

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES  
PLENARY SESSION, 7/27

This is the report from the Committee on Organization and Procedures.

We are doing pretty well on the schedule and I want to commend the delegates for the tremendous effort that they are putting into this Convention. The results are excellent. Compromises are being reached, and important new ideas are being incorporated in the Constitution. I can tell you from my experience in the 1985 Constitutional Convention that this Convention is doing a really good job. We are much more organized; information gets to the delegates promptly in the Daily Journal; and information about what we are doing gets to those in the community who are interested. We have a good spirit here, and we want to keep that going.

There are documents being put in delegates' boxes that are anonymous and are intended to attack another delegate. The delegates' boxes are for the use of the Convention. Any delegate can put a letter or memo or set of documents in another delegate's box, but I don't think that anonymous contributions are appropriate. Any delegate who wants to circulate something should do it in person or should put his or her name on the materials that are distributed. I have asked the Con-Con Clerk to be sure that no outsiders put anything in delegate boxes that is not clearly identified as to its source. And I ask the delegates to do the same thing. We have only 7 days left. Let's do this right and focus on the issues. Let's not put out attacks on other delegates personally, or at least let's not do it without signing your name.

Here's what I have in mind for the Post Convention Committee. This is not final yet, and I would like the further input of the delegates. I am thinking about appointing David Maratita to represent Tinian and Victor Hocog to represent Rota. I am thinking about appointing Joe Lifofoi to represent the Carolinian community. And I am thinking about appointing Bennet Seman and Esther Fleming to represent Saipan. Because I am appointing these people to a lot of hard work, I will also put myself to the same work and join the Post-Con Committee. But that is not all. I am also thinking of appointing two alternates for each of these people in case they cannot attend meetings, or are off-island, or are unavailable for some reason. If they were unavailable, their alternates would be responsible for stepping in. If I appoint two alternates for each person on the Post-Con Committee, then all of us will have a responsibility to help out, which is the way I think it should be.

But I am still considering this, so let me know what your views are.