



—Star-Telegram Staff Photo.

**HONORED GUESTS**—Fort Worth was host Friday to famous "wranglers" of the 8th Air Force as they gathered for the seventh birthday celebration of the 8th and the opening of the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show. Here are some of the early arrivals chatting with the present commander of the 8th. They are, left to right, Brig. Gen. Robert Landry, Gen. Carl Spaatz, Lt. Gen. Ira Eaker, and the 8th's present commanding officer, Maj. Gen. Roger Ramey.

# Generals of Old '8th' Review the New as B-36s Roar on Birthday

Air Force generals who proved to the worldly the worth of air power turned approving eyes on the "new" 8th Air Force's globe-ranging B-36s as the battleplanes flew over Fort Worth Friday to celebrate the 8th's seventh anniversary.

In civilian clothes and retired but with their interest still centered on the Air Force, Gen. Carl Spaatz and Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, who built the "old" 8th into a mighty fighting force over Europe, were in the reviewing stand as 11 B-36s in formation, followed by a group of B-29s of the 509th Wing at Roswell and F-82 Twin Mustang fighters of the 27th Wing from Kearney, Neb., swung across the field in two "passes," then circled over Dallas and back across Fort Worth shortly after noon.

### President's Aide.

President Truman sent his Air Force aide, Brig. Gen. Robert Landry, fighter group commander in the 8th in England during the war. In the reviewing stand also were two former 8th commanders, Maj. Gen. William E. Kepner and Maj. Gen. Clements McMullen, as well as Lt. Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, Strategic Air Command chief, and Maj. Gen. Roger Ramey, present 8th Air Force commander.

When Spaatz and Eaker arrived Thursday night, the former from Washington and the latter from California, they exchanged grinning, affectionate greetings and recalled the early days of the 8th's battle with Hitler's luftwaffe.

Spaatz and Landry, accompanied by Col. Stewart Towle Jr., on a stormy plane trip from Washington, resumed a stubborn gin rummy game which had been in progress for eight hours on the plane. They played until after midnight.

### Advocate of One AF.

Spaatz, brisk, quick-spoken former Air Force chief, was emphatic that "the nation can't afford two air forces—it's too expensive. The present Air Force is excellent and the Navy's air force is fine, too, but there's no sense in trying to keep both of them." He praised

the performance of the 8th's B-36s in their parade over Washington for President Truman's inaugural last Thursday, calling it "wise" that the Air Force has decided to order more of them.

Brig. Gen. Robert J. Smith of Dallas, national Air Reserve Association president, and Col. D. Harold Byrd, regional Civil Air Patrol commander, also attended the review. Spaatz and Byrd planned to leave Saturday for a vacation

trip together by plane to Acapulco, Mexico.

General Ramey entertained the visiting officers with a luncheon at Carswell Air Base at noon. After the parade preceding the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show in the afternoon, they were invited as guests of Amon Carter for a dinner at the Fort Worth Club, before attending the formal opening of the Stock Show Friday night as Carter's guests.

## 42 Substations Open in County For Poll Taxes

Growing interest in April municipal elections was expected to accelerate payment of poll taxes Friday as 42 substations were opened in the county.

Also drawing attention of voters will be the proposed incorporation of River Oaks, Sansom Park and Hodgkins Highlands in an effort to stave off annexation by River Oaks. Eastridge also will vote next month to incorporate.

Saginaw has been added to the list of municipalities which will hold an April election. A water bond vote is also scheduled for Saginaw. Other municipal elections are scheduled in April for River Oaks, White Settlement, Oak Knoll, Westover Hills, Grapevine, Mansfield, Arlington, Haltom City, Smithfield and Fort Worth.

Thursday only 862 persons paid poll taxes and the year's total reached 11,199 as compared with 31,445 a year ago and 12,512 two years ago.

## Early Morning Blaze Damages Bomar Home

## WESTERN-ATTIRE GATHER FOR SHOW

Boots, blue jeans and spurs were worn by many of the parade participants as they moved into the downtown area to open the 53rd Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show.

The weatherman said Friday morning cloudy and high temperature will be in the 70s.

The 585th Air Force Band and B-36 were to lead the parade in observation of the 8th Air Force birthday at the Stock Show Friday.

Throngs of mounted riders and several out-of-town groups, were to parade down Main Street to the courthouse and the Lancaster.

## EVERYTHING BRIGHT AGAIN

Lights glowed feebly, flickered off again, then came on bright to stay in thousands of Fort Worth homes Thursday and Thursday night, and by Friday morning electric service had been restored in three-fourths of the city's blacked-out areas.

Texas Electric Service Company's repair crews, augmented by linemen and engineers from Wichita Falls, Eastland and Abilene, expected to have most of the remainder back in service by Friday night, with only a few scattered sectors possibly remain-