

*Hand Star-Bulletin  
Letter to Editor 1/13/72*  
**Support Commissioner**

SIR: We are taking exception to the article by Gardiner B. Jones Dec. 1, relative to the burning of Government House occupied by High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston. While Mr. Jones was quite free to draw his personal conclusions from the events surrounding the burning of Mr. Johnston's residence, we feel nevertheless that his allegation that the act was incited by active enmities toward the person of High Commissioner Johnston was misleading and very unfair.

Contrary to what Gardiner B. Jones thinks, Mr. Johnston has a wide support among Micronesians, and he is particularly admired and respected by the people of Palau. It is inevitable for a man in his position to have certain members of a community disagree with him on many issues. Indeed a total support by every member of a community for such a person would be highly suspicious because it is contrary to human nature. It is regrettable that Gardiner B. Jones lost sight of the fact that public figures everywhere are subject to harassment by society's malcontents, and that the High Commissioner was unfortunately subjected to this type of treatment when his residence was set on fire. Despite this tragic event, we wish to put on record our sincere support for our High Commissioner.

IBEDUL  
High Chief, Southern Palau  
REKLAI  
High Chief, Northern Palau  
ITELBANG LUII  
Speaker, Palau Legislature

