

Luang Prabang
Laos
Sept. 3, 1965

Dear Mother, Dad, Steve,

I wasn't doing anything this afternoon so figured it would be a good time to get a letter off to you. School don't start for another month yet so things will be slack for a few days. I have been trying to get some agricultural bulletins translated the last few days so my assistant is still behind with his translating.

Tomorrow I am going to Vientiane and planning on staying the weekend there. While there I hope to get a physical check-up. I have not been sick for a long time but I read somewhere that they would give us physicals after one year in the field so I am taking advantage of it. Of course since they play softball every Sunday, I will have to participate and get some much needed exercise.

During the past month I have had several people visiting me. One of the new IVS/Rd girls came up to see Luang Prabang so stayed a few days. About the same time Dr. Porter, IVS/ED from Vientiane came up to spend four days of his vacation here. Following their departure two new IVS/ED people from Vientiane and their counterparts arrived to spend five days in L.P.. Since it was see Luang Prabang month an Education Team from the University of Hawaii came up and stayed four days. Of course while these people were here I was host so I gave them the full tour. Everybody got to see the school plus all of the local interest spots. Part of the above group was able to see the boat races which were held here on 7th, 8th and 9th.

Playing host might prove highly advantageous because I discussed going to graduate school with the Hawaiian Education Team and they told me that they would be glad to help me in any way they could. If I was accepted, the scholarship includes transportation to and from the states, plus all education expenses, and \$80. spending money. The University has a very good Agriculture program as well as others. The former Dean of Ag. School at K-State is now the Dean of Ag. School at Hawaii. One of the team members was formerly Dean of Ag. School and is now in charge of the International Program for the University. In any event I will at least apply for the scholarship and hope for the best.

Shortly after moving into my new house, I entertained all of the teachers at school along with USAID staff and my English Students therefore, I have about a \$150 entertainment bill at the commissary.

Since I haven't been very busy, I am spending two hours every morning until school starts studying Lao. Yesterday, I had my teacher make a tape so I could study alone after he returned to school. I will probably have him make at least one more so that I will have tapes covering two books. One being a Lao grammar book and the other Spoken Lao, a book published for people studying Lao. I still have trouble getting some of the intonations correct.

Sounds like everybody there is keeping busy. How is the cowboy by now? Been entering any rodeos lately?

Oh, Yes I have about seven pages of newsletter material in long hand and if I am real energetic it might be sent sometime in the near future.

Love , Larry