

9 May 1944.

UP AND DOWN THE DECK: To find, during the daily walk, that Woo Woosley and Stan Young, the amiable gents who sort the mail and answer your "whens", were being needled by several shipmates who were pointing out that "THEY got mail - why didn't we?". Understanding the seriousness of this accusation did run to the Commanding Officer and was duly notified that he had accosted our Squadron Commander about the mail and that the Squadron Commander had despatched a message or two requesting the priceless stuff. Our Skipper also did clarify my doubts about the mail our sister-ship had received by pointing out that they had received very ancient mail in that one bag and that no ship in the Squadron had received ANY mail dated later than the mail we had received. Paid my respects and many thanks and did depart mentally kicking myself for even starting to believe the sister-ship could out-do us in anything. So chins-up, infidels. Keep the writing arm in good shape cause you'll probably have a lot-of-em to answer when the time comes.

Did start down the ladder from the Skipper's cabin and notice the smile on our Executive officer's face as he chatted over old times with his good friend Lieutenant Colway, who is aboard as a passenger (legally, though) and apparently enjoying his hours aboard.

To run into Lieutenant (jg) Spikes and Lieutenant (jg) Brewster talking over their orders which have been received. Did chat a few minutes and while away the time reminiscing the hours which we have spent together and did walk aft with the conviction that some-one else will gain two good shipmates - and was startled by the thought that we had received one good shipmate in our company already - Ensign G. S. Miller, not to be confused with Lieut. K. W. Miller, and no relation although he may turn out to be as fine an officer. It was a definite surprise to learn of his knowledge of ships and ways of the sailors only to find that he had training in the U.S. Coast Guard Academy - and only needed a few more fathoms of water.

Down the deck to look upon the erl king, naked as a jay-bird, without his trimmings. Quite a change, it one cannot be too sure if tis for better or for naught as it does disclose a lot of his face.

And aft to see the deck force turning too under a kind of "lean-to" and the ordnance gang touching up ye ol' loader. Must be a sudden lift of rationing on paint.

Down to the electrical shop, through the after compartment - noting that the living compartment certainly looked fit and ready for inspection in fact, did chide myself for not wiping off my shoes before walking aft. Did speak to potential chief petty officer material on the reason the power failed on the night of 7 May and was shown "Exhibit 'A'" a can of emergency rations. Not being mechanically inclined can not remember technical names but roughly the can of rations fell across a bar which in turn tripped the main generator circuit breaker which caused power to be lost on the main lubricating oil pump in the forward engine room, which in turn lost lubrication to the main engine and made it necessary to secure that engine. Even one as ignorant as I could readily see the possibilities which might have occurred from this bit of carelessness and lives which were endangered. Was reminded again of the many requests from the Chief Engineer that all loose gear be kept away from electrical gear and wondered why in hell a guy would take a chance on not getting home by disregarding such advice.

Did go forward on the port side and sniffed suspiciously at the odors coming from the galley - one can't be too sure of "what's cookin" these days - but all in all everything smelled mighty good.

Did notice the chow line forming - "forming being a polite way of saying "they lined up for the battle" - and so decided to take sides and get some chow. Fresh tomatoes tasted like manna - or like I would imagine manna tasted like and so off and away to the sack. This earl revielle gets one down - hah - I got the 4-8, how you makin out?

JOE

WASHINGTON.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT CAME BACK TO WASHINGTON SUNDAY FROM A MONTHS VACATION ON THE LANGRORS PLANTATION COAST OF SOUTH CAROLINA TANNED RESTED AND DESCRIBED BY HIS PHYSICIAN AS IN "EXCELLENT SHAPE". HE HIMSELF TOLD REPORTERS JUST BEFORE HE LEFT HOBCAW BARONY BERNARD M. BARUCHS PLANTATION AT GEORGETOWN SC THAT HE WAS FEELING A GREAT DEAL BETTER AND WHATEVER RIGORS THE EVENTFUL MONTHS AHEAD MAY HOLD FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AS PRESIDENT POLITICIAN OR COMMANDER IN CHIEF HIS VACATION COMPANIONS SAID THEY WERE CONVINCED HE ONCE MORE WAS IN FINE PHYSICAL TRIM. MR. ROOSEVELTS DOCTOR VICE ADMIRAL ROSS T. MCINTIRE DECLARED "MY OWN FEELING IS THAT WE GAINED EVERYTHING WE EXPECTED FROM A FOUR WEEKS REST AND I AM PERFECTLY SATISFIED WITH HIS PHYSICAL CONDITION". SECRETARY OF STATE HULL MET THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE WHEN HIS SPECIAL TRAIN ROLLED IN FROM THE SOUTH THIS MORNING AND RODE WITH HIM TO THE WHITE HOUSE. WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAID THE PRESIDENT WILL CONFER MONDAY WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS.

ALLIED H.Q. NAPLES.

US HEAVY BOMBERS BLASTED BUCHAREST BY DAYLIGHT SUNDAY IN THE STEADY SLEDGEHAMMER POUNDING OF ROMANIA HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED AS THE BATTLE TEMPO AGROUND IN ITALY ALSO QUICKENED WITH A SHARP BUT FUTILE NAZI ATTACK AGAINST THE ANZIO BEACH HEAD.

WASHINGTON.

THE GESTAPO HAS LOOSED A WAR OF TRICKERY ON THE ALLIED UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT IN EUROPE TRYING TO LURE ALLIED SYMPATHIZERS INTO EXPOSING THEMSELVES AND BEING LIQUIDATED BEFORE THE INVASION TROOPS ROLL IN. THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION REPORTED SUNDAY THAT THE NAZIS AND THEIR SATELLITES HAVE ISSUED FALSE ORDERS IN THE NAME OF THE ALLIES DROPPED BOGUS LEAFLETS FROM PLANES WITH RAF MARKINGS AND HAD NAZI AGENTS MASQUERADE AS ALLIED FLIERS TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM GER.

WASHINGTON.

THE UNITED STATES NOW HOLDS 183618 PRISONERS OF WAR THE ARMY REPORTED SUNDAY IN A STATEMENT WHICH ALSO DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM OF DENAZIFYING CAPTURED SOLDIERS OF THE AXIS. OF THE TOTAL BY FAR THE LARGEST NUMBER ARE FROM HITLERS LEGIONS 133135 GERMANS 50136 ITALIANS AND 347 JAPANESE. THEY ARE HOUSED IN 203 CAMPS LOCATED IN ALL BUT SEVEN STATES.

LONDON.

SUNDAYS ATTACKS ON BERLIN AND THE MUNSTER OSNABRUCK AREAS BY GREAT FORCES OF AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS COST EIGHT BOMBERS AND FIVE FIGHTERS ALLIED HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED SUNDAY NIGHT.

MOSCOW.

THE REV STANISLAUS ORLEMANSKI POLISH AMERICAN PRIEST FROM SPRINGFIELD MASS IS ENROUTE TO THE UNITED STATES BY PLANE AFTER HIS TWELVE DAY STAY IN RUSSIA IT WAS DISCLOSED SUNDAY. THE SOVIET PRESS MEANWHILE FEATURED FATHER ORLEMANSKIS STATEMENT SATURDAY THAT PREMIER STALIN "IS VERY KINDLY DISPOSED TOWARDS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH". THE PRIEST HAD TWO AUDIENCES WITH STALIN.

LONDON.

LARGE FORMATIONS OF RUSSIAN PLANES BOMBED AND STRAFED GERMAN AND ROMANIA TROOPS AND TARGETS AT SEVASTAPOL SATURDAY NIGHT AND SATURDAY INFLECTING HEAVY LOSSES ON MANY ARTILLERY BATTERIES AND WRECKING TWENTY TWO NAZI PLANES MOSCOW ANNOUNCED SUNDAY.