

with the approval of the airport package have all been leased. The facilities that are still vacant will, in many cases, be suitable only for quite specialized usages. The airport authority is now concentrating on the development of vacant areas within its control. More importantly, the authority is now in the process of negotiating with the General Services Administration for the purchase of those areas deleted from the original application by the FAA. These areas, and the few suitable buildings that are included, were considered to be unnecessary to support the airport under the regulations of the Federal airport disposal procedures and, therefore, fell into the category of properties that would be sold by the General Services Administration.

This story of Salina's industrial expansion would not be complete if mention were not made of the notable efforts of Carl Engstrom, the president of the chamber of commerce, and the cooperation of the chamber under his leadership, during the early days of trial.

As of this hour, Salina's industrial pot is beginning to boil. Hopefully, in a matter of another few short months—perhaps weeks—it could be a rolling boil.

APPENDIX D—THE WAITING WIVES

During the month of March 1965, the 1st Infantry Division of Fort Riley (60 miles from Schilling Air Force Base) was preparing to go to Vietnam. Concurrently, the 735 Capehart units at Schilling were being declared excess to the needs of the Department of Defense.

Departing servicemen at Fort Riley, concerned over the welfare of their families while they were away, approached the Schilling base commander requesting permission for their families to occupy some of the vacant Capeharts. At the same time, at the Washington level, the Army expressed concern over the major social problems brought about by the hurried move of personnel overseas and the consequent loss of Government housing on the part of their families.

These two expressions of serious concern, combined with the DOD/GSA knowledge of the serious glut of residential housing on the civilian economy in Salina, led to a decision to withdraw the Schilling Capeharts from excess status, assign them to the Army, and make them available to families of members of all the military services sent overseas. The Air Force continued to pay the mortgage costs, and to provide essential utility services as long as its caretaker elements were in place at the base. National publicity was given to the program, through both official channels and news media.

The city of Salina has made the "waiting wives" a welcome element of the community. Examples are numerous but one—the fact that the girls at Marymount College babysat for wives attending a special concert at the college—will suffice.

The DOD guidance provided that the Schilling "waiting wives" program would be a test to determine whether such a program was feasible. Currently, the test is scheduled for completion by June 30, 1967.

The program has been an unqualified success, as evidenced by the following statistics: (Data as of August 1, 1966):

520 of the units are currently occupied. Another 152 families are scheduled in.