

March 19, 1948

Hi!

Gee, that sure was good news you wrote in your letter! We are now making plans for your arrival in Anaheim, Alysa & Cucamonga.

Reinie how you are going to come down we won't tell you about the top secret but will wait and let you see it with your own eyes!

The other day I asked Chais to bring me an ash tray. She brought one in and said, "It's a dirty one but I guess you can poke your cigarette in it!" Yes, she can now say anything.

Reinie Jo is due May first but Covic says she'll be glad to have her two

weeks early so you can give  
a look see at her.

Chris says if it is a  
boy we will call him Mike.  
(SH! - SECRET)  
↓  
THOMAS BOOTHBY  
Michael because we  
like the name and stuff like  
that there!

For our trip down we  
figured this way:

25.00 for gas  
10.00 for oil  
20.00 for eats  
20.00 for rooms  
25.00 trouble money

That figures out 100.00 even  
and we hit it pretty close.  
That allowed about 6.00 for  
meals & 6.00 for rooms per day  
being on the road tholl day.  
We cut the time down and  
also the expenses. We figured  
the trip at 1200 miles but  
it will be between 1000 and  
1200 depending on which way  
you come down.

Planning to come through Reno I would suggest staying on 97 to Weed and 99 to Red Bluff. 99 in Oregon is under construction and is pretty slow in spots so if you go through Portland and Eugene why don't you cut over at Goshen to 58 and down to K Falls that way? I don't know maybe you want to visit in Melford. The highway isn't bad but just a few miles and is then very good.

Anyway I'd suggest looking at highway 36 from Red Bluff until it runs into 395 and goes south to Reno. Then further I'd suggest 395 clear on down to San Bernardino and 66 to Covina. Here is why I would say to go that way:

It is only 139 miles farther than coming straight down 99 and it gives you the opportunity of side trips to Lake Tahoe, Yosemite and Sequoia national Parks, Mono Lake and as good a highway as any other two lane.

Then on your way back you could go up the coast to San Francisco and have a really nice trip for only a few miles more.

If we had known there was only 139 miles difference we would have come down that way when we came.

Why don't you look at the map and kindly trace it and see how you like it. I have written in a hurry because I have to go to work maybe Eric will finish this for me.

Chris is asleep and Slavy is  
in the high chair eating toast  
so I'll try to finish this letter  
now.

We're sure looking forward  
to your trip down. I hope  
Winnie Jo makes her arrival  
in time for you to see her.  
Chris talked all afternoon yesterday  
about you coming down.

I think you'll have a  
nice trip and going the way  
Win figured would give you  
a chance to see a lot of  
pretty country. I sure wish  
we would have known about  
it.

I've been thinking about all  
the places we can go and things

to see and one thing I just thought of is the Ramona pageant. It runs for 3 or 4 week-ends starting about the middle of April. It is staged in Hemet in a natural outdoor theater and is well worth the drive out there. It is the dramatization of the book. I've seen it twice and sure enjoyed it. I probably won't be able to make the trip but Win could take you folks out. I know you'd like it.

We're finally having some rain down here. Everybody told me I had wished too hard for a dry winter because

this is really the first rain  
we've had to do any good.  
Sun seems nice too.

Davey is throwing toast all  
over the room and has one  
foot up on the tray starting  
to eat his toes so guess  
this will have to do for  
now.

We're sure hoping your  
plans work out.

Love,  
Eve