



Once again the Yuletide is approaching; once again we feel the surge within us to rejoice and sing our praises. This year, for the first time in many, all of us have a real cause for this feeling. Peace has again been restored to the world and our burdens of the war years are behind us.

In our own sphere of activities, we can look forward to further advancements and improvements in working conditions and remuneration.

WE WANT NEWS

We are glad to note news items from several long-silent stations in this month's Muktuk. We'd like to hear from the rest of you in the near future.

Send all contributions to the RO, Attention Muktuk Telegraph. They should be in this office by the eighth of the month in order to be included in that month's paper.

My recent trip to Washington disclosed that the reorganization plan which has been under consideration for the past year is now an actuality and the first phase of this plan, which will embrace positions down to and including Branch Superintendent level, will be made effective on January 1st. The balance of the plan will be activated as rapidly as classification procedures and available funds permit. It is hoped by the Administrator and his staff that all phases will be completed and effected by the first of the coming

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NEWS FROM MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE

If you drop around to the Ambassador on Thursday night, you can watch the boys bowl; Anne and Lorene have been threatening to go down and show them how. Ask Brooks Renn about his score; he made a new record the other day.

That soft Southern accent you hear over our phone these days belongs to Eselle Ford, our Georgia peach, who came up to Anchorage in the fall as a bride. She says she'd like Alaska better if she didn't live in a "l'il old beat-up shack". Does anybody know of an apartment for rent?

Barney Crosby and Glenn Smith are beginning to look upon Summit as their second home, they are up there so much. Ralph Thomas has been away so long he has probably forgotten what Anchorage looks like.

Fred Yonney started to trace a requisition the other day, and he hasn't shown up yet.

When it comes to falling off chairs, Perry McLain gets first prize. I guess that movie on avoiding office accidents made no impression on him.

Speaking of Perry McLain, he is Alaska's champion quick-change artist. Ten times he put on heavy clothes for a trip to Stewarts, and ten times the plane didn't take off.

Items of gustatory interest: Cra Reid likes tutti frutti icecream, Bill Peck likes vanilla, Perry McLain likes licorice, and Fred Yonney likes any kind, as long as it is fancy.

Bill Peck was up at Barrow, and says

the ige worms make good bait for fishing through the ice.

We have often wondered how Mrs. Beecher, Mrs. Ford, and Messrs. Huffman, Alexander and Graves fit into that one little office known as Property Unit. A set of traffic signals would help in getting in and out.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS (Continued from page 1)

fiscal year. Definite action is also in progress to improve housing conditions at all stations, as well as streamline operating circuits and services. Immediate relief through temporary measures can be anticipated at a number of stations. Legislation is now pending before both branches of Congress to increase salaries of all Government workers in the amount of 20%, and many members of Congress expressed themselves publicly as being in favor of expediting this legislation to serve as a Christmas present to all Government workers.

If it were possible, it would be my desire to visit each and every one of our installations during this period to personally express my felicitations and those of my staff for a Joyous and Happy Holiday Season. Unfortunately, this is not possible, so I am using the medium of the "Hullul" and the services of our faithful "Santa Claus" carriers, Jefford-Hurst, Inc., to sincerely say to you all: "A Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year".

W. P. Plett - 3-1
Regional Administrator

NATIONAL CHANGE IN BROADCAST SCHEDULES

Entirely new broadcast procedures placed in effect in Regions One to Seven on November 15, make their first appearance in the Eighth Region on December 15. Results of the preview in the States have not reached us as yet but the new system being well thought out can be depended upon, we think, to perform with merit. The basis for the change is the realization of the respective functions of scheduled broadcasting and Flight Communications. With more definite limitations now being placed on weather dissemination via scheduled broadcasting, it is expected that the Flight Communications Service will henceforth function to a greater degree in providing assistance to pilots requiring additional data to safely or conveniently complete their flights.

Added under the new procedure, to the list of stations already performing scheduled broadcasting, are the continuously operated radiobeacon stations. These latter facilities will now take their places alongside the range stations in the good work of posting the airmen. Essential to "Keep 'Em Flying" is "Keep 'Em Posted."

TRAINING AND PERFORMANCE

It now appears that the Eighth Region will be identified with having fired both the opening and closing shots of the C. A. A.'s Aircraft Communicator Training Program. It was on May 4, 1942 that the first communicator training class to be conducted in any of our regions got under way on the Federal Building "campus" in Anchorage. And a few weeks ago - October 15th - saw the beginning at the Seattle Center of what may be the last full six-months class. This latter group comprises approximately forty trainees destined for the Eighth Region.

It is believed that the steadily in-

creasing recruitment of experienced communications personnel may obviate the necessity for any further basic training, and that instruction hereafter will be limited to orientation training of new employees recruited on the basis of grade CAF-5 ratings. A tremendous interest in C. A. A. as an aeronautical radio career opportunity is being evidenced by returning veterans, many of whom have impressive communications backgrounds.

Since 1942, seventeen Alaskan graduates have been graduated, representing a total of more than three hundred communications. Five of these graduates were trained at the Anchorage Center and the balance at Seattle with the assistance of the Seventh Region. Alaskan training was shifted to Seattle in 1943 to realize the benefit of enlarged training facilities and numerous recruitment advantages.

The present class, appearing on the records as "Seattle-Alaskan Class Number Thirteen", is composed of more than ninety percent veterans or wives of veterans, some of whom have prior communications experience. It is scheduled to complete training by mid-April.

The Seattle Center has been under the supervision of E. W. Olson since Gordon Pascoe's transfer to the Seventh Regional Office earlier this year. Olson is assisted by instructors George Hollingsworth, formerly chief of Central Monitoring at Anchorage, Vance Hawley, formerly communications inspector in this Region and instructor at the Anchorage Center, and Ray Skerlund, formerly the chief overseas communicator at Anchorage. Ruth Brown presides as secretary. The coordination activities between the Seattle Center and the Eighth Region continue under the direction of Wilbur Cruise, chief of the Eighth Region Training Unit.

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EIGHTEEN REGION COMMUNICATOR
ON WASHINGTON DETAIL

John M. Finlott, former Chief Aircraft Communicator at Yulatsga and until recently assigned to the Anchorage Overseas Foreign Airway Communication Station, has been detailed to the Washington office to assist in the development of a project related to pictorial and graphical representation of material concerning communications activities.

Finlott, who had managed heretofore to keep his artistic talent pretty well concealed, was selected from a group of communicators representing various other regions who had submitted sample free-hand drawings to Washington for review.

We join in wishing him luck on his new assignment and hope to see one of his subsequent efforts -- perhaps a canvas based on "B-5" -- hanging in the Metropolitan next season.

ODYSSEY OF A COMMUNICATIONS INSPECTOR

A member of our wandering communications cuntry having recently returned from a quite extensive trip to the deep interior, the opportunity is presented whereby the life and habits of our genus homo GAA communicator, interior Alaskan type, can be brought to light. Since this particular type is on the retrogressive side, we present our findings as a distinct contribution to society. If some of you should recognize them as friends of yours, so much the better. Let it be considered as a bribe against reincarnation. You might appear in such a form yourself in your next earthly visitation.

Starting at the top of the world, let us visit Gambell. Mr. Resorau stalwartly holds forth against the vicissitudes of climate and the native ivory hunters. AGCCG Ungudruk's case in passing operational speed tests was a pleasing feature of our stay. One interesting fact about Gambell comes to mind. A gauge for determining the visibility factor in weather reports is the view of the Siberian coast.

Our next stop was Nome. For a city supposedly ravaged by storms, we did very well. Mr. Peterson and staff emerge from their igloos to send greetings to the less fortunate at other stations. We don't understand Mr. Graham's action in going outside the station to seek feminine companionship (last count, 17 women and 5 men at the station) but trust he knows best.

Next stop Moses Point. Mr. Uzzell busily crocheting salmon nets, shooting ptarmigan, laying in a winter's supply of dried salmon, etc. We tried to determine whether he had been tanning any eskulula lately, but guess he's leaving that to the natives. We searched for signs of flood but found few. Some oil barrels had taken for the hills. If any of you have anything that could be used in conjunction with Mrs. Uzzell's native Sunday School for children, it will be for a worthy cause. Her main difficulty is keeping her husband out of the kid's collection box.

Next Galena. Kulm and tribe holding the station down in a creditable manner. All travelling personnel take note: The Army recently turned over some choice lucky beer to the GAA citizens. Bobbie Stadt, the Proctors, and Hugh Covey permanent residents thereof. Cort Jones temporarily lending his talents and refreshing exuberance.

McGrath our next visitation. Mr. Slane on leave and busy with plans for house-building this spring, having already purchased four Quanset huts from the military. Mr. and Mrs. Demogalla, Otto Harer among the old standbys. The Misses Cantrell, Gadd and Sahn bewailing the fact that no eligible males are available, and making the best of a deplorable situation.

A traveler had just stopped at a hotel. As he signed the register, a mosquito lit on the pen point. The man threw down the pen and stalked from the building. "I don't mind a few mosquitoes," he declared, "but when they jump on your pen to find out your room number they're going too far."

Minchumina has been out of the news so long that maybe you think it's green-lins that are putting on the hourlies. (The GEMO is probably sure of it.) However, we are still a "going concern" and pretty well dug in for the winter -- what with long-handled underwear driving in the utility building and Nick Ray Harry busy rolling our ten inches of snow down to a flat one and a half. The big lake is completely frozen, so we are out off from the waterways to Menana -- and more than over at the mercy of the weather and Mr. Barr.

Anybody who thinks his station has a corner on the scenery market should come to beautiful Minchumina. To the east as far as the eye can see stretches the great Alaska range, and right opposite Lake Minchumina is McKinley -- tremendous though it is seventy miles away.

Just south of Mount McKinley stands Foraker, looking like the shell of an old volcano. Its great blue-shaded crater is clearly visible from this side and must hold millions of tons of snow.

RJ/Shawntna is always bragging about its "wild life" (four footed) but there is lots of game around here. The moose tracks are all over the place, actually within eight feet of the station, and we have a brown rpt brown bear still mooching around looking for a den. It'll be a fine thing if he decides to hibernate in our meat cache. There are many wolves, foxes and lesser animals -- mink and marten too, gals, and before freeze-up we saw many beaver houses in the streams. Caribou were swimming in the south bay in front of the houses, and we saw them occasionally out on the runways. The GAC got his moose right on the 2-20 landing strip. Even as this is being written there is a band of caribou crossing the big part of the lake and kicking up a lot of snow -- must be about thirty of them.

There was considerable shifting around of IQ personnel during the latter part of the summer. First the Ray Barrys (mek) arrived to replace the resigning Joe and Clara Kolek. The Polaks are now engaged in full time trapping operations on the other side of the lake.

Finally w emctrs arrived in the more or less dog-eared persons of the Potoslys -- lately of YQ and IQ. Shortly thereafter the "ink" and Dorothy Averys departed the woods of IQ for the schools of Juneau. Their oldest daughter had reached that age.

That gray did nothing for the 56 hour schedule here, so we were all delighted when the IQ sent Vince and Renette Jaden to make the force complete -- with, my friends, a nice little 1/2 hour week to boot! The Paddens are from Washington, D. C., via Seattle Training Center, and seem to have taken to IQ and old doings in fine style.

The GAC Roy Delaney and Maintenance Technician in Charge (R/S to you) Roy Butler still remain in charge of their respective offices, providing some continuity in view of the above shuffling around.

Not sure if this is a new one, but the LTIC, Roy Butler, has a good recipe for mince meat cookies. If anyone's interested -- with enough persuasion -- you can get the info.

We are still proud of the hunting expedition of our GAC. He was on duty when a big moose walked out of the woods down toward the station. It was necessary for Delaney to walk all the way from the 305 position to the door of the station in order to take aim with the station "blunderbuss" and fire, but without thought for his personal safety, he saw his moose and he done it!

Not wishing to leave the station (not much) to deliver the coup-de-grace -- the moose had by this time stumbled and rolled down the bank onto the runway -- he phoned the quarters for help. One of the local trappers was visiting us at the time and he ran up the runway and dismissed school right now! Streaking out behind him was an assortment of GAA people in various degrees of full dress and all running like 1. When we reached the moose, Henry (the trapper) had slit the throat -- very generously -- and the quartering was in progress.

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IQ QUOTIENT
(Continued from page 5)

Accoms took turns relieving the CAC and getting their picture taken with the moose and from the photo albums around here now, it would be difficult to determine who actually shot the animal. However, we are proud that it was our chief who got the first moose of the season around IQ -- and is possibly the first CAC in the region for the year. How about it?

You can always tell who's in bdc at YO, can't you? Guess "Is that you Cargo?" is standard ATC procedure by now.

Congratulations to the Benedict Pauls on the new arrival, and also hope you like KD.

The Clavs are mighty silent down at Aniak. Come to think of it, Aniak hasn't been in the Mukluk since Fred Norburn's time, has it? Likewise how about some gossip from KP, Bob and Dot?

Guess it's wishful thinking at its worst, but we like those articles from WK -- and even if those two dashing WERC beaks have left the island -- we know of at least one marriage to report and there must be other items of interest from the edge of America.

Does anybody (1) remember the famous round-robin letter of Class Three? Wonder if a letter from the newer graduates -- that is, since the beginning of the automatic era -- would read the same? And does anyone have a copy of Red Eikoff's entry about "QTS"? That one should be saved for posterity.

PAID ADVERTISING: Want d: An experienced trad-mat r. Blends given preference. Also one copy of "For your Honor" in any condition. Price no object. sgd NP.

AERONAUTICS DEPARTMENT: The last trip to IQ of the CAA Junior Constellation Num 14 was really something! We were having the usual IQ stuff (not very bright). In fact, with ceiling of about two feet and visibility full of snow, it was dark by early afternoon. However, along about nap time (naturally) since the CP was waiting for and a general

alarm was sounded throughout Minchumina. Outbound passengers included Mrs. Harry and CAC and family. For a while there was considerable strain on the slender line of communications between the station and quarters down the hill - (Guess the NIS is still replacing batteries). With the weather getting worse by the minute and people calling the station with "Is he in or is he isn't?" and "When will X14 be in please?" (this with maximum courtesy) and "What's the celline, where is he now, can you see him? Turn on the beacon!" - and "Don't forget potential essential information!!" -- the joint looked like the last act of "Celling Zero".

Then the Doug finally loomed up as two lights and a lot of noise, it was over the end of the runway and the landing was the proudest this camp has ever seen -- what you could see of it, that is.

Mr. Carroll of 30 visited the station during the hour stopover while King Christ's bad boys unlearned with some hot coffee!

There is considerable flight time being logged around the CAC's desk these days but it is nothing compared with the actual flight being planned by that worthy gentleman. An ardent air enthusiast holding a private certificate, Roy Delaney is now looking forward to owning his own airplane. But that's not all! He plans to travel to Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, pick out a plane and fly it all the way back to Alaska -- with stops at Tetts and Oscar d'Alene to visit his family. He says the days of pioneering are gone!

WANTED: An Automobile-Parr-locator for KIDA/Aniak.

QUESTION: What handsome antique instrument whose first initial is Jay is an authority on automobiles?

That just about winds up the news digest from IQ for this issue. If we draftee boards doesn't get over-anxious, we'll try another entry next time - CAC, censors, and public opinion willing.

SUB MARCH

P. S. Hiya, "Sub Read". Some steal, huh?

HQER
November 1945

Season's greetings to one and all from Homer.

Have you heard the one about the Englishman and the silk hat? Don't be alarmed; we won't torture you with it here. Yup, that man Athey is here a-stringin wire, cuttin holes, puttin in new gadgets and generally demoralizing the place. Did manage to jar a bit of satisfaction and a couple of new words out of him the other night, though, when he bumped his diamond flush into four sevens. He's got a feller with him name of Esley that is purty handy reachin for the chips that ring when dropped, too.

Folks have been sort of moving in and out of here a bit of late. Laurilsons pulled out for Uncle Sugar and Dobria was MTIC here for a while. We hear he is now of the OP gang. Jim Sherry is MTIC here now while everybody is stowin around up there in the RO trinta appoint a new one. Jim E. Graham is SM'n for us and doin a mighty proud job of it too, we're a thinkin. Also John Dillinger is a MCK here now and havin a lot of fun with our fine assortment of oats, trucks and graders and the like strewn around the country here. Herschel Price is our CAC and we can't find anything to complain about that either. We also have a various assortment of communicators here and there -- mostly those when the CAC wants one for something. With a quick look around we find L.F. Campbell, Jerry Laird, Max Early, Ruthie and Lylo Baxter. That by no means accounts for all the fine people that live here; in fact, probably the fine people haven't even been mentioned yet. There's a family goes with Price, Graham, Laird, Campbell and Early. Besides people, we got the blindest assortment of cats, dogs, chickens, rabbits and jaleppies you ever laid eyes on.

Didja see all them big words that Chandler dished out last time from Th? Let's have another one, fill, and soon, too. Ya oughta have a lot to tell us now.

So over hear so many people that wuz

proud of their stations? Every time somebody writes to the Mukluk they are proud of their outfit. Now that's the way we like em. Maybe them guys what won't write to the Mukluk ain't proud of theirs -- how about it, you guys? Let's get on the ball. He of Homer are might proud of our little station, too. We are also purty proud of Kenai as they are acting more or less as our main office now with Homer playing the part of a suburb.

If twarn't for them giving us our messages and Ilianna keeping us supplied with missing WM we wouldn't have much. I guess we got nearly as many transmitters stacked up around here as HQ. We can use a couple of them, too. We can talk to a whole bunch of stations -- now Ivesee, there's Kenai, Ilianna, and even Sand Point and Kodiak if signals are good. Once in a while a stranger slips in and we get to argue about signals for a while. If we ever do get to the point where we can talk to folks again, boy, you better look out, cause we are shore hard up for scuttlebutt down this way. Scuttlebutt never is the same after it has been relayed a few times. They tell us we are gonna be tied up with somebody up in Anchorage purty soon though. Gess it'll be the TCA or ATC or some of them big political outfits. If and when we ever do get any news down this way we predict to write the Mukluk real soon. We note that somebody got a roll of film the other day. Do you spose the war is about over?

One of the Accoms here noted in some of the CAA papers Statoside, a page devoted to transfers, reassignments, new assignments, etc., and we were wonderin if such a sheet could be arranged for the Mukluk. Said Accom is now offerin a deal - if you'll tell us who went where, who resigned, and who took new appointments, said communicator will write it up for the Mukluk. Fair enough? Okay -- well, then lets give the job to J. Jefferson; he moves most of em anyway.

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MCCRATH

November 9, 1945

CAC Delaney of Minchumina was a visitor at the McGrath station two days in October.

Benedict and Dora Paul, Accooms, transferred in October from McGrath to Nalae. They are the parents of a son born the second week in October.

Otto R. Unger, Accoom, returned to work here November 3 after spending a leave outside. He visited relatives in Minnesota.

Lila Jones, Frac, returned to Anchorage November 1. She had worked at McGrath through October.

Bob and Ellen McGlon started work with the weather Bureau October 16. Bob was discharged from service with the Coast Artillery October 10 at Fort Richardson. Ellen had been making her home at Sitka, where Bob was stationed for some time.

Joan Popow, WBO, spent several days in Anchorage early this month.

Shirley Sohn, June Gadd, and Mary K. Cantrell, Accoom trainees who attended school at the Seattle Training Center, reported for work here October 11.

Marguerite Ren, WBO, transferred to Kotzebue November 1, going via Nome. Margaret Ast arrived from Anchorage November 3 to work as temporary assistant in the McGrath WBO.

November 23, 1945

R. M. Slone, CAC on leave, reports sighting a wolf on one of his recent hunting jaunts. O. R. Unger caught up with (quote) hundreds of ptarmigan (unquote) and managed to bag three. Bob Carver also reports seeing mink in the vicinity but neglected to take them because, he insists, he was more interested in getting home at that moment.

G. W. Howard and Frank Kisducak of the Engineering staff returned to Anchorage

November 23 after spending the summer months working here. Work has been completed on the central fuel distribution plant and a new drying room in the utility building. A water filter system was also put in during the summer.

McGrath is looking forward to the arrival of John Cooksey, late of Moody Island, and Chester Purdy, who will work as mechanic and electrician, respectively, according to the overworked grapevine.

Margaret Ast, temporary assistant in the WBO Weather Bureau office, returned to Anchorage November 27.

Claire Sasser of the WBO Weather Bureau is on leave in Anchorage.

WATER

(Continued from page 7)

Another of our communicators has been giving the CAC no little trouble by trying to tuck his pet remarks onto each weather report --- "poppin' often" and "overcast expected momentarily".

Just a note of explanation now to get 315 and we'll dry up for this time. A while back when you heard Finner broadcast weather reports and a hollerin at Ocho Leve 42 to please say again and all that stuff, it wasn't altogether our fault, as this affair was a bit temperamental at the time and sometimes would blurt out on that frequency and sometimes on the radio. Soaps we had a bit of cable trouble or something. We'll try not to do it again, Sand Point.

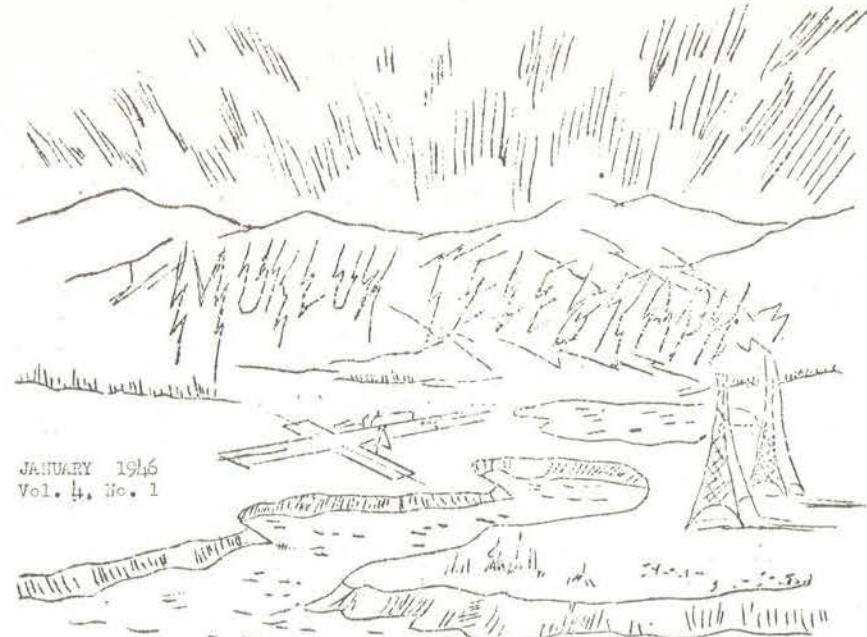
As always,

Just another Trainee

Dear Finkler:

Does anyone of 5/6 know where the 5/6 chain is and why HFI. Our good friend Carson advises that the part that went to the States had a most regrettable delay of approximately 5 months but is moving along again now.

Anxious



JANUARY 1946
Vol. 4, No. 1

CAA 8th REGION

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

NEWS ON THE REORGANIZATION

No doubt by the time this issue of the faithful Muckuk reaches you, you will have heard either directly through receipt of the December 29th supplement to Circular 3-ALL-1, or indirectly through receipt of 3-ALL dispatches announcing new phases of retooling or, lastly, through the "grapevine", that a new organizational structure was anticipated on January 2, 1946.

As you all probably have heard, action has been under way for almost a year toward effecting a redistribution of existing duties and responsibilities among established units of the organization, and creating new subdivisions where necessary in order to establish a structure that would be flexible and broad enough to cope with the expansion in all phases of aviation, which is anticipated in the present post-war era. Further, to make it possible for the regions to finally handle as much of the Administration's business as possible, it is the desire of Mr. T. F. Wright, the Administrator, and his staff to decentralize as many functions from the Washington Office to the regions as is legally possible.

To accomplish these objectives, a

(Continued on page 4)

OPERATION TRAINING FOR NEW ASSISTANT AIRCRAFT COMMUNICATORS

Later plans now being formulated, either a specified date in January (yet to be announced), all new assistant aircraft communicators recruited in the continental United States for assignment to the Eighth Region will be given an intensive orientation training course at the Seattle Training Center prior to their departure for Alaska. This training is being initiated as a stepping stone to on-the-job training and to assist in overcoming training problems which have been aggravated in this Region by the shortage of personnel at many stations, coupled with a retarded mail service which compromises the effectiveness of correspondence-type instruction in most cases.

Requiring approximately five weeks as now planned, the course will include such subjects as surface weather observations, Federal Airways Manual of Operations, CAA communications procedures, and certain other elements of particular value to a new employee. This intense but friendly introduction to CAA communications will increase initial interest and the personnel concerned will benefit by a preliminary "look see" into what will be required of them when actually on the job.

(Note: You'll find more news from Communications Operations Division on page 3.)