



PACIFIC PARADISE - White sands and swank hotels highlight Waikiki Beach.

Far East

(continued)

YOKOSUKA

The next eight days were anxious ones as we operated out at sea and gradually drew closer to the shores of Japan. When the time finally came we hit the beach with another payday in our pocket and a camera hanging on our shoulder.

We had our first encounter with Yen and for a few days we walked through the narrow streets it seemed like all 80 million inhabitants of the country had come to Yokosuka to compete for the sailor business.

Our knowledge of Japanese language came slowly but before too long we learned how to say *Ichii ban*, *takusan* and *girl-san* even if we didn't know what the first two meant. Tokyo was within riding distance and Special Services supplied it's usual fine tours of the capital city and Kamakura. A ride in a taxi was an unforgettable experience as was viewing the Great Buddha, Shinto Shrines, The Imperial Palace and the price-less scenes that the people



AKKUH-SOON - One of the many storekeepers in the little shops of Japan appears very pleased over a sale to some sailors.

themselves created.

We became experts in the art of Oriental buying and after walking out of a shop several times, being hailed back to argue some more, we would finally settle on a price. Ten minutes of bowing followed the purchase and we once again walked onto the narrow streets where we heard the familiar cry, "Hey Joe.....".

OKINAWA

This bloody battleground of World War II displayed it's row upon row of white crosses and here we saw one grave marked in the same simple manner as the rest, only it read 'Ernie Pyle'.

HONG KONG

'Christmas In Hong Kong' had a sad tone to it but little did we realize that 'The Hub of the Orient' would provide us with a Christmas we would never forget.

As soon as Bennington entered the harbor a great stir of activity was touched off. 'Garbage Mary' and her girls got everyone excited by trying to come aboard before the anchor was even wet, and as usual she got the job of cleaning and painting the ship in exchange for all our garbage.

A tour of Hong Kong displayed the city in all its color. We saw the awesome looking hills of Red China in the distance to the west and the rangefinders of our

TEMPLE SHRINE - The pure white Pagoda towers over the enchanting Tiger Balm Gardens in HONG KONG.

