

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST BATTALION (AW) (SP), 44TH ARTILLERY  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96269**

**Mrs. Mary Faye Thomas  
Route 5  
Lenoir City, Tennessee**

**Dear Mrs. Thomas:**

**Please accept my condolences on the death of your son Sgt. Mitchell Stout. Mitchell was a respected leader of his men. I saw him last on the Sunday before the action in which he was killed. On that occasion he assisted me by gathering the men together so we could hold church services.**

**I know that our grief cannot be compared to a Mother's grief over the death of her son. We do mourn your son's death for he was our friend and fellow soldier. We shall miss him very much.**

**The Memorial Service was held in the Battalion Chapel on March 16th at 1:00 p.m. I have enclosed a tape recording of that service along with pictures of the service and a copy of the Memorial Bulletin.**

**I pray for you, that God's presence will be a comfort to you in the days ahead.**

**Sincerely**

**JAMES D. BRUNS  
Ch (MAJ) USA  
Battalion Chaplain**

***It will take some time for you to accept Mitchell's death. With God's help, I am sure that you will be able to continue to live. The best tribute that you can pay to your son is to let his good qualities live in you.***