

A looking for workers

Ex-Braniff staff sought

United Press International
ALLAS — Letters from Southwest Airlines have sent this week to former employees of bankrupt Braniff International inviting them to apply for jobs in the proposed new Division of the San Diego-Dallas line.

Although only about 1,500 jobs exist for the 9,000 employees of Braniff and salaries in some cases less than half was paid by Braniff, PSA immediate interest was expressed by Braniff.

PSA spokesman William Hastings said the airline needs aviation sales agents, airport service personnel, flight attendants, mechanics and other

ground service personnel, flight crews, crew schedulers, dispatchers and skycaps.

Job openings exist for stations PSA plans to open in Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, Chicago, Denver, Houston, Memphis, Miami, Midland, New Orleans, Newark, N.J., Oklahoma City, Okla., Omaha, Neb., San Antonio, Tulsa, Okla. and Washington D.C.

"This letter and its attachments provide you with the opportunity to express your interest in becoming a PSA employee," the letter says.

"We anticipate most of these jobs to be in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, although there will be station agent and ramp ser-

vice job opportunities to be served by the PSA Texas division."

The PSA arrangement was announced late last year, and involved an expansion of PSA using Braniff equipment, airport facilities and regulatory clearances.

The proposed Texas division of PSA must be approved by federal bankruptcy judge John Flowers who is directing Braniff's reorganization.

Many of the unions which represented Braniff employees opposed the PSA connection, primarily because former Braniff employees would lose seniority to PSA employees. Flowers already has terminated

Braniff contracts with three of its five unions.

The attachments to the letter included a PSA job application form and a release which would allow PSA to see Braniff personnel records.

Another attachment detailed salaries. Captains in the new union would receive \$42.94 per flight hour, compared to the average starting wage of \$85 paid by Braniff. Pay for flight attendants and ground personnel was closer to the Braniff level, but still lower.

Hastings said PSA expects to fill most, if not all of the nearly 1,500 openings with former Braniff employees.

Inmates live extra winter within tents

United Press International
HUNTSVILLE — Several thousand inmates at the Texas Department of Corrections will spend their second winter living in surplus military tents, which were erected in November 1981 as a temporary measure to ease overcrowded conditions.

Prisoners have been working this week to fortify the tents with plywood sides and roofs and gas heaters are being installed.

"It's hardly right to call them tents anymore," TDC spokesman Jay Byrd said. "There's no canvas left in most of them."

The tents are scheduled for use until 1985, about four years longer than first proposed.

They were erected as an immediate response to a federal judge's order to halt the practice of putting three inmates in a cell.

"We could not build conventional facilities fast enough to meet our population growth," TDC director W. J. Estelle Jr. said.

But since the tents were built, the inmate population has swelled by about 10,000 inmates. About 5,000 beds have been added through a crash building program, but presently 3,400 inmates are living in the 340 tents.

A California lawyer who represented the inmates in a federal court battle which charged the prison system with violated prisoners rights, said in the past two years the

housing situation at TDC has worsened.

"Life in TDC has gotten worse, and the continued use of tents is a disgrace," said William Bennett Turner, a San Francisco lawyer who won the court-ordered reforms.

Although the lawyer is against the use of tents, most inmates are eager to move out of cell blocks and volunteer to live in the tents, officials said.

Prisoner Gerald Mathis said he volunteered for the tent to get away from the noise in the cell blocks.

"I like it so much, I'll buy me a tent if they run out of money for them," Mathis said, adding that most of the tent residents are trustees and no problems have been reported.



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