

# The Bisbee Daily Review

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1952

REACTIVATED  
FR. HUACHUCA  
MA

Dear Carl:

I had not wanted to disturb you about Fort Huachuca matters until after you had a period of rest following the adjournment of Congress. But I do want you to know the exact status so that you may begin now the direction of activities which will assure permanency at the Fort and the basing of a reasonable force there.

Since early February I have realized that General Swing had no intention of permanent occupancy at Huachuca. He has been at Fort Huachuca several times and to others had declared his pleasure that the Fort had been reactivated. I am told by people whom we sent to meet him that he was disturbed because Title had not passed from the State to the Government.

Early in February the plan of the War Department was to give basic training to quite a number of troops at Huachuca, after which they would be assigned to other units for advanced training. This was in addition to the Engineering Units now stationed at Fort Huachuca. A train load of soldiers was scheduled for arrival but when the train arrived at Louis Springs, was diverted and sent to Camp Ord. Some four days later another sizable detachment assigned to Fort Huachuca was diverted at El Paso and sent to Camp Ord.

About the 1st of March I was in Phoenix and was told that Dell Webb was bidding on a huge building program at Camp Ord - the plans for which have not been completed. We sent a man to San Francisco and while there he talked to General Swing at the Presidio. When Huachuca was mentioned, General Swing went into quite an argument regarding the failure of the State of Arizona to transfer Title to the Army. Two or three weeks later Camp Ord was announced to have been changed and would thereafter be called Fort Ord. We are now told that between one hundred twenty million and one hundred forty million dollars will be spent there.

Jim Brophy belongs to some Advisory Committee to the Secretary of War representing Southern Arizona. Wes Knorpp is the State Chairman and I think Hugh Gruwell, Dr. Montgomery and one or two others are Chairmen in their respective parts of the State. This group visited some five or six Army Installations on the Pacific Coast,

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all in the State of California - last month, winding up at the Presidio. General Swing went out of his way to tell Brophy that he thought Huachuca was an excellent training area but that the Army had come upon days of economy and he told Brophy confidentially that Fort Huachuca would not be activated.

Perhaps I should have written you regarding all of this but I have been very busy and I know that you have been working day and night. A week ago Sunday I had quite a talk with a man from Washington who works in the Pentagon and in an office where he saw General Swing's recommendation regarding Fort Huachuca. I was talking to McFarland and I told him what this man had told me. He said he was going to talk to Secretary Pace about Fort Huachuca and when I returned from the coast Saturday I found a wire from Mac as follows:

"Talked to Secretary Pace about Fort Huachuca. I checked and found that your information was correct. He said that any change would have to come to him for approval. He indicated that while that particular program might be running out, there were other things. I am confident that I now have it blocked. I am leaving for Chicago now so have asked Carl to follow through."

Last Sunday afternoon I was talking with a man from San Francisco who has access to the recommendations made by General Swing. He told me that Fort Huachuca would be de-activated on December 15th of this year, that the Army was notifying the Air Force and that our only chance for continuation of activities at Fort Huachuca would be with the Air Force. This is the picture as I now have it. I am very sure that the men who have talked to me know exactly what they are saying and that they are not lying. And I am altogether convinced that it is the intention of General Swing to discontinue any Army activities at Fort Huachuca permanently.

I realize that it is very difficult for a Senator so busy as you are forced to be to thwart the will of a Commanding Officer of the Sixth Army. I do not know how many Army Installations are now in the State of California, but I do know that there are no Army Installations in Arizona other than Huachuca. And I know that General Swing has every intention of moving the appropriation now scheduled for Yuma Proving Ground to Irwin Field in California. In other words, he

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intends to spend no Army money whatever in Arizona. I know that other General Officers who have come to Huachuca on Army business are enthusiastic regarding its possibilities as a training area and I believe what three or four of these General Officers have told me. But I am very sure that General Swing intends to group all of the training in the Sixth Army within the States of California, Oregon and Washington, though I understand that Utah has demanded and is getting a sizable training group.

I hope that you can do something about this. We have some \$550,000. in this year's appropriation for improvements at Fort Huachuca. I am told that the Army Engineers Plans call for some three million dollars next year and have called for some eighty-four million dollar improvements in 1954. But General Swing changed the eighty-four million dollar figure to Fort Ord and is spending it now. I am very sure that there is nothing wrong with Fort Huachuca as a training area. We have two Senators of sufficient stature that they should be able to establish and maintain at least one Army Installation in the State and I can see no reason for adding to the already large number of Army Installations in the State of California, when neither of their Senators are Democrats and neither of their Senators approach ours in stature.

I know you will be coming back to Arizona around September 1st. But I hope that you will have time to go into this rather thoroughly and arrange for a definite commitment whereby Fort Huachuca will be permanently activated, the necessary improvement program will be begun and a sufficient training program initiated which will assure permanency at Fort Huachuca.

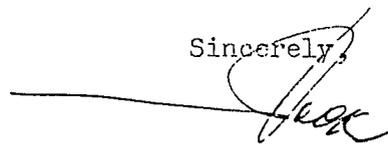
I trust that you are getting a long needed rest and clearing up your desk for two or three months away from Washington. I see no reason for your being in Arizona before September 1st - and let me say to you that I have never seen Phoenix so hot as it is right now. Politics are not hot at present and I doubt whether any race other than that between Haldiman and Head will warm up before the Primary.

Mac is going to have to do quite a bit of work. This boy Goldwater, has been milling around quite a bit. I cannot believe that he can beat Mac in Maricopa County, in fact I cannot see where he can beat him in Pima County, though I would not put any money on Pima County. I told Mac that I hope he leaves the National Fight strictly up to the candidates and that he confines his efforts to the Ernest McFarland Campaign alone. You and the other Senators who will be coming into Arizona after the Primary should be able to take care of the National Campaign.

Please remember me to Mrs. Hayden and to Paul.

My best to you

Sincerely,



Folsom Moore