

A photograph of a man sitting on a sandbag wall in a military camp. The man is shirtless, wearing olive green cargo pants and dark boots. He is looking towards the camera. The background shows several large tents and more sandbag walls, suggesting a fortified position. The ground is dirt. The overall tone is historical and somber.

Dear Maxie

Letters From Viet Nam

Photo Gallery

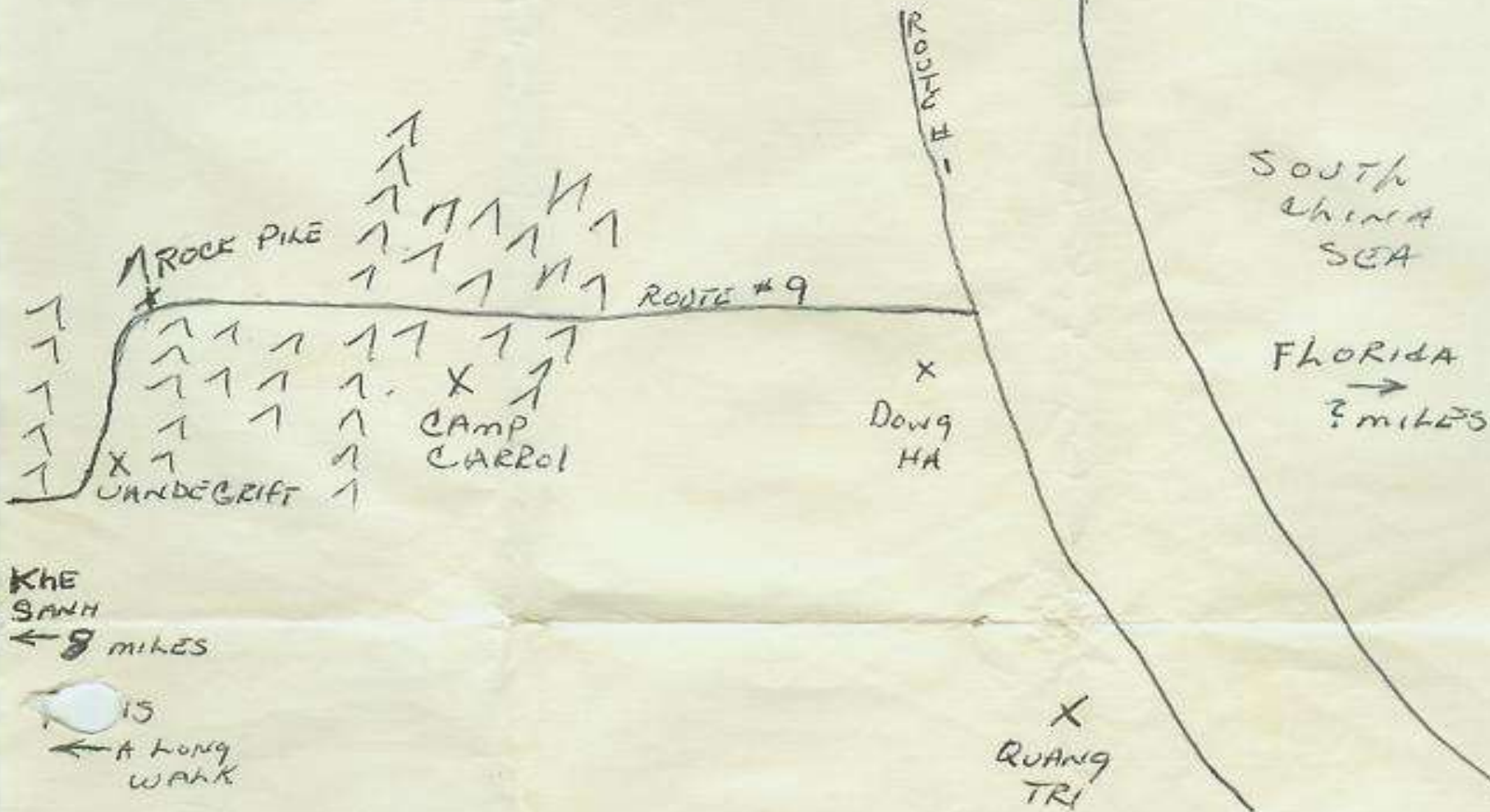
By
Gary Canant



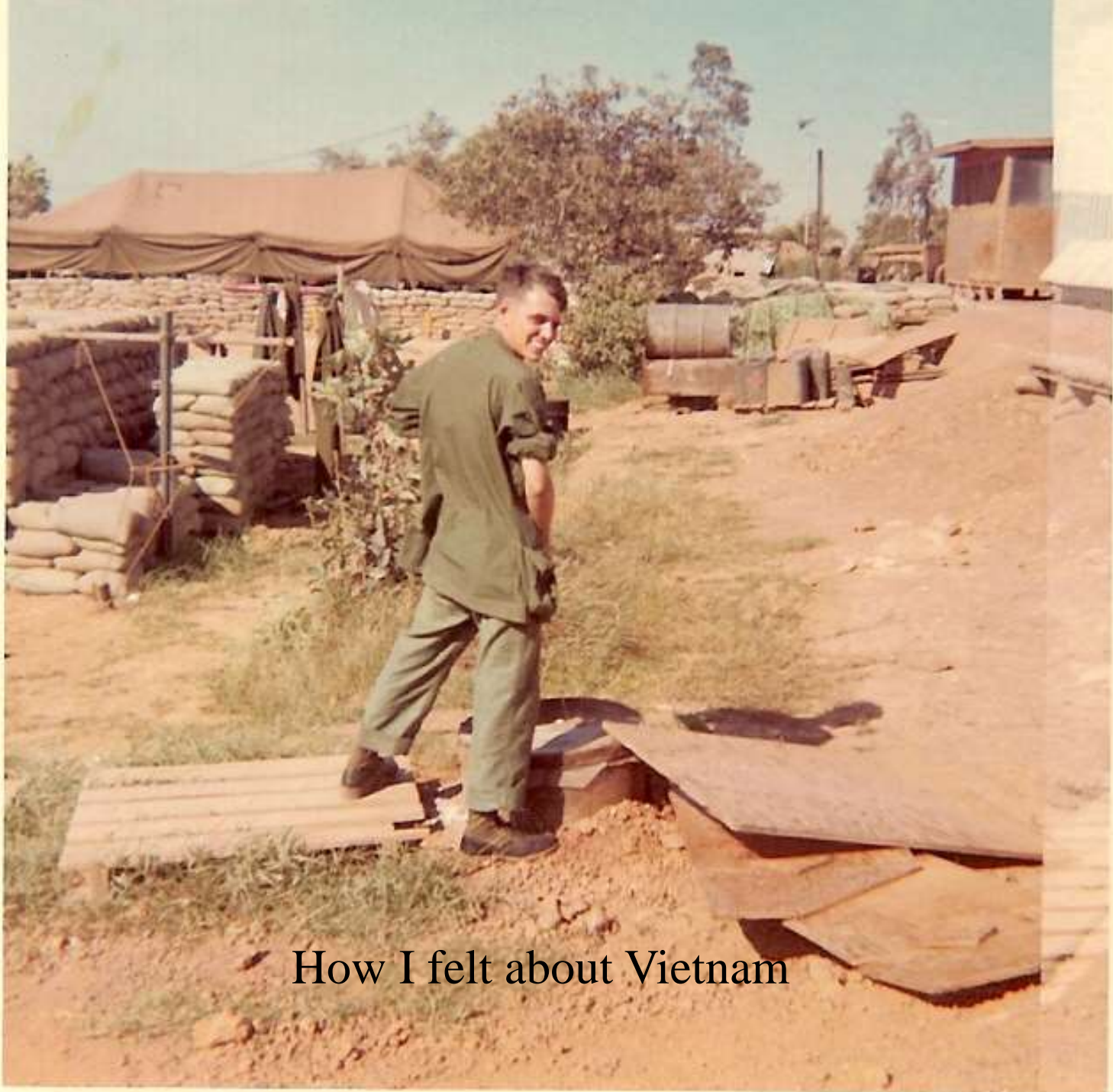
3D MARINE DIVISION (REIN), FMF, VIETNAM.

↑N

DMZ



“Forever is a day in Vietnam”.



How I felt about Vietnam

Going Over



Delta's modern jet fleet includes the Douglas DC-8 FANJET . . . carries 135 passengers deli- and jetourist . . . It is quieter, takes off climbs faster with greater reserve of power.

6c

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
U.S. POSTAGE



POST CARD

Dear Maxie,
Every thing
O.K. made my connec-
tions. Am riding in
the 1st Class cabin to
L.A. Good Scotch and
food. I love
you. Gary
P.S. I miss you.



DELTA ONE OF AMERICA'S PIONEER SCHEDULED AIRLINES

Mrs Maxine Cavent
3841 Gadsden Rd
Jacksonville,
Fla
32207

STANDBY

C0805

NAME CANAL

FLT 815

DSTN LAX

REAR COMPARTMENT

FRONT COMPARTMENT

CFMD TO

CFMD TO



No. Ckd. Bags

VALIDATE

JACKSONVILLE, FLA
F12
APR 25 68
REBOARDING PASS



Camp Pendleton, California

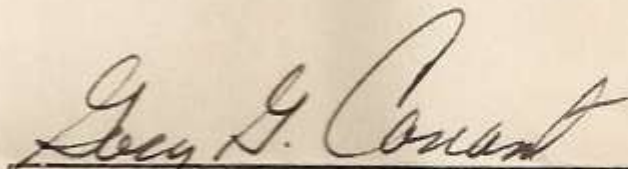
GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT I, GARY G. CANANT, a legal resident of the County of Calhoun, and State of Alabama, do hereby constitute and appoint my wife MAXINE G. CANANT of Jacksonville, Florida, my true and lawful attorney, for me and in my name, to act generally as my attorney in relation to all matters in which I may be interested or concerned, and on my behalf to execute all such instruments, and to do all such acts and things, as fully and effectually in all respects as I myself could do if personally present.

And I, the said GARY G. CANANT hereby ratify and confirm whatsoever my said attorney, MAXINE G. CANANT, shall lawfully do or cause to be done, in, or about, the premises by virtue hereof.

This Power of Attorney shall be null and void on and after the 1st day of September, 1969, unless sooner revoked by me.


GARY G. CANANT (SEAL)



IMPORTANT NOTICE-KEEP THIS CARD AS A REMINDER

The Allotment Office, Headquarters Marine Corps (Code CDC), is relocating in Kansas City, Missouri, on 1 December 1967.

All correspondence from members and allottees concerning bonds and allotments and reports of address changes from allottees should be addressed to:

MARINE CORPS FINANCE CENTER
ALLOTMENT DIVISION
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64197

Whenever you move, notify your postmaster at once, as well as this office, of your change of address to insure timely delivery of your check or bond.

Include your Zip Code in all correspondence and changes of address. The use of Zip Code expedites delivery of your mail.

INFORMATION TO DEPENDENT'S REGARDING BAQ ALLOTMENT

Your husband / son has applied for the increase in pay he can receive for having a dependent. Under current Marine Corps regulations his application for this increase in pay must be approved by Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D. C. This application will take about 90 days to be processed. Your husband / son has registered an allotment to you in the amount of \$40.00. If this application is approved the allotment to you will be increased to include the additional allowance he will then be receiving. There will also be an adjustment to cover any additional amount earned while waiting for approval of this application. Any inquiries concerning this allotment on your part should be addressed to:

~~Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code CDC)
Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps
Washington, D. C. 20380~~

Please give your name in full, your address; your sponsor's name in full, his service number and rank, when requesting information.



68

• MAY

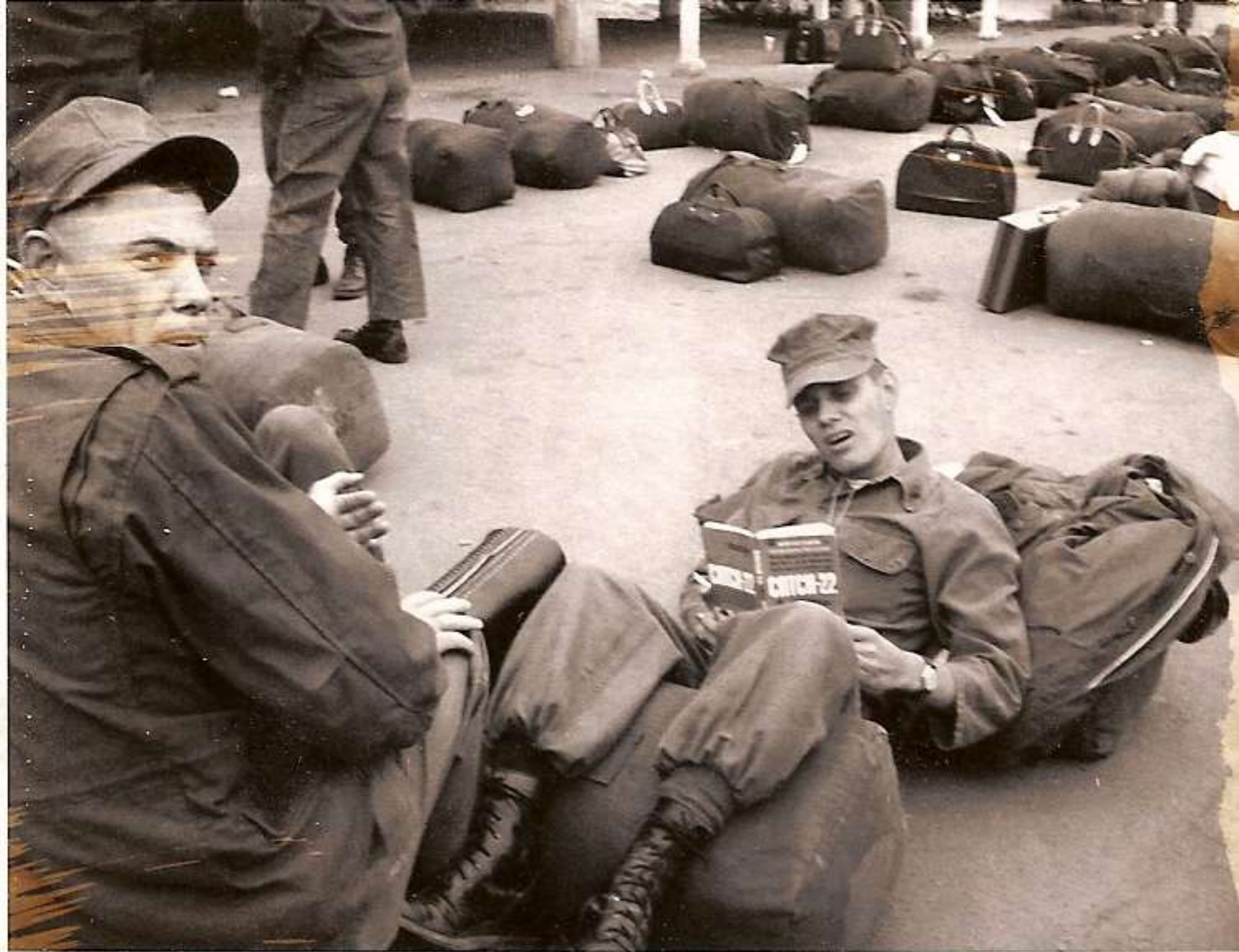
Rifle made by Mattel

year.

Under legislation signed recently by the President, the GI Bill allowance for full-time college students will be \$130 a month for a veteran with no dependents, \$155 a month for a veteran with one dependent, and \$175 a month for a veteran with two dependents, plus \$10 for each additional dependent.

Veterans who have not finished high school may complete their high school education and receive the above assistance allowances without reducing their eligibility for financial help at college.

Vietnam veterans and others who have had 181 days of active duty and were released after January 31, 1955, are eligible for the GI Bill, Phillips said. Military personnel may make an appointment to see the VA Representative by calling the Base Education Office, 7-5572 or 7-5512.





HONOLULU IN THE EARLY EVENING

... Nighttime lights begin to glow as the golden rays of sunset linger on the horizon of the Pacific.



U. S. AIR MAIL
60TH ANN
1908



Color photo by Sandy Colvin, Jr.

Maxie,
Two whole hours
here in the air
terminal to see
the island in utilization
with the bass eff-
limits. Did see almost
what in the picture from
the plane. Warm
Cups
Love you.
Gory

Mrs. Maxine Conant
3841 Sudoden Rd.
Jacksonville, Fla.
32207

Imperial Domain of the Golden Dragon



Let it be known that on this day 17-18 May, 68

Barry Carver

having crossed over the one hundred and eightieth meridian is hereafter and forever a member of the "Order of the Golden Dragon."

金龍

His Imperial Majesty,
the Golden Dragon

Robert F. Six



President,
Continental Airlines

Let it be known as high as the albatross can soar and as deep as the whale can dive, from one end of His Majesty's domain to the other and beyond that the bearer of this card having crossed the international date line and taken the terrible pledge to the dragon, is hereafter and forever a member of the ancient and mysterious "Order of the Golden Dragon."



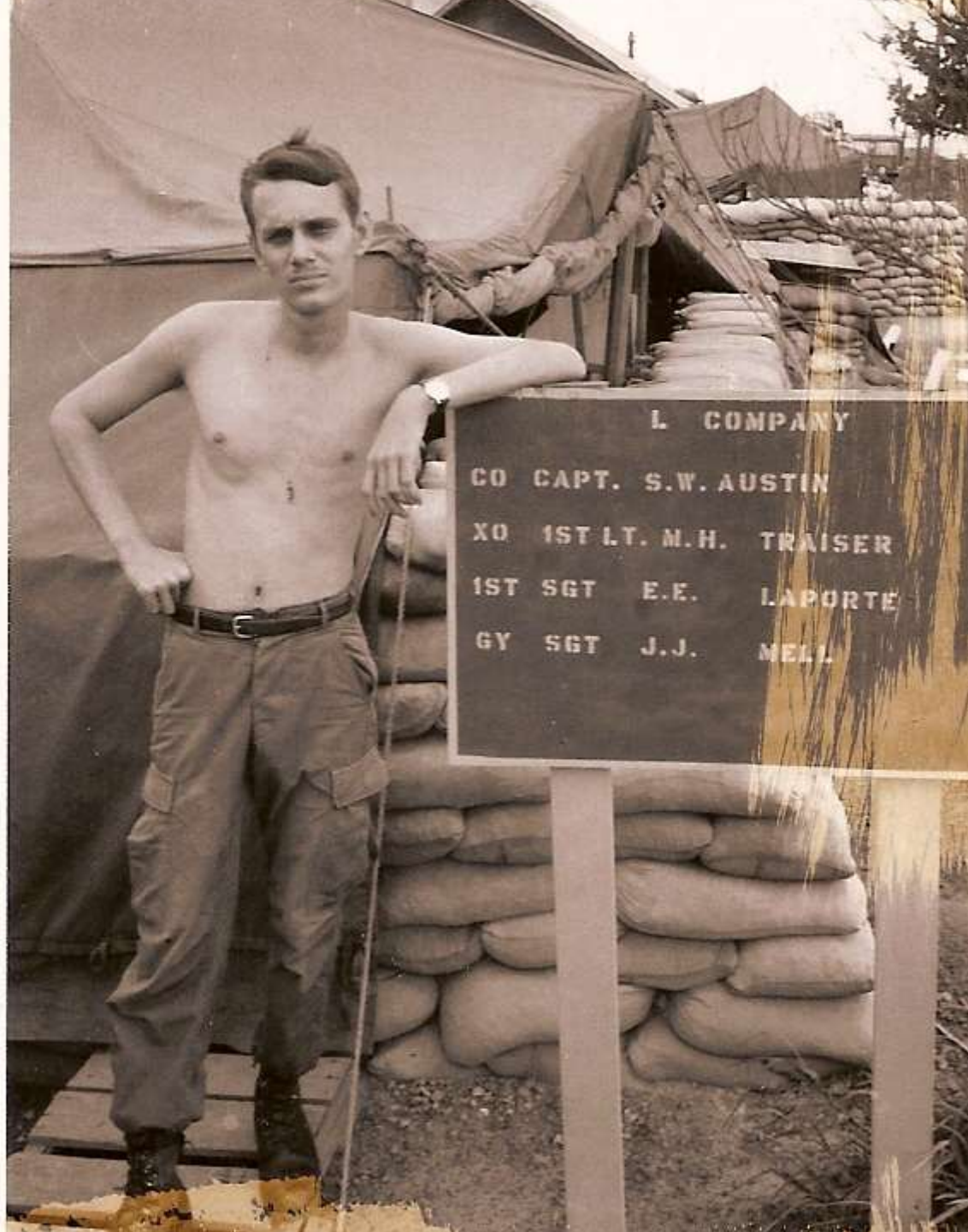
Dong Ha

8 Miles from the DMZ



FNG





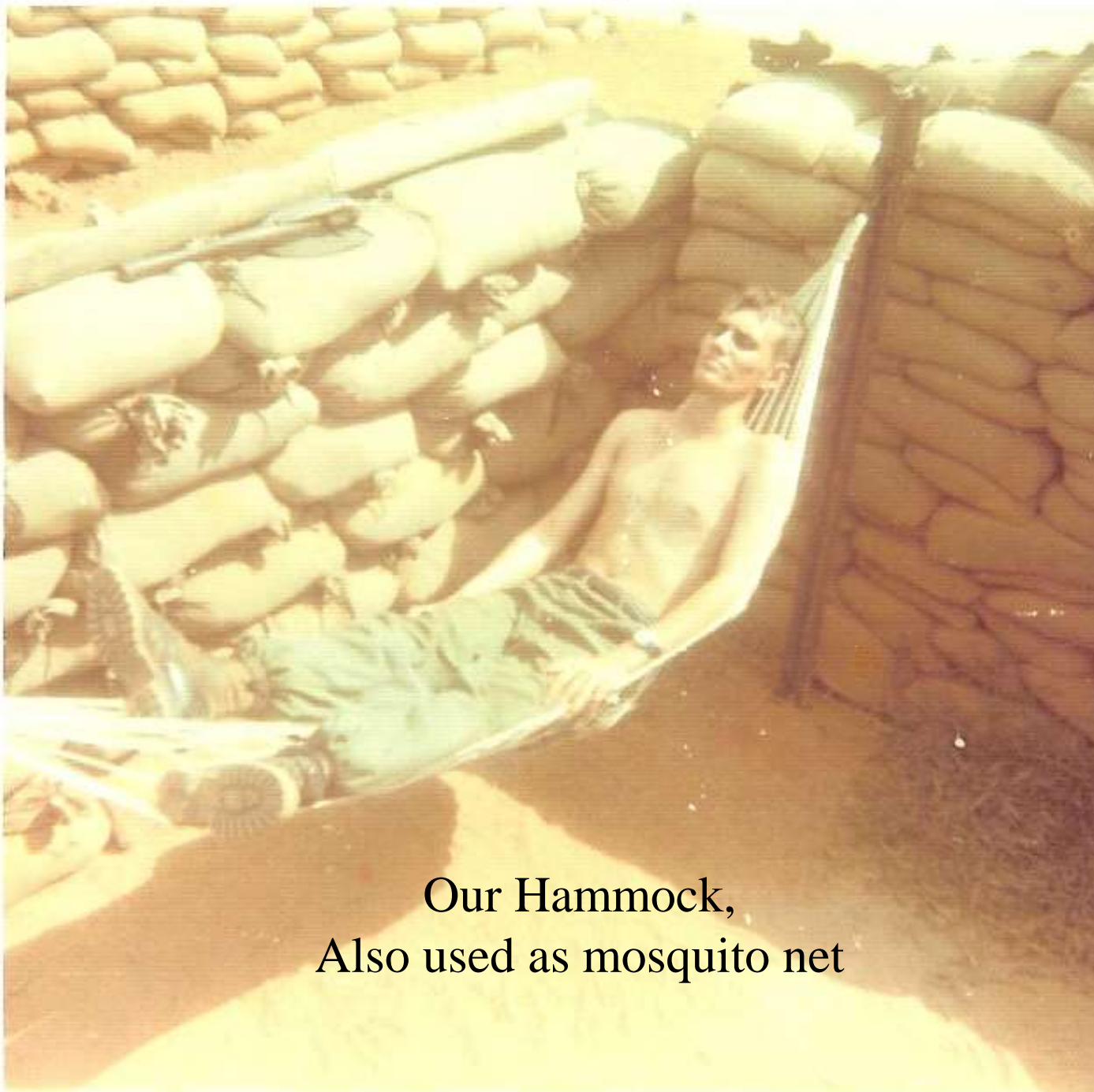
L COMPANY

CO CAPT. S.W. AUSTIN

XO 1ST LT. M.H. TRAIER

1ST SGT E.E. LAPORTE

GY SGT J.J. NELL

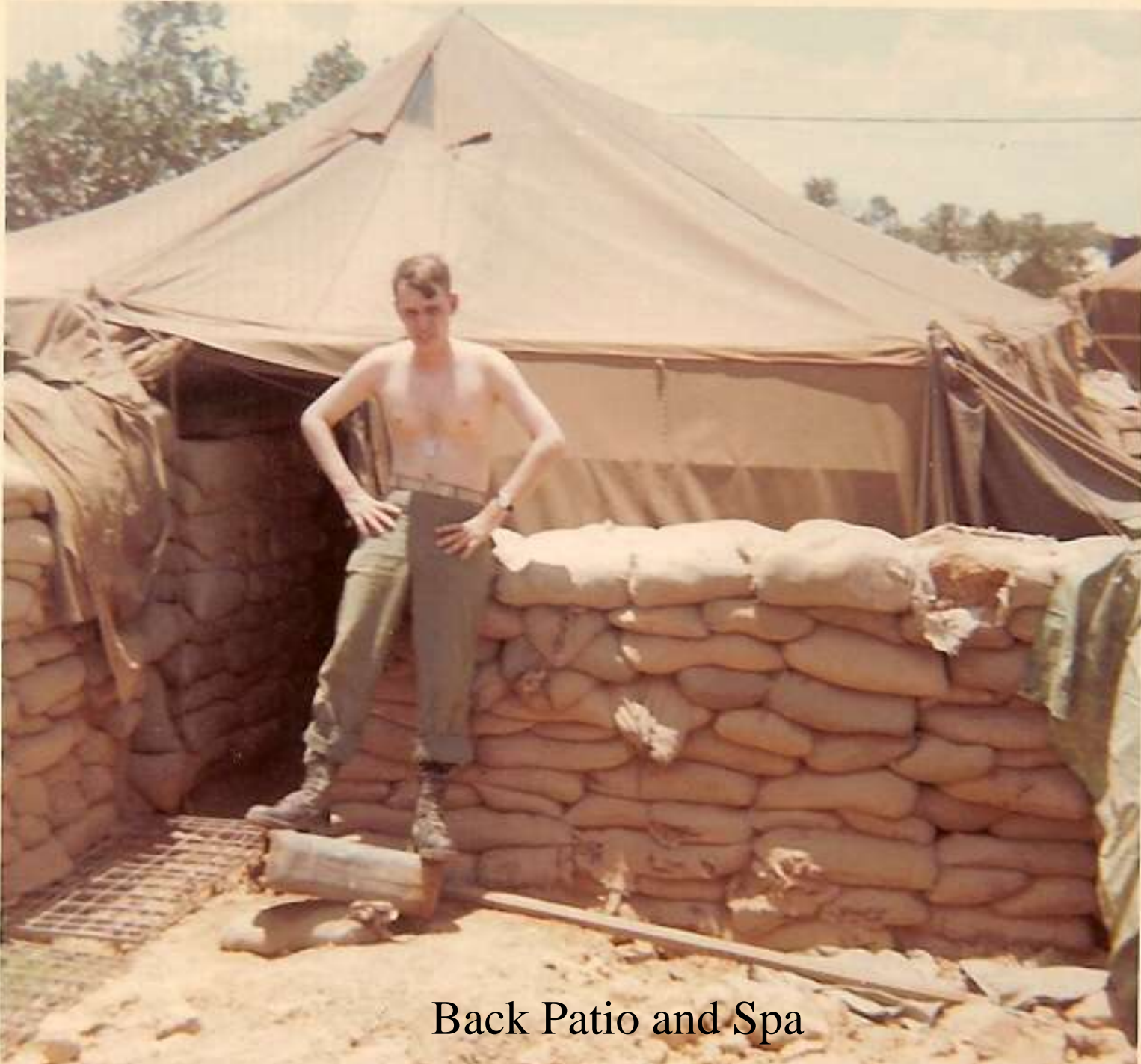


Our Hammock,
Also used as mosquito net









Back Patio and Spa

Quang Tri

We lived in “Hardbacks”





MAR 1969







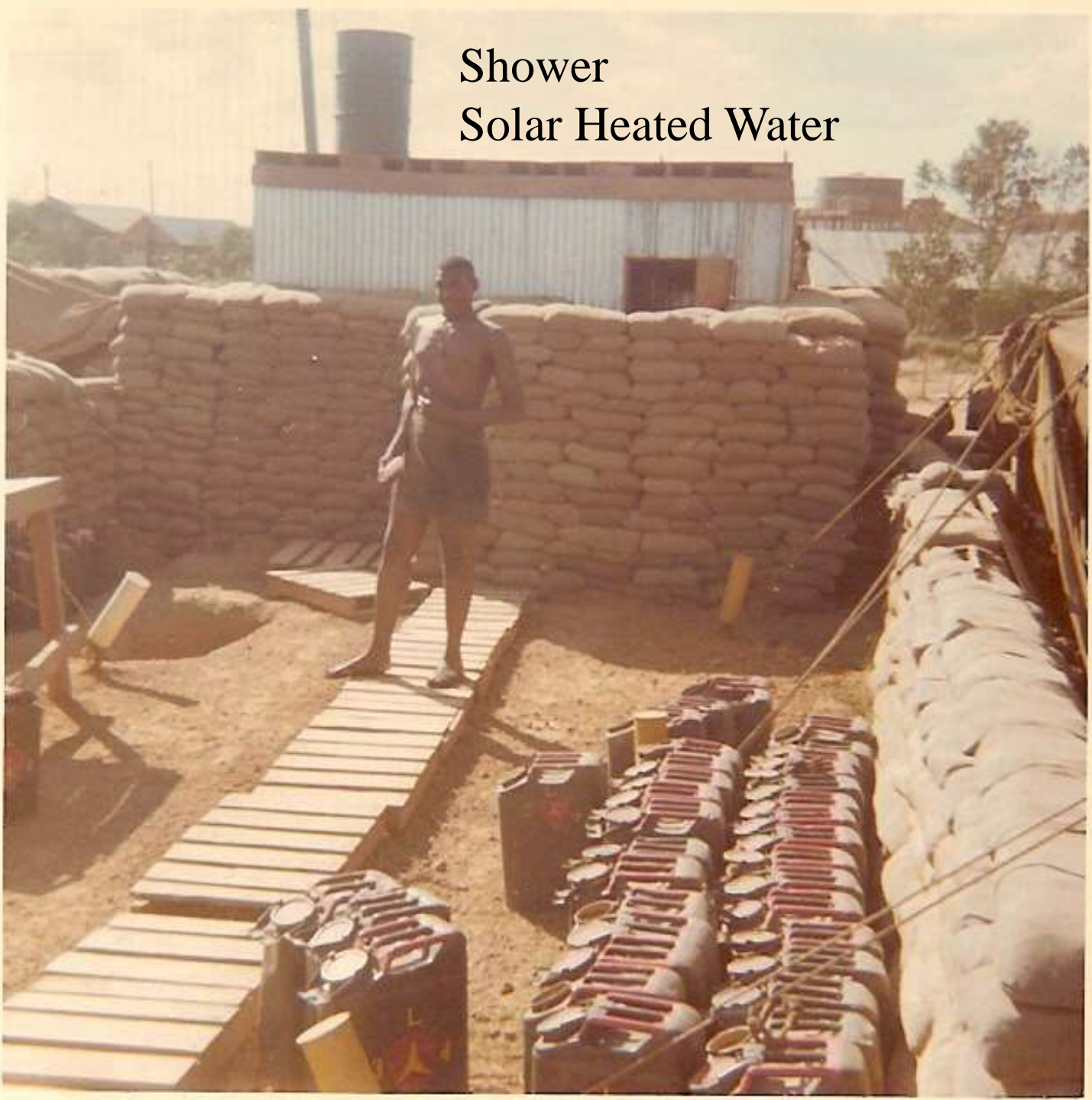


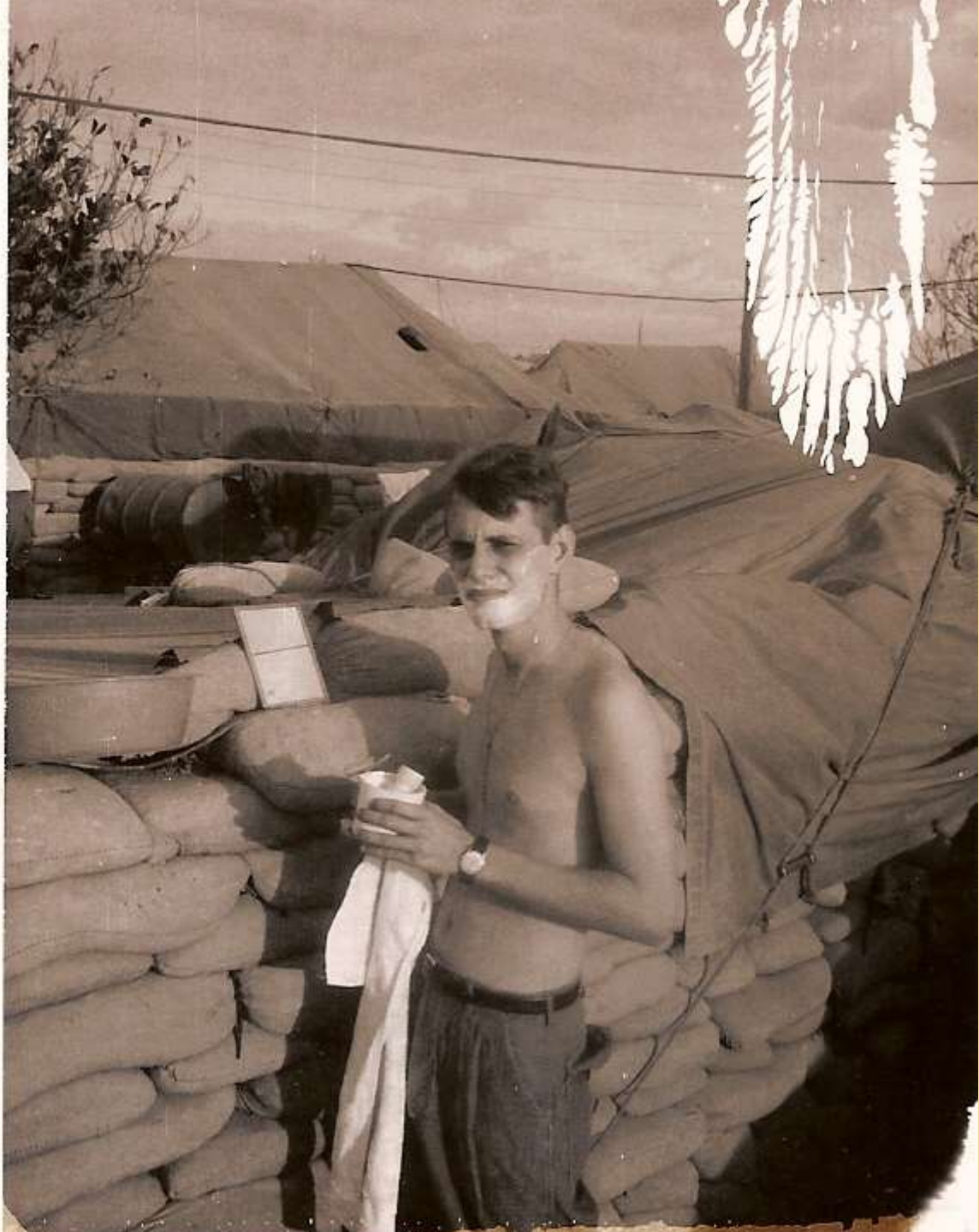
Hygiene in the Raw

You do the best you can



Shower Solar Heated Water



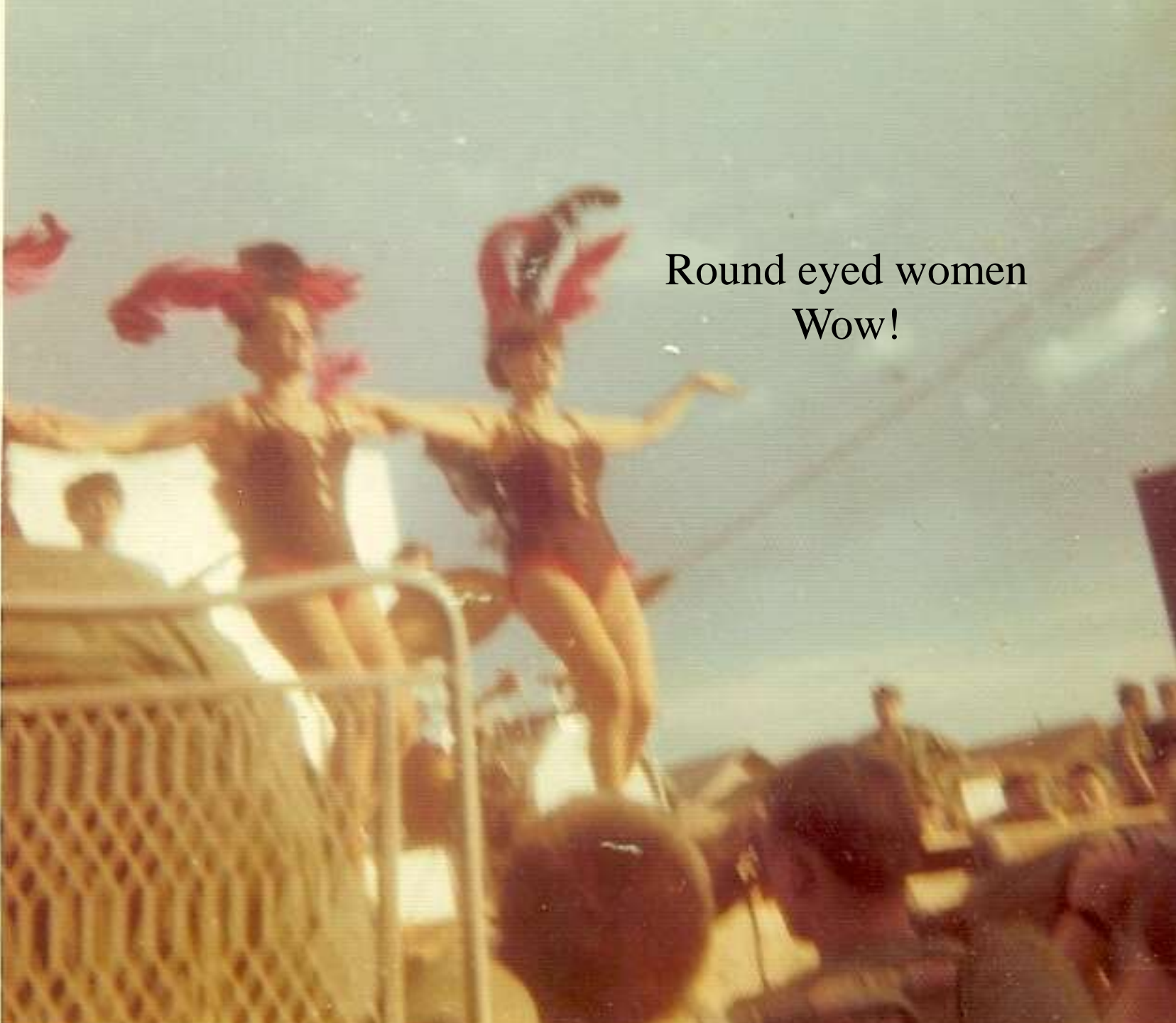




USO Shows

Bob Hope didn't come this far north



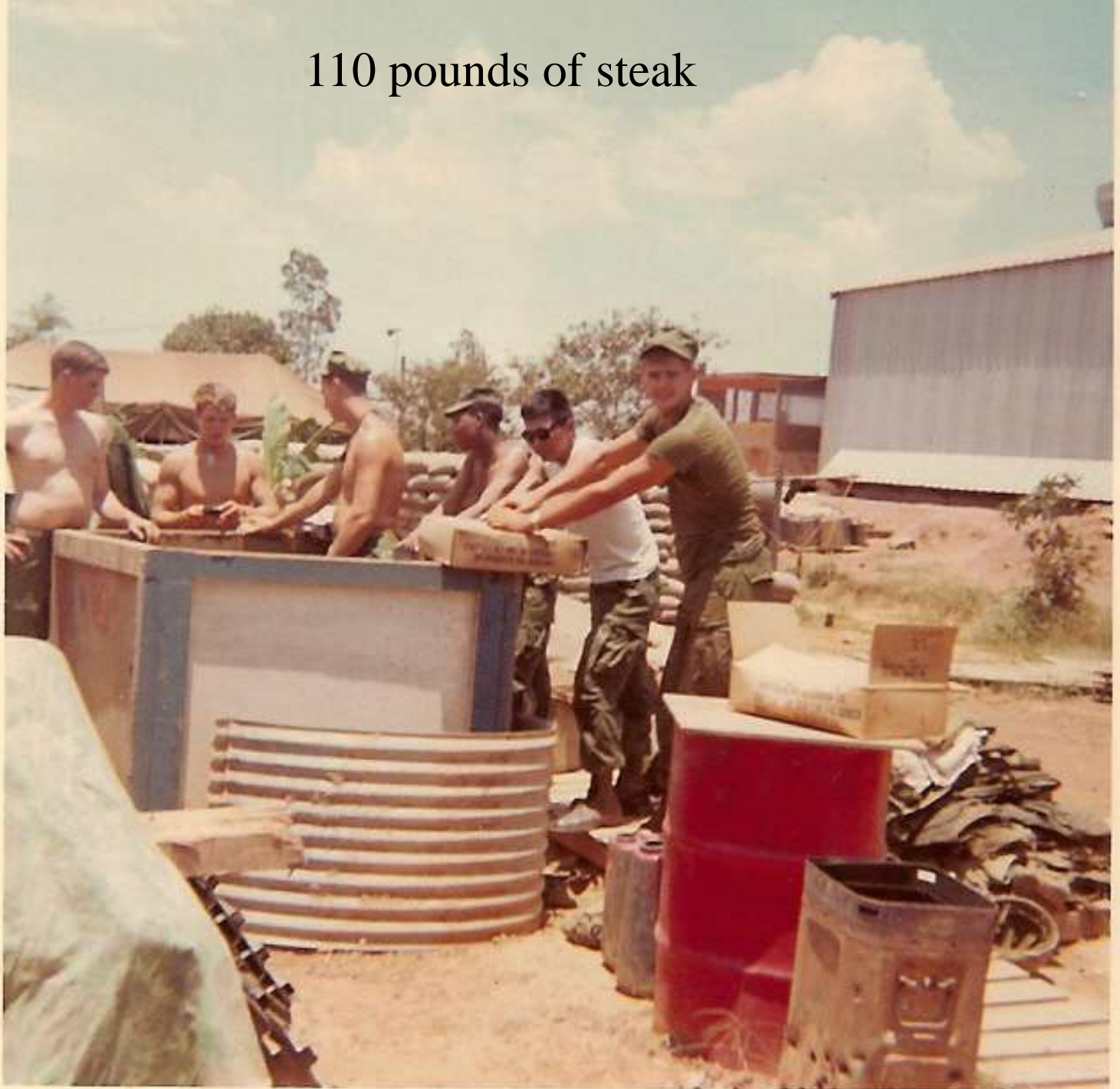


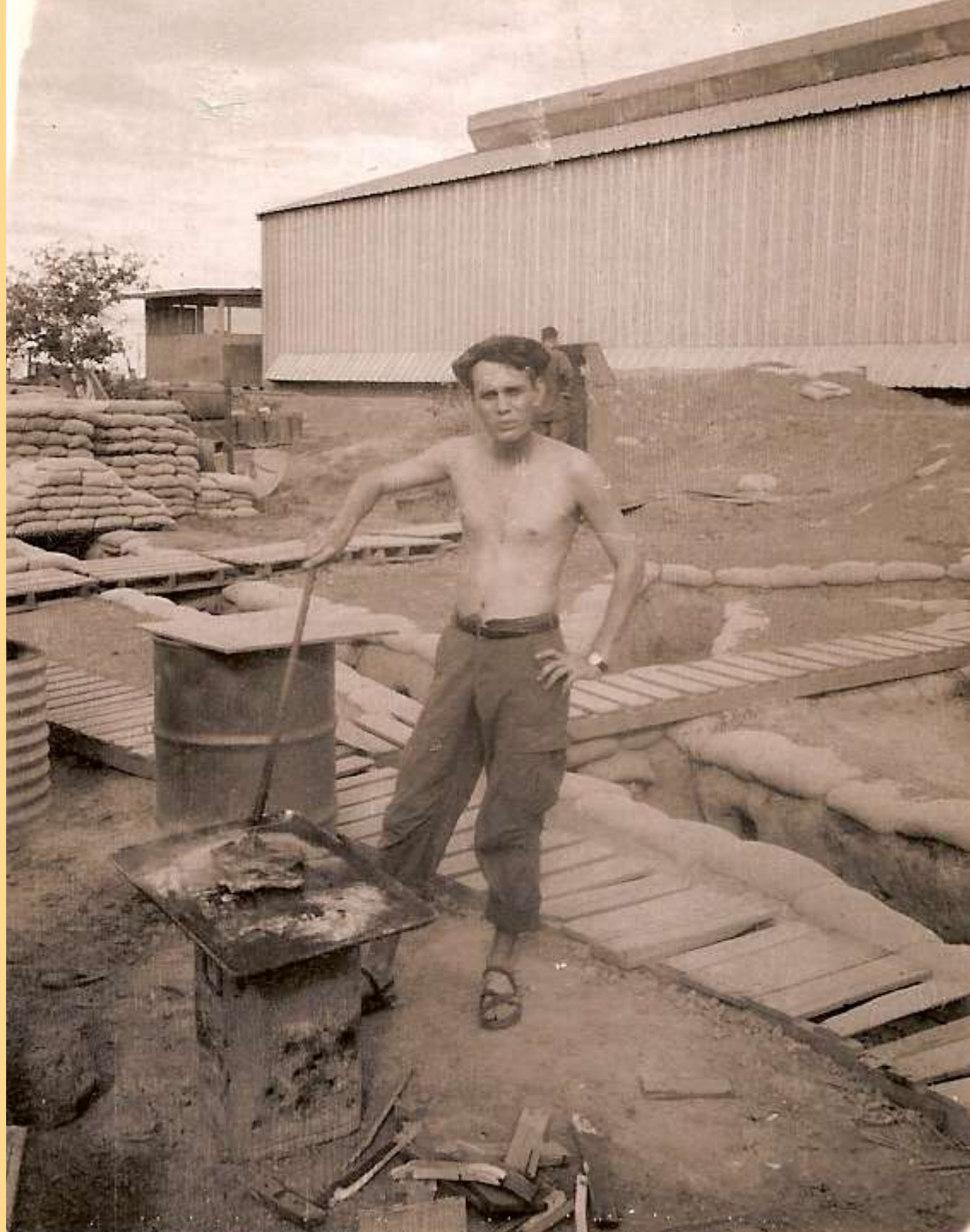
Round eyed women
Wow!

Stealing Food

It belonged to Uncle Sam anyway

110 pounds of steak





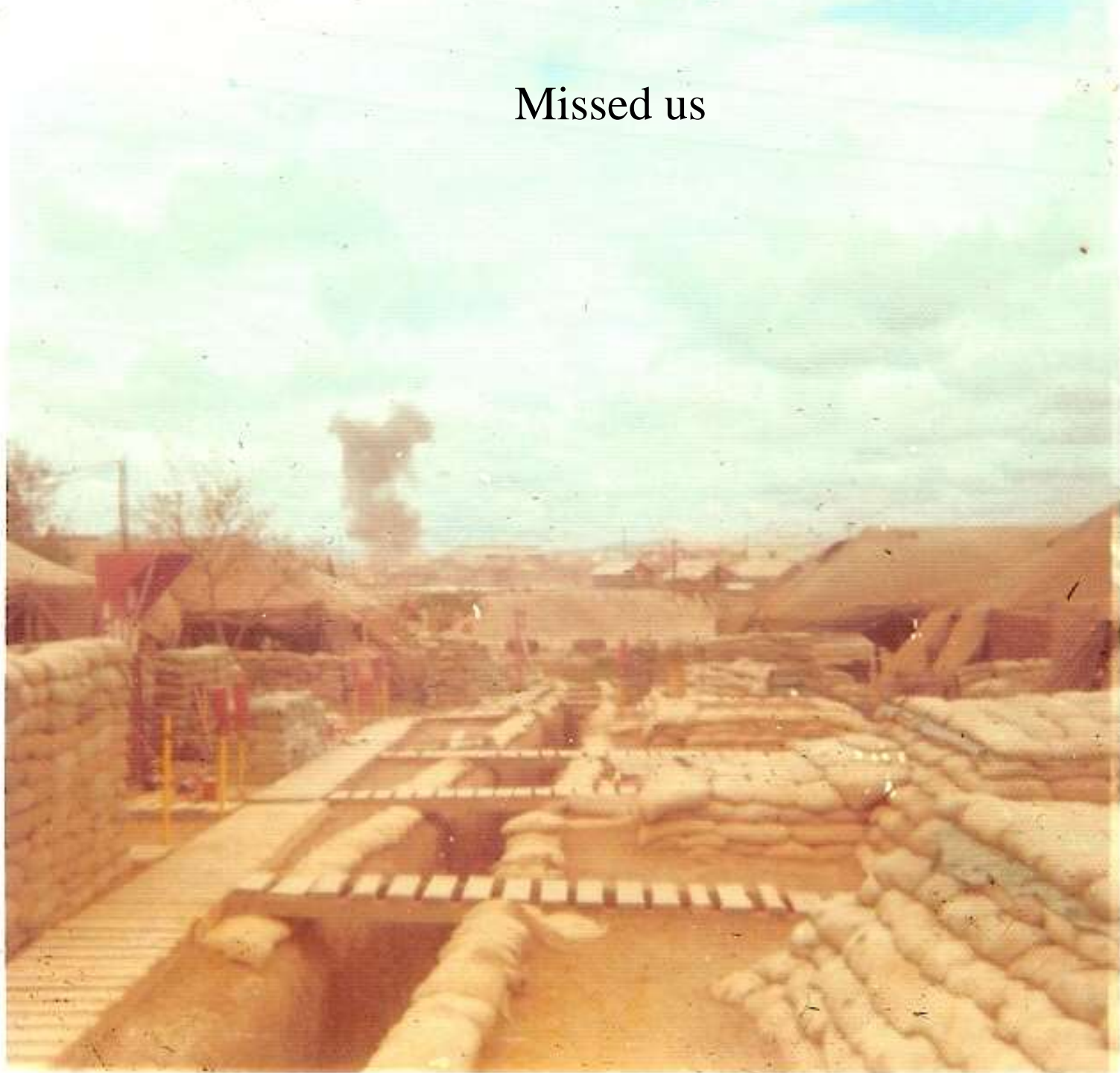
Incoming

We had good trenches





Missed us



69

130

The Dump at Dong Ha

It blew for 12 hours!

Hit us















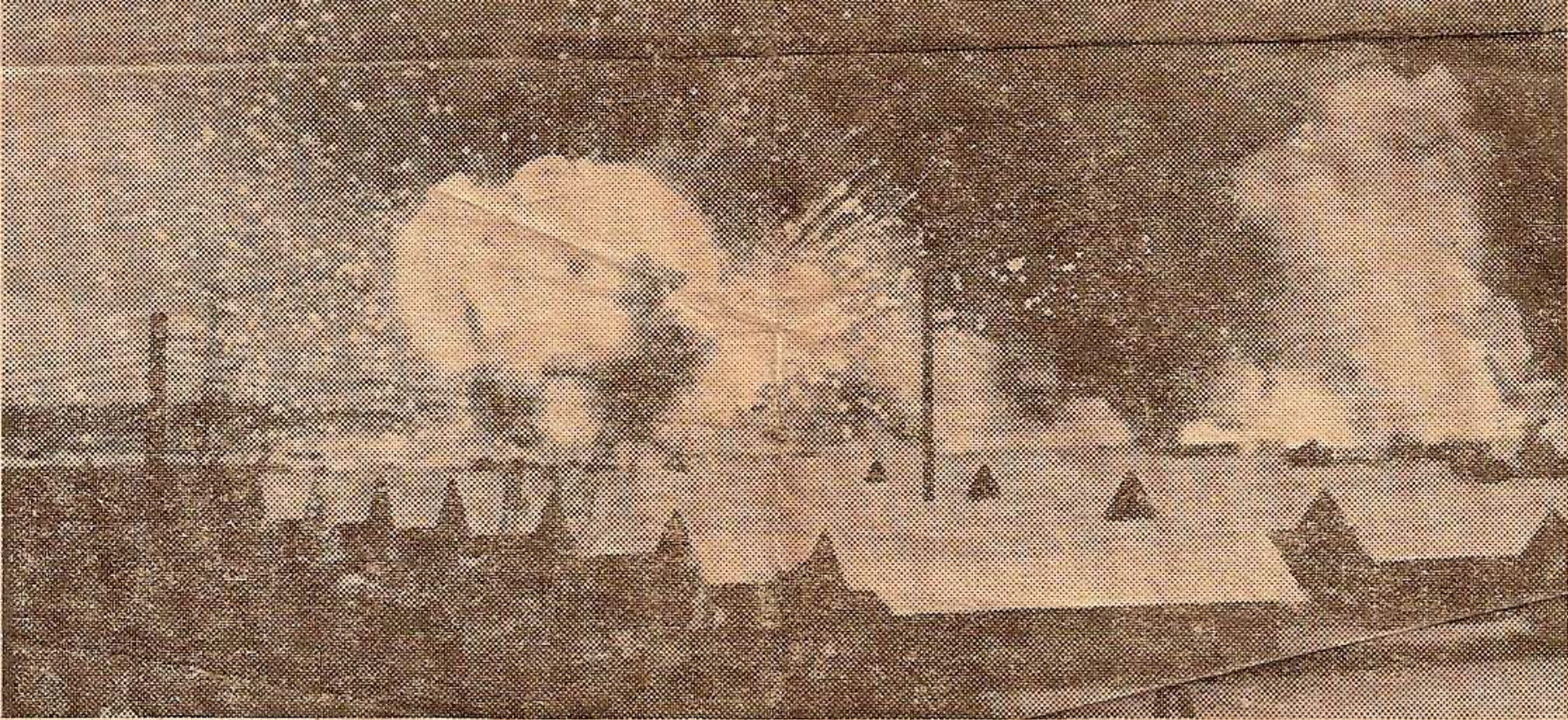












Red Artillery Scores Hit

An explosion rips through an ammunition supply point at Dong Ha, Vietnam, after an enemy artillery attack. Secondary explosions continued

for more than 10 hours. At least 12 Marines were injured, but none of them seriously.

(USMC Photo by Sgt. T. S. Addington)

Lt. Joyner

Killed June 15, 1968





The Guys

What happened to them?



September 11, 1968

Dear Ellen, Marie, Cindy, Kathy, Lynne, Ann, Phebe, Sam, X,

I just wanted to drop you a line to let you know that everything here is good, great, excellent, boring, going by too slow, going by fast, bad, worse, poor, unbearable, disagreeable, rotten, fine, not so fine, horrible. I am doing fine, not so well, cheerful, lonely, sad, happy, carefree, hungry, sick, well, stubborn, hot cold, clean, dirty, disinterested, hopeful, dismayed, disheartened, hungry, sick of the hole mess, home sick. I can't wait to kiss you, hold you, take you out, leave you at home, cuss you out, see you, talk to you, spank you, kick Jody, shoot Jody, congratulate Jody, get home, leave home, drink some wine, not drink anything, get away from this mess.

Dont' worry honey, sweet heart, love, lover, darling, you witch, my dear fiend, you fink, my not so dear friend; I'll be home soon and then we can make up for lost time, fight, fight and then make up for lost time, do what ever comes natural. It won't be long now because I will be home in Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March, April, May, June, later, soon, never, sometime, maybe, whenever I get there.

I am looking forward from getting a letter from you soon, never, daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, whenever you feel like it, when you get back from a date with Jody, whenever Jody gilts you, Oh! forget it.

I am sending my love, regard ds, hate, dirty laundry, friendship, unfriendship, kisses, hugs, warts, sex?, money, time, anything, nothing.

Love sincerely, your friend, your enemy,
lover, dear John,

Dick, Larry, Gary, Maurell, Riley, X





From: ME
To: You

Subj: You

Ref: (a) Your letter dated July 12, 1968
(b) Letter of AB/ab dated 31 July 1968

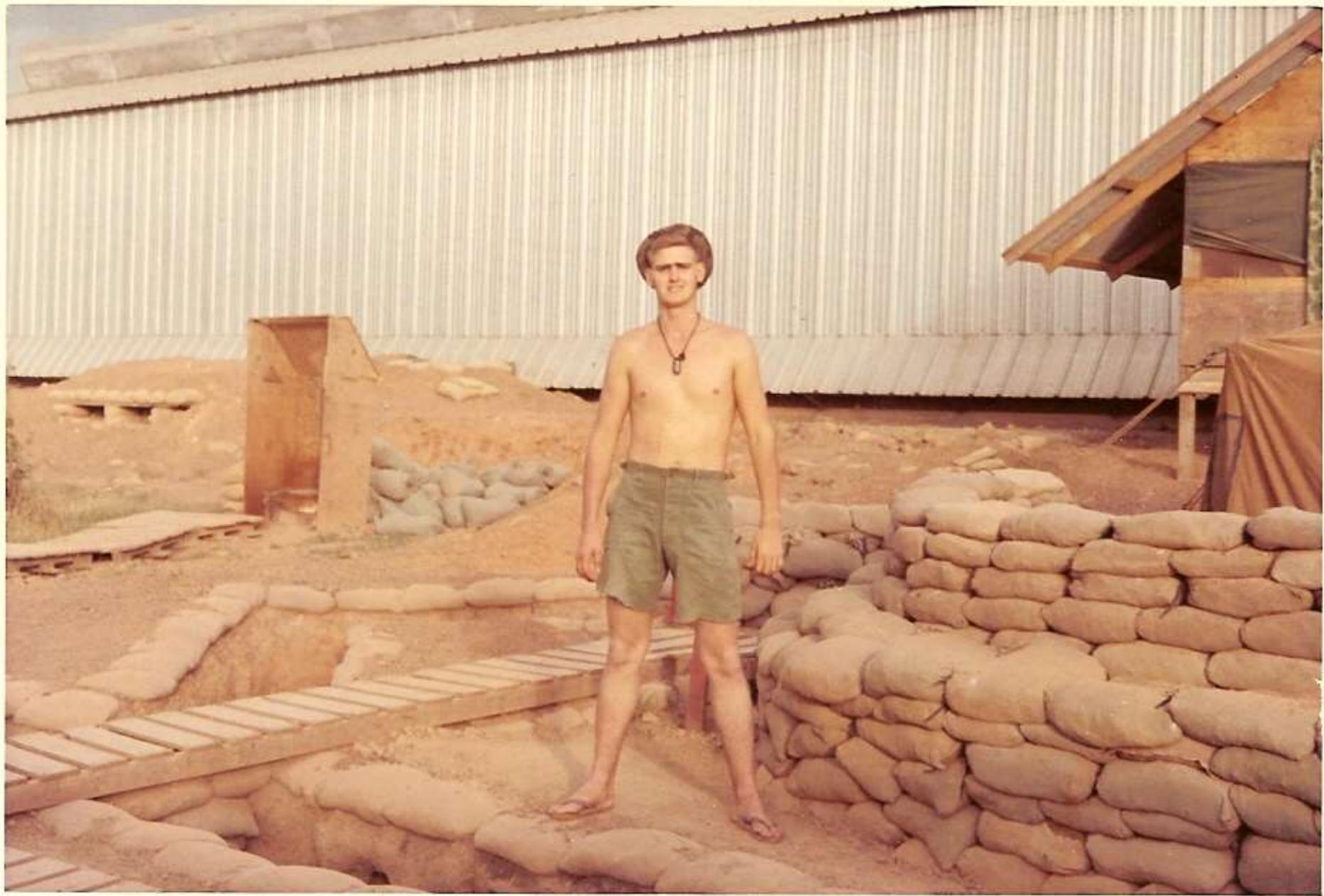
1. Reference (a) was received and acknowledged pertaining to the secret classification of the information and statements containing the tape you received from this position.
2. Reference (b) was received indicating that the information contained in reference (a) has been divulged to certain persons lacking the proper security clearance.
3. This indicates a lack of discipline in proper security measures concerning the handling of certain classified materials.
4. You are hereby advised that your actions have been reviewed by the security personnel concerned with the proper handling of classified materials.
5. The foregoing actions are unwarranted and cannot be tolerated. Therefore, it is requested that you go straight to jail, do not pass "GO", and do not collect \$200.00.

LARRY HOUSTON
LCpl USMC

COPY TO:
File

This is a copy of a letter Larry wrote Phelan because she played a large part of his for a group of her friends. He should have said hell.

















The Club

If you were lucky, 2 warm beers per day. Get there early.

E L S E C U
N I T D C L B
3RD BN. 4TH MAR

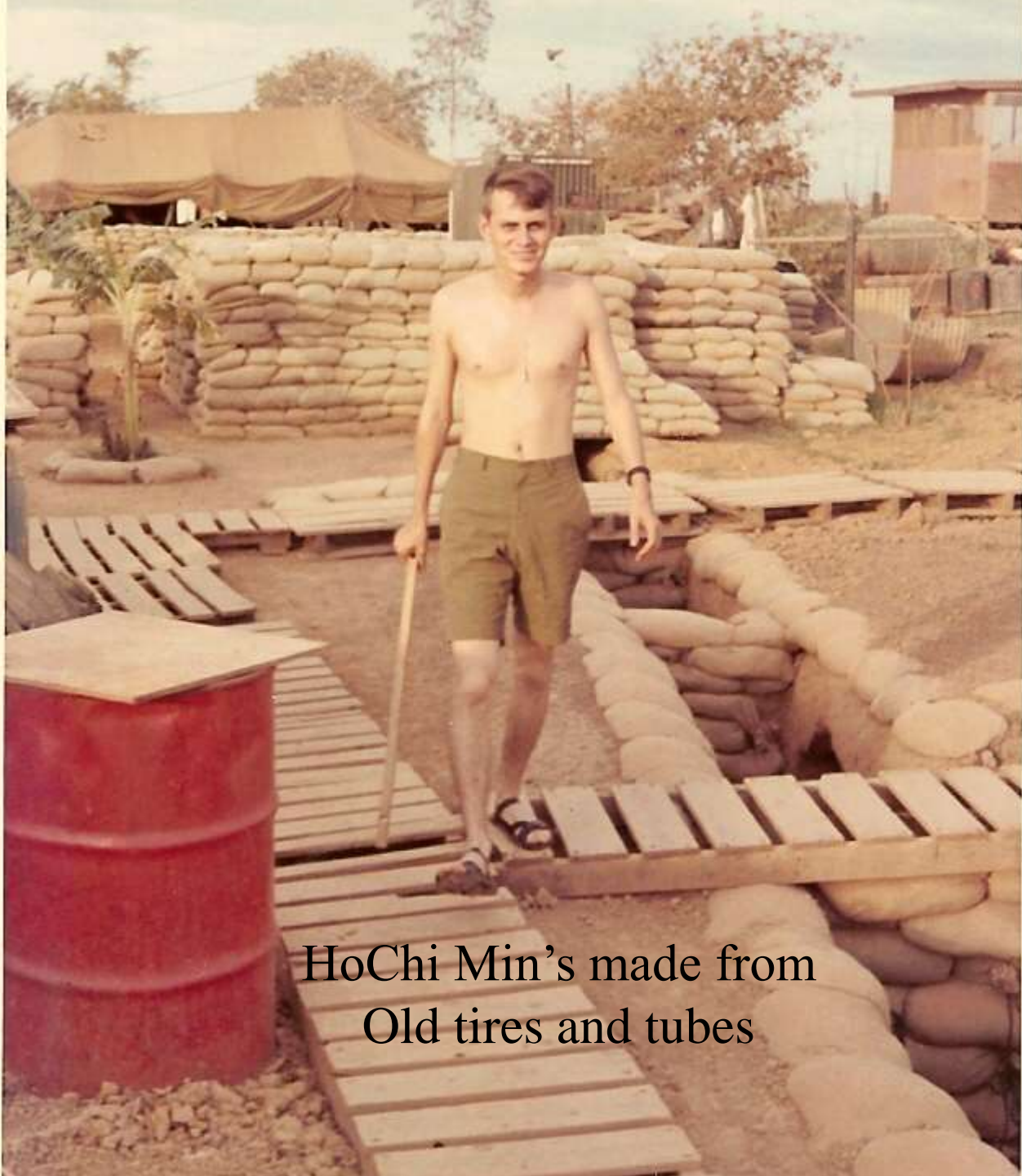


3RD MAR DIV. FMF

Play Time

Parachute from Flare



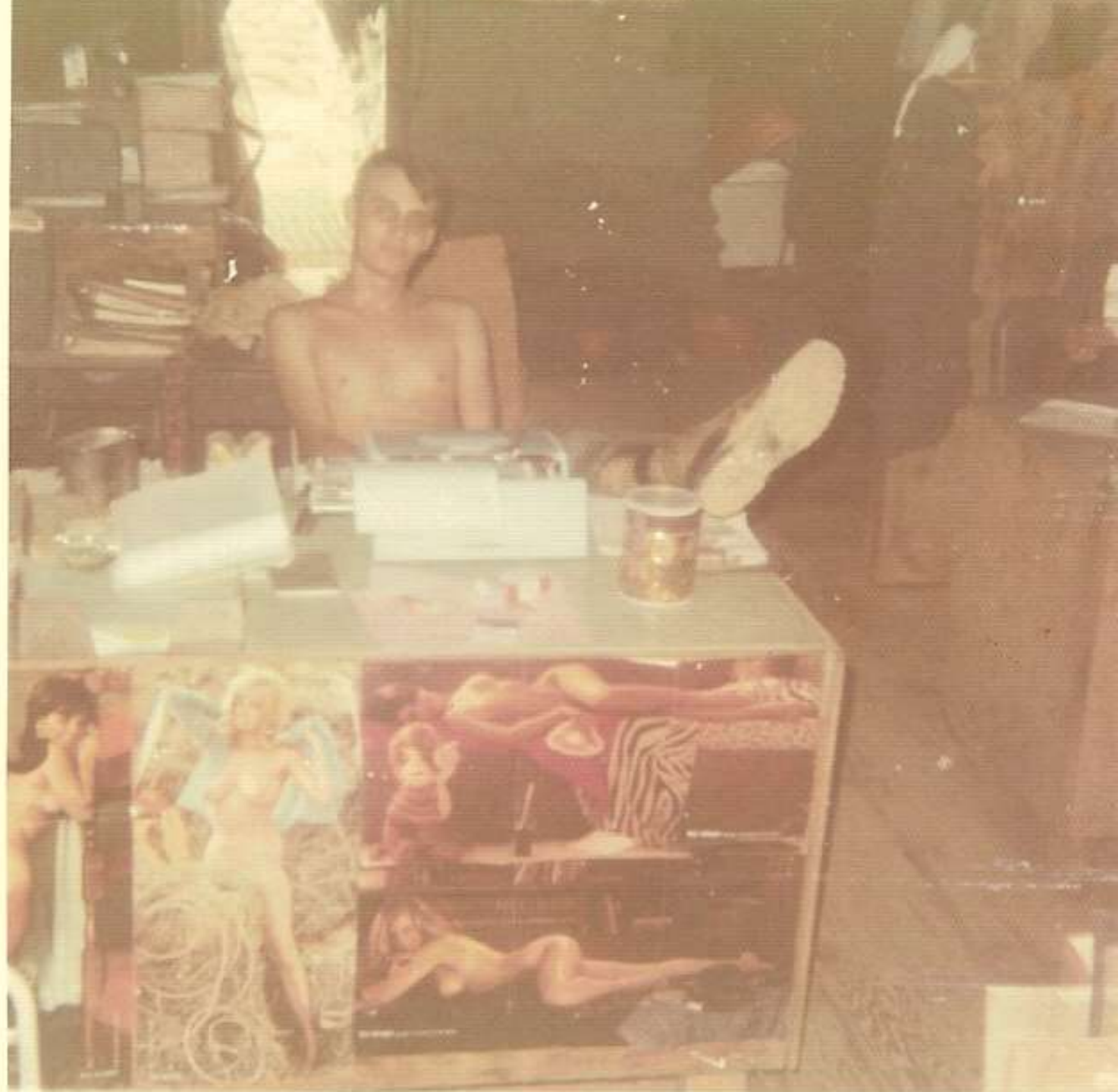


HoChi Min's made from
Old tires and tubes



L Company Office

Doubled as our home





Vandegrift

8 miles from Khe Sanh





I think I still have dirt in
My eyes from the choppers





Road Sweeps and Convoys

The only way to travel









Vietnamese

Water Buffalo and the Ville







HÃY BÁO-CÁO NGAY NƠI CHÔN DẦU SÚNG ĐẠN VÀ CHẤT NỔ CỦA
ĐỊCH. NHIỀU GIẢI THƯỞNG CHO CÁC EM.

7 - 254 - 68

CÁC EM NHƯ NHÌN TÌM SÚNG GIÁC YÊU NƯỚC

- * Dù nhỏ tuổi, các em vẫn có thể tỏ lòng ái-quốc.
- * Trong khi đi học, đi chơi, ở nhà, ngoài đồng, nếu thấy được nơi chôn dấu súng, đạn, mìn, các em hãy báo cáo ngay cho Quân-Đội VNCH hay Đồng-Minh để kịp thời tịch-thu, tránh chết-chóc cho gia-đình và làng xóm các em.
- * Dù khám phá một viên đạn súng trường hay một hỏa-tiến; một súng lục hay một Đại-bác các em vẫn được thưởng.
- * Tùy theo kết-quả các em có thể được thưởng từ 5\$ đến 100.000 \$.

XIN CÁC EM LƯU Ý: Để bảo toàn mạng sống của các em, khi phát giác được vũ-khí, mìn hoặc chất nổ các em đừng chạm đến, chỉ nên đi báo-cáo ngay cho binh-sĩ VNCH hoặc Đồng-Minh biết mà thôi. Các em sẽ được thưởng ngay sau khi tin-tức của các em được xác nhận là đúng.

R&R

Hong Kong



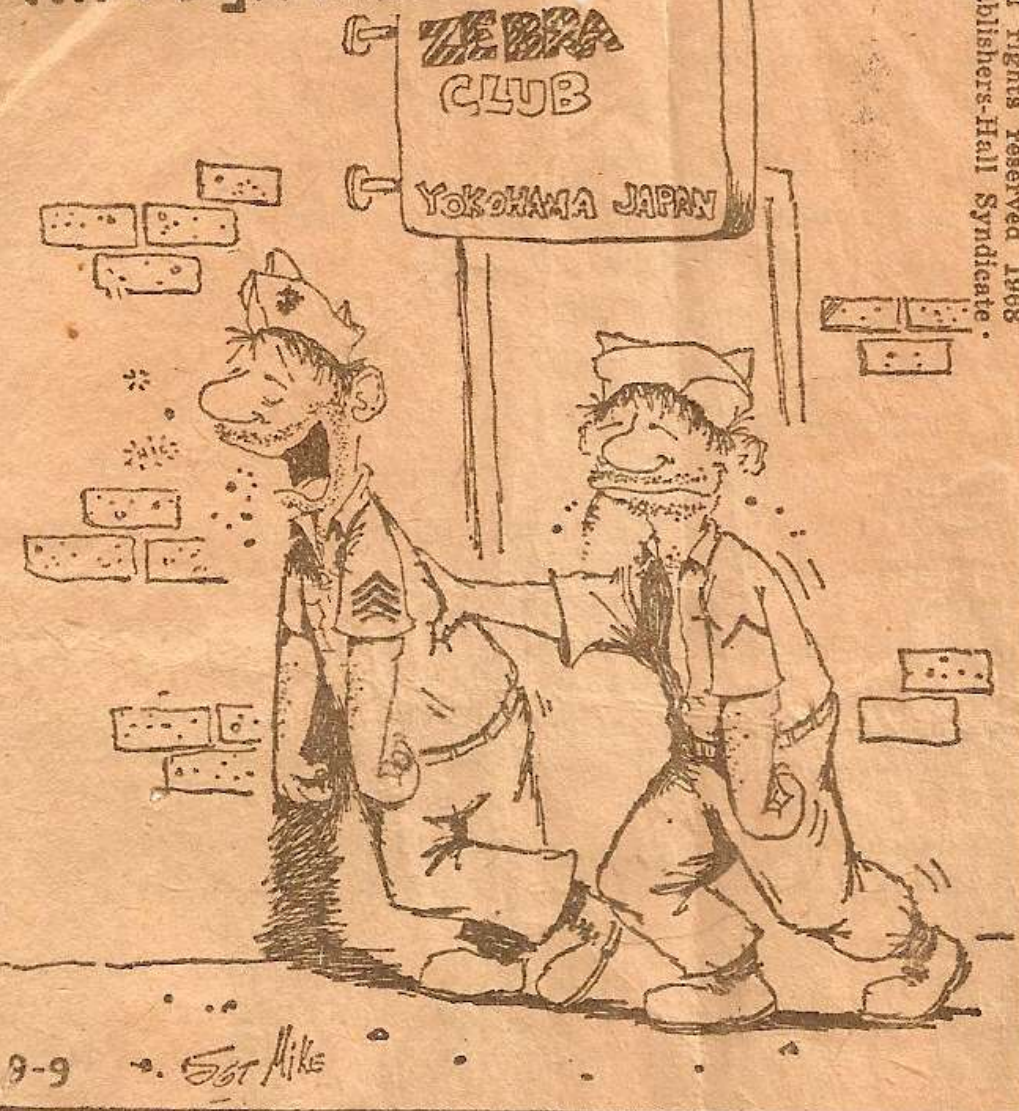
FIRE CRACKER BAR

ENJOY A BANG-UP EVENING, THE YOUNG-AT-HEART GATHER IN THE GREGARIOUS ATMOSPHERE OF THE FIRECRACKER BAR TO SWING TO THE LATEST HITS PLAYED BY AN EXCITING COMBO.

WITHIN THE HOTEL THERE IS EVERYTHING FOR YOUR

With Sgt. Mike

All rights reserved 1968
Publishers-Hall Syndicate



9-9 Sgt. Mike

"MAN, THIS R & R TRIP IS KILLIN' ME — WE GOTTA GET BACK T' VIETNAM AN' REST UP."

Short Timer

At the end, I sent home 1 card per day

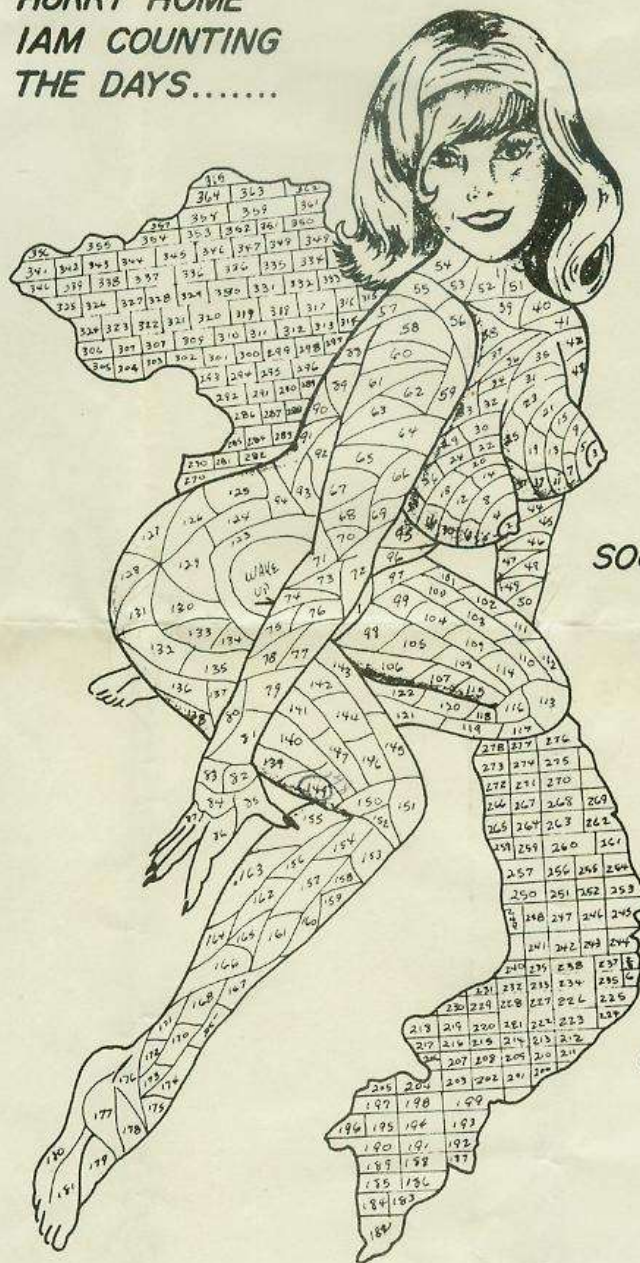
K



K



HURRY HOME
IAM COUNTING
THE DAYS.....



SOUTH VIET NAM

SHORT TIMERS
CALENDAR

MPC

Funny Money



Condolence Letter

Personal items blocked out

COMPANY L
3d Battalion, 4th Marines (-) (Rein)
3d Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force
a/o PFC San Francisco 96603

[Redacted]

My dear Mrs. [Redacted]

It is difficult for me to express the regrets and sorrows felt by the Marines of this Company over the recent death of your son, [Redacted], United States Marine Corps, [Redacted]. Please accept our deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

[Redacted]

It may be a comfort to you to know that a Memorial Service will be held in [Redacted] honor in the near future.

[Redacted] His exemplary conduct, leadership, and determination to do every job well were qualities that all of us respected. We will miss him and hope you will find some comfort in knowing this.

If I may be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to write me.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
Captain, U. S. Marine Corps
Commanding

*It's a funny
letter - almost.
do you think?
it would be used
around because*

My Medal

Navy Achievement Medal with
Combat V







The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the NAVY
ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL to

SERGEANT GARY G. CANANT

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

for outstanding achievement in the superior performance of his duties in the field of
professional achievement as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"While serving with the Third Battalion, Fourth Marines, Third Marine Division in connection with operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam from 16 March 1968 to 14 January 1969, Sergeant Canant performed his duties in an exemplary and highly competent manner. Initially assigned as a Unit Diary Clerk with Company L, he displayed outstanding professionalism and initiative despite extremely adverse conditions and the difficulties of a combat environment. Distinguishing himself by his consistently high level of efficiency, he materially enhanced the operational effectiveness of his unit. Participating in Operations Kentucky, Scotland II and Robin South, he repeatedly distinguished himself by his courage and composure under fire, as he expeditiously accomplished all assigned tasks. Reassigned as Supply Noncommissioned Officer with Headquarters and Service Company, he ably coordinated and supervised his men to maintain a continuous flow of essential supplies and equipment for the battalion rear area, as well as adequate transportation for combat committed units to the forward areas. As a result of his diligence and seemingly unlimited resourcefulness, he gained the respect and admiration of all who observed him and contributed significantly to the accomplishment of his unit's mission. Sergeant Canant's outstanding professional ability, untiring determination and steadfast devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself, the Marine Corps and the Naval Service."

Sergeant Canant is authorized to wear the Combat "V".

FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,

H. W. BUSE, JR.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U. S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY HAS AWARDED THE

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

(WITH COMBAT "V")

TO

SERGEANT GARY G. CANANT, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR

MERITORIOUS SERVICE FROM 16 MARCH 1968 TO 14 JANUARY 1969

GIVEN THIS 4TH DAY OF APR 19 69



John H. Chafee
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

United States Marine Corps



Certificate of Good Conduct

Sgt Gary G. Canant 2128294/0311/0141

Having conducted yourself in a creditable manner, you are, by direction of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, awarded a Good Conduct Medal First for the period 2 Feb 65 to 2 Feb 68



Your conduct during this period denotes honest and faithful service in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps

Second Lieutenant

Richard A. SERGO

U. S. M. C.

Richard A. Sergio
COMMANDING

Co I, 3Bn, 4thMar,

3dMarDiv, FPF

PFC SPRAN 96602

1 June 1968

UNIT

DATE OF AWARD



Be it known
that
Sgt. Gary S. Conant
has served faithfully with the

Thundering Third Battalion
Fourth Regiment Of Marines

and that his brothers-in-arms
the Officers and Men of the Battalion
recognize his loyal service with this

----- Certificate -----

wishing him Godspeed, smooth sailing,
and continued success..



S. W. Austin
Commanding



Maxie

The coat she wore when I came home



72

• MAY

