



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

Western-Pacific Intercom



**C
e
l
e
b
r
a
t
i
o
n

C
o
n
t
i
n
u
e
s**

Cover Story

Story by Russell Park
Photos by Rafael Riera

The year-long celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the nation's air traffic control system was marked at the Headquarters of Western-Pacific Region with a special ceremony and display held recently in the lobby.

The ceremony was held in conjunction with the President's proclamation of July 6, 1986, as the day marking fifty years since the Federal government assumed responsibility for controlling air traffic.

Highlights of the program were opening remarks by Deputy Director Keith Potts and an address by Air Traffic Division Manager Wayne Newcomb.

Waving above the crowd was the official 50th banner. In the display area below were photographs depicting the history of the system from its beginnings in Newark, New Jersey--as an airway traffic control station with its 15 controllers on July 6, 1936--to the technologically advanced nationwide system--with about 14,000 controllers today--that is the best and safest in the world.

Visitors to the lobby throughout the day were treated to a continuous repeating videotape on the history of the system.

Over the years, various government agencies (including the Bureau of Air Commerce, the Civil Aeronautics Administration) have been responsible for the system. As the story of

the system unfolds, the display shows the women and men of the FAA. Behind the scenes in the high technology world of air traffic control are 8,000 electronic technicians who keep the whole system working by installing and maintaining the intricate computerized radar and communications network.

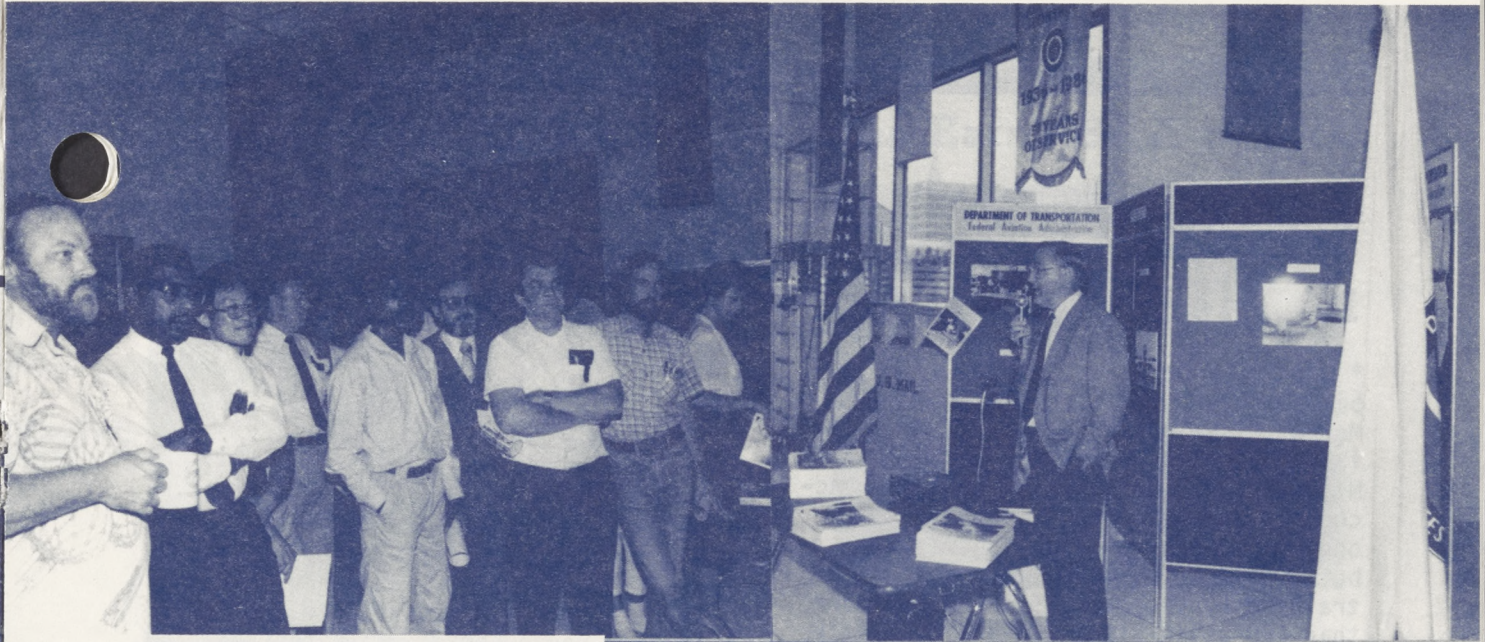
A special exhibit of the ATC system has been unveiled at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. and is expected to run for at least three years. Each day, 365 days a year, the system handles 150,000 landings and takeoffs at 400 airports in 50 states. There are 15,000 airline flights alone daily, carrying some two million passengers.

The major facilities are 22 centers, 199 towers, 962 instrument landing systems, 382 flight service stations, and more than 2200 navigational aids.

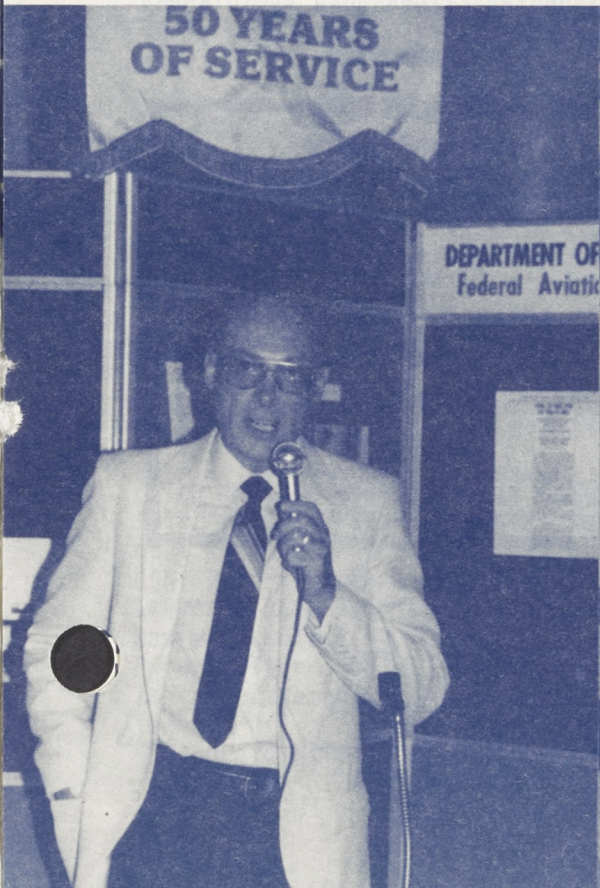
Celebrations throughout the region continue. On Saturday, September 20, the Mayor of the City of Hawthorne will present a proclamation to the FAA citing the 50th Anniversary. Hawthorne Airport is holding an airfare on that weekend. On the first weekend of October, a celebration is scheduled at a large air show in Salinas, Calif.

Air Traffic Control.





**Regional Office
Celebrates
50 Years
Of ATC Excellence**



The News In Brief



* Construction of a new prefabricated building for ASR-9 terminal radar and Mode-S radar beacon equipment training is expected to begin this month at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center. According to the current schedule, the one-story 80-by 40-foot laboratory building will be ready for technician training by December 15. FAA has more than 100 solid-state ASR-9's currently on order along with 137 Mode S ground stations.

* As a result of an FAA assessment, the Departments of Transportation and State have nullified an advisory cautioning travelers about security deficiencies at the Manila International Airport in the Philippines. The agency's assessment indicated that security at the airport now meets and, in some cases, exceeds international standards.

* To answer a question that is asked quite often by Federal workers these days, the lump-sum annuity payment allowed under the new retirement law is taxable. According to Administration and Congressional sources, it will be taxed in the same way as the rest of the annuity. That is, the part that was the employee's contribution will be tax-free and the government part will be fully taxable. This arrangement would hold until the employee's share has been fully collected.

F
A
L
L

begins

September 23!



Automated Equipment At All 13 AFSS Families



The flight service station automation program took a giant step forward on Sept. 8 with the delivery of the 13th and final Model 1 Flight Service Data Processing System (FSDPS) to the New York en route center. At the same time, three flight service stations in the New York "family" took delivery of the associated terminal equipment. They are Islip, NY; Milville, NJ; and Altoona, PA.

Previously, deliveries were made to the Atlanta "family," which includes the Atlanta center and the flight service station at Nashville, TN.

Although all the central computer equipment is now on site, deliveries of Model 1 equipment to AFSSs will continue as additional stations join the planned automated network.

Western-Pacific

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

H.C. McClure
Director

Rafael Riera
Copy Editor

Barbara Abels
Public Affairs
Officer/Editor

Talameo Salanoa
Word Processor

Elly Brekke
Russell Park
Assoc. Editors

Please submit
material and
photos to AWP-5.



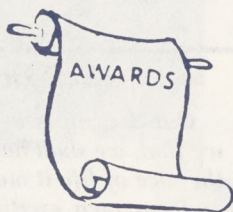
Santiago "Jim" Flores Earns Award



The Reno Flight Service Station (FSS) is pleased to announce that a Sustained Superior Performance Award has been granted to Santiago "Jim" Flores. Jim was cited for his performance September 1985 to August 1986.

Photo: Area Supervisor Ken Barrego, right, makes the award presentation to Jim.

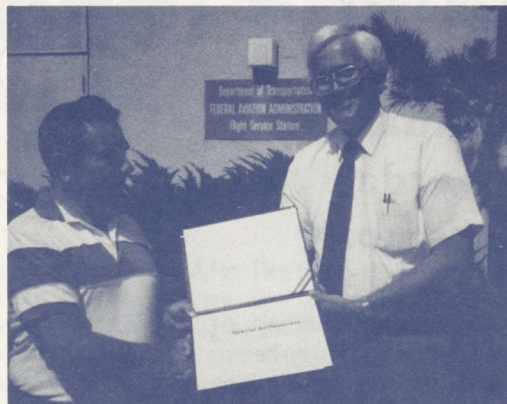
Phoenix Air Traffic Hub Awards



The following Phoenix Air Traffic Hub folks recently earned Special Achievement Awards: John Nolan, Phoenix TRACON; Robert Prehara, Phoenix TRACON; Lawrence Barnes, Grand Canyon Tower; Lawrence Goff (SAA for Special Service), Phoenix Tower; Malcolm Tindall, Prescott Tower and James Tokarski, Grand Canyon Tower.

Congratulations, all!

Kenna Earns SAA



Controller Ed Kenna (pictured above, left) receives a Special Achievement Award for performance during the period 8/1/85 through 7/31/86. San Diego FSS Manager Erwin Stanicek makes the presentation.

Congratulations to Laura Wade, who has presented an "on-the-spot award" for her performance at a recent pilot meeting.

Congratulations, Ed and Laura!



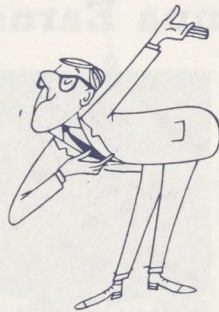
Reginald Fritschle Career Milestone

Reginald Fritschle, Air Traffic Control Specialist at Reno FSS, has been presented his 30-year career service emblem and a congratulatory letter from Regional Director Mac McClure.

Congratulations, Reg!



FAAers Honored In Dot's Annual Awards Ceremony



A record number of six FAA employees will receive the award for valor during the Secretary of Transportation's 19th annual awards ceremony on Sept. 10. Ralph Burt, AGL, was cited for rescuing six people from a two-car collision; Teena Clayton, ASW, for saving a motorist from a burning car; Julius J. Jodele, ANM, for her courage in rescuing an unconscious mountain climber; Sean King, AMA, for pulling a boy from icy waters; William Leak, ASO, for taking care of a coworker in a tower devastated by a tornado; and Peter Salmon, AGL, for saving the life of a drowning boy.

All together 31 FAA employees were scheduled to receive awards during the ceremony held in the Departmental Auditorium on Constitution Ave. in Washington, DC. Ten FAAers will receive the Silver Medal which is the Secretary's Award for Meritorious Achievement, outstanding leadership and contributions to programs that have wide influence.

They are Joseph Del Balzo, AEA-1; Dale McDaniel, API-2; Robert Whittington, ANE-1; L. Nelson Spohnheimer, ANM; James Stemple, APM-10; John Cassady, AGC-200; William Collins, CAMI; Thomas Messier, AIA-1; Alex Hammond, AWP-400; and Harriet Tucker, AMS-550.

The Excellence Award for GS=1 to GS=9 and WG-1 to WG=8 employees in the clerical and administrative support areas goes to 12 agency employees.

The 12 recipients, each of whom earned a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond, are Tina M. Amereihn, ALG-10; Debra H. Turner, AWP-406; Martha A. Finger, AIA-100; Sarah G. Ruppert, AIA-1; Patricia A. Larimore, ACE-200; Peggy R. Grossman, AGL; Carol A. Brooks, APT-1; Carmen L. Corliss, ASO; Vera M. Edwards, ALG-200; Antoinette D. Williams, AMA-130; Susan J. Eid and Vicki L. Flagg, both AGL.

The EEO Award for and managers who actively and effectively participated in Equal Employment Opportunity activities will go to Charles Middleton, ASO; David Robinson, AEA; and Evelyn Washington, ASW.



Thought For The Week

Self-Determination

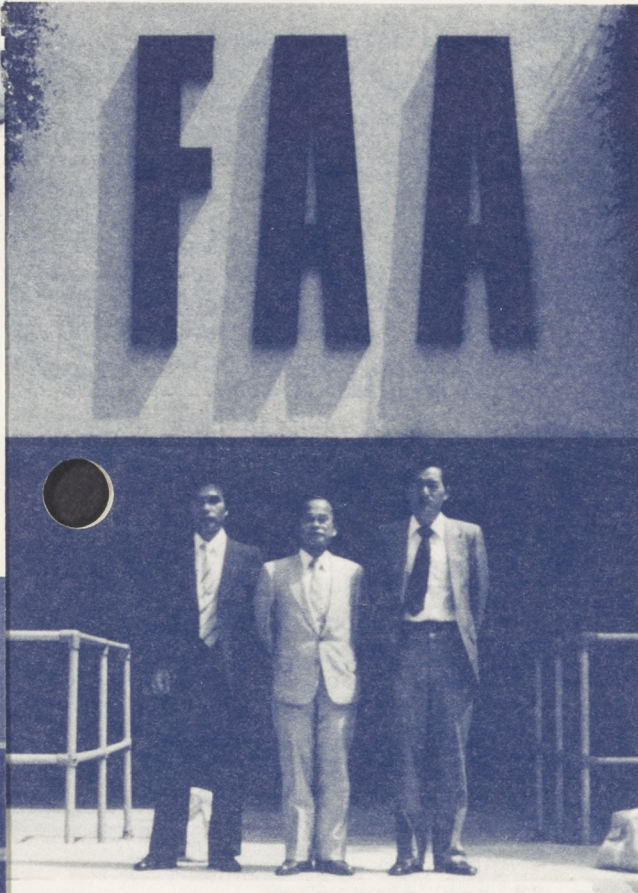
Our destiny is largely in our own hands. If we find, we shall have to seek. If we succeed in the race of life it must be by our own energies, and our own exertions. Others may clear the road, but we must go forward, or be left behind in the race of life.

If we remain poor and dependent, the riches of other men will not avail us. If we are ignorant, the intelligence of other men will do but little for us. If we are foolish, the wisdom of other men will not guide us. If we are wasteful of time and money, the economy of other men will only make our destitution the more disgraceful and hurtful.

— Frederick Douglass

Reprinted from *Airway Pioneer*

LAX Facilities Host Japanese Controllers



Above: Messrs. Toshio Satomura (left), Yoshio Haraguchi (center) and Hiromichi Tanaka (right) at entrance to FAA's AFS and TRACON facilities at Los Angeles.

Right: Jerry A. Johnson, Assistant Traffic Manager, LAX Tower, with Hiromichi Tanaka of Japan's Fukuoka Enroute Traffic Control Center.

The Los Angeles Air Traffic facilities recently hosted three Controllers from Japan—Mr. Toshio Satomura of the Osaka Airport; Mr. Hiromichi Tanaka of the Fukuoka ACC (Area Control Center) and Mr. Yoshio Haraguchi of the Yao Airport.

This visit was their first overseas experience for familiarization with the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system in the United States. To quote from Mr. Tanaka's recent letter, "...though it was a short stay in Los Angeles, we enjoyed it very much. I'd like to express our great thanks to your country for helping us on our ATC system. We are still expanding all kinds of computerized systems all over Japan. Thanks again for your hospitality during our stay at LAX."

These conscientious gentlemen had little time or opportunity for sightseeing here, but did enjoy a brief afternoon of shopping for souvenir gifts to take home to family and friends. We join our visitors in extending a special "Thank-You" to Jerry Johnson and other facility personnel who shared their technical expertise with these friendly Controllers from "the land of the rising sun."



ATCSs Honored For Year's Outstanding Flight Assists

When Mark Grant of the Cedar Rapids ATCT made his award winning flight save, he had to deal initially with a pilot who was ... well, maybe a little confused.

On Sept. 5, Grant received his reward when he was presented with the "Outstanding Flight Assist of the Year Award for 1985" in the tower category by Central Region Director Ed Harris. He also received a Special Achievement cash award and an ATC Certificate.

The other winners of the last year's Outstanding Flight Assist Awards are Wayne Kleinfelter of the Spokane FSS and Stephen Creamer of the Anchorage ARTCC.

In his July 30, 1985, flight assist, Grant had to deal with a pilot who first reported that he had oil pressure problems but soon confessed that he was in

even more serious trouble, having flown into instrument weather without an instrument rating.

"The guy was flying all over the sky and for over an hour and a half we had to keep straightening him out," Grant said. "I set the radar to its greatest sensitivity."

"Finally the pilot learned enough and could more or less fly straight and level. Then we were able to put him on the final approach course for the airport runway and keep him there until he broke out for a safe landing."

Kleinfelter also was involved in the "save" of a pilot who had inadvertently flown into instrument weather and severe icing conditions and was having trouble maintaining altitude. Creamer helped to bring in an airplane that was icing up and had engine problems to boot.

ICAO Has Positions Open In Peru And Mexico

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), in effect, provides a free job placement service for qualified people seeking jobs overseas. For example, right now ICAO has an assignment in Mexico City for a Technical Officer, RAC/SAR, PC-26/28/P-4; and two

others in Lima, Peru, for a Deputy Representative, PC-36/29/P-5, and Technical Officer, Comm., PC-36/31/P-4.

Applications for these positions are due in API-19 by Sept. 26. FAAers should check their servicing personnel office for copies of the ICAO materials with all the details.

Let There Be Light

You won't find light guns listed anywhere in the National Airspace System Plan, but this venerable tool for controlling airport traffic is nevertheless part of the ATC future. In fact, FAA's Program Engineering and Maintenance Service currently is developing a new lightweight, rechargeable model that it expects to have ready by June 1987.

The new light gun/reel will weigh almost one-third less than the present

equipment, which should make it easier for controllers to handle and use. However, the agency plans to field test the new signal gun at six towers before going forward with procurement.

Light guns, of course, are used to communicate with aircraft and ground vehicles with no radio or a non-operating radio. For example, a steady green signal tells a pilot he's cleared to land, and a steady red tells him to yield to other traffic.

FAA-FAA-FAA-FAA