H.W. Neville, 2nd Lt.
0.758610
1944  Flew 26,000 ft, formation - Hobo to S. San Antonio. Instructor was lost.
St. Hugh found where we were, Lt. Yab
a very poor navigator. Other ship
was rather angry (Capt. Walker),
went to town. Later, Hobo and
the V-Club. Lousy! Mills & S
home early.
JANUARY 18 19

Lost a day

JANUARY 20

Thru flying 3 A.M. this morn. Waited in lines for clearance, inst. card not available yet. Finished packing, took taxi to Amarillo at 600. Arrived, boarded S.F. train for Salt L. Called Nelson in Amarillo but he left for new station that morning.
JANUARY 20

19 G.I. Pullman's not bad - dirty - bad
breakfast in Pueblo - stopped
Dinner for three hours in afternoon
Train cold, picked up a diner.

JANUARY 22

19 Another night in G.I. Pullman
arrived Salt Lake noon - taped
to base, filled out more papers
assigned sqtn. to very old barracks
and crawled into snow, lot
of ice - coal heat very dirty.
Went to town dinner & show
Dad to but socks.
Up at 0600 - strictly G.I. Breakfast
Was processed - pack time 1700 -
Went to town with mills again
dinner & show - more pack time.
JANUARY 24

19 Up at 0730 - no breakfast - no lunch - hung any - paid $60.15 for travel pay - trying to catch up on letters.

JANUARY 25

1944 Met Better + Melba Orange. Not bad - thinking of changing dates - I like Betsy the best. But it really makes no difference both seem like nice gals.
Last night in Salt Lake
Bertie and I had a hard time
saving good by. She's the
nicest girl I've ever known.
1944 ARRIVED ARDMORE, OKLA

BY TROOP TRAIN FROM SALT LAKE CITY.
1944 Grand School No Date

Hobday & 1 with Mac and Billy A.
At Glider Room - Fair Evening - No Drinking Damn it!
MAY 5
19 GRND SCHOOL - NO DATE
MAC AND I HIT SACK EARLY
HOBDEY IN TOWN WITH HIGH SCHOOL
GAL. I HAD TO CATCH UP ON
SACK TIME.

MAY 6
SAT.
1944 GRND SCHOOL AGAIN - PASSED CODE
CALLED PAT HUMPHREYS - DATE CINCHED
MAC, HOBDEY & I HEAD FOR TOWN ON
BUS, LONG WAIT AS USUAL. PICKED UP
19 "THE GREEN HOENIR" (MAC'S CAR) (PAKED
IN TOWN TO SAVE GAS) HAD LOUSY
TIME, IN FACT IT WAS TERRIBLE
PAT AND I DON'T GET ALONG. SPENT
19 MOST THE TIME AT THE COUNTRY
CLUB. DRANK VERY LITTLE. MAC'S
GIRL - BILLY ANEES VERY NICE GAL.
BUGS STARTING TO BITE.
MAY 7

1944 Found Diary - Decided to use it. Almost finished here at Ardmore, Okla. 8 hours Grad. School - Wrote to Bertie. Mess & Folks - Sgt. DeLauro returned to class after dental appointment - very unusual in Army - he's strictly on the ball. Hobey and I home to Nite alone - Mal in town with Date. Prized at Denton for missing Grad School Classes.

MAY 8

1944 Last day of Grad. School had several tests - no trouble. Mal did very well on Eng. Test. and of course, Sgt. DeLauro did perfect - he's an A-1 engineer, was called out of Grad School to fly in afternoon - waited on flight line several hours for ship - finally weather closed in. No flight - damn it.

1944 Mac's flying improving, flies formation almost as well as I do. Had bomb training.

1944 Hobday and I did fair. Denton could do best. Hobday doesn't understand bomb sight. To well — just hasn't had proper instruction. Olsen very eager as usual.

1944 Landed, then fired 3200 rounds out over Gulf at tow target. We were in air over 8 hours. Back at home field later.

1944 Very tired, shower of sack. Denton was on sick call. Missed flight. Crew did a perfect job on Ranger. Hobday really pleased with Qaston on radio compass. Kania proved very helpful in greenhouse. Heard from Annabel — sound slightly teed off but a little eager!!
1944  Fly Hi-Formation 21000 Camera
Bombard Little Rock, Ark - Fly
Good Formation - Mac's Formation
Flying Very Good Considering
Short Time Here. Hobday Absent
From H.B.C. Formation - Put Me
in Tight Spot - Showed Up For
Flying Late - Denton Easily

1944 No Flying Today - Had P.T.
And We Were Processed - Issued
More Equipment to Pack Around
- Mess Kits - Blankets, Etc.

Turned in Winter Flying Clothing.
Crew on the Ball - Very Cooperative
Denton, McNamara, and I Uneager
So We Skipped Bomb Trainer.
Head Still Sore from Kick.

In hot football game with
Newton's crew - Beat them
Again! Wrote a letter to
The folks - Sad Time.
MAY 13

had c-1 check today -
mac, denton and i passed o.k.
flew with capt. engram - a bombardier
instructor. flubbed around
rest of time - p.o.d.
at things in general - still
no day off - but may get
three day pass - today last
day of flying. - finished all
required missions - sack time.

MAY 14

had to fly for six hours today
a nice ride or trip to new orleans
saw mississippi river for first
time - saw several flat tops
went through very small thunder
storm - should have had day
off - everyone damn mad -
delauret konia damn good with
pilots age - in navigating. mac very
eager - really surprised me
he flew most of the way. - stayed
on base - went to show.
MAY 15

1944 Had to fly for some col. From Washington - A demonstration of model mission by 12 ships in our group. We fly for only 2 hrs low alt. Bombed Fort Worth - col. We are satisfied with our mission. Got a few pictures of the crew - took off for town.

MAY 16

1944 Our first day off in weeks. Stayed in town in our 13 bed barber shop hotel room - spent most of day at country club. Bought a pair shoes & new hat. Swam and layed around pool with Mac, Hobey, Denton - and Billy, Pat and Colleen - a very enjoyable lazy afternoon. Later had to much to drink. Denton and I staged it and naturally made fools of ourselves. The drunkest I've been in a long time. Got a slight sun burn.
MAY 17

1944 Ran all over post for clearance - had very little sleep night before - yes a hangover - had to pack more junk thrown away. Latest rumor - going to China! Sounds interesting in away - but no night life! Rough. Mac rather mad at last night - Denton and I spoiled his lovers' life at the Country Club.

MAY 18

1944 Up for 7:40 formation after two hours of solid sack time - got rid of baggage and climbed aboard train at 2:00 had G.I. meal on train - on fairly clean Pullman's - dest. unknown - but probably Kearney, Neb. Had big drukkey party last night at Country Club. Had long dull session with Lt. Clark and the usual fairwells.
MAY 19

1944 Still on train - Breakfast in bed, passed thru Topeka, Kan. This morn. stopped at Marysville, Kan. for half hour of beer guzzling - another G.I. meal on train - sure is dirty and rather warm. Arrived Kearney Air Base at 4:30 P.M. signed in assigned B.D.Q. - took off for town. Mac, Denton, and I rented two rooms at Midway Hotel - a dump, at that. Bought some terrible gin - ended up at dance and I picked up Wanda Nelson - took her home made date for following night and got Mac blind date too. Unable to locate Melba Bruce.

MAY 20

1944 Up Early - Go back to Base - got morning report in Met Melba in Officers Club - had long Heart to Heart talk thing - Everything OK in Salt Lake. Now wish I'd hear from Bertie. Lecture on set up here - assigned airplane (one of the few) (only 19 all together) Mac 41 go to town pick up dates late, as per usual, take them to club dance on base Mac got a bun deal - mine not so bad - enjoyable evening in Saloon at 0300!!
MAY 21
1944 UP AT 0730 - DRIVER
PIECED UP CREW AND BAGGAGE
FOR PROCESSING. PROCESSED
ALL MORN. - VERY EFFICIENT
PROCEDURE - BEST I'VE EVER
SEEN. MORE EQUIPMENT ISSUED
HEAVY FLYING, OXYGEN MASK, SHOT GUN
HEAD SETS, ETC. - STENCILLED
EQUIPMENT - BACK TO
BARRACKS - AND OFF TO
TOWN - LONG WAIT FOR BUS
AS USUAL. WENT TO DINNER
WITH WANDA AND THEN TOOK
IN THERE BEAUTIFUL PARK!!!
MORE DAMN MOSQUITOS! IN SACK
AT 0300 AGAIN! SAW MELBA
+ BRUCE AGAIN.

MAY 22
1944 A SOLID DAY OF LECTURES
ON DITCHING - BAIL OUT
OVER WATER FLIGHTS. DROPPED BY
BOEING REPRESENTATIVE ON
SHIPS - LATE LECTURE
ON PRISONER OF WAR - VERY
ENLIGHTENING. STARTED TO
PACK - IN SACK EARLY.
19 SENT WIRE TO BETTEY & TONIA.
Saw MELBA & BRUCE - WEATHER
IS KEEPING HIM HERE.
19
MAY 23

1944 Down on flight line. Early took ship - "Our Ship"
2102951 - B-17-G staggered windows - semi-turret in tail - Wow! What a ship! Test
hopped for two hrs - calibrated flux gate, compass. Flew
fine only minor difficulties.

19 Denton had hard night - was rather P.O.D at things in general. Hobley did nice job
on flux gate. Notice lack of
in crew - not eager enough
to get things done. Late
lecture on our route to Bangor, Maine. - assumed
destination. Another date
with Wanda - my last 1
thing. No letter from Bertie
heard from Fours & Pat.

MAY 24

19 Finished packing early - allowed only 554 in B 4 for personal clothes and all
flying equipment in A 3 bag.

19 Nothing else - a real job
of packing. Sent foot locker home. Weighed all bags and
loaded them into bomb bay.

19 Medical briefing and the usual.

19 Petix, my radio operator, put in hospital - talked to flight surgeon won't release
him - so I lost a damn good
radio operator. Wanted Gaston made
radio operator. - But C.O. wouldn't
let me do it - so reparation
is 1st radio operator. - Sure hated
to tell Gaston this. Had briefing
2500 in ships 2400 ready to
take off. Weather - windy as hell.
MAY 25

1944/100 Rained to beat hell
Waited for truck and back in the sack—no flight to Maine
This morn! Up at 1100 back to check ship—best write letter
To receive I've decided—no letter from Bertie yet! Got a little
Sack time this afternoon.

19 Called folks—sure glad to hear their voices again. Also
called Bertie—sounded a little indifferent hope every thing O.K.

19 Had briefing at 2300 all ready
to take off. Petix saw Colonel
and can go with us if we stay one
more day. New radio oper. seems
O.K. Very nice fellow—O.M. Lay Stotn

MAY 26

19 44 0045 Took off for unknown
Destination.—Crew very blue, had
to leave Petix behind—hit instrument
Weather at Omaha, Neb. —lots of
Rain—lost radio reception several
times. Hobdy did damn good Navy.
And Denton did good Pilotage
where possible. Radio man made
Contacts when possible. Rest
of crew slept. I was asleep
for an hour out of Chicago. Mac
away whole trip. Made radio
Contact at Albany, N.Y. Instructed
to land at Grenier Fld., Manchester,
N.H. Landed after 9 hrs. flying. Crew
processed quickly and assigned barracks

Darned nice field—issued more equip,
good nights sleep. Had late briefing
too! For both Goose Bay & Gander
Destination Undetermined as yet.
MAY 27

1944. Up at 0700. Briefing at 0800.
Mac and I forgot turbine on T.O.
Mac on the ball, and was quick to catch mistake. Made very low T.O.
Country heavily wooded, pilotage impossible due to undercast and lack of civilization. Landed Gander about 5 hrs later. Having trouble with time — changing zones so fast! Lots of lakes and fish no snow left. Base not bad.
For existing conditions, very nice B.O. As saw Beulah before he T.O. Had few drinks at club and some pool with Mac in Hobey. No 1 Eng. had oil leak — to be fixed tomorrow. Ship looked up for night. More sometime.

1944. Up late! 1100! Scooby mess out to ship found Delaurier Olsen working. But needed help. I'll have to give him more held after this. Delaurier a very good worker — damn good man. Lay is also very eager, shows willingness to do his part. Had briefing for trip Ship readied for T.O.
At 2130 for England, T.O. into low stratus about 1000' First few hours gas consumption very high — had trouble getting a speed at 2900 RPM — crossed a front, picked up a little ice. Saw a few boats when Watters was visible. — flew around 11 hrs and we were instructed to land at Notts Corner Gander. Lots of RCAF and of course cars on wrong side of street. Would like to stay around awhile. Fishing would be good.

MAY 28

1944. Up at 0700. Briefing at 0800.
Mac and I forgot turbine on T.O.
Mac on the ball, and was quick to catch mistake. Made very low T.O.
Country heavily wooded, pilotage impossible due to undercast and lack of civilization. Landed Gander about 5 hrs later. Having trouble with time — changing zones so fast! Lots of lakes and fish no snow left. Base not bad.
For existing conditions, very nice B.O. As saw Beulah before he T.O. Had few drinks at club and some pool with Mac in Hobey. No 1 Eng. had oil leak — to be fixed tomorrow. Ship looked up for night. More sometime.

Delaurier and I started repairs. — Good Boys!
1944 Still Flying Landed at Nutts Corner, Ireland around Noon Time. Instructed to Unload Ship as it is no Longer Our Airplane. Which was Disappointing. We are to Be Shipped From Here to England in the Next Few Days. The Country is Sub Green and Rather Cold. Light Until Midnight. Lots of Waafs. But Hard to Understand Their Language. They Say It's English - I Don't Get It! Our B.C.O. Are Tin Huts Look Like Olds! The Latrine is in One Building. Then the Shower in Another and Then the Place to Shave in Another. Real Good Country. Run to Hit All Three! Food is None so Good. No Place to Buy Any. Air Raid Shelters Everywhere. More Sleep Which Will Need Plenty Of.

MAY 31

1944 Up at 0730 - Not to Good or A Breakfast - Have Met Lots of Fellows I left in Cadets. Also Met Bruce Mills Again - I'm Right Behind Him All the Way. Sent A Gram To Folks & Bertie - Guess I'll Better Write Some Letters Later This Evening. It Stays Light Here Until Almost Midnight! We Had Orientation Lectures This Afternoon Getting Money Situation Fairly Straight Found Baggage Again - Sure Needs Pressing Have to Take Own Tools and Cup to Show No Utensils Available. No Butter or Milk Here - Except For Can Or Powdered More Sack Time.

19

JUNE 1

1944 Up For 0900 Lecture On Gas Masks - Eligible For Pass Tonight - But Our Barracks Quota Filled So Mac Did Our Names On

19 Another Barracks Sheet - Had Physical Exam - And I Signed Pay Voucher For May. Had Blouse Pressed One Place & Pinches Another Even Pressing Is Rationed! Got My Week's Ration Quota From P.K. At 1800 We Walked Off Post For a Mile Or So Caught Taxi And

19 Mac, Denton & I Went To Hanley Hoodie Delayed - No Pass! We Went To A Couple Of Pubs And Then To a Dance - Girls Rather Sad And Are Too Eager. Saw Only One That Was Really Stacky! None Of Us Picked Up Anything - Took Taxi Back To Base To Be Back By 2400 Can You Imagine A Day In An Austin At Two Small Bars a Pizza!!
1944 June 2
Up for 0900 lecture - & repeat on gas masks - issued mask - sounds like we might use them soon. Kinda disgusted with Denton - he has to more or less be lead around by the hand - doesn't think for himself. Selk! - damn these beds are hot - no sheets - no mattresses covers - just dirty blankets and mattresses. Four of us in a room - kinda crowded - standing room for three only! We are rationed two razor blades per week! The voltage is 220 so my electric razor is of no use. Was in town again - picked up this nice gal I saw last night, danced with her all evening. Mac, Hobday & Denton did OK too. Came back in "our" taxi. Write to Betty.

1944 June 3
Up late - pass room inspection in bed! Got to finance office after sweating out line found out that I would be paid Monday! Took off for town - Hanley - in cab - went to dance and several pubs - was caught with Horsey 50 picco.

Up bags - but lost them in black out. We were supposed to be in by 2400 - had to sneak in at 0200 - via adjacent fields and pastures, over fences - plus a few M.P.'s we had to dodge. The three of us ruined our pants - damn wet grass & mud, These black outs are really black. Bruce left this morning. These are sure quaint - never travel more than 20 miles.
JUNE 4

1944 Up late, in bed again. When room's inspected - our names on list to ship tomorrow. Packed baggage, but not ready to go. We like the nightlife in Hanley. Very well. More crews came in today - saw J.D. Mills for the first time since primary - he's a navigator on 417 - sure good to talk over old times again. Noye & his crew finally got here - they stayed over an entire day at Greener and came across the Poudou Gander - the Azores - Valley. More rain this afternoon - and it's really cold! We are restricted tonight - but Mac went out anyway! Wonder what we'll move from here? The crew will be temporarily split up only P.O.P.M.B. to one school the rest to a Gunner School.

1944 Arose at 05:30. Early breakfast and met formation to leave at 0645. Had to hike about two miles to train station - trains are not bad here. The stations or platforms are built on a level with the cars - no climbing abroad - very convenient! Arrived at Boxmore at 1200 - had my first 19 1/2 rations on train - not so good. Traveled 4 mi on G.I. trucks to field. The field has a variety of planes and the building area very well dispersed - got lots of walking in until I printed a bicycle - more processing - got permission for flight access - road fixed up. We are to get around 10 days of ground school before going to our permanent station at 2350. We had to get to air raid shelters - practice attack. Stay hard to get out of the dark to cold. Sherwood.
1944

JUNE 6

1944 Up at 0630 - Going to London at 0800 on pass until 2400 tonight. Cleaned up, walked to X-Roads - took bus to Chessham - just made connections. On train to London - the cars are very different here - there are doors all along the sides of the cars to each compartment - so it is impossible to leavecomp while train in motion - each comp. holds 8 to 10 people. We arrived Baker St. Station at 1100 - first thing - we found a restaurant ate - then found another. A19 - ate again! Can't buy more than 5 schilling of food in any one per person! Lots of buildings bombed - but business as usual - lots of taxis and buses, few private cars. Spent more of our time around Piccadilly Circus - in the frequent pubs. Got oiled - hoisted 41 Pounds up a couple of slides. Women - 415 for Buxor - Denton didn't make train! Awww!

JUNE 7

19 Up at 1000 - Denton arrived at 0800 this morn - fixed pass up 0.12. Had tea. Looked at 1100 - dentist said they were perfect except for two frost ones. Still ill. Lunch - had fairly good lunch and started Grand School at 1900. Had several lectures covering censoring, intelligence, para, jumping, prisoner of war escape. Ditching - and then another alert - red practice. Missed 1600 class. Damn cold shelters and by the way we have to carry our 45 Cal. Auto, 4 gas masks at all times now. Had to wait in line for anyone for show - missed most of 1900 class. Unpacked none. More clothes - lots of lots of paper. Came over today, as usual - weather poor - no sun. Got my first mail from States - mom & birth!! Wrote a couple, too! at 0100 - damn!
19 Up For 0800 Classes - Had Hot-Cakes & Bacon (No Milk Here - Other Than Coffee Powdered) 0 At Meal & Coffee - Not Bad At All. We Had Several Interesting Lectures - Including A Little Talk On The Side By An English Man (R.A.F.) On The View Point Of An English Man Who's Been Around The Amer. An Hike - He Admitted That Our Gov Was Much More Demo. Than Theirs. Likes Our Drive - Or Go Ahead - Git Things Done. Attitude. For Example - Our Production Methods. Another Point - Our Ability To Get Accustomed With Other People So Easily. Our Non-Reserved Attitude. Very Interesting Talk. Learned Just How Great The "Mosquito" Is As A Fighter-Bomber.

No Mail Today - Wrote A Letter To Dick Elliott After Our 1900 Class. No Alert Yet Today.

19 Up For 0800 Classes - Terrible Breakfast - Real Egg - But Very Greasy. More Lectures - Prisoner Of War, Oxygen, Invasion, & Other Tactics. It's Been Raining Or Misting Nearly All Day - Kinda Cold - Since We Have No Heat In The Barracks. Got A Letter From Bertie - I Guess Every Thing Is OK Now - I Hope. Be Glad When We Get To Our Permanent Base, I'd Like To Unpack My Baggage. Sure Gets Tiresome. Sweating Out A Very Long Gone For Each And Every Meal!!

Hobbie's Mustache Looking A Little Better.

But Mac, Denton 4/ Have Decided To Show Him Up In The Next Few Days.

19/ Got My P. X. Rations For The Week. 3 Candy Bars - 2 Packages Cookies, 1 Gum - A Bar Of Soap - Two Razor Blades. Mac's Birthday - He's 23. Bought A Pair Of Gloves - 607.60 10/ Per Diem.
June 10

1944 Ud for 0800 Classes as usual had recognition films - Dingly Dell, a couple of tests. Got a letter from Bertie & Annabel too! Annabel sounds a little bored - and the same old line all the luck, etc. Bertie has me puzzled - at one time I thought she really loved me - but now - I'm not sure - she's lost a lot of respect for me and she's had a right to. I only hope that I can regain her respect. I do believe that she is the girl for me - she's tops. Again I'm mad at Denton - all he does is just barely enough to get by - no intiative at all - sometimes I think that, for the good of the crew, I should have asked for another bombardier. I hope he can at least take care of use his guns. MacY Hobday gives me no trouble at all - they have the right attitude & realize what's what.

June 11

0800 Classes again - Some poop on radio procedure and D.F. facilities and on non-operational flights. It's official now that the number of missions is unlimited, very encouraging. No mail today. Damn it - oh well maybe tomorrow. Denton got surprisingly eager today on this radio procedure. I think I'll put in a preference for the 91st or 92nd Bomb Group. Sure would be nice to be able to.

1945 Get off this base - this restriction gets old. After awhile, the invasion is coming along O.K. We have CBI engr isigny now. General Montgomery is a real man. Sure be nice to see the sun again. I did have a sunken orange today. The meals are fair but I'm always hungary.
June 12

0800 Classes - had one.
Free period today - they have a very complete war
room here - it's really very interesting. The invasion of France
is coming along OK - they pushed forward in most of the places
but in the Caen area they wereushed back. The beachhead is 51
miles long x 15 miles deep. Wrote a letter to Dick & Harry Bog.
Didn't receive any mail, damn it!
They sent 1400 bombers over last
7 - very good! These fighter
escorts are doing a terrific
job. Glad when we can fly again.
Get the rest of the crew back.
About 5 more days here and
we'll have finished this ground
school. Mac y had a little chess
game - we're still even.

June 13

As had a pilshe [Red Alert]
this morn around 0300 - sure
hated to get out of sack and
get dressed - these shelters
are cold! I guess they bombed
Londone - lots of Ack-Ack fire.
Don Noel & crew arrived from Stone
today - glad to see the boys again.
Put in a preference for the
94 group or the 92 group. We
really wanted the 94 Ggrp but
there's not a chance of getting it.
No mail again! The news is very
encouraging - we may get in on
it yet! Our mustaches are
growing a little better - Mac's
is a natural - hobbies is not
bad, mine is messy & Denton's
just isn't! Mac y are still
even in chess!
1944 Another Purple Alert at 0200 last night - Susie's hard to get up out of a sound sleep. Saw a ship in the search lights but I think it was friendly. The last Alert - they shot a ship down - killed one civilian. Guys are selling nickels here for four shillings per piece. That's 80 cents!! I'm not that hungary yet! Had classes from 0800-10 again - Hobie under the weather - was a 1944. Good old All the Doc's say is just to garlic salt water. Hope he's O.K. in a hurry - I don't want to loose him!! Mac 41 had an enema. Test he made 1941-88. Damn I'm getting tired of writing letters and not receiving - none in four days now! Sunshine, Rainy Hall today.

1944 Again we had classes at 0800 - had an interesting lecture by a Lt. from the 94th. Hope we go there. This Lt. was the only ship out of 18 to return from a Berlin raid! Mac 41 had an hour of link this evening on the runway localizer. Today 18-29's bombed Japan for the first time!! Hobie still feeling rough - Mac 41 have picked up his cold - do to these damn over crowed barracks! My dead tooth is amazing too! No mail again today. Damn it!! Our blankets are alive with very small bugs - guess they're bed bugs! Lots of sun but rain this evening. - what weather!
1944 UP AT 0800 FOR CLASSES
HAD A RED ALERT LAST NIGHT
LASTED ABOUT 2 HOURS - SURE WAS
COLD IN THE SHELTERS - DAMN CONCRETE IS 19 DAMP. HAVE THE BEGINNINGS OF A
GOOD COLD. WE HAD TWO RED
ALERTS DURING THE DAY TOO! THEREFORE
WE MISSED A LITTLE GRAD SCHOOL. MAC
FOUN'T THAT OLD BOMB CRIPPLES MAKE
A GOOD SHELTER - PRETTY DEEP!
RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ANNABEL - BUT
NONE FROM BERTIE OR HOME!! KINDA
DISCOURAGING AT TIMES - A HAD DOZEN OR
THE BOYS FROM A ZMORE GOT 1ST LT.
TODAY. OH - Will some day! Hope!
HAD LINC AGAIN TODAY TODAY-
19 I'M 22 - GETTING OLD FAST ESPECIALLY
THIS PAST YEAR! WONDER WHAT
THE NEXT YEAR HAS IN STORE? HOBIE
SURE WOULD LIKE TO BE A PILOT
HE WAS IN A LINC TONIGHT.

1944 UP FOR LAST DAY CLASSES
SAME OLD POOF - CLEARED POST
IN AFTERNOON RENTED A BICE A PIECE
- THAT IS - MAC, HOBIE, PENTON Y
19 I DID - Rode all over the
COUNTY - MAC & HOBIE Picked
UP A COUPLE OF GALS TOGETHER
HOME - THE LONG WAY OF COURSE!
19 FINISHED OUR EXCURSION AT 10 PM
AND HAD TO PACK. WHAT A JOB!
LEAVING TOMORROW AT 0800 FOR TH
384 BOMB GROUP. WE HAD ABOUT
195 DIFFERENT RED ALERTS TODAY. THOSE
PILOTLESS ROCKET PLANES ARE CAUSING
A LITTLE TROUBLE. FINALLY GOT A
VERY ENCOURAGING LETTER FROM
19 BERTIE - BOY I'M IN LOVE WITH THAT
GAL FOR SURE! WE ARE ALL HOPEING
FOR NICE LIVING QUARTERS - IF NOTHING
ELSE!
JUNE 18

1944 - UP AT 0630!! BREAKFAST & LOADED ON TRUCKS FOR DEPOT AT 0800. CHANGED TRAINS 3 TIMES ARRIVED AT AROUND 1700 - TRUCKED 6 MILES TO FIELD - WE WERE ASSIGNED TO SQD. - THE ENLISTED MEN HAVEN'T ARRIVED YET - EXCEPT FOR LAY WHO COMES WITH US. - I GUESS THE BOYS ARE STILL AT THE GUNNERY SCHOOL UP BY THE WASH. WE HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED REGULAR G.I. BARRACKS DIRTY & CROWDED AS HELL. THE FELLOWS ARE ALL FRIENDLY AS HELL. REALLY MAKES IT EASY TO GET ALONG. THE MESS HALL IS NICE BUT A LITTLE AWAY - SAVED WITH THE SHOWER TO TAKE AWAY!! BOY WHAT A DAY, WE'VE BEEN PASSENGERING BAGGAGE MOST OF THE TIME. WELL, I'D BETTER HIT THE SACK, I GUESS!

JUNE 19

SLEEPS IN THIS MORNING - MISSED BREAKFAST. THE FIVE OF US - MAC, HOBIE, DENTON, LAY & MYSELF - WERE BRIEFED BY MAJOR THACKER OR C.O. - HE'S VERY EAGER - EXPECTS A LOT OUT OF THE CREWS. THE FIVE GUNNERS HAVEN'T ARRIVED AS YET. WE MADE THE ROUNDS - INFIRMARY - PERSONNEL - OPERATIONS - PHOTO LAB - (GOT OUR PICTURES TAKEN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING. WROTE A LETTER TO BERT & MY FOLKS - PUT CHANCE OF ADDRESS IN MAIL - PLAYED 4 GAME OF SNOOKER. CLUB IS PRETTY NICE - MEBS HALL IS FINE, GOING TO TRY TO GET A BUNK - THIS WALKING IS ROUGH AS HELL. THE REST OF THE CREW ARRIVED THIS AFTERNOON.
JUNE 20

1944 Up at 0930 - Met the boys - Sent them around field as we did yesterday. Layed around most of the day - played snooker with Mac & Hoggie again. Meals are still damn good here. Everyone seems to have the proper attitude. The C.E.M. had guard duty from 0100 - 0600!

JUNE 21

19 Up at 0700 for first day of ground school - which lasted until 2100 tonight. Some good poop - but most is review - and a trifle boring. The boys went to Berlin today. I guess our 1st mission will be Sunday. The E.M.'s had guard duty 0100 - 0600 again. That's rough with ground school too. More snooker with the boys. Bet them again. Heated from Folks & Pat (1st mail written the 3rd or 6th?)
1944. GRND SCHOOL AGAIN - MORE OF THE SAME OLD POOP - P.W., DINGY, MEDICAL, & WALKING OUT. SPENT MOST OF DAY PLAYING SNOOKER WITH MAC & HOBBI - THE E.M.S ARE DAMN MAD - HAVE GUARD DUTY FROM 2100 TO 0100 AND THERE'S A BIG DANCE FOR THEM TONIGHT - I TRIED TO GET THEM RELIEVED - BUT NO LUCK, DAMN BUT THERE ARE BARRACKS ARE SURE CROWD BUT THE E.M.'S ARE IN A COLD TENT, SO I GUESS WE'RE DOING OK WE'RE.

1944. CLASSES AGAIN - RECON.
CLASSES - HOBBI & DENTON
NO MAIL TO SHARP ON IDENTIFYING PLANES. MORE SNOOZER - SOME GOOD MEALS TODAY. NO MAIL AGAIN!! WROTE FOLKS.

1944. WISH HEAR FROM BERTIE - WISH HEAR FROM HER. HOBBI BOUGHT A BIKE FOR 12 POUNDS TODAY. HAD PRETTY GOOD USO SHOW TONIGHT.
JUNE 24

1944 Classes Most Of The Day.
Showered - Finally! Had To
Clean Up - Today Is Saturday
And We Had A Big Party At
The Club. Of Course The Boys
I Had To Go. Mac Was The Drunkest
I've Ever Seen Him - So I Took
Care Of Him In A Mild Sore
Way - Hobbie Was Well Beyond
Control - Had A Bad Habit Of Pinching
The Women Of Other Officers - Devon
Ended Up In Town Some How. No Pub.
We All Made Asses Of Our Selves
But We Were Not Alone - Every
One Had A Good Time. There
Were A Few Women From Kettler
There But I Wasn't Interested.
The Scotch Was Plenty And Very
High Priced. We Spent Pound Notes
"Like Dollar Bills!"

JUNE 25

1944 Oh - Un Happy Day - Classes
Hobbie Was Ready To Die - Had
To Stay In Bed All Day. The
Rest Of Us Were O.K. I
Felt Fine For Some Reason
Or Other. We Had Classes This
Morn And Were Issued Some
More Flying Equipment. I
Went Up With Major Thacker
For An Instrument Check,
I Guess I Satisfied Him -
Get A New Card Soon. Flew
For About 2:05 - Country
Looks All The Same Around
Here - No Good For Pilots.
These Boys Of Mine Are
Still Getting Guard Duty
Every Single Night And
I Can't Do A Thing About It.
I Really Like The Crew Chiefs Here!
They Took A Bridge Out In France. Today
JUNE 26

1944. Had link this morning S.B.A. Again. Had a lecture by Capt. Bennett on formation. We were scheduled to fly Hi-Lt. Form. But it rain fairly hard this afternoon - so we didn't fly. Had couple of games of snooker with Mac.

19 Got a flak helmet. Guess our first mission will be after lay gets checked out on the radio procedure.

19 No mail again today, damn! London is taking a beating - those robber bombs are raising hell. None to good for civilian moral. The Boys were to go to Munich today but it was scrubbed. Every one was suddenly relieved. Expect to be thru 35 missions by Sept 1. Hope I'm right. Xmas at home. Wow!*

JUNE 27

1944 up for breakfast - 1st class at 0930. Called out of class to be checked out on formation. Ended up flying Inst w/Lt. Roth of Mac. Flew about an hour and had a quick lunch. Back to class - called out again (Mac!) had to fly 3 hrs. Slow time on a ship - an old beat up "F". Lots of rain while were flying. The country looks all the same around here. That radio compass is sure a damn good thing.

19 In clear weather. Damn. No mail again!!! The Boys went into France today. Major Thomas got rather P.O.D. today - my opinion of him drops as time passes.
1944 Woke up at 0645 - Suppose to have a practice mission - got out to the ship - and the mission was scrubbed. Rained like hell today - almost with out stopping - had class on radar & chaff. Got an A.F.C.E. check in link - what a joke! The people here really not very progressive - in Kettering before the war - they had water only once every 2 weeks. The water for showers here on the field has been off for five days now. There's really no excuse with a couple dams in Scotland - but there's just too much red tape. So nothing is done about it. Damn no mail again!!! Every one gets mail but me.

1944 Up for breakfast - Mac was called out for his first mission - as copilot on some other crew. Was up for 400 hrs. An the mission was so so I tried to fly - so I could get lay checked out in the air. Finally made it this afternoon - had Lt Bennett as copilot - he's a captain - Vivian (our flight surgeon) went along plus four radio operators.

1944 Lay didn't go along - cause was checked this morn. Lay is really a smart boy - made 97 in his radio exam. Major Thacker chewed on me for not saluting him. He's making use of line cadets again B.O.Q. inspections - I have to personally visit the F.M. barracks daily!! Our bed goes - shoes shine etc.
JUNE 30

1944. Breakfast again - had dingy drill with the crew took them 25 seconds to get out with the equipment. Damn good. Flewa practice mission today only two ships - about 2:45 - some altitude. Time too. So I guess I'm checked out in form. Flying now.

Got four letters today! Betty's was rather reserved - can't figure out why. Anyway I was mighty glad to hear from her.

Heard from Annabel - sounded very cheerful - wish I could understand that gal!! Heard from Bar at last. She's the same as ever. David is in China flying P-40's and she's back in Redding. Got a card from a Matti Church in Huntington Park - addressed to P.O. H.

JULY 1

1944. Breakfast - a class on Radar & Chaff - sack time all afternoon. Found out that I'm to be Lt. Gregg's pilot until he finishes his missions (8) using my crew!! I don't like the deal at all - Mac will be here a lot longer than the rest US. Lt. Gregg came over here as a copilot and has been checked out.

Since - so he gets my crew and myself for 8 missions what raw deal that is for all of us - mainly myself.

He does have lots of experience so that is a definite answer no doubt it's some of Major Harker's doings - sorta gives me a blow that's one place I wanted to do the flying and be in command!!
JULY 2

1944 Just made breakfast this morn. Was called to swing a compass - so spent the morning taking a "17" in circles for a couple ofnavig. While they compensated the flux gate compass. This afternoon we had a lecture by the colonel of the post - a sort of review of the S.O.P.'s of the group. Said this is the best group in the E.T.O. By facts & figures - and of our group I'm in the best sqdn. So I guess I'm in the top or upper 4 hundred. No mail today. Wrote to my folks and sent $150.00 home. No flying again today. Guess this damn rain is in to stay. They've finally turned the showers on again.

JULY 3

19 Major Thacker had every one up for breakfast. Last night some of the boys opened a couple of bottles and raised hell in the barracks - keeping the major awake. I guess he didn't appreciate it. We had one class on V.H.F. - stayed in out of the rain the rest of the day - Denton & Hobie went to town - but Mary & I don't go for the rain. The group is authorized to wear the bronze star on their ETO ribbons. No mail again. No flying - rain. Guess I'll buy a bike tomorrow for 12°/10° high as hell! Wrote to David & Annabel today. Wish we get started on our mission and no laundry yet! None since Arizona! I'm dirty as hell!
July 4

19 Breakfast as usual - No classes today - Just for Hobbies.
Denton, Mac went on his first mission today as copilot on another crew.
It was a milerun over France - some airfield - which they missed - because

19 Undercast - No flak. Didn't buy that - Bice went up with Griggs as copilot.
Flew around shot a few landings - really nice fellow but I don't like being copilot. For 8 missions, they're taking Gaston away from me to make radio operator out of him for some other crew. We are on the flight plan. Got a letter from Bertie. She sounds like she mailed me changed her mind about me! These women!!

July 5

19 Breakfast - Classes at 0830 till 1130 & 1330 till 1500.
A mobile training unit - with a lot of mismatches on the "17."

19 Had my 2nd shower since I've been on the base!! Boy clean laundry!! Still trying to get the per diem fixed up.

19 For the boys - guess they'll get it in a couple of days. Sure hate this deal of being copilot!!! Nobody flew this day - maybe tomorrow. Be glad when we get these missions finished. So I can get back in the left seat again.

19 Macy Denton went up and practiced bomber. Written Bertie - received no mail today. Can't find my watch.
The 1st - Amiens
JULY 6
5:45
CALAIS
19 Up for breakfast and how it was 0320! Got us up for our first mission. Had fresh eggs. For how. Waited in the briefing for an hour or so - they scrubbed the original mission to Bremen. Gave us a quickie to near Lille just across the Channel. Took 10 men - with Lt. Briggs as pilot. Mac flew copilot for Lt. Brink. Had inst. conditions at 5000 up to 2500'. Poor assembly - but on time. Clear below at the Channel and in France. Their was flak in the distance, but none directed at us. No fighters other than P-47 escort. We had a fire soon after this. In the wiring of the chintz section, practically suffocated Horrie & Denton but with a fine isn't, put it out. Dropped only 7 tons of B-18 Do To Rack. Malfunctions - Denton almost missed out in bomb bay. - His engine heave broke.

The 2nd One!!!
JULY 7
8:50
LEIPZIG
19 Up for breakfast at 0200. Briefing to Leipzig a hot spot. 108 percent. The assembly was fine. No. 6 in high sweep. Higher GP.
19 Flew nearly all the way at 38" - 25 rpm. - Poor form. All the towns were covered with smoke screen. Pass 25 mi. South of Berlin.
19 Then over the target, saw a little flak - but it was accurate. One burst gave us 9 holes in waist tally. Left wing. Two ships collided.
19 Here in England 4 two on the way.
19 Out over the Zuider Sea. Sometimes fellows got out of both ships. One other ship hit by flak near target.
19 Lost control - saw six chutes open. Ship crash into ground. Blow up. Good P-47 escort - saw one man bail out. (By mistake) over Holland. Darn no Mal (coast) stood down.)
CALAIS

19 Ud AT 0100 Breakfast and
Then Briefing For A No-Ball Near
Pas de Calais & St. Omer - Had A Good
Assembly (125th Groups) - Clear Until
We9 Hit Enemy Coast - Target Covered
So We Brought The Load Back (500 Demo)
Flak Was Damn Accurate - A Couple Of
Ships Went Down In The Other Groups.
Expected Another Flight This
Afternoon - But Didn't So I Slept
Most The Time. Recvd Two Letters
From The folks - They Were In
Answer To My First Letter They've
Recvd. Sure Nice To Hear From Home.
Since It Is Sat. Denton & I Took In
The Show. The Russians Are
Sure Going Fast Around Minsk!
Guess I'd Better Hit The Sack
Probably Go Out Early Again.
Mac Sure Getting Fager - Really
Been Studying Lately.

STOOD DOWN! (JULY 9)

19 Ud For Breakfast At A Reasonable
Hour 0930 - Had An Engineering
Lecture At 1030 - Lunch And
A Couple Of Games Of Snooker

HOBBIE Sure Beat Me! Rained
Most Of The Afternoon - By The
Way The Damn Showers Have Been
Turned Off Again! They Finally
Issued Me A Bycicle - I Had To
Work It Over - Got The
Brakes Working Fair. After
Supper We Found Out That We
Were Stood Down Until Tomorrow
Noon So - Mac, Hobbie, Denver, Gordon
And Hardery Went To Brostock By Bycicle
Very Clean Little Town - Four Pubs

19 Met A Few Irish Girls In The ATS
Mac & I Had A Little To Much Gin
A Wine - Had A Lot Of Fun Trying
To Pedal Bagic - Damn Hills! The
English Girls Have Only One Thing In Mind
It Seems!! They're Much To Fager!
JULY 10

19 Breakfast at 0600 - And we had fresh eggs - as if we were going on a mission. At 0100 Mac & I had to see a picture on the C-1 autopilot (Walt Donskis). I've seen it so damn many times.

After censoring letters a while Mac, Hobbs & I went to breakfast. Sure a nice clean burg. A very typical old English town. We met a couple of A.T.S. girls (Army Territorial Service, I think!) Mac & I did only suppose to meet them again tomorrow night. Had some really good wine. We pedaled back and got in bed by 2300. Sure a lot of promotions - our C.O. is now 4th Col. Thacker; several of the boys made 1st of the old timers' cap. Olson, Kania, Gastro, Harper, Murk, got a V in from Annaba.

JULY 11

10 Munich

19 Up at 0530 - Breakfast & briefing for a hot spot that everyone has hoped would never come. 1376 bombers to Hitler Munich factory & town. We had a low overcast to climb thru. After T.O. assembly was good - Col. Thacker leading. We flew No. 2 high soon. Leader group, a good position. He was off Lt. Hace's wing. He's a damn good pilot. Never saw the ground the whole trip. Bombed P.T.T. Flak was intense but inaccurate and that was only at the target area. Chief must be doing the trick. Had a few inaccurate 30mm rockets. There were enemy fighters but our group saw none. 38, 356, 49's all the way in. Tired to night. So I guess I'll hit the sack early.
No. 5 - A REPEATO
MUNICH
JULY 12
10:00

19 They got us up at 0430 briefing at 0530 - yes, we had to go back to Munich about 1100 or us were to hit the factory again but it was under cast all the way so we bombed by P/F.

On the town itself. No fighters had damn good escort. Flak was intense. Plenty accurate. We were No. 5 high squall low. Mr. - the No. 6 man lost two engines so he dropped way behind but made it back to England with fighter escort. Another ship blew up, but 2 out of the fellows got out O.K.

We picked up 2 flak holes - wing Bombay and behind my seat. Hit prop wash once did a ninety degree bank but caught it before we went over on our backs. Tired as hell - sick time.

No. 6 - THIRD TIMES A CHARM
MUNICH
JULY 13
10:00

19 After exactly 24 hours of sleep we got up at 0200 for breakfast briefing at 0300. Everyone was tired this morn. Sure hated to go back to Munich again. Had to climb thru an overcast - fair assembly - had a poor lead.

Airsp. 130. Most of the time, we were No. 5 high. Soon, higher - the Nav. In the lead ship, took us over Stuttgart and intense flak - had a toggler along - he dropped the bombs about 3 min. before the target.

Flak was intense and fairly accurate. Had along ride home - then 45 min. about 200 ft. - sure a lot of ships. Damn easy to get hit but we made it O.K. Hit the sack at 1500 - just about as tired as I ever want to be. I did have three letters waiting. Fools, dorks.
1944  Up For Breakfast at a reasonable hour. Most of the fellows slept to rest up after those last three raids.

Took it easy all day - about 1800 Hobbs, MacP, Denton & I cycled to Bigstock - since wine is my drink over here I drank a lot of it and it took it's effect - now!

I came back alone early - but stopped at the club for a snack - and there were the boys from the barracks so I had to join in - we finally all made it back to the barracks then all hell broke loose - chairs, tables thrown around. Banters & Norton were really high. I finally ended up in the wrong bunk. MacFarlane was in mine!

July 15

Woke up in MacFarlane's bed but made it to breakfast okay.

We had to clean the mess in the barracks up for an inspection at 0900. Now what a mess! Macasser decided to get a ship and shoot landing - so we shot a piece and then it was time for lunch.

Macasser's landing site is better but he still needs more practice, has trouble in keeping it on the run way. Out of tea. We finally decided to head for Bigstock - found our usual pub "The Old Three Cocks."

We met a family who owns a few horses used for the fox hunts - they took us in their home - the cleanest I've seen in along time. Every thing polished perfectly. They lived there in these same houses for over a hundred years.
JULY 16

19 Wish I hadn't of drank anything last night! Slept in for the first time in along time. Bought some clothes at the mobie P.K. yester day. Slippers, pajamas - every thing for the sake! Mac went to Munich again today as Mullerhill's copilot. They lost an engine over the target; a couldn't feather so they came home alone with a wind milling prop - no hydraulic system. Little oxygen - they salvaged everything. A crash landed wheels up on an Emer. field near the channel (woodbridge). I flew down to pick him up with another ship. Got back about 2:30 - sure was glad to see Mac allokay! The ship was demolished but no one was hurt. Flack was really bad - but I know we'll have to go back again.

JULY 17

No. 7 Amic Run

19 up at 0200 for breakfast. Then briefing - the target a R.R. Bridge 10 miles SW of San Quentin. Flack was very meager & inaccurate. It was a pretty easy mission. And we were hot camera ship so we got back early. I think we hit the wrong bridge but we hit one anyway. Had a banquet at the messhall or all the officers. Awards & promotions were given out. Had a steak dinner with all the beer we wanted - damn beer! Wish I could drink the stuff. Mac, Hoobey & I went to Brestock for an hour or so. The pubs were closed when we arrived - but we got one drink of Scotch at the town hall in their private room. Really on the inside at that pub.
19 UP AT 0200 FOR BREAKFAST—THEN
BRIEFING—TARGET—A FACTORY BUILDING
BUZZ BOMBS ON THE BALTIC SEA JUST
NORTH OF BERLIN. WE REALLY HIT THAT
TARGET! BUT HAD TO MAKE TWO
PASSES AT IT. THERE WAS A LITTLE
FLAK—BUT INACCURATE. IT WAS THE
LONGEST RIDE WE'VE EVER TAKEN.

AFTER ASSEMBLY OVER THE FIELD
I GOT SICK—STARTED VOMITING.
I DID JUST THAT FOR 10 HOURS
ALL THE WAY OVER AND ALL THE
WAY BACK—NEAR THE TARGET I
QUIT THE G.I.'S SO I HAD TO DO MY DUTY
AT 21,000 FT.—KINDA COLD, TOO! I THINK
THAT THIS IS THE SICKIEST I'VE EVER
BEEN. GRIGGS HAD TO FLY MOST OF THE
TIME AND IT WAS HIS LAST MISSION TO!
I WENT TO SOLCALS AND CAPT. VIVIAN
GROUND ME AND GAVE ME SOME
MEDITATION (HAVEN'T BEEN HELD TO 20
ALL THE WAY SOMETHING BRIEFLY PUNCHED IN.

19 UP AT 0930—THE BOYS WENT
TO MUNICH AGAIN—SINCE I
WAS GROUNDED NONE OF THE
CREW WENT EXCEPT MCNAMARA,
A 19 APRIL FOR MULVERHILL (HIS
LAST MISSION!) 4 GASTON AS RADIO
OPERATOR FOR LT. HEEZEL CRES IN
THE S46 SQDN. OUR GROUP WAS FIRST
OVER THE TARGET SO THEY GOT
BOTH FLAK AND FIGHTERS—MAC'S
SHIP WAS SHOT UP A LITTLE (MAC
HAD A CLOSE ONE—BESIDE HIS SEAT!)
BUT GASTON DIDN'T FAIR SO WELL—
HE WAS WOUNDED IN THE LEG BY A
20MM—I THINK PUNTED SERIOUSLY. HIS
SHIP WAS WEIRDLY SHOT UP BY FIGHTERS.
ALTHOUGH THEY CLAIM THEY SHOT DOWN
HORSEY GAVE A PINT OF BLOOD FOR GASTON
ALL TOGETHER HE HAD 3 PINTS OF BLOOD
GIVEN HIM. HE WAS TAKEN TO A HOSPITAL NEAR
MOLESWORTH. SO WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM YET.
I FEEL FAIRLY GOOD NOW—MY STOMACHS BETTER.
JULY 20

19 UP AT 0730 FOR BREAKFAST - WE
GET OUR FIRST 48 HR. STARTING TODAY.
SO THE CREW WAS ALL SLICKED UP - HOT
FOR GOING TO LONDON. HAD OUR PICTURES
TAKEN THIS MORNING WITH GRIGGS IN FRONT
OF A "17" - SURE IT WAS HIS CREW
FOR OUR FIRST 8 MISSIONS. IT TOOK
A LONG TIME TO GET THE PASSES MADE OUT
BUT WE MADE THE 10:37 TRAIN FOR
LONDON - HAD A G.I. TRUCK TIE US
TO KETTLEING. THE 1ST SGT. TOLD ME WHILE
WE WERE GETTING THE PASSES THAT GASTON
WOULD PROBABLY LOSE HIS LEG - I DECIDED
IT BEST NOT TO TELL THE CREW UNTIL
AFTER WE GOT BACK FROM PASS. WE
ARRIVED IN LONDON AT 1230 - GOT
ROOMS AT THE CUMBERLAND HOTEL
ONE OF THE NICEST. MAC IS WORK
OR LESS FINANCING THE DRIP CAUSE
EVERYONE WAS BROKE. NATURALLY MAC HAS
DENTAL AT 1230 AT PRADICLY - WOW!

JULY 21

19 I GOT UP EARLY HAD A BATH
IN A BIG BATH TUB - NICE SHAVE
BUT BREAKFAST CONSISTED OF
WELSH RASPBERRY CHEESE ON TOAST (100) +
190 CUPS OF COFFEE!! BOUGHT A PAIR
OF PINKS AT THE ARMY PX. THEN GOT
DETON UP AND WE WENT TO PICADILLY
ORDER OURSELVES A BATTLE JACKET
(TAILOR MADE) FOR 10/6 1/2!! OH WELL
THEYER DAMN NICE! WE WONT GET
THEM FOR A MONTH OR SO! LAST NIGHT
SEVERAL BUZZ BOMBS WENT OVER -
OLD LANDED TWO BLOCKS AWAY AND
REALLY RAISED HELL! - THERE'S ALL
MOST A CONSTANT ALERT ON! BUT
I NEVER NOTICED ANYONE GOING TO THE
SHELTER - LOTS OF DAMAGE AROUND
BUT THIS GERMAN CIVIL WAR SOUNDS
ENCOURAGING! ENDED UP IN THE PALACE
REGENT - BUT I DANK DEENT MUCH. HAD
GOOD TIME WITH MAC ON THE UNDERGROUND
PEOPLE SLEEPING AWAY THERE BY THE THOUSANDS.
JULY 22

19 Up at 1030. Breakfast 4 1/2. I had
Breakfast in bed—Boy what a bed
Nug, Big, Soft—A real pillow
Wow! Suppose to be back of the
bus at 1200 noon! So we missed the
0830 train—the 1200 train—The 1500
Train—We finally crowded on the
1530 train! Boy was it crowded—
Everyone is evacuating London.
We found a place near Picadilly (the Victory
Restaurant) where they serve steak.
So during our stay we had five steaks.
Not bad at all! We sure did
Spend the money. I spent about
20s! But we all had a good time.
Got back about 1930—After poor
Red Cross Connections. They wanted us
At operations about 4000. We were
WELL GROUNDED ON. Got in
The same early. Gaston lost his
left leg just below the knee.

JULY 23

19 Up for 0800. Breakfast—Spent
The morning in the barracks
Fooling around. Col. Twigger
came in and talked with us awhile
He didn’t know about Gaston—!!!
Col. Smith (Post. C.O.) was out to
See Gaston. We got a C.O. Truck
Took the whole crew over to see
Him — He’s looking fairly well
Really taking it like a
Man. He’s got what it takes.
When we arrived over there at
The 30320 Station Hosp. Mary (Ais-S.
Harper’s girl) was there—she had
Pedaled all the way from Bridgton
(about 70 mi.) He had 14 plasters of blood
Stuck in him!! He’s sure had a
Rough Break but a lot of the fellows
Never come back. Wells is down
He’s left right access from me, and
Was married too!
No. 9 MILK RUN
NEAR ST. LO, FRANCE
JULY 24

1900 UP AT 0200 FOR BREAKFAST BRIEFING. DURING WHICH THE MISSION
WAS PUSHED FORWARD FOUR HOURS
SO WE CAME BACK TO THE BARRACKS
FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS OF SACK
TIME. AND I HAD BREAKFAST A
SECOND TIME AT 0800. IT WAS
MY FIRST MISSION AS PILOT —
THERE WAS A LITTLE FLAK — BUT
IT WAS ALL LOW. THE TARGET WAS
NEARST. LO — 1500 YDS FROM OUR
LINES — WE HAD ANTI-PERSONNEL
(FLAK) BOMBS — BUT DIDN'T DROP
THEM. HAD 5/10 UNDERCAST, SO WE TOOK
A SCENIC TOUR OF FRANCE! GOT
BACK ABOUT 1530 — TONIGHT IS
THE SQUEEZE PARTY AT NORTHAMPTON
BUT WE ARE ON THE FLIGHT PLAN
SO WE DECIDED NOT TO GO — JUST
SNOOZE OFFICERS WILL BE THERE. DEMON
OUR BEST!! ROUGH ALL OVER!

No. 10 THE BIGGEST, BEST
MILK RUN FLOWN IN THE ENTIRE
NEAR ST. LO, FRANCE
JULY 25
12,500 FT.

1900 UP AT 0530 BREAKFAST BRIEFING
FOR A QUICKIE — ANOTHER TO
ST. LO, FRANCE — NO FLAK — BOY
THAT'S THE KINDA MISSION I WANT!!
FLYED OVER BANTEN'S WING — HE'S A
DAMN GOOD PILOT. WE HAD LOTS OF
DEAD WASH ON THE BOMB RUN — MAC
REALLY HIT THE TARGET FEELING GOOD
FLEW IT — AND REALLY DID A NICE
JOB — HE'S GOING TO GET HIS OWN
CREW WITHOUT A DOUBT. HOBDEY
IS REALLY A SHARP NAVIGATOR. HOPE
I DON'T LOOSE HIM. THE CREW IS
PRETTY WELL ON THE BALL. OLSON
IS GETTING A LITTLE BETTER — HE'S
SLEEPING AGAIN SINCE THOSE LAST
EASY RAIDSD GET BACK TODAY AT
1230 (1)

GOT A LETTER FROM THE FOLKS,
BEETLE & BABS. BABS IS GOING
TO STOCKTON COLLEGE NOW. BEETLE
BEESE SICK, FOLKS ARE OKAY. SAW
THE BEACH TODAY — LOTS OF ACTIVITY.
JULY 26

Up at 0730 - For Breakfast (Hot Cakes!)
Had a Critique
At 1030 on the last few Missions. Laid in the Sack most of the day. Got Kinda Mad at Denton for not going to class this afternoon. So I sorta told him off. Later he got a cable - He's a Father of a girl! He's sure not very eager - wish he would get out the ball for his own good. If nothing or no one else. Had a parade this evening - gave out some more awards - rather tiresome. It stinks got 1st Lt. Lots of knew Crewe Missing. Wrote to Berge - got to hit Sack early again - probably fly tomorrow.

JULY 27

Up at 0700 Breakfast Briefing (for Munich!)
Got out to the ship all ready to start engines and it was scrubbed so we came back & hit the Sack - we're called out again at 0830 started briefing for an airfield in France and it was scrub so back to the Sack - the crew went out to the ship and cleaned the guns - Hobbit Mac & I fired out a 45 Cal. today. Didn't hit much but had a lot of fun. Went to a stage show at the theatre tonight. Wasn't a bad show - got a letter from Pat. Rainer. Often today - But the Sun is out too - whata clergy...
No. 11  

MERESEBURG

JULY 28

8:15

2500FT

8 UP AT 0300 BREAKFAST, BRIEFING FOR AN OIL PLANT NEAR LEIPZIG
WE BOMBED P.F.F. HAD DAMN ACCURATE FLAK & A FEW GRAND ROCKETS, WE PICKED UP SEVERAL HOLES - GUESS THEY'LL HAVE TO CHANGE THE RIGHT WING PANEL & THE LEFT ELEVATOR. ONE PIECE OF FLAK CAME MIGHTY CLOSE TO KILL THE TAIL GUNNER. SO OUR SHIP WILL BE OUT OF COMMISSION FOR A DAY OR TWO. WE WERE IN RUBBLE HEARD CORNER TODAY - SOME OF THE CREW SAW TWO ENEMY FIGHTERS BUT THEY DIDN'T ATTACK US. WE HAD A VERY POOR ELEMENT LEAD - LT. PARKER, HIS NO. 109 SO CLOSE I MY I COULD PLAINTLY SEE THE PILOT!! ONE SHIP WAS KNOCKED OUT BY FLAK - HIS LAST MISSION TOO (LT. SWEENEY)! WE PICKED UP ABOUT 50+ choir (FLAK) ONE VERY CLOSE TO DE LAURIE'S HEAD IN THE TURRET, IT KNOCKED HIM OUT OF THE TURRET! TFIC THE SIGHTY INTERPHONE, HIT THE BALL, BROKE THE GLASS BUT MISSED KANIA. GOT SOME IN THE VENTS, HURLED STAB, HAD A BRAND NEW SHIP TOO! FIRST MISSION!

No. 12 - FIGHTERS!

MERESEBURG

AG40

JULY 29

8:30

25000FT

19 UP AT 0230 BREAKFAST, BRIEFING FOR SAME TARGET (THE SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT) - REALLY HIT THE TARGET, VISUAL TOO! NO OIL FROM THERE FOR A LONG TIME. WE HAD FIGHTERS, THEY ATTACKED OUR GROUP BUT NOT OUR SHIP - THE GUNNERS GOT SOME SHOTS IN BUT NO HITS (FWI 190s ME 109s): I SAW ONE 109 SO CLOSE I MY I COULD PLAINTLY SEE THE PILOT!! ONE SHIP WAS KNOCKED OUT BY FLAK - HIS LAST MISSION TOO (LT. SWEENEY)! WE PICKED UP ABOUT 50+ CHOIR (FLAK) ONE VERY CLOSE TO DE LAURIE'S HEAD IN THE TURRET, IT KNOCKED HIM OUT OF THE TURRET! TFIC THE SIGHTY INTERPHONE, HIT THE BALL, BROKE THE GLASS BUT MISSED KANIA. GOT SOME IN THE VENTS, HURLED STAB, HAD A BRAND NEW SHIP TOO! FIRST MISSION!
JULY 30

19 Up at 0930 - Had a meeting at
sooner, op - Wow, what a rough
time I had with the boys last
night - had our group officers
club party. Everyone got
Drunk, including myself. So
this morning I had one of my few
hangovers. This afternoon the
crew and I got a truck and went
to see Gaston over at the
303 sta. hosp. seems to be doing
fine - looks a lot better - but
is getting tired of bed. Sure
is cheerful as hell! Came
back - had a letter from
Annabel. She's sure been
writing a lot lately, can't
understand it! Wish they'd
turn the showers on - been
off since our 48hr knock
out.

No. 15!! AMILK RUN
MUNICH - FOURTH TIME!

JULY 31

19 Up at 0600 breakfast, briefing
for the engine factory in Munich
again. We had nothing but
trouble this morning - got our
shift (49) again - they put a new
wing on it - so everyone was
happy - to start out with - Mac
didn't fly with us - a new pilot
flew as my co-pilot - not a bad
fellow, but we made a right turn
out of the hardstand and it taxied
one wheel off the strip up to
the strut! So we got a replace-
ment ship (P88) took off an hour
late but caught the formation
okay, flew No. 4 position in line

19 Group low soon. (125 mph). It's
an easy position to fly - didn't
have much trouble. Iran most
of the way. Bombs we won't close
expect. No heating - no intercom.
Intercept - what a day - Meager PSR
AUGUST 1

19 Up for 0800 breakfast (hotcakes!).

Nice Calif. Fog! We were stood down this morning - but the boys went to a target in France. I guess they thought we needed some rest - for the tough ones damn it! We layed around most of the day - lots of sack time. I went down to finance & got my pay 38x5/7. I'll have to send my to London for my battle jacket.

I wrote a letter & received one from Bertie - won't what a gal!! Went to the show and saw "For Whom the Bell Tolls". Pretty good picture!

The water was turned on finally.

19 Had good hot shower. My first (except for bird baths) since London. Mac & I have been studying a little in the tech. orders.

AUGUST 2

19 0800 breakfast - 1000 Critic (sp?) New poop on German rocket fighters - guess we'll be seeing them soon. They travel well over 500 mph. With 5,000 yd 10,000 ft/min. This combat business is getting rough. The boys had to clean the guns in the ship today. I really like the crew chief - he stole some armor glass from Col. Thacker and put it in my ship - really on the ball - got to get him some shorts for what.

Today they were out cleaning the ship off for a little less drag. None better.
19th Aug 0800 Breakfast. Thought we wouldn't fly, but at noon we had briefing for a no-ball in France. Sounded like a milk run. Saw only a half dozen bursts of flak but got one burst. A piece hit No. 2 Eng. By the oil cooler - used the fung. for a hour more and had to feather it. Got another hole thru the glass over the bomb bay. Led the lowson. For the first time - had a new 1st pilot as copilot for his first mission. Also had parker as bombardier who has around 20 missions in. Also had no airspeed indication so had to fly instruments. Landing without three engines and no airspeed. What a landing! Every one in craft positions - but main t. dead. 19th Aug 05:30 Breakfast. Briefing for experimental plant north of Berlin (our second trip to that target) had a lot of fog. His morn - practically a white out. I flew low squad lead. Had Parker as bombardier again. Got about 5 flak holes - one 16 one by Olson's foot in the tail - another cracked the armor glass in the ball - others in the glass all over kavia. Got another in No. 2 main fuel tank - plus one in the right wing tip. One in the tail fin. Another ship out of commission. The fourth force in the last four raids saw Sweden again today! Picked up the flak acrossing Denmark. Sack time - new thick mattress as scattered all over hall.
AUGUST 5

19 AWAKENED AT 0900 - HAD TO
GO UP TO SCARES ROCK AS COPILOT
ON A PFF SHIP - FOR PRACTICE
BOMBING WITH LT. KOCH. HAD A
LONG RIDE AT 22,000 FT - WISH IT
GONE ON THE MISSION TODAY. DAMN
PRACTICE MISSIONS! HAD A WONDERFUL
SLEEP LAST NIGHT ON MY NEW QK
PIEZ MATTRESS - OH - WHAT A
SACK I'VE GOT NOW!! DIDN'T GET
ANY BREAKFAST THIS MORNING NOR
ANY LUNCH SO ALL I HAD WAS
JUST ONE MEAL TODAY!! DENTON
IS LEAVING FOR EVQYF MONDAY TO
PRACTICE BOMB FOR A MONTH - MAKING
A LEAD BOMBARDEIR OUT OF HIM.
GOT ANOTHER LETTER FROM
ANNABEL TODAY - CAN'T UNDERSTAND
HER - I DON'T WRITE HER VERY
OFTEN. "NOW FROM HOME OR BARTIE!!

AUGUST 6

19 UP AT 1100! NO BREAKFAST
JUST SACK TIME. WE WERE
STOOD DOWN SINCE WE HAVEN'T
SO MANY NEW CREWS. RECEIVED
THE PICTURES FROM HOME OR
THE CREW REALLY SWELL PIC'S.
ALL THE FELLOWS WANT THEM.
DENTON LEFT FOR EVQYF THIS
AFTERNOON - TOOK THE CAR
OVER TO SEE GASTON - SEEMS
TO BE DOING FINE - SAID
PELIX WAS OVER TO SEE HIM.
HE'S IN THE BATHS. GASTON
MADE TISS US OF COURSE GOT THE
PURPLE HEART. WENT TO BRISTOCK
WITH THE BOYS - OILED AS
USUAL - CAUSE TOMORROW
NO BODIES FLYING - NO SHIPS IN
COMMISSION - ALL SHOT UP ON TODAY'S
PAID. STARTED BACK FROM
BRISTOCK.
AUGUST 7

19 UP AT 10:00 - Mac Had To
Fuy As Copilot For Somebody.
On A Mission After Being Too
We Were Stood Down. Got A
Letter From Bertie - Hope
I can Lose That Gall Like She
Says She Loves Me. She's Sure
The Nicest Gal I've Ever Known.
Wrote A Letter To That Foul
Bertie. Went To Brough
Again Last Night - Had A
Fair Time - Hobbe Has Found
His True Love - Ha! Ha!
Didn't Drink Much - Have To Fly
Tomorrow.
I Guess I've Lost, Hobbe - He's
Now A Group Lead Nav. - So I Won't
Fly With Him Unless I Made
Group Lead! Damn Good Man.
Sure Pleased the Way Fellows
Handled the Fighters Today.

NO. 16 - Fighters!

11 MI. North Caen, France.

AUGUST 8

19 Up At 0730 Breakfast.
Briefing - A Nice Short Raid
In Support Of The British
Grnd. Forces - Expected It
To Be A Milk Run - But Found
Out Different. On The 1/P.
The Upper Turret Saw the
First Me. 410 Fired On it
And Then The Ball and
Tail Fired On Another. The
Ball (Kania) Claims It
Saw The Kraut Bail Out & The
Plane Crash. Several Bandits
Passed By Us And We Shot At
Them But None Actualy Attack
Our Ship, Altho They Did Fire
On Our Formation. We Lead The
Low Stick. H Group. (105th Group) Hobbe
Flew As Group Navigator So We Had Another
Nav & Toggie. Didn't Drop Bombs
Couldn't See The Target.
AUGUST 9

19 Up for 0800 Breakfast — Today is the day we go on our 2nd 48 hr. Pass so London it is! Rushed around to get in town to catch the 10:37 train from Kettering — but after queuing up for our tickets — we were just a minute too late so we caught the 12:15 after tea and tarts. On arriving we headed for the Cumberland, got rooms (two) (Englishmen couldn’t!) bathed and went to proudly for a steak and then to the Amer. Melody Bar — joined the club and drank our first Amer. Scotch (any brand!!) on leaving with a quart for a spare. We had difficulties in standing but proceeded to the Regent’s Palace.

AUGUST 10

19 Of course it was about to close — so at Hobie’s guests (Mac!) went to one of his clubs “The New Paradise” (he joined last time) proceeded to have a wonderful time — dancing + drinking — Nice club — but Hobie was having trouble with the waiters — but not fight-desto. Next morning 1130 — breakfast in bed — bath — ran down with Mac & Bob to order their battle jackets (mine wasn’t finished!!) bought some shirts for our crew chief — Joe Rukavina &. Then back to our Greek Steak House & bought two bottles of wine (Graves) — damn good! Then after drinking it at the room — down to Piccadilly again — but this time
AUGUST 11

Instead of a cab - we took the underground - down stairs - escalators - through tunnels - transferred once - up again in Piccadilly - believe it was actually faster than a hack. Lots of people sleeping down there! I got separated from the boys - so hit the luxurious saucers early - up at 1000 - breakfast in bed - cleaned up and caught the 1200 train back to Kettering.

Froze around, caught a truck out to camp - crawled in the saucers - read two letters from Bertie and one from home. Nice and quiet. The boys are on a mission. Guess I'll write some letters. Wrote one to Bertie.

AUGUST 12

No. 17 A Milk Run - Wow!! 8:40 Etoile, France

Up at 0315 breakfast briefing - to an airfield south east of Paris. Had a little weather on T.O. and during assembly saw the beachhead very clearly from 20,000 ft. Cherbourg harbor looks as if it may be in use - all of France is pitted with craters. We didn't get any flak - now, a few rockets - but not at us! We lead the high element, lead spur. By 0800 didn't fly with us - stood down.

Harper flew as tug with a three. First time - did a Damn Good job. Really hit the target.

Today!! Laid in the sun this afternoon - got a letter from home - Bertie - oh! That Bac!!
No. 18 - Accurate Flak 4:45
AUGUST 13
NEAR BEAMONT, FRANCE. 20,000 FTD
19 Up at 0730 Breakfast + Pre-Briefing for a "Quickie". The target - a triangular road junction - near an airfield objectives - to stop the retreat of the Germans in the Falaise area. Really hit the target (with 38 x 1000 GPs) had moderate, but very accurate Flak. Got about 15 holes in the ship! Several in the wings (got a spear!) + many close to lay in the radio room. A couple in the waist close to Harper - one hit the armor glass by Mac - good thing we had that glass or we may not have had a cockpit. A few in the tail too! Flew as Deputy Lead of the low group with my whole crew plus Parker as Bombardier. Sure like to fly with whole crew!!!

No. 19 - A Long Milk Run! 8:00
AUGUST 14
616, SOUTH STUTTGART, GERMANY. 25,500 FTD
19 Up at 0330 Pre-Briefing for an airfield 50 miles from Stuttgart. Then Breakfast - back to general briefing - then into the blue. Flew high group Deputy Lead. We hit the target on the second run over, with 10 x 500 incendiaries - had meager to moderate Flak over the target. Didn't get any holes for a change. Was just a long ride. Had Conn as Navig. and Parker as Bomb. Last night, fairly late - our crew Chief brought a large piece of Flak out of No. 2 Eng. (a quarter) - has a German $ and we a 4330 on it! We didn't even know the Eng. was hit!!! As hot camera today we got in early. Got two letters from Biegler plus a color photo of her +. Boy what a nice gal - Wow!!
AUGUST 15

19 Up at 0300 for pre-briefing.
4 Breakfast back to general briefing for an airfield near Frankfurt. Got the crew out to the ship (PFF ship) "Amicicy Operator." Morris as Bomber. Taxied out for T.O. and the fog rolled in so the mission was scrubbed. I was flying as Deputy Wing Lead!!

Had all my crew except for Denton who's still in B.S.P.T. Col. Thacker was Wing Leader. Some of the Wings went to the target and got lots of fighters lost 12 ships in our wing. We hit the sack most of the day. Put Petix came over to see us - got busted. Carl he was A/S. B. while seeing Gaston. Doesnt like his present crew. Wrote to Bertie - Hobbes feeling rough today. - Hope he's okay tomorrow.

AUGUST 16

19 Up at 0200 pre-briefing. Breakfast - the Gen. briefing.

The target an airfield north of Leipzig (Delitzek) expected fighters - but none. Flak wasn't bad - got five minor holes - one close to the draft meter in the nose. We flew the Deputy Wing Lead - in a P.F.F. ship. We were the only group to hit the target. We had one bomb hang up - so the "Mickey" operator kicked it out with a Screw Driver - which is a real job at 25,000 ft! Our Mechanic. 

Salvo wouldn't operate. Had whole crew plus Morris Bomb & Kampei as "Mickey" op. Everybody sure trusted our return. Had a letter from Bertie. What swell gal won't have felt rough today - but flew with us anyway.
AUGUST 17

19 Up at 0730 Breakfast - Then got up at 0730 Breakfast - Then I tried to get a ship to shoot landings - but we had a Chaff lecture at 1000 SO couldn't get a ship. Just laid around all day - wrote a letter to Betty and received two from her. We had a sore throat all day today - so I went to the hosp. - gave me some pills and gargle. Hope it's better tomorrow. Cause we're flying group lead and I'm being checked out by Capt. Booska. Horrie is fairly sick - going to be stood down tomorrow. I don't want to be checked out yet but I don't have much to say about it. Hit the sack early feeling rough.

NO. 21 AMILKRUN

NEAR LIEGE, BELGIUM. AUGUST 18. 24,000

19 Got up at 0730 Breakfast then they cawed us for predrifing for a "quickie" - then during briefing they set it ahead four hours - so we had another briefing four hrs later - but not all the poop was in - so we ate lunch - back to prebriefing then general briefing for a R.R. Bridge "in vise" I flew as lead pilot - Booska as air commander - as lead of the lead group - had Morris as bomb. A couple of NaviG. (Horrocks grounded) an officer - an gunner - Olson flew with another crew as well as Mac. Hit the target with six 1000's. Got back at 2000 - last night just in time for bed. C. Thackeray Capt. Booska put back with my flying and my crew.
AUGUST 19

Breakfast at 0800 -
Critique at 1000 - Reviewed
The past few missions - Lunch
And then we had a stand by
Inspection by Col. Thacker. Told
Harder to sew on his strips
Other than that everything
was okay. Yesterday Capt. Booska
said that my crew was one of
the best he's ever ridden
with. — By the way I finally
Got my silver bars - yep,
I'm a first LT. Now! Got another
Letter from Bertie! Afraid she's
Got me hooked!! Got a bad
Sore throat - Been garlic
Taking pills but don't
Seem to be doing any good.
Rained all day. Typical English
Weather.

AUGUST 20

Breakfast 0800 Same old
Powdered eggs, discussed Hobie's
Anonymous letter all morning - A
Real mystery who wrote it? My
Guess is Molly - Possibly Mary Fannie.
Mac is accused - but it wasn't
him. What a mess! Went to
An Afternoon snow - Not bad!
First one in a long time, for me.
Later they informed Mac that
he was going on Flak Leave
With Bennetty's crew tomorrow.
Since he is assigned to his
Crew now. Mac and I argued with
Capt. Booska - Finally decided
That we'd postpone our Flak Leave.
And Mac may be able to go
With us at that time. Rained
All day again. Mac and Hob - Went
to Brackstock again tonight - Rain
or shine!
AUGUST 21

19 Up for Breakfast at 0800. Breakfast was cold and damp. We were supposed to practice bomb at 0830. But the weather postponed it until 1300. Mac, Hobbs, and Morris and a couple other fellows went up to Scarcie Rock to bomb. Damp weather made us go down to 3000' to drop. After 20 picnics we buzzed home. Had a total of 5:10 flying time. We were checked out as a lead ship today by Col. Tiedecker. Heard from the folks today. Guess I'd better write a letter tonight.

The "letter"- Hobbie said Ma wrote it (of Mac and Blount) 'cause she called Mac "Mat" as in the letter.

AUGUST 22

19 Up for Breakfast at 0730. Suppose to fly at 0800 practice but the weather says no. So we laid in the sack until lunch. Sent money to London for my battle jacket. Got my rations for the week. Back to the sack. Wrote to Bertie. Received no mail. Damn it! Sure getting cold lately and no coal unless you steal it. So we have heat very seldom. Rumors are going around that we're moving to China! Gen. Patton's getting close to Paris. (3-4 mi.)
AUGUST 23

19 Got up for breakfast 0800.
Fresh eggs! Then played cards all morn. Found that Gaston has been moved to another hosp. Got a letter from Craft in China - he's still in operations. Officer doesn't like China at all. We're really going to town in France, well have Paris soon. Landing in Southern France is really going to mop things up. Last night we were awarded the Air Medal by Col. Buch. Went to Driestock with Mark. Drank a little wine.

AUGUST 24

19 No breakfast this morn. Went out to practice bomb at 1000. Had Lt. Cristo as bomb. 4 Mac till 7. Day. The ceiling was down to 3000 ft. South didn't bomb. Came back - tried to get a ship letter to shoot landings - but none available until after supper. And by that time it was raining.

19 Beat Hell! So Mary Hobbsie and I went to the show. Got a letter from Denton. He's still or in Italy - don't know what he's doing - except for raising hell.
AUGUST 25

Got up early to get head start for our 48hr. pass - cleaned up - hitched to town - got a ride with an Englishman - in his Midget car, caught the 0945 train in Kettering. Got a couple of rooms at the Cumberland nice as hell - but on the seventh floor. Only one floor between us and 100 buzz bombs! - After shaving we had dinner at Pop's (Victory Rest) - nice steaks! Then over to our club - the Amer. Melody Club - bought a quart of John Hage's after several double doubles! Later Hossie dropped the quart in a hotel lobby before we even opened it. Got fairly happy but wished I wasn't with Bertie.

AUGUST 26

Up at 1030 after breakfast in bed - laid around most of the noonday - then we went to "Red's Bar - started drinking - then had an excellent meal at Restaurant des Gourmets - (Crisis's place) really nice meal - very reasonable. Exclusive service! Went to a dance hall - Covent Garden's a large place - fair music. Mac met his "true love". He left with her - Hobby. I separated - so I proceeded to get drunk - and did! Made it back to the Cumberland Hotel . . . some how by midnight - practically broke!!
August 27

19 Woke up at 0800 - Damned buzz bomb exploded kinda close to the hotel - then five minutes later another one hit and about knocked me out of bed. Thought sure it would break the windows but it didn't. They've sent 8,000 of them over so far!

After breakfast in bed, we cleaned up, paid the bill (51/-), found a cafe - had grilled ham and chips - then caught the 1200 train. In lettering we found a bus and got back to camp a 1530. The boys had two mission while we were away. The Ruhr Valley and then Braunschweig.

August 28

19 Got up for chow - had critique at 1000 on the last three missions - Paderborn, Ruhr Valley & Merseburg. I didn't fly any of them, but Nad to go to the meeting anyhow. Had a practice mission this afternoon - but I didn't go.

I wrote several letters.

I've been made a flight commander - just a name - that's all it is. Hobbie - is a flight navigator.

Denton a flight bombardier. None of it means much - just some more army paperwork, that must be completed with.

Sure wish I'd hear from Berthe. Got a letter from the folks!
AUGUST 29

HAD PAN-COOKS FOR BREAKFAST. THIS MORNING - MY FAVORITE ARMY CHOW! THEN MACY! GOT ASHIP AND SHOT SOME LANDINGS - HOBBS WANT ALONG - LET HIM FLY AS CO-PILOT - GOT A HELLUVA BANG OUT OF IT! MAC NEEDS A LITTLE MORE PRACTICE IN THE LEFT SEAT AND HE'LL BE OK. DENTON GOT BACK FROM ITALY TODAY. HAS A NICE SUN TAN - SEEMS TO HAVE HAD A SWELL TIME. WAS IN ROME, TUNISIA, CASABLANCA. FLEW ON THE SOUTHERN INVASION OF FRANCE. HE DROPPED ABOUT 60 PRACTICE BOMBS - FLEW AROUND OVER A NEW ROUTE OVER FRANCE. I FINALLY RECEIVED A LONG LETTER FROM BERTIE - ABOUT 12 FEET LONG!! WHAT A GOLIATH!!

AUGUST 30

UP FOR BREAKFAST - FRESH EGGS - (WHEN I SAY FRESH, I MEAN THEY'RE OUT A SHELL!) - THE WENT OUT THIS MORNING - OLSON FLEW WITH LT. MOCK'S CREW - IT WAS A MILK RUN EXCEPT FOR BAD WEATHER. FLYING BOMB SIGHT WAS THE TARGET. LAID AROUND MOST OF THE DAY, TOOK 13-17 TEST WITH MAC AT SQM. OPER. WHAT THEY WOULDN'T THINK OF NEXT. PETIX WAS OVER FOR A LITTLE WHILE - SAYS GASTON IS STILL AT THE HOSP. BUT DOUBT IT HE'S BEEN MOVED FOR SURE. WELL I SUPPOSE TO LEAD THE LOOP GROUP WITH CAPT. BOBSCA SO TO BEETTER HIT THE SACK.
AUGUST 31

19 Had Breakfast - Had to Fly
A Practice Mission - Flew 4 P.F.s
Ship Made Several Dry Runs at
15,000 ft in Different Towns, Mac

4 Hobbie Morris Flew With Us
And a "Mickey Operator" Only Up
A Little While - Came in Early
Which Capt. Booksa Don't Like.
Got a Letter From Barney Pat.
Sure Got Tired of This Stuff
Around & Practice Mission

I Expected to Be thru & Would Have
If I Wasn't in the Lead Position
We Still 14 to Go! Gen. Nelson
Booka Flew With Us Today - Also
Flew With "Mickey" Again. Hobbie
Did a Swell Job Outa Naug. Today
Morris Was Bomb. Mac Didn't
Fly. Flew Over the North of Paris
Saw the Eiffel Tower Through a
Break in the Clouds.

SEPTEMBER 1

JUNE 26 - I Expect to Be thru My Missions

19 On This Day, A total of 35!!
They Got Us Up at 0800 for Pre-briefing
- The Target - Ludwigshafen
Lead the Low Group with Capt. Booka
HE Flew OVER Friendly Territory
Most of the Way - But We Were
In the Soup over France at 26,000
We Lost the Lead Group for An
Hour - In the Clouds - Really Was
Hard To See - Finally About 15
Minutes From the I.P. The Mission
Was Recalled So Started Back and
By Luck Found the Lead Group. We
Were Going to Bomb Nancy, France
But the Lead Group Didn't So We
Brought the Bombs back - Capt. Booka

19 Col. Thacker was Pleased With
My Flying and Were Very Complimentary
Went 845 - But (Guess No Red
For a Mission - Even tho it was Above
As Rough As Any I've Had. Without
SEPTMBER 2

19 Up for breakfast at 0800
called down to operations at 0900 to practice bomb scares.
Rock - Mac, Hobbies, Waited until 1100 for clearance.
But weather was bad so we ate chow, went back.
Waited - finally got off at 1500. The weather was
plenty bad but Col. Thacker is so damn eager we took
off any how. I lead a 3 ship Squadron.

SEPTMBER 3

19 Up at 0300 for pre-briefing. Target same as the day before yesterday.
The route was much the same - only it was north of Paris instead of
south. I flew with Booska, Lead of the low group. Flew a P-47 ship with Kampel as "Mickey"
operator - Hobbies, Morris - with Ziegler as tail gunner.
Osborn and Mac were stood down. They went over and saw Gaston.
He's doing okay - was a cast on.

19 Leg now - The mission was easy - little inaccurate flak at
our wing. The Chief did wonders - bounced P.F.F. - 4-1000 & 4-500 incendiaries.

19 I did fairly well - but water all tired as hell - may go to
the funky house soon. Got a letter from Bernie!!!!

USELESS Time.
SEPTEMBER 4

19
had breakfast - got wet going up there in the rain. Rainy all morn - cold too!
Wrote to Betty, laid in the sack most of the day, not much to do. No more news about our Fonic leave - saw Capt. Viven - the flight surgeon. Bad, he couldn't tell us anything definite. Mac's Nobby and I went to Bagstock - bought a quart of wine (52) and drank it - sat around the Cokey pub and listened to the music - also American records over there. Went to the Snack Bar on the way back. Had a cup of coffee to keep me awake - then hit the sack. After shaving some mail.

SEPTEMBER 5

19
Don't get up till 0800. Had real eggs for breakfast - the boys went back to Ludwigshafen today - got shot up pretty bad.

Everyone came back brown. Alico was hit between the eyes by flack. Probably broke his nose. Besides cutting it badly, I've been writing letters. Finally got paid $4 11/2. - got a letter from the folks. Went to the movie at the club this evening. Sure getting cold lately - and still no fuel. The war news is sure good. We've got Brussels + Antwerp now as well. As for town in Germany itself. And have entered Holland too.

Mac's Nobby cycled to Corby this evening.
SEPTEMBER 6

19 Got up at 0445. Breakfast

BRIEFING TO MERSEBURG, GERMANY
But not for us - we were weather ship for over England

Here we got out to the ship

Hobbe MacLarty and Mission was set back - so went back

Hobbie Penton De Lauci were rested for they left some heated clothes in their parachute bags!! Mac

started a model airplane so I decided to build a B-17. I'm

drawing plans, now, out of the tech. orders. Found some light wood - just to keep busy. Col. Thackston told me

that I was duty officer at group operation for this evening from 1800 to 0730. Keep busy on the mission

that came in on the teletype - made out the flight plans for the lead team - didn't sleep any!!

SEPTEMBER 7

19 Woke up practically frozen at 0800 - went to chow with some then back to the sack to keep warm.

Hobbie Penton De Lauci are rested for they left some heated clothes in their parachute bags!! Mac

started a model airplane so I decided to build a B-17. I'm

drawing plans, now, out of the tech. orders. Found some light wood - just to keep busy. Col. Thackston told me

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that came in on the teletype - made out the flight plans for the lead team - didn't sleep any!!
SEPTEMBER 8

19 Got back this morning at 0730 - After a night of no sleep. It was very interesting there at Group Ops. Lots of activity and preparation for a mission. I slept all morning - worked on my plans for a "17" with Mac. His plane is coming along fine. I've got the wing about finished. (The plans) hit the sack early - have to get up early.

SEPTEMBER 9

19 Had to get up with the boys at 0345 for the mission - I was operations officer for the sqdn. before I.O. Hecqctt (BZZZ)

19 Around to all the ships to see if the crews were all set. Cold as hell! Later the col. called me in to hear how the mission went off. He's sick in bed - had a long bull session - he said, he didn't think I'd finish my tour here in the E.T.D. McCarthy finished up today. Bruce Mills came over this afternoon from Kimbolton going to stay this evening. He's got 25 now. We burned flares in the stove - smoked hell out of the barracks! Some raised the roof.
**SEPTEMBER 10**

19 **Got up at 0800 for breakfast.** After freezing all night, Bruce, Mac and I went to chew and came back and built a fire. Had a shower - again on the football volley ball in the fairly warm sun. Found out that we could leave tomorrow for the Flack House - we get nine days off.

We are going to Eyesham Hall near Oxford (close to London) where the enlisted men are going to Keythorpe Hall near Leicester. Kevin and Delauri walked across the runway - an M.P. picked them up so there are no details and maybe busted! There's really no excuse. Bruce caught a train back to his base.

**SEPTEMBER 11**

19 **Up at 0700 with Mac and Morris** - breakfast - parked train to London - harder. Came along - we got some shoes' for him. Had trouble getting a room - so finally got some at the officers' billeting office - at the Strand Palace Hotel - fairly nice rooms but not like the Cumberland. Had some drinks at "Red's Place" - felt feeling good and we split up as usual. Harder caught the 1800 train back to join the rest of the F.Ms in Kettering. Did not hit the sack very early - got caught in the Blackout - sure is dark!!
SEPTEMBER 12

19 WOKE UP AT 0600 BY TWO LOUD EXPLOSIONS - THOUGHT THEY WERE 12 - BUT GUESS THEY WEREN'T. FINALLY GOT UP AT 0930. NO BREAKFAST IN BED AT THIS HOTEL SO WE ALL WENT TO POOLS PLACE FOR A STEAK. AFTER WHICH WE CHECKED UP ON OUR BATTLE JACKETS - MINE HAS BEEN SENT OUT - MACY/HOBIE PICKED THEIRS UP. WE CHECKED OUT OF THE HOTEL AND CAUGHT THE BUS TRAIN FOR OXFORD - ARRIVED AT 0330. TRANSFERRED AFTER A SHORT WAIT TO THE SMALL BURG OF EYNISHAM. GOT SOME G 1. TRANSPORTATION TO THE HALL. ARRIVED INTIME FOR SUPPER - WHAT A WONDERFULL PLACE - ALL KINDS OF SPORTS - LOTS OF ROOM - NOT TOO FORMAL!

SEPTEMBER 13

19 LOUIS THE BUTLER WOKE US UP AT 0900 - GAVE US SOME FRUIT JUICE IN BED AND THEN WE GOT UP FOR BREAKFAST. GOOD! PLAYED A GAME OF FOOTBALL THEN BASEBALL - A ROUND OR HORSE SHOES - A BOAT RIDE ON THE LAKE - TIME FOR LUNCH - ANOTHER GOOD MEAL THEN SOME ARCHERY WITH MAC - A GAME OF BAGUETTE IN WHICH MOTOR 41 BEAT MACY/HOBIE. MAR 41 HAD A GAME OF POOL - ANOTHER BOAT RIDE - SOME PICTURES BY THAT TIME WE HAD TO DRESS FOR DINNER - HAD TO TAKE OFF OUR CIVIES THAT WE GOT THIS MORNING. PUT ON OUR DRESSES FOR THE EVENING MEAL - THE ONLY RULE OF THE HOUSE HAD A PARTY - 60. FEELING GOOD WITH THE BOYS.
SEPTEMBER 14

19 Got up with a slight head ache at 0900 - After fruit juice in bed. Had breakfast. Played some pool then a few darts - Mac, Hobbie & Morris.
Finally got up. Mary & I went boating out on the lake - then came back for lunch. After lunch, Mac, Morris & I went out a shot around (I'm getting better - I almost hit the target now!) while Hobbie cleaned up the mess in the room (he was sick last night - too much to drink!).

Later, Morris & I had a game of badminton. More boating finally. It started to rain so we came inside and played 4 little chess - good supper early to bed!

SEPTEMBER 15

19 The usual fruit juice & then breakfast at 0930. A game of pool with Mac & Hobbie. Some rough games of badminton - Morris & I beat Hobbie & Mac - several times.

A good lunch - then Morris & I went boating -legged up & sailed and chased a swan around the lake.

Got some pictures of it. Started to rain so we had to come in doors - sat around in the fire place - with some good music. Had supper early - we all went to bed.

19 - Ended up at a corny dance - came back early - left Mac - guess he missed the truck!
SEPTEMBER 16

19 After Fruit Juice in Bed
I got up for Breakfast at 0900
Shot a few arrows (I'm getting
better!) I took a few pictures
of Morris and Morris playing
Tennis - then Mac came in.
Wandering back from Oxford
after spending a night at
The Red Cross Inn. (He
missed the truck last night.)

We had some good apples from
the garden. Then delicious
lunch and then some golf
(about 12 miles from here). Being
my first game, I lost 4 balls
and shot only 3 holes - WHAT.

Rough course!! Morris and Hobie
did fair - but Macy had spent the
morning hunting for the balls!
Saw the show here at the
House - then I went to bed.

SEPTEMBER 17

19 Fruit Juice at 0900. Actually
it was 0900 because we
changed our watches an hour
back to war time. So we gained
an hour's sleep!! Macy!

I tried some tennis - but as
usual I spent too much time
hunting for the ball!!

Morris and Hobie do pretty
well! But Morris is the
best. We laid in the sun - yes
sun for a change! Got some
more pictures of the
fellows. Macy raided
the garden again - good
apples and plums! Lots of

Wild Berries around.
Good eating - had a good
Chicken dinner - and
A lazy evening by the fire
plae.
Wrote account of last
SEPTEMBER 18

19. Louis brought the fruit juice as usual - so down to breakfast - a quick look at the newspaper - went out to arch, all cut - My arm is getting swollen up - but I'm doing better. At least, most of this arrow hit the target. Now, had a swim. Lunch - then went boating - Mac decided to swim - but found that water was plenty cold - I got some interesting pictures of him!! Mary liked to Whitney in our civies - people thought it odd Amer. civilians - not in the army! It was a nice town, but we had to peddle bricks. We wouldn't miss tea!!

SEPTEMBER 19

19. Fruit juice at 0900 - breakfast - a game of snooker with Mac - layed around - had lunch - then Mac, Morrie & I went hunting - we got 3 rabbits and a bird - saw some pheasant but missed 'em. Today, had a lot of fun running down the rabbits. My shoulder is sore & black & blue from firing those 12 gauge shotguns. We also shot some skeet - Mac is damn good, I'm next. Morrie last. Mortie hasn't been hunting with us yet. Had a movie tonight - really nice - big easy chairs - good music - what a life!!!
SEPTEMBER 20

19. Fruit-juice — and breakfast as usual. We shot some skeet and then a game of croquet. After packing
20. Morris, Mac & I had lunch and went to the station, - caught a train to Oxford, had to wait for one to Bletchley
21. Then from there another train to Northampton — then still another to Wellingborough and the last to Ruttering.
22. Different trains to go 80 miles and it took us 10 hrs!! What a day! I got the liberty run back to camp at 2315.
23. The base is much the same. One lead crew went down (Suster). They're all back except 4 of the crew (Parker, the bomb was one that is thought to be P.W.)

SEPTEMBER 21

19. Woke up at 0830 — missed breakfast — started to unpack and get things back to normal.
20. Had seven letters from Bertie and three from the folks. Also I got one from Joe Morgan — it had traveled for months all over the states. He's a Co pilot on a B-24 in Italy. He's probably home now. The last letter from Bertie was from the hospital in Salta Luce — she had her appendix removed. Sure hope she's okay. Wish I'd hear from her again soon. I did get some good news — all lead teams just have 30 missions to put in!! As long as they have 7 leads so that means I have only 8 more missions to go!! Instead of 13. Had classes all afternoon.
September 22

Don't wake up early enough for breakfast, so I did with out. Finally got things straight out around the barracks signed out pay vouchers we got $11.25 for our flak leave. I registered my B-406, had a meeting on frost bite, also found that I am a flight commander, which means under the new deal that I've a lot to keep me busy. I have to crews to look after all their training, practice bombing, checking them etc. There are three flights in our squad. I have a flight. Our group 200. Mission party is tomorrow and we are to stand down the 24th. So it should be a big time. Wrote to Betty._four.

September 23

Got up for breakfast, cleaned up my bunk a little. Suppose to have an inspection called down to operations to practice bomb. Hobie, Morris, DeLauri, Lay & a cop, lot flew. We dropped 20 bombs from 16,000' came back from the wash in time for lunch. Good thing I was up 'cause there was a group practice formation 1105 afternoon and I was to lead one of the groups. We were supposed to be stood down tomorrow but now we are alerted man effort.

519 I'm out of luck for the party tonight. I guess had to clean up for the dinner. Had a steak and Cole Bucic is leaving -- really as well.
SEPTEMBER 24

19 Woke up at about noon time with a dreadful headache!!! Never again!! Never. At 2230 last night - it came in that we were stood down for today - so Morris and proceeded to catch up with everyone else - we did - then went right on by!!
MACY/Stayed home at 0100 - had a flak lecture and hit the sack. The party was one $6 drunk!! Ever one from the coal to rats were klistered. Had three generals on the field! Gen. Williams said we were in the best WIC (41st) in the B17 Air Force!! Laid in the sack all day with one helluva headache! - Finally had dinner. My first and last meal all day - cold as hell in the barracks - saw the USO show tonight.

SEPTEMBER 25

No. 23 - Rough One!

FRANKFURT

19 We were awakened at 02:30 - pre-briefing, breakfast. General briefing for this third largest inland port in Germany - Frankfurt. The visual target was the marshalling yards - to the center of the city. We hit the B4 target (we hope!) had 10/10 lead. Really had a rough time. Flak was moderate but accurate. Saw a 11" from our field get a direct hit in the waist - it clipped off the Entire tail and the ship went straight down. On the way back we ran head on into several B24 groups. Our 0 of our ships knocked a vert. Off the "24" - ripped the bottom of the wing out of the "17" - but it flew.
SEPTEMBER 26

19 Back OK. We had several close calls - our deputy came plenty close quote. I didn't fly too well - everything was a mess. Bosica said I did OK. No. I had my whole crew plus INFUBICA in the tail. Olson was waist. I woke up for breakfast when they called them out for the mission at 0730. Hobbie Mac flew. Hobbie was checked out as wing navigator. Mac flew with us as deputy wing. I went to briefing - picked up my pen at the P.Y. For 216 - turned in two rolls of film to be developed and wrote to Bertie. We gathered Woody stole some coal for a fire tonight. By that time Hobbie is a stl. Now.

SEPTEMBER 27

19 Got up for briefing to see the boys off. I was duty officer. I checked all the crews - at the last minute I had to get harder as toggler for Bill's crew. Denton was duty bomb. So the two of us were running all over the field in the jeep. Finally - Brown was taken into by another ship and knocked the nose right off his ship. A fellow was run over by a truck too. So damn dark this morn. Sat around in operations - got some more food on being a flight com. I'm Asst. Group Ops. Officer tonight from 0800 till 0730. Guess I won't get any sleep.
SEPTEMBER 28

19 Picked up two hrs. sleep during the night. The rest of the time I was busy preparing the air commanders for today's mission. Learned a lot about operations. At 0730 I was finished so hit the sack all day. Then in the afternoon Gaston came in on crutches - sure glad to see him. He's at a hospital at Lincoln. About to ship home. He had dinner with Col. Smith. He has transportation when he wants it. He's sure in high spirits!

19 We rustled some more wood tonight. Have a good fire for a change.

SEPTEMBER 29

19 Got up early! 0730 - breakfast. Went down to ops. arranged for a ship (our ship - 149) to take Gaston back to the hospital up by Lincoln. We got off at 1000 - landed at Scellingthorpe. Arranged with the RAF there to have him taken to his hosp. They furnished a lorry with a nice red head driver (a WAAF)!

He was really pleased - his last flight with us - the whole crew plus our crew chief, Rukavina - the field had crowded on it - really large ships! With max bomb load 14000 lb!! They're fields are sure rough! Had a critique later. Then a parade in honor of Col. Bueck. Wrote to Bernie - no letter from her.
SEPTEMBER 30

19 WOKE UP AT 0800 - THE BOYS WENT OUT ON A MISSION THIS MORNING - WENT TO BREAKFAST. WAS CALLED DOWN TO OPS. WITH MY CREW TO FLY COL. SMITH TO BRUSSELS, BELGIUM. TO PICK UP MAJOR FRINK WHO LANDED THERE A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO. AFTER WE GOT DOWN THERE THE CO. DECIDED NOT TO TAKE A LEAD TEAM. SO WE DIDN'T GO!! PARKER IS BREAKING ME IN ON BEING O5. OFFICER. I SPENT ALL AFTERNOON DOWN AT OPS. GETTING THE POOP. IF I WORK DOWN THERE DAILY I MAY GET CHECKED OUT IN ONE OF THE A-35'S WE HAVE DOWN HERE. GOT A LETTER FROM THE ROCKS - SAI D DICK ELLIOTT JR. IS A PRISONER OF WAR IN JAPAN NOW!

OCTOBER 1

19 WOKE UP AT 0730 - HAD BREAKFAST - WENT DOWN TO OPERATIONS - THE CO. INFORMED ME TO GET ALL THE LEAD TEAMS IN THE AIR SO WE ALL FLEW. I WENT TO BREST SANDS IN A BRAND NEW SHIP AT 29,000 FT. THE HEATER DIDN'T WORK SO WE REALLY FROZE. MAJ. HERBIE MORRIS WERE ALONG. DROPPED SOME PRACTICE BOMBS CAME BACK FOR LUNCH. AFTER LUNCH

19 FLEW AGAIN - AS AIR COMMANDER OF A FOUR SHIP FORMATION - I FLEW WITH SKENANS CREW - GIVING HIM SOME POOP ON GROUP LEAD. PARKER SAID I MAY BE CHECKED OUT AS AIR COMMANDER SOON - WHAT NEXT? DARN NO LETTER FROM BETSY IN 8 DAYS NOW!!
No. 24 Rough as All Hell!

OCTOBER 2

7:40

Cologne, Germany

19 Up for pre-briefing - Breakfast open. Briefing All for the Run.

Valley! I had my complete crew plus LT. Gibson as Mickey operator.

I flew as Deputy Wing Lead - until Major Bean aborted over the field during assembly - that put me at the head of the whole show (36 ships!) - the bombing was to be G.H. and I had a Pee Ship so I had the high group take over near the I.P.

Since the low groups G.H. was out. We started out Run Hi. Gps. G.H. went out so we started a 360 to the right. The Hi. Gp. Lead us all the back to Brussels, Belgium. (Lost 1 thing)

So I took over the lead - and made a Pee Run on the city of Cologne (Visual was a Ford Plant) - we really hit the Marshalls Yards! Flak was really intense and accurate. Our Mickey set was knocked out so Hobbie had to D.R. us back - Damn Good Job!!

19 We lost 4 Euc. and it wouldn’t feather - Control cables for Elev. Tab were cut. Harper was hit on a knuckle - Hobbie was knocked down.

A hellyum hole about Morris’s head. Got back okay - found that we had over 60 holes in the outer left wing panel plus 50 more in the rest of the ship! Col. Smithy Col. Thacker said it was a good show!!

What a day & a real workout!!

Oct. 3. Down at ops. Most of the day... the flight commander stuff is running into work. Have to make inspections too!

I’m duty officer at Group tonight from 1800 till 0730 tomorrow. Hobbie Morris were on duty too. Finally heard from Bunne!
OCTOBER 4

19 | Got off duty at 0730 this morn. Worked all night on the Mission for today - along with Hobbs & Morris. But after all our work the mission was scrubbed at engine time!! Rain a little - I slept until noon - got up for lunch. Went down to ops. Got some more pop - Capt. Booska is now CO of the 54th Sqdn. - Capt. Vinnecke of the 54th is our new ops officer. A nice fellow. Since the mission was scrubbed I'm on duty again tonight at Group ops. From 1800 'til 0730!!

OCTOBER 5

19 | Got off duty early this morn at 0630. Worked again all night on today's mission. And Hobbs & Morris did the same. Yesss!! Slept till noon. Had a quick shower - got my rations for the past two weeks. And back down to ops. Harder flew with Levine as togerer on the mission to Cologne today. I flew some slow time from 2000 'til 2300 tonight. Had Woodworth & Dudocks radio ops. A long mission. Sure dark here at night!!
OCTOBER 6


19

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OCTOBER 7

No. 25 Along Ride On Flak!

9:40

Ruhland, Germany

19 Got Up At 0230 For Pre-Briefing - Breakfast - Then General-Briefing For A Oil Plant 65 Miles Beyond Leipzig. I Flew Lead Of The Low Group With Capt. Vinnedge As Air Commander. We Had Flak On The Way In And On The Way Out In Several Spots. It Wasn't Too Accurate, Had Little Battle Damage. We Lost An Engine Out Of The Target (Mech. Failure) So We Came Back On These Eng.

19 Expected Bandits But Got None! Lost One Ship To Flak Out Of The Lead Group. We Missed The Target - Had Clouds + Smoke Screen Over Target. Was Sure Along Time Mission! Harper Did: Fly With Us - Has A Sore Back. Lost The Lead Group Over Three So Came Home With Two High-Tailing Onto Us.
OCTOBER 8

19 Got Up For Breakfast
Spent The Morning At Ops,
Arranged For A Practice Form,
After The Mission Was Scrubbed.
I Flew As Air Commander On
The 12 Ship Formation. I Flew
With Rowe - King, Checking
Him Out For Lead. We Had
Bad Weather - On Return We
Had A 300 Ft Ceiling! So It
Was Rough, Finding The
Field. Lay Checked Out A New
Pilot Operator. We're Getting
A 48 Hr Pass Tomorrow. Guess
I'll Hit The Jack. Still
Tired From Yesterdays
Mission!

OCTOBER 9

19 Got Up Early - Breakfast
Cleared Up For Town. Got A
Ride To Town Along With Hobbs,
Mac & Morris. Caught The 0905
Train For London - Naturally
If Had To Rain! We Hunted Around
For A Room - Finally Ended Up
At The Reindeer Red Cross Club.

19 A Fairly Nice Room. Boy -
London - Is Sure Crowded
Now!! Went To The Cinema
- Saw A Good Picture! Had A
Good Dinner At The Red Cross
Club - Had Another Chinese
Dinner Later. With A Few
Drinks On The Side. Got In
Bed Fairly Early. Heard
Two Buzz Bombs - But They
Landed A Mile Or So Away.
OCTOBER 10

19 Up fairly early, breakfast at the Reindeer Red Cross Club. Mac & I went shopping—But bought nothing—Found some Damask linen—For $65 for 6 napkins & tablecloth—Too much money! Had a steak at Pop's Place—Shopped a little more—Ended up at the new Lyric Club drinking (close to) the Amer. Tom Collins. —Finally went down for another.

19 Steak and then Mr. Hogg & Morris & I went to the Duchess theater saw "Blithe Spirit"—Pretty good! Wandered around in the black out. Finally found the Red Cross club, had a snack & to bed.

OCTOBER 11

19 We got up at 0730—Had breakfast at the Reindeer Red Cross Club—Caught the 0905 train back for Kettering with Hobie, Mac, & Morris. Met Harper, Kanja & DeLauri in Kettering—Got a cab out to the base before 1200. Had two letters from Bertie.

19 The boys came back from a rough one over Colonge. Levine went down—(in my ship too) K(149) Direct hits by flak!! Lost two other.

19 Shins and sine brought a dead Gunnear back on his first mission! Wrote to Bertie & the folks had a shower—And in the sack early.
OCTOBER 12

19 Up at 0430 - Breakfast.
Had to check ships with Morris for the mission. After stations
Time I had to get Olson up to fly for a waist gunner who
Refused to fly. Got him out there before T.O. But he didn't
Get any breakfast. Mac flew with Sine about an hour after
T.O. The mission was scrubbed. Hosey, Mac, Lay & I flew over
to a nearby field to pick up a crew. I checked Mac out on
the left seat & aural null. The rest of the day I've been
down at Operations working!
Gotta fly with Keller tonight
to shoot landings. I landed
about 2230 - hit the sack.
Morris chewed on Morrisy
for not saluting him.

OCTOBER 13

19 Got up at 0830 for breakfast
Then down to ops. The mission
had briefing then it was scrubbed.
I was busy in ops until
1900 - Then I went out
to shoot skeet with the crew.
Capt. Garrison & Margaret
Kania & Harper were best.
Morris & I worst. I pinched
my thumb on one of the
guns - sure sore tonight.
I wrote to Bertie - I hung
around ops this afternoon
- rainest cold as hell!!
OCTOBER 14

19 Up at 0230 Breakfast -
Went down to Ops. at 0830 -
Spent the whole day working down there. I thought I was
Tired at 1900 - Headed for the barracks - and then
Mason Frank started raising hell because no one was
Flying at night - so I had to get Andrew Mackay -
And we went on a night -
Country - down to Oxford
Up to Coventry and return.
Landed at 2330 - Had a letter
From Bertie Nosi - Boy 1 surr
Enjoy her letters - Wish I had
Time to write to her more often.

OCTOBER 15

19 Got up at 0230 to check
Ships on the Mission with
Morris. Nobody to relieve me
So I had to stay at Ops. until
19 Noon. Didn't get but 3 hours
Sleep last night - and Ops.
Kept me busy as hell. After
Lunch I hit the sack - but
They got me up at 1800
to check Brown out on
Night landings. So I flew
With Brown - Shot some
Good landings - I didn't
Get back to the ship
Until midnight.
OCTOBER 16

19/1 slept in until 0900. Missed breakfast. Had a critique at 1000 of the past 6 missions. Col. Smith is leaving soon - so we met the new C.O. It rained most of the day. I stayed clear of ORS. Had a meeting of the soon. Maj. Feing was stated the policies he desired. He is definitely very strict.

I finally ended up flying with Mac & Lt. Wilkins (another pilot) I checked them both out as 1st pilots. We had a meeting on P.W. procedure at 2000.

TODAY - I guess the boys are giving too much information out in Dulagloffe.
No. 26 Knocked Out of Formation!

OCTOBER 18
COLOGNE, GERMANY 27,000' 7:05

19 Got up Early for Pre-Briefing and Breakfast. Going back to Cologne. My First Wing Lead - Flying with Major Feink.

A3 Air Commander. Had Lt. Watson Ab. G. H. Nauq. & Lt. Furiga as Tail Observer. I did fairly well on Assembly - Weather gave us a bad time assembled at 26,000'. Copilot's oxygen drained - so they had to use walk arounds. We started G.H. Bomb Run - lost the signal so we made an 180 started upwind on a PFF Run with the deputy leading - dropped our bombs and we took over again - did lots of Evasive Action - but we were hit in No. 3 of the Prop Run.

19 Away and the Right Wheel dropped so we slowed up and the formation went on by us - just missed us too!

19 Couldn't feather No. 3 so we got a P-51D to escort us home. Olson cranked up the right wheel. We flew at 130 MPH to cut down the speed of the wind milling prop. We dropped down to 3000' and headed for friendly territory on the way down. Started for the narrow part of the channel but ran into a bad storm near Calais. Our gas was getting low so we turned around and headed for Brussels. - Found

CONT.
19 AN AIRFIELD STARTED TO CIRCLE IT WHEN NO. 3 PROP FLEW OFF I TOOK A HUNK OUT OF THE FUSELAGE, BELOW THE COPILOTS FEET & LANDED ON SOME HOUSES. THE FUEG WAS ON FIRE & ALL THIS COWLING CAME OFF. SO I WHEELED AROUND AND LANDED PROMPTLY. DUN'T EXPECT THE SIGHT I LANDED IN GEAR TO HOLD UP, BUT IT DID. HAD EVERYONE IN THE RADIO ROOM IN CRASH POSITIONS. A SMALL FIELD. BUT WE MADE IT OKAY. AFTER UNLOADING THE SHIP (262) WE LOADED THE STUFF INTO A TRUCK.

19 AND WENT TO ANOTHER NEARBY FIELD (SAM AN FW.190 Y A JU 88 ON THE GROUND) MADE ARRANGEMENTS AND LOADED INTO A C-49.


19 WHAT A LONG LONG DAY THIS WAS!!
NOVEMBER 19

19

NOVEMBER 20

19 Up for prebriefing at 0430

Breakfast (fresh eggs) at General
briefing for Gelsenkirchen, Germany
as primary - Munster secondary
19 Pts. We had a PFI ship from our
deputy A G.H. ship. No trouble
until we hit Holland - and
then a wall of solid cloud -
19 We climbed to go over it -
got to 30,000 ft. It was still
20,230,000' above us so we
went on in the soup - lost
19 Our deputy and three other
ships do to poor visibility.
We dropped PFI on the secondary
and got the hell out of there.
19 Saw no flag!! Got back
to the base & had damn poor
vis. to land in but made it
okay. Logged 4:00 instruments
out of 640 total time!
NOVEMBER 25 9:25

MERESBURG, GERMANY 27,500

19 Up for Pre-Briefing — Two Flight Plans A - MERESBURG B - FRANKFURT. We flew with Maj. Hutchinson - had Lt. Saeto as Mickey Operator - (Known to be the best in the 8th Air Force!) had Lt. Peterson as Observer - with Obst. Kania on his waste.

At takeoff they told us it was PLAN "A" so we really expected fighters - but saw none except for one Jet "Con" Trail. We flew right on top of another group on the bomb run so we got no flak!! We hit the target o.k., really nice.

Mission not too trouble to speak of. We landed at Abbott's Radon do to bad weather at the home field. We stayed there the whole

NOVEMBER 26

19 Night - In tents - Fire in Death - Food was OKAY. - We flew back to the base the next day. Maj. Hutchinson seems like a 4000 Joe. He's to take Maj. Frank's place - when he moves to wing.
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<td>James D. Mills</td>
<td>7192 W. Stanford Ave, Portland,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John C. McNamara</td>
<td>6148 S. Winchester Ave, Chicago</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walter H. Neville</td>
<td>279 W. Aliso Pomona, Calif.</td>
<td>20592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyle R. Nelson</td>
<td>P.O. Box 418, Webster, S.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earl H. Nichols</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Robert W. Olson</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annabel Portier</td>
<td>2521 Central Ave. Alameda</td>
<td>3201 Ignatius Petix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. P. Ross</td>
<td>228 Flower St. Bakersfield</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Scott Reed</td>
<td>Los Vegas, NV.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Strong</td>
<td>11 W. Corona Ave. 2-6943 Phoenix</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Sipes</td>
<td>1401 E. McKeeley 3-2718 Phoenix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. R. Schwens</td>
<td>336 S. 2nd Ave, Upland, Calif.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenaard Jones</td>
<td>2501 No. 9th St. Phoenix</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Newton's Family</td>
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