

FOR RELEASE 12 NOON THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 1955

FROM: District Engineer
San Francisco District
180 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California
(EXbrook 2-6820, Ext. 237)

REC'D FEB 28 1955

Colonel J. A. Graf, San Francisco District Engineer, today reported the progress of the latest, and possibly the last, Wherry Housing projects which will total \$14 million in construction costs.

Fort Huachuca, Arizona, with 500 family units, and Schofield Barracks in Honolulu, with 1326 family units, have recently been authorized to proceed with design and development of family living quarters under the jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Joseph A. Woods, Western Regional Director of the Federal Housing Administration, emphasized the necessity for early negotiation with prospective sponsors under competitive bidding in order to complete contracts before June 30th. This is the date that Public Law 211 which authorizes Wherry Housing expires. Mr. Woods has placed responsibility for final contracting with Mr. George A. Hillier, of his Phoenix office, and Mr. Robert T. Carson, in the Honolulu FHA office.

After careful screening of many qualified firms, Colonel Graf has placed the design of the Arizona project with Blanton and Cole of Tucson. Design of the Honolulu housing is a joint venture among the firms of Indenco Engineering, Oakland, California; Benedict, Beckler, and Kocher, Los Angeles, California; and Austin and Towill of Honolulu. Factors considered in final selection included available manpower and the limited time in which to complete the work.

Army engineers say that design will be complete on both projects in April, allowing advertising for bids and subsequent award by the FHA in May

or June. Mr. Woods said that as in the past; financial stability and capacity to perform would play a large part in the final decision on the successful contractor in competitive bidding on the projects. Tentatively, it is planned that the \$10 million Schofield barracks housing development will consist of 265 one bedroom, 663 two bedroom, 332 three bedroom and 66 four bedroom homes with basic rentals ranging from \$76.50 to \$100.00 monthly.

Fort Huachuca's basic rentals will be from \$51.00 to \$75.00 monthly on 100 single three bedroom and 300 single 2 bedroom homes, and 100 duplex one bedroom quarters.

Further information is available from Colonel Graf's office at 180 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco; the Honolulu Area Engineers' office, P.O. Box 2240, Honolulu 4, T. H.; the architects concerned; and the local FHA offices listed above.

Hayden 176/30

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