



Volume 8

Burbank, California, March, 1954

Number 9

Dianna Bixby Ready To Fly

In the fall of 1953, a small woman walked rapidly through an airplane hangar of The Flying Tiger Line at Burbank, Calif. Her rapid gait indicated boundless energy and the big, friendly smile she flashed at familiar faces brought echoing "Hi's" above the rivet-and-motor din of the hangar.

Suddenly she stopped dead still to gaze intently at a plane that seemed tiny in its inconspicuous corner under the guarding wings of huge, four-engine C-54's in the barn for overhaul.

A few moments later, after a short conversation with the mechanics working on the small plane, she was sitting nervously in the walnut-paneled office of Bob Prescott, president of Flying Tigers.

"I see you've got the Mosquito," she began. Prescott smiled and waited for her to continue.

"I'd like to try it again, this time solo," she said.

Prescott looked at her a moment.

"Sure, why not," he finally replied.

So it is that in a few days, 31-year-old Dianna Bixby, 110 pounds of five feet two with eyes of blue will try to do what only two others ever have accomplished and faster than man has ever flown before — a record-breaking solo flight around the world in 60 hours or less.

The record she will be shooting at is that of 73 hours and five minutes, established in 1947 by the late Bill Odum. The first and only other man to do

(Continued on Page 6)

Navigator Named Top Award Winner

The response to the suggestion program produced 15 winners during the month of February. One of the winners, W. L. Danielson, a navigator, received the top possible award for his suggestion, while two employees, E. C. Bullard and W. Margrave, were the only double award winners for the month, with two suggestions each deemed worthy of awards. Other award winners were C. M. Guerra, R. A. Papineau, F. S. Pierce, E. Marshall, and S. T. Uminiski.

In cases where an idea or suggestion submitted by an employee does not draw the necessary evaluation to merit a cash award, but, nevertheless, is of some value to the problem involved, a "letter of commendation" is presented to the suggester. A copy of this letter is also placed in the employee's personnel file for future reference.

Five employees fell into this latter category in February. They are D. L. Sharp, E. C. Bullard, I. H. Weiner, C. W. Russell, and

Duehren Appointed To New Position

W. J. (Red) Duehren, one of the first FTL employees, has been appointed superintendent of Maintenance to succeed Al Goldberg, who has resigned to join North American Airlines at Burbank.

Red entered aviation in 1940 with Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., and was employed by FTL as a mechanic in 1946. He has come up through the ranks with Tigers and is well qualified for his present position.

Red will continue in the position of superintendent of Maintenance when the FTL-Slick merger is completed.

Mroczek Is Father

Congratulations to Walter M. Mroczek, leadman in engine build-up, on the arrival of a baby boy, Ronald Walter. The Mroczek heir weighed in at 8 lbs. 2 oz., on Feb. 16.

E. Marshall.

If anyone has a constructive idea pertaining to his job or company operation, put it to work and let it earn cash by handing it in as a suggestion.

Flying Tigresses Name New Officers

The Flying Tigress Club held an election of officers for the forthcoming year on Feb. 16 at the Candlelight Inn in Glendale.

Officers elected were president, Betty Haywood; first vice president, Betty Lou Allen; second vice president, Betty Stuelke; recording secretary, Anita Donahue; corresponding secretary, Elizabeth Ventresca; treasurer, Shari Goldsmith; historian, Pat Hicks; and parliamentarian, Eileen Franklin.

Installation of officers is planned for Mar. 16, to be held at the home of Mrs. Pat Hicks.

The BIG Brewery Party was held Mar. 5 at the Eastside Brewery. Ricki de Kramer was chairman of the event and Peg Machado in full charge of the entertainment. More on the happenings of this event next month.

America is growing at the rate of more than 250,000 people a month. Since 1940 the population has gone up by 24,000,000 and estimates are that it will go up another 20,000,000 by 1961.



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The Flying Tiger Line Inc.

Lockheed Air Terminal, Burbank, California
 Len Kimball Public Relations Director
 Dode Penrod TigerReview Editor
 Pat Williams Circulation Manager

Contributions from all employees welcomed.
 Deadline for material first day of each month.

NO ARMISTICE IN SIGHT

Signing of an armistice last July ending hostilities in Korea was an occasion for rejoicing throughout our entire country.

During three years of Korean warfare, American forces had lost more than 25,000 men killed in action on a foreign battle field.

Today we are still engaged in a grim fight on the home front with an enemy more deadly than all of the communist armies in Korea. And on this battle front there is no armistice in sight. This current conflict is taking a yearly toll of lives nine times greater than that suffered by our armed forces during three years of war in Korea.

The foe who daily threatens the lives of Americans is cancer.

During 1953, a total of 225,000 persons in the United States died from the dread disease which, it is estimated, will strike 1 out of 5 Americans at some time in his life.

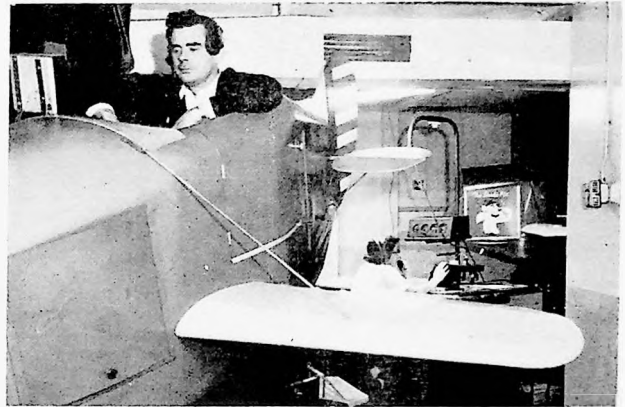
The nationwide campaign to conquer this country's second most deadly disease is spearheaded by the American Cancer Society's comprehensive, three-fold program of public and professional education, service to patients and scientific research into the causes, cures and treatments of the disease.

Everyone cannot engage directly in the campaign to eradicate cancer being fought by scientists, family doctors, nurses and thousands of volunteers. But we all can help indirectly by contributing generously to the cause through our local American Cancer Society unit.

When a volunteer calls for your donation don't fail to strike back at cancer—man's cruellest enemy.

TIGEROLOGY

By Jack DeBar Smith



Question: Do all FTL pilots have to "fly blind in Burbank" at regular intervals?

A. Absolutely. Pilots are required to take two hours of Link training each month. The Link Trainer simulates actual flight conditions and gives pilots the opportunity of practicing take-offs and landings from any airport in the world.

Q. How can FTL assist a customer who has unusual crating and packaging problems?

A. Air-Pack Corp., a subsidiary company of FTL, specializes in every type of packing, crating and cartoning for both air and surface shipping. Air-Pack, with offices in Los Angeles and Newark, has many unusual items passing through its plants, such as large telescopes which require specially designed reuseable shipping containers.

Q. What are the six requirements for being a good cargo man?

A. 1. Brain over brawn. 2. Courtesy to the customer. 3. Pride in his work. 4. Ability to handle cargo carefully. 5. Load and unload a plane quickly. 6. Follow through and see if freight is properly labeled, packed, tied down, and on the proper truck.

Q. Can FTL furnish armed guards for valuable shipments?

A. Yes. At a cost of \$4.50 per hour, FTL will furnish armed guard service on classified government shipments. This is a competitive advantage over surface transportation due to less time in transit. Armed surveillance on GBL shipments is furnished free by a pistol packin' pilot.

Q. What is the operating cost of FTL aircraft?

A. The cost of keeping one of

our C-46's in the air for one hour is approximately \$90 and for a C-54 it is \$120. This includes a crew of two.

Q. What airline has been added to FTL's growing list of interline agreements?

A. Japan Air Lines, operating Douglas DC-6B equipment, will connect with FTL service at San Francisco, providing a new trans-Pacific air service for air shippers.

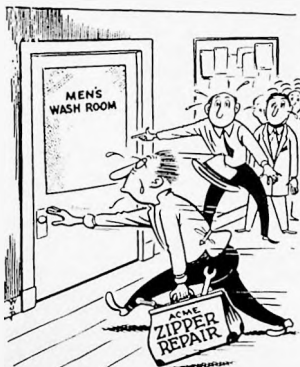
Nearly Everyone Must File State Income Tax Form

Robert C. Kirkwood, chairman of the California Franchise Tax Board, says that an anticipated 2,900,000 state income tax returns will be filed during 1954, producing \$100,000,000 in revenue to the State.

Returns for 1953 are required from all single persons whose net income was \$2000 or more and all married couples whose combined net income was \$3500 or more. Individuals who qualify as the head of a household must file if their net income was \$2000 or more.

Because of the anticipated increase of 500,000 more returns than last year it is important that persons requiring assistance in the preparation of their returns contact the Income Tax Division at the earliest possible date.

Important differences exist between the State and Federal income tax laws, and the Franchise Tax Board offers free assistance to all taxpayers at the permanent offices listed on the 1953 instructions.



Motorist's Prayer

Grant me a steady hand, and watchful eye,
 That no man shall be hurt when I pass by.
 Thou gavest life, and pray no act of mine
 May take away or mar that gift of Thine.
 Shelter those, dear Lord, who bear me company,
 From the evils of fire and all calamity.
 Teach me to use my car for others' need,
 Nor miss through love of speed
 The beauty of Thy world; that thus I may
 With joy and courtesy go my way.

HOBBIES - - - - - By Shelley Green

A Life of Unselfish Devotion

Portrait of SHERWOOD DeWEES, inspector in the Burbank Inspection department.

An artist might be a bit undecided as to how to paint Sherwood DeWees. Should he surround him with children? or show him ringing doorbells while soliciting money for a small-fry baseball team? or driving doggedly from one Army headquarters to another in a frustrating attempt to get permission for the team to play on the grounds of Birmingham Hospital. Or should he just try to put on canvas the kindness and genuine liking this man has for children? Good portrait artists are supposed to see the soul behind the face; and in that event any painting of Sherwood DeWees would show outstanding qualities.

He has a pleasing personality, and it has been said of him that he "seems to have the peculiar ability to like kids that other people don't like". Most parents can find time only to take care of their own children, but Sherwood has the talent to care for 20 or 30 others. For instance, if he came home and found a group playing in the street, he would start playing with them and gently and gradually lead them off into a back lot and away from traffic hazards. He realizes the need for adult supervision and participation in youth activities, and has done more than his share in that respect.

This unselfish devotion led to his being accorded a Life Membership in the Parent Teachers Association on Feb. 9, 1954 — a very great honor. Here is the story as told by Paul Grace, superintendent of inspection.

"The PTA of the Tarzana School to which Sherwood and his wife belong had voted to give him a Life Membership, and in presenting it they had worked up a routine very similar to 'This Is Your Life' which they called 'This Is Your Life Membership'. Accordingly, they wanted someone there to represent The Flying Tiger Line. I was happy to go.

"Before going any further, I'd better explain about the Life Membership. A winner is announced once a year, and the PTA being an organization with limited capital, it is somewhat of a sacrifice on their part, because it costs \$25 each time they make an award. As the dues amount to only 50c a year, you can realize that to them \$25 is a sizeable amount. Therefore they

give those memberships only to those who genuinely merit them. Heretofore, in that particular school district, the award had been given only to outstanding teachers. This was the first time that a citizen of the community was to be so honored.

"The Mistress of Ceremonies followed the Ralph Edwards-type script. She surprised Sherwood by announcing that he was the winner and asking him to come forward. Then she went back to his birth, telling where he was born, and how tragedy struck when he was three when he lost his mother. The MC told of other events, and led up to the time of his marriage. Then she asked Mrs. DeWees to step up. She went on recounting his life until the birth of his son, and the son also was asked to join his parents on the stage. Sherwood's background was mentioned — the types of work he had done, how he came to California, his work at Pan American, and then his present job with FTL.

"That was my cue, (Paul Grace continued) and from behind a partially opened door where Sherwood and the audience couldn't see me, I mentioned that the first time I saw him he had his head buried inside a C-54 fuel tank and was covered with sealant. By this time Sherwood was so befuddled that he didn't know who I was, and when I came out he reacted exactly the way they do on 'This Is Your Life'!

"Next there was a woman from a Boy Scout group and a man from the Rotary Club and each made a few statements. But Sherwood still couldn't recognize anybody. The performance was concluded by reading the book, a la Ralph Edwards style.

"It was a stimulating and highly satisfactory experience. The gratifying part about it was the fact that I knew somebody as busy as most of our employees are who would take the time to do something unselfishly for other people with absolutely no thought of remuneration. It is an attitude such as this that goes a long way in curbing juvenile delinquency. I am very pleased to have such a person working in my department."

Take up your palette, artist! What do you see? A man of great stature who realizes that the children of today are the men and women of tomorrow, and is helping them to a better and more responsible adulthood.



—Photo by Van Nuys Green Sheet
PROUD OF PAPA—Buddy DeWees, 11, had to stand on a soap box to admire his dad's life membership award presented by Nestle Ave. PTA (Van Nuys, Calif.) for outstanding youth work. Sherwood L. DeWees is FTL inspector. His wife, Lee, at left, points to citation.

A Stone Tablet for the Secretary

Ladies, have a taste of your own medicine. Here are "Ten Commandments", as drawn up by the 100 bosses (now confined in the Psychopathic Ward of the Bellevue Hospital) of the hundred secretaries. This is in answer to "A Stone Tablet for the Boss" which appeared in the February TigerReview.

1. Thou shalt take a course in shorthand.
2. Thou shalt not invade the sanctity of thy boss' personal affairs.
3. Thou shalt not drool to thy boy-friend on thy boss' telephone.
4. Thou shalt not chew gum in thy boss' presence.
5. Thou shalt remember that thy boss is inhuman and is expected to do the impossible.
6. Thou shalt complete all of Monday's assignments by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday.
7. Thou shalt not abuse the coffee hour (?).
8. Thou shalt not blame shorthand or typographical errors on thy boss.
9. Thou shalt not covet thy boss' purse.
10. Honor thy poor benighted boss for verily he bleeds.

Tiger Poll *By Lillian Colman*

Do you think laws should be amended so that the death penalty is imposed on those found guilty of peddling narcotics?

Catherine Papiri, Secretary

I think I do. Certainly a more severe penalty should be imposed after the first offense. The death penalty seems like a drastic sentence, but then so is the offense. I've often thought the present punishment was not severe enough. People who are caught time and time again seem to get away with a light sentence of just a few months in jail and then they are out again.



C. F. Bowen, Leadman

I don't think the death penalty is the answer. Murder and kidnapping still go on and their activities haven't been curtailed because the death penalty is imposed. I believe the answer would be to increase the penalty to life sentence without the benefit of a parole. I don't feel that the death penalty is the answer. Anyone found guilty of peddling to minors should certainly get a life sentence.



Hal Hammond, LAX Sales

A stronger penalty should be delivered by the judges to those found guilty of selling narcotics. The integrity of some of the law enforcement personnel has been found to be questionable, to the extent of actually planting narcotics on individuals, as well as dealing in the sale of narcotics. Therefore we should be extremely careful in changing the law to impose the death penalty, since innocent victims might be subject to the more stringent sentence.



Jack Coveney, Administrative Assistant, Claims Department

It is my understanding that positive proof must be given to the court before conviction of a dope peddler can be obtained. Such proof is through actual purchase of narcotics by the arresting officer from the peddler. With conclusive evidence, I feel the first offense warrants a five year imprisonment. For second offenders 5 years to life and third offenders should suffer the death penalty. After all, a peddler deals out life and death sentences each time he makes a sale.



Hal Bauer—International Sales

No, the death penalty should not be imposed. There is a possibility of involving innocent people who might have been wrongly accused of engaging in the sale of narcotics, even though circumstances indicate their guilt.



Ann Aherne, General Clerk Purchasing Department

There are too many juveniles who are taking it up as a sport and don't realize the drastic consequences; therefore peddlers should be exterminated. The reform schools for juvenile delinquents are over crowded. They don't have the facilities and something drastic should be done. I definitely advocate the death penalty for those found guilty of peddling narcotics.



No one has ever yet climbed the ladder of success with his hands in his pockets.



SHE SAVED FOR IT—Shelley Green takes over the keys to her new Pontiac convertible from Bill Holden of Helms Pontiac-Cadillac, San Fernando, Calif.

FTL Credit Union Is 'Good Medicine' For Both Savers and Borrowers

Quack!

This is no joke, for any and all concerned . . . A recent new recruit turned up in Fort Meade, Md., with the real but somewhat wonderful name of Pvt. Donald R. Duck.

Gladys Gamble, Secretary

For the misery it causes, the penalty now is not severe enough. I think that the death penalty should be imposed. Look at what happened after the death penalty was imposed—there are far less kidnappings today because of that law. The same would hold true for narcotic peddling.



Paul Massaro, OAK Station

No, because that is the easiest penalty that can be placed on an individual. I believe a life imprisonment sentence should be given, even though it represents a higher cost to the tax payers. I think it would be more in keeping with the current problem presented here.



That regular payroll deduction saving really pays off is the confirmed belief of Shelley Green, secretary to Fred Benninger, who recently purchased a Pontiac convertible with money saved just that way. And not only did she save that annoying "service" charge by paying cash for her car, but she also drew a nice dividend during the time that she was saving her money.

Speaking of "service" charges, you've heard the kind of offers made on TV these days. A fast pitch man gives a spiel about what a "once-in-a-lifetime" deal he has for you, paying nothing down, only \$1 a week, plus a "small" service charge.

If you ever follow through on one of those offers you will find out about that "small" service charge. On a recent \$49.95 offer of a watch with \$1 a week payments, the "small" service charge was \$5, which is high interest any way you figure it.

No one at FTL should ever be hooked by such offers. You have a Credit Union! And the Credit Union is set up for your benefit.

You can save money on anything you intend to buy on time by borrowing from your Credit Union and paying cash, and paying back the loan by easy monthly payroll deductions according to your earnings.

Take advantage of your own Credit Union—save in it—borrow from it—and be protected by the insurance the Credit Union offers to eligible borrowers.

February 'Jinx' For RML Station

By Sam the RML Snooper
We in RML are glad that February is over. We've had just about everything that could happen. Excitement — WOW! It all started off normal here: the freight dropped as usual for RML and then wham . . . Capt. Ken Henderson belly-whopped one of our proud aircraft into the corn field in the middle of the airport. Not even a skinned knuckle. Dick Coyne, EWR, came in and took a look at it and sent for help but the baby is due back out on the line any day now.

A couple of days later, Cpts. Armstrong and Sours scared the boys at YIP tower with a burning engine. Again Mr. Coyne and his boys were called. This time they had to commute to YIP in order to do their work. That's a nice little ride, 27 miles round trip.

Bob Storey, RML Sales Rep., is coming into the bucks . . . or is he??? He's out shopping around for a Caddy, any year between '50 and '52. Seems his Buick has taken all it can stand after getting the front caved in during one of the snow storms and getting the back pushed in during an ice storm.

Doug Bush, DSM, reports that there is a lot of snow in CWX. That's the code word for Houghton, Mich. Doug went up there on an interline trip on North Central Airlines. He got off the plane there and that was the last aircraft that they saw for 36 hours. It snowed all the time, but did he get in the sales licks! Four speeches, one radio program and a news item in the Mining Daily. The people up there, when they heard our name, expected to see P-40s sweep out of the north and start shooting down anything that had wings. He assured them that our captains were all peace-loving.

MERGER — What's that???? Sli and FTL RML have been merged here since the beginning of the year. New terminal, you know.

Address of the month! Detroit Wayne Major Airport, INKSTER, MICHIGAN, USA. RML's mail is getting all mixed up. So all you little stations on the line, please use the above address. Some of our mail looks like a little orfink when we get it a week or so after being mailed out of some of the stations. Mis-sent to Des Moines, Decatur, and various other places in the world.

Quote of the week: Distress talk invites depression, scares customers, and does a fine job of killing jobs.



AT THE WEST COAST Conference of the Women's Traffic Club, held at the Claremont Hotel, Berkeley, Calif., Art Breyfogle and his charming wife, Jo, literally "sang for their supper", much to the pleasure of the 171 assembled club members.

Art (DSM at SFO) and Jo are seated in the center in the photo above. The Breyfogles have had extensive experience in concert singing both with operatic groups and on Broadway. Their rendition of "Sweethearts" at the West Coast Conference met with hearty approval.



SOME OF THE SUGGESTION award winners for February display checks they received for valuable suggestions. Left to right: J. Gaudino, E. Bruce,

—Photo by Lloyd Sherman
W. S. Hoffman, L. Maglia (suggestions coordinator representing the Superintendent of Maintenance), E. C. Bullard, F. Wheeler, and P. Hollinger.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE

SELL OR TRADE 2 1/2 HP outboard motor & 1 pr. size 12 men's white shoe skates. Almost new. H. E. Lawler, Bill's Engine Crew.
ENGINE TOOLS & equipment Working swing shift. Loose Equipment Crew Jay E. Schwartzbine, 8407 Stansbury, Van Nuys.
1 PR of MUGGINS, imported, 1/2 price. \$10. Hawkins Hydraulic Inspection.
LADIES 17 JEWEL LONGINE watch, 6 diamonds, metal band while gold. C. V. Leeper. Dope and Fabric Shop, days.
CAPEHART RADIO and Phonograph comb. \$65. Beaut. Walnut cabinet. could be converted for TV or a bar record player turns records over on both sides auto Ext. 268, evenings. SU 3-3120. Lillian Colman.
KENMORE WASHER, large Kenmore ironer, large, \$350 new, \$150 for both. Used very little. Stan Miller's Crew or call ST 9-6273.
POLAROID LAND camera, perf. cond. Used for 200 pictures. \$50. C. V. Leeper. Dope and Fabric Shop, days.
NEAR new roll-a-way bed. \$25. FL 3-7241.

TOMLINSON DAVENPORT, frieze w/ down cushions. Orig. cost \$325, sell \$75. Helen Kimball, CH 5-8885.
FREE to good home, highly educated kittens with good family background on mother's side. Call Art Schifferman, Ext. 251.
MEDIUM SIZE dog house, mattress & bed. Call Mr. Fletcher, EX 4-8737.
FOR TRADE—1 practically new new 45 Cal. Colt Revolver. Trade for 38 Colt or Smith in like condition. Lucky Edmonds, Paint Shop.
SKI BOOTS, size 9, good condition. \$5. Also 2 ski sweaters, red & blue on white background, hand knit. Cost \$25 each, will sell for \$15. John M. Schmechel, 16954 Marlin Pl. DI 3-7998, clock No. 8553.
MATCHED SET of rings, wedding band & engagement. Call Credit Union for bargain. Appraised at Gensler-Lee at \$225.16, sell for less.
IDYLLWILD, Calif. See Bob O'Donnell or call FTL Credit Union, Approx. 2 acres, 4 bedrms, 1 1/2 bath, lge. fireplace, compl. furn., trout stream, deer hunting in season, 3-hr. drive from L.A. \$16,000 or make offer.

WANTED

WANTED TO RENT—up to \$65 per mo. One or two bedroom house west of Van Nuys Blvd. Older type house

pref. Yes I have a dog, Tom Bowen, AF Stock—SW SH. Ext. 350.
FORMER TIGER employee wants painting, paperhanging & roof oiling jobs. W. H. (Bud) Vermeer, DI 8-8861.

MISCELLANEOUS

FREE EQUITY in housefull of furniture. House is to rent. SU 2-5948 6611 Ben Ave. G. W. Stoier.
TV SERVICE—Former FTL navigator, temp. furloughed, Nick Ventresca, 9106 Sepulveda EM 2-6519 or EM 2-6868.

AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE

51 FORD Victoria, Radio, heater, O-drive, WW tires, Life Guard tubes, seat covers, new brakes & clutch. Call OR 7-3165 days.
OLDS 88 ENGINE—Complete—ported & polished, \$200. Pat O'Brien, SU 1-3007 or A.F. Engine Crew.
FOR YOUR NEW or used car—See "Honest John" Portugal, Flite Line or call SU 1-8726. 189 Satisfied "Tiger" customers. New car discounts (up to \$100).
JUNKING OUT a "38" Ford Roadster. Call Jack Killgore, NOR 1-7039.

(Continued from Page 1)

it was the indomitable Wiley Post. The only other woman to try it, Amelia Earhart, was lost in the Pacific in 1937.

It is interesting to note here that while Odum's flight is commonly accepted as a record, it was unofficial. Odum followed his own course. Dianna will follow the course prescribed by the National Aeronautic Association. No one has ever succeeded over this course, hence there is no official round-the-world record in the books.

The route Dianna will fly in the Mosquito, appropriately named "Miss Flying Tiger," begins at San Francisco International Airport and stretches 20,525 miles around the world via Newark, Paris, Basra, Karachi, Calcutta, Tokyo, Midway Island and back to San Francisco. The longest leg is over the historic Lindbergh route, New York-to-Paris, 3,642 miles. Her flight plan calls for a trip of 60 hours, 20 minutes, with seven stops of one-hour each for refueling, clearances and weather information.

Asked about rest or sleep, she laughed:

"What's that!"

The plane Dianna saw last fall in the Tiger hangar quickly brought back poignant memories to her, for in the spring of 1950, she and her husband, Bob Bixby, had used the same ship in an unsuccessful attempt to set a record. Over Calcutta, they were forced down by engine trouble.

So when she saw the trim, speedy British DeHavilland Mosquito, famed raider of the Royal Air Forces in the last war, standing in the Tiger hangar, she — well, let her tell it in her own words.

"I knew then that I had to do this again. It just came over me. I've always wanted to do it and when I suddenly saw the plane, I knew the time had come for me to try again."

After the 1950 flight, the plane had been acquired by Aviation Export Co., of Los Angeles, headed by Clair Waterbury, former RAF pilot. Waterbury saw a great potential in the aircraft. He thought it could be reconverted for high altitude aerial survey work and possibly for fast executive transport use. He talked to Bob Prescott and the Tiger president agreed that there might be a field for it. So the Tigers and Aviation Export entered a partnership to pioneer the airplane in a new field. That was how it happened to be in the hangar the day Dianna saw it.

Powered with new Packard Merlin V-type in-line engines de-

veloping 1,600 horsepower each, such as the P-51 Mustang fighter uses, equipped with wing fuel tanks and a new-type high altitude pressurization system, the Mosquito is expected to cruise at 400 miles an hour at altitudes of 35,000 to 40,000 feet. It has a

two children, a four-year-old daughter and a year-old son, Lillian and Bobby. Dianna comes from a line in whose blood pioneering runs strongly. She is descended from an old New England family which came to America in the 17th century. Her 84-

Flight Plan for Bixby Round-the-World-Flight

Pilot — Dianna C. Bixby, 2195 E. Spring St., Long Beach, Calif.

Aircraft — British DeHavilland Mosquito, twin engine. Identification Number—N1203V.

Colors — White trimmed with red and blue. Nose and wing-tank bear shark's mouths.

Ship named "Miss Flying Tiger."

Engines — Two Packard-Merlin V-type liquid-cooled. Type — V 1650-9. Horsepower — 1600 each.

Range — 4,000 miles. Fuel capacity — 1,325 gallons.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

City	Miles	Flying Time at 385 MPH	Greenwich Mt. Time	Local Time	Take off or Landing
San Francisco ...	0	0:00 hrs.	1500 hrs.	0700 hrs.	Time off
Newark	2532	6:35	2135	1635	Landing
			2235	1735	Take-off
Paris	3642	9:25	0800	0800	Landing
			0900	0900	Take off
Basra	2800	7:15	1615	1915	Landing
			1715	2015	Take off
Karachi	1250	3:15	2030	0230	Landing
			2130	0330	Take off
Calcutta	1361	3:35	0105	0705	Landing
			0205	0805	Take off
Tokyo	3204	8:20	1025	1925	Landing
			1125	2025	Take off
Midway Island ..	2532	6:35	1800	0700	Landing
			1900	0800	Take off
San Francisco ...	3204	8:20	0320	1920	Landing
Totals	20,525	60:20 Hrs.			

Flight schedule follows route officially approved by the National Aeronautics Association and flight will be timed by the NAA.

range of 4,000 miles. No commercial propeller-driven plane flying today can match this performance.

Where Prescott and Waterbury saw an opportunity to offer commercial and government users of aerial surveys an airplane which could take costly pictures of the earth faster and over a broader area than any other ship, Dianna saw a chance to claim the record she has dreamed about ever since, as a girl, she read of the exploits of Amelia Earhart.

"In the book, Last Flight, written after she was lost," Dianna recounted, "she left a challenge. She said that if she failed, some other woman would come along to do what she tried. Like Amelia, I want to do it because I want to do it. I guess it's something like climbing mountains. In my case it's the world is there and I want to fly around it."

Born 31 years ago in Santa Paula, Calif., and the mother of

year-old grandmother, Mary Converse, living in Denver, is the only woman who ever received full papers as a captain in the Merchant Marine. Her father, Elisha E. Converse, now a retired rancher and raiser of prize horses, invented the rubber boot and established the highly successful Converse Rubber Co., of Boston.

Dianna already has an outstanding, if little known, record in flying.

Aviation intrigued her as a little girl and Amelia Earhart set her to dreaming. Her family looked critically at flying and fliers so Dianna never got a chance to fly until the last war, when she married John Cyrus, an Air Force pilot in 1943. She learned to fly while traveling with him to air bases. In 1945, he was shot down in the Battle of the Bulge and lost.

Dianna kept on with flying. She caught on as co-pilot in one of the country's first air freight operations, Eagle, flying along the

West Coast and east to Texas and Oklahoma. There she met Bob Bixby, a 10,000-hour wartime Air Transport Command pilot who also had turned to flying freight. In 1948, they were married and when Eagle discontinued operations, Bob and Dianna acquired two C-47's which they used for charter operations.

This led them once more into the air freight business.

In 1949, the Tigers won their certificate to operate U. S. Air Freight Route 100. They needed short-haul aircraft and Dianna and Bob had part of the answer in their two C-47's. Although leasing them to the Tigers, the husband-and-wife flying team stipulated that they would do the job of flying.

So for a year, Dianna was a captain for The Flying Tiger Line on the Boston-Newark segment of the Tiger system, one of the world's busiest air routes. She is the only woman who has ever flown as an airline captain. When the Tigers acquired their own equipment, Dianna went back to her charter flying operations with an accolade from the Tiger pilot and operations personnel.

The end of the contract gave Dianna her first chance to realize her dream. She had acquired an A-26, the fast Douglas attack plane of the war, and had flown it in transcontinental races much against the wishes of her family, who thought she was doing very well in transports so why take on racing aircraft. The A-26 was sold and shortly thereafter, Dianna and Bob picked up the British Mosquito in Miami.

They got it in shape and started out to fly the world and beat Odum's time. They were ahead of the record at Calcutta when a coolant line failed and one engine blew a head. Eventually, they finished the trip but the record was gone.

Once more, Dianna returned to the routine job of charter flying, occasional movie flying and keeping house in a big red brick home in Long Beach.

She and Bob were doing a good job of this when she happened to walk through the Tiger hangar last fall.

So now she is back once more at the threshold of her dreams with a red, white and blue airplane named "Miss Flying Tiger" going through its final tests before she takes it off on a flight which she hopes will put into the record books a mark that has never appeared there before — an official round-the-world solo flight. Dianna wants one thing more:

"It must be the fastest. Otherwise, it doesn't mean much."