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Geo to Pappy, 3 July 1961

(Author Unknown)

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PORTLAND STATE COLLEGE

1620 S. W. Park Avenue
Portland 1, Oregon

DIVISION OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

July the three 1961

Dear Pappy:

Presume that some winsome willowy warm widow has been keeping you occupied during your office hours.. Surely couldn't be the work. Presume too that you will have a fabulous tale or two for me 'ere long. I have been too damned busy trying to stay alive to have much time for the old stuff. Fact is I've been working my bloomin' butt off most of the time on new courses. Stepped into a cozy little thing for the summer called 20th century Ideologies and I have been put to it to stay ahead of the class. Also trying to get something new going for the fall called World Problems. Oh, for the good old days! At times one cannot help but wonder wistfully perhaps if the cutting of the Gordian knot was worth it. I'm still inclined to think that it was. There is much that I like about this place. Young, aggressive bunch with an exciting set of plans. If half of them come through the place will be doing well indeed. I do find it a bit strange to drive into Portland each morning, teach class, hold office hours, and leave for home without the usual chitchat up and down the halls. This "all business" routine I find a bit strange. But down deep I think it works for the best.

We are up to our butts in house problems. Most of what we see on or about the lake is just very expensive stuff, some good, some bad, in fact most of it is over-priced by about seven to ten thousand dollars. One or two very nice items but the asking price is too wild to contemplate. Consequently, we have almost settled for a lot we have a chance to buy with a private easement on the lake, about 100 feet from the site of the proposed house which will enable us to build a boat house, diving board, and sun patio. The lot is very lush and gives us a beautiful view of the entire lake. Ought to make up into something very worthwhile. Much will depend on how much I'll have to pay for financing the house and how much financing I can get. I'll buy a shovel for you and save some of the better digging and grubbing for your visit.

Speaking of your visit, it appears favorable for a summer session out here for you next year if you are interested. It could develop into much more but I don't want to hazard any guesses at this time. If you are still interested in next summer, I'll put the grease on the ball.

Haven't heard a thing of consequence from Oxford. Fact is, the only letters we have had other than yours of some weeks ago are those from Jane, Ann, and Don Baker asking, the latter that is, about a job out here. It looks very good for him if he wants it for year after next when he returns from Finland.

The race issue, integration, etc., etc. seem very, remote from way out here. News from Mississippi is almost non-existent. I'll probably have to subscribe to the News letter to get the real poop. Our colored campus mail man came by the office today to bring me regards and best wishes from Bondy Webb whom he had seen in Chicago. I'm delighted to know that somebody remembers. There ought to be a tale or two here.

Miss the poker club and wonder what is up this summer. Suppose you do too. What have you heard from Bill? Is he mating with a French lassie or two? Haven't heard a word from Betty although we do expect to see her before long. Regards to the madam when you write. Yrs,