Saturday

Dear North -

Enclosed is a letter I just got after several mis-routing. Stick it somewhere with my stuff.

Today was a day like any other. We got into routine here and began to get matter to the colossal idea of the place, but once in a while I sit back mentally and consider the place and the rules of the game objectively, and then I begin to look around for the most truth and the truth here. It's really too incredible for words. Fortunately I can still laugh, or I would crack up - this is really the most unbelievable experience of my life. On a few years, on some day of a washroom table some night and tell some of these stories and people will think the old guy is in his cups again.

Today, for instance, we decided we wanted...
P.O.W. figures broken down a different way, so we walked about 100 yds. to the office which
handle such, and they said they would be glad
to do it for us — but they had to have a formal
"tasking" — the latest jargon of the trade (another
is idealization). So we proceeded to write
an official document from us to them. After a
series of truly incredible confrontations with army
people, I finally wrote (1) a memorandum
from the J2 to the J1 asking for the figures, (2) a
covering memorandum (with a penciled envelope) from
the Chief of Production to the J2 telling why we
wanted the dope and finally (3) a memorandum
from me to the Chief of Production telling him
why I wanted him to want/ask the J2
to want/ask for the goddam figures. You
can't imagine things like this unless you live
through them.

Herewith my latest political newsletter
from S.E. Asia. The word is 'Beware of Cambodian
Bombing gifts' or 'Defend me from my friends.'
we have pressed & bullied for many weeks now to knock off this pro-Chines graft and get
in bed with Jo-a reflexive posture, I suspect. Anyhow, from the news I read, it appears he
maybe is coming around. Some are saying at
this turn of events I am sure, but it occurs to
me that the may be in a gigantic pickle if he
should come in one day, decide to cast his lot
with the friendly (rich ole, how he would like to
have Phnom Penh declared an R & R place-be; see
the flood of green dollars engulfing Phnom Penh)
Americans, and would say one fine day, "Ok, boys,
I'm with you" (maybe even send some troop, too)
and then "By the way, how about some U.S.
troops to help me clean these red non-s of-bitch
out of here?" How do you suppose that would
get old U.S. Senate? This ain't no pipe dream,
either, as you will realize upon reflection.

1) There are NVN troops in Cambodia infiltrating
into SVN - according to Pentagon.
2) Sidtown wants to win big - particularly
if it is U.S. because he knows this is Vietnam, also.
3) If he throws in with us, the NVN in his
country can make beaucoup trouble for him, and he can't get them out by himself.

(4) We don't want in, but know he can't get them out himself. He knows we don't want in but also knows he is in the dark publicly about leaving his freedom followed around by ugly comments we will have a hard time denying him, since we dearly want the reds out of there and he knows we know he can't do it alone.

Have to go to a conference tomorrow. Plan to wear my white uniform and am want to do on such occasions to show up the army people.

Love,

[Signature]