

## EXCERPTS FROM SIERRA LEONE LETTERS -- #14

July 12, 1964

I have a new job starting in September working for CARE. I'll be travelling around the northern third of the country in my own vehicle visiting all the schools participating in the CARE lunch program. My job will be to teach more than one method of preparing the food (rice, gluten wheat, corn meal, and butter fat). Of course CARE has to teach me first.

On Sunday 7/19, I'll be on my way to Las Palmas. I've saved the cost of a round trip ticket (78 lbs) and will have all my leave pay (\$225) to live on. I return on 8/11; my leave is over on 8/17. Then I start my new job.

Hallelujah – my classroom teaching career is over forever!!! Whether the new job is a success or not, it will be a new and different set of challenges; and it will all be over next July. Anyway, I'll probably end up an excellent mechanic.

There is an absolute dearth of info to write home about. I haven't been anywhere or done anything new in weeks. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic at the Bo Club was a success. We had hamburgers, deviled eggs, stuffed hotdogs, potato salad, lettuce salad, baked beans and peach pie, but not pumpkin pie.

I will spend all morning tomorrow in the post office mailing my slides and stuff home—and I do mean all morning. This post office has the most inefficient employees I have ever dealt with. It is the one thing here I haven't adjusted to, five minutes in there still sends me into a towering rage. My only revenge is when I get one of your extremely well-wrapped packages and it takes the post master 20 minutes to open it, only to find it contains exactly what it says it does.

Did you see the SaLone dancers on the Ed Sullivan Show?

All my roomies have left now. I am left with the houseboy, watchman and my pregnant cat. I've found someone willing to keep the cat while I'm on leave.

With the new job, I'll be getting a different house since this one belongs to the school. I'll probably still be stationed in Bo.

Do you know what you get when you cross an elephant with peanut butter? An elephant that sticks to the roof of your mouth.

