Donald Appletrad's World War II photographs and diary

Section 8, Pages 211 - 240

These are two World War II photograph albums and a diary which belonged to Donald Appletrad. During World War II, he served in the Office of Strategic Services Headquarters Company 2677 Regiment, United States Army. Donald Appletrad was born October 11, 1909 in Leonardville, Kansas, the son of Olaf and Lydia Appletrad.

Creator: Appletrad, Donald

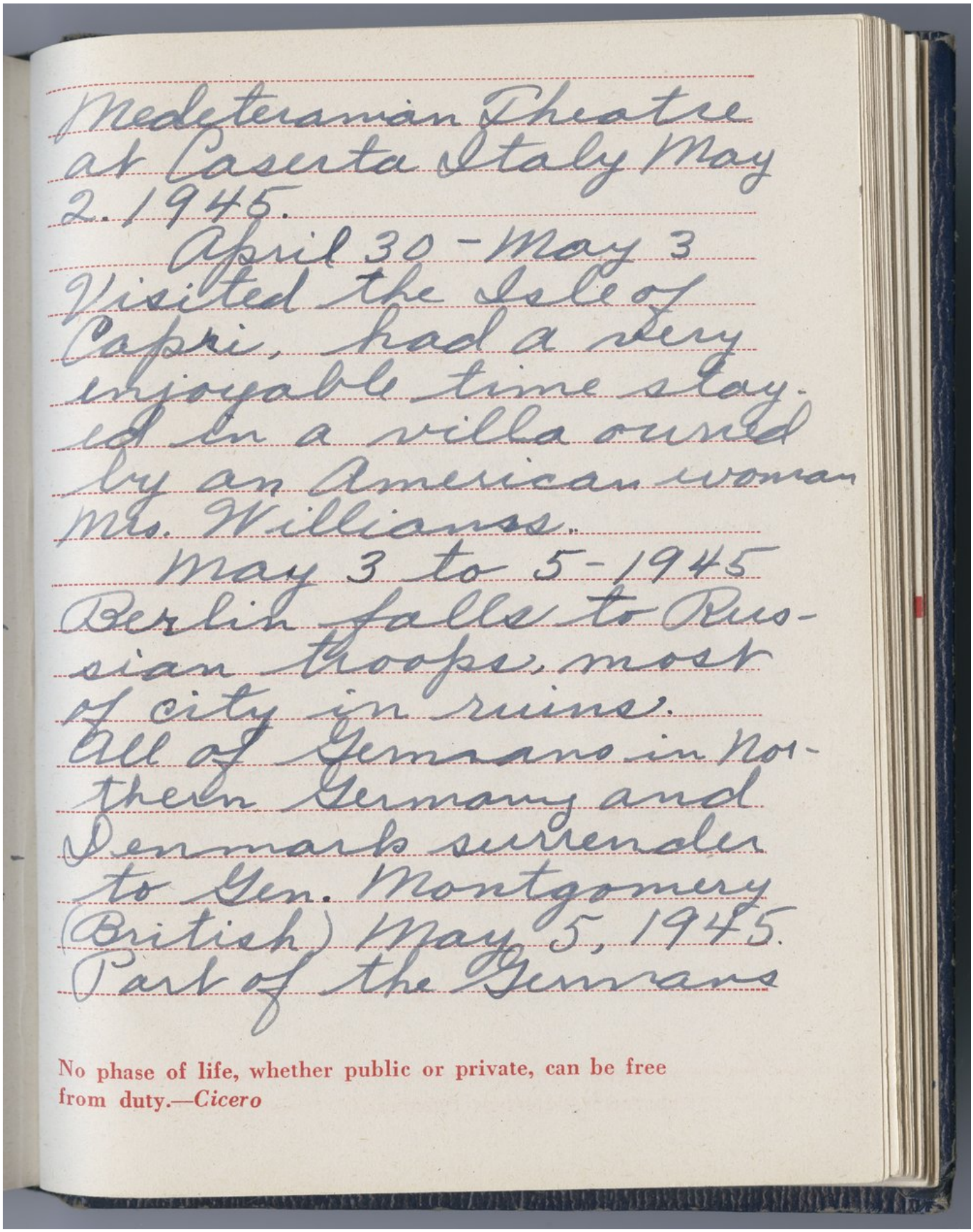
Date: 1943-1945

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Mediteranian Theatre
at Caserta Italy May
2. 1945.
April 30 - May 3
Visited the Isle of
Capri, had a very
enjoyable time stay-
ed in a villa owned
by an American woman
Mrs. Williamss.
May 3 to 5 - 1945
Berlin falls to Rus-
sian troops, most
of city in ruins.
All of Germans in Nor-
thern Germany and
Denmark surrender
to Gen. Montgomery
(British) May 5, 1945.
Part of the Germans

No phase of life, whether public or private, can be free from duty.—*Cicero*

in Southern Germany surrendered last nite May 5 1945.

At 0001 hours May 9, 1945 Germany unconditionally surrenders to the Allies.

Everybody celebrates V-E day. Now we are all wondering what comes next, when we will go home, will we have to go to the Pacific etc! Rumors are plentiful but nothing defenite.

July 4- Not much celebrating for a 4th. of July. We are still sweating out

A nation's institutions and beliefs are determined by its character.—*Herbert Spencer*

home, Austria or Rome I am scheduled to go to Austria but dont care much about going. However it would be better than the Pacific.

July [redacted]5 Our 1st. Sgt. come back from a trip north & was I glad as I didnt like being 1st. Sgt.

July 8- Another trip to Amalfi and what a party wine women & song had a nice time, Farris Pop Stevens and myself.

July 21 - Well I am going to get to go home

The man-at-arms is the only man.
—*Ibsen*



Austria is out. Hurrah! I am to leave as soon as the place is closed out. The first boat load heads for the U.S.A.

July 30 - Well my old pal S/Sgt. is on the way, hated to see him leave, now I'm acting 1st Sgt. & theres plenty to do. Steve is still here with me.

July 31 - Last day of the month, pay day & now I'm broke. Ha

Aug - 1 - 10. More fellows shipping out for home every few

O America! because you build for mankind I build for you.—*Walt Whitman*

days. The news of Japans surrender comes on the air and then bingo its a false rumor.

Aug - Well all my buddies have gone and left me now. "Pop" Vic and Buda left to day now I am solo. There are several Communications men + a few Hqs men left to go then I can take down the tents.

Aug 14 - Well the last bunch is on their way to the States. All that is left now is a few

Courage is that virtue which champions the cause of right.—*Cicero*

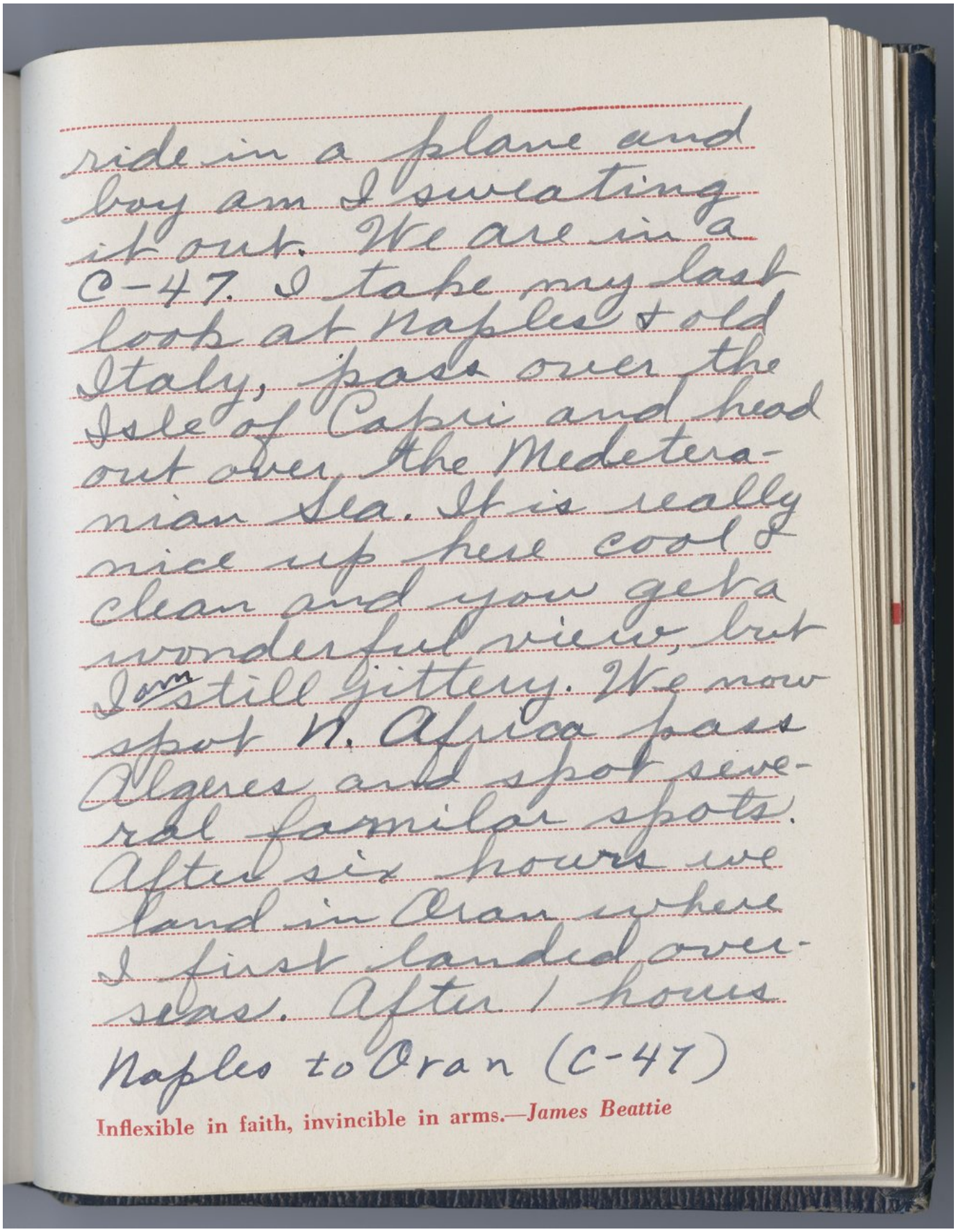
to go to Austria and Rome and 3 of us to go home.

Aug 15-16-17 Busy tedring down tents, folding up the area and Im going to have this area cleaned up by Thurs. so I can leave.

Aug 17- Well this is it. I bid all my Bennie friends good bye, step into a Car and am on the way to Capaidacino airport in Napler. At 11:45 we take off for Oran. It is my first



Men of thought and men of action,
Clear the Way!—*Charles Mackay*



ride in a plane and boy am I sweating it out. We are in a C-47. I take my last look at Naples & old Italy, pass over the Isle of Capri and head out over the Medeterranian Sea. It is really nice up here cool & clean and you get a wonderful view, but I am still jittery. We now spot N. Africa pass Algeres and spot several familar spots. After six hours we land in Oran where I first landed overseas. After 1 hours

Naples to Oran (C-47)

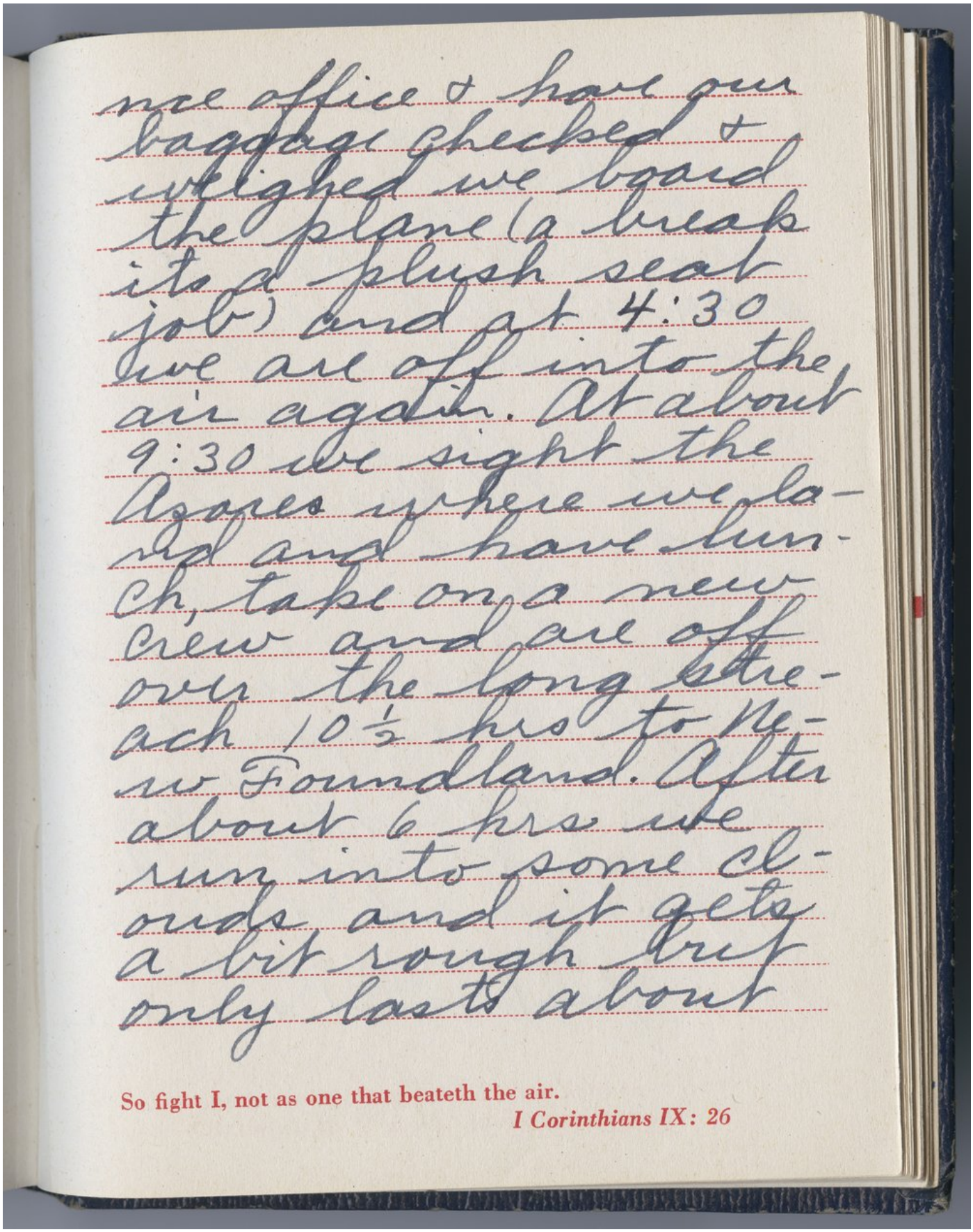
Inflexible in faith, invincible in arms.—*James Beattie*

rest + a bite to eat at 6:00 we take off for Casablanca and arrive there at 8:30 Here we are told it will be tomorrow or next day before we will leave so we hit the sack, really tired.

Aug 18 - At 2:30 PM we are routed out and told we are leaving at 4:30 so we quickly rub the sleep out of our eyes and grab our bags and off we go for the airport. After a hasty breakfast, a visit to the Fina-

Casablanca to USA C-54 No (2287)

Fate only picks on the cowards and quitters,
So give 'em both barrels—and aim for the eyes.—*Grantland Rice.*



nce office & have our baggage checked & weighed we board the plane (a break ita d plush seat job) and at 4:30 we are off into the air again. At about 9:30 we sight the Azores where we land and have lunch, take on a new crew and are off over the long stretch 10½ hrs to New Foundland. After about 6 hrs we run into some clouds and it gets a bit rough but only lasts about

So fight I, not as one that beateth the air.
I Corinthians IX: 26

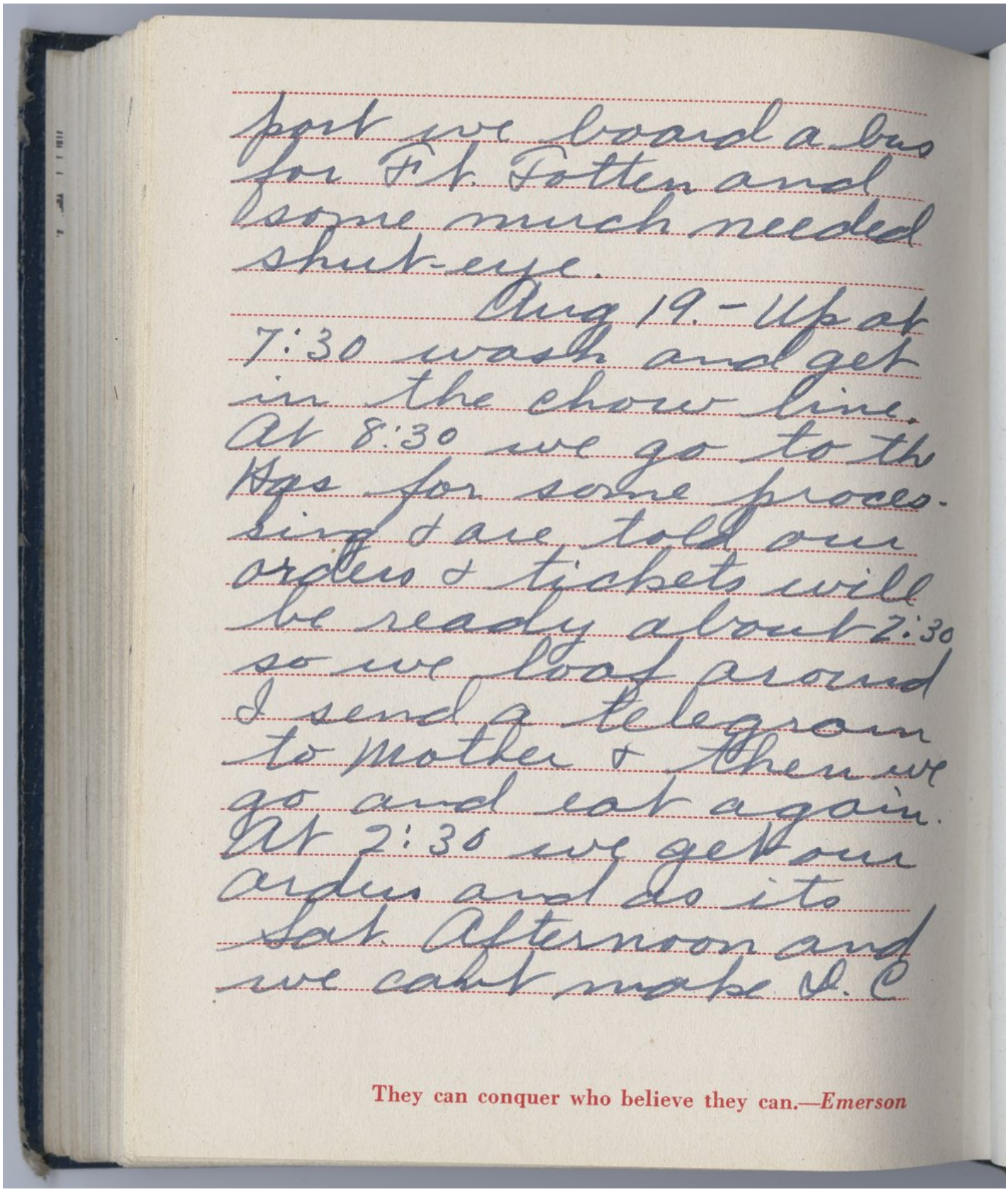
30 minutes after which we run out into a perfectly clear sky. At about 6 PM (Newfoundland Time) we sight land and are we glad as it's our first peek at good old North American soil. We land and eat a bite take on another crew and are off for New York. We fly over Boston and as night has fallen the city's lights make a quite a sight from the air. Soon we are over New York and another

There is no limit to the noble aspirations which the words "my country" may evoke.—*Dean W. R. Inge*

display of lights, we
spot Coney Island &
several other point
of interest as we
pass over. Now the
plane noses down
toward La Guardia
and soon we feel
the bump that tells
us we are on the
ground & home. Boy
what a good feeling.
At aprox 11:55 (N.Y. Time)
we get foot on the
good old USA after
almost 2 years in
Africa & Italy. After
about 30 minutes
waiting around the air-



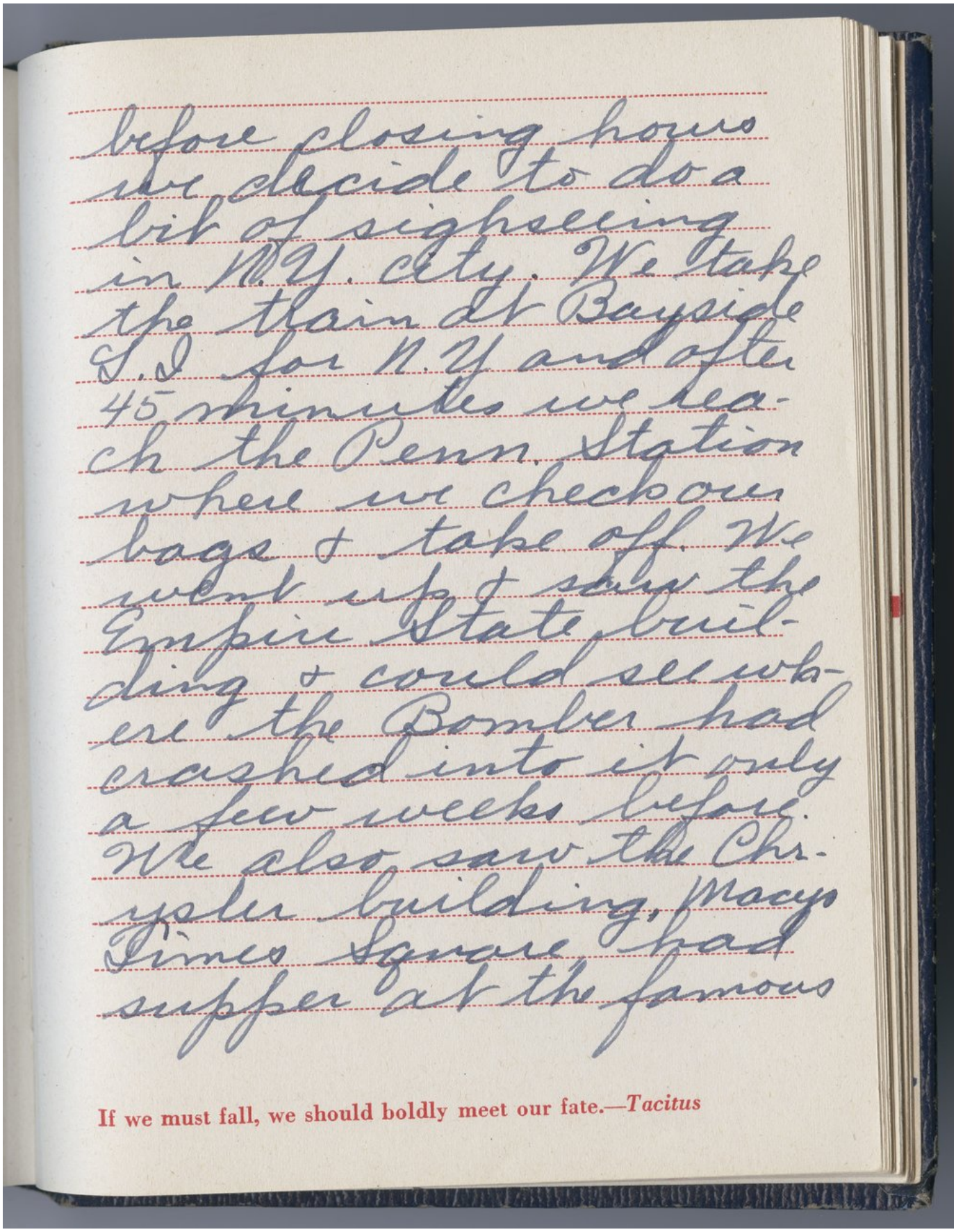
To dare, and again dare, and forever dare!—*Danton*



port we board a bus for Ft. Totten and some much needed shut-eye.

Aug 19. - Up at 7:30 wash and get in the chow line. At 8:30 we go to the Hqs for some processing & are told our orders & tickets will be ready about 2:30 so we loaf around I send a telegram to mother & then we go and eat again. At 2:30 we get our orders and do it to Sat. Afternoon and we cant make D. C

They can conquer who believe they can.—*Emerson*



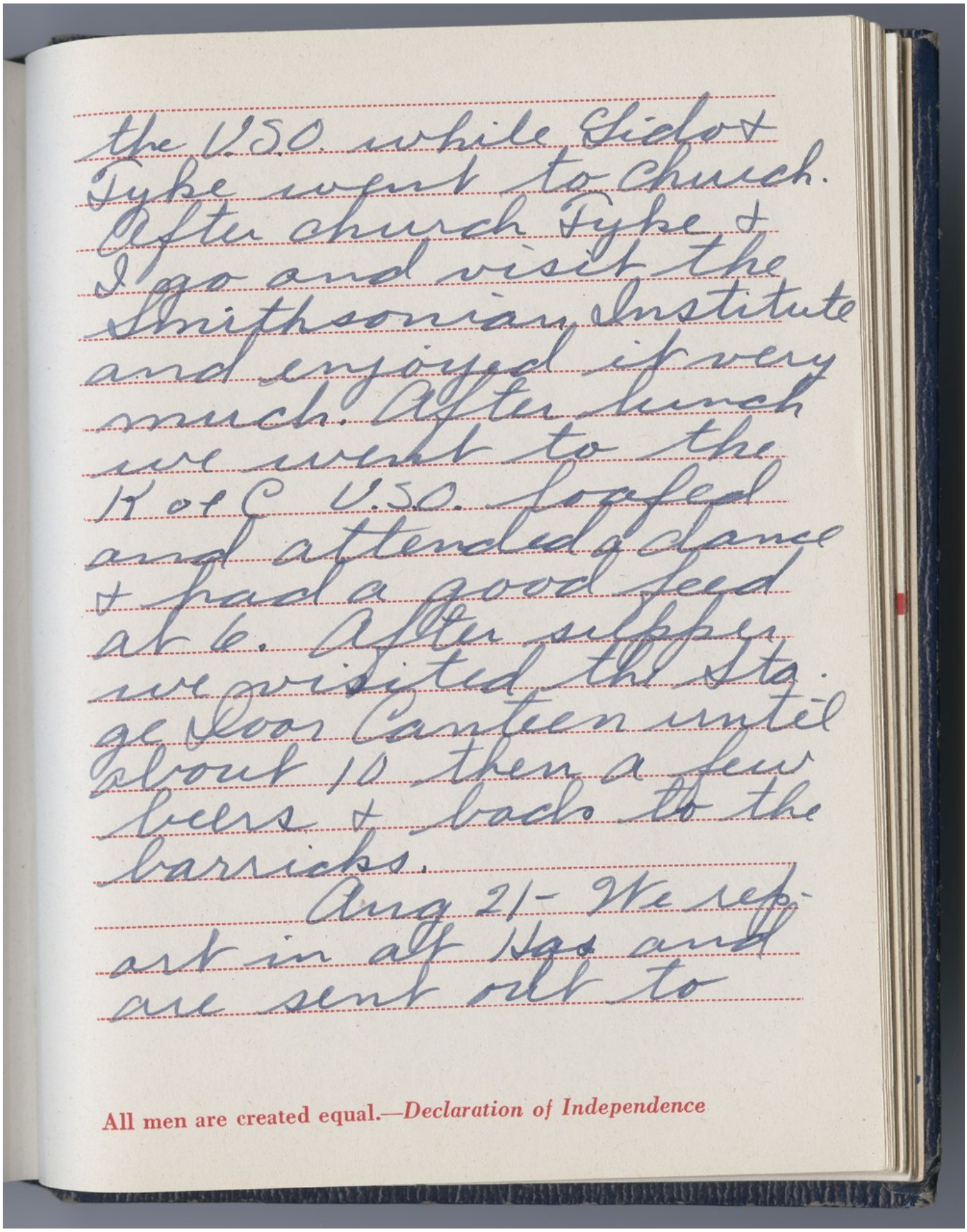
before closing hours we decide to do a bit of sightseeing in N.Y. city. We take the train at Bayside L.I. for N.Y and after 45 minutes we reach the Penn. Station where we checkour bags & take off. We went up & saw the Empire State building & could see where the Bomber had crashed into it only a few weeks before. We also saw the Chrysler building, Macys Times Square, had supper at the famous

If we must fall, we should boldly meet our fate.—*Tacitus*

Crossroads Restaurant
rode the subway
and then back to
the Penn. Station.
At 7:30 we catch
the train for D.C.
Just about midni-
ght we arrive in
D.C and catch a cab
for the Q. building
where A.S.S. has a rece-
iving barracks for
men who just arri-
ve. As we are tired
we hit the sack.
Aug 20 - Sunday
no one in the office
so we decide to do
the town. I
waited at



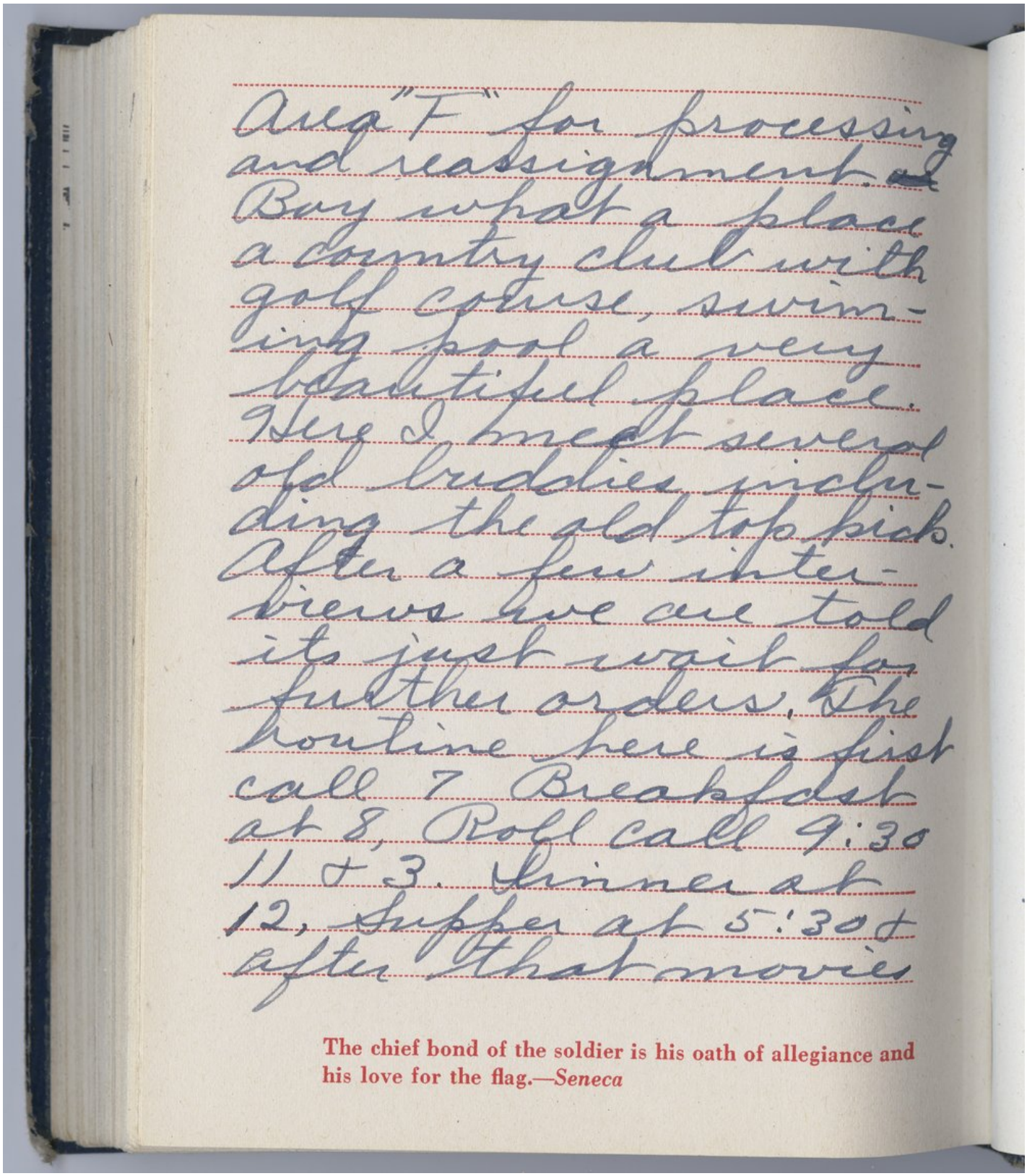
Begin, be bold, and venture to be wise.
—*Horace*



the U.S.O. while Eide & Tyke went to church. After church Tyke & I go and visit the Smithsonian Institute and enjoyed it very much. After lunch we went to the K of C U.S.O. Loafed and attended a dance & had a good feed at 6. After supper we visited the Stage Door Canteen until about 10 then a few beers & back to the barracks.

Aug 21- We report in at 1400 and are sent out to

All men are created equal.—*Declaration of Independence*



Area "F" for processing and reassignment. Boy what a place a country club with golf course, swimming pool a very beautiful place. Here I meet several old buddies including the old top kick. After a few interviews we are told its just wait for further orders. The routine here is first call 7 Breakfast at 8, Roll call 9:30 11 & 3. Dinner at 12, Supper at 5:30 & after that movies

The chief bond of the soldier is his oath of allegiance and his love for the flag.—*Seneca*

at 8 or you can go to town. It is really a fine lay out for an Army outfit.

Aug 22 We are interviewed, have a physical, are oriented & another interview scheduled for tomorrow. I learn that several of the fellows who had give me the laugh in Casetta when they left because I was left behind haven't arrived as yet so its my turn to laugh ha ha We are tired so dont

Keep conscience clear, then never fear.—*B. Franklin*

do anymore than we have to.

Aug 23 - 26 - Just sweating it out, playing a little softball & volleyball played one round of golf, eat, sleep and that is the routine here.

Aug 26 - Saturday and we are off from 1 PM until Mon morning at 8 so we go to D.C. After walking around down town for awhile we go & set in the park and watch the people come & go. There

It is for us and our time . . . to say that right makes might.
—*Lincoln*

are more servicemen
& women here than
any other place I
believe & there are
some nice little
Waves around here
too. We go back to
camp to sleep and
then we go again.
To day we visited
the Capitol grounds
and several other
places near by &
seen some fellows
we knew. On the
street car going out
toward camp we
run into an old bu-
ddies who is
now a civil-



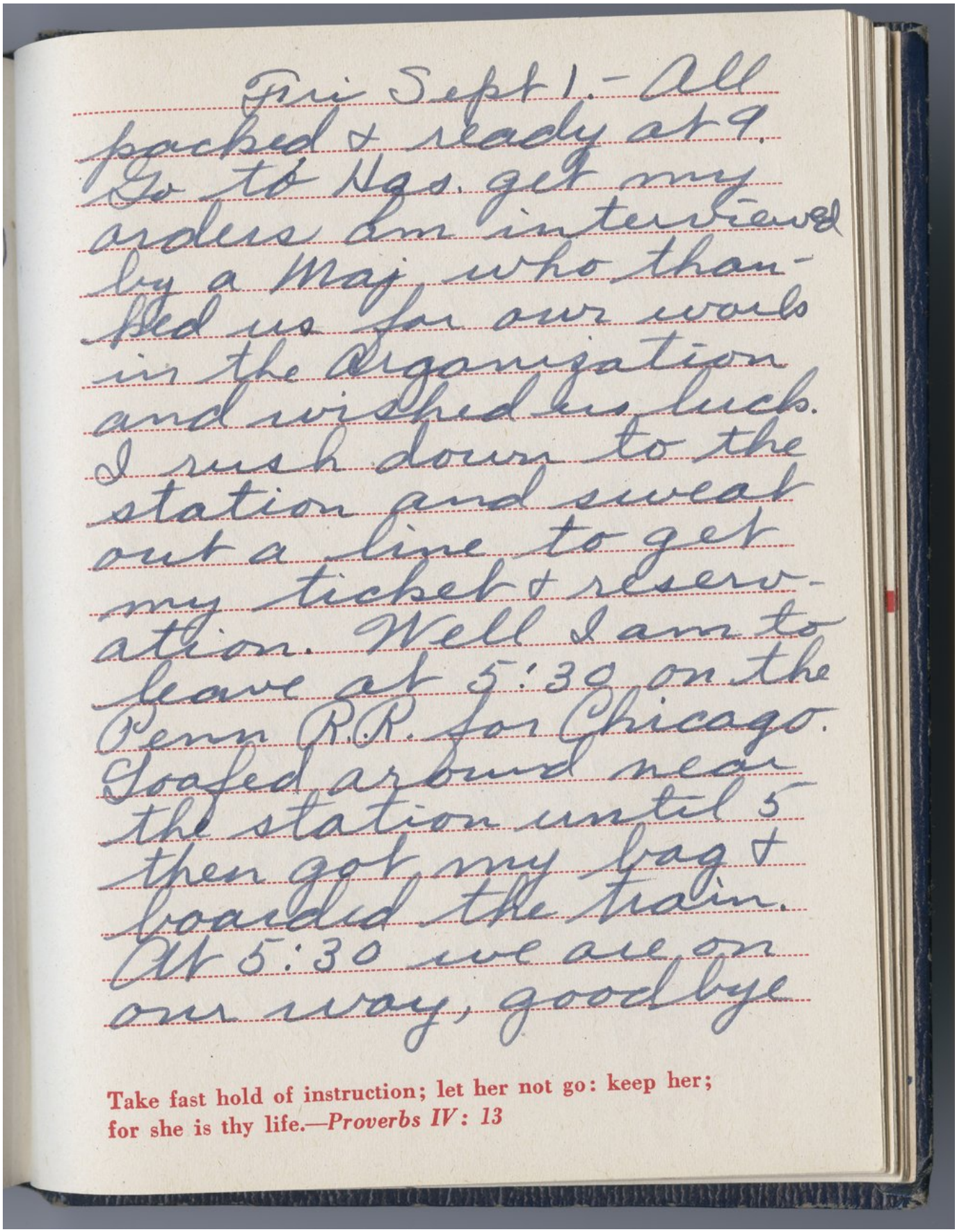
Paddle your own canoe.—*F. Marryat*

ian and he says it sure great to be out of the Army (lucky guy)

Aug 28 - 30. I am getting anxious to be on my way so I can get home. Every day I keep my eye on the board for my name to come up. Gido gets on his way leaving me the only one of the 3 musBeteers left as Tybe went on his furlough the 25.

Aug 31 - Finally my name is on the board, bag & baggage tomorrow morning at 9. here we go.

To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace.—*G. Washington*



Fri Sept 1. - All packed & ready at 9. Go to Hqs. get my orders am interviewed by a Maj. who thanked us for our work in the organization and wished us luck. I rush down to the station and sweat out a line to get my ticket & reservation. Well I am to leave at 5:30 on the Penn R.R. for Chicago. Goofed around near the station until 5 then got my bag & boarded the train. At 5:30 we are on our way, goodbye

Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.—*Proverbs IV: 13*

to O.S.S. & Washington D.C. Im off to Ft. Logan in Denver and a furlough home.

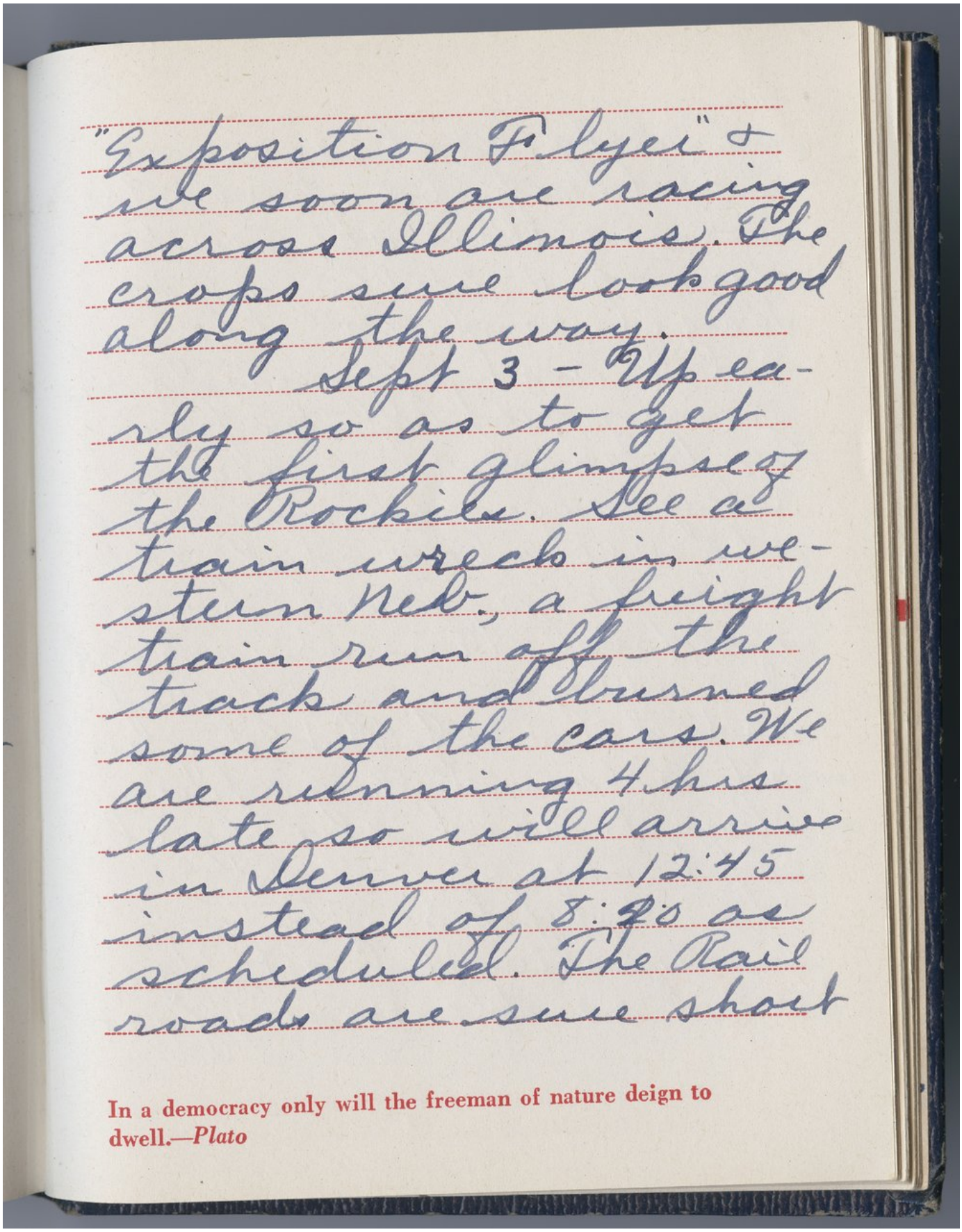
Sept 2 - Arrive in Chicago at 11 & am told to hurry & get my ticket as a train is leaving for Denver at 12:35 so I get on the ball get my ticket & am lucky to get on a pullman. Boy what a busy place this Chi. station is. We are off at 12:35 for the good old west.

Am on the Burlington



Liberty means responsibility.

—G. B. Shaw



"Exposition Flyer" & we soon are racing across Illinois. The crops sure look good along the way.

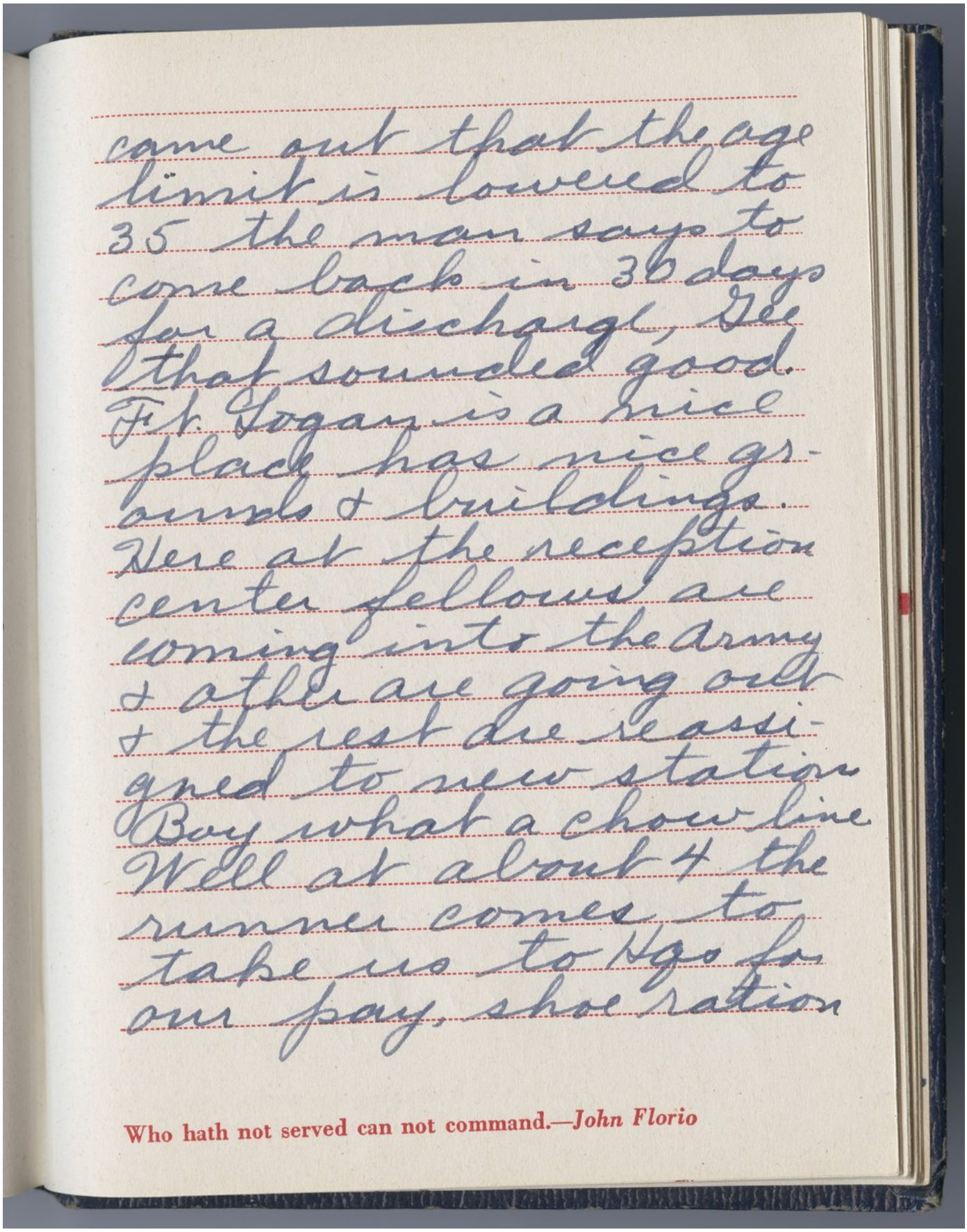
Sept 3 - Up early so as to get the first glimpse of the Rockies. See a train wreck in western Neb., a freight train run off the track and burned some of the cars. We are running 4 hrs late so will arrive in Denver at 12:45 instead of 8:20 as scheduled. The Rail roads are sure short

In a democracy only will the freeman of nature deign to dwell.—*Plato*

of help and service
isn't up to par. Arr-
ive in Denver eat a
lunch & call Joe &
Hazel and as they are
in & not figuring on
going out & hop a
cab and run out.
They sure were glad
to see me & treated
me to a good home
cooked dinner which
I surely enjoyed. Dep-
arted in at Ft. Logan
at around 9 got a
bunk and really slept.

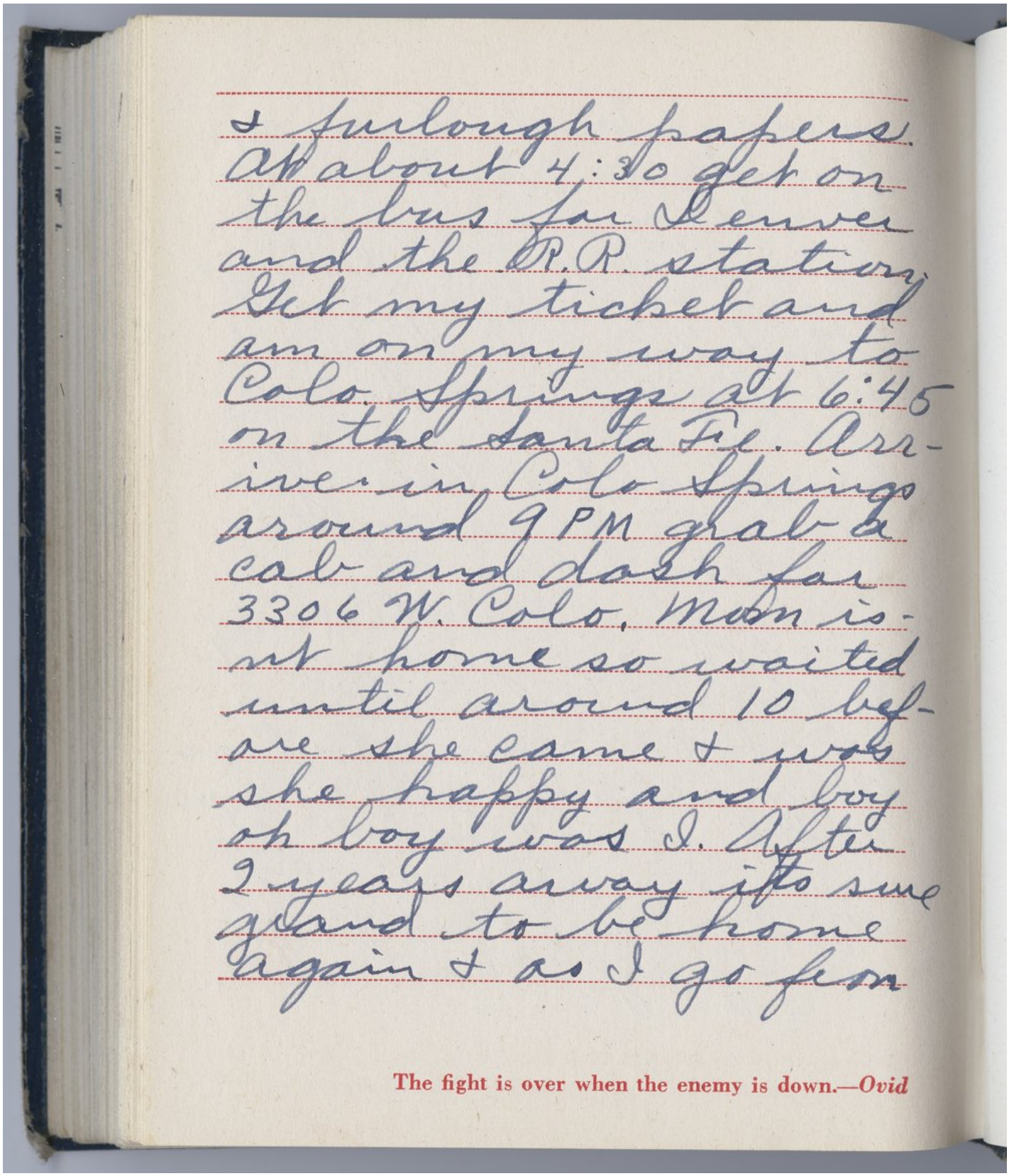
Sept 3 - We are
interviewed at Hqs
and as the news just

If a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.—*Mark III: 25*



came out that the age limit is lowered to 35 the man says to come back in 36 days for a discharge, Dee that sounded good. Ft. Logan is a nice place has nice grounds & buildings. Here at the reception center fellows are coming into the army & other are going out & the rest are reassigned to new station Boy what a chow line Well at about 4 the runner comes to take us to Hgs for our pay, shoe ration

Who hath not served can not command.—*John Florio*



& furlough papers. At about 4:30 get on the bus for Denver and the R.R. station. Get my ticket and am on my way to Colo. Springs at 6:45 on the Santa Fe. Arrive in Colo. Springs around 9 PM grab a cab and dash for 3306 W. Colo. Mom is not home so waited until around 10 before she came & was she happy and boy oh boy was I. After 2 years away it's sure grand to be home again & as I go from

The fight is over when the enemy is down.—*Ovid*

here back to Denver
to be discharged at
the end of my fur-
lough everything is
hotsy-totsy now.
Sept 4 0—

Courage in danger is half the battle.
—*Plautus*



THE FOLKS BACK HOME



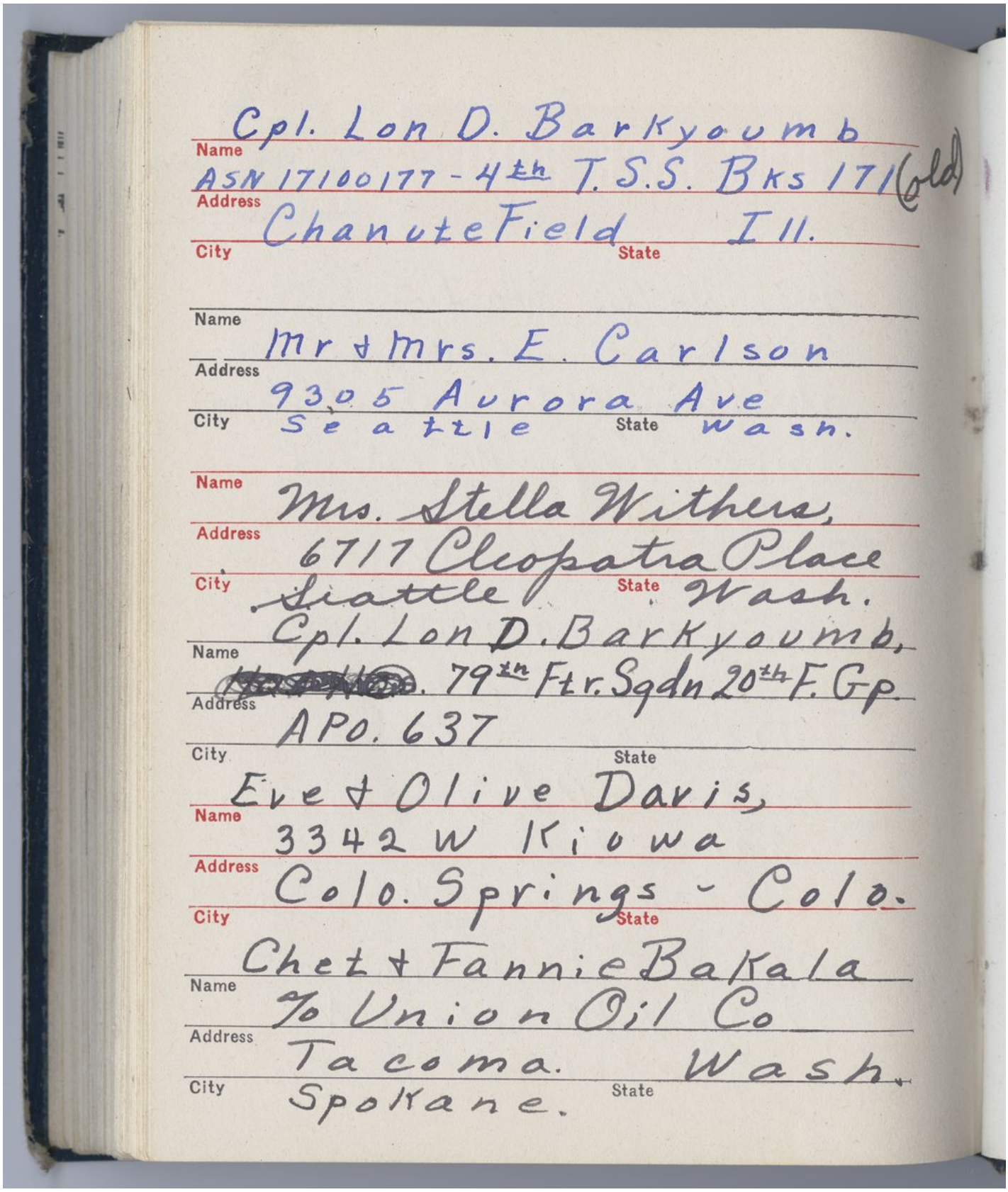
Name: Mrs. Hattie Hadin
Address: 3223 Graceland Ave.
City: Indianapolis State: Indiana.

Name: Mrs. Stella Withers
Address: 6717 Cleopatra Pl.
City: Seattle State: Wash.

Name: Mr + Mrs. J. J. Benkin
Address: 963 Lincoln St.
City: Denver State: Colo.

Name: Mr + Mrs. C. Lagerquist
Address: 801 N. Erie
City: Witchita State: Kansas.

Name: Christie-Lambert V + S
Address: 1001-9 Westlake N
City: Seattle State: Wash.



Name: Cpl. Lon D. Barkyoumb
Address: ASN 17100177 - 4th T.S.S. Bks 171 (old)
City: Chanute Field State: Ill.

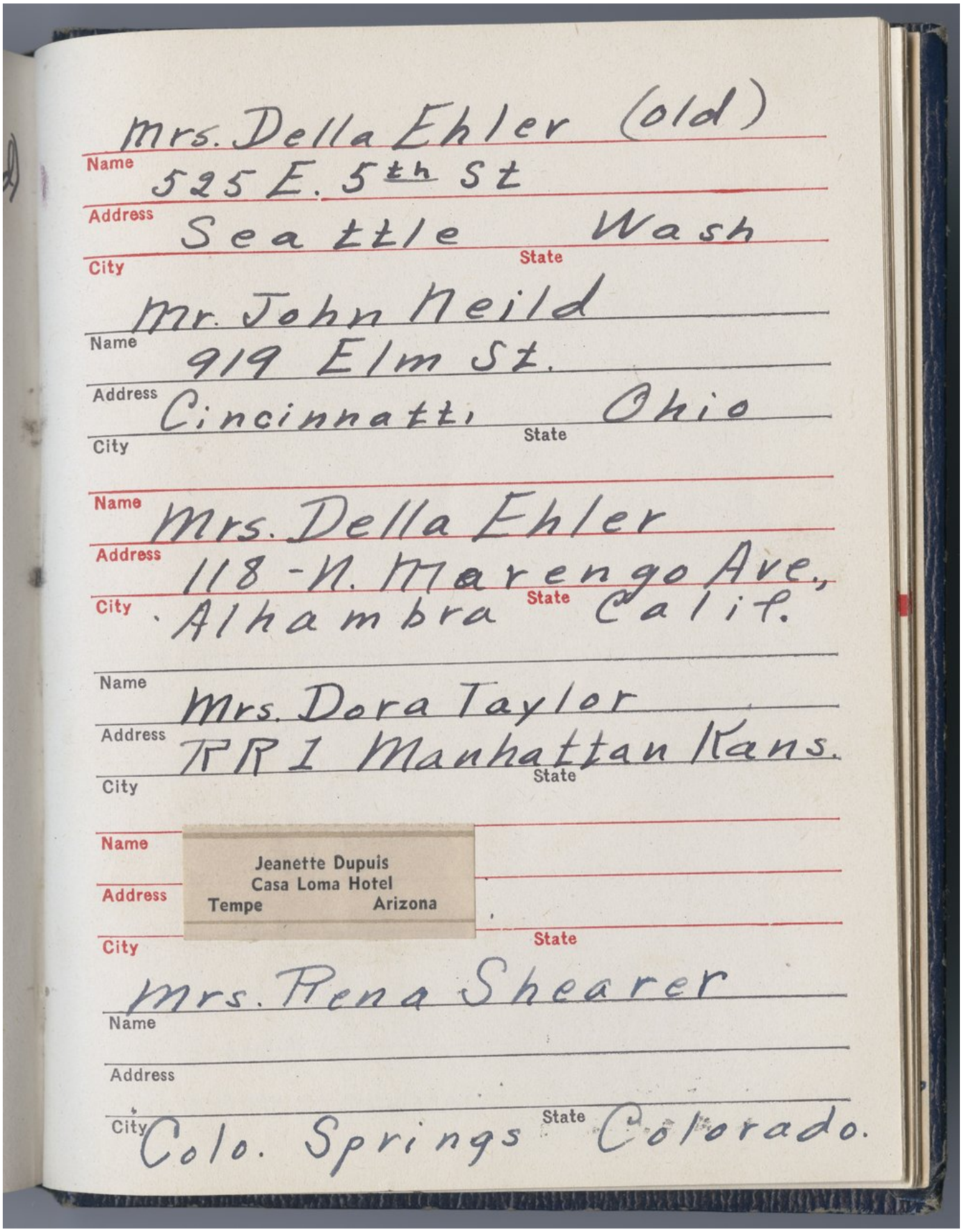
Name:
Address: Mr & Mrs. E. Carlson
City: 9305 Aurora Ave State: Seattle Wash.

Name: Mrs. Stella Withers,
Address: 6717 Cleopatra Place
City: Seattle State: Wash.

Name: Cpl. Lon D. Barkyoumb,
Address: [redacted]. 79th Ftr. Sqdn 20th F. Gp.
City: APO. 637 State:

Name: Eve & Olive Davis,
Address: 3342 W Kiowa
City: Colo. Springs - Colo. State:

Name: Chet & Fannie Bakala
Address: % Union Oil Co
City: Tacoma. State: Wash.
Spokane.



Name: Mrs. Della Ehler (old)
Address: 525 E. 5th St
City: Seattle State: Wash

Name: Mr. John Neild
Address: 919 Elm St.
City: Cincinnatti State: Ohio

Name: Mrs. Della Ehler
Address: 118 - N. Marengo Ave.,
City: Alhambra State: Calif.

Name: Mrs. Dora Taylor
Address: RR 1 Manhattan Kans.
City: State:

Name:
Address: Jeanette Dupuis
Casa Loma Hotel
Tempe Arizona
City: State:

Name: Mrs. Rena Shearer
Address:
City: Colo. Springs State: Colorado.