

# CITY AIRPORT IS AT NORMAL AFTER OPENING

National Air Tour, Army and Commercial Planes Take Off Wednesday

It was "homeward bound" for army and commercial planes and their pilots Wednesday as the array of airplanes that took part in formal opening of municipal airport Tuesday bade Shreveport adieu. For the national air tour pilots it was just the start of another lap on their trip about the country.

A large crowd gathered at the airport Wednesday morning to see the ships off, and in the hope of seeing the autogiro, piloted by Lewis Yancey, traveling with the national air tour. They were disappointed in this hope, for the "windmill" plane was damaged by a gale at New Orleans, and will rejoin the air tour at Houston. A number of other planes were reported damaged at the Crescent City. It was announced that the autogiro will visit here later this year. Two contestants in the air tour were held up at New Orleans with several officials in their ships, and will fly to Houston.

Jimmy Doolittle, famed race pilot, who is referee on the air tour, officiated as starter Wednesday morning, and the national air tour planes took off at one-minute intervals in the order they arrived. Harry L. Russell was the first off in a big trimotored Ford. He is leading the tour in points, and was the first to land here Tuesday.

No uncalculated incident occurred Wednesday, and the planes got off in fine fashion, despite the softness of the landing field. The army planes began taking off before 10 a. m., and a large group of them flew over the city in formation. These planes came from Fort Crockett at Galveston, Atlanta, Ga., and Kelly and Maxwell fields in Texas.

Pilots of visiting ships expressed appreciation for the hospitality shown them in Shreveport. Officials at the airport Tuesday provided transportation for visiting airmen who wanted to visit town during the day, luncheon was served them in the hangar, and at night a buffet dinner

was tendered at Washington-Youree hotel.

The opening day was regarded as a success by those in charge, and city officials Wednesday expressed gratification at the huge turnout for the day.

Special air mail sent out to commemorate the day amounted to more than 3,000 pieces, Postmaster Carey P. Duncan said. The air mail planes will use the municipal airport henceforth as a regular landing field.

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