

### **13. War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument**

William R. Supernaugh, Ajo, AZ, to Regional Director, Region Three, June 25, 1945, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Regional Director, Region Three, of the National Park Service. It was written on June 25, 1945 by William R. Supernaugh, the Custodian of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. This memorandum states that the military was not accommodated in Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. between July 1, 1944 and June 30, 1945.

William R. Supernaugh, Ajo, AZ, to Regional Director, Region Three, January 9, 1944, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Regional Director, Region Three, of the National Park Service. It was written on January 9, 1944 by William R. Supernaugh, the Custodian of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. This memorandum states that no permits were granted to the military in Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. for bivouacking or maneuvers.

Charles A. Richey, Santa Fe, AZ, to Director, Region Three, October 20, 1943, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Director, Region Three, of the National Park Service. It was written on October 20, 1943 by Charles A. Richey, the Assistant Regional Director of Region Three. This memorandum states that requests by the military to use Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. as a bombing or gunnery range were both rejected in 1942. Also, a permit for recreational development was issued, but not used. The permit expired on June 1, 1943 and was not renewed.

A. E. Demaray, Washington D.C., to Acting Superintendent, Southwestern National Monuments, May 15, 1942, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Acting Superintendent for the Southwestern National Monuments. It was written on May 15, 1942 by A.E. Demaray, an Associate Director. It was written to thank the Acting Superintendent of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument for accommodating Major Elmer Coker, U.S. Army Air Corps, during his visit to the park. Major

Coker was interested in using Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. for aviation gunnery range purposes. The War Department did not communicate whether the park would be used for these purposes.

Charles A. Richey, Coolidge, AZ, to Director, Region Three, May 7, 1942, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Director, Region Three, of the National Park Service. It was written on May 7, 1942 by Charles A Richey, the Acting Superintendent of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. This memorandum is in response to the U.S. Army Air Corps request to use a portion of the park as a gunnery range for pursuit pilots. According to Major Elmer Coker, officials at Luke Field intended to establish two additional gunnery ranges north and west of Ajo, Arizona. Park officials objected to the proposed gunnery ranges because Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. was established because of its scenic beauty and scientific value. Major Coker was advised that all requests to use the park for bombing and gunnery training need to be made through the War Department to the Secretary of the Interior. If Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. had to be used for military purposes, Charles Richey recommended that it be used as a gunnery range and not a bombing range, to limit damage to the park.

Milton J. McColm, Santa Fe, AZ, to Director, National Park Service, March 27, 1942, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a telegraph to the Director of the National Park Service. It was written on March 27, 1942 by Milton J. McColm. The telegraph concerns the bombing range proposed within Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. It proposes establishing a site further west, between Gila Bend and Yuma.

Charles A. Richey, Coolidge, AZ, to Regional Director, Region Three, March 28, 1942, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Regional Director, Region Three, of the National Park Service. It was written on March 28, 1942 by Charles A. Richey, the Acting Superintendent of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. This memorandum was written in response to a telephone conversation that Mr. Richey had with Captain Veerling, U.S. Army Air Corps, concerning the use of Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. as a bombing range. Captain Veerling was informed that all proposals would be forwarded to the Department of the Interior for review and final action.

Newton B. Drury, Washington D.C., to Acting Superintendent, Southwestern National Monuments, February 4, 1942, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Acting Superintendent of the Southwestern National Monuments. It was written on February 4, 1942 by Newton B. Drury, the Director of the National Park Service. This memorandum concerns proposed military activity within the park. Director Drury agrees with William Supernaugh's comment that military bombing ranges in Ajo and Gila Bend are unlikely to affect Organ Pipe Cactus N. M.

Charles A. Richey, Coolidge, AZ, to Director, National Park Service, January 12, 1942, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Director of the National Park Service. It was written on January 12, 1942 by Charles A. Richey, the Acting Superintendent of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. This memorandum was written in response to Director Newton Drury's memorandum of December 29, 1941. It concerns the use of Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. for military activity.

William R. Supernaugh, Ajo, AZ, to Superintendent, Southwestern National Monuments, January 6, 1942, Folder: War Emergency, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Box 95, Central Classified Files, 1907-49, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This primary source is a memorandum to the Superintendent of the Southwestern National Monuments. It was written on January 6, 1942 by William R. Supernaugh, the Custodian of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. This memorandum states that military activity between Ajo and Gila Bend has driven some wildlife into Organ Pipe Cactus N. M. The U.S. Army stated that no permanent camps are to be set up within the monument, but overnight stops were occasionally made. Mr. Supernaugh acknowledges the significance of the park's location along the international border.