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

# Western-Pacific Intercom



## ULTRALIGHT SAFETY

# Cover Story

FAA Flight Standards people have been deeply involved with Ultralight Safety Seminars throughout the region. The new Federal Aviation Regulation Part 103 deals with ultralight vehicles and their operating requirements. Highlights of Part 103 include:

- The vehicle is used or intended to be used for manned operation in the air by a single occupant.
- Used for recreation or sport purposes only.
- If unpowered, weighs less than 155 pounds.
- If powered, less than 254 pounds empty weight.
- Fuel capacity cannot exceed five U.S. gallons.
- Is not capable of more than 55 knots Calibrated Air Speed (CAS) at full power in level flight.
- Has a power-off stall speed which does not exceed 24 knots CAS.

An ultralight vehicle which meets the requirements set forth under FAR 103 does not have to be certificated as an aircraft and the pilot is not required to hold an FAA pilot certificate or a medical certificate.

It has been over a year now since the first FAA-involved Ultralight Safety Seminar was held. Some 200 enthusiasts attended the two-day seminar which was sponsored by an ultralight dealer, Diablo Aviation, and conducted in cooperation with the FAA General Aviation Accident Prevention Program.

The first day of the seminar included eight hours of ground training and discussion periods covering such important subjects as rigging, pre-flight procedures, pre-takeoff planning, uncontrolled

procedures and rules with respect to Parts 91 and 103 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, various take-off and landing techniques, and collision avoidance procedures.

The second day included a voluntary flight participation at which awards and prizes were given for the best flight demonstration using the knowledge gained from the ground training phase. Pilots were judged on pre-flight performance, takeoff, pattern flying and accuracy landings.

This first ultralight safety seminar was spearheaded by the Oakland Flight Standards District Office. Due to the interest and need for this type of seminar, numerous others have now been held across the country. In addition, many Ultralight Accident Prevention Counselors have become active in the program along with our dedicated Flight Standards people in an effort to promote safety in this area.

Cover photo: An ultralight pilot receives pre-takeoff instruction from Ultralight instructor Bob Howe during phase two of the Ultralight Safety Seminar.



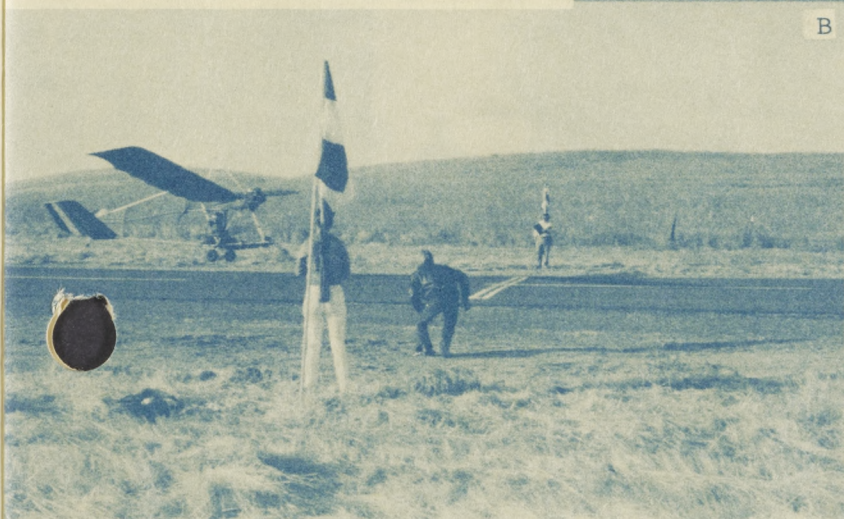
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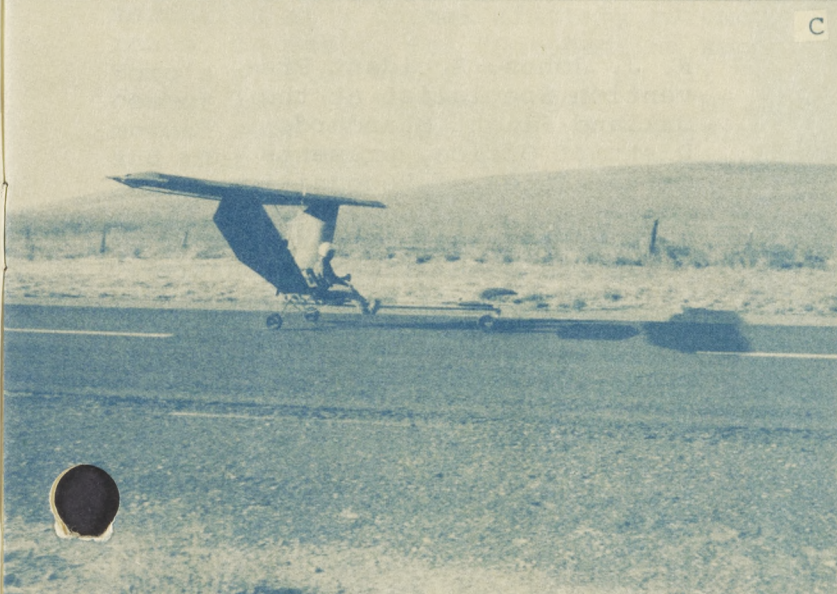
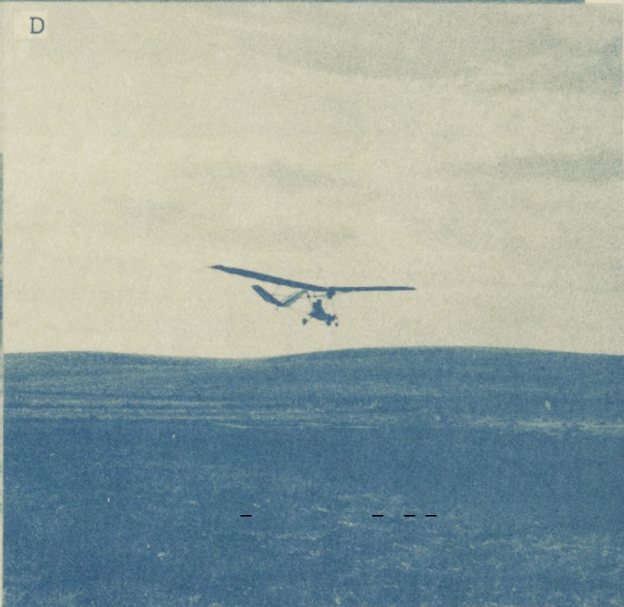
# Ultralight Safety Seminar



A



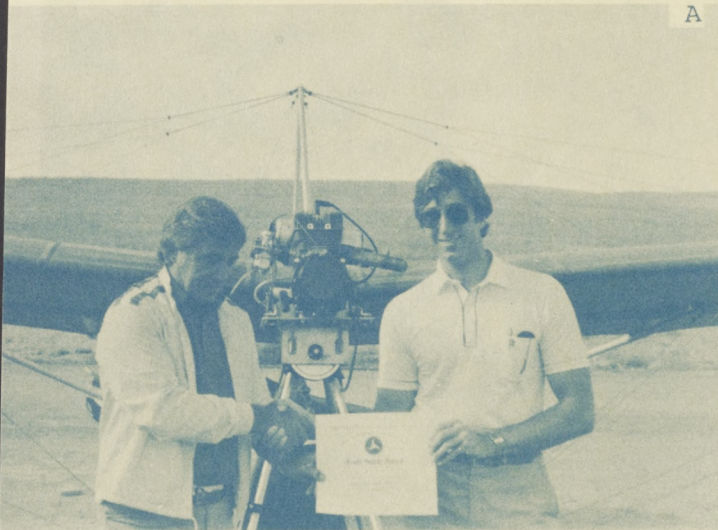
B D



C

A--Ultralight pilot performs  
~ a pre-flight inspection at  
a safety seminar.  
B--An ultralight performs a  
"spot landing" during a  
"Best Flight" demonstration.  
C--Ready for take-off.  
D--In the landing pattern.  
Photos courtesy of R. J. Jones.

# More Ultralight Safety



A



B



C



D



E

R. J. Jones, Accident Prevention Specialist at the Oakland Flight Standards District Office, presents Certificates of Recognition to:

A--Bob Roe, 3rd place runner-up in the Best Flight Demonstration phase of a seminar.

B--Larry Laughlin, 2nd place runner-up.

C--Darryl Fitman, Winner of the Best Flight Demonstration.

D--A different view of an ultralight in flight.

E--Classroom instruction is also a part of Ultralight Safety Seminars with FAA, ultralight instructors and dealers participating.

**Coast TRACON  
And The U. S.  
Marines Bid  
Farewell To  
Don Fowler**



Don Fowler was recently reassigned from Manager, Coast TRACON to Manager, Ontario Tower/TRACON. The Human Relations Committee organized a farewell dinner party which was held in Santa Ana. Enjoying the dinner and traditional ceremonies were Coast TRACON employees, families and friends, and Air Traffic's Roy Richards. There were also guests from neighboring facilities, the retirement ranks, and the United States Marine Corps. Also honored at the same party were James Guinasso, Coast controller transferring to San Diego TRACON and Robert "Bob" Burke, a Coast retiree who was reemployed to help in the training of new controllers. Bob returned to the retirement scene on June 23.

Above photo: General R. M. Cooke (left), Commanding General at the Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, presents Don Fowler with a Certificate of Commendation at a formal military ceremony held on the base. The certificate reads, in part: for "Outstanding support of Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro's mission while serving as Air Traffic Manager Coast TRACON from December 1980 to September 1983." "Mr. Fowler often went beyond established mutual support boundaries by unselfishly offering his personal assistance and that of his facility. Mr. Fowler's dedication to professional service and his genuine support in the accomplishment of the mission reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Government."

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1958 - 1983  
IT'S FAA'S 25TH YEAR

## Hayward Tower Highlights

Well the summer is just about gone, but the events at Hayward keep rolling right along.....Four people here are to be congratulated on their recent achievements. Ora King, a controller here has been promoted to Area Supervisor; she is now in Lawton, Okla. attending Phase 1 of her Management Training. Beverlyann Angros, another Full Performance Level, has been selected for a year's tenure as the Hayward Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist. Betty Roque and Barrett Lewis have both been certified at Hayward and are happy to have their training completed. Hayward Tower is batting 1000 in getting people through the program; we haven't lost one since before the strike. Again, congratulations to all and continued success.....Another interesting piece of news is that beginning Oct. 2, Hayward Tower's hours were extended. We are now open from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. daily. All the controllers are happy to be receiving the extra hour night differential.

## Tower Commissioned At Las Vegas

The new tower at Las Vegas McCarran International Airport is finished. The administrative staff was already moving into the facility before it was commissioned on October 16.

The \$6.6 million tower is outfitted with the latest state-of-the-art equipment, including computer controlled telephones. After finishing touches were added, on the night of October 30, controllers pulled the switch and the tower became fully operational.

Besides administrative personnel, the facility will be staffed around the clock by 43 controllers and 12 Electronic Technicians.

## 1983 F&E Establishment Goals Party

Come and celebrate with us on Nov. 8. The Establishment Engineering Branch has accomplished their Establishment Goals for FY-83. The party will begin at 4:30 p.m. (right after work). WHERE???

94th Aero Squadron Restaurant (Bar)  
2780 Skypark Drive  
Torrance, CA (near Torrance Airport)

Free hors d'oeuvres will be provided and drinks are pay-as-you-go. Happy hour prices will be in effect during our presence there (\$1.00 for well drinks, beer and wine). Folders will be circulated in each division. If you plan to attend, please sign up so that a head count may be obtained for the restaurant. Come on down and enjoy a good time!

## Congress to Hear Consolidation Plans

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation has scheduled a hearing October 25 to discuss FAA's report on "Planned Office and Facility Consolidations" in connection with the NAS Plan implementation. The report was submitted to the Congress on October 1 as required by the agency's FY 1984 Appropriations Act. It covers planned consolidations through FY 1986.

Included in the report is the consolidation of 104 flight service stations into 37 hubs as part of the already widely publicized FSS Modernization Program. The agency also will not reopen 35 control towers shut down after the strike and will close an additional 16 facilities that meet the current disestablishment criteria. Realignment of Airway Facilities sector offices and Aviation Standards field offices also is covered in the report.

The actions would yield cumulative savings of over \$250 million through 1993 and result in the reduction of 630 positions through attrition.

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## Private Sector

### Employment

The Chief Counsel reminds everyone that federal law (18 U.S.C. 208) makes it a crime for federal employees to act personally and substantially in any matter involving a financial interest of a prospective outside employer with whom that employee is negotiating future employment or has any arrangement concerning future employment. The Justice Department interprets the law to mean that negotiations are in existence wherever an open offer or request for employment is 'on the table'.

So, if you contemplate full or part-time employment with someone who has financial interests that you think can be affected by you in your official capacity, consult the Regional Counsel, AWP-7. The law does permit waivers in some circumstances, but they must be in writing, beforehand. Look before you leap--you may save yourself a lot of trouble.

## CBI Program to Expand

The Administrator has approved an expansion of the current Airway Facilities Computer Based Instruction (CBI) program and the upgrading of CBI equipment across the board. The expansion will nearly double the number of terminals currently located at AF field sites.

Hand-in-hand with the expansion program, the agency plans to replace present terminals with new-generation equipment capable of delivering a greater variety of training. FAA currently has 65 terminals at AF sites and 43 at the FAA Academy.

The expansion of CBI training supports the maintenance program of the 80s and the upgrading of the NAS, which calls for the replacement of present equipment with the latest solid-state, computer-based technology. Since the new equipment will need less frequent attention and repair, AF technicians and engineers will have a greater need for refresher and proficiency training to maintain their readiness. This can be given most effectively in the field with CBI.

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## 15 Years for Vicente Flores

Congratulations to Vicente Flores, Maintenance Mechanic, Guam Airway Facilities Sector, Environmental Support Unit, for completing 15 years of service to the FAA and the U.S. Government. Vicente (right) is shown receiving his Career Service Emblem and service letter from Bert Pickett, Manager, Guam AFS.



# Announcing . . . the lucky winners of the



Judging of the FAA children's drawing contest held during the Air and Space Bicentennial celebration, took place at the Regional Headquarters and the winners were recently announced. Winners and prizes by Civilair are as follows:

First prize - A McDonald \$10 gift certificate awarded to: Bobby Riera, brother of Rafael Riera, Public Affairs Office.

Second prize - A McDonald \$7.50 gift certificate awarded to: Ana Luisa Ralston, granddaughter of Rosalind Ralston, Flight Standards Division.

Third Prize - A McDonald \$5 gift certificate awarded to: Heather Lynn Abelew, granddaughter of Mildred Fishbein, Accounting Div.

Fourth Prize - A McDonald \$5 gift certificate awarded to: Adam David Abelew, grandson of Mildred Fishbein of the Accounting Div.

In addition to the above, all participating contestants received Aviation Education coloring books from the Public Affairs Office.

## Civilair News

● A Swap Meet is being planned for November 5 in the East Parking Lot of the Regional Office. There will be a nominal charge for a "space". See your Civilair representative for details.

● See's Candy order forms will be available November 1. Pick up the order forms at the Civilair desk or see your Civilair representative. The candy will be delivered December 6 and 7.

● Children's Christmas Party. It is not too early to think about the annual Children's Christmas Party. Plans have started for a Christmas carnival for all children/grandchildren of FAA employees; it will be on Dec. 17 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Bay Two at the LAX Hangar. Help is being sought early, in order to make this party the best. Please contact Evelyn Mosquera, AWP-63.4, 536-6407, to sign up for the various activities scheduled for the party. Look for more details in future Intercom issues.

● Christmas Dinner Dance. A buffet dinner dance will be held in the South Starlight Ballroom at the Hacienda Hotel located at 525 North Sepulveda (between El Segundo and Imperial Highway). It will start at 6 p.m., dinner will be at 7 p.m. Due to the limited room available, tickets will be sold in advance on a first come first served basis. Please obtain your tickets from Carolyn Schmid, AWP-205, 536-6065, Chairperson of the Christmas dinner dance. Tickets may also be obtained from your Civilair Representative. The cost will be approximately \$14.50 per person.

Photo: Bobby Riera, First Prize winner in the Air & Space Bicentennial Drawing Contest.



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## Richard Torres Honored By ATCA

The Air Traffic Control Association (ATCA) has named Richard Torres, an Air Traffic Control Instructor at the Honolulu Air Route Traffic Control Center, to receive a Merit Citation.

The award is presented annually by the ATCA "to an individual for outstanding achievement or contribution during the previous year which has added to the quality, safety or efficiency of the Air Traffic Control system".

Richard has over 32 years of government service as an Air Traffic Control Specialist and Instructor in the U. S. Marine Corps and Federal Aviation Administration. He was recognized for his development and administration of a special training program for the entire supervisory and controller staff at the Center. This program provided for the use of the new automated radar - En Route Automated Radar Tracking System (EARTS). He devoted many hours of his own time to the effort which eased the controllers workload during the extremely critical rebuilding effort. He was also cited for his contribution to the training of new controllers to replace those who lost their jobs as a result of the controller strike. Richard was instrumental in the rapid training



of 40 developmental controllers who provided much needed relief to the greatly reduced controller work force.

Richard is a life-long resident of Hawaii. He was born in Honolulu and today resides in Pearl City with his wife, Itsue.

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## Accidents Down in 1983

Three-quarters of the way through 1983, FAA's preliminary accident figures show the air carriers and general aviation with improved safety records when compared with the same period in 1982.

The air carrier category, which also includes commuters and air taxis, had 20 fatal accidents and 45 fatalities during the first nine months of the year. Last year, the figures were 31 and 288 at the end of September.

In general aviation, fatal accidents dropped from 452 to 425 and fatalities from 874 to 800. Personal flying set the pace for the general aviation category with a drop in fatal accidents from 318 to 279 and fatalities from 632 to 511.

The number of midair collisions also dropped significantly during the nine month period, with 11 total, four fatal and 11 fatalities. During the same period in 1982, the numbers were 25, 16 and 50.

## Lihue Tower

### Busy...Busy...Busy

The helicopter tour industry on Kauai enjoyed a busy summer. During the period from May 1 to Sept. 30, the FAA Control Tower at Lihue Airport recorded 12,448 helicopter takeoffs and landings. Tour helicopters accounted for 42 percent of the almost 30,000 operations recorded by the tower during that period. Air carrier and fixed wing air taxi traffic place a distant second with each accounting for 25 percent of the total traffic count. July was the busiest month for the tour helicopters with 2,738 operations. Peak day was Sept. 30 with 143 takeoffs and landings recorded. "The most significant figure", says Rich Mathews, FAA Air Traffic Manager at Lihue Tower, "was the perfect safety record achieved by the tour helicopters based at Lihue Airport during the five month period."

Friends and associates of Paul Bennett recently enjoyed a nine-course oriental dinner held in his honor. The gathering bid a fond Aloha to the man who had earned the title of Resident Poet of Lihue Tower during the last four-plus years. Paul who has been promoted to the Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialist position at Austin, Texas Tower, received a plaque in appreciation for his contribution to the Lihue Tower.

Congratulations are in order for John Jasinski who recently earned his Control Tower Operator rating. John is the son of the former Flight Surgeon of the Pacific Region.



## More Airports Freed Up

FAA has announced a schedule for phasing out strike-imposed landing restrictions by mid-1984 at LaGuardia, O'Hare, Los Angeles International, and Denver-Stapleton. The agency already has dropped flight quotas at 15 of the original 22 capacity-controlled airports. Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and St. Louis will be off the list by mid-November.

At LaGuardia, the change is scheduled for January 9, at which time the IFR limitations in the High Density Rule will be reapplied. April 1 is the firm date for dropping quotas at Denver-Stapleton and possibly for O'Hare.

Los Angeles International will be the last of the four to be freed up. Flight quotas will remain in effect until July when a special slot-allocation system will be established to regulate traffic flow for the Olympic Games.

## Predevelopment Program To be Reinstated

With the air traffic control system rapidly returning to its pre-strike capabilities, the Administrator is reinstating the ATC predevelopment program.

This program is designed to balance the FAA workforce by increasing the number of women and minorities among full performance controllers.

Speaking to an FAA audience in Miami recently, the Administrator said the first predevelopment class to be held since 1981 is scheduled to start in January and will have approximately 20 students.

Participants enter the program at the GS-5 level and take a year of academic studies combined with on-the-job-training. When this indoctrination is successfully completed, they move on to the air traffic program at the FAA Academy as GS-7s.

The program, which has an Airway Facilities counterpart, originally was called the "150 Program" when it was started in 1968.

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## Writing Contest Open To School Children

The agency is conducting a National Aviation Education Writing Contest that could earn a \$5,000 college scholarship for the high school student who produces the best essay on "The Importance of Aviation to Our Society." It is open to all school children, including FAA offspring, and entrants will be judged in three groups: Fourth through sixth grade, seventh through ninth, and tenth through twelfth.

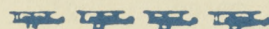
The contest is being held in conjunction with the bicentennial of manned flight under the direction of the Aviation Education staff in FAA's Office of Public Affairs.

The \$5,000 scholarship prize is being donated by a motion picture company, with other prizes coming from both FAA and industry sources. They include special FAA certificates, airplane models, VIP airport visits, a chance to be an honorary air traffic controller for a day, and an introductory flying lesson.

For further information send a self addressed stamped envelope with your request to the appropriate regional office: AAL-5A, ACE-700, AEA-4, ANE-5, ANM-5, ASW-1C1, ASO-5, AWP-4E, and AGL-17.

## Taxable Income On Relocations

Due to the Accounting Division's conversion to the new Uniform Accounting System (UAS) this year and the early deadlines inherent in the Uniform Payroll System (UPS), any taxable income on relocation vouchers received after Nov. 4, 1983 will be processed in tax year 1984. Vouchers received prior to that date will be processed as expeditiously as possible in our office for inclusion in tax year 1983.



## AF Group Award

Congratulations to the following Airway Facilities Division, Environmental Section, AWP-454, employees who recently received a Special Achievement Group Award for the construction of the Las Vegas Air Traffic Control Tower and TRACON from Sept. 1981 through April 1983: Dick Sowa, Cliff Rustad, Gary Pettengill, Dirk Wietstock, Willie Villalobos, Dave Washino, Larry Gardner and Ron Keiser.

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## Reno AFSFO Awards

Two Battle Mountain, NV ARSR personnel recently received job performance awards. Reno Airway Facilities Sector Field Office Manager Bill Dickinson, presented Bob Pearce (center) a Special Achievement Award with an Outstanding Rating and Ken Jones (right) a Quality Increase Award with an Outstanding Rating. Both Bob and Ken's job performance of assigned duties was outstanding this past year. Congratulations!



## DASI on the Way

Direct, digital readout of altimeter settings is coming to airport air traffic control towers. The agency has signed a contract with C & G Associates of Minnetonka, Minn., for over 215 Digital Altimeter Setting Indicator (DASI) systems.

Currently, controllers get altimeter setting information from reading the needle on an aneroid barometer. With the DASI system, this information will be spelled out in clear, easy to read, and accurate digital numbers.

Systems are expected to be installed at airport towers and at each of the future Automated Flight Service Stations (AFSS). Each system consists of one sensor, a translator unit and four to five display panels.

## New Pay System Set

The government is switching to electronic funds transfer (EFT), for FAA and other Federal employees who have their bi-weekly wages sent directly to financial institutions.

The new modern system virtually eliminates the risk of a stolen or lost salary check. It also means that beginning with the first pay day in November for FAA employees, normal pay day will be the second Tuesday rather than the second Wednesday following each pay period.

Employees who have their checks sent to them will not be affected by the switch. The checks should still arrive on Tuesday. The only difference is that the Department of Treasury requires that checks carry a Tuesday date rather than a Monday date, as they do now.

When the new system was first proposed, check dating for home delivery and paydays were to be Wednesday. However, because the agency's payroll offices and the processing center in Oklahoma City were willing to make a special effort, the date was moved up to Tuesdays.

## Where's My Story?

If you have sent us a story with photos--as so many of you have--you may wonder if we liked it and if you will ever see it in print. To tell the truth, the response for INTERCOM articles with photos has been so great, we have a considerable backlog. But, rest assured that we do appreciate your submission and we will do our best to see that it's in print just as soon as we can.



## How Do You Like Our New Look?

We've said it before--but we'll say it again--INTERCOM IS YOUR PUBLICATION.

In an effort to continually improve its appearance and readability, we have changed its appearance. We did not want it to look like every other region--we wanted it to be distinctly ours, so we came up with blue printing on gold paper. How do you like it? Drop a note to AWP-5 and let us know.



*Pass it on...it was meant to circulate.*