

Two Piedmont Employees Near The End Of A Dream



From the time when we stood as children gaping at an airplane soaring overhead, we have perhaps admired and envied the men who were pilots. There seems to be a natural respect for the men who pilot the cloud-piercing crafts. And for most of us who now work for an airline, but who are limited to the ground there are moments when we return to the fascination of childhood and wish we could be the "man in control" of these amazing transporters.

But we have learned that there is more than magic to the job. There is more than riding over a path of blood red clouds at sunset, more than the Christmas tree beauty of towns twinkling in the night. We now know that it takes not only courage, but an ability to accept responsibility for human lives, a high degree of skill acquired by long training to be a pilot. Most of us are content just to glance with envy once in a while as we see the pilots wave goodbye, taxi down the runway and pull into the mystery of the horizon. But then there are others who are willing to take the long training and hard work to make the dream of flying a reality. Two such men are Rick Almond and Carl Martin who will soon be flying as co-pilots for Piedmont.

Rick has been with Pied-

mont since 1952 and is familiar to all of us as Station Manager of our Knoxville station. Not long after Rick had started working for Piedmont, he started taking private flying lessons. Rick had become fascinated with flying while watching the planes during World War II, but going further than most of us, had the determination to see his dream come true. For eleven years he patiently took lessons and in 1957 he received his commercial license and instrument rating.

Carl is another long time employee. He has been working as an aircraft mechanic for eight years. Carl says that he had no idea of becoming a pilot when he started with the company, but after some pleasure flying, the bug caught him and he started taking lessons. About 2 1-2 years ago he got his commercial license, 1 1-2 years ago he received his instrument rating. Carl has gotten in plenty of practice in flying by being part owner of a 140--Cessna.

As Carl and Rick climbed into the cockpit of an F-27 to pose for a PIEDMONITOR picture, they looked as happy as two kids walking barefooted through a nice squishy mud-puddle...or as proud as two men who had made a dream come true.

COMPANY PICNIC IS SUCCESS

Approximately 1,200 fun-loving Piedmont employees gathered June 6th at Tanglewood Park for the annual family picnic.

One of the biggest events of the day was the golf tournament and Flight Attendant Dick Jones won first prize of a dozen golf balls and 2 pairs of golf socks. Mrs. R. S. Northington, the only woman to play golf during the day, won a handsome alligator golf blouse.

Ed Culler, stationed at Fixed Base in Winston-Salem, luckily walked away with the attendance prize which was a beautiful clock radio. Ed was the first person attending the

picnic whose payroll number was drawn.

These three seemed to be the lucky ones for the day, but everyone else had too much fun to really mind their lack of luck. The picnic supper, catered by Paul Myers, was mighty good eatin' with piles of fried chicken, barbecue, ham biscuits and a variety of side dishes.

It seems that the mothers as well as the kiddies enjoyed the free rides and the day was perfect for swimming.

Everyone seemed to agree that Tanglewood was certainly the ideal place for the picnic and that this year's took the ribbon for being the best we've ever had.

Attend Meeting

Messrs. T. H. Davis, President, R. S. Northington, Vice President, and C. W. Gough, Manager of the Parts and Accessories Department of Piedmont Aviation, attended the Aviation Distributors and Manufacturers Association meeting in San Francisco, California, during the week of June 22nd. Piedmont Aviation has been a member of this organization since 1947. The objectives and purposes of the Association are to promote friendly business relations and mutual confidences among its Members and with others in the Aviation Industry. ADMA meets twice a year which affords all of the distributors and manufacturers the opportunity to meet together to discuss problems in connection with the production and marketing of all parts and supplies. Mr. Northington served as President of ADMA from November, 1955, until November, 1956, and is now a Member of the General Policy Committee.

Route Case

There have been no new developments in any of the pending route cases. A report on the Piedmont Area Case was given in the May issue of the PIEDMONITOR and as you know, the hearing before Examiner James Keith was concluded May 21. The Examiner has now established July 31 as the date for the transmittal of briefs. The briefs are prepared after the conclusion of the hearings by the attorneys for the different applicants and include argument based upon facts presented at the hearing in exhibits and testimonies. After these briefs are submitted in the Piedmont Area Case, some time will be required for the Examiner to study and analyze the entire record in order to develop his initial decision.

In the Cincinnati - Detroit Case, the date for the hearing has been postponed from June 15 until June 29, and, as it now appears, will probably last about two weeks. Further information concerning this case will be in the next issue.

City Of Jackson Opens New Terminal

Recently the City of Jackson, Tennessee invited Piedmont to bring company representatives and an F-27 to the dedication ceremonies of their new terminal building.

As you know, we are seeking authorization to serve Jackson in the Southeastern Area Local Service Case and were therefore glad to have this opportunity to meet the people and display our prop-jet. The Bureau Council of the CAB has recommended that Piedmont serve Jackson through Knoxville.

The ceremonies included a

demonstration, display of different types of planes, and speeches. In addition to the community people, several airlines, including foreign, were represented.

The people of Jackson were extremely enthusiastic over the F-27. It was the first jet-powered aircraft to land at their field and hundreds went through and expressed approval. Airport officials and leading citizens were given a courtesy flight.

Messrs. Davis, Brown, Saunders, Nicholson, Brunt, Stack, and Don Britt, and Captain Jimmy Craig attended.

Examiner's Decision Released On Passenger Fare Investigation

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Air Transport Association today notified the Civil Aeronautics Board it will press no specific exceptions to the Initial Decision of Examiner Ralph L. Wiser in the General Passenger Fare Investigation.

Although finding the Initial Decision "disappointing in significant respects," ATA said such areas "by and large...fall outside the scope of ATA's presentation in this case." The Association's stated role in the

proceeding deals with matter of general airline industry application. Specific proposals as to the fare adjustments and other measures which are needed originate with individual carriers.

Noting that the Initial Decision "rests on sound basic principles," ATA urged the five man CAB, however, to "review with care those areas of the Initial Decision which may be deemed to fall short, and to which exception is in order."

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A Letter... A Flight... A Visit... A Few Thoughts On Piedmont

The other day I was going through the "commendation" letter file and one short note caught my eye. It read: "I want to write a short letter of appreciation for the fine personal service which I find I always receive when I am riding on your airline. Your comparison is good with other airlines because you always take a personal interest in your passengers." This is a rather simple letter representative of the majority that we receive and it seemed to say a lot.

And then the high number of articles we've had in the PIED-

MONITOR reporting the growth of our company struck me. In introducing the F-27 into our fleet, the company had made a major step toward modern and improved service... the per-

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Finance Meeting

The Airline Finance and Accounting Conference of ATA held its semi-annual meeting in May in New York City. Mr. M. F. Fare, Secretary of the Company, attended.

The Conference is made up of the financial officers of the trunk, international (U. S. based), and local carriers. This group is divided into committees who work together during the year to arrive at the most efficient methods of handling the different financial aspects of the industry. These committees make recommendations to the entire group at the semi-annual meetings, and if the Conference approves their ideas, they are presented to the Board of Directors of ATA.

Mr. Fare points out that the Conference not only provides a sounding board for industry problems, but results in a better cooperative climate for inter-company relations.



THIS BEAUTIFUL SHOT OF OUR F-27 in flight is one of a group made by Fairchild. The collection of pictures will be made available for station files at a later date.