

# DID YOU HEAR IT ?

If you saw or heard an airplane flying between Anchorage and Fairbanks early in the morning of Tuesday, July 15, 1924, Wien Air Alaska wants to know.

The airlines is on a people hunt for those who were in the Territory on that historic day 50 years ago when Noel Wien made the first flight ever between the two cities in a Hisso-powered Standard J1 airplane.

Now Wien Air is celebrating the Golden Anniversary of Noel Wien's achievement and they want to share with old-timers who remember the event.

Anyone who remembers — and doesn't mind telling that it was half a century ago — is asked to communicate with the nearest Wien Air Alaska station manager.

In Fairbanks it is 452-2171 and in Anchorage 279-8657.

Wien Air wants to know who you are, where you were during that flight and what you remember of it.

The water-cooled open cockpit plane had been shipped to Alaska by steamship and rail and assembled at Anchorage during June that year by Wien and mechanics William B. Yunkers and Art Sampson.

Jimmy Rodebaugh, an Alaska Railroad conductor, had hired Noel to fly for the Fairbanks Airplane Co.

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# **Hear It? . . .**

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After several days of selling "joy rides" to many of the 2,500 Anchorageites of that day, Noel and Yunkers took off over the previously unflown — and to Noel, unknown — route north along the Alaska Railroad line.

At 7:16 a.m., three hours and 45 minutes later, the plane landed safely at Week's Field, a race track, in Fairbanks.

That event was but one of many "firsts" for pioneer aviator Noel Wien in Alaska, founder of the present Wien Air Alaska, Inc.

These events and stories of his exploits will be reviewed during this "Noel Wien Golden Anniversary Year."