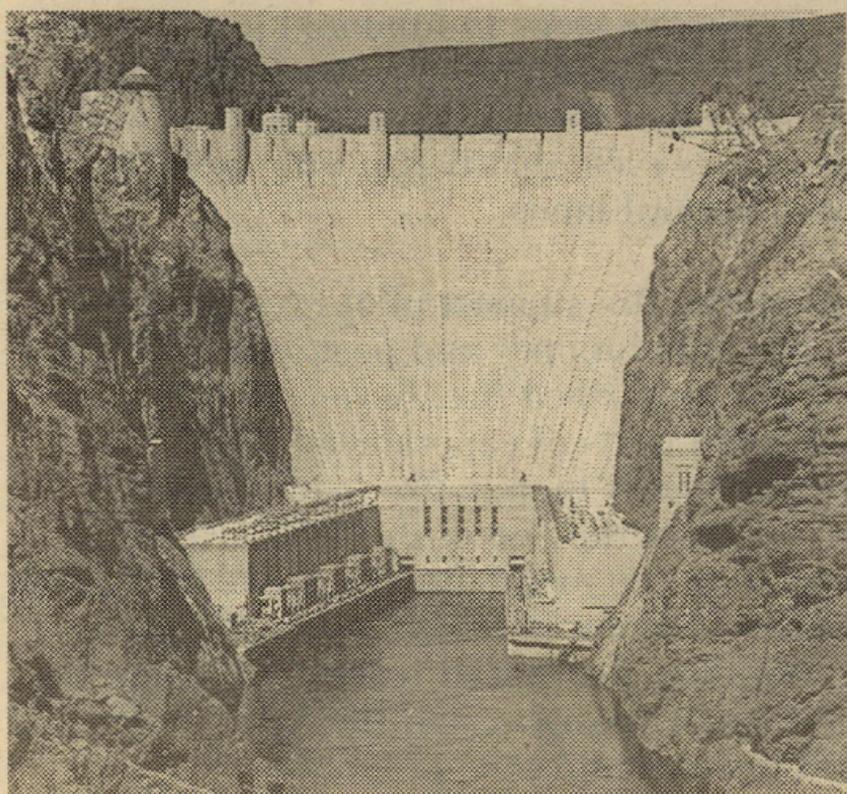


Hoover Dam Celebrates 31 Millionth Visitor



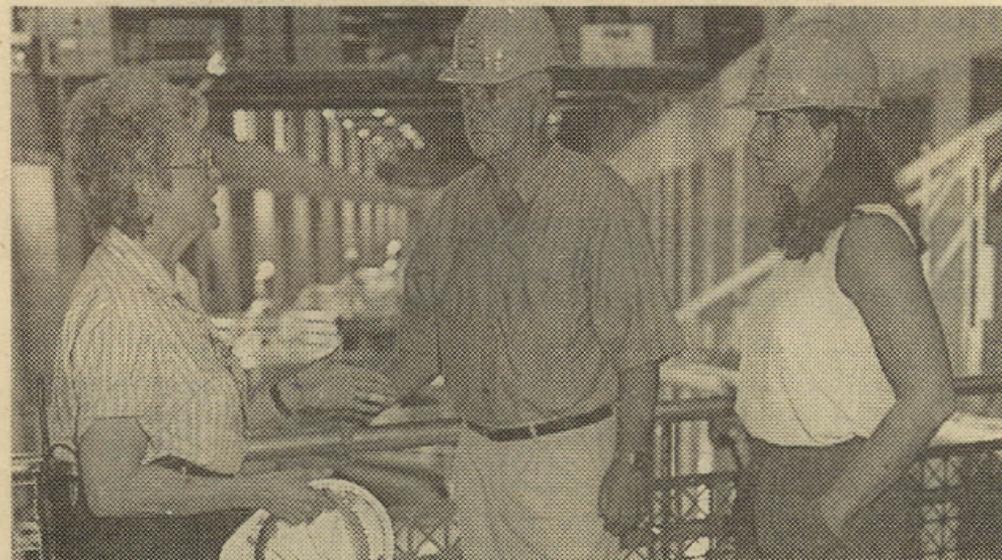
Hoover Dam, with its new Visitor Center in the upper left, is located where the Colorado River forms the border between Nevada and Arizona. It's construction in the 1930s spawned the development of southern Nevada and northwestern Arizona. BOR photo by Andrew Pernick

On October 31, John Fallon, a retired policeman from Cleveland, Ohio, became the 31 millionth visitor to take a tour of Hoover Dam since the facility was opened to the public in 1937. Fallon was greeted by Acting Chief of Visitor Services Joyce Larkin and Visitor Services Manager Dan Jensen. Acting Project Manager Jack Delp presented Fallon with an album of Hoover Dam photos and a video of its construction. Local merchants and dam concessionaires presented dam souvenirs.

Following the welcome, Fallon, who was visiting Hoover Dam for the first time while vacationing in Las Vegas, was treated to a special hardhat tour of the dam and power plant.

Fifteen months ago, Laura Cricelli from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, became the 30 millionth visitor. With the immensely successful operation of the new Visitor Center, the Lower Colorado Region expects to receive the 32 millionth visitor in less than a year. Since the new Visitor Center opened in June of this year, guides have been conducting an average of 100,000 tours a month, nearly 60 percent more than were given when the tours operated out of the former center.

By next year, the center will have a complete interpretive program with permanent exhibits and audiovisual programs running in three theater bays. The Lower Colorado Regional Public Affairs Office estimates that more than 1.25 million visitors annually will come to enjoy the beauty and wonder of Hoover Dam.



Colleen Dwyer, Lower Colorado Region Hoover Dam tour guide Joyce Larkin shows Nevada generators to 31 millionth visitor John Fallon and companion Susan Markham. The most frequently asked question is how many people are buried in the dam. Visitors are surprised to learn the answer: none. BOR photo by Andrew Pernick