# Front Lines

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT JULY 1998

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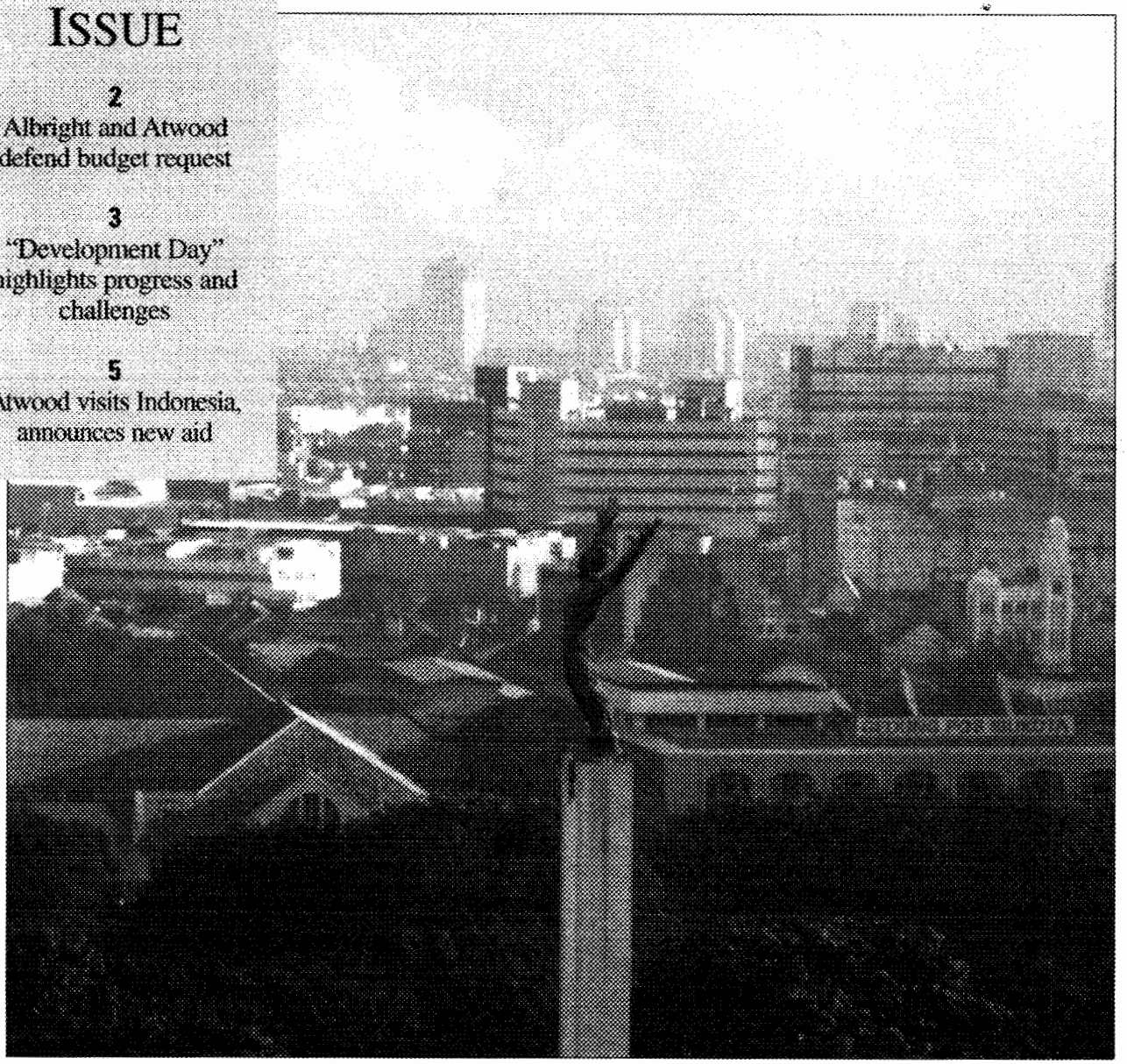

USAID

# JULY 1998

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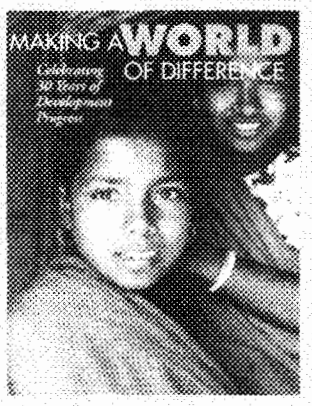
## New USAID report and video available




**For the Tidewater conference last month, USAID produced a new 16-page report, "Making a World of Difference — Celebrating 30 Years of Development Progress," and a new 20-minute video, "Making a World of Difference," which was shown during "Development Day," preceding the conference. (See page 3.)**

**Both the video and report look at conditions in the developing world 30 years ago and explain some of the major achievements made possible in part by the work of the international development community — the Green Revolution, eradicating smallpox, providing clean water and sanitation, etc. They also highlight remaining problems — overpopulation, illiteracy, environmental degradation and civil strife. The international community learned much about development during the past three decades and will seek to build on these experiences to make a world of difference.**

**To obtain a copy of the report, contact Mary Felder, LPA, by E-mail, MFelder@USAID.gov.**

**To obtain the video to review, send your request to Lolita Cheeves, LPA, by E-mail, LCheeves@USAID.gov.**

**Photo credits:** Cover and page 5, Jessamyn Sarmiento; page 4, Ernie Gibble; page 6, Save the Children; page 8, Betty Snead; page 10 (top) Betty Snead, (bottom) Pat Adams; page 11 (top) Pat Adams, (bottom) Betty Snead; page 12, Betty Snead.

**Cover:** Administrator Brian Atwood announced in Jakarta (shown on cover) additional funds to help Indonesia during the country's current crisis. (See page 5.)

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# Front Lines

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By Bette Cook

# Albright and Atwood defend budget request

In testimony before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations on June 9 and 16 in support of the president's FY 1999 international affairs budget request, both USAID Administrator Brian Atwood and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright expressed their concern about the proposed budget cuts in the International Affairs (Function 150) account.

Congress is considering cutting the Foreign Operations portion of the international affairs budget by as much as $2 billion from the president's $13.5 billion request (excluding arrearage payments to multilateral development banks) and $1.2 billion below the FY 1998 level of $12.8 billion. These cuts would mean a nearly 10 percent across-the-board reduction in Foreign Operations from this year's actual spending level. This steep cut would cripple our foreign policy at a time when U.S. leadership is critical. [See Foreign Operations budget table.]

Because of the Balanced Budget Agreement of 1997, and the allocations received by the House and Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittees under the process in which the budget is divided among the 13 appropriations bills, the budget (obligations) authority ceiling would be $968 million below the president's request and $200 million below last year's level. The cap on outlays (spending), however, increases the potential reduction by an additional $1 billion.

This overall cut of almost 10 percent would be even more severe if Congress continues to protect some accounts, such as the Child Survival and Diseases Fund, because greater cuts in other programs would be required as a result. Moreover, fast-spending accounts, such as operating expenses and disaster assistance, would be the hardest hit under the outlay cap.

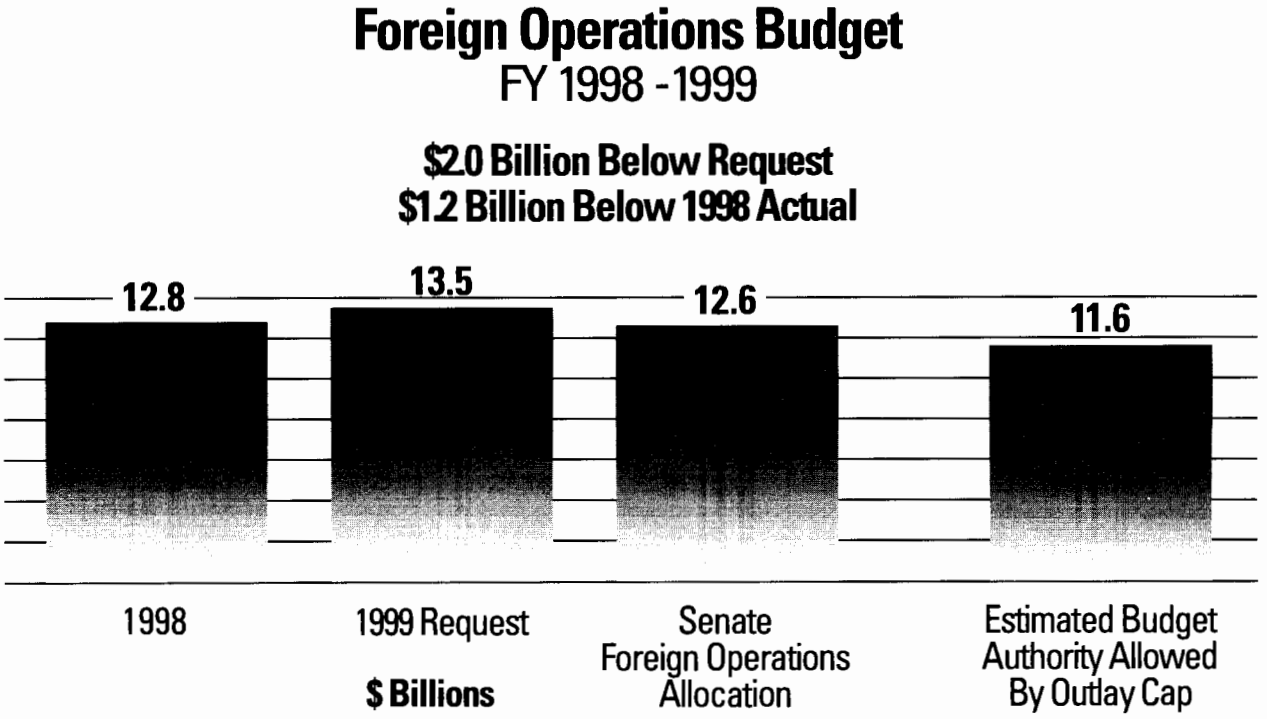
The administration is currently working with the Appropriations Committees of both the House and Senate to seek higher funding levels for international affairs. Both House and Senate committees are marking up the FY 1999 foreign assistance appropriations bill this month, with House and Senate floor action possible before the Congressional recess in August.

Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee Chairman Mitch McConnell said to Secretary Albright during her June 16 appearance before the committee, "Much is at stake — much more is expected from you and your team in the months and years ahead. Unfortunately, you face more challenges with fewer resources. The hard-won increase in foreign assistance which you, Senator Leahy, Senator Stevens and I fought to secure last year has been substantially reduced by the pressures of balancing the budget and other discretionary spending priorities. I am hopeful that by delaying our mark up as late as possible, the subcommittee may benefit from unused budget authority and outlays as well as the chairman's [Sen. Stevens's] good judgment, generosity and shared commitment to the 150 account."

Sen. Leahy also pointed out that "the situation today is different from when we reached the [1997] budget agreement. We have a surplus, not a deficit…We can afford to do more, and it would be money well spent. If it means adjusting the budget agreement, then that is what we should do."

In concluding his opening statement before Chairman McConnell, Atwood urged that Congress and the administration "work together to fix this predicament," saying, "Somehow, I do not believe that Congress intended these dire consequences." ■

—**Cook** is a legislative program specialist in LPA.



By Kim Walz

# "Development Day" highlights progress and challenges

"Making a World of Difference: Celebrating 30 Years of Development Progress" was the theme for the first-ever "Development Day" hosted by USAID June 29.

The one-day public meeting marked the 30th anniversary of the gathering of ministers of development and cooperation from the donor nations, which began in Tidewater, Md., in 1968 and has become known as the Tidewater Conference.

Representatives from 21 countries and more than 500 invited guests from the United States and around the world attended the meeting, which was held in the Loy Henderson Auditorium at the Department of State. The meeting preceded the annual Tidewater Conference June 30 to July 1, which was held this year near the original site.

Administrator Brian Atwood opened and chaired the conference. [See sidebar for agenda.]

USAID released a report at the conference examining the past 30 years of development progress and defining future challenges.

"This was a world [in 1968] in which revolution, violence and political upheaval were at times the only alternative for people," Atwood said. "But instead of calamity, potential tragedy was turned into a three-decade period of unmatched improvement in living conditions, in which free markets and democracy made tremendous advances and human suffering was dramatically reduced."

According to the report, those advances include:

- Literacy increased almost 50 percent in the developing world;
- The average woman now has three, not six, children;
- Infant mortality has been halved;
- The percentage of people living in absolute poverty has been cut almost in half;
- Seventy-one nations have become free or partly free; and,
- Five million fewer children die every year.

The report also explores what the world would have looked like without development assistance:

- Five hundred million more people would live on the Earth today without family planning available to couples;
- The increased population would use 4.8 million more barrels of oil (or its equivalent) annually, which, in turn, would contribute to a 10 percent addition of world carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere;
- An additional 150 million tons of grain on an area larger than France, the Netherlands and Belgium combined would have to be produced to avoid widespread malnutrition;
- Up to 80 million lives would have been lost to smallpox; and,
- Every year, 5 million more infants would have died.

As the 21st century approaches, the donor community also looked at future challenges:

- More than 800 million people still face malnutrition;
- About 70 percent of the people living in poverty will be women;
- An area of rainforest the size of a football field is being destroyed every second; and,
- The world's population increases by the equivalent of an additional New York City every month.

International donors have agreed to work toward a set of goals that set specific targets for the years 2005 to 2015. This is a major step unprecedented in international cooperation. Donor nations have agreed to work with developing nations to reach the following goals:

By 2005:

- End gender discrimination in education;
- Build capacity for democratic and accountable governance, protect human rights and respect for the rule of law; and,
- Implement strategies that will reverse current losses of environmental resources by 2015.

By 2015:

- Cut extreme poverty in half;
- Secure universal primary education for all;
- Reduce infant mortality rates by two-thirds;
- Cut the number of mothers who die giving birth by 75 percent; and,
- Make family planning services available to all who want them.

"Actions taken by the international community in reaching these extraordinary goals will have a tremendous impact on the shape of our future," said Atwood. ■

—**Walz** is the deputy chief of the Press Division in LPA.

**After opening ceremonies, participants were treated to a new USAID video presentation that highlighted the successes of development progress over the past 30 years.**

**Morning and afternoon panel presentations were followed with comments by international and development leaders and a public discussion of the issues.**

**Thirty years of development achievement was the focus of the first panel, led by Kenzo Oshima, director-general of the Economic Policy Bureau, Japan. Panelists included Muni Figueres, external relations adviser, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), who discussed Costa Rica's success story; John Sewell, president of the Overseas Development Council, who spoke about the evolution of development thinking; and Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, executive secretary, Global Coalition for Africa, who talked about Africa's progress.**

**The afternoon session focused on development cooperation challenges. Donald Johnston, secretary-general, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), opened the discussion on development goals for the 21st century. Panel members included Bob Shapiro, chairman and CEO of Monsanto, who talked about the role of business in sustainable development; David Gergen, editor at large, U.S. News and World Report, and co-chair of the Aspen Institute Conference on Poverty in Developing Countries, who spoke about development as foreign policy; and Colin Campbell, president, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, who led a discussion on foundations as development partners. Maria Otero, Washington director, ACCION International, and chair, Inter-American Foundation, wrapped up the afternoon session with the topic "Investing in People and Civil Society."**

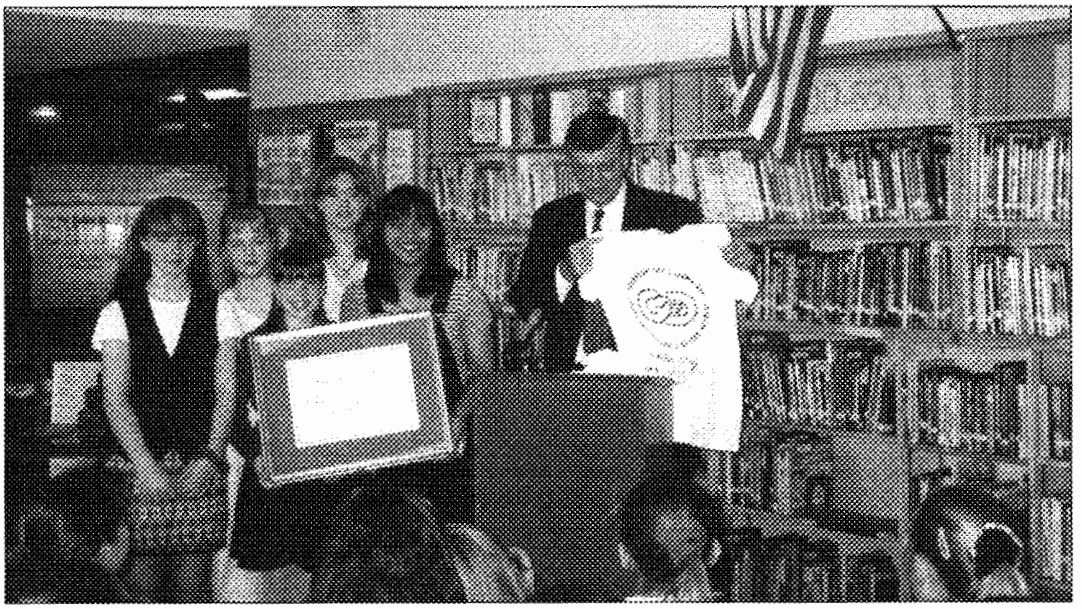
**James Wolfensohn, World Bank president, was the luncheon speaker.**

By Ernie Gibble

# Quincy, Mass., students receive USAID award

Administrator Brian Atwood visited his home state of Massachusetts May 14 to acknowledge the accomplishments of a group of young and very committed human rights activists.

In recognition of their outstanding work against child labor, middle school students in Quincy, Mass., were presented the USAID Domestic Partnership Award. The award is given annually to individuals or organizations committed to improving the lives of others and to raising public awareness about the importance of U.S. foreign assistance.



**Administrator Brian Atwood presents the USAID Domestic Partnership Award to students at the Broad Meadows Middle School in Quincy, Mass., for their fight against child labor. He also presented them with Operation Day's Work T-shirts.**

Students at Broad Meadows Middle School have a unique perspective among U.S. children their age. As part of their studies, they actively participate in identifying human rights abuses around the world — but with one requirement. Once students find an issue that they think should be addressed, they must work toward finding a solution. They soon found an issue that reverberated with the entire class — child labor.

The inspiration for addressing the issue of child labor came from a small, 12-year-old boy from Pakistan named Iqbal Masih. Iqbal brought real life to a story the students had only read about. At age 4 he was sold by his parents for $12 to a carpet manufacturer, an industry with a long record of child labor abuses. Forced into virtual slavery, he worked 12 hours a day under horrible conditions.

Iqbal heard of the Quincy human rights program and visited the school in 1994 after receiving the Reebok Human Rights Award for his work fighting child labor. He told the students about the workplace conditions he and others his age endured while working at their looms. He told of his escape at age 10 and of becoming a young activist, mobilizing anti-child labor forces in Pakistan and abroad.

***Students at Broad Meadows Middle School have a unique perspective among U.S. children their age. As part of their studies, they actively participate in identifying human rights abuses around the world...***

The Quincy students were so moved by Iqbal's visit that they began a letter-writing campaign to world leaders emphasizing the importance of children being in school and not at work. But they soon had a more urgent cause. In 1995, Iqbal was murdered. His assailants were never found.

In response to Iqbal's death, the students decided to build a school in his honor. They raised money over the Internet from other students, asking for $12 donations, the same amount for which Iqbal was sold into a life of slave labor. Children from all over the world responded, giving $100,000 to the cause. In just over a year, the Broad Meadows students met their fundraising goal, built a school in Iqbal's hometown and raised awareness about child labor around the world.

Administrator Atwood noted these accomplishments when presenting the award, but also spoke to future students when he said, "You could have stopped with your 'school for Iqbal' project and rested on your laurels, but you did not. You and your teachers are in this fight for the long haul, and I am sure that students from this school will be doing good work in human rights many years from now."

Indeed, Broad Meadows students have not slowed down. They have organized an online march against child labor, and in May three eighth-grade students from Broad Meadows attended the International Labor Organizations Conference in Geneva. ■

—**Gibble** is a senior press officer in LPA.

By Jessamyn Sarmiento

# Atwood visits Indonesia, announces new aid

In a press conference held on June 18 in Jakarta, Administrator Brian Atwood announced that the U.S. government has allocated over $105 million to Indonesia for humanitarian purposes, in addition to funding for other programs.

Atwood said that the United States understands the severe hardships that Indonesians are facing, and the agency is committed to standing by Indonesian and international efforts to meet the humanitarian needs of the country.

In carrying out this commitment, USAID is providing an additional $25 million in food aid. This additional donation of approximately 50,000 metric tons of American rice will be distributed to over half a million of the poorest segments of the urban population who are suffering from a sharp loss in purchasing power. The food aid is in response to an appeal from the U.N. World Food program to the international community.

The first shipments, agreed to earlier this year in response to severe drought caused by El Nino, are headed for East Timor, East Nusa Tenggara and South Sumatra.

USAID also is granting $16.6 million to maintain public health and family planning service delivery in 11 provinces and donating over $10 million in medical supplies and equipment for maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS and family planning programs to be distributed through governmental and non-governmental organizations.

USAID is releasing another $25 million in loan guarantees that will support construction of urban environmental infrastructure, such as drinking water services, drainage canals, footpaths and garbage collection and disposal. The construction is expected to generate 1.4 million temporary jobs to benefit needy families in Indonesia's poor urban neighborhoods.

**Dr. Boediono (left), state minister for National Development Planning, and Administrator Brian Atwood sign an agreement in Jakarta for the United States to provide $5.6 million in support of Indonesia's reform program. USAID Mission Director Vikka Moldrem (right) participated in the ceremony.**

The United States is providing $26 million in technical expertise for the Indonesian government to support its implementation of the IMF agreement, to reform and revitalize the banking sector and to develop financial systems that are transparent and efficient.

The U.S. government also committed $1 billion in short-term trade financing through the Export-Import Bank and $400 million through the U.S. Department of Agriculture in credit guarantees for commodities such as cotton to help revive Indonesia's export economy.

In responding to a question about guaranteeing that aid would not go into the hands of the Suharto family, Atwood replied, "USAID money is probably more carefully audited than any other development agency in the world. We track it all. We spend it for the purpose that we indicate... and I feel very confident that the assistance that's been provided here has been well spent...We have a lot of people looking over our shoulders, including the Congress and the General Accounting Office."

***"A great number of positive things over the last several years have happened here, which makes the current economic crisis even more tragic. We want to make sure that we can move beyond this crisis..."***

Atwood noted that there had been a good deal of development in Indonesia. "Many people have been educated, health care has been provided, family planning services have worked, agriculture programs have worked," he said. "A great number of positive things over the last several years have happened here, which makes the current economic crisis even more tragic. We want to make sure that we can move beyond this crisis and preserve some of the good things that have happened...the prospects of that will be even greater if they [Indonesians] move very quickly toward a full democracy where people can participate in the process." ■

—**Sarmiento** is the acting chief of the Press Division in LPA.

By Dianne Sherman

# USAID launches first-of-its-kind global health consortium

On May 21, in a packed room on Capitol Hill, Administrator Brian Atwood and Save the Children President Charles MacCormack signed an agreement that marked the official launch of PVO/NGO Networks for Health. This groundbreaking initiative forms a global health consortium that, for the first time ever, unites leaders in the child development community in an effort to expand access to family planning, maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS prevention services in the developing world.

"This project responds to worldwide evidence that family planning saves lives," Atwood said. "Throughout the developing world, millions of children and their mothers die each year due to complications from births that are too close together, too early or too late in a woman's life. This initiative will improve family health, thereby saving the lives of hundreds of thousands of women and children. I can think of no better investment for USAID and for American taxpayers."

The five-year initiative (funded by a $41 million USAID grant and a $10 million matching contribution by the participating groups) forms a unique public-private partnership between USAID and several of the largest U.S.-based private voluntary organizations (PVOs). The partnership is led by Save the Children and includes the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CARE, Childreach/Plan International and the Program in Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH).

These five PVO partners — each with vast networks, resources and technical expertise of their own — will combine efforts to build and strengthen networks of indigenous non-governmental organizations in the countries where they work to provide a range of health services to those communities most in need. Efforts will focus on ways to expand access to, and improve the quality of, family planning as part of community-based efforts to improve maternal and child health and the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections.

***"...This initiative will improve family health, thereby saving the lives of hundreds of thousands of women and children. I can think of no better investment for USAID and for American taxpayers."***

Congressional members who spoke at the event included Rep. Tom Sawyer (D-Ohio) and Rep. Constance Morella (R-Md.), co-chairs of the Congressional Coalition on Population and Deveopment; Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), chair of the House International Relations Committee; and Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.).

Many speakers referenced the proven links between family planning and saving lives:

- Every day, more than 31,000 children under age 5 die — many from low birthweight or other pregnancy-related complications. Family planning can prevent a quarter of infant deaths by spacing births at least two years apart.
- Each year, more than 585,000 women die — one every minute — of causes related to childbirth; 99 percent of deaths occur in developing countries and most are preventable. Family planning can prevent at least one in four maternal deaths by allowing women to delay motherhood, give their bodies time to recover from earlier pregnancies, and avoid unintended pregnancies and unsafe abortions.

The project will begin in up to eight countries, with potential future impact through the partner organizations' global networks spanning more than 140 countries throughout the developing world. ■

**Save the Children President Charles MacCormack (left) and USAID Administrator Brian Atwood shake hands after signing the agreement to launch the PVO/NGO Networks for Health. Offering their congratulations are, (from left), Rep. Constance Morella (R-Md.); Sam Worthington, executive director and CEO, Plan International; Bryon Scheuneman, vice president, Adventist Development and Relief Agency; Han Hayer, director of Program Analysis and Development, CARE; Anne Wilson, vice president, Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH); and Betsy Bassan, director, PVO/NGO Networks for Health.**

— **Sherman** is director of communications and outreach, G/Office of Population.

# Agency's new environment award honors Kux

Administrator Brian Atwood announced at the all-agency meeting on May 13 that he has approved the establishment of a new special award — the Molly Kux Environment Award.

Mary Kux, known to all as "Molly," served as an environmental officer with USAID from 1974 until her untimely death from cancer on Oct. 10, 1996. Throughout her career with USAID, Molly epitomized the spirit of leadership that has made USAID's performance the world standard in environmentally sound development. This award is given in memory of Molly's dedication to protecting the environment, to her courage and commitment in integrating environmental concerns into sustainable development and to her nurturing and mentoring of new USAID staff to become future environmental leaders.

**Mary (Molly) Kux was a devoted activist in improving the world's environment. Her commitment helped to make USAID a leader in setting the world standard in environmentally sound development.**

The award recognizes agency employees who have made exceptional contributions in the promotion of sound environmental development within the agency's development assistance programs. This award is of such a high level that only one may be granted by the agency each year.

Eligibility for the award is limited to all USAID direct hire Civil Service, Foreign Service and Foreign Service National employees. Employees from all backstops may be considered since environment is a fundamental component throughout the agency's activities and programs.

***The award recognizes agency employees who have made exceptional contributions in the promotion of sound environmental development within the agency's development assistance programs.***

The award will be given either for a single year of extraordinary accomplishments or for a pattern of truly exemplary accomplishments over a period spanning several years.

The five criteria that must be met to win the award include creative thinking; initiative and risk taking; commitment, dedication and perseverance; mentoring; and teamwork.

The award will be recognized by the presentation to the recipient of a framed certificate signed by the administrator.

All nominations must include appropriate nominating and clearing official signatures. Form JF-66 Nomination for Incentive Award must be used.

For additional information, contact Sherrie Hailstorks, M/HR. ■

# Organ and tissue donations needed to save lives

Last December, Vice President Al Gore and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala launched the National Organ and Tissue Donation Initiative to increase awareness of such donations among federal workers. The theme for the initiative is "Share Your Life (sign your donor card), Share Your Decision (tell your family)."

Medical advances continue to make transplantation safer and more effective.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services brochure, "Be a Partner: Join the National Community of Organ and Tissue Sharing," approximately 55 people each day receive life-enhancing organ transplants while another 10 people die each day on the national list waiting for a donated organ.

"In September 1997, more than 55,000 people were on the list, which grows by 500 every month," the report states. "Most Americans approve of organ donation, but too few give this gift of life to others. An increase in the number of persons willing to donate is urgently needed."

Federal employees are asked to become partners in the national community of organ and tissue sharing. To assist employees in making well-informed decisions about organ and tissue donation, the Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management have prepared and distributed partner kits, which contain brochures, fact sheets, videos and other educational material, to each federal agency and are asking that these be shared with employees.

A packet of information is on file in each administrative office in USAID/Washington. Employees may review these materials or the video and other material available in the Office of Human Resources' Learning Resource Center in the USAID Information Center (M.1-10) on the mezzanine level of the Ronald Reagan Building.

Employees overseas and in Washington may obtain the entire kit by downloading it from DHHS's World Wide Web site at http://www.organdonor.gov or by calling the Coalition on Donation at 1-888-907-4273.

USAID employees are encouraged to consider becoming potential organ or tissue donors. If you have questions, please contact Oveta Watkins, M/HR/PPIM/PP, (202) 712-5105. ■

By Betty Snead

# Welcome back, Ambassador Jordan

It's not a rarity when a mission director becomes an ambassador. But it is when an ambassador returns enthusiastically to USAID to become a mission director again.

That rare person is Mosina Jordan who now heads the USAID mission in Jamaica.

"I was fortunate to have the opportunity to serve as USAID representative to Belize and then as mission director to Barbados and to Guyana," Jordan said. "I believe these experiences enabled me to serve more effectively as ambassador to the Central African Republic because they helped finetune my leadership, management and diplomatic skills."

Jordan describes her first ambassadorial assignment as "a baptism by fire." After being in country for only six months, she found herself in the midst of a civil war that lasted nearly two years.

"I was dodging bullets, rockets and mortars throughout most of my tour and participating very aggressively and vigorously in the peacekeeping process in the Central African Republic," she said.

Since the Central African Republic is a USAID non-presence country, Jordan served dual roles — as mission director for the USAID program and as ambassador.

"I have a real passion for development," Jordan said. "As ambassador, I tried to find ways, with very little resources, to support democracy, promote respect for human rights and the rule of law, and encourage economic reforms. I had to be very creative."

She describes being a mission director as very much like that of an ambassador. "Mission directors perform much the same functions as ambassadors," Jordan said.

**Ambassador Mosina Jordan, a former USAID mission director, returns to head the agency's mission in Jamaica. Jordan is no stranger to the Caribbean, having served as USAID representative to Belize and mission director to Barbados and Guyana.**

"We share similar foreign policy objectives, we engage basically the same contacts and are given very much the same respect by the host government.

"I found serving as a mission director I managed more resources and had more autonomy."

When Jordan left the Central African Republic, all Americans were evacuated from the country again because of the unsafe security situation.

"Actually, we evacuated Americans from the country four times in a year," Jordan recounted. "It was a traumatic experience."

Jordan set up an embassy in exile in Yaounde, Cameroon, in March 1997 — returning to Bangui, the Central African Republic capital, periodically during periods of calm to continue U.S. diplomacy.

"We left a core Foreign Service National staff to continue vital consular, security and fiscal operations on behalf of the embassy during the period of suspension," she said.

Today there is a U.N. peacekeeping operation in place, and the embassy reopened this year on June 1.

Returning to Washington in May 1997, Jordan fell severely ill. Because of inadequate medical support in Bangui and the Cameroon, she was unable to return to the Central African Republic.

By September she was well enough to serve at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York as the Africa area adviser during the General Assembly meetings from October through December. During the 52nd U.N. General Assembly, Jordan met with all 48 sub-Saharan African permanent representatives on a wide range of topics — Iraq, Bosnia, security council reform and the countries in crisis in Africa.

After her U.N. assignment, USAID asked her to return to the Caribbean — a region she knows well. She accepted the offer and was sworn in as the new mission director to Jamaica in May of this year.

"Although the Caribbean is physically attractive and culturally rich and diverse, there are real development challenges there," she said.

She described the challenges in terms of the region's competitiveness in a rapidly changing global marketplace. "I'm hoping to help

the region explore ways to find its competitive niche," she said. "The Caribbean island economies are very small and they have limited opportunities for competition with the more developed, industrial nations with greater natural and human resources."

The warmth, dedication and enthusiasm Jordan radiates helps one feel optimistic about what she and the agency can accomplish in the days ahead.

Jordan, who holds the rank of minister counselor, joined USAID in 1982 after 17 years in a variety of disciplines including social work, teaching, law and a fellowship in the U.S. Senate. Jordan said, "as a single parent with three children having a career and a wholesome home life was not easy but it was rewarding."

Her first USAID job was that of the director of the Equal Opportunity Program. She sought to ensure that equal opportunity was provided to all employees — with a strong emphasis on improving the management skills of the agency's managers to achieve that end.

Jordan always considered herself a goal-oriented person — even in college. A 1973 American University law graduate, she founded and edited Ipso Facto, a newsletter of the Black American Law Student Association while she was a student. In undergraduate studies at New York University, she majored in mathematics and took a heavy complement of pre-med courses. Her extracurricular activities centered around fencing, and she won numerous fencing awards.

Jordan was the first African-American to be appointed captain of the New York University women's varsity fencing team. In 1964, she became eligible for the U.S. Olympic fencing team. However, a fall during a fencing competition caused a serious knee injury that forced her to withdraw from competitive fencing.

After all these years, however, Jordan still keeps a spot in her heart for fencing. "Everywhere I have gone, I have asked if they have a fencing group, but I haven't found one," she said.

To keep physically active, Jordan turned to golf. When she was assigned to Barbados she played golf with the ambassador every weekend.

"It's a good icebreaker. It helped to develop a close and positive relationship between USAID and the embassy," she said.

Perhaps her greatest achievement, she believes, has been her three children. Her oldest son Michael is married, has been a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya and is returning in September to study for a master's degree in business administration at Columbia University. He is currently a consultant in international finance.

***"Mission directors perform much the same functions as ambassadors ... We share similar foreign policy objectives, we engage basically the same contacts and are given very much the same respect by the host government."***

Her daughter Michelle is a single parent who works for United Airlines. She plans to one day become a commercial pilot.

"My granddaughter, Yaz, is a pistol and the joy of my life," Jordan said.

Her youngest son Frank just graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan with a major in criminal justice. He is planning to study law in September at West Virginia University but is also exploring a professional football career.

Jordan's mother, Alice Mann, is 90 and in excellent health. She lives with Jordan in Jamaica, adding energy and spice to her daughter's life.

Jordan's hobbies include reading, golf and suspense thriller movies. She aspires to becoming "computer literate." Her favorite author is another lawyer, John Grisham, — and she has read all his books.

When she retires she wants to continue development work by helping youth in the inner cities improve their "self image and capitalize on the skills that they are now using in negative ways."

"I still don't know what I want to be when I grow up," Jordan said, laughing. ■

# Invitation to a Laos reunion

A reunion to ignite old friendships is planned for all employees and their families who were in Laos during the 1960s and 1970s.

The reunion will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Mark Center in Alexandria, Va., over the Labor Day weekend, Sept. 4-6.

"Les Enfants," the now-adult children who were students at the American School of Vientiane in Laos, have already held two reunions and are now encouraging Les Parents and Les Amies (the parents and the friends) to attend this year's event as well.

Faculty, former students, their parents and all other American personnel who served in Laos in any capacity during the period from any agency are cordially invited to participate. The weekend will feature a dinner/dance along with other activities and time to reunite with old friends and fellow "Lao Hands."

One of the goals of the weekend will be to look into the possibility of holding a reunion in Vientiane in 2000. For those who were adults in those days, attending a reunion in Vientiane, dancing at the Vieng Ratray, relaxing at the Third Eye, or having a drink and enjoying the breeze off the Mekong at the Lang Xang Hotel would be certain to bring back memories. For Les Enfants, it will be an opportunity to actually "go home" and relive some of those childhood memories.

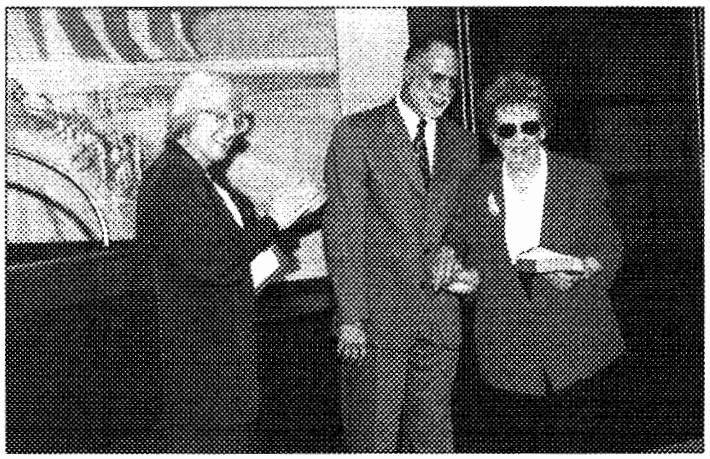
For more information and to register, contact Marcia Murto (dependent, USAID) at (919) 362-7233 or E-mail murtoms@mindspring.com. You may also contact Rebecca Coleman (dependent, Air America), E-mail asvalumni_laos@been-there.com.

The alumni association has a Web site at http://www.geocities.com/tokyo/towers/9974. Or you may contact the ASV Alumni Association by mail, c/o R. Coleman, 1055 S. Toltec, Mesa, Ariz. 85204. ■

# Edward Spriggs is new director for RCSA

Edward Spriggs was sworn in on May 15 as the new director of USAID's Regional Center for Southern Africa (RCSA) in Botswana.

Spriggs directs a $30 million USAID program that seeks to help achieve equitable, sustainable economic growth in a democratic Southern Africa. The Southern Africa region includes 12 countries spanning a geographical area the size of the continental United States, with a population of close to 125 million people. Acceleration of the region's economic growth requires reducing corruption, controlling central government expenditures, improving investment policies, increasing exports and boosting the efficiency of infrastructure, particularly through telecommunications and transportation sector policy reform. Accomplishing many of these goals requires actions that transcend national boundaries.



**Carol Peasley (left), then acting assistant administrator for Africa, leads the audience in congratulating Edward Spriggs after his swearing in. Spriggs' mother, Laura Petermann, 83, flew in from Long Beach, Calif., to participate in the ceremony.**

USAID's regional program complements the agency's bilateral programs in the region by addressing development constraints that require coordinated regionwide response and by helping build country linkages in support of regional economic growth and democracy objectives.

Before becoming the new regional director, Spriggs was the USAID representative to Namibia.

Spriggs, who joined the agency in 1979, has served in Washington and as the regional legal adviser for East Africa (stationed in Kenya) and regional legal adviser for Southern Africa (stationed in Swaziland).

Before joining USAID, Spriggs worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and was an attorney in the Arnold and Porter law firm.

He has a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California and a J.D. degree from New York University School of Law.

Spriggs and his wife, Pearl, have three children. ■

# Carole Scherrer-Palma heads USAID/Namibia mission

Carole Scherrer-Palma was sworn in on June 2 as the new USAID mission director to Namibia.

Palma administers an annual USAID program of $8 million that focuses on human resource development, basic education reform, community-based natural resource management and strengthening parliament.

Before assuming her new responsibilities, Palma was the deputy director for USAID/Zimbabwe.

Palma joined the Foreign Service in 1979 after conducting anthropological research for the National Science Foundation in northern Kenya.

She has served USAID in Washington, Liberia, Afghanistan (based in Pakistan), Chad and Zimbabwe.

Palma, who holds the rank of counselor in the Senior Foreign Service, spent a year at the National Defense University, where she earned a master's degree in strategic planning. She also has a master's and Ph.D. degrees in social anthropology from the University of Virginia.

She is married to retired U.S. Navy Capt. Richard Palma. ■

**Carole Scherrer-Palma (left) takes the oath of office from Linda Lion, director, M/HR, to become the new mission director for Namibia. Palma's husband, retired U.S. Navy Capt. Richard Palma, holds the Bible for the ceremony.**

# Frank J. Young to head USAID/Ghana

Frank J. Young, a career Foreign Service officer, was sworn in June 3 as the USAID mission director to Ghana.

With 23 years of international development experience, Young will direct a $50 million development assistance program in Ghana focused on private enterprise, education, health, and democracy and governance.

Young is completing his service as director of Management Planning and Innovation in the Bureau for Management. He will assume his new responsibilities in Ghana in August.

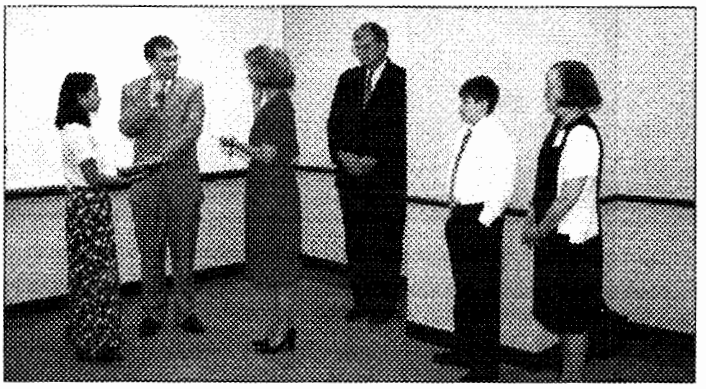
Since joining USAID as an International Development Intern in 1976, Young has served at USAID posts in the Philippines, India, Bangladesh and Washington.

He attended the National War College from 1996 to 1997 and graduated as a distinguished graduate with an M.Sc. degree in national security studies. His special research projects included papers on U.S. counterterrorism policy and a study on the 1995 attempt by Congress to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies.

Before joining USAID, Young served as legislative assistant to Rep. John McFall from 1972 to 1976.

He has a bachelor's degree in international relations from the University of the Pacific and a master's degree and a Ph.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

A native of Providence, R.I., Young was joined at his swearing in by his wife, Patricia; his children, Andrea and Alex; and his father-in-law, William Oxley, from Ontario, Canada. ■



**Frank J. Young is sworn in to head USAID/Ghana by Marilyn Marton, deputy director, M/HR. Young's daughter, Andrea, holds the Bible while Administrator Brian Atwood, son Alex Young and wife Patricia Young look on.**

# Richard Hough is new mission director to Serbia and Montenegro

Richard Hough was sworn in on June 10 to head USAID's mission in Serbia and Montenegro. The ceremony was held in Washington in the administrator's conference room.

It is anticipated that by targeted assistance, the government of Serbia and Montenegro will be encouraged to commit to the terms and principles of the Dayton Accords. In direct support of Dayton, USAID's democratic reform agenda includes: support for the growth of a viable and independent media to allow open access and information to all citizens and candidates; political party building to encourage the development of alternative parties and effective political institutions; national and local election administration support to assist in the conduct of free and fair elections; voter and civic education to encourage citizen participation in the democratic process; and local non-governmental organizations' support to build a viable civil society.

**Richard Hough accepts congratulations from Marilyn Marton, deputy director, M/HR, after she swore him in to office. Participating in the ceremony were Hough's wife, Jill (second from left), his children, Sean and Laura, and his mother.**

Before assuming his new duties, Hough was officer-in-charge of the Southern Tier Division for the Bureau for Europe and the New Independent States. In this position, he managed office support to six country programs (Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, Cyprus and Turkey) with a special focus on Albania after it collapsed from fraudulent investment schemes.

He joined USAID in 1980 as a food aid monitor in Senegal. He then moved on to Mauritania where he spent five years designing and managing emergency famine relief programs during the height of the 1983 to 1986 Sahel drought emergency.

Hough has served as Food for Peace officer for the Africa Regional Division and as food aid coordinator for the Bureau for Europe and the Near East. He designed and managed Food for Development and emergency assistance programs across Africa and managed the initial commodity assistance programs in Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary.

He was named the first USAID representative to Romania in 1991, overseeing the difficult transition to democratic processes and institutions.

Hough has a bachelor's degree in international relations from Syracuse University. He is married to Jill Gulliksen and has two children, Sean and Laura. ■

# Paul White heads USAID/Mexico mission

Paul White was sworn in on June 17 in a private ceremony as the new USAID mission director to Mexico. The ceremony was held in the conference room of the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean.

White administers an $11 million USAID program in Mexico that supports several U.S. policy interests: a vibrant Mexican democracy; reduced flows of illegal drugs; environmentally sound energy and biodiversity use; and access to quality reproductive and HIV/AIDS health services.

**Mark Schneider (left), assistant administrator, LAC, toasts Paul White and his wife, Somphon, with sparkling cider after the swearing-in ceremony.**

The importance of the U.S.-Mexico relationship, politically, economically and culturally, cannot be overstated. The United States and Mexico share a 2,000-mile common border. There are 20 million U.S. residents of Mexican descent, and 600,000 U.S. citizens residing permanently in Mexico.

Trade with Mexico (the United States' second largest trading partner) accounts for more than 55 percent of all U.S. exports to Latin America and the Caribbean.

Before assuming his new duties, White was USAID's development cooperation counselor in Japan.

He joined USAID as an International Development Intern in 1969 after having spent four years in Laos as a International Voluntary Services volunteer and as a USAID contractor. White has served the agency in Laos, Korea, Cambodia, Thailand, Guatemala, Panama, Peru and Washington.

Between assignments, White spent a year (1979 to 1980) at Stanford University on long-term training for the agency.

In 1992, he received the Presidential Meritorious Service Award for work on the Cambodian peace process while in the Asia and Near East Bureau.

White has a bachelor's degree in psychology and philosophy from Valparaiso University. He also was an East-West Center grantee at the University of Hawaii in East Asian studies.

White, who holds the rank of minister counselor, is married to Somphon White. ■

# Michael Farbman sworn in as mission director to Albania

Michael Farbman was sworn in June 18 as mission director to Albania. The ceremony was held in Washington in the administrator's conference room.

Farbman directs a $35 million USAID program in Albania with a portfolio of activities including economic and legal reform, private sector development, environmental management, the development of participatory institutions in civil society, and improved health and education.

Since 1994 Farbman had been serving as mission director in Morocco.

Farbman started his USAID career as an economist in the Technical Assistance Bureau in 1977. Subsequently, he served as chief of the Employment and Enterprise Development Division and as the director of the Office of Small, Micro and Informal Enterprise.

During the start-up of USAID programming in the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union, Farbman served temporarily as acting director of USAID/ Russia and USAID/ Kazakhstan.

Before joining the agency, he was professor of economics at the University of Glasgow in Scotland and a consultant to the International Labor Office in Geneva.

Farbman has a bachelor's degree in economics and mathematics from Indiana University and a master's degree and a Ph.D in economics from Cornell University.

He is married to the former Susan Winslow of Cazenovia, N.Y. They have three children. The eldest, Matthew, resides in Chicago. Their older daughter, Emily, will be a senior at Barnard College. Their younger daughter, Madeline, will begin her sophomore year at Cornell University in September. ■

**Don Pressley (left), acting assistant administrator, ENI, leads the applause after Michael Farbman is sworn in by Marilyn Marton, deputy director, M/HR. Dianne Blane, former mission director to Albania, offers her congratulations.**

## WHERE

## Moved On

**Atsalinos, Kimberley**
**Johnson, Pamela**
**Kimmel-Frantz, Joan**
**Nassif, Joseph**
**Philpott, Vandean**

## Promoted

**Affleck, Aldona**
**Amin, Sandra**
**Carroll, Carolyn**
**Chase, Suzanne**
**Dudick, Mary**
**Elgin, John Hamilton II**
**Fisher, Brenda**
**Grooms, Judith**
**Hurst, Sarah**
**Jordan, Lennie**
**Koek, Irene**
**Luck, Andrew**
**Ploch, Jennifer Ngoc**
**Reid, Lee Anne Renee**
**Rodriguez, Kristy**
**Scott, Sherron Bernice**
**Sukin-Klauber, Hope**
**Sydnor, Inga**
**Szalkowski, Kelleyann**
**Thompson, Kathryn**
**Thoresen, Erik Werner**
**Triplett, Kimberly**
**White, Linda**

## Reassigned

**Ashley, Jeffrey,** Tanzania, health/population development officer, to Cambodia

**Baker, Murl,** ENI/OIM/ID, project development officer, to program officer, CENTRAL ASIA/D

**Bowes, Cathy,** COMP/FS/REASSGN, program analyst, to health/population development officer, Guinea

**Brown, Derrick,** COMP/FS/REASSGN, accountant, to financial management officer budget/analyst, RCSA/FM

**Callen, Pamela,** Guinea, deputy mission director, to deputy director, M/B/OD

**Charney, Donald Kenneth,** COMP/DETAIL SUP, chief financial officer, to deputy director, M/B/OD

**Cornell, Thomas Fenelon,** Hungary, USAID representative, to supervisory regional development officer, LAC/SAM

**Elliott, William Spencer,** AFR/SA, program officer, to AA/G

**Gettier, Joseph,** COMP/FS/REASSGN, Food for Peace officer, to BHR/FFP/DP

**Gray, Cynthia,** ES, administrative operations specialist, to information analyst, LPA/IC

**Gudiness, Mary Anne,** GC, secretary stenography, to information analyst, LPA/IC

**Hansen, Robert,** ENC/PAS/PA, program officer, to democracy officer, G/D

**Harley, Harriet,** AA/LPA, secretary (office automation), to information analyst, LPA/IC

**Hartenberger, Paul,** Zambia, health/population development officer, to supervisory health/population development officer, G/PHN/FPS

**Jones, Philip,** AFR/SD/PSGE, natural resources officer, to COMP/FSLT

**Jordan, Mosina,** COMP/FS/REASSGN, foreign affairs officer, to mission director, Jamaica

**Leach, Diane,** Egypt, development training officer, to COMP/FS/OS/DS

**Lee, Jeffrey,** REDSO/WCA/PSD, Food for Peace officer, to private enterprise officer, Haiti

**Marshall, Rosella,** M/OP/ENC/EEUD, supervisory contract specialist, to program analyst, BHR/ASHA

**Rogosch, John,** India, supervisory health development officer, to COMP/FS/OS/DS

**Rosenberg, Helene Kaufman,** COMP/FSLT, foreign affairs officer to development coordination counselor, USAID/ODC-Japan

**Senykoff, Ronald Sergei,** the Philippines, supervisory natural resources officer, to Food for Peace officer, BHR/FFP/DP

**Soto, Martha Erin,** COMP/FS/REASSGN, democracy specialist, to Mali

**White, Paul,** USAID/ODC-Japan, development coordination counselor, to USAID mission director, Mexico

**Yaeger, William,** BHR/OTI, supervisory program officer, to the Caucasus

**Yates, Andrea Jane,** O/S LANG TRNG, supervisory general development officer, to Mali

## Retired

**Burgett, Ans Rosemarie**
**Haladay, Robert**
**Morris, Paul**
**Orr, Peter**
**Snowden, Carol**
**Sobh, Adel**

## Obituaries

**Ralph Daly,** 63, died of cardiac arrest May 14 at his home in Charles Town, W.Va. He joined USAID in 1976 and served in Pakistan, Panama, Washington and the Philippines. After retiring from USAID/I/IG in 1993, he worked as an independent contract investigator.

**John Finn,** 78, died June 10 of a stroke at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, Md. Finn joined USAID in 1967 and worked in the Office of Financial Management. He retired in 1980 as chief of the Central Accounting Division. He was a 1965 recipient of the Presidential Federal Accounting Award.

**Michael Guido,** 75, died June 8 at the Hospice of Northern Virginia after a heart attack. Guido began his career with USAID's predecessor agency in 1952 as an audiovisual specialist in Beirut. He also served as communications media officer in Sudan and Malawi. Since 1965 Guido worked in Washington as chief of orientation in training and development until he retired from USAID in 1985.

**Allen Hankins,** 66, died June 13 at the Arlington Hospital in Arlington, Va. after a lengthy illness. Hankins joined USAID's predecessor agency in 1957 and served as an agricultural development officer in Iran, Bangladesh, Vietnam, the Philippines, Ecuador and Pakistan. Hankins retired from USAID in 1987.

**J.A. ('Jimmy Jack') Jackson,** 69, died June 3 at George Washington University Medical Center. He had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. He worked for USAID and its predecessor agencies for more than 30 years. He was a systems analyst when he retired in 1984.

**Bonnie Pedersen,** 55, died June 13 after suffering an aneurysm at the annual convention of the American College of Nurse-Midwives in San Francisco, Calif. She joined USAID in 1988 and worked in the Global Bureau's Office of Population, Communications, Management and Training Division, and as deputy chief of the Family Planning Services Division. In addition to numerous short-term technical assistance assignments in every region, Pedersen provided extended assistance to USAID missions in Cambodia, Eritrea, Ghana, Indonesia, Romania and Zimbabwe.

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