

Dallas Fails to Designate Its Midway Airport Board Representative as Asked

Completion of a management board to govern the new Midway Airport was stymied Thursday by failure of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce to appoint a member from that city on the seven-man group.

Fort Worth's member, City Manager Bothwell, was appointed Wednesday by R. Mayo Bowen, president of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, as requested by T. E. Braniff of Dallas, president of the Midway Airport Association.

Mayor W. F. Altman of Arlington said that city's council had instructed him to serve as Arlington's representative on the board "until further notice."

Letter to Jesse Jones.

"Dallas is perfectly willing to become a co-sponsor of this airport, under certain conditions and get this thing straightened out, and I am so advising Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones in an air-mail special delivery letter today." Mayor Woodall Rodgers of Dallas told The Star-Telegram by telephone.

"It just doesn't seem right to the City Council that this matter should be submitted through the Chamber of Commerce, when it has always been a municipal matter heretofore and the taxpayers of Dallas have spent \$2,000,000 developing aviation."

He said the contract between Arlington and the Midway Airport Association never was submitted to the Dallas city council.

Willing to Go Ahead.

"Our council is willing to go ahead with co-sponsorship if the neutrality of the airport is maintained, so no advantage will be given to either Fort Worth or Dallas," he added, "and if proper representation by the municipality is provided. That stand has been approved by the Dallas aviation master planning committee, of which Nathan Adams is chairman."

He said Dallas Chamber of Commerce directors would not meet until Sept. 24 but he was confident they would "stay hitched" with the council and the aviation planning committee.

J. Ben Critz, executive vice president and general manager of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce, told The Star-Telegram by telephone: "Until the board meets, I have no instructions and am not at liberty to say whether the Dallas chamber will appoint a member on this board."

Four Airline Representatives.

Critz said the Dallas chamber

received an invitation from Braniff similar to that received by Bowen from Braniff, under terms of the operating contract held by the Midway Airport Association, owned jointly by Braniff Airways and American Airlines, with the city of Arlington as sponsor.

Braniff, in his letter to Bowen, pointed out that the contract provided for two representatives from each of the airlines, one to be named by the Dallas chamber, one by the Fort Worth chamber and one by Arlington.

"I don't know what the council would say, but I'd be opposed to altering the contract," Mayor Altman of Arlington said.

Arlington Position.

"Arlington went ahead and sponsored this airport," Mayor Altman pointed out. "We have a contract now and it seems to me we should go ahead and operate it the way the airlines want it. After all, they're the ones who put up the money with the Government."

Secretary of Commerce Jones proposed two weeks ago that the Midway administration building should be located at the northwest corner.

The Dallas council action Wednesday reiterated opposition to this, insisting on location of the building on the north side of the field, and added the proposal that the management board include four men from Dallas County and four from Tarrant County, with Dallas naming a representative from Irving to match the Tarrant County representative from Arlington.

Mayor Altman of Arlington said he "couldn't see what Irving has to do with this."

"After all, Arlington is the airport sponsor, and Irving never did take any part in the negotiations," he said.