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US Department
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**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific **Intercom**

Tonopah FSS



COVER STORY...

Tonopah Flight Service Station is located on Tonopah Airport at the bottom of a valley 10 miles east of the town of Tonopah.

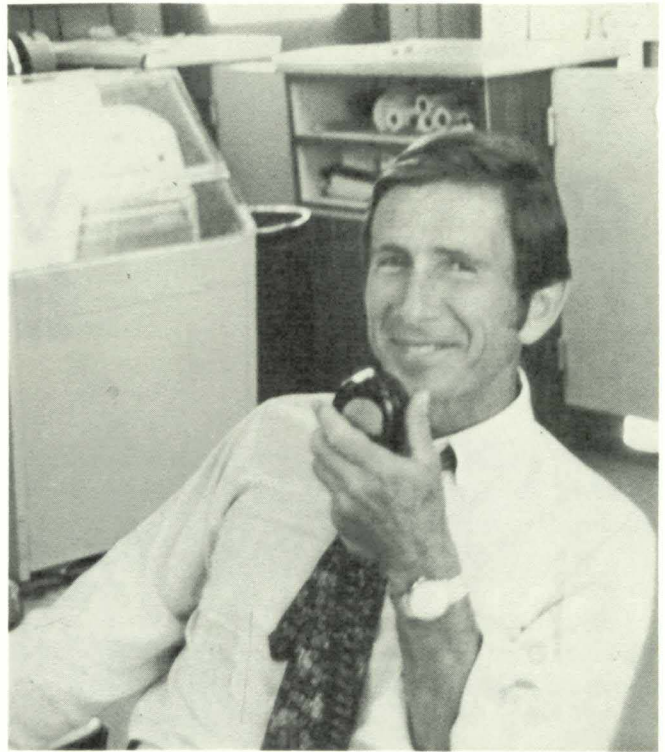
Facility manager is Patricia M. Jones. She has a staff of four journeymen--Ben Baker, Bob Fischer, Bob Sherrard and Harold "Joe" Welles.

The town of Tonopah is nestled in the hilltops of about nine peaks, 6,200 feet mean sea level. The population has exploded from less than 2,000 three years ago to around 6,000...and growing. The town is land-locked by BLM land which severely restricts the land development thereby causing a serious housing problem. FAA employees have government housing available--the officers quarters from the old Air Force Base which dominated Tonopah during World War II.

Surrounding Tonopah are the cities of Bishop, Calif., 117 miles west; Ely, Nev., 163 miles east; Las Vegas, 200 miles south; and Reno, 250 miles north. The opening of a large shopping mall in Tonopah, therefore, was a real blessing to the residents. They even have a radio station now, receive seven TV channels by cable, and the bus goes through twice a day. There is no doubt the town is growing: the hospital just added an annex and the U.S. Post Office recently opened an additional 1,000 new boxes.

Anaconda has a new Moly mine going in and some of the old gold mines have seen new life since the price of gold went up.

"Of course," Pat Jones tells INTERCOM, "there is also the oil refinery. That, with the new activity at the Nevada Test Site



One of the more famous visitors to Tonopah FSS last year was Colonel James B. Irwin, eighth man on the moon. Here Col. Irwin sees how it feels on the other end of a mike.

has kept Tonopah FSS well within the Level II range." In fact, Pat adds, several of the businesses fly their people in on Mondays and out again on Fridays.

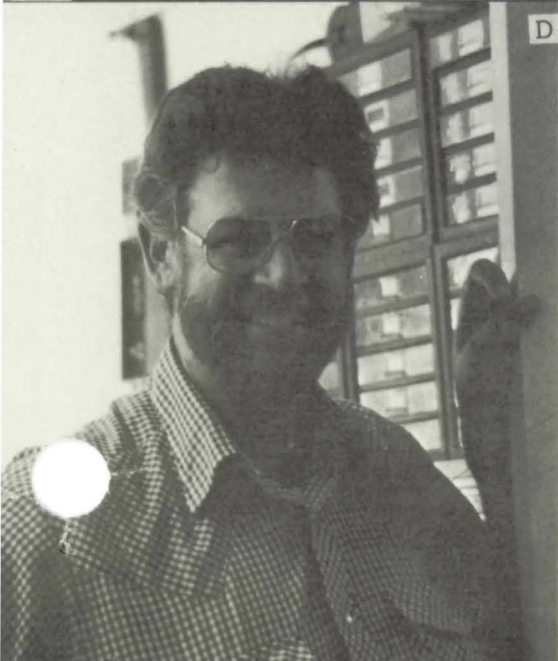
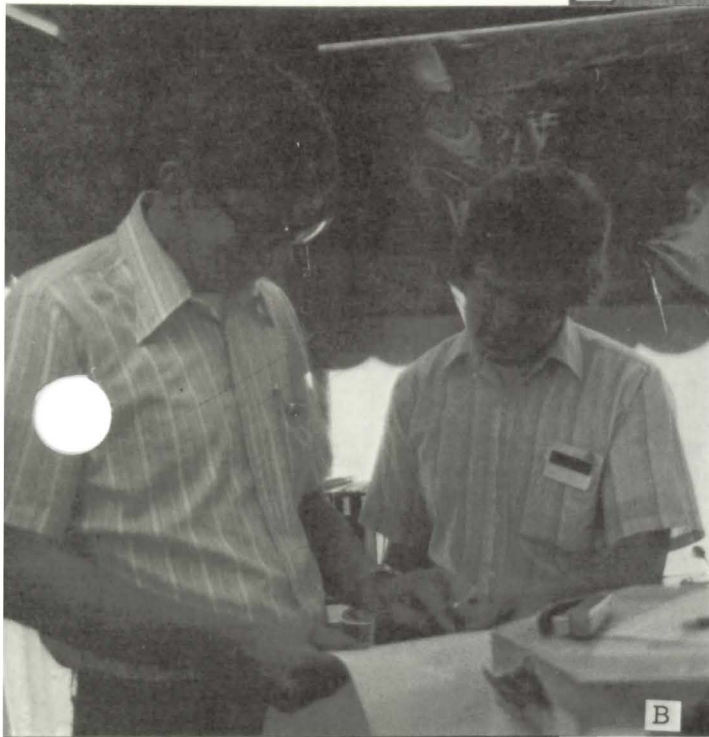
Tonopah FSS is assisted by Airway Facilities Manager Jack Olsen and his staff: Bill Crawford, Bob Love, Dan Moran and Bob Denton, AF Technicians. Equally important is the Environmental Support Unit managed by Jim Neals, and assisted by Environmental Technicians Ken Jose and Bill Batts.

Cover photo: Bob Sherrard, Air Traffic Control Specialist, at the Weather Shack. Cover photo by Pat Jones.

Tonopah

FSS

People



Scenes at Tonopah:

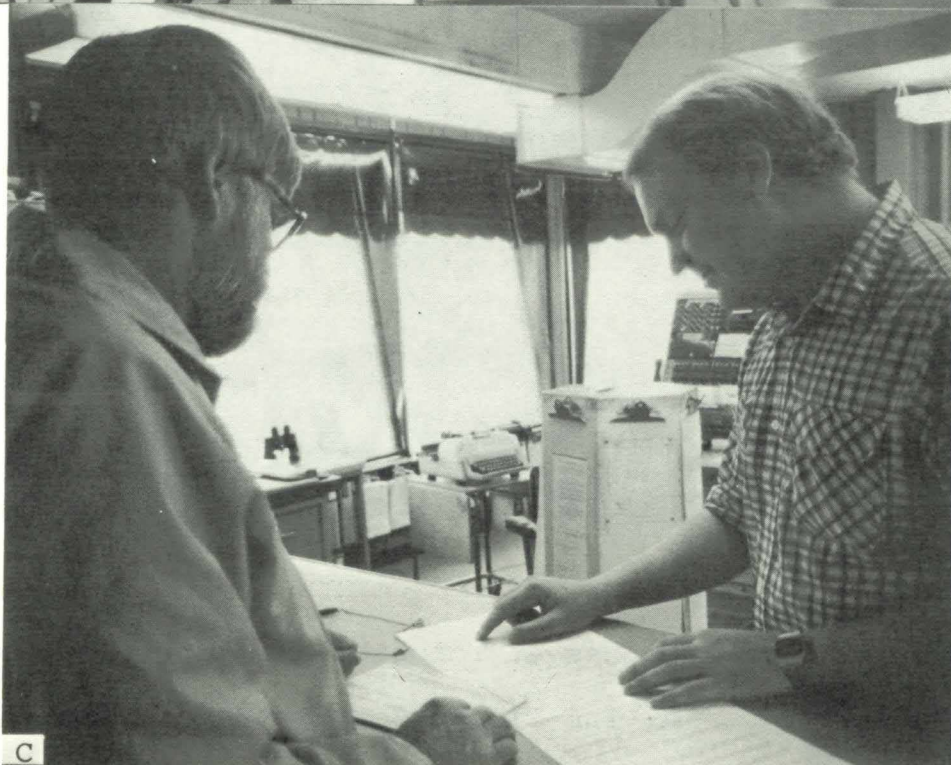
A--The Flight Service Station itself.

B--Bob Thompson (left), Air Traffic Control Specialist (since transferred to Marysville FSS), and Bob Fischer, Air Traffic Control Specialist.

C--Ben Baker, Air Traffic Control Specialist.

D--Bob Denton, Airway Facilities Technician.

More Tonopah



More people at Tonopah are:

A--Air Traffic Facility Manager Pat Jones.

B--Billy Batts, Airway Facilities Environmental Support Unit.

C--Bob Love, Airway Facilities Technician (left), and Harold "Joe" Welles, Air Traffic Control Specialist.

SAN FRANCISCO ACDO NEWS

Lloyd Tincher (right), Boeing Program Manager for the San Francisco Air Carrier District Office, is shown congratulating American Airlines pilots Ron Hanna (left) and Bill James (middle) at the nose wheel of a Boeing 767. The occasion was the successful conclusion of the first two aircraft type ratings for American Airlines in the newly acquired wide body twin jet.



Beware The Trojan Horse

The old adage about not looking a gift horse in the mouth doesn't apply to Federal workers. The government has very strict rules concerning the acceptance of gifts and favors from private business concerns.

That's why the Chief Counsel says that accepting even a seemingly innocent favor or gift can under certain circumstances result in a real or apparent conflict of interest. To stay out of trouble, don't accept anything of value from anyone who does or is seeking to do business with the FAA; or whose business is subject to FAA regulation, certification or control.

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.

Supervisors Evaluated On Human Relations

The agency this summer will begin grading supervisors on how well they meet their human relations responsibilities. The procedures are spelled out in Notice N 3400.22, "Supervisory Human Relations Responsibilities," which was approved on March 4. The notice stresses the importance of human relations in every supervisor's job and requires that supervisors' performance standards be reviewed and revised if necessary to reflect this responsibility. The notice, which will be distributed to all supervisors within 30 days, also includes guidance on the human relations factors which should be considered when reviewing performance standards. Any new performance standards must be placed in effect for appraisal periods beginning on or after July 1. Finally, supervisors are reminded that human relations may be designated as a distinct critical or other job element when it is appropriate.

ALEX LUTGENDORF RETIREMENT DINNER

Alex Lutgendorf will be retiring on March 30. Alex has been a controller at Tucson TRACON (Davis-Monthan RAPCON) since August 21, 1967. A retirement dinner honoring Alex and his wife Beppie will be held at the Smugglers Inn, Tucson, Arizona on April 29. Cocktails at 7 p.m; dinner at 7:30 p.m. Please contact Tucson Tower/TRACON for reservations or information by April 15, 1983.

JOHN WORDEN RECEIVES AWARD

John Worden, Airport Program Specialist, was presented a Quality Increase Award by Herman Bliss, Manager Airports Division, at a recent division All Hands Meeting. Congratulations, John.

Court Upholds Drug Related Firings

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York City has upheld FAA's discharge of an air traffic controller accused of possessing marijuana and cocaine in his off-duty hours. The removal action previously was sustained by the Merit Systems Protection Board. The court took note of the fact that possession was entirely during off-duty hours, no sale of the drugs was established and the employee had an outstanding seven-year work record, but said: "Any connection with illegal mind-altering substances is anathema to proper control over air traffic." The judge noted that the government's need to have its controllers fully alert and their faculties undimmed by drugs is the connection between this off-duty conduct and the efficiency of the service.

FAA Thanks Industry

In a recent speech to the National Air Transportation Association, the Administrator complimented industry on its solution to the problem of mis-fueling jets with avgas and piston aircraft with jet fuel. The solution is familiar to any self-service motorist who has ever tried to pump leaded gasoline into an automobile that requires lead-free fuel.

Aircraft fuel tanks and fuel pump nozzles are being fixed so that it won't be possible to put the wrong fuel in an aircraft. The Administrator said, "The development of the retrofit is a classic example of how the aviation industry can solve its own problems without any regulatory pressure from the FAA."

HONOLULU FSS AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Honolulu Flight Service Station personnel who recently received awards: JANET MORRIS received her 15-year Career Service Emblem at the supervisors' meeting on Feb. 23, and MERRILL PARKER received a Letter of Commendation from the facility Air Traffic Control Manager for his contribution as a Temporary Area Supervisor.

TRAVEL CORNER

Travel Manual Changes and Supplements. The latest Supplement to the Travel Manual, FAA Order 1500.14, is now being distributed. The number is WP SUP 79/NM SUP 73, dated 2/22/83. If your Travel Manual does not include all of the WP/NM Supplements up to this number, or if you do not have all the Changes through FA SUP 23 (12/16/81) or DOT CHG 12 (5/24/82), be sure to use the distribution system to obtain any missing changes.



LAX AFS (PALMDALE) AWARDS

Robert T. Cox, Manager, Los Angeles AFS, recently presented individual awards for outstanding performance or special achievements during 1982 to employees of the Airway Facilities Sector at the Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center in Palmdale. From left: standing--Elliot "Paul" Quick, Computer Display Complex Processor Technician; Thomas Payne, Engineering Technician; Angelo Rivera, Engineering Technician; Forrest "Gene" Gandy, Computer Display Complex Processor Technician; Robert Cox; LeRoy "Ed" Case, Engineering Technician; Karl Jarvis, Computer Display Complex Processor Technician; seated is Anita Moore, Secretary; and Lois "Jean" Lewis, General Supply Specialist.

HARRY STOKELY HONORED

Harry Stokely (right), Manager, Elko Airway Facilities Sector Field Office, was recently presented the Reno Federal Executive Council "Federal Employee of the Year Award" for Northern Nevada in recognition of his outstanding technical service during the 1982 calendar year. Since the Reno Federal Executive Council represents 21 different federal agencies in Northern Nevada, Harry's award is a really outstanding accomplishment. Presentation was made by Mr. Ed Spring (left), President, Reno Federal Executive Council.





International News

FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS:

THE ICAO REPRESENTATIVE/BANGKOK HAS FORWARDED THE FOLLOWING ADVANCE INFORMATION ON THE 19TH ANNUAL (1983) DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION ASIA/PACIFIC MEETING AT INDONESIA:

DATES: AUGUST 4--9, 1983

PLACE: DENPASAR, BALI

AGENDA AND OTHER DETAILS WILL BE FORWARDED TO AWP-4(F) AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

PROPOSED ICAO WORKSHOP ON AERODROME MAINTENANCE IN THE ASIA/PACIFIC REGION DURING THIRD/FOURTH QUARTER OF 1983

DOT/FAA'S response to ICAO's request for comments on the need, date, agenda and participation is quoted as follows: "Due to budgetary constraints, we most likely will be unable to attend or to nominate a guest lecturer/speaker."

COORDINATION OF FAA ATTENDANCE AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

Mr. Donald R. Segner, API-1, has recently circulated copies of his memorandum on this subject to all regional management/operating personnel with a request that each review the draft calendar of international meetings attached thereto and provide additions, if any. The finalized calendar will then be updated continually and circulated to all concerned within this region.

Please provide Wade Mink or Elaine Carter, AWP-4, with your additions, comments, etc. on or before April 8, 1983 so that a timely reponse to API-1 may be effected on behalf of the Regional Director, Western-Pacific Region.

Inasmuch as this column is for the mutual information and benefit of all Regional personnel, your participation by contributing international news items of general interest is earnestly solicited. Please submit items to the International Affairs Specialist, AWP-4(F) no later than Wednesday of each week to meet the INTERCOM's deadline for publication.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

- A General Accounting Office study has concluded that joint civil-military use of military airfields is feasible but requires extensive cooperation to make it work.

After looking at 18 military airfields, including six which presently permit joint-use operations, GAO identified a number of problems that could hinder an expansion of the joint-use concept. These include military concerns that civilian use will interfere with the military mission, a lack of available land to house civil operations, and a lack of civil sponsors because of community opposition.

- The March FAA World features a dramatic cover photo of the new Las Vegas tower by John Katsigenis of the Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector that will have amateur shutterbugs speculating about "F" stops and all that kind of stuff. Inside, readers will find an in-depth interview with automation chief Val Hunt on the ATC computer replacement program, a look backward at the Bicentennial of Flight and a look ahead to the new era of "fly by wire." Copies are in the mail.

- Beginning Jan. 1, 1984, all new Federal employees will be covered by Social Security. Current employees will not be affected, however. The change was approved by Congress as part of the so-called Social Security rescue bill. Both houses now are working to develop a supplementary retirement system that would apply to the new hires.

- The agency has contracted with the National Academy of Sciences to study the low-level wind-shear problem and recommend ways to reduce or eliminate the threat it poses to aircraft.

The \$275,000 contract calls for a two-pronged study, one on Low Level Wind Variability and the other on Aircraft Performance and Operations. The committee will deliver a draft report near the end of June.

AGENCY TO TRY

REGULATION BY NEGOTIATION

The agency is considering a new approach to the continuing problem of establishing flight and duty time rules for the airline industry. It involves the establishment of an advisory committee that would use the negotiating process to help develop new regulatory proposals that would be acceptable to all segments of the industry.

In announcing the plan during Congressional testimony, the Administrator said, "This process of regulation by negotiation--RBN--is a relatively new approach which is of special interest to the President's Regulatory Task Force." He added, "Moreover, it reflects my philosophy that the FAA doesn't always have all the answers and, when we don't, I have no hesitance in seeking the advice of the users of the system--the public, the commercial operators and the flight crew members involved."

The existing flight and duty time regulations were established more than 30 years ago. Since that time, they have been the subject of more than 1,000 pages of interpretations but have remained essentially unchanged. Previous FAA efforts to revise the rules have met with strong opposition from virtually all segments of the industry.

NOTICE TO ALL

AIR TRAFFIC FACILITIES

Since the issuance of "General Performance Appraisal System", WP AT Sup 2 to Order 3400.13, there has been some confusion since there was no effective date on the supplement. All Air Traffic facilities are advised that the effective date is for appraisal periods which began on or after February 1, 1983.

FAA WESTERN CREDIT UNION NEWS

● In a recent change in policy and management, the FAA Western Federal Credit Union has announced the closure of its Palmdale and Salt Lake City offices, and has cancelled plans to open branches in Seattle and Denver. In reviewing the credit union's total operation, the Board of Directors has made these and several other cost-related changes in an effort to streamline the operation and improve overall services to the membership as a whole.

● Leon Daugherty, retired Director of the "old" FAA Western Region and newly appointed General Manager for the Credit Union, has said that he would like to extend an apology to the people at those facilities on behalf of the credit union; and, to assure them that their credit union services will still be available through the CUReps and the Credit Union Offices. To help handle the extra phone volume, three new WATS lines have been added at the main office in Los Angeles.

● As a direct result of this new strategy, he continued, the credit union is able to offer special 11.5% APR financing on all new car loans made through April 30. Since dealer financing is frequently limited to certain cars and only on the dealer's terms, he urges all new car buyers to call their credit union to compare dealer package costs to credit union financing.

GUAM CERAP AIR TRAFFIC NEWS

The following Guam CERAP Air Traffic Control Specialists received a Letter of Commendation for their outstanding performance on Feb. 28 for directing military and civilian air traffic during an Air Force Operational Readiness Alert: EVANS BELL, TOBY COOPER, HAROLD DEATLEY, CHESTER EDGE and JAMES TEUBERT. The Letter of Commendation was presented by Area Supervisor, Jon Siverly.

ALBERT KAULIA APPOINTED AS EEO INVESTIGATOR

Albert Kaulia, an Electronics Technician in the Maui Airway Facilities Sector Field Office, has been appointed as EEO Complaints Investigator for FAA. Al recently completed investigator's training at the Management Training School. In addition to his technician duties, he will conduct investigations of EEO complaints in the region and elsewhere in the FAA upon request of the Director of Civil Rights, ACR-1. Prior to joining the agency in 1974, Al was employed in the Department of the Army. He studied social sciences at Yuba City College.

NEW EEO COUNSELORS NAMED

Eight Western-Pacific employees have been added to the cadre of EEO Counselors in the region. All volunteered and were recommended for the assignment by their respective supervisors. EEO Counselors attempt to resolve employment discrimination matters raised by employees or applicants for employment. Newly appointed Counselors are: Anthony J. Skirlick, ATCS, Los Angeles ARTCC; Rafael Duran, ATCS, Ontario ATCT/TRACON; Russell Withers, ATCS, Ontario FSS; Ronald Rakoski, ATCS, Los Angeles ARTCC; Louise Stiles, Administrative Officer, Los Angeles AFS; Jerry Rowland, ATCS, Los Angeles FSS; Janet Allen, Clerical Assistant, Burbank ATCT/TRACON; and Charles Llopis, Electronics Technician, Palmdale AFS. More information about the EEO counseling program may be found in Order 1400.4.

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.