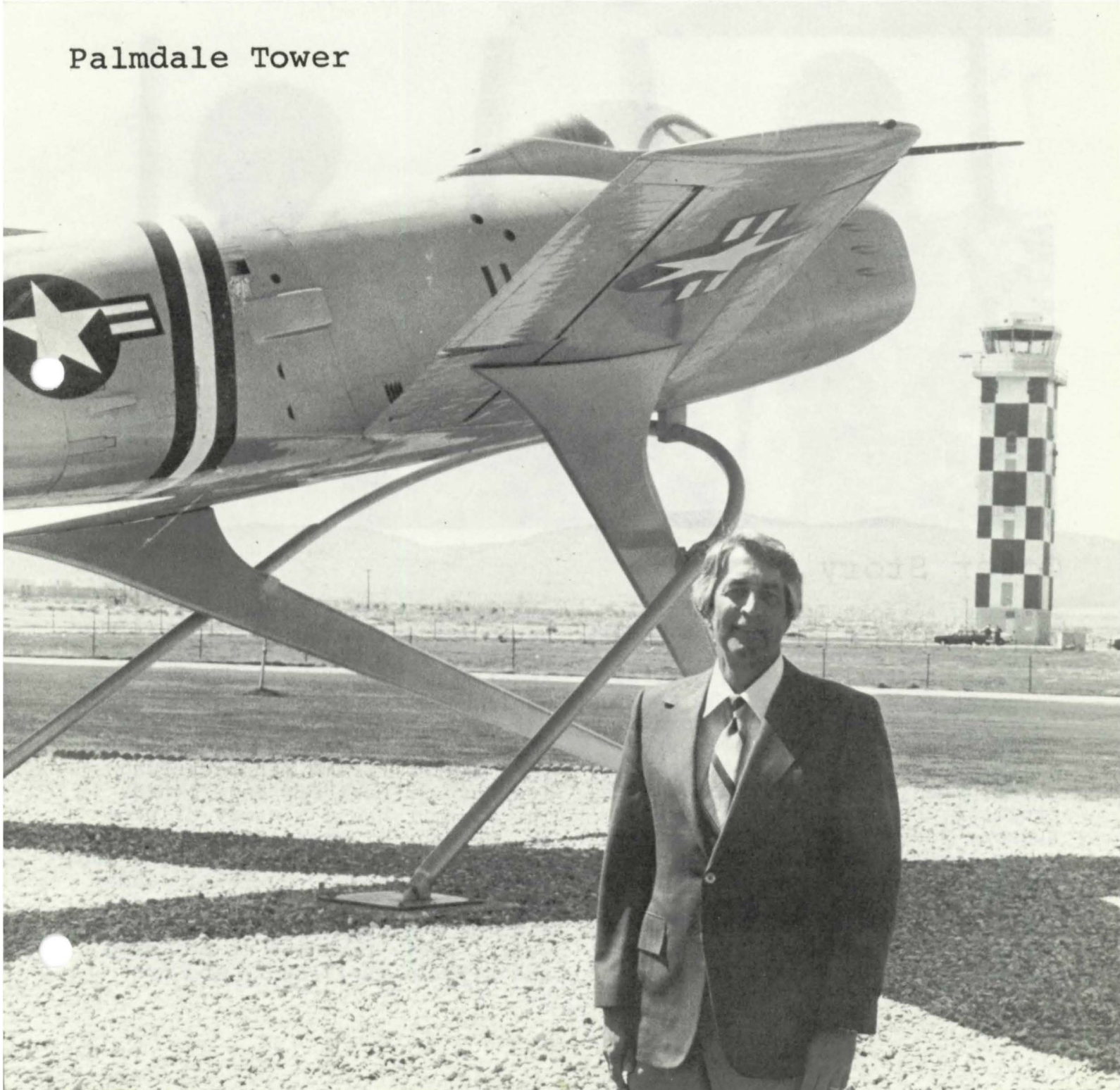




U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# Western Intercom

Palmdale Tower





## Palmdale Tower

Palmdale Tower Personnel:  
A--Controller Helen  
Copley; B--Controller  
David Wilson; and C--  
Controller Virginia  
Hudson. Not pictured:  
Controller Nancy Norder.  
Photos by Fred Berry, Jr.

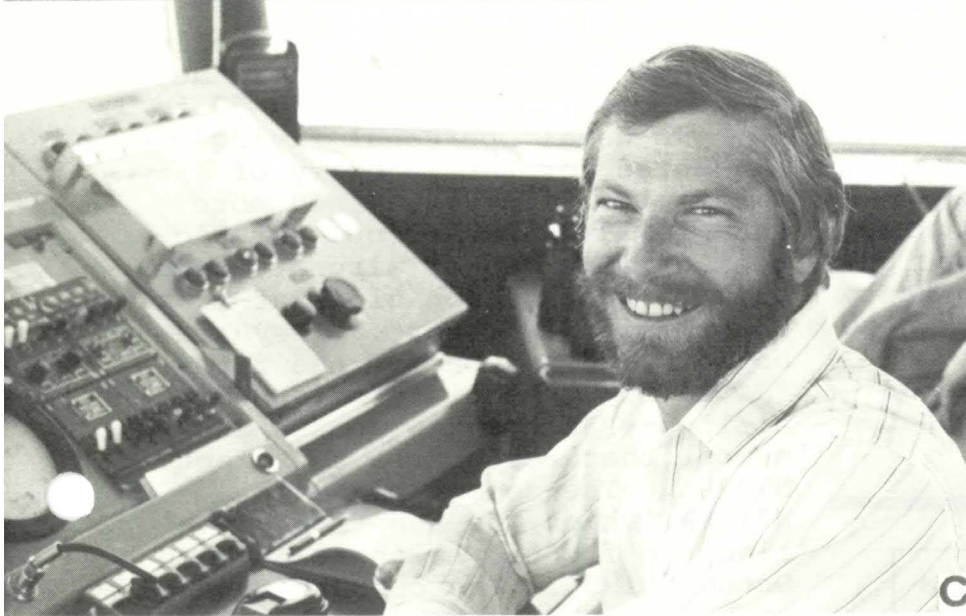
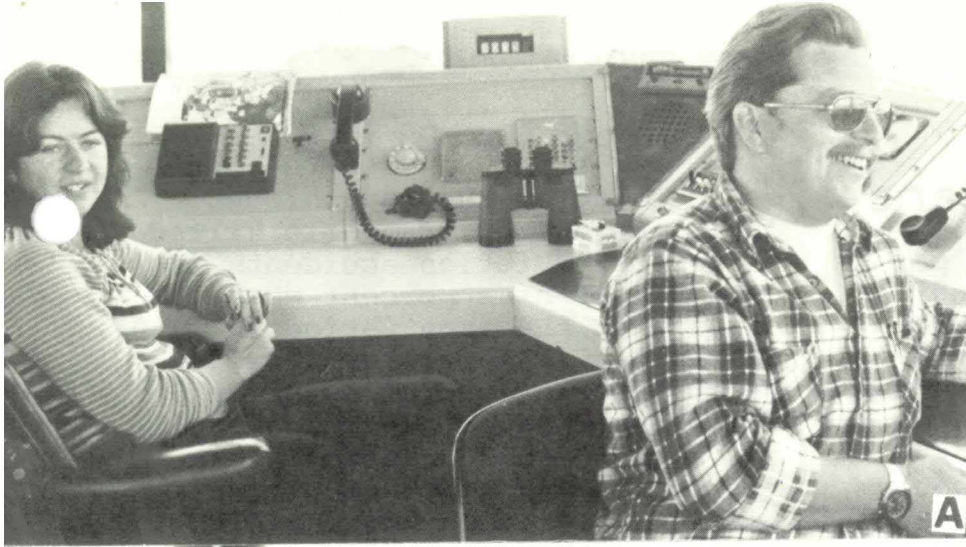


## Cover Story

Palmdale Airport Traffic Control Tower is located in the high desert north of Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center on U.S. Air Force Plant 42, home of the Space Shuttle, at Palmdale, California. It is a Level I (VFR) tower operating 16 hours a day. It has a chief, Fred Berry, Jr.; seven controllers, Helen Copley, Virginia Hudson, Steve Lakey, Terry Morris, Nancy Norder, Roger Sauter and David Wilson; and one developmental controller, Barbara Foulk. The airport was originally used by the Army Air Corps for transition training for the B-25's and as an

emergency landing field. In the early 1950's, the USAF acquired the property from the County of Los Angeles to provide a facility that would meet the requirements of full war mobilization and augment the industrial production potential of the major airframe manufacturing industry in Southern California. The airport has a history of producing many of the famous aircraft of the past such as the T-33, F-100, F-102 and others. Currently under construction at Plant 42 (in addition to the Space Shuttles at Rockwell), are: Lockheed is building the L-1011, TR-1, ER-2, and over-

## Palmdale Tower



Palmdale Tower Personnel: A--Developmental Controller Barbara Foulk and Controller Steve Lakey; B--Controller Terry Morris; C--Controller Roger Sauter; and D--Airway Facilities Environmental Technician who services the Palmdale Tower, "Duke" Frazier. Photos by Al Garvis.

hauling and modifying the SR-71 and the U-2; Northrop is building the F-5; and Rockwell is hoping to receive the B-1 contract soon. In addition to the tenant users performing flight testing, other companies such as Douglas and other Lockheed plants use this airport for testing. Military bases from all around the west use the airport for transition training and many air carriers also use it as both a training and weather alternate airport. Although Palmdale is a Level I facility, the traffic is complex, diversified and interest-

ing with the varied aircraft from the largest down to the smaller general aviation aircraft.

The first tower operated by the CAA/FAA was moved to Palmdale from Ogden, Utah and opened in 1952. The current tower was commissioned in June 1959. Many current and past FAA employees have passed through this facility.

COVER PHOTO: Fred Berry, Jr., is the chief of the Palmdale, Ca. Tower, which is located at the Air Force Plant 42, home of the Space Shuttle. Photo by Al Garvis.

## Administrator Counsels Controllers


The Administrator has sent a personal letter to all center and tower controllers expressing his concern about reports that "you are being encouraged by your union to engage in a strike or work action against the Federal Government." Noting that any such action would be a violation both of law and the employees' Federal oath, the Administrator said, "The course of action urged by your union can only result in harm to you, the public and the government. The government will have no alternative but to vigorously pursue all remedies available to it to bring any unlawful action to an end." He concluded by adding: "The most important message to you in this letter is to make you aware that the union officials may not suffer the consequences; you will bear the burden of violation in their behalf."

## The News In Brief

● One third of the way through 1981, the number of people killed in general aviation accidents is down almost nine percent when compared with the same period in 1980. Preliminary FAA figures show 349 fatalities in general aviation accidents through the end of April as compared to 382 in the first four months of last year. Instructional flying has shown the greatest improvement with fatalities down from 28 to three, followed by executive flying where the death toll has dropped from 29 to 13. As usual, personal flying accounted for the majority of fatalities with 248, or 10 more than in 1980. ● A couple of pioneer commercial jet aircraft have gone on the auction block at Miami International Airport. They are both 707-121s. One is the first "7" to fly the colors of a U.S. airline--Pan Am--and sports an "N" number that recognizes that fact: N707PA. The second plane is N711PA, which was the first jetliner to fly the Atlantic back in October 1958. The current owner is Frederick B. Ayer and Associates of New York City, which bought the planes from Pan Am in the early 1970s and leased them for a time to THY, the Turkish airline. ● A non-standard approach to the runway and premature reduction of engine thrust caused the November 1980 landing crash of a Continental Air Micronesia Boeing 727 on the Pacific Island of Yap, according to the National Transportation Safety Board. After touching down short of the runway and damaging the landing gear, the plane slid into the jungle and caught fire, but all 73 aboard escaped before fire destroyed the aircraft. As a result of the investigation, the Board has recommended that FAA issue an airworthiness directive requiring that the location of the emergency operating control for the ventral exit door always be readily apparent.

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Articles and photographs should be received by the Editor, AWE-5, extension 6431, by 11 a.m., Thursday, for publication in the following week's issue.

## Red Bluff Airway Facilities Sector News

The Red Bluff Sector Safety Committee established and successfully completed a program to provide Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training for all interested FAA and Weather Service personnel and their families in the Red Bluff area. Through this program, 24 persons received certification in Basic CPR.

Two Santa Rosa employees were recognized by their community for their service--Don Fifer for his continued donations to the Sonoma County Community Blood Bank, and Olaf Gniechwitz for his volunteer work for the American Red Cross. Bill Lind of the Red Bluff Environmental Unit has transferred to the Marysville Field Office. Welcome: To Gene Organist, from Ontario Field Office to Arcata Field Office; and Don King from Phoenix Sector to Crescent City Field Office Unit. The Alaskan Region will be adding a fine actor and master-of-ceremonies to their staff with the selection of Ron McGaw as General Supply Specialist. Ron will be remembered not only for his work in the supply field, but also for his memorable service after hours as Santa Claus, M.C., and his unique portrayal as 1980 Baby New Year. His will be a hard act to follow.

## FAA Saves \$\$\$\$\$

The agency has begun a program to remove surplus phone lines and equipment at selected air traffic control facilities. Estimates indicate that \$5 million can be saved in fiscal year 1981 and another \$20 million in fiscal year 1982. The cutback will not affect safety or service since most of the affected telephone equipment and circuits were installed in the era before automation when controllers relied heavily on interphone communications. Initially, the cost-cutting program will focus on en route centers. However, equipment and circuits at more than 400 towers and over 300 flight service stations will be affected later.

## Oakland AFS Happenings

Congratulations to Doreen Shew, daughter of Alfred Shew, who recently returned from the Senior Western Sectional Gymnastic meet in Houston where she took third place in the floor exercise with a compulsory score of 9.05 and an optional score of 9.20. Doreen competed with the top 70 gymnasts west of the Mississippi. She is now qualified to go on to the National Junior Olympic meet in Tulsa, Oklahoma to be held this month.

## Employee Death

We are saddened to report that Liz Davis suffered a heart attack and passed away on June 2, 1981. Liz was the Airway Facilities Establishment Branch Administrative Officer and had served in numerous secretarial and administrative positions during her 20-year Federal career. Liz was extremely active in the FAA Toastmasters Club 1004, being the first woman to be elected President after holding several offices. She quickly moved up the Toastmasters ladder to hold the posts of Governor and Educational Vice President, Area E, and Treasurer for District 1. The family has requested that any donations be made in the name of Carlwene Davis to the American Heart Association, Greater Los Angeles Affiliate. Condolences to the family may be sent to Mr. Ray Cooper, Executor, 4141 Rosecrans Ave., Apt. 216, Hawthorne, CA 90250.



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## Management Training

In order to help fill the gap left by the closing of various management training programs, a new self improvement opportunity for managers has been initiated. Designed specifically for managers who have completed the Executive School or a Management Team Action Seminar, the new program is called Program for the Continuing Growth of Managers. Participants will be able to study at home and study the material at their own pace. For more information for descriptions of materials and how to obtain them, employees should contact the Training Branch, AWE-17.

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## Transportation Fatalities

The National Transportation Safety Board's report on transportation fatalities in 1980 shows that pipeline accidents killed more people than airline crashes. The count was 21 for pipelines and 14 for airlines. Similarly, motorcycle and moped accidents claimed more than four times as many victims as general aviation with 6,147 dying on the two-wheelers and 1,352 in private and business planes. Mopeds alone killed 975 people. The total number of transportation fatalities in 1980 was 56,141 of which 51,676 occurred on the nation's streets and highways.

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## Technicians Set To Vote

The Airway Facilities election for a national bargaining unit got underway last week with the distribution of mail ballots. AF employees will choose between the Federal Aviation Science and Technological Association (FASTA), the Professional Airmen System Specialists (PASS), or no bargaining unit at all. On June 3, ballots went out to approximately 6,600 technicians who will vote by mail. Another 2,000 AF employees who work at larger facilities will vote at work on July 9. On July 15, all ballots, those from the on-site polls and those returned in the mail, will be counted by the Federal Labor Relations Authority in Washington.

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## Bob Cook Retirement Party

A retirement party for Bob Cook, Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector, will be held at the Maxim Hotel on Friday, June 19, with cocktails 6:45 p.m.; buffet dinner at 8 p.m. in the Americana Room. Dinner is \$10. Reservations should be made as soon as possible with checks made out to John R. Katsigenis. Come help us celebrate with Bob!

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## Amy Lou Harbin San Jose GADO Earns Performance Award

Amy Lou Harbin (left), Aviation Clerk, San Jose General Aviation District Office, receives a Quality Within-Grade Award from Linda Birk (center), Supervisory Aviation Safety Assistant. Presenting the award is Charles F. Panos, San Jose GADO Chief. Photo by Chuck Johnson.



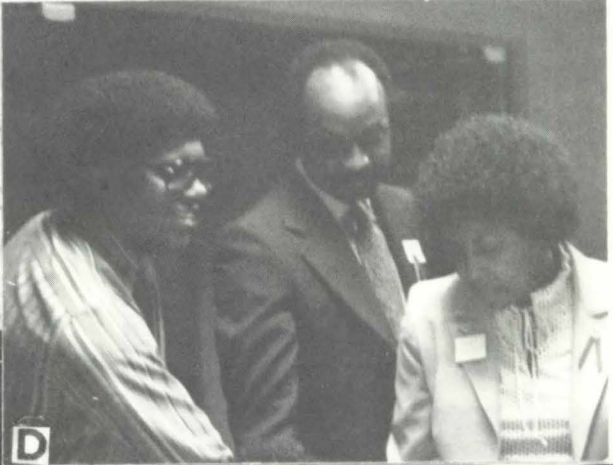
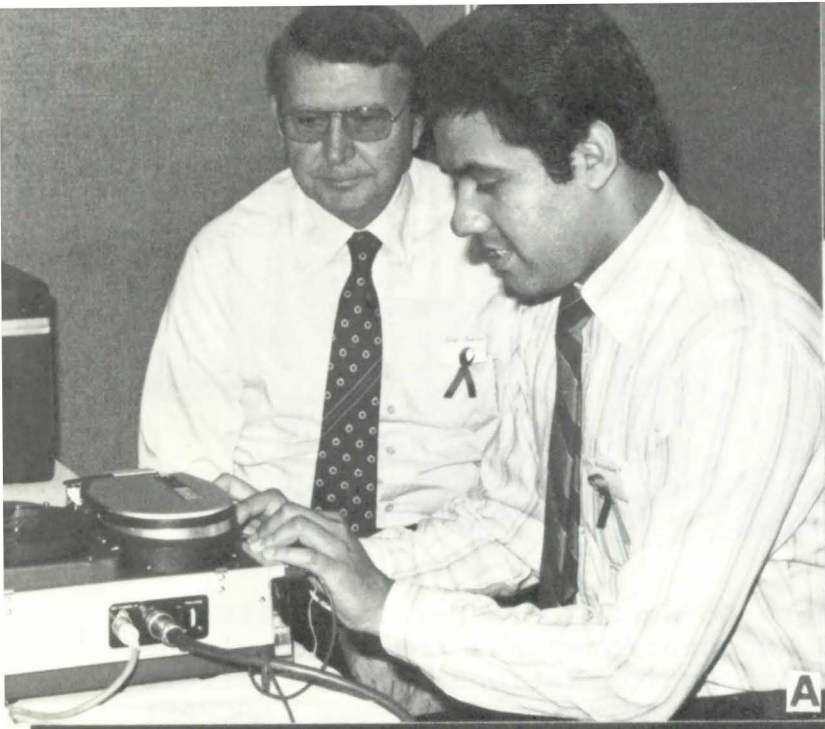
"Where Do We Go From Here? Realities and Expectations" was the theme of the Western Region National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE) Annual Spring Conference held recently in Los Angeles. The conference included a one-day EEO seminar in which several FAA management officials briefed conferees on affirmative action plans within their jurisdictions. Deputy Regional Director Homer "Mac" McClure provided an overview of the Western Region program. Each presentation was followed by an informative question and answer period.

A--John Dodson, Training Branch.  
B--Deputy Director H. C. "Mac" McClure (right) and Ron Willis, Region Vice President, Western Region NBCFAE, from Oakland Bay TRACON.

C--Geri Gregory, LAX Tower/TRACON; Paul Richards, Chief, Employment Branch; and Dick Devereaux, Chief, Flight Standards.  
D--Jean Davis (right), Management Systems, and Bernice Campbell, Tucson TRACON, with her visiting nephew.

E--Tony Willis, Fremont AFS; Ron Willis (no relation); and Rose Cusic, Napa Tower.  
Photos by Barbara Abels.





**MORE NBCFAE ATTENDEES**

A--John Dodson and Ray Bedolla of the Training Branch videotape the conference.  
B--Ethel Lawson, FAA Retiree and panel moderator; Joe Alvarez, Chief, Civil Rights Staff; and Bob Smith, Chief, Air Traffic Division.  
C--Ruthie Reed, Long Beach Tower, and Henrietta Dix, Oakland AF Sector.  
D--Earl Portlock, Personnel Management; Curtis Clair, Washington, D.C. Center; and Rose Cusic of Napa Tower.  
E--Ron Willis, Bay TRACON, and Vel Monroe, Chief, Palo Alto Tower.  
F--Frank Jones, Chief, Air Traffic Operations Branch, and Earl Portlock, Personnel Management Division.  
Photos by Barbara Abels.

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## New Pacific Air Routes

The Technical Center has developed a new air route system for the North Pacific that will provide more direct, fuel-saving flight paths between Alaska and Japan. Scheduled for implementation in August, the new system increases the number of great circle air routes in the North Pacific from three to five by making use of composite separation procedures. These procedures permit reduced lateral (side-by-side) separation between flight tracks by introducing time separation between aircraft on adjacent tracks. Aircraft flying between Hawaii and the U.S. mainland have been using composite separation since the mid-1970s, and the resulting fuel savings to the air carriers are estimated at about \$10 million annually.

## A Little Quiet Please

FAA noise standards for aircraft are largely "lowest common denominator standards" and the Administrator thinks industry can and should do better. Speaking to the Aerospace Industries Association on May 21, the FAA Administrator noted industry's concern for producing more fuel-efficient aircraft and urged his audience to solve the noise problem as well. Moreover, he added, "you should not wait and look to the FAA for guidance. If you want more deregulation, then you have to step up to the responsibility of responding to the public. If you want to meet competition, you must provide what the marketplace will bear. I believe that the marketplace should provide you far more incentive to provide quiet, clean and fuel-efficient aircraft than any regulations ever can."

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## DCA Flights Limited

The agency has said "no" to three airlines that wanted to forge new direct air links between Texas and Washington National Airport. Acting quickly after the airlines announced their plans, FAA adopted a regulation banning any new, non-stop flights to National of more than 650 miles. The action formalized the old voluntary limit of 650 miles on non-stop flights at National that had been in effect since jet service was introduced at the airport in 1966. The only exceptions are seven cities beyond the 650-mile perimeter--four of them in Florida--that were receiving non-stop service before jet service was begun. FAA said the ban on new long-haul flights will remain in force until DOT adopts a final operating policy for National and Dulles Airports later this year.

## World Lights Up DARC

Is the new computerized radar back-up system for the en route centers all it's cracked up to be? The latest FAA World takes a hard look at the new system--called the Direct Access Radar Channel or DARC--and finds it's a significant improvement over broadband radar but not as sophisticated as the primary radar data processing system. World also checks out composite materials technology to see if it's the wave of the future in aircraft structures, reports on the first all-female accident investigation team, talks about "floating" ground schools and upgrading private pilot skills and profiles "Cadillac" Smith, who makes old cars better than new. Copies are in the mail now.

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## Facts of Flight

The greatest altitude from which anyone has ever jumped without a parachute is 22,000 feet. Lt. I. M. Chisov of the U.S.S.R. fell from an Ilyushin Il-4 in 1942, striking the ground at the edge of a snow-covered ravine and sliding to the bottom. He sustained severe spinal injuries and a fractured pelvis. Physics tells us his body was falling 117-185 miles per hour when he crashed. Much luckier was Flight-Sergeant Nicholas Alkemande, R.A.F., who jumped from a blazing Lancaster bomber over Germany in 1944. His headlong fall was broken by a fir tree and he landed in an 18-inch snow bank without a single broken bone.

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## Agency Cuts Rules

Implementing the President's directive to reduce the scope and burden of Federal regulations, the agency has cancelled four proposed rules, halted work on two more and denied a petition for another. The four notices of proposed rule making would have provided for a review of the type certification of new transport aircraft on a 10-year cycle, required flight attendants not needed for emergency evacuation purposes to remain seated when their aircraft was taxiing, mandated stronger tires on airline jets by specific dates and permitted FAA to use cockpit voice recorder (CVR) and flight data recorder (FDR) tapes in its human factors research program. Also terminated were two rule making projects which involved upgrading of standards for protective breathing equipment and for pyrotechnic signaling devices carried on extended overwater flights. The agency also denied a petition from a public-interest group for tougher passenger seat standards, noting that the entire matter was under

## First Annual Western Region Bowling Tournament

The Civilair-sponsored FAA Bowling League in Los Angeles is putting together a two-day bowling tournament to be held Aug. 22-23 in Paso Robles, Calif. The Los Angeles Basin and surrounding FAA facilities (including Los Angeles Center and Arizona) challenges the Bay Area and surrounding FAA facilities (including Oakland Center and Nevada) to a bowl-off. Trophies will be awarded for singles, mixed doubles and team events. Approximate cost: singles and mixed doubles, \$5 each event/each person; teams, \$10 each person; sweepstake combinations, \$2 each entry. Further information is available from the following: The Bay Area contact is Don Doty or Jay Maag (415/797-3376 or FTS 449-6376). Los Angeles Center contact is Forney Lundy (805/947-4236 or FTS 799-1236). Regional Office contacts are: Ruby Ross, x6172; Eileen Colligan, x6343; or Bob Kivitt, x6662. For those who wish to make this a long vacation weekend, Lake San Antonio and Lake Nacimiento are nearby. As soon as we know the number participating, we will contact a place of lodging for a commitment on room accommodations. Please make your contact with the above people no later than July 10.

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review and no action should be taken until the review was completed. In withdrawing the four rule making actions, FAA said the certification proposal needed further study, the flight attendant matter essentially was a labor-management issue, the compliance dates for the tires were impossible to meet and the data sought from the CVR and FDR tapes could be gained by other means.

## Awards

### Outstanding Awards:

Jeanie Evans and Bill Wintering, Phoenix TRACON  
Glenn Earl, Sacramento Airway Facilities Sector

### Quality Within-Grade Awards:

Lud Erzen, Deputy Chief, AF Establishment Engineering Branch  
Jim Stagner, Chief, Electronics Section, Establishment Engineering  
Nick Boyiazis, chief, Environmental Section, Establishment Engineering  
Bill Wintering, Phoenix TRACON  
John Lavery, Oakland Airway Facilities Sector  
Richard L. Elia, Santa Rosa AF Sector Field Office  
Harold Hotchkin, Chief, Red Bluff Radar Field Office  
Glenn Earl, Sacramento Airway Facilities Sector  
Bob Mueller, Mather Sector Field Office

### Special Achievement Awards:

Ann Parker and Jim Frohlich, AF Establishment Engineering Branch  
Group Award to Robert Burnett, Gregory Massound, Miguel Negrete and  
Albert Trimels, AF Establishment Engineering Branch Environmental Section  
Ragena Ortag, Phoenix TRACON  
Tony Vaughn, Phoenix TRACON  
Jeanie Evans, Phoenix TRACON  
Ron Riberal, Red Bluff Airway Facilities Sector  
Gerald Goren, Chief, Santa Rosa AF Sector Field Office (Group Award)  
Phyllis Edmison, Airway Facilities Sector, Oakland Center  
Al Nakahara, Mather AF Sector Field Office

### Letters of Appreciation:

Clifton Novinger, Red Bluff Environmental Support Unit  
The Red Bluff Nav/Comm Unit Technicians  
Lou Soberanis, Santa Rosa AF Sector Field Office  
Clifton Novinger, Larry Orson and Tom Radtke, Environmental Support Unit  
Norm Miller, Chief, Red Bluff Nav/Comm Unit  
Bill Beyer and Cal Gilliam, Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector

## Closing Figures-- U.S. Savings Bond Campaign

The Western Region has completed its U.S. Savings Bond Campaign with 70 new subscribers and 36 increases in allotment. The scoreboard, by division, is as follows:  
Office of Director/Staff--51%  
Personnel Management--32%  
Accounting--46%  
Budget--33%

Logistics--13%  
Management Systems--41%  
Flight Standards--49%  
Field--52%  
Aviation Medical--11%  
Airway Facilities--35%  
Field--34%  
Air Traffic--30%  
Field--23%  
Airports--56%  
Civil Aviation Security--83%  
Field--50%  
Total Region: 38 percent.  
Dick Devereaux, this year's Bond Chairman, would like to thank all those who participated in the success of this campaign.

## Long Beach Tower Retirement/ Reunion Party September 5, 1981

Mary O'Brien and Dick Hansen of Long Beach Tower are retiring in September and July, respectively. There will be a dinner/dance in their honor on Sept. 5 (Saturday) at Rochelle's Convention Center. No host cocktails, 6:30 p.m.; New York Steak Dinner, 7:30 p.m.; entertainment, 9 p.m. Tickets are \$17 per person and include gifts. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate and have your name included on the donation plaques, send five dollars. Make your checks payable to K. E. Kuhlmann and send c/o Long Beach Tower, 3601 E. Spring St., Long Beach, CA 90806. Please have your requests in by Aug. 15. Accommodations are available at Rochelle's Motel, single \$34 or double \$38. Send your requests or call for reservations as soon as possible since the number of rooms is limited. Be sure to mention you'll be attending the FAA retirement party for Mary and Dick so you'll receive the special rates. Contact Rochelle's Motel, 3333 Lakewood Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90808, 213/421-8215. We look forward to seeing all Mary and Dick's friends, past and present. Let's make it a big Long Beach Tower reunion.

## Phoenix TRACON News

A hearty congratulations to Ragena Ortag who was selected for the Air Traffic Control Specialist developmental program in April. She is currently enrolled in the FSS training at Oklahoma City. Upon completion of the training, she will be assigned to Ontario FSS. We miss her and wish her all the best in her new career.

The Chester family men participated in the Arizona State Judo Championships and earned the following medals for their respective categories: Arlin Chester, bronze, and his sons Casey (7) and Mike (6) silver and gold. Also in the championships were Tom Bouck's son Brian (6) and daughter Kim (9) who both received gold medals.

## Santa Monica Tower Talk

Congratulations to Chris Swanson, Mike Tucker and Rick Singer on their recent sign-offs. Welcome to: Chandra Sargent, a recent FAA Academy graduate; Ken Hall and Keith Halloman from other facilities; and Jim Andrew who will be leaving soon for the Academy. We are looking forward to our new chief, Jim Knolton, from El Monte Tower. Shortly after that, we'll be saying our goodbyes to team supervisor/acting chief Neil Bennett, who will be leaving for Torrance Tower in July.

## Career Service Emblems

- 35 years: Ann Parker, AF Establishment Engineering Branch  
30 years: Ken Carr and Larry Goff, Phoenix TRACON  
Jim Hansen, Oakland Airway Facilities Sector  
25 years: Jim Stagner, Chief, Electronics Section, Establishment Engineering  
Jim Wilson, Dick Ramsey, Bill Wintering and Jerry Moore,  
Phoenix TRACON  
Harold Carnahan and Ralph Humphrey, Oakland AF Sector  
Gene Richards, Marysville AF Sector Field Office  
Dick Browder, Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector  
15 years: Kurt Larsen, Al Cuevas, Walt Clark, Dick Moncata, John Paisley,  
Tom Bouck and Marty Hardy, Phoenix TRACON  
Leroy Early, Arcata AF Sector Field Office