



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

Western Intercom



GENERAL AVIATION BRANCH

Cover Story

The General Aviation Branch of the Regional Flight Standards Division monitors the operations and management of the nine General Aviation District Offices and three Flight Standards District Offices. The Branch Chief is Thomas Westall. The Airworthiness Specialists are Justus "Jay" Henderson, General Aviation Maintenance Specialist, and Edwin "Bud" Poore, Flight Standards Avionics Maintenance Specialist. They share in regional maintenance activities and deal with aeronautical product airworthiness, mechanics, mechanic schools, repair station certification and personnel. They are also involved in type certification, Airworthiness Directives Boards and the review of violation reports.

Don Montgomery is in charge of the general aviation operations enforcement program and review of all general aviation accidents and incidents.

Gertrude Williams is the Branch Secretary and provides administrative assistance to the Branch Chief and the four specialists.

Al Ruggeri, Jr., was the Accident Prevention Coordinator at the time

INTERCOM visited the Branch. (He has since transferred to the Long Beach Flight Standards District Office.) The Accident Prevention Coordinator is responsible for developing, monitoring and evaluating the Regional Accident Prevention Program, establishing liaison and coordination with Washington headquarters, regional personnel and other regions for dissemination of regional actions and conformity with national objectives for general aviation accident prevention. Featured on the cover, from left, are: Al Ruggeri, Jr., Thomas Westall and Bud Poore. Cover photo by Barbara Abels.



Above--Gertrude Williams, General Aviation Branch Secretary.

Left: Jay Henderson and Don Montgomery consulting the Federal Aviation Regulations. Photos by Barbara Abels.



Air Trails, Inc. Newest Scheduled Commuter Airline

On March 31, Jack Jella', president of Air Trails, Inc., was presented with the Commuter Certificate at the San Jose General Aviation District Office by Richard Devereaux, Chief, Flight Standards Division. Air Trails, Inc., of Salinas, Calif., is the newest scheduled commuter serving the San Francisco Bay Area. They are operating three flights daily between Salinas, San Francisco and Oakland, using Piper PA-31 Navajo aircraft.



From left: Gerry Pennington, Unit Chief; Richard Devereaux, Chief, Flight Standards Division; Jack Jella'; Chuck Panos, Chief, San Jose GADO; and Chuck Berns, Principal Operations Inspector. Photo by Chuck Johnson, San Jose GADO.

Performance Award for James Brewer



James Brewer (right), ARTS-IIIA Electronic Technician at Los Angeles Airway Facilities Sector, is congratulated by Wally Ward (left), Sector Manager, on receiving a Quality Within-Grade Increase Award based on his excellent performance. This included designing, fabricating/constructing, installing and testing the Dual Radar Switch used by air traffic controllers at Los Angeles TRACON. Jim's contributions greatly enhanced the controllers' confidence and TRACON operations. Others in the photo are: Electronic Technicians John S. Romero (center), Sam Randler (extreme left) and Tom Smith (extreme right). Photo by Yukio Mochizuki.

The News in Brief

● Tests will begin this month at the Arcata, Calif., Airport to determine which are the best sensors to use with automatic weather reporting systems at airports without air traffic control towers. During the 45-day test, the latest in weather-sensing equipment, including the "state-of-the-art" Runway Visual Range (RVR) systems, electro-mechanical devices for measuring runway visibility, and a cloud-height sensor will be evaluated. The automatic weather-reporting system being used in the tests is the Artais System, a commercial version of an FAA-developed ALWOS--for Automatic Low-Cost Weather Observation System. ● The agency has reaffirmed its position that the x-ray machines used to screen carry-on luggage at U.S. airports do not harm ordinary photographic film. In addition, it has challenged critics to submit film they claim has been damaged by the machines for expert examination by Kodak or the National Association of Photographic Manufacturers. In all previous instances of alleged x-ray damage, experts have concluded that damage to film was the result of under-exposure, over-exposure, camera movement or factors other than x-rays. ● Pilots flying into the Avon Park, Fla., restricted area have a good chance of getting caught by FAA inspectors patrolling the area in agency aircraft. Because of the growing number of pilots flying into this restricted airspace, Southern Region inspectors assigned to the planes are equipped with binoculars and cameras to identify intruding aircraft. Pilots found guilty of violating the airspace may be fined up to \$1,000 or have action taken against their pilots' certificates. The area is off limits because it is reserved exclusively for use of high-speed military jet aircraft practicing bombing and gunnery missions and other training maneuvers.

Fresno Airway Facilities Sector News

Congratulations to Curtis Alderman (from Bakersfield) and his wife Ada on the arrival of a 7-lb. baby girl, Allisen Janeen. In Fresno, Matt Mirko and Raleigh Stegall recovered a stolen projector from an honest citizen. ARTS II equipment was commissioned on April 4. Congratulations are due the following: John Vaegele, 15-years of Federal service; Jerry McQuilliams, who took time to conduct an RTC-3 training class at the Poggi Tacan in San Diego; Dave Bomann who received a Letter of Appreciation for the class he taught in the Reno Sector on VASI systems; Mel Haworth who received a Letter of Appreciation for his part in a tour conducted for students of transportation planning at California State University of Fresno; and to Martin Frutos and Robert Hopper on their promotions.

Ann Parker Retirement Luncheon

Ann Parker, secretary, Airway Facilities Division, Establishment Engineering Branch, is retiring after 35 years of government service. Join us in a farewell lunch for her at Los Angeles Air Force Station Officers Open Mess, El Segundo and Aviation Blvd., Friday, May 22, 11:30 a.m. Choice of Roast Beef au jus or Baked Ham with potatoes, tossed salad and roll, \$6.25, including gratuities and coffee. Reservations should be made to Liz Davis, 536-6518, no later than May 18.

Visits To Capitol Hill

FAA Administrator J. Lynn Helms has advised that FAA staff visits to any element of the House or Senate should be cleared in advance with the Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs, AOA-10, 426-3277. The Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs will be responsible for notification and coordination of the proposed visit with the OST Congressional Relations Officer for aviation. This supersedes previous direction regarding visits to Capitol Hill.

New Associate Appointed

Donald Riley Segner, retired Lockheed Corp. project manager and chief test pilot, has been appointed Associate Administrator for Policy and International Aviation. A Marine Corps Reserve lieutenant colonel, Segner is a fixed-wing, a rotary wing and one of the first V/STOL pilots. He also has had considerable experience on the international scene. While at Lockheed, he was head of a special project to evaluate civil U.S.S.R. aircraft for FAA certification. Segner replaces Bill Wilkins who left the agency in January with the change of administrations. John Wesler, Director of the Office of Environment and Energy has been the acting associate since that time.

U.S. Savings Bonds: Your Ticket To Anywhere

Tired of spending vacations at home because that's all you can afford? If you're like most Americans, you'd rather be on the move. You'd rather travel somewhere. But before you try leaving on a flight of fancy, remember: Wishing won't make it so--only saving gets you there. It's one thing to sit around and dream of faraway places. It's something else when you have to come up with a ticket from a tight budget. That's one reason why millions of Americans are on the Payroll Savings Plan. They know how Savings Bonds grow into first-class tickets to anywhere. And Bonds are the dependable way to save. Guaranteed against theft, loss or destruction, nothing's

safer than Savings Bonds. So go ahead! Take a flight of fancy! Then buy Bonds for a fancy flight. Buy Bonds for Tahiti, London, Paris or Rome. Buy Bonds for a trip around the world--or just a long vacation on a Caribbean island. Go ahead! You can build a vacation fund sooner than you think. Stop sitting at home thinking how good your vacation ought to be. Get out! Enjoy! When all it takes is a little saving to enjoy the world, vacations should be someplace special! By the way, Interest on Series EE bonds has been raised from 8 percent at maturity to 9 percent, and the original maturity will be shortened from nine to eight years. For more information, please contact your local Bond Canvasser.



Western Intercom

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Civilair Desk News

Substantial group savings on the new Encyclopedia Britannica Program are still available. Anyone who did not receive a flyer describing the program or would like another one, please contact the Civilair Desk, P.O. Box 92007, WWPC, Los Angeles, CA 90009, telephone, 213/644-8525.

A local car wash is offering a 10 percent discount to FAA employees showing an FAA identification card. Further details are available at the Civilair Desk.

Direct Deposit Of Payroll Checks

The Department of Treasury is implementing the Direct Deposit Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT) procedure of transferring funds for Federal net salary payments. The Department of Transportation will be included in that implementation effective with the payment of the pay period ending July 11, 1981 (Pay Period 81-15). This will be a significant improvement over the current system of mailing checks from the Disbursing Center in Kansas City, Kansas, and mailing check listings from the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The likelihood of a financial institution failing to receive the

required payment data in a timely manner will be essentially non-existent.

Since most financial institutions will be using automated posting systems to handle these payments, the employee account number becomes an extremely critical data element. If the employee's account number on the payroll master file does not match the account number established at the financial institution, the payment may be set aside for manual processing, and could result in a significant delay in crediting the account.

During the week of April 27, 1981, a notification form was sent to each employee whose net salary check is going to a financial organization for deposit. When you receive this form, check the bank account number for accuracy. If there is an error, make the correction on the form and send it to your payroll office. If the account number is correct, there is no need to send the form to Payroll. It is not necessary to verify the "Bank-ID."

Distinguished Graduates

"Distinguished Graduate" is the honor bestowed upon three newly-appointed supervisors of the Western Region by the Superintendent, Management Training School, recently as they completed their Supervisory Initial Training Course at Lawton. Receiving the special certificate for achieving an academic score of 99 percent for the course are: Thomas P. Woehl, Los Angeles TRACON; James L. Mathews, Oakland Air Route Traffic Control Center; and Orestes R. Moreno, Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center.

Management Systems Division News

Patti Zeman and Dan Mack received Quality Within-Grade Awards with Outstanding ratings for their consistently excellent work. Good work Patti and Dan! A Letter of Appreciation was received by Norma Burt for excellent work on the Materiel Management Branch's PPIMS Manual. Marilyn Ramsey also received a Letter of Appreciation from the Regional Planning and Appraisal Officer for responsive and helpful service. Rosie Long and Genevieve Lacy, Computer Operators, Data Processing Branch, received career service awards for 15-years of Government service. A Letter of Appreciation was received by Lula Lacy from the Chief, Examination and Classification Branch, for diligent and outstanding work in the conversion of the Travel Advance System. Ken Elsing also received a Letter of Appreciation from Chief, Accounting Division, for outstanding programming effort in the development of the Accounts Receivable System. Congratulations to all!

Fresno TRACON Flashes

Congratulations to Ron Rawlings on his recent promotion as Fresno's first Data Systems Specialist. Special Achievement Awards were received by: Phyllis Fosdick, TRACON Secretary; and Joe DeFelice. Ken Smith and Frank Holbert were promoted to GS-9's. Doyle Henderson received praise from the California Republican Party and from an Air Ambulance company in San Carlos for the way he handled their flights. Ben Nicholas and his team impressed the Flight Science Group from Fresno City College; Larry Korzdorfer was a hit with the Beacon Oil Company; and the entire Tower/TRACON made Federal Express out of Memphis happy. Performance awards went to Steve Roberts, Gil Gann, Bob Dinwiddie and Bob Wolff. Larry Korzdorfer and Hal Mortensen received Letters of Commendation, and the entire workforce was thanked for an outstanding job of creating a TRACON out of the chaos of the past few months. The ARTS II replaced the BRITES in the Cab on April 4, and on April 21 over 110 local aviation enthusiasts joined in a cake cutting to formally dedicate the new TRACON. Attending the formality and saying a few words were General Kilpatrick, California Air National Guard; Ralph Tonseth, Fresno Airport Manager; Mel Haworth, Airway Facilities Sector Manager; and Will Cope, Chief, Fresno TRACON. Tours of the new TRACON were provided and five TV channels and the local newspaper gave excellent coverage to the event. The First Annual Fresno City Golf Tournament will tee off on June 2 at the Fig Garden Golf Course. There are still a few slots left. Retiree Al Young recently invited a dozen Tower golfers to guest day at Belmont Country Club and then shot a scratch 77! Congratulations to the Bob Dinwiddies on the arrival of a baby girl.

MLS Test Scheduled

A small community microwave landing system (MLS), built by Hazeltine Corp., is scheduled to be installed at the Clarksburg, W. Va., Airport in June as part of the agency's service, test and evaluation of the three versions of its Time Reference Scanning Beam MLS. Besides the small community MLS, there are models designed for medium-size and large airports. Planes from Aeromech Airlines, a local carrier, will be equipped with MLS receivers and used in the Clarksburg test, along with FAA planes used for previous tests. Before the MLS goes operational at Clarksburg, a mock-up of the antenna will be built to find out if it interferes with the instrument landing system (ILS) already installed at the airport. The tests at Clarksburg are expected to continue through 1983.

More on Computer-Based Instruction

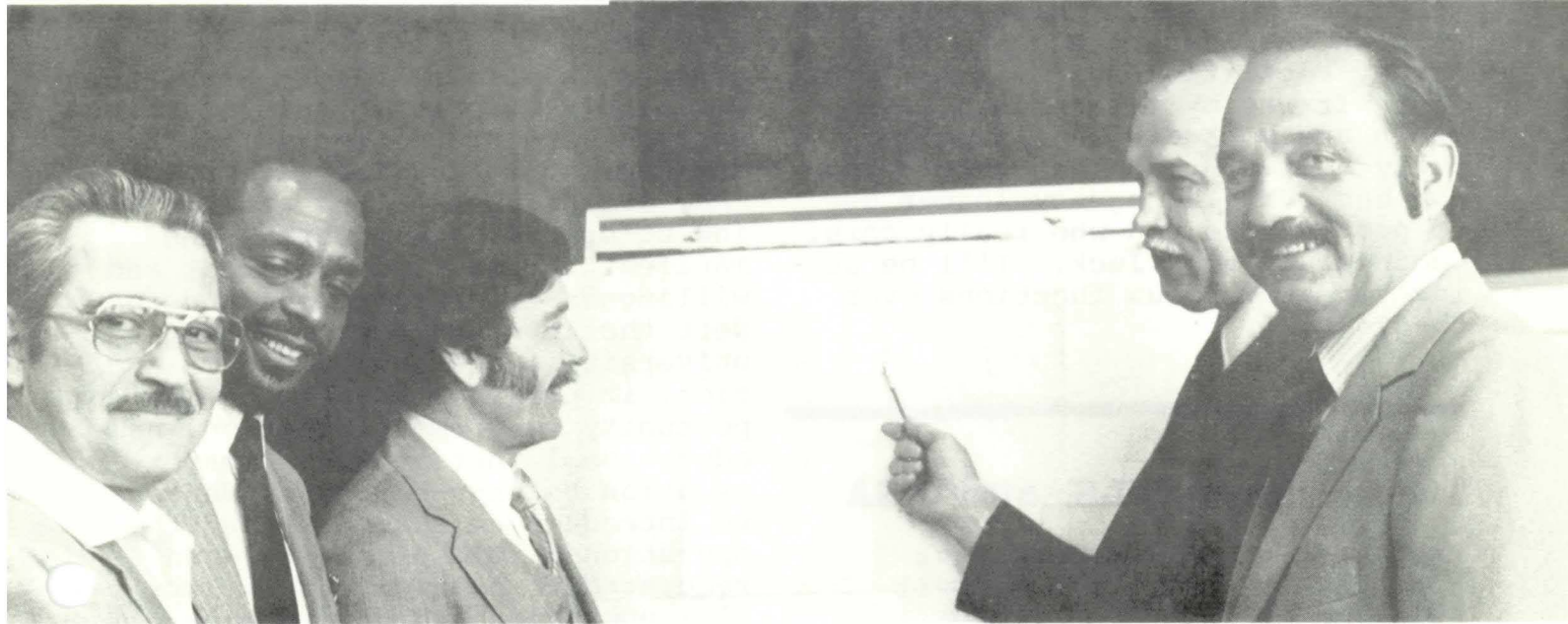
This fall, a limited number of Airway Facilities courses will become available on computer-based instruction equipment, which will be located in 40 Airway Facilities Sector offices and at the FAA Academy. At the sectors, students will receive a briefing from their facility training officer concerning their course and how to operate the CBI training equipment, which will consist of a lot more than just the computer terminal. In fact, during courses, students will get assignments from the computer but spend a large percentage of their time viewing audio-slide presentations, watching video tapes, reading textbooks or doing experiments at a specially designed electronic lab. Students will be responsible for setting their own pace through courses within a maximum time. Their progress will be measured by frequent short tests provided by the computer terminal. If ques-

Los Angeles Flight Service Station News

Congratulations to the Kelly Shapiros and the Kurt Strauss' on the arrival of new baby daughters. Arlander Clayton and Stephanie Freeman received 15-year career service awards. Jim Gomez has presented the FAA story to 338 high school, ground school or student pilots so far this year. Thanks, JZ, and keep it up. Recent departures: Larry Berg, to Regional Communications Center; John Corral, resigned; Ruth Ann Rich, Ontario; and Norris Winzler, Chief, Wm. J. Fox. Welcome additions: Lori Collins, GS-5 Developmental Program; Ron Davey, Montague; Carl Gainer, Ely; Mike Lammes, Bakersfield; Art Morrison, Los Angeles; Rick Mauck, Tucson; Carmen Opdyke, Oakland; and Claude Rivers, Arcata. The FSS Softball Team opens defense of the Southern California Championship with a 2 p.m. tune-up on May 9 at Westchester Park. Congratulations to Sandy Couverley and Bob Widick for their outstanding flight assist to a lost pilot. Michelle Davis and Larry Ford have become our newest Mr. and Mrs. team, joining Frank and Stephanie Feher as husband and wife specialists at the facility.

tions are missed on a test, a second, different study assignment will be given to assure that students understand all of the material. On the other hand, students who already have some knowledge of the subject matter may skip ahead in the course by passing tests before they begin to study. If students have problems understanding what is being taught, they will be able to call an FAA Academy instructor. After completing each course, students will receive credit for the course in their personnel records and will be sent an FAA Academy certificate. In a future INTERCOM article, the Office of Personnel and Training will explain some of the new procedures being established for administering CBI.

Route System Conference



A Government/Industry Meeting was held recently at Regional Headquarters to discuss the Central East Pacific (CEP) and North Pacific (NOPAC) Composite Route System. In attendance full-time were 37 persons including representatives from Japan Civil Aviation Bureau; Tokyo Center; Airline Transport Association; International Airline Transport Association; Air Line Pilots Association; International Federation of Air Line Pilots Association; Western, United, Northwest, Flying Tiger, Pan Am, Korean, Japan, Continental and Varig Airlines; Headquarters, 15th Air Force; Air Force Representative; and FAA representatives from Alaskan Region, Technical Center, Washington Headquarters and, of course, Western Region. Attendees were briefed on the status of the CEP system. In a one-way trial mode since the Spring of 1979,

the system is operating very satisfactorily. Plans for implementing a new five-route composite system between Anchorage and Tokyo on August 6, 1981, were also discussed. A feasibility study has been made of this joint U.S.-Japan proposal which indicates safety in the system will be as good and probably better than the existing system and with significant fuel savings. Chairman of the conference was Larry Billows, Air Traffic Service, Washington, D.C. Top right: Some of the industry personnel represented at the conference. Bottom: Left to right: Joe Pepe, Oakland Center; Sam Tyson, Air Traffic Airspace and Procedures Branch; Al Kulikowski, Anchorage Center; Larry Billows, Air Traffic Service; and Bob Harik, Alaskan Region. Photos by Barbara Abels.

Bob Frehse Sends Thanks

Bob Frehse, recently retired Chief, Airway Facilities Division, would like to thank all of his FAA friends who had a part in his recent retirement. Bob says, "Your contributions and support were just outstanding. I am really proud to have worked 32 years for the FAA. Thirty of those were in the Western Region, 27 in Airway Facilities and 3 in Air Traffic. It was my pleasure to have known and worked with all of you. I truly believe that the Western Region has been the agency leader due to people like you who really care. Goodbye and good luck. I'll be seeing you at various functions over the years."

ICAO Okays MLS and ASA

At a meeting in Montreal last month, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) reached agreement on international standards and recommended practices for the microwave landing system (MLS). It also agreed on a first draft of an international transition plan to MLS from ILS, which has been the international standard electronic landing system since 1949. The ICAO action is the first major step taken toward worldwide implementation of MLS since the U.S./Australia-backed MLS system was selected by ICAO as the international standard three years ago. Chairman of the U.S. delegation to ICAO, Siegfried Poritzky, Director of FAA's Office of Systems Engineering Management, said, however, that even with the ICAO go-ahead it will take several more years before MLS will be fully implemented worldwide. In the meantime, FAA continues to test its Time Reference Scanning Beam MLS at various U.S. airports. (See separate story, "MLS Test Scheduled.") The recent ICAO conference also

University-Community Engineering Outreach

The Flight Standards Division recently started an FAA Engineering Awareness Program for Universities and Colleges. Also participating in this program is the Employment Branch of the Personnel Management Division as well as other divisions with engineering activities. This program is part of Flight Standards Division's efforts to inform engineering students of the multi-engineering activities within the FAA, orient them to the engineering co-op training program, and manifest the agency's interest and willingness to participate and support the internship programs of universities and colleges. In addition, it provides the FAA an opportunity to promote aviation, help educational institutions impart aviation to engineering students and to introduce an awareness and the operational role of safety when requested to participate in curriculum upgrading and development. The Flight Standards Division is also starting a community outreach program concentrating on the engineering profession. The criticality of engineers in the Los Angeles area has existed for quite a number of years. This outreach program will provide guidance in the planning and programming of technical human resource management.

gave its full support to the continued development of the U.S. aircraft separation assurance (ASA) program, especially the Discrete Address Beacon System (DABS), Automatic Traffic Advisory and Resolution System (ATARS), and Beacon Collision Avoidance Systems (BCAS). In addition, the group agreed on a set of U.S. proposals to guide further development of worldwide collision-prevention-and-avoidance systems.