

Mrs B. Poniewierski
39 Winston Road
Sheldon, QLD 4157
Australia
27 December 1994

Alec Bandeen
5 Jamie Nicol Court
Strichen
Aberdeenshire
Scotland AB43452

Dear Alec,

Terrribly sorry I missed sending you a Christmas card. One of the results of being a slave to a computer: I had somehow missed transferring your name and address to my computer file, and I wrote out my Christmas list from the computer file. But you seem to be travelling around so much I don't know when you will be home to receive this letter and card.

You seem to be doing splendidly for your age and pretty much enjoying life. My husband and I went to the United States and Canada for six weeks in September and October this year. In the first place, to visit his brother in Pittsburgh; they had not seen each other since winter 1939/40, so it was a fairly emotional reunion. Having taken the leap across the Pacific, we made the most of it and toured both the east and west coasts. (Grand Canyon, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Monument Valley; New York, Washington, Philadelphia, Boston, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto) We also met up with a cousin of mine in Reno, and some friends in Rochester. Quite a busy trip.

We arrived back in mid October, and things have been just so rushed since then. There was the edited manuscript of my next book waiting for me to approve and make alterations on the computer diskette, maps to draw and label and endnotes to verify. The publisher had indicated they wanted to have the book typeset by Christmas, so it was quite a rush. Well, Christmas has come and gone and it still has not been done, but it should be ready in a few weeks for indexing. (This is the book on Naval Intelligence; entitled The Intrigue Master.)

My husband has to go into hospital in January for an operation; repeat of one he had a few years ago, which the surgeon did not finish off well enough. When he is sufficiently well to look after himself, I shall be going again to Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne to pick up the last bits I need for my next book on Japanese espionage and subversion in Australia. In May I have to pay a quick visit to Sydney to give a talk at a Naval Historical Conference. (Just a few days after younger son is getting married, so that will be another rush job.)

I had a card and a note from Alaistair Templeton. He wrote that Otto Jürgensen had just about "lost his marbles".