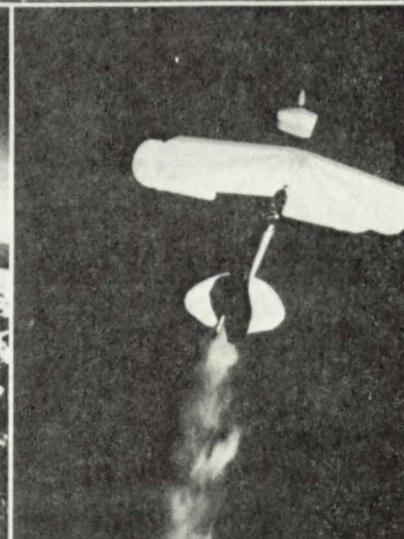
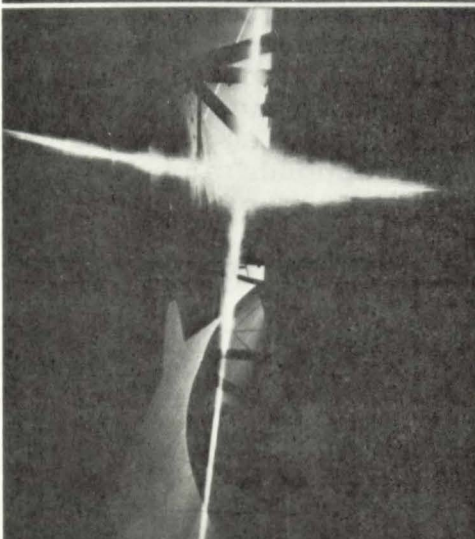
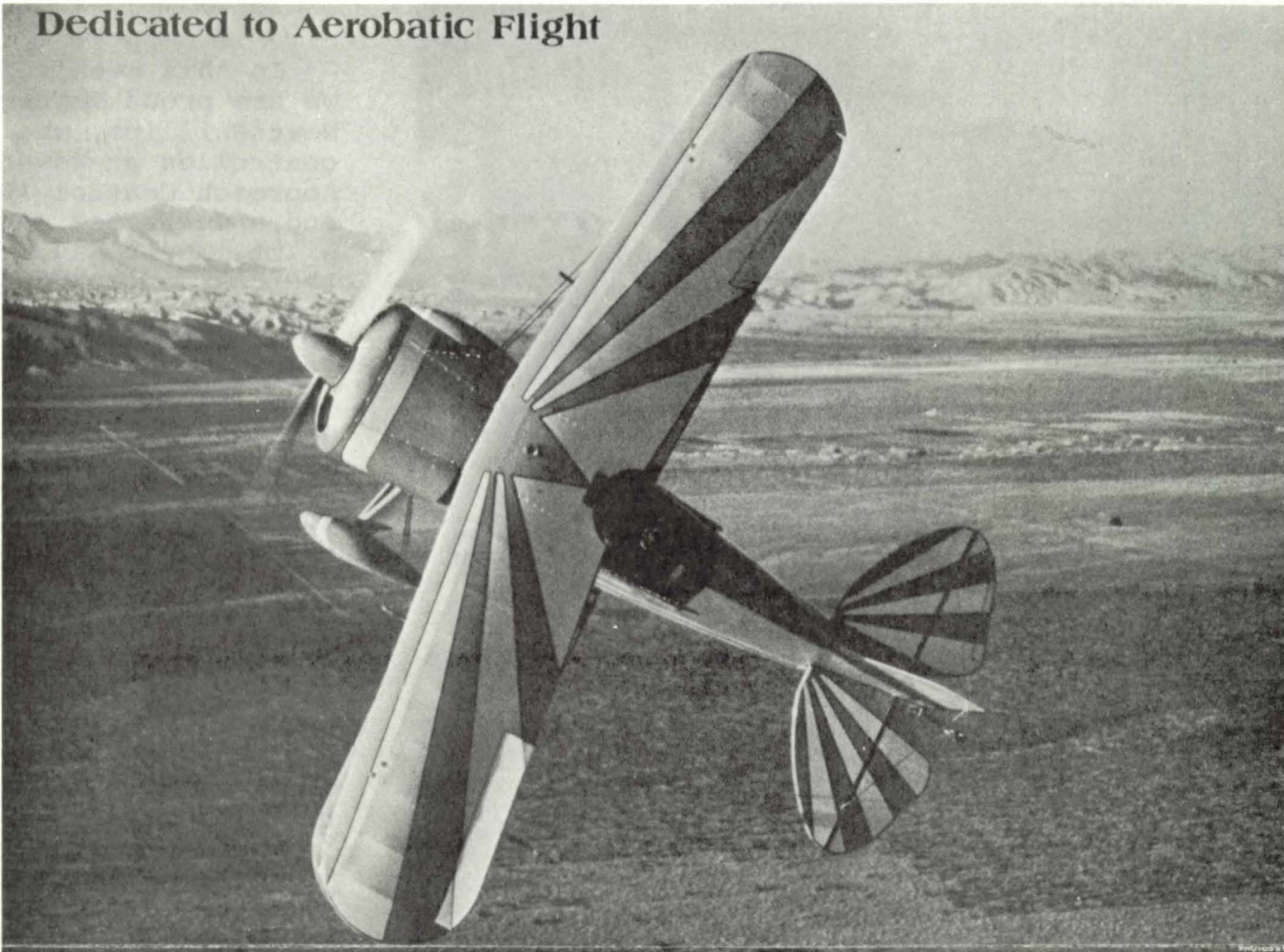




US Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# Western-Pacific Intercom

**Dedicated to Aerobatic Flight**



# Cover Story...

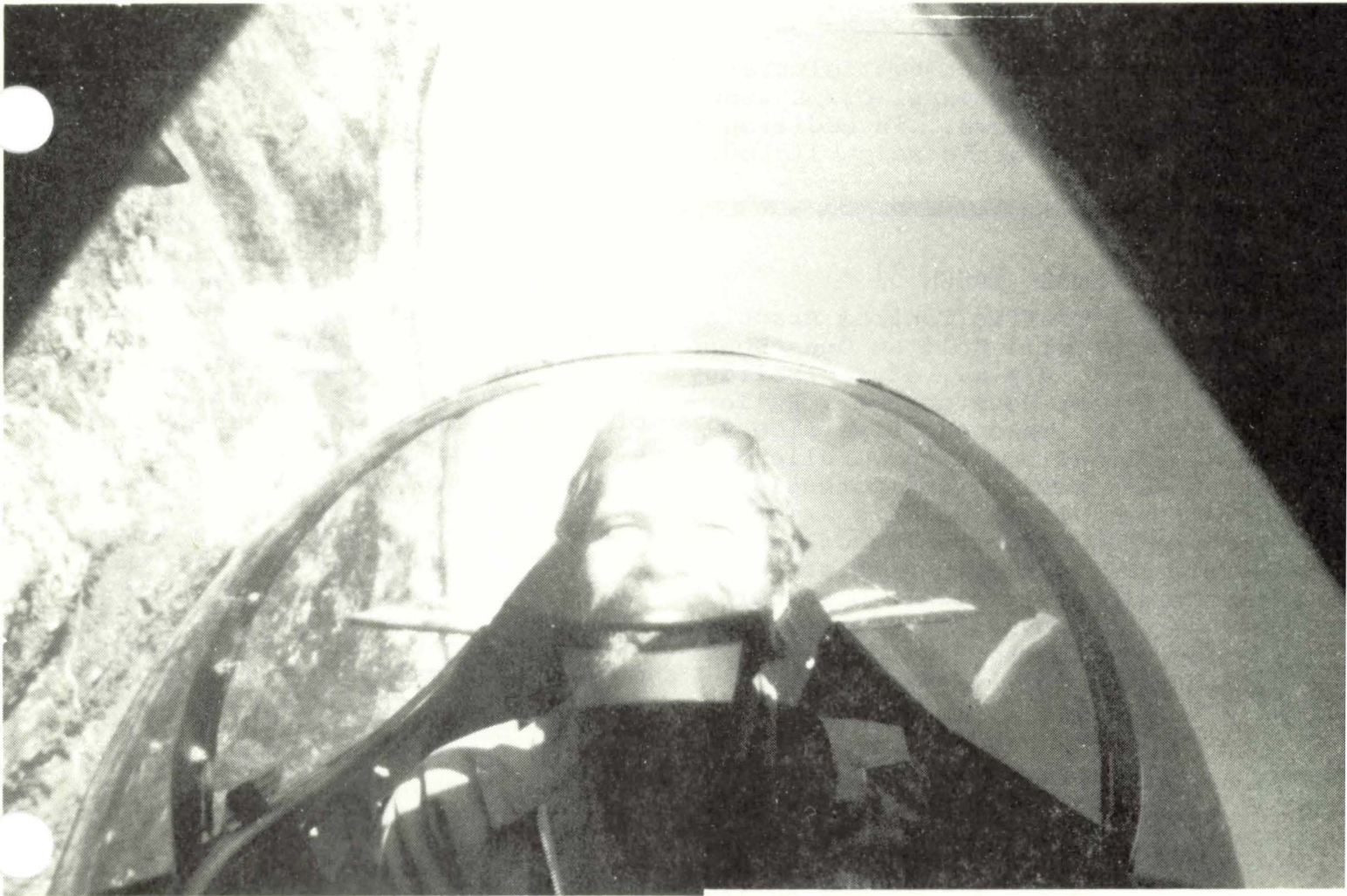
In this week's INTERCOM we are proud to feature Newt Phillips, who is a controller at Edwards Radar Approach Control (RAPCON) and a dedicated aerobatic pilot. Newt has been with the FAA since 1966 when he joined as an Air Traffic Controller.

In his own life, Newt says, "I have done nothing but talk, breathe, live and love aviation since the first day I remember knowing what an airplane was." Newt actually began flying at 14 and, literally, has never quit.

Newt served in the U.S. Marines as an "Air Dale" aviator and following that was a crop duster in New Mexico. The excitement of aviation lured him on to become a precision aerobatic pilot. Over the past 12 years Newt says he has become accustomed to aerobatic flight and has seen most every unusual attitude one can see. He has been a pilot in three movies with his own airplane, a Pitts Special, weighing in at 720 pounds and developing over 230 horsepower at 3,400 RPM (shown on the cover).  
(continued on page 4)

Above photo: Newt Phillips flies straight up over the coastline near Paso Robles, Calif. Initial climb rate from 220 mph pull up, 6,000 feet per minute, but it bleeds off rapidly. There is nothing left after 38 seconds, or about 5,000 feet.

Cover photo: Newt Phillips in his Pitts Special. Cover photo by Mac Hayes.



EDWARDS RAPCON CONTROLLER  
DEDICATED TO  
AEROBATIC FLIGHT

Newt Phillips, Edwards RAPCON Controller and Aerobatic pilot extraordinaire, enjoys an afternoon of "relaxation."

Above: Newt practicing his aerobatics over snow-covered mountains.

Left: A little upside down--but going home.

Photos by Mac Hayes.



## COVER STORY (continues from page 2)

Newt has appeared in two television commercials and several clips used on television shows...in addition to having over 20 articles published.

## ATCA OPEN HOUSE MARCH 31

The Air Traffic Control Association (ATCA) will hold an Open House on March 31, 6 p.m., at the Holiday Inn, 222 West Houston Ave., Fullerton, Calif. Take the Riverside 91 Freeway to Harbor Blvd., Fullerton exit. All members and potential members are encouraged to attend. The program will consist of guest speakers from Hughes Aircraft and the President of ATCA. Open bar and hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Contact Ed Couch, 213/536-6343, if you have any questions.

## JIM DUNN RECEIVES AWARD

Air Traffic Control Specialist Jim Dunn, Lake Tahoe Air Traffic Control Tower, has been given the FAA's "Award for Continuous Quality Performance." George Feick, Manager, Tahoe Tower, said Jim's "superior performance continues to exceed standards expected for control tower specialists." He also added that Jim was the first controller at the tower to be honored with this particular citation, and it is not given frequently. "His professionalism," the citation reads, "and dedication to duty reflect the highest credit on him and the agency he represents." Jim, who is also a pilot, has worked for the FAA since 1975. Before transferring to the Tahoe Tower in 1978, he worked at the Palomar Tower. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was graduated from Humboldt State University in Eureka with a degree in forest management. Jim was the lone controller out of six at Tahoe in August 1981 who did not join the nationwide controller walkout.

## UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE SPRING TERM 1983 - MAR. 21 - JUN 3 LAX FAA FACILITY

The University of La Verne offers business degree programs designed specifically for working adults to prepare them for positions of increased responsibility in business and industry. The business programs offered at professional development centers in Los Angeles and Orange County are the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Master of Science in Business Management, and the Master of Business Administration (MBA). Business degree requirements can be fulfilled through classes taken at any of the University locations including the campus in La Verne. Classes are offered one night a week for ten weeks in four terms per year. Some classes on the main campus are also available on weekends.

The following classes will be held at the FAA Facility, 5885 West Imperial Highway (conference room directly opposite entrance), Spring Term 1983:

### B.S. Program

- Industrial Relations (EcBus 359) 4 units/Mondays 5 - 10 p.m. Begins Mar. 21
- Business Finance (EcBus 330) 4 units/Wednesdays 5 - 10 p.m. Begins Mar. 23
- Counseling available Wed., Mar. 23, 4:30 p.m.

### M.S. Program

- Management Accounting (EcBus 503) 3 units/Tuesdays 5 - 9:30 p.m. Begins Mar. 22 (Prerequisite: Undergraduate course in accounting)

### M.B.A. Program

- Seminar in Business Policy (EcBus 548) 3 units/Thursdays 5 - 9:30 p.m. Begins Mar. 24 (Prerequisite: Completion of all core courses in M.B.A.)
  - Counseling Date to be announced
- Registration for all classes during first class meeting. For additional information call: 714/596-1996.

## AWP-462 "MECHANICS" QUALITY CIRCLE ORGANIZED -- FIRST IN R.O.



On December 6, 1982, seven members of the Operations Section, Maintenance and Operations Branch, Airway Facilities Division, organized into the first Quality Circle (QC) in the Western-Pacific Regional Office. All are volunteers with Henry Harris, their supervisor, as the initial QC leader. Other members include: Marcie Thomas, Bill Weeks, Dean Dowell, Burt Jones, Roy Anderson and Paul Yantchook. They call themselves the AWP-462 "Mechanics" Quality Circle. Three days later, the group completed their QC concepts and problem solving training, which was conducted by Jim Mills, AWP-400 QC Facilitator, and Yukio "Mo" Mochizuki, Los Angeles Airway Facilities Sector QC Facilitator. The "Mechanics" are now working on their first QC project. They meet once a week for an hour to identify, analyze, solve and implement solutions to work-related problems in their area. Quality Circles are also presently active in the following Airway Facilities Sectors: Oakland, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Fresno, San Diego and San Francisco. Honolulu ARTCC, Guam, Red Bluff, Oakland ARTCC and Los Angeles ARTCC Sectors, and AWP-465 (Honolulu) have also initiated their QC training.

Above left: The AWP-462 "Mechanics" Quality Circle. From left -- Roy Anderson, Marcie Thomas, Bill Weeks, Burt Jones, Paul Yantchook, Henry Harris and Dean Dowell.

Above right: Hank Harris (center), AWP-462 QC leader, conducts brainstorming session. At the left is Burt Jones.

Photos by Yukio "Mo" Mochizuki.

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS AT R.O.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are being held at the Regional Headquarters. Both old and new members are welcome. For information, please call Anne Clayton, Aviation Medical Div., Ext. 6300.

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.



## OAKLAND FSS NEWS

We would like to welcome aboard new trainees, John Hyde, Chuck Braudway, Dave Templeton, Kevin Beaudin, Jim St. John, George Fourchy, Jeff Kutsch, Gary Amy, Robert Mack, Fred Kent, Tom Franklin, and Paul Curtin. All trainees are in various stages of training at both the Academy and the Station.....Specialist Jim Mead has recently received his Facility rating.....The facility has had two very successful Retirement parties; one for Manager John Andrews and the other for Flight Watch Specialist Bill Westvang.....Specialists Anne Raney and Betty Roque recently deserted us for local Bay Area Terminal facilities. We wish them both lots of luck.....Specialists Bob Quintana and Chuck Campbell had short hospital stays, but both are back on the job in good health..... Specialist Bruce Britos has been coaching a girls' soccer team which placed first in the local league... ..Larry Renshaw has been appointed to Master of the Ashland Masonic Lodge.....Specialist Andy Davie is now on vacation skiing in Austria, and with any luck will make it back in one piece.....Congratulations go to Pete Hall for his SAA and to Dave Templeton on the newest member to his clan, a bouncing baby boy.

## AIRWAY FACILITIES DIVISION PERSONNEL RECEIVE RECOGNITION

Congratulations to the following Establishment Engineering Branch, AWP-450, personnel who recently received Letters of Appreciation: BRUCE OSHITA, AWP-454, from Manager, Oakland AFS for his conduct while a passenger in a government pickup truck involved in an accident; MIGUEL NEGRETE, AWP-454, from Manager, Honolulu ATCT for his help in identifying alternatives in modifying the tower consoles; KENT FREEMAN, AWP-454, from the NavComm Unit Supervisor at Long Beach for his outstanding efforts in coordinating with various people on the Long Beach Glide Slope/MM/RVR & MALSR project; Helen Harris, AWP-450.3 from the Manager, San Francisco AFS for her help in tracking down a misplaced purchase request for special 2nd Generation VORTAC ground cable; JIM STAGNER, Supervisor, AWP-453, from Acting Manager, Air Traffic Division, AWP-500 for his effort as a team member to select Area Control Facility (ACF) locations for the region.....BRUCE WILLIAMSON, AWP-453, received his 15 year Career Service Emblem from Jack Faletti, Manager, Establishment Engineering Branch.



## PERFORMANCE AWARD PRESENTED

Reno Flight Service Station Specialist Robert Andrews (left) receives a Special Achievement Award from Supervisor Ski Pisarski.



## CAREER MILESTONE FOR BETTY SILER

Betty Siler (left) receives a 25-year pin from Pat O'Sullivan, Manager of the Tucson Tower/TRACON. Betty has been an Air Traffic Control Specialist at the Tucson Tower/TRACON for the past 12 years and they are very happy to have her with them. Congratulations Betty!

## FRESNO ATCT FACTS

The internationally acclaimed California Farm Equipment Show at Tulare Airport was an outstanding success thanks, in part, to our very capable temporary tower crew: Ben Nicholas, Harry Baird, and Keith Bartram.....An abundance of facility tours lately for Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Chamber of Commerce, city officials, flying clubs and schools, and the local Press Club, conducted by Supervisors Mark Lambie, Tom Blowers, Al Blue, John Manuszak, Sheldon Olson, Barry Small, Ben Nicholas, Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist Hal Mortensen, and our Manager Will Cope.....Congratulations are in order for Bill Schloo, receiving his 30-year pin, and to Bob Faux and Scott Lang on their recent marriages.....Our long-time secretary Phyllis Fosdick recently celebrated a birthday and shared her cake with all of us, ruining the post-holidays diets many of us are on.....Welcome aboard to Steve Hays from Lemoore Naval Air Station.....Fresno ATCT now has 14 Trainees and 12 Full Performance Levels.

## LOS ANGELES FSS NEWS

Clerical Assistant Janet Duckworth was honored at a luncheon on February 14, commemorating her 25 years of service at the facility. Earlier on that date, a cake and coffee break also honored Carmen Pisarski who is transferring to Reno Tower. We wish her continued success in her new career. Another cake and coffee (wow, the calories!) later that date was provided for those who were not able to attend the luncheon.....Congratulations to Jim Hipp on receipt of his 30-year service emblem and to Bob Widdick on receipt of his 15-year service emblem.....During January, Tom Anthony completed the Discrimination Complaint Investigator Course at Lawton.....We welcome new specialists to the facility: Larry Tonish and Elaine Harrison from Santa Barbara FSS, and Lauren Turner from Albany FSS. We also welcome Dennis Redmond, Reuben Jolly, David Haeck, Jim Upton, Breathitt McVay, and Robert Manuel back to the facility from the Academy, and congratulate each of them for their successful completion of the FSS course.

## AGENCY STRENGTHENS ATC QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

The agency is planning three major improvements to its quality assurance program for the ATC system and is giving designated Facility Advisory Boards the responsibility for drafting the necessary procedures and orders for implementation. The three actions are aimed at further enhancing the level of controller professionalism and providing more data on the causes of operational errors so that these causes can be minimized or eliminated.

Two of the changes are the use of ATC computers to identify operational errors and the development of a new classification system that will more clearly describe the scope and circumstances of these incidents. The third step calls for the establishment of an individual performance quality control program for controllers that will lead to correction of minor deficiencies before they can become serious.

Work will begin this spring on developing procedures for implementing all three changes at the 20 domestic enroute centers. Full national implementation in the centers is scheduled for early 1984. However, the feasibility of using computers to identify operational errors in terminal facilities requires further study because the present equipment lacks the capacity and sophistication of the enroute computers. Still, the agency expects to begin the implementation process in the terminal facilities this fall and complete the process by late 1984 or early 1985.

Preliminary development work for both the enroute and terminal programs will be accomplished at designated lead facilities by working controllers and others serving on the Facility Advisory Boards with the assistance of management personnel. They will provide detailed

## SMALL LEAVE INCREMENTS OKED

"Mark me down for 15 minutes leave" is a phrase time and attendance clerks will begin hearing this month. Effective March 20, FAA employees will be able to take annual leave, sick leave, and leave without pay (LWOP) in increments as small as 15 minutes.

This change results from a new FAA management policy that will provide employees with greater flexibility in scheduling short-term leave for essential errands, appointments and the like. In addition, managers/supervisors may now charge employees absence without leave (AWOL) in increments as small as one minute. At present, all leave is charged in minimum increments of one hour.

One thing that won't change under the new policy is the authority of managers/supervisors to excuse employees for unavoidable or necessary absences of less than one hour, without charge to leave. They may still do so when circumstances warrant.

## SOCIAL SECURITY CHANGES

The House of Representatives on March 9 passed the Social Security "rescue" bill by a vote of 281 to 148. Of particular concern to Federal workers is the provision that extends Social Security coverage to all new government hires beginning Jan. 1, 1984. Current employees would not be affected. The Senate has similar legislation under consideration and passage is considered almost certain.

drafts of procedures and orders for implementing the programs and then submit them for review and coordination at the facility, regional and national levels.

## RIVERSIDE AFS NEWS

The Burbank Environmental Unit Supervisor is wearing a big smile these days. After more than a year of being the sole member of his Unit, three newcomers are gratefully welcomed aboard--Joe Dimaggio from Norton Air Force Base, Gordon Fraser from Santa Barbara Field Office and Raul Santa Cruz from Los Angeles Airway Facilities Sector.....We are also very pleased to welcome Hector Placencia to the sector office as a new General Supply Specialist from the Regional Office Accounting Div., AWP-26A.....Don Lugo has been reassigned from Manager, Palm Springs Radar Field Office to Supervisor of the Ontario Radar Unit vice Merlin Jaques who has retired. Don Eaton has been appointed Acting Manager at Palm Springs. Tom Looney has been promoted and reassigned from the Ontario Remote Unit to Van Nuys Field Office. Doug Knight literally put his home on wheels and left us for broader horizons with F&E, AWP-453, after 13 years at Blythe. Richard Resendez is now Acting Field Office Manager at Blythe and Bob Crosby is Acting Manager at Burbank. Our thanks to these folks for doing such a good job of filling in for us on temporary promotions.....Congratulations also to James O'Such, selected as a new Nav/Comm Technician-in-Depth at the Riverside Sector Office and Russ Johnson, selected as the Burbank Radar Field Office Manager.

### CIVILIAN DESK:

- Watch for the next Ham and Cheese Sale at the Regional Office.
- Fish Sale will be held on March 31/April 1 at the same location.
- Mann Theater tickets are available at a discount cost.
- Special Discount Tickets for Magic Mountain are available for use any day of the season.
- Contact the Civilair Desk for information 213/644-8525.

## New FAA Forecast Sees Renewed Aviation Growth

Better times are in sight for aviation according to FAA's "Aviation Forecasts for Fiscal Years 1983-1994." With the return of the air traffic control system to full capacity and the upturn in the economy, the forecasts see significant gains across the board for the airlines, commuters and general aviation.

All of this means higher annual activity levels at FAA air traffic control facilities. During the forecast period, operations at controlled airports will jump from 56.4 million to 99.7 million; instrument flights at enroute centers from 29.3 million to 41.6 million, and weather briefings and other services provided by flight service stations from 63.8 million to 96 million.

Some of the key growth indicators in the forecasts are a 70 percent jump in airline travel with passenger traffic passing the 500 million mark in FY 1994; a 46 percent increase in the size of the general aviation fleet with the number of aircraft going from 215,000 to 315,000; and a 135 percent growth in commuter activity with passengers increasing from 17.6 million to 41.5 million.

## GUAM FAA NEWS

Jeffrey Hawkins, son of Jack Hawkins, Electronics Technician, Guam Airway Facilities Sector, was recently inducted into the National Junior Honor Society at Santa Barbara School. Jeff, an eighth grade student, has attended Santa Barbara School since 1976. Among other scholastic achievements, he has received the Science Honor Award in his class for the past six years. Congratulations, Jeff!