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Summer 7-14-1968

### July 14th, 1968 Letter from Chuck to Glennis

Chuck Yeager

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14 July '68

Hi Sug:

For once things went as planned. I flew to Clark in my F-4 intending to borrow a B-57 & go to Phan Rang. But the 57's were out and after looking at a map I saw that Phu Cat was closer to Bong Son so I flew my F-4 to Phu Cat. I landed at 10 AM and had the Rescue Chopper fly me to English which is the 173<sup>rd</sup> LZ. It only took about 20 minutes. I had a G.I. Call Co D and found out that Don was at the Chow hall. I had a Jeep drop me at the Company Orderly room and they brought him in. He had just returned the day before from a week in the mountains showing v.c. He looks real good. Kinda lean & brown from running the mountain with about 70 lbs of pack, ammo and Claymore mines hanging on him. While at the base camp he & his squad stay in a bunker on the outskirts of camp. They sleep in their clothes rolled up in a poncho liner and with enough ammo & mines around to wipe out an army. You recall how dirty we used to come out of the mts from fishing? Well that was clean compared to how he lives now. I spent the whole

day and nite with him. He seems well prepared for what he's doing. Good equip & everything.

He's riding the chopper quite a bit & making assault landings. The officers let him eat in the officers part of the chow tent with me & invited him to dinner that evening & he ate like a pig. The officers were kidding him about not getting used to hot knobies with the brass and that he would pay with extra hard work after ~~the~~ <sup>his</sup> old man left! ~~The~~ We had a real good visit. I gave him the camera & two rolls of film. also gave him my flying gloves because the elephant goes out his hands on patrol. Will send him some more gloves from here. He can't handle any extra stuff because he lives out of his back pocket.

The next morning I had an army chopper take me back to Phu Cat. His Co. Comdr. let him go with me. He took his rifle & helmet & was gunner for the trip. He took pictures all the way of everything. I let the chopper pilot return my F-4 & I got quite a few photos of Don. He was kinda envious of the airman around Phu Cat. all clean, air conditioned buildings and everything neat & clean. He and the chopper pilot finally left & the last I saw of him he was going across the rice paddies about 10 feet above the ground with his rifle ready.

My trip back went ok and everything was fine here with the wing.

I talked with Howie, as you know, and told him I didn't care about going to Langley for Gen D's retirement if you didn't want to go. He'll still be catching up on my lovin'!!

Hope you got everything out of the box Howie unpacked. He sort everything out when I return. He go see pots, pans, and things.

Don wanted me to pick him up a stereo set for when he returns. I'll try to get it but you will have to lend me <sup>some</sup> money. I will write one of the <sup>WACHOVIA</sup> checks that you gave me for emergency with-drawal. I will write it for \$200<sup>00</sup>. This should cover what he wants. We will keep it at the house packed up. This will be the last chance to get things cheap.

If you owned the AWA cassette player I imagine Sue will take it. It's only \$40<sup>00</sup>. I may bring another home for the trailer.

Love love you & miss you as the time gets close to come home. Hope everything went good with the 336<sup>th</sup>. Heard they stopped at McConnell on site. all my love Chuck.