

1027 Arlington Avenue
LaGrange, Illinois 60525
February 19, 1968

FEB 21, 1968
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Miss Marcy Mach
1027 Arlington Avenue
LaGrange, Illinois 60525

Dear Miss Mach:
260 W. 44th Street
New York, New York

It was most thoughtful of you to write us concerning the possible preservation of any of Betty Olsen's books and personal effects which may come to light at Banmethuot.

Missionary, Gene Evans, and Area Secretary, Grady Mangham, have made trips to Banmethuot by this time, and undoubtedly they will have information from the military concerning any of the missionaries' personal belongings which may have been intact after the tragedy. These reports have not yet been received in New York.

We do not have a great deal of hope concerning the personal items after seeing some of the footage of J.B.C. news reels taken at Banmethuot when American forces were cleaning up the area. Apparently the area in which Betty lived, in a frame house, was literally leveled to the ground during the attack. Naturally, you know as we do that the matter of Betty's safety has to be considered with a large question mark. Our previous experience with Dr. Vietti, Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Gerber, gives us little reason to expect information or cooperation from the Viet Cong. If you have in mind to get out a prayer letter on behalf of Betty, we will do our best to provide you with current information at the time and assure you that there are many who are even now remembering Betty and the other missionaries in daily prayer. Thank you again for your interest and the information given in your letter.

are able to write.

Cordially,

Through Christ,

Marcy Mach

(Miss) Gerald B. Smith
Office of Public Relations

GBS:jw

1027 Arlington Avenue
LaGrange, Illinois 60525
February 19, 1968

FEB 20 REC'D

Mr. Gerald B. Smith
260 W. 44th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Smith,

I should have written much sooner than this, but as many others, we have been waiting for any possible further word regarding Betty Olsen. I have received a copy of your letter written February 9.

Betty is my closest friend, and we had the privilege of working with her here in LaGrange prior to her appointment to Banmethuot. We also are the ones who write her prayer letters and have handled other matters for her.

Perhaps her sister, Marilyn, has written to you with this request already, but I am wondering if this has not been done if it could be... I know Betty has been keeping a spiritual diary and has some treasured books (Amy Carmichael's chiefly). Have these been retrieved from the area? Are they still preserved? Is there some way of finding this out? These would be priceless treasures, and I appreciate whatever you are able to do.

Is there any further word on her or do you think there will be? I realize a personal reply is a large request due to your no doubt tremendously-pressured schedule so will wait whenever you are able to write.

Through Christ,
Marey Mach
(Miss) Marey Mach