

## **Paxton Tom**

### **"Letter From Lbj"**

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LETTER FROM LBJ

LYNDON JOHNSON TOLD THE NATION

(Tom Paxton)

I got a letter from LBJ

It said this is your lucky day

It's time to put your khaki trousers on

Though it may seem very queer

We've got no jobs to give you here

So we are sending you to Viet Nam

Lyndon Johnson told the nation

Have no fear of escalation

I am trying everyone to please

Though it isn't really war

We're sending fifty thousand more

To help save Viet nam from the Viet Nameese

I jumped off the old troop ship

And sank in mud up to my hips

I cussed until the captain called me down

Never mind how hard it's raining

Think of all the ground we're gaining

Just don't take one step outside of town

Every night the local gentry  
Step out past the sleeping sentry  
They go to join the old VC  
In their nightly little dramas  
They put on their black pajamas  
And come lobbing mortar shells at me  
We go round in helicopters  
Like a bunch of big grasshoppers  
Searching for the Viet Cong in vain  
They left a note that they had gone  
They had to get down to Saigon  
Their government positions to maintain  
Well here I sit in this rice paddy  
Wondering about Big Daddy  
And I know that Lyndon loves me so  
Yet how sadly I remember  
Way back yonder in November  
When he said I'd never have to go  
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@war @political

recorded by Tom Paxton

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