



# Marianas Variety News & Views

Micronesia's Leading Newspaper Since 1972

Vol. 25 No. 225  
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Tuesday • January 28, 1997

Saipan, MP 96950  
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## UOC assessment report

### Rota detonations caused substantial reef damage

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff  
SCIENTISTS from the University of Guam has found that Rota's coral reefs sustained substantial damage as a result of the detonation operations conducted there last May and June.

Dr. Bob Richmond of the UOG Marine Laboratory did a final assessment of the damage to the coral reefs as a result of the detonation operations. He requested the Coastal Resources Management

Chief Director Manuel C. Sablan said his office is yet to receive the final report including recommendations from Richmond.

But he said initial findings showed "there is substantial



Manuel C. Sablan

# Workers stage 'sitdown strike'

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

SOME 200 garment workers yesterday held a one-hour sitdown strike to protest alleged discrimination by management.

Gilbert Manalili, a Filipino non-resident worker and the group's spokesperson, said the mass action, staged from 10 to 11 am, was also meant to push for the Sako Textile Co. management's recognition of a union now being organized by the workers.

"The issue here is discrimination. We are being discriminated against. We are not being treated the way management is treating workers of other nationalities," said Manalili.

"Company officials shout invectives at us whenever we commit mistakes. They never do that to their Korean and Chinese workers," he added.

He said workers, mostly Filipino women, are being left out to find their own way home after work -- from the factory in San Antonio to their respective quarters in Chalan Piao and San Vicente.

"At 2:00 in the morning, women workers here are left on their own to get home. Consequently, they always end up walking their way back to the quarters," he said.

These workers, Manalili said, have resorted to hitchhiking. "They pay for the ride to and

from office," he said.

This, Manalili stressed, should not be the case since the workers' employment contracts "very clearly stipulates that the company will transport them to and from the jobsite."

Manalili alleged that such treatment is not being given to Korean and Chinese nationals, supposedly comprising a minority of the firm's 300 workforce.

Manalili, who said he was hired as an electrician and maintenance mechanic, was allegedly being made to do janitorial job "after management learned of his active union-organizing activity."

"I am being totally discriminated against," he said. **Continued on page 16**

## CNN spots, video cost NMI gov't nearly \$.5M

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

THE OFFICE of the Governor paid almost half-a-million dollars for the filming and the airing of the Northern Mariana Islands "sights and sounds" spots on CNN.

CNN, according to the governor's public information officer Mark Broadhurst, charged \$200,000 for the 30-second and 60-second spots aired twice a day for one year.

"That's not a bad bargain," Broadhurst said.

For the filming of the video footage CNN used for the spots, Broadhurst said Aquafest Video Productions was paid \$200,150.

Lee Solters group, on the other hand, was paid \$10,500 a month for its six-month contract which ended last December.

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, in an

earlier interview, said he will renew the contract of the public relations company, which has been "promoting" the CNMI as an ideal tropical location for Hollywood movies.

The airing of the "sights and sounds" spots started Thursday.

Tenorio, in a media conference Wednesday, said the advertisement "will definitely help" attract tourists to the CNMI.

CNN account executive Jennifer Fletcher claimed that the spots will reach 104 million households in the Asia-Pacific region, Latin America and Europe.

Tenorio said the advertising spots will have "an impact" and a "lot of difference."

"You got to spend money to make more money," he said after being asked how much the spots are costing the CNMI.

**Continued on page 16**



**TRIED BUT FAILED.** A two-man television news crew is shown the way out by a Sako Textile Company guard after the duo tried to cover a sitdown strike staged by some 200 garment workers inside. Photo by Jojo Dass

## WEATHER Outlook



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers

## Nakamura's goal: Economic independence

By Marvic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

**KOROR, Palau**-During President Kuniwo Nakamura's first term, Palau achieved what it had sought for a long time: political independence.

Now on his second term, Nakamura promises to take the young nation to its next goal: economic independence.

"Political independence does not by itself build a nation; economic independence is just as critical. Thus, just as clearly as

our challenge of the 20th century was political, our challenge for the 21st century will be economic," Nakamura said in a speech delivered during inauguration ceremonies for Palau's Fifth Constitutional Government held Saturday at the Asahi Ballfield.

Vice President Tommy Remengesau joined Nakamura in rallying the people of Palau to serve as the government's partners in achieving its next goal.

"In forging this partnership for



Kuniwo Nakamura

economic reform and prosperity, the key word partnership," Remengesau said during the inaugural ball which followed the inauguration ceremony at the Palau Pacific Resort.

"A partnership implies give and take, but with the understanding that we both have the same goals and outcome which we expect to result from our investment," Remengesau added.

The government, Nakamura **Continued on page 16**

## Mediator hints progress in Peruvian hostage crisis

By JAMES ANDERSON  
LIMA, Peru (AP) - A mediator in the hostage crisis said there is a "small light on the horizon," hinting at progress toward talks to end the takeover of the Japanese ambassador's residence.

As the crisis entered its sixth week Sunday, Roman Catholic Archbishop Juan Luis Cipriani said he hoped for movement in freeing the 72 hostages being held by Tupac Amaru rebels. The rebels have held the hostages since raiding a posh cocktail party Dec. 17.

"There is a small light on the horizon that we must take care of," Cipriani said. "God willing, these conversations could start soon."

Early Sunday, the rebels released police Gen. Jose Rivas Rodriguez, who was wheeled out on a stretcher from the compound accompanied by Cipriani and Red Cross officials.

Rivas, the deputy commander of the president's police security, was taken to a police hospital for tests. On Jan. 17 the rebels freed another police commander, also for medical reasons.

They are the only two freed by the rebels since Jan. 1 when seven were released.

Cipriani is a member of a mediation panel that includes a Red Cross representative and Canadian Ambassador Anthony Vincent.

Actual negotiation likely will be done by Education Minister Domingo Palermo and Nestor Cerpa, the head of the estimated 20 rebels holding the hostages.

Talks have been stalled over the fate of hundreds of Tupac Amaru rebels held in Peruvian jails. Corpsis insisting they be freed in exchange for the hostages.

President Alberto Fujimori, whose hard-line approach against revolutionary groups seems to have the support of most Peruvians, says none will be released and says he will not negotiate the issue.

Remaining hostages include four national police generals, the Japanese and Bolivian ambassadors, Peru's foreign and agricultural ministers, judges, congressmen and Japanese business executives.



President and Mrs. Clinton and their daughter Chelsea address guests during the Mid-Atlantic Inaugural Ball Monday night, in Washington. Clinton has started his second term in office promising to "do more with less." AP Photo

## Arafat: No state ahead of pact

By JACK KATZENELL  
JERUSALEM (AP) - Allaying Israeli concerns, Yasser Arafat said in remarks published Monday that he would not declare a Palestinian state ahead of a peace agreement with Israel, to be completed by May 1999.

In Israel, meanwhile, leading members of the ruling Likud and opposition Labor parties ended years of bitter division and announced a formula for such a final accord with the Palestinians.

The plan foresees Israel annexing West Bank areas where most Jewish settlers live and does not rule out defining the final Palestinian entity as an independent state, with restrictions.

Palestinian officials rejected the proposal, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says he is not bound to anything in it.

Last week, Netanyahu said he had a contingency plan should Arafat declare statehood unilaterally. Israeli media reports said that in such a case, Israel apparently planned to reoccupy West Bank rural areas, leaving Arafat only with control over seven West Bank cities.

Arafat, speaking to retired Israeli army generals at his Gaza City head-

quarters Sunday, said he would not move unilaterally.

"I don't intend to declare a Palestinian state until the negotiations on a permanent peace agreement have been completed," the Israeli daily Yediot Ahronot on Monday quoted Arafat as saying.

"The most important thing now is not to make declarations, but to implement what we agreed on," Arafat told the generals. "We still have a lot of problems that have not been resolved, but we can overcome them with some good will from both sides."

Under the agreement reached earlier this month between Arafat and Netanyahu, talks on a permanent peace agreement are to begin in March and be completed by May 1999.

Preparing for the final status talks, Likud Knesset faction chief Michael Eitan and Labor's Yossi Beilin had been meeting for 13 weeks to try and reach agreement on basic positions.

On Sunday, the two presented their joint document.

"The Likud has given up the dream of an undivided Land of Israel, while we in Labor have given up the dream of rolling back the settlements," Beilin said.

## Corruption scandal may implicate S. Korea's Kim

By PAUL SHIN  
SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - President Kim Young-sam on Monday ordered a "thorough and stern" probe of a snowballing financial scandal that threatens to implicate him and his government.

Kim is under mounting public pressure to clarify his government's role in the bankruptcy last week of South Korea's second largest steel-maker, Hanbo Steel Industry Co.

Hanbo collapsed under an estimated \$6 billion debt, mostly in bank loans that critics say were influenced by government pressure.

The government has denied involvement but opposition parties have demanded a parliamentary investigation into "the largest corruption scandal ever in South Korean history." They pointed an accusing finger at the president.

"There should be a thorough and stern investigation, leaving no spot of suspicion," Kim said in a meeting with Prime Minister Lee Soo-sung. It was Kim's first comment on the scandal.

Following Kim's order, his ruling New Korea Party agreed to accept an opposition demand for a parliamentary probe of the scandal - a rare move in Korean politics.

Most South Korean banks are under the control of the government and their loan decisions have often been criticized for being politically influenced. Some senior government and bank officials have been arrested for taking bribes in exchange for loans in the past.

Hanbo Steel, an arm of the Hanbo



Kim Young-sam

group, then the 14th largest conglomerate, racked up the debt in building a new plant. A drop in prices of its key products, such as hot-coil steel plates, worsened its woes.

Hanbo Steel and two other financially troubled subsidiaries - Hanbo Energy Co. and Sang-A Pharmaceutical Co. - said they would file for court receivership soon, possibly Tuesday, to keep themselves afloat.

The scandal continued to dampen the South Korean stock market, with share prices falling 20.41 percent Monday. Announcing the launching of a government investigation into the scandal, senior prosecutor Choi Byung-kuk ordered four more Hanbo and bank officials to be banned from leaving the country.

The government earlier had banned overseas travel by chairman Chung Tae-soo and seven other Hanbo officials pending investigation.

Moody's said its action "reflected the continued deterioration in the asset quality of Korean banks and defaulted reports that Hanbo Steel ... had defaulted on its obligations."

The Hanbo scandal compounded problems for the Kim government, which is struggling to resolve a political crisis touched off by a disputed labor law that sparked three weeks of massive nationwide protests.

It also threatens to tarnish the image of Kim as South Korea's first civilian leader in 32 years. Since taking office in 1993, Kim has made anti-corruption a cornerstone of his reform policy.

But some of his relatives and aides have been accused of corruption. In 1996, a close aide was found guilty of having received \$700,000 in bribes and sentenced to five years in prison.

Top opposition leaders Kim Dae-jung and Kim Jong-pil met Monday and defined the Hanbo case as "the largest corruption scandal since Korea's liberation in 1945."

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## Japanese hospital denies report it allowed 20 sick people to die

TOKYO (AP) - A hospital said on Monday that it stopped treating three terminally ill patients and allowed them to die with the consent of their families over the last five years.

But it denied a news report that 20 patients had died in that way at the hospital over the last 12 months.

A Japanese court ruled in 1995 that it is legal to help terminally ill patients end their lives if the patients are in extreme pain and near death, clearly say they want to die, or their pain can't be alleviated with drugs.

But public opinion in Japan remains divided over the concept of "mercy killing." A year ago, a doctor's admission that he gave a fatal drug to a cancer patient to stop his suffering at a hospital in western Japan prompted a police investigation.

Dr. Atsushi Murai, head of the Kochi Aiwa Hospital in Kochi, 625 kilometers (390 miles) southwest of Tokyo, said Monday that he stopped trying to save the lives of three patients with senile dementia, allowing them to die at the hospital since 1991.

But Murai denied the report in the nationally circulated Mainichi newspaper Monday that said the hospital had allowed 20 patients to die in that manner in the last year alone.

Murai said the hospital had obtained the permission of the family members of the three patients who were allowed to die without treatment. The patients themselves were too weak mentally or physically to discuss this issue, he said.

# Region unites vs drugs

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff  
KOROR, Palau - Top leaders of Micronesian states and islands launched Monday a fight against trafficking of illegal drugs and firearms within the region, adopting a resolution that calls for stricter monitoring of movement of these contraband in and out of their respective islands.

The Council of Chief Executives of Micronesia, at the same time, adopted two other resolutions both aimed at enhancing the region's economic self-sufficiency.

Resolution 97-03 is step toward the establishment of a tuna cooperative in the region. Resolution 97-04 provides the establishment of a human resources development center.

It was second annual gathering of the council which was estab-

lished in January 1996.

Also during the meeting, Guam Gov. Carl Gutierrez officially turned over the chairmanship of the council to newly installed Palau President Kuniwo Nakamura.

The council adopted the resolutions during a four-hour meeting held at Koror's Palau Pacific Resort.

Present at Monday's meeting were Gov. Vincent Figir of Yap, President Imata Kabua of Marshall Islands, President Reuben Kun of Nauru, Gov. Moses Mackwelung of Kosrae, acting President Jacob Nena of FSM, Lt. Gov. Dion Neth of Pohnpei, President Teburoro Tito of Kiribati. The CNMI and Chuuk were not represented.

In launching a fight against illegal drugs and firearm, the council noted that several areas of the region "are experiencing an increase

in the incidence of illegal drug use, drug abuse, and illegal drug importation," hence the need for the states and islands in the region to implement drug prevention and interdiction strategies throughout Micronesia.

The council has agreed to pool the resources of each entity particularly in the areas of training, education, equipment, enforcement and monitoring of illegal drug and firearms activities. The leaders also look forward to finding other sources of training and funding.

The council resolved that "all efforts possible will be made to share resources, knowledge and information on current drug prevention and interdiction programs and techniques among all members."

Resolution 97-03, meanwhile, calls for the creation of a technical

working group composed fisheries officials that will "review and assess the formulation of a regional Tuna Cooperative."

The technical group will be assigned to look into the economic and social impacts, as well as the legal and political implications of the proposed cooperative.

Each council member was asked to designate a representative to the technical group. Gutierrez, in an earlier interview, explained that the proposed cooperative is designed to regulate fishing activities in the waters of the Pacific.

Tuna fish is one of the major

industry in the region, and the council believes it holds the region's "greatest natural potential for achieving economic self-sufficiency."

The third resolution seeks the creation of the Pacific Human Resources Development Center that will provide a venue for the preparation of a skilled and professional workforce.

The creation of the center, the resolution said, is in line with the "principles and efforts of the (Pacific Postsecondary Education Council) to meet the needs of the human resources development needs in Micronesia."

## New RP consul arrives, vows to pursue welfare concerns

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff  
A LADY diplomat officially assumed post today as the Philippine government's Consul to the Commonwealth, vowing to pursue welfare concerns and allaying fears the increase in the number of deployed Filipina domestic helpers would result to rampant cases of abuse.

Julie Heidemann, who arrived last night, replaces Consul Generoso Calonge who is being called to the Manila as his term expires.

"We will still pursue the protection of our nationals and improve relations with the CNMI government," Heidemann told the Variety shortly after arrival at the Saipan International Airport last night.

She also expressed concern on the controversial issue of whether

or not to grant Filipino non-resident workers a free food allowance as mandated by the 1995 Philippine Migrant Workers' Act.

"A lot of negotiations about the matter is now going on in Manila," she said.

Gov. Froilan Tenorio has gone to Manila supposedly to discuss the issue with concerned government officials.

Meantime, Heidemann, the wife of a retired US airforce officer, said she will also "try our best" to resolve problems arising from the surge in the number of Filipina domestic helpers, and other "high risk work groups" now employed by CNMI employers.

Philippine Consulate records showed that a total of 3,074 Filipino non-resident workers have arrived in the CNMI for the last quarter of 1996 alone.

Of these, close to 300 are do-

mestic helpers, 223 are waitresses and 53 are farmers, all of whose deployment has been banned in 1995 and early 1996 due to rampant cases of abuse involving these sectors.

Official records also reveal that wages and long working hours has topped complaints filed by Filipino non-resident workers in the Commonwealth or 95 percent of the 416 grievance cases logged in the Consulate.

Heidemann, who has earlier been among the Philippine government's diplomatic mission to The Hague, Seoul and Honolulu, will be in the Commonwealth on a full six year tour.

A welcoming committee composed of Labor and Immigration legal counsel Danny Aguilar and Public Information Officer Mark Broadhurst greeted Heidemann upon arrival.

## Palau inaugural Taiwanese in full force

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff  
KOROR, Palau - Taiwan had the largest delegation that attended the inauguration of Palau's Fifth Constitutional Government.

Taiwan had sent about 50 representatives including government officials and investors.

They were expecting President Kuniwo Nakamura to officially announce the establishment of diplomatic relations between his government and China's renegade province.

Incidentally, Taiwanese comprise the largest portion of Palau's tourism market. In fiscal year 1996, the number of Taiwan visitors leaped by 198 percent, from 7,111 in fiscal year 1995 to 21,240 in fiscal year 1996.

Nakamura delivered an hour long speech, but Taiwan delegates did not hear what they wanted to hear.

Tereygo's name as Ana "Tereyo". After the ceremony, some of her peers teased the congresswoman about her "new name".

WHERE'S GOV. TENORIO?  
While the CNMI legislature was fully represented at the inaugural ceremony, not one from the executive branch of government came to the annual meeting of the Council of Chief Executives of Micronesia, which was held Monday.

Only the CNMI and Chuuk were absent when the council adopted five resolutions during the meeting.

Lt. Gov. Jesus Borja was expected to attend the meeting. But he was a no-show.

Where was he?  
"Probably sulking," one congresswoman said in jest.

**FULL FORCE**  
The CNMI had the second largest delegation.

Speaker Diego Benavente estimated that about 40 people, including legislators and private individuals, from the CNMI were present at the inaugural ceremonies.

Nakamura, showing appreciation for the "overwhelming presence" of the CNMI, hosted luncheon for them.

During the luncheon, we personally delivered our good luck wishes to him for the next four years. In turn he expressed appreciation to us for allowing people of Palau to continue living in the CNMI," said Benavente, head of the CNMI delegation.

"There has always been smooth working relationship between CNMI and Palau, but we're not making any kind of dependence or need for each other. We are both on our way up," he added.

Among other CNMI officials at the inauguration were Chief Justice Marty Taylor, House Minority leader Pete Reyex, Minority Leader Dino Jones, Rep. Ana Tereygo, Senators Steven King and Morgen Tenorio, Reps. Manny Tenorio and Crispin Guerrero.

But taxpayers should not worry too much about their money.

Some of the delegates traveled on their own expenses, Benavente said.

**NEW NAME**  
During the acknowledging of official guests, the master of ceremonies mistakenly announced Rep.

**DRESS CODE**  
Heads of Micronesian states and islands came in their coats and ties for the council meeting.

Pohnpei Lt. Gov. Dion Neth came in a humble island shirt.

When he got his turn to deliver his piece during the meeting, Neth began his speech with an apology.

"I didn't know we had to wear a suit. When I came in and saw you in your suits, I felt out of place. I wanted to go back to the hotel and sleep," Neth said.

Thanks to Nakamura's sensitivity. He took off his coat and loosened his tie.

Every one followed suit.

"Now we are all equal," he said.

**"I'M SORRY, SIR**  
Cameramen were given photo opportunities during a session break.

After taking a few shots, I tried to find anybody to give me the names of the people who posed for the camera. I needed their identities for photo caption.

But everyone was too busy to pay me attention.

I approached one of the "dignitaries."

"Excuse me, What's your name sir?" I asked him.

He looked at me, apparently irked. "Excuse me?" he said.

"I need your name for the paper," I told him.

"I'm Teburoro Tito," he replied. I reviewed my press kit to find out who Teburoro Tito was.

He is the President of Kiribati. I should have known better.

## NMC gets \$3M endowment

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff  
THE NORTHERN Marianas College yesterday received, through wire-transfer, the \$3 million land-grant endowment from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Resident Rep. Juan N. Babauta, in a media release, said the six years of work his office put into getting the grant "finally paid off."

The endowment, he said, will be a permanent source of financial support for NMC.

"Year after year, the earnings from the endowment trust will give the college greater ability to educate students in the Northern Marianas."

He said getting the endowment was a team effort.

Babauta cited the help of NMC president Agnes McPhetres, House Speaker Diego T. Benavente and then NMC board

of regents chair, now member of the House of Representatives, Karl Reyes in the lobbying efforts.

Babauta said every U.S. state and territory has a college with a land-grant endowment, but until yesterday, the CNMI was the only exemption.

In 1985, he added, the Commission on Federal Laws recommended that NMC receive a land-grant endowment, but nothing came out of it.

Babauta, according to the media release, made the college endowment an important goal.

In 1992, he was able to get Congress to authorize appropriation of \$3 million for the endowment.

However, four years passed before Congress agreed to appropriate the money for fiscal year 1997.

NMC is the CNMI's only insti-



Juan N. Babauta

**MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST**

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF TRUSTEE MEETING**

The Marianas Public Land Trust Trustee Meeting, advertised to be held on January 28, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. at the Division of Public Lands conference room, has been changed to January 30, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at the Division of Lands conference room. The agenda has not been changed.

**/s/Bruce M. MacMillan**  
Executive Director  
January 27, 1997

# FORUM A Meeting Place For Our Opinions. . .And Yours. . .

**TR's Marianas**  
by: John DelRosario

## Finanague gi patgon para u mauleg na sudadano

Guaha un' amko' sumañgan: "I sensia mas tatkilo 'ke intellihensia". Ginen este mauleg ta diskute hafa taimano tafanague famaguonta para u fan mauleg na sudadano gi karanan niha mona. Todo famaguon siempre u eyag primera besis hafa finenina mafanagueña gi halom gima' niha. Ti u mañiao na i dos saina gi gima' hafa' modeluña ya anog este gi kustumbre yan sensia ni hafatta dispues publikamente. 'Nai sige dumañgkulo ennao na patgon, i morat ni halie' mapraktitika gi halom gima' niha pumate giya guiya. Gi entre hafa siha mafanagueña, tinepte todo klasen mattiro mientras ha fafakot hafa mohan mauleg para u chogue kosake u felis lokue' kareraña komo taotao. I manhoben, guaha ha' trahe, dandan, baila, palabras yan kustumbre gi tiempom niha. 'Nai sige este ha manifestague' gi famaguonta, ensegidas ha pañgon tatte ayo na tiempo 'nai man hoben hit lokue'.

Ensegidas, ta tutuhon mumanda i famaguon taimano 'nai manmapoñiga hit lokue'. Taya' kampo para siha pot para u fañaonao gi mismo linala' niha. Maila' baiho dañae' hamyo gi un' estoria ni masude gi lahiho: Un' taloane, chumatuñgiya i patgon. Gai kalenturan san halom lokue' ya sige muta'. Luhan ñaihonoy' gi hafa hulilie'. Ensegidas hunu' ma'aregla ya duroyo' katan gi hospitat. Duro mamos sinigonghno na esta ti hu respecta i kandet amariyo yan agaga' gi birada siha.

Kumuentos i lahiho: "Dad, adahe na un' fanotpe otro taotao". Dispues de monhayan ham gi hospitat hu faisen hafa na ha sañgan ayo na finiho. Ilegña: "Guaha esta problemata pot guaha. Hafa na para tana gai problema i otro taotao siha?" Ha hoñgañgoy' ayo na fino' patgon sa' ti listo na una' famadeso otro prohimo pot chinatsagaña. Hafa i punto guine? Konsiderasion gi otro taotao ya muña na u doble problemamo 'nai esta ha' gai problema hao. Gi kadada' na manera, na dañgkulo korasonmo gi prohimo. Yan gin guaha 'nai un' huñgog un' malañgo kumeke matai pot kanset lao sige mangagao dispensu pot hana' fan mamapot i mañeluña osino parentesña, guiya este ayo i hu sasañgan pot sensian minaase' gi otro taotao.

Guaha lokue' un' hobensita u meskuela koleho. Ginen un' lancheria i prohima ya kada utimom semana ha areglalaye mangachoñga nu i kuaton niha pot para u kubre neseditaña gaston eskuela. Dispues de tres semana, ha repara na maseha man sen malate' mangachoñga, ni uno tumuñgo' mannaen' agradesimiento tat komo Si Yuus Maase osino pot fabot. Guiya uno gi mas malate' ya todo klasen estudio ha chule' pot filosofia lao ti konfotme nu guiya. Utimoña ha faisen i profesot taimano mafanague un' taotao para u mauleg? Man oppe i profesot na timapot hafa finaisesña: 1). Fanague sensian minaase'. 2). Fanague sensian minaase'. 3). Fanague sensian minaase'.

Seguroyo' na yangin ta eksisia este na finanague gi famaguonta lokue', siempre manmotmut korason niha sensian minaase' gi prohimon niha ya apenas ta huñgog na guaha buruka, mamuno' osino madesrosian propiadat petsonat pat publiko. Este i sensian yinease' gi prohimita dipotsihe kustumbren tano' este afañeles. Maseha ilegta na esta man felis hinagoñga, mafato sueteta ginen i gineftaota gi mañeluta siha ni ta choneg gi un' banda sa' ta polu komo man bahu. Na geftao sensiamo gi bandan yinease' gi otro sa' yangin esta este un' fa' hayumo, mas siempre sallon hao mamamauleg otro taotao sa' malago' hao mismo mafamauleg.

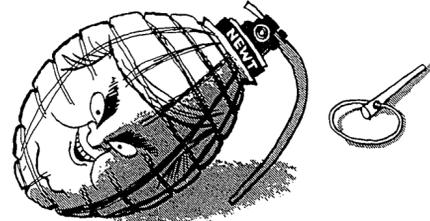
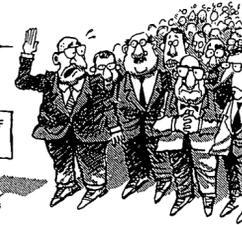
Hulilie' este gi un' otganisasion giya Honolulu (Hawaii Cancer Society) gi guma' Ronald McDonald. I mandañgkulo siha na tenda ha prebeniniye este na guma' todo klasen neñgkano'. Kada dia guaha mafatto ya ha boluntario muna' gasgas tat komo manyute' basula yan mabalen hioyog guma'. Gi utimom semana, mana' fan paseho i manmalaño gi siuda. Man benefisia taotao nu este na checho' yinease' ginen boluntario ni umekstende huyoñg kana ni para ayo siha i ora ha' hananaña. Kustumbren tano' lokue' este piot ya manman bisita hit malaño gi hospitat. Lao hafa mohan ya tafan boluntario lokue' umadahe yan prumotehe sumustene i ginagas guihe na fasilidat?

Pot uttimo, chatmiyo fan malelefa na sensian minaase' gi otro mas tatkilo' ke intellihentent taotao. Fanague famaguon miyo nu este na sensia sa' siempre u guaha mañge' na pas gi entalo' todos guine gi tano' parahiso. Si Yuus Maase!

ROSE ©1997 PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

ALL IN FAVOR OF THROWING OURSELVES ON HIM SAY "AYE?"

HOUSE OF REPS



JACK ANDERSON and MICHAEL BINSTEIN

## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Forest Service is now run by tree-muggers

WASHINGTON — Vice President Al Gore has apparently found a government agency even he can't reinvent: the U.S. Forest Service.

Sources close to Gore recall high-level meetings last year when he fumed at how the old guard at the Forest Service was allowing the timber industry to literally take a chain saw to the administration's environmental record.

Gore, who wanted heads to roll, wasn't alone. Some senior government officials darkly suspected that some of the agency's roguish career staff were trying to embarrass President Clinton in the Pacific Northwest, long a political battlefield pitting sawmills against spotted owls.

What perhaps stung the most for Clintonites was the knowledge that they had allowed themselves to be suckered into this buzzsaw by signing off on a Republican-sponsored rider to a deficit-cutting appropriations bill in the summer of 1995. Clinton gave big timber and the proindustry Forest Service a loophole big enough to drive a logging truck through.

Since the rider took effect, 3 billion board feet of lumber have been harvested from Forest Service land—much more than anyone had anticipated. The rider was sold as a means of salvaging dead and dying trees, but the implementation has spawned the clearcutting of healthy trees and old-growth national forest, and the silencing of dissent. Thus, the timber industry found a way to harvest trees protected by the administration's 1993 forest plan.

"The Forest Service refused to obey the spirit (of the rider)," said one senior administration official who worked closely with Gore on the issue. "There were demonstrations all over the Pacific Northwest, and the president got killed politically. Gore and others were sick and tired of it. He said, 'We cannot allow the Forest Service to flaunt policy which has been established by this administration.'"

An interagency postmortem of the salvage program last month criticized the Forest Service's enforcement of environmental safeguards that led to logging in areas of national forests with "virtually all live trees."

A Forest Service spokesman, commenting on the rider, said, "I don't think many people around here would say that the rider was very positive."

Although the rider expired this week, the physical and political scars will be long-lasting. Moreover, Republicans are already working with timber lobbyists on a sequel, which may pose the first test for incoming Forest Service chief Mike

Dombecko. He succeeds Jack Ward Thomas, a biologist by training who never could tame his own bureaucracy. Therein lies the problem.

"It (the Forest Service) was the greatest reform agency in government at one time," says a senior administration official. "It's now so inbred that it's like an Oxford supper club. They determine what's done, and they built an absolute sort of vacuum wall around the organization. They resist change, and view themselves as primarily there to deliver timber."

This same source added that because the Forest Service, which is part of the Department of Agriculture, claims a relatively small part of the department's budget it "enhances the power of bureaucrats. There's no adult supervision."

For Sen. Larry Craig, Idaho, delivering timber and riding roughshod over environmental regulations has been at the top of his agenda. Craig plans to push a bill this month that will make permanent some of the more environmentally destructive features of the rider. It's part of a 100-page bill that would overhaul the entire federal forest system.

A review by the Wilderness Society found that the bill would reduce or eliminate environmental safeguards and public participation, giving logging, mining and grazing interests sway over public lands. Craig's bill incorporates 17 of 19 recommendations recently made by a timber trade group. Craig told us in a statement that "from the beginning the emergency salvage law was intended only as a temporary measure to deal with the aftermath of the devastating wildfires of 1994."

Under Craig's proposal, community dissent would be muffled by the specter of \$10,000 fines for people who file administrative appeals that are ruled to be "frivolous" or who cause "unwanted delay." Exemptions from public meeting laws would be granted to timber and mining companies.

Administration officials suspect that the Forest Service has become fertile ground for Craig and other Western Republicans. "The Forest Service) has no interest in implementing a modern generation of laws, such as the Endangered Species Act," said one administration official. "They gravitated into the hands of conservatives because the conservatives, who once resisted the Forest Service, have now kind of adopted it precisely because it's become so retrograde in its management."

# Governor on Manila mission

## Food policy main topic of discussion



Froilan C. Tenorio

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff  
GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio has been in Manila since Saturday to discuss with Philippine government officials the granting of free food and housing to Filipino workers in the CNMI, the Variety learned yesterday.

The governor's public information officer Mark Broadhurst yesterday said Tenorio, who is scheduled to return today, is "re-

viewing the situation" in Manila.

The Philippine Migrant Workers' Act requires that the contract of a Filipino working abroad should include food and housing allowances.

Tenorio, in earlier interviews, said if the Philippine government wants to impose requirements on CNMI employers, then it would be up to the employers whether to accept it or not.

CNMI employers, Tenorio

has said, can always get workers from other countries.

"(Or) we might go back to the practice of getting (Filipino workers) in as tourists, then hire them here," he said.

"Of course (the Philippine government) might (then) ban anyone from going here."

For Reps. Stanley T. Torres and Dino M. Jones, however, the free food and lodging requirement is a "ridiculous" imposition.

Torres, with five other representatives, prefiled a bill that would ban Filipino workers from the CNMI, while Jones offered a joint resolution "requesting" the Philippines to

close down its consulate on Saipan.

Tenorio, in a Jan. 19 interview, said that he "understands" the reaction of the House members, but added that banning Filipino workers and closing down the Philippine Consulate are foreign affairs issues on which only the federal government has a say.

"The U.S. government can go after us for discriminating against another country," the governor said. "This may be something we have no authority."

Tenorio said he doesn't want to tell the Philippine government what to do, "just like I don't want them to tell us what to do over here. (And) that's (only) fair."

## CRM to fine Japanese firm

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff

A JAPANESE fishing firm has been given 45 days by the Coastal Resources Management to remove all engine lubricants and other polluting substances from a recently sunken vessel in Pagan's coastal waters.

Roshe International Japan had already received the enforcement notice, which was dated Jan. 10, according to CRM Director Manuel C. Sablan.

Sablan said after the 45-day period starting from the receipt of the notice, the firm will be fined \$10,000 a day.

The enforcement notice said the pollutants should be removed prior to the removal of the vessel itself from CNMI waters.

The enforcement notice was addressed to Alexander Donald, captain of the sunken vessel Nago No. 16.

The vessel, according to a report from the United States Coast Guard, ran aground on Pagan last Jan. 4 because of a storm while on its way to

Pohnpei.

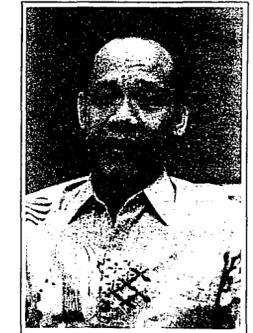
CRM Chief Enforcement Officer Joaquin D. Salas, who went to check the vessel on the same day, was told by Wilfredo G. Arabaca, who was on Pagan before and after the incident, that a crew member had told Arabaca that the vessel ran out of fuel.

Arabaca also told Salas the vessel broke loose from its mooring at about 6 a.m. and eventually sank.

When Salas and Mark Pangelinan of the Emergency Management Office arrived on Pagan at 4 p.m. of Jan. 4 and went to check the ship at the western vicinity of the island, they found no one from the vessel who was available.

The CRM's findings showed the vessel had "illegally discharged engine lubricants, hydraulic fluids and other substances associated with the operation and running of the vessel."

"The vessel...continues to leak foreign substances into the marine environment causing adverse impacts and dam-



Manuel C. Sablan

ages to the ecosystem," the enforcement notice stated, adding that the owner or owners of the vessel were "responsible and liable for all damages caused by the vessel to the environment."

Sablan, in an interview, said that in addition to the daily \$10,000 fine after the 45-day lapse, the CRM will impose a yet undetermined fine for the actual environmental damage the oil spill had done to CNMI waters.

## Free food petition gets 'stiff resistance'

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THE PETITION for the granting of a free food allowance to all non-resident workers in the Commonwealth, expectedly meeting "stiff resistance" from its owners who has allegedly resorted to retaliatory measures in a bid to keep their respective employees from signing up.

Vic Perez, spokesperson of the Commonwealth Labor Federation, said the on-going petition-signing activity has so far garnered 1,000 signatures.

He conceded that the CLF is facing difficulties having other Filipino non-resident workers sign the petition due to "strong retaliatory conduct" from employers.

"We have to admit, there is a strong retaliatory conduct from employers who has resorted to pre-emptive actions," he said.

Among these "actions," he said, include threats of non-renewal of

contracts, even factory closure, and a cut in overtime work.

Nevertheless, Perez said, the petition paper "is still being circulated among workers in the CNMI."

He expressed optimism, the campaign will be able to muster a "decisive number" from the Filipino community.

The petition-signing campaign started last December in an apparent bid to create a strong public opinion among the Commonwealth's estimated 20,000 non-resident workers on the granting of a free food and housing allowance for them.

The campaign came in the midst of a debate between CNMI and Philippine governments on whether to grant such benefits.

Gov. Froilan Tenorio has repeatedly stressed he will not direct CNMI employers to give the said allowances supposedly in the absence of a Commonwealth law mandating it.



The D.A.R.E. program of the Department of Public Safety recently donated sports equipment to Oleai Elementary School. From left: Oleai Elementary Principal Evelyn Manglona, Vice Principal Jess T. Wabot, resource teacher Violy C. Beltran and DPS program instructor Sandy Hambros.

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# Upgrade for Rota's Pinatang Park

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff

ROTA residents will soon enjoy the use of Pinatang Park's swimming pool, which contains stagnant water.

To be financed by the Commonwealth Development Block Grant, the park's swimming pool will be fixed "so that the citizens and the children on Rota can enjoy and will have a place that they can go swimming," said MaryLou Sirok, corporate director of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

Sirok said firms which have submitted bids for the project are now being evaluated.

The winning bidder will be known in the middle part of next month.

"We're very excited about this project because finally the Pinatang Park will be open to the general public's use," Sirok said.

Pinatang Park was started by former Lt. Gov. Benjamin Manglona.

According to Norman K. Pangelinan, manager of the housing division, the park's



MaryLou Sirok



Benjamin Manglona

It is a unique, natural ocean-water swimming pool.

"We're trying to study to see how we can make it feasible and make it usable by the general public," Sirok said.

Aside from the upgrading of the swimming pool, the parking lot of the park will be fixed.

Pinatang Park is one of the largest public parks on Rota, in Songsong Village.

The park has a bridge from the island to an atoll where the swimming pool is located. A popular picnic site, the park has barbecue pits and picnic tables and benches.

swimming pool's water does not circulate because of a water-outlet problem. Its water therefore is stagnant.

## SIS rules JA 'Challenge'

THE Saipan International School team of Marta Zweber, Michael Guerrero, Darin Mason and Mathew Curran captured the Junior Achievement of Saipan Our Nation Challenge held last Saturday at the Pacific Castle.

The winning team and their sixth grade classmates will share the Our Nation Challenge trophy and a lunch hosted by Wendy's of Saipan.

The runner-up team of Arnel Taimanao, Larry Mar Buniag, Carmine Babauta and Claribel R. Gross from WS Reyes Elementary School received a plaque and gift certificates from the Big Dipper, a news release from the JA program said.

During the Challenge, sixth grade students from SIS, WS Reyes, San Vicente, Koblerville, Oleai, Tanapag

Elementary Schools and Grace Christian Academy answered questions based on the JA materials presented during the Our Nation program.

All the Our Nation Schools that participated in the Challenge received \$100 for their sixth grade class.

The Challenge was hosted by Ken McKinney of Sunset Advertising with assistance from the three judges: Jimmy Foxx of KCN/KZMI, Stan Good of Azuma Ltd and Bud White of White Coconut Computer Services.

Our Nation is a Junior Achievement program designed to introduce the basics of business to sixth grade students.

During the five weeks of the program, a business volunteer visited the class to present the Our Nation materials.

## 3 minors taken in for 'snatching'

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THREE youths, aged 12, 13 and 14 years old, were arrested over the weekend after they ran off with a purse one of them grabbed from a woman in Chalan Kanoa.

Police PIO, PO3 Cathy Sheu said the victim was a 30 year old female who happened to be walking when

her wallet, containing a still undetermined amount of cash and other valuables was grabbed.

Sheu said the three was caught shortly after the incident within the area.

The three will be turned over to the juvenile center of the Division of Youth Service while their case is being heard in court.

Robbery charges are now being readied against the three.

The incident was part of about five cases of theft and burglary monitored by authorities last Friday.

A bag, a wallet and a watch was also stolen from a couple in their As Litoresidence when unidentified men broke into their house while they were away and stole it.

No arrests have been made. Sheu said police are still investigation the incidents.

In a related report, a nine-year old boy was assaulted by a still unidentified man who threatened him with bodily harm using a bladed weapon also last Friday.

## Taisacan named new special assistant

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

A STAUNCH Democrat and supporter of Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio was appointed Thursday as the governor's new special assistant for public liaison.

Jesus M. Taisacan, 59, replaces Ignacio O. Pangelinan who resigned last Dec. 6 "to take advantage of early retirement benefits."

A graduate of the Territorial College of Guam, Taisacan hails from Rota but has been, for years now, a resident of Saipan.

Taisacan was a former elementary school teacher, and has served as a Senate consultant from 1984 to 1987.

From 1989 to 1991, he worked for then senator Jose P. Mafnas.

Taisacan has also been in the real estate and construction business. Since 1994, he has consistently lauded or defended the Tenorio administration in several letters-to-the-editor he wrote.

The governor's public information officer Mark Broadhurst yesterday said that Taisacan's position serves a "pretty important function" for the administration.

The special assistant for public liaison is the "direct link" of the governor to the community, Broadhurst said.

Taisacan's appointment is not subject to Senate confirmation.

## PIBBA skeds annual meet

The P.I.B.B.A. (Pacific Islands Bilingual-Bicultural Association) CNMI Chapter will hold its annual general membership meeting on Friday, January 31, 1997 at the Carolinian Utt starting at 5:30 p.m.

Members from all over the Northern Mariana Islands are asked to participate and bring new members to this culture-conscious nonprofit organization.



J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. honored its employee of the 1996 Fourth Quarter, Ms. Rosita Haruo (2nd from left) with a \$200.00 gift certificate and a luncheon on her behalf. Ms. Haruo is a supervisor at the Hafa Adai Shopping Center and has been with the company for five (5) years. Others in the photo are (from left) Yasuhito Irihaka (Asst. Manager, Hafa Adai Shopping Center), Clarence T. Tenorio, and Mikio Ito (Manager, Hafa Adai Department Store).

## Drug training sessions held

SUPERVISORY Training Sessions for the CNMI Government's Drug and Alcohol Workplace Policy, has resumed yesterday, Special Assistant for Drug and Substance Abuse Dick Pierce disclosed.

In a news release, Pierce announced that Saipan Department Heads and their supervisory staff are attending the day-long sessions at the Aqua Resort Club Hotel, which will go on today and tomorrow.

The sessions will continue on Rota at the Round House on Thursday the 30th, and will conclude in Tinian at the KBC Building on Friday, January 31, 1997.

The Governor's Office's Special Assistant for Drugs and Substance Abuse, and the Department of Public Health's Division of Mental Health and Social Service's Director will conclude their Employee Awareness sessions in Saipan, Tinian and Rota during the month of February.

"This will complete the necessary training for all Government employees in order to fully imple-

ment the overall Policy. The printing of the Policy for public comment in the February Commonwealth Register, as amended Civil Service Regulations, would have the net effect of allowing the CNMI's Drug Policy to be fully operational by mid-April," said Pierce.

MBG Management Services, Inc. has been retained through independent contract to resume and conclude the Government's training and provide consultation through the Policy comment period.

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MBG Management Services, Inc. has been retained through independent contract to resume and conclude the Government's training and provide consultation through the Policy comment period.

## PREL takes new corporate identity

HONOLULU-The Pacific Regional Educational Laboratory (PREL) has acquired a new corporate identity, the organization disclosed.

Dr. John W. Kofel, PREL Executive Director its corporate name has been retired and that the corporation has been renamed Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL) effective immediately.

Kofel explained that the name change was necessary "to more accurately reflect what PREL is and does." He indicated that PREL's tremendous growth since its inception in 1990 triggered the change.

The former name, said Kofel, was appropriate when PREL had only one federally funded educational program—the Regional Education Laboratory (REL).

Kofel explained that with the subsequent award of two new programs in recent years—the Pacific Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Regional Consortium—the corporate name no longer reflected all of PREL's work.

"This name change is an important step in the continuing and logical evolution of PREL as an organization with a mission to assist Pacific communities with the education and learning of children, youth and adults," said Kofel. "Our PREL acronym and logo, our mission, philosophy, quality of services, staff, management, center locations, and strategies for making a difference remain intact. We hope our new name will further underscore all these important elements of PREL."

The change was approved by PREL's Board of Directors at its November meeting on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. PREL's Board consists of chief educators from each of the 10 entities PREL serves in the Pacific, and representatives from business, parents, teachers and governments.

PREL, with Pacific service centers in Honolulu, Saipan, and Yap, is an independent, nonprofit corporation for educational research and improvement, serving Pacific children and educators in American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia—Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap—Guam, Hawaii, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

## Micronesian leaders honor Kabua, wish Olter well

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

KOROR, Palau — Heads of Micronesia states and islands sent a condolence note to the family and constituents of the late Marshall Islands President Amata Kabua who died of heart ailment last December.

At the same time, they sent get-well-soon wishes for FSM President Bailey Olter who is currently recovering from a heart operation in a hospital in Honolulu.

Micronesian leaders gathered here Monday for the annual meeting for the Council of Chief Executives of Micronesia.

Kabua and Olter were among the founding charter members of the council which was established on Jan. 12, 1996.

"President Amata Kabua provided his support and participation in council activities which dignified his desire to enhance the quality of the life in the Micronesian region through

cooperation, respect and mutual understanding," states the resolution signed yesterday by council members.

Kabua, the resolution said, "endowed the council with his wisdom, his leadership, his knowledge of Micronesian affairs, and his deep sense of pride in the future of Micronesia."

In another resolution, the council expressed hope for Olter's speedy recovery.

"The council has missed the active participation of President Bailey Olter," the resolution said.

During the meeting, acting FSM President Jacob Nena told council members that Olter's recovery "is very slow."

"This resolution will certainly make him feel good," Nena said.

Olter, who underwent bypass operation, has been in the hospital since July 1996.

## Mayor issues clarification

TINIAN Mayor Herman M. Manglona has written the Variety to correct what he said was an "inaccurate and misleading" statement published on its January 24th issues regarding a task force the mayor established on Tinian to identify any available public land suitable for homesteads.

The Variety report had it that the "Tinian government wants to use the military buy-back and lease-

back lands... for its plan to establish new village homesteads," an apparent "misinterpretation" of the mayor's letter dated January 23rd.

According to the mayor, the military lease-back land on Tinian cannot be used for homesteads, thus the task force must identify the available public land that is not currently leased and that is suitable to be used as homesteads by eligible Tinian residents.

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## Pacific News Round-Up

### South Pacific officials criticize planned closure of radio station

**CANBERRA (Pacnews)**—The Australian government is facing a barrage of criticism from the South Pacific over the likely closure of Radio Australia, which has been broadcasting in the region for 50 years.

The government Friday received the Mansfield Report into the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, the parent body of Radio Australia, which recommended the closure of Radio Australia to save 20 million (US\$15.5 million).

The likely closure of the interna-

tional broadcaster has already provoked a storm of criticism from Pacific islanders, many of whom rely on Radio Australia for a wide range of services including news, current affairs and sports, and also programs tailored specifically for the South Pacific in English, French and Tok Pisin.

Pacnews Canberra Bureau says the recommendation has also provoked alarm in some government departments in Canberra such as the Department of Foreign Af-

fairs and Trade and the Department of Defence.

Experienced diplomats working in the South Pacific believe the closing of Radio Australia will seriously weaken Australia's influence in the region.

It also sends the wrong signal to the South Pacific following closely on the visit to the region by the Australian Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer, who has assured Pacific leaders of Australia's renewed commitment to the region.

### Job hunters disrupt traffic

**APIA (Pacnews)**—A job offering \$3.10 an hour attracted thousands in Western Samoa's capital Apia yesterday (Samoa time Saturday) disrupting traffic and astounding recruiters from the tuna cannery, Star Kist Samoa Incorporation in American Samoa.

Job seekers were invited by Star Kist ads for initial talks at Aggie Grey's Hotel conference room, but because this proved too small, the venue was transferred to a floor of the Ioane Viliamu building up the road.

And when crowd numbers made

this unsafe, people were directed to the Village Mayors' house in mid Apia.

An estimated 3,000 job seekers stopped traffic, forcing police officers to take over from traffic lights at the Ioane Viliamu Building and speakers to organise things.

Western Samoa's minimum wage is 56 US cents an hour - Star Kist is offering 3.10 US dollars an hour.

The company wants up to 300 extra workers to clean fish and get the products out as soon as possible, because of the high demand.

### Vanuatu farewells Fairstar

**PORT VILA (Pacnews)**—Vanuatu's president, Jean-Marie Leye Lenelgau, has approved a public holiday for the capital Port Vila this afternoon as the town farewells the cruise liner, Fairstar.

The Fairstar has been a regular visitor to Vanuatu for 25 years, and is leaving Port Vila for Sydney this evening on its last voyage ever.

The Vanuatu capital is abuzz with activities which will culminate with a fleet of traditional canoes leading the Fairstar out of Vila harbour on its last voyage.

The Fairstar's immense contribution to Vanuatu's economy is signified by its featuring in Vanuatu's highest denomination, the 5,000 Vatu note.

### Lack of funding disrupts school opening in Solomons

**HONIARA (Pacnews)**—The Solomon Islands government's financial problems have affected the commencement of classes at a number of schools of the Solomon Islands College of Higher Education, SICHE.

The School of Education and Cultural Studies and Health Studies were unable to open their doors to students at the start of the 1997 academic year yesterday morning, as a result of failure by the government to settle its 1996 outstanding school fees for the students, SIBC reported.

Director of SICHE Gabriel Taloiwai says suppliers of goods and rations to the college have closed their accounts because the institution failed to settle its bills for last year.

Taloiwai revealed that the college is still being owed a total of 3.1-million Solomon dollars (US \$874,000) in outstanding fees and grants. He says the government alone owes the college 1.9-million dollars (US \$536,000).

The Solomon Islands government is the biggest single sponsor of students attending courses at the School of Education as well as Nursing and Health Studies.

### Nena congratulates Kabua

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei-Acting FSM President Jacob Nena** congratulated newly-installed Marshall Islands, President Imata Kabua, who replaced the late President Amata Kabua, a news release from Nena's office said.

"On this momentous occasion, I send my sincere congratulations and best wishes and that of the people of the Federated States of Micronesia to you and the people of the Federated States of Micronesia to you and the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, as you assume the Presidency of the Republic of Marshall Islands," Nena said in a letter to Kabua.

### Solomons to take action on nuke waste transport

**HONIARA (Pacnews)**—The Solomon Islands government is yet to take a stand on the planned transporting of reprocessed radioactive nuclear material from Europe to Japan through the South Pacific.

Representatives of Pacific Nuclear Transport Limited from Britain, France and Japan briefed the Solomons government Friday and left for Port Moresby Sunday, RNZI reported.

The delegation held talks with three government ministers, including the deputy prime minister, Danny Philip.

The delegates told a media conference that it is safe to transport radioactive nuclear material by sea. But they refused to say whether such a shipment was planned through Solomons waters.

Earlier this decade, a ship went through the territorial waters of Melanesian countries despite protests by regional governments.

### Fiji chiefs discuss constitution

**SUVA (Pacnews)**—Fiji's prime minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, officially opened the Great Council of Chiefs meeting (Bose Levu Vakaturaga) in Suva yesterday morning.

The two-day meeting is being held at the Tradewinds Convention Centre in Lami, the Daily Post reported.

High on the agenda is the Reeves Constitutional Report which was expected to generate lively discussion.

The meeting was being chaired by the prime minister in his capacity as Minister for Fijian Affairs.

Rabuka will seek endorsement from the chiefs that provincial council resolutions on the Reeves report be sent to the Fijian Affairs Board first, before being forwarded to the Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Select Committee, charged with the responsibility of reviewing the reports.

The chiefs are also expected to make a decision on a proposal that a joint company be formed to help Fijians in businesses.

Other proposals include an insurance scheme for members of the Fijian Affairs Board and Fijian education discussion, but only in relation to a proposal by Malaysia, to help out through its Mara institute.

### Fun run proceeds a big boost

**PORT MORESBY (Pacnews)**—The inaugural Papua New Guinea Lihir fun-run-walk event has raised 11,000 kina (US \$8,000) from sponsorship, registration and sale of T-shirts.

More than 500 runners and walkers participated in the event last November, NBC reported.

These proceeds will go towards community help project on Lihir. A highlight of the 8-kilometre event was the participation of

### Bougainville crisis has affected external trade

**HONIARA (Pacnews)**—The eight year old war on Bougainville is adversely affecting the external trade of Solomon Islands shell money.

This was expressed by Solomon Islands national planning minister, Francis Saemala, who's MP for the Langalanga area of Malaita Province where most of the traditional shell money is produced.

Saemala says Bougainville was the main outside market for Solomon Islands shell money and since the outbreak of the secessionist conflict, very little external shell money trade had taken place.

Solomon Islands shell money was one of the items listed under the Melanesian Spearhead Group free trade arrangement.

However, Saemala said the Kastom Weather Cooperative Society which is the main producer of shell money continued to trade its products locally.

### PNG seeks extradition of journalist from Australia

**MELBOURNE (Pacnews)**—Papua New Guinea will reportedly seek the extradition from Australia of a journalist who illegally entered Bougainville to cover negotiations on the release of five soldiers held hostage by rebels.

A PNG government source quoted by Australian Associated Press says the extradition will serve as a wider warning to people breaking PNG's immigration laws, Radio Australia reported.

Prime minister Sir Julius Chan has already said the Australian journalist and a British magazine writer who reportedly entered Bougainville via Solomon Islands

### Indian farmers in Fiji remain uncertain about their future

**SUVA (Pacnews)**—Fiji's national farmers union general secretary Mahendra Chaudhry says Indian tenant farmers are "prisoners of uncertainty" following delays in finalising the future of leases under the Agricultural Landlord and Tenant Act.

And he warned that the delays would have a detrimental effect on the already stagnant economy, the Fiji Times reported.

Prime minister Sitiveni Rabuka announced Friday that the Lands and Agriculture ministries would organise a follow-up survey on the report of the Native Land Trust Board's task force on ALTA.

Chaudhry described the move by Rabuka as a 'delaying tactic' He says the entire nation has been waiting for a decision and it is obvious that the government is not capable of that.

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## More Regional Updates

### Floods in western Fiji rise; seven families evacuated

**SUVA (Pacnews)**—Seven families in Rakiraki, Fiji were evacuated from their homes in Qelama Sunday as several days of heavy rain caused widespread flooding in Western Division.

Station Officer at the Rakiraki police station Inspector Penioni Tokoni says the families were moved out of their homes because the Naqoro flats were under two meters of water, the Fiji Times reported.

The families are now staying in a vacant building in the town. Tokoni says police were monitoring the water level.

He says flooding from continuing rain in the past week had forced the closure of roads to the interior of Ra.

In the Eastern Division, the prolonged rain caused widespread flooding, landslides and destroyed crops in many areas.

The Naqali Bridge in Naitasiri was again overcome by torrential rain. By 2pm Sunday the bridge was under two metres of water. Residents and travellers along the road had to cross the road by boat.

### Women to join Solomons elections

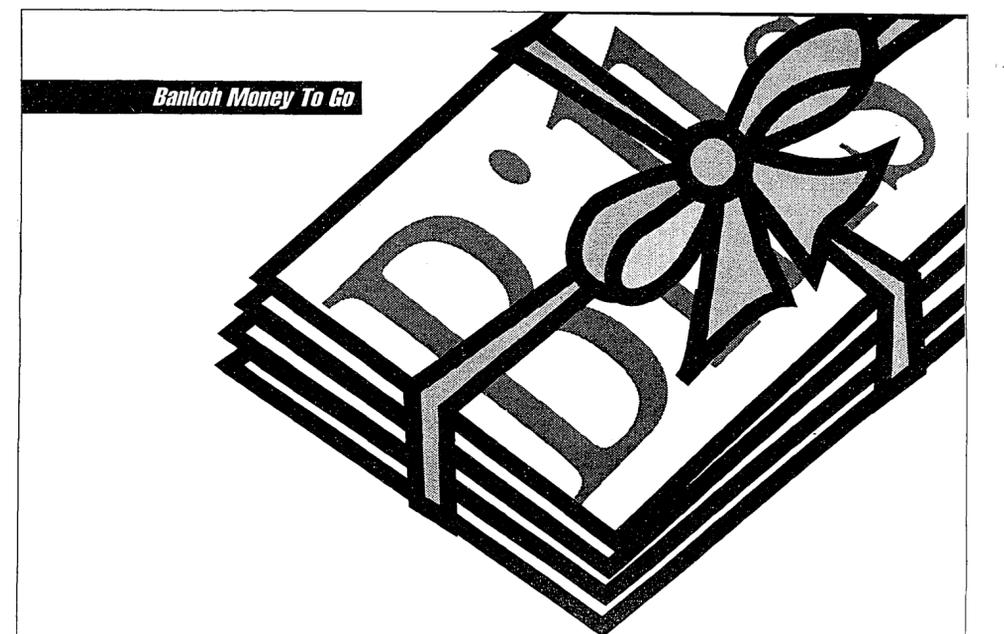
**HONIARA (Pacnews)**—A women's meeting in Solomon Island's capital Honiara, has identified four female candidates intending to contest the coming National and Honiara Town Council elections.

MP for East Central Guadalcanal, Hilda Kari, organised the political awareness meeting, SIBC reported.

During the meeting Kari (Mrs) spoke about her experiences in politics, and heard from women intending to contest the elections.

She encouraged the women to contest the national elections so that the country can have more women in parliament. Kari says politics is not about money and power but the art of reaching and educating people.

She called on women to support each other and leave behind their differences. Kari says she believes women can make a big difference if they are given the opportunity in the decision making level.



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Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that, the NMHC is soliciting proposals from licensed companies in the Commonwealth engaged in providing building maintenance services to provide, on an "As-Needed Basis", maintenance of its Central Office and Section 8 Housing Units in Saipan.

Sealed proposals will be received until 10:00 A.M., Monday, February 10, 1997 at NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, at which time and place all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. The proposal documents, which are available at NMHC's Office, shall be signed by the owner or authorized agent of the firm, and shall be enclosed in an envelope which shall be sealed and clearly labeled, "BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL". Companies shall be responsible for the placement of its firm's name and address on the outside proposal envelope.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on Monday, January 27, 1997 at 10:00 a.m.

NMHC hereby notified all proposers that it will affirmatively ensure that, in any contracts, entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, handicapped/disabling conditions, or national origin.

Proposal Specifications may be obtained at the NMHC Office in Garapan, anytime between the hours of 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Questions or additional information may be directed to Shirino Ngirasmau, Manager, Technical Maintenance Division at 234-7589/6866.

NMHC reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any and all proposals in the best interest of NMHC.

/s/MARYLOU ADA SIROK  
Corporate Director

*"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing agency"*

## Kidnappers free trio

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP) - Bandits have released three of the five government surveyors they kidnapped in the southern Philippines last week, the military said Monday.

The three men were freed on Sunday following negotiations with the kidnappers, who are believed to be members of a bandit group, the military's Southern Command said. The kidnappers were earlier identified as Muslim rebels.

The report said that no ransom was paid for the three men but that the kidnappers continued to demand 5 million pesos (\$ 192,300) for the re-

lease of the two other surveyors.

The kidnappers initially abducted nine government surveyors and workers of the state-run Philippine National Oil Co. in Sinsuat town in Maguindanao province on Jan. 19, but immediately released four men.

Kidnapping for ransom is frequent in the southern Philippines and in the Manila area. Most of the kidnappings in the south are believed to be carried out by former rebels who have turned to banditry.

Many of the kidnappers in the capital are believed to be rogue former or active policemen and soldiers.

## Ramos: Democracy hallmark of economic growth in Asia

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Those who believe that authoritarian governments are needed to bring economic development to Asia are wrong, President Fidel Ramos said Monday.

"Across the length and breadth of Asia, we find the contrary to be true," Ramos said.

He said democracy in Asia may not exactly mirror democracy in the West because Asian cultures and traditions have given it a distinctive shape. "Yet amidst all these influences and

challenges, there is no doubt democracy is on the march in Asia today," Ramos said at a three-day conference of election officials from Asia, which opened Monday.

He said democratic foundations are being developed side by side with economic progress in countries like India, Japan, South Korea and the Philippines.

"Even in those places where democracy today still remains a dream, the hope has risen that someday too, it will become a reality," he said.

Ramos' position contradicts that of Singapore elder statesman Lee Kuan Yew, who has been pushing Asian countries to junk Western democratic models and adopt his country's strict and pragmatic way of governance.

Lee, Singapore's prime minister from 1959 to 1990, is credited with almost single-handedly transforming the Southeast Asian city-state, once considered a basket case, into a model of economic vigor, incorruptibility and social order in just three decades.

## MANILA NEWS BRIEFS (as culled by Philippine Consulate)

### Water contract largest in the world

TWO consortia led by the Ayala Corp. and the Benpres Holdings Corp. won last Friday the \$7-billion (P182 billion) contract to upgrade and operate Manila's waterworks for 25 years.

In a public bidding held last Friday at the Development Bank of the Philippines in Makati City, half of the concession was awarded to the consortium of the Ayalas, the United States Bechtel Enterprises Inc. and Britain's United Utilities Plc.

The other went to the consortium of Benpres Holdings Corp. and France's Lyonnaise des Eaux Dume SA.

The two 25-year contracts, splitting Metro Manila's water services into two zones, have been billed in the Philippines as the largest such awards in the world. Phil. Star

### Gov't pensions hiked 10%

CESAR SARINO, GSIS president and general manager, announced last Friday the grant of a 10-percent increase in the monthly pensions of its 140,000 pensioners effective Jan. 1, 1997. Sarino said the increase implemented by the GSIS is 10 percent of the monthly pension but not exceeding P300 a month for old-age/disability pensioners; P150 for the basic survivorship annuitants, and P30 for dependent pensioners.

The GSIS has allocated P251.78 million to fund this pension increase for the year 1997.

Since 1992, when Sarino took over as GSIS head, he has implemented yearly increase in pensions: by 10 percent in 1992 and 1993; 12 percent in 1994 and 1995, and 10 percent in 1996. Phil. Star

### Ceasefire with Muslim rebels

THE GOVERNMENT has offered a local ceasefire with Muslim rebels following clashes that killed at least four soldiers and 26 guerrillas, officials said last Friday.

Former Philippine Army commander Fortunato Abat, head of the government panel in peace talks with the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said the truce would "establish an environment of peace and order" for the talks.

He said members of the government panel have been instructed to meet with rebel counterparts to draw up a ceasefire agreement around Buldon town in Maguindanao. Manila Bulletin

### Vietnam mission coming February

A VIETNAMESE mission will arrive here next month to process the papers of Vietnamese asylum seekers in the country who might decide to take up a new US offer that aims to see their voluntary return to their homeland.

Sources from the DFA last Friday said the mission was due to arrive mid-February to "interview and give clearance" to Vietnamese sired by American soldiers during the Vietnam War.

The asylum seekers have been offered a cash incentive by the US government in exchange for voluntary return to Vietnam.

DFA sources said that according to US Embassy officials, these asylum seekers have until June 30 to avail of the cash incentive, which amounts to \$1,000 for adults and \$500 for children. Inquirer

### Ramos chosen 'Man of the Year'

METRO MANILIANS have chosen President Ramos as "Man of the Year 1996," according to the latest survey conducted by Vox Populi Philippines, a monthly public opinion magazine.

The President was given the accolade because "it was he, more than any other, who put an end to the freezing and hungry years of long winter and brought in a tuti-frutti Indian summer with a lick and a promise of many more into the years ahead," the magazine said.

Vox Populi said what clinched the title for the Chief Executive and convinced even skeptics and non-friends was "without doubt, the superbly handled APEC Summit in Manila and Subic last November." Manila Bulletin

### Bank robberies down by half

BANK robberies decreased by more than half from 20 in 1995 to nine last year, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said last Friday.

BSP Gov. Gabriel Singson said the money lost to bank robbers also dropped to P4.01 million and \$1,400 last year from P24.3 million and \$39,941 in 1995.

Citing reports by the National Police and the Bankers' Association of the Philippines, Singson said that in 1994 at least 12 bank branches across the country lost P52.76 million to bank robbers.

He noted that the decline was the result of greater vigilance and tighter security in the banks and the installation of time-delay locks in banks, as required by the Bangko Sentral. Today

## Report: CIA manual hints torture methods used in Honduras

BALTIMORE (AP) - A CIA training manual describes torture methods, such as stripping suspects naked and keeping them blindfolded, that were used on dissidents in Honduras during the 1980s, a newspaper reported Monday.

The booklet, "Human Resource Exploitation Training Manual - 1983," advises interrogators to deprive their prisoners of food and sleep and make them stand at attention for long periods of time.

The 1983 manual and another CIA manual from 1963 were declassified Friday in response to a Freedom of Information Act request from The (Baltimore) Sun. The Freedom of Information Act is a federal law granting the public access to certain government documents.

The Sun's request for the manuals was made during an investigation on kidnapping, torture and murder committed by a CIA-trained Honduran military unit during the 1980s.

In a four-part series published in June 1995, The Sun reported that the Central Intelligence Agency and the U.S. State Department collaborated with a secret Honduran military unit known as Battalion 316 in the 1980s in cracking down on Honduran dissidents. The newspaper said this happened even though U.S. officials knew the battalion was kidnapping, torturing and executing people.

Honduras at the time was a key player in the Reagan administration's attempts to overthrow the leftist Sandinista government in neighboring Nicaragua and defeat a leftist insurgency in El Salvador.

A careful review of the lessons taught in the 1983 manual compared to methods used by Battalion 316 in the early 1980s show unmistakable similarities, according to The Sun.

"These manuals confirm a truth we in Honduras have known for a long time, that the United States was involved in encouraging the abuses of the Honduran military," said Judge Roy Medina, the magistrate overseeing a human rights investigation in Honduras. "They were trying to stop communism. But the methods they used are not acceptable in civilized societies."

In releasing the training manuals, the CIA declined to say whether either document was used in Honduras. However, a declassified 1989 report prepared for the Senate Intelligence Committee and obtained by The Sun, says the 1983 manual was developed from notes of a CIA interrogation course in Honduras.

Although the manual discourages routine torture, it advises interrogators to find other methods to threaten and frighten suspects.

The manual says coercive methods are justified when subjects have been trained to resist noncoercive measures. The forms

## 'So help me God...'



Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist administers the presidential oath to President Clinton as first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea look on, Monday Jan. 20, 1997 on Capitol Hill. Vice President and Mrs. Gore look on behind the first family. AP Photo

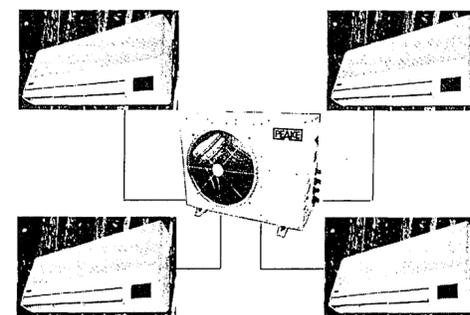
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A squatter displays an image of the Child Jesus as he and fellow squatters taunt police and demolition crew from their barricade at Manila's chinatown district early this month. Dozens were hurt as the squatters succeeded in resisting the demolition of their shanties. AP Photo

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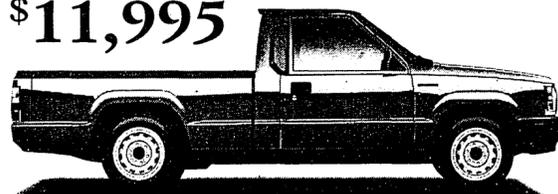
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# Chechnya elects president

By GREG MYRE  
**GROZNY, Russia (AP)** - Against a backdrop of war-shattered towns and villages, Chechens headed out to elect a president and a parliament Monday with all of the top candidates demanding independence from Russia. Chechnya's separatists have been running the Muslim territory since the war with Russia ended in August, and many residents saw Monday's election as an important step toward a full separation from Moscow.

## New leaders being sought to push for independence

Security was tight as Chechen soldiers with automatic rifles guarded the polling stations, but the atmosphere was relaxed and there were no reports of trouble early Monday.

All the leading Chechen candidates are heroes of the guerrilla war who favor independence for the tiny territory in southern Russia that had only 1.2 million people before the war, and even fewer now.

"We don't want independence in five or 10 years," Aslan Maskhadov, the front-runner in the presidential race, told a news conference Sunday. "We think that after democratic elections, civilized elections, we need to sit down to talk with Russia" about independence.

"We want everyone to see us as an independent state," he said. Moscow is little more than an observer in this election. But Russian leaders from President Boris Yeltsin on down are adamant that Chechnya will not be allowed to

secede, fearing that other ethnic groups in Russia might try to follow Chechnya's example.

It was barely two years ago that Yeltsin sent troops and tanks pouring into Chechnya, expecting a swift rout of a lightly armed band of several thousand Chechen fighters.

But the Russian forces struggled at every step, and when the Chechens caught them napping and retook Grozny last August, the Russians agreed to a peace deal and withdrew their last troops less than a month ago.

The death toll for the Chechen war has been estimated at anywhere from 18,000 to almost 100,000, most of them civilians. By either count, it's the greatest loss of life among Russian or Soviet citizens in any conflict since World War II.

The battle for Chechnya is now set to become a political struggle.

Chechnya will have extensive autonomy and be allowed to run its own

affairs, but any moves toward formal independence will face stiff resistance from Moscow.

Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev has effectively served as Chechnya's leader in recent months. He took over the separatist cause last April after the Russian military killed Dzhokhar Dudayev, the man who first declared Chechen independence shortly before the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991.

Yandarbiyev is among 16 men running for president, though he's believed to be trailing well behind Maskhadov, the former military chief of staff for the rebels, and Shamil Basayev, a fiery, 32-year-old guerrilla leader.

"Only Maskhadov can work with all other leaders - Yeltsin or Clinton, God or the devil," said Vakha Mitsayev, 42, an unemployed driver.

Despite concerns about violence in a land flooded with weapons, the election campaign in Chechnya pro-

ceeded smoothly.

However, some Russian officials have already said that the voting will not be fair because the Chechens have refused to allow polling outside Chechnya for refugees, and many ethnic Russians who fled the territory due to the war will not be able to cast ballots.

The Chechens say polling stations will be set up along the border with neighboring republics, allowing refugees to vote.

The election commission expects to have preliminary results in the presidential race on Tuesday and the final results a few days later.

Candidates need 50 percent of the vote to win outright. If no one reaches the mark, a run-off election between the two top vote getters will be held sometime in February.



South Korean Roman Catholic sisters march on a Seoul street past riot police after an anti-government rally Tuesday, protesting against a new labor law that allows mass layoffs. More than 200 monks, priests and sisters attended the rally. AP Photo

## Soldier injured by bomb in N. Ireland

**BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP)** - A bomb exploded in a car in the town of Ballynahinch early Sunday, slightly injuring a British soldier, police said.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. In its armed campaign against British rule in Northern Ireland, the Irish Republican Army has attached bombs to cars used by British soldiers and police.

Police Supt. Ronnie Hawthorne said the explosion happened at 1.30 a.m. (0100

GMT) when three off-duty soldiers returned to their car after a night out in Ballynahinch, 15 miles (24 kms) southeast of Belfast.

"... as the soldiers were carrying out a security check on their car the device exploded, slightly injuring one of them," Hawthorne said.

The injured man was treated in hospital for cuts and was later released.

The IRA ended a 17-month ceasefire on Feb. 9, 1996 with a massive car bomb in the Docklands district of London.

## King Hussein has knee surgery

**AMMAN, Jordan (AP)** - Jordan's King Hussein had minor surgery to remove cartilage that was causing pain in his left knee, his physician said Sunday.

The physician, Lt. Gen. Samir Farraj, said the monarch is "very fine and he was walking normally this morning."

Farraj said the surgery was performed Saturday by arthroscopy, involving use of a fiber optic device for diagnosis and minor surgery.

"We looked at the joint and pulled out the cartilage that was causing severe pain in the left knee," he said.

He told The Associated Press that Hussein, 61, might be released from an army hospital later Sunday.

# Survey of seven cities across Pakistan: Politicians seen as 'corrupt'

By GRETCHEN PETERS  
**ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)** - Most Pakistanis want sectarian parties banned, support the nuclear program and believe their politicians are corrupt.

But overall they are optimistic about the future, according to a survey published Sunday.

The survey of 1,260 people in seven cities across the country was done last November, just after Benazir Bhutto's government was sacked on charges of rampant corruption and economic mismanagement.

Conducted by a well-respected monthly news magazine, The Herald, the survey showed 95 percent believe most politi-

cians are corrupt.

The survey also showed that most Pakistani's were skeptical about attempts to root out corruption, with 55 percent saying they did not believe corrupt bureaucrats would ever be punished.

But there was some optimism. Seventy-two percent of respondents believe they are better off than their parents, and 67 percent believe their children will do even better.

Sixty percent believe Pakistan should improve ties with neighboring India. Sixty-five percent believe Indian-occupied Kashmir should become part of Pakistan, something New Delhi rejects.

Pakistanis were divided on the issue of military spending, with 49 percent calling for a bigger military budget and 51 percent calling for cuts.

The army budget is roughly one-third of the country's annual \$ billion budget. But respondents were hawkish about Pakistan's nuclear program, with 84 percent supporting the nuclear option, even if the West, most notably the United States, offers protection.

Both Pakistan and India are believed to have the ability to build a nuclear bomb but it's not known whether either has actually done it.

Seventy-two percent said Pa-

kistan has more to gain from other Muslim countries than from the west, but a majority rejected fundamentalism, in government.

Eighty-one percent said mosques should not be used as political forums. Seventy-two percent said Pakistan's religious parties have caused more harm than good, and 74 percent called for them to be banned.

Sixty-three percent of respondents said they believe women should be treated equally before the courts, and 59 percent called for women to have equal divorce rights as men.

Seventy percent, especially in poor rural areas, said they favored family planning programs.

Ninety percent said they favored arranged marriages, with 66 percent saying they would not allow their daughters to marry of their own free will.

One third of Pakistanis said they favored strict Islamic traditions that force women to wear veils and forbid them from venture out in public without a male companion.

The Herald reported a fierce gender divide on this question however.

"While 76 percent of women overall are horrified at the prospect of being declared invisible, only 59 percent of men are willing to resist such Draconian measures," The Herald said.

## India to invite bids for \$6.7B highway projects

**NEW DELHI, India (AP)** - The Indian government will soon invite bids from private companies for construction of 90 national highway projects across the country, The Financial Express newspaper reported Monday.

The bids will total 234 billion rupees (\$ 6.68 billion).

The bids will include building of railroad bridges, expressways and widening of two-lane highways. The projects, starting next financial year beginning April, must end in five years, the paper said.

The paper made no mention if Indian private companies with foreign equity will

be eligible for the bids.

But going by the government's liberalization policy and steps to attract foreign investment, it is unlikely to make any such distinction.

Road construction has been the monopoly of the government's Public Works Department, which in the past gave sub contract to private builders.

India has one of the world's largest road networks with the total road length of 2.65 million kilometers (1.6 million miles).

But most of the roads are in a bad shape and need widening and improvement.



American balloonist Steve Fossett climbs down from his balloon gondola after checking his equipment at the landing site in Piparpur, India, Tuesday. He landed his balloon there Monday after traveling halfway around the world. He plans to take the cabin back to the United States. AP Photo

## Indian border guards kill three Bangladeshis

**DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)** - Indian border guards fatally shot three Bangladeshis who were allegedly smuggling goods from India along the western border, police said Monday.

Three more Bangladeshis were wounded during the shootout on Friday across the frontier village of Daulatpur in Bangladesh's Kushtia district, 128 kilometers (80

miles) west of Dhaka. The Indian border guards later told the Bangladesh authorities that they fired after the group defied order to stop while crossing the border.

Smuggling, mainly Indian goods into Bangladesh, is common along their 4,345 kilometers (2,715 miles) border and officials estimate goods worth \$ 1.5 billion are smuggled annually.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Coastal Resources Management Program (CRMP) will be holding a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. SMS-97-X-01 submitted by Lucky International Tourism Enterprises Corporation, Ltd. through their representative Juan C. Tenorio & Associates for the construction of the Lucky Resort Hotel in San Antonio, Saipan.

The project calls for the construction of a 10-story resort hotel which includes; 470 guest rooms, swimming pools, restaurants, offices, a pub and game room, convention halls, coffee shops, shopping center, gymnasium, tennis courts and various other sports and recreational facilities. The project will also include electrical and mechanical rooms and project infrastructure.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 1997 at 6:30 p.m. at the San Antonio Elementary School. This is the second and final notice of this public hearing.

The public is invited to attend and to submit written comments and/or to make oral comments regarding this project. All written and oral comments received will be made a part of the permit application record, and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed project.

Please contact Coastal Resources Management at 234-6623/7320 or 3907 if you have any questions or require further information regarding this project.

**MANUEL C. SABLAN**  
 Director

Coastal Resources Management

# Gov't regrets sex slave remark

TOKYO (AP) - Japan's top government spokesman apologized Monday for angering Koreans by saying Japan's use of women as sex slaves for its troops during World War II was justified under the mores of the times and that many of the women wanted the money.

The ill-timed comments by Chief Cabinet Secretary Seiroku Kajiyama came on the eve of summit talks between Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and South Korea's President Kim Young-sam.

South Korea and other Asian countries have often criticized Japan for whitewashing its wartime activities, and Kim had expressed anger over

Kajiyama's remarks.

"I deeply apologize that my remarks have caused some unpleasantness at the Japan-South Korean summit, and misunderstanding among the South Korean people," he said.

Kajiyama did not, however, retract the comments in which he was quoted by the Japanese media as saying women sent to front-line brothels were simply trying to make money and were no different from Japanese prostitutes who were operating legally in Japan at the time.

As many as 200,000 women from Korea and other Asian countries were forced into slavery by the Japanese military in World War II. Japan long

insisted that private enterprises recruited the women, but admitted in 1993 that the government was involved.

Kajiyama, 70, said many of the women "went for the money. When they went to the

front, they got extra money for being at the front."

Hashimoto had already apologized for the remarks at the beginning of the summit talks in the southwestern Japanese city of Beppu on Saturday.

## Engine trouble on jumbo jet causes temporary closure of Narita runway

TOKYO (AP) - A Northwest Airlines jumbo jet carrying 363 people aborted takeoff after developing engine trouble, forcing Narita international airport to temporarily close its runway, officials said Monday.

One of the jet's four engines suddenly ruptured on the Sunday incident, blowing off its external cover and other parts across the runway, airport officials said.

None of the passengers or 19 crew members aboard the Boeing 747, which was heading for Min-

neapolis, was injured from the engine trouble, which did not cause a fire.

Northwest officials said the cause of the problem was not immediately known. Mechanics were investigating while repairing the No. 1 engine inside the airline's hanger at Narita, just outside Tokyo.

A Northwest spokesman said the plane's pilot aborted takeoff as he noticed cockpit indicators showing an abnormal decline in hydraulic levels.

Some of the passengers near the wings heard a sound like an explosion underneath them when the plane boosted its engines for the planned takeoff.

The airport closed the runway twice, for a total of nearly 40 minutes, Sunday to pick up the debris and check runway conditions.

Two incoming flights were temporarily diverted to a nearby local airport. The Northwest passengers departed on another aircraft five hours later.

## North Korea delays by one week briefing on Korean peace dialogue

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - North Korea has postponed by one week a scheduled briefing for it by the United States and South Korea on expanded Korean peace talks, Seoul's Foreign Ministry said Monday.

North Korea gave no reason for delaying the briefing, originally scheduled for Wednesday in New York, until Feb. 5, ministry spokesman Lee Kyu-hyong said.

U.S. and South Korean officials were trying to ascertain

possible reasons for the sudden North Korean move, made known Sunday, other ministry officials said.

Kim Gye Gwan, the chief North Korean official due to attend the briefing, was supposed to have obtained a U.S. entry visa at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing on Saturday but did not, they said.

The briefing is to enable North Korea to better understand proposed four-party Korean peace talks which will

eventually involve China as well. It was requested by North Korea.

President Clinton and South Korean President Kim Young-sam jointly proposed the four-way talks in April last year to arrange for a permanent peace on the divided Korean Peninsula.

The rival Koreas are technically in a state of war, since no formal peace treaty was signed at the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.

## Report says Singapore firm scrapped contract for disk drives

SINGAPORE (AP) - The Singapore precision engineering group Cam International Ltd., has scrapped a contract with France's Gigastorage International SA and its U.S. subsidiary, Belfort Memory International, it was reported Monday.

Under a contract signed in August, Cam was to have manufactured disk drives designed by Belfort for Gigastorage in a deal estimated to be worth 200 million dollars (U.S. \$ 143 million) a year, The Business Times said. Cam was to have produced the disk drives at its plant in Penang, Malaysia.

But a dispute over rights and obligations under the contract and indications that Gigastorage and Belfort wanted to end the agreement led to Cam's decision to cancel the contract, the newspaper said.

The termination was not expected to have any impact on Cam's earnings or asset backing, the report added

# 83 anglers rescued from icy lake

BARRIE, Ontario (AP) - Helicopters have ferried 83 fishermen off a Canadian lake with unstable ice, but dozens of others are refusing to leave despite a gaping crack that separated them from shore.

Some anglers even went out on the ice Sunday, apparently ignoring news of the rescue of some 300 fishermen the night before.

"We still have people heading back out on the lake," Sgt. Dan Yoisten of the Ontario provincial police said Sunday. "They're determined ice fishers."

There have been no reports of serious injury since hundreds of

anglers became stranded on Lake Simcoe when a crack opened quickly during a fishing contest Saturday afternoon.

The crack left an open-water rift as wide as 100 meters (320 feet) at some points and stretching about 30 kilometers (20 miles) across the lake, located about 50 kilometers (30 miles) north of Toronto.

Six military helicopters, a hovercraft and several boats rescued about 300 people Saturday, but were forced to suspend operations at nightfall due to blinding snow and winds reaching 90 kph (55 mph).

Some 200 people remaining on the ice sought shelter in heated fishing huts as temperatures plunged to minus 24 Celsius (minus 11 Fahrenheit).

The rescue resumed Sunday and officials brought 83 people to shore, but the others decided to stay and continue fishing, authorities said.

"A lot of these people didn't know they were in any danger," military spokesman Capt. Robert Frank said Sunday.

Fisherman Tom Slade said he and his party were about two kilometers (1 1-2 miles) from shore when they heard about the crack.

His group decided it was best to stay in their fishing hut.

"We saw the helicopter fly over. We saw the news report about the ice floe. We figured we are safer where we are," Slade said.

Many enthusiastic fishermen ignored authorities warnings on Sunday not to go out on the frozen lake to fish. A thin sheet of ice had formed over some gaps overnight creating a false appearance of security.

One group even used a minivan, the front of which crashed through the ice and forced its six passengers to scramble out the back door.

Yoisten said there was no law stopping people from going out on the ice.

"There's nothing to protect people from themselves," he said. "We can only pick them up when they do something stupid to themselves."



After hanging a poster of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., John H. Crawford Jr. checks to see if everything is in order at Lampton Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky. Crawford was hanging the posters before a service in remembrance of the slain civil rights leader. AP Photo

## Hepatitis alert in New Delhi

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - Unchecked blood transfusions during an epidemic of dengue fever last year is likely to lead to an outbreak of hepatitis, a newspaper reported Monday.

Thousands of patients who received transfusions during the epidemic in the New Delhi area may have acquired hepatitis and the disease may break out any day, said The Economic Times, quoting experts from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

More than 250 people died of dengue fever when it hit the Indian capital for three months beginning last August. Thousands more were infected.

The paper said more than 40 million Indians are hepatitis B carriers and some of them must have donated or sold their blood during the dengue crisis. Hepatitis is the viral inflammation of the liver and causes nausea, fever, weakness, loss of appetite. Hepatitis B is usually transmitted by transfusion of infected blood. Hepatitis A spreads through contaminated food or water.

There is no real control on blood donation in India, where many poor people sell a pint of blood for the price of a few meals, and the government's safety rules are vaguely followed.

During the dengue outbreak, thousands of people from neighboring areas came to New Delhi for treat-

ment that included either blood or platelet transfusion.

Dengue is an infectious disease characterized by severe pain in the joints, fever and rash. The hemorrhagic version makes patients' blood vessels leak, sending them into shock if they aren't promptly treated with fluids. The disease is transmitted by mosquitoes.

Poor sanitation and urban decay due to overcrowding contributed to the spread of the disease this year in New Delhi, experts say.

The local government that runs the city where 10 million people strain civic amenities like water, healthcare and electricity, says there is no shortage of hospital beds.

## Environmentalist appeals for gun ban

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - India's best known environmentalist is asking the Supreme Court to ban licences for guns, which she claimed are being used for hunting instead of self defense.

The appeal came from Maneka Gandhi, a former environment minister and daughter-in-law of

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was assassinated by her own bodyguards in 1984.

In a speech Sunday in the southern city of Madras, Mrs. Gandhi said gun permits should not be given to individuals because they often are misused for hunting.

Licences are issued by the po-

lice who must be convinced the weapon is needed for self defense. While the killing of most animals is outlawed, poaching is prevalent.

Press Trust of India reported that the petition will be heard by India's highest court in February.

## Body found on coast may be Russian tanker captain

TOKYO (AP) - A body found washed ashore Sunday appears to be the missing captain of a sunken Russian tanker that spewed a giant oil slick fouling the western Japanese coast, police said.

The characteristics of the corpse, including an old burn on his back, resembled those of Valery Melnikov, 47, of the 13,157-ton Russian tanker Nakhodka, police official Masami Tanaka said.

The police are trying to identify the body with fingerprints or by contacting his family members.

The Japanese coast guard rescued the rest of the 31 crew members of the Russian tanker, which broke up and sank in the Sea of Japan Jan.

2. But the Melnikov had been missing.

The body was found in Echizen town on the Sea of Japan coast Sunday morning by volunteers helping clear away the massive oil from the tanker, Tanaka said.

Echizen is 40 kilometers (24 miles) southwest of Mikuni, where the fragile, oil-filled bow of the Nakhodka still rests on nearby rocks. Mikuni is 330 kilometers (200 miles) west of Tokyo.

The tanker caused Japan's worst spill in more than 20 years. Some 5,000 kiloliters (1.2 million gallons) of fuel oil have spilled into the sea. The slick has now hit beaches in seven prefectures (states) along an 800-kilometer (500-mile) coast.



Local fishermen carry an oil fence on the beach as they prepare to set the oil barrier in Nadate, Niigata prefecture, north of Tokyo. At least 5,000 kiloliters (4,500 tons) have already spilled into the sea since January 2. Officials say they have managed to clean up just about a third of that oil so far. Coastal fishing towns have mobilized thousands of volunteers to help coast guard and fire officials scoop up tons of glue-like oil and scrub the coast with brushes and soap. AP Photo

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# After 20 years, 'Star Wars' back on screen

By JOHN ROGERS  
**NEW YORK (AP)** - It was a long time ago in a movie-making world far removed from this one when a young man from central California came to Hollywood and forever changed the way movies are made.

For after George Lucas' "Star Wars" arrived in 1977, special effects space movies would never look the same. We would no longer accept spaceships that looked like cardboard boxes with strings on them. They had to look like spaceships.

And if the story line was strictly the-hero-saves-the-universe-andgets-the-girl? Well, so what? It was told with such great panache that it really didn't matter.

Now "Star Wars" is coming back to theaters. Its Jan. 31 grand reopening in the United States has fast taken on enough flash and dazzle to equal the explosion when Luke Skywalker fired his missiles into the Death Star.

So scoff if you will (as some cynics among us have) that it is just a plot to sell more Star Wars toys. But to millions of moviegoers, it means the movies' mythical force is with us once again, and that is very good.

Michael Kinnon of Palmdale, California, for example, knows just where he'll be on Jan. 31: In the front

row of a movie theater (he always sits down front for his action films) watching "Star Wars."

"We will be there," the 11-year-old says, placing special emphasis on the word "will." He has seen "Star Wars" 67 times, he says, but always on videotape.

Thus he, and a whole generation born after 1975, have never had the privilege of properly watching that opening sequence, when the words, "A Long Time Ago, In A Galaxy Far, Far Away..." appear and seem to roll right off the screen into outer space.

Not only will you be able to see the original movie in the space trilogy, but you'll have the opportunity to see "The Empire Strikes Back" (1980) and "Return of the Jedi" (1983) on the big screen, too. Both films will be released a few weeks from now as part of the "Stars Wars" trilogy's 20th-anniversary celebration.

Then, later this year, Lucas will start filming three more episodes, with plans to release the first movie in 1999.

But all this leaves a question hanging: Just what is the big deal about a bunch of science-fiction movies that the critics have not always been kind to anyway? What is the allure that makes so many people of all ages

respond to "Star Wars" like giddy children on a Christmas morning?

There have been other great special-effects movies made since "Star Wars." The "Superman" and "Star Trek" sagas come quickly to mind.

But they don't have an exhibit in the Smithsonian Institution. Their dialogue hasn't become part of the language like "evil empire" and "may the force be with you" have.

## Garment... Continued from page 1

nated on due to my union-organizing activities," he said.

Management, Manalili alleged, has threatened not to renew the workers' contracts after learning of the latter's participation in union activities.

"They [management officials] warn the workers identified to be union sympathizers, saying their contracts will not be renewed anymore, should they continue supporting the union," said Manalili.

The workers who joined yesterday's strike belong to two of the firm's four divi-

sions -- the sewing and cutting sector.

The firm's vice president, who identified himself only as a certain Ming H.K. refused to comment on the mass action.

He said when asked was, "I do not understand what they are doing."

The incident, said a ranking official of the Department of Labor and Immigration on condition of anonymity, "could serve as a precedent to non-resident workers in other firms."

"The audacity can very much be copied by other workers," he said.

The Variety tried to contact Michael W. Dotts, the firm's

Indeed, though his story may have been basic good vs. evil, and his storytelling style might have been influenced by the old science-fiction serials he saw as a kid, Lucas was going for much more.

"I wanted tooint it with certain mythological traditions and take thematic issues that had been around for thousands of years and put them in a theatrical context," he says now.

counsel, late yesterday afternoon but he could not be reached for comment.

In a statement faxed to the Variety, however, Dotts said the firm's management "has refused to recognize the union and insisted on an election to determine the true desires of the employees."

"If a majority of the eligible employees desire representation as proven through a fair election, Sako will respect the decision of the employees. However, Sako will not allow itself to be forced into recognizing the union by a few employees who engage in a work stoppage," said Dotts

*With reports from Zaldy Dandan*

## Nakamura... Continued from page 1

said, will push not simply for economic growth, but a balanced economic growth.

Not at any cost, he said. He promised to make sure the expansion of the economy will not spoil the islands' environment and cultural heritage, and that benefits will go the people.

"An economy which exports all of its profits and opportunities cannot serve the long-term interests of Palau, and we will continue to monitor and control our economy as necessary to make sure that the economy's primary beneficiaries remain the people of Palau," Nakamura said.

Nakamura urged the Legislature to adopt the master plan that sets forth the direction for the

nation's economic future.

"We must set a path heading toward specific goals because without such a plan, we will not have the framework around which we can build our economic house," Nakamura said.

Nakamura promises to promote more investment opportunities by giving investors favorable treatment, and by continuing to improve infrastructure.

"We have dedicated over \$100 million to this end. From completion of the road around Babeldaob, to completion of many projects designed to improve power and water distribution, and sewer facilities, we have made--and will continue to make--great progress," he said.

He, however, issued a warning to businesses engaged in "front operations."

## Rota... Continued from page 1

damage was on live corals," he said.

He said they will devise a mitigation scheme to replenish whatever damage had been done.

Sablan said that one alternative is to do a coral transplantation.

The University of Guam, he explained, will hatch corals and plant them in specified areas.

Sablan said they were more concerned about the damage done to live corals than to the dead corals.

He also said the detonation blasted a World War II sunken submarine chaser of which only one-third (the front part)

remained.

At least 10 depth charges (underwater explosives aimed at submarines) and one 500-lb. and one 1,000-lb. bombs were detonated by the US Navy Explosive Ordnance Detachment team.

The Emergency Management Office, which coordinated the detonations, admitted that damage had been done to the corals.

It said, however, that the detonations were necessary to save lives of threatened fishermen and divers.

Sablan agreed, saying that they were more concerned about protecting lives and freeing the CNMI from any liability should any death occur because of any blast coming from undetonated explo-

sives. Sablan said the corals were still healthy and that "we still see a lot of fishes."

"If divers go down there to look at the biodiversity, it's still there, but if they're looking for that ship (submarine chaser), it's not there anymore," he said.

Rota has been a favorite and rated one of the best spots in Asia for shipwreck diving.

Diving operators had objected to the detonations saying it would destroy one of the most popular diving and snorkeling sites in the Mariana Islands.

Another Japanese freighter, Shou Maru, is underneath Rota's waters.

## Administration... Continued from page 1

As required by the Open Government Act, the Variety on Wednesday requested the Office of the Governor to disclose the total amount paid by the administration to CNN, Aquaquest Video Productions, and the Lee Soliers group.

**Marianas Variety** News & Views

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 01 ADMINISTRATION MANAGER-Salary: \$8.00-15.00 per hour  
 01 FINISHING SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$8.00-14.00 per hour  
 01 ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER-Salary: \$7.00-14.00 per hour  
 Contact: NEO FASHION, INC. Tel. 234-9642/(2/11)7227623

40 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$2.90-\$3.00 per hour  
 10 MACHINE PRESSER-Salary: \$2.90-\$3.00 per hour  
 10 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER-Salary: \$2.90-\$3.00 per hour  
 5 CUTTER-Salary: \$2.90-\$3.00 per hour  
 01 COOK-Salary: \$2.90-\$3.00 per hour  
 05 PACKER-Salary: \$2.90-\$3.00 per hour  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$2,000.00-2,500.00 per month  
 Contact: MARIANA FASHIONS, INC. Tel. 234-8607/(2/11)7227624

01 INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC-Salary: \$4.81 per hour  
 Contact: SAIPAN INDUSTRIAL CO., INC. Tel. 234-8733/(2/11)7227625

02 BUTCHER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: GLOBAL TRADERS, INCORPORATED Tel. 234-7415/(2/11)7227626

01 FISHING DECKHAND-Salary: \$1,800.00 per month  
 Contact: SEA STAR, INC. Tel. 235-4710/(2/11)7227627

04 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.05-\$5.50 per hour  
 Contact: LOURDES S. TIONGSON dba Lourdes S. Tiongson, C.P.A. Tel. 235-7763/(2/11)7227628

02 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05-\$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: MARIANAS BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS, INC. dba Business Pro Tel. 235-7763/(2/11)7227629

01 MAINTENANCE BLDG. REPAIR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: FELIPE N. & AURELLA Q. BABAUTA dba Phillip's Enterprises Tel. 288-2128/(2/11)7227630

01 AL

EEK & MEEK®

by Howie Schneider



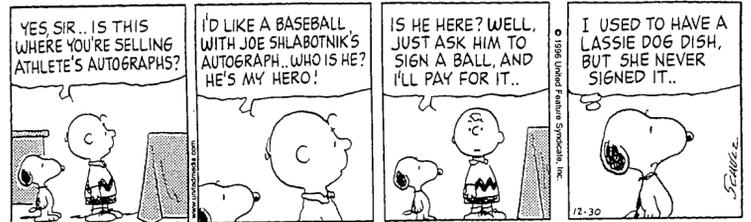
Garfield®

by Jim Davis



PEANUTS®

by Charles M. Schulz



YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are never afraid to fight the big fights in life, and you see in the most formidable adversary only a well-equipped force that can be matched and beaten in time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You will find bargains wherever you go, so why splurge on something that doesn't suit your needs or threaten to break your bank account?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You may need a few careful explanations today before you understand exactly what is going on around you. Pay attention!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You may be able to parlay a pure pleasure into something that is quite lucrative when all is said and done. Your role will be essential; don't back out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You will enjoy a rare opportunity to step into someone else's shoes before the day is over. What you learn can serve you well in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Why follow the fads? The way you do things and the way you look doing them, suits you perfectly. Why change because others do?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You will receive some last-minute information today which may require you to change your plans and reschedule your day from top to bottom.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You should try to keep your eyes and ears open today, because someone is likely to try something that is either illegal or immoral.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — You will want to pay attention to all environmental influences today as they steer you in a direction that can be pleasant and profitable.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — The highest expectations during morning hours can be fulfilled later on if you are willing to do the required preparation and legwork.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You may have an odd reaction to the weather today, but rain or shine, you can still get your work done if you concentrate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You can afford to be a little different today, but you must have a good reason to change. Try to avoid doing something just for show.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Now is the time to fulfill that promise you made to someone only a day or two ago. Do not wait another minute!

BARBS

BARBS BY PHIL PASTORET

Bet on it: Those who say "It's only money" have more of it than they know what to do with.

If you can recall when ice was delivered to your home, you're an old-timer, indeed.

Having to refer to one's physician as a "primary health provider" instead of a "doctor" is enough to make one sick.

You can tell spring is almost upon us. The highway is packed with blooming idiots.

Is it true that one accident-prone airline is recruiting fright attendants?

Translation: "I'll get back to you on that" means "Get lost, baby."

How things change. Once upon a time, "I'll get the modem" meant you'd fetch the lady of the house.

Want to terrify your congressman? Be kind.

When someone tells us "It's the least you can do," they have no idea how accomplished we are in that sort of thing.

Our minister says cleanliness might be next to godliness, but he prays they never build a laundry next to our church.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

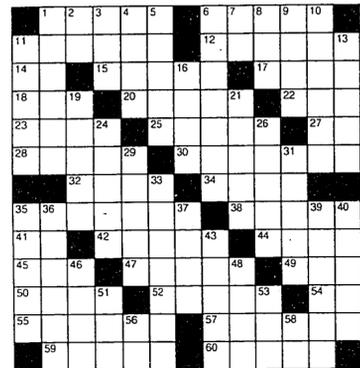
ACROSS

- 1 Cut of beef (hyph. wd.)
6 --Were the Days?
11 Seafood
12 Miff
14 To kill a Mockingbird\* star (inits.)
15 Detroit player
17 Destiny
18 Equip
20 Game of chance
22 Sesame
23 Brother of Jacob
25 Ridicule
27 Eastwood ID
28 Hubbub
30 Handled
32 Weekend-welcoming abbr.
34 Ireland
35 Baseball players

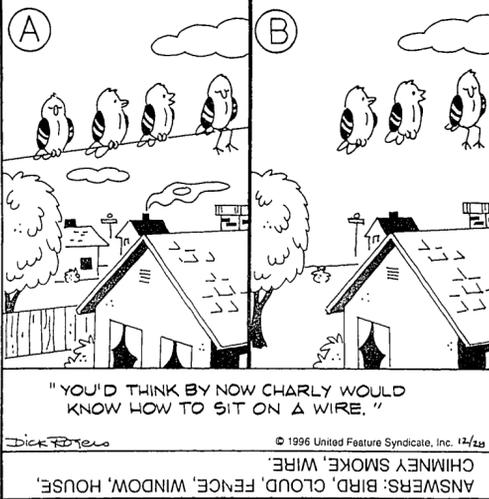
DOWN

- 1 Office worker
2 Strands ID
3 Baseball great
4 --Diamond
5 Plant disease
6 Agony
7 "On Golden Pond" actor (inits.)
8 Not on 9 Chair
10 Tempt
11 Monsters
13 Erased
16 Coup d' --
19 Ways of walking
21 -- a million
24 Forced onward
26 Weeds
29 Loose garment
31 Greenish-blue shades
33 Ladies'
35 -- Buddies\*
36 Frightened
37 Not functioning properly (sl.)
39 O'Donnell and Perez
40 Curse
43 Bottle narrowings
46 The caama
48 Arrow
51 Before Wed.
53 Chou En-
56 Duncan ID
58 Myself

Answer to Previous Puzzle



KidSpot™ THERE ARE SEVEN THINGS IN DRAWING "A" THAT ARE MISSING FROM DRAWING "B." HOW MANY CAN YOU FIND?



Advertisement for 'EDGE-OF-YOUR-SEAT SUSPENSE' and 'STALLONE DAYLIGHT' at the MOVIE HOUSE. Includes showtimes: Thursday 7:00, Friday 7:00, 9:30, Saturday 3:00, 7:00, 9:30.

National Basketball Association

Lakers edge Sonics, 104-103

By JIM COUR

SEATTLE (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers, with the addition of Shaquille O'Neal, think they're better than the Seattle SuperSonics.

And they're proving it, too. "If we see them in the playoffs, we know we can beat them," Los Angeles guard Nick Van Exel said.

On Sunday, the Lakers jumped out to a 21-point lead, squandered it and then came to beat the Sonics 104-103, their second victory over Seattle this season.

"I don't think we're playing physical enough right now," Sonics coach George Karl said after watching his

team lose its second game in four days.

The Lakers outrebounded the Sonics 45-35, and outshot them, too. Their backcourt of Van Exel and Eddie Jones combined for 48 points.

By winning for the 12th time in 15 games, the Lakers took over sole possession of first place in the Pacific Division. They're frustrating a Seattle team that went to the NBA Finals last season.

With a 31-12 record, the Lakers believe they're best-in-the-West contenders this season.

"People can go right ahead talking about the Sonics, Houston and Utah,"

Jones said. "But we're better than they are and we'll show we're better."

Van Exel had 25 points, Jones added 23 and O'Neal had 22 points and 11 rebounds as the Lakers ended Seattle's 11-game home winning streak.

"We have a lot of confidence in our abilities," added Lakers rookie Kobe Bryant, who had seven points in 17 minutes. "We know if we don't beat ourselves, no one else will."

"We just needed to come in and play and that's what we did," O'Neal said.

The Lakers and the Sonics play

again in Inglewood, Calif., on Feb. 16 and in Seattle on April 1.

Gary Payton led the Sonics with 25 points, while Shawn Kemp, Seattle's other All-Star starter, had 15 points and 13 rebounds before fouling out with 3:08 to go with the Lakers ahead 96-95.

The Sonics fell behind 51-30 with 5:49 gone in the second quarter.

"We didn't have any fire at the start and I don't know why," Payton said. "It was embarrassing when we got down by 20."

Bryant's 10-foot bank shot with 1:22 to go and Jones' two free throws put the Lakers ahead 104-100 before Payton made a three-point play with

30 seconds left.

"We should have won the game easily if we would have been ready," Payton said. "We're just not taking these games seriously."

Hersey Hawkins' desperation shot from the corner as the buzzer sounded bounced off the front rim.

"We're still got 39 games to go and we'll see the Lakers again," Hawkins said. "In that first half, I definitely don't think the Lakers could ever shoot any better than they did."

The Lakers played the final 7:52 without Robert Horry, who sprained his left ankle while attempting to block a shot by Detlef Schrempf.

Packers...

Continued from page 20

the end zone for a two-point conversion to give the Packers a 14-point lead.

Bledsoe tried to rally the Patriots in the fourth quarter, but could not. He finished with four interceptions, going 25 of 48 for 253 yards.

The first half was so explosive that the only time to come up for air was on Green Bay's third touchdown drive, a nine-play 74-yard march that took up 5:59 and gave the Packers a 27-14 lead at halftime.

Lite...

Continued from page 20

Team Red Dog after racking seven victories in 11 matches to bring its record to 21-12.

Red Dog dropped to second with 20-13 after going 6-5 for the same stretch. Manny's Fly Boyz II retained its hold of third slot just two wins behind Puga Power with 19-14 record.

The White Trash of Oleai Beach continues to pace the rest of the field in the B Division after rattling 16 wins in 22 matches for a 25-8 win loss slate. White Trash also has the league's highest win percentage with 75.76.

Pacific World's Angus Beef Eaters matched White Trash's output for the week to remain just a victory behind for the leadership in the B Division.

The Shockers of Pacific Isle improved from joint third to solo third

with a 22-11 slate. Previous week's other third placer Dart Vader fell to fifth overall after ending the week with a losing mark, 8-13.

In C Division, the Blind Navigators kept their one game advantage over second running Dart Tarts.

Blind Navigators and Dart Tarts both finished the week with identical 6-5 marks to maintain their hold of the 1-2 slot in their group. Bad Company is in third with a 19-14 record.

Mii and Suzi and PJ's sport identical winning percentages to share the top spot in the Mixed Doubles Division.

PJ's won nine out of its 11 assignments to bring their slate to 21-12 while Mii and Suzi went 5-6 for the week for an overall 14-8 record.

The two teams have similar 63.64 win percentage.

Mike and Sheila fell to third from solo second after winning six of its eleven games.

pulsion from the league as tournament organizers awarded them a 4-0 victory.

The wins lifted Halina's from sixth to fourth overall with 23-17 record.

In other results, Duty Free Shoppers nearly blanked PSTC Bowlers, 3.5-0.5.

DFS won the first two games, 962-956 and 901-878 before the two teams rolled identical 932 pins in the third game for a 2.5-0.5 result. DFS' superior pin total gave them the final score.

Micro/Toyota rattled L&W, 3-1 to improve to a 18-22 good for ninth place.

The losses gave L&W an overall mark of 18-22 but its pin aggregate of 29,244 gave enabled the team to retain the seventh slot.

In the team's all events, Toshiba and Halina's Kitchenette rolled the best marks winning two categories apiece.

Toshiba racked 934 and 2,665 pins for the week's high scratch game and series.

Halina's, on the other hand, bagged the high handicap game and series after knocking 1,046 and 2,988 pins.

In the individual's all events, Jose Tenorio and Pats Amog shared the limelight.

Tenorio, of Joeten Enterprises, scored 233 and 265 pins to win the high scratch and high handicap games while Halina's Amog produced the best marks in the series events with 623 and 692 pins.

Favre...

Continued from page 20

drive by running wide, bowling over the end zone pylon and scoring a TD. In the first half, he had put his stamp on the biggest game of the season.

After Desmond Howard's 99-yard TD kickoff return in the third quarter, Favre threw a two-point conversion pass to create a full two-TD lead.

It was the exclamation point on a second straight MVP year, another brushstroke on a work in progress that is molding him into the next great quarterback in the NFL.

Favre dominated the regular season, throwing for an NFC-record 39 touchdowns and leading the conference with 3,899 yards.

There were five games in which he threw for four TDs, and that dominance was on display against the Patriots.

Favre's scrambling style often led the Pats on a merry chase.

"I'm at my best when I'm out of the pocket," he said. "It's been my nature since the fifth grade, the first time I played. In a perfect world, we'd like a seven-pocket, take the five- or seven-step drop and throw all day. But that doesn't happen."

The road to this triumph was a scramble, too, a long and difficult trip full of twists and turns for Favre.

Aces...

Continued from page 20

absorbed their first loss in five games.

The Aces took the first half, 53-48, with Ric Alegre and Junior Rengull exploding for 17 points apiece. The duo eventually finished the game with a combined 53 points with Rengull scoring a team high 28 markers.

Edwin Bubos led the Wheels' losing cause with three three pointers in the final half for a team high 24 points. Big man David Chesley added 17 while playmaker Frank Iglesias added 13.

In the first game, Ray Lizama was all over the court as the Islanders overcame the RCA Rumm'n' Rebels, 93-85.

Lizama rattled 16 in the opening half and added 17 more in the final 20 minutes of the game as the Islanders negated Ian Carr's 30 point performance.

Yosh Gabaldon and Ruffin Crossat provided Lizama solid support as the two added 18 and 17 markers.

For RCA, Cuvi Alvarez racked 19 points behind Carr's 30 while Ben Guerrero and Diego Masga chipped in 14 points apiece.

# SPORTS



## Green Bay routs New England, 35-21

# Packers win Super Bowl



By DAVE GOLDBERG  
**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** - The Green Bay Packers defeated the New England Patriots 35-21 in the Super Bowl Sunday. The victory hardly brought back memories of Vince Lombardi's grind-it-out Green Bay champions of the 1960s.

Instead, the high-powered Packers did it with big plays, especially by Most Valuable Player Desmond Howard, and returned Green Bay to NFL prominence.

It was Brett Favre finding Andre Rison for a 54-yard touchdown on the Packers' second offensive

play, then throwing an 81-yard TD pass to Antonio Freeman in the first minute of the second quarter to put Green Bay ahead for good.

It was Howard scoring on a 99-yard kickoff return, striking a dagger in the heart of the Patriots, who had closed to within six points at 27-21.

Howard, the first special teams player ever to win MVP, finished with a record 244 return yards.

The win was the 13th straight for an NFC team and kept Bill Parcells, who had two of those 13 with the Giants in 1986 and 1990, from becoming the first coach to win a Super Bowl with two different franchises.

Instead, the Packers won the trophy named for their storied coach. It was Lombardi's teams that won the first two Super Bowls.

There was, of course, time for sentiment.

The team that wanted to win

one for Reggie White did it and he contributed - getting two straight sacks of Drew Bledsoe after Howard's return, and a third late in the game.

That ensured that the Patriots wouldn't strike back at the Packers the way Howard had struck back at them.

It started like a blowout by the Packers, who fulfilled the high expectations with which they entered the season - only coach Mike Holmgren, who referred to the Super Bowl as "that game" rather than by its name, tried to hold down the exuberance.

First there was the TD pass to Rison from Favre, who finished 14 of 27 for 246 yards. It was 10-0 just 6:25 into the game after Doug Evans' interception set up Chris Jacke's 31-yard field goal.

But by the end of the highest-scoring first quarter in Super Bowl history, New England led 14-10 on TD passes by Bledsoe of 1



Brett Favre gets a hug from an unidentified Patriot moments after Green Bay won the 31st Super Bowl. AP Photo

yard to Keith Byars and 4 yards to Ben Coates.

And even after a 17-point second quarter by the Packers that included the 81-yard bomb to Freeman and 2-yard TD run by

Favre, New England was still in it at 27-14.

And when Ted Johnson stopped Dorsey Levens for a 7-yard loss on fourth and one at the Pats 37 on

Continued on page 19

### Bud Light Dart League

## Lite Beer ties Bad Boyz

Bud Light Dart League Standings As of January 27, 1997.

Masters Division	W	L	%
Mom's Round Two "Bad Boyz"	20	13	60.61
Pacific Trading "Lite Beer FBI"	20	13	60.61
EPST "This Is It"	17	16	51.52
Pacific Amusement "Masters"	9	24	27.27
<b>A-Division</b>			
Johnson's "Pugua Power"	21	12	63.64
Team Red Dog	20	13	60.61
Manny's Flyboyz II	19	14	57.58
Lo Cash	16	17	48.48
Tom's Golf Club Repair "Tommy's Monsters"	15	18	45.45
Ritz's Cafe	14	19	42.42
Dart Busters	14	19	42.42
Oleai Beach Restaurant	13	20	39.39
<b>B-Division</b>			
Oleai Beach "White Trash"	25	8	75.76
Pacific World "Angus Beef Eaters"	24	9	72.73
Pacific Isle "Shockers"	22	11	66.67
Johnson's "Pescadot 2%"	18	15	54.55
Dart Vaders	16	17	48.48
Patrick's Hatricks	15	18	45.45
Dart Busters	14	19	42.42
Calvo's "Cut Throats"	13	20	39.39
Saipan Computer Services "Team SCS"	13	20	39.39
STS "Snipers"	13	20	39.39
Victoria's Secrets	13	20	39.39
Tom's Golf Club Repair "The B Team"	12	21	36.36
<b>C Division</b>			
Johnson's "Blind Navigators"	24	9	72.73
Mom's Round Two "Dart Tarts"	23	10	69.70
Bad Company	19	14	57.58
Tom's Golf Club Repair "Little Monsters"	17	16	51.52
Rudy's "Dominant Mikes"	15	18	45.45
Pacific World "Angus Beef Eaters"	14	19	42.42
Oleai "Angles"	11	22	33.33
Pat's Hat's	9	24	27.27
<b>Mixed Doubles Division</b>			
Mil & Suzi	14	8	63.64
PJ's	21	12	63.64
Mike & Sheila	13	9	59.09
Pat & Tel	12	10	54.55
Mashon & Rosemarie	11	11	50.00
Bobby & Dina	14	19	42.42
Rudy & Miles	11	22	33.33
Larry & Jean	3	8	27.27

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
 Variety News Staff  
 LITE BEER FBI went 8-3 for the week to tie Mom's Round Two Bad Boyz on top the Masters Division while four teams retained the led in their respective groups in the 1997 Bud Light Dart League.  
 The Pacific Trading Team hiked its win loss slate to 20-13

to match the Bad Boyz's which lost seven out of its 11 outings. EPST's This Is It remained at third with 17-16 slate while Pacific Amusement Masters still occupy the cellar of the league's premier division.

In the A Division, Johnson's Pugua Power moved one win in front of erstwhile co-leader

Continued on page 19

## Favre delivers championship to Green Bay

By HAL BOCK

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** - When Brett Favre took the Green Bay Packers to their Super Bowl championship on Sunday, it was a victory for every country kid in cutoffs and T-shirt who ever threw a rock in a pond and dreamed about being an NFL quarterback.

Favre's pond was just 50 miles or so away from the Superdome, in a Mississippi mapdot called Kiln, a place deep in Bayou country where he grew up the son of a high school coach and blessed with

a rocket right arm.

The arm alone wasn't quite enough to carry Favre to his championship. He needed the courage to survive a roller coaster year that began with 46 days in a rehabilitation program after he became addicted to pain killers. It continued with the death of his best friend in a van-train accident in which his brother was implicated, and the involvement of his sister in a drive-by shooting.

And it ended in the glare of the Super Bowl, with Favre doing pretty much what he wanted against New England.

On the second play from scrim-

mage, he threw a 54-yard touchdown pass to Andre Rison, who was so wide open he strutted into the end zone.

Coach Mike Holmgren had said his quarterback could always change plays. "But it'd better work," the coach cautioned. Favre made sure it did.

When Drew Bledsoe brought the Patriots back for a 14-10 lead, Favre merely hooked up with Antonio Freeman for an 81-yard TD, the longest TD pass play in Super Bowl history.

Then he punctuated another

Continued on page 19

## Aces halt Wheels; Islanders rip RCA

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
 Variety News Staff

THE UMDA Aces continued their dominance over the Toyota Wheels while the Islanders relied on Ray Lizama's 33 point-performance to beat the Running Rebels, 93-85, last Friday night in the Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands' 1997 Islandwide Men's Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym.

The Aces won their third straight win, including two from the last conference, against the Wheels to assume the solo leadership in the team's overall standings with a perfect 6-0 slate.

The Wheels, on the other hand, Continued on page 19

## Saipan Stevedore booted out Advance Marketing takes lead

Final Team Standings  
 Results for Week No 10 of 24 01/24  
 Friday Inter-Commercial League - Saipan Bowling Center

Pos	Tm#	Team	Won	Lost	Pct	TotPins	Ave	Gm	Ser
1	11	Advance Marketing	28.0	12.0	70.00	29384	979	1066	3068
2	1	Saipan Stevedore	26.0	14.0	65.00	26448	979	1115	3115
3	6	Wushin Corporation	24.0	16.0	60.00	29487	982	1064	3092
4	4	Halina's Kitchenette	23.0	17.0	57.50	29005	966	1070	3144
5	12	Toshiba	22.0	18.0	55.00	29357	978	1118	3036
6	5	Panthers Security	21.5	18.5	53.75	29511	983	1131	3216
7	8	L&W	18.0	22.0	45.00	29244	974	1098	3003
8	7	Kang's Corporation	18.0	22.0	45.00	28748	958	1065	3053
9	9	Micro/Toyota	18.0	22.0	45.00	28373	945	1007	2925
10	3	Duty Free Shoppers	16.5	23.5	41.25	28577	952	1100	3012
11	10	PSTC Bowlers	15.0	25.0	37.50	28947	964	1113	3029
12	2	Joeten Enterprise	10.0	30.0	25.00	28445	948	1054	3001

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
 Variety News Staff  
 ADVANCE Marketing is the new leader in the ongoing Friday Intercommercial League at the Saipan Bowling Center after erstwhile leader Saipan Stevedore was officially kicked out

of the tournament due to non-payment of league fees.

Saipan Stevedore, with a 26-10 win loss slate before the start of the 10th round, will forfeit all of its remaining games in the tournament.

Continued on page 19

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