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FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY WCRK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

For Immediate Release Tuesday, January 28, 1941.



INCREASED VOLUME OF MPA DEFENSE WORK INDICATED BY PROJECT APPROVALS

Presidential approval of 44 new MPA national defense projects in two days, allocating Federal funds totaling \$8,352,000, was announced today by Fred R. Rauch, Deputy Commissioner of Work Projects. During the first half of the fiscal year, he pointed out, the weekly average of defense project approvals was 32 projects aggregating \$6,549,000.

Reflecting the increased emphasis WPA has been plocing on airport construction as a phase of its participation in the national defense program, Mr. Rauch continued, 21 of the new projects approved are for work on civil and military airports. Their total value in WPA funds is \$6,328,700.

Other projects are for construction and rehabilitation work at Army and Navy posts, erection of armories and other facilities for the National Guard, improvement of military roads and malaria control in the neighborhood of an Army base in Puerto Rico.

New Jersey fares particularly well in the matter of airport projects approved. Improvements will be made to the municipal airport at Atlantic City at a cost in WPA funds of \$738,983. A new airport is to be constructed at Morristown at a cost of \$687,081 and another at Millville at a cost of \$740,593.

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The largest single project in the group, calling for an expenditure of \$905,626, will provide improved facilities for the municipal airport at Battle Creek, Michigan. The work includes excavating, grading, construction of runways and taxi strips and the installation of drainage structures.

Extensive improvements to the Atlanta, Georgia, airport is contemplated in a project valued at \$590,101. Runways will be extended and paved, new taxi strips laid and additional lighting facilities installed. Other large civil airport projects are located at Traverse City, Michigan, costing \$406,097, and in Cononine County, Arizona, near Valle, costing \$556,926.

Two important airport projects are located at Army posts. At the Air Corps Specialized Flying School, Eglin Field, Florida, \$236,813 of WPA funds will be spent in the construction of runways, warm-up aprons and taxi strips. A new airport will be built at Fort H. G. Wright, off the eastern tip of Long Island, at a cost of \$245,533.

Two of the new projects are located in the District of Columbia area and nearby Maryland. One project for \$20,126 calls for the improvement of buildings and grounds at Fort Myer, Virginia. The other provides for work at the Naval Radio Station and the Engineering Experiment Station at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, at a cost of \$87,041.

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