

1976 October – December

Korea Seoul Mission

Language Training Mission

Letters Sent (Transcribed)

Jeffry P Belnap - 1976.10-12.KSM.LTM.LtrsSent.Trans.docx

1976.10.22 Letter to Home

First impressions of LTM, companion dynamics, Korean language excitement, gym challenges, and goals

1976.10.29 Letter to Home

Intensified gym routine, memorization progress, requests from home, and reflections on companionship

1976.11.05 Letter to Home

Completion of baptism challenge, musical observations, cultural lessons, and growing discipline

1976.11.12 Letter to Home

Deeper language mechanics, prayer in Korean, self-evaluation, and spiritual focus.

1976.11.19 Letter to Home

Family matters, finances, belongings, ward news, and steady testimony growth. Link:

1976.11.23 Letter to Home

Brief birthday letter to father expressing love, gratitude, and prayers.

1976.11.27 Letter to Home

Thanksgiving at LTM, interpersonal lessons, discipline, and reflections on fairness and effort.

1976.12.03 Letter to Home

Travel plans finalized, discussions progress, logistical preparations, and anticipation of departure.

1976.12.10 Letter to Home

Final pressures, accomplishments, humility about language ability, and readiness to leave.

General Summary

(October to December 1976 Overview)

Across roughly two months at the Language Training Mission (LTM), Jeff's letters consistently emphasize **intense language learning, spiritual growth, personal discipline, and preparation for service in Korea**. He describes rapid progress in learning Hangul and Korean grammar, often expressing joy and fascination with the language's logic and structure, while also acknowledging its difficulty and the humility that comes with realizing how much remains to learn.

Daily life at the LTM is portrayed through recurring themes of **rigorous study schedules, physical training, temple attendance, and laundry-room reflections**, which serve as informal moments of introspection. Jeff frequently discusses memorization of missionary discussions, goal-setting, and the pressure of pass-offs and spot checks, balanced by gratitude for prayer, family support, and spiritual experiences.

Interpersonally, he reflects thoughtfully on **companionship challenges**, striving for patience, leadership, and charity. He shows growing self-awareness about working with others, learning forgiveness, and improving his own attitudes. His letters also convey affection and concern for family members, interest in their lives, and logistical coordination for travel, finances, and personal items.

Spiritually, the letters show a deepening testimony. Jeff repeatedly affirms his belief that his mission call is divine, that prayer—especially in another language—shapes intent and faith, and that love is essential for communicating across cultures. As departure approaches, excitement, anxiety, gratitude, and determination converge, marking a clear transition from training to active missionary service.

1976.10.22 Letter Home

Dear Family, October 22, 1976 — my first “P-day.” I am sitting in front of the washing machine watching my clothes through the window. I’m sitting at a little desk like the ones scattered around the big room. I have machine #15. I’m sharing socks with Elder Pilkington (in machine #17). My companion, isn’t washing today (he should be).

There is so much to say. My companion is Elder Brad Anderson from Sandy, Utah. He has never been close to the Church, and I’m not sure why he is on this mission or why he is going. He always talks (in English) about his girlfriend when we should be sleeping or speaking Korean. He does want to go to Korea and likes the idea. He tends to be the slow one in our class of eleven elders (To Seoul). He has a bad knee, does many push-ups, walks slowly, and lacks enthusiasm. He is a good person and we get along fine. He is clean and fairly organized too.

New missionaries come every week, but Seoul, Korea Elders every four weeks. Pusan - four weeks in between. I’ve been here one week. I think the Korean language is perfect. It’s a phonetic alphabet scientifically designed so the letters represent the shape of the mouth. We learned the whole alphabet Friday, a testimony in Korean on Saturday, and we will work on grammar two more weeks alone. We start the “Baptism Challenge” in two weeks. Many things in the language are far more logical than English. I think it’s cool. The Korea Elders are among the few who also learn to write the language. It’s really quite simple. There are 14 consonants, 10 vowels, and then some diphthongs. For example, ㅋ is a sound between *k* and *g*, and ㅍ is an “O” sound.

When we learn this language and read and memorize, we do it straight — there is no romanization. I’ll romanize some words for you: **안녕하십니까** (*annyeong-hasimnikka*, is for hello “Are you in peace?”). These two words are yes and no: **네** (*ne*, “yes”); **아닙니다** (*animnida*, “no”). Verbs in use look different than verbs in the dictionary. Are you understanding? It really is cool — verbs always end the sentence.

The temple is always a treat. I’ve been there twice this week. One time we had a meeting in the temple with the temple president (all the new elders). He answered many questions about the symbolism and ordinances in the temple. It’s great. One thing that seems to be my biggest challenge is gym. Every day (except Sunday) from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM is our time for gym. Fifteen minutes we stretch; twenty minutes we run, do push-ups, sit-ups, squats, step-ups, and jump rope. The rest of the time is for volleyball. No basketball, football, or any contact sport at all is allowed anymore. I find it a struggle to keep up, but it will sure get me in shape. It’s a new program designed for us to continue once we leave the LTM.

I don’t have much time to write, so tell Ron, Jay and Yvonne all this too. I have a goal to memorize four discussions as well as the baptism challenge. The Korea elders have never exceeded 3 ½ in the regular two-month stay. My district has already been complimented on our efforts so far. We all want to do four discussions. I also plan to read the Book of Mormon while I’m here — it means I will be busy. I really like the LTM, but so far it hasn’t been as rugged as it’s been said to be. Last year was more rigorous for me.

I love you. **Elder Jeff Belnap (Signed)**

미국사람 (*miguk-saram*, “American”)

76.10.29 Letter Home

Dear Family,

Well, here I am again doing my laundry, only it's 9:00 AM now. I just returned from a temple session. It was fine and dandy.

The first thing that comes to my mind is gym. The program has been redone once again. Now we have only 70 minutes to do what we do. That is: 10 minutes stretching; sit-ups in three sets of 30; 75 push-ups in three sets of 25; around 90 squats in three sets of 30. Then we run two miles. After all of that, there is no time left for anything, not even volleyball. I feel that gym has been the hardest thing of my LTM stay so far.

Someone has just taken my basket and my hangers!

I hope to finish memorizing the baptism challenge today and perfect it tomorrow. It is only 3 pages and seems like nothing compared to the other discussions of 45 pages. But I am working on it. It takes work. I don't find it difficult, but it takes a lot of time. I hope to speed up the memorization.

Do you think you could send me my line of authority from Dad's? I would appreciate it.
In answer to your questions: yes, yes, no, two, and maybe.

You mentioned Steve Burfus and Shane Peck, but Shane leaves from the LTM for Denmark this next week. I have seen him and spoken with him.

I have also seen Bruce Warner, another Arizonian. I've met and now know Elder Powell from Pima. He is a strong, spiritual person in our district. I need to go fetch a basket — I still can't find my hangers. I see Van and Dan all the time. Steve and Alan are around all the time too.

Please send me pictures. I will return whatever. I will have quite a few things to leave when I go from the LTM. Excuse my writing — I'm used to Hangul now.

I have some unfortunate news. We are not allowed to communicate by tape while we are in the LTM. Anything you want me to do will have to wait until after December 14th. Please don't send any before then either. Thanks.

Well, I need to go get some hangers. My load is almost done.

My companion and I get along fine, but I need to get him pushing more. He still has to grow a lot.
저는 부모님을 사랑합니다. (I love my parents.)

I love you. **Elder Jeff Belnap**

1976.11.05 Letter Home

Howdy, If you read *The Friend*, you will see an article about Korea. It's funny because the words they have Romanized are not quite correct. Tell Denis, because they may give him some idea of the words I gave him. So far, I have not had to purchase any stationery — the leaving elders just pass it on and I grab it. Therefore, you get this variety. Tomorrow (our district, with the rest of the LTM) I go to the football game. We have end-zone seats. The only reason we go is to practice speaking our language.

I finished the baptism challenge Tuesday — I was the first to pass it off. Thanks for your many prayers; it really is a strength to me. I have the first concept of the Restoration discussion now, without the Joseph Smith story. We don't learn that yet because the vocabulary and grammar are very difficult. We are supposed to have it passed off by next Saturday, a week from tomorrow, and usually the Korean elders don't even start until then.

By the way, the BYU band didn't play, did they? I don't know that they would have, but I didn't hear. What opera did Ron see? Why was he at Mormon Youth? Is he still playing? I went to the BYU Bookstore again today — it's fantastic. ASU has nothing like it. I heard some "jiven" music in the sound department and I ached to be behind some drums. Maybe I'll get some kind of chance in Korea. Speaking of music, it is so funny to see these elders try to direct. Of course, no one ever takes their nose out of the book, but when an elder directs the whole 4/4 song in 3/4, I die! As part of our cultural lessons, we learn Korean folk songs. Here is one about a rabbit (I'll sing it later):

산토끼토끼 야 어디로 가느냐 *santokkitokki eodiro ganeunya*

강중강중 되면서 어디로 가느냐 *gangjung gangjung doemyeonseo eodiro ganeunya*

"Rabbit, rabbit — where are you going? - Jumping, jumping — where are you going?"

Of course, you know I'm washing my clothes. My shirts come out terrible. I touch them up with the iron when I have time. My companion only owns four white shirts and only washes every two weeks. He spends too much time writing to his girlfriend, marking up a collage of her picture, and thinking about her. They said he only wants to learn one discussion before he leaves. It makes it hard for me. We get along fine, but I'm starting to try and kick him into shape. I have enough of my own hang-ups. Sunday, Sister Gee bore her testimony. She told how it was possible for her to come to America and how incredibly hard English was for her. These Korean advisors are neat, wonderful people. They told us that love would communicate in Korea better than anything. I believe from them.

Terry Hill, MYSC from Provo, asked me for some photos of my ensemble. I still have several ABC's. If you could get into my "Cepacol" box and send one to him by way of Mom in Provo, I would appreciate it. Cherie — I would like to hear about your events at school. Someone with your get-up-and-go should have a lot to report. Denis — thanks for the letter.

안녕하십니까 (**annyeong-hasimnikka**, "Hello")/ 저도 좋습니다 (**jeodo josseumnida**, "I'm fine")
어떻게 지내십니까 (**eotteoke jinaesimnikka**, "How are you?") / 저도 좋습니다 (**jeodo josseumnida**,
"I'm fine also").

Could you send me the English discussions, or should I just buy another set for \$1.00? Cherie might want to use those at home. I love you and I appreciate you more for your letters. So far, in three weeks, I have received three letters — from Norm Bowen, from Korea, and yours. Send Drums (teehee)/

Thanks. **E. Belnap - JEFF**

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1976.11.12 Letter Home

안녕하세요! This paper is paper I had to buy. For four weeks our district will be on our own; therefore I will use this black pen instead. I am going to try to write clearer. Can you tell? I am receiving more letters from Denis than anyone? I sure love him. I guess you're planning on bringing him to the airport. Any questions about my words, just cut them out and send them to me. Sometimes I can figure them out. *Do you think I should write this way instead? This is fairly fast for me to write like this* [cursive]. I have always liked printing better, all with capital letters. In Hangul there are no upper or lower case letters. Punctuation is done with particles placed on the end of a word. I think they have a cursive writing, but it's not common. This is all there is to it. A basic sentence:

저는 한국에 갈 수 있다고 기뻐합니다. -> I am pleased that I can go to Korea.

Chonin, HanGuk-E Kal-SuEtDa-Go KeePO_Hamnida.

Subject / Object/ Verb indirect discourse/ Verb "I /Korea to/ go can that/ please am.

The first discussion memorization is fairly difficult. I really haven't had much trouble; last night was the first time I was struggling. We are working in the fourth concept now — Joseph Smith receiving authority from Peter, James, and John — a different way every other sentence. It's hard to keep track of verb forms and such. Some Norway missionaries on our floor that left Tuesday. As the new Seoul missionaries came yesterday and I met them, it seemed like I had learned a lot — but I didn't know very much. Two weeks ago, when the new elders came then, I felt quite competent. My companion is really trying to try to make an attempt at trying to improve his trying. In other words, he is slowly improving. He is the cornball of the group — in a way. Elder Hepworth from Brigham City played in Cougar Band. Elder Powell from Pima played trumpet also. They are both some of our district's best workers. About my comment on romanization: the Cantonese and Mandarin, and all the other Oriental languages, still have romanization. Korea, with its own alphabet, has always used Hangul. It's too hard to Romanize; that is what was funny about *The Friend*. I was only at the football game Saturday afternoon. My "P-day" is Friday. What will MS. Jarman do now?

Cherie, tell me about Vera, *please*. How many operas would be pretty if they sang in Hanguk? It really is a flowing language. There are a lot of consonants, but it all flows when you know what you're saying. We have a few pretty folk songs we enjoy. I will probably leave my gym clothes with you — I'm going to change my mind — I might just keep them. I definitely will maintain a physical program because we have been told to do so by the First Presidency. I think the best part is the stretching, which maintains the life of your muscles. We've been told to follow the example of animals. Notice how a cat after warming will stretch, walk around a little bit, and stretch some more. That doesn't mean wave your arms and yawn either. I think I am allergic to bananas. When I eat them (forgetting last time), my lips swell up and itch a lot. Ron passed it on I guess. Didn't he lose his allergy? I hope you still read this. I really find comfort in your prayers. I don't think I have ever thought so much about prayer before. But when you pray in another language, especially Korean, you have to know what you want to say.

In our gospel study class (I have Ron's old companion for a teacher) we saw *The First Vision* film. I think I told you, but it is beautiful. This week we talked about self-evaluation. I really enjoy it here. My only regret is that sometimes a few elders don't do their best, and it hurts us. If they speak English, we can't retrain our mouths without speaking English. I have made it my goal to not use English. I really love the language. It is special to me. I believe my call is divine, so I pray both to learn and to love Koreans. I think it's the only way. Thanks for your love and prayers.

Love you — sincerely, **Elder D. P. Belnap** [Go Top](#)

1976.11.19 Letter Home to (Denis & Family)

[ENVELOPE] 저의 가족이 저에게 중대한 것입니다. - *My family is very important to me.*

안녕하십니까, 오래간만입니다! 어떻습니까! Annyeonghasimnikka, oreganmanimnida! Eotteosseumnikka!
Hello, it's been a long time! How are you?

Hey! I might be able to use my checks as they are. They made a mistake on my name. Will you check into it? I have a missionary friend from Idaho (Rigby). His name is Elder Hunter. He lived and worked on a farm. When he returns home from his mission, he wants to have his own dairy. He told me about milking cows. Your Indian project sounds fun — are you using the clay Aunt Marcia gave you?

Family (가족). Thanks for the pictures. It's too bad there are so many bad ones. Can you get refunds? Fotomat develops much better, refunds any picture, and costs about 25¢ a shot. I think you should try them. The pictures I took with the pocket camera at ASU were developed much better. I'm not shooting any different. I only kept a few pictures; the others I will leave with all the other things I will leave. I want to leave these things (not final): Brown shirt, Light brown pants, Gym trunks, Papers I want to keep, Pictures, Anything else that isn't important.

Have Ron leave the tops to one pair of thermals. I will wear them at the airport. You can send me other clothes if I need them later. I might need film to develop some shots. These brown Nunn Bush shoes look awfully bad. They are scratched (not my fault). They have a new movie in the temple now. I have not seen it yet, but I will. They still show the old one in some rooms.

Who is Sister Twitchell? Have I told you about Brother Gee? He is super. I received a ward newsletter with the bishop's last missionary letter. I'll write him, but he won't be reading it to the ward, I gather. I'll drop a short card to Brother Thorne too. I don't remember Carol Hutchinson very well. The reason I mentioned the airport and Denis: it is fine with me if you bring him to the airport. It's up to you. Denis ends every letter with "See you in December. Bye." I want the English discussions to help internalize the Korean. I will take them with me as well. Monday or Tuesday I will pass the first discussion. I have a lot of retention to do this weekend. I am not writing Jay and Yvonne until they write me — final.

Do you know about Becy King in the ward? I understand she was aided by Sister Maughan, and the phone call came to them even though the phone was out of order. I hear she has four months in bed ahead of her. I hope she recovers. This was in the bishop's letter.

Where is Denis in the picture by the lake? I bought some Korean Articles of Faith cards — \$7.50 for 100. I bought some headphone silencers. They are found all over the LTM — \$6.00. I will sell them when I leave. I guess I haven't improved my writing much, have I? Hangul is much easier to write. I sent a letter to the ward. If they don't read it, you should. I grow on my good days — which are most days — in my testimony all the time. Your prayers are a strength to me. You ought to try praying in another language.

Does Ron retain much Norwegian? I suggest he occasionally pray in Norwegian.

안녕히 계십시오.

1976.11.23 Letter To Dad

저의 부친께 — **To My Father**

This is as fancy as I can get.

저에서 — From me

I hope you enjoy it.

저의 부친께 매우 기쁜 생일이 가지기를 바랍니다.

아름다운 일이 있겠으면 좋습니다.

저는 저의 부친께 대단히 사랑합니다.

I hope you, my father, have a very happy birthday.

May the day be a beautiful one.

I love my father very much.

And prayers.

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1976.11.27 Letter Home (Denis & Family)

[Envelope] 하늘에 눈이 왔습니다. *Snow came today.*

We saw the show Tuesday — 재미있어서 좋습니다.

Dear Denis, Congratulations on your Scouts. It's sure fun to win, but remember you can have fun sharing others' wins. Gary Bowman — is that who he is? Keep practicing the piano and start thinking about your instrument, if you want to play one. Sing too.

Dear Family — Happy Turkey Day! (?Hangul). Last Friday, at the barber (companion cut), I met a guy named Craig Sundell. He knew Kimball Wing in San Diego. He said he was his first zone leader. Sorry about my writing — I'll try again. I'll check over your letter and comment first. How was your Thanksgiving? We missed breakfast Thursday morning (it wasn't given) and had our turkey meal at lunch. It was all right, but I wasn't filled. They didn't let us watch TV either. We learned 40 lines in class that day too. I wrote a note to Grandmother and Grandfather. I'll drop a note to Marcia in a week or two. What's her address? I received a postcard from Alan Heath in Taiwan. It had a picture of a Tokyo hotel where they stayed.

The change in bishopric changed everything pretty fast, it seems. I'll need Bishop Drake's address, of course. When you mentioned the bishop's message, I wasn't sure what was meant by all the "last times," then it came to my understanding — his thoughts. I remember Nelle's Triumph too. I sure was a bear sometimes, but the more I reminisce, the more I feel that was one of my most special experiences too, mainly because my mother was making it so well done.

Hey, when is Ron bringing the discussions, thermals, etc.? I really could use them. We are halfway through the second discussion, and I've done it all without English. It's just a little easier to learn the English too. Tuesday was pass-off for the first discussion. In one hour we did it up to the 7th concept. We were spot-checked on the rest. That evening I was spot-checked — got 97%. Maybe Ron can explain what it all means. This isn't one of my better letters. I have been hassling the laundry quite a bit. Some elders load a machine and leave. When the machine is done, it sits for a while. It ties everybody up. We also have baskets that some elders like to "claim" MINE for their two hours in the place. That just messes it up for everyone. I try to take it in stride and just worry about doing what I can. I have at times taken the clothes out of a machine and left them in a basket near the machine. That way only a basket is tied up. I figure the owner of the clothes can find them at the end of the day when everyone else's clothes are taken from the room. It happened to me at ASU, but it didn't bother me. I always found my stuff.

Yesterday I had kind of an experience which aided my getting along with people. I don't feel right about telling you all about it now, but I will. One of the elders in our district that I hadn't gotten along with too well had a depression, which in the end resulted in his asking us for forgiveness. I grew in respect for him and plan on trying harder to get along with him. I'm learning a lot about people here. Even in gym — we have a blue line painted around the court which we are supposed to stay on the outside of. So many elders cut inside the line. I also notice how a bunch of elders that I have been passing finish their "28" laps before me. I hope I'm not skimming like that in some other aspects of my life. Well, it's been a dull letter. As always, I appreciate your love and prayers. I enjoy the temple when I can stay awake. We go at 5:30, against my will, and I really like it here. I just know each day that I have the greatest call in the world. Love you all, **Elder Jeff Belnap**

P.S. John Lambert, a recent convert I know from band, took a call to Norway. He knows Diane Howell well. I received a letter from Grandmother Today. I guess they didn't get my letter — I think I forgot to put on the ZIP. [Go Top](#)

1976.12.03 Letter Home

[Envelope] 안녕하세요 — On-young-hash-im-nee-ka!

My shoes are scraped — the printer dye or whatever is scratched or uneven.

Did the ward get the letter? Vitamins — what do you think?

I didn't get the line of authority. P.S. — You left the cats out of the letter.

Dear Family, I'm cleaning out drawers, so I am using this last bit of paper. I'm not washing right now. I'm going to do it this afternoon when the laundry area is nearly empty. I am having my suit dry-cleaned for \$2.80 (Elders' discount) so it will be in good condition for December 14th. By the way, I have all the flight plans now, and I am required to report them to you exactly as they read:

LEAVE SALT LAKE CITY — 8:00 AM, DEC 14 — UNITED #587

ARRIVE SEATTLE — 10:21 AM

LEAVE SEATTLE — 1:55 PM — NORTHWEST ORIENT #7

ARRIVE TOKYO — 5:05 AM (DEC 15, local time)

LEAVE TOKYO — DEC 16, 10:40 AM — NORTHWEST ORIENT #21

ARRIVE SEOUL — 12:50 PM (DEC 16)

There you have it. Just reading these teases my tummy. [?Hangul] I don't know how much time in the air we have, but it will be a quick two days. The branch president has said family may come to the airport, but they are not to go to the air terminal. They may meet the missionary in the lobby. The terminal has been too crowded, so that is one way to keep families out. If you can come, then do. I will have some things to leave behind — I can't take everything.

I have been wondering: Korea doesn't have some things, and I will be needing them, but I think they can be mailed. I will have enough to last a month or two. I will tell you more once I am there (things like deodorant, etc.). Most of the elders in my district have their local stateside checks to take with them. I haven't figured out how you would like to do mine. Other elders that have left used travelers checks the first few months. I'm thinking that way. Then I can use mine or receive money through Zions. If I use mine, I'll need my name changed. Maybe I can have the mission home address printed on them also.

Well, I have passed off two discussions now, and I think I am going to finish with three at the end. That is fine with me. I have just recently set another goal. We have a spot-check on all that we have passed off in the LTM. Therefore, every morning I will run through our discussions to keep them maintained, alternating them. It will take me a while to catch up though. I hope I remember. I enclosed one of my Articles of Faith cards. I can read it with no trouble. I can understand most of the words. Next P-day I am hoping to get permission to tape some things for you. I'll have these two do a little too, as well as some songs. We have a flight meeting that day, so I won't have much time. Could you send a tape — short time, either empty or full? If you don't have an empty one, send a short 30-minute or 15-minute one. Thanks. I really believe this LTM experience has been worthwhile. I enjoy it here. I sure hope to do well in Korea. Last Tuesday morning Paul Dunn spoke to the whole LTM in a devotional for 2.5 hours. It was fantastic. When I think back to the spiritual feast, I get a little of the Spirit with me in memory. He told us about his speech at a baseball convention and how he presented the gospel to those "men of the world." What courage and creativity we need as missionaries.

I hope I can develop mine, as well as in a country of another culture. I am grateful for your prayers. I just know more every day how true this work is. I love you all. Bring Denis too, if you can. One more letter to come from here. Love, **Elder Jeff**

P.S. Yes, that's Ms. Mille!

I got the package — thanks.

You'll need to tell Grandfolks I'm not allowed to take gifts or notes to other missionaries in Korea with me. I'll be leaving letters at the airport. We will be there about 7:00, I think. We leave at 8:00.

To Denis, my little buddy too — I had trouble too.

Dear Cherie,

Sorry about enclosing this in the family's letter, but I had to save 13 cents. I mean this letter to be yours personally. I was delighted to get your letter. It's funny sometimes how people get along better through the mail than in person. I'm sure that will not always be the case, because in two years you will be in college, and maybe even engaged or married. Anyway, you will be all grown up and perfect (beautiful etc) just like me, and then we won't find dumb little differences between us.

I really hope your musical goes well. I'm bursting with pride that you got a good part. That's a real accomplishment.

I had heard Jim Jones was going to Korea from Dickson, but I didn't know it was Seoul. Great! I'll have to send him a letter and prepare him. Who is Michelle Cheney — I have heard the name. That Ziegfeld part might be expensive. Good luck. Don't worry about ASU's football team. Now, about school. If I have learned anything at the LTM, more than from school, which can be applied to school, it is that you need to take one day at a time to do your best in a matter, or to survive. If in the morning you say to yourself, "Self, I'm going to do it right today. I'm going to pass that test with a perfect score and I'm not going to eat a hamburger for lunch!" then you can do it. Write it down on a 3×5 card and review. A goal is only a wish unless it is written down. It works.

Well, I am going to Korea in less than 11 days from this moment, and less than 8 when you read this. We will go to Seattle and Tokyo on the way. I get scared when I think about it. Have you ever tried to learn or memorize something as long as 400 lines so you could teach it — and in another language? I can't believe what I've learned. It's a testimony to me that we have the help of our Father in Heaven if we want and need it. Then again, I am famished with the things I yet need to learn.

The branch president said family may meet us in the airport lounge (one hour) but not in the actual terminal. If you can come, please go. The branch president's word is OK.

Love,

Jeff

P.S. I remember you very much and regret the way I have treated you sometimes. I hope you'll forgive me. I love you a lot.

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1976.12.10 Letter Home 안녕하세요?

I just finished your tape. I don't dare spend more time — I have so many things to do. I can't figure out the click; any suggestions, Ron? I hope the tape will be okay. Tommy, I'm looking into a strobe flash for \$17. It lasts two years (batteries do — it's battery-operated). Either it lasts forever, or you just replace batteries. In the long run it will save a lot of money on flashes. I will probably buy it in Tokyo for a lot less money. We'll see.

This has really been my hardest week. I have the Articles of Faith, three discussions, and in the next two days I will get my first of the next discussion. Our district is the first Korean group to do three discussions (+BC). I feel good about it, and I thank you for your prayers in my behalf. I also read the whole Book of Mormon, learned 66 scriptures, read several pamphlets, and grew in my testimony a lot. My writing hasn't improved yet.

Now for you to consider: I feel I have learned a lot of Korean in two months, but I'm not even quite at a survival level in communicating with real Koreans. It is a humbling thought. But I sure love it. I really want to be able to teach. My plans for the airplane ride are to review all the discussions two times through and then work on door approaches. Wish me luck — there might be a good movie to watch instead.

Thanks for the lineage cards, checks, etc. I guess you want me to use the checks at least a while.

About the flight plan: I don't know about this Boise stop. We have a stop in Seattle, but nothing is mentioned about Boise. If we do stop, it will be for fuel or something short. We wouldn't get off the plane. Tell Grandmother thanks, but under the uncertain circumstances, there shouldn't be a trip to the airport for nothing. It's funny, but the elders all seem to have food-sending grandmas.

Last night the elders went to DeJong for the A Cappella Choir concert. It was excellent. The only bad part was when they used brass and percussion — their instruments were too loud and just gross. A lot of the Elders didn't like the majority of the concert. I did. The program is among the things I'm leaving.

I am assuming you will be at the airport. Anyone else is welcome, but only in the lounge. If you are not coming, let me know by message. A letter won't get here. Write to the mission home and they will forward it. I might not have time to write you first.

Well, I have many things to do. I love you all.

— Elder Belnap

Signed Jeffry Paul Belnap

당신의 아들 - *Your Son*

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