

Diaries of General Joseph W. Stilwell (1900–1939, 1945–1946)

Introduction

These diaries of General Joseph W. Stilwell are those remaining in the Stilwell Papers at the Hoover Archives that had not been placed on the Hoover Archives web site. In addition to chronicling his career and activities up to and following World War II, they offer insights into his developing character, as he matured from a twenty-one-year-old second lieutenant, fresh out of West Point, to a mature four-star general officer. They provide evidence of his early passion for exploring and observing different cultures and people and his innate curiosity, which led to an expanding mind and widespread interests. The entries also reveal his keen sense of humor, his ability to assess the character of others, his command of the English language, his artistic abilities, and his warmth for his family.

The diaries were Stilwell's private writings and notes; he never intended others to see them. Some of the language used in the diaries was commonly accepted during the periods in which they were written; it is not appropriate or valid to apply today's standards to it to draw conclusions about Stilwell's character or views. Writing about some of the language and labels in the diaries, Barbara Tuchman, in her book *Stilwell and the American Experience in China*, makes the following statement, "Lesser vulgarities he used easily and seemingly without pejorative content."

Often the diaries contain short notes and observations made by Stilwell. Some of those entries he incorporated into the daily entries, some he later crossed out, some were simply meant to remind him of something, and some are so cryptic they make no discernible contribution to the diaries' historical significance. In those cases such entries have not been transcribed. When they are of interest or add to the daily entries, however, they have been incorporated into the transcripts.

The diaries were first transcribed several decades ago, when his widow and a daughter-in-law, Bettye Stilwell, manually typed them. The diaries, along with the rest of Stilwell's papers, were deposited at the Hoover Institution in stages from 1951 on. In 1998, my cousin, Deborah Bunce, began entering the manually typed transcriptions into a computer database. When Richard Sousa (senior associate director) and Linda Bernard (deputy archivist) agreed that the diaries should appear on the Hoover Archives web site, I began proofing the computer database text against the original diaries. Lisa Miller (associate archivist) provided the impetus for the project and coordinated formats, scanning of drawings and maps, and integrating the various elements into the final product. Lisa Nguyen (East Asia curator) transcribed and translated the Chinese characters Stilwell used in the diaries. Russell Rader (digital archivist) and Daniel Jarvis (digitization production specialist) did the scanning of the drawings and maps and the integration.

Principles of Transcription

Stilwell's spelling throughout the diaries was remarkably correct. Distinguishing between his handwritten n's and u's, however, was sometimes difficult, and errors in place names or names of people containing those letters could have made their way into the transcripts. Based on Stilwell's superb spelling elsewhere, then, any such errors must be attributed to the transcriber, not to Stilwell.

In some of the diaries Stilwell included drawings of maps, people, places, and things that interested him. Those drawings have been incorporated into the transcripts, with the exception of partially completed drawings or those not germane to the diaries.

Where Stilwell wrote Chinese characters in the diaries, those characters have been translated using the Wade-Giles convention, which was in use at the time he wrote them.

SYMBOLS USED IN THE TEXT

* Indicates Stilwell's use of military unit designations that have been translated into words because the designators are not reproducible online.

*** Indicates words or sentences redacted. Redactions were made where the words or sentences might negatively affect persons still living or where words or sentences are personal and have no impact on the historical content of the diaries. Redactions were made in the 1935, 1938, and 1946 diaries.

Words written in italics are editorial comments for which explanations were warranted.

Select Bibliography

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Tuchman, Barbara. *Stilwell and the American Experience in China, 1911–45*. New York: Macmillan Company, 1970.

-John Easterbrook, 2012

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1918

Tues Jan. 1: Up at 1:30. Had chow in evening with Aunt Kate at Somerset.

Wed Jan. 2: Down to Murray St. Talk with Penny. Lunch at Exchange Buffet. Paid bill. Called Syracuse & talked to Win. Some uncertainty about coming.

Thurs Jan. 3: Waited till 3:30 for word from Win. Wire from S.M.S @ train "42". Win arr. at 8, 4 hrs. late. Chowd at Café Boulevard.

Fri Jan. 4: Lunch at Whyte's. Shopped first, shoes, kids' things. P.M. Hart in Narrow Trail. Miss Flynn. Chow at McAlpin. Chu-Chin-Chow.

Sat Jan. 5: Phoned Syr. O.K. to stay. Looked at shops. Lunch at Schroffts. Chu-Chin-Chow. Dinner at Astor. Walked around. Win left on 11:30. Left her at G. C. at 11.

Sun Jan. 6: To pier. Sail Monday. Automat and Eng. Club for breakfast. Metro. Art Museum. Lotus Club for chow. John McCormack in evening.

Mon Jan. 7: Raining. Cold. Over to pier at 10 – Sailed about 4 P.M. & went to quarantine no one on deck. All night in quarantine.

Tues Jan. 8: Sailed at 7:30. Big sea on, but behind us. AM with Maj. Sampson (42nd. Inf.). Slept in P.M. & spent hour up on deck. Not cold.

Wed Jan. 9: Slept late. Read. Walked. Usual day on shipboard.

Thurs Jan 10: Gun practice at noon. 6" gun right over our table. Boat drill at 10 ½ A.M. Brown's diver suit (whale conderri). B-ached French. Read. Walked.

Fri Jan. 11: Pitching some today. A lot of sick ones. Finished Salamembô. Walked on deck. Turned in at 10. Good deal of phosphorescence.

Sat Jan. 12: Up at 7:30 for bath. Fine day; like May. Read French. Walked. Balmy weather. Beautiful starry night.

Sun Jan. 13: Boat drill. Gun fired by mistake. Weather still fine. P.M. all hands up & dressed at dawn from now on. Carry ceintures de sauvetage everywhere.

Mon Jan. 14: Up at 6 for bath. Usual day – walked, sat on deck – read French. Some of them getting buffaloed. @ 8 more shots at 8 P.M. One destroyer also firing.

Tues Jan. 15: Very strong wind, much rougher. On deck all A.M. Read French all P.M. Much talk of mines, etc. Warned to sleep dressed.

Wed Jan. 16: Ship fired on at 5:20. Fired 5 or 6 shots in return. Big excitement. I slept through till 6:30. Two more shots fired at suspicious objects at 7:00. About 8 more shots at 8 P.M. One destroyer also firing. Convoy at 10, 2 destroyers, camouflaged. Passed 3 others.

Thurs Jan. 17: At Liverpool at 7 A.M. Left at 12 for Winchester. Arr. 8:30. Out to camp for night. S. G. Jones in command. Rain. No chow. Punk arrangements.

Fri Jan. 18: Up early and in to Winchester. Bought coat, belt, bag, gloves. Saw cathedral, etc. To Southampton at 10:30 arr 11:30. Walked around. Bath. Leg dressed. On board St. Geo. at 6:30.

Sat Jan. 19: All night sit up. Fool 2nd Lts. & clerks. Uneventful. At Havre at dawn. To camp. Back to town. Room at Modern Hotel with Spencer.

Sun Jan. 20: Up at 10: Down for baggage. P.M. up on the hill & to St. Adresse. In along sea-wall. (Cog R.R.) Orrell ('11) dined us in P.M. Fine old Eng. officers.

Mon Jan. 21: Up at 4. At station at 5. Train out at 6:30. Dawdled along all day & till midnight. Chartre. Lay there till 6 A.M. Passed Evreux (off for chow) & Dreux.

Tues Jan. 22: Asleep when we pulled out. Arr. Orléans at 10. Lay over till 2. Saw cathedral. Jeanne d'Arc's house & room & museum. Arr. Blois 4 P.M. Billet at Hotel.

Wed Jan. 23: Reported at château in A.M. Went through château in P.M. Duke de Guise assass. etc. Cath. de Medici room. Diane de Poitiers. Chicken dinner at café near Angleurem Hotel. Chestnuts.

Thurs Jan. 24: Walked around. Got rubber soles on shoes. Old cobbler. Rabbit dinner at little café. Walked around & up on hill to cathedral. Kids accompanied us everywhere. Hot bath.

Fri Jan. 25: To Tours. 10 A.M. Café de la Ville full of tarts. Walked across river, view from cathedral tower. Tower of Charlemagne. Pretty Loire country. Back on 6:43.

Sat Jan. 26: To station 10 A.M. Cutchins & Spencer did not show up. Felt punk & went to bed all day. Evening, walked with a kid & took him to a café for some chocolate.

Sun Jan. 27: O.K. again. A.M. baggage & report. 3 P.M. to Chaumont. (Diane's room – view – château itself.) – to Cheverny, to Chambord. Evening scene at Chambord with moon rising. Mistletoe – Dogs pulling carts. P.M. Café – all good friends now.

Mon Jan. 28: To Tours on 10 A.M. Haircut. To aviation field (Maj. Christie.) Drew tips. To St. Aignan. Not expected. Part of militia div. here. Billet – diphtheria patient just moved out. Filthy dirty.

Tues Jan. 29: Walked in park. Visited château. Changed billet to Dr. Pusy's room. Jens Bugge here. Gillespie back. Reunion sang "Dan, Dan" & went home.

Wed Jan. 30: Chocolate at "our" hotel. Bummed all A.M. P.M. went to Tours – train late. (Australians from Italy passed us.) Chow at Boule d'Or – café & vaudeville. "After theatre" party – asparagus Bell.

Thurs Jan. 31: Up at 7. 8:45 Express to Blois. Lunch at de France. Saw Château (Gaston of Orleans pulled down old château.) Machine to St. Aignan. Beautiful ride. Evening party & fire(!) at Gillespie's.

Fri Feb. 1: Up at 10. Put in for pay. Bummed around town. Tried to get Blois on phone. Moved to Gillespie's room.

Sat Feb. 2: Phoned Blois. Auto at 11:30. 1-armed wonder, 48 wounds. Talked, waved, & drove. Château – bath – chow – bed with Spencer. Horrible bed, no sleep, dogs baking etc. Bought Limoges china.

Sun Feb. 3: Back to St. Aignan, 1 armed man. Orders for Kestler. Walked to station & back – Chow at hotel.

Mon Feb. 4: Read "The 45." Farman came in. To Noyers to look up chow "en famille". (Bliss respons. for sending milish. To get them out of the way (!).

Tues Feb. 5: To Montrichard at 11. 18 kilom. Old woman who climbed in window. Arr. 2:30. Saw castle, Naceteuil church. View. Fine chow. Back in train. Orders had come. Me to 30th Div.

Feb 6 '18: Up at 7 – Paid off old people. Wrestled with baggage. Tours – Boule d'Or. Out at 3. To Paris – 8 P.M. Palais d'Orsay. Bath – Saw de Vilaine in Tours – (Blaney & Thompson). "Goose" Rice.

Feb 7: Down & wrestled trunks. (Someone found check) To Provost & R.T.O. Taxi. Notre Dame – Lux – Troc – Etoile – Carnavalet. Lunch Continental. To Invalides. Packed. Café de Paris & Folies Bergères.

Feb 8: 8 A.M. to Noyon (12) – Compiègne Ribecourt – Trench line ('15-'17) R.T.O. dummy – True Br. hospit. – (French postal car to Nesle) Br. taking over here. 18th Div. coming in. Fife & drum. Polite station agent.

Feb 9: Up at 5:30. New moon. To Nesle. Fr. politeness. Town major, old stiff. Area comdr. another. – Scots went thro. – Pipes & drums. At 2 hiked to Echer. Found 30th (Blore, etc.) Tea. Good billet – striker McCormick. Dinner at 8. Gen. _____ very pleasant.

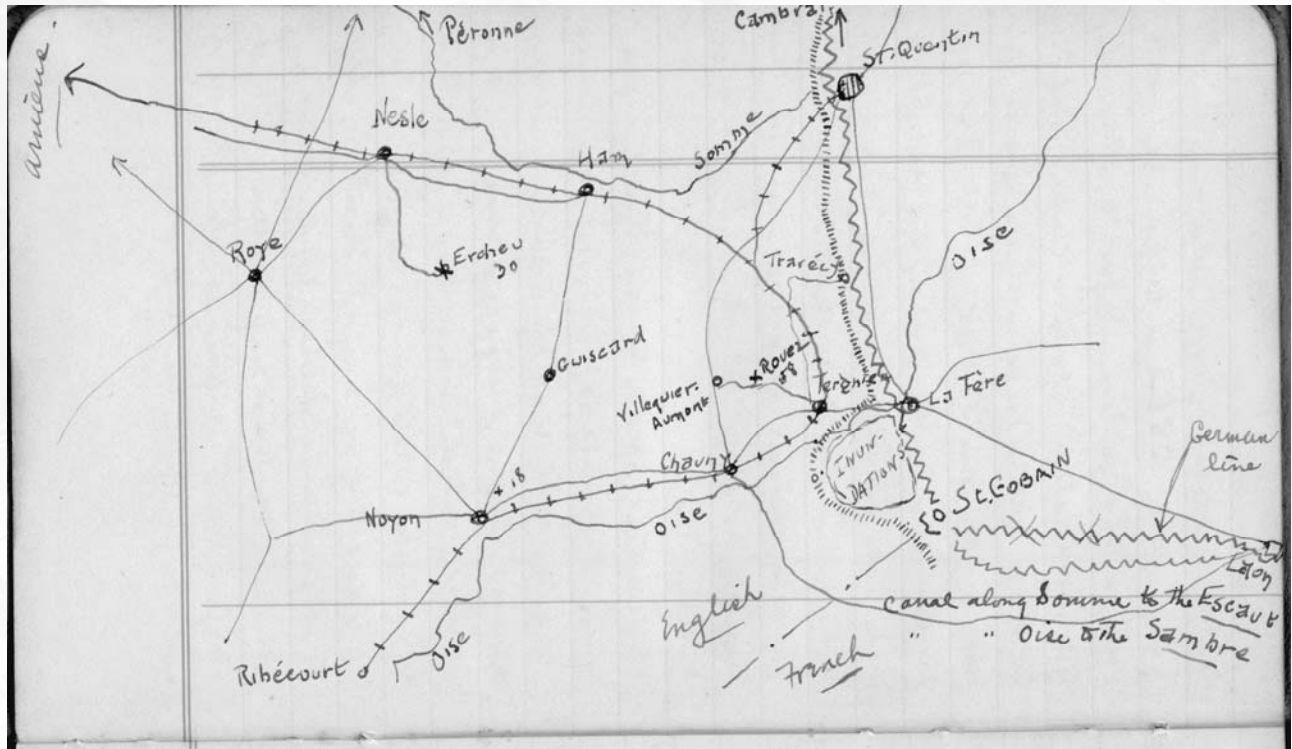
Feb 10: To 58th Div. – Rouez – near Villequier – Lt. Hughes, asst to Capt. Eden, G.S.O.3 – Fine ride. Worked in office (Capt. Fairbanks gone). Quiet front. Walked in P.M. to hill W. Tergniers. View of Boche lines. Art fire – planes obs. MITCHELL (EDEN), MEYNELL, HUGHES, HOLLIS.

[NOTE: Diary 18 begins with Feb 6-10 in more detail than the above.]

Feb. 6: St. Aignan. Sad farewell to old couple at my billet (no. 507). Much hot air & hand-shaking. Usual baggage scramble, with Blaney & co. butting in. We waited & put ours on unchecked. (Checked at Tours.) To Boule d'Or, when we saw de Vilaine & E² Lewis. Got some dope for my throat. Losing my voice. Out at 3. Paris at 8. To Palais d'Orsay (losing baggage check), Spencer and I together. Paris dark, but taxis going & no signs of shortage or hardship.

Feb. 7: Rice has now been named "Goose" (Circulate, dam you) & it gets his goat. Honk, honk. It develops that Blaney ordered 2 majors & a capt out of their rooms at St. Aignan, he being a gen. staff officer. Thomps. told him to get out quick or get thrown out. – Spencer nearly raped by landlady at St. Aignan. – Down early & wrestled trunks while Rice & Cutchins sat on their tails at breakfast. (Someone had, luckily, found the baggage check.) Reported to provost & R.T.O. Spencer & I then beat it & taxied to Notre Dame, Luxembourg, which was closed, Trocadero (airplane up) Etoile, & Carnavalet, (closed till after war.) Lunch at Continental ("Skag" Wms, 1908, an arrantass, "would hold only 2 commissions in the world – aid to Wood or U.S. Cav."!!) Gen. Wood's lucky wound described at length by Howland. Went to Invalides in P.M. Sandbagging Napoleon's tomb. "Vieux Charles" – Guynemer's machine. (19 Ger.). Minnenwerfr – field pieces – m.g.'s etc. in profusion. Pieces of zeps – Boche planes etc. Packed. To Café de Paris & dined amid the queens. (Some bunch & all available.) To Folies Bergères, a bum show, & approached only ten times going home. (Gillespie 34x, the preceding night.) Rotten "repopuleur" song. "Moving picture" postcards. Bath & turned in about one A.M.

Feb 8: Up at 6, (Spencer yelling "Bon" in his sleep.) & out on 8 A.M. train, gare du Nord. At Compiègne, first signs of wire entanglements & trenches, & at Ribécourt passed the ante-Somme battle line. Trenches & wire everywhere. Great piles where wire had been cleared up. Built-up Boche trench in swamp. Shell-holes in fields. Bldgs. badly broken up. First real glimpse of things; had me looking out both windows at once. Big art. & wagon park at Pont l'Evêque. To NOYON at noon. New station being built. Fr. bombed old one. Junction of Eng. and Fr. Eng. taking over. Part of 18th Div. coming in. (Some R. E.) Good tough looking soldiers. Formed quietly & quickly & moved off, to fife & drum. (Fr. amusement at combination of fife & drum.) Drummer's fancy movements. Motley coats, goat, leather, etc. The guns were going to-day, – 1st time I had heard them was here at Noyon. (An inch of mud everywhere.) – Reported to R.T.O. who allowed I'd better run along back to Paris. Never entered his head to try & send me the 20 k. to Nesle in some car. – "This is the Hon Sir Dick Pisspot at the phone. Are you the – ah?" He was apparently a titled ass for he had no time or use for me. Neither had his satellite sgt. who sat down while all officers present were standing. These Eng. are beyond me, – most of them are so very pleasant & some of them so damn snotty. R.T.O. didn't know anything & he looked it. The Fr. station agt put me onto the Red Cross hombre (Green) & I finally found him. He is a fresh jackanapes, with an officer's hat cord, but very obliging & kind. Got permission at once to go to Nesle with Fr. postal car; the Fr. officers all willing, polite & helpful. Me for them. Took roll to P.O. & went to hotel where I got the last room. – Very old town with interesting houses & cathedral – Boches have bombed repeatedly here & killed 1 horse. – The auto procession toward the front got going at dusk. Very polite French station agent. Fine looking



young Fr. troops near Rebécort. Eng. soldiers using "Eau dangereuse". No off. around. Dr. R.C. serving with Br. here at hotel. Bed.

Feb. 9: Up at 5:30 & down to Fr. postal station. Off at 7. New moon at dawn. Br. troops going up but thro. Culigny etc., all towns battered & deserted. Stretches of wire occasionally. Got to Nesle about 8:30, & looked up Town Major, who was not visible till afternoon. An old poop, who knew nothing. Area commander knew no more, but said "There's the phone, etc." Found 1 gentleman in the M.P. who put me in the bar-lady's sitting-room & watched for lorries. At 2:30 I started on foot for Echen, thro. Cressy. Airplanes flying around. Cressy a mess. At Erchen, found 30 Div. Hq. & some decent people – Int. off & G.S.O.1, Col. Blore. To tea with Blore, Clarke & gen's aid. Cleaned up. Dinner at 8. Gen. Williams present. Pleasant lot. Turned in at 9. (Near Nesle, many spots where Fr. had been buried & marked by Germans.) Trenches & wire everywhere.) (Chauffeur of auto very helpful in looking for inform. & town maj. at Nesle.). He & helper much concerned because I didn't have a good seat.) (24 französchen soldaten.)

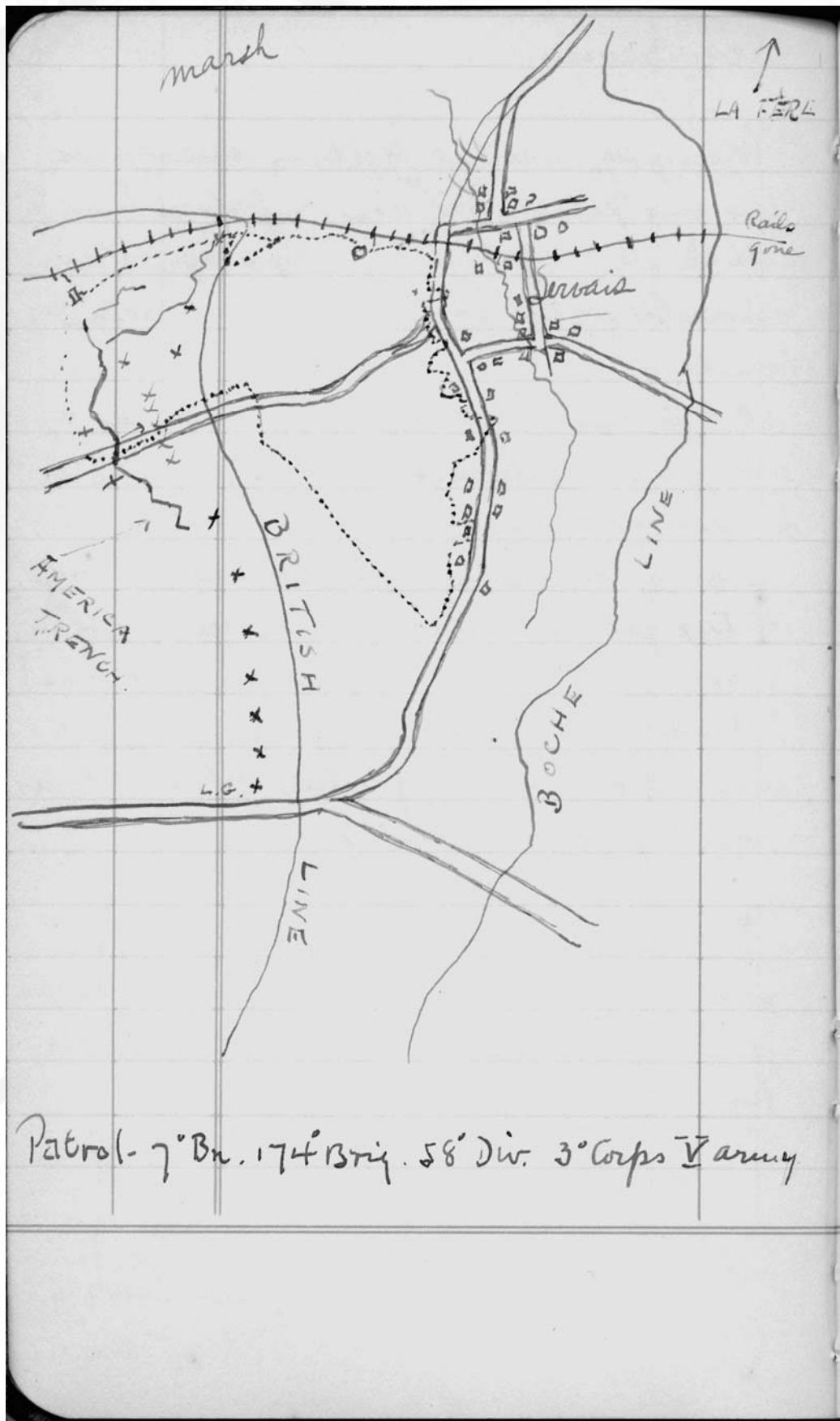
Feb. 10: McCormick got me up at 7:30. Breakfast, said goodbye. Auto to Rouez – thro' Guiscard – Ugnny le gay – Villeguier. Beautiful ride. French O. B. up. At 58 Div Hq. 11. (Lt. Hughes & Capt. Eden in G.S.O.3 office.) In "Q" mess (Maj. Hollis – Maj. Burns – Capts. Mitchel – Meynell.) P.M. went out to see the line. Fine view from hill over Tergnier toward La Fère. St. Gobain in full view. Three of us wandered around, but all quiet. Very little firing. Two planes up in obs. while 9.2's fired a few rounds. Billet in town, 2nd floor cubby hole that (W.S.R.) Capt. Fairbanks had. (Mar 31 – All these towns taken).

Feb. 11: Hughes servant carefully polished up my boots, taking off all the waterproof. Fiddled around office all A.M. taking notes. Same in P.M. Saw A.A.'s firing at German plane. Very little firing here. Bombing expected as soon as moon gets up a little. Roads all carefully camouflaged, & everybody walks all around the fields on the enemy side. (Burns says "I might as well have a cat's ass to write on.") P.M., made notes & walked with Hughes. Sq. of planes out, Boches firing A.A.'s repeatedly, all low. Bombardment more lively. Tea with Etheridge (O.P. man.) at Bombs' house. Conference with Capt. Bateson & 5 other signal men. Boche planes came over & laid a lot of heavy eggs, some just by Villequier, some at Ugnny le gay, Corps HQ.

Feb. 12: Quiet again. Boche sent over some gas shells yesterday. Made notes in office in A.M. (Byrne says that someone had the m.g.'s put in "all fluttering ass-ways.") (Shave & wash in tea-cup of water.) – As usual, I appear to be sucking the hind tit – assigned to a bunch who are too god-damned indifferent or high and mighty to bother about doing anything for such a thing as an American officer. – Thompson, the G.S.O.2, has been asked by Hughes about me, & knows exactly what I want & how short my time is, but does not deign to make a move. I have never been introduced to him, or by him to G.S.O.1, or the general. A bully lot of rotters, what. No shits, as Eden says. (Thompson was called on for a map by corps. comdr. this A.M. & was mad as hell because he couldn't get it. Bawled out the orderlies & went around yelling Jesus Christ.) Boches sent over some gas shells yesterday P.M. & got 30 casualties. Also 10 k. & 10 w. in South Sector. War is picking up. Hughes, Etheridge & I biked out to Liez to Bgde. Hq., well camouflaged in an old quarry. Then 3000 yds. up to O.P. on Ft. Liez. Wandered around underground looking for Co. officers. Little Jew Capt. Samuels an offensive, fake-English little

shit. On up to Travécý over-looking Boche lines & inundated area. In plain view, but did not draw anything. Fresh shell holes all around; art. O.P. warned us off. Back to brig. hq. just at dark. Good practice on the tel. wire to the front. Br. big gun positions near Hq. Constructing defense lines back of front, line after line of trench laid out. Plenty of wire. (Front here very thin. – 600 men, 5500 yds.) – Tea & talk – (Underhay, I.O. & Dreyfus, Terp.) – waiting for Gen. Higgins & Col. Mangles, who promised to take us in in auto, & who calmly walked off without further ado. My word, what rotters. Rode back on bikes & Ethridge rode bang into a fresh shell hole. Back at 8:30. – (Four Germans playing bridge in shell hole till barrage came down. One walked forward & ran into Eng. post. Calmly surrendered. And the Eng. all thought they were giving the Boches such hell. – Another man gave himself up at Art. Brig. Hq. Had walked right thro. front line, on pretext of repairing wire.) – Hughes says Saxons are the real swine, & Prussians not so bad. (Ripped my pants riding.)

Feb. 13: C. in C. coming and everybody running around just as we do, peeing both ways and sweeping up & arranging stuff, etc. (Batteries on right raised a little stink at sunset. No bombing – too misty.) (Hughes' German prisoner, bad leg wound, who spoke Eng., & had lived 10 yrs in Paris. Talked freely to H. & then put on a smile & hobbled to dressing station thro. a double row of Tommies, who said "Eres a cheerful one," & slapped him on the back & shook hands all down the line.) (Eng. 2nd lieut. serves 18 mos. & then gets a pip, after that goes up by seniority. Lieuts. may be acting caps. (Bn. K.O.'s recommend.) & lieuts & caps may be acting majors.) Maj. Thompson, G.S.O.2, finally offered to introduce me to gen. this A.M. Deuced kind of him, what? – Hughes says besetting sins of Eng. are SNOBBERY & COCKSURENESS – a habit of stating a thing flatly with no allowance whatever for possible error, – they simple can't be wrong. (Bridgett set out all the pots she could find. "What's this for, Bridgett?" "Well, mum, you told me one of the greatest papers in Eng. was coming tonight.) – Sat around on my tail all A.M. doing nothing. In P.M. made notes till 4. About 5, finally got off for 7th Bn., 174th Brig. Met Lt. Col Sinceny & Brig. Maj. (Capt. Barrington-Ward) & rode down to Bn. Hq with the ration wagons, brought up by a Jock. Dark early. (Chauny in ruins, of course, but bridges over canal again in use. Big town, not a house standing.) At 7th Bn. Hq. met Lt. Col. Hosking, Int. O. Stevenson, 2nd in command Maj. Hunt, etc. All very nice, & sort of a family affair; Hosking doing the carving & serving them all first. At once made arrangements for me to go out on the 10 o'clock patrol with Lt. Featherston. (Soft cap, respirator, pistol.) Runner took me down the duckboards to Featherston who had not had chow. Waited in his dugout till he ate & the patrol assembled. 20 men & Sgt. Monk, (big because the boche patrols go out very strong. So as not to get "winkled.") Bad night – too dark. Took us from 10 to midnight to get to front line post. F. wired back about going out, & we went back at 12:30. (In at 1:30) Very dark, & raining. Fell into drainage ditch & off duckboards & over trees, etc etc. "Bloody ding-dong." The Tommies are just like our men. "Get off me 'eels you bloody bloke, etc., etc." F's word is Excellent & Splendid, & the men were taking him off; whenever he fell in a hole. Waited in Metcalf's dugout for answer to wire, & finally went back. (Story about 2 lost Tommies – "Bill, you're lost." "So are you, you parrot-faced c___") 50% of the officers of the 7th Bn have bad teeth, & many missing. The men are small, young, & apparently puny, but the officers say they make excellent soldiers & take hardships & exposure philosophically. Horbaths arty Bn. Hq., canteen, chapel. All Hq billeted in same bldg. Wilson and his ferrets; put one in rat-hole & ferret ran out. Tree promptly soaked it with a stick & killed it. "I've killed one! I've killed one!" — "Oh!!!"



Feb. 14: St. Valentine's Day. (Mistletoe & flowers at Bn Hq.) Up for 8 A.M. breakfast. Out with Maj. Hunt & went all over "A" Co. line, chewing the rag over dispositions, etc. Throwing Fr. smoke bomb – thought it was a live one. Hunt was only survivor of Co. Hqr at Ypres in a fortified shell hole – 3 boche shells wiped them out. P.M. Hunt showed me maps & aero photos, & at 4:10 word came that patrol would leave at 4:30. Scurried around & started down. Borrowed a soft hat & at 5 we left, getting out of our wire near the left & working ½ way out to Servais under cover. Got in a trench & waited for dusk. Boche let off a M.G. & I thought he had us in sight against the skyline but it was only ricochets that went over us. Worked down to 1st street in Servais & patrolled along it. No sign or sound of Germans. (Plenty of sound from the 20 Tommies.) "Bloody Ding dong." As soon as we turned for home, the spirits rose rapidly, & they went into our wire feeling good. "Halt, who are you!" 20 lusty voices, "Poodles". 1 voice, sotto voce, "Yes, there are 20 S.O.B.'s here." Back just as dinner was starting. Turned in about 10. Feathers took his patrol back in V formation, but they did not take it very seriously & soon relapsed into single file. – (Boche talking in front.) – Tommy hammering a nail with a Mills-grenade. – Bombing post. "We 'eared yer a mile away, sir. We thought it was the British Army sir." "O, you did, splendid; it is the best part of it."

Feb. 15: Wired to Div for permission to stay, & they said O.K.(!) Up at 4:30, hot tea, & out with Hosking to do the round, which he started at a hot pace, thinking, as he told me afterward, that they would probably carry me in from the 2nd post. Made it in 2½ hours, record time. Found sentries wearing woolen helmets over their ears, & others who did not know how to report their posts, & one cpl with his clothes off. "Cpl. Woolaston, you're wanted at once." Voice. "What bloody fool is that?" 1 thickness of burlap separating Col. & Cpl. – Bath in Col.'s tub, breakfast, & off with Stevenson & a pack pony to Sarcény. (He was F.O.O. at a show in the Ypres salient, & could see everything, down to the expression on the men's faces. – Puked at his first action, & felt green, till next day he met a brigadier throwing up his shoes.) At Brig. Hq. found car coming at 10. At 10:20 in came Hughes & took me back. He has been mighty nice all the time. Down & shaved & packed up, back for lunch & said goodbye. Byrne (M.G.), Mitchell (A.Q.M.), Meynell (A.A.G.), Eden, Hollis, Coleridge etc. Saw Gen. Higgins, Lt. Col. Mangles, & Maj. Thompson on way out so got off easily. (Last 3 have done just nothing for me.) Picked up stuff & in to Noyon; picking up 2 bunches on the way. – Archie's going after boche planes as I left. Art. bombardment at Hamégicourt ordered for 3 P.M. to-day. Why, no one knows. – Br. troops & a 6" gun along Chauny road. Boy officers. – Hughes says reason we don't get on in the war is that boche is only 90% shits while Eng. are 100% shits (To get Eden's goat.) – Dud minnie came in yesterday with some boche propaganda. "Journal des Ardennes." – 42 men gassed the other day, none died. – V.C. for man who threw rifle grenade out of trench. V.C. for man on patrol who accidentally released grenade spring & instead of throwing same, unscrewed base plug & pulled out fuse, etc. 5 seconds. Featheston's patrol & the boar. – Arr. Paris 9:30. To Palais d'Orsay & turned in.

Feb. 16: Spencer & Rice at breakfast. It seems permission came to stay till 16th. The whole Buccaneer outfit got together for the trip to Langres. Arr. 2 P.M. Herr took us up the hill & we reported & made arrangements for mess at Mme. Vaillon's. Got comsys. going & got into billet at Mme. Petit. Saw school adj., & find we have a 14 weeks course. God help us. (Cutchins had put in our names for billets together & tried to get our baggage up.) Langres is an ancient town

on a hill, dating from Roman times. Crémaillère runs up the hill. Interesting old place; good stores, all stocked up for the Americans. Beautiful view. Cold weather.

Feb. 17: Sunday. Slept 12 hours. Spencer with me last night – he had no bedding in his billet. Very cold here. Had our first chow at 12:30 in BUCCANEER MESS. Great improvement over hotel stuff. Very cold – Sat around Gillespie's room. Chow at 6½. Turned in at 10.

Feb. 18: 10 hours sleep. Did errands all A.M. Hawley here. Also Patton '09, maj. of tanks. P.M. unpacked & rearranged.

Feb. 19 – Tues: Shopped in A.M. In P.M. walked with Carabao. Fine chow, & all stuffed & then had a long argument about W.P. & the course. Scuffled with Kistler.

Feb. 20: Read & walked A.M. Walked with Carabao in P.M. – (rifle grenade, Stokes mortar, & 1 lb.er practice, – pretty listless.) Worked on mess. No mail.

Feb. 21: Farquhar & kid Haig's rubber life suit. To Eng. aviator, "That lad let a fart this morning and it took him right up like a Zeppelin. We were running all around looking for a good aviator to bring him down." – (Spencer's co. in Texas, 3 E.R., n S.S. n + 10 m.m. & 2 not qual. Entire Ohio militia div, 1 E.R. n – 10 SS, n m.m.) – Jimmy Goodwin of 7th Inf. "Peck, (adj.) has Gillespie got his sabre on?" "No, sir". "That's where you're wrong; he has!" – Waiter snuk up behind with the ham while I was eating scrambled eggs, & yelled out "Now, then, sir!" My nerves all on edge from periscope friends & I choked & blew a shower of egg all over the ham. Eng. waiter kindly but firmly insisted on use of proper fork for the fish. Forcibly one from me & gave me the other. – Heavy bass singer rattled the chandelier. Girl said "How wonderful!" Lad said "Bawls like a bull!" Has he – no, he does. – Do you like cock-tails? – Too balled. – Front legs of the cow. The nth Cav. mule in Atlanta. – No swearing in this works. I'm running it, & by God, I'm going to be the superior – Got damn – tendent! –

Still cold & snowed in night. Turned to rain in A.M. Cleaned pistol. Burn on tail a little better. (Backed against Col. Hosking's red hot stove.) – P.M. Boned & looked up St. Burrat, for dinner at mess tomorrow – Washington's birthday.

Feb. 22: WASHINGTON'S B. D. Chose horses at 2 P.M. Barrat had to leave town, – Nikolai our only guest. Uproarious dinner & arranged for Amalgamation of International Buccancers of Fr. & Am.

Feb. 23: Skule opened – 8:30 – Hot air & kindergarten class in map reading – Awful bunch of muts. P.M. more bunk out-doors. Stood on line for 2 hrs. at comsy.; arranged for mess sgt. to send meat down.

Feb. 24 Sunday. Up late. Walk in gardens at Blanche fontaine. Beautiful fountain & weather. P.M. bath & wrote.

Feb. 25: A.M. class. Rumor @ Farman & I to Chaumont school kicking about it. P.M. Rain. Tactical ride, – penny ante patrols, etc. (Nikolai came in to incl. Kistler & Cutchins for Tues.

Feb. 26: Class. Demonstration at Fort de Peigney, of combined action, – 37mm Stokes, grenades, etc. Dog ran through the exploding shells at pill-box several times and came out without a scratch. Pud Scott in charge of explanations!!! (Capt. U.S.R.) P.M. to French mess & had a bang-up time. Beaugier put me on his right; he led all the singing & racket & made a neat speech to Nikolai congratulating him on his 1st Lieutenancy. Singing competition with chasseurs up-stairs. We won. (Led & sang of 3000 brave poux who tried to pull the Capt. out but failed.) (Affable (?) Capt. Spann or Shann or something who stared at us like an Eng. staff officer. Rousseau, Clair, Allain, Blauquit, Levy, Charpentier. Stencil decoration.

Feb. 27: Ordered to Chaumont. Glad to get out of the petty larceny stuff – but what am I jumping into? P.M. Dinner developed into a farewell party; we tried out the champagne for Sat. & found it was all right, – so finished 5/6 of it. Hilarious affair. Poonk-tang song – lift my dress coat to my knees (thighs) & showing P.T. who I please.

Feb. 28: Got pay checks-bath-packed-odds & ends. Goodbye to Buccaneers at noon. Rice went to station with me – after eating my chocolate, filling his fountain pen, taking some cough medicine, & asking me for my coal. Got Belfort Express & reached Chaumont at 6. To Hotel de France. Fr. heavy art. going through. Saw Millikin & Hagood. Raining.

Mar. 1: Out to G.H.Q. with Millikin. Saw Shannon, Col. Connor, Col. Nolan, Riggs, Richardson, Smith, W.D. Met Lt. Col. Ralston, Col. Logan, Maj. Burnett. To be in Intelligence. Sec. of Staff; under Nolan, & Conger who has Information. (Riggs is slated for next corps, which will leave me in charge. 3 mos. affair, as a try-out, I suppose.) Looked for billet, slopping around in the mud. Fox the interpreter, is billeting officer. To lunch at Int. mess, an awful contrast to the Buccaneers. (Mackall & Thompson, C.F. here) Got sox & underclothes, arranged for oil stove, & trunk, etc., & wired Buccaneers. Chow at Hotel de France. Alsace-Lorraine separation anniversary. Class of 1919 reporting, some drunk. (Major Pugh & his cordial invitation to his mess.)

Mar. 2: A.M. Richardson explained some stuff in general, & on Operations. Went around with stuffed shirt Morris after b-ache by Conger. Lunch at hotel. Nosed around in P.M. Dinner at hotel. Sloppy, snowy weather. Got rubbers!

Mar 3. Sunday. A.M. nosed around & arranged about mess with Mme Jacquot, for Thompson, Mackall & I etc. 500 fr. for house, we to board the owners. We decided no, so I had the job of going back & telling them in P.M. (Dengler's marvelous discovery of value of pump gun. Dilated to table at lunch. Apparently a stuffed shirt. Got Bassett's dope in P.M. (Corky Davis' scrap with Mme. Jacquot because his own cook robbed him.)

Mar 4: A.M. Hall's lecture on maps. Worked at aero photos. P.M. Put on Mackall's job. Summary. Feeling like hell. Went home – got some castor oil & took a big dose, – got a lemon & had a hot lemonade, got a cruchon in the bed & turned in. Woke up feeling fine.

Mar 5: Mackall going out for 3 weeks to-morrow. Got stuff ready for summary to-day. Saw Longley & went to chow with him. Williford there, shooting off his face. (Dengler came in to-

day & almost forgot his cough. He thinks he's been gassed, whereas it's the poor people he talks to who suffer.)

Mar 6: Joey's birthday. Back with Riggs. Catron out of hospital. Went through contre-espionage with Moreno. P.M. worked on Int. dope for corps & div. 2 letters from Win. Frederick Palmer at mess. Evening with Merger family b-aching.

Mar. 7: Worked all day getting out chart of I.O.s' duties etc. Campanole back from Italy (been down with an Am. band, 18th Inf., on allied propaganda. Royal reception to Americans little 31 piece band. Eng. had combined Guards' bands – 250 pieces & 9 officers. Fr. had Garde République band, but ours' got $\frac{3}{4}$ the attention. The bloody British turned the allied part of the trip into an Eng. one, or tried to. Fr. officers hated them. (Both Fr. & Br. knocked each other to the Am.) Br. officers (all high families, of course) bought whisky by the case – one 3 case, one 5 case order – & charged it to the Italian govt. Fine fellows, dontcherknow) Italians want Am. troops; Fr. & Br. fought pretty well for them, – why not Am.? Farman here – got in bad with Riggs at once, – gave him impression he was telling him how to run his dept. – Punk mess, narrow table, no elbow room, bum chairs, wait for the king, (till 7:25 to-night) changing seats, mediocre chow, high prices. (Queer gang – Campanole apparently a spig, Moreno a greaser (best one in the lot) etc.) Gen. Glenn in yesterday.

Mar. 8: A.M. Lectures by Dearden & Conger, order of battle, etc. P.M. worked on summary. Catron & Magruder found a cocktail somewhere & the funeral spell was a bit cracked. Letters to-day from Dad & Win. Saw Chink Hall. Murray is his Gen. McCabe (6th Cav.) at lunch; he's a card. – Got sidecar for Langres.

Mar. 9 Sat: Assigned Mr. Eisman for my work. Mein gott. Making him learn every town in France. Also got Mr. Donker. Read all day on German def. org., etc. – Hubbard back; seems very nice. At 5:30 bath-tub came & started for Langres. About an hour's run, just at dusk; beautiful country. Cold riding. The Buccaneer mess certainly looked good to me; cordial welcome all around & different atmosphere from G.H.Q. staff. Set for 12, but Howland did not come. Kistler, Gillespie, Cutchins, Rice & I, & Beaugier, Allain, Nikolai Levy, Blanquie, & Urcé (!) Didn't catch the last guy's name, but he was some drinker. The girl did the napkins up like a goose, flowers on table, etc. Mme. Vaillon had a dandy chow, which they tucked away with gusto. A great big evening. Champagne flowed freely (about 16 bottles & Benedictine & scotch) & song began early. (Beaugier much tickled at tik-tik-a-tik-tumblers of champagne.) Toward end, marched around table, Nikolai talked Arab, & Beaugier and I were the only ones sober. "Nous deux sommes les vieux soldats, uh?" Beaugier has 4 palms & Blauquie 4 stars on his croix de guerre. Cutchins hugged Beaugier & latter climbed up & patted Delilah. Hell of a racket. Beat it at 10. Beaugier & Cutch barricading door so I couldn't get out. SOME PARTY. Managed to camouflage to my chauffeur & get in the house & to bed, giving up a bit just before retiring. Cold brisk ride back; light went out. – Levy's speech on liaison, & champagne as a means. Good scouts, all those lads, & a most memorable night.

Mar. 10: Clock turned ahead an hour to-day. Took a bromo seltzer & went to work, but did not accomplish much. Still feeling good. P.M. read & walked & slept. Evening visit with family. (Locked out, – got a ladder & climbed in 2nd story.) (Thompson & Moro data – "I give you this

boy, as a present.” “Thank you, but you understand him better than I; you bring him up.” “Very well; give me P5 to buy rice for your son.”

Mar 11: Office all day. Pepin, also photo man back, & Buttinski Farman told him all about it. Belgian major at mess for dinner; nice fellow. (Fr. officer's remark. “Lost all respect for Napoleon”, after 1 week of the Versailles conference.” Cable.

Mar 12: B-ached (Fr.) all morning with Pépin & de Colstoun – no buttinskis, for a wonder. At noon, went down with Catron for a bath – cut out lunch, except tea etc. P.M. séance with de Colstoun on Fr. 2me Beau. Lecture by T.B. Mott on the Italian gâchis. Joe Beacham here. At mess for dinner.

Mar. 13: Riggs back and fell in with my scheme of re-org. and instr. Pepin and de Colstoun came in & started us on method of study of sector. Got mugged for ident. paper. Got tin hat & gas masks. (Col. Howland's story about hymn 34. At Monte Carlo, a guy to kill time before the tables opened went to Church & left for the joint just as hymn 34 was announced. He played 34 at table after table winning every time & nearly breaking the bank. Next Sunday, the church was full till the hymn was announced, when everybody made a break for the door. Now they have no hymns under no 36.) – Saw about mess at M. Plat's pâtisserie. O.K. for 180 a month!

Mar. 14: Worked on def. org. all A.M. till 12. Moorman gave me the dope on T.S.F. etc. P.M. we started our work on Div. Sector. Dinner at new mess. Catron, Farman, Tompo & I. Everything clean & well-cooked; fine big room & table. Very lucky to have it.

Mar 15: Worked on Fayolle's study all A.M. P.M. Div. Sec. study. New mess going fine. Very cold again this A.M.; warmed up at noon.

Mar. 16: Worked on def. org. all day. Got ident. card. Looked up 2 new billets. 7 P.M. Beacham, Magruder, Riggs, Catron, Farman, Thompson & I for dinner. 6 bottles of champagne & cocktails finally loosened up the whole gang; till the M.P. knocked at the door. Said he heard a racket; Thompo glared at him & said the racket was legitimate – officers' mess. Magruder & his ukelele helped warm things up. Thawed out the whole bunch.

Mar. 17: Looked up Rue Jolibois billet. Reserved for a Col. Day, so I'll go to Rue de Palais. P.M. Pépin came to office; 1 hr. late, just as I left. 5 o'clock tea with Merger family. Col. Conger at mess, played bridge after chow.

Mon Mar. 18: A.M. at office. Sec. War Baker here; made a speech to reg. officers in Gen. Pershing's office. Microbe. P.M. cabled 400 beans to Win, bought basin etc., instructions from Conger & back to billet to clean up – when out came a woman with a dying baby 17 days old. Had been walking around the town with the poor thing for hours. Apparently in a stupor. Baby was crippled & unconscious of course. My God. – Went to dinner with de Colstoun, Hue & 2 other Fr. officers. Like all the rest very pleasant & considerate fellows.

Mar. 19: A most interesting sight yesterday. A team of 1 scratchy horse & 1 Camel pulling a wagon in Chaumont! It seems a circus was stranded on account of R.R. regs & they sold out. –

The weathervane of a Fr. soldier sticking a Boche thro. the tail with a bayonet. Striking characteristic of Chaumont – the circular stairways jutting out in front of so many houses. All day in office working on model for corps sectors. Gens. Hahn and Dickman in with Squirt (Lt. Col.) Sheldon who did not remember me. O, no, indeed. (Crozier & Glenn, besides Sec War Baker, have also been recent visitors.) Rain. Had Lt. Col. Sweeney & Hubbard for dinner. Arranged finally for machine. The usual tightwad stuff in the Q.M. office, & apathy at our end. Magruder about ½ alive.

Mar. 20: Yesterday I was 35 and never knew it till I was writing up my diary. Got stuff packed & changed to Rue de Palais & left Hq. at 9:30. – Joinville, St. Dizier, Bar le Duc – for chow – (Pershing & Co. there.) Walked up on the hill to see curious old winding streets. Had some real gooseberry Bar le Duc jelly. Left at 1:30. Souilly, & reported to Army 2nd Bureau. (Boches cracking stone outside his door, with the guns going up the line.) Reported to C. of S. & left for Belrupt. (Cracked stone along the road, ready. The famous Verdun road is kept up beautifully. Turned off at Souilly to Senoncourt & Ancemont, where tire came off. Crossed Meuse & went up E. bank to Handainville & Belrupt – Corps HQ. (New 155 in auto tire mount, motorized, going up.) Fr. cemetery just beyond Diene, new graves ready. Met Malick, Perrochia Belhomme – Gen. Gadziani & C. of S. Alayer. Talked over work, read gen. instructions. Heavy bombardment toward evening, preceded an attack by 6 cos. Bavarians. Yesterday, Boches, in 4 shots, hit the church opposite & blew hell out of things. They are going to move back farther day after to-morrow. Dinner at gen. mess, great formal introduction & speech; I felt like a fool. (Said “mons” to gen. Instead of “mon gen.” Great joke on me.) Peugeot is my ordonnance & is right on the job. Firing kept up all night.

Mar. 21: Worked in office all A.M. Quiet today. Three pris. in. Perrochia & his album de boches. Turned over boche letters etc. with a pair of scissors and a desk knife. Juggled for 5 minutes rather than touch a paper. The boche talked freely & spilled all he knew about their lines etc. P.M. walked & gave Perrochia some English. Had to duck a few shells. (Fr. loss yesterday's coup de main, @ 200 – 42 dead boches in front of one small sector.) Fr. patrol planes up; considerable shooting at them. One boche plane descendu today. Mess beginning to thaw out.

Mar. 22: Read in office all A.M. Took skags & cigars to mess. Skags were enjoyed at noon – Cigars at night fitted in with farewell champagne to Bizard who goes to a Bn for a tour. After chow Col. Verley took me in hand & got me into a bridge game with Jaudet & 2 others. He thought I was not enjoying myself & saw to it that I got going. (Etes vous marié? Avez vous des enfants? Sont-ils á vous? (with 2nd joint of middle fingers together) (News of German attack on English came in A.M. 200 guns, 16,000 pris. 80 kilom. front.) (l'Oise to la Sensée.) In afternoon, walked up to Fort de Belrupt with Cap. Perrochia & watched firing on Tavannis, Souilly, etc. “Cabaret” (Div. Hq.) only @ 2 kil. in front. French lines dug on Belrupt hill & fort wired.

Mar. 23: Boche planes bombed around, last night; You get tired listening to their damn buzzing & wish to God they'd drop their eggs, and be done with it. The move is on to-day. Spent A.M. on Belrupt hill watching shelling near Cabaret. Occasional shot overhead into Handainville. Boche planes over all the time & fragments of A.A. stuff came whizzing down occasionally.

Got chased off sky-line by an irate major. “Vous, qui est la! Vous ne pouvez pas rester sur la crête!” Seven sausages up over the way. French plane came right over me coming down; thought it was a boche & was scared peeless. Late to lunch; 2 milish captains there. One said “they’d a went right through,” & the other belched & told me all about the war. Just a pair of unsophisticated, well-meaning louts from Washington State. Took them up the hill where the Fr. couldn’t see them. At 1:00 all three & Montal got off for Verdun. Walked around town, through cathedral & over the ramparts. 22 galleries @ 5-600 ft. long with living rooms on each side, will hold 100,000 men acc. to Montal. 100 ft of cover. Narrow gauge in galleries & side rooms. Boches still shelling Verdun. Montal slipped into Co-op. and bought us Verdun medals. Hated to take mine; am sure the milish will never do anything for him. Graveyards everywhere; numerous bridges over Meuse. Said au revoir to Verley & Montal & came over to Lempire in my limousine. (No open stuff for me.) Held up by boche plane at Landrecourt.) Fine room in old man house. A beautiful sunny May day; birds singing between shell-bursts. Gent is the nose-picker, – the guy with whiskers says he always uses the 3rd finger, but the kids use the 1st – Malgré ça, il a du succès. (Jung runs the transport.?)

Mar. 24: Sunday. Boche planes dropped bombs all around, last night. Got on Perrochia’s nerves. Every time one buzzed, he’d curse & grunt – “O! les cochons. O! les sales gens” etc. etc. Very irascible. “O! je suis merdé”. “O! Mais c’est empoisonnant.” etc. etc. Lots of A.A. guns going – Another beautiful day. Boches planes over again. Big dinner – lobster Newburg, chicken etc. At dessert, the boches dropped a shell in the [*drawing of ordnance symbol.*] near here & blew hell out of things. Scared hell out of Hq. Everybody beat it out of the village. 5 or 6 more shots did not hit much of anything, but there are no windows left & damn little plaster. The new P.C. under the church is a peach. (P. C. for 2nd position in case of withdrawal.) Beautiful day. Lt. Col. ___ in en permission; “dandy” type of Fr. officer, 4 citations, etc. etc. Bridge in evening with him, Jaudet & Gente. Burlock, motorcyclist, came today; had been to Belrupt looking for me. Great B-ache over the German attack. Rumored they have reached Bapaume & Ham. 30,000 pris, – 300 canons.

Mar. 25: de Castlenan came in (S. R. Aéro) sent Burlock to Diene for the mess & went down to Centre d’Aviation – Sopwiths & Candrons. Went up, with Adj ___, làs des as. Rep of being a wonderful pilot & he sure is. Had a Candron (no. 4) & sailed around over Verdun @ 1200 m. No boches to bother us. Didn’t know we were off the ground. 1st turn was great as the wing dipped down. Not much wind; old bird remarkable steady. On way back went down in steep spiral; made me dizzy till he straightened her out. Beautiful landing. A soft life, – clean clothes, no wind, short hours, agony over quickly, back for lunch. P.E. – phot. mission left at 11:30 as we began chow & got back at 1 as we got up. Chéradame got his man out & photographed me in aviator’s togs. (Compare a morning with an Eng. escadrille with this one with the Fr!!!) Fine chow with Vignon, Chéradame, Balloon Capt., & apparently grouchy but really O.K. kid. Looked over the plant & talked about the works with Castelman & Balloons. (His old sausage is catching hell; gets shot down every day. Man has to jump out with his parachute.) They gave me some photos of Douaumont & I left them in peace. Fine bunch of lads. Worked in P.M. Bridge after chow with Danty, Gent & Jeandet. Worked till midnight. The sales boches are raising hell. 45,000 prisoners; have reached Bapaume!!! & Noyon.

Mar. 26: Went to Ancemont-Souilly to get husky as a hod carrier, ugly as a pig, is her boss (Miss King's). Hell of a state of affairs. Send the women home. – I "inspected" Sep's office & we rode up to front. – Marine regt. at last in the line, a Bn at a time – not allowed to patrol. – Very quiet, not a shot fired. – Went to O.P. & looked out over the Woevre. – Beautiful day – Ruined villages all over the plain. No man's land 1 kilom. wide permission to visit our 2nd Div. Tout le monde était aux rapports. After long wait, got an order & went to Diene, 10th Corps H.Q. Found Sipe Bude doing pretty damn well, trying to educate them. Chow at mess des Capitaines. A twitchy Y.M.C.A. "worker," Miss King, had the old lads wiggling their knees. The old baldheaded major said, a propos of smoking, "A woman ought to do in public everything she does in private." Storm of protest. Answering protest from Maj. "O, no, not, of course, everything, but-er-er," etc, etc, Red-headed, red faced farmer Y.M.C.A., in front, narrows down & curves in at les Eparges & above at Hardiaumont. Back to Div. Hq. – Tebbets not back. Had met him & Herbst, a rat-faced fart, in the Bn. P.C. H. is G-3. Back to Lempire at 6 – No aviation to-day. Eng. resistance apparently stiffer.

Mar. 27: Worked in office in A.M. (after getting a bath.) P.M. went to Belrupt in P.M. & saw d'Welles & Roulier about S.R.A. Capt. d'Welles had lectured all A.M. but started right in & talked for 2 hours. Burlock went down to aviation field at my suggestion this A.M. & they took him up. He was much tickled. Coming back from Belrupt passed several batteries of 75 pulling out for Picardy. Maerti & Letourneur had a paune de pneu & I sent Burlock back for them. They came in double, in the "seed-car." After chow played bridge & lost successively with everyone I played with. Worked in office till late. Perrochia red-headed; general calling for a lot of stuff, he ought to know. Boches are being held.

Mar. 28. A.M. worked in office. P.M. went to Diene via Dugny – west bank Meuse – Aucemont. Richardson out. Went to Somme-Dieu, no one there. (Boches shelling & bombing). Went to Troyon past munition dump at Glincourt. Murray & Hall out. To 23rd Inf. H.Q. via Ranzières. Col. out. Int. Off. out. Went to Bn. Hq. Bn Int. Off out. Bn. Comdr. out. Went to Co. Hq. Co. Comdr. out. Great record. Going across gulch back of gabions boches shot me up – thin camouflage apparently. Poor shooting, anyway. Trenches close here. 100-150 yds. French plane came down the line not 300 ft. up – possibly not 150 – & shot a drum at the boches trenches. A little rifle fire in answer. Our men just in trenches, no one knew anything – astounding ignorance. Saw Lt. Wisner on way back – Bn. I. O. Great excitement at Bn Hq – man shooting from behind the line! Excited over a shell case (dropped from airplane.) Hard pull up to Regtl. Hq. 250 steps up gulch. Saw Col. Malone; he remembered me at once & recalled W.P. days. Sent for Reg. I. O.; he was out. (Left at 6 – at Lempire at 6:40. Leave demand for Regret, 2 k. from Verdun. 20th C.A. leaving – 3 divs. out. This leaves 17th C.A. a front of 20 K. from Vaux to 6 kil. E Samogneux.) 23rd has lost 21 men in this very calm sector in 10 days – only 1 Bn. in at a time. (That means 100% loss, with whole regt. in, in 500 days.) (Une guerre d'usure) Rocky ravines with some trees still standing. – After chow, bridge. Sit. in Picardy Better.

Mar. 29. Up & packed. Left with Perrochia at 9:30. At Regret at 10. Capt Ramond turned over & we went to chow with Col. Cantau. He was a bird. Fat, wears enlisted man's cap, all kinds of decorations, 60, bald, dark as a nigger, hazes the servants, eats well, doesn't give a dam. Good Friday – therefore maigre. He apologized for the chow. We had soup – 2 kinds of omelette, –

aux fines herbes, & a l'aillet (tops of garlic.) Fish & rice, tomato sauce, fried POTATOES, delicious HARICOTS & dandelion SALAD – some kind of CONSERVE – NUTS – COFFEE – white & red WINE – CHAMPAGNE – 2 CORDIALS – CHEESE. God knows what he adds on a big day. He drank to the 1st Am. he had had the honor of having at his mess. I told him I hoped the Am. would be worthy of their instructors. He makes the ordonnance salute & announce the menu – like a plebe – & has him say, “Madame est servie” – (“Say it again, louder!”) before sitting down. (“Vous êtes marié? – Oui. Où est votre femme? Aux Etats Unis. No, elle est toujours dans votre coeur. Donc, elle est ici. C’est pourquoi je fais annoncer que Mme. est servie.”) Maj. Auget got ½ jagged & got bitter about the boches. “Nous devrions dire a nos hommes – vous tuez les boches – vous brûlez leurs maisons – vous violez leurs femmes.” They get savage at times. – Story of Col., who heard of an officer who had shaken hands with a boche aviator brought down in Fr. lines. He got some shit & wrote on the wall – “je préfère mettre ma main dans la merde que toucher la main d’un boche.” – Filthy pictures found on boche prisoners – Burlock & Peugeot rolled in & fixed up in same house as my room. Great friends. They go scouting around together, specking places to sleep. (Peugeot, avec son âne de chiffonnier, came in with a fish-pole, a cane, & 3 tin cans.) – (Long talk with veterinary last night – Fr. refuse to have children, for one thing, (now especially) because they hate to raise a child to send to a butchery like this war. He comes from Normandie & says it is the most fertile part of France, but that even now 25% of it is lying uncultivated. – Question of meat – Fr. use live meat – which loses 10% in weight on the road. Total net use is 55%. Therefore 10 on 55 or 20% is lost. Wants a total change in method, with no attempt to produce anything at the front. (Réfrigéré – frigorifié.)) – Dugout windows made out of bottles. – Rag doll in road by [*drawing of ordnance symbol.*] ; sad souvenir of some kind. Chow with Gen. Gradziani, C. of S., asst C. of S. (Verley) etc. etc. (Going to ask to go to 20th C.A.)

Mar. 30: All morning in office. The popotte has grown to 20 odd. Old Verley back; gets my goat eating so fast; involuntarily I follow his example. Gradziani left for Italy – staff said goodbye inside; small fry stood in line & saluted. I got off at once in side car for MF 2. Raining hard. Through Belleville & out towards Bras; ruins every where. Old balloon shed just a shell. Got to M F 2, 20th Div. Hq & had a long talk with Div. I. O. Burlock put in his time hunting souvenirs – loads of grenades & shells lying around. Just as we got thro. Verdun coming back, the boches began shelling it. Sat between d’Alaillé & Auger at chow. Belhomme back. Report of German loss 300,000 – 4 per yd. The big gun still shelling Paris. The bastards hit a church & killed 60 odd women & children. – After chow played bridge & worked. Rainy.

Mar. 31. Sep Budd, Richardson & Col. Elting came in yesterday A.M. We are taking over more line (2nd Div.) and Sep was looking for information. – Sent Burlock to Chaumont for supplies. Worked in A.M. Lt. Laralde showed me the wireless. Big dinner – Easter. Walked up to Ft. Chaume. Beautiful panorama of Verdun, Belleville, Tavaunes, Douaumont, Côte du Poivre, Montfaucon, & nearer Ft. de Marre. Boches firing on trenches in front of M F 2 – big caliber & hauts fusants. Worked in P.M. Got a bath – chow – bridge – session with Jaudet on organization.

Apr. 1: Trans. Eng. communiqué – Worked in office – There is to be a party for the boches tomorrow; art. fire of all calibers on whole front. Surprise attack to hold him in line & do as much damage as possible. – Went up to Fort Chaume. Considerable firing on bies, between Côte du

Poivre and M F 2. Visible at same time, – Camp des Romains at St. Mihiel, & Montfaucon in boche lines – 54 kilom. – Sausage went up on one side of H.Q. this P.M. & a 150 began firing on the other side. We'll be pecked at next. – Farted around again – Perrochia too God damned busy to answer a question by more than a word, & Belhomme too futile. Tiresome as hell to try & do anything. Sent wire asking for transfer to Somme. No answer. No Burlock, either; he's lost somewhere. I hope the boob didn't ride into St. Mihiel. – Stuffed shirt d'Alayé & Sous Stuffed Shirt Verley gone somewhere for dinner luckily; Oger & Letourneur at least aren't sphinxes. ("Tout ce qu'il a dit est zéro, – c'est la même chose." Jeandet @ Verley.) Letourneur lived in Arras; was stationed there in '15 & got all his stuff out. Read. Boches are STOPPED.

Apr. 2: Worked in A.M., 3rd Bureau d'Avila, Urdu, Malick. P.M. Burlock came with the boodle; had punctures on way down & laid up for repairs. Gen. Buat made speech to officers this A.M. telling them C.A. staff was made to serve the divs. & not vice versa. Energetic, decisive hombre; made rep. by work on A.S.G.P. reserve. He'll give d'Alayé & Verley hell. His aid is a lad named Farine, who bounced into 2nd Bur. & announced that he would install himself there. I started to get my stuff off my table & Perrochia got red-headed & forbid it. "No, no, I am the chief here & you won't move." Farine had gotten on his nerves a bit. The office smelled like a pig's rear after Farine had sucked a rotten old pipe for an hour & had exuded his perfumed talcum powder. He is all right, I guess, but seems a bit bugs. – Afternoon, visited S.T.C.A. & Mamelle gave me all the dope on Moronvilliers, as well as his troubles. He invented a machine for restitution of photos & got up the carte de renseignements with a uniform légende. (Used to play football on all-France team.) (Flour & TIT use a great pair.) – Dauty told me at noon I would be le president of the mess at night & sure enough, they made me. I felt (and acted) like a fool, but got a doz champagne to loosen them up. Almost succeeded – Belhomme & Jeandet got going, but the gang was afraid to do much. As it was, it was fairly loud. (Mme. de la popotte, a table. Je vous annonce le régime rigolo. Si vous blaguez, blaguez avec beaucoup d'esprit. Pour celui qui blague sans esprit, je serai impitoyable.) Great success. Jung got up & made a speech & drank to Am. & our army & me etc. & I proposed a toast to "Les pauvres diables qui ne sont pas ni généraux ni chefs d'e.m., ni sous chefs d'E.M. ni chefs de bureau." It seemed to go, rotten as it was. Bridge after chow.

Apr. 3: Up early and at 7 left for MF2. Saw Billot & went on to Bras & up along Côte du Poivre to Ravin de Goulette. Got into P.C. at Haudramont Quarry by mistake. Finally reached Estacade, P.C. 2nd Inf. Comdt. Chevillote turned me over to Langenburg & we spent the A.M. in the dug-out going over reg'tl. intelligence. (French planes out but chased back. Sausages up looking right down on us.) Fine lunch & dandy lot of unpretentious lads. Gascon (37 cannon) kept everybody roaring. After chow went out & everyone threw stones at a lad who was trying to crap. Shells bursting about 300 yds. away. Lunar landscape everywhere, & old Douaumont looking down on us. Séance with telephone officer on liaison & Gascon on Stokes & 37 cannon. Got out his stuff & set it up. Hardy looking gang of soldiers. Then Langenburg, Art. liaison, Gascon & I went forward. Eight boche sausages looking at us even in the boyaux. Got up to Montsapin (O.P.) & had a look at Caures wood & what is left of Beaumont. On to La Platelle & had a look at Wavrille – sentry in front line directly below us. Sgt. called us back to look at a party of boches & just as I got focussed on them a shell burst in the middle of the group, followed quickly by 2 more. What was left piled into the boyan in a hell of a hurry. Fr. art. fairly active. Boches knocked the Platelle O.P. in yesterday – killed the crew. On way back

passed about 500 yards from Louremont – a grayish patch on next rise. The whole terrain a churned up mixture of wire, tools, shoes, shells, bones, uniforms, cartridge boxes, grenades, helmets, wheels, stakes, iron fragments, etc. etc. Plentifully sprinkled with lime up front to keep down the boches cadavres. (A shell had dug up a boche killed 2 yrs. ago & his leg from knee down was sticking up in a boot, with a thigh bone & a blouse mingled in the same mess.) Just as we were going in the boches dropped about 50 150's on the ravine & dugouts opposite the P.C. Raised hell with the abris & I am just as glad he didn't shorten the range 100 yds. As it was we ducked into shells holes & avoided the fragments. Had tea & said goodbye to a fine bunch of Frenchmen; Maj. Chevillot was very complimentary to America & Americans & remarked how quickly they made friends with the French. Burlock had filled the sidecar with junk – had a rifle & shells galore, & was much excited over having seen a man wounded. Piece of shell in the stomach. We beat it & avoided the rest of the evening hate. Got in just in time to change & preside at the mess. Tried to get le Mauleon to take the chair, but they absolutely refuse. He & I sat on one chair & chucked chins, greatly to the amusement of the mess. – Bridge after chow. Lost 7 cents. – (Had to jump on Burlock to-day. Says "What?" all the time & talks too damn much. Just a raw kid without any training.) Wonderful view from Côte 378, north of la Goulette ravine, down over Bras & the Meuse.

Apr. 4: Story of art. who lay for a boche cyclist mess. Fired at him every day & got him on the 15th. (with a 75) – Coup de main last night at Forges. – Worked in office in A.M. P.M. up to Ft. Regret with Perrochia & went poking around the Goddamned coast artillery affair for 2 mortal hours till it was too late to do anything. A fat sgt., all same C.A.C. showed us around & pointed out all the silly & absurd contraptions, such as a remade 12 lbs. brass cannon to "sweep" 50 yds. of ditch that wouldn't be there after 20 min. bombardment. An elaborate god damned tower & "tourelle à mitrailleuses," about a million dollars worth of construction for 2 old Hotchkiss coffee pots. The French certainly went artillery mad a while back. The ridiculous near-soldier sgt. didn't let us miss a thing; paid particular attention to lamps, buckets tompions, etc. It was a horrible bore. – After escaping I saw old "68" sausage being taken home. They put him (decidedly him when you see them up) to bed in the woods, & he settles down like a wobbly old cow. One of his crew has had to jump 7 times. Went down to Somme Dieu to see Budd; he was out. Saw stuffed shirt Tebbettes & self important Herbst, a 1st cl. little fart. They are moving out; have wind of a concert. Boches raised hell today; got into the Handainville munition dump & blew things around. Heavy firing on Côte des Poivre & poor old Goulette. – Letters from U.S. – Exam. of boche pris. in P.M. & evening. Talked beautifully; funny what a lot they know, too. – (The Forges coup de main by Lts. Junguenet & Piettre.)

Apr. 5: Up early & left by auto with Mamelle. Went up past Cabaret, met the Gen., on up to Fort de Vaux. Dense brouillard enabled us to wander all around, sometimes in front of 1st lines. The ground up there is just a mixture of stones, rifles, helmets, feet, shoes, heads, bones, grenades, shells, mess-tins, wire, masks, etc. etc. Heads lying around still in helmets. Feet & leg bones sticking up out of shoes. Hunks of bodies, hips & waist, thigh-bones, jaws, hands, pieces of old rags hanging to them, & the perpetual shell hole, shell hole, shell hole. wire, wire, wire, trench, trench, trench, with a stump sticking up here & there. Miles and miles of this. Fort de Vaux was of concrete & resisted bombardment pretty well. About 100 yds. long; moat being filled; loop-holes for M.G. being left close to ground. Went on down over German front line which was a mess of rubbish, bodies & junk & to Ravin de Fumin, past battery of minen. All

knocked to pieces & to Vaux – a few piles of rubbish in a marsh – Etang de Vaux is held back by an embankment – full view of German lines. On up & over hill to Ravin des Grands Honys, where the 240 gun was lying; concrete roof that rolled back & let gun fire in any direction. Breech & muzzle both blown off. Up to Hardanmont work – (stopped by Gen., comdg. I.D.) & circled back before reaching Bezonvaux – through ouvrage l'Orient & down to Vaux valley to Normandie P.C. Machine to Cabaret – where we had lunch. British san. service guy there – bartender face type. Very quiet day – few art. shots; 1 rifle shot! Few strings of M.G. Gen. said last night a coup de main was fruitless; small grenade fight & no prisoners. – Back at 2. Alsatian deserter in. Interpreter a Prof. of Fr. in Germany. 1st pris. he ever questioned was his dentist at Fribourg – The old sausage 68 caught hell 2 days ago. Boche plane sailed in as I was getting a hair cut, they pulled away at old 68 – fired A.A.A. & M. G. & finally sent the boche off. Looked as if they hit him, but he was probably ducking shrapnel. The sausage looked funny trying to get down in a hurry. The damn thing draws a lot of fire on us.

Where is Sat. Apr. 6? (arrival of off. for stage?)

Sunday Apr. 7: Up at 6, & out with Legendre (8 Senie – téléphone) to Thiaumont & Douaumont. Went into fort through the tunnel (500 m long) from the side hill on the south. They are building 2 more tiers in the fort lowest one 45 m underground. Damp, muddy, stinking place; seems impossible to keep it clean. Crowded sleeping quarters. Concentrated essence of fart, piss & dead rats. Gallery after gallery – fort must be 300 yds. long & 200 wide. Heavy concrete superstructure resisted bombardment fairly well & protected masonry arch work below. – Crossed under ditch through a damn little cramped passage & got up in O.P. Rainy & not much to see. Boche lines at Bizonvaux right under us, apparently. Out & climbed down into ditch through churned up filth, refuse, feet, etc. “Ça sent cadavres boches.” Beautiful view up the Meuse over Vacheranville. Haudramont quarry & Ravin de Goulette in front – Côte de Poivre & 378 beyond. Ravin de la Dame branching off in front of quarry. Thiaumont ouvrage to left. Bezonvaux to right. Vaux across Vaux valley to right rear. Souville across 2 crêtes to rear. Verdun down the draw to left rear. Nothing but shell-holes mud & water. On Oct. 16, aided by a fog, the French in 2 bonds – went from just north of Souville to north slope beyond Douaumont, a wonderful performance. Back past Fleury to Cabaret – back to Regret. Read in office in PM. Got the sign from Verdun. Legendre had a bricquet made for me. Missed concert in PM by going to Glorieux (hosp.) to interview boche officer, but he had been evacuated. Some boche prisoners in; noisy exam. all P.M. One officer talked freely; looked like Mr. Pope, 1917. Said French started the war. Enlisted man refused to talk(!) Quite a haul of prisoners from their raid which went astray.

Monday Apr. 8: More prisoners in; flammenwerfer squad – One of them scared pee-less; had an idea all flammenwerfer men were shot. All talked. One with head wound & clothes in rags had a collection of femmes' pictures; told freely about his relations with them. (Cut buttons off his coat.) Terrible racket; between Géraud & Roy & Perrochia, imposs. to work. Got a lot of dope from d'Avila yesterday; worked on basic principles of defense as well as I could. Burlock got the other sign.

Tues Apr. 9: Worked in office in A.M. P.M. went to Somme Dieu – no one there. Went to P.C. Tonlon, got 1 letter, no one there. To 6th Marine Hq. Saw R.I.O. Eddy. The “major” adj.

was there too; some pig off the street who had no manners & interrupted my conv. with Eddy & then monopolized him. Back down & on south to Génicourt, Troyon (saw Brigade I.O. (actg) & La Croix. Saw Lt. Col. & Adj. of 9th but they didn't see me; just sat & looked at me & never moved. Had to order Sgt. Maj. to go & look for Mason. Fine bunch of 1st Cl. farts. La Croix all knocked to pieces. Shelled daily. On to Rouvrois, (Bn. P.C.) & found Lt. Mason, R.I.O. & talked to him. E.² Lewis there; had escaped from Sig. Corps & just arrived. Col. Upton had them all stepping lively & apparently scared the pee out of E.². Has canned 3 majors in 20 days; the 3rd one, a marine, was just leaving. Lot of men gassed, carried to hospital – 1 off. & 5 men burned yesterday; nasty sector; right under Camp des Romains & river, almost impassable, behind them. Our art. can just reach boche Bn. P.C. As I left, boches using H.E. on trench about 50 yds. to right of road. We went by fast. Back for dinner. Assistant to Perrochia has come; was a univ. P., Lt. Manjot. Bridge after chow. “Equestrian eccentricity of the boches.” – Paris paper.

Wed Apr. 10: Up at 6:30 & out with Aubriot thro Froméville & Germonville to Chattancourt & Cumières – both villages flat, of course. Aided by fog, got to Cumières by auto – then boyan on Bellevaux on Côte de l'Oie. Front lines – untenable by day, – just over the crest. Sausages look down into all trenches. (P.C. has been plentifully arrosé with ypérite & H.E.). Impossible to circulate in day time without doing a platventre every ½ minute. Stopped at Regt. Cdrs'. P.C. on way back & b-ached. (Curé with war cross & 2 stars.) Back at 11. Mort Homme on left of Côte de l'Oie just visible through fog. Hill 304 is left of Mort Homme; boches never took it, though they got Oie & Mort Homme & reached Chattancourt. – 20th C.A. saved situation at Verdun in 1916; arrived 4th day of attack, went in on right bank at Souville-Tavannes & the boches got no farther. – In boche attack 2 nights ago, a groupe de combat of 8 men had 2 killed & 2 wounded; the cpl. yelled to the others, “Ce sont les boches; à la baionnette!” & charged 72 Germans. – Got away with it, too; (+2 wounds) – P.M. tried to work but no use. Exam. of P.G. – The money cpl., kind of a Billy Owen with no sense, undersized & shriveled. The imbecile brancardier, that Perrochia kicked in the tail & threatened to have shot. Got my tax of buttons off of him. P.M. Bridge.

Thurs Apr. 11: A.M. worked in office. Fine spring day – 3 sausages up on our side & of course they drew fire. Boche plane over & got after one. P.M. got dope on S.R.A. Tea with de Maulon & his section comdrs. One of them saw a boche plane set 6 out of 7 French sausages on fire at one time; in 1917 in Champagne. Observers jumped, but burning sausages dropped fast & caught some of them. After chow, bridge & read, & took notes on Perrochia's instructions to Roy & Manjot, the new aides. They & Farine got talking about the damage the war had done in France & pictured proper punishment for the Kaiser & his son. – Man who had a leg sticking out in his dugout & hung his musette on it. – Putting types on the parapet & throwing a little dirt over them. Heavy firing at midnight; turned out to be nothing.

Fri Apr. 12: Worked in office in A.M. B-ache with Capt. Séron of the Seine. P.M. left at 3:30 for Estacade – 2nd Inf. Regt. (Lt. Langenburg). B-ached till chow time. (Chevillon, Weidel, Bigot, Langenburg, etc. etc.) Unpretentious, simple lot of fellows; good soldiers all. After chow Lang. & I left for anywhere. Went up to Côte 378 & after ducking a few sent at the Corvées, Lang. got lost. Claimed to recognize Chambrette farm; I had to put him on the path occasionally. Finally struck Ravin de Neuville and the new P.C. being made by Weidel. Solid rock about 15

ft. cover. Have to blast all the time. Yperite still strong in the ravine. Turned up next ravine, routed out sous-off de rens. plugged along. Sous-off. didn't know any too well where he was. Waville on our left. We kept going & finally ran into a Fr. P.P. We had been making an awful racket & when we learned the boche were about 60 yds away I began to wonder where we'd have been in 2 min. if we hadn't followed the semi trench instead of the piste. Gt. excitement when we hived some dim forms apparently trying to sneak up on us. Did not answer the challenge & kept coming. Lang. & I & sous-off. got off on flank & one of them finally answered & came in; – next P.P. back, patrolling. Lucky not to have been shot. Boches much excited; continually sending up fusées & letting off m.g. Questioned P.P. & started back. Saw working party on a trench, corvées de soupe, relève munitions going up on 40 R.R. etc. etc., all the night life of the front. Hell of a walk going back, tired, unable to see path – slipped, fell, balanced, jumped, hung on by toes, pulled legs out of mud holes, – hell of a time. Felt great sympathy for the “types” who do it regularly. Finally got back at 2 A.M. after being on foot since 9 P.M. Turned in & slept till 4:30.

Sat Apr. 13: Up at 5 for coffee & left at 5:15 for Choufot. Got in just in time; getting very light when we arrived after a hard pull up hill. The usual dug-out with its sour smell; 25 feet down, sleeping quarters, 20 feet up a cramped gallery to a mud hole on side hill with a piece of G.I. & some trash overhead. Just room for 2 inside. Lang. & I sandwiched in & the boches at once began to send them over at us, & kept it up all day long; 150 or 200 77's. Luckily they were mostly left & low & did not bother us. Very interesting day. View of Bois des Coures), Beaumont, Waville, Herbebois, & Bois des Caurrières. Foreground – Bois de Neuville, des Fosses & Chambrettes farm (low pile of trash). Good view into boche lines back of Chaume wood, with commun. boyaux. Various fires through the day, minen from Chaume wood on Caurrières; 105 on Ravin des Fosses (repérage & then toxique – smoke drift directly down ravine; boches dropped the gas right at the head.) Considerable boche movement back of Chaume. Visiting party no. of Waville – maps, canes, pointing, handshaking etc. Lang. called for a rafale & got a beauty. First shell too far to right caught them leaving & sent them scurrying back to the left where they caught the main shower. Very accurately placed. Time about 5 min. No more demonstration among the boches on that crête. Considerable firing through the day over our heads & on Côte 353. 4 and 5 M.G. at once in Chaume section. 1 Fr. plane drew a burst of all sorts of old iron. P.M., 5:30 very heavy bombardment down American-way. Sat on our tails all day long & looked & dozed & ate. 2 meals – 9:30 & 3:30 – meat, bread, butter, sardines, cheese, wine, potatoes. My adventure with the pee-can; perched up & crapped in it thinking it was défendu de sortir & that the can was the proper receptacle. Puddle of water at foot of steep stairs was a mirror that showed my antics to a group of invisible but highly tickled Poilus. How they did laugh. I enjoyed myself too, & didn't care much what it was I used. Found afterwards that the rear was 2 steps around back. Some act of gymnastics to hit the hole of that milk can. Left O.P. at dusk & chowed with the 2nd mess. Most hospitable, unassuming & pleasant bunch I have met in a long time; short on looks but long on good feeling. Left soaked everything French & beat it, escorted out by Weidel. Worked past the ravitaillement & got home & to bed by 10. (Stick candy made a hit at the mess & they munched it with as much racket as they make sucking soup. The pirate capt., 2 wounds (chevillote 3.) & the pawnbroker, mangy porte drapeau off., really a keen pair.) Left 2 prs. socks with Weidel for his ordonnance.

Sun Apr 14: Up at 8 still sleepy – hot bath & office. Belhomme back. Wrote in A.M. Lesfrères Touche (violin and cello artista) were at mess. De véritable as. At 2:15 concert began – did not finish till 4:40. Wonderful music, not harmed by the occasional shell outside. Read in office till chow. Bridge after chow. (Maj. Letourneur & Capt. Joubert (art.) at chow.)

Mon Apr 15: Rainy. A.M. in office & S.T.C.A. P.M. In office (Story of art. who fired a 75 15 days at a cyclist & finally got him.) P.M. Office. Bridge – see score sheet.

Tues Apr. 16: A.M. Office. Went to Vadelaincourt to get some dope. Cold & rainy. Saw Saunders ('17) – Captain! – there. Back thro Lempire to get a mandate – poste – (Polité Trésor – Postes officer.) Came over the hills to Regret & was late at chow; mess turned me out a big groan. P.M. Rivet rolled in, fat & lusty & dopy as ever. Took him to Fort Chaume & down to Verdun to cathedral, etc., & to chow at mess. Bridge afterward. To bed at 10.

Wed Apr. 17: Out to Fort de Marre with Laralde, after getting Rivet off with Burlock's putter & 1 blanket each for him & me. Saw the T.P.S. & T.S.F. installations. Up to Ft. Vaux to gather junk. Went the wrong way, of course, north of Souville; doubled back to Tavaunes & got out late to Vaux. Walked on skyline till boches paid us the compliment of a couple of shots, which scared the pee out of us. One came right for us & I hopped off the road into a hole. Burlock flew right past me, stretched out level, & lit on his head in the next shell hole. How he ever got past me I don't know. I had hard work holding in from laughing. – Muddy ride back; late for chow again; (another groan.) P.M. S.T.C.A. to b-ache to Mamelle, who as usual dilated on how big the S.T.C.A. is & how little the 2nd Ban. – Read some 3rd Ban stuff. P.M. bridge. – Raid at Caurières at midnight last night; never heard a sound.

Thurs Apr. 18: Down to Somme-Dieu & P.C. Troyon – 2nd Div. Saw Richardson & Budd. 299 Marines gassed! A fool capt. took a co. into a hollow to cover shell holes ½ hour after the attack. 1 shell got 60 in a barrack – Col. Tebbets has been canned! Attack on 9th Inf. 2 cos. cut off by engagement & attacked by 500 boches. Scrapped from 11:30 till 4 A.M.; hand to hand affair – grenades, gun butts, bayonets. One pris, going into boche lines swung on his guard, knocked him down & beat his brains out with his own gun. Another group mutinied, killed their guards & came back. German pris. said it was hardest fighting crew they ever saw. Had been told Americans, like Russians, would lie down, if they got behind them. – At Apremont, Americans also scrapped well – 800 dead boches in front of position. Though Catron's letter implies woeful lack of liaison & poor command (26th Div.) – Our 1st Div is in Picardie – Back at noon. Boche prisoners in. – Saxons – good talkers.

Fri Apr. 19: A.M. with 3rd Ban. – Lemon OGER acted like considerable of an ass. but d'Avila gave me the dope. P.M. went out to 4th D.I. at Bras through Charny – (old mill with gun emplacements – wrecked station, etc.) P.C., 4th I.D. on canal bank, well camouflaged. Réunion des off. de rens. (Mamelle played 6th fiddle, instead of running it.) Went up to 120th Inf. Met a little 2nd Lt. (tobacco chewer, ex-enlisted man) – hell of a sight for an educated Frenchman. Up to O.P. Lemaire; view to Oeur. du Buffle, Beaumont et Wavrille – Débris d'un appareil français pres de l'oure. du Sanglier – Of course, boches shot up O.P. as soon as we got in; troop of us paraded around in plain sight of Wavrille. Assommant empoisonnant, embêtant sous-lieut. d'Art qui était déterminé de nous faire voir tout ce qu'il y avait dans son secteur. "Et puis, alors, je

vous monterais, etc. etc.” Naturellement, Mamelle pouvait voir plus que n’importe qui. Je me suis ennuyé terriblement. Enfin nous sommes partis vers 6 h.15, trop tard pour la photographie de la popotte; mais assez tard pour que je ne pouvais pas arriver à temps au centre d’aviation. de Maulion m’a accordé sa voiture et je suis arrivé au centre a 7 hr $\frac{3}{4}$ – très chic comme voiture assez mal comme invité. Ocasión agréable. De retour vers 10 heures. – Il est tombé de la neige cette après-midi – Belle journée de soleil.

Samedi 20 Avril: Mort de froid cette nuit. Conférence avec les 2 off. artilleurs Am. Bureau tout le matin. De même l’après midi. Stinking, fiddling Farine nearly drove me crazy; smells like an open sewer; mixture of cheap cologne, punk talcum, & rotten tobacco, & suspicion of orderly room fart. Bridge in evening. Burlock back. Magruder fessed out cold on boodle.

Dimanche 21 Avril: Out to P.C. Belleville. Saw Capt. St. Germain, O. le R. Div. Also Interp. Gérard. (Met Gen, C. of S. etc.) Cussed out Burlock for being late; his lordship got up at 8 something. Back at 11. After chow (Hors d’oeuvres – lobster in coquilles – contre filet & beans, mild mustard sauce – small potato “doughnuts,” salad & pastry!!) – out to sanglier chasse over by Ft. Landrecourt – Line of abatteurs beat the section of wood surrounded by the gunners & run the boars out. This one refused to appear & cut up a couple of dogs & doubled back – (Sometimes weigh 250 lbs.) Vet. Freger there with bells on. Beautiful day. Back & worked on air photos with Lacourrège. Bridge after chow. Rough housed Belhomme & turned in. Posters have made a big hit. Old Souche-eff Verley sidled up & asked for some. So did Goafter Oger. (Fitted out Perrochia, Belhomme & Roy with raincoats. L’Escale also in for one.) Pictures of mess came out wonderfully. Verley & d’Alaye appointed Cols., Perrochia Cdt., Jeandet Capt.

Lundi, 22 Avril: A.M. to Souilly – muddy road – to see Laplace. B-ached with him – went to Q.M. & found Gilbreath who dug out a ton of gift tobacco for me. Back at noon. P.M. walked with Marchal & tapped him for orders (copies); worked on air photos with Lacourrège; wrote up notes. Bridge (Clausse butted in.) Distributed tobacco; Claussse followed closely into 1 Ban.; I waited him out, fiddling around & gave Malick & Jeandet their skags. (Cul de Chien Ravin, & Cul de Négresse – Malick’s expression) Verley is to have “une I.D., la première idée de sa vie.”

Tues 23 Avril: Woke up and saw Rivet through the window. Got his gang off & put in some time at S.T.C.A. on photos. Studied Moronvillers till noon. After chow went to Souilly & talked to Cpt. Laplace. Note from M.P. saying Burlock was arrested. It seems “Gen.” Bundy has given orders to take the rubber boots away from every man who enters the sector with them on. (They have 40 + pairs at Souilly.) The god-damned old fool is crazy. One man had to walk 12 kil. in his socks the other day. Burlock, like a damn fool kid, refused to take off his & they jugged him. Then of course I had to poop around & telephone all over hell & get him out. Went back & talked with Noel & photo man about the office & beat it at 5. Raining. Just out of Ancemont wrecked a tire & of course the night before the brilliant Burlock had left the machine out & gotten his extra stolen. We banged into Ancemont & I let him rustle. Finally at 7, he got fixed up & we went on to Somme-Dieu in a pouring rain. H.Q. is out in the woods on a side hill, beautiful location. Got mail (choc. buds, sox, hard candy, papers) & a mail bag & came down in a pouring rain – Big howl at the mess; they were all playing cards, etc. Art. act. picking up. Good deal of G.P.F. in to help out.

Wed. 24 Avril: Still rotten weather (3 weeks of it.) (“VILLA TOTO” at Charuy.) Worked in office all day – Moronvillers, photos, etc. Jeandet’s champagne at dinner. Speech – (assinine –) by president – “Si tout le monde est aussi content que moi de la promotion de notre ami Jeandet, vous êtes très rigolos. Buvons à la santé du capitaine Jeandet; que son quatrième galon lui vienne beaucoup plus vite que son troisième, et quand il se marie, qu’il trouve une femme comme cella-là.” – Bridge. Jung left en permission (Distributed some smokes – d’Avila & S.T.C.A.)

Thurs 25 Avril: “Early” start materialized at 10 & due to Peugeot’s locking the room & hiding the key; of course Burlock did not get gas until time to start. Went to Rouvrois – 11:15 – on to Maizey by boyan to see Lewis, E.E. Long walk in boyan along road – full of H₂O in one place – everybody walks along in full sight of Germans’ line. Found Lewis going rounds & went around with him till 12:30. Soldier chow at 12:30. Eggs, meat, potatoes, rice, coffee. At 1 left to walk through sector & kept going till 4:30. Looked over place where boche came over & went back. 9th put up a mighty good fight – 63 boches corpses in one sector. Talked to N.G. bn. intell. off. (who knew all about it anyway) & reached Rouvrois, tired out, at 4:30. Saw Weems, got in sidecar & started. Bang. The — boobey Burlock spent 5 hours bellyaching & never once looked at the machine. Ball bearings all fell out. 1/2 hour wait & started again. Could have killed the boob. Got near La Croix & chain fell off. The fool didn’t even stop until I made him. Walked into La Croix to 9th Inf. H.Q. & found the same 2 farts – Whitley & Lt. Col. – sitting as before. Looked at them for 5 minutes & then asked if I might use phone. “Ugh,” says Lt. Col. Tried for ½ hour. to get Dieue or Regret or Somme Dieu or Something & then saw Gen. Murray in hall. Collared him as he left & he took me to Troyon & sent back a man who knew something to help Burlock. Sent me on to Dieue where I grabbed Col. Eltinge & begged his auto. Phoned office to ask @ Gilbreath; – Maujot said he hadn’t come. Reached Regret at 7:20 & found that Gilbreath had come & beaten it. While at chow who should roll in but Burlock with Gilbreath. Had found him at Villa & taken him riding thro. Verdun. “All’s well.”... Bridge & to bed.

Fri Apr. 26: Up at 5:15 and out with Belhomme at 6. To P.C. Granville & saw Chevillotte, Langenberg, Weidel, Bigot & Co. Had more coffee & went on to Rocade. Col. Bühler, 47th Regt., a good scout. Left the rest of the sack of tobacco & walked around his lines. He uses 1 ton of wire a day.) He told me to present his planton with a pack of skags, said it would please the lad! On way up Ravin de la Goulette a 150 burst about 200 yds. ahead. We stopped & then decided to go ahead. If we had waited 2 seconds more, the next one would have gotten us. It landed @ 5 yds. back of the machine & spattered it with mud. Narrow shave. – Back & talked to Génie & then said goodbye to 2nd Inf. Up Ravin de la Dame & down to M.F.4. Saw Billot etc. & came home via Thierville. In at 11:30, shaved & chow. P.M. To Vadelaincourt, 3 in sidecar. Saw the gang there; Gamin showed us the new Salmsons, & promised to take me over the lines the 1st fair day. Bummed some photos from Chéradame, left some skags & took Gilbreath to Souilly. Back at 6. Bridge – won 14 sous. Model avion finished, boxed & ready.

Sat Apr. 27: Sent Burlock out to hunt ferraille & for once he did a good job. Got a truck load of helmets etc. In office all A.M. & P.M. Forbidden to leave on account of party. (Took a bath to celebrate.) At 7 they all turned out, best clothes & medals on, (I thanked my stars I had shaved.) The whole Popote, inc. the 3 chiefs of bureau. Flowers all over tables, big oval dish of them in center & 2 wonderful creations in nougat & kisses crowned with Gaulic cock & American eagle.

S.T.C.A. had made the menus. Wonderful dinner – never ate anything better prepared or more dainty. Champagne all through it – we must have drunk a barrel. Maj. Letourneur made a most flattering & embarrassing speech & shortly afterward Jeandet also made me blush. Then they presented me with the ink well. By that time I was considerably overwhelmed & again was thankful that I had thought up a few words to say. Got them off my chest & got the special hand clap. (Mangeot wrote a poem & put it on my desk, further embarrassing me for words to express myself.) They all seemed to take as much real pleasure in giving the party as I did in having it. All insisted on signatures for their menus; Oger at once hived the fact that I put more on Jeandet's card than on the others & yelled, "O, vous favorisez!" "Pour rendre justice à cette occasion, il faut l'éloquence d'un orateur du midi, comme Belhomme, ou Malick. Mais, si je n'ai pas l'éloquence de Belhomme, je puis du moins faire autant de bruit que Malick. – Mm., je vous laisse avec beaucoup de regret; le mois qui vient de passer a été pour moi très, très agréable. Tout le monde a été très gentil, vous avez répondu avec beaucoup de patience à mes questions banales, vous m'avez appris qu'une femelle n'a rien à faire avec un arbre; qu'on ne dit pas. "Je m'en fous" devant les dames. Dans un mot j'ai trouvé partout la traditionnelle politesse française. Et comme preuve de cette politesse, s'il y avait besoin de preuves, me voici devant vous, mutilant votre belle langue, sans recevoir ni une seule grenade sur le nez. – Je pars bientôt pour Chaumont, où il n'y a que de gros légumes, des affaires de bureau empoisonnantes, et d'autres machines idiotes; mais au milieu des paperasses et toute espèce d'emmerdement que je vais trouver là bas, je me souviendrai toujours, avec le plus grand plaisir du monde, de mon stage à Verdun, et de mes bons amis du 17th C.A.".... Well, it was a big night for yours truly. Walked home with de Mauleon & got some skags for the cuisine. Back again – prof. of history at Stanislas at Paris. Turned in at 12. – Goodbye to Jeandet, who goes on leave in A.M.

Sun Apr. 28: Up late – slight head on – "mal aux cheveux". Worked in office. Got a haircut. Chow at Gen. Buat's mess. Dandy chow, but dull company – Gen., Gen. Walch, C. of Stiff, Chiefs of Baux, Trézenem, d'Avila – (Too much distance). Walls covered with 3rd Lib. Loan posters. At 2:30 went down to Somme-Dieue. Beautiful valley, the Meuse, green & plenty of water. (Somme-Dieue was shot up last night, 150's.) Saw Sep. Budd & the Affable Fart, (Herbst). Phoned to Magruder at Chaumont – machine coming in A.M., to get me & my load of old iron. Back in pouring rain, thro. Verdun. Bridge after chow, won 6 cents. Last game with the gang. Wrote till 11.

Mon Apr. 29: Last day with 17th C.A. Did last few errands in A.M.; got Burlock off & then waited & waited for the car. At 4 P.M. Oger's lecture; at 4:30 Osann (Capt. U.S.R.) rolled in with a Winton. He had tried to come through St. Mihiel, but after being put wise decided to come around instead of through. Left at 5 & went down to Somme-Dieue. Met P. Brown & DeWitt & Gen. Bundy. Brown seemed O.K., talked on what I wanted him to & asked me on leaving if Conger had mentioned him to me – Some funny business I couldn't fathom. Either Conger had said something to him about me, or he thought Conger had sent me to look him over. – Stopped at Souilly to report out; saw Noel & a Col. sous-def; A1 file. Fine trip to Bar le Duc – where we put up & ran into Goethals at chow. He & Fenton came over together & are at Bar-sur-Aube. Goethals on D.C.A., Engr. Off., wherever that is – Story of Ord. Dept. hanging out a service flag with 1 star when an ord. off. transferred to Inf. – Manila lad who ran for alderman & got 2 votes. Paper came out with headlines. "Dujohn, 2 votes. Arrest him! He repeated." Turned in at 10.

Tues Apr. 30: Walked around Bar le Duc with Osann & left at 9:30. About ½ hr. out reached Burlock, dirtier than ever, machine a wreck, hind wheel out, side wheel bulged – 3 punctures, but still smiling. We took the ferraille & came along, reaching Chaumont at noon. 7 Rue de Palais was still held for me but our mess looked like HELL, – Conger, Standiford, Parrott, Emerson, & Stuffed Shirt being all present. The dullest bunch imaginable. Catron tried to explain how they wished themselves on us & I suspect Thompson of opening the way for the avalanche. Reported to Conger & told to get busy. Looked around A-3 & Rivet came in; went down with him & got him his briquets. Back to office – To Allied Club – to chow – duller than ever. Turned in early. Burlock arrived O.K. with the rest of the junk.

Wed May 1: Cabled Mom & Win. Did odds & ends in A.M. P.M. wrote up dope “What is it all about?” & Emerson beat it up to Conger & got wide-open authority to start something. (This may be good; – personnel board – establishment of “permanence” in our future sectors.) 6 o’clock chow & back for night work. (Saw Shannon & P. Bass Zane to-day.)

Thurs May 2: Sat up all night & did nothing. (Capt. Bell & his Eng. accent & cringing hand-shaking furnished considerable amusement.) Turned in at 10; slept till 4; out at 5 – wrote till 6:30 – chow at 7 at Jacquot mess. Rather painful. Bridge with Hue de Colstoun & Tappin. Still more painful. The discussion about how much a point; I didn’t care, of course, but insisted finally on 5 fr. a 100, which struck me as damn stiff for French pay. Some hospitality. (Next day told me how funny it was that Hue miscalculated – I hadn’t paid enough!)

Fri May 3: All day at office. Wrote dope on Int. work – Worked on org. of office. Turned in at. 9.

Sat May 4: A.M. in office. P.M. to Langres. Miss Holt & fly “secretary” also went down to lecture at Y.M.C.A. She is a fly, pushing, fresh woman (45-50), butting in, pestering everyone, no business here at all except to get some ½ baked militia darling out of the trenches. I scrapped with her at once, & kept it up – Glad to leave her at Langres. Saw Millikin at staff school, – Rice & Kistler – Looked for Whipple, b-ached – & at Hotel de Poste found Diller, Whipple, McClure, Comley, Morey etc. To chow at 15 Card. Morlot – a sad mess it has become – Ulzio is O.K. – Brabson & Crawford (E.M. & C.A.C.) are the others. The mess is simply shot to hell. We opened the champagne & sang all the songs, under the disapproving glare of the fish-eyed son of a bitch at the other end of the table. Went home with Carabao & moaned over the old times. Slept at Rue Tassel – Kistler’s billet.

Sun May 5: Bummed around & came down in Millikin’s car with Rice. Thompson back. After chow, try on & “stand-around” till 3:30 at Hotel de France. Wrote letters.

Mon May 6: Office all day. (G. Richardson reported.) Put my gang to work. – gen. descr. of X-Y front – study of occupation – study of hist of boche def. org. etc. Mess thawing out.

Tues May 7: Shirt said this A.M. that the mess didn’t wake up till I came back. The old boy is getting human. – Rain – Left office at 5. – Got the boys busy; nothing for me to do! No action on paper; (request to org.) Thunderstorm.

Wed May 8: Still no action; getting deadly – Have caught a rotten cold – Dubbed around all day. Turned in early with a slug of castor oil. Tossed till 1:30 – Homesick!!

Thurs May 9: Office all day. Deadly.

Fri May 10: 4 letters from Win! All through April (3-7-15-21) – Walter thought he was chief of section & followed me up to Conger's office! I think he has taken a tumble.

Sat May 11: Still bad weather. Office. 5:30 to Langres (James Catron Thompson). Chow & whoppitup at Buccaneer's mess. Rice told Mme. Vaillon 27 instead of 17. Seven French off. + us 4 + 5 in mess. Spencer away. Crawford also away, thank God. Brubson left early thank God. James & his ukulele & Ulio with his song & dance some boys. We beat it at 12. (Fr. off. on my left said it was the 1st fun he had had at Langres. Nikolai the sauce old scout; gave us the meganiffendi! phone talk. Tompo told Jakey & whale story.) I butted out to greet Mme. Vaillon & caught her about to pee in the sloboon. A fine young evening.

Sun May 12: Mother's day. Office in A.M. Nap in P.M. Judge Cutchins Pres Terrell & Col. Hanson came in & woke me up to say Howdy.

Mon May 13: Office – zero – nothing. Néant, R.A.S.

Tues May 14: (Tompo's trained flies to simulate airdromes. – Portuguese sent home by boches with seats of pants out.) Quit at 5 to get a bath.

Wed May 15: Néant – worked in office – on duty all night.

Thurs. May 16: Richardson talk. Slept till 2. Piano in. Rotten cold.

Fri May 17: RaS

Sat May 18: Same.

Sun May 19: Néant. Wrote out orders to send out hombres on liaison – Long b-ache yesterday with Conger trying to find out what it's all about. Usual indefinite, delaying answers. Pentecost – kids all in white – 1st communion. Thunderstorm.

Mon May 20: Summer underclothes! Very warm day. (Br. put Canadian corps in at Arras, expecting German attack there. Canadians laughing up their sleeves – Only fresh Eng. troops left!!) Conger says my art. on def. org. is good. Jesus. Hubbard tipped me off to rumor about job in 4th Crops. Ojalá! (Don't get your hopes up.)

Tues May 21: Got an auto & went to Neufchateau with Emerson. Saw Russell & Williams. (8 assistants! Nothing doing except "administration!" Dead ones.) Beautiful ride through a smiling country. Down to Langres, chow at mess. Saw the gang (also Brabian & Nut Crawford). Back thro. Arogent. Gen. Sample & his awful looking staff officers, fat hump backs, open-mouthed muts. Jesus, how can such things be. – Stories of nigger who felt that grenade

swelling in his hand – & the nigger who announced that Pvt. Burns could open the safe, – he'd been a burglar 4 years. "Man you ain't a lion-tamer; you a lyin' bastard!" Got back to the dump at 4 – (Col. Van Horn in to see Col. Day, slept in same bed. V. Horn got up quietly to pee, pot too full, went past his knuckle, overflowed. Put it back stealthily, slipped on overflow, dropped pot; overcome with confusion, jumped back into bed. Day woke up, got up to see what racket was, switched on light, slipped on pee & fell down in it. Shook hands & turned in. – Peck & Goodwin (?) on both sides of the can, ½ full, peed all over each other. "Gee, Peck, – it's raining.)

Wed May 22: Néant. Worked on article.

Thurs May 23: Still R.a.S. Little Eva, (Cooty from Cootyville, is taming down; he has taken a tumble to the fact that the mess considers him a horse's ass – (Cartoons of Am. secret service – Haggie selling Peruna in Holland in a baby carriage. – The Jap scare – Reilly on the bench in Manila – Bartender at Nagasaki – etc.)

Fri May 24. Still néant.

Sat May 25: Tried Thompson (Whispering Charlie) for introducing 1 ass, horse's ass into Intell. Mess. Got under his skin a little.

Sun May 26: At noon Conger told me to go to Paris and find out how many wops there are in U.S. Poles – Bosn. – Bohemians – Russ – Herz. – Rouman. Got away on 5:30 train. The Tank 2nd Lt. at the station – British warm – muffler – white breeches – big glahses – a perfect scream. Got to Paris at 11. To Continental via metro. – Horrible looking Red & muts. No hot water; only Sat & Sun.!

Mon May 27: Looked up Campanole at Ritz. Got car. Went to Embassy. Zero. To intrallied bureau. Zero. To Czecho-Slovak committee. Zero. To Yougo-Slave Com. Zero. To Consulate Gen. Zero. Polish com. Zero. To Herald office. 0. To Bib. Nationale. 0. Some day. Finally got some dope in an old almanac & let it go at that. The 210 long range gun fired all day. Nobody paid any attention to it. Streets full of people & chickens. Horrible red & messes, Y.M.C.A. workers & other scrubs disgracing the uniform. Had 6 fr. worth of asparagus & got 8:30 train. Luckily had reserved a seat. Saw Billings – ex-cadet – at train. Also Farman – b-ached to Longueville and then slept off and on to Chaumont. – 3:30 A.M. Woke up periodically due to stink in compartment. Boche began attack to-day between Rheims & Soissons. The god-damned buggers.

Tues May 28: Turned in my wop dope & went to billet after 2 P.M. bible class. P.M. Got a late at Fr. mission; entirely forgot de Colstoun's invitation.

Wed May 30: Told by Conger to-day I would go to 4th Corps as G-2 – Whoop-la – Hooray for Liberty! Told yesterday I would go to 8th – Fr. Army. Whoop-la again. Catron & Richardson left yesterday for St. Jue, near Montdidier, new advanced G.H.Q. Bunk.

Thurs May 30: Usual day. (2 Jews. – Ikey. “Vas your girl passionate, Jakey?” Jacky: “Vas she? You ought to see her ven I wouldn’t pay her!”

Fri May 31: Things look bad – Soissons to Rheims. The Animals are at the Marne. Went to Neufchateau & saw Rusty and Williams. Rusty scared to death of him. Back at 4 – (Winton 6 lim.) Beautiful view from hill N.W. of Neuf. – All the rears full of bull – can’t get anything in there with a shoe-horn.

Sat June 1: Boches still gaining. (Where’s your undershirt, dearie? – I must have left it in the cab.) Truck Co., pulled out at midnight last night to carry ammunition to the 3rd Div.

Sun June 2: Office in A.M. Back at night. French line holding N. & S. on W. face of salient. 2nd Div. in on N. of Marne. 3rd just S. of Marne. 5th Marines held up a boche attack. 42 Divs. now identified; main attack. (Talk of giving up Rheims.) Fr. forestalled Montdidier-Noyon attack with a deluge of gas shells.

Mon June 3: At office. Deadly as usual. No mail since May 10 – Refugees in town from Chateau-Thierry section. (Talked with 3 kids who skipped out just as the boches came in.) Gillespie’s description of Sampson “He’s a face-cougher.” (Then Emerson is a tooth-sucker.) Back at night for situation map.

The Peanut Club
membership restricted to
Politicians
Millionaires
Influential Officials
and Social Darlings

S. Bacon	Liaison Br. G.H.Q.
Brent	“Chief” chaplain.
Breckenridge	This guy is O.K.
Bowditch	Aide.
Harges	“Chief”, Liaison Serv.
McIlvaine	Junketeer. Q.M.
Morris	Siestas. G2 – <u>Econom.</u>
Palmer	“Chief” correspondent
Parsons	G2 – 5 th Div. !!!
Stimson	Lt. Col., F.A.
Straight	Ass. G3 – 3 rd Corps !!
Ward O.K.	G-2 S.O.S. (Park Com’s’r.)
Griscom (Lloyd)	

McIlvaine & Parsons Law partners.

S=Shirt

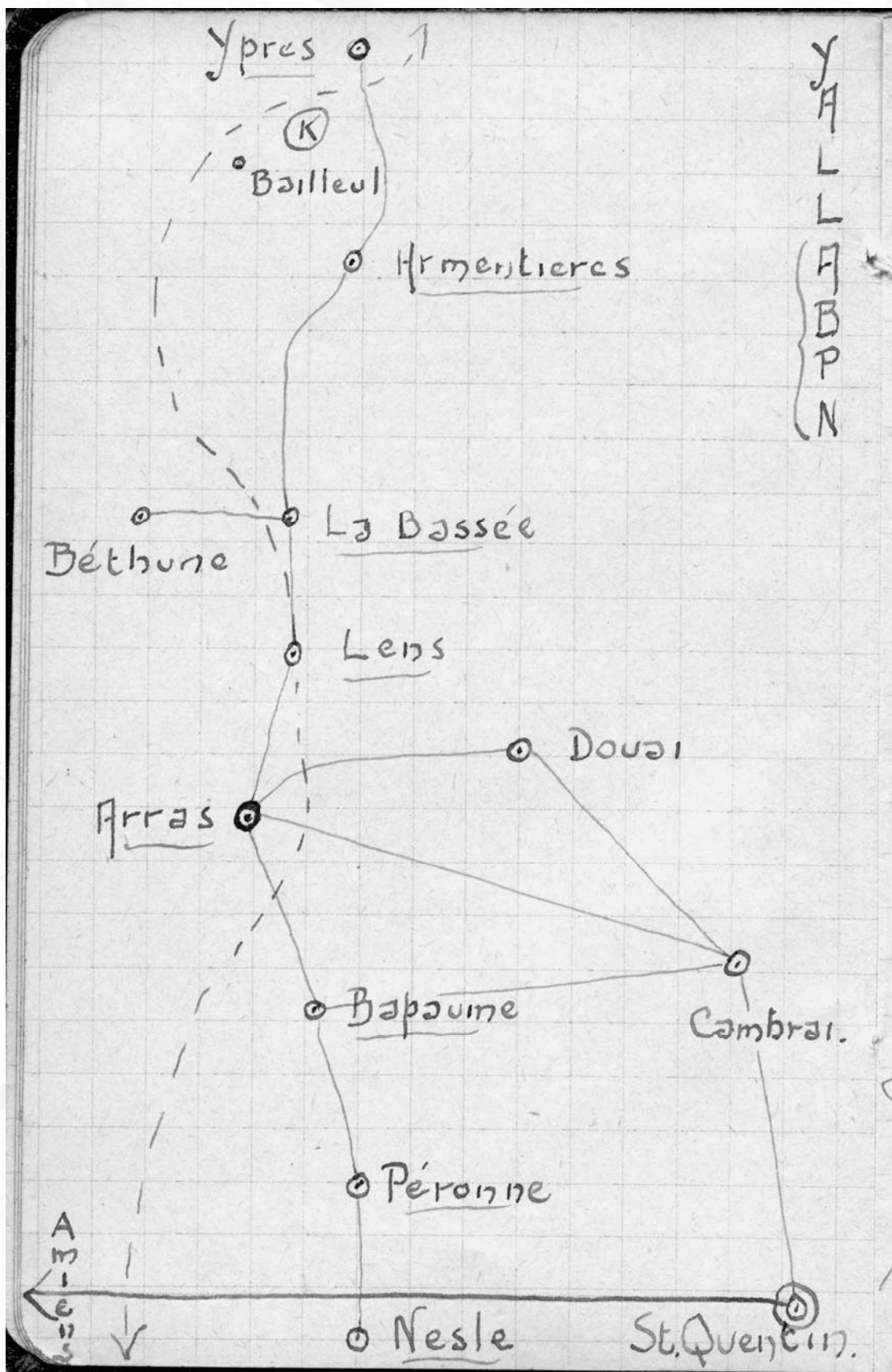
Tues June 4: Worked on air photo pamphlet. Gloom from Fr. G.H.Q. Boches not losing – ½ reserves left – can attack again etc. Fr. have not enough art. Belgians with 12 divs. won't take over more line. Tried to do C.P.O. at Aisne & did not have the guns to do it. Sold 150,000 horses to Americans & now can't move their own batteries, etc. etc. Both Br. & Fr. howling for our troops. – Herb. Parsons in to-day – a shifty-eyed smiler from the Peanut Club – G-2 of 5th Div. by Jesus – Mr. Edelman – found as plebe at Point about 1907 – in from Turkey consular service. Deadbeat lunch. No mail since May 10. – Broke off a square yard of tooth last night, biting on a damn lemon drop.

Wed June 5: All A.M. on photo pamphlet. de Colstoun in. – Two French soldiers captured by boches, who broke their guns & told them to wait for P.M. They sat & watched the boches go by all A.M. and then decided to go along too. So they did & no one stopped them, so pretty soon they turned off, met French troops, got rifles & went into action. (Portuguese Gen. & pigeons. "Send some more; they were fine.") The bunch of Eng. prisoners in boche clothes who marched out of a prison camp, under command of a Belgian. They got to the wire on the Swiss frontier & were caught there. Pooped around. Sent for to report to Nolan at night – Sat around 8:15 – 11:15 & all Nolan said was casually "S., are you thinking about your personnel?" Shit. Magruder did not even have the list of men canned to show me. – Rumors of U.S. taking over a wide front. 70 air squadrons to be fitted out. (Vague dope.)

Thurs June 6: Dubbed around off. all A.M. waiting for Nolan. At 2:30 finally got in & saw him. Fixed it up to go to Br. as Riggs' assistant. Damn glad to go. The mess is getting deadly with Emerson & his everlasting grouch, & old shirt losing control of his jaw muscles. The old boy smacks his chops & sucks soup & breathes hard just like a man of 90 and talks about serving with troops!

Fri June 7: Threw stuff together in A.M. & off suddenly at 1 P.M. without any chow, with T.B. Mott in the courier car. Through Troyes & Nogent to Provins. Saw Farman. On to Paris, arr. 7 P.M. Down the Seine past mouth of Marne on N. bank (came in from E.) Beautiful day, fine ride. To Continental at 8 – washed; had some chow; Judge Cutchins came in at 9. (Had been to his office & found only a new guy who knew nothing.) We bummed around, took in the show at Casino de Paris & said adios about 12. No boches planes over to-night. Misty weather.

Sat June 8 & Sun June 9: Reported A.P.M. got reserv. on 4 P.M. train & wrote. Chow at Cont. Hotel – Early to station – hot ride to Beauvais – cool after that. Got to Rang du Fliers at about 6 A.M. after jumping up every 5 min. from 1 o'clock on. (Art. off. explaining stuff to Intendance off. & his tribute to the Fr. fautassin.) (All 3 – these 2 & the chasseur à pied jumped up to help me off with my bundles & yelled after me about leaving my papers.) Got the 7:44 jerkwater to Fruges, arrive 12. 1st Class compartment all to myself – Some of our troops along the way. Beautiful rolling country. Looked up Riggs at his office – found Bassett & the fresh clerk Patton. Riggs in it up to his ears getting equipment from the British. Spent all P.M. going over things to find out what was doing. Lunch at the jefes' mess – bunch of stuffed shirts – Simonds in command & very much so – Hetrick here FULL COL. – Ardery Lt. Col. – Booth, Black, Barnes '01 (all cols.). Militia Lt. Col. is G1 – a fat mutt named Hale – A reserve Lt. Col. is ordnance off. etc. Whipple here, about to join 80th as G1. Boswell & Haskell ('01) in his mess, also Aleshire ('10), & some reserve & milish. Turned in early. Refugees in my billet – old



woman & little hunchback boy – sad story of death & devastation. (Father dead, brother & cousin killed, other brother wounded, home gone.) Boches attacking Montdidier – Lassigny front.

Mon June 10: Left with Whipple at 9 for Campagne-les-Bouonnais, which we found, but which Cronk & Waldron had just left. On to Samer, where we found said gents. Rest of staff at Boulogne. I went on in and found a polite – no, 2 polite Br. officers at the A.P.M. Found our P.M. & thro. him the Scottish Club. Saw Harding, Gens.' aide, & in dining room Hunt, Rhoades, Wms. etc. Jumbo was over in corner with Spalding & Pat Lynch. B-ached, ate chow, & Jumbo and I went back to Samer by ourselves. Had a long talk with Cronk about John, choked off Waldron a couple of times, & beat it. (Saw Goodwyn, Hazlegrove, Ferkler & Dobie; also Foreman). Jumbo gave me the dope about 240, Win & kids, camera & films, Shortarm's skags, submarine scrap near Brest, Roy, etc. Left about 4:40 – on way back ran over a dog, & nearly wrecked the car skidding. (Dam fool driver running fast past another car on a wet road. Nearly broke my neck against the top of car.) In at 6. Boche gained very little today on Lassigny front. (Bombing the kaiser. The k. was in a certain chateau at 9 P.M. At 5 next A.M. 10 planes sailed over at 500 ft. & left nothing but one wall up. Blew pieces of a staff car, standing in front of house, up into one of the planes. No news yet about Bill)

Tues June 11: Dubbed around office. A.S. Janeway here as Rigg's ass-istant. Saw Hetrick about his work. P.M. To NORDAUSQUES 30th Div. (with Br. 34th – 100% loss in March drive – out on Amiens front, in Armentieres just in time to catch it.) Johnny Herr there as G-2. Back & turned off at St. Omer and went to Nielles, 78th Div. Saw MacMillan. Stuffed shirt C.B. Clark posing around & trying to fool them, but not getting away with it. Rice, E.F. is G-2 of 78th, comes in on 13th. (Br. officer wouldn't sleep inside for fear of bombs, so slept under a tree & a cow licked his face. He woke up screaming.) (Keg Dunning & the apples. Hived a cadet running them in – "Bring up those apples & turn them in." Next week they made a fuss & ran in a sack of stones. Keg sent for the cadet & sent him to take the stones back where he got them") Back at FRUGES at 6. (Janeway along.) To bed by daylight.

Wed June 12: (What's the name of this town? Don't know sir, but I think it's Louvues; There's a sign with it on.) With Riggs to Hesdin, Abbéville – 82nd Div. is there. (Friville-Escarbotin) Saw Lee ('09) Lt. Col. who is G-2 – chowed at mess with Kromer, Diller, Worcester, Wainwright, Beebe (C. of S.), Maddox – (Kromer going to school—Diller will be Q.M. P. Worcester is O.O.) On to Eu where 33rd is; Copp is G-2, not yet arrived. Noland not yet gone. – Château here belong to Prince of Orléans; Wm the Conqueror was married there. (AZINCOURT only 3 miles from Fruges. Went past CRÉCY on way to Abbéville.) On way back passed Face-Cougher Sampson, who goes to the 33rd against his will, not being fond of milish. Stopped at St. RIQUIER where 27th Div is. No one in, & Intelligence matters in a tangle. Nancy Hanks Ford is C.of S., & he's just exactly what they want. They'll run that weak sister as they please. Back at Fruges by 6. French counter attacked yesterday at Méry – St. Maur.

Thurs June 13: Religious procession headed by a priest and the French flag – followed by 200 women & children & old men all in mourning – people who have had relatives killed in the war going to church for a service. Pretty sad. – To Montreuil – Br. G.H.Q. – met Jefferson & Col.

Bridges. – To American Mission – saw Bacon & Harts, 2 grand stuffed shirts, Harts with a dirty uniform & full of being elected hon. member of Architects Society of Am. Montreuil a pretty walled town. Back at one. Copp & Capt. Noland in to office, latter in white pants. – Went up to Samer with Noland, who was surprised to find things in order & running. Jumbo turned over to him, we b-ached to Waldron. – (I threw the bull into him about how he would tear up these problems & he took a deep breath & swelled up & turned purple. Almost had apoplexy. Saw Peck, Domézon, & Wilkie.) (Lemon Wise had them in tow.) Brought Jumbo back, arrived at 7, after knocking down a young tree on the way. B-ached half the night.

Fri June 14: Riggs went up to 1st Army with Bassett. We stalled around. Jumbo & I walked out to next town & back, & he left at 2 for Samer. (Mildred broke a man's leg the first time she drove the Cadillac. Left 5 lbs. of candy for Jumbo on the train; wired & got it back, with an umbrella she had left; also a coat that she didn't even know she had brought from Yonkers!!! Jesus). P.M. read in office.

Sat June 15: 12 planes started out at 8 for a boche hunt. – Pig market on Main St. Shiny pink pigs. At 9:15 left for Hesdin – Crécy – St. Valéry (chalk cliffs; beach & surf looked good) to Eu – Saw Cowles 1902. Chow with Sampson in a mut milish mess. Back thro. Abbéville to Fruges, arr. 5 P.M. – Orders came at 6 for me to beat it to Neufchâteau for duty with 82nd Div!! Wot to hell? Looks like a throw-down. Phoned Samer for Jumbo to come over & he luckily got a car & reached Fruges at 8:30. We thrashed it out & made plans & turned in. (82nd to Italy perhaps?)

Sun June 16: Jumbo & I rode to Abbéville in Riggs car. He left at 9:30 & went back. I got the 10:30 for Paris via Eu & Tréport!! The boche advance has tied up the lines some. (The talkative burned face youngster from the 1st div. All the horrors of war.) Train stopped 7000 times, but got in at 9:30. Had a hot bath at Continental & scraped off peel enough to form a scum an inch thick on the water.!x!x

Mon June 17: Up at 8; out & got haircut, looked in windows, walked to gare & reserved a seat, & then ate a Big Lunch. Clark, E. H. 1917 attached himself to me at chow; has been with 1st Div. since it came over. Wrote & read in PM. To Lloyd's about breeches. Washed clothes. (Got breeches for 50 Fr; others to be mailed.) 2 big plates of fraises & glacé de fraise for supper. Out on 8:30 train. Slept till Bar-sur-Aube. Train crammed with poilus. Chaumont at dawn. Scaled the wall as usual.

Tues June 18: found order was mistake; to go to 4th A.C. Went to H.Q. & got things ready – summaries etc. Did errands, got boxes, etc.

Wed June 19: Was going with Tompo, no room; sent some stuff & waited for press car. (Had lunch yesterday with Cutchins. Jens Birg now in the pâtisserie mess. Hubbard down last night to go over dope on A.C. order of battle. Played bridge till 10:30.) At 3, car came & we picked up 2 correspondents at H.Q. & started off in the rain. Saw Rusty at Neufchâteau & reported to Heintzelman. In mess on Rue Gohier with Rafferty, Harwood, Berger, Millard, Wetherburn, Sidenhelm. Slept at Hotel Providence.

Thurs June 20: Left at 9:30 for Toul, etc. Stopped at Domrémy, birthplace of Jeanne d'Arc & saw her house, bed-room, etc. Church on hill outside of town where she used to tend cows. On to Toul, met d'Aboville, 32nd C.A. & had lunch. (Raspail, pres. of mess.) Very jolly French mess – Toto, the little guy. Looked up Beebe, Wainwright & Lee. (Hemphill, the open-nosed signal officer of the div. Considerable of a Mutt.) Out with d'Aboville & Leroux to Mousson. Up to the O.P. in the old Château. Very calm sector. Down into Pont á Mousson & crossed river. Business as usual, 1500 yds. from the boches. Stores open behind barricades. Got some “massepain” & via d'Anjou & back across bridge, 2 by 2. Boches let things alone here till they try to camouflage bridge; this always brings a bombardment. Back by way of Liverdun, where, canal goes through a tunnel & over the river on a bridge. Back at Toul at 7 – chow with the corps mess & after picking up the 3 squirts back to Neufchateau. I slept at Hotel Providence again.

Fri June 21: Went over things with Rusty at office. Got billet on Rue St. Jeanne. Chow at Rafferty's mess; jolly crowd & good chow. Rafferty & Berger leaving. Millard & Harwood got off a lot of good coon stories & we burst into song. In billet at 11 ½ St. Jeanne.

Sat June 22: Fine walk outside of town last evening before chow. Déjeuner with Rusty for 3rd time. Good shirred eggs. Little Maurice, the kid with curls, not quite sound in the head. Rusty left at 10. Three temporary officers reported. – Millikin, Horsey, McManaway. Osann came in in P.M. Started at “chief's” mess at noon. – Heintzelman, Hilgard, Grunert, etc. Tompo here for lunch. Stalled around in P.M. Took a walk with Osann.

Sun June 23: (The P is silent, as in surf – bathing – stricture.)! “Tim & I saw three girls in the woods by Timbuctoo – I bucked one and Tim bucked two.” – “There, you see you did get it in twice.” – “no, ma'am, I didn't, but Tim did.”) Office all day. 3:30 to Chaumont. No one at 7 Rue du Palais. To Paris on 5:40. Arrived about 10:30 P.M.

Mon June 24: Fine moonlight last night but no Gothas. At Continental. A.M. bath, train arrangements, clothes at Lloyd's, chow. Met 2:25 at gare du Nord, no Jumbo. Nap. At 5:00 Jumbo appeared with Foreman & Domézon. F. to 5th Corps. Jumbo not yet received his orders. Shit. (Big chow at Continental.) Wild English chauffeur Jumbo & Foreman had. They took me to train at 8 & I beat it. Soon got to sleep. Getting used to travelling sitting up & sleeping.

Tues June 25: Met side-car at Langres & did 65 kil. in 1 h. 20. Cold, brisk early morning. Mists rising, people just getting up. (The little fox looking at the train. Unconcerned cow right beside him. In office on odds & ends all day. (Tom Franklin & Chinese budge. “Yes, I agree with you & I suggest they have a pair of balls on yours & a pair of brains on mine.”)

Wed June 26: Mail (!?) 1 box candy mailed in Feb. 2 boxes skags ditto. God damn the P.O. people. At 7 left for Mirécourt, Epinal, Rembervillers, Baccarat. Saw Lt. Col. Garlington (God save us). Could not find Lehuekuhl. On to Lunéville, Dombasle, & Nancy. Nancy pretty well bombed. Chow at Excelsior Hotel. Abri of masonry in square. Stanislas Place. To Toul. Saw Maddox, Diller, Wainwright, but Lt. Col. Lee out. Left code books. To Ourches, saw Duncan. To Neufchâteau. Fine weather.

Thurs June 27: Office work all day. Boswell and Eng. gen. took his car & beat it. Really you fellows in a year will be stealing from the Australians! Do you think he'll come back? What's all this he gave me? etc.

Fri June 28: Thornhill arrived. Sent him & Millikin to school at Langres. Duncan in. Temple coming in. Got rid of Marcy & draftmen & T.W., all 1st Corps trash urgently needed. Sent Rusty a brick & a lot of trash all wrapped up. – Two letters from Win last night. Also a box of candy sent in Feb & 2 boxes skags (Ern) sent God knows when. Two field clerks in – both pretty wooden. Cotton ('08) in, looking like death. – Duckling Gosman (medico) is here. Wrote letters.

Sat June 29: Took Millikin & Thornhill to Langres. – arrived 1 P.M. No chow. Saw Millikin @ Jumbo, who was not yet there! On to Prauthoy Cotton not there. The scub. To Chaumont, saw Shannon. Got Int. Regs for 89th.

Sun June 30: God knows what I did to-day. Have let this get about 4 days behind & can't remember what the hell I did.

Mon July 1: Osann went to 82nd & 77th. I held down the dump. Sent Shiverick up to 82nd for a look-see. – Johnson to 89th to confer.

Tues July 2: Chaos, getting ready for corps school. Johnson left again at 7 to see Col. Kilbourne. Arranged about a town for the school. (Dummy in bed.)

Wed July 3: Wild rush continues. Topog. sections came in yesterday & to-day – also Smith, J.S. & Washburn. To Langres hunting instructors & materiel. Went everywhere & found nothing. Arranged for map-making – Saw Millikin, Murray ('11), McCaskey, Snyder, Avery, Miles, McCunniff, Kalloch, Wood, Schneider, Gray R, Lynch, Everett, etc. etc. Jumbo there working away. Talked things over with him. Got some chow at Mme. Vaillon's. – Coon soldier to another coon. "Sam, what yo'gwine do when you go over de top?" "Me boy? When ah goes over de top, ah's jess gwine look up in de sky and say, 'Good mawnin', Jesus!'" – Lord Tweademouth as his pony spoils a nice shot. "You sorrel bitch! I'd fuck you but I fear disease!" Back at 7:30; worked around office.

July 4: 1,000,000 men in France or on water. Big doings everywhere; French celebrating it as a national holiday. Neufchateau filled with flags; old lad who tackled me to buy one for him from the Q.M. – We worked all day & in the evening had a knock down & drag out with Johnson, who had cold feet & bleated for delay. Decided to go on & put it over as best we could. Chewed the rag till midnight. McManaway a perfect zero. Horsey right there to carry on & put the thing over. Johnson full of pep after the decision was made.

July 5: Got up tired. At seven left with Washburn for Toul. A P.M. sent us to Méuil la Tour, M. la T. sent us to Lucey; Lucey sent us to Toul. Whoop-là. (Ringing the bells with gas for Fritz at 10 A.M.) – Saw Lee and Beebe. An earful of stuff about "international spies". (Saw Wainwright who chafes because the French don't attack the moon!) Back to d'Aboville upon whom I saddled Washburn. D'Abo never squealed, but took him right in. A good scout.

(Boches mauled a patrol last night in 82nd.) (Rumors of attack on Champagne front.) Back to Neufchateau. Left at 2 for Andelot. Looked over ground; saw sketching party. – On to Chaumont. Got 4 lecturers, Saw Moreno. Saw Shannon & Hammond, & yelled for officers. Chow at Shirt and Shovel Club. Saw Richardson & Drum. Arranged with Catron for a drunken spree on Sat. the 13th. (To Jonchéry & saw Capt. Dailey, ex-Bn. Sgt. Maj. 7th Inf. & Mandler, ex-1st Sgt. 12th.) – Picked up 2 permissionaires on way home, 1 sous-lieut., 1 buck; latter had 20 kil. to do at 9 P.M. & was going to it. Back at 10 & no one there.

July 6: In office. A million calls trying to get stuff. – Nobody doing anything. Smith, Millikin & Thornhill back from Langres. Map finished & sent down. Topogs. worked willingly & well under noble chieftain Sgt. Spodick. Can't remember what the hell I did rest of day, -- it was a succession of disappointments.

July 7 – Sunday: All went down to Andelot. – Horsey couldn't go because "his wash wasn't finished". A pernickety prick – Went out all over ground. Went to Rimancourt about the god-damned stoves & they had not come. Chow over the telegraph office with the guy shaving in the combination dining & bedroom. I came back to expedite ranges. No word of them anywhere. Ulio out of town. No one knew anything. Finally, word from IS – seu-Tille "ranges left at 2:30" LIAR.

July 8: Ranges actually arrived at 8:30. 500 hungry men in Andelot. Johnson stole bread & requisitioned houses & put the town major in (fear of) arrest & raised hell generally. Osann gave his lecture & Johnson his. I went to Bourbonne les Bains, saw C of S. 92, got him to send D.I.O. & 2 coon RIOS to Andelot. Went to Chaumont, bought cloth & paint, (1000 f., stole stationery, got helmets & went to Andelot. Depressed atmosphere – no one coming though McRunaway fessed up to profound ignorance on prismatic compass, so I lecture on it. Came on up, got a lot of stationery for them, sent down Baumhauer, T. W. & mimeo. (Got latter from C. of S.) Cussed out Stimson, H. L., for trying to get Washburn & after a million phone calls, All complaints, got a bath & chow. Worked till midnight.

July 9 Tues: Eng. Sgt. cussing out a rooky who explained his woodenness by saying "I'm as God made me." – "If ever you mention that holy man's name again in connection with such a worm as yourself, I'll have you up before the Col." – Man supposed dead carried by Sgt. Maj. as "died – see report London Exp." Man reappeared – "Died by mistake, see report London Exp." – Report of death confirmed by W.D. – "Redied, by order of War. Dept." – To Bourmont to see Lt. Col. Merrill, C of S, a blow-hard, tough guy (out). Beautiful view from Bourmont. On to Andelot; broke down near Illoud; hellish French phone connection. Walked up & down while the milish ate chow. They said goodbye very cordially, however. Got side-car & went on to Andelot. Afternoon exercises in sound observation, patrols, etc. Glynn arrived in P.M. (Maj., Br. Int. Ser.) Night Patrols back & forth across brook till 1 A.M. My billet a swell room in the marchioness' chateau. Marchioness a very stout lady of about 40. Old, old house in excellent taste, full of hunting trophies.

Wed July 10: To Bourmont & saw Merrill – who fell in with all my plans, not knowing anything about intelligence. To Neufchateau – to Chaumont – saw Nolan, talked over G-2 situation, got referred to Shannon, of course. Got Hubbard; back to Audelot. Tracy & Searles

had come in from Langres. Hubbard gave his spiel in evening & left about 10:13. Smith worked all officers on bone-breaking.

Thurs July 11: Tracy's lecture. Came to Neufchateau. Spent day at Neufchateau clearing up back stuff.

Fri July 12: To Andelot in A.M. & met Maj. Hue, who put them all to sleep with a dry as dust lecture. Back to Neufchateau, & down again in evening. 24 hr. exercise started. Sat around till 2, after going over the ground & turned in till 6:30.

Sat July 13: All day exercise. Last night – many hair-raising affairs took place between the lines – 2 sgts. tried to drown each other in the brook – a private punched a lieut. who tried to take him prisoner etc, etc. Back to Neufchateau.

Sun July 14: Down to Andelot to the grand closing. Made a speech & then Johnson wound them up with a political-foot-ball spiel that was a bird. Had a big chow at M. Deny's (chicken with its head on & its guts in; I cut out the prostate gland for Johnson & the tonsils for Horsey & they nearly threw up.) Back to Neufchateau about 3:30. Dedication of President Wilson Street here. SHITT. (The reliable old clerk in McAdoo's office who did the speculating in his own name & suddenly died of apoplexy. His 2 daughters & an aunt got \$180,000 of the ring's money.) (Creel was made chief censor by Wilson through a kindred, cock to cock, feeling, – according to Johnson.)

Mon July 15: BOCHE ATTACK started at midnight last night in the Campagne. – Phoned Tim Shannon re G-2's & Breckenridge. Sent Johnson after Breckenridge & sent off Horsey, McManaway & Millikin. – Johnson, beside getting stung by 2 bees, got cussed out by Burt for trying to steal his hired men & came home with his tail down.

Tues. July 16: To Chaumont & grabbed off 2 G2's. Saw Conger, got maps, went to Langres, chased around a hot town looking for Jumbo. Missed him & dinner. To Pranthoy & picked up Millikin. Back to Langres & saw Jumbo. To Bourment & dropped Millikin.

Wed July 17: News yesterday was that Boches had been stopped in their tracks. 3rd Div's. great fight. Got Smith & bone-breakers off to Bourmont. (Spray-tooth Gardenbire, (Jinglebolox) Bottleass Bill Schoonmaker, Garrulous Gabe.) To Bourmont – Bourbonne les Bains (sweaty coons) – Langres – Chaumont (got shirts out), back to Neufchateau.

Thurs July 18: A.M. to Goncourt to school opening. Spray tooth told us he didn't know G-2, but was a perfect heller on G-1, & then said "How can I get some note-books?" On to Langres & Prauthoy – Then over to Aignay-le-Duc (90th Div.) Johnny Kingman is C. of S. Garrulous Gabe the Farting Fat Boy is G2, & knows it All. He said "How many G2's are there in a corps?" We got through & beat it & had chow. Then back to Langres, saw Glynn & his M. G. Col. (Whom Johnson called Capt.) & came on up.

Fri July 19: Dad's birthday. In office all day, cleaning up. Worked on dope.

Sat July 20: Left for Baccarat at 7:30. Arr. 11. Saw Morey & went down to front line. A great war over here in the haus sector – Not a shot fired – They go pooping around, hiding from the boche sausage & acting as if there was a hell of a performance going on. Sneak behind bushes, 4 miles back. Saw Ike Erwin, who of course did not remember me. Up to an O.P. – Hell of a hot day. Everybody forced to wear blouses up here! Back to Bn. Hq. – a hick reserve major that looked like a farmer set out some beer. Back to Ste Pole & up to Rainbow. (Div. O.P. in a tree.) Fine view over rear areas. Back to Baccarat & on Lunéville & Nancy. Heavy rain storm on way. Chow at Angleterre Hotel. Back at 11:30. Big bombing machine that had crashed in a field. Handley-Page. 100 ft. spread – 96 ft. nose to tail. Seats for 4. (1 500 lb. bomb & 6 116 lbs.) A weird sight as the ailerons flapped back & forth in the wind. – (Sale of the pickpocket privilege in San Fran. as recently as 1911.)

Sun. July 21: To Langres, got Jumbo – choc & sandwich at Y.M.C.A. – & then to Bourbonne les Bains. Saw Schoonmaker & Millikin. Back through Fays-Baillet to Langres. Left Jumbo & back to Neufchateau. Fine ride.

Mon July 22: Waite reported last night. Sent him to Baccarat with Johnson. To Chaumont, saw G-1 & got – zero. (All up at the scrap.) At G-2, got – zero. As usual Magruder knew nothing & Nolan was too busy to be seen. Chowd at the Shirt & Shovel club; saw Shirt, the only live one there. Got trunk at 7 Rue du Palais, & 500 francs at Crédit Lyonnais. Back to Bagoilles; saw Miss Flynn who has been sick. Horsey up from 90th for help. Took him to mess.

Tues July 23: Glynn came at 10:30. To Toul – (lunch) – on to Lucey – got Lee & went to Ranlecourt. Raining. Saw Col. Nelson & went up in O.P. in church steeple. Good view of Apremont & Montsec, & all foreground. Absolutely quiet. About 10 shells an hour. Back through Toul (stop for gas) in at 7:30 & to bed, sick as hell, with a hot lemonade – Sweat buckets. Kelso got me some aspirin.

Wed July 24: To Bourboune les Bains; left Glynn at Langres. Cunningham & his high cut pants & bare legs. – On to Aignay le Duc & saw Kingman & Gen. Allen. Stayed over night – Johnson went on to Baigneux-les-Juifs (Côte-d'Or) Sick with grippe. Sweated out last night but it hangs on. Boche message, "Thanks for the Bréquets, but what will we do with the major?" – McCabe's man who took 2 newspaper correspondents to Toul & said he'd "done his bit." McCabe said he smelled fine. "Don't start to unpack, Mr. Percy, I don't think you are going to stay long."

Thurs July 25: School opened at Baigneux les Juifs. Tatum & his bazoo; very suspicious of the guy's ability. Johnson got him on "plotting their own smoke." The garrulous boob spilled everything that Horsey had gotten from us & poured into him. Had a good laugh over him & left. Tire trouble continues. Wandered around Aignay and then on to Bourbonne les Bains. – (?)

Fri July 26: has disappeared somewhere, unless we came back to Neufchateau on Thurs, & went to Bourbonne on Fri. Wot t'ell!

Sat July 27: At Bourbonne – just in time to go to a night maneuver. Millikin enthusiastic over coons. We shot cows with very pistols, & Johnson let me go through a hedge & get hugged by a

big buck. "Tin, Tin, God damn it, Tin!" Their password was TIN, answer being TUB. Coons all much interested. Slept in Millikin's room & peed out the window into the mess kitchen!! To Chaumont to get instructors for corps school. Referred to Langres to S.O.S. school. Had made 6 instructions in 6 mos!! Gave up & came home. Raining like hell. – Sgt. Nevin's pretty driving when woman jumped down & crossed directly in front of our machine.

Sun July 28: To DIJON. Beautiful ride. I am still feeling punk with grippe. Dijon a pretty old town. Fine park & promenade—millions of air service autos going to run in the street. Everything quiet. Fine chow in Chateaubriand café. Stayed at Hotel de la Cloche.

Monday July 29: On to Baccarat via Luxveil – (did not turn off at Vesoul) – stopped for lunch at a "cure". Reached Baccarat around 3. Saw Morey & Waite & went Nancy for chow at Augleterre. On to Neufchateau reaching there at 11 P.M.

Tues July 30: In office all day. Smith, G. B. & Metcalf out to hunt personnel. (Pills & castor oil)

Wed July 31: Big blast this A.M. At 3:30. Out to wake up Payne at office, but couldn't get him up – Back to crap in the ploboon & nearly filled it. Got caught dumping it, later on, in the can. A.M. in office. P.M. to 6th Div. G-2 (Selbie) out. Back to Neufch. Breckenridge in from 5th corps. Chow at club.

Thurs Aug 1: Millikin in from Prauthoy. Got hold of Horsey finally, – still at Aignay-le-Duc. Sent auto to Langres to bring him up. Sent Smith, J.S. to 82nd for observation work. Chow at club with Millikin & Johnson. – Heintzelman blew up & cussed out Johnson & me in front of a bunch of muts.

FRI. Aug 1: Johnson left this A.M. Long talk with him last night. Promised me the Senate mil. affairs committee whenever I wanted it. In office all day. Got Millikin started on his job. Gave Thornhill his orders to go to 82nd. Long b-ache with Prichard about Chateau Thierry.

Sat Aug 3: In office all A.M. 1:30 to Langres to get Jumbo. Chow at Lafayette club. Smith back from 82nd.

Sun Aug 4: Office in A.M. Took Jumbo back at 3 P.M. Got Denning & Agne & brought them back. Getting the office going. Washburn, Johnson, Brown & Millikin.

Mon Aug 5: In office in A.M. To Chateau Villain in P.M.; saw Selbie, who wanted instructors, material galore & a machine!! Gave us a good laugh. Saw Nolan & got no decision out of him (re personnel). Gave me carte blanche to make or break G-2's in corps, & told me to tell Heintzelman. Of course, he was all for going slow & holding me back. Thinks I am a crazy man, I suppose. Speaks with admiration about S.O.B.'s & lads with pep & then represses it all he can.

Tues Aug. 6: Sent Smith, J. S. to 6th Div. (Houser reported. Casey reported back from 37th. Hoskins, 2 Lt. of Marines reported yesterday, – sent him to G.H.Q. for order of battle.

Heintzelman over fluttering around like an old hen over our state of preparation. Catron called me about OSANN. Queer current of suspicion about him. Saw Shulze, who said he knew nothing at all against him – contrary to what Lee had told me. Rainy day. BATH AND HAIRCUT.

Wed Aug 7: In office all day. Walked with Millikin in P.M. Casey's order to Blois out. C. of S. objects to canning anyone without thorough tryout! After Casey's blow-up! Same stuff as he gave me about 79th & Kid Roberts, the div. pet. Can't seem to do anything without a bleat out of him.

Thurs Aug 8: Asked to go to 1st Corps for a few days. Another Bleat out of C. of S. After considerable Bellyache, said I could go grudgingly, & take Hoskins. Wanted me to hang around the office. Well, Bullshit. I left at 12, stopped at Chaumont, found I couldn't take Hoskins, lunch at Y.M.C.A. with Richardson & Farman. Left at 3 with Farman. Provins at 6; saw Clark, got news about English surprise attack, walked out & up on old walls. – Henri IV besieged town. English also took it – capital of counts of Champagne. (80,000 people, now dwindled to 15,000.) Had chow, b-ached around & went to French 2nd Ban. till 1. Got the dope. All the Fr. officers jubilant over Eng. attack; complete surprise – entirely beyond art. line, captured a corps staff & a R.R. train! Two batteries asleep in bed, etc. French walking around imitating crown prince & Ludendorf. Big tank gun & husky guy who could aim it. Left at one & turned in.

Fri Aug 9: Up at 4:45 – (slept in P. Wilcox's room) – shaved & out at 5:30, just daylight. Up through La Ferté Gauche to Chézy & Chateau Thierry. Looked for 1st Army – still at La Ferté sous Jouarre. Went down there, past VAUX & looked up Howell's dump. Saw Runt Ward, Army G-3!!, cordial (?) reception; also Thompson & Parrott. Nothing to eat in town except 1 muskmelon, 5 francs & 2 peaches, 2 francs! Everybody buying at those prices, too. Ate them along road. Back through Chateau Thierry, which is well bunged up, – bridges down, houses all smashed etc. (On way down, routed out a brilliant (?) town major who was asleep in bed. House was a chaos of debris. On up to Fère en Tardennois. Tremendous lot of Boche stuff abandoned in retreat. No time to destroy crops or blow dumps. 35,000 prisoners & 700 guns.) (Found G2, old Williams, who was groaning as usual because he couldn't get word from divs. Went over his troubles with him. Chowd with Whitridge, Biddle, Stern, Baird, & Taylor. Fère is a mess, everything shot up. Boche planes owned the air. Considerable art. activity up front. Walked over field of scrap & wood west of town – full of m.g. nests & debris of all kinds. Just turning the dead boches under. Got some soda water & solid alcohol out of the boche dump. After chow, town was shelled considerably but we got some sleep all right. Schmidt here, sick. Will take him back in A.M.

Sat Aug. 10: Walked over field of scrap. Picked up some junk & left at 10. Past Seringes to Coulonger, saw Maj. O'Kiefe & clerk Altman. Went to Corps H.Q. in woods & left Howell's message. Wonderful boche position on ridge – Fère to Coulonger. Back thro. Sergy, which changed hands 9 times. Down to Jaulgonne – bridge smashed & on to Chateau Thierry. On to Montmirail – puncture right at monument. Chowd with Sgt. Nevin as guest. On to Champanbert, &, by going to sleep, to Châlons. Schmidt did not know about turning off to Fère Champenoise. Two punctures at Châlons. On to Vitry – fine looking place, & St. Dizier.

Turned off 'cross country at Chevillon & after getting lost 3 or 4 times, came out at Liffol le Grand. Neufchateau at 11. Saw Millikin & Harwood at Club, took Harwood home.

Sun Aug 11: In office all day. Mackall here. Went for a walk with him in P.M. Bromide Stivers still around with his ghastly jokes. Orders for move rumored; – 4th & 6th Corps out, Army in.

Mon. Aug 12: Orders to get out to-morrow. We to have stuff ready at 6 P.M. Put the great Kemp to work & at 6 we were loading our junk. Went down with Harwood & met Valentine. Packed at night.

Tues Aug 13: Stung by the old Mama 1 franc a day on the billet. (Let 'em have it, – they need it.) Saw Valentine & beat it with first "etchelon at 9:30. Got to Toul at 11:15 & started to arrange office. Others in in P.M. Got a good billet that Johnston had looked up for me. No bombing. Flashlight dead, no matches. Got to bed by groping.

Wed. Aug 14: Worked on office all day. Got Topog. fixed in Qui Qu'en Grogne street. Terrible session at chow with old Boisanger. Was bored to death; meal was Endless & of course I paid! Turned up at office exhausted, & the boches at once began. 10 bombs in town, 1 kid hurt – great work. Jumpy Haskell ran around shrieking "put out those lights!" Siren & bells going all night. Went up to 89th in P.M. Saw Goodman & Wilder (adj.) C. of S. & Lee chewed the rag while I stood on one foot for 20 minutes. Courteous bastards. Also went over to Ourches & saw Duncan about conditions there. Pretty bad, apparently. Saw Liberty planes & a lot of fresh, God damned aviators. Give me a crack at them.

Thurs Aug 15: Up early, left for Neufchateau at 7:45. Saw Valentine & Roblee, old Michigan football man. Mass. Day of the Assumption, holiday. Saw Howell & Thompson, & took a Mr. Hotten to Gondreville. Snatched sandwich at Y.M.C.A. & on to Flavigny. Saw Capt. Donnard, Cap. de Caraman, & Gen Douchy. Had an elementary lesson for nearly 2 hours & then escaped. On to Nancy & Gondreville. Fresh Mr. Terry gave orders to Sgt. Nevin right under my nose. Ought to have cussed hell out of him. Evening in office. Usual bombing alarms. Gen. Biddle & niece at chow at that God damned, bromide, uncongenial, son of a bitch mess.

Fri Aug 16: Office all day. Smith, J.S.'s ride with Bateman as chauffeur! Put men in O.P.'s of 8th Army. Lts. Wickman & Johnson joined. Usual routine. Bombed as usual. Boche plane, which was shot down near Nancy, set up in square. P. Worcester came in. (Millikin to 1st & 2nd Divs.)

Sat Aug 17: Glynn & Jumbo coming to-morrow. Diller in this A.M. Hell of a job trying to accomplish anything.

Sun Aug 18: Jumbo & Glynn up. Gen. Dickman arrived as corps comdr. Took Jumbo & G. to dinner at our gloomy, punk, flunkybutt mess. They left at 4. Went over a lot of G-2 stuff.

Mon. Aug 19: Worked away on the big dope. Great secret! Even the boche prisoners talking about the American offensive!

Tues Aug 20: To Neufchateau & saw Howell & Thompson. Everybody running around in circles. Saw Valentine. On to Chaumont. Fixed up Horsey & Gowenlock, G-2 of 79th & 1st. – Chowd at Y.M.C.A. (got a bag for injections) & came back. French officer – Daher in pour passer la consigne. Here till 6 & again in evening. Bombed every night. Rather tiresome. Mess moved to new place on square.

Wed Aug 21: The Wild Boar that roams around Toul. Queer looking sight. Legless man & team of dogs at Neufchateau. In office all day. Invasion of visitors of all descriptions. Howland, Gowenlock, C. of S., Tatum, Pullen, misdirected guys by the dozen, etc. etc. Also Capt. Daher of Fr. corps, a perfect pest, although really helpful. The God-dam mess is awful, with that tooth-sucking, snot snuffling old son of a bitch of a general. (12 fr. a day, forsooth, for that rotten chow!) SHIT.

Thurs Aug 22: Office all day and most of night. Tipped off on big stuff by C. of S. Great secrecy here, & the barber at Neufchateau knew all about it. Horsey here.

Fri Aug 23: Office all A.M. To Frémeréville at noon. Found O.P. by tracks & nail prints. Fine views of Montsec & Le Mont. In plain view of Montsec etc. from Jouy to Frémeréville, but nothing doing. Colin, the French observer who lived in the Woevre & built most of the houses in view.

Sat Aug 24: To Neufchateau. Rainy. Any boche plane who cannot see our bustle of preparation must be blind. Trucks rushing back & forth. Columns of men, railroad trains, autos, motorcycles, etc. etc. Saw Howell & Thompo. who both say Fart & Shit like me. Me for a job like that with a man who isn't a god damned sphinx for a boss. And no son of a bitch Cavalry club running things – Heintzelman, Haskell, Strong & Co. SHIT.

Sun Aug 25: Much getting of heads together now, rush conferences etc. They do not give G2 a chance to get things in shape of course, but they are beginning to see what G2 can tell them. G.A. Strong & the photos; he was going to dope out all about the roads. I told C. of S. all right, but not to hold G2 responsible. G.A. came in shortly & passed over the photos. – Baby Colonel J. C. Lee is a full colonel! Double barreled shit.

Mon Aug. 26: Lost day – going all day & all night.

Tues Aug 27: Forgotten this too. Went out to Beaumont O.P. got fine look at Montsec, St. Bans saut Moet-Mare etc. Seeing the 89th made me homesick for soldiering. Sgt. Nevin did not care to go beyond “Dead man's cave.” (!!) at Hamonville.

Wed Aug 28: To Neufchateau to see Hall about overlay on 10,000 map. On to Chaumont, straightened out Horsey business, saw Shannon, Hammond, Jones & Co. Had lunch with them. They told me I was up for a Lt. Col. (Came back & Fart Judah, 42nd Div., blew in – a Lt. Col by God. Jesus to Jesus.)

Thurs Aug 29: Another rush day. Out to Méuil la Tour, saw the P.C., looked vainly for corps cage. Touch of football weather in air. Waked up at midnight by Brown about sending an officer at 5 A.M. to Martiny to a tank exhibition.

Fri Aug. 30: A.M. in office. P.M. out to Ausauville balloon up for 1 hour & ½, at 700 m. Fine view all over. Boches let us alone. Sensations going up. (Hold on tight.) Millikin nearly got seasick. Fine after getting used to it. A.A. fire & first line harassing fire on Flirey & Limey. Beautiful weather. Bum camouflage on nearby battery positions. – Took dinner with junior G-2 mess; Brown had promotion champagne. (Somebody put a nude picture over my name card – Maj S. only.)

Sat Aug 31: Out to Ourches & saw Duncan about photos, propaganda, etc. Walked out along river in P.M. Great spy hunt, engineered by Major Selkirk. Took him out & lost him. Aviation signal flashing the “SZ” & “VB” codes! “I’ll sneak up & cover them, & then call you.” – Washburn with a straight face cautioned him about the desperate character of these men; “big gun” emplacements; spies in French uniform etc. A big night.

Sun Sept 1: Office all A.M. Pullen & Fowler in. Out to Beaumont, & got “bombarded”; – at least 10 shells. Back & out to Essey, near Nancy, (forgetting entirely about Wood & Schneider, whom I had promised to take to 90th.) Had chow with d’Aboville in the congenial atmosphere of a French mess & came back at 10. An hour’s air-raid at 1:30 A.M.

Mon Sept 2: Down to Neufchateau in the morning mists. First chill night anoché. Winter coming. Saw Hall & Roblee & got maps etc. In office till 3:30. (Maj Van Cise here for temporary duty from Langres.) Out to Fréméréville O.P. & had wonderful visibility. Saw into Mars La Tour. Barrage on our lines near Limey – boches tried to cut off a patrol.

Tues Sept 3: Humped around office all day. (Kromer’s lost order is found – Cruse found it in the trash outside his door!) No flight today; ceiling too low. Bokaraz in for duty. Usual all day procession of “callers”.

Wed Sept 4: Two hours to get central français & no luck. Went over to Villers, but of course the escadrilles had left. Poor visibility anyway. Millikin pulled the window to pieces & cut his hand on the pieces. Bull in a china shop. – (“These Aus. are terrible, etc. Why don’t you salute me? Why the hell should I? Why, I’m Gen. Birdwood! Well, then, why don’t you wear a bunch of feathers in your ass as any other bird would?”) P.M. to Ligny & saw the Army crabs. de Colstorm looks sick. Saw Pépin. To 2nd Colonial Corps and saw the 2^e. Letters from Dad & Win.

Thurs Sept 5: Rain. (Woevre will be a sponge soon.) Went to Neufchateau & got maps.

Fri Sept 6: Stewed around office. Osann back. Out to Beaumont. Rain. Held up at Kistler’s Bn. Bill is same old terrier, breaking tables & chairs in his haste to greet me.

Fri Sept 7: More rain. Stewed around all A.M. P.M. to Langres & got Jumbo. Saw Glynn. Back at midnight past convoys on all roads. (Y.M.C.A. buys ½ jam from coms at Langres.

Grabs candy, makes 3 packages out of 1 can & sells it again. No “man” in Y.M.C.A. drawing less than 175 in France.)

Sun Sept 8: Jumbo here till 3. Sent him down with Sgt. Huylebrock (who got back Mon. at 5 P.M.). –Down to Vancouleurs & saw Spencer – same old guy.

Mon Sep 9: Stewed around all A.M. To Fréméreville in P.M. By motorcycle to Beaumont under the nose of the Huns on Montsec. Van Cise along, of course. P.M. Great stir & bustle – Going to P.C. at Méuil la Tour! Spencer in. C. of S. in also, to cuss out his G2 in front of a bunch of strangers. Because the god-damned 1st Corps did not get the interrogatory. Sent Brown up ahead to grab off billets.

Tues Sept 10: To Neufchateau. Saw Hall & Roblee. Raining. The Woevre will be a morass. – Big movement yesterday back of the 10th Div., also trucks – (art. ammun?) going in & out of salient. – Gen. Popeye says, “O, no, this little rain won’t hurt the ground.” He probably thinks it will dry the place all up. Jimmy Ulio is a Lt. Col. –Thompo. in at Bousquet, where I had lunch with Millikin. He also is still a major. This business makes me tired; this C. of S. guy doesn’t take as much trouble over a corps G2 as all the divs are over a div. G2. – Sep Budd, too rotten for Div G2, now a Lt. Col. & comdg. a regt! Woolnough also made. Balls. Well, we moved to the P.C. at Meuil la Tour. Must be there by noon, of course. I went out at 3; & most of them didn’t go at all. Brown & the topog. had moved in at the chateau, & squirt Smith the aide came round dog robbing rooms for generals. Tried to chase me, but I didn’t chase.

Wed Sep 11: Back to Méuil la Tour for forgotten stuff. Saw Valentine, who goes back to Neufchateau. P.M. got settled in P.C. D Day is tomorrow, I learn by chance, from — Capt. Wickersham! Out to Fréméreville. Sat up all night. Got the last odds & ends done.

Thurs Sep 12: Out at 1 A.M. to see the big show open. A dramatic scene as the first big one boomed over by St. Mihiel. From then till 5 the sky was one continuous flash of light as our guns threw it over at the boches. Our men moved up to the jumping off trenches through the muck & rain. At 5 they went over, & from then on it was one continuous round of phone calls & messages. Steady, rapid progress everywhere. – Richécourt, Sahayville, St. Bausoant, etc. Everything went beautifully. “Les excéttants” put it over where the fussing, mussing schemers, & G’s-es, & Shellkirks & Wickershams etc. had brain fever tying it up. 1st and 42nd Divs. came through beautifully. 89th sadly lacking, – through some skullduggery or other. Finally went down to 89 P.C. & found the G2 asst. sticking pins in a map, and Goodman lost. (Finally found him at P.C. at 2 P.M.) – Out to Beaumont & found a hell of a condition there – no reports. To 1st Div P.C. (Herron, Summerall, C. King, Gowenlock, Van Cise, etc.) Quiet, capable appearing bunch. Wounded lying outside, waiting their turn. Howitzers going full blast around there. Fine view of the action from Beaumont – tanks, infantry moving up in good style through the shrapnel, boches pulling out, guns going, Montsec catching it. Fr. sgt. very enthusiastic – Magnifique! Magnifique! – Caught in traffic jam & turned back. Picked up boche officers & took them to cage. Big haul of prisoners, apparently. – Sent Casey to Beaumont & had the 4-eyed Fitzgibbon sent in. (Casey of course, smashed a motorcycle last night. Brown, of course, took 10 hrs to take 10 pigeons to Smith. And this morning the booby entirely disregarded my instructions & went pirooting around on the field & got some punctures, & “didn’t have a thing

to eat" & oh, my, – shit. The big calf. He & Campbell go. Campbell I chased out to investigate calibers etc. of the shells that he reported as "bombarding" Toul. (Two ammunition trucks collided.) Our planes owned the air to-day till toward night, when some Fokkers appeared & got after them. Balloons burned. All the Woëvre towns on fire, as well as dumps. 1st day's objectives all passed & pushing on to 2nd day's. – I was promoted yesterday, & was congratulated by Ulio & Boisanger, outside of men in my own section! Cordial lot. – Got sore & blew up on topog section, & was ashamed of it afterward. Newspaper correspondents in. Nolan here, had quite a b-ache. James here. Alexander also; he brought a mimeograph & was very welcome. Sent Millikin to 89th in P.M. & of course he never turned up till n o'clock. Not his fault. Great day. Bunches of boches coming in from all directions. 5th & 1st corps had entire success. Brought in 3 boche officers from 1st Div. cage. Turned in at 12:30.

Fri Sep 13: Steady rapid progress. All objectives reached. 5th Corps & 1st Div in Vigneulles at 8 A.M. no resistance. Boches leaving on schedule. Let their infantry hold the pot & pulled out their guns. Big excitement over possible evacuation of Hindo line. Pooh-bah. Fires in towns behind set by French aviators. Pagny rumored taken, more rot. French have attacked toward Etain; making good progress. – About 9 A.M. went to Fréméréville, got Smith & went over into Apremont. Explosions going on continually there. Went up & through some boche dugouts at top. Good concrete O.P.'s & extensive galleries. All equipment except klaxons gone. Big tank trap on Varneville road. Back & in to office. Boche planes most active. Putnam, best American flyer, killed. Six planes lost. In office all P.M. & night. Sent Miles at 1st A.C. The account of capture of Otto Schmeercase the great chlorine expert. He swallowed it. In office all night; only 3 calls after midnight.

Sat Sep 14: Quieting down. Our line now Woll – St. Benoit – Xammes. Planes very active; inf. digging in. Left P.C. about 9, went via Apremont to Hattonchatil & up in tower. Wonderful view. Saw Richardson & Manley & Cook's tourists. – Dago general & barber aide. On to St. Benoit, Bluey Samarche, Nonsard (Beasley, 1917) to P.C. in woods. Gen Dickman there. Chow in cubby hole with 3 fool aides – Dumont, Smith & Summerall's idiot. Saw Gowenlock. Chauffeur found a Zeiss range finder. Woods full of junk. Third position nothing but 2 bands of rusty wire. Back through Pannes, across the mighty rushing Madine to Essey & the majestic Rupt de Nead. (Am. soldiers digging in at St. Benoit.) Essey down the wood road to Flirey. Big tank trap. Johnston's concrete emplacement turns out to be a cemetery. Great activity getting the road in across no-man's-land – trucks, tanks, gun, chow, refugees, etc. etc. going both ways. Down to deserted O.P. at Beaumont & in. (Visitors – Poincaré, Clémenceau, Baker, etc. etc.) – Got back & found P.C. moving out. We go in at topog. place.

Sun Sep 15: Millikin, Washburne, & Johnston out on trip to look over ground on other side. I stayed in office with Bumptious Brown & got a haircut. P.M. went over paperasses. Letter from Perrochia. Congratulations from d'Aboville. – Bells rang in town to-day; 1st time in 4 years. The great Otto Schmeercase incident!

Mon Sep 16: To Toul. Valentine gone to Neufchateau. Send \$400 to Win. Cussed out Metcalfe, & got Jumbo!! who has been assigned as ass't G2 4th Corps. Got his stuff & came out expecting a roar, but Heintzelman was in a good humor & said O.K. as long as G.H.Q. says it is all right. (Says he is making recommendations to-night. Pooh, pooh.) G3 has moved out to the

corral. Heintzelman is C of S, 2nd Army, & 7 Ways is G-3. P. Brown comes to the corps, & Enochs as G-3. Worked in office. Jumbo & Millikin to Toul & Saizerais (Boche mess sgt & his rolling kitchen. "Destroy that kitchen!" Saw Americans coming – pulled out Swiss cheese & a gallon of potato brandy. When Am. came he invited them to eat.) – Trucks rolling through in a cloud of dust. Band pepped 'em all up – Crazy headgear – parasols, etc. – Jumbo & I in my room.

Tues Sep 17: To Toul & Neufchateau. Arranged for Roblee & Valentine to come up. Took Mr. Mason in in A.M. Hubbard poured out his woes on me last night – thinks he ought to have a corps! Tired of working as a subordinate under a mere Col. G. S! P.M. hell of a time phoning. Finally got rid of Mr. Mason; sent him to Duncan. Big rumors of new push. (Verdun.)

Wed Sep 18: Slept till 8, went to Saizerais to take over for 6th Corps! (Mackall, Williams, Kromer, Nolan, Gallogly, Stern, etc, Wildrick). Arranged for Mackall to phone reports in. Gave him Casey & Brown & the duds. Back at 4 – Dubbed in office till 10.

Thurs Sep 19: Out with Cole, Valentine & Roblee to Beaumont, Hendicourt, Hattonchatel, St. Benoit down to Beney & Thiancourt under nose of Mon Plaisir farm. Thiancourt full of dead horses & debris. – Down through Bouillonville & Essey & in thro. Fliray. Meds much impressed. Roblee jumped at each shell. Big chow with Smith J.S. Chow in Jesus mess here at night, & sent them home much pleased.

Fri Sep 20: P. Brown chief of staff, thank God. Enochs G3. In office all day. B-ache with Brown at night.

Sat Sep 21: A bitch of a day. Visitors, cranks, & Thompson all day long, camping around the office; everything going wrong. Conger, Kistler, Goodman, Gowenlock, Parsons, Thompson, Shaw & a 6th Corps kid, Duncan Anderson etc. etc, etc. Jesus to Jesus. And the telephone is still all bitched up. (Thompson wants to take Jumbo or Millikan & Smith or all three. Told him to go to hell.

Sun Sep 22: Jumbo & I to Mousson. Saw Metz for 1st time. McManaway there with an Indian. (Came back & turned in 2 hot dope sheets – we are firing stuff at P. Brown about every hour.) Stopped at 90th Div & saw Eye-brow Bill. Rain.

Mon Sep 23: To Neufchateau – map of Metz sector, gave Roblee a tin hat. Conference with C. of S. at night. "Bright" young Langres graduates, knew all about ¶ 4, & thoroughly aired their vast knowledge. C. of S. told me we were to move.

Tues Sep 24: Raids all successful. 42nd, 89th, 78th, and 90th. Brown getting absolutely impossible.

Wed Sep 25: Found out by chance at supper that the big show starts to-night! Busy as a bird dog all day getting out dope for annexes – (all same red flag after the collision.) maps, maps, maps, – all to be thrown away. Same for studies of line, etc. (Topog. working like beavers. Their picnic must be called off, acc't of fight.

Thurs Sep 26: Out to Hendicourt with Jumbo & Ulio to see the artillery prep. for the big show. Rembercourt burning. No one at O.P. Dug up Reynolds & put him on the job. (Cozy quarters in the officers' casino.) (Ditched the "aides".) Back at 3:30 A.M. Cold. A.M. Our show rather a washout. No deep penetration. On east of Moselle complete washout. West of Verdun, good progress, – Fr. 7000 pris., 1st U.S. Army – 7000. Montfaucon taken. E to W (80 – 33 – 4 – 79 – 37 – 91 – 35 – 28 – 77.) Office all day.

Fri Sep 27: To Neufchateau. Got maps. Beautiful ride. Saw Roblee who had grippe.

Sat Sep 28: Office etc.

Sun Sep 29: Some mail at last. To Toul & got out papers, etc. Sent cables. P.M. to Saizerais & Mousson. Quiet.

Mon Sep 30: In office. P.M. took Hoskins & Millikin & went to St. Mihiel & up the Militärstrasse to Hendicourt. Carved fountain on roadside to Pionier Brunner. St. Mihiel a wreck of course. Intricate defenses on heights east of town. Comfortable quarters on reverse slopes. Beautiful camps up the gullies back of the town. Found at Hendicourt that Welch had taken the O.P. out of the church because (6) six shells came over. He is going to put it back again P.D.Q. Back through Nonsard Wood, Nonsard & Montsec. Bulgaria has accepted.

Tues Oct. 1: Got rid of Brown (J. Stacy, Jr.) today. Worked him off on the 2nd Army. The big baby couldn't even get to Toul by himself; asked for the Cadillac to tote his fat ass down there. He got it, – I don't think. Jumbo, Johnston & I out to Richécourt & Lahayville & went over boche lines. Thorough def. system; old first lines well revetted – concrete & wire – concrete O.P.'s every 150-200 yds. Camouflaged periscope in tree stump on top of pill-box. Electrified wire. Up to Montsec & through the tunnels. 42nd Div. moving out, – every soldier with a Fr. or boche canteen or trench knife or helmet, or a dog on a string. Tough guys. Back at 5:30. Hoffman's adventure with the gen. "Guess I'm in the wrong place." "I don't know whether you are or not; where do you belong?"

Wed Oct 2: Office all day. Sent out Kavanagh, Millikin, & Washburn to work on trench lines. Letter from Dad about Bastard. Jumbo & I took a walk.

Thurs Oct 3: 255,000 prisoners July 15 – Sep 30. 3700 guns, 23,000 m.g.'s. Some cat-ass-trophe. Metcalf, & Johnston out on trench lines. P.M. Jumbo & I to 7th Div saw Capt (!) Fell, whom I last saw in Madrid in 1914. Taylor & Waldo not there. Talked over the situation, came back & got Millikin. Ran down to Bois l'Evêque & saw Stoeys. Bonesteel not there. Back & chowed at the Bousquet. Waite (Robinson, Campbell) there.

Fri Oct 4: Office all A.M. To Neufchateau in P.M. "Our" new Cadillac runs like grease. Saw Roblee. No sig. corps photog. there. Looked up Maj. Paul at Antigny Latour, but he was out. Back at 7:30. Wire from Win.

Sat Oct 5: Millikin & Washburn to 6th A.C. & Mousson. In office all day. Walk in P.M. In evening, job on Johnston about writing summary. TREMENDOUS NEWS ABOUT REQUEST FOR ARMISTICE! We hope it that Germany's last reserves are in. THE JIG IS UP.

Sun Oct 6: In office. Everybody seems to think the war is over (!!!) Letter from Win.

Mon Oct 7: One day like another. P.D. Grier came to-day to be a "learner." Saw old hot air artist.

Tues Oct 8: Office in A.M. To Apremont in P.M. looking over boche works. Big scrap (hot air) at night over the "art. protective line" Dworkin ruined the room with soot from the oil stove. The wooden-headed idiot.

Wed Oct 9: Capt Macintosh & Lt. Cooper in yesterday. Bill Kistler also visited. Trying to get him for G-2, 7th. J.C. Lee of course trying to slip in that mut Smith as G-2 & pass us Goodman.

Oct 10 Thurs: Over to Boucq. – C. of S. raving about excess loads and Bureau of Printing & Engraving etc. Field clerks lolled around at Meuil till we were all installed & then came over de luxe. Jumbo & I in billet in "2nd chateau." Dworkin, the king of orderlies, shining as usual. Getting cold. Boche planes over to see where we are. – Boche line cracking.

Oct 11 Fri: Letter from Johnson. Getting settled. C. of S. still raising hell. Rumors about my going to 2nd Army. (Wolle did not report; Christ Lee putting one over.)

Oct 12 Sat: Not ready yet with lecture, of course. Beat it off in auto in P.M. To Neufchateau.

Oct 13 Sun: Off to Langres at 10 A.M. Arr 1 P.M. Took a walk in the rain with Glyn. Saw a lot of people I knew – Conely, Heroitt, Scott W.R., Richardson, J.B., Baird ('01 & '05) Cochen, Fuller, Upham, JS, Punk Ellis, Pope A.M. etc. etc. Slaughter (1917) among others. Chow at mess with Addis, Glyn, Conely, Garlington, Millikin, Cooper V. W. & Spencer T.K. Wrote lecture in P.M. Bunked in with Conely for the night.

Oct 14 Mon: Lost my gold knife as I found later. Up at 7 – Spencer & Glyn preceded me & I spied at 11. Big stuff. Cochen & Fuller in front row! Chewed the rag till about 12 without going to my notes & got away with a lot of bunk. Lunch at 1904 mess at Mme Vaillon's (!) and left with Spencer at 1:30. To Chaumont. Saw Hammond & Herr; & sent \$400 to Win. Sent Spencer to Bar le Duc & got a room, surprisingly good, at Café Constant. Chowd with Hammond & Jones. Saw Caffery. Turned in at 9.

Oct 15 Tues: Left at 7:30, & at Neufchateau at 8:30. Saw Roblee & came on. Collision near Neufchateau, with a Frenchman who pulled his nag directly into us – Went sidewise into a tree. Stopped at Toul & had chow with Thompson, H.A., and Kalloch. Kalloch wounded in knee at Verdun. Poor leading; no time allowed for orders to get down; attacks ordered when impossible to make etc. (K. attacked with 125 men & 2 automatic rifles. Some of our troops lay down & quit). One regt of the 92nd engaged & ran like hell. Out to Boucq at 3.

Oct 16 Wed: The big day. P. Brown got all the G's in his office & started to pare down the force. Assigned to the 3rd division in the middle of it.

Oct 17 Thurs: P. Brown left. Wells came. Cordial welcome. (3 stages of war – political, friendship, son of a bitch) Out to 6th Corpse, stole all of Stivers' candy, & on to the Buffaloes at Marbach. Bottleass Bill not in. Back to Toul & had Whispering Charlie floundering all over his depth about Plan Navelles. Glyn & Maj Goodrich had arrived when we reached Boucq. Barrage Bill was still bleating. Jesus, but I am getting a bellyful of this visitor business. (He's a face couger) Glyn has gripe & turned in early. British in Ostend.

Oct 18 Fri: Sent Grier Glyn & Goodrich out to the divs. & got a chance to do a little work. They saw old Bottleass, the knitting circle at Saizerais & old Clendennin at the 28th, & were greatly impressed with the whole show. Not. Chewed the rag all evening.

Oct 19 Sat: Cables cost 70 fr. yesterday. Brrr – No more E.F.M. Took Glyn, Grier & Goodrich to Montsec & stumbled around the dugouts. Terrible time waiting for the car which Osann took to Vigneulles etc. on his way to Euegin. Glyn the obstinate fretted & fumed & showed a queer angle of his makeup. We finally got back about 4:30, & damned glad it was over. Got them some chow & sent them off, – free at last of part of the visitors. Now if Barrage Bill beats it, peace will reign.

Oct 20 Sun: Off at 9 to Toul. Ahrends gave me a pass & I beat it to Chaumont. Saw Richardson & Manley & a few of the nuts. Fixed C. E. matter with Moreno. Jumped on Magruder about G2's & was promised Kistler & Goodman, to replace Schoonmaker – canned & supply the hole in the 7th. Beat it at 5, & got a sandwich at Neufchateau. Back at Boucq at 8.

Oct 21 Mon: Office in A.M. To Hendicourt O.P. in P.M. Some climb up the hill. Smith the country landlord. No chance to take the panorama. Got pictures of mortar empl. near Apremont.

Oct. 22 Tues: Grier called away at noon. Peace now reigns supreme. Mackall in; the 6th Corps gets the niggers to work on. Raining again. 7th & 28th made raids last night; 27 prisoners. Gas bombardment of Rupt valley. (Boche pris. spoke good Eng; waiter at Ritz Carlton in Eng.)

Oct 23 to 25 Wed - Fri: Lost in the shuffle.

Oct. 26 Sat: To Chaumont – saw Conger & had long talk on how to handle Div Comdrs etc. Saw Manley; Sat in at meeting of chiefs of sections.

Oct 27 Sun: To Mortmare and La Haie l'Eveque. Pictures at Remenanville & in the wood. On past a 220 position to Euvezin & Pannes Nonsard & the O. P. at Hendicourt. At the lodge all night; good hot fire.

Oct 28 Mon: Up late – good hot bath, good chow, toast in the sun. Came down thro Savonnières & Varvinay to St. Mihiel. Camp des Romains. Sampigny. Pont s/ Meuse & in.

Oct 29 Tues: In office all A.M. Topog. gang went up to play ball with observers. Presentation of Iron Cross to Mackall. 2nd Army asses continually phoning for fool stuff – C. of S. & I went to Woinville to look up new P.C. at Pig Center. The Gen. wants to get out to the FRONT – be Jesus. Warned the gang at the O.P. & when we arrived all glasses had observers on them. Visibility zero! Patrols behind all the bushes. Back thro. Chaillon, Varvinay & St. Mihiel.

Oct 30 Wed. A.M. in office. Austria howling for peace. To Langres in P.M. No one but an ill-mannered field clerk & a dirty orderly at office. Found a room at Hotel de l'Europe. Turned in early with the beginning of grippe & slept for 12 hours.

Oct 31 Thurs: Feeling punk. To Mme Vaillon for cup of coffee. Over to Staff College – saw Pope, Conely etc. got my knife. Was held up by Gray Q, & b-ached at. To Intell. School & got a place to make some notes in the midst of a hubbub of aimless childish bellyache. Hubbard came thro. with usual hot air on why he should be a corps G-2. Very tiresome, & too bad his head has swelled up so. He's a major now. (Got Wells to sign a letter recommending Jumbo for promotion, yesterday.) – Got no time to make notes & started lecture absolutely unprepared. Put it over & left at noon, leaving Sigerfoos' stuff at Staff College. To Chaumont & got stove, cot, & blankets, after severe b-ache from Valton family. Back at Boucq. at 3 P.M. & went to bed.

Nov 1 Fri. All Saints' day. Slept all night, had a sweat & a hot drink, & got up feeling better. Goodman here – Kistler was here yesterday but had to leave. We go to Woinville on Sunday. Turkey fell off the wagon to-day & Austria is howling for special armistice.

Nov 2 Sat. Usual rotten weather. Feeling a little better.

Nov 3 Sun: The move to Swine Heights takes place. Usual mess getting ready. Payne working like a nigger as usual. Installed in the Mairie – a damp stone bldg on the main street. Our room in chateau with the elite (the awful aide & the G's) Stole Jimmy Ullo's mattress. Dvorkin fixed things up in good shape & nearly ruined my raincoat camouflaging the window. Raining. (Goodman went out to 7th Div.) Jumbo went up to O.P. for the night. Wrote up reasons for boche withdrawal & had reconnaissance ordered. C. of S. worked up about it. All sorts of rumors about Austria having caved in. Turned in at midnight. Squabble with the – – – army about maps.

Nov 4 Mon: (F—Mrs. Murphy! – That's the 2nd prize!!) (John has only one foot. – You're lucky; your father had only 4 inches) A.M. "visit" from Gauthier of French mission. Up to 28th Div. at Hendicourt & saw Clendennin, "Gen" Hay & Sweeney. Their patrols held up, contrary to first rosy reports. Over to Envezin & saw Goodman & his crew, Grey BE & Avery. Back to Pig Center for chow. AUSTRIA HAS CAPITULATED. Armistice in effect at 3 P.M. The God damned wops are occupying Trent & Trieste; the bloody muts, bleating victory that others win for them. Bah. – P.M. walked up on hill & looked over the boche layout – heavy concrete houses & dugouts scattered through the woods. – Usual ridiculous phone performances with the great 2nd Army. Evening in office. – Good dope on withdrawal from prisoner who was a striker. – Move ordered for night of 7th.

Nov 5 Tues: Glyn & his mut due to-day, – but didn't come. Great consideration, after waiting all day for them. Fixed up stunts on them. In P.M. went out with Wells to Envezin. Long b-ache with Wittenmyer. Taylor going to G.H.Q. – On toward Mamey, but the goddamned old Winton went to hell 2 K out. The “best chauffeur in the world” looked under the hood to find what was the matter with the transmission. We walked back to Envezin, & got a machine back to Pigville. – Boche aviator came over and got the Essey balloon & sailed back directly over Envezin at about 500 feet, everybody shooting & yelling & doing everything but throw stones. – Got back & found that H.A. Thompson had been peeing down his leg and begging for dope. Wants to be wised up!!! He can go plumb to hell. – Our 1st Army going to beat hell; now only about 15 K. from Sedan.

Nov 6 Wed: Up at 6 & down to TOUL. Caught in troop movement & very late. Out to Saizerais but Mackall had left to see me. On to Mamey Martincourt & Limey. Woinville at noon. No Britishers. Bummed around all P.M. waiting for the rotters, who finally showed up at 5:30! No Glyn. Gen. Wagstaff, Col Butler, & Col Hutchinson (Gondrecourt schools) Took them to the sad sad dinner for Mme de Ligneville & my God, but it was a social affair. The pimp aide sat on my left. Hutch was on Sitting Bull's left, & nobody but Gauthier & the aide could talk to Mme de Ligneville. She had a peach of a time. After chow Cruikshank butted out ahead of the guests. I took them to the office & sent them up to the O.P. for the night. Why Glyn didn't send me word of some kind, Christ only knows.

Thurs Nov 7: Boche parle-mentarians reported on their way! Our troops reported in Sedan! Ta-ta-ta-ta-ta! Telegram from Foch about holding them at Div. P.C.'s. – Mackall wanted to know what code we are using! – A.M. conference over Muir's battle of Rembercourt, just at the time for the morning crap. Jumbo & I went up to Billy-sous-les-Côtes & on over to the Grande Franchée, Deuxnouds, Samorville, Spada, Maizey and St. M. In at 1:00 P.M. P.M. in office.

Nov 8 Fri: Boches parlementarians taken in by 4th French Army yesterday. Today reports are that everything is ready but day & hour. Jumbo & I to Apremont, St Aguant & Bois Brule. Looked over German lines. Excellent concrete works., 30 yd wide no man's land. In at 12. P.M. to Neufchateau thro. St Mihiel, Commercy, & Void. Roblee not there!! Got back at 10:30. Rumors of withdrawal again evident.

Nov 9 Sat: A.M. in office. Kaiser & Clown Quince abdicate! P.M. phoned 17th French Corps, got Belhomme on the wire. Macarel! C. of S. dragged me out to 28th & 7th Divs, making arrangements for attack, Bjornstad up to his tricks in the 7th – jockeying for best place. Heintzelman apparently aiding & abetting. Back at 6:30. Envezin got 12 duds while we were there.

Sun Nov 10: C. of S. woke me up at quarter of 2 to say F. O. 13 was to be carried out at 7 A.M! Went to sleep again & got up at 7:15 expecting a battle – nothing doing. 28th didn't attack at all – 7th went forward on left & forward & back on right; 92nd made 200 yds. towards Fréhaut Wood in a gallant dash, & the 17th & 32nd Fr. Corps sat tight. I went to 7th for dope & Millikin to 28th. Millikin found out about no attack there & we got word to Enochs at 11. First he had heard. The whole affair was completely bitched up & apparently no advance has been made. P.M. 28th reported placidly “all quiet”. We sat around like dubs, waiting for something to turn up. About

9 P.M. Duncan phoned that the Armistice had been signed, so everybody came in & began to tell dirty stories. We have orders to break through the Hindenburg line to-morrow. 28th Div. is going to put in 9 Bns. one behind the other, just east of Sachanssé. Got Oct. pay check.

Mon Nov 11: Heavy art. fire on left. Orders to cease operations at 11 A.M. have been received. Heavy fog again. (Kaiser has really abdicated. Clown Quince too.) It now (1 P.M.) turns out that 7th Div did not attack at all – this A.M., in spite of their orders. Our artillery kept up a good hot fire for the last hour and at 11 A.M. knocked off. THE WAR IS OVER. P.M. the gang went to Toul; to get wet goods to celebrate with.

Tues Nov 12: Took gang over to 17th French Corps & saw Belhomme, Malick, Ogen, & Letourneau. Glad to see the bunch again. Back at noon. P.M., the C. of S. took me out with the “best chauffeur in the world” & we had a hell of a time finding Bjornstad’s P.C. Got in the ditch & had to get a truck to haul us out. Thirty minutes later the boob took us off in the soft stuff again, & it turned out he had no chains. We strained a gut pushing her out & went on to Pont a Mousson & in at 7 P.M. Smith sent motorcycle down & I joined the gang at Hendicourt at 7:40. They were pretty well started then & we whooped it up till 1 A.M. (Ulio & Durell joined us about 10). Wolle danced & Johnston (Frdie the Pimp) played the piano. Duncan & the entire company “sang”. Ulio sent his car back for us. (3 girls went off on a tramp & the tramp died. So the stork brings the babies? What’s the matter, don’t they screw anymore? Somebody’s been buggered!

Wed Nov 13: Heard we might be in the “Army of Occupation” – 3rd Army; – 3rd and 4th Corps, & 6 divisions. To occupy Cologne, Coblenz & Mainz. Great secret at 2nd Army, but everybody knew it at Pig Center. (1, 2, 3, 4, 32, & 42 Divs.) – Started out early & went on a photo hunt to St Mihiel, Camp des Romains, Neufchateau & back. Saw Miss Flynn & took her for an hour’s ride. Saw Roblee. Back at 5.

Thurs Nov 14: Out in A.M. to see the G.P.F.’s at Lachaussee Lake. Back at 12. P.M. to Janbry & hill back of Xammes. Looked over Hindenburg line & Mon Plaisir farm & back at 5. P.M. conference about move.

Fri Nov 15: Machine laid up. Spent day clearing out old junk & burning up records.

Sat Nov 16: In to Toul & fixed up the loot dump. Had chow at the Bosquet. Dvorkin & his \$200 check – still uncashed. Big bunches of ex-prisoners coming in. Russians, Italians, French. Gang at the cage at Menil la Tour – cold but no longer hungry – every man had a blanket and a full belly. One guy had woman’s slippers, & his feet stuck out back for 3 inches. Another one had one wooden sabot and one woman’s slippers. Got Duncan back after much scrapping around – he had been ordered to Langres to Hubbard’s school. – Millikin left for 6th Div to be G-2. Didn’t want to go, when he had to. Had beefed around about not wanting to & I told the C. of S. when we were told to cut down our personnel. – Saw Doe (14) & Brett (06) at Toul.

Sun Nov 17: Went out to Dampvitoux, past Marienbois Farm – all shot up – on to Johnston’s & Hoskins’ cemetery where we blew the boche kitchens up past Hageville to Chambley (ammunition dump along road). Back thro. the Rembercourt gorge & down thro. Janluy,

Thiancourt, & in. Boche pillbox E of Mon Plaisir Farm. 3 direct hits on it & 1 bad boche smell coming out of the periscope pipe. Good shooting all around it. (Hoskins along)

Mon Nov 18: (Johnston along.) Out to Xammes & Charey. Excellent view N.W. over Hindenburg line – wire, tank-mines, lines of pill boxes. Dommartin & Dampvitoux in distance. Charey just where low ground ends. Cold as Greenland & wind blowing. Out to Mon Plaisir & the big whanger on the brow of the hill (big pillbox). On up to Chambley & over the former boche frontier (Deutsches Reich) to Gorze. Up the hill above Ancy – fine view of Metz & the Moselle. Down into Ancy & Ars into Moulins & up to Metz. Cheering kids & French flags everywhere. Vive l'Amérique. Crowds pulled down the boche statues in Metz to-day. Couldn't get in. Back & up the hill over Rozerieulles & ate chow along the wall looking down on Metz. On to Gravelotte, Regonville (2 French ex-prisoners) Vionville & Mais la Tour; old battlefields of 1870 well kept up. Just over line on French side, the French monument to their dead. Sad sight to have it away from the place it belongs in. On up to Conflans and on to Etain. Etain entirely in ruins. – Army picked it out from the map. Only 2 roofs left in the town. Rustled broom & shovel & Johnston & I & Jumbo dug out the office, incidentally cleaning up the artillery office for them. Our gang got in at dark. Set up shop. Rustlers identified all divisions on our front. 3rd corps, none. (See trick map) Slept in room cold as Greenland.

Tues Nov 19: Fine outdoor movie. Went out & looked over Hindenburg line – big concrete whangers everywhere. – Delay till 1 P.M. in move because Ulio didn't go to Andem le Boman till this A.M. Found town in ruins & we were finally sent to Joppecourt. Took Washburn & Jumbo and beat it to Verdun. Great scene to come in from the boche side, instead of looking out on it. Tank barriers behind Eix. Trees prepared for demolition. Usual pillboxes. Roads crowded with gangs working on them. Up to Ft Vaux – ground all cleared up – no feet or skulls lying around. On to Ravin de la Dame & Ravin de la Goulotte. Curious sensation to see the place deserted & no shells coming over. On to Bras & up road back of Beaumont & Waville, down to Azdunes. Seemed funny to be behind the Waville. Tank barriers everywhere; mostly R.R. irons bedded in concrete. Up through Billy sous Mangiennes & Spincourt & Xivry to Joppecourt. Good office – over G3, who kicks about the racket. Good billet over G-3 mess. Family of 4 had been slaves for 4 years. Little food & much hard work. The king of orderlies is on the blink – it turns out he hasn't had any chow for about a week. Chased him out for some chow. Took report to Longuyon (3rd Army). Saw Wms. & Hubbard. Back at 9.

Wed Nov 20: P.C. stayed at Joppécourt. To Aumetz, where populace had turned out to welcome Americans. Firemen & girls all dressed up. – Stopped us & climbed all over the machine. Struck up the Marseillaise, everybody cheered, women held up their babies, etc. “She'll be French now!” Overflowing with joy to be free of the bastardly boches. On to Esch sur Alzette, just over Luxembourg border beyond Audun le Tiche. Our troops just going in amidst enthusiasm & yells. Went on ahead of our advance guards & picked up trail of boches at Fenaage. A French speaking inhabitant took us in charge & we went in to Bettembourg, where he astounded his friends by appearing in a Cadillac. Boches had left 2 hours before. Got some identifications, went back & bought a goose for 20 francs (he promptly crapped on everything) & beat it. (Bill Kistler & I were out together). Back thro. Rumelange, where our advance guard was coming out, the point led by a brass band & a thousand people, including 1870 veterans. Great enthusiasm & lots of flowers. Everybody dressed up. – On to Mercy le Haut & saw

Duncan & then to Joppécourt, just as aide (Monkey) was finishing response (for old Sitting Bull) to the town parade in honor of Americans. – Rumor that Ulio has been canned. (Later said to be wrong) – Big crop of identifications for Army. Move to-morrow to Dudelange blocked by my kick & instead we go to Bettembourg, a pretty little town with plenty of accommodations for everybody.

Thurs. Nov 21: Move to Bettembourg. I went to Audun le Tiche & saw Gowenlock who had been very sick the night before – heart trouble. On to Esch & turned off through Lendelange to Luxembourg. Sneaked in the side gate & rode around. The city is in keeping with the country – beautifully well built & kept up. Pretty parts, fine streets & buildings. Had a 50 f. chow, – perfect mountains of food, which Kavanaugh & Nevins put away handily, – & then roamed around town. Butted in, with a be-whiskered Russian monjik, to what was apparently the office building of the tartest upper crust in the town. What we thought at first was the boche owner, turned out to be the butler, or something. Got some pictures out of the window as our troops passed. Rotten performance, troops tired & footsore, & lots of rookies. Punk marching. Bands playing wrong time tied them up all along line. Said “thank you to the millionaires, & beat it. Talk about nerve. On way back to Bettembourg, saw Hunt, C.A., now Col. of 18th Inf. Patch, 1913, is Lt Col. At Bettembourg, found our crowd in fine big quarters in school house. Good billet, but cold. Fine piano in office.

Fri Nov 22: M. le Baron at dinner last night. The monkey aide always bones up the nobility. Another move today, to Schuttrange. Why, God only knows. Left at 10 & went up to see the dump. G1 crowd standing around & of course the town was impossible. On up to Grevenmacher, where we met the “American”. He at once began Jesus Christing, & sons of bitching, etc, & took us to the mayor’s office. Had spent 12 years in the U. S., Montana, California, etc. – Welcoming crowd surrounded the auto & told us how glad they were to see us. (Picked up a couple of identifications on way). – Had some Bordeaux with the mayor & beat it down river almost to Remich. Beautiful country. Boches across the river struggling along & driving cattle with them. Crossed over to Schuttrange & of course found no one. Finally found that new P.C. was Hesperange & beat it over there. Met Washburn, & later Sitting Bull, but unfortunately Wash was still there & directed him properly. In to Hesperange. Inadequate billets, cramped office – all in one room in school building. – Dvorkin has lost the shoe bag. – Cold, small billet. Fine house for the mess.

Sat Nov 23: Up to army at Hollerich to kick. “No report from 4th Corps”. Got an apology & asked for passes. As a matter of fact, out of 54 identifications yesterday, we got 51. Poor Slats Hubbard has had no sleep for a week on account of our dope. Back to Hesperange & left in P.M. for Frisange, Remich, Grevenmacher, where Hoskins fixed it up to get a club room & piano. On to Roodt, Niederauven, & through Luxembourg, willy nilly, to get back home. Move to Greuenbacker ordered for to-morrow is revoked! Great G-1-ing and C. of S.-ing. Went to dinner at G-1 mess. Wooden Garr, Fresh Durell, Lubeck, smart alec Focken, Slimy Jones (Engrs.) Moore, L., Boob Coope & Bill Kistler. Jesus what a bunch. Ulio playing king of the court. Lubeck hailed the crullers as fried assholes, & presented sundry decorations to the disbursing Q.M., Maj. Moore. (Rectum brown, penis red, nipple pink, etc.) A sad, sad, party. (The great Wickman was also there, of course.) Party adjourned to Kistler’s house, & we howled till nearly midnight.

Sun Nov 24: Christmas frost all over the ground. Jumbo & I took a fine crisp al fresco up on the hill. Dvorkin is eating again – (breakfast of meat, rice pudding, coffee, bread, butter, potatoes, & something else heavy). P.M. went up to Luxembourg & got a hot bath in a big porcelain tub. Best time I've had for a long while. Smith's man Reynolds turned up & we put him to cleaning up the public privy.

Mon, Nov 25: Gen Neville ordered out of Duchess' chateau. Duchess got sore. Inspector sent down. Recommendation: Gen. Neville be ordered to spend at least one night at the chateau in order to satisfy the royal desires (!) – In office all day. Rainy & foggy. Dvorkin got a stove. Johnston got out the first issue of his paper.

Tues. Nov 26: We are to stay in Hesperange till Dec. 1. Another rainy day. – (The Lofty patriot ribbon, given by Congress to the guys who were held – contrary to orders, – in the P.I. after the Spanish war, until the insurrection broke out. Nearly an open mutiny over it, – everybody clamoring to get home.) Eggs are selling for 21 cents each in Luxembourg. Piece of chocolate 3" by 5", 15 fr. Two francs and a half = 2 marks here, although the French farther down have fixed the price at 1 mark = 70 centimes. Of course we let them pee all over us, & accept their outrageous prices. Guaranteeing the value of the mark for the boches! Gen. , during Argonne scrap happened to hear a conversation at Corps H.Q., dashed right back & moved Vidmer's regiment 9 kilometers into position before dark. At 2 A.M. he received the order to do this & attack at 5. As he was already there, it went off fine, & he was highly commended. Such stuff was common during the October phase of the Argonne battle.

Wed. Nov 27: Got out 1st issue of Bulletin last night. Hit the weather report for the 1st Div right on the nose. (second time) Went up to Luxembourg, saw Spalding (Wooden Godfrey) & got 100 fr. cashed. Back at noon. P.M., worked in office & walked.

Thurs Nov 28: Thanksgiving. Started for Arlon, but the feaze to get something for nothing stuck one of our party, & we went down to Thionville instead, much against my will. Arrived at noon & found everything shut. Had lunch in a Boche joint, & ate some heavy Boche chow for which we were well stung. (42 francs or 35 marks & we had turned in all our marks!) Went down the road & bummed & hung around till 2 P.M. & of course there was a long line at the bank. So we beat it, much to Jumbo's disgust. (Money, money, money – such feazing makes me tired – as if the end & aim of everything was to get money.) We went out through Hayingen – just one big iron works after the other all the way thro. Fontoy (Feutsch) to the French border. Andem la Roman – burned in 1914 – to Mercy le Haut. Found Duncan out & started back through Morfontauil. Followed a truck with a – – S.O.B. of a deaf driver for 7 kilometers, & only got by by shooting off Sgt Nevin's pistol. Gave him a good cussing out & went on to Anmetz, Oetrange, Bettembourg & in. Dark at 4:30 these days. Thanksgiving dinner of chicken, with the 2 aides the star performers. The Tilghman hog & the Boale mouth gargler & arm-leaner. Someday I'm going to leap onto that bastard & cuss him out.

Fri Nov 29: d'Avila in yesterday & asked me down to chow with 17th Corps. Took the c-t-tickler (Gauthier) & a Capt. Vincent along & had chow. Many changes in the Corps staff – only 8 left of original crowd – Jung, Malick, Jeandet (now married) Urdy, Mamelie, Belhomme, d'Avila, Danty. Saw Vignon, of aviation, also. Good lively crowd, but not so noisy as formerly.

Belhomme now a serious guy. (Ils restent "en carafe" à Thionville.) Got check cashed by little Cdt. of Trésor et Postes who used to be at Lempire & got 1000 francs changed to 1428 marks at the bank. Many returning French prisoners telling their woes & getting French money for Boche. Went up to the Feste Gendringen, a massive work on a hill west of Thionville. 4 105 gun turrets (set too closely together, by the way) & the usual elaborate wire, pickets, iron fences, etc. Fine view of Thionville. Usual tiresome trip looking through. Nice modern plumbing & fixtures, tiled bathrooms, porcelain tubs, etc. Like a N.Y. hotel lavatory. (Contrast with French sanitary arrangements at Douaumont) Back with the Tickler at 5 P.M. In office before chow – walked – Back for the evening.

Sat Nov 30: Up to Luxembourg & changed marks back to francs (1000 fr = 1400 m = 1217 fr.) Saw Spalding & Williams, who seems to be in a haze over what is expected of G-2, Corps. Got some lace, etc. (1m. = 1.20 fr!) and saw my picture in Le Miroir in a shop window – picture of poste de Guetteur. Back at noon. Duncan in, sick with the flu. We go to Grevenmacher tomorrow – when the 3rd Army crosses the line into Germany!

Sun Dec 1: Usual delay on spotting trucks. Off, after another call from Wms about the false alarm proclamations. Turned them in at 9:00 with a first report on "attitude of German pop." & went on to Grevenmacher. On up left bank of Moselle to Wasserbillig & over the brücke into GERMANY – LA BOCHIE – American troops moving up on both banks. Looked good. People everywhere were very quiet. All dressed up for Sunday, & standing around curiously watching our men pass. No animosity shown. The kids all had Boche caps on, and were much pleased to see our soldiers as they would have been any soldiers, I suppose. Up past the Trier flying field & Zeppelin shed, & over the bridge, blown by the French in 1689 into Trier, one of the oldest towns in Bochie. Saw the Porta Nigra, old Roman gate, & the cathedral of the archbishops, & Constantine's red brick abomination & pulled out. Municipal guards, ex-soldiers, standing around to keep order. Only demonstration was when one kid threw a rock at the machine. On way out to Feyen, met our troops coming in, so turned out & got a puncture! Up over a good road to the top of the ridge & along it to Pellingen when we scratched a dog, were gazed at by a million kids & the rest of the town & had chow. (fresh pork, butter, bread, preserves, ersatz coffee) On to Nieder Zeif & turned west to Saarburg. Beautiful old place with its robber castle perched on a hill. Entered town over bridge & through a tunnel. Passed Blub-blub Howze & turned up through Ayl to Taivern & Fellerichs & down a long steep hill in Temmels. Usual trouble passing trucks with deaf, blind, & dumb drivers. Back at Grevenmacher at 6, & after chow, got Johnston & the gang went over & operated on 1 piano, 8 bottles Moselle wine & some fiambres, & howled & told dirty stories. Great stuff. Good billet, from which Dvorkin threw out a major doctor.

Mon Dec. 2: Started out with Osann & Washburn & went up to Trier and on up right bank to Schweich a dreary looking dump, our next P.C. Back toward Trier & turned off to Hermeskeil, as usual on top of a hog-back. (Had seen the burgomeister and gemeindevorstcher at Schweich) At Hermeskiel looked up the burgo; a young fellow who seemed on the job, & had a pile of rifles & junk turned in. Chow at the hotel – soup, fine piece of steak, potatoes, ersatz stew, & coffee. Washburn supplied the music with the meal. Soldiers & workmen's council requested audience with the oberst leutnant, but got turned down. Tried to make themselves solid by chasing the kids away from the machine. On to Nonnweiler, after coughing up 24 marks, & saw the SOB

burgomeister, who sucked on a pipe & tried to look indifferent. I could have pasted the bastard one with great glee. He was a typical savage, bowel-less, brutal, grouchy, sullen boche son-of-a-bitch. He got up and bowed when we left, – I was hoping he wouldn't so I could get into him for it. Got the dope, on to Mettnich Muhlfeld (where we ran into the French), Dagstuhl (where we put gas in the tank with a sprinkling can), Weisskirchen & Niederzerf; then ran into 3rd Div. which was jammed for 20 miles between Nieder Zerf & Saarburg. (Tractor pulling teams up hill). On to Ayl, Tawern & Temmels & in to Grevenmacher in time for chow.

Tues Dec 3: Another move. To SCHWEICH. Got stuff off & said goodbye at billet. (Dvorkin hustled around & got marks changed to francs). Down to Wormellange & over the bridge to Wincheringen, Körrig & Karle to Saarburg. Looked around the old town, went up on the hill & saw the ruins. Great sight to see the Yanks winding along the roads & over the bridge & out in the distance. Had chow in a hotel & demanded francs in change. Got them, too. Got talking to a boche, who whined about how they had to “suffer” by having an army of occupation in their country. The god damned bugger. Compare what their army did in France with what ours is doing in Germany – (Big St. Bernard at Tawern – 112 lbs. & 15 mos. old.) Up through Ayl to Trier, crossed over & up west bank to Schweich. All American town major had nothing ready, of course. We are in a school building again. Found the mess finally by good luck. The god damned little shit of an aide of course can't notify anybody. Took a walk with Kistler. Scoop now “helping out” G-1. God save us all. Back of our office is one tremendous pile of shit. Shit everywhere.

Wed Dec 4: Stirred up the shit inspector and G-1, and H.Q. troop cmdr. etc. (inc. the topographies) and got some latrines in. Went out with Kistler & Maj. Stewart, ex-polo player & now remount officer. To Wittlieb, where 16th Inf band was playing for the boches, and on up to Höllenthal, with its robber castle perched on the hill. Over the Moselle to Bullay & down to Zell. Steep hills everywhere covered from top to bottom with vineyards. Fine towns all along the river. Looked around Zell & went on to Pünderich, around a big bend & only a step from Bullay. Down to Trarback & crossed to Tralen, where we chowed at an excellent hotel, all alone. Pork loin, spinach, kartoffeln, soup, & dessert, with Pièsportec wine (about 6 marks each for the chow.) (My German held up under all strains). Up over the hills, back of Kinheim & back down to Kinderbenern (only good road.) Came home through Wittlich & Dorback. Heavy fog. General impression of Moselle country – steep hills, crowned with ruins of old robber strongholds, beautifully cultivated vineyards, winding stream, somewhat like Hudson in the Highlands. People all friendly, most of them nodded or waved or saluted. Swarms of kids everywhere.

Thurs Dec 5: Got a fairly early start, – Dvorkin digging us out at 6:20, so dopey he could hardly stand – and pulled out at 7:30, with Jumbo and Osann (for the last time) Through Hetzerath to Novian & Osann, where a truck had slid down a ravine 25 ft. deep when a culvert broke. Iron rail held them and let them down easily. We went over & on to Berncastel. Heavy fog. Up the Berncastel hill to Longkamp (founded by Turenne's men) & Morbach. The 3rd division, of course, had not arrived, so we went on up to Büchenbeuren & O. showed off to the burgomaster. People pretty sullen here. On to Kappel & dug out the gemeinde-vorsteher. All this country is rolling upland, alternating well laid out pine forests – thick straight, & black, with big patches of well cultivated fields. Fogs & clouds hang low over it & everything is damp & mossy. The

woods are black, green, & brown. The villages are typically boche – 1st story stone, 2nd story stone & wooden beams, with slate roofs running to a point. From Kappel to Zell the road was lined with dead horses, partly cut up for chow. (Asked a man the way, & O. told him not to talk to us, as we couldn't speak or understand anything. He acted quite boche today, himself.) Down the mountains into Zell – & along the river to Traben, then over the hill to Berncastel. Had chow on top of the hill – cold beans, salmon, & bread – (O. deigning to cut the bread.) (Got some cigaretten-spitzen in Berncastel in the A.M.) Crossed & got held up in road jam at Cues & did not get back till 4:30 – dark. (Osann let me stagger in under a load of junk while he stood by & watched. I said nothing, just to see how far he would go. He is going some distance if I get a good chance.) – The usual contortions over getting out the bulletin. The usual ill-mannered performances of the monkey aide at chow – elbow in my plate, face-coughing, tooth-picking, etc. Decided to get out & eat with a boche family at the first opportunity.

Fri. Dec 6: Last day in Schweich. Put in the day in the office, doping out the Bulletin, etc. Many requests coming in for it. Prickman objects to anything reflecting on Germany! Old Pisspot says maybe because it would look like helping the French propaganda. Had a bath over in the nun's hospital at noon & boiled off a few layers. P.M. milled in the office & took a walk. – Turned the boys out at 8 this A.M. for some setting up & drill. Enochs loaned his car for the morning – old Pisspot took mine, & his orderly drove it, incidentally raising hell with the rims on two wheels.

Sat, Dec 7: Turned out at dawn & found at 7 A.M. that the car was out of whack through the bum driving of the orderly chauffeur. Finally got away at 9:15 & went down to Trier on east bank. Only one jam, no signs of getting held up anywhere. Found a bookstore & bought a German history & some cards. Went up to Bitburg, but the fog was so thick we could see nothing at all. Saw Windy Williams, and listened to his bazoo for an hour. (Man with hook worm who sat on his own balls – too lazy to get up.) Slat's Hubbard looks ready to cash in with the con. Left at noon via Erdorf & Gendorf & Badém. Oberkail – Eisenschmidt to Mandersheid. Going out of latter place ran down steep hill into valley with most picturesque & typical robber baron castle ruins. Rough, jagged peaks stick up out of valley floor, stream on one side, defile on the other – moss on rocks & crumbling walls, with the mist up the valley made it a picture to remember. Tucked away in a little valley & on small enough scale to understand it was a vivid presentation of the old times when all the roads weren't healthy. No time to climb around. On to Hasbom after getting lost & poking around for some time. Good road to Hontheim & down to Bertrich, which turned out to be a swell cure – hotels, gardens, summer houses, walks, ponds, etc. etc. strung along a pretty valley. Fine road to Alf at the river, through a real canyon. Must come on a good day. Made Zell just after dark & met trucks just coming in. The King cursed hell out of some dignitary at our billet, which is connected with the Burgomeisterei, & made him step around. As usual, got a room for himself & Nevins.

Sun Dec 8: Down at 8 & looked over the observers who were slimy. Sent whole enlisted force out for a hike & left at 9:45 with Kistler & Stewart in a rotten little Dodge with a wide-eared chauffeur. Crossed at Bullay & went up by the river road to Cochem. Quaint towns all along, with the usual steep hillsides covered to the top with vineyards. Beautiful sight rounding the turn above Cochem as the castle on its rock comes into view. Big hotel town. Went down river to Klotten & climbed the hill back to Landkern, the Dodge making heavy weather of it. To

Kaisersesch & then south to Driesch & Lutzerath, crossing the Endert through a steep gorge. The 32nd moving up here; – pretty bum looking gang. Down into the Uess valley & through Bertrich to Alf & Zell (2:30 P.M.). Cleaned up desk and climbed hill back of town, very steep & about 1000 ft. up. Some digging to get up. View marred by the fog. – Scoop has been made billeting officer, & Tyson, Harrington (town major) & Wickman have all been canned as a bunch of liars. Fine business. We go to Cochem to-morrow A.M.

Mon Dec. 9: Turned out to get an early start & did manage to leave at 7:50. Up the hill to Kappel & on to Kirchberg, then up to Simmern. Country all the same over there. Osann had already been here. On up to Saubach where he had also stopped, and then due north to Boppard on the Rhine. Weather cleared a little, but not enough to give us a decent view of the Rhine valley. Down the big Boppard hill & into town. Apparently the first U.S. cars in, as we created quite a sensation. Got our first glimpse of the Rhine down a side street. Rode around town & then went up the river on the Koblenzer Strasse. Fine old fortress at Braubach opposite Brey, only one left undestroyed on the Rhine; now in the hands of the Styre Society. On to Rheus with its interesting old gate & walls & houses with queer decorations. Into Koblenz about noon & saw the Rhine promenade & the Kaiser Wilhelm statue at the junction of the Moselle & the Rhine. A colossal barbarian pile of stone with an immense figure on top. We could well imagine a horde of hairy huns building it. The embodiment of barbaric power, & pitiless might. Crossed Moselle & went out via Metternich to Wolker, where we invaded a private house, muddied the floor, banged the piano, ordered the people to cook chow, treated the daughter of the house as if she were a servant, – and, after drinking their wine & coffee etc, found we couldn't pay them a cent! Wollé then offered the daughter 2 marks, still thinking her the servant. We left a can of chocolates and beat it with our tails between our legs. Almost ran over the ducks getting away. The people were apparently very well to do farmers. On to Polch & back to the river road – a rather punk one, at Hatzenport. Good road at Pommern & breezed on in. Office in school building; G-3 (Scoop) has a fine big house for office, mess, & billets. Had chow in their mess. Got a good billet with a tub in next room. Jumbo got a big room in the hotel.

Tues. Dec 10: Went up to the chateau for breakfast & walked old C-tickler into a semi-collapse on the way up. Booby Garr is now in the mess, adding one more intellectual joy to our brilliant assemblage. The fart aide was more obnoxious than ever. He saws his toast with a fork, & never cuts it with a knife. Beautiful view from the castle up & down river & over the town. Restored about 50 years ago & although the heavy metal work was replaced by wood in many cases, it is still a very imposing pile. – Washburn left for Paris to play in tournament. – Two sheeny “envoys” in from Frankfort to see Conger. Just a pair of dirty jews who could be bought for 10 dollars. Passed them on. Looked up a house for G-2, & found one just up the street. Up to castle for lunch. Gen. Craig, Army C. of S. there. Satchelass made himself ridiculous, of course. Craig said that the French had out an order, day before Thanksgiving, to put entire. A.E. F. on labor work – factories, roads, etc. Also that our divisions are to go to French corps so that theirs can come to ours. In P.M. W.D. Smith, & Uhl dropped in & chewed the rag. Photographic officers reported. The aide becomes more and more repulsive.

Wed. Dec 11: Fairly clear in A.M. Waited around till 11 A.M. before I could get hold of Nevins. Hoskins went along. Up river to Treis & crossed on pontoon bridge. River boat nearly

ran into it. Down right bank all the way to Coblenz. One puncture & many wagons. Held up at gate, but got in & saw Ray & Spalding by taking Sgt. of the guard on the car. Prickman has apparently been assigned guard duty by Craig, & is raising hell. Just about his size. Tobacco chewing tough guy of a capt. at gate, who pulled a gun on a boche who did not stock his wagon, though he hadn't been warned to. Rode around & crossed river for Hoskins' identifications & then on down the road. Had a can of salmon along the road & came down through Kaiser's Esch & Landkern & in the back way to Cochem. Didn't go to chow & so missed the tooth sucker's antics. Had a hot bath.

Thurs Dec 12: Up at 5:30 and out with Jumbo to look over the reveille formation & messing. The Swede Brauth turned out with 2 dopey lieutenants, & had a ½-assed formation. Quite surprised to see us there. Wandered around to the mess & saw the rotten conditions there. Then went up to breakfast & listened to old Sitting Bull suck his teeth. Left for Mayen at 10 via Kaiser's Esch. Beautiful valley & old ruins at Monreal, where road loops down several 100 feet. Saw Windy Williams, Slats, & the Shirt; got nothing and came back. Chowd at G-3. Put in P.M. in office trying to get ahead of the pile of papers. – Prickman objects to “war risk ins.” stuff – “sitting in the Y.M.C.A. with piano playing in my uniform.”!!! The one about 8 days in bed with the Dr. was O.K. !!! SHIT. After chow Wms called about suppressing the propaganda sheet Hoskins discovered, & Wells cussed him out about the “piano playing in my uniform” – Trying to clear up; dim moonlight.

Fri Dec 13: Bad day for Germany; our troops crossing the Rhine this A.M. All day in office clearing up stuff. Caesar Prickman & “aide” Dumont in to lunch; usual hot air passed around. – Duncan came up & after chow we got Bill Kistler and the gang went over to the new house & banged the box & howled. Johnston & Hoskins both sick with the grippe. Prowled around Union Hotel with Duncan trying to find Hoskins' room.

Sat Dec. 14: Mild day like the first of May. In office all A.M. (Denson at lunch) Satchelass more objectionable than ever. The great tea was pulled off at 3 P.M. & we all streaked up. Kel, the Landrat's dog came along after a good scratch & was rewarded with 3 egg sandwiches & some cake. Waited for us after the show, letting all the others go by, & showed his pleasure at seeing us again by letting a loud tight fart. Carries 4 gallons in his bladder at lowest estimate. Great scratcher. Duncan sang after we had eaten some chow. Dubbed around office in evening.

Sun Dec 15: Started at 8:30 with Jumbo & Duncan for Mayen. A little occasional sunshine today. 42nd Div. along the road. Shoes in bad shape. No one at Mayen, although they had not yet opened in Coblenz. On up to the Laacher See – a pretty crater lake. A 1093 monastery near by. They were gelding a monk for tenor when we blew in. Great performance over the tall monk who had let a fart in church the Sunday before. Gave him hell for half an hour. The guy who pitched his hat around. Nobody muffed it. – Pulled out & stopped at a mill-stone quarry with its big unwieldy windlass, & deep dugout entrance. On to Weissen – Thursm – with the archbish. of Trier's O.P. tower & in to Coblenz. Saw the army G-2 crowd, inc. Baird & Stern, & looked up Herr Direktor of the Gymnasia. Arranged for a boat. Down to Kappellen for a can of beans. Eddie Greble – Col. – & his artillery regt. went by in grand pomp, band playing. Went to boat house & picked out a boat. Kid there who was in 255th Div. Back home thro. Metternich, etc.

Saw T. L. Hunt at Coblenzer Hof, & O.E. Hunt in street; his brigade just coming in. – The army stiff had been at Cochem for lunch. – Got off a long letter to Dad. – One letter from Win today.

Mon Dec 16: In office all A.M. Machine going into shop for repairs. Hunt O.E. here for chow. Enochs out, so I was C. of S. for the afternoon – Calmed the Landrat about the ejection of the Klotten burgomaster. – Had a Boche lesson at 4:30 & took Jumbo up to chow. The monkey aide performed as never before; old Sitting Bull rumbled up a few belches. Booby Garr said nothing. Great stuff.

Tues Dec 17: In office all day. Found that there are probably a lot of boats at Sebl, 5 minutes from here! Fuss with the – Durell over stoves in new office. Got after Garr & had him attended to. – Boche lesson in P.M. Dubbed around.

Wed Dec 18: S.A. HOWARD was G-2, 28th Div. for a while & made a big rep for cold feet & inefficiency. His conception of his job was writing up the action after it happened. Always to be found in his dugout. Information required about Vesle river, right in front of outposts. Howard goes to French Army at Chateau Thierry & asks them for it. Promised the dope in 6 or 7 days. After 8 days some dope came in, when it was of course too late to use it. Question – What of Gen. Muir's responsibility? He didn't know what a G2 ought to do. What of corps G-2 not canning Howard? Everybody hated the bugger & transferred out whenever possible. Howard directly responsible for many deaths in front of Vesle river through lack of information about depth & width. – Rainy again. – Usual day in office. Moved over to new office & left G2 C in old building. Considerable fuss with billeting officer & Q.M. over stoves, bedding, rooms locked, etc. – Songfest in "music room."

Thurs Dec 19: Rainy of course. Went down to Sehl and found some 4 oared shells, one in good shape. Of course, Enochs dropped out in P.M. & the crew fizzled. Going to take Kistler, Smith & Kavanaugh from now on. – Jumbo and I climbed the bugger of a hill west of Cochem Burg. Bulletin creating attention for itself back to Trier ("Stilwell is all right in a battle, but when it's over, he will play.")

Fri Dec 20: Tired every morning for some reason or other. Jumbo has sleeping sickness, too. My feet still covered with chilblains, although an occasional washing is helping them. Car still laid up – 3 days. – Called Savage about his rotten summary & stirred him up on organization of his div. sector. – Xmas bulletin coming along fast. – P.M. went down to row – Smith finally showed up & we got out in the 4 shell. Smith can't row & never could, & damn near swamped us. (Kavanaugh 1, Smith 2, Kistler 3, I stroke.) Ticklish job getting boat in & out of the water. Good exercise for about 30 minutes or so. – Had German lesson at 1, Fräulein Lichtentäl going home for Xmas, Back Jan 2. Am just beginning to hive some of this lingo. – After chow, got together and had a farewell party for Osann; loud & long. Wolle was in rare shape. Broke up at midnight. – Washburn back from Paris; got beaten by some one-legged frog in the third round. – Pershing coming to-morrow at noon, and the monkey aide is all in a flutter. Obnoxious little animal.

Sat Dec 21: Johnston has a headache. Violent discussion at breakfast with Sitting Bull on G-2 work in the war. Office in A.M. Up to lunch at 12 but Pershing did not arrive till 2. Dubbed

around till he came, the monkey aide peeing down both legs. P. Brown Quekemeyer, B.G. Smith & 2 hangers-on. Going up to Coblenz. No dope out of anyone. Ate too much, being hungry & escaped at 3:15, ran down hill & met crew coming back. Rushed around & put the boat in about 3:45 & had a short row. Nearly puked up my lunch, I had been so hurried. Miles (G-3) rowed bow to-day & Kavanaugh #2. River is higher. Ate no supper. Quek. says everything possible was done to get the whole bridge-head for the Americans, but it could not be done. – Took designs for 4th corps device to C. of S. Cruikshank agrees on our choice, but old Shitting Bull will probably insist on Satchelass's sewer entrance instead.

Sun Dec.22: Shortest day in the year – light about 7:15 – dark about 3:45. Had lights going at 2:15 in office. Rained most of day. Jumbo got snotty & wouldn't row. Had to walk, but wouldn't do it till rowing time, when he just walked along the bank alongside of us. Made me good & mad. Kavanaugh was coxswain, Miles bow, Smith 2, Kistler 3, I stroke. Got going together fairly well. In at 4 & in office till chow. Snowing when I went to supper. Story-telling party till 10. Farewell to Osann. Johnston imitated Margaret Wilson, dressed in a sheet. Osann's story of Pop Savage, Dr. Beukes & the rooky with a bone-on. "Wonder who he means, doc, you or me?"

Mon Dec. 23: Osann left for Coblenz. – The great ½ set of false teeth emblem will be adopted! Christ save us. – Left at 10 for 4th Div. by river road. Saw Savage at Bertrich; also Caffery. Back through Lutzerath & down the hill back of Cochem, – (20 min. & 10 kil. Shorter.) P.M. in office. Long walk up river with Jumbo & back down the R.R. track. Hoffman has pneumonia.

Tues Dec 24: Off at 9 with Metcalf, Johnston, & Wolle, & Washburn to Mayen. Clear, sunshiny day. At Mayen, dropped Washburn & found that 3rd Div is at Andernach! Went over & found Spencer, who has been at Toul with chicken-pox. The hospital was full of holes and all the inmates took trips to Metz, Nancy, Paris, or wherever they damn well pleased. Down to Coblenz, saw McCaskey, Stern, Morris & Baird & found that Slat's Hubbard, the living skeleton, had gone to the States, giving us no chance to send a word. The slab-sided S.O.B. Bought a doily, & left. Stopped at Metternich for a 1 mark meal of beans, corned willy, & ersatz coffee & went on to Mayen. Got Washburn & came in. Very cold riding. →Hoffman died at 5 this A.M.← A most willing, good-hearted, likable fellow. Pneumonia got his goat & he sailed off in no time. Everything arranged for funeral on Thursday. Took a walk with Jumbo. Electric cross on top of castle very effective. →Kid about 2 years old at Metternich who yelled NACH PARIS!!← A lot of G.P.F.'s in towns along the Rhine. Look good and business like.

Wed Dec 25, Christmas: The Christmas number of the Bulletin made a big hit; everyone asking for more copies. Snow this A.M., started last night. The old boche Gott seems to remember them. Slept late. In office in A.M. Dinner at noon at the castle – Gens. Hershey & Flagler with Bach & Hughes (C. of S.) in as guests. Satchelass in his element, directing & blowing a whistle, although his helper, the orderly in armor, came in & fessed out. Satchelass marshalled the crew for movies & I beat it. ("Who hocked the Kaiser? You, Gen. Muir!") O, SHIT. Crossed to Kond on ferry & walked till dark. River way up again. Celebration for the enlisted men after chow. They got together & punished the refreshments & sang & danced. Wolle gave them an exhibition. Had to order O.P. Smith into bed. Big time for the men.

Thurs Dec 26: All hands turned out at 10:45 and went to Hoffman's funeral. Queer to have the service in Yiddish & German (only rabbi available was a boche), but the corps chaplain finished up in English & saved the situation. In P.M. Jumbo & I crossed at Cond & walked up the hill beyond town. Muddy, slushy, & dreary outlook. Turned in early & got a night's sleep.

Fri Dec 27: Letters yesterday from Dad and Win. A.M. puttered around office. The gros legumes were out to lunch, & the aides too, Thank God. (We had beans & prunes.) – C. of S. has canned Armitage, Brauth, Nunn, & Adenoid Hay, and a damn good job. Tho. why he doesn't include the long-legged dunce I don't know. A prize boob. – On way to lunch, the c-tickler whipped out & let fly on the wall not 100 yards from the castle gate!!! Sorted out all the air photos and took a walk in the sleet. Stung like needles. Had Tell, the landrat's dog along. Gave him a big chow of stale cake & sandwiches. Gen. Ed. King's aide was at chow – a former sonofabitch from the Phil. City Troop, & he said "swank" & "swanky" like any god-damned English imitator. Sat around b-aching till 11.

Sat Dec 28: Wolle to Schweich. Usual day at office. Did not go to lunch. Jumbo & I crossed to Cond & climbed the hill back of it, looking down on Cochem castle. Kept along heights to beyond Cond & came down thro. town. Ate too much chow at supper and nearly puked it. Hot bath.

Sun Dec 29: Jumbo arranged last night for the boar hunt. All hunting strictly taboo, but old Sitting Bull is winking at this party. Hausman the banker is getting the thing up & promises a successful day. – Wild rumor to effect that we relieve the 3rd Corps on Jan 17 & that the 3rd goes home. We to be relieved by the 7th & then go home ourselves!!! Took a long walk up on hill back of castle; – many deer tracks. Beautiful colors on the hills, Maxfield Parrish stuff. – Buffet supper at mess. Sitting Bull, the HOST, never opened his trap except to feed it. The "swanky" aide was there, of course, as well as Booby Smith, Dunce Garr, & the "Services." A star bunch. Cpt. Sacklet played, & the 51st Pioneer jazz band tore things up.

Mon Dec. 30: At 9, left for the big hunt. Crowd of crap-hounds and Hun beaters with feathers in their hats & guns in front of G-2 crabbed the game, but we stuck the banker (Hausman) & his gang in the truck and battened down the rear end. Jumbo & I & Dvorkin went in the Cadillac. Out past Faïd, where we got off & began the big hunt. Nothing doing on the 1st "Hop Hop"! and on the 2nd Heesacker got a small deer. On the 3rd change we put down a barrage on a hare & a fox that would have felled anything slower than lightning, but the game was too fast. The fox went so fast I couldn't get my gun up before he was by. Wick shot at a tired hare with his gun resting against a tree, but missed. We adjourned for chow; roast potatoes & canned stuff, and the banker's private brand of wine. Dvorkin ate & drank himself into a stupor. "Nat Wills", the beater, ate a full can of beans & went off happy with a can of corned willy in one pocket. The jaeger – green suit, shaving brush in hat, gilt double eagle & all, also enjoyed some white bread. The banker & his kid acted like real people & the party was quite a success. After lunch the assorted pack of flea hounds & other mongrels got busy again & ran out a deer which Jumbo nicked. We came home with the banker's gang well camouflaged & Dvorkin came in with blood & guts all over him. He had the skin off the deer, though. (Took the venison up to the mess.)

Tues Dec 31: To Coblenz in A.M. and saw Williams about the great tunnel. Reassuring news!!! Osann back from Hosp. – O.K. – Was at No. 2 in Coblenz. In office all day. Party in P.M. to welcome in the New Year. Smith got lit & played cave man with Wolle. Johnston imitated Marg. Wilson & even Hoskins came for a while.

(Following are notes from diary #18 which ends at February 10, 1918.)

“Put chloride of lime in our urinals? Nix, the water would taste of it.”

“Co-operate in preventing defecating in streets? No, the streets belong to the people & they must not be restricted in their rights.” Mayor of St. Aignan.

Write more @ Swayne, Area comdr. “Yes, it’s very difficult, isn’t it?” @ Fawcett, town major “Well now, I can’t tell you.” Blowes → “Really, you’d better go back to Paris. ≠ Fr. Sta. agent at Noyon, & Fr. Post. Off., & Fr. Chauffeur, etc.

Swayne’s hosp. offer of the phone. There’s the phone, but it never does any good.

E.² Lewis reported to a 2 wks. Lt. Col.

U.S. off. in Astor, trying to be friendly to Eng. off. “I’m so-&-so U.S.A.” holding out his hand. “Aoh! Are you?”

Greaser & Ella 2 tramps.

“Col.” reporting for duty turned out to be a lieut (Dr.) Dealer pushed out a tray of insignia & said take your choice. He chose eagles.

Rice (Maj.) met a man with maj. leaves on (Gas Dept.) who did not know what the rank was.

Q.M. capt. on board had never heard of the Q.M. manual.

Ulen Terry in 57 when Lus. went down. Warned by wire “For God’s sake, don’t go on L. – Friend.” Changed on day of sailing. L. sunk 12 hrs. ahead of N.Y. Left port 2 hrs after her.

N.Y. torpedoed in Apr. 15 mi. off mouth of Mersey. Hole 70’ x 150’. In snowstorm. Towed in to Liverpool.

Last trip missed torpedo by @ 20’

Our N.Y. gun crew killed 3 men on one of the destroyers.