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(72)

3 May 67
2 00 AM Wednesday AM
MACV RVN
Plei Me Cu Hanh

Hi Kay,

Will make this short tonite and go to bed. Wrote as you know to point of exhaustion last nite. Started vomiting this afternoon for some strange reason but am okay now. May be it's the withdrawal from booze. My spirits are much improved over last week but my emotions are up and down. Had some entertainers from Korea sing tonite and got all choked up — almost left. May be it's the inactivity that gets me, I don't know. Can't leave the base till Thursday afternoon after call. Will try to get out this weekend.

Slept most of the afternoon. From 1 00 — 2 30, then from 6 00 till 9 30 — am tired again now. Emotions are a strange thing — play huge tricks on me at times. Will shake this thing soon — am already much better than I was. Got your sports pages today — thank you. Looking forward to a tape or letter soon — am really greedy and quite demanding I know but need these things very badly — especially lately it seems. Feel acutely the loss of my good friend Jack Rudy and wrote volumes to him yesterday.

need to communicate with someone - have always been this way and suppose I always will be. - Don't feel I've found anyone here who can be trusted enough to talk candidly to. Maybe when Greek gets back the situation will change.

Love you very much. Hope my continuing solemn letters aren't getting to you. Think I'll spend some time in the chapel tomorrow and see if that won't make a difference.

Goodnite, sweetie. Am really tired.

Love

/

Dan

73

3 May 11:00 pm 67
MACV Wednes
Pleiku Cu Hanh
RVN

Hi Kay,

My spirits are better now — right now you should be getting the start of my lansey letters from last week. The big problem is time on my hands, horniness, and lack of people to confide in. Much small talk and good fellowship still around but lack for really good friends. Add horniness and lack of letters from you and you have the mess I was in last week.

No letter since Monday when I got two but have decided that it's the P.O screwing the mail up. Have slept most of the last three days, have read a little and was busy running to the latrine c̄ vomiting & diarrhea yesterday & today. All in all it's been a great week.

One thing I did do today, though, and that's go to Mass. It helped a little but don't feel much like I belong next to all the pious souls in with me. They're all so sombre and just with their rosaries, etc that I feel miles away from them — feel more at home out in Plei Brel c̄ the rice wine and the good talking and friendship. Your boy-

friend is really getting strange, I'm afraid. Have missed out getting out lately as I mentioned yesterday but the ban was lifted tonite and can start getting organized again for another trip.

NO D.T.'s and it's the third day so can relax again. Consumed a huge amount of booze last week as you may have gathered so was fairly worried. Have slowed down on that as well - actually quit all together until tonite when had 3-4 gin tonics.

Not much to write about as you can see - work the dispensary, then sleep, go to chow, socialize a bit & a few drinks, read awhile and then sit down to write. Now that the ban is lifted on the villages and Pleiku may be things will pick up a little.

Got a briefing today by the OSI men - we can expect a big battle around us soon - a big build-up on both sides - no personal danger but probably lots of casualties from the battle pending. Last fling before the monsoon hits, I guess.

Am looking forward to your letters and tape and pictures of the kids. Must apologize for my impatience.

Love you very much, Dan

5 May 65
9 30 AM
VSAT Desp.
Pleiku Cu Hanh RVN

(74)

Hi Kay

— that bit in the Rt hand corner is getting longer and longer. Didn't write last nite - Greek got back and had a party. Got a great letter from you yesterday plus the shirts & pants, sunflower seeds & chocolate — Great! You can't believe what that did for morale. The rumor has it that 30 bags of mail arrived last nite from Cam Ranh Bay — everyone is waiting eagerly for the sorting. The world revolves around the mail room here — you wouldn't believe it unless you saw it — the greatest morale factor on the base — from colonels all the way down to airman basics.

Have finally shaken my strange depression, etc. Am back on the track again but was a long week to 10 days. Don't want to get into that rut again. Mostly it was just a matter of waiting it out, getting lots of sleep, going to church (Wednesday & Thursday) and letters from you.

Am leaving for Kantum about noon — will be back tonite and will tell you about it. — Another little in country "R&R" (Not really an R&R, sweetie)

Hope to return to lots of mail, etc.

You know, in all the mentioning of Pat's & Dick's wedding — no one has told me the date — have they been married already or is it tomorrow. Congratulations from me — will hunt around here for a suitable wedding present — will probably have to wait till I get to Saigon, Hong Kong, Tokyo or Bangkok.

Will close now and get this in the mail. Is there really a beautiful, peaceful place called Minneapolis, Minnesota? Am pretty sure there is — have a map across the hall w/ a pin stuck in Triple to remind me.

Love you very much,

Dan

11 30 AM
12 May 1967
USAF Dispensary
Pleiku RVN

(75)

Hi sweetie,

My heart just bleeds when I get a letter like your last one. This lousy postal system is tearing everyone apart. Believe me when I tell you I wrote every day of the week after my "hate" letter and yet you went for 10 days with only one letter. I am not, nor will I ever, "punish" you by not writing. Sometimes a day will go by without my writing but never deliberately.

Last nite made a tape at 4 AM, took a hot shower and then crawled back into bed at 6 00 AM. Have been sicker than a pup lately c̄ the good old Frots, nausea, cramps, etc. Almost everyone on the base has this but thought I'd escape it. My last solid meal was 3 days ago - have been on a liquid diet since then and am very tired and weak. Hope you'll forgive the last few days of not writing - have been getting as much sleep as possible.

This 2 week lag in our conversations is really a lousy setup. One week for my letters to arrive and one week for your answer to come back. It's okay when there are no problems but

the last few weeks have been all fouled up. Would suggest we both hold our breath and let the whole thing blow over.

Explained on the tape why the mail is fouled up — moved the P.O to Seattle for the northern tier of states — but they picked a lousy time to do it.

I am happy and content again, sweetie. Thank you for being so understanding the last week. Felt terrible when I found my companion had mailed that late letter — was going to throw it away.

The picture of the kids in their dancing outfits is just wonderful. They obviously are having a ball. Tomorrow you'll all be beautiful in your outfits for Pat + Dick's wedding. My congratulations to them - failed to send them a card or letter in time. Got the invitation about 4 days ago and haven't answered it yet.

Think the tape will explain my activity the last few days. — have slowed down my social drinking considerably — but the nice wine bit continues. Am getting more and more involved with these people as you can guess. A very complicated and interesting culture

— I've been interrupted a total of 20 times since the middle of the

75 (2) 12 May

last sentence

Will write again tomorrow

Love you very much sweetie.
Let's both of us have patience with
each other while the P.O. finds
out how to do it's job.

Good-bye for now

D Conlon

15 May (already)
Monday AM 2nd
MACV
Pleiku, RVN

(76)

Hi Kay,

Glad to hear you finally got some mail — wonder how many of my letters got lost if you went that long without mail.

Sounds like you should run for the city council with all those people concerned about you. Am glad to hear you have so many people looking in on you. Got a letter from you as you can guess by the tone of my letter. A good one, too. You sound wonderful.

Have spent the last two days in limbo here on the base on call at the dispensary. Mostly slept except at nite — the nite belongs to me — have the whole officers' club to my self for my thoughts, reading, taping, letters, etc. Finally started ~~&~~ reading (spell that <u>tearing up</u>) my magazines, etc. Didn't realize I was so far behind. Had one Life magazine going back to <u>3 Feb 67</u> — have been busier than I thought.

Had a good day working with Roy Worthington — we have much in common → our Catholic religion, a wife he loves, family centered, likes the Montagnards

and feels life is worth living instead of sitting on your ass and watching it go by. He and John Watson (don't know their rank off hand) have insisted on going with me many places - enjoy their company and their attitude

Roy knows how to make decisions (he's a Staff Sargeant I think - yes, that's it) - runs the dispensary very smoothly and leaves a minimum of work for me to do. Would like to have him come work for me at the clinic. He and his wife understand, respect, ~~and~~ enjoy and love each other very much and it shows in his attitude. Good sense of humor. Perhaps I've found a guy I can talk with - I find I need this - someone to communicate with aside from the usual chit-chat.

Got about 2 hrs of sleep before church this afternoon plus a 7 hr sleep last nite so am raring to go tonite.

Bought a camera - sorry about that (pop mong yi!) - it's a KONICA auto 52 - cost $47.00 here - in the states sells for $150.00 roughly. Am having a ball with it - just took a picture of this writing table and the officers club without a flash bulb - using only the small lites - yellow at that - that we have

on for my use here. Will be interested how they turn out — may become an Ugly American for sure yet.

Sorry to hear about Dan Johnson — looks like the whole clinic will get their turn at being war heroes. Imagine he'll get a stateside assignment with his specialty — too bad though since we need him. Poor Lauren Nesset will have to go back to OB-GYN again.

This new priest we have here is a charger → has firm ideas that run against mine so far — wants to put up a Mass schedule in the dispensary, has solutions to every problem, very little gray in his ~~fe~~ life, all black + white. Told him yesterday we'd lock horns many times before the tour was through. Quite possibly we will be good friends — think he's a good man but so far all we've done is argue. He is sincerely interested in helping the men here and feels very strongly that the key is the sacraments, Mass, devotions, etc. Haven't really felt him out about situation ethics, etc — would guess

he favors more the established church — is more of a CATHOLIC than a CHRISTIAN if you know what I mean. Am just sitting back and waiting to see. Rely more & more on my own judgement in religious matters than I used to — feel I have a fair understanding of the principals. Must say he gives a good sermon — to the point and meaningful. Talked about Pentecost today — how fearful, ignorant, dirty and cowardly fisherman became the founders of a great religion based on the strength of the Holy Spirit — how we live still and work by means of His strength. Went home with something for a change.

Still enjoy needling him now and then about going out and converting the Montagnards, converting my good friend Charley Jenkins (a Jew) — the head of para-rescue ("P.J.'s") that go with me to the village.

My two day vacation is almost over now — am anxious to get back to the Montagnards again.

Got a disturbing letter from Jack Rudy — most of which I don't really understand — have read it twice now and don't know any more than I did before. He wants to write a book — has a publisher all lined up — but I think it will

76 (3) 15 May

necessarily get a lot of Mortegnards in deep shit — Jack's really involved in politics already — is being subpoened to a senate investigation of USAID — has offers to come back to Vietnam as a civilian worker here in Pleiku, is being sworn in as Assistant D.A. for Washington D.C (at the White House, yet) is running in the society of senators, lobbyists, representatives, etc. Thinks it's phony but part of his career. Says he's still wearing Hink's bracelet in spite of the stare he gets — has put the other 27 in a glass case for posterity.

Don't think I'll get as involved in these people as he did — mainly because I'm not single and have something concrete to come home to. Jack feels very lonesome for his friends among the Yards — quite possibly because this was his first exposure to an uncomplicated people. Yet he likes the intrigue, etc of high society in Washington in spite of himself because this is all he's known until Vietnam & Pleiku How's that ~~this~~ for psychoanalysis? — probably wrong, I ~~k~~ don't know. Could use your

eyes and judgement here, sweetie. Want to come over for a while and clue me in on some of these people? Still give too many people the benefit of a doubt — we balance each other pretty well — you're too critical and I'm too naive — am attempting to use your judgement but usually end up learning the hard way a guy is a phony, etc.

You might dig out that article on rythm being a human interference in the natural law just as surely as the pill, the diaphragm or even tubal ligation is — just a matter of degree — may shed some new light on the subject for Jay — if the opportunity presents itself. He's a good man — also an excellent OB-GYN man as well.

By now all those parties you listed are out of the way and you well probably be exhausted. Pat + Dick have their first 24 hr anniversary out of the way. You have D.T's, etc. Sorry I missed it.

That makes the third letter you were going to enclose (and didn't) — would like to see some of these enclosures some time — thanks sweetie e.g. Bev. Herd, Margaret Whitlock, Cavanaugh's, — feel sort of left out at times — no big

(76) (4) 15 May

blues like before — just natural jealousy.

Am going to write the folks a short card — Father's day — and then try to fashion a letter to Colleen's class (a big job as you probably can guess) Got the cookies today — taste good — think I'm the only Montagnard that will see them though.

Love you very much,

good nite, sweetie,

Dan

P.S. We didn't get mortared last nite — still have that in front of us — tomorrow will see some of the "nerves" problems because of the strain. Had one A.P. (air police) come in hyperventilating today — he's getting short and wants to go home in one piece. Wish to hell they'd get it over with so I can go back to work again.

Love, Dan

talk Sonder
do gun list
3 tapes
Boyball game
beautiful weather
colleens class
psychiatrist
brown house

(77) 17 May

7 45 pm
17 May 67
USAF Dispensary
Pleiku RVN

Hi Kay,

Went to bed at 9 30 last nite - slept all nite till 6 15 this morning - got a full nite's sleep for a change. Feel great. Will get this off to you before sick call starts if I can.

Went to Plei Brel Monday as I mentioned - to see Pilo's wife - her ankle is much better - am using just sugar on the wound - believe it or not the thing is really healing in. She had leaves, foot powder, some ashes and a big infection on it one week ago and I thought she was going to lose her leg - told her so. She's the one hit by a lambretta about 4 wks ago - went to Province Hospital where they sewed back her ligaments but said she needed a graft for the large area of denuded skin covering lateral aspect of foot & ankle. She refused and went back to Plei Brel with a large infected sore still there.

(It's 9 20 pm now - didn't make it before sick call) - I ~~to~~ warned her that she may lose her leg and foot if she didn't go back and get the skin graft. She still refused - said I would

take care of her and she'd be all right. I finally consented to try — but if no results she would have to go back to the hospital. — to make a long story short — have gone out nearly every day and dressed c̄ sugar — now she's almost healed!! — of course I'm some sort of miracle worker (not really but can't convince them different) — now if I can just get her to walk with it...

Got interrupted contemptously here — that's why I write late at nite when everyone else is in bed. People just don't seem to want to be alone or leave anyone else alone. I guess you and I are odd in wanting our privacy at times.

Anyway got very drunk again on rice wine — Plo insisted I drink to thank me for taking care of his wife — don't get drunk immediately — left Plei Brel at about 8^00 — by 10^00 PM was getting oiled — at midnite was smashed. Went to bed without writing you. Yesterday was beaucoup busy on call and last nite took Bob Schultz out to Plei Brel to check on some plants for the base. Again got some rice wine from Tom — this time took it easy but fell asleep

in his house — Bob S and Miller woke me up and took me home — when got home went right to bed ~ 9 30 PM and slept till 6 00 this morning. Even got up and ate breakfast. Feel good but didn't write you again last nite — sorry.

Got involved in an impromptu sick call at Pleiku Rho Monday also — Vietnamese — they damn near stole everything in the French — kept pulling at my clothes and arms while I was examining a patient — wouldn't let me take them one at a time. Got mad as hell and damn near smashed one grabby lady who got taking all the medicine, pulling at my arm, etc. Finally broke away in disgust and told them to go to hell. Will go back in an orderly fashion with 5 or 6 corpsmen and conduct a sick call like it should be done. Very hard to like the Vietnamese — grabbiest damn people I've ever seen — then they laugh at you, spit, and hit at you when you don't do what they want immediately. Damn near had an

incident when I finally
h. My dislike of these people
ve obvious but I can't help it.
Will take care of them, but damn it!
it's going to be by MY rules.

We're going down there again to
distribute some clothes — the 4th ACS
wants to do it with photographers, reporters
etc at Plei Brel — but I don't want
these people victimized any more so
will gently divert the airmen to
Pleiku Rho and let them have a field
day getting publicity, etc with the
Vietnamese — they don't give a damn
as long as they get the clothes.

May sound bitter — am not — am
still having a ball — but some aspects
of the work here are extremely distasteful.

Love you very much Sweetie.
Want to get this in the mail now
Will write tonite for sure.

Love,
Dan

19 May 67
Friday 1AM
MACV RVN
Pleiku CuHanh

(78)

19 May

Hi Kay,

Have started this letter 3 times during the day and now tonite — Here I sit eating mangoes at 1AM after a long day — just spent since 9:00 PM talking to Colonel Hullar about the Montagnards, Lich, Ton and all those people. This is the nite they give attacks away — Ho Chi Minh's birthday today 19 May. This is the day we've been promised a full scale attack. 3 barrages have gone off already — 4 now — no sweat — no alarm as yet. MACV will be the last place hit and that's where I am.

Very interesting and, in a way, unique problem that Col Hullar is stuck with me sink or swim because I am the only one on this base as of this moment who has the confidence and the friendship of the Montagnards. Have assumed this position by default — noone else will go out independently — except Dick Miller to the Animal Husbandry School — and attempt to establish a personal friendship with these people. We discussed where to go from here — how involved should I get, etc. Decided to play it by ear and carefully avoid being [illegible]ted solely with the Montagnards. That [illegible] mentioned where I held sick call [illegible] the Vietnamese was a smart one. Yesterday

we went back and gave a bunch of clothes away - Lick and I ended up on the roof of a house ~~I~~ in self defense - damn near got crushed by the Vietnamese as they grabbed at the stuff. Later on we went to Plei Brel and gave some more clothes to the Montagnard Dramatic the difference - asked Plo to pick out some clothes - he refused - said he was ashamed (same-same embarrassed) - insisted Ton hand out to him the clothes Ton wanted him to have. Same the rest of the village. Amazing - can you see why my sympathies lie toward the Montagnard?

Sorry about this stationery - number 10 - but the only thing I could find right now.

Was very honored by Col Hullar's invitation to see him privately at his quarters tonite. We sat and discussed the war, our situation here, what our policy toward the Montagnard vs. the Vietnamese should be. How hopeless an ~~uprising~~ uprising by the Yards would be now against the Vietnamese, how I should try to influence them subtlely to become educated and beat the problem this way instead of by arms. - how I was in a unique position to do this whereas Hullar as yet was not, etc.

Think I can make a positive contribution the problem here by working with Hullar an

~~Com~~ Montagnards. Hillar (2) 19 May is in a very lonely position — very few people so far he can count on — he has managed to find one or two he can trust and confide in — not the extravert Bonneau was — and also not the showman — the Yards trusted him immediately whereas they never showed this trust of Bonneau in my presence. Am very impressed with this man as you can probably guess — am also a little embarrassed by his show of trust in me — am getting involved again, sweetie — don't worry — no problem. V/o.

Got the blanket and the tapes today — thank you very much. Will use some on you but others will give to Ton as a present with your permission.

Have been sacking out early lately — everyone here has the G I's, vomiting, fever, chills, fatigue, etc. Am getting over it — as usual get my bout about one week before everyone else so by the time the flu really hits know all about the incubation period, length of disease, etc so can sound very wise to those coming in with same.

This ink or this paper stinks to high hell

The barrages have now stopped - think it was no shooting out instead of them shooting in.

Got the sport page again - assume it was a not too interesting tournament with Edna winning for the 2nd straight year. Baseball also not a roaring interest with the Twins unable to muster a series of wins.

Am hunting for conversation. Talked to Hullar for a very long time and am fatigued. Someday will sit down and explain the whole thing - probably across the kitchen table - am sure no one but you will believe the things going on here - in a week or so we'll witness a big change here and Pleiku, I feel, will be very much in the headlines. May be not but everyone here thinks so. As I mentioned before, am the safest man on the base and the base is completely ~~sur~~ surrounded by Army and special forces. I know you don't believe this but I have yet to draw a picture for you that wasn't true so please believe me.

Love you very much. Am going to bed now. Goodnite, sweetie, Dan

23 May
noon
USAF Dispensary
Pleiku RVN

Hi Kay,

Am ashamed of myself. Instead of staying up and writing – have been going to bed sometimes as early as 10 pm and sleeping all nite. Have the "slows" as the Southern boys call it.

This flu is slowing us all down – almost everyone on the base has had it, has it or will get it. The dispensary business is doing great. Don't dare eat a solid meal – all you get for it is cramps and diarrhea.

Went out to Plei Borel Sunday and fell asleep 4 different times in 4 different pooches (in between vomiting the rice wine, that is). They didn't seem to be too upset and I did get some rest.

Yesterday worked the dispensary all day – many people to see. Stopped over at the Special Forces camp to talk politics and ended up singing Australian songs with 4 Aussie pilots who work

some pictures like the Ugly American Dam.

You wrote a great letter — the last one I got — thank you. Sounds like your rat race goes on & on. You'll need that R&R more than I will, looks like. Think I'll just leave you in the hotel to sleep and I'll go see the sights — except for the intermissions of hr or so. Figure to lose 10 to 12 pounds during the R&R....

Hope the kids are okay now. Will send those Thank you letters soon — if I can just stay awake long enough. There are different phases everyone here goes through. — you can almost tell how long a guy has been here by the phase he's in. Right now I'm in the sleep-all-the-time phase — very normal for the middle third of the tour. Have 4 mos out of the way now — isn't that nice?

24 May 67
MACV
12^{15} midnite

Hi Kay,

Instead of doing anything constructive tonite, instead I went to sleep after reading Time magazine — 7^{30} to 9^{30} — got up and finished Time, then read Newsweek, then Nat'l Geographic and have sat here for the last ½ hr in total darkness just letting my mind wander. Slept from 1^{00} to 3^{00} this afternoon also - like a rock. Was supposed to take Thatch Jones over to Special Forces to meet Robinson but didn't tonite. Was also going to take some stuff down to Jack's tonite but decided to sleep instead. Was also going to go to Plei Brel to talk cross bows but didn't. How's that for a list of stuff I was going to do but didn't?

Had a quiet uneventful day at the dispensary today - none very sick even. Sort of a nothing day you might say. Haven't even had a drink of booze in 3 or 4 days strange as that may sound. Am just plain lazy I guess. Not depressed - just lazy. Almost put off writing you tonite in favor of getting some more sleep.

80 (2) 24 May

the Montagnards. Have a date with Lich next Sunday to go down and talk with him — should be interesting — think we have many things to say. — hope I can shut up for a change and listen to him instead of shooting off my mouth about my ideas.

No letter today but expect your rat race is getting to you same as me. About time we both settled down a bit I guess.

Happy birthday, sweetie. Will send a separate letter to Colleen also. Hope it gets there in time. Had a doll all picked out in Pleiku but now can't get back there for a day or two.

Birthday cards are in short supply here — hope I can find one in time but doubt it. When we're in Saigon will try to do a little shopping for you two. Hope you enjoyed the brooch — should match the necklace.

Will be gone from Friday till probably Monday? Sunday above Lich? I would guess. Will stop to see John and probably Lynn Bechlund

(80) (3) 24 May

I'm getting it from - no return address - they call me Capt DAVID C Conlon - can't remember who that is.

Will go out to Plei Brel tomorrow and see the peeps before we go to Saigon. Would really like to go to the other villages soon - maybe can. Seems like the heat is off a little now finally. Maybe by the time I get back things will improve around here security-wise and I can get back on the track again.

Sorry for this nothing letter, sweetie. Will try to improve soon. Am not depressed or sad — just got the "blows".

Love you, you doll. Am also very horny. Four months of celebacy is a long time — will have to get busy and wear off some of these horns with activi[illegible] these vietnamese are going to start [illegible] good to me.

[illegible] ya,

Dan

(81)

28 May 67
10 00 AM
Saigon, Vietnam

Hi Kay,

Sorry for the long pause between letters but have been enroute and running around this town since arriving Friday noon. Have taken the morning off from these meetings — will return at noon.

Am staying with Lynn Bechlund and the "boys" — having a good time — drinking much beer and talking philosophy. Tonite Lynn has off and we'll be doing a little sight-seeing for sure. Haven't stopped to see John this time — will see him next time I come down.

The meetings are very instructive — Maj. Heron gave a good talk about our work in Plleiku — but there's lots of good work being done all over Viet Nam by a lot of well motivated people. I'm sorry I didn't bring Lick down with me — would be an eye opener to him — but then we have to stay somewhere else — probably John's.

Haven't heard from you since last Tuesday — and I think I know why

81 (2) 28 May

— hope some of them got out in time for your birthday & Collen's. Am going shopping for Collen today — this afternoon and see what I can find.

These guys have been hospitable as they can be here. — was a little timid about stopping by at first but ran into Lynn at the Army officers' club Friday nite and he insisted I come over and stay here. Will stay tonite, then get out before I wear out my welcome. — again.

Many discussions about the Montagnards and the work up there — very good comments by Don Goodman about the problems up there — much food for thought. Good to get away and see the forest for the trees.

By the way, can get sterling silver here at 25 - 30% discount - instead of 600^{00} — can get for 450^{00}, etc — are you interested? If so let me know and will order — takes 6 mo to get — must pay ½ down and the rest on time. So

30 May 67
11:00 AM
Tan Son Nhut, RVN

(82)

Hi Kay,

Am sitting in base ops at the flight line waiting for the Pleiku Base Goony Bird to come down and pick us and our 5000 pounds of "supplies" up and take us back. They say here that it's raining in Pleiku. It's been a very good 4 days, have drunk a great quantity of beer, much good talk with Lynn and the other guys, time to collect my thoughts and see where I'm going in my work, time to sleep, got some pictures of Saigon (may be #10 — most were at nite) — got a doll for Colleen think she'll like.

Am looking forward to hearing from you — it's been over a week — should have one or two letters when I get back — hope so. Think the mail should be coming in again. Couldn't find a tape recorder (Sony) here either — will just wait my chance.

Lynn Bechlund showed me around downtown Saigon two nites in a row Sunday and last nite — very interesting and exciting place — we went to a couple of the

30 May

sit back and hear some other thoughts and discussions about them from other people. General feeling is that education and "joining" the Vietnamese is the key - otherwise their fate may very well be same as the American Indian. Will be very hard to sell to the Montagnards. Plan to start by starting English classes in the villages when I get back. English is the language of power, money and prestige - anyone who speaks English & opens all kinds of new worlds of understanding, communication and education. So may be that's part of the answer - everyone in So East Asia apparently is very aware of this and eager to be taught "English."

The plane is coming in now - will cut this short now and write again tonite. Very relaxed, refreshed and eager to start work (i.e. drinking rice wine) again. Am lonesome for Pleiku and my home in the villages.

Love you very much,

Dan