

Box 147
Smithflat, Calif.

95727

May 24, 1970

Dear Bernie and Jack:

I'm afraid your opinion of us
right now, may not be too good.
We left Ariz. early this year, because
Mitch was having trouble with his
back. So we received your cards
letters, book, all up here, and I
am just now getting a few notes
and letters written.

The above address is ours
now, until further notice. Isn't
that some name Smithflat?
Must be the original one.

Goodness how do you do

so much all the time? Did you settle on any property in Ariz.? We may get moved back there some day, when we get a few things settled. We saw the maps on T. V. Jan. 8th 70. A long story about all of that. Plus the ridiculous writings of one Paul Dean. Grrrr! He's only been here from England for 6 years. What does he know. A great big O. Did you see the maps while you were in Phoenix?

Our granddaughter age 14 was shot in her left eye with a B.B. gun about a month ago, & has all of us rather up set. She says she can see a little light & she thinks also color, so we sure

hope she can heal, along with Doc's help.

Also Mar 12th Carol's (our daughter) ex girl friend killed her self by putting a 22 caliber in her mouth & pulling the trigger, she died instantly. She & Carol had lived to-gether & bought a house to-gether for 9 yrs. But about a year & a half ago she moved out, & left Carol with the house to sell, which she did, and bought herself a nice trailer home.

The other girl, Mexine, bought a home with her mother & I guess they quarreled a lot. So her mother came home from work & found her dead. She

really must have hated her mother
to do that to her.

So we have had a few upsets
this spring. I'm sorry we weren't
in Ariz. in April. Would love
to have seen you, and I know
we all have a lot to talk about.

How was your visit with Kildus
does he have all his marbles?
We enjoyed Magill's book, of course
he did copy material from about
every book, & newspaper he read.
Then told his own story. We knew
he was just digging an old worked
out hole, and hadn't found any-
thing of value. Some one else
will come along and dig it
out again any day now. Ha!

Well I'm getting silly, I better
stop. Mitch is working for Pinkerton's
Inc. again this summer ^{Back} O.K. now.

By for this time - write us
again - love from your friends
Grace & Mitch

Dec. 16, 70

Dear Bernice & Jack:

Merry Christmas, are you ready for it?

Well Nov 12, th I had my Thyroid Gaiter removed. I'm glad that's over, it was getting larger and was a real drag. Feeling pretty good now.

Mitch is busy selling cars and we will not get to Arizona this year until spring. Think it is better that way this year.

Bernice you can write any



thing you want about the map set -
you mentioned some time ago.
Go to it.

Love from us to your folks.
Have a real nice Holiday
Season.

Grace & Mitch



DEC. 1971

Season's Greetings

Hi You All;

Yes we received your letter, and sorry I did not answer until now.

It burns me up to hear all the B.S. some people will try to peddle. I told you the truth and I can prove every bit. Believe me I have heard a lot of it. You know a lot of people do not like me because I don't tell them where the gold is located so they try to make trouble.

I will go back to Arizona
in the spring just for a
couple of weeks.

Apache Junction is nothing
but a bee hive, you can hear
a thousand different stories,
just like the Old Dutchman.

We are both well and
hope you are the same,
if you take a trip to Arizona
maybe we can see you
then, in the Spring.

So have a Merry Xmas
and a Happy New Year

As Always
Mitch & Grace

March 17, 1972

Dear Grace & Mitch:

You two have been, in memories, our constant companions the last few months. In the writing of the new story, we have relived 1965 all over again...at least a dozen times.

We feel from your last few letters that you are angry with us for writing this new slant on the Peralta Maps. They were so much a part of your life for so many years, I guess we can understand why you might be angry.

True treasure-hunters won't believe us anyway. Of course, we are convinced we are right...otherwise we could never have spent these past six years trying to figure out the connection between the Peralta Horse, and the Florence Quad Horse.

We have never forgotten your friendship, and would never write anything to try and hurt anybody...except maybe the hoaxsters who thought up these maps. They have had their fun, and we have had ours. In some ways its been fascinating to try and match wits with the map-makers.

The story is finished now. As you know from my letters bouncing in and out of your mailbox, I have kept you informed of everything we have been attempting to establish in this story. Nothing has been done behind your back. It makes one heck of a story...whether it be true or not. So, we hope you take it in that same spirit. We have had a change in ideas concerning the Peralta Maps...thats all.

We have learned from writing this story that nobody is going to pat you on the head for trying to buck a legend! As long as the tide flows in favor of the maps being authentic, you get the pats. When the tide flows the opposite way,..Uhhmm!

One cannot write of the Peralta Maps and not mention Travis Marlowe. You jump in and out of the story like a Jack-in-the-box. Grace, too! I will try to send you Xeroxed copies of those pages in which you appear. Again, you are free to edit any untruths. You can't tell, you might even like the story.

I have tried to fight your battle, by asking you to clear up things printed in the Arizona papers, etc. I know you don't need anyone to do your battling for you, but I want to. It is almost a must if we give a history of those maps from 1949 to the present day.

To give you a brief run-down of the stories out-line; it begins with the inevitable story of how Indian and Treasure Legends merged into one, to ignite one of the most extensive treasure-hunts in Southwest History. We give the Indian story first, then the Peralta expedition and massacre...the events supposedly leading up to the maps being made in the first place.

We do have a bit of fun by imagining all this Peralta rigmarole goings-on while under duress from festering Apaches; Map-making, map-burying, trail-building, etc.

When the Peralta heir evidently didn't show up to claim his maps, the story continues with Tumlinson's discovery..... with four versions of "how" and "where". Since he was a vital part of the Peralta Map history, we included a brief history of his life in Hood River, and mention his ancestor, Peg Leg. There seems no reason whatever, (in history books) for Peg Leg's relative to have been kept such a deep, dark secret.

From Tumlinson, Travis Marlowe takes over as the next owner of the maps. Your "Superstition Treasures" is publicized again, and we go into the map's future. This Moel, Inc. paragraph is all too cut and dried for my taste. The Phoenix papers left too many things unsaid. They state 588,000 shares of stock were sold for \$60,000; the money coming-in from investors in six states. They report Federal and State injunctions forced the company into bankruptcy because of the sale of unregistered stock. And that Clarence Mitchell, ex-president of the now defunct, Moel, Inc. was Travis Marlowe.

I will never understand why selling stock (unregistered or not) at ten-cents a share is any worse than selling looks at the maps for \$50.00 and up. Like the A.L. Flagg Foundation is doing. And why was Clarence Mitchell the only name mentioned? Where were the other 124 investors all this time? I know there is more to the story than what the Phoenix papers allowed. What caused the lid to blow off? You have said in more than one instance...Love, Peck, and others, caused you to lose your maps. What got their tails into such a crack? The sum of \$60,000.00 is a lot of clams.....I guess fighting over that might start trouble. Knowing you two, we will never believe you deliberately set out to cheat people. I know selling unregistered stock is against the law...but so are Pyramid Clubs...and who hasn't joined one of those from time to time? I just wish we had your side of it, without naming names, etc. I just wish you would fight back! I know its none of our damned business...but the Phoenix papers made it public business.

And so we work our way up to the maps being donated "by the investors" to the Mineral Museum. Yet, Lee Hammons, Director of the museum says they were donated by the A.L. Flagg Foundation. Either the investors sold the maps to A.L. Flagg Foundation, or the A.L. Flagg Foundation were the investors. You see what has been left out of the translation?

Then we proceed to show what has been found relating the "oddities and coincidences" between the two horse maps. This was the painful part to explain...as simply as possible, cause it sure as hell wasn't simple to figure out. Ha! Whether by coincidence, or what, the comparisons are staggering.

Using the paper-copy, and our memory, of the Peralta Maps, I have made pen and ink duplicates of Maps 2. and 3. and the Heart Map. I mentioned the paper-copy, made at the time Tumlinson and their friends were talking partnership in Hood River. These people have tried to be helpful, and were very fond of Travis, Eileen and Janie.

Now that I have given the up-to-the-minute account of our latest month's work,...what have you been doing for fun?

We have remodled the outside of our house...by ourselves, and we are tired! We replaced old facia boards around the outside of our eaves, then boxed-in what had been open rafters. By the time we got around 200' of facia, we had had it with carpentry work. Boxing-in the eaves was worse. Everything heavy, and overhead.

A new roof started all this! Curs sprung a beautiful leak right in the living room. The roof and facias, and the boxed-in eaves looked so nice we decided to paint the whole house. We sanded, scraped and washed down the exterior, then painted. In some places, two coats. Never again! At least for another three years.

The weather here is gorgeous, and we are dying to get away for a weekend, but too much work to do in finishing up. Perhaps soon.

Vacation time is near, but haven't decided where to go. Utah, Monument Valley, and Mesa Verde have been considered, but we may stay in Texas...just for the rest. Takes a lot of time on the road when pulling that big old 26-footer. We have talked about trading down to a smaller trailer.

How is California? Do the girls get up to see you very often? Your location must be beautiful. Though we lived in California 18 years, I never got that far north.

March 21. Gosh, what a beautiful day. I am putting in a small garden this afternoon. We had a small rain last night, so the soil is just right to work with. We have "Big Boy" tomatos, square okra and Hawaiian Climbing Okra, green onions and lettuce. That's all I can take care of in the small place I have to garden. We trailer so much in spring and summer, I don't want too much for the neighbors to water.

Put the finishing touches on the patio yesterday. All decorating...that's fun, not work. Made some cute hanging candles with water-lilly bases. I also put up the fish-net, corks, fishing balls, rattan candle holders, and the "Tiki" is Jack's job. He carved it years ago from a length of utility pole, and it weighs a ton. He is held in place by chains, wharf rope, ect. As you can see we like the Hawaiian theme for our patio. Have to buy new tiki torches. When I put up the hanging baskets of flowers, it was finished. Oh Yeah, I had a three-tiered hanging basket that once held flowers in the living room. It now has all our sea-shells from Padre Island...it is a good way to display them, and they fit in nicely with the patio's new look. We had repainted the patio furniture...so guess we are finished out there. Just took a coffee break from gardening, so finished up this note. Must get back to planting.


Let us hear from you..what you are doing, etc. Perhaps we can see you again someday in Arizona. It has been several years since we saw Arizona, or you. As ever,

Bernice and Jack

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

JACK + BERNICE M^O P^{LR}
4619 MERIDIAN AVE.
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76115
ZIP CODE





 REASON CHECKED
 Unclaimed Refused
 Addressee unknown
 Insufficient Address
 No such street number
 No such office in state
 No return address in this envelope

~~TRAVIS + GRACE MARLOWE~~
~~P.O. BOX 821~~
~~PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95667~~

This letter was never delivered to the Mitchells and was returned to Bernice by the Post Office.