Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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For Immediate Release: March 20, 1968
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Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, today announced that Leonard M. Hill, Area Director for the Sacramento ' Area, has been reassigned as Special Field Representatives for the Southwestern United States.

Hill will be succeeded in the California assignment by William E. Finale, now serving as Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Community Services. The reassignments are to become effective April 7. As Special Field Representative Hill will assist Indian groups in making plans and surveys for community development projects.

A native of Ashton, Idaho, Hill, 59, is a veteran of more than 30 years of Government service, including 16 years as Sacramento Area Director. He joined the Department of Agriculture as a clerk in 1935, transferring to the Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation in 1946 and to the Bureau of Indian Affairs as an economist in 1950.

Hill has a Bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Idaho and a Master's degree in economics from State College of Washington now Washington State University. He served as a, naval officer in World War II.

Finale, 43, was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He received a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Political Science from Western Reserve University. He joined the Department of the Interior in 1951 as an education and training specialist with the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a program officer in 1961.

Finale also served as a naval officer in World War II.