

in Officer's dining area. A shearwater flew along portside (850 miles from land) at sundown. It trailed the boat for 5 minutes. Waves exciting to watch today.

Dec. 26, 1945

Gull followed boat this A.M. Sea comparatively smooth. Skies overcast. Arrived mouth North River, New York at 9:03 P.M. Dropped anchor for tonight.

Dec. 27, 1945

Pulled anchor (USS General Hase) before dawn. Passed Statue of Liberty before daybreak. Lighted ferries passed up and down the river. Tugboats active. Manhattan outlined against daybreak skies. Solid black masses against graceful lines. Lighted windows in the buildings. River with rofts of ice cracking as we moved thru. Gulls at daybreak. This is certainly a dawn of a new day, nearing dock no. 88. Debarcation at noon. Ferried across to New Jersey to Camp Kilmer. The army went all out on the first meal on return to U.S.

(insert) Dec 28, 1945 to Nov. 31, 1945

Camp Kilmer

(insert) Dec. 31, 1945

Left Camp Kilmer for Washington, D.C. to visit Florence, the kids and Max. He is Navy and in the office of Admiral Nimitz as administrator and host. Max lives in near-by Alexandria. Max gave me a royal tour of Washington, D.C.

(see 1946 for continuation of return to U.S. from overseas)