

Jan. 13, 1966

Hello Jack & Bernice:

Hope you folks had a nice Christmas, etc., and no doubt you did. We had a good time too around here. - - I heard from many people again this year and had a time of it getting answers written. I always answer my Christmas cards with a short note.

to trace A friend of mine is here from the coast and we were trying to trace a rich float. But it turned out that the float was found in a crack which led to a cave large enough to live in. So it seems some Indian must have owned the float as a 'pocket-piece'. There was nothing up above. We went up among the cliffs but could find nothing up there.

Well, I enjoyed hiking when I was a kid. But it is 'work' to me now. Of course, if I had a 'hot' clue to something worthwhile, I could still enjoy hiking in order to get to it. But usually I find the clues quite 'cool' and the hiking is just so much work. Ha! - - I do not see myself as the 'Marlboro' type but I like to keep from growing old. - - I was surprised to hear that you both use weights for exercise. But I think it is a good way to exercise. I don't make an attempt to 'break any records' but I like to improve. My friend from the coast is much further ahead and has used weights off and on for years. We are both 51 but do not look it. - You remember Mike correctly, and he remembers you. - His last name is 'Montanin' and he is the one who asked you about the cactus. Mike just loves to hike. In fact, he has a 'manic drive' to hike.

You told me about the 'Indian-host Plan' in your last letter. That is an interesting thing but also will be a bit of a responsibility of a sort.

We haven't seen 'The Sun Country' as yet on the "This Proud Land" series. Hope they don't skip Arizona with it. - A friend of mine from Los Angeles saw it but he didn't recognize me. He saw the mirror flashing, however. But then, I have gained a lot of weight since he last saw me.

It is too bad that smoking is so hard to stop. But in my case I stopped for three days on a 'gag'. Then I figured I might as well keep going and see if I could quit for good. The first few weeks were 'murder'. But after awhile, I found that I could stand it. And then, everyone told me how much better I looked. So I figured I would be a sap to start again.

This party who is here from the coast is a 'nut' on E.S.P. so I go along with him just to keep from arguing. He even tries to find gold with it. (I think Mrs. Middleton does this same thing). I think that E.S.P. exists, but I do not think human beings can use it properly as yet. - There are many things which do not meet the physical eye, as I see it.

Not much else in the way of news. I saw the Salt River awhile back from the Tempe bridge and it looked like the Colorado. Guess you have read about the floods around here.

Hope that 1966 brings good luck of some sort to us. I say this each year. Ha! - - When I say 'us', I mean the people who deserve it. Ha! again. - I kind of divide people into two or more categories. And I am pretty good at 'pegging' people insofar as their type is concerned. - Perhaps I never told you, but I am a reformed 'pool-hustler'. Did you see the movie or read the book called "The Hustler"? Well, I learned a great deal as a gambler. It taught me to recognize a 'rat' when I see one. So I try to put my experience into practice, so to speak. I am also a philosopher at this time, incidentally, and would rather philosophize than anything else. - - Anyway, I do hope 1966 brings more of interest than

did 1965 - .

Very truly,
Doc

January 25, 1966

Good Morning, Doc!

Good Grief, it is cold in Texas! We have been paddling around in snow for five days now...filthy stuff! Ha. I hate and despise cold weather. Just can't take it. I am like an old lizard when it comes to heat, but this old lizard can't get warm if the temperature drops below 70 degrees. Jack thinks he is married to a four-foot wife all Winter long. I draw up in a knot around the first of October, and don't unwind till April...then I stretch back up to 5ft. 5in. Ha. It's terrible to be so allergic to Winter.

We started our regular work-outs Sunday. Talk about sore muscles??? We should be in fair shape by Spring. Yes, I use weights too. May not be ladylike, but we will just keep it our little secret. Ha. O.K.? I never use more than 15lbs. in each hand. We used an incline board for some of the sit-ups, etc. yesterday. My God, talk about a do-it-yourself-torture-kit! The guy who invented that thing must have had a real hate for the human race.

Hey, guess what? We are going to see our friend, Doc Rosecrans, in full and living color tomorrow night at 8:00 P.M. (Wed.) Some friends invited us over to see their new color set, so we are going! Will wave and grin at you.

Your friend with the E.S.P. intrigues me. Don't think we have it, but admire people who do. I would like to use it in rounding up some of Superstition's "Ghosties." Can it be used for that? Would be an interesting experiment. Don't know if my yellow streak could stand the first meeting, but would try! This is why we have been interested in finding "Geronimo's Cave", but no one can tell us where it is. A strange phenomenon was sighted from Geronimo's cave in March of 64. A man and his son were caught in the mountains during the snowstorm that Month. They took refuge in Geronimo's Cave for the night, since that is where they were headed in the first place! During the night they witnessed a strange procession of wooden-wheeled carts, torches or flares, and (I would assume) people! Visibility was limited due to the falling snow, rain and fog (?), but they had binoculars with them, and by sighting along a board they found in the cave, they determined the parade took place on the canyon opposite them, and on their level. They looked for tracks the next morning, but there were none. Crazy, Huh?? I wrote the man who sent this story into Western Publication's, but couldn't get him to answer. Ha. Then we have Marlowe's friendly smiling ghostie! At least he smiles! Then there was a story circulated about two guys well known around the junction, who were scared out of the mountains by something...neither would say what or why! So, what do you think? Is a supernatural being possible, to your way of thinking? The older I get, the more I believe anything is possible. Just because I haven't seen it doesn't mean it isn't so. Marlowe tells his story of the Peralta phantom with such simplicity and honesty, that is hard not to believe him...and he doesn't give a damn whether you believe him or not. Ha. I have heard those who are deemed with powers such as E.S.P. can never use it for their own wealth, or anyone else's. Ask your friend about this...might be a false statement.

A friend in St. Louis suggested we send for an "Old Timers map of the Superstitions," which could be ordered from an Anthony Fenninger in Wickenburg. I am a sucker for collecting maps, so I sent for one. It was worth the money as it is the only map of the area to show Coffee Flat Basin. The canyons are well defined, springs, corrals and mine's. The thing I noticed is that your neighbor Mr. Kenneth Hebner was co-speaker, with Mr. Fenninger. At least the map shows he was a neighbor at one time. Ha. Talk about a small world.

We saw a re-run of the "Hustler" on T.V. Sunday night, starring Paul Newman. Was quite a coincidence; your letter mentioning the "Hustler", then the movie pops up a few days later. I don't know much about pool, but it looks tricky as heck. Jack took me to a neighborhood pool hall in L.A. and tried to teach me the game, but it seemed the stick was too long, and the balls wouldn't keep still...in other words, I couldn't hit the balls, much less make them go in the pockets! Can't bowl either. Ha.

Did Mike ever find the four Saguaro? Don't know how he could have missed them if he followed the instructions. After we found that set along the Apache Trail this year, Marlowe told us that there is a marker on the second cactus. We took pictures of the darned things but didn't inspect them closely. Will give it another "Once-over" this year. Marlowe says it is a degree marker. Should be a circle within a circle. Maybe Mike noticed it...we didn't!

Yes, we not only have heard about the floods in your part of the country, but have seen the terrific amounts of water and damage via the old tube! Looks like it was really on a rampage!

Had a very encouraging letter from Mom Middleton. The operation took place Dec. 22, had a gall stone the size of a plum seed. She is out of the hospital now, but is staying at the Pagma Hotel till she gets a little stronger. She weighs a whoppin' 103 lbs. A good stiff breeze would blow her away! She has been out to the house only once. Someone had torn off her front door, but she found nothing missing. Said she might find something gone when she has time to clean house and look real good. She spent a week with Ruth in Scottsdale right after she was released from the hospital. She is looking for someone to stay with her. Some woman has written her from Fort Worth and wants to stay with her. I have had several calls from this lady over the past three years, and I am not sure she has all her marbles!! Would rather see Mom Middleton get some one she knows to stay with her...and someone that everybody else knows. This woman may be alright, but I wouldn't recommend that she move in. Think her name is Baker. She is a rock-mound and dowser...! Someone stole her metal detector not too long ago (so she told me on the phone) I didn't think a dowser needed a metal detector! She hides minerals underground (or has someone do it), then she goes dowsing for practice! I don't know about her, Doc!! Claims she can find any and everything. Maybe she can, but she might have more luck looking for goodies at the local Funny-Farm.

The Indian Host-family plan is moving right along. I have run out of families at present, and they are hard to find. I have talked to some on the phone that I wouldn't want to use as host-families. Their idea of being one is to have the boys over occasionally for a church tea party, or to display them like freaks at a old ladies circle meeting. Can't you just see a young, healthy, energetic kid sitting around with a bunch of old ladies while trying to balance a tea-cup on his lap?? They would never go back...and neither would I!! The families we have found so far take the kids as their own...they go places with them, have week-end meals with them. Just like your own family! This is the purpose of a host-family. It means just what the name implies. Host Family! One woman made me so angry yesterday, I almost lost my religion. I was advised to call this woman as she had asked for a Foreign student, and hadn't received one. (Now I know why) When I called her to inquire about the possibility of taking an Indian boy instead, she really let me have it. Now keep in mind this woman is a big church worker...really a tower of Christianity and brotherly love. She informed me she was not interested in taking an Indian! To quote, "An Indian can hardly be considered a foreign student, can he?" (any damn fool with a kindergarden knowledge of geography, would know that much, now wouldn't he???) Her snobish, blue-nosed speech turned my phone to icicles. She was insulted that I had asked her to consider a vile thing like an Indian boy... (whoss manners outshone hers a million times.) I couldn't help but laugh out loud at the ridiculous statement she had just made in her haughtiest speech. Ha. I explained to her that we found (we meaning that I also serve on the International students committee, as well as being chairman of the Indian Student Committee) the Indian Students have the identical problems of the foreign student and even more so in some cases. It came to light that this pious, psalm-singin' old bag was too good for the Indian. Damn her back-biting, black hearted soul! I am getting furious all over again. When she ran down my Indians, she opened up a hornets nest!!! Here is the ironic part of the story. I called Jack in my state of fury and had him look her up...to see who she was and what her husband did. He is head of the Federal Housing Administration in Ft. Worth... they draw their allotment check from the Government just like the Indians... Ha! I was still ranting and raving when Jack got home. I had called on every curse in the books upon this

terrible woman. I was threatening her with everything in the books (in my own mind) I told Jack someday, somewhere, I would meet this virtuous lady who preaches brotherly love with one side of her big mouth, while biting the Indians back with the other side. She believes in brotherly love as long as your brother doesn't have a red skin. Since Jack knows I am all mouth, and my anger cools quickley, he just sat reading his paper till I got through making a jackass out of myself. He then said I wouldn't be running into this party at all... There on the front page of this paper was her husbands picture (Name underneath) and the story said that since this man had not been given his boss's job (who just retired) he was quitting. Another man had been brought in from somewhere to fill his boss's shoes... so he resigned! (Imagine his cranky old wife held him back. Ha.) They are leaving Fort Worth! It scared me for a minute, since I had threatened her with everything from hang-nails to the plague. Thought it sure didn't take long to work my magic! When Jack saw the look on my face he died laughing! As a philosopher, what do you think of people in general! I tell you... sometimes I can't bear them. On the other hand there are people we dearly love. Those dear friends all seem to be of the same nature, maybe this is what we find to love. They all are kind to one another, and kind to those around them. If people would live by one simple rule which is the old cliche, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you", we would all be one happy family. But how do people get off of this track, and become like like Mrs. Back-biter? In the teachings of Mu, the eight commandments all stressed love, love, love. I think they were beautiful commandments. Simple and easy to understand, but all insisted upon love of everything;... your fellow man, love of the beauty around you, love in everything you see and do. In my anger, I forgot these things for a while, but I was so shocked, and hurt for what she said about my kids. Our other motto has always been everything works out for the best, and it always turns out to be so, if you look for the answer. This woman wouldn't have good for the boys, she might have been upset with her husbands resignation and took it out on the first one to call, there could have been several reasons... but everything worked out fine. She is leaving town and maybe today I will find an ideal family for one of my boys.

Boy, I let you have an earfull, didn't I? Didn't mean to carry on so. Guess the nature of people is one of the biggest unsolved problems in the world! I don't understand them sometimes, maybe your philosophy helps you to understand... or maybe tolerate these unjust people. Wish some of it would rub off on me for occasions like yesterday. Only twice in my life have I been that angry, and I don't like it.

Now that I have left you with the impression that I also am a candidate for the "Funny-Farm", I shall take my leave and make some more of these delightful telephone calls. Ha. Will write a more cheerful letter next time. Hope to say Hi this spring. If you hear two Honda's pull up out front, don't be alarmed, it's only us. Will bring a six-pack of Coors and have a little visit, that is if you indulge in the brewers art! We can't get Coors in this section of Texas, so we try to break the market when we hit Apache Junction. Ha. COORS first, then over to Bayless to do the grocery shopping. Ha. We are always afraid they will be sold out before we get there.

Goodbye for now, and will see you tomorrow night.

Sincerely,

Jan. 30, 1966
Sunday

Hello Jaek & Bernice:

Well, no doubt you are wondering why you did not see me on T.V. - I watched the program, too, of course, and soon realized that I was not going to be seen. For I recognized one of my lines which was spoken by Robert Preston. I knew they wouldn't have the same line twice. - And this, I could say, is the story of my life. However, here is what did occur. - Soon after I had my speaking part, a party told me that some of the film had been ruined and that it had to be shot all over again. I told Jerry (the man who had hired me in the first place) about this and he had heard nothing about it. He said they would have come back to see me again and reshoot the scene had this been so. And I figured that way too. But it seems that they didn't bother to come back the second time and just let Robert Preston put in some more lines. - - In all, we thought the program not so good. They put in some singing stuff at the expense of the Superstition part. The Superstition scenes were all cut short and it seemed to me that the camera was speeded up. And so it goes.

You have an odd way of exercising, it seems. You just work out at a special time during the year. I try to do a little bit of exercise three times a week

My friend with the E.S.P. went back to California. He is going to try to sell his bull-dog since it costs too much to keep it around. Yes, E.S.P. is interesting. But I tell Berndt (that's his name) that he is merely by-passing the physical eyes, and that he has psychic hindsight in this sense, but not foresight. The idea, of course, is to have psychic foresight so that a person can capitalize on the talent. But so far, no one has had it. Berndt, too, tries to find gold with a doodle-bag but never comes up with a new find. Although he has found mines which were already discovered in the past, and he found them with his doodle-bag. But he keeps trying and says that he is doing research. - - He is pretty good on getting pictures of a person's past and telling them about it.

Yes, Kenneth Hubner used to live just up the road from Pat. Ken and Pat left in 1959 and moved to Wickenburg. Then Pat died, but Ken is still there. Berndt always stops to see him when he comes over here from California.

Glad you saw the 'Hüstler'. It was pretty good and the show gave a pretty good demonstration as to what pool was all about. I haven't played for years now but I could get back some of my stroke if I practiced awhile. But I've lost interest. And I never bowl either. Can't stand the game. The same with golf. But Berndt and I both play Ping-Pong and I never get tired of that game. I want a table out here if I can ever manage. We are very good at it. We beat all the kids at the Y.M.C.A. a couple of years ago.

I don't think Mike did find the four cacti but I am not sure about it. He could have.

Glad you heard from Grace Middleton. She was by here the other day and she looked pretty bad. But I guess that is to be expected after an operation. I know it is not a pleasant ordeal.

About the woman and the Indian boy. Don't take things like that too seriously. People on earth have 'general' ideas only and that is why things are so confused. So far, few people know anything about the real factors behind things. All of us sense that injustice exists but few there are who know just where this injustice is practiced. Or to whom or why. My own religion is based upon 'observation and deduction' but I find that I seem to be the only one who can deduct anything from what is observed. Ha! - - But since there has apparently been a law passed, invisibly, against 'telling the truth' about things, I find it difficult to explain simple facts. So have almost stopped trying. - - As far as Christians are concerned, I find that we have almost no such people upon the earth. Ha!

As a philosopher, I would say that people in general are lost. That is, their mind is lost. (A mind can get lost the same as a mine. The mind is a mine on a higher level. Wisdom has been described as a sort of gold. One is spiritual wealth and the other is material). I guess one could say that he liked the good side of people and disliked the bad. Or he could say that he liked the person but not what the person did or thought. The person and his bad parts can be separated in 'thought'. But it is really necessary to do this separating in reality. To me, that is why we are here. To see if we can get rid of our 'negative' side. The positive can go to heaven (sanity) but not the negative. The negative is the insane. The scriptures refer to the sheep and the goats. In this case, the sheep being the positive. - - But there is so much to say on this subject that one could write a book on it (which I did. Ha!) - Yes, the Golden Rule is a very important part of living. It is never practiced in the rat-race, of course, and that is why so many people feel their life to be an empty one.

Oh yes, I do a little drinking now and then. Everything is relative, you know, and drink can come in very handy on occasions due to the general conditions which exist upon this particular planet. It is not what you do, so much as how you do it, and for what reason.

There isn't much else to write in the way of news. The past week has been a quiet one. We have two more months of winter and then the spring will be setting in. I hate to see the winter drawing to a close (even tho' it is too cold in Texas, as you mentioned). Here in Arizona, we hate the summers with the terrible heat, and we love the winters. Too bad that it has to be too cold or too hot. But that seems to be the way it is.

Very truly,

Doc

February 17, 1966

Good Morning Doc!

It is 7:30 A.M. and I am at my usual morning station. Jack just left for work and I head for the old typewriter. If I don't devote the morning hours toward typing, I don't get the mail answered. I try to answer letters as they come in order not to get snowed under, but have really gotten behind. I see that your letter was written on January 30th. See what I mean? Ha.

Mail has begun to arrive as a result of the new article! We were really surprised as we have not seen the magazine yet. Consequently, we are having to sit on the mail. Without exception, the readers have assumed we have seen it and will comment on page so-and-so, or that the glyphs photographed well on page such-and-such! They all comment on the beautiful cover, but have not said what it is! Ha. Jack and I assume it is a color photo of the Superstition Mt. Evidently, subscribers get their True Wests early, and they got the April edition sometime last week, as the mail has been coming in for a week and a half. Usually the publisher sends us our copies early, but someone goofed. I airmailed a letter to the Publisher in Austin asking for one posthaste. On the day he received my letter, I got one from him. Asked how we liked the transparency they selected to go with the story. (Cover photo) Also wanted to know if they sent enough copies, and if not to let them know and they would sent more. Ha. Isn't this ridiculous? Hope they didn't get lost in the mail somewhere! Jack and I will send you a copy as soon as they arrive. We have been invited to Austin to take a tour of Western Publications. Will spend the night there, and Joe Small has asked us to have a night on the town. Said after 5:00 P.M., would Hosstail just might buy us a steak big enough to sweat a mouse if he tried to run around it. Ha. Might go down this weekend or next. Is only 190 miles from Fort Worth. We have been wanting to take a week-end trip, so looks like this is it.


We saw you flashing the mirror Doc. In color yet!! A group of us were invited to a friends home so we could see the lovely Superstitions in color! If one got up to freshen his drink, he might have missed it! We were so disappointed with the program. Since the crew was already there, why in the world didn't they do something good. My 73 year old Grandmother could have taken pictures from Goldfield, or First Water Ranch road! They didn't get far off the highway, did they. Ha. I can understand why though...it would have been hard to get heavy camera equipment into the interior, but it could have done, had they wanted too. With the money spent on these T.V. programs, they could move mountains, should they decide to do so. If someone ever figured out a way to get in with a large camera, they would make a fortune. Ha. It all boiled down to not enough of the Superstitions...guess we just expected too much. Maybe next time!!

I guess our work out schedule does sound odd, but we find that a hard work out for three months (three times a week) gets us in great shape, and we stay active all Summer long. We forget about all Fall, and begin in January of each new Year. It is time consuming! The guys we work out with usually bring their wives and children, so the house is full all the time! Jack made a great incline board for us. We have a long bar, and two sets of short one's. Have approximately 150 lbs of weights, so all the bars have different weights. I work out with 15 lbs in each hand...that is enough for me. Got Jack a chrome chinning bar that fits in the doorway. That was his Valentine gift. Ha. My gifts usually cause more work than they are worth. In trying to install it, we found the doorway was about to crack apart. Ha. Jack had to take off all the moulding. Found an inch space between the 2x4's, and the door frame. Jack had to rebuild the damned door to go around the bar. Ha.

This of course, turned into a major project. Ripping off the moulding, cutting and fitting I inch stuff in the space that was causing all the trouble. Then put the trim back on, filling in the nail holes and seams with putty, then repainting the woodwork with two coats of paint. Ha. When I give a gift, I really do it up right! Bet he could have wrung my neck...will give the bar it's first good tryout tonight. Thursday is work out night! Mon., Thurs., and Sat. afternoon. I admit to having goofed off this time. Haven't done too much.

I am over my mad at the woman who made me so angry with her obvious dislike of the Indians. She must be a miserable person...she has made her own hell on earth with her hate, so why should I add to her miseries. Ha. Imagine she is "long-gone" from Fort Worth by this time. She will never be happy, wherever she goes, cause she carries too much hate around.

Vacation is getting closer and closer. We are sure ready for it! Can't wait to be turned loose in the outdoor's. Is better than a dose of medicine for all ill's. Ha.

Guess this about all the news.(?) Once the magazine arrives we will be hip deep in answering the mail. So far it has come from Alabama, Arizona, and Texas! I am sure you had, and still get, mail from your book. It is really interesting to hear from all assorted peoples. Had one letter from a man in the Texas panhandle who has been following an Old Spanish Trail for thirty-five years. He found the Spanish legend along the trail that tells of Spanish Treasse buried long ago. He claims that all Spaniards left a legend that breaks the code of symbols along the trail. He is almost to the treasure...but not quite. Ha. Says that he wants to decipher the Peralta symbols for us. (He found maps like Marlowe) I answered him, thanking him for his interest, etc., then explained that we are not treasure hunters and explained why. He had hardly received our letter, when we got an answer. He is very persistent! He wanted us to send him photo's of all Superstition glyphs, and a signed document agreeing to give him a share of the treasure. Sure is confident!! He read my latter and didn't understand a thing I said! I wasted my time and his..! He couldn't comprehend us not wanting him to find us a nice big pile of treasure. Ha. He will get the idea fast, when he doesn't hear from us any more. Ha. He writes like a fairly bright man, but he doesn't listen too pretty good. Ha. He did write something that might interest you. He said the Spanish always put a curse on their treasure. Said there was a symbol which must be found and destroyed before curse could be broken! The mark of the "Eye Curse" is like so:  Sometimes called the "Eye Diamond". once found it must be destroyed by splitting it in half. Ha. He sent a drawn set of his Texas symbols. They are unlike anything I have ever seen. He may be pulling our leg, but I don't think so! Since I don't plan to answer his letter ans since I don't know where his Spanish Trail is, it shouldn't hurt if I draw them for you. As I said it is interesting, and I would like to continue corresponding with him for the sake of these odd symbols, but he is too treasure minded, to stick to the subject of symbols. Will draw them at the end of the letter.

Another letter told us that a friend of a friend had found two maps like the one's Marlowe had. Were found face t face, buried underground. Said the friend of a friend said he thought they pertained to the Arizona Lost Dutchman Mine. Thought this was quite a coincidence, so looked through my backfile of info. and found this letter came from the same city in Texas where Marlowe's friend "Jack" was from. Talk about a small world. I wrote the man a note and told him I forwarded the letter to Marlowe as he had asked us to do! I am sure it must be the same set of maps. Marlowe will probably write the man! See what I mean about interesting letters? I feel sure you had many letters similar to these when your book was published. People are generally very nice and want to help!

(over)

Time to go now, Doc! Thanks for the nice letter. Will send your magazine as soon as they arrive. You might get some mail yourself. I hope we haven't caused you any extra trouble with this little mail problem! Might prove interesting though. Will write again soon.

Sincerely

These were found under a rock ledge, and he claims they are the legend. He is to the diamond now!

This is the map he found along the trail. Was buried three feet under ground. (The legend said it would be there.)

March 3, 1966

Hello Jack & Bernice:


Here it is March already and yesterday we had snow here in Arizona with a slight freeze last night. Suits me, though, since I like the cool weather more than the heat. - - - On March 5th, 1942, I went into the Air Force and got out 38 years later after being over-seas for 28 years. All this was 24 years ago, and I was 27 at the time. Oh boy!!

I haven't read your article as yet in 'True West' but several people have told me that I was mentioned. - Yes, I used to get some mail when I had my booklet out. Most of it was unimportant, more or less. But I met a few people through the book. - - Hope you enjoyed your trip to Austin if you had the chance to make it.

Well, I'm glad you saw me flashing the mirror, anyway. Yes, I agree that the program was a very poor one. Actually, they had intended on flying by helicopter into Weaver's Needle. And I was supposed to ride a horse in there, and out again later, so that the horses would be there when the actors needed them. But the Forest Service said 'No' because of the landing of the helicopter. So they just shot all their scenes near some road.

The other day I wrote a letter to the paper in Phoenix and then forgot about it. But I was very surprised to find that my letter had been published and several people had answered it. I was surprised because I wrote that modern society had gone mad with its rat-racing tactics, etc. and that the young people were expected to 'adjust' to such a society, etc., etc. - So you see why I was surprised to find my letter in print.

No, I don't think your exercise plan is too silly. It might be the best way to do it. Actually, if a person was busy, I don't see how he could find the time for exercise. I just do it because I want to accomplish something, at least, while I am doing so little in general. - I have a chinning bar that I built beside the shack about 16 years ago. But I never used it until of late. - I do not consider myself a real weightlifter and just use them because they are handy. I am using 105 pounds at the moment but expect to use 115 next week. My routine is fairly simple. The weights belong to Berndt who is more or less of a monster. Ha! - I am too heavy around the waist but it doesn't bother me after being thin for so many years in the past.

Those symbols that you drew could well be Indian symbols, couldn't they? It seems that few people know how to read these things. On the heart map, there is this symbol . And many people think it means a tunnel. - I wish I knew for sure what it meant. - - Marlowe used to have the stone maps but now someone else has them, or so I understand. But Marlowe did not have any idea as to the proper area since he ended up around Weaver's Needle.

The fellow writing to you is an odd-ball, no doubt. I had a number of well-meaning odd-balls writing to me. And I finally got rid of them. They can waste a lot of time for a person. But I hate to hurt their feelings.

There isn't much in the way of news. Things have been very quiet around here. I guess 1966 is not going to be too good a year for treasure-hunting unless it changes. I don't expect anything during the summer, and the end of this winter is pretty dull. - But who knows? Something may turn up.

All for now,

P.S. Will read your story in True West as soon as I have the chance. A party said he was going to give me a copy.

Doc

I HEARD where FORT WORTH had some
TERRIBLE WINDS NOT LONG AGO. DON'T SUCH
STORMS BOTHER YOU?

March 16, 1966

Hello Jack & Bernice:

I hope you receive this letter before you answer my last one so that our letters do not cross in the mail. But I got the magazine that you sent and the letter inclosed in it. And this is an answer to the letter.

I enjoyed the article you wrote and I think that it was well written. I read all about Marlowe, of course, and I see that he was on the right trail when he started. As I see it, he got off and didn't go far enough. I don't think he should have been around Elephant Rock at all. So I hope I didn't hurt your feelings in any way when I said that I didn't think that Marlowe knew too much since he ended up around Weaver's Needle. But this is all a matter of opinion, of course. Everyone sees these maps a little different, it seems. - - The way I look at it, the Salt River is one line and Queen Creek is the other. The trail had 18 places, and the treasure was hidden between the Salt River and Queen Creek. But the distance from Queen Creek was quite great because each 'place' was a mile or more apart. This means that the trail was over 18 miles from Queen Creek and that put the treasure fairly close to the Salt River. I see no way for a 'place' to be a 'mine', nor do I think the meaning of the word could designate a mine. I think that we would say in English '18 marks' because we refer to marking a trail. But I do not know just what the Spanish used to mark the trail, however. - - Anyway, it is an interesting treasure and I still hope to hear some new clues to it some day.

Your letter was dated March 2nd. On March 2nd here in Arizona, it snowed for several hours. But now the heat has arrived and it looks like our winter is over. The seeds are already sprouting from the rays of the sun. But the nights are still just a tiny bit chilly. - - One rattlesnake has been reported killed so that shows that they are out again.

I received one letter because of the story you wrote. Ha! - A man in Texas would like to move out here, rent a place from me, etc. But I wrote and told him that I could not help him. I suggested he go to a motel for a few days and look around for a spot somewhere that might suit him. Many people want to come here, it seems. And it is difficult to find a reasonable place to live around here.

Yes, I remember the picture in the Gold Dust Gazette. I guess you could see the cigaret pack in my pocket. I was still smoking at that time. Perhaps you would not know me now because I have gained about 35 pounds since that picture was taken.

Well, things have been quiet around here so there is not too much to write about. A party from Fresno is staying here at my place for a few weeks until he decides what he wants to do. He's another fellow who has been here off and on and likes to hike in the hills, etc. -

I don't expect much activity, either, now that the summer is almost here. The winter time is the season for activity around here. And the winters have even been somewhat on the quiet side for the past few years.

I got a card from Grace Middleton but she didn't have much to say. She is home now and out of the hospital. Hope she starts to feel and look better. Guess she went through quite an ordeal.

Oscar and another fellow are hiking now up around Four Peaks some where. They think they might find something up around that area somewhere. Well, who knows?

Very truly,

Doc

March 30, 1966

Dear "Doc":

Am just now getting around to answering your letter's of the 3rd and 16th of March. In comparing the two letter's, I see you have changed ribbon's on your typewriter. Ha. I had the same problem. Jack brought home two new ribbons for me, as the one I was using was in rags. Ha. Think I gave everyone eyestrain trying to read the faint print. Am fixed up now though, the same as you! Now if I could only find time to clean the key's as often as they seem to need it.

Well now, where was I...? Yes we had a great time in Austin. It was a wonderful relaxing weekend...just to get away from the mail, if nothing else. Ha. We met all the Small's, all but one son who is away at college. We had a good gab-fest along with the afternoon "Happy Hour". Ha. Had a marvelous Mexican dinner. We talked so long that we decided it best to eat at a nearby restaurant instead of driving way out of town to Joe's favorite Steak House. Beside's they had frosted steins of beer at the Mexican place. Was delicious...not as good as Coor's, but pretty good.

Would liked to have read your article (or letter) as published in the Phoenix paper! It must have made a great deal of sense, or they wouldn't have published it! Speaking of making sense...wish you could read some of this mail we are getting. Ha. Good Grief, I didn't know there were so many odd people running loose! Most of the mail is great! Come's from intelligent people who seem to know what they are talking about, but 20% of the mail sounds like it was written in the "Funny Farm" Ha. Do you want to find a Gold Mine... Silver mine, ...buried treasure; under the sea or on land? We've been told there are million and billion's waiting to be picked up for the taking. Of course the writers know right where it is, and are going to go get it when they can find the time!!! Sure they are! Ha. Some of these poor people live in a world of vision's, dream's, black magic, guiding spirit's, all of which tell them where the treasure's are. It is really pitiful. Some of them are hilarious to read, but it really isn't funny when you stop to think how serious these people are. Will fill you in on some of them when we see you. Have heard from many dowser's. Some want to dowse maps for us. I understand this can be done by a few who are really good at it, but we thanked them for their kind thoughts, but said, "No Thanks!" Have heard from some of Barry's (Storm) companions on his expeditions. They are rather enlightening to say the least. Now maybe we can understand where some of these Spanish symbols came from! Ha. Would like to wring his neck! Not all of them, but some!

Oh yes, there are three students from the Brooks Institute of Photography, Santa Barbara, coming to the Superstitions in a few weeks. Think they will be there on the 30th of April, for a week's movie making project for the school. It is their thesis. Ha! They will spend about two or three days making the movie, the rest of the time will be in taking still photo's. They only have a week. They asked us if we knew of an "Old Prospector" type who they might get to act in their movie for a couple of days. Said they could pay a small amount. We don't know anybody who is old enough, but thought you might. I asked the boys "How Much" they were able to pay, how strenuous it would be, and where would it be taken? I think they plan to do the movie around Superstition Mt., so shouldn't be too rough. They are going to rent a trailer in Mesa, and use that for sleeping. Have a cookstove that they will use for their own meals. It ought to be hilarious, as the kids don't know a thing about the mountains. I sent them a list of topography maps, which they have ordered. Have drawn them a little map to the massacre grounds, where they can get the car in, etc. Ha. They will have a ball...they are really excited about their trip. I tried to talk them out of camping. It take's too much precious time keeping up a camp, and trying to cook and wash dish's where there is limited water, unless they camp at Canyon Lake. It always took us twice as long to get breakfast, clean up the dish's, tie the camp down for the day, and try to get on the road for some fun. Think they only have a little over a hundred dollars between the three of them, and were trying to save for groceries, gas, film, etc. Will see what come's of it. Would you know

of anyone who might be interested? I hate to see them pick up just anybody. The photographer who accompanied us in '63 was a graduate of Brooks Institute, guess this is why I feel like helping the kids. I always remember the help we have had in the past, and try to help out if someone has a legitimate request, such as this.

You mention the humped symbol in your letter. ~ Have had several letters trying to explain Spanish symbols, but as usual everyone has their own idea about such things. Some think it is high peak, as the reverse means pit or tunnel. Marlowe calls it a cabhe sign. Bill Mahan calls it "Ascending moon" or "go Higher"; and the McGee's have no opinion. Ha. The one's who write about such stuff have their brains too contaminated by other people's theories to make it possible for any idea's to come through as their own....you take dozens of different theories, get them all mixed up together in your brain, then forget it! It is useless to try and think for yourself.

I love your clear thinking on the "lugare's"...place's not mine's. make's good sense. How do you keep a clear mind when you are undoubtedly forced to listen to every new theory that come's along? Ha. Must take a will of iron. Will send you some of the letter's with all these theories.(I hate that word). Will have to hang on to them for a while till I get all answered, but you say you want some new clue's. We've got them!(for what they are worth) Ha. You are welcome to them, as we don't have the much envied time you have, or have a home close to Arizona! So,we are just thankful we have two weeks each year to enjoy your playground! We almost became treasure hunter's this weekend. Sure got bitten bad by the treasure bug, is quite an infectuous bite, and costly to cure.Ha. Spent Saturday in Garland, Texas with Bill MaHan and family. When visiting Joe Samll in Austin, he suggested we visit Bill as they are good friends,(Bill does a lot of advertising in Western Publications) and Joe said Bill's place would prove to be of great interest to us. We like to get out of town on week ends when possible, so dropped Bill a line, ordered his book on Spanish symbols, etc. He returned our check and sent the lovely book to us as a gift! Ha. How about that? It seems all Western Publications people are one big happy family. Ha. Guess we are part of the family now. Anyway we did drive up there Saturday for a visit. We first toured his D-Tex Electronic's Company. Doc, it was fantastic! Those damned things sit up and bark, they are so sensitive. Never had seen a metal detector before. He has a huge Company! The best part of the visit was his treasure in a big fat vault. We had things in our hands that I had never hoped to see. Had gold bars dated 1710, saw gold and silver coins, cross's, pewter figures of Christ as depicted on the cross. The wooden cross's on which they had been mounted are gone, but the figure's are in good shape. Saw stirrups of the Conquistador's time. They looked like a pointed boot, sans the heel...All metal. Swords, cannon balls, parts of ships,etc. Was like living in the 15, 16, and 17th century. Saw hunks of silver that had been melted into flat disks the size of platters. Ha. The old coins were beautiffl. We went out to his home later to meet the family, had "Happy Time", then Bar-B-Que". Took us out to see his new home under construction...thought we had been to an Old Spanish Mission. Is nothing but brick, arch's, wooden beams, Mexican carved door's,...inside and out! Most georgous thing I have ever seen! He designed the place himself,,,Father Kino couldn't have designed anything more authentic! Fireplaces in the study, play room and bedrooms. The one's in the bedrooms look like little cement bee-hive's...looks like swirled calicheß Guess I am boring you with the details, but it really was a day. His collection of books made me sick. Old leather bound books in Spanish with rewhide ties, for sealing them. Has every book on the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth century explorations. Collector's items! He is a great man, friendly, honest and the proudest man I ever saw of his wife, son and daughter! The family warmth was so thick with love you could almost grab a hand-full. I love people like this. It was no act either! A marvelous family! We came home with a piece of ship from a galleon of the Spanish fleet that sank in the Gulf off of Padre Island. The lead-lined bottom (a small piece, of course, not the whole ship) Ha. Als have a piece of Bee's Wax used for making their candle's. These came from the above mentioned wreck in 1710 on a trip from Vera Cruz to Spain.

You would have thought we had been handed a hundred dollar bill! Have our "artifacts" above my desk where I can look at them. Bill is quite an authority on Padre Island. Is also part owner of a treasure salvaging Co. in Florida. The stuff he has is great. I will never forget seeing all this treasure from the days of the Conquistador's. The gold didn't look near as good as the stirrup! Ha. Of the old mission bell! Ha. This is when we got the bug to get a detector. To find one old button, or buckle, spur, horse-shoe, etc. would be better than any mineral treasure! (to us, anyway) Would like to buy one of the darned things, but they are high. Start at \$60. and go up to \$200. They would sure be worth it for the sake of weekend fun, if we can manage to flunk out the cash. The things are almost human.

Sorry we got you involved in some of this mail. Didn't mean to imply that you were in the real estate business for Apache Junction! Ha. Some folks get strange idea's. Good for Oscar....think North of the Salt River is a good place to look for something! Hope he does some good!

Jack and I have had to be Members of Apache Junction's Chamber of Commerce lately. (whether we were wanted or not) Ha. Never had so many letters asking about the Junction! Some questions we could not answer, so wrote the C. of C. for some info. Haven't heard from them as yet. Wish they would hurry....we are sitting on a pile of mail that can't be answered till we hear from them.

Once I got sat down at the typewriter, I really got going didn't I? Two-and-a-half pages of nothing!!! You mention a party from Fresno staying with you. We have had several letters from a Mrs. Paul Nass, who is interested in visiting the Superstition's. Seem's she has some pointed idea's about the location of the treasure. Has come in dreams!!!??? She write's a good letter, but it is hard to imagine such revelations coming in series of dreams like a running soap-opera! I can't say it isn't so just because I've never had it happen to me, but on the other hand it is hard to digest as fact. (Am working on it though Ha.) Might take a while for an old dog to accept such new idea's...in fact doubt it very much! Ha.

Goodbye Doc, thanks for the nice letters, and am sorry I took so long to answer. In flipping through the unanswered mail, I just counted thirty-two unanswered. Get from four to ten new one's a day. Figure it up! ".Ain't"no way of getting caught up! Tell Oscar Hi! Sure envy that man with all his hike's.

Bye for now!

Bernice and Jack

April 4, 1966
Monday

Hello Jack & Bernice:

Guess it was easy to see that I have a new ribbon on this machine. The old one was ripped right down the middle. But I finally got to Mesa and that's where I get the ribbon. This is a very old Corona and I take it to town and they make up a ribbon for it. I don't just buy it on the spool. Seems that almost everything I own is old and worn out. Ha! That is what comes of being a mine and treasure hunter, plus believing that the teachings of Christ are correct. The non-believers have all the money in this world, you know. That's why I hunt treasure. It's the only theoretical way to get rich without selling out one's soul to one of the many fallen gods of earth. Ha! (But I'm not kidding about that). - - My car and my T.V. are in the same class as my type-writer. - -

Yes, I know what it is like to get behind in the letter-writing department when a lot of letters keep coming in. That happens to me during Christmas time.

I am very much aware of all the 'goof-balls' that exist in this ridiculous world. And that is why it is so difficult to be nice to everyone. If you do not believe as the 'nuts' believe, then they get mad at you; plus thinking that it is you who are the 'nut'. So I try to be careful just who and what I am meeting. Sometimes I meet people before I have the chance to know about them and from then on I am stuck with knowing them. But that is just one of the problems with being here. - Of course, everyone has some funny ideas. If they are decent people, in general, their odd-ball ideas can be over-looked.

I'll enclose the clipping that was in the paper. And you can send it back to me. It will give you an idea of what I wrote.

The kids from Santa Barbara, California, will probably have a hard time accomplishing very much in just a week. They can drop by here, if they wish, and I can tell them what I think about renting a trailer, etc. - It is warm enough now to sleep out on a cot, etc., and they could do without the trailer. I wouldn't care if they wanted to stay here. I have water and so forth. They'd have to use their own stove for cooking. And I would not charge them anything (altho' I suppose they would give me a small donation for going to the trouble to help them. These things always run into a small amount of trouble, you know, and most people give me something when they leave just to show that they are not spongers, etc. But maybe they won't even want to stay here, I don't know. Regardless, they can drop by and talk and then get an idea what they might want to do). Oscar is still here, and another fellow from Fresno is in the other cabin. He may still be here by the end of April altho' he is talking about going to Oregon. An air-mattress is a good thing to have. One can sleep almost anywhere in comfort on air.

Glad you had a nice time visiting in Garland, Texas. I know a Dr. William D. Baird who lives in Garland. He was in the Service with me. He is now doing pretty well as a doctor. - - Guess it was interesting seeing all the relics, etc. This Bill Mahan must like this sort of life too since he is so deeply involved in it. 'Brookie' had his book about Spanish symbols. - I've heard a bit about Padre Island but not too much. Knew a party that went there looking around. - - No doubt a lot of electronic mineral detectors are sold. The trouble is, of course, that one has to keep new batteries in them. But they are nice; especially if there is a good place to use them. The new ones are much improved over the originals.

I am afraid that Oscar's hikes are more in the line of work than pleasure. He hasn't been able to get back to the spot where he wants to look around. And now the winter is almost over. One cannot hike during the hot weather.

Found out more about 'Brookie's' death. He was not killed at Terrell, Texas, after all. He had just left Delhart, Texas, and was on his way to Wichita, Kansas. A car side-swiped him and his car caught on fire. Brookie was thrown out of the car; but still, they didn't know if he died from burns or from injuries. It is not real clear even now exactly what occurred. A car coming in the opposite direction was trying to pass another car, or something like that. But I don't see how he could be burned if he was thrown out of the car.

We have some gypsies up on the main highway not far from the Junction who come here each winter and make picnic tables, benches, etc., out of wood and then they take them around on trucks and sell them. They have a lot of trash wood to get rid of so we go over and they give us the wood and thus they do us a favor and we do them a favor at the same time. Sometimes they give us some pretty good wood, and then I keep it for other things besides burning. We use most of it for heating purposes during the winter. Well, the other day the gypsy gave me some 2" by 12" planks that were quite long. I had them laying around. Then Berndt showed up for a few days. He saw the planks and thought about a ping-pong table right away. We had been wanting one but they want \$18.00 just for the piece of plywood 5' by 9', and not even painted. So we built a big, strong table out of the planks. Then we put crack-filler in the cracks and painted the whole table tan with a green top. I am just now finishing it up and it looks real good. - Berndt went back to Wickenburg but will be back again to use the table. We both play real good.

A fellow drops in here who is quite interested in Treasure, and he gets around quite a bit. He says that there are two red heart-stones. And that there were eight stone slabs in all. I rather wonder about that. Maybe he is right. - I would like to see the other heart-stone, if it exists.

P.S. I CLASSIFY A
HYPOCRITE AS
A NON-BELIEVER.

Very truly,

Doc

April 22, 1966

Hello Jack & Bernice:

Just as I started to write this letter, a friend of mine from Chicago dropped in. So while he is getting himself settled for a few days or so, I will continue with my writing.

Now I was surprised to read in your letter that you were coming out this way so soon, some time in May. Yes, of course, I will be glad to see you. I think I should tell you that you are welcome to stay here if you like. I have a little cabin with one bed, so with a cot and a little cook stove, you would be able to make out. You could come and go as you please without any obligations. But then, it would be rather a little like camping out. So suit yourselves as far as that part is concerned. - And as I say, I'll be glad to see you when you get out here.

About the letter that I had in the paper, the one that you returned to me. I am glad you liked it. But you are very much right when you noticed that I did not advocate going to church as a cure for anything at all. In fact, I am opposed to all of the churches. I feel that they were necessary during the past but that people should shy away from them at this later date. The church is to the adult as the parent is to the child, necessary at first. But after the child grows up, he should leave the parent. When the adult grows up (mentally), he should leave the church. The churches are all a part of modern society, and modern society is the Babylon of today. Thus, they are Babylonian churches and the scriptures say: "Get out of her". Her, in this case, refers to Babylon.

I am trying to get this letter finished before Frank gets back. After we get to talking, I will have a hard time finding the chance to write. - And actually, there isn't too much news of late.

Bert, from Fresno, left last week and went back to California to look for some placer country. He and another fellow want to find a place where they can pan some gold, if possible. That isn't too easy to do. I used to go to northern California (from Los Angeles) before I came over here to Arizona.

Berndt also left and went up to Prescott, Arizona. I expect him back before too long. But he is apt to drop in at any time, or stay away. I never know just what he is going to be up to.

I sent a letter to a T.V. station the other day. They were talking about this theory that came out a few months ago that "God was dead". I answered and told them that God was not dead, but that He was not active here upon this planet at the present time (except in a very minor way). And because of His absence, some people were beginning to think that He were dead. I wonder how the Editor of this program will like my letter. Ha!

Lucky that Jack won \$70.00 - and good that he put it to a good use. I never shot much craps but preferred poker (and pool). But I don't even play poker any more. Guess I just lost interest in games of this sort. It's still fun to play ping-pong, as I mentioned, but I never play pool any more. - At one time, I was an expert tennis player, played in tournaments, etc. But in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1961, I tried to play some tennis after many, many years, and I could hardly hit the ball. Ha!

Well, I hear that there are two red hearts. And the heart is the part where it shows where the treasure is buried. So that is a very important part of the map therefore. The rest of the map is important too, but the heart plays a very important part in itself. Regardless, I have just seen the picture of one heart, and merely heard about the other.

The picture of the horse is interesting. But then, he drew in the lines (washes) that made up the horse's head, but omitted other lines (washes) which would alter the picture. But it's a thought.

That seems to be the news. Just gave away the last of four kittens. It is always a relief to find them all a home.

Very truly,
Doc

June 24, 1966

Hello Jack & Bernice:

Received your letter and glad that you made it back to Texas all right. And I am also glad that you enjoyed your visit to Arizona this last trip. I was wondering, actually, if you had been offended in some way (what with all the talk, etc.). - Anyway, I agree that a vacation is, indeed, good for a person.

That is really something, you folks getting the idea to do so much 'fixing up'. But when you do something of that sort, it gives you a sense of satisfaction when you have finished. And like you say, it doesn't leave much time for other things.

That 'draft beer' idea sounds real 'gone'. And it shows how 'modern convenience' has grown in the last few years. But I think it would be a mistake for me to have such a set-up. The Budweiser people would be permanent party members of the house-hold trying to keep the kegs full. Ha!

So you heard from Armentrout. Yes, Walt was over here not long ago with a friend who was here with him once before. It was getting warm and they didn't stay too long this time. Hiking is a winter-time activity (or should be). - - They visited with Grace Middleton while they were here. - - And he told you right when he said that Iron Mountain had been on fire. We could see the smoke from my place. And I guess it also burned around the area of the heart (that Berndt and I found). The grass in that area gets dry and stands about a foot or so high. You can imagine how that would burn. It burned once before since some charred remains of old trees can still be seen here and there. But I don't think it burned up around the Reeves Ranch since I didn't hear about it. Yes, there is talk that Stoney has sold to the Forest. But the deal is still 'pending' as far as I know. I don't think it has actually gone through. They were talking about trading some land nearer to the road, plus some cash, for the Reeves. Also, it is rumored that the Forest will leave the gate open and pave the road if they do negotiate the deal. If that is ever the case, then it will be easier to get to the heart area where I am interested. (A man I know who used to know Frank Fish, before Fish died, said that Fish had a map and it was very much like the heart-stone map. It seems that Fish also figured that the proper area, according to his map, was where I am looking. Unfortunately, Fish's map disappeared after his death. And he had promised it to this other fellow just a few weeks before he (Fish) died. And so it goes). Armentrout was also acquainted with Fish and was the first to mention him. Walt sent me a couple of snap-shots of this other map but it didn't show up too good. - I guess Mrs. Middleton was not too far from some of the fires.

Oh yes, it is starting to get a little warm by this time. But it is to be expected. I don't like the summers, of course, because of the heat. But the heat is only one thing. The storms start to brew during July, August, and September. And the bugs come out. I'll take the winter-time. Of course, I think too that I have a nice place here. Wish it was real estate rather than a claim (due to the price of gold). And I also wish I had a room in the hill with a short tunnel with a raise in the end of it for air-conditioning. I could have an out-side room attached to the hill-room and I would have it made. Ha!

I guess I do have a lot of company. Many people have remarked that I do, anyway. But my place here is kind of different or something. And then, I enjoy visiting. And that has something to do with it. Of course, I can easily see why certain places have so little company. It's because there is nothing to talk about. But here, we talk about everything. Ha!

I think being a good listener has its merits. And also, its good to talk at times. It depends, as you say, on what you know to talk about. In my case, I consider myself a 'communicator'. Ha! I write quite a bit and I do a lot of talking. I would do more if I had the chance. I would like to talk to the young people coming out of school. The 'old fogies' have their minds set in cement, oftentimes, but some of the young people are still able to do a bit of thinking. Actually, I tend to be a 'reformer' and try to provoke other people into 'thinking anew', as it were. That is the meaning of the word 'repent'. To think anew. - It's a good thing for the unenlightened so-called leaders of our country, and else-where, that I have never found a treasure. Because if I had, I would have the money to just run around talking here and there to all kinds of people. Ha!

Oscar is now working at the Service Station up at the Junction, the one called Blakeley's. He's been there for a number of weeks. He wants to stay around this area so as to hunt treasure so he is lucky to gat any kind of job at all in this vicinity. - A few weeks ago, Oscar had the chance to ride in a helicopter and fly to Four Peaks. A friend of his hired the 'copter. The 'copter landed here on my property and this fellow, Noble, got out and Oscar got in. He was gone about 35 minutes. Then Noble got back in and flew over to have a look at Four Peaks also. But Oscar couldn't see anything. He said he didn't have enough time and wants to go back again for a longer look. I think he is evidently wasting his time. - But a person just hates to give up a dream. - The helicopter was surely a good deal, anyway. It landed and took off as if there were nothing to it.

Now that the summer is approaching, things are quieting down. Not so much company, etc., either. - They are making some episodes of 'Death Valley Days' over at Apache-land. I tried to get on with them but didn't make out since I have no western clothing. I will try to get some and maybe the next time I will get some 'extra' work. Other productions may show up too.

There was a Special on T.V. called "The Baffling World of ESP". I saw it and felt that it was a pretty draggy program but interesting in spots. I sent the clipping about it to Berndt. Perhaps he saw it too.

I'm getting some tomatoes from the garden but that's about all.

Quite an idea you had about the King Size bed. Sounds as if it is about the size of my shack. Ha! - I believe that I'd settle for a plain twin bed. With a modern matrass.

GLENN MAGILL

Guess that's about all there is for me to write about at this time. The people from Oklahoma who claimed to have found the Lost Dutchman are being checked by the FBI because of their 'promotions'. The whole thing is phony, of course.

Perhaps there will be more in the way of news later on. But things stay fairly quiet, as a rule, during the hot season. But sometimes we are surprised and activity shows up during the summer even when not expected. - But I like to see activity because it gives me more to write about, and tends to break any monotony that might be present.

Very truly,

Doc

August 29, 1966
Monday

Hello Jack & Bernice:

Received your letter and glad to hear that you are so very active, and that you've been having so much company. It's nice to have people around providing they are interesting company. - It's been just the opposite around here but, of course, our summers are not made for comfort (unless everything is extremely modern). And one must be comfortable to enjoy visiting.

You certainly do sound busy. But your house must be a very nice one by this time. No doubt a person gains much satisfaction from redecorating, etc. And then this sense of satisfaction gives a person the energy to do other things, also. - - If I remember correctly, it is somewhat warm during the summer in Fort Worth (and Dallas). I used to drive through there on the way to the coast.

No, I haven't heard much more about the F.B.I. flushing any more shysters from the hills. - - Sounds rather odd that McGill wanted to read your letter. A person has to be careful what he writes, you know. Many people will grab onto a straw to create trouble. - I am not by nature an unfriendly person. But by experience, I have found few people to be of the 'Angel' variety. So I consider the odds, and act (and think) accordingly. Ha! - - - Now that the summer is drawing to a close, the hills will be more populated in a short time. Right now there is little activity and only of late has there been any water at all in the canyons.

That surely was nice of the party who sent you the old rifle. Guns of that sort have a worth, you know. A fellow around here found an old rifle in a cave and he sold it for three-hundred dollars. - But I know how interested you are in old relics, etc., so I can understand how excited you were over the gun and also over the box that was left at your house. Cleaning things up and making them look proper can be enjoyable. And adding to a collection is always fun.

So you still hear from Armantrout. Yes, Walt is a very friendly person (and an incurable treasure-hunter. Ha!). I haven't heard from him of late but he will be around sooner or later. - Walt has a friend who goes in for 'dowsing' and I think Walt is interested in this activity too. - - But I still say that dowsing 'works' but toward nothing in particular. It is only in the person's head that it is going to gold, etc. - A few years experience should prove this to all dowers, but they make a point of not seeing the evidence. But then, this same principle is true in regard to many other human activities such as ideologies, religions, etc. It is all related.

Well, Happy Birthday to you. I was 39 in 1953 so you see time does move right on along. We cannot hold it back but might find the fountain of youth somehow, and that would do just as well. Ha!

As I have said, things have been very quiet around here this past summer. The place is 'Dulls-ville', as it were. - - Bert, from Fresno, California, has been here. And Oscar is still here too, and working at the Junction (Filling Station), and still planning on a trip to Four Peaks. Bert killed a rattle-snake not far from his front porch (I mean door), and it was the only one we saw. - - - I will be glad when the winter arrives. In two weeks or so, it should start to cool off. I anticipate nothing in particular this winter but something might turn up.

I hope to have more news next time. But right now there is just nothing to relate. I had thought, perhaps, that I would get to go east this summer to see my sisters and dad. But things didn't work out that way.

Very truly,

Doc

P.S. LAST YEAR DURING AUGUST, The
T.V. OUT-FIT WAS HERE MAKING
"THIS PROUD LAND".

Oct. 27, 1966
Thursday

Hello Jack & Bernice:

Nice that you have had some more company and a vacation from writing. It is good to have some changes from time to time as we go along.

Yes, indeed, I surely am glad to see the summer leave and October arrive. I hate to see the month roll by. It has been very nice and I have a small fire during the evenings.

Bert, from Fresno, is still here. And a fellow from Detroit is here too for a short time. They are hiking together in the hills. - - Oscar is also going into the hills (Four Peaks). He was gone for six days with horses but couldn't find the spot he hopes to see. But today he went back again, this time with horses and also a helicopter. It is costing somebody a few bucks to do all this. Three others go with him and one of them is putting up the money. But if he doesn't find what he is after this time, I guess he will not ever be able to find it.

Your Shasta travel-trailer sounds like quite a deal. Makes things comfortable after you get where you are going. But like you say, the towing part is a bit of a worry. I towed a small trailer one time and it was no trouble. But the larger ones are a little different. However, I guess a person gets used to the idea after a time.

Your studies of the various types of ruins sounds interesting although I never went into that sort of thing myself. Once in a while I will pick up a pretty rock and that's about as far as I've gone. (In that direction).

Well, maybe this MaGill party is actually sincere in what he thinks he may have found. Oscar is sure he has found something, and so is Bert. And now this new party from Detroit is sure that he has found something. Perhaps this is some sort of 'disease' that is going around. Ha!

I never did see the article in the paper about Marlowe. Guess I just missed it as I had each issue to look at. - - But I have never met the man although I did read his book. - - But this is a time in the world when people are often 'goofing' in some way or other so I am never surprised by what I see or what I read. Years ago it was different. But maybe it is just as well this way because in the end it may make things better. As I look back, I realize that there were many things which I was not aware of. And today I wonder how I could have been so dumb as to not have seen what had been so obvious. So today I just look at things as they are. If a person is good, he is good. And if he is bad, he is bad. My opinions do not change the facts so I may as well see the facts as they are. Some people are always looking for only the bad. But then, others are looking for only the good. I think a person should look for both. Because whatever is, is. Ha!

Good that you have heard from Grace Middleton. I do not see her very often and was wondering how she was making out. My neighbors do not ever go for a drive any more and we used to go over to visit Grace once in a while. And I haven't seen the Kelleys for a long time either. I will get my car running properly one day and then maybe I will get around a bit more. My starter was giving me trouble and I still can't get it fixed properly. I don't dare go where I have to part in a flat place. My hill is my starter. Ha!

Yes, Grace may have had more snakes around her place than we have around here. The rattlers like the rocky areas best. This granite is not too popular with them. But some years we seem to have more, and other years less.

Well, things are still not too active for me. I've been getting more mail of late and doing more writing and that's about all. I hope the copying machines use cheaper paper soon as I expect to put my book out some day and probably by that method.

I took a short hike the other day and just west of my shack I saw a deer running up the slope. But then I noticed that it was not a deer, it was a mountain-lion. It looked back at me from the top and then disappeared.

Had a chance to ride to the Reevis ranch and brought back some of the wonderful apples that grow up there. - Stoney has sold the place to the Forest so don't know what will happen to the orchard from now on.

Also, I went out with another fellow who was hunting quail. We went to the Tortilla ranch. I just went along for the ride since I don't do any hunting. - - In a few days deer season will open. And the hills will be full of deer-hunters. I hate to go on hikes during deer-season.

Well, company ghst arrived so I will bring this letter to and end. Besides, I am out of news.

All for now,

Loe

Dec. 21, 1966

Hello Jack & Bernice:

I received your Christmas card and letter yesterday. Glad that everything is all right with you folks. Things here are going along about as usual too.

When you mentioned that you had not heard from Grace Middleton, I decided to tell my neighbor about it and see what she might think. And she decided to take a ride over and see how Grace was making out. So we went to the post-office at Superior. I had to get some stamps, anyway. As it turned out, Grace had been there just a few minutes before we arrived. So we knew that she was still alive and kicking. And we waited around town until we saw her. She is doing all right as far as I could see. I told her that I had heard from you folks and she said "Oh yes, they speak well of you (me)". And she didn't say much else. But later she mentioned that you had sent her a birthday present. Seems like this thought just occurred to her. And then she added that her birthday had been in September and that her gift had arrived in October. - So I wondered if it was possible that she had resented a 'late' gift, or something of that sort. I do know that Grace is a very odd person at times. I didn't say anything more about it, of course. But maybe she will write to you now that it has occurred to her that she owes you a letter. - She looked pretty good and was dressed up in some new-looking clothes. So I guess she is getting along all right. My neighbor took her a bag of groceries because we didn't know how she was making out. But I think Grace must have a pension of some sort to keep going. She has a bunch of cats, you, know, and now she has some dogs too.

Glad you have continued to have company and it is also nice that you have been able to get away from city-life and spend some time camping out-doors in the state park. A person can have a lot of fun doing things of this sort. Glad you found the arrow-heads. I know it is always enjoyable to add to a collection. - And it is also fortunate that you could find a couple who were compatible so as to have company in your outing.

I didn't know anything about Marlowe having burns in his legs. Hope he is all right by now. I read the Apache Sentinel but I guess I miss some of the news.

Oscar is still sure that he has merely missed the spot he has been seeking. So he is as yet interested in going back into the Four Peaks country. Maybe the next time he can find out enough to know, one way or the other.

Oh yes, I have gotten entirely away from hunting. It seems ridiculous to me to go out and shoot game when we have it so convenient at the grocery store. Shooting game just isn't worth the trouble.

The Indian 'fry bread' sounds like quite a deal. I do know that it is not easy to make these dishes, however. I like the Mexican type of food but would not attempt to make it myself.

Surely I must have told you about my book. It's called "The Kingdom of Reality" and explains the meaning of human life on the planet Earth. And yet, you act as if I had not mentioned it to you. Well, I finished it in 1962 but could not get it published, of course. - - But now something very interesting has turned up. A fellow disappeared in 1950 and left \$200,000.00 in a will to anyone who could prove a meaning to life, the existence of the human soul, etc. Many individuals and organizations have been trying to claim the money. But - - this is the very essence of my manuscript. So - - I may try for the money too. If the judge reads my manuscript, he will never be the same - - regardless what he says. Ha! - So time will tell about what happens.

Yes, it seems that I do need a new type-writer ribbon. So I guess we wear out our ribbons at about the same time.

The Stone Map

Berndt sent me a power 'skill' saw awhile back and I have enjoyed using it. Cutting fire-wood is no trouble at all under such conditions. I also built some things, and then did some painting. So my place looks better of late.

But Berndt is not going to get over here this year for the holidays. He has gotten kind of tied up with an ex-girl-friend who is now single once again. And he expects to leave for Arizona after the first of the year. - He was in Mexico on a golden wild goose chase but got back all right.

I wish he had been able to get over here sooner since I have learned more about the heart treasure. I went over to where it had been dug up. And I found some stones which were identical to the stones in the heart which we found in the hills 13 miles to the north. So I am sure we are in the right area. And I now think that one starts from the heart rather than digging in the center of it. I want to go back and look the area over again.

The fellow from Fresno is still here. He too thinks he has solved the mystery of the heart treasure. So he and Mike have gone hiking. But I am afraid to no avail. I don't know just what he is thinking at this time.

In the above paragraph I should have said that "I went to where the stone maps were dug up." Not to where the treasure, itself, was dug up. Because no one has found the treasure as yet. If it exists. But at the place, where the stone maps were dug up, there are some loose rocks laying around. These rocks were put on the ground in the form of an arrow pointing to where the stone map was buried (with its corner sticking out). - - And these rocks, I am sure, are from the place where the treasure, itself, is buried. So I want to check this out. - And the road is now open to where I want to go.

This winter has been very warm. We had two days of rain and one cool spell. But I think another cool spell is due soon.

Berndt also sent me some bamboo bulbs. I planted them but so far none of them have come up. I guess they grow pretty fast once they start.

I am getting a lot of cards as usual. And I try to keep them answered. So far I have been doing all right. (I'M REFERRING TO XMAS CARDS)

The coyotes have become very tame. They show up before dark and hunt for scraps that we might have thrown out. For some reason, they don't get the cats.

Guess I have about run out of news. I think we will have a merry Christmas as a neighbor is inviting us over to his place unless he decides to make the Christmas over here at my place. And either way, we will all enjoy the occasion.

I can't think of anything more to write about. I hope that things become more entertaining from now on. Next year may be a much better one. I hope so. - - I did go up to Payson a couple of times with a couple of fellows who were getting fire-wood to be burned in fire-places. They get a couple of cords and then sell them. I go along for the ride and get a bottle of vodka out of it. And I also bring back a little pine tree of some sort and plant it in my back yard. I have a couple of them and hope that they will live.

Well, I hope you folks have a very good time over the holidays.

Merry Christmas,

Doc