

Dec 18

My dear old friend,

Your letter took almost 2 months to reach me yesterday. It came exactly after dinner when my daughter was just talking about our happy days and you. She had a good memory, especially in the 1967 Mid-Autumn when she was ^{I just} ~~only~~ 3 years old. Only the youngest son, Bambi who could recollect nothing more than your name.

I'm looking for Tuyet, but during the recent months, I could not find out anyone who had been in her office or known her. I still hope to get her news someday.

My brother Do DINH LOI is still at 593 N. 2nd Street, San Jose 95112. My son Nguyen Ha Ngoc Linh lives with him. My adoptive daughter Thu Trang got married in July, is living near San Jose too. She just sent a lot of her wedding pictures. They didn't get any news from Ray, either. (as you were interested, in the subject of Com. Prison camps)

I'm working hard on my writing. I've intended to name it "The unknown Kingdom". I am trying to have it finished by the beginning of next year. Right now, something would make me happy is teaching my student the language. Hours of speaking English would make me feel more freedom and imagination. I visited An a month ago. He was much better then. Phong is well, too. He likes you very much.

I'm writing with a petrol lamp. No power tonight. Right now, there is no power in 2 nights and 3 days a week. You know how nervous we were when riding a bike on a crowdy avenue in total darkness.

This Christmas, I couldn't send you any card, you know why. My private channel was working ~~at times~~ well, but sometimes it clogged. May I extend my best wishes to you and our friends, in this New Year and Xmas season, even it would be a little late when my letter get to you. If you visit the VN memorium, pray for my good friends (among them Tenza, Anderson, ~~Kangomaki~~, Gutierrez died on my hands).

I'm having the strong belief of the bright future and I'm certain that we'll see each other very soon, although right now I had no reasons to be so optimistic. I don't really know what to do, just wait and see. Please help my son in Calif. if he needs to do some paperwork for our case. Thank you -

Your friend

PS- Loi's phone #

I visited An this morning (Dec 19). He was very well, he wrote you a month ago. Would you please contact my son often to hearten him, I'm always thinking about him. I don't know how he really was, educationally - An American friend of the family could encourage him better.