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Dear Carl:

I have often wondered just what the Army had in mind when it opens Fort Huachuca, spends fifty or sixty million dollars, then closes it and sells off everything possible, grazes its properties with some no-good dude cow man; then reopens it and spends probably twenty million dollars, then closes it again. That is one of the reasons our income tax is so high.

Now, I find that I am not the only person who knows nothing about what the Army is doing with Ft. Huachuca. Col. Dunne tells us that General Swing sheds great tears when he is forced by the Pentagon to close Huachuca. I have a man in the Pentagon who sees the correspondence, and who tells me that Swing is the "hob shot" that wants to close the place. So, day before yesterday Spence Shattuck got the attached letters. I am sending you a copy.

Lt. Col. Gebbie didn't know about the Ft. Huachuca closing until someone in the office of the Chief of Finance noticed a newspaper article that the Fort would be closed. Evidently Swing was off on another hunting trip, so Gen. Partridge wrote the Commanding Officer at Ft. Huachuca. And Col. Dunne says that "no Department of the Army orders announcing the inactivation of Ft. Huachuca have been received at this ~~office~~ Headquarters."

On the other side of the fence - the California side - I am sending you a page from the Del E. Webb house organ. As I have told you the Webb organization has built an entirely new Fort at Camp Ord, near Monterrey, Calif. The government spent easily \$100 million dollars, probably \$175 million. This page shows the Guardhouse and Stockade at Fort Ord just completed. Now we are told that it is an artillery training base. I doubt whether Swing himself knows just what it is. But it was built by a Democratic ~~exec~~ administration for a Republican state. The guardhouse alone cost more than a million dollars.

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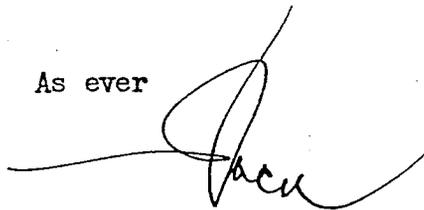
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When General Wedemeyer commanded the Sixth Army he ordered the reactivation of Huachuca. Then he retired and Swing came in. The Pentagon ordered three train loads of soldiers sent to Huachuca. Swing held one of the trains at Hereford for several hours and sent them to Camp Ord for training. He detoured another train load at El Paso and sent them to Camp Ord. What happened to the other train load I was never able to learn. Then he began a great building campaign at Camp Ord, and it was soon made Fort Ord, and between \$100 million and \$175 million dollars of American tax money was spent to erect new quarters when as good or better quarters were available and ready. That makes good Americans see red.

That bunch of bastards will be knocking at your door shortly telling you how the Army must have money to provide training for our soldiers. They are the same gentlemen who didn't believe the Army in Korea needed ammunition. They are the same birds who close Huachuca and erect an entirely new Fort, that they may be able to have easy access to the attractions offered by San Francisco. I hope that you ask them a lot of questions before you let them have a dime - and that you be very sure that any money appropriated will be spent for troop training and activation rather than providing some damn general with a place where he can take his friends to impress them with his own importance.

My best to you

As ever

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jack", written in black ink.