

# CHINA CLIPPER

## A NICK GRANT ADVENTURE

September, 1935—senior year was tough for Nick. In the spring, he thought he'd left school far behind. He'd worked months building Pacific island bases for Pan Am's great flying boat clippers. Life aboard the supply ship, piloting the big flying boats, and fighting Japanese spies was thrilling.

Now Nick was back in high school but changed forever. He no longer fit in. At least his part-time job at Pan Am's Clipper base was some relief. But then a series of strange "accidents" cast suspicion on him and his mentor. Was Japanese Master Spy Miyazaki back?

Nick's quick thinking had stopped Miyazaki's earlier attempts to destroy the clippers. If Miyazaki was back, Nick would need help – but from whom?

The FBI didn't believe him, and most of his co-workers thought he was imagining things. Then two new kids, Roger and Nancy Tanaka, entered his life and things only got worse.

SEQUEL TO:

# FLYING BOATS & SPIES

COMING SOON:

# MISSION: SHANGHAI

# CHINA CLIPPER

"A terrific read! It's accurate, fast moving and filled with surprises; perfect for young people interested in history and aviation."

-- Walter J. Boyne, Best Selling Author, & Former Director, National Air & Space Museum .

"The popular Nick Grant series continues with *China Clipper*, a fast-moving, fun tale of adventure, flying boats, spies, and the sea. I love this series!"

-- Homer Hickam, author of *Rocket Boys*/  
*October Sky*

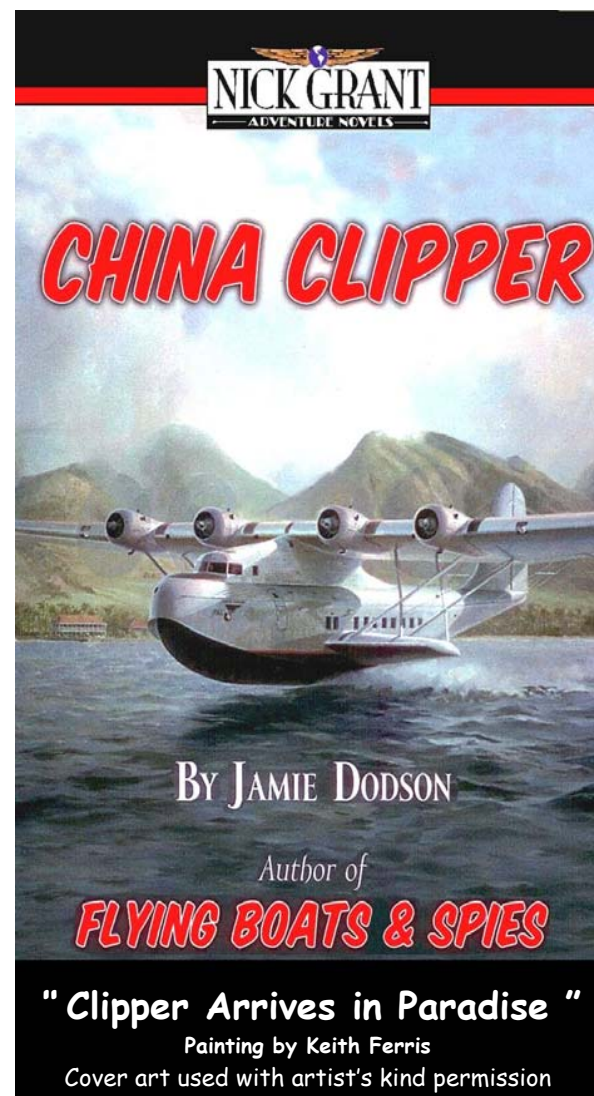
"An action-packed story that's full of intrigue. It transports you to a fascinating time in America's past with loving attention to historical accuracy."

-- Rich Pearce and Ken Story, authors of *Dorkman*.

"In 1935, America is looking for heroes. Amelia Earhart, Charles Lindbergh and Howard Hughes are heroes to some. But the real heroes are the honest, hard-working people; the ordinary folks who do the extraordinary when called upon. Nick Grant is just such a hero. From the first page of *China Clipper* I was on a white-knuckled ride through paradise with Nick, Leilani, and the evil Japanese spy Miyazaki. I can't wait for the movie! -- C. M. Fleming, Author of *Finder's Magic*

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Why Flying Boats?

In 1935, there were very few long runways that could handle large airplanes. The flying boat overcame this handicap with ready-made water runways available all over the world. The small Pacific atolls provided ideal places to refuel and refit for the journey to the Orient.



ART BY DAN WITKOFF

Martin Clippers:

The Glenn L. Martin Company only built three. All were owned by Pan American Airways. They first flew on December 30, 1934. Christened the *China Clipper*, the *Philippine Clipper* and the *Hawaii Clipper*, the media and public referred to all three as the *China Clipper*. They were the most advanced aircraft of their time — the “Space Shuttles” of the day — and the public idolized the men who flew them.

Thousands lined the bays and harbors that served as runways at each take off or landing . Everybody wanted to catch a glimpse of these magnificent aircraft when they departed for exotic places like Hawaii and the Orient.

The Espionage War

The US provided China with war materials and funding to resist Japan’s aggression. The Clippers were a clear threat to Japan’s ambition as they cut vital weeks off the supply lines. Imperial Japan decided to destroy Pan American and the China Clippers. In addition, Japanese intelligence coveted the clipper’s new radio direction finder technology.

