UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR
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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Tozier - Interior 4306

For Release JULY 2, 1963

TWO NAVAJO SCHOOL CONTRACTS AWARDED

Awards of contracts totaling $6,950,700 for the construction of school facilities at Teec Nos Pos, Arizona, and Chuska, New Mexico, on the Navajo Indian Reservation, were announced today by the Department of the Interior. In both cases, the successful low bidder was Bateson-Cheves Construction Company of Mesa, Arizona.

Award of a $3,676,400 contract for construction of four 160-pupil dormitories, a 22-classroom school with multipurpose room and an instructional materials center, a 660-pupil kitchen-dining room, employees' quarters and related facilities was made in connection with the Chuska, New Mexico, school. Outside work will include streets, walls, utilities and erection of a 200,000-gallon elevated water storage tank. When completed, the work will relieve the overcrowded conditions at the Tohatchi School of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and provide school facilities for 660 Navajo children in the general area of Tohatchi, Twin Lakes, Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, and Naschitti, who are not now in school.

Nine higher bids on the contract ranged from $3,887,247 to $4,594,825.

The Teec Nos Pos School contract award was in the amount of $3,274,300. This construction will include two 256-pupil dormitories, a 17-classroom school addition with a 1,000-pupil multipurpose room and a 660-pupil instructional materials center, an 800-pupil kitchen-dining hall, housing for employees, and related facilities. This project is the second phase of work to be done at the existing Teec Nos Pos School of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The school, which had an enrollment of 353 students in 1962, is being rehabilitated and expanded to accommodate a student body of 1,000.

Four higher bids from $3,296,500 to $3,800,000 were received.

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P.N. 31212-63