1- Jan 16, Sat- We left Miami 36th street airport in a swell C-54 at 8:30. We were soon out to sea but the last light on shore was visible for a long time so as to give us a long last look at the states. The moon is out merely and with a few wispy clouds make a beautiful sight. Landed at Boringuan field Puerto Rico about midnight for gas. The field was expecting a crash landing so were out in number.

2- Jan. 17, ~~Mon~~ Sun - Landed at George town British Guinia about 7:30 A.M. Very hot and while the crew was making repairs on the ship it started to rain, and what a rain, rather a torrent and very hot so it was rather uncomfortable so we were glad to take M. Barracks at the field were set upon poles some ten feet above ground to keep away from moisture. Arrived in Natal Brazil about 1700, further repairs were necessary so we layed over for the night. Three Air Transportation Wings for ten months.

3- Jan. 18, ~~Tue~~ Mon - Visited Natal, not much of a place, dirty squalid with a very nauseating odor. Bought a pair of hand made boots for 900 Milreas (B4.50) size 41. The town was not too large so we visited the market place, the tops for filth and also many shops and the water

front. How people can live in such filth is beyond me. But as time goes on I see that they are not the only ones who live like that. The language is of course new but I did pick up no dinero (no money). Small kids run around with nickels dimes and quarters and as the pay scale is about 35¢ per day they are really rich. They bring around anything that we might buy, small monkeys, canaries, bows and leather work. That night as we took off we found that Graves one of the passengers had visited the wonder Bar so major Carole read us a "confidential" letter on sex hygene

4 Jan 19, Tue - Broke through the overcast and hit Ascention Island about 7:30 G.C.T. (3:30 EWT). The field and coral rock is pretty good. Nice climate but not much in the way of life. Back up into the overcast and arrived in Accra about 15:00. Not a bad spot. Saw a show "Youth takes a fling" in an outdoor movie with Ack-Ack practice overhead. Rooming with a Captain Bond for a stay and a couple Frenchmen

5 Jan 20, Wed - Went shopping on the post with Major McKellen a typical Southerner in his shorts, not a bad post. Spent most of the day teaching the French man American Slang. This fellow has escaped occupied France in a plane and was a pilot trying to get in the American army. The other fellow was a radio operator. Got our going orders this evening.

6 Jan 21, Thurs - The Boy came aboard 4:30 and we finally got Mail 5:00

Too much fog to get a look at Africa but we can think and guess what it might be. The passenger list has changed somewhat, Col Martin is still along. The life has left with the old bunch, Major McKellar and Major Carroll have been left behind. Some crew on ship as we had to Natal. Weather cleared some but still nothing to see but woods. Borrowed Mimmos jacket and slept on some cargo in the middle of the ship. Arrived at Maiduguri, Nigeria about 13:00 Rented horses and looked over the town, ad down by the native boudore. We didn't actually ride to town but some fellows who did said they had some real schools, Eng, geography & grants to 12 year olds. Soon was very tired of horses especially in one spot so we returned to camp and visited the market set up there. A lot of junk for which there were the usual buyers. Ran into Walk from 42-I at Decatur, we saw a movie, very very reel but interesting. Took off about 21:30, the moon out nicely so back to the Boles for some sleep.

7 Jan 22 Fri - Arrived in Khartoum Anglo Egyptian Sudan about 4:30 just at sunrise. The field was dam hard to see, just cement block at the runways ends. Our usual luck and engine trouble so we didn't get off again. Took a walk down to see the nile, the water is low now but shows where it has been pleanty high at times. Got beds on a roof of a very picturesque spot, with a large patio in the middle.

8 Jan 23 Sat - Up at 3:30 again, was a pretty rough night, wind velocity by. 5 Lockheed Lodestar DC-3, the old ship wouldn't make it. Cold still along. By sun up we

swimming. The medics gave me aspirin to gargle with. Visited McKay again this evg.

20 Feb 4 Thurs - Warm today, throat still sore went to Doc 3 times read & wrote Marge.

21 Feb 5, Fri - Went to NAAFI at Jobuka, visited old Jerry field with plenty of useful stuff. Stopped at an English officers shop & got a bed roll & sleeping bag visited the town, what a mess, thoroughly bombed out, but by the looks there wasn't much to start with. Found an Ammo dump & got some Sugar ammo. Shot the Bull with the Ack-Ack gunners.

22 Feb 6 Sat - a bit cooler and cloudy, my sleeping arrangements was too warm for good sleeping. Throat still sore. Wrote Sibby, Bob and Mariana. Borrowed a Jerry pistol & did some shooting with Bob Kennedy. APO change today.

23 Feb 7 Sun - It was party night last night on Pale parade, a wild was had by all the fellows got Johnson - Saggart Foyle up and really got them mad a lot of shooting there but no hurt. Wrote Sibby & Mom. McCarty, McKay, Pibbles & I went to visit some Celtic caves. Took a wog bath in a steel helmet. If anyone had ever said I would take a bath in a steelhelmet would still it was hardly a bath but feel a bit clean. Throat a bit better.

24 Feb 8 Mon - Throat really well, washed & wrote Jimmy Borrowed a pistol & did some more shooting. Still have plenty of ammo but still no gen, would like to get a Jap.

25 Feb 9 Tues - Throat OK, wandered around the rocky wasts of camp today, got

packed to move tomorrow, got my baggage packed, visited McKay tonight.

26 Feb 10, Wed - 6 pearly and almost got on the road by Highfield, Lee, & Lyon had troubles so was a bit delayed. Can't on this leg of journey looks much better, more vegitation such. A Big pass near Derna but very beautiful, grass & shrubs for change. Stopped at side Cirene for the night. Had fresh eggs this evening.

27 Feb 11 Thur - Windy & cooler today. Crossed a lot of county, another steep pass but nearly as beautiful. County looks a lot like the Rocky Mountains, sandy pine rugged hills and a lot of rocks. Just got set up for the night outside Benghazi and it rained cats & dogs for quite a while. Had some fresh tomatos. "George", Col Hogan's dog got loose & we had to run him down, found him in a big campaign the road.

28 Feb 12 Fri - Had to sweat out orders so we were late getting started. Roads are getting rougher and not so pretty as the past few days. Set up camp in a flower patch outside Aggedabia. The usual moisture necessary for movement of the 8th was present.

29 Feb 13 Sat - Some fellow woke us up this morning running around yelling "Get up good damn it" over & over. Covered quite a bit of county today, passed under Mussolini's own Marble Arch, a small arch out in the middle of nowhere. Set up camp near by. George was full of life today.

30 Feb 14 Sun - The usual day's travel with nothing much happening until we had set up camp for the evening south of Bir Rat. Mines, Albert & Myself had a walk and a bit of shooting and found a Cyclist Bomb cracked in the salt flats, nearby was the pilots grave, A/F/Sgt G. B. Gibbins Jr. plus ASN dated Jan 14, 1943 only a month ago.

31 Feb 15 Mon - Rough road then a decent track with plenty of dust, arrived at Damaugh L.C. at about 15:30, Silop in not too bad a spot

32 Feb 16 Tue - Took a bath, S/Sgt RAC Ennis moved in today, a wild red head and crazy. A mobil P.X. pulled in today so I got some stuff. We are now about 209 miles from the front. Party night tonight, I had one cup of "purple passion" (Lapejuice, grapefruitjuice, sugar water & gin) rough stuff, the party got too wild for me and I checked out Buffum my tent I moved still have it.

33 Feb 17 Wed - Today I got my first leg pull since Pinellas Dec 26. 45 min in 75, certainly felt funny. Washed out the tent and wrote more suggestions some writing & reading material.

34 Feb 18 Thur - Today I got 1:30 in 90, some formation, flying especially hard's not so hot. Sgt. Turner put in flights today pretty good Ennis & I, mostly Ennis today a slit trench today, Burg that there is another out there is a lot of the same being dug. Doc Magness gave a lecture on gun shot wounds. After the lecture the fellows were talking about what they would do when they got home. Scotty Rogers was going to feed his hands Bully Beef and see how long

they lasted. Habits gets a lot of changing around here the urge of nature doesn't call for a trip somewhere, stop where one is. It is shocking that in no time a bit of water will completely disappear. By night the wind that had been blowing all day died down and the moon came out bright as day. A swell night for a ferry but I have my shit French dog.

35 Feb 19 Fri – Flew 1:00 in 80, some more formation. Still not so hot at it, glad it is only practice and if it had'nt I sure would have got my butt shot up. Made my first real dust storm landing, made it OK, a bit rough. Dust blew all day so you could hardly see from one tent to another so I sat in the mess hall & censored mail. Doc lectured on venereages tonight. Mail from Mrs. Reynolds and Mom. Looks as tho I might get some mail after all. When I got back to the tent every thing had a thick coating of dust, really funny looking.

36 Feb 20 Sat – Rode into Misurata with Albert & Gibbons after water. Slightly bad up from the war but could be worse. Did see a few women, the desert is rough on a person I guess for they could have been a lot worse. Missed a hot shower in town but maybe next time. Nearly got lost on way back in the desert.

37 Feb 21 Sun – Dusty again today so no flying. Took another bath and washed some clothing. Wing commander Jackey Darwin of RAF gave us a talk on ferry tactics and how to fight them. Hope I am never as bad off as he seems to be, smoking cigarette one after another and as nervous as a cat. He appears to have had it and has seen

charge Bopeaties spoke, and a very interesting talk it was. The boys had a practice
escort job with 12th Bomb. Wandered around the field and looked over some beat up Italian
Jerry ships. The C. I. is again today. Got paged in a lot B.M.A. money, a bunch
Baksheesh full of the stuff. Generator didn't work so the lights in the hut didn't work.
Jerry visited Tripoli tonight a good show, the Ack Ack got 2 ships.

47 March 3 Wed - Major Grogan gave us a talk on Aerial gunnery a few good points.
Road in a 12 Bomb ship (89) on another practice escort job. Both was forced down but
OK got back with a few repairs. Owen & Ennis got their F/O appointments effective Dec 20.
Received a letter from Mel Trotter & an Xmas card from Service Men's Committee. Lights working tonight.

48 March 4 Thurs - Got an English helmet & got it ready for service. Helped clean mail
for awhile. Some more shadow gunnery in 81 for 1:10 with Bud Hemmi. P.P. gunnery
fellows got some formations for club. Answered yesterdays mail. Cleaned my pistol

49 March 5 Fri - More shadow gunnery for 1:15 in 90. Pittard hit a Stirling on
the field at take off but no one was hurt. Mail from Marge, Rose and A/C Ray Baxter
answered all of them. More gunnery in 93 for 1:15. Club is now quite a place

50 March 6 Sat Had my teeth checked for dental identification 17 fillings, 15 teeth out
of 28. 1:50 minutes in 75 for some formation & shuffling. Party night tonight. got
up about 3 times with the dogs barking. George really raised a change and really
raised the roof. 86th Pursuit out to the club.

51 March 7 Sun. Letter from Jan. Went down with McKay 12th Bomb & got money order

but no luck Owen & Ennis went to town & got a stove. Jerry visited Impoli tonight.

52 March 8 Mon - Met by with British S-2, mail for Bill & Jane and answered Jane. Jerry paged on the visit tonight.

53 March 9 Tue - a hot dusty day. Early this morn a Whipp crashed up by Gp. Ops but no one was hurt I guess. Mail for Jane & Rose Ann.

54 March 10 Wed - Washed some clothes, went to town this PM and did some windows shopping. Some girls from a traveling show were here and a lot of the fellows went to the show this evening. Jasnicki got back today. Received a letter from Montana.

55 March 11 Thur - Packed a box & stuff to leave with "B" Bags. Got money orders ($378.43) and sent them home. Sent some questions about an dependency for mom to answer. Got packed ready to move. Jerry gave a good show on Impoli tonight. Red and I had to put Owen to bed tonight.

56 March 12 Fri. Got up too early for sensible people and on the road at 4:30 perched on top Capps truck. At the first stop I got in the front of Sgt Parks truck. Camped for the night not far from destination. Slept with Bane Cristo Johnas, Pittard and Pinkham. Had a heated discussion on post-war problems.

57 March 13 Sat got a late start but arrived about noon at Causeway L. 6. got set up. Planes got bogged in when they landed on field which was a salt flat and the crust was none too solid. Quite a tent full now, Pittard, Ennis, Jasbon

Baronoli, Hindley + myself. all day + night we could hear the rumble of gun from the front. we were told of the show starting tomorrow so everyone was solemn this evening.

58 March 14 Sun - Hit the jackpot today, received 15 letts from 7 different girls. wow, answered Ginny + Marianna. also received mail from Rose Ann + Elaine Reynolds Marge, Jan, Boots, Bob, Gene Momann + a Xmas card from Millard + Vera. Boys went on final show, a bomber escort to Marth line. Hoffman into Sitz + Cleared his tail Pt. Everyone got back safe after a lot of sweating by us at the ground crew. Field is new so we don't want Jerry to get a radar fix on us so we fly low, but not Bietrich who circles at 6,000.

59 March 15 Mon - The Ides of March at hand. The Boys had a fighter bomber show but all fucked up. 2 ships got pranged nosing up on the soft mush. Everyone moved out of the tent today, Pitt left nea stove to keep warm with. Red Cross has moved in with the cooks. a lot of aerial traffic tonight, 4 flares were dropped SW of here.

60 March 16, Tue - Wrote Marge, Jan, Jane. Windom and visited the radar station near the field a very interesting set up. The boys brought in a ME 109G they picked up near Tanjis. a recce ship.

61 March 17, Wed - Took a bath + worked on the 109, ran it up with the Bodish pump and without, rough but has possabilities.

62 March 18 Thur - 2 years in the army today.

63 March 19 Fri – The wind blew in from the sea last night and a small tidal wave covered the Ack Ack Boys on the edge of the field. They were really soaked & had to move to higher ground. My tent about blew down so I moved in with Adair & Jerry. Their tent is in a deep gully so it is out of the wind & safe from bombing. Several alarms today but no raids. Worked on the 109

64 March 20 Sat – Got ready to move again Red, Jamichi & myself are going back to Castel Benito. A Spit Recce came in today, prop had gone out, the ship was well covered with oil. Banegas was a talk on the big offensive starting tonight. The boys had two bomber escort jobs today. Mail from Mom Rose & Jimmy. Tonight the big guns opened up for the drive on Mareth line, we could see the flashes and hear the roar of the guns.

65 March 21 Sun – About 4:00 there was an explosion near by caused by some bombs dropped but I heard no ship overhead and the explosion nearly threw me out of bed. Got my baggage together and took off in 92 a 1:05 hop back to Castel Benito. The 85th lost a ship and there was a lot of flying so the show is well on the way. Got a tent in with Jombie.

66 March 22 Mon – Went into town to get Highfield & Wrench to go back to Causeway Rode the motorcycle back in the rain. A whimpy burned on the field this morning. Ran into Johnnie Rudolph today, he is in 315 Service Sq. He had helped save the pilot on the ship. We had quite a chat. Hennin came in the tent. Heff made

a crash landing in a ship well shot upon a mission. Got shot up by 3 ME 109's
3, Cal. 30 and a cannon shot. Tonight in the tent we were talking about what
in all seriousness he said "You know, I think they were trying to kill me".
67 March 23 Tue - Took a shuttle Huff slip + worked on the motorcycle.
Red. Jamichi & myself went through the mail and I got mail from Marge Jan + the "club"
answered Jan.
68 March 24 Wed - Wrote Ginny mom + Rose. Went to town & got a noon and
took a look at the town. Stayed at RAF club. Left laundry took bath + shave.
69 March 25 Thur - Ferried a ship 585 to the 57th. a 50 min hop, hung
around the 65th and saw a few of the boys and came back in a British Bombay.
went into a show in Castel Benito with Johnnie. Rained + blew a
fellow Imdat Cairo
70 March 26 Fri - Had a meeting today and the 316 boys are going to their outfit
and we stay + fly. Had mail, with one from Monica Fleharty, came in today
with a flight of ships.
71 March 27 Sat - Wrote Marge + Mom. Owen + McDonald brought some ships back
for exchange as they were badly shot up. Got some M e parts. Dust blowing up.
72 March 28 Sun - Very dusty, went out + talked with Canuck crew from Algiers
St. Sara Sagan. Shot the bull + listened to the radio. Letter from Marianna. Rained this eve
73 March 29 Mon - Canuck pilot had trouble, sat around Stab tent + talked, Got

Holster arrived

74 March 30 Tue - Had some ships about ready to test hop but not quite.
Went down to the line & shot the bull with anyone who would shoot. Saw Hunsaker
& Hadnot. Wrote Marianna & Ann.

75 March 31 Wed - Made the convoy run in 799 for 2:30, Cameray.
57th & 12th Bomb at Cl Assa. Mail from Libby & mom.

76 April 1 Thur - Went to town & got some junk & laundry.

77 April 2 Fri - Cleaned up and not much happened today.

78 April 3. Sat - Convoy again today, got stuck at 79th but no damage,
threse & 57th but had to get laid at Cl Assa. another 2:30 hop in pretty bad
weather. Saw a fellow out of 316th that was in 59th when I was.

79 April 4 Sun - Washed some clothes & took a bath, Ted hopped a ship & got
:35 Saw Maudie

80 April 5 Mon - Two test hops today 25 min in one and 20 min in a K1.
Flew the K1 up to 57th, had a flight up and landed at the wrong field, logged
1:15 road back in a DC-3

81 April 6 Tue - Convoy again today 79th, 57th & 12th Bomb a 3:15 hop.
Haven't had mail for several days but today from Jan, mom - Libby Marianna & Rose

82 April 7 Wed - 20 min test hop with a few raunchy slow rolls. Slow time
a ship up to 79th for a 1:05 hop. Kelly stayed up & Ed Byron came back in the DC

> Byron moved in the tent. St. Abbott stayed with us this evening as he was on his way to the outfit. Had been shot down + injured on his first mission.

83 April 8 Thurs - Sandy sunny was part of days job, ferried a ship to 57th for a 1:20 hop, road Back on the DC

84 April 9 Fri Back on the common today 2:30 to the same old spot hardened into Lupoli but did no good. wrote Mon + Jan.

85 April 10 Sat - Had to go to Gabes on the common run today, 2:35 a/c mail from Marge

86 April 11 Sun - Went down to fly and had a pain in my side so I thought it best to go on and see Doc if I had a bad appendix but he said no so I must be OK. mail from Marge again. Saw a Abbott & Costello show at Castel Benito tonight.

87 April 12 Mon - Two test hops today :30 in one + :10 in the other, the latter was a slow timing job but wheels wouldn't come up so I came back in.

88 April 13 Tue - Comin again today. 2:30 and not the old tractor to fly. the same trip as Sat. Jerry visited Lupoli tonight the first since we got back.

89 April 14 Wed - Took a bath & washed some things Wrote Bill, Marge, Libby and Mamma. Alby had some beer for me but I wasn't here to get it so we looked and for that I got a good ribbing. Burns came in a night landing, almost had the Ach Ach after him.

90 April 15 Thurs - a .30 minute job on the old tractor but she sprung a glycol leak. Layed around most of the day.

91 April 16, Fri - Comin again today, 4:00 trip now to Ol Ogem Sfax + Gabes a long time out 6:30 from the time I left the field.

92 April 17 Sat - Went to Tripoli today and wandered around, McCarthy, Burns + McCook came in today. Saw a couple american nurses in Tripoli today, a bit rugged looking but still American

93 April 18 Sun - Hopped a DC-3 at 8:00 for the 79th who is now at La Foronine but they were on their way out when we got there so the DC pilot was persuaded to go on to Kairouan where the outfit is. This afternoon I visited the second most holy city to the Mohammida. Went in the sacred walled city but not much there but filth. Saw some very pretty French women. For dinner we had the fish steaks I had eaten since I left Miami.

94 April 19 Mon - moved in with Owen, Ennis, Jamichi. Yost + Jamichi came in on DC today. Movie tonight, "Remember Pearl Harbor" Baron was at 57th when Jerry machine a Bombing + strafing visit Sitifan Hill.

95 April 20 Tue - Sitifan Race, wrote mom Rose Hill. Dug a slit trench and propely broke in a new helmet by wearing in it.

96 April 21 Wed - Flew some formation in Y62 for .50. about time I showed be getting some ops. what if time has gone by and I still haven't got a mission. I certainly am not eager but I want to get started.

97 April 22 Thur - Steak again today. Went travelling around today some

monstere, Moanings Bandyjine, Moaken and saw some of the dirtiest
joints I could imagin people living in. Chester Janicki was out shooting
shadowgunnery and hit a wing, cartwheeled along a asalt lake. He must
have had it bad as I don't see how a fellow could live through it. This ought to
have a tent mate killed like that. He was so eager to get a crack at Jerry
but he never got a chance. Night at Castel Benito he used to keep talking
about it and Yus would say "Put me in coach".

98 April 23 Fri - Glasgow hit prop wash and did a snap roll on the
approach, completely demolished the plane, prop tore up the ship, the
engine thrust the rear of the ship and the tail broken at the radio compartment
But he came out without a scratch. What luck.

99 April 24 Sat - Got Janicki's stuff to supply and things to be sent
home. Ran into Orlandi who was with me in the 59th so we went around the
fellows in the 315th looking up old cronies. Grew my mustache up as a Bond
job today.

100 April 25 Sun - Easter sunday but no Easter Parade, but quite a few eggs for
Jerry. A:45 hop in 86, Formation + dog fight with Dube, pretty rusty by the looks
of things. Went to church tonight and partook of Holy Communion. first time in my life for
me, guess I have always skipped out before I note for.

101 April 26 Mon - First ops mission today, 1:35 in 71. a fucked up mission

but got through. Tyson + I got back from rest Formation. It was a Bomber escort job. a lot of Ack Ack which is fascinating to say the least. Jerrys on the ground are intent to kill. Target was a L.G. at Soliman. Couldn't see the results for I was too busy. Letter from Jan Marianna and Marge. Wrote Jane.

102 April 27 Tue - mail from Mom, Marge and Aunt Ora. Wrote Mom + Marian + Marg. Went to an ammo dump at Marignan and scrounged around. Sent some laundry don't know how long it will take but it is fun.

103 April 28 Wed - Censored mail and finally a Dive Bombing show in 86 for 1:20. Target was a ship off cape Bon first time I have dropped 500 lb bomb in fact first time I ever dropped a bomb, it hit short of the target. Lot of bad weather but no C/a's The fellows got an order today to turn in all motorcycles, makes them very unhappy.

104 April 29 Thur - Windy and damned hot today, Ran into Sgt Webb one of the boys I knew in the 59th at the 316 also saw an show "XC Romance". It was old but just as welcome as a jail release.

105 April 30 Fri - Two missions today 1:30 dive bombing show in 71. Target was a destroyer in Bay of Tunis, a lot of Ack Ack but was not hit. The second show in 72 for , radio was out so I had to turn back before we got to Hegfla The Boys definately got a destroyer on this show, I think hits. Payed this evening 7521 francs, payed Bar bill. Cut my hand on one of my 3 Bottle Beer ration. Mail Marge Jane mom + Bill answered the last two Lot things started for more dependency.

106 May 1 Sat - Windy all day, went to Group to a show but was called off.
so we all returned unhappy

107 may 2 Sun - Supposed to have an early show but postponed until
late, 1:45 Dive Bomber show in 71 when it did happen The same
old num. Took a wed shower at the water point, sure felt swell

108 may 3 Mon - Windy and hot again today

109 May 4 Tue - Cooler today letter from Marianna and answered the one I
recvd from Jan. a D.B. show called off. "The Fleet's In" showed so I was
there

110 may 5 Wed - a 1:40 Dive Bomber Escort in 96. Saw my first E/A's
today. They were real on, two Me 109's, no one could whip around in time
to get a shot for they were going down and headed for home, They came so close that
I could make out the white band with the black cross on it. Another Dive Bomber
Escort this afternoon 1:20 in 70 same old meat num, around Cape Bonard
down into Tunis Bay. There was a large sea plane near a ship we bombed and
we expected some comm but no luck. Got the plan of Battle for the coming drive.

111 May 6 Thurs - Rec letter from Marge The boys got a decoy on the last
show, blew it sky high. Saw "Yank at Club Boys" this evening. The allies are
only 9 miles from Tunis, should make it by morning.

112 May 7 Fri - Another Dive Bomber Escort show in 81 for 1:40.

Yol a bit behind the show and threw the needle in it and she showed signs
Iquitting faithful services, had a good sweat job getting back but made it
OK. Had an electrical short in 76 so I couldn't get off on another show,
about my birds. Mail from Ginny, Jan, Margie & Bob. Rain this evening and
the mud is like cement. Wrote Mom, Jan & Marianne & Bob.

113 May 8 Sat - Rain and mud stopped an early show. Wrote Ginny.
a Dive Bomber Escort of 1:40 in 91, not much happened, crossed
the Cape several times and had a lot of Ack Ack pumped up. A
second show but this was Bombing in 74 for 1:30, saw a couple
ME's But couldn't do any good. To George Lee alone. Saw a show
"7 Sinners" this evening, old but entertainment.

114 May 9 Sun - Sent a $100 money order. Had a 1:25 Dive Bomber
Escort show in 71. I had no radio but when we got back the boys
said there were E/A around but I didn't see any. The same old mess
run with a few changes, some got quite a bit of Ack Ack.

115 May 10 Mon - Had a Bomber Escort of 17 Bostons to Pantelleria,
we dubbed it Black Top Island because of the solid layer of Ack Ack
above it. Jogged 1:45 in 72. This evening Capt Eddie Rickenbacker
came in in a DC-3. He gave a short talk to the fellows as Gp. H
there was a fellow living on Borrowed Time he is him. Looks a bit

older than I had expected but after all he is not young and has been through a lot. No mail for several days showed be piling up. Got a English Scummi helmet and fixed it up for service. 3 bottle beer rather today

116 May 11 Tue. One mission in 76 for 1:35, flew Col Bate wing. Dive Bombed strafe job. The Bomb line moved out of Tunisia today and the only thing left is a little local mopping up north of Enfidaville mail from Jimmy, Party night tonight.

117 May 12 Wed - Had a life raft put on my chute. Jerry resistance finally gave up. There was a celebration this evening, firing of flares, pistols, hand grenades, machine guns a regular fourth of July. Wrote Jimmy, felt a bit rough after last nights party.

118 May 13 Thur - The scrounges started today, brought in a bunch of cars from where the front had been. Saw the "Invisable Agent" this evening.

119 May 14 Fri - Was sicker than hell last night, one of those old bilious attacks. Was planning on going scavenging today but didn't much feel like it. Went into Kairouan in Jacobs Jerry Jep played a little Tennis on a court in town. Fellows came back with more cars and tales of adventure among the surrendering Jerries. Felt better this evening.

120 May 15 Sat - Went out today with Tombit + Pittard. Found what was left of a Jerry work shop East of Nabuel. Found a Jerry camp north of Korba just as Jerry + His had moved out. Jerry really wrecks things but the Itis are not so bad. Got a Jerp put together. Had a whole truck load of motorcycles. Supposed to go to a dance in Monastir tonight but didn't make it Back in time.

121 May 16 Sun - Got home about 2 AM and off again this morning. went to a truck park north of Grombalia and Back to the work shop. Between Nabuel + Korba we were side swiped by a Iti truck driven by an Iti Prisoner of war. T/Sgt Ralph Morgan was thrown clear of the truck and received a compound fracture of the right elbow. Thank God a British Major + Lt. Col of the medics came along and they took over + fixed him up. Pulled an engine on a American Jerp Jerry had captured for our Engeneering Jerp. Got a couple Iti cars + a truck. Also a pranged English Jerp.

122 May 17 Mon - Same sun but in hopes of getting another Jerp South of Grombalia but no luck, some one had beat us. Found a truck Back for some 316 fellows and got Back early. Letter from Libby.

123 May 18 Tue - Ihave about had this scrounging so I took a sight seeing trip in 90 for 1:20. Just up around the cape and Tunis

beautiful country the mountains and such.

124 May 19 Wed - Shipping patrol show in 94 for 1:40 rec'd mail find the destroyer Bulpriked up one mine layer a rather sweeper and covered the gras the 1:30 show. Rain so things are muddy and cool. Recv'd + answered a letter from Mom.

125 May 20 Thur - Got a letter from Dora and answered. Wrote up an accident report on Morgan. Prayed up soon.

126 May 21 Fri - Another escort today in 94 for 1:55, a quiet job of escorting a convoy. The last show had a night landing and Scotty Rogers ~~hit~~ hit a gas barrel and his ship caught on fire. Old 77 really lived up to her name "Canned Head" Scotty received second degree burns of face neck + hands. Could be much worse.

127 May 22 Sat - Letter from Margie Mariana. Stood for an Escort mission in 86 but belly tank was out so I got only 25 min but Commander sent me back flight back. Funeral services for families were held today, we could not get him out of the ship as soon POW care and did. A very good funeral. Sara retake of "a night in the tropics" but it was good again.

128 May 23 Sun - Hot today, worked on a box for a/c locker. Am old Y.I.'s pants in M/Sgt Bill Jardines tent tonight. Letter for Phil Kotteky

129 May 24 Mon - Pinkham and I left in "Shim" Jeep for Cape Bon. Sun was bolard a stiff wind, wet around the Cape and stayed ab Tunis tonight. Got a room at the "Capitol Hotel", not too bad no water a light but a pretty fair bed. Took a look at the town isn't much but has possabilities. Saw Tinan and some other fellows I knew from the 33rd. Many beautiful girls but if you don't speak French it does you absolutely no good.

130 May 25 Tue - Went up to Carthage, had a flat on the way. Engaged a guide and saw the ancient ruins. Worked on the Jeep a bit and started back for camp after chow. George Lee came along with us on the trip back through Tagaun, had a flat between Enfidaville & Kairouan. A French fellow was going to fix it but gave up, so we finally got some American Engineers to lend us a wheel. So we made it back. Got a letter from 337th Sq about baggage & Pinkham heard from Cochran than it was at Kelo 13. Warhorse B.

131 May 26 Wed - Under the weather with the G.I.'s today, tent broke down & had to be fixed. Mail from Libby, Ann & Bill.

132 May 27 Thurs - This evening I started doctoring the G.I.'s so I feel some better now. Saw a hunting, shooting wild animal film "Tombatoes". Club got a refrigerator.

133 May 28 Fri - Yola 3 day pass and planned to go to Constantine but delayed. mail from Rose + Marianna. Raoul Legasontle was back from Tours. Fellas made some fudge in the club today, oh Boy.

134 May 29 Sat - Left about 9:15 in 99 for Constantine, took about an 1:00 hour. Tyson pranged his ship. Yola bed in RAF rest camp, wandered around town, ate at Casino and went to show this evening. A beautiful town built on the side of a deep ravine that is deep. Some beautiful gals here also.

135 May 30 Sun - We got a room at Grande hotel and moved in. Visited Red cross office club. Capt Ryan of the 86 borrowed the plane and went to see about moving rumor. Aw, Joy and the Baron got back from Algiers. "Ty" did all night at the nurses home I hear.

136 May 31 Mon - Flew Back with Joy and Baron for 1:15. Pleasty hot Back here but I enjoyed my 3 day pass. Got ready to move and got paycd $1/58. Jerry visited Sousse but only dropped flares.

137 June 1 Tue - Flew up with 86th, 1:00 in 47 (Dannie Mayer) on Ewing's wing. A long time since I flew with him, not since Pinellas. Not a bad spot named El Haouria, right on the end of Cape Bon.

138 June 2 Wed - Scrounged around, visited on the merchant ship

who had damaged just N shore. Built a raft to get out in, mooched around all day.

139 June 3 Thu - Went scavenging with Ennis & Tallmadge this PM.

140 June 4 Fri - Went over to 59th to see some of the boys today. The outfit has really changed, not many of the old fellows still there. Owen flew a plane over so I picked him up. Mail from Mom - Flora Marge & Bob. A 2 hr alert this evening but no dice.

141 June 5 Sat - Wrote Mom - Flora & Bob.

142 June 6 Sun - Mail from Ginny & Jan & Virginia Clark. Bomber escort in 81 for 1:00, nothing of event on the usual trip to Pantelleria Had a rough time getting back on the ground, must be getting rusty.

143 June 7, Mon - 2 hr alert this morning but the usual setting around only. Escort show in 93, 1:05. Started to show one thrilling night "but Jerry scared it out. Seen it before anyway.

144 June 8 Tue - Went out on the boat today saw a good Ack Ack show, must have been a Jerry destroyer, got away. Was Lt. Spanier a 16 ship show but didn't take N.

145 June 9 Wed - Two umbrella shows over Pantelleria the first a 1:30 in 81 and the second 1:30 in 72, nearly to Sicily but no dice. When we were landing we heard some one get jumped, guess we must

have stirred up the fighters.

146 June 10 Thur - another umbrella job over Pantelleria, 1:25 in 91. The usual RA trip. Went to Kairouan to 338 Sqdn Gp + picked up a ship, .45 XC coming Back. The fellows had a field day today, about 15 all fighters, it was a good show with a P-40 jumping a ME 109 and Macchi 202's for a change. Lt. McArthur was shot down but the fellows stayed out until he was picked up by a duck.

147 June 11, Fri - Same runs as before for 1:05 in 70 But this Time a Bomber Escort. A lot of naval activity but nothing else, even the Ack Ack has died out, guess they have moved out. Wrote Jerry + Virgie Clark mail for Marianna & Rose. Another bomber escort job to Lampedusia for 2:00 in 94, along haul but buckaboos. Pantellina finally gave in. Margot back with a fun story of the Hdstrayed and a damage.

148 June 12, Sat - Stood alert today but per usual nothing happened. Saw "The Hard Way" at the 65th.

149 June 13, Sun - Mops today, a few pilots went to Alexandria on leave. Wrote Marianna and went to Church at the Officers Club this evening, got packed to move again.

150 June 14, Mon - Moved out in 83, 2:00 to Bou Grara. Adush
bowl so Duke waited ships to be moved to Causeway. Took off on
and the engine developed a notion of not running. Managed to get
around to approach before she cut out. The left wheel hit down
wind of a bunch of camel grass and loose the gear loose. I went
skating along on the belly tank (150 gal jet full). Got a wing tip
and a flap but no prop. Not a bad way to loose my chevy, the
first ship I ever cracked up or damaged. Took off to Causeway
for 30. Drove to Tripoli with Knisch, Lee + Hennin. Got stuck in the
salt flats between Tarjis + Ben Gardene but finally after much labor got out.
151 June 15, Tue - Hit Tripoli about 4:00 and slept on a bench in
the lobby of the RAF club. There was a paratroop scare as we came
along the road. Finally got a room and a Hot Bath. Visited P.X +
Offices shop. A raid tonight noisy but no damage as I can see.
152 June 16 Wed - Went out to 4th Field Hospital to see Scotty,
brought him back to town + a show. Think the Bed bugs clobbered
me last night.
153 June 17, Thur - Left canada Y. 1. garage when Fitzgerald hops
to sell it, hopped a DC and came back to Causeway. Not a bad
camp spot. Mail from Mom, marge Bill + Ernie. Got my box I had

left in Tripoli.

154 June 18 Fri - Bought some clothing at QM. Bite are still bad, went swimming.

155 June 19 Sat - Read as ever wrote Mom, Bill & Ernie. "Sky Blazers" a bunch of G. I.'s put on a very good show. Music + com. a change well welcomed.

156 June 20, Sun - The usual guiel day

157 June 21. Mon - Went to the beach and did something, received a couple letts from Marge, wrote Marge + Rose. Double featured Yp. tonight "Pride of the Yankees" and Arsenic and old Lace". Both damned good. Some American nurses were here for a week field hospital, american women at last but it does us G/I's a little good.

158 June 22 Tue - Mail for Jan Libby + Marge, wrote Jan.

159 June 23 Wed - Showed 5?th "Kings Row", heavy & v good.

160 June 24 Thur - Saw demonstration of radio direction station, a handy little device, should have had it in the desert. Took X-ray, Wasserman & urinalysis for 64 at 4th field Hospital at Tarjis. Forge brought back my watch & pictures.

161 June 25 Fri 6 hr trip to alex, got room at Red Cross officers club

went to dance at the club, met a gal named Jackie. First time I have ever been to Alex, the most modern town around here. The club is on the waterfront and the waves put one to sleep.

162 June 26, Sat - Went to Sporting Club, swam and ate ice cream. This club is the most civilized place in town. Saw the races. Went to a dance at Hyde Park Place this evening.

163 June 27, Sun - Back to the Sporting Club, sailing this afternoon on a Red Cross expidition and the Metropole at night, handly a Sunday night pastime but I dooed it.

164 June 28 Mon - The usual day at the Club, a dance at the club this evening, met a WRNS who could speak understandable English. Seems she had lived in the state.

165 June 29 Tue - Swam at Sidi Bisch Beach this afternoon and another dance at Hyde Park Plane this evening but not as nice a dance as the last one.

166 June 30, Wed - Sporting club again, a date with Rose Mary a WRNS I met at the dance. Had a date and went to see a play, "French in Love" and then a show "Twin Beds".

167 July 1, Thur - The DC were were supposed to pull out in was clapped out, so we didn't make it so Back to the Sporting Club.

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and to see Bea Lillie and Vivian Leigh in "Springtime". Went to see "Something to Shout About" afterward.

168 July 2, Fri - Finally got Ltr in the DC a long & very hot trip. Got payed and sent the whole wad home P.T.A. Plenty of mail, Jinny Mariana, Rose Bill & Bob. Was on night patrol in Jarjis to see all soldiers were out. Took a swim about 10:30 that was swell.

169 July 3, Sat - Wrote Mom and Jinny, mail from Mariana and H papers. The first I have received. "Sabotage" was showing at 55th, went swimming twice today.

170 July 4, Sun - Hot still and flys are Bothering like hell, enough to run a fellow Ltr his beam. Set in the beach swimming and eating watermelons. Shot Ltr some flares to celebrate 4th of July. Wrote Mom Bill & Mariama.

171 July 5, Mon - Hot again so Ltr to the beach, wrote Phil & Libby.

172 July 6, Tue - Not a bit cooler today. A U.S.O. show moved in today. Gen. Beaton was here and gave out D.F.C.'s but of the Squadron "Goose" Goosich was the only present. Thogas put on a very good show this evening.

173 July 7, Wed - Hot so we went swimming, party night tonight so we all got pranged proper.

174 Took 78 to Ol Havana to the 324 Gp. a DC was supposed to pick us up but no soap it beat us out. "Pittsburg" was the movie so tho I had seen it before I went again, slept in the E.M. Club.

175 July 9, Fri - Sweated out another day, some fellows got Purple "L"s and 3 in a fairchild. A beautiful cold comming on so we stag at the 314th again tonight.

176 July 10, Sat - The 324 covered the Sicily invasion so we sweated them out, they had a rough time with the Allied navy Ack Ack, Got a DC back. Mail from Marge Dora + Bill. Cold pretty rugged another paper. To bed early to sleep off this cold, my ears seem affected someway. Guess I should'n't have flown Back.

177 July 11, Sun - Cold a bit better but still feel pretty rugged. Wrote Dora

178 July 12, Mon - Wrote Ginny, got a telegram from Jane, some more papers. Went to see "affair of Margaret" pretty good but wasn't in much a mood to enjoy it. Wrote Jane.

179 July 13, Tue - Wrote Bill + Ann. Cold some better.

180 July 14 Wed - Read, didn't feel a whale of a lot better but did some tall sleeping. A card and a letter from Jane as well as some papers. The fellows are sweating out Smiling Jack to see if he gets married to that stuff.

181 July 15 Thurs - Got some chocolate Mom sent me yesterday but it wasn't much to speak about.

182 July 16, Fri - A band of English fellows came around with a musical show and it wasn't too bad.

183 July 17 Sat - Show, double feature this evening, "To The Shores of Tripoli" and "Private Buckaroo" at the 85th.

184 July 18 Sun - The last Wasserman I had taken spoiled in the heat before it was tested so I had a retake taken today. Another show "Street of Chance" tonight.

185 July 19, Mon - Col. McAlester of 9th Fighter Command was around today and gave out Air Mens Metal, dated June 20, pleanty cold, Lt. Charlie Lowndes was up in his ship "Cobbler Clipper" today and spun in, got to the ship shortly after it hit, but there was nothing left but small burning pieces. Mail from Ginny, Rose + Nell.

186 July 20 Tue - Supposed to hope DC to Kairouan but it didn't show up. Wrote Ginny + Rose, Recived 5 papers. This morning Col. Bates inspected the place. Cold still not too hot.

187 July 21, Wed - About 15:00 got DC to Kairouan and took 929 to El Aouina L.G. at Tunis, 45 min. Went to Tunis and saw a few of the Boys, Rapuzzi one. Stayed at field tonight. The place is well

bombed out, no windows and few servicable buildings. Across the road is a lot about two blocks square full of pranged Jerry + Iti planes, some mess.

188 July 22 Thur - About 13:00 got a DC to Tripoli. Saw Johnnie Rudolph and went to show "They got me covered" at the fort, staged at Hotel Deginh.

189 July 23 Fri - Took eye test for my 64 this morning and went to Tripoli this PM, Haircut shave + shampoo also some ice cream of the sort like frozen water. Saw U.S.O. show at 315 Sems Gp. rotation changed

190 July 24 Sat - Back to the field via DC about 9:00. mail from Mom + Marge, Wrote Mon Ginny + Marge. Had with a good old fashoned dust storm this PM.

191 July 25 Sun - Went after watermelons, also to hospital to see about my plugged up ear. "B" party moved out.

192 July 26 Mon - Mail from Jan - marianna + Marge. Packed and moved opel in 70, a 2:00 trip to Cassilibile L.G. Sicily. Set up in the open under a mosquito bar under a tree. a beautiful spot, an olive orchard with green trees and grass and red dirt not sand.

193 July 27 Tue - Jerry visited Syracuse this morning, the harbor is only

6 miles away so we had a good seat to a beautiful Ack Ack show.
This evening Jerry came back and dropped a cluster of flares which
appeared to be right on the field, it was as light day and we expected
him to pay a personal visit. Wrote Jan + Mamma.

194 July 28, Wed - Went to see Doc Hoff man about my ears, he has grounded
me. About 11:00 a lone ME 109 came over after a Dive Bomb run on
Syracuse and strafed us, did little damage but really put people
strafe conscious. I see everyone is packing a rifle or a Tommy gun. He
came back a second time but did no damage, B Paty moved in and said
they had seen a strafing 109 shot down so he probably got it. Duke was
going to send me Back to Causeway but changed his mind.

195 July 29, Thurs - Went to Nots this AM + had some ice cream, people seem
friendly enough tho quite amazed at the whole thing. Picked up a sword and
Stiff flag at Avola. Raid last night with the usual shooting. Ear not
much better.

196 July 30, Fri - Got packed again and Ace Adair and I set off in a
Jeep for our new field. Saw very beautiful country, very hilly and rough.
Can't see how anyone ever got a war thro' some of the spots we have
seen. Arrived at Palagonia L.G. and set up for the night. Nice sod field I
guess, not finished as yet but soon. It is in a valley which eventually

ends up at Catania. It is strictly mud farmers around here in the valley with a town of Mineo on a hill to the east.

197 July 31 Sat - English Engineers finished field and "B" party and planes arrived

198 August 1, Sun - Started operating, field is very dusty but usually a fair breeze. Carabill Bad, wrote Jinny + Nell.

199 August 2, Mon - The bail I got while at Casibile is much better today, took a hot shower at a place set up by British

200 August 3, Tue - Went to Mineo with laundry, people seem quite friendly but go wild at the sight of us. I am so mean I would like to see them eat themselves sick. "Red" Pittard got hit by Ack Ack over Messina Straits and hit the silk, probably a P.O.W. Today was rough, Ace Adair baled out over our line, but not back yet, Frank Huff is missing the most of the days shows were shrapnel and a lot of damaged planes. Pilots rough day. Papa also mail from Jinny + Nell.

201 August 4, Wed - Doc Hoffman finally decided to let me get hospitalized for ears not too wild about it but maybe it is best. Went Caltagerone, Ace came hobbling back, not too much the worse for wear.

202 August 5 Thu - Doc decided to try packing in my nose instead of going to hospital. Some of the fellows went to Catania today as it fell

Yesterday. "Stage Door Canteen" was showing at the squadron. Mail from Virginia Clark & Libby.

203 August 6, Fri – Went to Catania today. The town has about had it, very few people on the street in fact the town looks almost deserted but for a few Limies. Found a swell house we hope to use as a club, it is fancy and expensive. The boys bombed a couple "F" boats & a destroyer.

204 August 7, Sat – another "F" boat this AM. Went to Catania with Col Bates so see and make legal arangements for the place. Steak today. Mail from Bill & Phil, wrote Jinny & Libby.

205 August 8, Sun – Took a 30 minute test hop in 78 to check ears. They seem pretty good now. Wrote Bill, Shadow, Cagg & Virginia Clark. Show this evening "Pierre of the Planes", mail from Rose Ann Mamma, Jackie & Mom.

206 August 9 Mon – Answered mon. Mamma & Ann, Still having my nose worked on, not a whole lot better. Doc says my nose is too small and when it clears up with a cold, I have had it.

207 August 10 Tue – Party night tonight.

208 August 11 Wed – Took DC from 57th to Pantelleria then to Causeway. The island is a lot more peaceful than the last time I was over. It seems to be a very nice place with a large modern hanger underground. It shows at the doors where the P-38's ship bombed the place, unfortunately

no permanent damage done. Took a P-40L (006) to Castel Benito, .40.
Had Johnnie Rudolph take me to 4th Field for another Wasserman or Kahn
as the Army gives now.

209 August 12 ~~Thurs~~ - Flew back to Causeway, and met with Capt Say,
Ilr Pace + Bolarde to Cape Bon, refuled and made a total hop of 3:00 back
here to Palagonia. Settle from Millard & Vera.

210 August 13, ~~Sat~~ - Friday the 13th and a rough day, Got jumped
and got H destroyed and 1 damage. Hennin is missing and Wadi
wounded in the arm from a 20mm shell that got in the cockpit. Hennin
was last seen going through a cloud East of Milazzo.

211 August 14 Sat - Back on the job for a 1.20 show in 76. Dive
Bombing Messina harbor, it was a live Bombing show. "Big Guy" was
on the show and it stunk. Wrote Millard & Vera.

212 August 15 Sun - Early morning show in 76 for 1:35, Dive Bombing
shipping + Rebel Ferries in the Straits of Messina, "Dive Straits" we have re
named them because of the most intense + accurate AckAck we have ever
hit, even beat Pantelleria. Another 1:25 show in 83, Dive Bombing in the
same place.

213 August 16 Mon - Another Dive Bombing show, 1:45 in 71 and back to the
Straits for another run. Things are getting pretty active there, looks like Jerry

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is packing out, about time. Tonight we moved into the House on the hill, named the Skeeter Club, The house is owned by a Baron who hasn't used it for about 11 years or so. It is pretty nice, kept clean by the caretaker and his wife. I have taken up residence on the roof but there are many bedrooms.

214 August 17 Tue - 1:50 in 77 another Dive Bombing show one sore shipping near Palmi Italy. Got paper ready for commission. Show this evening "Skeeter Knew the Bride". a wild party at the house tonight.

215 August 18 Wed - Awaked but no show.

216 August 19 Thu - Mail from Ginny, Mom, Marianna, Libby, Phil, Bob Italy + Boots also some papers. Wrote Ginny, Mom + Marianna.

217 August 20 Fri - Mops today so pleasant & leisure. ##

218 August 21 Sat - Got commission papers ready for Gpagain, more darned red tape. A paper + a letter for Rose, wrote Bob, Boots + Phil. went down to see Ted Byron on Specht's Motorcycle.

219 August 22 Sun - Wrote Rose, an alert today but no soap.

220 August 23 mon - Helped Tonbie + Baron put a phone line between ops + the house, a lot of trouble getting it to work but did finally in time for the first rain since the day we got here.

221 August 24 Tue - Rec'd + answered mail from mom + marianna.

222 August 25 Wed - Phone went out so we went on the whole length, about 3 miles and found a length near main road cut out. Showed some cavidias around the P-40. mail from Ginny, Mary & Jane.

223 August 26 Thur - wrote the answers to yesterdays mail and fixed the phone again, looks as tho someone were doing us dirt, the line was cut out just under the bridge across the main road.

224 August 27 Fri - Went with Col. Bates, Sh Jah Chamberlain & Rocky Blair to visit the H.M.S. Uranga (almost correct name). Took a Cooks Tour of the two, pleasty big, pleasty AckAck, rather not dive on that ship. Got a pretty good buzz on & the British Officers seem to get a pleasure out of getting "Yanks" prangued. Showed at the squadron tonight, "Major & the Minor", still as good as the first time I saw it.

225 August 28 Sat - nearly a show today but got rained out fix. Bud Henning got back with some rum, scotch & champ. 85th has a DW 190, a pretty nice looking ship. Party night tonight but I didn't partake.

226 August 29 Sun - Rained cats & dogs today and my bed got a bit damp. mail from Mom & Marge.

227 August 30 Mon - Boys had a show but didn't make it as usual. "Blondie's Budget" & Forgotten Women" were showing tonight at the field. Around yesterdays mail.

228 Aug 31 Tue - Today was one of absolute inactivity.

229 Sept 1, Wed - Wrote & received a letter from Ginny, & G.I. vaudeville show at the 85 tonight.

230 Sept 2 Thur - Ranked out 2 another show, never will get home at this rate. one of the new fellows "Lt. W. Mc. Simmons" I sch'd patent on the hill to be a bit drier. Doughnuts & coffee were served by some female representatives of Red Cross. 1st class. Capt. Bong gave us plans & battle for "Avalanch"

231 Sept 3, Fri - An early 2:10 show in 71 to Tello L. G. at Corniglia Italy, Avalanch going swell. On our way up we could see where the Commandos had hit at the toe of Italy, looks like a real hot spot. Mail for Mary & Bill, "Sun Valley Serinade" was the current showing attraction.

232 Sept 4, Sat - Today was one that came a good case of R.A. They are making wine in the winery under the house, or rather have been for several days so the is a rotten odor of something about, after seeing the job done I have lost all taste for Vines.

233 Sept 5 Sun - "Born to dance", corny but entertainment at least.

234 Sept 6, Mon - Joe that works here has told us that the natives think there are ferries in the hills near here. Ed Talmadge

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Some Group boys and myself head out for them. After a lot of climbing around slinking up to houses & such we find that the "Jerries" are only 3 Limie soldiers that have gone over the hill. Well we tryed to get excitement, but I have had this ground war.

Wrote Jinny

235 Sept 7 Fri - Took some pants to supply for salvage.

236 Sept 8 Wed - Got a B-25 and left for Malta. Got a penthouse room at the Metropole. Malta appears to be a quite nice place, all rock & plenty of beach. Went to dance at Rocky Vale, guess everyone on the island dances.

237 Sept 9 Thurs - Walked around, visited Valetta and an old fort there. Plenty of hills & also see around this island. A small ferry from Selema to Valetta. Dance this evening at Melita Tennis Court which can be seen from our front door. The court is small, many girls and also many English fellows as well as Maltese.

238 Sept 10 Fri - another day of walking around, late this afternoon the Italian fleet put in its appearance just off-shore of where we are living. A splendid sight, those fellows have tryed to get here a long time but doubt if they ever planned it this way. Dance this evening and got the R.A.

239 Sept 11 Sat - Did some shopping. Took a ride around the island with some RAF fellows and had tea at an Arab camp.

240 Sept 12 Sun - Had a hell of a fever last night, nearly froze to death. Really feel

rough today, may be Sandfly fever or Malaria. The harbor is full of the
ships of war. Went to the dance per usual tonight

241 Sept 13, Mon - Another rough night, good thing we are leaving today,
sure don't want to get stuck in one of these Lima hospitals. Got inside
back in row of B:25. a lot of mail. Doc looked me over and sent
me to hospital.

242 Sept 14, Tue - Another rough night, this morning I felt pretty weak, no
appitite, just layed around. Zombie + Butch were in tonight. "Goose" Gosich.
Jess Jorg, Ken Miller, Barbus Anderson + Baron Bersinati were supposed
to leave today for states, hope they got No.

243 Sept 15 Wed - Felt better today, shaved, Duke + Doc were around. Wrote Mom

244 Sept 16 Thur - Dressed this PM, felt quite a bit better, outfit has finally
moved to Italy.

245 Sept 17 Fri - Layed around

246 Sept 18 Sat - Same old story today.

247 Sept 19 Sun - Wrote Jinny, Bill, Phil. The Hospital isn't too bad,
when I first got here I had a nurse Betty Bergan, a chubby pleasant gal,
and probably the best looking this hospital has to offer. Now I have Miss A Rocko,
not much to look at but can give a swell back rub. The hospital is a tent
with about 20 or so beds, a ward boy + assistant and a nurse for day. at night

one attendant and a night nurse for all wards I guess.

248 Sept 20 Mon - A week today I got here, went to show this evening, "Bachelor Mother", machine broke down so we only saw part of it.

249 Sept 21 Tue - Took a walk this morning, pretty rough, saw the rest of the show this evening

250 Sept 22 Wed - Discharged today, this afternoon we got an Ambulance and made a vain attempt to find 12th ASC but ended up sleeping at 3245.8.. at Catania. Not a bad spot, pretty good bunks. Saw "Divine Lady" at 306 Sanitation movie.

251 Sept 23 Thur - We'll down to line to await our DC. Ran into 1st Lt. Sam Logan whom I had met at Castel Benito. He was going to Bari with gas and offered to drop us off on the way back. We circled Crotone L.G. where the outfit was supposed to be but no one home, stopped at 57th and found the 79th had moved to Firma L.G. Sam brought us back to Catania and bunked out at the same spot.

252 Sept 24 Fri - We'll better get back today, got another DC to Bari and he dropped us off at Firma L.G. just as 57th was moving out. Got on a Jeep with Boggie and some new fellows and made a very dusty trip to Pisticcia L.G. and got set up.

253 Sept 25 Sat - We lounged around today. Italy isn't much I see, of course this is the poorest part of the boot but the Italians can have it. Found an old

howe and looked around, got some sheets. Pinkham gave me some mail from Ginny, Mom, Marianna & Marge.

254 Sept 26 Sun - Went to Toranto today, 5 of us in a Jeep. Wandered around town just looking, not a whole lot to see but interesting. Tryed to eat at a restraunte but couldn't take the food so ended up eating Spam in the Jeep. Set up a tent to keep a bit dryer. A Champaign party this evening in the Culvert Club. under the road to camp.

255 Sept 27 Mon - "A" party pulled out this A.M. Fried chicken for supper, wrote Ginny & Marianna.

256 Sept 28 Tue - Washed some clothes & repacked. Wrote Marge, got mail late this evening from Ginny Bob & marianne. Very windy from the sea tonight.

257 Sept 29 Wed - Took a bath at the well this morning, a little rain today

258 Sept 30 Thur - Packed and flew 76 to new L.G. in Foggia region called L.G. Penny Post, logged .45 Set up.

259 Oct 1, Fri - Very damp [illegible] night, this morning I went to Cignolini and looked around. The town looks like all the rest. Saw a few quite nice looking girls, this Italy may not be so bad after all. Came back and flew a 120 Dive Bomb show in 88 Target was dive bombing & strafing in Campobasso area, was in Top cover & didn't see much. On the way down Capt. Nielson was hit and forced to bail

ont. Set up a Bibbie tank which is much warmer and drier.

260 Oct 2 Sat - Finally got rest of Baggage today. Flew a 1:30 strafing mission in 87. Caught four trucks on a bend in the road and let them have a long burst. When I rolled out of the pass I was headed up a hill along a road. Caught a Jerry headed up the hill on a motorcycle going like hell, gave him a short burst and that was all. Late flew a 1:40 Dive Bomber escort in 87, target was a airfield at Pescara, but fell short and Bombed a harbor at Ortona. Plenty of rain today, so we set up a EPIP tent and 6 of us moved in.

261 Oct 3 Sun - Censored some mail for Engeneering and flew a 1:35 strafing show in 77, went after the L. C. at Pescara again but I didn't get a shot. 2 V mail letters from Libby. Had a Champaign party tonight and got a Jar edgeon.

262 Oct 4 Mon - Did some visiting at the 85 + 86. Did some photo shooting in Bennie DC. Party night tonight At no thanks.

263 Oct 5 Tue - Early morning strafing mission in 78 for 1:20. Also a Stip up in the World today for I led an element. Late in the show we found a locomotive headed for the front, ran gunnery pattern on it until we had let all the steam out of the Boiler and

it rose to quite a height. Sat another strapping show in 78 for
1:35 in the same area NW of Isernia. Got two flames and a
bunch of damages on some trucks on a hill. Developed some photos
in the DC.

264 Oct 6 Wed - Armed recce about 7. 45 in 88. Hit some very
bad weather and had to turn back. Sat a show in 86 for 1:10
for Dive Bomber Escort, weather again so we had to come back.
Mail from Lu Tabor and Jacky.

265 Oct 7 Thu - Bad day so we went to Town got a hair cut and
shave. Orders came for fellows to go to rest camp and probably home.
Had a wild farwell party in the tent.

266 Oct 8 Fri - The fellows haven't left as yet because of some
orders. I may have Lt. Dziamba's ship 93, talked with McAvoy
one of the crew chiefs and he seems a swell fellow.

267 Oct 9 Sat - Packed and moved to Foggia #3, .15 in 74.
Had a rough time getting N Penny Post in the mud but finally on
the second try got N. a lot better spot and field, got set up and
cane the usual sprinkle. The 86 brought in their 1088, a classy
looking ship. Mail from Jimmy, Mont + Ross Ann.

268 Oct 10 Sun - We all down and marbeyed around 93's and its,

seems to have lost all its power. Went to Foggia and scrounged around. What hasn't been pranged has been well taken over by the English. And then was a swell job of clobbering done on the town. Put a wood floor made of pre fabricated Jerry barracks in the tent. Wrote Jinny + Lu.

269 Oct 11 Mon - Wrote Rose + Sibby. Boys in the tent got a car today, may prove none too healthy. The field has a swell sod and there are plenty of remains of JU88's and DO217's about that were strafed by P-38's

270 Oct 12 Tue - M.P.'s are hunting for the car. Armed Recce and patrol shows in 94 for 1:10. Had set on an alert and finally took off. Saw what was probably a Jerry about 10,000 feet above us but nothing happened.

271 Oct 13 Wed - Had a tooth X-ray taken but have to have a retake. Took laundry to Foggia, not the best looking spot but I have my fingers crossed. Boys got a stove for the tent but doesn't work too well. Got 3 months pay and am sending $1,400 home P.T.A.

272 Oct 14 Thu - Worked on the tent in an attempt to get it a bit warmer. Took Cummings to San Severo to get the Jits that own the

can they unsuccessfully requisitioned, Got a letter from Eggan
answered Jacky.

18 273 Oct 15 Fri - Had a 1:10 Cowl and Patol in 93, we were
to escort a couple destroyers and a captured tanker to Bari
18 but they beat us there.

274 Oct 16 Sat - a JU payed us a visit about 19:05 tonight
18 the usual snatches encountered by the fellows swinging
around and hitting the slitties but no damage done. The one
bomb dropped was at a convoy on the road but missed it.
18 Cummings & Owen were in the convoy at the time. Capt Nielson got
back today.

A. 275 Oct 17 Sun - Capt Nielson gave us a talk on his adventures
s this morning. Down 20 mi behind the line and how he managed
1 to make it back. Picked up laundry and went to Lucera and shuffled
18 around. Came back and the fellows had sids well upon the tent so
we nearly finished by night.

276 Oct 18 Mon - Two shows today, a Dive Bombing job in 93
18 for 55 min a close support job and a town Calle D'Ancaire
and the second a R.R. station west of Termoli 1:00 in 87.93
has finally had it. Just finished today, a letter from Bill.

277 Oct 19 Tue - Bane got back from Cairo today in Monty's DC with Ben, candy, peanuts + hats. Fred Boscodi left today in the V88 Bound for the good old U.S.A via Juni.

278 Oct 20 Wed Flew courier today to Naples, had to look up Col McAlester so I spent some time around town. Had a quick look at town which may be OK, not bad shape. 1:00 trip in 93. Mail from Mom and Ann. Some 99th fellows were at the E.M. club and really making that piano talk. The 99th pilots flew in today.

279 Oct 21 Thur - Sat around all day and played some Volley Ball mail from Ginny and the War Ballot Board, the latter was too late for any good. At Evening 7 the 65th was over and we went to the 86 to see the Boys. Wrote Mom + Ginny.

280 Oct 22 Fri - a Dive Bombing show for 1:05 in 90 target was some gun positions at Montenero near the Bomb line. Foot locker "B" bags arrived by DC, Sam Logan was along so spent all night. Saw "Kiss the Boys Goodby" at Group.

281 Oct 23 Sat - a Dive Bomb and strafe job in 77 for 1:00 same old stuff, target was Spineta Mail from Marge Phil + Marian and Marges sister. A new pilot named Peterman arrived today. There

was a whale of a P-38 shown at 57 this evening, quite a sight
all of those ships, the traffic pattern was even over our
field. Sure glad I am on the right ball club.
282 Oct 24 ~~Mon~~ - a 1:15 Dive Bombing show on a Bridge
Behind Jerry's lines west of Vasto, a good show but I missed
the bridge in 72. Had a cold so my ears are on the burn
after the 10,000 ft dive on the target. Doc Hoffman said there
were slight hemorages of both eardrums so until they get
better I am grounded. ~~Sdah~~ Wainwright another new pilot
arrived today also "S/Sgt "Smokey" Donahue, ops clerk got back
today.
283 Oct 25 Mon - Borowed a motorcycle and went visiting, had
another X-ray taken and visited the 64th. Received one barracks
bag stuff from the states, had been well looted of elec. razor,
toilet kit and billfold but there were warm OD's as well as a
lot of useless junk. Doc Fernbach says my teeth are OK so
again I am happy. Mail from Ginny Jan and Marianna
284 Oct 26 Tue - Wrote Mom, Ginny and Jan, doc says ears are
OK but had better sweat out cold.
285 Oct 27 Wed - Some fellows went on leave to Tunis with

Benny in the DC. Wrote Marge + her sister, also Gene + Marianne.
286 Oct 28 Thurs - We drove over to the Flack House at Amalphi with George Seeard S/Sgt Eckleberger. Wandered around town which wasn't much. The town is Built on the side of a hill and is very picturesque by the waterside. The shore line along here is nearly vertical and the roads are practicaly stuck on the cliffs. Stayed all night at the flack house
287 Oct 29 Fri - We picked up a car with a lot of smooth talking, a very nice convertable. Needed some fixing But soon had it going. Hit a lot of rain on the way Back as we had going over. Letter from Ginny when I got Back.
288 Oct 30 Sat - Weather cold and damp today.
289 Oct 31 Sun - Weather quite the same, not at all good for colds But will have to make the best of it. Saw "Star Spangled Rhythm", a damned good show.
290 Nov 1 Mon - Convoy to Naples again, 1:00 in 93. Had quite a job finding party as finally gave up. A whole lot of P-38's came in late this evening so we had some wild night landings. Some pleasty rough but made it OK. Put up some of the pilots for the night.

291 Nov 2 Tue - a 1:15 show in 87, Dive Bombed the docks
Cast of Pogiola. The 38's went on a Recon job to ME plus in
18 Austria. One B-17 landed here, waist gunner had been klobbered
by Ack Ack. They can have those Bombers. A wild night and
by the sounds of traffic there must be a night flying school nearby.
292 Nov 3 Wed -
18 Today's first show might have been something for on the way back
I had a free seat to a Dive Bombing show of about 50 FW190's
Some of the fellows really got some of that stuff but missed it. I was
18 too far away for any good. It was a 1:05 show in 77 Dive Bombing
a road junction South of Vasto. Once for 1:10 in 78. Mail from Mary
293 Nov 4 Thur - Plenty cold today, some more papers, wrote
Marge, Mananna + Phil. Worked on my Primus stove all day.
294 Nov 5 Fri - Bud Hamm left hoping it keep going until
18 he gets back to the stats.
295 Nov 6 Sat - A quiet day but a cold night.
296 Nov 7 Sun - 1:20 show in 74, Supposed to be a Dive
18 Bombing show but target was weathered in so we only dodged Ack Ack
Show was SNAFU, led a flight. Some of the fellows got the 8th army,
at least I am sure where mine went. Worked on a stove most of day.

297 Nov 8 Mon - 1:20 armed recce in 86, my 50th mission and picked up my first hole, that fellow shooting over Pescara is a pretty good shot. Colder than a mans biss Tonight, worked all day on a stove but doesn't put out too well, so sat around the club soaking up heat.

298 Nov 9 Tue - Stove works in a fashion but not much heat either inside or out, very windy.

299 Nov 10 Wed - Cold and raining today, put in an entirely new heating system which is a real stove out of the club. Mail from A.J. Hunting & Ginger and Virginia Clark. Party night Tonight with turkey sandwiches. Wings and this blue and gold Bar a year old today.

300 Nov 11 Thur - a 1:25 show in 92, supposed to be Dive Bombing but target was overcast and we missed it and ended up about 25 mi from Rome, close enough so we could see it, looks like another Wog town. Mail from the Kids, Ginger and Delta Service command about Baggage, there goes a barracks bag and a bed roll.

301 Nov 12 Fri - Sunny today and a bit warmer. Pinkham, Watkins Jaskowiak and Morrison left for home today Pinkie promised

to call Mom when he makes it. Show this evening, "You can't fool your wife" and "

302 Nov 13 Sat - Payed again today, plan to send another $400 home by PTA as soon as it is ready to go. Cumming got back today with Photos he had developed for me.

303 Nov 14 Sun - Got the PTA for $400 off today. Cpl Ford of Communications was killed today on a motorcycle while on his way to San Severo. Beck got pretty drunk tonight and we had a heck of a job getting him to Bed. Wrote the Kids.

304 Nov 15 Mon - Sweat out a show but weather kept most on the ground. Started work on a new runway for the field. Funeral held this PM for Ford, would have gone but this "almost" show prevented it. Wrote Virginia Clark.

305 Nov 16 Tue - A 1:45 strafing show in my new ship 82, also lead my first show. Found nothing in target area North of Psciaia - Popoli road. Plenty of Ack-Ack however, got another hole today, this time in the prop spinner. Peterman got hit and lost his oil but made it Back OK. Wrote Jimmy

306 Nov 17 Wed - Cold, dreary and damp day. The weather is really moving in Bad - Some DC fellows stayed overnight.

307 Nov 18 Thur - The rumor was around that Duke was leaving, but that was yesterday. In style true to him he packed up and finally let us in on the fact that he was leaving and he had left before we hardly known what was happening. Col Grogan also left today. Lt George Lee has taken over in Maj Vrieh's place, he has a big shoe to fill but can make it I guess. F/O Clinton "Butch" Owen is now Ops officer, hope he makes out OK. mail from Melvin Jane and Marge, answered Jane. Got Xmas cards from Orderly room, a bit corney but the best we have.

308 Nov 19 Fri - a 1:20 Dive Bomb show in 78, the target was overcast so we did no good. The weather is shitty stinko and probably will be for some time. "A" Party pulled out this morning for a new field near Termoli. Mail from Ginny, Mom, Boots, Marianna and Phil. Xmas packages are starting to arrive. Was honored (?) by Asst Ops. officer

309 Nov 20 Sat - Rained cats and dogs all day. Went to Foggia and took a good hot shower. I'll swear it was the best one I ever had. Mailed a few Xmas cards.

310 Nov 21 Sun - a early show in 95 for 1:20 Dive Bombing.

Target was some Big guns South West of Ortona. Returned and landed in the rain and spent most of the day raining. Xmas package from Mom.

311 Nov 22 Mon - a 1:05 Dive Bombing show in 82, Target was some gun emplacements South West of Ortona. Packed up and moved to a very muddy field East of Termoli 20 min. The runway is a metal strip job with ships parked nose to tail, some mess, But we were chased out of Foggia #3 or Salsola. Set up

312 Nov 23 Tue - Worked on the side walls of the tent while it rained off and on most of the day so it was not too pleasant to work in. The place is coved and damp with a great quantity of mud all around.

313 Nov 24 Wed - Packed to get ready to go to rest camp. No rain for a change so it has started to dry out. Cummings got Back from Bari

314 Nov 25 Thur - Ed Tallmadge, Ralph Specht, Wendell Simmons and myself left in Jeep. With plenty of cold rain we finally hit Campobasso. The roads this route are out so we have to return and continue trip via

Foggia. Stayed at a Canadian rest camp over night, a rough bunch of paty. men But a lot of fun.

315 Nov 26 Fri - a all days trip and a much better day than Yesturday, Cold But clear so the roads were dry. Finally got to Naples and stayed at a PBS hotel. Jerry visited town tonight a good long visit for an hour. Stayed in a, the PBS hotel, was a Old Folks Home.

316 Nov 27 Sat - Checked out of the old folks home and made necessary arangements to get to Capri. Ran into Col Snowden one of 79th Gp. and he invited us to his home for the night. Spechtand I went to Pompai for the look, not much, a lot of old rocks and what the people say was an old town. Strictly wog. Went to the show this evening "The Misterious Doctor" a English picture and not too bad.

317 Nov 28 Sun - Up early and caught the Boat to Capri, Meta couple nurses, Fannie and Ann. Got a room at the rest camp and with the girls and some other fellows had a pretty good time. The hotel is on a hill with a beautiful view, good food and a good bed. Today I am a man, twenty one years old, and don't feel a bit older than before.

something, should be nice and warm, possably too good.
325 Dec 6 - Mon - The sleeping sack was certainly too warm.
A very Bad day all day, so sat around and wrote letters
Xmas package from Florence Reynolds. Sworn in as a 2nd Shat Yp
today. Vr
326 Dec 7, Tue - Had a .30 show in 93, But had to turn Back
Because of coolant difficulties. The rest of the fellows followed suit
Because of Bad weather. Had the Dentish look over my teeth today
and clean them up a bit. Somehow I have picked up a beautiful
rash, itches slightly But don't know what it could be. Read
awhile this evening.
327 Dec 8, Wed - Busy 3 show day, 1st a 1:10 Pine bombing
show in 93, target was road in Orsogna, 2nd show was another
1:10 in 77 with the same target. 3rd was also a Dime Bomb show
@ 1:00 in 84. Target some machine gun positions near Villamagna
As usual no results noted on any shows.
328 Dec 9 Thur - Another 3 show day 1:10 Dime Bomb show in 93
target was the old spot at Orsogna. Second 1:15 in 93 on
some gun positions south of Ortona, the last was a 1:35
Pine Bomb on some gun positions near Jollo same old 93.

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Got slightly singed by the stove.

329 Dec 10 Fri - Only two shows today, 1:10 Dive bombing gun positions near Mignanico in 74 and a Dive Bomb 1:30 and strafe some MT and gun positions north of Filleto in 93 Feeling pretty tired so slept out the third show.