JOURNAL 1954

JAMES W. BEE

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Museum Natural History, Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

Jan 9, 1954

Heard great horned owl calling for first time this winter.

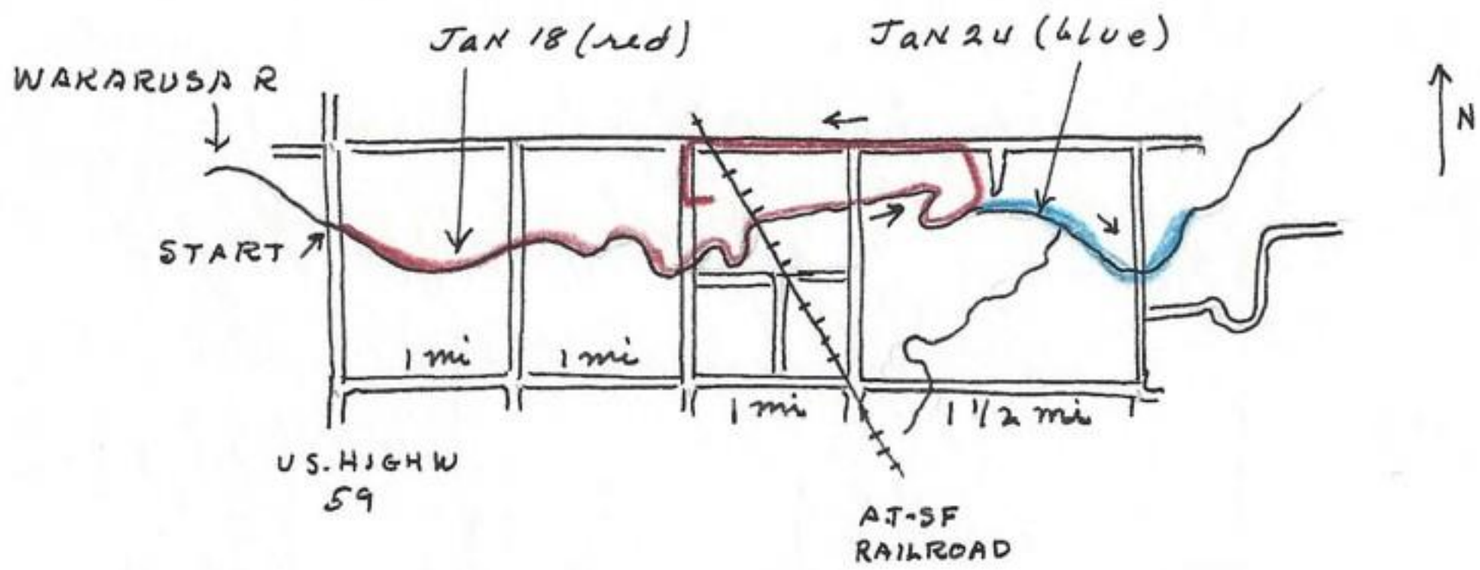
Jan. 17, 1954

A golden-crowned kinglet appeared weak and acted unusual. It was feeding on the grass beneath a pine tree which had branches 2 feet from the ground. This bird would allow one to approach to within 2/3 of a meter before flying 2 or 3 meters to another part of the ground under the same tree. After approaching 7 times it flew across the street. Last few days extremely cold, 10° to 20° F. It seemed to me that the bird was weak from starvation or cold.

Wakarusa River, Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

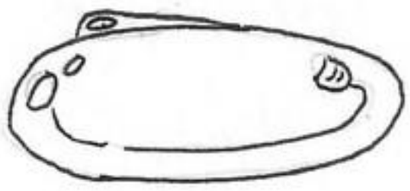
Jan 18, 1954

Annette C and I walked the Wakarusa from bridge on Highway 59 to a point 3 1/2 miles directly to the east.

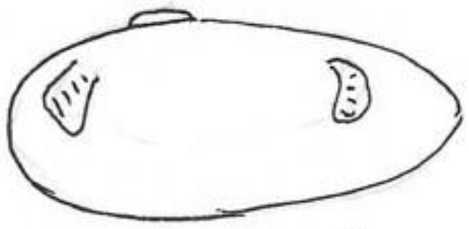


For the entire length the water, except where dry river bed, was completely frozen and in many places to a depth of 10 inches. Dry parts of river approximately 20% of total river course but varied according to section, for instance the river below the railroad crossing and to the east for a third of a mile was about dry. The first 2 miles was 85% water and the last mile was nearly all in water (ice). Springs account for the water in the lower part of the river traversed. Fish were under ice and small ones near edge. The area of about 2 inches below the ice was

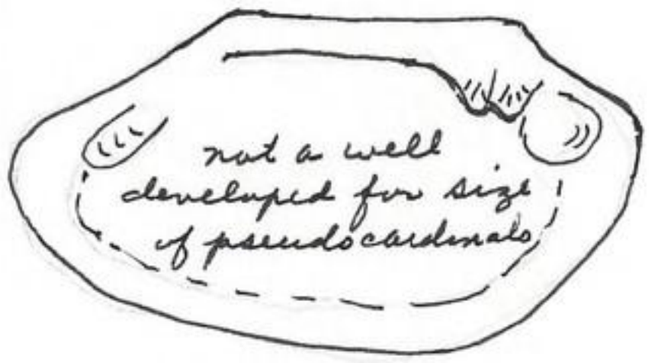
water and was perhaps kept free of ice by the movement of the fish. There were no sign of dead fish except one *Lepisosteus platystomus* (Raf.) gar, which was dead and lying on the top of the ice. This gar was eaten only on the top of the head where the roof of the cranium had been removed and the brains were eaten. Approx. 1 block down river from Wakarusa bridge. Along this route counted 4 beavers between between Wakarusa bridge and first bridge to east (1 mi), none between bridge of 2nd mile and 8 between railroad bridge and point where we got out of river channel (signs of cut willow on ice and bank dens). The lower limits are more heavily populated than the upper limits. Three beaver dams of about 2/3 meter high crossed the river and helped to hold water back. Feeding on willows. Usual birds including 2 pairs of red-tail hawks, fooring two particular areas. One black-capped Chickadee chased a Carolina wren for about eight seconds. Main objective was to collect shells as low water level had exposed many sections of the river. The following pelecypods were collected:



540118-1



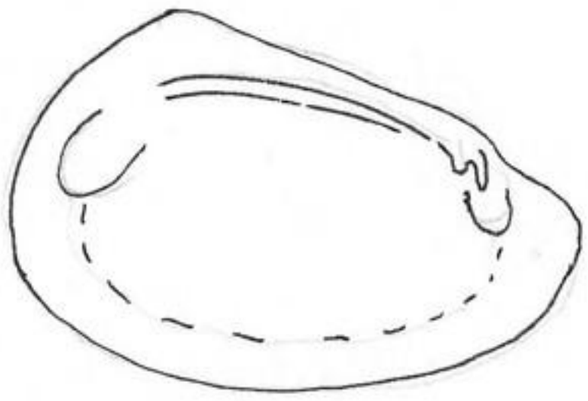
540118-4



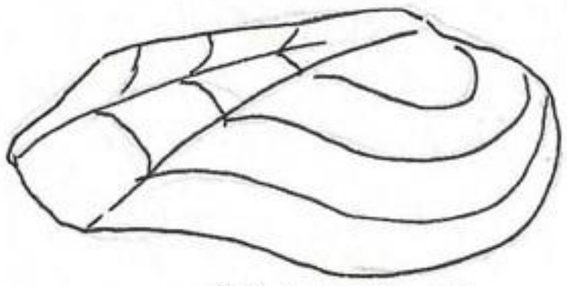
540118-7

540118-2

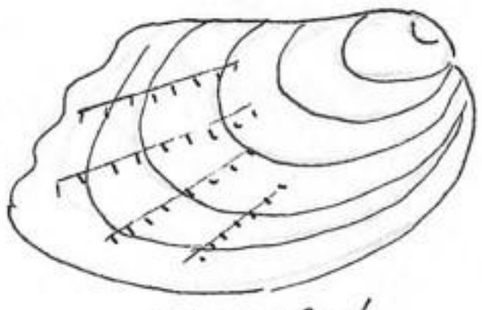
540118-5



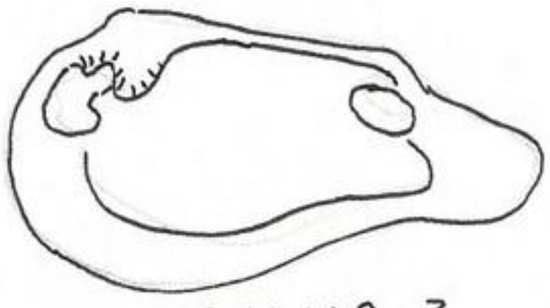
540118-8



540118-3

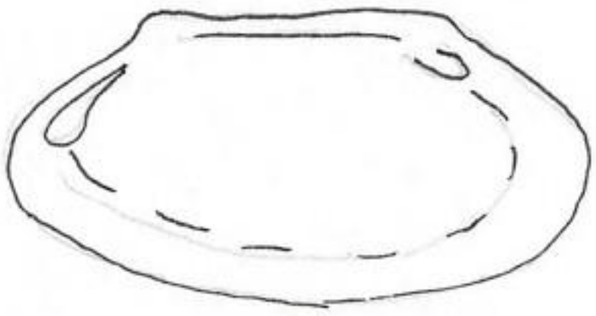


540118-6



540118-3

540118-9



540118-10

continued from following page:

540118-11 Quadrula quadrula 112 x 84 mm right valve.
540118-12 Tritogonia verrucosa 148 x 84 m. right valve

(540118-1) Lampsilis anadontoides (Lea). Yellow sand shell. 125 x 54. Highest quality of pearl. Small ones thin shelled and more greenish and without flaking of internal surface. Greenish yellow.

(540118-2) Lampsilis siliquoidea (Barnes). Fat mucket. 145 x 89. Characterized by small tooth. 2 mm wide. Shell surface (external gray) with yellow brown. Next to Anodonta in smallness of pseudocardinal teeth.

(540118-3) Tritigonia verrucosa (Raf.). Buckhorn shell. 142 x 85. Largest specimen, 164 x 92.

(540118-4) Anadonta grandis Say. Floater. 161 x 90. No teeth.

(540118-5) Quadrula quadrula (Raf.). 126 x 98. Heaviest shell and teeth. These shells are the last to be eaten by raccoons and are commonly found upright in river bed with valves open and contents extracted. Two ridge, frequently with protrubence on bump.

(540118-6) Amblema costata (Raf.) Three ridge. 132 x 90. Teeth like above but with ridges on posterior part of shell on external surface. Bluish tinge on crenulated edge of posterior part of shell (inside)

(540118-7) Lasimigona complanata (Barnes). White heel splitter. 185 x 121. One of the largest of shells. White inside. Larger pseudocardinals than following. This is the largest specimen of the species taken from the Wabarusa.

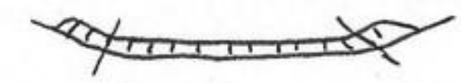
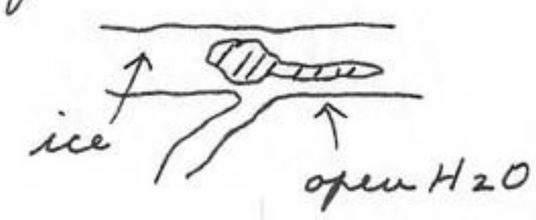
(540118-8) Proptera alata (Say). Pink heel splitter. 155 x 110. Largest specimen (540118-8a) 195 x 130. Purple inside with moderately developed teeth. These shells are frequently found on grass above the unvegetated portion of the river and at mouths of dens used by mammals.

(540118-9) Truncilla donaciformis (Lea) Fawns Foot. 34 x 21. Others larger but not more than 10 mm. Lines radiate from umbo on external surface.

(540118-10) Leptodea laevissima (fragilis?). One sixty one x one hundred and four. Like Proptera alata but teeth weak. Purple inside shell. Lighter in weight and thickness. The above named shells, when arranged according to size of pseudocardinals teeth are as follows: (largest to smallest). Quadrula quadrula, Amblema costata, Tritogonia verrucosa, Lasmigona complanta, Lampsilis anadontoides, Truncilla donaciformis, Proptera alata, Leptodea laevissima, Lampsilis siliquoides Anodonta grandis. This arrangement follows in general

the thickness (from heavy to light) and the amount of corrugations or irregularities of the external surface for holdfast according to whether the floor of the river is sandy and without fast moving water or rock where water flows more rapidly. These shells were found as stated above. Shells most numerous on subsurface features such as transverse ridges between two ponds.

January 24, 1954

James R and I walked on ice in Wakarusa (see map for Jan. 18). Ice continuous and water flowing through beaver dams so there must be water running in creek beneath the ice. Several blocks of ice had dropped ~~beneath the~~ 2 feet  and new ice was collecting on top of ice in shallow pools. Some ice formed mild into ridges  . Grass had been growing in bottom of creek during the summer. The only open water was at junction of Cole Creek. Many birds were using the open water channel below the main open pool, including 18 

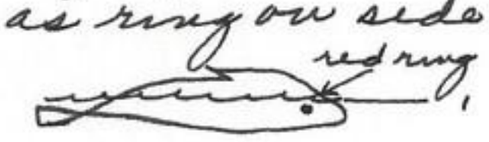
Bombycilla cedrorum, Spinus pinus, and Junco hyemalis. One Strix varia was in tree along creek and within one block of a farm house. Beaver do not seem to be active in exceptionally cold periods but when above freezing (above 32° F) are active. One Phasmophis about 1 foot long on top of ice and partly frozen in ice with back upright as if it had recently been alive. Coilesthes S©.

Lake View, NW Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
Feb 13, 1954

Edward Campbell, Joan and I checked number and kinds of fish poisoned with Ratino (Sp?) by the State Fish and Game 2 days previously. The following fish were observed in the remnant pond of about 180 x 40 ft and at least 8 feet deep at the west end of the lake (the last of the water in Lake View Lake) nearly all fish were dead + farmers had been gathering them since February 11 so no accurate estimate of the total volume could be estimated. At the time we inspected the area there was about 1½ tons of fish around the lake and consisting of the following numbers.

short-nosed gars, 23.	leather carp, 2.
long-nosed gars, 5.	mirror carp, 14.
	carp, 80.

gizzard shad, 200. | black buffalo (?)
large-mouthed buffalo, 1000. | small-mouthed buffalo, 600.
Channel catfish, 6. | river catfish, 5.
river carp sucker, 40. | large mouth bass. 1.
black crappie, 3. | sheep head drum, 1.
red shiner, 10. | blue gill, 10.

Four large snapping turtles and 2 other kinds also killed. The red of blood congestion or stain occurred more frequently at contact of water and air and was noticeable as ring on side of fish which was partially exposed to the air  .

Mus. Nat. Hist, Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

February 13, 1954

Cardinals singing for first time since winter and frequently seen in pairs.

Feb. 16, 1954

Rain last night for first time since about November or Dec. Considerable soil erosion.

Lake View, NW Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

Feb. 21, 1954

Mr & Mrs. Chenoweth reported one Hutchinson goose in a flock of pintails. The goose did not seem to much larger than the ducks. Last day with clouds like those associated with spring. Cardinals call in morning and have for last week.

Ohio Street and 14th, Lawrence, Kansas

Feb. 18, 1954

A sparrow hawk was flying in and out of a hole in a building as if in preparation for nesting. A brick had been removed from the side of the wall above the second story.

Mus. Nat. Hist., Univ. Kansas, Douglas Co., Kansas

March 22, 1954

Robin specimen (540322-1) from Law Building glass corridor.

March 25, 1954

Passer domesticus (540325-1) from Law Building glass corridor

April 4, 1954

Richmondena cardinalis (540404-1) from Law Building glass corridor.

Martin Creek, 5 1/2 mi. W and 1 1/2 mi. N Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kans.

April 4, 1954

Two *Sciurus niger rufiventer* in tree approx. 30 feet from squirrel in hole in tree 40 feet high. The two squirrels appeared exhausted from either the activity of breeding or from defending a territory. If the former, would indicate a second breeding of the squirrel. At 4:00 P.M. found the yellow-shafted flicker and red-bellied woodpecker in holes. They could have been on eggs or holed for the night. Eastern Says Phoebe in area. Frogs calling from pond in creek. 2 Great Horned Owls.

April 11, 1954

In same area as above, leaves just starting. No woodpeckers in holes used one week previously. Dutchman's Breeches in full blossom.

1 mi. S and 2 1/2 miles W Clinton, Douglas Co., Kansas

April 13, 1954

Along Wakarusa River observed 2 *Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis*, water thrush, feeding along edge of creek 30 feet ahead of us. They kept ahead of us for at least a distance of one block, calling continuously. Four turkey vultures held together in flight for 2 hours. Wakarusa still intermittent.

Campus, Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

April 11, 1954

Terry Vaughan reports Chimney Swifts on campus.

April 21, 1954

Terry Vaughan reports first brown bat on campus, flying above the lights at Library Building

April 24, 1954

Terry Vaughan reports first hoary bat at Campanile. Also 6 brown bats in 1/2 hours observation between 9:30 and 10:00 P.M.

April 24, 1954

Red cardinal nesting in greenhouse. Young at side of nest and measured approx. 65 mm in length. This presents the following questions:

1. Do cardinals nest early if temperatures are favorable.
2. Do cardinals nest earlier if protection of leaves is afforded
3. Do cardinals nest in greenhouses earlier because of stimuli of green food.

Light apparently does not control the time cardinals nest.

Robins with nests nearly complete. Mourning doves with eggs and calling.

Douglas County, Lawrence, Kansas
April 26, 1954

Departed for Provo at 3:00 P.M. Arrived Russell via Highway 18 at about 8:00 P.M. Departed Russell April 27 at 6:30 A.M. Arrived Grand Junction via highway 40 to Empire in Colorado, thence over Loveland Pass to Gilman, thence highway 24 to Grand Junction. Departed Grand Junction April 28 at 7:00 A.M and arrived Provo at 1:00 P.M via highway 50. Remained in Provo with mother and Dad and departed for Lawrence, Kansas, May 2 at 7:00 A.M. Arrived Colorado Springs via highway 50 to Grand Junction, thence 24 to Colorado Springs arriving at about 8:30 P.M. Departed Colorado Springs, May 3 and arrived Lawrence at 8:00 P.M via highway 24 to Bogue, thence 18 to Topeka and thence to Lawrence. Mileage 1131 from Topeka to Provo and 1131 from Provo to Topeka, although each way was slightly varied. Appropimately 3,000 Franklin Gulls between Lucas and Luray and definitely a concentration as only one other group of 14 were seen between Lucas and Topeka on May 3.

Museum Natural History, Univ of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas
May 7, 1954

An *Archilochus colubris* flew into window of Law Building. This specimen (540507-1) prepared as a museum mount.

May 11, 1954

A male Vermivora r. ruficapilla (540511-1) flew into glass of Law Building (see Aug. 5, 1953 for complete listing of birds). Largest egg 1.3 mm. ♀ = ovary.

Museum natural History, Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas
May 11, 1954

Yesterday evening about 1/2 hour before sundown, watched a blue jay setting motionless 1 1/2 feet from a mourning dove on its nest of 1 egg. I approached to within 3 feet of nest before dove left but the jay remained for 20 seconds and then moved 2 feet away where it remained for at least 1 minute before flying away. The observations were made within 3 feet of bird at all times. Just before it left, it lowered its head and

gave a low call. nest 6 feet from ground in a pine tree. I will examined this nest from time to time (no. 540511-1 research project) nesting tree about 8 feet west of south side Mus. Nat. Hist.

May 12, 1954

Nest of research project 540511-1 deserted and egg gone.

May 12, 1954

Observed male and female Eumeces obsoletus copulating. Female dragged male 3 feet to rock fence at Prairie acres on Campus south of Watkins Hospital, indicating a locking position during copulation.

2 mi. S and 3 mi. W Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

May 16, 1954

Collected ♂ Tyrannus tyrannus (540516-1) and prepared as a museum specimen. Testis 6 mm, bird fat; ♀ Spiza americana (540516-2), largest egg 2½ mm in ovary, very fat; ♀ Geothlypis trichas (540516-3), largest egg in ovary 1½ mm, very fat. The Spiza americana were singing in full force and were distributed about 30 per mile (pairs) in country. Also collected:

(540516-4) ♂ ~~Passerculus sandwichensis~~ Ammodramus savannarum, testis 9 mm.
(540516-5) ♂ Molothrus ater, testis 8 mm.
(540516-6) ♀ " " , largest egg 6 mm.
(540516-7) ♂ Spiza americana, testis 10 mm.
(540516-8) ♂ " " testis 9 mm.

Museum Natural History, Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

May 19, 1954

A ♂ Cyanocitta c. cristata flew into Law Building. Testis 2 mm.
[see next page for may 22]

May 24, 1954

A ♂ Zenaidura macroura flew into Law Building. Testis 13 mm. very fat.
[see next page for may 28, 29, 30 and June 5]

3 1/10 mi. W and 1 9/10 S Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

June 5, 1954

Among other birds taken in this area, collected a ♂ Guiraca caerulea (540605-11), testis 10 mm. This bird was feeding, in evening, in meddle of road. Another one was nearby in a tree.

3 mi. W and 1 1/2 mi. S Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
May 22, 1954 (see previous page for proper entry)

540522-1 ♂ Oporornis philadelphia — testes 7 mm
2 ♂ Ammodramus savannarum australis — testes 6 mm
3 ♀ Richmondena c. cardinalis — largest egg 3 mm
4 ♂ Icteria virens virens — testes 11 mm
5 ♂ " spurius — testes 9 mm
6 ♀ Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni — largest egg 1 mm. 43 round worms in abdomen + pleural cavity. & this size
7 ♂ Cantopus virens — testes 7 mm
8 ♂ Spizella arborea arborea — " 9 "
9 ♀ Centurus carolinus ~~carolinensis~~ — largest egg 7 mm
10 ♀ Spiza americana — largest egg 1 mm
11 ♂ " " — testes 10 mm
12 ♂ " " — " 10 "
13 " "
14 ♀
15 Tyrannus tyrannus
16 " "
17 Richmondena c. cardinalis

Museum Natural History, Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas
May 28, 1954 [see previous page for proper entry]

540528-1 ♀ Coccyzus americanus — largest egg 3 mm. Killed at Law Building

3 mi. W and 1 1/2 mi. S Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
May 29, 1954 [see previous page for proper entry

540529-1 ♂ Agelaius p. phoeniceus — testes 12 mm
2 flycatcher
3 ♂ Coccyzus americanus — testes 9 mm

Haskell Bottoms, 2 mi. E and 3 1/2 mi. S Lawrence (P.O), Douglas Co., Kansas
May 30, 1954 [see previous page for proper entry]

540530-1 Tyrannus tyrannus — From a flock of 55 birds on
540530-2 " " — telephone wire between poles

3 mi. W and 1 1/2 mi. S Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
June 5, 1954 [see previous page for proper entry]

540505-1 ♀ Spiza americana — largest egg 22 mm
540505-2 ♀ " " — " " 2 1/2 mm

540605-3 ♀	Spiza americana	largest egg 23 mm
540605-4 ♂	"	testis 12 mm
540605-5 ♀	"	largest egg 3 mm
540605-6 ♂	"	testis 10 mm
540605-7 ♂	"	" 8 "
540605-8 ♂	Passerherbulus caudacutus	" 8 "
540605-9 ♂	Richmondena c cardinalis	" 11 "
540605-10 ♀	Coccyzus erythropthalmus	largest egg 3 mm

Museum Natural History, Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

June 10, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Nest of Zenaidura 1 meter from nest of May 11 and 12. New nest three times volume of old nest and with one egg.

June 11, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Second egg laid today.

June 12, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Nest of 2 eggs.

June 13, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Bird of June 10 on nest of 2 eggs. One young mourning dove killed at Law Building. This young bird had feathers that actually fell out when handled.

June 23, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Examined nest of mourning dove of June 10 and found 1 egg and 1 young which makes incubation period 14 days.

June 24, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Examined nest of mourning dove of June 10 and found 2 young. Incubation of this second egg 14 days.

July 3, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning dove now crowded to edge of nest but still remains continuously with young in nest.

July 6, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Adult mourning dove not at nest except when feeding. The young have crowded the adult off the nest. Before July 6 adults always at nest.

July 9, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning doves (young) were on nest last night but were gone this morning at 9:00 A.M. The adult had not been at nest except to feed young since July 6, 1954. Only one adult at the nest at one time (could be either male or female or only one of the parents). Young at nest for 6 days. Period between time of desertion of old nest May 12 and new nest approx. 30 days. One day interval between eggs and between hatching of eggs.

July 12, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Adult mourning dove setting on nest 4 days after young had left the nest.

July 14, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Nest of July 12 with layer of new material on base of nest just recently used. The one the young birds left July 9.

July 17, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Nest of mourning dove with one egg at 9:00 A.M. ♂ + ♀ on nest.

July 18, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Nest of above with 2 eggs at 9:00 A.M.

July 28, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Nest of above deserted because water from sprinkling system had soaked the nest for several hours. 2 eggs still in nest. Adult mourning dove on nest and eggs at 12:00 A.M.

July 30, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning dove setting on 2 eggs at 6:00 P.M.

July 30, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning dove (adult) on nest at 8:00 P.M. One young and one egg in nest.

July 31, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning dove with 2 young at 9:00 A.M.

Aug. 1, 1954

Research project 540511-1. One young of mourning dove dead in nest, perhaps because of excessive rains or from period when nest and eggs were left July 28.

Aug. 16, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Young left nest today or 17 days in nest.

1/2 mi. S Haskell Indian Institution, Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kans.
Aug. 16, 1954.

Noted 18 Bartramia longicauda in groups of 12, 3, 1, 2 and all within 3 blocks of each other. They were feeding in field which had been grazed by cattle for the last several years. These birds may be early fall migrants from the north or erratics from southern or western Kansas.

Museum Natural History, Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas
Aug. 17, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Young mourning doves which left the nest on Aug. 16, returned today and remained on nest until frightened off. They are very capable of flight at this age.

Aug. 18, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Both young and adult mourning doves within 1 foot of nest. In afternoon the 1 young and adult were setting on nest.

Aug 19, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Young mourning doves not on or near nest and have left permanently. They are, however, in trees within 100 feet of nest. (the adult and 1 young)

August 29, 1954

Research project 540511-1. One adult mourning dove building nest on top of old structure.

Aug. 30, 1954

Research project 540511-1. One adult mourning dove building nest (same as above).

Aug. 31, 1954

Research project 540511-1. One adult mourning dove building nest. Another dove in tree nearby.

Sept. 1, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Dove on nest of one egg at 6:00 P.M.

Sept 2, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Dove nest with 2 eggs. Large flock of grackles flying over museum from N to S and roosting in trees on south side of Campus.

Sept 6, 1954

Blue Jay picked up cicada and the insect continued to drum its call until the jay had almost completely consumed the insect. This jay was in area of the mourning dove research project 540511-1.

1 mi W and 5 mi. S Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas.

Sept 8, 1954

Large flock of grackles about 2 blocks long wheeling south-east. Many thousands of birds were in this flock.

Museum Natural History, Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

Sept. 14, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning dove nest with two eggs. Grackle killed at Law Building.

Sept 15, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning dove nest with one egg and one young.

Sept. 16, 1954

Research project 540511-1. Mourning dove with 2 young.

Sept 28, 1954

Research project 540511-1. One adult and 2 young mourning doves roosting 2 feet from nest. When flushed at 6:00 P.M they flew about 100 feet into a tree. No nesting of these doves after this date.

Summary:

May 11, mourning dove on nest of 1 egg.
" 12, nest deserted and egg gone.
June 10, new nest 1 meter from old nest. 1 egg (30 days after desertion above)
June 11, second egg in nest
June 12, both eggs still in nest.
June 23, 1 young, 1 egg. 14 days incubation
" 24, 2 young.
July 3, adult remaining continuously with young which have crowded adult off nest.
July 6, only at nest for feeding young. Before this date adult remained at nest all day.
July 8, young at nest in evening
July 9, young left nest.
July 12, adult on nest (4 days after young had left).
July 14, new nesting material on same nest used above.
July 17, 1 egg at 4:00 A.M, ♂ & ♀ on nest.

July 18, 1954 nest with 2 eggs at 9:00 A.M
" 28 nest temporarily deserted because of water from sprinkling system in A.M. Bird returned at noon.
" 30 adult on nest at 6:00 and 8:00 P.M, between these hours 1 egg had hatched.
" 31 2 young at 9:00 A.M inspection.
Aug. 1 1 young dead in nest.
" 16 young left nest (17 days in nest)
" 17 young returned today to nest.
" 18 both adult + young mourning dove on nest (within 1 foot of nest)
" 19 young and adult in tree 100 feet from nest.
" 29 adult building nest on old structure
Aug 31 one adult in nest, one nearby.
Sept 1 1 egg
" 2 2 eggs
" 15 1 egg and 1 young
" 16 2 young
" 28 one adult and 2 young roosting 2 feet from nest.

Museum Natural History, Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

Nov 3, 1954 [insert from page 541116-19]

A starling was killed at the Law Building. This is the first starling taken in the last 2 years and is the second bird killed since Sept 4, 1954. The fact that there has been only two birds killed this year against seven last year might indicate a difference of migration route or heighth above ground of migration. Hundreds of birds have been killed this autumn by flying into radio + television broadcasting antennas.

Nov. 11, 1954

A brown creeper flew into the glass lined corridor between the Law Building and its library annex (see Aug. 5, 1953 for complete listing of birds which have been killed. [insert from next page]

25

541026-16

telephone 3661 cable tomtom

horizon tours

TOM MAUPIN

complete travel service

tour associates
1015 massachusetts street
lawrence, kansas

October 26, 1954

James Bee
1323 Kentucky
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Bee:

We have an answer to our inquiry to United Fruit Company concerning the shipping of your automobile to Puerto Barrios, Guatemala.

As follows: " Unboxed automobiles are handled as freight consignments. We maintain a regular weekly freight service and are pleased to advise that the freight rate from our shipside New Orleans to Puerto Barrios is 40 cents per cubic foot plus New Orleans tollage 15 cents per 2000#. An average size automobile would measure approzimately 550 cubic feet. All charges must be fully prepaid."

This shipping of your automobile can be handled through a freight forwarder and there are a number of these offiees in Kansas City.

If there is additional information that you would like please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

Lois Odaffer.

Mrs. Lois Odaffer.

541027-17

Lawrence, Kansas Oct. 27, 1954

Stove, generators
Lamp, mantles
implements
10 gal. water cans
3 5 gal. water cans

soap.
matches

materials for Guatemala trip.

First aid kit - halozon tablets, mosquito repellent.
car tools

Photography.
Bell & Howell 200 movie camera
Regular and telescopic lens
Argus C3 35 mm Camera
lens.
Tripod
film, 35, movie.

Collecting gun and ammunition
410 & 22 over-under 12, 6, 4
410 shells, 22 shells
cleaning material.
8 x binoculars
altimeter
alarm clock
stop watch

siphon hose
syringe
moth balls.
ammonium hydroxide
fat scraper
formalin.
soft lead pencil.

Collecting equipment
bat nets
thermometer
12 batts long staple cotton
5 drying boxes
spot light
knee boots
plant press
books - maps.
preparation kit.

oatmeal
300 museum special traps
30 steel traps
20 gopher traps.
scales
labels
sawdust
wire
rulers

note book paper 100% rag, 20 wt.
insect killing jars
jars & alcohol
stamps, stationary
syring

Camp, equipment.
sleeping bag
blanket
pillows
chair
table
mattress
shovel

ax
bucket.
cot net
head net.
cloths
Rem. 60 shaver. 12 volt,

fry pan, lid
spatula
knife, fork spoon.
dish pan, scouring pads
window screens for car

For preparation of trip to Guatemala

33/. Write to American Embassy in Guatemala for:
guns, permits (special for firearms & ammunition ~~and getting firearms out of country~~)
2. liability accident insurance
3. ownership papers for car and letter from Owen of possession.
4. Take drivers licence + get new one in Guatemala.
5. new car plates for 1955 send to U.S. Customs at Point of Entry. (Owen cannot get without registration slips and must get before Feb 15.
6. Pass Port.
7. Tourist cards. Cuba - Guatemala $5.00 - 2.00
8. Licence registration certificate, Proof of ownership (letter from ~~Chamale~~ Hall & K.V. main office.
9. Register equipment of Customs. U.S.
10 International health certificate.
11. Letter of confirmation to Mattoon & Co.
126 Carondelet St., New Orleans. La
12. 1/2 dozen passport pictures.
13. Police certificate.
14. medication kit.
15. Certificate of good health.
16. visa
17. landing card for Cuba.
18. Letter to Buchanan

P. O. Box 2747
Kansas City 42, Mo.
[Nov. 16, 1954]

Mr. James W. Bee
Department of Zoology
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Bee:

Enclosed are the WAC charts on Guatemala. I hope that they will be of some value to you on your trip.

Meanwhile I would appreciate it if you could drop me a note during the week before you leave on the possibility that something might come up which we would like to bring to your attention.

Very truly yours,

William W. Buchanan

William W. Buchanan
C.I.A.

WWB:hlg

[see page 540928-15 for entries of dates Nov. 3, 1954 and Nov. 11, 1954]

541118-20

CITY OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS

Police Department

Nov. 18, 1954

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that a check has been made of the Lawrence Police Department files and the name of JAMES W. BEE does not appear there.

John C. Hazelet.

John C. Hazelet
Chief of Police
Lawrence, Kansas

MJR/dc

541119-21

Nove. 19, 1954

Mr. William W. Buchanan
P. O. Box 2747
Kansas City 42, Mol

Dear Mr. Buchanan: [C.I.A.]

Than you for the WAC charts on Guatemala. I have already had the occasion to refer to these excellent maps.

Due to a revised schedule I find it necessary to leave for Guatemala earlier than anticapated, leaving the University on Monday, November 22. If there is something that should be brought to my attention I would be glad to see you before I leave as I want to be helpful.

Sincerely

James W. Bee

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

Nov. 22, 1954

Departed for Guatemala at 1:00 P.M. Mileage (on return trip 48070 miles) of suburban Chev. at 43019. Arrived Alma, Arkansas at 9:00 P.M at 43328 Mileage.

Alma, Arkansas

Nov 23, 1954

Departed 7:00 A.M and following highway 71 all the way arrived at outskirts of New Orleans about 1:30 A.M Nov 24.

New Orleans, Louisiana

Nov 24, 1954

Put car on Cubahama in morning. Arranged for visa, passenger ticket, etc. Mr. F.W. Maher, United Fruit Co, 331 St. Charles Street, New Orleans arranged for passenger ticket. Ph. Magnolia 2351 Mattoon + Co at 126 Carondelet, Rm 204, Mr. Lopez arranged for transportation of car. Car shipped from Julia St. Wharf pr 46, Baydras sec 7. Consulate General at 216 Pan American Bld, Camp and Poydras. Mr Andrade of International Export - Import Co. Inc, Board of Trade Building, 10th + Wyandotte SE Corner. Room # 1036, vi-0571 Made arrangements with Lopez.

New Orleans, Louisiana

Nov. 24, 1954

* Equipment to be declared at Guatemala City. (now in car)

Cooking equipment.

gasoline stove, gasoline lamp, pressure cooker, eating implements, 10 gal water can, 3 five gallon water cans.

Camp equipment

sleeping bag, blankets, pillow, chair, table, mattress, shovel, axe, hatchet, cot net, head net.

Photographic equipment

1 Bell and Howell 200 movie camera and regular lens plus (1) telephoto lens, 1 Argus C3 35 mm camera and regular lens plus telephoto lens, 1 tripod, film.

Guns and ammunition.

1 .410-.22 overunder gun, .410 shells and .22 shells, cleaning equipment.

Collecting equipment.

4 bat nets, 12 batts sterilized cotton, 5 drying boxes, spot light, knee boots, plant press, books, kit of tools and equipment for preparing specimens, 300 museum special traps, 30 steel traps, 20 gopher traps, 8 power binoculars, altimeter, alarm clock, stop-watch.

Personal.

1 Remington 60 electric shaver, clothes, India ink, Higins Eternal ink
head net & hat.
thermometer
pen points
soft lead pencils for marking traps
get lles to give Conversion.
reflector mirror
watch - alarm clock
paradichlorobenzene.
mosquito netting
knee boots

Crisco.
canned butter
bread.
salt - pepper
milk - canned
tea - postum
crackers
canned:
fruit.
vegetables
bacon
potatoes
canned meats
Fresh fruit
bananas
pineapple
papaya
oranges
grapefruit

NOTE This document does not become a receipt and the Company assumes no responsibility as warehousemen until it is signed on behalf of the Company by the receiving clerk in the space provided for his signature.

417 N. O. (2-45)

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

STEAMSHIP SERVICE

4883

DOCK RECEIPT
ORIGINAL
(For Shipper)
NON-NEGOTIABLE

New Orleans, NOVEMBER 24 19 54

Received at ..... From .....

for account of ..... as the shipper, in apparent good order and condition externally, the following number of articles and packages, marked as stated below (contents and other particulars besides marks and numbers unknown being as declared by shipper and not to be deemed part of description of goods hereby receipted for nor evidence thereof as against the United Fruit Company), for shipment on S. S. ..... for PTO. BARRIOS, GUATE. or port of transshipment if steamer does not proceed to said port) the United Fruit Company reserving the right to ship said goods in whole or in part in or upon a prior or subsequent steamer.

MARKS	NUMBERS	NO. OF PACKAGES	KIND OF PACKAGES	SHIPPER'S DECLARATION OF CONTENTS	SHIPPER'S VALUE	SHIPPER'S MEASUREMENT	SHIPPER'S WEIGHT	THIS SPACE NOT TO BE USED BY SHIPPER
JAMES W. BEE		1		UNBOXED CHEV. STATION			3670#	
PTO. BARRIOS				WAGON				
GUATEMALA				ENGINE #JBA 219411				
				ϕ- Driven to wharf - dirty.				
				Body slightly scratched + rusted in various places. upholstery				

DELIVER TO CUNNINGHAM
JULIA ST. DOCK SECTION 46 TO
Poydras St. Dock Section 7, Track 3

REC'D NOV 24 1954 UNITED FRUIT CO. Pier Dept.

EXPORT DECLARATION No. .....

DOOR NO.	DELIVERY OF SHIPMENT PERMITTED. STEAMER STOPS RECEIVING	LINE NO.	CHECKER'S SIGNATURE	TIME IN	TIME OUT

NOV UNLOAD ACCOUNT SHIPPER RAILROAD NO. OF PACKAGES NO CARGO RECEIVED ON SATURDAYS and HOLIDAYS UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

Permit Clerk.

UNLOAD

goods are actually loade... itations of liability and ... kage, a rate of freight, ... conclusively deemed ... herein will be relied on ... edits Sections 235 and 2 ... very or tender for shipm...

NOV 24

Signature in this space does not constitute this document receipt. See note above.

... understood to have acquainted themselves and to assent to. If the valu... nt and the value of the goods be declared on delivery at the dock and inse... the invoice cost not exceeding $500.00 per package... ll be responsible for any loss or damage to carrier or others resulting therefr... 2 of the United States Revised Statutes, as amended, and to regulations m... hereof, and imposing penalties for violation up to $10,000 or ten years' imp...

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

RECEIVING CLERK

54 11 24-24

541125-25

Departed noon on S.S. Chiriqui for Guatemala on Nov. 25, 1954

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY
GREAT WHITE FLEET

T. E. S. "CHIRIQUI"

CAPTAIN RAYMOND W. CHAMBERS

SAILING FROM NEW ORLEANS, LA.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1954

LIST OF PASSENGERS

NEW ORLEANS TO HAVANA, CUBA

ANDERSON, MRS. DOROTHY L.	FORT WORTH, TEX.
O'SULLIVAN, MR. & MRS. DAVID J.	BANES, CUBA
REIKES, DR. & MRS. DAN	HATTIESBURG, MISS.
RITTER, MR. & MRS. ANDERSON B.	NEW ORLEANS, LA.
WALKUP, MRS. VERA E.	COLUMBUS, OHIO

NEW ORLEANS TO PUERTO BARRIOS, GUATEMALA

BATTLE, MRS. OTILIA M.	NEW ORLEANS, LA.
BEE, DR. JAMES W.	LAWRENCE, KANS.
BECERRA, MR. EDGARDO	TEGUCIGALPA, HOND.
BETANCOURT, MR. ALFRED A., JR.	LA LIMA, HOND.
de FLORES, MRS. VIRGINIA G.	BANANERA, GUATE
FLORES, MR. HORACIO G.	" "
FRAMCO S, MR. MANUEL S.	GUATEMALA CITY, GUATE.
de PINTO, MRS. CORALIA H.	" "
SCHRAMM, MR. ALLAN	LA LIMA, HOND.
SOLARES, MR. EDUARDO E.	PUERTO BARRIOS, GUATE.
SOLARES M. MR. & MRS. RAFAEL F.	GUATE. CITY, GUATE.
SUTPHEN, MR. & MRS. HAROLD	FAIRFIELD, CONN.

GUATEMALA TOUR

KEENE, MR. & MRS. R. EMIR	NORTH MUSKEGON, MICH.
KLYN, MR. & MRS. LAWRENCE J.	NEWPORT BEACH, CALIF.
MURRAY, MR. & MRS. MARSHALL W.	EVANSTON, ILL.
ROBERTS, MR. & MRS. FRANK S.	LAKE MILLS, WISC.
WRIGHT, MR. & MRS. ARTHUR E.	" "

541125-26

Havana, Cuba,

Nov. 25, 1954

Enroute noted many flying fish and some porpoises. Arrived Havana at daybreak. Took movies of fish one hour out of Havana.

No. 148285

TARJETA DE TURISTA
TOURIST CARD

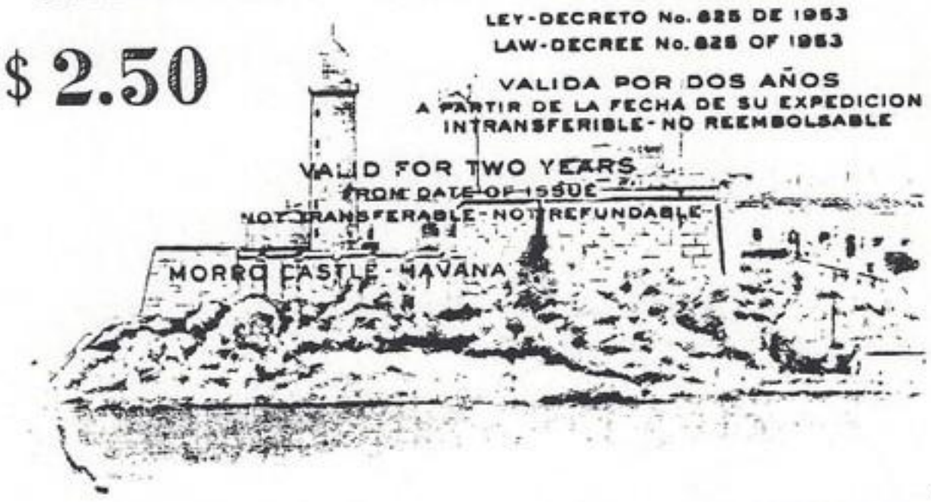
SERIE B

REPUBLICA DE CUBA
MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA

TITULAR
BEARER'S NAME Dr. James W. Bee

$ 2.50

LEY-DECRETO No. 825 DE 1953
LAW-DECREE No. 825 OF 1953
VALIDA POR DOS AÑOS
A PARTIR DE LA FECHA DE SU EXPEDICION
INTRANSFERIBLE - NO REEMBOLSABLE
VALID FOR TWO YEARS
FROM DATE OF ISSUE
NOT TRANSFERABLE - NOT REFUNDABLE



LUGAR Y FECHA DE EXPEDICION

PLACE AND DATE OF ISSUE
UNITED FRUIT CO.
STEAMSHIP SERVICE
NOV 25 '54
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

LEASE AL DORSO
OVER

FIRMA DEL EXPEDIDOR
ISSUER'S SIGNATURE F. B. Donegan

NOS COMPLACEMOS EN OFRECER A USTED NUESTROS SERVICIOS GRATUITOS DE INFORMACION Y COOPERACION PARA QUE SU VISITA A CUBA LE SEA MAS GRATA.

INSTITUTO CUBANO DEL TURISMO
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WE WISH TO OFFER YOU OUR FREE INFORMATION SERVICE AND COOPERATION SO THAT YOUR VISIT TO CUBA MAY BE A PLEASANT ONE.

CUBAN TOURIST COMMISSION
PHONES: ML-1670 - A-9098 - M-8876
PRADO AT CARCEL
HAVANA, CUBA

REPUBLICA DE CUBA
DEPARTAMENTO de IMMIGRACION
4 NOV 27 1954 4
ENTRADA
HABANA

541126-27

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY
GREAT WHITE FLEET

GET TO-GETHER DINNER

on board the

T. E. S. CHIRIQUI

CAPTAIN RAYMOND W. CHAMBERS

STAFF OFFICERS

Walter F. Fayard	Chief Engineer
Benjamin F. Boyle	Chief Officer
John R. Posey, Jr.	Chief Purser
J. Clarence Aime	Chief Steward
Ernest J. Hoover, M. D.	Doctor
Kristian O. Haga	Ch. Radio Operator

At Sea

Friday, November 26th.,

1954

GUATEMALA CITY CRUISE

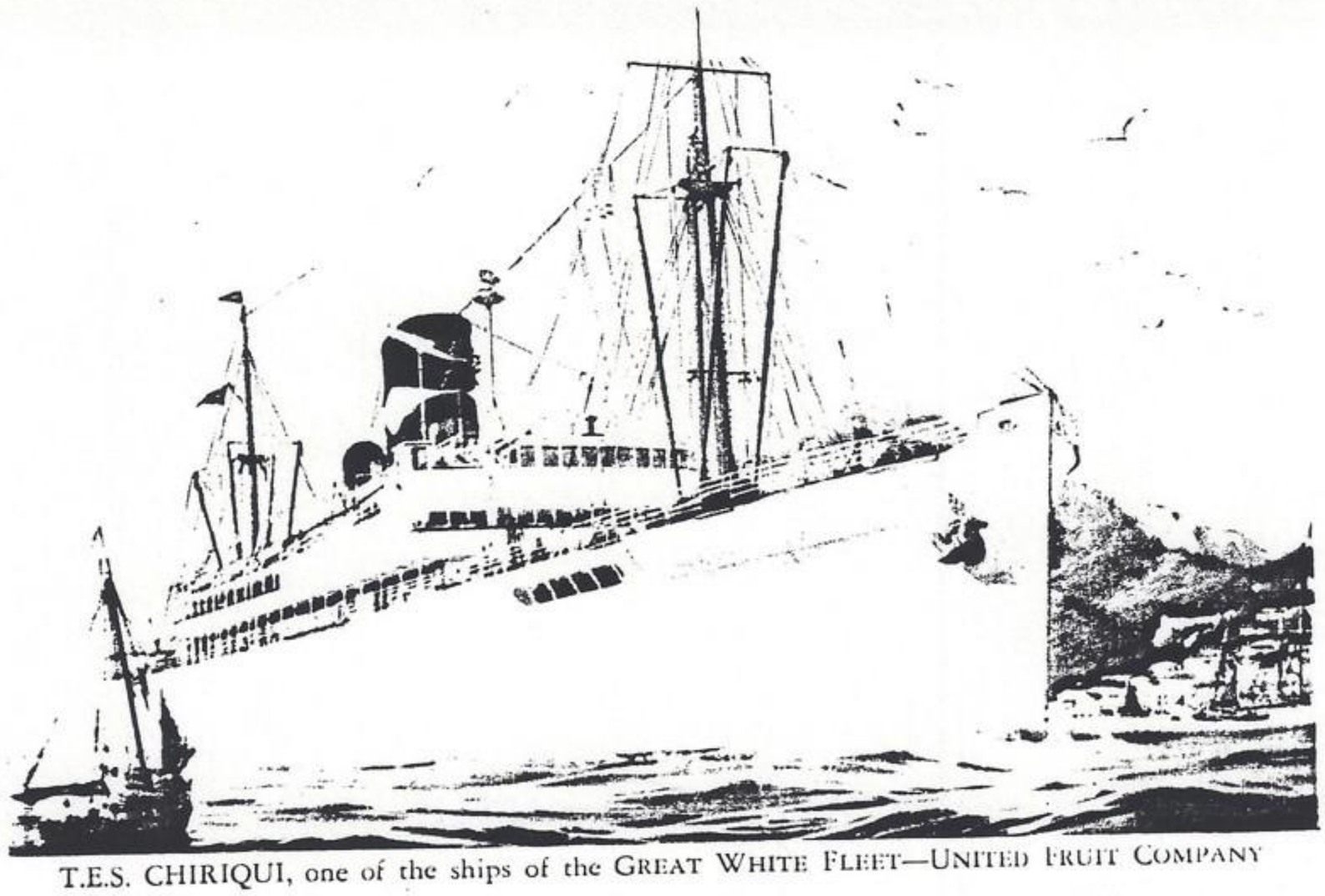
BLANCHARD, MRS. MARION S.	ALEXANDRIA, LA.
BALABAN, MR. & MRS. LOUIS	CHICAGO, ILL.
FRADENBURG MR. & MRS. KENDALL M.	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
HARRIS, MISS ALBERTA J.	ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICH.
KREAS, MISS MARY M.	BROOKLINE, MASS.
METZGER, MRS. MARY C.	SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
METZGER, MISS JOAN M.	" "
SKOP, MR. & MRS. NATHAN	LINCOLN WOOD, ILL.
WRIGHT, MRS. FAYE Z.	YOSEMITE, CALIF.

CRUISE PASSENGERS

ALLEN, MR. & MRS. L. CALHOUN	SHREVEPORT, LA.
BRISTOL, MR. & MRS. ROBERT S.	SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

Autographs

541126-28



T.E.S. CHIRIQUI, one of the ships of the GREAT WHITE FLEET—UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

MENU

Fruit Cocktail

Assorted Hors d'Oeuvres

Iced Celery — *Assorted Olives*

Salted Pecans

Onion Soup au Gratin — *Consomme Royale*

Broiled Lake Trout, Marguery

Roast Philadelphia Capon, Pascaline, with Currant Jelly

Crepes Confiture

Grilled Filet Mignon aux Champignons

Asparagus Tips au Beurre — *Fresh Lima Beans*

Parisienne Potatoes — *Creamed Potatoes*

Hearts of Lettuce Salad, Roquefort Dressing

Strawberry Sundae — *Petit Fours*

Compotiere of Fresh Fruit

Mixed Nuts and Cluster Raisins

Assorted Cheese and Toasted Crackers

Demi Tasse

541127-29

Nov. 27, 1954

Great White Fleet
UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

dear Mother and Dad,

At last I have completed the Alaskan report and am now on my way to Guatemala for a couple of months. I need one good cook and a diplomatic secretary so you better both come on down and share the fun.

This trip is sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the University of Kansas and is for the purpose of studying the mammals in Guatemala. This expedition showed round out my studies of the mammals of the world!

The museum has provided me with a suburban carryall Chev., $400.00 a month salary and $3,000 expenses, or more, if needed. Barring any serious difficulties like selling my scalp or being pushed into a volcano, I see no reason why I should not be able to accomplish my objective. As soon as I return from this trip I expect to finish the degree so the family can also participate in these trips.

Right now I am writting from Havana on the S. S. Chiriqui. The University was willing to pay my fare and ship the car by boat and naturally I did not object. I expect to return via the same route in early February.

I drove from Lawrence to New Orleans and camped along the way. A bed with interspring mattress built in the car provides me with a very comfortable place to sleep. The country through Arkansas was not unfamiliar to me as I had travelled thru

that part of the country before, however, the country thru Louisiana was a new experience. As soon as you arrive in Louisiana you are impressed with new sights. First the red soils cover the ground and cotton and sugarcane grows on all sides. The cotton harvest at this time of the year is mostly completed but some field remain unpicked. Most of the land is plowed and replanted for nett years crop. Right now there are many negros gleaning the fields. These people need relief, especially the children and I wonder why it would not be a good idea to religate some of the aid to our own country instead of such enlightened countries as Germany & England. Wherever you see negros you find old broken down cars with smoke trailing behind like a smoke screen.

The cities are just like those to the north except there are usually two or three beggars on each street.

In the second day out I passed Baton Rogue where Kaiser has a big processing plant. I thought the Geneva plant was large but it does not compare with the plant in the south. After facing the fleet of truck driving north out of New Orleans for about 2 hours I was ready to call it a day.

The next morning drove into New Orleans and went directly to the United Fruit Company Office and contacted the man who had handled my passenger reservation. Everything was in order except a visa from the Consulate General of Guatemala who had an office near by. (Fare $398.00 round trip) Then I went to the freighting section of the building, to find that they knew nothing about shipping the car, which was the responsibility of an exporter Co. which I contacted in Kansas City several weeks before. They told me that it would be impossible to ship the

car until Dec. 6. Fortunately a boat was leaving that day but had already been packed and was ready to leave. The United F. Co were very kind and by taking off some of the freight that was already on the boat were able to get the car aboard. The outfit that was supposed to arrange for the shipment of the car was managed by a Central American group of spanish people and from what I find out later, they are frequently irresponsible for handling details (such as getting a car on a ship!). Thanks to the United Fruit Co., the car is on its way on the ship Cubahama. (cost $480.00) The exporter Co that was supposed to handle the car had the courage to bill me $10.00 for their services!

I expected to do some last minute purchasing and buy American food before leaving the states but this new emergency did not allow any more time than to get the car immediately down to the boat, so I will have to barter with the natives in Guatemala for food and other items of equipment.

While in New Orleans visited the old French section of town and many old second hand book stores. They have a few Audubon originals at $600.00 a piece. Thought I would pick up a dozen or so on my return trip ☺. This city is really unique and can not be compared with any other city in the United States.

Called Annette by phone from New Orleans and had a chance to talk with Chris & Jay. Jay held up the telephone until I promised him a bicycle for Xmas.

On the 25th of Nov. I sailed from New Orleans on the S.S. Chiriqui which is a pleasure cruiser that visits Havana Cuba on its way down to Guatemala.

I must say that I have never seen or experienced such luxury as I have on this ship and the United Fruit Company has done everything possible to give the passengers a luxurious, comfortable and entertaining cruise. The accommodation and service is superb and the food is out of this world. Champagne twice between New Orleans & Cuba!

On the boat met (sat at the same table) a civil engineer who had lived in every country in Central America and a Mr or Senor Becerra. who is a brother of one of the men that put Mareles in as president in Honduras. The election will not be until Dec 6. but he is in now!

This morning watched the dockmen unload some heavy equipment and some smaller freight from the ship. Flour seemed to be the main item of export from the United States. Many kind of flour with Cuban names were also exported from the U.S.

If I do not have time to get off the ship this afternoon I will plan on taking a trip to the Morro Castle tomorrow (Sunday). The regular tours cost $22.70 which is much more than I cared afford.

Up to date I have seen very little wild life except the usual porpoises, flying fish, jellyfish and seagulls.

My plans are to leave Havana 12 noon Monday which will put me at Puerto Barrios at Guatemala on Wednesday. I may do a little trapping there and then I will put the car on a railroad flatcar which will take me inland to where I can get on the regular roads. It will be my plan to trap in as many places as I can and those places I cannot get by car I will fly in.

Expect to return to Kansas about Feb. 15.

Give my love to Mary, Don, Donnie, Edith and all the rest of our good Bravo Friends.

Love, and, mother get well soon,

James.

P.S. I have some information with me on the state of incubation of some eggs from Alaska which I now, at last, have time to report on.

Alaskan Longspur 520617-26 — fresh.
520626-17 no information.
& Snow Bunting 520621-1 — fresh.
520621-8 — fresh.

Nov. 27, 1954

Dear Annette,

Arrived Havanna this morning at about the same time of day and under the same lighting conditions as was the time we entered the Hudson River along New York City from Calcutta. It is needless to say how attractive Havanna is at this hour of the morning. I cannot but help compare the conditions under which I travelled in the two instances — one a cattle ship and the other a luxury liner. Before I go ashore I will bring you up to date.

The first night I travelled as far as Alma, Arkansas where I camped along the side of the road. A bed in the car has many advantages, mainly the time it saves in being able to go right to bed when you stop instead of burning up 2 gallons of gas trying to locate a motel. It also allows you to drive until you are ready to quite. I must say that I slept cold that first night.

The next morning at daybreak I was on the road in about 2 minutes after I got out of bed. The convenience of having the prepared lunch also saved much time. I ate the last sandwich in New Orleans and chewed on the turkey leg three three states. You did an excellent job planning the quantity and variety of food for this first leg of the expedition. I only wish that you and mother Malcud could take over the job of outfitting the food box at Puerto Barrios.

All the country down to the southern part of Arkansas was familiar to me as I had followed the same route some 4 or 5 years ago. It still has a fascination about it but nothing could hold me there with Guatemala on my mind. As soon as one crosses the border into Louisiana, the character of the country changes. The main things that strike one as being different are, first, the red soils and the cotton and sugar cane growing thereupon. The cotton harvest at this time of year is at a transitional stage — some field still have cotton which is unpicked but meanwhile the leaves are dead & brown, some field are being harvested by machines and negroes and other field are being plowed and are ready for replanting. Right now there are many negroes who are gleaning the fields, cotton which the machines missed. Secondly the presence of these unfortunate negro people who live at a very low standard of housing and clothing. The children all seem to be undernourished and could certainly benefit from our many organizations which are shipping all the aid to Europe and other countries. Associated with these negroes are old model T and A Fords which can be identified by a long streamer of smoke trailing behind the slow moving vehicle. In many ways these people act like the native of India, and especially is the habit of walking along the

railroad and sides of the highway, the same. The cities are like those in any other part of the country, perhaps even more pretentious in decoration of the stores. They differ only in that there are from 1 to 3 beggars on each street. The white people are indistinguishable from, say whites in Topeka or Kansas City, except that they are even more courteous but slower on the draw.

The second day took me across Louisiana. Realizing that I could not reach New Orleans until way after office hours I decided to try to pick up a few items of equipment along the way while the stores were still open. This proved to be a good idea as you will find out later.

One of the first things I purchased was a Remington 60 electric shaver. I spent about 2 hours in Shreveport trying to locate a razor that could be plugged into the car or run by a battery. Failing the retail stores I went to a wholesale place and was able to pick one up. They gave it to me at a reduced price, I suppose, a wholesale price, at $25.00 instead of the regular price of something like $30.00. With this shaver, my worries are over, & as I can shave in camp without the trouble of heating water and getting that horrible soap on my face ☺. Incidently I can almost ~~soon~~ pay for this shaver by the money that I would have normally spent for lodging and eating. As I also used courtesy cards for gasoline & oil I actually did not have any expenses except equipment and a cup of coffee and a sweet roll, which in the south can be purchased for 10¢.

Passed Baton Rouge at night and saw the big Kaiser Plant which seems to take up about half the town. The roads in lower Louisiana are double lanes (4 lanes) separated by grassy fields. The truck fleet from New Orleans hit me about

twilight but later in the evening the roads cleared somewhat and after 9:00 P.M were almost deserted. With clear roads I decided to drive until sleepy which stopped me at about 1:30 in the morning somewhere between Baton Rogue & New Orleans but near N. Orleans.

The next morning I drove into N. Orleans and went directly to the United Fruit Offices and Contacted a Mr. Maher. who had worked up my reservation for the steamer. Everything was in order except a visa which I could acquire from the Consulate General of Guatemala who had an office only a few blocks away. The regular price of $398.00 was still in effect and it was questionable whether I could get reduced rates. Then I went to the freighting section to see if they had any information on the car and to my surprise they new nothing about my desire to ship the car nor could they possibly accommodate me until Dec. 6. The fault was not with the United Fruit Co but with the exporter Co which was to handle the car with the U. F. Co. Come to find out later, this Spanish Exporter Co had done nothing about it and were waiting until I arrive before starting to process the shippment. As I believed in the beginning this Kansas City Exporting Co is putting on a pretense of big operation but are actually a small outfit and irresponsible in providing bonified service. As an exporting company is required to draw up papers for shippment of the car we had to continued to deal with them although the car was put on a ship by the United Fruit Co., before processing was started by the exporting Co. They (ex. Co) still had the courage to bill me $10.00 for services rendered! Getting the car on a boat was not as easy as one would believe. The first statement was that I could not get car passage until Dec. 6 and

no amount of pleading seemed to change the picture, so, from experience with the Army, I went to the top and in only a few minutes was able to ship the car the same day. It was strictly a courtesy act on their part as they were required to unload part of a ship that was already to leave that day for Central America and make room for the Chev. In 1/2 hour the car was nestled on the Cubahama.

It was good to get this car on its way but I had absolutely no time to organized the equipment or to buy any american food. While this ship started one day earlier than my passenger ship, it should get to Puerto Barrios at about the same time. They say that The Cubahama makes the round trip in 21 days so I actually don't expect to have the car on my arrival — I will just wait and see. It was interesting when the United Fruit Co realized that I might consider flying down — they reduced my fare from $398.00 to $275.00 and still gave me the same accommodations on the ship. Muchos pacas were spent on telephones and taxies that day. For the rest of the day up to the time I called you I was busy making final arrangements and clearing all documents for leaving the country. The Consulate General and his outfit are over-cautious and appear to be interested more in the $2.00 fee than why you should or should not enter the country. It was quite amusing when I asked him about a model of a Quetzel, which is the national bird of Guatemala — he not only new its scientific name but also a great deal about the subspecific varaties in Central America! I told Mr. Maher that I was interested in procedure of getting a car in and out of Guatemala and he assured me that in the future there would be no trouble if we deal with the United Fruit Co. directly.

After I called you I went down to the Old French Quarters, especially to see the museum but it was closed,

so I went over to the French Market and to the little café where about 12 years (14?) ago had a ~~cup~~ cup of coffee and a doughnut. The cafe is the same as it was a hundred years or so ago. New Orleans is different from any other city in the U.S. The old buildings and narrow streets remind one of the cities of India. It lacks only the odor, although at time you can still detect a faint resemblance of Calcutta air. Many building are being preserved in the same fashion as used in the early history of New Orleans but most of them are being neglected ~~and~~ or torn down. This is a shame and I am sure that they do not recognized the potential value of maintaining this city in as unchanged a condition as possible. Some of the cafés are really unique and give you the feeling of New Orleans a hundred years ago. The antique shopes and second hand book stores are unfulled. This city is one thing and going to Guatemala is another thing — so returned to the La Fayette Hotel worlooking the City Park and after arguing with the clerk for a little while about the phone call, went to bed. It seems that three prices were quoted for this call to you and I wanted to be sure I paid the right one. I settled for $2.21 c. apparently Polly is not yet conditioned to the telephone.

The next morning on the 25th I boarded the S.S. Chiriqui which sailed at noon and after 8 hrs. of the lower Mississippi were out on the blue water. I must frankly say that I have never seen or experienced such luxury as I have on this ship and I feel guilty in telling you about it as I know that rightfully you should be along too. I hope in another year we can go on such trips as these as part of our regular lifes work instead of just dreaming about them. The United Fruit Co has done

everything possible to give the passengers a luxurious, comfortable and entertaining cruise. The Chiriqui is 417 feet long and in that respect resembles the S.S. G. Hayes, but oh what a different ship. The entire trip was on water like the Hayes on the Indian Ocean. My room is a dream-house with rugs from wall to wall and mahogany furniture. The large windows overlook the sea below and the bed is so placed that you can watch the view from these windows. The service is too much for comfort. There is both a steward & stewardess that are always primed for immediate call. Everytime you step out of the room you return with everything straightened up, fresh icewater, clean bowel, etc. & have never used the same towel twice. These people do not however vie with you in recognizing what is needed for travelling - I refer to the neatly packed suitcase and all the items I will need for the trip. Along with their general policy of service is a nurse who has the most difficult job in the world - she makes herself available by standing at near attention on every occasion where more than one individual forms a group. Are I could have a heart attact and know that before you fell to the floor you would be picked up by the nurse. Psychologically this is a good gesture I suppose. During all meals she stands by the door just waiting for business. Needless to say she is a beautiful blond.

The food stands out as the most unusual feature of the cruise. All the passengers are accommodated in the Dining Saloon. Today they had 64 vases of gorgeous flowers, one on each table and many other around the room. The next day will be another variety. The silverware is almost as royal as our own and the table cloths of pure linen. Your chair is pushed under your seat as you sit down and the one of the waiters places the napkin on the lap. Every other movement

from start to finish is anticipated by the head man or waiter. Food comes on endlessly and in quantities enough to feed 4 people. The thing I marvel is the way in which they can serve so many different kinds of meals at a single setting, generally one can choose between at least 12 entries (main dishes). The food is prepared by the best of chefs. The grilled filet Mignon served on the get-together dinner, just melted in your mouth. It did not seem to have any grain at all (maybe tenderized with chemicals!).

Of course they do not serve champagne every meal but in 2 out of three days we have had it at dinner in the evening. It is certainly horrible stuff to drink.

In making reservation for dining I was placed with a Mr Schramm and a Señor Becerra, both from Honduras. Mr. Becerra is the brother of the man that defended the new elected president of Honduras (Morales). The official election will take place on Dec. 5! The story goes that the old president, after a reign of 16 years, passed on his position to one of his own men without popular vote. This did not appeal to many people and Becerra challenged the legality of such a move. Becerra was taken from his home, beaten severely and tossed into the river. Becerra was, however, able to get the ballot box, which was kept at the old presidents home and guard by armed men, out where people were not told how they should vote. According to my friend Becerra, Morales will be seated as president in December. This man plans on studying international law at Columbia University. Schramm is a civil engineer and has lived in Honduras for the last five years and has visited every central American country and all of Mexico. Naturally I pumped him dry for information.

He tells me that my experience with the exporter in New Orleans is not unusual and that they never trouble themselves with details (such as getting a car on a boat!), and apparently it is quite true. He also said that they will honorably steal you blind, short change you, put 3 quarts of oil in the car where 4 are require, etc. and all, as I said, as an honorable and acceptable procedure. This habit reminds me of the Chinese where it is an honorable profession to steal, providing you are not caught. I look at the whole thing as being dishonest but according to Schramm it is not and you have to get used to such a practice in all Central American countries.

The rest of the passenger (except myself) are of two types; one rich and ignorant and the other rich and brilliant. There appears to be no one who is of average intelligence and rich. Ordinarily these two contrasting types of personalities do not get along together but the possession of money seems to secure the bond. Brilliant or dumb, they are all friendly and have acquired a certain amount of social poise. The first meal was attended in formal attire except Bee in a white shirt, but I noticed that at the next meal I had several sympathizers who also wore white shirts. I hope I have not set a new precedent for attire to be worn in the Dining Saloon.

Entertainment on the ship is a specialty, and it keeps the passengers going all the time. Most of the program is devoted to gambling, cards, canasta, etc. The first night but the purser put on some magic, followed by slides on Havanna and a full length colored movie. He was really clever with the tricks, no doubt having performed the same act on every cruise for the last 20 years. One clever one was to put 10 razor blades into his mouth, chew them up,

and swallow them, then after chewing down about a yard of thread pulled it out again with the 10 razor blades tied every few inches along the thread!
During the day the library is open, the swimming pool is available for use, the sun decks ~~for~~ are used for taning and the deck chairs always popular for use old ones. They issue a daily newspaper which I do not think much of. As every passenger is first class, it allows one to go wherever one wishes.

During part of this morning I watched the Cuban dockmen unload some equipment and freight from the ship. Most, if not practically all the freight was flour (Texas Star) and other food products. These Cubans are challenging eachother every few minutes and I have never heard one yet that carried on a conversation without being capable of being heard 2 blocks away.

If I do not get off the ship this evening for a stroll through the city I will plan on taking a regularly scheduled tour to Morro Castle on an island no far from Havana. Somehow the other tours through the City did not appeal to me and anyhow it would have set me back $22.70. I'll reserve seeing Havana with you next year.

Up to date I have seen very little wild life - some porpoises which swam along in front of the ship, gasping for air as the surface every few seconds and splashing the water as they duck back into the water, a few gulls, many schools of flying fish, little bits of "kelk" and a few jellyfishes. The sharks are supposed to be common around Havana but as yet I have not seen any.

My plans are to leave Havana 12 noon Monday and arrive at Puerto Barrios on Wednesday where I can be contacted for emergency at the office of the United Fruit Company. There may be the possibility that I will be there for a few days

until the car arrives are until I can make arrangements for the scientific permits which should be there but, I'm sure will not be there. In any event I will have a forwarding address to probably the Office of the American Embassador in Guatemala City, where I will pick up my mail from time to time.

Give my love to Polly, Chris, Jay and Grandma and tell Cully and Mil that I will have a few pointers on how to ride the Queen many on their atlantic Cruise and that the shirts saved the day.

Love James.

P.S. I still don't know how I got the appellation in the list of (over) passengers.

P.P. will include similar info in letter to Mother & Dad and also inclosures.

Nov 28, 1954
Havana, Cuba
(will be mailed in Guatemala)

Great White Fleet
UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

Dear Annette,

Saw Havana today. This City is like the older section of New Orleans and differs only in the degree in which it is inhabited. Havana is teeming with life from the ground floor to as high as the buildings go whereas in New Orleans the people seem to be living on the lower levels and the upper stories are abandoned. Havana also has the characteristic odor of the orient. The buildings and architecture of Havana is not new to me but I cannot recall where I have seen such beautiful doors as they have on their buildings - beautiful doors and that is about all! Someone showed

write a book on just this subject. As in India the buildings are either gray or yellow with the paint worn off at the street level. The iron grill work is very delicate and the inside courts well lighted and grown to beautiful flowers. These degenerate peoples are now roosting in buildings which centuries ago were real pieces of art. The streets are so narrow that one car can just fit in the road. The sidewalks are usually about 3 feet wide but in many places only 1 foot wide. When a bus passes by the pedestrian is expected to turn sideways or get hit. There is one feature of these streets that is good and that is that there is always a shady side of the street to walk on. In the more modern sections of town the climate is almost unbearable. The car traffic is fast and some of the main streets really offer a challenge in crossing. Because of the recent elections in Cuba the police force is in full swing - I have never seen so many beg men nor so many individual policemen as in Havana. One part of Havana can be compared to Miami beach and has been built up by American capital. Jay and Chris would be interested in a small car which is driven by a battery and used by small children on the streets around some of the parks. I watched a small group of boys play baseball and instead of having a pitcher the batter throws the ball up himself and then hits it with his hand instead of a club. Baseball is the rage in Havana and every park or field has a team or so playing the game. Some play on parking lots of solid cement.

When I left the ship I was going to find a place to have some letters weighed and then return to have the purser of the ship put the proper amount of stamps on, so after looking up the verb 'to weigh' started out. The first man I met was a taxi driver who could speak

some English. This man followed me around to five different stores in his car and telling me at each store of his propositions — you have a camera and I have a car - I can take you to places where you can get good picture — want to see some pretty girls (to which I replied that I had a wife + 3 children) (to which he replied — well maybe just to see pretty girls then) — want to go to capital building, nightclub, and a half a dozen other places.' I cannot not shake this man off. During my lengthy walk through the city this same man met it again at least six times in various parts of the city with additional propositions. In my peregrinations found the post office which was open until noon and after making the clerk understand what I wanted got the stamps and mail the letters. It is surprising how many of these people do not comprendi English. The post-office is in a building over 250 years old. There is one thing that is characteristic of these people and a habit which is seldom used in the U.S. It is the way in which they attract attention by a sort of hissing sound. It is surprising how well it works. Taxi drivers all hiss, policemen hiss, military guards have hissed at me and I have frequently heard hissing from second story window which I know must have been some more elderly matron hissing thru her false teeth! If I happened to be looking up it was at the many black vultures which are continuously soaring in the air above the building. I counted 30 flying around the capital building. Don't tell me there are no dead wood in the government in Cuba. (?)

The main feature of my afternoon visit to the city was to see Morro Castle which was built in about 1530 or so. This castle is on the other side of the bay so I solicited the services of a fisherman in a row boat. He would take me down to the mouth of the bay for $1.00. I finally

settled for 30¢ for ferry service directly across the bay. Either deal seemed to please him. From the side of the bay opposite the city I approached a part of what I thought was the Castle but which turned out to be the federal penetentary. thinking it was open for tourist I walk right in but in seconds the roof almost fell in a four guardsmen came running over to me with pointed rifles. I embarressantly made my exit and continued down to the real part of the castle. Here again I assumed that the place was open for tourist inspection but was met with guards to arm!

I got in an argument which neither the military guards nor I understand what was going on. At a very timely second a tourist guide approached (named Tony) and very kindly settled the dispute - oh what a racket - to see the castle I was to pay the guide $1.00 in Cuba & did but without respect for either the guards or the guide - just another case of the honorable intention of these central american people.

The castle is now used as a naval boat-camp and commands a voulage point for seeing the entire city of Havana. For tourist traffic the guide specialize in depicting the horrors of the torture chambers. He showed me where prisoners were immobilized and drops of water allowed to drop upon their head. - in a few days the prisoner invariably went crazy. another chamber held an opening (window) to the sea about 200 feet below. The idea was that the prisoner was given the opportunity of either starving to death or taking a chance of escaping by jumping into the water below. Invariably the prisoner would starve himself to the point where if he should jump - he would not have the strength to fight the many sharks that were attracted by the dead bodies of other prisoners which were periodically dumped into the water. Another scheme they used

which was certainly calculated to make a man talk was to place him on a rack island with alligators swimming all around. I was quite interested to see an actual executing machine used to dispose of criminals. The gaget is the type that has a metal loop around the neck to keep the head in place and another ~~—~~ rod which pushed the neck against the loop - This vice-like principal could shear a mans head off, either slowly or abruptly according to the degree of crime. according to the guide the man or criminal was forced to look at this machine for several days before the execution and usually the criminal would go crazy ~~xx~~ before the act was even started. This sort of thing went on and on until I began to think that certainly my guide was running out of ideas. while my friend was not looking I abscond avec lin iron nail which ~~was~~ had been drawn into the wall - as a souvenir. All the roadways were lined or paved with pretty pebbles about the size of a half a dollar but look and pry as I did, could not find or dislodge one for Jays pebble collection. On the walls of this old fort lives a lizard which has a curled tail  the like of which I have never seen before. One of the pictures I took of this castle shows a few of 12 cannons which Don should enjoy seeing as they are called the "Twelve Apostles". The guns guarded the entrance to the harbor. The English were clever, however, and came in from landward and the cannons were of no use. the deep moat (sp?) was dynamited and the fort was captured for the first and only time in the history of Cuba. The fisherman in his rowboat saw

me leave the castle about a mile away and before I loned get to my point of debarkation, he was already there and waiting as he said he would be. another 30¢ got me back. The Castle still fires a shot from a cannon at 9:00 P.M every nite – at one time in the distant past as a sign for all people to be off the streets but now signals the begenning of the night life. The more I see of Central American people the more I am of the opinion that nightlife is there only pastime. My friend Becerra, who so honorably worships women, as the ideal goes, arrived at the ship on monday morning, half drunk and with two young prostitutes on each arm. What they say and what they do are two different things. On the other side of the street from the United Fruit Dock where our ship was moored were 6 bars, Chics Club, New Pastores, The Pilot, and three spanished named places each bar with about 15 room overhead where the young ladies were supposed to take their customers to show them some fine etchings or something. Needless to say, my dear, the car traffic was much to hazardous for me to cross the street! According to most of the passengers on the cruise, they would like to cancel their trip to Guatemala and stay in Havana, apparently the nightlife is very entertaining and no doubt worth seeing. On Monday the workers completed the unloading of 700,000 tons of freight and sealed up the hatches before we departed at 11:00 A.M.

The captain of the ship was telling me that not ago a man on the ship was caught by the leg with a rope by the derrick and before the machine could be stopped, was dumped down upon the cement of the wharf below. The ship doctor would not sign the death certificate because, as he claimed, the man was alive when he left the ship! And that aint a joke.

Love to all, James.

P.S Down to my last white shirt but in a day or so I will be in the bush and I will not need them.
P.P.S The American Embassy, Pleurifay, to whom I had written letters for scientific permits was transferred to Thailand so I face the problems of dealing personally with the goverment, which will mean more delay.

Nov. 29, 1954
Left Havana 11:00 A.m for Puerto Barreas, Guatemala

at sea between Cuba and Puerto Barrios, Guatemala
nov. 30, 1954

At sea between Cuba and Puerto Barrios, Guatemala
Dec. 1, 1954

Arrived Puerto Barreos at daybreak. Mr. Santis Holiday, the District manager of United Fruit Co., made arrangement to send car to Guatemala City. The vehicle will pass on to Guatemala City in bond because of the gun and ammunition used for collecting specimens. Mr. Mathew V. Molanphy, Freight and Passenger Agent, U.F. Co., should be contacted in Guatemala City for further arrangements for the car. Met Lina A. Lemos, graduate of 1951 at K.U. at Santa Ana, and a Mr. George D. Munch, of the Engineer Department, U.F. Co. at Puerto Barreos.
Stay tonight at Hotel del Norte.

December 1, 1954
Puertos Barrios
Hotel del Norte

Arrived Puerto Barrios early this morning. Everything up to now is in the pale compared to Guatemala. The trip between Havana and Barrios was uneventful except for rougher water, but then only enough to run the last drop of soup on to one side of the bowl so you could easily and politely get the last drop; I did see a show on the boat with Walter Pidgeon which was very good and also a short on some archeological work sponsored by the United Fruit Company which gave me the idea that they might also consider sponsoring a zoological expedition. Now, that they know Bee from the top to bottom, would be a good time to approach them. Imagine, eating all the bananas you wanted for nothing!

At the dock, met Mr. Holiday who is the manager of the interests of the United Fruit Company at Barrios. He took me over to the office and we started to see how far we could go about getting the car off the boat and on a flat car. Two other ships were ahead of the Cubabama and loaded with new cars. These new cars will have to be unloaded first and then, perhaps tomorrow they can start on the Cubabama. My car was the last item to be placed on the boat at New Orleans and therefore handy.for getting off the boat. But, at Honduras, they put the car deep in the ship and loaded 100,000 pounds of pipe on top of it, so it may not be until

day after tomorrow that they could possibly get at it. There is nothing that they can do even though they would like to be helpful. The Ministerio de Defensa Nacional of Guatemala City was to send the permits to the custom office at Barrios, which, if received, would have made matters simpler. There is no reason why one odd-calibered gun and a box of shells should give one so much trouble. Tomorrow morning at 7:30 I will leave for Guatemala by train and arrange for permits and wait for the car. I have learned one thing about Central American people and that is that while they say they will do a thing, they generally will not until they are forced to do it. A personal interview or approach is necessary. At the Exporting office in New Orleans I remember signing six different sets of papers which they claimed would be sent by air mail to Barrios to get the car out of hock but to date I have not found one of them in the various offices we consulted in Barrios, nor did these offices ever know of such papers being required--just another big show by these people. The cost to ship the car to Guatemala is $125, or so. I think I shall see if they have special rates for scientific organizations. The amount I saved by reduced fare on the Cheriqui will just about pay for the car fare.

Landing at Puerto Barrios is like landing in another world. It is even more tropical than Assam; and situated on a bay and sea, adds to its enchantment. The people are India all over. Most of the trees near the port are palm. I cannot understand why there are not more deaths

from falling coconuts. Somehow this country reminds me of the northwest with the mountains covered with big trees clear down to the edge of the water. The bird-life is exotic and numerous. The black vulture is as common and tame as our park pigeons and can be approached to within a few feet. The marine bird life is made of many birds that I am seeing for the first time. Have not seen any wild animals but am told that they occur only about one mile beyond the village. If the permits were in my possession, I would, on December 1, have had twenty or thirty numbers in my catalogue by the end of the day. When I think that it is going to take at least five days before I can get into the field, I am ready to start another "free hunting" revolution.

The hotel, which is the only one in Barrios, is a hotel by name only. It set me back a step or two when I entered, both by sight and smell. The odor of moldy wood and bedding is enough to keep you awake. No running water and doubtful drinking water. The meals are tasty but I cannot but feel that if I survive this first day on their food, I can get better food (safer to eat) in Guatemala City. I will be glad when I can eat out of my own food box and drink boiled water. The menu consisted of soup with dumpling-like masses, an egg rolled up with onions in the center, which I thought was more than adequate for a meal but I discovered that there were three more plates under the top one. The second dish was a whole fish about the size of the plate, which (the fish) was taken from the bottom of a

wooden canoe which a fisherman had brought in from his fish stock. The seller waded around with bare feet among the fish and picked at a few of the ones I later had for dinner. The third plate was piled with meat balls and fried potatoes and the fourth with beans. The dessert was a fruit mixture. I still do not know if the butter was pasturized or the bread properly baked. They have negro boys about 13 or 14 years of age to keep the rooms in order and serve the food. They are objecting because they get only $10 a month wages. At the United Fruit Company's Merchandise Company, where all the natives trade, the prices are above those in the States, but yet they expect those young kids to live on $10 a month. Something's wrong! You can see why they would accept communism if they knew that they would get better wages. Speaking of communism, most of the people think that the road which the Communists were building between Guatemala City and Puerto Barrios was a good thing because, as it is now, the railroad is really holding up the people. Holliday told me that the United Fruit Company, although it did not have powers of management, owned 45 per cent of the stock.

During the day it rained five times but after each shower the sun came out. I thought it high time to buy an umbrella but found out that they wanted $9.50 for one at the store, so will not get one until I get to Guatemala City. The water stands in fields which are covered with luxurian grasses and the excess water runs to the sea, most of it I do believe flows under

the hotel.

The price of the hotel is $5 per day which is a holdup for such extremely poor accommodations.

Right now I have a Guatemalan in the room shining my shoes--he does not speak English and although he is not doing a very good job on my shoes, the odor of shoe polish is acting like airwick to the musty room, which is good.

I anticipate a very interesting trip tomorrow on the small train that goes to Guatemala City. Although one hour by air, it takes all day by train. I will find out what my regular address will be in Guatemala, so until you hear from me from Guatemala City, I will close for the present.

Love to all,

James.

P.S. Tell Jay that in Puerto Barrios I counted 175 bicycles and only three cars, so when he gets his new bike, he can come down and join the crowd. Tell Chris that the little girls and boys do not wear clothes but they still dress up their dolls.

Some of the kid waiters were telling me that there are several cases of yellow fever in the village and that nearly all have malarial fever bugs. There were a few in my room so I had the steward bomb them out. They all agree, after telling them that they should have vaccinations, that

the United Fruit Company doesn't care for the people but are interested only in getting their money, which is, as I see it about the truth. It looks to me as though the United Fruit Company will probably go the way of the British in India if they continue to subjugate these people and keep them from advancing as they normally would even as a primitive society. I think that their desire to go against the Company is more than Communistically inspired.

Met a young kid who is going to the National College and he tells me that gas is 40 cents a gallon in most parts of Guatemala and that the roads beyond the immediately outlying areas of Guatemala City are in poor condition. His father runs a drug store and pharmacy in Guatemala City.

A talking parrot in the back yard has been scolding, laughing, talking and yelling like mad. It mixes in with the turkeys, ducks, pigeons and vultures.

This morning when I arrived I gave a letter to the hotel clerk and told him to send it off and I would pay the postage. This afternoon the letter was still on his desk, so I took it down to the post office and mailed it myself. Each stamp is a 1/10 of a Quetzal. The mail service seems to be conducted on an informal basis. Might as well use the rest of the paper.

For supper, had soup, bread, butter, another whole fish which tasted like it had mellowed too long, a plate of boiled meat--looked like vulture meat!--beans, potatoes,

cake and a custard pudding, the last of which I should not have eaten.

It's raining out again and the musty odor permeates the air. I can begin to appreciate my problems in trapping in the tropical country. According to Holiday the weather should be even better in January.

Tell Jay and Chris and Polly, if she's near, that I have started to collect the different kinds of money in each country. The Cuban money is much like ours except that there is a 20-cent and a 25-cent piece which are the same size.

I just noticed that I will have to move my suitcase as the rain is coming down the walls on the inside of the room and spreading out over the floor. Isn't this country exciting!

Puerto Barrios, Guatemala
Dec. 2, 1954

Left on train at 7:30 A.M for Guatemala City.

541202-56

Puerto Barrios, Guatemala
Dec. 2, 1954

Railroad ticket to Guatemala City from Puerto Barrios. also note from Puerto Barrios received on train at Bananero asking me to return to Puerto Barrios

Form B-5

FERROCARRILES INTERNACIONALES DE CENTRO AMERICA
(División Guatemala)

Válido por un pasaje sin escalas, de la estación y en la fecha estampadas al dorso, hasta la estación indicada en la proyección colocada. NULO si no tiene PROYECCION mostrando destino.

Nº 18637 **ENTERO PRIMERA CLASE**

Agente de Fletes y Pasajes

La Fragua	Fragua
Mármol	Mármol
Reforma	Reforma
Cabañas	Cabañas
Tambor	Tambor
Lo de China	de China
Los Bordos	Bordos
Jícaro	Jícaro
Malena	Malena
Rancho	Rancho
Progreso	Progreso
La Libertad	Libertad
Cromo	Cromo
Cruz	Cruz
Barranquillo	arranquillo
Jalapa	Jalapa
Sanarate	Sanarate
Cumbre	Cumbre
Carrizo	Carrizo
Chile	Chile
Dolores	Dolores
El Plantón	El Plantón
Cucajol	Cucajol
Joaquina	Joaquina
Los Encuentros	Encuentros
Agua Caliente	ua Caliente
Joya	Joya
Fiscal	Fiscal
Cimarrón	Cimarrón
Paraíso	Paraíso
Soto	Soto
Vuelta Grande	ta Grande
Cantera	Cantera
Méndez	Méndez
Lavarreda	rreda
Ermita	ita
Guatemala	

note
Presented on train at Bananera, Gut. Dec 2. 1954.
Railroad grade washed out beyond.

Mr. Bee

1392

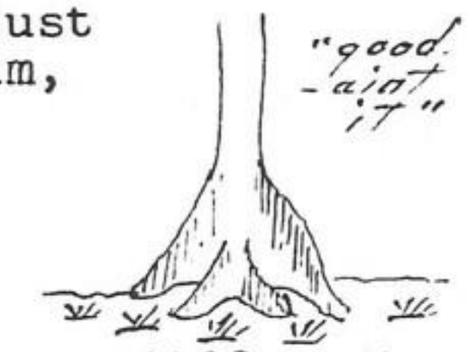
Train not going thru. Port Office suggests you get off here and go back to Barrios this pm to take plane for city Bee

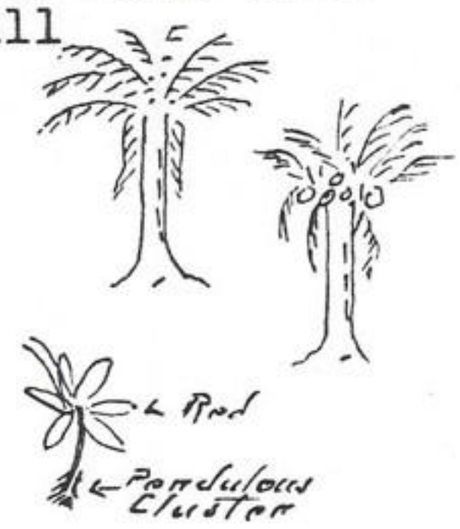
Puerto, Barrios
December 2, 1954

Dear Annette,

Left Barrios at about 7:30 a.m. for Guatemala City via railway. The first class fare allowed me to ride in the last coach which differed from any other coach by having a woven bamboo covering over the seats. The train is of the narrow-gauge type with small engines and kerosene lamps. The road bed is just rough enough to make the train go sideways and up and down at the same time. Ten hours of this was calculated to dislocate a vertebral disc. The passengers retain their friends until about three blocks out of the city when the train starts to gain too much momentum for the non-paying passengers to jump from the train. Likewise, in approaching a station the village people jump aboard and ride the train to a halt. A dozen or so porters claim your baggage. Actually there is more room in second class cars than in the crowded first-class car. The countryside is even more exotic than Assam but in ways very similar. The hills and mountains are covered with dense jungles of high trees which, from my position in the train, seemed to be impenetrable. As the railway follows the valley of the Motagua River, it is relatively flat. Ledo, Assam could be campared with this valley with mountains, however, on both sides. The flat part of the valley supports many banana trees, other areas are grown to dense jungle with vines sealing in the vegetation. The ground is damp to wet and many places with standing water and the types of plants which

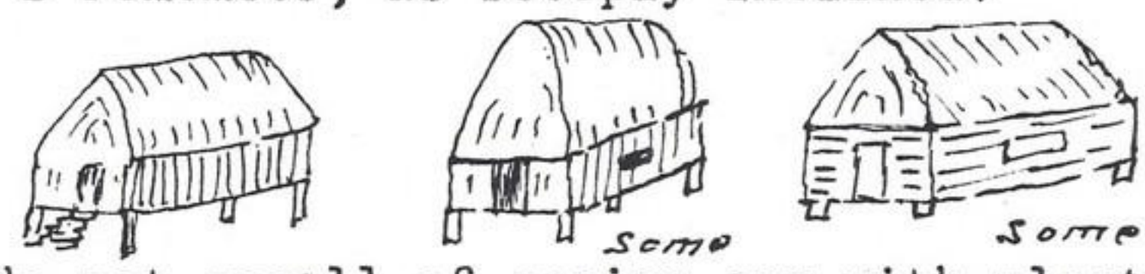
are associated with wet places, such as water lilies, grasses 30 feet high or so, large heart shaped leaves and a multitude of other aquatic plants. Some trees have bases which are as much as 20 feet across. These trees are much like the banym trees of Assam and India. Many different kinds of colored flowers add to the attractiveness of this jungle scene. If you can imagine a jungle just twice as luxuriant as Assam, you have the picture. I think your mother would enjoy this country and it is surprising how available it actually is. There appears to be many different kinds of palms which I confuse with the coconut tree. The palms appear more like this with a large mass of small balls, whereas the coconut trees have the branches or fronds (live ones) pointed down as well as up.





Orchids grow on nearly all of the trees. The beautiful red flower which the Guatemalans call the "flower of the day," is the same that grows in India and Assam. They tell me that the flowers are just beginning to develop their best growth. Bananas grow the entire year but are, in the main, just about half grown and in the next two or three months will reach their best growth. However, many are being picked as of today. The banana trees are higher and less compact than Assamese bananas. As was true in Assam,

the banana trees are in all stages of development from whole flats of small, densely arranged plants to tall trees occurring singly. Green characterizes the color except for some yellows and of course the vari-colored flowers. Fruits include trees of orange of grapefruit-like balls, papaya, gourd-like fruits, lemon-like fruits and many others. I have noticed many trees which have leaves which appear to be dying and also new green leaves on the same tree. The birds are too numerous to mention. They include many familiar ones from the north as well as many birds that I know nothing about--as yet, but just let me get a hold of my trusty .410 and I will make a more intimate acquaintance. It is a shame to shoot them but it is the best way to learn more about them. The house and people could be from any Indian setting. The houses are thatched with palm leaves and the sides of bamboo. The entire structure is on stilts. The nogo houses, however, were not, as I remember, as steeply inclined.



I do not recall of seeing any with plaster on as was so common in the lower valleys of Assam or especially in India. Some houses were shelters covering cooking ovens or work areas--some had fences of bamboo around them but this condition was an exception. These people do not require the privacy of the Indians. Single trail paths lead from one shack to another. The people

are better clothed than the Indians or nogas but actually live in more poorly fashioned houses--in some cases the contrast between nicely dressed occupant and horrible-looking hut is ridiculous.

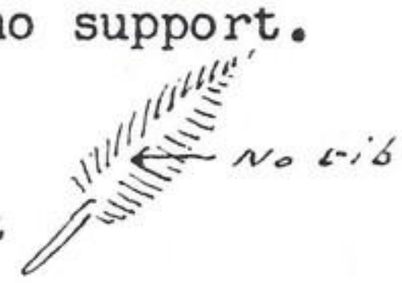
At Bananera a dark skinned bearer handed me a note (include) which advised me to go back to Barrios as the road ahead beyond Zaeapa had been covered with a land slide and the train would not be able to continue and there were no accommodations beyond Bananera. This condition of slide occurs frequently, sometimes being so inconsiderate as to cover a train! The unfortunate situation is that on the other side of the slide, on its way to Barrios, is $250,000 worth of bananas or 50,000 bunches. The bananas can only remain one day before they will be too far gone to be shipped, so it looks as though the fruit will be checked out as lost, as they claim it will take five or six days to clear the track and make repairs. The insecurity of this railway is also hurting the United Fruit Company at Barrios and myself. I can readily see why prices are so high in Guatemala when I realize that this delay is holding up five ships, and those ships which are discharging cargo are forced to put the freight on the dock instead of into railway cars, which means more expense in handling the cargo twice.

My stay at Bananera was really a pleasant one (from about 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) and an informative one. I am finding out more clearly how the United Fruit Company operates and what a big outfit it really is. From the color pictures which I

took you can see what a beautiful and unique place it is. It is really a civilized oasis in the jungle. The manager placed the guest house (they call it a rest house) at my disposal--refrigerator with coco cola, whiskey, and a little emergency food, nice furniture, beds, shower, toilet, etc. and a negro servant. The negro had been keeping care of the rest house for 18 years. Only 30 feet or so away was their big outdoor swimming pool, beyond a lake with reflecting shadows of palm trees, and beyond a green golf course as neatly cut as a city park lawn. Brilliant flowers grew everywhere. I ate dinner at the regular dining hall and all this for no expense. I found out later that if they had known, they would have sent a man with me in a rail car to the classical Quirigua ruins about 30 miles distance. The United Fruit Company owns practically all of the banana plantations and has every convenience of lodging, transportation, feeding and time that would be required for the operation of a scientific program. I am convinced that to get the cooperation of this outfit in supporting our cause is the proper thing to do. They are such a big company that assistance amounting to a few thousand dollars would probably never have to be sanctioned above the level of the field plantations. It is really surprising how much of Guatemala is actually the United Fruit Company. The rest house is ten times better than any hotel I have so far seen in Guatemala. Outside of the United Fruit Company, the accommodations are horrible. At 4:30 boarded east moving train and headed back to Barrios. The trip back was even more pleasant than the trip this morning because the lights were soft and the skies were clear

instead of dropping down bucketsful of rain. At late twilight the huts could be identified by the pretty red light from their open fires. As we approached Barrios, the electric lights and gasoline lamps were objectionable in quality compared with the glow of the native fires in their native environment. There is one peculiar thing about the silhouette of the palm frond at twilight--the rib which in the day is prominent becomes indistinguishable in the evening and looks like it had no support.

Holiday of Barrios, had a man waiting for me at the Hotel del Norte to tell me that the car would be taken care of and that the plane would leave tomorrow at 11 a.m. and that before I leave, to drop in and see if there is any more information on the permits from the Minesterio de Defense National.



Tonight I have room No. 5 which overlooks the sea. The odors are there but at least I am away from the interior part of the building where many other odors eminated from the stock yard of chickens, turkeys, pigeons and vultures. I think the typhus shots are going to serve a worthwhile purpose. At about 9 p.m. the sea started to act up about ten minutes before a rain storm hit the shore. These rains serve the purpose of cleaning the villages and streets which otherwise might become serious disease beds.

I had plans of working the Barrios area before going inland but it is quite apparent that the rainy season is not yet over and that the country could be more profitably

worked in the latter part of January or February. The roads outside of the village are quite muddy and in addition, it has been raining about eight times a day, every day. You can imagine what this condition would do to a trap line.

How is my good family getting along? I hope to hear from you when I get to Guatemala City. Better get Polly conditioned to the telephone because it just may be that a call can be sent through from Guatemala some day in the future.

Still living out of my suitcase. It certainly is a good thing that you put the Spanish books there.

Love to all,

James.

Puerto Barrios, Guatemala

Dec. 2, 1955

Contact Mr. Molanphy at United Fruit Co. He said return trip could be arranged with passenger accomodations on freighter. He was to meet Halliday that afternoon and would let me know if guns were impounded at Barrios and that he would let me know if car come in Mr. Arriola - 3636 is man to see at railroad terminal. Dropped in to see Mr A. L. Bump, General manager of U.F. Co. in Guat. will arrange logistic support to any area under U.F. Control at Bananera advised to return to Barrios because of washout near Zacapa. Remained at Rest House until 4:00 P.M and then returned to Puerto Barrios. Mr. Martinez arranged for my stay at Bananera.

Puerto Barrios, Guatemala

Dec. 3, 1954

Contacted Mr. Halliday for final instructions. He advises me to see the President of United Fruit Co. in Guatemala A. L. Bump for permission to visit various places in Guatemala under U.F. control. Halliday would like 3 to 6 days for getting car processed at Barrios. It will not be necessary to send by exporter Co. Plane arrive from Guatemala City at 11:30 A.M & will leave about 12:30 P.M. Slide beyond Zacapa 1000 feet long, 50 feet high and wrecked train of $250.000.00 bananas (50,000 bunches), car of coffee, beer, etc. Ambulance called to the scene.

Otto Vera
Hotel del Norte
Pto. Barrios.

Vera is to collect 100 skulls of animals and have ready for me when I return in February. Left Barrios by plane at 12:00 noon arrived Guatemala City 50

minutes later. Mr. William W. Warner was contacted at American Embassy. Will see Don Jorge Ibarra, Director Museo de Zoologia y Historia natural "La Aurora" tomorrow for information as to who to appeal for permits. Also Ministry National Defense gave me permit no. 2,139 and is now at Oficial Mayor, Ministerio de Relaciones Esteriores (National Palace) for further authentication. Where I will either pick up after authentication or will see that it gets to customs. Bank of Ave & 9th Banco Agricola Mercantil will establish credit.

Guatemala City, Guatemala

Dec. 4, 1954

Ministerio de Relacions Esteriores will contact Ministerio de Defensa national monday. Went to see Director of Museo de Zoologia ef Historia natural but could not be in until monday. He called this evening.

Dec 5, 1954

Remained at Hotel.

541205-66

December 5, 1954
Pan-American Hotel
Guatemala City

The American Embassy must have a way of knowing who one is for they handed me two letters before I even introduced myself. --one of these letters was from you and Jay and the other one was from Hall. Your letter was postmarked November 29 from Lawrence and the American Embassy mark was December 2, so it takes about four days between Lawrence and Guatemala City. This seems rather slow when, as I remember, we used to get mail from the States in India in six days. I will admit, however, that it is quicker than my "slow boat to China."

I can imagine how nice the room looks with the new chair your mother gave us--the room is really too small for that sofa and speaking of "endowed" don't you realize that there is a Mr. Skeles (Skillet) in town who could have sold that piece of furniture for at least $50!

I'm glad you used your good judgment about the shaver, although my face has two sides. The Remington 60, 6 volt, 110 watt, has the adapter inside the shaver, and although it looks like the regular Remington 60, it can be used in the car. With this shaver, one can shave twice a day without effort.

I hope the pictures come out--did you pose with them? If not, you are not excused. Mother Malseed must have one, too.

I hope that Polly is made to understand that I have not deserted her. Tell Chris that I would like a letter from her, especially some drawings of our house and what she wears, so that I can show them to the little children in Guatemala--and Mother Malseed, let me have a note from you from time to time on the actual state of affairs of the Bee Family--Annette always hides those things that would tend to make me worried while in the field. Of course, Jay will have to write me again if I am to understand exactly what we are to buy. Speaking of guns, Jay, the policemen in Guatemala have rifles that do not look any better than your old Indian rifle.

When I last wrote you, I believe that I had just returned from Bannera and was awaiting air transportation to Guatemala City. I have never been quite sure that my letters are getting out of Guatemala, as I have mailed them out under very unusual circumstances. If the letter does not carry enough postage, they are just as apt to throw it in the wastepaper basket as not. On December 3, before going down to the airfield in Barrios, I dropped over to see if the car had been unloaded--it had and also it had been inspected! The United Fruit Company guaranteed that it would be delivered to Guatemala City "in bond" but somehow the Great Military and Customs officials found out that there were guns in the car and they turned the equipment upside down. With my packing, there was adequate room left in the car, but by the time they had released the boxes with batts of cotton and pawed through the rest of the things, the car was overflowing. I personally did not

care if they inspected the car or did anything they wanted with the guns and ammunition and I think they had a right to, but when the agreement was to send the car "in bond" I think they were guilty in not letting me be there at the time. Whenever guns or ammunition are mentioned in Guatemala twenty or so military people collect around and feed on the despoils as would twenty ants feed upon a crumb of bread. The only harm done was the reshuffling of my packing which in Guatemala City I can reorganize again.

Departed from Barrios at noon; fare, $10.60 which I thought was reasonable for transporting one over tropical country that would take a year to go by foot. The tropics, in my estimation, is the attraction, at least it should be, in Guatemala. The volcanoes do not stand up to any of the cones in Washington or Oregon. Maybe I will change my mind as I have the chance to see the western highlands. The tropics from the air are more luxuriant than those of Assam and the appearance from the air is like the surface of a cauliflower. The upperstory vegetation appears to be more compact than in Assam. The hills and mountains are completely covered with virgin forests. The low broad valley appears to be kept in successional stages. It is in the flat valleys where the bananas grow most readily. The color is a deep green with a few patches of lighter green. I would like to spend a year in these dense jungle forests, especially those on the mountain slopes, but I see no way of getting into them. A car in this country is as useless as a "loon on land." The best way,

as I see it is to use a boat and then float down the rivers but then, as I say, you do not pass through the more exciting part of the jungle on the mountains. There must be some trails which would allow one to penetrate these forests but then probably only animal trails. I see no evidence of the natives using these mountain jungles. The local - and jungles are wet and as the plane flips over the sun is continually being reflected from the ponds and standing water among the trees. This part of the jungle would be even more difficult to explore. I can not see how any animal could have been adapted to land existence in these forests; they must all live in the tree tops which is quite a different thing. In a country which is so bountifully endowed with natural resources of fruit and other food, I wonder if the natives will ever develop a civilization. Their existence is solved by merely reaching up and picking their dinner off the branches. It would take more than the C.I.O. to get these people to work and to make progress. This may explain why Guatemala is so backward. Then again, the ancient Mayan peoples seemed to have made a go of it. I wonder what the real cause is of the degeneration of a once thriving civilization. It has occurred in China, Assam, Burma, and India - we know. There is a gradual ascent to a high plateau on which Guatemala City is located. It lies on sort of a broad summit which slopes to the south to the Pacific and to the north toward another range of mountains. It is an elevated plateau which has been partly eroded but is now checked. The deep canyons end in abrupt head walls. The relatively flat areas make ideal places for habitation and practically every square

foot of it is utilized, which makes the area undesirable as far as trapping is concerned. The capital of Guatemala has been destroyed on two other occasions at two other settings by earthquake and flood. The present site, in long range analysis, is also doomed by erosion. The U. S. either gave or lent to Guatemala $6,000,000 for road building. The new roads I saw from the air were deliberately made across the country in the most inappropriate routes as far as expense of buildings roads is concerned.

The fare from the airport to the city was $2 which seemed a trifle high, then hotel prices at $12 proved the point that living in Guatemala is going to be expensive. There is an extremely wide gap between what a native earns as wages and the cost of commodities. This gap will have to be reduced before there can ever be peace in Guatemala.

The city is not impressive as such, but it is unusually clean and is planned exactly as the Morman cities. The streets are relatively wide as are also the sidewalks. I am not able to place the architecture as it does not fall into the Havana, New Orleans type or the modern. It is just something different and I have not seen other cities which I could compare it with. The modern, however, is evident on all sides and if not in architecture, is modern in old settings. The people are not as degenerate as in Havana and the Indians and thier colorful clothes make the city in my opinion. There is still a great difference between the culture of the Indians and the Spanish people. Somehow, our civilization has not

affected the original Mayan peoples. It is the Mayan Indian, however, who is at the bottom of the barrel as far as social position or positions in the bigger economy of the country. The whites take advantage of the Spanish, the Spanish take advantage of the degenerate Mayans, and the degenerate Mayans take advantage of the primitive Mayan people. Of the several groups listed, I find a better man in the primitive Indians. These people are like the Mayas and they find it hard to cross a street or when half way across, are so confused that they know not which way to turn. I have never seen such small people as these Mayans. More about these people later.

The churches are all beautiful, especially inside. The American Embassy is in a modern building and is a community in itself. After hours the windows are covered with a metal-like venetian blind, I suppose for protection in an eventuality.

The first hotel I went to was the Colonial, a Spanish hotel, which, in their eyes is O.K., but to me was a dangerous place to live and especially to eat, so the next day I went over to the Pan-American where the conditions, while expensive, are safe and comfortable. These Spanish hotels are like living in dungeons. They are cold, musty, and smelly and the food is just not American. The water taps are always labelled "agua catiente" which means hot water, but I have never been able to get a temperature greater than luke cold. From the standpoint of health, these old Spanish places may be better than the dry heated hotel in America, in being always cool and

with a fresh air patio where ponds add additional moisture to the air. Even at the Pan-American you cannot trust such things as water. For instance, I recognized that the drinking water in the room had evaporation marks dating it back at least five days and that the water was filled with foreign particles which would not be present in purified bottled water, so I asked the desk to sendup some fresh drinking water. In the meantime I placed a thread over the handle of the cold water faucet and went down stairs to dinner. When I returned the pitcher was filled and the thread on the cold water tap was gone. So I called and told the clerk that I had reason to doubt that the water was purified and asked him to send up some boiled water from the kitchen which he did. This water, I am sure, was from the hot water tap as it carried the same complex of foreign particles as is characteristic of the tap water--so what can you do--the only thing as I see it, is to personally accept the responsibility of actually seeing the source of the water or to treat all water, reespective of source, yourself. The Pan-American are supposed to have the same standards as hotels in the U.S. At Barrios the same thing happened--they were putting tap water in bottles reserved for purified drinking water and as a result (could have been from food) two contracted diarrhea on the morning I was leaving, December 3. That night at the Colonial I emptied myself as I have never emptied myself before. It only affected the intestines as I did not have any discomfort in the stomach. The poisons also hit my shoulders. From breakfast on the

third to supper on the fourth, I did not eat anything but only added water from time to time. The supper paved the way and my breakfast on the fifth stabilized the condition. The symptoms and progress of the diarrhea is similar to those I have previously had, so I am not concerned. I think that I will receive immunity to these bugs in Guatemala from time to time and that evntually will not have trouble with water or food. Once I can get in the field, I will be independent of the hotels and diseases of the city. One thing that the lunch today did not cure (which incidentally included an avado, grapefruit, biscuits, butter, rice and chicken, livers, mashed potatoes and gravey, peas, corn, a tenderloin steak two inches thick and rare, piece of cake, chocolate ice cream and milk--the eating of which should dispell any doubt as to my complete recovery) There are pimples on my leg surrounded by red rings about so. What is it, doctor?

This reminds me that I must get my oxfords half-soled as the holes are allowing the mire of the walks to get to my feet.

The weather in Guatemala City is warm in the day and cool at night. The days are cloudless except for a few clouds that hang around Agua, Acatenango, Fuego and Pacayo volcanoes which are all clearly visible from my window at the Pan-American. The room is on the third flor and even at that height, overlooks the city. All the buildings have beautiful tile on the floor.

One of my first problems in Guatemala City was to get the permit to carry a gun

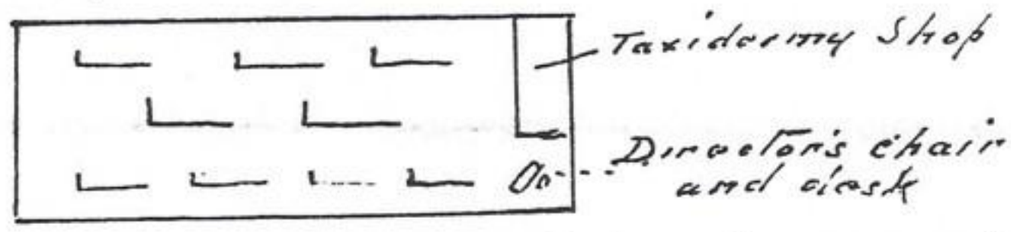
and to get the gun and ammunition into the country. A letter written by Hall on the 26th of November proved to be only an introduction to getting the permit although he said that we would like to have the permit sent to Barrios so that I could take care of matters there when I arrived. When I called the Ministerio de Defensa Nacional, he said that the permit had been resolved and that I was to check with the Ministerio de Relaciones Exterior (State Department or like Office of International Relations) at the National Palace where the permit was being approved. I do not think that Ministerio of Defensa Nacional had even written out the permit nor did he think that I could reach the M. de R. E. before he had a chance to make one out but I did get to see the M. de R. E. and found out that he had never heard anything about such a permit! It was five minutes to noon, Friday and at that time he could not get in touch with the M. de D. N. so asked if I would not return Monday at ten o'clock. Arriving in Guatemala City on a weekend, complicated matters considerably. The American Embassy closed Friday at four and could not be of help until Monday. Imagine hours from 10 - 12 and 2 to 4 with Saturday and Sunday and all holidays off! In visiting the various offices of the Guatemala Government, I found an anxiety and confusion which to me spells instability. This observation is proving true as I receive information from different sources. I did not believe Docking in Lawrence when he told me that the country was unstable as based on the stock market, but I find now that the country is far from stable; that there is an underground movement; that many people easily understood except

when they prounounce their names, that the anti-communistic propaganda is still in full force and that the teachers (most responsible for the communistic movement) are being screened etc. On the main floor of the National Palace is an exibit of all the propaganda used by the communists in Guatamala. It is one of the most effective demonstrations I have seen and includes all the literature, documents, radiograms, letters, movies, etc used by the C. They have piles of well bound books, magazines, pamplets, which are printed in Russia, about pro-americanism, each pile 20 feet high and 30 feet at the base. One side of the hall is lined with rolls of movie film on communism. The sight of all this literature and propaganda material, which would fill several box cars, is most impressive. One side of the large hall has evidence and the operation of the communist in Guat. with pictures of the brutal treatment of people, the killing, unhuming the dead, etc. Right now the Am. Embassy is highly geared in their propaganda-books, pamplets, movies, radio, loudspeakers, etc.

On the way out to the Museo de Zoologica y Historic Natural, I turned to a man next to me on a bus and asked him if he could speak English, as I was not sure where to get off. To my surprize he could and was from Vermont. This Mr. Sanchez is with the American Embassy and was on his way to the horse races (I later found out-as he is living at the Pan American-that he won 75¢ that day) As to info. on directions, he was unable to help me as he had only been in Guatamala only two weeks (3 years to go)

The Museo is located in the City Zoo and is housed in a one story building about 150 by 60 feet. The poorly mounted animals and birds area arraneged in close enclosed cases. Two exibits in natural setting (10'x 4') are poor excuses for this type of presentation. The director Don Jorge

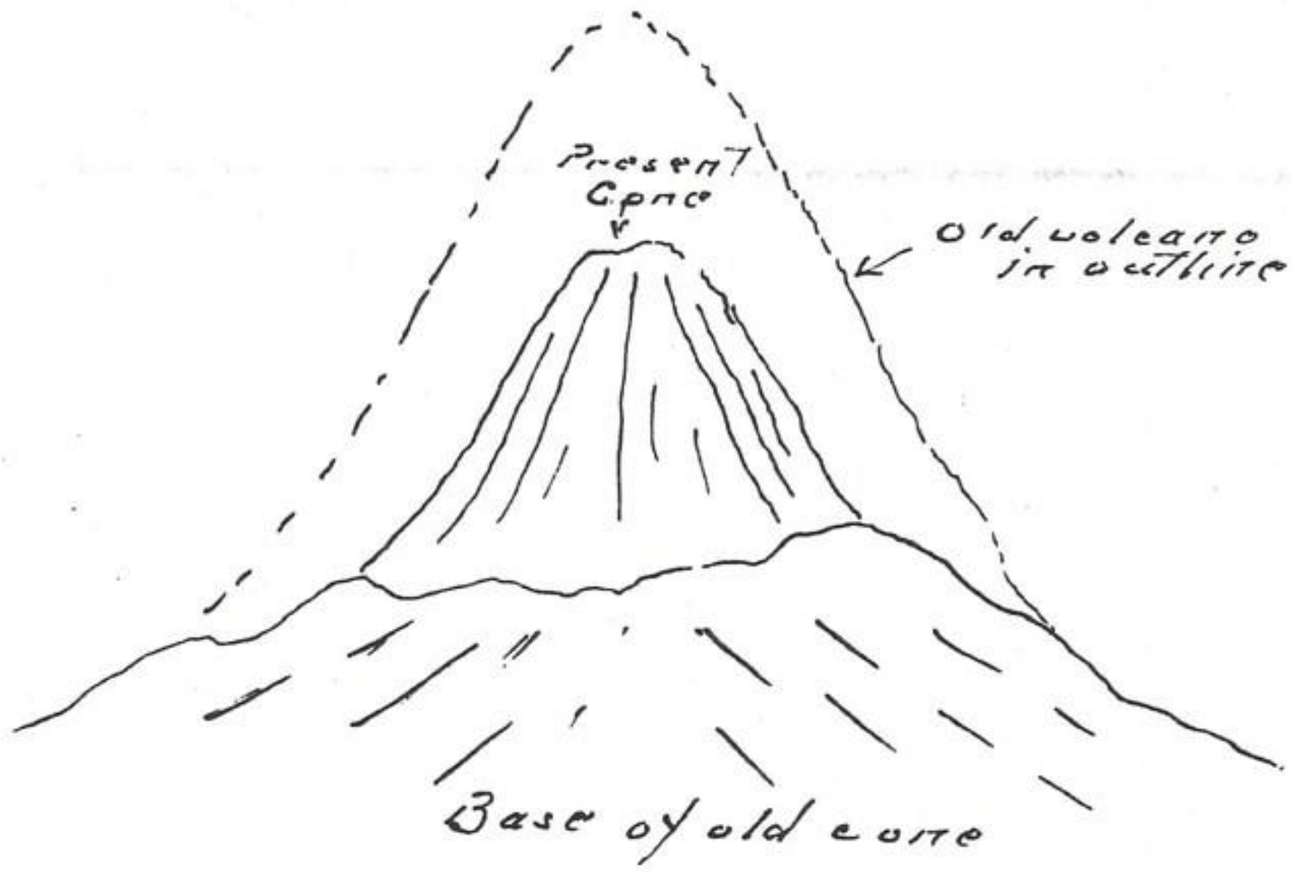
Ibarro was not there and would not be back until monday, so I left a note. At 7.00 P.M. he called



me at the hotel and wanted me to come out at 8.30 but I was not in condition to see him at that time because of the independability of my sphincter muscle. Senior Jose' David Alvarez, while he spoke not a word in English, showed me thru the plant. From what I can judge, this man Ibarro needs some work in K.U. and I am going to tell him if he desires to come to K.U., he will be supplied a scholarship. I'm quite sure that Hall would be very glad to have the Director of the Museo de Guatamala his pupil and it would make for good relationship between the two Nations in terms of collecting in Guatamala. At present his taxonomy is out of date and his mus eum technique needs guidance. Will see Ibarro monday for permits

The Archaeological museum, next door is about six times the size of the Zoo Museum and is apparently heavily endowed. The displays are excellent, including artifacts, large stone carveings paintings, pottery, models of houses and a section you would enjoy which shows the colorful dress of the Mayan Indians-each particular tribe; also, how the cloth is woven. I dare say that the theme of their clothing and especially the colors, will be patterened in the U.S., at some time and that once accepted, will remain classical.

I noticed that on the way home on the bus, that younger women would give their seats to older women and men. The men sat'pat' .



From my window the Agua Volcano looks like this. The clouds are hanging around in the protected parts of the cone. As you can see, the well formed cone has been built on the base of a one time much larger cone. If this thing exploded, I am afraid Guatamala City would have to move again for the fourth time.

Last night I washed 3 white shirts, 1 pink shirt, 3 handkerchiefs, 1 pair pants, 3 undershirts, 3 shorts and 3 pair of socks in my $12.00 bathtub. When I eat in the Dining Salon, I wear a new white manhatten shirt which I purchased for $5.00. -as a matter of propriety. All my other white shirts were dirty and I hadn't time to have them laundered. I will keep the unironed until needed. As soon as my diplomatic mission is complete, my white shirts will be stored until my return in Febuary. When reading for the return trip, I think I will purchase a dinner jacket.

These maids are certainly curious people. When I leave the room, I always put the more valuable things in my grip and then close it with one of the strings hanging out, the other loose end is put back in the suitcase so that if the lid is opened the string or tie piece will fall down and I will then know if the suit case has been opened. When that occurs which has been the case in nearly everywhere I have had lodging (camp--ed), I check my valuables to be sure they have open--ed the suitcase thru curosity only. Nothing has been taken thus far. I keep the traveler's checks, 35 mm movie camera, shaver and all my documents in the case.

In the interest of economizing on United Fruit Co's stationery (I must have really taken a hand full of this stuff) I will finish the paper and then close for this sunday. The church bells ring continually in the morning but I have not heard them this P.M. They sound like five locomotives bells ringing at the same time. There is no rhythm or music to their sound.

I do not know what the occasion is but there has been fireworks going on every day since I have been here. The greatest noise in the City comes from the motorcycles which one has to watch more than motor traffic when crossing the street. The many bicycles are also a hazard. I have to smile when the President passes thru Town, which he does periodically, and down the main street. He rides in a large black car preceed ed by a dozen or so traffic policemen on motorcycles. Everyone is directed to stop their car and pull over to the curb when the President passes. It is suprising how many policemen rally to the call of the sirens on these occasions. The policemen all over the City are in greater numbers than are necessary except for a single reason-to stand by in case of trouble.

The Indian market is just something you will have to see. I never realized that X'mas was celebrat ed as much as it is in Guatamala. Every store has X'mas merchandise, especially toys-in fact, they have all the American items as well as many other items

as well. There is a greater selection of toys than I have ever seen in the U.S. It really looks like home (Pardon- not in all respects.) Yesterday a car passed with American X'mas carols being sung. Toys in Guatamala are for the old as well as the young and would estimate that 80% of the peoples income go for them.

Tell Jay to draw a picture of the new Bob Cat Badge and tell me something about it.

Do you have enough money to carry you thru December? Address mail care of American Embassy- they will handle emergency calls. Will probably be in Guatamala City at least two more days, depending how soon they can reestablish the rail service from Barrios.

Love James.

Guatemala City, Guatemala
Dec. 6, 1954

Contacted Mr. A. L. Bump, Head of the United Fruit Co., in Guatemala City. He showed me some exceptionally fine paintings of mayan Gods. His hobby is the use and history of corn in the mayan culture. Mr. Bump wanted to cooperate in publishing a manual of the mammals of Guatemala. He gave me the name of Farnsworth and Knight of the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala City. He has a keen interest in the reconstitution of mayan ruins.

This afternoon met Jorge A. Ibarra, Director of the museo de zoologia y Historia Natural and spent the afternoon with him. He will bring a letter of authorization to collect mammals and birds and will meet at 2:00 P.M tomorrow. For future expeditions to Guatemala, he will arrange for permits for guns and collecting etc.

541206-80

Guatamala City, 12-6-54

Dear Annette, Polly, Chris, Jay & Grandma:
How is my big family in Kansas? I wish you were all here to enjoy this climate as I know the weather in Kansas must be cold at this season of the year. In Guatamala you can choose your weather-from hot to frigid, or, as we natives would say ' de là caliente a la frio '. Mailed a letter this morning and will probably get this short note off tomorrow A.M. so don't be surprised if No 2 gets to Kansas before No. 1. Also checked with the Embassy this morning but no letter for Bee.

Diarrhoea not yet checked tho yesterday I thot I had it under control. A few days may be required to get back to normal.

This A.M. went down to see Mr. Molanphy of the United Fruit Co. He is in charge of the passanger and freight department. He assured me that I could get a return trip on the same ship that would carry the car. A like arrangement could not be made at the New Orleans headquarters; also, he is going to check to see when the car will arrive from Puerto Barrios. The Ry. right of way is now open-the first time since the slide and a limited amount of traffic is coming thru. Then, I proceeded to the Palacion National-I am beginning to recognize the Ministers by now. It is quite an experience to see into the operation of the various departments of the Guatamalian Government. The Palace is as said -a building 'elegante' with ponds in the court as large as Potter Lake. The doors are outstanding but are marred by having Yale shock cylinders screwed on to their edges. The tapestry is royal.

I went first to the Ministero de Defensa National where Mayor Official informed me he did not have the document in his office and would have to go to the undersecretary of the Ministerio de Defensa Nacional to see why it was not received. So, I did so to find out what they told me Friday was not true. After going thru the files they found the letter with permit was sent to the Guatamalian Consulate in New Orleans where it was to be authenticated and delivered to the port of debarkation. This, they said, was the status of the matter, could not be changed and they would have to write for the permit. This would have been impractical considering the time element, so, I wnet directly to the four starred general-the ministerio de Defensa National. He called in a two-star and two colonal and together they decided to extend me a provisional duplicate permit and they would have the Ministero de Relaciones Exteriores approve it. Then the Customs would be informed and the guns could be taken from the car and held in bond until

I could arrange for a permit to carry a gun after I get the guns in the custody of the Customs. I will get the permit at the Ministerio Gubernacion. I now have the entire chain of commands directed toward the customs at the central clearing house at Guatamala City. Now, if the guns were taken out of the car at Barrios, I will have to reorganize my requests and probably have to make another trip to Barrios to get the guns in 'hock' again so that they can be delivered to the central clearing house in Guatamala City. Next time I will bring a flipper.

This P.M. met Jon A. Ibarra, Director Museo de Zoologia'y Historia Natural. He informs me he could have handled the entire matter of customs had he known I was coming. Ibarra is a very interesting man and is, I beleive, sincerely interested in his work-he comes from a long line of Ibarra naturalists He is not paid enough to live on and must work besides. He receives $100.00 a month to operate the Museum. His museum techniques are-compared to K.U., very crude With no budget, the needs of the institution can not be met. His technique is at least 50 years behind that of K.U. Most of his publications are newspaper art icles and a few in magazines-all are pasted in a scrap-book, Was surprised to see about a foot in length of reprints from the Museum of Nat. Hist., K.U. He said the Museum had been very kind in sending them to him. If Hall can arrange for a scholarship for Ibarra, K.U. will benefit from the contact with this man and better relations with his country. He has a wife and two children (1-1/2 years and one but a few months.) He was telling me of a Mark Ryan and wife from the U.S. They called June-July and asked for work with the Museum Of course Ibarra had no funds with which to pay help. These two wanted $4,000 a year to collect mammals and were going to get it or else. These two, he says, were discovered to be communists and while the C were in power were trying to get Ibarro's job. The Ryans falsified a check for about $2,000 and during the over throw of the C. they disappeared with them.

Ibarra tells me of reports of two mammals, living in caves, which do not have eyes-not bats. These undoubtedly are exagerations and a product of the imagination, tho will investigate. Ibarra has several friends that he could make arrangements with to accompany me to their habitats.

By-the-way, this morning I went over to the office of Mr. A.L.Bump who is the President of the United Fruit Co.-ahem ! and we had a chit-chat. His Secretarie's boy friend is or had attended K.U.- a Mr. Cox-played basketball. I went to see Bump to obtain authorization to collect on the United Fruit Co's plantation-they own practically everything in tillable

Guatamala. Actually I did not have to go to such a high level of the organization to get permission but I had other motives. These men at the top are really nice people to deal with. This man Bump is highly cultured and polished. I told him of my objective and how for the first time, I had recognized need for logistic support in this tropical country. He recognized the problem at once and called in his secretary. In a few minuted he had the names of five or six people who knew the tropics and could advise where the best places are for collecting. After making these contacts, to return and he would arrange for transportation onto the areas, housing, meals and field assistance. We turned to his fine art collection-water color and Mayan paintings. His hobby is the study of corn in the culture and economy of the Mayan civilization.

The way I have outlined my program in Guatamala I do not think I will need the assistance of the U.F.Co. except for permission to collect. As time goes on I do not think it will be unorthodox to ask this man to what extent he would go in financing a 2 or 3 year expedition in the Guatamalian tropics. Better brush up on your Espaniol. This outfit has already financed the excavation and restoration of the Mayan City at Zaculen and also the preservation of such sites as Quirigua. When these people can lose $250,000 worth of bananas and not blink an eye I'm sure they could put out 20 or 30 thousand for a really worth while cause and a cause which would benefit them immensurably.

One of the men he mentioned for me to see is my old friend Farnsworth who was involved in the United Health Organization that did not materalize.

This evening the U.S propaganda machine is working at, along with the nonsence, classical music.

This day is the first day that a $6 room is available so now I am on the opposite side of the hotel. For all practical purposes it is the same except there is not the view over the city nor the broad picture windows. I now look out upon the Palacio National! In spite of the hurried action of the diplomats, I notice that sunday night and this evening their is not one light burning in the building. I guess that all is calm in Guatamala!

I can tell it is about 10.30 as the noise of the heavy iron window-doors are being drawn over the fronts of the stores. The sweepers are still working in the streets. Someone just walked past below whistling a familiar classical theme. All the other human voices are foreign.

I hope the car arrives before Wed. as I have to vacate my room that date for the U.F.Co's convention crowd. Somehow I think I will be on my way by then.

My red rings are almost resolved so I am now ready for whatever comes along next.

Will write Hall tomorrow and see if I can get my expenses in so that my account can be revolved. I have enough money for current expenses but could not handle an emergency.

The X'mas spirit is in full swing with Santa Claus in every store-most of them life size and mechanical. They really make the most of this holi-day. Ibarra invited me out for X'mas providing I was in the area. Every evening during dinner the hotel features special music, last night it was a rhumba band-tonight, a pianist. The fireplace is a great attraction in the building as the rooms are not heat ed and the evenings are almost too cool for comfort. The Mayans are all wrapped in their colorful shalls.

The Am Embassy fellers really have a rough time-living in expensive hotels and more time on their hands than they know what to do with-or maybe they do know-Sanchez has had a different gal every evening I have seen him, and, has a wife in the States. I have received very little assistance from the Am Embassy and I find it more educational and exciting to work out my own problems. They are good to have around, however, in time of revolution or civil strife. I like those iron doors on their building.

Do you have any more word about mother? I'm afraid the winter months are going to be hard on her.

What progress has Suchan made on the fire-escape -the harvest should be over by now.

I thot I would keep on writing until the music outside stopped but it is now 11.50 P.M. and they are in full swing-wait--they are now playing Silent Night-this may be it, if not, I will let you know how it turned out later.

Love
James.

87

541206-84

MINISTERIO DE LA DEFENSA NACIONAL

REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA, C. A.

OFICIO No. 6 DIC. 1954 12526 HECHO D4B

RESUMEN:

Guatemala, 6 de dicbre. de 1954.
Año de Liberación

RECEIVED
DEC 10 1954
Ret'd to
Ans'd By
Date

Señor James W. Bee
Presente.

Muy señor mío:

Refiriéndome a la nota que envió a este Ministerio el señor E. Raymond Hall, Director del Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad de Kansas, EE.UU., me es grato manifestarle que por parte de este Ministerio no hay ningún inconveniente y por lo tanto se autoriza el ingreso al Pais de las armas de pequeño calibre que -- trae consigo, y que usará para la obtención de ejemplares de la fauna guatemalteca.-

Esta autorización de ingreso, se entiende que no - lo faculta para la portación y uso de tales armas, ya- que para ésto, es necesario que Ud. obtenga la licen - cia correspondiente del Ministerio de Gobernación, que de conformidad con la Ley es el facultado para exten - derla.

Sin otro particular soy de Ud. atto. y s.s.

cc.arch.

MINISTERIO DE LA DEFENSA NACIONAL - GUATEMALA, C. A. -

DE ORDEN DEL SEÑOR MINISTRO
SUBSECRETARIO

ARIEL RIVERA S.

MINISTERIO
DE
EDUCACION PUBLICA

MUSEO NACIONAL DE HISTORIA NATURAL

PARQUE NACIONAL AURORA
CAMPO DE LA FERIA
TEL. Nº 9842
GUATEMALA, C. A.

Diciembre 7 de 1954.-

A LAS AUTORIDADES DEPARTAMENTALES:

El suscrito Director-Fundador del Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, por este medio tiene el honor de presentar al distinguido zoólogo Norteamericano, Dr. James Bee, quien ha venido a Guatemala procedente de la Universidad de Kansas, EE. UU. con el fin de llevar a cabo importantes estudios sobre nuestros mamíferos.

En tal virtud, el suscrito estimará a aquellas personas que le den facilidades para ponerlo en contacto con elementos aficionados a la captura de pequeños mamíferos.

El Dr. Bee es portador de una licencia que lo autoriza para portar sus armas de cacería hacia los lugares a donde se dirija a efectuar sus investigaciones científicas.

Atentamente,

Jorge A. Ibarra

MUSEO NACIONAL DE HISTORIA NATURAL
DIRECCION
GUATEMALA, C.A.

541207-86

Guatemala City, Guatemala

Dec. 7, 1954

Contacted Pan-American Sanitation Corp but Dr. Stanford Farnsworth was in Nicaragua. Ibarra brought permits this afternoon. He showed me a large relief map of Guatemala on a scale of about 50'x50', made of cement in three demensions. visited Ibarras home and family.

Dec 8, 1954

Started processing to get car and gun permits. This date a holiday and government offices are closed. Ibarra and I worked on language.

Dec. 8, 1954
Guatemala City.

Great White Fleet
UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

Dear Annette,

yesterday I dropped over to the Pan-American Sanitation but Farnsworth was in Nicaragua. He is to return this week-end and then is to fly to Washington. If I do not see him I will at least have have made it known that my intentions were good. Talked to several other people in the department and find out that they are interested only in the monkeys, however, I expressed a willingness to gather blood smears of animal that I captured. In the afternoon Ibarra paid me another visit & brought me a letter of authorization for collecting. It is in spanish and goes something like this. The director of the museum of natural history has the pleasure of presenting the distinguished north American zoologist Dr. James W Bee — etc. etc. I keep ~~the~~ telling these people I am not a doctor but they continue to use the term. He also has placed an article in the local paper, society section undoubt. We then went out to a park where a relief map of Guatemala has been constructed. This map occupies about an acre

of ground and was made by an Engineer who had visited G. many years ago. It's worth a trip to Guat. just to see this map. Then we went out to his home where I met his wife and 2 children. He has a very attractive wife and 2 very intelligent children the oldest about 1½ years old. They live in a single room but the furniture is the best. On our way out he stopped at his friends place Julio Herrera, 14 Calle-A & 12th Ave. This man has a furniture store and several men who build the furniture. The furniture you would like and I must frankly say that I have never seen such magnificent work and finishing in all my life. All made from the finest mahogany and other hardwood tree of Guatemala. One set of chairs, sofa and coffee table sell at $550.00 This man has several farms in the S.E part of Guat and a week ofter this I am going out there with Ibarra and a Dr. somebody. He has a boat and facilities of getting around the country, and according to this man there are all kinds of wild animals including the mt lion, cats etc. Last night at exactly six o'clock I thought sure the new revolution had started. All the noise that man is capable of making was broadcasted and every home in the entire town had smoky fires blazing away. I thought a fog cloud had hit the city. This fringe turned out to be an occasion that is celebrated every year on the same date in which the devil is driven from the city — smoked out so to speak.

The car arrived last night so this morning I started processing through Customs. By the time noon rolled around I felt that I had actually lost grounds. I wanted to complete the work and get started into the field this afternoon but found that today was a national holiday and all the offices closed at noon. In four hours this A.M I walked about 10 miles. And I went

down to the freight depot and got a clearance paper from the office. They took my invoices & bills of lading and told me that I must first take the clearance paper to the Customs & pay the freight charge. So I walked across town to the Customs and found out that I needed the "documents" that the freight office kept so I went back and picked them up and return to Customs. They then told me I must get a Certificado de Declaracion which I could pick up at a Liberia store (book store, stationary store) so I went up town but could not find such a form so went over to the United Fruit Co and they said that the Certificates were available at the Customs. (U.F. Co. billed me $125.00 + 44 for extra weight of car which they did not tell me about. they call it extra lift charge). So I returned to customs and they said that an agency across the street will take care of the Declaration Certificate (for 3 or 4 dollars). as it was 10 to 12 o'clock I found that I was checkmated for the day. I have not decided whether these people are dumb or clever - I think they are making it as difficult as possible so. I will have to appeal for professional guidance. I'll show em that I dont fall for their cunningness. Tomorrow I will complete the Certificado de Declaracion, and then I can pay my freight bill, then I can arrange to get the car out of bond and the guns and ammunition placed in the hand of the Custom authorities. After that is done I must go back to the Palace nacional and see the Ministerio de Gubernacion who, I hope, will issue me a permit to carry the guns. I can then go back to Customs and pick up my gun and ammo, providing of course that the Ministerio de Defensa Nacional does not take

a fancy to my new overunder and decide to keep to hunt wild turkey in Peten.

This evening Ibarra and I had a cup of tea and coffee — he had the coffee and after we worked on some spanish expression that might conceivably be useful in the field such as "where is a doctor", "dont take my scalp", etc. Tomorrow we are to see a man who own a farm in Chajul which is one of the outposts in the high country to the west and north. Some of these peaks are 16,000 high and approach the alpine conditions. I do not know if I can stand the cold there as I am continually chilled at Guatemala City which is only a little higher than Provo.

During the coming week I will spend my time near Agua volcano at a type locality and the place where Salvini spent several years when he worked this country about 100 years ago. He stayed at Dueñas. We play around these volcanes for a week and then on Saturday 17 will return to G.C and go to a place near Cuilapa. From here we go to Chiquimulilla & down to the coast at Acumado and to the east as far as Lake Atescatempa then on about Dec 25 will return to G.C. and then go west to Chaps, Huehuetenango & to the north. for a week or so then to Champerico. In January I would like to fly to Flores or some other place in the northern wilds of Peten. The last week of my stay in Guat in Feb. 3-10 will be spent around P. Barrios. The only thing for sure is from now to the 25th after which the plans may be altered. As usual this is a 3 year project crowded into 2 months work.

I found out today that Ibarra's other job is selling advertising space in the telephone directory of Guat. City. His sales very poor

$800.00 a fuel page to as low as 27.00 for part of a page.

Tomorrow I hope to buy my food for the field – Campbell soup at 40¢ a can!

I plan on sending in my expense account as soon as I pay the charge on the freight from Barrios, then I will have all of the major expenses accounted for. Will you let me known when the money, which will revolve from these expenses, is placed in our account as I must write out a check as soon as it is put in the bank. I'm running on too small a margin for safety. This system is going to give me all kinds of trouble and perhaps even delay, if for example, I should have an emergency expense.

At the risk of incurring the disfavor of the U. F. Co for not employing full use of their paper resource will close with,

Atentamente,

James.

P.S. Give all my children a big hug & kiss and tell Grandma that she better come to Guatemala for the winter as the climate is just right.

Diarrhea has taken same course as one of the last ones I had in the states. It has stabilized itself today – I hope not too securely – and I have more pep and ambition. I think that everyone in the tropics must develop an immunity to these new kinds of intestinal faunas. I just hope Mr. Amoeba do not crash the party.

I would be curious to know if my mail to you is coming via airmail. It may be that in Guat. they only recognize the official airmail envelope.

541208-91

Guatemala City, Guatemala

Dec. 9, 1954

newspaper clipping from:

El Imperial. Diario independiente, Año XXXIII, Guatemala, jueves 9 de Diciembre de 1954, no 10989

Zoólogo del Museo de Historia Natural de Kansas en el País

Hará Estudio Sobre Nuestros Mamíferos

Con el objeto de realizar importantes estudios sobre la vida de nuestros mamíferos, ha arribado a Guatemala el zoólogo doctor James Bee, procedente del Museo de historia natural de la Universidad de Kansas, EE. UU.

El doctor Bee permanecerá tres meses, tiempo que dedicará a capturar pequeños mamíferos en diversas localidades del país, siendo probable que visite los departamentos de Huehuetenango, Quiché, Escuintla e Izabal.

En el Museo de historia natural el zoólogo doctor Bee, fué atendido por el señor Jorge A. Ibarra, director del museo, quien mostró al distinguido visitante las diversas colecciones de dicho centro.

Las actividades científicas del Museo de historia natural de Kansas ya son conocidas en el museo de Guatemala al través de sus valiosas publicaciones, entre las que sobresalen las siguientes: American Weasels por E. Raymond Hall, director de aquel museo, Mammals of Kansas por E. Lendell Cockrum, Amphibians and Reptiles of Kansas, por Hobart M. Smith, etcétera.

El doctor Bee escribirá un libro sobre los mamíferos que logre estudiar en nuestro país y tiene seguridad de encontrar nuevas subespecies.

Guatemala City, Guatemala

Dec. 9, 1954

It was required that I employ a Customs Broker to get a release of the car, a Rafael A. Argue Torrebiarte - Agenta de Aduanos. Also went to National Palace and got several signatures for other problems associated with car, guns and licenses.

Dec. 10, 1954

Worked all day at Customs and at national Palace. Car officially released at 6:00 P.M. but will have to wait until tomorrow to get permit to drive in Guatemala.

Dec. 11, 1954

Got permit to drive. Ibarra arranged for Carlos Paredes to assist me on the first trip into the field.

Dec. 12, 1954

mailed expense account and letters to Hall and to Annette. Finally departed 10:00 A.M. for field work. Unnecessary official delays has cost me valuable time that could have been profitable in productive field work. Next time these matters should be handled by mail before departure from Kansas. However there will always be snags along the way. Itinerary included Chimaltenango, Solala, Encuentros, Santo Tomas, Chichicastenango, Santa Cruz de Quiché, Socapulos. The was a bridge out enroute to Chajul so returned to a point 10 miles south and camped.

Pan-American Hotel
Guat. City.
Dec 12, 1954

Great White Fleet
UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

Dear Annette,

I am making a rather hurried departure from Guat. City on my first trip in the field. My first stop will be Chajul which is about 2 days from Guat. City. From Chajul I will go to Huehuetenango, Jacaltenango, Quetzaltenango and return to Guatemala City. The American Embassy has my itinerary for emergency call. The exact time that I will be at each of these places will be doubtful but I will keep you notified. I have notified the Am. Emb to hold my packages and mail until I return Jan. 1, 1955. This will take me away over Xmas but I will be back in time to have my Xmas on New Years day. I feel as if I had already had my Xmas with those fine cards from you & the children. I hope you are feel better by now and that the burns will not produce serious effects. What is this new bomb take you have developed?

mailed expense account today to the secretary as Mrs. Nat. Hist and I do hope that they have the equivalent amount in the bank on my return, as I know I will be very low in cash by then (if not sooner). Let me know as soon as a bank statement is received so I can draw more money. I have notified the secretary but they all need spur at times. I also told Dale to see Ibarra as soon as possible and to

get going on the United Fruit Co for financing future expeditions in Guatemala. Senior Ibarra is the man to contact for my welfare, he is turn will contact the Embassy.

Will bring you up to date somewhere in western Guatemala. So goodbye until mañana

Love

James.

P.S. The last letter I received was about the gas elplaseon. I will answer it very soon.

Dec 13, 1954

Enroute to Santa Cruz del Quiché, Totonicapan, Quezaltenango, Huehuetenango, N. side of Sucapulas, Cunen, & ~~Nebaj~~. Camped just on other side of mt from Nebaj.
movie (color) of Atitlan Lake from N side.

Dec 14. 1954

Continued on to Nebaj but could not get further than about 5 miles because of road so returned to 1 mi. NE Nebaj, 6000 ft..

Dec 15, 1954

Trapped in meadow last night. In Nebaj met Mr Ray Elliot who is working on linguistics of tribes from Summer Institute of Linguistics. Univ of Oklahoma.

Elliot is associated with Wycliffe Bible Translators, Box 870, Glendale, California (headquarters) and the First Baptist Church. P.O. Box 533, Independence, Kansas.

His brother Richard Elliott grad. K.U. Research Chem - 1948. Mrs. Elliot brother George Belcher is now Junior Pre med at K.U and lives at 1222 Mississippi, Lawrence.
Mrs Elliott (mother of Ray) lives at 629 Washington, Liberal. Kansas
mrs Belcher (mother of Ray wife lives at 705 Washington, Independence, Mo? or Kans.

541215-96

Nebay, Guatamala.
Dec. 15th., 1954

Dear Annette:

If this letter reaches you I will be surprised. Guatamala is rough country in every way you look at it. for instance, it has taken us three days to travel from Guatamala City to this place, a distance of 166 miles. The factor of time is of major importance.

Before finally getting away from Guatamala, I had many exasperating rounds with customs. The car was finally released on Dec. 10th. at 6.00 P.M. In all, there has been five complete inspections of the equipment. On Dec. 11th. a permit to drive the car was issued by the police in Guat. On the evening of the 10th. I went to the police station and asked for the permit so I could get started the next day. 'Manana' was the answer. They told me just where to park the car that night which was 20 feet from the front door entrance to the Pan-American Hotel. Next morning the front side window of the car was broken as well as the lock-the door left open. I am sure I made the mistake of telling the police where the car would be parked during the night. There are two explanations of the vandalism; the one-the garrage offers protection-perhaps a gentle reminder to use their facilities; the other, communistic outburst.

On Sunday I left for Chajul. Ibarra insisted I take along one of his assistants-Senior Carlos Paredes (dusts cases) a fine fellow tho has no knowledge of collecting or cooking-one of those individuals you have to train by showing them how to break an egg. My trip was planned for 'solo flight'-an extra complicated matters. He wore oxfords and had no bedding. He used my sleeping bag for a mattress, a blanket and all available coats for bedding. Beyond this obstacle it necessitated the removal and storing of all the gear atevery stop, an operation I had eliminated in my original plans.

On rainy days the car was so crowded it was most impossible to operate, whereas, it had been previously planned, room would be available in the car, rain or sun, to work entire in the car.

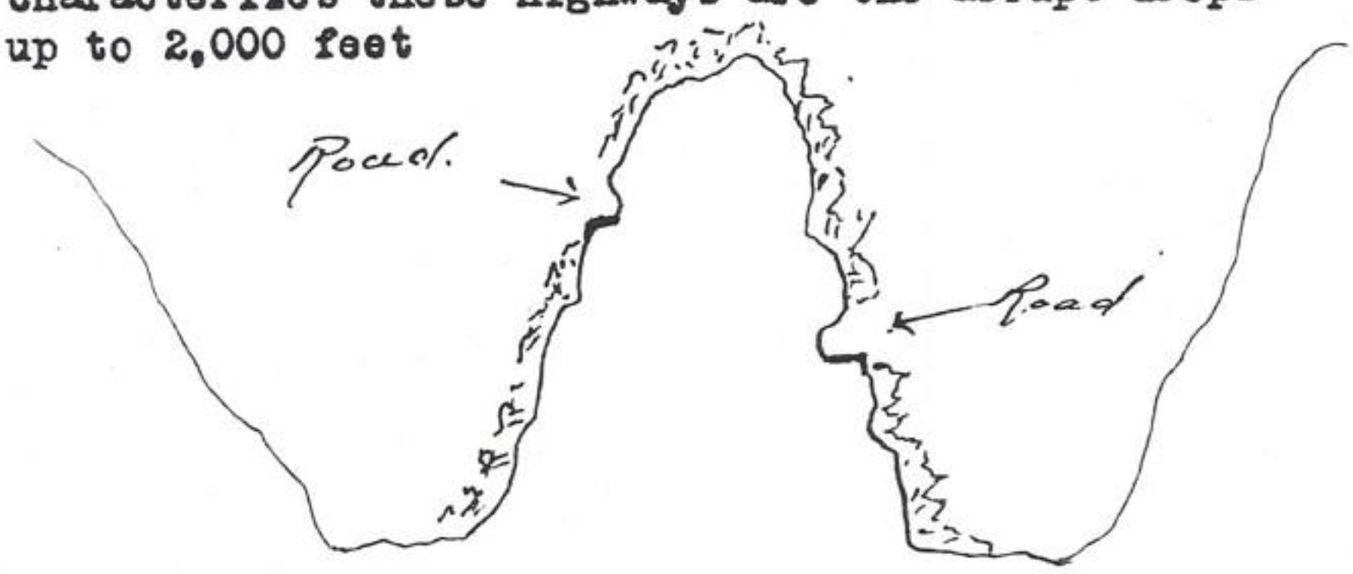
Departed 11.00 A.M. Sunday for Chajul where I was to meet a Senior Arranes who is a representative of the Government and owns several fineas near Chajul. He was to show me mucha mamiferas but conveniently left a day earlier because of urgent business.

We made our way across the country via Chimaltenango, Solala, Encuentros, Chichicartenango, Quilbe, Sacapulas where we came to an abrupt halt- the bridge was out. We were directed to go this way by Arannas and all questioned informed us this was the way to Chajul. The bridge had been down over two months. To reach the other side it took us a day (fifteen hours) of travel via Quche', Totanicapen, Quezaltenago, Huehnetenango to Sacopulas which was on the opposite side of the River.

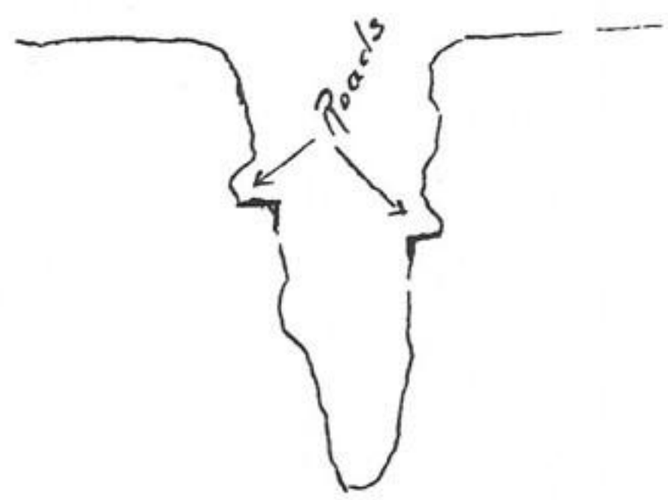
On the way to Chajul, we camped between here and Nebaj, near the top of the mountain. Next morning met Arranes on his way out and he told us to proceed to Chajul and to stay there until his return, in a few days, when he would take us on to his fineas. Continuing on toward Nebaj we reached a point about five miles beyond to find the road would permit the use of cars with x 'tra gear and high clearance. Returning to Nebay we made camp 1 mi northeast and will remain here for a couple of days. We are in a hole and I am anxious to free ourselves and reach a primary road (about 5th grade in the U.S.) A heavy rain would isolate us for weeks. I will not try to describe the roads in Guatamala. Will say they are about ten times as hazardous as the Burma Road ! I don't know how many times I have had to apply all my knowledge of engineering to predicate the stress and strain capacity of the structures. In driving

100 miles you take at least that many chances of dropping to oblivion.

The roads are in the most rugged mountains and are carved out of solid rock. The thing that characterizes these highways are the abrupt drops-up to 2,000 feet



If there are no mountains you often travel roads built in sides of highly eroded canyons-thus:



All this country is of volcanic sediment in nature and the canyons are deep, atraight walled and narrow. You travel for miles in low gear -going up and going down.

A breakdown in this country would spell disaster to the Expedition. It would take months to get mechan--ical attention and parts. I may exagerate somethings but the roads in Guatamala, I do not.

Lake Atetlan is indeed beautiful and much larger than my preconceived idea of same. To see it is worth the trip to Guatamala. The people are oriental in many respects and reminds me of India and China Each village or area's people seem to have a different pattern of clothing. At Chichicastenago it is predominately red-at Huchenetenago the men, like 'Uncle Sam' wear red and white stripped pants.

It is pathetic to see so many drunken people. Out of approx 100 Indians which were returning to the mountains out of Chichi-32 of them were drunk and lying along the road side. This status of affairs, I understand is only common on Sundays -a result of their indulgencies. Women are likewise drunk. Guatamala needs probition !

We are certainly marked in Guatamala. In every Pueblo, village or City where we have stopped, curious people flock around the dar. Often the word 'communista' is fingered in the dust on its sides. If it isn't that word it is is a word with 'malo' in it, such as malogastra or something like that. It is folly to expose loose articles as they will grab them and take off on the run. The stealing, I think is more resentment than thievery. I have noticed in the villages where only beans and corn are grown, they will take off with anything they can get their hands on. They evidently think this highway robbery and stealing is legitimate. It calls for a protection of your rights and property. The Communists are really desperate and their economy is in the 'bed-rock'

Incidentally the dust on some of the roads is 4 inches deep-bus drivers wear special masks.

The natives are using every parcel of ground in Guatamala for planting, especially the flat areas on top of hills and mountains. The steep side hills also are farmed. It would seem that they would find it difficult to maintain a footing on some of the slopes. Have not seen, as yet, a place where there is not some sign of human activity. Dogs are everywhere and are camp is pregnated with odors. They urinate on the car, chair& table legs, food boxes etc. They are so starved you could tag it pin it on a board without the trouble of skinning it .

At Nebay we had not stopped over two minutes when a man from the States walked straight over to the car as tho he hadn't seen a white man for 50 years. It developed that he was from Kansas and the insignia on our car door drew him like a magnet. The more we talked the nearer home became. His brother Richard Elliott graduated in 1948 from K.U.- his wife's brother is now a junior in pre-med at K.U. and he-George Belcher and wife are living at 1222Misissippi. How's that for co-incidence. Mr Elliott is with the Summer Institute of Linguistics-Univ of Oklohoma and is making a study of the languages of these people. His attractive wife and three children are here in the primitive village of Nebay. This area is the transition between the Spanish language to the south and the Indian languages to the north. The Natives around Nebay have a very interest-ing language and it is amusing to hear them converse. It is a dignified stutter, with odd clicks and vocal sounds that I have never heard in all my travels. I do enjoy their chatter. I think their voice simulates that of the chineese altho it has a more pure mechani-cal manipulation.

Ray (Elliott) insisted that i accept a gallon of white gas as the Guatamala gas was playing tricks with our stove and lamp. I will never go into the field again without testing my equipment.

To start our trapping in Nebaj was as complicated as going thru customs. First, we had to get permission from the Chief of the Village who had to consult with his advisors. Then, we had to have a policeman go with us to the area we wanted to trap. Then, we had to procure permission from the owner of the land. The natives who actually farm the land have no say in the matter-they are subjects of the land owners. This smacks of the old feudal sustem or even communism. The poor natives are really taking a beating is Guatamala and reforms are necessary if they ever reach a stable economy and society. Their police force consists of the first man that can grab a billy-club. All the natives carry machettes for protection-the law enforcement officers a mere billy-club. The Mayor, I noticed, had a machette lying on his desk within easy reach.

Every letter I write carries a Merry X'mas to all.

Love,
James.

P.S. After working this area, expect to return to Huehustenango and then go to Chemal which will put me at about 13,000 feet; then, south toward Quezettenan and possibly even toChamperico-if time permits. I intend to return to Guatamala City Jan. 1st., if I can get out of the north side of these mountains. It rained yesterday which means land slides and road repairs before the routes are opened again. All road repairs are done by humans with a grubbing hoe type tool. Tell Hector that my Spanish in Nebaj is useless. Give the children an extra hug, and tell them I am thinking of them every minute of the day. Tell Jay that today 35 vultures fed on a carcass of an armadillo which was tossed a distance from the car about 30 feet. Did this carcass disappear in a hurry? When I get home will show you a movie of the feast.

Nebaj, Guatemala

Dec. 16, 1954

Peromyscus, Sigmodon, Reithrodontomys from damp meadows. Peromyscus from edge of dense growth of shrubs ← Pero. Black and turkey vultures located armodillo carcass 2 minutes after being placed in field. Opossum from water trail on shrubby slope associated with a spring.

103

541217-102

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
Lawrence, Kansas

December 17, 1954

Sr. Jorge A. Ibarra, Director
Museo Nacional De Historia Natural
Ministerio De Education Publica
Guatemala, C. A.

Dear Señor Ibarra:

Mr. James Bee has written me of your recent kindness to him in connection with the arrangements that it was necessary for him to make in order to collect mammals in Guatemala.

Mr. Bee has told me that you desire to carry on further studies here in the United States.

Because we are a training center for peasons who engage in natural history work, Mr. Bee suggested that I write you, and because Mr. Bee recommends you, we would be willing and glad to have you study here. In our experience a period of one full year would be a minimum of time that would be required for completing the museum course.

If the candidate desired to attempt to obtain at the same time a higher academic degree (for example, a Master of Arts Degree in Zoology), some additional months, or perhaps two full years, ordinarily is required in actual practice. The requirements for the M.A. Degree depend in considerable part upon the previous courses and schooling and degree, if any, that the candidate has had.

If you have interest in undertaking work here, please furnish me with a statement of your previous schooling, courses and degree, if any.

It is my understanding that the Technical Assistance Board of the Technical Assistance Committee of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, New York, New York, has funds that are available for the support of Latin American students who wish to study outside of their own countries. It is my understanding that if the Minister of Education of Guatemala agrees to the wisdom of your undertaking studies outside of Guatemala, he could recommend you to the Technical Assistance Board and receive the necessary funds for you to undertake the studies that Mr. Bee has mentioned.

By referring to our correspondence file I note that we have had previous correspondence between the dates of November 2, 1948, and December 27, 1948, and I note in particular that you received from me a letter dated November 8, 1948, concerning several aspects of natural history museums.

On January 8 I expect to leave here to visit New York City and I could make inquiry in person at the Office of the Technical Assistance Board of the United Nations. However, I would need to know your plans and desires in order to make such an inquiry. Any such inquiry on my part would be

541217-103

purely exploratory, informal and tentative because it is my understanding that any formal request for an actual grant of funds would most appropriately come from your Minister of Education or other appropriate Guatemalan official.

Thanking you again for the assistance that you gave to our Mr. James Bee, now in Guatemala, I beg to remain

Sincerely yours,

ERH

E. Raymond Hall, Director
Museum of Natural History
and
Chairman, Dept. of Zoology

ERH/mr
cc: Mr. James Bee

- Airmail -

Nebaj, Guatemala

Dec. 18, 1954

names of mammals used by local natives. Opossum = Pacht; armodillo = Ipoi; small mice and rats = zuí; skunk tenam; coati mundi, raccoon and gophers in area.

Dec. 19, 1954

Dinner with Ray Elliot and wife in Nebaj. Oryzomys trapped at contact between wet and dry areas.

541220-104

Insert

Nebaj, Guatamala.
Dec. 20th., 1954.

Dear Annette: If the weather gives us a break, we will depart from Nebaj tomorrow. The last week has been exceptional as far as weather is concerned-rained all the time and temperatures at noon between 45 and 50° Fahr.-one of those exceptional spells, I am told. The Artic was never like this. Our problem is to get a dry day so we can negotiate about 3,000 feet of steep grade. The road continues thru the cloud forests which have received a continuous downpour since we have been here. If the road is washed out we may spend X'mas and New Year in Nebaj.

On my way to Chemal, which is about 12,000 ft. alt., I will drop Carlos at Huchuetenago-he returns to Guatamala City for X'mas, then, he will be back and remain with me until Jan. 1st when we will return to Guatamala City. The work at Chemal will finish the northwest part of Guat, and the areas of high elevation. then, I can concentrate on the lower regions -- the plateus and the tropics.

I never realized that X'mas was so popular in Central America. The people have been planning for this holiday since I came to Guatamala. On X'mas I will be about as far out of circulation as one can get in this country but I will be with you in spirit on that day.

Last night the Elliotts invited Carlos and me to supper. In their front room stood their tree decorated in the traditional way. The Elliotts live in a comfortable house ex cept it lacks heat (I just about froze)-large enough for the four children. It is Spanish in design and crude but adequate. The bathroom tub and sink are made of cement. The cook stove is made of bricks and cement.

The heat from the kitchen stove cannot reach the dining room or any other room except the pantry. The dining room is about the size of our bathroom. Their first home was a 'baska' witha dirt floor ! They are allowed 25 watt globes and pay 40¢ a month per outlet. The electricity comes on in the evening at 5.00 P.M. and is shut off at 6.00 A.M. Linda,Marsha and Steve are about like Jay, Chris and Polly in age and are all well developed both mentally and physically. The baby is in the crib. They have exactly the same children's books as our children and in addition a good library of records which seems a part of them. Linda has just finished the book 'Neighbors' which Jay finished last year.

Mrs. Elliott had quite a time with her last baby. When she was due at the hospital in Guatamala City, the roads were washed out, the communists were in power and would not permit her to leave Nebaj. There was no gasoline available for their car. They apparently were able to surmount these obstacles and finally reached Guatamala City Maternal Hospital

by plane-the baby arrived three weeks later.

For supper Mrs Elliott served a royal meal compared to our fare of sardines and hard bread. Included in the several courses were potatoes, gravy with the meat, beets, biscuts and butter, blackberry jam, cake, pudding and tea. The native servant served the meal. The cake-pudding was very fancy and while you may have heard of its preparation, it was novel to me. First-she puts the cake batter into the pan. On the top of it she places a chocolate syrup, which,as the cake begins to rise, moves down and under the cake and more or less floats it. It is a really delicious desert. For the blessing we all held hands and sang the doxology ! This was all new to Carlos who had never experienced this sort of formality and probably never eaten with an American family before.

According to Mr. Elliott the native Indians are really taking a beating. They produce the wealth of the land tho share little in it. There is just as wide a separation between the natives and the so called Iguanos or land owners as there is between the English and the Hindus of India. There are certain land owners who have literally stolen the land from the natives, either by legal technicalities or crooked dealing by getting their finger prints on deeds after getting the natives drunk. The Iguanos have brot whiskey into the area for the purpose of degradeing the natives thereby reducing the resistance from them-I found this out when I got permission to collect in Nebaj-the native does not own his farm and does not have any say as to whether we could or could not hunt on his property. The Iguanos control the life of the native and as a result the Iguanos are powerful and in nearly every case, rich.

It is interesting to note the Quiche

language is spoken to the south and as far north as the top of the mountain but in only a mile or two (airline) the language spoken is so different that a Quiche' cannot understand it. nor can any spanish individual. The langauage at Nebaj is Ixil (pronounced Ēshēl) I may have mentioned it before but if not, I say that it is worth while to take a trip to Guat. just to hear these peoples converse.

At our camp there are always 4 or 5 persons discussing the pecularity of our operations and if it were not for their conversation, I would accomplish considerably more-just can't get enough of their fascinating blabber. I call it the railroad language as every other sound is a ch- ch, ch, ch, ch. They have many mechanical sounds that are made with the trachea closed, and are sounds made with the intake of air. As far as I can interpret the sounds, the names of some of the mammals are: english, skunk-spanish, zorillo-Ixil, tename; armadillo-ipoi; small mice, zoi.

These people act and dress more like the Nago people than any other race I have met up with. They are short, muscular and as jumpy as the Nagos. I put a label on the finger of one of them after I had just finished putting one on a mammal. He turned around and ran just as fast as he could. He may be running yet ! The women are the same timid souls as are the Nagas.

Speaking of labels or tags-everytime I put one on a mammal or bird, I think of you, so you see, you are constantly in my mind. I put on the hundreth tag to-day which is considerably slower than stringing them.

If I would characterize these people in Guat. I think that for the officials or Iguanas, it would be , an individual signing a document of some kind; for the native, an individual walking ten feet and then

looking back at our camp before continuing the next ten feet. Wherever you look, you see somebody staring at you. If one of them approaches the car, 20 of them follow and in two seconds you are swamped by curious observers-like the sheep crossing a bridge, one leads the rest of the herd follows. These people keep the camp manicured especially ridding it of cans, bits of wire, string and colored paper.

I can now see why the communists did not succeed in their land reforms. The large land owners were relieved of their holdings and the natives were given a share of the land to operate. The natives have little business judgment-at least at this stage of evolution, are incapable of getting their produce to market or shouldering the responsibility of operating a farm. As a result the old land owners are back in power and will probably remain until such a time the natives can be educated to read, write and conduct the business required to operate a farm.

Sleeping in the car is much to be desired. Beginning at daybreak one has full vision of everything that transpires. The windows are as an open book. A tent obscures vision . Many interesting caryings-on are missed.

The country here is much like in Assam except the mountains are higher and the tops of the mountains are a dense rain forest. Greens and yellows predominate. The cultivated areas, much of which is cleared from the forest,are well kept and green. The vistas are beautiful every hour of the day. Fog masses are continually shifting. At one moment you are enshrouded; the next, the view is unobstructed. Early morning is mystical. The entire land is bathed in the evaporation from the fog which continues to rise from the ground. The sun, when it does shine, produces an effect worth a million to Hollywood. At night when the temp. is above 50°, on the ground the glowworms are everywhere.

Yesterday, I had my second attack of diarrhea . It was unlike the first attack-lasted but one day. I hope in time my immunities will reduce the severity of the attacks. In this instance food was eaten unwisely. Carlos eats the foods so why shouldn't I? logical isn't it-but, it don't just turn out that way. A small boy brot some fried pork and tortillas. The x'tra cooking I gave them didn't seem to alleviate the condition that caused my trouble. Native bread is about the only food I take a chance with. Except for a contaminated crust, the chances of getting food poisining from this source is small. Bananas, oranges and other skinned fruits, I eat regardless of source. By-the-way, bananas sell for 1¢ each, oranges 1¢ to 2¢ each , bread roles are also a cent. These items are surprisingly low. On the other hand, eggs purchased from the natives, are 6¢ each. The Native's prices are low-the store operators have two prices, one of which is about double the other. If you are to be respected, you must argue the price until it is reasonable and competitive. This bargaining seems to be a universal procedure with primitive peoples.

There is one item of food which could be added beneficiently to their diet-fish. At Nebaj there are beautiful large creeks, pools, cascades and waterfalls. They lack fish of eatable size. Management of this resource could help materially in their food needs. I have often wondered what would occur if our soaps were used by the natives. It undoubtedly would contaminate their water supply.

Yesterday, I had three kids tie cloth markers above traps on the line. This I presumed would make for good relations between myself and the native population. Today I am missing 32 traps! We also had a similiar experience with some gopher traps set in one of the fields. In the morning the traps were missing. I have learned you cannot be seen setting

the traps as just as sure as the sun comes up, the traps will be gone. Ordinarily at Nabaj the people respect your property, that is, the native people. The nearer the pueblos the greater is the tendency to 'abscond ovec em'.

Another of the characteristics of the Guatamalians is their exagerations and misrepresentations I have heard the words'Mucho mamiferos' so many times. In each instance the advise has proven unreliable. I now desire to form my own conclusions as to the best productive areas. 'Mucho mamiferas' they say. Give them some traps and next day they come in empty hand ed. Ninety-nine percent of our success has been a result of our own initiative.

I have exactly $6.00 in currency which is just enough to buy gas to take me to Huchnetenango. Traveller's checks at this place are as worthless as a coat in July. It must have been very difficult to operate this last month tho by Jan. you should have a more adequate fund on which to rely on.

Tell Jay I saw a sword owned by a native that had the initials J.R.B. I asked the man if he would sell it. He declined. This sword at one time, belonged to one Barrios from which the port takes its name -Puerto Barrios.

Used the electric razor on a five day beard and I must say this 1 minute act shown on television is somewhat exagerated. A three day growth, it hand les nicely-beyond that is murder. Appearing civilized before the Elliotts called for combing my hair, washing my face for the first time in about 6 days. I have promised myself a change of clothes for the New Year.

I think Carlos is becoming quite impressed with a democratic way of life-before he has been an under-dog, so to speak, and the idea of someone share

-ing the duties of organizing a camp or washing dishes, is something new to him. He has always been ordered and had to shoulder the responsibility of doing the dirty work. Doing new tasks comes awkward to him tho he learns rapidly. His capacity for neatness around the kitchen cost me the use of the pressure cooker. The rubber gasket-thot he- could serve no useful purpose around the kitchen and out it went. Carlos tells me they pay him $60.00 a month at the Museum. Already, I think Carlos is better equipped to do field work than the Director-Carlos now uses the K.U. system.

I must close now. Give my love to all the family and grandma and if this letter reaches you before X'mas

a Merry X'mas to all

Love

James.

1 mi. NE Nebaj, 6000 ft. Guatemala

Dec. 20, 1954

Collected several birds in forests of oak and pine. Warblers in groups 15-20 birds each group and many species within each group. Set 12 steel and 50 museum specials in eroded gulch (5 feet wide and 4 feet deep) thru forest of oak and pine. Mammals eating acorns. Squirrels in area but difficult to see as they are extremely wary and use upper limits in trees. Steller jays associated with squirrels. The best area for birds is in forests that are immediately adjacent to open fields (ecotone areas).

Steep-walled canyons do not produce many birds. A coyote was killed by a native near camp last night but skull or skin was not available. Peromyscus are at contact between wet meadows and base of slopes. Seldom in forest or meadows proper. 4 gopher traps taken last night and 30 museum specials taken the night before. Squirrel use oaks but seldom pines. Temp 43°F this morning at 7:00 A.M.

x (from opposite page). a continuation of page 112.

Dec. 27, 1954. 3½ mi SW San Juan Ixcoy, 10,120 ft. Guat.

Temp this A.M = 29°F, water frozen.

Pines produce a murmur from constant wind in contrast to silence and rustle of cloud forests.

many Carex

Lizards here.

Birds few in pine forests but many in cloud forests.

Dec. 28, 1954, locality ibid.

Temp 7:00 A.M = 28°F.

Tobleland to E and uncut forests.

Savannas and hillsides of pines.

At 10,800 a wooden fence.

Dec. 29, 1954. 2 mi. S Chemal, 11,300 ft., Guat.

Temp. 12° F this A.M.

xx Dec. 31, 1954 5½ mi. N and 1 mi. E Chiantla, 9700 ft., Guat.

meadows at 9,300 ft.

Dec 21, 1954

Departed Neboj and travelled to 5 mi. E and 1 mi. N of Huehuetenango at Losgutes bridge. Trapped in pine-cacti forest.

Dec. 22, 1954

Camped at first savanna toward Chemal at 7000 ft. min temp last night 24°F. Ponds frozen.

Dec 23, 1954

Went as far as San Juan Ixcoy and then returned to 5 to 9,340 ft at about 2 miles south. Set traps in cloud forest of oak like tree and few pine - spanish moss on all trees and much moss & lichen on trees and ground.

Dec. 24, 1954

Temp at camp at 7:00 A.M = 43°F. In places where pine grow in the cloud forest the needles remain suspended on the branches of the low shrubs and trees and give impression of moss laden vegetation.

+ branch
+ needles

The floor of the forest is solid layer of pine needles.

Peromyscus mexicanus. Found in the most dense of forest especially under old logs or around the bases of old upright trees or at base of cliffs and rocks. It is found outside of these areas in the general area of the forest such as in trails and among shrubs, but mainly in above mentioned places. These areas are sealed in with mosses and lichens and vegetation which requires damp shaded situations. The trees are covered with green & yellow mosses on all sides and spanish moss hangs from the limbs above.

x ←

[see next page for Dec. 27, 1954] →

2 mi. S Chemal, 10700 ft.

Dec. 30, 1954

Took colored movie (16mm) of Mr. Granada, a shepard, inspecting specimens I had just prepared, Mrs. Granado in background. At 7:00 A.M 13°F temp. Meadowlarks are quaillike. High country appears high with greater familiarity of the country.

xx ← see opposite page, a continuation of this page for Dec. 31, 1954

IMPORTACION NO COMERCIAL

CUADRUPLICADO

POLIZA No. 11005

ADUANA DE FARDOS POSTALES DE GUATEMALA 27 DE DICIEMBRE DE 1954

ISCRIBE, NOMBRADO PARA LA REVISION DE TRES BULTOS CON ARTICULOS IMPORTADOS POR JAMES W. BEE

EN FARDO POSTAL, POR CORREO No. 400 DE FECHA 20 DE DICIEMBRE DE 1954 PROCEDENTE DE

, CERTIFICA HABER PRACTICADO EL REGISTRO Y AFORO DEL CONTENIDO DE LOS MISMOS, ENCONTRANDO

CONTINUACION SE DETALLA, CON LA ESPECIFICACION DE LOS DERECHOS E IMPUESTOS QUE LES CORRESPONDEN.

ORIGEN No. FACTURA No. REMITENTE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ANNETTE P. M. BEE

IRECCION DEL CONSIGNATARIO c/o UNITED STATES EMBASSY ORIGEN U. S. A.

LEGACY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEC 30 1954

GUATEMALA

NO. 9634-30M-10-50

CONTENIDO	PARTIDAS	VALOR PRINCIPAL	PESO EN KILOS			AFORO	DERECHOS EN QUETZALES
			BRUTO	ENVASE	AFORABLE		
Frutas secas no denominadas	212-5-0-6	Q.2.85	1.260		1.260	0.15	0.19

En aparente buen estado.

Valor tomado del note.

INSERT 541230-113

ADUANA DE FARDOS POSTALES

DIC 27 1954

PASE AL VISTA 30

AUTORIZADOR DE PÓLIZAS

Dec. 28 1954

ADUANA CENTRAL GUATEMALA 7º REVISOR

(SELLO DE CANCELACION)

ADUANA CENTRAL DE GUATEMALA

CAJA

ENE 3 1955

CANCELADA

RECEPTOR FARDOS POSTALES