

Book 3. TEL. B. Ayrea 21 ar Jan. June 1945 17 4 June 1945

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TEL.B. DYKER

27th April 1945 17th June 1945

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Happy Birthday to start the book Marg.

Friday 27th April, 1945

Did an Asdec patrol last night thru' till this morning but the sub is probably back at Tokyo now. In the afternoon ourselves and the Deloraine did a shoot at the point of KIARIRU island. There were two six inch guns and a couple of huts there. It was a beautiful clear calm day and the target could be seen from the ship. We poured 200 shots into it and the Deloraine fired all she had as she was going south after the shoot. It was a shoot worth watching. We wiped the huts out and raised smokes from stores. The Deloraine did a

good shot with her single & meh to Hollandia for fully In Hollondia Sunday April 29th In Hollows daring formoon weiding about A one shat made a direct hit. on a size inch gen - a bund of flame not soot as high as ton get fuel get quite as surprise when Noce Hestro. the her- top. lilot of flow reported other guns damaged by was in a boat alongeide no. strappall + I whole alea. A the is on, the salady hig The fait on the island Janared . In the extensing certainly looked lower and was able to get across there for support. There was fresh bare Haffer an left it. the returned to But + are Annahoes incrember lettuce + to make this our base now thinky sliced ham followed any litage is los for back. by here fint salad it jelly Mail som about los not oromuch but nevertheless mail woll while yoing for ! We My daughter appears to be had a good old make about getting pretties and pretties thing + I Well was coming Jeast day by all accomb. Inherday April 20th lealled in back with me but as too as his boot annies at an of allage type formeeding ship to fish up his officers

good shot with her single 4 inch and one shot made a direct hit on a six inch gun – a burst of flame rose as high as the tree tops. Pilot of plane reported other gun damaged by shrapnel and whole area.

The point on the island certainly looked lower and bare after we left it.

We returned to But + are to make this our base now as Aitape is too far back.

Mail came aboard too – not overmuch but nevertheless mail.

My daughter appears to be getting prettier and prettier each day by all accounts.

<u>Saturday April 28th</u> Called in at Aitape before proceeding to Hollandia for fuel.

Sunday 29th April

In Hollandia during forenoon waiting about to get fuel. Got quite a surprise when Noel Testro was in a boat alongside us. He is on the salvage tug Tancred. In the evening I was able to get across there for supper. There was fresh tomatoes, cucumber, lettuce and thinly sliced ham, followed by fresh fruit salad and jelly. Well I ask you – was that worth while going for? We had a good old natter about things and Noel was coming back with me, but as soon as his boat arrived at our ship to pick up his officers

they Swans fulled up has fich + wooks tonight. Thinks it may be head was slightly daughned again, thristing of But. I your head was slightly daughned again, thristing of Bade at full on the 20th hurday it hay at ancho all malaria. There smalling are as annal good blokes they certainly dig out in the news - we can't got 'en to stop helping every meal this 6th Divery to a good mot right them' day A teens as the we night tiel here for" a four day. Then Widnesday 20 Hail May Ino convelles is a loss coming off soon and outlelves steamed down by the look of signal but past town to do a short while the foculty and le just want about ' for I day. Hoday Nothing could be seen except for shohe bursts as Went ashoe in the what the range was 15000 yards. for about half on how to a munder of the shells dropped There as similar of the was good of. Juite a for of the boys god Jap rifles from anothing delore tone - one of the how there Wakes also have been on her short but filst of plane said the area why well rowed , Debeest Jarget this Anie mar 15 mm. galle again MLS shid a freshol alget subside Werrah talbour a more for as melle in our mess - got

the Swan pulled up her pick and headed back for But. Your head was slightly dampened again, Christine – back at But on the 30th.

Tuesday 1st May

At anchor all day. Seems as tho' we might lie here for a few days. There is a turn coming off soon by the look of signal but until then possibly we'll just wait about for days.

Went ashore in the whaler for about half an hour to have a swim. It was goodoh. Quite a few of the boys got Jap rifles from swotties ashore.

Tom – one of the two Army blokes who have been on here for a week in our mess – got crook tonight. Thinks it may be malaria. These swotties are as usual, good blokes. They certainly dig out in the mess – we can't get 'em to stop helping every meal. This 6th Divvy is a good mob right thru'.

Wednesday 2nd May

Two corvettes and ourselves steamed down past Wewak to do a shoot today. Nothing could be seen except for smoke bursts as the range was 15,000 yards. A number of the shells dropped short but pilot of plane said the area was well covered. Target this time was 75mm guns again.

ML's did a patrol right outside Wewak Harbour and were

fired on They do fatolo sony himself married next time have. right close inchose + The nat hell the old ship. boys beed fired on , but not list about this as find times . Friday 4th May thursday this day ze loyang instruction mi the honomitter m come in this formoon with the forenoon. Antobo came emmunition for mo. We are alongside us and give yo lov to take 1400 + the correller eacher fuel as she a below quite as lot each , so some are going to dollardia to gays somewhere going to get a refuel . I they have to be Readach beander wing hoahing back by Tunday morning all afternoon and night at as marke there's a turn on loading amont. We are taking then . This thippen doesn't let us know much about what is 600 abound a fulling 800 ashoe till we have spine for them. going on the frought back four Willies on the loying tille me the Regent theats the burned out Jop hansmiller or plane today. His a small job but he A got quite as fur burnt down. That where his "squarie" works too. By all [indications Withes will have good knot a fack from J.F.

fired on. They do patrols every night close inshore and have been fired on, but not hit, a few times.

Thursday May 3rd

Poyang came in this forenoon with ammunition for us. We are to take 1400 and the corvettes quite a lot each, so some Japs somewhere are going to get a headache. Seamen were working all afternoon and night at loading ammo. We are taking 600 aboard and putting 800 ashore till we have space for them. Saw Wilkes on the Poyang. Tells me the Regent

Theatre been burnt down. That's where his 'squarie' works too. By all indications Wilkes will have

himself married next time home. Must tell the old ship boys about this.

Friday May 4th

Did a bit of instruction on the transmitter in the forenoon. Dubbo came alongside us and gave us her extra fuel as she and Colac are going to Hollandia to refuel. They have to be back by Sunday morning so maybe there's a turn on them. This Skipper doesn't let us know much about what is going on.

P.O. Tel brought back a burned out Jap transmitter from a plane today. It's a small job, but he got quite a few good knobs and parts from it.

Salunday 5th May the wondered around Anach A det anchor, all day he the old aniship at but went inshore for 34 times 500 lb bouch of swins in late affermoon. Surf Aloher the Junks space ane warit los high but und it. The cakes hua mjayable too are everythere. Inmerons Shaday it thay boweths returned flores lying about along the Here went out with Mhs and sides of the ship mally and handing braft for exercises all burked they are for invasion & Swallies went about overgroom with out on convertes they climbed already I tothing of lovery such into barges which rushed them good lift after the salizage into a Obrach. Back to But and have gone aver them of anchored again. shill a flat of shafe Monday 1th May Show leave a man would take life for a A secretition franky granted Int down south . Juite the buch load of chaps sifles the boys want for a ride stand . reprinted. Tuesday 8the May Anly ship actually didn't are amything built the for good

Saturday 5th May

At anchor all day – but went inshore for ³/₄ hours swim in late afternoon. Surf wasn't too high, but was enjoyable.

Sunday 6th May

Corvettes returned and we went out with ML's and Landing Craft for exercises for invasion. Swotties went out on corvettes then climbed into barges which rushed them into a beach. Back to But and anchored again.

Monday 7th May

Shore leave for a recreation party granted. One truck load of chaps went for a ride round the hills down to Dagua but actually didn't see anything much. We wandered around to the old airship at But. The 500lb bombs of our blokes and the Yanks sure ruined it. The craters, huge too, are everywhere. Numerous planes lying about along the sides of the strip, mostly all burned. They are just about overgrown with grass already. Nothing of very much good left after the salvage mob have gone over them, but still a lot of stuff a man would take if it was down south. Quite a lot of the boys got Jap rifles and the carbines.

<u>Tuesday 8th May</u> Duty ship + will be for good by the

sound of things lite and listening for the Hobert to send us a and Warramenge. The franks was will the I binch arrian hyenage about her arrival. 1. M.S. Nyufoundland as, for mile News bright said 6th Alim away I was quite feeling are now Jonly 2 mile from Wersh . khali shorts a cape atom we Wednesday gt May akilalf watch were near the boundaries ship light when we wont up to but some molthing must good none of germany's colleged reme over boday That what we want. Ofice a message arrow to the Tobat they had all sol of about on the surg four raps. your all dave have to do is So our thippers that hund out smark the Jap + will all be have to for good . it a fike. We must back to But but the idlest shared sounds as the three has never down to bombard have borans. been ruch a thing, but give no as chance a will room settle Liesat Pring the achillery Aloke into it quickly. Thurday 10th May Start out is who conducts the arming liaison for all our shoot. Alle bla foundon and met Hobert two the full hale of the

sound of things. We are listening for the Hobart to send us a message about her arrival. News tonight said 6th Div are now only 2 miles from Wewak.

Wednesday May 9th

Other half watch got leave today + went ashore but saw nothing new. Good news of Germany's collapse came over today. That's what we want. Now all we have to do is smash the Jap and we'll all be home. Home for good – it sounds as tho' there has never been such a thing, but give us a chance and we'll soon settle into it quickly.

Thursday 10th May

Went out in forenoon and met Hobart and Warramunga. The Arunta was with the 6 inch cruiser H.M.S. Newfoundland a few miles away. It was quite funny – our skipper made us wear khaki shorts and caps when we were near the Commodore's ship, yet when we went up to fire a message across to the Hobart they had all sorts of shorts on and very few caps. So our Skippers show turned out a joke. We went back to But but the fleet steamed down to bombard Cape Boram.

Had a lecture from Lieut Pring the Artillery bloke who conducts the Army liaison for all our shoots. He told us the full tale of the

landing Asmorrows Ind h moh -04 0.4 ucharl 91 wat CL. 0,054 Anal mare Amal 0 horas chirahag mill over April John M Awa til low LIM anora PWV hall Impall mil anen Curided aven more Mary Morand NO Manna NIA 3 met. RIRE 0.0 hoo pach AND A p t wachen Kity Marches Mer preased 2 Lained SAUR Victoria Bay E/ KAIRIRU I Bord Joslol troub KAIRIRU BY ADARANOP OYUO I BERAU MUSCHU I beens ALAD Volan 6 malau DAGUA C 1-G the WHONGINARAS Am ·PAROM N. + manouna ANON ALAAAAAAA Cryino Cape Wom Hesteric N Mu commo ALI moned E WEWARY W Jake Wolm Wenan Bromet los beach -Robber BEARA 6 Boram Drome G timpettes! U lafra 2 Ashal 01-N-OCope: Te E 2 x Nightinga Martina in A Margin DAGUA-WEWAK AREA in Northern New Guineo, goal of our forces which have been fighting in the Torricelli Mountains south-west of Dague and which recently took Maprik (see SALT maps, 26 Mor issue). Moral MARIA march A allowed. man Only June landing Ale Ar louinon

landing tomorrow. We are to bombard at Red Beach just past Cape MOAM and troops will land there to cut tracks behind Wewak. There are about a thousand Japs left in the Wewak area with about 600 on the 2 'big' islands KIARIRU and Muschu

(Map inserted on page)

Had a picture show at night. It was my first night at operating. Rain set in and before the show was half over it was raining like a cloud burst. We had our lead broken twice, so the Jimmy decided to pack up as it was too wet. Pity it rained because the Marches of Time were good.

Friday 11th May

Today has been D-Day. At about 7AM the 2 cruisers, 2 destroyers, Swan and 2 corvettes opened up at the beach-head and a t either end of it. When the barrage of fired lifted, 2 big barges went in firing 3 inch mortars and the troops followed. There was only slight opposition to the landing.

The Jops have fled very hurriedly Towards evening ourselves a & allo as many signs widenced . aut left for but this have blokes book I some need documents Muscher Shaits How soiled first offer they landed . a 15 mm are if it was safe . Nothing made the muirgeness of itself Que haffored as me'll me there the bolac + Antho laikneets abut shouts now. y about tak offapart from that J. 2 hours showing around Kin a stord off show in case in aland. rather Shoils lool. needed. The paps fled to mehr as we steamed part to make hills & will fight the thin Honton 9 about 4 could see in groups. all the day of the Ave ships couple suchen 61 could be endfersion the banges along At manna mortons, then fourther over the Stop of Atenah Poit foreshow smake from that artillery ili lover our Aniaie hents a long way back near timak and the aikelery me there from heops, tool Smale lout today firing - X this was on A the 13 Jops have raves enjoyed that we same this). The high flakeon a low Dahuday 12th May Shifted gur base infortigner and working on position from But to hap wom Hun will flow theower. Upter con an stewah front front brinises bounded to make fourlow too

The Japs had fled very hurriedly as many signs evidenced. Our blokes took some secret documents just after they landed. A 75mm gun made a nuisance of itself but the Colac and Dubbo silenced it. Apart from that we all stood off shore in case we were needed. The Japs fled to the hills and will fight there in groups. All the day we could see explosions from the mortars, then further over the smoke from the Artillery a long way back near Wewak. Our troops took Wewak Point today but Japs have caves everywhere in the high plateau and our infantrymen are working on them with flame throwers.

Cruisers bombarded Wewak foreshore too.

Towards evening ourselves and Dubbo left for But. This time we sailed thru' Muschu Straits to see if it was safe. Nothing happened so we'll use these straits now. It cuts off about 2 hours steaming around KAIRIRU Island. Straits look rather nice.

(As we steamed past Wewak Harbour I could see about 4 sunken ships, a couple of jetties and numerous barges along the foreshore. Atop of Wewak Point were our Aussie tents and it's from there the Artillery are firing – X this was on the 13th that we saw this).

Sunday 12th May

Shifted our base position from But to Cape WOM. We can see Wewak Point from

here. It was here that some hangets for us as my log at yanks for NADZAB did over the andle all day. The day was 21, * Field Regt michaling them for Jops. The youhs thilled It Toud wounded I aussies so as brankful hafiral they - in fast at lunch time they let they had better not come within shot while one the side. It a ading of our trith Divery gans funny war. We are have animing again. Some of our boy ment that - anothis are ampinning on ablace but couldn't get for around the artilling here are on the go all the hing with the beach get not for kinland we can nee artillery ahells bursting on hills kinds hearfat harassing fire at the Jopa in bombas & doing tomak area no. My hills. Show its alight but The RAAF had been morting I'm all for a fraceful alige hard all this much. They are they aloned for this gens built doing towah our continually Sunday 13th May Steamed down with 500 founders They also did the help beagle over with me Red Beach Jand anchord close on) Day. It was on our way beck that we got quite in . Tired outihung at fact and as we passed . teridently not a A good look this Oglanske

here. It was here that some Yanks from NADZAB did over the 2/1st Field Regt mistaking them for Japs. The Yanks killed 4 and wounded 11 Aussies, so they had better not come within range of our 6th Divvy guns again. Some of our boys went ashore but couldn't get far around. The Artillery here are on the go all the time with harassing fire at the Japs in the hills. S'pose it's alright but I'm all for a peaceful life – they should fit their guns with silencers.

Sunday 13th May

Steamed down to Red Beach and anchored close in. Fired oerlikens at MOAM as we passed. Evidently no targets for us as we lay at anchor all day. The day was a beautiful tropical day – in fact at lunch time they let each watch for a short while swim over the side. It's a funny war. We are here swimming here – swotties are swimming on the beach, yet not far inland we can see artillery shells bursting on hills and Beaufort bombers doing Wewak area over. The RAAF have been working hard all this week. They are doing Wewak over continually with '500 pounders'. They also did Red Beach over with us on D-DAY. It was on our way back that we got quite a good look thru' glasses

at Wenah Larbour. baild see was one hope as we must app for smoke on Wand four where flow throws arge bling on roves in hill side . Infanty cleaning see them. On the way of we had a look at a lat of the cares + ex- camps. One of the cases on hillside + artilling cares even had an inor gake on hope firing their guins furthe it. They go right in allow the hill & prouble be as menare bolac left to go south this for Ilane for clean enemy afternoon. That's Allowing + throwas are the only effective bolac out of me original trench weapon - on by set find inside Jore. Aulto has first come or them real the back blokes up from south so las soon as fold us that ag far was known this loves is cleaned up will most of the gaps had been probably go (we hope) townt dut. There was a Monday Jack May anchored at of old shaft lying about, but afor (the mothie) theng a & much holling real avaluable. probably would be inside ashoe. We got a shuch ride cover but going in amongst right round Other beach + got burnt bodies + the shand of No Wouch Joint. Jon's Making shihing houble didn't affect

at Wewak Harbour. Could see smoke on the Wewak point where flame throwers were being on caves on hillside, Infantry clearing cases on hillside and artillery on top firing their guns further onward.

Colac left to go south this afternoon. That's Deloraine and Colac out of our original Wewak force. Dubbo has just come up from south so as soon as this area is cleaned up we'll probably go (we hope).

Monday May 14th

Anchored at WOM. Got leave in afternoon and Tom (the swottie), Ferg and I went ashore. We got a truck ride right round the beach and got to Wewak point. Tom's battery was on top so we went up to see them. On the way up we had a look at a lot of the caves and ex-camps. One of the caves even had an iron gate on it. They go right in under the hill and would be a menace to clear enemy from. Flame throwers are the only effective weapon – or to set fire inside and then seal the exits. Blokes told us that as far as known most of the Japs had been burnt out. There was a lot of old stuff lying about but nothing real valuable. There probably would be inside the caves, but going in amongst burnt bodies and the chance of striking trouble didn't appeal

to so at the time. low the get half way round townak affart of the flave thrown on Barbourt seeing it's fust been gaps wher was caught orbide Jahn. The fourhow had redainly + the was the best initalize of been done and by the hear. a frice of black chancoal & in Three are about 30 odde barge mort seen in one frier. We want to see tonis mot annaled of on the beach a behind the beach is fast one then managed to get around Rontinuation of bout rates Winch beach Our fir an half filled will water, making swamps. The Julio way round them have branched off gove this the aifild or have rest had a lot of Hoday are attaching a base hill how at Neurah. We got a about a mile or two away rides back to the beach than the get as far as half tray had a swin befor returning sound and monent allowed top the stip. any further. Unly blokes adually Tuesday May 15" Went out ingaged in the opportion me during Ather formoon for allowed to go on p. mo, other short again. I lashed bage mollies siller. But & thick Borans I mile 100 odd shills we may first sailors to then Min' shafed it we

to us at the time. Saw the effect of the flame throwers on a Jap who was caught outside and he was the best imitation of a piece of black charcoal I've ever seen in one piece. We went to see Tom's mob then managed to get around Wewak beach. Our AIF are half way round, then have branched off gone thru' the airfield and today are attacking a bare hill about a mile or two away. We got as far as half way round and weren't allowed any further – only blokes actually engaged in the operation were allowed to go one - no other swotties either. But I think we were first sailors to get half way round Wewak Harbour seeing it's just been taken. The foreshore had certainly been done over by the RAAF. There are about 30 odd barges smashed up on the beach and behind the beach is just one continuation of bomb craters filled with water, making stinking swamps. The Japs have sure had a lot of gear here at Wewak. We got rides back to the beach then had a swim before returning to the ship.

Tuesday May 15th

Went out during the forenoon for a shoot again. Plastered Cape Boran with 100 odd shells then ML's strafed it, we

also fired our outities around thingly with 3 men in it around the tip of the point the that therbow for well own on seenes after give . We mond how before they landed him. up near Red Beach and did The was a big heart. all the ships of in harbour were another shoot at the find of a hill nere these merel 3 quins watching the stat show. aircraft reported damage to Spore to have a short all 15 millimetre guns. airraft at Mischae tomorrow but are said all shoot was very good. rignals tonight that say our Wind we could get in real helps have been fired on by clover + have the satisfaction of 15 mm gens first south of A accing the Slips get it . where we were briday so I we may do that. They are also that any hours swin ashow concentrations of Japa been really good los as it's been very righted . I till by glad when all this this of the Mbs cought a shark is over Bondbardments are alight tonight ! They booked him the I silver being achier O childred into this dinghy to openation & spind all the time play his. The dragged Athe it the Wireles babin except when

also fired our oerlikens around the tip of the point. We were after guns. We moved up near Red Beach and did another shoot at the peak of a hill where there were 3 guns. Aircraft reported damage to all 75 millimetre guns. Aircraft said all shoot was very good. Wish we could get in real closer and have the satisfaction of seeing the Nips get it.

Back to anchor at WOM. Had an hour's swim ashore – really good too as it's been very hot.

One of the ML's caught a shark tonight. They hooked him then climbed into their dinghy to play him. He dragged the dingy with 3 men in it, around the harbour for well over an hour before they landed him. He was a big beaut. All the craft in harbour were watching the show.

S'posed to have a shoot at Muschu tomorrow but see signals tonight that say our troops have been fired on by 75mm guns just south of where we were today so we may do that. There are also concentrations of Japs been sighted.

I'll be glad when all this is over. Bombardments are alright I s'pose but being action operator I spend all the time in the Wireless Cabin except when

go up for a look on D Day steamed across but Mh had hous in the aft office for 8 hous shraight the back for a later on that was helve some out. This had been in the narrow shaits between KBIRIAN + Muscher islands. the knoched die the Middle hos 14 ant havor, full - brown on knoched spend anow time in the office gress 3 graphs and the bracks. than & do out of it. Rehmed Oly anchor Wednesday May 11th Married Wow. Received a call 3 years boday, and have not bolac during the evening They regretted it for a single mount refit has them fut back Marks to Many. O the adelaide which because that and which of his ho dochies are on shike. The knoch ant a couple now guns got as four as Machang Shoot ment very well . This allow got that signal. mailed about at Red, Beach are autolinly disappointed. + for another hanget. In the Aleron They ought don't Mant afternoon we received a sall to have us boose while Onlige on the R/r from ML 427. the on some of them rolling had been fired on from dochies . Gullago methods would KIARIRU inland. We fall hope or lit. walny there

I go up for a look. On D Day I was in the W/T Office for 8 hours straight, then back for 3 later on! That was before I did the Middle too. I spend more time in the Office than I do out of it.

Wednesday May 16th

Married 3 years today and have not regretted it for a single moment. Thanks to Marg. Went out with MLs to knock out a couple more guns. Shoot went very well. We waited about at Red Beach for another target. In the afternoon we received a call on the R/T from ML427. She had been fired on from KIARIRU island. We all

steamed across, but ML had come out. She had been in the narrow straits between KAIRIRU and MUSCHU islands. She knocked out two pill-boxes and knocked over 3 Japs on the beach.

Returned to anchor at Cape Wom. Receivd a call from Colac during the evening. Her refit has been put back 3 weeks because the Adelaide dockies are on strike. She got as far as Madang and then got that signal. They are certainly disappointed and we don't blame them. They ought to turn us loose with whips on some of these rotten dockies. Gestapo methods would wake them up a bit.

Tursday thay 19th A allo arrive Saliday 19th May Mill doing for the + tellondia last night They brought is 400 more rounds of 4 inch shells + last night pepaies the tria cold an others 2 ton of sufflies briefs goodens sprot the affermoon RAU sel going the near at Andre tomo - "Aesting" mathe alary! fining 400 going lundio + h O atomde + kenainingo Inia Joan carbant to on 8 O show one ment , day. Sunday 20h - Almit for proferly ~ or beautiful clears milest + no heads downs. Traday 18th May at anchor N couple Abok All day white repairs done brichwork in the boilers. rain epoiled had bo returni lift again. this An While Wome Conganille O She 90 docant ready h souffil now much the still hould any (Anidal June so she will won't Bouganville hill them. help Kow with

Thursday 17th May

Dubbo arrived from But and Hollandia last night. They brought us 400 more rounds of 4 inch shells and 3 ton of supplies. Cripes goodness knows when we'll get away. Secured a picture from ashore – 'Destiny' with Alan Curtis and Gloria Jean. In contrast to our own last show, this one went perfectly – a beautiful clear night and no break downs.

Friday May 18th

At anchor all day while repairs done to brickwork in the boilers. Colac left again, this time for Bougainville. She doesn't go south now until the middle of June so she will wait at Bougainville till then.

Saturday 19th May

Still doing repairs to brickwork below. I've copped a cold as have a good many others, and I spent the afternoon sleeping.

Night orders say we are going to sea at 5.30 tomorrow morning, going to Cape Moam firing 400 rounds and remaining there all day.

Sunday 20th May

Out for shoot at Moem but after a couple of shots rain spoiled observation and we had to return to Wom. While at Wom. we are always ready to go if the troops strike any trouble that we can help with.

do that since the gaps arrived Monday 21th May Abaje Moon has been here in 1942. The some in them some mothing spice Jaken by our hoops this morning alongside in a lunge da Jaje and and hoops are almost bardy they couldn't sheer limbed up between the statch properly of bunded us all over. literens Red Beach and Morn which means the face will only our anchorate alone Timshore be able to repeat I to the halls we fired day the hills ho The Shipper said that is one pured out as 1500 que in a Wenah Jorce for almost finished, village about 4 side away. so it looks as the we might Weather short planes observation god home this time. Inerday 23md they West down so be difieded us only how oles villages . In these have to the strated to bedaring Moone hangels we reined many of + Red Beach and find a Abe but so Nip must have couple of hundred fromds into got quite a heatlack. The halos y could of gun emplacements. Aublo + MLS did the point of Kingeri hland our again in Stavah Harbour this time Aburt be the first ship to

Monday 21st May

Cape Moam has been taken by our troops this morning and our troops are almost linked up between the stretch between Red Beach and Moam, which means the Japs will only be able to retreat to the hills. The Skipper said that is our Wewak Force job almost finished, so it looks as tho' we might go home this time.

Tuesday 22nd May

Went down to the stretch between Moam and Red Beach and fired a couple of hundred rounds into a couple of gun emplacements. For the first time we anchored in Wewak Harbour this time. Must be the first ship to do that since the Japs arrived here in 1942. No sooner in than some swotties came alongside in a huge old Jap barge. They couldn't steer it properly and bumped us all over.

Wednesday 23rd May

From our anchorage close inshore, we fired over the hills to knock out 75mm gun in a village about 4 mile away. Weather spoilt planes observation so he directed us onto two other villages. on these two targets we ruined many of the huts so Nip must have got quite a headache. He hates these bombardments.

Dubbo and ML's did the point of Kairiru Island over again

to get out of they banbour and and had a couple of shots go back for bags Wow to fined on them again anchor. The is getting Thursday 24th May as but despende in smilling But for amountion for machines berme and Alabba - When we broded to has been making a habit the gumes are returned to along of firing lately and A able come alongaide to I Salunday 25% take her shore off. O'that is Went Ibach inte I Wensch Harbon the last of the day thousand and did our last shoot we have blad for loyang. 2 villages inland, Results some Friday 25th May Went olf very good. Aptillery ingaged post Menchs harbours a fired the gene that fired on ling In another gens - then returned yelday + silved it. to anchos I in Menrah. Our Ofinities about all of our inderboat did survey work uneable ammunition. We have grain which the andingo fired a four thousand hounds Maring afternoon ground here and done a lot harlow of damage so are will be bearing guike a for thips with day Will finest as four more when at as and as me are hadather lif they and shat of ammunhow we have

and had a couple of shots fired on them again.

Thursday 24th May

Went to But for ammunition for ourselves and Dubbo. When we loaded the ammo we returned to Wom and Dubbo came alongside to take her share off. That is the last of the thousands we have had from Poyang.

Friday 25th May

Went out past Wewak Harbour and fired on another gun – then returned to anchor in Wewak. Our motorboat did survey work soundings again round the harbour as we are short of ammunition. During afternoon the Nip fired a few more shots at us and as we are short of ammunition we had to get out of the harbour and go back to Cape Wom to anchor. Nip is getting bit desperate or something because he has been making a habit of firing lately.

Saturday 26th May

Went back into Wewak Harbour and did our last shoot at 2 villages inland. Results were very good. Artillery engaged the gun that fired on us yesterday and silenced it. That finishes about all of our useable ammunition. We have fired a few thousand rounds around here, and done a lot of damage, so we will be leaving quite a few Nips with headaches if they are alive to feel them.
hip down was a list roughish Sunday 27th May Tom + Best the which doesn't book loo good Two smothing who have been with us for about 5 weeks not off hoday. They were there f. m. as. Itallies I on their slouch hab to Madang and moored up the stream. Let's get gut of here go back to this battery. go back to this battery the boys here believe they Slight darald, bot. dor Just new yarhing arrived. Nothie's relief & hay hillington's. Nothie is staying they till in the has been calling A Bert a there + kelling him to enlist ge south so four for us. south so of four , analches will in the real fife, and he used to say he would , when we her look There my mill we cont get full on water here so johed of the Many a Clast look at Done on your way to the He desidade show of lage Wom to advisely Islands afor sit. the filled plateau of Wourds Point 29 to May Lunday. Curind at " Manus I and Amut alonguide a big what. Housely of coil recognics the Aplace. we say goodby to themap + good hiddance before my sail Sinto the suinet to Madang.

Sunday 27th May

Tom and Bert, the two swotties, who have been with us for about 5 weeks went off today. They wore H.M.A.S. tallies on their slouch hats to go back to their battery. They got a great ribbing from the boys here when they left. We have been calling Bert a Choco and telling him to enlist in the real AIF, and he used to say he would when we Sea Scouts joined the Navy.

So with a last look at the desolate shore of Cape Wom and the pitted plateau of Wewak Point we say goodbye to Wewak and good riddance, before we sail into the sunset to Madang. Trip down was a bit roughish which doesn't look too good for further down.

28th May Monday

Arrived at Madang and moored up the stream. Let's get out of here its too darned hot. Two new Sparkies arrived. Nobbie's relief and Ray Millington's. Nobbie is staying here till we go south, so four watches will be a real rest for us. Have my wish, we can't get fuel or water here so are on our way to the Admiralty Islands for it.

29th May Tuesday

Arrived at Manus and went alongside a big wharf. Honestly I can't recognise the place.

Is a year since I was here + quite well ment Wednesday 30th May that him the place had + that all as fine dents sets. mour for mine tomouto there are hundreds of by space to fin huts, buildings whatnes + lean and alloning goodness know what the for Mu day but being muched about shipping well there isn't low Ar hugh type of naft afloat that won't count on going much Sanchold, in these. aircraft me Madana Unothe roughal night Whacha when Jamin (Indefaligette) escar comins, ballestips realises deshayers (our do do hip south own at class are here Smith the Ourwed Madava Kippers) frigates aloops (Jank Bishich things don't look and Quelice) conclus in hundred and one other small good has 4 cont scaft. 1. Second and old Intin ficture "Virat Love" board. Sound hack was And boiler clean worm , but otherine the 0.4 show ME

It's a year since I was here and at that time the place had a few tents up and that's all. Now there are hundreds of tin huts, buildings, wharves and goodness knows what. As for shipping well there isn't a type of craft afloat that isn't anchored in here. Aircraft carrier (Indefatigable), escort carriers, battleships, cruisers, destroyers (our own N class are here with the Kippers), frigates, sloops (Yank, British and Aussie) corvettes and the hundred and one other small craft.

Secured an old Deanna Durbin picture 'First Love' on board. Sound track was worn, but otherwise the show

went quite well.

Wednesday 30th May

Left Manus about 2pm, headed now for Madang. We arrive tomorrow and are supposed to leave on the following day, but after being mucked about so much we won't count on going until we leave Madang. Another roughish night. Whacko when we do our trip south.

Thursday 31st May

Arrived Madang and things don't look too bright. Navy Board has said that Brisbane can't take us until 18th June. We are wondering whether we will get away even then. We are starting a boiler clean as we

well over 1000 Aleaning of the boys left and have t: shaled her the above up and now the we two good relo of the hadi for allina life. Ball June 2nd Salunday Notice Tall left going down 00 mont ow CB elastic barddage round my 9 Anes too safet riadon this 4show amining Ard hold da carmural · I have . merve changing 6 M.J ontry and will MU the profit relection N dospital The carnival was conducted show Unfortunably the along official lines. We regard rela mon. Any 18 mat guile Anales . N. sailors low applicas Shaf. An

have well over 1000 steaming hours up.

June 1st Friday

Arranged to play the Dubbo football today, and after all my talk about never playing again I was talked into playing. However I took things easy so that I would not twist my knee. I had an elastic bandage round the knee, too. I expect a blast when Marg reads this because I won't have the nerve to say it in my letter today.

In the evening we got a selection of short reels to show. Unfortunately the reels were dry and not to sailor's tastes. Quite a few of the boys left and so when it started to rain we finished the show up even tho' we had good reels of The Battle for China left.

June 2nd Saturday

Young Nobbie Hall left us today. He is going down on the Stuart. Out of the 11CB's who left Sydney there are now only 4 left.

June 3rd Sunday

Quite a good day today. It was decided to hold a swimming carnival charging 6p for entry, and with donations to send the profit to the Children's Hospital. The carnival was conducted along official lines. We rigged up speakers so that

the conedy of being rold + events could be answered and heating the kemperature also woods could be played water befor falling in between events. The mellole had a fair of day was a surcers + realized with one leg long and about 210 about from the ant out, I as Malf a shirt usual shaight would abor, and one' rock morelly events are Shand and a Alanch different feet was a costume dive in which tweet infor at the front the enhands had to dress The fooled a real Hove. 1 then do a northy dive the Inother movelly event MAA the bays dreamed as a final show Mahili + another got rigged various alaque el. 6. AAR fights bragained + Ollicada andies of Other I chaps tryin . The priate furaned the to get inter shorts et under self the former where a the prodes were really from from Oscuffle book place theme They panfed in . Aph another to as well: as the profilable day for the hidden Tastil domed thick was boot wochs lit mas lan enjoyable Clay sweature gloss gloss scarf a balaclara O thil went them

events could be announced and also records could be played in between events. The whole day was a success and raised about ten pounds. Apart from the usual straight events there were novelty events. One of them was a costume dive in which the entrants had to dress up then do a novelty dive. One of the boys dressed as a pirate and another got rigged in tights, brassiere and beads as a girl. The pirate pursued the 'girl' up the tower where a scuffle took place, then they jumped in. Yet another donned thick sea boot socks, sweaters, gloves, scarf and balaclava, then went thru' the comedy of being cold and testing the temperature of the water before falling in. 'Butch' had a pair of blue strides with one leg long and one cut out, a half a short, one shoe and one sock on different feet, and a slouch hat turned up at the front. He looked a real Dave.

Another novelty event was to don shorts, shirt and socks at various stages of a race. The antics of the chaps trying to get into shorts etc under the water were really funny.

So as well as a profitable day for the Kiddies Hospt'l it was a most enjoyable day for ourselves.

here let Monday hangemak. We are going That shakes me 25 loday. but the bolac Stor calling at Joursaille that a conting - not exarly a hid bing longer will return to Brisbane. at least that is what we Oletters from blow acards suffered to do - goodness knows Annely flue are at alman daughter alla whillow they'll fut Ous back on not again. photos, of O they lin The bolac was hit by Ogil doughth I Showed Battle 15 millimetre ques over at H Bougainville). She got hit ficture show in I somin the engine room a hor stoken was real good. That got were tilled a Now aly is at your them another Bable for Russia hangmah being fatched mough to Stow has Helonder. It will in balow he as about hedions for as we have no shore we to finish & there. Shill expecially if no shike rough shalled . I have bright Jup. had' another 2/6 for me. hab Jat new going to here the seas is unrelified so about 2/30 m it is probably my rough fulles

June 4th Monday

That makes me 25 today. Quarter of a century - not exactly a kid any longer.

Got letters from home, cards from all at Burnley plus one from my clever daughter. Also got latest photos of My Pin Up Girl daughter. She's a good line.

Showed Battle for China at picture show in evening. It was real good. Had got half way thru another of the Battle for Russia, when a valve blew in the machine and as we have no spares we had to finish there. Still that's another 2/6 for me.

June 5th Tuesday At sea about 2/30pm going to Langemak. We are going to tow the Colac to Sydney, calling at Townsville then we will return to Brisbane. At least that is what we are supposed to do – goodness knows whether they'll put us back or not again.

The Colac was hit by 75 millimetre guns over at Bougainville. She got hit in the engine room – two stokers were killed. Now she is at Langemak being patched enough to tow her down. It will be a slow tedious job, especially if we strike rough weather. Even tonight up here the sea is unsettled so it is probably very rough further down.

weather across the boat les the can shich it this if we teather beautiful and headed howards good dat and so Iming Quarip . at 8 140 knob Thyway headed A C the your Widnesday have been " the U arned Linah berides right MON and -cail June and mound tool on for other jobs white get haffeld for other for white thong this things atill O.K. hid up alonguide then , the wollowf. at "h thin top infles selling Throther beautiful alder calm dar Illa + gothing When your Opines milito elay I according to our manigator shipper complained and low in Jowensville) on mill be from selling schaf's were Ast 1 stoffed The 12 the to freel them All any prover. fing I hearing with the we'll be in mell jør thursday left John tomorrow Jugdily on All about hoping dont Are stay - Other Sydney Mung long hid the Courses the bolac in Distand hour sooney me get and going llave. that line Am il. threw safes Art get nous

We can stick it tho' if we are headed towards good old Aussie.

6th June Wednesday

Arrived L'mak in forenoon and took on fuel, then tied up alongside a Liberty ship at the wharf. Boys selling their Jap rifles to the Yanks and getting all sorts of prices, until the Yank skipper complained and our chaps were stopped from selling anymore.

Leaving with the Colac tomorrow we think.

7th Thursday

Left during forenoon with Colac in tow. Heavy tow line that should stand up if we get rough

weather across the Coral Sea. Weather beautiful and so towing at 8 to 9 knows. Anyway we are headed the right way, and besides we can't get trapped for other jobs while towing this.

8th June Friday

Things still O.K. Another beautiful, clear, calm day.

According to our navigator we will be in Townsville on the 12th to fuel, then all being well, we'll be in Sydney on or about the 19th. I'm hoping we don't stay in Sydney too long – the sooner we hit Brisbane the sooner we get on leave.

We are(n't) going thru'

Salunday gthe June Instead Well blin this me Name into. lea Man. at and mode Awangma and this hasit de Julfland mles most because atter there Day 九 only helperd will tonal alahin afferrison we'll see inno AN man tike she looks what nudles poped ach many him Mat aveni Lei Ane. Mha dore energy like macho

China Straits this time. Instead we are swinging wide and going thru' Jomard Island in the Louisiade Archipelago. That's almost 100 miles east of Milne Bay. After there we will be in the Coral Sea, so tomorrow afternoon we'll see what she looks like.

(map inserted)

Saturday 9th June

Well we came into the Coral Sea at 7am this morning, and it hasn't played up a bit. Just a nice steady roll at present. Just as well too, because today we got an anti typhoid inoculation. At least I think that is what it was – a man gets so many needles poked into him that he doesn't know what they are. We got the lot in one innoc. instead of in two parts as usual. And believe me, its sure a dose. A man feels stiff in every joint. The majority of the boys are getting around like old crocks. A man has

The day loday has been he ses it grin heartiful the ame was don't cliscon scientists now ways a marin the mt the prinde of. more and the majority of us spirit swely immoralate a will son giffing man against 1 it affermond 8.1 Sanday Older A feather still good allho Monot henal down ; double ANU into Joursaille mights any going the fuel + however [then] the per !! Amino Atrone mut shaidh he O Kel Carrage Ans Dames bolad again It shas dunia Very I had non line tonight about the coast AR/ good U looks beller cycloned down the roool hussie Aly Ois reported reported port of N.C. to Ablan any stationary at 1 where shite Doop shool achially, at hadning for. Heavy of the floods too. A fer mountains molling N.S.W Stu Sivide along great ave how as I real marit sufficient has maht ony acoust and blue look for seavands. the produces inductioned

to grin when he sees it. I hope scientists don't discover any more new wogs or the Navy will surely inoculate a man against it.

Sunday 10th June

Weather still good altho' the nights are getting a bit fresh.

Monday 11th June

Thru' the Great Barrier Reef at Grafton Passage during the forenoon. It was good to see the coastline of Aussie. She looks better than any port of N.G. Actually it does look good too. The mountains of the Great Divide are along the coast and have a real blue look from seawards. The day today has been beautiful. The sun was quite warm, out of the wind and the majority of us spent the afternoon in the sun getting as much as we can before we almost perish down south.

We are going into Townsville tomorrow forenoon for fuel and some fresh food, then coming straight out to tow Colac again.

Very bad news tonight about cyclone down the coast – it is reported to be stationary at where we are heading for. Heavy floods etc, in northern NSW. As if that wasn't sufficient for one night, the announcer mentioned the

heavy fogs in Melbours on the hills bare yound and Alind this are the mountains maximum temperata said igland I'd like to show Good gracion they mak 46 dearer this place on a runice. Anna a smely. there Anna shining but bifingly aunta marke cold wind , this definitely Amphalmy qually shirt a stocks A frage here on comprovided with on way showe. many Inellanght to pres renewed outside, at Magnetic Island mall today diante Shahan Ontile, me want much apprinded 91 you very the 4 got OH betters 12 cabes 1 and fuelled. bust Whe papers from Journhille improversion 1 oh another supprise was Charcel 1942 Mas it 1 that Jackie Stords molles for my fictureque hopical hours the parcels hos as well ti Illevil I looks Upst 4L between I the pure mahet loning in stores APA spicially big islands you see the kind . single rise of balls Till has Jakk away anyth also has about 50 hidde hours thelf spread will the

heavy fogs in Melbourne and said the maximum temperature there was 46 degrees. Good gracious surely there must be people dying everywhere at the temperature. That's an awful temperature to be confronted with on the way home.

Tuesday 12th

Left Colac outside at Magnetic Island with the Strahan while we went in and fuelled. My first impression of Townsville in 1942 was that it was a very picturesque tropical town. Well it looks just as well. Coming in between the two big islands, you see the single rise of Castle Hill with the town itself spread round and over the hills base. Behind this are the mountains inland. I'd like to show Marg this place on a cruise.

Sun shining, but bitingly cold wind. It's definitely overalls, shirt and socks for me from here on.

Due to forethought somewhere, we received mail here today. It was very much appreciated. I got 4 letters, 2 cakes, and the papers from Marg. Another surprise was a parcel from Jackie Woods mother. It was one of the parcels that stores makes up. It was very kind of her especially as she has Jack away and also has about 5 kiddies.

you had a really good hip the got feel food aboard lonight we have sould and and suffer tonget consided find south fast Sandy hope. Maryle she'll hougher of a of a huge sold . The weat the Symber sally shift little them. We have taken but we shid that male advantage of the good weather fules of lettuce and tomatoes and ale plabert 6 hours ahead Tresh will abound for. With that you can drink. this way we would reach lighting It just show a mon has , at about midday lunday of well off he was onlide Wednesday 13th Passed themi these spring sof as White large this foregon. lumpy their the night and hooks fully each him you our I how line praked I learning pass I down between of the the bolac adrift at about lines of islands Suns waras but which very cool a night gree definishely & cold . Thursday quite 14 the Sea a 4 Am at 5/30 everyour was called and me high ho hand the heavy toning cable in by hand - guile a fit title A choffy but not rough the 400

We got fresh food aboard and supper tonight consisted of a huge salad. The meat was the Yankee salty stuff, but we hid that under piles of lettuce and tomatoes. Fresh milk aboard too. Milk that you can drink. It just shows a man how well off he was outside.

Wednesday 13th

Passed thru' Whitsunday Passage this forenoon. Looks pretty each time you pass down between the line of islands. Sun warm but wind very cool and nights are definitely cold.

Thursday June 14th

Sea a little choppy but not rough actually. So far we

have had a really good trip. Tonight we turn out and head south past Sandy Cape. Maybe she'll roughen up a little then. We have taken advantage of the good weather and are about 6 hours ahead of time. If we could continue this way we would reach Sydney at about midday Sunday.

Friday June 15th

Sea sprung up a bit bumpy thru' the night and our tow line parted leaving the Colac adrift about 4AM. At 5/30 everyone was called and we had to haul the heavy towing cable in by hand – quite a job too. By the time we

show put us hours back a for loh finialed it Shipper and that was bud hours shape of arrival at lythney had Jorma Oashiph mal ging 24 hours offers formon me it sometime Monday. shike weather and wow as close as my could int the los againg Obeaha time after time we ll bolac roadin - gan line shirsed read bydancy with month reaching the balan as that bolan . Jaharday they would have the hour ever 1 eather heavy swell and a show head heavy swell and a she wind made things difficult. Good analania and were O may Anv good him . alow mough Jinally me driffed for to hand line to be leading down the NS alill so the me in roat that thrown over after right direction soon got going lagain. But with Sidong June 17 the Still hope only this theas I the all now Aller Monday Tu making I to be that in contrast Mind boin fud a list of Dinames and to a to 10 lifer. The mere ahead of line but that the but that

finished it was too late to go to bed, so that was about an hours sleep I had after coming off the Middle.

During forenoon we got as close as we could risk to Colac but time after time the costin-gun line missed reaching the Colac so that they could haul the tow over. Sea heavy swell and a strong wind made things difficult. Finally we drifted close enough for a hand line to be thrown over. After that we soon got going again. But with this sea we are now only making 5 to 6 knots in contrast to 9 to 10 before. We were ahead of time but that show put us back a few hours. Skipper sent an amended time of arrival at Sydney, as being 24 hours late, which makes it sometime Monday. If we strike weather any worse and the tow again breaks we'll never reach Sydney with the Colac.

Saturday June 16th

Weather not too good and we are making very good time. But we are still heading down the NSW coast so we are in the right direction.

Sunday June 17th

Still hope to be there Monday. Coxin put a list of names on the board today of people

1945 Monday N Leam mly

it is proposed to send on leave from Sydney. My name is down but as I didn't expect to go from Sydney I am not counting on it. If permission is granted by Navy Board there will be about 70 odd starting their leave from Sydney on Tuesday.

<u>18th June MONDAY 1945</u> Sydney + Leave

A.R.S superhet. used for a.W. I.C.N. R/T. D/F. AF AMP 6576 IF 755 Kuls. ARS. mec. Ranges M/F 140 to 740 Kds Two separate tuning units provided att 10/F 765 to 2 mego. HIF MIF both feeding the same HIF 2 10 20 megs. 1/F & A/F stage . R/F 1/F &B.F.O. inductances have inon dust stages for fine ting adjustments * imported " variable" con. AWA at 5 transmitter freq. mange 200 Ku) 28800 Kc/s MIF 140 to 500 C.W. MCW. aRIT 2.5 1020 4 A.W.A. ATISC HIF 2 to 20 megs. CW.M.CW. R/T and pubse 40 10 520 1 H/F one. 2 to 5 megs Power supply. 550 volts to P.A. plates 360 v m.o.r. bufferplates input to final go warrs IF. PA. Sperates on fundamental

61

from 2 to 5 megs and doubles from 10 to 20mits Modulation on civa men, tube (H/FP.A) operates as AF asc. and with emission switch on m.c.w. for this oscillator modulates P.A. grids. For R/T the circuit acts as a mike amplifyer modulating P.A. grids Keying : Key relays makes + breaks all cathodes. aerial limiter 6×50T AR8. 6070 H/F tuner (R/F) M/FMIXER GUTG M/F 11 6A8G 6A86 "mixer 6166 05 FIRST I/F GUTG 2mg 1/F 6076 DET. AF. M.V.C. 6686.6486 BFO

R.C. 8. TRANS-REC. Function. RC. 8 is designed especially for installation in versels of all types truchs or ground station RIT. C. W. or mew can be sent or recurred. The complete equipment has been specially designed for dependable openation under adverse service conditions. All parts have been treated to withstand vebration temperature, a humidity and sea water atmosphere. Range is between 2 4 10 mc/s. in two bands. 2.4.4. 414, to 10 mc/s vision is made to operate the er by remote control. Power output value afree is capable I an autput of 7 50 miliwatts over autput of trans is between 4 20 watts depending on greg.

