

FORT WORTH  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

June 21, 1945

Mr. Carter:

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Attached is the proceedings of the meeting held this morning at the Chamber of Commerce to inaugurate plans for General Simpson's welcome.

The big bottleneck seems to revolve around whether or not a dinner should be given Tuesday night in General Simpson's honor. The Fort Worth Club, as you know, is holding its annual meeting on that night which means that a number of men who should attend any dinner given the General would be unable to do so. If you have any suggestions along this line it will help a great deal.

The various committees that were appointed this morning have called meetings for Friday morning at which time detailed plans will be drawn.

We contacted Washington this morning by phone to see if the General would favor a dinner Tuesday night. Apparently, the General is en route to the United States at the present time as Major Whitmore said he would do his best to get in touch with General Simpson via radio.

Apparently, with the exception of the dinner, everything is running smoothly.

Jim McMullen

*Jim M<sup>g</sup> Mullen*

JM:mh  
Attach.

The Steering Committee for the welcoming of General Simpson to Fort Worth on Tuesday, June 26th, met at 11:00 a.m. Thursday morning in the Committee Room of the Chamber of Commerce.

Those present were: Jack Brown, W. A. King, Edgar Deen, John Griffith, Barney Holland, Frank Weatherford, A. L. Bailey, Harold Foster, Homer Covey, Jim McMullen, Judge Frank P. Culver, Ed Lally, Don Weaver, Dave Leavell, General Barton K. Yount, Sam Bothwell, Herbert Joseph, and Redus.

Mr. Covey opened the meeting by saying that he appreciated the attendance of those present and their participation in arranging this program. He added that General Simpson is, indeed, a great man, a Texan, and a neighbor and that Fort Worth should go all out to give him a big reception as he so rightly deserves.

Tentative Program:

3:00 p.m. - Reception at Municipal Airport

3:30 p.m. - Downtown Parade. (Mr. Lally advised that this parade will be broadcast as much as possible.)

5:30 p.m. - Reception

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

Reception Committee:

Amon G. Carter, Chairman  
General Barton K. Yount  
A. L. Bailey  
Edgar Deen  
Lt. Amon G. Carter, Jr.  
John Simpson  
Capt. Andy Price  
Herbert Joseph, Staff Secretary

The purpose of this committee is to arrange the program at the airport and execute the reception program - 15 gun salute, the welcome, etc. Arrange transportation for official party. Also, find open car for the General to ride in. This, no doubt, is the most important committee. Mr. Foster suggested that the commanding officers of all military posts in this area should be invited to attend, heads of civilian war agencies, Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, labor groups, representatives from Weatherford, Mineral

Invitations are to be strictly to West Texas towns - Weatherford, Mineral Wells, and Aledo, and the Military Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Decorating Committee:

John Griffith, Chairman  
Herbert Joseph, Staff Secretary

Parade Committee:

Judge Frank P. Culver, Chairman  
W. A. King, Staff Secretary  
Sam Bothwell  
Ernest Allen

Dinner Committee:

Judge James Wilson, Chairman  
Harold Foster, Staff Secretary

The purpose of this committee will be to prepare for the reception, cocktail party, suggest attendance group for the dinner, and plan the program.

Publicity Committee:

James M. North, Jr., Chairman  
Jim McMullen, Staff Secretary  
Don Weaver  
Ed Lally  
Frank Weatherford  
Clyde Pemberton  
Noble

Liason Committee:

Barney Holland, Chairman  
Jack Brown, Staff Secretary

It was suggested that it would be a good idea to find out if the General wanted to stay to dinner as he might prefer to go out to visit his mother at Aledo. It was mentioned, however, that a wire had been received from Congressman Lanham that it would be fine to arrange a program for the afternoon and evening.

There are no wires on Main Street to put up overhead decorations so there will be only flags up and down sides of streets. The American Legion decor-

ations will be used.

Invitations are to be strictly to West Texas towns - Weatherford, Mineral Wells, and Aledo.

It was suggested that the parade or the reception should include cowboys - either in town or at the Airport. The City Manager objected to the cowboys.

It was suggested that jeeps be obtained to use in the parade for the General and his party to ride in.

There will be another meeting tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. to see what has happened. The various committees are expected to meet this afternoon to work out details.

Business houses will not be asked to close on this day.

Friday morning, June 22nd, 11:00 A.M:

Meeting of the Steering Committee for the welcoming of General Simpson for the purpose of hearing reports from various committees appointed Thursday morning.

Those present were: Capt. Lloyd B. Wyatt, Texas Highway Department, Capt. R. E. Tarvin, Fort Worth Traffic Department, J. C. Griffith, James C. Wilson, Jr., J. J. Hurley (representing Sam Bothwell), Ed Lally, A. L. Bailey, David Leavell, Lt. Col. M. Sansom, A.C., Brig. Gen. J. F. Powell, G.S.C., Clarence Kraft (Judge), Ernest Allen, Harold Foster, Wm. Holden, Herbert Joseph, Barney Holland, Jack Brown, Jim McMullen, W. A. King, H. C. Covey

Mr. Covey stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss and report activities planned up to date by the various committees appointed so that the committee as a whole would know the developments and could coordinate them into one plan.

#### Report of the Reception Committee:

General Powell stated that the Army has made arrangements for an escort, a band, and the gun to fire the salute upon the arrival of Gen. Simpson. This will all be at the Airport in the reception.

Herbert Joseph plans to go out to the airport, along with Capt. Tarvin, this afternoon to lay plans out there. He plans to ask Hyde Corp. or Hobbs Corp. to furnish a trailer which can be used for a platform from which Gen. Simpson may speak at the Airport. This was thought a good plan. Mr. Joseph plans to call the various military posts in this area and invite the commanding officers and also to invite the Governor of Texas. It is not certain just yet the number that will be in the Reception Committee. The badges have been arranged for and he is trying to find a ribbon which will have printed on it, "Fort Worth Welcomes Lt. Gen. Simpson" or words to that effect. It was suggested that the Commissioners Court and the City Council be in the Reception Committee at the Airport. After the military reception, Mr. Amon G. Carter will give the address of welcome to the General and, after the General's acknowledgement, the party will proceed to the Court

House where the Parade will begin.

Report of the Decorating Committee:

Mr. Joseph has arranged for curb flags on Main Street and on Houston Street; on 6th and Houston to Lamar and on 7th and Main to Lamar. These will be put up Monday.

Report of the Parade Committee:

The Parade will begin from the Court House and proceed South on Main to 12th Street, West to Houston, North to 6th, West to Taylor, South to 7th, and stop at the Fort Worth Club. When General Simpson completes inspection of the Honor Guard it will be entrucked and, with a motorcycle escort furnished by the City, brought to the Court House to be ready to be in the Parade. Col. Sansom gave the outline of the Parade as follows:

In front will be a City and County motorcycle escort in "V" shape, (15 elements), immediately followed by the band. Then the Color Guard which will consist of 3 men and a three file column of guards. These will be followed by General Simpson's jeep, a jeep in which the Governor will ride, General Yount and General Walker and whatever other military personnel may be present will follow in jeeps. Then the Staff Cars will follow in which will be Mr. Carter, Mrs. Simpson, the General's two brothers and other prominent civilians. A formation of four-engine bombers will fly over the city at the time of the parade.

Capt. Tarvin plans to clear the traffic from 5th to 9th on Main and from 9th to 6th on Houston.

Report of the Dinner Committee:

Mr. Foster reported that we have been unable to get in touch with the General to find out if he would like to stay to dinner or if he would prefer to go out to Aledo to visit his mother. Mr. Holland stated that he had talked to Mrs. Simpson and that she did not know his plans either. However, one of the General's brothers advised Mr. Holland that he was going to try to persuade

the mother to come into Fort Worth and have dinner Tuesday night. Mr. Carter had advised Mr. Holland that he could take care of them at the Fort Worth Club. No definite plans can be made until the General's wishes are known.

Report of the Publicity Committee:

Mr. Lally reported that until something definite was decided there could be little broadcast over the radio but that they would be glad to cooperate in any way and the reception and parade will be broadcast and probably will be recorded for posterity.

Mr. McMullen reported that he made a trip to Dallas yesterday afternoon where he contacted Movietone News and was advised that they will be here that day. He also stated that the newspapers are giving us all the publicity that we desire and, of course, will continue to do so.

Report of the Liason Committee:

Mr. Holland reported that he went to Aledo last night and contacted three or four of the General's old friends who are to let him know if they can be present. There will be eleven from Weatherford and Mr. Mimms, of the Mineral Wells Chamber of Commerce, advised that Mineral Wells would have three or more representatives - whatever we desired.

Mr. Bailey suggested that the Parade might be lengthened but Col. Sansom recommended that the Parade not be extended on account of the men who will be marching.

Gen. Powell suggested that we let this be a civilian parade as much as possible but he assured us that the Army was willing to cooperate in any way.

There will be another meeting Monday morning, June 25th, at 11:00 A.M. for further reports.

*Jim M<sup>c</sup> Muller*