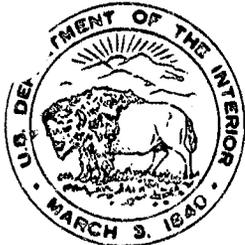


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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

For Release to PM's, JULY 20, 1959

ROUTE 1 NAVAJO CONTRACT AWARDED

The Department of the Interior today announced the award of a road construction contract for grading and bituminous surfacing of 13 miles of Navajo Route 1 from 9 miles northeast of Tuba City, Arizona to Red Lake (Tonalea), Arizona.

Extensive interest has surrounded the development of a program for construction of Navajo Route 1 because of the rapid development of the Four Corners oil field to the northeast and the fact that the northern part of the Reservation and of the State of Arizona has no improved highway. When complete, this route will be a short cut from southwestern Colorado to the Grand Canyon, the west coast and the whole northern part of the Navajo Reservation.

Wells-Stewart Company of Las Vegas, Nevada, submitted the low bid of \$602,993.

Two other bids were submitted, ranging from \$643,234 to \$652,152.

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