

Diary Excerpts from the LY Spear. Jan- May 1970  
L.A.Jessie SK2

Disclaimer: The name and places have **NOT** been changed to protect the innocent.  
**NONE** of us were innocent ! !

Working in Building 318 on a pier at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. 7:30 -3:30 weekdays. We were part of the Pre-Comm Detail that was receiving all the goods needed on board ship when she arrives.

01/06/70 Tues: 5 degrees in Portsmouth today. Very cold in our Warehouse!  
01/07/70 Wed: "Terrible Snowstorm" according to the locals. 1-1/2" of snow.  
All the schools closed. We went to work and found out the Shipyard was closed due to the weather.  
01/21/70 Wed: Very cold again this morning, 9 degrees.  
01/28/70 Wed: Very cold again, 11 degrees. What's up with this I thought it was warmer in Va.  
02/01/70 Sun: More like it, 65 degrees and sunny. Washed car and cruised Va. Beach.  
02/04/70 Wed. AM: Lt JG Little's typewriter came up missing from the warehouse office this morning.  
02/07/70 Sat: 7:00 AM Had to come in today to muster for Mr. Little and search warehouse for typewriter.  
02/08/70 Sun: 7:00 AM Had to call in to Bldg. 381 for Mr. Little's muster. Still no typewriter.  
02/09/70 Mon: Lots of trucks . Worked late till 1800.  
02/10/70 Tues: Organizing and verifying inventories. Ship due tomorrow.  
02/11/70 **Wed: USS L Y SPEAR arrived at Portsmouth Shipyard for outfitting.**  
02/15/70 Sun: Finally got to go on-board. Stood Mid-watch with Romo, SK3 as my instructor.  
02/16/70 Mon: Had duty section on-board. Stood mid-watch again on my own.  
02/17/70 Tues: Back to Bldg 381. Moving goods on -board.  
02/20/70 Fri: Duty Section 2, 1600-2400 watch on Post 5, Worked on pier all day  
Helping to unload trucks from Bldg 381 with Tony..  
02/21/70 Sat: Worked on pier all day. Unloaded steel and bar stock for shops with Tony.  
Tired and dirty today.  
02/24/70 Tues: Duty, OOD Messenger 0400-0800. Worked on Pier.  
02/25/70 Wed: Back to Bldg 381, Had rehearsal for Commissioning Ceremony on Sat.  
02/27/70 Fri: Moved out of apartment on Pretty lake Ave. Mom and Dad arrived to attend Commissioning.  
02/28/70 Sat: Commissioning Ceremony. Nice ceremony and reception.  
03/01/70 Sun: Moved in to Mac's Apartment.  
03/03/70 Tues: Dewey SK3 moved in to Mac's also.  
03/04/70 Wed: Duty 2000-2400 OOD Messenger.  
03/06/70 Fri: Went to NOB and got 2-1/2 ton driving license.  
03/07/70 Sat: Slept late. Eclipse of the sun!! Really cool.  
03/11/70 Wed: Only 554 days left... but who's counting.  
03/12/70 Thurs: Duty 0400-0800 Quarter Deck watch.  
03/16/70 Mon: Started Gunnery School in Dam Neck, Va. All week long.  
03/19/70 Thurs: Missed the plane we shot at.

03/20/70 Fri: Didn't fire guns today, lousy weather. Duty, No watches, Stood Tony's mid watch Post 5, he will stand mine on Tuesday. Back to Bldg 381 Monday

03/25/70 Wed: Final day at Bldg 381. Never did find Mr. Little's Typewriter.

03/26/70 Thurs: Started tiling SUBSAT Office floor.

03/27/70 Fri: Tiling floor and moved shelving to SUBSAT. (Good Friday)

03/28/70 Sat: Tiled all day and finished about 7:30 pm. Duty weekend.

03/29/70 Sun; EASTER. Chief wanted us to work. (Baloney) Had 0400-0800 OOD Messenger watch.

03/31/70 Tues: Finally finished SUBSAT Office.

04/01/70 Wed: Loaded materials in Tech Library

04/02/70 Thurs: Worked in Tech library, Got orders for Supply School at NOB

04/06/70 Mon: Started School. All week.

04/10/70 Fri: Graduated from School. Liberty –going home for the weekend.

04/13/70 Mon: Whites in effect today. LY SPEAR sailed from Portsmouth to NOB. FAST Cruise started today.

04/14/70 Tues: GQ Drills- 2-3 per day. Thru Thursday.

04/17/70 Fri: Duty today. 0800-1200 & 1600-2000 Dumpster Watch Thrilling.

04/19/70 Sun; Closed up Mac's Apartment. Moved stuff to locker club. Put car in storage. Moved on board.

04/20/70 Mon: Anchored out in harbor. Loading ammo.

04/21/70 Tues: Underway for Sea trials, Man overboard drills and G Q all day

04/22/70 Wed. Way out today. GQ this AM and test fired guns 20 times. "Oscar" went overboard 3 times. More of the same on Thurs.

04/23/70 Fri: Arrived at D & S Piers at 5:00 and tied up behind the Orion.

04/29/70 Wed: FIRE in the ammo magazine and in the office Xerox.

05/01/70 **Fri: LY SPEAR left on shakedown cruise to GITMO at 3:30 PM** Very foggy and rough. Rocking doesn't agree with me, but I didn't get sick.

Diary Excerpts from the LY Spear.  
SHAKEDOWN CRUISE TO GITMO May 1970 – June 1970  
L.A.Jessie SK2

05/02/70 Sat.: GQ drill from 12:45 to 3:15. Worked in office till 9:00 PM.  
05/03/70 Sun.: GQ drill all afternoon. “Cape Fear” was flick on mess deck.  
05/04/70 Mon.: Painted passage outside office. Movie on helo deck tonight.  
05/05/70 Tues.: GQ fired front mount today, 19 rounds with one hang fire.  
(I am the powder handler in the front 5”-38 gun mount.)  
05/06/70 Wed.: GQ this afternoon. Practiced on loading machine – front mount.  
05/07/70 Thurs.: Field day all day. Duty in the office tonight. GITMO tomorrow.  
05/08/70 Fri.: Pulled in to GITMO about 0830. Worked all day. Liberty 1600  
Visited OEM Club. Back onboard at 2345.  
05/09/70 Sat.: At work at 0630-1100. Went to Exchange. 3 section duty begins tomorrow.  
05/10/70 Sun.: Had Pier Sentry duty- 0800-1200 & 2000-2400. Fire on mooring line at 2200.  
Put out and reported it.  
05/11/70 Mon.: Compartment cleaner all week. Lousy job. Really hot out.  
05/12/70 Tues.: Laundry day. Got underway. GQ in afternoon.  
05/13/70 Wed.: Pickup laundry. GQ this afternoon. Helo operations all day.  
05/14/70 Thurs.: GQ in morning. Arrived back in GITMO afternoon. Anchored in bay.  
05/15/70 Fri.: Got underway for Haiti about 1600. Many civilians onboard.  
05/16/70 Sat.: Arrived at Port Au Prince, Haiti about 0800. Anchored out. Had SP duty 1800-  
0200. Lots of drunks.  
05/17/70 Sun.: LIBERTY! 4 of us rented a cab for all day for \$10.00. Took us everywhere.  
Visited Brandy Factory. Bought stuff. Ended up at local bar. Nasty women. Got  
underway for GITMO about 1700.  
05/18/70 Mon.: Arrived GITMO early morning and anchored in bay. GQ in afternoon.  
05/19/70 Tues.: Up at 0530 and underway with F.T.G. (Fleet Training Group) GQ from 0830-  
1030 & 1115-1600. Fired guns at plane towing target and sled behind tug. About 20  
rounds. Back to anchorage.  
05/20/70 Wed.: Stayed anchored today. Drills on board. Real hot and humid. Sharks all  
around the ship.  
05/21/70 Thurs.: Up at 0530 and underway GQ drills with fake casualties. Casualty in mount  
with hand cut off. Got 2 spent powder cases to save. Hot today!  
05/22/70 Fri.: GQ this PM. Bever got hit on head and needed 3 stitches. Got back into port at  
pier late afternoon.  
05/23/70 Sat.: A bunch of us went swimming at base pool. All got burnt! EM Club later.  
05/24/70 Sun.: Hot day got to sleep in to 1100. Red and burnt. Hope it doesn’t peel.  
05/25/70 Mon.: Duty today. 0400-0800 watch Post 5. Got underway early. GQ Drills  
05/26/70 Tues.: Got underway at 0745. GQ in AM. Fire in Boatswains locker. Not bad  
mostly smoke. First Aid lecture. Gun mount broke down.  
05/27/70 Wed.: GQ this AM . Gun still down. Fixed by afternoon. Didn’t fire.  
05/28/70 Thurs.: GQ morning and afternoon. Fired at sleeve and missed. Duty tonight.  
Starting to tan.  
05/29/70 Fri.: Peeling started. Working party from 1000-1430. Went to Exchange. Good  
flick- “Hawaii”  
05/30/70 Sat.: Rain all day. Nothing to do. Wrote letters. Good flick- “Heart is Lonely  
Hunter”  
05/31/70 Sun.: Duty today. Boring. No watches. Sat around all day.

06/01/70 Mon.: GQ this AM. Both guns are down. Duty SK tonight. Steamed all night.  
 06/02/70 Tues.: GQ this AM & PM. Didn't fire guns. Boring. Anchored out in bay.  
 06/03/70 Wed.: GQ this AM. Guns still down. Steamed all night again.  
 06/04/70 Thurs.: GQ this AM. Tied up to pier for the weekend.  
 06/05/70 Fri.: Worked all day in office. Bored.  
 06/06/70 Sat.: Duty SK today. Went over to Cascade AD-16 to get some special bolts. Watch  
 0000-0400 HOT & humid. Lousy flick.  
 06/07/70 Sun.: Up at 1100. Took some guys from Cascade on tour. Loafed around  
 06/08/70 Mon.: Stayed in port today. HOT. Worked in office.  
 06/09/70 Tues.: Underway at 0700. Shooting today.. Gunnery goofed – no shooting today.  
 Duty tonight – no watch.  
 06/10/70 Wed.: Up at 0500 and underway. Gun shoots 6 rounds and breaks down. Anchored  
 out for the night.  
 06/11/70 Thurs. Loaded cars and boats onboard. Getting ready to go home. Fire in 02-74-3C  
 Not bad. No liberty tonight.  
 06/12/70 Fri. Underway for final battle problem. **Passed with flying colors.** Headed home at  
 1400. Really moving out! Holiday routine.  
 06/13/70 Sat. Field Day today. Clean everything. Finally can pickup good US radio stations.  
 06/14/70 Sun.: Holiday routine. "Channel Fever" on mess decks. Open all night with flicks.  
 06/15/70 Mon.: Getting close to home. Arrived Pier 5 at Naval Supply Center at 1830.  
 LIBERTY CALL 1930 Picked up car from storage cost \$ 26.00 for 6 wks.

Diary Excerpts from the LY Spear.  
June 16, 1970 – Charleston, SC Tour – Oct. 2, 1970  
L.A.Jessie SK2

- 06/16/70 Tues.: Duty today. 4 section. Everyone gone somewhere. Mid watch tonight.  
06/17/70 Wed.: Liberty 1545. Went to Brad's with Dewey, Stock, & Levan, then to Va. Beach. Great time Lots of girls. Got locker at Neptune locker club.  
06/18/70 Thurs.: Liberty 1545, Went to Va. Beach with Dewey and Joe. Great time. Got back about 0230 Music Festival at beach this weekend.  
06/19/70 Fri.: Liberty 1545, Mac and I went to Va. Beach after Mac got locker. Great time, back about 0100.  
06/20/70 Sat.: Duty this weekend. Rotten time. Linda (Sister) got married and I missed it. Called home. No watch, Section Leader.  
06/21/70 Sun.: Up for muster at 0800. Back to bed at 0900. Up at 1100. Nothing doing. Got letter from Sabrina. Called Dad for Father's day. 0000-0400 watch.  
06/22/70 Mon.: Usual day at the office. Went to VA. Beach later. Lots of girls. Back at 0100.  
06/23/70 Tues.: Usual work. Went to see Gloria and Jack with tray from Haiti. Stopped at new Military Circle Mall and Shakeys.  
06/24/70 Wed.: Duty, no watch. Not doing much lousy flick. Got Dear John letter from Jan.  
06/25/70 Thurs.: Usual work, Not much doing. Got slides back from shakedown cruise. Went to Va. Beach.  
06/26/70 Fri.: Nothing new at work. Went to Brad's, Lee's, Raven & Valhalla with the guys. (All Bars on the strip) Great time.  
06/27/70 Sat.: Slept till 1100. Washed car. Drove around with guys then went to stock car race in Hampton Roads.  
06/28/70 Sun.: Slept till 1030. Washed car and went with Joe to Va. Beach. Nice day.  
06/29/70 Mon.: Usual work. Went to Village inn with Mac and Stock. Had a good time in Va. Beach. Really nice weather.  
06/30/70 Tues.: Payday \$128.09 Stayed on-board. Nothing doing, weird flick tonight.  
07/01/70 Wed. : Usual day at work. Packing to go on leave at 0001 tonight. Off at 0015 and on my way by 0030.  
07/02/70 Thurs.: Drove all night. Got home at 1130. Lousy weather. Went out to the "Barrel of Fun".  
07/09/70 Thurs.- Sun : Went to Watkins Glen racetrack for 6 HR. Endurance race and Can-Am race. Great photos and good time.  
07/14/70 Tues.: Packed car to leave for Norva. Left at 1230 and arrived at ship at 2300.  
07/17/70 Fri.: Field day in office. Moved paper from SR#17. Went to Va. Beach and met up with Greg and Wright. Back at 0230.  
07/19/70 Sun.: 1600-2000 watch . Bed at 2130.Tired. Ready to pull out tomorrow.  
07/20/70 Mon.: Left NOB at 1400 steamed all night with INSERV members on board..  
07/21/70 Tues.: Scheduled to shoot today, but canceled due to faulty airplane. Pulled into D & S piers about 1830. Went out to Nowhere Special (Bar)  
07/22/70 Wed.; Usual stuff in office. Duty again, No watch, Rained all day. Wrote to Jan.  
07/23/70 Thurs.; Usual, slow day. Went to Clancy's (Bar) Home early  
07/25/70 Sat.: Called Nancy at Va. Beach. To meet the girls at the Beach. Went dancing at Aquarius with Mac and Bonnie, and Dyer and Fran. Mac and Dyer were lousy dancers.  
07/26/70 Sun.: Went to Va. Beach with Greg and Steve. Met Nancy, Bonnie and Fran and went swimming. Then to the Golden Garter dancing.

07/27/70 Mon.: Didn't go out with the girls tonight. Dewey and I went bar hopping in Va. Beach.

07/28/70 Tues.: Went out with the girls to the Rogues Gallery with Tony and Dewey. Tony left Fran cold. Dewey and I withstood the night in the car at the locker club.

07/29/70 Wed.: Went to Va. Beach with Dewey to go swimming in the afternoon. Went to Woodstock (Bar) and ended up sleeping on floor of the locker club. **Ship leaving tomorrow for Charleston. SC.**

07/30/70 Thurs.: Left Norva at 1200 and went to Va. Beach to see girls and say goodbye. Drove to Charleston, SC and arrived at 2130, stayed at the Francis Marion Hotel.

07/31/70 Fri.: Up and checked out to Naval Base . Ship arrived at 1600.

08/01/70 Sat.: Alex, Joe and I went out driving around. Stopped at Burlesque House. Private club? Alex got plastered by 1700. Carried him back to ship and we went back. Ended up leaving in a hurry. Nasty women!

08/02/70 Sun.: Stayed on board all day. Joe and I went to movies, Airport. Ended up at Toddle House then to bed at 0030.

08/03/70 Mon.: Usual day. Compartment cleaner this week. Lousy duty nothing doing.

08/04/70 Tues.: Comp. Cleaned. Inspector real fussy. Went nowhere, only Exchange. Got 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tray to send to Grandparents.

08/05/70 Wed. Usual business. Dewey and I went out. Nothing interesting.

08/06/70 Thurs.: Went out to eat with Alex and Joe then out on the town. Not a bad time.

08/07/70 Fri.: Duty, no watch nothing doing. Sub pulled in. USS Simon Bolivar. SSBN

08/08/70 Sat.: Stayed on board till late afternoon. Rad and I went riding around and ended up at Village Inn (Bar)

08/09/70 Sun.: Went for a tour on board the Simon Bolivar with Rad and Plunkett.

08/11/70 Tues.: Stayed on board. Broke. Watched office till 2200.

08/12/70 Wed.: Stayed on board. Still broke. Good flick Paper Lion.

08/13/70 Thurs.: Usual day. Borrowed \$ going bowling tonight. Payday tomorrow.

08/14/70 Fri.: Payday \$127.00 Went to Pirates Den Nightclub (Formerly the Scene) Really crowded. Came back to ship early. Moved civvies to locker club.

08/15/70 Sat.: Duty, mid watch tonight. Sat around – no business , wrote letters.

08/16/70 Sun.: Nothing doing. Kicked around all day on board.

08/17/70 Mon.: Usual workday. Went out with Joe. Nothing doing.

08/18/70 Tues.: Usual, Went with Alex to Purple Tree Nightclub and got taken. Alex danced with a stripper, sat with 2 girls – they suckered us for \$.

08/19/70 Wed.: Usual day 1600-2000 watch, wrote some letters , boring.

08/21/70 Fri.: Alex and I went to Pirates Den . Good time dancing Got in at 0200.

08/22/70 Sat.: Went to Ft. Sumter with Pat, then to Pirates den, Not bad, got in at 0230.

08/23/70 Sun.: Nothing doing, rained all day. Tarzan flick. OK.

08/24/70 Mon.: Usual workday, stayed in , lousy flick.

08/25/70 Tues.: Raining again. Went out looking for console for car. \$35.00 was usual price but couldn't find any. Bought new tire for \$49.35. Went out with Stock . Got in at 0300.

08/26/70 Wed.: Stayed on board tonight. Raining. Stupid flick .. "Country Boy".

08/28/70 Fri.: Finally got the office phones hooked up to the ship's lines. Payday \$133.00

08/29/70 Sat.: Standing by for Wright. Had 2000-2400 watch Post 5 Boring – still raining.

08/30/70 Sun.: Standing by for Wright Had 0400-0800 watch. Boring and rain.

09/01/70 Tues.: Went out with Dewey to girls place. Lousy time- real dogs. Back in at 0300.

09/02/70 Wed.: Usual work in office. Went to Flying Dutchman with Stock. Back at 0230.

09/03/70 Thurs.: Usual in the office. Went with Mac and washed car & clothes. Pirates Den was a good time. Back at 0200.

09/04/70 Fri.: Duty, no watch. Going to Atlanta, Ga. tomorrow.

09/05/70 Sat.: Up at 0830 and left for Aunt Louise's in Atlanta. Arrived at 1530 went to Underground Atlanta for dinner. Rained hard.

09/06/70 Sun.: Went to 6 Flags with Kathy. Great time. Dinner at Chinese Rest. Good meal.

09/07/70 Mon.: Labor Day Went to Stone Mountain and climbed to the top. BIG rock! Left for Charleston at 2000 and arrive at ship at 0200.

09/08/70 Tues.: Duty- No watch. Fire in switchboard in Engine Room. Not serious.

09/09/70 Wed.: Working party to load stores. Planning on going to Atlanta this weekend to see race at Road Atlanta with Parrish.

09/10/70 Thurs.: Went out with Alex. Bar hopped. Carried Huey back onboard. Plastered. Got in at 0230.

09/11/70 Fri.: Took Dewey to airport to catch flight to get married? Parrish might not be able to go to Atlanta.

09/12/70 Sat.: Waxed car. Fitz is standing duty for me. Bed early.

09/13/70 Sun.: Up at 0330 and off to Road Atlanta without Parrish. GREAT RACE! Back to ship by 2230.

09/14/70 Mon.: Same stuff in office. Changed oil on car. Stayed in tonight. Payday tomorrow \$84.00

09/17/70 Thurs.: ONE YEAR LEFT.. BUT WHO'S COUNTING Good flick- Norwood with Glen Campbell and Kim Darby.

09/18/70 Fri.: Usual in the office. Stayed on board. Bed early tired.

09/19/70 Sat.: Went with Alex to Folley Beach and YMCA. Back late and broke again.

09/20/70 Sun.: Moved out of locker club.

09/22/70 Tues.: Stayed onboard Good Flick, "Guess who's coming to dinner"

09/24/70 Thurs.: Duty- midwatch. Nothing doing- bored.

09/25/70 Fri.: Went to movie theatre with Beversdorf and Crino. Bed by 0030.

09/26/70 Sat.: Up at 1130. Went to YMCA with Alex and Stock. Went out and Alex treated. Good time. Back by 0030.

09/27/70 Sun.: Up at 1100. Nothing doing. Stupid flick- "Maltese Bippy".

09/30/70 Wed.: PAYDAY Ship is leaving at 1400. Joe and Strong are following me to Norva. Stayed at Motel on Oceanview.

10/01/70 Thurs.: Up at 1000. Decided to stay one more day. Went out for drinks and back by 2300.

10/02/70 Fri.: Up at 1000, checked out. Went and got locker at club. Then met ship at 1500 in Portsmouth. Duty today.

Diary Excerpts from the LY Spear.  
Oct. 2, 1970 – Jan. 1, 1971 in Norfolk  
L.A.Jessie SK2

- 10/02/70 Sat.: Stood by for Fitzgerald. Had 0400-0800 watch. Very few onboard.  
10/03/70 Sun.: Had watch 1600-2000. Chief West came in drunk.  
10/04/70 Mon.: Made 2<sup>nd</sup> Class as of Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Compartment cleaning all week.  
10/05/70 Tues.: Duty , 0400-0800 watch. Very boring and disgusting cleaning under lockers with steel wool.  
10/06/70 Wed.: Went out with Beversdorf to 4-5 places bar-hopping. Back about 0200. Explosion in oven in electrical shop, 1<sup>st</sup>. Class injured.  
10/10/70 Sat.: 0400-0800 watch. Wright stood by for Tony and got pulled for SP duty. I had to stand his watch.  
10/11/70 Sun.: 1200-1600 watch. Stood Wrights watch. He got SP duty.  
10/12/70 Mon.: Columbus Day, 6 Section duty commences. Finally!  
10/15/70 Thurs.: Payday - left for home - on leave.  
10/18/70 Sun.: Back to ship at 0100.  
10/22/70 Thurs.: Went out bar hopping with Alex. Got a \$5.00 parking ticket. Back at 0200.  
10/23/70 Fri.: Got cash advance of \$75.00 to pay Gulf bill and license. Went out with Alex for dinner then to the strip and Black Knight (New bar-nice)  
10/24/70 Sat.: Cleaned and waxed car. Back to ship at 2000. Nothing doing.  
10/27/70 Tues.: Stood by for Tony so he could bowl. No watches.  
10/28/70 Wed.: Nothing doing. Stayed onboard. Got New Bowling shirts. Black.  
10/29/70 Thurs.: Stayed onboard. Moved into Kenneys old rack. RHIP! A center bunk. Extended to 10/31/71 to get 2<sup>nd</sup>. Class. Flooding in Torpedo Storage. 25,000 gals.  
11/01/70 Sun. Stood by for Tony. 1600-2000 watch. 365 DAYS LEFT!  
11/03/70 Tues.: Went bowling- took 4 pts. From Buccaneers #1 team. Our team- Expeditors are now #1.  
11/04/70 Wed.: Stood by for Fitz. 0400-0800 watch. Real cold tonight.  
11/08/70 Sun.: Went to Dewey's apt. for dinner.  
11/10/70 Tues.: Stood by for Dewey – no watch- good flick.  
11/11/70 Wed.: Veterans Day! A day off. Went out with Mac and Alex bar hopping. Black Knight was best.  
11/13/70 Fri.: Went to Black Knight with Mac, Alex & Nelson. Good time.  
11/14/70 Sat.: Went to Acey- Deucy Club at Little Creek with Houghton then to Black Knight. Good time back at 0200  
11/15/70 Sun.: Checked out of locker club. Took car to Dewey's and stayed for dinner.  
11/16/70 Mon.: Moved ship from Portsmouth to explosive anchorage "W". Went to Black Knight with Mac.  
11/17/70 Tues. Anchored out. Took liberty boat in to port. Went with Alex to Black Knight- He bought. Great time.  
11/18/70 Wed. Moved to Yorktown. Duty tonight.  
11/19/70 Thurs.: Yorktown- Loading Nukes.- On leave at midnight for 17 days.  
11/20/70 Fri.: Ship to D & S Piers . Met Dewey with car. Left at midnight and took off for home. Hit pothole and had flat tire. Got home at 0900.  
11/26/70 Thanksgiving vacation- went deer hunting.  
12/07/70 Mon.: Drove back- slippery. Got in at 2300 and got a locker at Neptune.  
12/08/70 Tues.: Mac's birthday. Got him plastered and went bowling and bar hopping.  
12/10/70 Thurs. Stood by for Fitz. 1600—2000 watch. Quiet.



12/11/70 Fri.: Went to Black Knight and Valhalla. Great time.  
12/12/70 Sat.: Got duty with Mac. Wrote Christmas cards.  
12/13/70 Sun.: Swapped duty with Tony. He'll do mine on the 18<sup>th</sup>.  
12/16/70 Wed.: Bad day at work. Lots of chits. Over 320 processed.  
12/18/70 Fri.: Tony doing my duty. Left for home at 1530. arrived at 0230.  
12/22/70 Tues. Headed back to ship at 1130. Snowy and slippery. Onboard at 2200.  
12/24/70 Thurs.: Went out with Fast apartment hunting. Stopped at Sir Buddy's for dinner.  
12/25/70 Fri.: Duty on Christmas. Boring- no-one around.  
12/26/70 Sat.: Went to Va. Beach with Stock and to Rouges gallery-all couples. Stayed at Stocks apt. in Va. Beach.  
12/27/70 Sun.: Slept late. Went to Acey Deucy club for dinner and drinks then played pool and back to ship about 2230.  
12/28/70 Mon. Stood by for Fitz. From 1300 on.  
12/29/70 Tues.: Went to concert by The Association with Alex. GREAT Black Knight after.  
12/31/70 Thursday.: New Years Eve. Duty. No watch. Boring and lonely.  
01/01/71 Friday.: New Years Day MY NEW Nephew was born!

Diary Excerpts from the LY Spear.  
Jan. 2, 1971 thru May 31, 1971 in Norfolk -  
L.A.Jessie SK2

- 01/02/71 Sat.: Stood by for Moline. 0800-1200 watch nothing doing – place is empty.  
01/03/71 Sun.: Nothing doing. Stood by for Fitz. 0400-0800 watch.  
01/04/71 Mon.: Usual day. Went shopping got new bowling shoes and electric drill.  
01/07/71 Thurs.: Picked up Pat and went to Military Circle mall. Stopped at Aerodrome. Back at 0030.  
01/08/71 Fri.: Went to Gloria and Jacks then to El Crocodillo Club for drinks.  
01/09/71 Sat.: Stood by for Fitz – Bad ice storm. 1600-2000 watch.  
01/10/71 Sun.: Went to Museum then picked up Pat and Charlie and went to Woodstock.  
01/12/71 Tues.: Bowling night. Took 3 pts. From Buccaneers. We're still in 1<sup>st</sup>.  
01/13/71 Wed.: To Military circle then Aerodrome with Fast to see go-go girls.  
01/16/71 Sat.: Aerodrome with Fast to see go-go girls  
01/20/71 Mon.: Aerodrome with Fast to see go-go girls  
01/20/71 Wed.: Dental appt for filling. Went to Aerodrome with Fast. Good Time.  
01/21/71 Thurs.: Packing for long weekend at home. Left at 1530. Bad snow. Got stuck on Rt. 41. Home about 0245.  
01/24/71 Sun.: New Nephew baptized. Left for ship at 1530. Snowy and icy. Spun out on beltway around DC. Back at 0315.  
01/30/71 Sat.: Went to Colonial Williamsburg with Fast. Nice place but everything is closed in winter.  
02/06/71 Sat.: Went to Scout-o-rama at Va. Beach Dome and met with John Jennings, Scoutmaster Tr. 493.  
02/08/71 Mon.: Went to first Scout meeting of Troop 493 at Wycliffe Church.  
02/10/71 Wed. Tony took my duty. Fast and I went swimming then to flick at NOB.  
02/13/71 Sat.: Stood by for Buzzella. USS Daniel Boone pulled in. Up till 0200 with requisitions. Ordered periscope from Philadelphia Supply Center.  
02/14/71 Sun.: Buzzella stood by for me. I stood by for Fitz. Dan Boone pulled out at 0830 with new periscope installed.  
02/15/71 Mon.: Holiday Washington's birthday. Went swimming with Fast then to Scout meeting.  
02/20/71 Sat. Moved into Apartment at 9557 21<sup>st</sup> Bay St. No water, shower broken. Rawls and Rad for roommates. Need a bed and furniture.  
02/21/71 Sun.: Picked up a mattress from Gloria and Jack. Stayed for dinner.  
02/25/71 Thurs.: Built a bed from 2x4's Turned out really good. Cement blocks and boards for end tables.  
02/27/71 Fri.: Seashore Park for campout with scouts. Back to apt about 2300. Still no water.  
03/07/71 Sun.: Fast came over for dinner and a bunch of us went to a 3-D movie.  
03/09/71 Tues.: Mac, Fast and Charlie came for dinner – good time.  
03/10/71 Wed.: Went to Jim Plunkett's for dinner really good.  
03/13/71 Sat.: Great day. 69 deg. And sunny. Jim Plunkett and wife came over for pizza.  
03/18/71 Thurs.: Duty- no watch. Nuclear Emergency on Hammerhead alongside. Nothing serious.  
03/26/71 Fri.: Snowed all day. Flooding on Pleasant St. messed up car in puddle and cost \$5.00 to fix.  
03/27/71 Sat.: Mac stayed over, Nice day. Pat and Mike gone for the weekend. We went bowling with Alex.

04/02/71 Fri.: Off at 1130. Bowling team party at MacDougal's. Special Steaks from subs. Everyone wiped out.

04/03/71 Sat.: Up at 0600 to Ft. Story for camporee with Scouts. Bad campsite, bad campfire. Really cold in the PM.

04/04/71 Sun.: Nice day HOT Won 1 red and 2 yellow ribbons. Home by 1500

04/05/71 Mon. Duty- good flick TORA TORA TORA

04/06/71 Tues. Last night of bowling. Ended up in 2<sup>nd</sup>. Place went on leave after bowling.

04/14/71 Wed.: Packed up and left at 1240- arrived in Norva at 2115.

04/17/71 Sat. Duty 1600-2000 watch. Really busy 101 req'ns with 5 Pri #1  
Repair worked all day.

04/18/71 Sun.: Went to stock car race in Hampton Rds. With Mike then out bar hopping.

04/25/71 Sun.: Went on Road Rally with Mac as navigator. We finished 6<sup>th</sup>.and won dinner at the Nassau Inn. Good time.

05/06/71 Thurs.: Went to Ski's wife's birthday party. Home at 0100.

05/07/71 Fri.: Bowling League picnic. Got trophies. USS DIXON AS-37 arrived at Portsmouth.

05/10/71 Mon.: Got new tape player for car and installed it. Nice. Posted notice for Road Atlanta race.

05/11/71 Tues.: Duty. Summer bowling league started.

05/12/71 Wed.: Went to Aerodrome with Mac. Picked up street barricade on Shore Drive on the way home. Looks good in living room.

05/14/71 Fri.: Payday \$ 112.00 Sent for Road Atlanta 250 tickets. 10 guys going.

05/19/71 Wed.: Got \$2.00 each from 10 of us and bought 4 cases of beer and 1 case of soda for trip.

05/21/71 Fri.: We left at 1700 for Road Atlanta. Arrived at 0500 and slept till 0700

05/22/71 Sat.: Time trials all day. Visited Underground Atlanta. Back to campsite at 0200

05/23/71 Sun.: Great Race. Tiny Lund 1<sup>st</sup>. Dick Smothers raced. Left for home at 1530 and arrived at home at 0400.

05/24/71 Mon.: Bad Day- not enough sleep. Washed car then to Aerodrome with Alex.

05/28/71 Fri.: went to Shakey's for dinner with Ralls and Gagner then to Brads. Home about 0030.

05/30/71 Sun.: Duty for Tony. 0400-0800 watch Quiet.

05/31/71 Mon. Memorial Day off at 0800. Cleaned car and relaxed all day.

Diary Excerpts from the LY Spear.  
June 1, 1971 – August 4, 1971 in Norfolk -  
L.A.Jessie SK2

- 06/02/71 Tues.: Went to Aerodrome to see go-go dancers. Good time.
- 06/04/71 Fri.: Hectic day in office—really busy. Duty tonight- no watch.
- 06/07/71 Mon.: Scouts tonight. Went swimming after work.
- 06/10/71 Thurs.: Home for weekend. Left at 1930 with Munford heading for NY.
- 06/11/71 Fri.: ACCIDENT in Binghamton at 0430. Hit bridge. Ruined from suspension and axles. Dad came to Binghamton to pick us up. Got home about 1200. Dealership to work on car all Friday and Sat. so I didn't get loaner.
- 06/12/71 Sat.: Picked up car at 1630. \$ 371.00 total bill. 2 tires, 2 rims, front suspension, rear axle and bent frame all on driver's side.
- 06/13/71 Sun.: Left home for Norva at 1530 and arrives at 0200. Car ran ok. Steering felt different.
- 06/14/71 Mon. : Not much at work. Got 1<sup>st</sup>. Class Reservist to work for us for 2 weeks.
- 06/16/71 Wed.: Duty tonight. Mac had D/C party and I had 1600-2000 watch.
- 06/18/71 Fri.: MANPOWER CUT ANNOUNCED Out either on Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> or Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 06/20/71 Sun.: Cleaned house. Packed for cruise. "Time to move the coffee grounds"
- 06/21/71 Mon.: Spear left Pier 22 at 0900. GQ in afternoon. Coordinated Shipboard Allowance List (COSAL) Changes.
- 06/22/71 Tues.: So foggy we couldn't see to fire guns. All day at GQ. Nothing doing, COSAL changes.
- 06/23/71 Wed.: No GQ today. Field Day in Office. Pulled into pier 22 at 1700. Fog was terrible and raining. Dependants Cruise tomorrow.
- 06/24/71 Thurs.: Mom and Dad arrived last night and boarded for cruise. Loved it. Lunch was fantastic. Back by 1430.
- 06/25/71 Fri.: Mom and Dad left for home at 1300. Got off work early- nothing doing.
- 06/26/71 Sun.: Waxed car with Ann.
- 06/27/71 Mon. Duty 1600-2000 watch.
- 06/28/71 Tues. : Bowling night. Got Tim Williams to move in with us.
- 07/04/71 Sun.: Fourth of July – Duty- lots of work. No watch.
- 07/05/71 Mon.: Went swimming in ocean at Va. Beach. Rough Surf. Les and I played mini golf – in at 2300.
- 07/10/71 Sat.: Bill standing my duty. Nancy and Fran came down to Va. Beach from Syracuse.
- 07/13/71 Tues.: Bowling. Found out I'm getting out on Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1971!!
- 07/14/71 Wed.: Checked with Personnel Office for "shipping over" talk. Don't need SK's. Too many coming back from Nam that need to finish tours stateside. Went to Nancy's and took girls to the Green Wheel Inn.
- 07/15/71 Thurs.: Payday. Leave starts at 0001 on 7/16
- 07/16/71 Fri.: Went to bank. Exchange on base. Ordered Tape deck, am/fm amp and record player, and headphones. Ray and girls showed up tonight.
- 07/17/71 Sat.: Up early and to Hotel with ray to meet girls. Went to beach. Went to Open Hearth Restaurant for dinner. Swimming at hotel pool. Bar hopping late.
- 07/18/71 Sun.: Picked up girls and Ray and went to Spear for tour. Went to Surf Rider to hear band- Wits End was playing. Back to hotel bar for a few drinks , back home at 0230.
- 07/19/71 Mon.: Went to beach with girls – hot- got burnt. Took girls to Golden Garter Café. Good time. Bed at 0330.

07/20/71 Tues.: Ray and I cleaned the cars. Went bar hopping in Norfolk.  
07/21/71 Wed.: Up at 0700 to see off the girls. Left at 0830. May Jean gave me \$20.00 to get her a watch she saw in the ships store.  
07/22/71 Thurs.: Leave ends at 0745. Duty today. Watch 1600-2000  
07/23/71 Fri.: Went to Va. Beach to see Nancy and Fran. They were busy – had dates.  
07/24/71 Sat.: Took Nancy and Fran to Greg’s place then out to tunnel. Headed to DC to visit my Sister.  
07/25/71 Sun.: Watched Can-Am from Watkins Glen on TV and saw Ray working in the pits. Back to Norva by 2130  
07/27/71 Tues.: Got new SLR camera. Bowling – took 4 pts. from 2<sup>nd</sup>. Place.  
07/28/71 Wed.: Duty tonight 1600-2000 watch slow in office.  
07/29/71 Thurs.: Getting really SHORT! 4 more days.  
07/30/71 Fri.: Borrowed \$70.00 from Greg and \$140 from Tim to pickup stereo system. Sold old Electro 35 camera to Fast.  
07/31/71 Sat.: Went with Les to Putt-Putt and met a bunch of guys and played mini golf from 2300 to 0830. All night golf with snacks and coffee and donuts included for \$5.00 Dead tired.  
08/01/71 Sun.: Up at 1100. Went to movies with Tim.. “Lemans” Good racing flick.  
08/02/71 Mon.: OUT!! Picked up paperwork & Orders. Got Paid \$431.00. Paid back Tim and Greg. Bought camera lens, mug, pants, watch, etc.  
08/03/71 Tues.: Last night of bowling. Going home tomorrow.  
08/04/71 Wed.: Loaded car packed up all junk from apartment. CAR IS STUFFED! Gave Tim my key and headed for home in NY at 0945. Back to my Reserve Center in Liverpool, NY.

NOTE: These entries were taken from 2 small black diaries that I keep during my tour onboard the Spear. Unfortunately I didn’t start until Jan. 1970 and missed recording the happenings from Sept.69 thru Dec.69. At that time we were living in barracks at NOB and then got pre-diem due to the fact they ran out of room. We proceeded to live at a local motel and commute to Portsmouth. We finally split the cost of an apartment between 3 of us. We went to work every day at Building 381 at the Shipyard in Portsmouth. We were cataloging and receiving all the goods to be stored onboard when the ship arrived. There was a small heated office in the unheated warehouse and that was the spot we went to keep warm. Every lunch hour there was a friendly poker game. Just nickel & dime bets. I was never very lucky at cards but, I saved my winnings and ended up with \$39.00 and bought a little 9” Black and White TV for the apartment as a Christmas present to me. After that I quit playing cards. Then begins the diary entries.....