomorrow will make three days. They are trying to get us out of here and back to An Hoa by chopper as soon as the weather breaks. That may not be for a few more days, but it is good to know we haven't been forgotten. Since choppers can't fly in weather like this, we have put in for an air drop of chow and radio batteries. We hope a C-130 will parachute the resupplies into us in the morning. We can't walk out because the lowlands are flooding and the river below is up over 18 inches. Chopper is the only way out for us. Even in this situation morale is still fairly high. I guess it's the confidence we have in each other and those trying everything to get us resupplied and then out. I'm not worried about anything. We ran artillery missions on the ridges around us last night so the gooks will know we haven't forgotten them.

17 Oct

A C-130 dropped six parachutes of supplies over us this afternoon, but the fog was so thick, we only saw one chute. All of them must have went over the cliff. We didn't get any of them. The fog lifted for a little while and a few choppers were able to get in and brought some chow and batteries. Enough child for 1 1/2 meals per man. It continues to rain all day with stops in between. It is planned for us to be choppered out tomorrow as soon as possible. An Hoa will seem good for a few days. We might even get all dried out. My air mattress sprung another hole and I hope I have got it repaired well enough so it will keep me off the wet ground. The Gunny and I mixed our beans and weenies, beef slices, and cheese together in a canteen cup and topped it off with hot sauce for a pretty good meal. I hope everything goes well tomorrow for our lift out. This weather is the worst I've ever seen.

18 Oct

We thought we were going out today, but it continued to rain and the fog stayed. The weather broke just long enough for a couple of choppers to bring in some chow. At least we won't starve, Charlie Co. moved into the Bn. perimeter and will be the first lifted out when we go. The perimeter is fairly crowded now and it makes a good target for the enemy. Lima is to be the last company lifted out. Capt. Trautwein & Gurrola came by for coffee & we agreed to meet in the club and have quite a few beers at An Hoa. Gunny made coffee tonight and put a little bag of salt in it instead of sugar. He was so mad he threw the canteen cup out in the bushes. I roared!

19 Oct

The weather cleared up long enough for the helicopters to fly in and get us out today. It's too bad it couldn't have happened a day sooner. At 0530 this morning some gooks slipped up to our

perimeter and started throwing grenades. I had no men injured, but "I" Co. had a few killed and some wounded. They only killed one NVA. My part of the perimeter wasn't hit except at a few positions that were tied in with "I" Co. At 0730 the gooks mortared the area and once again the ones that caught it where "I" Co. along with "C" Co. and H&S Co.. I had fired my mortars back when the gooks probed earlier and once again. I started firing mortars at the suspected enemy mortars positions. I doubt if we hit anything. The gooks were right on target, though. They killed 4 Marines and wounded 26. The medivacs were taken out first and then the rest of the Bn. with Lima being the last out. We had about 30 mortar rounds that we couldn't fire off so we stacked them in a pile of wooden ammo crates and empty canisters before we left. I was the last person on the last chopper, but before I jumped aboard I set the pile on fire. We had put pieces of C-4 and powder around the pile to get it started and after I touched it off, I did a mighty fast dash to the chopper. The mortar rounds exploded after we left. The fire blazed faster than I thought it would though. We had hot chow, beer, sodas, mail and care packages when we got back to An Hoa. I got 3 packages from Aunt Marge and 1 from home. A hot shower, dry clothes and boots and plenty of cold beer really hit the spot. I slept on a cot with an air mattress which was like heaven. We knew we'll be here for at least 5 days of much needed rest.

20 Oct

I didn't feel too good this morning due to the excessive eating and drinking last night. It rained all day which makes me glad we got pulled out yesterday during the break in the weather. There was church service and I watched a pro football game on T.V. We caught up on some of the back newspapers and magazines. We all took it fairly easy today. This is the first real rest for the battalion in almost 3 months and we needed it badly. I only had 80 to 90 men left when we came in yesterday. Sickness, injuries and infections plus other causes have taken its toll on my company and we weren't able to get replacements in. We start a training schedule tomorrow.

21 Oct

Started a training schedule today for the troops. Mainly because we have so many new men in the company. We have classes today and have to change our MPC for the new issue. I finished off the cupcakes aunt Marge sent me and did a lot of nothing today. I did manage to write a couple of letters. Other than that, I just enjoyed being in the rear and taking life easy.

22 Oct

We had a few more classes of which I gave one on ambushes. I think I'm finally getting over my case of the screaming shits I've had for the last 2 days. Still eating pretty good and trying to gain back some of the 20 pounds or more I've lost since I've been in Vietnam. Went to the club tonight for a few beers and watched the movie "Luv". It gives me an uneasy feeling to enjoy myself. It is so unusual to be able to drink beer, watch a movie and have time to myself that it gives me butterflies in my stomach. I keep thinking we will be moving out at any moment. It's really hard to enjoy this rest time. Oh well, what the hell! We are supposed to be here for a few more days at least if nothing big comes up that requires our presence. The weather was bright and sunny!

23Oct

We went to the range this morning to fire our weapons and had a bad accident during the throwing of grenades. One Marine had a bad grenade or else he didn't*something wrong. He had to throw it quick and it exploded early. It wounded another man on the line who dropped his grenade and it went off wounding him again plus 5 other Marines. Houratty* was in serious condition. Gunny Loucks also was wounded pretty bad, but will be all right. Gunny was peppered with shrapnel and one piece went in close to his left eye. I hope he will be okay. Not only is he my gunny, but he's one of the best friends I had. I can't understand why I didn't get hit also since I was only a couple steps away from Gunny Loucks. Once again I was so close, but came out without a scratch. An investigation was started to find out just what went wrong. I went to the club in the evening for several beers. Someone also had some skin flicks which we watched for a little while before going to the C.O.'s meeting. Ate some lemon cake after having a few drinks with GySgt Binette and MSgt Adisey. Slept like a baby.

24Oct

Not much doing today. Just some training and taking life easy. We hope to be here until the 1st of Nov. and then move out to a fairly permanent area. There was no movies or cold beer at the club so I did some reading and went to bed early.

25 Oct

The day started off bright and sunny, but ended in tragedy for me. We were given a warning order of a new operation due to kickoff tomorrow. I received a call in the evening that Lt Col Atkinson wanted to see me. It was then that he showed me the message informing me of John's death. It was the most miserable and saddest moment of my life. After the initial shock, Col Atkinson's poured me a large drink of scotch. I went back to get the company reorganized and make some adjustments. Also I started taking care of personal affairs while my orders were being typed and flight arrangements being made. Everyone was a tremendous help. I turned the company over to Lt Hudson. Lima will do all right.

26 Oct

I left An Hoa at 0915 on a C-123 for Danang. Everything went smooth and I boarded a C-141 around 0900 for Okinawa. Board another C-141 at 1700 for Charleston S.C. with stops at Koyota, Japan Anchorage, Alaska and Dover Delaware. Arrived at Charleston around 0500 on the 27th. I took a National flight at 1045 and arrived in Miami at 1300

Left Miami on 25th Nov for San Francisco. Checked in at Treasure Island that night. Left San Francisco 27th and arrived Okinawa around 0100 on the 29th. left Okinawa on the 30th and arrived in Vietnam at 2100

1 Dec

Stayed with Lieutenant Parton last night at 1st Mar Air Wing in Danang. Went to a helicopter landing pad around 1200 and caught a chopper to An Hoa. Operation Meade River is still going on. Lima Co. had 30 casualties todate. Lt. Schultytz was wounded in the face again. Lima has been doing real well while I've been gone. I'll try to get out to the field as soon as possible.

KIA-11/04/1968 Burt Everett Miller "Rusty" From Akron Ohio

<u>www.Virtualwall.org</u> under last name type Miller look down the list to Burt name.A great story about Burt.Doc Murphy and family, heartwarming Tribute.

POSTED ON 11.26.2001 POSTED BY: BLAINE MOYER

HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND - FELLOW MARINE

Rusty was a friend from Manchester High School (near Akron, Ohio). His Dad was my sunday School teacher through msot of my youth. I was home on leave on my way to Vietnam as a Marine infantry officer when I attended Rusty's funeral. It was doubly difficult for me as not only was I attending the funeral of a friend but Rusty had just gone off to do what I was getting ready to do and it had cost him his life. I speak in front of a lot of church and civic organizations. I often show my slides of my return trip to Vietnam but I always mention Rusty and the impact his death has had on my life. I miss you Rusty and I salute your sacrifice and your service as a member of the United States Marine Corps. Blaine E. Moyer, former Marine Captain

KIA 11/28/1968 John Harold Roach

"Thanksgiving day" Gary Underwood remembers John every Thanksgiving.

POSTE.2010 POSTED BY: DEBBIED ON 7.27

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy 63rd Birthday! My heart still aches, Wishing you were here. I will always remember you.

POSTED ON 12.2.2013 POSTED BY: ROGER STOWELL

REMEMBERING A MARINE BUDDY

John and I became acquainted and shared some of our past the night before he was killed during Operation Meade River in Vietnam on Thanksgiving Day, 1968. I was impressed with his concern for his squad members and his bravery. He was an inspiration to us all, and I'm thankful he was a friend, even though briefly. May God bless and comfort all who knew John.

KIA 11/30/1968 George Stephen Straszewski

Home, GARY in. 45 days in Nam, 18 years old. No postings from family or friends.George is buried at Calumet Park Cemetery in Merrillville, IN. PH

KIA 12/01/1968 Larry Steven Heater

POSTED ON 7.17.2017 POSTED BY: RODGER THORN

THANK YOU MR. HEATER

My dad served with Mr. Heater in Vietnam. I heard many stories growing up about him. Including how he saved my dads life. Again I thank you for your service and what you did for my dad!

POSTED ON 12.2.2013 POSTED BY: ROGER STOWELL

REMEMBERING A MARINE BUDDY

Larry and I served together in Vietnam and became buddies. I was impressed by his friendliness, bravery and Christian faith. We sometimes read the Bible and sang hymns together. I'm thankful for our brief friendship. May God bless and comfort all who knew this terrific man.

KIA 12/01/1968 William Arthur Perkins Jr. Home: Baltimore MD

William is buried at Baltimore Nat Cem.No comments from Friends or fellow Marines

KIA 12/01/1968 Joseph Adelbert Merrill

POSTED ON 5.27.2000 POSTED BY: JOE BUCKLEY

NEVER FORGOTTEN

I only served with Del for a short time in 1968 and I always wondered if he ever had the opportunity to see his newborn child before he went to Nam. If that child should ever see this, please know that Del was a good Marine who served his country well.

May he rest in peace.

POSTED ON 11.21.2008 POSTED BY: KIP FRANCIS CPL USMC IIIMAF 68-71

REST WELL MY BROTHER,

I grew up with Del.. Boy Scouts... summers at Dennis Pond. We drifted away as young men must. Many years later I passed the memorial park bearing his name and turned in ... I was saddened to see that it was in honor of my friend.

Here is to your honor my friend.

I read a blog a while ago from another Marine in your unit that thanked you for staying behind and covering them as they retreated with the wounded. I don't know the circumstances other than that. But it was obviously heartfelt and I wondered if your family knew of this small detail. It is with pride I call you my friend and brother.

WIA 12/01/1968 Died of wounds 12/04/1968 Zeneido Ortiz Jr.

60 days in Nam

PFC Zeneido Ortiz Jr. is buried in Section F, Lot 152 of the Ridge Hill Memorial Park in Amherst, OH. No comments from family or friends

WIA-12/01/1968 Died of wounds 01/16/1973 Samuel Walter Yates.

He participated in Operation Maui Peak, Operation Henderson Hill, and Operation Mead River, all in Quang Nam Province. In December 1968, Yates was seriously wounded in the back of the head and right shoulder by shrapnel from a mortar round in Quang Nam when Lima Company came under heavy sniper, mortar, and automatic weapons fire. Three men were killed in that attack. Sam was sent stateside where he was hospitalized at several veterans hospitals until placed on the permanent disability retirement list in June 1969. Four years later at age 27, Sam died from pneumonia related to his war injuries at the Arden Memorial Convalescent Hospital in Sacramento on July 16, 1973. He had been awarded the Purple Heart at the time of his injury. Burial was at East Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery at the Yates family plot.

He joined his father (who had died in an automobile accident when Sam was 13) and his brother Elmo who had died three years prior to Sam's death.

KIA 12/01/1968 Clarance Lee Love

Silver Star

CITATION:

The President of the United States of America takes pride in presenting the Silver Star (Posthumously) to Lance Corporal Clarence L. Love (MCSN: 2383315), United States Marine Corps, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while serving as a Squad Leader with Company L, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division in connection with operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. On 1 December 1968, during Operation Meade River, Company L was maneuvering across an open area when the Marines came under a heavy volume of sniper, mortar, and automatic weapons fire from a numerically superior hostile force occupying well-concealed emplacements. Separated from the main body of the company, Lance Corporal Love and several companions made repeated attempts to rejoin their unit but were halted by intense enemy fire. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, he left the relative safety of his covered position and fearlessly commenced crawling toward the command post. As he passed within a few meters of an enemy emplacement, he was seriously wounded by the detonation of a hand grenade and, ignoring his painful injuries, resolutely continued across the fire-swept terrain toward his objective. Upon reaching his platoon commander, Lance Corporal Love steadfastly refused medical attention and, having informed his commander of the tactical situation,

began leading a reaction force through the hazardous area to his original position when he was seriously wounded by the explosion of an enemy rocket. By his exceptional courage, aggressive fighting spirit and unfaltering devotion to duty, Lance Corporal Love inspired all who served with him and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service.

2 Dec

Dug into plenty of paperwork today at the request of Maj. Hestling. I can probably get out to the field tomorrow. It sure is boring around An Hoa with all my friends gone. There has been a lot of casualties on "Meade River" Captain Milford was killed on the first day and Captain Gurrula was wounded by burns. Many other officers have been wounded. Things really haven't changed very much at all. Some war only some of the faces change,

3 Dec

Got my gear together, finished up most all my paperwork and got ready for the field. Finally got a chopper out to the Battalion C.P. late in the evening. It was good to see everyone again. The troops appear to be in good spirits even though they've had it rough lately. The company left with 165 men to start this operation. It now has 90. Many have been evacuated due to immersion* foot

4 Dec

We started out early this morning in trace of "India" and "Echo" companies. This should be the final push of "Meade River". Everyone will be glad to see this operation end. The two lead companies ran into firefights, but I have three men hit by rounds impacting* in my area. All three were just scratches. We finally held up and set up a perimeter while "I" and "E" moved on to the river which is the end.. They had a big firefight with friendlies across the river during the afternoon, but there were no casualties. The Bn.C.P. joined me at my perimeter for the night. Even though I'm back and in command of my company things seem different and not quite right. I guess the biggest difference is that Gunny Loucks is not here. I even feel different myself. It's something deep inside me. I think it must be a combination of things. John's death, Gunny Loucks gone and many of my other friends are no longer here due to being killed or wounded. Even though there are people all around, I have a feeling of being alone. I know this feeling will wear off soon and the sooner the better.

5 Dec

We came back in today by helicopter and I had 88 men. All the areas have been swept through and any enemy left are either hiding in holes or have managed to sneak out through our lines at night. The men I brought back in appear to be the same ones I always bring back in, Many are limping but they always stick it out to the very end. They are my hard Corps-Cpl Maxey, Doc Pete, Chopper, Baglog,* Cpl Martinez etc. We came back to the 3/5 base camp at An Hoa and had a terrific meal. Took a bath down at the lake and felt much better. The beer and whiskey was a help also.

6 Dec

Relaxed around the base camp and began preparing to move out on another operation tomorrow. Lt. Hudson is the new 'M" Company C.O. as of tomorrow. Bonio Barron will leave tomorrow and head for the states. I doubt if I'll have even a hundred men to take to the field tomorrow.

7 Dec

We left An Hoa by truck convoy for Liberty Bridge around 1430. I have 91 men counting myself. We picked up 9 more at Liberty Bridge so I now have 100. I hear that over 150 bodies have been found so far in the area where Lima had the big fight a week ago. Plus many weapons and some prisoners. We set in for the night about 2,000 meters from Base Camp at Liberty Bridge and will jump off in the morning. Lima is the battalion reserve and will follow behind "K" and "I" companies. I have a new platoon leader, Lt Marlin Robb. He feels at home with Lima and I think he will do a good job.

8 Dec

A Marine in 'K' Co. got on the line last night and opened up on one of their own listening posts.. He killed two Marines. That's one of those regrettable mistakes that happens.

The sweep kicked off with Lima 400 to 500 meters in trace of "I" and "K" companies. Later in the afternoon a large group of V.C. crossed in front of Lima, but we didn't know they were V.C. until they had got almost past us. They were dressed like farmers. We finally opened up on them after I checked with battalion, "K" Co. and "I" Co. By this time they were scattering into

other little villages and treelines. We called in air strikes, artillery, mortars and gunships. We only got three of them and I was so mad, I can't see straight. I'll never get another chance for a turkey shoot like that. It just took too much time to get them checked. They are gone in a matter of minutes after you see them. We received fire from two little villages they ran into. Air leveled one and artillery tore up the other one. We have one man wounded and a civilian in the village we were in got a bullet through the leg. We medivaced both of them and moved on further and set in for the night. The rest of the Bn. is a couple of miles away.

9 December

We walked all the way into An Hoa in the brutal sun. It was about six miles and there was plenty of dust. I was told Lima would be moving out again at 0700 in the morning. After a shower, shave and haircut. I felt much better. The chow and beer helped also. Then I went to a few meetings and began to get organized for tomorrow. Lima is to provide security for an artillery battery which will move out and set up a firebase. We have been detached from the Bn. and attached directly to the Regt. I don't know how long though.

10 Dec

We escorted the engineers out to the position where the fire base camp will be set up. They cleared the road by checking for mines and filling in at a couple of places to make it wide enough for the self-propelled 155 mm guns that came along later. They were escorted by my 1st Platoon. After arriving, we started setting in defense while the big guns got into position. Capt. Peterson is the C.O. of the 155 guns. We had no trouble and 3rd Platoon rode escort security for the ammo trucks that went back for more ammo. I'm the overall Camp Commander. We had a quiet night & the weather is pretty good.

11 Dec

We continue to dig in and improve our defense. We are right on a river which is fairly clean and has a small beach. It is a good place for the men to take baths, swim and wash their clothes. My company strength is still below a 100, but I have 81 MM mortars, 106 recoilless rifles attached which brings me over 125. I should have replacements coming out soon. I took a swim and bath in the river which was very refreshing. One of my outposts on the hill behind us got hit by a few enemy after dark. They threw in a couple of hand grenades which wounded 3 of my men. None of the wounds were serious. We threw back grenades, fired rifles and M-79's and dropped 81 MM mortars in the area, but evidently we didn't get any. They were just probing to find out what kind of defense we had out.

12 December

Frank Bozinek* the artillery F.O. came out yesterday since he would rather be with Lima in the bush. then in the rear. We got more wire (barbed) in to better our defenses. Continue to send out patrols in the daytime and ambushes at night. The road was closed yesterday so all our supplies will come in by chopper from now on. We are quite comfortable out here and as long as the men don't get to relax, we will be all right. They need the break after what they went through on Mead river.

13 Dec

Not much new for today. We did put up a large CP tent which I live in now. A chopper came over during the afternoon and blew it down with me in it, but it was put back up - much more secure this time. Went for a nice swim & bath in the river. Capt. Peterson went to the rear to straighten out a few things. Don't know when he will get back. Lt Craig is in charge of the big guns while he's away.

14 Dec

It drizzled a little today for a change in the weather. It's a little boring around here. The rest of the battalion is up in the mountains clearing a fire base camp for two battalions of artillery and a battalion base camp. They left the day after we did from An Hoa and have been quite busy ever since. There's no telling when we will get back to them. Got some of my paperwork out of the way which helps.

15 Dec

Received a message this morning for me to report to the *?

and then go to Danang on official business. I briefed Hal since he will be in charge during my absence. Caught a chopper back to An Hoa where I showered and put on clean clothes. I'm going to be interviewed for a Aide-de-Camp for Maj. Gen Simpson who - be the new CG of the 1st Mar Div in a few days. Caught a C-123 to Danang & was told Maj Gen Simpson would interview tomorrow afternoon. Lt Smith is the Jr Aide. I'll stay with him for the night. Went to the club & had some steaks & beer. Saw Lt Col Morgenthaler & Lt Grant Everett.

16 Dec

Slept most of the morning and was interviewed in the afternoon. There were 5 Captains nominated & I was selected. I started to work on the spot. We went over the III MAF to visit Lt.Gen Cushman his aides are "Doc" White and Bernie Cauley

Skipper passed away August of 2006

Letter sent to Lima Company Marines After the funeral of Captain Robert Snowden by his son John Snowden.

I'm writing this letter to update you on the Snowden family. I truly thank you all for your support over the past year. It has been a tough one for the Snowden family. First, I would personally like to thank you for your thoughts and prayers during my miraculous recovery from a stroke on June 9th 2006. As you know that is the reason dad was a no-show last year. Thank God, I still had the Gunny to do my local ass kicking. Dad always said, "mess with anybody you want but don't f— with a Gunny". I would like all of you to know Mom is doing well. She is still the binder that holds the Snowden book together, strong as always

Kim has finally opened her salon that she and dad started two and a half years ago. World class stuff here. Dad would be proud. Her son, Zach, who was my father's best little buddy is now 12 he is a blonde hair blue eyes Surfer dude. Mom, lock your daughters up!!

Bo and wife Lisa are doing well. Son Cole is now a year and a half and has granddad's brown eyes. Bo is now a building inspector for Flagler County. Yes, he has a badge. Those of you who know him realize this is bad. Barney without a bullet!

As for me and my family, my wife Sam is still a nurse in the ICU. Sydney my oldest is seven going on 21. Mason is turning four this week. If ever there was a "Dennis the Menace" contest I'd have a frontrunner. As for Jackson, I have met my match with my very own clone. He is Dad's boy. I know Grandpa is proud.

I want you all to know that dad's death was as he would have wanted, given the circumstances. He died with his family by his side, pain-free. My brother and I never left his side. We had a 12-hour shift change at the hospital and at home. All the Skipper wanted was to get home. It became my family's mission to get him home." No man left behind". He was a happy camper. Unfortunately, he passed away within 2 days, gratefully, fast and painless. It gave my family peace of mind to have spent those two weeks with them. He told us what he expected of us and shared stories of the good old days.

Looking back on my Dad's life, what a life! My dad was a model man. He was an All-American man's man. He was raised in a loving home. He was a good student, a model High School athlete. He lettered in three Sports. As a senior he was class president, captain of the basketball team and co-captain of the football team playing quarterback. He left the small town of Hollywood Florida to put himself through the University of Florida, his second love, the United States Marine Corps. He was the first in his family to ever go to college. He graduated from UF and entered the Marine Corps. It would have killed him to be drafted into the army! After Quantico, he spent time on the USS Forrestal then deployed to Vietnam. I do know this, my father was a very proud vet. His men were his life. The reunions were everything to him; his men were the lifeblood of his very existence. The number of Marines that showed up unexpectedly from far and wide for his funeral sure made us proud.

In 1980 he got many calls from a very distraught Marine by the name of Tulley. This man was a mess but my father did not care. He took his early A.M. phone calls and listen to what he had to say. Dad did only what he knew to do and called the Gunny! So he and a few Lima Marines organize the first reunion that Tulley wants. Nevertheless Tulley was a no-show.

It was my third or fourth reunion when I realized the impact Vietnam had on my father. He was not your typical "vet". No tattoos, no long hair, no Harley but he did love his beer. My father judges no man, all were equal in his eyes. He would often tell me, "you don't know his story, son."

Dad did share with me the great pain he felt with the misunderstandings of the men of Lima over little things. He did not want anybody, man or woman, to forget the reason he and the founding man of the reunions of the 1980s got together. It was very simple to him. It was all about the healing and reopening of wounds that never healed right to begin with. My father

would have taken Tulley and put him in my bed, just to let him know he was not forgotten. He was still one of his men, mess or no mess. Unfortunately, my father could never get his hands on him the way he really wanted to or in his eyes maybe, needed to. I don't know the final story on Tully or for that matter a lot of you. The one thing is for certain when you meet your maker, Pop will meet you at the gate with a cold beer, a pack of smokes and plenty of time to listen. That's what my father was at his best. Just listening.

Speaking for my family, I would like to thank all of you for coming to these reunions because it was so important to my dad. I would like to give a sincere thank you to Skip St Clair and Robert Henry for taking the time to be there and caring for my father during his illness and to the Marines that came and stayed during the toughest times of our lives. It meant so much. I would like to give a special thanks to Gunny Loucks. My father said Gunny kept him and many more men alive than he could ever put a number on. You were my father's hero. to all of you that has watched my family go from little kids to having little kids, understanding you have our utmost respect for all you stand for.

Once a Marine always a Marine, Semper Fi

John Snowden