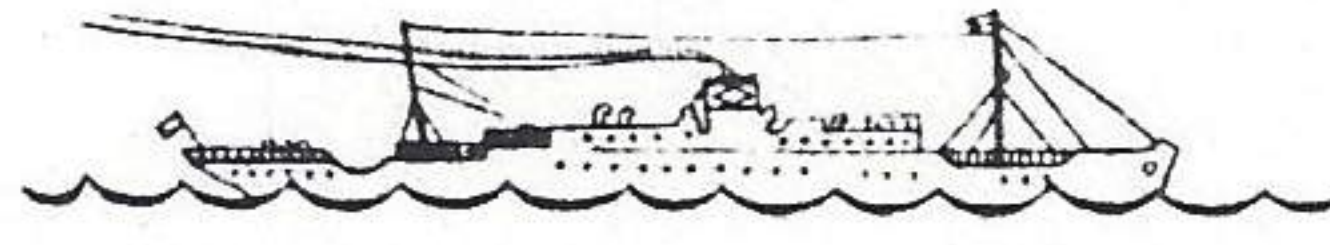


Amatitlan Lake,  
Feb. 6, 1955



Great White Fleet  
UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

Dear Annette and all the family,

Finally finished diplomatic mission in Guatemala City and am now on my way into the field. The extension of collecting required revisions of authorizations from the Government which under ordinary conditions should have not caused much trouble or delay but which turned out to be as difficult as the original applications for permits, etc. It appears that with the change of year (1954-1955) there was a new policy put into effect which revised the entire procedure, and instead of being made simpler is even more complicated. If these people don't start to make some shortcuts in their administrative procedures they will become hopelessly bogged down in red tape. The system is an army one and is ten times more complicated than our own army system of check & double check and 15 copies please! The only difference is that we hate an army system but the Guatemaltecos take great pride in using such a technical and complex method.

I am now parked in a rather secluded spot - the only one around the lake - and will write this letter until time to set traps and then after supper will finish it. The lake is, although not to be compared in size & surrounding with the lakes in Kansas, is organized much in the same way. Beautifully some taking up the select beaches, a recreational town at one end, the rest available for us natives. The big volcanoes with many angry clouds make the background. On the lake are the best of cruisers, speed boats, sailboats and water-skiers. These people seem to have more ambition for water sports than our own people. Needless to say, the temperature is warm like our Kansas summer temperatures.