

# Walker, Water Rights

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(AP)—Reliable inside Bureau sources stated Nov. 10 that Atty. Hans Walker Jr. (Mandan Hidatsa), on special assignment in the Interior Department's Solicitor's Office, has been named director of the Indian Water Rights Office here.

Walker was chosen by the Indian Bureau from a list of six nominees submitted by the National Tribal Chairmen's Association during a Montana conference held in Billings, Nov. 2-3.

Sources indicated Walker's deputy will be Morton Dramer (Crow-Cheyenne), who to this time has worked for the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation at Grand Coulee Dam in Washington State.

Walker on Nov. 10 began interviewing candidates for possible positions on the 5-man water office staff announced by Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton on Nov. 4 amid nation-

wide Indian concern over ongoing water losses.

The Indian Water Rights Office begins operations on Nov. 15 on a seven-month budget of \$50,000 current until June 30, 1972. Morton told the national press Oct. 4 that the office would have a first-year operating budget of \$2 million.

The remainder must be picked up during budget reviews prior to that time.