

Vientiane, Laos
November 29, 1969

Dear Folks,

Strangely enough, things have been pretty much routine this last month. We had one long weekend due to a Lao Holiday, but visitors from Washington and Singapore kept us from taking full advantage of the time.

Enjoyed a big Thanksgiving dinner courtesy of the USAID chief of education and his wife. Like everybody else, managed to eat more than was necessary. After dinner, we played darts for a couple of hours before going home.

Laos now has it's first bowling alley. The grand opening was two weeks ago. I took three IVSers out last week thinking we would bowl a few lines. When we arrived there was a waiting list of over thirty people and after waiting an hour, we was still twenty-nine names away from an alley. So, I have yet to bowl. The management tried to limit everybody to three lines but one Lao Army official threatened to blow the place up if he was not permitted to bowl as much as he wanted to. They let him bowl. Typical of the Lao Army.

Did you receive the pictures I sent? I also ordered some stuff from the PX in Japan. With luck, it will arrive before Christmas. Let me know how you like it. None of it is earmarked, so you can distribute it as you see fit.

I am trying my best to get away for a few days of vacation over the Christmas Holidays. If I do, I will undoubtedly pick up a few more items that can be used for Christmas gifts.

Vientiane had a flu epidemic a few weeks ago but I managed to escape it. A lot of people were out almost a week with a sore throat, headaches, and chest pains. Almost all of them had a fever.

Received a card from Gary Giles the other day. They have a baby girl.

Due to the large number of parties this time of year in Laos, I managed to gain about 10 pounds. I now weigh in about 175 lbs.

Will close for now. My regards to all. Better make it Christmas Wishes in case I don't get cards in the mail.

Love,

Karry

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P.S. Pardon my typing. The electric typewriter is very touchy. I relax the least little bit and I end up typing three or four unwanted letters.