4-5-1965

K. Ross Toole to join the University of Montana staff as a history professor

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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Recommended Citation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. K. Ross Toole, descendant of Montana pioneers and a scholar in the field of western and American history, will join the University of Montana staff next fall as a history professor, it was announced by Dr. Melvin Wren, chairman of the Department of History.

Toole is a direct descendant of the famed "Baron" O'Keefe who presided at the first trial in the town of Hellgate. A Missoula native, he holds both BA and MA degrees from Montana State University, and a Ph.D. in western history from the University of California at Los Angeles.

During the war, he served as gunnery officer aboard an LST in the Mediterranean, and later was transferred to Hawaii where he served on the staff of the Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet. He has been a teacher, editor, museum director and author. Significant assignments include editorship of "Montana, the Magazine of Western History," direction of the Historical Society of Montana, Director of the Museum of the City of New York and Director of the Museums of New Mexico. He became president of the K-Bar-J Ranches near Red Lodge, Montana, in 1963.


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