

Today we went bowling. I didn't do too well. While I was there I saw Brian Garff. The North Mission and the South Mission have borders and the South Mission missionaries are often given permission to enter our territory (Guat. City). It was great to see him. He's even better than before.

I was thinking of sending you folks a tape, but I don't have a lot of time, so I'm writing a letter. After yesterday's talk on the phone there wouldn't be too much to say.

The Lord is so gracious with us. I can see that He is preparing a future for me. Before the mission I was so stubborn and obstinate about some things that are so important.

I know the Lord is helping me. Little by little he's introducing new ideas into my mind and helping me to change and adjust to a better way of thinking and a better self discipline. The mission is such a necessary experience.

I'm excited that you folks might be coming to Guatemala to see me. I feel it will be a great experience. We can visit around and get to see lots of exciting things. The money exchange is very favorable right now, so if you come you'll be able to really enjoy yourselves. We'll see what happens. If it's a serious problem or difficulty when I'm going to finish, don't feel obligated.

Anyway, right now our zone is really low on baptisms. We are one of only two of the areas in our zone that has a baptism, and we should have more. We're going to have to work really hard this next week.

Please take care of yourselves. I love you folks and miss you tons.

Your son, Elder Bartholomew

27 May 1991 Monday

Dear Mom and Dad and Laura.

I have a new assignment! I am still working in Guatemala City, though. The only difference is that now I'm in Zone 3. They just took the sister missionaries out of an area and their area is now a large part of our area. We work for a branch (Bolivar) and a ward (Santa Cecilia).

The members here seem to be real friendly and loving, and on my first day here they've offered me some special references. We are teaching a really great man named Raul Carcacho whose wife and children are members, and he will very probably be baptized soon.

Yesterday we baptized a man who the sisters were teaching. He seemed to be a good man and ready to be baptized. Says he's going to go to church wherever he is.

We also received a reference for a woman named Beti and when we went to visit her, she said she had heard some discussions before and that she really liked the Church. We're going to give her a discussion this week and see what kind of person she is.

My new companions are Elder Williams (from Idaho) and Elder Ixcoy. So far things are going well.



I can't seem to give up on rich people. I find myself knocking on doors of many (perhaps 50-60 nice homes with zilch results). That's OK. I know results will come. It's just a matter of time and some serious help from the Lord.

I am sending home a cardboard box full of books including my fist mission journal and a memory book full of stuff for you guys to gaggle over (hee hee hee) by a friend named Carols Guerrero. He is the brother of a wonderful woman Latter-day Saint who came to visit them from Canada during my time in Zone 6. He has your address and phone #, and he should be leaving on June 5.

This time it isn't coming in a nice basket, so if you'd like to send me anything, it will be necessary to find a container as well.

Lots of junk food (smiley face). You can send something as large as the basket because he's going by car (or van). He's a big jolly fat guy and quite friendly. Please don't send anything I'll have to carry around unless it's a necessity. 'Just the basic consumables (Smiley face).

What I miss a lot are Chewy Moist Cookies. Those oatmeal cookies with raisins and cinnamon. Chocolate chips. Other things which really hit the spot are those cheeses under pressure (that come in whip-cream FOOSH-sounding cans) and Twizzlers and peanut M&Ms and salted peanuts, chocolate M&Ms and a box on raisins and Saltine/wheat thins crackers for the cheese, and more chewy cookies and RAZZBERRY JAM & SKIPPY PEANUT BUTTER & REECES PIECES, SKITTLES, SNICKERS, BEEF JERKY, AND NOW WHOOPS AGH (He draws a huge irregular circle on the page and inside it writes: "SALIVA POOL WATCH OUT!!!") [How utterly gross, Elder. Repent you.]

Sorry about that. I lost control.

I love you and miss you. Your son, Daniel Bartholomew (Smiley Face).