12-18-1960

Letter from Patti Mattox Bryant to F. W. and Mildred Mattox

Patti Mattox Bryant

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Dec. 18, 1960

Dear Mother + Daddy,

We were thrilled to get the wonderful Christmas package. It came on the day you wrote telling about it. There's a long story about how I got it out of the Post Office. They were demanding an invoice which I didn't have. I knew we could not get it before Xmas if we waited for an invoice. I had to go to the customs man who works at the brewery and get the invoice waived. He found a mistake which had been made in the customs figuring and doubled the amount of customs on the slip. I had to pay about $18.00 customs. They charge customs on the postage also. He also found the Christmas candle which was not on the list of contents and raised a little static over that. However, it was a real joy to have a package from home. After the children were in bed that night we brought it in from the car, dug out the date cake, and I just couldn't resist. I had to cut me a piece. It tasted like your den, the television set and Daddy's big chair. The doll is simply precious. We bought a bassinet for it in P.N. the day we met the lawyers. I put up last night until 11:30 making a little blue dress and bonnet for it. I plan to make gown, slip, panty, coat and blanket also. We got a wooden take-apart train for Bill, a pull toy for Davi and a couple of things for Billy and Dad. That with what you sent will be "it." We're so eager to open our presents but until now have resisted.

Yesterday, I went to Umanchis. The results of my second frog test are good — no sign of pregnancy.
I had to make two trips this time because the first time I only had one male frog. I came home and we had a real frog hunt. 2 days later we went back with 3 frogs which were definitely male. It's 48 mi. there & 48 mi. back. I'm quite sure that all the villages around here have heard about "that queer white woman that takes a notion she's got to have frogs ever so often." Not just any frog but male frogs. At least the lab man understands! Imagine trying to explain the connection between frogs & hydralidiform mole to a person with 2nd or 3rd grade education or even with 8th grade. It's too much like ju-jitsu. I appear to be completely healthy & I go to the hospital every month. Crazy as a bat!

The lawyers arrived safely on schedule & we've had no much excitement connected with preparing for & receiving them. They are all well. We are going to Ukpom with them tonight. They will have groundnut stew for the first time. Far. Patti. XXXX
BY AIR MAIL
AÉROGRAMME
AIR LETTER

DR. AND MRS. F.W. MATTOX
4906 - 19TH STREET
LUBBOCK, TEXAS
U.S.A.

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IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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WEST AFRICA