

HEADQUARTERS
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

13/WLM/blb
1582

From: Director, Naval Medical Center, Republic of Vietnam
To: Parents/Loved One of:

Subj: Return for Rehabilitation

Ref: (a) BUMEDINST 4023.1D

Encl: (1) Helpful Hints and Nomenclature of Asiatic Symptoms

1. _____, having completed a tour of duty in the Far East, has been permitted to return to the United States for rehabilitation. Keep in mind that your Marine has in all probability been subjected to severe psychological traumas. You should consider it your paramount duty to assist in his rehabilitation in every way. Aside from the most obvious measures of bestowing affection in unlimited quantities, there are certain other measures that can be instituted to facilitate readjustment and prevent relapse of Asiatic Fanaticism, N.E.C.

2. Very soon the above mentioned Marine will be in your midst, De-Americanized, De-moralized, and Dehydrated.....ready once again to take his place in normal society. He will be zestful in his attempts to once again participate in life, liberty, and a somewhat depraved pursuit of happiness.

3. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded for your guidance.

WARREN L. MARTIN
Cdr USN

UNUSUAL BEHAVIOR MAY BE DEMONSTRATED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Scornful of civilized dress and walking about nude or semi-nude.
2. Eliciting a thousand yard stare in a ten foot room.
3. Reference to an air mattress as a "Rubber Lady".
4. Insistence upon building a machinegun bunker in the front yard.
5. Inquiring as to what the "Water Hours" are.
6. Requesting the key to the refrigerator so that he might look it up.
7. Inquiring as to whether or not you have an access to that type of reading matter.
8. He may attempt to recruit the young men in the neighborhood for the following organized athletic events: Foxhole digging, Sand-bag filling, Night reconnaissance patrols, theft of strategic materials from local organizations (lumber, generators, four hole outhouse covers, etc.), setting up a perimeter guard, bomb planting practice in the neighbor's automobile/mighty mits, and keeping an up to date Order of Battle Plan.
9. He will probably walk about fully armed at all times, and encourage others to do the same.
10. In making your joyous preparation to welcome him back to a respectable society, you must make allowances for the crude environment in which he has suffered in the past _____ months. In other words, he may be somewhat Asiatic, suffering from Viet Congitis and too much Kool Aid.
11. It is imperative, therefore, that you show no alarm if he prefers to squat rather than sit in a chair, pad around in the house in thong sandals with or without a towel, offers to well cigarettes to the postman, picks at his food with paranoid suspiciousness. Don't be upset if he answers all questions with "Sorry 'bout that", "I hate this place", "Number One", and "Number Ten"; be tolerant when he tries to buy everything at less than half the asking price, accuses the grocer a thief, and refuses to enter a building that doesn't have steel mesh over the doors and windows. Due to unsanitary water conditions in the Far East, your poor, unfortunate Marine has been forced to drink such liquids as vodka, gin, scotch, bourbon, whiskey, beer and local native brews such as 33 and 45. Don't be surprised if he gives all drinks that are served in public the "Strain Test" for broken glass.

Enclosure (1)

12. For the first time, or until he is house broken, be especially watchful when he is in the company of females, particularly those young and beautiful. If he has seen any American females since being here they have either been too young or married to personnel who outrank him. Therefore, his first reaction upon meeting an attractive "Round Eye" may be to stare. Wives and sweethearts are advised to take advantage of the momentary shock and MOVE THE YOUNG LADY OUT OF HIS REACH.

13. All of the following sights should be avoided as they may produce an advanced state of shock: People dancing, televisions, and "Round Eyed" Women. In a reasonable short time, his profanity will decrease enough to permit him to associate with mixed groups and soon he will be speaking English as good as ever. He may complain also about sleeping indoors and refuse to go to bed without a mosquito net.

BELOW ARE LISTED HELPFUL HINTS:

1. Don't mention anything about going to the beach or over-night camping trips.
 2. Don't make flattering remarks about the exotic Far East, and avoid mentioning the benefits of overseas duty, such as seasonal weather, (Typhoon, Sand storms, Monsoons, etc.) or lavish beaches and beautiful resort area such as Chu Lai, Da Nang, Qui Nhon, Phu Bai, Khe Sanh and Hue.
 3. Don't serve canned foods, recombined milk, instant coffee, or other dehydrated foods. This may result in an uncontrollable rage.
 4. Do give him an abundance of love, in the fullest sense of the word.
 5. Be sure to inform all friends and relatives to stay away from the premises for at least 48 hours; this is the DANGER PERIOD.
 6. Keep in mind behind his tanned and rugged exterior there beats a heart of pure gold. Treasure this, for it is the only thing of value he has left, even though he has tried to pawn it on several occasions. Treat him with kindness, give him an occasional quart of ICE COLD MILK, and you will do wonders towards rehabilitation of this hollow shell of a man you once knew.
 7. Send no more mail to FPO San Francisco, California. 96602 after _____ as he is leaving for the land of the Big PX in approximately _____ days. He will call you when he arrives.
- P. S. Keep the kids off the streets and fill the ice box with beer.....BECAUSE "THE KID" IS COMING HOME.....

Enclosure (1)