

1<sup>ST</sup> Bn 3<sup>RD</sup> Marine  
C Co F.O  
APO San Francisco CA 98602  
7 November 1967

Dear Miss President

I would like to ask your help to make this Christmas a bit more cheerful for our men who have had little cheer in the past few months and little prospect of better times to come in the months ahead.

I am a Marine officer serving with a rifle company that is presently located about a mile south of Con Thien near the DMZ. For 20 to 25 days of each month these men are on continuous operations against the NVA and hard core VC battalions. Some of the everyday comforts of life - a hot meal, a dry bed in the monsoon season, a shower, a clean shirt, decent drinking water - are luxuries only available in the 5 to 10 days when the unit is near a base camp.

This routine will not be altered in December and the Christmas season will only emphasize the loneliness and frustration that the average Marine feels throughout his 13 month tour. For some of them, regular and frequent mail from home relieves this loneliness somewhat. But for too many others one letter a month from home is considered a bonus.

We are aware over here of the demonstrations and protests that have become a part of this war. I won't deny that it is upsetting, particularly to the young Pfc who walks all day



and then stands a 4 hour watch at night. The right of descent loses meaning for the young Marine getting sniped at and mortared every day.

Thus then, is why I am asking your help. In my undergraduate days at Manhattan College I became friendly with many of the girls from C.N.R. I think the girls would be willing to help brighten the Christmas period by doing what Marines appreciate more than anything except rotation: feeding him. I would like to ask you to organize a cookie baking party so that everyone in C.Co will have a heartier, if not merrier Christmas. Political views notwithstanding you could call it a Bake-in or some other fashionable name. But I don't think I have to add how much it would mean to these men & what it would do for their morale.

Our address is given above; an individual address is unnecessary. Perhaps you could include the names of some of the girls who helped out as I am sure the men would like to send a note of thanks. I hope you'll excuse my confidence but I'm familiar with the C.N.R. spirit and I'm sure that you will help us out.

Thank you, in advance, from a grateful group of Marines

Kevin P. Brooks  
1st Lt / USMC

