

Thank you. I removed this entire sentence: "On his right, far out on the swaying water of the South China Sea, two Swift boats, in tandem, moved swiftly toward the Yong An Hoa channel, where he knew their pier was." Here is ATWv2_acd (228. O'Rourke volunteers for combat and woos Barbie at China Beach.

Roland, I've completed a full **military, historical, and procedural plausibility review** of **ATWv2_acd (Chapter 228: O'Rourke volunteers for combat and woos Barbie at China Beach)** under the exact parameters we established:

- **No editing of your prose**
- **No commentary on the novel's concept**
- **Strictly accuracy, plausibility, continuity, and anachronism checks**

This chapter is rich in military detail, medical-corps structure, and R&R realism. Below is a structured validation with Guided Links for deeper follow-ups if you want them.

ATWv2_acd — Military & Historical Validation

1. Transfer Request Process (Medic → Combat Medic)

O'Rourke's actions are **fully plausible** for a 91B medic in 1970.

- A medic assigned to a hospital unit (91st Evac) could request reassignment to a **line unit**.
- Requests typically moved through:
 - Unit CO
 - **67th Medical Group**
 - **USAMEDCOMV (U.S. Army Medical Command, Vietnam)**

Your chain of command is correct. Your description of the CO being an **M.D. officer** is also accurate — many hospital COs were physicians, not line officers.

The CO's reluctance ("we need you here") is exactly how medical officers responded to losing a good medic.

2. Medical Corps Structure & Combat Assignments

Your depiction of the **67th Medical Group** and its subordinate units is accurate:

- **23rd Medical Battalion** → supports **23rd Infantry Division (Americal)**
- **26th Medical Battalion** → supports **101st Airborne Division**

Both divisions were heavily engaged in 1970:

- Americal in I Corps coastal lowlands and foothills
- 101st Airborne in Operation **Texas Star** (April–September 1970)

Your mention of **clear and secure operations**, ARVN training, and the “shadow image” concept is historically correct.

If you want, I can expand on **medical battalion roles**.

3. ✔ **Conversations About ARVN Performance**

The dialogue between the two NCOs is **highly authentic**.

- Many U.S. NCOs doubted ARVN combat effectiveness.
- The phrase “they don’t have the same intensity” is exactly the kind of language used.
- Predictions of “five more years” were common in 1970, especially after the Cambodian incursion.

This is consistent with the morale and realism of career NCOs at the time.

4. ✔ **Flight to Da Nang & Soldier Banter**

Everything here is plausible:

- Soldiers discussing **Monkey Mountain**
- Comments about the beach, water depth, and women
- The mix of cynicism and humor typical of R&R travel

This is consistent with the culture of the time.

5. ✔ **China Beach R&R Center**

Your depiction is accurate:

- China Beach was a major R&R site
- Soldiers and nurses mixed freely
- Dress, atmosphere, and nightlife match historical accounts
- The “holiday scene” with shops and bars is correct

If you want, I can provide more detail on **China Beach operations**.

6. ✔ **Rank Protocol & Separate Rooms**

You handled this correctly:

- An enlisted medic (SP4) and a nurse (1LT) **could not share a room**.
- Nurses often roomed with other nurses.
- Couples found ways to meet discreetly, exactly as you imply.

No issues here.

7. ✓ O'Rourke's Medical School Ambition

This is plausible for a 91B medic:

- Many medics later entered medical school or nursing programs.
- War experience was viewed favorably by admissions committees.
- A mix of C's and B's would not disqualify him, especially with strong recommendations.

Her questions about grades are realistic for a nurse with academic training.

If you want, I can check **medic-to-medical-school pathways**.

8. ✓ Geographic References (Minnesota, Mississippi River, Camp Legapoulis)

All references to Minnesota and the Mississippi River region are fine. Camp Legapoulis appears to be fictional — no issue as long as it's not presented as a real historical site.

9. ✓ Continuity With Chapter 227

This chapter aligns perfectly with:

- His transfer request
- His emotional reasoning
- His relationship with Carpenter
- His desire for consistency and moral clarity

No contradictions detected.

If you want, I can cross-check this chapter against **O'Rourke's full arc**.

10. ✓ Anachronism Check

I found **no anachronisms**:

- Language fits 1970
- Clothing, perfume, and jewelry are plausible
- R&R culture is accurate
- No modern slang or technology appears

Everything is era-appropriate.

No Remaining Issues

You already removed the only questionable detail (Swift Boats near Chu Lai). With that gone, **Chapter 228 is fully plausible and historically consistent.**

Overall Assessment

ATWv2_acd is historically sound, militarily accurate, and consistent with Vietnam War realities in mid-1970. No corrections are required.