

one stops to think the average home takes 3 or 4 months to be completed you are going to be astonished. Go take a look at a city for 5,000 people started from scratch and finished in less than four weeks". He arose from his chair and walking over to Pulliams desk, reached across and handed me a key attached to a 2 inch by 5 inch piece of plywood, and continued his remarks with, "I'm not sure which truck this key fits. If you are a bit lucky, it will be the first one you try". Turning to the secretary Dunn said "Henrietta, Pollock will have this truck assigned to his department, so make a note of that for the Property Division".

As Dunn was returning to his desk a sudden penetrating burst of sound vibrated the two windows of the room for a few seconds. "The fly boys are at it again, those are training planes from the nearby Air Force Training Base" Pulliam volunteered, "You hear them from morning until dark. Its kind of reassuring tho, hearing ^{them} up there, knowing that they're ours. By the way what is your draft status?"

"I'm registered in Bakersfield" was my reply.

"You will not be called while you are here, said Pulliam, you are in a top priority military job here even though you are not in the service. Ernies suggestion to look over this unborn city is a good one. Take your time, here is a notebcok, take notes on anything you have questions about, then the 3 of us will sit down together, and we will find the answers foryou" "We are assigning the pickup truck to you so when you finish inspecting the facilities today, park it by the building next door where your office will be. You are authorized to use it for any business directly connected with the operation of this Assembly Center. We will all use our personal cars for transportation between the Center and our living quarters. Check the number on the door of the vehicle that key fits and let Henrietta know so she can record it on the vehicle assignment list."

With that he reached forward, flicked the ashes from his cigar once more into the ashtray, then leaned back in his chair slowly raising his right hand with the cigar clamped between thumb and fore-finger and the other three fingers outstretched and after placing the "havana" in the accustomed spot at the side of his mouth, he took a long relaxing drag and sat there, silent momentarily.

Then removing the cigar once more from his mouth and hold-