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LOCAL NEWS ITEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

D. C. LAWYERS ON MINERAL LAW INSTITUTE PROGRAM

Two Washington, D. C. administrators are among the 21 experts in oil and gas and mining law scheduled to speak at the third annual Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute, which will be in session at Montana State University, Missoula, August 1, 2, and 3, according to Robert E. Sullivan, dean of the MSU Law School and director of the institute.

Earl J. Thomas, associate director of the Bureau of Land Management, will speak on Friday, August 2, on "Examination of Federal Records Relating to Oil and Gas Rights and Records." Edmund T. Fritz, deputy solicitor of the Dept. of the Interior, will also speak on Friday, on "Mineral Problems Relating to Acquired Federal Lands."

The institute is sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, which was organized in 1955. Its members include law schools, industry associations, and state bar associations in the Rocky Mountain states, and the Mineral Law Section of the American Bar Assn. The yearly institute provides a "continuing education" for practicing attorneys and members of the oil and gas and mining industries, Dean Sullivan said.

Fritz was graduated from the MSU Law School with honors. Before accepting his present post with the Dept. of the Interior in 1955, he practiced law in Montana for 17 years. Thomas became associate director of the Bureau of Land Management in 1956, after several years with the Bureau of Reclamation and other government agencies. He has also engaged in private business.

Other mineral law specialists on the institute program are John P. Akolt, Harold S. Bloomenthal, Frank M. Cavanaugh, and William S. Livingston, all of