

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
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ROLLS TO BE PREPARED FOR CREEK INDIAN CLAIMS PAYMENTS

Regulations governing the preparation of rolls for the payment to Creek Indians of two Indian Claims Commission judgments, totaling more than \$4 million, have been approved and published in the Federal Register, Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, has announced.

Those eligible to share in the awards must be able to prove direct Creek Indian lineage, Bennett said. A list of the various tribal rolls and other acceptable proofs of such lineage plus complete application instructions will be supplied with application forms which may be obtained from the Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Building, Muskogee, Okla., 74401.

Bennett emphasized that the deadline for filing is Dec. 31, 1969 and that there is no fee for any part of the application procedure.

One award, \$3.9 million less attorney's fees and other expenses, represents payment for 8.9 million acres of land in southern Alabama and Georgia ceded the Federal Government under a treaty in 1814.

A second award, of \$1 million less expenses, is additional payment for two million acres of land in east central Oklahoma ceded under the Treaty of Aug. 7, 1856. Only descendants of Creeks removed to Oklahoma early in the 19th Century may share in this award.

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