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RECORDS SERIES TITLE	Will Sir. Mt. Everest Expedition Files
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FOLDER NAME	Correspondance w/ Team Members '61-'64
NOTES	2/12
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26 September 1963

Mr. Luther Jerstad

Dear Lute,

Your letter with your customary insults just arrived. I'm tempted to come up and pin you down to your own parlor floor as you no doubt recall I did on our parlor floor in January. No doubt you have distorted any recollection of the event that might be stored in your wee mind. Because of the obvious impairment of your faculties suffered in the course of the Expedition, I should and will try to be solicitous.

Perhaps because I'm growing more tolerant in my advancing age, I must admit that I was very pleased to hear from you, Lute. Some day I might even have to confess that I enjoyed your company so much on the everest trip that I might do it again if you were along.

Earlier in the week I saw Barry the Barrel, Norman, and Jim Ullman in Washington (I was there on business - there were a few things I did not have time to tell the President when we were there in July). The Barrel was in his usual good form, hobbling about on his bandaged short feet, cheerful, and busy. The first skin graft did not "take". Ullman is making great strides with the book manuscript. Norman is much improved and seems less strained by frustration and insecurity. We are still hopeful that he will stay with the Everest Foundation as a full-time career but at the moment this seems doubtful.

Chuck has probably told you a little about the MATS shipment problems. It was a real ball-up in Kathmandu by some one. It is now supposed to have been shipped last week and as soon as it arrives I will send your stuff on to you.

I was sorry about your slack Summer because I know you can ill afford it. I gather from other sources that there was more than your feet to blame for this.

Last wednesday we made the final selection of 250 slides for the set each of us will get. I think you will like the results. You should have your set in a few weeks. Your own pictures will also be returned, of course.

The blood and urine I extracted from you and the others is still being analyzed but even now we have piles of data up to the you-know-what. It hurts me to do so but I must thank you especially for cooperating in the vampire act. Your volunteering for the second radioiron determination at Camp II turned up an particularly important piece of information, for which I am grateful.

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Now that school has started I hope you can settle down to a comfortable, profitable routine of indoctrinating the Country's youth. I don't know of anyone better equipped to turn out literate delinquents.

In all seriousness, I hope everything is going well for you and the family. I also hope you can keep plugggging away at your degree.

Best wishes,

William B. Siri