

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

August 24, 1960

Honorable Thomas B. Basaley  
DeFuniak Springs, Florida

Dear Tom:

I understand that the people of DeFuniak Springs and Walton County are interested in obtaining a tract of land in the Eglin reservation in the event Walton County is designated as the site for the new training center for expelled children.

A goodly number of the counties in my district are seeking this institution and because of this fact I feel that it is incumbent upon me to maintain a neutral position in the selection of the site. Actually, I know of no reason why my views would be sought in the matter since it applies to separate institutions with which I have no connection. I do see the need for such an institution in Northwest Florida and if there should be a recommendation from the proper state agency that it be adaptable at any location which can utilize property now lying within the Eglin reservation, I shall devote my active efforts toward making land available for the requirements of the institution. As a further acknowledgment in this matter, I am contacting the Eglin command and asking their cooperation toward making land available for this purpose.

With good wishes, I am

Sincerely,



Bob Bikes

Sgt.

cc: Mr. John B. Pentecost  
Mr. Donald Wise