

July 25

Departed Marshalltown, 6:30 a.m. All storage batteries were tested & Garford came in from Cedar Rapids during the night. 5 miles out G.M.C. #39303 has more trouble with engine missing. At LaMoille fan belt on F.W.D. #415767 breaks and is repaired. One mile west of Ontario, Riker #415009 lost fan belt and new one was installed. At this point also Class B #80215 had trouble with loose fan belt, and Mack Machine Shop #5 stops to clean dirty gasoline strainer. Near Jordan F.W.D. #415766 stops to repair broken fan belt and clean out clogged gasoline strainer. Mack stalled on account plugged high speed nozzle in carburetor. Crossed one dangerous bridge. On Garford #39732 connecting rod cap bolts sheared off and dropped into bottom of crank case. Carburetor float level on Class B, towing kitchen trailer, too high and it would not pull on 4th speed. Level adjusted. At Boone R.C.C.S. served ice cream. Dinner at Jefferson Country Club. Fair and warmer. Good, but dusty dirt roads. Made 81 mi. in 10½ hrs. Arrived Jefferson, Iowa, 5 p.m.

July 26

Departed Jefferson, 6:30 a.m. Two cases of carburetor trouble shortly after leaving camp, traceable to excessive dust. 9:00 a.m. visited the home of Merle D. Hay, first soldier of the A.E.F. killed in action, Glidden, Iowa. At Carroll a fine lunch was served by Red Cross Canteen Service, 9:45 a.m. All Mack trucks had trouble with hot motors on account soft dirt on road surface and Mack pulling pontoon trailer had to be towed up a slight grade by Militor. For several days Class B #48043 has been pushing Mack Machine Shop #5 up all grades. Strong breeze across the roads reduced dust nuisance considerably. Camped in Washington Park, Denison, where town erected temporary shower bath. Refreshments and dancing at Court House Square in the evening. Largest crowd in history of Denison gathered to participate in welcome to Convoy personnel. Fair and warm. Good, but dusty, dirt roads. Made 68 mi. in 7½ hrs. Arrived Denison, Iowa, 2 p.m.

July 27

Denison, Sunday rest period. Meeting of officers for the discussion of various matters in connection with the expedition. Quarters and medical inspections of personnel were held. Crank case oil was changed in all trucks. Transmissions and differentials were thoroughly inspected. All vehicles were thoroughly greased and oiled. Governor of Militor was overhauled and spark plugs were removed, cleaned and replaced. Inventory and verification of registration data was made. Baseball game in afternoon - Denison 15, Convoy 1. Mr. Bement, Dr. Johnson and Lt. Col. McClure addressed citizens. Band concert at Court House in evening, also movies at the Opera House for the Convoy personnel. Mess of officers and enlisted men very unsatisfactory, and services of an experienced Mess Officer are badly needed, to keep up morale of the command.

