

DELFINA T. AGUIGUI
EDUCATOR AND ADMINISTRATOR



Delfina T. Aguiqui has long been a pioneer in the field of education and public administration on the island of Guam. Since her humble beginnings during prewar days, she has molded her professional career into a story of success and achievement up to the present time. She is currently the Student Housing Director at the University of Guam.

Delfina was born on December 1, 1921, in the village of Merizo. Her parents, Ignacio Babauta Aguiqui and Bien Venida Tyquiengco Aguiqui (both now deceased), bore 12 children, six of whom have passed away. The remaining six, two brothers and four sisters, have played an integral role in Ms. Aguiqui's reputable and distinguished professional career. As one of the eldest of the 12 children, she counseled, guided, disciplined and influenced the lives of her siblings, contributing to their success and present achievement. Therefore, it is essential to include them in this profile. They are:

- Mr. Joaquin T. Aguiqui, a retired Air Force Staff Sergeant, presently the manager of the "Tendan Gubetnu" and overseer of the general operations of the GSA Warehouse at the Department of Administration's Piti Procurement and Supply Division;
- Major Francisco T. Aguiqui, assigned to the Guam Police Department;
- Mrs. Rosa A. Reyes, a retired school teacher and principal;
- Mrs. Maria A. Aguon, a retired school nurse;
- Mrs. Anna A. Hambley, a retired elementary assistant principal; and
- Mrs. Isabel A. Gregory, a school teacher in the Head Start Program.

Delfina Aguiqui's primary education began at Merizo Elementary School. After completing all the requirements in the elementary grades, she attended George Washington High School, where she completed the seventh, eighth, and ninth grades. Later, she attended Adelup College Preparatory School, where she received her high school diploma. In 1949, she was

awarded a one-year scholarship to the University of Hawaii by the Women's Zonta Club of Honolulu. In 1950, she returned to Guam. By 1952, she was attending Ohio State University on a tuition-free scholarship from the Government of Guam. Two years later she received her Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education. With post-graduate studies on her mind, she attended Syracuse University in 1960 on a Graduate Assistance program from the Dean of Women. In the fall of 1962, she graduated with her Master's degree in student personnel administration. At a later time she enrolled at Arizona State University with the purpose of continuing post-graduate studies.

Ms. Aguigui's professional career began in 1944 as a teacher at Merizo Elementary School. After obtaining her Bachelor's degree, she became the Assistant Principal at Carbullido Elementary School. Thereafter, she transferred to Barrigada Junior High, while still retaining her position. She was promoted to the principal's position after acquiring her Master's degree. In 1966, she became the principal of the largest school on the island, George Washington High School, where she remained until 1968, when she was given the position of Associate Superintendent of Secondary Schools in the Department of Education. Under Director Franklin Quitugua, the Deputy Director's position was awarded to her. In addition, in 1972 she was hired by the president of the University of Guam as the Executive Director for the Bicentennial Celebration. Then in 1978 she was hired by the University of Guam as Director of Student Housing, a position she still holds at present.

Ms. Aguigui has accumulated a total of 38-1/2 years of teaching and administrative experience.

In addition to her professional involvement as an educator and an administrator, Ms. Aguigui has managed to remain active in community and social functions. In 1985, she was a participant in the pilgrimage to the San Vitores beautification in Rome. She has also contributed greatly to religious functions in her home village of Merizo. Aside from this, she has also been the Chairperson for the annual Liberation Day festivities in the South. She has additionally been involved with numerous clubs and organizations.

Because of her sincere dedication to her profession, Ms. Aguigui has often been recognized for her achievements. She was the first woman to publicly speak at festivities commemorating United Nation's Day in 1965. In 1969, she represented Guam at a conference at the University of the South Pacific for the purpose of designing and planning a social studies curriculum for Pacific Islanders. Also, in 1972, she was hired by the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory in Portland, Oregon, as a consultant in the development of language arts materials for bilingual students. Countless other honors and awards have been bestowed upon her during her career.

Ms. Delfina T. Aguigui has compiled a long and distinguished record of professional, educational, and civic accomplishments. Despite her seemingly lengthy term of service to the Government of Guam, she sees no possibility in the immediate future for retiring. Instead, she visualizes additional contributions and services to the people of Guam.