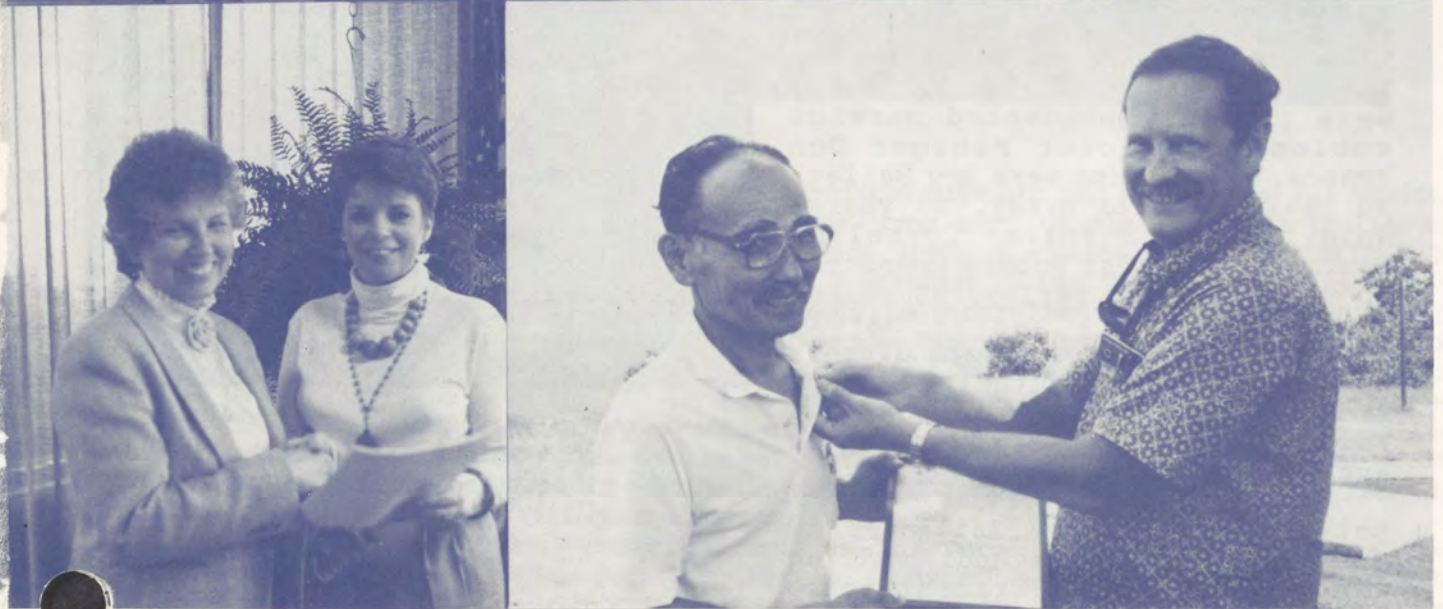




U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific Intercom



PEOPLE RECOGNIZED

Cover Story

In this issue of INTERCOM, we're going to do our best to recognize some of those people who have been waiting so patiently to see themselves in print. Let's start off with this week's cover itself.

Top left: Ron Johnston (right) receives his 30-year service pin from Oakland Towers Air Traffic Manager Ben Kennedy. Ron has been an Area Supervisor at Oakland Towers since 1977. He started his air traffic career in the CAA/FAA in 1958, assigned to Oakland FSS. Ron was selected into the terminal option in 1960 and assigned to Oakland Tower/Approach Control. When the facilities were decombed in 1972, Ron elected to remain a radar approach controller until returning to Oakland Towers as a supervisor in 1977.

Top right: With a combined total of 208 years of federal service, nine electronics technicians at Lancaster Airway Facilities Sector were recently presented service emblems by Sector Manager Don Isaacs. Recipients were Roy Bailey, 30 years; Ronald Brady, 30 years; John Downie, 3 years; Cornelius Eastman, 15 years; Robert Evanston, 30 years; Donald Farley, 30 years; Luiz Garcia, 15 years; Harold Gelfman, 25 years; and Dale Givens, 30 years. Shown with their plaques, from left, are **John Downie, Donald Farley, Dale Givens, Luiz Garcia and Ronald Brady.**

Bottom left: Sandra Zeilinger is presented with an Outstanding Rating with a Quality Within-Grade increase by her supervisor, Betty Sears. Sandra has been with the San Diego Airway Facilities Sector Office

since 1976 and is a real asset to the agency.

Bottom right: Ralph Yoneshige (left) is presented with a 30-year service pin by Honolulu AF Sector Manager John Gordon. Ralph is an electronics technician at the Mt. Kaala Sector Field Office and has been with the agency since October 1956. Early this year, Ralph joined the ranks of retirees. The FAA family extends congratulations to Ralph for his contribution and dedication to the FAA and best wishes upon his retirement.



Above photo: Gary Prock (left) Controller at San Diego Flight Service Station, receives an Outstanding Performance Rating with a Quality Within-Grade Increase from Area Supervisor George Geringer.

Below: Weldon Barnes (left), Electronic Technician with Ontario Radar AFSFO, receives his 25-year career service pin from Assistant Sector Manager Henry Harris.

More People Recognition



Top: Receiving career service emblems from Regional Director Mac McClure and Air Traffic Division Manager Wayne Newcomb (far right) are, from left, George Holt, a controller at Oakland Towers since July 1966 - 35-years; Clyde Rinck, a controller at Bay TRACON = 30 years; and Charlie Henderson, a Data Systems Specialist at Bay TRACON = 30 years.

Middle: In left photo, Norman Baldwin (center), a controller at the San Diego Flight Service Station, receives a Quality Within-Grade Increase for outstanding performance from Area Supervisor Robert Reeder as Assistant Air Traffic Manager Bob Kingery looks on. To the right, we have the "A" Team at Fresno Radar AF Sector Field Office with presentation Outstanding Performance ratings with Quality Wage Increase Awards to Willis "Willy" Matteson and James "Doug" Gilmore. From left--Jay Jacobsen, Fresno Radar AFSFO Manager; Doug Gilmore, Super-Tech; Willis Matteson, Senior Super-Tech; and Bob Lamore, Sacramento Airway Facilities Sector Manager.

Below: In the left photo, Richard Bischoff (right) Ontario AFSFO Radar/Comm/Data, receives an Outstanding Rating from Henry Harris, Assistant Sector Manager, San Diego AFS. The special occasion in the right photo was the presentation of a Letter of Recognition to Lindbergh Tower Area Supervisor Arlen Donner. Signed by all of the facility's controllers, the letter recognized Arlen's outstanding leadership qualities and his unsurpassable commitment to Human Relations. Presentation was made by Regional Director Mac McClure and FAA Coordinator John Tompkins. From left--Scott Davies, Dennis Nelson (back turned), Lori Hickman, Kevin Dirrim, Arlen Donner, Renee Giusti and Mike Gagen.

More People



Top left: Oakland Center's Linda Corbett receives an Outstanding Performance Award. Linda joined FAA in 1981 as an Air Traffic Assistant, trained at Oklahoma, and returned to the facility in 1983 as an oceanic developmental controller. She is now full performance level. Highly respected by her fellow controllers, Linda has served as a Human Relations Committee representative and has recently been selected as a Team Leader of the Oceanic Area Quality Circle. She also is serving as a facility EEO counselor.

From left—Vincent Mellone, Air Traffic Manager, presents Linda with the award certificate. Looking on are Area Supervisor Richard Herbst and Area Manager Stanley Albright.

Top right: Los Angeles Center Area Manager Nelson Ames (left) receives a Certificate of Merit for 30 years of FAA service from Mel Schuette, Acting Assistant Air Traffic Manager (since transferred to Washington Headquarters). Nelson started his FAA career in 1955 at the San Francisco International Flight Service station after serving with the U.S. Air Force. He spent some time at Wendover FSS before transferring to Los Angeles Center. He also spent some time at the Oakland Air Route Traffic Control Center.

Below from left: Hank Verbais, Controller at Santa Barbara Flight Service Station, receives an Outstanding Rating with a Quality Within-Grade Increase Award from Facility Manager Mickey Long (since transferred to the New England Region).....Tara Grant (left) Controller at Sacramento Flight Service Station, receives a Special Achievement Award for her meritorious work from Area Supervisor Kelly Van Vleck.....and, at the right, Marysville FSS controllers Bob La Bonte and Mark Payne receive awards for their performance and achievements over the past year. From left--Bob La Bonte, Area Supervisor Al Almendariz and Mark Payne.

The News

In Brief



Directors of air traffic agencies from 23 countries toured FAA facilities March 17-21 to exchange information on the latest developments in air traffic control. Hosted by Associate Administrator for Air Traffic Walter Luffsey, the international group visited the Tech Center, the Washington ARTCC, the Philadelphia International tower, and the Aeronautical Center.

FAA has awarded approval of the second LORAN-C non-precision approach to Northern Airways, which flew the approach in February into the Burlington, Vt., Airport with a 41-year-old Douglas C-47A. The first approach with the long-range navigational system was made last November in Bedford, Mass., with Administrator Engen as co-pilot.

The agency has approved a \$1.3 million contract to Shiller Construction Company of Detroit for the building of a new tower at Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The contract calls for an eight-story tower with an adjacent base building, to be ready for occupancy in March 1987.

N.Y. TRACON To Be Upgraded

A \$45.6 million contract for upgrading the New York TRACON has been awarded to Sperry Systems Management of St. Paul, MN. The FAA facility, located in Garden City, L.I., provides approach control services for the three major New York area airports and for some 40 satellite airports.

The contract calls for upgrading the present ARTS IIIA in two stages. The enhanced system will be known as the ARTS IIIE and will be the only one of its kind.

In the first stage, display consoles will be replaced with new consoles. Also, new microprocessors will be added to increase the simultaneous tracking capability of the facility from 1,200 to 1,700 aircraft. This phase is scheduled to be completed by June 1987.

The second stage will provide a system capacity of 2,800 tracks with the capability of going to 3,400 tracks if needed and will be completed by December 1988.

The contract further includes training for controllers, data system specialists, and technicians, as well as spare parts for the new equipment.

Cross-Option Program Moves Ahead

Administrator Engen has told Congress that he is "pleased" so far with the results of the Cross-Option Program and "optimistic" about the likelihood of its success.

In March 17 testimony before a House subcommittee, Engen said more than 500 applications were received for the program, which is designed to increase full-performance level staffing at seven selected en route centers. Most of these applications came from terminal controllers with an interest in crossing over to the center option.

Of this number, 401 were identified as candidates and 264 approved for the two-week "try-out" at one of the seven centers. That phase has been virtually completed with an 81 percent success rate. The next step is a 90-day on-site "advanced assessment" as a prelude to final selection and change of station. Those who fail to qualify in this phase will be returned to their original duty stations.

The en route centers currently in the program are: New York, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Chicago, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, and Oakland.



A Salute To Monterey Tower

The Air Traffic Control Tower at Monterey Peninsula Airport opened on September 5, 1962 with six controllers: Jim Pio, Ken Woodward, Jim Cummings, Harold Bitter, Jerry Wylie and George Kirk. The Chief at the time, Leo Yuckert, has since retired. The traffic count for the opening month totaled 8,271 operations.

The U.S. Navy was operating a Ground Control Approach tower on the north side of the airport. The facilities were used for proficiency training and flight time for the pilots attending the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey. About 40 aircraft were in use, including T-28's, TC-45's and T-2's. Monterey Air Traffic Controllers received their training and certification at the U.S. Navy tower, which later closed in 1972.

The airlines serving Monterey were United, using CV-34's and DC-6's, and Pacific, using M-404's, M-402's and later F-27's. In 1968, Runway 10/28 was extended from 5,000 feet to 6,597 feet; radar was installed in 1973 and later replaced with the ASR-8 in 1977. Monterey TRACAB is scheduled to be converted into a TRACON, and ARTS II will be installed in 1986-1987.

One of the original six controllers, Jim Pio, is still working traffic at Monterey, but he is now joined by 13 other controllers, three area supervisors and two staff specialists. Controllers are: Jim Pio, Bob Mitchell, Don Romine, Rich Cross, Frank Gibb, John Collier, Rob Mendelsohn, Mark Thacker, Scott Muir, Chuck Tyler, Ralph Lent, Tony Patrizio, Jeanne Donahue and Jim Bedow. Area Supervisors are Dan Martin, Buck Dodson

and Walt Smith; Training Specialist is Ken Powell. Other tower folk include staff specialist Hal Hollifield, Clerical Assistant Liz Johnson and Manager Forney Lundy.

(Editor's note: During this year-long observance of the 50th anniversary of Air Traffic Control, we'll be running "Did you know..." articles and salutes to our Air Traffic and Airway Facilities people in this region.)



The "Krusher" Calls it Quits

Bill Krushcke, Burbank Tower/TRACON, is retiring after many years of federal service, including stops at Seattle-Tacoma Tower, Edwards RAPCON, Miramar Approach Control, Los Angeles Tower/TRACON, Hawthorne Tower and two stints at Burbank Tower/TRACON.

Please join Bill's many friends on Friday evening, April 18 at the Burbank Airport Hilton for a dinner in Bill's honor. A no-host cocktail hour will begin at 7 p.m. with dinner at 8 p.m. Cost is \$15.50 per person; dress will be semi-formal. All checks should be made payable to Burbank HRC and received by April 15. Mail payments to Burbank Tower/TRACON, Attn: Don Kirby/HRC, 4201 Empire Avenue, Burbank, Calif., 91505.

The Burbank Airport Hilton is located at 2500 Hollywood Way, between Van Owen and Thornton in Burbank. For further information contact Don Kirby, Rosie Elskamp or Betty Basford at the Burbank Tower/TRACON at 818/764-7493.

CAPSULE GLIMPSES MEET LARRY CENTENO... AND FRIEND

Larry Centeno, Operations Program Secretary in the Airway Facilities Division, left his island home in Maui and settled in the Los Angeles area, working in inventory and quality control. He came to the FAA in October 1984.

Larry's hobbies include fishing, hunting, ukelele playing and cooking--but his most important hobby is dog training.

Larry says that at first he didn't like dogs, but his dentist persuaded him to take a Sheltie puppy. His new friend, Patti, soon became a very important part of his life. When Larry enrolled the puppy in an obedience class, the instructor told him that Patti would do well, in spite of Larry! Since then, Patti and Larry have entered local competitions, and have won numerous awards. When they participated in the United States Gaines Obedience

National Classic competition, an inexperienced Patti won fifth place in the Novice Division. In 1980, they went to Sacramento to the Gaines Western-Regional Obedience Championship Competition and placed eighth in the Super Dog Division, the most demanding class in which to compete.

In spite of a later injury to Patti, the competitions continue with Patti capturing many more first place awards.

While working with Patti, Larry discovered another hobby--photography. He says he decided to bring a camera to the shows to take pictures of dogs and to give him something to do during the time that Patti was injured and not competing. Larry has since been complimented as one of the finest Sheltie photographers in the nation. He has been honored by the Dog Writers Association of America, and his photos have been published in numerous magazines and journals.

Larry and Patti have proven there is a lot to be said for the old cliché "A man's best friend is his dog."

Photo: Larry Centeno, right, is presented with an award by actress Lindsay Wagner (of the TV series Bionic Woman) at the U.S. Gaines Obedience National Classic Competition, as one of the judges and Patti look on.





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Letters We Like To Receive

Ms. Martha Landers
USFAA Flight Service Station
Federal Aviation Administration
P.O. Box 2368 Airport Station
Oakland, CA 94614

Dear Ms. Landers:

This is to commend your office for its outstanding contribution of \$1,110.00 to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This represents an increase of 65.0% and over \$400 new dollars to the Campaign.

Additionally, I would like to extend a special thank you to Mr. Paul J. Pagel for conducting an effective employee campaign. Mr. Pagel is professional, personable, and efficient. I thoroughly enjoyed working with him.

Your outstanding leadership resulted in your office's generous contribution to support programs and services provided by CFC agencies. Again, thank you for an excellent campaign.

Sincerely,

Gail Gross

Gail Gross
HUD Loaned Executive

GG:vw
cc: Paul J. Pagel

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March 21, 1986

MORE

Letters We Like To Receive

FAA

Air Traffic Control Tower
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Santa Ana, CA 92707

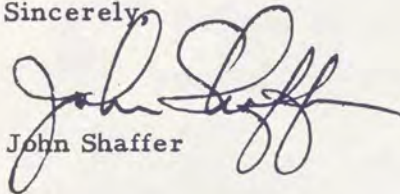
Gentlemen:

On Thursday, March 20, I had occasion to depart from Orange County Airport at about 2:00 P.M. At that time, runway 19L was closed, placing all traffic on 19R. As one might imagine, there was about an hour's delay on the taxiway before I was cleared for take-off in my little Ercoupe.

During that entire time the tower controller, a woman, did an unbelievable job of maintaining order among all of the commercial jets, the helicopters, the executive aircraft and the small general aviation types on the ground awaiting take off, on approach and in holding patterns. Because I was a captive audience for nearly an hour, I was one of those who were privileged to hear a true professional, practicing her profession. During that hour I don't think she paused to take a breath.

I don't know her name, but perhaps you can identify her and give her my respect and my thanks.

Sincerely,



John Shaffer

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FC	ED	
AC		
EPDS		
SECY		
	MAR 24 1986	
C/S		

Editor's Note: The controller was Susie Stewart, a four-year veteran air traffic control specialist. Congratulations, Susie, on a job well done!

Oakland FSS Awards



Congratulations to the following folks who received awards: Letter of Commendation to Sandra Acquistapace and Letters of Appreciation to Robert Mack, Robert Fahrenbruch, Sandra Acquistapace, Jerome Baranow and James Mead.

Phoenix Air Traffic Awards

Congratulations to the following people who recently received awards: Lew Robertson, Deer Valley Tower, Special Achievement Award for Special Service; Robert Trontvet, Deer Valley Tower, Special Achievement Award; and Jerry Covey, Phoenix TRACON, who received an Outstanding rating.

Letters We Like To Receive

Air Traffic Manager Howard Bjork and fellow controllers at Prescott Flight Service Station recently received a letter of thanks from Prescott City Manager, Jerri Wagner, which stated in part:

"Thank you for arranging the tour of the Flight Service Station for our recent visitors from Caborca, Mexico. We were especially grateful for your thoughtfulness in providing a Spanish-speaking guide for those who could not speak English.

"The Caborcans were keenly interested in the flight services and particularly enjoyed learning how the weather patterns for Caborca fit into your mapping. I know our guests were very happy we had included this visit on our tour.

"Again, thank you for your cooperation."

Congratulations to the folks at Prescott FSS!

Thought For The Day

Thought for the Day: The successful will find a way; the failures will find an excuse.

Foster To Retire

Chuck Foster is retiring May 1 as Director of the Northwest Mountain Region (ANM), closing out a 43-year career of government service.

A 24-year Air Force veteran, Foster joined FAA in 1974 after seven years with DOT/OST and was the agency's first Associate Administrator for Aviation Standards. As AVS-1, he spearheaded the FAA's investigation of the DC-10's problems following the disastrous Chicago crash in May 1979. He also is credited with developing FAA's "lead region" concept.

World To Be Mailed To Facilities/Offices

Don't look in your home mailboxes for the April issue of FAA World. Due to the Gramm-Rudman budget cuts, home mailing is being discontinued with that issue in favor of facility distribution.

So don't forget to pick up the April issue or you'll miss articles on the delivery of the new Host Computers to the en route centers, restoration of the agency's last DC-3, a Little Rock FSS specialist who doubles as a movie actor, and the FAA efforts to reach pre-schoolers with the story of aviation.



International News

ELAINE CARTER, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SPECIALIST, AWP-4(F)

COMM'L: (213) 297-1333
FTS : 984-1333

LOS ANGELES AIR ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER HOSTS TAIWAN GROUP



The Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC), at Palmdale, Calif., recently hosted four Air Traffic Controllers from Taiwan, Republic of China. Messrs. Robert Lin, Samuel Chen, K. F. Chou and Gino Lin, comprised the first of five groups of Taiwan Controllers scheduled for familiarization training at FAA Air Traffic facilities in the Western-Pacific Region.



While at the LAX Center, the visiting controllers were briefed on a number of varied subjects included in their overall training programs, such as Facility Orientation, Flight Data and Radar Data Processing, Computer-based Instruction, Dynamic Simulation Radar Training, plus interface with other facilities and controller duties. The visitors also monitored some of the control positions. Tours of the NASA facilities and of the Edwards RAPCON at Edwards AFB rounded out their training program and were pre-arranged and conducted by FAA Training Specialist Don Youngman.

Above: From left—Messrs. Robert Lin, Samuel Chen, K. F. Chou and Gino Lin.

Below: Don Youngman briefs the Taiwan visitors at the Center.

Four other groups of four Controllers each are scheduled for similar familiarization training visits at Oakland, Honolulu and Los Angeles during the first half of CY 1986.



Tornado Clobbers Greater Cincinnati Tower

"The controllers, technicians, and everyone else here at the airport responded with that 'can do' attitude that I think is typical of FAAers," Dave Bullock, manager of the Greater Cincinnati Airport Airway Facility Sector said after the facility was hit head-on by a tornado March 10.

Bullock reported that the six controllers in the tower cab when the tornado hit were taken to the hospital for injuries sustained from flying glass. But, he said, most of them were back the next day, wearing bandages and helping out.

Tower manager San Juan Romero said that everyone conducted themselves in an outstanding manner. Particularly courageous was controller Clay Leak, who returned to the cab while glass was still flying and carried out a handicapped air traffic assistant.

The storm damage and a gas leak caused by a wall falling on a gas line forced Romero to close the tower. However, when the gas leak was repaired an hour and a half later the TRACON was back in business. In two-and-half hours, a temporary control tower had been set up in an FAA Airway Facilities office in the terminal building, and Greater Cincinnati Tower was again completely operational. By the end of the week, according to Romero, traffic was moving normally. He expects to be back in the tower cab by the end of March.

Further havoc wreaked by the tornado at the airport included hangar roofs blown off, several aircraft destroyed, as well as downed telephone and power lines.

It Is Double Trophies For Top Regional Speaker

Recent meetings of the FAA Toastmasters Club generated much excitement with two contests. Cathy Beam, AWP-52B and Bill Lindsay, AWP-55, emerged as winners of the Serious Speech Contest. The Speech Evaluation Contest included the following contestants: Bill Lindsay, AWP-55; Steve Thomas, AWP-52B; Joan Zubarik, AWP-56; Barry Simmons, AWP-451; Cliff Rustad, AWP-452; and Glenn Cross, AWP-462. Winners were Bill Lindsay and Joan Zubarik.

Bill Lindsay then participated in the next level of competition at the Toastmasters International Area C-2 Evaluation and Speech Contest recently held at Aerospace Corporation. Bill was matched with other contestants from Area C-2 clubs, which include TRW Toastmasters, Manhattan Beach Beachmasters and El Segundo Narrators. Bill's delivery of the speech, "It's Up to You," along with his evaluation of another speaker, resulted in his receiving two first-place trophies. Bill says that he thinks the reasons for winning were good leadership in the FAA Toastmasters Club and the help from other Toastmasters at the meetings. "We make sure that all of our members improve their communication skills, and it's fun!," Bill added.

Congratulations to all the contestants and winners.

FAA Test

Pilot

Killed

FAA test pilot John C. Henderson of the Atlanta Aircraft Certification Office was killed March 7 in the line of duty. He was conducting spin tests in a PA-32 equipped with a speed enhancement and Short Takeoff and Landing (STOL) kit when the aircraft went out of control and crashed. He was fatally injured while trying to parachute to safety.

Henderson joined the agency in 1982 after serving as an Army test pilot. During his military career he attended the Patuxent River Naval Test Pilot School where he was the top graduate in his class.

Wing-Flapping Machine

Gets Off The Ground

Aircraft designers, including Leonardo Da Vinci, have been trying for centuries to get a wing-flapping plane to fly. Now, at last, a half-sized model of a long extinct flying dinosaur called a Pterodactyl, has flown in the Mojave Desert.

This flying marvel was produced by AeroVironment, Inc., for the Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Shots of it will be used in a film currently being produced for the museum. The flying dinosaur model also is expected to make a circuit of the National Mall in Washington sometime this spring for the general public's entertainment.

Fraud And Abuse What Is It All About?

In response to continued disclosures of fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement of government programs, Congress passed the Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act in September 1982. This legislation is intended to help reduce fraud, waste and abuse and improve management of government programs.

What does this Act do? Well, in essence, the bottom line is that managers are responsible for establishing systems and procedures for efficient and effective use of agency property. This includes:

- ° Assurance that property is used only for official purposes.
- ° Maintenance of adequate inventory controls and accountable records.
- ° Assurance that efficient custody controls are in place.
- ° Certainty that adequate care and maintenance are provided.
- ° Ascertaining that property records are periodically reconciled to the accounting office.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued Order 1000.-32A, "Internal Control and Accounting Systems", for guidance in implementation of the Act.

Operational economy and efficiency are promoted within an agency when methods are used to safeguard its resources and assure adherence to laws and policies. It is essential that all managers and employees understand their responsibilities and accountability under this law.

If there are any questions concerning controls related to property, supplies, equipment, etc., please call Jim Champagne in the Regional Office at ext. 1734.



Maintenance Operations

January 17, 1986

Mr. Fred Davis
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
San Francisco Tower
Room 603, Airport Branch
San Francisco, CA 94128

Dear Mr. Davis:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very much for your time and effort spent with us, Explorer Post 747, on our tour of the San Francisco tower last Thursday, January 16. All who attended very much appreciated the interesting and certainly unique opportunity afforded us. Also, please extend our thanks to Mr. Joseph Palumbo for his efforts in making the arrangements. Again, thank you very much for accommodating us and for your time and energy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Greg Donati'.

Greg Donati
UNITED AIRLINES
Explorer Post 747

Letters We Like To Receive

San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, California 94128

National Consumers Week Slated

President Reagan has proclaimed the week of April 20 as the fifth annual National Consumers Week. The slogan for 1986, "Consumers Rate Quality", acknowledges that consumers set the standards of acceptability for products by "voting" with their dollars, rewarding efficient producers of better quality products and performance.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is concerned that many consumer products in homes are

dangerous, and some may even cause injury or death. The Commission says it would like to know of accidents in the home; however, many people do not know that its organization exists. In order to benefit all consumers, the Commission asks that product complaints or injuries be reported to them by calling 213/894-7272 (24 hours) or the toll-free hotline 800/638-2772. These numbers may also be used to request information and publications about home safety.

Embry Riddle Wins Contract For MTS

FAA'S Management Training School (MTS) is moving to Florida.

The contract to provide MTS facilities has been awarded to Embry Riddle Aeronautical University at Daytona Beach, Fla., one of the best known aviation schools in the country. However, the FAA facility will be located 30 miles north of the main campus at Palm Coast, Fla. The agency expects to begin operations there Oct. 1, 1987.

Embry Riddle won out over nine other bidders. Its proposal was selected as providing the best value to the government in terms of technical excellence, price and business management aspects.

The MTS has been located at Cameron University in Lawton, Okla., since it was established in 1971 to upgrade the general level of supervisory and management skills within the agency. More than 48,000 FAA employees have attended courses there.

The contract calls for Embry Riddle to provide space for classrooms, dormitories, eating facilities, administrative offices, and adjunct areas needed for the operation of the school. A separate award will be made to cover instructors and that contract currently is out for bids.



Chuck Elston

Friends and co-workers of Chuck Elston were saddened to learn of his death from cancer on March 22. Chuck was a long-time employee of the Regional Accounting Division. He will be missed very much. Chuck's 30 years with the government included working as an auditor with the General Accounting Office and the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Department of Justice. He also served four years in the U.S. Army with service in Korea during the Korean Conflict.

Donations, in Chuck's memory, can be made to the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Cancer Society. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Mrs. Marcelina Elston, 8204 Santa Inez Drive, Buena Park, Calif. 90620.

Our sincere condolences are extended to Chuck's family.

Money Owed To Retirement Fund

The Office of Personnel Management is required to apply a variable interest rate for certain money owed to the retirement fund.

The variable interest rate to be charged for calendar year 1986 has been established by the Department of the Treasury as 11.125 percent. This is down from the 1985 rate of 13 percent.

The 11.125 percent interest rate applies for 1986 in the following cases:

- Redeposits of funds withdrawn from the Civil Service Retirement fund after October 1, 1982.
- Deposits for periods of service performed after October 1, 1982, for which no Civil Service Retirement Fund deposits were made.
- Deposits for post 1956 military service completed after the initial grace period has expired (October 1, 1985).

For periods of civilian service performed before October 1, 1982, for which no deductions were made, and for redeposits of refunds before October 1, 1982, interest will be charged at the rate of three percent per year, compounded annually.

Oakland Center Hosts Briefing On AIDS

Oakland Center recently conducted briefings designed to present information on the disease AIDS to facility employees. Mr. Les Pappas of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation presented a comprehensive overview of AIDS issue, including the nature of disease, its symptoms, how it is and is not transmitted, and measures to prevent contracting it.

The original presentation lasted one and one half hours. Oakland Center videotaped the presentation, and an edited version of approximately 45 minutes duration is available for retaping on a furnished tape. Contact the Oakland Center Training Department at (415) 797-3200 or FTS 449-6316 for details.

U.S. And China Sign Aviation Agreement

FAA and the People's Republic of China have entered into a wide-ranging aviation technical agreement. Administrator Engen and Chinese Civil Aviation Administration Director General Hu Yizhou signed the agreement at Washington headquarters March 14.

The agreement, the first of its kind between the U.S. and China, includes the exchanges of scientific and technical personnel and information related to aeronautical programs of common interest. It also calls for cooperation in research and development and contains provisions for training and other technical assistance.

Technical cooperation in air traffic control, air navigation and aircraft operations, airport construction, aircraft certification and maintenance standards, and aviation safety and security also is provided for in the agreement. The pact will remain in effect for five years.

Roto Office Closed

FAA disbanded the Rotorcraft Program Office March 7 and reassigned its functions pending final approval of the organizational change by Secretary Dole. The decision was made because of money problems resulting from the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings balanced budget law and because most of the three-and-a-half-year old office's projects have been completed or are well on the way.

The Office of Airworthiness will take over responsibility for the Rotorcraft Master Plan and for rotorcraft airworthiness matters. Flight Standards will absorb the rotorcraft task force information sharing and coordinating program and the National Prototype Helicopter Development Program. This office will also be responsible for rotorcraft operations and maintenance.