Dean Stone Night

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

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The co-author of "Fail-Safe" and "The Ugly American," Eugene Burdick, will be the eighth annual Dean Stone Night speaker Sunday, May 3 at Montana State University.

This event is sponsored by the School of Journalism in memory of the late A. L. Stone, who founded the school 50 years ago and served as its first dean. Journalism student achievement awards also will be announced at the banquet.

In addition to his Dean Stone Night address, Burdick will be the 1964 professional lecturer in journalism, according to Nathan B. Blumberg, journalism school dean.

Burdick also is an associate professor of political science at the University of California at Berkeley. His specialty is political theory.

Three of Burdick's books have been Book of the Month Club selections. His first novel, "The Ninth Wave," was published in 1956. "The Ugly American," written in collaboration with William J. Lederer, and "Fail-Safe," written in collaboration with Harvey Wheeler, also were made into movies.

Another novel by Burdick is to be published this year by Houghton-Mifflin. He has written stories for such publications as The New Yorker, Harper's, The Reporter and Holiday.

"The Blue of Capricorn" was published in 1961 and is a book of fact and fiction based largely on the South Pacific where Burdick has traveled extensively. He is building a home on the island of Moorea, near Tahiti, and plans to spend several months there each year.

Burdick received his A.B. degree in psychology at Stanford University and a Ph.D. at Oxford where he was a Rhodes Scholar and studied political theory.

Burdick was born in Iowa but has lived most of his life in California. He and his wife have two daughters and a son.

(more)
He is a lieutenant-commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve and served five years in the Navy during World War II. During the Korean conflict, Burdick was assigned as an academic consultant to the Naval War College, Newport, R.I.

Burdick also serves as a Consultant on Basic Issues for the Fund for the Republic. Under the auspices of this Foundation, he just completed an intensive study of California politics.

He is president of the Dr. Thomas A. Dooley Foundation, a member of the board of the HOPE project, and is a consultant to the government on various aspects of foreign policy.

The Dean Stone Night banquet in the University Lodge is open to the public. Reservations at $3 a plate may be made at the MSU School of Journalism.

There were only eight students enrolled in journalism when the school was founded by Stone a half century ago. Today, Dean Blumberg reports there are 135 majors enrolled in news-editorial, advertising, magazine, radio and television courses offered by the journalism school.

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