

Calif. Legislator Named OAS Envoy

By Janet M. Staihar
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A California congressman who says he may be a descendant of Napoleon Bonaparte's brother is the new ambassador to the Organization of American States.

He is Republican Rep. William Somers Mailliard, who also claims as a distant relative Julia Ward Howe, author of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Mailliard, a 56-year-old father of seven, has represented a San Francisco district in Congress for 21 years. Several weeks ago he said he would not seek re-election.

In announcing the nomination recently, President Nixon said Mailliard succeeds Joseph John Jova, who was named ambassador to Mexico after five years' service at the OAS.

A Yale University graduate, Mailliard was assistant naval attache in the U.S. Embassy in London in 1939. He became a lieutenant commander while on active duty in the Navy and now is a two-star admiral in the Naval Reserve.

After World War II, he was secretary to California Gov. Earl Warren.

Mailliard is the sixth most senior Republican in the House and is ranking Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

From 1964 to 1967, he served as congressional adviser to the OAS's foreign ministers meeting. President John F. Kennedy appointed him U.S. Delegate to the 18th session of the U.N. General Assembly in 1963.

As a member of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, he has traveled to every South American nation, advised the United Nations on matters dealing with coastal jurisdictions, and dealt closely with problems of the Panama Canal.

Mailliard says his ties to the Bonapartes stem from Napoleon's brother, Joseph, who fled to Pennsylvania from Spain, where Napoleon had tried to make him king. With Joseph came a young man named



REP. WILLIAM MAILLIARD
... nominated by President

Adolph Mailliard, who was believed to be his illegitimate son. Adolph was the congressman's great-grandfather.

As for the claim to kinship to American writer Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. Howe's sister, Ann Ward, married Adolph Mailliard's son.