

VAMOS A GUADALAJARA !!!

Aviation Week
FEB. 3-10, 1991

Dear Fellow Builder/Pilots,

As I have contacted most of you by phone already, you have most of the particulars of this very special invitation to Guadalajara we have been extended. I have prepared this preliminary packet for your benefit and will reiterate a few points.

I. THE INVITATION- "Aviation Week"- ~~Experimental Aviation~~; The Impact of Individual Contributions to Technology..

While attending a E.A.A. Fly-In in Manzanillo this fall, an invitation was extended to me by the Director of the Science and Industry Museum of Guadalajara. During their "Aviation Week" ceremonies they would like to have a group of experimental airplanes with their builder/pilots available for demonstrations and informative programs. They, the museum, would pay the expenses incurred; gas, food, and lodging for up to about six aircraft.

There will be a number a opportunities to demonstrate to the public the abilities of our aircraft including a "Desfile Aerial" (Aerial Parade) right over the main boulevard of Guadalajara !!! In fact a picture of a Long EZ is being used on the Posters for the event !!! Aviation Week will also coincide with a very important anniversary of the founding of the city, one of the most beautifully colonial of Mexico's modern cities.

I have just recieved written confirmation in regards to our being reimbursed for the related expenses. Therefore, only now do I feel I may talk it up.

II. " THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE GALINDO PLANETARIUM."

The museum itself is rather a special institution. We as foriegn guests can feel quite honored to be invited to help witht their efforts. It measures over 40,000 sq.ft. (larger then the Barker Hanger at SMO). It is a modern building constructed with donated, Private, funds much like the way Public T.V. works here in the States. In fact, the operating budget is' derived totally from these private, non-government donations. The museum's primary objective is to expose the public at large and especially the youth, to the joys and excitement of modern technological discovery. This is very much like Oppenhiemer's Exploratorium in San Francisco. As one of the very interesting displays is an entire, complete 727 fuselage, in which the kids can walk all the way through, sit in seats, etc. Of further interest is that the Mexican Air Force Academy is located in Guadalajara. The Aviation Week (this their fourth year) creates so much activity in and around the city, traffic comes to a stand still on the weekends.

III. A BENDER ON A SOAPBOX.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to participate in this event are sure to be enriched far beyond the wonderful flying in Mexico. This opportunity will give each of us a chance to represent our country through demonstrating our love of flying. This year's theme of Aviation Week is dedicated to Experimental Aviation and the role of the grass roots individual in creating far reaching innovations and discoveries. I know of no better group of individuals who embody this ideal better than those of you builders with whom I'm acquainted.

From my experiences abroad since youth and my stint in the U.S. Foreign Service, this sort of People to People activity goes far beyond 200 years of diplomatic history in contributing to positive international relations.

Your personal sacrifice of time and effort to help out will indeed be appreciated greatly. The satisfaction from this and the inevitable friendships you will create will go on to last a lifetime.

IV. FLIGHT PLANNING- Some ideas.

The Great Circle Direct distance from SMO-MMGL (Don Miquel Hidalgo In'tl) i.e., Guadalajara is 1,139nm.

Although direct, nonstop flights are possible, the Mexican government would prefer single engine, piston powered airplanes to clear immigration and customs close to the U.S. border. This means a stop in either Mexicali, Hermosillo, or Guaymas. This does have an economic reward in the price saving of Mexican fuel- as of the writing of this letter 100LL is 1.83/gal.

In addition we have to take into account 2 important factors. There is no night VFR in Mexico and we lose 2 hours from the change from PDT to CST, time zones. As a real conservative groundspeed of 140 knts, this means 8.4 hrs. flight time, 1 hr. to fuel and clear customs which is a total time from gear up SMO to touchdown MMGL of 9.4hrs.

A possible direct itinerary would look like this:

DEPART SMO	07:00 PDT=	15:00 Z
Ariv. MXL	08:24 PDT=	16:24 Z
DEPART MXL	09:24 PDT=	17:24 Z
Ariv. MMGL	16:24 PDT=	24:24 Z= 18:24 CST or 6:24 Local

This is about 1 hr and 30 minutes past sunset in Guadalajara.

Sure, most of you guys will do this trip at about 170-180 knts gs. But why push it? I have discussed the necessity of a stopover and the cost of such has been approved. (lodging etc.) So why not stop over in tropical Mazatlan for the night and a great seafood dinner and arrive refreshed and relaxed in Guadalajara. (MMZT is 2 hours out of MMGL). By the way the total difference between this route and a direct Great Circle is all of 24nms !!! 1,139.7 vs 1,164 nms. We get the extra bonus of a beautiful coastal route and lots of alternate airports.

V. Charts are Charts.

Well since the U.S. government has seen fit to suspend the publication of WAC CJ-24, we have to rely on other sources. To the rescue is the Department of Defense with something they call TACTICAL PILOTAGE CHARTS. They are gorgeous, and instead of 1:1,000,000 scale like the WACS, they are 1:500,000 as are SECTIONALS with great detail of terrain, culture and Nav aids. The only thing they don't have is the frequencies. Never fear they think of everything when it comes to planning for invasions. There is an Airport Facilities Directory (a Flight SUPPLEMENT for the Caribbean and South American Regions) with everything you need. The easiest way to order these is from Pan American Navigation Services (818) 345-2744. Here are the D.O.D. order numbers;

TPC-XX-H22B

TPC-XX-H22C

TPC-XX-H23C

TPC-XX-H23D

TPC-XX-J24A

ENR-XX-CSASUB is the supplement.

A good planning tool is the JNC-46 at a scale of 1:2,000,000

The above are about \$4.00 ea. I have ordered a limited supply of these to help out, but I would appreciate it if you would possibly order these for yourselves. When used with the available WAC's you have more than enough coverage.

VI. A CHECKLIST.

One of the most complete checklists I have seen is the enclosed, published by a Mexican Insurance broker. I have ordered Mexican Tourist Cards and General Declarations which we can fill out ahead of departure to save time. However the Auto Club and most Travel Agencies have these. If you don't have a passport, or a notarized copy of your Birth Certificate, you may get a notarized copy of a statement of your citizenship at a realty office as a last resort. Please obtain a copy of Senterfitt's Airports of Baja and Western Mexico- it is the bible. I suggest that you bring a supply of one dollar bills. A dollar tip to a Flight Service person or gas attendant means a great deal, especially when they earn about \$15.00 U.S. a day. Something nice also would be if you order a few Long EZ Pins from Mojave to give out as gifts, orders can only be processed on Tuesday at about 6.50 ea.- they're not that expensive to give to someone who has shown you some special kindness. Be advised you will need cash for fuel enroute, except in Guadalajara. U.S. currency is accepted but sometimes you lose a little in the exchange.

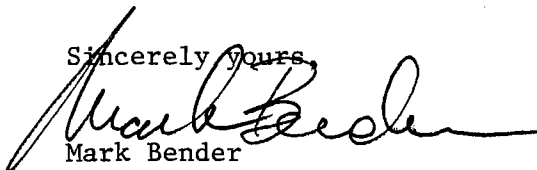
VII. YOUR MISSION'S BRIEFING.

I would like to schedule an informal FIESTA and Flight Briefing in about the middle to the third week of January. We may perhaps get a Mexican Aviation Official to attend. Stand By Film at 11:00 on this one. I just thought it would be nice to get together and take care of last minute details etc. especially for those of you that are planning to fly down as a group.

Thanks a Lot...

As you guys can tell this little project means a great deal to me personally and I'm very grateful to each and everyone of you for participating. Please feel free to contact me about whatever problems or questions you may have.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Bender", written over the typed name.

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**CENTRO DE
CIENCIA Y
TECNOLOGIA**

PLANETARIO
"SEVERO DIAZ GALINDO"

**C. MARK BENDER
P R E S E N T E.-**

ESTIMADO MARK

Dada la experiencia que tuvimos en Manzanillo, durante el festival aereo; me complacería mucho participaran Ustedes en el evento que tendremos en febrero, durante los días 3 al 10 y que denominamos "IV Semana de la Aviación". Para tal efecto, les he propuesto al Ayuntamiento ofrecerles a Ustedes, los gastos de transporte (gasolina), hospedaje y alimentación, durante su estancia en Guadalajara, este evento estará dentro de los festejos del aniversario de nuestra ciudad, por lo que te prometo una estancia muy agradable te pido por favor, nos informes que se puede hacer al respecto y la estimación del costo de transporte por avión.

Recibe un cordial saludo.

A T E N T A M E N T E
Guadalajara, Jal. 3 de Diciembre de 1990

ING. ALBERTO CASTELLANOS MAGDALENO
DIRECTOR GENERAL



**AYUNTAMIENTO
DE GUADALAJARA**