UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

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News Editor HERALD Yakima, Wash.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release May 3, 1967

Ulsamer -- 343-9431

NEWSBRIEFS FROM THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

SALT RIVER SPONSORS TRADE FAIR -- The first National All-Indian Trade Fair sponsored by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indians will be held May 4-7 on the Salt River Reservation near Scottsdale, Ariz.

More than 40 Indian tribes have been invited to participate in the program, which will feature products of nationally-known industrial firms employing Indian workers.

Special events will include: "An Evening of Indian Culture," presented by the Institute of American Indian Arts of Santa Fe, N. M.; a two-day all-Indian Cnampionship Rodeo; a barbecue; and a sky-diving show by a U.S. Army team from Yuma, Ariz.

SIXTY-FOUR NEW PROJECTS TO BENEFIT INDIAN SCHOOLS--The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Office of Education have approved more than \$4.7 million for a total of 64 projects to benefit Indian children in schools operated by the Bureau. The projects are made possible under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-10) which was amended by the 89th Congress to include educationally deprived Indian children.

Sixty-one of the projects will aid Indian and Eskimo children in Alaska; Arizona; California; Florida; Iowa; Mississippi; Montana; Nevada; New Mexico; North Carolina; North Dakota; Oklahoma; Oregon; South Dakota and Utah.

The remaining three projects are designed to provide planning and consultative services and to evaluate and disseminate information about all Title I projects carried on by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

UNITED SCHOLARSHIP SERVICE GETS CARNEGIE GRANT--United Scholarship Service, Inc. (USS) of Denver, Colo., has been awarded a grant by the Carnegie Corporation of \$50,000 a year for the next three years to expand a program of graduate school aid for Indians.

A national voluntary agency directly concerned with educational needs of Indian and Mexican youths, USS was formed in 1960. It is sponsored by the United Church of Christ, the Episcopal Church and, since 1966, by the National Indian Youth Council.

Its graduate school assistance hitherto has been limited to the fields of medicine and law, but will extend to all professions under the Carnegie grant.

BIA CONTRACTS FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING--Recent contracts signed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs with manufacturers will provide job training opportunities for Indians in Florida, New Mexico and Washington.

An \$18,844 contract with White Swan Industries, Inc., of South El Monte, Calif., will provide on-the-job training for 50 Washington Yakimas in the furniture industry.

A \$13,972 contract with Holiday Garment Co. of Tacoma, Wash., will make available on-the-job training in the garment industry for 61 Yakima Indians at Toppenish, Wash.

An \$8,400 contract signed with Amphenol Corp., which recently opened a new plant on the Hollywood Reservation in Florida, will provide training in electronic industry jobs for 75 Seminole Indians.

An \$8,260 contract signed with Aspen Wood Products Corp. of Algodones, N. M., will enable 20 Indians, mainly Pueblos, to receive on-the-job training in the hardwood core manufacturing industry.

LONG-TERM LEASING PROPOSED FOR GIIA RIVER--The Bureau of Indian Affairs has recommended passage of H.R. 2154, a measure now before Congress which would permit long-term leasing of Gila River Indian Reservation lands in Arizona.

The Reservation is in the greater Phoenix, Ariz., area and has potential for industrial, commercial, recreational and residential development. Under present law, however, no leases can run more than 50 years. The measure under consideration by Congress would permit leases for terms not to exceed 99 years, including any renewal options. Hearings on the proposal began in April.

INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION EXTENDED--President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law April 10 a measure (Public Law 90-9) which extends the life of the Indian Claims Commission for another five years -- until April 10, 1972. The Commission was scheduled to expire April 10, 1967 under the 1946 Act which created it. The new law calls for increasing membership of the Commission from three to five members. It also provides for a trial calendar and limits the time for continuance of cases to expedite the work of the Commission.

More than 850 Indian claims against the United States have been placed before the Commission, and 347 are pending.

INDIAN CLAIMS--The Indian Claims Commission issued three Interlocutory orders in Docket No. 279-A on March 31. It found that:

.The Blackfeet and Gros Ventre Tribes are entitled to recover the gross sum of \$11,125,606 for 13,907,000 acres of land in Montana, ceded under the Act of May 1, 1888.

•The Assiniboine Tribes residing on the Fort Belknap and Fort Peck Reservations in Montana are entitled to recover the gross sum of \$3,108,506 for 3,885,633 acres, their share of a larger tract in Montana ceded under the May 1, 1888 Act.

•The Sioux Tribe of Montana's Fort Peck Reservation is entitled to recover the gross sum of \$2,364,216 for 2,955,271 acres, its share of a larger tract in Montana ceded under the May 1, 1888 Act.

All three awards are subject to deductions of the amounts already paid for the land and of allowable offsets.

The Indian Claims Commission also approved a proposed compromise settlement of claims in Docket No. 125 on March 30 and granted an award of \$136,165 to the Snohomish Tribe of Washington. The award represents additional payment for 164,265 acres of land ceded by the tribe under a treaty of January, 1855.

BILL TO PAY CHEHALIS JUDGMENT--The Bureau of Indian Affairs has recommended passage of a bill (H.R. 678) before Congress to pay \$754,380 in judgment funds, appropriated by Act of June, 1964, to the Upper and Lower Chehalis Indians of Washington. The award represents a compromise settlement of an Indian claim for compensation for lands in Washington acquired by the United States in March, 1855 without Chehalis consent and without compensation.

The proposed bill provides for a per capita payment to the widely scattered descendants of the original land owners.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release May 10, 1967

Henderson -- 343-9431

POTTER MARIA MARTINEZ AND FAMILY TO SHOW WORK IN INTERIOR GALLERY

Art objects by the famed San Ildefonso Pueblo, N. M., potter,
Maria Martinez, her son, Popovi Da, and her grandson, Tony Da, have been
assembled for showing in the Department of the Interior's Art Galleries in
Washington, D. C., May 16-June 30, Mrs. Stewart L. Udall, president of the
Center for Arts of Indian America, announced today. The artists will be
present in the Galleries at various times during the first week.

Works in the showing include 10 pots by Maria, 12 by Popovi Da and 13 paintings by Tony Da. In addition there will be a number of photographs and photomurals of the Pueblo and the family at work by a Santa Fe photographer, Laura Gilpin. The photos include recent portraits of the artists and some taken by Miss Gilpin at various times in the past.

The exhibit was assembled by the staff of the Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, the Bureau of Indian Affairs school for young Indian artists, dancers, writers, and craftsmen. The main pieces are from the private collection of the Village of San Ildefonso and the Santa Fe Indian Arts Fund. The exhibit includes some of the finest works the artists have produced.

A number of older pieces of San Ildefonso pottery and textiles -- some made even before Maria Martinez was born more than 80 years ago -- will be included in the show to demonstrate the development of her art and the origins of some of her designs.

The continuous artistic production through three generations began many years ago when Maria and her husband, Julian, worked to recapture traditional Pueblo pottery designs and production techniques. She would shape the clay into graceful bowls, stately water jars and flat plaques. He would lay on vegetable-based glazes in patterns inspired by designs from prehistoric pottery or symbols unique to the Pueblo. After Julian's death, the family continued the tradition, believed to be unique in America.

The galleries, on the seventh floor of the Interior Building, will be open Mondays through Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BURKAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Fort Sincoe Job-Corps
Conservation Center
White Swan, Washington 98952

May 11, 1967

NEWS RELEASE - Immediate

CONGRESSWOMAN CATHERINE MAY TO SPEAK AT FORT SIMCOE JOB CORPS CENTER DEDICATION On the afternoon of January 23, 1967, Mrs. Catherine May, United States Congresswoman of the 4th District, spent the afternoon visiting the Fort Simcoe Job Corps Conservation Center located on the Yakima Indian Reservation near Fort Simcoe State Park. As Congresswoman May toured the Center, it was evident to all that she was interested in the corpsmen. Upon entering a classroom she was drawn to a corpsman working at his reading material. It was a refreshing experience to those of us whose only contact with a member of Congress has been through an arid college textbook. Political implications and congressional pressures were momentarily set aside as Mrs. May patiently pointed out corrections in the elementary efforts of the reading corpsmen. As she met and talked with the corpsmen of Fort Simcoe she displayed an interest in their persons, their activities, and their background. She was careful to listen as well as to instruct - a characteristic difficult to find in many of our professional teachers. No phase of the corpsman's life was too insignificant to discuss. A solicitous inquiry concerning the young man's home town and family concluded each interview.

The memory of meeting a Congresswoman was indelibly recorded in the minds of many of the Fort Simcoe corpsmen.

Mrs. May has consented to give the dedicatory address upon the occasion of

Fort Sincoe's formal dedication on May 27, 1967, at 2 p.m. Mrs. May's interest in the corpsmen and the staff at Fort Sincoe gives them the type of encouragement necessary to continue their efforts in the midst of criticism from others who find it expedient to pick apart a program without investigation.

We, at Fort Simcoe, are grateful that Mrs. May will share this day with us and appraise our efforts to help others to help themselves.

Hearge M. Maues
George M. Davis
Center Director

NOTE:

Attached are two prints of photos you may be able to use in regard to above article.





BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release May 30, 1967

Wilson -- 343-9431

INFORMATION OFFICE CHANGES ANNOUNCED FOR BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

A change in leadership of the Public Information Office of the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs was announced today by Commissioner Robert L. Bennett.

Virginia S. Hart, the Bureau's Chief of Public Information for the past three years, has been succeeded in that post by W. Joynes Macfarlan, for many years a member of the Washington Bureau of the Associated Press.

Macfarlan's appointment was effective May 29. Mrs. Hart was named Special Assistant (Communications) to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on May 7.

A native of Darlington, S. C., Macfarlan has been for some years the senior regular news reporter regularly covering the Department of the Interior, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, General Services Administration, Selective Service System, Veterans Administration, and Federal Power Commission. He was also responsible for the AP's basic news coverage of the Civil Service Commission.

Macfarlan began his career with Associated Press in Charlotte, N. C. after two years as a reporter for the Columbia, S. C. "State." He served in the Navy during World War II, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Macfarlan is a member of St. Andrews' Society of Washington and is a Scottish Rite Mason.

Mrs. Hart's Federal career of approximately 12 years has included appointments as an Information Officer for the U.S. Office of Education, feature writer for the Voice of America, and publications editorial work for the Department of State. Her non-government experience includes public relations and radio production work in the Washington, D.C. area. She began her career on the Worcester (Mass.) "Evening Gazette," in her home town. She is a member of the Women's National Press Club and the American Newspaper Women's Club, and holds an M.A. degree from American University.

Both Mrs. Hart and Macfarlan are residents of Arlington, Va.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

P. O. Box 3621, 1002 N. E. Holladay Street, 97208--234-3361

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

June 1, 1967

For Immediate Release

INDIAN BUREAU CALLS BIDS ON COLVILLE RESERVATION ROAD WORK

Dale M. Baldwin, Fortland Area Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, announced today the Bureau is calling bids for grading and draining 5.586 miles of roadway on the Colville Indian Reservation in eastern Washington.

Work on the Manila Creek road, which is located approximately five miles northeast of Coulee Dam, will require about 56 acres of clearing and grubbing; 301,000 cubic yards of unclassified excavation; 9,000 station yard overhaul; 5,000,000 gallons of water; 3,764 linear feet of culvert pipe; 64 linear feet reinforced concrete stockpass; two cattle guards, and 200 hours rolling.

June 20 at 2 p.m. Pacific daylight time has been set for opening of the sealed bids in the Bureau's Branch of Property and Supply, Lloyd Plaza Building 400, Room 400, 1425 N. E. Irving Street, Portland, Oregon 97208.

Additional information on Invitation No. 67-11, Project No. CIR 45(2), may be obtained from the Bureau's Portland office, or may be secured from the Colville Indian Agency, Branch of Roads, Coulee Dam, Washington.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release JUNE 10, 1967

Wilson -- 343-943

INDIAN COMMISSIONER HAILS ELECTRIC POWER AGREEMENT FOR INDIAN TRIBE

Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, today hailed the agreement to provide electric power for the Quinault Indian village of Queets, Wash., as "the final step in bringing the basic comforts of adequate homes to this community."

Bennett said the agreement is a "tribute to the ability of many different agencies representing several levels of government, and private enterprise to work out solutions to difficult problems." He noted that extremely complicated right-of-way problems and a multiplicity of jurisdictions created "many unusual problems that had to be solved before work could begin on the electric power transmission line."

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has built 20 new homes in Queets as part of a pilot project in total community redevelopment which includes new roads, water and sewer systems for the little fishing village on the Olympic Peninsula which until now has never had electric service.

The agreement, arrived at in consultation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, calls for construction of a 15-mile underground power line to Queets. Participating in the agreement are the National Park Service, the State Highway Commission and the Grays Harbor Public Utilities District. The line should be finished by the end of the year, Bennett said.

"There has been wide comment on the fact that the homes were finished before the power arrived," Bennett said. "There was never any doubt in the minds of responsible public officials that power would come to Queets. In the construction of the new homes we made provisions for heat, light and other services through available means until electricity could become available.

"We wired these homes for electricity since it is far more economical to wire a home during its construction than to go back later and install wiring. Many Indians took advantage of the opportunity to improve their homes beyond the basic house provided by the program by purchasing appliances and other improvements but the Bureau has not provided a single electrical appliance to any family in Queets."

The project is one of many "long overdue" housing programs in Indian communities, Bennett said. "There are housing programs of many types on many different Indian reservations," he said, "and where there is a good prospect that electricity will soon be available -- as in the case of Queets -- electric wiring is installed.

"I am confident that the public supports the many Federal, State and local programs designed to bridge the gap between the Indian standard of living and that of the rest of the Nation. The Queets program is just one small part of this effort, but it is an indication of the progress that can be achieved through cooperative enterprises.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

P. O. Box 3621, 1002 N. E. Holladay Street, 97208--234-3361

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

For Release June 20, 1967

INDIAN BUREAU AWARDS CONTRACT FOR ROAD WORK ON SPOKANE INDIAN RESERVATION

Award of a \$55,456.60 road contract on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Stevens County, Wash. was announced today by Dale M. Baldwin, Portland Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

The successful bidder is Harold Freeland, P. O. Box 396, Milton-Freewater, Ore.

Ten bids were received by the Bureau, ranging to a high of \$141,379.

The contract calls for grading and draining 5.763 miles of road running southeasterly from Wellpinit to Little Falls on the Spokane River.

A later project will provide for bituminous surfacing of this road which serves the Wellpinit community, largest on the reservation, as a shorter route of travel to Reardon and Spokane and for school bus and mail routes.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
For Release to PMs June 21, 1967

Wilson -- 343-9431

INDIAN BUREAU NAMES DIRECTOR FOR ANADARKO AREA OFFICE

Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, announced today that Sidney M. Carney, the BIA's special liaison representative to the Seneca Indians of New York State, has been appointed Director of the Bureau's Anadarko, Okla., Area Office.

Carney, 47, is of Choctaw and Creek descent and was born in Quinton, Okla. He joined the Bureau in 1957 as an administrative officer at the Fort Defiance Agency, Ariz. He also served at the Jicarilla Agency, N. M., and in the Washington office before his assignment to New York State in 1962.

Last year Carney received a \$1,500 sustained superior performance award from Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall for his efforts in helping the Senecas in their relocation and rehabilitation programs following the loss of 10,000 reservation acres for the Kinzua Dam reservoir.

Carney attended the Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kan., and has a bachelor's and a master's degree from Oklahoma State University. He served with the Army in the European theater in World War II. Carney is married and the father of four children.

He succeeds Leslie Towle, who has been assigned to the Portland Area Office. Commissioner Bennett said the appointment will take effect soon, at a date not yet made firm.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release June 22, 1967

Macfarlan -- 343-9431

LEGION OFFICIALS AND CHARLES RENO INVITED TO CUSTER LAST STAND CEREMONIES

American Legion officials and Charles Reno have been invited, in recognition of the Legion's successful effort to correct the military record of Major Marcus A. Reno, to attend the ceremonies being held June 23, 24 and 25 at Crow Indian Agency, Mont.

The ceremonies include re-enactments of Custer's Last Stand.

Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior, said today he extended the invitations at the suggestion of officials of the Crow Tribe to:

John E. Davis, National Commander of The American Legion;

Andrew D. Eggenberger, Montana State Commander, The American Legion, Harlowton, Mont.; and,

Charles Reno, 34-70 78th Street, Jackson Heights, N. Y., grandnephew of Major Reno.

Tribal officials suggested to Bennett that he extend the invitations on behalf of the entire tribe.

John J. Corcoran, director of the Legion's National Rehabilitation Division, announced on May 31 that the Army Board for Correction of Military Records had ruled that Major Reno, who fought with General Custer in the Battle of Little Big Horn, deserved an honorable discharge instead of the dishonorable discharge he was given in 1880.

Major Reno had been cited for gallantry and had an outstanding record in the Civil War and afterwards, but accusations of cowardice in the Battle of Little Big Horn made him a notorious and controversial figure, even though a military board of inquiry ruled he was blameless.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

P. O. Box 3621, 1002 N. E. Holladay Street, 97208-234-3361

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

July 3, 1967

For Immediate Release

BIA AWARDS CONTRACT FOR COLVILLE INDIAN RESERVATION ROAD WORK

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, has awarded a contract for \$268,754 to N. A. Degerstrom, Inc., P. O. Box 425, Spokane, Wash., for grading and draining 5.586 miles of roadway on the Colville Indian Reservation in eastern Washington, Dale M. Baldwin, Portland Area Director of the BIA announced today.

Work will be performed on the Manila Creek road, which is located approximately five miles northeast of Coulee Dam.

Twelve bids were examined ranging to a high of \$549,333 before making the award to Degerstrom, Inc.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release to PM's July 25, 1967

Henderson -- 343-9431

MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR INDIAN TRAINING CONTRACTS RENEWED

The Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior announced today renewal of a number of contracts for job-training for Indians. Contract value totals nearly \$3 million.

Affected are contracts for the year beginning July 1 for programs in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Mississippi and New York. Only programs funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs are involved.

These programs include training for whole families, on-the-job work in electronics, garment and textile industries, and a nationwide program of adoptive placement for Indian children.

The largest dollar contract for fiscal 1968 renewals went to the Philco-Ford Corporation's Education and Technical Services Division for their Madera, Calif., Employment Training Center. A new concept in Indian training, the Center prepares entire families for assimilation into the economic, social and political life of America by way of job-training, formal education and instruction in home economics. The contract is for \$1,728,600.

Other contract renewals: RCA Service Co. for a community-wide training program for Choctaw Indians at Philadelphia, Miss., \$722,131; General Dynamics at Ft. Defiance, Ariz., for on-the-job electronics training being given 223 Indians, \$204,044; Burnell and Co., electronics training for 138 Indian trainees at Laguna Pueblo, N. M., \$157,088; First Seneca Corp., on-the-job training in textile mill products on the Cattaraugus Reservation near Irving, N. Y., \$78,002; a nationwide adoptive placement service by New York's Child Welfare League of America, Inc., \$30,800, and on-the-job training in the garment industry, the BVD Co. at Winslow, Ariz., \$16,108.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

August 15, 1967

For Immediate Release

INDIAN LANDS IN EASTERN WASHINGTON TO BE OFFERED FOR BID SALE

Dale M. Baldwin, Portland Area Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Department of the Interior, announced today that 26 tracts of land in eastern
Washington are being offered for sale, at the request of the Indian owners,
by the Bureau's Yakima Indian Agency, Toppenish, Wash.

They vary in size from .212 to 160 acres. Presently, most of these tracts are utilized for farming and grazing. One 40-acre tract of the farming and grazing land on the north slope of Ahtanum ridge, southwest of Yakima, has good potential for more productive use, and an eight-acre tract on Highway No. 3A has commercial possibilities. Several off-reservation tracts in Klickitat County provide excellent views of the Columbia River and would be suitable for view properties. A tract near Buena includes a modest house.

Sealed bids on these properties will be publicly opened at 2 p.m. Pacific daylight time, September 12, 1967, in the East Conference Room, Yakima Indian Agency, Toppenish, Wash.

Interested bidders may obtain more detailed information on bidding procedures and tracts from the Yakima Indian Agency, P. O. Box 632, Toppenish.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

P. O. Box 3621, 1002 N. E. Holladay Street, 97208--234-3361

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release August 24, 1967 Feature Material Wilson -- 343-9431

ELECTRICITY ARRIVES AS PART OF NEW LIFE FOR ALAMO NAVAJOS

The actual celebration -- the throwing of a switch to turn on electric power at Puertocito -- takes place August 26, but the real significance of the event extends both ways in time from that date, according to the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Puertocito is a remote Indian reservation in west central New Mexico, the home of the Alamo Navajos, a tribal group separated from the main or "Big Navajo" Reservation 100 miles to the north during the Navajo's struggles with Kit Carson and the U.S. Cavalry 100 years ago.

The reservation's 155 families live scattered over 52,000 acres in an arid region about 60 miles from the county seat of Socorro, N. M. A matriarchal society, they have survived through subsistence farming, grazing and performing seasonal labor at neighboring farms and ranches. They are named for a local spring, Alamo Spring, Alamo being the Spanish word for cottonwood.

In recent years this group has been strengthening its ties with the Big Navajo government and sends a representative to Navajo Tribal Council meetings at Window Rock, Ariz. In turn, the Big Navajo have put their self-help program -- the Office of Navajo Economic Opportunity (ONEO) -- to work at Puertocito.

With ONEO assistance the people of Puertocito, under a mutual-help program, constructed 60 new houses to replace the traditional single room hogans and shacks that had been their homes. Designed and built by the Navajos themselves, the buildings are constructed of native stone or adobe (mud) brick. By suburban standards they are exceedingly modest. By Puertocito standards they are a giant step forward.

As the building program progressed, the Alamo Navajos contacted the Socorro Rural Electric Cooperative, which agreed to bring in electric power if 100 families would subscribe. One hundred families did, and the power line, financed by a Rural Electrification Administration loan to the Cooperative, was started toward Puertocito.

At the same time the Bureau of Indian Affairs agreed to provide the materials, tools, and supervision for wiring the individual houses. A separate wiring plan was required for each house. ONEO provided local Indian labor under a manpower training program. The home wiring program began Jan. 21, 1967 and was completed April 29.

It produced, at a cost of \$156 a house, adequately wired dwellings -meeting all electrical code requirements except for number of outlets -- and
ten Navajos who earned \$1.25 an hour while acquiring the skills to make them
qualified electrician's helpers. These men not only have increased employment
opportunities in the area but have the skills necessary to maintain an
electrical system which operates in ways completely mysterious to most residents of the community. Their first jobs are likely to come in the expansion
of the new system to additional Indian homes.

For the future, the immediate impact of electricity at Puertocito is not difficult to comprehend. Electric lights, refrigerators, washing machines, mixers and the many other genies of the kilowatt will move the Alamo Navajos a big step closer to a standard of living approaching the national average.

But much more than convenience and ease of living is involved. Through improved communications, especially television and radio, the aura of isolation that has compounded the difficulties of helping these people toward an understanding of the culture and habits of mid-century Americans will be reduced.

When Puertocito youngsters leave for Magdalena, 35 miles to the south, where they attend public school and stay in a BIA dormitory, they will have a better understanding of what to expect in this new environment. This understanding is expected to cushion the shock of this new experience and result in better school enrollment and attendance.

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A similar acquisition of cultural understanding will assist the adults in the community as they press forward with the most difficult task of seeking economic and social equality for themselves and their community. The new ideas and new developments which have resulted from the improved working relationship with Big Navajo organizations should be accelerated as knowledge and understanding open new options for community improvement.

Actual day-to-day communications with the surrounding communities will be greatly improved by a two-way radio the Cooperative plans to install at Puertocito.

Indicative of the spirit of progress now in evidence at Puertocito is the work underway with the Indian Health Division of the Public Health Service to plan a water system for the community.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release October 17, 1967

Wilson -- 343-9431

INDIAN BUREAU, JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO COOPERATE IN PAROLE PROGRAM

A cooperative agreement between the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Prisons, the U.S. Board of Parole and the Federal Probation System to provide rehabilitation and employment services for Indians just released from Federal prisons has been signed, it was announced today.

The agreement calls for a "concerted" effort to unify court, prison and parole procedures and the many educational, vocational and employment services provided Indians by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The agreement noted that "conviction on State or Federal criminal charges does not disqualify Indians from eligibility for assistance by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Conviction may, in fact, be an indication of a need for special assistance."

Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, said the agreement "will allow those who determine if an Indian offender is ready for parole, those who supervise his parole activities, and those who operate programs designed to help Indians become productive members of modern society coordinate their activities for the benefit of Indians now obviously at odds with society."

The agreement was signed by: Bennett; William E. Foley, Deputy

Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts; Myrl E. Alexander, Chief,

U. S. Bureau of Prisons; and Homer L. Benson, member, U.S. Board of Parole.