
Board Inspects Site Offered to Academy

By BEN BRADFORD

Gen. Carl Spaatz and his Air Force Academy site selection board took a look Tuesday at—but kept very quiet about—the Grapevine Lake area which Dallas and Fort Worth have proposed for the new Air Force Academy.

Spaatz, an erect man of dry wit and few words, steadily declined comment on his thoughts about the 9,000-acre site in Denton County on what is to be the north end of Grapevine Lake.

At one point a harassed reporter buttonholed Spaatz. "Look, general, say something if it's nothing more than 'Boo'!"

"Very well, young man," replied Spaatz dryly. "You may quote me as saying 'Boo!' and nothing more."

He explained he could make no comment on the Grapevine Lake site until he and his board had completed inspection of the twenty-line sites over the nation they have under consideration.


Spaatz retired from the Air Force in 1948 as its Chief of Staff. Later, when the Air Force got the green light on its academy, he was named "head" of the site selection board.

The board spent Monday touring sites in the San Marcos and San Antonio areas. They landed at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth at 7 p.m. Monday.

At 9 a.m. Tuesday Amon G. Carter and a Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce delegation picked Spaatz and his men up and drove them to Grapevine before they met three delegates from the Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Ben Critz, executive vice-president and general manager, Dale Miller, Washington representative, and Tom Finney, head of the chamber's industrial section.

Also on hand were civic leaders from Denton and Grapevine.

The party started the tour in eight cars. In the lead car were Carter and Spaatz, followed by Critz and Harmon.

The trip took the party seventy-three dusty miles around the lake basin on wash-board dirt roads. Later the group inspected Denton and its two big colleges.

On top of the Grapevine dam the party stopped briefly. Looking over the vast basin below, Spaatz said under his breath to one of the board members:

"This is magnificent—beautiful."

Swirling clouds of dust kicked up by the 8-car caravan almost choked the party at times. It covered clothing and turned the faces of the men grimy.

At Hensley Field, where the board's giant C-54 air transport was waiting, Spaatz knocked a

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Officer Lists Availability In DWI Case

Two cases of driving while intoxicated long pending against a Grand Prairie man could be tried almost any time, one of the officers who made the arrest said Tuesday.

He was Royce Calvert, former Texas Highway Patrol officer.

Calvert said he read the story in the News Sunday about the Grand Prairie man. The two cases have been set and reset seventeen times before Judge Joe B. Brown. But neither case has ever been tried.

Judge Brown, explaining the delay, Saturday had said that one of the officers was no longer with the department and the other had gone to South Texas, making the case hard to try.

"I am just a short distance, a block or so, from the court," Calvert said. "My address, telephone number and all are on the case jacket and I could testify any time, I am now an investigator for the National Auto Theft Bureau."

Calvert said his partner in the arrest was Glenn Fraher, who is still with the Texas Highway Patrol and stationed at Dayton, in South Texas.

"He has made two trips up here to testify in this case that I know of myself," said Calvert.

"I am sure we are both ready to go into court any time they get ready on these cases or any of the numerous other cases on file over there."

—Dallas News Photo by Max Ewing.
cloud of red dust from his coat and told a reporter with a grin:

"Young man, you can quote me on one other thing. You can say that I think the Dallas-Fort Worth area raises as good a crop of dust as I've ever tasted."

Boudreau, secretary of the board, said the final selection of the site may not be made until March, possibly later.

"We will complete our inspection tour on Dec. 20," he said. "Then the board will pick out three to six of the sites for further study. These sites will be turned over to a Chicago, Ill., engineering firm for analysis."