

**The Wartime Diary of
Amon Horst, LS, V35773, RCNVR
16 Jan 1943 - 31 Dec 1943**

CALENDAR, 1943

Personal Memoranda	Train Service	
Watch No	To	From
Season Ticket No.	Town	Town
Motor No.		
Bicycle No.		
Bank Pass Book No.		
Telephone No.		
Telegraphic Address		
Size in Gloves		
Size in Collars <i>16 1/2</i>		
Size in Hats <i>6 1/2</i>		
Size in Boots <i>9</i>		
Weight.....st. <i>180</i> lbs. Date <i>25/12/43</i>		
Height... <i>6</i> ft. <i>10</i> ins. Date <i>25/12/43</i>		
Insurance falls due on.....		
Name and Address <i>Amos Horst</i> <i>St. James's Place</i>		

First Day of each Month

1942		1944		1942		1944	
Jan.	Th.	S.	May	F.	M.	Sept.	Tu.
Feb.	S.	To.	June	M.	Th.	Oct.	Th
Mar.	S.	W.	July	W.	S.	Nov.	S.
Apr.	W.	S.	Aug.	S.	Tu.	Dec.	Tu.

JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH	
S.	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	
M.	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29 ..		
Tu.	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30 ..		
W.	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31 ..		
Th.	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25		
F.	1 8 15 22 29 ..	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26		
S.	2 9 16 23 30 ..	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27		

APRIL		MAY		JUNE	
S.	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	.. 2 9 16 23 30	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	
M.	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	
Tu.	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	1 8 15 22 29 ..	
W.	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	2 9 16 23 30 ..	
Th.	1 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	3 10 17 24	
F.	2 9 16 23 30 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	4 11 18 25	
S.	3 10 17 24	1 8 16 22 29 ..	5 12 19 26		

JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
S.	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	1 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	
M.	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	2 9 16 23 30 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	
Tu.	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	3 10 17 24 31 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	
W.	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29 ..		
Th.	1 8 15 22 29 ..	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30 ..		
F.	2 9 16 23 30 ..	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24		
S.	3 10 17 24 31 ..	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25		

OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
S.	.. 3 10 17 24 31	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	
M.	.. 4 11 18 25 ..	1 8 15 22 29 ..	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	
Tu.	.. 5 12 19 26 ..	2 9 16 23 30 ..	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	
W.	.. 6 13 20 27 ..	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29 ..		
Th.	.. 7 14 21 28 ..	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30 ..		
F.	1 8 15 22 29 ..	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31 ..		
S.	2 9 16 23 30 ..	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25		

See last page of Diary for Calendar 1944

see
5/5

V. 35773.

O. Sea, Lemov. Forest.

H.M.O.S. "Sheena"

% F.M.O.

Halifax

N.S.

1943

JANUARY 1943

Friday 15

JANUARY 1943

2nd after
Epiphany

Sunday 17

Reported at the barracks.
Put in a request to be
drafted as soon as possible

Saturday 16

Came back in Halifax after
spending 30 days at home.
Feeling very blue after saying
goodbye to a girl I met on
the train.

Monday 18

Worked with ground
divisions at Bedford being
on mines. Very interesting
work.

a cold wind blowing that is
something new

JANUARY 1943

Tuesday 19

Left at the V. Still working on depth charges

Very cold

Worried, at me out of this range?

Wednesday 20

Offered a shore job for winter but turned it down.
Told officer I didn't join the Navy to work on shore.

Colder than yesterday

JANUARY 1943

Thursday 21

Drafted to the fighting destroyer "Speona". In for repair
Most of crew home on leave

Is sold to work outside

Friday 22

Out to work shipping sand
Stood a 4 hour watch with
temperature 15° below and a
strong wind blowing.

British destroyer comes into
port with 5 tons of ice on
her, 5 feet thick bow bridge
Very lucky to make port

JANUARY 1943

Saturday 23

Expect to stay in Halifax for a couple of months. Have supper & left at 7:15. Went to see show, "Prize of the Yankees", based on the life of Lou Gehrig.

Have a sore throat. Ugly Halifax weather the cause.

3rd after Epiphany Sunday 24

Nothing to do, very dull. Thousands of soldiers now wandering around all wishing they were home. Chips up boys.

Milder today. Went to singing hall at 7 in afternoon.

JANUARY 1943

Monday 25

Nothing new, still chipping paint and painting ship. Cold wind & rain.

British destroyer comes into port with propellers shot away.

Tuesday 26

Chipping & painting. British sub comes into port with stern blown off. Fair & mild.

Got a letter from Dorothy M. says she's got to see Tom again - (oh oh)

JANUARY 1943

Wednesday 27

more chipping & painting
stayed on board ship for
fourth successive night
wrote a letter to Dad.

mild but a chilly wind.

Now I hate this
east coast weather.

Thursday 28

Got pay to-day
sent \$30.00 home
Very chilly

JANUARY 1943

Friday 29

Still chipping and
painting.

I have a bad cough and
can't get rid of it.
cold wind

Saturday 30

Work till noon.
went ashore in afternoon
for first time in a week.
Got four letters from
home
"a few blades frozen"
"choppers thought slab"
"cold wind."

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 1943

4th after
Epiphany Sunday 31

Stay aboard all day.
Nothing to do, but read
and write letters.

cold & chilly.

Had cough & sore throat
all week, worked outside
every day.

Monday Feb. 1

Feel sick, but still
working

cold & chilly
& a snow storm

FEBRUARY 1943

Purification Tuesday 2 ^{Candlemas}
(Scottish Quarter Day)

Finally go to sick-bay.
Sent to R.C.N.H.
Sore throat, bad cough
& high temperature
Cold & Chilly

Wednesday 3

Not so well, High temperature
Am in hospital
Milder with snow

FEBRUARY 1943

Thursday 4

Still in hospital
Conditions much improved
Am tired of hospital already
milder with rain

Friday 5

Still in hospital, but
don't feel sick
Weather very nice

FEBRUARY 1943

Saturday 6

Still in hospital
Not sick.
Toronto beat Rangers 3-2
Rain all day

5th after
Epiphany Sunday 7

Quickly discharged from
hospital.
Go back on board
ship. Feel fine.
Mild with rain

FEBRUARY 1943

Monday 8

Have been excused duty
for three days
was ashore all day.

Most of crew back from
leave

Very mild.

Tuesday 9

Went to see hockey game
between Navy & QRF Force.

Ashore all afternoon, Halifax

Weight 185 lbs.

FEBRUARY 1943

Wednesday 10

Nothing doing as usual
stayed on board all day.

Still on light duty.
Three more days go to
hospital, with flax

Not sold but very chilly

Thursday 11

chipped paint all day

Lovely weather

FEBRUARY 1943

Friday 12

Painted all day
Still in Halifax

Saw & Mild.

Saturday 13

Went ashore in afternoon
Saw the factory
"Black Swan"

Hockey game at night
Met the "Minister of Mines"
daughter, Alice Currier
Left at the Y.M.C.A.

FEBRUARY 1943

6th after Epiphany Sunday 14

Ashore all day.
Unmanned ship

Very mild.

Monday 15

3 more boys from the ship
went to hospital to-day.

Blinding snow storm
Very cold

FEBRUARY 1943

Tuesday 16

Nothing new
Still in Halifax
Very cold

H.M.C.S. "Lansbury" sunk
48 lives lost

Wednesday 17

General routine

Still very cold

2 letters, one from
Ernie + one from Nooks

FEBRUARY 1943

Thursday 18

Greatest part of
Halifax Harbour frozen
over

Very cold

Friday 19

Still tied up in Halifax

Sentry Jankowski shoots
himself accidentally with
.45 through the foot while
loading gun.

Fair + mild.

FEBRUARY 1943

Saturday 20 ☉

Afternoon off.

Went to hockey game at
night ^{Managers} vs. Army.
11-2 for Army.

Septua-
gesima

Sunday 21

Went to getty things.
Assinibois along side.

Very mild.

FEBRUARY 1943

Monday 22

Still fixing up the
old baby

Love weather
Very mild

Tuesday 23

Chipping paint.
Saw many defect
Army in semi-finish
mild

Spring in the air
Received parcel from
Mrs Roy

FEBRUARY 1943

Wednesday 24

Nothing new, painted
cable locker.
Got parcel from home
Jan + Mild

Thursday 25

Still painting ship
Loud weather
Hockey game
Navy vs Airforce

FEBRUARY 1943

Friday 26

Still in Halda
Got pay sent ^{to} 25.00 home
Jan + Mild

Saturday 27

Went to Santeen (with
Hockey game after.
Lots of snow.

MARCH 1943

Thursday 4

Went to web canteen &
hockey game

Took girl home from
game

Very cold.

Navy hat assigned
8-5

Friday 5

Scraping paint of funnel
Stage broke. Very lucky
to save some myself
from falling.

Took girl to show

Very cold with snow.

MARCH 1943

Saturday 6 ☉

Joined up with gunners
ports.

Saw hockey game
with Audrey

Sleet & rain

Quinqua-
gesima

Sunday 7

Duty wet
Stayed on board all day
Fair & mild

MARCH 1943

Monday 8

Still in Dartmouth
Went to Lockhart school
in morning.

Stayed on board.

Quite sold

MARCH 1943

Ash
Wednesday

Wednesday 10

Stayed on board.

Lake Juniper party
very much.

Chopped ready use lockin
quite sold

Shrove
Tuesday

Tuesday 9

Went ashore. Took
Audrey to the show

Back in Halifax

H.M.C.'s inquiries on
slips.

Very sold

Thursday 11

Stayed on board again

Worked in magazine

Reminded all day

MARCH 1943

Friday 12

Still in Halifax
Scraped wood in shell room

Rain all day

Saturday 13

Still in Halifax.
Went to hockey game
with Hogg.
Lovely weather

MARCH 1943

Quadragesima Sunday 14 1st in Lent

Had church on board
ship. Did all my washing
in afternoon.
Ball practice.
Very mild.

Monday 15

Moved to Dartmouth again
on slips
Fair & mild

MARCH 1943

Tuesday 16.

Time drawing new
rules we will sail.

Took girl to show
snow & cold wind.

MARCH 1943

Thursday 18

Went to show at night

Very mild.

St. Patrick's
Day

Wednesday 17

Painted B. gun.

Fair & mild

Friday 19

Painted forecastle staid,
side.

Fair weather
Cold wind.

MARCH 1943

Saturday 20

Went with Dorman to
see show. In which
we saw.

Got two parcels

Mild with rain.

MARCH 1943

Monday 22

Painted all day.

Cold with snow

2nd in
Lent Sunday 21 ☉

Stayed on board all
day

Worked in morning
Still in Dartmouth

Fair + mild

Tuesday 23

Left slips

Worked in shell room

Fair + mild.

MARCH 1943

Wednesday 24

Painted all day

Ship almost finished
Expect to leave soon for
trial runs & evolutions

Very nice weather

MARCH 1943

Friday 26

Get magazines & shelves
ready to be mounted on ship

Worked till 19.30

Fair & mild

(Pog-day)

Lady
Day Thursday 25

Painted all day
Went to a party in Dartmouth
at night

Fair & mild

Saturday 27

Commencement ship
at Bedford basin
no shore leave

Fair & warm

MARCH 1943

3rd in
Levt Sunday 28

Had night balance test
Worked all morning
Went ashore in afternoon
was at girls place for
supper

Wet center at night
Wet

Monday 29

Went on a cruise
Had a short A + B. guns
action station
Went to show at night
cold down side

MARCH 1943

Tuesday 30

Down to St Margarets
bay for evolutions.

Fair + mild.

Wednesday 31

Practised evolutions
more gunnery practise.
Cold wind.

APRIL 1943

Thursday 1

Still in St. Margarets
Bay Gunners party take
the train

Fair & mild

Friday 2

Practised sea boat crews
Landed - explored island
in St. Margarets Bay

Scrambled down ship's side
Gunners party cheered.

Fair & mild

APRIL 1943

Saturday 3

Still in St. Margarets Bay
Held boat races
was very enjoyable team
Lieut Chadwick jumps into
cold water.

Lots of rum.

Lousy weather

4th in
Lent Sunday 4 ●

Held divisions
Whole crew addressed by
captain, told us that we
going on the transatlantic
voyage.

Duty watch at night

Fair & mild

APRIL 1943

Monday 5

Myke + friends went
ashore without snow.
Had a bottle of apple whiskey
Went to see a show of

Fair + mild

Tuesday 6

6 guys jump ship
Refuel + provision ship
Fair + mild.

APRIL 1943

Wednesday 7

Last day in Halley
Stayed on board
Snow

Thursday 8

Finally get under way
Left for Newfoundland at 11.00
Cold with snow
(Action stations)

APRIL 1943

Friday 9

Arrived in St. Johns at
1500 hrs
Most of crew ashore
cloudy + cold

Saturday 10

Went ashore in afternoon
back at 2400.

Sailed for Londonderry
at 0600

cloudy

APRIL 1943

Passion
Sunday Sunday 11

Met under way at 0600
along with 12 yank
destroyers + 3 Canadian
corvettes.
cold + cloudy

action stations

Monday 12 D

Picked up convoys from
New York. (6 y ships)
2 escort ships
Quite rough + stormy

APRIL 1943

Tuesday 13

Sailing along at 12 knots
nothing out of ordinary
Heavy sea
cold with rain.

Wednesday 14

Lowered sea - boat & got
a gun of the waterway
I so far my 0 - gull
quite for appendices.
Heavy ground swell

APRIL 1943

Thursday 15

Diled at sea very
successful.
Very calm & mild.
Approximately at the half
way mark to Ireland

V... —

Friday 16

York destroyer "Spencer" goes
after sub Casadian
Corvette picks up 48
survivors from torpedoed
merchant ship
Convoy ahead of us loses
two ships.

Heavy seas.

APRIL 1943

Saturday 17

Not firing of a sub
action stated no sign
of sub.
Sounded by two British
destroyers

Oiled again from
tanker.
Fair & very calm

Palm Sunday
Sunday 18

Leave convoy, have to
be in Derry by 12th.
Cold with rain.

Very rough
Havent been seasick yet
surprised.

APRIL 1943

Monday 19

Sighted land after 8 days
at sea. First glimpse of
Ireland.

Wonderful scenery going
up the Foyke river to
Derry. 23 miles

Was on shore patrol first
night. Spent all night keep-
-ing order at dance

Tuesday 20 ☉

played ball against crew
from Corratto. Right.
Fore cartilage on left knee
exposed deep, dont stand a match
very painful.

Lovely Irish weather
11

APRIL 1943

Wednesday 21

Go back to sea again
for trials & evolutions.

Fair & mild.

Thursday 22

At sea all day doing
evolutions.
Fair, some air, but no damage
all guns fired at target
launched by aircraft.
Can't help but shoot on
account of engine troubles.

Calm & mild.

APRIL 1943

St. George's Day Friday 23 Good Friday

At sea all day doing evolutions.
Anchored at Larne, Ireland
evening night.

Fair & mild.

Saturday 24

Same routine, doing evolutions
trials with submarines
and three corvettes.

Still laying around on
account of engine troubles.

APRIL 1943

Easter
Sunday Sunday 25

Arrived at the mouth
of the Clyde river in
Scotland. Wonderful
scenery. Aircraft carrier
alongside.

What an idyllic Sunday,
(no church P.I.)

Cool & a rough sea.

Easter
Monday Monday 26

Off to sea again at
noon.

Having quite a time at
sea with my unwell dog

Don't stand a chance

APRIL 1943

Tuesday 27 €

Pick up convoy
consisting of 67 ships
bound for New York.

& other coast vessels
besides our
Hue & Calm

(45 subs in area south of
our course)

Wednesday 28

Our course will be
up to north Ireland and
Greenland so as to avoid
Kwajalein area.

Getting rough.

APRIL 1943

Thursday 29

Steaming along steadily
with spray, at 7 knots
Really taking a pounding
on account of heavy
sea.

Friday 30

One corvette leaves convoy
and goes into Iceland
Very rough, everything
flying around in mess decks
Lockton has serious head
injury Stand my watch
now

MAY 1943

Saturday 31

Everybody taking a terrific
beating on account of
storm.
Expect to be at sea 12
days, all told.
Very cold & rough



Low
Sunday Sunday 2

Have five casualties on
board all got hurt on
account of storm tossing
us around.
Very rough.

MAY 1943

Monday 3

Still very rough.
No fresh water to drink.
2 slices of bread a day.
So what?

Tuesday 4 ●

Tried to out at sea.
but gave it up, too rough.
Supplies getting low.
Rain & very cold.

MAY 1943

Wednesday 5

Getting close to Greenland.
met up with huge icebergs.
Convoy ahead of us is being
attacked steadily by subs.
Cloudy & cool.

Thursday 6

Finally oil at sea.
expect to stay with
convoy 3 more days.
I'm still on light duty
on account of injured knee

MAY 1943

Friday 7

Conroy ahead of us getting
fine (subs) close to ships
attacked 28 times during
one night. Estimated number
of subs. 30.

We finally have conroy
with very little oil left

Saturday 8

Got into St. Johns at 0500.
Went ashore for second
time in 23 days.
(Champagne & steak)
Got 14 letters

MAY 1943

2nd after
Easter Sunday 9

Stayed on board all day
did nothing.
Lousy map weather.

Monday 10

Worked all day
Painted 'B' Gun
Stayed on board.
Fair & mild

MAY 1943

Tuesday 11

Went ashore in afternoon
met guys from Hamilton
had 1 bottle scorpions
& two bottles of brew.
What a night

Wednesday 12

Sailed for overseas again
at 10.0
& cigarettes beside ourselves
Very calm & mild

MAY 1943

Thursday 13

Went up with field
of ice. A lot of damage
done to ribs.
Pick up convoy of
54 ships.
Very foggy & icebergs
all around.

Friday 14

Oiled at sea.
Aircraft carrier in convoy
has 50 yards aircraft
on flight deck.
Very cold.

MAY 1943

Scot. Cr. Day
(Whitsunday) Saturday 15

Took on water at sea
from camera

3 subs in area ahead
of us

Fairly mild.

3rd after
Easter Sunday 16

Held pistol shooting
competition.

Pick up a sub
Dropped 34 depth charges
but did not get sub.

Very warm & mild.

MAY 1943

Monday 17

Ordinary sea routine.
Fairly mild.

Tuesday 18

Fired 3 rounds practice
A & V. guns.

Sea very calm.

Fairly warm.

MAY 1943

Wednesday 19 ☉

Leave tomorrow along
with general carrier
for Dursey.

Thursday 20

Worked on my gun
all day.

Jan's Mill

MAY 1943

Friday 21

Arrived in Londonderry
at 0800.

Were at sea only 8 days
this time.
Went ashore at night.

Saturday 22

6 ratings go on 7 days
leave to all parts of the
British Isles.

I expect to go to London
next trip.

MAY 1943

4th after
Easter

Sunday 23

Stayed on board
all day.

Rain

Empire
Day

Monday 24

Went to Belfast for
eyesight test to take
course in gunlaying.
(90 miles from Derry)
met nice girl on train

MAY 1943

Tuesday 25

Failed eyesight test.
Expect to take AA in next
time into Derry.

Fair & warm

Ball practice

Wednesday 26

Still daylight at 2300
a wonderful place for
scenery this Derry.
(Car broke).

MAY 1943

Thursday 27

Still in Derry
Worked like trojans
to get ammunition
on board.
Lochy weather.

Friday 28

Same old Dublin
routine!
Fair & mild

MAY 1943

Saturday 29

fellows all come back.
from home. A few
some tell dispatch
London & Glasgow.

Rogation
Sunday

Sunday 30

Sail out the Foyle.
Done H.F.P.F. trials
all day.

MAY—JUNE 1943

Monday 31

Set sail for Iceland
by ourselves.
Fine sunny

Fair weather

Tuesday June 1

Travelling to Iceland
at 18 knots down
Island sweep all
the way.

JUNE 1943

Wednesday 2

Catch first glimpse
of Iceland.

Very mountainous.

Arrived in Reykjavik
at 0600.

Ascension
Day Thursday 3

Went to fjord to fuel
up. Had a long view
of British battleship Duke
of York & carrier Furious
also 5 yankee battleship
& cruisers.

JUNE 1943

Friday 4

Lt. Iceland bound
for Nuff with 4
ships. Expect to meet
another convoy.

Very foggy

Saturday 5

Met up with rest
of convoy consisting of
four. One of fastest
convoy ever to pass
the Atlantic. 84 ships
A colossal needs many
thanks.

Mild but foggy

JUNE 1943

Sunday after
Ascension

Sunday 6

We took our M.O.
owed to one of the
merchant ships. One
of their most needs on
Liberation operation.
A very feebly crew.

Still foggy with rain.



Monday 7

Another fellow front in
convoy. Shot signal this
evening. Took her power
to ship in whaler.

Lovely weather all the
way.

JUNE 1943

Tuesday 8

Finally leave covers
along with rest of escort
Relieved by destroyers coming
out from St. Johns.

Sun's mild.

Wednesday 9

Have race with
British destroyers to see
who would be in
St. Johns first.
Had to give it up on
account of boiler trouble

JUNE 1943

Thursday 10

Get into St. Johns. 2200
Rumours going around
that we were sunk.
People all surprised to
see us.
Had target practice at
sea. Target "Deberg"

Friday 11

Stayed aboard all day
waked on *immunities*
Sun's very warm
Got only 6 letters

JUNE 1943

Saturday 12

Got paid to-day \$42.00
D. uty matches played
at park all day.

4

JUNE 1943

Whit
Monday Monday 14

Went to a night club
9 miles out of country
15 ft of black - horse

11

Whit
Sunday Sunday 13

Still in St. Johns
Had Sunday diversion
played ball against Stokes
beat them

Tuesday 15

Went into dry dock
for repairs
Fair & mild

JUNE 1943

Wednesday 16

Still in drydock.
Guy loses leg in drydock
when acetone tank
explodes.

Thursday 17

Went to night-look out
school.

Stay of ship's company
to hospital to be
inspected by T. B.

JUNE 1943

Friday 18

Went ashore in
afternoon
I had some Black Force

Saturday 19

Went to show with
Dorman.

Last night before
sailing once again
Goodnight here we
come.

JUNE 1943

Trinity
Sunday Sunday 20

Sailed at 10.00
Weather very cold
and drizzle.

JUNE 1943

Tuesday 22

At sea in the north
Atlantic. Weather
~~dark~~ dreary & foggy.

Monday 21

Picked up convoy
of 28 merchant ships

Wednesday 23

Action stations for
exercise every night
at 1700

Expect an attack any
time.

JUNE 1943

Midsummer Thursday 24 ☾ Corpus Christi

Still foggy & raining

JUNE 1943

Saturday 26

Lovely weather to-day
Diced ship again

Friday 25 ☽

Typical Atlantic
weather - hot &
foggy

Put me for leave,
upon battery U. K.

1st after Sunday 27
Trinity

Held rifle practice
aboard ship.

Scored 17 out of possible
30.

JUNE 1943

Monday 28

Left camp and
proceeded to Derry

JUNE—JULY 1943

Wednesday 30

Got leave granted to
go to London. 6 days
Left for Belfast at 15:00.

Tuesday 29

Arrived in Derry
Dined ship at Yankee
base
Spent evening &
played bill.
Saw at Yankee base
at night

Thursday July 1

Arrived at Larne in
morning. Left by train
for London

JULY 1943

Friday 2

Arrived in London at 10
proceeded to Regent St
and from there to
morning house 4 of C.

Saturday 3

Started to explore London
went to Hyde Park &
Piccadilly Circus

JULY 1943

2nd after Trinity Sunday 4

Went to see Buckingham
Palace & Westminster
Abbey.

Had quite a time riding
the sidewalks.

Had a date with a lovely
blonde.

Monday 5

Went to see Mrs. Tussauds,
Napoleon Museum and
other interesting places.

Saw London Bridge &
Tower of London
St. Paul's Cathedral.

JULY 1943

Tuesday 6

Still off leaving London
Having a great time.

Left for a Derry at
11.00 on train.

Wednesday 7

Arrived back at the
ship at night.
Started to get gear ready
to go to sea.

JULY 1943

Thursday 8

Worked on my gun
all day to get it in
fighting trim.

Friday 9

Left Derry along
with destroyers back,
and Burnham.

Held gunnery shoot
at anti-aircraft.

JULY 1943

Saturday 10

picked up convoy of
87 ships returning to
America

3rd after
Trinity

Sunday 11

Weather - very cold
& chilly.

JULY 1943

Monday 12

Sailing slow at 10 and
nothing out of ordinary.
Getting monotonous already

Tuesday 13

Deled at sea from
British tender.

P.O. Ferguson gets head
washed in a large float
attached to main pipe
hanging from

JULY 1943

Wednesday 14

Same old sea routes
It has on watch 8 off.
Starting to get foggy.

Thursday 15

Still very foggy and
the occasional fliers

JULY 1943

Friday 16

The fog is still very
thick and is really
dangerous. Lost compass
a couple of times.

Saturday 17 ☉

Still foggy. Getting
close to Herby.

JULY 1943

4th after
Trinity

Sunday 18

Finally leave camp
as our relief come.

Had intended to take
Jack & even on in
a race, but it is too
foggy.

Monday 19

Arrive in New York
Get tons of mail &
7 pencils
Got letter from Mrs
Curtis

11

JULY 1943

Tuesday 20

Got paid sent \$40.00
home.

Did all my job in camp

Wednesday 21

Some of the boys go
to post camp outside
of St John's.

AUGUST 1943

Tuesday 3

Expect to be relieved at
drop time now.

My gun is going to be
the fastest ⁱⁿ the bunch
so far.

Rain all day.

Wednesday 4

What a night this is.

We took convoy into harbor
in Scotland and then
turned around heading for
Dunlop.

Captain ^{is} well down here.
25 spots with a hell of
a storm going on.
Water is in mess desks
what a mess

AUGUST 1943

Thursday 5

Arrived in Derry at
8 pm. Refuelled at
base.

So up river at 11 pm.
Expect to be in ^{the} ^{next} ^{few} days.

Rain all day.

Friday 6

Boys go on 7 dep leave.

Painted A gun.

Still raining.

AUGUST 1943

Saturday 7

Still in port working hard.

Nothing to do here at all
Stayed aboard all day.
Rained all day.

7th after
Trinity

Sunday 8

Didn't go to church
Stayed aboard all day.
Ball practice.

Louise's lunch
medicines

17

AUGUST 1943

Monday 9

Lots of radishes &
cucumbers & tomatoes.

Painted "A" gun.
Went ashore and saw
a show.

Across the Pacific.

Tuesday 10

Duty watch
Stayed aboard all day.
Still in Londonderry.
Rained all day.

AUGUST 1943

Wednesday 11

Rain all day.
Have make 4 meals
very afternoon.
Held ball practice.
Pestigouche goes in for
refit on this day.

Thursday 12

Scanned most of day.
Slept aboard all day.
Getting bus of day.

AUGUST 1943

Friday 13

Brought depth charges
aboard. worked till 11.
Boys come back from
Gene.
Rained most of day.

Saturday 14

Held ships degree at
Royal Navy hall.
Treat beer.
Took party home.

AUGUST 1943

8th after Trinity Sunday 15 ☉

Stayed aboard all day.
Played ball in afternoon.
Very lousy weather.
11

Monday 16

Getting ready to go to
sea once again.
Provisioned ship.
no rain

AUGUST 1943

Tuesday 17

Sailed up the river
for L. Spent out for
Laddie today.
Anchored at Howells.

Wednesday 18

Sailed for Rye Hook along
with British Destroyer
Buckham.

AUGUST 1943

Thursday 19

Repacked R. of fuel
at 2200. Dred up,
alongside Yankee tanker.

Friday 20

Went ashore. Quite a
place. Lots of pretty
girls, but they don't even
look at a Canadian
sailor.

AUGUST 1943

Saturday 21

Left Iceland at 0200.
Along with 5 Yankee
trappers, so bound for
New York.
Expected to meet rest of
company from Iceland in
a couple of days.

9th after
Trinity Sunday 22

Sailing along at 12 knots.
Nothing new or exciting
Older way see water's

AUGUST 1943

Monday 23

Met rest of convoy
coming from Iceland.
Smallest convoy yet
only 48 ships
& escort.

AUGUST 1943

Wednesday 25

Held quiz contest over
S.R.E.

Starting to get foggy.

Tuesday 24

Delivered ship to - dep.
Held radio programme
(Very good).

Thursday 26

Rain all day.
Passed line to Laskathaven
to receive some parts K.A.O.A.
Had polar light.

AUGUST 1943

Friday 27

Starting to get rough.
Made out with the
father.

Rain all day.

Saturday 28

Filed ship again.
Had a pipe down.

AUGUST 1943

10th after
Trinity Sunday 29

Finally ^{met} ~~arrived~~ by
scoot coming out of
Halifax.

One going into Halifax
this trip.

Monday 30

Hold race with Sash,
and lose.
Got the old baby up
to 32. 9. 1943
Race lasted two hrs.

Arrived in Halifax at 1200.
Good to see lights
again after 6 months.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1943

Tuesday 31

Went ashore in PT
on 48, has leave
Took a letter home
from park.

Wednesday Sept. 1

Had a date with a
nurse from Victoria
General Hospital.

SEPTEMBER 1943

Thursday 2

Had date with woman
but didn't keep it.
Went to see picture
Stage Door Cantina.

Friday 3

Arrived in
abroad for Gunnery
classes.
Worked till 2200

SEPTEMBER 1943

Saturday 4

Went to dentist - had
4 teeth extracted - one
had ~~an~~ an abscess -
excused duty for 48 hrs

11th after
Trinity Sunday 5

To foggy to hold shoot
sent all remuneration
as before again
Sailed for Norfolk
from Deal at 11
26 knots all the way

SEPTEMBER 1943

Monday 6

Arrived in Norfolk.
Got tons of mail
and parcel from RVCW
nurses committee.
Alice Carrie sent me a
snapshot of herself.
Duty watch.

Tuesday 7

Sailed for Plymouth
with Desk, Ruffell +
3 committees.
Held week air attacks
(6 pyreos attacked
3 destroyers).
Bombers dropped smoke
bombs on target, burned by
"scene"

SEPTEMBER 1943

Wednesday 8

Picked up convoy
at sea. 62 ships.
mostly tankers. 4 freighters
Landed mail for
a charge

Thursday 9

Sailed ship at sea
to day.
Calm but quite cool
& damp.

SEPTEMBER 1943

Friday 10

Have a new M.A. and
a new "Jimmy" this
trip.
Nothing near some
old routine.

Saturday 11

Have a reporter aboard
from the Montreal paper.
He took quite a few pictures
of the boxes on the mess deck.
Spent a night short, whole
sky illuminated, very
spectacular display.

SEPTEMBER 1943

12th after
Trinity Sunday 12

Held Sunday Missions
Captain gave a talk on
the North Atlantic and
discussed increasing dangers
to come in if boat
wayfarer

Monday 13

Held Quiz contest in
mess-deck won by S.P.C.

Rain all day.

SEPTEMBER 1943

Tuesday 14 ☉

Comms starts to get by
the power for different parts
of the R.F.S.

Dropped pattern of S.P.C.
and took on 10 more from
Scottish Tanker. Time 16 min
for all port
ships

Wednesday 15

Arrived in Derry
at 10:00 at Shank's base.
Went ashore at night
went to shore to help
some ships and took
some things and took
some things

SEPTEMBER 1943

Thursday 16

Stayed abroad all day
and did nothing.
Painted a gun.

Friday 17

Still in Derry.
Played ball against
Skeekatchewon and beat
them 15-11. Our news
more broadcast over
B & C to Canada + results
of game.

SEPTEMBER 1943

Saturday 18

Went ashore with Rowan
Really drove her, tons
of ale + whiskey.

13th after
Trinity Sunday 19

Stayed abroad all day.
I did nothing.
Spent time I go to
church somewhere

SEPTEMBER 1943

Monday 20

Duty watch to day.
Stayed aboard all day.
Painted ship.
Stored Ammunition.

Tuesday 21

Went ashore at night
Took a blonde to show
by name of Patricia
made a det for Thursday

SEPTEMBER 1943

Wednesday 22

Stood watch for P. Singer
Worked all day.

Rain most of day
picture show aboard at night
"Road to Glory"

Thursday 23

Duty watch again,
more rain.
This place puts me off
Lets get back to Canada.
11

SEPTEMBER 1943

Friday 24

(23 yrs old to-day)

Report comes through
that "N. m. e." of Gray
is sunk off Newby along
with three other boat
ships in convoy.

Saturday 25

Finally sail up the
Foye 3 days earlier
before going across.
Commodore gives us
50% chance of getting
across

SEPTEMBER 1943

14th after Sunday 26
Trinity

Went out in morning
for Esdie trials
Anchored in afternoon
Show ahead at night
"valley of the sun"
setting very cold.

Monday 27

Sailed for Newby.
expect strong opposition
this trip.
Said night short
"Star shell"

SEPTEMBER 1943

Tuesday 28

Met up with convoys
65 ships.

6 destroyers 3 gunboats
escort vessels.

1 carrier in convoy.

Michaelmas Wednesday 29

Very very rough
course will take us
way north. Within
a few miles of Scotland.

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 1943

Thursday 30

Plane takes off from
carrier search ground
for subs.

Locates few on
surface just off our
course. I
Saw a submarine far ahead
of us consisting of four
British "Jane" class destroyers

Friday Oct. 1

Expect to be at sea
another 2 days. Fuel
is already being rationed.
This will mean a total
of 18 days at sea.
Longest trip by sea
since coming down

OCTOBER 1943

Saturday 2

Very rough to-day &
very cold.

Making very slow
progress.

Changed course again
which will take us
still further north.

15th after
Trinity

Sunday 3

5 subs behind us and
3 ahead of us sighted
by aircraft.

Everybody seemed to
be ready for an attack at
any moment.

Barometer is rising a bit
still rough

OCTOBER 1943

Monday 4

More reports of subs but
still no attacks.

Have been at sea for
8 days.

Still very rough

Tuesday 5

~~Tracked~~ Tracked at sea
from tanker

Rain all day

close to Greenland

OCTOBER 1943

Wednesday 6

Had conference
programme aboard.
Very good.

Nothing happens
around here.

Thursday 7

picked up German
radio message believed
to belong to a German
submarine.

OCTOBER 1943

Friday 8

Roughest day yet.
Whole convoy is
scattered during night

Saturday 9

Reliefs finally come
to take convoy into
N.Y. while we proceed
to St. John's.
15 days at sea.

OCTOBER 1943

16th after
Trinity Sunday 10

Dressed in St. John's
at 6:00.

Hours of mail.
Got 20 letters & three
parcels.

Monday 11

Duty watch.
Learney Wideman drafted
aboard.

OCTOBER 1943

Tuesday 12

Went ashore with Levere
to show "Fine Grass to Obed."

Was made Gunnery
Yeoman as Party drafted

Wednesday 13 ☉

Moved into drydock.
Got parcel from Mary
Ship's company under 48
his stoppage of leave.
Said show ahead.
Bengram also die.

OCTOBER 1943

Thursday 14

Send \$50.00 home.
Write letter to Sam.

Still in dry dock.

Large weather.

Friday 15

Leave dry dock. Provision
ship for sea.

Rain all day.
Let's go to sea.

OCTOBER 1943

Saturday 16

Sailed for Londonderry
once again.

Had mock air-attack
again.

17th after
Trinity

Sunday 17

Fixed all outboard motors to
test them.

Don't stand a watch
this trip (Lucky nuts!).

OCTOBER 1943

Monday 18

Pick Conroy up.
15 light vessels.
Taking no chances.

Tuesday 19

Freighter gets lost
from Conroy, started
around looking for it.

OCTOBER 1943

Wednesday 20

Took M.D. over
to "Mayflower".

Weather - cold & wet

Thursday 21

Conroy behind us
gets three subs and we
don't even see one as
much as see one.

Better luck next time

OCTOBER 1943

Friday 22

Held radio programme
aboard.

Bought ⁵50.00 worth
food.

Saturday 23

General sea routine
cleaned small arms
ammunition.

Cold & clear

OCTOBER 1943

18th after
Trinity Sunday 24

Report comes through
that German cruiser
is at large somewhere
ahead of us.
Everybody quite tense

Monday 25

Arrived in Nouville
at 20.00 hrs
Dilled up.

OCTOBER 1943

Tuesday 26

Proceeded down river
Boys to Londonderry.

Went ashore at night
went to show -

Wednesday 27

Stayed aboard and
did nothing.

10 guys on leave.

Loaned Lavigne \$10.00

OCTOBER 1943

Thursday 28

Stayed aboard again
although I don't stand
any watches.

Friday 29 ☉

Went ashore at night
and saw a show.

Gunnery party painting
their gun-shield.

Rain all day

"

OCTOBER 1943

Saturday 30

Went ashore once
again in good old
Derry.

NOVEMBER 1943

All Saints Monday 1

Took "Blondie" out
again - to show.
Very pretty I should
say.
I gave another date
~~to~~ to the sailor before

19th after Trinity Sunday 31

Went to pickup show
at night. Ship boys
met girl after
show took her home
& made a date.

Tuesday 2

Stayed aboard.
"Show aboard
Footlight scene made."

NOVEMBER 1943

Wednesday 3

Remainder of day
comes back from 7
days leave.

Had another show
aboard.

Thursday 4

Went ashore again
and didn't keep date.
Drinking rum with
Jack Knight (off Pictou)

NOVEMBER 1943

Friday 5

Finally up the river
again.

Went for Asdic
trip + A.A. shoot.
attacks carried out by
div bombers.
At anchor during night

Saturday 6

More Asdic + R.D.F.
trips. So rough for
4.7 shoot.
At anchor during night

NOVEMBER 1943

20th after
Trinity Sunday 7

Sunday divisions.
Presented with medal
for 6 months service in
N. Atlantic
3 war correspondents
aboard.
Picked up convoy at
night.

Monday 8

Taking a southerly
course this trip which
will take us close to
the "Gore's Islands."
(38 1/2 bags marked)
on chart.

NOVEMBER 1943

Tuesday 9

Loaded "Dulehon" and
"Boni" gun magazines.
Checked "Lewis" gun
ammunition.
a " "

Wednesday 10

Lowly weather as
we keep on going
in a southerly direction.
Dull ship to day.

NOVEMBER 1943

Armistice
Day

Thursday 11

Martinmas
(Scot. Gr. Day)

Tried 3" gun for
benefit of war zone
respondents as they
recorded different sound
to be broadcast over
C.B.C.
Lovely weather

Friday 12 ☉

Tried costume gun
and hot hold of
it. Result, sad stomach.
(close to "Gross")

NOVEMBER 1943

Saturday 13

Nothing out of ordinary
as the ~~course~~
ahead of snow, doing
a sweep at 15 knots.
Action starting at
1700 as usual.
— 11 —

21st after
Trinity Sunday 14

Tried Sunday diving
to-day. Was recorded
by war correspondents
Fair & mild

NOVEMBER 1943

Monday 15

"Rimouski" fired star shells, but submarine tunnel port to be just another corvette.

Getting colder as we had north to west "Newfy".

Tuesday 16

Passed night to May
flame who is going
to Halifax and night.
Quite cold.

NOVEMBER 1943

Wednesday 17

Field shot star shell.
Dropped smoke screen drums
also fired rockets & flares.

Left Conway.

Thursday 18

Arrived in Newfy at
0900. Tons of mail.
& parcels.

NOVEMBER 1943

Friday 19

G.I. leaves for Hatfield
as wife is very ill.
Went ashore at night.
was at County Club.
Got paid \$104.00
for two months

Saturday 20

Sent \$50.00 home.
most of Jimmy's pay
drunk.
Stored Ammunition

NOVEMBER 1943

Next before
Advent Sunday 21

Had ship's company picture
taken.
Captain gives farewell
speech as he leaves ship.
Went to I.N.O. for
bargain rights.

Monday 22

Sailed for Dux at 10.00
along with, Ask, Remond,
Pictou, Caplight and two
new British frigates built
in U.S.A.

NOVEMBER 1943

Tuesday 23

Picked up Comby, largest
ever. Course will take
us on a southerly route
again.

P.O. Cole as G. I. this
trip.

Wednesday 24

Ship reported sinking in
Comby. 19 feet of water
in her holds.

Lousy weather.

NOVEMBER 1943

Thursday 25

Fueled ship to-day.
Aircraft carrier in Comby.
Disten stations at 1700

Friday 26

General sea routine
nothing unusual. Is
monotonous & amused
me. Lets have some
action.

NOVEMBER 1943

Saturday 27 ☉

Picked up N. S. D. F. hearing
on sub. extended at 10 AM.
Expect action to night.
Everybody psyched up.

1st in
Advent Sunday 28

12 submarines in area
no contacts yet.
Deled ship.
Found barrels for
for purchase.

NOVEMBER 1943

Monday 29

Held first musical
programme of trip to night.
Have been at sea for
a week.
Everybody talking about
raft -

St. Andrew's
Day Tuesday 30

Report comes through
that convoy ahead is
being attacked by aircraft.
Let 'em come

DECEMBER 1943

Wednesday 1

Unfused H.E. shells.
Pipe down in aft.
Getting very rough

Thursday 2

Very rough.
Detour stations at 19/0.
Dropped 10 charges
20 miles off Dewey

DECEMBER 1943

Friday 3

Arrived in Dewey.
Had picture show
aboard at night
Didn't go ashore.
Sigh today

Saturday 4 3

Went ashore. Had
lunch out, made det.
Sent ammunition ashore
for survey.

DECEMBER 1943

2nd in
Advent

Sunday 5

Stayed aboard all day
did nothing.
most of boys off to
church.

Monday 6

Summers party came
on painting guns.
Send binoculars ashore

DECEMBER 1943

Tuesday 7

Went ashore at night
Took Anne to show

Wednesday 8

Had show aboard
Keep Jim flying.
Took 52 projects
Ashore

DECEMBER 1943

Thursday 9

Stayed aboard and
did darning.

Friday 10

Field ship's company
dinner at Main hall.
Everybody drunk.

DECEMBER 1943

Saturday 11 ☺

Boys return from
7 days leave.
Stayed aboard at
night.

3rd in
Advent Sunday 12

Getting ready to go to
sea again.
Expect to go in for
refit or overhauling in
Halifax.

DECEMBER 1943

Monday 13

of eyes not finished
repairing ship yet so
we stop at extra stop
in camp.

Tuesday 14

Sailed up. Got land
out to see for trees.
At anchor during
night.

DECEMBER 1943

Wednesday 15

More evolutions and
gunner practice.
Anchor at 11:00 &
during night.

Thursday 16

Sold W.F. 2
trees all day.
Got ready for night
shoot. (Cancelled)

DECEMBER 1943

Friday 17

Sailed to meet
convoy at Looe
St. John's here we
some
shopping days till
Christmas.

Saturday 18

Very rough.
Drew 30 ft up in
hammocks with
flee. Situation is
rather desperate.

DECEMBER 1943

4th in
Advent Sunday 19 €

Tommy is scattered
all over the place as
result of storm.
In taking a southerly
course.

Monday 20

Spent most of day
going after ships
scattered from terrific
storm during night.

DECEMBER 1943

Tuesday 21

Still very rough.
Nobody played on
upper deck. Most
of guys say in their
Ochamnicks

Wednesday 22

A rough day yet
Had to shove the
bulkhead forward as
water started to come
into paint locker

DECEMBER 1943

Thursday 23

Over 3 feet of water
in forward shell
room. Propeller all
over deck.
Looks like split
(and leak)!

Friday 24

Spent the night before
Christmas.
So what?
Still very rough.

DECEMBER 1943

Christmas Day Saturday 25

Merry Xmas
Normal duty routine
held a service in
mess deck.
No special dinner
(too rough)

1st after Christmas Sunday 26

Quied ship today.
Fixed costumed gun
line to tanker.

DECEMBER 1943

Boxing Day Monday 27

4 feet of water in
forward shell room
Looks like sure
refit.

Tuesday 28

Took three "Lenses"
officers to "history"
bin was going to help
also took our mail.

DECEMBER 1943

Wednesday 29

Finally left tomorrow
after a fast day
but she. Expected to
arrive in New York
morning.

Getting very cold.

Thursday 30

Arrived in New York at
2 40.

Insp. of mail.
6 parcels.

DECEMBER 1943

Friday 31

Getting ready for
my Christmas.
Got paid to pay $\$63.00$
Happy New Year.

Miss Margaret McCutcheon
Inchenee.
St. Louis
Mo., Tyrone
Ireland.