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HOTEL WASHINGTON
Washington, D. C.

Sunday, 3:30 P. M.
December 29, 1940

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Foster:

I wired yesterday about noon to Chamber of Commerce and asked that President Stone and Mr. Carter be advised of progress. Get that wire to bring you up to date. I 'phoned Mr. Carter Friday evening and wired him again yesterday afternoon. I hope he and President Stone took seriously the suggestion to have our leaders try to convince Dallas leaders not to file for this Bomber Plant and muddy the waters. They would just divide Texas' strength. Oklahoma is united - Senator Lee primarily represents Oklahoma City, having been located for years at Oklahoma University. Dallas hasn't a ghost of a chance. The North American location is one reason we were left out of consideration when they sent the Board out. Mr. Knudsen said that we had one large plant in that area and he thought we were happy. He understands differently now and I am certain from his remarks intends to give us something soon. Up to present, I don't think he is ready to change Consolidated from Tulsa to Fort Worth, but Fleet may convince them when he gets here and has his conference with Knudsen, Patterson, Brett, Echols on January 3rd (2:00 P. M.)

I wired Van Dusen Friday night the things to stress:

1. Labor and fact North American would be helped, not hurt.
2. Post Emergency Uses - They don't believe water base will be used in peace time. Maybe Fleet can convince them.
3. They plan to use these plants for future service, storage and supply stations for Air Corps (or Army). We have emphasized in additional letters to Patterson and Knudsen our superior transportation and nearness to Flying Bases in entire "Southwest District of Air Corps" and also to forts and camps in "3rd Army Area."
4. Superior Flying Field.
5. Better Factory site:
 - (a) Large - can spread buildings.
 - (b) Wooded area - can camouflage buildings.

I also urged Van Dusen to get Fleet to have Kindelberger wire Knudsen and Patterson that location of a plant at Lake Worth site would be an advantage from standpoint of labor supply. Don't know what he has done.

I hope President Stone and Mr. Carter get a committee to go confer with Dallas leaders. I suggested in wire to Mr. Carter that our bankers should be effective. If Dallas gets into it and finds out about fourth one, they will fight for it also. As it stands now, I think we will get one of them (even though don't get Consolidated, which we are centering on.) - if can clear up the labor situation (now interference with North American Co.) and convince them congestion does not apply - We are West Texas; Dallas is East Texas.

Oklahoma two senators and Disney here and have conference with President Monday. Senator Sheppard has appointment with President Tuesday. I'm going to suggest he take Connally, Rayburn and Lanham, if here. Connally will be. I've suggested to Mr. Carter he get Rayburn and Lanham to wire again (if they are not to be here by Tuesday) to Patterson and Knudsen. I believe they could also wire the President. Senator Sheppard suggested to Gen. Watson on 'phone yesterday that he pass on to Mr. Knudsen the President's attitude toward Fort Worth, but he didn't get any commitment on that point. Mr. Carter may want to try to get this done through another channel.

Sincerely,

(Signed) William Holden.