

ELI ROSENBLUTH'S DIARY

A typewritten copy prepared in 1961 for his father  
Martin Rosenbluth.

The marks on the side were for the "Eli" book.

This copy has some obvious typos and also some omissions.

The original diary was handwritten in a small notebook.

Diary of Eli Rosenbluth, begun on Sunday, the 29th December, 1940  
in hut 26 of interment camp number 7 at Hay, in the State of  
New South Wales, Australia

Sunday, 29/12/1940 (1)

Get up after second whistle on rather cold morning, no time for washing or toothbrushing before roll call for which everyone is on time, but of course Goodson comes and not Bass. Brush teeth and more or less wash face after roll call, and go to Sunday morning breakfast: timed peaches, a half and a bit for each, bacon and egg, bread and butter and coffee. Overheard on latrine

What a diary this is going to be! Go to look up Unger in hut 29, who yesterday had parcel with books on astronomy, astrology, a horoscope chart pad and an incredible amount of stationery. He talks and I pretend to be less sceptical than I am. He eliminates intuition and finally I give him date of birth, and say that I think I was born at 4 o'clock in the morning. He is keen on "cosmical psychology", his own word. Also give other dates: Leaving Denmark after three months. Before talk with Unger I returned bottle of paraffin and toothwash (mouthwash) to owners from whose parcels they had been detained a few days ago, but were forgotten by Olson (if that's how he's spelt). Warned owners not to let bottles be seen. While talking to Unger meet Nelson coming in at gate with two parcels which we issue. He says U.S.A. transmigrant list is "halfway through post" when I'm doubtful about getting parcel. Ust done to-day. Hans says we'll have typewriter in evening and after supper. Among other dates given to Unger are time of coming to England, date of interment, and he knows day on which Dunera sailed. He thinks that Germany will have lost the war in first half of 1941 and all our fates be decided within three months, as far as getting out of interment is concerned. Hans says he does it in proper way, like old Richmond. See Rudolf after lunch in search of (p.m.) book, and he reads me letter he had from Hannah, who seems to be carrying on as usual, and has also sent him two very nice water colour pictures. Read and walk in afternoon and shower, decide I'm getting too fat, and shall diet. After supper type parcel list in head office, and Hans comes after while and we finish lists with me dictating and he typing, and so to toothbrush and to bed.

Monday, 30/12/1940 (11)

In morning went to see (Dipl ) Hannach about classes next term. He'll give one hour of design of piston pumps per week, while I'll carry on with two weekly lectures in hydraulics. He showed me his catalogues and drawings of his old firm, very interesting as always when people talk of jobs they have liked. Parcels come in afternoon, Nelson opening and he returns my pen knife which I missed. The M.O. has passed cascara and animal charcoal for Glesinger. Am supposed to play centre half in handball match against Coshers, but too much of a headache stops me. Having changed book at library in morning I start reading "And Mr. Wyke Bond" by W. B. Maxwell. Have eaten at least five oranges. Handball match won 4-1. Typing of lists yesterday was to tune of Maot Zur through window, not even Dissauer banging on his own machine put out by that (he's leader of the Koshers). Felsenstein came in to get him to come to chanukah celebrations, and after 20 minutes ridiculous

argument went out with his typewriter. His chief point was that he had lent his typewriter to someone connected with the celebration but hadn't got it back in time. Paid for airmail letter to Palestine for letter given to me by Lobl, with Mrs. Cohens money. Went to see Moshe of Hechaluz about toilet articles for H. but he can't walk with injured toe and says he'll let me know by middle of week. To bed with slight headache.

Tuesday, 31st December, 1940

a.m. Coolish and cloudy morning, very pleasant, but sun soon comes out and promises hot day. Hans says Goodson told him the reason why Eau de Cologne is not allowed into camp is that it's a base for invisible ink. Meet Friedlander after parade and we discuss yesterdays Palestine immigration notice in Sydney Daily Herald. Also wonder why no answer to letter to George Landauer, though we know he's received our letter. Corporal "Dachschaed" Pernod comes into hut shouting "two hundred men to parade at once for swimming" hoping that he'll be able to tell Camp leader Andrew Epperstein to do something, but E. hops out of his bunk and dashes round end of bunk frame, so Pernod can't see him. The Dachschaed is disappointed and leaves hut. Swimming party duly goes off. Finish "And Mr. Wyke Bond" and start "Black Royalty" by Arthur Mills, which I borrowed from Ian Weber, who is head of education dept, allocator of mess huts and head of engineering dept of Camp School comes and asks for my classes for next term. I tell him and also give him yesterdays arrangement with Hannach. Great rage in hut is "Battle-ships" which I haven't learnt yet. Shower and shave in morning. P.M. Olson comes to fetch me to get parcels, only 12 to-day but all fairly large, four big ones for Bienheim, 2 toothpowder and two magazines, all of which O. lets in. O says he was "put away" by someone who found a note in a magazine O. had let in and showed it to an officer. Shall try to find out who the idiot is, and try to give general warning, but I'm afraid we have got too many stupid asses. Just heard of another example of this. One of the sergeants inquired about dogs which apparently were to be removed from the compound having found one which everyone wanted to keep. Andrew E. asked to be taken out to see if he could keep the dog in. Announced in the orderly room with the words "Dr. E to plead for the dog and the dog". Goodson said that of course the dog could be kept, when sergeant said these people are complaining etc. Goodson went out to speak to them, the salvage party, and they complained about dogs generally (why?) and gave directions where dogs to be found and how many of them. Goodson (Lieut) got annoyed and said "Are you the Gestapo? etc" took view that they shouldn't tell on other internees and told them not to come out any more. Goodson seems to be reasonable and good chap altogether. Now appears that real reason for intended removal of dogs was that they were hungry and went after calves and sheep at night, though I'd like to know how they got out of the compound. Hans says that Bass (Capt.) was moved to considerable indignation by the fact that the Goslar butchers from the camp, who went out to slaughter sheep, after killing sixteen found that only three had died in the approved fashion. There are going to be two shows tonight, or rather the same show twice, and by a considerable amount of behind the scenes work, it has been arranged that all our hut manages to go to the first, so that we shall be able to have our own celebration very nicely and starting well before 12 o'clock. H. further reports that there is talk of 20 heart cases being sent to a healthier camp at Orange. The supper is somewhat festive. There are three doughnuts for

each, and there is coffee instead of tea. During supper it is announced that to-morrows breakfast will start at 8.30 instead of 7.30 and that there will be no roll call. This is supposed to be in connection with a I.P. in private's uniform who is reputed (to exist and) to have asked Lobl whether we wanted a roll call tomorrow to which H. very naturally replied that we didn't. After 12 p.m. The show was the best yet and afterwards we went to hut and drank Ziba's raisin wine, and ate fruit salad, wine quite strong to affect one and general hilarity soon becomes spontaneous, run round camp banging plates with spoons and singing.

Wednesday, 1st January, 1941 (4)

More fun and long discussion on sex. I say all I want are a sports car, a racing car, a wife and a house. Discussion proceeds to how to sleep with virgin, which is of interest, though no new point arose. My cup was in somewhat funny shape this morning having kicked it about with vigour last night. Finished "A.M.W.B" yesterday. Got "Dusty answer" by Rosamund Lehmann from library. Under influence of this start sketching H. at our table and decide to keep it up, it really is worth while, if only for interest, but satisfying too and something for the mornings. But here I wonder what will become of my good intentions of attending the electrical classes at the camp school next term. P.M. Drafted letter to Peggy in morning but don't know when to send off, H. says clipper mail wont come till Friday, but want to send letter now as I don't know whether last one passed censor. To-day is much more of a holiday here than in England. It is probably a result of this that no mail and no parcels come into the compound to-day. Sometime after lunch our artists, George "Ferdinand" Teltscher, Erwin Fabian and Willi Tichauer had a life model drawing session, Ziba Spanglet, the model, lying on the hut table. I was asked to join and finished off better than I thought I would. After supper there is a good sunset, all flaming, and I remember the letterhead of one of the first letters Peggy sent me from California. Their (California's) sunsets must be much like ours here, and I note that we're both more or less on the Pacific. I wonder how often she's heard the words "volcanic dust" since she came to California. Shall ask her this in tonight's letter. The flies are a great nuisance, misbehaving on our bunks which not only causes annoyance but also envy. Have written letter to Peggy, and as I said in it, where I score over her is that while her life for 1941 is more or less fixed, I can enjoy the feeling of uncertainty. What I haven't written to her is that the fact of my knowing/she'll spend the next year etc. gives me a satisfaction which is probably largely based on selfishness, for while I can think of her college life without me with a certain amount of what I might call benevolence, I doubt whether I would have the same feeling if she were earning her own living (silly phrase, what I mean is in a job) with the implication that she might change it, or take up a job somewhere else etc. etc. I myself can wonder about so many things, all more or less obvious, where I'll be next year, how many and which different countries I'll be in, will I really manage to join up? Will I have many jobs, of which kind and with what firms and where, will I have a car or be able to drive a car? Will I see my parents and brother and sister. Will I still keep a diary? and will I read what I'm writing now?

Thursday, 2nd January 1941 (5)

a.m. Have just worked out time relation between Hay and Calif. and come to the startling conclusion that for only about six hours out of 24 do P. and I



live on the same day at the same time. These are the last six hours of each day. On the other hand we both see the sun at the same time for about seven hours each day, ours 5-12, theirs 1-8. When I just said last six hours of each day I meant our last six, theirs 2-8. Finished "Dusty Answer" yesterday. The book seems like a rationalised (if that's right word) daydream with autobiographical incidents mixed in. Shant put it on list, but it would be interesting to know what others think of it. Olson came in and asked for list of articles detained since Nov. 16, which later turned out to be wanted by Nelson. Fetched shirt from welfare dept. Had clipper letter from parents who read my letter to Verbers and don't know what's in store for them when they get my letters to them in U.S.A. Feel sorry for mother, but am exactly where I was before; wont go to U.S. during war, or as long as there is slightest chance of some form of active work in war effort, and anyway don't want to immigrate. What I dislike most about U.S. is that naturalised Americans can be deported. But shall write nice letters to parents which wont upset them. p.m. In morning sketch corner of hut with our desk and bunks but becomes strain on eyes about which I'm beginning to feel some concern, but am down for eye specialist consultation. Handball match at 5p.m, the 22 best of our side of the camp playing a sort of selection game. I'm right half. We win 6-0. Handball match actually drove off slight headache. Transferred £1 to "Mosche" K. Reichmiance of Hechaluz. He'll give me full account when its been spent.

Friday, 3rd January, 1941 (6)

Wake up with slight sore throat. Drizzle outside soon settles down to rain. Roll call (which is never yet a roll call but only counting) takes place in mess huts. Stay in hut on bunk feeling foolish and sad like a mood in a book. Read excellent article in Life Digest on Russia and Stalin by Imperial policy group (or for them). Start "Socialism in evolution" by G. D. H. Cole a somewhat unusual book for me to touch. But in contrast read Ethel Mannings "Love's winnowing" and it isn't even sexy. Rains and rains and parcels with Nelson who again enjoys English cigarette. Parcels arrive from England which have first been sent to Canada. Some of these had been given up as lost and compensation had been paid to the sender in London. Write letter to parents in afternoon, sore throat continues and slight diarrhoea(?).

Saturday, 4th January, 1941 (7)

Throat still sore, so stay in bed in morning. Rumour that existed that we'll all be moved to-day is traced back to fact that someone saw a note in the orderly room asking for volunteers to accompany a transport to-day though we don't know of whom or where to. Scrambled egg, well prepared, for breakfast, this is rather unusual as so far we have only had eggs on Sundays, so wonder whether there'll still be eggs tomorrow. Wind and sun dry up the water much more quickly, at least seemingly, than ever before. Shaved immediately after lunch and this somewhat removes lousy feeling due to lying in bed and sore throat etc. Someone in Sydney Morning Herald starts article with "my brother in England serves in the A.M.P.C. (Aliens Military Pioneer Corps)". Hoots of laughter but disappointing that even journalists here know so little about A.M.P.C. that such mistake can be printed. To bed again after lunch and shaving. It has just become public that

the Lingfield and Huyton accounts have arrived, the bank has known this for a long while and kept the secret amazingly well. Somebody who was out in the orderly heard on the wireless that Bardia has fallen and the news seem quite reliable. Tomorrows newspapers will be eagerly expected. If the Lingfield accounts have really arrived, this will mean about £3 15. -. in my account and about £2 11. -. in Hans', and as we have been quite secure so far on the money cabled to us and the £2 per month he gets from his father, we shall now have quite a good reserve. No parcels came in to-day and no mail, but parcels will come in tomorrow morning. Also heard that Collingwood has become major and that a staff captain was in O.R. discussing supplies for our camp.

Sunday, 5th January, 1941 (8)

Feeling better after very little sleep at night, get up to Sunday morning breakfast, and decide not to go back to bed afterwards. Clean boots of last days mud. Parcels come in after all, and we send those out whose owner was not in camp, as we have decided to open only in presence of owner after Mr. Chodziesuer made fuss that we took parcel from N. for him when he wasn't there. Ch. is fool who just wants to have something to complain about. Nothing was missing from his parcel. N. after hearing about Ch's complaint said that he'd be quite strict in future etc, I think to give us a handle to have it "taken out" of Ch. (eggs for breakfast) but forgot when writing yesterday that to-day's Sunday and no newspapers come in. Ladewig has said

which is good for him. One can recognise quakers or "Quaker falle" by their grey shorts, Catholics by their sunhats, Jews by their tooth powder, etc., etc. Have discussion with Beer and later Weiss too on how to manufacture shaped cork holder, after not quite finishing the thinking out of a "two stage" press tool one suggests may be hot cork flexible and forced into blank pressing it against walls of mould, and the other spinning. Both interesting ideas, and things I never thought of. Nelson said to H. that Bardia not fallen after all, but British through outer defences and taken 8,000 prisoners. Some interest in camp out where they'll put 'em, going back to the foolish and unspoken hope that may be they'll need our camp and chuck us out. Typed parcel lists in afternoon because wanted to be at the debate "Religion does nothing towards solving the problems of today" at which Hans is principal speaker for the motion. Throat no longer particularly sore, but now good cold in "head" and probably fever in evening, but don't want to go to hospital. I'll see what its like tomorrow. Very nice Sunday supper! Soup and vegetable (cabbage?), two cutlets and mashed potatoes, raisin bun and tin pears. Went to start of debate, but after while felt rotten. Met Klaus Reichmann, one of my hydraulics pupils associated with the medical hut, and he got me gargle and two pills to take before going to bed. Came back to hut and found Dipl.-Ing Lobl and Stahl (bank manager) investigating a japanese childs (?) calculator, based in system of five, and found out some interesting things, then discussed manufacture of again and automatic operations generally. Took pills and to bed.

Monday, 6th January, 1941 (9)

After breakfast go to medical hut where my temperature is taken, no fever, and I get some eucalyptus oil for inhaling; this I do after sweeping hut as my part of hut cleaning. Go to first Electrical Technology lecture of this term

by Paul Attmann, B.Sc. A.C.G.I., of the Guilds with whom I took my finals (in same room in the as we'd been chucked out of the guilds on Govt. orders). Exercises on Onni's and Kirdroffs laws. Newspapers not yet come in, but H. heard that Bardia has, after all, fallen yesterday, 15,000 prisoners mentioned. Our accounts are definitely here and we celebrate by eating tin of peaches (7 half peaches each). Zionist Hebrew former maths teacher Lomas brings back some one else's Electricity I lent him and asks about tea, and I agree to let him borrow it on Thursdays and Fridays, but say that Cotton is out of the question. Stahl knows that the English accounts were sent by the British W.O. not to the Australian W.O. but to the Australian P.M.'s office. Hut captains meeting today will discuss measures taken against members of one hut who pinched a table from mess huts, and hid it very cleverly by tying it underneath a bunk. They refused to give it up saying that as other huts had tables why shouldn't they, and measures taken so far are that they've been asked to hand in their credit cards and won't be able to buy at the canteen, only to order from suppliers. One "table" in mess hut and had lunch sitting on the floor. The newspapers say that the Northern sector of Bardia has fallen, but during the hut captain meeting Andrew announces "officially" that the place has been taken. Hans reports on H.C. meeting at which the H.C. of 19 proposed vote of censure on Bank Manager Stahl who'd send them the letter asking them to hand in credit cards, and on A.E. too if he took responsibility for Stahl's action. Dehn, one of speakers in subsequent debate said if such prompt measures were taken by A. on this occasion, why'd he taken no action against hut 26 on a far more serious occasion, the incident during the variety show on New Year's Eve, when members of that hut had created a disturbance by booing Simon Hochberger one of the comperes

This last is main point that interests us as we can't do much do much about the accusation of general rowdiness against our hut which has some foundation, we, or some of us, being in the forefront at most incidents involving noise. The only possibly to some people objectionable remark any one of us remembers to have heard is though this not by member of hut. Hut decides that Dehn's attack was deliberate from underhand motives, though he says he has witnesses, and decides to ask the " to investigate the matter. " duly asked to do this on same evening. Hut 19 more or less admitted the wrongness of their action by taking table to pieces and screwing these to underside of lower bunks so that the unfortunate mess hut orderlies had to be on their bellies to see them. 19 further said that they originally had a table which was removed to hut 26 by four "Stalwart" members" of that hut and that its been there ever since. This true but was done on strength of signed chit from camp leader. A.E. get some more Eucalyptus oil from medical hut to inhale with. Actually Goodson, having some business in the compound, asked A whether he knew that the news of Bardia's fall had come over the wireless (today). Inhaled.

Tuesday, 7th January, 1941 (10)

Get two letters, one from parents and Ray<sup>h.c.</sup> posted on 18th/11/40 and the other from S. Lowey of 30/12/40. Parents written in London before they sailed and came with the clipper lot which was so much delayed, possibly by events in England. Lowey's says he hasn't heard from me for long while and I might say the same of myself with respect to him, as he didn't notify me of any of his numerous

changes of address, though he'll now be, he thinks, in Melbourne till April. He quotes from a letter of father to him and says rather puzzlingly that my father "has obtained an immigration visa for me" which I doubt and shall investigate, what will be the effects of this lapsing? Affirms again that Danish quota is free, from father's letter. Says I'll have to make decision as he expects affidavit in near future, but I'm still determined to wait for H.O. official who is supposedly coming out to deal with transimmigration and A.M.P.C. cases. Saw catalogued McGraw-Hill Books and made list from which to select some from time to time which I'll ask for from parents. Parent's letter also says they try to get student visa for Gideon. At hut captain meeting today commission was set up, of three hut cpts, to investigate incidents on New Year's Eve and place the "guilty" (in the opinion of the commission) before the Schiedsgericht (whether this will accept certain people as "guilty" seems to me doubtful, in such a case the Schiedsgericht would probably start investigation all over again. Dehn is member of this commission, and this annoys us, not unnaturally in view of his utterances at last H.C. meeting. Hut decides not to answer questions of commission, to whether objection is taken on the grounds (a) it was elected by ridiculous votes of 3-2, 2-1 etc., at a meeting of 36 H.Cs, (b) when vote had been taken on 3 members, and they accepted, none was taken on fourth nominee and this not proper way of choosing three out of four, (c) Dehn, against whom we have an action at the Schiedsgericht, is on the commission. Decision not to answer questions against my feelings, as undermining the Authority of the H.C.s for after all commission was set up in apparently legal way. But later Rothfels the "Statsanwalt" member of Schiedsgericht privately talks to H. and says presence of Dehn on commission is impossible and we shouldn't recognise it, and he's asked Magaziner, president of H.C. meeting, to urge D to resign. Also decide that group captains are no longer to be elected by blocks of 6 huts but by whole camp, and the deputies at same time, this complicated to imagine, especially as deputies to be elected too (at same time?). Cold is much better today, but decide not to lecture tomorrow.

Wednesday, 8th January, 1941 (11)

Willie Lampl has been told that all leave of guards has been stopped, as something is going to happen to us, such as some of us may be moved. This is made more likely by second rumour which W.L. has heard from Agricultural N.C.O. that fence between No. 7 and No. 8 is being built because Italians from Egypt will be put in No. 8, and the less robust half of the populations of Nos 7 and 8 camps will be sent to the camp at Orange, and the remainder united in 7 camp. Further rumour in afternoon, or rather fact. Lt. Hall the agricultural "farm scheme". Lt. tells the farm people that their morning shift must be back inside the camp by 8 a.m. and that none will be allowed to leave the camp during the whole of tomorrow. A. says that this is because we are all going to be photographed, to prevent impersonation, Australian Army rule. In morning second lesson in Electede; these lessons are now on Monday, Wednesday Thursday and Friday mornings. Lie out in sun for 10 minutes after lunch and get thoroughly burned. Intend to keep this up as quick method of getting brown. Write letter to Lowy asking again for books from Ritmans and also pyjamas and sandals for Hans and myself. Cold practically gone. Hut 19 now has regular table, some being brought in today. Told Lowy to keep papers that may arrive for me and to clear up whether father wrote to him that I could get visa or whether

father's actually had one issued for me, which would be a serious matter requiring immediate attention as such visa would lapse after 4 months and no further one would be issued. Arranged to have interview with Meass on matter of my making individual application for release to H.O. Interesting point from father's letter yesterday is that they've written to I.C. about B.Sc. diploma and arranged to have it sent to Linton and have him send me a photostatic copy by clipper mail. Very good arrangement. New straw arrives in bales on lorry and we fill our palliases.

Thursday, 9th January, 1941 (12)

The event of the day is the taking of photographs. These are taken by a young man with a Leica and the victim looks through a black frame with his head against a white background. The height of the victim can be read off on a scale marked on the sliding rail which carries the frame, and the latter can be adjusted for height. The date and the number of the victim also appear on the photograph. The photographer is prepared to supply six copies for 3/9 to those who wish to have some for private use. Hans and I put our names on the list of those who'll make use of the offer if the military authorities permit it. But it turns out later that these photographs are only for official purposes and it is arranged to have those who want to pay 3/9 for it photographed again. This starts, against white background but without the frame. The operator takes two negatives of each customer, presumably he'll select the better one and make six copies of that. But after a while, just when H. and I have been photographed, he says that he's got to leave the compound and can only do five more men. Some were lucky as he probably won't come back. Catch and watch queer creatures in puddle looking like miniature kingcrabs, very probably larvae of insect, keep two lots, one in full and muddy glass, other lot of two only in clear and shallow water; see what they'll be like tomorrow.

Friday, 10th January, 1941 (13)

In morning Wundsde asks me whether I'd like to come out today to the farm schools place to do some surveying. I say yes, and shave as I'd arranged to see Haass at 9 a.m. Do this and show him my draft of release application, he makes valuable suggestions and I start corrected and improved draft before going out with three others for surveying. Guard is corp. with pistol. We collect rather primitive level and other instruments, take levels along ditch, then set out field. Corp. repeats that Italians coming into one of the camps. Today's rumour comes from returning store party who've heard that we're going to go to Tasmania. Finish draft of application before lunch. Going away rumours seem solved when we hear reliably that 150 Italians have gone to Sydney for their tribunal, one wonders what the percentage of releases will be. Write application for release after supper and feel queer at seeing it in its airmail envelope. If it passes the censor, being four pages on ordinary paper, it won't do me any harm in London and may do some good, though probably all decisions will be left to the home office official whom they plan to send out to select people for emigration to the U.S. and the Pioneers. But if he's still in London, i.e. not the same as the one that's gone to Canada, then he might see it

and anyway I believe in having a full file at the H.O. so that they know as much as possible about me and get used to seeing my name, (oh yeah!). Don't yet know to whom to write ordinary letter tomorrow, perhaps to Mrs. H. Cohen from whom I today received some pamphlets etc. Find I've been very much burned by sun on back without noticing it, the difference and sharp line between the dark red of my back and the white of lowerdown is quite startling and much acclaimed.

Saturday, 11th January, 1941 (14)

Out again for surveying in morning, we start on actual survey of farm land, which is in centre of ex-racecourse. All by chain traverse. Remember times in Hyde Park and how nice it would be to go home at end of surveying to lie down in grass of park and to look at Serpentine. Parcels as usual in afternoon. Censorship now much better, as nearly all parcels containing printed matter are opened straight away and don't have to be sent back by us. Censor often includes charming little notes on why he's passing parcel, such as underlining is only to emphasize meaning and marginal writing appears only to be English translation of text, perhaps woman censor. Write letter to Mrs. Harris Cohen in evening and feel it's a good day's work. We hear that the old and not robust from our camp are going to be moved to another camp on Monday. Also talk of transport of 800 going off from Hay, though these will probably be chiefly Italianans going up for their tribunals. General knowledge test by Ziba, I get 26/70.

Sunday, 12th January, 1941 (15)

Quite exited at the moment for Olson came in to ask me for date of my birth, saying their (presumably Eastern Command H.Q.'s) records office had rung up to ask for it. Probably only because something left out on green forms or they can't read my writing. But of course, I'm quite unreasonably expectant. Shall ask Nelson about it when I see him next, for he took call. It might be, but won't be, of interest in this direction that when the home office had released juniors they asked the parents whether they wanted them released, and when they said no keep 'em interned here. But my letter to Weizmann can't have arrived yet, or just might as clipper left on 2/1/41. Still, Nelson will disillusion me. Handball match in afternoon of Roebuck (Hut 26) and Schadlich (Hut 20) against the Peronjes and the Hedialuz. I play right half and score is 1-1. Write application for release, identical to the one sent off by airmail on Saturday, to be forwarded by the military, thought I don't mark it copy as then they mightn't send it on. However, this one is dated 11/1/41 which the other isn't as I forgot. Hans does washing in afternoon and finishes just when I come to the laundry having finished the application. We have coffee there from coffee and chicory essence. I can't type the parcel lists in evening as machine is used to type (a) lists of articles pinched from the men who are leaving tomorrow (old and weak, pinched on "Dunera") and (b) their bank a/c sets. This evening there is a farewell show for them at the camp theatre. Prepare first Hydraulics lecture of second camp school term.

Monday, 13th January, 1941 (16)

Have given up going to elec. tech. lectures. Gave first hydraulics lecture of term, and felt this was rather successful as I worked through interesting examples and let people come up to board to work out parts. Just after lunch typed out parcel lists. Nelson from whom I fetch parcels, or rather, whom I see typing when fetching parcels from orderly room, says enquiry yesterday was because the date of my birth was given wrong on records. So that's that. Get two 9d bars of choc. and eat most of this, very satisfying. Also peanuts. Parcel and/or mail ought to come for me sometime. Think out construction for blade of turbine with given inlet and outlet angles, blade to be circular arc. Get it out, though not the one we had at college, but mine no worse, perhaps even, shorter. Bought sheet of nice glazed cd/bd and glue from canteen for making blade etc, and got two more sheets from Felix Solwitz for camp school. Also glue (gum). Seriously think of writing to Philips to help me get out. Perhaps to Walker too.

Tuesday, 14th January, 1941 (17) written on 15th.

"Ginger" Michaelis wrote a letter thanking for the parcel and the letter he's got in it, and the censor apparently wrote to army for he was called out and asked out it and some row, though not too hard on soldier. This shows what an accurate check the censor keeps on parcels at least for he has so far passed a few letters in parcels, stamping them as usual "passed by censor" and must have been able to see that he hadn't done this for Ginger. Design 40 HP 16 head inward flow turbine for camp lighting and start making diagrams for classes. Still doing this by pilot light at 10.15 and first time that I don't write diary on same day.

Wednesday, 15th January, 1941 (18)

Still bursting with ideas, decide to make whole map of turbine diagrams, regulation dgms detail drawing etc. lecture in morning, see the new Major and camp commandant for first time when I go out with six people to open parcels, I stay and next six are sent etc, very tough business. I take down contents, but don't know whether to type lists, shall know but not sure that I want to keep on job, wearying and much longer as right groups of six must always be collected, all bloody silly, Major reported Millionaire (warehouse) from Sydney, he looks like the Duke's butter (butler) get called to bank and hear that parents sent me \$15 in letter, told I get £4.10.0. and manage to get letter from Olson (I'd normally only get it tomorrow). This enables me to write to parents and Rafe in evening. Ferdi and I put flynet over our bunks.

Thursday, 16th January, 1941 (19)

Start calculating on turbines in morning, but am asked to come out levelling with Wundschn, Chodziesner and we take levels along a channel which is to bring water from main channel to farm land, chiefly to see whether banks are high enough., big event in morning is the buying of the pen which writes this "Crescent" made in U.S.A. by Couklin. 22/6 but this includes sales tax (15%) put on by canteen. Continue levelling in afternoon, for which I'd prepared some pages

in an exercise book for noting and working out by rise and fall method. I do the booking and working out both in morning and afternoon and we find some spots that need banking up. When I get back there is a lot of talk concerning orders and methods of Major Grace (who of course has received the name "Disgrace") such as that we all must wear our hats when outside the huts, though not quite clear whether this is to save us from sun or to distinguish us from soldiers. He's also stopped the canteen selling or ordering khaki clothing. Since two days now the water has had a dirty greyish appearance, and we're only supposed to drink it boiled. *Udy* Get notified that my Dingfield A/c is not available and get £A 3/15/-. Hans gets his too. H. is doing parcels out at ~~end~~ room of orderly hut and Grace and he talk and Grace passes in bottle hair oil that was detained. He may make out all right, but people justifiably indignant for he's closed the camp school for tomorrow when Wiesner said he wouldn't give or get an extra 50 men to clean up camp, because of camp school, which of course wasn't clever of Wiesner. Continue drawing turbines before and after supper, till 10.15, a very absorbing and extremely satisfying occupation. H. showed me notice from "Sydney Daily Telegraph". "Internee ship probe sought" London, Wed. (A.A.P). Conditions aboard a ship while carrying internees to Australia will be discussed in the House of Commons. Mr. T. E. Harvey (Ind.) will ask whether internees' luggage was ripped open with bayonets during embarkation, and whether internees were deprived of their money, watches, and other belongings. He will ask for an inquiry into the suicide of one internee".

There is a fascination in the way in which things come up and move towards their apparently destined end. Of course we're all looking forward to the report of the debate which the papers here will probably bring quite fully as it has something to do with Australia. I wonder if I'll get my nice fountains pens back, etc.

Friday, 17th January, 1941 (20)

More turbine drawing in morning. After lunch there is an inspection by a Colonel who is on leave and "Ferdi" who is proud of his ability to reproduce the military voice shouts "Attention" just as the inspection comes out of hut 25 and the colonel says "You think that's bloody funny?" or something like that. Afterwards the T.P. Private comes to fetch Ferdi for "the colonel and our bloody major" but F. only gets as far as the orderly room is told by Pernod "I told them you're an angel" and without seeing either the major or the colonel is sent back again. Colonel didn't see all the huts and didn't come to ours. Later in afternoon investigate the effect of variation of head in the case of a turbine running at constant speed, the guide blades being fixed in one case and adjustable in the other, and get some interesting results. Had letter from Lowy telling me that father is also trying to get a Palestine certificate for me, and says that father thinks I should make use either of the affidavit or the Palestine certificate. I don't quite know what to do about this, at any rate I can't make such a decision now when my mail record showed me that Weizmann has only had my letter for a day or two, if indeed he ever got it, and then I sent off my H.O. release application. Lowy says to let him know my decision so that he can cable father, this is good as he'd thus cable other important things too, if he realises we're not allowed to cable. Palestine is an idea, if the H.O. guy never arrives, or A.M.P.C. application fails. Think I won't answer Lowy just yet.



Saturday, 18th January, 1941 (21)

When we marched into mess huts, Bass said that it was positively the last time that anyone was late on parade, but we'll see. The Major appeared far more human today, the farm scheme Altmann who works in the orderly room heard Bass tell him all about us and then Andrew enlightened him too. He knew there'd been a muddle and some mistakes, but not that we were it. Said it was rotten, particularly on the young chaps, and he was glad we had a camp school. Parcels both in morning and afternoon. More drawing of turbine diagrams. Investigation of effect of change in head leads to something, though I still wonder whether I'll be able to get a typical characteristic curve theoretically.

Sunday, 19th January, 1941 (22)

Investigated not only change of head but also effect of changing velocity (revs) at constant head, and for both these cases obtained  $P/H^{3/2}$  against  $N/H^{1/2}$  and the curves coincided, or at least were very near together, so near in fact that I shall try to find their equations, and whether these differ from which an idea might be obtained of the factor the neglect of which gives the equation  $P/H^{3/2} = \phi(N/H^{1/2})$ , the fact that, if the factor can be neglected, which is usually the case, theoretical characteristic curves of the kind I obtained today can be drawn, can be justified theoretically from the following consideration (which serves as a good introduction of the matter). If there is a characteristic curve of the kind  $P/H^{3/2} = \phi(N/H^{1/2})$  which represents all sets of conditions under which a particular turbine works, then each point on this curve corresponds to a particular efficiency. Suppose this is  $Q$ , then for that point  $1/9 P_1/H_1^{3/2} = 1/9 P_2/H_2^{3/2}$  and also  $(1 + 1/9) P_1/H_1^{3/2} = (1 + 1/9) P_2/H_2^{3/2}$ , if we then add this latter quantity on to the existing (experimental) ordinates of the characteristic curve which is equivalent to plotting the former, we should obtain a new curve which may be called the "theoretical characteristic" of the turbine, or perhaps better the "no loss characteristic", and similarly we could plot 10%, 20% etc. loss characteristic curves. It is these curves that I have obtained, and, as I stated before, pretty well the same curve keeping the speed constant and varying the head as keeping the head constant and varying the speed. Typed parcels, mostly done by H. after lunch. The canteen now has a frig, supplied free by the firm from whom we're going to order ice (Tho' over £9 was paid by us in freight) and we use it, till ice arrive, and then too in part, to cool our drinks. So had some lovely ice cooled fizzy orangade today. Finished lettering on turbine drawings, I've done so far. Decided to let characteristic curves germinate a bit, and to give a good lecture tomorrow. (see page 20)

Monday, 20th January, 1941 (23)

After night of great difficulty to go to sleep, owing to thinking of turbine curves, started writing up ideas and equations in draft shape from notes and nothing, before breakfast. Developed the matter further with so far satisfactory results, now at stage where numerical abulations are made and graphs (11) to be drawn. No letter yet from P. so decide to wait with writing till Wednesday. Today and yesterday some large twin engined planes flew over and about the camp, banking and turning, one with Air force markings and the other possibly so, perhaps Australian built Blenheim on test or to impress us ?. No

mail and no parcels today, handball training after supper. Canteen sells ices at 3d. and I have first one since free. Also soda water which we mix with fruit extract. Hydraulics lesson in morning probably suffering under preoccupation with "Constant Efficiency Characteristics" and their connections. Wonder if they'll lead to anything or be silly in end, they look quite good at the moment.

Tuesday, 21st January, 1941 (24)

Parcels in morning, after none had come on Monday, and also in afternoon. Further work on the turbine graphs, interrupted at one stage by the realisation that to get velocity of flow from volume per sec. and area for flow, I divided the area by the volume/sec. The variety of articles available at the canteen increases every day: they are heavily buying now before the order comes to get everything via Sydney when there will be some delay before the first via Syd. order comes through. I asked Olson about the big store with which Major Grace is believed to be connected, and he said that Grace Bros. was one of the largest stores in Syd. with many depts. sell anything from a "fishhook to an anchor". Hear reliably that two people in the camp have received letters informing them that "our" home office official was on the way. The best thing for me will be to sit tight for the present and not let myself be persuaded to apply for U.S.A. visa or make use of Palestine Certificate. Had some watermelon, once during the afternoon, and then ice-cooled at night, also tin apricots with cream and glass of ice cooled tomato juice. One of the days.

Wednesday, 22nd January, 1941 (25)

H. gets a letter in which the fact that H.O. official is being sent is also mentioned, also it appears that there may now be a possibility of transferring from the A.M.P.C. according to ability etc. and there my degree and training may yet be some use. Altogether am now convinced that release is coming though put start of negotiations at 10-12 weeks. German Govt. has offered about £2 to each internee thro' Swiss consulate, and the whole camp will reject this, tho' some talk of using money for Spit-fire fund. Wrote to Peggy, concerning my hopes of release. Expect to get letter from her this week though, and my answer to that will reach the next clipper. H. has decided to stand for group captain. I hope he'll be able to keep the P.O. Capt. Bass said goodbye (He's been "released") they think the man who's taking his place will leave us alone as much as possible.

Thursday, 23rd January, 1941 (26)

Yesterday's parcels come in morning: the opening of these parcels is really a farce, Asprins and Hairoil which were at first confiscated were given to me to take in at end. Letter from Parents with photos of parents and one of Raja in our porch in London. H. had five letters today. Newspaper notice today is in Sydney "Daily Telegraph" "Enemy Aliens allege cruelty" London, Wednesday (A.A.P.) - The War Minister, (Captain Margesson) announced in the House of Commons last night that an enquiry would be held into allegations that interned German Jews were illtreated while on their way to Australia to be interned.

A British troopship brought internees to Australia early in September for internment camps in New South Wales and Victoria for the duration of the war. The

party included German Jews". Duration of the War!! Oh yeah!! Also of interests that British residents in Japan have been warned to leave "before the impending crisis in Japanese-American relations comes to a head." Father says that my decisions are not well considered and fears that "other disappointments will be in store for you, if you insist on your decision. As you are neither British born nor a Gentile it is bound to be so". Very possibly, but I think I prefer to experience the disappointment to taking it for granted. He could better understand decision to go to Palestine and advises me to learn Hebrew. He thinks Landauer will do his best to get me Palestine certificate. He further thinks that what I "write about U.S.A. is not well considered either. As an immigrant you would be here at once liable to military service, as it is the case even now when U.S.A. are still not in the war". I know this, but the fact remains that while about sixteen millions have registered, only about one million will be called up, and even should I be among these I'd feel bloody silly if the U.S.A. never entered the war. We have got the text of Morrison's speech in the House of Commons where he says that way of proving loyalty and getting release is to join the A.M.P.C. and altogether I'm very glad that I've sent off my application to the H.O. If this has reached the Clipper of the 16th it will be in London in a few days, if it isn't there already, on the other hand, it may only reach that of the 20th, if the clipper still leaves then. We don't get mail and airmail times now for safety reasons (they are no longer made public in Australia). Yesterday, by the way, I signed another register of engineers, though now I am not at all keen on getting a job in Australia, and would certainly prefer the British Army. Might mention that equation given on 19th January, 1940, is silly as efficiency doesn't refer to output power but only to head converted, change in eff. will not only increase power in the ratio of the efficiencies but also in the ratio of the flows. Now trying to find characteristic curve on assumption that  $SH = H^2 - U^2 / 2g$ . but getting awkward though not difficult mathematically. Negotiations proceed about H. being possibly nominated as group captin. Shall write Air mail letter to parents tomorrow. Handball practice after supper.

Friday, 24th January, 1941 (27)

By now I have formed an opinion about my new fountain pen, which is very good for small writing, especially as far as our letters are concerned, where the ability to write small but legibly is very important, for larger writing the nib is slightly too soft for the pressure, I normally exert, but may teach me to write with a lighter hand. My and the good opinion of Major Grace is growing steadily, he seems efficient and is apparently better informed about us than most of the army people. Today, while we were doing (we: I and chap who did it for first time today as Olson is on leave) parcels, he came in and passed all the detained books and magazines. Wrote airmail letter to parents saying besides the one about preferring to taking for granted (preferring risking) that I'd rather be disappointed by others than in myself, but that thanks to their letter I'll be better prepared for disappointments if and when they come. Tobruks fall is chief news in papers.

Saturday, 25th January, 1941 (28)

Cloudburst and almost continuous rain in morning. Go to bed again after breakfast, counting of course having taken place in mess huts. Stay in bed

after lunch too, reading the "Readers digest" and a less good American story magazine. After supper, type parcels list in Head Office, and the rain again becomes a cloudburst continuous and loud so that at one time I can hardly hear the clicking of the typewriter. Finish lists near 11 p.m. and so to bed.

Sunday, 26th January, 1941 (29)

Cold and much wind in morning, make washing etc. quite an expedition through the mud. This morning there is an innovation: instead of rising at 6.15 (theoretically) with breakfast at 7.30 and no Roll Call, we get up at 8, 8.20, breakfast starts at 8.45 and we are counted in the Marshalls at 9 o'clock. Sun which comes out and wind soon dry up much of the water and harden the mud. Make turbine sketches in morning, and again after lunch. This interrupted by Group Captain election in which I'm not much interested, but as the man who will be elected has no good name in our hut I give in a blank vote. More drawing after supper till after lights out. Quite a few people suffer from infected foot sores, which are the dread of the others. Jan Weber, Ll.B. has had to have one of his toe nails removed. Handball match against Hechaluz postponed, partly because of the weather and partly because Werner Goldschmidt doesn't feel "so good".

Monday, 27th January, 1941 (30)

Cold but sunny morning with wind, develops into reasonable day. Saturdays parcels and then Todays, still in morning, with New Chap who seems quite reasonable and efficient, we got through them very quickly but because of the second lot I had to call off my hydraulics lecture. Announced at lunch that there'll be an afternoon roll call. (parade and counting into mess huts). Notice outside Head Office saying our enquiry in England is waiting for the return of the military escort. Someone's started a sweepstake on the day of the arrival, god give it, of the Home Office Official. Begin and finish (after supper) making of flow model of turbine and this serves as a "draft" from which to make better model. Bank Holiday here, as yesterday anniversary of first landing of colonists under Cook, 153 years ago (not Cook, Phillip)

Tuesday, 28th January, 1941 (31)

Start making of better model in morning and finish this, in essentials, before supper, quite effective. Sing (sign) form in triplicate in morning that I don't want my name given to the german government or the Red Cross. Again roll call at 4 o'clock, but the Major doesn't come in for it, though we thought he would. No parcels in afternoon but list comes in for tomorrow. Notice from "Melbourne Herald" of Saturday, 25th, "Internee Officer to visit Australia, London, Friday, - the former London stockbroker, Mr. T. D. Layton who has been engaged on internment camp work in England on behalf of the Government, will soon go to Australia as the English and Australian Governments' liaison officer on the disposition of internees.

Mr. Layton twice visited Australia in connection with the settlement of refugees there. - Herald Special Service". It is not clear whether this is the H.O. Official, or another one. H. thinks he's the H.O. chap. He might have some bearing on release in Australia. Yesterday only 18 sheets letterforms per hut as not enough come in, more expected tomorrow, see comet star with very faint streak of light off it, but only as it is just rising. Do I Masturbine? Agree to coach three of our matric candidates in mathes (Algebra, geometry, trig) and shall have first meeting with them on Thursday, 9.30.

Wednesday, 29th January, 1941 (32)

During the opening of parcels a hair removing cream is detained from a parcel for Norbert Sterupld, one of the Koshers who don't shave. Later in the back room of the orderly hut, there is a conference on what to do about it and the young M.O. (Capt.) says lieut. should write to the chemist, whose label, with composition of contents is on the package, and ask him to give signed statement of contents and swear there's nothing else in it etc., explain that its used for religious reasons to remove hair, and M.O. looking slightly embarrassed asks: "Where do they remove their hair from?" Great and justified excitement over fact that Eppenstein, having been called out from a hut leader meeting, is informed that the youth aliyah boys, about 6, are released and will leave tomorrow, probably for Singapore, whence they'll fly. Ship leaves on Friday. Much to do in all departments, messages, and they're told what we want to know: not whether they ride in trams in Bombay but details of procedure on board ships, forms signed and status at all stages of voyage. Parcels are prepared for them, food. Finish off the turbine. Comet much clearer today, tail pointing away from sun in the approved fashion. Newspapers continue to feature reports of troubles in Italy. Shall have to write a non-airmail letter (a letter by ordinary mail) this week (send them not write), as I did not send an airmail letter today and there is only one more air mail day (Friday) this week. Very much expecting letter from P. Six youth Aliyah boys is correct. H. sends them greetings from both of us.

Thursday, 30th January, 1941 (33)

The six youth Aliyah boys really do leave this morning, we see them drive off outside on an army wagon, in their good clothes and with their suitcases. As if to balance this means of release, which I believe has made many of our Palestine "transmigrants" more hopeful than they have reason to be, there comes a telegram for Jan Weber with the following text. "Home Office write: Negotiations with Commonwealth Government proceeding re release Australia A.M.P.C. when concluded facilities thereunder available to Weber" this is really good news, though again it indicates that release in Australia is becoming a possibility, as does yesterday's news about Layton, and return to England correspondingly remote, which is hard for those that want it. My own attitude in this matter is that if I can't experience the dangers of the war in Britain or the near East (not so near from here) then this must be balanced, if possible, by the importance of the work I do, transfer to say ordnance, tank corps, R.A.F. ground staff etc. might be easier here. I wonder what this will read like in three months. Besides if there is trouble with Japan, then I might be able to get into that from here. Parcels in morning, again I have to check a large

canteen order, and this stops me from meeting the Matric candidates I'm going to coach. Hell of a nuisance and shall try for checking to be done by the canteen only. Newspaper notice in Sydney Morning Herald of today.

### "Conditions on troopship"

London, Jan. 29. (A.A.P.)

In reply to a question by a private member regarding alleged illtreatment of internees on their way to Australia on the troopship Dunera, the Under-Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr. O. Peake, stated that the Dunera had originally been fitted out to carry 2066 passengers. She carried 2547 internees.

There were 21 latrines, 41 washbasins and 14 showers to each 1000 internees and each internee was provided with a hammock and two blankets; there were 1564 hammock billets on the ship and those who did not have billets slept on the troop decks using their hammocks and blankets for bedding. There had been three deaths on the voyage, of which one was a suicide."

To this one might comment that in addition to the internees the Dunera carried about 400 soldiers, who certainly used the passenger accommodation (in fact the best part of it). The 2547 internees were carried in space provided for 1564 soldiers using hammocks. So the space was over-crowded not by  $- 2066 + 2547 = 481 = 23.3\%$ , but by  $2547 - 1564 = 982 = 62.8\%$  which is quite a difference. Actually internees had 30 Latrines forrard and 1500 internees forrard, i.e. 20 latrines per 1000 men so that's O.K. (when H. said it was fishy too). Have arranged to meet Matric hopefuls tomorrow. Had letter from Mrs. Cohen and from Lowy. Answered the one to Mrs. Cohen and shall answer the one to Lowy on Monday

Friday, 31st January, 1941 (34)

Parcels in morning with Nelson, I arrange that we'll always do it in the morning from now on and the list will always come in on the previous evening. Meet the matric hopefuls at 11.40 a.m. we do some geometry and I arrange to do trig. with the one in the evening and maths again with both tomorrow. Write letter to Hannah, a good one as there is a lot to be said, it being the first one to her since I was interned. Finished "The Edwardians" by Sackville West, what does the V stand for? Wonder if there still is such a thing in England as an exclusive "society", or only "sets"? this night and last much croaking of frogs from the wide open spaces about the camp. A lizard with suction pads falls on the Hut table, Geko? (if it's spelt like that). Have arranged with Felix (C.F.) Solmitz to get one of the cards of script writing nibs which the canteen has got in. They may be useful for instructional drawings, replace drawing nibs to some extent, and anyway I like to have them. Handball practice after supper as the big league tournament of all first and also second class teams in the camp is starting, our first has been drawn to play its first match against the peronjes, one of the most dangerous teams. H. gets me a nice thick exercise book from the canteen, same price ( $1/2$ ) as this, but with  $50\%$  more pages. Don't know how to write next week; thought of writing to Lowy and parents, but today Loble asks me whether we could get a special kind of truss for a chap here (which the army won't supply) from Mrs. Cohen. Perhaps I can write three letters next week. It is interesting that the canteen now has

reserves of altogether about £200, but as Bank Manager, Stahl said at last night's hut captain meeting, the point is not what to do with this as all and more will be needed when we have to order everything through the army canteen board and thus place and pay orders one month in advance: as estimated month by turnover will be about £550, with profit of £110 we will in general have to have reserves of about £1000 on the 1st of each month when our stock has come in and orders been placed. When people leave etc they are entitled to their share of the canteen profits (regardless of what and if they've spent there, which is quite fair really) and with this in view each of the boys who left yesterday was given -/10/-. A sales tax (say 2½ off as 1st item on each £1 credit card) is considered as means of raising more money for wages.

Saturday, 1st February, 1941 (35)

Pre File all letters. Short discussion after supper on the tactics to be followed by the first team (I'm right half) in tomorrow mornings (7.30 a.m.) Handball match. Then type lists. Shall be able to manage all letters next week if I, as H. suggests, write to Mrs. C. for the welfare dept., so that letter not on personal quota. Somewhat stumped by geometry problem during second lesson with hopefuls, we don't as a consequence, get much done, but I have no doubt I shall get it out, either today or tomorrow.

Sunday, 2nd February, 1941 (36)

Get up at 7 a.m. for handball match at nearly 8 o'clock, after much rain during night. We play, and it begins to rain during first half so that during half time, when score is 0-1 against us, the match is broken off. But I've got a stiff neck as a result. H. did parcels as there was one for him. Tried to make small scale "cinema" effect apparatus and got quite a good design, unfortunately requiring stronger material than is available to me. But canteen has got such nice new detail paper and I can get the cardboard that's left, and I simply have to do something. Thought of two stroke, fourstroke diesel carburettor, and steam engine models, but fourstroke valves not easy to make. And springs.

Monday, 3rd February, 1941 (37)

Neck still rather stiff in morning. Had letter from Gideon of 19/12/40 and Christmas card from P. which seems typical to me, but of course it may be typically American. No official notepaper available today so used one sheet of plain airmail paper to write clipper letter to Gideon. He actually had the opportunity to go back as student but didn't sign because he was expecting an answer from the parents concerning the financial problem, but he says he wants to go by next transport. I know I'd go in his place, but can't take responsibility of advising him to do so, only of not advising him to do anything else. Article in today's Sydney "Daily Telegraph".

"Scandal on Prison Ship"

Daily Telegraph Service, London, Sunday.

"The alleged ill-treatment of Alien prisoners taken to Australia in the liner Dunera (11,162 tons) for internment, has become a scandal in Australia", says the News Chronicle. "It will become a scandal of far greater proportions beyond Australia if the Imperial Government hushes it up or deals with it half-heartedly". It adds.

The paper was commenting on the inquiry to be held into allegations that interned German-Jews were ill-treated on the voyage.

"We would point out to the War Minister (Captain Margesson) that the Dunera's mere return to Britain does not provide him with all the evidence that the promised inquiry will demand.

"Some people whose names are mentioned are still in Australia and are likely to remain there - the victims also.

"There is only one thing for the Government to do compatible with our national honour - that is to spare no trouble or expense to probe this nasty business to the bottom.

"If prisoners were ill-treated the guilty ones must be punished without mercy.

#### "Common theft"

"two Members of Parliament have thought it proper to draw the Government's attention to apparent cases of cruelty and common theft by members of the armed forces.

"We are not now concerned with the details of the case, they will come out later, but we are concerned to see a full public inquiry.

"If one or more men are found guilty, they must be punished without half measures. We do not care what the positions of those involved may be."

In the House of Commons on January 16th, Mr. T. H. Harvey asked ~~the~~ Captain Margesson if it was true that internees luggage had been ripped open with bayonets, and whether internees had been deprived of their money, watches and other belongings.

On January 22nd, Capt. Margesson announced that an inquiry would be held.

The internees arrived in Australia early in September for internment in camps in New South Wales and Victoria for the duration of the war.

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Well, I wonder if we're really going to get a public inquiry. If so, J.R. ought to keep H. and thus me, well informed about its course. Postpone evening coaching because of headache. Agree to go out surveying tomorrow.

Tuesday, 4th February, 1941 (38)

Didn't go out surveying after all as I had inspiration for several remarks



in "impromptu" letter to P. which wanted working out. Saw notice from telegram which arrived here today, sent from London on 26/1/41, extract: "Official with your documents underway to Australia arranging America emigration internees" which needs no comment. Handball match against Peronzes re-played in afternoon at 5.p.m. At half time 3-0 for us, then one goal is scored by them, and one of them, Berlin, rather unfairly, though not intentionally so, tackled by "Dicker" Heinz Neubaur, loses his temper and starts hitting at Dicker as both lie on ground, later, having been repeatedly fairly tackled by Tacky Meier, Berlin throws ball straight into Tacky's face at point blank range and leaves field and we win in end 3-1. Newspaper notice as attached, contains some little misconstructions. Baggage was bayoneted open, not when internees "refused to open their luggage" but quite indiscriminately and not in the presence of the internees. Post office celebration in evening, on Mess hut 3 table, which we took to the dental station, there were nine of us and it was Blumenfeld, the typists, birthday. Great success, with peanuts, biscuits, coffee and cream, fruit salad (ice cooled), toffee, cigs, etc. H. says that we're going to get ordinary paper and envelopes as the letter forms are out of print.

Wednesday, 5th February, 1941 (39)

Official paper comes, no longer letter forms but lined (21) and glazed sheets without any envelope, less room to write, but this is compensated by absence of instructions in German and Italian. Write air letter to Lowy, nice and non-committal.

Thursday, 6th February, 1941 (40)

Well, nearly nothing, in fact, really nothing to write tonight. Nothing that is, as far as regards facts. I was rather disappointed at not getting any letters today, but the clipper mail has only begun to come in and I might get something tomorrow. I wonder whether the Amps will mean return to England, for some reason this seems more probable to me now than a fortnight ago, but it is by no means certain or anywhere near certain. But the possibilities seem limited to Australia, Britain, Egypt and "Near East", India and perhaps, though rather unlikely Singapore or other stations in East. I think I'd rather enjoy the last, which is probably the reason why I list it at all. But I wonder what all this will read like in say four months time. Then I wonder how far transfer from and selection out of the Amps will take place, as I anticipate that once I'm in the army my one aim will be to get to another unit, though of course it may turn out that this is quite out of the question. But I just like to think or should it be dream? about the R.A.F. or the Fleet Air Arm or the Tank Corps, Service Corps, Ordnance, and at a pinch, the Artillery. But we won't know more about the matter till its on us.

Friday, 7th February, 1941 (41)

Had letter from parents. Father thinks I ought to register, but is obviously thinking a lot of Palestine. Mother is definitely, with much underlinings, for the U.S.A. So I really have made an application for immigration visa to U.S.A. which is really an application for a quota number. It went out today, consisting of three sentences. Drafted two page letter to P. and shall send this off next Wednesday at the latest, though I still hope to

have something from her by then. But in that case it would be even more difficult to get my letter onto the official page or even the larger form, of which we've still unofficially got enough left for our longer letters. Raja (?) is going to Dalton School in New York where they call conferences lessons or rather the other way round. Presumably works on something like Dalton plan. She too objects to excessive use of lipstick and fingerpolish. Started first lesson to Tacky M. who wants to learn some maths for R.A.F. But he has difficulty probably due, in part at least, to nervousness, in seeing even the first of theorems (in Godfrey and Siddons). Still, we'll see, he'll be O.K. if he can learn to concentrate more.

Saturday, 8th February, 1941 (42)

Re-draft letter to P. and draft letter to Parents. Three of the Nazi internees, the D.T. says, have escaped from the camp at Tatura. No parcels at all today, which is annoying as I'm expecting the periodicals from the U.S.A. and also I haven't got the (letter) (sorry) last serial number for the typed list. A plane, hammer, saw, and rule have been pinched from the workmen who're building our hospital. The foreman told the S.P. private, who very decently didn't tell the military outside, but asked Wiesner (the labour minister) whether he could get them back. Some steps were taken and a special hut captain meeting called at which the hut captains were informed of the situation. They then announced in the huts that the tools should be given to them or to Weisner in the luggage dept. It was stressed that the tools belonged to the workmen and not to the army and how it would harm our present reputation for honesty if upon information of the military a search would be carried out, at which they very naturally couldn't be expected to keep their eyes closed to everything but the missing tools. Later the final (last) period for the return of the tools was extended from 5 p.m. today to tomorrow morning, and the "pilferer" or what you'd like to call him (he'd broken into the hospital to get the tools) invited to leave note in the letter box saying where he'd put the tools. Benghazi fell today (in today's paper, I should say. There is talk that over 16th Garrison Commandant, Leut. Colonel Thane, has supported recruitment from us for Palestine. This is "Group Captain news" and I'll get more details about it from H. Find that Bank manager Richard Stahl knows the former trudel Scharff who used to be at R.C.S.

Sunday, 9th <sup>February</sup> September, 1941 (43)

Just heard Andrew tell someone that there is some sort of a hush hush job on for which four people, inc. or exc. A. are required. Someone has guessed its fingerprints, as those from the Dunera have been lost. Another special hut captain meeting this morning. H. says I'll have to do washing today, but don't know yet if I can, after asking at laundry. Get hold of very good McGraw - Hill Book "Chemical Engineering" and small continue to get things from that. Write a sort of why not paragraph (who not trade only with countries with a certain standard of living?) and H. reads it afterwards, pulling it to bits very nicely, converting me to large extent to free trade, though still some things to ask. But it's a good way of learning a little economics. Handball match (1st league) won by us 1-0, the goal being scored by Ziba in second half and my thumb sorely bent.

Monday, 10th February, 1941 (44)

Call off today's lecture as (a) I haven't prepared it, (b) many pupils can't attend, (c) general hut cleaning and I thought that there might be parcels in morning as there'd been none on Saturday. Keep on working from "Princs. of Chem. Eng." which is of fascinating interest. Do washing, everything except a few shirts, after lunch. Hear that military has asked for list of specialists which was supplied by Zinn. Luz Bernhard and young Osterreicher come to me with suggestions about the union of foreign Engineers, chiefly refugees, in England who are going to offer their services in running a government factory and they also suggest similar thing in Australia, but I don't much care for the idea, why emphasise the foreign?. Typed lists made after supper by Blumenfeld to my dictation. B. is stamp addict and later I take him along to see the collection of young Tettscher, and finally leave them alone over it. The following excerpt from a letter is posted outside H.O. It is of some interest even though the public announcement referred to may be the one about Layton or Morrisons general statement on overseas internees.

"Under Secretary of State,  
Home Office, Aliens Department,  
P.O. Box No. 2.  
Bournemouth, Hants.

Dec. 23. 1940

Sir,

With reference to your enquiry of 13 inst. concerning Mr. X, I am directed by the Secretary of State to inform you that the question of the provision of facilities for internees in Australia to volunteer for service in certain branches of H.M. forces is at present the subject of negotiations with the commonwealth government. When an agreed procedure in this matter has been reached it will be the subject of (a) public announcement and interested internees will be fully advised of the facilities available.

I am, dear Sir,

Your obedient servant

----- "

The hush hush job mentioned yesterday appears to be in connection with registration for police purposes. Mike manages to bring in one of the rolls of film taken at the official photographing, actually more than one on which appear the member of our hut, with their numbers, (wrong) height, date. Oculist in offing and expect to have consultation this week.

Tuesday, 11th February, 1941 (45)

Had my eyes tested after lunch. This took place in Mess hut 3, where the stage with its curtains provided a suitable place for the actual testing, which was carried out by internees. Found in end that I had vision above normal, and a ratio 6/5 written down for me. Must find out what this means. H. very

happy to get his perscription. More work from Chemical Engineering book. Was told that my vision is (by Army Captain M.O.) above normal, which I think meant (above) better than average. From 8.30 p.m. - after 10 p.m. had arranged turbine lecture for Zimm, Rodeck, Altmann in M.H.1, and think we shall continue this to get to specific speed etc. Hear that tomorrow we'll all be x-rayed. My gem razor is really very nice, shaves extremely well and has comfortable weight - I'm getting quite fond of it and spent some time patching up its cardboard case. Britain breaks of dipl. rels. with Roumania.

Wednesday, 12th February, 1941 (46)

X-rayed in morning with equipment that the army brought in on a truck, at the rate of 2-3 a minute. More work from Chem. Eng. Played what we call "pitch a google" with plastic counters, the one winning who survived longest, but no exchange of prisoners. Mr. Brand, of the A.T.W.S. is here for a fortnight, one week for us and one for Camp 8. He was in the camp today and told that the ship with which the six youth Aliyah boys were to have gone has been cancelled, and they're trying to keep the boys in Sydney but no new ship in sight yet. Bought file for my engineering notes and put in pages from design, hydraulics and Chem. Eng. exercise books. Invasion bases pounded, New Japanese bases in Indo-China. Saw copy of October revised White Paper with Notice for insf. of ints. removed to Australia.

Thursday, 13th February, 1941 (47)

About six more releases have come through today, 2 of these for Mexico, the others for U.S.A. Of interest that Major G. said shipping space will be available for them at the end of March when the H.O. official had been here. Rumor says fares to be deposited (paid) in London. So one might reasonably expect the H.O. official at beginning of March. H. says that I or he (probably I) is on the list of people Brand wants to see, this'll save me the trouble of seeking an interview with him in the matter of pyjamas etc. though I wouldn't accept such things as a gift from the "welfare", there are people here who depend on charity. Brand expects Layton any day and is prepared to rush back to Sydney any day he hears of the arrival, he has the idea, God help us, of trying to attach himself to Layton as his secretary. But I don't think much will come of that. Apparently all "C" aliens in England have been or will be declared "friendly aliens" (again) and we all wonder how this will affect us.

Friday, 14th February, 1941 (48)

Apparently Brand received a telegram from Bloomsbury house that "C" aliens have been declared "friendly aliens". Had interview with Brand who asked me if I'd heard from Mrs. Levi, who appears to be president of the Federal Wizo, astonishingly Brand said he had not heard from Lowy, hence I can just wait for my pyjamas etc. It appears that we can apply for an A.M.P.C. here though no foreigners (aliens) have been accepted yet. But so far no one knows to whom to apply and I think it's something misunderstood, particularly if it originates from Brand. Have just heard from Andrew that when Morrison took over in December one of his special release category was those aliens who prior to their internment were accepted for the A.M.P.C. Hip hip hurray!!! This would lead one to think

that Layton may and probably will have with him a list of such cases. A thinks that getting into the A.M.P.C. is a cert, though how and when not so shure, but our record here will tell us, and this is also my opinion.

Saturday, 15th February, 1941 (49)

We now have to hand in all clipper mail on Friday afternoons, once a week, but are allowed to hand in two at a time then. This appears to be due to Major Grace and has the effect that these letters reach the P.O. from the censor on the next Wednesday, one day before the closing date for the clipper, so that letters handed in one Friday will leave just a week later (every fortnight, of course). So I shall be able to write next weeks letters on Friday, with the advantage that if then I get a letter from P. next Saturday my answer, however prompt will not reach P. with the same clipper as next Friday's letter. That's how childish one is. The hair tonic that had yesterday been suspected of being bad bay rum came into the compound today, explanations having satisfied the M.O. We're all going to be X-rayed again tomorrow, as the apparatus was faulty last time. I've just committed myself to working in the kitchen tomorrow morning, 9.30 to about 12.30. Read two books today "Fortune Grass" by Mabel Lethbridge, and "Whiteoaks" by Mazo de la Roche. Both of them fair, though the first one more original, the second reminding me too much of Stella Gibbons "Cold Comfort Farm". I'm lazy, having not used the Chem. Eng. book for some days, but feel that I'll at least be here long enough to finish, from the book, the chapters that I want. In spite of walking a lot barefoot I've never yet been bitten by scorpion or spider. Olson, my little old parcels private, today proudly told me of the joke he'd told the major causing the latter, Olson says, to laugh "Mussolini sent Hitler a telegram with the text A.I.F., Adolf asked what the hell he meant by it and M. answered Adolf, I'm fucked", which appeals to Olson. He told it, I think, as an illustration of democracy in the Australian army. He too says we'll be labour corps, but this is just rumour in army, coming possibly from Lt. Curtiss. This evening the debating soc. has the motion "That capital punishment is justifiable" but I'm not going, feeling tired after the first speech when I've tried them. I don't think this is a sign of intellectual weakness, as I've had good discussions here with say three or four people, which, however, have sometimes succeeded in convincing me, which is more than happens in most peoples discussions.

Sunday, 16th February, 1941 (50)

Work in kitchen consisted of about an hour's potato peeling, with Baron U. Koblitz, Rapp the poet, and that fool Kripps. We had a little argument about capital punishment, all of us being against it except Kripps. The chief point seems to me to be that the restraining effect of it applies chiefly to those who will in any case not murder, but not so much to the murderer (or traitor etc.) or potential criminal. K. was in Norway and Denmark from England after the outbreak of war. X-rayed after lunch, at 4.30 handball match against Koshers, won 4-1 with ease, the one being scored about five secs. before end of play. Typed parcels lists after supper, and have bad conscience because tomorrow's Hyds lecture not yet prepared. Glad Sund. is over.

Monday, 17th February, 1941 (51)

Hydraulics lecture (to by now, after last weeks leaving out) (3 people) in morning, in which I finished off (and started) axial (?) flow turbines. Very glad that no parcels in morning, but annoyed that I left the int- in the Head Office after yesterday's typing. Ziba's birthday today and H's bulletin incorporates all of Z's Americanisms, very good. Colonel (?) in our hut to look at artists work, which he's done all over the camp. Brand was with him. Ate after lunch and in five minutes, half a pound of excellent grapes, 2 peaches, and two pears. Grapes cost 6d. per lb. and are shaped something like this, and have small pips. Take some notes from a course for prospective R.A.A.F. applicants which appears in the Australian journal "Aircraft". Nothing much new and all very elementary and low standard, but quite useful and interesting from point of view of terms and to get idea of class of problem. Colonel was Thane, not so far from close up.

Tuesday, 18th February, 1941 (52)

Although a 40 parcel list come in yesterday, they will not be done today as none is supposed to leave the compound, the police coming in for finger-printing. The ones done on the Dunera are of course no good at all. Parcels after all in afternoon as, because of fingerprints, there is no roll call. Our hut will probably be printed tomorrow afternoon. At 9 o'clock in evening went to Bach, Schubert, Mozart concert, that is I took a blanket and lay down on it outside the theatre (No. 3) Messhut. Looking up at the stars, seeing bats fly silently past overhead, interment washed away for a little time. Borrowed 5 copies of "Mechanical World" from Zinn with very interesting turbine and workshop practice articles.

Wednesday, 19th February, 1941 (53)

Again none go out in m rning as fingerprinting continues, our huts turn coming during the morning. The policemen are of prodigious size and prints are taken first of all fingers separately, in spaces provided on a prisoners form, then impression of whole hand and then the latter, with thumbs, again on three other forms. Note that on the registration form the colour of my hair is given as "very fair". Shortened my (Gideons?) k.a.s. green shorts and put two extra belt loops on from material cut off. Secret hut captain meeting at which they decide that everyone has to be prepared for Layton, loose groups will form themselves, and I can already see most (others) trying to be on (say) three lists at once. Rumor that Layton will come by clipper on March 15th. Notice in "Melbourne Herald" February 17th 1941.

No Liberty here for Aliens from Britain.

Sydney - Monday - Aliens from Britain brought for internment to Australia and approved for release after their arrival will not be given their freedom in this country.

As the result of an inquiry by the defense authority, the Minister for the Army (Mr. Spender), has decided that every internee from Britain interned in Australia will be given every chance for obtaining a permit to go to some other

country but will be kept in custody until he boards the ship to leave Australia.

Any person who cannot arrange to leave Australia will remain in internment camps."

Thursday, 20th February, 1941 (54)

The journey to the U.S.A. costs, according to Brand who bothered to find out, £102-15-6 which would decide things for me, if I were undecided now. Layton is expected with the clipper of Feb. 26th or March 13th. The clipper of Feb. 12th appears to have been delayed so doubtful whether there'll be anything for me to answer tomorrow. Have thought of no doubt not very original method of determining distribution of velocity in water jet by photographing jet carrying particles of same density as the water and measuring the tracks.

Friday, 21st February, 1941 (55)

Made rough cinematograph, on drum with slots system, from rests of abortive wind wheel.

Saturday, 22nd February, 1941 (56)

Made good and proper cine from tin box, for which I gave a dollar stamp and 2, 13 cent stamps, made two films for it and shall make better ones tomorrow. Got letter from H. Cohen who hopes Jewish Army soon and also inquiries statement from U.S. consulate. Wrote to George Waller by ordinary mail addressed to the City and Guilds College, hope his answer, if any, will not reach me in Australia.

Sunday, 23rd February, 1941 (57)

The "Cinema" is at the moment the centre of being, some structural improvements, and a very successful trial film in which lines and dots move at varying speeds. Start film of Raplare turbine and reluctantly type parcel lists after supper. Partially fill out inquiries statement. Lose handball match against Hechaluz 1-2 but they are better.

Monday, 24th February, 1941 (58)

Still further improve Cinema by providing a point bearing which is later improved by Stahl who is interested in the matter. He is trying to get permission to print notes up to 2/- in value instead of the originally intended garde robe type of money. The notes have been beautifully designed by Ferdinand and the major is very enthusiastic. Meat has been inspected by the M.O. and about half of it condemned because it is not the fresh meat our contract calls for, but shows the refrigeration effects of the journey from Sydney. Make film of nude girl walking down a not so far drawn in moving staircase and, before that, the first of the new 16 frame ones, a piston moving in a cylinder, with conrod and crank.

Tuesday, 25th February, 1941 (59)

Up to make film of sort of four vaned inward flow turbine, the best yet.

Does girl film look as it might? Would like to show it to her. Stahl gets permission to print (have printed) his money, but barbed wire must be taken from Australian badge, but although that is a pity there is enough of it on the note. St. also makes a very nice shade for the cinema. Again the M.O. condemns about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the meat, and possibly as a result of this we get very good meat for supper. Terrific headache gets strong after lunch pulse is 60 and go to med.hut; no temperature and get two pills which I take after supper and which completely drive off headache so that I can write this now. Plan to get in bicycle ball bearing for cinema against , this if it works would be excellent. Remember that I forgot to change date from 1940 to 1941 on first page of last weeks parcel list before it went out. Clippers very much delayed and practically no mail comes into the compound. H. did the parcels for me today, 'cause of my headache and says that according to new Eastern Command rule even books that have passed the censor are obtained now, but thinks that it may all be a mistake. Anyway, we'll protest tomorrow.

Wednesday, 26th February 1941 (60)

Provided leather washer bearing for cinema, later made film of turning squares threaded two start screw; gave lecture on specific speed, unit speed, etc. H. brought a beautiful large terrapin from outside, hut opinion was uncertain on whether to keep it, but the result of a list which I passed round the decision was 15 for and 7 against, about. All books let in during parcels. But not Olson who did yesterday, is on.

Thursday, 27th February, 1941 (61)

In the morning, we dig an about 10" deep pit for the terrapin with high part in centre and a low portion for pond, the latter being cemented in the afternoon with cement which Z'ba and I take from a bag which stands near the new piss house construction. Later someone from the farm party bring a new, even larger terrapin and I feel (like) as in a dream. Hans says that when he was in the O.R. the Major asked for him and told him that the (the major) and the two other camp commandants had inspected the post office and that this was very flattering to our P.O. organisation as it appears that we do our work best. The notice on opposite page "To compensate Dunera Victims" appears on the Daily Telegraph. Hans tells that the priest who periodically comes into the compound said that the British Govt. seems to be exerting all its pressure to make the Australians form a unit, A.M.P.C.? for us and that Layton's purpose will be to tell the Australians who is to be released etc. Priest thinks that the Australians w'd pick out the skilled workers and rest A.M.P.C. whether this after the war might mean Australian naturalisation we do not, of course, now know. But it might and this would by no means be the worst thing. Books let is with parcels.

Friday, 28th February, 1941 (62)

The cement of the terrapins basin is hard and dry and we fill it up with about 5 buckets of water, the terrapins more or less dash into the water and stay there for the rest of the day. I try to feed them with strips of raw meat, but though one of them smells it in an interested fashion, it turns away disgustedly, but I see it then open its mouth for the first time and drink some water. Fasten meat to matches so that it floats, and it seems that one of these



three floating meat lumps is eaten, for I find the two others and one broken and chewed matchstick floating about. Olsen again on parcels, and we have talk afterwards. He tells me that he is no longer allowed into the compound, because his job does not really require it. He has two sons, sixteen and eighteen, one of which learns wool classing at which he's going to earn about £9 per week, and the other has bought partnership in a bakers and pastry shop. O. was a postmaster in the Australian Lyndhurst (I believe) for eleven years, but doesn't think he'll go back to it as he prefers open air life. Article in Melbourne Herald on opposite page. H. comes from group hut captain meeting and says that the so called "Rheumatic fever" is spreading and that the notorious hut 19 will be dissolved to make room for an extra isolation ward. That the (contagious) disease leaves permanently susceptible heart and only thing that can be done against it is to air blankets and pallets. I think there'll be agitation to get infected cases outside the camp. Still no clipper mail of the 13th and 26th which latter may not yet have arrived and the one of the 13th may have been left out altogether, at least there were no airmail photos in the papers, which is a fairly certain test.

Saturday, 1st March, 1941 (63)

Storm and much rain during night, terrapins still present in morning. Make film of drawing of a tin vessel for disc and of two stroke motor from book with good diagrams. Still no mail. No handball match for us against the 2's today as ground is too wet. Write ordinary letters to Hannah and I. Walker of the guilds.

Sunday, 2nd March, 1941 (64)

Sunday morning breakfast of eggs and bacon, coffee, muffins (?) jam, butter and bread. Start film of hydraulic ram, suggested by Stahl; typed lists after the in huts roll call and in evening go to concert, the programme of which (30) is attached. Get reserved seat on Stahl's ticket. Peto compere is good and tells only one low joke and many very good ones. Mouthorganist Leiss is first class and might well go into films. Concert of course again makes one more dissatisfied and day dreaming than usual, and its about time something happened anyway. The clipper seems to have arrived and passengers detained and examined. But if there was any illness on board they could easily have fumigated the mail and got it out very quickly. Terrapins left cold by cats, whom they intrigue.

Monday, 3rd March, 1941 (65)

Still all wet in morning after additional rain during night, this saves having to fill up the terrapins pool. Finish film of hydraulic ram letting the air in airvessel get darker and lighter as it is compressed and expands. Try colouring water area light blue but this detracts from the effectiveness of the red "worms". Stahl and other suggest dot instead of worms, say six around where each worm is now. If I've time this will be done. Give hydraulics lecture and am silly enough to ask students to work out specific speeds for various heads, powers and revs. for axial, radial and pelton turbs, as if the expression for intakes account of the kind of turbine under consideration, but think up way of looking up this from P. H. & N. or any one of us, N and P & H from the other three. Read further "The Centaur" by Algernon Blackwood and

don't think much of it.

Tuesday, 4th March, 1941 (66)

Have improved ug chart during night and shall make it this morning. Night was too bloody cold and need (a) pyjamas and (b) blankets (2). H. after telling me to get up lets himself be counted in bed. Continue with turbine diagrams and air pallets and blankets, quite a few Newspaper Hut 26 Camp 7 articles "Plea for Refugees" "Hay Camp Complaint" and "Dr. Morel - has key to camps of internees." Show in evening with programme attached. Best items conjurer and ventriloquist. Very many parcels this morning and again some in afternoon.

Wednesday, 5th March, 1941 (67)

Immediately after breakfast all things that are not nailed down are removed from the hut which we clean thoroughly and which is then disinfected by a special squad which is supposed to do six huts a day, so that each hut could be done once a week, but in practice I don't think it'll be as often. Feel fairly tired all day. Am called out after lunch by a slip from O.R. for, among others, Rosenbluth, which turns out to be money for Hans from his mother, but O. gives me some telegrams and bank slips to take in and also a bundle of magazine bundles, among which there turns out to be one for me of the "Engineering Record" and "Aviation" of Jan. 2nd and Dec. resp. which make one feel less cut off from engineering progress. But the E.R. is too much of a civil engineering journal for my liking while the A. is more of an operators journal than "flight" in England or "the Engineer". But I haven't yet read them right through. H. gets three letters from I, and I shall be very disappointed if there is no overseas mail for me this week, say tomorrow or Friday, so that I can still answer with the next clipper. When we move back into the hut I make a shelf for the cinema which thus need no longer stand on my suitcase. In one of her letters I. objects to H's mentioning me and "Charlie in one sentence, but sends me her love. H. will tell me what this means, C. stands for something and my probably feeble guess so far is that it may be their (hypothetical) baby. The camp is going to get a duplicator which will partly be paid for by the sale of the Dunera statement at 6d. each. I've asked for a copy which I'll perhaps fix in this book. The Dr. Morel mentioned in one of yesterday's newspapers was in the camp today and there'll probably be a statement in tonight's hut captain meeting, though he can't have much effect on our position, not even as much as the official visitor. The terrapins have lost much of their shyness and come out of the water and climb about on their (clay) rock.

Thursday, 6th March, 1941 (68)

Get a letter from father who got letter from Dr. Iona who said that he had paid £1.17.0. for cables and that "some Zionists had sent me a few pounds" which apparently created quite too much impression (I only had 30/- once, from Dr. Lowy) so that father sent £20 to Iona, 5 for me some to repay debts and rest for clothing etc. Looking back on my letters to Lowy I find that I asked him for money and some articles on 2/10/40 before I had any money here and he sent me 30/- as well as some underwear, paper and a pen. All this may have cost £4.10. say though he knows best. I again asked him to send me certain articles

on 8/1/41 before I had money from England and Parents. I did all this because the latter in his letter of 20/9/40 he wrote that the Z.O. in Sydney would, if I asked them, provide clothing, chocolate, books or pocket money, and I assumed that he had made some arrangement with them for repayment. What I shall do is to inform father of all this and suggest that Jonas idea of sending me money regularly from the Z.O. here is better than direct transfer as the latter is very much delayed. Parcels in morning and afternoon, for the first time one from Germany, Nuremberg, containing underpants and chocolates. Early to bed after having done all the washing in morning.

Friday, 7th March, 1941 (69)

Write letter to parents and Raja in which I clear up, I hope, any misunderstanding about my financial dealings with the Z.O. and telling about X-raying, fingerprinting, eyetest, shows, etc., etc. H. uses my second one to write another letter to Joy which I then copy for him to give his own as copy and mine in different handwriting. Disappointed at no more clipper mail for me. Just before supper give film show in hut 27, one of whose members, Deutch, has made a film of the turning of a milling cutter. It's a huge success and I am really pleased. In evening stick paper together for new films tomorrow.

Saturday, 8th March, 1941 (70)

Parcels in morning after which I make film of a disc pump, not so good as too fast. In afternoon make one of a gear pump, which is quite good and in evening one of overshot water wheel, which is very good. That is how I work off my feelings about no mail. Olson inquires about a parcel the sender of which inquired at the P.O. as it was never received here, which I and our records confirmed for him. In evening the debating society billed a "Balloon Debate" in which a lawyer, a doctor and farmer etc. were to suppose themselves up in a balloon and one of them had to be thrown overboard, and they'd to argue out who. The Doctor and the Clergyman were to be M.O. and the padre but at the last moment they said they couldn't come. We'll hear why tomorrow. Talked with Stahl and Loebl on continuous film cinema, and they gave me some good idea for special kinds of pumps to make films of tomorrow. Handball match against 22's just won 1-0 half time 0-0, but Ziba was ill with an abcess behind his wisdom tooth.

Sunday, 9th March, 1941 (71)

Blessed morning stay in bed, and later go round looking a technical (pumps) books to find diagrams of interesting pumps. Find one "Orehkolbengeblase" made by Yaeger Leibzig and make not so good film of this, but start new one in evening. We have hut meeting at which A.E. brings up the matter of homosexuality, thinking that one or more persons are in our hut that way inclined and after withdrawing the use of the words clean and filthy in this connection says he finds such incs. objectionable if apparent in company and wants to protect young people. Slightly heated discussion fades out. Tortoises survive release attempt.

Monday, 10th March, 1941 (72)

Carry on with new pump film in morning during which Ziba brings a crawfish

given to him by one of the farm party, this is put with terrapins. Finish film after lunch, the best yet as far as colouring is concerned. Typed copy of inquirers statement and parcels lists in evening, Levin helping with the latter. We hear that the light plant was definitely broken down for a week and part is required from England is required, which latter may be rumor. Read H.s letters, one of the pleasant parts (about) of these is that they give the situation as it was usually not less than three weeks ago, giving wonderful opportunity for subsequent development. Well, soon we'll be able to say "in one month Layton will arrived" (we hope). Have the what I'll for the moment call moral weakness of not giving my hydraulics lecture, for no better reason than that I'm not interested and want to carry on with film. Nights are quite cold just now, it looks as if, having missed a winter, we'll now miss a summer, and not another winter as we thought when hopes of release were still bright. During the last fortnight new camp regulations have come in, from which it may be worthwhile to note a few amusing points. Someone from the farm party, later brought a second, quite small crawfish which also went into the terrapins basin in rather greater danger though I think, of being eaten, than the other.

Tuesday, 11th March, 1941 (73)

40 parcels in morning, with one of relig. damaged "ornament" from Southern Command H.Q. on which they'd paid late fee. Zimmel, for whom it came, said it was not his but took into the compound. I kept wrapper in case there are inquiries in the future. Showed films to Felix decide to draw films only between Wednesday afternoon and Saturday evening (during term time) as I've been neglecting my hydraulics lectures in a shocking fashion. Went out with farm party in afternoon to get some food for terrapins and also plants, got very nice ones of the latter and a few shrimps, or shrimp (or crawfish?) which have green to reddish stems and oval fleshy leaves, also some rushes which lend atmosphere to the scene. Eat the more or less usual amount of two ices in cartons and one choc. ice. Partly prepare hydraulics lecture in evening.

Wednesday, 12th March, 1941 (74)

Quite interesting things of yesterdays farm party were the little about 6" dia. centrifugal pump, driven by a single cylinder 4 stroke (4 cycle to the American makes) engine, and the colonels dog (bulldog) Ponger who will run in an excited fashion and snap after anything you throw but is frightened of the water dashes away when on picks up the watering can and barks at the pump if it changes its note. Parcels in morning, Richard Eppenstein getting one which among other things contained Lime Juice to which Curtiss, who happened to be in the room said "Ah, that's to stop you having erections, we used to get that when we were at the war, so that we wouldn't ride one another". Potassium permanganate crystals are detained from one parcel, but come in later in the day. The cactus like plants in the terrarium seem all likely to pick up, one has already done so, but the others are still a gamble, particularly one group of rushes on which the smaller terrapin, Lissaner is resting. Eat numerous applies, two pears and four ices. Have decided to start off next term with design of turbines going into constructional detail. Shall therefore have a fair amount of working out to do in the fortnights camp school holidays. Make film of Zine curve, its

its reflection and their for Altmann, but he has not seen it yet. In evening type first page of parcels lists in H.O. just before writing this, as only pilot lights on in huts and 58 parcels due and listed for tomorrow. The camp was visited by a brigadier who came in just as I and Olson were clearing up remains of parcels. He inspected the soldiers and later came into the compound, left after talk with officers and A.E. in orderly room. Olson and probably all the soldiers think a lot of what he called "our Major" who apparently some time ago found out that their food and cooking were not satisfactory and after telling the cook to go and wash his shirt sacked him, since when "not so much has been going out at the gate" (sold into Hay) and no complaints. Lights fail completely for about 10 minutes in evening, in Hay too. Newspaper Article Rudolf comes into H.O. and tells me that he's going to start a new more advanced course in metallurgy to which I'll go, or at any rate intend to go, there'll be a meeting to consider the time on Saturday.

Thursday, 13th March, 1941 (75)

Olsen tells me that when he was a despatch rider in Egypt, using two horses and a camel (at different periods, I suppose, he also showed me the bayonet wound in his leg) the brigadier who visited us yesterday was a captain in the intelligence, and that yesterday the b. looked hard at him and said something to the major. A book about a skooner arrives for Werner, and O. said yes, he'd "done prentice" on a sailing ship for two years. After the war O. said he was all ready to go to the south pole with ; had his medical examination and all and then "the wife wouldn't let me go. Yes, I've always been a roamer, had wonderful jobs in the U.S.A. etc., etc., but couldn't stay in one place". Extraordinarily enough I receive three letters today, two from parents and Raja and one from Dr. Lowy, in which he told me that he'd received an affidavit and wants me to tell him what to do with it. As I know that I'll get a parcel tomorrow I shall draft a letter to the parents today which will, when sent off tomorrow, still reach the clipper which has been delayed to the 21st. I shall then answer Lowy's letter on Saturday, thanking for the parcel and telling him that I've already written to the parents about my affidavit by clipper. Willi Lampl, returning from the farm in morning, brought watering can filled with about 16 crawfish of varying sizes and about 8 each of shrimps and tadpoles which he'd collected when they emptied a puddle for cementing. They've been put into the basin and I suppose the tadpoles will be eaten by the terrapins, while shrimps and crawfish will finish off the remains to help to keep the water clean. Draw film and sine curve to its reflection (new edition) for Altman. In evening wrote letter to parents, typing copy in headquarters, and leaving room for description of parcel which I've been advised by the list I'll receive tomorrow. Our new hospital was completed today. Ferdinand Teltscher took it on himself to be one of the first residents and Ziba was elected acting deputy hut leader, or deputy dep. as he calls it, and adopted my system for the hut cleaners list. Saw the partial eclipse of the moon quite clearly, as nearby low cloud. Very striking.

Friday, 14th March, 1941 (76)

Had the parcel from Lowy containing two good shirts, two light navy shorts, a pair of flannel trousers, a pair of shoes (black) and four pairs of elastic to

as some are sick, and this job, after involving much bustle and sweating, with a glass of milk in between and a big slice of toast at the end, drives away the headache. Have discussion with Andrew and Ian concerning collective action in the matter of Amps enlistment, their view being that even if the forms arrive before Leyton, their signing should be postponed till he arrives, as many points unclear to many people, some uncertain that they will not be released for England on other grounds, and the appearance of a collective action is desirable. My point is that some people, like myself, are quite certain that they will join, and should not be stopped from showing this by filling in forms at the earliest moment, also that collective action as carried out by a committee can easily take the appearance and form of bargaining where many of us don't wish to bargain.

Wednesday, 19th March, 1941 (81)

Yesterday too, there arrived a consignment of Red Cross gifts, shirts, underwear, cigars, toothpaste etc. from Brazil. Fears that this may have come from or at the suggestion of the German government were somewhat set at rest when A. signed for them "received as Refugees from Nazi oppression", or in that style. The M.P. took a considerable number of articles for the hospital such as slipper, sheets, medicaments, etc., which I think (and others too) he had no right to do, and this action may lead to a protest. Still rather slack all day and no work on Pelton wheels. Hear from H. that the forms have arrived in the orderly room. H.C. meeting decides to put pressure or induce people to wait with registering till all do or Layton arrives, but I'm more decided against this than even, especially as if pressure will be applied to us to join I'd rather be one who'd expressed his willingness to join anyway, before any pressure was actually applied, but on this point opinions are very divided. Medical exam. though not full size, in charge of Frankenstein, passes me O.K.

Thursday, 20th March, 1941 (82)

See forms for first time and H. later "reserves" some copies for us, as they are not yet in officially. Two people, skilled syringe makers, are reported to be leaving for Melbourne tomorrow re talks for or actual release. Continue with Handbook, finishing most of pelton wheel text and starting on sketches.

Friday, 21st March, 1941 (83)

Wrote letters to Peggy and parents. To Peggy because its really mysterious why she doesn't answer, even if she's fallen in love with someone or been "seduced". I had the impression that she was much too well brought up not to answer letter, so I have all sorts of ridiculous ideas on the subject and continue to write, especially as I'd be left at such a damn loose end emotionally if I stopped, one can't very well carry out the sort of quickchange trick the ego or whatever it is is supposed to do in such cases, when one is interned with 1000 men. If free it'd be much easier as one can always do something that makes one feel reckless, or go for a few hours drive in a car to calm down, but what can one do here except walk round and round the barbed wire fence? Got form earlier than others from H. and drafted answers. H.C. meeting in evening

decides that those who want it will get one form which they fill out, bring to legal dept. which will then give them two others to reduce waste to minimum.

Saturday, 22nd March, 1941 (84)

Filled in form and three to give back in morning. Feel very satisfied about this. Great mystery of the by now 75 Willin guess to travel forms which are in the orderly room, we don't know for whom. But rumour has it that 70 are for England and five for transimigrants. Also a letter was sent to us from Bloomsbury house saying that aliens were now allowed to work in munitions (refugees) and Govt. training schemes on equality with British subjects. Show, not so, good, in evening, and Newspaper Notice on Brand's statement.

Sunday, 23rd March, 1941 (85)

Yesterday, too, I got my red cross shirt very nice grey with zipp fastener, but according to labels attached might be of german origin or consignment may be due to ingenuity of germans who don't know who we are, great joke then. While on the subject of jokes: overheard in the shower room "I've just douched" "whom"? Went out with six parcel recipients left over from the last week. O. born in Norway and was in Denmark when released after the war. Lists in evening.

Monday, 24th March, 1941 (86)

Release lists comes in in morning, with all but three for the U.S.A. Curtiss having misread the heading which said U.K. internees for U.S.A. Handed in my Amps list which will, we understand from the major, be sent to Melbourne tomorrow. Altogether feel quite satisfied having done a fair amount of handbook work today. Played disastrous match against the "Kangaroos" mainly hut 20, and lost 2-4, half time 0-2. Had damn good cocoa in evening. Altogether about 140 people have filled out the Amps forms by this evening. I'm attaching some very interesting newspaper articles from the Sydney Daily Herald. The B.B.C. one shows why I'm so determined to join the Amps, and why I cannot just give up my association with England and my friends there. The Japan oil one shows the mess things are in generally.

Tuesday, 25th March, 1941 (87)

Carried on with handbook, such satisfactory results concerning the theoretical values of the specific speed of turbines (Pelton) and the characteristic curves of pelton wheels that I again contemplate the writing to my article.

Wednesday, 26th March, 1941 (88)

More handbook work, Ns and characteristics still more satisfying and keep my going till late evening. In Herald there is picture of Major Layton and articles attached appear in press. Apples and very nice cake for supper. I think we are benefiting from the apple glut which is such a prominent landmark of the war to the apple and pear board (of Australia) on Australia.

Thursday, 27th March, 1941 (89)

First day of issue of our 2/-, 1/- and 6d. bank notes, see at back. Carry on with handbook. No mail yet. Draft letter to Hannah. Try to catch shrimps and crawfish out of basin because of proposed enlargement, if I'd let the water dry out the crawfish'd dig deep down into the mud and have to be cemented in. Terrapins try to get under one another, does this denote sex rearing its head? We get a lot of apples now-a-days, I wonder if this means an increase in apple ration or is only because there happen to be some available just now.

Friday, 28th March, 1941 (90)

Occupied with the beasts, sketching queer thing like cross between shrimp and crawfish with a saw on its head. These and crawfish I catch I decide to keep in tin till new basin is completed. Major general's visit, who said Stahl will get 20 years for the bank notes, his parting remark "Well I shouldn't have any puzzles most, but I think means that he'd like to have some.

*more(?)*

Saturday, 29th March, 1941 (90) (91?)

General hut cleaning which I think was to have taken place today instead of yesterday, was again postponed till Monday. Ordered sack of cement (limit 10/-) through canteen. Bought 18 apples as the canteen will be closed for stock taking till Tuesday. The personal photographs taken on 9/1/41 come in; mine isn't a bad internee photograph, unshaven and rather too long haired, we may try to get permission to send them out of the camp. Ferdi has sent a banknote to England hoping it will pass the censor. At any rate, H. has the satisfaction of having his moustache recorded. More work on characteristic curves, theoretical effect of altering the size of the jet with interesting conclusions. Yugoslavia which "revolved" yesterday has not repudiated the axis part, but papers think that it will not be rectified, which is a nice way of doing it.

Sunday, 30th March, 1941 (91)

The only thing of interest I remember of my actions is that in the late evening I went and emptied nearly a whole sack of cement which the workmen on the new piss house had left over the weekend. I put the cement into an old tin which I'd put to such use before and think that with this and the stuff I'll get on Tuesday, I'll be able to make a really good job of the new basin.

Monday, 31st March, 1941 (92)

General hut cleaning in morning, less painful than expected. Then parcels with the same man who the first time he was on the job detained nearly everything, but last time was perfectly reasonable. He again was all that could be desired, very obliging even to the extent of removing some stamps for me, which makes me wonder if O. has talked to him. On my return, I started to digout for new basin, finding the large crayfish in the process and before that the medium sized one in the system of tunnel of quite amazing shape. O. and "Creeping Jesus" have leave, that's why t'other chap's on. List came in with 68 parcels for tomorrow, among them one for me from Mc'Graw Hill publishing Co., probably an



aircraft book which I asked parent to send. I hope it's been through the censor but trust that I'll be able to get it even if not. Make cup of cocoa with condensed milk and Nestles cocoa both in afternoon and evening, really very good. Yesterday read excellent article in Jan. '41 Readers Digest on Premarital experiment because of compatibility, which confirms what I'd always thought: that this is mainly a psychological matter and if trust and affection are present can more or less be left to look after itself, especially I suppose if both parties are examined by the same doctor as guard against the very slim chance of anatomic incompat. and generally.

Tuesday, 1st April, 1941 (93)

Sixty seven bloody parcels in the morning, including mine which is not one on aircraft but on jig and tool design, 1922, but systematic and full of interesting ideas, later continue with preparations for cementing of pool, and in afternoon, just after lunch to be exact, go with Ltans to a chap who, 'though a non-smoker, got a big machine, pipe and tobacco sent from the U.S.A. I finally buy the pipe for 4/- and realise 10 minutes later that it wasn't worth it. H. suggest leaving the pipe in canteen to be sold if possible and going with Ziba to buy another. Go to Buchdahl and talk with him about concreting, and he helps me to collect sand and gravel for it and gives good advice, as to the result of which I go in the evening and collect all the broken bits of cast pipe I can find at the work places near the laundry extension. On taking some newspaper to the latrine and starting to tear it up discover picture of two sergeants in WAAF which I like and finally realise that one looks familiar because it is exactly like Eve McLardie. On showing to H. he thinks so too, without my suggesting it and shows me letter from Neill in which N. says that Eve, who at first was in the ranks, has now been commissioned in the WAAF. My sack of cement arrived at the canteen, 6/9. The terrapin puzzle I wrote and made up under the name of Izzy Mo has been duplicated and one to each hut, solutions have already come in. Tomorrow we can again begin to expect mail, though H. thinks there won't be any clipper mail till Thurs. or Friday. It's amazing how my ego wants to have something to concentrate on, and P. not allowing herself to be consd on, H. has had three letters and the thought of E. is more than I thought it would be. For tonight's supper we had in addition to very good meat, rice and vege, two very good doughnuts each, some of which were filled with mustard. Such a one, all unsuspected, caught A.E. who as he put it, had mustard coming out between his teeth that the sweat streamed from his pores. He threw it across the mess hut at Hans Wetzler, at least H.W. was hit by it and (H) promptly took advantage of the offer announced just then that those who'd received similar doughnuts could exchange them against more normal ones.

Wednesday, 2nd April, 1941 (94)

Only a few parcels in morning, one, which we thought was for me, turns out to be for Ernest R. come back and start breaking up old pipes and stones collected yester and today for the "aggregate" for our cement. Hands sore by noon, and even more so by 5 o'clock when the stone breaking is finished. Ziba comes and finishes the first patch of cement, which 1-2-4 mixture of cement sand and aggregate we'll examine tomorrow. Get letter from Lowy who thinks that to send me the affidavit is too risky, which seems a little transparent. H. tells me that Layton has already communicated with a friend of his in the camp, saying

he's taken an office in Sydney and brought his staff. He's got a royal commission to inquire into Dunera business, he wonders if chap knows why men were taken off in Melb. The Aust. Govt. didn't communicate with the Brit. Govt. on us for five months, say till January. So that when the first statements on us were made they had nothing or only our Dunera statement. He'll come end of this or beginning of next week. A.E, who stayed in bed since last night, was this evening brought to hospital with cold.

Thursday, 3rd April, 1941 (95)

Well, H.O. again because the lights are only the pilots. Nearly finished the foundation concrete of the pool. Mysteriously, the crayfish in one of the laundry basins in which I placed them have all died, possibly disease, maybe due to parasites contained in the water Turkey Meiser brought from the river. Still no clipper mail, though clipper photos in papers. Incidentally, I got up last night with pain in right hand fingers due to sores from yesterdays work. Went to watchman in head office and together we knocked up K. Epstein, doctor on duty, who opened one of the boils, in which pressure was causing most of the pain, but all sores normal ones today. One of the best April jokes is that Heilner, affected effeminate chap practising as amateur dancer for show, was told by P. Schmitz, our ballet dancer, that he'd have to shave his legs, which he promptly did. Swiss consul was here, told that letters to Germany from here go 1st to London to be censored again, then Lisbon, Switzerland, Germany. Forms come in from headquarters headed Private clothing on hand, difficulty is that we don't know what these are for, and so not know whether to put too much or too little. Hear that Layton will come into camp and deal with each one without intermediary. Very good.

Friday, 4th April, 1941 (96)

The parcels party this morning for about 70 odd parcels was held up because the army in the form of several trusted privates and N.C.Os. came in to make lists of private clothing on hand, which delayed things for about an hour. After this I wrote a letter to parents and Raja, in which, chiefly for lack of space, but also to begin to break it gently, that I'd signed the first P.C. form and hoped to be out of here in about a month. Then the concreting went on, even to the point of beginning the finishing dressing, applied by Mr. Hony, which made Ziba retire from the job somewhat offended. So Mr. Hony has got to finish the job. H. again gets 5 letters, 4 of which are new. Joy sent extracts from some of his letters to the News Chronicle and they were published. Mr. Brand has written us some amazing letters, saying among other things that all our dealings with the U.S. consulate should go through him, even to the extent of asking us to address internees letters to the consulate to his office. This is so remarkably ridiculous that I'll inquire about it in tomorrows letter to Mrs. H. Cohen, which anyway will have to be good as I've not answered her last one for such a long while. In evening wrote Hydraulic raw article for "The Boomerang".

Saturday, 5th April, 1941 (97)

During parcels mention to Olsen who is back that Cameron seems rather a fool for trying his unseconded motion that all tribunals in Australia be stopped.

O. said that Cameron is respected all over Australia as a straightforward chap, who really was hinting at dirty work at the tribunals. O. said that from No. 6 (the Italian camp) 20 went up for their tribunals and the eight released were all big property owners, among them an owner of many restaurants, who was something or other in the fascist party. Also that at Christmas a count in No. 6 was able to have supper with some women, which may explain what Cameron hinted about women in high places in Melbourne. Reason for kit inspection, Colonel says, was to find out who needs clothing. Swiss consul was here yesterday or before and said he could renew passports not older than five years for six month for 4/6. Those who wish to communicate with relatives in Germany can only be helped by him if they swear allegiance to Germany, and said that some had done this in No. 8, but none of us. Poker for money has been forbidden in the mess huts, and also all stoves which have been erected (for making coffee and pancakes, etc.) because a pallean caught fire. Top layer cementing was carried on by Mr. Hony and a good job too, I think we'll be ready to fill in water tomorrow. Brand wrote suggesting to make a list of all transimigrants for Layton and then wrote again asking why he'd not received it yet! Again, a matter which I shall ask for information about (what a sentence) from Mr. Cohen. Finish concreting with only small space left to be finished off by Hony. Type lists in evening, with the by now habitual cup of cocoa.

Sunday, 6th April, 1941 (98)

Wrote long letter to Mrs. H. Cohen discussing the position of Australian refugees, Layton and Brand; B. has rung up H. has rung up H.Q. and asked why we'd not sent him the questionnaires, and H.Q. sent in Mr. Curtis to ask us to prepare a statement on the subject. After lunch we (I) filled in the pool with 22 buckets and launched terrapins, and it was beautiful to see them swing about in the water. Put in crawfish too but at night took them all out as we'd done a little more cementing. Mr. Hony on the shallow patch and I at the fence which we put up today. The lights are all on in the evening, we play poker and H. loses 2½d. and I 1½ (75 points = 3d).

Monday, 7th April, 1941 (99)

In morning still very much enjoyed the sight of terrapins in their new basin. Gave first hydraulics lecture of new term, on modification of Pelton wheel theory if friction is taken into account. Had two clipper letters, one from Mrs. Lauterbach and one from parents. Sonia was very psychological telling me that my belief in the importance of staying in the Brit. Emp. was "almost fetishistic" (?!!?) that my attitude on the whole is egocentric that mother is not well and very anxious. That it will take me ages to get released and then will "never be allowed to do the work for which I am fitted". [As for staying in Emp. business the things I wrote were in letter No. 8 of 27/11/40".... I'm not going to the U.S. during the war and even after the war with a return visa to Britain..." and my a b c d points in letter No. 9 of 12/12/40, of which "b) I hope to become a British subject, this is additional reason for me to join the army, and I could not very well apply for naturalisation if I had immigrated into the U.S.A." did not of course mean that it was essential to join up in order to be naturalised or that it would be impossible ever to become a B.S. after emigrating from B.E.] The fetishism I can neglect, how for the egocentric is true I cannot easily judge as I do very much want to join up.

She says "as a Dane by birth, of parents here registered not as Germans but as stateless, you will be called up by the militia and have every possibility of doing serious and valuable work as an engineer. If you come here you must serve." Well, I doubt it, I may have to register, but so will sixteen million others, and why should I be put in the engineers just because I have engineering training? That is not so certain to my mind, nor do I wish to be interned on arrival if in the meantime U.S. is at war with Germany, not do I think that I will after joining the P.C., never be allowed to do suitable work. I have too much confidence in myself for that. [Father writes that there are complaints about shortage of engineers, but I'll bet there is even more anti-alien propaganda. One very interesting point from his letter is that he did not see any "Dunera" notices in the U.S.A. press, this I think must be by arrangement as I can't think it would have been censored out. Mother says that my letter (No. 14 in which I tell them that I've registered with the consulate) has helped her a lot to recover, that she's sent me four periodicals and will send a parcel of other things. Raja, as was to be expected, had a very good report from her school, and sends (mother) the address of our relatives in Hollywood and asks about H. Raja has grown and is disgusted at "evacuation" practice of her school where everyone brings her own wireless set; and mentions having to go by tube because of the bus strike. And Germany is at war with Yugoslavia and Greece.]

Tuesday, 8th April, 1941 (100)

Don't feel too well in morning, which may be due to change in weather, today is very sultry but parcels both in morning and afternoon. Curtis came into H.O. and said to H. "Well, you'll know first this time, and not Maass" and held a block full of scribbled notes in front of H's nose. H. asked what it was and Curtis said that Layton will arrive here on Thursday. To De. Epstein he said "its unfortunate, isn't it, that Layton arrives when you're having your devotions" where upon Epstein said that he thought L. would come to our service. C. started to laugh and said "you think he'd come to a Jewish service? and never was a man more a picture of consternation than C. when he heard that L's a Jew. "Well" he said, "I hope he's a better one than Brand" and Haass said "Yes, I think he's quite decent", so Curtis who's got a friendly feud with Maass looked at him fixedly and said "I've never seen a decent Jew yet" and Rindberg "You've got to be careful with what you say, sir, or one day you'll find yourself interned." Some time ago C. in exasperation, said to Maass: "You call yourself a solicitor?" and Maass replied "Well, I've seen better camp adjutants too", to which C. said "No doubt you have". The colonel was in today and while I was in bed Ziba showed him the terrapin pool and after being satisfied that the t. from the farm party wasn't his, suggested to the captain that we should have some wire netting, and the captain told the corporal, who made a note of it.

Wednesday, 9th April, 1941 (101)

Second Hydraulics lecture of term in morning on specific speed and characteristic curves. Start drafting letter to parents in evening.

Thursday, 10th April, 1941 (102)

Bad rumours about the Greeks and Yugoslavs, not only seem the Germans to be in Salonica, which seems confirmed by the papers, but also rumour and J. and G. asking for armistice.

Saturday, 12th April, 1941 (104)

Wash in reconstructed laundry in the morning. 1 parcel in afternoon. Continue to read the penguin "internment of aliens" which I can't read continuously, have to get up and walk round camp every now and again.

Sunday, 13th April, 1941 (105)

Found Lizzie, the smaller terrapin, with thread hanging from her mouth, showing that she'd swallowed one of the pieces of meat that I'd attached to the ends of the thread. Cut this off and she was quite aggressive or possibly irritated and opened her mouth and bit my finger when she had the chance. But I'm very satisfied for this certain proof of eating. Layton news in H.S. communique. Stadlen concert in evening, he really is a far more exceptional pianist than I thought, and I can better understand Hs. regard for him.

Monday, 14th April, 1941 (106)

Still no parcels this morning, but am prepared for over 100, particularly as there was a considerable amount of mail, though none for me. Today Frankie the large t'pin, was found to have eaten as L. yesterday and thread cut off. L. I saw eating old meat from bottom of basin. As Ian W. said, Layton can only get either one or two companies and it may be worth while to suggest to him to have training commenced when there are enough men to form one. L. had talk today with P.C. waverers and will interview them separately. Go to bunter abend in evening. Only stay till intervall. Only Peto worth while.

Tuesday, 15th April, 1941 (107)

Seventy odd parcels this morning in the sergeants orderly room, as Layton used visitors. More eating by terrapins, so that in future I'll drop all on bottom of tank. Loose 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. at poker in evening (2d. = 60 pts). Annoyed that W.O. has so far given no indication that they're prepared to change names on enlistment. Grotch came and told me that he'd had a letter from London, my Grandfather has died. Don't know whether to write letter about this to mother. We may have clipper mail beginning to come in tomorrow. 52 more B.P.C. forms have been filled out so we've got enough from this camp for a half company. He can be 50 out so it may perhaps soon be worth while to make definite arrangements for our training. Wildest rumors in this respect, that training would start in a fortnight, and also, though this not so persistent, that Cook'd be our Sgt. major. The crayfish died today, handed it to of hut 28 to investigate possibility of mounting. Berdi, who painted it while it was lying in shallow water was wild when acquainted with the fact that it was dead all the time, as then he could as well have had it on the table. Handed in claim for compensation as attached.

Wednesday, 16th April, 1941 (108)

Hydraulics lecture in morning, on constructions of absolute and relative jet pathes etc. in connection with (water wheels) pelton wheels. Three I.P.S. come in from outside to witness the signing of the compensation forms, which will go on tomorrow. "Our" J.P. private has read my hydraulic ram article in the

Boomerang and wants to talk to me as he wants to install one on the farm. Buy pad of unruled paper for sketches, first one of H. and my corner of hut quite good and well worth keeping.

Thursday, 17th April, 1941 (109)

Very disappointed at lack of new clipper mail today. Feed terrapins just before lunch with pieces of meat dropped into the water and I and Ferdi see the large one eat five pieces straight off. Sign my claims form before a private who's a J.P. (not "ours"). continue with some sketching. Medicineball training, great fun. H. tells of man who's received two letters of 8 lines each from a friend in the Palestine P.C. Had talk with Brand who's in charge under Layton of all non-U.S. transmigration, and he told me that yesterday he had a letter from Martin, who told him that he (M) had received a letter from Mrs. Levi who had told all about the work done by Australian Jewish and Ref. societies. We discussed Palestine transimigrants for a bit, and he said he'd write to me. some more sketching in evening in hut.

Friday, 18th April, 1941 (110)

Help with airmail, typing the lists as they come in; today to the record tune of £88! I've still got a strong cold. Several (20 odd) parcels after lunch. H. again has two letters but none yet for me. Decide not to write to Peggy by airmail today but by ordinary tomorrow. After supper have U.S. and P.C. discussion with Dr. Baer while we walk the rounds. Argument terminates in a reasonable fashion with him seeing my point of view. Terrapin again eat a lot. Frankie and I throw pieces of meat to him, they take such an interest in one another that I'm quite prepared for sex business.

Saturday, 19th April, 1941 (111)

Nothing much. Typed parcel list and letter to Mrs. H. Cohen in evening.

Sunday, 20th April, 1941 (112)

Terrapins still eat a lot, small one too. Play pontoon in evening, lose about 3d., no game for me. Feel thoroughly depressed and fed up, cant' sleep night, P's lack of writing etc. takes on a ridiculous importance, but

Monday, 21st April, 1941 (113)

Feel rather more balanced this morning. Parcels again. Spend sometime throughout the day in swatting insects (flies ? gnats ?) on the terrapin pond. Still no mail for me. Talk to Rudolf and my mind clicks to the fact that H. knows Hannah Ettinghausen, Wetzler's friend; the fact that I've probably met her at one of the Saturday afternoons at the W.S. Feel so much better now that I decide to write to none but parents except after receiving a letter. Read "National Velvet" which I borrowed from Felix.

Tuesday, 22nd April, 1941 (114)

Spend most of day in bed with headache, not having lunch or supper. Later get two A.P.C. (?) from Med. hut and after a while begin to feel better, making

the following:-

After the headache

The tumult lessens in my brain  
Muffled explosions die away  
And growing more serene,  
I rise,  
And see the lights of Hay  
Twingling - ah that rhyme,  
Hay and away  
how soon ?

headache is completely gone in evening.

Wednesday, 23rd April, 1941 (115)

Parcels again in morning and just before Hyds. lecture the J.P. tells me that "our" batallion (16th Garrison bat.) will be exchanged against one from Sydney. Before this he wants to speak to me on hydraulic ram, etc. He said he doesn't like going, but apparently the staff must go too. Great pity because we might get a couple of bastards (especially men just from Syd) inst. of J.P. and Dachschaden. Lizzie breaks out several times and when caught is quite fierce, and bites; but think that as now I've bent over the top of the corrugated iron fence round the terrapin enclosure. Hans starts at pontoon, then I take over when he has to go, between us we net 9d.

Thursday, 24th April, 1941 (116)

Get letter from parents. Father now has again own dept. with the United Palestine appeal. Raja plays baseball and is at the moment in the country with her school, so hasn't written this time, but may as parents are forwarding my letters to her. Lose about 8d. at pontoon, but H. wins it back, then again loses, but only a little.

Friday, 25th April, 1941 (117)

Win 9d. at pontoon, change water of terrapins, works very well and concrete amazingly good.

Saturday, 26th April, 1941 (118)

Parcels, mail, but not for me. 7 parcels from U.S. indicate that a boat has arrived in addition to the monthly one which is due on May 5th. Also several parcel from German Red cross, containing soap, choc~~h~~ocolate and tobacco. Win 7½d. at pontoon.

Sunday, 27th April, 1941 (119)

Ten months interned, which may be the reason for my feeling unusually apprehensive of my P.C. future, issues being: 1) not allowed to join other

unit, b) join up from behind barbed wire, 3) no change of name (for duration of war) allowed yet. Draft extremely sarcastic letter on these lines to S. to whom I've decided to write in this matter - she may be able to raise it with the right people. I think U.S. will be in the war within the next 30 days. Type parcel lists in evening, after which (5 and a bit pages) I start to type out copy of letter to S. but at 11.15 all lights in whole camp fail, switched out by sergeant of the guard who got annoyed with the continued row in hut 36 - just as he was again calling to them someone at their party (celebrating four birthdays and, presumably, 10 months) told a joke so that there was burst of laughter, and sergeant enraged put out all lights, not knowing how to put out pilot lights only, the silly b..... So after some moment of trying to speak to him through the wire to which he didn't answer, I went to guard in tower on other side of camp, and asked him to ring up the sergeant of the g'd and ask him to put on lights in No. 1 messhut and office, and went back to gate. Sgt. coming out shouted "your're not going to get lights again tonight, I'm not going to be made a fool of", and that was that, went to sleep rather annoyed.

Monday, 28th April, 1941 (120)

Wake up with swollen throat and not feeling well, go to med. hut after lunch and get it painted, avoiding attempt to put me in hosp later, when sure that there will be no parcels today, get two O4PC and shower and go to bed, at once feeling much better. H. very nicely brings me today's excellent supper, and I sleep a bit before lights out. Get, almost forgot to mention, four different U.S. mgs. from parents, very nice and interesting - more of these later.

Tuesday, 29th April, 1941 (121)

Stay in bed all day as tonsils still somewhat swollen. Read mags, some of this quite heavy going, but extremely interesting.

Wednesday, 30th April, 1941 (122)

In the morning I think my right ear is irritated, and Frankenstein, chief Doctor, sends me to hospital, where I lie between sheets for the first time in just over ten months. At any rate here I'm made to gargle regularly, also very nice food. Get letter from Gideon, still in camp in Canada, he's hoping to go to U.S. this summer (start of emig. from Canada is, he thinks, end of March) and apparently will have to go to Newfoundland for this purpose. Also write about mother, he's probably had some encouragement there, says he had a very pathetic letter from her. 100 men have to go to Tatura, but we can select them - no U.S.A. transmigrants, no P.C. cases, and no releases to England. All the same, there's great excitement, and possibly there'll be some friction.

Thursday, 1st May, 1941 (123)

The Major came in, H. tells me, and made a speech saying that he's got to get those 100 men and actually by afternoon they've nearly all been assembled. Hospital - we get a lot to eat, I feel quite overeaten - and something seems to be in our three times daily drink - "mixed aspirin" that stimulates the bladder - having drunk a cup of milk fairly rapidly I felt as if I'd taken a drug, and possibly because it's so unaccustomed. H. will have to do a lot of work today arranging postal matters for those who leave. Brand sent me two



photostatic copies of my birth certificate which he'd received from parents. One white on black and one black on white.

Friday, 2nd May, 1941 (124)

Still in Hosp. write to parents. Lots of rumors: one, reported to come from Frankenstein that Layton is coming in the next days and that in four days the P/C will leave; certainly opinion seems to be, and H's too, that "movements" will not stop with the 100 odd people who've been collected for Tatura. Lissauer, Cosher leader, is going with them, to the great joy of feigelstrook, our practically subhuman, sausage eating and therefore abhorred cosher (he isn't, as I thought, a hut captain). I shave for first time in hosp, and ask Danziger to give me something for my face which just now is even more than usually disfigured by pimples etc. Play a few amusing games of chinese chequers with K. Simon who lent me "self" by Beverley Nichols and I don't think much of it either - it strikes me as distinctly cheap. Very few people in this (isolation) hosp. just now, only one, myself, from hut 26 and only two members of hut 26 in the other (sanatorium) hosp.

Saturday, 3rd May, 1941 (125)

Again all day in hosp. write letter to Gideon, hoping that it'll miss him and be forwarded to Canada. The last performance of the show, which was to have taken place to night, has been moved to tomorrow. Went to hut 26 once to get comb and socks, got socks but no comb. Some rumors concerning the imminence of P.C. medical exam - and H. tells of telegram saying that P.C. will not "be brought back to England for training before others are brought back, but this is private telegram.

Sunday, 4th May, 1941 (126)

Sunday morning breakfast in hosp. and play chinese chequers and bring out the send more money problem. Have talk about England with Dr. Kahn, lecturer from Oxford and R.C., nice and tolerant chap whose family is in England and who wants to go back, he's already been released! Go to show "Reise un die Welt" in evening, uproarious fun, with I notice and am told, many improvisations, jokes being chiefly at the expense of Bukowitz. The scenery is superb, I have never, anywhere, seen anything as good, not only as far as the idea goes, but also in execution and finish. Lots of "Bonkers" that those who were called out to sign their "willingness to travel" were told that in another fortnights there would be another transport which would include also the U.S. people. Anyway, there quite a few signs pointing in this direction.

Monday, 5th May, 1941 (127)

Borrowed Penguin Problem book and today worked on a few, but they're nearly all just mathematical and only a few have nice things hidden in them. Get through H. a little black book for writing up problems I think worth keeping, though so far one from the P.P.B. Also had full dress BATH in morning, first since leaving Dunera hosp. and wash my hair in the bath. Incidentally, before the transport left this morning, one chap was fetched from the bed next to mine at about 5 o'clock (a.m.) and I recognised the voice of the M.O. though didn't open

W

my eyes. New bloke enters hosp., Martin Silbermann, who, it turns out, was with me in same group in Haborim in Germany, under Werner Strauss. Papers today bring news of fighting in Iraq and of British offensive action in Lybia (or should it be Egypt?) Altogether, things don't look too good just now, and I am sometimes gripped by a very unpleasant fear, though I think that I can say with the valet of Sir Archibald John Clark Carr, the Ambassador in China, who is reported in todays Daily Telegraph as having said "Definitely, Sir, we will win, but when and where, it is difficult to say".

Tuesday, 6th May, 1941 (128)

Latest rumors: cases of uniforms have arrived at the new Q.M. hut outside the compound, tomorrow is medical exam, and day after tomorrow P.C. will leave, Lay. is in hospital with appendicitis. All Palestine released will leave on Thursday - so there will be no more O. to embarrass me. H. has just told me that Loebl went out and helped to unpack some cases labled P.C. and Camp Hay or to that effect, these cases contained a sort of uniform, forage caps, dungarees, etc., but no definite news yet of when Layton will arrive. Possible that P.C. will come into one camp here, though that would still leave about 1300 others, too many for one compound. Again spend some time building bridges with dominoes - trying to get as large a span as possible. Reread "The Island of Dr. Morean", surely one of the least typical of Wells' books. Write up first few problems in book bought yesterday. Reichmann, the Matric.course teacher and organiser, comes and thinks he's solved No. 4 - but he hasn't.

Wednesday, 7th May, 1941 (129)

Get hoofed out of hosp. in morning - by Frankenstein who doesn't even look at my throat. But I don't mind, being sick of hosp. - though throat still slightly sore. First thing is to do parcel statistics (nos. from various chief countries) for last week, then shave and haircut. Got out with parcels again in afternoon and Layton introduces me to his subst for his (O's) week of leave. Yesterdays uniform reports turn out to be a big hoax of Loebls - to get men to help him with unpacking in the new Q.M. store which is common to soldiers and internees. Of course he at once had many people asking to be allowed to help with the unpacking. The fact is that there were uniforms - Australian ones, with Australian hats - but no badges. While still in hosp. this morning I started to write what at first I called "Amature dreamer" and then "Pipe dream", shall probably attach copy. May be good practice in prose writing. Started to read the first volume (in the penguin edition) of "Queer Street" by Edward Shanks. Shall be very disappointed if I don't get the Macys parcel, which mother has announced, with the current boat load of U.S. mail. Hear quite amusing report of what happened when longhaired peculiar song singing surrealist artist Klusman came back after signing his "willingness to travel" after having been released for England. His whole hut stood on the doorstep of the hut (1) and chanted over and over "mistakes have been made". Play pontoon in evening and win 4d. Spend rest of evening in telling problems with Loebl and Stahl, great fun and get one good one for book and also some good match box tricks.

Thursday, 8th May, 1941 (130)

Some rain very early in the morning, so that during the hut cleaning I visited for the first time, the new quiet hut where I continue with "Queer Street", Phyllis suggesting Peggy to me - I wonder how justified that is? Have letter from parents. Raja being still in (New York) the country is what I want to write. They've found a new flat, on Riverside drive. They've received my letter No. 18, in which I state that I've signed the first P.C. form, and on the whole take it better than I expected. Father says that something in it is what he doesn't like very much is to ask twice for the same favour (meaning my P.C. appln) but the point is just that, whatever the W.O. may think, to me it is no favour but a right and an obligation. Thunderstorm in afternoon and evening with the sky tinged a dark pink and the air full of a red haze, after some very extraordinary cloud formation. Wonder if thunderstorm connected with the reported earthquake in Manchuria. Face much better. Experiment with making structures from notched matches - this may have even commercial possibilities. Also bought second little black book for tricks. Feed the terrapins, which seem quite hungry (I changed the water yesterday) - apparently they were not too well looked after while I was in hosp. Draft letter to parents.

Friday, 9th May, 1941 (131)

Write letter to parents. Dreamt the most peculiar dreams: 1) was with H. in England, walking somewhere to her car, which turned out to be a luxurious oversize farm wagon with beautifully wide upholstered driving compartment. When we got to it, one tyre was deflated on the nearside, and on the other an abbreviated motorcycle engine, lying on its side, was pumping up one of the tyres. However, the hearside tyre was down so far that it was not possible to apply the engine, so I had to pump it up by hand. Then of course, I very much wanted to drive - not having done so for 10 months, but H. somehow didn't let me, saying I didn't have licence, and I said I've got one, which is the only instance I remember of telling a conscious lie in my dreams, 2) that I was given a cheap imitation of the Ford pen, the imitation being made by the famous Fort (t!) Motor Co. (to distinguish from Ford pen changed Ford to Fort). Wrote letter to P., not bad. Wrote probably, owing to "Queer Street". Some more U.S.A. parcels today after all, so perhaps mine'll come tomorrow. For the last few days workmen have been busy bitumenising and gravelling large parts of the camp. They have a tank lorry to spray a kind of cold tar solution called "Emulseum" and then a lorry containing dipped black stone (as they used for concrete,) drives over the sprayed section, with container raised so that stones slide over a grooved sheet metal fantail at back of lorry and spread to width wider than lorry itself, control being by raising and lowering end door of container by means of lever. Missed lunch again, owing to P. letter. Experimented further with matches, with no useful results. Made first sketch of terrapins; Frankie in one of her typically ridiculous positions.

Saturday, 10th May, 1941 (132)

Finish "Queer Street", having thought at end of 1st vol. that Phyllis would marry Bullace. Well, well, well - which is inadequate comment. We shall see

*Soul* 9  
what what we shall see - which really is no more adequate. I really mean what will happen? will I see P. again? would I be able to love someone else (not that I want to commit myself to loving P. but feel that I can't be interested in someone else till I know for certain what my relation to her is) I shall probably regret having written this - its written under the eff. of "Q.S." though thought before - but Ph. marrying Bullace (what a name, good though for the character) is rather too true to life for comfort. No parcel list today which is disappointing. Feel in a bit of a mess concerning my lectures, about which I've promised camp school sec. Kalder to tell him by today. Don't like to go on with them - but feel uncomfortable about stopping. Make + cube from interlocking matches quietens my soul - and typing of parcel lists (for last week (end 3rd) makes me feel better - almost some use.

Sunday, 11th May, 1941 (133)

Went to exhibition of water colours in mess hut 4, the pictures in white card frames fixed to palleases stretched on walls. Some excellent picture which capture the characteristic flat one coloured shapes and buildings and ground here. At 3 p.m. we play handball match against the Coshers, I play left half for the first time. We win 3-0. Last night as the night before, tiger sleeps at the foot of my bed. Always purring (or perhaps snoring?) before he falls asleep, and grunting when I happen to push him in the ribs with my toes. Type parcel list for last week in evening, after an excellent supper of: Roast beef with gravy, good cabbage, potatoes, a little carrots, tinned peaches, "Krautkuchen" tea. Had hut cleaning with P.L. and we made a good job of it: sweep, mop with chlorate of lime, and squeegee.

Monday, 12th May, 1941 (134)

This morning A.E., Stahl, and canteen manager Darnbacher, were called out to Grace, who told 'em to stop as nearly as possible all canteen orders, except fruit and tobacco, as large movements will be afoot in the near future - which I take to mean a transport of over 100 men within the next fortnight. H. is stocking up with tobacco, and toothpaste for both of us - al ready quite a rush on canteen. There'll be a hut captain meeting at 2.30 p.m. Today I played fist ball for first time. All leave for guards has been stopped for the week after this. The Protestant Padre - who's apparently been doing things he shouldn't, and whose term of three months was up these days, was not allowed to come into the compound to say goodbye. I'm told by P.Le. that the padre smuggled out letters. It is thought that there is an agent in the camp who gives information. In Loeb's store outside 1000 new plates etc., and 4000 blankets have arrived, and L. has been ordered to prepare form 2001 for all of us, that being the form fitted out for each internee who leaves camp. All this seems to indicate that things are being prepared for our successors, and that our whole camp will go to one or more other camps. Both the Q.M. hut outside and the roadmaking inside the camp also point in this direction - my one guess is that this will become a training camp. Yesterday we read about the planned appointment of an officer commanding forces in Australia. In the N.S.W. Govt. election McKell has already got a majority (labour) and this means that the anti-alien Mair is out.

Major Grace came in late in the evening and asked us to prepare three lists: 1) of P.C. people, 2) of those who had rheumatic

fever or tonsillitis, 3) all others. He said that the camps would be cleared out, that a transport could be expected to leave in between anything from 2 to 4 days, but that P.C. men would not say goodbye to Hay (the new parcel opt. (while O. away)) told me that both the Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mary were due from Egypt (p. of war?). Sick people and those who had rheumatic fever or tonsillitis would go to a separate camp. Won 4d. at poker in evening.

#### Tuesday, 13th May, 1941 (135)

Help with typing of P.C. list in morning. Maass says that Grace, who wanted a holiday, said P.C. people would go to No. 8. but was persuaded to try to get the others to come here. He also said that the P.C. would be the first to go back and that he expected it to be on the high seas within a month. Queen Mary for us? The list for the sick camp has to be filled up to 200, and what is happening is that all sorts and groups of people are having their names put on to it, as the convalescent camp, to which it is thought they'll go, will not be much different from the other. The best bonke yet is the persistent report that Hess was shot down over Scotland while trying to escape, and was captured in somewhat mad condition (nothing mad about getting out of Germany, though); another version is that Hitler was piloting the plane and managed to fly on, while Hess bailed out. Of greater immediate interest is this; Curtiss and other outside seem to know quite a lot about the imminent moves, as suggested by the following: Curtiss asked A. why so many had withdrawn from the P.C. list (twenty came off, five on) and A. said it was because they've been unable to talk to Layton, and their chief wish is to return to England. Whereupon C. said "the silly bastards, the P.C. is going to be in England twelve months before the others", and no doubt something is at the back of this, even if one must not take it to be literally true. Finished "Ordinary Families" by E. Arnot Robertson, which seems even better, or perhaps far better to me than "Four Frightened People" which I read sometime ago but didn't put on list then, though will put on both now. In a way the heroine of O.F. is so much what a man would like that I wonder whether E.A.R. is a woman, I feel I should know and seem to remember she is - or if a woman one who must have found if not happiness (and with difficulty I bring myself to write that word without inverts, though I suppose the brackets have nearly the same effect) then at least a trustful and affectionate (two of my most cherished adjectives) friendship with some man. Won 2½ at pontoon in evening. Bet lucky 6d. that there's nothing in the Hess rumor. Hans sells our famous pipe over which we were done, for 4 sh (cost price) to Werner A. He and H. not knowing that the Canteen had new ones today

#### Wednesday, 14th May, 1941 (136)

Buy pipe for 3/6 in morning, of quite a nice shape, two smoke ins produce sickness, though mainly in head which feels particularly drugged. Bet Ian 6½d. that Hess story has nothing in it, and of course it is confirmed by the papers that he's captured, so loose 1/½d. but altogether a not unsatisfactory bet. Forty parcels, including some from the U.S.A. - so I still hope. Start Stella Gibbons which disappoints so that I do not go on - have liked none of her books so far. We wash after supper.

#### Thursday, 15th May, 1941 (137)

Our hut's turn for the final issue of army stuff came this afternoon, and

I received: a gilette (2/6) Razor, a pair of leather laces, a set of thick underwear, a shaving brush, and will get a handkerchief. The court martial notice attached appeared in the papers H. received yesterday, the Dunera debate from Hansard (in this diary). O. was back on parcels, and told of his time before the last war, when he was something of an amateur athlete. When he was wounded, however, he was on the operating table "twice a day for a fortnight" and has never been the same since. He said that when one of our newly recruited guards came in to Grace, and standing in a sloppy attitude said he wanted a change, wishing to go to Syd. the major asked: how long have you been in the army? "a fortnight, sir" "why did you join the army?" "to be a soldier, sir", "well, why don't you try to be one?", which is good and H. says typical for Grace. Groups of internees will leave as follows: the mob, i.e. healthy transimigrants and releases etc, 413 men, for it is thought Tatura, on Monday, 200 for the convalescent (?) camp (70 who were or are sick, 130 volunteers) on Wednesday, leaving 200 which include some who wish to withdraw from the Pioneer list, the others all pioneers.

Friday, 16th May, 1941 (138)

Collected addresses in morning, and started to read "The house of Exile" by Nora Waln. The correct figure for the Tatura transport on Monday seems to be 418, their luggage must be ready on Sunday morning. Eventually the Orange "silk" people will also be in Tatura and join the others there in a big camp for 4000 refugees who will be divided, for accom. purposes, into eight groups, but these will be interconnected. Same huts as here. Yesterday O. who was in Sydney, told me that there 2000 prisoners of war were in quarantine. It seems that the P.C. men of No. 8 (reported to have swollen to 250) will come here (No. 7) at least Grace seems to think that he can arrange it. One of the army medical orderlies starts the rumour that we'll be sent to the army camp at Ingleburn where other aliens are reputed (?) to be already in training.

Saturday, 17th May, 1941 (139)

Go out in morning to try to adjust rear wheel of company runners bike - and do some good so that wheel does not rub against stays, though still has a violent bend in it, when I come back H. tells me that Grace had been in to say that the P.C. people would leave on Wednesday for Tatura, and the orange lot on Thursday, as the new lot, in quarantine it is thought is already waiting to move in. So much for Grace's "the Pioneers will not say goodbye to Hay". One thing I can think of is that if we come to the 4000 camp I may quite likely meet Alfred H. and perhaps get some news of P., though on the notice board it says that pioneers will go to a separate camp.

Layton arrives at 1.15 totally unexpected and proceeds to meet with Eppenstein, Maas, Wiener and another one of No. 8. Then all releases are called to the gate. H. tells me the "secret" that Hardingham, Anglican ex-officer priest told Wetzler that the Aust. govt. had refused to have us trained here, and that we'd be sent to an island off N.Z. where the N.Z. pioneers are being trained. O. bought two 6d. notes from H. (for silver 1/sh.) and H. gave him two more for himself. The first batch of releases, who interviewed L. has just come back. England releases will go back in the near future, but a number of them will have to joint the P.C. Green paint on newspaper notice is from my initials which "long" Willy T. has painted on

my suitcase. Layton has a list of non-released people whom he'll take to England if they wish - I suppose that it's in favour of some of these that some releases will be pressed to join or not withdraw. The transport ship of released is suppd. to be in Malb. and will leave in eight days.

Had big farewell party in evening, with two extra tables in the hut, and coffee, fruit salad, sweets and cigarettes, a limerick competition won by L. Lehner's poem (in book) which was voted a limerick. Then Stahl and A.E. read amusing letters from the camp's correspondence. Stahl told of letter (as at lunch) from the treasury (see notes at end).

Sunday, 18th May, 1941 (140)

Preparations continue all day for the departure of the Tatura lot. Spend most of day making a sort of folding model of hut 26, shall add garden and terrapin pond tomorrow. H. starts to pack, not asking me to do much.

Monday, 19th May, 1941 (141)

Finish model. After lunch there is a pioneer meeting in mess hut 1 at which we chose a skeleton staff for other camp, or at any rate as far as we can do this without the men from No. 8. Type parcel lists, for the last time in evening. Packing goes on.

Tuesday, 20th May, 1941 (142)

Talk to Cook about taking the terrapins to the river, and he says "I thought you were going to give them to the colonel" and then "why dont you take them with you?". So I decide to take them with me, and get box for this and fit this with handle etc. We (pioneers) take our luggage out of the compound, and it is searched. Ours (H. and mine) by Olsen, which means that it is left quite undisturbed and simply O.K'd. H., H.O. and I go out to the orderly room and say goodbye to O. and the clerks there. Pack up the terrapins in wooden box, with sand, stones and Newspaper. Many bonfires are built, two large ones for lighting in the evening. Corporal Pernod comes in while we go to supper, pointing out, quite rightly, that one of the large fires is too near one of the overhead wires. Later he comes into M.H.3 while we are at supper and is given a tremendous ovation and then says that his heart is with us and God thank you all - and A. wishes him all the best in all our name and then we sing for he's a jolly good fellow and are all quite moved. It was all very spontaneous - even to the three cheers, we gave at the end. A good supper at which we are given some provisions for tomorrow's journey - a small tin of corned beef for two, and a good thick sandwich. H. has had some apples given to him and also has some cheese.

Wednesday, 21st May, 1941 (143) Tatura No. 4., D. Section

Get up at 2.15 a.m. breakfast at 3.15. Train starts at 4.45 after we marched to the station in the park. The terrapin case being almost too heavy in the long run. See the dawn some up and sleep and read. Later we get two lunch boxes each (containing, each, two ham sandwiches, a bun and an apple) and with what we brought by ourselves, this suffices for the day's food. At 1.20 we change trains and soon afterwards cross into Victoria. When we arrive at our

last train station we get out and are able to buy chocolate, papers, etc., from the refreshments woman's store. Then we have to wait for about an hour before the buses return from their first trip. Station's name is Shepperton, and as we pass through the barrier and into the coaches our short route to the latter is lined by little boys and girls, they admire our Roebuck's head (a sheep's skull with table tennis ball eyes and a paper nose, gaily painted), the adolescent youth of both sexes is a little in the background, containing one or two nice looking girls, so much so that I borrow Softies straw hat and wave to all girls from the coach as we pass through the little town. After about an hour's drive we arrive at the huge camp, which consists of a military section where I can see the electric control house and watchtower, connected by a barbed wire-on-wood frame archway with the "sections" of internee compounds. The huts in these turn out to consist of cubicles for two, H. and I take one. We find that A.E. and some of us have got into the section beyond ours, but tomorrow all that will be cleared up, there is talk of No. 7 and No. 8 pioneers going into different sections. That would be nice in a way as they are an unprepossessing lot, but we'll have to be together with them later and it may not be wise to maintain separate identities for longer than necessary.

There are 12 cubicles in each living hut, and 10 of these, so each (or at least this section) takes 240 men. There is one laundry. Piss and shit houses, cold showers, canteen and room at back of it (store or camp office etc.) one mess hut with separate benches and tables and a kitchen. Also a second mess hut which we don't use on the first evening, and which may be a recreation hut. Put terrapins into a laundry basin. First supper, two boiled sausages, boiled potato, apple, tea (lousy). Hear from a No. 8 chap that Layton there at once struck 4 men off the pioneer list, this suggesting that he brought a black list with him. Also that A. Huttenbach will go to orange tomorrow. There are conflicting reports about camp routine but there seems to be an inspection of living huts and kitchens at 9.30 a.m. so we'll have, tomorrow only, a getting up at 7 a.m. to be quite on the safe side and have plenty of time.

Thursday, 22nd May, 1941 (144)

Slept very well and got up at about 6.45. Good breakfast of bread, butter, apricot jam, tea and porridge. Then we clean up our cubicle, and wander round. Some talk to the men from No. 8 and some of our men, in the next section. Opposite us, on the other side of the 'main road' is a section containing Germans, some if not all of them from the aft decks of the Dunera. Diagonally opposite the section is reputed to contain Italians. In the sections, there are in addition to the hut listed yesterday, hospital huts with adjoining hospital washhouse - the latter with bath and latrine. All huts with running water are drained by a clever system of semi-circular cross section cement drains. The diameter of the semi-circle being open. In our section, there is a well developed vegetable garden. As there are four sections, and all seem to contain the same number of huts, there is room in this camp for 960 men, the same No. as the camps in Hay were built for. The large impression this camp makes is due to the fact that here there are 8 mess huts, 4 hot shower etc. huts, 4 piss and 4 shit huts, 4 cold shower huts, 4 canteen huts, 4 hospital huts and 4 kitchens, and 40 living huts, instead of these numbers being 4, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 367,



though here there are no cold washhouses. Thus here there are 76 huts, while a camp at Hay, counting the two hospitals, and med hut, contained, with workshop, 54 huts. Or if the hosp. wash huts are counted the Nos. are 80 and 54. Lofty's conversation with our new gate corporal: corp: "Well, I think you're going to have a lot of privileges here". Lofty: "Well, what for instance." \*corp: "Oh, newspapers and so on". Lofty: "we hope to be out of here soon". corp: wagging his finger: "Oh no, you won't". Lofty: "Well we hope to join the army soon". corp: "I don't think you'll be able to get to Germany now". Also good is the rumour among the troops that we're a captured German pioneer corps. Later in the morning the No. 8 men in section D went to C and our men in section C came to us. A meeting was called in the mess hut and A.E. told us that last night he was taken straight to the captain in charge of us, who seems to be a very nice man and knows pretty well all about us, the same being true of the sergeant major. A. also discussed the matter of our vis-avis, the German sailors, and was assured that none of them work in the central offices and that none of them are in the administration so that nominal rolls and other information cannot pass into their hands. The capt. said that he would take extra precautions to stop leakage of information to section A. The group leaders (of the groups of 50, 25 etc. that were formed in Hay, and some that formed themselves here) then met to allocate the living huts. We have lunch, at which A. reads out some of the regulations, the shit and piss ones causing great amusement. I shift our bunks from a position in which they touch the exposed wall (we are in an end cubicle) and obstruct the window to one opposite the door where neither is the case. After the good supper we carry on with furnishing, make a cupboard between end of bunks and end wall with a piece of calico. All very promising so that we hope to have a really nice room - though also that we will not be here for much more than a month.

Friday, 23rd May, 1941 (145) Hut 8.

We carry on with furnishing, and at 9 30 there is the roll call at which we have to stand outside our boxes, and when the officers come round the hut captain calls "Attention" and calls out our names, to which we answer "here, sir" meaning the officer. After lunch we assembled in Mess hut 2, at which meeting Andrew told us about today's conversation with the officers. They said to him that after Hay things here may seem to us a bit strict and military but that this was because they wanted to get us used to military procedure - which is as good a story as any other and seems quite reasonable, they wouldn't be likely to start a different discipline in this section after working one out for the Germans and Italians. A. gave us details of the camp routine attached. The Germans and Italians have to be in their huts while the last post is sounded - but we are allowed to stay where we are and are supposed to stand at attention. We will be allowed to write two letters this week. Later H. and H.O. find out some more things about papers etc. - we can only order one the "Argus" from which advertisements will be cut. Also one weekly "Pix" and the Australian. Later we get a list of those who go back with the England transport - 400 will go altogether, Ferdi's among them. fit up our table and draw clock on wall with chalk - with two paper hands and a notice "out of order". When today's inspection was in the laundry they saw the terrapins and the capt. said "have we got any cement to build them a pool?" and the sergeant answered "No," but we've got stones" so I'll soon have got one made for the little darlings.

Saturday, 24th May, 1941 (146)

Built terrapin enclosure in morning and completed pool after lunch. Caught small legless lizard among stones, must examine its eyelid to see whether its a skink, though probably a pogopus. Regular papers came in for first time today. It is a pogopus, hasn't got closable eyelid.

Sunday, 25th May, 1941 (147)

Finished replica of Roebuck hut model as farewell gift for Ferdie. Some parcels and printed matter arrive - probably redirected from Hay. The England goers have an early lunch and then buses come down the main street and collect men, first from section, and one or two Italians, and then from us. They leave amidst great cheering and farewell waving. Before they left they had to make detailed lists of all they took with them, apparently the men in charge of the transport arrangements have learned from the Dunera and want to be on the safe side this time. As no last post was sounded today, some were later for the five o'clock roll call and came in while the Lieutenants were counting and one of them said "can't have any late comers in the army", to which A. said "Well, we didn't hear the last post", getting our own back as it were. In this connection it may be amusing to record that Suesskind, chief of the watch service, went to the gate at 5 o'clock and asked what about the last post - to which the gate soldier replied "Oh there won't be any last post today, the bugle has gone to Sydney". Capt. Scurry, camp commandant promised A.E. to send us a drill book and said "With a little co-operation on your part I'll get some polish into you, and send you off on some route marches." To the men who left today he said "I can assure you that you won't go back on another Dunera - but I can't promise you that you won't get a dipping on the way - although I wish you all the best of luck".

Monday, 26th May, 1941 (148)

In afternoon built cage for lizard caught by Hayman, which I think is a young bearded dragon, at least it has the beginnings of a beard, movable eyelids and teeth in right place. Cage consists of piece of firewood, gauge which I brought from Hay, and cardboard box and pipe cleaners. Hood sunk, is chief news. Read "Action for Slander" - quite amusing in a way, though perhaps not as intended. Early to bed with Shakespeare.

Tuesday, 27th May, 1941 (149)

Read more Shakespeare in morning and started to make model of our box for H's birthday on June 4th. Carried on with this till supper time - though collecting some bugs and ants for the dragon. Bank, rich unmannered ass, (he bought whiskey in Hay at double price and in Shepparton Station bought some food and papers in a manner that made me want to kick his pants) was asked across wires by Nazis whether we too were going to help the English win the war, to which he replied "No we're going Hitler die eier schleifen helfen" which is good as a reply - but it would have been better to ignore the Ns. After supper A.E. gave us a little talk on his discussion with the commandant - who says that as he's not yet received any special instructions on our treatment he could not afford to make any difference - at least outwardly, in his treatment

of us and the other side - so on his inspections men with fixed bayonets would have to come into the camp. There seems to have been quite a long discussion on this point which is naturally very unpleasant for us and the capt. finally agrees to put the armed guard in an inconspicuous place - namely, behind the kitchen. A. then mentioned the Bank incident and the attitude to be taken towards the other side generally - which quite rightly was to ignore them completely - even if they have fireworks. Ian Weber today received a telegram which contained the following quote from an air ministry letter "on purely Nationality grounds he is not debarred and we have in fact men in similar circumstances, now serving", which I at the moment, prefer to think is nothing new - i.e. merely a statement of principle - but which all the same may be something as the situation may have changed and there may be a certain amount of shortage. In a way it would be ideal to be a fighter pilot over Britain, a fair element of risk, useful work, on the technical side too - and no chance of being taken prisoner. Hood sunk.

Wednesday, 28th May, 1941 (150) Hut 1 (P.O.)

Another (similar to yesterday's) lizard is caught by Oesterreicher and put with the other. Paper confirms the rumours, that excitedly spread through the camp, that the Bismark has been sunk - good in itself and especially after yesterday's news. Terrapins won't eat, at least not in my presence - but are darlings and not in the least shy. I let none put a foot in their enclosure and don't touch them myself. Especially when floating in or looking out of the water they seem far more like mammals - small hippos - than reptiles, with their articulate, rather forwards looking eyes. A. thinks there are indications that either before or after training, we may be sent back to England - thinks too that to get his 400 men for the transport, which he supposes will leave this week - he'll have to go beyond his original lists - especially as the reserve list men in our camps (I mean sections C & D) have been notified that they'll leave tomorrow at two o'clock. Layton seems to have said to A. that after the reserve lists, if there's still room, he'd take very special specialists - he reckoned on 25 and at the most 35. But original and reserve list together come to only about 212 or less so say 178 to be filled - o the hasn't got the specialist yet - and I'm on all sp. lists that went out. Well, I'll pretend to be sceptical - but I may have a chance.

Thursday, 29th May, 1941 (151) Hut 8

Was given third lizard in morning similar to other - the N.Z. rumour comes up again, this time an officer is supposed to have said in C. section that Layton couldn't get a camp for us in Australia and was trying to arrange for our training in N.Z. - nearly no mail today, we wash in the afternoon. Play poker in evening - 15 pts. = 1 cigarette though we play as if it were  $7\frac{1}{2}$  pts. = cig, and loose 16 cigs.

Friday, 30th May, 1941 (152)

In the morning we hear that this afternoon there'll be the first route march, for letters to O. In the afternoon Hans and I both unsuccessfully try to get into the party in the hope that of the R.S. men eligible, of which 100 are wanted, less than 100 will go. We watch them go, only with 5 N.C.Os, without revolvers,

guns or bayonets, and one officer with his usual service revolver. When they reach a nice large field they stop and instead of a march have some drill, 1.5 - 2.0 hours of it, practising marching orders and making a very good impression on the N.C.O.s and officer, some of whom asked whether they'd been drilled before. Tomorrow or soon it'll be our turn. We don't quite know what is behind it - whether it is just something thought up by the officers instead of a walk, whether it is as a friendly gesture and favour to us, possibly after an informed talk with Layton, or whether it is going to be more fully part of our proper training than we realise.

Saturday, 31st May, 1941 (153)

Cloudy day. Shortage of sugar in store results in unsweetened powdered milk in morning. Our gate guard asks why the hell we didn't run away yesterday (meaning those who trained yesterday) "no guards, water 10 miles from here - nobody would know where you'd gone". Continue with Box model for H's birthday in afternoon and evening. The debating soc. this evening holds its first meeting. Some rain in evening. Don't know what and to whom to write this week, our mail is still not coming, the camp commandant is intending, or possibly has already written, a memorandum to Eastern Command about it. 5 married men from C. section are leaving tomorrow to go to U.K. - they'll join the 400 transport. The Italians have some choral music (mass?), the Nazis sing "Deutschland uber alles" and the Horst wessel ~~leid~~, we have our debating soc. and I'm going to bed.

Sunday, 1st June, 1941 (154)

We hear that bags of mail (Hay) have arrived in Tatura and that we are likely to get ours on Wednesday. Carry on with box model for H. Make map of section from stepped out field notes, at least huts and drains, though not yet tress. Shall give one of these to H. A lot of rain.

Monday, 2nd June, 1941 (155)

After the inspection we are all weighed and measured. I'm put at 5'6" and 10 st., the latter being unchanged, but 5'6" is I think an increase. Same figures for H, but I think I'm taller. Then carry on box model. Continue to read "Ravenshoe" by Henry Kingsley, having finished "Away from it all" some days ago, the latter rather amusing - gives me the impression of having been written by a man of say 30 who has suddenly discovered socialism. Shower in evening.

Tuesday, 3rd June, 1941 (156)

Continue with model and make map of section also for H. H. and H.C. are called out and we all expect a lot of mail, but though they return with a large postbag this does not contain letters but parcels - three for me, all from Macy's with all sorts of nice food - the unpleasant thing is that two packets of chocolate and one of dates are missing.

Wednesday, 4th June, 1941 (157)

Hs. birthday, Lollie, as arranged, comes in at 5.45 and arranges the gifts on our table. Coffee party before the afternoon roll call. Camp meeting in

evening at which the sending of a letter concerning our mail, to the official visitor, is discussed. Very lively meeting.

Thursday, 5th June, 1941 (158)

Start mending my green KAS pullover. Section C has also heard that Layton is expected end of this week or beginning of next. Chocolate from canteen. Fog morn. and evening.

Friday, 6th June, 1941 (159)

Colonel comes on inspection and is pleased, says he's got special men to work on our mail, but himself can't go to No. 1 (the military camp). We hear that the official visitor will come tomorrow, he'll hear about 1) the mail 2) the Nazis and 3) the latrine buckets, which are in a terrible state, leaking and stinking, because the chap who fetches the p. and s. in his lorry only empties them but doesn't give us cleaned and tarred ones instead. We're going to get more soap, the present ration being the army and not the internee ration. H. goes out in afternoon to orderly room, but no mail. Camp meeting in evening at which A. tells us that the colonel said he had a letter yesterday in which he read between the lines that Layton will be here today or tomorrow - well, he wasn't here today but there still is some hope. Points for the official visitor will be 1) mail 2) unequipped med. hut, 3) airmail. Start drafting letter to parents.

Saturday, 7th June, 1941 (160)

Write letter to parents and Raja in morning. Official visitor comes in hut but haven't heard anything about him yet. Measure terrapins. Headache, gets worse in afternoon and try to sleep and take aspirin. Ask H. to order the "Australian" which is going to bring operation and service charts of various arms, such as light Bren machine gun. Have shaved every evening these last few days, this makes it much easier if there's not hot water - also always possible to have good shower in evening - no rush then. Carry on with reading I.B.S. Haldane's "Possible Worlds" which makes me want to breed flies, or something and stimulates my interest in pure science. The sergeant<sup>the</sup> major, who mostly counts us during morning roll call (in the mess huts) is really very amusing, he comes in and goes something like this: "Good morning to you all, got up nice and early and done your exercises. Plenty of time for a shower, shave and wash and a piss, that's right, thank you", and pops off again. What may convince our gate sentry more than anything else of our Anglicisation is the morning and noon rush to the stoves for toasting.

Sunday, 8th June, 1941 (161)

Nothing, absolutely nothing to write home about - but I like Haldane's bit about his brain not being composed of atoms unless his mind is not wholly conditioned by matter.

Monday, 9th June, 1941 (162)

Very cold today - got outside section for first time today to help H.O. bring in parcels. Have to go back for wheelbarrow and though only have to push loaded

barrow uphill for abt. 100 yds, and then let it go downhill to section almost pass out afterwards at canteen during unloading. Dr. Dentsch examine but nothing wrong - probably, I think, lack of exercise - not used to exertion. Re-read "Clouds of Witness" by Sayers. Finish "Possibly Worms" give specimen signature for bank. No mail only some letters for those whose name starts with F., which makes things look rather black for us. Someone catches a mouse, but I don't accept, could only have put it in lizard cage where it would have nibbled lizards.

Tuesday, 10th June, 1941 (163)

(Weilman arm) Get fed up with reading novels and start to work a little on theory of machines. A lot of mail came in today, one for me from Linton more or less in answer to my old W'man letter. H. gets 27. But few U.S. clipper letters. Camp meeting in evening - we hear that the official visitor was duly annoyed at the "concentration camp" on the money tokens and altogether as helpful as could be.

Wednesday, 11th June, 1941 (164)

In morning & just after lunch complete H's map of the camp by adding sports ground and incinerator, and put in key. In afternoon Bank sen. brings a tame magpie with cut down wings, which we first take to our cubicle and try to feed on bread which it doesn't like, then I give it the larva of something which I had under observation, then we take it to and establish it in the post office, where it later eats a little meat and shits all over the place and later goes to sleep with head tucked away and on one leg. Read letters to H. There is community singing in the tool store to which I don't go, but can hear it in the room.

Thursday, 12th June, 1941 (165)

The magpie is returned in the morning to the Nazis whose property it turns out to be. However, it was back again in the afternoon and ate lots of raw meat from my finger. We'll send it over again tomorrow but not a third time if that should arise. A. says that "outside" they were prepared for Layton's coming today but "somehow he got stuck", still it looks like something. Draft reply to Linton, in which I ask him to get and keep a copy of my degree certificate in case I find myself in London and want it in a hurry, also to find whether I'm eligible for specialists (alien) central register, and if so whether he can have me put on to it. Washed our week's laundry. Very funny to see A.E. try to teach the bird to say "fuck Hitler", the bird looking intelligent and now and again saying "quarark". This was when H., H.O. and I had cocoa and cake in the P.O. and A. joined us for a while.

Friday, 13th June, 1941 (166)

Bird "Mack" eats again a lot of meat in the morning. The inspection is taken by a youngish 1st Lt. who makes the impression of being a bit of a shit. He insists on men standing exactly in order in which they are called - which doesn't matter - and inspects rather more closely than any one before. We'll see. Someone here had a letter from Liverpool - saying that he was hoped to be in England soon - sounds too good to be true, but they may have more information

than we (Liverpool near Sydney). X Yesterday the Nazis received 84 parcels from America, containing just about all they could want - including 25000 cigarettes. H. and I are invited to a tea party at 4 o'clock by the Peters, to which also come Rudi Moler and Ian Weber - it is a great success - the mere fact of having to hold a cup of coffee in one hand and to balance a plate with cake on one's knee makes a very deep impression. [A new army order, at least new to us, is that no stoves or fires of any sort must be in the sleeping huts, which is quite reasonable, especially as it is just about impossible to make such fires absolutely smokeless although for the last two days there has been some quite professional and successful charcoal burning.] The "tea party" ended with the afternoon roll call (which means counting in mess huts) after we had discussed mainly Palestine and the problem of India; and after the roll call H. & I go the rounds for about an hour discussing prospects now, when we're in the army, and after the war, and generally take a pessimistic view of the sort of peace we're going to have and the life we'll lead after the war - people will be in a state to take that peace which guarantees a certain period of peace, even if it means having another war later, rather than attempt a peace for all time, and together with this they'll also be ready to follow anyone who promises a short cut to a higher standard of living even if this involves some dictatorship fascism and/or anti-semitism, possibly and probably dressed up as something else. In a way to be an ex-German-Jewish refugee is a good thing it keeps one up on one's toes - otherwise it would be so easy to let oneself slide a bit and see just that bit of good in Dictatorship etc. which as far as it is present is of course no special attribute of dictatorship but of human societies, governments etc. of whatever political form (circumcision is so conclusive). The bird goes back to the Nazis. Send letter to Linton. However, the chances for a political deterioration in Britain will be greatest if we have anything like a stalemate peace - which I am fairly sure will not be the case. P As far as I personally am concerned the matter is not easy either: It is difficult to foresee the behaviour of industry in Britain after the war - there will probably be a race to change over to commodities and be first on the market again with these, and this will not be possible for all firms, expanded as they are at present, even if there is something like the pre-war demand. I might not be able to get a job in Britain. Suppose, though, that I could always get one overseas once I'm naturalised, yet if I take one on (and they have their undoubted attractions for me) it may be difficult to break away from it after a reasonable length of time and again, to get in touch with things and people in England. Also, as I wrote before, the idea of becoming an "ordinary workman" has its attractions; I flatter myself that I could learn say welding in evening classes while working in a factory during the day etc. P About the newspaper reports that Germany has 100 to 130 divisions massed on the Russian frontier: seems to me that a conflict between Germany and Russia, though apparently suggested in some London papers, is most unlikely - more likely to my mind that G. & R. will act together, or that R. allows the passage of G. troops. Germany may plan to go round Turkey on the land side - round the Black sea perhaps simultaneously with an invasion of Syria. But possibly Germany doesn't even plan to invade Syria but is out for something much larger - Iran and Iraq - possibly even India - German military plans are original and their troops can move quite fast over land. The presence of the G. troops will of course help Russia to make her decision, but as stated before, I believe that a German conflict with Russia is impossible. Hitler needs successes and he may say "O.K., I can't invade Britain and force her to

to make peace, but the British are pretty busy in the Mediterranean, the importance of which has by now got an exaggerated value in the eyes of the British public, and so I'll just keep 'em up on their toes and occupied with occasional very big air-raids on Britain, while I raise the German standard of living by forcing Russia to complete co-operation, getting my oil from Iran and generally build up for myself an Eastern Empire, the sea routes to which the British admittedly control, but I shall have the land routes, which are even better". P Germany may even get Russia's help in say India in return for a promise of German help for Russia and Japan in splitting up China. Well this may be a black and phantastic picture - it will best be made impossible by soon and decisive British and Allied air superiority, and superiority which can smash the nerves of Germany - human and industrial. I think the value of the Empire Air Training scheme can hardly be overestimated, as also that of all other means by which Britain is assured a continuous supply of well trained pilots and ground staff. P On reading this again, I hope I shall not acquire a reputation for prediction. X

Saturday, 14th June, 1941 (167)

Solve the little problem of how to (occupy) find the number of strokes reqd. to draw a given figure, and come to the very simple result that it is half the number of junctions at which an odd number of lines meet. (inc. 1 line, i.e. start or finish). Camp meeting after supper at which we hear that Capt. Scurry is back which I knew, and that he had had a talk with A.E. about the conduct of the young officer and that many if not all the changes instituted by him had been reversed. Scurry expected Layton to be here. Feed the lizards by letting them open their mouths and then putting in small pieces of meat, which they then eat by themselves. Eat quite a few of the very good oranges now sold at the canteen.

Sunday, 15th June, 1941 (168)

Breakfast includes also coffee eggs and honey. Hear about last nights show from C. that visited us, at which A. and Maass were called up, blindfolded and given spoons and pots of jam with which to feed one another, the one that fed the other one most to be the winner, actually a draw was reached. The young Lt. accompanies Scurry on inspection. Very misty in morning, walk a lot around camp and so keep quite warm. Notice is up on the tool room door that "The camp commandant has advised us this morning that Major Layton will visit us during this week. He is now in No. 2 just round the corner". The phrase "round the corner" having for sometime been a byword in our camp. The handball group to which I belong met for the first time this morning in Dickers cubicle, and the team (of 7) to play this afternoon was selected, I to play centre half. Finally, we choose a name, suggestions on which a vote was taken were "coo-ees" "Dwarfs" (mine) and "Deadend Kids", the latter being adopted, and at once being misunderstood by some members as "Dad and kids". We loose heavily, 4-0 I think, in the match.

Monday, 16th June, 1941 (169)

The coldest morning yet, do some exercises again as yesterday evening, 20 belly muscles, 15 arm raise and lowers. Warms one up a lot. Soon after



inspection there is a call for route march for those whose names begin with O. to Z, and we march quite a bit (about 1 mile) along the nearest public road and back again. Amazing how out of training I seem to be, found the march rather tiring and all returned well warmed up. Even sleep a little after lunch. Have haircut. Started to take some notes from Toft and Kersey's "Theory of machines" write out some words I don't know or didn't know to spell from the pocket Oxf'd. dictionary.

Tuesday, 17th June, 1941 (170)

The sergeant major tells us that Layton will come in on inspection and there is a great cleaning of cubicles, polishing of boots, and smartening up generally - but then L. doesn't come for insp. after all, which, as H. says, shows some good taste, as it really is not his business to see that we're properly interned. He came in afterwards though and - no training in Australia - the war office has decided to have us back to England as Layton suggested, administrative difficulties were too great for an English unit in Australia. We'd go back as internees, but on parole. Well, before lunch there was a camp meeting at which this was told generally and A.E. said that L. would cable to London to try to arrange for us to go straight to military training camps rather than spend we don't know how long again in internment camps in Britain. A. and other spokesmen then suggested that some or perhaps many of us might like to join the Australian forces - L. said he hadn't thought anybody would - and after some discussing (A.E. being impartially all for the Australian idea) on a preliminary show of hands about 90 were found to be in favour of it. So if in the other camp too there'll be a substantial demand for it - L. will put it to the Australian authorities. L. said that he had put us on the priority list in the same position as troops returning to England and had asked shipping companies to be ready for shipments. It seems that at first the idea was to have us trained here and then sent to the near East, but the near East was now considered to be too dangerous for us, the capture of Jewish pioneers in Greece having been a great shock to people in England. In the evening we have a coffee cake, biscuits and nuts party in Lofty's box for his birthday, which was yesterday, all very gay, with imitations, etc. and A. tells the story of how the Catholic padre came to him in Hay and showed him a memorandum he was going to submit, the memorandum consisting of the words: "Overhoff, Meier, mental". Next day they were in hospital.

Wednesday, 18th June, 1941 (171)

Start to draft reply to yesterday's letter from parents (I also had one from Gideon) then during handball practice H. gives me another one, also from parents, which I then answer too - finishing just before closing time by writing after lunch during the hut meeting that takes place and to which I only go to vote when called by H. H. has also set in motion the machinery for the ordering of silk stockings which we consider "a good thing" to do for taking to England. Vote was to see how many would go back unconditionally, both of over and of under twentynines without guardians permission. The latter won't be able to go unless they get permission.

Thursday, 19th June, 1941 (172)

Nothing new. Get book of puzzles from library, some very good ones among them which I'll put down in my little black problem book. Then we come onto tricks, and Lollie does one in which he has 6d. put on his hand (in coppers) then puts a towel over it, shakes the money about a bit and says, well, there are now only 4d. on it, will you give me 2d. if I'm wrong, and it is amazingly effective. Also continue with words from pocket Oxford dictionary, now on letter B. I think shall ask Dowy to send me Mrs. Robins affidavit and the birth cert. copies, if any, he has received from my parents.

Friday, 20th June, 1941 (173)

Wrote verses attached to the tune of the Alabama song. This arose from a suggestion of Ziba's, to make verses to the tune of the A. song for "our" song. H. too made some. Wrote letter to Gideon. Exercised. Quite a lot of walking round camp too. Attended a little conference of camp school teachers and others like myself, to discuss what books and sort of books to mention to the education officer who told us that we, section D, could have about 50 books supplied for camp school and other educational purposes by the army.

Saturday, 21st June, 1941 (174)

Notice attached appears, and of course causes a lot of speculation and discussion. After the 5 o'clock roll call there is a camp meeting at which A. bring up the matter of the papers signed by the released lot which left on June 4th. Amongst these papers there was one in which each man "requested facilities to travel back to the U.K." and this, in the camp leaders opinion, would mean that in the event of a disaster, neither the War Office nor the Home Office would be responsible or pay compensation, as we were not sworn in, nor were "compelled" to go back. On this matter they proposed sending a letter to Layton, after it had been approved by us all and the other camp, and had a draft of this which A. read to us, which contained the words "although some want to go back many have .... and it was held in the discussion, that the words unconditionally or in any case being missing this did not make the position of the unconds. clear enough and might prejudice them, while the others held that such a modification would prejudice the conditionals. In the end it was decided to have another meeting tomorrow and in the meantime to make a list of all die hard unconditionals. Men who left on June 4th were completely fitted out by David Jones Ltd. and were given £2 each in addition to which each of them was allowed to draw £3 from his account if he could and wanted to. They also had to make wills, or at least were asked to do so, before they left. Layton left the Tatura region last night.

Sunday, 22nd June, 1941 (175)

Do a bit more theory of machines work in the morning. Then, in the afternoon some of us hear, from the barbed wire, the radio in the guards room announce Germany's declaration of war on Russia, this is hardly believed by some others, but all are convinced when A. gives it as the first item from the military, at the camp meeting after the 5 o'clock roll call, apparently the

inspecting officer told him so, without perhaps strictly being supposed to. Well, its great news, though none knows quite what it means, whether Germany recons on British and U.S. support - opinion in the U.S. must be somewhat affected though if the Gs. expect anything from Britain they'll be disappointed. Or they hope to knock out Russia and then be economically independent. What I fear most is that Germany may have succeeded in dividing the Russian army, part of it possibly siding with G. Anyway, it may explain Hess flight to England. The letter to Layton will be sent in a slightly different form which satisfies everyone.

Monday, 23rd June, 1941 (176)

The papers confirm yesterday's news, and also bring the fall of Damascus. There is also a letter in the papers supporting our release, or that of some of us, in Australia. After the afternoon roll call, there is a camp meeting at which A.E. announces that the military have asked for a list of those who are willing to go back under all circumstances. Apparently A.E. went "up" and talked about it to the now Major Scurry, who, not being better informed than we, rang up the colonel, who knew no more but gave permission to ring up Layton. Scurry then rang up Layton and said that as A.E. was so near, could he talk to him and so there A. was talking to Layton, who proved to be most evasive, but said that he hadn't got a boat (what else could he say, as soldier over phone) and that compensation was unlikely, and cheapest group insurance for 200 would cost £3000. So tomorrow after breakfast there'll be a table outside the office where all who will may sign their willingness to travel. Their number will then be sent to Layton. Handball match against "contaminators" drawn 2 all.

Tuesday, 24th June, 1941 (177)

Signify that I want to sign the willingness to A.E. after breakfast. A. then brought the list to the orderly room where it was typed out in alphabetical order, two copies to the intelligence and the 3rd to A. the willingness to travel forms were then brought into the compound in the afternoon by Gibson the pup whose the intelligence officer. Signed forms after afternoon roll call.

Wednesday, 25th June, 1941 (178)

Started to read "Civilisation" by Clive Bell in morning. Go on route march after lunch, we march to the reservoir, through and to the best Australian landscape I have yet seen. After roll call there is a camp meeting at which instructions for filling out the S.H.3 forms brought in are given, I feel in my form in the P.O. after supper. *fill*

Thursday, 26th June, 1941 (179)

As H.O. is in hosp. with "flu" I for the first time have to help at the P.O. and accept newspaper orders all morning. Continue to read "Civilisation" and make a sort of poem with one good verse.

Friday, 27th June, 1941 (180)

Finish "Civilisation" and start on five dialogues of Platts, published in

Everyman's Library. Handball match in afternoon, not much of a game. Write letter to parents in evening. The pyjamas, socks and handkies we ordered have arrived at the canteen, but we'll get them tomorrow.

Saturday, 28th June, 1941 (181)

Get a first Latin Grammar from the library in morning, after having helped to pump out one of the grease traps. Do some work in Latin in afternoon. Go to the Debating Soc's. meeting in evening on "A free press is a curse" which after a very feeble discussion is defeated 42-7.

Sunday, 29th June, 1941 (182)

Write letter to P. in morning, asking for 1st time why she doesn't write. Did first Latin exercise after lunch. Hans bring the red-hot rumour from staff sergeant Dettricks that we may be moved soon - he advised the canteen to order only what could go into A. if need be and asked the bank to keep in readiness for liquidation. Read more Plato, starting on synopsis.

Monday, 30th June, 1941 (183)

In the morning amuse myself by determining the relation between the no. of spaces, lines and joints of a figure and am further occupied with this and its extension during the day. Next two Latin exercises in afternoon. Russian situation obscure but hopeful.

Tuesday, 1st July, 1941 (184)

More mathematical amusements in morning, and trial packing in excellent fashion by H. with me looking on. More Latin after lunch, the time at which I plan to do it every day, at least while in this camp, on ship perhaps in the morning. Russian situation more hopeful still but also obscure. Yesterday evening A.E. had to climb over the central barbed wire fence because he was wanted outside to give more details of withdrawal figures - those who wished to withdraw were given an opportunity to do so yesterday. Tomorrow we expect six men who signed their S.H.9's in Hay but went with other transports. Letters arrive from the first released lot from New Zealand, saying that the released are not together with the married men, travel 1st class and enjoy complete freedom. As to married men, there is much speculation, their ship may go via the Cape, possibly because of legal Panama Canal difficulties. Put terrapin box in order and make lid hinging and fix good handle.

Wednesday, 2nd July, 1941 (185)

Some theory of machines work in morning. More Latin as planned. The six men don't come after all, but we hear that seven will leave tomorrow, much spec. as to whether this will constitute the end of the present movements. - In the evening there is a farewell party for R.A. who is one of those who leave tomorrow.

Thursday, 3rd July, 1941 (186)

Am on dentist party and we drive in open truck to No. 1 the military camp,

and there I have 1 filling filled and was told that in the tooth which I feel / the nerve had been killed and nothing need or can be done about (when its tapped) it. When I come back find that camp leader A.E. is also ging with the transport - at the camp meeting after supper he explains that a telegram of his release had arrived this morning. They leave soon after the meeting. Roebucks decide to put up Brach as Spokesman, H. as deputy, and at Camp meeting after 5 o'clock roll call we elect an election committee and the final nominations by supper time are: Brach and Maass as spokesmen, Maass and H. as deputies. Result is B. and Maass.

Friday, 4th July, 1941 (187)

Do a lot of Latin, otherwise uneventful. Cold in evening.

Saturday, 5th July, 1941 (188)

After very cold night begin to revise Latin in morning. After short spell of sun the rain again starts of, it having rained every day for about the last week. Go to lecture by Sommaruga "Astrology truth and fiction", with quite interesting debate, but no good answer to my question of what about death by earthquake etc. Jungs mass subconscious even would have difficulty in knowing things ahead.

Sunday, 6th July, 1941 (189)

In the evening there is a party given by Lollie in his and P.F.s room, twenty seven people in it and the whole lit by candles. Wonderful sandwiches, fruit salad and cocoa. Start "Dr. Syu" and do also feel very annoyed and rebellious the whole day. Dr. Patkin, hon. sec. of Aust. Zionist org. visits, brings birth certs. and affids.

Monday, 7th July, 1941 (190)

H. gets telegram that C. cases will now be brought back to Isle of Man for re-examination, also refugee women seem to be liable to drafting like British ones. Do Latin exercises.

Tuesday, 8th July, 1941 (191)

Get letter from father and I hardly believe it, a very nice one from Peggy which I answer in evening.

Wednesday, 9th July, 1941 (192)

Forward "Extract from Proceed" to Brand, with a nice pumping letter. B. at lunch announces that there may be something in the Layton's coming rumour, "Just around the corner" as E. would have said. Write letter to parents in evening. Preparations go on around me for our party tomorrow, for which I receive my invitation, drawn by Willi T. Russians still seem O.K. Next week?

Thursday, 10th July, 1941 (193)

Yesterday it was announced (but how undemocratic) that as today was the anniversary of embarkation day there would be a sort of bank holiday in our section: no working parties going out, etc. bank and canteen closed. When S.M. was in for the mornings count he said that there'd be a route march at 2.30. - Unfortunately a few did go out to work, which shows the disadvantage of not having a camp meeting to decide such actions. The route march was over the same route as last time. While we were resting an old grey haired gent drove up in a trap(?) with a very old horse, his chief piece of conversation was "the horse is 18 and the man's 81" the horse took us in quite calmly, but was later startled when the commands "Atten-shun" and "Quick March" were given, nearly backing the trap into the column and then shooting off forward dangerously near the tree stumps. H. says he was the newsagent. The party in the evening is fun - in the toolstore being a "sit down party" as distinct from most of those that can take place in a cubicle. Unfortunately like all parties it had to end too early owing to the "in cubicle" regulation.

Friday, 11th July, 1941 (194)

Handball match in morning which we loose 0-2. H. tells me that my letter to Brand has not been approved and that Scurry has asked for a copy of the "Extract from ....." to be made, for his own use. I suppose, I think he objects to the fact that I tell Brand of H.'s telegram (see Monday) and I hope that the letter will be passed when I submit it again, this time without the second part. Latin is still going. K. Ostberg now corrects the exercises, usually soon after supper. H. tells me that route marches are something to which we are entitled at regular intervals, so not just a kind action only as we used to think.

Saturday, 12th July, 1941 (195)

Think about stereoscope and first experimental stage works quite well.

Sunday, 13th July, 1941 (196)

More stereoscopy throughout day, but no clear success, two colour system can't be tried for lack of material. K.O. gives me a few sentences to translate orally in evening, sort of revision check.

Monday, 14th July, 1941 (197)

Six more releases come through and letter to Layton is read in draft and approved.

Tuesday, 15th July, 1941 (198)

H. brings down a letter from Ha. to R., which is open and will be forwarded, which I read she is enjoying herself much as I thought and has "had three long and dreary letters from Eli, all about terrapins and crawfish, which mean nothing to my immature mind (has he had a sunstroke?) ..." So I at least know that my "presumably" first three letters to her have arrived. After feeling rather

resentful for a while decide that that is more or less how I'd speak of her to P. (oh yeah) - something like that anyway. Must admit too that I wrote rather a lot about myself which may quite well be dreary to her - the rankling point (and that not much) is immature, which in retrospect she is perfectly well entitled to think me - though I used to put it down to a perhaps excessive sense of responsibility (and who can distinguish that from funk?) and lack of funds for large scale operations - I suppose I was very young at 19. - I'd like to know more details about their affair though. Still, she hasn't written to me so far, which makes me wonder whether she will still be "friends" with me (The self consciousness of the diarist - what I mean is whether she will still give me what I think used to be quite a large part of her confidence - or whether she'd prefer me to be just an acquaintance, or not even that which if R. becomes permanent would be explicable) when I'm back.

Wednesday, 16th July, 1941 (199)

Handball practice.

Thursday, 17th July, 1941 (200)

Handball match in morning on new sports ground outside camp, we loose 0-1 and I play quite well, my wind is getting better - get letter from Ha. in afternoon, much as hers to R., if not better. In fact a very good and amusing letter which she seems to have put some energy in.

Friday, 18th July, 1941 (201)

Write letter to Hannah in morning with one sketch, wonder whether and hope that it'll pass the censor - Also see letter to Robinson from which it seems likely that A. was not released, when he left. Establish an ant heap in large bisquit tin inside enclosure for observation as I've started to read "The Personality of animals" by Munro Fox.

Saturday, 19th July, 1941 (202)

Wrote letter to Parents in morning, go to Debating Soc. meeting in the evening at which the motion "That it is a waste of time to go to the films" is defeated. In the morning go out to sports ground for a bit of cricket practice.

Sunday, 20th July, 1941 (203)

Wrote clipper letter to Jatie asking for references, people to refer to, family and personal, and made rough draft of R.A.F. application, quite a good case if I get nice refs. as can attach B.Sc., and A.C.G.I.

Monday, 21st July, 1941 (204)

Clipper letter goes out in morning, and I spend rest of morning as zoologist, with Lofty putting earthworms in tin with coffee ground to bread/glass. Latin in afternoon and get three more mags. from parents, and McGrawhill book catalogue for 1941.  
/and also establishing a new kind of anthheap in a/

Tuesday, 22nd July, 1941 (205)

Major Scurry is back from Malb. and tells Auerbach that Layton is waiting for "The big ships". He had lunch with Layton.

Wednesday, 23rd July, 1941 (206)

Scurry this morning comes into our camp and Brach's report of their talk sounds more encouraging, as our preference apparently still stands and (except for those not only released but specifically asked for by the H.O.) even small transports will be used for us. Handball match in afternoon at which I score my first goal. Very good letter from parents and Raja.

Thursday, 24th July, 1941 (207)

Out in morning for cricket practice, and handball match in afternoon in which I play left wing.

Friday, 25th July, 1941 (208)

Write letter to parents in the morning and Latin after lunch, as all this week. H. tells me that "outside" they are greatly disconcerted by the H.Q. instruction that discipline of U.K. internees is to be relaxed as a) it is doubtful whether we've got any, b) they don't know quite what it means anyway. Notice in papers that B.O.W. can be employed on civilian work at rates of pay to be fixed by the minister pending agreement between the belligerent nations.

Saturday, 26th July, 1941 (209)

Design 2 : 1 spicyclic gear wheels of 4 and 8 teeth and later try to cut them from plywood but this is a failure; get letter from parents in which they are very worried and think I might be on the way back to England, written before the one I received on the 23rd and father tells me to get in touch with Weizmann, Lockey, etc. should I get back - go to Hs. deb. soc. lecture on the Economics reconst. of Britain.

Sunday, 27th July, 1941 (210)

25.11  
Play in second team handball match this morning, scoring 3 goals, as left forward and generally having the time of my life and playing a satisfyingly exhausting game. Yesterday we had via the Radio outside the news of Britains and Japans joint economic action against Japan.

Monday, 28th July, 1941 (211)

Headache in afternoon and thus no Latin. Start "design" of a razor blade holder.

Tuesday, 29th July, 1941 (212)

In the morning the occupation forms asked for by H.Q. are filled in by the hut captains (handed in, some filled in yesterday). Then during inspection



Dettricks comes round and says that Weiser, Bernhard, Balnewones and I are to come out for an interview with the commandant at 10.45, At about 12 a car with an H.Q. officer and a civilian arrives and we are one by one interviewed. I am asked to give an account of my technical training and as detailed mechanical eng. experience as possible, and am then asked to make a freehand sketch of a simple hydraulic part, which Scurry expects to have on Thursday.

Wednesday, 30th July, 1941 (213)

Spend about the whole day in making preparations for and the sketch requested yesterday, end by drawing casing for self designed air valve, then after lights out work for about two hours by candle light on sketch of 1" gatevalve and dimensioned valve spindle and screw machine part for the valve, the latter both being dimensioned.

Thursday, 31st July, 1941 (214)

Hand in the second drawing (of valve spindle etc.) together with covering note to Scurry saying that I would not wish to miss a pioneer transport because of pending negotiations. Scurry seems to think I won't.- Play handball in morning, right inner without scoring (outside) also outside in cricket in afternoon just five people, I actually bowl Lolley & bat better, though easily and often bowled by straightforward Maass. Some sort of payment scheme for work in and outside camp on basis of six hour day (by army) will come (1 s per 6 h. day) into operation in the next few days, scheme requires modification at least internally, as we have few full time workers.

Friday, 1st August, 1941 (215)

Spent morning in making the razorblade holder designed sometime ago. Latin, etc. in afternoon.

Saturday, 2nd August, 1941 (216)

H. tells me that D. in the int. said that "those seven" who were interviewed on Wednesday made a very good impression and have a good chance of getting out here, so much so that Scurry, we don't know at whose (if anybody's) request, has asked for a list of draughtsmen and toolmakers. Camp meeting after supper at which the wage scheme is discussed and with some joking accepted. The Austs. will pay 1/- per six hour day and only for non fatigue jobs, so we internally have arranged to pay all jobs at that rate.

Sunday, 3rd August, 1941 (217)

Handball match in morning inside camp. Latin and tea at Z'bar in afternoon, accept occupation forms after roll call.

Monday, 4th August, 1941 (218)

Go out in morning to int. and ask Dettricks about oil, textile, and motor mechanics and he says that they can go on list too, accept more forms throughout the day.

Tuesday, 5th August, 1941 (219)

In the morning accept finished occ. forms.

Wednesday, 6th August, 1941 (220)

Some bowling and batting practice inside the camp in the morning. Latin as usual in afternoon.

Thursday, 7th August, 1941 (221)

Handball match outside in the morning, I play centre half. In the afternoon while I'm doing my Latin, Scurry comes in and it transpires that we are going to leave for a camp about 50 miles north of Adelaide. In the course of the rest of the day we further hear that two of our sergeants are going to Perth to meet a ship with married couples internees which is coming in in four days time. They'll board this ship for the trip to Melbourne, and the internees are going to No. 3, (Tatura) where there is one section of M.Cs. (3 being the outer camp properly equipped for M.Cs. and children) and the coshers and others (3 sections in all) from No. 3 will come here. We are, to me, obviously being sent as our business with Layton is about finished, the rest being merely a waiting for a ship (might be the coming one on its way back). But some hysteria prevailing, as we have just got nicely settled in this camp and payment scheme begun etc. So Brach and Auerbach (Leader of C. where feeling is much the same) go out and talk to Scurry to try to ring up Layton (about Geparstein). Scurry says Layton knows all about it but telephones H.Q. and they don't quite know where Layton is but promise to inform him of the bewilderment at move etc. List mentioned during this telephonic conversation, turns out to be one of pioneer acceptances which will come tomorrow and most likely also into the camp. Hear that some of other sections will join us though none of our old friends.

Friday, 8th August, 1941 (222)

Play cricket most of day and H. and I are on the acceptance P.C. list which duly comes in. This list is pretty well that of those who in Hay signed the first P.C. list, and includes only 2 members of old No. 8. So no reason for alarm for those who are not on it, particularly if they signed the second list (were on the 2nd list is better) There is a kit inspection (of five blankets and the cup) in the morning and the H.Q. colonel takes the parade all by himself, without even sergeant. New camp is supposed to be in centre of an irrigation area (as Hay was about) or orange etc. growing district. Buy chocolates in the canteen with last chits which are no longer repayable as accounts were closed yesterday. (Though not completely closed in the banking sense as was assumed and said at first and all yesterday, but only internally and for ordinary transfer.

Saturday, 9th August, 1941 (223)

In the evening we go to a show in C. section which is rather good, quite gaudy, everyone letting himself go.

Sunday, 10th August, 1941 (224)

A few interesting developments - new people arrive from 3 among them one Gerhard Levy, old friend (he says) of R. family etc., inclined to be sentimental about it but quite nice though somewhat nervous. Then H.Q. are apparently determined that all of the 80 odd on yesterday's P.C. form acceptance list should sign willingness to travel forms, and this includes the minors this as is found out after some delay; so in the evening an officer comes in to witness the list of the willingness. Also one chap from No. 3 apparently a Jew, is put into A. because apparently he refused to sign W. form, some say he's a Pole who'd be liable to service and refuses to go, anyway, in evening he's taken out of A. and put in protective custody, as he's most unwelcome and probably uncomfortable in A, all this after Dietricks had been into A (in evening).

Monday, 11th August, 1941 (225) In train from Melbourne.

As I start writing it is about half past ten at night and we're on the train somewhere between Melbourne and Adelaide. Ziba just says "I think my legs will sleep before I do". Nearly all of us have settled down to sleep. In Melbourne we got a warm supper. This morning we took all the luggage that we weren't going to carry ourselves on the sportsground (it wasn't quite full size some used to play seven a side) and it was all carried off in trucks and lorries. That was at about 10 in the morning. But as the journey will take about thirtysix hours in all we each take two blankets and some toilet things, and we also all got bread and corned beef and bananas from the kitchen, for though we know that we'll get food at some stations none of us wished to be entirely dependent on that. At 12 in the morning we got on the lorries and went to Rushworth station where we were much stared at by the local boys and girls while we waited for the train. I was reminded how soft the faces of girls really look, something not as well remembered as I thought, though we think about girls more than most men. Anyway, at least the feminine part of the population took quite an interest in us, with a few brothers and sows obviously thinking of themselves as potential protectors. But I think that they must have known, more or less, who we were for they were friendly and there was no shaking of fists, a little of which there had been when we arrived (though then we left the train at Shepparton). Indeed it seems most likely that they were quite well informed, for our news agent lived in Rushworth and no doubt told them what he knew of us. The train arrived after we had waited about half an hour, and we got rather comfortable upholstered compartments (only the werch't compartments). The train left without much delay and arrived in Melbourne at about 7 o'clock, when it was too dark to see more than the street lamps and the siloettes of the mainly unlit houses. We also saw search lights, two I think, and a few of us became quite sentimental. Finally we pulled into a station "Spencer Street" and on the platform were served with a good, though not exactly large meal, of goulash, potatoes and turnips, with about as much tea as we wanted. We took our plates back to the carriages and ate there, after which they were collected by the rather obviously C.I.D. civilians and the white-uniformed hashslingers who had served out the food. Two girls who had served the tea moved up and down the platform not at all afraid, but they and the hashslingers had apparently had instructions not to talk to us, and they didn't, not much. All this took not quite an hour, and just before we left the gas lights were lit in the carriages.

Then the train, with us again on it, pulled out of the station, and later in the evening a few of us played ghosts and some paper and pencil games, but now nearly everyone is asleep, and I shall settle down too.

Tuesday, 12th August, 1941 (226)

Well, we've arrived, after having travelled very fast in the night (I slept under a bench). We had breakfast at "Murray Bridge" in the Station Restaurant served by waitresses, great thrill, then we recrossed the Murray and at about five o'clock arrived at a point on the line, just after Beri, (a crossroads actually) where we detrained and after putting all handluggage except blankets in to horse carts (the other luggage was taken away in barrows) marched off for about a mile we walk, more or less disorderly. The camp turned out to be about the size of that at Hay, but only half the huts finished, but also kitchens (both) two messhuts and the hospitals and wash showers, latrines finished. Reception was in a way unbelievable, they thought they were getting Italians (the store was full of spaghetti and tomato juice, apparently obtained at great trouble) we were marched into the huts by armed and bayoneted guards, but after Brache did a bit of educating they disappeared. But feeling high and tempers hot and hysterical. Supper.

Wednesday, 13th August, 1941 (227) Hut 37 Camp 10

Well, we've got out hut No. 37, and "outside one" (not between two others) and are beginning to get settled. In the morning, we had a nominal roll call in the open at which some few, about 20, refused to take part or answer to their names, but kept noticeably in the background. They were subsequently, after Brach had talked to the officers, completely ignored. At the subsequent camp meeting, Brach started in English and apologised for having used the word bloody in the course of the morning when he took the roll call. Brach had explained the 20 by Dunera and Arandora Star which the Lt. Col. had heard of. They promised not to bring in armed guards anymore and luggage not be searched. Luggage came in as soon as we'd arranged ourselves into final huts. B. & A. together asked to get to Layton 25 times and the Lt. Col.s superior has asked Southern Command Head Q to have Layton traced for it. Although we are in S.A. we are still in Southern Command area, Camp No. 10, nearest place Barmera. We're near the border of N.S.W., Victoria, and S.A. and hence rather difficult to find on maps. I get talked to by Lt. Nelson, charming young officer, who asks how we got the dogs in, and on being told of the problem of where to put the terrapins, comes to our hut to look at them and in not so many words practically invites me to pinch cement (from building opp.) which I duly do in evening.

Thursday, 14th August, 1941 (226)

First Inspection comes in at about 9.30 a.m. and seems very well pleased with our hut. Cricket wicket keeping and batting practice. The hut captains are informed by the camp leader that Southern Command has confirmed our status to the Lt. Col. viz. pioneer applicans. "about 400", accepted and pending, with addition that we're to be kept separate from other internees and there is to be no discrimination between the accepted and the others. The Lt. Col. was very

pleased to get this confirmation and there will be no armed guards inside the compound, and probably none on working parties. We are to be treated accordingly. Hunger strike averted. Letter to Layton will be written. Collected a bucket of sand and two of aggregate and started cementing of pool.

Friday, 15th August, 1941 (227)

Went out in morning at nominally 9 o'clock on working party (supposed to be going to be paid at 1/- per day). Went to Barmera Railway Station (or stop) by open truck and there the 12 of us proceeding to unload an, I think, 40 ton wagon about two thirds full of "aggregate", small stones for concrete. As only about three could work at a time, it wasn't hard, though stone dust unpleasant. In afternoon we changed with the other 12 of the original party of 24, this time unloading the stuff at the hardware store, which was easier and more pleasant work. Talked with one of our guards, very young chap, who as most of the men here are, is just as keen as we to get away from this place. Shares our appreciation of Nelson. Get more cement in evening. News of Churchill and Rosevel<sup>d</sup> meeting and supposed mobilisation of Australia. From tomorrow onwards we are supposed to get the bigger soldiers rations, having so far been on "Italian" Rations.

Saturday, 16th August, 1941 (228)

Go out again in morning on the "Engineers" stone unloading party, this time we bring several loads to the "Irrigation Office", a rather parched looking building in yellow and green with plenty of square pillars, one storey, from which one can see over the rooftops of Barmera down to the lake. In the evening Auerbach of old "C" section is elected camp spokesman by 181 to 163 votes, due to the fact that there were more people in C than in D. In afternoon, carry on with concreting of terrapin pond only interrupted by having to collect 5/- credit card, over the issue of which to ex "C" too their bank manager resigned and issued a dramatic statement to that effect during supper as he considered it to be unsound finance. Play pontoon in evening and only loose 2 cigarettes compared with 7 lost yesterday. To everyones surprise plenty of mail arrives about 300 letters, get lent machine drawing book by interested middleaged with very good English accent.

Sunday, 17th August, 1941 (229)

After the mornings inspection carried on with concreting of terrapin basin, which later had to be interrupted owing to sandstorm, mild, with subsequent rain. But finished the concreting after lunch. Discuss matter of sores on terrapins with Dr. Dentelli, who advises me to put egg shells into water, something I had planned to do myself. Her<sup>e</sup> Peter Fabian, who is trying to learn to play the guitar, being asked by guard outside whether he was trying to play Col. Nidre. H. here again publishes his Hut newspaper here called the "Loveday Parade". Hear that tomorrow 190 men will be required for working parties i.e. the normal ones plus additional for roadmaking. More rain in afternoon. H. brings newspaper articles about our arrival here, which we'd not yet seen, he got 'em from ex "C" section. Now it rains a hell of a lot. News and announcements after todays hut captain meeting that telegram to Layton has been stopped in Adelaide and some of us think that inability to contact L. is too

consistent, so a very short letter has been written to him telling him to contact us, while Auerbach will write a much stronger letter to L. personally. Also the Lt. Col. has been knocked back for relaxing regulations (soldiers without guns, etc.) as no specific instructions concerning us have yet arrived, so guns tomorrow but guards one to seven men (or so) instead of 1:4; one man here has had a letter from Miss Duncan, Quaker, who is usually very well informed, saying that she'd heard from L. that he saw no chance for shipping to be available for us for several months. They're going to ring up Tatura tomorrow to find out when they get out books for opening our a/cs. and also discuss question of outstanding monies (payment for work done in Tatura). Anyhow L. appears in a very bad light. Silence hours in hut will be 10 o'clock p.m. and two hours after lunch.

Monday, 18th August, 1941 (230)

Went out again on working party in morning, preparing holes for the barbed wire poles of No. 3 camp locally, No. 11 I think officially. When I get back I find that some members of hut 41 have got a beautiful skunk, about 3" thick and 10" long, black and yellow. Later hear that they've killed it, the silly shits - go out in afternoon on same job, and when we get back do the cement and sand only coating of the terrapin pond concrete. Yesterday's report of the Duncan letter appears to have been exaggerated. She wrote "I take it that for some month shipping ...." or to that effect, but does not definitely refer to a meeting with Layton. Get some "ordinary" lizards in box, as start of collection for the time when I've finished the terrapin enclosure.

Tuesday, 19th August, 1941 (231)

Out in morning again on same job, where we've worked so far around No. 3 that we get near the mess huts and kitchens, where building is in progress and plenty of sheet metal to be had. Discuss this with Eng. Serg. who says in afternoon and puts Willy T. and me on to dig five holes in the lines for the outer fence, large distances apart for direction poles. When I come back for supper find that another of the sleepy lizards has been caught for me by Lofty, very nice! In evening also bring back plenty of sheet metal scraps collected at No. 3 and start and finish fence around terrapin enclosure. Go to labour office and talk to Susskind about not going out tomorrow, in order to get terrapins started, he tells me confidentially that employment officer said we might, some of us, work on machine drills.

Wednesday, 20th August, 1941 (232)

Stay in in morning and plant in Terr. enc. (Hereafter T.E.) and put in Sleepy L. now called Hans after H. who always get up very late. Later fill basin and put in terrapins and feed 'em too, Frankie eats nearly straight away, Lizzy only a little rather later. Great success and very frequented by all sorts of people. At lunch time Lofty brings in more lizards; a small one and one very snakelike one with very small thin feet which don't do any work. Carry on with planting in afternoon the also taking to raw meat at once, plant, partially, ring of grass like plant around T.E. to keep spectators a bit away from the tin sheet. Talk to Susskind to the effect that I'll be

going out again tomorrow, he advises me to stay on the same party as drills expected. Ask the Colonel Brach to suggest to the Lt. Col. when he comes round tomorrow and sees the T.E. that little fishes would be good to keep mosquito larvae away and whether just two or three of us would possibly be allowed to go to the Murray to catch the fish and have a general hunting expedition, would be nice if it came off.

Thursday, 21st August, 1941 (223)

Out again this morning on same job as before. In morning talk to the younger eng. sgt. maj. who says that he knows that there are quite a few skilled men among us whom he'd like to use, but there is apparently some red tape to be cut yet; Susskinds story of drills seems to have some foundation, the sergeant hopes to get some to run off the electric power, and I put it to him that Willy and I would like to be on that job. Sgt. also says that he was trying to get some surveyors from the camp but Ct. Elliot ("Porky", unpopular with soldiers) for them (they are Lehner and Windach). So I said what about me 2 and he said O.K. I'll bring the level and staff in afternoon, which he didn't but said at end of afternoon that he had the level but not the staff and would bring 'em out tomorrow morning. I hope so.

Friday, 12th September, 1941

Well, I haven't written for quite a while. Since last writing I have been surveying every working day (Mon. to Fri. and  $\frac{1}{2}$  Saturday) using both a Stanley level and a Stanley theodolite. (Mainly setting out fences, main barbed wire and apron, but also setting out huts and levelling for drainage. The first job was to check the fall of the trenches for 4" drains in A. and B. compounds of No. 3 (Local) camp (No. 11 it will be) which will consist of four sections for 1000 men each. Difficult to convey like this how "into" the job I've worked myself. A few days ago, last Wed. in fact, a drains specialist came up from Adelaide and inspected the drains. This after 8 days earlier all the 4" drains had been put in and were ready for inspection. During these days I became quite well acquainted with the Eng. Staff. Serg., T. A. Guyner whose address 13 Yallum Tce, Kilkeny, S.A. is now thus safe from being lost. Well, the specialist whose journey round the world in-specting drainage has apparently been paid by the S.A. or just A. Government, and the Eng. Major with whom I had a long talk thought that the drainage system might be changed to take also "solid" as minimum = 1 in 284) was very low for this as they in Adelaide used 1 in 40 for 4" drains and 1 in 60 if they couldn't help it, but for our jobs that would mean that at the treatment works the drain itself would have to be 25 ft. or so deep!!! instead of the 9" which I had arrived at before. I also did a job for the W.O. who is in charge of all the new building camps round here, levelling the drains proposed for battallion headquarters. Well, a few days ago the recent rumours concerning "a move" reached a high, and the military told us that 6" men would leave on next Monday. Well, we were all very worried as to who'd be on it, and yesterday night, at lights out, the list of names came in. Hans and I on it, in fact our hut have 15 out of the now 64, very good. Jack Guyner is on leave and I won't see him as he'll only be back on Tuesday. We leave Monday 8 o'clock for Murray Bridge, Melb. Syd. (Liverpool) arriving presumably Wednesday morn or later.