Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

Media Contact: Ayres -- 343-9431
For Immediate Release: May 7, 1968
Print PDF

New superintendents of the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Eastern Navajo Agency, Crownpoint, N.M., and Fort Totten Agency, Fort Totten, N. D., were named today by Commissioner Robert L. Bennett. Both superintendents are of Indian descent.

Edward O. Plummer, Tohatchi, N.M., was names to the superintendence of the Eastern Navajo Agency. He is now realty officer at the Navajo Area Office, Window Rock, Ariz. Plummer is the first Navajo Indian appointed by Commissioner Bennett to be superintendent of an agency in the Navajo area.

Jerome F. Tomhave, Elbowoods, N.D., was appointed superintendent of the Fort Totten Agency from the post of realty officer of the Hoopa Area Field Office, Hoopa, Calif. Tomhave is a Gras Ventre Indian.

Plummer, 40, is a former employee of the Navajo Tribe and has served six years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Gallup, N.M., Fort Defiance, Ariz., and Window Rock, Ariz. He will replace Kent FitzGerald, superintendent at Crownpoint since October 1960, who was transferred April 21 to the post of community development officer of the Navajo Area Office at Window Rock.

Tomhave, 38, has had 15 years' service with BIA, serving in progressively responsible positions beginning at the Fort Berthold Agency, Elbowoods, N. D. He also has served with Bureau of Indian Affairs agencies at Belcourt, N.D., Ashland, Wis., Harlem, Mont., Dixon, Mont., and the Aberdeen, S.D., and Minneapolis, Minn. Area offices. He replaces James D. Cornett, who is transferring to the superintendency of the Zuni Agency.

Plummer attended Bacone College, New Mexico Highland University, and the University of New Mexico. He served in the Army, including one year in Japan, and is the father of two daughters.

Tomhave is a graduate of Haskell Institute, the Bureau of Indian Affairs post-high school vocational school at Lawrence, Kan. He also has served in the Army, and is the father of six children.