

Lee, had a great trip to the sunshine State
spent a good part of the ninth of September with
Major Steel

your inquiry note about the visit of two old soldiers.

Well I suppose 88 and 90 could be considered old?

although the major truly puts me to shame, he does
a 4 mile hike every day and eats very intelligently!

As the photograph testifies, he is on the right.

in our attempt to resurrect happenings of 65 years plus was
a bit of a stretch!

Our last times together was in the same area where we lost
the Captain!

It seems? he led patrols that I was not involved in.

I remember spending a goodly amount of time with
artillery observers as they directed fire.

I was most interested, was he, [Lt. Steel] the officer that
was with us in our attempt to intervene when the Japs were
preparing an animal for BBQ -- it seems he wasn't.

We both did recollect observing a great influx of the enemy
and a subsequent air strike, I presume from carrier planes?

I am fogged out on so much of the happenings.

that was the area I left the troop with a medical problem,
leaving the morning of the evening the troop was assaulted
by a estimated force of 300 enemies, killing the captain and
two aides.

In that exchange Lt. Steel removed his belt, in a Gallant
attempt to stop the captain's bleeding and then taking
command and led the troop to a more defensible position.

prior to those happenings.

In my trip of inquiry to Florida, I was curious about patrol's in New Guinea.

It seems the troupe was divided, I was with the captains half, Lt. Steele conducted patrols with Australians and native police, he related a close encounter with a enemy that was very dicey.

Lt. Steele while on that patrol was invited to eat with a native chieftain, unintentionally the lieutenant stepped on some leaves that upset the chief to know end!
it seems the leaves was the table.

His patrol was so deep In the bush and could have been re-supplied with an airdrop, he told me he refused, he did not want to reveal his location.

Back to the Philippines, and after my transfer to the antitank Company,

Major Steel told me of his horrific neck and shoulder wound that caused his evacuation.

after a very long recuperation he was assigned to a number of interesting and challenging responsibilities, I suggested he write a book, it would make a great read!

I asked the Major his take on the "Captain"

He affirms, the Captain was Quiet, Precise, not aggressive, but a demeanor of Command and **Respect.**

Mr. Lee

I would think this note should complete my very feeble attempt at recollecting, reconstructing those experiences of so many summers ago!

With a spider coming down the tree should I expose myself and brush it away, I don't remember, but this I know, here I set entertaining myself, thinking, did that stuff really happen?

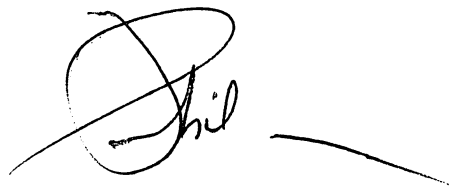
The Good Lord has been extremely good to me!

When I see the exploits on the Telly of my buddies in Europe, the cold and misery they had to contend with, the little wet we got was near a picnic..

Wouldn't want to do it again, but I would!!

God bless you and your family,
and you're attempt to bring to light
the dedication, the understanding of,
of a Man who understood the evils
and consequence the free world
where experiencing!

Some Heroes were by circumstance
He, our Captain, was a Hero,
By Dedication..

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Phil", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.