Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay today announced an extension in the term of office of John F. Davis as principal chief of the Creek Indian Tribe of Oklahoma until a successor can be duly qualified and appointed. The maximum period of extension is six months.

Mr. Davis, whose home is in Okemah, Oklahoma, has been serving as principal chief under a four-year term which expired January 2. Because of a dispute which has arisen among the tribal members regarding the office of principal chief, his term was extended so that the Bureau of Indian Affairs may explore the matter with the various elements in the tribe and determine a satisfactory method of selecting a successor.