

September 17, 1953

Jose & Perata
715 Latham Sq Bldg
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Perata:

I enclose a kodachrome duplicate of the picture I took of your wrecked automobile about six weeks ago.

As time goes on, I find it more difficult to recall the picture I had of events leading to this accident. From where we saw it, it was inexplicable: we did not see any physical contact between the truck and your car. One thing you told me gives me a clue, but you must know better how to judge it. You said that you put your car into second gear while you were braking to avoid the truck wheels. I wonder if such a downshift at high speed would not be likely to throw a Ford into a skid like the one you experienced. This does not settle the question whether the truck had already bumped you; as we could see nothing, one would have to rely on physical evidence.

I don't know how you feel about it now; I am not sure the truckdriver deserved a citation unless there is some evidence of illegal driving. We did not see any, whether because of the slight brow on that hill, I cannot say.

My wife and I do want to send our best wishes to Miss Jose and yourself and hope you are both far along to a complete recovery from your injuries.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg