## EUGENE A. BYER, USS MULLANY FROM APRIL 5, 1944 MEMO BOOK

MARCH - 1944

7th Leave Shoemaker, Calif. Board ship in San Francisco "Lur/ine".

8th Leave port - Sailors stand security watch

8th to the 17th Good sailing lots of fun entertainment by Soldiers and Wacs, Nurses

18th Hit storm. Old ship really rolls, lots sea sicks

19th Still stormy

20th Good sailing everybody up and coming. More fun

23rd Arrive at Melina Bay, lay in port. Gals leave the ship

24th Still in port waiting

25th Go to Navy Receiving Barracks

25th Go work at 8 o'clock. Boy what a place. Mud, rain and pests.

Work in warehouse - stores

26th Work on docks. loading trucks. Hard work

27th to 30th Work in warehouse, eat and sleep is all there is to do

APRIL - 1944

1st Go across bay on barge, load gas until 10 at night. boy rain it

poured all day. don't feel so good.

2nd Go to sick bay put to bed. Fever of 1048 sure sick - "Cat fever"

3rd and 4th Feeling better

5th Go on draft again aboard the destroyer "MULLANY"

Some time I wonder what the score really is.

6th Go to sea. New alright

7th A. A. practice. fire lots of ammunition

8th In port - Milina Bay, Oil, Ammunition get a work out

9th Leave Port sail to I wouldn't know

10th still sailing

11th arrive at Buna, supplies torpettoes and ammunition really tired

hard work

12th Sail again

13th In Milina Bay

14th Liberty get a few beers, fool around in rain and mud "What a Life"

See Boys

15th Put to sea again

16th Still sailing nice weather sea like a lake so calm

17th Back in port Los Nergos, Admiraties,

18th Take on oil and supplies rain as ever

19th	Put to sea again Clear and Calm. good sailing	1
20th	Meet fleet sail West. 4 carriers - 4 cruisers - 14 c	ans
21st	sailing West	
22nd	Attack Jap base - Wadek. Land troops. Bombard beach	plenty
	excitement. Plenty of air coverage	
22nd	Not to much trouble. troop all in before noon 6 tran	sports and
	supplies	
23rd	Patrol base - quite	
24th	Patrol base - quite	
25th	Quiet good job did. Refuel at sea from Carrier "Cora	al Sea"
	Quite a job	
26th	Patrol Base - Quite	
27th		
28th		
29th	In Port Los Negros, Oil lots of ammunition, stores	Good to feel
	safe again	
30th	Leave port to patrol	
MAY 44		
lst	Patrol Wadek - Base	T - LIEUR
2nd	Port - Base alright. Get fuel - sune taken in good	shape
3rd	Patrol again - rescue pilot at sea. plane crashes as	
	carriers run way. Boy is he scared and damn lucky.	
	time before coming up as the plant went right down	it bou hat.
4th	Still patrol. Change course	
4th	In late night Los Negros Oil - Ammunition and stores	work all night
5th	Liberty Los Negros. Beer and swim - look over islan	
6th	Leave - sail east - good weather no rain for sometim	
7th	Join convoy. Liberty ship	
8th	Sail West again	
9th	Put in Los Negros	
10th	Put out to sea A.A. practice come in at noon. Ammun	ition and stores
	Receive first mail sure a pleased lot of men	
11th	Patrol Harbor	113.5
12th	In port - more mail again Liberty parties. more be	er swim
13th	Leave for sea at noon A.A. practice. Anderson kill	
	lot of men we are as Ship Repair fellow don't like i	
*	Transfer Anderson to Phinx -	
14th	Sea Patrol - quiet as ever	
	The service of the project and they can chart	

In port - refuel from tanker

15th

16th		Leave port - 5 cruisers - 8 cans head west
		looking for trouble
17th		Meet LST's early. Attack at dawn. Land troops. Bombard beaches
		Sink small boats and bardges. Pick up Dutch agent with two natives
		one of eleven to escape Japs
		Were landed from sub six weeks before had much to tell. take him
		into port again barge picks him and natives up. go back to sea
		patrol again
18th		Patrol - refuel from cruise "Australia" lots of hard work
19th		Patrol again Quiet
20th		п п п
21st		The ban louis take was aloomak at our
22nd		In Port Hallandia. fuel stores and ammunition. Place filled with s
		Sure took over fast
22nd		Have air attack when tied to A.A. ship. Did we get under way in a
		hurry. Put to sea. Men left aboard ammunition ship. Go back
		tied to A.A.Ship get remainer of ammunition and men
23rd		In Port. Clean up ship
24th		THE
25th		Delega of Teaching of minest ell .section .
26th		Leave Port again sail West all night meet LST's early in evening.
		Slow down to eight knots.
27th		Invasion of Baik - much trouble, troops land alright bombard air
		strip. Jap planes give us trouble 4 come in 3 shot down
27th		Liberators bomb Jap all day not to much air support. Shore
		batteries open fire ship return fire two of can hit. Boy what a
		life. Patrol all day. Plenty of fun on the beaches, a hard fight.
		Really feel for the boys. Leave the place late afternoon thank
		the Lord.
28th		In Hollandia - fuel and Amm
29th		Patrol Baik. Go into harbor much trouble damm "Hornets Nest"
		Planes all the time the damm Japs
30th	on one o fer	Patrol in daylight. Go in harbor at night spot sub drop charges on
		two runs.
30th		Planes attack. Drop bombs near ship open fire and shoot it down.
		this is getting to be a real fight.
JUNE		Juga of 11122
lst		Patrol Baik - Go in again at dark. Planes are around again. Troubl

on the beach. Leave the place again before daylight.

JUNE 1944	Show hand trust U - the burn to a programme if
2nd	In Hollandia "Humubolt Bay" take on fuel and ammunition. Leave
	late in afternoon.
3rd	Patrol Baik. Boy for planes G.Q all the time four planes attack
	Nashville. hit. men are killed and hurt. Fire much ammunition
	we were one of only two to fige.
4th	Patrol, # men of the Nashville buried at sea, more air attacks
	plane don't come in, in daylight. More planes at night drop flares.
	Bombers come in. We shot one down. Boy this Baik is sure a
	rugged place. Keeps everybody on the ball. Leave late head east
	again
5th	Put in Humbolt Bay again refuel and take on ammunition. Got a
	little sleep all men tired out, everybody has enought fight for
	a time but will get more. We hate to go back to the place it means
	trouble. A second secon
6th	Still on patrol pick up a few planes. Quite
7th	Patrol outside daytime go in alone, shoot down plane. Five Jap
	destroyers. Fleet gives chase. Posts most of night other cans
	fire on them. Some sink barges, which Japs are towing, and cut
	loose. We return to cruises. to protect, flares droped on us but
	no planes come in. G.Q. most of night, dead tired. The plane
	shot down early in night in bomber dropped bomb about 2000 yds
	of ship on starboard side. Leave for Hollandia in morning.
8th	Hollandia - take on fuel and stores, in only few hours leave
	again for Baik arrive late in evening. Patrol again 1 air attack
	do not fire much trouble on beach Japs bomb beach.
9th	Still patrol. Quite in day, day light, Japs again bomb beach
	2 air attacks, planes don't come in. don't fire
10th	Return to Hollandia take on fuel and stores, ammo
11th	Hollandia - rest up
12th	Leave Hollandia arrive in Admiralies late after noon.
13th	Take on stores and fuel start cleaning up ship.
14th	Much work painting side of ship and a general clean up
15th to 22nd	Along side the tender. Sobin - work most of time. Ship in good
	shape again
23rd	Leave Sobin and anchor
24th	Still in port
25th	A.A. practice shoot down sleaves
26th	In port
27th	AA practice good firing

JUNE 1944	
28th	in port. Leave Sobin West of Hollandia
29th	Arrive Hollandia anchor in port
30th	Leave port sail west again
JULY 1944	the same of the sa
lst	Sail west to Baik do not stop. 11 cans - 3 cruisers
2nd	Sail north meet fleet for landing - no trouble, nice weather.
3rd	Landing at Honfor Island. We go in first. 2 Austrailian cans
	SCAEEN fire on beach really blast hell out of things troops land
	without much trouble, all quite by noon. Planes bomb air field
	Plenty dead Japs. Sail for Baik at dark.
4th	In Hollandia. At anchor get a little rest again. Leave port
5th	Sail east for Admiraties Nice trip calm sea
6th	Admiraties in port
7th	Admiraties fuel and Anchor
8th	Leave port A.A. practice fair firing. One sleave
9th	A.A. practice again two sleaves after a lot of firing
10th	A.A. practice - night firing and screening with cans of 5th fleet
11th	In port along side the tender Whitepony
12th	Still at tender, Liberty on damm little island. Have a few beers
	Swim and sleep a few hours
13th -14-15 .	Still at tender ship cleaned and all fixed up again.
	Leave tender and anchor
16th	Anchored in harbor
17-18-19-20	Lay at anchor
21	A.A. practice at sea nice weather fir ing good
22	At sea with Austies sub practice
23	Battle practice with ships of 3rd fleet night runs.
24	Same routine anchor in port
25	Still at anchor
26	A.A. practice back in port early. Amm and stores
27	Leave port early sail west
29	Sailing west meet Ausies. Continue west
30	Troops land on Western New Guinea no firing. Quite landing
	No Japs at all
31	Our first stop in Baik. Quite the place refuel.
AUGUST	
lst	Sail again Patrol West of Baik

AUGUST	
	In port at Baik. Go to G.Q. twice at night Jap planes go not
2nd	
21	come in. Leave port for Sidney. Boy what a happy bunch of men.
3rd	Sail east
4th	Still sail East
5th	Sea is ruff as is the weather. Most of men sea sick. Boy what a
	life in the mess hall. Only a few eat. things sure rell
6th	Miline Bay. Fuel stop for four hours. Place isn't like last saw it
	not much left here.
7th	Ruff sea again. Seems to be worse than before. Boy for sick men
8th	Still ruff - got sick this morning. A light in few hours. What a
	mess this ship.
9th	Weather clearing up. Really going is better men are around again
10	Dock at Sidney - boy what a mad rush every body going ashore
	5 day leave - on 1st leave party - quite the place
11	Have a big time at Mayfair Hotel Bar. Boy for a drinking bunch
	of sailors all lite. Go to Troidaris to dance filled with sailors
	Boy for gals. Every sailor has two or three. big time
12th	Same thing drink and be ahppy with it. Go to show
13	Sunday get up early go to Mass at St. Marys
13	Go out and see Slim and Gil to Coogee drink all day to ships
	dance in evening. Really have a good time get mail
14	Go board ship - go shopping. Things are high not much to pick
	from lots of stores like Chicago people milling in them. Go to
	show. Drink beer all afternoon
15	End of leave. Back again in mess hall. serve meals and go down town
	to show to service mans club drink beer for hours. Get in early.
	Go to Mass again
16	Go out at 5. Drink beer and go go show have lunch back to ship
	early seems seems seems and the seems seems and the seems se
17	Get late start but find more to drink and go to Ohola Club dance
	have a big time again sure quite the deal. These people sure are
	dance crazy.
18	Go out to show back to ship at 10:30 believe it or not
19	On the go again. Boy I'm getting tired of chasing around go to club
	and get beered up. Wined up at Sidney's best the Rose Room. Boy
₹ y	for a time. dance. Drink and eat. Boy did it cost plenty.
	thirty six dollars is all. But it was worth it. got in about 4 am

Go to St Mary's to Mass. Go ashore at six to show. To service club more beer. Go to Alka Club dine drink and dance again.

Boy this life is killing me. dead tired

Go to show quite evening. get a few hours sleep

Go to show again drink few beers

Go to show see the Savallion. Good show. Lunch. Back to ship early. Go in early buy quart to take on ship to shop. Buy few little things. Drink beer in evening. in early really slowing down now

Last day of liberty drink 4 bottles of ale finish up on 16 beer at Chit Boy full of beer in early again 10 PM

Leave Sydney. Sail north again

A.A. practice test fire fuff sea not like coming down. Nice cool weather all time

Target practice surface firing out of Brisbone good firing one towed target

A.A. practice terrible don't even get the sleeve. nice weather again

Miling Bay. Fuel. place is deserted for sure hardly any ships in. Stay in about six hours.

Sail west taking our good time. Have night manovers. Sub in port early - Admiralies go to Mass. Boise'

Leave port again sub practice in early lots of mail and stores

In port clean up strip again - hot weather

Still in port - STill clean ship. looking good

Leave port for night maneovers, with other ships - smoke screen and firing star shells General Quarters - four hours

Still at it fooling around

In port - refuel - stores

Leave A.A. practice (terrible)

In port again

Leave Admiralies 5 carriers 5 cruisers - 21 cans sail west In port Hollandia refuel - seave sail west Sailing west All Quiet.

Still sail West join landing craft and more fighting ships (quiet) Sail west join more ships 105 ships all together. Quite ships all

SEPTEMBER	
14	over the place nice weather.
15	D-day again. Island of Morotai fire on islands shell them good
	with all guns. Start fires not much exists troops land.
	No Japs planes in day light. Plenty of air coverage. Lots of
	bombers few night fighters. GQ before 8PM. Wondering what the
	night will bring.
16	GQ 4AM Japs planes do not come in our fighters on them
	Patrol all day. Quiet start for Baik - 6 P.M.
17	Sail east all quiet nice weather
18	Still sailing east pick up sub can't find in port evening
19	Change Captains in port Baik, refuel, amm. stores tried to Waramga
	Meet Themas have few beers.
20	At sea. fooling around again back in port early
21	Tied to Australian cans again have more beer
22	Still in port (Baik)
23	Still in - church on Austie ship
24-25	In port (Baik)
26	Leave Baik - sail West - more practice refueling at sea.
	Battle drills inspection by men Capt (change course) East
27	Sub practice and foolishness never seems to send Sailing EAst
28	Gun practice on firing Sailing East
29	Admiraly Island our old port again. Ship-loads of
30	in port refuel and stores
OCTOBER	
1	In port. Go to Mass-Boise - look like a long stay. good for
	a change
2	sub practice lots of mail and stores
3	At sea again A.A. practice really burn the amm, fire torpettoes.
	Plenty work getting it aboard again
4	Surface target practice
5	A.A. practice - very good shoot plenty 40mm good firing
6	Target practice again
7	Tie to back at sea plane base try to see Sam
8	Ship repair boys work on ship - see Sam nice trip about 15 miles
	by boat, good time
9	Still at dock go on beer party. A damm mess no more for me
10	In port, leave dock, go to mass - communion

OCTOBER	
	Still nowt leave in morning take an atoms and ann
11	Still port leave in morning take on stores and amm
12	Sail west with outfit in Hollandia
13	Anchor in port fuel and stores again
14	Still in port no mail since the 9th many ship leave port today
	looks like something really big we are to escort communication
	ship to landing talk of going to states after land hope
	to be home for Christmas
15	Leave Hollandia 6AM with Amman and cover ship practice General
	Quarters, sail north all day and nite
16	Still sail north pass one convoy. Meet up with another transports
Liver and an ing	and carrier, hot weather
17	Sail west with convoy transfer mail to both com-ships (quiet) pass
	Palnea
18	Sail west slow reful from tanker (Japs thanksgiving day) Quiet day
	hotter than ever. Lose my good racket. On deck again really
	are discussed. Rangers found on small islands.
	Still sail West (Quiet) Hotter than hell News of Rangers
19	Sail West - slow trip tomorrow is A day (Quiet) Many air craft
	in night 1 can hit - damaged
20	A - Day. Troops land on 40 mile beach. A great task force 600
and a later of the second	naval ships - heavy gunfire from all ships so much smoke
	(4 LST's - 1 sunk) couldn't see (2 cruiser - Honolula ) much, we
	cruise around entire beach with Nashville and Waskin nice trip
	air attack 5 PM cruiser takes fish in magazine - 235 men CASUHLITION
	beach to make repairs to tow out of Gulf. 4 planes attack
	us at dusk. Heavy gunfire drives them off. no more trouble.
na ja king mana tert	GQ and 1 easy - for 18 hours boy are we tired. Planes bomb
	beach. Shelling is terrible like the roll of thunder, 1 can the
	Ross hit on way in early morning but is towed out. New escorts
	are very correct, leave go to sea night
21st	Start in early morning have air attack plane shot down. Planes
	really blast at ships Cruise Qusthaetics hit on bridge all ships
	in heavy smoke screen. troops and supplies land all night
	are really giving Japs a bad time, some planes fighting tough.
	War ships open fire again at dawn carrier planes bomb beach
	more troops land What do you know In port and watch show on
	beach ship or beach shoot down another plane - 9 AM learn to all

new reports to states. Once we get new first 2PM much firing

on beach but is generally quiet, hotter than hell. Watch planes bomb hills and stop for ships firing in land. 5 PM weigh anchors head out again. planes come in at dark attack ships and beach only a few. 4 attack as cruiser opens fire. Planes do not come in. 10 PM spot lights ahead - Honnalula being towed out to Adminalies off GQ early. Quiet until dawn few planes attack beach

22

Carrier planes in early, keep off Japs. Fighting continues on beach ship bombard again many fires on beach Quiet anchor again. Troops reinforced, many civilians on beach. Get some sleep learn to news troop take capital cities - 30,000 & 6,000 and 2 air strips.

A Jap flying one of our TBS's came in with ours and bomb beach gets away with it. Beach head, 60 miles one place and 30 miles another in from 4 to 8 miles, hard fight in spot. Moving fast.

Leave at 4 to spot further in watch fighting on our (TARCLOBAN TAKEN)

beach head all going well - civilian on the beach again.

men, women and children sure a mess to see people are really
glad waving flags. ours and white ones. Weigh anchors at 5:30 PM
go to sea again. GQ at 7:30 two planes come in on other ship
both shot down in short order. GQ over at 8:00 PM get 4 hours
sleep - watch at 12:00 many star shells by ships fighting
continues day and night.

23

Monday GQ at 6 AM more planes 1 shot down - some make for us but turn off. GQ over 7:15 believe it or not after anchoring we scrub outside bulkheads. I seening everything now, cruisers sti shell inland. Planes blamb weigh anchors go to sea at 4:15 G.Q. at 6 PM two Jap bombers come in both shot down. All clear and 7:30. Quiet night, watch mid to 4 AM get few hours sleep Wonder what tomorrow will bring.

24

GQ at 6:30 AM lots of Jap planes. hit LCT sink it - 12 planes in all - shot down - 7 attack lasts till 9:30. GQ at 10:30 AM Zeros come in lots of them fighters come in shoot down 3, ships shoot down 2 - 12:00AM more bombers in ships shoot down 2, attack over at 2PM, no ships hit we fire a few 40mm, Boy what a life. We laid smoke screen most of morning. Place sure smoked up Can't see far. Report Japs ship on the way down. Sure looks like a fight yet. Troops are doing fine.

35 more transports come in, 22 pl: s down. 8 possible GQ at / 30

Japs dive bomber lay smoke again. Planes come in. We open fire with other ships planes comes down (Jap Val) We lose one plane ship shoot it down in attack - chow times today - 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM and 9:30 PM. What a time and I'm tired. Sleep until 3:30 AM am surprised. Quiet all nite much fighting on beach. Get report on sea battle most of ships in it. Japs are taking a beating. Sure is alright. We sure can't let them in now. P.T. boats really give them a time. Battle started at 12:30 16 - nite fighters help us

25 Wednesday

Sea battle raging boys are doing all right. 40 miles can see flashes from heavy guns, first air attack at 6:15 bomber and fighter. We fire plenty fighters shoot down bomber see it. Quite the deal. 2 more are shot down. one falls close to ship. Boy have they nerve fly right to gun fire. 2nd attack at 7:10 - 2 planes 11 down. 9 PM \_ another attack fighter and bomber Our fighters on them ships shoot down 1 or 2 again, basivers is busy just keep them coming. The air fields are repaired flocks of Amy P-38s come and land. The Japs had better keep out more.

Japs fleet on the run ship are cleaning them up. Planes are helping too. Hope they get them all

10 AM - get a shave and shower shall sleep if they don't bother us this afternoon. We were to join sea battle but stayed to protect com ships. Suits us fine, some of the blood thirty boys are batching. I am satisfied here. More supply ships pour in.

good shot. Boy we down him in short order (Val) We have them coming in regular now. Fire a few rounds at each attack. Get late that, chow again, going to refuel but too many planes in.

Aweigh anchor at 3 PM go to sea with Omman, boy what a force patroling strait, all quiet. Battle ships taking on amm from LSTs. We catch up with fleet and fall in line. The Japs force is being chased south by part of 3rd fleet. We lose one can (608)

Looks like we might sleep more tonite. 7 PM air attack again which make about the 16th for today. We don't tike, sleep. I need hit the bunk at 8:30 -

(2 planes-sub) Quiet nite. Get good sleep. Damm plane around again QG at 6:30 AM - 10:30 11:00 Quiet until 3:30 P.M. more planes

26 Thurs

fire on them fail to come in range

5:30 again planes - fire again no luck 7 PM planes lots of them. We fire on one. other ships get 2 (good)

9:00 PM torpettoe goes accross bow. pick up sub. Chase

for long time. Drop depth charges 3 time lose contract after

3rd run. Stay around to see if com pick up again

Quiet after that get sleep again. May got out. Call for stand by.

Sub left dead in water I think we got it

Stand by for sub and relief. Air attack 7:00 AM fire few 5 inch. Plane goes D.E.'s come. PT's call for help planes bomb them

one is sunk two damaged. Take off = six wounded men. PT's tow

other disabled boats. We take men to LST hospital two in bad way.

Doc gets them patched up. 2 men missing. Get into, take off men at 11:00 AM Another damm air attack. Getting used to them

now. Shooting at planes a pass time. Leave port 2 PM Sail

East to join carriers. GQ at dark again hope for quiet nite (Quiet

Watch 4-8. Catch carrier force GQ - 9 AM again at 11:00 and

11:30 no action plane of force crashes in water off our port

bow. Stand by for pilot he don't come up plane sunk suddenly

lost man. 5:PM GO - at 5:30 no attack 6:30 - Austies fire on

F4F. Don't even know our own planes. Sure a shame

3:30 GQ in shower

4:15 GQ - back in shower what a life

Stand by for plane landing in dark - make it ok

Sea ruff. Moon bright like day don't like it

quiet evening

On Watch - 12 to 4. Quiet leave carriers at 1 PM Sail west

at 25 to 30 knots. Quiet night good sleep

8:AM Pass convoy of supplies transports in Gulf.

11 AM - in port Watch 12 x 4 Wondering what score is lots of

stories about next duty. Believe nothing until I see it. In port

10 AM refuel - 2 PM from West Virginia Leave port 4 PM sail east order to return to Pearl Harbor looks like the states for the boys.

Hope to get there by Christmas. In high spirits now. More ships

are with us see tomorrow. 8 x 12 watch again

East we sail. Quiet alday. Join carrier force. 65 ships in all c

cruisers - carriers and battleships. Sub fires torpettoes again

27 Friday

28 Sat

29 Sunday

30 Monday

	C			

look for it can't find. Weather ruff. sleep till 12 PM
12 X 4 watch. Boy get we run into storm. wind about 80 miles
an hour. Boy the old ship sure in taking a beating last for 4 hours
All loose gear blown away. What a night. Nice weather at dawn
smooth sailing again

31 Tuesday

Quiet - Nice weather cruise along at about 10 - 15 knots

Everybody in high spirits don't do much work. Boy will it
be fine to be home for few days. Boys say we should be in around

14 - pass plane 10 AM other ships leave us. 3 battleships

1 cruisers 5 cans Work a little day first since lading. Looks like
long trip. Nice weather.

## NOVEMBER

1 Wednesday

Sail north and east arrive in Ulethiaslands at 4 PM tied to tanker movies tonight The Carrier force that bombed Foramosa in here loads of warships wonder where they came from. Weather nice pretty warm but not like Lydye Gulf

2nd Thursday

UNTILE from tanker good nite sleep. Work all day. two cans came alor side take off 5 comm and 20 mm. tender boats take off fish Hot day all these places down here seem to be hot. Climate I guess New of the Amber Reed sank Jap suicide planes - they were our relief. Ammun also hit, Guess we left just in time. Damm Japs

3 Friday

**DE's** take off more amm and supplies cool weather

Just lay at anchor boats take off more supplies nice day

Leave port at 6 AM 2 carrier,  $1 \frac{\omega AGoJ}{2}$ , 3 cans sail east

5 to 11th

Sail east slow trip

11th refuel from carrier - Nossaw - 2 1/2 hours to fuel. 5 more days to Pearl Harbor - cool - but ruff sea

15

arrive in Pearl Harbor Liberty - start at 1 PM

17

liberty - 1 PM to 6 PM beer and all

18

Still in port. Sail tomorrow -

19th

Plan to be in states 24th

