

Major General George Brett
Acting Chief of the Army Air Corps
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre,
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Mr. E. M. Swasey
Care Warwick Hotel
New York City, N. Y.

Senator Morris Sheppard
253 Senate Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Frank Knox
Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Lieut. General H. H. Arnold,
Deputy Chief of Staff for Air
Munitions Building
Washington, D. C.

W. S. Knudsen, *Exec. Chief*
~~Federal Reserve Building~~ *National Defense*
Washington, D. C. *Commission*

Major R. H. Fleet, Pres.,
Consolidated Aircraft Corporation
San Diego, Calif.

C. A. Van Dusen, V. P.
Consolidated Aircraft Corporation
San Diego, California

Robert P. Patterson, (Honorable)
Undersecretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Capt
Elliott Roosevelt
Wright Field
Dayton, Ohio

E. R. Stettinius, Jr.
~~Horse Shoe Farm~~ *National Defense*
Rapidan, Va. *Commission*

Hon. Fritz G. Lanham
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

General E. M. Watson,
Secretary to President Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Senator Tom Connally,
U. S. Senate Building,
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sam Rayburn, Speaker
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Rear Admiral J. H. Towers,
Chief Bureau of Aeronautics
U. S. Navy
Washington, D. C.

Brig. Genl. Oliver P. Echols
Chief of the Material Division
Army Air Corps,
Washington, D.C.

Mailed
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Construction Contracts for Bomber Plant Are Awarded

Senate Passes British Aid Bill by 60-31 Margin

Cleveland Firm Selected to Design and Build Unit, Work on Project at Tulsa

As Contracts Are Signed for Bomber Plants at Fort Worth and Tulsa

Huge Fort Worth Aircraft Factory to Cost Close to \$13,000,000 With Full Equipment.

BY BASCOM TIMMONS.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The War Department Saturday approved contracts for construction of the Fort Worth and Tulsa airplane bomber assembly plants, at a cost of approximately \$10,000,000 each.

Austin Company of Cleveland, Ohio, was awarded the architectural, engineering and construction contract for the Fort Worth plant in the amount of \$10,511,400 on a fixed fee basis.

Austin also will perform architectural and engineering services for the Tulsa plant.

Manhattan Construction Company of Muskogee and Long Construction Company of Tulsa were jointly awarded a contract in the amount of \$10,476,400 to construct the Tulsa plant.

Consolidated Consultant.

It has been estimated that the cost of equipment will run around \$3,000,000 for each plant, bringing the total cost of plant and facilities up to approximately \$13,000,000 for each city.

This is not definite, however, since the matter is still under consideration, it was said.

Consolidated Aircraft was awarded a contract as consultant to United States Army Engineers in the erection of both plants, since its B-24 Consolidated bomber is the model to be produced under the heavy bomber assembly program.

The sum of Consolidated's consultant contract was less than \$300,000.

A \$3,706,484 construction contract also was awarded for a plant to assemble medium two-motored bombers at Kansas City, Kan. The contract went to G. L. Tarleton and McDonald Construction Company of St. Louis.

The Kansas City plant, expected to cost about \$7,000,000 altogether, will be operated by North American Aviation, Inc., Inglewood, Cal., which also will furnish during construction consultant architectural and engineering services.

The contracts were signed by Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson on the eve of his departure for Nashville where he will fill a speaking engagement Monday.

With him at the time were Maj. R. H. Fleet, president of Consolidated; C. A. Van Dusen, vice president; A. M. Hall, Washington representative who will manage the Fort Worth unit, and F. D. Schnacke, counsel for the company.

Patterson took up the matter in midmorning and tussled with it throughout the day. The contracts were not signed until shortly before 6 p. m.

Some Disagreement.

Throughout the day, word was received first that the contracts would be signed Saturday, and then that they would not. This was taken as an indication of disagreement on some points.

Major Fleet and the other Consolidated officials went into conference with Patterson finally around 3 p. m., and remained until the final signing was announced.

The contracts covered Saturday did not include operations at either of the plants. But there were reports that the question of operations was discussed considerably during

Bomber Site Land Deals to Be Closed

Final offers for the purchase of the 1,450-acre bomber plant site at Lake Worth will be made to owners of the property Monday, H. H. Morse, chairman of the committee conducting the land buying negotiations, said Saturday.

Spurred by announcement of award of the contract for construction of the plant, Morse said he hoped to be able to come to terms with most of the owners without further delay.

"Signing of the contract means we have to work fast," he said. "We hope we will be able to agree at once with the owners on a price that will be fully satisfactory."

After a round of conferences with the property owners Monday, Morse plans to file his final reports with the city land department Tuesday. Terms of the purchases will have to be approved by city authorities, since the cost is to be paid from municipal funds voted in last Tuesday's bond election.

City May Condemn Land.

A bill signed by the Governor Friday gave the city authority to condemn land for use as a bomber plant site if it can not be bought at a reasonable price.

Announcement of the contract signing at Washington was greeted with satisfaction by William Holden, executive vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, and by City Manager Bothwell.

"It means that we are going to have to speed up the work at this end," Holden said. He said he expected crews of the United States Army Engineers and the contractors to move into Fort Worth at once.

Maj. Gordon E. Textor of Denison, supervising army engineer on

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Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson (seated center) is shown as he signed the con-

struction contracts Saturday for \$10,000,000 bomber assembly plants at Fort Worth and Tulsa.

Witnessing the signing (left to right) are C. A. Van Dusen, vice president of Consolidated

Aircraft Corporation, which will operate the Fort Worth plant; A. M. Hall, who will manage it;

F. D. Schnacke, company counsel, and R. H. Fleet, president of Consolidated.

—Associated Press Wirephoto.

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