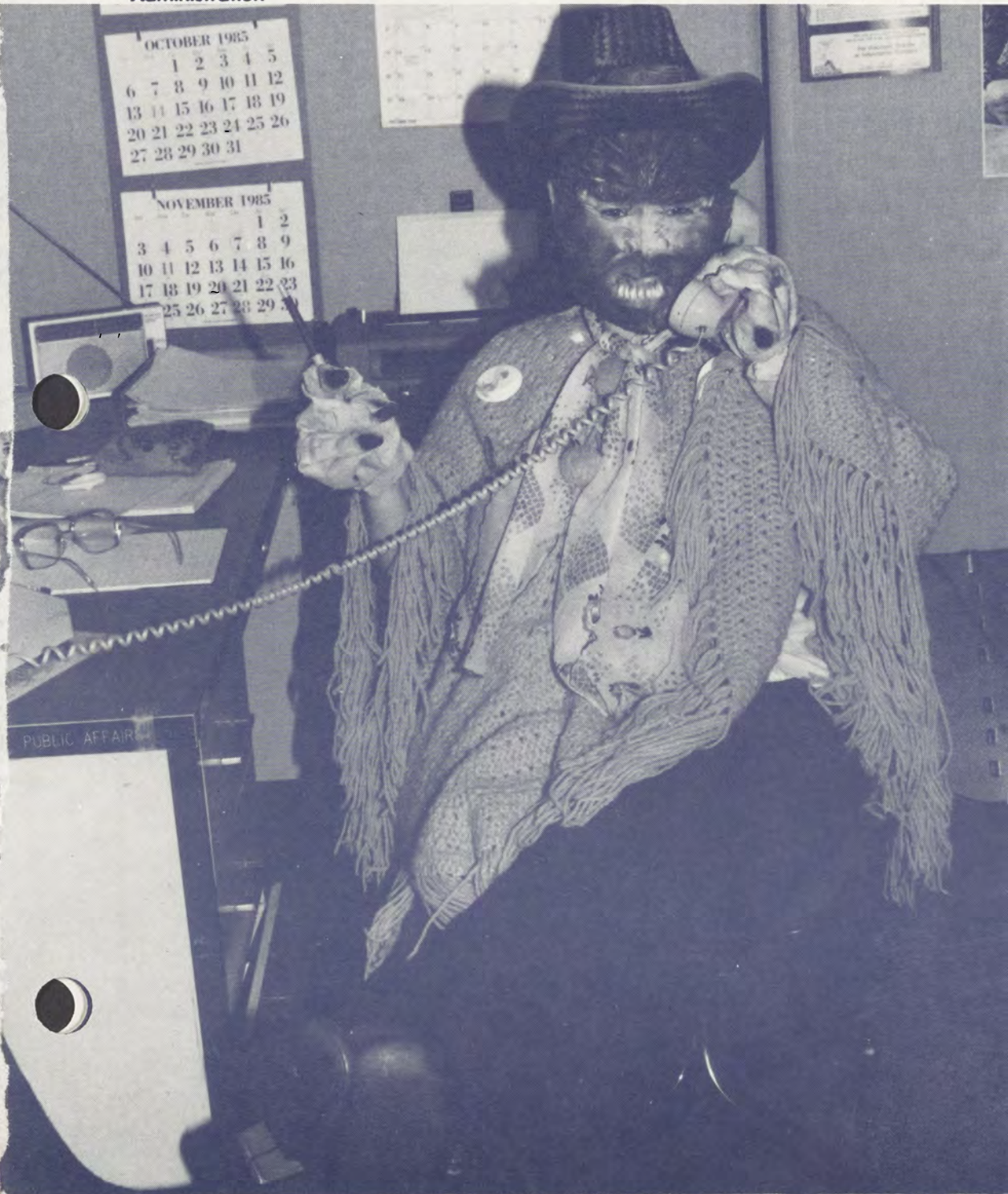




U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific Intercom



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Cover Story



With the possible exception of Christmas and Easter, no other holiday in the calendar has more customs associated with it than Halloween. Many of the customs are derived from Irish legends.

The observance of Halloween—the Eve of All Hallows or Saints—on October 31 stems from the Celtic Druid belief that November 1 was the beginning of the new year, and a festival in honor of the sun god was celebrated with large bonfires. The Druids also believed that on October 31, the end of the old year, the lord of death gathered together all the souls of the dead who had been condemned to enter the bodies of animals and decided what form they would take for the next year. The feast commemorating the saints began transplanting the pagan observance during the seventh century.

Years later, the immigrants who came to the New World brought many of their Old World customs with them. For example, the jack-o-lantern stems from the legend that an Irishman named Jack was barred from heaven because of his stinginess and forbidden to enter hell because of his practical jokes on the devil; he was thus condemned to walk the earth with his lantern until Judgment Day. Subsequently, lantern-like faces of "Jack" were carved on pumpkins, a squash in season at the time of year, making the well-known Halloween jack-o-lanterns.

The modern practice of children going about the neighborhood trick-or-treating stems from the 17th century when Irish peasants went about begging money for a feast in honor of Colum Kill or St. Columba. More recently, Halloween has again become a fund-raising event, following the 1967 Presidential Proclamation establishing the observance of National UNICEF Day in conjunction with

Halloween on Oct. 31. In many communities, children as well as adults show their concern for youngsters in developing countries through a variety of Halloween money-making activities for the United Nations International Children's Education Fund.

On this spooky holiday, FAAers like to join in the fun by posing as their favorite character when coming to work on October 31. On these pages, you will find ghosts, goblins, witches and who-knows-what from previous Halloweens celebrated throughout the Western-Pacific Region.

Drawing on ancient origins and modern-day customs, Halloween has become a firmly-entrenched American holiday. Faith and begorrah -- have a happy and safe Halloween!

Cover Photo: Lock your doors; bolt your windows! A werewolf is on the loose! Actually, it's Shirley Reed of the Regional Financial Management and Resources Division joining the Halloween fun. (Photo by Rafael Riera.)

Western-Pacific

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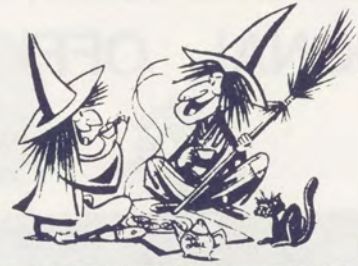
REGIONAL OFFICE GUYS AND GHOULS



Continued...

San Diego FSS Folks

Join the Fun

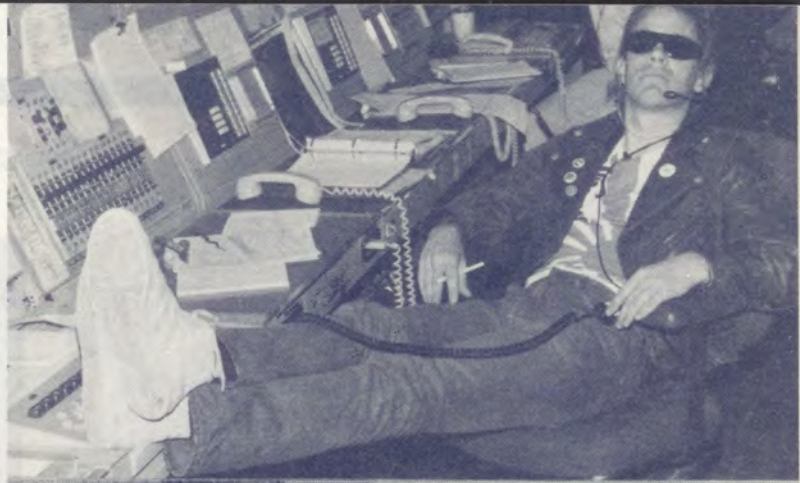


OAKLAND FSS

● FAAers

DRESS UP

FOR HALLOWEEN



The News

In Brief



* FAA closed out fiscal year 1986 with a total controller workforce of 14,803, more than 300 above the Congressionally-mandated figure of 14,480. Included in the total were 9,528 full performance level controllers and 1,714 Developmentals (GS-11/12/13s), who are qualified to work one or more positions in their respective facilities. The remainder are controllers in the development pipeline and air traffic assistants.

* Add Denver to the list of air route traffic control centers that have completed the building expansion needed to house the new Host computers. The construction work also has been finished at Seattle and Houston with nine other centers reporting more than 90 percent completion. The last of the 20 centers is currently scheduled to be completed in late January 1987. The first Host delivery is planned for late November and will go to Seattle.

* The new Deputy Director of the Southwest Region is Donald P. Watson who stepped up from being the Manager of the Aircraft Certification Division. Watson has risen steadily through the ranks since he joined the agency as an electronic technician in the Airways Facilities Division of the Southwest Region in February 1957.

* The Office of Personnel Management has announced new pay scales effective October 12 for employees in special salary categories. The new salary schedules will include pay increases agency-wide for certain engineers and medical personnel. Those affected are: engineers GS-9/12; medical officers, clinical and research, GS-11/15; and medical officers, other than clinical or research, GS-13/15.

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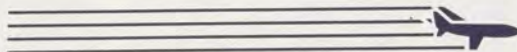


Miami Golf Tourney Set



FAA golfers should circle Oct. 30 through Nov. 1 on their calendars. Those are the dates for the Second Annual FAA National Golf Championships, sponsored by the Miami enroute center's 7500 Club.

The tourney will be held at Ft. Lauderdale's Rolling Hills Country Club. The cost of the tournament package is \$179. Reservations can be made by contacting Dean Stromwall at (305) 592-9770.



Thought For The Week

The reality of the other person is not what he/she reveals, but in what he/she cannot reveal to you.

If you want to understand him/her, listen not to what he/she says, but to what he/she doesn't say.

- Gibran

Honolulu AFS Happenings

While attending a Long Range Radar Seminar in the Regional office, Susumu "Sus" Furnike, Sector Field Office Manager at the Mt. Kaala Long Range Radar Sector Field Office, was pleasantly surprised when Regional Director Mac McClure took the opportunity to call an all-hands meeting.

Here, he presented Sus with a Letter of Appreciation from his co-workers.

Mac stated that it was no surprise to him that the technicians at Mt. Kaala feel so strongly about having such an excellent supervisor, since the results of the recently conducted attitude survey showed that the Honolulu Airway Facilities Sector had scored extremely high in the human relations area.

Mac has visited a majority of the Long Range Radar sites in the Western-Pacific Region and hopes to eventually visit all sites as his schedule permits.

The pride that the technicians have in their work and their facilities is quite evident and comes shining through as Mac talks with these dedicated FAA-ers.



Photo: Sus Furnike, left, accepts a Letter of Appreciation from his co-workers. Regional Director Mac McClure makes the presentation. Photo by Glenn Cross.

Flight Standards Division Birthdays



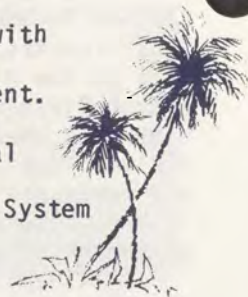
Flight Standards Division recently celebrated birthdays for all the "Leos," including Secretary Vicky Groft, Clerk Typist Tina Rabb, Clerk Typist Ruby Rice and Aviation Safety Inspector Jim Webb. A hearty thanks to Chuck Hicks for the fancy cake decorating.

(Photo by Russ Park.)

HONOLULU AIRWAY FACILITIES SECTOR

Honolulu Airway Facilities Sector has a lot of news to report.

Top -- Left: Richard "Kino" Miyashiro (right), Electronics Technician with Technical Support Unit, receives the Director's Certificate of Achievement. Regional Director Mac McClure presents the award to him for his technical support in the implementation of the Integrated Communication Switching System (ICSS) program while Kino was on detail to Washington Headquarters.



Right: Electronics Technician Kenneth Kato, (left), receives a Special Achievement Award from Manager Sus Furuike. Kenneth, who works at the Long Range Radar site at Mt. Kaala Sector Field Office, was cited for his superior performance during the past year.

Middle -- In support of the City and County of Honolulu's Summer Youth Employment and Training Program, Honolulu AFS provided summer youths with employment during the summer. Christabal "Christy" Malacas, a high school senior, and Bounnam "Nam" Mounsavath, a community college student, performed administrative duties while learning basic skills. Christy, left, (originally from the Philippines), types a letter and Nam (from Laos) updates the certification files.

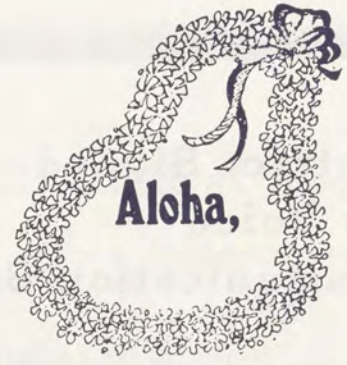
Below -- Left: Cypriano Calio (left), who was reassigned from the Honolulu Logistics Field Unit to Honolulu AFS as a developmental Engineering Equipment Operator, is recognized by Mt. Kaala SFO Manager Sus Furuike. Cypriano has made significant progress toward his conversion to an Airway Facilities employee and has performed exceptionally well in maintaining the Mt. Kaala access road. For his outstanding performance, he was presented with a Special Achievement Award.

Below -- Right: Lorraine Heya, Administrative Assistant at Honolulu Center AFS, receives a "haku" Hawaiian wreath. Honolulu AF Sector Manager John Gordon presents the laurel in appreciation for Lorraine's services while on detail to Honolulu AFS. Administrative Assistant June Burton shared in the detail to the Honolulu Center AFS; both women received cross training in anticipation of the proposed consolidation of the Sectors.

PEOPLE

AND

AWARDS



Contract Signed For Voice Communication System

FAA has signed major contracts with AT&T Technologies Inc. of Greensboro, NC, and the Harris Corp. of Melbourne, FL, to develop competing prototypes of a computer-based switching system that will control all enroute air traffic control voice communications.

This is the first phase of a two-step procurement which will culminate in the selection of a contractor to supply a voice switching and control system (VSCS) for the agency. The AT&T contract is valued at \$33,994,693 and the one with Harris at \$33,000,586. Both contracts allow 35 months for development of the prototypes.

Administrator Engen said the VSCS is an integral part of the advanced automation system that will be used with other NAS Plan components to control air traffic in the 1990's and beyond. "These systems will introduce a new era in air traffic control in which computers play an increasingly important role in decision-making," he added. VSCS will replace banks of electro-mechanical relays, tube-type amplifiers, and other largely obsolete equipment with computer-based, solid-state consoles. It will provide controllers at en route centers with computer-controlled voice switching for air/ground communications between pilots and controllers as well as intercom and interphone communications within and between air traffic control facilities.

The company selected to produce the system will build and install 25 systems, 23 for ARTCCs, and one each for the Tech Center and the Aeronautical Center.



ATC Systems Wins Award

The men and women who operate and maintain the FAA's air traffic control system are all "Aces" as far as the National Business Aircraft Association is concerned. And now they have a plaque to prove it.

NBAA earlier this year voted the air traffic/airway facilities work force its Award for Meritorious Service to Aviation, putting the FAAers in such distinguished company as past winners Igor Sikorsky, James Doolittle, Charles Lindbergh, and Eddie Rickenbacker to name only a few.

The award presentation was made Sept. 30 at the NBAA convention in Anaheim, CA, with Administrator Engen accepting custody of the trophy. He noted that, "Each and every air traffic controller, flight service specialist, and maintenance technician who has worked the system during the past fifty years has contributed to the achievement that you are honoring tonight."

The plaque will be exhibited in air traffic and then the Administrator's outer office where, hopefully, many of those who had a piece of the action may eventually get to see it.

1987 Combined Federal Campaign

It's that time again to give some thought to those less fortunate people that we can help. This year the CFC will be supporting more than 400 organizations to which we may designate our contributions through the easy Payroll Deduction method. Let's all join together to make this a successful campaign.



Give to the
Combined Federal Campaign

FBI and FCC Help Track Fake Calls

Both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Communications Commission are working with FAA to track down an individual who has been giving fake air traffic control instructions to aircraft approaching Miami International Airport.

The bogus transmissions began September 25 with instructions to an arriving airline flight to begin its descent but no safety problem resulted as the order was quickly countermanded by an alert Miami controller. The agency subsequently issued a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) alerting pilots to the problem, and there were no further incidents although sporadic transmissions -- many of an obscene nature -- continued on the ATC frequencies approximately two weeks, the last occurring on October 8.

Positions Open Overseas

FAA's Europe, Africa, and the Middle East (AEU) Office is looking for a few good men and women.

That office currently is recruiting a GS-14 Airworthiness Inspector and two GS-14 Avionics Inspectors. Details are in Announcements #EAMEO-86-348A and #EAMEO-86-349A, respectively. The jobs will remain open until filled.

AEU also is looking for a GS-14 Operations Inspector Unit Chief for the Frankfurt office (Announcement #EAMEO-86-449) and five GS-12/13 Aviation Security Specialist for jobs in Brussels, Paris, Dakar, and Rome (two openings). Check Announcement #EAMEO-86-417. All six of these jobs are open for bids until Oct. 17. Local personnel offices have copies of all announcements.

Floods Hit Central Region

The Central Region is recovering from extensive damage to many FAA facilities as a result of heavy early fall rains that sent both the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers over their banks.

For example, flooding in the St. Louis area damaged two outer markers and threatened the VORTAC and RCO. At Jefferson City, MO, high water damaged the VOR, Localizer and VASI.

During the ordeal, the National Prototype Maintenance Control Center at the St. Louis AF Sector Office proved its value as a communications center. It permitted the sector office to maintain communication with field technicians and provide a point for centralized data collection.

The Southwest Region also suffered minimal flood damage that caused some power outages and resulting air traffic delays.

Field Managers Analyze Employee Survey Results

Gene Weithoner, Associate Administrator for Human Resource Management and other HQ officials recently hosted six top-line regional and field managers to review the 1986 employee survey results.

The results of this group's work will be used with input from other employee groups to develop a series of national efforts to follow up on the 1986 Employee Attitude Survey.

The six field representatives were Southern Region Deputy Director William Pollard, Eastern Region Deputy Director Jack Stiglin, Miami FSDO Manager Addison Reynolds, Dayton ATCT Manager James Payne, Des Moines Cyril Schulze, and Southwest Region HRM Division Manager Mel Asher.

Blood Saves Lives Please Donate

The Red Cross Bloodmobile visited the Regional Office recently. Prior to the drive, a meeting was held with all division/staff key persons and a representative from the Red Cross. As always, the need for blood is critical; thanks to the donors who made the drive a success.

Photos: Top -- Representing the Red Cross, Nikki Rolli kicks off the Regional Blood Drive. Below -- Regional coordinators attend the initial program meeting in the Executive Conference Room. These folks act as focal points for recruitment of donors.
Photos by Rafael Riera.



Every day more than 1,000 people who live in Los Angeles and Orange Counties need blood.

Every day Red Cross provides the opportunity for many people to give blood. But blood is perishable and can be kept only 35 days. So, many new donors and repeat donors are needed all the time to make blood available to doctors and hospitals -- maybe for you!

