

Wilma Victor Made Special Assistant by Secretary Morton

On March 29, 1971 Department of the Interior Secretary Rogers Morton announced the appointment of Wilma L. Victor as Special Assistant to the Secretary for Indian Affairs.

During this announcement Morton pledged his own energy and the resources of his Department to "alleviating the problems of American Indians as never before."

He added that the Depart-

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Miss Wilma Victor...

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ment "will explore new situations—and initiate new programs where necessary. And we will redouble our efforts to make sure that the programs already in existence really work for the benefit of the Indian people."

The announcement of Wilma Victor's appointment comes after 26 years of distinguished BIA service on her part. She has distinguished herself as one of the most prominent Indian leaders in the nation.

In 1967 Miss Victor received national recognition as a top-ranking woman educator when she was selected to receive the coveted Federal Women's Award.

In 1969 she received the Distinguished Service Award of the University of Oklahoma, and in 1970 she was the recipient of the Achievement Award of the Indian Council Fire, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois.

"I know that her knowledge and experience in Indian affairs and her close association with reservation-based Indian people will be invaluable in her new position," complimented the Secretary of the Interior.

A member of the Choctaw Tribe, Miss Victor began her service with the BIA in 1941 at Shiprock, New Mexico Federal School in the Navajo Reserva-

tion.

In accepting her appointment, Miss Victor stated, "I am pleased that I will have an opportunity to assist in carrying out the new policy which has been designed to make the department and Bureau totally responsive to Indian needs."



MISS WILMA VICTOR (Choctaw Tribe), newly appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior for Indian affairs.

—BIA Photo