

ECKENER REVEALS PLANS FOR FLIGHT

Round the World Trip to be Made by Graf Zep- pelin

BERLIN, March 19.—(U.P.)—Dr. Hugo Eckener, veteran transatlantic dirigible pilot, revealed plans today for a "faster" flight to the United States and a scheduled round-the-world flight in the Graf Zeppelin this year.

Eckener said discussion of a hook-up between the Pan American airways service to South America and a trans-Atlantic dirigible service from Europe to New York had brought out an "excellent" idea.

"If such a scheme is serious, they will find us favorable," he said.

The Graf Zeppelin will start Sunday on a three or four-day non-stop flight from Friedrichshafen to Palestine and return. A flight to the United States is scheduled for May or June, he said, and the flight around the world is planned for August.

Large four-blade propellers have been installed and other improvements completed to assure a speedier flight to the United States than on the round-trip to Lakehurst, N.J., last year, Eckener continued. Cabins have been made more comfortable and a new type of strong canvas will cover the dirigible frame to prevent ripping such as occurred last October in mid-Atlantic.

"Zeppelins are exposed to the same dangers of ice formation as the Italia encountered," he said. "The formation of a dangerous ice crust on an airship requires at least an hour but the ascent and descent of the craft out of the danger zone requires but a few minutes ordinarily."