



Above: The Thatcher Ferry Bridge: "Gateway to the Pacific" also links the Pan American Highway.

Left: Monument to Balboa, Discoverer of the Pacific Ocean (1513), at Panama City, overlooking the sea.

Manzanillo, Mexico was the next port of call and another refueling point. A city of 25,000 people, it is the most important shipping center on the west coast of Mexico. There is also a Mexican Naval Base located in Manzanillo. A little more souvenir shopping and talk of home passed the two days spent in Mexico. On 19 July, the **MIDGETT** set sail for Long Beach, California.

The **MIDGETT** made her last port of call before home on 21 July. Long Beach was the last chance to clean-up, repaint, and get pretty. For a few members of the crew it was a time for reunion with family and friends. At 1200, 23 July, **MIDGETT** said her farewell's and departed on the last leg of her 7,000 mile journey.