Joshua Tree National Monument
Twentynine Palms, California

June 1, 1961

Memorandum

To: The Director
From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree

Subject: Annual Report - 1961

Attached are subjects covering the most important items for 1961 Fiscal Year in Joshua Tree National Monument.

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Mr. E. Supranough
Superintendent
PERSONNEL

Personal actions during the year were:

Secretary, Jane Burns - Resigned 3/24/61

Secretary, Anna LaCher - E.D.D. 3/14/61

Park Ranger, Arthur Hathaway - Transfer to G. & D. Great MHP Project 10/16/60

Park Ranger, Wayson E. Welch - E.D.D. 11/7/60 Reassigned from Branch of Wildlife Refuge, Hollandale, Miss.

Caretaker, Paul E. Hettz - Tower Appointment to Career Appointment 7/26/60

Ranger Naturalist, Donald Miller - Resigned 11/19/60

JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL MONUMENT
TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIF.
Threat of development on private property continues to be the most serious problem concerning the Monument. While no subdivision of property has as yet begun, some owners are showing interest in this direction.

Several 5 and 10 acre plots in the Pinto Basin were placed under option with a few purchases completed.

The Pinto Basin road was surveyed for centerline location and owners of the property through which the road passes were contacted as to purchase of their lands. So far, two owners have accepted the $15. per acre that has been established for that area.
The greatest improvement in protection was the establishment of a
range district in the East Horse section of the Monument. This was
made possible by the final release of the Stokes property previously
purchased by the Government. Two rangers are living on the Area and
are providing protection and service not formerly possible from Head-
quarters.

With campgrounds increasing rapidly, protection of the over-burdened
campgrounds presents a situation requiring much more time from the
protection division.

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Conducted trips were started in November, a month earlier than before and continued through May, a month later, to meet the increasing demands for this type of service as travel to the Monument increased. The popular Trip-of-the-Month, inaugurated last year, was expanded to make this advanced interpretive activity available to more people throughout the heavy travel season.
RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION

The agreement with Long Beach State College was continued, with
environmental studies being carried on in the Monument. The work is
proving valuable to the interpretation of Joshua Tree, since many
interesting features are beginning to emerge from such studies. Excep-
tional cooperation has been enjoyed with this group who are doing work
beyond their requirements to build up information and study collections
for the Monument.

The California Department of Mines continued their study of all old
mines within the Monument. This is adding to the historical and
genealogical information for our records.
The Joshua Tree Natural History Association was organized and began functioning on September 30, 1964 with the first meeting of the Board of Directors.