

AMERICAN AVIATOR RETURNS FROM RIFF

Colonel Kerwood, Invalided After Two Accidents, Is First of Squadron to Reach Paris.

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Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PARIS, Oct. 17.—Colonel Charles Kerwood, back in Paris after nearly three months of Moroccan flying, with a twice broken right arm and a four-inch scar running from his left eye to his mouth, told THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondent today of his experiences. Marshal Pétain was not far away when Kerwood first broke his arm in a crashed landing and within five minutes was on the scene. The American stood at attention and when the Marshal complimented him on his escape, said: "Sir, I am sorry you are five minutes late. You have just missed my great performance." To which Pétain responded with a hearty laugh. Afterward he visited Kerwood in the hospital.

With his arm still useless, Kerwood resumed his duties, but as an observer, and it was after machine-gunning Riff trenches close to the ground that his plane crashed, breaking his arm again, while the glasses tied around his helmet to allow greater vision, were forced down into his cheek. The glass flew outward and the casing entered the cheek, cutting the flesh below the eye but without touching the eye itself. His injuries this time prevented further service and Colonel Kerwood was invalided back to France.

The Colonel believes the Moroccan war is going to be a long drawn out affair, due to the difficult terrain and the elusiveness of the enemy.

Living conditions of the aviators are fairly comfortable, but nothing like that of the Spanish airmen, who each have a room and bath and other home comforts. Evenings are usually spent in reading clippings from various American newspapers purporting to tell what Abd-el-Krim intends to do to those falling into his hands, and the usual result is for some of the boys to go out in the back yard to practice revolver fire with both hands.

The Riffian marksmen are excellent, due to a lifetime of hunting, and many planes have been riddled with bullets. Whenever a plane is fired upon the location is reported to headquarters and planes are sent immediately to drop bombs on machine gun shadows which may be Riffians. But usually the enemy is invisible, and there is no way of knowing whether hits are made. Even results of bombardments of communities are unknown, except by intelligence reports.

The American squadron leaves Morocco on Nov. 15 and is due in Paris the 17th. All intend to return in the Spring.

American Passport Agency Moves.

On and after Monday, Oct. 26, the United States Passport Agency of Department of State will be located on the first floor of the Sub-Treasury Building, with entrances at Pine Street and at Wall Street, instead of at the Customs House, where it has been since July, 1919. The transfer is due to crowded conditions in the Customs House Building. American citizens of whatever status will be obliged to execute their passport applications in the new offices.

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