



1-10-1944

0830- All members of the medical department accounted for. Brzycki, A.A. departed on 25 days leave.

0900- Sick call is to be held daily at 0900 except on Sunday, emergencies are to be seen at all times, medical Dept. office 4th floor bldg. 292.

1000- Following men given examinations for promotion to LT. (JG) M.S.N.R.

Cooper, Robert .P. Ensign
Wotherspoon, Ensign
Queiuey, James F. Ensign

0900-1200 Medical Office and pharmacists mates continued vaccinations and immunizations of RON 34 personnel.

1300- Executive Officers meeting of all officers of MTB Ron 34.

1400- Following patients transferred to naval Hospital:

1. Sites, Ensign U.S.N.R. D.V¹, pyoderma of Lips to Brooklyn Naval Hospital
2. Parlew M.E. S 1/c D.V. onococcus infection urethra to Naval Hospital ST. Albans.

1600-Medical Department secured

JH Kurre.
LT (JG)MC USN.²

1.D.V.- Navy designation for deck officers

2.LT (JG)MC USN- Lieutenant Junior Grade Medical Corp United States Navy

1-11-1944

0830- All members of medical department present.

0900- Sick call held, no remarkable cases

1400- Letter concerning medical supplies received via P.O³. from Bu med⁴.

1600- Medical Department secured.

JHKurre.
LT (JG) Mc USN.

1-12-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Daily sick call, no remarkable cases

1000- Medical officers MTB RON 29, 33 and 34 made trip to the Medical Supply Depot concerning medical supplies. Com. Curitan (MC) USN. Informs us g-10 hospital unit will be made available for us. Apparently this will be procured either at Pacific base or upon discretion of commanding officer.

1300- Pharmacists mates making out detailed list of complete g-10 equipment:

1300- Members of RON 34 are continuing with schedule dental check-ups.

1615- Medical department secured.

JH Kurre.

3. P.O.- Purchase Order

4. Bu med- Boston Medical University Group

1-13-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Daily sick call, no remarkable cases

0900- 1200- Shots and immunizations continued on MTB RON⁵ 34 personnel 1600- Secured

1-14-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900-Sick Call, no usual cases

1100- Physical examination form Y made on Taylor, H.M. RT 2/c application for V-7 USNR.

1300- Form 624 made on Phar⁶ 2/c Olsen and Bryzcki for promotion to Phar 1/c.

1600-Secured

JHKurre.

1-15-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for.

0900- Side Call, no unusual cases

1000- A letter received from Navy Department

Concerning procurement of medical supplies for MTB squadrons. We will receive this g-10 hospital unit at the time and place designated by our commanding officer. This will be ordered prior to our departure from Navy yard, New York.

1500- Secured.

JH Kurre.

1-16-1944

Sunday- The medical department did not report.

5. MTB RON- Motor Torpedo Boat Squadron also known as PT Boat. Each boat has a crew up to 17 people. A squadron was 12 boats, so Dr. Kurre was caring for 200 sailors.

6. Phar- Pharmacists

1-17-1944

0830- All members of the medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call- Carroll, B.T. STM 2/c was transferred to Naval Hospital; St. Albans diagnosis D.V. Lymphogranuloma inguinal, Sites, Ensign U.S.N.R. return to this activity following hospitalizations

090-1200- Members of Medical department continue giving shots and immunizations

1300- Commanding officer informed medical department concerning plans for shipping out to Miami and Panama. We will go by M.T.B. boats in 2 sections to these ports.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

1-18-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call, No unusual cases

0930- Pharmacists mates re-checking immunizations and shots given and are forming a file card system for records of same.

1100- Nine (9) medical textbooks requested by letter written by commanding officer.

1300- Medical officer and pharmacists mates checked all health records for history of Disease or condition which would render personnel unfit of MTB duty

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

1-19-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for.

0900- Sick call, no remarkable cases

1300- 8 wood boxes received from Hull Department. These are very well made and are to be used for personal and medical dept. gear.

1400- The issue of materials received from Medical Supply Depot as commissioning outfit were inventoried and found complete

1600- Secured

JHKurre.

1-20-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for.

0900- Side Call, no remarkable cases

0900-1200- Pharmacists mates and medical officer continued giving immunizations and vaccinations to RON 34 personnel.

1300-Two additional small boxes received from Hull Department. These boxes are to be used for carrying emergency medical gear in route to Miami and Panama

1600- Medical Department secured.

JH Kurre.

1-21-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900-Side Call, no remarkable cases

1200- Medical officer requested afternoon off to meet wife, request approved

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

1-22-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick call, no remarkable cases.

1300- Underway gear⁷ secured, this was received from the Supply Department and labelled.

1400- Captain E. R. Eaton (Mc) U.S.N.R. was introduced to the Medical Department, he is from Naval Medical Supply Depot. He made arrangements for our department to obtain a microscope and the required text books

1530- Secured

JH Kurre.

7. Underway gear- the gear a sailor needs once his ship is underway

1-23-1944

Sunday- Medical Department did not report

JH Kurre.

1-24-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Side Call, no unusual cases

09300- Captain E.R. Eaton (Mc) U.S.N.R. visited our medical department, form 4;s were made out requested:

1. Microscope and equipment

2. 7 Medical Text books.

These were mailed to Medical Supply Depot, via Captain Eaton

1130- Medicines were received from dispensary bldg. 122 for fitting out our first aid boxes

0900-1200- Continuing of administrates of vaccines and biologicals.

1300- Secured

JH Kurre.

1-25-1944

0830- All members of the medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1300- Commander Curitan (Mc) U.S.N. was visited at Navy Medical Supply Depot. g-10 ordered; this will be delivered complete to bldg. 3, 6th deck, RON 34 cage

1500- Requisition, form 4 made out for additional supplies not considered adequate in this g-10 unit

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

1-26-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1100- Heavy underway gear drawn from Supply office, all members of medical department have their complete underway gear

1300- Pharmacists mates Laster and Olsen sent to Medical Supply depot to get microscope and other requisitioned material approved by Commander Anitan (mc) U.S.N. This included:

Microscope and associated gear

Medical Textbooks Nine

10,000 Vitamin (A B C D) tablets

Tongue blades, wooden applicator sticks

Insecticide, powder, insect repellent, liquid

Merthiolate 6 pints, Benzedrine tablets about 1500, I had to go help them get home with this material, we borrowed a truck from MTB RON 33

1630- Secured

JH Kurre.

1-27-1944

0830- All members of the medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900-1200- Members of Medical Department continued giving vaccinations and immunizations there are still a few stragglers coming in.

1300- We packed our books, microscope, and other requisitioned gear, we are quite proud of these. The microscope and equipment is most complete. 1400- Received invitations to launching of U.S.S. Missouri⁸, this is probably the world's largest and finest battleship.

1800- Had dinner at Columbia University club with Admiral and Mrs. Melborn (MC) USN and Captain and Mrs. Eaton (MC) USNR. These people are most gracious and friendly. The Admiral was very easy to talk with, a regular Joe. Also in the party were Mr. Harris, my skipper and

Lieut.s Melhoan, Green, and Montcastle, these men have received presidential citation for heroism and the Silver Cross, four P.T. men. JH Kurre.

1-28-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900-Sick Calls, no unusual cases reported.

1000-1200- Pharmacists mates are making a file card system for recording vaccinations and immunizations

1300- Pharmacists mate Olson given the afternoon off

1600-Medical Department secured.

2200-Stage Door Canteen⁹ radio show, food cart was given in honor of M.T.B. Squadrons. This was attended by the medical department men and our wives. Many other M.T.B. officers and men also attended

JH Kurre.

1-29-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Calls, no remarkable cases 1200- Secured. We are given this afternoon off to attend the launching of Battleship U.S.S. Missouri.

JH Kurre.

8. U.S.S. Missouri- U.S.S. Missouri- The ship that the Japanese would surrender on

9. Stage Door Canteen- An entertainment venue in the Broadway district of New York City for service men.

1-30-1944

Sunday- The medical department did not report.

JH Kurre.

1-31-1944

0830- All members of the medical department accounted for

0900 Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900-1200- Continuance of vaccinations and immunizations, this work is now almost complete

1300- Our g-10 unit has been turned over to the supply officer in ROM 34 cage, 6th floor, Bld # 3. This was inspected and in good condition. This unit will not be unpacked but rather crated for shipment to be opened at our destination.

1430- Van Ollfen, WM. F. MOM 2/c admitted to sick. List Diagnosis: D.V. Internal derangement left knee¹⁰

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

2-1-1944

0830- Medical Department all present or accounted for

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1300- LT. Denno from training films Sub library visited medical department. 5 colored, 16 M.M.¹¹ are to be shown ROM #34 personnel on first aid treatment of War injuries. With our Squadron on extra continual duty we are taking films on: 1. V-D¹² 2. Personal hygiene 3. First aid

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

10. Internal derangement of left knee-fairly significant injury to knee torn ligament and /or meniscus/cartilage

11. M.M.- Millimeter a size of movie film

12.V-D- Veneral Disease

2-2-1944

0830- All members of the medical department present or accounted for

0900- Sick call- no remarkable cases

0930- Executive officers meeting of Department heads, matters other than medical were discussed.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-3-1944

0830- All member of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0930- I called on Brooklyn Chapter of American Red Cross for battle dressings. I was informed these dressing would be made for us if we supplied the material. This will not be done as this would necessitate breaking into our g-10 unit which is packed.

0900-1200- Continuing of giving shots and vaccinations to RON 34 personnel.

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

2-4-1944

0830 All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1000- First of a series of 5 technicolor movie film shown to RON 34 personnel on first aid.

1100- 15 copies of "first aid" booklet received, these copies are to be put one in each first aid kit aboard the M.T.B.

1300- Members of the medical department transcribed records of vaccinations and immunizations on health records and on file card systems

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-5-1944

0830- All members of medical department account for. PHM¹³ 1/c Bryzcki reported from 25 days leave

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

2-6-1944

Sunday- Medical department did not report

JH Kurre.

2-7-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1000- Boud, R.M. Ensign U.S.N.R. transferred to Naval Hospital, Diagnosis D.V. Somnambulism¹⁴

1300- Requisition for 10 gals. Of 95% ethyl alcohol

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

13. PHM 1/c- Pharmacy Mate 1st class

14. Somnambulism- Sleep Walking

15. L.E. G.M. 3/c- Low Explosive Gunner's Mate 3rd Class

2-8-1944

0830- All members of medical department present.

0900-Sick Call, one patient- Lund, L.E. G.M 3/c¹⁵ transferred to U.S. Naval Hospital, St. Alabans NewYork-diagnosis- D.U, prostatitis chronic non-venereal.

1000- Second film on First Aid "wounds" shown to RON 34 personnel

1300- 10 gallon of 95% Ethyl alcohol received from supply department

1400- Movie films on safety, first aid, cleanliness personal and sex hygiene ordered from education officer

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-9-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call.

1300- Phar 1/c Lartu and I went to Brooklyn

Naval Hospital to procure dependents cards for RON #34 personnel.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-10-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900-1200- Continuing of giving shots to RON 34 personnel, this task is almost complete. Also our arrangements for dental appointments has included almost all our squadron.

1000- The 3rd film in our series of first aid pictures was shown "Burns." The attendance was best to date.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-11-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call- Smith, M.A. Gm 3/c was admitted to Sick List due to toxicity from Typhoid immunization

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-12-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1000- The 4th movie in our series of "First Aid" films entitled "Fractures" was shown. Attendance good.

1300- Our wooden box for H.R. and files was received from the carpenter's mates.

1330- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-13-1944

Sunday- The medical department did not report

JH Kurre.

2-14-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call- Laster, Phar 1/c admitted to Sick List diagnosis- Gastritis, acute

0930- 25 new men reported to M.T.B Ron 34 these are all enlisted men S¹⁶ 2/c from Radar School.

1000- Remainder of MTB Ron 33 shoved off for Miami, we are now the senior squadron.

1000-Bennet, E.R. – MOMM¹⁷ 2/c G.I. series reported normal.

1100- 10 gal of ethyl alcohol received from supply department.

1600- Secured.

JHKurre.

2-15-1944

0830- All members of medical department present, Laster, R.J. Phar 1/c returned to duty.

0900- Sick Call- O'neil SK¹⁸ 2/c admitted to Sick List Diagnosis- upper respiratory infection.

1000- 5th and last film on the first aid shown to RON 34 personnel entitled "Resuscitation"

1100- Cousteau, MOM 3/c returned from Civilian Hospitalization diagnosis "furunculosis¹⁹, face, multiple

1200- Attended Commissioning of M.T.B. Ron 35 and dinner following. This was a most enjoyable affair.

1500- Hart, O.F. C²⁰. RM²¹. examined and found qualified for reenlistment.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

16. S- Seaman 2nd class

17. MOMM- Motor Machinists Mate

18. SK- air search radar (shipborne)

19. Furunculosis- Deep infection of hair follicle

20. C- General Service, communications duties

21. RM-Radioman

2-16-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases. O'Neil SK 2/c returned to duty

1300- Our wooden boxes as ordered from the Hull Department was received. This is to be used for health records, files and blank forms.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-17-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call- Wotherspoon, W LT. (JG) U.S.N. R. transferred to U.S. Naval Hospital St. Albans L.I. New York diagnosis D.V. Stricture urethra #2122.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-18-1944

0830- All members of medical department present.

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

0900- A station wagon was procured from M.T.B. commissioning detail for a trip to U.S. Naval Hospital, St. Albans. Dr. Kurre and PLM 1/c Laster made the trip. 4 members of our squadron hospitalized there were visited. All will be returned to duty with the possible exception of Ensign Boud whose disposition has not been determined

2100-Dedication party for MTB RON 34 dinner and formal dedication at New York Yacht Club. The medical department received as a gift a copy of U.S. Pharmacopeia. Phar 1/c Olsen was called on for a few words. A very enjoyable affair

JH Kurre.

2-19-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1000- Carpenters mates put handles and hinge locking gear on all our wooden boxes

1330- Secured

1700- Officers of MTB Ron 34 had a most enjoyable cocktail party at the skipper's home, Yonkers New York.

JH Kurre.

2-20-1944

Sunday – The medical department did not report.

JH Kurre.

2-21-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1000- Our dental appointments now are almost completed

0900-1200- All members of MTB RON 34 except several recent arrivals have received the required immunizations

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

2-22-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1400- U.S. Naval Hospital St. Albans called concerning a patient Ensign Boud diagnosis D.U. Somnambulism. He is to be brought before the Survey Board

1600- Secured

2000- Attended enlisted men's party given by our squadron Sponsor Bendix Company.

JH Kurre.

2-23-1944

0830- All members of medical department accounted for

0900- Sick Call, Reed, W.T. MOM 2/c transferred to U.S. Naval Hospital, St. Albans diagnosis D.U. Measles.

Brzycki, A. A. PHM1/c admitted to Sick List diagnosis- upper respiratory infection

Miranda, M.W. S 2/c admitted to Sick List diagnosis- upper respiratory infection.

1100- Neves, D.L. GM 2/c given examination for Life Insurance application

1300- Wotherspoon, W. Ensign U.S.N.R. returned to duty from U.S. Naval Hospital, St. Albans N.Y.

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

2-24-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, Brzycki A.A. Phm 1/c and Miranda

MW S 2/c returned to duty.

1400- LT. Fred Knight U.S.N.R. called on yours truly. He is being transferred to Bethesda, M.D. for psychiatry course.

1600- Secured, Brzycki, A.A. on duty overnight.

JH Kurre.

2-25-1944

0830- All members of medical department present.

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1000- LT. A.H. Harris Commanding officer given examination for National Life Insurance.

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

2-26-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases.

1000- Inspection of MTB RON 34 personnel by Com²². Cooper

1330- Secured.

JH Kurre.

2-27-1944

0830- Medical department did not report (Sunday)

2-28-1944

0830- All members of medical dept. present

0900- Sick call, no unusual cases

0930- Dr. Kurre and PHM 1/c Laster called on Mr. Wilkinson and Mrs. Bell, Navy League, 30 ____ Street. The Navy League donated a most useful quality of medical and surgical supplies. These were brought back by jeep to our office

1600-Secured

JH Kurre.

2-29-1944

0830- All members of medical department present.

0900-Sick Call, no unusual cases.

0930- Dr. Kurre and PHM 1/c Laster again used the jeep called on Mr. Rosen, Medical and Surgical Relief Association of America. A quantity of useful medical and surgical gear was obtained.

1400-Pharmacists mates inspected and packed our gear received in the past 2 days.

1600- Secured

1800- Stag party for officers. MTB RON #34 New York Yacht Club.

JH Kurre.

22. Commandant or Commander

3-1-1944

0830- All members of medical department present

0900- Sick Call, no remarkable cases

1000- Commanding Officer informed us of our plans. Dr. Kurre and Olsen PHM 1/c assigned to first group, Laster PHM 1/c and Brzycki PHM assigned to second group. I am to go to Melville R.I. leaving New York 3-3-1944 on 503 boat Jim Doherty LT (JG) Commanding. We will proceed to Miami on boats in about 10 days. Olsen will go by train to Miami when I leave Melville. I will not return New York. Laster and Bryzcki will go when the second group shall leave.

1300- Medical Department busy packing gear for shipment via supply officer to Miami.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

3-2-1944

08300- All members of medical department present.

0900- Sick Call, Linch, L.E. returned from Naval Hospital, St. Albans for duty. Diagnosis P, Prostatitis, chronic, non- venereal.

1000- Pharmacists mates made out monthly reports, Smooth F, and communicable disease.

1300- Plans were made for medical department until we are again joined.

1400- First aid boxes were fitted out one to each group, one for use in care of Dr. Kurre, one in care of Laster, PHM 1/c.

1600- Secured

JH Kurre.

3-3-1944 Left New York City

0830- All members of medical department present

0930- Plans made in meeting with Ph Mates for our departure from New York. Olsen to go by train to Miami. Laster and Bryzeki to go with second group. Laster with the boats, Bryzeki by train with the base force.

1000- Shoved off for Melville R.I. aboard P.T. 503 Skipper Jim Doherty, taking with me a first aid box, my personal gear and Olsen's gear.

1600- Arrived Melville, R.I. after a smooth trip, moved in Quonset Hut at this base with 12 other officers.

JH Kurre.

3-4-1944

Made acquaintance of Navy M.D.s at this base. Also visited Dentist and made appointments for several men. Dr. Seccarchio is medical officer in charge MTBSTC. (Motor Torpedo Boat Squadron Training Center). Went to officers club MTBSTC.

JH Kurre.

3-5-1944 Sunday

Went to Providence R.I. for dinner and to Narraganset officers club for dinner. No illness or casualties.

JH Kurre.

3-6-1944

Physical Examinations for promotion to LT. (JG) given to Wotherspoon, Frazier and Squires. Went with the squadron for night operations against D.E²³, A most interesting experience. It was very cold. No illness or casualties.

JH Kurre.

3-7-1944

Foul weather caused cancellation of all operations. Went to Fall River, Mass. for a little entertainment. Quite a place (gonorrhea gulch). No illness or casualties

JH Kurre.

3-8-1944

Had one lower molar cavity filled at dispensary, foul weather again cancelled all operations, it is very cold here. Attended smoker at MTBSTC gymnasium. No illness or casualties.

JH Kurre.

23. D.E.- Destroyer Escort

3-9-1944

Went out with boats for torpedo firing. In the evening went to Fall River, Mass.

No illness or casualties

JH Kurre.

3-10-1944

Final plans made for our departure to Miami. No illness or casualties

JH Kurre.

3-11-1944- Left Melville, R.I. for Miami, Fla.

0300- Reveille

0400- Shoved off Melville, R.I for Cape May N. J.

1400- Arrived Cape May, N.J. we had a very good trip today, sea very calm, the weather however is very cold aboard PT-503.

2000- Slept at Admiral Hotel, here which is very fine.

JH Kurre.

3-12-1944

0600- Shoved off Cape May, New Jersey.

1400- Arrived Norfolk, V.A. The sea was a little rough today, especially the last two hours, about 1/3 of the men slightly sea sick. No casualties.

2000- No liberty here, it is very foggy and raining. Slept aboard PT- 503.

JH Kurre.

3-13-1944

0700- Shoved off from Norfolk, VA.

1700- Arrived Morehead City, North Carolina. We came via inshore route. It was a very calm sea and a sunny warm day. We removed part of our heavy underway gear.

1900- Went ashore, this is a quit sleepy southern town. There are many marines and BAMS²⁴ here. Slept aboard PT-503. No casualties.

JH Kurre.

24.BAMS- Broad Ass Marines

3-14-1944

0630- Shoved off from Morehead City N.C.

1700- Arrived Charlestown, South Carolina. We took the open sea route. The sea was rough, we ate only sandwiches topside. We have several cases of sun-burn and constipation. The few cases of sickness were mild requiring no RX. We all enjoyed small arms practice en-route, the carbine and Thompson machine gun.

2000- Went ashore Charlestown, S.C. It is a war boom town, everyone out for all the take possible. Slept aboard PT-503.

JH Kurre.

3-15-1944

0700- Shoved off from Charlestown, S.C.

1400- Arrived Mayport, Fla. A section base. 30 miles from Jacksonville, Fla. The sea was moderate today, very warm and sunny. No seasickness. We again had small arms practice en-route. We passed Squadron #29 on their way north.

2000- Went ashore and to Jacksonville, Fla. This is a very nice city. Stayed overnight at Roosevelt Hotel.

JH Kurre.

3-16-1944

0800- We are to lay over here one day. This is to allow minor repairs and cleaning of the boats.

1000- Visited Dr. Sonora at Sick Bay, Mayport, Fla. Procured from him sun-burn lotion and cascara²⁵ tablets. We have a number of cases of first and second degree sunburns.

2000- Went to Jacksonville to Bill Ball's home for dinner (Fried Chicken).

2200- Slept aboard P.T. — 503

JH Kurre.

25. Cascara- A laxative

3-17-1944

0900- Shoved off from Mayport, Fla.

2300- Arrived Miami, Fla. We took the open sea route. This was the roughest sea we have encountered. A long, tiresome, rough day. Many men were sick, we ate sandwiches top-side. The crews are very tired and really have taken a beating. Casualties consisted of a few minor cuts and bruises

Slept aboard P.T. - 503.

JH Kurre.

3-18-1944

It is very warm and beautiful here in Miami. This is really a sudden change for us in weather as only about 6 days ago we were in very cold weather around New York and R.I. Obtained quarters at B.O Q²⁶ Columbus Hotel. Rooming with our Exec. Officer Jack Sherenty. Called my brother Jack at Morrison Field, West Palm Beach Fla.

JH Kurre.

03-19-1944

Received temporary additional duties to help Lou Pierce arrange for chow for the boat men's meals will be served aboard ship to the boat crews. Went to Miami Beach for swimming, called Mary Lewis²⁷ at Lexington arranging for her trip to Miami.

JH Kurre.

3-20-1944

Jack received an overnight pass and came here to Miami. We took a room together at Cortz Hotel, we went swimming at Miami Beach. Our base force arrived today from New York, including PHM mates Olsen and Bryzcki. Our entire squadron is now in Miami, except the crews of the second division, their passengers, and about 20 men with our supply officer who are in New York.

JH Kurre.

26. B.O Q- Bachelor Officers Quarters

27. Mary Lewis- Wife to Dr. Kurre

3-21-1944

Went to SCTC²⁸ Dispensary Everglades Hotel, our cases requiring hospitalization will be sent here.

We have a small sick bay at the P.T. base here routine sick call is held and a PH mate is on duty. Gave LT (JG) Yourmans examination for promotion.

Admitted Chief Anderson to S.C.T.C. Dispensary diagnosis D.U. gonorrhea prostatitis; chronic. Received telegram from Mary Lewis and called her by phone. She, little Joe²⁹, and mother will drive here. They are to leave Lexington 3-22-44 and to arrive in Miami 3-25-44.

Jack returned to Morrison Filed.

JH Kurre.

3-22-1944

Admitted Meyer to S.C.T.C. dispensary diagnosis D.U. Cholecystitis acute, (foul ball). Called LT. Adler Flamingo Hotel for reservations in M.O.Q³⁰. for my family.

JH Kurre.

3-23-1944

Made trip to Miami Beach, Fla. By jeep for our reservations at Flamingo Hotel and reservations for mother at Southland Hotel.

1300- Made trip by jeep to Mrs. J. W. Rogers diagnosis Malignancy rectum far advanced. Gave her M.S.³¹ Visited Navy Dependents clinic Miami, Fla.

JH Kurre.

28. 1. SCTC- Submarine Chaser Training Center

29. Little Joe- Son and first born to Dr. Kurre

30. M.O.Q- Medical Officers Quarters

31. 3. M.S. - Morphine Sulfate

3-24-44

Requisition made out for 6 salt tablet dispensers and 50,000 salt tablet. These we request from S.C.T.C. Pier 2.

1400- Typhus and Cholera immunizations started on 24 men who reported to the squadron late. JH Kurre.

3-25-1944 - Mary Lewis, Little Joe, and Mom arrived

Admitted to S.C.T.C. dispensary Binnex, RT³² 2/c diagnosis appendicitis acute.

Salt tablets and dispenses reviewed from S.C.T.C. per requisition.

1300- Mary Lewis, Little Joe, and Mother arrived. I sure was glad to see them, Little Joe has sure grown since I last saw him, he is a fine boy. Mary Lewis, L. J. and I moved into Room 201 Flamingo Hotel, Miami Beach, mother to Southland Hotel. JH Kurre.

3-26-1944

Sunday- No work today

Mom and I went to Miami to a Jesuit church Jack arrived here, he has a 2 day pass

JH Kurre.

3-27-1944

0900- Admitted Wood C M ³³3/c to SCTC Dispensary for Tonsillectomy.

1300- Jack and I played golf Miami Springs Country Club.

JH Kurre.

3-28-44

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1100- Mom, Jack and I took pictures and then we drove Jack to Morrison Field, we visited West Palm Beach and Palm Beach, Fla. JH Kurre.

32. 1 RT- Radio Technician

33. CM- Carpenters Mate

3-29-44

0900- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1100- Put mother on train for Kentucky. We sure enjoyed her four day visit with us, it was fine Jack could be with us a while she was here.

1400- Admitted Dunsavage to SCTC dispensary emergency diagnosis- intestinal obstruction

3-30-44

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1000- Dunsavage was operated on this morning for intestinal adhesions, following appendectomy. He will not return to our squadron.

JH Kurre.

3-31-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases.

0900- The second division of our boats arrived in Miami from New York. We sure all very glad to see them. Many stories were swapped.

Laster reported medical casualties from a very rough trip. 1 fracture comminuted of femur transferred to Cape May, N. J. and there to Naval Hospital, Philly; we will lose this man. There were numerous minor injuries: sprained ankles, black eyes, minor lacerations, broken nose, and teeth knocked out. Laster has again proven a very valuable man

JH Kurre.

4-1-44

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases.

0900- Dunsavage doing nicely following surgery for lysis of intestinal adhesions.

1000- We have 18 gross of condoms for venereal disease prophylaxis received from Navy Teague, N.Y.

1100- Had long talk with Skipper we decided;

1. To get 3 more pharmacists mates from SCTC,
2. To get 20 gals. Alcohol from SCTC,
3. Promote Laster to chief and 10 days leave for him has been authorized.

1300- Played golf at Miami Springs Country Club,

1800- We had a little drinking party at Flamingo Hotel, Skipper, Squires, Query and our wives.

JH Kurre.

4-2-1944

Sunday- Did not report in.

1300- Went to Miami Beach and took pictures of Mary Lewis and Little Joe.

JH Kurre.

4-3-1944

0830- Sick Call, Johnson admitted to SCTC dispensary diagnosis D.U. peptic ulcer

0900- Papers for Laster's promotion completed, he departed on 10 day leave.

1000- Our plans have been made for trip to Panama. Olsen will go on PT- 503 to panama with the first group. I will go will the second group. Laster and Bryzcki and our new men with the base force on a transport.

1300- Lou Pierce and I collected about \$1,100 from the first division for chow

JH Kurre.

4-4-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900- Made visit to SCTC dispensary, all patients there doing well, Dunsavage is in good condition

1200- Received snapshots taken here at Miami and also those taken in-route here, very good.

1300- Went to Tropical Park for races.

2100- Went to Latin Quarter in Miami Beach the Coopers, Squires, Query's, Frazier and Mary Lewis and I. A very nice place, had a good time- Beer .95, Bourbon & ginger \$1.30

JH Kurre.

4-5-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1300- Again went to Tropical Park for hoss races, a really tough life here.

JH Kurre.

4-6-1944

0830- Sick Call, Queeney Lt (Jg) admitted to Sick List diagnosis furunculosis multiple

1000- Doherty and Burleson given physical examination for promotion to Lieut. U.S.N.R.

1100- Request for 3 pharmacists mates from SCTC

1300- Went to Tropical Park, hoss races

JH Kurre.

4-7-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900- Went Deep Sea fishing, Jack Shirertz and I as guests of Mr. Sherwood. We caught Barracuda, groupers, and bonitos. We had sail fish hooked but the line broke. We had a very enjoyable day

JH Kurre.

4-8-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900- Received 3 third class Ph mates from S.C.T.C. Huffman. Hensley, and Solokowski.

1000- The Skipper received orders from CNO³⁴ changing our entire plans. We now return to New York for further transportation.

1300- Went to Tropical Parks, hoss races

JH Kurre.

4-9-1944 (Easter)

(Sunday) Reported in for plans for return to New York.

The first group will leave at 0300 tomorrow this includes the crews of first 6 boats and P mates, Olsen and Solokowski. The base force will leave at 1100 the following day or Tuesday 4-11-44. This includes Brzycki, Huffman, and Hensley. They will go by train to New York.

Laster and I will go with the second group, in about one week. Jack spent Easter Sunday with us, played Golf at Miami Beach, Country Club.

JH Kurre.

34. CNO- Chief of Naval Operations

4-10-1944

0300- First group of 6 P.T. Boats and Ph mates, Olsen and Solokowski departed for New York.

0900- Laster was called by phone Macon, Ga. And ordered to return here.

1000- I will not go back to New York by PT- boat but will get 8days leave, drive M.L. and Little Joe home and go to New York by train.

JH Kurre.

4-11-1944

0900- Chief Laster reported in from leave, he will return to New York with the second group of boats.

1100- The base force and all men except those who will go with the second group departed on train to New York. This includes Ph mates Bryzcki, Huffman, and Hensley.

1400- Laster and I reviewed our plans for care of our men in the hospital, for departure of the second group.

JH Kurre.

4-12-1944

0830 Departed on 8 days leave.

Mary Lewis, Little Joe and I checked out Flamingo Hotel and headed for home. We drove about 475 miles, stayed overnight at a tourist camp, Valdosta, Ga.

JH Kurre.

4-13-1944

0900- Put in another days driving on the way home. Drive 520 miles to a tourist camp near Oneida, Tenn. Where we stayed overnight

JH Kurre.

4-14-1944

We arrived at Lexington about 1100.

We were very glad to see all the folks we had a long but very pleasant trip.

JH Kurre.

4-15-44

4-16-44

4-17-44 On leave at home.

JH Kurre.

4-18-1944

0840- Left home on Southern Railway arrived in Cincinnati about 1130. Visited Aunt Margaret at the hospital, her condition is very poor. She is confined to bed, incontinent and paralyzed on her left side. Mary Ann and her boys are fine.

1720- Left Cincinnati on Penn Railroad.

JH Kurre.

4-19-1944

0900- Arrived New York

1000- Reported in to Skipper

1300- Went to Jamaica Race Track with Bill Ball. We had a little look at the city and stayed at Duane Hotel

JH Kurre.

4-20-1944

0830- Reported in for work 4th Deck Bldg #292 Navy Yard, New York.

0900- Bryzcki, is the only ph mate here at this time. Olsen, Huffman, Solokowoski, and Hensley have all shoved off with one half of the base force. We have the following men hospitalized:

Ens. Murphy- Otitis media

Batchelor – g.c.

Andrison – g.c.

Carroll – appendicitis

Andrison and Carroll will not return to the squadron

Chief Laster and the second group of boats are enroute here from Miami

JH Kurre.

4-21-1944

0830 Sick Call, no unusual cases

1000- We put in requisition at Navy Med Supply Depot for needed items. Our malarial drugs atabrine and quinine have been returned to the supply depot.

1400- Visited Supply Depot. The requisition was approved by Capt. Wood and my skipper.

JH Kurre.

4-22-1944

0900- Visited Ens. Murphy at Brooklyn Naval Hospital, he had bilateral myringotomy³⁵, progress is satisfactory.

1000- We picked up our supplies at the Medical Supply Depot. These were put on our lighter, except the biologicals which were stored in Sick Bay Bldg 292 for refrigeration.

1300- Secured

JH Kurre.

4-23-1944

Sunday 1000- Reported in, our plans at present call for departure of all of men except 5 men on each boat of second group. We are to load aboard a transport 4-25-44.

1600- The second group of boats arrived from Miami. Chief Laster with them reported the following:

Bennett Mom 1/c transferred to naval hospital N.O.B. Norfolk, Va. Diagnosis- malaria recurrent

Sawyer, chief Q.M.³⁶. has orchitis³⁷ acute he will be put on sick list until our departure.

Brindley, Warrant Machinist also put on Sick List diagnosis contusion left lower leg.

Bosley S 1/c laceration right forefinger due to exploding 50 cal shell.

JH Kurre.

35. Bilateral Myringotomy- Incision made in the eardrum to relieve pressure

36. Q.M.- Quarter Master

37. Orchitis- Inflamed testicles

4-24-1944

0830- Sick Call, Bosley S 1/c right forefinger examined, hot wet dressing advised

0900- We received dispatch from C.N.O. cancelling our departure tomorrow, we expect a delay from 5-7 days.

1000- Naval Hospital, NOB called asking for release if possible on Bennett MoM 1/c

1400- Visited Ens. Murphy Brooklyn Naval Hospital progress is satisfactory.

JH Kurre.

4-25-1944

0900- Sick call, no unusual cases

1000- Called Receiving station, Norfolk, VA. So that Bennett MoM1/c will be transferred here as soon as transportation can be arranged

JH Kurre.

4-26-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900- Visit to Marine Basin, Long Island, New York to arrange so that our gear may remain stowed aboard the boats of the second division.

1300- Liberty- went to Yankee Stadium to see Yankees vs. Athletics³⁸.

JH Kurre.

4-27-44

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

1000- Dickinson, MoM 1/c transferred to U.S. Naval Hospital Brooklyn diagnosis malaria, recurrent

1400- Visited Warrant Machinist Brindley, progress satisfactory diagnosis- contusion left lower leg

2000- Attended party given by Bendix Corp. for ron 34 personnel

JH Kurre.

38. Yankees beat the Philadelphia Athletics 6-2

4-28-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0900- Skipper informed us our sailing day will be Tuesday 5-2-44

1300 Visited Ens. Murphy U.S.N.R Brooklyn Naval Hospital. He will not be physically qualified to sail with the squadron- diagnosis otitis media, chronic.

1400- Secured

JH Kurre.

4-30-1944

Sunday- Medical department did not report

JH Kurre.

5-1-1944

0830- Sick Call- No unusual cases

1000- Meeting of all officers for our plans for sailing. (1.) I go with all enlisted men in second group with 9 other officers. We go aboard British Ship L.S.O.-12. (2) 10 other officers go aboard our Navy's Tankers. (3) The second group of boats also will shove tomorrow

1400- Secured- Packed personal gear

2000- A last little party with Skipper Exec. and sites.

JH Kurre.

5-2-1944

0830- Sick Call, no unusual cases

0830- Reported with all personal gear including 2 pair of issued work shoes, metal helmet, and gas mask.

1100- The Skipper told us goodbye. He goes to England by commercial clipper.

Leave Navy yard for ship to England

1600- The second half of the base force and some of the boat crew members has left Navy yard, New York went to Pier 80 Manhattan to go aboard H.M.S Oceanway L.S.D., the ship to take us to England. Party included Schuritz, Weisenberger, Laetn, Brzycki and myself.

No more liberty ashore for us

JH Kurre.

5-3-1944 (Wed.)

0400- We put out to sea with a convoy formed just outside New York Harbor, about 50 large ships escorted by Cruiser Cincinnati, a small converted carrier and about 10 D.E. good bye to New York, the statue of Liberty and U.S.A.

2000- We had a very calm day, sea quiet, we are going about 14 knots, this is quite a large ship, chow British (American Food), beer available in Ward-room(Pabst Blue Ribbon), comfortable quarters, my stateroom- officers' quarters for 2 John Pavlis and myself

JH Kurre.

5-4-1944 (Thurs)

Another calm day, sea quiet almost no seasickness. Our meals are served after the British, which is O'K' because they are at work. We are merely passengers. They are very friendly, it is interesting to me to listen to them talk. Every day at 1600 everyone has tea, with cookies or a small sandwich. The food is prepared very differently. The officers and enlisted men get altogether different chow. The E.M. are sure bitching about the poor food. I have sick call daily at Sick Bay at 0900, Com. Banks R.N.R. for British men. Good Sick Bay (American supplied) well equipped. This ship is brand new, first cruise, built and equipped by U.S. and turned over to a British crew at New York

JH Kurre.

5-5-1944 (Fri)

The sea is rolling a bit, about 6 foot swells, a few cases of sea sickness, no treatment. One fellow very sick. Admitted to Sick Bay

1400- A german sub was spotted, our D.E. escort dropped depth charges and we changed course.

JH Kurre.

5-6-1944 (Sat.)

Sea still rolling a little about 5 foot swells most of the day. Our course is almost due east, we are going to England the Southern Route. All is well so far, I have almost nothing to do, sleep a great deal, read a little from Books in Ships library and play Bridge in the Wardroom. Most of our boys have little conversations with the British, they are friendly enough though.

JH Kurre.

5-7-1944 (Sun.)

Sea a little rougher, ship is rolling a bit more. We have had very little sea sickness; one man admitted to Sick Bay has been almost constantly seasick. We are proceeding almost due East at about 300 miles per day.

JH Kurre.

5-8-1944 (Mon.)

Sea still about as yesterday 12 to 14 foot swells, at chow at 2000 all the food and dishes hit the deck from the mess table, our chairs hit the bulk-heads. We take position at extreme rear of convoy due to steering gear troubles. We are more accessible to U boats here.

JH Kurre.

5-9-1944 (Tues.)

Sea is about the same; we are told the weather has been comparatively calm and we are very lucky. At 1000 today we changed course, we are near the Azores and now proceed at 45 at 1400 Today practice general Quarters (G.Q.), all of the ships guns were fired. The battle station for the medical department were assigned.

JH Kurre.

5-10-1944 (Wed.)

We are expecting to run across a few U Boats today but none were encountered until about 1100. Then things really happened contacts were picked up all around the convoy and even inside the convoy (20x5 miles area.) Depth changes were dropped by the D.E.'s and these ships follow the subs. One contact about ½ mile directly in front of us caused some concern. Our boys are a little excited, the British not at all. A very exciting day for me. No Torpedo's fired by enemy.

JH Kurre.

5-11-1944 (Thurs.)

No submarine contacts at all today. Sea is very quiet, our ship scarcely rolls. We are going north, the weather is much colder, the days are getting longer. We set our watches up about ½ hour each day, we are today 4 hours ahead of New York time. It is daylight till about 11 P.M., which to us is very unusual

JH Kurre.

5-12-1944 (Fri.)

Our ship rearranged itself in the convoy preparing for our convoy splitting up, we came near a tanker loaded with 4 of our P.T. boats we attracted their attention. Sea today is rough as it is very windy 15 to 20 foot swells, rolling and pitching quite a bit. We are near the northern coast of Ireland.

JH Kurre.

5-13-1944 (Sat.)

We are near the northern coast of Ireland. We change course go through North Sea and then through Irish Sea, the water is very green. Scotland is on our port and Ireland on our starboard both clearly visible. It is daylight up to midnight, we are 6 hours ahead of New York time

JH Kurre.

5-14-1944 (Sunday)

1000- We drop anchor at Milford Haven, Wales. It is a very beautiful day, no Americans go to shore here. We will stay here until we are cleared for sailing south.

JH Kurre.

5-15-1944 (Monday)

0200- Today we had an air raid, our first view of german planes, directly overhead. Bombs were dropped nearby at Bristol, no bombs near us. We could hear the blast. Brindley, F.M. Warrant (machinist) large hematoma of left lower leg incised, much clotted blood removed, local anesthesia.

1730- We weigh anchor and leave for Plymouth. This is a hazardous trip around Land's End due to German E³⁹ boats, and German planes. We stay near the coast of Wales and Southern England. No enemy encountered.

JH Kurre.

5-16-1944 (Tuesday)

39. German E boats- The German version of PT Boat, the Germans called them "Fast Attack"

0100- Lt. (JG) Riffler has attack of acute appendicitis an emergency case. Treated by morphine and in pack to be rushed ashore to Navy Hospital.

1000- Riffler taken by ambulance to Royal navy Hospital, Plymouth for emergency appendectomy. This city has really been destroyed by German bombing. This is a very busy harbor. We are surprised by the many women in uniform, and by the destruction.

JH Kurre.

5-17-1944 (Wed.)

Our ship is remaining in harbor at Plymouth. All of our men still aboard. I went ashore with Mr. Sherentz; we are to remain aboard a few days and go to by land to Portland, Eng. All our men are to join us there, they are at various places, Glasgow, Scotland, Liverpool and Londondairy.

JH Kurre.

5-18-1944 (Thurs.)

All our men are still aboard ship HMS. Oceanway in this harbor, Plymouth. Mr. Sherentz and some of the boat crew men shoved off at 1300 for Liverpool, to bring part of our boats down to Portland

JH Kurre.

5-19-1944 (Fri.)

0900- We tell the HMS Ocenaway and crew goodbye. Ashore in Plymouth we get our money changed to British pounds, shillings, and pennies. We go by crowded trains 3 connections and stop overs with our personal gear to Portland, Eng. This part of England especially the country is very pretty, numerous small farms and fields, very green, hedge rows are used instead of fences.

1800- arrive in Portland, met by Mr. Harris and Bukeley. We spend the night ashore at HMS Attack, a british base.

JH Kurre.

5-20-1944 (sat.)

The officers and men are to live temporarily at HMS attack. Our base is nothing, we are really starting from scratch. The CB's⁴⁰ are going to put tents for the base force, the boat crews will live on the boats.

I am to be detached for temporary additional duty at Portland Navy (american) Hospital.

JH Kurre.

5-21-1944 (Sun.)

Set up, small Sick Bay in office Building at Dockyard, Portland. Sick Call will be held daily from 9-10 and 2-3 P.M., one pharmacist mate will be on duty at all time, Chief Laster in charge. I will attend Sick Call daily at 9-10, emergencies will be sent to the Portland Hospital.

1000- Received orders from Mr. Bukeley and Harris to report to Portland Base Hospital for temporary additional duty.

Reported for duty to this hospital to Lt. Comm H.B. Frobisher, I will be treated as staff now, surgical ward medical officer. I move all my personal gear to the hospital. Nice quarters, good chow, a good deal apparently for me.

JH Kurre.

5-22-1944 (Mon.)

This set up I believe will be O'K', attended Sick Call. 0900- This hour daily keeps me in contact with the squadron. At the hospital worked up 4 cases, did appendectomy with Dr. Burlghardt, I closed up from peritoneum out. Dr. Frabisher (SMO⁴¹), Dr. Burghardt and myself surgery, Dr. Messinger medicine. About 40 hospital corpsman, headed by Warrant pharmacist Dieted, about 250 beds, x-ray, O.R., laboratory, well equipped small hospital.

JH Kurre.

5-23-1944 (Tues)

40. CB- Construction Battalion, nickname was "Seabees"

41. SMO- Senior Medical Officer

0200- Up about 3 hours, air raid, enemy planes overhead, no eggs dropped. All six of my pharmacists mates reported the entire squadron is now here in Portland. C-B's are building tents for the officers and men at base, boat crews subsist on the boats. Had conference with Mr. Harris, 4 pharmacists mates will ride the boats D-day, I will remain on duty at the hospital. We are busy there and I will be of more use there. All our boats are here, they are being prepared for action. At the hospital, routine work, I burned off about 30 warts from one patient. I like the staff O'K', Dr. Burghardt is a hellava nice fellow, not too much on the ball though. He lets me do just as I care to

JH Kurre.

5-24-1944 (Wed)

Chief Laster sent to Exeter, England where the squadron supply dump is located. He is to check on our medical gear and bringing down the needed supplies. Today my first M.O.O.D.⁴², we rotate this every third day for me. Removed a piece of metal from an eye, using local and a scalpel a fairly touchy job.

JH Kurre.

5-25-1944 (Thurs)

The following mate have been selected to ride the boats D-day, Chief Laster, Huffman, Ski and Hensley. A list of gear for each mate to carry and a list for first aid box on each boat was made out. Laster returned from Exeter. Routine day's work at the hospital

JH Kurre.

5-26-1944 (Fri)

Following men from RON 34 admitted to the hospital:

1. Ens Pavlis- Appendicitis, acute
2. Warrant Brindley- phlebitis⁴³, left lower leg
3. Aldridge – g.c⁴⁴ urethra

Instructions given to pharmacists mate on conditions they might encounter D-day and what to do. Removed sebaceous cysts from one of our men at base hospital, local anesthesia.

JH Kurre.

5-27-1944 (Sat.)

42. M.O.O.D.- Medical Officer Of the Duty

43. Phlebitis- Inflammation of veins. Can lead to blood clots

44. G.C.- Gonococcal Urethra- Infection of the urethra, the tube which carries urine out of the bladder

Chief Laster sent to Exeter, our supplies are stored here also a Navy Medical Supply Depot for the U.K. is there. Instructions to pharmacist's mates continued.

O.D.⁴⁵ again today, routine work. Went to British E.N.R.O. show at 2000 very vulgar somewhat funny

JH Kurre.

5-28-1944 (Sun.)

0050- Air raid, many eggs dropped by Jerry⁴⁶.

Our return fire was terrific. many ships in the harbor opened up 20, 40, and 5 in shells. All medical officers were on duty first casualties started coming in about 0100, we worked very hard till 0600, then again with more casualties from 0800-1400. We treated about 40 casualties, almost all admitted, almost all had shrapnel wounds requiring x-ray. Only a few of the foreign bodies removed. Wounds cleaned, debrided if necessary sulfa-powder, D.S.D.⁴⁷, sulfadiazine by mouth and penicillin to severe cases.

We had 3 deaths, one British officer was very near an exploding bomb. He had about 10 pieces of shrapnel throughout his brain, basilar skull fracture, he lived 12 hours. I have now learned to go indoors or take cover, the shrapnel sure flies about.

JH Kurre.

5-29-1944 (Mon.)

Air raid again no eggs dropped, Jerris planes overhead, they dropped contact mines in the drink. There are many ships in the harbor. Had review with all boat officers on first aid.

At hospital, gave anesthetic for appendectomy (Spinal) assisted Burghardt (John), I did a hemorrhoidectomy (spinal).

JH Kurre.

5-30-1944 (Tues)

45. O.D.- Officer of the Day

46. Jerry- Slang term for Germans

47. D.S.D.- Dry Sterile Dressing

0900- Sick Call as usual at Dockyard, our sick bay is very small, it is clean, we have 2 bunks. We give all shots at the hospital. When an ambulance is needed by our men, they call the hospital. We have three at the hospital. Discharged to duty Ens. Pavlis and Warrant Brindley. Sewed up large scalp laceration and did routine work at hospital.

Met Dr. Irani (RON 2) they have 3 boats now attached to our base at Portland.

JH Kurre.

5-31-1944 (Wed)

M.O.O.D. today. Strict restrictions enforced on all military and civilian personal. No one may leave here unless issued a pass. As M.O.'s we are given special written permits which we must carry. In going somewhere, you are stopped many times.

Dr. Gosis (Surgeon) reported for duty at the base hospital. We room together. I did an appendectomy, Gosis assisted. He seems very good. A constant stream of trucks, jeeps, ducks⁴⁸, and tanks, with many troops are going by here to the docks to be loaded. The men all seem very sober. No conversation with them or between military and civilian personnel allowed.

JH Kurre.

6-1-1944 (Thurs)

Instructions given to boat skippers and pharmacists mates on first aid. The 4 pharmacists mates and all boat crews are now secured on the P.T. boats.

Admitted a mental patient from RON 2, quite a screwball, (hysteria)

The flow of vehicles and troops passing here is continuous

JH Kurre.

6-2-1944 (Wed)

48. Ducks- A six wheel drive amphibious vehicle, meaning you can drive it on land or water.

Sick Call very quiet only 2 mates present as here remainder are secured, our boys are all ready to go.

At hospital did hernia operation and removal of cervical lymph node for biopsy. Dr. Gosis and I room together, he is a very good surgeon and a nice fellow. Warrant Pharmacists Ward resupply officer for landing craft also is with us, a good egg too

JH Kurre.

6-3-1944 (Sat.)

A rather quiet day. I took over care of small Sick Bay at HMS Attack. A small unit of the hospital which is medical department of Com Lan Crab 11th phib⁴⁹.

JH Kurre.

6-4-1944 (Sun.)

Dr. Gonzalez of RON 35, Dr. Irani RON 2, Dr. Glasscock RON 30 are now here. They have just arrived. Saw chief Laster today to have final check on our first aid gear, all is in order. He is going to use my movie camera to get a few shots. Received by mail a very fine picture of Little Joe, greatly appreciated.

Lt. Reffler appendectomy done in Plymouth, Lt. Murphy otitis media hospitalized in N.Y. both returned to the squadron

JH Kurre.

6-5-1944 (Mon)

Our second wedding anniversary, I sure would like to see Mary Lewis and Little Joe. All of our P.T. boats are in the channel sweeping mines so it won't be long now.

There are great many ships in the harbor, planes are overhead going toward France in great number. Only RON 34 boats are operating as the others are not quite ready.

JH Kurre.

6-6-1944 (Tues.)

49. Com Lan Crab 11th phib- Landing craft and base of the 11th amphibious forces

This is it D-day, we have waited a long time for this. High security is still on so one cannot know too much about the outside. We hear guns especially early this morning at 1000 we received our first invasion casualties from a army bomber hit over France which could not make it all the way to the base. Invasion and exposure cases, 4 were treated, all will be O'K'. Radio says our boys are in France.

JH Kurre.

6-7-1944 (Wed.)

We are receiving a steady flow of casualties' gunshot wounds, fractures, shrapnel wounds, bodies of men who died in crossing, drowned bodies. We are all very, very busy. Dr. Gosis is a big help to me as he knows his stuff. I take every third patient admitted to surgery. Our x-ray boys are going strong.

Dr. Gosis and I did one case requiring 3 hours, ruptured bladder, ecchymosis⁵⁰ of gut, fracture pelvis, separation of pubis, fracture compound both femurs (blast injury). The poorest surgical risk I have ever worked on.

The flow of tanks, jeeps, trucks, ducks etc. is incessant past here. Many Americans leave from this port, all news is good news so far.

JH Kurre.

6-8-1944 (Thurs.)

Bill Watson above described case still alive. He was sent to us by the army because he was considered inoperable. Casualties are still coming in steadily. No news of our P.T. boats Harris, Bukeley, all our boats, 4 of my mates are out there.

Wounded from France are handled this way. Loaded directly from beach to L.S.T. brought here, unloaded and distributed to Army field hospital and this hospital, therefore our cases are Army and Navy, white and colored. We take here only seriously injured, minor wounds are taken elsewhere.

JH Kurre.

6-9-1944 (Fri.)

50. Ecchymosis- Bruising

Warrant officer Brindley, admitted with displaced and locked Rt. knee cartilage.

Under pentathol this Cartilage was reduced and plaster cast applied. I might add our treatment of wounds consist of cleansing, careful thorough debridement, sulfa powder locally, D.S.D, sulfadiazine is given orally. Immobilization of the part is carried out, a great deal of plaster is used. Dressings are a minimum number if T⁵¹ is normal. (Orr-Trueta⁵²). Penicillin is given only to very severe cases (limited supply).

First German P.O.W. brought here, a prisoners camp is just behind the hospital. One of our boats P.T. 505 (LT. Godfrey) hit a mine 3 minor casualties resulted, the fan-tail was messed up a little.

JH Kurre.

6-10-1944 (Sat.)

Another busy day with casualties and caring for our full wards. Bill Watson improving slowly he is conscious, I believe he will live, receiving penicillin. Went to Weymouth, England about 4 miles from here, saw a movie, my first liberty in quite a while, state of Top security off.

JH Kurre.

6-11-1944 (Sun.)

Mr. Harris came into port, had little confab⁵³ with him. All is well with us, we did not encounter but little enemy action. Crew of P.T. 505 all O'K' Chief Laster came on the beach also, the boys can tell a few stories about planes, flares, gunfire from our ships and from Jerry on the beach as well as mines. Our boats picked up many survivors 499 (picked up 52 at one time.) All were transferred to L.S.T's

JH Kurre.

6-12-1944 (Mon.)

51. T°- Temperature is normal they would not change dressings

52. Orr-Tura- A technique of treating open compound fracture's named after the two surgeons, Dr. Orr & Dr. Tura from the Spanish Civil War.

53. Confab- Informal discussion

O.O.D. today, we are still busy with casualties, big rush has quieted down somewhat. All our beds are full we have about 2 ambulance loads (4pts) daily for transfer to U.S. Naval Hospital, Netley. Much equipment and many men still rolling by here. We received some medical supplies salvaged at sea by our boats, army equipment, it is useful to us. Air raid at 0500, for about 1 hour, no eggs dropped. We received 2 patients, bullet wounds penetrating of skull both in very bad condition, they have been assigned to me.

JH Kurre.

6-13-1944 (Tuesday)

One of my head injury patients dies, the other is improved. Bill Watson is on the mend, he will probably be crippled from terrific pelvic fractures. Did usual minor stuff warts, cysts, hemorrhoids, and another appendectomy. Gave penicillin to Aldridge _____ g.e. 100,000 units.

JH Kurre.

6-14-1944 (Wed.)

Our rush work is slacker than one week ago. Hospitals are set up on the French coast which handle many casualties on the beach, also air transport C-47⁵⁴ are used for transferring casualties to England. We moved into another Sick Bay in Dockyard Base, small but O'K'. Operated on two of Ron 35 casualties' shrapnel wounds. 1. shoulder 2. debridement of shrapnel wounds. Both legs, tendon repair finger and compound fracture of femur. Dr. Gonzalez and I had it out over these patients. He is on my s-list

JH Kurre.

6-15-1944 (Thurs.)

Air raid again last night, no eggs dropped, a few contact mines dropped in the drink. Men and equipment still rolling by in quantity, especially tanks for the far shore. There was a small local fire last night a very dinky fire truck went out, on it was about 1 barrel of water and some sand. We really got a bang out of this. These British are about 1,000 years behind the game to me. Their heating's, plumbings, cars, trains, etc. on and on.

JH Kurre.

6-16-194 (Fri.)

54. C47- Military transport airplane

Air raid in daylight today, we later learned pilotless planes⁵⁵ something started today by Jerry. All at this hospital is running smooth

JH Kurre.

6-17-1944 (Sat.)

My routine is something like this. Hit the deck at 0700, chow, ward rounds at 0800, sick call at P.T. base 9-10, surgery 10-12. Then chow work up all new admissions sick call for base 1400-1600. After 1600 relax, write read or box till chow 1730. Every 4th day I am M.O.O.D. Evening ward rounds then secure if nothing urgent. Either Mike, John and I are on call rotating nights. Today just put on several casts which is done almost daily, minor surgery as before

JH Kurre.

6-18-1944 (Sun.)

Sunday is as always a full working day for all hands. Did another appendectomy today and a pilonidal cyst. Bill Watson is on the road to recovery, a good patient if there ever was one, a tough case though. Requiring great care. The other head injury case is good, he will be transferred to Netley to USA, he well deserves it. Pilotless planes are being used by Jerry and apparently doing considerable harm. Mail from home is going O'K' now

JH Kurre.

6-19-1944 (Monday)

Went to Weymouth, Eng. 4 miles away, probably a good place as England goes in peacetime, very poor now. There are many ships in the harbor, Germans, prisoners are brought here by L.S.T, talked with them this morning.

Germans using flying bombs over Southern England especially London, few passed over but none dropped here

JHKurre.

6-20-1944 (Tues.)

55. Pilotless Planes- This is the V-1, "Flying Bomb." They were used on June 13th, 1944 against London. The Germans considered them "revenge weapons," and used them against the allies as revenge for D-Day

O.O.D. today again. Did pilonidal cyst under spinal also hemorrhoidectomy. The cyst was the longest I have ever seen, a very large amount of tissue was removed. Artie Shaws⁵⁶ old band was here this afternoon to entertain the patients, they were very good. I do a little boxing also every afternoon for exercise JH Kurre.

6-21-1944 (Wed.)

Daily I do almost all dressings on surgical wards this requires about 2-3 hours. Gave shots and boosters to the base force. No mail from home for a long time now.

Our boys are still out in the channel, but apparently things are quiet. They patrol the West wall of Beachhead (Mason Line)⁵⁷. At P.T. Sick Bay. Things are running well

JH Kurre.

6-22-1944 (Thurs.)

Mail came through today, we were all happy to hear from home. Pinned on elbow, olecranon⁵⁸ process (Kirschner Wire⁵⁹) fracture of humerus. (lateral condyle) did an appendectomy with Dr. Burghardt, also minor usual stuff

JH Kurre.

6-23-1944 (Fri)

Admitted Scott Whitehouse diagnosis periostitis⁶⁰ left thumb. Dr. Gosis and I gave him Pentothal and did fish mouth incision. He came from D.D.⁶¹. 722 U.S.S. Barton, Dr. Glasscock (Ron 30) took his place aboard ship. Scott and I have many things to talk over.

JH Kurre.

6-24-1944 (Sat)

56. Artie Shaw- Very well know Jazz clarinetist. May have been the band, "Artie Shaw & the Gramercy Five."

57. Mason Line- A defensive navel line to protect against German ships out of Cherbourg, France

58. Olecranon- known as the "funny bone."

59. Kirschinn Wire- Sterilized, sharpened, smooth stainless steel pins used to treat & stabilize fractures.

60. Periostitis- Finger infection known as the felon

61. D.D.- Destroyer

Scott doing fine. Did hernia and pilonidal cyst today also ingrown nail, warts and minor surgery.

2 pharmacists mates only now ride the P.T. boats, things are pretty quiet in the channel. Military gear and men go almost constantly, we see many planes (all our own) overhead.

JH Kurre.

6-25-1944 (Sun)

Scott's ship got in some action shelling Cherbourg, some of our ships hit. We received 7 compound fractures from Texas⁶², femurs and tibias, very busy workout for us.

JH Kurre.

6-26-1944 (Mon.)

Did compound fracture upper 1/3 of tibia, put Kirschner, wire through calcaneus⁶³ traction 15 pounds traction used. We use skeletal traction (Kirschner Wires) on many fractures humerus through Olecranon process for femur through tibia near tibial tuberosity for fractures of tibia through calcaneus. Our results and reduction are very good, patients tolerate this well.

JH Kurre.

6-27-1944 (Tues.)

Scott is coming along fine, I dress his thumb every other day. We went to Weymouth this afternoon, bought some material for suit for Mary Lewis, also a little book for my son. Had big-blow-out with Gouzalez. We really had it.

JH Kurre.

6-28-1944 (wed.)

62. Texas- Known as USS Texas, a battleship built in 1910, now in a museum in Galveston, Tx

63. Calcaneus- Heel bon- The wires go through thr heel adding weights to use traction to hold bone straight

Mr. Harris came in, we had long confab things are going well with our boys. Scott discharge to duty went aboard his ship for chow and good-bye, He will take M.L.'s material as they are returning to U.S.A. lucky guys.

Link was also aboard, same ole boy a little fatter and a mustache, Link is M.O. on U.S.S. Wauke.

Did appendectomy under spinal, simple case

JH Kurre.

6-29-1944 (Thurs.)

Went by truck to Exeter, all squadron gear is stored here also Med. Supply Depot U.K. is here. All our medical gear was checked and now all is to be stored in Portland. So if we move, we can get ahold of it. Stayed overnight at Exeter, a very good base, went to Torquay with Dr. Irani and Chief Laster had a good time.

JH Kurre.

6-30-1944 (Fri.)

Returned to base hospital, the countryside enroute was very beautiful. Brought back with me a big knife, parka, carbine and some work shirts and pants.

JH Kurre.

7-1-1944 (sat.)

Put cast on one of our boys fracture lower 1/3 fibula, applied also walking iron⁶⁴. Discussed plans with Little AL about moving to Cherbourg, we expect to go there soon.

JH Kurre.

7-2-1944 (sun.)

Went aboard P.T. 498 (Bill squire) for a few days trip to French coast. Radar trouble delayed our sailing today.

Did hernia and appendectomy also minor stuff at hospital

JH Kurre.

64. Walking Iron- A "U" shaped piece of iron which is incorporated into the cast. This helps with no weight being applied to the bottom of cast when walking.

7-3-1944 (Mon.)

Shoved off at 0900 with P.T. 498. Mr. Harris is aboard, we went directly to Isle San Marcouf, on Mason Line Utah beach runs north from here to Omaha Beach. We did patrol duty, no action. We are about 4 miles off coast of France, no enemy here.

JH Kurre.

7-4-1944 (Tues.)

We are patrolling off San Marcouf (Mason Line) The French coast nearby is Utah Beach where American forces first landed. Land mines go off regularly the noise and smoke is terrific. We have had a pretty quiet day, the sea is calm. Mr. Harris and Bukeley, are with us. We have flare duty tonight that is to shoot out Jerry's flares which really give off light. There are many ships here chief LST and liberty ships

JH Kurre.

7-5-1944 (Wed.)

We have been patrolling all day. Had an air raid last night only flares dropped as far as we know. We answered a distress call about 2000, a liberty ship hit a mine. There was injured and casualties aboard the medical staff aboard could handle the situation. Took a few movies

JH Kurre.

7-6-1944 (Thurs.)

We went to Cherbourg peninsula to the breakwater just in front of the City of Cherbourg we did not go ashore. Many mine sweeps are busy about the harbor exploding mines, a mine really sounds off and shakes us up. More flares and air raids by Jerry last night.

JH Kurre.

7-7-1944 (fri.)

Still out in the English Channel, we returned to the Mason Line today, this is about 40 miles from Cherbourg. We went aboard "Buzz Saw" for a shower and dinner, Harris and Bukeley with us. All ships here use radio for communications. The names are very old- pole- cat⁶⁵, tomcat, dog, Baldy, Tiger, Buzz Saw etc.

JH Kurre.

7-8-1944 (sat.)

Went back to patrolling just off of Cherbourg today. We got ashore on the breakwater, which is quite a structure protecting the harbor both from rough sea and the enemy. (built by Napoleon). The Germans lived in the forts here, there are many shells, damaged guns, evidence of their living quarters, food, beds, clothing and also evidence of a rough shelling from the sea. Many mines in the harbor are being exploded by mine-sweeps. Two of these craft were lost today including all hands from mines

JH Kurre.

7-9-1944 (Sun)

Back to Portland aboard P.T. 501 (Bill Ball) sea was a little choppy. Yourmans admitted to the hospital diagnosis- traumatic arthritis, also Twadell admitted diagnosis- pilonidal cyst?

Back to the ole routine

JH Kurre.

7-10-1944 (Mon).

Did hemorrhoid case today, also operated on Twadell closing the wound with heavy silk pilonidal cyst. Admitted Moore CM1/c⁶⁶ to hospital diagnosis – peptic ulcer

JH Kurre.

7-11-1944 (Tues.)

65. Pole-Cat- Slang for "Skunk"

66. CM1/c- Carpenters Mate 1st class

Moore, CM, 1/c transferred to US. Naval Hospital Nethy, admitted case of mumps to hospital from our squadron.

Things at P.T. base are going very well. Ron 34, 35, 30, and 2 all live at tent city, the boat crews all live aboard the boats. This sick Bay is very small, but rather neat. All Patients requiring extra care are sent to the Base Hospital. Drove to Bourmouth with Dr. Irani one of England's better places, something like Torquay. A resort place in peace time, now used almost exclusively by American's. English can't afford it, they sock it to us though

JH Kurre.

7-12/1944 (wed.)

Transferred Yourmans- traumatic arthritis to Netley for disposition. Playing softball broke my left thumb, Dr. Gosis sutured and splinted it for me. I will now work on the medical ward for a couple weeks.

JH Kurre.

7-13-1944 (Thurs.)

Routine work at the hospital, I am now on medical wards pneumonia, malaria, cat fevers, tonsillitis and a few cases of mumps.

JH Kurre.

7-14-1944 (Fri.)

Routine work, things at the hospital are quieter than for a month, our census is fairly high due to convalescing patients. Twadell doing nicely. Received two packages from home today from Mary Lewis.

JH Kurre.

7-15-1944 (sat.)

Plans made for 4 days leave to London request approved. Went to Exeter and Exmouth with Jim Doherty and Bill Squires plenty of drinks and good food at the officers club.

JH Kurre.

7-16-1944 (Sun)

Returned to Portland about 2 P.M. Things are pretty quiet at the hospital. My thumb is healing nicely. Our boats are still patrolling Mason Line, things are very quiet JH Kurre.

7-17-1944 (Mon)

Still on medical ward, nothing unusual happening.

We have quite a lot of V.D. g.c⁶⁷ treated by sulfathiazole if resistant after 1 week, 100,000 units of penicillin does the trick. Syphilis- Rx 3 mapharsen⁶⁸ and 1 c.c. of Bismuth per week, treat till total of 50. mapharsen .06 grams are given.

Two boys from P.T.'s admitted motorcycle accident 1. Multiple lacerations 2. Compound fracture of ankle and feet plaster and Orr Techniques used. JH Kurre.

7-18-1944 (Tues) Leave London 4 days

Shoved off at 0600 for 4 days leave in London went by jeep via southampton. Chief Laster, Frank Koenen and myself met at Savay got rooms nearby at Waldorf Hotel, many buzz bombs both day and night, they go right over and land all over the city. The noise of motor is loud, the blast loud and can be felt by sudden jar. Went to Covent gardens for a little fun.

JH Kurre.

7-19-1944- (Thus.)

Went about London visited Waterloo bridge, Thames River, #10 Downing Street, Buckingham Palace, Scotland yard, House of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, took picture snaps and movies. Visited Dunhills and Selfidges stores.

JH Kurre.

7-20-1944

Sight seeing around London visited Tower of London a most interesting place. Rode London subways, a buzz bomb went just over our heads this morning. Went to Hotel Saroy (Londons best) for dinner dancing Carol Gibbons orchestra. a very good place.

JH Kurre.

7-21-1944 (Fri.)

67. G.C.- Gonococcus which causes gonorrhea

68. Mapharsen- An arsenic based medicine to treat syphilis

Came back to Portland by trains, England's a trains are very small, and very very crowded about ½ of the people waiting could not get on the train at all. Arrived at Hospital about 1800 pretty tired, a very worthwhile trip.

JH Kurre.

7-22-1944 (sat.)

Back to work again on Surgical Wounds, my thumb is much better still a splint will be worn a few more days. Took Twadell's suture out, Bill Watson is slowly on the mend. Received another package from M.L. greatly appreciated.

JH Kuure.

07-23-1944 (sun.)

M.O.O.D. today. Things are in good order, mess inspection satisfactory. Routine work, many consultations for minor complaints we arrange now about 8-10 admissions daily. Went to Weymouth with Koener.

JH Kurre.

7-24-1944 (Mon.)

Infantry and military gear still rolling by,

Especially tanks go by here. My thumb dressed today by Mike it is doing excellent. No surgery for me for a few more days, I have been doing some medical reading recently. Things with the Squadron are going well, we expect to go to France soon

JH Kurre.

7-25-1944 (Tues.)

All dressings have been removed from my thumb, it is a little stiff but O'K'. Yourmans returned to the squadron for duty; he will be transferred to the state for limited duty. Went to U.S.O. show tonight only fair

JH Kurre.

7-26-1944 (Wed.)

Did pilonidal cyst and circumcision today. Gordon one of my previous cysts cases with very large excision, returned to duty, his progress was far better than I expected. Received another package from Mary Lewis. News from home is good, mail service is regular.

JH Kurre.

7-27-1944 (Thurs.)

Routine work, did ingrown Nail operation on one of the boys in the squadron. Lieut. Burleson came by for consultation, probably has peptic ulcer, put on milk between meals, amphogel⁶⁹ and Tincture of belladonna⁷⁰ for 1 weeks therapeutic test.

Played softball ball with the boys in our squadron, we have prospects for a good team.

JH Kurre.

7-28-1944 (Fri.)

Did appendectomy pilonidal cyst and circumcision today one of the boys in the squadron. My thumb is 100%. Played softball, I pitch for the team. We had an excellent game with RON 30, we won 3-1.

JH Kurre.

7-29-1944- (sat.)

Mr. Harris and Sheretz and I talked about plans for our departure to Cherbourg, which will probably be very soon. LT. (JG) Murphy shoved off with 10 enlisted men for France to get things ready for us. Dr. Gosis took a trip out with the boys went on 499 (Frazier).

JH Kurre.

7-30-1944 (Sun.)

Today is about the only real good summer day we have had. Took a few pictures Laster, Bryzcki, Olsen and myself. Yourmans returned from Netley, recommendation made to C.O. by letter that he be transferred to U.S.

JH Kurre.

7-31-1944 (Mon)

69. Amphogel- Aluminum hydroxide taken by mouth

70. Tincture of Belladonna- A liquid extract to be taken by mouth made from the belladonna plant

Lieut Burleson A. and D. to U.S. Naval Hospital Netley. Our plans call for departure 8-2 to France. We are now making plans for packing and transporting all our medical supplies. Spent busy day picking up Lyster bags⁷¹ and Calcium hypo chloride also rat, flea and mosquito repellants and insecticides. Personal gear squared away.

JH Kurre.

8-1-1944 (Tues.)

Final plans made our gear is to be loaded tonight and taken to Houd 2 for loading aboard on L.S.T. Byzki and Solokowski are to remain with gear, Laster, Olsen and I with few medical supplies for Emergencies will go by P.T. boat to France. Did pilonidal cyst, circumcision and applied cast for fracture of elbow.

JH Kurre.

8-2-1944 (Wed.)

All our medical supplies are aboard the L.S.T. with exception of little gear we carry with us. At 0800 all hands were loaded aboard the boats, we did not depart though due to heavy loads on our P.T. boats and foul weather in the channel.

JH Kurre.

8-3-1944 (Thurs.)

Stayed aboard P.T. 503, we all are standing by for better weather to leave England. Officers played enlisted men softball, we won 6-5 a very good game, everybody bet one pound on the outcome. We have final orders to depart tomorrow.

JH Kurre.

8-4-1944 (Fri.) Cherbourg France

71. Lyster Bags- A bag developed by William Lyster to purify water in the field. The water is stored in canvas bags and treated with calcium hypochlorite. As the canvas fibers swell it stops the bag from leaking

Again stayed aboard P.T. 503 overnight.

0900- Left England aboard 503 for France. Quiet easy trip across, arrived Cherbourg about

1300. Move ashore to officers quarters #17 Rue Vicotor Hugo, the enlisted men to barracks at French navy yard. Our quarters are very foul and dirty, is this a smelly place (whew), very tired tonight. Sept on French soil, we really have a job to get this place in any decent shape

JH Kurre.

8-5-1944 (sat.)

Jerry really wrecked this place before he left. Our quarters have no furniture except cots which we brought. Flies and mosquitos are terrible. Cold water (not drinkable) is on for one hour a day. We have one head⁷² in the officers quarters, it does not work. No electricity either in Cherbourg. The enlisted men are worse off. I spent today with Chief Laster assisting with a working party cleaning up enlisted men's quarters Flies, fleas and dirt and filth is everywhere. There are no toilet facilities at all. In some of the ground floor rooms besides dirt, broken furniture and glass, there is straw, manure, human feces etc.

We clean up with brooms, mops with a little cold water, wiped clean the walls. Another crew started digging latrines, we put up lyster bags with calcium hypo-chloride for drinking water.

Our chow is out of Mess Kits in the open and K-rations Netterstron is in charge of the base. We all did a hard days work

JH Kurre.

8-6-1944 (Sun.)

Another full days work. My attempts to get a jeep for medical department not satisfactory no soap. Doing more of the same as yesterday constructing heads, cleaning the place up, cutting a hole on the stone wall so the men can get to chow on a short cut. Land and sea ___ constantly going off, really sounding off. To shower is impossible, one must bathe in cold water usually a helmet full, our barrack is full of mosquitos, flies and fleas, we use powder D.D.S liquid insecticide(aerosol bombs) and insect repellants. Our sick bay will be three room which all need the works for a cleaning job. The C.B.'s have assigned to us for repairing windows, door, building showers and a head.

They are nice guys, I am in charge of sanitation so I will work with them

JH Kurre.

8-7-1944 (Mon.)

72. Head- Bathroom

Great progress has been made, the officers and enlisted men are at least fairly clean. The head is now in operation named "Kurre's Cozy Krapper" it is not bad at all. The showers will be finished in a few days, the barracks and Sick Bay are being wired. The Sick Bay at present is very crude but I know will shape up. We have only the supplies we carried with us. Everybody is very willing to work, we have a good gang, the CB's are wonderful.

JH Kurre.

8-8-1944 (Tues.)

Our L.S.T. with the squadron supplies pulled into port. The remainder of the base force, with only their personal gear and bunks moved ashore to the barracks. Everybody is getting their sacks and quarters squared away. The lack of water and electricity puts a big hardship on us. The fleas are giving us a merry battle, but we are always on their tail. Our boys really look out for themselves. The men have ramsacked Cherbourg for furniture, tables, chairs etc they have as usual done remarkably well.

Several of the fellows are building a car from many badly wrecked german machines, Our boys don't know when to quit. We have put in some very full days.

JH Kurre.

8-9-1944 (Wed.)

The new men are pretty well squared away in their quarters. Our Sick Bay is now ready for medical gear. Our P.T. boats operated last night for the first time in the channel Islands, Sark, Herm, Guernsey and Jersey, all german held.

At 1200 the U.S.S. Malloy put in a radio call for me. At 0830 this date our boats had a rugged dog-fight with German M class sweeps off Jersey Island and we had suffered severe casualties. I went aboard P.T. 501 and rushed to the U.S.S. Malloy. The wounded and dead were transferred from P.T.'s to the vectoring ship D.E. 791 U.S.S. Malloy. As a result of enemy engagement 7 casualties were aboard, I was the only doctor (No doc.carried on D.E.)

The wounded were examined, morphine, plasma, dressings, debridement and sulfa locally and sulfadiazine were administered. All were transferred by ambulance as soon as possible to U.S. Naval Hospital Cherbourg.

2 men Albright and Brum were killed

Following were severely injured and admitted to the hospital: Peppel (abdomen); Lang (chest), Albee (hand and leg).

Following were treated for shrapnel wounds: Schunitz, Koenon, Foucher, Nouse, Fishe, Biele, Hatmaker, and Bailey.

The entire officers and men of P.T. 509, which was blown up, were missing (all presumably lost)

Crist, Mathes, Pavlis, Ausley, Bricken, Horsfield, Lornak, Line, Lossin, Page, Reynolds, Ricci, Shaforth, Thale, and Wypick. This is indeed our unhappy day

JH Kurre.

8-10-1944 (Thurs.)

at 2000 yesterday we left on our second patrol To these Islands on the D.E. 791, we went to Guernsey and Jersey patrol station about 10 miles off Jersey. Arrived in port 1130 today, quiet mission, no enemy encountered. Our medical supplies arrived today, they were in good shape, all our gear was put in the Sick Bay. No trip today.

JH Kurre.

8-11-1944 (Fri.)

Went to U.S. Navy Hospital to see our patients all are doing well. The dead have been buried at U.S. Military Cemetery, STE. Mere Egliste. Busy day getting medical supplies for Sick Bay unpacked. We have large and excellent supplies. Received emergency call at 1600, Romno D.L. S C⁷³ 1/c was very severely burned in galley when gasoline stove exploded. He was given morphine, plasma, and D.S.D. and rushed to U.S. Naval Hospital. 1700 Went aboard D.E. 790 U.S.S. Borum for trip to Channel Islands, 4 P.T. accompanied us.

JH Kurre.

8-12-1944 (sat.)

Awakened at 0200 by shells exploding near the ship, general quarters sounded. We were about 8 miles from Jersey when Jerry opened up with the shore batteries, very close. The P.T.'s were sent in to attack German ships moving from Jersey.

0300 - 3 wounded men from P.T.'s transferred to Borum for treatment injured from enemy gunfire. Arterbury shrapnel LT. chest and LT arm; Atherton penetrating gunshot wound left thigh, Weber Shrapnel wound left elbow. Morphine, plasma, sulfa powder and DSD locally after debridement and sulfadiazine orally was administered. All wounded were transferred via P.T. boat at 1500 to Naval Hospital Cherbourg, France.

Movies have been set up in the enlisted men's barracks and will be shown every night at 1930. In general things are going well at the base

JH Kurre.

8-13-1944 (Sun.)

Our Sick Bay is coming along fine, we are setting things up gradually, the place will be very good. Orders were published regarding duties and policy concerning pharmacist's mates. Went out at 1700 on U.S.S. Borum. We had enemy contacts about 11:30 P.M., P.T.'s sent in and torpedo's fired. P.T.'s called out and 2 British Tin can's⁷⁴ moved in and a dog-fight ensued. I was on Bridge watching, we were at G.Q. the sky was light with flares, and tracers and large guns almost constantly fired, a running battle for 2 ½ hours. We were shelled again, close but not as close as before.

JH Kurre.

8-14-1944 (Mon.)

73. S C- Ships Cook

74. Tin Can's- Destroyer Ship

Back at 0930 to Cherbourg via 505 Lt. Godfrey. We are still unpacking and squaring away gear at Sick Bay. All our boys at the hospital are doing very well. Out again to Channel Islands at 1730 via 461 (Ron 30) to U.S.S. Borum. Quiet night, no enemy targets appeared

JH Kurre.

8-15-1944 (Tues.)

Romero, D.L. SC 1/c dies of severe burns at U.S. Naval Hospital. Cherbourg, France. Things at Sick Bay are going along well. Chief Laster and the pharmacist mate handle routine cases, others I see when we get in. Our ambulance is very useful and a great help. At 1500 a very impressive memorial ceremony was held in French Marine Barracks for our 3 dead, 15 missing and many wounded shipmates. All the squadron was in blues, taps were sounded, a very fitting tribute. Operations again in channel about U.S.S. Borum, no enemy targets appeared, we patrolled with 6 P.T. boats between Guernsey and Jersey Islands.

JH Kurre.

8-16-1944 (Wed.)

Arrived in port at 0930. Brzycki and I made a trip to Valonez to request ambulance from Army Supply Depots. We made rounds of Army chain of command, we were successful and drove an ambulance home. We now have badly needed transportation.

We are all very happy about the ambulance. Operations cancelled for tonight. Movies shown in enlisted mens barracks for the first time, we will have movies every night now.

JH Kurre.

8-17-1944 (Thurs.)

Everything is shaping up at Sick Bay, our bunks and record and supply room are all set. Our treatment room is being worked on. Our autoclave is set up, the boys are making emergency packs to be autocelaved. Out tonight on U.S.S. Borum again no Jerry's showed up. Again our ship went to G.Q. and was shelled from the beach.

JH Kurre.

8-18-1944 (Fri.)

A really rough trip back on P.T. 461 my roughest ride. I was sitting in a strong chair which broke, 3 enlisted men top side banged around and bruised a little. C.B.'s still at work for us, putting sink in our treatment room, doors on Sick Bay, repairing etc, they are sure swell fellows. No trip out tonight, thank God for a little rest, the sack at #17 Victor Hugo will be mighty fine.

JH Kurre.

8-19-1944 (sat.)

Our Sick Bay is now completed. We have autoclave, sterilizer, microscope, hot and cold water, and 10 bunks. Went out to channel Islands aboard British Tin can⁷⁵ H.M.S. Ulysses, met Dr. Hembly M.O.⁷⁶ aboard that ship. We had a quiet night.

JH. Kurre.

8-20-1944 (sun.)

Tonight I will Not go out due to British M.O. being aboard. Routine duties at Sick Bay.

Visited hospital, all our patients are doing well Mr. Sherutz fractures his big toe. X-Rays were taken, confirming diagnosis. Treatment by adding wood 1/2" to sole of shoe, cutting out area of big toe.

JH. Kurre.

8-21-1944 (Mon)

Telephone installed in Sick Bay today, routine cases treated, we have Sick call of 20-25 patients daily, we are treating 2 leutics⁷⁷, have 7 men on Sick List. Out at 1600 on D.E. 790 U.S.S. Borum

JH Kurre.

8-22-1944 (Tues)

76. M.O. Medical Officer

77. Luetics- Lues is an old term for Syphilis

We were shelled from the beach, Guernsey Island about 8 miles away, 8 and 10 inch guns. Some of the shells were very close, quite an experience. We had a very very rough trip back requiring 8 hours for about 100 miles. Did my laundry today at 17 RUE Victor Hugo, washed clothes in cold water, scrub brush and soap. Hung 'em out on the line, no ironing or pressing facilities available. At night aboard ship all hands, when we are in enemy area (every night), sleep or lie down in all their clothes. We remove our coat, loosen our ties, take off ours shoes, then sack out leaving all other clothes on. We have helmet and life preserver at hand. Out again at 1600 on U.S.S. Borum

JH Kurre.

8-23-1944 (wed.)

Routine work at Sick Bay, all patients are doing well, 2 cat fevers⁷⁸ discharged to duty. 4 wounded patients are still in Sick Bay.

Out to sea at 1600 aboard P.T.'s took inside route. Fired at by Jerries on Sark Island, shells were about 1,000 yards short, we were 4 miles away. Next we hit Guernsey area 8 miles off shore, 10" opened up on us and we really had a time.

At soon as we saw flashes from their guns we would change course and speed which is something on at P.T. at full speed, then wait for the shells to hit. They hit all arounds us on both sides fore and aft. One shell whizzed right over the cockpit dropping 20 feet from us, exploding with a bang, shrapnel hit the boat. My heart was really in my mouth, a shell of that size would tear us to pieces exploding. Went aboard the Borum, at night again we were fired upon from the Beach, this Time Not Too close

JH Kurre.

8-24-1944 (Thurs.)

All at Sick bay going Nicely, electricity, radio and refrigerator now in operation. Heads and showers working well, drinking water from Lyster bags, chlorine easily palatable, we can do nothing about this. My hand laundry again in operation. Going out every night in the channel takes a great deal of my time from about 1600 one day to 1000 the following morning. Out again at 1000 on D.E. 790

JH Kurre.

8-25-1944 (Fri.)

78. Cat Fevers- A respiratory infection accompanied by a fever. This phrase was mainly used in the U.S. Navy

In port about 1100, I then go by 17 RUE Victor Hugo, clean up a bit eat noon chow at officers mess and report to Sick Bay.

I do not eat breakfast, so I am losing a little weight, down to 185. All patients are doing well. Out to Borum at 1530, when we arrived on Borum 4 patients were waiting for me. 4 army fliers had just been picked up on a raft after their plane was shot down over Brest⁷⁹, 4 out of 6 from a B-26 (Mitchell Bomber).

All 4 had been in the drink about 2 hours, they were very cold and wet.

Wet clothing was removed, brandy given, dry clothing and then they were put to bed with blankets and hot water bottles. One man had a dislocated shoulder. Morphine was given, the dislocation was reduced by traction.

The 4 boys were might, mighty happy to be rescued: Peters, Donald J. dislocated Lt. shoulder, exposure, Mosckic, Frank P. exposure and minor lacerations; Rice E.Z. and Hetnick, R. J. all were 2nd Lieut. U.S. Army.

We were shelled again at sea from the Beaches, G.Q. alerted

JH Kurre.

8-26-1944 (sat.)

Returned to Cherbourg by P.T.'s with 4 survivors, they were delivered by ambulance to U.S. Army Hospital, Cherbourg. The shoulder patient felt very good, all were deeply grateful to us.

Around Sick Bay took a few photos. Out again (damnit, I'm very tired) at 1600 by P.T. to U.S.S. Borum. Tonight we go just off of STE. Malo, (our hands now) to fight Jerry shipping from small Island in that area. Quiet Night.

JH Kurre.

8-27-1944 (sun.)

Back in port about 1130, a fairly long ride from Ste. Malo 130 miles, the route we go. Routine cases at Sick Bay, warts, luetic shots, removed a piece of steel from an eye. All our hospitalization cases (4) are doing well.

Out at 1600 on U.S.S. Borum. We patrolled around St. Malo no enemy targets seen

JH Kurre.

8-28-1944 (Mon.)

79. Brest- A city in France

Returned to port about 1200, about 140 miles return trip by P.T. this daily trip makes me very tired and uses up a great deal of my time.

Routine Work at Sick Bay, opened a rectal abscess, frank pus released.

Did not go out tonight, instead took about 2 hours ride around France South of Cherbourg, very beautiful countryside, though terribly scared and destroyed by War. The French people have really suffered

JH Kurre.

8-29-1944 (Tues.)

Routine work at Sick Bay, we have a great amount of simple diarrheas, treated by Bismuth and paregoric Mixture⁸⁰. Cyst (sebaceous) removed from ant⁸¹ chest skin.

Out at 1300 on P.T. 505 en route to patrol area south of St. Malo, a very rough 6 hour trip went aboard U.S.S. Borum, no enemy targets appeared. Jerry just won't come out. We had 3 tin cans, 1 D.E. and 8 P.T.'s waiting for him

JH Kurre.

8-30-1944 (Wed.)

Arrive back in Cherbourg 1230 aboard P.T. 505 another very rough tiresome grind.

At Sick Bay got on the mates to clean up a little, a little carelessness. Saw several routine consults, one Dunnsavage, 2 times operated on for intestinal adhesions, has complaints of upper abdominal distress and vomiting.

No trip out tonight, due to rough weather

JH Kurre.

8-31-1944 (Thurs.)

80. Paregoric Mixture- Anhydrous morphine, primary use is for diarrhea

81. Ant- Abbreviation for Anterior- medical term meaning "front"

Took ambulance went about 35 miles to bring a patient from Army field hospital to our Sick Bay. Willie Wotherspoon injured in automobile accident multiple lacerations and contusions. Army field hospital altogether in tents, nice docs, they showed us around and gave us chow. Army nurses looked good to us.

Back to Cherbourg about 1600. Again no P.T. boats operate due to rough sea. Quiet night at #17 RUE Victor Hugo

JH Kurre.

9-1-1944 (Fri.)

Attempting to get enlisted mens quarters and Sick Bay in better condition of order and cleanliness. Especially the quarters are very foul. A written report concerning general sanitation and cleanliness was forwarded to the C.O. Wotherspoon is getting along well as can be expected.

JH Kurre.

9-2-1944 (sat.)

Inspection of enlisted mens quarters, Sick Bay, showers heads etc. Mr. Schurtz, Netterstron and I did inspecting. Admitted to Sick Bay Reffler, A. diagnosis cat fever acute. Did ingrown nail operation on Bennia, local anesthesia. Submitted report to C.O. on all men recommended for purple heart.

Admitted Queeney Lt. (JG) to Sick Bay diagnosis cat fever acute.

JH Kurre.

9-3-1944 (Sun.)

Admitted to Sick Bay Bosley, S.B. G.M.⁸² 3/c diagnosis bronchial asthma. Admitted Bennett R.E. MoMM 1/c to U.S. Naval dispensary Cherbourg, France D.U. medical observation possibly tuberculosis. Our refrigerator is now working which is a great help to us.

All patients at Hospital at Cherbourg doing well. Admitted griffins, to Dispensary diagnosis decreased vision Lt. eye (possibly detached retina.)

JH Kurre.

9-4-1944 (Mon.)

82. G.M.- Gunner's Mate

Routine Sick call, Daily average of 20-25 patients. 6 patients in Sick Bay all doing satisfactory

Bennett, Mom1/c chest x-ray af, checked with Lt Comm Morris Dispensary 924 for poss tbc⁸³. X-Ray is suspicious of cavity left upper lobe, more x-rays, sputum's being run. Luetic shots are being given as scheduled on Mon. Bis⁸⁴ and mapharsen, on Wed. and Fri. Mapharsen only. Meeting of pharmacists mates held twice weekly. Mon. and Thurs. At 1300.

Shirley, George Pharm 2/c reported for duty with M.T.B. Ron 34 he is to replace Brzycki.

JH Kurre.

9-5-1944 (Tues.)

Tuesday is our day each week for giving shots and immunizations, the names are read at quarters.

Reffler A. Lt (JG) discharged to duty.

Wotherspoon, W. condition improved, he is now able to bear a little weight on this extremity

Requisition made out for medical supplies via C.O.⁸⁵ via COUSNAAB.

Waterberry brought to Sick Bay Acute alcoholism report made to C.O.

Last evening went to Dilette, small village 30 miles from here for a meal and a few drinks. My French is coming slow but sure.

JH Kurre.

9-6-1944 (wed.)

Recommendations made for return to the States of some of our men as 20 replacements have arrived. Those wounded and physically handicapped were given first choice. Fly bombs (Freon-Aersol) #25 were received from the Navy Supply Dump, our fly problem should now be solved. Medical department is running fairly smoothly our ambulance is of much use to us.

JH Kurre.

9-7-1944 (Thurs.)

83. Tbc- Medical abbreviation for tuberculosis

84. Bis- Short for Bismuth

85. C.O.- Commander of U.S. Naval Advanced Base

Our Flies are killed. I believe this problem is now over. These bombs are excellent.

Bennett, MoMM1/c discharged to duty, tuberculosis suspect diagnosis- no diseases.

First Aid boxes on P.T. boats checked, fly bombs put on each boat.

The weather here now is quite cold, requiring 3 blankets at night, the channel is very rough our boats have operated one night in the past 9. The days are greatly shortened over those of 2 mo. ago, daylight now from 0700-0830.

JH Kurre.

9-8-1944 (Fri.)

Plans are being made for transferring 22 men from the squadron to the states.

All paper work has been done, these men are physically qualified, Bryzcki has been included with these men.

1400-22 men (the first men to be so ordered) left here for trip to States, these men have been relieved.

Admitted to S. bay Prine, J.S. gm1/c diagnosis Malaria

JH Kurre.

9-9-1944 (sat.)

Routine work at Sick Bay.

A trip was made to Army Supply Depot for medical supplies St. Mere Eglise. This is where our men killed in action are buried.

The boats operated again tonight, we have operated only two nights out of ten.

Attended movie in enlisted men's barracks, very good rec. hall

JH Kurre.

9-10-1944 (sun.)

Another full working day.

A1⁸⁶ Nav came through. I received promotion to Lieut. USN. As of Sept 1- 1944.

Basketball court (outdoor) has been set up this will be a good form of recreation for our men.

Went fishing late in the afternoon to coast nearby here, no luck fishing, an enjoyable few hours though.

JH Kurre.

9-11-1944 (Mon.)

Discharged to duty Machinist Harmon simple headache, and gm 1/c Prine diagnosis malaria.

Atabrine⁸⁷ gms⁸⁸.3 for 3 doses, .1 gram tid for 7 days, .1 gms daily for 2 months.

Admitted Pasquale, P.M. Sea 1/c to Sick Bay diagnosis gonorrhea, urethritis Rx sulfathiazole for 5 days, on second day Penicillin 100,000 U.

1300 meeting with pharmacist's mates, discussion concerning gonorrhea urethritis and syphilis

JH Kurre.

9-12-1944 (Tues.)

Wotherspoon, W. Lt. (JG) discharged from Sick List to binn. List

1300- We received notice from C.O. that our entire squadron and supplies will return to U.K. This means we start packing all our gear for transfer to England. From there we expect further order. We sure hope to head home.

Went to Dilette with 6 other officers for a few drinks and chow

JH Kurre.

9-13-1944 (wed.)

86. A1- A USNR officer designation

87. Atabrine- Medication for malaria

88. GMS- Grams

We start packing and crating all our medical supplies. This is quite a job, we have a large amount of heavy gear.

Davis R.E. STM⁸⁹ 1/c discharged to duty from appendectomy

Campbell F.W.A.SC⁹⁰ 1 /c discharged to duty from malaria and mumps.

More packing this afternoon we go back to the U.K. we are waiting for further orders.

JH Kurre.

9-14-1944 (Thurs.)

Still packing and crating supplies, most for shipment. Some few supplies are being packed for emergency use. All our boats and some of our officers left today for the U.K. The remainder including most base force personnel and all the medical department will await a ship for us and all our supplies. We crated our refrigerator today which is quite a job.

JH Kurre.

9-15-1944 (Fri.)

Finished packing and crating all our supplies. We plan on loading our gear aboard ship tomorrow. Only 6 officers and 149 enlisted men are here in Cherbourg, the remainder have gone to England.

Pasquale Sea 1/c⁹¹ discharged to duty, excellent results so far with Sulfathiazole and penicillin (100,000u.) for gonorrhea.

JH Kurre.

9-16-1944 (Sat.)

89. STM- Stewards Mate

90. SC- Ship's Cooks

91. Sea 1/c- Seaman 1st class

We are busy getting all our supplies ready for shipment, about half of our supplies including our refrigerator and heavy box of mattresses loaded aboard trucks. Only 6 officers and 149 enlisted men are here in France, the remainder have gone back to England

JH Kurre.

9-17-1944 (Sun.)

Very little work done today, we are standing by waiting for the L.S.T. In the evening we 6 offices drove to Barfleur we purchased a few trinkets, a bottle of wine and had a good meal there. This is quite a busy port

JH Kurre.

9-18-1944 (Mon.)

The L.S.T. as scheduled to arrive at 0800 did not arrive so we killed time most of the day. At 1700 L.S.T. #59 docked here we are to load tomorrow. All patients have been discharged to duty, the medical department is ready to go.

JH Kurre.

9-19-1944 (Tues.)

All hands busy loading our supplies about 250 tons aboard the L.S.T. All our personnel gear, our bunks etc. have been broken down and are ready to go.

1400- We have about 75 tons loaded orders arrived received to stop loading and now unload. We are to set up our base again for operation. Whatta mix-up whatta mess.

All hands work to dark very hard to unload. The L.S.T. discharged, it weighed anchor and shoved off.

JH Kurre.

9-20-1944 (wed.)

All our supplies received and store. We start unpacking and setting up our Sick Bay on a smaller scale. Our orders are to set up on a small scale until a definite decision has been reached wether we stay here or shove off for another port.

JH Kurre.

9-21-1944 (Thurs.)

Russell, Tm⁹² 1/c sent to Naval Dispensary for medical consultation concerning peptic ulcer. Things are very quiet here, only the base force is here, no boats nor repair work is being done. Our medical set up consists of 4 bunks and emergency gear only. Admitted Russel, J.M TM1/c to U.S. Naval Hospital, Cherbourg diagnosis D.U. peptic ulcer of the pharmacist's mates and myself went fishing near Audeville, no fish but a good party JH Kurre.

9-22-1944 (Fri.)

We are still more or less standing by waiting for orders for our squadron's disposition.

Mr. Harris came over from Portland for a short visit, he knows no news concerning our disposition. He is recommending that we be transferred from the E.T.O.⁹³ Our boats have nothing to do. Made a little trip about 15 miles from here for a little sun and little torp. Juice⁹⁴

JH Kurre.

9-23-1944 (sat.)

No new developments, we have almost nothing to do. Received pictures from Mary Lewis, she and L. Joe are both fine. He is walking now. Attended U.S.O. show here. They had me participate from the crowd as a doctor. A lotta fun. JH Kurre.

9-24-1944 (sun.)

We are still standing by, killing time with very little work to do. The weather here is rainy, windy and cold. The days are much shorter than one month ago. I am coming along very well with my French, almost none of the frogs⁹⁵ here can speak English. JH Kurre.

9-25-1944 (Mon.)

92. Tm- Torpedman's Mate

93. E.T.O.- European Theater of operations

94. Torp. Juice- Pineapple juice plus the 180 proof grain alcohol used as fuel for torpedo motors

95. Frog- A French slang term for French citizen

Everyone here is still on the same status, we have almost no work to do and are waiting for further orders. The time passes slowly just waiting around

JH Kurre.

9-26-1944 (Tues.)

Made a trip to Valognes with W. Sites to pick up a jeep from the Army Poor Ole Netterstron sure caught hell from us for letting our last jeep get away. Things are very quiet here, no work to do, no further news on our disposition

JH Kurre.

9-27-1944 (wed.)

Things are just the same no news. Had a baseball game between officers and enlisted men, we were winning, had a good time. Admitted to Hospital Dickinson pilonidal cyst.

JH Kurre.

9-28-1944 (Thurs.)

The six officers here and 60 of base force enlisted men are to go to England for few days leave. From the Medical department Olsen, Huffman, Sokolowski and myself are to go. Laster, Shirley and Hensley are to remain here

JH Kurre.

9-29-1944 (Fri.)

Packed up all my personal gear and left Cherbourg at 1000 for England. We, of course, came over by P.T. Boat, the Trip was very rough. Arrived in Portland at 1400 moved into a Tent at Tent City with Hank Bowman, Bing Williams and Willie Wothersponn, god, these tents are cold and windy and are not for me

JH Kurre.

9-30-1944 (sat.)

Changed my money from francs to pounds, caught at 1330 train for London for a 5 day leave. Moved into the Savoy Hotel, Bill Sites and I are making this leave together. Had a good night of drinking, etc.

JH Kurre.

October 1st 1944 (sun.)

Having a good time here in London, the Savoy is a very nice hotel. Saw a British play this afternoon "While the Sun Shines." It is very good. We are taking life free and easy. The hotel is very different from Tent City

JH Kurre.

October 2nd 1944 (Mon)

More rounds about London, visited a few famous places. We passed by Pickadilly about 2000, gad what a lash up⁹⁶, the famed commandos⁹⁷ are the worst I have ever seen- Not for me. The bobbys⁹⁸ just look on, unnoticing

JH Kurre.

October 3rd 1944 (Tues.)

Left London about 1100, took trains from Waterloo station to Bournemouth. Bournemouth is a very nice Southern English resort city. Stayed at Ambassador Hotel run by American Red Cross, this is a very good deal

JH Kurre.

October 4th 1944 (wed.)

Reported at 1400 back to duty in Portland. I will not go back to France. Our boats will operate from here only a few RON 34 men will continue to live in Cherbourg, the larger part will be here. I made a visit to the Dispensary, I was glad to see all the fellows. I will work here as during invasion days, back in the same room with Ward and Gosis.

JH Kurre.

October 5th 1944 (Thurs.)

96. Lash up- Meaning hastily put together

97. Commandos- Prostitutes

98. Bobbys- Slang for British policeman

Back again to the operating room. Gosis and I will work together in surgery as before. He is a helluva good guy and a good surgeon. I did 2 appendectomies today with Gosis, admitted Murphy- Otitis media and surgeon – dislocated semilunar⁹⁹cartilage.

JH Kurre.

October 6th 1944 (Fri.)

Laster, Ski, and Hensley will run the show for me in Cherbourg. Olsen, Shirley and Huffman will work over here at Sick Bay tent city. All our medical supplies will at present remain in France, all our records will be sent here. Routine work at the hospital. We manage to keep a little busy, but no big rush as during invasion days

JH Kurre.

October 7th 1944 (sat.)

Did appendectomy today and routine minor surgery. I like work here fine at this hospital, living conditions are the very best. I have seen in the E.T.O.

JH Kurre.

October 8th 1944 (Sun.)

Murphy- Otitis media is doing well sulfadiazine and neosyneprine nose spray.

Mr. Harris has pilonidal cyst and I am treating him for scabies. Went to Bridport with Shurertz, Daniels, Amy, Doc and Willie, quite a gross crew. Had a good time, quite a brawl.

JH Kurre.

October 9th 1944 (Mon.)

Most of the day spent in recuperating, routine work here at the hospital. I get MOOD duty every 4 days

JH Kurre.

October 10th 1944 (Tues.)

99. Semilunar- A Knee Meniscus, a locked knee- one that is hard to bend or straighten

Things are running very smoothly. Our boats are operating from this side, there is very little for them to do, their patrols around the Channel Islands are different from August. Jerry just stays put. At the hospital here same old routine.

JH Kurre.

October 11th 1944 (Wed.)

We have cold windy weather. I had a meeting with Harris and Sherutez about heating of P.T. boats and tents at tent city. Apparently our men will not be there much longer or if they will be different quarters will be provided. Heaters will be obtained for the boats and stoves for the tents!

JH Kurre.

October 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 1944

Routine hospital work, did a little major surgery, appendectomies, hernias, and one leg amputation. Things are far as the boats are concerned are very quiet, most days the channel is too rough for operations.

Gave exam for promotion to Lieut. to : Reffler, Lowery, and Robey

JH Kurre.

October 16th, 17th, 18th, 1944

On leave 72 hours to Bournemouth with Willie and Doc. Stayed at Ambassador Hotel, we drank our share of scotch and brandy, had a nice 3 days leave.

Among the previous guests there noted signature of Jesse Mountjoy¹⁰⁰, who was later killed in action

JH Kurre.

100. Jesse Mountjoy- This is the father to Jesse Mountjoy, Jr. who is an attorney in Owensboro, KY. Mountjoy, Sr and Kurre both grew up in central KY and attended University of Kentucky about the same time.

October 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 1944

Routine hospital work. Dr. Gosis and I run the surgery ward, we have average daily census of about 40. We alternate cases and make rounds twice daily together.

I get a good surgery experience, he is a sure swell guy and we get along fine. I am very lucky to work with him. Our boats do very little operating, all the fellows seem to think soon we will get orders. Almost no work is being done by about 1200 men

JH Kurre.

October 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 1944

We had an epidemic of food poisoning at tent city, we admitted 55 cases here with diarrhea, chills and fever some to 104-105. Dr. Glasscock had charge of tent city but I do not believe he is directly to blame. The cause was improper cleaning and washing of mess gear. Remedial measures are being taken no official Navy investigation was held after 3-4 days all hands were back to duty. This sudden onset of patients kept us pretty busy

JH Kurre.

October 30th -1944

Had a party of Ron 34 officers a dinner dance in Weymouth. We all really had a good time, all the fellows were able to attend. We drank medical alcohol and grapefruit juice mixed. Not Too bad to taste and whatta wallop.

JH Kurre.

October 31st- November 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th,1944

Things are going along about as usual. The boats are operating very little. There are rumors plans are underway for our decommissioning, giving the boats away, and all going home. Apparently there is something to this scuttlebutt Routine work here doing lacerations, abscesses, consultations, hemorrhoids, pilonidal cysts, tonsils, appendectomies, hernias etc. good experience for me.

JH Kurre.

November 6th 1944

I was M.O.O.D. today called at 2200 to Werymouth for badly injured head case. An officer Lt. Laulo was hit by bus, 4 skull fractures, one large compound decompression fracture, over the Lt. temporal area. His general condition was very poor. Under sodium pentathlon I did a decompression rescuing a area of skull 3in in diameter. I put in a vitallium steel plate. He almost died under surgery, receiving blood and plasma continuously

JH Kurre.

November 7th 1944

Laulo is doing fine, he may live, getting I.V. fluids, penicillin, sulfadiazine; he is still unconscious. Election day today, looks to me like Roosevelt again.

JH Kurre.

November 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th 1944

Things are running smooth here at the dispensary. I get good experience in surgery. Mike and I get along well. P.T. men who are admitted to the Sick List or who require consultation are cared for here. All of RON 34 men are now on this side. RON 30 will soon go to France. All our boats are to be turned over to Russia, all personal to be sent back to U.S.A.

JH Kurre.

November 13th, 14th, 15th 1944

All Ron 34 Medical supplies have been inventoried and at the order of the C.O. have been turned in to Supply Depot. #12, Medical at Exeter. SandA¹⁰¹. forms 71 have been made out and a receipt of transfer received from Exeter.

JH Kurre.

November 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st 1944

101. SandA- Bureau of Supplies and Accounts

All is going well. RON 30 has departed for France, Cherbourg. They will take over our old stomping ground. I have received orders, detaching me from RON 34 and now I am attached to P.T. Staff. Mr. Harris (Lt. Comm.) is the skipper, "A.L." to me. Over the week-end we received 18 casualties from L.S.T. 6. which hit a mine at the Le Harve. Among them 6 fractured skull, numerous fractures and large lacerations. Dr. Gosis and I sure had our hands full.

LT. Laulo has recovered wonderfully, he was transferred to Plymouth for further Transfer to the states. It looks like most of my friends will very soon hit the homeward trail.

JH Kurre.

November 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th 1944

I am still at this hospital. I have been doing quite a bit of surgery many tonsils one or more cases every day, hemorrhoids, cysts, appendectomies are frequent. RON 34 and RON 35 boats as well as almost all personnel have left Portland and are in Rosneath, near Glasgow, Scotland. About 200 men are still here at P.T. Base, we will go to Rosneath in about one week, or when all of our gear has been turned in at Exeter. We have no boats here now only machines, lathes, parts, etc. The days here are very short and rainy, foggy, windy and cold. We have almost no sunshine.

Thanksgiving Thurs. 23 was a quiet routine working day, we had a good dinner Turkey and all Trimmings. It looks as if all P.T. work here has been done. The English Channel is very very rough, and almost no days can small boats operate. We are of course, all anxious for the day, we have orders to go home.

JH Kurre.

December- January 7th 1944

All is going as well here at the hospital. During this time I have done several appendectomies, two hernia, one case both appendectomy and hernia, hemorrhoids, tonsils circumcisions, and minor surgery. Pharmacist Ward developed urinary retention, almost complete anuria NPN¹⁰² in 7 days rose to 220 and he expired age 34, diagnosis chronic Nephritis, hepatitis complicated by chronic alcoholism and leutic arsenical reactions 1935-1940.

The P.T. base has completely folded up, all our boats have gone to Rosneath, Scotland. Another draft of men will leave for Plymouth on 12-9-1944. I will go to Scotland in 3 or 4 days. I have been given a carry all for my personal use, which is quite handy.

Here the days are very short we have almost no sunshine, it is very cold, windy, rainy, and foggy.

JH Kurre.

December 8th- December 12th 1944

At duty these days at Dispensary, Portland We keep fairly busy. I work with Mike Gosis on Surgery, we get a major case or two almost daily. He lets me do most of the cases. I am to go with P.T. Staff officers to Rosneath, Scotland. Mr. Ward the above described patient died at Manadon Field, Dispensary from renal and hepatic complications

JH Kurre.

December-13th- December 20th 1944

On Dec.12 8 officers, Harris, Moulin, Brindley, Bowman, Stutsman and I left by train for London The first stop on our way to Scotland. We have proceed orders 4 days. The doctors at the dispensary had a nice farewell dinner for me. We arrived in London at 1800, moved into Savoy Hotel on the Strand, had a few drinks and hit the sack early.

December 13th 1944

102. NPN- Stands for Non Protein Nitrogen- normal level 15-43

Stu Moulin and I got a plane (Army Transport C-47) from London and flew to Paris. It took us 2 hours, we got a room at small hotel 3 Rue Joubert near Plac De Opera. We visit shops near Plac De Opera & purchase perfume. At night we went to Mou Carte, the amusement and night club center of Paris. Gad! What shows, what night clubs, naked women, champagne, the women here sure use excess of perfume and cosmetics, their dress is very fancy.

December 14th 1944

Plane (C-47) back to London, at 1300 we get a train for Edinburgh 2400 arrive at Edinburgh. We get a room at American Red Cross Hotel on Princess Street.

December 15th 1944

Visit Edinburgh it is a very beautiful and Historic city. I made a few purchases here tartans, scarfs, and a few souvenirs from Scotland. Visit Edinburgh, Hollynod House, and other castles. The scotch people are very friendly, it is hard for me to understand their speech.

December 16th 1944

Took train to Glasgow and there to Helensborough and to Roseneath, reported to Base 2 Commanding officers. The P.T. boys are assigned Quonset huts in C-area. I am living with the other staff officers, 8 of is in one hut. The weather is very cold and windy and rainy. There is a helluva lot of mud here.

December 17th, 18th, 19th 1944

Our boys are busy turning over our supplies and boats to the Russians. We have already sent one draft of men home, the orders for many of us including myself have been sent for from Com Nav Eu¹⁰³. I visited Base 2 dispensary, it is quite comple, Dr. Lymbuis from Portsmouth VA. acquaintainship is on duty here. Our P.T. boys will be cared for here. Due to my very temporary stay here, I will not work at this dispensary. Al Harris given physical exam for promotion to Lieut. Coman.

Base 2 is chiefly a receiving ship. Many convoys and ships arrive here from the states and are assigned duty in the E.T.O. also most personnel returning to the U.S. depart from Rosneath. There are many ships here the Queen Mary, Elizabeth, the Il de France and other transports, escort ships, battle wagons etc.

JH Kurre.

December 20th 1944

103. Com Nav EU- Commander of U.S. navy Europe

My orders were returned today. I am bitterly disappointed, instead of going back to U.S., I have been assigned to C.O.U.S.N.A.A.B.¹⁰⁴ Plymouth England for duty. Also Bab Cooper, Judge Twadell, Bill Squires, John Weinburger and other officers received duty orders in the U.K.

December 21st 1944

I was today officially detached from the P.T.'s and given orders to report to Plymouth for duty. I shoved off at 1600 with all my gear by carry all to Glasgow and I get a train for Plymouth.

December 22nd 1944

Arrived at 1300 at Plymouth, It was a very long tiresome ride from Scotland I report in to COUSNAAB Captain Damon and I will be assigned to the hospital at Manadon Field. At 1500 I reported in to Commander Weston the S.M.O. at Manadon Field.

December 23rd 1944 – February 11th 1944

I am assigned quarters at OQ.4 with Ed Cauffield, who I knew at Portsmouth Va., Si McRae, Larry Sahs a dentist my roommate and Brownie a Hospital Corps officer. The quarters a quonset hut, is very nice and well set up. Good furniture, showers etc. The entire hospital consists of these huts, this place has been set-up about 14 months. There are 26 doctors on the staff, the census of patients runs about 350.

Christmas Eve and Christmas day, we are kinda homesick but we do a good amount of drinking. The doctors have formed a wine mess and have orders of whiskey sent over from the states. They are very generous with me, we spend the time at work during the day and night drinking in our quarters. The pharmacists mates put on a Christmas play Dickens' Christmas Carroll" and it was well done. Our Christmas dinner was excellent turkey, candy, nuts, ice cream and all the trimmings, we are lonesome for our loved ones.

I have been put on surgery staff with Cotton Rawls, Hammilton "Ham", Dave Sheeley and Ed Cauffield. Ed is urologist, Cotton is chief of surgery.

I have two wards, prior surgery and orthopedics. My wards are full and the turnover is rapid.

Almost every day I have surgery scheduled chiefly hernias and appendices. Our O.R. is very nicely set-up. Orthopedics is even busier than surgery, I have done a number of open and

104. C.O.U.S.N.A.A.B.- Commander of U.S. naval Advanced base

closed reductions. I have had 3 fractured femurs, a number of tibias, ankles, wrists, forearms, fingers, toes, and backs. Also non-operative orthopedics is very good. My 6 weeks at Manadon has really been excellent for experience for me. The doctors are a good bunch of fellows, the hospital sure runs smoothly.

Plymouth sure shows the effects of the Blitz. Particularly the business districts and near the water front is horribly destroyed. Nothing has been built back, merely a vacant lot. Whole areas of blocks are completely vacant. The people tell horrible stories of night after night bombing and a very great loss of life.

February 10th 1945

I received orders for temporary duty at Naval Air facility Dunkeswell and then permanent orders to Drew 4 unit (Army of Occupation of Germany) Dr. Powell, Sammy Marquis a hospital corps officer have also these orders.

February 11th 1945

Commander Weston drives Powell and I to the Navy Air Station near Dunkeswell, England where we have orders for temporary duty. We meet the CO. Captain Miller and the S.M.O.¹⁰⁵ Commander Ekuall.

We are assigned quarters at a field dispensary where Powell, a flight surgeon, George Stewart, and myself will take over. Our quarters are very comfortable here, we have a large room and a bath. We are very near the flying field. There are 3 squadrons and about 1500 men at this field which is 5 miles from the main dispensary. One fly –fly boys fly B-24's from here.

105. S.M.O.- Senior Medical Officer

March 5th 1945

I am on duty at a small sub-dispensary at Up-ottery flying field. There are 2,000 personnel on this site. We are 5 miles from Dunkeswell where there is a larger flying field and the 200 bed dispensary.

Over here there are 3 doctors and 18 corpsmen, I am senior officer. We are open 24 hours and we average about 70 patients daily sick call. We have a very nice and well equipped little dispensary. We have 2 ambulances and jeep. We have ambulance service runs daily to Dunkeswell. We do not keep patients overnight here. We transfer them to the main dispensary, we also send patients to main dispensary for dental work, for x-ray and for consultation.

I live at this dispensary, my quarters are excellent, Quonset hut, oil space heaters and I have a private bath. Our food is at a nearby officer's mess and club. The doctors are Powell and a flight surgeon George Stewart.

March 6th 1945

I received permanent orders for duty here today.

Powell received orders to Drew 6 and was detached today.

I received a dispatch saying Bill Danneker would report here taking Powells Place.

The main dispensary consists also of quonset huts, it has about 200 beds and is well equipped, x-ray, O.R., dental facilities, skin, E.E.N.T.¹⁰⁶, etc departments. The S.M.O. is Comm. Ekuall who is a very good egg. He is my boss too. Although I run this place he comes over here about twice a week and looks the place over.

Dunkeswell is a very small village near Taunton and Exeter. We are 8 miles from Taunton. Mostly I stay on the base, I have a jeep to use if I want to go anywhere. We have good movies, a library and a gym here.

March 12th 1945

106. E.E.N.T.- Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat

Dr. Powell received orders to go to Drew 6 at Roseneath, Scotland. Bill Danneker reported here to take his place. I have received permanent duty orders with N.A.F.¹⁰⁷ I took a 3 hour trip with a PBY¹⁰⁸-4, we went over English Channel, Southern England. Land's End and Bristol Channel. Dropped practice bombs and fired the guns 50 cal. Twin mounts. We went at 8,000 feet and again 50 feet above water speed about 300 m.p.h.

My duty here is very good the main dispensary staff are good fellows.

The PBY 4's have contacted and sank several subs in both the English, Bristol Channel and the Atlantic. Everyday weather permitting a good number of these planes take off from here and do 10-14 hour patrols over these areas. They fly 50-100 feet above the water looking for subs, of course surface and under water radar are a big help to them. My duty here is very good, do no major surgery but we do see a good many patients every day. Patients requiring hospitalization are transferred to Dunkenswell dispensary. We have a good movie and officers club on the base. I very seldom leave the base.

March 25th 1945

I again received order this time to Drew 6 in Roseneath, Scotland. I will be detached and shove off tomorrow.

March 26th 1945

I am detached from Naval Ari Facility, Dukenswell this date. I get the train from Taunton to London. on reporting in to Com. Nao EU I run across my old friend from the P.T.'s STU Moulin, he fixes me up with 5 days leave, per diem and a chance to see some of the boys.

Met Captain Miller, 124 staff M.O, Comm. Waddell Senior M.O. London Disp., and Lt. Comder. O. Crauz who will be 126 staff M.O. stu arrange a room for me at Strand Palace Hotel, which is very nice. Sammy Markus and I run around together for a few days. During my stay here I saw London Wax museum, "Happy and Glorious" with TommyTrieder, "Revvdeville", "Phyllis Dixey", "While the Sun Shines" and "Is your Honeymooon really necessary" good plays at London theaters.

March 30th 1945

107. N.A.F.- Naval Aircraft Facility

108. PBY- Patrol Bomber Y- Stand for the company that made the airplane

I go up by train and sleeper to Rosneath to report to C.O. of Drew 6. England's first class sleepers are really good.

April 1st 1945

Capt. Godfrey is the C.O. the SMO is Fred Rauk, the other doctors are Powell, Florence, Soheule, Mac Kenback (dentist). We will leave the U.K. for the continent in a very few days. I am assigned quarters at Base two with the docs, and given a long list of foul weather gear which I must pick up from G.S.K.¹⁰⁹

Drew 6 consists of about 2,000 men WE are divided up into 5 parties. The first is the Recon party which will go ahead and make plans for the others. I am in advanced party #1 about 300 men, we will be two to four days behind the Recon. We are told days our objective is to go with the British 2nd Army and as soon as Bremen, Germany falls, we will go in and get the port in operation, and demobilize all german craft.

April 2nd 1945

Our plans are all made and today were received. At 1000 the recon party left Roseneath, my group party #1 packed and loaded all our gear except the below items:

Minimum of personnel gear, Foul weather clothing, blankets, bed roll and K rations.

April 3rd 1945

At 1400 Party #1 gets aboard a train and we head for the point of disembarkation Tillberry docks near London.

April 4th 1945

We go aboard a large transport the H.M.S. Invicta at Tillberry Docks on the Thames. At 0400 April 5-1945 we weigh anchor and shove off. Dr. Mackenbach and myself have excellent quarters aboard the ship, we cross the channel and land Ostende, Belgium. Aboard ship we changed money from British pounds to Belgian Francs.

109. G.S.K.- General Store Keeper

Belgium

We land on April 6 at Ostende, Belgium. We are assigned quarters at a large British camp. We are given a straw mattress and we break out our bed roll and blankets. The boys really screamed about, the straw. We go ashore for liberty. There are many British troops here and almost no Americans. The people speak French and this seems to me like a French city. People are very friendly to us. We go to a few cafes for beer and wine. The stuff is very expensive and very poor.

On Saturday April 7 at 0300 We have Reville. We all load up aboard a large truck convoy and head inland. We ride the entire day aboard very large trucks about 25 men with the gear mentioned above. We stop every three hours for 15 minutes rest, for meals we have K. rations. We cross Belgium, Holland, go through a small strip at Germany and then back into Holland. We stop near Venlow, Holland. We were in three countries today. We reach our destination very very tired about 0200, we have been going for 23 hours. When we arrive it is very cold and raining.

The men brake out thin bed rolls and blankets, cover up the best possible and sleep on the ground. The officers after doing what we can for the men at about 0400 turn in. I have all my heavy clothes on and sleep on the ground. I might say I had on gloves, heavy wool socks, field shoes, leggings, the rain coat, and on top of that a parka. I didn't even take my shoes off on account of the bitter cold and rain. I believe this is the tireddest I have ever been.

We go through Gent and Antwerp on 4-7-1945

At 0700 April 8th 1945 after about 4 hours rest we have Reville and after eating more K-rations (cold of course) we load up on the trucks, we are really covered with mud, One man falls from a truck and has a fractured tibia, he is sent to the nearest british Hospital. Dr. Powell takes him by ambulance. Our two ambulances loaded full of supplies joined us at Ostende, this morning they both were unpacked, the gear put aboard trucks and I will now ride in an ambulance.

We cross the Rhine over a pontoon bridge put up by the American Engineers although this is British taken country. We arrived at Hengelo, Holland after traveling most of the day in Germany.

The reason is two one we are going almost due North and two, we have to go via many detours because of blown up bridges, and bomb and shell holes in the road, and because many roads are mined.

At Hengelo, we are about 6 miles from the front, about 4 miles from the German border. Hengelo is near Enscheide Holland near Nordhern, germany. The Germans 4 days ago were in this city. Two of our officers in the Recon patrol yesterday were shot and killed. They were probably killed by German, soldiers in civilian clothes. At night we can see the fires, through the day we can hear guns, artillery and bombs.

April 9th 1945

This country is terribly torn to pieces chiefly by British and American bombings. We have taken over a school used by the German Wehrmacht as quarters for quarters for the men. The officers have 6 houses near the base for quarters. A Luftwaffe scout plane flew over our base today and apparently photographed our set up. No shots were fired, he flew very very low. The Germans are about 8 miles from here. There is a large water tank in the center of town, today a few 88¹¹⁰ shells were fired through this, damn good shooting at 8 miles, so now we have no running water.

We sleep on the hard wooden floors with 2 blankets under us and three over us, using a bed roll. It beats the ground as it is dry, but god it is hard.

Finally today April 12th, we have field cots issued to us, this is a big improvement.

The boys have made open fires and we now eat 10-1 rations or British compote rations, they are better than K rations and are served hot. We eat out in the open from Mess Kits.

The people here are dutch of course and speak their own language, everyone understands german. The people are very poor and have very little food. They really show their appreciation to us, they really hate the germans. The Wehrmacht robbed the people of all they had.

The dutch are very very clean and likeable people. They have their own money system they guilder (371/2 cents). Queen Wilhelming is their ruler, house of Orange.

We use three rooms for sick bay, using the small amount of supplies we brought across country. We transferred several seriously wounded patients and ill one to the nearest hospital, the British 21st General Wettingen Germany. Our chief Pharmacist Wooster fell 3 floor to concrete street having a fractured skull compound fract. of femur and comminuted fractures of patella.

A dutch woman Hilda came every day to clean our quarters. She really cleaned the place from top to bottom, the workings-est woman I have ever seen, she is about 60.

We gave her a little candy and food, when we left she insisted on kissing us all goodbye.

In this area there are no American troops but there are many British, we get along well with the British, they are good Joes. They do not have the equipment, the tanks, the guns, the food, that our boys have. We are with the 21st British Armored, the Scottish Highland Division and the Royal british Marine We sometimes watch the British play football (soccer) in the evenings, they are wonderful with their feet in this game. We are staying longer than we had planned here in Hengelo due to stubborn German resistance near here.

110. German 88 mm- Anti aircraft and anti tank artillery gun

April 23rd 1945

We load up aboard trucks and we travel about 150 miles through Germany to Verden. We wonder all over hells half acre due to blown out bridges and mined roads. There are snipers all around us. We had 3 casualties en-route, one British guard on a motorcycle was killed, shot through the head. Several times we laid flat on the truck, covered with canvas and we heard shots and bullets whining. The German people along the road show no expression at all, both we and they are as if we don't see each other but we keep our eye on them. Their country is really torn to pieces by bombs and artillery.

We occupy the former S.S.¹¹¹. Calvary quarters here in Verden. The buildings are modern and well-constructed 3 days ago the S.S. left in a big hurry.

They sure left a mess the windows and much of the buildings are kaput (meaning- destroyed).

There are a few booby traps here which our demobilization group cleared out. In the basements of these 4 large buildings are quarters occupied by the displaced persons (slave laborers to the Germans) They had straw on board for beds 5 to 6 on top of each other. There were gas chambers where many people were put to death. There are many whips around which the German used.

Here we have no heat or running water, it is still quite cold. However we do have ovens and stoves (German) rooms, cots, and beds (German) and we are much better off than before on this trip.

We are about 12 miles from Bremen. The Germans are putting up a stiff battle but slowly the British are closing in. We can hear and feel the artillery and bombing at day and at night see the flames.

We again take a few rooms for Sick Bay and we are busy with an epidemic of diarrhea (the food of course), we are still using the small amount of supplies brought with us, all of crew 6 is now in Germany, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the men here in Verden. All the men restricted to their quarters, no one has liberty "or can leave" the compound. We had 5 casualties and one death from a mine about 200 yards from the sick bay, the boys were walking along and set it off. We hear snipping near here almost every night.

111. S.S. The Schutzstaffel- A paramilitary organization used by Hitler.

May 1st 1945

Bremen fell yesterday and this morning we are going in. The S.S. headquarters similar to the buildings at Verden are to be used as our base and quarters for the enlisted men.

The officers move in good German homes, we just go in, tell the Germans to get out in two hours and put a guard in the house. The people can take with them only their clothing and what food they can carry.

The 4 docs, 1 dentist and 1 hospital corps officer have a very nice house at 488 Vahren Starsse. There are thousands of displaced persons in Bremen, Russian, Italian, dutch, Belgian, French, Polish, these people live in temporary shelters each nationality together. They have been brought into Germany as slave laborers and they are really poor, have little clothing and are dirty and hungry. We are assigned 3 polish woman to keep our house clean, to do our washing and cooking – Lotta, Ala and Rosa. Our house is very nice, well furnished, central heating, a cellar full of wine, radio, good beds, now we have no electricity or running water.

Looting is a big there here, everyone goes everywhere into the German homes, to shops and takes what they want from the Germans. I took golf clubs, souvenirs, binoculars, a good radio for the house, food and booze (champagne, cognac, wine, schnaps) these German people really had everything.

There are snipers around and often we hear shots and hear bullets whiz. All germans have been ordered to turn in guns, knives, swords, etc. and anyone caught with such a weapon is shot. German snipping goes on and several of our men, as well as Army British and American have been hit, several killed.

Our men go armed all the time and no one goes anywhere alone. The real danger is going somewhere alone. One officer was shot through the head in broad daylight sitting alone in his jeep waiting for his driver. The sniper as is usual got away.

May 6th 1945

Germany, unconditionally surrenders. Here it is a full working day, no different at all from any other, we are sure happy it is over, there is no celebration here. We all hope it means we go home sooner.

Had a plane ride over Bremen and surrounding area in an Army artillery spotted (modified, Piper Cub-) it is really amazing the terrific damage which has been done to the country. Downtown Bremen is a complete wreck.

The boys at the base are busy getting things in shape, soon we will have electricity, running water, heat (it is very cold here) etc.

There are about 2000 men on our base, there is a similar base at Bremerhaven 20 miles from here.

Our Sick bay is very nice, we have about 20 rooms, which we are setting up. We have operating room, x-ray, doctors offices, record office, medical storeroom, 50 beds in 5 different rooms.

The German people are very quiet and appear dazed. They have many hardships to undergo and they know it. They appear much better clothed and fed than any other people we have seen in Europe. Better than the British. There is a feeling that prevails, we know they do not want us here, and that they hate our guts. Our policy is strict non-fraternization, we have no dealings with them at all, our men are confined to their quarters and the base.

The staff offices are here in Bremen at one of the few buildings standing in this city" The Haus das Reich¹¹²" it is a very beautiful and extremely modern building. German building, architecture, design and modernness in excellent. In their day not long ago they were ON Top but brother as the Limmies¹¹³ say "They have had it."

112. The Haus das Reich- Translation is House of the Kingdom

113. Limmies- Slang for British

Had a nice trip to Bremerhaven about 20 miles from here, visited the boys. Their set up is very similar to ours. Went ahead the german luxury liner "Europa". It has not been used for 5 years but Notwithstanding, it is in excellent shape and will be taken over and used as a transport by the U.S. I can speak German very well.

June 1st 1945

Our organization today was officially put in commission. Admiral Robinson (staff skipper) 10 visiting fireman (congressman) did the honors, we had a band, parades and everbody was in blues. We are now COUSNAB Bremen.

Our boys really did a good job, you will not recognize this place over 1 month ago. Our sick Bay is well set- up, we have a good galley¹¹⁴, electricity, running water, a nice recreation hall, movies, ping-pong, library, lounge. A very good officers mess, a golf course, tennis courts (we took over a German country club) and the place is in very good shape.

Our Polish girls as well as thousands of the displaced persons have been sent back to their original countries.

We now use German laborers on the base and in our houses. We have two German girls to wash and keep our house clean. On the base both men and woman do cleaning, garden, plumbing, electric and all types of work. The Seaman really have a big job, some of them act as straw bosses and really get a kick out of it.

The U.S. Army has an infantry division here in Bremen, the 21st they have a 400 bed evacuation hospital. Our patients are evacuated though the Army chain. We have gotten to know some of the army docs and we have had some good evening sessions together.

Particularly Major Donata, Captain Dickinson and the chaplin are our good friends.

114. Galley- The kitchen on the ship

June 15th 1945

Bremerharen is now functioning as a port, soon Bremen will also be in use. That makes the Navy very happy as our line of supply is going – food and booze.

Our wine mess is not set up and running smoothly.

June 21st 1945

Happy days, I received orders to return to the states and my replacement LT. Comr. Buckley arrives. Today, I am ____.

June 22nd 1945

I hurriedly get my gear together and by plane C-47 go in 4 hours to Plymouth, England.

In 4 hours 600 miles as compared to our rugged trip here. .

June 23rd 1945

I go to see the boys at Manadon, all the Navy in the U.K. is folding up and returning very soon to the states. I am stationed at Vicarage Barracks Receiving station awaiting a ship to the U.S. We go aboard ship the 29th so I have a few days to wait.

Dr. Shas, Knap and myself go by plane to London for 3 days leave. We stay at American Red Cross and look the general situation over. I see a coupla plays, "Caroll Gibbons band and "gayettees" at London Sevrille," the windmill theatre and Whiteballs.

June 29th 1945

We go aboard ship, I go on L.S.T. 515 with about 400 men. It will be a long slow trip home I am ships doctor. We wait in port here in Plymouth, for sailing orders, formation of convoy etc. until July 2 1945

July 2nd 1945.

At 0800 7-2-1945 We weigh anchor and put to sea. We wear dress blues, all hands on deck salute the British Ensign, as we pass the admiralty at Plymouth, where Sir Francis Drake held forth. About noon Land's End fades on the horizon. We are a convoy of a L.S.T., we have No escort¹¹⁵.

For three days the sea has been very calm, we have good quarters, excellent food we read, play bridge, listen to the radio and sack out a good deal. Today the sea was a little rough and we had a few seasick patients.

On Thursday July 12th 1945

I go by small boat (LCVP¹¹⁶) to LST 27 where there is a sick patient. Under spinal anesthesia I do an appendectomy, the ship rolls a good bit. The appendix was easy to find and we got along well with the operation Wilson Pharm 1/c assisted me.

Sat. July 14th 1945

I go back to LST 515, the appendectomy case is coming along fine. I had a few cases to see on 515.

So far our trip has been swell we had only a little rough weather. We believe our port of debarkation will be Norfolk.

115. NO Escort- Significant because there is no concern for German submarines, the war is over

116. LCVP- Landing Craft Vehicle Personnel

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Typing my father's WWII Diary, Dr. Joseph Henry Kurre, Sr., would not have been possible without the help of:

Mitzi Howe: She scanned original document. We were then able to share and work to have it typed and proofread.

Kelsi McLaughlin: The typist. What a wonderful job. She made many corrections and always with a smile. She was willing to redo many, many times.

Dr. Phil Hurley: He over heard my conversation about the diary while we worked at homeless shelter in Owensboro, KY. He asked about the diary, became most interested and asked to help. He added the footnotes. With his medical background and research of military terms he made reading much more understandable. He also helped proofread.

Kustom Kwik Print: Shop in Owensboro, KY that scanned, printed, transferred to thumb drives and taught me to use thumb drive. Always friendly and with a smile.

John Timothy Kurre: Who found the diary, hidden in plain site on the bookshelf in Kurre home (Owensboro, KY). He proofread and encouraged me to keep working on final typed draft.

Martha Elizabeth Kurre House: Worked to coordinate all to prepare typed copy of diary. And communicate to keep process moving forward.

Megan Mummey: Director of Manuscript Collections, Special Collection Research Center, University of Kentucky Libraries. She was always ready to assist and encouraged us while being most patient over the months, waiting for us to give document to the University of Kentucky

David E. Hamilton, PhD: Associate Professor of History at the University of Kentucky. He returned our voicemail. Became most interested always encouraging and patient as we worked to have document typed.

WEBSITES PERTAINING TO PT SQUADRON 34

<http://www.squadron34.com/the-boats>

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