

24 OCTOBER, 1951

DEAR CAPTAIN MACKIN,

I AM WRITING YOU CONCERNING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MATT M. DAVIS 111, 1107845/0311, USMC WHO PASSED THROUGH TRIPLER ARMY HOSPITAL HERE IN HONOLULU LATE LAST WEEK. AVAILABLE RECORDS INDICATE THAT PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DAVIS DEPARTED FROM THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES IN OCTOBER 1950, SERVED WITH "D" COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 7TH MARINES AND WAS WOUNDED IN ACTION ON 27 NOVEMBER, 1950, 10 JUNE, 1951 AND FOR THE THIRD TIME 6 SEPTEMBER, 1951. TO HIS RECENT EVACUATION TO THE UNITED STATES.

IN THE COURSE OF MY CONVERSATION WITH THIS BOY HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN CONSIDERED FOR PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF CORPORAL ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, BUT THAT THE ARRIVAL OF CORPORAL REPLACEMENTS WITHIN THE COMPANY PRECLUDED HIS ACTUAL PROMOTION. DAVIS IMPRESSED ME AS BEING A FINE YOUNG MARINE AND I WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND HIM FOR PROMOTION TO CORPORAL. HE MENTIONED THAT YOU WERE HIS COMMANDING OFFICER DURING A PART OF THE TIME HE SERVED WITH "D" COMPANY.

I REALIZE THAT FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE NOT ALWAYS CORRECT BUT IN VIEW OF DAVIS' COMBAT SERVICE AND THE FACT THAT HE HAS BEEN WOUNDED THREE TIMES, I WOULD WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS CONCERNING THIS AND WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS CONSIDERED FOR PROMOTION TO CORPORAL.

VERY TRULY YOURS

LEMUEL C. SHEPHERD, JR.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS

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