ATTN OF:

DEPE

SUBJECT:

Grazing, Nellis AF Range, Nevada (Your letter, 11 Aug 71)

30 SEP 197

## AF/PRERD

- 1. The attached Hq 57 CSG (DEPR) letter, 14 Sep 1971, Outleasing of Grazing Areas, Nellis AFR, was prepared in response to your subject letter and is forwarded for your approval and issuance of the appropriate directive. We concur with the contents of the letter subject to the following exceptions:
- a. This headquarters has added the area delineated as "Wild Horse Range" to the land area proposed for outgrant.

  A study completed by the Nevada Land Office, Bureau of Land Management, in 1970 indicates that this particular parcel has been one of the areas most seriously affected by trespass problems, including uncontrolled grazing of domestic cattle, for the past 30 years. This unauthorized grazing has forced most of the horses out of the established range. Outleasing the area for limited grazing purposes would provide a measure of control since the lessee would have a vested interest in insuring that unauthorized cattle were prevented from utilizing the leased area. Any grazing lease negotiated for this land should specify the maximum number of cattle to be allowed access to the range. This limit would be established consistent with proper management of the Wild Horse Range.
- b. The two land areas delineated as "AEC Air Space" have also been included by this headquarters. Responsible local AEC personnel have indicated that AEC would interpose no objections to grazing in these two areas.
- c. The term of the grazing leases should be for five years, revocable at will, without option to renew as suggested in paragraph 4a of the base's letter.

- 2. Recommend maximum advantage be taken of the income derived from the proposed leases by requiring the lessees to fence the entire perimeter of their particular parcels (excepting only those areas where fences or natural barriers are in existence). Cost of the fencing should be reimbursed through a compensating reduction in rent. Further recommend that the leased area be sub-divided into parcels to open bidding to the maximum number of cattlemen.
- 3. In view of the provisions in the Withdrawal Orders reserving jurisdiction of mineral and vegetative resources to the Department of the Interior, we concur in the base's recommendation that BLM be tasked with responsibility for advertisement and administration of the leases.

FOR THE COMMANDER

M. B. RUFFINSTEIN, Colonel, USAS Director of Programs 1 Atch 57CSG (DEPR) Ltr, 14 Sep 71, w/atch (3)

Cy to: USAFTFWC wo atch 57CSG/DE wo atch