



# War Diary of the 340<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group August/September 1945

Transcribed from US Army microfilm and illustrations added by  
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*The 340<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group on Corsica  
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Prepared by S/Sgt. Martin Quigley

August 1, 1945

Nothing going on except the ship routine. It's really crowded, and you can't walk anywhere without picking your spots carefully. There are two meals a day, and the chow line is a two-hour sweat. By the time they get through with one meal, the line begins forming for the next, winding all over the boat. Because we don't have regular bunks, we don't pull KP, which is reserved for those who can sleep every night. We ran into some rough weather, and most of the men were pretty urpy [sic] for a couple of days. It's smoother now.

August 2, 1945

[No entry this date.]

August 3, 1945

A bad case of GI's hit almost everyone aboard, and the latrines were doing a big business. Pork last night, it seems, was the cause.

August 4, 1945

Big news was the atomic bomb. Nobody is quite able to believe it's as potent as the radio says it is. If true, it's either the end of war or the end of man.

August 5, 1945

[No entry for this date.]

August 6, 1945

This is our last day aboard. It's not been a pleasure cruise, but we're going home, ain't we! The dope is we'll dock at Newport News tomorrow morning. Some of us might be on the way home tomorrow night!

August 7, 1945

This was the day!! We were in sight of land almost at dawn, and almost everybody crowded on deck to watch the US get closer. We docked at 0930 and were all off before noon, or shortly after. After a reception in the post movie at Patrick Henry, we were free to use the phones, drink malted milks, beer, etc. The steak dinner was really marvelous.

August 8, 1945

All equipment was forwarded to Seymour Johnson [Airfield in Goldsboro, North Carolina], where the group will reassemble. By night, just about everyone was on the way to a reception station and furlough.

August 9 to 31, 1945

Personnel of headquarters were "at home."

## **SEPTEMBER**

September 18, 1945

By now everyone who is coming back is back, and we're at Seymour Johnson, wondering what's next. The men with 80 points or more, the big majority in headquarters, are already civilians! Most of the officers are back, but many of them will be out soon too. The rumor is that we're going to Columbia, S.C., Army Air Base to disband, same field at which the group was activated. Since then it's been completely around the world. Only a few of the old-timers are still with us, and all of them are officers: Major Meyer, Major Summers, Major Berensen, Major Thabault and, of course, Lt. Colonel Cassada.

September 19 – 25, 1945

Nothing much to report. There is very little to do here, and many of the men and officers are on pass or furlough. The post movie gets a big play. Big points of discussion is the point system. By Nov. 1 almost all the group will be eligible for discharge. The poop is that we move to Columbia October 1.

September 27, 1945

All men eligible for discharge have been transferred to separation pool here except one or two who are remaining to help get set up at Columbia. Nothing to do but wait. Most of those going with the group have been processed.

September 30, 1945

Most of the officers and a lot of the EM have their cars here, and many will drive to Columbia. The rest to go by troop train.