



Neither the automobile nor the burro survived a collision occurring on March 18, 1981, on California State Highway 178 just a few yards from the Naval Weapons Center's boundaries. The burro wandered onto the road at 11:15 p.m. The driver was unable to see the animal in time to take evasive action and fortunately received only minor injuries. (U. S. Navy Photo)

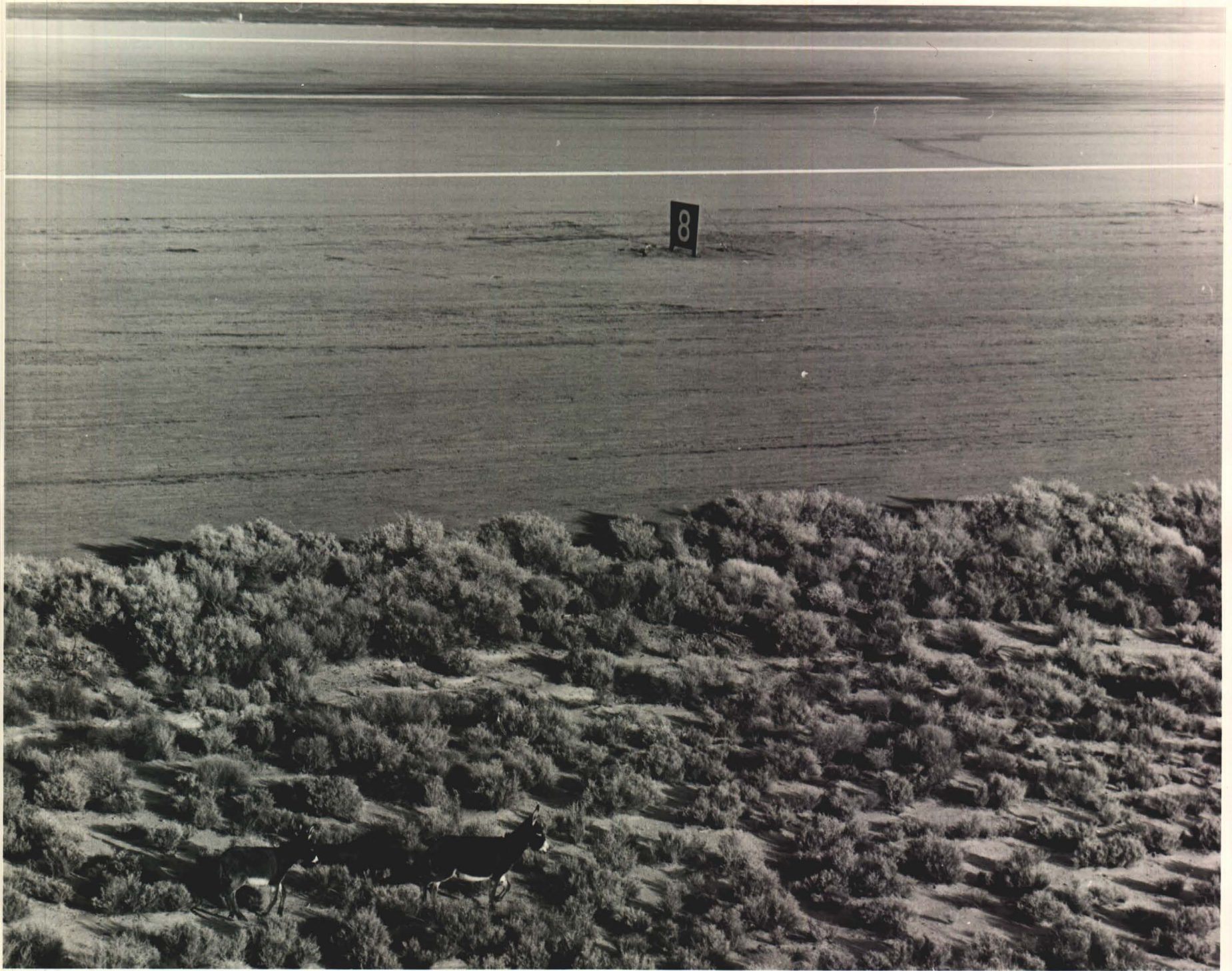
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Burros have actually worn paths beside the aircraft runways at the Naval Weapons Center. Unfortunately, they also stray onto the runways, creating a high potential for a burro/aircraft collision.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

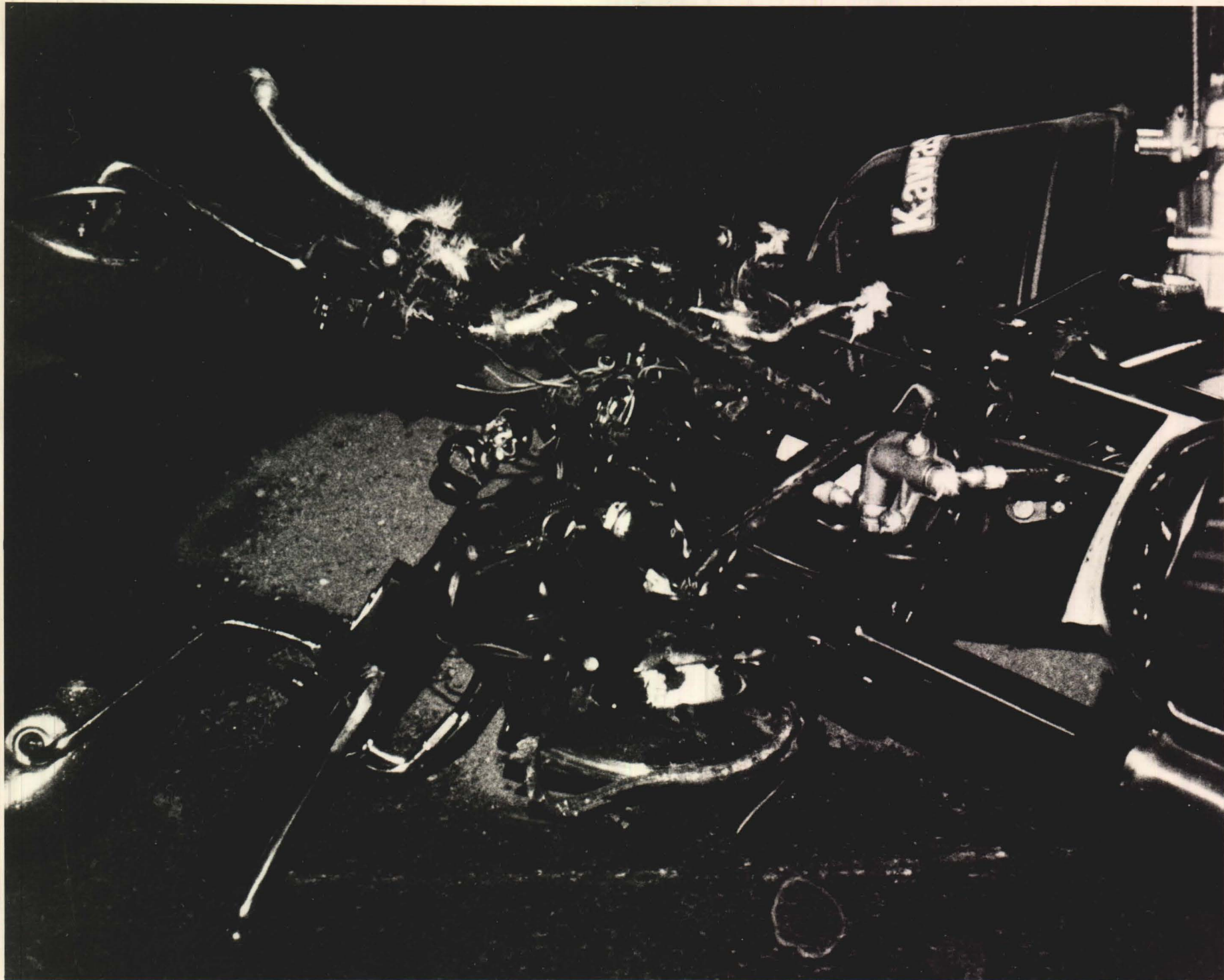
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When a motorcycle and a burro collided on the unlighted road leading to the Naval Weapons Center airfield, neither won. The Navy enlisted rider has been in the Navy Regional Medical Center hospital for the past six months and is expected to be there another six months. The burro was killed.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

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During daylight hours control tower personnel can spot burros on Naval Weapons Center aircraft runways and wave off pilots; at night (when burros especially seek the warmth of the paved runways) the animals become virtually invisible. The two burros in this photo are actually on an active jet runway at the Naval Weapons Center. Potential for a burro/aircraft collision is extremely high and growing as herds increase.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

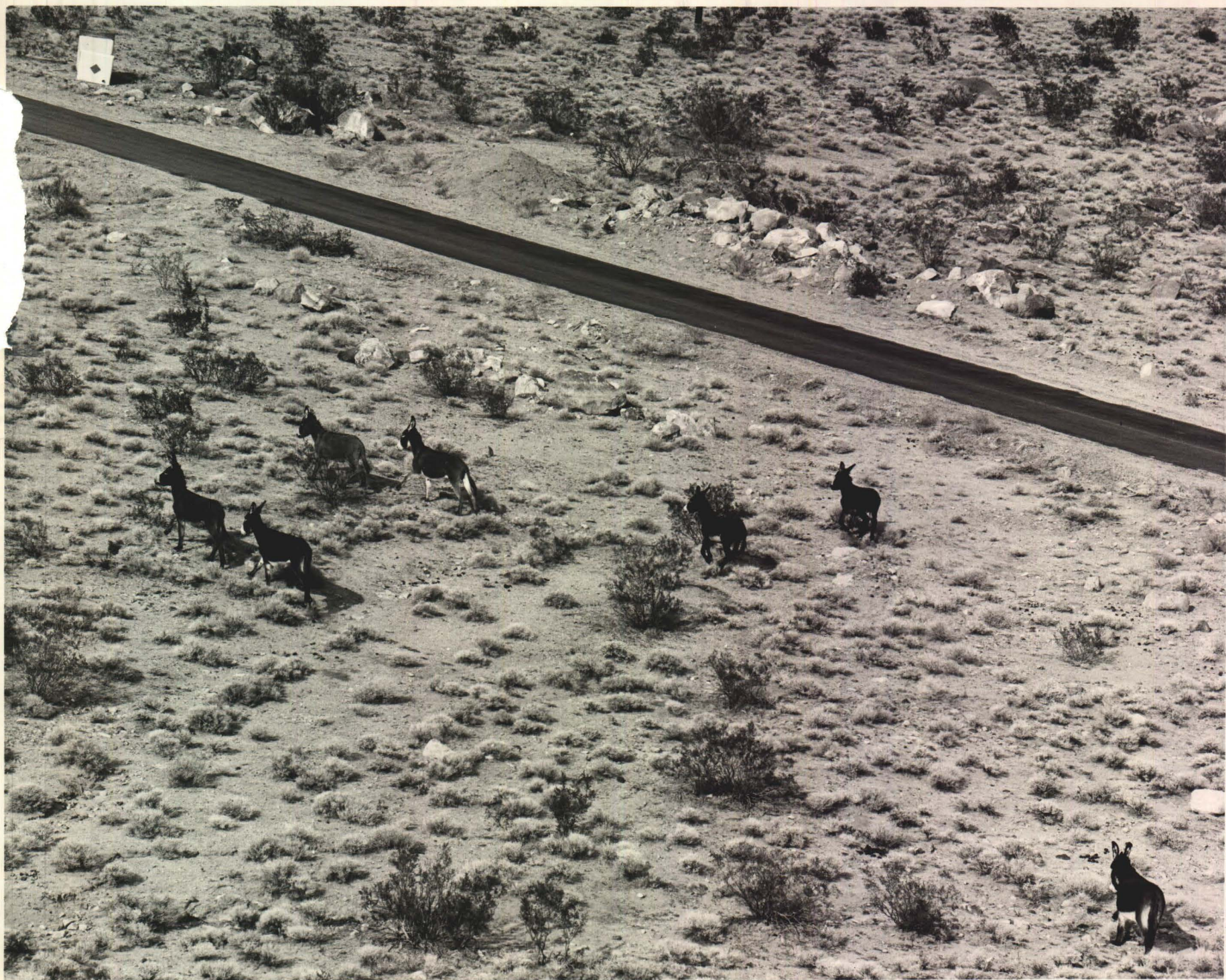
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Herds of burros roam near or on paved 45-mile-per-hour roads crossing the Naval Weapons Center inner ranges. The roads are unlighted, making the animals especially difficult to see after dark; the danger of a vehicle/burro collision is high.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

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The burro hit by a Naval Weapons Center enlisted motorcyclist who was riding back from Armitage Airfield at night lost its life. The Navy enlisted man has spent more than five months hospitalized in the Naval Regional Medical Center.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

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Burros have chewed through cables to radars on the Naval Weapons Center's instrumented test ranges, have rubbed against equipment hard enough to destroy calibration, and have even broken through water pipes.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

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The Naval Weapons Center boundary is lower left, and Highway 395 to the right, sandwiching about 4,000 acres of green alfalfa. A herd of 100 to 150 burros lives near the supersonic naval ordnance research track less than two miles from these fields; burros normally roam 12 to 15 miles daily.

(U.S. Navy Photo)



Burro trails crossing the Naval Weapons Center ranges show how the animals denude and compact the soil, destroying the habitat of both plants and animals such as the endangered Mojave ground squirrel.

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(U.S. Navy Photo)

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Mountain Springs Canyon Road leading from the Naval Weapons Center's inner ranges to the upper range area is narrow, winding and steep enough so that drivers can't take evasive action against burros in the road.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

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The habitat of ground squirrels such as these two babies is endangered by burros because they compact the ground in which the small desert creatures live. The Mojave ground squirrel that resides on the Naval Weapons Center is an endangered species.

(U.S. Navy Photo)

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