

DULUTH--Cliff Sommer, Minnesota Radio Free Europe chairman, will speak at a UMD convocation at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 1 at Kirby Student Center.

Sommer is president of Security Bank and Trust Company, Owatonna, Minnesota.

For the past 10 years, Radio Free Europe has broadcast news about the Western world to 79-million persons living behind the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe. Radio Free Europe's staff of more than 2,000 monitors the broadcasts of the Soviet regime and replies with "truth reports" 18 hours a day, seven days a week to Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, and five hours daily to Bulgaria and Romania.

"It is particularly in times of tension like the present Berlin crisis that millions of people behind the Iron Curtain turn to RFE for objective news," Sommer said. "In this never-ending cold war, Radio Free Europe reaches the minds of millions who otherwise would know nothing but what the Communists want them to know."

Sommer is a former vice president of the Midland National Bank, Minneapolis, and has been active in the Minnesota Bankers Association and the American Institute of Banking.

He was chairman of the sports committee of the Minnesota Statehood Centennial and was chosen alumni king at the University of Minnesota in 1957. A graduate of the University, he is a past president of the "M" Club. He has held many posts in the University of Minnesota Alumni Association and has served on the Minneapolis Park Board.

Sommer lives in Owatonna with his wife, Eleanore and two daughters, Margaret and Gayle.