

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO MUSEUM  
BOULDER, COLORADO 80304

26 September, 1963

Dr. Earl H. Swanson, Director  
The Museum  
Idaho State College  
Pocatello, Idaho

Dear Earl:

I hope you will forgive the tardiness of my reply to you concerning the Polson Channel flakes. Your letter came while I was in the field and I have just now gotten around to checking them.

Three of seven channel flakes which have the striking platform intact do show grinding. These are the Van Horn, Texas, specimens. I have not worked through other collections to determine if the same thing occurs elsewhere. When I return I'll try to do this.

We are on our way to The Sudan again and will return about the first of the year. Meanwhile, give our best regards to Jean.

Sincerely,

*Joe Ben Wheat*

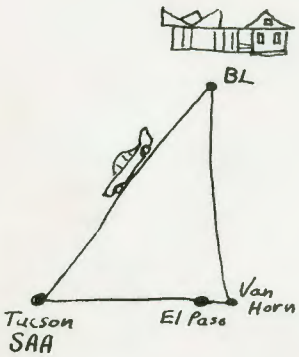
Joe Ben Wheat (m)  
Curator of Anthropology

JBW:vn

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# PERIPATETICS - or - why you haven't heard from us!

1962 started calmly enough. We were at home from January until early May when, as usual, we attended the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, at Tucson, where Joe concluded his second year as secretary of that august group - and Pat played the guitar. Then a quick trip to El Paso and Van Horn to visit our families.

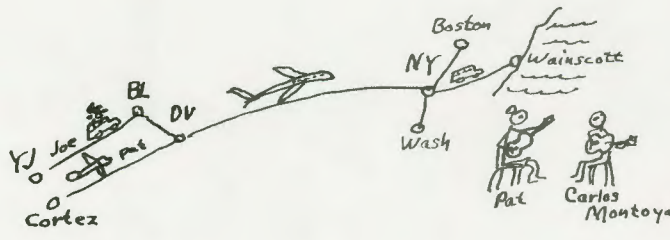


Home for a month, then off to Yellow Jacket where Joe and crew of students continued excavations on MT-3, finding the usual profusion of confusion left by Indians who neglected to read the textbooks. Pat provided food - and played the guitar - both designed to soothe the tired and hungry crew. Pete Robinson and family came in late

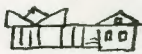
July to relieve Pat who (with a badly burned right hand!) was about to launch on her great adventure - August, studying Flamenco Guitar with THE MASTER, Carlos Montoya, by his invitation. Pat flew to New York and was taken in tow by Jennifer Chatfield, was feted at a luncheon at Iota Sher's hosted by J. O. Brew in honor of Al Lancaster. Then, on to Wainscott, Long Island, and guitar - all day, every day, for a month.



In late August, Joe joined Pat and the Montoyas at Wainscott. After the final week with Carlos and Sally, we returned Jennifer's borrowed car to her sister in Connecticut, visited the Brews and the Giffords in Cambridge, and the Footes in Washington before returning to Denver where the Houghs met us and brought us home to Boulder.

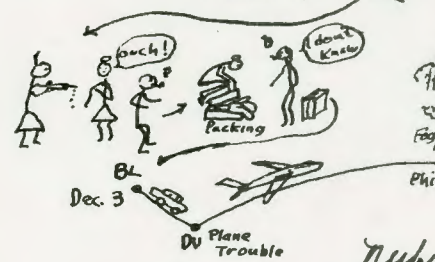


It looked like another routine winter - taking care of collections in the museum, designing a few exhibits, writing a bit on three monographs in process, - social life -



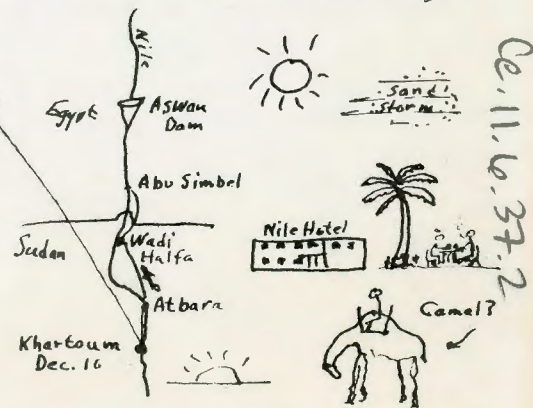
AND THEN

Cablegram  
Wadi Halfa  
Absolutely  
Serious



In three weeks, Pat and I, with paleontologist Pete Robinson in tow, were on our way to AFRICA! Fog + snow in New York - delay. Killer snow in London - delay. Zurich to Rome, and finally Khartoum, as the red sun rose above the desert. Thence to Wadi Halfa.

Wadi Halfa was a village of about 12,000 Nubians. Some 15 expeditions from 9 countries were based there, trying to salvage as much of the archaeology as possible before water from the Aswan High Dam flood them. Colorado party worked in Paleolithic, Merroitic, X-Group, & Xtian sites. Joe found the archaeology exciting and stimulating. Pat played the guitar, and at Christmas Eve party surprised and delighted the homesick Spanish archeologists - with Flamenco!



Dec. 11, 6, 37, 2

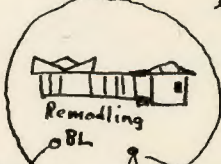
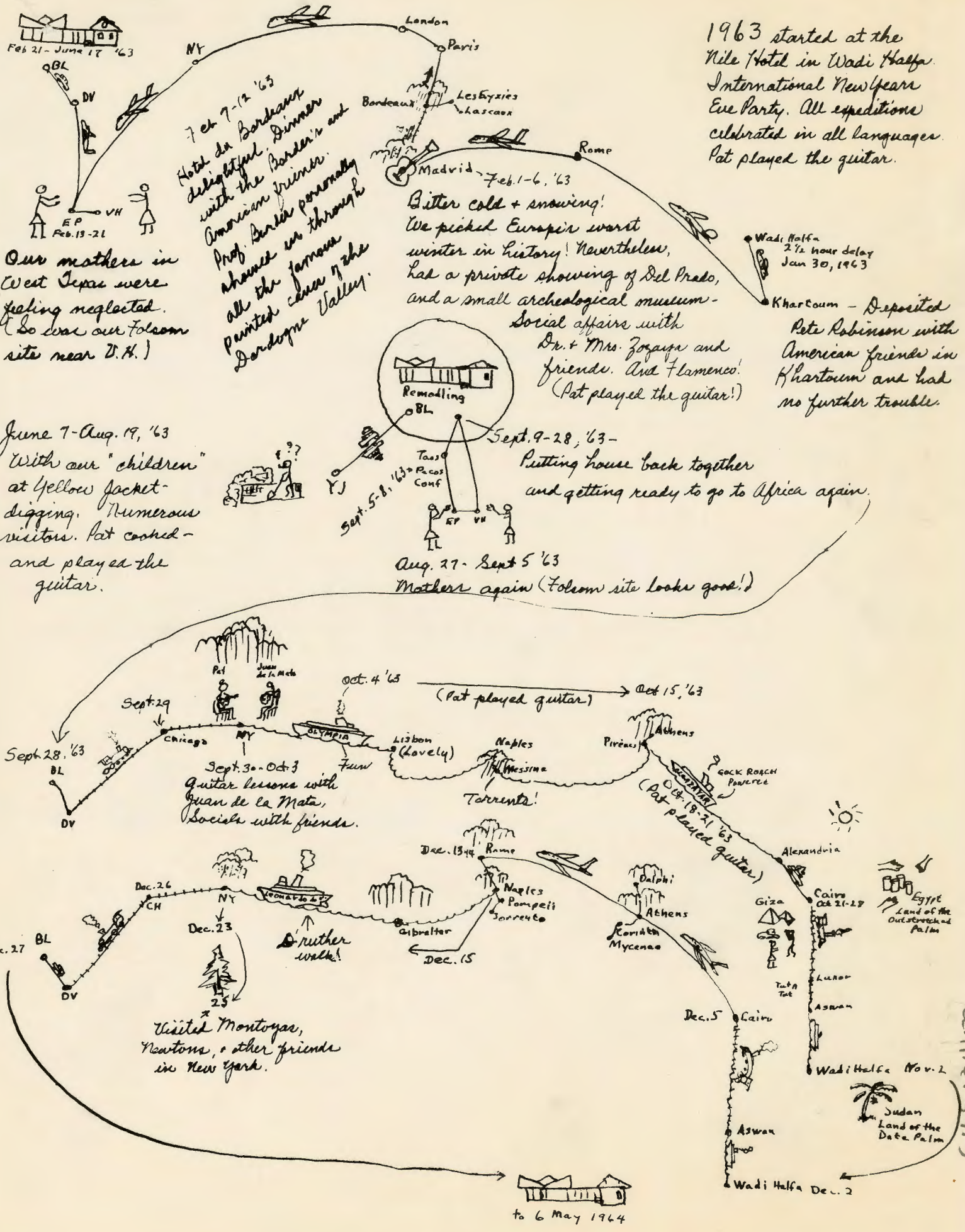
Feb 21 - June 17 '63

Our mothers in West Texas were feeling neglected. (So was our Folsom site near D.H.)

7 Oct 7-12 '63  
Hotel de Bordeaux delightful dinner with the Barber's and American friends. Prof. Barber personally showed us through all the famous painted caves of the Dordogne Valley.

June 7-Aug. 19, '63  
With our "children" at Yellow Jacket-digging. Numerous visitors. Pat cooked - and played the guitar.

1963 started at the Nile Hotel in Wadi Halfa. International New Years Eve Party. All expeditions celebrated in all languages. Pat played the guitar.



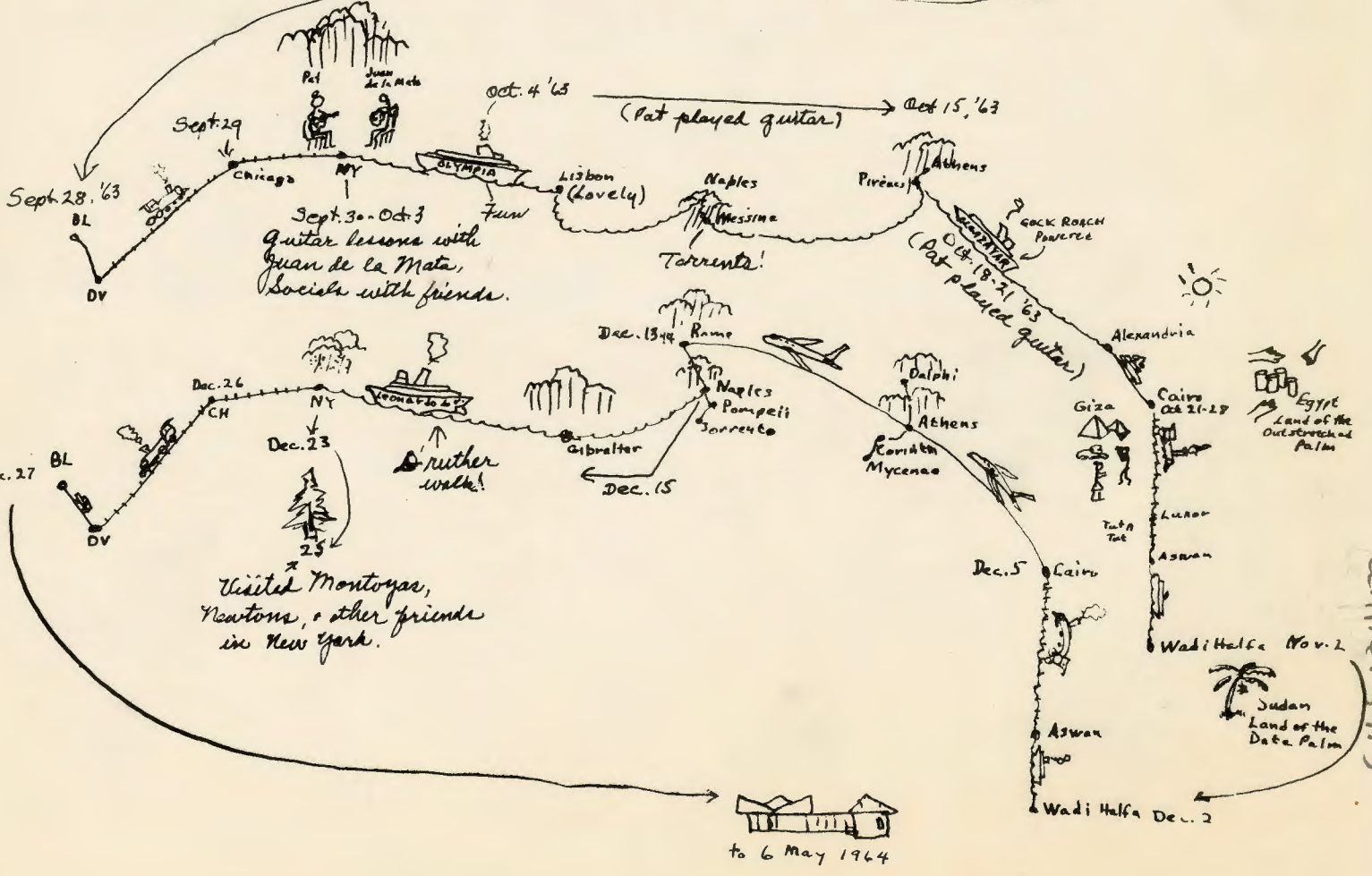
Madrid - Feb 1-6, '63  
Bitter cold + snowing!  
We picked Europe's worst winter in history! Nevertheless, had a private showing of Del Prado, and a small archeological museum - Social affairs with Dr. + Mrs. Zogza and friends. And Flamenco! (Pat played the guitar!)

Wadi Halfa  
2 1/2 hour delay  
Jan 30, 1963

Khartoum - Deposited Pete Robinson with American friends in Khartoum and had no further trouble.

Sept. 9-28, '63 -  
Putting house back together and getting ready to go to Africa again.

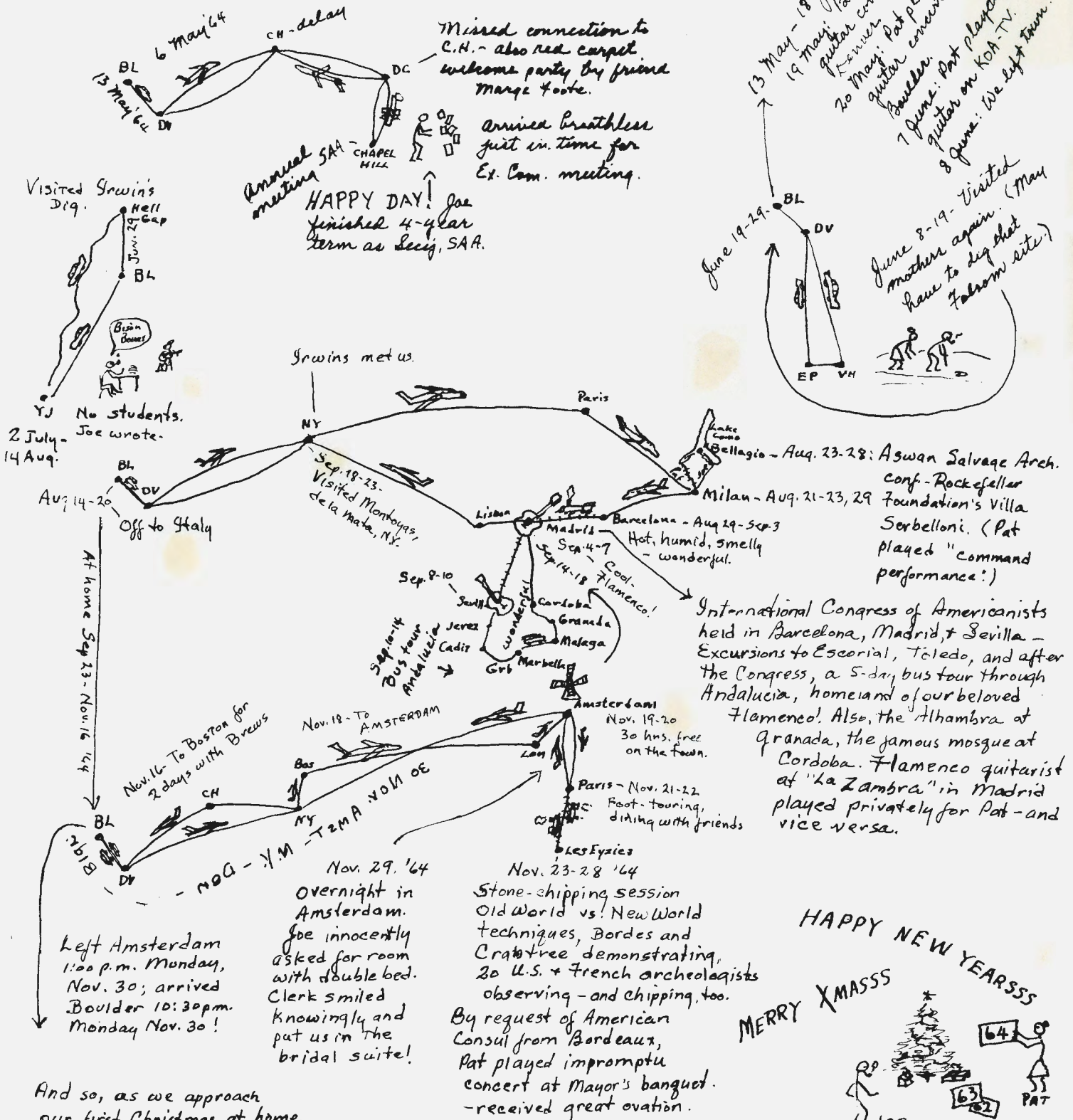
Aug. 27 - Sept 5 '63  
Mothers again (Folsom site looks good!)



Feb 11. 10. 37. 3

to 6 May 1964

1964 - Jan. - May: Joe oppressed and depressed by mountainous backlog of museum work. No progress on MSS. Pat teaching guitar.



And so, as we approach our first Christmas at home in several years, we are happy; but in our wanderings, we have contracted a disturbing and expensive disease known as the "Airdrome Syndrome" - wondering where we'll be a year from now - or even six months from now!

Memories of Les Eyzies will linger pleasantly for a long time.



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