

FROM:

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DALLAS--Dr. Philip R. Lee, Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs, U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, will be the speaker for the 26th commencement exercises of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas Monday, June 3.

In March, Dr. Lee was assigned direct authority over the Public Health Service and the Food and Drug Administration. His responsibility also includes overall health policy direction and coordination of other health programs for HEW, including Medicare, Medicaid and the health activities of the Children's Bureau.

The medical school will confer Doctor of Medicine degrees on 97 candidates, and will award five Ph.D and three Masters degrees in ceremonies at 8 p.m. June 3 at McFarlin auditorium on the Southern Methodist University campus.

The speaker, a graduate of Stanford University School of Medicine and University of Minnesota, began government service in 1963 when he became director of health services in the Agency for International Development. He won AID's Superior Honor Award in 1965 for establishing "new policies, priorities, and programs in the fields of health nutrition and population."

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Dr. Lee was named deputy assistant secretary of HEW in August, 1965, and became assistant secretary in November of that year. On March 13, 1968 HEW Secretary Wilbur J. Cohen announced delegation to Dr. Lee the authorities formerly delegated to the Surgeon General and Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

This move to unify direction of the major health agencies of HEW was in response to President Johnson's directive to strengthen the leadership and management of the department's health functions, said Secretary Cohen.

Dr. Lee comes from a distinguished medical family. His father, Dr. Russel Lee, is the founder of the Palo Alto Medical Clinic and his three brothers and one sister are also physicians.

The author of numerous scientific articles, Dr. Lee is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the American College of Physicians, and the American Federation for Clinical Research.

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