

Diary I
FROM DECEMBER 6, 1943 TO DECEMBER 31, 1944

RECEPTION CENTER – CO. A – BKS. 6
FT. BENJAMIN HARRISON, INDIANA
DEC. 6 – DEC. 11

416TH TRNG. GRP FLT. X-162 ST. MORITZ HOTEL
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA
DEC. 13 – MAR. 2

6TH GUNNERY SCHOOL SQUADRON
LAREDO ARMY AIR FIELD – TEXAS
MAR. 6 – MAY 9

2ND AIR FORCE REPLACEMENT CENTER
LINCOLN ARMY AIR FIELD – NEBR.
MAY 11 – 14 JUN 1 – 13

COMBAT CREW HDQ. CREW #6202
BIGGS FIELD, EL PASO, TEXAS

348TH A.A.F. B.U. – SQDN. S
WILL ROGERS FIELD – OKLA. CITY, OKLA.

COMBAT CREW CENTER
HUNTER FIELD – SAVANNAH, GA.

1102ND A.A.F. B.U. POAE CARIBBEAN DIVISION
MIAMI BEACH, FLA. FLORIDIAN HOTEL

A.P.O. 16842 C/O P.M. N.Y. N.Y.
KARACHI, INDIA – 46TH REPL. DEPOT

A.P.O. 690 24TH COMB. MAP. SQDN.
GUSHKARA, INDIA

SEPT. 28, 1943

Went to Camp Breckenridge today to take physical exam for the A.C.

OCT. 8

Reitz - Memorial game tonite at Bosse Field. Memorial won 45-7.

OCT. 28

Spent the day at the Armory taking exam for the Army.

NOV. 25

Thanksgiving Day game, Reitz – Bosse at Bosse Field. Reitz won 26 – 0.

DEC. 1

Got notice to report to Ft. Harrison for induction, on Dec. 6

DEC. 5

Rene & Bill had Mother & I over for supper tonite.
I took the midnite train for Indianapolis.

DEC. 6

Got in Indianapolis at seven, had til noon before having
to report to Camp. Took the oath and made
out insurance & allotments this afternoon.

DEC. 7

Took the general classification test this morning, made 129.
Was issued uniforms after dinner, sent my civilian
clothes home this afternoon. Saw some G.I. films tonite.

DEC. 8

Got shots, was classified and interviewed today. More films tonite.

DEC. 9

Had K.P. today, from four A.M. til six P.M.
It wasn't as bad as I had heard.

DEC. 10

Finished processing today, and ready to leave.

DEC. 11

Left at noon for Miami Beach. Went thru Cincinnati tonite.

DEC. 12

Stopped in Atlanta for a short time. Everybody out for P.T.

DEC 13

Got in M.B. at eight A.M. Went to the 416th T.G. St Moritz hotel.
My room is facing the ocean on the eighth floor.

DEC. 14

Had physical exam at Cadillac Garage today.

DEC. 15

Went to the drill field today. Had G.I. films in the hotel lobby tonite.

DEC. 18

More shots today, three at a time.

DEC. 20

Had P.T. on the beach today, after exercises, we got to swim
for awhile in the Atlantic.

DEC. 21

Had K.P. at Hoffmans Cafeteria.

DEC. 24

Went to Midnite service at the Flamingo Park Bandshell.

DEC. 25

Had church service at the Cameo theatre this morning.
Big Christmas party in the lobby this afternoon.
Five of us jumped the restriction tonite, and went
to the Cameo to see 'Flesh & Fantasy'

DEC. 26

Spent the afternoon on the beach. Restriction was lifted at six tonite,
went over on Lincoln Road and looked at the store windows.

DEC. 27

Took mental tests for Cadets today at the White House.

DEC. 28

This morning I took the physco-motor tests and was interviewed this afternoon.

DEC. 29

Drill field all day. Went to the Servicemens Pier tonite and saw 'Contact' show being broadcast over WKAT.

DEC. 31

Drill field again today. Went to 'Charlies Inn' tonite.

JAN. 1 1944

I wanted to go to the Orange Bowl game today, but had to go drill. The drill field used to be the Municipal golf course.

JAN. 2

Went to Church service at the Lincoln theatre. Called home this afternoon, talked to Rene. Played ball on the beach til supper.

JAN 3.

Drill field this morning. Went to the Villa Venice to find out my classification. I "washed out" as a cadet, and will go to gunnery school. Harry & Holt passed their exams O.K. and will go to a C.T.D. from here.

JAN. 4

Had lectures on the carbine this morning. Went to the range and fired the Thompson sub-machine gun for familiarization and the carbine for record. I scored 166 and qualified as a sharpshooter.

JAN. 5

Today was parade day at Flamingo Park. The 409 & 416 T.G. were reviewed by Col. Allen. This was a big day for me, marching in my first parade.

JAN. 6

Saw a movie at the Casino and got more shots today. Hubele & I went to the Cameo tonite, Randy Scott & Pat O'Brien in 'Bombardier'

JAN. 7

Drill field today. C.O.D. and lectures on Guard Duty. Got back to the hotel at 5:30, found out my flt. was on guard duty tonite and guard mount was at 5:45. Uniform was suntans, helmet liners and leggings. I was on the midnite til two shift at the New Yorker.

JAN. 8

Drill field all day today. Harry & I walked up Collins to the P.X. Got back to the hotel at nine. First time in bed that early since I was sick over a year ago.

JAN. 9

Hubele, Holt, Harry & I went to church at the Lincoln theatre. Called home again today, talked to Wm. this time. Walked down to Loomis Park this afternoon. Played minature golf on Collins Ave. tonite with H, H, & H.

JAN. 10

Drill field today, C.O.D. & lectures. Went to basketball games at M.B. Hi School gym tonite.

JAN. 11

On K.P. at O.G.S. mess no. 3. Ate too much pineapple & got sick. Fished for crabs in the canal this afternoon, but couldn't catch any.

JAN. 12

Parade again today. Went to 'Contact' broadcast tonite.
Rita Hayworth & Lt. Wm. Orr were the guest stars.
Orson Welles was too sick to come.

JAN. 13

Drill field today. Had C.O.D. and learned some new songs, 'Indians fight' and O.S.U. 'Across the Field'
Washed clothes in the bathtub tonite.

JAN. 14

Drill field. C.O.D. and more lectures. Hubele & I went to the Cameo and saw 'The Gangs All Here'-
Alice Faye & B. Goodman.

JAN. 15

Drill field again, signed the payroll this afternoon.
Harry & I walked down to the P.X. tonite.

JAN. 16

Went to the Community Church on Lincoln Road with Hubele. Played volleyball on the beach this afternoon.
Tonite I went to Dexters rink in Miami.
On the way back I put out a fire on the bus.

JAN. 17

Drew field equipment today, our flight is going on bivouac tomorrow at Opa-Locka, north of Miami.
Got everything ready and rolled my pack tonite.

JAN. 18

Left in trucks this morning for Opa-Locka. Harry & I pitched shelter halves together. Eating C rations out of mess kits & drinking chlorinated water.
Tomorrow is the "battle" between the 416 & 409.

JAN. 19

The mock "battle" lasted til afternoon when it was put in rout by snakes. Had two gas attacks, one by each side. Everyone was called out at midnite for a road march.
We marched up the road two miles and back again.

FINISHED TRAINING AND AWAITING SHIPMENT

FEB. 28

On detail at the Sands today. Ted Marimucci & I mopped the lobby, then went up the seventh floor and went to sleep.

FEB. 29

On detail at the Poincianna. Finished up this morning and spent the afternoon on the beach. Saw Ray Fox at the New Yorker tonite.

MAR. 1

On detail at the Georgian, heard the Breakfast Club.
Tonite, Ted & I saw 'Purple Heart' at the Lincoln.
It was a swell show.

MAR. 2

We leave this afternoon for gunnery school. Had early chow and went in trucks to Military Junction, in N. Miami to board the train. Finally talked the Sgt. in charge of our car into telling which school we were going too. It was Laredo, Texas.

MAR. 4

Still in Fla. this morning. Gained an hour in time. Was guard in the kitchen car tonite. Crossed the Fla.-Ala. line at four P.M. the Ala.-La. line sometime during the nite.

MAR. 5

Went thru New Orleans this morning. Crossed the Miss. from Baton Rouge on a ferry boat, at noon today. Crossed the Texas border at four this afternoon. Went thru Beaumont at six, and stopped in Houston at nine.

MAR. 6

Was guard on the kitchen car last nite. Got in Austin at eight this morning, passed thru San Antonio around noon. Arrived in Laredo at six P.M. The field is ten miles from the city of 35,000 Mexicans, and very few whites. Ate chow and were assigned to barracks in the 8th Squadron. We will stay in the sqdn. until an opening in the school sqdn. comes up. A lot of cadets are here now, so we'll have to wait for a while on them.

MAR. 7-22

Worked on various details.

MAR. 23

Went to a U.S.O. show at the base theatre tonite. Heard 'Silver Wings in the Moonlight' for the first time.

MAR. 24

Had lecture on the pressure chamber, and film on high altitude flying. Fired the pistol for record this afternoon. I scored 68 and qualified as a marksman. Had my picture taken tonite for the govt and for the Courier. Move to the 6th School Squadron Monday.

MAR. 25

Made a "flight" in the pressure chamber today. Went to 38,000 feet, and stayed for five minutes. I acted as guinea pig and didn't wear my mask. I lasted til 26,000 feet before passing out. Saw 'Tender Comrade' - D. Rogers at the post theatre tonite.

MAR. 26

Went to church this morning. Saw 'Purple Heart' this afternoon. Stayed in the barracks tonite and got ready to move tomorrow.

MAR. 27

Up at 4:30 this morning, start to school today. Learned some of the parts of the Cal. 50 Browning today. Moved over to the 6th Sqdn. this evening after school.

MAR. 29

Last nite it was awfully cold, everyone got up and put on their long underwear. The sqdn. is divided in the barracks, according to size. All the tall fellows are in my barracks, and will study the Martin upper turret.

MAR. 31

This afternoon, two hours on turrets and two on the skeet range. I broke 19 of 25 on my first round.

APR. 1

Stood my first G.I. inspection this morning. Went to school afterwards, had tests in aircraft rec + nomenclature of the Cal. 50. I did O.K. on both. Russell Combs, from Eville, and I went to the show at the post theatre tonite.

Met Paul Burks tonite, he is from Ft. Worth but doesn't blow about Texas like the others.

APR. 5

Went to tail turret class instead of Martin, this morning. Harmonized a Cal. 30 in the sighting class, and had a test in aircraft rec. this afternoon. Worked on the skeet range after school and made a dollar.

APR. 8

Made 84 on the weekly weapons test. Crossed the border into old Mexico tonite. Went to Maria Teresa's and saw Bertha that I've heard so much about. Began raining at nine, came back early.

APR. 9 EASTER SUNDAY

Went church this morning. I would have gone to Mexico again today, but I had no money with which to buy souvineirs.

APR. 17

Ground range today, fired from shotgun turret at birds from the high tower. Fired hand-held Cal. 30 this afternoon.

APR. 18

Fired skeet from the turret, and Cal. 30 from turrets today. Tonite, fired tracers from Cal. 30 turret guns.

APR. 19

Shot skeet from moving base and Cal. 50 hand holds today.

APR. 20

Shot skeet from the turret, and Cal. 50 turrets today.

APR. 21

Had malfunctions of Cal. 50, and harmonized Cal. 50 today.

APR. 23

Went to church this morning. Saw Sinatra in 'Higher & Higher' and 'Memphis Belle' this afternoon.

APR. 24

Took nomenclature & functions phase check, and went to the B-B range this morning. Took sighting and mounting of the gun adapter phase checks this afternoon. Saw J. Cagney in "The Frisco Kid" tonite.

APR. 25

Went up to the line this morning. Waited all day in the ready room, but I wasn't called to fly.

APR. 26

Had phase checks on the Cal. 50 all day today. Blindfield field strip in 10 min. blindfold detail strip in 60 minutes. On the malfunction check, I worked nine and got all right. Saw 'Buffalo Bill' tonite.

APR. 27

Flew a gunnery mission this afternoon. Fired my 400 rounds before I got sick. Slept it off while the others were firing. The pilot got music on the radio compass on the way back to the field.

APR. 29

Flew camera & splash today. Shot 50 foot of film, and fired 400 rounds of ammo. P-47s flew pursuit curves for the camera mission. Got sick on the splash again. Combs and I saw 'Woman of the Town' with Claire Trevor at the theatre.

APR. 30

Went to church this morning. Saw 'Jane Eyre' at the show in town this afternoon. Came back and played ball til we couldn't see anymore.

MAY 1

The entire camp was called out tonite, to go up on the line and tie the planes down. A windstorm was coming down from Eagle Pass.

MAY 2

Flew camera mission in a AT-18 today. Saw "Cowboy and the Senorita" at the post theatre tonite.

MAY 6

Flew camera & splash in a 24 today.

MAY 7

Flew a camera mission in a AT-18 today. Got my wings tonite.

MAY 8

Packed my clothes today, am ready to go.

MAY 9

Left Laredo today, bound for Lincoln. Nebr.

MAY 11

Arrived in Lincoln at 5 P.M. A capt. told us that we would get furlough! He had a time in getting us quiet after that.

MAY 14

Called us out at 4:30 A.M. told us to get ready to leave today. Were paid and got furlough papers this morning. Went to town and bought tickets, after dinner. Left Lincoln bound for Chicago, 600 of us on a special.

A.M. MAY 15

Arrived in Chicago at seven this morning. After breakfast, Combs and I got on the Flagler for E'ville. Left at nine and pulled in Evansville at two.

P.M. MAY 15 MON.

Mother was at the auxiliary meeting, so I went over and ate dinner with Rene. Judy came in after school, and we went back home to wait for Mother. She was really surprised to see me. Wm. came in about six, and we all had a regular reunion. Fergie and I went skating at the Agoga tonite. Afterwards, we walked up and down Main St. Stopped in at Nowl's and got something to eat. Had a swell time tonite.

MAY 16 TUE.

Went out to Plant II this morning, to see Jack McCurdy and the gang. Came in to the Shop and saw the bunch there. Met John Coker at the bank and we ate dinner at Woods, 4th & Main. Spent afternoon at home. Jack McCurdy & I went skating tonite at the Agoga.

MAY 17 WED.

Went out to the old "stomping grounds" today.
Saw Jim Mead & Mr. Fridy, went over to the bank for a while.
Sock and I went to the wrestling match tonite.

MAY 18 THUR.

Played cards at the firehouse this morning. Stayed
home this afternoon. Skated at the Agoga tonite.

MAY 19 FRI.

Stayed home all day today. Tried to get Mother to
go to the show this afternoon, but she wouldn't go.
We listened to the radio tonite, just like old times.

MAY 20 SAT.

Played cards at the Firehouse this morning. Painted
the porch swing this afternoon. Skated til nine tonite,
then went over to the Eagles. Stayed til midnite, took
Eloise home, and made it in by one thirty. I got a
few things straightened out, that had been bothering me
for a long time. She didn't like it, but it's a big relief to me.
From now on, I look before I leap.

MAY 21 SUN.

Slept too late to go to church. Took Judy skating at the
Agoga this afternoon. She got a big kick out of it.
We stopped in Nowls and got hamburgers on the
way home. Fergie & I and Max & Lennis went to Loews
tonite to see "The Sullivans." Max & Lennis went home
after the show, but Fergie decided that we would walk
up & down Main before we went home. Then I decided
we would have ice cream & hamburgers at Nowls
before we called it a day.

MAY 22 MON.

Played cards at Firehouse this morning. Painted the porch
floor and screens this afternoon. Hope I finish them before
Saturday. Stayed home tonite and Mother & I listened to the radio.

MAY 23 TUE.

Painted this morning and played cards this afternoon.
Went skating again tonite. Burdette Park opens Sunday,
that will be the only day I will be able to go.

MAY 24 WED.

Went to town this morning. Painted screens this afternoon.
Took Eloise to the wrestling match,
just to prove there's no hard feelings.

MAY 25 THUR.

Slept most of the morning. I believe I'll get all the screens
painted yet. Still have two days. Fergie & I and Tom
Barnett & his gal went to the carnival tonite. We took
in all of the rides, but they wouldn't go, so we all
went in to the motorcycle arena. Went out to
the Waterfall for something to eat, then came home.

MAY 26 FRI.

John Coker & I ate dinner at Nagles today. Had our pictures
taken in that Sportland on Main. I "goofed off" this afternoon
and slept instead of painting. Rene had Mother & I over for
supper tonite. It was wonderful. After supper, Wm. took
me to the Agoga and I skated a while. Then we went over

to the Shrine Mosque and played pool til eleven.
Going down Main, we saw Ginny. Took her home in the
car. That's when she made the crack about
"the old man being laid up with a broken cart."

MAY 27 SAT.

Finished the screens today, but I'd never made it if
Mr. Brame hadn't helped out. I called Virginia Unfried
this afternoon and we had a nice long talk. Haven't
talked to her since last summer at Burdette Park.

Took Eloise to 'Socks' picnic at Mesker Park.
Had a fair time. Left the park about eleven and went out
to the Rainbo Gardens and danced til one.
Bill Green brought me home in his Model T Ford.

MAY 28 SUN.

Bill Williams & I went to Sunday school this morning.
Fergie, Max & I went out to the Park this afternoon.

They went back to town at four, so I skated with
all the gals then. Skated from one til eleven.

Herb Kost had his car, so we started out. Stopped
at his house and got 3 gal. gas on the way in to town.

Rode up & down Main a while, went out to the
Waterfall for a bite to eat, took Ginny home,
then headed for home ourselves.

MAY 29 MON.

This is the last day. Put the screens up on the front
porch and packed my bag this morning. Fergie,

Max & I went out to the Park this afternoon but
didn't stay long. Fergie & I and Max & Tom went to
Loews tonite to see 'Follow The Boys.' Got home
at ten. Went over to say goodbye to Rene, Judy
& Mrs. Piper. Mother went to the station with me.

Train left at midnite for Chi.

MAY 30

Arrived in Chicago it time to see the Breakfast Club
at the Merchandise Mart. Ate breakfast at
Thompsons restaurant. Walked over to
State street and went thru the Palmer House.
Left for Lincoln at noon. Had a dirty trip, got in
at two A.M. then had to process for two hours.
Finally got to bed at 4:30 A.M.

MAY 31

Slept all morning. Processed til nine tonite.

JUNE 1

On a work detail today, cutting grass with a scythe.
When I finished, my hands were covered with blisters.

JUNE 2

Heard a talk on the Ploesti Refinery bombing, by
a S/Sgt. who was with the Eighth Air Force.

Paul Burns & I had our pictures taken this
afternoon, at the photo shop in the little P.X.

JUNE 4

Had a flight to 80,000 in the pressure chamber this
morning. Listened to a medical lecture, and took an
exam in the theatre. Saw 'Two Girls & A Sailor'
at the theatre tonite with Paul.

JUNE 5

Burks & I was in a detail to work at a warehouse this A.M. but we "goofed off." Lecture on Security of Military Info. this afternoon. Got K.P. on for tonite.

JUNE 6-12

Worked on various details.

JUNE 13

Met the other fellows on the crew I was assigned too. Leave today, for Biggs field at El Paso, Texas, at six P.M.

JUNE 15

Arrived at Biggs this A.M. at seven. Were given an orientation talk by the C.O. of the Combat Crews. Assigned to the barracks according to crews. Had the afternoon off.

JUNE 17

Had turret sighting and machine gun phase check this A.M. Went to the range for malf. this afternoon.

JUNE 18

Went to church this morning. Loafed around the Service Club & pool this afternoon.

JUNE 19

Our crew processed this A.M. Got shots, physical, clothes & records checked, and drew our flying clothes.

JUNE 20

Had the morning off. Flew a bombing mission – at 10,000 this afternoon. Paul & I went to town tonite and saw 'The Mask of Dimitrius.'

JUNE 21

The flying line is just across the street from our barracks, and the ground school & hdq. is at the next corner. Went ground school all day, saw 'This Is The Army' tonite at the base theatre.

JUNE 22

Flew a bombing & air – ground gunnery mission this morning. Paul & I saw 'Going My Way' at the base theatre tonite. It was the best show I've seen.

JUNE 23

Ground school today.

JUNE 24

Had the day off. Went town and saw 'Gaslight' this afternoon. Went to briefing tonite, but I didn't have to fly.

JUNE 26

Had the morning off, washed my dirty clothes. Didn't have to fly this afternoon, so I went to town. Saw Dennis Morgan in the 'Desert Song.'

JUNE 27

Ground school today. Saw 'Home In Indiana' tonite.

JUNE 28

Flew Hi altitude bombing & air – ground gunnery mission this morning.

It was a seven hour mission, and I was a played out guy tonite.

JUNE 29

Ground school today. C.W.S. gave a lecture & demonstration this morning. Went to the malf. range this afternoon.
Saw 'Bathing Beauty' tonite.

JUNE 30

Had the day off. Washed clothes this A.M. got paid this afternoon. Went to briefing at seven tonite. The gunners went over to ground school and took pictures of the "bug."
This was for practice in taking pictures of bomb bursts on nite bombing missions.

JULY 2

Called home this morning. Went to church after calling.
Flew hi-altitude formation & gunnery this afternoon.

JULY 3

Ground school today.

JULY 4

Flew hi-altitude gunnery mission this morning. Everything went like clockwork, tho it was terribly cold at 20,000.
Crew 6203 crashed today, in a cotton field south of Fabens. All the fellows were shook up bad.

JULY 5

Malf. range all day today.

JULY 6

Had the day off. Briefing at seven P.M. Flew a night bomb mission.

JULY 7

Went over to Beaumont hosp. to see the boys on #6203.
Saw 'Andy Hardy' in town.

JULY 8

Flew a bombing & air ground gunnery mission this afternoon.

JULY 9

Ground school today. Saw 'Gung Ho' tonite at the base theatre.

JULY 10

Flew hi-altitude formation this morning. Lost No. 3 engine – no brakes on landing – but there was enough pressure in the hydraulic system to stop.
The crash truck was waiting, but we didn't need it.

JULY 11

Ground school today.

JULY 12

Loafed all day. Flew a high altitude bombing mission tonite.
Boy, was it cold!

JULY 14

I went on D.N.I.F. today because of a boil on my chin.
Our next missions are hi-altitude and I couldn't wear my mask.

AUG 1

Made CPL today, that's \$20 more a month. Today is 'open house' at all Army Air Fields, 37th annivers. of the AAF. Quite a lot of El Pasoans were out looking the field over.

AUG 4

Took test on sighting, the Martin turret and Cl. 50s.
This is the final test, and I passed it with flying colors.

AUG 5

Flew air – air gunnery today, fired at the tow target.
We burnt out two waist gun barrels.

AUG 6 SUN.

Went to church this morning. If we get a furlough (rumor) it will be
the best birthday present ever. J. Rymers birthday is today too.

AUG 12

Flew this morning. We left Biggs the lead ship of 18, and
joined 18 more at Tucson. We led the 36 planes over
El Paso and out to the bombing range. The field C.O.
told "Hap," on landing, that we did a good job.
Went to the base theatre tonite, saw 'Seventh Cross' S. Tracy.

AUG 13

We were one of 13 crews picked to go to Will Rogers Field,
O.C. Okla. for photo reconnaissance training.
I'd rather stay in bombardment.

AUG 14

Got our furlough papers this morning at C.C. Hdq's.
Max, Bill, John & I got a room at the St. Regis
in town, we leave tomorrow.

AUG 15

Left on A.A. at noon. Got past Ft. Worth, Dallas,
Okla. City but was put off at Tulsa 'cause of higher prior.
I caught the plane two hours later and was in St. Louis
at midnite. Plane to E'ville didn't leave until morning,
so my getting put off at Tulsa didn't matter.
Spent the nite at "Hotel de Gink" at Lambert field.

AUG 16 WED.

Caught E.A.L. plane at 8:30 and was in Evansville by 9:35.
Took a cab to the bank and saw Wm. Went over to
Fridys to see him and Jim Mead. Got home about noon,
Judy was there in the kitchen with Mother. I was a
surprise to them both. After dinner, I went over
and spent the afternoon with Rene. Stayed home
tonite and Mother & I listened to the radio.

AUG 17 THUR.

Slept all day. Took Ginny to see 'Take it or Leave it' at
the Majestic. Walked up & down Main St. after the show.
Got home early tonite – believe it or not.

AUG 18 FRI.

Stayed home today. Got eager and cleaned out the back
porch and fixed my bicycle. John came over tonite.
We went down to Baldy's and played pool.

AUG 19 SAT.

Tot and Mina arrived this morning. We had a gab fest
until dinner. "Sock" came over this afternoon and we
went down in Howell and played pool. Ginny had to
take care of the kids tonite, so I went out there and we
listened to the radio, believe it or not.
'I'll Walk Alone' was first.

AUG 20 SUN.

Mother & I went to church this morning.
Went out to Burdette Park this afternoon, skated from one 'til eleven. Had a swell time. Came to town with Decker, we went out to the Waterfall for something to eat.

AUG 21 MON.

Mother, Tot, Mina & I went to Loews and saw 'In Society.'
Had dinner at Woods after the show. Bill Williams came by and we went down and played pool.

AUG 22 TUES.

Went up to Kochs this morning, then over on Franklin to the Ration board. Had dinner out at Plant two.
Rene & Wm. had us over for supper tonite, it was swell. I left at 7:30 to go to the Carnival with Ginny, Bill Williams and his girl friend. Out to the Waterfall, after the Carnival for a bite to eat.

AUG 23 WED.

Wm. took me to the Bankers Picnic this evening. Ate supper about six, shot craps for a while after supper. Went down to the rink. Wm. left to go dance at nine.
Ginny & I and Eloise & John came in with Johnny Stinson. John & I were standing on Washington, after taking the girls home, waiting for a cab. 'Slats' Martin came by in a squad car and after 'questioning' our intentions at that late hour, he took us down to 3rd & Main.

AUG 24 THUR.

Took Tot & Mina to the depot this morning. Stayed home this afternoon and tonite. Left on the midnite train for St. Louis, K.C. & Okla. City.

AUG 25

Got in St. Louis at eight in the morning, left right away for K.C. Had a four hour layover there. Straight thru to Wichita, Tulsa & O.C. Arrived at W.R.F. at 2 A.M. Sat.

AUG 26

Met John Blair today, we went to town tonite and skated at the Muni rink.

AUG 29

Had a physical today, saw 'The Canterville Ghost' at the Criterion.

AUG 31

Went to camera class today, were shown all types of cameras that are used in F7-A & B-24.

SEPT. 1

Chemical Warfare lectures today, Service Club tonite.

SEPT. 2

Intelligence lectures this morning, first aid films this afternoon. Saw 'Going My Way' tonite at the Criterion.

SEPT. 3

Went out to Aunt Norah's and ate dinner this morning. Skated this afternoon. Saw 'Higher & Higher' tonite, in town.

SEPT. 4

Chemical Warfare lecture this morning, and demonstration

after dinner. Stayed in camp tonite – for a change.

SEPT. 9

Snythetic trainer this A.M. got off early this afternoon. Skated from 7:30 til 12 tonite.

SEPT. 10

Went out to Aunt Norah's this morning and had dinner. After, we went for a drive in Nichols Hills. I left them at the rink and met Jep. Bill Mangum, Jep & I ate supper at Elmos then skated again tonite.

SEPT. 14

Ground school today. Chuck, Parker, Beiser & I went out to Taft Stadium to see Northeast vs Putman City. P.C. won 13-7. After the game Beiser & I went by the rink.

SEPT. 16

Had most of the day off. Skated tonite, Jep & I rode around with Dub a while, then I spent the nite with Jep.

SEPT. 17

We got up at noon, Mrs. Stallings made us 'breakfast.' Skated this afternoon. Jep, Bill & I ate supper at Elmo's and skated again tonite.

SEPT. 22

Flew two photo missions today. First one from 7:30 until 1:30, landed & refueled then went on another from four until six. Went to town and as usual, went skating.

SEPT. 23

Had today off. Skated from 8 – 10. Pat & Dub, Wanda & Jep and Anne & I went to the sat. nite preview at the Uptown. I stayed with Jep tonite.

SEPT. 24

We skated this afternoon. Ate supper at Elmos and went to see 'Hail The Conquering Hero' at the Criterion tonite.

SEPT. 25

Flew Celestial Navigation mission to Hartford Ky.

OCT. 4

Scheduled to fly tonite, but Lt. Arnold is going to the hospital tomorrow. He is having his tonsils taken out and will be in a month, so I don't imagine we'll do any flying for that time.

OCT. 7

Listened to N.D. beat Tulane 26 – 0.

OCT. 8

Anne, Patty & Dub, Evie & Bob, Gene & Freddie, Pat, Dot, Casey and I went to Spring Lake Park this afternoon on a picnic. Ate dinner then played ball until five. Ate supper then over to the Fairgrounds Stable and horseback riding. Got back from riding about 6:30, went to the rink and skated tonite. Hope the pictures we took this afternoon turn out good. We had a swell time today.

OCT. 9

Anne & I saw 'White Cliffs' tonite at the Criterion.

OCT. 10

Skated tonite in my plaid shirt, the girls got
all of us boys shirts like theirs.

OCT. 28

Flew a C.N. tonite to Dermapolis Ala. This was the only
time we have flown this month, just did get in our flying time.

NOV. 1

Photo Mission today, took off at eight A.M. landed at 2:30 this afternoon.

NOV. 2

Went to basketball game at the base gym tonite.
The Eagles lost to Glennon Hosp. 52 – 50.

NOV. 5

Anne & I saw 'Since You Went Away' tonite,
it was a darn good show.

NOV. 6

Started to Tuscaloosa, Ala on a C.N. but landed at L.R. Ark.
because of engine trouble. Coming in over the river and
those houses, I thought we would hit one sure. Now
we'll have to stay til they come after us from W.R.F.

NOV. 7

Listened to election returns.

NOV. 8-9

Spent both days working jigsaw puzzles in the Red Cross canteen.

NOV. 10

W.R.F. sent a B-25 after us this morning. Got back and had to
fly another C.N. to Dermapolis tonite.
This time we made it O.K.

NOV. 11

Max, Bill, Johnny, Keegan and I were restricted because
our beds were not made while we were in Little Rock.

NOV. 12

Went to town on Shortys pass. Went to the First M.E. Church
in O.C. this morning. Skated tonite.

NOV. 14

Flew hi altitude mosaic & pin point today. Anne & I made fudge at
her house tonite. Brought Shorty some fore letting me use his pass.

NOV. 15

Flew another hi altitude mosaic today. Also some tri mat. Skated tonite.

NOV. 21

Left for Lake Charles, La. this afternoon at two, got there at 4:30,
refueled & checked over plane for tomorrows over-water hop.
Went to Lake Charles tonite and took in a show.

NOV. 22

Started out at ten this morning for the Gulf. At two P.M. we were
going good, then Whalen transferred fuel from bomb bay to
wing tanks and got mixed up and put the selector valve on the
'off' position. No. 1 & 2 cut and the left wing dropped
and we started losing altitude. Were falling 2000 ft a minute

and were down to 1000 from 5500, that water was sure coming up fast. He finally got things right and no. 1 & 2 came back in again and we began climbing. Everything was going O.K. so Arnold said we would go on back to O.C. instead of landing at New Orleans. However we had to land at Barksdale Field, Shreveport because the gyro-compass had been broken when Ed swung the wheel hard right to try to level the ship. It was fixed that nite, but we had to wait til morning before going on.

NOV. 23 THANKSGIVING

Left Shreveport at 9:30 and landed at W.R.F. at 11:30. We processed this afternoon and are waiting for our furlough papers to be cut. Went to town tonite and saw 'The Merry Widow' at the Shrine Auditorium.

NOV. 24

Our furlough starts today, went to the R.R. ticket office and found out about the train. Left at 4:30 with Max & Johnny.

NOV. 25 SAT.

Got in St. Louis at 8:20 and just missed 51, so I had to wait til 2:00 for 93. Uncle Laurence was conductor and we had quite a time together. He let me off in Howell and I walked home. Mother had gone to the show with Blanche and Wm., Rene & Judy were at the Shrine Circus. I left my bag on the back porch and took my skates and went to the Agoga. All the bunch that are left were there and I had a swell time, left at ten sharp. Mother was in bed when I got there, when she opened the door all she said was "You!" Went over and woke up Wm. They had just got in – We talked for a while, then I came home and Mother fixed me some bacon & eggs.

NOV. 26 SUN.

Bill Williams & I went to Sunday School and Mother & I went to Church. All the relatives were there and we had 'a gay old time.' Skated this afternoon, Bev & Ginny were both there so I had quite a time. Ate supper with Wm. Caril & Bill Brunner were there and we talked over old times. I came home at seven and Mother & I spent Sunday evening listening to the radio.

NOV. 27 MON.

Went to town this morning and got some records. Spent the afternoon talking with Rene, Mother had gone to auxiliary meeting. I was going out to Bev's house tonite then met Wm. at the Armory. Found out that Mr & Mrs Johnson had moved out on Division street so I stopped in, on my way out to Bevs, to see them. They were not at home so I went on to Bevs. We talked a while, then her Mother & Dad challenged us to a game of Clabber. While we were playing, her Mother made some fudge and after Bev & I had won, we ate fudge and drank milk. It was 10:30 then and I was to meet Wm. at eleven, so Bev walked with me to the Armory and Wm. took her home in the car. She asked me to come out for supper friday nite. I agreed and we decided to go to the ball game at Central Gym after supper.

NOV. 28 TUE.

Mother & I went to Aunt Alma's for dinner today. Aunt Lena & Uncle Laurence were there and we spent the afternoon in discussing 'me.' Took Virginia to see 'Doughgirls' tonite at the Grand. Went to Tatum's for hamburger & coke after the show. Then we walked up & down Main Street a while. There isn't

many G.Is from Breckinridge that come to E'ville anymore,
streets are bare. Took Ginny home and made it home myself by 12.

NOV. 29 WED.

Took Judy skating tonite. Wm. came for us at ten. Judy,
Bev, Wm. and I went to Hills for something to eat.
Then out to see Jim Mead at Fridys. Took Beverly
home then went 'round the corner to get Susie.

NOV. 30 THUR.

Went skating again tonite. I should have stayed home instead.
Maxine Woods was there tonite, we bowled at 3rd & Main
after skating, so the evening wasn't lost after all.

DEC. 1 FRI.

Went to Reitz for the pep assembly this morning.
As I was going up Barker on the bus, I saw Bev & B.J. walking,
so I got off and walked with them. We strolled around the
building 'til time for the assembly, then we went in together.
Bev had to be back at Bosse so I walked to the bus stop with her,
then came home. Mother & I saw "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" at
Loews this afternoon, I liked it especially when they sang W.T.R.O.T.W.G.B.
Bev & I went to the Reitz - Mt. Vernon game at Central gym tonite,
after eating supper at her house. Mt. Vernon won, 31 - 26. We walked
over to the Agoga after the game, then up & down Main St. stood
in Nagles waiting for a bus for 1/2 hour. Got to her house at 10:30,
'talked' for a while, and I went home. Made in in about 2 A.M.

DEC. 2 SAT.

Played cards at the fire house this morning. Just like old times.
Listened to Army beat Navy this afternoon 23 - 7.
Bev & I went with Wm., Rene & Judy to the Barber Shop Quartet
singing at the Coliseum tonite. After the show, they invited Bev & I
to go to Haydens with them for a bite to eat. We went with
them and had hamburger steak (no sirloins) They took us
to Bevs house at eleven and her Mother & Dad were out so
we were by ourselves except for the kid...
[Page was cut off here!]

DEC. 3 SUN.

Bev & I skated this afternoon. It will be the last time for quite
a while to come. Went straight to her house and as if was late
she had her Dad to bring me to Howell in the car.
We were in the back seat and as he turned up the rear view
mirror he said "I was young once." That's what I called being on the ball.
Mother & I listened to the radio tonite for what will be the last time
for a long time. Wm. came for me at eleven, went over and said
goodbye to Rene, Judy & Mrs. Piper. Took J. Hufnagle to the depot,
he got me on the train early so I could get a seat. Left at 12:30 A.M.

DEC. 4

St. Louis at eight A.M. caught 8:50 for Kansas City. Got in K.C. at two.
Saw Sammy Kaye at Loews State, in person. Got in O.C. at
two A.M. Met Arnold & Keegan at K.C. and we came in together.

DEC. 6

Arnold got a finger broken while we were playing basketball this
morning. Had it put in a cast - no flying for a while now.

DEC. 13

Went Christmas shopping with Shorty. I'm glad I did mine when I was home.

DEC. 16

Listened to Classen - Central Tulsa championship game this afternoon.

The Comets won 26 – 6. Saw 'Kismet' tonite at the Criterion.

DEC. 17

Went to see 'Faust' at the Muni Auditorium this afternoon.
Skated tonite – last time for a few months.

DEC. 18

Showdown inspection this A.M. Had supper with Norah & Elvis tonite.
Stopped by Anne's on the way back to the field and said goodbye to them.
Stopped at the rink, on the way to the bus stop, "Goodbye O.C."

DEC. 20

Said my goodbyes at WRF today
gave J Blair my crew picture to take to Mother. Left O.C. tonite.

DEC. 21

Memphis this noon. Saw E. Bracken in 'Rainbow Island.' When I
came out of the show, it was snowing. First snow I've seen in two years.

DEC. 22

Atlanta this A.M. Saw 'Farewell My Lovely' this afternoon.
Walked around tonite, looking at the store windows.

DEC. 23

Savannah this morning. Hunter Field is sure a big place.
Heard the Hit Parade tonite. 'Don't Fence Me In' was I.

DEC. 24 SUN.

Went to church this morning, slept this afternoon.
Went to Christmas Eve candlelight service.

DEC. 25

Went to town this afternoon, had dinner at the Coast Guard
barracks. Saw 'Frenchmans Creek' in town and
'Belle of the Yukon' at the field.

DEC. 30

Left Savannah at eight A.M. Got in Miami at midnite.

DEC. 31

Ditching & first aid lectures this morning. Went over to
Collins Ave to look at the St. Moritz and down Lincoln Road
and looked around. Shorty, Max, Keegan, Bill & I went to
Charlies Inn tonite. Had our picture taken, five "Sad Sacks"

FURLOUGHS, FROM:

LINCOLN, NEBR. MAY 15 – JUNE 1
1944

BIGGS FIELD, TEX. AUG. 15 – AUG. 25
1944

W.R.F. OKLA. NOV 24 – DEC 4
1944

“OVER AND OVER AGAIN”

THERE GOES THAT SONG AGAIN
WE USED TO CALL IT OUR SERENADE
WE FELL IN LOVE WHEN WE HEARD IT PLAYED
OVER, AND OVER AND OVER & OVER AGAIN

I STILL REMEMBER WHEN
I SANG THE WORDS AND THEY MADE YOU MINE
I'D STEAL A KISS AND REPEAT EACH LINE
OVER, AND OVER, AND OVER & OVER AGAIN
WE DRIFTED APART, YOU WALKED OFF WITH MY HEART
ITS FUNNY WHEN I LISTEN, JUSTS STARTS ME REMINICING

I'D SOON FORGET THAN YEN
I TOLD MYSELF WHEN WE SAID SO LONG
BUT I WAS WRONG, THERE GOES THAT SONG AGAIN

“MAKING BELEIVE”

I'M MAKING BELEIVE THAT YOU'RE IN MY ARMS
THO I KNOW YOU'RE SO FAR AWAY,
MAKING BELEIVE I'M TALKING TO YOU
WISH YOU COULD HEAR WHAT I SAY.

AND HERE IN THE GLOOM OF MY LONELY ROOM
WE'RE DANCING LIKE WE USED TO DO,
MAKING BELEIVE IS JUST ANOTHER WAY OF
DREAMING – SO TIL MY DREAMS COME TRUE:
I'LL WHISPER GOODNIGHT, TURN OUT THE
LIGHT AND KISS MY PILLOW –
MAKING BELEIVE ITS YOU.

FEB. 2, 1945 GUSHKARA, INDIA