



Left, Mike Lichter returning the bag to Frank James

For the last 20 years I have wanted to find some of the guys I was in Nam with. About a year ago I was looking at my e-mail. I had something from Proud Americans. That made me to look at their site again. I saw the name Archie King. I had been looking for someone named King, but I couldn't remember his first name. I e-mailed him asking some key questions. It was him, the one I had been looking for.

He called me. It was great to talk to him again. He told me about another friend we was in Nam with Mike Lichter and that he lived within 20 miles of me. Mike called me the next day. He came by my house, it was great to see him again. We have been e-mailing each other.

He came to my house today to return an A.W.O.L. bag he had borrowed May 1968 when he was leaving Nam. When I gave Mike that bag, all I could think about was, man, you're outta here. The rest of us don't know if we'll make it back or not. I really gave it to him. Then I said, hell, if we ever see each other again just give it back. Well, we did and he just gave it back. Can you believe that? He held on to that bag all these years.

We got pictures of him handing it back to me. The bag is now back one block from where it originally left from in 1967. That ole bag shore went a lot of places over the years. I think Mama got that for me when I was leaving for Viet Nam. It means a lot to have it back.

That old bag ain't worth nothing now and it's also priceless at the same time. Well I guess I'll sum it up like this. "Welcome home you old bag." You too Mike, Archie and Ernie.

Frank