

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 30-150 (COR)

Introduced by:

Judith P. Guthertz, DPA

R. J. Respicio

B. J.F. Cruz

T. C. Ada

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

F. F. Blas, Jr.

E. J.B. Calvo

J. V. Espaldon

T. R. Muña Barnes

Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

v. c. pangelinan

M. J. Rector

Telo Taitague

Ray Tenorio

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to commending and congratulating Rear Admiral William D. French, Commander, Joint Region Marianas, on the occasion of his selection for promotion to Rear Admiral Upper Half, and to further extending best wishes and *Un Dångkulo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to him for his leadership, initiative, and unwavering commitment to our island and country as he concludes his tour on Guam as a Naval Officer.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**
2 ***MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS,** Rear Admiral William D. French arrived on Guam in April
4 of 2007 with his wife Monika, their son Thomas, and daughter Teresa, to
5 serve as the U.S. Defense Representative of Guam, the Commonwealth of the
6 Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the
7 Republic of Palau; as Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, and as
8 Commander, Joint Region Marianas; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Rear Admiral French graduated from Vanderbilt
10 University with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering, and was
11 commissioned through the NROTC Program in May 1979; he earned a Master
12 of Science Degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1986, and a Master
13 of Arts from the Naval War College in 1999; and

14 **WHEREAS,** as Submarine Officer and graduate of the Navy's Nuclear
15 Power Training, Rear Admiral French has served at sea on the USS
16 SPADEFISH (SSN 668), as the Operations Officer on the USS SEA DEVIL (SSN
17 664), and as the Engineer on the USS TECUMSEH (SSBN 628). He served as
18 Executive Officer of the USS HELENA (SSN 725), and he commanded the USS
19 SALT LAKE CITY (SSN 716), homeported in San Diego, California; and

20 **WHEREAS,** while on shore duty, Rear Admiral French has served as the
21 Submarine Officer Community Manager at the Bureau of Naval Personnel; as
22 the Deputy Commander of Submarine Squadron ELEVEN; as the Chief of the

1 Strategy and Policy Division at the United States Strategic Command in
2 Omaha, Nebraska; as the Director, Submarine Officer Distribution and
3 Nuclear Propulsion Program Manager at the Bureau of Naval Personnel; and
4 he commanded Submarine Squadron THREE in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
5 During his Squadron command tour, all six (6) of the Squadron's submarines
6 deployed, five (5) of which conducted operations in direct support of
7 Operation IRAQI FREEDOM; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French served in his first Flag Officer
9 assignment as Commander, Navy Region Northwest, from August 2005 to
10 April 2007, followed by his current assignment as Commander, Joint Region
11 Marianas, from April 2007 to July 2009, and he was recently selected for
12 promotion to Rear Admiral (Upper Half), and an assignment as Commander,
13 Navy Region Southwest, in August 2009; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French's awards, among others, include the
15 Defense Superior Service Medal; three (3) awards of the Legion of Merit; three
16 (3) Meritorious Service Medals; four (4) Navy and Marine Corps
17 Commendation Medals; and two (2) Navy and Marine Corps Achievement
18 Medals; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French executed and enhanced the Navy's
20 commitment to the preservation and promotion of *Chamorro* culture and
21 heritage through support of ongoing community programs, as well as, the
22 preservation and stewardship of numerous historic sites on Navy installations

1 throughout Guam, including, the location of the former Village of *Sumay* and
2 the *Sumay* Cemetery; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French has embraced and has been embraced
4 by the people of Guam, and has gained new relationships that have helped to
5 foster better understanding between the military and island community, and
6 oftentimes, his engagements consisted of not only formal, but many more
7 informal meetings with residents and the island's elected and business
8 leadership; and

9 **WHEREAS**, he has illustrated his commitment to the people of Guam
10 through initiatives and his dedication to enhancing the Sailor/local veteran
11 relationship, and in meeting the unique challenge of a resident community
12 military retiree population significantly larger per capita than most regions
13 and installations; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French astutely balanced resource
15 application and skillfully brought to fruition the initial stages of construction
16 of a new \$5M Veterans Community Based Outpatient Clinic in a location
17 more accessible for Guam veterans; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French, a staunch advocate for quality of life
19 for his Sailors, applied that same dedication to enhance the quality of life for
20 all island residents by spearheading the revitalization of an ambitious
21 community relations engagement strategy; and his personal encouragement
22 of the character building value of volunteering, in a joint Navy / community

1 effort, resulted in weekly individual community service beautification projects
2 by Sailor volunteers, including, his own personal hands-on beautification
3 efforts in various island villages and schools; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French recognized the crucial role of
5 education in any community for the nation’s future, and under his guidance
6 and support this same community service program matched every command
7 with every village and public school in a sister village and sister school status,
8 thus making thousands of volunteer Sailors available to support ongoing
9 school projects to assist in the enrichment of Guam's youth, thereby also
10 setting the example of community service as a lifelong endeavor, in which
11 Sailors and Guam's youth can develop leadership, character and responsible
12 citizenry; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French was instrumental in guiding the
14 initial stages of the move of the U.S. Marines from Okinawa, in one of the
15 largest peacetime build-ups in Naval history, whilst endeavoring to ensure
16 the island community was well-informed, despite the incredibly complex
17 initiative involving local, federal, and foreign governments with diverse and
18 complicated political, legal and financial issues; and

19 **WHEREAS**, his commands deployed hundreds of Sailors in support of
20 Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM, while
21 simultaneously developing benchmark programs and policies on how to

1 sponsor and support Sailors and their families before, during, and after
2 deployment; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Rear Admiral French's selfless actions, tireless efforts, and
4 unwavering commitment to excellence make him overwhelmingly deserving
5 of his selection for promotion to Rear Admiral Upper Half; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in mid-July, Rear Admiral French and his family will report
7 to San Diego, California, to assume his latest Flag Command of Navy Region
8 Southwest in August 2009; now, therefore, be it

9 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trenta Na*
10 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
11 people of Guam, commend and congratulate Rear Admiral William D. French,
12 Commander, Joint Region Marianas; and be it further

13 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trenta Na*
14 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
15 people of Guam, further extend *Un Dångkulo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to Admiral
16 French and his family for his leadership, initiatives, and unwavering
17 commitment to our island, region and country as he concludes his tour on
18 Guam as a Naval Officer; and be it further

19 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
20 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and
21 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Rear Admiral William D.
22 French, Commander, Joint Region Marianas; to the Honorable Raymond

- 1 Edwin Mabus, Jr., United States Secretary of the Navy; to the Honorable
- 2 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam Delegate to the U.S. Congress; and to the
- 3 Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 8TH DAY OF
JULY 2009.**



BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ
Acting Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO
Chairperson, Committee on Rules



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary