

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1942

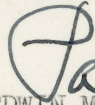
Dear Amon:

Your letter of February third indicates that you feel Fort Worth has been overlooked in the allotment of defense projects, particularly in comparison with your neighboring city of Dallas. Naturally I have no direct knowledge of the distribution of defense activities, but have asked the War Department for a statement of what has been allocated to Fort Worth. The reply of the War Department is appended.

I frequently encounter the feeling from many sources that someone's home town has been neglected in comparison with the advantages granted a neighboring locality. However, I believe the record will usually reveal that an intense effort has been made to insure an equitable spread of all defense activities.

With warm personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

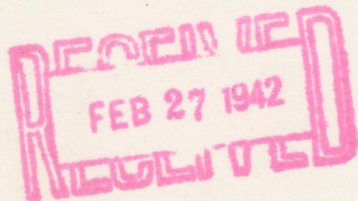


EDWIN M. WATSON

Secretary to the President

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

Enclosure.



A check of War Department records indicates that Fort Worth, Texas, has been allocated an Army project and a defense plant. The cost of those two installations totals many millions of dollars, and thousands of workers will be employed. Another defense plant has been located at Grand Prairie, which, although closer to Dallas, is only some twenty miles from the center of Fort Worth, and undoubtedly a considerable amount of benefit therefrom will accrue to the entire vicinity.

A study of procurement contracts entered into by the Army, Navy, and Maritime Commission between June 1, 1940, and December 31, 1941, discloses that Fort Worth concerns received contracts for some millions of dollars in excess of such contracts awarded to Dallas concerns. These figures are especially noticeable in view of the fact that normal peace time production in Dallas is substantially greater than Fort Worth production.

These facts clearly indicate that Fort Worth has secured recognition in connection with the national defense program, and you may be assured that the resources of that locality and productive capacity of the workers will continue to receive appropriate consideration by the Government.