

Diary of U. S. Expedition to France

by G. S. Patton Jr

Capt. 7th Cavalry

Staff of Gen. Pershing

Friday. May 18 1917

I had been riding at Mr. Rice's Topsfield Mass and on returning to Pride's found a wire from the Adjutant General directing me to procede to Washington at once and report to General Pershing.

Telephoned papa at Washington he could say nothing definate over the phone but told me to come at once and to bring Beatrice. We caught the twelve thirty driving up with Kay & Keith in our new machine.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday May 19

Reached N. Y. at 7 A.M. and went to Penn Station to get train for Washington while at the station we read in the paper that Gen. P. was to precede the troops to France. Reached Wash at 2 P.M. Papa met us and told me I would have to start almost at once. I told Beatrice to wire El Paso and have Williams bring all my outfit then I went to the W.D. and reported. Capt. Margetts told me get some uniforms at once as we would have to leave Wednesday.

I got one started at Keens and borrowed one for the time from Capt. E. S. Hughes. Went to the Hotel and saw Mama and Nita.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday May 20

Went to Ft. Myer at 9 a.m. to inspect thirty men who had been selected for the Headquarters Orderlies. I found them in good shape and gave them what instructions I could.

Papa Mama Beatrice and I went to St. Johns church at four P.M. for the service

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday May 22

General P. and all the staff were busy organizing  
and getting things clear

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday May 23

Papa, Beatrice and I had dinner with Senator Phelan  
Sec Lane, Mrs. Lane

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday May 24

Williams and all my stuff arrived. Mr. Bradley had wired all over the country to get it there so soon.

Gen. P. told me to assign a uniform for Field clerks etc. As there was no time to get up a new one so I adopted a wollen O.D. uniform, campaign hat without chord. Canvas leggings, assault shoes. O.D. overcoat and white brassard 3 1/2" wide marked as follows. Field clerk F.C. Q.M. clerks, Q.C. stenographers S. Automobile Driver A. Interpreter Int. A U.S. button bronze on both sides of the collar.

(Diary of U.S. Expedition to France)

Friday May 25

Nothing.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday May 26

Mama gave B some orchids and me a gardenia. Had  
the <sup>For</sup> ~~Connors~~ <sup>✓</sup> Senator Phelan, Maj. and a woman  
from San Francisco.

I got transportation and found that neither Collins  
or Margetts had secured a travel order for Sgt. Lanckton.  
I was much upset for fear the general would find it out.  
Col. J. S. Tracey A.G. fixed it up for me and was very  
nice about it.

~~Condor?~~  
See note  
7/19/17

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday May 29

Heavy fog all day we did nothing but get our sea legs and assign the officers to various instructors for work in French 2 hours daily. There is a rumor that we are going to Halifax it seems probable as the water is shallow and we go very slowly.

The boat has about a hundred trucks on her and several "tanks" with out the armor she would surely be a fine prize for a U-Boat.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday May 30.

I gave the men some drill this morning and started french classes among them the chauffers all speak it and two of the signal sergeants are college men one of whom was an instructor in French at the College of N. Y.

Heavy fog all day and very cold we made less than half speed.

We are supposed to have been off Halifax early this morning and to there have received orders to sail east which we are now doing.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday June 1

It is cold to day and a little rough but there  
is no fog we have seen no one since starting. Col.

✓  
Packel gave another talk.

~~Packel?~~

~~Packel?~~  
don't know

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday June 2

Very nice day with quite a few sea sick. Concert in the evening with a collection for the orphans. The collection amounted to \$315.00

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday June 3

Got civilian clothes for all members of the expedition those for the men we borrowed from the clearks. The idea is that if we are torpedoed the Germans will be less likely to shell the boats if they see no uniforms. Doctors gave a lecture on venereal disease which is quite prevalent in France over 20% of the Canadian troops having it.

Every one jokes about the U. Boats but we would all like to see a convoy show up. Some are quite nervous and sleep in their clothes. The temperature of the sea which has been 52F is now 60 which will be a comfort if we have to get in it.

There was church to day but I did not go.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday June 4

A very nice day clear and warm. We reduced speed from 15 to 13 1/2 knots so as not to reach the place where we are supposed to meet the convoy ahead of time. We also had a boat drill.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday June 5

All the men were put in civilian clothes to day. We heard about four P.M. that there were two destroyers ahead of us who would close in at dark. We also had a lecture by an english captain on mining operations. We are all cautioned to sleep in our clothes to night so we can get out quickly.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday June 6

When we got up this morning every one was more cheerful for on either side of our bow were two Destroyers Of course they could not absolutely prevent our being shot at but they could prevent the shelling of the boats which is a comfort it would be rather an experience to be torpedoed but one would not enjoy being shelled later. We had a lecture on debarcation by a British Major named Humphrey he had been at Havre at the start and they made every mistake known to man. "Go we and do like wise." To night there is also good chance of our being attacked.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday June 7

We awoke this morning to find an additional destroyer. And sighted land at 8 P.M. sighted Tosca Light at the southern end of Ireland. At 1 P.M. we had passed the Stroueland and at 3 P.M. she was torpedoed. Packed our trunks and had them ready to land at 9:45 P.M. Resumed citizens clothes.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday June 8

We got up at 6 A.M. which was really 5 A.M. as the English have advanced time one hour to get more daylight. We were in Liverpool harbor. We docked at 9 A.M. and Lt. Gen. (missing) came on board to receive Gen. P. also a company of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers came down as a guard of honor. They had the famous goat and the black ribbons on the back of the tunic which Capt. Hutchinson had told me of when I was a child. I recognized them at once. We disembarked at 10 A.M. all our baggage being passed without inspection, it was terribly messed up however and we started for London on a special train at 10:30 before it was all loaded we left Maj. Briggs to look after it.

Reached Euston Station London at 3:30 P.M. Here we were met by the Lord Mayor and Gen. French my 67 men were directed to go to the tower for quarters and I was to stay there with them I took Paddock with me. Capt. Collins Honorable Artillery Corps. H. A. C. met us at the station and took us to the Tower. When we got there we formed column and preceded by the band of the H. A. C. we went on under the Byward tower around the White tower.

The first Battalion H. A. C. lined the walks and cheered us it was very thrilling. When we had executed eyes right to the Colonel we halted and fell out the men

(Diary - June 8, 1917 - 2)

were then assigned to quarters in the barracks of Co. 4 R.A.C. I reported to the Colonel. Treffry

We had tea and supper at 6:45 P.M. At 10 P.M. the Picket Officer (O.D.) asked us if we wanted to see the "Keys." We found the guard lined up in front of the guard room. A patrol approached with a warder carrying a lantern No 1. challenged. "Halt who comes there!" The patrol replied. "The Keys" No 1. "Whos keys." Patrol "King George's Keys." No 1. "God bles King George." Patrol. "Ah men" No. 1. "Advance Keys. No. 1. alls well!"

The guard and the patrol then presented arms and the warder took the keys to the "Kings House" It was very impressive and has been done in the same way for over five hundred years.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday June 9

Breakfasted with the officers & at 10 A.M. got orders to report to the General. On reaching the Hotel Savoy found that he had gone to call on King George and that the rest of us were to go to the Embassy. Here we met Mr. Page. Then returned to the hotel. Where we met Cols. Summerall, Baker etc. Capt Queckemeyer and some others who had come over with Balfour and just landed.

Gen. P. Gen My Lord Guy Brooke oldest son of the duke of Warrick Collins and my self went to lunch at some club which had been founded by King Edward VII. Here we met Maj. Dodd and the Chief of the British Flying Corps. After lunch the two generals Collins and I went to call on the Duke of Connaught. We stood up all the time. Except Gen. P. whom the duke asked to sit down.

Later Lord Brooke and I went around and left cards on a lot of people. The Prime minister. The Secretary for War whom we met. The commanding Gen. London district and some others. We also went to the Palace where I signed up in the "Kings Book" the names of all whom he had received. We did the same thing at the Duke of Connaught's.

Then Lord Brooke took me to "Whites" the oldest club in the world for tea. It used to be "White's" Coffee

It should be the Earl of Warwick

Earl  
ought  
this to  
be  
Brooke?  
yes  
KW

(Diary - June 9, 1917 - 2)

House. Lord Brooke is a very fine man. A Brig. Gen. and just recovering from a wound of a shell which smashed his left hand. And went through both hips and his bellie it kept him in bed sixteen weeks.

Lt Skinner and Lt. Cartwright H.A.C. took us to the club for dinner it is called (missing) and is next to the oldest club in England. We had cocktails and champagne for drinks at dinner. Later we went to a play called Zig Zag rather good for such an affair. Lord Brooke and Gen P. were there also. When we left the theater we went to get some coffee and in two blocks I must have been stopped twenty times by women. On the way back through Byward gate we stopped to register in and the Warder Beef eater asked me if I would drink Whiskie and soda with him I did he asked me to come tuesday at 10 A.M. and that he would show me the whole place so I am going.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday June 10

Did little in the morning but went to the Savoy for lunch. Mr. Gilbert Miller the son of Henry Miller the actor took me to drive in the P.M. we went to Maiden Head on the Thames here we met Mrs. Leslie Carter and afterwards had tea with a couple of actresses at this tea was also the Duke of Manchester he was not well dressed but very nice and asked me to come up and fish at his place if I got wounded.

Country was beautiful and every one acted as if no war was on in fact the whole impression was that peace reigned. There are just as many men in London as usual and almost as many actors. People go to the theater and seem to have a fine time.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday June 12

Lt. Skinner took me over the tower we had the chief Beef Eater for guide it was most interesting as we went places people are not usually allowed.

Packed our trunks and sent them in the afternoon. that night. The mess gave us a dinner Lt. Fréchet of the French Aviation was my guest. At the close of the dinner Mr. (Lt) Cartwright the Mess President proposed the King's health. Then Col. Treffry toasted us saying among other things that the H.A.C. would take pride in our success and think that we as their adopted children would far out shine them.

I responded saying in substance. "Col. Treffry Gentlemen. On the part of my men Capt. Paddock and my self I desire to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your most courteous treatment of us while we have been your guests. Should I live a hundred years I shall never feel so proud as when I marched under your historic arches behind your band and was received by the cheers of your gallant men. My sincere hope is that we your adopted children shall be able to equal your noble record for to excell it were impossible. For your Corps emotion over comes me I can only say with all earnestness the H.A.C. God Bless it" Much cheers.

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The Colonel then toasted France as represented by Fréchet he replied and the meal was over.

Capt. Gibson gave me some cuff links made tunic buttons one pair for each of my men.

The N.C.A's of the H. A. C. gave my men a smoker which all the officers attended. The singing and playing was fine one of the musicians a sergeant having been Chevallier's accompanist. The colonel and some of the officers also sang or told stories.

At the end one of the sergeants proposed the health to me and my men which was cheered a lot and they all sang "For hes a jolly good fellow." I replied as follows as well as I can remember.

"Col. Officers and men of the H.A.C. In replying to your most generous ovation words fail me but I think I can best express the emotions I feel by presenting to my men the cuff links which you have given me for that purpose. Men: Americans! In presenting you with these buttons you must know that only the "Guards" and the H.A.C. are allowed to wear them. I would warn you, but it is not necessary for I know you, that no one of you may accept these buttons unless he feels him self worthy of the trust which the wearing of them imposes. These buttons are worn

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by the men whose glorious record is the proudest jewel in the crown of englands greatness. In accepting this present you all of you pledge your self never to be false to that magnificent tradition. Strive then to equal for no men can excell the record of the H.A.C. Americans rise! three cheers for the H.A.C."

We returned to the Mess and though I tried to persuade the officers to go to bed they insisted on sitting up to see us off at 4:30 A.M.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday June 14

The Gen. and most of the staff went des Invalides here the Gen was allowed to kiss Napoleons sword and was invested with the Grand Cross of the Legion d'Honor worn by the 1st Emperor.

All the staff except Gen P. had lunch at the Circle Militaire at noon. At 3 P.M. we went out to see the aeroplanes there were 400 of them and it was most wonderful. Lewis, Capt. Reed and I had dinner then Lewis and I went to the theater. Capt. R went chasing girls. With success.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday June 16 17

Had inspection of arms in the court of the barracks.

Made arrangements for unloading the automobiles and rest of the stuff on Sunday staid at office 29 Rue Constantine all afternoon.

Have one N.C.O. & 3 privates on guard at the Generals 6. Privates on guard at the Office. Went to theater.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday June 17 17

Office open all day. But we don't seem to be doing much I think that people are being entertained too much and that it would be better to prohibit officers going out more than twice a week.

De Coppet and I had dinner with a very nice French lady and her daughter named Francois they were very nice and spoke specially good French. Went to bed at twelve which is the earliest I have been to bed.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday June 18 17

Still very hot. I looked into a spy case in reference to Martin Sedlesock of Hdqs detachment. Capt. Reed and I had talk on vagaries of human affairs. And the lack of ability of all members of the staff except our selves.

~~Spelling~~

~~no sent  
X now  
K/1~~

Oct ~~26~~ 17

Darling Beat:

I have

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday June 19 17

Got 3 Cadillacs and one Packard in shape also made arrangements to put chauffeurs on a comutation basis starting the 20th. Placed two orderlies at 129 Rue Haussman at the offices of Med. Ord. F. A. Signal. Now we have 4 men on guard at Gen. P's. 3 men and 2 motor cyclemen on guard at 29 Rue Constantine. Besides two who stay there all the while. And 1 man and 1 motor cycle man at 127 Rue Haussman. One man in charge of Quarters.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
(Field Artillery)

I expect before this row is over that there will be a battalion or perhaps a regiment on this job. We started a prophylactic station at the Barracks Tuesday. to day.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday June 20 17

Col. McCarthy and I called on Col. Gerard the chief of the automobile service of France and arranged for the marking of our cars. Col. McC. does not know how to handle the French.

At 4 I went to the big reserve park of autos at a place called Boulogne just out side Paris here I examined the method of accounting for French cars they now use a card index system copies of which I got. Lt. Gilete<sup>1</sup> went with me I will arrange this method in the morning.

*Gilete*

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday June 21

Marking of autos was turned over to Capt.  
Liebman U.S.R.Q.M.C. I did nothing of interest.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday June 22 17

In afternoon Col. Mitchell asked me if I wanted to go out to the Flying grounds with him and Fly. When we got there he arranged for me to go up in a Farman (i) (FARMAN) Biplane it was most interesting. I had always thought it would frighten me but it did not one feels perfectly safe and the machine seems as steady as a church. The entire country spreads out like a map beneath and it is fine.

We did not go up very high only 3600 feet but it did not seem that.

I went to the Comedé Francais. A most interesting play.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday June 23 17

Sgt. Braine reported this morning that one of the machines ran over a French man and broke his collar bone. I called on the Prefect of Police of the district and after giving him a cigarette and a ride he assured me that the victim was a robber an assin and that my man was a poor victim in fact for two cigarettes he would have jailed the poor chap. Politeness pays especially in France. I went to the Tèatre <sup>Feminan</sup> Champs Elyse and saw a light opera Chevallier was there and is fine he is home recovering from wounds he was in a German prison 26 months. The French are very hard hit for men. And the last "victories"? must have cost terribly. We had three cooks all over 47 who had to go to the front last night.

~~looks like  
Feminan  
(OK)~~

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday June 24 17

Went to tea at the Boyds later went to see Gen P as he was alone I staid with him till ten thirty going with out supper we had a most interesting conversation. Among other things he told me that during the week ending 23 the U. Boats had gotten over 400 000 tons of shipping at that rate they would get over a twelfth of the worlds shipping in a month.

He said that unless it could be stopped we would never get over 500 000 men to France. He also told me that the French were very shaky and that things were not so bright as they were painted.

We talked of Anne he felt terribly but thought it best that she should not come I thought the same and told him so. And so to bed.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday June 25 17

Was elected a temporary member of the Travelers Club to day. For one month cost \$15.00 a costly pleasure.

Col. Harbord went some where to the Front leaving Maj. Logan Q.M.C. in charge.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday June 26 17

Col Graves and several other American officers arrived in France to day. Capt Quekemeyer was with them. He had been to the British front with Gen. Bridges for three days. Queke. and I had supper together at the Ambassadors. We sent a courier Sgt Santine to San Nazaire where our first division has landed.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday June 27 17

Gen. Pershing, Col. Alvard and Capt. Margetts  
went to San Nazaire to welcome the incoming troops.

Col. Harbord and Collins arrived from the Front,  
near Verdun, at 4:30 P.M.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday June 29 17

I moved to my apartment at 40 Rue D'Artois.  
André de Coppet and Mr. Waldo Reed are with me. We  
have every thing but linnen and we rent that we have  
a maid who cooks breakfast and cleans up.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday June 28 '17

Nothing of importance happened. It rained hard  
several trees blew down and squashed a man in an auto.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday June 30

Maj. Frank McCoy reported yesterday and spent a day of pernicious activity as assistant Chief of Staff. Among other things he enaugurated a bureau of information with me at the Head of it.

He assured me that the ideal man for the place would be the hall boy at a club or lacking him I would do.

(Diary of U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday, July 1 17

Nothing much doing dined at the Boyds.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday July 2 17

Nothing of interest

*Check names*

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday July 3 17

The second Battalion of the 16th Infantry with Col. Alair arrived this morning at 7:30 A.M. from San Nazaire. They are to take part in the celebration tomorrow. I had lunch at the Circle Militaire with Major Degeorges of the 4th Zouaves while there we saw the officers of the 16 who had been invited to dine. Capt. Short and *Burnett* were among those present. Maj. *Burnett?*  
(~~Burnett~~) Degeorges told me that in Aug 1914 there were 12000 officers of French Inft. To day 7000 are dead. 2000 maimed for life and the remaining 3000 all have been hit so far as he knows.

Mrs. Thayer of Boston & Paris and her daughter Alice Countess de Montgomery called on Gen. P. this morning the festive Alice is very nice. I got her two tickets for Les Invalides tomorrow.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday July 4 17

The band of the Guard Republican went to wake the Gen at 8:30 at his house 73 Rue de Varenne at 9:30 They all went to the Invalides and had a great show then the Bn. of the 16th marched to the Tomb of Lafayette by way of the Place des Invalides. Place de la Concord & Rue Rivoli the women often broke into the ranks and hugged and kissed the men. I was sitting in my machine at the end of Rue Constantine watching and a large woman in black climbed on the hub and put her arm around me, mostly for support I think but she stunk so I made her let go.

0 1/2

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday July 5

I bought a packard five passinger 1917 and traded it for the one B. had given the Gen. It cost 25000 F.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday July 7 17

Had rather a hectic morning and at 3:20 P.M. Col. Harbord told me to go up with Queck and learn the road to Sir Douglas Haigs Hdqs. We left at 4:10 P.M. and went by St. Denis - Écouen, Chantilly - Creil - Liencourt Clermont - St. Just - Breteuil - Amiens - St. Pal Lillers - Aire - Blandesouse. ✓

And reached G. H. Q. at 9:50 P.M. We were met by Capt. <sup>✓</sup>Straker A.D.C. to the Marshall and he gave us supper we started back at 11:05 P.M. over same road and got in at 6:30 A.M. For over ten miles on the return trip we passed artillery moving north. 2 ✓

The difference in appearance between the Canadian or Australian and the British is very marked and very much in favor of the British.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday July 8 17

Gen P. had a conference of all the officers of the various missions and decided on several points as to the policy of the instruction.

I had tea with Countess de Montgomery. Queke and I went to dinner together.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday July 9 17

Shallenberger and I had lunch together at the  
Continental.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday July 10 17

Went to dinner and the theater with Mr. May &  
Maj. Brain<sup>?</sup>: Called on the British Military Attache to  
get addresses of British officers in Paris. Called on  
Ambassador.

*Brain?*  
*don't know*

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday July 11 17

Maj. McCormick arrived and reported for duty.

I thought that I had lost a pass and had the whole place torn up looking for it. Only to find that a clerk had taken it by mistake.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday July 12 17

Gen. March, Maj. Westervelt Lt. Swing & Rhinehart  
came to day and I had to give them a car.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday July 13 17

Gen. Sibert and his staff came to day. I met Col. Coe and Capt. Marshall of his staff yesterday at 8 P.M.

Maj. Desgeorges asked me and Queck to go to the review with he and his wife in the morning.

Had a terribly annoying day every one wanted a car and there were no cars to give.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday July 15 17

Nothing important

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday July 16

Made arrangements for Gen. March, Maj. Margetts  
Maj. Westevelt, Lt. Swing Lt. Rhinehart to visit the  
4th Army Artillery at Chalons Sur Main. Starting on  
the 17th.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday July 17 17

Wired Beat. about pasports. Saw Major Bacon  
on some subject.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday July 18 17

Nothing

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday July 19 17

Got passes for Trip to St. Amar for the general  
arranged for Col Stanley and party to leave on a trip  
to Tours etc on Friday also arranged a trip for  
Col Conner with two machines on Sunday.

should be  
OMER

probably  
~~Conner~~?

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday July 23 17

Left G.H.Q. at 9:40 A.M. went to H.Q. 5 Army by way of Cossel. At Waton we were met by Maj. Gen Malcolm chief of Staff to the C.G. 5th Army just as we were getting out Gen. Plummer commanding 4 Army whom we had visited Sunday came up to apologize to the General for having been absent.

Gen. Malcolm took us to a place in the woods where all the maps for the 5 Army are made. The various processes for making maps from aeroplane photographs were shown to us and we also saw a four tone Lithograph printing press which can be taken down and set up in 60 hours.

Just as we were leaving this place Gen Gough commanding the 5th Army came up he is a very nice man and not at all haughty we went to a place where a plan of the German front to be attacked had been erected. The scale was 1 to 50 and every thing was represented to scale Woods, lakes, vilages as well as trenches and craters. There is a platform where a full view is obtainable and also a trench which gives a man a view of the position much as he would obtain from the actual front line. Each squad and higher leader is taken to this model and shown just where he is to lead his element

it is  
PLUMMER

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One officer has special charge of the model and must demolish the trenches as they are shown by the aero. photographs.

After this we returned to Waton for lunch Gen. Gough, M. Gen Malcolm M. Gen Sergeant Dept. A & Q.M.G were at lunch.

After lunch we went to a camilflage school. Here we saw all sorts of devices. Mts with bits of green rag tied to them to be placed over guns. Observation peep holes made by putting gouge in the side of an old gas tin half burried in the parapet. Old caps with a gouge hole in the top burried likewise. Also canvas hedges and road screens these latter are stripes of Black and light brown and made into screens do not show in a picture.

We left here at 5 P.M. and reached Montreuil at 6:30 here we were met by B. Gen Harding-Newman Dept. Director Gen of Transportation charged with technical side. Who put us up for the night as the representative of Gen. Nash. D.G.T.

At supper also were Gen. Wedgewood, Docks, Gen. Brodie Henderson and a col in charge of canals.

~~Side~~  
yes

~~side~~  
yes

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday July 24 17

Gen. went to the transportation office at 9 A.M. and talked with the following officers on the subject of their various department.

1st Col. Lyell R. E. Chief of R. R. Construction

2. Gen. Murray Chief R. R. Transp.

3. Gen. Wedgewood, Docks

4. Gen. Brodie Henderson Dep *of Canals*

5. Gen. Harrison dir of light R. R.

They gave us a number of maps & charts.

We started for Paris at 11:30 A.M. reaching here at 6 P.M.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday July 25

Gen. Blackford & Col Rogers reported to the general  
in the A.M. Also Gen. Biddle

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday July 26 17

Col Hines, Maj. Nolan Maj. Conger went to British  
G.H.Q. also Gen March, Maj. Westerfelt Capt. Collins &  
Lts. Swing and Rinehart. I acted as aid for Gen. P.  
also took Col Hines place.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday July 27 17

Nothing.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday July 28 17

Maj. Davis A.G. Maj. Malone G.S. Maj. Eltinge  
G.S. Maj. Connor Eng. G.S. Maj. Hintzleman reported  
for duty.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday July 29 17

Heavy rain and hail storm. Very hot in afternoon. Made arrangements to go to Grandicourt with Gen. P. Col. Harbord & Col de Chambrun. Talked over auto question with Col. Rogers. Got notice that 28 Cadillacs had landed at St. Nazaire.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday July 30 17

Got already to go but at 12:45 Gen Told me not  
to go.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday July 31 17

Mustered HQs Troop at 8 A.M.

Gen Col Harbord Col de Chambrun and I left office at 2:50 P.M. in Hotchkis and Packard. Went by Port Vincennes - Joinville - le Pont - Crecy Vitry - Le-F to St. Dizier. We passed for miles along the scene of the battle of the Marne. The road marks almost exactly the scene of the last French line of battle. There were many graves along the road. Where hospitals had stood there were large squair inclosures full of crosses. Just north of the road is the vally where Nap. fought the first half of the campaign of 1814

Reached St. Dizier at 8 P.M. Gen & Col H were put up at the hotel Col de Chambrun & I were bilited.

OK  
KW

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday Aug 1 17

Left St. Dizier at 8:10 A.M. reached Ligny-en-Barrois at 8:50. Put up flags inspected town as possible site of G.H.Q. Went on to Menaucourt where we found Reg. Marines Col. Doyen. Inspected Maj. Wise Bn. their billets poor mostly in lofts full of hay where men could not smoke.

Col. Doyen did not know much was not sure of ration.

36 wagons and 11 horses short

Went on to Naix Bn Mar Maj. Therill. Machine gun Co had no equipment. Billets good. Men not smart, about 45% recruits.

Went to St. Amand. 3 Bn. 28 Inft. Col. Bock Billets good. Men not smart. Threw slop water on ground.

Col. B. seemed stupid

On to Treves to see 2 & 3 Bn. Billets fair.

Went on to St. Jeoire met Col. Duncan 26 inft. Saw Hq. Co digging trenches men not smart. Had lunch. Capt. Wheeler 1907 Adj. After lunch saw Maj. Roosevelts 1st Bn. exercising. Grenade throwing with rocks. Bayonet work against listless dummies swung too high and too light. Close order drill. Very short of officers. Col. D. had relieved Maj. French from his Bn. for laziness.

Went on and by mistake went through Bandingincourt (?) to Abainville (?) Hq. 16th inft. Col. Alair. 3d Bn.

(Wednesday Aug 1, 1917 - 2)

Billets good. Short 3 wagons. Had four wooden barracks  
the large ones leaked. ✓

Back to Baudingencourt. Hq. 13th Inft. Col. 2

McAndrews who was absent. Lt. Col. McAlexander in com-  
mand. Gen Sibert met us here discipline not good Billets  
fair. Supplies reported irregular. Went on to Gondiecourt  
met Gen. Bundy. Col. Coe and others. None of them seemed  
to know anything definitely. All favored tents to billets.  
Mules not all shod for lack of tools. Lack of leather  
for shoe repairing machines. Reported lack of full ration.  
No soap. Tobacco & candles.

Went on to Neuf Chateau saw correspondents had sherry 2

Went to Murecourt to see Gen Castleman saw him at 6:35.  
Good impression. Reached Vittel at 7:45 at Grand Hotel.  
Good supper. Med. officers had party. Gen. met French  
Meds.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

August 4  
Saturday July 19 17

Had lunch with K & K went to supper with them and  
later went to Grand Gignol quite nice. K found she had  
lost her big sapphire. Keith gave me some cigars. I told  
them good by.

Gignol?

~~gignol~~  
~~gignol~~  
?

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Aug. 2

Looked over hotels in morning then went to Chaumont by way of Neuf Chateau. Had lunch at Hotel de France and met Gen. commanding Maj. Gen Wirbel and Mayor after lunch they showed us over town and we saw two barracks which seemed suitable for Hqs.

Left at 3 P.M. going by way of Troyes reached Paris at 10 P.M. Had supper with Col De Chambrun and called on Kay and Keith. They both looked fine.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday September 1 17

Got up at 4:30 A.M. to see Hq. Troop start. They left with 34 motor cycles and side cars under Sgt. Guyon

I checked up property in 31 & 27 Rue Constantine and left at 10:55 in my car with Col Fox Conner we had a hard time getting out of town but finally did. Stopped for lunch about 30 miles out and then went on about 70 miles out valve spring on No 1 cylinder right side out let valve broke we worked about an hour hunting for the trouble. Went on with 11 cylinders.

Car did all right. Just as we got into Chaumont left rear tire got punctured we changed and reached house at 4:30 P.M.

Col Alvord Maj. Bacon and Capt. Shallenberger were already there. I took small room on third floor. Did not sleep much as I was too tired. Wrote to B.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Sep 2 17

Went to office at 8 A.M. great mess every one bossing  
and no one to boss. Fooled around all day trying to get  
right. Arranged to store cars at Riding hall Artillery  
Post. Went riding on Sim late in evening Margetts with me.  
Fine ride along canal very pretty

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday Sept 3 17

Things cooled down a little. Col. Harbord and Capt. Collins arrived. I changed my room to second floor a better room found that some one had sent me my two polo saddles from Bliss. Rode Sylvia in afternoon. Arranged for Chauffeurs to mess at Hospital.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday, Sept 4 17.

Col H & A looked over horses. Col H's mare very bad. Went riding in woods with French Captain. Felt lazy after lunch but got over it. Collins went to Grandicort and returned 10:30 P.M. Got news of air rade on our towns near G. no damage.

~~towns?~~  
yes

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday Sept 5 17

Gen. P and Capt. Boyd arrived at 4 P.M. I had a guard of honor of 16 men at the house but they came to the office. Gen. P. looked tired but seemed pleased with conditions.

Col. Harbord had a bad cold I gave him some asperin.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Sept 6 17

Gen. P. Col H. Collins, Boyd and Shallenberger  
left house at 6 A.M. to go to a review at Grandecourt,  
Gen Petain and the President were there. Our party  
returned for lunch at 12:30

Rained in afternoon

Maj. Wilgos & Mr. ~~Attebury~~ came; and left by  
train at 5 P.M. A++ERBURY

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday Sept 7 17

Engaged laundress in morning. Drilled clearks  
(160) at 7 P.M. they did not like it much but it is  
necessary as they look like soldiers and must act like  
them.

Shallenberger was made Provo Martial of Chaumont  
while Collins was attached to G. S. Boyd still is aid  
and I am nothing but <sup>HIRED</sup> ~~hard~~ flunkey. I shall be glad to get  
back to the line again and will try to do so in the spring.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday Sept 8 17

Inspection at 3 A.M. Nice day.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sept 15

Sgt Braine and I went to Paris to settle up Auto  
accounts we drove up returning seventeenth Got G.W.W.  
bill started

Drove back with Capt Andrews

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Some time about the end of Sept. Col. Eltinge asked me if I wanted to be a Tank officer I said yes and also talked the matter over with Col. McCoy who advised me to write a letter asking that in the event of Tanks being organized that my name be considered. I did so.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Nov 3 1917

About Oct 10 I began to feel badly and get yellow and when Marshall Joffre dined with us Oct 14 I felt very ill indeed. I went to the Hospital (No. 15 Roosevelt Unit) On Oct 17 and was put in the room with Col Fox Conner who had been operated on for a stoppage of the bowels on Sept 14? I talked Tank with him and decided to try to become a Maj of Inft. Next night Oct 18 Col Eltinge came and said Gen McAndrew wanted to start a Tank school at LANGRES ~~Langue~~ on Nov 15 and would I take it. In spite of my resolution to the contrary I said yes. But I kept discussing it pro and con with Col F. Conner and again decided on Inft. I got pretty sick Maj. Floyd took care of me all I got to eat was five glasses of milk and my stomach was pumped out daily till the 27 of Oct. Then I began to get a little food not much I left the Hospital Sat. Nov. 3 Maj. B. B. Lewis killed him self that day about 6 P.M. he was under charges for immoral conduct and as he had a family he did a good thing. } ???

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Nov. 4

Saw Col Malone who said my name had gone to general  
for detail to T School. Talked <sup>to</sup> Maj. Bacon and Shallenberger  
who advised tanks. I did not sleep a bit that night and  
decided to try the Tanks as it apered the way to high  
command if I make a go of it.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Nov. 5

12 Congressmen got in at 4:30 A.M. with Col Parker  
They were a lousy lot.

Lewis burried at 10:30 Maj. Bacon and I went. not  
a military funeral.

Gen P got back at noon he had been to Paris to see  
Lloyd George over Italy.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Nov 6 17

Gen Petain and his staff came to dinner with us he is not very fiery looking and is not like a Frenchman.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Nov. 7 17

Nothing

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Nov. 8 17

Saw Col Malone who wanted me to go Tanking at  
once but I got (?) to tell him as I wanted to  
go hunting Sunday. ✓

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Nov. 9 Friday

Nothing.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Nov 11 17

Col. Barker and I went hunting with three Frenchmen. We passed an old Roman camp. We killed one rabbit and had a good lunch.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday Nov. 12

Got telegram from B.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday Nov 13

Went to Langres to report Col. J. H. Parker and Col.  
Maxie showed me around.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday 15 Nov.

Got a model of the hat with piping for arm completed. Got my permission to go to Champlieu.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday Nov 16

Arranged my Troop to turn over

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday Nov 17.

Called on Gen Alvord, he is worse and I fear  
is done for. Gen Morrison came to dinner. Gen P.  
told me he would inspect Hq. Tr. in the morning

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Nov 18.

I inspected troop at 7:30 A.M. to see that all was right Threw out for K.P. and Fatigue six men who had dirty uniforms but all were good

Gen. inspected at 9:30 110 men in ranks. Gen made speech and complimented men and also me it was a nice ending for what had been an interesting but hard job.

Shallenberger and I left for Paris at 11:30 lunched on way and got in at 4:30. Saw a lot of reserve officers slouching round.



(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday Nov 20 17

Went to school at 8:50 having had coffee in bed  
drove Char d'assaut Renault and crossed trenches very OK  
easy to drive. Examined workings of machine in P.M.  
I asked so many questions that they had to send for a  
mechanic.

Capt Girardin. 2d Zouaves is teaching me.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday Nov. 21 17 ✓

Met Capt. Gubernard Chief of Group. Drove Tank. }

Shot. Capt. Gubernard gave me Tactical lecture

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Nov 22 17

2

Saw section maneuver Capt. Gubernard explained  
it. Cut walking stick and finger. Went to Compeigne

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday Nov 24 17

Went over Tactical use of tanks with Capt.  
Gubernard who commands Renaults. Went to see St.  
Chanard fire 3 in gun. Went to Paris on 3:20 P.M.  
Train.

✓ ?

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Nov 25, 17

Saw Anne Boyd Mrs. Gebhard Maj Reed and JJP for  
a moment returned to Champ Lieu at 8 P.M.

*moment? probably*

*see  
see  
see*

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday Nov 27 17

Lt Braine arrived at 11 A.M. Took him to call on  
Gen. Etienne.

Saw attempts to cross trenches in P.M. also test  
for drivers and gunners. Tank alone can cross about  
4-9 of new *INVENTED* trench. ✓

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Nov 29 Thanksgiving

Saw section maneuvers in the morning. Went to  
Campeigne to call on Col Frank Parker and get cham-  
pagne for mess in P.M. worked on translation till  
11:30 P.M.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday Nov 30

Saw tanks chained in couples crossing trenches  
most interesting drove tank up and down very steep  
banks, did it well. Gave mess champagne and made speach,  
in French.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday Dec 1 17

Lunched with Col. Frank Parker at Compiègne.  
Went with him over battle fields of Marne & Somme  
to Albert. Where we talked with Chief of Staff.  
British Tank Corps over Cambrai Battle got interesting  
data. After leaving Amiens on way to Paris ran into  
R.R. gate and got cut. Had stitches put in at  
Neuilly. 5

over?  
yes

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Dec 2 17

Staid at Paris and arranged to visit Renault  
works. Saw Gen P.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday Dec 4

Returned to Chaumont met Mr. House and Lord Northoliff at tea. Gen P. went back to Paris with them.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday Dec 5, 17

Gen Buttler Deputy Chief of Staff came to lunch  
and staid all night. Col Wagstaff dined with us.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Dec 6 17

Took Gen Buttler to train 6 A.M. Mr. Huston representative Westchester Co N. Y. came to lunch Gen P returned. Took Mr. Huston to Langres to see school

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday Dec. 7. 17

Worked on report all day.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Dec. 9 17

Went riding and worked on report. Wired Pa. not  
to let John's brother make lectures.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday Dec 10 17

Dictated report and worked on table of organization. Gen H. Proposed, Col. Rockenbach, Lee, Johnston. Shelly McKuskie as Chief of Tanks. I did not oppose Rockenbach though I dislike him.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday Dec 11 17

Finished report. Lt. Braine proposed using supply trucks to carry Tanks. Sent Lt. Braine to Paris to see Maj Alden.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday Dec 12 17

Took John Rogers <sup>(Member of Congress Foreign Affairs Committee)</sup> to Neufchateau. Braine had to  
go on to London to see Alden

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Dec 13 17

Went to Gondrecourt and saw corps schools.

Stokes mortar and 6 lb gun very interesting.

Got medals for B. and children for Rogers to take.

Went to Langres saw staff college. J. R. left for  
Paris at 5:30.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday Dec 14 17

Foiled around all day wrote letters.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Saturday Dec 15 17

Decided to go to Langres and start school bought  
present for Anne Boyd. Bracelet.

This is last day as staff officer Now I rise or  
fall on my own. "God judge the right."

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Dec 16 17

Left Chaumont at 3 P.M. with Lt. De Coppet  
reached Langres at 4 P.M. found no one in got room  
at hotel.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday Dec 19 17

Closed deal for house and hired cook and waitress wrote some recommendations for School. It is very hard to get things started but they marche a little. Got 6 letters from B and five others.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Dec 20 17.

Nothing.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Friday Dec 21 17

Moved into Hotel of Countess d'Aulan. Very nice considering it was built in 1300 by a crusader. We got fires going and slept at house.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Dec 23 17

Nothing.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Dec 23 17

Nothing.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday Dec 24 17

Went to Chaumont to see Col. Rockenbach very satisfactory talk. He seemed more sensible than usual. Braine and I had Christmas dinner and pudding.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Tuesday Dec 25 17

Took bath. Dined at one at Fort de la Bonnelli with Capt. Loustalot at Trench mortar school. Capt Williford '06 in command very nice. Went to Chaumont in blizzard very cold. Dinner Gen Pershing. Gen Harbord Boyd, Collins, Shallenberger, Major Bacon and Paddock Maj. B gave me a box Corona cigars. Anne Boyd a Handkerchief, Gen P a cigarett holder. We all drank to being Together Christmas 1918

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Wednesday Dec 26 17

Fixed up about Col R's house and wrote some letters. Returned Langres in evening very cold.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Thursday Dec 27 17

Braine and I investigated <sup>Camp</sup> for Tank school  
south of Langres found it fine and will recomend it.  
Went to Chaumont in blizzard and Reported to Col. R.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Sunday Dec 30 17

Made plans for Tank Camp Went over ground again.

(Diary of the U. S. Expedition to France)

Monday Dec. 31 17

Made six inch map of Tank Camp in snow storm but got good results. Sent in letter about people not saluting.

Will leave for Tank Center French in morning.

I hope and think that by this time next year we will be nearer Berlin.

G S Patton Jr.