Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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In line with President Johnson’s war on waste in Government administration, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs has consolidated responsibility for fiscal and management analysis under the Deputy Commissioner and a special assistant. The announcement was made today by Commissioner of Indian Affairs Philleo Nash.

Both areas of responsibility will be under the immediate direction of Deputy Commissioner John O. Crow. Appointed to a newly created post as his special assistant is J. Leonard Norwood, former chief of budget and finance. Mr. Norwood will aid in management analysis, including cost reduction and safety programs, and will also supervise internal audit of Bureau expenditures.

In announcing the consolidation, Nash said:

“By focusing these major responsibilities under the direction of Crow and Norwood, both experienced trouble-shooters in BIA, we expect to develop an aggressive management improvement and cost reduction program.”

One of Norwood's new duties will be coordination of Bureau-wide record-keeping at an automatic data processing center to be opened at Albuquerque, New Mexico, on or about January 1, 1966.

Also newly assigned to the Deputy Commissioner's office is George W. Mathis, a career employee and former chief of real estate appraisal services for the Bureau. His appointment brings fiscal and management operations into close alliance with the Bureau's stepped-up program of economic development of Indian lands for commercial and industrial use, and with the trend toward long-term leasing as a source of steady revenue to Indian owners.