

[pre 3/26/53]

**ADVANTAGES**  
of  
**LAKE GRAPEVINE SITE**  
for the  
**PROPOSED AIR FORCE ACADEMY**

Summary Presented Jointly by  
Fort Worth and Dallas Chambers  
of Commerce

Early in December 1949, the United States Air Force set up a board, headed by General Carl Spaatz, to recommend a site for a proposed Air Force Academy. At that time the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce submitted information about eight available sites in this area, and at least three of them received favorable consideration from the U. S. Engineers, who were directed to inspect them.

In May of 1950, the Chambers of Commerce and Cities of Fort Worth and Dallas agreed to submit a joint request that the proposed Air Force Academy be located on the north shores of Lake Grapevine, approximately midway between the two cities. They were joined in this request by representatives of Denton, Grapevine, Arlington and other cities in the area.

On November 17, 1950, we were advised that the Grapevine site was one of twenty-nine considered by the Air Force Academy Site Selection Board, and on November 28, 1950, the following members of the Board personally inspected the site: General Carl Spaatz, Brigadier General Harold L. Clark, Lieutenant General Hubert R. Harmon, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur E. Boudreau, and Dr. Bruce Hopper.

On March 1, 1951, we were advised that the Grapevine site was one of seven slated to receive final consideration for the proposed Academy, and on March 17, 1951, representatives of the Chicago engineering firm of Holabird & Root & Burgee, made a further survey of this area. On April 17, 1951, the Sites Selection Board, accompanied by L. B. Carnahan and J. Z. Burgee of the engineering firm, again visited the site.

Located in Denton County, Texas, the site we have recommended is well insulated from potential enemies and is strategically located with respect to all parts of the continental United States. It is 3,000 miles from Alaska, 2,850 miles from Greenland, 900 miles from the East Coast, 2,150 miles from open sea beyond the Caribbean Islands, 2,000 miles from Panama, 850 miles from the West Coast of Mexico and 1,200 miles from the West Coast of the United States.

The Grapevine site - from 9,000 to 15,000 acres in size - is located on the north side of Lake Grapevine, and extends north and east to an arm of the Garza-Little Elm Lake. It is approximately twenty miles from both Fort Worth and Dallas, and is ten miles from Denton.

We believe the site is ideal for the following reasons:

1. It meets the initial requirements established by the Board:
  - a. Isolated from other developments.
  - b. Good transportation facilities (rail, air and highway).
  - c. Relatively close to a metropolitan area.
2. The climate is especially favorable for scholastic aviation activities. The lowest monthly average temperature in this area is 45 degrees, the highest approximately 84. Rainfall averages 34 inches annually, snow 2.5. The area enjoys approximately 66 per cent of possible sunshine and there are only seven days of fog per year.
3. The site is well drained and capable of producing all kinds of vegetation indigenous to the area. The cost is reasonable. Grapevine Lake, recently completed, will eventually cover an area of 7,000 to 12,000 acres, providing for all types of water sports and acting as a cooling agent in the summer, since prevailing winds are from the south in this area.
4. The site can be served by three railroads, connecting with seven others at Fort Worth and Dallas and two federal highways, connecting with five others at Fort Worth and Dallas. In the immediate vicinity are three commercial airports served by three transcontinental airlines, three feeder airlines and one air freight line. Power and natural gas will be made available at the site. Water can be withdrawn from Grapevine Lake or from sands at 400 to 1,000 feet. Telephone and telegraph connections will be direct with both Fort Worth and Dallas.
5. In the vicinity of this site are several military installations, including Connally Air Force Base at Waco, Perrin Air Force

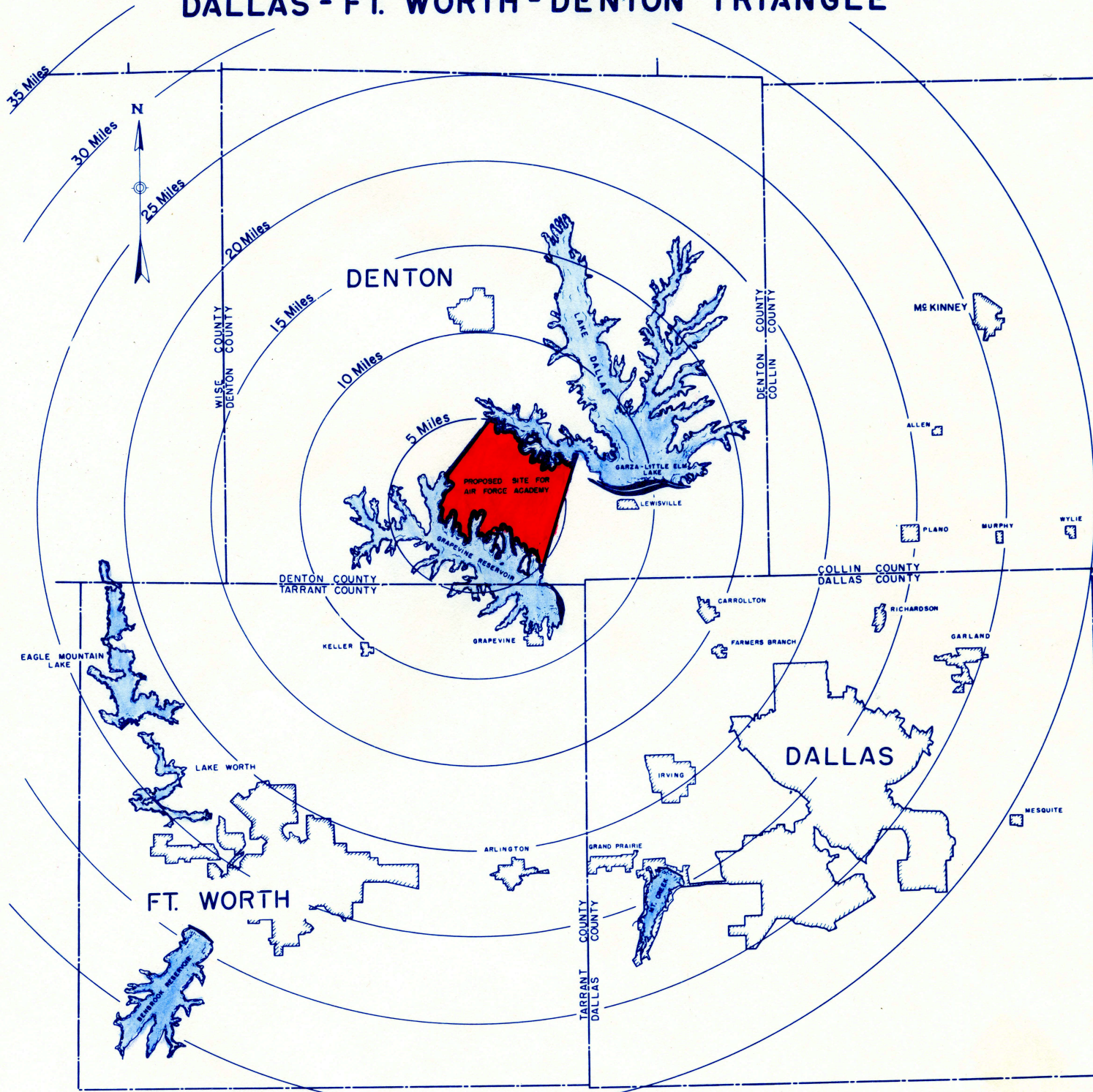
Base at Sherman, Fort Hood at Killeen, Carswell Air Force Base at Fort Worth, Sheppard Air Force Base at Wichita Falls, the Naval Air Station and Hensley Air Force Base at Dallas, and Fort Sill at Lawton, Oklahoma. Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation and the helicopter division of Bell Aircraft Corporation are at Fort Worth, and Chance-Vought Division of United Aircraft Corporation and TEMCO Aircraft Corporation are at Dallas. These military installations and manufacturing establishments in the area may prove very valuable as "off-campus" training centers.

6. Although this site is in a semi-isolated area, it is in the vicinity of a number of cities and towns which provide facilities of all types for use of the officers and students of the Academy. Dallas (432805) is twenty miles to the southeast, Fort Worth (278,778) is twenty miles to the southwest, Denton (21,345) is ten miles to the north, Grapevine (1,826) is six miles to the south, Lewisville (1,509) is four miles to the east, and Arlington (7,691) is eighteen miles to the south.
7. Located at Fort Worth and Dallas are manufacturers able and willing to supply many of the fundamental requirements of the Academy. There are forty-three first class hotels and scores of attractive dining places in the two cities.
8. Located at Fort Worth, Dallas, Denton and Arlington are six colleges and universities with enrollments of 2,000 to 6,000 each. Not to be overlooked is the fact that of the 8,000 students at North Texas State College and Texas State College for Women at Denton, nearly 5,000 are women. The Union Recreation Building at Texas State College for Women has a dance floor which will accommodate 1,000 couples.
9. In the immediate area are thirty-eight hospitals with 9,585 beds. Of these seven are operated by the government. In the six communities in the immediate vicinity of the site are over 600 churches of all denominations.
10. Perhaps nowhere in the nation are finer recreation facilities than those existing within an hour's drive of the proposed site. There are nine lakes in the area providing every type of water sports and parks and playgrounds exceed 17,000 acres in extent. There are

seven public golf courses and facilities for all types of outdoor sports. Within an hour's drive there are nine guest and dude ranches. For entertainment there are football and basketball at several of the universities and colleges and both Dallas and Fort Worth have professional baseball teams. The State Fair of Texas at Dallas and the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth are outstanding events. A season of summer opera of twelve weeks is an institution in Dallas. In the area are museums, libraries, lecture course, Metropolitan Grand Opera, Fort Worth Civic Opera, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and many other activities in the cultural field.

11. Over 75,000 residential units have been built in Fort Worth and Dallas since the end of World War II. In these cities and in Denton and Arlington are residences which can be made available to personnel living off the Academy reservation both on rental and a purchase basis.
12. Finally, and very important, the Air Force Academy, both officers and students, will be welcomed in this area. All of us will extend to the administrators and the students of the Academy our fullest cooperation.

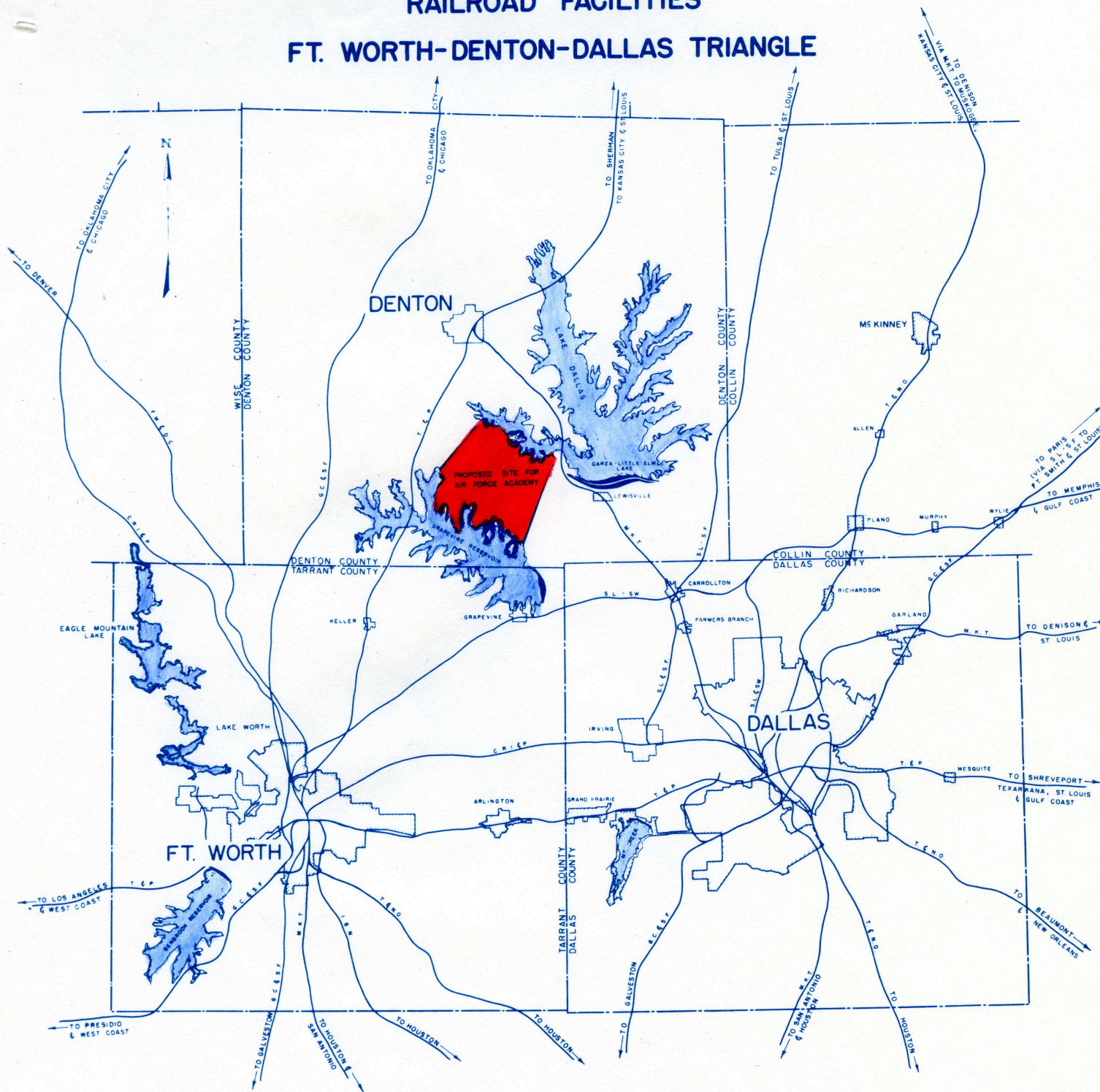
# LOCATION OF SITE IN THE DALLAS - FT. WORTH - DENTON TRIANGLE



FT. WORTH TO DENTON	38 MILES
DENTON TO DALLAS	36 MILES
DALLAS TO FT. WORTH	32 MILES

# RAILROAD FACILITIES

## FT. WORTH-DENTON-DALLAS TRIANGLE



T.E.P. R.R. CONNECTS AT FT. WORTH WITH 8 TRUNK LINE RAILROADS.

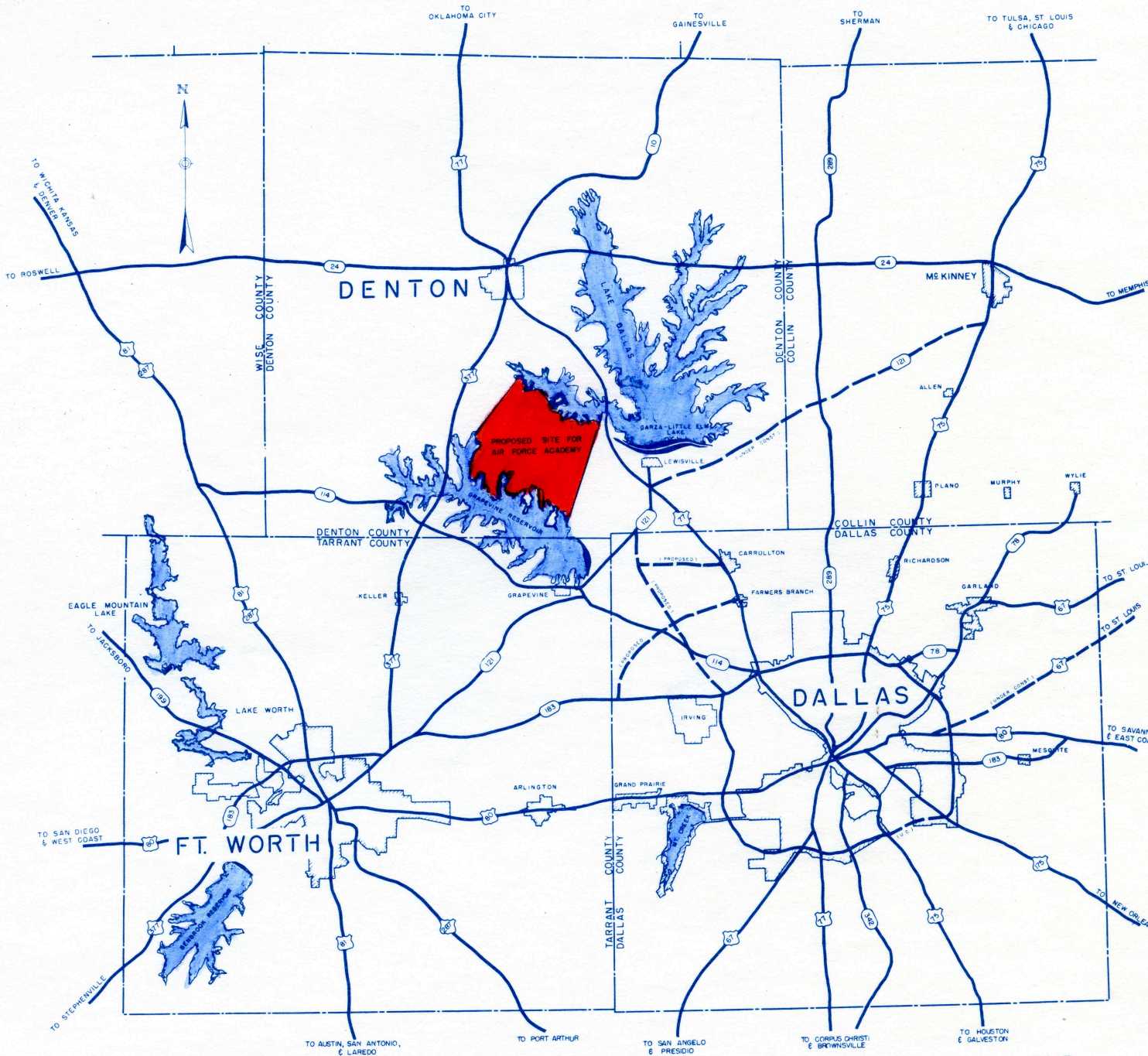
M-K-T R.R. CONNECTS AT DALLAS WITH 8 TRUNK LINE RAILROADS.

M-K-T R.R. & T.E.P. R.R. CONNECT AT DENTON.

ACCESS TO MAJOR RAIL TERMINAL CITIES, EL PASO, DENVER, KANSAS CITY, MINNEAPOLIS, CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS, MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS.

# HIGHWAY FACILITIES

## DENTON - DALLAS - FT. WORTH TRIANGLE



U.S. 377 TO FT. WORTH CONNECTS WITH 7 U.S. & TEXAS HIGHWAYS, AND WITH TEXAS 114 MIDWAY BETWEEN FT. WORTH AND DENTON.

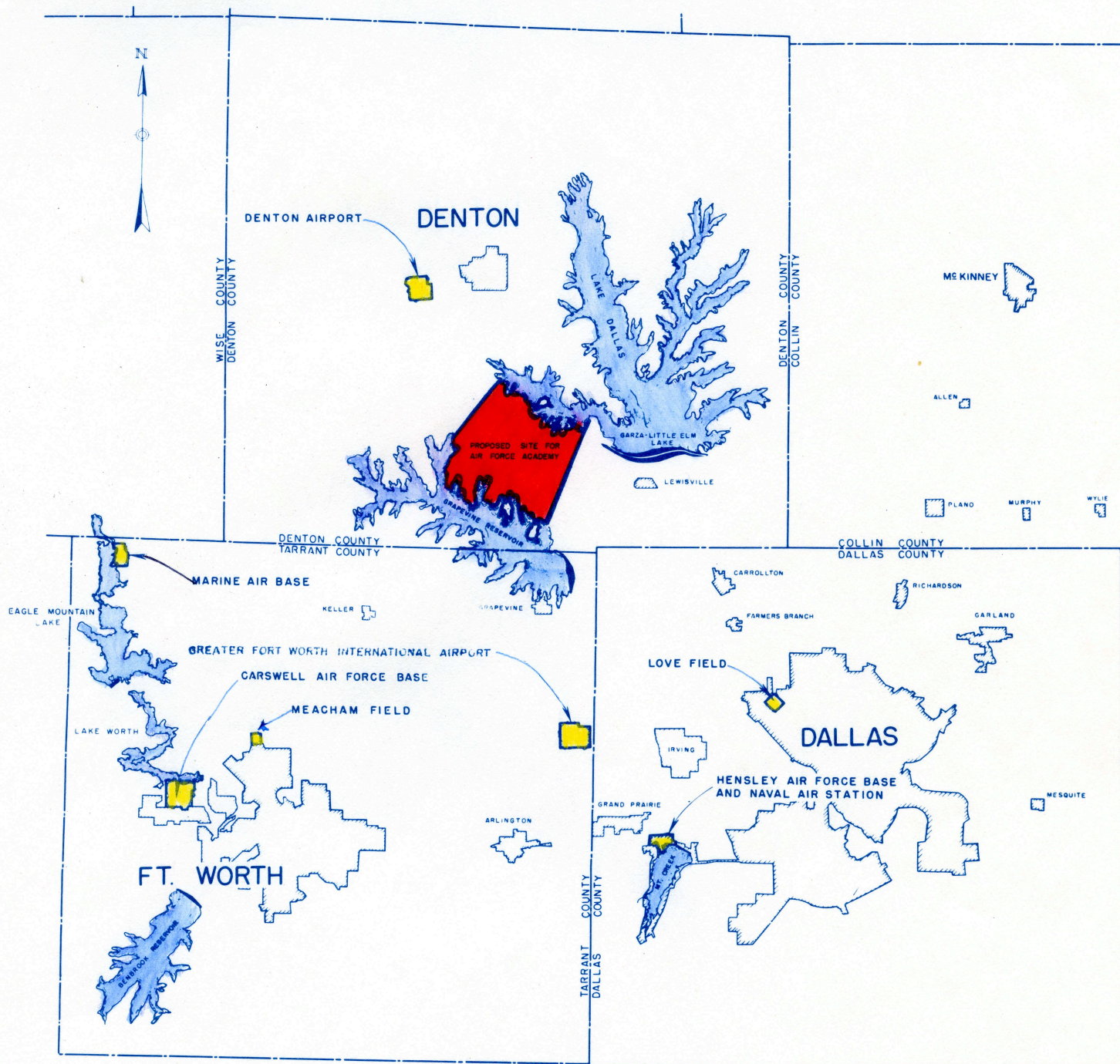
U.S. 77 TO DALLAS CONNECTS WITH 12 U.S. AND TEXAS HIGHWAYS, AND WITH TEXAS 121 MIDWAY BETWEEN DALLAS AND DENTON.

U.S. 75 TO DENTON CONNECTS WITH TEXAS 24 AND 10



# AIR TRANSPORT FACILITIES

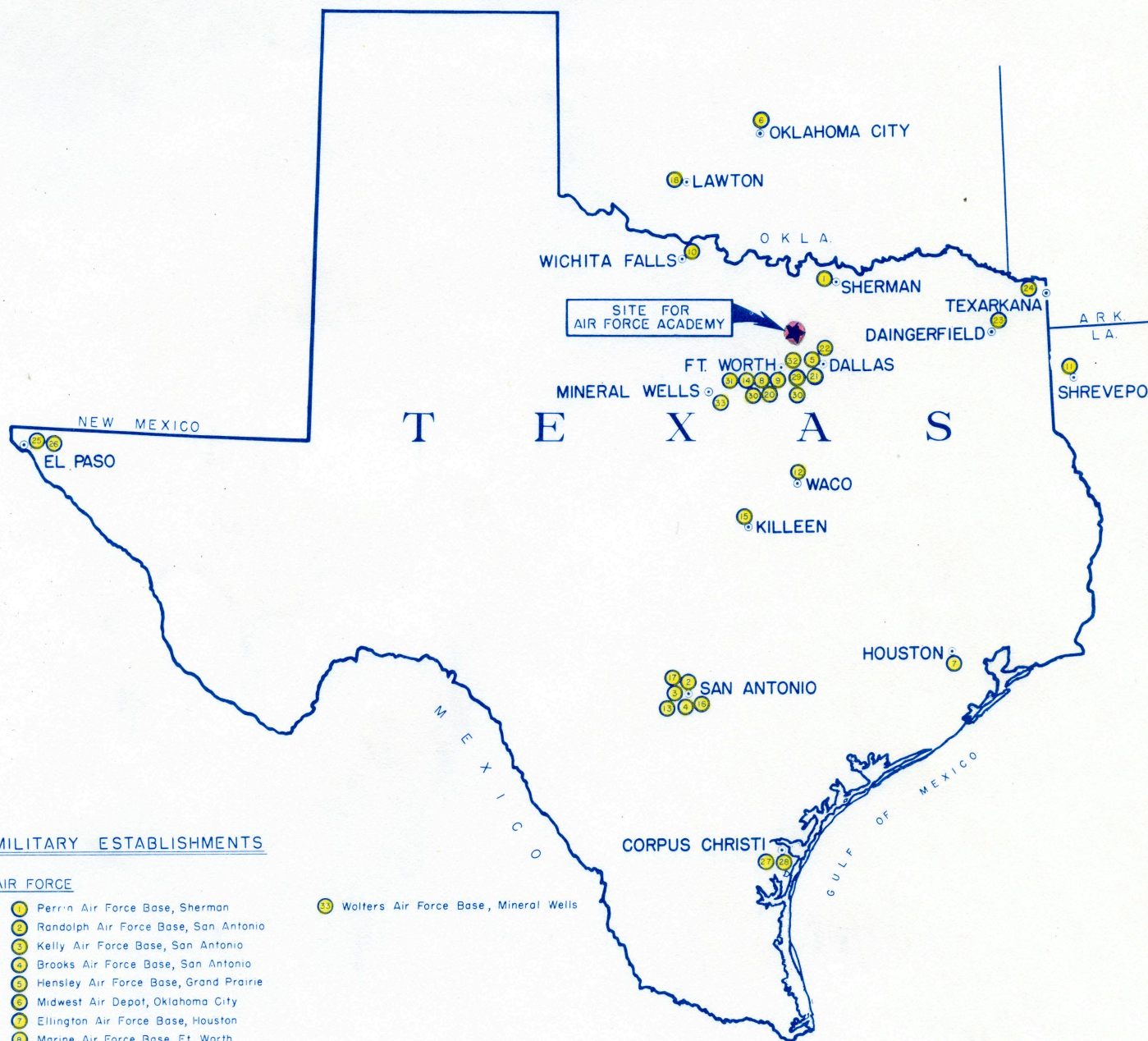
## DALLAS - FT. WORTH - DENTON TRIANGLE



AIR LINES SERVING LOVE FIELD AND MEACHAM FIELD\*

- AMERICAN AIRLINES
- BRANIFF AIRWAYS
- CENTRAL AIR LINES
- DELTA AIR LINES
- PIONEER AIRLINES
- TRANS-TEXAS AIRWAYS

# MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES



## MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS

### AIR FORCE

- 1 Perrin Air Force Base, Sherman
- 2 Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio
- 3 Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio
- 4 Brooks Air Force Base, San Antonio
- 5 Hensley Air Force Base, Grand Prairie
- 6 Midwest Air Depot, Oklahoma City
- 7 Ellington Air Force Base, Houston
- 8 Marine Air Force Base, Ft. Worth
- 9 Carswell Air Force Base, Ft. Worth
- 10 Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls
- 11 Barksdale Air Force Base, Shreveport
- 12 Connally Air Force Base, Waco
- 13 Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio
- 14 Biggs Air Force Base, El Paso
- 15 Cabaniss Air Force Base, Corpus Christi

### ARMY

- 14 Fort Worth Q M Depot, Ft. Worth
- 15 Fort Hood, Killeen
- 16 4th Army Headquarters, San Antonio
- 17 Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio
- 18 Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.
- 20 District Engineer Office, Ft. Worth
- 21 Southwest Division Engineer Office, Dallas
- 22 Red River Ordnance Plant, Texarkana
- 23 Fort Bliss, El Paso

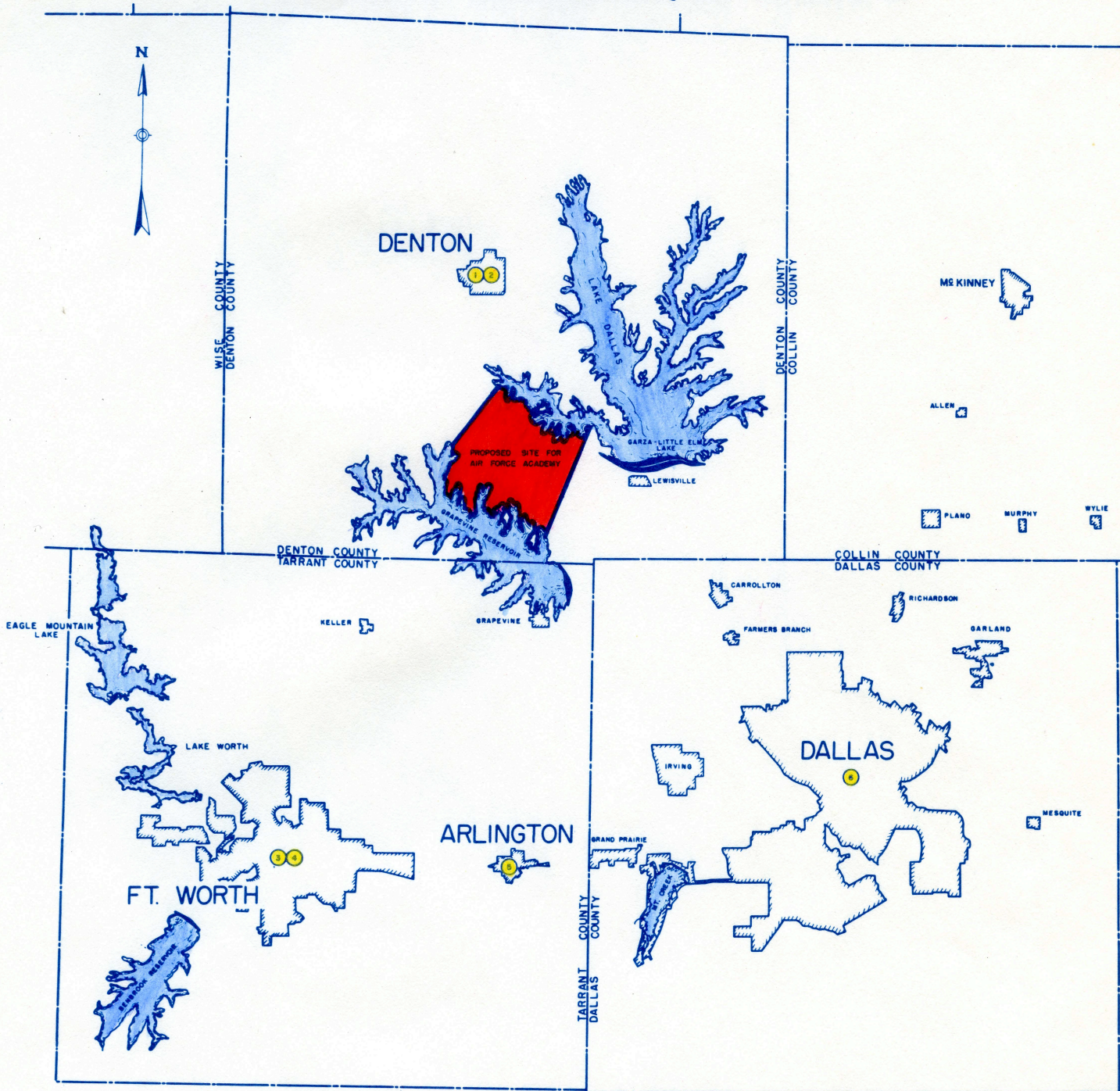
### NAVY

- 22 Naval Air Station, Grand Prairie
- 23 Aeronautical Research Laboratory, Daingerfield

33 Walters Air Force Base, Mineral Wells

# EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

## FT. WORTH - DENTON - DALLAS TRIANGLE



- ① TEXAS STATE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
- ② NORTH TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
- ③ TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
- ④ TEXAS WESLEYAN COLLEGE
- ⑤ ARLINGTON STATE COLLEGE

	<u>ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>FACULTY</u>
①	2,806	169
②	5,133	287
③	4,882	240
④	942	56
⑤	1,644	108