

P.O. no. Michael Williams,

PMX 500223

Mess 11,

H.M.S. Hornet

of S.P.O.

30/12/43.

Dear Leslie, I haven't been able to cope with Christmas, cooped up here it was rather beyond me. I had my fun for today & a week previous. But thought of you and wondered what you were, what you were doing and was Claire by herself. I hope you were lucky to be together. This is the eve of my weekend, God willing. I always tremble until the last. Don't you? Peggy asks me to thank you for your card, she thought it very sweet of you. By the way and Claire ever got that book. The first edition was soon sold out but the second edition is ready now. There's also been a great delay over the reviews but so far so good. Christmas here was quite good if you could get down to it. Plenty of "Bifrats" but a little rowdy for my taste. The mess fare is a ten shilling

present each! We dined of chicken and
of course pudding with lots of rum in it.
By the way have you ever heard of "Hackers"?
There's a craze for it here, it makes date in
popularity. Oh kids! I found you were
playing when you were about ten years old! Would
like to see some of those.

George Pickles has gone. I don't know
where to. Do you remember Ferguson? Well
he came here with sister Mrs. on foreign
draft. A fellow has offered to take Fock's
place and want the poor fellow glad. There's
no other very news. News very busy.

There are some ships here that were
first used in the Crimean war. They have
been going strong lately but just now are
beginning to crack up! Bunell damaged the
engines.

What have you been doing lately.
Writing that book of yours or beating up
poets. And that awful crew of yours
have they got "Hackers" yet?

Before you Wood thought I would have
to root out your address. The room
here is getting pretty full. He don't like to

see too many news covers. That never
suffers well, January. Somebody, during
the festivities broke open the President's
draw and stole \$20. Laundry money. Don't
it seem when ever things are coming
running and folks are trusted. Somebody
always steals it. Now January the news
is locked up at 10.30 at night.

Tomorrow, on 1st day, hope like Hangman
board. all being well. We shall have our own
festivities then. We have a lodger now. A
red Irish setter! And doesn't she eat.
Well be thinking you both on New Years
Eve. Peggy James will join us in
wishing Claire and yourself "A Happy &
Lucky New Year" and may it release us
all. Goodnight, God bless you and take
care of yourself. My regards to Claire.
Yours sincerely
Mike.



P.O.M.M. hessie Westaway.

P/M x 500221.

M.T.B. 710.

Y. S. P. O.

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