



Six Rain Clox-8 electronic controllers work 'round the clock at Los Angeles home port of the "Columbia." Their job: to keep the 30-acre landing pad irrigated without interrupting her flight schedule (14 voyages daily), or showering her passengers. Team responsible, left to right, for the complex automatic sprinkler system installation: John Motshagen, sprinkler contractor; Carl D. Johnson, landscape architect, Westcoast Landscape Construction; and Jack Gray, irrigation specialist, Oranco Supply Co.

Automatic Irrigation For Goodyear Blimp Pad

Irrigating a landing pad for a blimp without dousing blimp or passengers was solved with six electronic controllers and a flock of impact sprinklers programmed to operate on a "flight schedule."

Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company wanted their new multi-million dollar Los Angeles home port for the "Columbia" (one of the company's two blimps which operate year-round) to have an all-turf 30-acre landing pad, landscaped "in harmony with a neighboring golf course."

The problem of irrigating the turf arose because of the blimp's busy flight schedule: sprinkler spray could interfere with take-offs and landings and might shower passengers and sight-seers on the pad. (The "Columbia" makes as many as 14 voyages a day and sometimes flies at night.)

By programming the controllers to operate the 25,000 feet of sprinkler line only when the Columbia is in flight or safely docked for the night, proper irrigation is accomplished without conflicts.

With the completely automatic

Rain Bird system, and with the controllers located at the blimp administration building, one man can supervise irrigation of the entire 30 acres.

Landscape architect for the project was Carl D. Johnson, Westcoast Landscape Construction. The system was installed by John Motshagen, sprinkler contractor. All Rain Bird equipment was from Oranco Supply Co.

Colorado's Kincaid Heads New Shade Tree Group

Doyle Kincaid of Kincaid Tree Surgery, Fort Collins, Colo., was recently elected president of the newly organized Shade Tree Association of Mountain States.

Also elected to office were: Vice Pres.—Bill Schacht, city forester of Colorado Springs; and Sec.-Treas. — Jim Matthews of John Bean division, Ford Motor Co., Boulder.

Specific objective of the association, according to Kincaid, is to promote planting and proper care of adapted shade tree varieties in Colorado and surrounding states.

Directors for the association are: C. G. Wilhelm of Wilhelm Tree Surgery in Denver; Earl Sinnamon of Swingle Tree Surgery, Denver; Jerry Morris of Rocky Mountain Tree Experts, Wheat Ridge; Bob Kirby of Kirby Tree Service in Colorado Springs; Don Young of Colorado State Forest Service, Canon City and Blair Adams of the University of Wyoming Extension Service, Laramie.

Newly elected officers of the Shade Tree Association of Mountain States are, front row, left to right: Bill Schacht, vice president; Doyle Kincaid, president; and Jim Matthews, secretary-treasurer. Three of the association's directors are, back row, left to right: Earl Sinnamon; C. G. Wilhelm; and Jerry Morris.

