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DFD-5931-59

31 August 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Watertown Air Strip

1. In 1955 the Watertown Air Strip, 5,000 feet by 100 feet, was constructed on the premise of winter use only, when the lake is flooded. Basic criteria contemplated 8,000 pound wheel loads and 150 pound tire pressure, relatively moderate usage; thus, minimizing specifications and initial cost of the strip.
2. The three inch asphalt paved strip is constructed on a four inch sub-base of bank run gravel. The strip was designed for 8,000 pound wheel load and 150 pound tire pressure, however, when the aircraft was completed it had 10,000 pound wheel load and 250 pound tire pressure. The result effect was a much higher concentrated load due to the small wheel print. However, no operational difficulties appeared.
3. The existing 5,000 foot by 100 foot runway can be extended 3,000 feet and widened 50 feet at a cost of approximately \$200,000.

SIGNED

Engineer General
Materiel Branch
DFD-DD/P

MB/DFD-DD/P:PCP:mms

Dist: 0 & 1 - D/CH/IB/DFD
1 - CH/MAT/DFD
1 - RI/DFD

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