

Log of Events

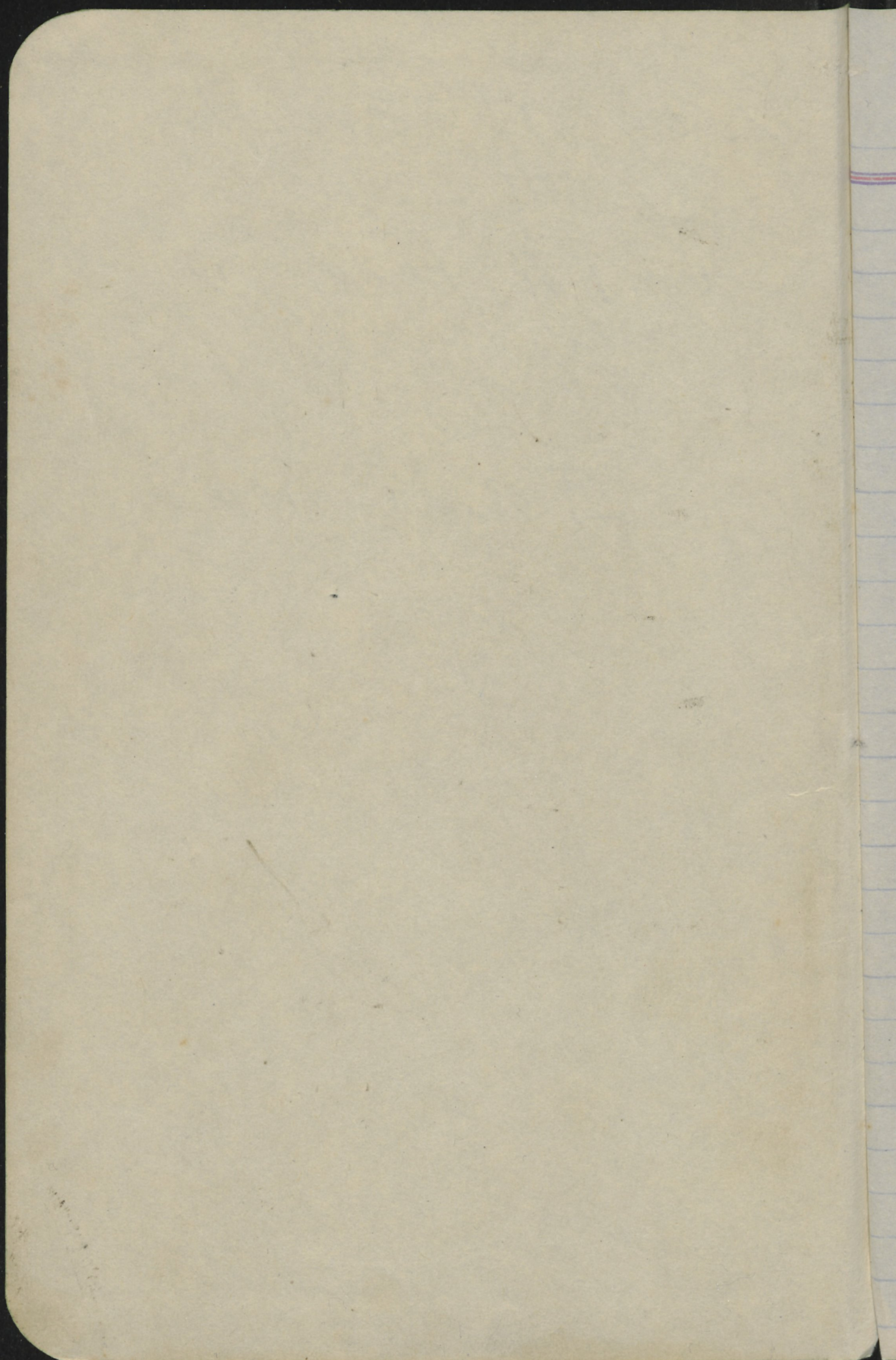
off
Combat Team "B"

Lt. B. W. White
Sgt.
Bn - 1

July - 1 - 1942

50176

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Daily Record of Events

Aboard

U.S.S. President Hayes
July 1, 1942.

Wednesday -

0800 - ship sailed from San Diego, California; destination unknown.

July 2, 1942

Thursday -

At sea, nothing unusual happened. Rumor going to New Guinea.

July 3, 1942 -

Friday -

Still at sea, rumor changed sailing to New Zealand.

July 4, 1942 -

Saturday:

Holiday routine, special show for celebration of Independence Day given to men, high morale. Still at sea

July 5, 1942

Sunday: Church services held for all Catholics.
Holiday Routine. Smoker held at 1900.

July 6, 1942

Monday:

At sea. Usual routine carried out.

July 7, 1942

Tuesday - Poly-wogs brewed.
At sea, nothing unusual happened.

July 8, 1942

Wednesday -

At sea. Usual routine carried out.

Started working on the big tubs for initiation of poly-wogs.

July 9, 1942 -

Thursday -

~~Friday~~

At sea. Because the

Poly-wogs outnumbered the shell-backs so greatly, they decided to run the shell-backs thru some hell before to-morrow; as when we cross the line the shell backs on board will rule.

Many Jones came aboard to greet and welcome, across the equator to-morrow Poly-wogs beware!!!

July 10, 1942 -

Friday - At sea -

Poly-wogs became shell-backs in no uncertain gentle manner.

King Neptune came aboard, took over the ship and took us across the equator at or about 1000. A very good initiation was held and everyone had a good time (especially the shell backs).

July 11, 1942

Saturday -

At sea. New shell -
backs are slowly recuperating
back to health.

Took shots for Typhoid
fever.

July 12, 1942

Sunday -

At sea. Holiday routine
nothing unusual happened.
Church services held.

July 13, 1942

Monday -

At sea. Little choppy
to-day. G with a few seasick,
including the royal staff.

July 14, 1942

Tuesday -

At sea. usual
routine carried out.

July 15, 1942

Wednesday -

At sea. Took Cholera
shots.

July 16, 1942

Thursday -

At sea. Nothing
unusual happened. Cross
date line tonight.

July 17, 1942

Friday -

At sea
Today became
Saturday, as we
crossed the date line
and gained a day.

July 18, 1942

Saturday -

At sea. Sighted
land; part of the
Tonga group; anchored
in harbor of Tonga Tabu.
Should get ashore tomorrow.

July 19, 1942

Sunday -

At Tongatapu, in
harbor.

Church service held
aboard ship.

1000 - Still hoping to go ashore.

No liberty to-day -
to-morrow maybe.

July 20, 1942

Monday -

Left harbor at Tonga-
tapu. Went ashore
to-day in the city

of Nukualofa, very small
village. Natives very friendly.

July 21, 1942

Tuesday -

Left harbor of Tonga-
tapu. Other parts of
the outfit went ashore,
for recreation and see
Nukualofa -

July 22, 1942

Wednesday -

In Harbor of Tongatapu.
Regular recreational parties
went ashore.

July 23, 1942

Thursday -

Harbor of Tongatapu -
usual routine carried
out. Everyone has been
ashore now. I should
be moving out anytime
now.

July 24, 1942

Friday -

Still in Harbor.
No liberty to-day -

July 25, 1942

Saturday -

Left Tonga Talo to-day
at 1400, destination
unknown.

July 26, 1942
Sunday -
At sea. Held church
services. Everyone in
good spirits, even though
the coxa-coxes have
been gone for days.

July 27, 1942
Monday -
At sea. Joined a
hell 'uva big convoy
to-day. This is no small
freight outfit any longer;
traveling in fast company
and a high league. I should
ship 'em the goose anytime -
everyone is anxiously waiting
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th + attached W.R.C.

July 28, 1942
Tuesday -
At sea. Sighted
the Fiji Islands. Laying
off the island for a
practice landing, "Koro" is
island we are at.

July 29, 1942

Wednesday -

Laying off Fiji Islands.
Landing was called off.

July 30, 1942

Thursday -

Made a practice
landing, within 200
yards of the beach of
Koro Island.

~~July 31, 1942~~

~~Friday -~~

July 30, 1942

Thursday -

Got cruised around
of the island of "Koro."

July 31, 1942

Friday -

Made a practice
debarcation off ship and
went within 200
yards of shore of Koro.

August 1, 1942

Saturday -

Filled up our
water cans to take
astron; Br- 4 pretty
busy at present. Sighted
Viti Levu, part of Fiji group

August 2, 1942

Sunday - Church services
held. Issued .45 cal.
ammunition, getting ready
for action. Everyone is
constantly polishing up the old
shooting iron & knives.

Mon -

August 3, 1942

At sea - slipped between New
Hebrides group of islands &
entered the Coral Sea. Zealandia
& 3 other transports joined us.

Tues -

August 4, 1942

At sea - "Dog" Day announced
as the 7th. Refueled destroyers

Wed-

At sea.

August 5, 1942

August 6, 1942

THUR - At sea - Preparations made for "D" day; issued mosquito nets, rationing, belly bands etc. Attack begins tomorrow.

August 7, 1942

Fri - Reville at 0100, sat around waiting for O - hour & fireworks to start. at 0610 the cruisers, and destroyers began laying fire on the shore, 5 inch and 8 inch stuff, really was beautiful; a cruiser came along side a cargo ship & layed it open. H - hour for Tulagi was 0800; O - hour for Guadalcanal 0910. Landing successful. Met opposition lots to - day. our Gavutu lots of parachute but wiped out.

1345 had air attack approximately 18 twin engined

jobs. Got a hit on one
destroyer and reports that some
navy officers + men killed &
injured. Six and maybe
eight enemy planes shot down.
Standing by for tomorrow.

The first attack was at
1320, 2nd at 1500.

abt.

August 8, 1942

Message came for this
Bn has attacked units to
land on Tulagi, hit beach
at 8:17; E, F, G, & H Co,
landed. Had an air attack
at 11:59, repelled; official report
of 12 Torpedo planes shot down.

August 9, 1942

2LN: Artillery went ashore after
lunch, & Pioneers minus

992 Enlisted men ashore
and 48 Officers at Tulagi.

rear echelon. Started unloading
everything at 1400 & stopped
at 1800. Then put out
to sea with rear
echelon on board, approximately
316 marines Enlisted ~~Officers~~.

P.F.C. Kornblith, Marine from
George Co, Casualty, brought
aboard with leg wound, not
serious. 10 Officers, 1 pay clerk, & one
Red Cross Ref - August 10, 1942

Mon - At sea -

Usual routine at sea
carried out. Depth charges
dropped, subs in vicinity.

August 11, 1942

Tues - At sea -

One appendectomy operation
on staff Sgt. Ireland, getting along
O.K.

Message to unload everything
to-morrow. Ran into a nest
of Subs, one just missed bow.

wed

August 12, 1942

Dropped anchor at 12:36 in
harbor of Es Espiritu Santo

part of the New Hebrides
~~group of islands~~
~~the group of islands~~
went on to Crescent City for
conference, began unloading.

Thurs

August 13, 1942
In Harbor of Esprit de Santo.
Stopped unloading for a while. Then
continued. Went in to get
the location of the camp.

Fri.

August 14, 1942
In harbor of Esprit de
Santo, part of New Hebrides
group of islands. Began unloading
the ship at 1300 today
again.

Sat.

August 15, 1942
Still in harbor, unloading,
just messing around. No
one knows what, usual

S.N.A.F.W.

SAN-

August 16, 1942

In Harbor. Church services held ashore and aboard ship. Unloading continued.

August 17, 1942

MON-

In Harbor. 104 men, ^{from 2nd Bn} + myself reported aboard the "Athena" at 0730 + men from 1st Bn + men from 3rd Bn + Lt. Wentzel, + men from Ist Bn + men from H + S. J. with orders to go with the ship unload & return. These men are a working party.

August 18, 1942
Tue - In Harbor -
Unloading & loading
The Athena to go back -

August 19, 1942
Wed - In Harbor -
Finished loading the
Athena, myself & part of
my 10'4 went came
ashore. The Reg staff &
part of Artillery went ahead
to go to Tulagi.

August 20, 1942
Thu - In bivouac area of 2nd
Br. Put up tents &
straightened up the area;
putting all fellows bed
rolls & stuff under canvas,
which are at Tulagi.

August 21, 1942
Fri - On island -
Still putting tents up
& usual routine.

August 22, 1942
Sat - on island -
Holiday routine -

August 23, 1942
SUN - On island
Services held - Holiday
routine carried out

Aug. 24, 1942
Mon - On island -
Usual routine -
Form a rifle Company
to-morrow; Capt. Smith
Co. in Exec. Supposed
to be a raider outfit.

Aug 25, 1942
Tue - Moved over in our area

177 men + 6 Officers. New
ammunition + weapons. Going
to be 12 man squads with
4 BAR's per squad; 4
heavy mg & 2 light mts. Men
from all outfits.

August 26, 1942
Wed - Going to be a raider
outfit. Colonel Fellows said
so. Getting weapons cleaned
+ things squared away
so can start to work. Not
much time to get trained
in -

Aug 27, 1942
Thur - Usual routine, looking
+ studying weapons.

Aug 28, 1942
Fri - Usual routine

Aug 28, 1942
Sat - Usual routine

Aug 29, 1942

SUN - Got word I am to
be in Co. B. raiders
under Maj. Chapman.

Aug 30, 1942

Mon - Reported to Co. B -
started getting organized.

Tues.

Aug 31, 1942

Took a hike - and
held school on weapons.

Sep 1, 1942

Wed - Hike & school on
weapons - Shot at mile & club

Sep 2, 1942

Thur - School on weapons & hike
This P. M.

Sep 3, 1942

Fri. Supposed to be ready
to move out by
Monday - usual routine

Sep 4, 1942

Sat - Usual routine. Hike &
training:

Sept 5, 1942

Sun - Usual routine

Sept 6, 1942

Mon - Usual routine

Sept 7, 1942

Tues - Usual routine - all
route problem, landing
in rubber boats

Sept 8, 1942

wed - Usual routine

Sept 9, 1942

Thur - Usual routine. Heard
from boys in Tilagi, having
pretty hard time, sending
some radio's + equipment to
them.

Sept 10, 1942

Fri - Usual routine. Mail
came first since left
States.

Sept 11, 1942

Sat - Usual routine

Sept 12, 1942

SUN - Troop + Inspection, church
partys.

Sept 13, 14,

15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, ~~22~~

Usual routine, getting
defensive area squared away
along beach; our area
approximately 800 yds.

Sept. 22, 1942

Lt Col. Carlson + his
2nd raider Bn landed
here, probably going to be
their base here.

Sept. 23, 24,

25 -

Usual routine.

Sept 24, +

27 -

Usual routine -

Sept 28 -

Raider ~~Co's~~ ^{Co's} abandoned
personnel revert back
to their original organization,
making ready to join
our outfit in Talagi -

Sept 29 -

Getting ready to go,
gear squared away, etc.