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MANUFACTURERS-CIVIC AFFAIRS

August 15, 1940

Mr. Amon G. Carter
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Fort Worth, Texas

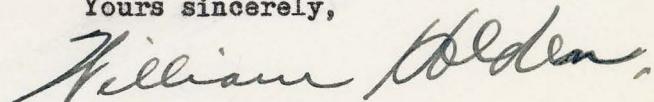
Dear Mr. Carter:

In order to conserve your time, I am furnishing the attached memorandum regarding the Consolidated Aircraft Company and the North American Aviation, Inc. and have previously sent you a memorandum regarding Aviation Manufacturing Corporation (Vultee-Stinson Plants). If you desire to talk to me about any of these, just give me a call and I will be glad to come over immediately.

I am also enclosing a suggested telegram to Mr. Donald Douglas for your consideration. I understand you are to be away for some time and in connection with some of the proposed plants we are seeking, it may be desirable to reach Mr. Knudsen and Mr. Jesse Jones. I would appreciate a brief letter of introduction to each of them stating that I am going to be in Washington representing the Chamber of Commerce in connection with certain projects coming under the National Defense Program and you would appreciate their granting me a brief conference. I may not need to use the letters, and of course will not take their time unless it is important from Fort Worth's standpoint to do so.

If you are contemplating a trip to the West Coast soon and could spare a day for conferences with Mr. Woodhead, of the Vultee-Stinson Companies at Los Angeles, and Major Fleet, it might help to get a decision from one of them. If you should plan such conferences and so desired, I could meet you there in order to be prepared to carry on subsequent negotiations.

Yours sincerely,



William Holden

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Memorandum

Mr. Amon G. Carter:

Re Consolidated Aircraft Company:

On Monday, August 12th, I called for Major Fleet on long distance and talked with Major Gott who said Major Fleet was in San Diego but not at the office that afternoon. He said that there was no change in their situation. They were still waiting for the government to pass on amortization of investment in new plants, etc. He said he would tell Major Fleet that I called and wished to be remembered to you.

Re North American Aviation, Inc., Los Angeles:

I called for President J. H. Kindelberger on August 6th. He was out of town and R. A. Lambeth, Treasurer, talked. He stated that Mr. Kindelberger was in Montreal and would be back to Los Angeles in about ten days. He knew of the conference between the large aviation manufacturers and Mr. Knudsen about August 1st and thought that should enable them to go ahead, but did not have any more definite information. He said as soon as they did have, he would advise us.

I just talked today to Mr. Kindelberger, who had recently returned and he advised me, in confidence, that they had definitely decided to locate adjoining Hensley Field on the site which the Hall Aluminum and Consolidated were previously figuring on. They have the approval of the authorities in Washington to do this and just as soon as all plans are shaped up, they will send the announcement at the same time to the Dallas and Fort Worth Chambers of Commerce for release. They had been the first company to lay claim in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and had so notified the National Defense

Commission, Air Corps, etc. immediately after the President's first speech about the middle of May. Consequently, they got the approval instead of Major Fleet for this location. He said that the War Department favored the Consolidated locating on the site at Lake Worth. Major Fleet evidently has not been willing to accept this decision, or at least Major Gott was not willing to tell us anything about it on Monday.

I sent you a memorandum on August 9th regarding my conversation with Mr. Woodhead regarding Vultee-Stinson plant. I do not believe we can wait for their decision, but should immediately contact Major Fleet and try to get a favorable decision from him. If you agree with this conclusion, I would greatly appreciate your calling him.

For your information, all of our arguments against the Consolidated locating at Mountain Creek Lake were confined to the Consolidated and Hall Aluminum Co. We did not send this information to anyone else.

William Holden.

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Extract from article in Kansas City Star
Wednesday, August 14, 1940

*
Colonel Rutherford pointed out the airplane manufacturers desired to do their expanding in the south, because of favorable weather conditions there. One is going to Dallas, it was reported, and another to Fort Worth.

* Colonel H. K. Rutherford is Chairman of Committee on Plant Locations, U. S. Army.