



Christmas

Christmas 1970
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Friends,

As an economy measure Mary, Alan, and Cy made this years Christmas letter with scissors, paste, and some photographs printed in the basement.

Edward, 23, returned home from Viet Naam in may after being wounded twice in six months. He was retired in October and in January he'll go back to Cornell to finish his degree in Industrial Labor Relations. while on his convalescent leave he's been working at Hotpoint as a stock keeper. He and Cy ride to work together daily and eat lunch together a couple of days a week. They're closing the gap with rap sessions on everything from McLuhan to what the Bears have been doing wrong. They're authorities on everything. He's engaged to a girl from Glen Elyn, Susan Menzel. She's a senior at the University of Illinois so we see very little of him



on weekends.

Gary, 20, is now in Herstal, Belgium. He's been on a mission for our church for a year and a half now in Belgium and the adjoining parts of France. He tells us that he speaks French like a native. It's been a wonderful experience for him. He's very enthusiastic and conscientious about the work he's doing and thinks that the Belgium people are the finest in the world. Mary and Cy hope to go to Europe in June when he'll be coming home. They want to meet some of the friends he's made over there, tour a little and then come home with him. He'd like to take his NROTC cruise this summer and be back at the University of Illinois in the fall to start his sophomore year.



Martin, 19, completed a year at the University of Utah, where we think he studied Geology. He toured the West with the University La Crosse Team and the NROTC



Drill Team playing his old trombone. While he was in Utah he met a very nice girl, Jane Redd from Bountiful. She spent a couple of weeks visiting with us this summer. Marty started the summer with a float trip down the Yampa River, then he fished in Canada with Al and Cy and finished the summer working at Hotpoint. He's going on a mission to Argentina and is now at the BYU in the church language school. He can "habla un poco, pero mal." By December 20 it had better be "muy bueno", since he leaves then for two

years south of the equator.

Jamie, 18, graduated from Wheaton High in June, worked the summer in Wiebolt's Department Store and this fall started as a Freshman at Brigham Young University, majoring in Psychology. Right now it's the Advanced Algebra that's her problem and not Psychology. She batches with five other girls in one of the University batchelor pads. She's a poor writer and right now about all we know is that Jamie Kearl is alive and well and is in Provo, Utah.



Alan, 12, has started Junior High. His baseball team won their division this summer. He and Glen Beckert play 2nd base. He delivers papers. He just finished earning his Star Scout Badge. Need we tell you that one of those merit badges was Photography. He's his dad's favorite companion at Cub, Bear, Bull and Blackhawk games when we can find and afford the tickets. He's a serious fellow and a conscientious student.

This year finds us with only three permanent residents at home but many sometime visitors and lodgers. Their home comings remind us of Robert Frost's description of home as "a place where, when you go there, they have to take you in" -- "something you somehow haven't to deserve." Saray Gonzalez from Costa Rica stayed with us through the school year. In early June Ed and Marty came home and Saray left. This fall everyone left again. Each homecoming, and they happen often, is a choice experience.



We continue to be blessed with happiness, good health, and other choice blessings.

We wish you a happy holiday season. The Kearls

Cy, Mary, + Family