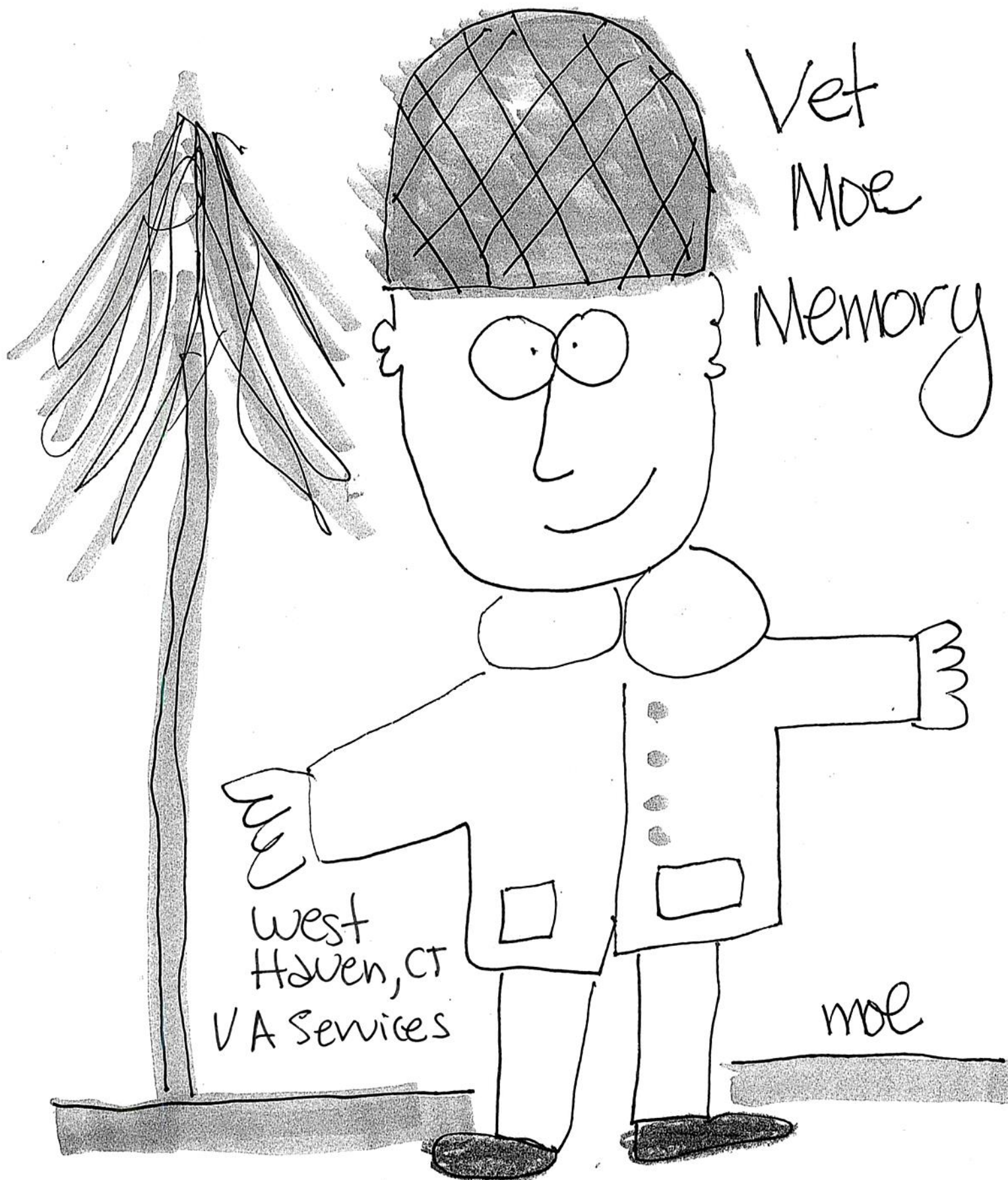
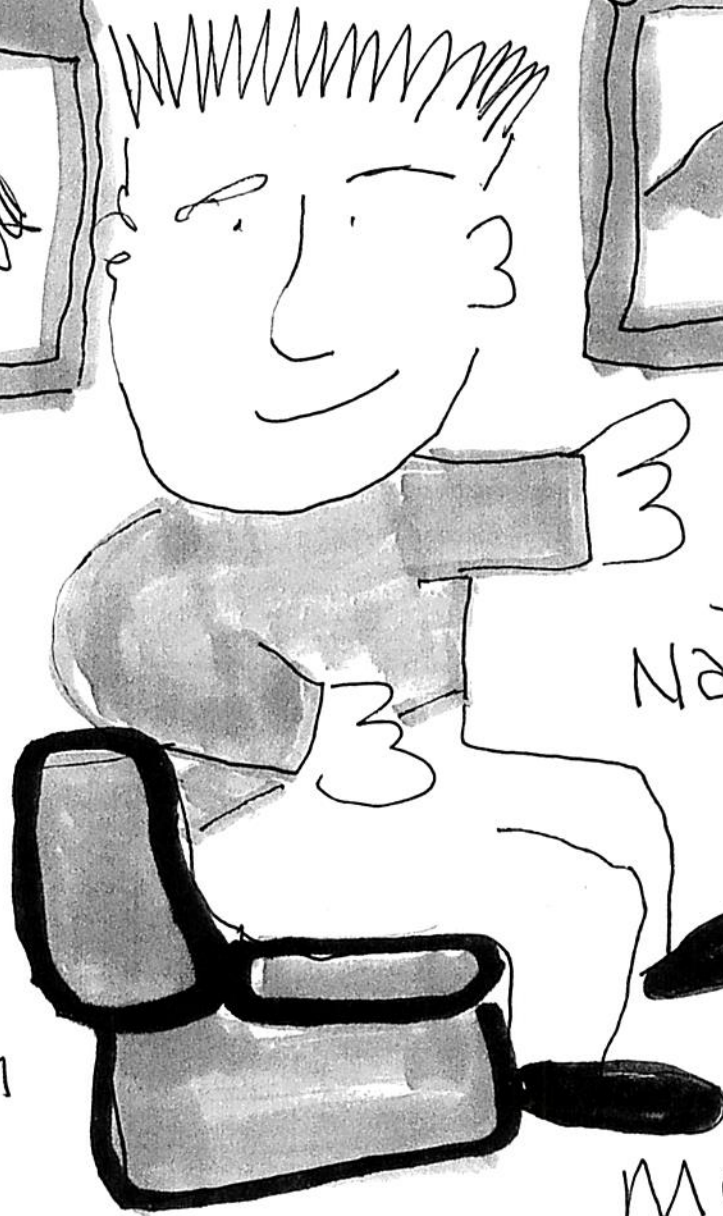
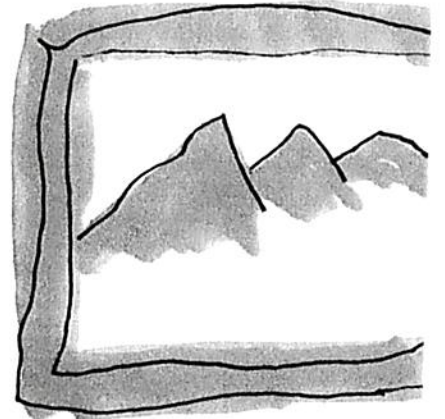
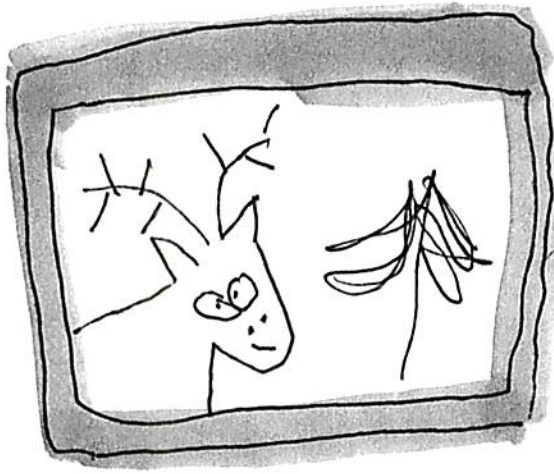




Vet
Moe
Memory

West
Haven, CT
V A Services

moe



was 18
years old
1962
Rode
Train from
Iowa to
California

Joined
Navy
and
up
in
Marine
Corps

wanted to be airborne

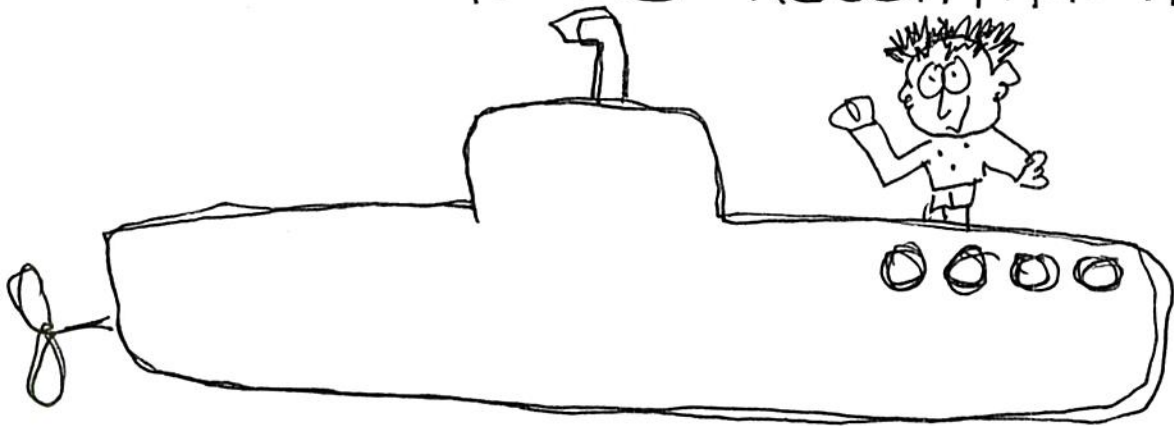
Navy frogman

Navy didn't let me, said them

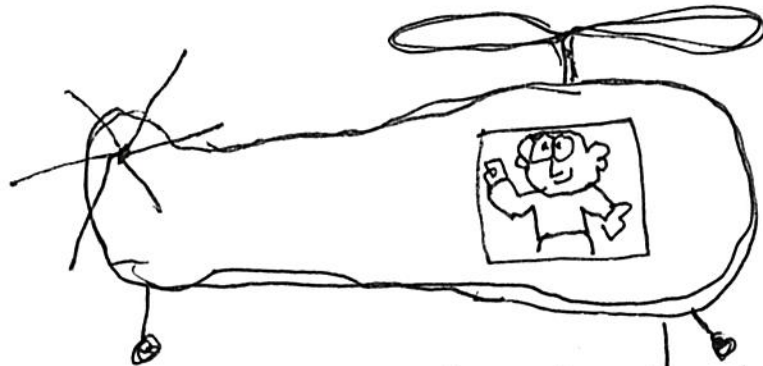
Become medical corpsman

join Marine Corps.....

maybe, you will be selected
to be Recon Marine



Got selected Recon
Swam off submarines



Jumped out of helicopters
Recon Marine Corps

Sang on streets with
Brother Christopher
Hed cup



GOT Money

Stayed with a Maker of
sandals. he sang songs.
Went to Ashgrove saw
Music shows. Would hitchhike
back to Marine Corps base.

Got orders to travel
to Okinawa
Stayed in San Francisco YMCA
was able to see
Beatles movie Hard Days Night
before leaving
on plane to Asia.



Never liked Beatles music
until saw this movie

After Okinawa
got sent to Phillipines
for scuba school
At last I was Frogman



off boats in clear
Phillipine water
Diving twice a day



SCUBA school:
my Recon USMC class
Guess which guy is me?
Before the war



b. Company A conducted 17 reconnaissance patrols during the month of September reporting 96 significant sightings that included 302 VC and 125 VN being observed. Also reported were numerous caves, trails, VC campsites, one possible VC radio site and a variety of punji traps, VC entrenchments and fortifications. Four contacts with the VC inflicted 19 VC KIA and one WIA while two USMC WIA were sustained. See en-

We were always in
The Bush
They shot at us
we shot at them
They hunted us
we hunted them

The note above is
official report one month

Imagine one year

Never had me rest and

I was the medical carpsman relaxation
Nobody wanted my job.



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
HEADQUARTERS, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC
FPO, SAN FRANCISCO. 96601

In the name of the Secretary of the Navy, the Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific takes pleasure in presenting the NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL to

HOSPITALMAN JAMES M. ARMSTRONG

UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For heroic achievement while serving as a Corpsman with Company A, Third Reconnaissance Battalion, Third Marine Division near DaNang, Republic of Vietnam. During a reconnaissance patrol on 14 July 1965, Hospitalman ARMSTRONG's platoon was taken under fire by an insurgent communist (Viet Cong) force. The initial burst of enemy fire wounded a member of the patrol and left him immobilized in a stream bed, exposed to the fire of the hostile forces. Completely disregarding his own safety, Hospitalman ARMSTRONG fearlessly exposed himself to the enemy fire as he moved to the wounded Marine. Upon reaching him, he promptly moved him to safety and expertly treated his wounds. By his inspiring initiative and prompt, courageous actions, Hospitalman ARMSTRONG undoubtedly saved the life of this Marine and upheld the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Hospitalman ARMSTRONG is authorized to wear the Combat "V".

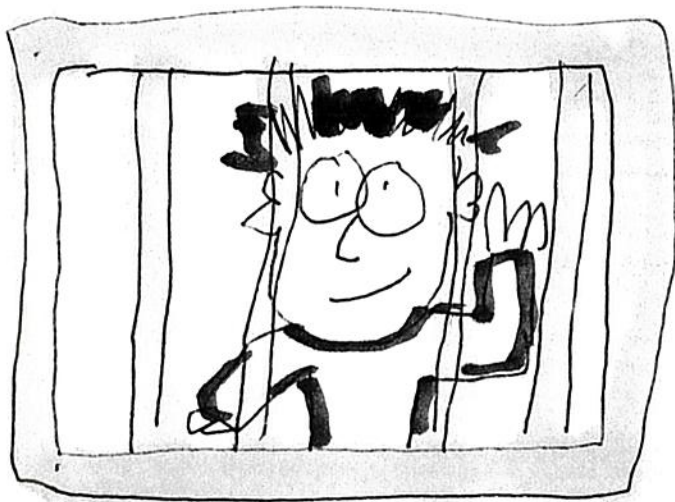
FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,


V. H. KRULAK
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U. S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING

We Fought Hard. Never Never
Been with guys like 3rd Recon
Week after week, Firefights, Combat
Until



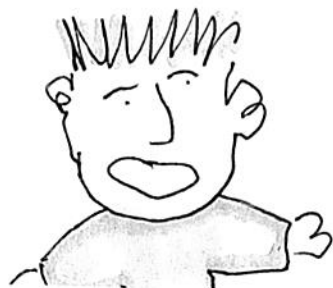
until, I couldn't go on
Any more
my body and mind gave out
all the training kept me in
combat
Just collapsed. Never been same



Thrown into
Locked
Psychiatric
Hospital

Drugged out with medication
What a way to end my
military duty. Was in a
stupor and depressed for years
Lost my life, my
Buddies, my future as
military professional DISCHARGE

Hitch hiked from SF to LA
Sang with Brother Christopher
again. We cried.... Hugged... I went back to
S.F.



TO BE
Continued