

# Africa Waits

by Achmed Abdullah  
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## ALONE

### CHAPTER XIX

SO Lincoln was off toward the jungle beyond Lake Tchad. The map was good enough, and, beneath a moon-bright sky, he trekked all that night and reached, early in the morning, a Negro kraal. It was the usual affair of beehive-shaped grass huts, protected by a dense scrub of cactus and elephant-thorns.

Other derelicts must have come through here on their way to the *hymkoot amezee*. For the people asked no Why or Whence nor Whither; hospitality offered him food and drink and a place to rest.

"Yambo! El donyo sabuki—welcome, O Eminence! And eat your fill!"

Money for what they gave so freely?

What use had they for the glint and clink of coins? Only their fields they reckoned valuable possessions and, also, their small, sorrel cattle, since a grain will grow a grain and a beast bring forth a beast. They had sufficient of both.

"Eat your fill! And, if you will, being a dervish, a man of Allah, pray to this same Allah to send us plenty rain!"

He ate, slept, went on; crossed a gaunt wasteland covered with billows of chalk rock mantled by a film-like spray of sand which surged and twisted and twisted in the fiery wind.

Here there were no more kraals. Cultivation ceased. There was no human life. But twice he came upon abandoned encampments, and he knew, by sign of scattered cartridge-cases and torn bits of saddlery and a smashed *Creusot* field gun, that soldiers had passed through here, between Yebba and Lake Tchad. Soldiers of Free France—he guessed—on their long, weary journey to join American and British troops in the north.

Perhaps there had been among them some of his old comrades in the Foreign Legion—going to war because it was their trade. Well—he, too, was going to war. Because it was his duty.

A single man's lonely war. A single man's lonely killing.

## QUICK EMBROIDERY FOR SUMMER SPREAD

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He trekked on.

How many days and nights? He did not keep count. All he knew was that he must hurry; must get to his destination before the *hymkoot amezee* gave the order.

So he slept little. And he was tired. Terribly tired. Raked by fever. Aching in every limb.

He would reach his goal and fulfill his quest if his body survived the strain and pain, the blazing day heat, the sudden, bitter cold of the nights near the Equator, and the frequent attacks of fever and colic due to the polluted water.

Was it—he reflected ironically—for the sake of duty that a man shook in an ague? Because of patriotism that a man's guts retched with bloody dysentery? He gave an unreal laugh.

He preferred the other patriotism; the sort which killed a man, cleanly and properly, with bullet or sword, on the field of battle.

But to die—even for one's country or for the sake of triumphant democracy—by reason of some obscene insect's sting or because of filthy water... why—it didn't seem decent. Certainly wasn't heroic.

Again he laughed, shrilly. "Food, fool!" he shrieked. "Oh you damned, silly fool!"

Was he losing his mind?

He must not allow it. He must pull himself together; must convince himself that he was Lincoln C. Elliot, American, New Englander, and a high official in the service of the United Nations who had a job to do.

And so, slowly, carefully regulating the pauses after each word, he repeated over and over again, with a fairly loud voice:

"I am Lincoln C. Elliot, American! I am sane—I am sane—I am sane!"

THE hours and days passed un-noticed.

Always the fetid, choking heat. Always the sour stench.

Always, feasting on his flesh and blood, the minute mobs of insects, little greedy, ferocious, shimmering, repulsive monsters, armed with horns, with claws, with

## 7583

by Alice Brooks



Let this pair from crinoline days bring a touch of color to your bedspread. And then make matching scarfs, pillow-cases or towels using the smaller head and wreath motifs included in the pattern. Pattern 7583 contains a transfer pattern of a 13 by 17 1/2 and 4 smaller motifs; illustrations of stitches; color schemes; list of materials needed.

To obtain this pattern send 11 cents in coin to The Herald and News, Household Arts Dept., Klamath Falls. Do not send this picture, but keep it and the number for reference. Be sure to wrap coin securely, as a loose coin often slips out of the envelope. Requests for patterns should read, "Send pattern No. \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_, followed by your name and address."

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## HOLD EVERYTHING!

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## TAXIDERMISTS' CONVENTION



"Who's a stuffed shirt?"

He retraced his steps, carefully scanning the ground. Then he saw it. He saw it jutting at him, chewed into hundreds of tiny pieces by an army of voracious soldier-ants.

He drew out his compass and watched the quivering, magnetic needle. He located south-east where lay Lake Tchad and the clearing called the Meeting of the Elephants. But straight ahead the jungle stood like a rampart of steel, mocking, sinister; thinly pierced by the four narrow paths—and each of the four leading vaguely in a southeastern direction, and each, after a short distance, feathering out at a different angle.

Which of the four should he take?

(To Be Continued)

Bootleggers know that what's sauce for the goose is easy pickings for the smart duck.



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## THIS CURIOUS WORLD



**IN JAPAN, BECAUSE OF THE ENORMOUS RISE AND FALL OF THE TIDES, OYSTER FARMERS CAN MAKE A DAILY INSPECTION OF THEIR OYSTER BEDS IN WATER SCARCELY ANKLE DEEP.**

**IN THE U.S. THERE ARE ABOUT FIVE ACRES OF FOREST FOR EACH PERSON.**

IT'S EASY TO FORM A HABIT WHEN THE HABIT FITS YOUR FORM. Says MISS A. RACEK, Portage, Wisconsin.

NEXT: Why corn farmers like rain.

## Out Our Way

By J. R. Williams



THE BATTLE OF LIFE

## MONOTONY

LAUREL, Mont., (AP)— Corp. Lyle Rodgers, former cowboy now in the marines, was all excited over his first glimpse of South Sea Isles—and what happens?

"There were a lot of cattle," he reports, "and everybody thought a Montana man ought to handle them."

So he rode herd on island shorthorns, cut out the dogies and did his own branding, he even found a saddle—labeled "made in Billings, Mont."

Children are a great handicap to anybody who wants to be unhappy.

## Our Boarding House

With Major Hoople



THE BATTLE OF LIFE

## Red Ryder



AS RED RYDER AND LITTLE BEAVER RETURN HOME, MAVERICK CELEBRATES!

## Our Boarding House

With Major Hoople



PUSHING ON TO UNCLE ROGER'S

## Red Ryder



AS RED RYDER AND LITTLE BEAVER RETURN HOME, MAVERICK CELEBRATES!

## Freckles and His Friends

By Blosser



WELL, I SAW FOOTPRINTS OVER THERE BIGGER'N MINE OR LANA'S!— AN' I'N NOISE OF US MAD'EM, THERE'S A MAN ON THIS ISLAND!

## Wash Tubbs

By Cron



OUR SUPPLY PLANE IS DUE TONIGHT. IT CAN TAKE YOU BOTH TO ENGLAND.

## Boots and Her Buddies

By V. T. Hamlin



OH, GEE! S'LONG, OPAL— THERE'S THE FARM TRUCK OUT FRONT!

## Allep Oop

By Martin



WITH YOUR HELP I CAN DEVISE A METAL TONGUE ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND THE PULSION BLAST!

## Little Orphan Annie

By Harold Gray



SO PUNJAB MADE THE U-BOAT DISAPPEAR!

## FUNNY BUSINESS



"That Number One gunner is fishing again, sir!"

## ARABIAN RULER

**HORIZONTAL**

1, 7 Pictured Arabian ruler.

14 Erase

16 Annual

17 Diminutive of Edward

18 Insect

19 Louse egg

20 Doctor of Divinity (abbr.)

21 Dined

23 Is able

24 Elevate

27 Extinct bird

29 Donkey

30 Decorated with stars

33 Bought (abbr.)

34 Record of the events of a single year

35 Help

37 Friendly

39 Bowl

41 Advertisements (abbr.)

42 Mountain

44 Peep

**VERTICAL**

1 Therefore

2 Indian

3 Boy

4 Symbol for thallium

5 Precious stones

6 Baseball team

7 Males

8 Pertaining to the ear

9 Obstruct

10 Symbol for osmium

11 Chief

12 Vulgar fellow

13 Upon

15 Near

21 Like

22 Windstorm

24 His capital is

25 On the move

26 Exists

27 Violent insanity

28 He rules tribes of

31 Beret

32 Cloth measure

36 Perform

37 Intimate

38 Place upon rails

40 Music note

43 Good

44 Entreaty

45 Damage

46 Before

48 Born

49 Symbol for aluminum

50 Hawaiian food

51 Bewilderment

52 Opera (abbr.)

56 "Sioux state" (abbr.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

**FIFTH ARMY**

**SERER DARES**

**YANKEE ASSAIL**

**LAIC TOM TRIP**

**INLET INSERT**

**DKS R US MA SEE**

**HE FIFTH AMT**

**ORB A ARMY ESTEEM**

**FLAX RIO HELP**

**SIERRA MOVERS**

**DREAM AVERS**

**TEMPERATE**