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Sunday.

Dec. 7, 1941 — Japs attack Hawaii. Saw Charlie White. Message from Dumas Rainbow 5 in effect. 3 P.M. Goode phoned Jap fleet 20 min. south 10 min out Sent Dorn to Ord to call off show and alert garrison. Phoned Hearn – (who had gone to phone Dawley) to start air reconn. Phoned Hearn to have KDON call all e.m. back to camp. 3:30 Phoned White at Ord – He said he wanted to run the show. 3:30 – Radio call from KDON for e.m. to go back to camp – White to send Recon. Troop down Highway #1 – Dorn to come back to bring Studenberg. (A.M. attacks on Oahu and Manila – (Latter denied.) Ship sunk 1300 mi. W of S.F.) 3:35 – Guam being attacked.

Monday – Dec. 8 – Office in A.M. No further news. Rumors begin – Went to S.F. & saw DeWitt – Disaster at Honolulu – Periscope at Cliff House – Periscope off Pt. Lobos. Japs going to bomb Bremerton — Phone from Wash @ ammunitions. Almost a hatful! Sunday night “Air-Raid” at S.F. Ryan shot off his mouth – Two blackouts in S.F. – second on acct. of Navy Patrol! Fourth Army kind of jittery. Back at 6:00 Much depressed. Blackout on – Calmed ‘em down–

Tues. Dec. 9 At office in A.M. Arranged to shove off. Fleet of 34 ships between SD and LA! – Later – Not authentic. (Sinking feeling is growing). More threats of raids & landings. DeWitt getting 4 regts. from east – Dorn and I off at 3:45 – Bought a jacket – Night at SLO at Bull’s place

Wed. Dec. 10. Rain all way down. Went by Camp Cooke – (30% done) At Coliseum at 1 P.M. Dawley came up from Long Beach. Hicks at M^cArthur jittery. No man to man guns – Kaufman (USN) also jittery. Dawley very worried. News of 2 Br. battleships sunk. My God – worse and worse – Marines will play ball. Army has switched CP. to San Bernardino. Talked to Hearn over phone. On to San Bernardino in heavy rain. To Police Sta. Found Col Allen – Went out & met 47th Qm. – Back to C of C – to meet Cadwell – Long wait – (Jitters at March Field threat to shoot Cadwell’s plane.) Back to C of C – Blackout. No Cadwell. At 11 P.M. found he was at

Cal. Hotel – 1 block away. All arrangements made. Good job. Had chow at 12:15 A.M. In at 1:00.

Thurs Dec 11. Up at 6:30 – – Ran into Engr. meeting scheduled for 9 A.M. March Field denies they said they would shoot – – III AC says (I) arranged the Engr. meeting! 40th says there is no meeting! All O.K. now. Christ. Off at 9:00 for Riverside. Saw Moon (Ex. for Ryan.) No bombers here – out in desert. But 80-100 B-17's on Coast. Navy – no ships, no planes, or very few. Arm. picture like ours. Definite claims for accuracy of locator system. Saw the Room. Still Can't believe it – Down to S. D. and dug up Mittelstaedt. URGENT CALL “Main jap fleet 164 mi off S.F. Everybody alert.” My God. The old sinking feeling. Up to see Vogel. Calm old bird. Will play ball. He had Navy estimate of raiding fleet –2-4 CV. 10 AP. 4 Hv.C. plus DD & SS — Stopped at Encinitas and phoned to Hearn. He says Navy now reports negatively on the jap fleet. Good Christ! They'll kill me. Back to L.A. Got Dawley and saw Mayor Bowron Good egg. Left at 9:50. Lost twice getting out of L.A. Back at midnight – At 1:25 the Lower Cal. message came in. Sounds like that smart fart Dumart.

FRI. DEC. 12 2 jap BB sunk yesterday (?) P I fighting. Wake fighting. Not quite so dark. – (Navy guy SAW bursting shrapnel 85 mi. away!) (Navy asked 40th to put a 75 on a tug boat and go get a sub.) – Dan Boone exped. to Lower Cal. now “paramount”. Another jap ship near Mendicino. Moved & had a staff meeting. Told the boys all. — Col. Brooks called @ shipment of spigs – Cock-eyed G-2 report by Stroh last night. – Rainy. Phoned Win at 7 A.M. – O.K. – – To Riverside, Corona and Long Beach – Saw Coffman (!! Terminal Island mess. Oil being pumped back. 40' subs at Pearl Harbor. – He's the guy who saw the planes “confused”. (Can it be the Saratoga planes?) Thinks there are secret fields in Lower Cal. – Had to stand outside till the Marine let us in. – Over to M^{ac}Arthur and saw Hicks. He has a Bn of the 159th for close-in def. A Bn. of the 160th is on guard at scattered points – A Co. of the 53^d is on Terminal Isl. Back to San Berno. at 7:00 Nothing new – The spigs move from Nogales on Sun. A Capt. Ebright is Dan Boone. The six Scouts get \$1000 apiece. Turned in early

Sat. Dec. 13. No change. Hearn here since yesterday P.M. – 10:30 A.M. W.D.C. says attack on L.A. imminent. 10:35 coded message to same effect. (Says air attack) Gen. alarm being

considered!! Arm. still terrible but 12 Mil 30 cal. in hands of troops & 3M in reserve. 125th due tonight. We have 2 Bns along the coast 2 Bns readied on CAC defense and 2 Bns in reserve. For 175 miles of coast. (The old sinking feeling.) Hung around all A.M. A Div coming from somewhere – 10 days. – Sent out an air reconn. at 12:45 –another to go at dusk. 30 mi. out, 30 mi each side of Long Beach – – (Negative.) A lot of AA coming in – under air control. Further dispersed our skimpy force under orders to protect air fields – VII AC coming (Richardson) 27^{xx} & 35^{xx} We get 27^{xx} and 7^{xx} goes to VII A.C. Won't start till we send in detraining points. 6 tanks coming from Ord. (The others won't run.) A party from Fourth Army in to look for depot sites. Rickard, Hunt, etc. Full of importance & wind. Only item new to us was dispatch of liners to the P.I. Situation there a bit better. Lingayen landing repulsed

SUNDAY DEC 14. One week gone. And what done? Reputations blasted, and the U. S. united and set for a long hard pull. (Mrs. McCabe ran for Chattanooga. Trust her.) Townsend in early Appalled at 40 Div. set-up of com. Enough for G. H. Q. – (Doubts about Royse & Wood – BANK as G-4? And Royse as O.O.? – Later. An Ord off. is on the way. Leave Royse in G-4 and put Bank over him.) – 125th Inf.'s first serial came in. – Road reconn. to Chino Hills and Palos Verdes. Latter is a military asset that should have been developed – Back at 8 P.M. – Nothing new. – This is one week of war. P. I. doing fine – Wake & Midway holding. Knox back in Washington. Still silence from Navy. What a black eye they got. A C.A.C. rookie shot and killed a woman yesterday – DeWitt now in full command on coast. COMMAND MESS – p.e. on Terminal Island – 1 Co. 53^d – 1 Co. 160th – Marines – State Guard – Police of two municipalities. – By order, a company from 185th — Similarly at other points. Cock-eyed dispersion of force and mix-up of units.

MONDAY – DEC. 15. Dubby day – No scares. Had Jeffers arrange plane for Ebright Sent C of S with M^cCabe on trip to locate billets for 27th Div. – The great Secret tien-hua is ready. Now we'll catch it. — Various dopes in to talk. Royse wants to resign – just can't bear it. Told him to wait till to-morrow. 125th Inf. in. – 3^d Cav. Br arr. at Phoenix and Tucson.

TUES. DEC. 16. Staff meeting – Up to Lake Arrowhead with C of S and Dorn. Snow on roads. 6000' up. Back at 2:00 – Royse is going to play ball –

Wed. Dec. 17 Haskell G-3, 27th, here. More b-ache by Capt. Wahl for false-alarm Ebright, who shoved off at 12:01 A.M. Phone from Richardson; meet him at March Field at 2:30. Rumor that 9th C.A. is melded with WDC is true. O.K. Now we run sabotage. — Flew over to March Field. Dubby Col. Davidson, a wet smack. ½ T. pick-ups, circulating with MG.'s ready for A.A. 8' of sandbags around office. Talked with Costello (Congressman). Wire from Richardson. Can't come. Off to Santa Monica. Saw Branshaw, all jitters. (½ of our aircraft production localised here in 8 plants. Practically all our heavy bombers. My God.) Back and found we are responsible now. So put 125th on the job, via Dawley. Pennell coming in.

Thurs Dec. 18. Pennell showed up. Same as ever. Billets ready. P.M. went to Cajon Pass looking for ranges (Elev. 4000.) Phone from Army to do anything to safe-guard plants. Dawley over in evening. Cooled off by midnight. Wanted to establish a def. area of 300 sq. mi around Long Beach.

FRI. DEC 19 – Shea, Board of Equal., in on booze selling – With M^cCabe to Corona looking for training area. O.K. down there. P.M. to Muroc Lake with Hearn – (100 mi in 28 min.) Big plant going in. Lt Col Smith was C.O. In the jitters over “attack”. 50 mi out on desert, & afraid of parachute troops. Only pistols in his 3,000 men and they want the Inf to protect them. Can't even dig holes now that Engrs. have left. (Most of USA heavy bombers there.) Patrolling down into Lower Cal. His plan of defense left out everything but the tents & the personnel! Usual attitude; the Inf. must take care of us. Back at 5. WDC keeps changing units around. Now 125th goes to com. zone. We will put 2 cos. at Muroc – etc etc. (von Kessler in last night recommending guards for me when I go out, so the japs won't bump me off!) (–Gen J. B Coulter in yesterday. 3^d Cav. Br. at Phoenix. Takes over Arizona sector. Unloaded the Col. R. posts. Wasn't this bird exec. for M^cCabe in G-2? – He was not at all at his ease.) – Phoned Win.

SAT. DEC. 20. Mayor wants a fire-siren & I'm to tell OPM that San Bernoo needs it acct. “strategical situation”! – (C/S to S.D.) — Pennell in with Kernan ('18) Actg C/S, 87th Div. — Changed office around – Coffman Called 150 P40's to be kept at Long Beach (No.) Wants 40 on Terminal Isl.

SUN – DEC 21. Looked up 108th Inf at Pomona – Col. Morgan, “Yes, I’m over age – for a colonel!” & 105th FA at Chino (Andrews) & Pennell at ^{xx} C.P. Dubbed. Nap. Nothing doing. – Ebright affair getting worse and worse. A stupidity. Now he has planes and is “operating” in two columns! Really was a sub. attack yesterday. Or rather two.

Mon. Dec. 22 6:30 A.M. phone from Bradley – Bryden says come to Wash. For some time To work on a plan And then maybe be Yuan Shuai. Packed up & shoved off at 1:35 (Plane at Sacramento for repair.) Bergin & Co. buzzing — they think it’s big stuff. Home at 5:00. Grand visit – Emily & Mrs. Bergin & Joe in – Talked & talked. All composed mentally – thank God

Tues. Dec 23. Packed. How time flies when you don’t want it to. Off at 10 – to office. The plane may go – To Monterey airport. Plane came in & got struck by lightning just before we got on – Rainy. Dodging run to S.F. Got Harry Lewis’ message – Off about 1 P.M. Sac.-Reno-Salt Lake. Snow on the mts. Sleeper at Denver. Snow on ground X-mas-y – Cleveland at 9:00. Other plane gone. Rotten weather. Plan to take 12:26 to Washington. Did so. Not bad. Clear at Wash. at 3:45. To WD. Saw A.G. & Bryden & Eisenhower. The shock. Talked with Crawford & Eisenhower – With Maj. GA Smith to War College. Saw Maloney & Carrington (G-1) & Parks etc. etc. Left at 6:00 – Chow at cafeteria After checking in at Hay-Adams. Evening with Roberts. All sorts of dope (40, + only in P. I. Aviation gone. Convoy at Brisbane – No navy action, –anti-sub too good! The PI are sunk. Last news 200,000 japs ashore. Depressing. Back at midnight. Sent wire to folks.

Christmas Day – 1941 – Pretty gloomy. Had chow at dog wagon. Saw Gerow – uncertainty about whole show. Churchill conference will decide it, perhaps. To War College. Talk with Hayes & Malony. Need for a basic decision. Who is to state the position and decide? Checked our staff possibilities. Went over papers. Couldn’t get Marine liaison man. Chow at Pa. Ave. restaurant with Smith & Dorn. Saw Dumbo – Had chow at dog wagon. Called on Jo Tenney.

FRI. DEC. 26 – (Air has left the P.I.) (Bryden is a Cackling ass.) To Childs – for breakfast. Then W.C. till 1 P.M. VI AC staff here – Grunert, (Purple.) Ryder-Leonard – etc. Saw Malony

& M^cNair. Talk about troops. “Let’s give him this one – or that one”, etc. Nobody knows where I’m going! Up to see Gerow at 1:00. (Saw Handy, Kibler, M^cDaniel, Nevins – about the islands, etc.) Waited till 4:00. No Gerow. Back to W.C. Everybody is “in conference”, or going to, or coming from. This A.M. it was Dakar, this P.M. it is Casablanca – Erskine Came in & was he surprised. He was set to do GRAY. History of BLACK is good – last May (41) Big Boy said “get GRAY ready” 3 mos. “O, no, one month.” Then, “Wait on Gray, I mean Iceland. So it was Iceland, & GRAY waited. Meanwhile, get ready for Black. – And so it goes. Whims. Fancy. Sudden childish notions. — Had Hearn, M^cCabe, & Sandusky ordered in. – Had chow with John Davies – – Two days here & nothing done except rush back & forth.

SAT. DEC. 27. Saw Gerow. New directive. Now it’s C. or D. (The Big Boy thinks it isn’t yet the “ripe time” for C. Good news to me, with 1100 Ger. planes in Sardinia & Sicily, & 185,000 Sp in Morrocco, & 80,000 Fr. in N. Africa, & 28 Ger Divs. in France & 400 planes in Spain, etc. etc. The plain truth is we can do one thing & not several, & we’ll have to pick it out. To W.C. for breakfast. Studied the Cape Verde Isl. Col. Duncan reported, to command air service. He was all set for the island seizure alone. Doc Ryder says VI AC worked on this JBP last summer. Connolly came in to say he wanted in on it, resigning from CAA. He can be C/S & Hearn can be Dep. C/S – Over-age boys are out. Mick Daley & V AC in to go to Ireland (I think) – Looked over the Operations Room with Malony – Apparently we still have 6 wagons & 3 carriers at TH. (The Asiatic crowd is at Soura. with 3 cr. + 21 SS. + ? DD. Why no action, I wonder?) Pecked away at a mass of data till 6 P.M. Sea food dinner at Naylor’s. Wrote Win.

SUN. DEC. 28. Hearn, Sandy & M^cCabe in early. They’d been up all night. To W.C. leaving them in bed. Down to Quantico – Saw Smith & Erskine – No JBP! Never saw it. They are all regular & hate the Navy. Appalled at the prospect. (Reports on transports breaking down – Shortages, of course, in weapons & am.) They will play ball – Back at 1:30 Found our crowd up around the table. Talked till 6:30. Ate at Hogate’s –

MON. DEC 29. To W.C. (Ordered belt.) New priority – (1) White House, if invitation. (2) Islands. (3) D. Secwar coming to make speech to gladiators. Malony to get a naval officer. No date for talks at W.P.D. New policy in personnel. By name only if in own corps. – N.B. Sec war

did not come. Fiddled around about personnel. Connolly to be C/S – if Marshall agrees. Matchett in. Just worked all day. Had chow at Bonat's. Got a cloth belt.

TUES. DEC. 30. To W.P.D. for talks. Air people did not show. Two in at 10:30 – Same for our own G-3 – Kibler, M^cDaniel & Nevin on D – , C.V., & N. W. A. – think that Vichy & Spain will throw in with Ger. in case of a N. W. A. attempt. – (Daley with 32-34-37 & 1st Armd. going to Ireland. Did Churchill win?) Secwar came in to look us over. Just talk. He fumbled around about the islands and this and that. Keen mind, but we didn't learn anything new. (M^cKelvie came in with the great secret. – I ordered 10,000 – Same thing that Trudeau told me about) – (I outlined the attack in the afternoon & we dug away at dope. I figure we must change the plan to make it snappy in the C.V. and get enough space for planes.) Now we can't have Connolly! Left the Hay-Adams & went to the Blackstone. (Mrs. M^cCabe is here. If he tells, I'll fire him.) Black-out to-night. We went to news-reel movie –

WED. DEC. 31. Last day of the year – – To W. C. – Call from C/S. Saw him at 8:45–9:30 – Secwar is brake on Flibbertigibbet. Commitments last Spring. (17 of 35 B-17's hit on ground on 2^d day in P.I. –) Delivering planes via Pacific. Building up No. Aus. & Java – for air battle. I am picked for “initiator, quick thinking, determination” etc. God save the mark. The 1st American attack must go. That's O.K. But who wants to be the token? Conger Pratt in (Trinidad – Strong turned down.) Pecked away. Dinner with Paul and Pink Bull: at Col. C.C.

[Notes]

[Overleaf from entry of Dec. 31, 1942; unnumbered vol.]

- No wool on the sheep in No. French W. Africa
- Freed slaves asked if happy, O.K.? Yes, but we need something. What? We need some slaves.
- Huckleberries in Mass. = prosperity in Cape Verde Is.