

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590



23 MAR 1971

Mr. John T. Tucker
531 Ivywood Drive
Oxnard, California 93030

Dear Mr. Tucker:

This is in reply to your letter of 1 March 1971 to the President concerning Oxnard Air Force Base in Ventura County, California.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is quite aware of the fact that there are many who favor the use of this surplus military facility as a civil airport and those who feel it should be put to other public uses. The decision will be in the hands of local officials if and when the General Services Administration (GSA) transfers the property to the County. In any event, we believe the air base facilities are needed to support the expanding civil aviation requirements in Ventura County.

Please be assured that your views and those of other interested parties will be given every consideration in any FAA action concerned with development of this airport. Further, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Airport and Airway Development Act of 1970 require that Federal actions on airport development projects must be accompanied by thorough analyses and findings concerning potential environmental impact related to noise and ecological impairment.

With regard to alternative sites such as Oat Mountain mentioned in your letter, the responsibility for selection lies with the sponsor of the airport, i.e., the public agency who will own and operate the airport. After selection of the site, FAA must consider it from the standpoint of safe and efficient use of the airspace.

We appreciate your concern in the matter. We suggest that you also make your views known to appropriate non-Federal officials.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Clyde W. Pace, Jr.", is written over a light-colored rectangular stamp.

CLYDE W. PACE, JR.
Acting Director, Airports Service, AS-1