



Date

Line



All hands muster for quarters and prepare to be received into the realm of the Golden Dragon.



### Suva, Fiji Islands

Twenty-one straight days at sea is a long time in anyone's book. On the 26th of October, when Suva came into view, it was like a paradise. Channel fever was reflected on all of our faces.

The sun was bright and the sky was clear when liberty was granted. Some men went on sightseeing trips and to visit native villages, others went out to purchase souvenirs, and yet others headed for the Seaman's Mission Club to dance and have a friendly glass of cheer.

On the 28th of October, under rainy skies, high winds and troubled seas, **Westwind** departed Suva and continued on her journey southward. Everyone was looking forward to the next port of call, however, many a seaman's thoughts turned to this beautiful little island in the South Pacific and the hospitality of these friendly people.



### International Date-Line

Thirteen days after crossing the Equator and seventeen days out of Panama **Westwind** came upon another imaginary line. This imaginary line runs north and south through the Pacific Ocean, largely along the 180th meridian, and is the line at which by international agreement each calendar day begins at midnight, so that when it is Sunday just west of the line it is Saturday just east of it.

This line, to all sea-faring men, is the entrance into the Realm of the Golden Dragon. By intercession of those previously appointed to the order and through a cleansing of the spirits of the uninitiated, the Golden Dragon smiled upon us and welcomed **Westwind** and her crew into his Royal Domain.

Suva

