11-23-1968

Carole Nelson Vietnam War Correspondence #17

Larry Wagoner

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Greetings and salutations

Well, my oh my, it looks like the “happy wanderer” of South Vietnam is finally going to be allowed to catch his breath. I’m finally going on R&R. Yes, after nine months of jumping out of helicopters, sneaking through jungles, living on top of mountains, and just generally wearing my once beautiful body to a frazzle, I am now going to be allowed to go out and destro... myself completely. Naturally they are still playing games with me, I requested to go to Hong Kong in November and they tell me I’m going to Bangkok on December 5th, but being tolerant, if a little unstable of mind I shall rise above such petty limitations. Actually it is immaterial where I go as long as I go, fast. In fact if I like R&R well enough I may just extend over here for three months and take another.

All kidding aside, true it is a strain, but I shall force myself, I am seriously considering a three month extension over here. If I did that I would only have two months left in the bright green pleasure machine when I returned from this lovely paddy wonderland, and I might be able to get an early separation.
Then I could go back to wandering aimlessly around wondering what to do with myself and my life, just like a real human being. Being a confused civilian is so much groovier than being a confused marine. And it pays more too.

Oh well, enough of this idle gaffe. Now are things with you and yours. From what I can recall of California, last year at this time it rained alot, but after being over here I shall make no assumptions about weather anywhere even again. I have discovered that the only sure fire way to tell what the weather is going to do is to wait until it does it. Well another Thanksgiving is almost upon us I see. I think I'm going to celebrate by cremating a can of C-Rat turkey loaf, actually I don't plan things like that but a Chief Roger Bee I aint.

I see my thoughts are beginning to wander so I shall cut out before this becomes completely ridiculous. I pride myself on being only a semi-idiot and I don't want to blow my amateur standing.

Fare late.

Yours

(U.S. Marine Corps, 193 years of tradition untempered by progress.)
L/Cpl. L.E. Wagoner 2379401
3rd Force Recon
FPO  San Francisco, Calif.
96602

Carole Nelson
8949 Langdon #21
Sepulveda, Calif
91343
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Like later
Larry

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