

VETS DOING O.K. WITH SMALL SAN DIEGO AIRLINES

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Three Firms Carry Cargo, Passengers on Charter, Go Any Place, Any Time

**Fly Servicemen,
 Fight Fan Parties,
 Emergency Freight**

By VINCE DUNNE

They'll take off for anywhere, anytime, any route these one, two or three-plane airlines.

They'll carry anything from live lobsters or horseshoe nails, to a party of sportsmen heading 3000 miles to a champion prizefight.

They're owned and operated virtually 100 percent by wartime fliers who have turned in their uniforms but not their wings. They have popped up like mushrooms at airports throughout the country.

Three such enterprises are going concerns here today at Lindbergh field, all started since the war's end and all are convinced they're here to stay.

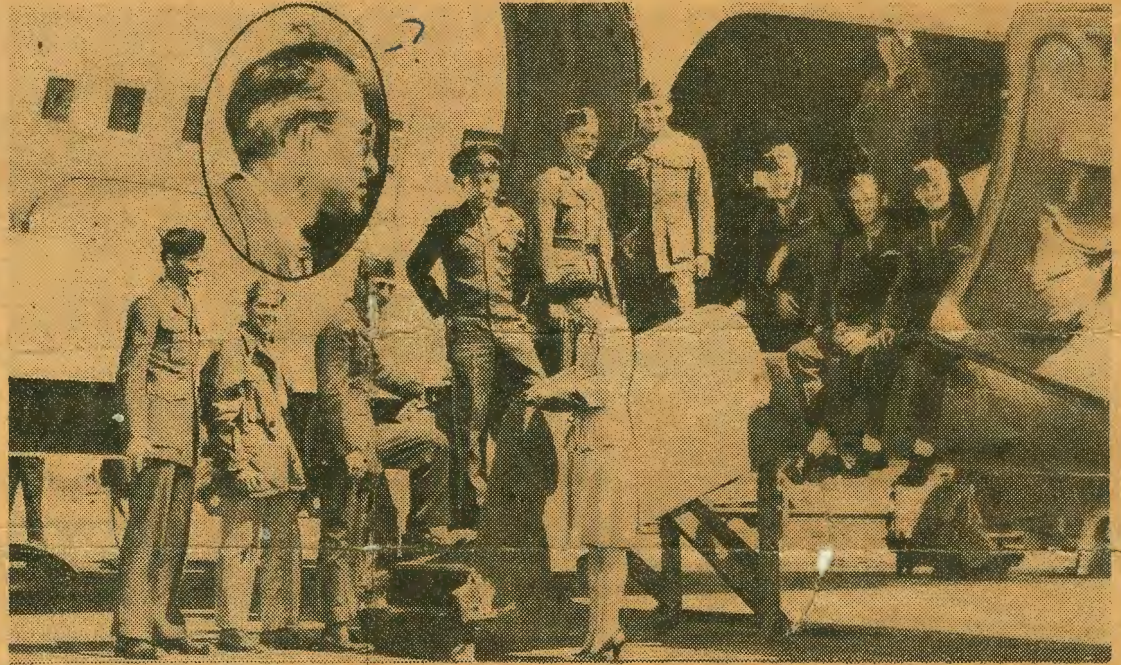
W. A. Only 20 Years Old

Western Air was born 20 years ago with one hangar—look at 'em now," exclaimed Shields B. Craft, 38, ex-Army Air force flight instructor, head of one of the San Diego ventures.

Craft's firm, Standard Air Cargo, is located at Lindbergh field's southwest Harbor dr. corner. San Diego Sky Freight, a partnership of five veterans, operates its one plane—a DC-3—at the north end. Its owner-personnel roster consists of Arnold and Joe Hecker, E. F. Bennett, H. L. Semar and W. H. Ray. Small wooden buildings furnish office and shed space, with hangars still a problem for the future.

Swift Air Service, with a twin-engine Cessna, a single engine Cessna, an eight-passenger Norseman and the agency for a light monoplane, is the aristocrat of the trio, with an office in the field's main administration building.

Jack Dowdle, 32, former navy



Veteran owned and operated, charter airlines of one to three planes are carrying passengers and varied cargo to all parts of the country from San Diego's Lindbergh field. Here, Standard Air Cargo, one of three embryo commercial aviation ventures launched here, loads one of the line's two planes. Service personnel currently keep the planes busy. Next will come an entry into the cargo field. In inset is Shields B. Craft, wartime army flier and S.A.C. president.

pilot, operates the line, assisted by his wife, Frances, and Russ Whitmore, 31, former navy transport flier.

Two DC-3's take the air for Craft's firm and right now the chief business is flying home service personnel who have been discharged or are on short leaves.

"But meanwhile," says Craft, "we're 'sampling' cargo; trying anything and learning a lot. For ex-

ample, did you know that lobsters apparently can't survive an electrical storm?"

A good part of a lobster cargo, being shipped from New York, was lost that way, Craft relates. Another westbound cargo being undertaken is the speeding from the east of latest style wearing apparel.

Over at Sky Freight, the log shows flights into Mexico with fishing and vacation parties. The line

is also gaining assorted cargo experience. Dowdle's firm is prepared for anything and right now is specializing in scenic flights.

The lines operate under Civil Aeronautics board authority as non-scheduled charter companies. When a transport load of, say 25 servicemen, is booked, each passenger charters one-twenty-fifth of the plane.

The planes have been obtained as surplus from the government.



Navy on Leave
 1948



Seattle Mayor
and City Council
enroute to luncheon
with
Mayor & City Council
of Yakima, Washington



OCCASION
Introduction of
Coach Service by
Standard from
Seattle - 1947





In order to keep Standard Airway's nearly 700 Travel Agents posted, it takes addressograph, mailing machines, folding machines and other modern equipment



HEADQUARTER - 1946

San Diego, California



S.D. Transport Saves Life

AIRMEN MAKE MERCY HOP

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Local Fliers Move 11 Stricken to Hospitals

How 11 gravely ill Eskimo men, women and children were flown by San Diego airmen from snowbound Juneau, Alaska, to Seattle for emergency medical treatment, was disclosed today at Lindbergh field.

The mercy flight, credited with saving at least one life, was made through adverse weather by a twin-engine transport plane, operated by Standard Air Cargo, charter airline based here.

Piloted by James Dalby, of 3780 Seventh ave., the DC-3 plane returned yesterday from Seattle. Since November it had been shuttling needed food into Alaska, where acute shortages developed during the recent maritime strike.

At Anchorage, the plane crew received a message from Dr. M. M. VanSandt, head of the government hospital at Juneau, telling of the plight of the tuberculous Eskimos.

The plane flew to Seattle, picked up Mrs. Elda Neal, a nurse, and then sped to Juneau, where another nurse and five Eskimo men and six women and children were put aboard, Shields B. Craft, operator of the airline and co-pilot, related.

The flight back to Seattle was doubly hazardous because of the ailing lungs of the patients. The plane had to fly at less than 6000 feet altitude through canyons of a mountain passage, Craft said.

He said the Eskimos, never before aloft, seemed to enjoy the hop. But, when the plane once was forced to ascend to 6000 feet for visibility, a young Eskimo girl "passed out." She was kept alive with oxygen by the nurses, who said the flight "outside" from Alaska probably saved her life.

Crew chief on the mission was Homer Beckley, of 1603 Kurtz st.



STANDARD AIR CARGO
Boeing Field *Seattle, Wash.*

DOUBLE DUTY FOR - PRESIDENT CRAFT
1946

SAN FRANCISCO
Check-in
Counter



Ready to Board
for Night Flight
to HAWAII
Pink uniformed Stewardi

Morning Arrival
San Francisco
from HAWAII

Muumuu Serving
Uniform on Stewardi





Murray Friedman
Station Manager
San Francisco



Maury Swidler
Doubling as Sales and Accounting



Natalie Y. Gray
Secretary & Treasurer
Head of Sales



Robert Barlow
Station Manager - Burbank
Chief Reservation Controller



Lou Torreys
Sales Manager
Burbank, California



Pink Jacketed Check-in
Personnel Reflected in
"Pink" Mirror



Pink trim Check-in Counter



Burbank Check-in Counter



Burbank Reservations



Geo. Harris
Chief Pilot

N. Y. Gray
Partner

S. B. Craft
Partner



Shriner - Charter
Seattle, Washington - 1947



The Cleveland Press

The Newspaper That Serves Its Readers

CLEVELAND, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1950

Phone C

Leaves Over, 28 Marines Off to War



YOUNGSTERS YESTERDAY, FIGHTERS TOMORROW, 28 youthful Marines left by chartered plane from Cleveland today for San Diego and overseas assignment. They ended 10-day furloughs, and tense relatives gathered at the airfield to see them off. The Marines, ranging from 18 to 22, left here only Labor Day for boot training.



HAWAII



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"PINK CLOUD"
SERVICE**



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"PINK CLOUD SERVICE" means

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- Multi-million mile flight crews
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- On-time departures
- Personal service from the famous "Pink Cloud" stewards & stewardesses
- "Pink" Champagne



Check-in Customers
Destination
Hawaii

BURBANK
L.A. T.



"PINK CLOUD III"
DC-6B
White top
Grey stripe
Pink Lower half



Happy Customers
Returning from
HAWAII



A. J. Baughman
Vice President - Operations



Richard V. Draper
Chief Pilot



Crew Records and
Teletype for Military
Commercial Air Movements



PINK CLOUD
N113A



PINK CLOUD
N117A



DISASSEMBLY



CONVERSION



Soon another

PINK CLOUD



Robert W. McCarnes
Chief Navigator



Crew Mail Boxes
Flight Ready Room



Robert Butler
Chief Engineer



Weight & Balance Final Check

PINK CLOUD I
Lockheed 749A



PINK CLOUD III
Douglas DC-6B

PINK CLOUD V
Super "G"
Constellation





William Cuffe
Master Maintenance
Coordinator &
His work-a-day areas



HAWAII

HONOLULU OPERATION



Office - 2159 Kalakaua
Waikiki Beach



Check-In at Honolulu
International Airport



Honolulu Reservations



PREPARATION FOR A CAM FLIGHT



Maintenance Coordinator
on the job



Final Briefing



SAN FRANCISCO RESERVATION OFFICE





ACCOUNTING
Virginia Scarbrough
Comptroller

Roger B. Craft
*Regulations - Records
*Customer Relations
*Adv. & Publicity



Paper Work Department Staff

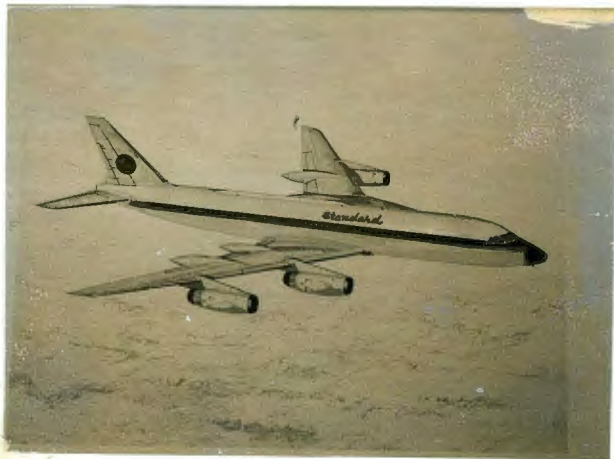
EARLY DAYS - 1936
Charter & Instruction



Original Plane - 0X5 Waco

CRAFT SCHOOL of AERONAUTICS
Yuma, Arizona





....Breathes there a pilot with soul so dead

who never to himself has said....LET'S FLY