

September 26, 1994

TO: ALLIANCE TO SAVE HAMAKUA HAWAIIAN LANDS
FROM: RON FUJIYOSHI - Tel. 959-2731; FAX 959-2793 (Hilo)
RE: BRIEF REPORT ON CONFIRMATION HEARING ACTION

1. Enclosed is the final press release with 25 organizations that were contacted and agreed to put their names as members of the alliance.
2. The good news was: a) there was lots of press, b) we filled every seat in the U.S. District Court, c) the press conference went well, and d) Elisa Yadao promised that she would try to set a meeting with the trustees of the Bishop Estate and the Alliance.
3. The bad news was: a) we were not able to stop or interrupt the confirmation hearing, b) not one of our members tried to speak in the hearing, and c) neither OHA nor the state raised objections to the hearing on behalf of the "ceded lands" or the Hawaiian people.
4. The Bishop Estate's bid of \$21 million was accepted by Judge Alan Kay for the 30,500 acres of land previously used by Hamakua Sugar Company.
5. Chronological chain of events:
 - a) Sunday, Sept. 25th, 5 p.m. about 25 people met in a strategy meeting, decided upon the press release and strategy.
 - b) Sunday evening, organizations were called, press release FAXed to groups, press release with organizations FAXed to press and congressional delegates.
 - c) Sept. 26th, 8:30 a.m. groups gathered.
 - d) After a pule, a press conference is held at 9 a.m. Rev. Kaleo Patterson reads the press statement. (Ka Lahui held a press conference at about 8:45 a.m.).
 - e) Group enters U.S. District Court building and meets with the clerk to Judge Alan Kay. She tells group that our concerns are not the focus of this hearing, and that the Judge Kay will not meet with us.
 - f) Group packs the seats of the U.S. District Court. There are many interested observers.
 - g) After preliminaries, judge calls a recess at which time Commissioner opens the bidding to the Bishop Estate. Bishop Estate lawyer Bill Yuen enters a bid of \$21 million which is accepted.
 - h) Judge returns and Commissioner Phil Gray gives his report to justify his commission and expenses of \$100,000+.
 - i) Court is over, press hangs around to interview various parties.
6. A strategy meeting definitely will be called if and when a meeting with the Bishop Estate trustees is arranged. In the meanwhile, evaluate our actions and think of positive tactics that can be employed to move this issue to the next level. What should be the next steps?!!!