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# Dallas-Fort Worth Tilt On Airport Up to Jones

## Secretary of Commerce Confers With Groups From Both Cities About Building Location.

By Associated Press.

Washington, March 22.—Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas, Monday carried their latest rivalry directly to Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones for settlement.

The issue rests on which side of the new Midway Airport, under construction between the cities, the new administration building shall be built.

Plans call for the erection of the building on the west side of the field, facing Fort Worth. Dallas wants it on the north side, in what they contend would be a neutral position, inasmuch as their city lies to the east.

### Delegations Confer With Jones.

Delegations headed by the mayors of Fort Worth and Dallas and Arlington, the actual sponsor of the project, met in conference with Secretary Jones, Civil Aeronautics Administrator Charles I. Stanton sitting in.

The Fort Worth group, accompanied by Arlington's two-man delegation, went in to see Jones first, while the Dallas delegation met in an adjoining room with Stanton.

Amon G. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth Star Telegram, began outlining the airport building squabble to Jones, but was interrupted shortly by the secretary, who asked if there was any reason why the two groups could not get together and discuss the case. Carter's reply was he would be pleased with such an arrangement in that he would like to hear what Dallas had to say.

When the meetings were consolidated, Jones flipped a coin to see which side would be heard first, and Fort Worth won.

"Fort Worth doesn't know just what to speak on," stated Carter. "We thought this was already settled, that the building was going to be built on the west side of the field."

He then deferred to Dallas representatives.

Mayor Woodall Rodgers of Dallas said: "The city of Dallas feels that they have not been properly considered in this matter." He asserted that plans originally called for construction of the administration building on the north side of the field and that suddenly, without advance notice so far as they were concerned, the CAA altered the plans to place the structure on the west side "to attempt to accommodate certain Fort Worth interests."

### Dallas Position Argued.

He argued that the CAA officials originally had agreed that the north side position was the most desirable. The mayor then submitted to Jones and Stanton a letter he had received from the CAA regional office for Texas, explaining that the change had been made in the belief that the aeronautical efficiency of the field would be improved.

Dallas' position also was discussed by Nathan Adams, Dallas banker; B. F. McLain, president of the city's chamber of commerce, and Henry Kucera, Dallas city attorney.

### Claims It's Nearer Dallas.

Maps and charts explaining the airport project and its relation to both Fort Worth and Dallas were laid out on the long conference table for scrutiny of Jones and Stanton.

When Dallas witnesses concluded testifying, Carter reiterated that

he thought the building site was a settled matter.

Pointing to a series of maps, he claimed that the west side building site actually is closer to downtown Dallas than to downtown Fort Worth. Choosing principal hotels in each city, engineers made surveys disclosing the distance as 19.1 miles between Fort Worth and the site and only 18.1 miles between Dallas and the site, he testified.

Short cuts could be made in the route between both cities and the field, he continued, which would reduce the distance to Dallas to 17.7 miles and that to Fort Worth to 18.1 miles.

Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce Manager Holden reviewed documents pertaining to original negotiations for the airport. He declared the north side never had been definitely decided on by the CAA and that the government agency had selected the west side of its own accord after a careful study of prevailing winds.