



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western Intercom



Long Beach Grand Prix Controllers



Cover Story

As in years past, the FAA was asked to provide air traffic control service at the Long Beach Grand Prix to enhance the safety of persons and property in the air and on the ground. A temporary tower was set up on the roof of a 12-story apartment building. Temporary Tower Chief was Larry Iacoucci, Team Supervisor, Long Beach Tower. Controllers on duty during the three-day affair were from towers at Long Beach, Torrance, Fullerton, Hawthorne and El Monte. The weather conditions on Friday, March 13, were unfavorable for flying due to a wind velocity of 25-35 knots, with gusts to 55 knots. It was also overcast and very cold. The controllers on duty that day had some interesting experiences: two had their hats blown off the roof, and one hat fell on the race track to be flattened by a Formula-

One car. While standing on the roof trying to drink a cup of coffee, the wind literally blew the coffee out of the cup!

Top right: Dean Curtis, El Monte Tower; Don Litvak, Fullerton Tower; and Gordon Sutterfield, Long Beach Tower. Bottom right: Bill Marple, Hawthorne Tower; Jessie Frazier, Torrance Tower; and Gordon Sutterfield, Long Beach Tower.

Cover photos: Left: The finish line. Right: Don Litvak, Fullerton Tower; Dean Curtis, El Monte Tower; Larry Iacoucci, Temporary Tower Chief, from Long Beach Tower; Bob Avakin of the Long Beach Airway Facilities Sector; and Mike Noyes of the Long Beach Police.

Bottom cover photo: Don Litvak, Fullerton Tower; Dean Curtis, El Monte Tower; and Gordon Sutterfield, Long Beach Tower. Photos by Larry Iacoucci.

J. Lynn Helms Confirmed As FAA Administrator

J. Lynn Helms was confirmed by the Senate as FAA Administrator on April 8. He's expected to take the oath of office the week of April 12, but no firm date had been set as INTERCOM went to press.

Michael Fenello Picked For Deputy

President Reagan has tapped a former airline pilot and airline executive to be the FAA Deputy Administrator. He is Michael J. Fenello, who flew for Eastern Air Lines for almost 20 years before moving into management. He was Vice President for Systems Operations and Safety when he retired from Eastern earlier this year. Fenello also flew for the Navy during World War II and holds both B.S. and M.A. degrees. His nomination now goes to the Senate for approval.

RIF Explained

The Revised FY 1981 employment ceilings that have been in the news lately mean that a reduction-in-force (RIF) will be necessary in parts of the agency to enable FAA to get down to the required level before the end of the fiscal year. FAA management is currently determining where and in what programs these reductions must be made. The FY '81 employment ceiling is 51,786 as compared to 54,460 in FY '80, a difference of 2,674. However, FAA management believes that attrition will account for a large percentage of the staffing reductions. Procedures for the RIF are too complicated to summarize here, but they are contained in Order 3350.2B, Staffing Adjustments and Reduction-in-Force, which has just been revised to incorporate technical changes required by the Civil Service Reform Act (CSRA). With the exception of a CSRA requirement to give special retention standing to 30-point "compensable veterans," none of the changes has a significant effect on the agency's RIF process. Through INTERCOM, FAA management will attempt to keep all employees informed of progress on the RIF as important events occur.

Jim Webb, Manager Las Vegas Sector

James L. Webb has been selected as Manager of the Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector. Prior to his Las Vegas assignment, Jim's Western Region experience includes duties as Manager, Riverside Airway Facilities Sector and Chief, Electronics Section, Airway Facilities Establishment Engineering Branch. Photo by John Katsigenis.





Western Intercom

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NAATS Rejects Agreement

The National Association of Air Traffic Specialists, the union representing some 3,800 flight service station specialists, has voted not to ratify a tentative contract settlement reached with the agency in early February. By a unanimous vote of its ratification committee, the union rejected an agreement that was scheduled to go into effect April 15. NAATS President Larry Cushing told FAA that the union wants to resume negotiations as soon as possible. Meantime, the existing contract, signed in November 1976, remains in effect.

Supervisors Organize

A new supervisor's committee called Supcom was convened last month when 33 Air Traffic Control supervisors met with Air Traffic Service Director Raymond J. Van Vuren and his staff at FAA headquarters. The 33 supervisors came from all 11 regions, representing each option--center, tower and flight service station. During the meeting, officers for the new organization were elected. They are: Max Hall, Salt Lake City Center, chairman; Jess Moton, Atlanta Tower, first alternate; and Charles Bono, Houston Center, second alternate. Committee members also discussed problems encountered by supervisors in the field, such as those pertaining to training, communications and general operational supervision of the Air Traffic Control system.

Bob Kingery Party

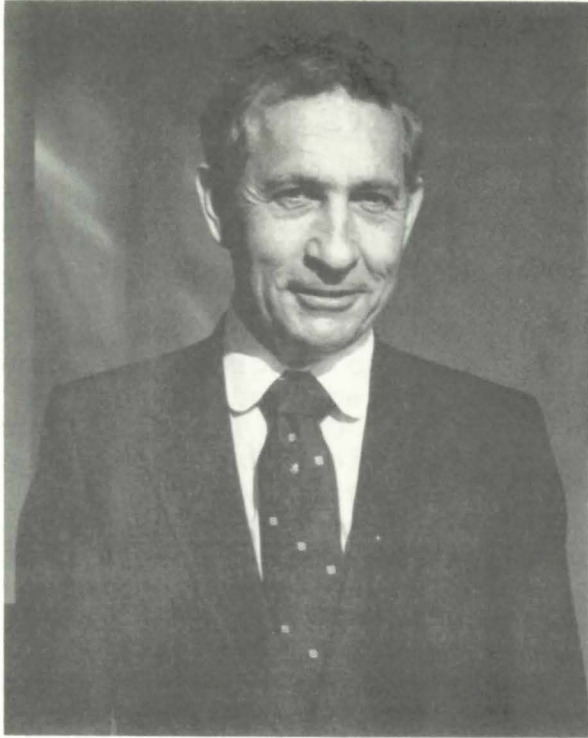
Bob Kingery, Chief, Santa Barbara Flight Service Station, is transferring to Honolulu. A party will be held in his honor on April 25 beginning at 7 p.m. Contact the Santa Barbara FSS for more details.

Distinguished Graduate

Frederick R. Mauck, Supervisory Air Traffic Control Specialist at Orange County Tower, recently graduated from the Supervisory Initial Training Course at Lawton with the title of Distinguished Graduate. This title is bestowed as a special recognition for achieving an academic score of 97 percent. A special certificate was awarded to Fred in recognition of his good work. Congratulations, Fred, and best wishes for success in your new responsibilities.

Ray Van Buskirk Retires

Ray Van Buskirk, Airway Facilities Maintenance Engineering Branch, is retiring after 30 years of dedicated service. Ray's knowledge of terminal radar and automation systems will be missed very much. Good luck, Ray, and happy days ahead!



Dom Panasiti New Regional Comm Chief

Dom Panasiti has been promoted to Chief, Regional Communications Center. Dom's previous assignments have included Deputy Chief, San Diego Flight Service Station; Chief, Daggett Flight Service Station; Assistant Chief, Salinas Flight Service Station; Thermal Flight Service Station, and various stations in Alaska and San Francisco International Flight Service Station. Photo by Barbara Abels.

Mayor Recognizes Oakland Electronic Technician

Mayor Lionel Wilson of Oakland, Calif., proclaimed Sunday, March 15, 1981 as "Richard and Bea Fong Day" in recognition of their efforts on behalf of the Oakland Soccer Club. Dick is an electronics technician at the Oakland Airway Facilities Sector. The proclamation noted that the Fongs have been instrumental in the growth and development of the Soccer Club which was founded in 1975; that Dick has coached many of the teams, the latest of which (the under 10-year-old group in the B league) captured the league championship this year; that Bea has served as Treasurer of the league since its inception and has acted as Club Registrar for the past three years; and that Dick and Bea have



Dick and Bea Fong. Photo by Jim Hansen, Assistant Manager, Oakland Airway Facilities Sector.

been honored for their civic contributions and services by the Alameda-Contra Costa Youth Soccer League. Congratulations, Dick and Bea, on this outstanding honor!

Where Are They Now?

Former Associate Administrator for Airports Robert Aaronson has been named Director of Aviation for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. This means he will be responsible for the operation, promotion and planning of Kennedy, LaGuardia, Newark and Teterboro Airports, as well as the two Port Authority heliports. But this will not be all new territory for him. Prior to joining the agency in February 1978, he was Administrator of Aviation for Maryland's Department of Transportation and was responsible for "Friendship," now Baltimore-Washington International Airport. Meanwhile, Roland Eckert, who came to Washington with Administrator Bond as his Special Counsel and then was Director of International Aviation, has returned to the Illinois Department of Transportation as its General Counsel. He worked as an attorney in the General Counsel's Office before the move to Washington in May 1977.

Lancaster Airway Facilities Sector News

Congratulations to the following who have completed a total of 100 years of service to the FAA and the Federal government: Bob Terrell, 30 years; John Howard, 30; Jim Delaini, 25; and Chuck Greiner, 15 years. We also congratulate those who recently received Letters of Appreciation. Otis Tindell, Chuck Lang and Charlie Cline received a Letter of Appreciation for restoring a failed communications channel at the Keeler Remote Center Air/Ground (RCAG) communications facility. Pete Harrington received one for the support he gave the Sector Manager while he was Acting Assistant. Rick Larson and Dick Jenkins received one for restoring to service the Gaviota VORTAC which had failed during a heavy snowstorm. All the Lancaster Sector Electronics Technicians and Maintenance Mechanics received a Letter of Appreciation for their contribution in keeping various facilities in service for nine months or more without an outage.



Madelene Babin Retires

Madelene Babin, Flight Standards Division secretary, has retired after 22 years of Federal service. She began her Federal career with the Navy Department and joined the CAA/FAA in 1945 as secretary to the Special Advisor to the Administrator and later to the Director, Office of Aviation Development, Washington, D.C. She resigned in 1953 to raise a family and resumed her Federal career in 1970 as the Engineering Division secretary, Naval Station, Terminal Island, Calif. In June 1972, she transferred to the FAA Western Region. Besides the Flight Standards Division, Madelene worked in the Personnel and Aircraft Engineering Divisions. Photo by Barbara Abels.

Civilair, Inc.

Civilair, Inc., wishes to remind all employees that the discount offer for the health spa is only good until May 15, 1981. Also, the price has been reduced for a full year membership. Further information is available at the Civilair Desk, including cards for one free visit to the health spa.

● Recent Civilair Pinochle Club winners were: Howard Krattenmaker, First Place Award, and Robbi Shields, Second Place. Beginners are welcome. Come one, come all--fun guaranteed. For further details, call Robbi Shields, ext. 6313.

Lancaster AFS News

Congratulations to Dick Browder, Technical Support Officer, who received a Quality Within-Grade Increase award in recognition of his exceptional performance in the management and control of sector technical activities. Also to Bernie Padget, Environmental Technician-in-Depth, who was awarded a Quality Within-Grade Increase for his role in the Sector's environmental program. Kudos from Chief, Tonopah Field Office, to John McCorduck, Electronic Technician, for his skillful and innovative approach to the installation of the "Data Mite" remote control system in the Tonopah radar system; and also to John Kearns, Relief Electronic Technician, for his professional assistance during a recent assignment to the field office. More good news--Kneeland Giusti was presented a 25-year career service emblem by Sector Manager Jim Webb; Debbie Colvin, Tonopah Field Office stay-in-schooler, was promoted to GW-2. Joe Gilkison, Tonopah Field Office Chief, received a "Distinguished Graduate" certificate of training for his high academic score upon completion of the MTS Supervisory Initial Course. The

French World Jobs Open

For those interested in living in French-speaking countries, the International Civil Aviation Organization has seven two-year jobs open in Montreal and one in Paris. In Montreal, there are openings for a Ground Branch chief, salary \$43,890 with a tax-free net of \$26,931 to \$29,245; a language officer translator (French), gross \$23,910, tax-free net, \$16,978 to \$18,193; a language officer reviser (French) and Publications Section chief, both with salaries of \$29,940 and tax-free nets of \$20,209 to \$21,756. Applications for these four positions are due in Washington headquarters, API-19, by May 5. Also, in Montreal are openings for an appointment officer, salary \$19,040 with a tax-free net of \$14,149 to \$15,096, application due in API-19 by May 12; a terminology officer, salary \$23,910 with a tax-free net of \$16,978 to \$18,193; and a Field Procurement Service Unit chief, salary \$29,940 with a tax-free net of \$20,209 to \$21,756. For these two jobs, applications are due in API-19 by May 22. In Paris, the job opening is for a technical officer, RAC/SAR. Salary is \$29,940 with a tax-free net of \$20,209 to \$21,756. The application for this job is due in API-19 also by May 22.

letter of recognition was endorsed by the Chief, Airway Facilities Division, and the Las Vegas Sector Manager.

Our FAA team placed first in the annual Las Vegas City Bowling Tournament. Team members are: Bill Beyer, Wayne Miller and Jim Strawn, Airway Facilities Sector; and Dick Anderson and Joe Jagodzinski, Tower. Trophies will be presented at a banquet at the Bingo Palace on April 25.

Employees Responsible For Unused Tickets

The Office of Accounting and Audit reminds employees that they are responsible for the cancellation of travel reservations when their trip is scrubbed or postponed. If this is not done within the specified time limits, the employee may have to pay for the unused reservations. So, the travel office should be notified immediately of any change in travel plans. Also, if discount coupons were issued with the reservations, Accounting and Audit says a record of these coupons should be made before they are surrendered. This record should be included with the travel voucher.

Logistics Division News

Congratulations to Marie Hagen on her promotion to her target grade as Supply Technician in the Materiel Management Branch. Letters of Appreciation were received by: Gene Hutchison, Materiel Management Branch, from John Tompkins, San Diego AFS Sector Manager, for the willingness and extra cooperation provided to field personnel; Richard Gipson, Services Branch, from the Regional Director, along with a letter from former Administrator Langhorne Bond, for Dick's contribution in an illustration presented to Mr. Bond; Chauncey Walker and Richard Gipson, Services Branch, from Col. Leo Draper, U.S. Army, Chairman, Community Services Committee, Los Angeles Federal Executive Board, for their combined effort provided in the Distinguished

Daylight Saving Time To Begin Sunday, April 26, 1981

It's time once again to "spring forward" into "fast time." Those who want to remain in step with the rest of the country should set their clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m., Sunday, April 26, or they can do it before they go to bed Saturday night. Employees whose shift is shortened by the time change will be paid for seven hours or, where provided for in union contracts, they can elect to work an extra hour at the end of the shift in order to get a full day's pay. Those doing this will not be paid the night differential for the extra hour, however. Daylight Saving Time will be observed everywhere in the United States except Arizona, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, American Samoa and that portion of Indiana within the Eastern Time Zone.

Public Service Awards booklet for 1981; Chauncey Walker, Services Branch, from the Chief, Materiel Management Branch, for the special effort he and his staff made to print the instruction manual for the National Personal Property In-Use Management System; Mary Ann Presson, Real Estate and Utilities Branch, from Paul Richards, Chief, Employment Branch, in arranging the space layout in the Employment Branch, with the support of the Real Estate and Utilities and Services Branches; to the Real Estate and Utilities Branch from Bill Bailey, Chief, Materiel Management Branch, Logistics Service, for submission of the FY-80 Real Property Record data error free.

Rideshare--Vanpool-- Energy Conservation

The Lancaster/Palmdale Vanpool is still alive and providing a very economical means of transportation to the Regional Office. The best part is that there are seats available for employees living in Lancaster, Palmdale, Valencia and Newhall who want a comfortable, relaxing and inexpensive ride to work. Working hours are 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For further information, call Dennis Boocock, FTS 966-6442 or Gary Fisher, FTS 966-6401.

Experts Back FAA Collision Avoidance Approach

The idea that there is a cheap, off-the-shelf "black box" that can be installed immediately in aircraft to give them absolute protection against midair collisions is a myth. That's the conclusion of a "blue ribbon" study of collision avoidance systems conducted for FAA by a panel of independent experts. Dr. Harry Davis, who directed the study, said he was distressed to turn on CBS "60 Minutes" and hear Mike Wallace say "we still don't have a device we can put in airplanes to prevent midair collisions." Dr. Davis called that the "black box syndrome," the idea that a single device by itself can solve the mid-air collision problem. "Devices are parts of a system," he noted. "We want a collision avoidance system, not a device." Testifying before a Congressional subcommittee last week, Dr. Davis endorsed FAA's Aircraft Separation Assurance Program, which

Management Training School Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

The FAA Management Training School at Lawton, Okla., celebrates its 10th anniversary this month. Founded in the wake of the 1970 controllers' strike in order to upgrade the skills of supervisors, the school has graduated approximately 37,000 FAAers. MTS started out as a contract operation with the buildings leased from Cameron University and most of the instructors on the University of Oklahoma payroll. The original plan called for converting the operation into an exclusive FAA affair in one year, but the conversion was scrapped due to a budget squeeze and the original arrangement has prevailed. Once again, the training school is feeling effects of a tight budget. The number of courses offered and the number of students in attendance have been substantially reduced during the last several years. Right now travel restrictions also have cut the MTS student population. However, Program Manager Henry Budde says the future of MTS is assured.

combines both ground-based and airborne collision avoidance elements. He said, "The Panel feels that the FAA team is on the verge of achieving a viable collision avoidance system. While much remains to be done, we feel the time is ripe to speed up the process." Dr. Davis, who is a former Deputy Undersecretary of the Air Force, has headed his own consulting firm in Arlington, VA., since 1973.