

Missao do Dondi, C.P. 28, Bela Vista  
January 16, 1957

Dearest Mother,

This is the first time in several months that I have had a bit of time to really sit down and write to you. I am now at Annual Meeting, at the Camundongo mission in Silva Porto. I left Betty and the kids yesterday and came up by car from Bela Vista. We had an evening meeting and now are engaged in problems of the entire area and work of Angola. I probably shall return to Dondi by train, but perhaps the meetings will end soon enough that I can feel it possible to stay on until the close, which will very likely be Sunday. Leaving Betty with all the children to take care of though is a thought which will be ever uppermost in mind as I make plans to go or stay.

This is a borrowed portable typewriter of Swedish make and I seem to be having trouble making everything work right. But I did want to see how it operated, too. Perhaps it would be cheaper to buy one of these than to buy one in America. One never knows.

We are well into the rainy season as I write this. There has been too little rain in some places this present season. Galangue, where we were first, you remember, has had very little rain and crops are suffering. Dondi has had a fair amount and several late showers have brought a good deal of water. There should be enough for Dondi crops, but then it is situated at the very upper limits of the watershed.

Betty and I are enjoying the work in the dormitory. We have had one or two difficult times, but the work goes very well so far as caring for the children of our colleagues is concerned. I cannot say the same for my audio visual work. I am going to succeed I hope in getting together ~~taxi~~ enough funds to complete a building, or rather, renovate somewhat a building of some age, but which does seem useful and for the time being is available. I now have at my disposal a 16 mm Ampro sound projector on which we can record our voices, together with music or anything else we want to put on the film. I shall work with this and tape recorders, filmstrips and slides and hope to be able to produce something good for our use here. My missionary career I hope now to develop along these lines and pray for opportunity to do such. When I return on furlough I hope that I may be able to go to school again, but specializing in such such things as I am now doing and with something of radio broadcasting, too. I am going to write very soon to Dr. Reuling to find out about the possibilities of studying in New York and doing part time work there with the organization which sends us our films and is all the time busy with ~~an~~ studying and providing for our needs.

Thanks muchly for the pictures of you and Ralph, and Ralph and his Daddy. We certainly owe them letters. By the way, is that our RCA "Golden Voice" radio that I see on the mantle shelf. That is, the radio we used in Auburndale. I recall something about it, but hadn't found out whether you received it or not. Hope so.

Lots of Love to you and Olive and hugs and kisses around. May God be with you. *Rachel*