

5 March 1968

Hills,

I stated once already; it was a goofy start so —

Mr. Russell Baker does have a sense of humor; his statement of the body count being three times the population of Vietnam north & south, is far fetched. It could be successfully challenged; 14 million in S. Vietnam & at least 9 million in the North. 25 million by body count? Mr. Baker is establishing his own credibility gap. The article was humorously written for the humor; not to enhance the truth — at least I don't think so.

Am returning more pictures to, have. My little album is still filled up; I show it around to my best buddies. Namely, Ed Roche, Gene Bowser, Warren Greenlow (now it gets hard) Normie Newhoff, and I force my X's to look at them. ☺ He says Chad is nice! An average futures report for Roy unless he adopts superlatives.

Now to dig into your letters on the first day of a long 5 day patrol.

Does you dad keep sending me the Planets' comics?

They are very humorous but Parents should have a log
that likes water better than Sapient Canals.

I'm glad you sent the letter complaining about the
pictures - some did come out awfully bad

Just finished supper; piggy Belly. Sometimes I
just eat I eat. Had nuts, ice cream & pop for desert. Its
nice to be devilishly bad at times ☺. Having another
fine Tampa cigar too.

The Duffy's are nice people, huh. I like them
both. Maybe while in NYC we can visit.

What do you mean it has been like a zoo where
Dick is? No understand

Please send mom the pictures she wants for the
paper - The Lockport Herald. My family has many
genuinely interested friends there. I may even have a
couple. Send ^{the} picture of us & Chad at Jimmy's
new school too. The Herald needs all the filler it caught.
They will put them all in the society page - page one ☺.
I still like Lockport.

Am enclosing another receipt for 10% savings - they'd

\$40 one. Just put another \$170 in last pay day, last in post. I figured out all my pay again. Right?

\$443.70 - basic pay
47.88 - food allowance
120.00 - housing allowance
65.00 - hostile fire pay
30.00 - family separation

\$8478.96 / yr
as a civilian

You know, we really can't complain all that much about the pay. It is a neat little sum if all service benefits are included.

The Coast Guard won't extend times — too many want to come over. Ray told me that a new PXO (prospective executive officer) is definitely against the war and is more or less refusing to do his job. If he comes on my boat as XO I will court martial him. He can keep his mouth shut (except in a unofficial, private, personal basis) till he gets home.

You win on buying things together; I could never live down another black hat & overcoat.

When Sparky sleeps with her tongue out it means some big strong male doggie has her backed into a dark comfortable corner and is making love to her. And she's not protesting!

Judy, am also enclosing the article I mentioned in the
tape about Machiavelli and me (TEE HEE); do you
think you could buy me that book too. I was just
thinking that tonight I am going to start Tom Jones. It
may ruin me though.

Nothing else really to say dell. Will rap it up for now,
start Tom Jones — here we go.

MS Me

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Have a chance to get in mail. Love you. Squeeze
me up!

Billy Can