

The following is  
what happened to  
me, from the time  
we left Pearl  
Harbor on August  
8<sup>th</sup> 1944.

I will try and  
put down all that  
happened each day,  
at the end of each  
day.

This booklet shall  
be personally guarded

by me, and shall  
assume a classi-  
fication of SECRET,  
until such time  
that there would  
be no danger in  
revealing it's  
contents.

Kenneth H. Kardon  
August 7, 1944



Tuesday Aug 8, 1944  
left the quarantine  
anchorage at Pearl  
Harbor.

Wed. Aug. 9, 1944  
at sea.  
Woke up this  
morning and saw  
nothing but a cloud-  
less sky, a very  
bright sun and  
water. About 30  
LST's and 10 YMS's  
are with us.

Thurs. Aug 10, 1944.  
Nothing of interest.

Friday Aug 11, 1944.  
32 LCI's showed up.



Saturday Aug 12, 1944

I have not shaved since we left. But I think I will do it tomorrow, and just grow a mustache.

We are getting plenty of fire, collision and abandon ship drills every day.

Sun. Aug 13, 1944

Rain.

Had a tetanus inoculation in my left arm. It didn't even hurt a bit.

Changed course today. Now according to my calculations, we should pass

near the island of Nili.

Mon Aug 14, 1944

The men have become just a well lit uneasy about the change of course we made yesterday.

Tonite, the Captain called me into his cabin and told me that we were going to go to Suadehau before we make an invasion on any pap held island.

Can't he tell us where this pap held island is? I guess maybe he doesn't



know himself, yet.  
I wish that we  
wouldn't go to  
Isradel canal, though.  
I'd like to "hit" that  
secret gap island and  
get it over with.

Tues. Aug. 15, 1944.  
Getting closer and  
closer to Mili. I  
think that we will  
have some air pro-  
tection when we get  
a little closer.

Today was Stanley's  
birthday! I sure  
wish I him the best  
of everything. My tetris  
immolation is  
hunting now.

Wed. Aug. 16, 1944.  
Our escorts got  
a sub contact.

So, all of the LST's  
and LCI's had to  
run away. The escorts  
did all the hunting.  
It feels so strange  
for me to be running  
away from a sub,  
when I had been so  
used to going in after  
them.

And what a bunch  
of kams those escorts  
turned out to be.  
They let the sub  
get away from them.

Boy oh boy - how  
I wish the Moffett  
would have been here.



It would have been a perfect set-up!! A sure kill!

Anyway, our ship went to General Quarters (Condition I) for an hour.

At 5:30 P.M., we crossed the International Date line (the 180<sup>th</sup> meridian). So, it now becomes automatically one day later. A couple of minutes ago, it was Wednesday Aug 16, but now, it is Thursday Aug. 17. Oh well - you figure

it out. I can't!

The Captain made me shave off my mustache.

My tetra inoculation has left my arm practically useless these past couple of days.

Friday Aug 18, 1944.

What day is it anyway - Friday or Thursday? They tell me it's Friday, so I guess I'll accept it as such.

I have 2 corrections to make. I discovered



them today. First - the exact time that we crossed the Date line was 5:45 P.M., and not 5:30 P.M.

Second - the island of Mili is not spelled M-I-L-I. It is spelled MILLE, and we're getting closer and closer to it, so let's cut out this nonsense.

Two PC boats showed up today, and we refueled one of them.

The LST 663 collided with the YMS she was fueling.

The YMS had her steering gear badly damaged and she has requested from

the S.O.P.A. (Senior Officer Present Afloat - which is the LST 610) that she be towed. The YMS said that she is taking on water slowly but that there is no immediate danger.

My record for straight days at sea is 17 days (from Trinidad to Recife).

I think we may break the record. At least there is a



good chance.

Sat. Aug. 19, 1944

We are now 200 miles from Mille, and still no American airplanes this morning. Maybe they'll come later on in the day. They better come soon, because the subs are starting to give us some cause for concern. At 8 AM. we went to General Quarters for 20 minutes when one of the PCs attacked a sub about 5 miles from us. Then at 10 A.M. we went to General

Quarters again for 28 minutes when a YMS got another possible sub contact.

The PC later reported a thick fuel oil slick from the sub. Baloney!! They won't get a bit of credit for sinking a sub. They've gotta have more proof than that. The sub fooled the PC (that oil slick is an old "U-boat from the Atlantic" trick)

In other words another sub slipped through their fingers. Boy are those escorts lousy!!!



The YMS which is being towed is staying right along with us.

A got a haircut from an Army Private who's Father owns a barber shop in Brooklyn.

Incidentally, we have 100 army men and 60 marines aboard. Also, 17 LVT's, a lot of 75 millimeter ammunition, and 100 barrels of gasoline.

Sun Aug. 20, 1944

Last night, you could hear depth charges all night long. But A was

too sleepy to even bother. A just slept.

at 8 A.M. we came within 100 miles of Jap held Mille. At 8:15 A.M. a TBF and an F4F showed up. Unless I am mistaken, an aircraft carrier should show up before this day ends.

The towed YMS is still taking on water slowly, but she's staying right along with us.

A day has not passed when there wasn't at least some rain.

at 3:14 P.M. a man



fell overboard. On the most skillful operation I have ever witnessed, the man was rescued. Taking a big chance, the ship was stopped dead in the water. The small boat was quickly lowered to the ocean, and within another 10 minutes, the man was picked up. The U.S.S. A.R.L. 9 was directly astern of us and threw the man a life buoy. One hundred yards from the man was a 10 foot shark. Our small boat charged toward the man. Two men in the bow of the

small boat kept blazing away at the shark with a Thompson Sub Machine Gun. The man was exhausted, but unhurt.

Mon. Aug. 21, 1944

We are moving further away from Mille. Our next concern will be the island of Naruru.

No aircraft carrier showed up as yet. We saw 3 TBF's at 8 A.M.

The YMS being towed has started to fall back a little.

Saw the U.S.S. Lutz (a destroyer) and the



U.S.S. California (battle-ship) They passed us about 1 noon.

at 1 P.M. today the men on this ship started to cut the Polynesian hair. Yep, the shellbacks are going to initiate the Polynesian. They simply cut up their hair in the worst way. Since I went over the Equator about 19 months ago, I already have my certificate of proof that I am a shellback. So thank goodness for that - I don't have to be initiated. We are not due to cross the Equator until Wednesday.

as I write this, we are about 250-300 miles from Hawaii and it is being bombed at this very moment.

By tomorrow, we shall have passed between and entirely through the Marshall and Gilbert Islands.

~~Mon. Aug 22, 1944~~

Tues. Aug 22, 1944.

Correction - the battle-ship I saw yesterday was the Mississippi and not the California. The two look very much alike.

We are 145 miles



from Nauru and we received press radio news to day, informing the world what we already knew - that Nauru was bombed heavily yesterday. We will not come any closer to Nauru.

Pollywoog initiations continued on a very strong scale. But the Pollywoogs far out number us shellbacks. As a matter of fact, all the Pollywoogs (who now have every stitch of their hair cut off) have revolted. There are only 45 shellbacks, but over 200 Pollywoogs.

The Pollywoogs swore that they would grab every single officer and man of the shellbacks, and cut their hair. So, they grabbed the Captain, and now he has no hair. Two men and two officers remain who have not had their hair cut. I am one of them. The initiations are over tomorrow night. If they want to shave my head off, then they'll have to knock me flat to do it, 'cause I have no intention of letting any one do it. I had my initiation on the Moffett,



and I aint gonna  
have it again!

Wed. Aug. 23, 1944.

late last night, 30  
men and 2 officers  
came to my room (they  
were Pollywoogs) and  
said they'd like to see  
me outside for a min-  
ute. I told them "the  
hell with you. If you want  
me, you'll have to  
get me!" There was a  
small tussle and they  
almost had me. But  
then I heard them  
scissors clicking and  
that made me mad.  
They couldn't hold me  
then.

at 7:30 A.M. we  
crossed the line

Thurs. Aug 24, 1944.

Well intentions are  
over, and I have kept  
my hair.  
We fueled YMS 180  
today.

The YMS being towed  
has dropped far astern  
and is now out of  
sight.

A radioman thought  
he heard on his radio  
set that Paris had  
been taken. I wonder  
if it is true.

We will arrive in  
Suddecanal within 3  
days.



Fri. Aug 25, 1944

We are not going to go straight in to Guadalcanal. Instead, it will be Tulagi - not far from Guadalcanal.

A couple of PBVs and Venturas have been flying around all day.

Have not seen the YMS being towed at all.

St. Jell well behind us.

Land was sighted at 4 P.M. We should reach destination tomorrow.

Land sighted, was the very small island of Ndai. In background we could see the larger island of Maleita.

Tonite, as in the past several nites, we

have been hearing radio Tokyo with its very good music, good programs, and its propaganda. They are so full of baloney that propaganda talks and news. The most important, interesting, and by far the best personality of radio Tokyo, is the girl who is familiarly known to all the boys in the Central and Southwest Pacific Areas. Her name is "Tokio Rose". That's what we call her. Her first words every time she comes on the radio, are "Hello Boys". Then she



plage us some  
real swell times.

Sat, Aug 26, 1944.

Passed the islands of  
Ndai + Malaita. Went  
right by Savo Island and  
Suadell Canal. We are  
going to dock at the Flor-  
ida Islands in Tulagi  
Bay. (written at 4 A.M.)

We docked at Tulagi.

As we came toward  
Suadell Canal early this  
morning, the ghosts  
of the 'big air, land,  
and naval engage-  
ments seemed to loom  
up in front of us.

Our Captain vividly  
recalled how he  
stood on the bridge

of the American Legion  
back in 1942, and  
witnessed the Battle of  
Savo Island. United  
States took the most  
horrible naval defeat  
in that engagement.  
4 heavy cruisers and  
1 destroyer were  
sunk within 40  
minutes. The Astoria,  
Vincennes, <sup>QUINCY</sup> Canberoa,  
Janis and Chicago.  
We actually sailed  
over those ships  
coming in here this  
morning. The paper  
blasted hell out of  
us that night in '42.  
The night was just  
as black as it was  
just last evening.



as we came in I immediately picked out Luonga Point. It was there that we made our initial landings at Suadacanal. I also saw Cape Esperance - where the Japs were driven off the island into the sea.

The name of the water that runs here surrounded by Savo, Suadacanal, and Tulagi, is called "Iron Bottom Bay" because there were so many ships sunk here. Even today, I can look out and visualize the

havoc that must have taken place here. Between Luonga Point and Cape Esperance, I can see a couple of Jap ships on the beach stranded.

Yes, and it is here that the "Tokio Express" used to splatter and plaster the Americans. Every night the Jap cruisers and battle wagons came into "iron bottom bay" and just waited for something to move. And if the Japs couldn't find any surface targets to fire at, then they'd train their guns on



Iwadalcanal and  
Tulagi and shell the  
marines there.

Yes, the Japs had  
their way until we  
got Henderson Field  
into shape. This  
enormous air port  
was in our hands.  
Once we got 'er in  
shape, the Japs were  
driven away.

There is Malaria  
here and we are a bit  
cautious at night, for  
that's when the  
mosquito flies around.

On Iwadalcanal  
tonite Jack Benny and  
Carole Landis are

appearing in person  
in a big show. I  
hope that I will be  
able to go over and  
see them. The last  
time I saw celebrities  
was a few weeks  
ago out at Waikiki  
Beach in Hawaii.

I saw President  
Roosevelt with General  
McArthur and Admiral  
Chester W. Nimitz. Right  
before that I saw  
Bob Hope and his  
wonderful show.

We should be here  
a few days before  
sailing again. Harbor  
is flooded down  
with "tin cans,"  
carriers, a couple



cruisers and battle ships. Over there is the Maryland, Cleveland, and I think the Columbia too. My record broken - we were at sea 18 days

Sun. Aug. 27, 1944.

Jack Benny and Carol Landis left yesterday unexpectedly. So I did not see them. They took a plane and went to New Guinea. So I saw Bob Hope's movie "Let's Face It"

Nothing else doing. It is hot as hell and we are warned about malaria mosquitos.

The Captain doesn't seem to look well today. Bad memories for him here.

Mon. Aug 28, 1944

Went to Suedalcan- al today. Went in a small boat and landed right on the big plantation at Brown Point in the exact spot where the Americans landed 2 years ago. Talked with some natives. They hated the Japs, and had to run up into the hills when the Japs came.

Visited Tanamboyo yesterday too. Also saw the Savitry Island where Americans lost 65% of its men in taking it.

Captain was quite irritable, & ben- quiet.



Tues. Aug 29, 1944.

Nine more aircraft carriers showed up today.

I have been listening carefully to the radio. We have airplanes bombing Sumatra, Bonin, Yap, and Palau every day these last 18 days.

I think that the Captain is not in the best of health. He has been in Navy for 17 years and must be about 40 years old.

Wed Aug 30 1944

Practiced landing on Cape Esperance, Guadalcanal. It was very real. Nothing else happened.

Thurs. Aug. 31, 1944

Sat around in Guadalcanal off Lunga point & took on more troops. Rain.

Fri. Aug.

Fri. Sept 1, 1944

Held practice landings on Cape Esperance.

Returned later to Lunga Point. Expect to go to Tulagi tomorrow.

Sat. Sept 2, 1944

Arrived at Hutchinson Bay near Saavitu, not far from Tulagi. Expect to take on fuel, more provisions, and more ammunition tomorrow. Spent the day just relaxing.



We keep hearing good news concerning the allies in France. Maybe the war will be over for Germany soon.

Each day we receive reports of the places that our planes are bombing in the Pacific. It is a cinch that all that is a prelude to our invasion.

Palmit Islands in the Marshall Islands got a heavy bombing by Navy planes. That means that more aircraft carriers passed by there and dropped bombs on the route to the invasion.

My guess - we'll leave on Monday for

the big show. Where will it be? Let's take a look at recent bombings. They are: Paramushiro and Sumatra and Phillipsines and Yap and Palau. The Philippines, I believe, will not be it. I don't think we are ready for her yet. Sumatra is also out. Paramushiro is too far north for our group.

Could it be Yap and Palau!? Will they be the places? I wonder - and wait.

Sun. Aug. Sept. 3, 1944

Went to Kukun Beach at Guadalcanal to load tanks.



Mon. Sept 4, 1944

Isot underway at 10 A.M. for the invasion.

"D-day" will be either 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, or 16<sup>th</sup>

if my guess comes true.

And my guess is that we will hit Yap or Palau, because they have been getting bombed daily.

We will get all the information tomorrow.

Tues. Sept 5, 1944.

"D-day" is the 15<sup>th</sup> and it's going to be Palau!!!

Well what do you know about that!!!

At's going to be terrific!! It is the furthest point that any one has ever

I dared to venture on an island of Japs held territory.

Palau!!!

Late this afternoon, 3 aircraft carriers and 8 destroyers showed up. We already have 15 LST'S + more will probably come later plus several transports + cargo ships.

Some of the planes saw 2 Japs transport planes, ~~take~~ and they shot the planes down. This took place about



200 mi. ahead of us. The  
Jap planes suddenly came  
from Bougainville Island  
where the Japs are  
still trying to evacuate  
men.

We are steaming  
north of Santa Isabel  
Island now.

Wed. Sept 6, 1944  
Steaming for Palau.

Thurs, Sept 7, 1944.  
Report that 3 Jap  
destroyers and 2 transports  
may cross our path  
by tomorrow night

Fri. Sept. 8, 1944

Have not seen the Jap  
ships.

About 30 more allied  
ships arrived. We passed  
within 60 mi. of Jap held  
New Hanover. We went  
north of New Ireland and  
are now steaming fairly  
well north of ~~New Guinea~~  
New Guinea.

A P.C. had sub contact  
today - no "kill" resulted.

Heard a plane that we  
feel was a Jap observation  
plane high in the clouds.  
Our aircraft carrier  
planes could not find it.  
Were we spotted today?  
We should know in a  
few days. One week to  
"D-day"



Sat. Sept 9, 1944

We hear reports of bombings of Palau and all airfields held by Japs within 700 mi. of Palau.

Sun. Sept 10, 1944

Reports of bombings are more vigorous each day.

Mon. Sept 11, 1944

Halmahera took a frightful bombing today. Will they be invaded too?

Tues. Sept 12, 1944

Halmahera and Yap and Palau again. Aerial bombardment of Palau begins tomorrow.

Wed. Sept 13, 1944

The concentrated aerial bombardment of Palau began today. Battleships + cruisers shelled the beach.

The Palau Island group will be invaded by us in 2 days. We will hit Pelilein. If that operation is a success, then we will hit Angaur (9 miles from Pelilein) on the following day.

Thurs. Sept 14, 1944

Tomorrow is D-day. Palau got a terrific bombing today. All men are calm.



Fri. Sept 15, 1944

The news we made was broadcast to the entire world. We heard the broadcast. It is now history.

Tomorrow - Angaur Halmehara was also invaded. But there is no opposition there.

There is considerable opposition here.

Sat. Sept 16, 1944

all night long last night, the sky was lit up with star shells.

Angaur was given a frightful bombing by the U.S.S. Pennsylvania and 2 other battleships, several cruisers + destroyers. We

did not invade Angaur today because things are not all O.K. on Pelikee. Angaur will be hit tomorrow if Pelikee goes well.

Sun. Sept 17, 1944

last night both Angaur and Pelikee were horribly shelled.

Am writing this at 30 min. before the 1<sup>st</sup> wave hits Angaur.

The noise is intense from the big guns shelling the beach.

The U.S.S. Portland, Mizushima, and Pennsylvania are about 500 yds.

from us + they are ~~making~~ making a very



loud ~~no~~ noise + shaking everything. Will write more later.

Beach was hit at 0830. First 3 waves suffered minor casualties. After that, things got rough. Cruisers and destroyers did great work. F4F and TBF planes did terrific strafing + bombing.

Mon. Sept 18, 1944.

Just with the japs counter attacked! This morning I witnessed one of the worst dive bombing attacks that the japs probably ever received. Then the U.S.S. Cleveland got within

1000 yds. of beach and let go salvo after salvo from 0800 to 1200. Some japs tried to get off the island, but we plastered them with 40 mm. + 20 mm. Will write more to-night.

We received reports that the japs counter-attack inflicted heavy casualties to us.

Late this afternoon, our planes dropped several tons of bombs on the japs again.

Tues. Sept 19, 1944

Radio Tokyo says that we lost several



planes and ships and men. Well, while the fighting is 'litter', we did not lose even  $\frac{1}{4}$  of what they claimed.

Wed. Sept 20, 1944

The fighting on Angaur and Pelilieu is the bloodiest and litterest fighting since the war began in the Pacific.

It will result in high casualties to our side, but the newspapers will not print the true figures. They will probably say "our casualties were light"

Tonight we must leave Palau. Our work here is done.

Some cruisers and battleships will stay around. Also, all the aircraft carriers - 16 - except 3, will stay.

This ship leaves for the Admiralty Islands, for the harbor at Manus. We should arrive on Sept 26.

Rumor is that Uthi Island is to be invaded soon. I know that we shall invade the Island of Yap on October 5, that's 15 days from now.

Thurs. Sept 21, 1944

Plans changed. We did not leave.



We suffered high casualties on Pelilieu and the casualties were fairly high on Angaur. But not one Jap will leave Island alive. There will be very few Jap prisoners. We will kill all who do not surrender completely, stripped of their clothing.

Fri. Sept. 22, 1944

Fighting continues on Pelilieu + Angaur. On Angaur, organized resistance has ceased, but the Japs still hide out in the caves + come out at night. Each day, more + more of our own flesh + blood is being killed by their snipers.

The Japs had the Imperial Marines on Palau. They had been preparing for 10 yrs. for the fight. The pill-boxes were very solid. The beaches are completely strewn with our LVT's that the Japs blasted. No, the Japs + radio back home won't talk of that. Nor can I speak of details here. I do not attempt to give details, nor did I. Reason is that action was too quick + far too numerous. They are things which I will tell someday in future. It cannot be put in writing.



Sat Sept 23, 1944

Angaur is pretty well secured, but Pelilien is looking bad. We will have to reinforce it.

Sun. Sept 24, 1944

We just finished re-inforcing Pelilien. Today I saw the biggest explosion in my life. A lucky hit by the Mississippi ~~missile~~ hit a Japs ammunition dump. The flame shot hundreds of feet into air. It was enormous. It was right near a volcano.

The YMS 99 was blown sky high into the air only 200 yds

from us when she struck a Japs mine. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> ship I saw sunk by a mine in a week.

Mon. Sept 25, 1944

We are already using the air field on Pelilien. Some B 24's + 2 transports landed there. The C.B. (Seabee) are building an air field on Angaur.

Today, fighting on Pelilien was furious. A big tank battle was raging on the air field there. The Japs were driven back.

The U.S.S. Solace and U.S.S. Neary have been here



for several days & they are still taking on casualties. They are loaded with them.

We are going to bid "farewell" to Palau. They will not need us any longer. At midnight tonight we leave for Hollandia, New Guinea. It has been so long since we have had any mail. Perhaps

it will be waiting for us at Hollandia.

Tues. Sept. 26, 1944  
moving toward New Guinea.

Wed. Sept. 27, 1944

Today, I turned in a Japanese publication to

the Captain that was identified as "secret". It may or may not ever be returned to me.

Thurs. Sept 28, 1944  
Still steaming for Hollandia.

Fri. Sept 29, 1944  
Arrive Hollandia tomorrow morning. Mail? Will we have it waiting, or has it been sent elsewhere?

Sat. Sept 30, 1944  
Arrived at 9 A.M.  
There was no mail for our ship. Everyone just sank down. We couldn't believe it. How could they have forgotten us like that? They



certainly knew of our movements. The Admiralty Islands is at most 400 mi. from here and it could have been sent here long ago. Don't they know how long it has been since we last saw a letter? It may get here on Tuesday. But will ~~it~~ we be here then?

Sun, Oct 1, 1944.

The men on this ship will never forget the treatment that was handed them upon arrival here! After risking our necks the way we did, I consider it quite raw that

"the guy in charge" didn't route our mail to us. All he has to do is sign a paper. Not a thing more! But some guys are just blindly stupid.

Mon Oct 2, 1944.

Rumor - mail tonight  
Went all over Hollandia yesterday. Nothing here.

Tue. Oct 3, 1944

Rumor false. We picked up a broadcast which sounded like the Browns won Amer. League Pennant. Everyone is really happy about it and hope it is true

Best thing is to just not think about mail. Set mind on something else



Wed Oct 4, 1944  
Still at Hollandia  
Thurs. Oct 5, 1944

Same

Fri. Oct 6, 1944  
Mail. We got mail!  
Sat Oct 7, 1944.

at Hollandia

Sun. Oct 8, 1944  
Going to Admiralties tomorrow

Mon Oct 9, 1944  
left today for the  
Admiralty Islands

Tues Oct 10, 1944  
Steaming along

Wed Oct 11, 1944  
Will arrive tomorrow

Thurs. Oct 12, 1944  
Arrived at Manus,  
Admiralty Islands. As  
we arrived, I saw 6  
battleships, 6 cruisers

and 21 aircraft carriers  
with 45 destroyers leave  
the harbor.

We started to take on  
soldiers and equipment here.

Fri. Oct 13, 1944  
Completed taking on soldiers  
Sat Oct 14, 1944

We left Admiralties for  
the invasion of the  
Philippine Islands. It has  
not been announced to  
anyone yet, but I know  
it is the Philippines be-  
cause we have been  
transferred to MacArthur's  
7th Amphibious force for  
this operation and that  
means the Philippines.  
Exact date - my guess -  
Oct 22. Exact place -  
my guess - Mindanao.



Sun Oct 15, 1944

The news is out on this ship - it is the Philippines. My calculations were a bit wrong -

D-day will be Oct 20. We are moving very fast and have been too. The exact spot we will hit is the island of LEYTE in the Philippines, just northeast of Mindanao.

Mon Oct 16, 1944

We met 35 LSTs, 21 merchant ships and 6 destroyers today. And we are moving pretty fast for an LST.

Tues Oct 17, 1944

Everyone is so damn excited and happy as we

hear each night how the Philippines are being bombed.

Wed Oct 18, 1944

Only 2 more days til D-day. Boy! Wait til you people get a load of your newspapers on the 20th!

Thurs. Oct 19, 1944

Tomorrow is the day!!  
Too excited to sleep!  
Will play cards all night long. Everyone is all on edge and anxious to go. A had a gunnery conference with my gunnery dept. Each man smiled and assured me -  
"Mr. Kardon your guns



are ready for anything!

They're all set!

A inspected every gun personally and they are begging for action.

Tonight, the Captain called me into his cabin and told me that it's all up to me. He told me that I will have full authority to commence firing when I thought it best to.

A told him that I am ready for any emergency.

A gave all gunners their last minute instructions. "Our TBF's

and F4F's and F6F's will be all over the place. When firing, make sure you do not hit them. Guard your sectors carefully.

You can fire out of your sector whenever you have nose in that sector. Keep the telephone lines clear & silent for emergency

reports and casualties only!! Don't jam

up my phone lines!!

But they know those things. They have been instructed and drilled



until they know it  
all cold.

This is the best  
day that the diary will  
contain anything in  
detail until after the  
operation because we  
will be too busy.

Fri. Oct. 20, 1944

D-day

Sat. Oct 21, 1944

D+1

Sun Oct 22, 1944

D+2

Mon Oct 23 1944

D+3

Tues. Oct 24 1944

D+4. Have been so busy.  
Edge Bayte will be ours.  
But the Japs keep sending  
those planes over. Today,

as in the past 4 days -  
we had constant air  
attacks. Today at 4 PM, a  
Zero came so low over  
us that I could see  
the pilot very plainly. I  
could almost knock him  
down with an apple. A  
heartbreaking thing happen-  
ed today: We spent 4  
days getting a swell  
ammunition dump placed  
and it was very hard  
work to do it. But after  
it was all done, the  
Japs sneaked in and  
blew the whole thing  
up. Tomorrow we expect  
our daily 5:30 A.M.  
air-raid. Everyone can  
hardly see straight we  
are so tired. An urgent



message came through  
saying that the Japanese  
Navy is expected to  
bombard us tomorrow.

Wed. Oct. 25, 1944

The Japs Navy was  
smacked hard, but  
they sank some of our  
ships too.

Thurs. Oct 26, 1944

Air attacks. There are  
so many ~~fight~~ Amer-  
ican and Japanese  
planes in sky. A TBF  
was shot down  
by our own ships

Today

Fri Oct 27, 1944

So many air attacks  
we accounted for several  
leaving for Hollandia

This diary is now  
brought to a close.

The most interesting  
and important details  
have not been  
included.

The diary merely  
serves as a date  
for each place we  
were at.

KHK