



U.S. AID MISSION
TO LAOS

EMBASSY
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VIENTIANE, LAOS

Luang Prabang
Dec. 27, 1964

Dear Mother, Dad, Steve,

Thanks for the items sent over. I think that I have enough now to last two years. I will have to figure out a way to get the toothbrush to work. The plugs are different over here along with the voltage that comes from the power plant.

I had a very enjoyable Christmas. Christmas eve I went over to the Gustofson's for dinner and to celebrate Christmas with them. There were the two of them, their 16 year old daughter and myself. I gave them some pocket books that I had purchased in the commissary and a set of coasters. They gave me a nice Parker ballpoint pen.

Christmas day I returned to their house for Christmas dinner. Seven of us tried to damage a 20 lb. turkey. I am afraid that they will be eating turkey for some time. There was Dwane Hammer who is the boss here, an IVS girl from Vientiane, Betty Morgan the IVS girl here, myself and the Gustofson's. Along with the turkey we had dressing, mashed potatoes, cranberry fruit salad, fresh peas, cauliflower with cheese dressing, hot tea, hot rolls, mince meat and pumpkin pie with whipped cream. I returned later that evening to help them eat the leftovers.

Saturday night was the office party at Hammers. All of the staff went over for drinks and a large dinner. We had Lao, Vietnamese and American food, and Chinese also.

Today I have been getting film and letters ready to send home. I also studied Lao for a while and read a book. Later on today I am moving to the USIS house. John McClane is going on vacation and wants me to stay in his house while he is gone. I will also entertain all of my students on the 1st. They are going around to several of the Americans houses during the day. They are given something to drink and cookies or something. They will probably stay for about an hour.

Enclosed in this letter are some negatives. The pictures are being sent in another letter. There is several of them that I will want made into slides.

Did the things that I bought in Bangkok arrive yet? In your next letter let me know exactly what has arrived. I am getting a gold necklace from Cambodia but I will have to keep it and bring it home when I come.

When you send the brown pants you might send two white short sleeve shirts.

It is rumored that there will be a big new years party at the palace. Nothing definite on it yet.

Sometime in January I hope to move to an apartment here in Luang Prabang. It won't be quite as nice as USAID but I can't stay here too much longer. Dwane asks me about every week to see if I have found a place yet.

Everything ok here, hope the same there. I sent a short note to

