Shooting Documentary

Film Makers Like Airport Here

By GENE WHITMAN
Staff Reporter

A motion picture director this week deemed Smith Reynolds Airport the finest of its size in the United States.

"We've been shooting airports all over this country," said Kermit Echols, the movie executive, "and this is the prettiest one we've seen, for a little airport."

"It also is the best run."

Echols and his cameraman, Jim Couch, were shooting sequences at the Winston-Salem airport for a feature-length documentary type motion picture, "Wings That Work."

The picture is being filmed by Echols for the Academy of Applied Science at Cambridge, Mass.

"It is designed to feature general aviation, as compared to commercial (airline) aviation," Echols explained. "When ordinary people think of aviation, they think of commercial airlines.

"What most of them don't know is that there are 60,000 general airplanes in use in the United States, compared with 2,000 commercial planes."

"This is an informational type film to portray the role of aviation in the business world today."

The film is to receive its premier at the National Business Aviation Association's convention in Los Angeles, Calif., during the first week of October.

Then it will be shown on television in this country and probably throughout the world.

The motion picture team, supported by airport manager Arthur R. Graham, filmed almost every nook and cranny of Smith Reynolds Airport, from the control tower to the outlying hangars.

They shot considerable footage of a B. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. plane in the Reynolds hangar, and devoted quite a bit of time to the Piedmont Aviation, Inc. shops and hangars.

They spent most of Thursday at the airport, then caught a plane and moved on to document other aviation centers.

MOVIE CAMERAMAN Jim Couch films a plane landing at Smith Reynolds Airport under instructions of director Kermit Echols, center, and airport manager Arthur R. Graham.