

# WE FLEW Without GUNS

This is a true story of the men who by the "hump"—carrying passengers and cargo over the high Himalayas between India and China. Pilots call it the toughest airline route in the world.

## A NEW LIFE XXIV

IT had been six months since I wrote that letter to Gerry Ewing, the beautiful blonde who danced in the floor show at Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe. I had yet to receive an answer, so the night after we arrived in New York Gings and I decided to look up Gerry Ewing and demand an explanation.

"But Captain Genovese, you're so short!" Gerry said, the very first thing when we met her at the St. Moritz. "I thought you said in your letter that you were—what was it? Six feet?" "I don't remember," I said, embarrassed, because I had been a trifle liberal in estimating my height. "But flying takes a lot out of a man. Makes you lose a lot of weight sometimes—probably affects your height, too..."

The picture of Gerry in the magazine was very good, but it didn't do her justice. In the flesh she was twice as beautiful, with silky blonde hair and wide blue eyes and soft red lips and a smile that crinkled around the eyes. Just hearing the soft melody of her laugh made me all wobbly inside. After she had dressed and come from her room and slipped her arm through mine, we went out and got a cab and drove over to the Stork Club, and I asked the headwaiter for a table for two. "Aren't you all together?" he asked. I turned and saw Gings standing there looking rather bewildered. "Oh—oh, yeah," I said. "That's right. Make it a table for three."

The flying slump that washed over me out of Randolph Field back in 1939 was nothing compared to the complete daze that engulfed me in the three weeks following my first evening with Gerry Ewing. At the end of that time I was still walking around with my head in the clouds and there was nothing to do but lay my cards on the table.

"I love you, Gerry," I told her one night, and she smiled and said, "That's nice, because I love you, too."

And so we were married.

MUCH as one hates to concede the fact, honeymoons cannot go on forever. Ours ran on blissfully from the end of August until early October with never once a thought of the turmoil in which the rest of the world found itself, but then reality returned in the form of a telegram from Gings, who had gone back home to Chicago a few weeks before.

"Have nice airline job lined up in South America," he wired. "Room for you, too. Good pay and dangerous. What more could you ask?"

"What do you think, dear?" I asked, handing the message to Gerry. "Would you like to live in South America?" Gerry read it three or four times, and then she said, "I'll tell you what I think: I think there are mountains in South America, and the first thing you know that prostate trouble or whatever it will start up again. Another thing I think, as long as you've asked me, is that you've done enough dangerous flying. Your work at Lockheed and at Brewster Aircraft and your knowledge of planes from all these experiences in England and in China and India, all that ought to qualify you as an engineer, some kind of a job where you could put all that knowledge to good use. Why say, I'll bet..."

On and on Gerry went, building up her bridgroom so vigorously that if he had listened to all she had to say and taken it seriously he would have gone out next morning and started the foundations of an aircraft factory of his own. But the bridgroom didn't listen to all of it—he was already becoming a husband.

THE bridgroom's argument with himself was short-lived. Most important to him as well as to everyone else in the United States, if not in the world, was to get the war over with. And flying in South America would contribute little to that.

He returned to his apartment after an absence of two hours the next afternoon and told his bride to start packing; they were on their way to Evansville, Indiana. "Evansville?" Gerry exclaimed. "What are we going to do—buy a farm?"

"No, Cookie, we aren't going to buy a farm," he said. "I'm going to see about a job with Republic Aviation. They have a big plant just outside Evansville where they're turning out P-47 Thunderbolts, the hottest fighting planes in the world, and there's a chance that I can get in on the deal."

"As an executive, you mean?" Gerry said, all excited.

"Well, kind of," I replied. "You see, once in a while a plane comes off the line that isn't just right, and they have to have an expert on hand to figure out just what's wrong. It's a mighty responsible job—I'll be lucky if I can land it."

"Well, just so it's safe, that's all I care," Gerry said, and the bridgroom was too busy packing his suitcase to answer.

He had done his best not to misrepresent the job, but even so Gerry was pretty upset when an Evansville paper carried a nice big story two days after he started to work captioned: CAPTAIN J. GENOVESE JOINS REPUBLIC AS TEST PILOT.

THE END

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### Our Boarding House



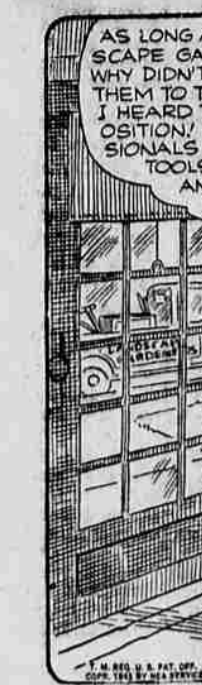
EGAD, MARTHA! MY CRIME DETECTOR WORKS PERFECTLY, AND TODAY I'LL SELL THE MODEL TO THE POLICE IF THE PRICE IS RIGHT!—UM! WHICH WOULD YOU PREFER, A BANK, A SHIPYARD OR A NEW HOME LIKE, LET US SAY, BUCKINGHAM PALACE?

### With Major Hoople



ON YOUR WAY HOME STOP AT THE MARKET IF YOU CAN GET THE MILLION CHANGED AND BUY HALF A DOZEN CANTALOUPE!

### Out Our Way



AS LONG AS YOU GOT THEM LANDSCAPE GARDENERS TO TRIM TH' TREES, WHY DIDN'T YOU MAKE A DEAL WITH THEM TO TAKE CARE OF THE YARD TOO? I HEARD THEM MAKE A GOOD PROPOSITION! GOSH, THEY'RE PROFESSIONALS AN' THEY'VE GOT REAL TOOLS! THE WAY THEY CAN MOW AN' EDGE A LAWN PUTS ME TO SHAME!

### J. K. Williams



NOT INTERESTED, THANK YOU! THE LAWN WILL REMAIN YOUR JOB--SHAME OR NO SHAME!

### Summer Bedjacket



By MRS. ANNE CABOT

A morale booster if you are ill—you can look your doctor and your visitors straight in the eye, knowing you look your very prettiest in this ruffled rayon crepe saeque edged with lacy white crochet. And even if you are bursting with health a couple of thin summer saeques will do you no harm! Dandy to slip over your nightgown when you dash to the kitchen to start the coffee perking.

To obtain pattern and crochet edge instructions for the summer

5009

### Deeds Filed

F. L. Coulter et ux to Miles J. Wilson, portion of Lot 7, all of Lots 8 to 23 inclusive, and portion of Lot 24, all in Blk. 40, Wade's subdivision, La Grande city, \$10 and other considerations. C. W. Bond et al to Robert J. Ballett, Lots 1 and 2, Blk. 1, Elgin, \$500. Con Baccini to Stevens J. Hippe, S 1/2 SW 1/4, Sec. 23, N 1/2 NW 1/4, W 1/2 NW 1/4, all in Sec. 26, Twp. 3 N., R. 39 E., \$4000. Earl Wilcox et ux to Rennie Batting et ux, Lots 12 and 13, Blk. 46, Riverside addition, La Grande city, \$175. L. A. Williams et ux to Julia Barrows, Lot 3, Blk. 124, Chaplin's addition, La Grande city, \$10. Mary Worth et al to Elmer Case et ux, Lot 6, Blk. 110, Chaplin's addition, La Grande city, \$10. John Haefel et ux to Arthur Golden et ux, portion of SE 1/4 SW 1/4, Sec. 15, Twp. 3 S., R. 40 E., \$700.

saque (pattern No. 5009) send 15 cents in coin, plus 1 cent postage, your name, address and the pattern number to Anne Cabot, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission street, San Francisco, Calif.

8884

36-52

By SUE BURNETT

Especially designed for the larger woman—a simply made tailored slip with built-up shoulder straps that stay put. Panties to match. Easy to make—Your ABC special.

Pattern No. 8884 is designed for sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 and 52. Size 38, slip requires 2 1/4 yards of 35-inch material; pantie 1 1/4 yards of 35 or 39-inch fabric.

For this pattern, send 20 cents, in coins, your name, address, size desired and the pattern number to Sue Burnett, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif.

Ready now—the spring issue of Fashion. Just 15 cents. A complete guide in planning wardrobe needs for all the family.

Official Records

Water turned on, July 10: Charles A. Zigler, 1505 R avenue, D. L. Gailey, 1301 Fourth street, William Riven, 1201 Jefferson street.

Hold Everything



Can I sell you a ticket to the military policemen's ball?

### Tailored Lingerie



By SUE BURNETT

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### Boots and Her Buddies



IN A CERTAIN OFFICE -- ON A CERTAIN TRAIN --

### Freckles and His Friends



LISTEN TO THIS ONE: I SAW YOUR PICTURE ON THE COVER AND I ONLY HAVE THIS TO SAY -- TWEET! TWEET!

### Red Ryder



BUT, MISS SELLER, MEN DON'T GO TO THE BADLANDS! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!

### Wash Tubbs



THAT'S ONE KRAUT AWAY ON TH' ROPE BRIDGE! YOU'RE NEXT, FATTY!

### Alley Oop



ONE BAD FEATURE OF THIS EMPEROR'S ADVISER IS THAT I GOTTA GO TO TH' PALACE AN' ADVISE THE EMPEROR!

### Red Ryder



I'M GOING JUST THE SAME, MAJOR BOGGS!

### Wash Tubbs



SAY! YOU MUSTA NOT TIED HIM RIGHT, BERTRAM! HE'S TURNED OVER!

### Alley Oop



HMM! THERE MAY BE SOME POSSIBILITIES IN THAT!

### Boots and Her Buddies



BOO-OOTS!

### Freckles and His Friends



HERE'S ANOTHER: "IF YOUR FIGURE MATCHES YOUR FACE -- WOW!"

### Red Ryder



I MAKE MY LIVING WRITING BOOKS ABOUT UNEXPLORED PLACES, AND I ALWAYS GET MY MATERIAL FIRST HAND!

### Wash Tubbs



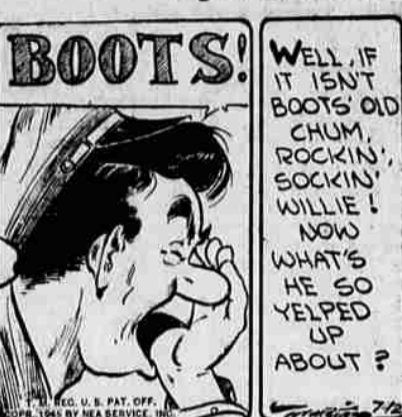
I SHOULDN'T LET HER HAVE A HOSS -- SHE'S TOO PRETTY TO RISK HER NECK!

### Alley Oop



THIS IS SURE A SWELL DISGUISE -- BUT WHERE IS TH' PALACE?

### Boots and Her Buddies



BOOTS! WELL, IF IT ISN'T BOOTS' OLD CHUM, SOCKIN' WILLIE! NOW WHAT'S HE SO YELPED UP ABOUT?

### Freckles and His Friends



THEY CAME FROM G. I.'S ALL OVER THE WORLD, HILDA -- AND HERE'S A DILLY: "SUGAR, YOU ARE MY POST-WAR PLAN!"

### Red Ryder



BUT I MAKE MY LIVIN' RENTIN' RIGS AN' I CAN'T GET RICH TURNIN' FOLKS DOWN!

### Wash Tubbs



GOD FOR HIM! HE MADE IT!

### Alley Oop



DON'T DAMAGE