

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

MEMORANDUM OFR THE PRESS - IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grand Canyon, Ariz. April 35; Construction work on the new Desert View road in Grand Canyon National Park started here today. Two small crews are now at ovrk clearing the right-of-way, and asssoon as the new trail is completed, probably in two weeks, these crews will be transferred to heavy construction work on the road. This is the first project on a three year ~~prgms~~ program during which approximately \$800,000 will be spent by the National Park Service of the Interior Department in making all sections of the park available to visitors. When the program is completed it is expected that all points on the south rim will be open the entire year. At present the Hermit Rim Drive, the great scenic highway that follows the rim of the Canyon ofr 8 miles west of park headquarters, is the only road that can be used during the winter months. Modern highways will also be constructed to the most important points on the North Rim, where the motorist may drive through the stx stately pine forest and observe canyon wild life, particularly the deer in their native haunts. The U.S. Bureau of Public Roads is rendering close co-operation during progress of the work.

To climax the three year program, a road will be built to the bottom of the Hagusu Canyon at the extreme west end of the park. This will bring one of the most beautiful scenic spots in the entire country within easy reach of Grand Canyon visitors, and enable them to see one of the most interesting of Indian tribes in their canyon retreat. Few people have as yet made the trip into this canyon fastness, observed the ancient people of the "sky-blue water", and enjoyed it's beautiful waterfalls. When the present rough and dangerous trail has been replaced by a modern highway, it is expected that tens of thousands will visit the spot annually.

J.R. Eakin  
Superintendent.