

From No: VX140184  
Name: Pvt Smith A J  
Unit: H2. Coy. 24<sup>th</sup> AIB  
AIF Australia  
Date: 10/01/44

Dear Mrs Malval,

[indented] On Xmas eve, I received the A C F hamper, so kindly donated by you.

[indented] I was thrilled to bits [sic] to get one from an American. as [sic] most of the others were from Aussie [sic]. It is nice to know that you Americans think of us also, when we are far from our happy homes, putting up with hardships of the New Guinea jungles. As you can see by my number, I am Victorian. Before I joined the army, I was a farmer, and lived a hundred miles NE of  
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Melbourne. Since I was last home, My [sic] people have sold out and bought another near Benalla, so I have not seen my new home yet. I have been on the island almost twelve months and was in the push [sic], south of the Markham River.

[indented] I will draw to a close, thanking you for the hamper, and the kind regards for Christmas.

I hope that this year is a happy one for you and your family.

[indented] Cheerio, Jim.

P.S. Please excuse the pencil as nothing else is available.



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