

Monday, March 1, 1943

60th Day—305 Days to Follow

Lectures among ourselves

Tuesday, March 2, 1943

61st Day—304 Days to Follow

Lectures among ourselves

Wednesday, March 3, 1943

62nd Day—303 Days to Follow

Lectures among ourselves.

Thursday, March 4, 1943

63rd Day—302 Days to Follow

All day in DR trainer.

Friday, March 5, 1943

64th Day—301 Days to Follow

We commenced our 48 This
afternoon. So Jack and I caught
the 1:10 pm bus into Rivers and
were measured by the tailor for
our uniforms. We then
caught the 4:15 pm train to
Winnipeg

Saturday, March 6, 1943

65th Day—300 Days to Follow

Arose at 11 a.m. Took a couple of films up to be developed and then did some shopping—amongst which we bought a suit case -15¢ dressing gown \$6 and a book of world famous paintings \$5. Col Jack and myself saw "Star Spangled Rhythm" ~~the~~ to-night.

Sunday, March 7, 1943

66th Day—299 Days to Follow

Awoke at 11.30 a.m., caught the 6.15 train for Rivers - arrived back at camp at 11.30 found there a letter from Bill Hardcastle, and one from home. Clare was married on 20th Feb.

Monday, March 8, 1943

67th Day—298 Days to Follow

D.R. trainer all day.

Tuesday, March 9, 1943

68th Day—297 Days to Follow

There was quite a heavy fog this morning and all the trees telephone wires etc were covered by the feathery ice crystals like the blossoms on kurrawong wattle - about $\frac{3}{4}$ " ^{$\frac{7}{8}$ " thick} long & very fluffy.

Jack & I had our ^{annual} medical test to-day - almost the same as we did at Woolloomooloo when we first tried for the Air Force.

Wednesday, March 10, 1943

69th Day—296 Days to Follow

Benham & Denham is a big joke with everyone - they all know about us. When we have to have anything done (medical examination) we are sent together.

We are in Course 27 SN1(N).

Thursday, March 11, 1943

70th Day—295 Days to Follow

I had to lecture this morning
on AMT & TSL. - gave it
OK and just as I was finishing
Lecturer came in & said I had
given it to 67B instead of 67A.
so finished it & then gave it
to 67A

The roads are covered with ice -
snow packed down - or melted &
frozen again - it is just
impossible to walk on it in ordinary
leather shoes - I am always
slipping over - am not game to
lift up my head to ~~see~~ return
salutes.

Friday, March 12, 1943

71st Day—294 Days to Follow

The cut huge blocks of ice from the
lakes and rivers here, and store it
in sheds for summer. The
batman was telling me to - day.
that the ice on the Assiniboine Riv.
at Brandon is 5 ft thick.

Rivers Town. 1 pub, 4 shops - about
40 houses. The camp is dumped
on a flat plain with not another
thing in sight - no trees,
hills, fences, haystacks, houses,
nothing - just snow. Like
being at sea - except that
we stand still.

Saturday, March 13, 1943

72nd Day—293 Days to Follow

The wind commenced to blow this afternoon - quite a bit of drifting snow.

Sunday, March 14, 1943

73rd Day—292 Days to Follow

Went to Mars this morning. There has been blowing quite a blizzard all day. Wrote 7 letters this afternoon.

Monday, March 15, 1943

74th Day—291 Days to Follow

The wind is blowing very hard to-day - & is loaded with snow. You cannot lift up your head & face it - the wind blows the snow into your face. Then when you turn around the ground being covered in snow you just stand still and are blown along ^{- I sit back on the wind} ^{- & dig my heels in.} ~~no trouble~~ but you cannot stand up - hat gets blown away, looks fly all over the place - and ears get frozen. The alley way leading up to the door into the Officer's Mess is just about blocked up by the drifting snow. The Wagon that went in to Brandon to collect the money for our pay got stuck in a snow drift.

Tuesday, March 16, 1943

75th Day—290 Days to Follow

The bus left here to go into Rivers to-night but did not arrive there. It got stuck in the snow drifts on the way. So there are ~~30~~ ²⁰ people at the Radio Hut for the night - no beds no food - just warmth.

There are 12 boys in Rivers A.W.L. - They cannot get out to the station.

Snow has blown through cracks of the double windows & is piling up inside our room.

They cannot get milk, mail, or laundry to the camp - because all the roads are blocked.

Wednesday, March 17, 1943

76th Day—289 Days to Follow

gave a lecture this morning on Component R & Soft iron magnetism.

Kabloona - Gontran De Poncinis

I was cold. I was freezing; not only in the flesh, but my soul was frozen. As I sat on the swaying & creaking sled the cold became an obsession, almost an hallucination and soon I was in a delirium of cold. I was haunted by a single image: before me was a wall, immense and blank, like a wall in a film. I was walking along that wall & looking for a door into it which I could not find. It was the Wall of Cold. If I could collect my thoughts, and remember the Open Sesame! I should be saved, for beyond that wall was warmth. I was cold. Not as the people outside are cold. I was not shivering. I was in the cold, dipped in a trough, where the temperature was 30 below zero & where I turned and rolled over & over in search of a non-existent issue.

Thursday, March 18, 1943

77th Day—288 Days to Follow

We went to the pictures to-night
and saw Gary Cooper in
"Pride of the Yankees".

We saw "Immortal Sergeant"
the other night "Canadian"

Premiere. They have some
very good shows - every one is
good and quite new ones.

The shows are changed 3 times
a week. ie a show is on Mon +
Tue, ~~Th~~ Thur + Fri, Sat + Sun.
On Wed night is musical
appreciation show.

Dad's birthday 25th.

Friday, March 19, 1943

78th Day—287 Days to Follow

Went to Mass at 5 o'clock
this afternoon.

Roads are still blocked
by snow drifts caused by
blizzard which blew itself
out yesterday. So we
have been living on powdered
milk etc. Our laundry
has been out a week so far.

Saturday, March 20, 1943

79th Day—286 Days to Follow

Well they have busted up the combination. We received our postings this afternoon.

Jack Denham goes to Ancienne Lorette & I stay here at Rivers. Jack & I just fitted together - arrangements suited both - he ~~was~~ kept us going when interest was inclined to lag - while I had to find out train times, pick up his gloves on the way out etc.

Sunday, March 21, 1943

80th Day—285 Days to Follow

The boys left here this afternoon on their way to the various stations they have been posted to.

Monday, March 22, 1943

81st Day—284 Days to Follow

This is just lousy - all the boys I knew are gone - I have been wandering around looking in all the likely places - but they have all vanished - I feel like an orphan. - can't even eat a decent meal - no appetite whatever. I caught the 11.45 bus this ~~afternoon~~^{morning} & in to Brandon - bought a pair of shoes and rubbers - at last I can walk without falling over. Caught the 3.45 bus home - found I am duty officer to-morrow - will my troubles never cease - arrived back at barracks & found my room has been shifted across the passage - nothing is where I can find it - oh hell!

Tuesday, March 23, 1943

82nd Day—283 Days to Follow

It was a beautiful warm day yesterday with snow melting everywhere. The streets in Brandon were just large pools of water and slush - mostly slush.

I was ^{G.I.S.} duty Officer to-day - inspected breakfast, dinner & tea - ate dinner in airman's mess - took the parade morning & afternoon. Inspected the ^{class} rooms dinner time & 4:30. I have been put with Co 65B they graduate next Friday week - commence final exams to-morrow.

Quite a nice warm day - snow melting wholesale - water and slush everywhere

Wednesday, March 24, 1943

83rd Day—282 Days to Follow

I was writing letters in my room to-day when the CGI sent for me - he put me on to Course 68A instead of P/O Collyer who has gone onto a bombers course. Met P/O Loveday from Portage this afternoon - he flew up with S/L Nutt.

Thursday, March 25, 1943

84th Day—281 Days to Follow

Flew this afternoon as first Navigator - very bumpy. Went to Riverton & back.

Our 48 commences to-morrow dinner time, but as the courses are flying 2nd trip to-night, no lectures to-morrow & hence we could go on our 48 to-night & no lectures to be taken by me Monday - I needn't come back till Monday night or Tues morning.

Friday, March 26, 1943

85th Day—280 Days to Follow

Went on our 48 this afternoon - I took the 11:45 a bus to Brandon - bought a return ticket from Brandon. Rang up Pat Bevis from Brandon Stn and found that he had a 48 so I arranged to meet in Winnipeg.

Met Roy Hannigan and Tom at the United Services Club. Waited from 8 till 11:00 pm at the dormers Club - Mrs Shaw took me home to Riley's.

I did not feel like going on a 48 - nothing to do anywhere, did not know anyone - not much use at Riley's now that fact has gone.

If Pat Bevis had not said he might go to Winnipeg I would not have bothered to go.

Saturday, March 27, 1943

86th Day—279 Days to Follow

Did some shopping this afternoon with Pat & Pearl Hill - bought a pr of slippers for Gay & a haversack for myself. We met Roy Hannigan and ~~Jim~~ Jim Corrigan to night. Later Pat, Pearl, Lenore & self went to see Random Harvest. Arrived home (Hills) 1.0 clock, had supper bed at 4.0 am. I slept with Pat.

Sunday, March 28, 1943

87th Day—278 Days to Follow

Caught the 6.15 pm train home to night - met a charming young lass on board - Irene Ireland - daughter of Mayor of Portage La Prairie - have arranged for next 48.

Monday, March 29, 1943

88th Day—277 Days to Follow

Marked logs this afternoon and to night.

Tuesday, March 30, 1943

89th Day—276 Days to Follow

Wednesday, March 31, 1943

90th Day—275 Days to Follow

Lillian's Birthday Apr 3.