

Smith Reynolds Airport Ranked 85th in Nation

Winston-Salem's Smith Reynolds Airport continued its pace during calendar 1963 as the busiest airport in North Carolina, the Federal Aviation Agency said yesterday.

In its annual activity report for all 277 control tower operated airports in the United States, the FAA ranked Smith Reynolds as 85th busiest airport in the nation with 129,349 landings and takeoffs — "total aircraft operations" — last year.

It also noted that the Twin City's airport advanced in ranking from 88th in 1962 to 85th.

The FAA survey showed that Charlotte was 98th among the nation's airports with 117,775

"operations," while Raleigh-Durham Airport was 113th with 110,653 and Greensboro - High Point 126th in the nation with 104,383 operations.

The FAA ranking is a compilation of activity by airline, general aviation and military aircraft. It is compiled twice each year, at the end of the fiscal and calendar years. Last year Smith Reynolds ranked 88th in both surveys.

The FAA placing of Smith Reynolds in 85th place ranks it above such major airports as Greater Cincinnati, New Orleans, Chicago Midway, Detroit, Willow Run, Tampa and Jacksonville.