

**SYDNEY GOODMAN PAPERS, approximately 1944-2005 and undated**  
**2011.148.2**

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**Transcription:**

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The following is a description and transcription of the diary written in English by Sydney Goodman on the back of his family photographs, December 1944 – March 1945. Each photograph was individually numbered by Charles Vogel when the diary was lent to him in 1949.

***Photo 1:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing on the top step of a porch  
Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink; diary dated in blue ink, corrections in black ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed “1” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Dec. 16 '45 [sic] 44 Saturday – At 5:30 A.M. Artillery barrage started which led us to believe that a German attack would follow. Our suppositions were right as we were attacked in the afternoon – That eve. heavy equipment was thrown at us burning the bldg. on our left. The situation looked fairly desperate as the attack was heavy and we had no support. I decided to try & we had no support. I decided to try & make a getaway & slipped off into the woods where I could hear the sounds of machine gun fire coming from all directions – also shrapnel all thru the woods. I slept underneath a pine tree with another G.I.

***Photo 2:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing behind railing, standing up in a child's riding toy  
Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed “2” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Dec. 17 '45 [sic] 44 Sunday – Around 10:00 A.M. We arose after a very cold nite [sic] & decided to try & head for our lines which we thought was in the direction of some .30 cal. firing. After walking thru [sic] the woods we ran into a German outpost – I slipped away & lost the G.I. after bumping into 2 more groups of Germans I tied a white handkerchief on a stick & walked into a group of soldiers who were chopping wood. This was around noon time & I was taken to a group of officers who questioned me. After visiting my former domicile which was ransacked, I was taken to Waulhausen – from there to another town where I spent the nite. [sic] –

***Photo 3:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing on a riding toy on a porch, looking to the right, a bench to the left; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil and blue ink; inscribed "3" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Dec. 20 – Wednesday – / Arose at 8:00 & after being counted we started walking – Changed guards twice & walked until midnite [sic] that nite [sic] Hooked up with Ted De Santo here. Rec'd a couple of bags of bisquits [sic] & slept in an empty factory that nite [sic]. Was very very tired by this time & could hardly stand up as a result of the pain in my legs & feet. The factory was in a nice sized town that showed the effects of having been bombed along the railroad. Lady here brought out water for us to drink – Most of the people & guards are not to antagonistic – they just look at us. Caught train here, (Gerolstein) the following morn.

**Photo 4:**

Recto: black and white image of man (Sydney Goodman) wearing white cap, printed white t-shirt, and pipe in his mouth, standing on the sidewalk holding the hand of a little girl (Karen Goodman) with the street behind them

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil and blue ink; inscribed "4" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Dec. 21 – Thursday – Rec'd 2 bags (each) of bisquits [sic] & a can of cheese for 6 men before boarding boxcars. Officers were packed in too 50 men to car. Waited quite awhile as the cars had to be cleaned out – horses had been in them & they were full of hay & manure. A relief from walking – so we thought.

Boarded a box car – 60 men to the car. Quite a relief from walking although we didn't move too much or too fast.

Dec. 22 Frid. – Some planes dropped a few bombs in our vicinity at nite [sic] 23<sup>rd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> which made us all realize our dangers were not completely over as yet. I was quite frightened – to say the least.

Remained in the car for 7 days & 7 nites [sic] – not too pleasant to say the least.

Very little room to sit down & swearing & bitching all nite [sic] long – imp. for all to lie down & sleep. Had spot by a ventilator – very cold & miserable at nite [sic]. Traded with guards for food.

**Photo 5:**

Recto: black and white image of woman wearing bathing suit with flower in her hair (Grace Goodman) seated on blanket behind little girl (Karen Goodman) wearing checkered bathing suit with anchor on it at the beach; people and trees in background

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink in top right corner; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil with addition in blue ink; inscribed "5" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Dec. 25 – Xmas Day. / In a box-car on a siding in Germany Diez – Very hungry – Around noon a French Red Cross truck pulled up loaded with boxes. Our 1<sup>st</sup> sight of a Red Cross Box – The boxes were divided between the cars, 1 box going to 6 men – not too much per man but at least something to eat. The box contained the following items 1 can crackers (2½ per Man) 1 can salmon, 1 can Pork sausage, 1 bar choc. (4 sq. per M.) 1 pkg tea, 1 square sugar, 1 small sq. salt, 1 bar soap, 1 can

condensed milk, 1 can concentrated oatmeal, 1 can (small) powdered eggs, 1 can jam, 1 can meat & vegetables, 1 can butter, 1 can bacon

Between the 6 of us we each rec'd very little, naturally, & it was all eaten cold but it contained food value & that's what we needed. After dividing all the edibles as evenly as possible, we drew lots on the tea, soap, salt & eggs. I rec'd ½ oz. tea. We mixed the milk with water & oatmeal & made a drink the next day. We were very thankful on Xmas day.

***Photo 6:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing on a riding toy on a porch looking straight at the camera, a bench to the left

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top center; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "6" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Dec. 28 – Arrived at Stalag IXB in BAD ORB

This was to be a temporary quarters for processing only – picture taken, fingerprint, etc. – New Year's spent in a room with 12 Majors – still budding around with Ted De Santo – Food very inadequate & not too good – room is extremely cold, stove poor & fuel very short. Rumors flying around that the officers are going to move soon – (Jan. 3)

***Photo 7:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) wearing white dress walking on grass holding something, and looking at camera

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink in upper right corner; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "7" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Jan. 2, 1945 Norm's birthday – he's prob. expecting something from me – even a card but in my present situation all I can do is wish him a happy birthday by telepathy – if there is such a thing. Today for a change from the grass soup, we had bean soup with potatoes & other unidentified vegetables which, surprisingly, was very good. I ate as much as I could get with a little bread and laid down trying to keep warm. The fuel situation is desperate. The Majors cannot obtain enough fuel to keep the fire hot & the briquets [sic] do not exude enough heat to warm the stove, let alone the room. Nothing to do & life is down to one of its lowest ebbs for me. All I think of is home & food.

***Photo 8:***

Recto: black and white image of two men wearing swim trunks each holding up a child in a bathing suit in their arms; Karen Goodman is the child on the left

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "8" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Jan. 4, Thursday – At 7:45 this morning we all file out to be counted – The weather was beastly cold & we stayed outside for 1½ hrs. My feet have been perpetually cold & nothing I did seemed to warm them up. I'm going to spend quite a bit of time at home keeping on my feet as warm as they should be - &

also my stomach as full as it should be. Majors were given one cig. a piece today. Rumor has it they will move tomorrow. With nothing to do my time is spent either in bed or around the stove, which is cluttered with Majors so I don't get very close. As I overheard a Lt. say "This is just a part of our lives that we can forget about" – "The time we spend here is just cut out of our lives." Wonder if Grace knows anything.

***Photo 9:***

Recto: black and white image of two women playing in the water with two small children; Woman in center with white flower in her hair (Grace Goodman) leaning around girl in center (Karen Goodman) with one arm wrapped around the child.

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top right; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "9" in upper left corner

***Diary inscription:***

January 5, 1945 - Friday – Spent most of the day in the Lt's bks. Where it is much warmer & cozier. It appears that the officers are not moving out today as anticipated. All that is holding them up is a lack of transportation. No orderlies are to go with them so it looks like will be here for awhile. 2 Med's & 2 chaplains are to stay with us. Also heard today was rumor that we are to be allowed to write home. Sure would like to write to Grace & let her know I am still alive. Tobacco is a big item now with cigarettes selling from 250-500 Fr. a piece (\$5-\$10) – with nothing to do we miss our smokes very much. I traded 4 cigs. For a pipe & have 1 pipeful of tobacco – which I smoke 1/3 of a pipeful at a time. Everyone says this thing ought to be over by mid-summer – I think & sure hope so. Baked a few spuds today – Grass soup. Very weak. Rec'd a R.C. letter form & wrote to Grace – very happy.

***Photo 10:***

Recto: black and white image of woman wearing polka dot dress (Grace Goodman) walking down sidewalk holding the hand of little girl in white dress (Karen Goodman)

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "10" in upper left corner

***Diary inscription:***

Jan. 6 - Sat – Last nite [sic] Red Cross letter forms were brought around for us to write home on. To say that I was relieve to be able to write home is putting it mildly. Wrote 256 words telling Grace I was well & missed her & for her to send me a package of food, which I'm sure she would do regardless. The last 2 nites [sic] I've been able to keep my feet warm, while I slept which enabled me to enjoy my nite's rest. Made a stew out of bread, pots & water – hot but flavorless. Off. not moving yet. Col's say war will be over in 90 days – Hope they are right – would very much like to be on my way back home for good! Rec'd a little extra potato soup for supper along with a slightly larger ration of bread. At 6:00 cottage cheese which was very good. Even rec'd seconds on the stuff – although it was only a mouthful – every mouthful helps – felt the fullest I've felt since I've been captured. Quite a large bombing raid somewheres [sic] in the vicinity. Hope it doesn't last too long – honest!

**Photo 11:**

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) wearing jacket and bonnet standing on porch

Verso: image not dated, captioned "Karen at 22 mos. / So far away –" in black ink at top; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil around photo caption; inscribed "11" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

January 7, 1945 – Sunday. / Listening in on a Protestant service this morn. Also a Chaplain who visited a hospital last nite [sic]. Said the transportation facilities are in very dire circumstances – wasn't too optimistic regarding pkgs. & mail – Don't think we'll see too much of either. Rumors are flying around thicker than bread we eat. The rumor mongers are saying the war will be over from 40-90 days – maybe later. I don't know what to think – I'd like to be optimistic but it pays to be pessimistic. Today I had a little cheese left over from last nite [sic], toasted bread, margarine, thin soup, tea & ¾ of very poor grade baloney. I'm eating just enough to move about – all my food for 1 day's ration doesn't equal 1 decent meal – but that's all I can get. The time passes away rapidly & for that I'm thankful – Pray each nite [sic] that Grace & Karen are well & happy & that I'll be with them soon. Sleeping a lot & fairly warm in all my clothes.

**Photo 12:**

Recto: black and white image of woman wearing polka dot dress seated in an armchair

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top center; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "12" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Jan. 8, 1945 – Monday – Treated myself to a packet of Nescafe – simply delicious even without cream or sugar. Though of all the packets I threw away & how many my pockets would hold – if I had only known! Arose at 8:15 after a fairly warm nite [sic]. Our BKs seems to be the coldest one in camp & the Majors are endeavoring to get changed to another. Most of all they want to move out by nothing developing along those lines. We Pvts. are to remain for an indefinite length of time & from what the transportation situation is at the present time I doubt if there will be much contact with the outside world. This camp is far from being an ideal PW set-up & there seems to be no Red Cross activity whatsoever. Oh well. If the war will just terminate soon I think I can manage to live thru [sic] this with a R.C. box or mail or pkgs from home. Toasted the last of my bread on the stove but still have a little margarine left. Prob. get grass soup today – haven't had any in 2 days. Were counted & locked in this morn so maybe something is developing. Supper brought small rations – but included a spoon of so-called jam – which was sweet & tasted delicious. – Personally think I'll be here for the duration and will have to make the best of an unfortunate situation. Getting extremely cold & I stay indoors 95% of the time – very hungry – even after I eat & there's nothing to do but talk about eating which makes me hungrier. Nothing new - & the war from what we hear remains about the same. I think Feb. might show some changes in the situation. Miss Grace so very much – K too.

**Photo 13:**

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing in her crib holding a teddy bear with one hand and leaning her arm on the railing

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top center; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "13" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

Jan. 9, 1945 Tuesday / A little more chow this noon although it was nothing more than a mixture of Grass & potato soup. Also rec'd a card to send to Grace. I certainly hope she receives the letter & now the card. Off. & non-coms are moving out soon leaving the Pvts. I don't know whether our situation will be better or worse – I know the Majors don't like us in here & they do not make life too pleasant for us. Some petty thievery has started & some food has been missed, which doesn't add to the situation any – except more discord. The war news that we receive here merely confuses the situation – we don't know anything more now than before we were captured. The conditions here are such, however, that one is led to believe G. can't go on much longer. The Eng. Speaking guards admit that most of the large cities are flattened & our guards seem to be very old – older than any Am. Soldier I've ever seen. If only we could get something substantial to eat – continually hungry & lifeless. Absolutely no ambition in me at all. Rec'd a little extra soup in the aft. so I managed to fill up fairly well. Saved my bread & butter because I wasn't too hungry. Rumors going around that there are R.C. packages down at Bad Orb although I don't believe it – learned that our Chaplain wrote away today inquiring about them – so just another rumor that proved false. Latest is that the Pvts will stay here until March – or longer which is not too good a deal for us because this is a Russian, Italian & French camp & no Am. facilities. Wrote a card home & hope it gets sent out immediately – Grace I know would like to hear that I'm safe & alive – Hope she hears from me soon.

**Photo 14:**

Recto: black and white image of woman wearing dark dress (Grace Goodman) seated next to steps with little girl (Karen Goodman) in plaid dress sitting on her lap

Verso: image captioned "Karen at 22 mos. / Grace at a few years / older." in black ink at top center; diary dated in blue ink, entry written in pencil; inscribed "14" in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

January 10, 1945 – Wednesday. / This morn. at 7:25 the officers moved out leaving us their blankets & mess gear which was a good deal. We had a good lunch of soup & sat around the Col's hot stove until we were moved to #42 which is a lot warmer but doesn't have the water & latrine facilities. Picked out an upper bunk of a 3 decker next to Ted & we're fairly comfortable. Hot water is available during certain hours of the day & I shaved again – makes 4 times since Dec. 15. And to think I used to shave every day – can go about 4 or 5 days now – going to wash out some clothes tomorrow if possible. 189 men living in this Bks – all pvts. & it looks like we're going to be here for quite awhile. 3 Drs. & 2 chaplains were left with us & Bible history, etc. classes are being organized for us to keep us from wasting away. There is no work for us to do except clean up ourselves & Bks & cards don't seem to interest us very much. Perhaps after we're better organized things will become straightened around & life will be more interesting – I'm glad when each day passes – brings me closer to home Grace. Everyone is planning on their pkg from home although I think it will be a long time in getting here – Smoked the last of my tobacco – Ted has very little left. With Am. money one can bribe the G. guards for cigs. The rate of exch. seems to be 4 cigs traded for 1.00. 65.00 watches, pens, lighters, etc. have been traded for bread, cigs. & tobacco already. Some G.I.'s gave up ½ their bread ration for cig. or

tobacco. I've lost a lot of wt. already and am thin in the face – not too strong either. Hope Grace & K are well – I think of them every day.

**Photo 15:**

Recto: black and white image of two women (Grace Goodman on right) helping little girl (Karen Goodman) walk down steps

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top center; diary entries dated in blue ink, entries written in pencil; inscribed “15” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

January 11, 1945 – Thursday / Situation all messed up in Bks as far as chow is concerned. We are divided into groups of 6 with a leader who gets our bread & water for us. Last night, we were 8 men short & this noon 32 men had to wait for a sour grass soup. I made a stew again but the soup spoiled it. Slept fairly warm last nite [sic] although there is a lot of moving around & talking going on during the nite [sic]. There are now approx. 224 men in this Bks. and a lot of outsiders who come in to visit & get warm. This Bks. is probably the warmest one in camp – but very crowded & congested. Still talk about food & menus & sweets etc. If I should eat all the things I intend to eat when I get home I'll be sick in no time - & probably stay sick. But I do intend to concentrate of good things to eat & good living in general when I get home – “When I get home,” sounds like a fairy story or dream now but soon it will be a reality & all my plans will come true.

January 12, 1945 – Friday. Something tempted me & I sold ½ my bread ration for 500 Bel Fre [*sp?*] (11.50) and this morn. I had the remainder stolen. God punished me for selling my bread. We now have our own cooks in the kitchen & we expect much better chow – although I don't think they'll be able to do much. Rec'd a little corned beef last nite [sic] – very good. Grass soup & pots for lunch. Went on wood cutting detail by guards quarters. Pick up some bread by trading a pen and by begging. Very cold work in deep snow but the extra bread was worth it. Jam with reg. ration at nite [sic] – very good. Also picked up 1¼ apples from the guards. Simply out of this world – guards seem to be old by decent. Also filled my fountain pen. Am going to vol. for further details like that – Miss Grace & K.

**Photo 16:**

Recto: black and white image of man (Sydney Goodman?) reaching down to little girl in crib (Karen Goodman)

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top right corner with caption “Who took this picture and what were you trying to do”; diary dated and entry written in blue ink; inscribed “16” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

January 13, 1945 – Saturday. / Am playing Ted a cont. gin rummy game & so far in 3 nites [sic] I have lost to him each time. At 1.00 a pt. I owe him over \$1,000 will pay off if I lose, by buying him a good meal somewhere – soon, I hope. Had a good break for a change. Toasted some bread & baked a pot. With butter, jam & tea. Wish I could do the same every Morn. With our own cooks in the kitchen perhaps we'll be able to get more chow – or better or something. Lots of trading going on around here – a small 10¢ knife is now worth \$30.00, Food is worth as much as you can get. A watch bought a GI a loaf of bread, tobacco, cig. paper, butter & cheese. He traded it for a watch, 2 pens, & ate & had stuff

left over. I sold an end slice for an Am. 1.00 bill. Slow but sure all the watches, pens, sweaters, & now rings are disappearing. A shrewd trader who can get around can really do some good here. I wouldn't trade my pen or watch for anything but some guys just don't place a value on their personal property. Had an argument with Ted over some salt & for which I was sorry as I acted very small. Non coms are going to move out soon & leave the Pvts. Here – for how long – no one knows with my additional bread I'm not too hungry now as my appetite has decreased quite a bit from it's [sic] former level. Sat. nite [sic] is a big nite [sic] here – we get 2 loaves of bread for 9 men instead of the usual 1 per 6. Still had a little jam from last nite [sic] & finished my very delicious apple – wish I had 1 or 2 per wk. Picked up a Gem razor for a piece of bread. A beggar in the U.S. gets more food & better treatment than we do – food is the only thing we live for - & it's just enough to keep us alive.

January 14, Sunday Prod. & Cath. Serv. This morn., I listen in because it's religious & I miss our own serv. I have a new Test. And I don't think its harmful if I maybe a bit even though it's not my own rel. There isn't a Jewish chap. Or even a Jewish officer here so I'll have to use the Prot. or Cath. Chap. When I have something on my mind. Today makes 4 wks. (28 days) that I have been a PW. Thought of home today & I couldn't keep from crying. I miss Grace & Karen & the folks so very much. Dear God I hope it isn't too long. Had the worst grass soup we've had since we've been here. Fires are out. No wood so I can't toast – very quiet today – played gin rummy with Ted & talked about food – as usual. Rumors starting that R.C. pkgs. are here out waiting for non. coms. to leave before dist. Also Russ. [*can't decipher*] beg off. if we're here this summer will prob. work on farms – sincerely hope we're gone.

***Photo 17:***

Recto: black and white image of woman wearing bathing suit (Grace Goodman) seated on blanket on the sand behind little girl (Karen Goodman) wearing checkered bathing suit with anchor on front

Verso: image dated July 1944 in black ink at top with caption “I wasn't going to / send you this one - / Though they might / censor it and please / don't show it around / I look like I'm / going to lose something”; diary dated and entry written in blue ink around caption; inscribed “17” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

January 15, 1945 - Monday / Heard yest. that there was going to be an all day wood-chopping detail today & as they usually get extra chow & might give me a chance to trade I thought I'd volunteer. Well, I did, much to my regret because we walked, starting at 7:30 about 5 miles along a small road in the snow. A cart brought a can of grass soup & a can of potatoes along for our chow. Our job was to cut 8 metres of wood into pieces of certain length. We built a fire before noon to warm our chow & ate at 12. We received slightly more than a reg. ration & walked back at 2:30 arriving at camp at 4:15 – what a day! Rec'd extra chow but it was grass soup with pots. Wasn't able to make a trade of any kind – Have a pen & Am doe – thought the detail would be near some guards or civilization but I just made a sad mistake. Was very very tired when I got back & missed out on some jam we had for supper. Went to bed – very tired & disgusted P.W. Thought of Grace & K I love them so.

JANUARY 16, 1945 – TUESDAY Rec'd another card today on which to write home wonder which will get to Grace first, me or the mail I've sent so far. Cigs. Seem to be more abundant of late – saw a whole pack Chest. Today – must come from other P.W. saw some Czech PW – yest – watches & pens are slowly going – sweater & gloves going now. Managed to find an Aug. 44 Readers Dig. Found it was

quite a diversion reading it. Took a shave today of cold water but it makes me feel cleaner. Slept good last nite [sic] & stayed in all day – Had 3 cans of soup, toast & pots so I filled up pretty good – considering new Am. P.W. came in yest. & they claim Bud. & Col. Have fallen & the war is progressing very fav. For us. I hope so – I really don't like being a P.W. would much rather be a CIV. Last nite [sic] we almost caught a guy stealing at nite [sic] – a very low class person in here on the aver. 2 out of 3 are ignorant & no educ. Ted is a relief from them & a few Jew. Boys who are here. Miss my Mrs. & Karen.

***Photo 18:***

Recto: black and white image of two little girls standing together holding hands. Girl on left (Karen Goodman) wearing dark jacket, light skirt, and beret. Girl on right wearing light jacket, hat, and skirt holding something in her hand

Verso: image captioned in black ink “Karen Leo at 22 mos / & Linda D / Cute picture – I think / [can't decipher] your daughter / a little doll”; diary entry written in blue ink and pencil around caption; inscribed “18” in upper left corner

***Diary inscription:***

JANUARY 17, 1945 - WEDNESDAY / CAPTURED 1 MO. TODAY / Ann. of my capture. Not the kind of occasion I feel like celebrating so I'll just say an extra prayer for my liberation. More prisoners came in yest. with all sorts of rumors. Adding these all together yet the picture that we have crossed the Rhine and are moving – as are the Russ. Hope they move & move fast. Our chow is still the same – no more nor better – tea has no sugar – soup has no salt – our own cooks can do no better – the J. gives them the eng. and they can't do no more. 2½ teaspoons of jam tonite [sic] – ½ extra for messing our jam the other nite [sic] – cigs are down now only ½ ration of bread instead of a field ration. Very cold outside & most of the MT bunks are burned already. Very little wood comes in. Still speculating on the day of our release. Most think this summer – May June or July – I hope so. Wonder why we can't get a R.C. pkg. Would very much like to get one – Hope G. knows I'm OK.

JANUARY 18 – THURSDAY Today is event. We rec'd something different for chow. It was a comb. of oatmeal, pots & a little meat – very little. The mixture was such a change – and a good one that we couldn't get over it. The rumorists said we would get oatmeal but I never believed it. We are to get oatmeal, mush & pea soup for 3 days & prob. grass soup the other 4 days. News east seems to indicate Russ. Are moving ahead – 40 mi. from Germ. in one sector. Recipes are floating around like water thru a sieve. I don't think there is a G.I. here who doesn't have a few recipes – mostly for desserts. And the guys who are going into the bakery – rest delic. etc. bus. is terrific. I just want to get back to G. & eat as good & as much as I ate – maybe a little more because I've learned to apprec. food is home & love. All Jewish boys to be separated tonite [sic] into where the off. formerly lived – very cold. I wonder what the future holds in store for us?

***Photo 19:***

Recto: black and white image of woman (Grace Goodman) seated with blanket on her lap; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated in black ink “July, 1944” near top left and captioned “One you took / the porch when / you were home / on furlough. My / nose looks as long / as yours”; diary entry written in blue ink and pencil around caption; inscribed “19” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

JANUARY 19, 1945 FRIDAY The segregation is completed & there are 52 boys now living in 32 – from being very frightened & worried we are now sure of orders and not afraid of the future. The worse they can do is shoot us and we’ve all been shot at before. I don’t think we will be discriminated against too much – I hope not. Chow will be the same they say, and aside from being segregated we shall receive the same treatment. I’m still an Am. soldier & would like to be treated as such but this is an order that we can not contradict & so there’s nothing that I or anyone else can do about it. I firmly believe that this incident should be taken into consideration when I am returned to the U.S. as individual freedom is one of the rights we Am. sold. Are fighting & dying for. War news sounds good from all front, especially the East. & God willing, it won’t be too long before this will be over. Rumor – peace conf. in Geneva. Chow was carrot & pot. Soup – much better than the grass soup. Quite a few more boys came in during the aft. & there’ll be quite a represent, a call came in for interpreters & it is rumored that those who can speak a little German will act as interp. On details. Have more conf. now that this is just a political policy and nothing more. Water is on & we have another stove but it is still cold. We’ll all pull thru [sic] however, and have more to live for when we get home. It’s going to be very diff. for the U.S. Army to keep me in the service as I think I’ve had enough soldiering in my lifetime. No news today as Radio is broken.

JAN. 20 – SAT Held services last nite [sic] – No book but some of the fellows knew a few of the prayers by heart. It is good to hear the songs, etc. again. Much camaraderie here. Soup for today – not grass. Shaved with hot water. Room still cold. I get into bed every aft. to warm up. No news from GWB [? *Can’t decipher*] – but rumors are that the Russ. Are on J. soil – This seg. might have something to do with the early turn of the war. 2 mos. Might see a lot of changes in our positions. Rumor is strong that there are peace terms in the air. Cheese for supper tonite [sic] – unfavorable reaction among gentile soldiers who think we are getting preferred treatment – we are treated OK. No mistreatment of any kind.

***Photo 20:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing in bathroom with hand up to her ear; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated in black ink “July 44” at top; diary entry written in blue ink; inscribed “20” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

JAN. 21, SUNDAY Karen’s birthday I’ve never been home for her birthday – next year a big party! Miracle of miracles no grass soup today & also we are not detailed to death or anything that we supposed was going to happen to us. In fact, we are left alone and treated like the rest of the GI’s. Suspecting that something is wrong we attribute this to the fact that Germ. wants to show us & the rest of the world that Jewish PW’s were not mistreated. It sounds logical & may be the solution. We don’t know. New rumors seem almost too good to be true & conditions especially chow at noon is 100% better – the soup is good, eatable & last nite [sic] we had a small roll of cheese. It’s a beautiful day

today & I found a guy by the name of Boxman who owned a Kosher meat mkt. in Dexter also a few Hung. Boys from various parts of the U.S. Our chap. said today that the R.A.F. bombing on the 23 of Dec. when we were in the boxcars, 8 of our men were killed & 35 were wounded. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> we heard of any casualties as a result of the bombing. We are not too have any more grass soup, so tis said and from the staff we've been getting – much or better soup, I think we are getting stronger – I feel much better. Russians are supposedly 40 km inside Germ. and Germ. is supposedly suing for peace. Would like to compare the rumors with what is actually taking place. After I get a chance to compare notes. Tonite [sic] we're having a quiz program & I think I'm one of the contestants. Last nite [sic] we told jokes and I had a few good laughs from the Jewish jokes I heard. Made me feel good. Quiz was excellent & had a swell time. 3 way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Very educational & we plan to have more such programs.

JANUARY 22 – MONDAY Very quiet today – No spectacular rumors – chow, the usual mushy pot. soup which I augmented with bread. Snowed last nite [sic] & cold today talked about good things to eat as usual, & though of home & the good things I used to eat there – and the good things Grace is going to make for me. I'm going to have her do more baking & cooking – if she'll want to, we're supposed to hear some good news tomorrow – I wonder what it will be – Rumors are flying thick & fast – A fact: 292 new men came in last nite [sic] – Over 3,000 U.S. men here now. Rumor the Fr. P.W. are going to be moved out.

JANUARY 23 – TUESDAY. Life goes on very peacefully – Last nite [sic] we had a very interesting talk on History of Religion by a very intelligent chap. I really learned quite a bit about religion – also realized that I am not up on my current history & will have to do more reading when I get home. Fr. Seem to have the idea war will be over by Feb. 15. I feel much better both spiritually mentally & physically. If I can get out of here – soon, all will not have been suffered in vain. Chow was carrot soup & 5 small pots – Left me hungry. Ate last – 12:30 – shaved in hot water. Heard a very informative lecture on current events. Russian front moved 180 miles in 10 days. This may be the last offensive. Had discussion on G.I. insurance & conversion etc. Very interesting & educational. Wrote home to Grace miss her.

***Photo 21:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing indoors looking at something in her hands; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated in black ink “July 44” at top; diary entry written in blue ink; inscribed “21” in upper left corner

***Diary inscription:***

JANUARY 24 - WED / Still cold & snowy – no new rumors except we expect some big shots around to look us over. Trading has reached a new high as merchandise is hard to find & a lot of joes want money now. We were supposed to have turned all our money in and many of us did, however there is still a lot of bills floating around and with freedom almost in sight money had retaken it's [sic] old value. Rustled up some pretty good foods to eat in various types of rest. & am going in on eating spree just as soon as I get home. Keep thinking about good things to eat all the time and Keep getting this lousy J. [?] chow of carrots or mush or pea soup or pots & black bread, for which I have almost acquired a taste. Ted has a Sept. 44 Reader's Digest that I am going to read very soon. Outside of that, there is absolutely no other

Eng. Reading material available. I am going to read some of the articles out loud to our bks. just as soon as I finish it. Red Cr. Rep here – don't know the results of his visit as yet. Heard that a J. gd. Said he heard over the radio that if the Russ. drive continues at its current rate, the war will be over in 20 days. The Non Coms are finally moving out tomorrow. Pea Soup for noon which I split up into 2 meals by adding bread & water. News looks good & I think I can sweat out another 30-60 days here until Am. G.I's come & get us. & then home sweet home & Grace.

JANUARY 25 THURS: Non Coms moved out this morn. 35 of our boys moved out leaving about 75 left. Last nite [sic] I read some stories from the R.D. Also read from a Dec. 29 issue of S&S. Don't know whether the move was a good thing or not – they are only moving 60 mi away. We may get more or better chow although I doubt it. Chow at noon was oatmeal & potatoes, which is our most filling meal. Ted, a few N.Y. boys & myself plan to meet in N.Y. sometime in the future & really see & do up N.Y. & recount some of our stalag experiences. We made arrangements of how to meet, where to eat, what to do & generally how we are to have a hellova good time in general, and if at all possible, & I think it will be possible. R.C. did not even know we were here so it turns out, & there's nothing they can do about our condition here – Breslau is surrounded & E. Prussia is cut off. [*can't decipher*] admits so the situation is critical – not critical enough for me. This thing can't end too soon – Getting home is my main des. Heard 2<sup>nd</sup> ½ of lecture on Religion.

JANUARY 26, FRIDAY: Got ambitious today & shaved – made me feel much better. The news this morn. is excellent. As of a few wks ago the J. was back to where is started his drive on the 16 of Dec. S.V. only 100 mi from Berlin & pushing on all fronts. A high ranking off. (Gen. they say) was here last nite [sic]. Ted saw him in Bks. 42. Double ration of jam. Went very good with my made over soup. Had a discussion of post-war housing by Joe Markowitz in the aft. & a short rel. service at nite [sic]. Very cold in the bks – no wood from 1-3. Another day & another day closer to victory & liberation – that though is what is keeping me going in to the spirit I am not too weak & not too downheartened – Good living, good eating, & my lovely wife & child are waiting for me & for such wonderful things, I have the patience to wait – as long as it will take.

***Photo 22:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) walking indoors holding a stuffed animal; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated in black ink “July 44” at top; diary entry written in blue ink; inscribed “22” in upper left corner

***Diary inscription:***

JANUARY 27, 1945 SATURDAY / Very cold outside & our Bks is out of wood so its imp. to stay there. I spend most of my time with Ted in Bks 42. We are now in the heart of the German winter & being on the top of a mtn. We are really getting the cold winds. Pea soup this noon – good but no solids to speak of. I'm starting to get hungry now – feeling good and defecating good that I could eat a hellova lot more. As I understand it we are merely a maintenance camp and do not get rations that the other camps get whose inmates work. I don't even bother to get up for coffee in the morn. Today our water pipe froze – so no water. News very good – Russ. Supposed to be over Oder Riv. on way to Berlin. I hope they get there soon. Officially we have been P.W. up to today for 39 days. – long enough for me. Had another very ent. quiz program last nite [sic] – Bed early – 7:00.

JANUARY 28 – SUNDAY – No guard for coffee this morn. & about 6 armed guards came & we all became suspicious. At 10: on what was up. We first thought it was for a count as everyone was outside – then, we thought it was a morning procedure as nothing was cooking at the kitchen. Much to our amazement we found out that a Gd. was hit over the head 90 times in the Kitch. by a G.I. who was trying to pilfer the food there. Everything up in turmoil as they refuse to give us food or wood until the culprit is found. The guard relent. The assailant as [sic] a G.I. & not one of the other prisoners. He is not expected to live – hit on the head 9 times with a hatchet – just when our conditions were improving – good soup & a good bread ration last nite [sic]. Around 4:30 we were told that chow was ready – ¼ loaf per person plus butter, & bologna – also at 6:00 ½ ration of oatmeal. The reason for all this plus coke too, was because the 2 culprits were found. They were from Bks 42 and confessed after hrs. of grilling. Everyone feels much better as they jeopardized all of us P.W.'s. We all feel much relieved & hope that normal conditions will prevail again.

JANUARY 29 MONDAY. Bks 42 rec'd extra chow this morn. for finding the 2 men. Also went on a 100 min detail – coffee this morn had sugar this morn. for a change & it really tastes swell. Our water pipes are frozen as are the pipes from all the Bks around us. Have to go to 42 for water now. Had pea soup for noon – meat & salt in it – very tasty – Locked in the Bks all aft. & we wondered what was up. Around 3:30 we had 3 inspections in quick succession by Jerry officers. They didn't enjoy the wood we had scattered all over the room – Also the fact that we were burning some of the wood. Chow & wood came in very late as a result – A little jam – very little. Rumor = Russ. Are 90 miles from Berlin – Hope it's true. No program tonite [sic] so I toasted a little bread & crawled under our 2 overcoats & 4 blankets. Must cover my head each nite [sic] to prevent the cold from entering into the covers.

***Photo 23:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) standing in front of railing; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated in black ink “July 44” at top; diary entry written in blue ink; inscribed “23” in upper left corner

***Diary inscription:***

January 30 – TUESDAY / Sunday services held today in place of last Sunday. Chaplain read us his theme the 10 Commandments – referring to the incident that occurred last Sunday. For the 1<sup>st</sup> time we had a soup that was very thin – they called it bread & grit soup & it was without meat or pots. Very watery but a good taste. Rec'd letter forms today & wrote a nice long letter to Grace. I wonder if she'll receive it? Maybe I'll be home before she gets at – Dear God I hope so. No news at all – Rumor: Russ. Are 90 mi. from Berlin. I wonder how close they'll come before the end went for wood & almost froze. Very cold upon this mtn. Lights went out early & we did not have any program tonite [sic]. Tea at nite [sic] was a little sweet for a change as has been our coffee in the morn – went good with my toast.

Almost the end of Jan. & the war should if we can depend on what we hear, be over in Feb. or March. & since Feb is a short month I think we can sweat it out. Would like a little warm, however.

JANUARY 31 – WEDNESDAY: / Warmed up considerably today – snow is actually melting outside & the air is very foggy. No lists [?] went on this morn. & we were all very apprehensive lest something went wrong again. Our guard came late for the coffee detail – which had no sugar this morn. picked up a Sept. 11 issue of Newsweek which was all battered & torn but which I managed to read nevertheless.

Soup was of the watery pea variety although I managed to find 9 small pieces of meat. The most meat I've eaten in one sitting. News came in that we had rec'd over 700 R.C. pkgs from the Serbs. which means that 4 men will get from one box – choc. meat, jam, etc. Some of the Bks. rec'd their pkgs. tonite [sic] – we will rec'd ours in the morn. All the meat cans will be opened so that item will be eaten imm. Everyone's morale was boosted 100% by this news & we all could use a little extra chow & eventually a change in diet. Would love to hear from Grace – if that were possible!

FEBRUARY 1, 1945 THURSDAY: The morn. warm compared to our other days and we were all on edge. First of all our coffee was sweet & 2<sup>nd</sup> of all we were to receive our R.C. boxes. What a fuss no one left the bks. for fear of not being here when our group was called. We made a hellova racket when we were called because being in a half-starved condition what little food we rec'd was regarded as more than gold. The whole works was worth about 2.00 & we each rec'd the following: ¼ can small salmon, 3 crackers, jam, 25 [15?] cigs, 2 sp. Sausage, corned beef, stew, raisins, sugar, ½ bar soap, 3 sq. choc. All aft. was spent dividing the stuff & we saved a can of joe. Coffee & plus milk to be eaten jointly. The cig. mrkt is broken & there is no news today. Morale is up. Soon. The. War. Will be over – we hope & we can forget today.

*Note: The photo numbered 24 was not donated as part of this collection, however a photographic copy of diary entry written on the back of photo 24 was included as part of this collection. In order to complete the transcript of the diary, a transcription of those entries on this photograph is included as read from the photographic copy:*

**Photo 24:**

*Diary inscription:*

FEB. 2, FRIDAY / The big thing around here is that the cig. mkt is busted for the time being. Pens that sold for 10 cigs are now 20-30 cigs etc. Everyone is making coffee, toasted cheese, etc. The diff. bet. today & yest. is like nite [sic] & day & the change has worked wonders with the boys here. Our morale is such that if the war ended tomorrow or today, for that matter we wouldn't be the least, bit angry. There's no news & the rumors are such that we feel that something is in the wind. What with getting extra blankets yest. & boxes & the better soup & the outward appearance of the yds. There might be something to the rumors. Cert hope so. A lot of petty trading is going on with the food – 10 raisins for 2 prunes, 4 cigs. for butter, liverwurst for 2 cigs or soup, etc. So far I haven't traded 2 things. During the nite [sic] we heard some AA fire & 3 bombs were dropped not too far from our Bks. There has been a lot of air activity lately & things are happening – not too far away. Ate mighty [?] with liverwurst & jam – very del. Milk in the tea too. Life can be beautiful. No services - lites [sic] out early.

FEBRUARY 3 – SATURDAY: Went for a delousing this morn – not tso much to get deloused – but for the shower – it was wonderful. A good hot shower with Saon [sp?] soap & a brush (schatta's) [not fully decipherable] It really felt good – washed my hair – which needs a cutting very much even though I'm losing a little – in front only. Chow was pea soup with no solids – Added my usual bread, water & butter & reheated it. Roamed around in the aft. The weather was very nice – warm & the ground slightly muddy – Bought an Estabrook pen with Joe Markowitz for 2 cigs. – Couldn't get rid of it so we might keep it. Lites [sic] did not go on last nite [sic] on for some reason or other – we think that the air activity of late is the reason – Rumor: a town about 6 mi. away was bombed very heavily. Also our own

R.C. pkgs are on the way – Bed early. Dreamt about Grace last nite. I'm beginning to miss her very much now that our day of liberation is not too far away.

FEBRUARY 4 SUNDAY: A little colder this morn. Hope the weather keeps up this way. Slept a little late – Sunday. Keep wondering when the J. will crack & this diary be just a memory. Predictions are for the middle of the month, but the way the J is resisting – I wonder – One of these days however, we'll wake up & find the gates open & G.I. trucks pulling in & us pulling out. In the aft. I discovered that someone picked my pocket for my tobacco pouch which had 8 cigs & some matches. Also at nite [sic] I found that someone stole my whole ration of corned beef which made me very sad. I was so mad that I bought 2 extra rations of liverwurst for 4 cigs. I made 2 cigs on the loan of my dill (?) & also 1 on a pen so I didn't fare too badly except I found out that there are thieves in this bldg. I had thought that I could leave my property without watching it but even among supposedly intelligent & cooperative Jewish boys there is thievery.

***Photo 25:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) bent over reaching for something on the ground, hedges behind her; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated in black ink "July 44" at top; diary entry written in blue ink and pencil; inscribed "25" in upper right corner

***Diary inscription:***

FEBRUARY 5 – MON. / Last nite [sic] I was visited by a nocturnal prowler who took 4 pieces of bread that I had saved for my soup today. This makes 3 thieveries in 2 days – I'm really getting hit pretty bad. But it's my own fault because I trust all the boys here & there are some who are not to be trusted. I parted with [Milton] Stolon & my suspicions point to him – moved to another bunk only to find out that 400 of us are to move out tomorrow & we in 32 are among the 1<sup>st</sup> to move. It seems that we are either in the path of the Allies or else they want to put us in the path of our troops. At any rate we're pulling out & I don't relish the train ride – although it can't be too far. The news is very good & on all fronts we are closing in on Germ. I don't think it will last longer than three month. I made a deal with Joe Markowitz & loaned dan 10 cigs for ¼ soup & ¼ bread ration for 7 days. Now we don't know whether we will realize a return on our investment or not. Well the deal is that we're going 200 km. (125 mi) tomorrow to a French – Br. Camp near Leipzig. We're supposed to do some sort of work there. No one really knows & there are all sort of rumors around now – mostly we don't relish the train ride. There are 30 of us going – I'll be split up with Ted. Going to save some bread for the trip – I don't want to starve like I did last time.

FEBRUARY 6 – TUESDAY: / Supposed to move today but for some reason we stayed for noon chow which consisted of oatmeal & pots. Heard planes going over for hrs. & that might be the reason why we are remaining. Everyone is buying bread & the price is 6 cigs for a ration – was 4 - I rec'd ¼ ration of soup from Dan so I'm quite full. Expect bread from him tonite [sic] too – Joe took a piece of bread from him for his equity at 1:30p.m. we heard 50 cal. firing from some planes. In a few min. we all hit the floor as shells were heard landing just outside our Bks. Shells were actually popping in the road. It only lasted a few min & when it was over medics were running all over & 2 of our boys were killed, one dying & about 6 injured. It was a dogfight & we found a J. 42 cal & a U.S. 50 cal round outside. Doubt if well move today – Bombs were heard landing pretty close too – close enough that the windows were

shaking. It's never too late to get out around here & we only hope that the war terminates before any more of us are killed.

1 GI died last nite [sic] from malnutrition – traded food for cigs.

3 “ [GI] killed from strafing – 12 ser. Wound. 6 slightly in

8 Russ “ [killed] 5 Fr. Killed & many wounded. Still don't know whether it was on purpose or accidental – Am. or Br. planes.

***Photo 26:***

Recto: black and white image of three small children seated on grass together, little girl (Karen Goodman) on far right is being hugged by girl seated in center

Verso: image dated in black ink “July 44” at bottom; diary entry written in blue ink and pencil; inscribed “26” in upper right corner

***Diary inscription:***

FEBRUARY 7 – WED. Rumor now that the Bad Orb railroad was bombed out. & that we will not move now as a result. Hope it's true as I think staying here is the best thing to do. We're closer to Amer lines & travelling on the railroad is not too healthy. Soup this noon was exceptionally thick with pots. & I really filled up by splitting my soup & adding bread, butter & water. Rumor has it that R.C. boxes are here but whether they are ours or not is problematic. I don't think so. Ran out of ink yet. Hope I'll be able to read this after I get home. Keep thinking about Grace & Karen – It is almost a year since I rec'd the picture in front of this folder. Very little news today – must be very frightening on all fronts. When oh when will this end?

FEB. 8 – THURSDAY: No wood tonite [sic] & no heat – which soups. Not too cold so I wasn't too miserable. Went out for a walk with Ted & went in the Italian latrine which is off limits & sue enough I got caught. At 10:00 we rec'd the news that we were finally going to move out to a new camp. Rumors are that it will be much better & we'll get R.C. pkgs. Camp is Stalag IXC. We all lined up – 350 of us, rec'd a litre of good thick soup, got searched for blankets, & Germ. property, rec'd 1/3 can of meat, 1/2 loaf bread & marg. for a 2 day trip. Left the camp at 1:00 & walked down to Bad Orb where we loaded on box cars with straw & a defecating box. After jockeying around for a favorable position against the wall. Slept good considering my feet were in my lap, I had a running nose & a bad cough. Train moved only a short while & then stopped the rest of the eve.

FEB 9. FRIDAY: Didn't move an inch all nite [sic] - packed in a rail yard siding about 5 miles from Bad Orb. Bought an extra ration of meat at camp for 5 cigs & brought extra bread too so I have a fair supply of provisions. Also have a few sugar lumps & a square of choc. which cost me 4 cigs. I'd rather buy food for my cigs than smoke them. In fact, I only smoked one of my cigs. Rained – leaked thru [sic] the car. I didn't get too wet. We were supposed to have moved out last nite [sic], a Gd. told me, that we have no “foes” [Joese?] – He rec'd rations for 2 days too so if we get going the trip shouldn't be too bad. At 3:30 we started moving & moved good all nite [sic] except our coupling fouled up on the car & we had to split up more to other cars. This made conditions worse & I wound up in a car where we had 50 men. Got a place by the door where I was cold & miserable with very little room for myself. If it isn't one thing it's another.

**Photo 27:**

Recto: black and white image of four women standing outside with four men behind them; One man in center wearing military uniform (Sydney Goodman), standing behind woman with four large buttons on her dress (Grace Goodman), man on far right wearing Naval uniform (Ted Heideman)

Verso: image dated in black ink "July 44" upside down at bottom; diary entry written in blue ink; inscribed "27" in upper right corner

*Diary inscription:*

FEB. 10 – SAT. Supposed to be 60 km (35 mi) from our dest. according to a gd. but it's probably another Jerry Lee & I doubt it. Lost my black pencil & small pen knife during the nite [sic]. Still standing on a siding & its getting colder. If we move, I'll have plenty of bread – but no movement of any kind today so I'd better watch my ration. Got water twice today. Emptied out of the defecating box – a smelly job. Had one cig left & bought some extra sausage (Sunday) spent a warm but miserable nite [sic] trying to sleep. Very crowded, hard & noisy all nite [sic] long. Very happy when morn. came.

FEB 11. SUNDAY: Bright sunshine this morn. & not too cold – rain stopped & our spirits are much brigher. All the cars ahead of us were moved out during the nite [sic]. Still a lot of war supplies on the tracks & moving. Troop evacuees, living in box-cars along the side of the tracks. Yards are large & do not appear to have been bombed. At 10:00 we rec'd 4/5 loaf of bread & a piece of liverwurst. 3 days rations. Just an extension of our journey. At 3:00 we rec'd ½ canteen cup of coffee. Treatment much better than on my 1<sup>st</sup> box car ride but still just about the most primitive way of travel outside of a ox-cart. Even their own horses & swine are moved better than we. No progress. In BEBRA.

FEB. 12. MONDAY: Lincoln's Birthday – sopped in ERFURT at 8:00 A.M. after a hectic nite [sic] in which 5 men had their food stolen. Seemed to be mixed in with just about the lowest class of soldier in the Army. No water at all today – They say they can't get any for us. Our progress was to move from the yards out in the country.

**Photo 28:**

Recto: black and white image of little girl seated on floor looking up at camera

Verso: diary entry written in blue ink ; inscribed "28" in upper right corner

*Diary inscription:*

FEB. 13 – TUESDAY Travelled all nite & made pretty good progress except trying to sleep was very difficult. Legs, arms, feet, faces, etc. were always in the way & profanity was the order of the day. I guess I got 4 hrs. sleep all nite [sic]. Nothing missing – most of the food was eaten, I guess. Stopped kind of early in the morn. & much to our happiness we found we were at our destinations – 6:00 after debarking & rec'ing hot coffee (another march) we found we were at a very busy little town of BERGA (Lester) in Sect. 15 near Weimar – Central Germany. Saw a multitude of prisoners – French, Czech, Russ, etc. Also interned Jews – Our Bks is located 1 km from town (5/8 mile – 15 min walk) & is brand new & is just a few Bks to accommodate our entire grtoup of 350 men. Near German workers' Bks. of which there seems to be quite a few. We were interrogated & our clothes checked. One of my two O.D. shirts was taken away from me. We rec'd 2 new blankets, 1 new cup, 1 new spoon, 1 new soup dish, ¼ loaf bread, hot tea, little meat, margarine, pillows & mattress of straw. We have 6 rooms without a fire. 60 men (all Jewish) in one room. I'm bunking with Sam Boxman. Ate good, choc cube too, even added sugar to my tea. We are treated 100% better than at IXB – Incidentally, this is IXC – they must be

trying to treat us good before the war is over which 2 gds think will be this summer (May or June). Think we'll fare much better here than where we were.

FEB. 14 WED. Valentine's day: Last nite [sic] a lengthy & heavy armada of planes flew over & we heard that Dresden & Leipzig got hit very heavy. I think we're pretty safe here. Up at 5:00 & coffee at 6:30. No work today but prob. tomorrow. Took a shave & feel swell. Confinement to our immediate bks & not much room to roam around. I can hear explosions during the day which come from some mines around here operated by slave labor no doubt as there are plenty around here. New Bks are supposed to be in the process of being built for us in town by one can't believe everything. One hears although so far we've been treated very good. A SS Col. Paid us a visit this morn. Exactly at noon we heard the thundering roar that told us that our planes were overhead. An alarm was sounded & we were told not to leave the Bks. A big air offensive must be on because we can hear planes day & nite [sic]. Our Bks is located on the edge of a woods on the side of a hill & the scenery is very beautiful. Wouldn't like to see it all messed up by our 500 lbers. There are a lot of Jewish slaves here & we've heard 2nite hard reports of mistreatments already. I hope they don't decide to make us the target of their abuse.

***Photo 29:***

Recto: black and white image of two men standing together outside, both wearing military uniforms; Man wearing Army uniform on right (Sydney Goodman), man on left wearing Naval uniform (Ted Heideman)

Verso: image dated in black ink "July 44" near top right; diary entry written in black ink; inscribed "29" in upper right corner

***Diary inscription:***

FEB. 15 –THURS. Supposed to go to wrk this morn. but did not – for some unknown reason. Yest. I went on the chow detail in town & saw women & civilian activities – something I haven't seen in quite awhile. Also saw a group of "Hitler Jugend" – Germ. kids all dressed up in their black uniforms. Saw Jewish children 10-15 yrs old, from Pol, Hung, Czeck, etc who were very poorly dressed & not too well fed. A very pitiful sight. A Jewish worker gave me extra bread but the guard wouldn't let us take any out – So we stole 3 loaves & divided it up. Chow was potato, carrots & cabbage soup, not thick a little sour but good. About the same amt as in Bad Orb – Last nite [sic] at 8:00 a terrific bombardment that lit up the sky about 15 mi. away. Also later in the eve. we had another air raid. Our guards are old & seem friendly but the SS men are not so old or friendly and those gentleman are to be watched & I'm afraid, feared. At 1:00 we fell out to go to work – 135 of us, after marching 1 hr. we came to the entrances of a no. of tunnels. This was to be our work. Looked like the beginning of underground shops or factories Thought we were going to work until 5 – but we worked until 10:00 without any rest, food, water, etc. shoveling & drilling into a hard slate! Hundreds of slave Jews from Roum, Hung. It., Holland, etc. – German workers too are drafted – from the Aachen region – yelling & screaming all the time. We too are slave labor, not P.W.'s. Dead on our feet & came back 11:00, Bed at 12:00.

FEB. 16. FRIDAY: Pot. soup – pretty good. We decided not to go to wk & stay in Bks. Work is too hard, & war work we shouldn't do it. At 1:00 we stayed in when the Cpl came in to call us. He got very mad & called the gds who threw us out forcefully & bodily using bayonets & butts. Several of our boys were hit – we went to work. Same deal. I didn't do very much but it got very cold & they won't let us bring our overcoats. Still don't like the work. A morn. shift of 135 men works from 6-2 they didn't

seem to mind the wk & so our stake is broken. Slave wk from 10-6 – a 24 hr project. Heard some good rumors about the war – Cologne, Berlin surrounded, etc. War should be over. Can't take this work too long. Chow is no more – work a no – treatment is miserable & just shows what creatures these people are.

***Photo 30:***

Recto: black and white image of woman (Grace Goodman) seated on a striped sofa

Verso: diary entry written in black ink; inscribed "30" in upper left corner

***Diary inscription:***

FEB. 17 –SATURDAY: Chow was pretty thick & I really enjoyed it. Never [*can't decipher*] I could re[*can't decipher*] soup as much as do now. My side is giving me trouble from working & so I stayed in the Bks. Felt wonderful to relax not take the abuse of those Germ. workers & soldiers. Discontent is prevalent thru [*sic*] all the Bks. & 3 boys were brought back – collapsed at work. Our situation looks hopeless as they absolutely do not respect our rights as a P.W. under the Genva Conf. They say that we are killing women & children by our bombers & that we do as we're told. Our ration is 1 cup of coffee in the morn, soup at noon & ¼ loaf (500 grms) head & a little marmalade, or 2 ozs of meat (saus.) or a little cheese & 1 cup tea. Imp. to work 8 hrs. a day on such meager food. Dr. came down yest. to look at a sick boy. Gave him 2 days of rest & then back to work. Sam Boxman was operated on 3 times in the Army for rupture was given lite [*sic*] work – helping around his Bks. Quite a few boys are sick & do not go into work. Heard some very good rumors: Cologne fallen Mannheim, Strassburg, Frankfurt & Berlin surrounded, Arm. Over the Rhine in force. Dear God, please let the war be over soon as I can't stand much more of this treatment. I miss my family so very very much.

FEB. 18 SUNDAY: Thin soup today – Stayed in again hardly climb in my bunk. 3 more boys collapsed on the way to work. Something should be done but I think only the end of the war will bring us any relief. That day, dear God, please let be near. Same meat for supper. No taste & very poor grade. Rested up again although I was supposed to go to wk.

FEB. 19 MON. Signed up to see the Dr. in town. Sick call is inspected by the non-coms who decide whether you are sick or not & whether you work or not. Walked to town but Dr. was out. Came back. Rec'd bread & meat at noon – same junk as last nite [*sic*] – Soup came late – watery & tasteless – A Col. paid us a visit – Might get R.C. pkgs in 4-6 wks. Which will come 1<sup>st</sup>? Dave Goldin, one of our boys, got hit on the head by a piece of stone & was carried back. Dr. came & said he'd come back tomorrow & sew him up. Not to serious.

FEB. 20 TUES. Terrific bombardment last nite [*sic*]. The Dr. came early this morn. & just put me on light duty on acct of my side. I thank God I don't have to go down to the pits anymore I just help clean up the Bks. & help with the odd jobs around here. I feel sorry for the boys who have to work there every day. Soup very poor but I traded ¼ ration of bread for an extra bowlful. It filled me up.

FEB. 21 WED. Reading "Ordeal by Hunger" – Goldin's book – quite a diversion. Nothing new or exciting to the usual things around the Bks. I don't think we'll see the end in Feb. now. Home guards guarding us along with the regulars now – Down to the last days I guess.

**Photo 31:**

Recto: black and white image of man (Sydney Goodman?) standing with arm around woman (Grace Goodman) looking at baby laying on front seat of car

Verso: image dated in black ink "May 44" near top right; diary entry written in blue and black ink; some water damage; inscribed "31" in upper right corner

*Diary inscription:*

FEB. 22 –THURS. Washington's Birthday – Weather still cold – soup fairly good by still not nearly enough to constitute a meal. At home it would just be a soup that one would eat before a meal. Here it's everything. Air raid alarm at noon – no new rumors & so life goes on & each day is a day closer to "V" day which wont' be in Feb. now but sometimes in March or April & we all hope. I'm using my own pen now – One of the boys found a way to fill it for me. Rec'd a little honey last nite [sic] with our bread & butter which was cut a little. Honey is called "Zuckerwasser" – sugar water & that's just about what it is. "Goldy" our leader is sick with Pneumonia. Am on the chow detail & go to town with the wagon 3 & 4 times a day – picked up a little salt & extra soup so the extra work is worth it. Yest & today – lot of air activity at noon times. Today marks Sammy Boxman's 2<sup>nd</sup> ann. in the Army. I'm overseas 6 mo's already – much longer than I anticipated. For our extra ration at nite [sic] we rec'd, of all things, a spoonful of beet sugar. Not as sweet as ours & much more grainy but on margarine it wasn't too bad.

FEB. 23 FRIDAY Nothing of import today –

FEB. 24 SATURDAY Ate 5½ cups of soup, 4½ sour cabbage & turnip & 1 cup that came from the soldiers' mess – a sweet milk soup with noodles – very delicious given to the chow detail by a pretty new mess sgt. Our extra ration was saus. but it was better than the other stuff, had a little seasoning – I fried it on the stoves & it tasted pretty good – about 3 bites. Heard Turkey was in the war on the Allies' side.

FEB. 25 SUNDAY: Upset stomach from eating so much yesterday – Turned colder – my feet hurt me when I'm outside too long. Soup was pretty good Sunday soup – Ate it all & it really filled me up. Traded some turnips I picked up at the kitchen for bread, meat, & butter.

FEB. 26 MONDAY: Getting colder instead of warmer – picked up a lift from a Polish worker & he gave us a sandwich, 2 apples, & a lot of tobacco – The ½ apple I got as my share was like nectar from the Gods. Am going to trade my tobacco for bread & butter. Soup not so good. Picked up some dry noodles on the bread details & cooked them up with a fresh onion – very good – for a change.

FEB 27 TUES. Nothing exciting today – only 3 pushes & I was off in the aft. so I had only 2 pushes. Soup still not too good. Traded & got extra marmalade & butter.

FEB 28. WED. Potatoe [sic] soup – not bad, not good. Picked up some noodles again. No turnips to trade however, can't get to them anymore. Yesterday 500 new Polit. Pris (Jews) came into town to be slaves on the project here. Sugar tonite [sic] extra but nothing nite [sic]. Rec'd a double ration for 2 days & Bks #2 caught a thief who stole ½ loaf of bread. Fell out about 6 times today. One of our boys took off – Suspect a few more will try. War news good but not good enough.

MARCH 1 THURS. Up at 3:30 AM for coffee – had a pretty good meal down at the kitchen – got a piece of real meat, 1 turnip, 1 carrot & potatoes. Everything was thrown together into our "Corp" & all 4 of us, Bill Shapiro, Amiel Blaiss, Sam Fahrer, & myself shared our provisions. Going to bake or rather roast the spuds – having salt & butter a plenty. Am eating pretty good now, getting extra butter,

bread etc. for my extra soup, tobacco, etc. Some of my strength has come back & I'm feeling good except for cold.

MARCH 2 FRIDAY: Ran out of Sammy's ink this morn & was very fortunate in obtaining more in the guard's quarters. The gds around here have been changed almost every other day. We now have a lot of Volkstrum & home guards & younger. Their average age is around 55 & They're ready for an old folks home.

***Photo 32:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman?) seated on toilet, looking up at camera; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image captioned in black ink "March 44 / 13 Mos old" near top; diary entry written in blue ink over caption; inscribed "32" in upper right corner

***Diary inscription:***

Saw a few of the pol. pris. Get cuffed around down by the kitchen. Did pretty good today on xtras [sic]. Picked up carrots, 1 turnip, 1 onion, 1 radish, tobacco & extra milk soup from the guards kitchen. Traded for xtras [sic] & butter & got plenty of honey our xtra [sic] ration tonite [sic] – also ½ ration of bread for tobacco – Also traded soup & potatoes for stuff - Thank God. I'm eating good but not sleeping so much. Heard that the US front attacking along a 200 mile trench. Bombers over today – also saw intermittently.

MARCH 3 SATURDAY: Snowed all day today & many bombers came over – much to our joy. A few more boys took off & the guards are pulling their hair out trying to stop the boys from taking off. Maybe they'll better our conditions & make life more pleasant & livable & we'll stay for a few more wks. Marmalade tonite [sic] & I picked up 5 xtra [sic] rations. Very tired – bed at 8:30 & slept good. No coughing.

MARCH 4 SUNDAY Boys are changing shifts so they have the day off & the whole camp is in for the day. Our boys start work at 6 & get back at 3:00 in the aft. Weaker still cold. Picked up 6 potatoes this morn – think I'll make mashed potatoes tonite [sic] for a change. New orders came then to the effect that we now have to turn over shoes & pants in every nite [sic] & get them back in the morn. Quite a commotion we turned the stuff in because we had to carry it to our warehouse in overshoes & overcoats. Stanley Cohen is our new [*can't decipher, but Cohen became the translator after Kasten escaped*] and he heard that [*Johann*] Kasten, Joe [*Littell*] & [*Ernst*] Sinner were caught & would probably be shot on an espionage chrg. Also that the other 4 men were caught. Don't know whether to believe it or not. As they [*can't decipher*] so much to us.

MARCH 5 MONDAY Up at 3:00 A.M. for coffee & had quite a trade with the guards – got butted twice because I was too slow in getting out. My cough is very bad. I can't do anything for it. It [*can't decipher*] OK - at times. Getting food every day & it augments my diet very much. For supper I had noodle & potatoe [sic] soup. My own bread, butter, coffee & a little marus.. [?] sorghum. Was quite full when I finished at 9:00 – up at 3:00 still picking up pants out I keep mine here.

MARCH 6 TUESDAY: Still snowy but warming up. Had a thick gooey sorghum for the xtra [sic] last nite [sic]. Tonite [sic] we get meat. Traded 3 cups of soup for other butter – that's all I could get the stuff was so lousy. Found out we're being punished because of Kasten by not being able to bring in any wood & by turning in our pants. If we cooperate okay with the G. they might & lift the ban.

MARCH 7, 8, 9 – WED., THURS, FRID. Nothing much of import – the usual activities each day. Eating good, carrots, spuds, etc. with plenty of xtras [sic] & bread & butter – Bread cut from 500 gms (1lb) to 400 gms. News is good & shouldn't be too long now. One more died 9<sup>th</sup> – cottage cheese for a change.

**Photo 33:**

Recto: black and white image of three women and one man seated together on sofa; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image captioned in dark ink "Dec 1943" upside down at bottom; diary entry written in blue ink over caption; some water damage; inscribed "33" in upper right corner

*Diary inscription:*

MARCH 10 – SAT. 5 men to a loaf } xtra was sugar. Soups are very good.

MARCH 11 – SUN 4 “ “ “ “

and the food situation is critical at this point. Also war rumors are the best yet. But however good things are war continues and we are still here. 2 of our boys took off. The boys are getting impatient and can't work for 2 day. Don't blame them myself – conditions are barely endurable. Have a deep chest cough & running nose that I can't get rid of.

MARCH 12 – MON. Stanley Cohen is now the dictator here & laid down the new laws – I'm off the wagon & thereby off the extra chow. Bks 6 is being turned into a hosp. because no more men can be slugged away. Stanley is strictly out for himself and a lot of the men don't like his policies. Our boys were brought back – only got 20 miles away.

MARCH 13 14 TUESD. WED. Another man died from malnutrition today. Everybody moved around. Heard that Dresden had fallen & also that our bread and butter ration would be cut next wk. Looks bad we're not getting enough now as it is. Dissention against Stanley & his policies. Gentile boys say Jews are running the camp. Stan is strictly out for what he can get for himself. [can't decipher] is tough to snatch so soup is cut so I don't mind being outside looking in – I'll still get my 2 cups of milk soup per wk. & that's really something. Weather was very nice today – made me think of home & Grace & how going home & being home is like a dream. I wonder when my dream will come true. I think also that soon we are supposed to move down by the river to newer & better quarters so what? With workers bread cut to 300 gms & non workers to 250 gms & 20 gms of margarine – soup things – what can a man do I just barely exist. Luckily I feel OK & don't have to work in the mines, I don't think I could take it. We have a dozen pneumonia patients now – some pretty serious. Please dear God, let this war end this month & let us be on our way back home to our normal lives & loved ones.

MARCH 15 THURS: Rumors are very prevalent & very optimistic. Today is supposed to be the deadline on an Allied ultimatum to Germ. – Am. forces 200 miles from here & today about 500 ½ tracks & crews were seen going by on the R.R. something must be in the air – [can't decipher] the watery [can't decipher]. I spent an hr. lying on the grass basking in the sunshine – real spring Detroit weather – where I sure would like to be. All bread rations in Germ. have been cut, civilians & workers, soldiers, etc. We are to get 300 gms (our Bad Orb non working ration) & non-workers (medics) are to get 250 gms to go into effect noon. All week our extra has either been sugar or molasses – no meat, cheese, etc. Either that's all they have or else they are trying to give us energy – what little there is of the sugar. Bugs & louse are all over here all our lousy – 1st time in my life but theres nothing I can do about it but

pick them off whenever they get too thick. Grace should only see me now. At least I can shave & wash up once or twice a wk. I still have a little soap left & a few blades but when that runs out - ???

MARCH 16 FRID. So far I haven't been working in the mines like most of the other boys & I can say that it has been a stroke of good fortune & I thank God for that because the boys are becoming walking skeletons & sick & despondent & God knows what after effects they will suffer. I've been on the Dr's sick book as a light duty man in acct. of my hernia but now we have 2 new men running the camp & they are the Dr. & jury & are trying to force me to work – for some reason or other. I guess they don't have enough numbers – Many too many are isck. I'm well thank God but sick mentally as I expected to be free by physically now. I've not given up hope as yet I expect to return home alive and that's my main ambition in life but if I have to go to the mines I'm sure I won't be the same individual I formerly was . Please Dear God help me & protect me & bring me home safe, well & soon to all that I hold so dear in life.

***Photo 34:***

Recto: black and white image of little girl (Karen Goodman) pulling book off a small table; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image captioned in ink “Aug [?] 1943 / 8 mos old” across center; diary entry written in blue ink over caption; some water damage; inscribed “34” in upper right corner

*Diary inscription:*

MARCH 17 – SAT. 5 At 1:00 in the midst of a heavy barrage another one of our Jewish boys, Arthur Rosen from Providence, RI died from pneumonia. This makes the 3<sup>rd</sup> boy to die since we've been here. What can one expect with only a piece of bread & a bowl of soup to combat illness & disease? Where & who death will strike nice is problematical. Boys had their shift changed to morn & now work from 6-3. Heard we were to move to Bks. Wed. closer to the mines. I'm sure some more of our boys will never see the Statue of Liberty if work at the mines continues too long. The weather is improving a little although it is still cold occasionally. Mentally I'm deteriorating a little – worried about home & my family & when I'm going to see them again. The suffering I'm going thru [sic] will have to be made up in happiness with my loved ones - & I'll see to that just as soon as my freedom from here & from the Army is assured.

MARCH 18 SUN was caught by the pers. in chg. of getting the men to work – mad at me for some reason or other – took me into the Bunk Sgt. “Lagenfuhrer” who wrote me up for being a Saboteur. I'm supposed to stay in the camp & work.

MARCH 19, MON. went down to the mines for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time since we've been here. Stayed in the “lame” (mud) booth because of my rupture. Made mud balls that are used in dynamiting. Think I'll be here every day – 4 men took off today – 2 from work & we had to stand for 1 hr. as a punishment.

Don't mind working if I don't have to next time in the mines & get beat up like some of the other boys.

MARCH 20, TUES. In lame booth again. 4 more men took off today – one died yesterday – making 4 all together. 322 men left out of 350 now – if this keeps up we won't have many left for the “V” day celebration. Morton Goldstein from Atlantic City, N.J. who escaped with another boy was captured & while trying to reescape he was killed – makes 5 men died & 2 more die dying from malnutrition. My bread was cut to 250 grams for 3 days for being a light-duty man & not going to work.

MARCH 21. WED. Stayed in today & was supposed to dig a grave – Helped clean out the Bks – we’re moving today down by the river to new Bks – spent all morn. tearing the beds apart for the Exodus. New Bks. are near the mtn. We are trying to tear apart. Much to our surprise & joy we found Red Cross Xmas pkg. #2 waiting for us. An English sol. Drove the Fr. R.C. truck & said the war was just matter of days – Churchill was in Cologne & demanded Germ. surrender or else. I heard bombing last nite [sic] & I guess the final offensive is on the way. I think it will only be another month or 2 at the most. Tears came to my eyes when I heard that R.C. pkgs. were here. Another man died from malnutrition – makes #6. Also another escapee was shot & killed – makes #7.

**Photo 35:**

Recto: black and white image of man wearing glasses serving fruit? To women seated in front of him; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: diary entry written in blue ink, some water damage; inscribed “35” in upper left corner

*Diary inscription:*

MARCH 22 –THURS. This morn Joe Markowitz’s best friend [*Julius*] Schultz died from malnutrition #8. I saw him die a sight I shall never forget. [illegible] don’t seem to mind a bit when one of us dies – I work - no food – it’s a burden on my loved ones. Went on a burial detail & buried the 4<sup>th</sup> dead man & others are lying outside our Bks. 7 men were taken to a hosp. this morn. and I doubt if they will all get there alive, I was given 7 days under arrest for not going to work – don’t know what I’ll have to do or where I’ll have to go but I got a sample of German justice. Just like everything else in this country. Some soap came in one of the R.C. boxes & was passed but today – ¼ bar per man – also one Germ. razor blade. We have some unwanted pkgs that are being passed out to our sicker boys – also shoe soles & glue which we really don’t need as yet. Rumor last nite [sic] that the war was over tonight because no planes were over & 3 British planes were supposedly seen flying around. With all the good rumors & R.C. boxes life should be more pleasant – but our Commando Fuhrer isn’t & makes life miserable – our Bks is one not too large room where 210 men live, sleep & eat – if there was a fire we’d all die like rats – although we have no stoves, no latrine, one small bulk wash outside eat our soup outside, bread like madman & in general we’re like the animals – no drinking water, washing water comes from a stream (dirty) in back of our Bks.

MARCH 23 FRIDAY: Weather is beautiful & it’s the time of year that I’d like to be riding around the countryside with Grace & Karen – or else eating a good meal at home. R.C. pkgs are still sitting in the warehouse – no clue [ink blotch] so far, surely. Another boy died today - #9 – working with [*Ellie*] Geyer [illegible] the Bks – so I’ll be staying around the camp, I hope. From what we hear the war should be over soon, although an Eng. Speaking SS Sgt. said the war would last another 6 mos.

MARCH 24 SAT: Soup today was diff & better & was enjoyed by all except I’m always hungry – even right after I eat. The [not fully legible] kept me in as a Kapo in chrg of the work details – buoy [?] all day [not fully legible] had plenty of soup & my reg. ration, 1 tea cup of soup. Tonite [sic] [illegible] Goldberg was sorry to see him go as I was captured the same time & at the same place as he was.

MARCH 25 SUN: In again – another gorgeous day – just right to get our R.C. pkgs or to hear that the war was finally over. Another one of our Jewish boys died #11 – [can’t decipher] a disease is running through the camp. When a fellow gets ill, he just lays in bed until he dies. Our food, naturally is not

conducive to healthy living – it's a wonder I'm as strong as I am. Guess its because I haven't been going out to work.

MARCH 21 MON. Went on a grave detail this aft. Buried a man – kids brought us pots. & bread – [Milton] Stolon is now interpreter here & Joe Pingol, man of confidence – Some change, I think I'll make out OK as both boys are my friends. Big air attack this aft. not too far from here – could hear the bombs. Went on bread detail & picked up 12 spuds. Miracle of miracles – we finally rec'd our R.C. pkgs – 1 for 2 men and a [can't decipher] pkg. at that! And what a pkg! Almost knocked myself out eating & feasting my eyes on the most wonderful canned food in the world. 1 deck cards, checker set, candy, honey, jam, nuts, boned turkey, Vienna saus, pipe, wash soap, 3 pkgs. cigs, 1 pkg. P.A., cherries, butter, cheese, dates, fruit bar [not full yclear], 4 pkgs, gum & pictures from home. Bread came at midnite [sic]. [can't decipher] & we all stayed up until all hrs. of the nite [sic]. Jammed in tight as we are, the boxes have to be carefully guarded but the stuff will undoubtedly be eaten very quickly.

***Photo 36:***

Recto: black and white image of baby standing in crib with woman on right looking at child; blue ink from verso bleeding through

Verso: image dated "Oct. 1943 / 8 mos. Old." in center; diary entry written in blue ink, some water damage; inscribed "36" in upper right corner

*Diary inscription:*

MARCH 27 –TUES. Quite a few sick boys from ours – eating – throwing up on GI's. 2 think a couple more might die very soon. The food came a little too late. Ate so much and afraid I might get sick myself – Had franks for breakfast, Turkey for lunch & a good supper. News is wonderful – bombing yest. only 50 km from here & I think it won't be long now. All nite [sic] long I had to get up & urinate. My intestine & stomach are all upset from eating so much & such rich food but it is really a marvelous sensation –

MARCH 28 WED. Got up at 4:45 & got a pitcher of milk soup for the old gang. It was thick like cream of wheat & made me run – even though it was delicious. Heard around & now have plenty of bread.