

October 15, 1940.

MEMORANDUM for Dr. Bush, Chairman, Special Committee on Site.

1. Pursuant to action of the Committee on Site at its meeting held on October 8, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Gagg, and I visited Cleveland on October 14 and conferred with officials of the airport, the Chamber of Commerce, the Air Race Association, and the power company. We are pleased to report the following results:

(a) Power rates reduced so as to effect reduction in cost equal to \$3,880 per month.

(b) Minimum charge reduced from \$120,000 per year to \$50,000 per year with monthly minimum of \$3,000.

(c) Four of the most influential members of the Board of Directors of the Air Race Association indicated likelihood there would be no more air races at the Cleveland airport, and further indicated their willingness to remove the air race stands.

(d) Major Berry, Superintendent of the airport, speaking for himself and for the Park Commissioners, offered the Committee the whole of the area from the present airport fence to the crest of the hill as a site for the engine laboratory, thus assuring the Committee a superb site unequalled in any other city visited. There will be no buildings within a mile of the Committee's site in any direction. It will face on the Cleveland airport and the rest of the site will be almost surrounded by public park at a lower level.

2. The site offered by Cleveland is the most desirable of all sites inspected. Power cost is now comparable with other cities. These factors, combined with Cleveland's other numerous advantages, convince me that the Cleveland site, if selected by the Committee, can be justified as serving the best interests of aviation and of the nation.

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Secretary.