

- Thurs., Feb. 3, 1944--Read all day.
- Fri., Feb. 4, 1944--Collins & Bova came in to see me.
- Sat., Feb. 5, 1944--Read all day.
- Sun., Feb. 6, 1944--Soldier went crazy tonight & ran around with a butcher knife. A little nurse jumped on him & took it away from him.
- Mon., Feb. 7, 1944--Read all day.
- Tues., Feb. 8, 1944--Read all day.
- Wed., Feb. 9, 1944--Got beaucoup mail from Mary Alice today. We're officially engaged at last, & I'm happy.
- Thurs., Feb. 10, 1944--Transferred to 300th General Hospital just outside of Naples. It's a lovely building.
- Fri., Feb. 11, 1944--I think I've talked the doctor here into sending me back to camp.
- Sat., Feb. 12, 1944--There's nothing the matter with me now but a cold. Going back to camp tomorrow.
- Sun., Feb. 13, 1944--Back to camp this afternoon in Group ambulance. It's good to be back.
- Mon., Feb. 14, 1944--Cold all night. Was miserable all last night because I had to breathe through my mouth.
- Tues., Feb. 15, 1944--Vesuvius smokes all the time now. It gets very cold at night here.
- Wed., Feb. 16, 1944--Did some Ops. work for first time in a month.
- Thurs., Feb. 17, 1944--Cold & cough still bad. Vesuvius is still covered with snow.
- Fri., Feb. 18, 1944--Have never been so blue & lonesome & homesick as I am today.
- Sat., Feb. 19, 1944--Stood down all day. . .Actually, Mt. Summo is next to us & Vesuvius is just on the other side of it. We can see Vesuvius smoking most of the time.
- Sun., Feb. 20, 1944--Dentist, 9:30. Filled 5 teeth.
- Mon., Feb. 21, 1944--Jr. was over for awhile this a.m.
- Tues., Feb. 22, 1944--Letter from Mary Alice.
- Wed., Feb. 23, 1944--Snow has melted on Summo & it's maybe warmer now.
- Thurs., Feb. 24, 1944--Dave & I walked into Ottaviano to look around; ate dinner, had shave & haircut.
- Fri., Feb. 25, 1944--Built addition on tent today. Makes it much roomier.
- Sat., Feb. 26, 1944--Cooked steak & french fries in tent tonight. I was sick last night but am O.K. tonight.
- Sun., Feb. 27, 1944--Dentist, 9:30. One tooth filled. Grady Washabeau called up Jr. tonight. He knows the folks.
- Mon., Feb. 28, 1944--Got popcorn from home today. It tastes good for a change. Ack-ack test-firing tonight was pretty.

- Tues., Feb. 29, 1944--Pay day. Lt. Doughty, Rowe, & Nigro were shot down on mission today near Cisterno. Their plane exploded. Several other planes were shot up. Two had to crashland, & one crew had to bail out over our field after dark.
- Wed., March 1, 1944--Worked on reports all day.
- Thurs., Mar. 2, 1944--One gunner from 97th (Morgan) wounded on mission today. One gunner from 85th killed & one or two others wounded.
- Fri., Mar. 3, 1944--We went over this evening & traded with Italians for eggs--2 eggs for a pack of cigarettes. We did all right.
- Sat., Mar. 4, 1944--Coca-colas in ration today. Wonderful! We also bought meat, ground it up, & had hamburgers tonight with catsup & onions.
- Sun., Mar. 5, 1944--1½ years overseas today. Rain all the time these days.
- Mon., Mar. 6, 1944--More snow on Vesuvius.
- Tues., Mar. 7, 1944--Started on new Operations set-up today.
- Wed., Mar. 8, 1944--Traded for 45 eggs this evening. Went to Bob Hope picture in Ottaviano.
- Thurs., Mar. 9, 1944--Fried eggs tonight. On guard from 08:30 to 12:00.
- Fri., Mar. 10, 1944--We finished building our new Ops. shack yesterday.
- Sat., Mar. 11, 1944--Flew to Foggia with F/O Knapp this morning & spent day with Fred Bevis. Met Grady Washabeau. Got records from home & played them at Junior's tonight.
- Sun., Mar. 12, 1944--Jr. is sick tonight. Almost has pneumonia.
- Mon., Mar. 13, 1944--Junior better this a.m. Frieze, Beetem, & I went to Pompeii today to see the ruins.
- Tues., Mar. 14, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Mar. 15, 1944--Enemy raid on Naples tonight killed several. Some of the planes were over our camp but didn't drop on us. Quite a barrage went up from Naples.
- Thurs., Mar. 16, 1944--I'm feeling fine these days.
- Fri., Mar. 17, 1944--Got a slight chill this afternoon & Capt. Mac sent me to 58th Field Hospital at Pomigliano. I'm about ready to give up.
- Sat., Mar. 18, 1944--Feel O.K. except I'm weak. Almost fainted once today.
- Sun., Mar. 19, 1944--Vesuvius has kicked up a fuss for the last two nights and is really something to see. A red glow is all over that part of the sky.
- Mon., Mar. 20, 1944--Am so light-headed & deaf from quinine I can hardly hear.
- Tues., Mar. 21, 1944--Rain & hail today. Got haircut; took shower.
- Wed., Mar. 22, 1944--Collins & Clayton dropped by & said our planes are having to move to another field because of Vesuvius's eruption. Some B-25's near Pompeii were torn up by stones thrown by Vesuvius.
- Thurs., Mar. 23, 1944--Saw movie tonight. It's getting cold again. It's funny to see snow on the volcano & see fire & smoke shooting up in the air.

- Fri., Mar. 24, 1944--Vesuvius still kicking up a fuss. Andre came by & said 47th has moved to Capodichino. Air raids near here tonight.
- Sat., Mar. 25, 1944--Vesuvius very quiet today. . . Turned awfully cold.
- Sun., Mar. 26, 1944--I'm to go back to outfit tomorrow. Kissed one of this tent-hospital's nurses tonight. First girl I've kissed in over 20 months.
- Mon., Mar. 27, 1944--Two 97th planes shot down on mission today: Lt. Cockrill, Bartlett, Frankhouser, & Love in #40; and Lt. Hardy, Murphy, & Kuckenbecker in #56. Pimentel & Gearen in #41 were wounded by flak. One chute was seen to open from each plane. I'm back with outfit at new base, Capodichino near Naples.
- Tues., Mar. 28, 1944--A very busy day taking down & putting up tents for Ops.
- Wed., Mar. 29, 1944--Drove Clayton to Pomigliano to catch plane for Foggia. He missed it. Went to Naples with Frieze in Armament truck to see Pimentel & Gearen who were wounded Monday. Pimentel lost half a finger but is O.K. Gearen looks bad but will probably be O.K. They took out a kidney but left the flak in. . . Air raid tonight, but nothing happened.
- Thurs., Mar. 30, 1944--Fred Bevis was up to see Jr. & me today. He flew on back to Foggia in his B-25, but may come back tomorrow.
- Fri., Mar. 31, 1944--We fixed up our tent today for more commodious living; so I guess we'll be moving again soon.
- Sat., April 1, 1944--On guard tonight over planes. Ack-ack opened up a couple of times, but no bombs were dropped.
- Sun., Apr. 2, 1944--We started moving over to new bivouac area on other side of this airfield. Will finish tomorrow.
- Mon., Apr. 3, 1944--Worked hard all day on Ops. shack. Am pooped out tonight.
- Tues., Apr. 4, 1944--Finished Ops. & set up our own tent tonight. Took shower. Were set up in Company streets again. That's about the last straw. That Co. officer doesn't have much to do if he can't think of anything more worthwhile than making us set up camp the way we have to.
- Wed., Apr. 5, 1944--Back into swing of Ops. work again.
- Thurs., Apr. 6, 1944--Went to see "This Is the Army" at San Carlo Opera House in Naples. It's an Irving Berlin show & is really good.
- Fri., Apr. 7, 1944--We built door in tent tonight. One of us has to sleep in Ops. each night now as C.Q.
- Sat., Apr. 8, 1944--Inspection today. Mailed flowers to Mama for Mother's Day.
- Sun., Apr. 9, 1944--Easter Sunday. Lots of paper work. Rain. Went on my first combat mission a year ago today (Easter Sunday, Apr. 25, 1943).
- Mon., Apr. 10, 1944--Ack-ack opened up twice last night after we were in bed.
- Tues., Apr. 11, 1944--(No diary entry this date--that is, for general distribution.)

- Wed., Apr. 12, 1944--Mission today caused tremendous explosion, fire, & smoke at a German ammunition dump. The explosion made all the planes (up 11,000 feet) jump around in the sky. The fire leaped up to 300 feet or more, and the smoke was up to 8,000 feet before the planes had completed their turn away from the target.
- Thurs., Apr. 13, 1944--This outfit sometimes makes me wonder. We're going to have all kinds of inspections now. I wish we were back in the good old days of action at Thelepte.
- Fri., Apr. 14, 1944--Jr., Dave, Mac, Sexton, & I went to town today. Went to Red Cross & sang some of our trios (to ourselves). Walked around town. Ate a dinner that cost the five of us \$13.54 plus a dollar tip--and I was still hungry!!
- Sat., Apr. 15, 1944--Ack-ack opened up in full force around here early this morning. I didn't get out of the sack but was sweating out the flak falling. I don't think any bombs were dropped.
- Sun., Apr. 16, 1944--Gen. Saville flew on mission today. Our Sqdn. was the only one to hit target. The General really raised Cain with Group Hq.
- Mon., Apr. 17, 1944--Col. Green went on mission with 97th today in the nose of one of the planes.
- Tues., Apr. 18, 1944--Stood down.
- Wed., Apr. 19, 1944--Stood down.
- Thurs., Apr. 20, 1944--Jr., Mac, & I went to Naples for the day. Sang for awhile with Ann, the Red Cross girl, practicing an arrangement by Jr. & Mac. We may sing over her Naples radio program next week.
- Fri., Apr. 21, 1944--Going to Capri tomorrow for 3-day pass. I don't want to go, but they more or less twisted my arm. . . . Jerry was over last night & ack-ack opened up a couple or three times. He must have dropped some around Naples.
- Sat., Apr. 22, 1944--Came to Capri on boat. Arrived about 1800 hrs. Staying at Windsor Hotel with Andre, Vissing, & Blaesing. A nice deal.
- Sun., Apr. 23, 1944--Went to church this a.m. here on Capri. We all hired car & visited Anacapri; Piccola Marina; Red, White, & Green Grottoes (went swimming in Pic. Mar. in underwear; was freezing cold); drove up to top of island, saw Casa Ciano. Also saw house where Goering slept once. Went to picture show at Parco Augusto theater.
- Mon., Apr. 24, 1944--Bought some souvenirs today. Went to show at Parco Augusto tonight.
- Tues., Apr. 25, 1944--Bought more souvenirs. Andre and I went riding in horse-drawn carriage this afternoon; saw Gracie Fields' house. Blaesing, Andre, & I went on boat trip all the way around Capri--a nice trip. Went to show at Parco Augusto tonight.
- Wed., Apr. 26, 1944--Came back from Capri on boat; poured down rain, & I got soaked. Found that 47th moved from Capodichino back to Vesuvius yesterday. Got back to Vesuvius a little after dinner, helped put up Ops. tent (all wet), made up my bed (all wet). Everything is wet. We're supposed to move to Cercola in 10 days.

- Thurs., Apr. 27, 1944--While I was on Capri, there was a raid on our field at Capodichino and a few bombs were dropped (the night of Apr. 24th). . . Bad weather for the last couple of days. Maj. Young and Paul went home today for a 30-day furlough in the States. I am glad Maj. Young got to go, but I'm sorry to lose him even that long.
- Fri., Apr. 28, 1944--Pitched other Ops. tent this a.m. Lt. Barr & Entrikin are going back to States tomorrow or next day. Good deal.
- Sat., Apr. 29, 1944--Made my blankets & mattress cover into a kind of bedroll today. Lt. Barr & Entrikin left for home today.
- Sun., Apr. 30, 1944--Went over to Jr.'s tonight and printed up the pictures that Vissing, Andre, Blaesing, & I took on Capri.
- Mon., May 1, 1944--It's been pretty cold at night lately & they've taken our stoves away. Vesuvius has hardly smoked since the eruption about Mar. 20th. I got two shots & a vaccination today.
- Sun., May 2, 1944--Went to show tonight--Deanna Durbin in "His Butler's Sister." Sissy's birthday today; I must write her.
- Wed., May 3, 1944--An 84th plane blew up on our field today from some undetermined cause and killed either two or three fellows (armorers). . . . I went out and traded for eggs this p.m.
- Thurs., May 4, 1944--On plane guard tonight.
- Fri., May 5, 1944--We built Operations shack again. Really tired out tonight.
- Sat., May 6, 1944--Tom Hendrix flew up in a "cub" to see Jr. & me today. He's a captain and is on the beachhead at Nettuno. It was nice seeing him. We took pictures & I'm to send them to his mother (Mrs. T. L. Hendrix, 115 Marshall, Petersburg, Virginia). Smokey is 13 yrs. old today.
- Sun., May 7, 1944--Four new crews came in yesterday & day before. Some of these new guys gripe me--they thought we lived in hotels & had showers & stuff like that. One of them told about the terrible night he had spent in Africa in the mud--& we lived in it for weeks! Another one talked as if travelling in boats was some horrible new torture for troops coming overseas. I don't know what he thought we came over in.
- Mon., May 8, 1944--We're having really nice weather now, though it gets too hot during the day. The evenings are lovely.
- Tues., May 9, 1944--The 85th dropped short on target today & laid a few bombs in the front yard of the Pope's summer home on Lake Albano.
- Wed., May 10, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Thurs., May 11, 1944--Jr. flew to Foggia today & spent night with Jack Tompkins.
- Fri., May 12, 1944--Two missions today. Big drive started on the front from north of Cassino south to the sea. . . Fred Bevis flew Jr. back to Pomigliano this a.m. . . Clayton left for home.
- Sat., May 13, 1944--Several enemy planes overhead tonight on way to bomb Naples. Ack-ack opened up & either a dud shell or a dud bomb whistled down & landed near here. We all hit the dirt. I cracked my head on some wood when I went down.

- Sun., May 14, 1944--Mother's Day. . . . One of our gunners accidentally shot himself in the hand this morning with a .45 pistol. . . . An 85th plane landed with wheels only partly down this morning. It knocked down a stone building & tore up the plane, but no one was hurt.
- Mon., May 15, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Tues., May 16, 1944--Front is moving up pretty well now. I wish the invasion would start.
- Wed., May 17, 1944--Each Sqdn. dropped food to the French (Goums) today from low levels. On one food mission a wrong turn put them over enemy territory & they were shot at with all kinds of weapons-- .50 cal., 20 & 40 mm., & flak guns.
- Thurs., May 18, 1944---(No diary entry.)
- Fri., May 19, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., May 20, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., May 21, 1944--I whipped up a batch of mayonnaise today out of olive oil & it was very good. Jr. ate dinner over here today.
- Mon., May 22, 1944--Drive from beachhead started today with our mission on Cisterna.
- Tues., May 23, 1944--Drive going pretty well.
- Wed., May 24, 1944--Been working hard lately.
- Thurs., May 25, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Fri., May 26, 1944--I helped the armorers load bombs for mission today.
- Sat., May 27, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., May 28, 1944--Letter from Mary Alice.
- Mon., May 29, 1944--I'm 26 today.
- Tues., May 30, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., May 31, 1944--Pay day.
- Thurs., June 1, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Fri., June 2, 1944--Got some letters at long last.
- Sat., June 3, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., June 4, 1944--3 new combat crews came into Sqdn. today.
- Mon., June 5, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Tues., June 6, 1944--Invasion of France started this morning early.
- Wed., June 7, 1944--Clarence Roach, Tommy Blake, and Fred Bevis came up to see Jr. & me this morning in a DC-3. Tommy is going home soon. . . . Marlene Dietrich put on a performance for the Group this evening. . . . I'm on guard tonight.
- Thurs., June 8, 1944--Mail from Mary Alice & the folks. . . . Outfit is moving to Santa Maria tomorrow.

- Fri., June 9, 1944--Moved up to Santa Maria this afternoon by command car, got tent up and was ready for the night when they sent up for me and brought me back to Vesuvius because we're going to operate for a few more days. The ones at Santa Maria now move up to Rome (Galeria) in the morning.
- Sat., June 10, 1944--Junior flew over Rome this morning with Capt. Vance and took pictures of the city & of our new field.
- Sun., June 11, 1944--Will leave for field outside Rome tomorrow. . . Letter to Group said Love is a prisoner of war.
- Mon., June 12, 1944--Flew up to Galeria (Rome) with Capt. Block in #41. Bad weather caused us nearly to crack up when we landed.
- Tues., June 13, 1944--Fixed up our tent again with floors & sides (at Galeria). Started night flying tonight. Collins, Young, & I had to stay up till 02:30 hrs. getting flights off & back. . . Frankhouser is prisoner of war.
- Wed., June 14, 1944--Built up Ops. building again. (I'm getting tired of doing it, too.) Gordon Grant, a war correspondent from the Tampa Tribune, stopped by to see Junior & then me today. He wanted a "story" but got none. (Jr. got here this morning from Vesuvius.)
- Thurs., June 15, 1944--On night duty all night sending off night flights. Got in bed about 0515 in the morning.
- Fri., June 16, 1944--Collins, Young, Lt. Underwood, & I went into Rome this afternoon & looked the town over.
- Sat., June 17, 1944--Worked all day on back paper work.
- Sun., June 18, 1944--Terrific rain & lightning storm last night. Rained most of the day today.
- Mon., June 19, 1944--Rain again. Mail at last.
- Tues., June 20, 1944--Signs went up around Officers' area today: "Officers' Area Only; Off Limits to E. M."
- Wed., June 21, 1944--On night duty tonight till 0400 a.m. sending off night training flights.
- Thurs., June 22, 1944--Jr. came over this evening. Col. Akers flew him over our proposed new field today to photograph it (Grosseto). At the present time it's about 15 miles from the front.
- Fri., June 23, 1944--Junior flew in a "cub" to see Tom Hendrix yesterday up about halfway between here & Grosseto. Tom is in Gen. Clark's Hdqs. now in charge of the "cubs."
- Sat., June 24, 1944--Flew to Foggia this afternoon to see Fred, but he was on Sardinia. Rode back in nose. That was about the roughest plane ride I ever had, I believe. . . Advance echelon moved up to new field today (Grosseto).
- Sun., June 25, 1944--On night duty tonight till 0345.

- Mon., June 26, 1944--Worked hard all day on paper work, then we tore down the Ops. shack & loaded it on a truck. We're going up to Grosseto in the morning. Junior's birthday today. Three pilots & six gunners left for the States today.
- Tues., June 27, 1944--Moved up by truck to new field at Ombrone (Grosseto). We're living in nice pine woods, but the bugs are terrible. Set up our living tent.
- Wed., June 28, 1944--Put up Ops. shack this a.m. I hope it won't stand another move.
- Thurs., June 29, 1944--On night duty in Opns. tonight till 0300 a.m.
- Fri., June 30, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., July 1, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., July 2, 1944--We're supposed to go to Corsica beginning on the 9th. Worked all night in Opns. tonight.
- Mon., July 3, 1944--Note: This area we're living in is mined. Three Group officers were seriously injured when their jeep ran over a mine just before the main part of the Group moved up here.
- Tues., July 4, 1944--I'm getting highly "browned off" with the situation here because we can hardly keep enough transportation available to take care of our business. Officers are continually making off with the jeeps.
- Wed., July 5, 1944--On duty all night. . . . Last night one of our planes didn't come back from the mission--reason unknown. Crew was Lt. Graves (pilot); Adams & Eden (gunners); Dunn (bomb.); and Dr. Browder J. Thompson (observer), an expert consultant from the War Dept. He is also supposed to be an Under-Secretary of War, traveling about with Secy. of War Stimson who is in Naples now, I believe. Quite an investigation is being made, but there is no clue as to why the plane didn't return. It probably got in bad weather and ran into a mountain.
- Thurs., July 6, 1944--On duty till midnight because C.B. Young didn't get back from 2-day pass to Rome. I'm leaving in the morning on advance echelon to Corsica.
- Fri., July 7, 1944--Convoy moved to Civita Vecchia and bivouacked outside of town for the night. Beetem, Storsberg, & I are in a command car for the trip.
- Sat., July 8, 1944--We loaded on an LST (vehicles & all) & it's really crowded.
- Sun., July 9, 1944--This Navy chow is good! We pulled out for Corsica in the evening. Hit some very rough, wet weather. Sailors on here are very young & have been overseas only since June 2 (this year). Some of them got sick when the rough weather hit.
- Mon., July 10, 1944--When we got up this morning, we saw Corsica ahead. We docked in the evening at Porte Vecchio & bivouacked for the night just outside of town. (When we left the boat around supper time, we left the sailors eating fresh fried ham! We got cold C-rations.)
- Tues., July 11, 1944--Convoy moved up east coast of Corsica to a field about 10 or 12 miles south of Bastia. Name of field is Poretta, & it is really dusty. We're camped next to a river (Golo) which is good for swimming, & I've already been in twice.

Wed., July 12, 1944--Went in swimming six times today. Collins, Chester, & Young flew up today.

Thurs., July 13, 1944--We got 20 Italian prisoners to work here today & tomorrow. They are just young, underfed kids who surrendered to the French on Elba. I was looking after six of them who were clearing off a place for Operations. At first I carried a gun, but when I saw what kids they were I took it off. The French are in charge of their prison camp & practically starve them--one small loaf of bread for eight boys, plus some "hot water" (probably weak soup). These kids went wild over C-rations. . .I'm on duty tonight to take care of the night flying.

Fri., July 14, 1944--Rumor today that Stalin said over the radio that the war would be over in 1000 hours (41 days). Ha! . . .Corsicans celebrated Bastille Day today.

Sat., July 15, 1944--This swimming (in the Golo River) is buona.

Sun., July 16, 1944--On duty tonight in Ops. About 2200 hrs. I had the surprise of my life. Murphy, a gunner who was shot down on March 27th, walked in very much alive. He had escaped a German prison camp and after some harrowing experiences made his way back through the lines. We all had believed that the whole crew of that plane was dead, but Murphy told us that all three of them had gotten out. He also confirmed the report that Frankhouser and Love were prisoners of war and that Bartlett & Cockrill were definitely killed.

Mon., July 17, 1944--My day off, & Mac & I went into Bastia. At the Red Cross we ran into Richert & Klum (who used to be in the 97th), & we rode around in the command car Klum had. Then we came back to camp. The ice cream at the Red Cross was good.

Tues., July 18, 1944--Worked all day trying to catch up on back paper work which the last move occasioned. Our meals have been good the past few days for some strange reason. I just found out today that Bryant (one of our new gunners) is from Lakeland. He's Tom Bryant's brother & is 37 years old.

Wed., July 19, 1944--Worked hard all day on back paper work and got almost caught up.

Thurs., July 20, 1944--Day off. Spent afternoon at Gp. Photo printing pictures with Junior. On duty tonight, but we got stood down.

Fri., July 21, 1944--Got three teeth filled today.

Sat., July 22, 1944--Italian "K.P." drowned in the river today. He fell in while washing clothes & couldn't swim. Chapman (an engineer) finally dived down deep enough to get him several hours later.

Sun., July 23, 1944--Junior's infected finger may send him to hospital tomorrow.

Mon., July 24, 1944--Junior went to hospital today. I'm on duty tonight.

Tues., July 25, 1944--I don't know what's the matter with me. I can't sleep half the time, yet I'm tired. I roll & toss at night & talk in my sleep. I think I need a wife.

Wed., July 26, 1944--Mail situation is getting bad again.

- Thurs., July 27, 1944--Saw show at Gp. Hq. tonight, "Going My Way" with Bing Crosby & Rise Stevens. Very good.
- Fri., July 28, 1944--On duty tonight. Sqdn. stood down, so I got to bed about midnight.
- Sat., July 29, 1944--Inspection by Gp. officer this morning (of equipment).
- Sun., July 30, 1944--Going to Capri tomorrow. I don't know how I rate, but they asked me.
- Mon., July 31, 1944--Flew from Borgo to Capodichino in A-20 (#76)-- Lt. Surber, pilot; Lt. Brannan in nose; & Frieze, Carroll, Zipkis, & I in back. We had a gasoline leak in left wing tank, but it stopped. Left Borgo at 11:30, got to Capodichino at 13:15. Left on boat at 14:45 & got to Capri at 16:45. Frieze, Zipkis, & I staying in one room at Albergo Splendido (Splendid Hotel).
- Tues., August 1, 1944--Walked around; visited Red Cross E.M. Club; had ice cream. Saw show last night.
- Wed., Aug. 2, 1944--Frieze & I rode in horse carriage to Anacapri & ate dinner at Bella Vista. Dance at Red Cross this afternoon. I tried one dance. Saw stinky show tonight.
- Thurs., Aug., 3, 1944--Walked a couple of WAC's home from Valentino Club tonight.
- Fri., Aug. 4, 1944--Dave & I had a supper prepared for four at the Windsor, & he & Almena (Red Cross girl), & "Torky" (a WAC) & I had supper together. . . . We leave in the morning.
- Sat., Aug. 5, 1944--Went back to Naples by boat & flew back to Corsica in #76. . . . Found out that Davis of Gp. Hq. drowned in the river (while I was on Capri).
- Sun., Aug. 6, 1944--Back to work with a bang--all day & most of the night.
- Mon., Aug. 7, 1944--Beaucoup mail & a package were awaiting me when I got back from Capri. Buona!
- Tues., Aug. 8, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Aug. 9, 1944--Maj. Young flew up this a.m. to tell us goodbye. He's going back home.
- Thurs., Aug. 10, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Fri., Aug. 11, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., Aug. 12, 1944--Several more combat crew members left for the States today.
- Sun., Aug. 13, 1944--Frieze & several others left to join a B-29 outfit today. They're probably going back to the States. . . . Ten people bailed out of B-24 over our field today.
- Mon., Aug. 14, 1944--Invasion of southern France to start early in the morning. I'm glad things are going to break at last.
- Tues., Aug. 15, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Aug. 16, 1944--(No diary entry.)

- Thurs., Aug. 17, 1944--On mission last night one plane turned up missing--Lt. "Stumpy" Underwood, Lt. Moran, Chapman, & D.A. Johnson.  
I hate that. . . .I hear that I'm on the list to go home next. Maybe.
- Fri., Aug. 18, 1944--Keeping very busy these days.
- Sat., Aug. 19, 1944--Worked tonight.
- Sun., Aug. 20, 1944--Went to picture show tonight at Gp. Hq.
- Mon., Aug. 21, 1944--Mail today. . .Collins, etc. got back today from a week's trip to Casablanca & Algiers.
- Tues., Aug. 22, 1944--Two funny things have happened recently. The other night a P-47 crashed on Poretta Airdrome and burst into flames. The pilot didn't have a chance. A few minutes later a fellow walked into Base Ops. & asked if there was a doctor around. Somebody asked him who was hurt, and he said he had sprained his wrist. When they asked him how he had hurt himself, he said, "Oh, I was flying that P-47 that crashed." . . . .Two or three nights later a P-47 spun in near Poretta, and when the pilot bailed out his chute didn't open. Searchers were looking through a marsh trying to find the wreckage when someone called out. They yelled and asked the caller if he had seen a plane crash. He said, "No, I didn't see it, but I'm the pilot." He was sitting in soft mud up to his neck!
- Wed., Aug. 23, 1944--Paris was freed today. . . .I worked tonight.
- Thurs., Aug. 24, 1944--Took day off & built a seat & washstand.  
Saw British stage show tonight.
- Fri., Aug. 25, 1944--Saw interesting picture show tonight, "It Happened Tomorrow."
- Sat., Aug. 26, 1944--Worked like a B - - - all day.
- Sun., Aug. 27, 1944--Worked tonight.
- Mon., Aug. 28, 1944--Washed clothes.
- Tues., Aug. 29, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Aug. 30, 1944--Advance echelon left for France. Collins, Amick, & McLaughlin went from our sections.
- Thurs., Aug. 31, 1944--Working all the time now.
- Fri., September 1, 1944--Worked today & tonight. Jr. flew over enemy territory today with Maj. Marsha.
- Sat., Sept. 2, 1944--Worked all day. Went to show tonight.
- Sun., Sept. 3, 1944--Jr. flew to France & back again today with Col. Akers. . . .Worked tonight.
- Mon., Sept. 4, 1944--Worked all day. Went to show tonight.
- Tues., Sept. 5, 1944--Overseas two years today. . .Flew over to France today on our B-25. France is very nice compared to Italy or Corsica. People are friendly.
- Wed., Sept. 6, 1944--Flew back to Corsica from France in our B-25.  
Flew in a solid overcast for a long time & I was scared.
- Thurs., Sept. 7, 1944--Flew back to France this afternoon to stay.
- Fri., Sept. 8, 1944--Went to Salon this morning with Mac. . . . Set up Ops. & Intelligence this afternoon. . .Went into Eyguieres tonight.

- Sat., Sept. 9, 1944--We're not doing any bombing now. The planes are hauling rations, gas, & bombs because of transportation shortage. . . Went into Eyguierés & ate supper tonight.
- Sun., Sept. 10, 1944--Work.
- Mon., Sept. 11, 1944--Work.
- Tues., Sept. 12, 1944--Work.
- Wed., Sept. 13, 1944--Work.
- Thurs., Sept. 14, 1944--Work.
- Fri., Sept. 15, 1944--Went to Marseilles on pass. Met a nice lady and her daughter & another nice girl, and we had a drink together. Gen. DeGaulle is in town today.
- Sat., Sept. 16, 1944--Saw General Charles DeGaulle this morning. Had dinner with Madame Mommens and her daughter. Got back to camp just before dark.
- Sun., Sept. 17, 1944--We're starting to move back to Italy tomorrow.
- Mon., Sept. 18, 1944--Part of Sqdn. went back to Italy by plane today. We'll be south of Leghorn (Livorno) somewhere. Typical 47th Gp. weather for moving--rain.
- Tues., Sept. 19, 1944--Flew in B-25 from LaJasse, France, to Fallonica, Italy, our new base. Poured down rain all night & there were strong winds. . . .Some new guys from the States coming into the Group as replacements.
- Wed., Sept. 20, 1944--Yesterday after I had taken off, an 84th plane crashed and killed the pilot & bombardier. The pilot (Ankrom) was a friend of C.B.'s.
- Thurs., Sept. 21, 1944--Ops. & Intelligence moved into a house for the first time since England.
- Fri., Sept. 22, 1944--Lots of rain practically every day.
- Sat., Sept. 23, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., Sept. 24, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Mon., Sept. 25, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Tues., Sept. 26, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Sept. 27, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Thurs., Sept. 28, 1944--Cold weather coming.
- Fri., Sept. 29, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., Sept. 30, 1944--Went to show in Fallonica.
- Sun., Oct. 1, 1944--Sqdn. ran two day missions & one night mission. Lt. Surber was wounded in shoulder by flak.
- Mon., Oct. 2, 1944--Put up stove in tent tonight. It really helps. Lots of rain today; no flying.
- Tues., Oct. 3, 1944--Worked all day and night.
- Wed., Oct. 4, 1944--Group started moving to Rosignano today.
- Thurs., Oct. 5, 1944--Jr. left for Rosignano today. I leave tomorrow. Ate supper with the Grossis & Bulleris tonight.

Fri., Oct. 6, 1944--Rain is holding up the move.

Sat., Oct. 7, 1944--More rain; no move. Got a pretty good ration today.

Sun., Oct. 8, 1944--Poured down last night. Moved to Rosignano today in a truck. Much rain. On the way here today we almost had a serious accident. Swollen torrents washed out the base of a road connected to a bridge we crossed. We got across just before the road gave way. A horse fell in the gap between the road & the bridge; there was no way of getting it out; its hind legs were probably broken; and only its head was above water. I asked the old Italian who owned the horse if he wanted me to shoot the horse. He finally decided that it was the only thing to do; so I shot it, although I hated to do it and was shaking pretty badly.

Mon., Oct. 9, 1944--Rain & mud. Went over to see Jr. today.

Tues., Oct. 10, 1944--Rain & mud. Opns. is set up in a building about three blocks from the camp.

Wed., Oct. 11, 1944--Took much needed bath out of my helmet.

Thurs., Oct. 12, 1944--(No diary entry.)

Fri., Oct. 13, 1944--Jr. & I went on two-day pass to Fallonica to visit the Bulleris, Grossis, & Contis.

Sat., Oct. 14, 1944--Went into town to eat dinner with Caesarina & her two kids, and Giusipine, Angela, & Juliano (in Scarlino).

Sun., Oct. 15, 1944--Got a ride back to Sqdn. today in 86th truck.

Mon., Oct. 16, 1944--Picked up the two drunkest men I've ever seen & brought them to camp to sleep it off. They were both passed out on the street across from Ops., & Sennette & I bundled them into a jeep and brought them back to camp.

Tues., Oct. 17, 1944--Worked till 0330 this Wed. morning.

Wed., Oct. 18, 1944--Wrote several letters today.

Thurs., Oct. 19, 1944--A truck backed into a bomb on the field today. It exploded & wounded four men--Waits, Abrahams, Fantaccione, & a boy from the Service Group who was driving the truck. Abrahams was hurt the worst, but all of them will recover. Brown, a gunner, was standing between two of the ones who were hit. He was knocked down but not hit.

Fri., Oct. 20, 1944--Went to show tonight, "Broadway Rhythm." It was good.

Sat., Oct. 21, 1944--On duty in Ops. tonight.

Sun., Oct. 22, 1944--Didn't work today. Straightened up my barracks bags, etc. Took a bath.

Mon., Oct. 23, 1944--Col. Willard sent Jr. to Grosseto today to do some special photography of some kind.

Tues., Oct. 24, 1944--Rained most of the day. Probably no flying possible for two or three days. Slept in Ops. tonight.

Wed., Oct. 25, 1944--Rained most of the day.

Thurs., Oct. 26, 1944--Have a bad head cold.

Fri., Oct. 27, 1944--Inspection this morning. Cold is worse. Collins got back from Foggia. Went to show tonight. Pouring down rain tonight.

- Sat., Oct. 28, 1944--Slept in Opns. tonight but couldn't sleep much because of my cold.
- Sun., Oct. 29, 1944--Got stuck in mud in jeep over at Gp. Hq. this morning, & when I got out of the jeep I stepped in mud up over my overshoes. More rain today & tonight.
- Mon., Oct. 30, 1944--Poured down rain today; the mud is terrible.  
Went to show tonight, "Guadalcanal Diary."
- Tues., Oct. 31, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., November 1, 1944--Last night was Halloween, & I didn't even think of it. All days look alike these times. On duty in Opns. tonight.
- Thurs., Nov. 2, 1944--Gp. Hq. was flooded again last night. A dam broke & water covered their area up to three & four feet. Went to show tonight.
- Fri., Nov. 3, 1944--Went to good show tonight--"As Thousands Cheer."
- Sat., Nov. 4, 1944--We got candy ration today.
- Sun., Nov. 5, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Mon., Nov. 6, 1944--Went to show tonight--"Till We Meet Again."
- Tues., Nov. 7, 1944--We've been stood down now for about 2 weeks (except for 4 or 5 strafing sorties). I've done less work in that time than in any other similar period since I've been in the Army. Weather is getting very cold now.
- Wed., Nov. 8, 1944--David Schofield dropped in on me this afternoon. He used to be one of my little Boy Scouts several years ago in Lakeland. He's a 2nd Lt., has been wounded twice (got Purple Heart & cluster), was reclassified & put in Air Corps from the Infantry. He's in a C.M. Trucking Co. now. It was nice seeing him. I am on C.Q. in Opns. tonight.
- Thurs., Nov. 9, 1944--Went to show tonight.
- Fri., Nov. 10, 1944--We moved upstairs above Operations on Nov. 8th--that is, all of us except Mac and C.B. It's much nicer living in a building (for the first time in a couple of years).
- Sat., Nov. 11, 1944--Had a busy day in Opns. for first time since our long stand-down. Stayed in and wrote to Mary Alice tonight instead of going to the show.
- Sun., Nov. 12, 1944--Last night an 84th ship crashed offshore from here when both engines cut out. Nobody got out. An 86th plane failed to come back from the mission last night.
- Mon., Nov. 13, 1944--I was on duty in Opns. last night till 0520 this morning due to a mission.
- Tues., Nov. 14, 1944--Has turned really cold. Junior came back from Grosseto.
- Wed., Nov. 15, 1944--Terrific wind all day. Cold as all get out.
- Thurs., Nov. 16, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Fri., Nov. 17, 1944--I think my nerves are getting the better of me.
- Sat., Nov. 18, 1944--Tonight Lt. Surber, Lt. Snyder, Grissom, & Albrecht are missing in action. Albrecht's first mission. I worked tonight; got in bed at 0400 a.m.

- Sun., Nov. 19, 1944--Went to show tonight.
- Mon., Nov. 20, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Tues., Nov. 21, 1944--Missed chance today of going home soon on 30-day furlough.
- Wed., Nov. 22, 1944--On duty tonight until 0445 in the morning.
- Thurs., Nov. 23, 1944--Sqdn. C.Q. tonight. O.D. nearly burned down the Colonel's trailer. I had to bring a drunk back to camp who was disturbing an Italian family. We had a good dinner for Thanksgiving today.
- Fri., Nov. 24, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., Nov. 25, 1944--Went to a party tonight at a villa Gen. Clark uses when he's around here.
- Sun., Nov. 26, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Mon., Nov. 27, 1944--C.Q. in Ops. tonight. No flying.
- Tues., Nov. 28, 1944--Went to Leghorn & Pisa today in jeep with Collins, Chester, & McLaughlin. Climbed the Leaning Tower. Went to a good show tonight--"Gaslight."
- Wed., Nov. 29, 1944--We're going to move to Grosseto for the winter, I guess. "A" echelon moves out in the morning.
- Thurs., Nov. 30, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Fri., December 1, 1944--Worked all night.
- Sat., Dec. 2, 1944--Got to bed at 0900 a.m. after working all night.
- Sun., Dec. 3, 1944--Saw show tonight--"Impatient Years" with Jean Arthur.
- Mon., Dec. 4, 1944--Hardly slept at all last night due to terrific head cold which came on suddenly.
- Tues., Dec. 5, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Dec. 6, 1944--Moved from Vada to Grosseto. Had flat tire on the way. We had to change it in the rain without a jack.
- Thurs., Dec. 7, 1944--This is the worst set-up we've ever had for efficient operating--officers' quarters & Ops. in one place, the Sqdn. area  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles away, and the airfield 9 miles away.
- Fri., Dec. 8, 1944--Living in a tent with no floor but mud & grass. My cold never will get well.
- Sat., Dec. 9, 1944--Worked tonight.
- Sun., Dec. 10, 1944--Took sulphur bath today.
- Mon., Dec. 11, 1944--Molta rain.
- Tues., Dec. 12, 1944--Worked all day & am on duty tonight.
- Wed., Dec. 13, 1944--Built floors for the two tents today.
- Thurs., Dec. 14, 1944--Lost plane tonight--Lt. MacMullin, Lt. Christian, S/Sgt. Johnson, & Cpl. Mastroleo. We don't know what happened. . . . Went to "Rhapsody in Blue" tonight. Was really good.

- Fri., Dec. 15, 1944--I'm going nuts. I'm not meant for this kind of "details" work.
- Sat., Dec. 16, 1944--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., Dec. 17, 1944--C.Q. in Ops. tonight.
- Mon., Dec. 18, 1944--Saw USO show tonight. Was really funny.
- Tues., Dec. 19, 1944--Took another sulphur bath today. Rations today.
- Wed., Dec. 20, 1944--Another hectic day in Ops. . . .Clare Booth Luce is in the vicinity. One of our planes spent almost a day flying around looking for her baggage. Some stuff.
- Thurs., Dec. 21, 1944--Worked tonight.
- Fri., Dec. 22, 1944--Took sulphur bath today. It's getting really cold now. Got package from Mary Alice. Had fried chicken for supper.
- Sat., Dec. 23, 1944--Bitterly cold all day.
- Sun., Dec. 24, 1944--On C.Q. in Ops. tonight. Much Xmas cheer floating around all night.
- Mon., Dec. 25, 1944--Good turkey dinner today. Officers had party for Italian kids this afternoon.
- Tues., Dec. 26, 1944--Amick had to go to hospital tonight with a bad throat. Extra guards on planes due to rumored civilian uprising.
- Wed., Dec. 27, 1944--Sgt. of Guard at Sqdn. tonight. Had to post guards on airfield & over some bombs which were expected to blow up. Cold tonight. Didn't get much sleep.
- Thurs., Dec. 28, 1944--On duty in Ops. all night. Didn't get to bed till 0600 a.m. Got mail today for a change.
- Fri., Dec. 29, 1944--A windy, cold day, as usual.
- Sat., Dec. 30, 1944--Photo boys told me Junior went to Rome on pass.
- Sun., Dec. 31, 1944--On duty all day & night in Ops. Got to bed at 0400 a.m. in the morning of Jan. 1, 1945.
- Monday, January 1, 1945--Took bath today. Saw U.S.O. production of "Panama Hattie" tonight.
- Tues., Jan. 2, 1945--Amick came back from hospital today. Maybe I'll be able to take a pass now.
- Wed., Jan. 3, 1945--More delayed-action bombs accidentally dropped on field last night, but they didn't go off.
- Thurs., Jan. 4, 1945--Rain tonight. Only 3 planes flew.
- Fri., Jan. 5, 1945--I'm going nuts in Operations.
- Sat., Jan. 6, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., Jan. 7, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Mon., Jan. 8, 1945--Left on 5-day pass. Hitch-hiked to the Bulleri's at Fallonica (Casone). Everyone seemed glad to see me.
- Tues., Jan. 9, 1945--The Italians have a clever arrangement for warming a bed with a bucket of coals.

- Wed., Jan. 10, 1945--Hitch-hiked from Fallonica to Livorno (Leghorn) after telling all my Italian friends at the Casone goodbye. (One of them drove me in a horse & buggy to the main highway.) . . .Bad icing conditions on road to Leghorn. Saw four or five trucks go over in ditch, & my truck just missed a time or two. . . .Found room in civilian home--no lights; only one quilt as cover. Spent cold night.
- Thurs., Jan. 11, 1945--Walked down to the port (about 2 miles or more). It is about decimated. I have no place to eat except Red Cross & can get only coffee & cookies there. I'm really hungry. Spent another cold night.
- Fri., Jan. 12, 1945--Hitch-hiked back to outfit & arrived half-frozen, half-starved.
- Sat., Jan. 13, 1945--Worked in Ops. all day. Lot of rain today.
- Sun., Jan. 14, 1945--Worked all day & all night in Ops. Got off duty at 0830 on Jan. 15th.
- Mon., Jan. 15, 1945--Couldn't sleep more than 2 or 3 hours today. Dead tired tonight.
- Tues., Jan. 16, 1945--Went to show tonight, "Animal Kingdom" with Ann Sheridan.
- Wed., Jan. 17, 1945--Had bad day in the office--difference of opinion with adjutant.
- Thurs., Jan. 18, 1945--Capt. Neuer told me tonight that Junior would start work with me tomorrow.
- Fri., Jan. 19, 1945--Junior came over to work in Sqdn. Ops. Moved into my tent. We went to show tonight.
- Sat., Jan. 20, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., Jan. 21, 1945--On duty in Sqdn. Ops. tonight. Sqdn. stood down. Snow & hail today & tonight.
- Mon., Jan. 22, 1945--Ice all over ground today. Jr. on duty in Ops. tonight.
- Tues., Jan. 23, 1945--I was cold in bed last night. Rain today. Stand down.
- Wed., Jan. 24, 1945--Have bad cough; don't feel good.
- Thurs., Jan. 25, 1945--Bad cold & cough.
- Fri., Jan. 26, 1945-- (No diary entry--i.e., for general distribution.)
- Sat., Jan. 27, 1945--Can't seem to get over this cold.
- Sun., Jan. 28, 1945--Ice all over the ground again.
- Mon., Jan. 29, 1945--Worked half the day & all night in Ops. Got to bed at 0630 a.m. for 2 hours. . . .Maj. Tilton MIA tonight from 84th Sq. Used to be in 97th.
- Tues., Jan. 30, 1945--Ice all over the ground. Could sleep only about 2 hours this afternoon. Got a sweet letter from Mary Alice. 86th lost another plane tonight.
- Wed., Jan. 31, 1945--I guess we're going to move closer to the Sqdn. area soon.

- Thursday, February 1, 1945--Junior will go back to Gp. Photo soon because they're getting night photo equipment.
- Fri., Feb. 2, 1945--Went to show tonight.
- Sat., Feb. 3, 1945--Mac & I went to Siena today. Had a very nice sightseeing trip.
- Sun., Feb. 4, 1945--Saw Juliano Bulleri this morning. He's going to school in Grosseto. Jr. & I are going in to see him & Signora Grossi one of these nights.
- Mon., Feb. 5, 1945--Worked all day & till three o'clock in the morning (Tuesday). Lt. Ritchie, Lt. Hackett, Mull, & Hancock missing from mission tonight. Ritchie was heard telling them to bail out.
- Tues., Feb. 6, 1945--Worked all morning & part of the afternoon. Then had to go to bed for awhile as I was dead tired. We've got to have some help in Operations soon.
- Wed., Feb. 7, 1945--Worked all day. Went into Grosseto tonight & visited Signora Grossi & Juliano Bulleri .
- Thurs., Feb. 8, 1945--Worked all day & night. Got to bed at 4:30 a.m., Friday morning.
- Fri., Feb. 9, 1945--Worked till about 1400 hrs. after getting up at 0300. Took helmet bath tonight.
- Sat., Feb. 10, 1945--Worked all day in Ops.
- Sun., Feb. 11, 1945--On duty today & tonight in Ops. We're moving tomorrow.
- Mon., Feb. 12, 1945--Moved to new place about 3/4 mile from the Squadron. Pitched tent and put floor in. Went to "Cover Girl" tonight.
- Tues., Feb. 13, 1945--Straightened up office in new building. Got new pair of shoes from salvage.
- Wed., Feb. 14, 1945--Took bath. Stood down again today. Brought Collins back from hospital this morning.
- Thurs., Feb. 15, 1945--Sergeant of the Guard in Sqdn. tonight. Somebody fired across the area, but I couldn't find who it was.
- Fri., Feb. 16, 1945--Got bad head cold. Took bath this morning.
- Sat., Feb. 17, 1945--Worked all day in Ops. Went over to Junior's place tonight & took some pictures & printed some. Jr. moved back to his photo work today.
- Sun., Feb. 18, 1945--Rations today. Stood down tonight.
- Mon., Feb. 19, 1945--Mac left for 30-day furlough in the States.
- Tues., Feb. 20, 1945--Worked all day in Ops.
- Wed., Feb. 21, 1945--Message came in today that Hancock is in "proper hands"--probably Partisans behind German lines. . . .I worked all night in Ops. . . .84th Sqdn. lost a plane; at least some of crew bailed out.
- Thurs., Feb. 22, 1945--Took bath today. Went to poor show tonight.

- Fri., Feb. 23, 1945--F/O Naylor, F/O Johns, Taylor, & Walker crashed into sea last night when an engine caught fire just after take-off.
- Sat., Feb. 24, 1945--Hancock got back today. . . .I worked tonight. Got to bed at 0245.
- Sun., Feb. 25, 1945--Spent day with Junior.
- Mon., Feb. 26, 1945--Worked today. Went to U.S.O. show tonight. Very good.
- Tues., Feb. 27, 1945--Worked till 1600 hrs. Went to bed for an hour or so; then on duty all night. (Got to bed at 0200 a.m.)
- Wed., Feb. 28, 1945--Took sulphur bath today.
- Thursday, March 1, 1945--Worked all day. Went over to see Jr. tonight with Collins & Lt. Wagenhals. Developed & printed some film.
- Fri., Mar. 2, 1945--On duty in Ops. tonight. 85th lost plane & crew tonight; crashed just after take-off. (Probably carburetor ice.)
- Sat., Mar. 3, 1945--Have another bad cold. Worked in Ops. all day. 85th lost another plane & crew on mission tonight.
- Sun., Mar. 4, 1945--Coughed all night last night. Went to see doctor this a.m. Jr. & I ate with Giuliano & Signora Grossi tonight.
- Mon., Mar. 5, 1945--Worked all day & night. Have been overseas 2½ years today.
- Tues., Mar. 6, 1945--I feel terrible.
- Wed., Mar. 7, 1945--Have abscessed tooth that's driving me crazy--along with my cold.
- Thurs., Mar. 8, 1945--Had tooth pulled this morning by Gp. dentist. I fainted. On duty in Ops. all night. Feel terrible.
- Fri., Mar. 9, 1945--Feel much better this morning. Took bath. Went to see Jr. Went into Grosseto & got haircut & shave.
- Sat., Mar. 10, 1945--Tooth (or rather lack of it) hurt me worse than ever today. Worked all day in Ops. Capt. Klauber & Lt. Wagenhals went home today.
- Sun., Mar. 11, 1945--Started new system in Ops. whereby each man works at night for 4 nights in a row. Went to U.S.O. show in Grosseto tonight. D'Artega's All-Girl Band. Was really good.
- Mon., Mar. 12, 12, 1945--Steve (Collins' friend) came up today. . . My gum where the tooth was pulled is giving me fits.
- Tues., Mar. 13, 1945--Jaw is killing me. Went to have gums packed again.
- Wed., Mar. 14, 1945--Had dentist pack gum again. It's about to drive me crazy. On duty in Ops. tonight.
- Thurs., Mar. 15, 1945--Went to dentist again. On duty tonight.
- Fri., Mar. 16, 1945--Jr. flew to Cairo, Egypt, this a.m. I'm on duty tonight. Kendall's birthday & I forgot it.
- Sat., Mar. 17, 1945--Went to dentist again. On duty in Ops. tonight.
- Sun., Mar. 18, 1945--Took bath. Went to dentist again. Am having terrible pains & headaches every day.

- Mon., Mar. 19, 1945--Went to dentist; got X-ray. No infection. Dentist thinks I have sinusitis, & I believe he's right.
- Tues., Mar. 20, 1945--Schnathorst bailed out over target tonight when plane went into spin. Plane came back safely.
- Wed., Mar. 21, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Thurs., Mar. 22, 1945--The work in Opns. these days is driving me crazy.
- Fri., Mar. 23, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., Mar. 24, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., Mar. 25, 1945--Went to show tonight. Someone mentioned that this is Palm Sunday. I didn't even know it was Sunday.
- Mon., Mar. 26, 1945--On duty tonight. Stood down. Rain.
- Tues., Mar. 27, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Mar. 28, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Thurs., Mar. 29, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Fri., Mar. 30, 1945--Moved by truck to Pisa. Unloaded equipment. Walked over to Pisa Red Cross tonight. We're living in a building close to the Leaning Tower (Leonardo da Vinci Scuola).
- Sat., Mar. 31, 1945--Planes flew up today. Ran mission tonight.
- Sunday, April 1, 1945--Easter Sunday & April Fools Day. Worked all day.
- Mon., Apr. 2, 1945--Worked all day.
- Tues., Apr. 3, 1945--Ditto.
- Wed., Apr. 4, 1945--Ditto.
- Thurs., Apr. 5, 1945--Ditto.
- Fri., Apr. 6, 1945--Ditto. Went to see "The Thin Man Goes Home" tonight.
- Sat., Apr. 7, 1945--Worked all day.
- Sun., Apr. 8, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Mon., Apr. 9, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Tues., Apr. 10, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Apr. 11, 1945--Night duty.
- Thurs., Apr. 12, 1945--Night duty.
- Fri., Apr. 13, 1945--Just heard that Pres. Roosevelt died yesterday. Night duty.
- Sat., Apr. 14, 1945--Night duty.
- Sun., Apr. 15, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Mon., Apr. 16, 1945--Went to Florence (Firenze) for the day.
- Tues., Apr. 17, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Apr. 18, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Thurs., Apr. 19, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Fri., Apr. 20, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., Apr. 21, 1945--(No diary entry.)

- Sun., Apr. 22, 1945--Flew down to Grosseto this afternoon in B-25 to see Jr. for a few minutes.
- Mon., Apr. 23, 1945--The war in Italy is really going now & we've been flying both day & night for about three days. Plane & crew missing on mission tonight--Fassett (pilot); Ferree (bomb.); & LeNoir (gunner).
- Tues., Apr. 24, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Wed., Apr. 25, 1945--War over here is doing fine.
- Thurs., Apr. 26, 1945--Collins & Chester are going home soon.
- Fri., Apr. 27, 1945--Mussolini captured today by Partisans near Lake Como.
- Sat., Apr. 28, 1945--Mussolini shot today by Partisans. It looks as if the war can't last much longer.
- Sun., Apr. 29, 1945--Went to Lucca today with Beetem. Nice town. Clean streets. Big crowd of Italians tried to storm a house where some Fascists & Germans were prisoners. Police turned fire hose on them.
- Mon., Apr. 30, 1945--All Germans in western Po Valley surrendered last night. Truck loads of prisoners going by today.
- Tues., May 1, 1945--Hitler reported dead, by German radio. Sqdn. dance tonight.
- Wed., May 2, 1945--Over a million Germans laid down their arms today. No more bombing in Italy. It shouldn't be long now. . . Sissy's 32nd birthday today.
- Thurs., May 3, 1945--Berlin finally captured, as reported by the radio today.
- Fri., May 4, 1945--I sleep in Ops. tonight.
- Sat., May 5, 1945--Went to Lucca on pass.
- Sun., May 6, 1945--Collins went home on TDY. Schnathorst got back after having bailed out over target about 1½ months ago.
- Mon., May 7, 1945--Radio just announced (1600 hrs.) that the war is over in Europe.
- Tues., May 8, 1945--War officially over at one minute after midnight tonight.
- Wed., May 9, 1945--V-E day.
- Thurs., May 10, 1945--Went to Lucca to a dance. A pilot (F/O) & I took two sisters (Lilia & Lolita) to a restaurant for supper.
- Fri., May 11, 1945--Beginning cleaning out files, etc., getting ready to leave this theater for home (I hope!).
- Sat., May 12, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Sun., May 13, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Mon., May 14, 1945 through Tues., May 22, 1945--(No diary entries.)
- Wed., May 23, 1945--Lots of work for past several days in preparation to leave for the States.
- Thurs., May 24, 1945 through Mon., May 28, 1945--(No diary entries.)

- Tues., May 29, 1945--I'm 27 today.
- Wed., May 30, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Thurs., May 31, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Friday, June 1, 1945--(No diary entry.)
- Sat., June 2, 1945 through Mon., June 11, 1945--(No diary entries.)
- Tues., June 12, 1945--Mary Alice is 26 today. Mama & Daddy's 38th wedding anniversary.
- Wed., June 13, 1945 through Saturday, June 16, 1945--(No diary entries.)
- Sun., June 17, 1945--Moved to staging area about 2 miles away. Junior is in same tent with me.
- Mon., June 18, 1945--Staging area is very dusty and hot, but it's not so bad.
- Tues., June 19, 1945 through Sat., June 23, 1945--(No diary entries.)
- Sun., June 20, 1945--Junior left today to board boat. I leave tomorrow. Went to church twice today.
- Mon., June 25, 1945--Boarded S.S. William Cushing (Liberty ship) in Leghorn (Livorno) harbor.
- Tues., June 26, 1945--Sailed early this morning from Leghorn.
- Wed., June 27, 1945--Food is good on this ship. Bunks are crowded too close together, but, all in all, living conditions aren't too bad.
- Thurs., June 28, 1945--So far the trip has been very smooth.
- Fri., June 29, 1945--Put in at Oran, Algeria, for water today.
- Sat., June 30, 1945--Boat is rolling quite a bit today.
- Sun., July 1, 1945--Pretty rough today. Several guys are sick. I got nauseated at dinner & had to go lie down.
- Mon., July 2, 1945--Read David Copperfield today.
- Tues., July 3, 1945--Read Wuthering Heights.
- Wed., July 4, 1945--The ship's guns were fired today (4th of July). Extra-good dinner.
- Thurs., July 5, 1945 through Wed., July 11, 1945--(No diary entries.)
- Thursday, July 12, 1945--Landed in U.S.A. (New York Harbor) after nearly 3 yrs. overseas.

END OF DIARY