

## **[ ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 283, May 29, 1992 ]**

### **EXONERATING ROLANDO M. LIBAS, CHIEF OF MISSION II, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

This refers to the administrative case filed by the Department of Foreign Affairs, against Mr. Rolando M. Libas, Chief of Mission II, for Insubordination, Misconduct, and Conduct Prejudicial to the Best Interest of the Service.

Antecedent facts show that, by virtue of Assignment Order No. 223-89 dated 5 December 1989, respondent was assigned to the Philippine Consulate in Agana, Guam, as Consul General. After the issuance of the corresponding Consular Commission to respondent on 24 January 1990, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs signed Travel Order No. 90-20 on 26 January 1990, authorizing the travel of respondent, together with his family, to Agana, Guam, to assume his post as Consul General.

In compliance with the abovementioned orders, respondent commenced with the necessary preparations to assume his post in Agana, Guam. Diplomatic passports for himself and the members of his family were obtained. Applications for visas were made with the Embassy of the United States. Also, in his Memorandum, dated 12 February 1990, to the Acting Director-General of the Office Personnel and Administrative Services (OPAS) Mr. Ernesto V. Llamas, respondent informed OPAS that he is "preparing to depart for Guam pursuant to A.O. 223-89 . . . on or before 31 March 1990". In the same Memorandum, respondent sought the assistance of OPAS in requesting the appropriate government agencies to brief him on "matters concerning the promotion of trade, investment and tourism as well as the Philippines' programs for economic development" and to "update him on these agencies' current undertaking with regards to the latest thrust of the Philippine Government for economic development".

Sometime during the second week of March 1990, then Acting Chief Coordinator Alfredo Almendrala, Jr., informed respondent of the DFA Secretary's instructions for him (respondent) to be in Guam in time for the Secretary's scheduled visit on 5-6 April 1990.

In his letter of 29 March 1990, Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Manuel T. Yan, advised respondent that A.O. No. 223-89 dated 5 December 1989, has been cancelled. Respondent was also "instructed not to proceed to Agana and to remain in the Home Office until further notice".

On 24 April 1990, Mr. Llamas asked respondent to "explain in writing, within seventy two (72) hours, why no administrative case shall (sic) be filed against [him] for not proceeding to Agana, Guam immediately and assume duties as Consul General at the Phil. Consulate General, Agana". Mr. Llamas also alleged that "[d]espite the