Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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The Justice Department has concluded after an F.B.I. investigation that allegations of brutality against students at the Chilocco, Okla., Indian School by some staff members were without foundation, Assistant Secretary of the Interior Harrison Loesch said today.

A program review team of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which operates the school, had reported brutal treatment of some students. Assistant Secretary Loesch in April asked the F.B.I. to investigate the situation. At the same time he directed that Dr. Leon Wall, superintendent of the school, and Principal Clarence Winston be placed on temporary duty in the area office.

Mr. Loesch said today that Dr. Wall has returned to his job as superintendent. Mr. Winston earlier went back to his position as principal.

The Assistant Secretary said the F.B.I. investigation found no foundation for the allegations of brutality or for any other invasion of civil rights of any students.