



Jon D. Carsey

# From Deep in Texas to Deeper at Cuatros Vientos

*Being a Soaring Diary on "The Internationals"*

Based on Excerpts from Letters and Other Intimate Notes of  
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Soaring Society of America

ABOARD AMERICAN AIRLINER, DALLAS TO NEW YORK, Sunday, June 22—Tried to get back to the door to wave goodbye at all before plane taxied away. But the hostesses asked me to stay in my seat . . .

NEW YORK CITY, Wednesday, June 25—Just back from seeing Paul S., Dick J., Fran Hall off . . . Got some movies of them boarding the plane . . . Glad the publicity on the departure at Love Field was OK . . .

ABOARD PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS CLIPPER OUT OF NEW YORK, Friday, June 27—PAA had two photographers at the field (Idlewild Airport) taking pictures of us as we boarded the plane . . . One of the photographers very carefully made note on the purpose of the trip . . . He promised to put material in hands of news services . . .

GOOSE AIRPORT, GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR, NFLD., Friday, June 27, 9:22 P.M.—Landed here because weather bad at Gander . . . Traces of snow on the ground . . . Heat is on in the building. Left New York at 3:15 . . .

ABOARD BEA PLANE, LONDON TO MADRID, Sunday, June 29—Had traded my ticket, which was for Wednesday, June 25 (PAA, New York-to-London-to-Paris) with Dick Johnson for his ticket, which was for Friday (June 27), and to Madrid rather than Paris . . . Supposed Dick would go on to Paris, as he wished to, and my trip would be to Madrid, as his ticket was . . . Was not so arranged during exchange, as I'd been told in N.Y. by PAA it was . . . Had a great discussion (at London) with BEA officials, delaying departure of flight a few minutes . . . Finally had to buy ticket London to Paris . . . Dick has gone directly to Barcelona to supervise unloading the RJ-5 from the S. S. Exochorda, and transporting it to Cuatros Vientos (site of the Internationals at Madrid) . . .

BORDEAUX, FRANCE, Sunday, June 29—5 A.M. Dallas time, 12 Noon here . . . My watch is still on Dallas time . . . Just now we are confined to a room at the terminal building, while plane is being refueled. . .

<sup>1</sup>Paul Schweizer, Elmira, N.Y., Secretary, Soaring Society of America, Member American Team, Richard Johnson, Starkville, Miss., Member American Team, Holder World's Soaring Distance Record, Francis Hall, Elmira, N.Y., Association of Commerce.

<sup>2</sup>Jon arrived at Love Field by glider for his departure on an American DC-6. (See photo Page 10). Television shows on Dallas-Fort Worth stations, and press-radio coverage, resulted.

MADRID, SPAIN, Sunday Afternoon, June 29—Arrived here after pleasant flight from London . . . Now 2 P.M. Madrid time, 7 A.M. Dallas time . . . Still in state of confusion. Ask for postage stamps and get bourbon and soda, ask for postcards and get beer . . . When Paul S. "and Co." came into the air terminal (June 26) no one was there to meet them. He and Co. met us when we came in . . . Almost upon my arrival Fran Hall told me of difficulties with hotel reservations, resulting from fact no representative of Spanish Aero Club (Real Aero Club de Epana, host to the Internationals), or our Embassy or consulate, was at the field or available to provide information or assistance . . . Aero Club had had some agency make reservations at Hotel Avenida, but not in any of our names. When the hotel didn't recognize our names, Paul S. and Co. left, assuming no reservations were made, and found rooms at the Palace . . . When it was learned next day (Friday, June 27) by Aero Club that they were not in the Avenida, club members were unhappy . . . By the time we had discussed and aired things stewing, and decided on a course of action, and settled ourselves in our rooms in the Palace, it was time for a drink (no disagreement here) . . . Proceeded to endeavor to get taxis to a restaurant, with no luck. Hundreds of taxis came and went, but were engaged. We all helped the two uniformed doormen whistle and wave and shout to the constant stream of 1930 to '39 model cars of strange and familiar makes, with red stripe to indicate taxi . . .

MADRID, Monday Morning, June 30—Wally Setz, Shelly Charles, Dick Ball, Earl Bailey, Ernie Schweizer, Bill Beuby, Walter Hausler,<sup>3</sup> have proceeded to



Palace Hotel—Home Base for Americans