

C O P Y

WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to  
G.ofE. 611-F

July 7, 1922.

Honorable H. M. Wurzbach,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Wurzbach:

In further reply to your letter of June 21, 1922, in regard to the military importance of certain highways in the Fourth and Eighth Corps Areas, I take pleasure in stating as follows:

The highway from Pensacola through Mobile to New Orleans is considered by the War Department of first importance, and its early completion in accordance with Federal standards, including necessary bridges, is urged in the interest of the national defense. A standard Federal Highway between Pensacola and Jacksonville is also considered important.

In Texas the following trunk highways are considered essential from the standpoint of military operations along the border: San Antonio to the lower Rio Grande Valley; San Antonio to Laredo; San Antonio to Del Rio, with branch road to Eagle Pass; along the Rio Grande from Brownsville to Del Rio, thence westerly to Marfa and El Paso with connections southward from Marfa to Rio Grande points; also from San Antonio to Corpus Christi. Standard Federal Highways from San Antonio to Houston, Galveston and Orange, are also regarded as important.

A standard highway running along the Mexican border through New Mexico, Arizona, and California is also rated of first importance by the War Department.

Considered as a whole, the proposed transcontinental trunk highway from Jacksonville to San Diego, with its connections to border points, is an essential element in the plans being formulated by the War Department for national defense and should be completed without delay according to the best Federal standards for road construction.

Sincerely yours,

/signed/

J. M. Wainwright  
Acting Secretary of War