

MEMORANDUM

TO: KEN FOLLETT
FROM: RUTH CHIAPPARONE
DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1982

Sunday

The morning seemed to drag on and on. The girls and I were eagerly looking forward to the time to leave for the airport. We spent some time getting dressed and doing our hair and then the girls watched TV. Karen and Ann Marie decided to wear their red plaid skirts that we had bought in London. Karen's hair was longer and she wanted to surprise Paul since she had always worn it short. I wore my brown dress with a cream turtleneck underneath, brown boots and beige coat. I nervously paced back and forth watching the clock only to receive a call saying the plane was delayed a few hours.

The time finally arrived for us to leave for the airport. Jim Nyfeler took his children and Karen and Ann Marie in one car and I went with Cathy and a fellow from EDS who did the driving. We arrived at the airport and went to the gate to be met by Tom Marquez, who escorted us out to a bus. Now I paced the bus and chatted with the other wives.

At last the plane arrived and I saw Paul smiling outside the bus window. He boarded the bus and we hugged and kissed and asked how I was, and then he kissed the girls and gave them each a hug and squeeze. They both said "Hi Dad." Paul asked how they were and what they had been doing. The bus was alive with everyone hugging and kissing and joking.

The bus proceeded to another gate and we all departed for the reception. I remember meeting Jean Walter and hugging her and making small talk about this day finally happening. Paul was walking with Karen and holding Ann Marie and we met ██████████ ^{Rashid} and gave him a hug and kiss -- not knowing the whole story about him at this point.

We went into the reception room and were amazed at how many people had come to welcome the men home. I recognized some of the faces. I remember David Behne walking through the maze of people to hug Paul. Everyone was

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clapping as the men filed into the room with their families. I remember being warm with the heavy winter coat on. I remember some of the speeches and at last was able to meet Colonel Simons. The men all looked great despite their rough appearance.

After the reception we all went back to the Nyfelers and Jim went out and bought McDonald's hamburgers -- the girls favorite. We watched the news to see if Paul had made the news -- he didn't. The Nyfelers went to a hotel, since EDS was anticipating reporters and we stayed in their house. The girls kissed and hugged their dad and went to bed since tomorrow we were moving into our new house. My fear was that I would have to move in without Paul and wait for him for how long.

Paul and I went to bed. The long sleepless nights were finally over.