

Three letters Frank Yoder wrote to Kathy
Steinhauer Yoder In May 31^s^t, June 14th and
June 15th 1957.

Frank was finishing school in Elizabeth City N. C.
and Kathy was at the home of her parents
in Sellersville, Pa.

Frank Yoder's letters to the family

Good morning darling,

It is now a sunny morning, and I have just finished shining my shoes (three pairs). They have the record player going and I am now laying on my bunk writing to you.

It is cool our and I do not know if I should wash the car or not. It needs it but I think I would freeze if I did. This weekend has gone by so slow and I hope the week goes faster since it will seem like forever until see you again. I hope that this whole school goes by fast so we can be together.

Last night I was real lonely and was thinking of ways to have you stay down here. But I know it is not good since we can not afford it right yet. At any rate, I do love you so much, Kathy, I don't care if you can never cook as long as I have you to hold and kiss. I will be happy even though I think you can cook a little better than you say. At any rate we will find out this next weekend. Takue . You will never know how much I am looking forward to this coming weekend.

You know what? I think I will get a lunch makings and head about 20 miles down the road to the place they had the party and spend a relaxed afternoon by a big fire. I will take this along and finish it there. Bye for now Love.

Here I am I have the fire and my radio going. I got two ham sandwiches, potato chips, and a piece of pie and three bottles of soda. It still is a little cool. I took the seat covers off and am now laying on them. I will try to get them washed sometime this week, they need it. I am not sure I will be able to get them back on because they were hard to take off.

It is still morning, so I will get a chance to clean the car. I will only use dry rags though since I have no water handy. There are tall pines all around me and the bay spreads out in front. Oops my fire is starting to go out, must get some more wood. There, now if she does not smoke this way I will have it made.

It is real quiet and peaceful here, I sort of hate going back to the base, but that is my job so I will. By the way, I did not get 85%, I only got 81%. So I will have to go to my first Sunday class. I don't mind too much since it will give me a chance to study for this coming week. I want Sunday off and will be trying real hard. I think I will be coming to Washington with one of my classmates, so I might have to come home early anyway.

I think I will rest for a few minutes so be good and if I don't get a chance to add to this I will send it when I get to town.

Bye my Love, I miss you so much.

Love, Frank

Sometime last week this was written

Dearest Kathy,

Well darling, I am finished with all test and now I will just be hanging around till they leave up leave that will be the 4th of next month. I am second in class so I guess I did not get that first position that you wanted me to get. I am now a Second Class AL and right now it does nothing for me. I am quite tired and have no wish to do anything right now.

I payed the car off and now we own a car. I must have added wrong since it came out to \$356.00. That made me mad since I had figured for only \$300.00 and that will make us a little short on money.

I just got the letter I had sent to the 14th District and they say I will be at Barbars Point, Hawaii. They also said that the housing was bad and I was to leave my wife home till she got orders to come over. But regardless of what they say we are going together across the states and I hope I can get you to go over to the islands with me. We will be going only on luck so cross your fingers.

I might be home this weekend but I am not sure. I know I will not bring my car but might hitch hike home. Of course it is only a few days till I get home anyway so like I said, it depends on the weather and how I feel. Also if I have my sea bag finished that will take me a good two days in itself.

I am not sure when we are going but you tell your friends when you want and we will leave close to that. Anyway there is so much I have to do and you and I together (besides at night).

Second letter:

Dearest Kathy,

Now I will be studying for about 2 hours. We have had a lot of equipment and I will have to study hard to ever get a good grade.

We had a chance to give blood Friday and then we got the rest of the day off. They give it or I should say take it in the morning so that should give me a head start to get home. So if I could get the Sunday night off I will be real happy, of course this is liable to cost me some money. I would be leaving sooner that the fellow that has the car that means I would get home at a good time. (about 8:30 pm) I could hitch hike down or take the car. If I hitch hiked I would not spend much money, about \$5.00, but with the car about \$15.00. I would leave the car at home. But I was thinking it would not be much sense since you do not need it, but if you had it then I could have you meet me if I hiked. I am not sure yet so I will just think about it for the time being. I doubt if you will get this before I get home anyway.

30th

I was right you did not get it before I got home so I will inclose it for you. Today we graduate and I am happy about it. I can hardly wait to get home to you and I keep thinking my lovely wife's arms are there warm and tender waiting for me. The more I think about it the more convinced I am that for lovers to be separated is a terrible fate.

Well I will put these sheets into an envelope and put them in the mail box. Love me hard Kathy for I need it much more then I ever admit to you. Your loving hubby, Frank

Letters Frank Yoder wrote from school in NAS
Whidbey Island Oak Harbor, Washington to
Kathy, Sumi, Frank Jr., Sheila, and John in
1963 when our home was Annette, Alaska.
It was a 3 month school

November 26, 1963

NAS Whibey Island

Oak Harbor, Washington to Annette Island, Alaska

Dear John, Sheila, Frank, Sumi and Mom,

Well I am here at school safely. I hope you are all okay. I arrived in Seattle Saturday and spent the night at the Coast Guard Base. The next day (Sunday) I got a bus and arrived at the Navy Base. I had a 15 minute ferry ride over to the island.

We got some text books and I have been studying. The school will start Tuesday so today (Monday) I will be studying. They have a gym here and I hope to get over sometime for playing basketball. They say we will still only be here 2 weeks. But there is a possibility of staying three if we do not get enough done, since they will only have a few days school this week. I will let you know as soon as possible.

I am laying on my bunk writing this so it does not look to good. I do miss you all and look forward to getting back home.

Sumi and Frank, make sure you have family prayer every day. Also keep on helping Mom. Remember, good kids will get a surprise.

I can wear dungarees and I wish I had brought my blue working jacket. All I have is a sweater. The weather is wet and cool but not cold.

There are only two of us in the class, so we should be able to learn quite a bit. Also ran into another Coastie from Port Angeles whom I knew in Biloxi, Paul Beyer.

Well that is about it, take good care and looking forward to hearing from Frank, Sumi, Sheila, John and Mom

Tuesday November 5, 1963

Howdy family,

This is Tuesday morning and I will get a short note off to you prior to going to class. We played basketball last night and lost by about 15 points. Believe it or not I was high scorer for our team with 22 points. They have MIA on Wednesday night but I think we will not go since I have to study more. We are going to have a test Thursday and if we don't pass it we very well might be here another week.

It was grand to get your letter. I was working myself into quite a lot of concern for you all. Sorry to hear you had a flat and bet the tire was not able to be fixed. You must be driving like sixty. (just kidding)

The weather has been sunny and nice here for about 5 days. Since I have no car I walk everywhere I go and so I am getting into shape. Better look our wife!

A couple days ago I broke my watch so I will have to send it back to the factory if I can find the guarantee when I get home.

Well I had best be going since it's getting close to school time.

Love and miss you all.

Dad

Saturday November 30, 1963

Dearest Family,

Well how are you all today? I sure do miss you all. The time is going so slow and I am looking forward to seeing you all so much. I have been trying to get hold of the Church here in town but no one answers. They must be awful small and don't hold aux. Meetings since I have been trying all week. Tomorrow morning I will call and should get someone. I hope they will be able to drop out and pick me up for the meetings.

I studied this morning till about 10:30 and then watched TV till lunch. I went over to the gym after lunch and played some basketball (taking it very easy) and then got a shower, then a steam bath, then another shower. When I got back to the barracks it was 3 pm and then I watched some more TV and read till 6 pm. I then went to the movies (saw Captain Sinbad) It is 8 pm now and I will complete this letter and then study some more. I have tried to keep busy since when I have nothing to do I miss you the most. I don't think I could take being away from my family for a long period of time.

The Lord has been very kind to me and at night when I say my prayers I thank our Heavenly Father for Sumi, Frank, Sheila and John. Then I give special thanks for the wonderful wife and mother I have for my self and children. God bless you Kathryn with all the strength and love you need to carry on. The children and I are very blessed to have you. I also wish to ask you all forgiveness for the times Daddy is short tempered or does not have enough time to tickle you kids. And you Mom for the times I do not give you help and more support than I do.

I do hope things are alright at home and hope to get a letter from you this week sometime. I have been awful tempted to phone you, but I know we can not afford it and with luck I should be enroute home next weekend. However it is not a sure thing so don't count on it. Just expect me when you see me.

When I do leave the base here, I will spend a day getting to Seattle, then spend the night at base (a CG Base) Seattle. Then if I can get them to do the paper work I might be able to get out that next day and fly back to Annette. I am no looking forward to the trip. But to you at the end of it I am.

Well you have made me homesick enough, I will close and do some studying. Don't forget family prayer.

Love and kisses for each of you

Frank and Daddy

Me toooooo

PS Not sure of that address on the envelope. The one I sent first time is correct.

Sunday December 1, 1963

Dear family,

Well how are you all today? Today passed much quicker then did Saturday. I finally got hold of the church this morning, not in time for Priesthood but for Sunday School and Fast Meeting. There was a fine spirit there and afterwards a retired couple took me home for supper. They had a beautiful home with a fireplace. They were both stake missionaries and we talked missionary work quite a bit.

The Ward is having a basketball game tomorrow against another church team. I and the fellow from Kodiak (non-member) who is going to school with me will be playing a little bit. I hope we can get this gear down good this week. We will have a lot of studying to prepare for the test. Friday we take the test and then we will know wether we can leave or have to stay another week. If I do pass Friday I will be home Saturday or Sunday, depending what goes on at base Seattle.

I am looking forward to seeing you all, I miss you very much. I hope that you have written last week. Anything you write after Tuesday or Wednesday will not reach me if I leave Friday. Well Sumi, Frank, Sheila did you help Mom today? Have you all prayed with John and have you had family prayer? Sumi do you still have your secret prayer. I am a happy daddy with such good kids and wonderful wife. I talked quite a bit about you, dear wife, to the people I stayed with, I certainly miss you.

Well I had best shut the light out and hit the hay. May God Bless you and look after you till I return.

Love Daddy and frank (for mom)

Letters Frank Yoder wrote to Kathryn Yoder,
Sumi, Frank Jr., Sheila, John and James
when he was in Elizabeth City, N. C. in 1965
in school and we were living on Annette
Island Alaska.

May 6, 1965

Dear Kathy and Family;

I sure have been busy so far. Now i am at home in Leon's room. Everyone has been very good to me and I am enjoying my visit's very much. I arrived Seattle ok and had a long wait. I think I told you that I went to the movies to pass the time. I then got my plane to Detroit and got about 2 hours sleep. Bob and Jean plus there little girl were there to meet me. I went to there home and we talked and had grilled steak outside. It was real hot for the day that I was in Detroit. Bob look's like he always has and his wife Jean is real good looking and a real nice girl. She loves Bob very much and has been the best thing that could have happen to Bob. They are very happy and have a very nice home. Bob and Jean have been working on it for a while and they are doing everything by hand. Jean has been working just as hard as bob and she dig's dirt and haul's as much as he does. There Daughter is fine and has a little trouble talking that is not too bad. I met her folks and they seem nice enough. All in all I had a very good visit. I called Aunt Beth and talked to her. she is fine and wanted me to come over. Bob lives in Hamburg so it would have been too far. All her children are fine. I left the next morning after getting 5 hours sleep. Jean is going to look into the possible friends that might remember my dad. She is all excited about doing this. She thinks it will be very interesting. She does not want to look into her family since they seem not too good.

I arrived the next day, monday, in philph. Charlies was there to meet me and we had a good visit on the way home. I stayed with lil for that morning and we decided to go up to north Pa. that same day. It took us 6 hours to drive up there and we took with us her baby carl.(Lil and I) . We got to Aunt Martha 's and spent to about 10 that night on here family genology. We then went to one of here girls places and got there genology and pictures. By this time it was clase to 11:30PM so I stayed with the Daughters family while Lil went back with Aunt Martha. The next day they come over and we went to see about Uncle Sam's will. This took most of the morning in which time we also got to visit an other daughter and get her genology. that after noon we went to the cemety and looked for a while and then on to Aunt Carries and visited for the rest of the afternoon. I got all of the genology that I could from her then we went back to Aunt Martha's to eat and then leave. We got back to Home about 9:30PM and Lil droped m me off at mom Yoders and that is where I stayed. I went up to Pa. thingking I had about 30 relations but now I can account for about 130 . Reall y great ! Today we visited at the school and Mom and I stoped in to see Mrs. Horn. They are fine. I also went to see your parents for a few minutes. I will be going back on Friday for the whole afternoon and evening meal. I hope to help your dad a little in diging some ground. I will be taking some pictures also. So far I have got pictures of everyone that I have visited with. They all seem to enjoy it a lot.

This night we had Dale, Charlette, and all the yoders family down for dinner. It was good to see them all and we had a good visit. The boys took Dale and Jacky plus me on and we really beat them the first game. however the next ones we get beat. I gusee just too old. I played Leon chess and beat him then played dale and won 2 out of 3. Paul then had me play him a game of monopoly and I beat him. He is now doing his homework so that we can play another game. That is about it for Now.

I sure miss you all very much. I will miss you more when I get to eliz city. I think of you each night that I say my prayers. I hope everything is ok and you are not having anymore trouble.

I have people sending you stuff for genology. I would like you to box all these things up and send me them about once a week. I think i will try to work on my genology while at school. However try to wait till I tell you that I received yours letters so we can be sure of the right address.

for your records. (how are you doing. I can just see all the bills laying around and you dreading the thought of doing them.)((I wish I could be there to do them with you.)) I have made out two checks so far

1A	film	3.15
2A	film	3.15

as i make more i will let you know.

Sumi You and frank help your mother with the bed's and putting your toys and clothes away. Sheila you help too and also love John for me . John, you can stop looking out the window for dad til you move into the new house. Mom. July . Takue. and love my kid's a whole lot for me. Tell the members I said hello and to work hard. I hope that you have written so that when I get to school I will have some mail for me. I have been tempted to call a number of times. but it will be much better to do that when I get to elith city.

I love you all very much. God bless you and take care of you.

Your Dad

Frank

8:15 am 7 May 1965

Dearest wife and children,

I had a very good day yesterday. Mom and I went shopping in the afternoon and she bought me a swim suit for my stay in North Carolina. I then went to Rays for dinner. There baby is real cute and looks like our kids when they were born. We got pictures and then Ray and I went down to Lil's to pick up my trunk and get pictures of them. Ray let me have his car for today so I will not have to worry mom about dropping me off at your folks this afternoon. I will be going to Souderton to get plates for the car in a few minutes.

I think I will be going to N.C. by bus. This seems the easy way. I dread the thought of taking all that stuff I have with me on a bus, but I am sure it will work out.

Everyone ask about my family and the usual questions about Alaska. I miss you all very much.

The Yoder children are all teenagers now and come night time it's a riot. The phone is ringing every few minutes and they study, eat and watch TV. I have really enjoyed my stay here at home. Mom and dad are looking older and I think it might be wise to try to get stationed near home next time. Give my love to all in Alaska. Kiss my kids for me. Looking forward to being able to return home.

Your loving husband and dad.

Frank

8 May 1965

Dear family,

Well here it is Saturday, seems like I have not even been home. The time has passed so fast. I spent yesterday noon and supper with your folks and Al and family came up. I enjoyed the visit. The girl, Carol is staying with them and is very nice. I have taken some movie pictures that you will get in a couple of weeks and she will be the blond in them. Al is laid off right now so he is planting a garden.

I will be leaving in a few hours to catch a bus. This will put me in N.C. at 1 am. I hope there is a taxie there. I will be traveling in my suit since if I packed it it would get all messed up. Paul is really been my buddy. He takes care of me just about as good as you do. We have been playing Monopoly. He still has not won.

Well I enjoyed much talking to you yesterday. I only wish I could do it more often. I miss you all very much.

Love to all.

Dad

10 May 1965---5:20 pm

Dear Kathy and children,

I arrived safely in Elizabeth City. I was going to take a bus but I had so much luggage and the bus made 2 switches so I decided to rent a car. That cost me \$50.00 from home (Doylestown). The trip took about 8 hours and I got here about 8 pm. Once I got my luggage put away I met Beyer a chief I knew when in Biloxi. The next morning, Sunday I went into the city to find the church. I found it and attended priesthood and Sunday School. They have a beautiful church and are building on. I found out that some of the brethren were going to Norfolk which was good since I had to take my rental car back to Norfolk. We got to the city and I dropped my car off then went with the brethren to a stake meeting. It was very good. We came home that evening and went to Sacrament Meeting. I had forgotten how long a Sunday could be! After Sacrament Meeting one of the brothers and his wife took me home to the base. They have a fish fry on Friday and a baseball game Saturday that I will be attending. This should help the time go faster. I am very thankful for the church. Everyone has been very nice. When I get back to the base, Dean the colored boy I knew in Biloxi was there asking for me. I looked him up and we had a good visit. He is getting me 15 books of airmail stamps tomorrow. We went to school this morning. It does not seem to hard but I will study till I am sure I know the material. The weather is quite warm and I will have to get more whites to go anywhere after 5 pm. you must have them on. I am unable to wear my garments since I am surrounded by other fellows.

We have mail call at 12 pm noon. I got your three letters at that time. I enjoyed getting them and will try to finish the pictures for Sumi and the letter to Frank. I miss my family very much. The finances sound good. You are doing a good job with them. I have to go to study hall shortly so I had best sign off. I miss you all and love you very much. My prayers are with you.

Your husband and dad

9:45 pm 11 May 1965

Dear Love ones,

I checked my mail today and did not even get a picture to color. What is this family coming to? Just kidding. I know you have had your hands full. I do miss you all very much and even though this is only the second day of school I look forward to returning to you.

Today was very easy. We did not do too much work and played a lot of volley ball. However this evening I and one other fellow studied for about 4 hours. We seem to be learning a little about transistors. The chief instructor has a course in electronics that seems to be quite good. It would cost \$300.00 and usually takes 2 years to complete. I have studied the material and am asking questions about it. I will let you know prior to getting it. If I feel that it would help me I probably would get it.

The church has a fish fry Friday, a baseball game and hotdog roast Saturday and church Sunday. I have invited 2 fellows to the fish fry with the thought of missionary work. I hope they work out. I met the Elders and they seem very nice. I hope to put them to work.

Well Sumi how are you? Mom told me how much you helped her. I sure am proud of you.

Frank, how does it feel to be the man of the house? I know you have helped mom and also helped on the family nights.

Sheila, are you taking care of John? I know he really likes to have you play with him. You are always so happy, everyone likes to be around you.

John, I know you are loving Mitty (a cat). Give your mother a big hug for me.

I know you children are helping mom, however I wonder if you are making your beds and putting on your clothes in the morning without mom telling you. Maybe next time you write you can tell me. I love you all very much and think of you every night. Mom, I do not need to tell you how much I miss you. Love all the children extra hard for me. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Your loving husband,

13 May 1065

Dear family,

Well no mail today. I hope you are all still okay. I have faith that the Lord will keep close watch on you.

Today was a little hard. There was a lot given in class that I did not get for sure. So tonight we spent about 3 hours catching up. I have not been eating evening meals the last two days. We have to put white uniforms on after 5pm. So this means that when I go anyplace at night I have to wear whites. Me with one set! I have bought one white shirt and will get one more. However they have the clothing store across the field. We went over today and they don't have it. So I need pants size 36 (one pair) and also new rating badges (AT 1—2 each). If anyone ask if they can do anything order these things.

Well I need my car. It is so far to everywhere. Speaking of the car, how is it working? I hope okay. I have thought of this course and it seem good, what do you think of it? I had better sign off.

Love y kids for me, and youngsters give your mom a big hug and squeeze for me. Sure do miss you all.

Love, Dad

May 14, 1965

Dear loved ones,

I finally got a letter from you today. I was very glad to hear from you. I think a letter takes about 3 to 4 days to get back and forth.

I will try to answer your questions but first I will cover today's activities. We had school this morning and afternoon then from 5:30 to 7:30pm we had night study. Ofcourse we had to wear our whites. My one set! I think a few of the fellows are going to Norfolk this weekend. I think I will ask them to get me a set if they can. (I must not forget to list my checks.) Now I have just finished my shower and studying a little in bed. My eyes have been holding up wonderful. They get a little sore towards the end of the afternoon, but I am really pleased with them. I am waiting for your thoughts on this course (\$300.00) I have been asking around and thinking and praying about it. It seems good. However, I want to know what you think.

Well lets see what questions you ask. Referring to losing the authority for picking up mail. I will write another letter and can give it to Dobler. If you have anymore trouble let me know. I think I will send the letter to the commanding officer. That way I know he will get it. It will give anyone including Dobler permission to pick up my mail and checks. I hope that takes care of it.

Sunday sounds real good. I miss going to our little branch. I am glad you went to Jacky's and that Hammonds are keeping an eye on you. I was really surprised to hear Hammonds would be leaving in June. I wonder who will be Branch President? In a way I am glad to be away during this period. If I was ask I would do it but the job is a big one that I am not so sure I could do. This way I think Jim might be asked and it would be good for him and me too. I think that the whole Branch is released when Branch President is released.

I think his car would be in good condition but if we get this electronics course we will be short so we had better hold off on getting another car for a while.

I sure was sorry to hear of the trouble the Ketchikan Elders have in keeping up with the radio program. This means they must be using our money to put it on now. Sorry also that I will not be able to see Cal again. It would be good if you get a chance to see him off at the airport.

Lil and Charlie are doing okay. They disagree a lot and I am afraid to say their home was in very bad shape. (house cleaning) Charlie has really been busy building and has got quite a bit done. Lil still has one dog and is still doing nursing work part time. I wish she would take better care of her house. Ray and Marion were fine. They have a nice apartment in Sellersville or maybe its Perkasio. I spent an evening with them. I think she will be helping me with her genealogy.

It sounds like you are doing fine with the money. I will list for you all the checks I have cashed. Some I have already given you so you will have to watch them. 1a film 3.15-2a film 3.15- 3a film 3.10-4a film 3.105-5a film 3.10 -6a cash 10.00 total 35.60 That should be it for a while. If I buy another uniform then I might have to write another check. Also if I get this course then we will have to draw out of savings.

I really was happy and pleased to know the children were so good in church and at Jacky's. They sure do make their daddy proud. I sure do miss them.

I have been keeping busy most of the time. I do enjoy hearing from you and your letters do not bore me. They help keep my day going. I think I have answered all questions. I know my arm is getting tired from writing and its going on to 9:30pm. I have been writing over an hour but I love and miss you all very much. Do take good care of the children and keep saying prayers for me. I do for you.

Love and many thoughts.

Frank

16 May, 1965 -- 9pm

Dear Kathy and children,

I had a very good day. Brother Ed came out this morning and got me for Priesthood. We then had Sunday School. Ed invited me out to dinner but I declined saying I would take a rain check. I wanted to do genealogy all day at the church. I then got busy and did a lot of letters written and started to sort out the names I got in Bellwood, Pa. Oh by the way, Aunt Martha's husband's great, great grand father was Chief Taho. They have a street named for him in Bellwood. At least that is what they say. So our children have some Indian blood in them. Tell Jackie we want to vote in the next town election.

Ed ask me to speak next Sunday in Sacrament meeting. I will have to start preparing for that right after I finish this letter. The elders brought me back to the barracks. They sure are taking good care of me. They will be picking me up for MIA. I think of all the time we had the elders in, the Lord is paying me back. They sure have been a wonderful help to me.

I think I will be able to home teach next week. I do not want to get to busy during the week since I hope to study most of the week nights. But Saturday and Sunday are all for the Lord. I also suggested to the Bishop a car wash as they still need to raise about \$9,000.00 for their chapel.

Well that's about all there has been to my day. I've thought a lot of you and the children today. Seeing the other members with their families made me miss mine quite a bit. I am sure thankful for the church and the help it is to keep me on the straight and narrow. Give all my kids a big hug and kiss for me and you sort of think of me also. I love you all, keep praying for me.

Love, frank

Dear family,

Well today is about finished. We had school this morning and after lunch we went and took our test. It was a fair test and I got 80%. This means I will not have to go to night school. However I intend to do more studying this next week. I want to raise that mark.

We came from school and quickly showered, changed and went out to meet the elders. They had been waiting for about an hour. The person I ask to tell them got the times wrong. We went to the church, John and I. They were cooking the fish and we ate and ask if we could help in any way. The church is located on a busy street and they had one sign out. We made up another and stood out by the signs holding up the plates of fish. Sales went up about 3 times as much. We then sold till dark. The elders then took us to their home and gave John a first lesson. He wants to learn but has trouble with Christ. He thinks he was just a great teacher. I will be trying to help him. I gave him the Mormon study reader.

Next morning:

They put out the lights so now I will finish this letter. Everyone is still sleeping but every morning about 5:30 my eyes pop open so I usually get up and study a little. I still have about 4 blue working shirts to go through prior to starting to ironing and all the other things I usually have a wonderful wife do. I ask Dean if his wife would like to iron for me but she is going to go to work so she did not want to. I told him I would give him about \$2.00. I guess it was not enough. Dean got me 5 books of stamps the other day since we have no post office nearby.

Well its two weeks from today since I left home. The time has gone quite fast. I now only have 8 weeks to go as long as I keep as busy as possible I will get along okay. When I have a lot of time to think of home and my family then I will start to have trouble.

Today being Saturday they will have a baseball game at 3pm. The elders are going to picks up. (John and myself) I might invite another fellow if things go alright. I am not sure what I will do this morning. I might try to organize my genealogy. I will do something to keep me busy.

What a fine day;

It started slow. I got up early and finished your letter from last night then got ready and went to eat chow. It was cool this morning and stayed that way most of the morning. After I got back I got my genealogy material together and started to work on that. I got two letters off, one a request for my grandparents death certificate (Kustaborder) that I have a check number 7a for \$4.00. Then ran into a problem I want to check with ward genealogy man tomorrow. I am not sure how to file the different families in order, also I am not so sure I should be following all these families out as detailed as I am. This afternoon at 2:30 the missionaries came out and picked me up. John had gone to the C.G. air show so he did not go with me. I had another fellow that was going with me but at the last moment he changed his mind and went out with another fellow. We went to the church and after a while enough gathered so we could start a ballgame. The older men played the young fellows. We old men (this is mom here, dad is about 30 years old 😊) really gave the young ones a lesson. The score ended at 6 to 26 and that was giving them the Bishop to help them. We then had hot dogs, roasted over an indoor fireplace, chips and a drink. It was very good and I really enjoyed myself. The elders had a baptism for 7 pm and ask me to speak. I was to be picked up at 6:30 at the base by the elders. As it turned out by the time we were finished eating it was 6 and I could not find a ride out to the base. So I just stayed at the church. The supervising elders came into town so there were 4 elders and 2 cars. One set went out to the base to get me and stayed till 7 trying to find me. I could not get hold of them so I felt bad about this. I told the elders in the future if I am not there the time we set to leave without me. We then had our baptism service. It was one of the members mothers from Cuba and could not understand much English. I talked first and then one of the sisters talked. We then had the baptism. After she came out of the dressing room she came around kissing all the sisters and shaking the men's hands. She was real happy. We then had the confirmation and then the Bishop spoke, then we closed. It was a real spiritual meeting and charged my battery for the week. Tomorrow being Sunday should do some charging also. After the meeting the elders made sure I had a ride home and arranged for a ride to the priesthood in the morning. They sure have been a great help. I just got home and got a shower and now am reporting the days events to you. I am surprised I have been writing as much as I have. Everyday since I got here.

Tomorrow I will take my genealogy to the church and spend the whole day there working on it. I will try to give my Sundays to genealogy and Saturday to helping at the church. Next Wednesday I will be able to get the two rolls of film back from the store. Then I will see what kind of pictures I got. I hope they turn out good.

How are you doing? Are you being real good with the children? Are the children being good and helping you. I sure hope they don't argue. I hope they realize dad misses his little ones. That big one sure makes my heart ache a little also. (I am writing proper letters too)

Well dear I do miss you and am looking forward to Monday. They do not get mail on the weekends so Monday I should have a letter from you.

Keep praying for me.

Love, Frank Yoder

Dear Kathy and children,

I had a fair day yesterday. I received two of your letter's and one from Aunt Carrie. Se is going on a week's trip and will write to me when she returns. She also ask me what religion I belong to.

In answer to your questions. It was good that you got the bike for Sumi. We must make sure she earns money for it so she can appreciate it. I also have sent my thoughts on the car. (Monties) and the other things. I feel we will be better off to wait. What a surprise to have Iona walk in. Tell her I said hello and wish I could get a chance to visit them once again. I was also very glad Larry came to fix the dishwasher. They sure are good people. You can tell them thanks for me the next time she calls. As far a Dobler goes I should have known he is not dependable. You will have to handle that the best you can. The authority I left at the base was for anyone to pick the mail up. It sounds like you are being very faithful with the family night program. That's wonderful. Keep up the good work. As to reading the magazines, I think that would be good since I have finished the Time and Improvement Era. I really have been able to keep myself quite busy.

Last night I washed clothes, even got the whites separated from the blues. However I lost one sock in the deal. One of the sisters at church is trying to earn money for the Primary Hospital so I ask her to do my whites for me. She is going to do them. The members are real good people, real southern though. I used my tape recorder to study last night and it helped quite a lot. Now to answer your questions in the second letter: so our little girl moved, great! (mom here-I was pg with James and dad thought a girl) That means we will soon have another beautiful spirit child of God to care for. I only hope we are worthy of these children the Lord has given us. You take good care of yourself. I don't want anything to happen to you or the baby.

If you can will you have Monti transfer onto a tape for us the "What is a Mormon". We will need it when I get back and he will be gone. If we do not have a spare tape in the den it might be good to go to the PX and buy one for him. I know we have one in the den on Penny's singing. Do not use that one.

Last night I got into a discussion with a Catholic and another fellow. The other fellow was really impressed and has ask for the lesson on our beliefs. I have the elders getting the "What is a Mormon and we will show that to him and then can teach him. I hope and pray he will humble himself.

Love and miss you very much.

Sumi I am happy to get your school work. Just think if you children could not go to school you would not lean to do these things or count, read write or hardly anything. I sure thank our Heavenly father for school and for church since we learn to do what he wants us to do there. Keep up the good work. Are you giving the sacrament gen? I know you are helping mom and being a good example for the other children. Frank, have you been staying in bed till mom gets up in the morning. I'm quite sure you are getting dressed and making your bed for mom. I thank my Heavenly Father for such good children. Keep up the good work.

Well must run I have a number of things I must do. I hope today I receive your letter about this electronics course. I want to get started on it if you concur.

Love you all, Dad

Wednesday 6 am

Dear Kathy and children,

Well it is morning and I will try to catch you up on yesterdays activities. Everyone is sleeping and I woke up at 4:30 so I got up at 5 am. I had to finish writing my talk and should do some studying.

Yesterday morning we had school and Dean come to see me. He said his wife would sew on my rates on my shirt if I would like her to. I thanked him and got my two new shirts for him. At noon I checked the mail, I was hoping to get a letter from you concerning that course I might get. I keep telling the fellow I have written to you about it. Maybe today I will get one, I hope so.

We played a lot of volleyball yesterday and then after school I came back to the barracks and rested for a few hours. I have not been eating evening meals since I am not hungry. Then I had a talk with one of the Catholic boys and started on my talk for Sacrament meeting. A couple of the fellows came in and invited me to go to the movies. Young Hawk Blood was playing and it sounded like sword clashing etc. So I thought about it and said yes. It turned out to be a modern story about an author. When we got back I worked some more on my talk and then went to bed. For the last few days I have had a sore throat. Now the stuff has moved down to my chest and I have bad coughing. I hope it goes away soon. I am running out of cough drops.

Today is Wednesday and the elders will be picking me up at 6:30 for MIA I will set up the best time for Tex to meet with them. He seems to be working out okay so far.

Well how are my little ones today, I hope all happy. Dad sure does miss you all and is looking forward to returning to you.

The Lord has been with me and I will try to do the things he would have me do. Try to get to bed a little earlier, Mom, you need the rest, besides that gives you more time to lay there and think of me-----

P.S. checks written (check to see which was last one I gave you.

6a cash \$10.00

7a Birth certificate \$4.00

8a cash \$20.00

Love, Dad

19 May 1965 Wednesday

Dear family,

Well I just got back from MIA I just got back from Genealogy class and they helped me a bit on my line. The elders picked me up and one of the good sisters and her kids took me back. They have scouts and I sat in on about 5 minutes to see what kind of program they have. One of the brothers ask me to help him on Friday on some lights for the stage. I will have to remember to call him for the exact time. Tomorrow I will really have to study hard.

I got the pictures and they came out fair. I will date them and then start sending them home in my letters. When you get them put them in my genealogy drawer. I will need them for our history.

I got two letters from you today and the one was the one missing (9th) It was dated the 17th so I guess Frank forgot to mail it. Very dependable! I think that course will be very good. I have gone through about 20 pages of one of the books and they really teach you well. I feel that in the long run it will be better than the Chief's course that I have now. They guarantee you the 2nd and 1st class FCC License which is hard to come by. After having studied all of the material available and prayed about it I feel it would be a wise move to make. So in the next few days I will be writing a check for \$295.00. I will also be sending back the Chief's Course since I will not be able to do both at the same time. I hope you concur since I feel it is a wise move.

Your figuring on the tithing is good. I am glad the films arrived safely. As far as the license plates go I think you could send in just what you have (the mfs # and request a form to fill out or better yet enclose a ten dollar check and request the plates, they might send them to you without any other forms. Make sure you tell them I am in the service.

Dad was real happy to hear that Sumi and Frank told mom when they took something without her permission. I know our Heavenly Father is pleased and happy with such truthful children. I sure am proud. John, I am happy with your picture in the chair. You are getting to be a big boy too. Sheila, I sure enjoyed your book. It was a good picture of a boat. You sure are doing a lot of good drawings.

Well it is time to put the lights out. I miss and love you all.

Dad

Dear family,

Today has been long. Tomorrow will be test day and I feel like I need more studying. This test is supposed to be one of the hardest. I have been studying all night and will have to get up early tomorrow morning to study. I hope I get an 89 on the test.

I bought the course today since I paid cash I only had to pay \$265.00 that saved us \$30.00 for paying cash. I will be sending in my Chiefs course tomorrow and this weekend I will be starting this new course. I think it will be a good course. The check number was 9a. You best subtract the amount.

As far as the white uniform is concerned, I got at Norfolk so I will not need any from you. Thank Lenard for me anyway.

I believe I have got all your letters up to the 17th. So I guess the other people got their money. I was glad Mom Wellington called. I have thought of them and tell her I said Hi.

Sumi, your painting is real good. I will send it back so you can keep it in your drawer. I bet you are a big help to mom. Dad sure wishes he could hold each one of you. Keep praying for me.

Mom I do miss you very much and will be looking forward to helping fill that empty bed soon. I love you very much.

Love, Frank;

Friday and Saturday

Dear family,

Well it is about time to shut light's out (10:30 pm) Today has been much better. I got your letters on finances and they seem to be just fine. The only comment I could make was fast money; I usually pay \$5.00 instead of \$10.00. Everything else looks real good and I am proud of you.

The next think I have to say is that I passed todays test. That is just wonderful I got an 84 and 3 fellows got 88. The rest (10) did not pass with one fellow getting 40. I have been studying and the tape recorder has done some good. I will be starting my new course tomorrow. I turned in my chiefs course today. I put in my last letter that I bought this course for \$265.00 (9a check#) and will include it here in case you did not get the letter. Time for lights out, I will finish this in the morning. They have not shut them off yet so I will keep writing. I got a haircut tonight (\$1.00) and went with this Catholic boy to our church. We helped put up lights for the stage, that took about 2 hours. This boy (named Al Richards) is really deep Catholic, but I am still trying work with him slowly. When I got back to the barracks I wrote a letter off to a Mrs. Sunyne. When I was home Charlie Walton showed me a book that the Waltons had which had all his fathers genealogy in. I think it was about 4,000 names. I tried to contact this man that had compiled it so I could obtain a copy. I could not get hold of him so about a week ago I called him, his wife answered stating he had passed away but there were still some copies left. I wrote to her and sent a check (#10a) for \$11.00 I have her sending it to you. I think that it is wonderful that will take care of the Walton side quite well.

It is not Saturday morning. Last night after 12:30 about 8 of the fellows came in. They joked and talked for about 1 hour telling of the girls they picked up and the dates they made. The one fellow I was supposed to take to meet the elders today was out with them I hope he can still make the meeting. There are 11 fellows in the room with me. One said he was going to bring his nude movies in soon. I will have to be away during that. I am thankful for the Church and what it has taught me. I feel like a giant redwood amongst saplings and it's all due to my belief of the Church.

Well I guess I will sign off for now. I want to start on the new course. I will let you know tonight how it comes along.

Love and miss you all, I think of each one of you when I say my prayers at night. I know you have been praying for me because of the help the Lord has given me. I even said a prayer for the test yesterday and I think that's why I did so well.

Love,dad

Dear family,

I got your letter today. I have a hard time getting used to the idea of the Hammonds leaving. We sure will miss them. Make sure you tell them bye for me and I wish them the best of luck.

You sound like you are doing just wonderful with all that sewing and have enjoyed the children so much. I agree with you, our prayers have helped us quite a lot.

Today being Monday, it was sort of slow. I still have this chest cold that I have not been able to get rid of. After school I got a shower and then started to study the material I got today in school. I just finished a few minutes ago (8pm) that's about 3 hours studying. I will now be able to get to sleep early enough and thus enabling me to get up around 5 to work on my new course. I have been slowly working out a schedule that will enable me to get the most done. My eyes are holding up wonderful and I have only had 2 headaches since I have arrived.

These pictures I have been sending home, I want to make sure you put in our genealogy file. I will send one each letter. That way you have something to look forward to.

John, mom said you potied standing up, that sure is good. You are getting to be a big boy like Frank.

Sheila, mom told me you acted like a big girl when you did not receive anything from Sears. That sure makes dad proud. I know you are a great help to your mom like Sumi and Frank.

Dad misses you children. Take good care of your mom. She is a wonderful woman and let me tell you she is a woman! Well enough of that. I am starting to miss you more mom. Keep thinking of me.

Love, Dad

Dear Kathy, John, Sheila, Frank and Sumi and Middie,

Well yesterday was the first time I did not get a letter off to you since I have been here. That is fairly good. After school Friday I started studying on my new course. The Saturday morning I finished up my first lesson. I then spent the rest of the day doing my second lesson, finishing all but the exam about 8:30 pm. I then quite and went and watched TV. This morning, Sunday, I finished up the second lesson. It took about 2 ½ hours. I got up at 5 am so I have a good start on my new course. I hope tomorrow to get up and give it about 2 hours.

Friday night the fellows come in at 12 am and made a whole lot of noise for about 1 ½ hours. It sort of made me mad since I get up early and need my sleep. The next night, Saturday, they came in about the same time and this time I told them to keep quiet. I am the senior man in the room. They kept quiet and I only heard one fellow complain.

I am so thankful for the church. We have three married men in the room. One has his wife here, the other 2 do not, and they are having a ball. I really feel sorry for their wives and themselves. Maybe they don't know any better but it sure shows the difference. As I said before, I feel like a tall oak tree among pine saplings.

Saturday night I was watching my first TV movies since arriving here. It was the Jayhawks. I sort of wish now that I had not since it got me thinking more then I would like about you. But the Lord has been with me and I prevailed.

The Elders came for me today and took me to Priesthood. I had given one of the sisters some shirts to wash and iron for me. She did a good job. I think I will write her a check for the building fund for ten dollars and let her do them the rest of the time I am here. It really helped me out. The elders have mentioned having me go with them when they have two meetings on the same night. I think it might be wise to send me my missionary lessons. They are in the file drawer with all the missionary material. I have the black book so you will find them just tied together open. I usually would not do this but the one elder is brand new and does not know the lessons at all. So I might be of some help.

I gave my talk tonight and the spirit was with me. Afterwards everyone came up and said they really enjoyed my talk. I felt relaxed and enjoyed giving it. There were close to 200 people there. These people have really taken me into their hearts. I spent the day at the Elders apartment. It was real hot. I talked to the bishop to get them a fan.

I am looking forward to tomorrow. I should be getting a letter or 2 from you. I love you very much and miss you all. I am looking forward to coming home. Well I have to review my gear that we have learned.

I thank my Heavenly Father for such fine children and a wonderful wife and mother. I think of you constantly.

Love, Frank and Dad

Dear family,

Not much happened yesterday (Tuesday) We attended school. I got a letter from you and one of the relatives in Bellwood with genealogy information. I believe our brother Bob's father I have found out. Our mother had a step mother who had a son by another marriage. She was supposed to have known witch craft. This son was Maude's half brother. His name was Big Bob. He took Maude back to Detroit after she had visited home after she was married. It is felt that during this trip they had relations and that is where Bob came from. There is no proof just the way the picture fits together and the fact Big Bob does look like my brother. A little more on Maude's stepmother she came to work for Maude's dad after his wife died. Aunt Martha said she used love potions in his coffee and he soon married her. She was very hard on Maude and her brother Sam, often making Sam sleep outside on the porch. At one time she put a spell on Maude (by black magic) and Maude could not move, eat or anything. They took her to the hospital and they could not do anything with her. An uncle came and got her and took her to another person that was known for breaking spells. After this she got better. I have a good picture of Maude's stepmother. Aunt Martha and cousin Marie say they were both scared of that woman.

I had a chess game last night with a fellow and we talked church. I think he might help me sell chicken dinners Friday night. Starkey, another fellow will be helping me. About every other night someone is asking or talking about the church. A few nights ago one of the fellows said, "Frank, why are the Mormons so dedicated as compared to other religions?" So I am getting a lot of chance to spread the gospel.

I think I told you I do not need the white uniforms. The fellows went to Norfolk and got what I needed. I have spent quite a bit of money on clothes (uniforms etc.) but it will make it easier for me. Not having to wash as often. Well tonight is MIA and I will be taking genealogy and hope to get some done. Love and miss you all.

Frank

Dear Family,

Yesterday was quite hot. We had school and after I got ready and went to MIA. I did some genealogy work. I usually attend the genealogy class and then try to get out to see the scouts for a few minutes.

Last night when I came back to the barracks a fellow that is leaving Friday ask me if I wanted to buy an iron. I ask how much and he said he paid \$4.00 for it. So I said I would give him \$3.00 and he took it so we now have another iron. I think you will like it. By the way how is yours holding up? I will send this one home to you. I hope to get a box in the near future and send home some of the things I do not need. On the genealogy would you check on the date of our temple marriage and also the date Sumi was sealed to us. Along with this could you make out a genealogy on your parents and each of their parents. Everyone in the church is supposed to submit three generations of sheets by the end of this month. I have most of my information and have sent for that which I still need. I did not bring your families information with me so I will have to have you send it. Once again your parents and their parents along with Sumi's sealing date and our temple marriage date. I will have the work checked here and then sent in.

I am in math of my new course and am going very slow. I want to be sure I understand every principle. I think we will have a holiday Monday and I should be able to get quite a lot of studying done that day and Saturday. As yet I have nothing planned for Saturday so I will try to study all day. Sunday I have been ask out to eat. I will take my genealogy and work on it a while. If I do not get enough done I can do some Monday. Well its time to go to chow.

I love you all. You are doing a fine job Mom.

Love, Dad

Dear Family,

Well I got your letter today that you wrote on Sunday. I think Frank did not get your Friday one mailed. I don't think I would give him any more mail. He just can't be dependable. (Not Frank Jr.) I take that back I do have your letter of Friday. I just checked. You ask about the car the elders bought. They (the Elders) had the title. Jim might have it though as long as we are talking about cars. I wonder what trouble you are having with ours. I hope it is nothing serious. Maybe we should have bought Monties. Well I hope it's okay for you till I get home. Then we can get another if we need one. As far as the license goes I don't think we have a title only the bill of sale but I am not sure, I wish I was there to help you.

It was good to hear you had conference. I am sort of glad I am not Branch President. I still have to much to learn. It will be good for Jim. I think he will grow quite a bit from it. He and Jacky will need a lot of help and we should do all we can to assist. It was good to hear the Wellingtons were out. Has Bert been coming every Sunday? I am glad Pete is coming out. Is he still an active member? Also, has Jim Steadford still got interest in the church? When you see them all tell them Hi for me and to keep up the good work.

I got a letter from Aunt Carrie. She just got back from her trip. I will have to drop her a line tonight. Thanks for the genealogy. I will write them a check and see what that brings.

Today we finished the work for the week so they gave us a test today instead of tomorrow. I got an 84. I missed studying last night since I went to MIA. I had planned to study tonight for it. The mark is not too bad, it is just I think I could have got better. One of the fellows think I study too much. I don't think so. However, that gives me tonight free from the school studying so I will write a few letters and then study my CEI course.

Well children Mom tells me you all are playing outside quite a bit. That is good, I am glad you are having such a good time. Frank and Sumi, how do you like your new bikes? I hope your both share with Sheila and John. I know you all are helping Mom. I love and miss you all. Keep praying for us all.

Love, Dad

Sunday

Dear loved ones,

How is my little family? I hope all fine and helping your mother. Today being Sunday I went to church in the morning. Priesthood is at 8:30 am and Sunday School 10:00 to 11:30. I then went home with the one family. The Elders came also and we had a big dinner. The Elders had to run and I helped with the dishes. Later on we went to visit a brother that took sick in church that morning. He is quite old and looked awful tired. There are a large% of older people that live in this ward more than any other ward I have been in. I enjoy knowing these fine people. After service tonight Brother Ed came up and ask me to be the counselor to the Y/M MIA President for the time I will be here. I talked with the YM president, Jack, and I will be working a lot with the older boys. We will be holding a meeting at 6 next Wednesday to plan out our program.

I still have people tell me I gave a fine talk. One woman said it was the best she had heard in the Ward. I know the Lord was with me. I know most of it and gave it from memory. Also I had a bad cough and prior to getting up I turned my talk into the hands of the Lord. I didn't cough once, that was wonderful in itself. During the day I had been practicing and I could not more than a paragraph without having to drink and take cough medicine.

I was up this morning at 5 and got about ½ lesson on my CIE course done. I will try to finish it tomorrow.

I got a few letters off today for genealogy. I did not get as much as I would like to have done. I must do better next week.

Next week is fast Sunday and I will have to remember that also. The following week will be Stake Conference and I hope to go that.

Well I have thought of you all very much today. Seeing all the families together sure makes me wish for mine. I checked prices on houses in case we would want to move here.

Love you very much.

Love, Frank`

Dear family,

Well today is Saturday and I have and I have been quite busy. I let myself sleep in I let myself sleep in till 6 am this morning then got up and started on my CIE course. I am on one of the math lessons and had finished it Friday but I redid it this morning with the thought in mind that math is one of my week points and I need extra practice. I then took a 2 hour nap. Not eating any lunch and the afternoon I did the test which I have to send in. I also wrote a letter to Chief Wood thanking for his help with you and one to John Gummo in Bellwood thanking him. These I did as breaks to give me a rest for studying. I got one lesson back yesterday and got a 91 on it. So I spent up to 4:30 going over each question and paying close attention to the ones I missed. After chow this evening I came back to the barracks and went over the work we had in school Friday also reviewed the gear we learned so far. This next Friday we have a month's test covering all that we have had this first month. I thought I would write to you now then take a shower and start my next lesson in CIE. Tomorrow will be Church and I will try to do some genealogy work then. I have been ask out to eat so I might go.

Well that is my day for Saturday. As you can see I have been doing my best to keep real busy. This helps the time go fast. However it can't go fast enough for me to when I return home.

I think I will go to request 5 days leave enroute when it's time to return home. One reason I will be standing military standby and that means you only go if they have room. Second reason I want to have a few days at home with you and the children before I have to go to work again. I feel you have some ideas of my reasons for the latter. However it should be quite interesting if things continue as they have. That's something for you to look forward to.

Well on this sobering thought I will close for tonight. I am sure you have guessed by now I love you very much.

dad

15 June, 1965 Tuesday

Dear family;

Well how is everything today? I am fine and in school now waiting to start class. Sort of slept in this morning till 4:30 am but got 1 ½ hour studying in prior to breakfast. I got a letter today from cousin Marie in Bellwood. She sent some pictures back I had sent to her to see. She ask for one of our family so I am looking forward to getting that negative and will have some made up. It seems everyone wants copies of those I took so I will have to figure the cost up and send them some. Marie also said my cousin Martha just went to the hospital with TB. That is to bad. To give you a little background on Martha she is my aunt Martha's daughter. She married about 8 or 9 years ago and then her husband left her. She has 1 child, Cindy, who is a real nice child. Now Martha works a sporting store in Altoona and lives with her mother and dad. They took care of Lil and I when we visited Bellwood. Martha was real nice and I was sorry to hear of her being sick since she supports her mom and daughter. They just got a new sports car (62 model Chevie) so I think they will be hurting as far as money is concerned. I wrote and offered our help with whatever we could help with. I hope this was okay with you. I think it is good since the thought also came to me that my family in Belwood would help much more on genealogy if they feel they know me better. I am quite sure our genealogy for my m others side goes back 5 or so generations in Belwood alone. A gold mine of my family. So I trust I am making the right decisions.

Well I will study after school for an hour or so then try to do more genealogy if I can find the time. The fellows are talking about going to the movies, "Twenty Leagues Below the Sea" is playing. I might go, depending on how I feel. Well that's it for now. I miss you all and sure will be glad to get back home.

Love, Dad

Monday

Dear family,

Well today had been slow. I studied this morning from 5 on. I had a hard time keeping my mind in the books. I keep thinking of going home etc. I finally finished the lesson this afternoon. I don't think I will start another one till tomorrow morning. I am tired of studying now.

I do not know what I will be doing tonight. Maybe I will watch TV. I just feel like loafing.

I guess you will have my paycheck by the time you get this letter. You can once again get a sense of power. I think our shipping over money came in real handy. When I get back we can put most of it into savings. By the way have you heard anything about my extension? If not it might be a good idea to call Mr. Smith again and ask him if he has heard anything.

Also have you heard anything about when you will be moving? It should be getting close to that time. It will be quite a big job and I wish I were there to help you. Don't be afraid to ask for whatever help you need.

Is everything holding up, washer, stove, iron, etc. I think there will be a couple of letters for me tomorrow. I sure will be glad to get them.

I played a few games of chess. (I won) Then went chow. I could not get anyone to play ae afterchow (to good!) (I know you are saying I hope he gets beat!) Ha.

They are talking about going to the movies in town. "How to Murder Your Wife" is playing. That should be good. I might go with them.

Well that's about it for now. Love you all and mom, looking forward to being with you PG or not.

Love, Dad

Friday morning

Dear family,

Well I am in school waiting for the instructor to come in. Last night I went to church and Jack said he could not stay so I represented MIA. I ask how many boys 14 to 16 in the ward. They said 10 to 16 of them and I said I would not want to encourage the fellows to come out unless we had a program for them, that we needed an Explorer Advisor as the first step. So after the meeting I talked to Brother Ed. and he has a man that will give it a try. He is a high councilman so he should really be of some help. This Sunday I will try to see him at Conference to see if we can work out a good program to help the boys.

Tonight I will have to get into church as soon as school is over to help with the fish dinner. I hope it is not a flop. I have to remember to cash another check so I have enough money for Sunday.

Today we have our test. I just could not find the material to study. I hope I do well, but I am a little worried. I will be writing this letter all through the day so I will let you know how I came out in the end of the letter. The instructor just got here so I will continue later.

We just had our test. I got 80. That's good but I wish I could have got a few points higher. I should be out of going to night school anyway. We will now play some volleyball so I will continue this after I get back tonight. I will plan on washing and ironing tomorrow morning along with studying my CIE course.

Saturday morning

Well I went to the dinner and we sold 225 plates and that means we cleared \$100.00 for the building fund. We ran out of fish and bar-b-q. I know we could have sold 50 more plates if we had it. We had a lot of fun but got pretty tired too. They had a baptism afterwards and the fellow they baptized helped stand on the corner selling fish plates prior to his baptism. I spoke at the baptism and really enjoyed going there. The members sure have taken a liking to me and a number have encouraged me to bring my family and stay. The church is sure wonderful!

I slept in till 5 am this morning and then got up and started my wash. I will now study as my wash is being done. In about ½ hour I will go down and put my wash in the dryer and that will take another half hour to dry. I will try to study most of the morning. I am going over my last lesson book to make sure I know the material in it, then I will answer the questions on the back and send them in. So far I have got over a 90 on the four lessons I have sent in and I want to try to keep it above that.

Sometime today I will have to iron and also I want to do some genealogy work since tomorrow I will not have a chance to do any so I will have a full day ahead of me.

Well that's about it for now. Sumi, Frank, Sheila and John how are you children doing? I know you are helping mom a lot and since you are so good dad has a surprise coming for you. Keep praying for dad because our Heavenly Father sure has helped me with my studying and also helped me be good and strong. I know it is because of your prayers. I love all of you and miss playing with you all. I will have to tickle each of you when I get home.

You can send me Penny's address and I will try to get a letter off to her. I have wanted to write to her folks but have been quite busy. By the way the toys had to be mailed 4th class since they would have cost too much airmail so let me know when you receive them. It will probably be a long time.

I love you, Kathy and have thought about you more and more. I sure am looking forward to returning to you and the children. The thought of laying in bed with my arms around you and you snuggling close to me makes me ache.

Don't work too hard especially during this move. You must be very careful with this new spirit child of God. I know that it is a choice spirit and will be a blessing to us.

Bye for now and miss you all.

Love, Frank

Dear family,

I just got back from Norfolk and am fairly tired. We left early this morning. Elder Dyer assistant to the 12 was the main speaker. I really enjoyed the conference. The Halsteds took me down and brought me back. I saw the elders while there and they took me over to the airport so I could check the plane schedule for when I leave in 4 weeks. The time has passed quite fast and I hope these last four weeks go just as fast.

I studied Saturday all day till 6 pm, by then I was a little tired of studying so I quite and went to the movies with 3 of the fellows. The movie was fairly good we got home about 9:30 pm.

Tonight I think I will just rest and maybe watch Bonanza. They have color TV here now and I would like to see how it works.

I believe I have decided to take electronics up as a hobby. As long as I will be in it I may as well. That way I can become much better at it and maybe get a chance to continually use the theory I learn and thus not forget it so fast.

Love and miss you all. They called a family upon the stand and ask them to tell about their family. As they were explaining their family night my eyes watered quite a bit. I do so much wish we could be together. I don't like us being apart.

I have also seen so many examples of good church members with sons that turn out sort of bad. The heart break of a sister with gray hair and living by herself and none of her children (4) in the church. The sadness that gives her. Another brother and sister whose son had been running away since he was 14. He is now 18 and was home for a visit last week. Some where something was missing. I pray that you and I and the Lord can bring up our children so they will stay close to the church and we will not have these sad experiences when we are old and bent. We must put our family nights as the most important night of the week. We must also spend more time. Our most important job, responsibility, and task is to assist our children to be good Latter-day Saints.

Well dear keep praying for me. I love and miss you all very much.

Love, Frank

Saturday

Dear Family,

How is my little family doing today? I have not had a chance to write for a day or so. Last night I went to the movies and saw Monkeys by Walt Disney. It was fair. Then this morning studied and ironed. At 9 am I took 2 of the fellows to church with me to meet with the elders. They saw the film "What is a Mormon" and had one lesson then ask for another one which the elders gave them. Tomorrow being Sunday they are going to church and then have 2 lessons after church. One other fellow wants to meet the elders next week and tomorrow another wants to go to church. So my fasting and praying really paid off. I hope they accept the rest of the lessons as well as the first two.

The one bad point is it messed up my studying and gave me quite a headache. I just took 3 aspirins and will spend the rest of the afternoon writing to the people that might write to me here. I will tell them to write to Annette since I will be leaving soon. I will enclose some pencils for the kids and was glad you got the box of toys. I hope it made the move a little easier for the children.

I am sure looking forward to getting home. Make sure Sheila keeps praying for me. I need the prayers of each of you. I hope Sumi says a prayer for me when she gives her silent prayer by herself.

Love,dad

P.S. Stamps are for Frankie to share.

Monday

Dear family,

I am starting to think of the time I have left and getting over ready to come home. Since my eyes are bothering me I will slow down on studying at night. So tonight I played Monopoly and hearts. They ganged up on me in Monopoly since I have been winning a lot and so I really beat them in hearts.

I did not get a letter from you today so I guess you were moving towards the end of the week. I sure hope everything went well. I ate my Cracker Jacks tonight and got the prize. So I will send it back to you for whoever has been the biggest help for the day you receive this letter. I guess I will do some studying after I am finished with this letter. I miss you all and am looking forward to getting home.

This Thursday I am asking about 3 fellows to go into the chapel with me to see the film "What is a Mormon". I have things worked out. They seem interested. I still have one or two to ask.

Hope you children are helping your mother and keep praying for me.

Love,dad

Glad you got the book on the Walton's. It cost us \$11.00 but will give us a good start on the Walton line. On my return we will start sending in sheets for temple work on the Waltons. We have a tremendous undertaking to do on genealogy. I see a lifetime of work ahead of us.

Well I want to get some letters off for genealogy. Only got 1 ½ hours left till lights out. I will enclose the savings statement I have a folder in my file cabinet for States Savings and Loan so try to find it and put this with it.

Love you Dear. I enjoy hearing the little things that happen with the children and you. It makes me feel closer to you all. Love you all very much and pray for you every night. God has been very good to us.

Love, Dad

Dear family

I missed getting a letter off yesterday. So I will catch you up on the last two days. I got the magazines yesterday. I think they will last me the rest of my time here. So for the time being don't send anymore. I usually don't have much spare time to read. They did arrive in good shape as did the genealogy. Last night was MIA and I went in and we had a party in the adult class which was a lot of fun. Then after MIA we had a meeting. The MIA has to raise \$300.00 for this month to go to the building fund. So we are having a bar-b-q and fish dinner combined next Friday. I am to help with the advertisement. We plan to sell 400 plates and that's a lot of plates. We also have a road show to put on but it got so late we did not talk about that. I got back about 10:15 and they put the lights out at 10:00. Next morning I got up at 5 and studied for our test today. This afternoon we took our test and I got a 76. That means I will have to go to night school next week. That sure made me mad. I think only 3 others got over 80. I only needed one more right to make 80. I sure felt bad about that. We have this monthly test tomorrow so I will have to review tonight. I don't feel much like it, I feel more like going to the movies. Maybe I am studying to much. Wish you were here to rub I my forehead.

I am also going to help organize their Explorer Post and my position in MIA makes me Committee Chairman. That's a lot of jobs for one shot. I will I do the best I can though.

I will enclose that list you sent me. It looks good. You use your fine judgement to get what we need. I think it should be good stuff though. Thanks for letting me see the list, I can keep an idea of what's going on that way. It turned cool today and is to go down to 50 tonight.

How are you doing with your bike Sumi? Do you still get sore? How do you like your bike Frank? Sheila are the older children letting you and John ride sometimes? You three older children are doing real fine by letting John say the prayer. He has listened to you and now he is doing what you older children do. You are good examples for him. Well, I guess I will sigh off for now. Love and miss you all, especially you mom.

Love, Dad

Tuesday

Well I just finished going over my work for today. The time is now 6:15 pm and I am getting a little tired. I guess I can't take getting up at 3:30 am. I was able to get a lot done though. I will hold off going to bed till 9:30 pm and see if I wake up early tomorrow.

Some of the fellows want to play Monopoly so I think I will play a game shortly. I would like to study my CIE course but I don't want to use my eyes too much. The other day I used them continuously for two days and I started to get headaches and my eyes started to hurt. So I will not force myself to study so long again.

While I am thinking of it could you find the negative of the picture we had taken of our family in the living room. Then send it to me and I will get about ten copies made up. All these people I have visited in genealogy have been asking for a picture of our family.

We took pictures of all the large genealogy pictures I have. I could not get what I wanted. His camera could focus so far. But I will take these new pictures and send them back to Bellwood for identification.

Got a letter from Aunt Martha and she said Don Gummo got all of the money. She was quite mad I think. It would have been nice to get some money for genealogy but that's about it. I will go play Monopoly and finish this after. XXX

Well I won the game of Monopoly then played one game of Hearts and I won that. That was first time I played Hearts for a long time. Then played another Monopoly and I lost that game. It was a lot of fun. The weather sure is hot. I am sweating just laying here. Well I will try to get up tomorrow, we have MIA also so I will be getting in later then is good.

Well that's about all I have for now. I hope you children are helping your mom out. When my box gets to you, will enjoy that. It was hard to get something for Sumi and Frank that would fit. Take good care of yourself.

Love Dad

P.S. How is your swimming lessons coming?

Friday/Saturday

Dear Family,

Well I went to the movies Friday so now is Saturday evening. I have got a headache the last two days of school so have slowed down a bit. I passed the test Friday. Got an 84 which made me feel better. I still will have to go to night school next week. I wish I didn't.

Today I went to town and got some things for you and the kids. You had best sort them out prior to the children seeing them. That way you can decide who gets what. It is fairly heavy and I will try to take it in tomorrow to church and have the Elders mail it for me. I have some papers from school in also. Take them and put them in my desk drawer where I can get them when I get back. Don't lose or let the kids get them they are important to me for working on electronics gear.

I got your letters today and hope to get the genealogy done tomorrow. This morning I got up and washed then spent about 1 ½ hours ironing my clothes. I also got some studying in.

The children certainly sound like they are enjoying the camping out. I can just see John and Sheila. I sure do miss having my kids charge on me.

You had best send me Penny's address and I will try to get a letter off to her. I am glad her mom keeps calling us. I must try to get a letter off to Mrs. Wellington too. I sent Mother's Day cards to both of our mothers and I now have Father's Day cards I will send for Father's Day. I also sent Bob Toy a birthday card and they wrote and thanked me for that.

Here is a list of all my checks I have made out. I will also need more checks and you can include a book of twenty for me in your next letter.

1a film \$3.15

2a film 3.15

3a " 3.10

4a " 3.10

5a " 3.10

6a cash 10.00

7a genealogy 4.00

8a cash 20.00

9a CIE course 265.00

10a genealogy 10.00

11a cash 13.40

12a genealogy 3.00

13a genealogy 1.00

14a CIE book 1.50

15a Hertz car 12.77

16a cash 25.00

17a slippers 5.00

18a toys 15.00

That's quite a lot of money. I think the money I spend should come out of my shipping over money and not the budget. I hope to go to Norfolk in the next week or two and get all the information I need for plane tickets etc. I sure will be glad when I am on my way home. I miss you very much and we will see who gets tired when I get home.

Keep writing it really helps my stay here to get letters from home

Love Dad.

Tuesday

Dear Family,

Hit the jackpot and got 8 letters and the box of pictures. Those pictures are better than I could have hoped for. I have many and much information that would have taken possibly years to get. One letter from my mom tells of my dad having relatives in Chicago. That means I will possibly be able to get on the Toy side of the family yet. We have many dates that will save us money sending for certificates. I really am thankful I got going in genealogy. Only wish I could have started sooner. How about you???? As soon as you send that information I ask for I will be able to send in more sheets. So try to get it for me if you can. I got another lesson back 100% on it. I like this course a lot, really am learning my basic electronics that I had forgotten. This morning I reviewed and tomorrow morning I will review.

I am enclosing a letter that was addressed to you and your mom gave it to me. They don't know you are away I guess.

I will read your letters over and answer your questions now. The one for Wednesday night will be first. 1. Concerning money I am spending, No you do not have to enter it in the green book, when I get home we will total it up and put it in under one lump sum. 2. Good; glad to hear John is saying the prayer. It shows that the other children are being good examples for him. 3. Thanks for the tools but I think I have spent enough for a while. Someday I will have to get me some good tools. 4. I still look at your pictures, a lot on Sunday when I got my genealogy out. 5. How did that campout go? I don't know if it is such a good idea to have Sumi out with these boy's. They are at a bad age to have our young daughter around. Take my word for it. I guess if you promised the kids I would camp out I will, but I think it might be feasible to say if I do so do you. HA! 5. The package got here fast. I still have not got the magazine yet.

6. It's good to hear the baby is so active, I hope and pray he is healthy too. Make sure you do not do any heavy lifting especially when you move. We would hate to have anything happen due to you straining yourself. 7. Sounds like your family nights are great fun, I wish I could be there. I have ben learning all about family relations in priesthood, but I can't put it to use for long.

I am also putting in some earrings for my Best Girl. I found them in my suit pocket. I do not have many pictures left and seems I have sent to the people to see. Well dear I love you very much and wish I could hold you in my arms now. Sumi, Frank, Sheila and John, I love you all and I ask my Heavenly Father to help you be good and to help mom take care of you. Dad sure is glad for our Heavenly Father and all the help he has given our family. When you are older you will see how much. Keep praying.

Love, Dad

Wednesday

Well I went to the movies last night and saw The Incredible Journey "Walt Disney. Two dogs and a cat traveling. It was real good and I wish the kids could see it too. I got some genealogy material copied on a machine here at the base. This gives me copies of certificates that are falling apart. This way I will work with the copies and get originals framed for restoration. I have been sending a list of pictures home to Aunt Carrie and she has and she has been helping me identify a lot of them. I have about three to send today as soon as I get a chance to write a letter to her.

I got a letter from Cousin Martha and she ask me to get a check up for TB since I saw and was around her when she had it. She also wanted Lil and her baby to have one. I wrote a letter to Lil telling her about it so she should be getting one. I made an appointment with the doctor this morning so I will see what the score is. Martha will be going to the stare hospital this coming week and I feel sorry for her and her family. They will be apart for a long time. She has no husband and one girl about nine or ten and her mom (Aunt Martha). Martha stated the hospital bills were taken care of with her insurance and there will be no bills in the state hospital. So she did not need any finance help. I think it will be good to write to her as much as possible since she will be mighty lonely in the state hospital.

Tonight I go to MIA and they plan on giving us the test tomorrow so I had best try and get some studying done prior going to MIA. I will enclose some pencils for the youngsters. I have about 20 of them I will send off and on. I also packed another box I will try to mail soon. It sure is heavy and will cost a lot.

Well that's it for now. Love you all.

Dad

Momday

Dear family,

Well I got two letters from you today. It sure is good to hear from you. It sure is wonderful to hear John is potting in the potty chair, he sure is getting to be a big boy.

I just got a letter from Aunt Carrie. I had sent about 4 pictures to her to identify. She knows them all, that was real good soon I will know all the people I have pictures of. I am stopping my work on genealogy till I get home since I will not be sure of receiving their answers with such a short time to go. I have got a lot done but have much more to do. When I get home we are going to sit down and work out a regular time to work on it. I am glad they have the class going and hope they keep it up. I am sure a lot of good will come of it.

The children seem to be having a hard time getting used to the idea of their new house. I guess it has been real hard on them and we will have to really work to get things working the way the way Heavenly Father would like them. I think that if we keep in mind that our children are the most important project we have we will be able to move forward with increasing our ability as parents and their desire to be good Latter-day Saints. I have seen a lot of young church people (teens) with very little respect for their parents and those in authority. I hope I can learn from these past experiences so to be able to, with you, guide our children properly.

The car sounds like major trouble. I don't know of anyone that could fix it. If Jim does not find anything I guess it's best to wait till I get home to see what has to be done. I hope it is nothing major I don't like the idea of putting into it since we will not be able to get any back. I am sure we will have to take a loss.

As for the dresser I guess we will get one for the girls. You can start looking for some and when I get home we can send away for one. Towels I think are overdue so look out for a good deal there too.

I anticipate being home the morning of the 9th so be there to pick me up and loaded with kisses etc.

John, I sure like your picture you wrote for me. You sure are doing fine. I bet you don't suck your thumb. I was real sad to hear Sumi was sucking her thumb. I hope she has stopped by now since she is our oldest and the other children look up to her.

Well I think we only have 10 days left. That's wonderful. I sure will be glad to get home. Tonight I will be going in with another fellow for the film and maybe the first lesson. He is looking forward to it. Tomorrow two fellows will get the 5th lesson. So with the help of the Lord we might be able to baptize one prior to leaving.

Well I best sign off now. Love you all.

Frank

Check# 13a canceled

Dear Family,

Well today has been good. We had school of course but they refigured the advances and I don't have to attend night school. That made me quite happy also one of the fellows has a poliorid camera and so I paid him to take a picture of my big picture of genealogy. It turned out good so now I will get the rest that are to big to mail. This will save us a lot time and energy in the long run. I paid him .23 for a picture. So tonight after I finish my studying I got my genealogy out and sorted all my pictures I wanted shot. We will do it tomorrow. I also sent two letters off for info in the Kustaborder side. This genealogy is really coming along fine. I am enclosing a check you can send over to the bank. It's a return of my check for genealogy.

They cut the lights out on us. I got up this morning at 3:30 am. That is the only way I can keep up my morning studying. I just finished it and will finish your letter. It is now 5:15am. My hours are really going to be messed up when I get home.

I was glad to hear my extension is okay. That means we will be in Annette two years. We should be able to save a good deal of money in that time if we watch ourselves. Just think Sumi will probably be baptized in Annette. Our little family sure is growing up. I am thankful I married you and that you are the mother of my children. I don't think I would have anyone else raise them. I love you very much, dear.

It was nice to hear about Elder Straton. I hope I get back in time to see him. Give Elder Johnson my regards also I don't agree with him that I should be Branch President. I think things worked out just right and the way the Lord would have done them.

So you have been eating to much. I told you you always et more than I do. Better watch that weight. If you don't you will have a hard time swimming when I get home.

Johnny you stay out of those puddles so mom does not have to change your wet clothes. That's about it for now. I love and miss you all very much.

Dad

Monday night

Dear Loved Ones,

How are you all this day? We have had a normal day. I got up at 4 am and spent 2 hours on my CIE course, then to school and got mail at lunch time, a letter from Marian and one from Aunt Carrie. Then two from you. I was glad to get the checks. I still only have one left. I will have to start cashing larger checks to get enough money to get for my plane ticket home. I am not sure if they will take a check at the airport.

I am glad Jim took a hand in the license. I think we do have the ownership in one of our files. Thank Jim for me. I don't think I will be were Doris and Don live do don't plan to stop. It was nice they asked.

My studying is going along okay. I am able to get the church work in okay too. Sometimes I get tired but I will have less time to study when I get home so I had best take advantage of this time. Same goes for genealogy. By keeping busy the time goes much faster and I am thankful for that. The other day I was resting in between studying and my mind started to think of you. I had to get up and start studying right away-----

So you made ice cream. Should I write and tell Doc. How are you coming on your weight problem. It sounds like you are doing a lot of work in cleaning but don't push to hard.

I really was glad to hear you children helped your mother clean the walls. Especially you John for helping move the bricks on the book cases. Sheila, it sure is nice that you have all those dresses to wear. Our Heavenly Father sure is good to our little family.

Soon we will have a new house and then Dad will come home and not to long after that we will be blessed by a little baby straight from the presents of our Heavenly Father. It sure will be a lot of fun holding the new baby and maybe if you are good Mom will let you help feed it Sumi and Frank since you are bigger. We must continue to help Mom so the baby will be strong. We should start thinking of a name for her also.

Thanks for sending the statement. It does look good. I am looking forward to getting home and sending that money we have in the checking to savings. With luck we should go out of Alaska with over \$4,000.00. We probably will have to get a new car but the rest will be a start (good) towards our goals. It is so much nicer to have money in savings isn't it?

P. S. This is Mom here. We did have enough money to buy a car in Seattle. New stationwagon for \$1,000.00!

Dear family,

Well here it is Sunday and I am in the Elders apartment doing some genealogy. I have not been able to do as much as I usually do since I have a number of letters pending to the different families and they are the ones I have to write for more information. I have been getting all my material better organized and so I should be in good shape when I come home to continue on it. I will be writing a letter next week to everyone telling them not to write to N.C. since I will be starting home soon and will get all my mail there. That means no genealogy work done for about three weeks. So when I do get home I will have a lot to catch up on.

I have had that feeling of someone here with me again today and I am sure some of my family are waiting to have the work done for them.

I am enclosing a sheet for your side. We are supposed to have three generations sent in and mine are as ready as I can get them but I have not got yours complete enough. We need your brothers and sisters etc. I do not have a big envelope so I will send one sheet in a letter and you can go from there. I sent a letter to Al for some information but have not got an answer yet. I hope he takes the time to do it.

My eyes have been hurting the last three or four days and I am getting headaches. I guess I will have to slow down on my studying. I can't afford to have trouble with them with so much to do.

I hope you are in the new house by now all rested up. I know it was a big job to move and I hope you had plenty of help. I sure do miss you dear. I can hardly wait to get back into your loving arms. I miss my children quite a lot but miss you more. My prayers are always for you and the children and every decision I make I do so with thought so as not to make a wrong one. My being away has given me a chance to gain more spiritually and to appreciate my family more. It has given me the desire to try with all we have to live our lives righteously and to put the children first so they will have had every opportunity to be taught right. I believe one of the first things we will do when I return is to sit down and go over our objectives and then plan the getting them done in detail. Family night, missionary work, genealogy and living together as a family first on earth and then in eternity. I can see now where we have not been doing everything as well as we could be. You and I must do our utmost to be a good father and mother. This should be our first goal. I know you will do your part and I shall do the best in mine.

I love you very dear and very much. I am real glad I have eternity to look forward to with such a wonderful wife and mother.

Your husband, Frank

Wednesday

Dear Family,

Got your letter today and was happy to receive it. I have been busy in genealogy and have finally got all my writing done I need to do for a week or so. I am going to MIA tonight but hope to try to sort out my letters sometime tonight. I seem to be making some headway on the material I have. At first I thought I would never get it organized, I had so much.

I wrote a letter to Penny today and gave her some encouragement. Also wrote one to her mom yesterday. It was good to hear Jim and Pete are coming out. Tell Jim I am going to baptize him when I come home. I think Burt sounds like he is coming along good too. I hope he can go to BYU.

Glad the children miss Primary, hope they learn the right things at Bible School. They must be growing like weeds. I sure am looking forward to seeing them. You sound like you are working too hard. I think you can use the children as a gauge. If you are not patient with them you are not getting enough sleep. Remember we are not in any hurry to move out of our house and you can clean it after you move so don't try to do it all at once. It's too hard on you and the kids. I wish I was there to help you. Don't do any lifting of big items. We don't want to harm our baby.

Well Johnny I sure was glad to hear you said the prayer in your Sunday School class. That was like a big boy and Dad was real pleased and happy.

Sheila, I am sorry you can't go to Bible School but then you can help keep John company that will help Mom a lot.

Sumi and Frank, I know you are being pretty good and the younger children sure are lucky to have you both as older brothers and sisters. Remember the story I told you about the sticks not being able to break?

I love you all. Help Mom and keep praying for me.

Love, Dad

Dear family,

Well I missed writing last night. I got in after 9:30 and they had shut the lights out by then. MIA was fair, I had two boys Explorers age and they were rude and very disrespectful. They wanted to go to the ball game a couple of blocks away. I really laid into them with the YM President and 1st Counselor to the Bishop. One boy was the first Counselors son. I finally got them both to promise to read the Explorers manual and Jack (YM Pares.) and I are to meet with the Bishopric to night to go through the list of men in the ward for an Explorer Advisor. No matter who they get for the job it's going to be a rough job.

Friday we have our fish and Bar B Q supper to raise money. The MIA has charge of the money raising this month. We must rise \$300.00. I will be out trying to sell for them again. Jack ask me to run the selling and I have ask the Elders to help.

This Sunday they have conference in Norfolk and I will be going with Brother and Sister Holstead. We will leave around 6:30 and be there all morning and afternoon. Then return that night. That means this week I will have been to church Wed., Thur, Fri, Sun. St least I should not get into any trouble at night time.

We have about 4 more weeks to go. I sure am looking forward to finishing and coming home. I have requested a weeks leave on return. I hope the base approves, I should know in a week or so.

We have a test tomorrow and I don't feel to good about it. I guess I should do some more studying. We do not have a good instructor thus it makes it harder. I am laying on my bed waiting till the night students get back then I will go into town and go to church. I hope we can get a good man for the Explorers. It is awful warm and I wish we would get a breeze but we don't have one.

As far as signing for the house if there is time you could send agreement to me. I could then sigh it. Do you know how much it will be? I must remember to put in for separation pay and school pay when I get back. That is about \$120.00. Well I guess that's it for now. Love you all and wish you were here or me there.

Love Dad

Tuesday

Dear Kathy,

I hope this finds you rested after your move. I wish I could have helped. I am looking forward to seeing how our new home works out. I guess we will miss our play area of the front yard and back. I hope our close neighbors will be nice and the children get along okay. Do they have our freezer in the house or storage room? Also has any of the other families got freezers in the store room? How is the heating? Do you have any trouble keeping it controlled or is it hot upstairs and cold down? I hope none of the children have fallen down the stairs. They are quite steep. You be extra careful too.

We had our meeting last night but it did not go as good as I had hoped. We shall see how things go with him in the next few days. Tonight Tex and John have the 5th lesson and they have been looking forward to it. We have been putting a lot of questions off with the explanations they are covered in the 5th lesson. Tonight they should be able to learn a lot of God work. Tex wants to wait till he gets back home to his family to make up his mind but we pray John will want to be baptized this weekend.

I have not had much chance to study the work I get through school since I am going into church most every night. I am afraid I am getting a short timers attitude and am looking forward to getting to you and the children.

I just packed my last boxes and will try to get them mailed tonight. That will be a large box and I small by long one with genealogy pictures in it. I will be bringing most of my genealogy work home on the plane with me since I will want to get started on it right away. I have no way of knowing how much weight I have left on my plane trip home. I hope I do not go over my weight limit it cost to much that way. I have drawn about \$100.00 out of the bank for the trip home so figure about \$150.00 off what's in for rough figuring. If I will be able to cash a check I will and bring the cash home with me.

Well that's about it for now. My arms are ready to pull you very close when I get home. Love you very much.

Love, Frank

Dear Loved Ones,

I received your most kind Father's Day letter. It really made me feel wonderful. I will try to live up to these high ideals. I think you will be in the new housing by now and I hope you like it. You children make sure you help your mom since she has worked awful hard to move. I will sort of miss the old house but I guess I will learn to call our new house home soon enough.

We just finished our test and since I have been going to church so much I thought I would really be hurting. When I was taking the test I thought I would really not pass. It was real hard. But it turned out to be the highest mark I have gotten-a 92. That really is good and now I should not have to worry anymore about going to night school. My average will keep up. We only gave 3 more weeks to go That's wonderful, the time is really going fast. I hope it keeps going fast. I will be going to church tonight. I am now in school waiting for it to go out. I will continue this tonight or tomorrow. XX

Well now it's Saturday morning. Got up at 5am and before 8am I had washed, dried and ironed my clothes for the week. Also ate and studied for 2 hours. I have asked for today and tomorrow that I will try to keep to. If I do I should bet a lot done.

Last night we cleared \$80.00. That was not so good and we gave about 10 fish fry plates away. People just were not buying as much and the Elders were not there.

I will be doing as much genealogy as I can tomorrow. I think I am getting it much better organized and moving along fairly well, I hope to get started on the temple sheets this week some time.

I want to thank you all for the Cracker Jacks. I am saving them for when I really get hungry. I have also been using the vitamin pills and they have helped quite a lot. I will try to get another box for shipment home and then I should have only one more after that. I am trying to get down on the weight I will have coming home.

Well that's about it for now. Love and think of you, Kathy quite a lot. Sure getting impatient for coming home. Best sign off before I get to rowdy.

Love, Dad

Thursday

Dear Family,

I received your three letters today and enjoyed them. I was sorry to hear the children are having so much trouble getting use to the new house. I will have to let them show me around when I get home. The members sure helped a lot and I am glad. It is good to hear about Pete's girl. I hope she still is coming out when I get back. We will work at having the missionaries to see her. I hope we can get Jim to join also.

I guess we will have to do some missionary work if we want to keep going as a Branch. I guess Upper Graff and Angus don't come out. That's to bad we need them now very badly. I think my work is cut out for me when I return.

I got some stars to put on the papers for the kids sent me, so I am sending them back for them I think I will send extra so you can put on the heads of the good ones.

I had thought I would be going through Detroit and see Bob and Jean. However, I just checked the sked for the flight and I will not be able to stop in Detroit. So I hope to leave Elizabeth City 5:30 pm Thursday the 8th of July and arrive Annette at (on PAA) 9 am (I think) the following day (9th of July). This is providing I don't get bumped off my flight, since I will be traveling on military standby. This will give me a whole day to chase you around the house Friday. How about that?

I get a 76 on my test today. That was better than I thought I would get. But it was not as good as it should have been. One of the fellows who had not had night school the whole time got a 60 and he had to go to night school for the next week. That leaves 3 of us that have not had night school yet. My average is about 81% and you have to stay above 80%

Well I have the Elders coming to pick me up at 7pm. I hope the fellows will be going to the see the film with me. I have fasted all day and will go till breakfast tomorrow. I feel sort of weak but I need the extra help from the Lord. Keep praying for me and I will for you and the children. It will be two weeks from today. That's wonderful and I know that time will fly by quite fast. Take good care of yourself.

Love, Dad

P.S. PAA is the first one to Annette

P.S. Tell Sheila I will hold on tight when I fly home and thank her for her prayers.

Dear family,

Well today is Wednesday and I have just finished taking a test. I don't know yet if I passed but will by the time I finish this letter. I hope I did . I have only one more test after this and then we will be doing some Lab work prior to leaving. We will not be learning anymore gear so the time will be going a little slower during the day. I will have to make an extra hard attempt to apply myself in Lab or it will be wasted time.

The two fellows met with the Elders. The lesson took 3 hours and they had a lot of questions. I hope they were answered to their satisfaction. We have the 6th for Thursday and we will know the results.

We have a long weekend coming up (4th of July) I should be able to get a lot of studying in. I hope so, I just finished my 7th lesson on the CIE Course and will try to review the rest of the week. This course is really good and will help me more than anything else I could do now.

Tonight's MIA and I think it will be my last time. I still am disappointed with the teens here and hope they get a good leader to square them away. I feel sorry for Jack, the YM president with the load he has on his shoulders. We plan another fish fry this Friday and we have \$120.00 to make for MIA part this month. I will sign off for now and finish later. Love you-----

I passed with 80%, that's good now I am sure I will not have any night school my whole stay here. That also gives me an 81% average. That is good as far as I am concerned.

I am enclosing some money for the children and will stat their allowance when I get home. I should have been giving them their allowance each week. Sumi is getting old enough to know about money. Kids, only 8 more days and your old Dad will be home with you. Be good children and mom have a good clean bed for me.

Love Dad

Just got your letter this noon and enjoyed hearing from you. It's a good thing you have the Browns to help you. I think Larry has been a big help. I hope you can get that dish washer fixed so when I get home you will not have to spend any extra time washing dishes.

I sure am glad Jim and Pete keep coming out to church. They both are about due to leave. I hope I have a chance to see them before they leave.

We mailed the packages; three of them and there total weight was 55 pounds. It is a good thing I took them over and not try to take all that on the plane with me as it is I think I will have over. I hope not. The cost was \$12.50. which is quite a lot for parcel post.

Well I guess that's it for now. Love and miss you very much. Eight long days then one long night for you.-----

Love, Frank
Thursday—7 days to go

Dear family,

We have had a fair day. Sort of slow at school but after we went in and met with the elders. Both of the fellows seem to believe but Tex wants to wait till his wife can hear the lessons when he gets home. John is still not sure, this Sunday being fast Sunday we are going to fast from Saturday noon till Sunday noon with the desire that John will know of the truthfulness of the gospel. I sure hope he gets his answer. I would love to see him baptized. He will make a good member. This Sunday will probably be my last time seeing most of the members. I had the fellow I took to the Elders a few nights ago, (I did not think good results) he came up to me today and ask if he could meet with the Elders for the next lesson. So Tuesday we will go in. The Lord must have answered his prayers. It sure makes one feel good that they might join the church.

I enjoyed Frankie's pictures and wish I had kept a few stars for them. They sure are good and maybe mom could put one of the stars on that I sent to her.

I sure was glad to hear about my dad and the name they had. Maybe I can now find something more. I hope so. The letter from Aunt Martha states cousin Martha will be in the hospital for 6-10 months. That sure is to bad.

I sure do love you and so happy and thankful you are so wonderful a wife making me so happy. I doubt if there is a more contented husband anywhere.

Things look good and tomorrow I will be selling fish dinners at the church. I hope we can sell as many we need. Also hope the weather holds.

Take good care of your mother children and if she raises her voice you tell her that Jesus would not like that. Love you all and will be home soon.

Love, Dad

Friday night

Hi Family,

I am at the main gate of the base waiting for a ride to the barracks. I have been waiting for about 45 minutes and mostly there have been people coming in going to the club on the base. I just got back from church. We had our fish fry and did not do so well. We made about \$50.00 which was quite a bit short from what we needed. I guess that will be my last sale. Sort of glad since I am quite tired right now. Looking forward to getting to bed.

Well today means 6 more days to go. Tomorrow I will do wash and try to do some studying. Sunday to church all day and to Brother Ed's for supper. We will be fasting to help John learn the truthfulness of the gospel. Monday will be a holiday and I will try to study some. The time has slowed down quite a bit now and I hope it does not get slower. I sure am looking forward to getting back home. School is dragging along too. We have been playing a little volley ball so that has helped some.

That's about it for now. Keep busy and thinking of me. I am thinking to much of you as of late. I will be glad when I don't have to think any longer but can encircle you with my arms etc.

Love, Frank

5 days to get back. Takue

Dear family,

This is Sunday morning, 5:20 am and I am going to start to get my things together for making up a talk after I write this letter. I hope this finds you all well and counting the days like I am. Yesterday was Saturday and it went a little slow. I got up early and started wash, then did some ironing but not all since it was too hot. Then one of the fellows and I went into town with the idea of doing some horse back riding. We found out they were closed for the weekend since they were going to the beach. It took us about 1 hour to find the place. So we went into town and I got some clip on sun glasses and tried to look at some duplicating machines. There were none available of the kind I was interested in. We then got a meal about 11 am and then came back to the base and I slept most of the afternoon to about 3 then watched TV till 6:30 pm. I then went to the movies with 3 other fellows to see "Good Neighbor Sam" with Jack Lemon, it was fairly good. We then came back and went to bed. That was my Saturday. Today we have an invitation out to dinner and I am taking the 2 investigators with me. The Elders will be eating also so it will be a real big meal for the sister. She has about 3 or 4 children of her own.

Tuesday we put in our request to leave a day early and also I want to get my ticket that day. I have packed a few things I will not need and am all set to finish packing Wednesday. I know it's early but I am in a hurry to get home and want everything ready. You should stop writing by the time you receive this letter. I have already stopped at the post office for a change of address card and will turn that in on Thursday. I still anticipate arrival Friday morning a day early and if I get flights straight through I will be flying all night and switching planes every few hours so I will probably be a little tired when I get home. So have my bed ready and something to put me to sleep with.

The days aren't short enough for me but soon I will be flying to your arms and our long time apart will be over. Take good care and kiss the children for me.

Love, Frank

18 June 1965

Received while I was in school in Elizabeth City, N.C.

Dear Dad, we want to tell you this day how happy we are to be your children and tell you in part why we are grateful to our Heavenly Father for a dad like you. We wish we could spend Father's Day with you but hope even more that we can be together as a family in eternity.

We love you dad because you tickle us, have pillow fights, take us on hikes and picnics. You care about how each of us feels and realize we are each individuals and try to cheer us up when we are unhappy.

You listen, dad, when we have something to tell you and are interested in what we are doing, our friends and animals we love. You are always helpful both with advice and physically. You are a good example always living up to what you say.

We know you seek our Heavenly Fathers help many times and teach us to pray, sing church songs and fun songs and the Sacrament Gems. You teach us the principles of the gospel by word and deed. You instill in us a desire to go on a mission, college and help us to learn how to pay tithing and budget our allowance. You never send us to Church but instead set the example and go yourself never thinking of staying home but instead encourage us to go as a family.

You obey the commandments new and old. The Word of Wisdom is part of your life and through your being strong we will gain strength. You never become angry with us but realize we all make mistakes and are kind and patient as our Heavenly Father wants earthly fathers to be.

You are great, Dad and we are blessed to have you for our Dad on this earth. If we ever go astray it will not be because you failed but because we failed to heed your teachings. We love you and are proud to say, "He is our Daddy!"

Love, Sumi

Frank

Sheila

John

Letters Frank Yoder wrote to Kathy, Sumi, Frank Jr. Sheila, John and James when he was at Sikorsky Service School in Stratford, Conn. in 1967 and we were in Astoria, Oregon.

Letters from Frank T. Yoder in 1967 while he was in Bridgeport, Connecticut at Sikorsky Service School and we were living in Astoria, Oregon

May 11, 1967

Dear Family,

I hope this is finding you all in good health. I just received your letter this evening. It was good and unexpected. I thank you for being so thoughtful.

As I already mentioned on the phone, we arrived 39 hours after we left. That means we left Sunday at 5:30 am and arrived Monday 8:30 at Bob's. Very little staying awake. I did most of the night driving while he did most of the day. That food you packed really hit the spot and we only had the fruit when we arrived in Michigan. Bob and Jean and family are just fine and I am enjoying my stay with them. The next night, Tuesday, we went to Jean's parents for dinner, it was Jeans birthday and we had a little party. The following day Bob took off from work and we went to see all the places I wanted to see. First we went to the cemetery and located the graves of our parents. Our mother had a stone but our father did not. Mom's grave was also sunken so we made arrangements to have the stone straightened and leveled. A stone for dad's grave will cost about \$150.00. Bob and I decided it should be done and Jean will write to the others of our family to see if they want to split the cost.

We just finished calling and talked to Ran and Lil. They are fine, Lil said they have started paying tithing last month. They did not see how they would make out and they just got notified that they had someone who wanted their house. They will be selling it for \$8,000.00 that will take them out of debt. Great isn't it? Lil said they do not have any money now. So I said I would pay for their part and they could repay us when they had the money. I hope that was alright with you. I will make out a check for the amount of \$74.81 which you can deduct from the account. That also includes for film I have sent off.

We went to our old address, but they no longer exist. We visited the village and requested our files that they might go through them. They will check and see if I can have some of them and then they will send them to you. This might help quite a bit on our research. I got some pictures from them of when we were younger. I will be leaving tomorrow at noon. That will put us in Connecticut in about 8 hours.

Well I sure miss you and the children. I have started to do some studying but have been trying to catch up on my sleep mostly. I will be glad to get back on schedule. I hope you will all be well and in good care. I will write as soon as I get my address.

Love you all.

Dad and Lover

May 15, 1967

Dear family,

I am finally in Connecticut. I arrived in time to go to Sacrament Meeting this night. I told the Bishop of my problem and he arranged for me to stay with one of the families. They live in the next town and now I really need a car. I am going to see about renting one tomorrow. I called some places tonight and they want between \$175.00 and \$200.00 for a month. That's just too much. The family I am with are fine people with 6 children, 2 Elders and a student plus me. That is a big house full and to think I was going to get some studying done. Well we will see.

The church is sure wonderful the way they are. We have not talked money yet so I am not sure how much it will be. Right now the car is the big problem.

I sure miss you all and am looking forward to returning home. I hope you children are helping your mom and that James is better. Write soon Mom, I am longing for your letters and arms.

Love, Dad

Dear Family,

It was good to hear from you on the phone. I sure do miss you all very much. I also noted that I gave you the wrong address on the phone. It should be 55 Rusling Place. Well I hope you notice it on my letter I mailed today. I will also give you the school address. I think I would get mail faster if you sent it to school.

Have there been anything come up that you need advice on yet? (aside from the fact of what to do when you miss your husband) If you have anything drop me a line and I will try to advise.

I thought I would mention about the book "Meet the Mormons" for Ray and Marion again so you will not forget. Why not write something from our family in it. Also try to mail a picture of our family off to Uncle Mac and Aunt Beth. They were really nice when I ate at their home.

You sound like you are doing fine and have the book situation well in hand. I brought the book "Leadership" with me and on Sunday I will try to spend some time getting up a course on it.

Our first day at school was fine. I drank one can of Met. for breakfast and one for supper. I got a big meal at the factory at noon time. That should keep my weight down. They gave us a pre-course test to see what we knew and we all did good on it. I think I was the second highest with only missing one. We got a 2 hour tour of the plant. It is quite a big layout with over 9,000 people working there. We saw a lot of their aircraft.

I really studied good tonight. Tomorrow morning I hope to get up early and study some more. I will be taking my CIE test again also so I will have to study for that also. I should write to all these people and thank them for taking good care of me. I might miss writing to you a few nights to do that. Well that's about it for now. Sure do love you and appreciate you as my wife. Be good, I am.

Love Frank

P.S. Love my youngins for me.

c/o Sikorsky Service School
North Main Street
Stratford, Conn.

May 17, 1967

Dear Family,

I did not get a chance to write last night. I studied quite late, about 10:30 pm and went right to bed. This morning I got up at 5 am and studied. I am doing fairly good and hope to finish a lesson tonight. I also just sent my request for my CIE test. One of the instructors are going to give it to me. I will have to start to get studying for it. If you receive any lessons from CIE write and tell me the mark. If I fail any send that to me so I can review the lesson.

I have only had one meal at noon for the last 2 days with drinking my met. One in morning and one at night. So I should be down in weight soon.

How are the children doing? I hope James got his good health back by now. How is your weather there? We are having a few good days. It is like spring. The folks I stay with talked with me for a few minutes yesterday. They sure are nice people.

My school is not to hard and we will be having a test tomorrow. I am pleased of the studying I am able to do so far. I guess I will plan to do my wash, iron and some shopping on Saturday. This will be my diversion day.

I am looking forward to calling you this Sunday. I am not sure when I will call, maybe at night.

Well I had best sigh off. This has been my coffee break and they are about ready to start teaching again.

Love, Dad

May 18, 1967

Dear family,

Well last night I finished a lesson and will sent it in today along with the letter to you. I studied to about 9 last night and then fell asleep. Getting up at 5 am is catching up to me. I studied this morning and got some of my review material out that I will have to review for my test. I think it will be here in a week or so. I hope to do my reviewing at school during my coffee breaks and lunch hour. I usually end up with a headache in the afternoon and it stays with me till I go to sleep at night. My eyes have been feeling the strain of constantly reading but I hope these things will go away once I am in the swing of things.

Remember to send the lessons to me when you receive them. I will need to know if I have to redo any of them. I know what you are thinking, why push so hard on studying, well I want to see what I am capable of. Saturday will be my relaxing day to catch up on shopping and doing my wash and ironing. There is so much to do I must be able to get more done in thee time I have available.

I sure miss you and the children. Give them all a big hug for me. Tell them dad misses them a lot. As to missing you I think you know how I feel. Sure looking forward to my return. Well that is a long way off. We had better not think of that. I had best get my things together now. Take good care.

Love Frank

May 19. 1967

Dear Family,

This week is flying by. Today is Friday and it seems just yesterday that I left. I hope it will continue to fly by. I just finished studying and got my suit today. They will be taking class pictures and they want a uniform or suit. I am even half way through lesson on Trig. Boy it is hard but I will just keep going and should finish it by Saturday noon. If I was doing it at home it would have taken me a month to do and here only 3 days. Of course yesterday I got a total of 8 hours study time in along with everything else. I hope to keep it at that level or close to it and I should be able to really get along on my CIE course. I got an 87 in the test yesterday, that was above average but not as good as it should have been. I am not studying any on that week just learning what I pick up in school.

How are the children today? I hope you are being patient with them. I sure miss you all and am looking forward to our night in Seattle.

Well I had best get going, my ride comes in 5 minutes and I have to get finished in my room. Take good care and I love you very much.

Love Takue

May 22,1967

Dear Family,

I sure miss you all very much. Today I got your letter at school and came home to find 3 at home. So they all made it the same day.

I forgot to mail the letter from last week so I will mail both tomorrow. I got up at 4:30 this morning and so I am tired now. I will get going to sleep as soon as I finish with this.

Your folks were okay, I enjoyed talking with them. They will be changing over to oil or gas heat soon. It will cost about \$1,000. They said they have the money in the bank for that and I made they were okay as far as money goes, they have a whole lot of work downstairs. Your dad gave me a tour to show what he had still pending. I could not see any change in your dad as a matter of fact he looked better than he did the last time I was there. I told them we would be coming to visit them this summer or fall. They really want to see the children.

Did you ever pay the book company that bill I had left to pay?

Well I am going to sign off since it is going on to 9 pm and I want to be asleep by 9. You sound like you are doing just fine and it was so good to hear you on the phone. I know it cost but I don't know if I can go without talking to you. Well I will see how I feel this Sunday. If I do call it will be when you are home if possible but if not make sure the babysitter does not accept charges.

My ride will be leaving in two weeks and I will be having some trouble finding someone else. The school is in the next town and most of the students live in that town.

I am sure thinking a lot of when I come home. That is the main reason I woke so early this morning. I hope I don't get up that early tomorrow.

Children take good care of your mom. Frank thanks for the fine letter you sent . Sumi, mom told me you are really a big help. Thank you for being so much help. Sheila and John keep your eyes on James for mom. I love and miss you all very much.

Love, Dad

May 20, 1967

Dear Family,

I received your first letter today. You had the address wrong but that was because I gave it to you wrong on the phone. By now you should have my letters with the right address. I hope to get a letter from you today. Last night Fred, the father of the house, brought a radio up for me. Then asked if I would like to go for a ride. I said yes and we talked for a long time. He is quite nice. He then suggested I do my wash so I could have all day Saturday to relax. So I did but it got me behind on my studying. I had hoped to finish this lesson on Trig but now will spend a lot of my time today trying to. It sure is hard. I left a pair of pants at Ray's, my old ones so I will see about buying a pair to lay around in. I am going to take his son's bike and peddle up to the stores for some things.

My two white shirts I wore across country are dirty around the collar. How do you get that cleaned? I washed them but they still show that dirt. I sure wish you were here to take care of them and a few other things-----

I paid the rent last night for my stay here. It will be \$75.00 for 5 weeks. I spend about \$2 to \$2.50 a day on food. So my expenses are not to bad. I will have to give the fellow something that I ride with. I also want to mail Lil's stuff today but might not get it off till next weekend since I have so many other little things to get.

Well love you all and miss you. Be good mom.

Love Dad

Morning break 10:00am
May 25, 1967

Dear family,

I hope this finds you in good health and a happy family. I was able to finish the lesson on DB that took so long. It was awful hard and took me a day longer than I had hoped it would. I have plans to finish another lesson today and Friday and if unable to then to study Saturday also. Then I will do another one the 1st 3 days of next week. Then I will start to get ready for my test. The test came a few days ago and one of the instructors are going to give it to me. I will have to stay at night after school to take the test.

I have to borrow the Gabrits car tomorrow since the fellow I am riding with has off. I ask him to teach me to ride his motor cycle so I might be able to use it. I hate to since they are so dangerous. You should see the traffic at the roads to the factory. I would hate to drive anything on these roads but I have to get to work.

I have been ask to talk Sunday so I will have to do that also on Saturday. I want to get to the post office that day. I have one more garment and will have to wash Friday. I seem to be getting along okay. However, I am only getting about 6-7 hours of sleep each night but am not to tired during the day. Well that's about it for today. I will send Frank his card next letter. Be good.

Love, Frank

May 26, 1967

7am

Hi family,

How is everything today? The weather is very good right now. We have rain and it was very windy yesterday. They say a van was blown into the parkway fence with the wind. That's mighty strong.

I received your letters yesterday. I was glad to get the lesson back. I had worried about them since they were quite hard. You do not have to send the envelopes, just the lesson and explanation which sometimes comes with them.

I stayed up close to 11 last night and got up at 5 this morning. That's only 6 hours sleep and I got tired during the day but my studies are coming along fine. I think I will have to study Saturday to keep on schedule though.

Are you writing every day? I have received letters two days but they all come at once. Three each time. I have tried to keep one going to you each day but sometimes they don't say much.

The family here do not hold family night. At least I don't think so. I am usually in my room studying and so they might. She is R.S. President and works in Primary and MIA. I told her that was too much with 6 children but she seems to be able to keep above water. They have about 350 in the ward. A H P, 70's, and elders quorum. However I think we are about the same level of activity. Best get to school. Love to all.

Frank

Sunday afternoon, May 28, 1967

Dear family,

How is my family today? I hope fine. I got your mail Saturday which was real nice. I also got your letter, Sheila, and it was sure good. I will be using Sheila's letter in my talk tonight. That's when I will tell about our family. After lunch I showed films of our family to everyone here and so now I will be mailing them home to you. I hope they arrive in good shape. Yesterday I mailed Lillian her Book of Mormon and some of the stuff from Hong Kong. Ed also showed me how to ride his motorcycle and I went for an hours ride on that. It was a lot of fun and in a week when I am out of a ride to work maybe he will let me use it. The only thing is he has no insurance on it and the traffic is quite heavy here. Right now it is very beautiful out with temperature in the high 60's and low 70's. The dogwood trees are outstanding and I will try to get some pictures next week.

I have been having trouble in my lessons, I fell today's behind my sked. I still am trying to finish a lesson that should have been done Friday. They are quite a bit harder and I spend one day on just one problem. I sure hope I can keep up my sked. Tuesday is a holiday so I will try to catch up then. I stayed up past 1:30 last night working on it and got up at 5 am to continue this morning. All during church had a big, big headache so when I got back I took 2 aspirin. I hope it goes away for my talk tonight.

I sure am glad you children are doing such a good job helping mom. I feel proud of you all.

Mom, I sure miss you more and more. I am planning out in my mind our meeting at the airport. I hope you have contacted someone for baby sitting for that day. I can assure you that once I am let out of school I will get to Seattle as soon as possible. So I can catch up on my sleep. Ha Ha

Have you had a chance to drop a line to Aunt Beth with our picture, make sure you thank them for a fine evening and meal. They offered to let us use their cabin up in northern Michigan when we came through which was very nice of them. The family I am staying with might be coming through this summer. They are going on vacation and to the temple so I will ask them to stop if they get into our area. We would have to get help to put them up since 8 would be a few more than we could handle but they sure have been nice. Well I had best go. Take good care of yourself.

Love. Takue

May 30, 1967

Dear family,

How is everyone today? It is a beautiful day here. Today is a holiday so I have been studying. I was having so much trouble with this one lesson that I have decided to go back and redo the last 2 lessons. I just finished the first and will start the next this afternoon. I sure hate to do it but I must not have learned them well enough. That will throw me back a week on my sked. I hope to take that exam next week now. I have been having some trouble with my left eye. But I will keep pushing to see what I can take.

My talk was good, at least everyone made it a point to tell me. So I think it inspired some to do their genealogy. Sheila's letter helped too. I sort of wish he would ask me to talk again, I would like to speak on the priesthood.

I finally got a letter off to Hong Kong. I have not written to them for a year. That is bad and I should start to pick up on my relatives writing.

Today I will spend most of the day hitting the books. Sometimes I wish I did not have to do any studying.

I sure miss you. Well I had best get this to a mail box. Be good.

Love, Dad

June 1967

Dear family,

Well today is Thursday and I am just about ready to go to school. The day is beautiful and I hope it stays that way. I received your letter and Sumi's also. Sumi that sure was a nice letter. You must have taken a long time to copy and write that letter. Thank you for thinking of your dad.

I have ask Ed to loan me his cycle for tomorrow and he said yes. I will have to find some transportation for the next 2 weeks since the fellow I am riding with now graduates this Friday. I hope I don't have to rent a car since that will be so expensive.

I am slowing down on my studying. I have just about finished this second review then I will try to do the test for it prior to Saturday. I hope to finish by then. It has put me a week behind sked.

Well how are the rest of you children? All helping your mom I hope.

I am glad you went to Mensings. You sure are a wonderful wife. I miss you quite a bit and am thinking of you more then I should. Well time will fly. Take good care and love you all.

Frank

June 1, 1967

Dear family,

Well here is the end of another day. Two weeks from tomorrow I will be flying home and should be in your arms by this time. I called a travel agent today and had them get my tickets for me. They will confirm it tomorrow. This is the way I set it up so far. Get out of school around 2 pm, 16th of June a Friday, pack and get downtown to catch a bus to the airport at 3 pm. One and one half hour ride to the airport, 1 ½ hour wait to catch a United flight out at 6pm. The flight will be direct and take 5 hours. I will arrive in Seattle 8 pm your time. We should be in our motel by 9 and -----XXXXXXX I think it might be good if you would come a little early and get a motel room close by the airport. Then come pick me up at my arrival times. I will find out the flight# and that way you can check by phone to see for sure if my plane will be getting in on time. I will be paying full fare which is a lot more then I had planned. That is the only way I can be sure to get a flight since they will be filled up during that period. So I will be wearing my suit. How much do we have in the checking account? I have spent over \$200.00. I had to give them a check for the air plane ticket and the bus. Actually I have written close to \$300.00. I am fairly sure we have enough to cover it.

I just took the cycle out to get gas and try it out for tomorrow. I sort of dread taking it, but it will have to do. I am afraid I will end up with a good cold. I hope no one runs me off the road.

My studying is suffering. I only got 4 hours in yesterday and less today. I need to get pepped up and get going since I must get these two lessons done to get studying on my test and finish that before I come home. I will have to do some studying when I get home to finish up. I wish you were to encourage me. Xxxxx. How about that?

This is more a mom and dad letter than one for children. I miss my little children also and am looking forward to giving them a big love. Continue to be patient and you children continue to help your mom.

I am not doing to well in school. I should be studying that work too but have used my study time for CIE. I am having a little trouble keeping my interest on the school. I guess I have spring fever. Well that's it for now. Love you all very much and my thoughts are on my return.

Love, Frank

11 pm Friday June 3, 1967

My dear family,

I have just finished that lesson I was having so much trouble with. I think I missed some of them but I can't take any more time with it. I must start to get ready for my exam that I will do tomorrow and next week.

I received your letters today. Thank you, Sheila and John, your drawings were very good. You sure do good on your name Sheila. I was glad to get these lessons back. This one I am sending with my return address as Conn. to see if it will get back here okay.

I will be picking up my tickets Monday. Here is the information on the flight:

United Flight number 47

Leaves NY 6:00

Arrives Seattle 8:25 pm

I will still call you the night before to make sure everything is okay. Two weeks from tonight. I sure can hardly wait.

My trip was a safe one on the motor cycle. I think I will ask him to let me use it for the rest of my time here. I will see if I can rent it from him. I am now washing clothes and waiting to finish a load to put another in. I guess I will watch a little TV while waiting. The weather is getting hot now and I am not going to like that to well.

Well I wanted to get this off for you first thing tomorrow morning.

Love and miss you all

Dad

Sunday afternoon 5:30 pm around June 5th

Dear family,

We have had a good Sunday this Sunday. I spent Saturday doing lots of odds and ends. I got a good worth of material to last me till I leave. I also bought a cake, the dessert on Sundays meal. Sure hope everyone likes it. I took the cycle and went riding and went down by the shore and had a cheeseburger. A little old thing for \$.40. Then that evening I got hungry so I went out and got a chicken dinner to take out. It was very good. I studied in between all this running around.

Sunday we went to Church and we had a good discussion in Priesthood as well as Sunday School. Fast meeting was good and I met a fellow that was only here till tomorrow. It turns out he is from where we are going—Tennessee. I told him we would be coming down soon to attend school and he told me a little about the branch. They have about 200 members. They meet on the base, they have land for a chapel but have not built it yet. He gave me his address and the name for the Bishop. It is a military ward and 7 months is a long time for a family to stay. So we have some idea what it will be like. We will not be able to get base housing that will be satisfactory, so we will be living off the base. I hope my orders come through okay.

I am sure tempted to call you today but will try to hold off. That was quite a phone bill but worth it. I sure think of you all a lot and we now only have 12 days to go. Think often of me and love my kids.

June 6, 1967

Dear family,

Got your Tuesday's letters today also the one from Fung Goo. She sent me a picture of herself and husband. She ask why the long delay in writing. I will try to send a post card off to her. I don't seem to have much time for anything extra.

I enjoyed hearing from you. It seems like your eyes are quite bad. I hope they do not give you to much trouble. I am so glad to hear the children are being so good. I hope we can train them so they can be a great help with any new additions to the family. I guess you are off your pills by now and ready to get planted. ---

This morning I took the cycle and it was foggy and cold but I made it okay. I will be trying to get a ride yet since Ed is afraid I will have an accident. So am I and with no insurance that is bad. Tomorrow is supposed to be cold in the morning once again. The afternoon and evening are very nice. Sister took me down town to pick up my tickets so I have them and only have to wait for the days to pass to return for the spring planting. Takue

If you have any plans for not being home the Thursday night prior to me coming home let me know. I plan to call you that night to confirm everything. I do think it would be a good idea for you to get down to the airport early and get a motel. If we wait till I arrive we might have a hard time finding a vacancy, That way you could get all your clothes laid out flimsy things and all. Boy this is bad for keeping my mind on things. 😊

I hope to get that test taken this week. However if I don't feel ready I will wait and take it next week. I want to pass this time.

I have not been out to a movie yet, I doubt if I will be either. I told Mom Yoder I would spend a weekend at Welcome House. But I don't think I will because it will be just to much trouble to get home from here without a car.

Well that's about it for tonight. Love you all and am heading to bed since it is getting late. Sleep well and think of me.

Love, Frank

June 6, 1967

Hi Dear,

It's getting quite late. I have been studying all evening, my studying is picking up again. I am feeling quite tired but I want to get in the habit of staying up later and getting up at 6 instead of 5. This will be for the time change when I return home.

No mail today this will be due to Sunday not being a pickup day. I guess tomorrow I will get one from you. I enjoy hearing how things are going. Ten moving days to go. The time now seems to passing fast. I guess that's because I have some lessons I would like to do and will not have time to do them.

I arranged for another ride today. He has to come way out of his way but since it will only be for 6 day's he said he will. I think I will give him \$5.00 for his trouble.

How are your eyes? I hope everyone can get them cleared up by the time I return.

How about things in the middle east—the Jews are sure teaching them a lesson. I hope they can settle this thing for good.

How are the Elders leadership doing? I often think of them and their problems. I will have quite a lot of work to do when I return.

I have been reading "Leadership" on Sundays but am not through yet. I doubt if I will finish prior to coming home.

You know all these white shirts I bought well when I saw how they looked on the collar after a day's use I decided to use just my colored shirts except Sundays. See I miss you in more than one way.

I had best sign off and get to bed. It will be 11:30 before I close my eyes. Love you all and praying for each of you.

Love Dad

A penny for each

6 pm June 7, 1967

Dear Kathy,

Got your letters today, thanks ever so much. As for the bills, wait till I come home before you pay any more bills. You have \$120.00 left of your account. The rest I have spent. You should get about \$20.00 for the motel room. It should only cost 10 or 12. I will have money when I come for food etc. I should have close to \$90.00 cash with me. That alone with what's left in the bank should be enough for the commissary.

The reason I am writing to you now is I have a good size headache. I hope it will go away. I think I will take some aspirin now. That should clear up in an hour or so. I will probably take my test next Monday. I might try to arrange it Saturday. I do not know yet.

As to getting a motel near the airport. I think you should get it as near as possible. There are not to many in either direction. That's why I think it would be a good idea to come a few hours early to get all set up and have plenty of time prior to picking me up. The one I stayed at was the Majong (I think) and it is right near the airport that would be good. I am looking forward to seeing you sexy and proper. Don't worry about paying a couple extra dollars for the baby sitter, its more important you arrive in the area prior to dark so you will not have to worry about night driving. You can order pizza to be delivered to your motel and if we are hungry we can do that. As far as checking into a motel all you do is go in and ask for a room, place your things in and unpack, then call the airport and United and check on the arrival time of flight# 47 from New York. It should be around 8:25 pm. Then leave about 8 to find a parking spot at the airport and go to the United counter. Ask them how to get to the gate for flight 47 arrival from N.Y. Then meet me there. If we miss each other for some reason check back at the United counter. I will call and give them my message and if you have any trouble you do the same. If you are not at the gate when I arrive I will go to the luggage area for my luggage and then come up to the United counter. Maybe you should leave a few minutes earlier then 8 since you have a lot to do before I arrive.

I will call this Sunday during the day. Right after you get home from S.S. Make sure you tell the baby sitter not to accept any calls. Then I will not call unless something comes up, prior to leaving for home. That means I will not call the night before. Here is my phone number. In case you want to call me with anything. You had best make it person to person. Bridgeport, Conn. 334-8740 (Ed Gabriel)

I guess that's all I can think of. Don't get picked up while you are waiting for me in the sexy outfit. I have plans for you evening—pizza, sleep etc. ?

I am sure you children are doing well, Sumi in 3rd grade and Frank in second—boy are my children growing up. I am looking forward to seeing your report cards. You smaller kids have some good examples in your older brother and sister.

Well I had best sign off. I want to spend more time enjoying my pictures from John. They sure are pretty, John. Thank you for thinking of me.

Love, Frank

June 9, 1967

Dear family,

Here we are coming to the end of another day. I have been tired today and think I will not stay up so late tonight. I have been studying and just now finished. I will be taking my CIE test Monday so I hope I am ready for it. I have a test tomorrow in the school and that should be bad since I am doing very poorly in school. I hope I pass, but I just have not done any studying and it shows.

Tomorrow and Saturday I will have my last reviews for my CIE exams. Wish me luck. I will have to wash and iron tomorrow, also since I am getting low on clothes. I assisted the Bishop to administer to Ed last night. He has some pains. It was good being able to exercise my priesthood.

This week has just shot by and by the time you get this letter it will only be a matter of a few days prior to my returning home. I will be 1 lesson short of my desired goal for this 5 weeks. Maybe I can do it next week, but I think I will be quite busy getting ready to come home. I also have my book at school I have to spend and evenings fixing up. Well that's about it, take good care of yourselves and love all the kids for me.

Love, Dad

Friday night
June 10, 1967

Dear family,

Here it is Friday night. I studied, read "Leadership", and watched some on the UN. Ed just has his brother in law come with their family so I came up to the room. It is going onto 9 pm but I don't feel tired. I took a nap when I got home from school. I will go to bed anyway since my eyes need the rest. That will give me a chance to lay here and think about you.

I spent some time planning out some of the Elders work. I intend to cut down on a few meetings. I also hope to give some of the Elders more responsibility and not me doing so much of everything. I still have quite lot of studying to do, much on my course, and I should spend some on preparing for the Chiefs exam and "B" school It seems like I will be studying you years to come. I only hope I can keep it up.

Tomorrow I will try to get a haircut and do some studying. I am just about ready for my exam. I will have it at 2:30 pm and if I get done in time I will be able to go home with my ride. I have a fellow coming way out of his way to pick me up and I am giving him a dollar a day to do that. I feel bad about this school since I am not getting good grades. I only hope I pass. But I am more desirous to complete some CIE courses. In the long run they will help me more than anything else.

Received your letter today and enjoyed seeing James hands. Your letters have been a great help. I look forward to getting them and being able to keep up with.

As far as Sister Mensing and book goes, that's fine with me. You use your own judgement. I am glad they are coming out and that you are taking such a good interest in them. Thank you darling.

Six days till I am in your arms. That sure will be wonderful. I know you are looking forward to it as much as I am. I probably will not write any more after Sunday since I will get home prior to my letters about them.

I will have to call my mom up and tell her I will not be able to come home. I had told her I would spend a weekend there but it would just be to much of a problem getting home and I should use the time to study.

This book by Sill on leadership is really good. It makes you want to go out and really do a good job. I have really felt inspired by it. You should put it on your list after you stop being with Moses.

That's it for now. Love and miss you very much.

Love, Frank