



# Pau Hana Koa

Retired Warriors

Hawaii Chapter Military Officers Association of America

Vol. 21 No. 9

WEBSITE <http://www.moaa-hawaii.org>

September 2006



## Hawaii Chapter Receives Five Star Excellence Award for 2005

**WAR CRIMINALS –  
A Double Standard?**  
By Cdr. Bob Popp USN (Ret.)

Across the centuries, man has found it necessary for valid or invalid reasons to assault his fellow man. Over this span of time, the scale of these conflicts had expanded in intensity, participation, weaponry, and geography. Starting with the 1864 Geneva Convention, it became apparent that there had to be a set of standards, Rules of War, which would hopefully guide the combatants in, “diminishing the severity and disasters of war”. The Hague Conventions in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and later the United Nations Charter would also refine the boundaries of war.

In 1918 at the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month, the “War to end all wars”, came to an end. All the participants had suffered. In the six months of fighting around the French town of Verdun, for example, 400,000 French soldiers and 600,000 German soldiers were killed or wounded. As devastating a war as it was, there was no punishment meted out on the German leadership save the exile of Kaiser Wilhelm. World War I was a lesson not learned. Twenty one years later a more devastating war took place and the Rules of War were stuffed away in the attic. Atrocities and violations of the Rules of War took place in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters of war.

As in previous wars, the victors took measure of the vanquished. This time, however, punishment would be meted out to the leaders of Germany and Japan for “crimes against peace” and “crimes against humanity”. The first and most noteworthy of the trials commenced in November 1945 in Nuremberg. Twenty one leaders of the Nazi party stood trial and eleven were condemned to death by hanging on October 1, 1946. Fifteen days later the order of the Tribunal was carried out. Field Marshall, Herman Goering, head of the Luftwaffe, cheated the hangman by taking cyanide. The other ten were hanged one by one in the gymnasium of the prison on a gallows specially constructed for the occasion. Goering and the other bodies were summarily cremated the next day and the ashes unceremoniously scattered in the Isar River and its tributaries at undisclosed locations.

The Tokyo trials did not receive the same degree of publicity or historical review but were no less significant. The result of these trials remains controversial to this day. The Tokyo trials were just one of many war crime trials held in Far East countries. On 3 May 1946, twenty eight of Japan’s top leaders were charged with, “crimes against peace, conventional war crimes, and crimes against humanity”. Former Prime Minister, Hideki Tojo, one of the accused, shot himself but was resuscitated by American military doctors. Two and one half years later, November 4, 1948, Tojo and six other defendants were found guilty, condemned to death, and hanged the following month at

Sugamo Prison. The bodies of these war criminals were cremated but their ashes not disposed of.

Twenty years later, in 1978, the ashes of fourteen war criminals including Hideki Tojo were enshrined secretly at the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo as Martyrs of Showa. The Shrine is dedicated to the spirits of soldiers and others who died fighting on behalf of the Japanese emperor. The Shrine also contains a museum that contains a controversial and allegedly revisionist version of the War in the Pacific. Since 1979, six Japanese prime ministers have periodically visited the Shrine against the protests of countries such as China and South Korea. This past month Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi made his sixth visit to the Shrine. No protest has ever been publicly lodged by the United States.

The public rationale from the Japanese government for the enshrinement of war criminals is technical. The names of the criminals are on the Ministry of Health’s list of war casualties; a list compiled to allow for pensions to the next of kin. Private sources maintain that the Japanese government viewed the Tokyo trials as illegitimate and illegal under international law and therefore saw no reason for denying enshrinement of those convicted of war crimes.

It should also be noted that subsequent German governments officially apologized to the United States and the other allies for World War II. The Japanese governments, established after 1952, have not made that same gesture. (See page 3 for sources.)

### Coming Events September

- 2 Sep (Sat) The Users Group (TUG) 1000 Computer Training, Bishop Museum, Paki Bldg.
  - 10 Sep (Sun) El Paso Chapter-Hawaii Chapter “Bon Voyage” Hale Koa “Warrior Lounge” Patio 1800 - 2000
  - 15 Sep (Fri) Excom/Board Mtg. MCBH O’Club 1130
  - 23 Sep (Sat) MOAA Party Bridge 1900
- For reservations call Robbie Gee at 255-4558

### Coming Events October

- 7 Oct (Sat) The Users Group (TUG) 1000 Computer Training, Bishop Museum, Paki Bldg.
  - 9 Oct (Mon) PAC meeting 1100 Sam Snead’s Tavern
  - 19 Oct (Thur) Joint Luncheon Aloha & Hawaii Chapters “Washington Report”, Hale Koa 1130 (See bottom page 2)
  - 20 Oct (Fri) Excom Mtg. MCBH O’Club 1130
  - 21 Oct (Sat) MOAA Party Bridge 1900
- For reservations call Robbie Gee at 255-4558



## YOUR PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVES –

*By Colonel John Harms – USMC (Ret.)*



### VOLUNTEERISM

The old fashion dictionary states that a volunteer is a person who performs or gives service of his/her own free will (or no pay involved). One of America's major functional strengths is the amount of people involved in volunteerism, which is exemplified in the early days of barn raisings and quilting bees. Of the about 69 million Americans, 27.6 percent of the civilian non-institutional (guess we are included here) volunteered through or for an organization at some time during the last couple of years. I say that this is unique to America, for if you have ever discussed this with a citizen of another country while traveling abroad; they think the range and depth of Americans volunteering to work and give services is a bit weird. They may volunteer a

bit for their church or synagogue, but not with numbers cited above. The benefits of volunteerism are numerous and I am sure would greatly assist our membership in these ways: Self Satisfaction, Altruism (helps the soul so they say), Potential learning or acquisition of new skills (Ask George Sullivan with his fund raising and design/build program for the new Arizona Memorial Visitors Center), Specific benefits for the receivers of volunteer efforts, Relaxation, Socialization, Status or reward, Career opportunities, Community improvement to mention a few. Why the push for this with this article? Bluntly, we need a few good volunteers as Officers for your Hawaii State Chapter. We had a fine 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to move up to President, but he returned to the mainland. Our 2d Vice President's active duty requirements as a psychiatrist with the Middle East War on Terrorism have become monumental. So with my two years as President drawing to a close, we need some volun-

teers for the following Chapter positions: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and 2d Vice President and Treasurer.

I have agreed to remain as President for another year so long as the above vacancies are filled. The basic job description for 1st VP is the President's back up when sick or away and in training to take over as President. The 2nd VP has the monthly programs, with significant assistance from the EXCOM. The old adage "I don't have any time, I am more active retired than working" has been played many times before, I know I have used it on more than one occasion. But, personally and professionally my time as Secretary then 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for two years, then President for two years has been exceptionally rewarding. A truly great group of people on the Executive Committee, and with a full compliment of Officers on board, the work load is not that significant. Please call me at 261-2282 or contact me at [JandBHarms@aol.com](mailto:JandBHarms@aol.com)  
Semper Fidelis, *John Harms*

### CHAPTER PROGRAMS FOR Remainder of 2006

#### October

19 October – Joint luncheon - Aloha - Hawaii Chapters. Mr. Philip Dyer, CFP, MOAA National, Benefits Information Department. Washington Legislative Update (behind the scenes) and estate planning update integrating recent tax/investment legislation. Hale Koa at 1130. (John Harms)

#### November

4 November – Annual Meeting (Luncheon) with speaker Admiral Ron Hays on Pacific Aviation Museum. Ft. Shafter Officer's Club. (Helen Baker and John Harms)

#### December

15 December – Annual Christmas Party at the Hale Koa. USMC band before dinner music and John Lundgren band, Music of the Swing Era, for after dinner dancing. (Bill Quirk and John Harms)

**Calling All Party Bridge Players!!**

By Robbie Gee



The MOAA party Bridge group is looking for players who are interested in having a fun evening playing bridge once a month and “talking story”, all the while having an opportunity to know some of their MOAA

members better. This is a social group, not “Business Bridge”, and we simply provide another way for members to meet each other in addition to the regular monthly MOAA events and enjoy a good game of bridge.

We normally play on the last Saturday of the month at 7 p.m., with the exception during UH football season, and rotate among members’ homes or at Robbie and Bob Gee’s condo in Hawaii Kai. You don’t need a partner, just bring a \$1.00, and come have a good time. Members take turns as Host of the Month serving beverages and nibbles, with dessert and coffee at the end of the evening.

**We would love to have you join us,  
so give us a call at 255-4558**

**Thinning of the Ranks**

Mrs. Patricia Bixler died 21 July 2006. She is survived by her two daughters and a son.

Mrs. Clair J. Buta died in July 2006. She is survived by her son.

Col. Robert McKain Smith USA (Ret.), 83, died 11 Aug. 2006 in Anchorage, AK. He is survived by his wife Margaret Bennett Smith.

**Binnacle List**

- Capt. Jerry Coffee USN (Ret.)
- Col. Clyde Friar USA (Ret.)
- Lt. Col.. William McGarry AUS (Ret.)

**HELP WANTED**  
**CHAPTER TREASURER**  
**PAY: SATISFACTION**  
**CONTACT JOHN HARMS: 261-2282**

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**AUXILIARY Corner**

By Patricia Kubach

It gives me great pleasure to thank all of you who responded to the survey mailed to you in July. Replies are still coming in so it's not too late if you haven't yet returned yours as there was no deadline for submission. Or, if you had intended to reply but somehow misplaced the survey, please contact me for a replacement copy at: trishkubach@hawaii.rr.com or 808-395-9719. The nature of the letter was to get a feel for whether Hawaii Chapter Auxiliary Members would be in favor of forming a Group much like the Officer's Wives' Clubs many of us belonged to when our husband's were on active duty.

A significant number of respondents are in favor of forming a Group, a few were too busy or unable to participate but may join later and a few simply said "NO" some with, others without explanation. What saddened me most were the members who cannot participate for health reasons and even sadder are those who are preparing to leave or already have left the islands. A number of members are no longer driving or not driving at night. If a Group does materialize, a priority high on the list should be to make every effort to take care of members in need of transportation either by other singles or member couples and also high on the list would be to form a group to attend events together.

The August 2006 issue of the National MOAA Magazine explains that in 2004, the MOAA Auxiliary Advisory Committee was formed, "to advise the Association's Board of Directors on important issues affecting auxiliary members". The Hawaii Chapter Board has asked me to organize auxiliary members to improve relations and communications within the Chapter. An organized auxiliary Group will contribute support not only to the Hawaii Chapter but to National MOAA and the Advisory Committee as well. For those who haven't already, please remember to send the survey back to me at your earliest convenience.

Mahalo,  
*Patricia Kubach*

The following sources were used in writing the article on the front page titled, “War Criminals - A Double Standard?”

- wikipedia.org
- Japan-guide.com
- pbs.org
- usachcs.army.mil

# Legislative Affairs Veterans Affairs (LAVA)

***Our president John Harms wrote to our Congressional delegation concerning pending legislation. Only Congressman Ed Case responded. His letter follows.***

August 10, 2006  
Colonel John Harms  
President  
Military Officers Assn. of  
America  
Hawaii State Chapter  
PO Box 1185  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734-1185

Dear Colonel Harms:

Thank you for your letter about several aspects of the fiscal year 2007 defense authorization measure important to the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). I agree with your concerns and have advocated for these issues during my tenure in the House of Representatives.

Specifically,  
(1) I am opposed to the Department of Defense's (DOD) initiative to increase co-payments for retail drug prescriptions;  
(2) I am supportive of Section 649 of the Senate's version of the bill that would move up the effective date of termination of phase-in of concurrent receipt for veterans with service-connected disabilities rated as total by virtue of unemployability; and  
(3) I am supportive of section 642 of the Senate's version of the bill, which would repeal the requirement for a reduction of SBP survivor annuities by dependency and indemnity compensation. I am also a cosponsor of H.R. 808, a stand-alone bill similar to section 642, and unfortunately remains stalled in committee, which prevents its consideration by the full House.  
On a related note, I am pleased that both the House

of Representatives and the Senate have rejected the President's proposal to significantly increase the annual cost of TRICARE to military retirees under 65 years of age with access to general health insurance plans.

As you know, the FY2007 Defense Authorization bill has been passed by both the House and the Senate and is currently in conference in order to negotiate a final version of the bill. Please be assured that I will keep the views of MOAA in mind when I decide on whether to support the final version of the bill.

Thank you again for your letter. Please don't hesitate to contact me again about these or any other issues of importance to you or MOAA.

With aloha,

ED CASE  
United States Congressman  
Hawaii, Second District



## IT'S PARTY TIME AT THE HALE KOA SUNDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER, 1800 WARRIOR'S LOUNGE PATIO.

### BON VOYAGE SEND OFF FOR OUR EL PASO SISTER CHAPTER AS THEY HEAD AROUND THE ISLANDS ON "PRIDE OF HAWAII"

**COST IS FREE!! HEAVY PUPUS AND HAWAIIAN MUSIC.  
CASH BAR. COME ONE AND ALL TO MEET or REACQUAINT  
WITH SOME GREAT PEOPLE FROM TEXAS.**

Please notify John Harms by September 6th if you plan on attending.

E-mail: [JandBHarms@aol.com](mailto:JandBHarms@aol.com) or 261-2282.



# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Spouses' Conference



**October 20 & 21, 2006**

**Marine Corps Base Hawaii Officers' Club**

*"A journey of discovery and growth at the 12th annual Joint Spouses' Conference"*

The conference is a forum to empower, enlighten, motivate, and educate military spouses. Attendees may choose to attend either Friday or Saturday or both days. During the 2-day conference, attendees may select five, 1-hour workshops -- out of over 50 workshops -- on such topics as Hawaiian culture and history, health and wellness, communication and parenting skills, and entertaining tips. Included in the conference are two keynote presentations. Attendees also benefit from printed resource materials on topics such as health care, family support, recreation activities, and volunteer opportunities. During the included breakfast and luncheon periods, attendees can network and have fellowship with other spouses.

**More than 50 workshops to choose from, including:**

- Hawaiian Food
- Cake Decorating
- Scuba & Snorkeling
- Why We Love Coffee
- Learn to Play Bunco
- Hula
- Space-A-Travel
- Tropical Drinks
- Hawaiian Quilt Inspiration
- Photography
- Self-Defense
- Real Estate in Hawaii
- Auto Technology
- Braiding Hair
- Funding Your Education
- Massage
- Financial Planning
- Wine Tasting
- Home Schooling
- And more....

Silent Auction each day, plus "Armed for Entertaining" books and Hawaiian-themed gifts available for purchase. No credit cards accepted at the conference.

**COST:**  
 \$35 Friday & Saturday  
 \$20 Friday only  
 \$20 Saturday only  
 Breakfast and lunch included each day.

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS	
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
<p><b><u>Executive Chef Russell Siu</u></b>                      Chef Siu, co-owner and Executive Chef of the restaurant, 3660 On the Rise, has won numerous awards for distinctive Euro-island cuisine. Chef Siu combines an understanding of local tastes and foods with a sophisticated Pacific Rim cuisine approach creating a blend of East/West heritage with signature usage of seasonal Hawaiian products. One of the dishes featured during Chef Sui's cooking demonstration will be served during Friday's lunch.</p>	<p><b><u>Senator Fred Hemmings</u></b>                      Senator Hemmings is the Hawaiian Senate Republican Leader, a co-host of "Equal Time" on KHNR Radio, a contributing editor of <i>Honolulu Magazine</i>, advisory director of the Denver Broncos Football team, a world surfing champion, author of three books, and a strong proponent of Hawaiian water sports. Senator Hemmings will provide an engaging presentation on Hawaiian culture and history.</p>

**Online Registration**  
**WWW.JSCHAWAII.COM**  
**September 8 - October 6**  
**No registration taken at conference**  
**\*\*\*\*Credit cards accepted on line\*\*\*\***

Attendees have a  
 unique and memorable ex-  
 perience!  
 Register early and  
 join the fun!

## TUG by Colonel Lou Torraca, USAF (Retired)



### RUNNING AT TOP SPEED

A super neat way to help keep your PC running at top speed and help root out the bad stuff...and it's FREE!

Since the last time I wrote about the Registry Booster by Uniblue, I have attended a computer user group conference where a dozen or so vendors showed off their stuff (and treated us to some nice meals as well.) The many new or upgraded programs made me think about all the things I have on my computer...of course I have to have the latest and greatest as soon as I find out about them and that really does make for some problems. For one thing, it's pretty obvious that running everything you've got on your machine is really not a viable possibility. Not that anyone tries to, but think about it...how many things are running on your computer right now? Don't know? How to find out is a simple ctrl+alt+delete click away. Windows Task Manager pops up with a long list of processes running on your computer...but...it doesn't tell you what all these processes are and what they do! Sure, a few are familiar, but really knowing what all these things are and what they do could be useful...how you say...well, for one thing, we all know that having too many things startup is a snoozer...that is, you snooze while your machine takes forever to bootup. So, we want to know more about programs and other stuff that are using up memory all the time. Wouldn't it be a good thing to also know if any of those things taking up your memory are bad guys! The familiar ones that are running are probably ones you know from the names, but the problem is all the other ones you have no clue about! In the recesses of your computer, 20-30 invisible processes run silently in the background. Some hog system resources, turning your PC into a sluggish computer. Worse yet, other useless processes harbor spyware and Trojans - violating your privacy and giving hackers free reign on your computer. So here is where Uniblue's Process Library fits in. The Process Library is a free service for searching for the meaning of various processes running on your PC. The library will not only give you the straight dope on what a process does, but it will tell you if you can nix it, thereby freeing up memory and processing power. The library is even more powerful if you install Uniblue's free utility called Quick Access. It allows you to click on an icon beside any process in the Task Manager and be taken directly to the library for a definition. Get recent definitions and exhaustive advice about running processes without leaving the Windows Task Manager. After install, you will see a small, blue icon next to every process listed in Task Manager. I have it installed on my computer and really like it. This Windows Task Manager plug-in provides you process information and advice from ProcessLibrary.com, a free online knowledge Web site that's home to over 9000 process definitions. To access ProcessLibrary.com from Windows Task Manager, click the blue icon that appears next to any process in the Process tab. Each icon links to ProcessLibrary.com's definition, which details the exact nature and purpose of every known process. For Example, if I clicked on the blue icon next to lsass.exe, I'd see that it's a critical process and should not be terminated. Pretty neat, huh? Now I know not to turn that one off. How about one that I don't need? Here's one: ctfmon.exe... a click on that one says if terminated it may improve system performance...wow, now it's getting good, so what about the bad guys? Here's another example of what PL can tell you: a search for sms.exe shows that it is a registered security risk which is very harmful! Your next step is to right click this one and disable it and then run your anti-virus and spyware programs.

According to Uniblue, "People use [www.processlibrary.com](http://www.processlibrary.com) because they suspect certain background processes (and/or dll's) to be security threats. We return comprehensive process definitions and advice on what to do: whether the particular process should be terminated because it is harmful or unnecessary or whether it should be left alone since it is critical to the stable operation of the computer. In this way, users can take action to make their general computing experience more stable and safe."

They also say by knowing what every process does, you can make sure your system is safe from spyware, viruses, Trojans and other unwanted menaces. The site lists what every process is doing and if a process you search for isn't in the database, you can report it. (You still need to run your antispysware, anti virus and firewall programs of course.)

That about wraps it up. Be sure and visit [www.processlibrary.com](http://www.processlibrary.com) to find out lots more about this excellent program which I am really pleased with. There, you can watch a demo and also download the plugin, which I recommend, and also become familiar with how to use the site if you really don't want to install the plugin.

Until next time, have fun with all those electronic goodies out there, but be careful of the bad stuff, too! Come see us at one of our two regular monthly meetings. Visit [www.the-tug.org](http://www.the-tug.org) for schedules and directions.

Aloha, Lou

**("Clipper": Con't from August PHK)  
Ed. Note. We pick up the story after the clipper landed in a minefield outside the harbor of Surabaya.**

When they disembarked the crew of the Pacific Clipper received an unpleasant surprise; they were told that they would be unable to refuel with 100 octane aviation gas. What little there was severely rationed, and was reserved for the military. There was automobile gas in abundance however, and Ford was welcome to whatever he needed. He had no choice. The next leg of their journey would be many hours over the Indian Ocean, and there was no hope of refueling elsewhere. The flight engineers, Swede Roth and Jocko Parish, formulated a plan that they hoped would work. They transferred all their remaining aviation fuel to the two fuselage tanks, and filled the remaining tanks to the limit with the lower octane automobile gas.

"We took off from Surabaya on the 100 octane, climbed a couple of thousand feet, and pulled back the power to cool off the engines," said Ford. "Then we switched to the automobile gas and held our breaths. The engines almost jumped out of their mounts, but they ran. We figured it was either that or leave the airplane to the Japs."

They flew northwesterly across the Sunda Straits, paralleling the coast of Sumatra. Chasing the setting sun, they started across the vast expanse of ocean. They had no aviation charts or maps for this part of the world; the only navigational information available to the crew was the latitude and longitude of their destination at Trincomalee, on the island of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). Using this data, and drawing from memory, Rod Brown was creating his own Mercator maps of South Asia. Ford was not only worried about finding the harbor, he was very concerned about missing Ceylon altogether. He envisioned the Clipper droning on over India, lost and low on fuel, unable to find a body of water on which to land.

As they neared the island they could see a cloud bank ahead. Ford said, "There was some low scud, so we descended. We wanted the maximum available visibility to permit picking up landfall at the earliest moment -- we didn't want to miss the island. All of a sudden there it was, right

in front of us, a Jap submarine! We could see the crew running for the deck gun. Let me tell you we were pretty busy getting back into the scud again!" Ford jammed the throttles of the Clipper forward to climb power, the engines complaining bitterly. Their 150 mph speed soon had them well out of range of the sub's guns, and the crew heaved a sigh of relief. It would be difficult to determine who was the more surprised; the Japanese submarine commander or the crew of the Clipper, startled out of their reverie after the long flight.

It was another hour until they reached the island, and the Boeing finally touched water in the harbor at Trincomalee.

The British Forces stationed there were anxious to hear what Ford and his crew had to report from the war zone to the east, and the crew was duly summoned to a military meeting. Presiding was a pompous Royal Navy Commodore who informed Ford in no uncertain terms that he doubted Ford would know a submarine if it ran over him. Ford felt the hackles rise on the back of his neck. He realized that he could not afford to make an enemy of the British military, the fate of the Pacific Clipper rested too heavily in their hands. He swallowed hard and said nothing.

It was Christmas Eve when they began the takeoff from Ceylon and turned the ship again to the northwest. The heavily loaded Boeing struggled for altitude, laboring through the leaden humid air. Suddenly there was a frightening bang as the number three engine let go. It shuddered in its mount, and as they peered through the windscreen the crew could see gushes of black oil pouring back over the wing. Ford quickly shut the engine down, and wheeled the Clipper over into a 180 degree turn, heading back to Trincomalee. Less than an hour after takeoff the Pacific Clipper was back on the waters of Trincomalee harbor. The repairs to the engine took the rest of Christmas Eve and all of Christmas Day. One of the engine's eighteen cylinders had failed, wrenching itself loose from its mount, and while the repair was not particularly complex, it was tedious and time-consuming. Finally early in the morning of December 26th, they took off from Ceylon for the second time. All day they droned across the lush carpet of the Indian sub continent, and then cut across the northeastern corner of the Ara-

bian Sea to their landing in Karachi, touching down in mid-afternoon.

The following day, bathed and refreshed, they took off and flew westward across the Gulf of Oman toward Arabia. After just a bit over eight routine hours of flying, they landed in Bahrain, where there was a British garrison.

Another frustration presented itself the following morning as they were planning the next leg of their journey. They had planned to fly straight west across the Arabian peninsula and the Red Sea into Africa, a flight that would not have been much longer than the leg they had just completed from Karachi.

"When we were preparing to leave Bahrain we were warned by the British authorities not to fly across Arabia," said Ford. "The Saudis had apparently already caught some British fliers who had been forced down there. The natives had dug a hole, buried them in it up to their necks, and just left them."

They took off into the grey morning and climbed through a solid overcast. They broke out of the clouds into the dazzling sunshine, and the carpet of clouds below stretched westward to the horizon. "We flew north for about twenty minutes," Ford said, "then we turned west and headed straight across Saudi Arabia. We flew for several hours before there was a break in the clouds below us, and damned if we weren't smack over the Mosque at Mecca! I could see the people pouring out of it, it was just like kicking an anthill. They were probably firing at us, but at least they didn't have any anti-aircraft." The Pacific Clipper crossed the Red Sea and the coast of Africa in the early afternoon with the Saharan sun streaming in the cockpit windows. The land below was a dingy yellowish brown, with nothing but rolling sand dunes and stark rocky outcroppings. The only sign of human habitation was an occasional hut; every so often they flew over small clusters of men tending livestock who stopped and shielded their eyes from the sun, staring up at the strange bird that made such a noise. The crew's prayers for the continued good health of the four Wright Cyclones became more and more fervent. Should they have to make an emergency landing here they would be in dire straits indeed. **(Ed. note: This article will continue as a series in the next two issues.)**

