

Further details about these records are available in the Yukon Archives Descriptive Database at www.yukonarchives.ca

Robert Seaton fonds

<u>Location</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
MSS 40	f1	<p>Robert Seaton diary and letter</p> <p>- Copy of Robert Seaton's diary written while he was working on the construction of the Alaska Highway, May 7, 1942 to January 26, 1943. He describes working and living conditions at the construction camps (i.e. meals, work, leisure, weather, etc.), and news from the battlefronts of the Second World War. Some of the individuals mentioned in the diary include Valiton, James McCready, Bishop, Hansen, Frank Thornton, Louisa Upston, Ribot, Payne, Moody, "Pop" Dawson, Edward C. Fox, Sgt. Atkinson, Adams, Henry 'Hank' Alvarez, Olaf 'Olie' Gray, Raymond Juppe, Capt. Cassell, Sgt. Roll, George Prechter, Ray, Lyle Harris, Pinky, Johnny Buxton, Lt. Berry, St. Sgt. Fienga, "Preacher" Haseldon, "Doc" Bence, St. Sgt. Ward, Sgt. Rollie Bolden, Sam Holcomb, Sgt. Oberst, Heller, Lt. Perrin, Capt. Willis, Barton, Cpl. Foley, Major Bridges, Capt. Guardino, Biehl, Capt. Robins, Sgt. Biles, Wolford, Duke, Joseph Keating, and Allen B. Cox. A list of addresses is at the end of the diary. A brief daily overview follows:</p> <p>Thurs May 7: Received diary from mother. Been in Yukon a little over a month. Gen. Hoge forbids wearing hunting knives. "E" Co. stabbing victim will live.</p> <p>May 8: Fresh fruit is scarce. Listened to evening news.</p> <p>May 9: Stood at reveille. Watched the band practice – they play beautifully. Shot two squirrels and two birds.</p> <p>May 10: Shaved off beard due to order by Gen. Hoge. Had dinner at the Muirheads' summer cabin.</p> <p>May 10: Ate downtown. Saw film "Tobacco Road" at local theatre in Whitehorse.</p> <p>May 12: "A" Co. pulled out. Showered. Ate dinner in town. Went on 'Casca'. Visited Muirheads.</p> <p>May 13: Went hunting in evening – one squirrel and one bird. Radio reception good.</p> <p>May 14: Repaired damaged pants. Dinner at the Muirheads' summer cabin. Drove home in car. Missed bed check.</p> <p>May 15: Went to the Muirheads'. Listened to the news. Late for bed check.</p>	<p>May 1942- Jan 1943, 1976</p>

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		May 16: Inspection day. Got Hank with a tack. Watched film "Johnny Apollo" downtown. Had a couple beers.	
		May 17: Went to Muirheads' cabin. Missed bed check.	
		May 18: Hotcakes for breakfast. Went to Ice Lake with the Muirheads. Rowed boat. C.O. confined whole tent to camp for missing reveille.	
		May 19: No mail today. Wrote letters. Went to town for dinner and the film "Grapes of Wrath". News reports encouraging.	
		May 20: "E" Co. moved out. Quit smoking 10 weeks ago today (noted on 1942 calendar at front of diary). Sent packet of postcards home. One-week confinement to camp lifted after second day.	
		May 21: Preparing to leave tomorrow. Good-bye supper with Muirheads at their home.	
		May 22: Hotcakes for breakfast as usual. Went to town. Said good-bye to the Muirheads again. No news reports.	
		May 23: Early morning. Left camp at 7am. Some trucks got stuck. Dust terrible. Brutal ride. Arrived at camp 80 miles NE of Whitehorse at 9:30pm. Mosquitos vicious.	
		May 24: Put up Personnel Office tents. Got in an argument with 1 st Sgt. Cleaned rifle. Finally got a shower. Mosquitos vicious.	
		May 25: Worked on office furniture and trimmings all day.	
		May 26: Rain. Mosquitos.	
		May 27: Rain. Robins sang until 11:30pm. Got dark at midnight.	
		May 28: Forbidden from going hunting due to actions of others. Did carpenter work.	
		May 29: Finished awning job for personnel tent. No pellet guns around camp. Sgt. Wierzbinski (sp?) shot in leg. Received letter and camera from mother.	
		May 30: Nice compliment from C.O. on tent during inspection. Slept most of afternoon. Went hunting with Corp. Berry – no success. Had a campfire rally with the band.	
		May 31: Mail. Church outdoors. Got a gopher and squirrel while hunting.	
		Mon Jun 1: Beautiful June day. Windy. Put moose skull in Hank's bed as prank.	
		Jun 2: Mail. Received pay. Nothing to spend it on.	

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		Jun 3: Transmitting records of men transferred to Base Headquarters. Poker game pretty wild last night.	
		Jun 4: Warmth and mosquitos continue. Beer drinking. Prank on Hank.	
		Jun 5: Checked payrolls. Fresh food arriving. Mess Sgt. shot moose. Got tent ready for inspection.	
		Jun 6: Inspection day.	
		Jun 7: Fresh food to eat. Climbed nearby mountain. Saw wildflowers.	
		Jun 8: Sore from hike yesterday. Dental inspection.	
		Jun 9: Mosquitos getting worse. Planes grounded due to weather. Had teeth cleaned.	
		Jun 10: My birthday. Still no mail. Ate moose killed earlier.	
		Jun 11: Everyone sleepy all day since hard to sleep with light all night.	
		Jun 12: Windy. Mail.	
		Jun 13: Inspection day called off due to rain.	
		Jun 14: Breakfast. No mail. Sleeping. Shower and shave. Reading. Late snack. Finally sleeping by 1am.	
		Jun 15: Robins chirping. Roll call at reveille. Listened to news and organ.	
		Jun 16: Road will probably go to mush with all the rain. Two low flying planes gave us jitters.	
		Jun 17: Attempts to keep warm since still raining. Repaired Service Records. Did calisthenics.	
		Jun 18: Radio reception intermittent.	
		Jun 19: Rain, rain, and more rain.	
		Jun 20: Seaplane pilot in camp. Plane had no oil. Cracked up while trying to take off. Pilot not hurt but lost wing and pontoon.	
		Jun 21: Packed up regimental equipment for move to Kluane Lake.	
		Jun 22: Will not be moving due to poor road conditions.	
		Jun 23: Steak and tomato lettuce salad. Got some film at the canteen. Took some pictures.	
		Jun 24: Rumours say we will stay in Whitehorse this winter.	
		Jun 25: Wrote home. Got day off. Took a roll of film. Slept most of afternoon. Vancouver Barracks is no longer home station.	

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		Jun 26: Orders received to prepare to move. Tore out furnishings and luxuries and had a fire. Roasted potatoes before bed.	
		Jun 27: Shooter's pay to be resumed. If true \$5 more per month. Took down tent. Listened to radio until time for bed.	
		Jun 28: Left camp 12:30pm. Road rough. Mountains beautiful. Stuck only once. Arrived Kluane Lake 6:30pm. Lake beautiful. Tents set up.	
		Jun 29: Built furniture for the office, which is the old trading post building. Snapped quite a few pictures. Sore from truck bouncing. Had two baths in the cold lake. Fished with no success.	
		Jun 30: Set up stove and carried in supply of driftwood.	
		Wed Jul 1: Gathered wildflowers for pressing. My turn to clean "General store" office. Read in evening since nothing else to do.	
		Jul 2: Pay yet to arrive. Civilian plane landed on lake. Water too cold to swim.	
		Jul 3: Pay arrived. Ordered moccasins as gifts. Went swimming despite cold. Games all over camp tonight.	
		Jul 4: David Madrid received medal for attempting to save Walter from drowning in Whitehorse Rapids. Mixed beer and scotch and was sick.	
		Jul 5: Sick. Read.	
		Jul 6: Feeling better. Considering going back to straight duty. Able to stay in lake for about 3 minutes.	
		Jul 7: Working on returning to straight duty. Raining.	
		Jul 8: Put up a stove in the office. Hard to sleep with card players straggling in at all hours.	
		Jul 9: Cloudy but no rain. Took some photos. Lake calm. Mosquitos returning.	
		Jul 10: Got tent ready for tomorrow's inspection.	
		Jul 11: Capt. Pizzati has yellow jaundice. Talked until after midnight.	
		Jul 12: First time did laundry in a month. Laid naked on the beach. Swam. Sunburned but not bad. Pinky and Fox caught some fish for eating.	
		Jul 13: Stamped Service Records "paid" most of the day. All meals kind of bad now. Road had better dry up or we will starve. Convoy of mail and food arrived at 11pm.	

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		Jul 14: Received mail and answered. Juppe on K.P. today. Had French-fried potatoes as snack. Thornton fears will get jaundice.	
		Jul 15: Road closed again. Expect to return to own company soon.	
		Jul 16: Sunny but cool. Band played during breakfast in honor of visiting General. Sneaked out today to take photographs including of Hayden family.	
		Jul 17: Machine records roster came in again. Cooked some grayling. Invented a recipe to make them taste like chicken.	
		Jul 18: Inspection day. Yellow jaundice victims in camp. A man has come to relieve me, so I can return to my company. Fish fry tonight.	
		Jul 19: Received mail and wrote letters. Lay on the beach. Will rejoin company tomorrow. Hate to leave these fellows, but best to return.	
		Jul 20: Crossed lake on ferry. Beautiful spot. Set up bed. Talked with old friends and looking over new surroundings. Found several gambling dens.	
		Jul 21: Returned to straight duty. Falling trees along the right-of-way. Pulled out stumps with truck winch. Good to be working with the company again.	
		Jul 22: Packed. Rolled fuel and oil drums. Set out and arrived at camp 11:15pm.	
		Jul 23: Cut timbers for a bridge and carried them from the woods. Have heard no news for a week.	
		Jul 24: Worked by passing bad spots in road all morning. Mosquitos about gone. Gnat flies present. Lake water never seems to warm up.	
		Jul 25: Worked in the woods knocking down small trees to lay in ruts. First platoon moved in today. Knocked down trees for culvert.	
		Jul 26: Took photos of the guys. Received mail. Pearl enclosed a Whiz Bang that almost ruined the morale of all guys in this tent.	
		Jul 27: Hauled timbers for a culvert. Had dental inspection.	
		Jul 28: Timbers for more culverts. Weather nice and no mosquitos. 17 months in army today.	
		Jul 29: Had only about 30 minutes for lunch again. Lake streaked with pollen from pine trees.	

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		Jul 30: Fried eggs and sausages for breakfast. Cut timbers for culverts and bridge.	
		Jul 31: Building crib bridge. Got a new down filled sleeping bag.	
		Sat Aug 1: Building a bridge. Cutting timbers for corduroy. Everyone paid tonight. Card and dice games occurring.	
		Aug 2: Ate, read, slept, took photos.	
		Aug 3: Windy. Waves are hitting pretty high. Cut timbers. Freed "Cat" from the mud.	
		Aug 4: Wind has died. Tore down tents. Left camp at 7am. Road dusty and rough halfway, and muddy and sloppy the rest. Arrived 10am. Latrine digging detail. Cleaned rifle and personal equipment.	
		Aug 5: Cut trees for corduroy. Rations lousy. Carrying and loading timber. Received pay.	
		Aug 6: Laid corduroy. Dissatisfied with meals provided. Winched logs. Civilian car arrived in Burwash today.	
		Aug 7: Hotcakes for breakfast. Noon food improved. Real beef for a change. Squared off bridge logs. Trip to and from work dusty. Mail call at 10pm.	
		Aug 8: On K.P – first time in nine months. Mountain of pots and pans to wash.	
		Aug 9: K.P. again. Meals of Vienna sausages and hash.	
		Aug 10: K.P. Clear and cool this morning.	
		Aug 11: K.P. Had to stay late to grind hamburger. Signed the payroll.	
		Aug 12: K.P. Drove food out to the Co.	
		Aug 13: K.P. Men came in for lunch today.	
		Aug 14: Last K.P. Glad to get finished. Food getting worse every day. Listened to news despite poor reception.	
		Aug 15: Left 7am. Road constructed through a burnt forest. Sandy, wet and swampy. Trucks all stuck for 6 hours. Have to work on day off tomorrow.	
		Ag 16: Cut corduroy to free D8 "Cat".	
		Aug 17: Hot cakes again for breakfast. Worked on corduroy and sounding holes. Everywhere is frozen at about 3 ft. depth. In some places, water is only 1.5 ft. down. Ground is sandy with sod for 1"-2". All trees are burnt but still standing. "Cats" pulling traffic through but even they get stuck.	

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		Aug 18: Road messy this morning due to rain. Sang while working. Dug out a D8 "Cat".	
		Aug 19: Cold and frosty this morning. Shoveled sand and laid corduroy. Snow on mountaintops. Got ready to go hunting tomorrow.	
		Aug 20: Arose at 4am. Hit the trail at 5:15am. Arrived campsite 9:30am. Set up pup tents.	
		Aug 21: Saw tracks and scenery but no game.	
		Aug 22: Hiked back to camp. Whole country is muskeg except the streambeds. Arrived 4pm. 4.5 hr. trip. Must work tomorrow.	
		Aug 23: Corduroying. Had sliver of watermelon.	
		Aug 24: Slowly this mud hole resembles a road. Gnats – do not taste as good as mosquitos.	
		Aug 25: Passed on the lunch hash. Dug a new garbage pit. Received a haircut.	
		Aug 26: French toast for breakfast. Cut corduroy.	
		Aug 27: Built a culvert. A "Pathe" newsreel cameraman came around and filmed. Beginning to look like we will spend the holiday season here.	
		Aug 28: A day off. Stew for dinner.	
		Aug 29: Puddles of water slightly frozen over. Put in culvert. Cut timber for another culvert.	
		Aug 30: Received drive to work. Put in culvert.	
		Aug 31: Tore down tents and pulled out. Got some pictures of Donjek River and pontoon bridge. Set up camp about a mile across the river.	
		Sep 1: Ice on puddles. Powered eggs scrambled for breakfast. Hiked out to work. Cut timber for a bridge.	
		Sep 2: Worked on small bridge.	
		Sep 3: Hiked to work at least 1.5 miles. Cut corduroy and shoveled path for corduroy. Had concert and "Follies" in evening. Female impersonator a laugh.	
		Sep 4: Still working 1.5 miles from camp. Corduroyed. Band and orchestra still with us. Trucks all with 2 nd Battalion now.	
		Sep 5: Spent all morning getting timbers back to camp to start construction of a sled. Several in construction. All classic concert by the band tonight.	
		Sep 6: Diced Vienna sausages for dinner. Concert by band and orchestra. Sleds all built.	

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		Sep 7: Take down camp and loaded sleds. Left 11am. Arrived 7pm. 8 miles distance.	
		Sep 8: "Preacher" Haseldon moved into our tent.	
		Sep 9: Made quite a stretch today clearing. The band played another concert tonight. The "Corny 5" then took over with the latest jive.	
		Sep 10: Excavated a garbage pit. Bathed. Shaved. Washed clothes.	
		Sep 11: Cleared road. Built up an appetite hiking to and from work each day twice a day but the chow is lousy.	
		Sep 12: Sneaked into the supply tent and lifted two cans of "gold fish". St. Sgt. Ward arrested.	
		Sep 13: Hiked to "A" Co. to visit Hilmar Hansen. Returned to camp with pack train.	
		Sep 14: Lt. Berry is getting more ignorant. Stood in a gallon can for a bathtub. Occasional snowflake.	
		Sep 15: Cold and snowing but melted. Went out hunting for grouse but saw none.	
		Sep 16: Small streams freezing over. Tore down tents and loaded sleds. Left 11am. Arrived in camp at 4pm. Set up camp in record time.	
		Sep 17: Cut timber for sleds. Roast beef for lunch.	
		Sep 18: Constructing more sleds. Soaked thru due to rain.	
		Sep 19: Competing with 2 nd platoon on sled construction.	
		Sep 20: A day off. Grouse and duck hunting with "Doc" Bence.	
		Sep 21: Laid corduroy.	
		Sep 22: Hiked 3 miles to work on corduroy. Hunting.	
		Sep 23: Cut decking for bridge. Saw beavers and dam.	
		Sep 24: Finished bridge. Culvert work. "Cats" returned with rations and new sleeping bags but no mail.	
		Sep 25: Ate lunch at the work site. Stole a gallon of tomato juice.	
		Sep 26: Shot four grouse while hiking to work in morning.	
		Sep 27: Tore down camp and loaded sleds. Left 8:30am. Arrived 3:30pm. Did not unload sleds.	
		Sep 28: Left 8:30am. Reached the lake at noon. First sled arrived 2pm. Set up camp.	
		Sep 29: Volunteered to build racks for the kitchen.	
		Sep 30: Corduroy work.	

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		Thurs Oct 1: Corduroy work. Fried chicken for lunch. Shot two grouse. Kling and Harvey brought in sheep. 2 nd Platoon arrived tonight.	
		Oct 2: Received pay. Tried hunting ducks. Saw a little dog. Saw Northern Lights for first time since last spring.	
		Oct 3: Six months away from the States today.	
		Oct 4: Day off. Moved into another tent.	
		Oct 5: Loaded sleds. Corduroyed.	
		Oct 6: Packed up. Cats came in to moved us around noon. Left 3pm. Got stuck about 15 times. Made camp about 1am. Wolves howled nearby.	
		Oct 7: Put up camp. Received "ditty" bags from the Red Cross. Cut timber for sleds. Sun stays low on horizon.	
		Oct 8: Dug out a "Cat". Brazed moose calf for dinner.	
		Oct 9: Attended church services.	
		Oct 10: Loaded everything on Athey wagons and set out. Reached new camp at noon.	
		Oct 11: Snowed all morning. Laid corduroy.	
		Oct 12: About 0°F this morning. Cleared P.R.A. line all morning. "Corned Willie" for lunch.	
		Oct 13: Cleared trail. Laundry froze when hung out.	
		Oct 14: Hotcakes for breakfast. Filled chuck holes.	
		Oct 15: Hiked 3 miles to the White River and set guide stakes for "Cat" drivers.	
		Oct 16: Tore down. Loaded sleds. Moved on. Easy trip. Set up camp.	
		Oct 17: Boomer and I went moose hunting but got nothing.	
		Oct 18: Cut timbers for a bridge. Lake groaning as it freezes.	
		Oct 19: Chili for lunch. Finished bridge.	
		Oct 20: Loaded sleds. Arrived at new camp about noon. First cold in months.	
		Oct 21: Fried eggs for breakfast. Cut poles for road markers. Painted bands on them.	
		Oct 22: Set snow poles. Cold.	
		Oct 23: Put in snow poles. "G.I. Goldfish" cakes at lunch.	
		Oct 24: Lay in snow poles (tough work).	
		Oct 25: Placed snow poles. Lamb stew for lunch.	
		Oct 26: Tore down camp. Loaded sleds. Set out for new camp. Road connected in all sectors now.	
		Oct 27: On K.P. Contact with 97 th has been established.	

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		Oct 28: 97 th less than 1 mile away.	
		Oct 29: 1 st platoon moved up with us. Mended clothes.	
		Oct 30: Liver and onions for lunch. Carried in wood.	
		Oct 31: Morale getting low. Lots of petty altercations going on.	
		Sun Nov 1: Bitter cold. Still on K.P. Roast veal for lunch. Ground beef for dinner. Mail tonight.	
		Nov 2: Received pay. 1 st platoon moved on today.	
		Nov 3: Saw the first four wheeled vehicle (Jeep) from the outfit ahead. It contained a Major and two civilian contractors.	
		Nov 4: Put in snow poles. A pickup came up the road.	
		Nov 5: -20°F. Ink in this pen froze. Fire guards will be on tonight.	
		Nov 6: Talked with civilian construction gang that was all from Iowa. They are graveling up the road.	
		Nov 7: Tore down camp. Finally got going, in reverse direction though.	
		Nov 8: Cut stove wood. Transported oil drums.	
		Nov 9: Another move backwards. Camp about 7 miles from White River. Unloaded Athey wagons.	
		Nov 10: Dragged wood over lake all morning. Cut wood for platoon. Sun sets behind mountains about 2:30pm. Lantern about completely shot now.	
		Nov 11: 97 th and civilian contractors about up with us now.	
		Nov 12: Set out to new camp.	
		Nov 13: Building duckboards to assist "Cats" get out of the White River.	
		Nov 14: Built duckboards.	
		Nov 15: Went out on river to try again to extricate the "Cat" from the ice.	
		Nov 16: Hotcakes for breakfast. Roast pork for lunch.	
		Nov 17: Set out snow poles. P.X. tent half burned.	
		Nov 18: Helped 1 st platoon. Snowing in swirls.	
		Nov 19: Left about 4:20pm. Moved 20 miles.	
		Nov 20: Sawed wood all afternoon. Celebration to open road officially today. First truck came through about 5:30pm.	
		Nov 21: No hotcakes. Cut wood. Rumour that we will be returning to the States soon.	

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		Nov 22: Tore down camp. Underway at 11:45am. Road all day in trucks covered in comforters.	
		Nov 23: Arrived at 88 mile camp about 1:30pm. Set up.	
		Nov 24: Got the news that in about 30 days the outfit would return to the States. Canteens freeze 5ft. from the stove.	
		Nov 25: -48°F this morning. Moved into barracks this evening. Sure warm and nice.	
		Nov 26: Thanksgiving chow at 2:30pm. Darn good too, even in mess kits. Turkey, dressing, olives, pickles, and real ice cream. Read.	
		Nov 27: Cut lumber to construct double bunk frames. Lost the flip of a coin and had to take an upper. Barracks pretty cozy new and contains 28 men.	
		Nov 28: Worked inside barracks. Read.	
		Nov 29: Received orders to pull out for Reg'tl Hq. Left in truck about 3:30pm. Arrived at RSO barracks at Lake Kluane about 7pm.	
		Nov 30: Left in RSO truck. Arrived at H&S Co. on the Donjek about 5pm. Reg'tl had already left for Lake Kluane so had a ride of 80 miles for nothing. Bed down in band's barracks. Chili for dinner. -20°F at 9pm.	
		Tues Dec 1: Stayed with band and listened to practice.	
		Dec 2: Cut wood for the band in morning. Left for Camp 9A. Truck dumped, so had to upright and reload it. Stayed at Duke River with the civilians. Swell chow.	
		Dec 3: Stayed the day. Roast beef for dinner.	
		Dec 4: Trucks running so left about 9am. Arrived Camp 9A about 1:30pm. Vienna sausages and beans for dinner. Tasted lousy after eating at the civilian's camp.	
		Dec 5: Back in the office again. Worked on pay books. Went down to the lake and bought a case of brew. Returned to camp and had a couple of the cans of brew and cheese.	
		Dec 6: Took a bath in a pan. Drank some beers. Took some pictures. Heard about Les Cook plane crash in Whitehorse.	
		Dec 7: War a year old today. Worked on Service Records. Read. Barracks hot.	
		Dec 8: Worked on Pay Books, insurance, class "A" allotments, etc.	

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		Dec 9: Heatwave at 0°F. Worked on service records. On wood detail today. Received mail.	
		Dec 10: Worked on pay books and service records. Fairbanks freight trucks coming through now. Road in pretty fair shape except for a few spots. Read.	
		Dec 11: Worked on pay books and service records.	
		Dec 12: Inspection today. Heatwave at 10°F. Worked on service records. Did laundry. Water so hard that soap won't lather. Read.	
		Dec 13: Hiked to Lake Kluane and saw Kyle at the A.P.O. Hiked back. Watched poker games.	
		Dec 14: Worked on service records. Mail. Had some beer.	
		Dec 15: Worked on service records. Lost 95¢ in blackjack game. Had a couple of brews. Game lasted until 3am.	
		Dec 16: Worked on service records.	
		Dec 17: Worked on service records. Watched the film "Birth of the Blues" in the Mess Hall. -35°F.	
		Dec 18: Worked on service records. Read Jack London's biography "Sailor on Horseback."	
		Dec 19: Worked on service records. Read all evening.	
		Dec 20: Slept. Lunch. Read. Cleaned. Bathed. Shaved.	
		Dec 21: Worked on service records. Stew for dinner.	
		Dec 22: Worked on service records and passenger lists.	
		Dec 23: Cut stencils and worked on passenger lists. Typed furloughs. Did laundry.	
		Dec 24: Worked on service records and furloughs. Lots of rumours floating around regarding next move. Band gave a program. Colonel gave a talk. Went to Christmas service.	
		Dec 25: Worked. Huge Christmas dinner. Played cards. Christmas carols on radio.	
		Dec 26: Worked on service records. Read.	
		Dec 27: Played solitaire. Mail. Read.	
		Dec 28: Worked on service records. Mail. Read.	
		Dec 29: Worked on service records and furloughs. Was assigned to Qualification Cards Section starting tomorrow.	
		Dec 30: Started to work on Qualification Cards.	
		Dec 31: Raised hell about the filing system. Package of food from Mrs. Muirhead. Spent New Years Eve lying around. Had a cocktail.	
		Fri Jan 1: Started 1943 with hot cakes. Worked on Qualification Cards. Everyone wants to move.	

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		Jan 2: Worked on Qualification Cards. Read.	
		Jan 3: Cleaned stove. Hiked. Reading material scarce.	
		Jan 4: 30°F. Warm and balmy. Hotcakes. Worked on Qualification Cards. Roast beef for lunch. Laundry.	
		Jan 5: Wood detail. Won \$12.50 at blackjack.	
		Jan 6: Packed office equipment. Attended compulsory "sex morality" lecture.	
		Jan 7: Little work to do now. Steak for lunch.	
		Jan 8: Left 7:30am. Made 40 miles in first 8 hours. Blizzard. Reached Whitehorse at 4:30am.	
		Jan 9: Had breakfast at the Inn in Whitehorse. Visited the Muirheads.	
		Jan 10: Loaded train cars. Left at 8:10pm. Bennett at 12:30am. Skagway at 7am.	
		Jan 11: Boarded ship (Branch). Ate and shopped in Skagway. Sick.	
		Jan 12: Set up office in mess hall. Sneaked downtown and bought food. Slept. Roast beef for dinner. Sent postcards.	
		Jan 13: Worked on passenger lists. Looked around Skagway. Ate at a restaurant.	
		Jan 14: Worked on passenger lists. Visited with the Muirheads. Returned to ship. Visited Muirheads again.	
		Jan 15: Worked on passenger lists. Went into Skagway.	
		Jan 16: Worked on passenger lists. Boat left. Reached Juneau to await a convoy.	
		Jan 17: Lined up with the other 1300 men for breakfast. All 18 of us got stateroom ready for inspection. Worked on passenger lists. Water rough.	
		Jan 18: Water rough. No land in sight. Had inspection. Slept. Ate from own rations. Accompanied by freighter and cutter.	
		Jan 19: Admired sea from deck. Pulled into port at Kodiak Island about 6pm.	
		Jan 20: Answered mother's telegram about Dad's death.	
		Jan 21: Unable to go home. Walked around Ft. Greely. Took in a show. Returned to the tent.	
		Jan 22: Worked on Machine Record Rosters. Went to the show again. Snowing and cold.	
		Jan 23: Worked on Machine Record Rosters. Went to show. Ate at service men's club.	

YUKON ARCHIVES FILE LIST

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Further details about these records are available in the Yukon Archives Descriptive Database at www.yukonarchives.ca

<u>Location</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
		Jan 24: Worked on forms. Sore hip from yesterday's Tetanus shot. Hip infected. Beans for dinner.	
		Jan 25: On quarters again. Laid around. Read.	
		Jan 26: Still on quarters from hip but getting better.	
		Suddenly got furlough home to help mother put things in order after dad's death.	
		- Letter from Robert Seaton to archivist Diane Johnston. Seaton provides his reason for loaning the diary to Yukon Archives for copying. After attending an 18 th Engineers Reunion, he learned that Yukon Archives was desirous of obtaining first hand information about the construction of the Alcan Highway. He felt there might be a point of interest in his diary. 2 pages. 29 Aug 1976.	