

July 2, 1978

Dear Bernadine,  
This check is to reimburse you for the lense I requested. I don't know if you were able to find one or not for what I'm willing to pay. If you did, let me know how much more money I owe you. If you didn't, just hang-on to the money until the first of the month and give it to Cathy for rent. I realize you must be low on money w/ all your recent expenses and I don't want this lense to be a strain on you.

Finally got our helicopter off the mt last night. We still can't fly it routinely because the pontoon support is broken, but at least it's here at Port Heiden where we can fix it!

The copter pilot of the other copter working out of Port Heiden took us fishing last night to help alleviate some of our ~~boredom~~ boredom (we've been down for five days now!) The Kings and Dogs just started running up the Meshik River 2 days ago and the river full of salmon now. We caught lots of Kings and I was busily cleaning some when one of my buddies spotted a Brown Bear across the river. We all yelled at it and joked around. Then it swam <sup>across</sup> the river to our side about 100-150 yds up and we yelled louder and got our pistols out of the copter. Finally he started toward us at a lope and I fired a shot to try to scare him away. He sped up a bit and now was headed right for us. We very quickly climbed in the copter and ~~fig~~ fired it up. Our poles were still leaning against the tail piece and my hands were covered w

(2)  
fish blood and my bloody knife was in my hand! We 'thrusted-off' when the bear was 40-50 yds away and coming fast. We ran the bear off and went back to clean our fish. By the time we were almost finished, another brown appeared on the ~~river~~ bank across the river. He swam across and we were on our way! I don't understand why those bears can't catch their own fish and leave ours alone. Guess the smell of fish guts was more than they could resist.

The Caribu herd now consists of several thousand animals and covers 4-6 miles, and is still growing!  
All for now, Bill

Dear Bernadine,

It's July 4th at 10:30 PM and I'm drinking my second bud and getting ready for bed. Today was our first day back on the job after 5 down-days while the helicopter sat on a mountain.

It really felt good to be doing geology for a change. Weather was a bit rotten, but we've worked in worse. Generally, it was 5-15 knot wind, v/c, light to moderate rain. Trying like hell to make up some lost time. We may extend here 3 days to help make up for it! Also, managers visit here Thursday through Monday and I'm a bit apprehensive. Lee takes his R&R \$ from Thursday through Monday so he's been getting things ready for that. I don't think I will take R&R because I don't really want to go to Anchorage. After my rather unpleasant exit I have a bad taste in my mouth. Instead, I think I'll just stay in camp at Panter Ck and Fish and write letters and get loaded and play my guitar. Sounds alot nicer to me than hassling airlines and hotels and rent-a-cars.

The Caribou have moved to the southwest and there ~~are no trails~~ is nothing left but lots of trails and a few single Caribou. When the managers come, I'll take them to the Port Moller area so maybe we'll see the herd on the way.

Been getting your letters and it's been real nice to hear from you.

5475

Tomorrow is the big day when our managers arrive. Tonight we flew up to Parker Creek to see if our fuel cache was there and it wasn't. But on the way I found a walrus skull in one husk. It's about 24" long and fossilized. I'm not sure whether that's good or not, but Devon (our host at Port Heiden) tells me it's better when they're fossilized. It doesn't really matter to me one way or the other; I'm just really glad to have a skull at all. We took Devon and her girl Patsy (~19yrs old) with us to Parker Creek and they had the time of their lives. Neither of them had flown in a copter before and neither had seen any of the wildlife around here. That's really too bad when you realize they live here (and I have since Oct.) and that Devon is a Native. What a fine lady she is. She's so good natured and hardworking and helpful.

Today we finished our 'Windy Bay Section'. Today's work was entirely up in the clouds and snow fields. I made a careless traverse across a corner <sup>50'</sup> ~~to~~ (snow overhang) at a slight edge and slipped. I considered ahead of time what would happen if I slipped so when the time came I knew what to do. I sank my heels into the snow and kept my feet in front of me to slow and control the fall. Just like I planned, my heels slowed me down at a small snow 'lip' just before the 300' cliff. Lee didn't say a word; he just turned around. Steve couldn't believe it, especially since I had just slipped on wet lichen covered rocks at the top of the same cliff. Got to get some work done so all for now. B. 1/18

6 July 78

Dear Bernie,

Muchas Gracias for the lens and bread and tape and letters! The lens is perfect and the tape is fantastic and I haven't tasted the bread yet and it's good to hear from you. Obviously our visitors arrived and it's real good to see old George. Worked for half a day today and came in to greet our visitors and show them some rocks and go fishing. All these people want to do is fish. And they don't want any old fish or any old salmon, they want kings. They're out fishing right now but I told them I wanted to stay here and take a shower and write letters and read letters. I hope they understood. It's been a long day and it's very awkward trying to show 3 bosses around... no one seems to know who's boss! Found about 2,000 Caribou last night: what animals... I'm sitting here gawking at my new Walrus skull. I'm so happy I finally found one.

Lee took some frozen King and Red salmon to him to town and I'll call you in the morning to tell you about it and when to pick it up at the air port. It's rather funny how we came by the Reds. We flew past the Univ. of Washington fish-counting station on the Chignik River in the morning and stopped and ask them if they would keep 6 Reds for us during the day and we would be back in the PM and pick them up. They were more than happy to, so we came by in the PM and they had 7 Reds already cleaned and waiting for us. So that's where they came from. I don't know if Lee mailed any Kings to you or not, but if he

did, we caught those.

I'm enclosing some photos for you to look at:  
I wish you could see them all first hand... maybe  
someday ~~you~~ you will.

Going to take my R&R time at Painter Ct  
instead of flying in to Anchorage. That place  
is so beautiful. I'll just stay in camp while  
the guys are out working. I'll play the guitar  
(which I've had time to do only one so far  
this summer) and write letters and read and  
walk around in the Cottonwood Forest to  
Mother Goose Lake. The water in the lake is  
braguiise. Not sort-of braguiise, but bright braguiise.  
And the lake is surrounded by Cottonwood Forest and  
mountains and a volcano to help spring. I told George  
and friends there today and while everyone was raving  
about how beautiful it was, I told George I wanted  
to take my R&R there. He looked at me with a curious  
look on his face and I went on to say: Why  
should I spend \$500 on an air plane <sup>ticket</sup> and \$300  
on expenses to stay in Anchorage for 4 days  
when I could stay here and be much happier. He  
hesitated, and after a few seconds, said he understood  
what I was saying.

Got it for now kid. Thanks again for everything  
and keep having a nice summer. I haven't been  
able to get running in my schedule lately because  
we work right up to dinner time and fly in just  
in time to eat. I can't run after I eat so  
I hope the next day I'll have more time before dinner.  
To morrow I'll get up earlier and try to run before  
breakfast. Got to do something because I've put on 5-7 lbs!!  
See ya, Bill

← PortKyrine<sup>57</sup> & Will

8 July 78

Head Bonnie,

Much thanks for your letter! I dare say I miss Denver and the heat and my friends. I miss them, but I'd still rather be in Alaska. It would be ideal if everyone could come y here and fly around to us and fish and watch all the wildlife. Just now I'm back at Bear Lake for a couple nights to our managers (including Tim Vanderbock). They're all interested in the geology, but they're more interested in the fish. Tim caught his large King Salmon yesterday and I'm 'iff-the-hook' (so to speak). He's really a nice guy out here. He likes to drink and fish and have fun just like anyone else.

My summers been real nice so far and I'm sure Bernadine has kept you posted on our activities. We're staying at Bear Lake now because when we flew in for fuel Tim said he'd like to stay here. We've been staying at Port Herden ~~at~~ and it's a rather simple place with no frills, and it's located in a real desolate place. So when Vanderbock saw this place he decided it would be a nicer place to spend his time in Alaska. That's fine with me because I love

This place. It's real beautiful and the people are pleasant. We can play pool and drink and fish. We have about 1 mo. longer in the field and I wish it was 12 mo. I miss Bernadine and the dogs alot: too bad they can't come up.

Everywhere that I've taken our managers, <sup>someone</sup> ~~some~~ greets me by saying "Heard you spent a night in the helicopter on the mountain". The managers get a funny look on their faces and I quickly change the subject. The helicopter is really very safe and I don't want them worrying.

For the last two days I've played the role of a Rock and Fish Guide. I take them to all the key outcrops and point out all the wildlife and take fishing photos and sell Fish in and clean and cook Fish. It's a peculiar role to play, but I've loved it.

I've gained 5-6 lbs since I got here. All this good food and <sup>not enough</sup> ~~no~~ time to run as much as I should. I'll loose it quick enough when I

get home so I suppose I shouldn't worry about it. Please say hello to Dan and Mary and Mal and Bernie and I'll see that you all get a salmon - <sup>see ya, B.II</sup>

8/14/78

Howdy Bernadine, I just finished a huge Doll Varden lunch at Bear Lake Lodge and as my food settles I decided to write a quick letter. I took Vanderbeet and friends on the first day of their tour which included refueling at Bear Lake. Vanderbeet liked Bear Lake and said we should try to stay ~~here~~ the night. I talked to Don Johnson and there was no problem to our staying; so here we are at 3:00 PM the next day. The weather turned bad and we couldn't fly so we fished instead. The weather probably will remain like this and we've already made arrangements to stay tonight also. I can't say that it hurts my feelings because I really love this place and these people. Sylvia (Don's wife) just flew in today to Don and it's nice to see her again. Our managers are a bit surprised at the friendly reception we get everywhere we go. I think I know and like most people we've dealt with out here. People know who we are and what we're doing and that we're about 4 PM to leave around.

After looking at geology most of the day yesterday, Vanderbeet strongly suggested we go fishing. Don Johnson told me of a good King Salmon creek so I took them there. Before the managers arrived



85-1428  
here, George told me that Vanderbeek wanted to  
to catch King Salmon: not Reds or Dogs or silvers or  
look at geology. So Vanderbeek ~~was~~  
broke his reel on the first salmon and couldn't  
catch anything. I let him use my new reel and  
reel and he immediately caught his large silver King,  
I stood by and took pictures (so the new lens you  
sent) and watched for bears and helped pull fish  
in for everyone. I smoked a joint and just cruised  
around watching my bosses have a great time. I  
decided that being an exclusive Rock and Fish Guide  
in Alaska wasn't such a bad job! We finished  
catching fish and headed for Bear Lake for dinner  
and booze and pool. I wonder what the poor folks  
are doing...?

Today the weather is very windy so we decided to  
stay here and fish and drink and play pool.

Vanderbeek is a rather neat man in his own way.

He picked up a small artifact from the Hot Springs  
and said "I ought to keep this just because the  
State made a law against it"; it's illegal to collect  
any artifacts is out a permit. He's been very friendly  
to me and loves to have his picture taken. George  
of course has been alot of fun to have around. I'll  
be sorry to see him leave. About all for now kids.  
Think about you often and hope the fish arrived ok.

See ya, Bill

10 July 78

Dear Bernadine,  
I just spent some time looking at our schedule and the calendar. I think that the best time to take off work to come to Alaska is August 14-18. Then if you can sneak away from work on Friday at noon or so and fly to Juneau you should be there Friday night. It looks as though I can make it there by Friday or Saturday depending on <sup>the</sup> weather between Anchorage and Juneau. Almost for sure I'll be flying down in the helicopter.

By taking off the days I suggested, you would get the two adjacent weekends making a total of 9 days. Then if we're doing real well and having fun, maybe we can

call in sick and stay longer! I'll be paying for your ferry ticket so don't worry about that. Bob Wigen (our pilot) will put us up a couple days in Juneau. Kirk gave me a touring guide for SE Alaska and maybe we'll stop a day or two at towns along the way. We still have lots of details to work out but this is something to work from.

Could you send me a Dylan tape please --- and maybe Newgrass Revival. Muchas Gracias!

Got to get this note to George before he leaves so bye for now and see you soon.

Bill

11 JUL 78

Howdy Kirk,

Finally have a few minutes to write you this note  
Thanking you for the QARE package. Those rain  
parks are great and we've used them several times.  
My legs thank you profusely. Glad the smoked  
salmon got to appreciative mouths. We are  
extending two days, at Port Heiden to  
help compensate for the five days of helicopter  
down time after it wouldn't start on the mountain  
top (I'm sure you've already heard several variations  
of that story!). Our managers left Port  
Heiden <sup>yesterday</sup> several days of fun and  
fishing. It was rather fun being a fish  
and rock guide and showing off this place  
I love so much. They all caught a couple  
Kings each plus lots of Bogs and Dollys.  
All seemed pleased w our geology. Ended up  
staying at Bear Lake two nights. The first  
night because Vanderbeek liked the place,  
the second night because the wind was  
blowing 40 knots and gusting 55-60 knots ----  
nothing new. They locked into two  
very nice days w lots of sun and only  
light wind. We went to town during the managers'  
stay and came back in great spirits.  
We gave him a list of chores to run in  
town and he did all but the last one:  
I'll let you try to figure out what it was....

The sedimentation <sup>book</sup> you sent is great and I've  
been reading it. There's nothing easy about  
Sedimentation!

I'll likely will make to Inman in the helicopter w  
<sup>Bob</sup> ~~Doug~~. That should be a fantastic trip. I'll stop  
in Copar River and Yakutat Bay and look at some

geology I've always wondered about.

I've had a great idea. I'm going to try to think up a good phone message to call-in to KDLG. Maybe a birthday or a lost TVD or something...any ideas?

Write more later,

Bill

12 July 78

Howdy Bernie,

We're probably going to make a few changes to our plans, but I don't know the details just yet. Lee is probably leaving on Friday for Denver. His parents are due to arrive in New York ~~on~~ between July 20-27 and he's getting a bit antsy. The way really difficult to get along in today in the field, I ~~was~~ thought he ask if he could leave on Friday. Of course I can't say yes or no, but I'm going to do all I can to convince George it's the right thing to do. If someone's not happy out here, it wears on everyone and our work is too difficult to have poor morale. Steve Pappajohn also leaves on Friday so Scott and I will be in the field alone for a while. We hope to move to Painter Creek on Saturday instead of Friday. I think it will be nice to have only 2 geologists. We can carry more fuel and therefore travel farther. Also, we can land on more difficult ledges. Bill Krebs will join me in Dillingham for the duration of our work, but Scott will be leaving at the same time. I am going to ask George to try to send up a third person while we're in Dillingham: possibly Kirk may come back up?! We have had 6 down-days due to helicopter mal-functions. There is talk of extending our field season and using this time in some of the area of Alaska. I will talk to George tomorrow and see what's brewing. It may mean postponing our vacation one week. Also, how would you like a helicopter ride from Yakutat to Tread? If you promise not to mention

a word of this to anyone, you may be able to meet us there and ride is in down to Tinnau. We plan on flying the beach and doing some beach combing along the way. I'll keep you posted on what's happening, but you might keep that in your mind. But remember, not a word to anyone.

Getting some great photos in the new lens. Helicopters photos of bear and moose may come out real well.

7/13

Just talked to George and he says he can't on staying in the field an extra 6 days, which means you ~~stay~~ should take off... hummm... let me think. Maybe you could try to be in Yalunkat on about the 13th to 17th. I can't be sure just now because no one is sure where we're wanting to be working on those extra few days. Also, not real sure about the Yalunkat trip but will try my hardest to make it work.

Take care; got to get out and chop those rocks just now.

See you soon,

Bill

## Dear Bernadine,

5/4/17 It's 7:30 PM and the winds blowing lightly. It's sunny because the only clouds are high and thin. I ate too much for dinner (as usual) and decided to go for a walk and write a letter. Mother Goose Lake is about 10 miles away and it's ~~brilliant~~ bright turquoise water is clearly visible from here. The cottonwood trees are rustling in the wind and no doubt moose are grazing in the meadows behind the trees. I'm lying in the middle of an old gravel road which runs between our cabin and Parker Creek. Our cabin is located next to the old gravel air strip used to bring in supplies and equipment when Citeo drilled a well near here in the early 60's. This road was used to carry water from the river to the drill site. It's long since been abandoned and segments of it are now washed out. I'm not sure why this Cottonwood Forest grows here and nowhere else along the Peninsula. I suspect that the climate in this valley is much better than in any nearby areas. Not only are there trees here and nowhere else, but the various flowers growing here are larger than elsewhere. This grass here and nowhere else. Somewhere, poor weather passes right over this place. Today we encountered gale winds, both north and south of this area, but when we returned here for fuel it was relatively calm.

There's a large hot spring north of Mother Goose Lake along the lower flank of Chiniabak Volcano. We took our towels and soap and dirty dishes there this morning to do some serious cleaning. We dammed the creek w/ boulders so that the hot water was about 2 1/2' deep and took baths. Yes, wonder

What the poor folks are doing today... I'd love for you to see this place. Maybe someday we can charter into Mother Goose and spend some time. Salmon in the rivers and fantasy in the air. Moose are everywhere and wolf tracks are not uncommon. Geology is essentially untouched and the only map of this area is grossly in error. Gave myself a hair-cut tonight so that my hair would stay out of my eyes. It looks terrible but it's much more comfortable. We only have two more nights to spend at Painter Creek. I wish there were several days more time but then I'm glad we got to come at all. Thursday we're scheduled to fly to Dillingham. That will be the first time I'll be in town in 6 or 7 weeks; it's a small town though and probably has less than 2000 residents.

Been running in the morning and evening lately; about 2 miles each time. I got a cramp this morning however so tonight I didn't run. Having trouble keeping from eating too much. It's the same every year in the field and I generally end up packing home 5 to 10 pounds more weight than I left with. I'm not overly concerned because it's ~~easy~~ easy enough to lose when I get home.

July 19 <sup>1907 Ferry</sup> It's 6:30 AM on our last day at Painter Creek. Yesterday

was a moderate to heavy rain so we weren't able to get much work completed. We plan to hike back to look at a unit of rocks Scott was interested in and collect a bunch of fossils (some neat ones too).



The weather turned bad by about 10:30 AM and we headed back to camp for lunch. It cleared up a bit by 1:30 PM so we flew back over to the Pacific side near Amber Bay to look at Chevron's proposed well site. The weather turned sour again so we didn't get much work completed. After dinner we went back to the Hot Springs equipped w/ Shampoo, soap, camera and tripod, stereo, dirty dishes, a 6 pack of Bud, and a sign reading 'Amoco Spa' which we stuck in the ground next to our dam. Chevron is going to stay in this cabin starting the day we leave. I figure that it must be worth something real nice for us to tell them where Amoco Spa is located. I had several beers before we got there and another one there. I took my Bob Mills tape to listen to during our bath. I set up the tripod & camera to get a picture of all of us in the springs. The only thing missing was massage parlor! That would be a perfect place to build a small lodge. The scenery is fantastic: in fact, yesterday there was even a rainbow clearly visible from the spa. Only one problem however. It's located on the flank of this cute little young active volcano that could erupt any time. So if you built a lodge you could never insure it. That's not a serious problem however because you couldn't ~~insure~~ insure to insure a lodge anywhere out here. And if you put in a seismograph in the lodge you would hear the lava moving around to probably 2 or 3 days before the volcano would erupt so that there

would be plenty of time to get away before  
any one could get hurt. It's actually quite  
unlikely that it would erupt during our  
lifetime anyway! You would need to build  
a few roads, one of which would have to  
go to Mother Goose Lake where you would  
have to build a small air strip. The  
lodge probably would get a lot of use during  
hunting seasons, especially Moose season because  
this place has a lot of large trophy Moose.  
Bears are scarce here, probably because  
of over-hunting. It would be a good  
location to have a lodge before the  
big push for oil begins in 1980 because  
the oil companies surely would want a  
good base camp in this area. Another pipe-dream?

20 517

Ready to fly to Dillingham and waiting for our  
chartered single Otter. It should have been here  
an hour ago, but then this is Alaska. Everything  
is packed and ready and all of us have dreams  
of a shower and clean cloths and nail and a  
visit to the City (however small it may be). I'm  
going to ride in the helicopter to Bob and Scott  
and Doug will fly in the Otter. Doug twisted his  
ankle yesterday when he climbed out of the  
helicopter and it looks like it's broken. I made  
him a cane out of an old axe handle until he  
gets to town, he has to have it set and get some real  
crutches. Doug is a real good person. He's about  
28 yrs old and has a very healthy build. He has  
a full beard which he keeps trimmed. He doesn't  
talk much so it's hard to get to know him. He  
loves working in the bush and is a first rate

mechanic. Hope his leg isn't as bad as it looks.  
Bob and I have visions of work and will fly  
along the beach to Dillingham. Bob gets the  
next work but it's real fun to look for it.  
Parker Spurts are feasting outside just now. They  
eat anything and have put on alot of weight  
since we get here. I put a location map  
on the cabin wall in a felt-tip pen explaining  
where Amoco Spa is located. Hope people  
can find it ok and enjoy it as much as  
I did!

If you receive this letter you'll know we made  
it to Dillingham. I've been told that the  
phones are out there so I won't be able  
to call you right away. Take care;  
Think about you lots,  
Bill

24 July 78

Bernadine,  
Much thanks for the cookies and  
goodies, and the note you sent  
up to Bill Krebs. Enclosed are  
some photos for your amusement.  
Today was beautiful and hot;  
must have reached 70°! Scott  
left and Bill arrived this  
evening and it's nice to have some  
fresh energetic blood up here.  
It's late just now and tomorrow  
will come too soon. Hope the  
drinks don't keep me up tonight!  
Two nights ago I broke up  
a friendly fight between 3  
drunk natives in our bathroom  
at 5:30 AM. What a lovely  
way to start a day. The  
fourth native was on the  
brink of death from too much  
booze and the landlord and  
I were undecided for about  
3 minutes as to whether he was

alive or dead. He was alive  
but my day began ~~some~~  
somewhat abruptly. A little  
toilet paper in my ears does  
help my sleeping. I'm just  
used to sleeping in the quiet  
bush country and this  
routy city drunk scene is  
keeping me awake.

Speaking of which, time for  
bed just now.

Miss ya,  
Bill

5 Aug 78

Dear Bernadine,  
Thanks for fine pictures of  
you and the dogs. Makes  
me a bit homesick and  
other things, but a very  
welcome site!

We're leaving Dillingham on  
Monday instead of Tuesday  
so everything is moved  
up one day and I'll meet  
you in Juneau on Saturday  
instead of Sunday. I have  
a feeling that will be no  
problem to you.

I've enclosed more photos  
to amuse yourself with.

Our work is finished here  
except for a tour w/ George  
of the area. We're ahead  
of schedule and may be  
even further ahead by  
the time we finish at  
Susitna and Copper River.

It's possible I may get to  
Juneau as soon as Friday  
night, but you probably  
should catch a Saturday  
morning flight.

Time to do some work just  
now to get ready for  
today's tour. Talk to  
you soon and give Buddy  
and Neva a pat on the  
head for me. I think  
I know what I'll name my  
next dog: oosik!

See you soon,

Bill

6 Aug 77

Dear Bonnie,

Believe it or not, I'm writing a letter to you finally. It's Friday night! They say, and Earl told me it's payday too! So I paid all 8 bills I had here and played a game of darts and decided to write a long post also later. Today was a very exciting one. Brooke and Hartman and Davis have been visiting now for 3 days and I've been giving them a whirl-wind tour of the Alaska Peninsula.

Spent an average of 4 hrs/day flying in the helicopter and going back over all the areas we've spotted and all the spectacular scenery we've seen and all the fishing holes we've found. Four hrs/day in the helo is a loony time!

But they have been super impressed w/ the area and somehow I take pride in showing it off. Such open wild country. So much wild life and such changeable weather. Takes a hot spring about 20 miles from here that we've visited 3 times now. It's the site of Indian villages between 5000 and 600 yrs ago, continuously.

The Indians would boil their clamms in the 140°F hot springs. When we went to the springs the first 2 times, 7 Japanese Archeologists<sup>sp?</sup> were chin-deep in several excavation pits and they showed us some fascinating artifacts ~~that~~ they've ~~also~~ found.

The second time we went there was 2 days before they were to leave and we caught 7 fresh red salmon to take to them. So we put fresh wigly fish and fowels and

Swim punks all in the helo and went visiting. Gave them the fish (which they promptly cleaned and prepared) and went for a dip. They loved us and our noisy ratty ways and everyone took lots of pictures and we had coffee and salmon lakes.

Today we had a fantastic flight across the Alaskan Range. Fog was down but we followed a creek up to a pass and followed another creek down the other side. I navigated while Eric (the pilot) wave thru the deep canyons. The waterfalls were unbelievable. Plus lots of bear and Karibu and even a couple moose. Yep, sure do like this job!

Bear Lake Lodge is a fine place to stay. The Paul table has gotten confused and everyone's plans have improved notably. Don & Sylvia are the owners and are fine people. Don spends all of his time flying from one end of the Peninsula to the other on charters in his Super Cub. He commonly doesn't get back to Bear Lake until 10:30 when it's pretty much dark and he has to turn on his lights on his 800' dirt runway out behind his house. He is a professional hunter and hunts Polar Bear in winter in the Arctic. He says he usually flies very low (under radar) across the Polar Ice to Siberia and hunts there. He has to have a belly tank plus two small drums of gas in the plane and he does this in his 1. The Super Cub. Then he goes to Bear Lake for Griz season, then he goes to the Wrangells for Big Horn Sheep season, then he goes on Safari in Africa. A real dynamic life. See you soon, Bill

Dear Bernie and Sue,

15 Aug 77

Sounds like things are going well in Denver. I'm really jealous of your new bike Bernie; I may have to buy one for myself when I get back so you won't be able to beat me. Actually you probably won't have much trouble doing that because I haven't ridden since I left home and I've managed to pack away at least 5 extra pounds. I've been jogging nearly every day but so far I only go about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 miles. Leg is doing just fine and it hasn't kept me off a single steep slope or cliff so far. It's the trip still on to Durango / Silverton? I hope so 'cause it really sounds like fun. I don't recall when the Linda Ronstadt concert is but I hope to be home in time. I will be leaving Bear Lake Lodge in two days then going to Port Helden for ~10 days, then to Kodiak for ~3 days, then Anchorage for 2-3 days then to Hawaii for 4-7 days then to southern California for 1-3 days then to Denver. Port Helden won't be nearly as nice a place to stay as Bear Lake has been. My pool game has improved tremendously since I got here and my fishing has also gotten better. Found a nice lg. glass ball at the Bering Sea Curio Shop and hundreds of small ones. Greg Brown found a Fantahki walrus skull w/ 24" ivory tusks --- probably a 2000 find! I picked up lots of other knickknacks too and will be spending a lot of time trying to figure out how on earth I'll get it all home. Went diving a couple days ago in Bear Lake to watch the Salmon spawn. They wouldn't spawn while I was watching, I



suppose because they're a bit self conscious. <sup>50'</sup> But  
it was really an experience to see swim in  
a school of salmon who had transformed into  
their grotesk ugly sporing morphology - huge  
teeth and hump backs and bright red bodies;  
only look earlier they were all beautiful and  
silver in color.

Today is a busy one. Getting all paper work done,  
checking all sections done earlier in the summer,  
packaging everything up that should be shipped  
back, writing reports, staking the salmon smoker,  
playing pool, throwing the fishing float for Blackie  
(the camp dog), and eating. Might even get  
some running in this evening.

For now I should get to work. Think  
about you often and see you soon,

Bill