

SAIPAN WOMAN AWARDED \$ 5,000 FOR WORLD WAR II CLAIM

Mrs. Estefania T. Ogu-moro of Garapan is the first resident of Saipan to receive an award by the Micronesian Claims Commission for losses arising from World War II. An award of \$5,000 was made to her this Wednesday for the death of her husband, Jose R. Ogu-moro.

Five thousand dollars is the maximum amount the Claims Commission is awarding on death claims. Jose R. Ogu-moro died on Saipan on February 23, 1945.

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Commissioners Fulmal and Cabrera with Mrs. Ogu-moro.

MARIANAS VARIETY NEWS & VIEWS

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PAGAN HOTEL:
YES
OR NO?

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KICKING OUT
KICKBACKS

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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TRANSPAC SHAREHOLDERS WANT \$ 31 MILLION

During the past few weeks, Transpacific Lines has had to give up two of its three major ships, to find replacements in order to maintain its service, to contend with charges of holding seamen "prisoner" aboard its boats and to face a lawsuit by a stockholder of the beleaguered company.

Now there is a second lawsuit. This one is a class action brought by 16 disgruntled shareholders to recover \$31 million -- the amount they have set as the fair market value their stock would reach as of August 1978. Filed in the United States Court of Claims on March 30, this suit is against the U.S. Government, rather than Transpac itself.

The plaintiffs contend the federal government

breached its 1968 contract under which Transpac obtained the exclusive franchise to provide shipping to the Trust Territory.

"Shock value" is the way

CONTINENTAL INJUNCTION DENIED

There will be no injunction against further construction of the Continental Hotel on Micro Beach -- from Judge Samuel King of Federal District Court in Hawaii, anyway.

That was the word on Wednesday when the Micronesian Legal Services Corporation learned that its plaintiffs' motion for an injunction was denied.

Samuel Withers, III, MLSC attorney for the opponents of the hotel,

one Saipan businessman characterized the suit this week.

"The implied obligation of the United States to cooperate in making performance of the 1968 con-

tract possible has been breached throughout the life of the contract," states the suit, "resulting in severe financial losses, impairment of Transpacific's financial

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immediately responded that he would ask the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for an injunction after evaluating Judge King's opinion, "if any was filed." MLSC plans to appeal Judge King's March 21 dismissal of the plaintiffs' suit against the hotel, and any injunction issued would be pending the outcome of this appeal.

"The sights and sounds of continuing hotel construction now emphasize to the people of Saipan the apparent reality that, by some perverse psychology, their lawful and responsible pleas have accelerated, rather than deterred, construction of the hotel," says the first motion for an injunction.

"To many Saipanese, victory on the legal issues involved would be pyrrhic and empty indeed if such a 'victory' leaves them

PAGAN HOTEL: SAIPAN COUNCIL VOTES NO

In its closing hours last week, the Saipan Municipal Legislature took what may be the most controversial action of its entire session: approval of a resolution opposing construction of a 50-room hotel on Pagan Island.

This resolution, printed in last week's Marianas Variety, basically expresses the municipality's feeling that public land on Pagan should be opened for homesteading for the benefit of Pagan's people before it is made available for the benefit of foreign corporations; only one nay vote from the 15-member Municipal Legislature was recorded against the resolution. A copy of the resolution was to be forwarded to the Mariana Islands District Economic Development Officer; at the same time, however, he was announcing the District's decision to approve the developers' plans for the Pagan hotel (see related story on facing page).

Other significant legislation passed by the 24th Saipan Legislature's Second Regular Session included ordinances prohibiting smoking in closed theaters and appropriating \$1,000 for the Saipan

Little League; and resolutions pertaining to traffic lights, juvenile detention facilities, foreign employment, home-steading, copyright laws, stock ownership, rising prices and a cultural center.

All ordinances must be approved by both the Mayor of Saipan and the Marianas District Administrator; the DistAd is now in Washington, D. C., but his deputy could act in his absence.

The Municipal Legislature also tabled a resolution endorsing the District Legislature's bill to legalize gambling on Saipan -- which was vetoed last week by the District Administrator -- and an ordinance to authorize the appropriation of \$3,000 to send a delegation from Saipan's Municipal Legislature to a legislative conference in American Samoa (whereas the DistAd last week signed a bill to send a District Legislature delegation to American Samoa, at a cost of \$10,000). An ordinance prohibiting "kickbacks" to tour operators, however, may be reconsidered during the Municipal Legislature's next regular session in September.

Below is a complete record of the Saipan Municipal Legislature's final actions (previous actions were reported in last week's issue of this newspaper):

Municipal Ordinances Passed

Appropriating \$1,000 for the Saipan Little League (for travel expenses of 14 players and two staff members to compete with the Guam Little League All-Stars) (24-14-1973).

Amending the penalties provided for violation of certain business licenses and fees ordinances (24-17-1973).

Adding certain provisions to Municipal Ordinance No 22-5-1970, as amended, regarding municipal scholarships (24-18-1973).

Making appropriation for the municipal budget for fiscal year 1974 (including \$63,534 for administration; \$14,523 for internal affairs; \$13,599 for budget and finance; \$14,347 for public safety; \$69,280 for public works; \$21,177 for tourist site projects; \$50,406 for a concrete hollow block plant; and \$31,369 for the Saipan Municipal Legislature) (24-19-1973).

Prohibiting smoking in closed theaters and providing penalties (24-20-1973).

Appropriating \$2,200 for the operations and expenses of the Saipan Farmers' Market Cooperative Association (24-23-1973).

Resolutions Passed

Requesting the Congress of Micronesia to establish a Saipan Municipal Foreign Advisory Board for the purpose of screening foreign employment in the Municipality and advising the District Employment Services Office (24-16-1973). Partial text: "Whereas, the Saipan Legislature is alarmed at the massive influx of noncitizen labor in the Municipality of Saipan, and at the growth rate in such labor force; and Whereas, it is the sense of the Saipan Legislature that the present controls on the importations of noncitizen labor are inadequate to protect the people of Micronesia who should have first rights to employment in Micronesia. ..."

Prescribing the format of Municipal Ordinances, Charter Amendments and Resolutions (24-23-1973).

Requesting the Congress of Micronesia to amend the Trust Territory Code to permit the District Administrator to control speed limits (24-24-1973).

Requesting the Public Safety Division to prescribe classes of motor vehicle license plates for identification purposes (24-25-1973).

Requesting the Mariana Islands District Legislature for a grant-in-aid of \$50,000 for municipal projects (24-26-1973).

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THE FAMILY OF THE LATE

MARGARITA MANGLONA QUICHOCHO
of Rota

Wishes to extend their utmost appreciation and gratitude to all their relatives and friends who one way or the other helped them during their hour of bereavement. Also special thanks:

Drs. Kaipat, Cabrera, Chong, Messrs. Jose Seman, Jose Takai, Jose Pangelinan, Urbano Babauta and Nurses and Staff of Dr. Torres Hospital in Saipan; San Antonio Village Commissioner Benavente, Continental/Air Micronesia, Rev. Fr. Marcian of Rota Catholic Church.

DANGKULO NA SI YUUS MAASE

Mr. Vicente T. Dela Cruz, Mr. Emilio A. Inos, Mr. G. M. Maratita, Mr. F. M. Taisacan, and their families.

...DISTRICT VOTES YES

Both the Bank of America and the proposed developers of hotels on Pagan and Tinian have received the Marianas District's go-ahead on their applications for foreign business permits. The Marianas Economic Development Board voted on Friday, April 6, to recommend its approval of the permit applications to the High Commissioner. A memorandum to the HiCom from Board Chairman Pedro Dela Cruz was expected to go out sometime this week.

In the absence of the High Commissioner, who is in Washington, D.C., for several weeks, it is possible that the Deputy High Commissioner could act on the recommendations.

On the same day that the District approved the Pagan hotel venture, Saipan's Municipal Legislature voted in favor of a resolution expressing its concern that such a hotel would not be in the best interest of the people of Pagan at this time.

The HiCom, or his deputy, will thus have two conflicting official points of view on the Pagan hotel question to consider in making his final determination. If the HiCom does not agree with the Marianas Economic Development Board's recommendation, he must return the application to the board within 15 days and the board will reconsider the application.

"I respect the opinion of the Municipal Legislature," Dela Cruz said on Monday, "but we were concerned with the economic development of Pagan in recommending approval of the permit."

Copra is Pagan's main source of income at the moment and, said Dela Cruz, the copra situation there is "very discouraging" now. Typhoon and fire damage to the coconut trees and lower market prices for copra are responsible for this. It is

the feeling of the people of Pagan, he added, that a hotel could give employment to most if not all of the residents.

The views of Pagan's people were obtained in a public hearing held on Pagan several weeks ago. At this hearing, Marianas District Representative Herman Q. Guerrero represented the people of Pagan, at their request.

Pagan Hotel Conditions

In its action approving the permit, the board recommended that the Pacific Basin Hotel and Development Corporation, developers of the Pagan and Tinian hotels, be given a perpetual business permit for both a 50-room hotel on Pagan and also a 100-room ranch-style hotel on Tinian.

It set the following conditions for approval of the business permit for the Pagan hotel:

- 1) That construction commence within 12 months after receipt of the business permit;
- 2) That the hotel provide its own electricity and water, and make these available to the residents at a rate comparable to that current on Saipan;
- 3) That it must employ local citizens, and must train employees in all phases of the hotel operation; and
- 4) That 30 percent of the capital stock must be made available to local (Trust Territory) citizens, with 10 percent allotted for employees of the hotel.

Tinian Hotel Conditions

As conditions for the Tinian hotel, the board stipulated:

- 1) That construction commence within 6 months after receipt of the business permit; and
- 2) That employment preference be given to Micronesians, with training also included.

At a public hearing on the application for a

business permit held on Tinian on March 23, a petition signed by 116 persons (about 90 percent of the adult population) was presented to board members. Urging that the permit be approved, the petition stated that tourism presents the greatest potential for the economic development of Tinian, that present hotel rooms are inadequate, that new jobs are needed and that tourism could help Tinian achieve economic self-sufficiency.

The present population of Tinian is approximately 700, with about 52 living on Pagan.

Bank of America Permit

On the Bank of America's application to renew its business permit, the Marianas Economic Development Board also recommended that a perpetual permit be approved by the HiCom.

Conditions set for the bank were:

- 1) That it must advertise the availability of its stock for purchase by TT citizens, indicating the cost per share;
- 2) That if the Bank of America continues to offer automobile insurance, a clear policy must be drafted in the vernacular for those who do not understand English;
- 3) That participation of Micronesians in management and supervisory positions be developed by in-service training, and that a person be trained to take over the management of the branch within three years from the effective date of the permit; and
- 4) That employment preference be given to Micronesians in all types of positions.

Dela Cruz explained that condition 2 above would be satisfied only if the bank provides a written translation or explanation of the insurance contract in the vernacular. Alleged misunderstandings over the

terms of these contracts have resulted in several lawsuits against the bank.

The bank contends that it holds a valid business permit (dating from pre-Trust Territory days), but it applied for a permit under the new foreign investment law at the suggestion of the Attorney General.

Dela Cruz further noted that an amendment to the foreign investment law requires all foreign business firms to file an annual report. Through these reports, the board will be able to assess whether the firms are adhering to the conditions set forth for award of the permits.

Following action by the HiCom on the business permit applications, it is expected that the District Land Advisory Board will hold hearings on leases for both the Pagan and Tinian hotels. While the site for the Pagan hotel is already selected (the former Japanese headquarters), that for Tinian is not.

The Pacific Basin Hotel and Development Corporation, said Dela Cruz, is a separate corporation set up to build the Pagan and Tinian hotels. Jones & Guerrero, Inc., of Guam is a major shareholder of the corporation (capitalized at \$2 million); J&G also operates the Royal Taga Hotel on Saipan and (with the Prince Hotel chain of Japan) the Cliff Hotel on Guam.

On Monday Dela Cruz also announced that the First National City Bank has applied for a permit to do business in the Marianas. No schedule for a hearing on this application has been set.

MARIANAS VARIETY NEWS & VIEWS

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Editorial

SI YUUS MAASE

This may not necessarily be a cause and effect relationship, but two small but important moves were made -- early this week -- in the halls of government -- following our editorial last week. That editorial asked why certain procedures were followed on the release of "public information," and why others were not.

On Monday, the Marianas District Economic Development Officer, Pedro Dela Cruz, held a conference in his office for the members of Saipan's press corps. The purpose of the press conference was to announce the Economic Development Board's decision last Friday to approve foreign business permits for the Bank of America's Saipan branch and for the Pacific Basin Hotel and Development Corporation, which wants to build hotels on Pagan and Tinian. It also gave the three reporters in attendance a chance to informally discuss with Mr. Dela Cruz some of the background for the board's decisions and the uses to which these permits will be put, along with conditions for their approval. This also gave Mr. Dela Cruz an opportunity to announce that a public hearing will held on Monday, April 23, on the application of Guam Publications for a foreign business permit. And more, he was able to tell us that he has received an application for a permit from the First National City Bank -- all so that we can inform you, with all the facts, before it gets muddled in the rumor mills. For this, we thank you, Mr. Dela Cruz.

At the same time, we heard (but this only unofficially) that the Department of Resources and Development at Headquarters thinks that it just might be a good idea if they, also, made public, perhaps once a week a list of any non-TT firms that are applying to do business here. We, too, think this is a good idea, and thank you Mr. Zachary.

So much for causes and effects this week.

A Personal View

By: JON A. ANDERSON

It is not easy to get a handle on the myriad problems plaguing Transpac. In the past two weeks alone, the hapless company has figured in at least three major stories--none of them likely to inspire public confidence.

Item--Rising charter costs combine with decreasing tonnage to squeeze two of the three German Reith ships off the line, only a year after their much-heralded arrival.

Item--George C. Kiskaddon files two suits, one against the company for back loans, the other against the U.S. Government for alleged losses.

Item--Friends of Micronesia charges Micronesian seamen are held "prisoner" on the Grethe Reith, while in Yap Senator John Mangefel says treatment of Micronesians on all the German ships is "inhuman."

In all these instances the company was slow to respond despite the fact that a presentation of its side of each situation could have been beneficial. The above items all have another side--the loss of the Reith ships is offset by a new container inter-change agreement with another shipping line; the Kiskaddon suits are of dubious merit; the charges concerning the seamen are unfounded.

Some conclusions suggest themselves from all of this. First, Mr. Kiskaddon does not appear to be seriously concerned with whether Micronesia gets good, reliable shipping service. He had his chance with MILI and blew it, and now his mission seems to be frustrating. The present management's attempts to recover from the near disaster of 1971.

Second, although they are undoubtedly preoccupied with their major problems, the company's officials should not overlook their public relations. Transpac must take all possible steps to restore public confidence in itself and its service.

Finally, since Transpac has an exclusive franchise to serve the Trust Territory that runs until 1978, it is in the best interest of all residents of the TT to see the company succeed. A reliable shipping service is vital to the economy of this area.

NOTICE

The Marianas Economic Development Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 23, on the application by Guam Publications, Inc., to obtain a foreign business permit. The publishers of the Pacific Daily News and Dateline want to expand the scope of their printing activities, and to eventually publish a Marianas edition of one of their newspapers.

Everyone is invited to attend the hearing, in the Conference Room at the Civic Center (time to be posted next week).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"DARK ROOM PLEBISCITE IN WHITE HOUSE"

Dear Editor:

I personally feel that the letter to the editor on Rota: "False Representation?" (Marianas Variety, March 23) merits creditable attention from the people of Rota and in particular from the Honorable Members of the Congress of Micronesia whom we (the people of Rota) seek for their kind consideration and approval of Rota becoming one of the Administrative Districts. However, for the benefit of all concerned and particularly to the author of such letter regarding the long desire of the people of Rota, I wish to take the privilege and opportunity to moderate the accusation made by the Honorable Cristobal Inos in his letter to the editor of the Marianas Variety.

Let me touch on the most paramount idea of the said article by stating that "The people of Rota were not consulted on the inception of the Marianas Political Status Talks." By a very stringent and/or careful reading of such an article, I was a little disturbed by the ignorance of the honorable councilman who claimed himself as Chairman of the Development and Welfare Committee of the Rota Municipal Council. Will you Honorable Chairman of the Development and Welfare Committee stand before your constituents and the citizens of Rota and candidly declare that you obviously boycotted the meeting between the people of Rota and the members of the 1973 United Nations Visiting Mission, which was conducted in the early part of March 1973? And will stay put and continue declaring that you perhaps have no concrete knowledge pertaining to the original establishment of the Marianas Political Status Commission? Have you made an honest and proper survey as to the awareness of your people, relative to the establishment of such Commission? In all aspects of your accusation that the people of Rota were consulted on the inception of the Marianas Political Status Talks, and furthermore, accusing that the people of Rota were falsely represented at the 1973 United Nations Visiting Mission. I strongly recommend that you carefully review your information and retract your erroneous statements. You must clearly remember that the Honorable Members of the Mariana Islands District Legislature during their First Special Session of May 18, 1972, duly adopted District Law No. 3-124, creating the Marianas Political Status Commission, setting forth its power and duties. During the legislative process concerning this particular bill, none of the honorable members thought of conducting public hearings in order that the citizens of the Marianas District may express their PROS and CONS to this very important piece of legislation. You must further recall that you are one of the Rota Municipal Council members who participated in appointing the two Rota Delegates to the said commission and that you had no legal counsel sitting beside you to assist you in drafting the language of your resolution designating whom you wish. The draft resolution was made on Saipan and transmitted to the Mayor's Office for you to insert whom you want to represent the people of Rota on the Commission. Now, by accusing your colleagues of indicating that the alternate delegate to the commission was not necessary and "The Mayor of Rota pointed out that it was not important as he can act upon such matters with "Executive Power." Let me clarify that should

your information and report be definite enough to justify your suggestion (Marianas Variety, March 23) then I firmly believe that to present, Rota should have no alternate delegate to such commission. Please be advised Honorable Inos that the Mayor of Rota did consult the council members prior to the appointment of Gregorio S. Calvo to be an alternate delegate to either of the two delegates from Rota. In addition to that worthy cause, let me again remind you that you never did say "Baloney" in the session because of the fact that you were afraid of being honest.

In your third point of your letter (Marianas Variety, March 23) of "Rota desires to be a separate District." Consequently, the Dark Room Plebiscite in the White House was somewhat different from the plebiscite which was conducted sometime ago within the Municipality of Rota to show that bona fide citizens of Rota wish to see Rota become one of the Administrative Districts instead of comparing the result of such a plebiscite to a "Baseball Score." Instead of saying that a plebiscite is equivalent to a "Baseball Score," will the honorable council refer to the outcome of the public hearing conducted by the Committee on Political Status of the Mariana Islands District Legislature in 1972? Ninety percent (90%) of the eligible voters on Rota were participants of the 1972 public hearing. These participants and nine percent (9%) of the remaining electorate on Rota signed a petition manifesting their keen desire of Rota becoming one of the Administrative Districts. In accordance with these desires, the 10th Rota Municipal Council duly adopted Resolution No. 23-72 and 45-72, which related to the request for the establishment of Rota District.

Moreover, the last portion of your letter, describing your official position on the council is irreconcilable. May I inform you that you have been very impolite to the members of the Development and Welfare Committee, of the Rota Council, due largely to the fact that your article was entirely contradicted by the same members of the Rota Municipal Council, and in particular, the members of your own committee. Because of your article, these members were falsely represented by their chairman (Cristobal Inos). With your misplacement of your official title on this article, you are expressing your own personal opinions rather than expressing the opinions of all the members on the Development and Welfare Committee, Rota Municipal Council.

Finally, I wish to reinstate that the people of Rota fully support the separate District issue as long as the unfairness and discrimination against Rota still exists.

A.M. APATANG, Rota Councilman
Advocate of Separate District Status



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"WE HAVE TO START PROGRESSING NOW"

Dear Editor:

In regard to the Continental Hotel case in Saipan, I would like to make comments upon the issue. I wish to render the most sincere for myself and for those who can't express themselves directly, but have similar opinions as to what I am going to say. To me, I have distinctly different impressions and feelings about the situation, due to the fact that I do not oppose the building of the Continental Hotel in Saipan as well as in Micro Beach.

It is very difficult for me to say what the outcome of the situation may be, but all I can say is that an already political constituency for Saipan's future economic progress has been weakened as a result of the petitioning which I can only describe in terms of the petition itself. I believe that the petition has had no impact with the public opinion at large. The aspiration of the people of Saipan for their firm opinions upon the issue have not yet been freely expressed. I personally believe that at any point where we encounter a situation on matters dealing with the internal affairs of the public that the public should be consulted for decision. Let the public decide, that is. This is not a one man's project nor benefit. We look for the best well-being of the people and thereby the issue should be upon their hands not Mr. Congress. The will of the people is of prime importance to be considered. Saipan is trying to improve its economic development and we should take advantage of the Continental Hotel because the project appears both feasible and promising. Crisis such as to petition for our rights, as Micronesians, Micro Beach as a public recreational area, the high rise building solely because it destroys the environmental character, the environmental impact studies are very important for the people of Saipan, but why is it that we petitioned too late. This gives me an assumption about those people who advocated to stop the construction. My purpose here is to give my feeling about the petition and not to jeopardize the authors.

The construction of the Continental Hotel will accelerate-not slow down-economic as well as community development. We have to start progressing now and we

should take every opportunity given to us for our island's improvement. We can always limit the future progress of our island, but we are just starting and we should not let progress stay idle forever. We have the notion to model a particular country of its activities, but we can build one in a very promising way. It is very obvious that the tourist industry will do something to carry forward the economy of our islands. With the competition over landing rights in Saipan by some airlines, we have to see that accommodations be available to occupy the people who will be coming to Saipan to have the 3S. They are sun, sea and sand. From my own viewpoint, I believe that the people will benefit from the Continental Hotel. Basically, everybody will benefit. Jobs will be available. Revenue will be available so we can at least improve a little of our power, water, roads and the many public facilities. At the moment we can observe the remarkable unemployment problem; a percentage will be decreased if the project will continue. The petition itself is exhibiting a real sense of purpose towards slowing our island's economy. I think that some people will be disturbed economically from the new hotel, but the island's residents will benefit at large. I, therefore, feel that if we stop the construction of the Continental Hotel, a high degree of unfriendly atmosphere will develop and opportunities for progress will collapse in result.

I am suggesting that we develop a readiness to encounter our own problems in the future. For truth and clear views, I think we should set aside delaying and start progress because it is time to begin.

ANTONIO T. QUITUGUA
Hotel Management Student
University of Guam

"THE PROBLEMS ARE WITHIN US"

Dear Editor:

During the past few months, articles have been a big phenomenon in respect to the construction of the Continental Hotel. The recent ruling by the court might disturb those who advocated the blocking of the construction. The court made a reasonable rationalization upon the suit, despite the suit's atmosphere for the court to try and decide upon. The continuous striving for the Micronesian's rights is a very big issue. The concern over Micro Beach, solely because it is a public recreational area. The concern over our culture, our well-being, economic concern and the various areas in the public sectors and most of all our concern for development and growth. Many others are being said and talked about, which is not at all bad and I personally have concerned upon them with great look behind the scene. We show pride and by virtue of our identity upon any issue or situation that confronted us, this is the nature of man. We want to retain our belongings. We want to use them ourselves. We want to work with them ourselves, our own way. One thing we don't like, other people, that is. We don't like these people for fear that they will take advantage over us. This is what we look at more carefully. Yet, look at what is happening now. The opposite extreme seems to take part.

What I am trying to point out is that we are not prepared to face the fact of doing something ourselves. I still would say that we can't stand firmly with our own two feet. It is very obvious to assume that this might be the nature of the problems for most of us. I still

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LETTERS.....

doubt whether or not we know what we are doing. I will be glad if I did. All I can say are two things: (1) We don't know and (2) we know but we don't understand. Or maybe because we are delayed in knowing.

What can we do to tackle these problems is the question that has to be answered well in advance. We don't say things or recommend procedures, ideas, findings, etc., and not knowing how to apply them. People say things which are so nice and convenient, yet they don't mean a thing. Unless we know what to do and how to do, our problems and concern over the well-being of the island will still remain idle. We have problems that we can't solve. Unless we look to solving them they will again be prolonged problems. We can readily assure ourselves to solving them, but not till we know what to do. Let me inform you people, that there is no cure-all solution that will solve them for us. There is no principle, formula or any mathematical solution that can solve this for us. The problems are within us and should be taken care upon our hands. A good way to solve these problems is or through the comparison from the mistakes of others. To compare and relate them should be under extreme care. Our present and future situations can be a prosperous thing for us. The good things from these mistakes have to be accepted as a mean and not as a king. The bad things will be our look-out. WE SEE THAT A CHAIR COMES AFTER OUR IDEA OF THE CHAIR. This is what I am trying to come across. I hope people see what I am after.

What Saipan needs is a reliable and enforced Master Plan. The private and public sector should rely upon the plan. We should work according to plan. We need a guiding light solely for the purpose and not to direct us to a misconception, if this so happens. Then something is wrong with the plan. Change them or revise the part that creates the problem. After all, what is a plan for? One thing that the plan should be able to carry is that it should be proportional with the developments.

In the developing countries, where the tourist industry is the main international trade, the growth and development of tourism was a boon to the economy. This was the beginning. In the TT, especially Saipan, the tourist industry began with tremendous resentments, so severe that people sometimes are reluctant to fulfill anticipated benefit of both the locals or nationals of the island and to them as well. This is what I don't understand. To assume that the resentment is improper, may not be sufficient but from the standpoint where we argue for something the wrong way surely gives something to say about the situation. We pretend and people do pretend, but if we are careful enough to see this type of a situation we are not likely to join them. This is so obvious with us and people are seeing them other than us. After all, I don't think we readily know what tourism is.

My purpose here is to make obvious an important need that is necessary to meet the requirements, qualifications and demand as the hotel and tourist industry develops and grows. I am not going to recommend step by step like they always do but just to say something in response to the need. I hope the Big Men and the Big Shit on the island could see something about this. Let me assure you people that no matter how much is invested in equipping a country's tourist and hotel industries, it is likely to produce few benefits unless the recruitment, preparation and vocational training of labor are planned and carried out at the same time.

In other words, there is no doubt that in tourism, more than in any other sector, material investment cannot prove profitable unless they are accompanied by investment in human resources.

Into no other product goes so much work, so many human efforts and personal contributions of every shape and kind. It would be absurd to think that sunshine, the sea, beaches, palm trees and flowers alone could make a paradise for tourists. Unless a hotel capable of operating to the guests' satisfaction is added, the area will remain merely a charming site. Nor can the hotel itself be content with offering a high standard of material and technical comfort. If the rooms are not properly kept up, the kitchen well run, the receptionists attentive and the telephone operator efficient, it will remain empty.

This may seem to be self-evident. But how to account for the fact that such a self-evident truth should appear to so many experts, planners, programmers, promoters only when it is too late? What money must then be spent and what ingenuity used to lure from elsewhere the manpower needed or if none is to be found to invent it, to conjure it from nowhere, to fill the gaping holes by improvisations that can mean only trouble and disappointment for everybody, guests, workers and investors. All I am trying to say is the need for manpower.

One thing that should be corrected on the attitudes

Continued on page 9

Christian
Dior



Miss Dior, Diorama, Diorissimo, Diorling

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LETTERS...

of our people which is the attitudes to be superior. We all want to be chief and hardly anyone wants to be the Indian. Well, it turns to be all Indians and the one who is an Indian becomes the chief. The need for formal education should be put as a prime target not the hotel that is to some parts our benefit. We should be ready to accept this situation and not to encounter the same problem as those countries that developed so fast that they didn't have the time to tackle this type of a problem.

In conclusion, I suggest that we work according to plan. We are in the state of underdevelopment that enough time is available to prepare. Would it be a nice thing to begin now? The problems can be avoided if proper governmental planning is provided in the beginning and enforced as the area develops and grows.

FRANCISCO R. AGULTO, Student
University of Guam

"FREE LEGAL SERVICES FOR GUERRERO?"

Dear Editor:

Congressman Herman O. Guerrero continues to receive the services of the Micronesian Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) by his involvement in the suit against Continental Airlines and other defendants.

My question is, has Guerrero been getting free legal services? It is my understanding that the legal service program funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity was primarily designed to provide assistance to the "poor." With his annual salary from the Congress of Micronesia (as a member delegate), Guerrero appears not qualified of obtaining free legal services from MLSC. I believe he should be required to pay legal fees to his share in the costs the MLSC incurs in the suit.

I would be greatly disappointed if Guerrero is using "money for the poor" to accomplish his ends.

CONCERNED POOR

SEPARATION OF POWERS OR CHECKS AND BALANCES?

Dear Editor:

Please allow me to point out an erroneous statement by the Marianas Variety in the article, "Audit Investigators Say No" (April 6).

Although I did mention in my letter to the editor that the Legislature is a separate and independent branch of the government and should therefore not be compelled to answer to the other two branches of government, I did not state this out as an example of checks and balances in a democratic representative government, as it is obviously not. I was merely alluding to the principle of separation of powers by the three branches of government which is necessarily offset by the principle of checks and balances.

I appreciate very much if you would correct your statement in the next issue of Marianas Variety.

IGNACIO DELA CRUZ, Member
Marianas District Legislature
Chairman, Select Committee
to Study the Audit Report

WHERE IS YOUR SIGNATURE?

Dear "Wake Up Saipan":

We would like to print your letter to the editor, postmarked April 2, but we cannot unless we know who you are.

Although we will be glad to withhold your name from publication, we still must have your name for our records.

THE EDITORS

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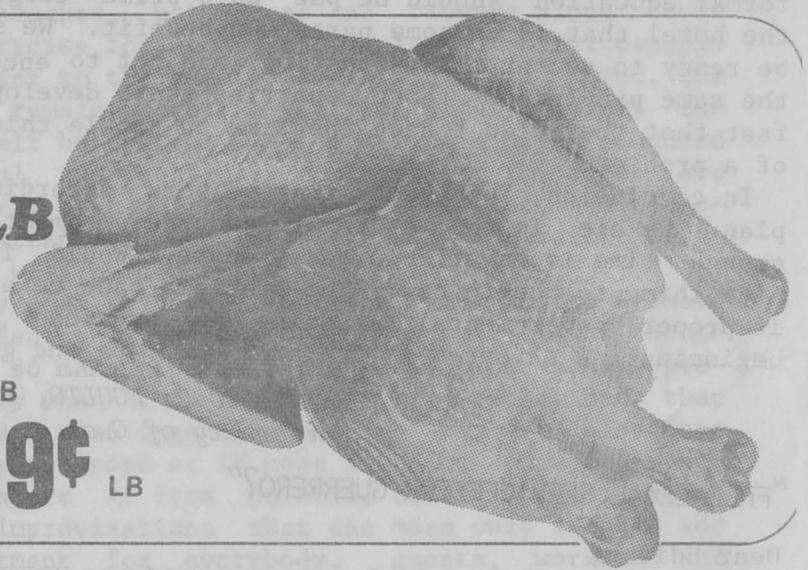
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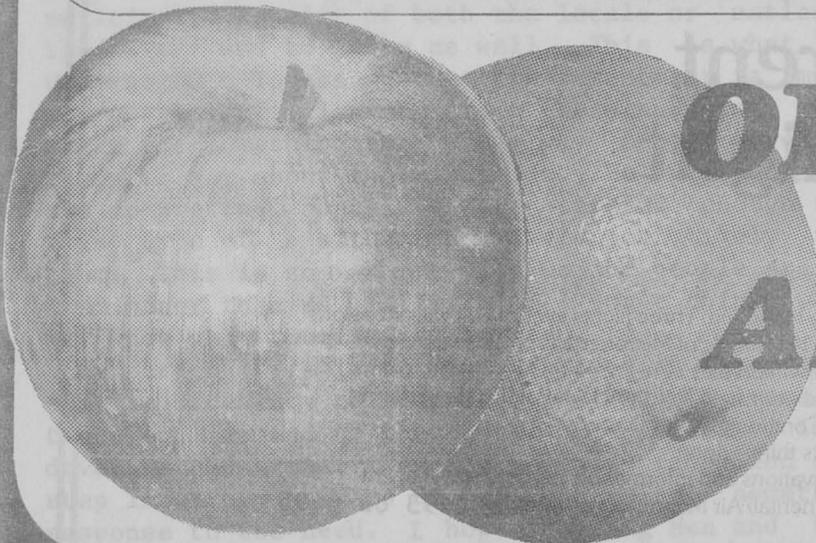
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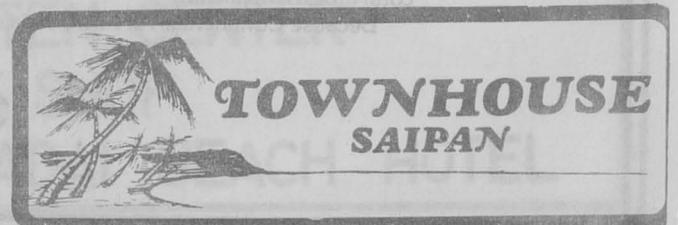
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Red Del.



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CONTINENTAL . . .

Continued from page 1

without their beach."

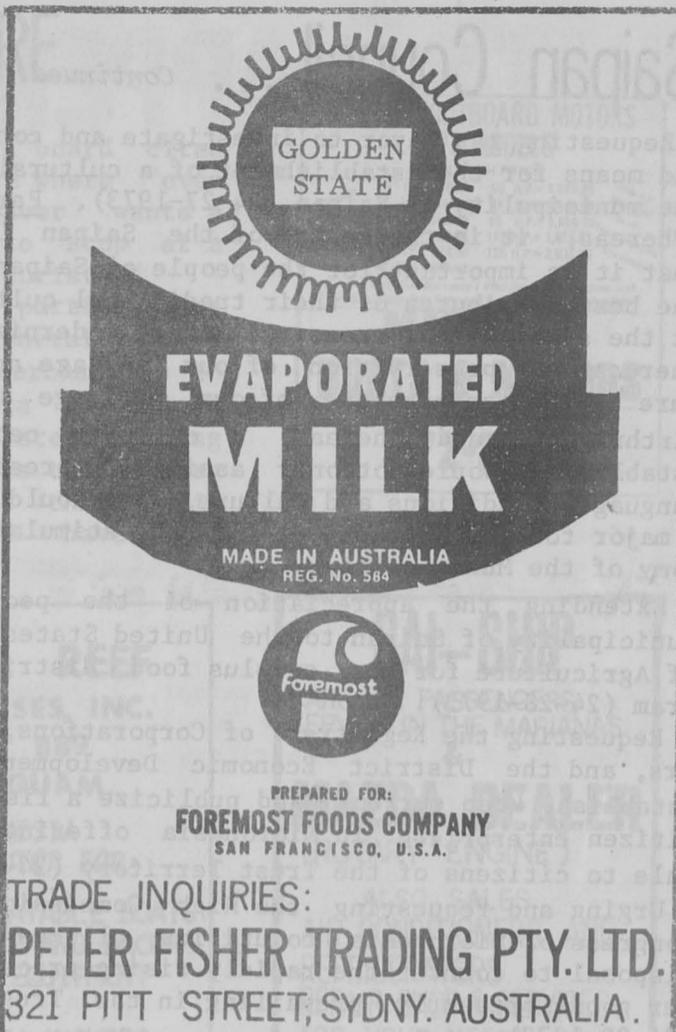
The injunction request sought to enjoin both Continental and the government defendants -- the Secretary of the Interior, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Territorial Affairs and the High Commissioner -- from continuing to build or allow construction on the hotel at Micro Beach while the appeal is taken.

"Micro Beach is of great importance as a symbol of the ability, or inability, of the people of Saipan to retain those aspects of their own life and culture most central to them, while tourism is developed on their island," continued the motion.

"The loss of Micro Beach, and the development of tourism in general, will undoubtedly have enormous 'ripple effects' upon the culture and lives of the people of Saipan."

In a footnote, the motion added, "Indeed the same District Administrator who testified before this Court that the construction of the hotel would not affect use of Micro Beach by the people of Saipan has already taken steps designed to demonstrate to the people of Saipan that Micro Beach is no longer 'their' area, where they can come and go as they please."

Attached, as Exhibit A, was a clipping from the Marianas Variety of March 30 explaining the new policy whereby large public gatherings at Micro Beach must be cleared in writing, 72 hours in advance.



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Saipan Bowling

Saipan Council.... *Continued from page 2*

Requesting the Mayor to investigate and consider ways and means for the establishment of a cultural center in the municipality of Saipan (24-27-1973). Partial Text: "Whereas, it is the sense of the Saipan Legislature that it is important for the people of Saipan to retain the best attributes of their traditional culture, while at the same time progressing toward modernization; and Whereas, the preservation of our language and our culture is the cornerstone of our heritage and is our birthright; and Whereas, a cultural center, if established, would not only assist in preserving our language, traditions and culture, but would constitute a major tourist attraction and thus stimulate the economy of the Municipality."

Extending the appreciation of the people of the Municipality of Saipan to the United States Department of Agriculture for its surplus food distribution program (24-28-1973).

Requesting the Registrar of Corporations, Headquarters, and the District Economic Development Board to establish, keep current and publicize a list of non-citizen enterprises in Micronesia offering stock for sale to citizens of the Trust Territory (24-29-1973).

Urging and requesting the High Commissioner and the Congress of Micronesia to utilize all means at their disposal to counter the rapidly rising prices of consumer goods presently prevailing in the Trust Territory (24-30-1973).

Requesting the District Administrator and District Fire Marshal to provide the villages of Tanapag, San Roque, San Jose and San Antonio with water filling stations for use in firefighting operations (24-31-1973).

Requesting the Mayor, the District Administrator, the District Legislature and the Marianas District Delegation to the Congress of Micronesia to investigate the possibility of transferring the responsibility for the operation of the Saipan Commercial Port to the Municipality of Saipan (24-32-1973).

Requesting the Congress of Micronesia to amend the Trust Territory Code to permit exclusive municipal control over licensing of all retail and service businesses (24-33-1973).

Requesting District Chief of Police to study the possibility of installing traffic lights at certain locations within the Municipality (24-34-1973). Partial text: "Whereas, the traffic situation in the Municipality of Saipan has worsened considerably over the past few years, with no new roads having been built but with many additional automobiles and other vehicles on the roads; and Whereas, it is the sense of the Legislature that, with the level of traffic congestion that prevails at most hours of the working day and sometimes on into the evening, the traffic situation requires the use of traffic lights at certain busy intersections within the Municipality."

Urging the District Administrator to give priority to Micronesian surveying firms for surveying contracts for which money has been appropriated by Senate Bill No. 142, Fifth Congress of Micronesia (24-35-1973).

Opposing the construction of a hotel on Pagan Island, Municipality of Saipan (24-36-1973).

Endorsing Congress of Micronesia House Bill No. 146, providing for agricultural and village homesteads on the island of Pagan (24-37-1973).

Directing the Committee on Ways and Means to meet following the Second Regular Session of the Twenty-Fourth Saipan Legislature to consider revision of the

municipal laws relating to taxation and licensing (24-38-1973).

Providing for the introduction of legislative measures (24-39-1973).

Urging and requesting the Congress of Micronesia to enact copyright laws (24-40-1973). Partial text: "Whereas, the people of Micronesia are a creative people, and produce much material which could be copyrighted in order that the same be preserved for their own benefit against the plagiarization of the same by others; and Whereas, at the present time, the people of Micronesia are without such protection, and presently suffer from such plagiarization, to their great detriment and loss."

Requesting the District Administrator to expedite the homesteading program within the Municipality of Saipan (24-41-1973).

Urging and requesting the High Commissioner and the Mariana Islands District Administrator to establish juvenile detention facilities within the Mariana Islands District (24-42-1973).

Requesting the District Administrator to provide for the filling of lands in District No. 1 which are rendered unusable during the rainy season (24-43-1973).

Other Actions

The Saipan Municipal Legislature also:

Defeated a resolution requesting the Congress of Micronesia to increase the motor vehicle registration fees for the Trust Territory (24-51-1973).

Tabled (by committee) an ordinance to provide for the wrapping of all meat sold within the Municipality (24-4-1973).

Tabled a resolution endorsing the Mariana Islands District Legislature Act No. 10-1973, providing for legalized gambling within the Marianas District (24-32-1973).

Tabled an ordinance to authorize the appropriation of \$3,000 to send a delegation from the Saipan Municipal Legislature to the 1973 Pacific Conference of Legislators in American Samoa (24-51-1973).

Tabled a resolution urging the District Administrator and the District Land Management Officer to certify the proposed San Antonio Dispensary (24-62-1973).

Tabled a resolution requesting the District Administrator and the District Land Management Officer to expedite the surveying of private boundary lines so that the roads of the Municipality can be widened and improved (24-64-1973).

Filed a municipal ordinance regulating the environmental impact of business within the Municipality by requiring environmental impact statements; providing for the denial, suspension or revocation of business licenses on specified grounds; and providing penalties (24-44-1973).

Deferred to the September session an ordinance creating a business classification board (24-12-1973).

Deferred to the September session an ordinance making unlawful certain contracts between tour operators and merchants within the Municipality of Saipan (24-5-1973).

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TOURIST KICKBACKS COME UNDER FIRE

The practice of store owners' giving kickbacks to tour operators for purchases made by tourists brought to their stores has raised a minor ruckus on Guam lately, but Saipan's businessmen are working to see that it never gets a foothold here.

The Board of Governors of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce in late March asked the Saipan Municipal Legislature to draft appropriate legislation to outlaw the practice. An ordinance making kickbacks illegal was introduced into the Legislature's recently concluded session, but action on it was deferred until the September session.

This ordinance would make any tour operators or merchants found guilty of giving kickbacks liable for a fine of \$100 or im-

prisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both; in addition, their business licenses could be suspended or revoked.

In its letter to the Legislature, the Chamber of Commerce explained that "We believe there should be a law specifically prohibiting tour operators or bus operators from soliciting a 'shoppers rebate' from a shopkeeper, and to prohibit a shopkeeper from paying any emoluments whatever to a tour operator or bus operator that is in any way related to merchandise purchased by tourists.

"Such legislation would protect both the tourist industry and residents alike in the price paid for merchandise bought on Saipan."

Although the practice evidently is not as entrenched here as on Guam,

the Chamber's board cited one instance where "even the bus driver wants a percentage to stop at a store with tourists."

On Guam, participating merchants generally mark up their merchandise 10 percent extra to absorb shoppers rebates, forcing the residents to pay more in that store than ordinarily would have been necessary.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

YOU AND THE MASTER PLAN

April 23 Public hearing on application of Guam Publications, Inc., for a foreign business permit, Marianas Economic Development Board, Conference Room, Civic Center.

May 1 Law Day Micronesia. Theme: "Help Your Law Day Court -- Assure Justice."

May 17-18 4th Annual Guam Economic Conference, "Lessons from Experience," Hilton Hotel, Guam. Write: Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 682, Agana, Guam 96910.

June 3-9 "Micronesian Seminar," Ponape. Week-long seminar on the future political status of the Trust Territory (by invitation).

Items for "What's Happening" should be submitted to the Marianas Variety by Wednesday of each week. There is no charge for this service.

After a short vacation this column will again appear regularly in this newspaper.

This "vacation" was a month of intensive mapping in preparation for the census which will be made this September. This census will be like many in the past except that this census is making an attempt to be very accurate. There has always been a question about the accuracy of past censuses. The mapping that was done last month is a step toward a high level of accuracy. When the census takers visit you this September, they will carry with them a set of up-to-date maps of the entire Trust Territory and maps showing the location of all the houses in your area. For the first time, complete maps have been made of all the houses in Micronesia. It has been estimated that there are about 2,000 homes in the Marianas. As soon as all the homes on the maps have been counted we will have an exact number. Now that the houses have been mapped we will return to count which houses are served by water and power, the structural condition of the houses and various other types of information about these buildings that can help the government to provide better service.

This information will be useful in many ways. The information on the structural condition of buildings will mean the maximum extent of damage from a typhoon can be estimated before a typhoon so that help can be given more quickly and fairly after a typhoon. The utility information will help to show where problems will be so that they can be corrected before they become problems.

So if you see a jeep stop in front of your house in the next few months, it is just us again collecting the information needed to serve you better.

TOM SHEEHAN
Marianas District Planning Officer

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TRANSPAC....

Continued from page 1

health, impairment of its ability to perform the contract, takeover of the corporation by the appointees, agents and employees of the United States, and finally in a continually worsening financial crisis causing breakdown of its transportation service for the Trust Territory, and the United States is indebted to plaintiffs for the loss of profits and capital."

The class action was brought by the 16 U.S. citizens and California residents on behalf of all owners of the 500,000 shares of outstanding Transpac common stock. These stockholders number approximately 800 persons, the majority Micronesians.

The action is against the federal government rather than Transpac, explains the suit, because Transpac is under "the complete *de facto* control of the United States," including the U.S. Department of the Interior and its agent, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory. The 1968 contract was signed with the Interior Department and was to run a period of 10 years, until 1978.

Thus the \$31 million sought by the plaintiffs is the projected market value of their stock in 1978, the end of the full term of the contract.

The suit also alleges that Transpac is controlled by the "unlawful voting of 210,000 of the corporation's 500,000 shares under an invalid agreement forced upon one shareholder of the corporation under economic duress" (the 1971 dock strike).

The federal government has 60 days to answer the action. After this, extensive and time-consuming discovery procedures will begin, in order to gather necessary documentation.

George Kiskaddon of San Francisco, a major shareholder and a plaintiff in

the class action, also recently filed a suit on behalf of a Panamanian company he heads to recover \$1.1 million in loans made to Transpac during the dock strike.

The same day we learned of the second lawsuit, it was also learned that Transpac has decided to begin using an entirely containerized cargo shipping operation from the West Coast. This move comes on the heels of the recent loss of two of the German ships Transpac was chartering, the Grethe Reith and the Mathis Reith. Transpac dropped those ships because of an increase in the charter rate.

Beginning May 12, shipments will leave the West Coast in containers aboard Pacific Far East Lines. They will then be picked up in Guam by Transpac for transshipment to Trust Territory ports.

While containerization is a less expensive means of shipping for Transpac, bypassing high handling fees on Guam, it is nonetheless expected that prices on goods imported into the Trust Territory will soon rise. Some businessmen on Saipan say that prices may rise substantially in the next few months, due in part to generally higher prices in the States and in Japan.

Transpac is continuing to charter one German ship, the Lotte Reith. In addition, it has two smaller ships, the Gunner's Knot and the Mas Mauleg. These three ships will now have to shoulder all the shipments to TT ports from Guam. Many store owners here are pessimistic about whether they will be able to efficiently handle all the shipments without further delays than exist at the present.

A story in the April 11 Pacific Daily News indicated also that Seatrain may increase its present serv-

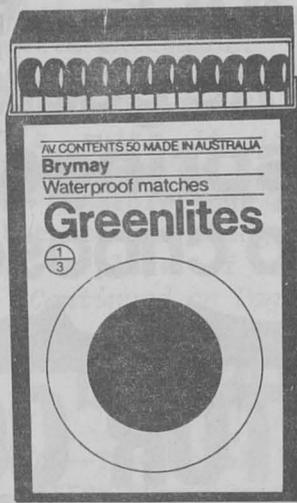
ices to the TT to ease the "transportation pinch."

Douglas Echols, managing director of Transpac, said this week that "Every district center will get from 23 to 28-day service, and consignees can ship from the West Coast every two weeks."

Echols added that facilities are already available in each district and on the Lotte Reith and Gunner's Knot to handle the large 20-foot containers that PFEL will ship via Guam. He "anticipates no problems in that regard," said Echols.

Last week Transpac also had to contend with charges that some of the Micronesian seamen aboard the chartered German ships were being held "prisoner" and threatened with being taken to Germany "against their will" (as reported in the Micronitor). Then Senator John Mangefel of Yap charged Transpac with permitting such "inhuman" treatment of its Micronesian seamen.

Transpac has denied all charges, and now is going about its business of trying to keep the company afloat.



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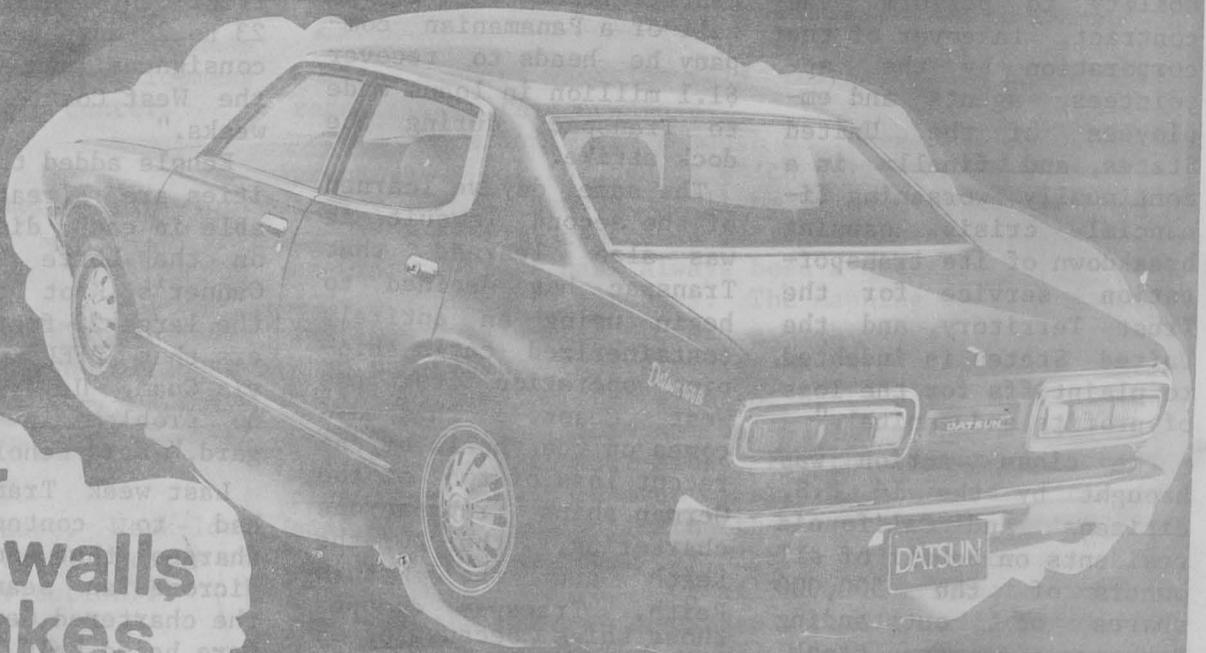
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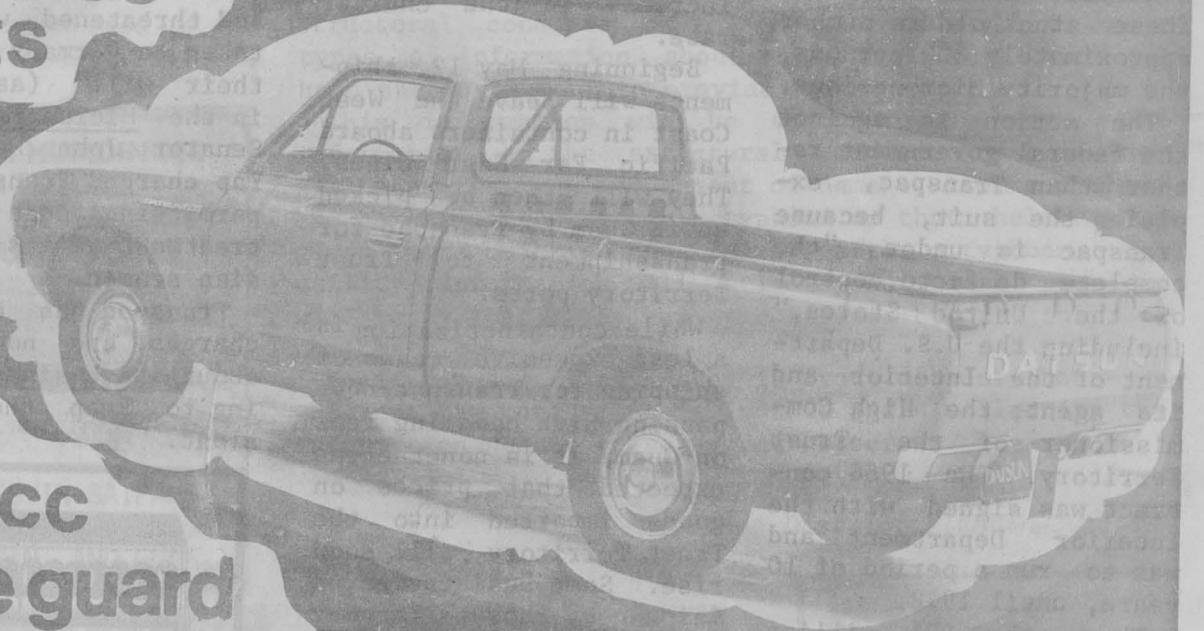
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