

TALKING POINTS FOR
SECRETARY ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
FLIGHT SERVICE STATION DEDICATION
ARAPAHOE COUNTY AIRPORT
ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO
APRIL 5, 1983

- Thank you, Chuck (FOSTER) for that very gracious introduction.
- I have had a number of opportunities, since becoming Secretary, to visit airport control towers and traffic centers. This is the first occasion I have had, however, to visit a Flight Service Station.
- I wish more of the public, especially those who fly, had an opportunity to "see behind the scenes" and meet the controllers, technicians and flight service station personnel who make flight so amazingly safe. You perform a vital service -- conscientiously and with great skill.
- We are, of course, looking to the future which continues to hold the promise of great growth for aviation.
 - Air carrier traffic is expected to increase -- from around 300 million passengers a year to 430 million by 1990 and 492 million by the mid-90's.
 - Even more significant, we estimate that the total hours flown by general aviation and business aircraft will increase from 44 million to nearly 72 million over the next 20 years; and the general aviation fleet to grow by at least 120,000 aircraft over that time period.*
 - Clearly, we need a more efficient, more fully automated air traffic control system to meet the projected demand.
- The automated flight service stations are a part of the modernized system now under development, and this facility is the first of a new kind -- the prototype for a national network that will ultimately include 61 such stations.

* FAA forecasts

- I am told that when this station, and others like it, go "on line" with fully automated equipment, pilots will have direct access to weather and other up-to-date aeronautical information by touchtone telephone.
- Flight service station specialists will spend less time on routine queries, and be able to devote more attention to providing professional assistance to pilots.
- This one facility will serve more pilots in this state with more services and information than the six flight service stations now operating in Colorado can provide today, using existing equipment.
- So the modernization program is a big step forward for aviation in this state and for the future of the industry. Arapahoe County Airport already ranks as one of the busiest general aviation airports in the country, and this ribbon-cutting marks the prelude to an era of even greater growth and progress for aviation in Colorado.
- Thank you for inviting me to join you here today. I want you to know that we appreciate in this Administration what you are doing for air safety. You have our strong support and our profound thanks.