

27. Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, ORPI, 1956-58

James M. Eden, to Regional Director, Region Three, July 31, 1956, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This is a letter from Superintendent James Eden to the Regional Director of Region Three regarding important dates which might want to be incorporated into the commencement ceremony of the visitor's center. Some of the dates include the date the park was founded as well as the date of the Gadsden Purchase.

George G. Downes, Santa Fe, NM, to Director, November 19, 1958, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This is a letter from the Regional Publications Officer to the Director. In this is attached the draft of a press release covering the dedication of the ORPI visitor center. The date is set for November 30. The letter describes how Assistant Secretary Ernst will be the principal speaker at the dedication ceremony, and goes into further details as to the specifics of the ceremony and visitor's center.

James M. Eden, Ajo, AZ, to Regional Director, Region Three, December 9, 1957, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

Superintendent Eden relates that he anticipates being able to hold a formal dedication ceremony for the Visitor Center during April, 1958.

Conrad L. Wirth, Santa Fe, NM, to Superintendent, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, July 29, 1957, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This letter from Director Wirth relates that he received the newspaper clippings and a memorandum about the observance of the 20th Anniversary of Establishment for ORPI. He also talks about how the participation of the community in the observance activities indicates good public relations.

Hugh M. Miller, Santa Fe, NM, to Director, May 3, 1957, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

Regional Director of Region Three, Hugh Miller relates that he has enclosed a set of newspaper clippings submitted by Superintendent Eden which show the newspaper coverage accorded the monument on the 20th anniversary. He also includes a copy of the Superintendent's memorandum of April 29 reporting a "Show-Me" tour of the monument on April 13, which is the anniversary of the Park.

James M. Eden, Organ Pipe National Monument, to Regional Director, Region Three, April 28, 1957, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

Eden has attached clippings from the April 7th issue of Arizona Republic's magazine section and the April 18th Ajo Copper News relating to the ORPI 20th anniversary.

Erik K. Reed, Santa Fe, NM, To Superintendent, Organ Pipe Cactus, March 6, 1956, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

Reed, the Regional Chief of the Division of Interpretation writes this letter to the Superintendent outlying thoughts regarding the press release, the tour, as well as other aspects regarding the anniversary celebration.

"The Ajo Story." *Arizona Republic*, April 7, 1967.

A story from the magazine, *Arizona Republic*, highlights the monuments twentieth anniversary dedication.

"Organ Pipe Hosts Chamber Members." *The Ajo Copper News* (April 18, 1957).

A newspaper article which details how members from the District Chamber of Commerce were given a tour of and treated to a steak dinner at the Organ Pipe visitor center.

James M. Eden, Ajo, AZ, "Press Release," April 6, 1956, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

This is a press release from the Superintendent of the time James M. Eden where he describes in basic detail the intricacies of Organ Pipe, including location, features, and plant and animal life.

“Press Release,” Ajo, AZ, March 12, 1956, Folder: Special Events, Dedications, Anniversaries, Similar Observations, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 1956-58, Box 678, Administration Files, 1947-71, RG 79, NARA-MD.

Talks about how three important dates are going to be celebrated every year. The first is Establishment Day on April 13 which is the day ORPI was established, the second is National Park Service Founders Day on August 25 which is the day congress established the National Park Service and National Park System, the third is Campfire Day on December 19 which is the day in which men sat around a campfire and thought of the idea of founding Yellowstone as a national park.