

BOEING AIRPLANE COMPANY

WICHITA DIVISION

WICHITA 1, KANSAS

April 27, 1949

Cable Address:
BOEINGAIR

In Reply Refer to

JES:vl

Mr. Walter A. Bowers
Magic Circle Development Conference
c/o Utopia College
Eureka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Bowers:

Thank you very much for your interesting letter of April 26, inviting me to attend a Magic Circle Development Conference Tuesday morning, May 3, in Eureka. Much as I would like to attend this conference, I find it impossible to do so.

A day with Mr. Babson would indeed be a treat but I find my days pretty well consumed with the heavy program we have in getting the B-47 Stratojet into production. The fact that Mr. Babson senses the strategic importance of this area confirms a conviction of mine which is of long standing. The Boeing plant at Wichita was built by United Aircraft and Transport Corporation in 1930. The justification for it was based on a letter I obtained from the then Chief of the Air Corps, General Foulois, stating that this area was of strategic importance to the ultimate national defense of our Nation. All this then stems from a military axiom that one does not establish his service or supplies in potential combat areas.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of some remarks I recently made before the Ways and Means Committees of the Kansas State Legislature. I have underlined pertinent sections in these remarks believing that you and Mr. Babson would be interested in them as further evidence of the strategic importance of Mr. Babson's "Magic Circle".

Again, thanks for your invitation. I am indeed sorry that I cannot be with you.

Sincerely yours,

Vice President

JESchaefer:vl
Enc.

Copied 5-4-49 mc