

Bruce Lighter

Bruce Lighter Diary (Apr '44 to Jul '45)

He & I went back
in 424 sq
May 6 to To Jun 15 sq, '45.

Airline id
1944

MAY 5

19 Got up at 5:45 this morn but didn't get to
work till about 6:00 on account of a meeting. I was
or native village by the road on the way to ~~the~~ the
Red since we're going ~~first~~ ~~part~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~road~~ ~~around~~
19 Fedd a 100R on the engine's today except
for plug change. Finished at noon. Small
cut in bell wire so changed it after dinner. Then
mistook a bomb bay tanks for instrument mission

MAY 6

19 Got up early like a work to work. Shined the placement
of the S. Sq. Bomb bay put it in my own. Took out the
bomb bay tanks & baggage made this morning. Loaded Bomb
~~1000 lbs of~~ ~~with~~ ~~top~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~guns~~ - topped by tanks. Did engine
19 Cop't Campbell flew the plane back after today.
Worked on the mounting this of. Same plane in his
stall O.K. Replaced & worked in. I have a bad
case of head lice in left arm pit

We arrived Monday

Airline
145

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TRear went to Clark
field & Hotel Hibed
Back to Monstai

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MAY 7

19 Got up at 3:30 this morn & saw the plane of our mission. When it came back I had seen this morning about the bushes ^{3:37} I ran up and got O.K. ^{5:4} Roda plug and firing or we changed that just this morning today.

19 Filled a diary on the engine this morn. ¹⁹ Also saw wheel in place of the old one - started to mend it this af. Was wanted some go saw "Circumstantial Evidence" this eve.

19

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10

49

MAY 8

19 Got up at 3:30 saw the plane of our mission. ^{3:17} Saw it. I checked my forms this af. I kept wrote. ¹⁹ Had to work till 12:30 tonight to get the plane back in shape by 11:00 tomorrow for my pilot.

19 ⁽²⁾ Same plane on mission today. I worked it all day. ¹⁹ Now the war is del over in Europe. Not D.G.! Plane was badly shot up in east. ¹⁹ and plane today. Now is go to see again.

19

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145

MAY 9

94

19 Got up at 8:30 and saw plane off on mission! There
came to camp took a bath, read a couple of stories &
tried to sleep. Got shower bath at 11. My plane was the
first one. 11:15 the target would get some good pictures!

19 Today was V.E. day. Everyone that
didn't have to leave the plane ready for some
more. Legally got the day off. I spent most the
eve + enjoyed company of some of these fellows

19

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MAY 10

19 Didn't get up till 7:30 AM today. The three went
down & started pulling a 150 lb. rope. Took
2 1/2 days working real hard & we got done about
4:30. Went to the shore but should only plan on it 1/2 hr.

19 Went down this morning & saw the
engine from my plane! Went to main A. gas
line & water. I have used to see. So right after
dinner. Snapped a couple pic's more before we left.

19

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145

MAY 11

15

19 3:30 AM. again this morning and the planes
went on another mission. Saw 10:10 used 2000 gal.
Falled a quick daily - only trouble was toward side.
Told show could hold down 2000 gal. yesterday

19 Myself, crew dismantled gas engine
from 276 today. It was shot up by fuel
when yesterday in mission. Saw show
"The Big Game" at 3:30. End of the show 3:33

19

MAY 12

19 Didn't get up till about 6:30 this morning.
Rough with lead from gas day today.
Went down & pulled a good daily on the
plane & got the turret man on the ball to
get the turret. Saw "Study Some Conclusions"

19 Stayed on the rock all day today.
Went a couple of long shots. Found
cabbage. Went to the show the one, saw
show "The Game" (opened some after show)

19

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145

MAY 13

16

19 Got up at 3:30 or so. The plane off on missions again. Came up. Father's slept. Went down this of. and helped Jiny change a tire on his plane. When someone came in service he came to show. But I was not at it.

19 Today was a little busy. Cleaned mine this morning. It was slightly neglected. Wrote letters this afternoon. Saw some Down Johnson in 'See My Language'

19

19

21

MAY 14

19 Went to work at 7:00 AM this morning. Made breakfast all morning. It was so hot today and I & Lot were feeling a little low so I took a little rest. I stay for a while to change some things. They got some letters.

19 Just wrote letters & packed it today before I & Lot try hard to help on another plane. W. S. saw this evening. It was pretty good. You may remember

19

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145

MAY 15

17

MAY 16

19 Got up at 3:30 the plane was on mission. Saw
 a ball, with a couple of letters. Then caught a little
 Aubege before dinner. The plane came back with
 no money and no money. Went to post office to
 mail to

19 Went to discharge post letters this
 morning. Washed on St. P. Got the plane
 this afternoon. My boy had been being turned out.
 Saw some "small" birds there

19 Went to work account 7:50 AM. Changed airplane
 this morning. Had to top up a barrel. (Cullada) 5. On
 the plane this afternoon. Got a good view of the
 and the ship. Got a good view of the ship and the
 bay on the coast - write letters
 some good packing

19 Did not do anything today but
 saw on the coast - write letters
 some good packing

~~SPENT THE DAY WITH THE~~

19

19

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19

145

#5

MAY 17

18

MAY 18

19 3:38 AM again this morn & the plane went on another mission. Took up to camp, washed, shaved, then slept till noon. The plane came back without much warning. Saw the plane's shadow "overhead" - very strange.

19 Didn't get up till around 7:00 AM today. Went down and pulled a day's worth of work and looked at the plane's shadow. It was a shadow of a plane and not a shadow of a plane.

19 Got up around 6:30 this morning. Had fresh eggs + peas for breakfast. (Tom was C. G. had night. Saw Mount Wadley in a low M. day + M. a. Good.

19 Just wrote letters today. Finished again + some slowly so good for work time. Finished up out of plane so had to copy + paste + played pinocle.

OUT 1 ST 424 ER Mission
(To Bala Kappa)

19

19

145

#6

MAY 19

19

19 Left at 3:30 AM. again this morning. pulled out & sent the plane on mission. Worked pretty good. The stuff on the tent all day & didn't get back down. The mission was slow good at 8000 ft. Saw "Angry" (Tom's name);

19 Saw, missed around the tent this morning. Had discharge points checked. Saw 12^{1/2} of them. Saw 1000 E.B. tanks in 1900 days. Had 1500 over a new plane from air cover.

19

MAY 20

19 My plane flew today. Took the day for the plane to catch up on maintenance. I pulled a 50 lb. bomb with the bomb, in this case. My plane is a spare tomorrow for the 50 lb. that is flying of 3:12. ~~19:12~~

19 2^{1/2} checked on 958 this morning. No lead. I found the eng. (held it over good and checked it. A new up they. A of out of the plane this afternoon. Saw slow "Hunchback".

19

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145

MAY 21

20

19 The 371st ag. took my plane this morn. I
washed up then slept this morn. He never said
it was a downgood air plane. Got blame thru
after being 371st plane; show 21st show tonight

19 I did do anything today opened
write letters and lay on my back.
Saw show, "I love the Man haters,"
This one fairly good

19

MAY 22

19 Washdown's worked on the plane this morn.
Pulled a daily's stuff. Found a broken gun
had clean stud. Kirby's old shoe putting it on front
I have a cold, dirty applesauce of 1000

19 I did around again today and
write more letters. Want to be clamped
trapped full game this eve. Call off the
cause of name I'm extra negro opening front

19

MAY 21

20

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washed up then slept this morn. He never said
it was a downgood air plane. Got blame thru
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145

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MAY 23

19 Woke up this morning & still have a slight cold. Went down & put legs in the Hamillon tank the plane up to sunny the compound & under daily this of bird #1 gone. ~~Had good luck today. No had to~~

19 I spent Mike today. No had to change a leaking fuel cell. Eborone tank & bottom plate off today. No got new game by those points this evening. Beautiful game.

19

19

145

"

21

MAY 24

19 The plane went on mission this morn. Had to change a pump gear. Eborone tank off. About 3 hrs. Eborone the plane got back #1 eng. Fuel tank empty. They had out the fuel tank & removed it. ~~Had good luck today. No had to~~

19 Only had two men at Mike today. They got the leaking tank out. Saw about this evening "CEB" off 30 Old IR tank". Had seen it before

19

19

MAY 25

19 ~~Went down the moor & put my feet in the plane. Just set around the rest of the morning & this of. slept. Then took a shower & ate supper. With a glass of beer & some bread & butter.~~

19 ~~Had to wait for my boots to dry. Then I went to the moor & put my feet in the plane. Just set around the rest of the morning & this of. slept. Then took a shower & ate supper. With a glass of beer & some bread & butter.~~

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MAY 26

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145

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MAY 27

19 Today raining. day so cleaned up around the tent this morn. We take plane on the off last mite. 106-37200 was flying it. I helped Nelsie. Tom Davis crew this morn. ~~put a new tank in the pipe. I had this plane~~

19 Started putting the bottom plate and covers on after putting in #3 tank this morn. Packed truck full this afternoon for a while. Saw "The Picture of Dorian Gray" this eve.

19

19

145

MAY 28

19 Just laid around the tent this morn. Went about this of. and started to make a plane for Nelsie's picture. Found out I was to get 453 some in the spot several of them to check.

19 Remained in camp this morn. Washed & had my form 20 checked. Thing of Mike's plane was ready for tail block so came on eve. Spent evening for supper. Saw "Stephens and the Law"

19

19

MAY 29

7³⁰
10³³

19 Went up to see the painter's man, said they
and I took a dip on the beach. Boy with a
piece of a ship. Went on at 4:30. This of. man
and I saw some flowers in the garden and went

19 Wrote a couple of letters this morning
I kept a little till this afternoon. Went
to the show this evening. "I was 4 years"
I got good show.

19

19

MAY 30

19 (Saw) 19 Long all morning. Sawyer's
one to... saw a dog. Saw a dog there about 2:30
I walked with the dog about 4:30. At 4:30
I went to the show. I saw a dog there.

19 I did not much today. I changed my
on my back. Wrote a couple of letters this
of. I saw a dog. I saw a dog. I saw a dog.
I saw a dog. I saw a dog. I saw a dog.

19

19

45

#8

MAY 31

JUNE 1

19 Finished upon the engine this morning & put the B. & T. engine again in. Left this about 9:00 then Erny & I pulled it & had to change fire pipe in 2 1/2 hrs. leaving at 2 PM days.

19 Put layout on the side this morning. Found a little back had after dinner. Saw also this morning. Don't remember name Make papers this one

19 I didn't get up to see the plane off or mission this morn. Left by about 11:00 AM & went down after breakfast & shot up about 1000 ft. I didn't go down this one either

19 Went down to help pull a water pipe on 2 1/3 this morn. I baled on it this afternoon but found out that 849 was communication of four of them. Went to find the one

His A/C?

273

849

19

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19

45

#9

JUNE 2

19 Went down this morn. & had quite a few things wrong with the plane to fix which was to be expected after 310 hrs had it. The plane had fuselage Jack today had a rough ride & all handwheels & rudder

19 Found out a fuel cell is leaking & how we filled the tanks this morning. Long haul & had my sleep which we had saw lady & husband in "See Clock"

19

19

2

JUNE 3

19 Saw the plane off on mission this morn. Then came up to camp & slept. Went back this af. and got it off about 5:30. plane. The plane was still handwheels & rudder & rudder

19 Continued removing screws from the plate this morning. Started drilling a few of the screws this afternoon. 312 packed over landing this evening

19

19

312 overboard

45

#10

JUNE 4

19 Had to go down back into 9 yards Sunday tank in.

5 Re plane was on alert with 1000⁺ bombs ad log. Row

ought my rifle this of's made some good ones. Got

26 bullet wounds ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~right~~ ~~arm~~ ~~at~~ ~~about~~ ~~9~~ ~~yards~~

19 5th started removing the accretions.

day and pulled out 2' 4" and 1' 5"

tank. Neither of them were the last

one! Saw them again this eve.

19

JUNE 5

19 The plane was on alert again this morning.

Measurement out the 5th eve. about 1000 yd and in to

take out the other 8. R. tank. We set in Sunday

~~to~~ ~~take~~ ~~out~~ ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ~~8~~ ~~yards~~ ~~at~~ ~~about~~ ~~9~~ ~~yards~~

19 Removed 6 tanks this morning. There

the taking one. Chatterbox was one. Tank

or 25. By way on the 5th tank, this of

saw them 1 tank full game the eve

19

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19

45

JUNE 6

19 A. Hamilton went to fly this morning but the mission was called off because of weather. I came back up & hit the car. Didn't do much but had lunch & went to bed.

19 Feb 7 Bank in this morning and "5" in this afternoon. Saw about "Twenty Flanders". They announced that a quota of 1000 more would come this

19

19

3

JUNE 7

19 The plane went on mission this morning. I stayed on my sack all morning. Went down this afternoon and caught up on my farm 4/18 and received the plane when it came in.

19 Feb 7 Bank in this morning and started the bottom plates on London. We saw them this afternoon. They announced that the plane 50% of Feb. more go home.

19

19

1945

#11

JUNE 8

19 Started at 7:15 ho. on the engine this morn.
I washed this evening. Found a bunch of
stuff wrong and didn't get done before
supper at 10:00. ~~Washed the engine this morn.~~

19 Started putting the wing panels and
brass together this morning. Had the
combustion in after dinner. ~~Washed the
engine this morn.~~

12

H

JUNE 9

19 The plane needs more music; again this morn.
Eng. took some extra work and they had to
finish it. Got back late and we were really
sweating them out. Change the engine tomorrow?

19 ~~Washed the plane this morning. Had
to change some sleep in 1 eng. The plane
had blue. Came back okay. Saw
above Senastion of 1945. This evening.~~

1945

19

19

19

19

#12

JUNE 10

JUNE 11

ALC MURPHY

1945

<p>19 Started changing the engine this morning. Replaced it right after dinner and the nut on it came in so mess the nut now suspended it's put in the clamp with it's key. Look at it this morning.</p> <p>19 Saw the plane of low music this morning. Slept the noon. Had some after dinner rough flight a little about the former killed a change on the plane when it came in.</p>	<p>19 Continued working on the engine change today. McCaughey's eng. log. saw helped us as I got some work done on the engine. Got it hung up and partly connected today.</p> <p>19 The plane flew again today. Nothing much wrong with it. Found a nut of the show this evening so played football in Pappas tent. But he was with yesterday.</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>19</p>

JUNE 12

19 Covered the camp this morn. Saw it
last time changed the site. Then this
afternoon we had blow and cleared it.
Saw one B. W. shot two Swainsons

19 Flame out on the ground today. Filled
a 50 lb. can of it. Killed this afternoon.
It smelt the way & perplexed. Shot
one B. W. Saw others "Sandwich Bay"

19

19

5

JUNE 13

19 Saw the plane off on mission this morn.
Hope im not going to have combat crew trouble.
They came up a bit of stuff that I could find any.
They were with. Went on a mission this morn.

19 Saw the plane of one mission this morn.
Went back 7th B. W. this one. Regulation
putters & daisy on it. Shot seven quills
in a couple game this evening

19

19

1945

#13

444-41100
617-200-892
617-200-892
617-200-892

Quincy-5476

JUNE 14

19 Worked on changing goose plugs on #3 eng
all day today. They were really rough and I
had to tap out most of the bolts. I discovered that
and the other fellow had to work on the other eng.
19 The plane flew on mission today. The list
of names for govt home, came out this one. An
and. The rest of us old guys weren't. Saw
19 Mary Wood in a #18 about the evening.

JUNE 15

19 Ed and the new man saw the plane off on
mission this morning. It came back with #3
eng. feathered - 5 cylinders was not getting any
comp. gas was very rich in fuel. Changed eng
19 I spent this morning getting clearance
papers signed. Turned in equipment and got
more signatures this afternoon. Still have the
19 signatures signature to get. They'll probably be ok

Bruce Leads

Fast Hour

19
~~19~~
~~19~~
~~19~~

19
→ coincidence !!!
(our 13th mission was his 66th mission)
Together - his LAST mission

1945