

83-20
May 23, 1983

Public Affairs Office
AWP-5

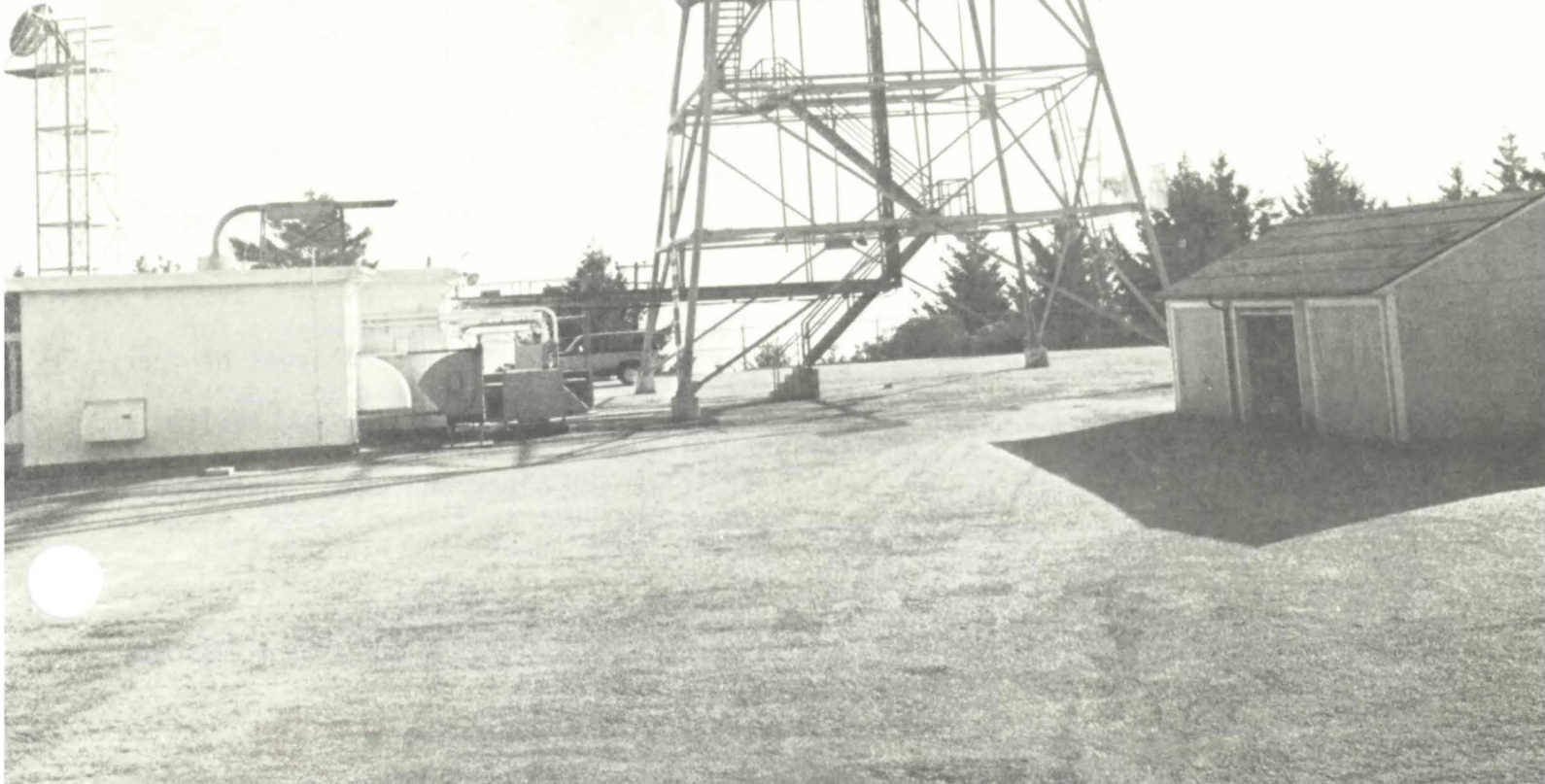
FAA
Western-Pacific Region
Los Angeles, CA 90009
(213) 536-6431



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

Western-Pacific Intercom

**Half
Moon
Bay
LRR**



COVER STORY...

One of the most picturesque and beautifully located facilities in the Western-Pacific Region has been relocated. Half Moon Bay Long Range Radar (LRR) has been moved to Mill Valley, Calif. to be operated as part of the Joint Surveillance Site (JSS) in conjunction with the U. S. Air Force.

Situated high above the coastline on Scarper's Peak in Northern California, overlooking the cities of Half Moon Bay and El Granada as well as the beautiful northern California coastline, the site was established in the 1950's as part of the Oakland Sector. Although it is still providing data to the Oakland ARTCC, it is now--and has been for some time--part of the San Francisco Airway Facilities Sector.

On February 29, all Half Moon Bay personnel, with the exception of Gene Schwabauer (the technician at the facility with the longest service record) were reassigned to the Mill Valley Sector Field Office. It is only fitting that Gene should remain behind to "pull-the-plug" on Half Moon Bay when Mill Valley is fully operational and has been accepted by the ARTCC.

Those technicians reassigned to Mill Valley: Doug Bush, Bob Dunlap, Dick Drake, Frank Gonzalez, Al Tanigawa, Dewey Pike, Collin Wong, and Dick DePuy (soon to transfer to the Oakland Center), had mixed feelings about the move. Most had spent quite a bit of their FAA career at Half Moon Bay and it was like losing an old friend. However, everybody is looking forward to the challenge of the new venture.

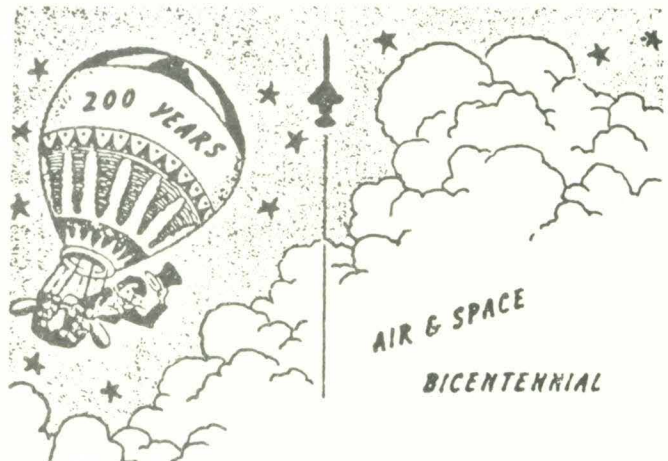
The new configuration still provides data to Oakland ARTCC, but now will also provide data to the 26th Air Division's Regional Operational Control Center (ROCC) at Luke

AFB, Ariz. which will soon be moving to March AFB, Calif. Mill Valley will continue to provide data to the Western Space and Missile Test Range at Vandenberg AFB, Calif. The FPS-66A search radar, along with the FPS-116 Height Finder Radar, will serve as part of the west coast defense plan. The primary radar, combined with the ATCBI-5, will continue to provide data to the air traffic controllers to fulfill the FAA mission.

The manager at the new facility will be Clarence Bryant, who also transferred from Half Moon Bay.

Cover photo: Half Moon Bay Long Range Radar antenna radome with equipment building and microwave antenna tower and reflector in the background. Looking westward, the view of the coastline will be hard for some of the "old timers" to forget.

Cover photo by Richard DePuy.

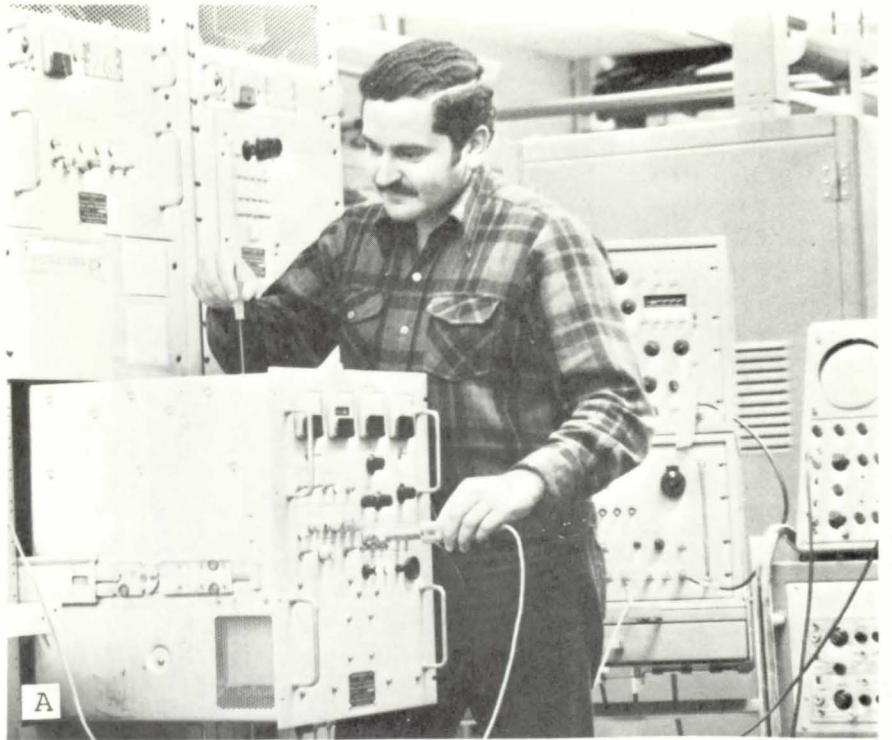


FAA INTERCOM is published weekly for Western-Pacific Region employees of the Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration by the Public Affairs Office.

Articles and black and white photographs should be sent to Barbara Abels, Editor, AWP-5, 213/536-6431 or FTS 966-6431.



Half
Moon
Bay
People



Some of the "old" Half Moon Bay personnel are:

A--Frank Gonzalez, Developmental Technician, who is making a power adjustment on the ATCBI-5 beacon system. Frank is still in a training status with hours of study before him on the new systems at Mill Valley.

B--Dick DePuy who is making adjustments on a video processor for the National Airspace System interface. Dick is one of the technicians not going to Mill Valley. He has been accepted for a position at Oakland ARTCC and is happy to be getting back into the computer field.

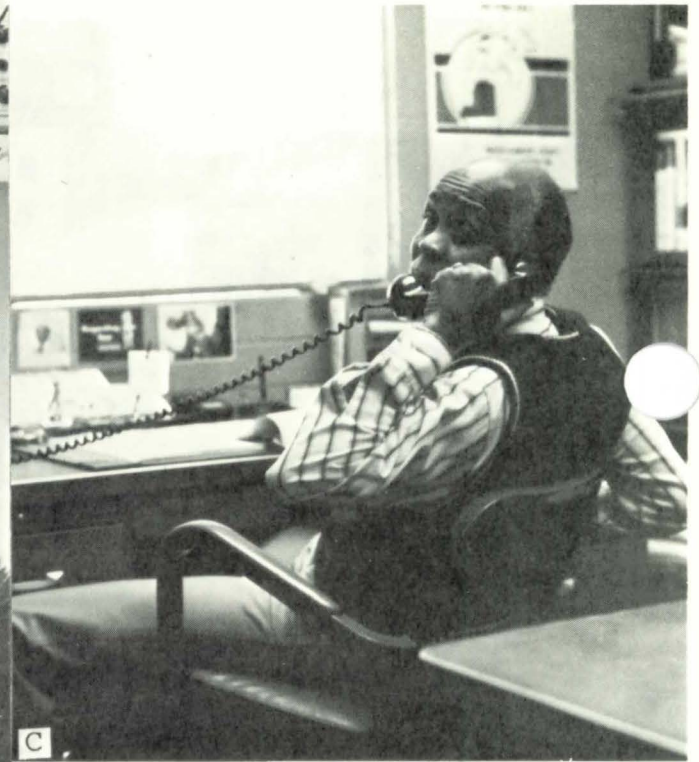
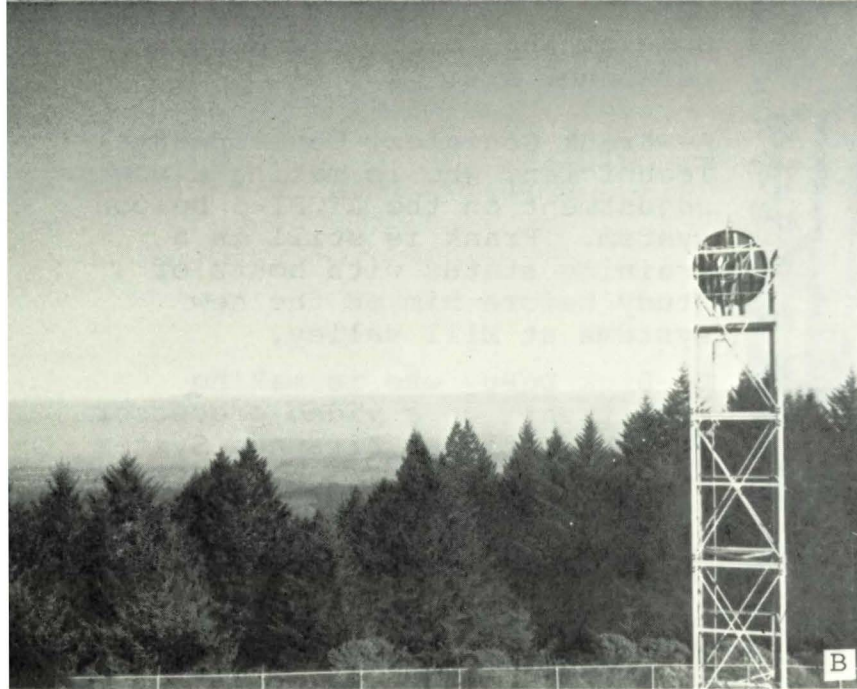
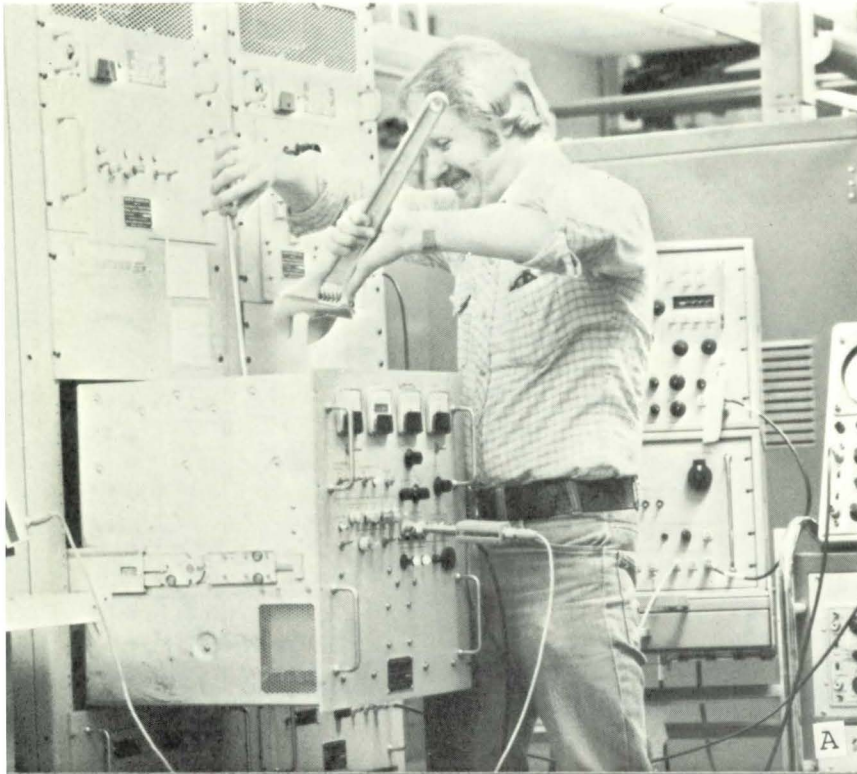
C--Technicians Collin Wong (left) and Bob Dunlap consult in the break/training room to prepare for the new CD-2 to be installed at Mill Valley.

Technicians not available for photographs were: Richard Drake, Dewey Pike, Doug Bush and Al Tanigawa.

Photos by Richard DePuy.



More
Half
Moon
Bay



More Half Moon Bay personnel are:

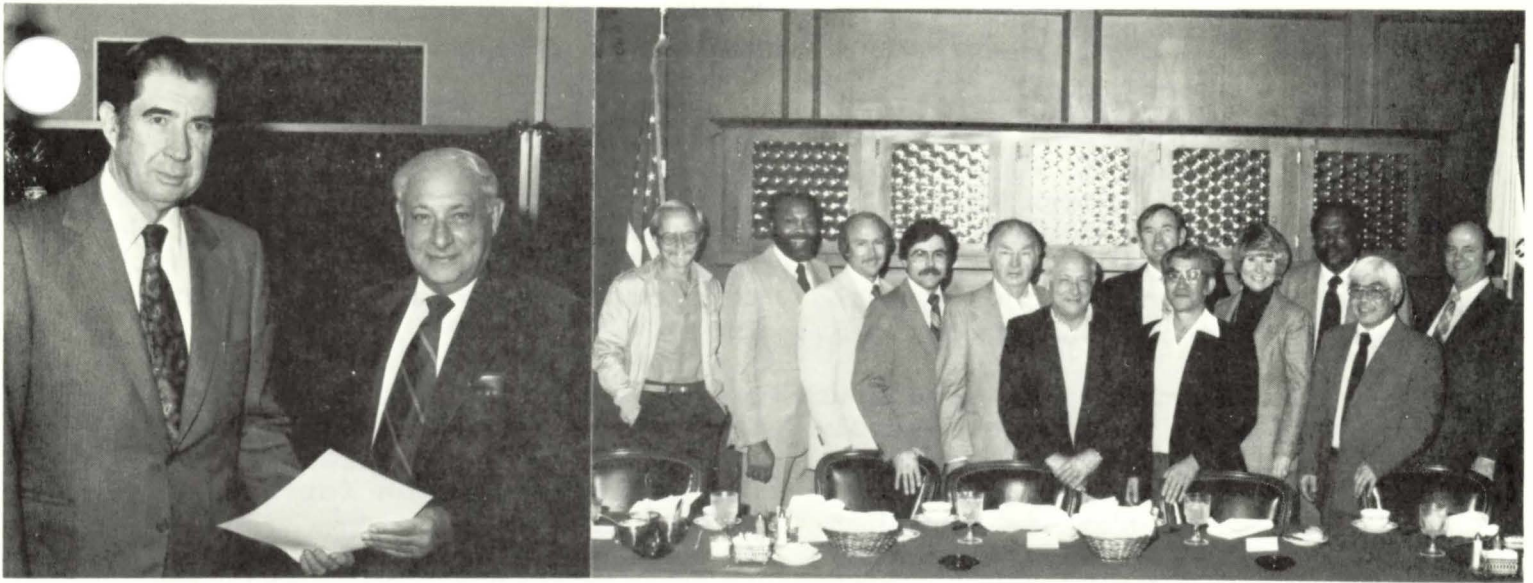
A--Gene Schwabauer, who will stay at Half Moon Bay for a few weeks to tie up the loose ends. Here, Gene makes what he hopes will be the last small adjustment to the ATCBI-5. He has been at the facility longer than any other current technician, and really expressed mixed feelings about the move.

B--Microwave tower and reflector looking toward the Oakland Center in Fremont to which the data from the facility's systems are transmitted.

C--Field Office Manager Clarence Bryant wraps up some last minute details the change-over move. Clarence has been at the facility since 1973.

Photos by Richard DePuy.

Sam Randler Retires



Concluding 41 years of government service (34-plus at Los Angeles with FAA), Sam Randler of Los Angeles Airway Facilities Sector recently retired. A luncheon was held in Sam's honor at the Cockatoo Inn with many of his friends and co-workers in attendance. During the ceremony Sam was presented a Special Achievement Award for his superior performance. Above left photo: Sam Randler (right) is shown receiving his 40-year career pin and letter from Sector Manager Wally Ward. Above right photo: Sam poses with a group of Ex-LAXer's. From left: Tom Looney, Riverside AFS; Bill Lindsey, AWP-463; Kent Petersen, AWP-463; Dean Dowell, AWP-462; Ray Lombard, Retired LAX AFS; Sam Randler; Wayne Lynch, AWP-17; Bob Shiraga, Retired Assistant Manager, LAX AFS; Aleda Lane, AWP-56A; Kermit Clark, Manager AFS Phoenix; Tom Fujiwara, AWP-463; and Jerry Perkins, AWP-17.

RENO/LOVELOCK FSS NEWS

May 3, 1983 was a momentous day. The Sun reappeared in the Reno/Lovelock Area! It also ushered in the 1983 version of the FAA/NWS Golf Club, now ready to play its first round. The game has resembled water polo as of late, with Terri Landon splashing in with an 88 and Ski running up a 79 on their first rounds.....A round of congratulations are in order as follows: Bud Weber - a Special Achievement Award for sustained superior performance; Carl Johnson - a Special Achievement Award for sustained superior performance and also for capturing First Place in his class for the Nevada Fast Draw Pistol Shoot-Off; Ron Kiel who celebrated 28 years with the FAA, 27 at Lovelock; Fred Kelly on his promotion to AWP-514 (being an Ex-LAX

FSS'er, we're sure he'll excel); Jack Woods on his selection to temporary Area Supervisor; Bob Stanco who shot his first birdie (Golf); and Carl Maddox who married his own Jeanie on April 23.....Reno hosted the AWP FSS EPDS workshop in March and will host an All-FSS Managers Conference in late May.....The Fred Kelly Farewell Party featured an excellent feast, premier transportation (a black Rolls Royce), and a great time by all. Thanks to Don Meredith and Terri Landon for the leg-work on the party.....Planning has begun on the 1983 Silver Dollar Open Golf Tournament, to be held during the first week of August. We'll keep you updated. The golf scores mentioned above were for nine hard-fought holes. See you in Reno, the now and future place.

**'The Air Traffic Control System Is Safe,
Safer Than It Has Ever Been'**

System Judged Safer

This is how John H. Winant, president, National Business Aircraft Association (NBAA), evaluated today's ATC system at the Aviation/Space Writers Association's Annual News Conference in Washington, D.C., recently.

He said that there was some doubt after the beginning of the controller strike as to whether the FAA would meet its rebuilding goals.

"We at NBAA, at times, felt rather cynically that FAA would not meet its target for rebuilding the system; yet once again, I am pleased to admit in a public forum that to date we have erred and that FAA, despite the monumental problems facing it, has maintained its forecasted pace and has produced the promised results on time."

He noted that the agency still faces massive challenges while carrying out the National Airspace System (NAS) Plan, and, at the same time, he reminded pilots that "there are continuing problems related to the training and performance of pilots," and he added, "It is an unfortunate fact that 80 percent of accidents derive from pilot error and pilot judgement flaws, and have nothing directly to do with the operation of the air traffic system or the human beings who staff it."

He concluded by pointing out, "Systems are becoming more and more error free. Human beings are not."

ACCOUNTING DIVISION

MAIL DISTRIBUTION

Some offices and facilities have been misrouting obligation and expenditure documents. ALL such document should be sent to AWP-26 for processing. If in doubt as to what constitutes an obligation or expenditure document, forward to AWP-26 and further distribution will be made, if necessary.

AGENCY SEEKS TO DELAY MERIT PAY SYSTEM

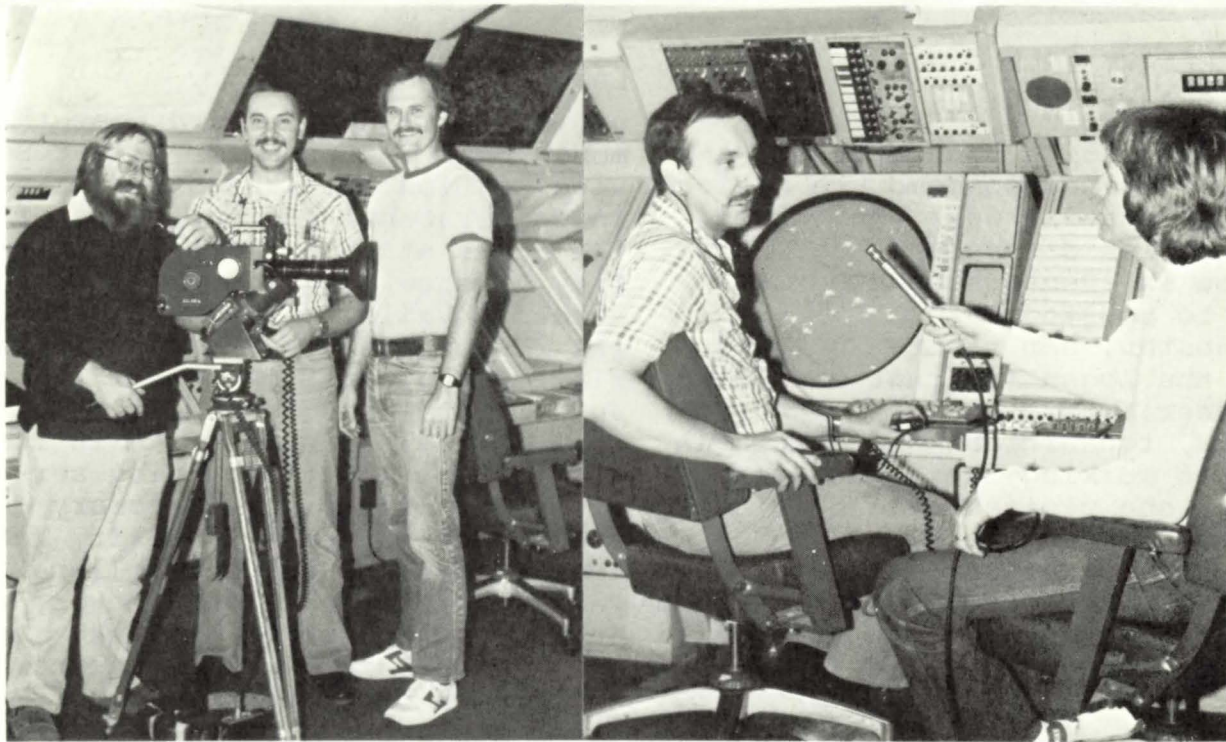
Because ATC supervisors who would fall under the merit pay system still must perform nonsupervisory, operational duties in some facilities, the agency wants to delay implementing the merit pay system for another year--until October 1984.

The FAA request currently is being considered by the Office of Personnel Management and will be passed on to the President with OPM's recommendation for the final decision.

As a consequence of this multi-level approval process, the decision may not be made for several months. In the interim, within-grade increases for the merit pay employees will continue to be processed. Regardless of the final decision, the requirement for merit pay employees' appraisals remains in effect, and performance appraisals must be conducted as agency directives stipulate.

FRANK CLEARY MEMORIAL

Thanks to your very generous donations, two sets of Biblical Commentaries, Old and New Testaments, were donated to the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Hollywood, California. In each book will be an inscription: IN MEMORY OF FRANCIS P. CLEARY FROM HIS FRIENDS AT THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION. In addition, \$80 was donated to the Literacy Program (Bilingual) at this church. The money will keep the program operational for over one year. Frank was very devout and active in the Church of the Blessed Sacrament. During the last two years, he spent a great deal of his time doing volunteer work with the Literacy Program. The priests of the church have expressed their gratitude to the participants in the memorial fund.



AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER IN DOCUMENTARY FILM - - Harold Holifield, a journeyman controller at Los Angeles Center, is one of the leading subjects in a documentary film being produced by the Desert Vineyard Fellowship of Lancaster, California. The film depicts missionary work being performed by laymen. In the film, Harold is followed through a typical day, especially the time spent preparing for his missionary journey to the People's Republic of China. He was on annual leave during the trip and ministered to the needs of the people there.

The message of the film is that serving God in the mission field is not limited to professionals (pastors and full time missionaries), but that anyone with a desire and a heart to serve others can and will be used. Harold is very active in the church, spending much of his off duty time in Christian work at home as well as overseas.

Left photo: From left--George Fuller, cameraman; Hal Holifield; and Barry Yurtis, controller.

Right photo: Harold Holifield (left) being interviewed by Pastor Brent Rue.

Photos by Ron Hawkins.



**BUY U.S.
SAVINGS BONDS**

DOT SECRETARY DOLE VISITS FAAERS IN FIELD

Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole helped commemorate National Transportation Week, May 15-21, with a series of speeches and participation in events scheduled from Boston to Houston.

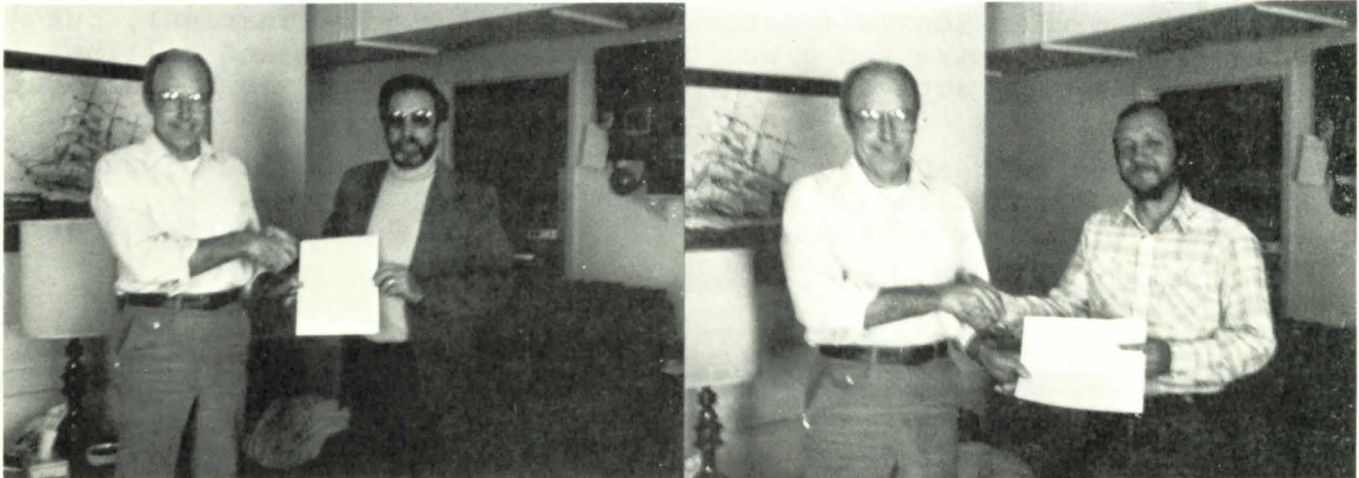
In Boston, her visits included one to the Logan International Airport Tower, where she met with controllers, technicians and other FAA employees working there. Again in Houston, she visited FAAers in the tower at Hobby Airport.

In keeping with the theme of the week during her circuit, she sampled transportation service on Amtrak and on the nation's scheduled airlines.



LANCASTER FSS NEWS

The "well done" award goes this month both to Lancaster Flight Service Station and Lancaster/Palmdale Tower personnel for their supportive roles at this year's California City Airshow located in Northern Antelope Valley. The Lancaster FSS was represented by Manager Norris Winzler and staff personnel, Jerry Judd, Joan Thomson and Bill "Fuzzy" Ford. They set up a booth in the terminal building providing services for pilots. A temporary control tower manned by Facility Manager, Bob Cobb, and controllers Pat Karnstedt and Joan Spoerer, was built on the back of a truck. Louie Hamilton provided the AFS support and did an outstanding job.....In other news, both Lucius Hope and Mike Johnston of Lancaster/Palmdale Towers were picked up by Edwards Approach Control. Lucius will be reporting back to Oklahoma City for Radar Terminal Facility training.



AWARDS AT BATTLE MOUNTAIN - - Recently while the Reno Airway Facilities Sector Manager, Dean DeShazo, was visiting the Battle Mountain Air Route Surveillance Radar (ARSR), he presented a Quality Increase Award to Stephen Whipple (right), Electronics Technician, for outstanding performance during the past year. He also presented a 30-year career service emblem to Beryl Dewey (left), Supervisory Electronics Technician. Beryl is the Supervisor of the Battle Mountain Airway Facilities Sector Field Office (AFSFO).

VIRGINIA BROOM RETIRES

A retirement luncheon is being planned for Virginia Broom, Administrative Officer, Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector, who is retiring May 31. The luncheon will be on Friday, June 3, 11:30 a.m. at VIVA ZAPATA'S Mexican Restaurant, 3540 West Sahara (Spanish Oaks Shopping Center), Las Vegas. Mexican buffet, includes soft drink, only \$4.50 plus tax. Call Ardis Rogers, Las Vegas AFS, for additional information.

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.

LAS VEGAS AFS NEWS

Congratulations to Ernie and Brenda Schmuck for their success during the recent Nevada Powerlift Competition in Las Vegas. Ernie finished second in the 242 pound class with a total lift of 1438 pounds, and Brenda also finished second in the all-women class with a total lift of 611 pounds. Ernie is a radar Electronic Technician at the Angel Peak Field Office..... The sector welcomes Isaac "Red" Cornett to the Nav/Comm Unit from San Diego's Yuma Field Office..... A luncheon was held at the El Jardin Restaurant for Joe Labrecque who retired with over 34 years of service. Good Luck, Joe..... Congratulations to Bob Love, Tonopah Field Office, who has been selected to replace Joe Labrecque..... Best wishes to the Glen Bicknells on the birth of Justin Kyle.

LIFE AT ONTARIO TRACON/TOWER

Many thanks are sent out to all controllers who attended the retirement party honoring "MK" Wayne Mishak and "PE" Donald Price. The celebration was held at the Elks Lodge in Redlands, Calif.

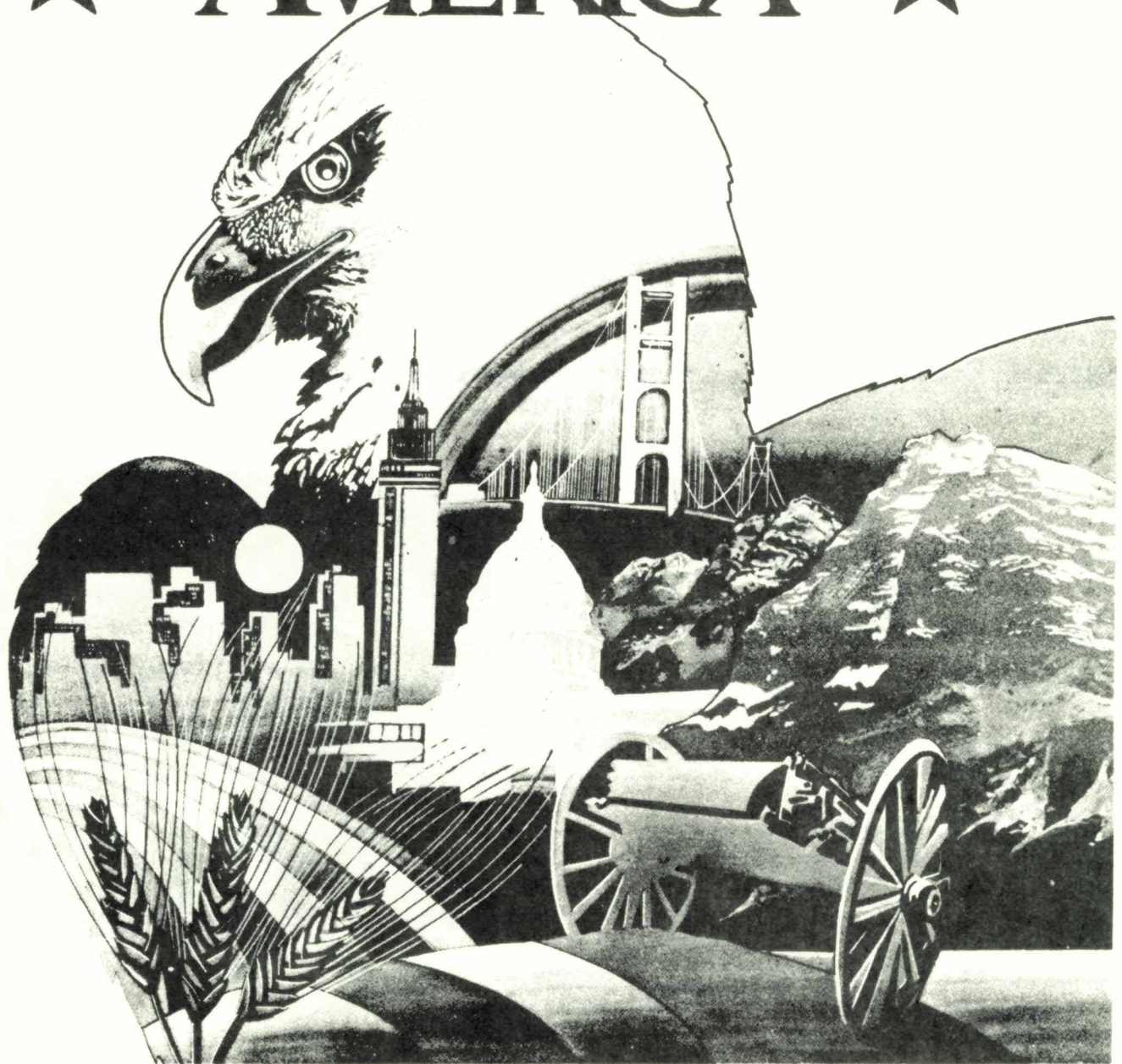
Master of ceremonies was Jerry Yokum, Long Beach Tower Manager. The roast was headed by Portland Tower Manager Chuck Sears, followed by Jim Holtsclaw, Manager of Ontario TRACON/Tower with the presentation of the awards and certificates that both retired controllers received.

Approximately 165 attended from as far as Utah to Chicago to Oregon and various other towers from throughout the region. Each retired controller received a retirement plaque/certificate of appreciation which was presented by Jim Holtsclaw.

Above photo: From left--James Holtsclaw, Ontario TRACON Manager; Wayne Mishak, Retiring Ontario TRACON Controller; Donald Price, Retiring Ontario TRACON Controller; and Paul Crowley, EPDS, Ontario TRACON. Photo by Willard Wheeler.



TAKE STOCK IN AMERICA



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds