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June 13, 1956

“The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.” Ps. 111:2

Mrs. Ed McCully  
Mr. T. E. McCully  
362 N. Johnson St.  
Pontiac, Michigan

Dear Marilou and Mr. McCully,

Forgive me for combining letters this way, but the work is piling up again. Our principal extra responsibility at the moment is the narrated slide set, “Mid-Century Martyrs,” which Bob Savage prepared. You’ll see from my enclosed comments (only one copy – sorry) that we are very enthusiastic about this presentation, and believe that the Lord has a tremendous ministry for it. We have found in our own usage of the 25 Auca pictures, that they do not furnish an adequate, illustrated presentation in themselves. They definitely need supplementary material, and the narrated set by Bob Savage gives this in a most remarkable way. The narration and its musical background are beautifully done.

Probably you have already been contacted when this set was originally made up, concerning pictures of Ed. But we have been asked to take over on the refining of this set during the period of “test showings,” so that we’ll have the very best pictures available when the final film strips are made up.

We are actually rather short of pictures of Ed, and those that we have do not fully tie in with the narration. Besides, the one of Ed wearing the feather crown (which we don’t like to use during his introduction – prefer to save it for later), we have one of his taken in a parking lot holding Stevie. Then we have one of him standing in shallow water at the edge of the jungle; and, if I remember correctly, one taking with a Quichua family. I presume the originals of these will be available for the making of the film strips. However, the quality of these pictures is not up to that of the movies I saw at your house, Marilou, so I am in hopes that you have some better pictures of Ed. If you feel free to send them through the mail, we would very much appreciate seeing other pictures which might be used as alternates. However, we realize the irreplaceability of these pictures and would not urge this unless you feel perfectly free about it.

But if you do not feel it wise to send us a group to select from, there are two pictures in particular that would very much strengthen the set. 1). A picture of Ed reading the Bible, speaking to a group from the Bible, or even with a Bible under his arm. Is such a picture available? 2). A picture of Ed in his football...

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...uniform, or if this is not available in his track uniform. I might add as a third possibility: is there any pictures available of him when participating in a debate?

Now in the cases of Nos. 2 and 3 above, I think it would be possible to use a black and white picture if no color picture is available. We can have black and white slides made from a regular black and white print. In a slide set of this nature it is better to have the proper subject matter than to have them all in color. We'll look forward to hearing from you on this matter, and to receiving any material which you feel free to send.

Mr. McCully, let me take this opportunity to thank you for your further letter of June 5. No, there is no picture that I know of all five fellows together, but your idea about making a composite sounds like an excellent one. It may take a little time to develop this, but we'll certainly go to work on it. In the slide set which I've discussed in this letter, there is one picture of the five girls along with some of the Air-Force personnel who helped in the search operation. We'll try to get an extra copy of this made for you. At the same time I'm wondering if you might prefer using this actually narrated set. It is very well done and carries a tremendous challenge. It is being made up specifically for the missions and missionaries of Ecuador, but I am sure the girls would want you included in this also if you desire a set. We expect the cost to about no more than \$30 per set.

Sincerely in Him,

Missionary Aviation Fellowship

Charles J. Mellis, Jr.  
Secretary-Treasurer