Li-Rite
#1
Assigned to Virginia, California
Notes
STYLE 16 1/2
FIVE CENTS
April 26, 1935
Friday

Said good buy to mom, dad, sis and fido and left for Red Oak. Met Walter Ruth on the road. Red
Eversen went ahead. Walt and I jumped a bus and
were on our way.

Big crowd at Red Oak.

Smaller than Camp, trucks, etc.

Hung around for a few
hours and then we were taken in buses to the
Raritan Arsenal at Fordo.

7 A.M. medical exam at
Raritan. Run from one
room to the other for each
phase of exam.
We marched to the mess hall and had our first Army ration - BEANS. We laid around in the boodle bags for three or four hours before we finally entrained for Camp Dix. We pulled into Dix late in the afternoon. Passed thru a building and were identified. Drew our first equipment and barracks bag, overalls and three blankets. Marched up a street and passed off in pairs to each tent. Ted Matthews, Bob McCue, Dominick Milanico, Frank Manaci and myself assigned to same tent. Matthews and I stuck together not because we knew each other, but because we were from the same town. We stood out in the street signing papers till twelve o'clock. Finally ordered to bed. Almost froze to death. Couldn't sleep on account of the cold.
April 27, 1936

Saturday

Had our second physical exam. Passed with a line of about ten doctors. At the end of the line we got vaccinated and received our first book (of 90). After lunch we marched about 10 miles and a half to the supply depot for our clothes. Arm hurt like the devil. Passed down a long round and they threw clothes into our barracks bag. Little men got big sizes, big men got little sizes. Fellow passed out all around from the effects. 

We hiked back to quarters with barracks bag filled. Weighted about 67 lbs. What a hike with our arms didn’t think I’d make it. Just about made the tent. Paved thru the hardest four hours in my life. My whole side was so sore I couldn’t move. Shaken with intermittent chills and fever. Managed to struggle up to mess hall. Drank hot coffee and crawled back into bed. Didn’t care whether I lived or not.
April 28-1935
Sunday
Felt a great deal better! Walt Came around to see me. Just laid around all day.

Late in the evening, Matthews, who had gone home for the week end, came back. Kenny Hudson was with him. Charlie Lephek and Ray Drummond went over the hill.

Ercson, Ruth, Lebello and myself the only ones left from Beach.

April 29-1935
Monday
First work assignment. Not on a little train and went away out on the camp outfits and were put to work cutting brush. We worked till noon.

Then had the afternoon off if we could dodge police detail. Frank and Donnuck led in Mass and the Oreo pro. movies at night.
April 30, 1935
Tuesday.
It rained. McAule
and I were put to
work in the officers
quarters washing
windows. Ducked
work detail in the
afternoon.
walked into Wright
at night.

May 1, 1935
Wednesday
Ordered to California.
To leave May 2. Everyone
happy and the prospect.
Sent cards to Virginia,
home & friends.
Got our second shot
in the afternoon (4 D)
Arm was sore, but not
so bad as first time.
went to bed early as
had to rise early to leave
for Calif.
May 2 - 36

Thursday
Revel at 3:45 a.m. After

they prepared for departure.

I lay in bed and

blankets. It was raining

so raincoats were ordered

out. Last order issued by

captain.

Struggled a mile and a half

down the train with heavy

bag. Passed through Chute and

checked out of Dix.

Boundary pushman and

said good by to Jersey.

We passed into Pennsylvania

first raining like the devil.

Entire body still in bed.

Sleep in upper sleep fine.
May 4, 1935
Saturday
Woke up passing out of Kansas. We had passed thru a dust storm and had to shovel our way out of bed. Stopped at Hanneford City, went thru the Royal Gorge in Colorado. The beauty of the scene is indescribable.

Stopped at Colorado Springs. All Denver here.

May 5, 1935
Sunday
Passed thru Salt Lake City, Utah. Stopped here in the City of the Mormons. Rode over salt licks. Passed a lot of abandoned farms with dead cattle and horses lying all around. Enters Nevada in the afternoon. See many jackrabbits.

Had a long talk with George, the son of a radio entertainer. Shears my illusions of him.
May 6, 1935

Monday

Arrived in Vergelia, California 6:00 A.M. We took in the whole town at a glance. One store and eleven houses. The station was a squat; the side of the tracks. Trucks came from camp and took us in.

Arrived in camp. Claimed our baggage and situated ourselves in barracks.

Received a very good breakfast. The old men passed out cigarettes to us. Bireson went to Oroville, White to Auburn.
May 7, 1936

Tuesday.

Bunks are double deckers. I sleep in an upper. Rise at 6:00 AM. Chow 6:15. Inspection 7:00. Work call 7:30.

Work around camp removing saw dust pile. Physical exam by Dr. Reed. Under quarantine for two weeks no one can leave camp.

Took a look at gold mine just below camp.

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May 8, 1936

Wednesday.

Placed on regular work crew. Bill.

Move on same crew.

Worked with Major cutting brush on Caribou Road.

The road to work was a hair raising couple of hundred feet drop over the edge. Could look down on a prison camp. Also saw monument to first white woman settler in Calif.
May 9, 1935
Thursday
Still cutting brush on Caribou Road. Showed how to pan gold by an old prospector.
We built a fire on the roadside and made our own coffee for lunch.

May 10, 1935
Friday
Still cutting brush on Caribou. Can see snow on the mountain peaks all around. Camp alt. 2,752 ft.
Found a gold pan today. I am going to try panning for theочек end.
May 11, 1935
Saturday
Washed clothes in the morning and then walked down to Virginia. We saw Betty, the only girl in Virginia.

May 12, 1935
Sunday
Took our pans and went about two miles up Rush Creek to try our luck at fishing. Ted, Asbury, and myself went. Ted and his mess kit. Bell and I got a small piece. Ted didn't have any luck. Ted sacked his mess kit in the stream because we were coming back that way later. Found a bears trap too.
May 13, 1935

Monday.
Bill and I get charged over to the dynamite gang under Andy Anderson.
I have a bad cold and feel punk. We are put to work pushing big rocks into a fill for a new road.

May 14, 1935

Tuesday.
Cold still bad. Go up Caribou dynamiting. Instructed to face the blast so we can see rocks coming.
Bill and I working with Ken Wilson pushing rocks around. Become acquainted with Pop Crompton, the powder man.
Go to the infirmary after work for something to break up my cold. We have to sleep raw and with windows open.

Third 'rook' today.
May 15-35

Wednesday.
Cold breaking up.

Go into the town of Caribou. Small residential town in the heart of the mountains. The houses here are all owned by the light company.

We all felt punk from the effect of our third "hook." I became acquainted with Turk, Theodore and Slim, Dole, a limer from South Africa.

May 16-35

Thursday
Cold almost gone.

Still working on Caribou. Did some grading today.

After supper, took a walk up trail in back of camp with Ted and Asbury. After about three miles the camp to a gold mine near the creek.

There was an Indian working in a little garden on the roadside. He looked up and I waved. He dropped his hoe and grabbed a shotgun and came zooming down to the creek. By the time he reached the
Tank we were one hundred yds away. He fired a shot and we dropped to our Stomachs. The shot rattled in the trees around us. We were upon a second and tearing up the trail as fast as we could go. After we covered about a mile and a half we stopped for a breather. Our lungs were bursting.

We sat for about 5 min. when the doggon guy came looped up right and the bend in the trail. He stared into the muzzle of the gun. It looked as large as a cannon.

In a second we were tearing down the trail again, the Indian in back. Going around the bend we were running in space. We didn't stop till we hit our banks and were under the covers. The Indian came into camp and reported to the captain. He chucked his cigar the way he did because some fellows had been fooling with his sliver box just before we arrived and he thought we were there to do the same thing.

The captain said he could haul shots and have been within the laws. We took no more.
hikes into the note.

Two decided to leave.

Today meets to what

near the Indians

make for comfort.

Good fort

in Burlington

photography

Cousin Clegg do a

Anderson days to a.

Candy Road.

Cold game completed

Typewriter to fill in.
May 18, 1935
Saturday
Walked down to Virgie's with Bill. Took a picture of Bill and Pop Crompton.

Got my first letter from the East today since I've been in the west.
It was from Virginia. No letter from home yet.

May 19, 1935
Sunday
Went to Greenville.
Went swimming in hot springs. Bill had on one of those rented bathing suits. He looked like a tent.

Our baseball team beat Greenville.

Had ice cream for supper.

No mail from home today. Three cheers.
May 20-35

Monday
worked opposite Red Hill. Walked up mountain behind grader, tossing large rocks out of the road. Scenery from here is very pretty.

May 21-35

Tuesday
working opposite Red Hill again. Worked on the grader with Ken Weldon. Operated the angle crank for rear wheels. Not bumped around a bit, but didn't care because I didn't have to walk. Laughed at Bill ha! ha!
May 22 - 35
Wednesday
Worked on the grader up on the hill for a few hours and then went down with Ken and Art Cross to strip down the "Cat". Hottest day I ever worked. At lunch hour walked across the bridge into Belden with Ken and knocked off a cold bottle of beer. It sure hit the spot.

May 23 - 35
Thursday
Didn't work very hard today. Cleaned up some work on Caribou Road.
May 24, 1935
Friday
Fine week down in camp. Had a good time. Laughed myself sick at Bill’s jokes.
Danced. He showed me how to do the Hula Hula.
Danced with a girl from Greenville. Betty Hewitt.) Had a very interesting conversation with her.

The time has come the veal is sad to talk of many things of sailing ships of sealing wax.
May 27, 35
Monday
Worked up Red Well today grading the road.
Ate lunch in camp. We thought we'd get something good,
but we got the same old sandwiches.

May 28, 35
Tuesday
Worked up Red Well again today.
Bill went up to the tower with Anderson.
Walked into Virginia at night and wrote in Betty's autograph album.
May 29, 1935

Wednesday

Work for last time in Calif. today. It rained. Worked at Beldon. Did some blasting. Other crews were burning trash. Something blew up in the fire near Ted. He thought he was shot.

Had a wild ride with Dick up and down the road. Dick and Turk were fighting for the wheel while the truck was going over the bank. Some fell off. Willy and I were turning green in the back of the truck. We worked overtime.

We had two bottles of beer each after supper. At night the barracks raided each other and cooked each other with water. Got dumped out of bed three times by Bob, Ted and Al.
Thursday
Leaving for Idaho today.
Some blocks collect all the shoes in the night and tie them all together.

Some mess.
Left Virginia around 3:00 p.m.

Went to Manhattan.

Pick up 12:30. The train tracks went down thru the streets here.

Bee, Red manson and I shared the same compartment.

Headed north into Oregon.

Friday
Woke up in the Cascade Mts. Oregon. rode above the clouds in some planes.

Stopped in Portland. Couldn't go away from the train. Met up with Emerson & Bill Foulkes. They have new shoes and new jackets already.

Saw Jet Hoyt and a couple of Indians.

Passed Chemawa on indian school