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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.