

JAN. 5TH

HELLO RELANDERS....

WELL, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO MELT ALL OF THAT SNOW UP THERE SO THAT I CAN COME AND SEE YOU.

I HAD REALLY PLANNED ON GOING DOWN TO YAKIMA THE SATURDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.... THEN WHEN THE SNOW AND ROADS WERE SO BAD, I KNEW THAT IT WOULD JUST TERRIFY MY FOLKS IF I STARTED OFF. BESIDES IN ALL THAT SNOW, I JUST FELT LIKE SITTING IN FRONT OF THE FIRE PLACE AND WAITING FOR SPRING TO ARRIVE.

AS IT TURNED OUT MY TRIP HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WEEKEND WAS QUITE AN ADVENTURE.... IT WAS A SMOOTH TWO-HOUR FLIGHT TO SEATTLE ON CHRISTMAS EVE, BUT THEN I WAITED FOR ANOTHER TWO HOURS IN EAST AUBURN WHILE THE NORTHERN PACIFIC DECIDED WHETHER TO MOVE OR NOT. FORTUNATELY, THERE WERE MANY OTHERS ALSO WAITING AND IT WAS QUITE INTERESTING TO SEE WHAT ~~KIND~~ <sup>of</sup> KIND AND HOW MANY PEOPLE TRAVEL ON THAT NIGHT. WHEN WE FINALLY DID GET TO BOARD IT WAS INTO EARLY 1900-VINTAGE CARS WHICH HAD BEEN ADDED TO CARRY THE EXTRA LOAD.... NOT HALF AS NICE AS THE ONES WE WERE IN GOING TO THE COAST LAST WINTER. STEPPING OUT INTO ALL THAT SNOW IN ELLENSBURG, WAS ALMOST UNBELIEVEABLE TO ME.... NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU READ ~~FOR~~ OR HEAR ABOUT IT OR HOW MANY PICTURES YOU SEE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO IMAGINE FROM DOWN HERE. INCIDENTALLY, THANK YOU FOR SENDING THE TEAR SHEETS WITH THE SNOW PICTURES.... I DIDN'T GET ANY PICTURES WHILE I WAS HOME AND I HAD TO SHOW EVERYBODY AT THE OFFICE. IT MADE MOST OF THEM HOMESICK AS MOST EVERYBODY HERE IS FROM SOMEPLACE ELSE... AND MOST GENERALLY FROM SOMEPLACE WHERE IT SNOWS IN THE WINTER. IT MADE ME COLD TO THINK OF FOLLOWING HOLLY, GARY OR JIM AROUND TO GET CAPTIONS ON PICTURES.

ACTUALLY THOUGH, I SORT OF MISS THE WINTER, EVEN AS MISERABLE AS IT CAN BE. AND I WAS REALLY HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO GET HOME FOR CHRISTMAS AND SEE IT AS IT SHOULD BE. HOWEVER, I ALMOST DIDN'T GET OUT OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST. MY BOSS HAD ASKED ME TO STOP IN PORTLAND TO SET A STORY ABOUT OUR OPERATION THERE ON MONDAY.... SO I WAS ON A SPACE AVAILABLE PASS COMING BACK. AS THE FLIGHTS ALL FILLED UP OUT OF PORTLAND ~~ON~~, THEY HAD ME GO BACK TO SEATTLE TO TRY AND GET OUT OF THERE ON A NON-STOP... BUT THAT FILLED UP TOO AND IT WAS MIDNIGHT BEFORE I WAS DEFINITELY



ON MY WAY BACK TO LOS ANGELES. TRAVELING IS GREAT, I WILL GRANT, BUT ON THAT BASIS IT CAN GET A LITTLE HECTIC.

INCIDENTALLY, GINNY, MY ROOMMATE IS A GIRL WHO GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO LAST SUMMER. (AND <sup>Click</sup> THAT SHUD ANSWER THE QUESTION ABOUT WHO AM I "SHACKING" UP WITH)...SHE IS ORIGINALLY FROM STRAWBERRY POINT, IOWA, BUT THINKS THAT COLORADO IS THE GREATEST PLACE THERE IS. SHE WORKS IN WESTERN'S EMPLOYMENT OFFICE, BUT WE SELDOM SEE EACH OTHER AS SHE IS IN A DIFFERENT BUILDING AND (TYPICALLY CALIFORNIAN, I UNDERSTAND) WE BOTH TAKE OUR OWN CARS TO WORK. AND MEANWHILE, NEVER OF US CAN DECIDE IF WE WILL EVER GET USED TO FIGHTING THE TRAFFIC EVERYDAY DOWN HERE.

CLICK, I CALLED OTIS ART ~~INSTR~~ INSTITUTE TODAY AND HOPE I FOUND SOME HELPFUL INFO EVEN THOUGH THEY SAID THEY DON'T LIKE TO RECOMMEND PEOPLE. ONE OF THE INSTRUCTORS SAID A COMPETENT METAL CASTER (INCLUDING BRONZE) IS PICCO INDUSTRIES (ADDRESS: 1729 CHICO, EL MONTE, CALIF.) AND THE PLASTER CASTER THEY MENTIONED IS VAN NESTE RENE STUDIO (ADDRESS: 5064 ~~SEEN~~ SANTA MONICA BLVD., HOLLYWOOD). I CALLED THE LATTER ONE AND HE INFORMED ME THAT HE DOES EVERY KIND OF CASTING EXCEPT METAL. IN CASE YOU DON'T HAVE IT, THE ART INSTITUTE'S ADDRESS IS 2401 WILSHIRE IN LOS ANGELES. HOPE THIS HELPS.... IF I CAN FIND OUT ~~XX~~ ANYTHING MORE, LET ME KNOW.

GUESS IT ISN'T SUCH A BIG WORLD AFTER ALL... NEW YEAR'S EVE, I WAS AT A GATHERING IN VENTURA AND TALKING TO A MAN AND HIS WIFE WHEN I MENTIONED THAT I HAD JUST MOVED DOWN HERE FROM YAKIMA. THE MAN IMMEDIATELY POPPED UP WITH THE FACT THAT HE HAD A RELATIVE-- ONE CLICK RELANDER-- WHO IS CITY EDITOR ON THE PAPER THERE. HIS NAME IS MIKE ARCHULETTA AND HE IS IN ARMY ~~RECRUITING~~ RECRUITING THERE NOW. HIS WIFE WORKS IN A RESTAURANT WHICH ~~IS~~ A HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND OF MINE IS ASSISTANT MANAGER OF... AM CONSTANTLY MEETING PEOPLE DOWN HERE WHO HAVE EITHER LIVED IN YAKIMA OR HAVE SOME CONNECTION WITH IT... TROUBLE IS, MOST OF THEM ASK ME IF I KNOW PEOPLE WHO I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF...

CERTAINLY ENJOYED YOUR LETTER, WHICH I GOT WHEN I RETURNED FROM CHRISTMAS... HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU AGAIN SOMETIME AND ALSO TO GET UP THERE AND SEE YOU THIS SPRING. TILL THEN, LET ME KNOW IF YOU KNOW OF ANY GOOD HORSES RUNNING AT SANTA ANITA (THEY ALL SOUND STRANGE TO ME) AND I WILL BE TRYING TO FIND MY WAY AROUND THIS CRAZY CITY....

— Linda