

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

March 1987

Praise the Lord! We arrived safely in Ukarumpa on March 9th. Our trip went real well with only one problem which the Lord took care of in short order. At the Manila airport we were unexpectedly assessed a \$200 (US) overweight charge on our luggage and we didn't have the money to pay it. Of course they wouldn't let us board the plane until it was paid. Fortunately we met another Wycliffe missionary on her way to PNG and she was able to lend us the money.

It is real neat to be back! After all those months of studying, praying and wondering if we'd ever make it back, it seems hard to believe we're actually here. In spite of being glad to be here, I'm finding that I'm experiencing more "culture stress" than I expected. Housing on the center was booked full, so we are living temporarily in a 3-room duplex a mile from the center. The house has a cement floor and outdoor bathroom facilities (i.e. bucket shower). There is a 2 burner gas hot plate and a wood burning stove for an oven. The kettle serves as the hot water heater. I'm having plenty of opportunity to make *Piliplipians* 4/11 a reality in my life. "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content".

Another area in my life the Lord had to deal with was fear. Violent crimes against white people, especially women, have really increased. During the time that we were gone a friend of ours was shot and killed here. Through prayer and meditating on verses such as "God has not given us the spirit of fear", II Timothy 1:7 and also Psalms 91, I have been able to overcome this fear. PTL.

Bob and I are both helping out in the Finance Office until May 11th when we leave for a 3 month long Jungle training course in Madang. This course is extremely intensive in survival training. Please pray that we'll survive!

We have met several of our Papua New Guinea friends since we're back. When we tell them that we've returned to do Bible translation they are so happy. Tears come to their eyes as they express their appreciation to us that people care enough about their people to come here and give them God's word in their own language. This has been a real encouragement to us.

Please pray that God will supply the necessary funds to purchase a 4-wheel drive vehicle. A used 4-wheel drive diesel pick-up truck with a double cab in "fix-up" condition will cost between \$6,000 - \$9000 (Cdn). So far we have \$1000 in our truck fund. Please let us know if you or anyone that you know would like to get involved in this project.

I'm sorry it took so long till we wrote. I always have a hard time getting started in a new situation, but I do get better. I hope you haven't been too lonely. Thanks so much for letting us stay at your house those last few days. We love you.

Yours in Christ,

*Verna for the Stutzmans*

Wycliffe Bible Translators  
Box 3068, Station B  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2M 4L6, CANADA

Wycliffe Bible Translators  
Huntington Beach, CA  
92647 USA