

Boulder City's Airport....Capsule History

Boulder City's first airplane was brought onto the reservation on April 26, 1933, by Glenn E. "Bud" Bodell, chief ranger. A licensed pilot, Bodell brought in the Federal craft with its Axelson motor by truck. The plane had suffered an accident in the bed of the Virgin River and Bodell bought it to repair and fly. He claims he was the first to fly out of the Boulder City field while it was still under construction.

Work on the airport started the week of May 16, 1933. Noel Bullock, holder of the permit for the airport issued by government authorities, flew in from Los Angeles and landed on Eldorado Dry Lake which was in use as a natural landing strip at this time.

Dr. J.B. Parks holds the honor of being the first "passenger" to fly out of, and return to, the airport. He had Bullock fly him to Los Angeles on June 30, 1933. Bullock also made a second trip to L.A. for the return flight on July 11. The trip took two hours each way.

John Rice was the contractor in charge of carving the facility out of raw desert.

It was announced that M.M. Munn, formerly with American Airways, would conduct the flying school operations. A four passenger Cessna will be used for passenger flights; a Fleet and a Fairchild will be used for student training.

The airport opened for traffic in November, 1933. The formal dedication was held on December 10, 1933 with a reported 3,000 people attending the ceremonies. Local garage owner and president