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INDIAN AFFAIRS SOLICITOR TO SPEAK
AT UM TRIBAL JUDGES CONFERENCE

Richman F. Allan, solicitor for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. and a 1957 graduate of the University of Montana Law School, will be one of the key participants in the first Montana Tribal Judges Conference which convenes for a two-day meeting on the UM campus April 13.

William F. Crowley, Law School professor and conference coordinator, said that the meeting will be one of the first state-level conferences of its kind. It is expected to bring to Missoula the 14 tribal judges who have jurisdiction over all Indians living on Montana's seven reservations. An additional 25 participants, representing the tribal councils which elect the judges, also are expected.

Crowley explained that the conference, which he hopes will become a yearly affair, is designed to explore legal problems common to all reservation courts. He explained that there are no clearly defined guidelines for Indian courts and, in many cases, it is unclear which federal constitutional standards are applicable in proceedings under tribal jurisdiction.

Tribal judges who are not necessarily trained in law, have wide legal jurisdiction on their reservations and must adjudicate cases dealing with every kind of law infraction except the 11 major felonies.

Other conference participants include Charles L. Decker, retired Judge Advocate General for the U.S. Army and director of the National Defender Project; Federal District Judge William Jamison of Billings, former president of the American Bar Association, and Larry M. Elison and Jon A. Hudak, UM Law School faculty members.