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Glendale, CA 91207

January 8, 1984

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year!! Richard and I do apologize for not sending any Christmas cards this year, but with everything happening around the holiday season, we decided it would be best to send a New Year's letter in January.

November was a busy month. Richard returned from his three-week work period in California on November 11, 1983. That was also the day that I resigned from IBM - Rememberance Day! The following day, we both continued to pack for the big move out west. On November 23, the 24-foot U-Haul truck with its 12-foot trailer arrived at Kennedy Street along with three men to pack all of our belongings in the truck. This procedure took approximately seven hours. A few odds and ends didn't fit, so we ended up loading my car and having three ladders on the top of the truck along with two chaise lounges and a stair-climbing dolly on the hitch between the truck and the trailer. We both managed to rest a little on the 24th before our journey began on the 25th. Richard drove the U-Haul (he drove his car to California in October when he was here for three weeks) and I followed in my car.

Customs in Buffalo was not a problem. We only spent a half an hour there. This was probably due to the fact that Richard had an itemized list of everything that was in the truck and I had also obtained my visa papers before we left. Fortunately, the only bad weather we ran into was on the first day just south of Buffalo. We completely missed the storm that was in the mid-western United States, and there were no mishaps along the way.

After seven full days of driving, we arrived at our new home on December 1. On December 2, four men from U-Haul arrived to unpack the truck and trailer. Again, this procedure took approximately seven hours. The next day, we began unpacking and by the end of the second week in December, we were pretty much settled. The second bedroom was still rather cluttered with papers to go through and odds and ends to be sorted, but I think we did pretty well in such a short period of time.

Our first visitor was Richard's father. He arrived on December 16. Dick is retired, but he managed to obtain a short-term job interviewing people for the Post Office in a few of the major cities in the U.S. Los Angeles happened to be one of those cities. We were very pleased to have him here for the weekend.

Now to tell you about the condominium. We are on the top floor of a three-story building that is very well kept and is also in a good neighbourhood. The grocery store (Ralphs), the pharmacy, the cleaners, the hairdressers and the church are all within walking distance. The bank is also within walking

distance, but it is about a one-mile round trip. There is a post office that is not too far away, but for the general letters, we can buy stamps at the grocery store and mail them in the box just outside the front door of our building. Another nice thing about Ralphs is that it is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week.

The condominium has two bedrooms with two complete bathrooms. The living room and dining room areas are very large. The living room has a fireplace and the dining room even has a wet bar in it! The kitchen has a lot of counter space and we are enjoying our new kitchen table and chairs in the eating area. The dishwasher and the garbage disposal are great! We have lots of cupboard and closet space which we have filled with excess items. Our storage locker in the underground garage is filled with flattened empty cardboard boxes ready for our next move, and Richard has about 40 boxes stored at his office. Our lease is for one year. Before the lease is up, we hope to have found a house to move in to. That is why we are keeping all the boxes!

The laundry facility on the first floor has four washers and three dryers. The washers run for 50 cents a load and the dryers run for 25 cents a load. In a way, it is nice having this facility since I can do three loads of laundry at once and not have to worry about leaving it there while I go off and do something else. The building is very safe and secure and we both feel quite comfortable here. There is also a common patio complete with furniture for our use.

The condominium was spotless when we moved in. The wall-to-wall broadloom had just been steam cleaned, the windows were clean and the closets and cupboards were all spotless. I think this attributed to our speedy moving in since we didn't have to spend time cleaning everything.

Richard and I had a very nice Christmas and New Year's as we hope you did. We have met a very nice couple, Jim and Liz French, who have two children. We spent Christmas Eve with them at their house and had them here for dinner on New Year's Eve. We spent the evening with them again this weekend. Jim is the choirmaster at St. Mark's church where we attend regularly.

This past week, Richard and I spent the evenings looking at the slides that we took on our honeymoon - all 65 rolls of 36 exposures. They turned out very well.

Richard is enjoying his new job very much. As far as my career goes, I have an interview with IBM on January 12 in downtown Los Angeles, so we'll see what happens.