



December 14, 1976  
Tuesday

Dear Penny, Len, Marianne, Chris & Mike:

Merry Christmas to you all even though I think our card & letter will no doubt arrive a bit late. The flame is company stationary and I regret it doesn't look more Christmasy. I bought both children sleds for Christmas but so far there hasn't been a flake this year. Serves me right for being so presumptuous. I started working full-time on Saturday from 8:30 to about 4. The company driver has been picking me up mornings and bringing me home afternoons which helps because there is absolutely no transportation near our new house that I can rely on. The maid has been coming every day, but she doesn't know how to cook so I've been cooking the night before for the next day. They serve a hearty lunch at work and I've been thinking of putting the children on hot lunch at school and eliminate cooking evenings. All in all, I need to reorganize myself quite a bit if things are going to work out at home. So far this job seems pleasant enough, though I need to work on my shorthand. I'm secretary to the Marketing Manager in the Tehran office of Iran Refractory Co. The factory is in Isfahan, with headquarters in Tehran. They make bricks, mortars etc. for smelting furnaces etc.

Moe is still heavily involved with the University and the Isfahan project but is thinking of switching to an industrial job in order to make ends meet vis a vis the burden of our housing loans (only 4 so far). I don't think he'll be too happy in industry, and I hope he'll stay at the University but minus the time-consuming Isfahan project and do consulting to earn extra. We're still not sure about making a move to Isfahan-- neither of us are eager to leave the house after waiting so long to move in.

Say hello to Beverley, Boyers and everyone for us. I understand from Bijan's sister, Manijeh, that Judy is working and has found an older lady to take care of the baby. Manijeh is still in Tehran looking for a job in chemistry. Jill Ali-Akbarian tells me she may go to states for a short 2-week Christmas holiday and bring her mother back to Tehran for a longer stay since traveling with three under four makes it expensive and difficult. I am still hoping to come next summer, ie. 77 since in 78 Camron will be 12 and adult fare. Have you gone East for the holidays or will your mother come to Champaign this year? Give her my best if you see her. Is Len still sweating over computer programs or have you finally succeeded in tearing him away from those sexy machines? Tonight I hope to get Moe to agree on a date for a Christmas tree purchase. I totally forgot which day was Thanksgiving this year and we ~~wound~~ wound up with meatloaf. Moe hasn't had a haircut for a long time, and what's worse, Camron is going the same route. No barber nearby and now I look at two shaggy heads every day. We need you Penny\* come over quick and tell Moe to get a haircut.

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY & NEW YEAR.

*Moe, Roua, Camron, Marianne*