

Contributed by Jeanne

June 26, Tuesday.

Le Havre

Salvage Base.

Up for chow and had Bacon, grapefruit + coffee. Lay down behind switch board and slept until 2 PM. Punching bag is rigged up by Jan room near the captain. Got new's cook today - Slim is being transferred. Rumor is that fifteen men may be transferred when we hit England - who knows. Had letter, a honey from my honey and it was a delightfully warm one, it was dated June 18. We had a movie tonight - Jack Benny + Alexis Smith in "A Horn Blows at Midnight" a fair comedy. Had 8-12 watch and wrote to my sweetheart, when we get to England I hope to be able to send an uncensored one. I love that gal.

Wednesday June 27.

Le Havre

Today marks the end of the ITR-2. We got underway to fight a fire on a Norwegian freighter. Steaming at 10 1/2 knots we hit a submerged wreck. I and Driscoll were on watch 8-12. I had throttle. We hit at 8:04, I thought we would go down immediately but we hung on the wreck. We slipped water past. I went down and swam thru the compartment and got my gear. The fire room flooded then leaked into the engine room. Two army tugs pulled us off wreck and beached us just as we were going down, the ship settled when water was up to main deck. We had little help from anyone else - pumps were no help. We abandoned ship about 3 PM. Took some pictures. We moved to the Warfield - 3 section watches to stand guard over the two. No write

June 28, Tuesday

Le Havre

U.S.S. Warfield

Survival (ARS-32) came in last night. I had (+16 other) the mid-to six watch. We went aboard in motor-launch. Looked around everything ruined - went on army tug along side for coffee. At 12:30 AM. The ATR-2 started going over - all those aboard got off except the skipper (sleeping) + Yessel, he was looking around, they finally climbed down the slid side into the W.B. and over to the motor launch. We on the army tug cast off - then picked up the launch. Cuddy + I stripped to dive over in case the tug couldn't get close enough but a line was passed over. I got in launch and run her around for a while, then pulled over to tug. The "2" is almost completely covered laying at 45° angle. Six to 12 watch got on and salvaged some bridge stuff. Everyone lost some or all gear. We - peaked - rain - coat - shoes - dungarees.

Tuesday July 3.

Le Havre

U.S.S. Warfield

This is the first chance I've had to put anything in my book. On ~~then~~ Friday the ship righted herself a bit but nothing much was done about getting her up. Saturday we all got down there early and got the pumps going at low tide. We kept two six inch and a three inch pump on the forward compartments and put a collision over the side hoping to cover the hole but we missed the hole. The ship floating at high tide and two army tugs towed us over to the large drydock and we immediately started cleaning up. That