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Western-Pacific Intercom

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WESTERN-PACIFIC DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Cover Story

The FAA Western-Pacific Region has named Arlene Feldman as new Deputy Director. Arlene, a pilot and an attorney, had been Acting Director at the FAA Technical Center, a scientific test laboratory in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

"Arlene Feldman is an airport and aviation safety expert," said Mac McClure, the FAA's Western-Pacific Regional Director. "At the Technical Center, she managed several aviation safety projects that are of major consequence to the west coast. Her knowledge of collision avoidance systems, landing aids and airport capacity enhancements will be invaluable."

Arlene joined the FAA in 1985, coming from the New Jersey Division of Aeronautics. She was the first woman in the U.S. to be State Director of Aeronautics. While there, Arlene spearheaded a drive to update New Jersey's aviation laws. She also instituted an aviation education program in New Jersey schools. Arlene received her law degree from Temple University in Philadelphia. She also holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Colorado, where she was valedictorian.

News in Brief

* DOT has decided to try regulatory negotiations to work out the thorny problems involved in developing non-discriminatory rules for airline travel by handicapped persons. Representatives from DOT, the airlines and handicapped organizations will serve on the rule-making committee along with other interested parties. Agenda items will include advance notice requirements, conditions for refusal of service, requirements for attendants, seating restrictions and procedures for boarding and deplaning.

* Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday, April 5, three weeks earlier than past years. Since the clocks "spring forward" one hour, FAA employees working the midnight shift must either put in an hour's overtime at the end of the shift or take annual leave. FAA management is encouraging supervisors to make the overtime option available for all who want it.

* FAA is seeking applicants for the position of Chief, Civil Aviation Assistance Group, Europe, Africa, and Middle East Office/Muscat, Oman, FC-340-12 (GS-15). In addition to special allowances and benefits, the incumbent is entitled to return rights. For further information, contact Headquarters Employment Branch, FTS 267-3888.

Western-Pacific Intercom

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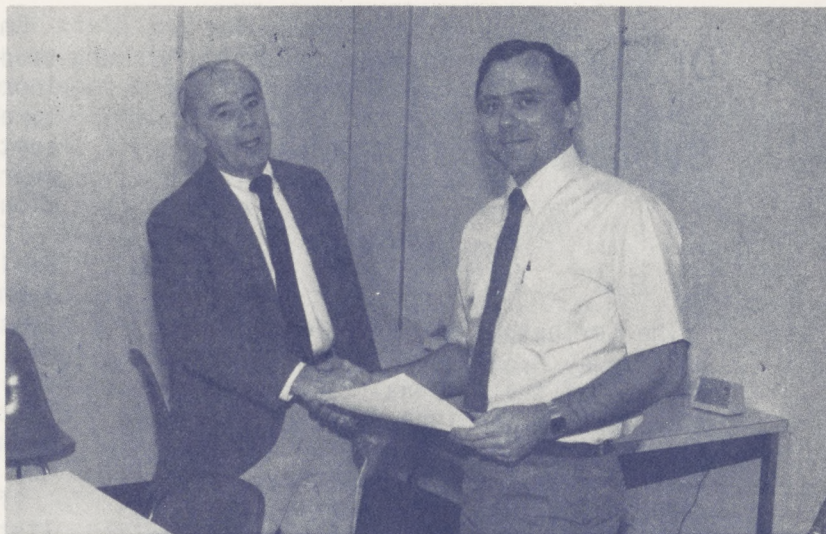
INTERCOM is published weekly for the employees of the Western-Pacific Region by the Public Affairs Office. Articles and photos are welcomed. If you have questions, suggestions or submissions, please call the Editor at FTS 984-1431/COMM 213/297-1431.

World Looks at Delays

With the summer travel season bearing down upon us, the March issue of FAA World reports on flight delays and what FAA is doing to reduce their numbers. The magazine also takes a look at the 60th anniversary of aircraft certification and traces the historical development of the government's role in this area. Additionally, readers will find FAA's rebuttal to a recent Time magazine article on air safety and stories on the East Coast Plan and Host computer deliveries. Look for the regular features also.

Oakland FSDO

People & Events



Photos: -- Top -- Oakland Flight Standards District Office Inspector Don Schoolcraft, right, recently earned a Letter of Commendation. Making the presentation is FSDO Manager Dick Merriman.

Below, left -- Congratulations to Inspector Terry Gordon, right, who recently received an Outstanding Performance Award from Manager Dick Merriman.

Below, right -- The friends and co-workers of Inspector Don Ogden gathered together to say farewell as he retires. Here, the group toasts Don (seated) and his wife. Best wishes for a happy retirement, Don!

Airway Facilities Sectors

Of the Year

Selected



The Covington, KY, and Albuquerque, NM, Airway Facilities Sectors are the winners of the national "Sector of the Year" awards for 1986. Covington won in the General NAS category and Albuquerque in the enroute center category.

The Covington Sector particularly distinguished itself by quickly restoring service at the Greater Cincinnati Airport after a tornado ripped through the area on March 10, 1986. Within three hours, AF technicians had controllers from the evacuated tower back on the air again from makeshift quarters. They had a temporary tower refurbished and ready to go two days later. All of this pleased Sector Manager David Bullock who said, "It's always satisfying to see a team work together to achieve the results you know they are capable of."

The Albuquerque Sector not only scored high in the critical facility performance area but also displayed initiative in handling many training programs and equipment installation projects inhouse. Sector Manager Roger Lindelow noted that the Sector saved the government \$18,000 in training costs alone through this approach.

Praising the dedication and commitment of his crew, he notes that they are not the kind of people who just pack up and go home at quitting time if there is still a job to be done. "That's why they are winners," he added.

Covington and Albuquerque were selected from a group of award-winning regional sectors. In the General NAS category were Bangor, ME; Harrisburg, PA; St. Louis, MO; Springfield, IL; Dallas/Fort Worth, TX; Salt Lake City, UT; and Golden Gate (Hayward), CA. The center sectors were New York, NY; Minneapolis, MN; Memphis, TN; and Seattle, WA.

Let Travelers Beware

Employees on official travel are cautioned not to use any of the official-looking tax exempt forms for hotel/motel taxes that are being circulated. Use of anything other than legal forms that are approved for use in particular jurisdictions can be construed as tax evasion.

The FAA Travel Manual points out that employees on official travel should seek exemption from occupancy taxes whenever possible thus resulting in a lower cost of lodging to the Government. The Federal Hotel/Motel Discount Directory lists locations which grant occupancy tax exemptions and required steps to claim the exemption.

If you are traveling to a location not listed in the Directory, the lodging establishment should be contacted first to determine if there is a legal exemption from the tax and what is required to claim it.

If further information is required, contact your servicing accounting office.

USAir Settles Civil Penalty

USAir has agreed to an \$84,000 civil penalty settlement for deficiencies uncovered during FAA's recent in-depth inspection of the carrier. It had been cited for improper maintenance procedures and faulty recordkeeping.

In addition, USAir agreed to pay another \$666,000 for non-compliance with an Airworthiness Directive discovered before the in-depth inspection began. The AD required visual inspection of the forward galley service door of DC-9 aircraft for cracks.

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season

Employees wishing to sign up for the Thrift Savings Plan should do so before the current open season ends on April 30. All employees covered in the Federal Employees Retirement System and Civil Service Retirement System are eligible to participate and will receive pamphlets describing the plan in detail. The enrollment forms must be submitted before the end of the open season.

Brackett Tower Participates In Aviation Education

Brackett Tower recently hosted a group of sixth and seventh graders on a tower tour. In appreciation for the aviation education the kids received, they took time to write to Controller Kim Schmidt, who dedicated his efforts to sponsor the group. We'd like to share the kids' enthusiasm with you!

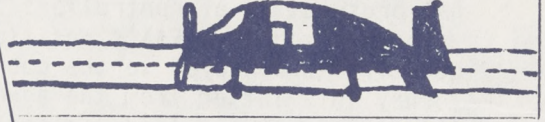
Dear Kim Schmidt,
 Thank you for inviting our class to Brackett Airport. There is one part that I liked in the tower. That part is watching the movie with the jets. I liked that part of the tour because I want to fly a jet. I really enjoyed the fieldtrip.
 Sincerely,
 Gary Castello



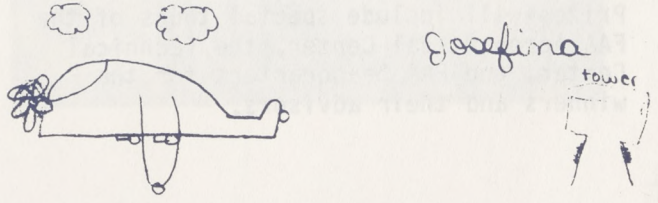
Dear Kim,
 Thanks for all the things you did for us. You showed us a movie. You took us up to the tower. You came to our class. It was fun meeting and being with you. It was nice of you to take some out of your schedule and take us to the tower. I had a fantastic time.
 Yours truly,
 Sandy Costa

Dear Kim Schmidt,
 Thank alot for inviting us to attend the airport. It was very nice of you, I had lots of fun. I liked it up in the tower because the can see a nice view. I even got to see neat stuff from far away because you let me see your papers.
 Thank from,
 Marcell Johnson

I am thanking Kim Schmidt because he spent many hours showing us around when he didn't have to. I also thank him for showing us the tower and the airplanes. I enjoyed it very much. It was very exciting when I went up to the tower. It was much better than the time I went to Ontario airport.
 airplane



We would like to thank you for all you did for all of us. We really enjoyed it. We heard you weren't supposed to work until the afternoon. We appreciate for you to work when you're not supposed to. We also thank you for making it a fun morning. You showed us the tower and we appreciated that.
 Thank you.
 your friend
 Josefina
 tower



FAA Will Stand Behind Safety Employees

Administrator Engen told a Texas law symposium recently that he is concerned about efforts by some local jurisdiction to seek criminal sanctions in accident cases and pledged that "FAA will vigorously resist any attempt by a local official to prosecute a controller offering a public safety service."

The Administrator cited, in particular, an October 1986 light-plane accident near La Crescenta, CA. Requests for ATC testimony and data from the Los Angeles County Attorney clearly indicated he was contemplating possible criminal prosecution of controllers.

Engen noted that FAA's position subsequently was conveyed to the county attorney in a letter from the agency's Chief Counsel. It said, in part: "I believe that air traffic controllers and other Federal employees are shielded from state and local criminal prosecution for actions performed within the course and scope of their Federally-authorized and mandated duties..."

Engen promised that FAA "will continue to hold strongly to those precepts which provide for safety and air commerce."

FAA Sponsoring Awards At World Science Fair

As part of the continuing campaign to interest students in aviation careers, FAA will sponsor a series of awards at this year's International Science and Engineering Fair. Scheduled to begin May 13 in San Juan, PR, the fair will feature more than 600,000 projects developed and built by young people.

The FAA awards will be offered in the areas of behavioral/social sciences, computer science, engineering, environmental science, and medicine/health. Prizes will include special tours of the FAA Aeronautical Center, the Technical Center, and FAA headquarters for the winners and their advisors.

Golden Gate AFS News

Letters of Appreciation were received from AWP=450 to Richard Sherry, Environmental Technician-in-Depth, for presenting a cable faults and splicing briefing during an all hands workshop... from AWP=460 to Paul Milani and the Moffett Site technicians for their expertise, professionalism and assistance provided during a test of magnetron tubes... from AWP=453 to Ron Oberlercher for the assistance he provided during his detail... from Manager, Bay TRACON, to Peter Givens for his efforts in locating and securing a portable transmitter for an on-site evaluation of the San Francisco PORTE departure flight path. In addition, Peter found a difficult to locate part to repair the TRACON's paging and radio system... from Manager, Fremont Airway Facilities, to Clarence Bryant for his outstanding support and expertise during his detail at the Oakland Center... from the Manager, Wichita Kansas Airway Facilities, to John Baysdorfer for his assistance at the Garden City Kansas Long Range Radar... from the Associate Federal Women's Program Manager Rozelia Cusic to Robert Nelson for video taping a training seminar... and to Mel Haworth for providing conference room facilities and staff support for FWP program activities.

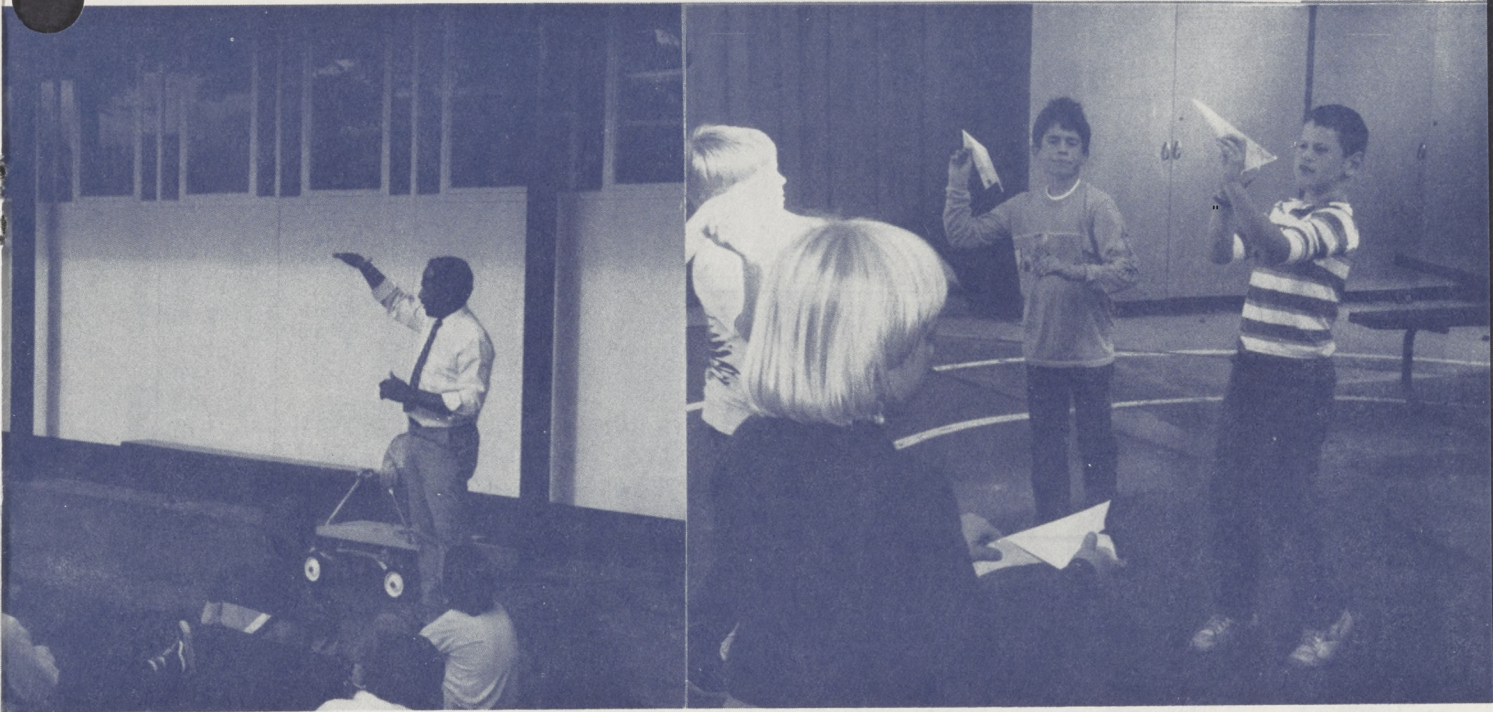
Congratulations to Frank Gonzales who received a promotion and to Abe Jung who passed the Environmental Technician-in-Depth exam. Many thanks to those who participated in the Combined Federal Campaign. Total dollar contribution was \$2139 with 49% participation. Thanks to Dave Dunlap and Rudy Rugenstein who provided a facility tour of the Crescent City Radar for ten members of the California Conservation Corps.

Hawthorne FSS Gives Kudos

During the month of February, personnel from Hawthorne Flight Service Station earned Sustained Superior Performance Awards. They are Ken Price, Janet Duckworth, Mike Lammes and Jerry Acosta.

Recognized with Letters of Commendation were David Baldwin, Matthew Gilbert and Hugh Kelly.

Chuck Hicks Teaches Students about Flight



Chuck Hicks, Manager of the Regional Flight Procedures Branch recently presented a very informative program about airplanes to students in grades four through six at White Oaks School in San Carlos, Calif. From how airplanes fly to airport safety were topics covered during the sessions.

Photos: Left -- Chuck explains the theory of flight to the students.
Right -- The kids find out for themselves by flight testing paper airplanes.

Rick Frank Named Stockton Employee of the Quarter

Hats off to Rick Frank (right), Area Supervisor at Stockton Tower/TRACON. Rick was selected as the Employee of the Quarter by the entire workforce. Making the presentation is Air Traffic Manager Jerry Martin.

Rick's selection, in part, is for his devotion to improving the facility's human relations efforts and his professionalism in performance of duties.

Congratulations, Rick!





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March, 1987

HELLO-TO ALL FAA EMPLOYEES IN WESTERN-PACIFIC REGION

WHAT IS CIVILAIR? Many have asked. It is YOUR employees organization. It was founded in 1938 in the former CAA Western-Region. It is a California Non-Profit Corporation. It's purpose is to provide those essential morale building services which cannot be provided with the government's appropriated funds, and which fall within our corporate charter. Everyone in the Western-Pacific Region who has an FAA ID Card is automatically a member of Civilair. Our services are extended to other employees who are located in the RO Headquarters building, and to the FAA Credit Union Employees.

Civilair is governed by a Board of 25 Directors each of whom serves for a term of two years. Half of the directors are elected each year by whatever democratic process the respective organizations choose to use. Each director represents from 15 to 50 people of the RO Headquarters or the LAX Hangar. They also represent the employees of their division's field offices, if any. Directors are expected to serve as two-way communicators between their constituents and the Civilair Board.

Civilair does much of its work through committees. There are presently four of these: Social Activities, Service Activities, and Travel/Group Activities. The Chairperson of these committees plus the four officers compose an Executive Committee which is empowered to act for the board in emergencies when time makes it impractical to convene the whole board. Every director serves on at least one committee. Volunteers are welcome.

Civilair sponsors and supports many group activities such as Toastmasters, Bowling League, Golf, season tickets to Dodgers, picnics, parties, etc. Also provides discount buying services through a service desk on the fourth floor of the RO headquarters building. Other services include tickets to various entertainment and sporting events, Disneyland, Sea World, Knotts, Business Cards, plaques, mugs, cups, FAA Jewelry, coin purses, and many other items of special interest not usually available locally.

If you would like any further information, please contact me on 984-1697 (FTS) or (213) 297-1697 (comm).

Linda Murray
LINDA MURRAY, AWP-52B
CHAIRPERSON, CIVILAIR, INC.

SERVICE TO CAA / FAA EMPLOYEES SINCE 1938