

AWA Visitors See Bell Plant, Carter Field

Luncheon at Amon Carter Field highlighted Wednesday's convention activities of the Aviation Writers Association, after a tour of Bell Aircraft Corporation's helicopter factory near Hurst and an inspection of the huge new airport near Euless.

The 200 members boarded Air Force buses at Hotel Texas convention headquarters at 9 a. m. for the trip, returning in mid-afternoon for a cocktail-swimming party at the Western Hills Hotel.

Formal dedication of the hotel's Civil Aeronautics Administration-approved heliport was part of the program there before returning to the hotel to prepare for the day's climax: a dinner party at Shady Oak Farm, with Amon Carter as host.

Humble Oil & Refining Company was luncheon host, and Bell gave the Western Hills Hotel party.

Convention highlight Tuesday was a luncheon session in the Convair plant, at which August C. Esenwein, division manager, revealed a new "partnership" plan between the Air Force and Convair in the development and production of a new supersonic bomber.

Esenwein said the new system, announced Tuesday for the first time here and in Washington, "restores to the aircraft industry the freedom traditional in American business for developing and marketing products of one's own design to compete openly with any other product."

A tour of Carswell Air Force Base followed, and trips aboard B-36s were scheduled for association members Wednesday morning. Tuesday's program ended with a cocktail-buffet in Hotel Texas' Crystal Ballroom, co-sponsored by Convair and Bell. Harvey Gaylord, Bell vice president and helicopter division manager, and Esenwein both spoke briefly, and a Bell male chorus sang.

Thursday morning the convention will move to Dallas by chartered bus, establishing headquarters at the Adolphus Hotel. Inspections of Chance Vought and Temco plants at Grand Prairie will precede luncheon at the Naval Air Station there en route to Dallas.