



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20245

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
For Release August 26, 1977

Lovett 343-7445

## BIA EDUCATION OFFICIAL TO PRINCETON FOR YEAR OF STUDY

Dr. William J. Benham, Jr., Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Indian Education Resources Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico has been selected for a year of special study at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

**Benham** will begin in September a mid-career program "designed to broaden the perspective and increase the professional competence of Federal employees." He will resume his duties in Albuquerque in June, 1978.

Those admitted to the program are nominated by their agency and chosen by the school on the basis of intellectual ability, growth potential for public service and program interests. The nominees are expected to be persons of proven accomplishments whose agencies indicate that they are capable of filling top managerial and policy-making positions in the Federal service.

**Benham**, a Creek Indian from Holdenville, Oklahoma, in March of this year received the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award for distinguished achievements and outstanding contributions to Indian education programs.

**Benham** is a 1950 graduate of East Central Oklahoma University which gave him in 1975 a Distinguished Alumnus Award. He earned his Master's and Doctor's degrees from the University of Oklahoma.

X X X

