

Niles

R. Henry Combs

Have you seen Niles?* I asked the top, as he stood there alone
 "I have not" he answered back, "as usual he's gone"
 That's why I came around, I said, to see where he did go
 "I'm tired of him" the top replied, "just running his own show"
Yes he's tired of Niles and his own show, his ways are so absurd
 He doesn't follow orders or that is what I've heard
 Now he's out there in the jungle, of guts he has no lack
 If he persists I have no doubt one day he won't come back
 I saw the sergeant by his tent, puffing on his smoke
 I asked him what was going on he looked at me and spoke
 "I'm sick of Niles just hustling off and patrolling by himself"
 One day he won't be coming back; you can put it on the shelf"
Yes he's tired of Niles and his own show, his ways are so absurd
 He doesn't follow orders or that is what I've heard
 Now he's sick of him just taking off and patrolling by himself
 One day he won't be coming back; you can put it on the shelf
 Niles goes in the jungle, he's out there all alone
 He doesn't seem to have a fear of all the things unknown
 He kills the Cong and takes their hair, the old man is really mad
 He says he'll lock him up this time, and that will be too bad
Yes he's tired of Niles and his own show his ways are so absurd
 He doesn't follow orders or that is what I've heard
 He kills the Cong and takes their hair, the old man is really mad
 He says he'll lock him up this time, and that will be too bad
Now we're on patrol and we've been told what Charlie's all about
 The man in front points to a pit and then he moves on out
 As I pass by I see Niles on wooden stakes impaled
 He won't be coming back today his luck has finally failed
 No he won't be coming back today, on stakes he was impaled
 He doesn't follow orders and his luck has finally failed
 Now he's out there in the jungle, of guts he has no lack
 He'll be no problem anymore; he won't be coming back.

* Modeled after Kipling's "They're Hanging Danny Devers in the Morning."