

(ACTION ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS)

SAIPAN, OCT. 21 (MNS) ~~74~~-HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON RECEIVED TODAY (OCT. 21) FROM THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS DECISIONS ON EIGHT NOMINATIONS TO MAJOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS AND COMMISSIONS. ALL BUT TWO OF THE NOMINATIONS FORWARDED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON TO THE COMMITTEE WERE APPROVED.

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"I AM VERY PLEASED BY THE VERY THOROUGH AND EFFICIENT MANNER WITH WHICH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS CONDUCTED ITS HEARINGS ON THESE VITAL POSITIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE PROMPT ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEIR DECISIONS. I AM ALSO VERY HAPPY TO NOTE THAT THE COMMITTEE WAS IN AGREEMENT WITH US ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OF SIX OF OUR NOMINEES," HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SAID.

THE SIX NOMINEES APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS INCLUDE: JUAN A. SABLAN AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER; PODIS PEDRUS AS DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL; WILLIAM H. STEWART AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; BERMIN F. WEILBACHER AS DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF PONAPE DISTRICT; HARUO I. REMELIUK AS A MEMBER OF THE TERRITORIAL HOUSING COMMISSION FROM PALAU; AND FELIX RABOULIMAN FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE TRUST TERRITORY PERSONNEL BOARD.

THE NOMINEES REJECTED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS WERE MITARO DANIS, CURRENTLY THE DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF TRUK, FOR THE POSITION OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF TRUK DISTRICT AND ELIAS OKAMURA WHO WAS NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS.

COMMENTING ON THE TWO REJECTED NOMINATIONS, HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SAID HE WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION. "I WANT THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO KNOW THAT WE STILL FEEL THAT MR. DANIS AND MR. OKAMURA ARE THE MOST QUALIFIED MICRONESIANS AVAILABLE TO FILL THE POSITIONS FOR WHICH THEY WERE NOMINATED. ANYONE WHO HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO WATCH THESE TWO GENTLEMEN PERFORM THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CANNOT FAIL TO BE IMPRESSED BY THEIR CONSIDERABLE SKILLS AND TALENTS, AND I DEEPLY REGRET THAT THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS DID NOT AGREE WITH THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ON SUCH CREDENTIALS," HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON CONCLUDED.

(NAVY BAND TO PLAY ON SAIPAN)

SAIPAN, OCT. 21 (MNS)---THE U.S. NAVY BAND HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO PLAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS DAY CELEBRATION ON SAIPAN, ACCORDING TO LT. B.H. BATEMAN, DEPUTY TRUST TERRITORY MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER.

THE 17-MAN DETACHMENT FROM CINCPAC FLEET BAND IN PEARL HARBOR HAS BEEN ASSIGNED ON A TEMPORARY DUTY TO THE COMMANDER NAVAL FORCES MARIANAS FOR 90 DAYS. THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO HAWAII ON NOVEMBER 1.

THE NAVY BAND WILL ARRIVE SAIPAN ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON (OCT. 23) AND WILL PLAY AT THE QUEEN'S CORONATION BALL THAT EVENING. THEY ARE ALSO SCHEDULED TO MARCH IN THE PARADE, TOUR THE ISLAND AFTER A LUNCHEON WITH ISLAND'S DIGNITARIES AND WILL GIVE A CONCERT AT THE MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH AUDITORIUM.

(WHO SEMINAR ENDS)

SAIPAN, OCT. 21 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. AROBATI HICKING RETURNED RECENTLY FROM THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) SEMINAR TO FIND OUT WAYS OF IMPROVING THE TRAINING AND USE OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS. TWENTY HEALTH OFFICIALS FROM 14 WESTERN PACIFIC COUNTRIES ATTENDED THE SIX-DAY SEMINAR EARLIER THIS WEEK IN MANILA, PHILIPPINES.

THE SEMINAR WAS OPENED BY DR. FRANCISCO J. DY, WHO REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC. HE SAID THAT "THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF MAKING HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE TO EVERY COMMUNITY, FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL IS FAR FROM BEING REACHED IN MANY COUNTRIES WHERE 70 TO 80 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION LIVE IN RURAL AND OFTEN REMOTE AREAS.

"YET IT IS JUST THIS PART OF THE POPULATION IN WHICH NATIONAL ECONOMIES ARE OFTEN MAINLY BASED, SO IMPAIRED PRODUCTIVITY DUE TO ILL HEALTH OF THE RURAL WORKER HAS VERY SEVERE EFFECTS ON THE NATION AS A WHOLE," DR. DY STATED.

BUT PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE HEALTH COVERAGE TO THE ENTIRE POPULATION ARE FACED WITH NUMEROUS CONSTRAINTS, AMONG WHICH IS THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT HEALTH PERSONNEL.

RURAL COMMUNITIES, ON THE OTHER HAND, DO NOT NEED MUCH SOPHISTICATED MEDICAL CARE FACILITIES, AND "THE MAJORITY OF HEALTH PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED THERE ARE OF A COMPARATIVELY SIMPLE NATURE NOT REQUIRING REFINED DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC ARMAMENT," DR. DY SAID.

"MOREOVER, THE MAJORITY OF HEALTH PROBLEMS IN TODAY'S RURAL COMMUNITIES ARE PREVENTABLE DISEASES WHICH CAN BE TACKLED SUCCESSFULLY BY METHODS WHOSE APPLICATION DOES NOT REQUIRE THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL," CONTINUED DR. DY.

IN RESPONSE TO THESE REALITIES, SOME COUNTRIES, "ARE NOW PRODUCING AND EMPLOYING HEALTH PERSONNEL WHOSE TRAINING IS SHORTER, LESS ELABORATE, LESS EXPENSIVE AND-HOPEFULLY-MORE TASK ORIENTED," DR. DY STATED, ADDING THAT BECAUSE OF THEIR SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, THESE HEALTH PERSONNEL ARE BETTER SUITED TO LIVE AND WORK IN A RURAL ENVIRONMENT.

DR. DY SAID, "GOOD RESULTS AS WELL AS SOME FAILURES AND PITFALLS HAVE BEEN RECORDED IN THESE EXPERIENCES."

"NO DOUBT THERE IS A NEED TO LOOK FOR POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE TRAINING AND UTILIZATION OF SUCH FRONT-LINE HEALTH WORKERS WHERE THEY ARE ALREADY COMMISSIONED," CONCLUDED DR. DY.

DR. HICKING SAID THAT THE SEMINAR WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL AND INFORMATIVE. HE SAID HE BRIEFED THE CONFEREES ON THE MEDEX PROGRAM IN THE TRUST TERRITORY. DR. HICKING ALSO GAVE COPIES OF THE CURRICULUM ON THE MEDEX PROGRAM SINCE THE OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE SHOWN GREAT INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM.

(GUAM BASEBALL ALL-STARTS IN KOROR)

PALAU, OCT 21 (MNS)---THE GUAM SENIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE ALL-STARTS ARE IN PALAU THIS WEEK PLANNING PLAYING A SERIES OF GAMES THAT WILL CONTINUE UNTIL FRIDAY (OCT. 25) AS PART OF THE ANNUAL PALAU FAIR.

THE TEAM IS IN PALAU AT THE INVITATION OF THE PALAU ANNUAL FAIR COMMITTEE AND WILL BE THE MAIN ATTRACTION DURING THE WEEK-LONG CELEBRATION.

ACCORDING TO PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER DAVID NGIRMIDOL, THE GUAM ALL-STARTS, LOST THE FIRST GAME BY A CLOSE SCORE OF

5-4. THOUSANDS OF SPECTATORS FROM KOROR AND THE OUTER ISLANDS ATTENDED THE FIRST GAME.

IT WAS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FIFTH INNING, WITH PALAU LEADING BY TWO RUNS WHEN ROQUE ALCANTARA, GUAM THIRD BASEMAN AND DON BIBLE HIT HOMERUNS CONSECUTIVELY. THE SCORE WAS TIED AND THE GAME CONTINUED INSPITE OF A RATHER HEAVY RAIN. THE PALAU TEAM SCORE THREE MORE RUNS WHILE GUAM ADDED TWO MORE. FINAL SCORE STOOD AT 5-4 IN FAVOR OF PALAU.

(MRS. GODING DIES)

SAIPAN, OCT. 21 (MNS)---THE WIFE OF FORMER TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER M. WILFRED GODING DIED RECENTLY IN FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN.

WILLIAM GODING WAS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY FROM 1961-66. SPEAKING OF MRS. GODING, DUPLY HICOM COLEMAN SAID "SHE WAS A VERY WARM FRIEND OF MANY MICRONESIANS AND THEIR FAMILIES."

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)  
(CONGRESS APPROVES SIX, REJECTS TWO)

SAIPAN, OCTOBER 21, 1974--(COM)--AFTER LENGTHY HEARINGS ON SAIPAN, THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS HAS CONFIRMED SIX OF THE EIGHT NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR KEY POSITIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT.

APPROVED WERE THE NOMINATIONS OF JUAN A. SABLAN AS TT EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PODIS PEDRUS AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL, WILLIAM H. STEWART AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, BERMIN F. WEILBACHER FOR DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF PONAPE, HARUO REMELIUK AS A MEMBER OF THE TERRITORIAL HOUSING COMMISSION, AND FELIX RABAULIMAN AS A MEMBER OF THE TT PERSONNEL BOARD.

DISAPPROVED WERE THE NOMINATIONS OF ELIAS OKAMURA FOR THE POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, AND MITARO DANIS FOR THE POSITION OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF TRUK.

IN A LETTER TO HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, THE COMMITTEE EXPRESSED ITS APPROVAL OF JUAN A. SABLAN FOR THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE TT GOVERNMENT, STATING THAT THE NOMINEE, ALTHOUGH LACKING A FORMAL HIGHER EDUCATION, POSSESSES THE ADMINISTRATIVE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE NECESSARY TO DO THE JOB.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED THE NOMINATION OF HARUO REMELIUK AS A MEMBER OF THE TERRITORIAL HOUSING COMMISSION AND THE RENOMINATION OF FELIX RABAULIMAN AS A MEMBER OF THE TT PERSONNEL BOARD.

IN GRANTING ITS ENDORSEMENT TO REMELIUK, THE JOINT COMMITTEE INFORMED HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON THAT ITS EXAMINATION OF THE NOMINEE "REVEALED HIS CONSIDERABLE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF HOUSING NEEDS AND GOALS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY AND HIS BASIC FAMILIARITY WITH THE MEANS WHEREBY THOSE NEEDS MIGHT BE FULFILLED AND THOSE GOALS ACHIEVED."

CONCERNING THE RENOMINATION OF RABAULIMAN, THE JOINT COMMITTEE SAID THAT TESTIMONY RECEIVED DURING THE HEARINGS INDICATED THAT THE NOMINEE'S RECORD AS A MEMBER OF THE TT PERSONNEL BOARD DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS WAS COMMENDABLE, AND IN ANNOUNCING HIS CONFIRMATION SAID HIS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THE BOARD'S ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN "UNBLEMISHED."

ALSO APPROVED WAS THE NOMINATION OF PODIS PEDRUS AS DIRECTOR

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL. THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT ONE IMPORTANT CRITERIA IN ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE NOMINEE "WAS THE DEGREE TO WHICH HIS PHILOSOPHY OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AGREED WITH THAT OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA--THE REPLACEMENT OF EXPATRIATES AND HIS THOUGHTS CONCERNING THE PRESENT WAGE STRUCTURE AND THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH IT."

THE NOMINATION OF WILLIAM H. STEWART FOR THE POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT WAS ALSO APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE. BECAUSE OF HIS BROAD BACKGROUND, THE COMMITTEE STATED THAT THE NOMINEE POSSESSES QUALITIES WHICH ARE NECESSARY AND A PHILOSOPHY OF DEVELOPMENT FOR MICRONESIA WHICH IS IN ACCORD WITH THE POLICIES ESTABLISHED BY THE CONGRESS.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED THE NOMINATION OF BERMIN F. WEILBACHER FOR DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FOR PONAPE DISTRICT. THE COMMITTEE NOTED, "THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF THE DISTRICT TO WHICH A DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS DEPUTY IS TO BE APPOINTED IS A CRITICAL FACTOR." IT NOTED THAT THE NOMINEE ENJOYS WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FROM AMONG THE MAGISTRATES AND DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS OF PONAPE DISTRICT. THE COMMITTEE, HOWEVER, POINTED OUT THAT IT IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE NOMINEE SHOULD HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE "FOR THERE ARE FEW THINGS RELATING MORE DIRECTLY AND UNIQUELY TO A PARTICULAR DISTRICT THAN THE APPOINTMENT OF ITS HIGHEST EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS."

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT AFTER DETAILED AND LENGTHY EXAMINATION, THE NOMINATIONS OF MITARO DANIS FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF TRUK, AND ELIAS OKAMURA FOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, HAD BEEN DISAPPROVED.

AFTER CONDUCTING WHAT IT DESCRIBED AS ITS MOST "THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF ANY NOMINATION YET RECEIVED," THE COMMITTEE SAID DANIS LACKED THE NECESSARY SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT IN TRUK DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, VILLAGE MAGISTRATES, AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION CABINET MEMBERS. THE JOINT COMMITTEE INFORMED HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON THAT ". . . NO INCUMBENT IN ANY POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY CAN DO WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THOSE UPON WHOM HE MUST DEPEND TO GET HIS JOB DONE," AND SAID, "A DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR MUST BE CAPABLE OF UNIFYING HIS DISTRICT." RECOGNIZING, HOWEVER, THAT THE NOMINEE HAS SPENT FOUR YEARS AS DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF TRUK, THE JOINT COMMITTEE SAID "MERE SERVICE IN THE POSITION DOES NOT IMPLY THE ABILITY TO HANDLE THE NEXT HIGHEST POSITION ON THE BUREAUCRATIC LADDER."

CONCERNING OKAMURA, THE JOINT COMMITTEE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH MUCH HAD BEEN DONE TO BOLSTER OKAMURA'S QUALIFICATIONS SINCE HIS PREVIOUS NOMINATION BY HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON TWO YEARS AGO, THE JOINT COMMITTEE FELT THAT HIS QUALIFICATIONS WERE STILL "LESS THAN SATISFACTORY." THE JOINT COMMITTEE SAID THAT THE NOMINEE'S PRESENT PROGRAM PROPOSALS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS DID NOT ADEQUATELY DEMONSTRATE THE ABILITY OF CREATIVE AND CAPABLE LEADERSHIP, WHICH THE JOINT COMMITTEE SAID WILL BE NECESSARY TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF MICRONESIA IN THE FUTURE.

MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE INCLUDE SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH OF TRUK, CHAIRMAN; SENATOR OLYMPIO T. BORJA OF THE MARIANAS; SENATOR PETRUS TUN OF YAP; REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES DOMNICK OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS; REPRESENTATIVE JOAB SIGRAH OF PONAPE DISTRICT; AND REPRESENTATIVE TARKONG PEDRO OF PALAU.