

Operators manning the Lowe Electronics Amateur Radio Station (G4 LOW), Matlock, England. Contacts to this station helped me during the Atlantic crossing. Seated is John (G3 PCY) with David (G8 GIY) pointing out my route, and David (G4 KFN)

30,000 feet above the Pacific says:

"My main worry now is not the flight, but the media ruining the good name I have worked so hard to keep — yes, I'm more than a little frightened of what they will do to me if I make a mistake, or if something goes wrong that is beyond my control. Will they rationalise that they have a right to destroy me? I hope not."

After staying overnight in San Francisco I boarded a flight for the twin cities of Fort Worth and Dallas. I began to worry about my new helicopter. Would it be ready and waiting? I was itching to get on with the flight.

Far from being ready, my brand new helicopter seemed to be scattered in bits and pieces all over the hangar floor. Field Tech (a company specialising in installing aviation equipment) were doing a great job, however I had not allowed them enough time to do the complex work. It was now a case of all hands to the pump, so I immediately pitched in and helped.