FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA

Fort Huachuca has a long and honored history. It was founded as a military post in 1877 when two troops of the 6th Cavalry under Captain Whiteside arrived at the Huachuca Mountains and established a camp at their base for the protection of the settlers in the Southeast Arizona Territory. In 1881 Camp Huachuca was designated a permanent post and in 1882 its name was changed to Fort Huachuca.

It was the forces stationed at Fort Huachuca that pursued and eventually captured the notorious Geronimo. General Nelson Miles, who brought the Apache War to a close, used the Fort as the base for his operations.

During the uneventful years following the end of the Indian Wars the Fort continued as an Army Cavalry Post. It was not until 1906 that troops stationed at the Fort were again called to action when the revolutionary unrest in Mexico necessitated the dispatch of troops to Douglas and Naco. Their task was to patrol the United States-Mexico border and to prevent the smuggling of war materials to the Mexican insurgents.

Again in 1910 troops from Fort Huachuca were sent to investigate several filibuster expeditions which were reputedly being organized against Mexico. The revolutionary unrest in Mexico continued and in 1913 and 1914 troops from Fort Huachuca were again sent to the border to protect our settlers in southern Arizona.

The men of Fort Huachuca again played an honored role in the military annals of our country in 1916 when Columbus, New Mexico was attacked by

Pancho Villa. The Army's famed 10th Cavalry stationed at the Fort joined General Pershing's punitive expedition against that notorious outlaw, which lasted a year. When this expedition was successfully completed the Fort returned to its normal peacetime activities until 1941. During this period it was almost continuously garrisoned by the 10th U. S. Cavalry.

With the outbreak of World War II, Fort Huachuca became an important center for Infantry replacement training. At the peak of its operations it had a total strength of 38,500 enlisted men and officers. Following the end of World War II, Fort Huachuca was inactivated for the first time in 70 years.

But this period of inactivity did not last long. In 1951, with the outbreak of war in Korea, Fort Huachuca was reactivated as an Aviation Engineer Training Center, only to be closed again in 1953. At that time about $9 million was spent to improve its facilities.

The Fort was again reactivated in February 1954 as a Class II permanent installation when it was designated the Army Electronics Proving Ground. The mission of the Proving Ground at Fort Huachuca is to provide facilities for developing operational doctrine, procedures and techniques for communication systems and equipment, and to serve as a testing ground for the Army's electronic warfare and battlefield surveillance techniques and equipment. It also conducts combat operations research in communications, and Signal Corps aviation activities.

The expansion of military and civilian facilities at Fort Huachuca will involve a construction program of many millions of dollars. Military

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construction already under way and planned for the last two fiscal years ending June 30, 1957 will involve an expenditure of $13 million. This includes $4 million for a modern technical building; $5.5 million for 200 units of family housing and barracks for enlisted men and officers; as well as $1.7 million for hangars, workshops and warehouse. Another $1.6 million is to be spent on airfield improvements, utilities, and roads. Recreation facilities costing over a quarter of a million dollars have already been built.

The long range military construction program at Fort Huachuca may involve an expenditure of several times this amount for the enlargement and modernization of technical facilities.

In addition to military construction, from $14 to $15 million of private funds is presently planned to be spent for the construction of housing under the provision of the Wherry and Capehart housing bills. This program is expected to include 500 units of Wherry housing estimated to cost about $5,000,000 and 575 units of Capehart housing at an estimated cost of $9,500,000.

The great importance of Fort Huachuca to southern Arizona may be measured by the size of its employment and payroll. Total employment at June 30, 1956 aggregated 7,086, including 749 officers, 4,604 enlisted men, and 1,733 civilians. While there is a planned reduction in enlisted personnel, civilian employment is expected to increase. During the fiscal period ending in June of this year, the total civilian and military payroll amounted to $12,300,000.

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FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA

Military Construction Program
Fiscal Years 1956-1957
(Thousands of Dollars)

Military

Technical building	$4,068
Family housing (200 units)	4,052
EM barracks and BOQ	1,561
Hangars and workshop	1,266
Utilities and roads	877
Warehouse	455
Operations building, control tower, fire and rescue building, concrete apron, etc.	301
Recreation center	233
Fuel tanks, motor repair shop and misc.	208
Total military	$13,021

Housing Construction

Wherry housing - 500 units	$5,000	(approx.)
Capehart housing - 575 units	9,500	(approx.)
Total	$14,500	
Grand total construction program	$27,521	

Military and Civilian Personnel

30 June	Officers	EM	Civ.	Total
FY 1954	289	2,144	699	3,132
FY 1955	640	5,325	1,336	7,301
FY 1956	749	4,604	1,733	7,086