

HEADQUARTERS
ARMY ELECTRONIC PROVING GROUND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA

5 November 1956

Honorable Carl Hayden
United States Senator
P. O. Box 2488
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Senator Hayden:

We have just recapitulated the latest information on our FY-56 through FY-59 Construction Program. In spite of the fact that Mr. Moore tells me you may visit Fort Huachuca before you return to Washington, I am taking this opportunity to put into this letter a few objectives and comments for your information. You may then be in a position to have the matter in writing and not have to be bothered with notes to take back with you. I hope you will find it possible to visit us before you return to the east, and we can discuss this matter further at that time. I am also taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter, as well as the blueprint, to Mr. Moore for his information.

The FY-56 program is very much under control. The only significant matter necessary to call to your attention is the indication on the BOQ.

The FY-57 program has only one item worthwhile calling to your attention and that is the new breakdown on the 40 senior officer quarters being built from FY-56 appropriations for 250 sets and from which General Lawton asked you to approve transfer of \$690,000 for the purpose of building family quarters at Ft. Ord, California. In this item of 40, we had originally asked for 36 field grade quarters and 4 colonels quarters. While this post is entitled to two general officers quarters, it was, and still is my feeling that the second general officer would prefer to live in either one or the other of the sets adjacent to me. They are more spacious and have three bathrooms. However, the Chief of Engineers carries on his records only my set of quarters as general officer's quarters and therefore is authorizing one general officer's quarters to be built. I am not about to look a gift horse in the mouth. It gives me an additional 4-bedroom house to use for large families. You may remember that the criteria is no more than 3-bedrooms and $1\frac{1}{2}$ bathrooms for other than general officers. The note opposite indicates the L.A. District Engineer has the design directive on these 40 sets.

Senator Hayden

5 November 1956

With respect to FY-58, you will probably realize that it looks almost as bare as Mother Hubbard's cupboard. The note indicating re-design required is due to a new plan to build barracks without mess halls. This requires a re-design of the four separate company mess halls. In the next item, also under FY-58, indicated "Reclama," we pointed out to the Chief Signal Officer that we are building battalion barracks in FY-57 and FY-58 with no appropriate battalion headquarters buildings, motor parks or repair shops and recreational facilities. Of course, what we have programmed is better than nothing but the reclama items are essential and I have made a strong point of this to the Chief Signal Officer.

You may recollect that the second increment of our Technical Building was involved in FY-58 and in the Pentagon records is now earmarked for the completion of SCEL at Fort Monmouth. The amount originally programmed for our Technical Building's completion was considerably less than the amount required for SCEL at Monmouth. They therefore not only took that item out but also other items that we sorely need. General O'Connell personally told me that he felt in all honesty that he had to make one last effort to get the building at SCEL completed and leave it to higher authority to make the final decision. He, of course, is boxed in by many advisors in his office favoring SCEL and I am 2000 miles away on the other side of the fence. On the other hand, I feel strongly that our Technical Building is more important than the completion of SCEL. In the first place, the first increment of SCEL will not permit us to have our cafeteria for our civilian employees as well as other facilities. We are presently using a considerable amount of troop housing to accommodate technical facilities. This can't go on forever and I am sure you will agree.

The items indicated for FY-59 are our best thoughts although we doubt of course that we will get sufficient funds to do the whole job. Listed in the items deferred from FY-58 and FY-59 is the item of a trailer court. It is my intention to drop that item on future construction. The Department of Army construction criteria on trailer courts are such that we paid over \$1100 per unit and present construction costs would probably raise that to \$1300 or more per unit. There are any number of up-to-date and modern trailer courts outside the Gate and I feel that they are entirely adequate from a sanitary and utility aspect. I think that since Congress has authorized the payment of a man moving from place to place by trailer at 20¢ per mile and the relatively high cost of trailer spaces on post, I am entirely justified in striking those out. This is particularly true in light of the fact

Senator Hayden

5 November 1956

that our housing program will provide military and those civilians who wish to live on the post, with modern houses. I will cover this in the next item.

With respect to family housing, I would like to recapitulate the following:

<u>TYPE HOUSING</u>	<u>NUMBER OF UNITS</u>
Existing single family quarters, Senior Officers	12
Existing duplex family quarters, Senior Officers	26
Officers quarters being built from FY-56 funds	50
Officers quarters being built under Wherry Program	248
Officers quarters being built FY-57 from FY-56 funds, Senior Officers	40
Officers quarters to be built under Capehart Program	<u>195</u>
TOTAL Officers family quarters existing, being built and programmed	571
Existing permanent NCO quarters (Bonnie Blink block houses)	30
NCO family quarters being built from FY-56 funds	140
NCO family quarters being built under Wherry Program	252
NCO family quarters being built under Capehart Program	<u>380</u>
TOTAL NCO family quarters existing, being built and programmed	802

It should be noted that these figures do not include any quarters which now exist and are of a temporary nature. I am vacating as promptly as possible undesirable family quarters in East Apache now occupied by NCO's and will, as promptly as possible, convert those into efficiency apartments for single civilians, particularly women. Here I have a morale problem and I think this will alleviate the situation materially.

I don't remember whether or not I told you that the temporary homes, approximately 75, in the south end of the post which includes Bonnie Blink, will be sold under contract to make room for a modern family housing area under the Capehart Act. The Field Office of the Los Angeles District Engineer in Phoenix will let

Senator Hayden

5 November 1956

a contract for the removal of these houses and we expect that this will not cost us anything.

I hope this information will be of some value to you should you not be able to visit us before your departure for Washington.

Sincerely,



EMIL LENZNER
Major General, USA
Commanding

1 Incl
Construction Program