

1 Jan 29, 1973

Dear Mom and Margaret,

It doesn't seem possible that Jan. is almost over. We already see signs of spring here in Salem. We have violets, snow-drops and crocous [sic] blooming on the South side of the house.

Its [sic] kinda lonesome around here.

Jake has been gone for several weeks preaching in N.Y., Ohio and Michigan.

He will be back on Thurs. and the same day we are going to Seattle.

On Feb 2-4 Jake will be presented as Alumni of the Year at S.P.C. There will be receptions interviews, Basket-ball game etc. I think that John + Lorna are coming, too.

We are so thankful for news of the cease-fire in Viet-Nam. It should mean that Paul will get back in a couple weeks. We haven't heard from Mark yet – I guess that he just doesn't like to write letters.

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Flash – The mail-man just came and there was a letter from Paul.

He says that he still doesn't know what they plan to do with

them. There seems to be three possibilities. (1) The Air Force wants to bring all B52s and flyers home at once. (2) They may have to stay until all P.O.W's are returned. (3) They may continue bombing in Cambodia + Laos. There is one other possibility and that is that they may stay in Guam for further training. At any rate Paul's 22 wk. (T.D.Y) [Temporary Duty] should be finished by Feb. 27th so he should get home for a month's leave then.

I haven't heard from Carol for a few days. I guess that she's busy with term papers etc. She has been called upon to speak in several Canadian Churches so is busy week-ends, too. She says that

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she definitely wants to go back to Japan with us for the summer if she can make it financially.

We are scheduled to return to Japan on June 5th so it doesn't look like we'll make it back to Iowa next summer. Our only chance to see you again would be during Spring vacation. Jake

will be back in that area with the car so Ruth + I were thinking we might fly-back to your place for a few days + join Jake + then drive to Rapids City + Moose Jaw to see Paul + Carol. Jake asked the Mission Bd. to arrange us a mtg. for that Sun. (March 18th) to help defray expenses. However, the Bd. said that most of the Iowa Conf. Churches would be having Missionary Speakers during March so they didn't want to schedule us unless some-one

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wanted to work it out with us personally. So, if you hear of anyone interested let us know.

I was really surprised a few days ago when the telephone rang. It was a long distance [sic] call from Phyllis. She wanted me to send her some slides – It was good to hear her voice.

Yoko isn't going to college this quarter. She is working in a mushroom-factory. The other day she fell + bruised her leg and so couldn't work for a week. She

is O.K. now.

Ruth is doing well in school.

Last quarter she got 6 As and 1 B.

She has a new boy-friend. He is 18 and a Sr. in High School and has a car so they can get around.

He is really a good Christian and president of F.M.Y. here in Salem.

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Last night Ruth went horse-back riding with a girl friend. She's stiff today.

We sold our trailer to Bro. and Sis. French. He travels quite a bit holding mtgs. and she likes to go with him so they got the trailer. It gave me kind of a lonesome feeling to see it being pulled off but since we aren't going to be here next summer we don't need it any longer.

Ruth, Angie + Jake's mother were over for a little while last night. His mother isn't a bit well and her memory is almost gone. She will be 90 in March.

I have to go to a funeral this P.M. and have a Bible class at a

neighbor's house tonight so I'd
better close.

Hope that you are all over the

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flu. There's really a lot of it
here in Salem but so far we
have escaped.

I'll write again when our
plans are more sure.

Love + Prayers

Florence + All