



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

Western Intercom



Cover Story

The Fresno Flight Service Station is located in the Government Agency Building (General Aviation Terminal) at Fresno Air Terminal in the heart of picturesque San Joaquin Valley. Facility modernization was completed in late 1979 and the solid state radio equipment was recently installed.

Fifteen full performance level specialists provide 24 hours a day, seven days a week services to pilots within a six-county area in Central California. There are approximately 1300 based aircraft and 100 airports within the flight plan area. Services are provided for the California Air National Guard, California Army National Guard, the U.S. Forest Service, Castle Air Force Base, Lemoore Naval Air Station and numerous air taxi operations.

Chief of the Facility is Kenneth M. Mays. Julia Morley and Norma Gomez (after-school trainee) are the secretaries. Team Supervisors are: Alan Docken, Terry Lankford and Eugene Devlin (recently selected Chief of Omaha, Neb. FSS). Sandra Moore is our newly-selected Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist.

Full Performance Level Air Traffic Control Specialists include:

Kenneth Andrade, Robert Brewer, Norman Davis, John Ferrari, William Hoffberg, John Koch, Robert Murray, Carl Olsen, Thomas Petrakis (recently selected for Bakersfield Tower), Howard Saulque, Stephan Shackelford, Delbert Shadwick, Daniel Smutz, Jack Stemper, Dewey Wakley, Jr., and Developmental Specialist Linda Avakian.

The Fresno Flight Service Station is Circuit Coordinator for the Leased Service A System (computerized weather/NOTAM retrieval)



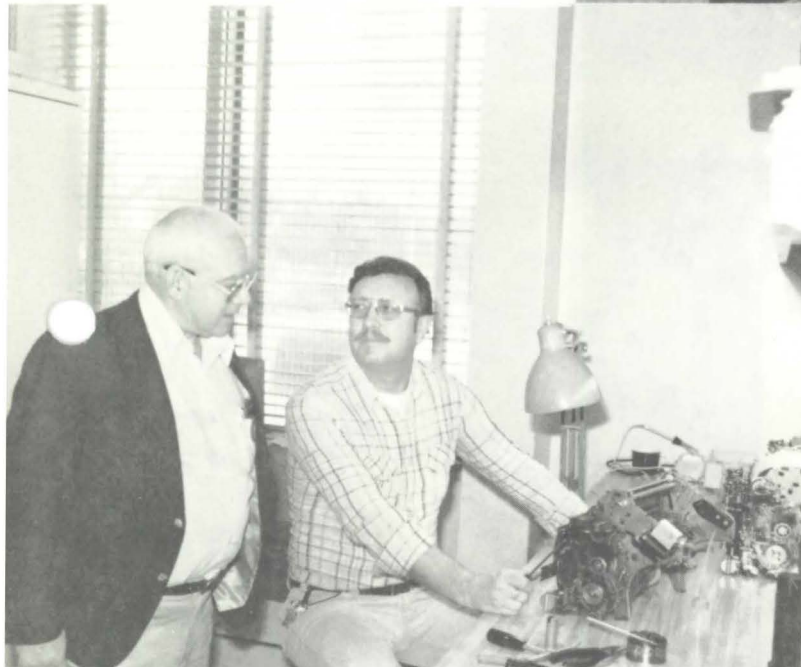
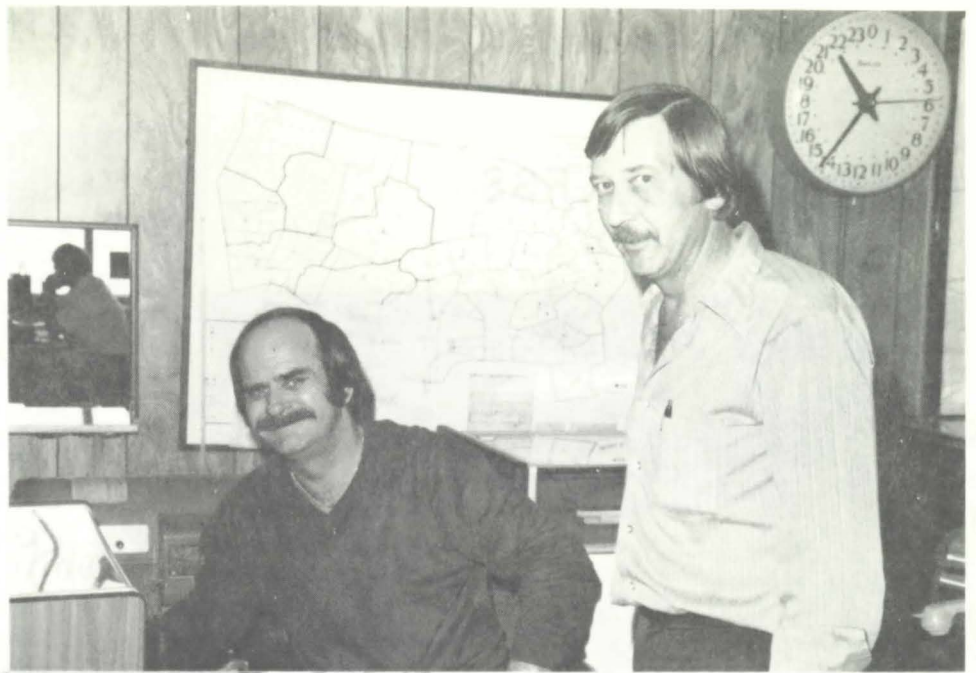
Gene Devlin, Team Supervisor (who is now Chief, Omaha FSS) and Ken Mays, Facility Chief.

which replaced the antiquated low speed weather teletypewriter system. There are two solid state Inflight/Broadcast positions, Flight Data and three Preflight positions in this Level III facility.

Fresno FSS provides Transcribed Weather Broadcasts for the Visalia VOR. The facility monitors Fresno VORTAC, Chandler Non-Directional Beacon, Visalia VOR/DME, Merced VOR, Friant VORTAC, Panoche VORTAC and has remote communication outlets at Panoche, Friant and Visalia.

Featured on the cover are: Dan Smutz (left), Air Traffic Control Specialist, and Terry Lankford, Team Supervisor. Cover photo by Norm Davis, Fresno FSS.

Fresno
Flight
Service
Station



A--Air Traffic Control Specialists Jack Stemper (left) and Bob Murray.
B--Chick King, Chief, Fresno Airway Facilities Sector Field Office, and Jim Currior, Electronics Technician.
C--Norma Gomez (left), Youth Employment Training Program Student, and Julia Morley, Facility Secretary.
D--Norm Davis (left) and Carl Olsen, Air Traffic Control Specialists. Photos by Norm Davis, Fresno FSS.

More Fresno FSS



More Fresno Flight Service Station Personnel on duty are:

A--John Koch (left) and Ken Andrade, Air Traffic Control Specialists.

B--Bob Brewer (left) and Bill Hoffberg, Air Traffic Control Specialists.

C--Team Supervisor Gene Devlin (left background) and Air Traffic Control Specialists Steve Shackelford and Tom Petrakis (seated).

D--Al Docken, Team Supervisor, and Sandy Moore, Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist.

Photos by Norm Davis.



ATC Job Study Launched

The agency has commissioned a five-month study aimed at improving the working conditions of the controllers, supervisors and new controller hires who are rebuilding the air traffic control system. Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis and the FAA Administrator announced the study at a press briefing on August 18, with the Secretary reading a statement that said: "When we took office, it became apparent to us that improvements should be made in the personnel management of the air traffic control work force. Our objective is to be responsive to the controllers and their supervisors and to provide them all the tools available to assure the continued safe and effective operation of our air traffic system in a suitable work environment." The study will be conducted by a three-member panel of distinguished private citizens under the chairmanship of Lawrence M. Jones, president of the Coleman Company of Wichita, Kan. The panel will look into all "people

aspects" of the air traffic control system, including job requirements and qualifications, career and job growth opportunities, as well as promotion, retirement and other personnel practices. The task force will have full freedom to identify problems wherever they occur and to recommend remedies. "We believe that through the efforts of this task force, we will improve communications and create a better climate for future management-employee relationships," Lewis said. "We have great respect for the air traffic control profession and a high regard for the skills of those who direct the nation's air traffic. They do a difficult job and they do it well. We consider it our obligation to see that they have the best working environment possible." With Jones on the three-man panel are David G. Bowers, director of the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and Stephen H. Fuller, vice president, Personnel, General Motors Corp.

The News In Brief

"Media reports to the contrary, the airline pilots of the nation continue to find the air traffic control system to be safe despite the strike by PATCO." This is what Captain John J. O'Donnell, President of the Air Line Pilots Association, said about the current ATC system Aug. 19. He added that ALPA has been monitoring the system since August 3 and said that this monitoring will continue indefinitely.

FAA and FCC Team Up

Both FAA and the Federal Communications Commission are using specially equipped frequency vans in an effort to ferret out the sources of illegal radio transmissions giving false clearances and ATC instructions to pilots. None of the incidents have compromised safety to date, but the agency considers the misuse of air/ground frequencies to be an extremely serious matter. Aiding FAA and FCC units are the FBI and local police as well as Coast Guard, Army and State Highway Patrol helicopters equipped with direction finding equipment.

Logistics Division

Farewells were said to Marianne Monfils on her last day as Procurement Agent in the Procurement Branch. Marianne is going to private industry with Hughes Corporation Helicopter Division. Best wishes, Marianne, in your new career.

Congratulations to Florence Tipton for developing the Remote Terminal Keypunch Operators Instructions for the new prototype Personal Property In-Use Management System and for training keypunch operators from all other FAA regions, FAA Technical Center, Aeronautical Center, National Airports and Washington Headquarters.

Retiree Death

We are saddened to report that William J. Wilkinson passed away on June 21st of a heart attack. Bill retired six years ago from the Long Beach Airway Facilities Sector where he was a Supervisory Electronic Technician-in-Depth. Bill had received many awards and commendations throughout the 11 western states, and after retirement taught electronics at Long Beach Community College for five years. Our sincere condolences to Bill's wife, Grace of Long Beach, and daughters Bobbie Garcia-Montez of Huntington Beach and Deidre Parsons of Texas.

FAA INTERCOM is published weekly for Western Region employees of the Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration by the Public Affairs Office.

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.

ADAP Springs To Life

FAA's Airports Office is gearing up to allocate \$450 million in Airport Development Aid Program (ADAP) funds by the end of September. The Associate Administrator for Airports, Bill Shea, says "an extraordinary effort will be required to get these grant agreements squared away before the (September 30) deadline." The reason for the rush is the fact that the one-year extension of ADAP through FY 1981 wasn't signed into law until August 13, leaving only six weeks to process all the paper work needed to effect the grant agreements. Of the \$450 million available for grants, \$387 million will go to air-carrier airports, with \$15 million of this amount set aside for commuter airports and another \$25 million earmarked for airport noise compatibility programs. The remaining \$63 million will go to general aviation fields, with \$20 million of this amount targeted for reliever airports. Shea said a multi-year extension of ADAP will be one of the agency's top legislative priorities when the Congress returns next month.

Fresno AFS News

The annual potluck picnic with softball game was held in Visalia. Fred Wyrick, Chief of Bakersfield Sector Field Office says, "The Fresno-based group played very well, but the Bakersfield-based team won again--for the fourth consecutive year." The Bakersfield group has extended a challenge for another match in the fall - hoping for cooler weather.

Congratulations to Electronics Technician Bob Yuenger and his wife Melanie on the arrival of their son, Brandon Lee, on Aug. 7.

Awards

Quality Within-Grade Increase Awards:

Donald Lingren and Terrance Ralph, Supervisory Civil Engineers, Environmental Section, Airway Facilities Maintenance Engineering Branch.

Special Achievement Awards:

Forrest "Frosty" Clark, AF Maintenance Engineering Environmental Section.
Paul Giras, Chief, Materiel Support Section, Materiel Management Branch.
Ted Campbell, Chief, Property Management, Materiel Management Branch.
Florence Tipton, General Supply Specialist, Materiel Management Branch.
A Group Award to Cathy Beam, Gene Hutchison, Lorraine King, Howard Krattenmaker, Marie Hagen and Steve Thomas, Logistics Division.

Letters of Appreciation:

John Carroll, Air Traffic Control Specialist, San Diego Flight Service Station, from Team Supervisor George Geringer.
Joe Veraldi, Air Traffic Control Specialist, San Diego FSS, from Richard Leary, Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist.
Greg Leurgans, Fresno AF Sector, from Chief, Fresno-Chandler Tower.
Jim Bly and Harry Stackhouse, Electronics Technicians, Fresno Airway Facilities Sector, from Chief, Establishment Engineering Branch.
To the following Air Traffic Control Specialists at San Diego FSS from Team Supervisor Richard Uruchurtu: Ronald Calahate, Joel Cariffe, Kent Dees, Reginald Fritschle, James Greenwood, Earl Jensen, James Lamb, Armando Martinez, James Mendenhall, Charles Palmer and James Walsh.

Career Service Emblems:

30 years:

Mel Haworth, Manager, Fresno Airway Facilities Sector.

25 years:

Reginald Fritschle, Air Traffic Control Specialist, San Diego FSS.
Donald Loomis, AF Maintenance Engineering Environmental Section.
John "Jack" Crenshaw, AF Maintenance Engineering Environmental Section.
Richard L. Schmeltzer, AF Maintenance Engineering Environmental Section.

15 years:

Dennis Nelson, Air Traffic Control Specialist, San Diego FSS.
Curtis Alderman, Fresno Airway Facilities Sector.
Martin Frutos, Fresno Airway Facilities Sector.

Jim Denniston (right), Principal Airworthiness Inspector, San Diego General Aviation District Office, receives a Quality Within-Grade Increase Award from John Hull, GADO Chief, for outstanding quality performance and quantity production. Jim carried 63 percent of the entire maintenance workload for the year and literally performed the work of two maintenance inspectors during this period. Photo by Bob Griscom.



Steve Rodriguez Named to U.S.

Olympic Commission

We are pleased to announce that Steve Rodriguez, Civil Rights Staff, has recently been appointed to serve on the 1984 Los Angeles Citizens Advisory Commission. The appointment was announced by Paul Ziffren, Chairman of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee.

Women's Equality Day

"Women can never be free until they have the right to vote, to hold property in their own names, to have the opportunity for a higher education, to work wherever they choose, and to be treated in all respects as equals of men." Such as the Declaration of Independence for Women issued in 1848 at the Seneca Falls New York Convention. What followed during the next 70 years changed the course of history for America. On August 26, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution was adopted. It is this amendment that gave women the right to vote. The adoption of this amendment resulted from years of dedicated campaigning by suffragette leaders such as Susan B. Anthony. It is these women, the pioneers of equal rights for women, and those that later followed, that Women's Equality Day gives recognition. Every year, the President proclaims August 26 as Women's Equality Day, and numerous observances are held throughout the United States. It is a time to pause and reflect on the many outstanding contributions women employees continue to make to Western Region operations.

Safety Foundation, NTSB To Evaluate ATC System

The Flight Safety Foundation has been selected by the agency to provide an independent assessment of the safety level of the air traffic control system. The National Transportation Safety Board also has announced plans for a separate assessment of air traffic safety. The Flight Safety Foundation's study will be conducted by a task force of 9 to 15 investigators, headed by FSF President Jack Enders, a 25-year veteran of NASA. These investigators will conduct interviews with controllers, supervisors and managers currently involved in air traffic control work. The task force also will visit aviation companies to find out what they think about the safety of the system and observe the operation of the system firsthand during familiarization flights in airline cockpits. The FSF evaluation is expected to be completed in about four months, but the task force will inform FAA immediately if it finds any critical safety problems. The National Transportation Safety Board's evaluations will concentrate on safety aspects of the system. During the eight-week review, NTSB investigators will interview controllers on duty, concentrating on such things as training, qualifications, hours worked and fatigue factors. In announcing the evaluation, NTSB Vice Chairman Elwood T. Driver said that the system currently is safe and that the objective evaluation is being carried out to help FAA keep it that way.

Civilair News

Las Vegas Trip--Deadline for making the \$15.00 deposit per person is Sept. 3, 1981. We need a minimum of 38 persons to sign up by that date in order to make the trip. For further information, contact your Civilair Representative.