

**NAME:** Merrill

**RANK:** Seaman Second Class

**ORGANIZATION:** U.S. Navy

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations

- The following excerpts are directly from an original wartime diary kept by Merrill. This is the only item related to Merrill in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpts are presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpts aside from edited racial slurs, profanity, and adult activities for the protection of younger readers. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Merrill writes entries in his personal diary while serving overseas:**

Saturday, January 6, 1945

“We were 1800 miles out to sea, at sun down we sighted a Sub. I was eating chow when the general alarm rang. I ran as fast as I could to my gun station...”

Friday, February 9, 1945

“Sailing for Philippines in a 52 ship convoy...Home sick as h \_\_ l.”

Saturday, February 10, 1945

“Saturday night & here I am on the deep blue sea. wishing I could be somewhere drinking & danceing.”

Monday, February 26, 1945

“We are wating too have our ship on loaded all I can see is jungle j \_ ps are fighting our Boys. on hill about 2 points on port Bow shells are Busting every where. the j \_ ps came over in the planes we maned. our guns But nothing hapened we put up. smoke screen”

Tuesday, February 27, 1945

“I got my first magazine shooting at a j \_ p plane. the dirty y \_ l \_ \_ w crooks. I wish they would. fly where I could. shoot the wings off his y \_ l \_ \_ w chest. I neve cared too kill until I saw the way they have. treeted these inosent people”

Wednesday, February 28, 1945

“they are onloading our. ship today the j \_ ps. are coming in every. night and morning my legs are week from standing at my gun. contiounlly is there no. rest...”

Friday, March 2, 1945

“Last march was happy with wife children But my. wife has changed. I did not know but she has. Been cheating on me and my children she is drinking and. going out with a bar. tender”

Monday, March 5, 1945

“my Budies got throughed in the brig for drinking beer. But it was worth it. That beer sure was good.”

Thursday, March 8, 1945

“up till now we have had 14 air raids.”

Sunday, March 11, 1945

“slept in Brig tonight the misquitos are very Bad.”

Friday, March 30, 1945

“I am here in new Genia what a terrible island no wimen no drinks Mesquitos my oh! my...”

Tuesday, April 3, 1945

“going down on Beech. Too get shells. The tide is out. the coil is verry. Butiful and lots off coil snakes...”

Wednesday, April 4, 1945

“...am I lonsome my God. Will I ever see. My girls again I love. My children I am here. trying too make a safe. World for my girls and. Their mother and my country.”

Saturday, April 7, 1945

“april showers. Bring may flowers But not here in these islands”

Wednesday, April 18, 1945

“Leaving Moroiti 62 ships in convoy.”

Friday, May 25, 1945

“Landed in Brisbane Australia. my first night of liberty, an I going to get drunk...wimen my oh! my. and do they Love a sailor you tellen me. hot dog.”

Sunday, May 27, 1945

“went to the first c \_ t h \_ \_ \_ e I had ever been in”

Monday, June 4, 1945

“sh \_ \_ ked up with a blond headed thing. She wasn't any good...”

Thursday, June 7, 1945

“...I helped a gal drink her Gin & then run off & left her...wasn't very good looking. but who care's.”

Monday, June 11, 1945

“nervious as h \_\_ l.”

Wednesday, June 13, 1945

“Setting around talking of all the peices of \_\_\_ we got while in Australia”

Friday, June 15, 1945

“Writing letters too my Friends and children I hope they are. Well and happy. and may god bless...”

Sunday, June 17, 1945

“had church on ship Back aft in focel...”

Sunday, June 24, 1945

“Landed in Manili Boy are they lots. off j \_ p ships sunk.”

Monday, June 25, 1945

“...these Filipino girls are. nice and verry. Pretty But are. a difrent color than our. american girls”

Wednesday, June 27, 1945

“...me & two of the other boys decided to take a moon light crew’s so we stold the life boat & went wriding for 2 or 3 hours.”

Friday, June 29, 1945

“S \_ \_ \_ \_ d a fillofino boy was she ever good f \_ \_ \_ ing...”

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- Merrill made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to original wartime footage in the public domain that covers the above time period and the type of ship which Merrill served aboard (viewer discretion advised):** <https://archive.org/details/NPC-11635>
  - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers the Philippines Campaign of 1944-45 which Merrill participated in (reader discretion advised):** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippines\\_Campaign\\_\(1944%E2%80%931945\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippines_Campaign_(1944%E2%80%931945))