

Diary of Walter Cecil Sherman of Meiktila, Burma, dates covered April 1942 - March 1945
Comments in italics.

Party left MKA on 10/4/42. (*Meiktila, which party is unknown*)

Were bombed out and house burnt on 12/4/42

Left MKA for MTA 13/4/42 11am.

Left MTA for MAY on 15/4/42 arrived MAY 10pm. Stayed at Dr Stuart's house.

Left MAY on 21/4/42 arrived Amarapura 2pm.

Left Amarapura for MTK on 22/4/42 (*Myitkina*)

Arrived MTK at 8am on 26/4/42.

Aerodrome episode on 6/5/42 with Nell and Edna (*Nell is Walter's sister, Edna her daughter*)

7/5/42 in jungle all day. Returned to evacuation camp at 10pm 7/5/42 Nell went to village.

Interned on 14/5/42

Denny ill - camp to old School house... (*Denzil Leonard Ronald Sherman, Walter's son*)

Sent to Mily Police camp on 19/5/42

Violet and children sent to Hospl on 18/5/42

Released at 3pm on 2/6/42. Stayed with Violet in Hospl.

Took up house on 4/6/42 with W.O.B. the bro. of Dr Stuart

WOB died on 19/6/42

Denny fell ill – stomach - on 20/6/42

Little Denny Boy died at 2am 29/6/42 very peacefully. Buried at 5.30pm. Dr Stuart, Mr Skinner and myself.

We left MTK for SAG at 7pm on 14/7/42. (*Sagaing*)

Left SAG for MD on 20/7/42. Stayed at Brother's school (*Mandalay*)

Left MD on 21/7/42 at 11am arrived Maymyo at 3pm - staying at Mayville Circular Rd

Heard on 7/8/42 that Vi's father (*Alfred William Steevens*) died near Katha on 27/4/42 Her mother (*Minette Ethel Steevens nee Rider*) died about month after and her bro Samuel died a week later. Heard from Mr? Shwe Wa (*friend of Alfred William Steevens*)

Auntie (*Beatrice*) Steevens came to live with us on 20/8/42

Doctor S. left our place on 27/8/42

Claude Taylor arrived from SAG 5pm 31/8/42 and is staying with us.

Was ill all Sept and first week of October 1942. Nell, Edna and *illegible* from Sagaing came to our place on 28/10/42 and are staying with us.

Aunt Beatrice Steevens took bad on 18/2/43 We removed her to the room next to us. She became unconscious towards evening and remained so. Dr Velu attended at 6.30 and gave her injection.

19/2/43 Aunt B. still unconscious.

20/2/43 ditto ditto sinking slowly

20/2/43 Aunt B. died at 1pm very peacefully.

21/2/43 Aunt B. buried at 4pm today. Revd U Aung Hla C of E conducted funeral service grave no 72 C of E.

4/6/43 Violet's pains started 8am today. Mrs Jackson came at 8.30 pains great. Planes overhead at 10am. Baby born at 11.15am BST all well. Mrs J went away at 1.30 and came again at 5pm for a few minutes. Baby restless and crying a good bit during night. (*Winston Wavell Sherman*)

29/6/43 Vi and baby getting on.

30/6/43 Vi and baby very well having good nights.

1/7/43 Nell and Edna left our place and are staying with Mrs Bonner in the old pharmacy.

10/7/43 Mrs Jacksons last day. She did not come today. Sent her fee of Rs 50/- by Mrs White and Georgie.

12/7/43 Claude Taylor has been ill from 7/7/43 Dr Velu called in to see him today. Dr ordered him to stay in bed as he is suffering from a strained heart.

14/7/43 Claude still bad – Dr failed to attend.

16/7/43 Dr attended after several attempts to get him. Pronounced severe inflammation of liver and jaundice – gave emetine injections but rather too late. Claude had bad night frequent hiccoughs.

17th Claude very low. Edna slept here on 17th night.

18th 4th Sunday after Trinity. Our little son was christened today by Revd John Aung Hla at 9am. Claude sinking. He was given last rites by Revd Aung Hla at 8.30 am. He was conscious up to 12pm unable to get him to give me a message for his family. He passed away very peacefully at 12.50 pm BST.

19/7/43 Claude was buried at 5pm in C of E cemetery grave no 64

5/8/43 Mr Nicolls died today, buried on 6/8/43 C of E

10/8/43 Mr Tresham died 9.30 pm today buried 11/8/43 RC

11/8/43 Mr Hankins? died 9.30 am today, buried 12/8/43 Baptist

4/9/43 Mrs Jackson died 6 am today, buried 5 pm RC

12/10/43 We were all (A.I's) taken away to an internment camp Alex Bks
Our home looted after we left. We were very kindly treated at
the camp.

15/10/43 the camp commander told me today that I and family could go back to
our home tomorrow.

16/10/43 We all returned home at 2 pm today.

Georgie with us. All of us happy to be free and? in our own house.

1/11/43 *illegible*

6/11/43 *illegible*

15/11/43 *illegible*

22/11/43 *illegible* came to live *illegible*

24/11/43 *illegible*

24/11/43 *illegible*

illegible

illegible Revd Aung Hla? Nell Edna *illegible*

Mrs White *illegible*

illegible thro? God?

illegible baby *illegible*

2?/2/44 Mrs Blake? from Camp? *illegible*

?/4/44 Heavy bomb? drop? on? our house parts? unsafe? We had to sleep in trench all night
?/4/44 *illegible* Padre? Aung Hla? *illegible*

15/9/44 Edna wrote saying Nell very low *illegible* last much longer. I went today to see her and
found her bedridden and very weak. End is not far off. Pray God to keep her from suffering.

15/9/44 Vi and I went to *illegible* to see her. Found her just the same although very low.

18/9/44 Nell died at *illegible* today *illegible*.

20/9/44 Went to *illegible* at 8am today to see the last of my sister Nell. Funeral to be held *illegible* for tomorrow.

21/9/44 *illegible* Georgie and I *illegible* camp - *illegible* and Chet Aye said service. Nell is buried? *illegible* grave No 216. Hymn *illegible* Nearer My God to Thee.

23/9/44 *illegible* anniversary. Mr A(*illegible*) came for *illegible*. Georgie unable to *illegible*

1/10/44 Dudley and Dolly's baby xned *illegible* the Rev Aung Hla. Violet and I stood *illegible*. Returned from Camp at ?am Baby named Fay Rowena

6/10/44 ? King? died at the Camp *illegible*. Funeral (*illegible number*) R.C.

30/10/44 ? Willix? Willes? Sr. died today *illegible* buried 31/10/44

31/10/44 *illegible* died today *illegible* buried 3pm 1/11/44

19/12/44 Miss V. Capp? died at ?pm today and was buried on the 20/12/44 *illegible*.

Notes continued for the Bible.

12/2/45 Employed in the Orient Cafe as manager. Cafe xxxed out today. Attend daily 7.30 am to ?

14/2/45 Left Orient Cafe today

11/3/45 British entered Maymyo today early morning. The Japs evacuated and ran away in all directions. Heavy fog gun firing from early Mon til about 1 pm I am feeling very seedy and long for a cup of tea. At 3 pm Violet went to the railway station where the Gurkha and Indian troops are entrenched. She met Major Hall of the Gurkhas who gave her sugar, tea, biscuits, matches, onions potatoes etc. Had a good cup of tea and satisfied my craving.

12/3/45 Went to the station with Vi children and Anderiasz? We got a supply of rice, cornflour as well as Jap shoes and boots clothing bags? etc.

18/3/45 Thanksgiving service and Holy Communion today at 8 am at the Garrison Church. Revd A Hla and Chit Aye conducting service.