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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Civil Aeronautics Administration  
Washington

Office of the Administrator

February 4, 1952.

AIR MAIL

Mr. Amon G. Carter, President  
Fort Worth Star-Telegram  
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Amon:

Thank you for your thought-provoking letter of January 12, 1952. Your comments on American Airlines' current tax position are particularly interesting and impressive. I regret as much as you do the necessity for the heavy tax burden which all of us, corporations and individual taxpayers alike, must bear in these troubled times. Whenever I get concerned about the high level of government expenditures and taxation, however, I am confronted by the hard fact that about three-fourths of our current Federal budget goes into national defense and related programs. Although these costs have risen sharply in the last three years, the line has been held pretty well on all other government programs, as I can personally testify. CAA's budget for the next fiscal year, for example, is actually about \$3,000,000 below this year's level.

I agree wholeheartedly with C. R. Smith's position on separating subsidy and mail pay. The recent administrative action taken by the Civil Aeronautics Board to effect such a separation was a long step forward. I am now hopeful that Congress will act on this question, so as to get the matter settled once and for all.

I am very glad to get your good progress report on Fort Worth Greater International Airport. I want to express to you my personal appreciation and the sincere thanks of all of us in CAA for your outstanding work in advising the City of Fort Worth on this matter. I know that your personal efforts have gone into every detail of the project, and have greatly influenced its scope and the vision shown in its design and execution.

I am looking forward with keen anticipation to seeing the completed airport personally, and even more to the prospect of having it in full operation before the end of this year.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ C. F. HORNE

Administrator of Civil Aeronautics