

Seabee

Bulletin

FROM PERSONAL PLANE DIVISION OF REPUBLIC AVIATION CORPORATION

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WE VISIT THE DEEP SOUTH

It is CAVU at 3000 feet with Richmond, Virginia just below us as we fly home after three days of the deep south. It's Monday, the third of June. Mundy Peale, our Vice President and General Sales Manager; Lou de Garmo, partner of The Albert Woodley Company, our advertising agents; Pete Collins, skipper of our C-45 and yours truly took off last Friday for the Birmingham Air Carnival.

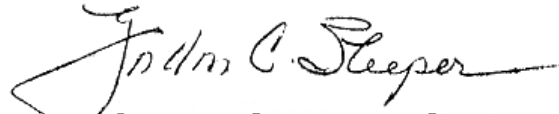
We lunched at Winston-Salem and visited with Tom Davis. We tried to get him to play hooky with us but he was too busy with his G.I. school plans. We traveled on at 7000 feet, skimming the tops of endless miles of cottony clouds. We came down for the approach to Birmingham's great municipal airport. The tower warned all and sundry to watch out for P-80's buzzing the field - interesting but difficult. Safely down at 5:30 New York time (3:30 local time) we saw evidence everywhere of great plans for the Twelfth National Air Carnival. Army, Navy, Marine Corps and private flying were already represented by scores of planes on all sides.

The story of our adventures from then on until we started home this morning would be too long in the telling but highlights are the fine hospitality of Frank and Mary Hulse, the kindness of everyone in the Southern Airways organization and the thoughtfulness of Lt. Colonel Edmund Armes who drove us through the lovely residential sections of Birmingham. Steadman Acker did himself proud as did everyone who helped put on the carnival. Rains fell Friday night and Saturday morning but most of Saturday's afternoon events were held. Sunday brought out crowds estimated at 300,000 for a really grand show. Bevo Howard flew both days and as always stole the show stunting his Piper Cub.

It was good to meet so many friends and impossible to name them all. Les and Marty Bowman of Fort Worth were there from Southeastern Air Service of Atlanta. Tom and Elizabeth Eve of Atlanta helped Southern Airways play host and Hugh Detweiler and Watson Eaddy were on from Charlotte. Dealers from all over the South were in. We had the pleasure of meeting many of them at a cocktail party given by Republic and Southern Airways at the Thomas Jefferson Hotel. Sam and Peggy Solberger helped splendidly to represent Republic during the Carnival.

Now we're homeward bound after stops at Atlanta and Raleigh, the first to drop Tom and Mrs. Eve and to visit with Ben Smith, Millard Davis and Mut Weaver, and the second to pay our respects to Truman and Marie Miller.

It has been a grand interlude from the stress and strain of Farmingdale routine and Mundy and Lou and I all agree that it is the kind of trip that we should take together often.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gordon C. Sleeper". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Gordon C. Sleeper, Sales Manager
Personal Plane Division

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