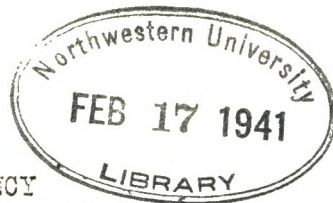


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FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY  
WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

For Release to Newspapers  
Sunday, February 16, 1941

WPA DEFENSE PROJECTS APPROVED THROUGH JANUARY TOTAL APPROXIMATELY  
\$200,000,000

Howard O. Hunter, Acting Commissioner of the Work Projects Administration, announced today that 186 new national defense projects aggregating \$41,066,918 in WPA funds alone had been approved during January. This is the largest volume of defense project approvals in any month since July, 1940, he said, and brings to \$199,317,729 the total of WPA funds earmarked for defense purposes during the current fiscal year. This is exclusive of hundreds of road projects involving parts of the 75,000-mile system designated as of strategic importance.

At the same time, Mr. Hunter announced that 486,000 WPA workers were engaged on national defense projects as of January 31. This was 25 percent of the total WPA enrollment on that date. He added that an even greater proportion of those on WPA rolls would be shifted to defense projects during the coming months as improved weather conditions in the northern states make feasible a greater amount of outdoor work.

Almost 80 percent of the funds covered by the January approvals, or \$32,190,286, was for airport projects, Mr. Hunter continued. He pointed out, however, that a number of these projects had been given only conditional approval, pending completion of plans for work at sites of strategic importance.

"At various times during the fall," Mr. Hunter explained, "the Secretary of War, under provisions established in the current WPA Appropriation Act, certified to us lists of sites at which it was considered important to the defense program to have airport work carried on. Formal project applications covering many of these locations have been received and acted upon. In certain others we have arranged with local authorities to prepare tentative project applications which could clear the formalities of approval in Washington but become eligible for operation only upon the later fulfillment of various necessary conditions.

"In this way we hope to eliminate some of the delays which inevitably occur in the normal routine of initiating and approving projects which are of importance to the national defense."

Next to airports, the largest volume of projects approved during January were those sponsored by the Army. These came to \$3,614,715 in WPA funds. Projects sponsored by the Navy accounted for \$1,282,579 of the total and those for the National Guard, \$1,533,632. The remainder was made up of projects sponsored by the Coast Guard and regular state program projects which were accorded a national defense status.

Among the outstanding airport projects approved during January was one for \$590,101 for enlarging and improving the municipal airport at Atlanta, Georgia. Plans call for widening and lengthening of runways, paving, installation of a lighting system and improvements in the sewer and drainage systems.

Other large airport projects approved during the month are located at Meridian, Mississippi, where an outlay of \$527,313 will be made for improvements to Key Field; at Miami, Florida, costing \$700,529; at Berlin, New Hampshire, costing \$710,790, and Kalamazoo, Michigan, costing \$340,456.

Both the Army and Navy have sponsored airport projects in the vicinity of Everett, Washington. The Army Air Corps is sponsor for a \$407,664 project for improvements at the Snohomish County Airport for use as an air base. The Navy sponsors a somewhat smaller project of \$32,789 for the construction of a bombing field in Snohomish County.

Two military road projects were among the eight new projects approved for Florida. The City of Pensacola is sponsor for a \$339,397 project for the improvement of certain streets which serve as an access to Corry Field. Another project sponsored by Escambia County, amounting to \$192,368 in WPA funds, is for the construction of a military road connecting the Pensacola Naval Air Station with Fort Barrancas.

Fort Benjamin Harrison, near Indianapolis, Indiana, will benefit from two Army sponsored projects aggregating \$620,484. A number of small shops and utility buildings will be constructed, improvements made to roads and walks throughout the reservation, sewers and culverts laid, railroad tracks improved and numerous buildings remodeled. A number of buildings are to be rehabilitated and roads and streets improved at the Holabird Quartermaster Depot, Baltimore,

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Maryland, under a \$235,637 project also approved during January.

(A list by states showing the number and value of WPA national defense projects approved during January, 1941, and cumulatively since July 1, 1940, is attached.)

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W.P.A. NATIONAL DEFENSE PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
UNDER THE EMERGENCY RELIEF APPROPRIATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 1941

P-860

FROM JULY 1, 1940, AND JANUARY 1, 1941, THROUGH JANUARY 31, 1941

STATE	FROM JULY 1, 1940 THROUGH JAN. 31, 1941		FEDERAL FUNDS APPROVED FROM JANUARY 1, 1941, THROUGH JANUARY 31, 1941							
	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	FEDERAL FUNDS	TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECTS	AMOUNT	ARMY	NAVY	NATIONAL GUARD ETC.	COAST GUARD	STATE PROGRAM AIRPORTS	STATE PROGRAM OTHER
ALABAMA	33	\$ 2,576,223	2	\$ 158,313					\$ 158,313	
ARIZONA	11	3,798,626	6	2,906,234					2,906,234	
ARKANSAS	13	884,470								
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	35	5,355,758	13	1,868,670	134,839	97,893		10,228	1,625,710	
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	33	9,413,426	9	3,631,184	11,190				3,619,994	
COLORADO	22	3,651,827*	2	444,207	42,963				401,244	
CONNECTICUT	16	2,633,338	5	681,576**	388,146		134,952		156,911	1,567
DELAWARE	9	407,229	2	253,036	131,096				121,940	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	16	1,219,331	3	46,790	20,126	4,306		22,358		
FLORIDA	60	11,821,952	8	2,057,626**	236,813	200,000	79,376		1,009,672	531,765
GEORGIA	19	4,231,400	4	1,900,478**					1,852,207	48,271
IDAHO	5	179,702	1	99,161					99,161	
ILLINOIS	23	3,598,279	4	514,045	485,307					28,738
INDIANA	5	2,208,309	2	620,484	620,484					
IOWA	4	713,757	1	250,000					250,000	
KANSAS	8	1,943,054	1	83,732			83,732			
KENTUCKY	15	2,198,649	3	368,232	93,860		3,522		270,850	
LOUISIANA	20	3,761,104	4	759,506	359,374		51,485		348,647	
MAINE	23	4,961,218	5	802,768		12,716			790,052	
MARYLAND	22	3,045,707	4	846,249	235,637	87,041	247,288		276,283	
MASSACHUSETTS	41	5,312,272	6	843,607	89,215	179,140			575,152	
MICHIGAN	19	6,857,354	8	5,983,987	72,796				5,911,191	
MINNESOTA	10	2,920,609								
MISSISSIPPI	19	2,255,343	6	672,711					639,487	33,224
MISSOURI	14	824,254	3	56,854			56,854			
MONTANA	15	1,066,031	3	196,494			82,810		113,684	
NEBRASKA	8	749,730*	2	22,912	4,477				18,435	
NEVADA	4	624,871	2	428,972					428,972	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	8	1,961,342	2	1,067,622**			34,430		1,033,192	
NEW JERSEY	38	8,324,239	6	3,048,046			11,520		2,736,508	300,018
NEW MEXICO	17	864,993*	4	250,128	23,240		45,330		181,558	
NEW YORK CITY	33	5,042,302*	3	261,811**	101,746		96,880			
NEW YORK (EXCL. N.Y.C.)	31	3,605,078	10	821,177	156,034	63,185	28,621		636,522	
NORTH CAROLINA	18	2,056,117	2	202,574**			97,447		105,127	
NORTH DAKOTA	5	425,593	1	69,819					69,819	
OHIO	13	1,869,894	1	84,020	84,020					
OKLAHOMA	9	1,397,587	1	112,592					112,592	
OREGON	12	1,277,134*	4	675,716**	76,200		140,903		428,022	30,591
PENNSYLVANIA	50	5,596,836	10	1,760,429**	5,000	98,887	12,388		1,636,144	8,010
RHODE ISLAND	6	633,967	2	90,265						90,265
SOUTH CAROLINA	17	2,553,035	2	77,336	43,339		33,997			
SOUTH DAKOTA	11	331,273								
TENNESSEE	9	409,581								
TEXAS	47	11,521,193	11	1,787,035	113,859		268,769		1,090,972	313,435
UTAH	8	1,037,775	-	52,926**					52,926	
VERMONT	5	423,106*	1	197,838					197,838	
VIRGINIA	32	3,694,276	6	521,609	32,531		35,000		17,771	436,307
WASHINGTON	30	7,055,107	7	2,727,928		410,790			2,317,138	
WEST VIRGINIA	9	285,082	1	116,949**		100,000	15,949			
WISCONSIN	14	1,588,039								
WYOMING	3	162,537								
ALASKA	1	5,021								
HAWAII	4	1,375,030								
PUERTO RICO	12	10,385,012	2	52,323	52,323					
VIRGIN ISLANDS	4	828,451	1	89,351						89,351
TOTAL STATES & TERRITORIES	968	163,963,423	186	40,565,322	3,614,715	1,282,579	1,533,632	32,586	32,190,268	1,911,542
NATION-WIDE	3	35,354,306	-	501,596*						501,596
GRAND TOTAL	971	\$199,317,729	186	\$41,066,918	\$3,614,715	\$1,282,579	\$1,533,632	\$32,586	\$32,190,268	\$2,413,138

INCLUDES PROJECTS APPROVED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1941, AND CLASSIFIED AS "NATIONAL DEFENSE"  
DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1941.

REPORTS, STATISTICS AND RECORDS SECTION  
PROJECT CONTROL DIVISION  
WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION  
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

\*\* INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVALS.