UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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WILLIAM R. NORWOOD APPOINTED HIGH COMMISSIONER OF TRUST TERRITORY

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall today announced the appointment of William R. Norwood of Honolulu as High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific.

Norwood currently is Administrative Director for the State of Hawaii in the office of Governor John Burns. He will succeed M. W. Goding, who has served as High Commissioner since May 1, 1961.

Secretary Udall said the new appointee "will bring to the Trust Territory extensive knowledge of the Pacific area and its peoples as the result of long experience in governmental and economic affairs in that area."

Mr. Norwood served as a member of the Hawaiian Territorial Labor and Industrial Relations Appeal Board from 1941 to 1959 and was Chairman of that agency from 1954 to 1959. He was active in efforts to obtain statehood for the former Territory of Hawaii and was appointed Administrative Director by the Governor, John H. Burns.

A native of Seattle, Mr. Norwood graduated from the University of Washington with a journalism degree in 1932. Two years later he joined the editorial staff of the Honolulu Star Bulletin and later served as a special correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor.

In 1941 he joined the firm of Castle & Cook in Hawaii and was named public relations director of the firm in 1949. During World War II, Mr. Norwood served with the Army's G-2 Intelligence Branch in Hawaii.

Secretary Udall noted that important advances were made in the Trust Territory during Mr. Goding's tenure. He noted "substantial progress" during that period in providing education, health and transportation facilities.

The most notable achievement in political development was the establishment in 1964 of the Congress of Micronesia--the first popularly elected legislative body in the history of the area.

The Trust Territory is administered by the Department of the Interior under a U.S. trusteeship agreement with the United Nations Security Council.

The Territory consists of more than 2000 islands in the western Pacific, scattered over an area roughly the size of the continental United States. Approximately 90,000 persons live on the three major island groups which include Saipan, Tinian, Peleliu, Kwajalein and others which were the scene of heavy fighting in World War II.

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