

Hilton International Istanbul

7/13/85

Dear Karen & Mike

Happy birthday - a day early here (probably a month late there!). How is Togo? I hope it is everything you want and hoped for. I envy you in a lot of ways - The best way to build a relationship is to be by yourself with no one to run to when things get tough - and I expect they will get tough!

This is the first chance I've had to write you a letter since you left. I always thought life would slow down as you all grew up and left the nest, but that doesn't seem to be the case. Mom and I seem to be busier all the time!

at this moment it's 10 PM in Istanbul, 12 noon in Seattle and something in-between in Togo. Grandma should have arrived last night and mom went to pick her up all by herself. Both David and Mark are in California on a business trip - rotten timing.

I've been here since Wednesday, talking to Turkish Airlines about the 737-300. I'm here with 3 other guys, the salesman, analyst, and a 747 marketing type. They really isn't much chance of selling them anything as their "10 year plan" calls for keeping the old DC9's and buying a new or used DC-10.

Will talk to their planning and Flight Operations people on Monday, and I'm heading home Mon night. I'll overnight in Frankfurt and be home Tuesday about 2 PM, gone just over 1 week.

Sales going on at work, mostly bad. They are reducing the size of the Analysis group by $\frac{1}{3}$ (over 100 people will be reassigned or laid off.) I think my area is safe (for now) but we will probably be re-assigned from the Sales area back to Engineering.

737 sales are going very well - over 200 sold with options for almost 100 more, and short bodied derivatives ^{are} on the drawing board. But it is a very competitive business, and sometimes a little ruff.

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I just got off the phone with mom. She's doing great and Grandma is all settled in. I'm sure be glad to get home.

Went shopping today in the Bazaar. It is enormous. I bought another rug, not so fine as the last one, for the entry way. It's quite different and I hope mom likes it. Didn't see too much else I liked, but it sure was interesting.

I've read ~~Coming Home~~ "Growing Up" so far and am well into "Blue Highway". Enjoyed the first one more so far, but I'll keep at it. One of the good things about trips is I do get to read a book ~~now~~ and then.

Tomorrow I'm going on a boat ride on the Bosphorus. It's a very busy waterway separating Europe from Asia Minor. Runs right through Istanbul and connects the Black Sea with the Sea of Marmara. They are controlling development on the coast, no commercial

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activity save a few restaurants, limited apartment etc.

I'm surprised how cold it is here ^{in the evening}. When the wind blows,

which is most of the time, it is downright chilly.

During the day it is

^ Nice and warm out of the wind, maybe 80° or less, but bearable. But its hotter in Tokyo!

Mom has probably filled you in on our planned vacation in Ireland and U.K. in Sept. I am not too excited but I know she is, so I'm sure we'll have fun. The Jones' want us to stay with them several days and go sailing but I don't think we will stay more than 3, too much else to see and do.

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It's now 10:30 PM Sunday and I am glowing.

Spent most of the day on a boat to the Brecon islands. The sun was very strong and the wind blew constantly which made it very comfortable. They served breakfast, a delicious lunch and non-stop drinks. I had Raki most of the time. We anchored in a cove and some swam. What a beautiful place! I'm out of steam and energy. Write soon. Love, Dad.