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Alonzo Spang appointed to national Indian education subcommittee

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state + cs +ALONZO SPANG APPOINTED TO N'TL
INDIAN EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

MISSOULA--

Alonzo T. Spang Sr., director of the University of Montana Indian Studies Program, was recently appointed by Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew to the new Indian Education Subcommittee (IES) of the National Council on Indian Opportunity.

The nine-member all-Indian subcommittee held its first meeting Feb. 25-26 in Washington, D.C., where Spang was elected subcommittee vice-chairman. The IES is composed of eight educators and one student.

Spang said the purposes of the subcommittee are: to provide technical assistance to Indian communities wishing to assume local control of schools and programs, to review and evaluate school programs where Indian children might be enrolled and to make an annual report to President Nixon on the state of Indian education.

Commenting on his appointment to the IES, Spang said: "Hopefully, the subcommittee--having the 'ear of the President and the Vice-President'--can accomplish many needed corrections and programs in Indian education.

"The role of the subcommittee is a vital one," Spang continued. "There is no doubt in my mind that Indian education needs national attention and support of the highest office in the land. The subcommittee's work will be difficult, and it needs to do a top-level job in order to get things accomplished."

Spang became the first director and assistant professor of the UM Indian Studies Program in the fall of 1970. He is currently instituting a "three-pronged" program of counseling, and Indian-oriented courses and research services designed to develop in the Indian student pride and a positive identity with his culture.

A member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Spang lived on the reservation for 19 years. He is a native of Lame Deer, Montana.

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He received his Bachelor of Science degree in education from Eastern Montana College, Billings, in 1959 and a Master of Arts degree in education with specialization in guidance and counseling from Arizona State University (ASU), Tempe, in 1962. He has completed all the work toward his doctorate at ASU, except his doctoral dissertation, which will be in the field of guidance and counseling.

Spang has held numerous positions as an educator and guidance counselor at such institutions as the Navaho Community College, Chinle, Ariz.; ASU; the Indian Community Action Program, and at the Cook Christian Training School, Tempe, Ariz.
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His awards include a John Hay/Agency Foundation Fellow, the Scottsdale (Ariz.) All-Indian-Days Award for outstanding contribution to the Indian community, a doctoral assistantship at ASU and appointment as chief of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

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