



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Thos. E. Martin
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MAY 26 1943

The Honorable Thos. E. Martin
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman Martin:

This will acknowledge your letter of May 22 relative to securing Federal aid for the completion of the Iowa City, Iowa, Airport.

This Administration recently inspected the airport projects which were left uncompleted by the Work Projects Administration, one of which was Iowa City, in order to gather data as to the status of each. A list of these uncompleted WPA airport projects was submitted to the War Department and the Navy Department with a request that those Agencies determine which projects would be required for completion for military use in the war effort.

As you are probably aware, the airport construction program of this Administration is confined to the development of certain public airports essential to meet immediate military requirements of the armed services in the prosecution of the war. Only those projects which are considered as essential to the war effort by the Army and Navy will be approved by the Airport Approval Board. The Iowa City Airport project was included in the list submitted to the War and Navy Departments but neither Department has indicated that the completion of this project is essential to the prosecution of the war. Under the circumstances, I regret to inform you that this Administration is without authority to undertake the completion of the Iowa City Airport.

However, we are presenting to the Bureau of the Budget a report on the status of each of the airport projects left uncompleted by the withdrawal of the Work Projects Administration, together with an estimate of the funds necessary to complete a useful unit of development at those locations where considerable Federal investment has been made under