

Dear Folks all

December 29, 1949

After all my struggling, we arrived at the post office just a few minutes too late to get your letter mailed in time to catch the plane so you would get it before Christmas. In a few months our mail service should be better. A big truck with a caboose to carry passengers is going to make the trip from Nova Lisboa to all the Kunyama country twice a month. It will bring and take our mail. Just as soon as they get business enough they will go once a week. As they are passing through the mission, it will be a great help.

Kennie has lost his first tooth. Is he proud. In fact he has lost two of them and a new one is growing in. This is quite an accomplishment. Tommie is growing up. He is cute as the dickens. He picks my best flowers and carries them to Aunt Bertha. Both boys were tickled pink with their big box of crayons. "These have colors we've never had before" they exclaimed. They have acquired the idea that Grammie is the source of everything they want. When something isn't forthcoming immediately they say "Let's ask Grammie to send it. One day they regaled some one with such tall stories as "Grammie has an airplane. - When we go to America to see Grammie, Grammie will meet us with a train. Just yesterday I produced the last two lollypops at Tommie's request. Kenzie at first thought he wanted to save his for next Christmas then he said "Oh I guess I want it now. Let's ask Grammie to give us some ~~more~~ more for next Christmas. Probably she will." But don't worry Mum. We are teaching them that lollypops and such don't grow on trees even in America. That the reason people in America have so much more is that they work hard for them.

Susan is just blossoming out. She said Mamma once and Mamma twice yesterday. So plain that everybody ~~was~~ gasped. She took great interest in her tinker toy doll, rubber teething ring & plastic swan. Right now she is sitting in her playpen that the Tuckers brought - scolding about something. Max is getting ready to go to Dondo to some meeting about Dr. Tucker. He has been asked to come to Lisbon to represent (Dr. Tucker) the protestant churches there and the meeting is to see whether we will release him here. Week of Prayer begins in just two weeks now and there's a lot of work to be done before that. Max will be preaching, holding communion etc. just after he is