N218309 W.O Hetherington R A.N.G.A.U Port Moresby Australia 28 – 11 – 44

Dear Madam,

[indented] Yesterday I received your Xmas greeting card. I find it hard to express how please and thankful I am to you for your very thoughtful gesture.

[indented] I'm eagerly awaiting the arrival of your parcel which is generous of you, seeing you are so far away from New Guinea.

[indented] I received those magazines you sent, in May last year. I tore off the wrapper portion on which was your address, intending to write and thank you for those interesting magazines, with which I had passed away many a pleasant hour. Unfortunately in the hurly burly I lost your address, so I was very pleased on receiving your card, which enables me to send long overdue thanks to you. [indented] I am arranging though our Military History Section to have forwarded to you our 1944 War book called "Jungle Warfare". It is supposed to contain the war efforts of the Aust [sic] Army during the past year.

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This book has not yet been published so I can't say how good it will be. Don't be alarmed if it does not reach you for quite some time as copies posted to people in Australia take three or four months, you should receive you copy about June next year.

Conditions have improved a good deal in New Guinea since the grim days of 1942. There is still a big job in front of us but we are optimistic that all will be finished by the end of next year.

I was lucky enough to get home for a months [sic] leave last June, I had then been here two years and it was a big thrill to see my parents and family.

My young [sic] brother is in the Air Force and he is somewhere in the Pacific but I have not seen him for quite some time.

Must say cheerio now all my best wishes to you and your husband for Xmas and 1945 and I sincerely hope that you are together for Xmas and in the near future for good, [indented] Your grateful friend,

Roderick Hetherington