

DIARY OF  
V.L. BURGE  
1909 - 1912

U.S. Signal Corps  
Company "G"  
Fort Wood, New York

Fort Sam Houston, Texas  
c/o Government Aeroplane

Manila, Philippine Islands  
c/o Government Aeroplane

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## NOTES

V.L. Burge enlisted in the Army in 1907, remaining in the service until his retirement in January, 1942.

During this time he advanced through all the grades, to reach the rank of Colonel, Air Corps, U.S. Army.

His flying career with the Army began in the Philippine Islands in 1912 (pps. 35, 36 and 37), where he was instructed by Lieut. Lahm, now General Lahm, retired. V. L. Burge became the first enlisted pilot in the history of the U.S. Army.

At the time of his retirement, he was the second oldest active pilot in the Air Corps, and had flown constantly during his 30 years as a pilot, during which time he accumulated over 5,000 hours flying time, and was rated as a Command Pilot.

Retired as a Colonel at the age of 53, after 35 years of continuous service, he now resides at 240 Rosemary, San Antonio 2, Texas.

Left Fort Myer, Virginia, May 19, 1909, with dirigible No. 1 for Fort Omaha, Nebraska. Arrived Omaha May 21. Started to inflate No. 1 ready for flight 22. Made first flight Thursday, 29. Fine flight for 5 minutes when gasoline pipe leading to engine broke, shutting off gasoline supply. Engine stopped and ship landed in field about one mile from balloon house. Towed it back with two ropes, over telephone and trolley wires. After lots of hard work, finally succeeded in getting it back.

28 -- Engine repaired and everything ready for flight but high winds prevented.

29 to 30 -- Wind too high for flight.

31 - 6:30 p.m. took ship out for flight. Lieuts. Lahm and Foulois made a fine flight of about 5 minutes duration in considerable wind. Lieut. Winter then took Engine for flight. It being his first attempt. He started off all right, but from the start it was evident that he could not handle it in the high wind. They circled the field and then headed into wind, but could make no headway so they turned around and headed into wind, but could still make no headway. Lieut. Lahm then threw out drag line and three men seized it, but as Lieut. Winter failed to shut off engine, it was impossible to hold ship. They wrapped line around fence post, but it pulled post up and headed for telephone line. Being only about 20 feet high and running at good speed, he failed to clear high pole. The ship struck it head-on, tearing a great hole in the nose of bag. The frame was over wires and when enough gas escaped the frame buckled in center and broke. The propeller was twisted in wires and after considerable work we succeeded in getting frame down. The engine was rescued without injury, but most of frame will have to be rebuilt. The damage is estimated at about \$200 or \$300.

June 1 - Started to repair gas bag and frame. Expect to have things fixed up in about two weeks.

June 2 - Repairing net and frame. Will be able to repair ship much sooner than first expected!

June 3 - Repairing airship and making flights in captive No. 9. Drilled in maneuvering to over telephone lines and trees.

June 4 - Repairing dirigible and maneuvering captive No. 9. Lieuts. Lahm and Foulois left for Washington to attend Wright medal ceremony and flights.

June 5 - Repairing dirigible - captive balloon flights.

June 6 - Sunday.

June 7 - Pay day, captive flights, repairing dirigible.

June 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 - Repairing dirigible.

June 13 - Sunday.

June 14, 15, 16 - Repairing dirigible. It is completed and getting things in readiness for trip to Toledo, Ohio. Four men leave this evening for Leavenworth to get tent in readiness for shipment to Toledo, Ohio.

June 17, 18, 19 - Packing dirigible for Toledo, Ohio.

June 20 - Sunday. Took in ball game at Benson, between Signal Corps and Benson Eagles which the S.C. won by a score of 5-3. The feature of game was the pitching of Cass, who held down his opponents to four scattered hits and struck out 16 men.

June 21, 22 - Filled Dirigible No. 1 with gas and put everything in shape for flight. Used new machine for pumping in gas and filled bag in one hour and 30 minutes.

June 23 - Put everything in shape for flight. Ran engine for an hour without trouble. Could not fly on account of wind and rain.

June 24 - Expect to get up this morning, but at present, 7:30 a.m., it is very foggy and chances are rather slim.

June 24 - Took dirigible out at 6:30 p.m. Lieut. Winter would not attempt to make flights except by keeping two ropes on it and letting it up a short distance and running engine. Evidently he has "cold feet" or is only four-flushing. Also shipped 200 tubes of gas to Toledo, Ohio.

June 25 - Did nothing all day, but late in the evening, took ship out for flight. Lieut. Winter would not attempt flight except as a captive. He broke planes and we had to repair them. He was very nervous or scared and it was very evident that he did everything possible to delay making a flight. Finally gave it up on account of darkness.

June 25 - Began taking dirigible apart for shipment to Toledo. Filled No. 9 with gas from it and expect to make a free flight tomorrow.

June 26 - Started to deflate for shipment to Toledo.

June 27 - Loaded ship on car for shipment.

June 28 - On road to Toledo via N.W. and Wabash. Will be several hours late arriving in Chicago on account of wash out at Dunlap, Iowa. Train backed to Council Bluffs and took I.C. to Denn-----, then over their own lines to Chicago.

June 29 - Still on the road but about 10 hours late. Arrived Chicago 8:30 a.m. Left 12 noon via Wabash. Arrived Toledo 8:30 p.m. Went to Camp at Casino and had quite a time.

June 30 - Found everything in bum shape. Only one Company of 27th Infantry in camp. Expect to put up airship today. Tent on ground in readiness to go up.

June 30 - Unloaded tent and put up small tents to camp in.

July 1 - Started to put up tent July 1. Poles nearly all up, but rain delayed us. Unloaded airship also. We are being eaten up by mosquitoes. Also have a pest of June bugs.

July 2 - Put tent up and started to get things ready for filling bag. A strong wind at night blew down tent, tearing it up and breaking frame and engine. It will spoil the flights here. Expect to stay until tournament is over.

July 4 - Sunday. Watched troops rehearse for the tournament and strolled around park. Met girl and went home with her to Nebraska Ave. Lieut. Lahm arrived in evening.

July 5 - Spread tent out for inspection by Lieut. Lahm. Don't expect to do anything here. Everything is in readiness for tournament. Went to town to look around. The troop gave their first exhibition drill before an immense crowd. Will give another one this evening.

July 6 - Are repairing tent for excuse to remain here until tournament is over. Will take in drill this p.m. and expect to go to city this evening. Man had both legs cut off in front of arena by trolley car. Took in Buffalo Bill's Shop in evening.

July 7 - Repairing tent and dirigible and took in tournament in evening.

July 8 - Repairing tent and dirigible and went to city in evening.

July 9 - Repairing tent and took in tournament in evening.

July 10 - Packing tent and dirigible for shipment to Fort Omaha, Nebraska.

July 11 - Pay day. Took in theaters and parks. Troops are beginning to leave.

July 12 - Waiting orders. Rained in afternoon. Government teamster killed by lightning. mules were also killed that he was driving.

July 13 - Everything ready for shipment. Leave for Omaha 2:30 p.m. over L.S. and M.S. Raining very hard. Expect to arrive in Chicago about 9 p.m.

July 14 - Still on the road and in the best of spirits. Arrived in Omaha 12:30 p.m. Rained all evening.

July 15, 16, 17, 18 - Awaiting arrival of dirigible and tent from Toledo, Ohio.

July 19 - Dirigible arrived and was unloaded and started to repair it. It is very hot in the balloon house.

July 20 - Repairing dirigible and tent.

July 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 - Repairing tent and dirigible.

July 31 - Muster.

August 1 - Sunday.

August 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, - Repairing tent and dirigible preparatory to leaving for Des Moines, Iowa.

August 8 - Sunday.

August 9 - Dirigible in good shape and awaiting orders as to whether to inflate or not.

August 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 - Awaiting orders to proceed to Des Moines, Iowa for tournament. Four men expect to go to Washington to attend the Aeroplane tests.

August 15 - Sunday.

August 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 - Awaiting orders to proceed to Des Moines to attend military tournament.

August 22 - Sunday.

August 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 - Awaiting orders to proceed to Des Moines.

August 29 - Sunday.

August 30, 31 - September 1 - Pay day.

September 2, 3, 4 - Getting things in shape for Des Moines.

September 5 - Sunday.

September 6 - Things all ready for shipment.

September 7 - Loading ship and tent for shipment.

September 8 - Loaded and shipped acid to Des Moines, Iowa.

September 9 - Loaded tent and other things for shipment.

September 10 - Loaded dirigible for shipment.

September 11 - Leave at 1:42 for Des Moines via Rock Island.

September 12 - Left Omaha 40 minutes late, arrived Des Moines 30 minutes late. Went in camp at state fair grounds. (Camp Corse). Went to Fort Des Moines in evening to see brother.

September 13 - Sunday. Nothing doing. Freight and airship have not yet arrived.

September 14 - Freight and airship arrived and was unloaded. Rained all day, and night. Tent full of water and everybody wet and disgusted.

September 15 - Still unloading and started to up up tent in rain and mud. Very disagreeable job.

September 16 - Still working on tent, but nearly finished. Troops are beginning to arrive. Several thousand arriving today.

September 17 - Tent finished and dirigible almost ready.

September 18 - Hauling gas tubes over ready to inflate. Started to inflate. All troops in camp.

September 19 - Lieut. Lahm and Major Salzman arrived. Filled bag with gas and tried engine out. But, did not make any flights.

September 20 - Tournament starts off successfully. Over 10,000 people in attendance. Unable to make any flights on account of high wind. Signal Corps man had leg broken in arena.

September 21 - Everything pulled off in good shape. Over 5,000 in attendance. No flights on account of high winds. Engine also on bum. Rained in evening.

September 22 - Another large crowd present. Things came off all in good shape. No wind, but engine refused to work so could not fly.

September 23 - Made one short flight in afternoon. Engine worked poorly and didn't make record attempt.

September 24 - Very large crowd in attendance. Made two fine flights in morning and two in evening. Large crowd in attendance.

September 25 - Made short flight in afternoon, but owing to motor working poorly and raising planes failing to work, were forced to land in field quite a ways from tournament. Planes fixed and succeeded in flying back safely. Large crowd on hand and tournament ended in a blaze of glory. Started to deflate and tear down in evening.

September 26 - Worked all day tearing down and packing up. Cars loaded late in evening. Expect to leave early in morning.

September 27 - Breaking camp early in morning. Left about noon. Train did not arrive in Omaha until midnight account of delay. Slept in car all night.

September 28 - Unloading cars and very tired. Company of hospital corps arrived. Street car strike on in town. Almost impossible to get to city.

September 29 - Still unloading. 13th Infantry arrived from Des Moines for Ak-San. Ben. (??)

September 30 - Muster. Starting to get no. 1 in readiness for flight. Rumor is that we go east soon. Hope it is true. Car strike still on. No cars run after 7 p.m. Makes things very unpleasant.

October 1 - Turned for duty with Company H as Company D left for Fort Riley. All operators with dirigible suspended. All troops in camp in post. Several thousand being present.

October 2 - Interesting ball games between troops and large crowds to see parades and hear band concerts.

October 3 - Very large crowd present in afternoon. Cars running regular first time since strike.

October 4 - On guard. Another large crowd present. Estimated at 6,000. Drill by Cavalry and Infantry.



October 5 - Pay day. Went to city in afternoon and attended Ak-Sar-Ben in evening. Had fine time. Large crowd present.

October 6 - Went to city in afternoon and took in theater.

October 7 - Went to city in evening and took in Krug Theater. Large crowd present at drill.

October 8 - Drill given for benefit of school children. Very large crowd present.

October 9 - On guard.

October 10 - Took in the Burwood in evening.

October 11 - Troops all leaving except 15th Cavalry, who remain for officer's tests. Snowing, which broke all records for early snows.

October 12 - Cold somewhat abated. Taking things easy.

October 13, 14 - At work in balloon house. Getting things in shape for a flight.

October 15 - Starting to make gas.

October 16 - Took in football game between Minnesota and Nebraska. Minnesota won, 14 to 0. Johnston, Minnesota's star halfback, has his leg broken.

October 17 - Sunday. Stayed home all day and took in Burwood in evening.

October 18 - Filling gas tubes.

October 19, 20, 21, 22 - Filling gas tubes.

October 23 - Saturday. Went to city in evening and stayed all night.

October 24 - Sunday.

October 25, 26, 27 - Getting dirigible in shape for inflation. Spent evening in city and took in Orpheum.

October 29 - Loaded 150 gas tubes for shipment to Sandy Hook, New Jersey, for captive work.

October 30 - Took in Orpheum.

October 31 - Sunday. Took in Krug Theater in evening.

November 1 - Took in Orpheum in evening.

November 2 - Pay day.

November 3, 4 - Working at Balloon house. Took in Krug Theater in evening.

November 5 - On duty at balloon house. Accepted W & W sewing machine.

November 6 - Went to city in evening and took in theater.

November 7 - Started to generate gas. Sunday. Worked all night.

November 8 - Slept all day and worked at night generating gas.

November 8 - Worked until 12 midnight generating gas.

November 9 - Went to city in afternoon and took in Orpheium and Boyd's in evening. Worked from midnight until 7 a.m.

November 10 - Worked until 11 p.m. generating gas. Bag filled and ready for flight.

November 12 - Turned cold and rained and snowed.

November 13 - Still snowing and raining. Very cold.

November 14 - Very cold. Took in Krug in evening.

November 15 - Generating gas. Started to snow again. Lieut. Bamberger packing up to leave for Islands.

November 16 - Lieut. Bamberger left for Des Moines. Also, Lieut. Dickinson left for New York. Took in Krug Theater in evening.

November 17 - Madole went to hospital. It is thought he has typhoid. Fumigated barracks. Too cold to do any work.

November 18 - Went to dance in evening. Still very cold.

November 19 - Working in gas plant.

November 20 - Went to Orpheium in afternoon and spent evening with Mrs. E.

November 21 - Took in Iena Revers at Krug. Snow and sleet all night.

November 22 - Still snowing. At work in gas plant. Stayed home in evening.

November 23 - Worked all night in gas plant.

November 24 - Made three fine flights with dirigible. Sgt. Schmidt and Lieut. Haskell doing fine. It was their first trip. Took in the "Gentlemen from Mississippi" at Boyd's in afternoon.

November 25 - Thanksgiving. Took in Krug in evening.

November 26 - Working in gas plant.

November 27 - Nothing doing. Took in Krug in evening.

November 28 - Sunday.

November 29 - Monday. Took dirigible out in evening but could do nothing on account of fog.

November 30 - Muster.

December 1 - Nothing doing all day. Took in Orpheium in evening. Took inoculation for typhoid.

December 2 - Nothing doing. Took in dance in evening.

December 3 - Snowing all day.

December 4 - Still snowing and cold.

December 5 - Snow and very cold. Sunday. Took in Gayety.

December 6 - Pay day. Took in Orpheium and Krug.

December 7 - Joyce had \$170.00 stolen from under his pillow. Met Hazel Bell.

December 8 - Very cold. 7 to 10 below. Turned for duty.

December 9 - Nothing doing. Put rest of gas from tubes in No. 1.

December 10 - Took 2nd inoculation. On guard.

December 11 - Went out with Hazel.

December 12 - Went to Orpheium with Hazel.

December 13 - Schmidt left for Illinois.

December 14 - Nothing doing.

December 15 - Out all night with ----- . Very cold.

December 16 - Still very cold.

December 17 - On old guard.

December 18 - Took in Krug.

December 19 - Took in Creighton Hall.

December 20 - Took 3rd inoculation. On guard.

December 21 - Took in Orpheium and Gayety.

December 22 - Went to city.

December 23 - Took in Krug.

December 24 - On duty.

December - Christmas.

December 26 - Sunday.

December 27 - Getting No. 1 in readiness for shipment to Los Angeles for aviation meet.

December 28 - Getting things ready for Los Angeles.

December 29 - Preparing No. 1 for shipment.

December 30 - Shipped No. 1 to Los Angeles. Attended dance at Gym.

December 31 - Muster.

January 1, 1910 - New Year's. Went to city and took in theater.

January 2 - On guard.

January 3 - Nothing doing.

January 4 - On duty.

January 5 - At school.

January 6 - Pay day. Took in Gayety.

January 7 - On duty.

January 8 - Took in Orpheium.

January 9 - Sunday. Took in Orpheim and Gayety.

January 10 - Nothing doing. Much warmer.

January 11, 12, 13, - In school.

January 14 - On guard.

January 15 - Nothing doing.

January 16 - Sunday. Went to city.

January 17 - On duty.

January 18 - Went to city and took in Gayety.

January 19 - Went to city.

January 20 - Took in dance.

January 21, 22 - Went to city to see Miss Canterbury.

January 23 - Went to city. Took in Gayety and Orpheium.

January 24, 25, 26 - Attending school.

January 27 - Miller discharged by purchase. Accompanied him to train.

January 28 - No. 1 expected to arrive from Los Angeles with about \$1,600.00 charges.

January 29 - No. 1 arrived and we unloaded it.

January 30 - Sunday. Took in Orpheium and Gayety.

January 31 - Monday. Muster.

February 1, 2 - Attending school.

February 3 - Pay Day. Went to city and attended dance in evening.

February 4 - Attending school, also night school.

February 5 - On duty.

February 6 - Took in Orpheium and Gayety. On duty.

February 7, 8, 9, 10 - On duty.

February 11 - In school.

February 12 - On duty. Went to city in evening.

February 13 - Sunday. On guard.

February 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 - In school and on duty. Also spent evening of 18th at masquerade ball at Fraternity hall, and 19th with Grace.

February 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 - In school and on duty. Also took in several theaters and spent evening with Grace.

February 28 - Muster. Order to go to San Antonio for aeroplane work received at headquarters. Madole and I expect to leave soon.

March 1 - Received orders and turned things in.

March 2 - Got transportation and commutation and took baggage to depot. Also were paid by check. Spent evening in city with Grace.

March 3 - Left at 9:15 a.m. via Burlington. Stopped over in St. Joe, Missouri, seven hours, and met Schmidt, Noel, and also Lena. Left there 9:15 p.m. Arrived Kansas City, Missouri, 11:15 p.m.

March 4 - Left on Kety Flyer, 2:30 a.m. Arrived and changed cars, at Rarsons, Kansas. Also changed at -----, Texas.

March 5 - After being on road all night arrived in San Antonio at 7:30 a.m. Went to barber shop and cleaned up. Then took car for Fort Sam Houston, which is a very pretty post situated in city limits. Reported to aeroplane shed for duty. It is situated quite a distance from post, which makes it very inconvenient. Lieut. Foulois, with 9 men, was here. Found them repairing aeroplane, which had been smashed up quite a bit in a slight accident. Went to city in evening with Idzorek and took in points of interest. Visited Alamo and also district. Weather here is very hot to us as we left Omaha very chilly.

March 6 - Sunday. Still taking in city. Visited leading hotels and then returned to camp very tired as have scarcely slept any in four days. Guess will turn in and sleep and then answer all correspondence.

March 7 - Repairing aeroplane. Fine weather.

March 8 - Repairing aeroplane. Expect to make flight.

March 9 - Aeroplane repaired and all ready for flight. Very windy weather.

March 10 - In the grip of a "Northerner" and it is very cold. Rained very hard this afternoon. Weather too bad to make any flights.

March 11 - Nothing doing. Fine weather. Tested out engine and found it all O.K.

March 12 - Made 3 fine flights in morning and two in afternoon at an average height of 90 feet, and remained in air an average of 15 minutes. Went to city in evening and took in theaters.

March 13 - Sunday.

March 14 - Made 3 fine flights of about 25 minutes in a gusty wind at an average height of 50 feet.

March 15 - Nothing doing on account of high winds.

March 17 - Made three very successful flights. On landing on third flight, broke skids by landing in a small ditch, whereby machine could not slide forward.

March 18 - Repairing aeroplane and working on tent for machine. Very windy.

March 19 - Repairing aeroplane and fixing new tent.

March 20 - Sunday.

March 21 - Made fine flight of about 15 minutes at height of between 200 and 300 feet in 15 mile wind.

March 22 - Nothing doing. Too much wind.

March 23 - Working on tent. Too much wind to fly.

March 24, 25, 26 - Too much wind to fly. Took in Mexican dance in evening.

March 31 - Rain and wind. Very muddy.

April 1 - Still raining a little. Have succeeded in not being fooled today as yet.

April 2 - Taking life easy.

April 3 - Sunday.

April 4 - Too high wind to fly.

April 5 - Pay day. Went to city in eve and took dinner at Hotel Gunter.

April 6 - Made short flight in morning. Tried to get off without use of weights, but failed. Went to dance at Gym in evening.

April 7, 8 - Raining and very muddy. Rained all night 8th.

April 9 - Rained all day and night. Mud something fierce.

April 10 - Sunday. Still trying to rain.

April 11 - Weather clearing off nicely. Tried to make flight, but too muddy.

April 12 - Made five fine flights. Shut off engine at about 300 feet and glided to the ground in a beautiful manner.

April 13 - Nothing doing. Too much wind.

April 14 - Made four fine flights and glided to ground at height of about 300 feet. Remained in air 33 minutes last flight. Twice attempted to carry up passenger, but failed to get off ground as he was too heavy.

April 15 - Made two short flights. Engine broke on last flight. Exhaust valve stem broke at seat, breaking piston head and cracking cylinder wall. Will be unable to fly for some time.

April 16 - Discharged. Had \$162.00 finals. Took in city and visited Curtiss' machines, which are here for carnival.

April 17 - Re-enlisted Sunday.

April 18 - Went to see Curtis and Baldwin machines in afternoon and took in carnival in evening.

April 19 - Nothing doing. Stayed home all day.

April 20 - Took in aviation meet and assisted Capt. Baldwin. Fine flights were made by Hamilton. Also by Curtis, but Willard failed to do anything. The famous Hamilton glide was very sensational.

April 21 - Took in carnival and aviation meet, but the wind was so strong, no flights were made.

April 22 - Remained home.

April 23 - Took in carnival and aviation meet. Curtiss and Hamilton made some fine flights. Also took up passengers.

April 24 - Very windy. Took in dance at Electric park.

April 25 - Nothing doing. Repaired engine.

April 26 - Made two short flights, but engine worked poorly.

April 27 - Made two successful flights. Attempted to make third flight with E. O. Eldred as passenger. Got off poorly and flew at about 30 feet high. Went O.K. until started to turn when machine came down like so much dead weight, smashing skids. It is believed that air is so rare here that with present engine, passengers cannot be carried. In the east, same engine carried passenger with ease. Will be a day or so repairing machine.

April 28, 29 - Repairing machine.

April 30 - Pvt. Eldred discharged. Machine repaired. "Reel" left for Denver at 8 p.m.

May 1 - Sunday.

May 2 - Pay day.

May 3 - Went to city and purchased clothing.

May 4 - Went to city in morning. Painting aeroplane boxes.

May 5 - Painting tent poles and repairing aeroplane.

May 7 - Rained for first time in several months.

May 8 - Sunday

May 9 - Made short flight in morning. Changed horizontal plane to front and put small new one on rear.

May 10 - Repairing aeroplane.



May 11 - Took in dance at Gym. Nothing doing all day.

May 12 - Made short flight in morning. Engine missed and it was found two cylinders were cracked.

May 13 - Working on tent bench and engine.

May 14 - Working on tent and repairing aeroplane.

May 15 - Sunday.

May 16, 17 - Slight rain and somewhat colder.

May 18 - Rained all day.

May 19 - Rained and blew very hard in morning, but cleared up in afternoon.

May 20 - Cylinders arrived from Dayton and installed. Rained very hard with hail.

May 21 - Repairing engine.

May 22 - Sunday. Took in ball game at Infantry post.

May 23 - Viewed eclipse of moon and Halley's comet in eve.

May 24 - Went to city in afternoon.

May 25 - Nothing doing. Took in dance at post in eve.

May 26 - Went to town in afternoon.

May 27 - Nothing doing.

May 28 - Made short flight in morning, but engine worked very poor.

May 29 - Sunday. Rain. Took in ball game at Infantry post.

May 30 - Made fine flight of one hour and two minutes at 44 miles per hour.

May 31 - Made short flight, but slightly damaged machine in landing. Rather windy. Made short flight in afternoon, but engine worked poorly. Very warm.

June 1 - Made three fine flights in morning. Took in dance at post.

June 2, 3 - Nothing doing.

June 4 - Took in dance at Electric park. Rained very hard.

June 5 - Sunday.

June 6 - Getting things ready to ship to range.

June 7 - Pay day. Made two short flights.

June 8 - Took in post dance.

June 9 - Putting on new rear horizontal plant. Hottest day ever known here. 105 in shade.

June 10 - Rain.

June 11 - Permission granted to install wheels on aeroplane.

June 12 - Sunday. Took in ball game.

June 13 - Loaded cars for shipment to range.

June 14 - Finished loading cars for range.

June 15 - Six men and Lieut. left for Leon Springs to install annunciator system. Madole and Simmons remain behind to finish wheels for aeroplane and I also stay back to watch things. Took in dance at post.

June 16, 17, 18 - Working on wheels for aeroplane.

June 19 - Sunday.

June 20, 21, 22 - Making wheels for aeroplane. Took in dance at post tonight (Wednesday).

June 23, 24, 25 - Working on new wheels and putting new rear plane on aeroplane.

June 26 - Sunday.

June 27, 28, 29, 30 - Working on wheels to aeroplane. Muster.

July 1, 2 - Pay day. Working on wheels. First rain in several weeks.

July 3 - Sunday. Took in ball game in post.

July 4 - Went to city in afternoon to get fight returns. Jeff knocked out by Johnson in 15th. Heavy rain in afternoon. Took in vaudeville and dance at Electric park in evening. 4th passed very quiet in San Antonio. No fireworks at all.

July 5 - Went to city to get ring.

July 6 - Took in dance at post.

July 7 - Put gasoline tank and propellers on aeroplane.

July 8 - Working on aeroplane.

July 9 - Went to city and took in dance at Muth's garden.

July 10 - Sunday.

July 11, 12, 13 - Working on aeroplane. Took in dance at Muth's 14th.

July 16 - Turned motorcycle over to Q.M. Detail arrived from Leon Springs.

July 17 - Sunday. Took in Electric park.

July 18 - Putting up tent for Capt. McMannis' aeroplane.

July 19 - Tent finished and aeroplane arrived. It is a modification of the Curtiss and Wright machines, the principal feature being a swinging engine for balancing.

July 20 - Made three flights in morning.

July 21 - Attempted flight at 4:30 a.m., but after machine left rail it tilted and swung around facing starting point. Was broken up considerably. Had intended to fly several hours if things had gone right. Was rather dark when starting.

July 22 - Went to city. Repairing aeroplane.

July 23 - Repairing aeroplane.

July 24 - Sunday. Tried out engine on Capt. McMannis' machine.

July 25, 26, 27 - Repairing aeroplane.

July 28 - Wheels arrived for aeroplane. About finished repairing and will put on wheels at once.

July 29 - Took in band concert by Mexican band at Alamo Plaza.

July 30 - Spent evening in city.

July 31 - Sunday. Muster.

August 1, 2 - Assembling wheels for aeroplane. Pay day.

August 3 - Went to city.

August 4, 5, 6 - Installing wheels on aeroplane. Went to city in eve and took in Electric park.

August 7 - 22nd Infantry arrived from Alaska. Took in Electric park in eve. Missed last car and came home in taxi.

August 8 - Wheels installed on aeroplane.