

San Diego, California,
October 25, 1933.

Admiral W. T. Tarrant,
Commandant Eleventh Naval District,
San Diego, California.

My dear Admiral:

Re the Mission Gorge water development, I am enclosing letter from the Director of Public Works, Mr. F. A. Rhodes, on the subject, which I believe will be of interest to you and Captain Webb. I have verbally been informed that Mr. Rhodes' opinion undoubtedly represents that of the City Council today.

I am expecting a letter from Supervisor Edgar Hastings on the same subject, in whose district this proposed development will take place, showing the friendly attitude of the Board of Supervisors.

As Captain Webb will remember, this matter was brought up ten or more years ago. At that time we had no friendly City Council.

I call your attention to the fact that Mr. King, a noted hydraulic engineer, in determining his costs, bases same on net safe yield covering the driest years of record. He also includes initial expense, interest, depreciation and operating expense in determining his costs. He does not take into consideration the billions of gallons of water that will be available by gravity and which can be sold to the city, which would otherwise run to the ocean, or in excess of the needs of the Government, from the reservoir. The average cost of this water, including all expenses, under proper management is approximately 6¢ a thousand gallons or between 4¢ and 5¢ a hundred cubic feet, and the operating expenses will not exceed 2¢ a hundred cubic feet, once the investment is made. It is a self liquidating project in every sense of the word, as well as a splendid investment for the Government.

The direct benefits to the city are invaluable, as an investigation will show, including the reclamation of Mission Valley, the furnishing of cheap water to the State for Mission Bay Park, the increasing of the net safe yield of the City's water system to the extent of the water the Government disposes of now in use, the furnishing of water to Mission Valley if desired, making it a garden instead of a desert as at present, and above all relieving the city of the expenditure of millions for years to come in the necessity of future water development.

I am also including other papers in relation thereto for your information, including Mr. King's report.

This is a project which can be financed by the Government 100%, is right in line with flood control and conservation by the Government, will put hundreds of men to work and will benefit directly the Government, State, County and City.

Admiral W. T. Tarrant

-2-

Your early investigation of this matter will be greatly appreciated and, if thought advisable, I am willing to go to Washington to assist in expediting matters, with your approval of the plan.

The price of our holdings, damsite and lands we control in the reservoir site, is \$150,000, the same as under our agreement with the La Mesa Irrigation District when they planned the construction of this dam, but later joined with the city and took their water through El Capitan.

We are in a position to take options on and determine the cost of the rest of the lands necessary within the reservoir site.

The economical height of the dam is to the 550 foot contour, as we see it. Attached hereto is map showing the lands that we own, as well as the lands necessary to be acquired.

We will be glad to go into the matter with you at any time you care for a conference.

Respectfully yours,

CUYAHACA WATER COMPANY

By

EF/RC

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego, California
October 25, 1955

Col. Ed Fletcher
1020 9th Ave
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

At a conference of the Board of Supervisors held at the Court House for the purpose of discussing projects for a Public Works program for the City and County of San Diego, it was proposed to construct a dam at Mission Gorge Damsite No. 3 for the purpose of providing flood control on the San Diego River. It was suggested that this project was so situated that it could be made to provide a water supply in addition to the flood control.

The projects discussed were all of importance to the city and County, but it was held by the Attorneys to be necessary to call bond elections for the purpose of reimbursing the United States Government for seventy percent of any loan advanced. Any attempt to further bond the City or County, beyond the request for \$700,000.00 for a City and County Building, was thought to be futile.

The City of San Diego has at present a valuation of \$101,000,000.00 and has a bonded indebtedness of \$17,019,265.25. For the fiscal year of 1952-53 it required \$1,432,415.00 for the interest and sinking fund. It requires more taxes to carry and retire this debt than it does to operate all branches of the City Government. The percentage of tax delinquency has been increasing for the past three years until it is now about twenty percent. A general reduction must be made in order to protect the property owner and to maintain the credit of the City. As shown in a letter of Supervisor Hastings, there are many tax exempt citizens living in San Diego and many of these are destitute. This condition reduces the income to the City and County on the one hand and raises the expenses of the County through its Welfare Department on the other.

The Federal Government's activities in San Diego have caused its growth and prosperity; but on account of being located in a semi-arid region, this very activity, which the citizens of San Diego so much cherish, has caused them to bond themselves to the breaking point, to provide an adequate and safe domestic supply of water, not only for its own needs, but to safeguard the security of the Federal functions.

Even in the face of all the great expenditure of money, for this relatively small community, to help guarantee the retention here of the Governmental bases, the Bureaus have repeatedly asked for a reduction in water rates to the Federal Government. The City has been selling the water to its consumers for less than cost and making up the deficit through its tax levy; and has therefore felt it was in no position to further lower its rates to the government Bureau.

Now comes a time when the Federal Administration is starting a great work program, for the alleviation of the unemployed, through Federal, State and Municipal agencies to again bring prosperity to the Nation. The building of a dam at Mission Gorge No. 3 might well be one of these projects, and it might properly be initiated as a purely Federal Project. The water conserved, after the flood control distribution has been cared for, could be conserved by the Federal Government, free from the charges which now seem so excessive.

The Government purchases about \$75,000.00 worth of water per year. The building of the dam by the Government would cut off that income to the City, at a time when the City needs the income to help pay off its bonds. On the other hand, the development of water in San Diego County, by whatever agency, is an asset to the whole community, far in excess of the damage to one water company caused by the loss of a large consumer.

The extent of San Diego's City and County growth depends largely upon the amount of water it develops. If the Government can see the logic of developing its own supply at a less cost than it is now paying, then to that degree is the City's supply available for other uses. The prospect of an expenditure of \$,700,000.00 in this community at this time, when we are in no position to start any major work program, should be an incentive to cooperate in solving any of the many problems which always arise in a major project.

Mr. Thomas H. King, Hydraulic Engineer, shows in his report that the water can be developed for 9.3 cents per thousand gallons, based on the minimum yield of the reservoir. The City water rates at present average about 18 cents per 100 cubic feet to the large consumer, or about 24 cents per thousand gallons. His low estimate is caused by using the Jorgensen type of constant angle arch dam. The Mission Gorge No. 3 damsite is considered suitable for this type. Mr. King's report, hereto attached, is accompanied by six exhibits. I am also enclosing Supervisor Hastings letter giving some reasons why the Federal Government should undertake some Federal project in the vicinity of San Diego. A statement of water purchases for a year is also enclosed. An opinion from the City Attorney should be secured, showing the City's position relating to the paramount rights to the waters of the San Diego River and any other legal points that might be raised.

The building of a dam at Mission Gorge No. 3 would provide full protection to the farming lands lying within Mission Valley for a distance of about ten miles. Not only the land would be protected, but the railroad and highway bridges would be safeguarded. It would prevent silting up of Mission Bay, and the possible erosion of the Government Dyke along the south side of the San Diego River, from Old Town to Point Loma.

It would provide, in addition to this flood control, a safe net yield of three million gallons daily of domestic water, which could be used by the United States Government and the Mission Bay Park, and also for the City of San Diego in case of shortage.

It is my opinion that the development of this project would not only be beneficial to the Government, but also to the City of San Diego, and especially at this time of universal unemployment.

Very truly yours,

F. A. RHODES
Director of Public Works

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego, California
October 23, 1935

Col. Ed Fletcher
1020 9th Ave
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

At a conference of the Board of Supervisors held at the Court House for the purpose of discussing projects for a Public Works program for the City and County of San Diego, it was proposed to construct a dam at Mission Gorge Damsite No. 3 for the purpose of providing flood control on the San Diego River. It was suggested that this project was so situated that it could be made to provide a water supply in addition to the flood control.

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The extent of San Diego's City and County growth depends largely upon the amount of water it develops. If the Government can see the logic of developing its own supply at a less cost than it is now paying, then to that degree is the City's supply available for other uses. The prospect of an expenditure of \$,700,000.00 in this community at this time, when we are in no position to start any major work program, should be an incentive to cooperate in solving any of the many problems which always arise in a major project.

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It is my opinion that the development of this project would not only be beneficial to the Government, but also to the City of San Diego, and especially at this time of universal unemployment.

Very truly yours,

F. A. RHODES
Director of Public Works

CITY OF SAN DIEGO
 INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

Oct. 17, 1955

From F. M. Stanley
 To F. A. Rhodes, Director of Public Works
 Subject Water Delivered to Government Agencies Year 1952-1953

ACCOUNTING WATER DEPARTMENT

	Consumption 100 cu. ft.	Amount
U. S Dept. Agriculture	5126	\$454.84
U S Public Health	1479	278.52
U S Supply Officer Dest.	55509	5 875.06
U S Pt. Loma Radio Station	4952	795.41
U S Chollas Heights Radio Station	3799	949.75
U S Post Office	4080	668.76
U S Naval Training Station	92673	10 401.52
U S Naval Base Qt. Master	Min Chg	24.00
U S Naval Store House	2841	502.05
U S Naval Suply Depot	251	44.70
U S Navy Pier	2092	487.14
U S Public Works	754	140.64
U S Naval Hospital	85986	9 585.82
U S Naval Hospital	291	68.10
U S Marine Base	57558	6 572.88
U S Marine Base	8377	882.46
U S Marine Corp	6001	806.80
U S Marine Base	14148	1 802.40
U S Light House Ballast Point	195	58.94
U S Light House Pt. Loma	401	77.71
U S Army	5493	841.64
U S Army	2124	580.28
U S Naval Reserve Armory	175	54.79
U S Patrol Customs	155	29.50
U S Naval Fuel Depot	14355	1 832.57
U S Naval Fuel Depot Thrift Meter	145	26.85
Total	100 cu feet	341670 \$41 880.51

North Island furnished water by City of Coronado

The National City office of the Coronado Water Co. gave me the figures for
 the year. 100 cu ft 137318 \$34 132.68

F. M. STANLEY

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego, California,

Office of the
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 14, 1935

Mr. Fred Rhodes,
Manager of Operations,
City of San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your request for some of the reasons why we should receive Government aid on work projects, I call to mind the following:

First the Veterans situation in San Diego is critical. Estimates show that we have five times as many Veterans in San Diego County, per population, of any other County in the State - possibly in the United States. The cut in Veterans' allowances have forced many of these men into desperate circumstances, and it will be necessary for the County to assume the burden, although really it is the burden of the Federal Government.

One reason for this is that sick men have been sent to San Diego, on account of the mild climate, by doctors all over the country for the past fifteen years. It is not fair for the County to assume this burden. We are already feeding approximately twenty-four thousand people in this County, which is more than ten percent of our population.

We have many military activities in this vicinity, of which we are justly proud; however the tremendous holdings that the Government possesses and the removal of that wealth from our tax rolls, throws the burden on the balance of the taxpayers. We live in a semi-arid country which makes it necessary to expend huge sums for the development of water, and our bonded indebtedness for this development is extremely high.

We have grown rapidly in the past ten years which made it necessary to expend huge sums for public school buildings, the money being raised for this purpose by bond issues, which adds tremendously to our bonded indebtedness.

With approximately seventeen thousand Veterans in our County, most of whom are property owners and entitled to the one thousand dollars Veterans' exemption on taxes, also adds greatly to the tax burden of the remaining taxpayers.

Under these existing circumstances it is necessary for us to have an unusually high tax rate, to carry on, and the people of this County are extremely tax-conscious; and many of us feel that under the circumstances it is practically impossible to get the people to vote bonds for any public works program.

We feel, owing to the situation, and especially the government activities and the terrific Veteran load, that the United States Government should make an exception in our case and assist us in taking care of this burden which

is largely a burden of the entire United States which we should not be required to handle locally.

Very truly yours,

EDGAR F. HASTINGS

Supervisor, First District.

EFH:HB

THOMAS H. KING
716 Electric Building
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

September 29
1935

Mr. F. A. Rhodes,
Director of Public Works,
City of San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

You have requested data on the Mission Gorge flood control project on the San Diego River. I am handing you herewith various maps and other data, as per attached list.

The plans of the dam are by Mr. Lars Jorgensen, the noted designer of constant angle arch dams, and in my opinion this design is well fitted for this site.

Primarily the project is intended as a flood control measure, and to accomplish this purpose it will be necessary to construct a dam 250 feet in height to tip of spillway and for the dam to have a 10 foot free-board allowance on the spillway. This may be accomplished in two ways. First, by carrying the spillway thru a saddle and leaving the reservoir above the damsite and spilling down an adjacent canyon to a point in the San Diego River below the dam, or, and probably the preferable procedure, is to turn the flood over the central arch of the dam. This may be accomplished by increasing the height of the two end arches, leaving a notch of sufficient depth to provide a ten foot overflow safely over central portion of main structure.

You will observe from the area and capacity tabulation, that this additional 10 feet of storage in the reservoir provided for by a ten foot depth of water over the spillway will furnish a reserve capacity of, in round figures, 20,000 acre feet. This, with a properly designed spillway, will take care of floods greater than 1916. It will probably take care of floods which may be looked for

once in 50 years. In addition to this spillway arrangement it will be necessary to have large discharge valves thru the dam so that in the event of a great flood, say of an intensity which may occur once in a hundred years, when the water would rise so rapidly as to endanger the structure, these gates may be opened and water discharged under pressure to relieve the volume behind the dam.

If this reservoir is operated intelligently, we may look for a very definite and satisfactory yield of water for domestic purposes, in addition to the flood control feature. Safe yield studies, of course, are based upon the fact that El Capitan is built to the height now contemplated under the present contracts.

Below the El Capitan damsite there are approximately 200 square miles of drainage area tributary to the dam at Mission Gorge No. 3 site. This area in years of large rainfall produces rather prolifically, but in years of small rainfall the production is not great.

I have made studies of the reservoir performance of the structure described above, wherein the residue after the flood control has been properly handled, may be used for domestic supply for the Marine Base, Naval Training Station and perhaps for Naval Air Station on North Island.

The critical period of all safe yield studies in this locality is from 1894-5 to 1904-5. The amount of water which may be safely depended upon from this reservoir under these conditions is approximately 3 million gallons per day. Since 1904-5, however, the reservoir would produce safely approximately double this amount up to date, or 6 million gallons per day.

The cost of the dam as shown in Mr. Jorgensen's letter is the bare cost of the structure, not including engineering supervision, altho as he states, it is probable that a greater refinement of design will undoubtedly decrease the required yardage, but assuming that the yardage will not be decreased we should add 5 percent for engineering and supervision, and 5 percent for contingencies, thus adding 10 percent to the estimated cost.

The cost of the pipe line from the dam to supply water to the Marine Base, Naval Training Station and Naval Air Station would probably run in the neighborhood of \$200,000. This, of course, does not include distribution mains within the government properties, as these are undoubtedly in place, and it would simply mean that the present city supply would be cut off and the new supply cut in to these distribution mains at convenient points.

COST OF WATER: Summary of Project Costs

Dam	\$1,200,000
Pipe line	200,000
Lands and Rights of Way	300,000
	<u>\$1,700,000</u>

Allowing interest on investment at 4 percent and annual maintenance and operation charges of 2 percent, makes 6 percent, or \$102,000 as the total annual charge, or \$280.00 per day. Assuming the reservoir will yield only 3 million gallons per day for use, this gives us 9.5 cents per thousand gallons as cost of water delivered to the service area. During the period that double this amount may be delivered, which will, according to past records, be the larger percentage of the time, the cost will be about 4.7 cents per thousand gallons.

In addition to the flood protection given to the agricultural lands in Mission Valley, this project will also protect from flood and overflow the lands in the newly formed State Park and Game Preserve, known as Mission Bay Park, and no doubt arrangements may be made to supply water for the irrigation of at least a portion of the park area.

You will note that even assessing all the cost against the water crop available, that the maximum cost of water is 9.5 cents per thousand gallons, or less than 7 cents per hundred cubic feet. The water furnished by the City of San Diego to these government activities averages more than 10 cents per hundred cubic feet. It is manifestly unfair, however, to charge the entire cost of the project against the water crop, as the primary object of the development is that of flood control. The project would be justified from the flood control standpoint only,

due to the reclaiming of valuable agricultural lands in Mission Valley and the protection given to the State Park.

Respectfully submitted,

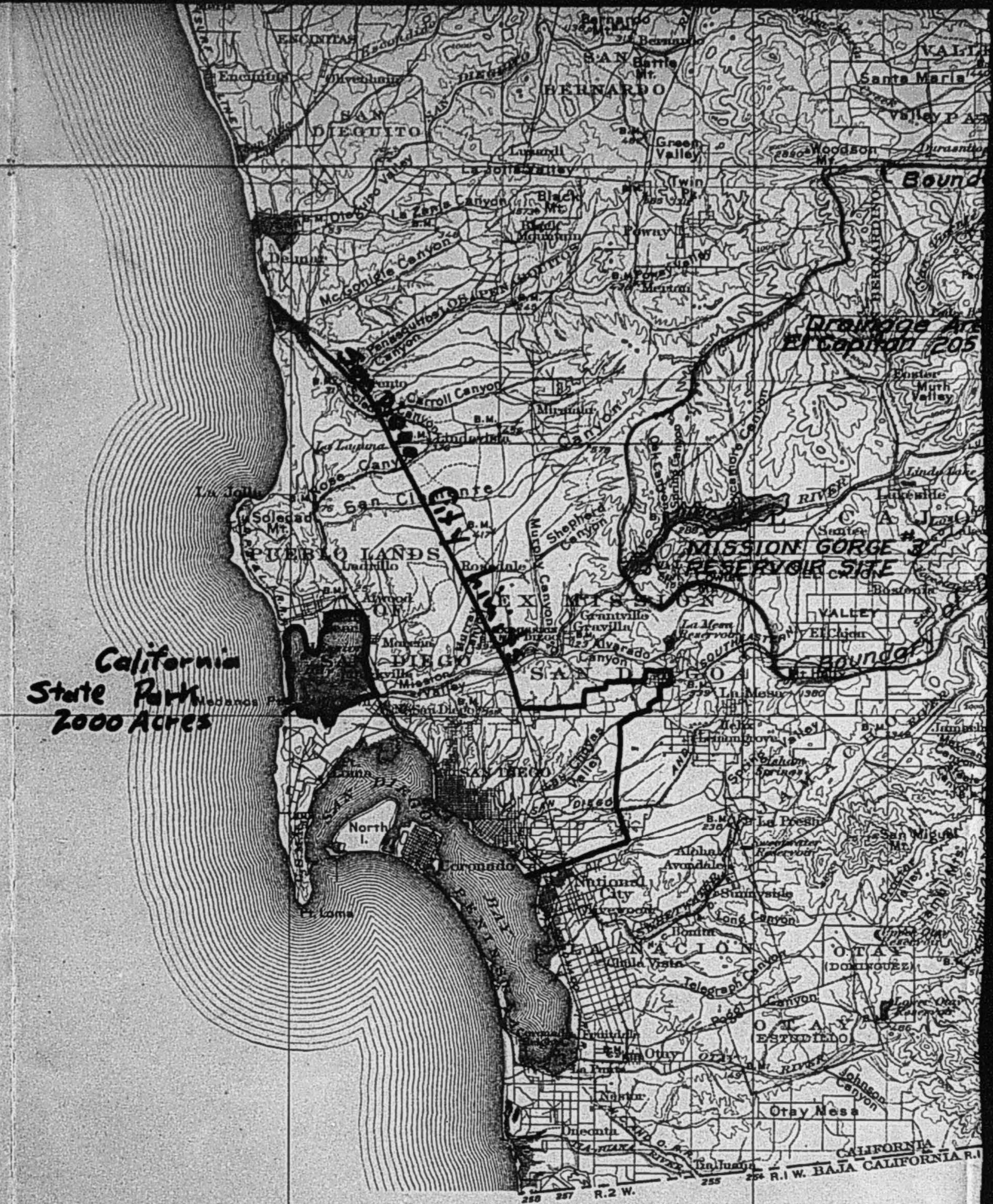
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California
State Park
2000 Acres

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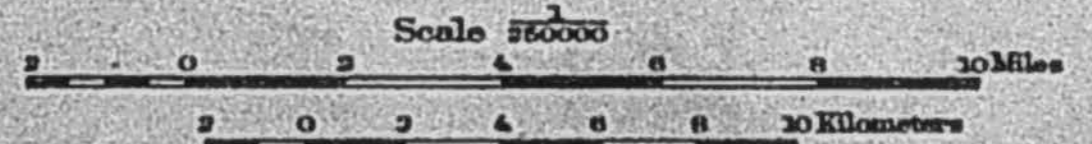


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Contour interval 250 feet.
Datum to mean sea level.

answered

IN REPLY PLEASE ADDRESS
"COMMANDANT"
NOT THE SIGNER BY NAME

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE
ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

ND11/ON2(a)
(Al-Hs)

April 1, 1941

Honorable Ed Fletcher
Member of State Senate
Capitol Building
Sacramento, California

Dear Senator:

In Mrs. Blakely's absence, I assumed the privilege of opening your letter of March 28th concerning Mrs. Amelie Smith.

You are a peach to put yourself out to the extent that you are doing, and I assure you that we appreciate it. I do not know whether it would be of any help in the matter to say that Mr. Clark, the Director of Public Works in Sacramento, is a friend of mine of several years standing. He may be helpful.

The morning paper carried your telegram to the labor leader, and I want to tell you how proud I was of you in thus boldly slapping these racketeers in the face. I believe that your stand will be helpful to you.

No doubt you will wonder where Mrs. Blakely is. She is in Los Angeles with our son whose wife has just presented us with a fine grandson. I do not expect her back for several days.

Thanking you for your helpfulness to our sister, and with very best regards to you and Mrs. Fletcher, I am,

Sincerely yours,

C. A. Blakely
C. A. BLAKELY.

KP157/NL-13 (e)
(PW)

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE
ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO, 30, California

31 MAR 1945

Senator Ed Fletcher
1020 Ninth Avenue,
San Diego 1, California.

Subj: Marine Corps Jungle Training Area (Cuyamaca),
San Diego County, California

Dear Senator Fletcher:

There is no further need for use of any land within the subject training area and you are hereby notified that all use of the areas which you own, or that are owned by Companies that you represent, has ceased, in accordance with a directive of the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

It will be appreciated if you will advise the amount you consider to be fair as payment in settlement for the use of the lands referred to above, for the period beginning July 1, 1944, to the date on which the use ceased. You previously stated you believed \$2,000.00 per year to be fair. A proposed lease or permit was never submitted at this figure as it was learned that the use was to terminate and it was felt that a complete settlement could be more satisfactorily worked out after the date of termination of said use.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated and it now appears that the matter will be settled completely in the very near future.

Very truly yours,

G. M. RAVENSCROFT
ASSISTANT COMMANDANT (LOGISTICS)
11th Naval District

original to Ed Fletcher 4/5/45

{ COPIED BY SAN DIEGO
COUNTY OF CALIFORNIA

Page Two -- Admiral J. B. Oldendorf
Commandant 11th Naval District
10/17/46

I would appreciate a letter from you written to Mr. Thomas MacDonald covering the present activities of the Navy and its future in San Diego, showing its importance in connection with a direct through super highway East.

An early and favorable reply will be appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

EWing

October 17, 1946

Admiral J. B. Oldendorf
Commandant 11th Naval District
San Diego, California

Dear Admiral Oldendorf:

I have received the following letter from the Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, as follows:

October 3, 1946

Senator Ed Fletcher
State Capitol
Sacramento, California

Dear Senator Fletcher:

I shall be glad to receive the statement you are preparing on routes 80 and 66, and I suggest that you give a copy of it also to Mr. Purcell.

With kind regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Thomas MacDonald
Commissioner of Public Roads

I am getting a statement from the U. S. Reclamation Service, the Associated Cities of Imperial Valley, from Arizona; also certain data from the Chamber of Commerce and the City of San Diego, putting up as strong a case as possible that Route 66 from Flagstaff to San Bernardino has nothing in comparison in the matter of development with our route from Phoenix to San Diego for the proposed super highway soon to be constructed, and particularly the necessity of a highway parallel to our Mexican border, and the importance of our harbor from an Army and Navy standpoint.

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 31 Folder: 26

**General Correspondence - United
States Navy, Eleventh Naval District**



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