Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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For Immediate Release: June 27, 1957
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Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton today announced the Bureau of Indian Affairs has awarded contracts totaling $51,582 to furnish transformers, substation equipment and steel framework for a substation at the Portneuf pumping station of the Michaud Irrigation Division near Pocatello, Idaho.

The contracts were for $31,187 to the R. E. Uptegraff Manufacturing Company, Scottdale, Pennsylvania, and for $20,395 to Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Portland, Oregon.

The Uptegraff and Westinghouse combination bid compares with the next lower acceptable bid of $60,300.

The $5,500,000, Michaud Division is located on the Fort Hall Indian reservation and when constructed will be a unit of the Fort Hall Irrigation project. It adjoins the Michaud Flats project of the Bureau of Reclamation. The Michaud Division of the Indian irrigation project was originally authorized by Congress in 1931 and reauthorized in 1954.

When completed the project will irrigate 21,000 acres of which 17,443 acres are in Indian ownership. The project facilities include the Portneuf pumping station with a 3,200-foot discharge pipe, 31.8 miles of open main canals and approximately 75 miles of concrete pipe laterals. Three secondary pumping stations will be located in the distribution system.