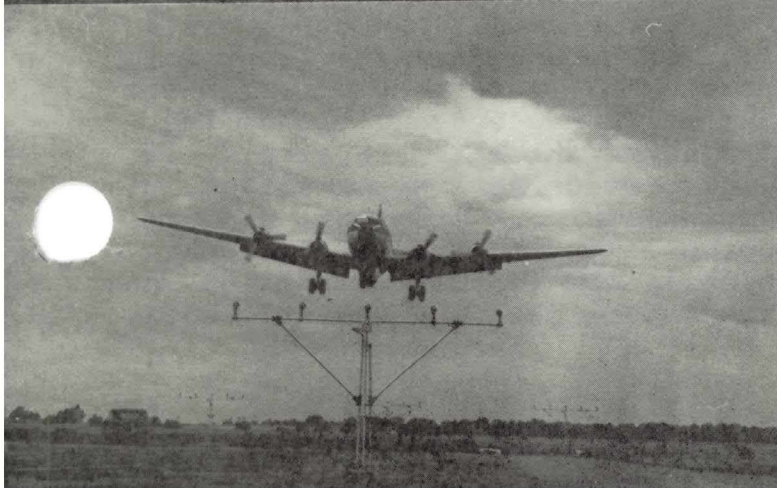
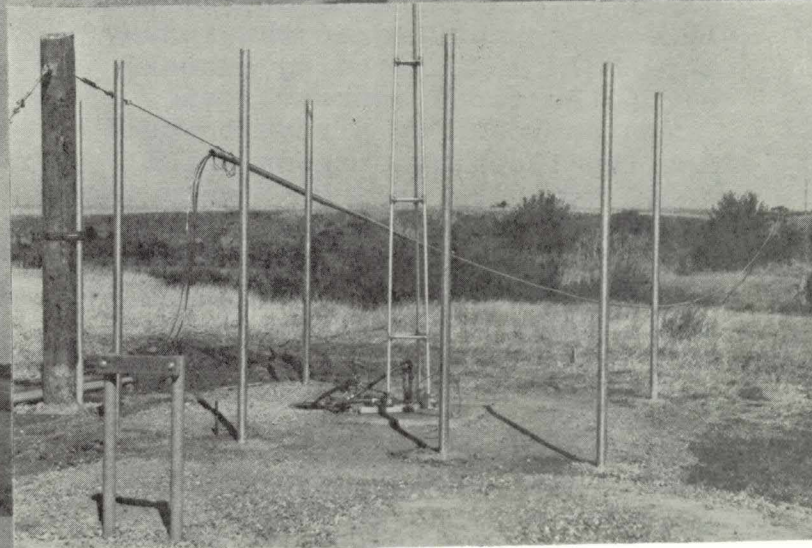
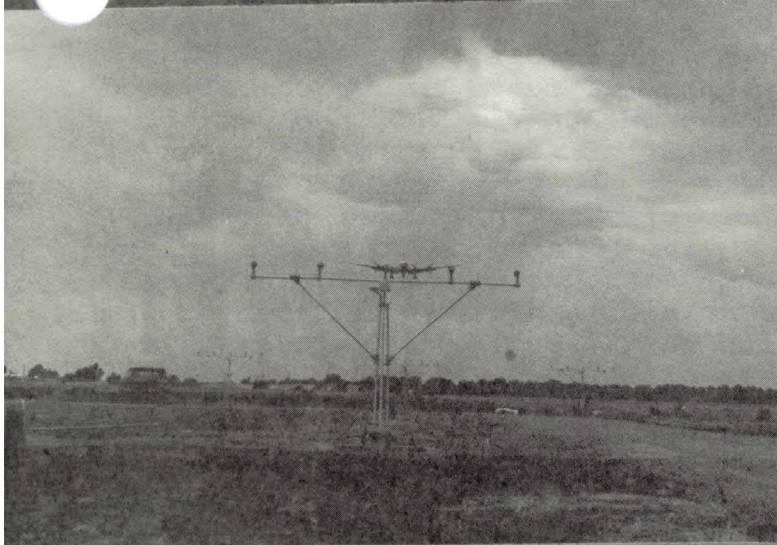
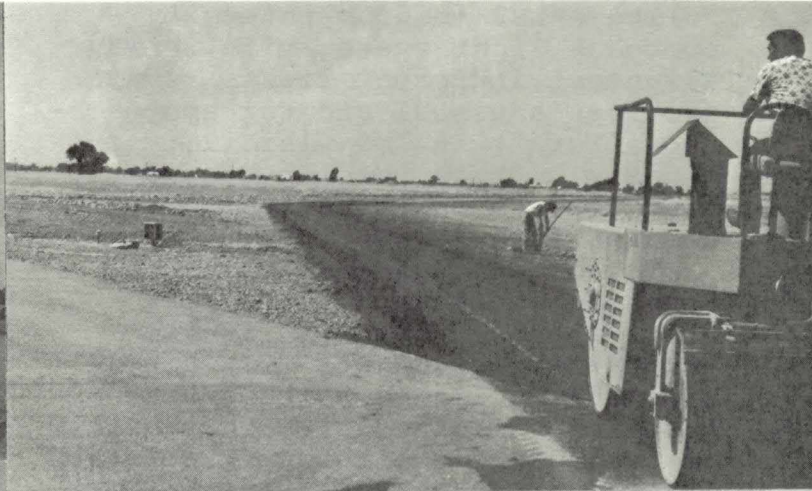
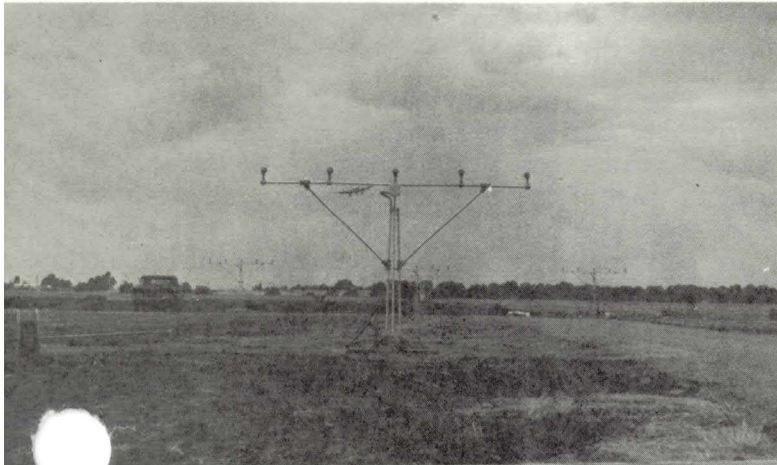




US Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific **Intercom**



CHICO MALSR

Cover Story

This week's cover (left side) shows a California Department of Forestry Aerial Tanker on final approach to Chico Municipal Airport in Chico, Calif., passing over one of the newly installed "MALSR" approach lights.

The MALSR (medium intensity approach light system with runway alignment indicator lights) system provides a visual aid for approaching aircraft in low visibility conditions. It is used in conjunction with an existing Instrument Landing System (ILS).

This particular MALSR system consists of seven sets of five white steadily-burning lights followed by five sets of a single blue strobe lights which are sequentially flashed from farthest to closest to the runway. All the light sets are spaced at 200-foot intervals starting at the runway threshold and extending outward along the final approach path.

An approaching aircraft would see the flashing strobes which would visually "point" toward the runway. Then the white lights would light the rest of the way to the runway where the beginning of the runway would be indicated by a row of green lights installed along the runway end.

All of these lights are mounted atop frangible supports which present a low impact resistance (break-a-way) so as to present a minimum safety hazard to any aircraft which should happen to be abnormally below the normal safe approach path.

The lights were installed by the Western-Pacific Region's Environmental Section (AWP-454), and the maintenance responsibility rests with the Airway Facilities Sector Office in Red Bluff, Calif.

Cover photo: Top right: Paving the access road from the taxiway at the threshold. Bottom right: Station 13+00, looking across the creek. Note the considerable cable sag.

All photos by Al Trimels, AWP-454.

COMPUTER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM UNDERWAY

The agency on Dec. 20 issued a Request for Proposals for the initial phase of its program to acquire new "host" computer systems for the enroute centers. It marked the official start of a two-phase procurement geared to delivery of the first new computers in 1985 with all on site by the end of 1987.

Two industry teams already have announced plans to submit proposals. One is headed by IBM and the other by Sperry. FAA expects to select two contractors to proceed with a planned 21-month design competition phase in June. This involves both contractors delivering their systems to the Technical Center for a "fly off" in the summer of 1984.

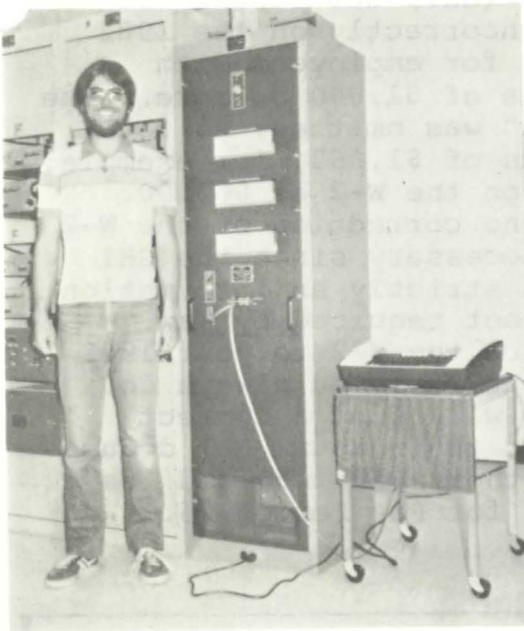
The agency then plans to select one contractor to proceed with the acquisition phase. Replacement of the IBM 9020s in the centers is a key element in FAA's National Airspace System Plan and calls for the procurement of new host computers that will use the existing 9020 software, or instruction package, with only minor modifications.

Concurrently, the agency will proceed with a parallel program to develop a "clean sheet" design for a totally new system, called the "Advanced Automation System." It will provide new sector suites, or controller work stations, a distributed computing complex and completely new software. Initial contracts are planned for early 1984.

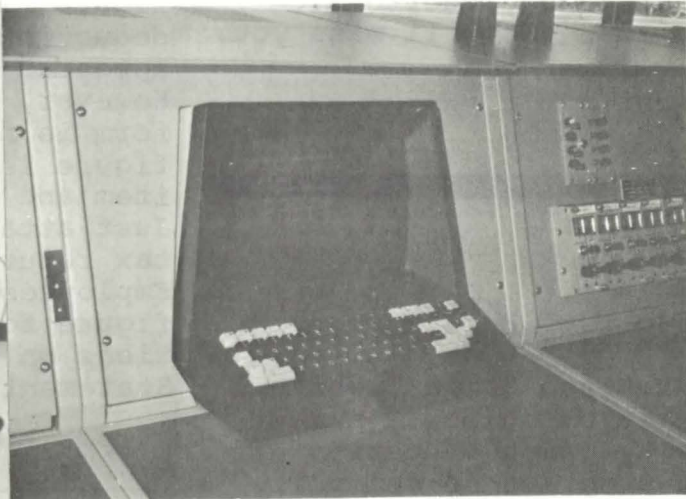
DENA ROMERO WINS
CIF TRACK
FINAL MEDAL

Dena Romero, daughter of John Romero of the Los Angeles Airway Facilities Sector, was a medal winner at the CIF track finals held last year at the Cerritos Community College. Dena, then a senior at El Segundo High School, placed third in the girls 300 meter low hurdles. Dena is now attending El Camino Community College.

Right: Dena Romero under the El Segundo High School marquee honoring her track performance.
Photo by: Yukio "Mo" Mochizuki



A FIRST FOR RENO FLIGHT SERVICE



The first 2nd Generation VORTAC RMC (Remote Maintenance Control) in the Western-Pacific Region was installed last year at Reno Flight Service Station. Eldon Chapman, F&E installation technician, Reno Airway Facilities Sector (above left) is shown alongside the RMC equipment. At the right is a picture of the control keyboard and CRT in the FSS operation console.

ONTARIO FSS NEWS

During the Fall and Winter season Ontario Flight Service Station has said "goodbye" to several specialists who transferred to other facilities: ED STONE to Chino Tower; BOB PAVICIC to Ontario Tower, MIKE BARE to Los Angeles ARTCC; and BOB WURZER to Washington FSS.....Welcome to Ontario FSS: HOWARD IRWIN, PAUL PROVENCE and RUSSELL WITHERS from the Academy; ROBERT DEAN, Green Bay FSS: BRUCE JONES, Boston FSS; and CHUCK STEWART, Oklahoma City Academy Instructor, all of whom are now facility rated thanks to our outstanding training department and OJT instructors.....Our most recent assignee is TOM RASH from the Academy. Tom has his National Weather Service Pilot Briefers Certificate and is 75 percent through Facility Rating training..... LARRY BERG was recently selected as our fourth Area Supervisor and is presently detailed to Daggett FSS. Larry is a former Regional Duty Officer and Team Supervisor at Santa Barbara FSS and Las Vegas FSS..... GARY THINGELSTAD reports to San Juan, Puerto Rico IFSS on Jan. 23. We will miss you, Gary.

HELP NEEDED FOR AVIATION EDUCATION PROJECT

The Sacramento Metro Tower has been deeply involved for a number of years in aviation education and scholarship programs in community high schools. One of the high schools is located in a deprived area and is in great need of learning materials. In particular there is an urgent requirement for used E6B flight computers to be used in ground school programs. Please contact Vic Katz if you can help; 916/929-5151.

TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE

AVAILABLE FROM IRS

The Internal Revenue Service will continue to provide toll-free telephone service and walk-in assistance to help taxpayers in filing federal tax returns. A new toll-free number, 1-800-424-1040, is open for calls. Local numbers can also be found in the white pages of the phone directory under U.S. Government, Internal Revenue Service. In addition, many answers to common taxpayer questions can be found in the taxpayer instructions which come in the mail or in over 90 free IRS publications. These publications can be ordered by using the order form in the tax package.

GHI AMOUNT ASKEW BUT W-2 FORMS O.K.

The amount of Government Health Insurance (GHI) deductions was printed incorrectly on the 1982 W-2 Forms for employees with deductions of \$1,000 or more. The figure "1" was omitted, so total deductions of \$1,063, for example, appeared on the W-2 as 063.00. However, no correction of the W-2 form is necessary since the GHI figure is strictly an information item and not required by law. Just attach the W-2 to your 1982 tax returns like you always do. Employees will find a correct figure for their total GHI deductions on their Earnings and Leave Statement for Pay Period 26.

FAA INTERCOM is published weekly for Western-Pacific Region employees of the Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration by the Public Affairs Office. Articles and black and white photographs should be sent to Barbara Abels, Editor, AWP-5, 213/536-6431 or FTS 966-6431.

BRIG. GEN. ROBERT L. SCOTT
 HONORARY SPEAKER AT
 SAFETY SEMINAR IN LONG BEACH



The Long Beach Flight Standards District Office had one of its greatest attendance in a safety seminar held recently at which Brig. Gen. Robert L. Scott, Jr., was honorary speaker.

Gen. Scott is remembered as a war hero, Flying Tiger, and great author of numerous books. He retired from the U.S. Air Force after 36 years service and has 23,000 hours as a pilot. He was officially credited with 13 aerial victories in China during WWII.

The Long Beach FSDO had an aviation safety meeting the same night in Westwood. Both meetings brought in over 1,000 interested people.

A--Paul Stebelton, Accident Prevention Specialist, Long Beach FSDO (left), proudly presents Gen. Scott with a plaque of appreciation for his contributions to aviation safety.

B--General Scott addresses the FAA Accident Prevention Counselors. At the right is Walt Daigle, Manager of the Long Beach FSDO.

C--Providing valuable assistance at the Safety Seminar were Michele Lansford (left), Aviation Clerk, and Carole McClure, Supervisory Aviation Safety Assistant.



OJT REQUIREMENTS CHANGED

The agency has changed the minimum qualifications required of controllers who provide on-the-job training (OJT). Effective Jan. 4, controllers must meet three conditions before they can give OJT to another controller.

First, they must have been certificated on the position for which they are serving as an OJT instructor. Second, they must have operated the position for a minimum of 30 solo hours after certification. And third, they must be certified by a supervisor to provide OJT based on observation of actual performance at the position. Previously, controllers who were certificated on a position did not have to meet any experience requirement before performing OJT. Also new is the requirement that supervisors must certify these individuals as qualified for OJT duties.

The FAA action responds in part to recent recommendations from the National Transportation Safety Board that deal with controller training. Those recommendations resulted from the Board's follow-up investigation of the air traffic control system.

RETIREMENT LUNCHEON FOR TOM BINCZAK AND STU HALSEY

After 80 years of combined service, Stu Halsey and Tom Binczak of the Air Traffic Division have recently left the fold. A luncheon is planned at the Lobster House in Redondo Beach on Jan. 28 at 11:30 a.m. Those wishing to attend and wish Stu and Tom good luck, should call Betty Prescott or Shirley James, FTS 966-6343 or 213/536-6343, for further information.

CLAUSEN ON BOARD

Former Congressman Don H. Clausen of California has joined FAA as its director of special programs. His principal responsibilities will involve the agency's aviation-education programs and other special programs.

Clausen represented the second California district in the U.S. House of Representatives for 20 years, and was the ranking Republican on the influential House Public Works and Transportation Committee. During his years on Capitol Hill, he sponsored many aviation-related bills and was the author of the amendment authorizing FAA to encourage the advancement of aviation-aerospace education in the nation's schools, colleges and universities.

A former Navy carrier pilot, he holds a commercial certificate with a flight instructor rating.

AV. WEEK HONORS FAA MAN

FAA's James J. Treacy has been honored by Aviation Week and Space Technology for his "significant contribution" to aviation in 1982. A National Resource Specialist in avionics assigned to the Northwest Mountain Region, Treacy was one of 36 people in the aerospace industry selected by the magazine editors for special mention in the Jan. 9, 1983, issue. Specifically, he was cited for "technical guidance in defining and executing FAA policy for certification of the new digital avionics in both the 767 and 757 transports." A 13-year FAA veteran, Treacy has been working out of the Seattle office since 1975.

DOLE NOMINATED AS DOT SECRETARY

White House aide Elizabeth Hanford Dole has been nominated by President Reagan to succeed Drew Lewis as Secretary of Transportation. Her appointment now must be confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Mrs. Dole has held a number of high-level jobs in government, principally in the field of consumer affairs. She served as a member of the Federal Trade Commission from 1973 to 1979 and has been the President's assistant for Public Liaison for the past two years. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Duke University, she later earned both a master's degree in education and a law degree from Harvard. Her husband is Senator Robert Dole of Kansas.

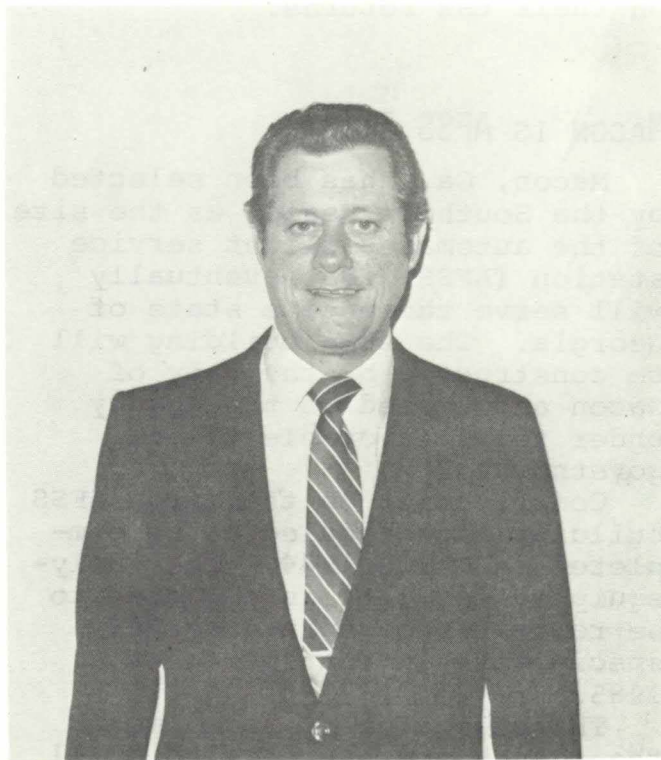
PALM SPRINGS TRACAB NEWS

Air Traffic Manager Art Woolston celebrated his 40th year of government service recently and is looking forward to another 40.....The PSP TRACAB recently hosted an Aviation Safety Meeting for local pilots. Thanks to Ralph Palmer of Riverside GADO and some local operators, the meeting was a great success.....Congratulations to Area Supervisors Barbara Ady and Ralph Hiller who received their wings in recognition of being chosen as Safety Counselors for the Palm Springs area.....The stork made two visits to PSP personnel: one to ATCS(T) Mark Beadle's home with Robert Lee; and one to AF Technician Max McHatton's household with Kate. Proud parents and little ones are all doing well.

CAPSULE GLIMPSES....

MEET FRANK BAKER, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Frank Baker is the Manager, Employment Branch, Personnel Management Division. He has been in Personnel with the FAA since 1968 and recently completed a tour of duty from May 1979 until March 1982 in the former Pacific Asia Region. Frank's initial assignment in Honolulu was as Labor Relations Officer; later he was promoted to Personnel Officer. Frank returned to Hawaii in Sept. 1982 for a 2½ month detail to assist in the agency's presentations before the Merit Systems Protection Board hearings regarding the fired controllers. Frank's hobbies include golf, sailing and counting bikinis at Waikiki Beach.



MEDICARE TAX EXPLAINED

As most employees no doubt know, hospital insurance (Medicare) taxes of 1.3 percent were withheld from the first paychecks of 1983. Those deductions will continue until gross salary or wages equal \$35,700 for the year. That's the maximum taxable amount.

There are two things for employees to remember here. One is that the tax applies to all wages up to \$35,700, whether the money is earned this year or in a previous year. Thus, someone who is paid retroactively for previously unreported overtime, for example, would have to pay the Medicare tax on that amount.

The second point is that employees who have outside jobs that take their total income over \$35,700 could pay excessive Medicare taxes. That's because the Social Security (FICA) tax includes a 1.3 percent Medicare deduction. In these cases, employees can claim a refund on their tax returns.

MACON IS AFSS SITE

Macon, Ga., has been selected by the Southern Region as the site of the automated flight service station (AFSS) that eventually will serve the entire state of Georgia. The AFSS building will be constructed by the city of Macon and leased to the agency under terms favorable to the government.

Construction on the Macon AFSS building is scheduled to be completed in March 1984. The fully-equipped facility is expected to be ready for occupancy by FSS specialists in the spring of 1985.

The selection of Macon means the agency now has settled on 11 of the 61 AFSS sites. Nine of these involve the construction of new buildings under lease arrangement with the local communities.

FREMONT AFS AWARDS

The following awards were recently presented at the Fremont Airway Facilities Sector: DONNA CESCO, Electronics Technician and REX LARY, Systems Performance Specialist - Special Achievement Awards with Outstanding Ratings..... PHYLLIS EDMISON, General Supply Specialist; JOSE FLORES, Communications Technician-in-depth; BENT FRYDENDAHL, Radar Unit Supervisor; KENNETH BLEDSOE, Peripheral Device Repairer - Letters of Appreciation... WILFRED CHANG, Electronics Technician - 30-year Career Service Emblem; SERAFIN ARRIVAS, Systems Engineer, ROBERT COLEMAN, Electronics Technician and ROGER MERKAMP, CCC Section Manager - 25-year Career Service Emblems; and CHARLES TAYLOR, Engineering Technician - 15-year Career Service Emblem.

DIRECTORY IN DISTRIBUTION

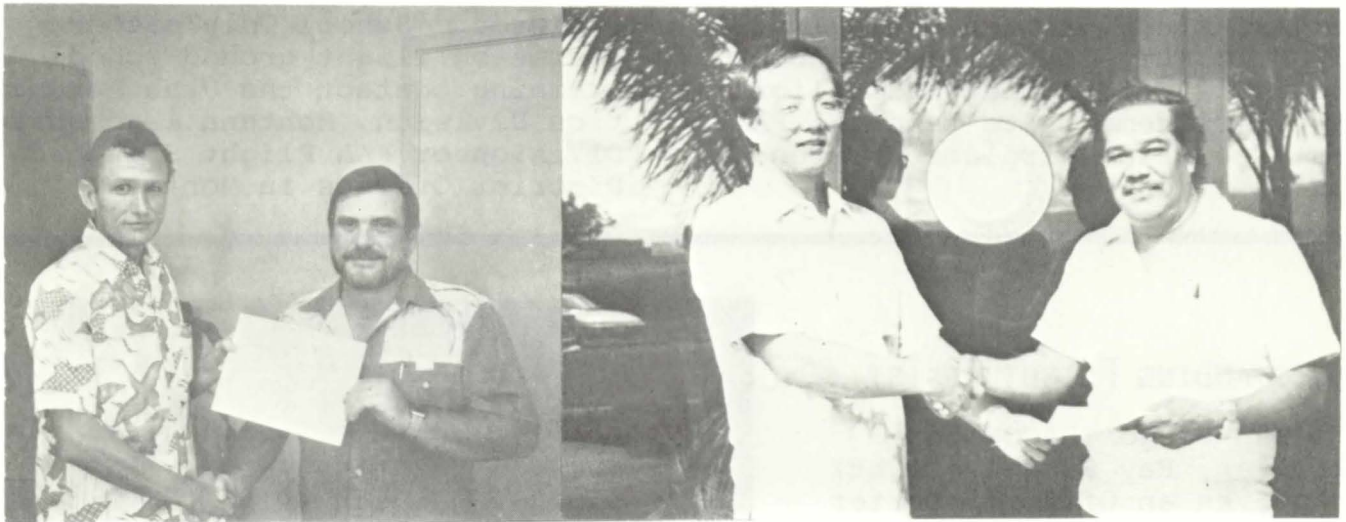
The agency has published a new edition of the "FAA Directory," which lists the phone numbers for all FAA field facilities as well as key numbers in Washington, regional and center headquarters. Copies of this November 1982 edition currently are being distributed down to branch level in Washington, regional and center headquarters. At field facilities, the distribution is one copy per 15 employees.

Any office, facility or branch that has not received a copy by Jan. 17 should contact AMS-220 in Washington headquarters on 426-3791. Washington offices requiring additional copies can order them through the DOT Warehouse (M-443.1); regional and field organizations should contact the appropriate distribution office. The next edition of the Directory is scheduled for May 1983.

HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST BRIEFED AF SECTOR MANAGER

Betsy Kirkhart, Western-Pacific Region Human Resources Specialist, recently briefed the Airway Facilities Sector Managers and AF Division and Branch Managers on the Human Resources program at a meeting in Los Angeles. Because of Betsy's briefing, the participating managers gained a better perspective of the program.

Right photo: Betsy Kirkhart briefing the AFS managers. To Betsy's right are Mike Gonzales, Acting AWP-460, and Alex Hammond, AWP-400. Photo by Zukio "Mo" Mochizuki.



Top left: George Ackerman (right) Area Supervisor at Maui Tower, is presented with a Quality Performance Award by Air Traffic Manager Bob Rabideau.

Top right: Supply Technician Gabriel "Gabe" Ishihara (right) receives a 30-year service pin from Ronald Yamamoto, supervisor at the Honolulu Facilities & Equipment Field Unit.

TELEVISION PREMIER OF PILOT GROUND SCHOOL COURSE

"AN INVITATION TO FLY", an FAA approved Private Pilot Ground School Course, premiered on KOED, Channel 7 in Salt Lake City, Utah, on Jan. 15.

The program was developed not only with advisors from the FAA but also with the cooperation and consultation of the National Weather Service, including Oakland Flight Service Station and the Department of Aeronautics at the College of San Mateo, Foothill College and Ohlone College.

License fees for local presentation of the program are being paid for by the Utah Aeronautics Division, Montana Aeronautics Division, Utah Pilots' Association, Tiger Air Service, Executive Air Service and Thompson Beechcraft Air Service. The program utilizes aerial photography, graphics, diagrams and interviews with aeronautical experts and has been reviewed by flying and ground school instructors, aeronautical engineers as well as FAA personnel. Successful completion of the 30 hour series, using related course-study materials (AN INVITATION TO FLY - textbook, workbook and viewer's guide) meets the eligibility requirements to take the FAA Private Pilot Airplane Written Examination.

Normally, such a course would cost between \$200 and \$400, putting it out of reach for many people who have dreamed of flying. This course is free to the public.

There is no tuition fee. The textbook and study guides can be purchased from the Utah Pilots' Association 801/487-2342 for \$38.85 and then it is just a matter of tuning in, keeping a record of the lessons covered and the time spent studying. Before taking the written examination, an FAA inspector will go through the workbook with the student, asking questions on each topic to be certain the student is prepared for the examination.

The program will run for 15 weeks, two lessons each Saturday morning and be repeated several times during the year. Some of the topics that will be covered are: How to get started in aviation; How an airplane works; The flying environment; Weather; Navigation; and Medical aspects and emergencies.

For more information regarding the Ground School Telelessons course on flight ground school training contact the Utah Aeronautics Division, Montana Aeronautics Division or FAA Flight Standards District Offices in Montana.

OUTSTANDING FLIGHT ASSIST

San Diego TRACON controller, Ray Furgal (right) receives an Official Letter of Commendation from Area Supervisor Rick Case for his outstanding flight assist to a General Aviation pilot with multiple instrument failures during actual IFR weather. Congratulations, Ray, for a job well done!

