

16 (?) March 1955

# Fort Huachuca Center of New Sto

PHOENIX, March 16 (AP)—The bill designed to settle questions of jurisdiction at Ft. Huachuca is earning itself the title of "a simple, non-controversial measure" in the corridors of the Arizona Legislature.

This puts it in the same class as the school aid bill, the bill to establish a labor department, the bill raising the gas tax and other legislation around which considerable agitation has centered.

"What's all the fuss about," the lawmakers say to each other.

"It's just a simple, non-controversial measure."

The Ft. Huachuca bill, however, does not strictly belong in this class. But it has been the center of dispute since its introduction in the Senate by Sen. Fred Dove (D-Cochise). It is now in the House where a new storm has broken around it.

As originally introduced, the bill would have given the Army exclusive jurisdiction to the fort under an existing law giving such jurisdiction to all military estab-

lishments in the state.

However, the State Game and Fish Commission and representatives of the Arizona Game Protective Assn., successfully lobbied to have the Senate change the exclusive to concurrent jurisdiction—not only for Ft. Huachuca but for all other military establishments.

The Air Force now is objecting to concurrent jurisdiction at its installations in the state.

Rep. Lee Dover (D-Navajo), chairman of the Committee on

Public Defense and Affairs, said his committee stands for clarification of the bill for clarification of the Air Force stand. The whether the delay of the death of the bill the short time ren adjournment.

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(Continued from Page 1)

his committee, it will probably come out of other committees considering it but might be lost in the log jam marking the end of the session.

Sen. Dove said he was pressing for clarification from Washington of the questions raised by the Air Force. He still hoped the bill would pass before adjournment.

"It's a funny thing," he said. "I started out with the Army asking me to introduce the bill. Then the game and fish people started to push the other way. Now the Air Force is overhead. The next thing, we'll have the Navy in here."

Dove said the substitute bill as passed by the Senate was designed to protect the interests of all concerned. He noted that three-quarters of the land area of the state is federally-owned and any or all of it could at any time be withdrawn by the military.

"We could have a hypothetical situation in which we were giving exclusive jurisdiction to three-quarters of our land," he said. "I think some consideration certainly should be given to the state's rights in this matter."

There was little activity on the legislative front today. The House met briefly, then recessed until this afternoon. In the afternoon, the House met and immediately recessed until tomorrow afternoon.

The reason given by the leadership was that the Appropriations Committee had passed the bill to work with the Senate Appropriations Committee on the general appropriations bill.

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The two committees spent most of the day in joint session striving to clear up their work and get the bill introduced before the weekend.

But no matter what happens, there is only the faintest hope that the session will be completed this weekend. Chances are the appropriations bill will not be introduced before Friday or Saturday and it might not reach the Senate before Monday.

And tied into the problem is the school aid bill which is certain to go to a House-Senate conference committee for settlement of wide differences. Some legislators are convinced the session will not end for at least another week.