## Autry Inman "Ballad Of Two Brothers"

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Somewhere in Vietnam, September first Dear, Mom and Dad We must've marched twenty miles today Through the rain and the mud

And believe it or not
This is the first opportunity
I've had to sit down and
Write in two or three weeks

This'll have to be short But I just wanted to send my love And let you know that I'm doing fine

But you know, just being here
And seeing how close these people
Are to losing their freedom
Makes me that much more determined
To help win this war

'Cause if we don't, the next battlefield May be closer to home than Vietnam Must close for now, all my love Your son, Bud

P.S., how's Tommy doing At State University Tell him his big brother said hello

State University, September first Hi, Dad, we must have Marched twenty blocks today And, baby, I'm beat

I mean, like the sign
I was carrying got real heavy
But, Dad, everything was out of sight

There were recorders and Photographers and cameraman From every major news Service and network in the nation So look for your baby boy's picture On the front page of today's paper

Of course, you might have a Little trouble recognizing me With my groovy beard But, Dad, I know we're right

How can you defend my brother Murdering all those people overseas So what if the Communists Do take over in South Vietnam

Why, just today
Our economics professor assured us
That people get along
Just as well under communism
As they do under
Any other form of government

I'm sorry, Dad
But this God and country bit
Just isn't my bag
Gotta go, dad, big rally tonight
Your son, Tommy

P.S., Dad better send me an Extra fifty bucks this week, dig

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith
I know you must be awfully
Proud of your fine son
I wish I could be there to
See you recieve Bud's medal of honor

It may comfort you to know
That his last thoughts were of you
And as his sergeant
I can truthfully say
He was one of the bravest men
I have ever known

Dear Mom and Dad It's been some time Since I received word about Bud Somehow I just didn't have The nerve to come home

But I've done a lot of thinking since then About my turned on friends and About what they said about communism We were all wrong

And you know, I always just worship Bud Now that I've thought it over, I know That he would never fight for something Unless he believed in it With all of his heart

And in spite of all my past mistakes I hope that somehow, someday I can become as big in your eyes As my brother will always be Your son, Private Tommy Smith

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