

Chapter XXX

Disgraced Lady Missionary

January 3, 1965 – February 12, 1965

After Janet married Jerry and moved to Utah, her time with her family was limited to a couple of times a year. Since there was no pressing reason for her to go home with Jerry, she chose to take advantage of the situation since she was already there. Not only did it give her more time with her parents, it gave Sheffield and especially Ramona a chance to spend some time with Wesley and Andrea.

Although Sheffield and Ramona had to return to work, Janet and the kids were there and there were lots of opportunities to interact. However, on Wednesday they had to leave for conferences on the other islands and wouldn't be back until Sunday evening. That morning before they left, Janet had some things packed up and loaded the kids into her rental car and started off to Leia to spend some time with Takara.

After seeing her off, Roy drove Sheffield, Ramona, Elder Miller and Elder Gibby to the airport for the flight to Kauai in the chartered Cessna 210. They spent Wednesday on Kauai, Thursday on Maui, Friday in Hilo and Saturday and Sunday in Kona, concluding their meetings with Kona's district conference and flew back to Honolulu on Sunday.

While they were away, Janet had a good visit with Takara. Since Takara was set to deliver at any time, she wasn't up to getting out much to do things. They revisited old times and fond memories of the sisterhood. They had both stayed in touch with Beverly and Olivia. Janet was a big help for Takara with her children and other chores around the house. Janet stayed until Sunday and went to church with the Morleys and drove back to Honolulu on Monday.

Sheffield and Ramona were scheduled to remain at Mililani for the next two and half weeks, which gave them a lot of time with Janet and her kids. They would come down and hang around the office so they could interact during the day. The Sheffield worked around Wesley and Andrea as they played with their toys on the floor of his office. There were days when things were a little slower and Sheffield and Ramona were able to break away and go do things. In preparing meals, Sister `Auli`i simply planned on three more.

Elder Masters, the travel coordinator, was busy during the second week of January. He had to contact all of the areas with 1962 Novas to have them go to the nearest Diamond Head Chevrolet location to exchange them for 1965 models. He also had to take care of getting them licensed and the insured.

In addition to the new Novas, the president's car had to be exchanged too. Not that Sheffield needed a new car. Diamond Head Chevrolet wanted it back because of the resale value of the current car with its low mileage. Sheffield drove down to the dealership himself and exchanged it for a brand new 1965 Impala sedan just off the ship. It was loaded with features and only had a total of fifty seven miles on the odometer. At the same time, the mission also acquired a brand new Chevrolet G10 passenger van, with seating for nine. It was a valuable addition to the mission fleet that would come in very handy when it came to shuttling

missionaries back and forth to places like the airport.

Later that week, on Thursday, the Brasons got a call from Teancum telling them that Takara had her baby, a little boy, who they were naming Omni. He said that everything went well. The following Monday, Sheffield, Ramona, and Janet drove up to Laie to see Takara and her new baby. It was their first road trip in the new Impala. It was just a day trip; drive up in the morning and back that evening. Of course on Oahu, anyplace could be day trip.

The next day Sheffield and Ramona met with Elder Miller and Elder Gibby to begin working out the January transfers. Sheffield began by saying, "I have been giving a lot of thought to how the mission is organized lately and I see some areas in which I think we could improve. We have a lot of good, competent missionaries who have been out a year and are still junior companions who could and should be senior companions, trainers, and even district leaders."

"But we only have so many leadership opportunities to go around." Elder Miller pointed out.

"Then I say we open more up." Sheffield replied. "Take the two of you." he said referring to his assistants. "How does the coequal arrangement work out?"

"Very well." Elder Miller answered. "Where we have the same authority we are twice as effective."

"That's what I see too." Sheffield observed. "Now look at our zone leaders. We have one in each zone, and a lot of them are training new elders in addition to their leadership roles. Here is what I have been thinking. Lets take our most experienced and senior Elders and team them up as coequal zone leaders. Then we can take those at the next level just below them and make them our district leaders and then that will open it up so more of our experienced Elders who are still junior companions a can become senior companions. I think that would even things up more and give our Elders more leadership opportunities. I have found that a man will most always rise to the level entrusted to him. What do you think?"

"I think that means we'll have to pretty much redo the entire area board." Elder Gibby said as he looked it over.

"Yes it will, Elder." Sheffield agreed. "Then we'd better get busy figuring it out. If it means transferring someone we just transferred last month, so be it. If it means taking both Elders out of an area and going in with a new companionship, so be it. It will be a little painful, but look at the growth potential. The Elders will be stronger, the mission will be stronger, and look at the kind of leaders we will be sending home to their home wards."

As always, the first thing they did was to look at who was going home and who to replace them with. Sheffield stressed that you can never really replace any one, just fill their vacancies. Then they looked at who to make zone leaders and put them with the existing zone leaders. That automatically meant that seven junior companions had to go some were else. Most of those who would be made zone leaders were already

district leaders. That in turn meant filling those vacancies and so on. It took them three days to work it out in order to have the transfers notices in the mail.

During that time, they celebrated Janet's twenty ninth birthday on the 20th. That was the first time in a while that they had celebrated her birthday with her. Then two days later on Saturday, Sheffield and Ramona celebrated their twenty first wedding anniversary. Janet made arrangements with one of the young ladies in the ward to come over and tend her children while she went out with them to celebrate their anniversary. On Sunday she attended church with them and on Monday they spent the day in Laie so she could see Takara one last time before going home. Then on Tuesday, after four weeks, They saw her and the kids off at the airport. The extra time allowed them to develop a bond with Wesley and Andrea like they had with the rest of the grandchildren.

That evening missionaries began pouring into Mililani for an over night stay while in transit to their new areas. After dinner, Elder Anderson, Elder Logan, and Sister Manning reported their missions before going home the next day.

This transfer affected forty missionaries, nearly half of the mission. The new mission van proved its worth that day as there were six Elders and one sister, in addition to those coming in on transfers to pick up at the airport and bring to the mission home. One of the new arrivals was Elder John Hana from Melbourne, Australia. With a net increase of four Elders, the mission grew to a total of ninety eight missionaries.

That allowed for two new areas to be opened, both on Oahu. One was in Kailua near Kaneohe which resulted in splitting the Windward District into the Windward North and Windward South Districts. The other new area was in Nanakuli on the Leeward shore of Oahu, which resulted in splitting the Leeward District into the Leeward East and Leeward West Districts.

This transfer affected two of the office staff as well. Elder Stewart, who had been brought into the office as the mission recorder while recuperating from his surgery was sufficiently healed to return to the field. He was one of those who was able to move into a leadership position due to restructuring the way the mission was organized. He was sent to Lahaina on Maui to serve as a district leader. If Ramona had a favorite missionary, it had to be Elder Stewart because during the time that she spent with him, she got to know him very well.

The other change to office staff was Elder Morgan, the financial secretary, who had only been at the mission home for two months. He too benefited from the change and was sent to open Nanakuli with on of the new arrivals and became a district leader. Elder Stewart and Elder Morgan were replaced in their respective positions by Elder Lionel Stevenson from Elko, Nevada and Elder Ralph Wren from Washington, D.C..

The rest of that of the week was spent in zone conferences in the Honolulu Zone on Thursday and

the Pearl Harbor Zone on Friday. On Saturday they had a zone conference in the Oahu Zone in Laie. Rather than making a day of it and driving up as they typically did, they flew up in the chartered Cessna. They weren't able to stay for the luncheon because immediately after the meeting, they had to fly to Lihue on Kauai for a district conference on Saturday and Sunday.

All of the next week was spent at the mission home. One of the items of business at hand was working on the the next round of zone conferences. On Friday, Mililani had a special visitor in the person of Elder Thomas S. Monson of the Council of the Twelve, who was in Hawaii for the Pearl Harbor Stake Conference over the weekend. Sheffield met him at the airport personally and brought him back to the mission home. During the afternoon, he meet with Sheffield for three hours in which he reviewed the progress of the mission and presented some training material from Salt Lake. That evening Elder Monson had dinner at the mission home and spent the night in the guest room.

The next morning he left the mission home to meet with the Pearl Harbor Stake presidency and to conduct the business of the conference. That evening Sheffield and Ramona attended the Saturday evening session, in which Ramona was invited to bear her testimony, and the general session on Sunday morning, in which Sheffield was called on to say a few words about missionary work.

On Tuesday, they were off on another round of zone conferences. Roy drove Sheffield and Ramona along with the Assistants, Elder Miller and Elder Gibby, to the airport in the mission van. The Cessna 210 had been fueled, serviced, and ready. The schedule worked out so well. The plane was always ready to go when it was needed. The arrangement saved both time and money when it came to traveling to the other islands. That day their destination was Kauai.

The next morning, they flew to Hilo and were met at the airport by Max Mahaulu, the district president, who took them to his home, where his wife, Aloha, had lunch waiting. While freshening up, Max took their luggage to their room.

They had a little time to visit with Max and Aloha over lunch, and then Max took them to the meetinghouse on his way back to work. He gave Sheffield the keys to his office to use. The missionaries had already began to gather for their interviews prior to the conference. As usual, Ramona visited with the missionaries waiting out in the foyer while Sheffield conducted his interviews.

The first to be interviewed were Elder Cooley and Elder Austin, the zone leaders. Elder Cooley had been the mission financial secretary when they first arrived in the mission. Like the zone leaders in the Kauai Zone the day before, they reported that the co equal zone leader arrangement was working well in the two weeks since it had been implemented.

The next to be interviewed were the Elders and Sisters of Hawaii South District. First, Elder England, the district leader, and his companion, Elder Powell. Then he came to Sister Dora Rock. After a handshake

and greeting, Sheffield asked, "How are things going in your area?"

"Not very well President."

"I can see that. I've noticed that the number of discussions taught and your investigator pool has dwindled to almost nothing over the last six or seven weeks. What's the matter?"

"I know, President Brason." She admitted. "We had a lot going, but ever since Sister Cooke got here, everyone began dropping us until we now have no one."

"Do you have any reason as to why?"

"Yes President, I do. Its her."

"Now, Sister Rock, that's night like you to blame others. Maybe, you're not ready to be senior companion after all."

That brought Sister Rock to tears. "It's her, I'm sure of it. I want her gone. I can't live with her for another day."

Sheffield could tell that something was terribly wrong, because Sister Rock was not being her usual positive, upbeat self. "When she first got here, I sensed that something was not quite right about her. Can you shed a little light on it for me."

"Oh could I ever, President. No offense, but I'm not comfortable discussing with you."

"I see." he puzzled.

"But its eating me alive and I have to tell someone. I'd feel much more comfortable talking to Sister Brason about it, if thats alright."

"That would be alright, as long as she can tell me. Is that alright?"

In tears, she simply nodded.

Sheffield stood up and patted her on the shoulder before going to the door. He stepped out and discreetly closed the door behind him so that no one could tell that Sister Rock was crying.

"Something is terribly wrong." Sheffield whispered to Ramona. "She wants to talk to you."

Ramona got up and walked to the door and slipped inside. As she did, Sister Cooke, who was waiting outside, went pale and begin to fidget. Sheffield's first instinct was to take her into another room and interview her, but then decided that it would better to find out what was troubling Sister Rock first.

As Ramona entered the office, she sat down next to Sister Rock. She took her hand and said, "You poor thing, what's the matter?"

"Its Sister Cooke." she sobbed.

"You can tell me." Ramona said softly. "I'll understand."

Sister Rock nodded her head and began. "When she first got here, she was really quite likable and we got along really well. Then after a bout a week, things started going wrong and we began loosing the

people that we were teaching. I could tell that there was something terribly wrong. It was like the Spirit had withdrawn from our area as soon as she got here. I just couldn't figure it out and things kept getting worse and worse.

"I tried everything I could but matters got even worse. Its not that we didn't get along, because we did. I'd come to love her as much as I had Sister Draper. I even told her that I loved her, and that's when I discovered the problem."

Ramona had listened intently as she lead up to that point. "Go on." she encouraged.

"Well, this all happened on Monday while we were getting ready for the day. I had just got out of the shower and was drying off when she came into the bedroom already undressed to take her shower. This wasn't the first time that she had done that. I guess privacy isn't as big of an issue with her. When you live with someone like this, you're bound to see them naked. I know that because I shared a bedroom with my sister and it happened once in awhile.

"After I dried off, she asked if I wanted her to lotion my back. I agreed and handed her the lotion and turned around and she began rubbing it in. I have to admit, it felt really good. The whole time she was very complimentary of my body which kind of gave me the creeps. Then she came around in front of me and started to rub lotion onto my chest. It made me really conformable for her to be that close while we were both naked. Then she said, 'I love you, Dora.' It was odd that she called me by my first name. I felt awkward and didn't know what to say so I told her that I loved her too. Then all of a sudden she put her hands on my breasts and tried to kiss me on the mouth."

"Oh my." Ramona gasped.

"I pushed her away and hurried and covered up and told her to get away from me."

"What did she do?"

"She just stood there and said, 'But I thought you loved me.'"

"Not like that!" I screamed. Thats when I realized what was going on and why the Spirit had left our area. Ever since I haven't wanted to look at her let alone talk to her."

"That would do it." Ramona agreed. "You know that I have to tell President Brason."

"I know. I just wasn't comfortable telling him myself."

"I understand." Ramona assured her. "It must have scared you to death. Now I'm going to tell you something that I've never, ever told anyone else. When I first went into the Navy as a young woman, the gal I shared a dorm room with came on to me kind of like that. I had been married so I knew about relations between men and women, but I had no idea that women could be sexually attracted to other women. It scared me too."

"What did you do?"

"I reported it, just like you did. The Navy didn't look favorably on such allegations and she was kicked out of the navy with a dishonorable discharge. I assure you, President Brason won't take this lightly. He will do something about it, and he will do it quickly. Now, sit here and dry your eyes and regain your composure while I step out to talk to him."

Still crying, Sister Rock simply nodded.

Ramona left the office discreetly and took Sheffield by the hand and took him into another room and closed the door behind them.

"Did you find out what's the matter?"

"I sure did, Babe, and its not good. Sister Cooke came on to her."

"What do you mean?" he asked.

"I mean Sister Cooke made sexual advances towards her. I'm afraid we have a lesbian on our hands."

"That explains a lot." Sheffield said. "I knew there was something not right about Sister Cooke from the beginning. I just couldn't put my finger on it. Thanks Sweetheart. I'll go talk to her."

Sheffield went back to the office were Sister Rock was waiting. She had regained her composure somewhat by then. "Without going into a lot of detail, Sister Brason told me what happened. I assume that you resisted her advance."

"Yes, President. Of course I did. I'm not that kind of a girl."

"I know you're not. I assure you, you did nothing wrong and have nothing to be ashamed of. But I promise you, I will take care of the matter right now. I want to stay close to Sister Brason for now, alright."

Sheffield stood up, indicating for Sister Rock to do the same. He opened the door and motioned for Ramona to come to them. "I want you to stay close to Sister Rock, okay."

"Sure." she said.

Then she said to Sister Rock, "Come with me, dear."

Sheffield looked at Sister Cooke and without saying a word, motioned for her to come into the office. She came in and took a seat, while the mission president remained standing.

Before he could say anything, she said, "I take it that Sister Rock told you what happened."

"She told Sister Brason everything. I only know what I need to know, and I wish I didn't know that much. I have to ask you something and I want you to be honest with me. Are you a lesbian?"

"If you mean, do I prefer woman, then I guess I am."

"I see." Sheffield said standing with his arms folded. "Now let me ask you something else. Have you ever been sexually active with other women?"

"Just what do you mean?" she asked rather defiantly.

That through Sheffield for a loop as he stammered to explain just what he meant. All kinds of things flashed through his mind. Finally he said, "You know exactly what I mean. But let me ask it this way, have you ever had any sexual contact with another person, male or female in anyway what so ever?"

"I've never been with a man, if that's what you mean. I don't find men appealing, but I have been with a few women. But it's not immoral or a sin or anything."

"And why not?" Sheffield said in frustration.

"Think about it." she said. "Women don't have the same anatomy as men."

"This is getting into an area that I know very little about." Sheffield said. "But any kind of sexual contact is immoral, even if intercourse doesn't occur, whether it be between a man and woman who aren't married, or between two men, or between two women. I don't want to know the details, just a yes or no answer. Have you or have not had sexual contact with other women?"

Feeling interrogated, she broke down and said that she had on a number of occasions.

"And what made you think Sister Rock would welcome such contact?"

"Because she said that she loved me."

"I hardly think that's what she meant."

"I realize that now. I tried to apologize to her but she'll hardly speak to me. So what are you going to do with me?"

Sheffield softened his demeanor and sat down. With kindness he said, "I have no choice but to send you home immediately. You lied about your worthiness. Why did you even want to come on a mission anyway?"

"Because I love the Lord and the Church."

Sheffield wasn't sure he bought her answer.

She sensed his skepticism and added. "I really do."

Sheffield looked her in the eyes. "Alright I believe you. But I can't let you stay. How long have you been involved in this kind of behavior?"

"Since I was sixteen." she answered.

"Why? How?"

"When my mother remarried I got an older step sister. We shared a bedroom and she got me started. I didn't see any harm in it, and I still don't. So when I left home and went to college, I sought out other girls who would indulge with me."

"And you thought that Sister Rock would be one who would."

"Yes."

"Look, Sister Cooke. I can't stress how wrong it is. But you can repent and be forgiven. But you'll

have to do it at home.”

“But I haven't done anything wrong.” she protested.

“Here's what's going to happen. I'm going to call your Stake President in Las Vegas and tell him that I'm sending you home. Then I'm going to buy a ticket for you on the first plane back to the mainland. You are not to have any further contact with Sister Rock.”

Sheffield picked up the telephone on President Mahaulu's desk and dialed the mission home.

“Hello Elder Stearman. This is President Brason. Can you pull Sister Cooke's file and give me the name and telephone number of her home Stake President. While you're getting that for me, let me talk to Elder Masters.”

“Elder Masters. I need you to book the first flight to the mainland tomorrow morning for Sister Cooke with connections to Las Vegas.” ... “Thank you Elder.”

“Alright Elder Stearman, I'm ready.” Sheffield said with a pencil poised to write down the number. Once he had written the number, he said, “Thank you Elder. I'll be getting back in touch with you. Goodbye.”

Then he dialed Max Mahaulu's number and talked to Aloha. “Hello Sister Mahaulu, this is Sheffield. Could you do me a big favor and come over to meetinghouse and pick up Sister Rock and take her home with you.”

“Thanks Aloha, I really appreciate it.”

Then he looked at the disgraced lady missionary sitting across the desk from him. “I don't know what else to do with you at the moment, so just sit there while I call your Stake President. It should be evening in there now.”

He dialed the number. “Hello. May I speak with President Hanks please.”

“Hello President Hanks, this is Sheffield Brason, the president of the Hawaii mission. I'm sitting here with Sister Elizabeth Cooke. I have to inform you that I'm sending her home tomorrow. As soon as I get her itinerary, I'll pass it on to you so someone can pick her up at the airport.” ... “I'll tell you this much, she made sexual advances toward her companion.” ... “I'm afraid that it goes much deeper than that, but I'll let her tell you about that when she gets back.” ... “Thank you President. I'll be in touch.” ... “Goodbye.”

He turned his attention back to Sister Cooke, who was feeling totally humiliated. “Wait right there.”

He walked over to the door and opened it and motioned to Ramona. He could see that the other missionaries who were waiting for their interviews were wondering what was going on. “Ramona, Aloha Mahaulu is on her way over to get Sister Rock. Let me know when she gets her.”

Sheffield talked to Sister Cooke some more about what she could expect when she got home. All the while she just sat there defiantly. He only had to endure her glaring at him for a few minutes, then there was knock at the door.

Sheffield excused himself and stepped outside to talk to Aloha. He asked her to take Sister Rock home with her and stay with them until he could figure out what to do about her.

She agreed.

“Sister Rock, I need the keys to your car.”

She pulled them out of her purse and handed them to him.

“Thank you. You'll be alright with the Mahaulu's. We'll come back for you as soon as we can.”

“Thank you President. I'll be fine.”

Aloha put her arm around the sister missionary and escorted her out to her car. Everyone really wondered what was going on.

With Sister Rock taken care of temporarily, he took Ramona back into the office with him.

“Sister Rock is being taken care of for now. No here's what's going to happen, Sister Brason and I are going to take you to your apartment so you can gather your things and then you'll fly back to Honolulu with us.”

He turned to Ramona and said, “Take her out to the car while I talk to the Assistants.”

As Ramona and Sister Cooke left, Sheffield called Elder Miller and Elder Gibby into the office. The look on their faces showed the confusion that everyone was feeling. “We're taking Sister Cooke back to the mission home with us as soon as she can pack her things. Sister Rock is with Sister Mahaulu. I want the two of you to finish the interviews for me and conduct the meeting. We'll be back tomorrow to get you and go onto Kona as planned. Any questions?”

They knew better that ask what was going on. Elder Miller simply said, “We'll take care of it President.”

Sheffield picked up his cane and went out to the mission Nova and got behind the wheel and drove off. Keaau was only ten miles away and Sister Cooke told them how to get to the apartment. When they pulled up, Sheffield and Ramona were appalled to find that it was situated above a liquor store. They went upstairs with Sister Cooke while she quickly packed her things. Sheffield and Ramona were further taken back by the fact that they only had a double bed that they had to share. That certainly could have added to things that played out in Sister Cooke's mind leading up to the incident.

With her bags ready to go, they went back down to the car and drove to the Hilo airport and took off with Sister Cooke brooding in the very back seat. On the way home, Sheffield and Ramona talked about the living conditions that they encountered.

“That place certainly isn't suited for lady missionaries.” Sheffield observed. “I wouldn't want Elders living there either.”

“It makes me wonder,” Ramona reflected, “what kind of places some of our missionaries live in.”

Do you know what I'm thinking?" Sheffield asked. "I think that in the next few weeks we should schedule another mission tour and inspect everyone's living quarters. I'd bet we'd be surprised at some of the places they live in."

They didn't have a lot to say on flight back. Fortunately they were back in Honolulu before long. Bother Hanami met them with the van and took back to Miliani. Sister Cooke left everything in the van except for an overnight bag.

When Sister Cooke was out of ear shot, Sheffield said to Ramona "I don't want you to let her out of our sight until we put her on the plane tomorrow." Sheffield said. "I'm going to assign you to be her companion until then."

"Then who's going to keep an eye on you, Babe?" Ramona winked.

"Oh I think I can manage."

Take her down to the dorm room and keep her occupied. You might be able to reach her better than I did. She doesn't see anything wrong with what she's been involved with."

"So I take it that it goes much deeper than this little episode with Sister Rock."

"Much, much deeper."

"I'll see what I can do."

It was close to supper time, and Sister `Auli`i hadn't figured on them so she quickly came up with something.

After dinner, Ramona went downstairs with Sister Cooke while Sheffield talked to Elder Masters about the travel arrangements. Then he called President Hanks and told him what time to expect her.

He had talked to Sister Cooke's Bishop and her family and they were surprised and shocked that she was coming home.

Sheffield gave him a little more background on what he learned so he would know where to pick up. He was caught completely off guard and hadn't suspected a problem of that nature. "If I had," he assured Sheffield, "I would have never recommended her for a mission."

Meanwhile, Ramona didn't get much of a response from Sister Cooke. She had pretty much shut down and hardly said a word. When Ramona changed into her night gown before going to bed, she made sure that she had complete privacy. But it didn't seem to matter to Sister Cooke. She simply took off her clothes and climbed into bed in her under wear. Ramona had a restless night as she slept with one eye open. She wasn't worried about what Sister Cooke would do to her, but rather that she might try to slip away.

Sheffield wrestled with what to do with Sister Rock now that she was without a companion. The obvious solution was to close the area and put her in a threesome with another set of Sisters, perhaps those

who lived at the mission home. The area was obviously dead, so closing it wouldn't matter. He made it a matter of prayer and slept on it over night. In the morning, he had a much different solution, but he needed to talk to Ramona about it first.

The next morning when Ramona woke up, she quickly got dressed before Sister Cooke stirred. Ramona opened her scriptures and sat on the bed reading. Before long Sister Cooke got up and wandered into the bathroom. A moment later, Ramona heard the shower going.

After a few minutes, the shower stopped and momentarily Sister Cooke came back into the bedroom to dry off. Obviously privacy was not a concern for her. Ramona glanced up from her scriptures and couldn't help but notice the younger woman's perfectly shaped body. All of the curves were in the right places. It was the kind of body that she had always been envious of and wished that she had.

Ramona put down her book and engaged her in conversation. For the first time, Sister Cooke opened up to her while she applied her lotions and eventually got dressed.

When Ramona and Sister Cooke came upstairs, Ramona put her to work helping Sister Hanami just to keep her busy so she could talk to Sheffield.

"She definitely has some issues." Ramona said. "I got her to open up a little this morning. I don't know what she told you, but she sure is mixed up."

"She told me enough." Sheffield said. "This has been going on since she was sixteen."

"So what have you decided to do with Sister Rock?"

"Well, I gave it a lot of thought. At first my inclination was to close the area and put her with the Sisters upstairs until we could get another companion for her. The problem is, we have two new sisters coming out next month so that will still leave an odd number. Then I had a burst of inspiration this morning. I'd like to put you with her for the next ten days, until the next transfer. What would you say to that?"

Ramona was a little taken back, but said, "I can do that."

"Good." Sheffield said. "Go pack enough to last you that long. We'll take Sister Cooke to the Airport and get her on her way, then we'll fly back to Hilo."

Ramona went upstairs and took her shower, got dressed, and packed another bag to go with the one that she had left at the Mahaulu's in Hilo.

When it was time to go, Roy drove them back to the airport. They stayed with Sister Cooke while she checked in and waited to board her plane. They watched as she ascended the stairs and disappeared into the plane. They even waited until the door was closed, just to make sure that she didn't attempt to sneak off the plane.

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According to the Church news, Elder Monson was in Hawaii for the Pearl Harbor Stake Conference on February 6th and 7th, 1965. His visit to the mission home is speculative.