



THE
AIR FORCE
DIARY

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THE AIR FORCE DIARY

1944

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PERSONAL MEMORANDA

Name HARVEY A. SGT.
 Service No. 1819187
 Mess No.
 Pass No. 1797652 103087
 Stationed at win
 Home Address DEENETHORPE
DEENE
KETTERING
 Dates of Promotion 16 OCT - 43
 Our Number
 Driving License Expires
 Insurance Expires
 Weight 12 stone 5 lb. on 15-1-43
 Station Phone No. 242
 Home Phone No.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NAME	TELEPHONE
Sgt <u>BETHA M</u>	<u>63885 LEEDS</u>
<u>DEENE HALL</u>	<u>273 BULWICK</u>
<u>Miss C. Williams</u> (WARR)	<u>AMBASSADOR 1212</u> <u>EXTENSION 152</u>
<u>Sam Kerr</u>	<u>Chester Leg Street</u> <u>2261</u>

ADDRESSES

10.38 a.m. Sheffield
from Bethering

21 Bryant's Bridge

Eccles.

Quidlinha

Worwick

Norfolk.

St. Margarets

Little Stukeley

Hunts.

1944

JANUARY

59 Baker St
Small Heath
Birmingham

10

Church Rd

Wilby

Quidlinha

Worwick

Norfolk.

SATURDAY

1

at 8.30 U.T.V. Peplow
last trip at night

JANUARY

1944

SUNDAY

2

1944

JANUARY

MONDAY

3

getting cleared
from Peplow

Went to Slawbury
got back at 0230hrs

THURSDAY

6

arrived Home 1.00

Leave

TUESDAY

4

ditto

went to Wellington
at night

FRIDAY

7

Leave

WEDNESDAY

5

Home on leave.
stayed at Bunkers &
Deby all night.

SATURDAY

8

Leave

JANUARY

1944

SUNDAY

9

MONDAY

10

TUESDAY

11

WEDNESDAY

12

1944

JANUARY

THURSDAY

13

FRIDAY

14

SATURDAY

15

leave

leave

JANUARY

1944

SUNDAY

16

Aunt May & Uncle George
 with a dog came to see
 us
 Aunt Annie & Uncle David

MONDAY

17

Last day of leave

TUESDAY

18

arrived at Sudholme
 Bed at Luff past one
 bed up.

WEDNESDAY

19

Quiet day, raining.
 settling down
 wrote three letters

1944

JANUARY

THURSDAY

20

~~got~~ Kitted up.
 Packed up ready to
 leave again

FRIDAY

21

Packed ~~at~~ 4.18.
 Travelled by road to
 Henswell.
 arrived 4.30pm.

SATURDAY

22

Day off. got up at 8.45.
 Went to Lincoln
 at 13.30.
 Saw 'My Civil Servant'

JANUARY

1944

SUNDAY

23

Got up at 0800
at 1000. dinner
played cards

MONDAY

24

lectures
Went to post office
playing cards
till 2.30.

TUESDAY

25

Had photos taken
Went to Gen's bar at
night not clear
WARRS

WEDNESDAY

26

lectures
Went to post office
Gen's bar

BCC Digital Archive

1944

JANUARY

Went to church parade
on army. rest of day off
night was 30/-

THURSDAY

27

Very easy day
stop in all night
Had a date with Tom
but never kept it
Had a drink in the mess with Stan

FRIDAY

28

another easy day
went to Casbar with Bill
saw "Hellions" & "Lakes"
no women
letter from Con & answered

SATURDAY

29

stay in bed until 1100
went to lunch at 1.30 with Bill
saw "Slightly Dangerous"
met two girls (Beverly & Paul)
had a nice time with Stan

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 1944

SUNDAY church parade 30
 Lecture in afternoon

Went to Gainsboro at night saw

MONDAY got cleared from 31
 home well. Paid £5

Went to Gainsboro at night saw

Victory thro Air Power

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 1

arrived at Elyton at 11.30. Lectures all afternoon

Went to Gainsboro at night saw they've got

WEDNESDAY 2
 saw D.O. & A.O. lost 3/- at cards
 Posted to Birbeck 3
 met Billie
 2000 night in Sally Anne

1944

FEBRUARY

in morning
 Cottage to Pet & The Navy concert Pro

THURSDAY 3

Studying hard
 Vglt. Vision test
 Quite night in Sally Anne
 played table tennis

FRIDAY 4

Studying hard. [i.e. a.]
 Went to Sally in lesson
 Quite night
 wrote to Bea

SATURDAY 5

working hard all day 1 c.c.
 Went to Grimby (What a dump)
 played cards Lost 10/-
 bought Electric Stove.

FEBRUARY

1944

SUNDAY

6

Went to breakfast
 Hill on Parade
 Lectures

MONDAY

7

Lectures
 Quiet day at night

TUESDAY

8

Lectures
 am fine
 Went to Sally Anne at
 night. Played Snooker
 wrote to C.W.

WEDNESDAY

9

flying. Got letters from
 C.W. & Home & Violet.
 Went to Sally Anne at
 night very quiet.

1944

FEBRUARY

see Plans. Sighting

Gun cleaning at night.

THURSDAY

10

Aircraft Rec. Snowsland on
 off all day but cleared all away
 by night. Had Sighting and
 Sunsets. Pinal exams don't know
 result yet.

Played snooker in 'Sally' at
 night quiet evening altogether

FRIDAY

11

% Rec and Guns final exams.
 Night. Vision - Lectures.
 Went to Sally Anne
 at night. played snooker
 & table tennis. Met Norman & Mint.

SATURDAY

12

Three exams. Results.

Science	80
English	21
Maths	25
% Rec	24

 average 90%
 Starting to go back to Blyton. 2 letters from
 sent her telegram for birthday (20)
 Got back to Blyton at 1.20 went
 to mess fell in ditch. covered in
 mud. Had...

FEBRUARY

1944

SUNDAY ~~Binding lectures~~ 13
 went to Gainsboro at
 after hr. Went for a long

MONDAY ~~gone to work~~ 14

Binding lectures again
 all day
 Went to Gainsboro at
 night met ~~Joe~~ ^{Joe} ~~see in the~~
~~house~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~wife~~
~~no work~~

TUESDAY 15

all day at Cunney Flight
 finished at 4.45pm in town at
 5pm
 Had a date with Jean at
 8.30. kept it and had a
 lovely time Captain Blood

WEDNESDAY 16

Cunney Flight all day.
 went to Gainsboro at night
 went for a walk with Jean
 comic, Bill.
 lovely evening together.

1944

FEBRUARY

morning & afternoon
 night. Care out of pictures
 walk with Jean. nice girl

THURSDAY 17

working all day.
 Got paid at night £4.18. 2s
 stopped in Mess; played ping-pong
 with Bill. visited letters.
 Got 3 oranges at Mess.

FRIDAY 18

Binding all day
 went out at night met Jean
 took her to see Colonel
 Ship. Cleared off. and
 rather evening.
 Got three oranges.

SATURDAY 19

Last day at Cunney Flight
 had tests. (a bit of a farce
 went to Gainsboro at night until
 Tom decided to go to Newcastle
 stopped at Doncaster 2hr.
 got to Newcastle 0130hr

FEBRUARY

1944

SUNDAY toward the nearest YMC20

and had breakfast at 0700 when Gateshead. Got dressed off as went to see name. waiting for results. Got a letter had a book read

MONDAY 7. Trouble at flight 21

San going out yesterday. Went to see flight commander. He told us off. rest of morning in canteen library.

Nothing doing in afternoon
Went to Gainsboro
at night.

TUESDAY

22

Nothing doing in morning
Went to Seahorse in
afternoon (A.S.R.) had crew
photo taken. Went to
pictures they had put her
dance. San with two old
boys. Tanned back to camp

WEDNESDAY

430. 23

Nothing doing all day.
Went to pictures with Jack
on the camp.

1944

FEBRUARY

and went to sleep in a chair. Got up
went for a walk round town
to station. Picked up by S.P.
got back to Doncaster had a book read.
Back to Gainsboro then back to camp

THURSDAY

24

Had to clean undercarriage
of Halifax in morning
washed & polished flight
commander's office in afternoon
Went out with San at night
on the beer. Met two girls.
Date for Sat. got back at 12.30

FRIDAY

25

Nothing doing all day.
Went to pictures on camp at
night.
Halifax crashed in flames
all the chaps killed.

SATURDAY

26

Browned off with nothing to do.
San is sick bag.
Went to Blyth at night
with Bill, Jack, Bob.

FEBRUARY—MARCH

1944

SUNDAY *grazing land* 27

Had morning off
Snowed all day about
six inches by dinner

MONDAY *grazing land* 28

Got in *Intelligences Library* all
morning.

A.S.R. lecture in afternoon.

Lovely snow fight after tea
Blocked chimney of nest hut up
with snow. busted it.

TUESDAY 29

Nothing
Nothing doing all day
Went to camp *circum* at
night saw *Stony Weather*

WEDNESDAY MARCH 1

decaying snow from
morning all morning
Nothing doing all afternoon
Went to pictures on
camp at night.

1944

MARCH

me got up
Had snow fight with nest hut
Went to *Sea Camp*.
stopped *morning*

THURSDAY 2

Fueled about all day
Got paid at night
Went out at night drank 12
guinness 2 halves milk
Went into a dance came
straight out and came
back to camp.

FRIDAY 3

Nothing doing all morning *Sea*
day off. Got charged decided to go
to *Willingham*. Got a lift to *Newark*.
Got to *Walls* at 6pm. saw *meda*
had for the night. ate then
went to *dent* pictures in
bed about 10pm.

SATURDAY 4

Got up at 8:30am. went to
see *then* wandered around
and went to look at the
castle *Haldine* went to
at *the*. *camp* train for *Grantham*
at 4:15pm. *Grantham* to *London*.
day will be *bus*. then got *Walls*

MARCH

1944

SUNDAY had 3 eggs 2 slices
 Lay on bed all morning
 Went to G. ^{at}
 Joan W. committed suicide

MONDAY 6
 Went to Grindy at 0900 on A&R
 for stop on boat
 Went to produce and then back
 to Gamboro at night on beer

TUESDAY 7
 Had telegram from home
 Went Home Hitch Hiked all way
 got home at 1345 hrs.
 Went to meet out for
 Veldan.

WEDNESDAY 8
 Patched wreath from Veldan.
 Gave funeral at 1400 hrs.
 Joans 1500 hrs.
 Quiet night at Home

1944

MARCH

of back for breakfast
 Gravy died last night
 went to P. ^{at}
 night to P. ^{at}
 night to P. ^{at}

THURSDAY 9
 Started back at 0730.
 Joan from Stanford at 1025
 Breakfast 1045
 Dinner 1245
 Got up back to camp
 Went to D. ^{at}
 night had
 some beer. Went to dance on
 camp with 0100.

FRIDAY 10
 Walked up road with
 into bed at 0200
 Tempic headache when I got up
 Nothing doing all morning.
 Went to Gamboro at
 night

SATURDAY 11
 on. Got stove at 0720.
 early Day off stove and wrapped
 round heater. Landed at Veldan
 at 1445. got bagged.
 Plane patched us back at 0900
 Star night flying

MARCH

1944

SUNDAY

Got up for breakfast
Hitch hiked to Gambero
Not much done

12

1944

MARCH

no flying for us today
in afternoon
there

MONDAY

was supposed to be on A.C.
but it's late.
Went to town at 4:30pm
saw "Nazan" Temple

13

THURSDAY

16

Went to Gains bar at
1600 hrs had tea played
snooker went to flies
back to camp played
blackjack till 2:30
32nd buzzed off

TUESDAY

She went sick
Nothing else done
Went for a long walk
killed pheasant with
store at 50 yds

14

FRIDAY

17

Lovely hot day
Have a cold.
Lied up with
nothing to do
Went to Casino's. Went to
pictures with two WAFS. Mary's friend

WEDNESDAY

The same today
Went for a long walk in
morning. Sailed at
night but came
back early over bed

15

SATURDAY

18

Will no work to do
Went to Rofford in afternoon
got chased by all the
girls.
air raid on at night

MARCH

1944

1944

APRIL

SUNDAY

Got up at 6:30. at flight
started in a.c. at 10:30.
Bury St Edmunds back to
pictures at night.

MONDAY

YAGP 20

THURSDAY

YAGP 6

TUESDAY

YAGP 21

FRIDAY

YAGP 7

WEDNESDAY

YAGP 22

SATURDAY

YAGP 8

APRIL

1944

1944

APRIL

SUNDAY

16

SS

YAG207

MONDAY

YAG208 17

THURSDAY

20

arrived at ^{10:00} station
 6:15 AM

went to South
 at night

TUESDAY

YAG209 18

FRIDAY

YAG210 21

leave.

WEDNESDAY

YAG211 19

SATURDAY

YAG212 22

APRIL

1944

1944

APRIL

SUNDAY

23

MONDAY

24

THURSDAY

27

1100 from Kettering
1242 " Wellington Dr. Rd
" Peterboro

TUESDAY

25

FRIDAY

28

WEDNESDAY

26

SATURDAY

29

[Faint handwritten notes on Saturday 29]

APRIL—MAY

1944

1944

MAY

SUNDAY

30

MONDAY MAY

1

THURSDAY

4

TUESDAY

2

FRIDAY

5

WEDNESDAY

04.50 3

SATURDAY

6

Operations -: Maitly ha Camp.

soldiers camp -: Good prang.
3 lost from line

Shot up by J.V. 302 17 holes
in us. landed awest.

MAY

1944

1944

MAY

SUNDAY

7

MONDAY

8

THURSDAY

11

Harplet lost our way.
Dropped bombs near
Atherp & came back
(Abortive.)

TUESDAY

9

FRIDAY

12

WEDNESDAY

10

SATURDAY

13

MAY

1944

1944

MAY

SUNDAY

21

MONDAY

22

THURSDAY

25

LE. CLIPON.

02.45 hrs

Marshalling yards

Quite trip.

TUESDAY

23

FRIDAY

26

WEDNESDAY

24

SATURDAY

27

JUNE

1944

SUNDAY

11

MONDAY

RHEIMS

MARSHALLING YARDS

05.00 ~~22.10~~

Quiet trip.

TUESDAY

LE. HAYONS.

FLYING BOMB
INSTALLATION24.00
3.25

DAYLIGHT.

WEDNESDAY

VAIRES

MARSHALLING YARDS

4.45 ~~27~~

1944

JUNE—JULY

THURSDAY

GIRA COURT.

FLYING BOMB
INSTALLATIONS

3.2529

DAYLIGHT.

FRIDAY

VEIRZON MARSHALLING
YARDSBOMB. AIMER COULONT FIVE
TARGET. BROUGHT BOMBS BACK
20mins AFTER EVERYONE ELSE.

30

ABORTING. 06.00

SATURDAY JULY

1

JULY

1944

SUNDAY NEUVILLE-DU-BOIS 2

MONDAY

3

TUESDAY

4

WEDNESDAY

5

1944

JULY

FLYING BOMB INSTALLATIONS

DAYLIGHT

THURSDAY

6

FRIDAY

7

SATURDAY

8

JULY

1944

1944

JULY

SUNDAY 9

MONDAY 10

TUESDAY 11

WEDNESDAY 12

TOURS. 06.25
MARSHALLING BARS.

FURED AT TURS.

THURSDAY 13

FRIDAY 14

SATURDAY 15

JULY

1944

1944

JULY

SUNDAY

16

MONDAY

17

THURSDAY

08.25 20

WIZERNES.

FLYING BOMB INSTALLATIONS

TUESDAY

18

FRIDAY

21

WEDNESDAY

19

SATURDAY

22

JULY

1944

1944

JULY

SUNDAY

23

01

01

MONDAY

24

THURSDAY

27

TUESDAY

25

FRIDAY

28

UP AT 4 A.M.

FLYING AT 0645 OPS.

ARRIVAL. VERY QUIET

JA 004H

NO FIGHTERS NOT MUCH FLAK
(FLYING BOMBS. INSTALLATION)

WEDNESDAY

26

SATURDAY

29

OCTOBER

1944

SUNDAY

8

MONDAY

9

TUESDAY

10

WEDNESDAY

11

1944

OCTOBER

THURSDAY

12

FRIDAY

13

SATURDAY

14

Reported

Missing

Presumed

Killed



12.13.10.95
 3.8.7.1.11.6.4.2

11 am change road. road
 9 pm from Raleigh to
 Koutz

Sgt's Man
 Boston Park
 RAF Station
 Bradstone
 Mr Bennett
 Ypsco.

EW 190
 ME 109 - 30
 TYPHOON 40
 KITTYHAWK 40
 ME 110 50
 OAKOJA 90
 MUSTANG 40
 SPITFIRE 40-30
 THUNDERBOLT 40
 JU 88 60
 WELLINGTON 60-90
 VENTURA 70
 — —
 DO 217 60
 MITCHEL 70
 ME 210 50
 MOSQUITO 50
 MARAUDER 70
 BOSTON 70

100. 110
 SIXTH AIR 110

BEAUFORT 60