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Fort Worth Bomber Plant Is Dedicated

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'We're Digging Grave For Hitler,' Officer Says as Earth Broken

FORT WORTH, April 18.—(AP)—
Commenting "we're digging Hitler's
grave here," Brig. Gen. G. C. Brant
of San Antonio Friday spaded the
first earth at groundbreaking cere-
monies for a \$10,000,000 heavy
bomber assembly plant.

Gen. Brant, commander of the
Gulf Coast air training center at
San Antonio, recalled that about
18,000 pilots were trained in the
United States during the World
war.

"We trained flyers then but de-
pended mainly on France and Eng-
land to furnish them with combat
planes, many of which did not
materialize. We have learned our
lesson and now we are building our
own planes.

Recommends Base

"It is high time," he added, "that
America learned to stand on its
own feet."

Gen. Brant disclosed he had rec-
ommended establishment of an air
corps training base on an 850-acre
site adjacent to the bomber plant.

Hundreds of persons stood
through an hour of intermittent
rain at the site on the south shore
of Lake Worth. Publisher Amon
G. Carter of Fort Worth was mas-
ter of ceremonies.

Permanency Certain

Belief that permanent operation
of the plant was certain after the
defense emergency ends was ex-
pressed by T. E. Braniff of Okla-
homa City, president of Braniff Air-
ways, Inc.

C. A. King, president of the Tulsa,
Okla., Chamber of Commerce, in-
vited Fort Worth citizens to attend
a similar function to be held there
on May 2, when work is started on
a duplicate plant to be operated by
the Douglas Aircraft company.

Col. George E. Lovell of Fort
Sam Houston, representing the 8th
corps area, said Fort Worth is well
situated for a plant of this type.

"It is far enough away from the
borders to be safe from attack,"
he pointed out.

Capt. Alva B. Barnhard, com-
mandant of the new naval air sta-
tion at Corpus Christi, declared
that "this is a great day not only
for Fort Worth, but for the entire
country."

Col. S. L. Scott of Dallas, division
engineer of the corps of engineers,
U. S. army, which will supervise
construction of the plant, said that
"nothing is more important than
the early completion of this proj-
ect."

Carter read a telegram from C.
A. Van Dusen, vice president of
Consolidated Aircraft corporation,
which will operate the plant for the
war department.