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## FORT WORTH

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

114 EAST EIGHTH STREET

January 18, 1941

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AFFAIRS

Mr. Amon G. Carter  
Mayflower Hotel  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Carter:

Attached is copy of a letter from Mr. Van Dusen to you, of which you no doubt have received the original. You will notice from the third paragraph that they are somewhat delayed in making their plant lay-out and forwarding the same to Colonel Reed, which in turn will probably delay him in making his final report to the Air Corps, and consequently the final approval of the exact location by the War Department and Defense Commission.

Dion Johnson is flying to California on some personal business and has kindly agreed to call on Mr. Van Dusen on Monday to find out about the progress, and also to obtain information from the proper department of the Consolidated relative to probable tonnage and source of different items of freight, which we have requested. The railroad companies desire this in order to arrive more definitely at possible income in determining the proposition they can make for the building of the spur.

Mr. Morse advises that the landowners still insist on \$400.00 per acre and his committee is of the opinion that it will be necessary to condemn the land and the city is ready to go ahead just as soon as the matter is definitely approved in Washington.

The County and the City have agreed on the dates for the bond issue election and the County is calling theirs today for March 4th. The City expects to use the same date and will make their announcement just as soon as we have final approval from Washington. Immediately after the approval, they will submit their various projects for the improvement of the airport and request all the WPA help they can get. In any event, they hope to get these matters cleared up and be able to make their announcement in time to have their election on March 4th.

If you can find time to do so, we would appreciate your calling Colonel Walter J. Reed, Buildings and Grounds Committee, U. S. Air Corps, Munitions Building, and asking him how soon his report is likely to be acted upon and how soon it will be safe for the City to actually

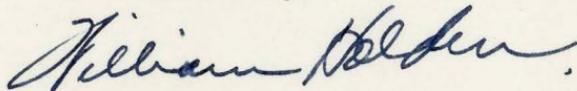
Col Reed  
2/19/42

acquire the land the proceed on its bond issue. Do not believe it necessary to mention the possibility of having to condemn the land, which according to the city, will only take about ten days. Kindly wire any information you secure which you think would be of benefit to us before you return. In the event Colonel Reed is out of Washington, the next man above him is Colonel Wm. F. Volandt, Material Division, Air Corps.

The City and County are both going ahead with their plans for the different projects and the County states that immediately on approval of the voters, they can proceed with the highway construction without waiting even for sale of bonds.

With best regards, I am

Yours sincerely,



William Holden

~~Executive Vice President~~

CONSOLIDATED AIRCRAFT CORPORATION  
Lindbergh Field, San Diego, Calif.

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14 January 1941

Mr. Amon G. Carter  
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Amon:

Undoubtedly you have noticed in the newspapers that the Ford party, headed by Mr. Edsel Ford and Mr. Sorensen, visited our plant in San Diego and also the Douglas plant in Santa Monica.

The plans for the cooperative manufacture of B-24 airplanes by the three companies are progressing at a satisfactory rate. There are a number of Ford engineers stationed at our plant now studying the problem. You probably realize that this study will require some little time because of the enormous technical problem involved in determining in detail the plan of manufacturing cooperation.

We find ourselves unable to proceed with the plant lay-out or to enter into contractual relations with the Air Corps covering the establishment of the plant until such time as the three companies are in agreement in regard to the program; the plan is approved by the Air Corps and we have prepared preliminary floor plant lay-outs and estimates of cost of construction.

Please be assured there is no unnecessary delay in the program which is proceeding with the utmost dispatch in consideration of the nature of the problem.

Kindest regards to yourself and associates at Fort Worth.

Sincerely,

xx Mr. Wm. Holden

C. A. Van Dusen