

SPECIAL EDITION



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

Western-Pacific Intercom

Parenting



Church



Economics



Education



Black History Month

February 1985

Historical Strengths for The New Century

Health



Business



Military



Cover Story

Black History Month 1985

HISTORICAL STRENGTHS FOR THE NEW CENTURY

The 1985 theme for Black History Month, "Historical Strengths for the New Century," is sensitive to the unique role the Black family has played in America. The theme covers such sub-areas as Parenting, Education, the Church and the Military.

Parenting

Throughout history the Black family in the United States has been a basic unit for sharing affection and for rearing children and also a social system through which the sub-systems of the larger society would be learned, negotiated and conquered. The Black family has been a buffer and shield against the negative implications of rejection. For the new century, Black people are making individual and group decisions to create and maintain strong families in spite of social forces that would undermine them. Teenagers are being taught responsibility for their lives in spite of peer pressure.

Black adults of all social classes and income groups are committing themselves to developing a network of role models, organizations and resources to strengthen and maintain the family into and through the next century.

Church

There is an unwritten contract between Black families and the larger society. Religion, for the most part, has always been an integral part of the Black American home. It has been the backbone of many social-action movements for racial equality.

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Education

Dr. Donald H. Smith, President, The National Alliance of Black School Educators, has this to say about education:

"Academic improvement requires a belief that our people are capable of high levels of academic achievement, whether in all-Black schools or integrated schools and it demands that educators and students give their best efforts to teach and learn. Academic empowerment comes from acquiring the tools of learning: language, thought, inquiry, mathematics; it results from technical competence in computers, lasers, and robotics. It comes from the confidence that one is competent to achieve."

Military

Members of Black American families have participated in every war-time utilization of U. S. Armed Forces from the Revolutionary War to the present.

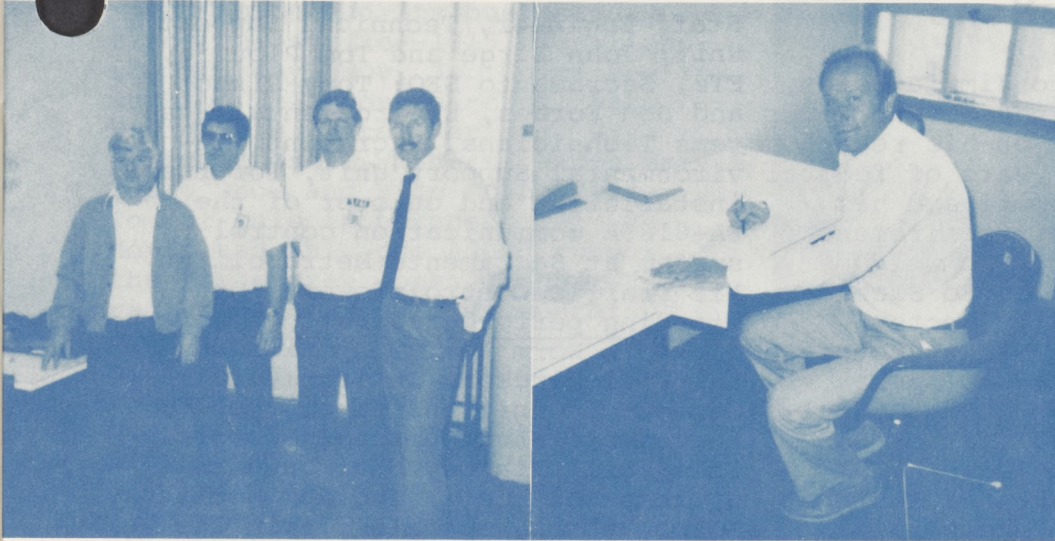
In the Revolutionary War, five thousand Black soldiers participated in every major military engagement from Lexington to Yorktown. In the War of 1812, Black Americans comprised about one-sixth of the enlisted forces aboard American vessels.

In World War I four hundred thousand were accepted for service and 1,300 were commissioned as officers.

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, son of Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., the first Black American general in the regular armed forces, received generous praise from high officials in the U. S. Army Air Corps in World War II for his command of 450 fighter pilots. More than eighty Black pilots won the Distinguished Flying Cross.*

NOTE: All material for this article was taken from the 1985 Black History Kit developed by the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, Washington, D. C.

*Representatives from this group will be at the AWP Regional Office and LAX Hangar on February 13, 1985.



LAX ARTCC Management Team Project

Early last summer, Los Angeles Center began the first Air Traffic Management Team Action Phase II seminars. One of the teams has completed a significant project using the principals of Management Team Action.

In the past, 35 Area Supervisors shared a mail room and office and five Area Managers shared a small office with two desks. This office arrangement did not provide any private space for the accomplishment of administrative duties or counseling sessions. Today, the seven Area Supervisors for each specialty area have their own office and the Area Managers have a larger office with enough room for each to have his own desk and files. It is felt that completion of this project will improve the facility's effectiveness by recognizing the need for and providing supervisors with administrative work space.

Left photo: Members at the first MTA Phase II class in the new Area Managers office, from left -- Mickey Burns, Assistant Manager for Training; Sabin (Bino) Barainca, Assistant Manager for Traffic Management; T.C. Brown, Area Manager-Area C; and Lewis Manning, Assistant Manager for Automation.

Right photo: Dennis Mayer, Area Supervisor-Area A, in the Area A Supervisors new office.

Toby Cooper Earns Letter of Commendation

Toby Cooper, Air Traffic Control Specialist at Guam CERAP recently received a Letter of Commendation for excellent and professional service.

With less than normal staffing for the watch, Toby had elected to work the R3 en route radar position combined with the R7 departure and arrival control. Traffic began building up by mid-morning and became heavy for about a two-hour period and moderate for most of

the remainder of the watch. Rather than take a break, Toby requested to remain on the position due to the complexity of random tracks mixed in with other departing and arriving aircraft and other altitude restricted areas.

Toby remained at his position for almost an entire shift including his lunch break. Area Supervisor Marvin Rovner expressed his sincere appreciation for the dedication and professionalism displayed. Congratulations Toby!

Sacramento AFS News

Congratulations to Jimmie Estes, previous Manager of the Fresno Radar Sector Field Office, on his recent retirement after 30 years of federal service. We wish Jimmie and his wife the best in their retirement years.....We are happy to welcome the following new faces to Sacramento Airway Facilities Sector: Jay Jacobsen, Fresno Radar Sector Field Office Manager; Bob Speraw, Electronic Technician (ET), McClellan ARTS Sector Field Office; Don Holton, ET, Stockton Radar/ARTS Field Office Unit; Stephen Aguirre and Ben Angel, ETs, Bakersfield Radar/Comm Sector Field Office; Jaculin Thompson, Engineering Technician Trainee, Sector Office; Lisa Vogt, Stay-in-School Clerk Typist, Sector Office; and Cindie Hull, Clerical Assistant, Sector Office..

...Career Service Emblems have been presented to Jimmie Estes, Fresno Radar Sector Field Office (SFO), for 30 years; Truman Middleton, Program Support Unit, 25 years; and John Burge, Sacramento SFO, 15 years. A Letter of Commendation was given to Gene Santiago from Dustin Sloan, Sacramento Flight Inspection Field Office (FIFO) Manager, for his help in establishment of the temporary quarters for the Sacramento FIFO..... Quality Increase Awards were received by John Williams, Environmental Technician-in-Depth, Technical Support Unit; Manuel Angel, ET, Beale Sector Field Office Unit and Rick Radford, ET, Stockton Radar/ARTS Sector Field Office Unit. Special Achievement Awards for sustained superior performance were presented to Norm Roe, Environmental Systems Technician, Sacramento Environmental Support Unit; Bob Mueller, ET, Mather SFO; Bill Vinson, Environmental Systems Technician, Fresno Environmental Support Unit and Rex Morrison, Motor Vehicle Operator, Fresno Environmental Support Unit. A Group Special Achievement Award was presented to Jim Wilkinson,

Staff Engineer, Technical Support Unit; John Burge and Tom Plouffe, ETs, Sacramento SFO; Tony Rizzo and Don Forbes, Environmental Systems Technicians, Sacramento Environmental Support Unit, for the installation and cutover of the FA-8165A communication control system at Sacramento Metropolitan Air Traffic Control Tower. Outstanding performance ratings were given to Norm Roe, Tony Rizzo and Larry Richardson, Environmental Systems Technicians, from the Sacramento Environmental Support Unit; Bill Vinson, Environmental Systems Technician and Rex Morrison, Motor Vehicle Operator, from the Fresno Environmental Support Unit; Bob Mueller and Al Nakahara, ETs from the Mather SFO; Ben Maes, ET from McClellan ARTS SFO; and Ken Beam and Bill McGraw, ETs, from Bakersfield Radar/Comm SFO.....

Congratulations to those who recently received promotions: Bill McGraw, ET, moving to McClellan ARTS SFO; Don Holton, ET, moving to Mather SFO; and John Williams, Environmental Technician-in-Depth, Technical Support Unit.



Clarence Benway Retires

Clarence A. Benway, Phoenix Civil Aviation Security Field Office Manager, retired Jan. 3 after almost 33 years of government service. A retirement luncheon was held for him Jan. 25 at the Sheraton Airport Inn in Phoenix with many of his friends and co-workers attending. We all wish Clarence well in his retirement!

El Monte Tower News

El Monte had its busiest day since the strike--1015 operations-- on Saturday, Nov. 3. Commended for working all those aircraft were David Ruiz, Peter Karieva, Greg Wylie, Russell Withers, Ramon Varela, Eddie Snow and Mike Evangelista. To put this in perspective: El Monte has only one 4000' runway, the tower crew works without BRITE radar assistance, and mountains over 6000' high loom within five miles of the airport making it hard to extend the pattern. Most of the busy traffic occurred between 9 p.m. and 5 p.m. that day. Level III, here we come.....Since our last mention in INTERCOM, many changes have taken place. Steve Ramirez went to Long Beach Tower; Patricia Hill to Brackett--LaVerne Tower; Carl Gainer to Torrance Tower and Douglas Kingsbury to Orange County Tower. Our new chief Fred Berry helped welcome two new controllers: Eddie Snow, a former Certified Flight Instructor and corporate pilot, recently attained journeyman status; and Russell Withers, a former Navy controller, transferred from Ontario Flight Service Station (FSS), is currently in training on Local Control.....Congratulations are in order for the following: Nathan Dockery and Karen Pontius received Special Achievement Awards this month; Dave Ruiz married Cindy in August--they went "home" to Arizona for the wedding-- and, as the proud owner of a new Apple IIc, Dave is working on the National Airspace Plan in his spare time; Austin Karieva, two and one-half years old, welcomed brother Trenton in March and dad, Pete, had to buy a new Toyota 4WD wagon to carry his family around safely; Randy Kennedy, our temporary Area Supervisor, earned his Private Pilot's License this summer - El Monte Tower now has six pilots on staff!.....Eddie Snow and Russ Withers have just bought homes-- and commute quite a distance to El Monte. Our controllers commute from such exotic places as Torrance, Long Beach, Canoga Park,



Glenn Haas Receives SAA

Glenn Haas (left), General Supply Specialist, Las Vegas Airway Facilities Sector, receives a Special Achievement Award for Outstanding Performance from Sector Manager Dean DeShazo. Congratulations, Glenn!

San Bernardino, Irvine, Upland, Redlands and San Jacinto.....After all that driving, it's nice to ride jumpseat once in a while. SF-160 fams were enjoyed by Mike Evangelista (goes to Boston whenever he's hungry), Nate Dockery and Randy Kennedy (visited the Smithsonian together), Pete Karieva (attended the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco). Speaking of "fam" trips--the local kind--Karen Pontius took one with the California Highway Patrol while on detail at the University of Southern California for the Olympics. The short ride ended noisily on the Harbor Freeway where she and two officers escaped serious injury as the Hughes 500D collided with a truck upon attempting an emergency landing. She's back at work now and being very selective about taking fam trips... ..A major construction project is planned for the beginning of the year to add a base building to the tower. New amenities will include a chief's office, classroom space, another restroom and lobby space. An outside elevator wouldn't be too much trouble to add, would it? Happy New Year from El Monte Tower!

Engen Honored

Administrator Engen has been picked by the readers of Professional Pilot magazine as one of the people who made the "most important contributions to aviation during 1984." The magazine took note of his efforts to complete the rebuilding of the Air Traffic Control System and implement the National Airspace System Plan. Other top vote getters in the poll of Professional Pilot's 36,000 readers, all aviation professionals, included Edward King, Chairman and CEO of King Radio; Allen Paulson, President and Chairman of Gulf stream Aerospace; and Burt and Dick Rutan, who have built an airplane ("Voyager") designed to fly non-stop around the world without refueling.

Interest on Deposits Charged in 1985

Previous INTERCOM articles have stated that no interest will be charged on outstanding military service credit deposits. However, because of recent legislation, interest now will be charged. If these deposits are not paid by Oct. 1, 1985, or two years after an employee comes under the Civil Service Retirement System, interest will be charged at the rate of 13 percent on the unpaid balance.

This rate will be effective until Jan. 1, 1986, when the new rate will be announced.

Also, interest on retirement fund credit deposits and redeposits will remain at three percent for many employees making other than military service credit deposits. However, those paying for service performed on or after Oct. 1, 1982, and those who applied for a refund of retirement money on this date now will pay 13 percent.

PMRS Plans Announced

The Office of Personnel and Training (APT) has unveiled an interim performance awards plan for FAAers covered by the new Performance Management and Recognition Systems (PMRS). The PMRS replaced the former merit pay system and covers agency managers and supervisors.

The proposed interim plan would provide performance awards for covered employees whose performance ratings were either "exceptional" or "outstanding" for the rating period which ended on June 30, 1984. Within a specific merit pay unit, "outstanding" employees would receive twice the award given "exceptional" employees at the same grade level.

The proposed plan has been submitted to Secretary Dole's office for preliminary approval. It must receive final approval from the Office of Personnel Management before the awards can be calculated and paid. APT expects approval to be granted sometime in early 1985.

CIVILAIR News.....

Baseball Tickets



Attention Baseball Fans - It's that time of year again when we renew our Civilair Season Box seats at Dodger Stadium. The box seats this year are \$6 per seat. Reserved parking will be \$4 per game. If you sign up to see each of the 11 opponents once, you will be assured of seats to any post season games for which the Dodgers may be eligible, play-offs, league championship, or World Series. Detailed information, season schedules and order blanks are available from Management Systems Division, AWP-60.

Ontario FSS Receives Kudos

Judging from the fan mail received by Air Traffic Manager Jack Moore, area pilots are well pleased with Ontario Flight Service Station's Letter to Airmen explaining new weather briefing options for pilots.

One pilot writes, in part: "We compliment you on clearly identifying the pilots' needs and taking the action to communicate. We operate a two pilot 100% IFR, five days a week, SNA-LAX-SNA, and are learning how to effectively use the marvelous facilities and services the FAA makes available to all users of airspace. We think your letter goes a long way to helping pilots understand the weather briefing system. Keep up the good work! If you're ever in our part of town, stop in and say 'hi'! We're at LAX and are an aerospace defense contractor making major components for the Space Shuttle, Peacekeeper, Trident and the F-100."

Another pilot writes, "Just had to take a minute to drop you a note to say THANK-YOU for your recent excellent 'down to earth' letter . . . As a weekend, VFR pilot who flies recreationally for fun, I really appreciated the helpful hints in the article. I would love to see other articles on areas of interest to us general aviation pilots, presented in such a friendly manner. . . ."

Hats off to the folks at Ontario FSS!

3.5 Percent Pay Hike

The 3.5 percent pay raise which was approved by President Reagan in August became effective with the third pay period in 1985. The additional money showed up for most employees in checks distributed January 29.



Making Friends

In conjunction with Women's Opportunities Week, Airway Facilities and Air Traffic teamed up to discuss career opportunities in the FAA at the Government Job Fair held in San Diego. Many job hunters were fascinated by demonstrations given on the new Viking CBI terminal using programs stored on the disk drive. Right Photo: Doing their duties behind the display table are Dianne Mullings, Electronics Technician, San Diego Airway Facilities Sector, and Rita Avanzino, Air Traffic Controller at Gillespie Tower.

Black History Month Events

In honor of Black History Month, the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE - Western Region) and the Regional Civil Rights Staff will be presenting for the third consecutive year the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. (TIA). There will be two presentations on Wednesday, Feb. 13 -- one at the Regional Office, Room 3E26-30, at 10 a.m., and the other at the Los Angeles Hangar at 1 p.m. Mark your calendar; you are in for a treat. For more information, please contact Polly Bryan, AWP-9, 213/536-6444, or Geri McReynolds at LAX TRACON, 213/215-2040.

Paper Plane Contest

Open to All FAAers

FAAers now have the chance to test their mettle in the serious art of paper airplane construction by entering the Second Great International Paper Airplane Contest, which was kicked off January 8 at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

The first contest, held 18 years ago, received almost 12,000 entries. For this year's contest, over 20,000 are expected. Prizes will include medals and all expense paid trips to Seattle to receive awards and fly winning planes. Also, winning entries will be displayed in the Air and Space Museum.

Planes must be built exclusively of paper and bear the builder's name, address, and phone number as well as throwing instructions and the event the plane is entering. Reflecting the rise in composite technology, contest rules for the first time are allowing the use of laminated paper. The four events are: time aloft; distance; aerobatics; and esthetics. There are categories for professionals, non-professionals, and children under 14.

The contest is co-sponsored by the National Air and Space Museum, Seattle's Museum of Flight, and Science 85 Magazine.

The deadline is May 1, and entries should be sent to Paper Airplane Contest, Museum of Flight, 9404 E. Marginal Way South, Seattle, Washington 98108

For further information write SGIPAC, Science 85, 1101 Vermont Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.



DOT Issues CAB Guide

With the demise out of the Civil Aeronautics Board, the Department of Transportation has issued a handbook entitled "DOT Guide to CAB Sunset." The 65-page mini-volume lists those functions transferred to DOT and identifies the offices administering those functions.

The functions now being handled by DOT include international aviation responsibilities; the Essential Air Service Program, which guarantees service to small communities; consumer protection for airline passengers; antitrust review and immunity authority; and certification of the economic fitness of air carriers.

The guide notes that the new DOT Office of Community and Consumer Affairs will handle consumer complaints regarding such problems as lost baggage, passengers bumped from flights because of over booking, smoking on airline aircraft, unfair or deceptive practices, and refunds. The telephone number is (202) 755-2220.

Consumers who have complaints or inquiries about safety should continue to contact FAA's Community and Consumer Liaison Division, Office of Public Affairs, on (202) 426-1960.

New Towers Planned

FAA has approved the construction of eight new airport traffic control towers, including four replacement towers and four at airports that presently have no tower. The replacement towers include two major activity facilities--Dallas (Love Field), Texas; and Raleigh, N.C., with the other two at Burbank, Calif., and Macon Ga. The newly established facilities will be constructed at Dillingham, Ark., San Luis Obispo, Calif., Prescott, Ariz., and Fort Pierce, Fla.

Accounting Employees Of The Month

Susie Koga, Classification and Review Branch and Marion Stevenson, Operation and Analysis Branch, (was not available for photo-taking session) are both second-time recipients of the Employees of the Month award. Marion first received it in April, 1984 and Susie in November. Susie is an Accounting technician and her ability to work with speed and accuracy in processing large volumes of documents has helped tremendously to reduce the overall workload of the Section. She cheerfully helps out wherever she can and is a definite asset to her branch. Marion is the Senior Accounting technician in the General Ledger Section. She is in charge of Accounts Receivable, but can be depended upon to help out in most other areas of the Section. It's really great to be able to acknowledge those employees who really put out the extra effort needed to get the job done and done well in the limited time available for accounting functions to be executed in a timely fashion. Congratulations Susie and Marion!
Photo by Rafael Riera.



Keep Those Intercom Items Coming

INTERCOM editors continue to receive questions on how to submit articles and photos. Here's some help...

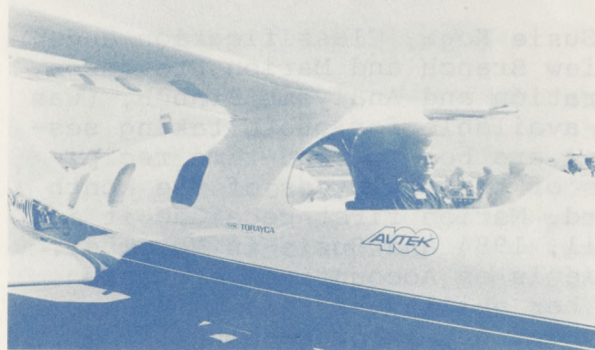
Take a look at a previous INTERCOM for help in format. We appreciate having all articles typed and double-spaced. This facilitates editing and your article will appear faster. Plain bond paper and reminder memos are fine so long as the information is double-spaced. Please spell out all abbreviations and this will also hasten your item being seen in print.

How about photos? All photos should be black and white glossies. Do not staple or tape photos to anything. For identification purposes, please lightly (never bear down, you will harm photo) place a number in the middle of

the back of the photo (this way when the photo is cropped, your ID will still be visible). Then, correspond that number on a sheet of plain bond paper and identify the subject with correct first and last names and titles, from the left. Protect with cardboard (or file folders) and mail to AWP-5. You may be sure that we do care about your submissions and will do our best to see that they appear in a future issue of INTERCOM. Because of the volume of items received, it is not possible for us to acknowledge each one individually; however, if you have questions or need guidance, do give us a call at 213/536-6431 or FTS 966-6431. If your facility has not yet been featured on the cover, see your manager and give us a call.

Retired FAA Pilot Dick Sliff

Tests Composite Plane



Former FAA pilot Richard Sliff sits at the controls of the Avtek-400. He flew the high performance aircraft on its inaugural flight.

When the much-publicized, all-composite Avtek-400 made its proving and inaugural flights recently, former FAAer Dick Sliff was at the controls. Although he retired from the agency in 1974 as chief of the Western/Pacific Region's Aircraft Engineering Division, Sliff remains active in flying, taking on temporary jobs like the one with Avtek.

Proving out new airplanes is old hat to Sliff who was involved in the certification of numerous airline aircraft during his FAA career. They included the Boeing 707, 720, and 727 jets, as well as the Lockheed Electra turboprop. Sliff was typically enthusiastic when describing the Avtek-400 to INTERCOM. "It's a very exciting plane to fly and handles exceptionally well," he said. "All in all, it's a fun-to-fly, very responsive aircraft.

He pointed out that the design is revolutionary, and yet the configuration is similar to the first successful heavier-than-air aircraft, the Wright Flyer. Up front is a canard wing and elevator, and on the main wing in back are two pusher propellers.

The light twin executive aircraft is built principally of two Dupont plastic products, Kevlar and Nomex. The six-to-nine place plane is designed to whisk its passengers across the country at 400 miles per hour. The company is aiming at full certification of the plane by the spring of 1986.

When not testing new planes and new concepts in aviation, Sliff enjoys his retirement at his home in southern Maryland.

ASF Launches Bulletin

On several recent occasions, Administrator Engen has encouraged FAAers to "tell our story" about the agency's expanding safety programs. Answering that call, the headquarters Office of Aviation Safety (ASF) published in January its first issue of a new quarterly on aviation safety entitled ASF Bulletin.

The new publication, which complements an existing ASF statistical digest, features safety reports, news on congressional legislation and FAA rulemaking, statistical highlights, and editorials.

The architects of ASF Bulletin are planning a wide distribution for it, including such disparate members of the aviation community as air carriers, aviation interest groups, military safety organizations, insurance companies and Congressional offices.

The point of this broad audience explains William Smith, Deputy Manager of ASF's Safety Analysis Division, is "to promote widespread awareness of the level of safety in the system, which is important in creating a feedback loop so that safety improvements can be made."

AFSS Automation Takes Giant Step

The Model 1 flight service station automation package, which will assign weather briefing and flight plan processing to computers, has now been delivered to the Technical Center for extensive testing. This package consists of two flight service data processing system (FSDPS) computers and enough equipment for three small-sized automated flight service stations (AFSS).

The entire package, which has already passed through initial design qualification tests at the factory, now will be subjected to another nine months of testing at the Tech Center. This shakedown is designed to make sure the system is ready for operational use.

While this testing is in progress, AFSS equipment will be delivered to the first of 37 stations in the field, in May at Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio, and Bridgeport, Conn. During this period, FSDPS computers will be delivered to 12 other key en route centers. But first, one of these computers, with an assortment of station equipment such as displays and keyboards, will be delivered to the FAA Academy for training.

When the automation equipment becomes operational, specialists will have a nationwide weather data base at their fingertips. Even more important, they will be able to call up weather reports for any specific area. Also, they will be able to enter flight plans directly into the system. The commissioning of the 37 Model-1 stations will be followed in about two years by the Model-2 system in all 61 AFSSs.

With this updated system, specialists will have weather maps and radar weather displays available to them at their individual positions.



Donald Pactol Receives SAA

Donald Pactol (right), Electronics Technician, Honolulu Airway Facilities Sector, was recently presented a Special Achievement Award by John Gianakopoulos, Technical Support Unit Assistant Manager, for his outstanding job performance. Congratulations!



Angry Pheasant Chases Aircraft Off Property

Any tail-dragger pilot who has flown out of San Carlos, California, is familiar with a local resident that lives next to the approach end of runway 30. He is a pheasant who has a preference for Pitts, Christian Eagles and other tail-dragger aircraft. Those aircraft beginning their takeoff, take notice of a pheasant gallantly defending his property by chasing them for 500 to 600 feet down the runway. So far the bird hasn't caught one, but he is not giving up.

Black History Month

February 1985



“I know that these are troubled times, but remember what I said to you in 1959: ‘The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands at times of comfort and convenience but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. The true neighbor will risk his position, his prestige and even his life for the welfare of others. In dangerous valleys and hazardous pathways he will lift some bruised and beaten brother to a higher and more noble life.’”

So my friends, if we truly believe in the legacy that Dr. King left us, let's reach out and help one another.