

## MINI - TRIP TO ENGLAND : JANUARY 1994

It hardly seems worthwhile doing a classical trip letter, but on the other hand I'm on an airplane and figured some folks would be interested in what has been going on. So, here goes.....

Monday - 1: I flew to England, arriving on Tuesday.

Tuesday - 1: Checked into the pub where we were staying, took a short nap, and went to work. The situation is that work is at a company (Matra Marconi) in Portsmouth that is something like Lockheed Sunnyvale and the pub we were staying at is up the road 10 miles or so. What was going on is that we had just brought over our flight instrument and were starting to test it stand-alone before putting it onto the spacecraft. Several of us from Lockheed were participating in these activities.

Wednesday - 1: Worked.

Thursday - 1: Worked.

Friday - 1: Worked. Not that we didn't go to dinner all these nights but the food was far from special. The beer, by contrast, was great and we had lots of it. Actually, in all fairness, the Indian food we had a couple of nights was reasonable.

Saturday - 1: Worked the morning. Spent the afternoon walking along the water front in Portsmouth, seeing some a few ships and some old portions of town, and generally getting worn out with a very long walk; which was needed after the week of working. Another fellow and I did this.

Sunday - 1: Three of us went to London. Bummed around Camden Locks market area for the morning while killing time until the British Museum opened. Then spent several hours there. Outstanding. That night I watched the semi-finals NFL football games and the Niners took it on the chops.

Monday - 2: Worked the AM and then flew to The Netherlands for a meeting.

Tuesday - 2: Participated in the meeting in The Netherlands. Meanwhile, Dawna got on her flight - an ultra cheapy which flies only on Tuesday.

Wednesday - 2: Continued with the meeting in The Netherlands and then flew back to England in the evening. Meanwhile, Dawna had arrived and was met by Mary Culhane. They goofed off a bit and then met me at the airport. The idea was that Dawna would come to Portsmouth with me but

they decided it would work out better for her to sleep at Culhane's so that she and Mary could bum/shop the next day .... so I went on to the Portsmouth pub and Dawna stayed in Horsham.

Thursday - 2: Dawna and Mary goofed off and eventually Dawna came down by train. I worked and then met her train.

Friday - 2: I worked. Dawna bummed/shopped at Southport. We had a meal with some of the crew at a rather expensive Spanish restaurant. Good and could be considered D's birthday dinner, a day late.

Saturday - 2: We and some of the crew played tourist in Salisbury. The Cathedral being the highlight but also just walking around the town, going to the local "flea market" and having a lunch with excellent beer. Not to mention seeing some countryside driving over and back. That evening we had an Italian meal where the host acts crazy.

Sunday - 2: We and some of the gang went to Portchester Castle. Neat spot which was originally Roman and in remarkable condition considering. And the weather was actually clear so the view was good. Quite a nice outing. Then the two of us headed cross country to the Culhane's. Nice countryside drive on small roads. Lots of chatting with Len and Mary and then dinner at a pub in the country. Quite good and I had one of the best pheasant meals ever .... I think it being raised meant it was less dry and more meaty than game birds.

Monday - 3: I watched the Super Bowl which had been recorded between 11 PM and 3 AM the night before and then flew home. Dawna stayed for another day of goofing off with Mary, some of which was in Brighton.

Tuesday - 3: Dawna came home, unfortunately with a bit of a cold.

All in all a good time and the weather wasn't as bad as we had expected. I should mention I had Kippers every other morning for breakfast, which although much greasier than they needed to be were still fun. Oh, yes, Dawna had Strongbow cider at one of the pubs where it was on tap and thought it was pretty good - thinking of Sabina all the time, of course.