

## \$14.5M referral deficit

**By Ferdie de la Torre**  
*Variety News Staff*  
THE DEPARTMENT of Public Health Services medical referral budgets were unrealistic and reprogramming actions were not taken, resulting to an excess of the program's budget by an average of about \$4.8 million a year and a deficit of almost \$14.5 million from Fiscal Year 1991 to 1993.

The latest draft report on the audit of medical referral transac-

tions with the San Diego Hospital Association (SHARP), a copy of which was obtained by the Variety, has recommended that DPHS request reprogramming actions to eliminate the deficit spending.

The report forwarded by the Office of the Public Auditor last January 13 to DPHS Secretary Dr. Isamu J. Abraham also urged for legislative relief to increase the referral program budget to a more realistic level.

The Auditor's Office pointed out that the referral budgets for FY 1991 to 1993 were unrealistic because actual cost of the program increased without a proportionate level of increase in its budget.

The audit cited that for FY 1991 to 1993, medical referral costs averaged \$7.6 million per year. The annual medical referral budget, however, averaged only \$2.7 million.

The program exceeded its authorized budget for FY 1991 to 1993 because no reprogramming actions were made by the DPH.

Through reprogramming, funds could have been reallocated from another agency or activity to cover the increase in actual referral costs, the Auditor's Office suggested.

Aside from a deficit of almost \$14.5 million, in addition, the program is expected to exceed the proposed medical referral budget for FY 1994 which amounted to only \$2.9 million (in spite of the average costs of \$7.6 million).

The department spent \$22.8 million for the program to exceed its \$8.3 million total budget for that fiscal years.

Without a significant budget in-

crease or reprogramming action, the report warned, actual costs will continue to exceed the authorized budget in violation of Commonwealth budget laws.

Under Commonwealth laws, government funds shall not be expended in excess of the authorized budget of an agency or program.

1CMC §7401 of the Commonwealth Code (CNMI Planning and Budgeting Act of 1983) provides that no expenditure of Commonwealth funds shall be made unless the funds are appropriated in currently effective annual appropriation acts.

## 'Double taxation' worries business

**By Rafael I. Santos**  
*Variety News Staff*  
RETAILERS and other businesses may be losing a lot of money because of possible double taxation and excessive taxes as a result of the implementation of the new tax law.

David J. Burger, a certified public accountant, told the Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday that products brought into the CNMI between January 1 and January 23 were sold at a price based on a lower tax rate.

Because of the increase in excise tax, businesses that imported items like food, jewelry and perfumery will have to pay higher taxes for the tax period of 1995 for the products sold based on a lower tax rate, he said.

House Bill No. 9-250 also known as Public Law 9-22 was approved by the executive department on January 24 but its effectivity was January 1. Prior to the approval of the measure, businesses sold their products based on the old tax law.

Paying higher taxes for products sold at a minimal price would mean a loss of substantial amount of money on the part of business owners, Burger suggested, adding that such would be unfair to



**Welch: Changes needed.**

businessmen.  
"Since the [tax law] was passed on January 24th, it would have been possible that you brought in a item on January 2nd and sold it on January 5th and you paid a 5% import tax," he said in an interview later.

"Then on January 25th they raised the import tax to 25% re-

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## US INS: Takeover will be premature

**By Rafael H. Arroyo**  
*Variety News Staff*  
YESTERDAY'S congressional hearing on the Omnibus Territories Bill ended on a high note as the CNMI got support from at least one federal agency and two other insular areas in its argument against federal takeover of local immigration control.

In a news conference yesterday, Lieutenant Governor Jesus C. Borja said the CNMI's cause got a boost after the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) took a position that immigration takeover in the CNMI is a "premature" thing to do at this point in time.



**Jesus C. Borja**

He said the delegation headed by Governor Froilan C. Tenorio also got good support from other territories like Guam and Ameri-

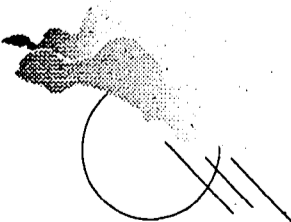
can Samoa during the hearing.

"Our office has been in contact with out people in D.C. They advised us that the hearing went very well. Generally, the testimonies from the agencies were good. We obtained good support from territories and one federal agency, INS, which stated that immigration takeover is premature at this time," said Borja during yesterday's news conference.

The hearing was called to keep insular areas abreast of what possible repercussions the GOP's Contract With

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### Weather Outlook



Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.



Saipan Chamber of Commerce officers listen intently as David Burger, CPA (standing), explains the ramifications of the new tax law during a meeting of members at the Pacific Islands Club yesterday. Sitting from left to right are Glen V. Perez (partly hidden), David Hawkins, chamber chairman Efrain F. Camacho, Brenda Sana, Kenyon K. White and Sam McPhetres.

# Clinton assembles \$50B for Mexico

By DAVE SKIDMORE  
WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton, with the help of international lending agencies, has assembled a rescue package giving Mexico the support it needs to fend off creditors and restore confidence in its battered currency.

The total value of the package is nearly \$ 50 billion, including almost \$23 billion that had already been committed.

Clinton announced the new aid package, which does not require congressional approval, on Tuesday, after the \$40 billion in loan guarantees he proposed to Congress on Jan. 12 with the backing of its Republican leaders ran into a firestorm of criticism.

The new package depends more on international agencies and less on U.S. resources than the original proposal.

"We've now gotten other countries to contribute half of what's needed," Clinton told a Democratic fund-raiser Tuesday night in Boston.

The U.S. aid is secured by Mexico's oil revenues. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said it would not be linked to such non-economic issues as immigration and drug-trafficking.

But, he said, "my own judgment is that today's action will enhance our ability to achieve good results in those areas."

Financial markets responded

immediately and positively. The peso gained 9 percent Tuesday, after having sunk to a record low Monday, and the Mexican stock exchange surged to its best one-day advance since 1988. Other Latin American stock markets also posted strong gains.

Scrapping the effort to have Congress approve a \$ 40 billion loan guarantee, Clinton signed an executive order granting Mexico a \$20 billion line of credit. That's an increase of \$ 11 billion over the \$ 9 billion that had been authorized since the start of Mexico's currency crisis on Dec. 20.

U.S. officials also persuaded international lending agencies to increase their aid pledge by \$15 billion, to a total of \$ 27.8 billion.

Although the new aid under the arrangement falls short of the new credit Mexico would have realized under the loan guarantees, analysts said it probably is enough to do the job.

"This package at least makes it more likely we're not going to get some general meltdown in all emerging market currencies. That's of significant importance," said economist David Jones of Aubrey G. Lanston and Co. in New York.

Clinton decided on the executive order after House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole told him Monday night they did not fore-

see Congress approving the loan guarantees anytime soon.

"Financial distress in Mexico had reached proportions that were exceedingly troubling. ... It was our view that if this was not dealt with and dealt with quickly it would reach dire proportions very quickly," said Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin.

The \$20 billion in credit will come from the Exchange Stabilization Fund, established in 1934 to support the dollar, and the Federal Reserve System.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund, which last week agreed to lend Mexico \$ 7.8 billion, increased its commitment by \$ 1.8 billion, to \$ 9.6 billion.

Major industrialized countries, acting through the Bank for International Settlements, said they would consider doubling their short-term lending to Mexico from \$5 billion to \$10 billion.

Canada already has extended \$ 1 billion in credit, and a group of Latin American countries, led by Argentina and Brazil, is putting together another \$1 billion loan.

Congressional opponents of rescuing Mexico expressed outrage at the new plan, but analysts suggested many lawmakers are probably secretly pleased Clinton relieved them of the obligation of voting on the rescue package.

"Most members of Congress

knew in their heart of hearts that something like this had to be done. But they are probably glad they didn't have to explain it to the folks back home," said C. Fred Bergsten, director of the Institute for International Economics in Washington.

An ABC News-Washington Post poll this week showed seven out of 10 Americans opposed loan

guarantees for Mexico.

Supporters of Clinton's decision pointed out that the new package provides for greater international participation than the loan guarantee plan. That will allow the International Monetary Fund, rather than the United States, to take on the unpopular role of chief enforcer in insisting on economic reforms in Mexico.



Bill Clinton

## Bosnian leaders optimistic on lifting of arms embargo

By SLOBODAN LEKIC  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Bosnia's prime minister says he's optimistic the United States will lift the arms embargo against his country if rival Serbs continue to reject an international peace plan.

But Haris Silajdzic stressed that Clinton administration officials have not committed themselves to lifting the U.N.-imposed embargo. "There are no firm commitments, but I believe they will come," he said in an interview Tuesday.

"Therefore, I am more optimistic today," Silajdzic said, following two days of talks with congressional leaders and administration officials. "It is clear that everybody realizes that truth and justice are on our side."

Referring to the embargo, Silajdzic said its ending is now "being seriously considered."

Bosnia's Muslim-led government blames the embargo for freezing the military advantage enjoyed by the heavily armed Bosnian Serbs, who control 70 percent of the republic.

The international peace plan would divide the disputed terrain, giving Serbs 49 percent and placing 51 percent under control of Bosnia's government. It has been accepted by the government side but rejected by the Serbs.

The Clinton administration, although initially opposed to the embargo, has been unwilling to lift it unilaterally, fearing a split with its NATO allies. Britain, France and others argue that lifting it would expand the war and endanger their peacekeeping troops on the ground.

Silajdzic insisted, however, that the administration should act on its own to help bring about an end to the 3-year-old ethnic conflict in which more than 200,000 people have died or disappeared.

Earlier in the day, he implored the United States to tell the Bosnian Serbs "enough is enough."

In testimony before sympathetic House members, Silajdzic accused Western nations of aiding the militarily stronger Serbs by refusing to lift the embargo.

"We would understand neutrality but ... this is not neutrality. This is complicity," he told the congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

He also criticized the U.N. military command, saying the few pinprick air strikes it authorized against the Serbs during the past year "looked very cosmetic" and only served to embolden the Serbs.

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole met with Silajdzic on Monday and assured him of solid congressional support for a bill he has introduced to lift the arms embargo. But Dole said congressional action would be delayed for a "the next couple of months" while there is still the possibility of a negotiated settlement.

Rep. Chris Smith, a New Jersey Republican and chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, said he was considering similar legislation in the House and thought it would fare "reasonably well" if the White House pushed for it.

# Man nabbed for bribing cop

By Ferdie de la Torre

Variety News Staff

A MAN who was taking an actual driving test was arrested after he reportedly tried to bribe a police officer conducting the examination with \$30 cash near the Department of Public Safety Bureau of Motor Vehicle Tuesday morning.

In yesterday's press briefing, DPS Information Officer Cathy Sheu said Jian Wei Zheng, 26, was nabbed for bribery.

Sheu said according to a police report, Zheng offered Police Officer 3 Joaquin "Jack" K. Camacho with one \$10 and another \$20 cash while they were

inside the vehicle.

Camacho told Zheng not to do so because it's bribery, but the arrestee insisted.

In an interview, Camacho, 33, said at the DPS he called the attention of another police officer assigned at the Patrol Unit who then arrested Zheng and confiscated the money as evidence.

"I am just following the law. You don't have to bribe me," he stressed when asked to comment.

Variety gathered that since he was assigned at the BMV last year, Camacho discovered cheaters by confiscating about six driving test leakages found in possession from different appli-

cants.

In January 1994, DPS Commissioner Jose M. Castro, Deputy Commissioner for Operations Lino Tenorio and BMV Director Tony G. Adriano selected dedicated and honest cops to be assigned as actual driving test examiners.

Camacho, who was assigned as guard at the Division of Correction at the time, topped the list. He graduated from the Guam Corrections Academy 3rd Cycle and CNMI Police Academy 5th Cycle.

Adriano claimed that since he assumed the position as BMV chief in January last year, it was

the first case of bribery involving his examiners.

"When I was the chief of Correction he (Camacho) used to be my man. And I know him as a serious type of officer who can do his job well and someone to depend on," said the BMV director.

Meanwhile, three persons, including a 16-year-old boy, were arrested by DPS Criminal Investigation Section officers during a raid in a Garapan apartment Tuesday.

Police said the arrestees,

Ronald M. Sablan, 23 and Thelma C. Hawkins, were picked up in connection with their previous theft cases in 1994.

Sablan and Hawkins were arrested for misuse of credit cards and theft. Sablan and the boy were also charged for illegal possession of ammunition.

A \$25,000 bail each was recommended for Sablan and Hawkins' temporary liberty. The boy was turned over to the Division of Youth Services, police said.

## Federal gov't reviews CNMI Headstart program

SIX VISITING officials from Region IX are currently conducting an on-site review on the Public School System's Headstart program, the PSS said yesterday.

Tim Thornburgh, Federal Program Coordinator III, said the review team members include ACF Regional Office Program Specialist Bill Hannah; Fiscal Specialist Allen Doung; Education Coordinator Ann Mary Teliu; Consultant Corrine Lee; Assistant Director for American Samoa Milanelta P. Tinitali, and Head Start Manager Antonia Farm.

Thornburgh said Hannah, the team leader, has been assigned to review the program's administration.

Doung has been assigned at the fiscal and property management. Teliu for the education, Lee for health, dental, mental and nutrition while Tinitali for social services and Farm for involvement

and disabilities services.

Tomorrow, the team will be attending the Headstart "exit conference" at the Carolinian Ut in Garapan.

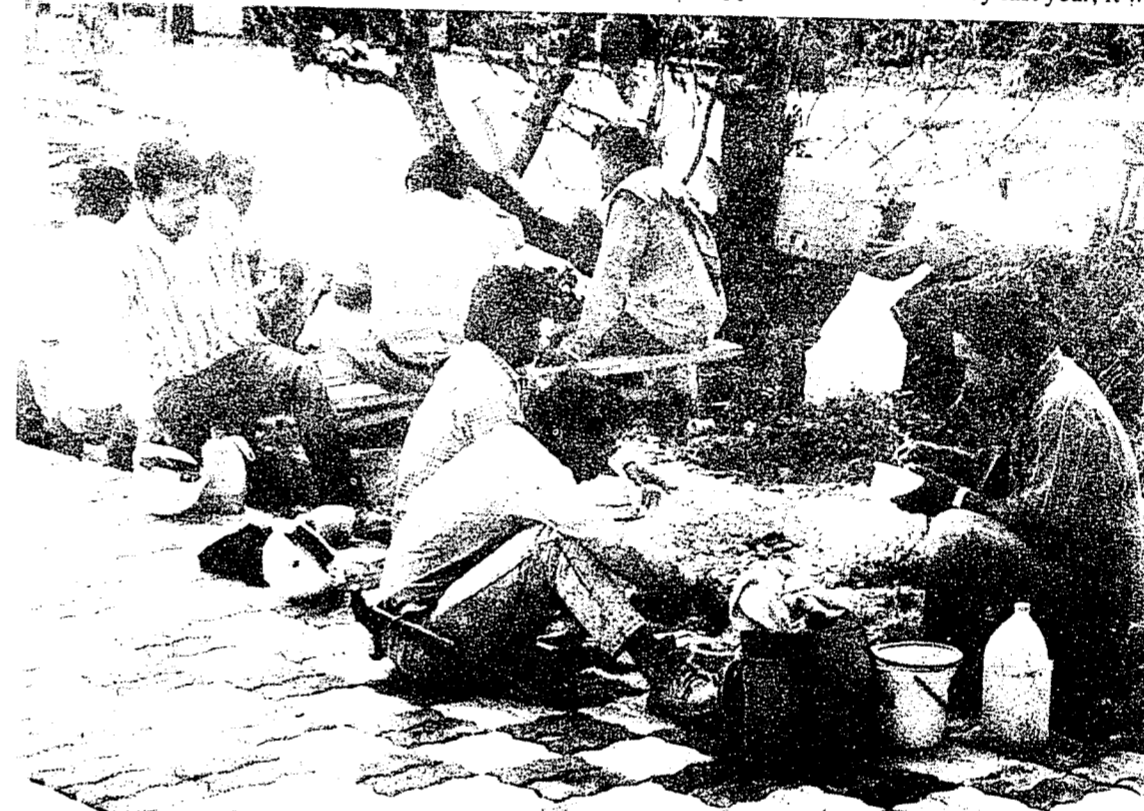
The members of the group, who all arrived Friday, were selected by the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a comprehensive review on the CNMI's Headstart program.

"It's good for the program. It gives us better understanding and look for areas that can be improved," Thornburgh pointed out.

Region IX also sent on-site review team members on the island to understand the needs and expand other areas of the program.

Thornburgh claimed that 559 children are attending Headstart at 12 sites while employs 56 teachers/staffs and 12 support staffs.

Mitchon D. Ioanis is the PSS Headstart Program director. (FDT)



Filipino workers assigned for the construction and beautification of Garapan sidewalk/drainage project gather together while taking their 30-minute lunch break near the American Memorial Park yesterday.

## Gallegly chides OTIA over closure motive

CONGRESSMAN Elton Gallegly has chided the US Interior Department for making it appear that the closure of its office of Territorial and International Affairs was a voluntary cost-cutting measure on the agency's part.

"Leslie Turner and Bruce Babbitt can put any face on this they want, but it's plain disingenuous of them to claim that this is just some idea they came up with in the name of good government."

"We're going to our legislation and make sure - statutorily - that OTIA is finished," Gallegly said. Gallegly yesterday convened a Congressional hearing marking a rebirth of the relationship between the federal government and U.S. territories.

"With today's hearing we embark on a new relationship between the United States and its territories," Gallegly said. "The status quo has clearly endured for far too long. It's time for us to take a look at everything from reducing federal funding to the territories to encouraging more local control."

The hearing was conducted to discuss impacts of the Contract With America on U.S. territories and H.R. 602, an Omnibus Territories Act proposed by Gallegly earlier this month.

Gallegly's legislative includes provisions to abolish the Department of the Interior's Office of Territorial and International Affairs, to impose immigration and wage controls in the Northern Mariana Islands and to allow Hawaii to accept as part of the state seven small island territories in the Pacific.

Witnesses scheduled to testify include Neil Abercrombie (D-Hawaii), Patsie T. Mink (D-Hawaii), Leslie M. Turner, Assistant Secretary of Territorial and International Affairs for the Department of the Interior; Carl T.C. Gutierrez, Governor of Guam; Roy L. Schneider, governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands and Froilan C. Tenorio, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

At the hearing, Gallegly reasserted his intention to legislatively abolish the Interior Department's Office of Territorial and International Affairs despite the announcement Friday by OTIA head Leslie Turner that the federal bureaucracy would voluntarily close at the end of the fiscal year.

## LaMotte's appointment may become permanent

By Rafael H. Arroyo

Variety News Staff

ACTING Public Auditor Leo L. LaMotte may soon find himself no longer serving in a temporary capacity as his long-sought confirmation could be slowly getting from the House of Representatives.

According to House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Chairman Oscar M. Babauta, certain members of the House are reconsidering their earlier objection to LaMotte's confirmation and may now be in support of his appointment.

On the other hand, acting Governor Jesus C. Borja yesterday confirmed the Administration has standing plans to resubmit LaMotte's nomination to the Legislature, once it gets an indication that his appointment will garner support.

"I would say some members are now ready to support him as permanent public auditor. That is, if he gets reappointed by the governor in

that position," said Babauta. "The committee will act on any nomination the governor submits. If and when LaMotte is still it, then we'll just look back and reevaluate our previous files on him," he said.

Babauta's committee last year conducted confirmation hearings for LaMotte in the House. But as the Senate was getting ready to conduct their own hearings, LaMotte's nomination was withdrawn by Governor Froilan C. Tenorio apparently to save him from the humiliation of rejection by the lower chamber.

Such withdrawal came at the height of disagreements between the governor and the House leadership on almost any issue. It was then assumed that even if LaMotte's credentials were "impeccable" for the job, he may be turned down by the House due to then ongoing hostile sentiments.

Since then, LaMotte has been serving on an "acting capacity" and may do so as

long as the governor wants. That is because the law is silent on how long a temporary public auditor may stay in office.

Under the law, the public auditor is tasked with making sure government finances and activities are properly accounted for. Lately it was given the task of ensuring actions of government officials are in order and in compliance with a Code of Ethics.

The public auditor by statute is nominated by the governor but his nomination has to be concurred in by a simple majority vote of both houses of Legislature.

Although the support of both houses are needed to get LaMotte's nomination approved, it was determined that such approval depends largely on the House being the chamber that previously questioned his appointment.

Babauta said he is positive LaMotte may now have good chances in the lower house to get his nomination through.

## Peru sends more troops to border with Ecuador

By MONTE HAYES

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) - Peru and Ecuador have begun talks on ending border clashes over a disputed jungle region, but Peru is still sending troops to the remote area by truck and river boat.

Ecuador announced a cease-fire Tuesday, but Peru refused to confirm any agreement had been reached.

Diplomats from the two countries met separately overnight with representatives from the United States, Argentina, Brazil and Chile, guarantors of a 1942 treaty that was supposed to define the border. The talks in Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian capital, began Tuesday afternoon and lasted into early Wednesday morning.

None of the participants would give details the talks, which were scheduled to resume later in the day.

"We're neither on schedule nor off schedule," said Alexander F. Watson, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American

Affairs. "The talks are continuing."

No fighting was reported Tuesday. Ecuador's armed forces said several skirmishes erupted Monday in the Cenepa River region, 350 kilometers (220 miles) south-east of Quito, wounding one Ecuadorian soldier.

Six deaths have been confirmed since fighting began last week, but news reports say a total of at least 30 soldiers from both sides have died.

More Peruvian troops including crack counterinsurgency forces traveled toward the border Tuesday, even as diplomats gave mixed signals about whether Peru had accepted the cease-fire, which Ecuador said took effect at noon.

A 80-kilometer (50-mile) section of border was left unmarked after a 1941 war lost by Ecuador, which was forced to give up its claim to a swath of jungle that would have doubled its Italy-sized territory.

Peruvian Foreign Minister

Efrain Goldenberg said Tuesday night that his government hoped Peru and Ecuador would reach an agreement on "suspension of military operations" during negotiations in Brazil.

"If everything goes according to what was planned, we will begin to withdraw our ships, submarines, tanks and artillery," he said.

That was the first official confirmation that Peru had sent ships and submarines towards Ecuador's coast.

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori, who is up for re-election in April, may be concerned that any show of weakness could undermine his re-election chances.

"Fujimori can only produce a cease-fire if he can convince the population that Peru has effectively recovered some ground," political analyst Mirko Laurer said in Lima.

Peruvian media reported that Peru with a much bigger and better equipped military continued reinforcing the border. Among those dispatched were jungle warfare experts who have been fighting guerrillas and drug traffickers in the Hualagala Valley.

The two countries last fought over the area in 1981. Each side periodically accuses the other of invading the region to stake claims to gold, uranium and possible oil deposits.

Celebration of Retirement  
and  
Happy Birthday

MR. DANIEL CELIS  
From  
Mr. & Mrs. Toni Santos

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

## ASUNTON MARIANAS

Ginen: John S. DeRosario, JR.

### Propositon Casino Gambling

Unos kuantos na membron lehislatura man manfitma un lehislasion 'nai mapropone maestablesen industriar casino guine gi tano'ta. Esta hana' matmany'o' este na ginagao sa' kulan taya' respeto gi konsensian yan sentimenton publiko gi un asunto na piligrosu yan dañosu para hita.

Dispues, kulan ti marepara na esta guaha gi bisinuta Tinian nu este na industria. Sa' hafa pago na para ta diroga un kinalamten 'nai man ansia lokue' i mañeluta na ufañaonao gi kontribusion apas setbision publiko? I maintrodusen este na ginagao ensegidās na fatta gi entero elmundo na ti man fitme hit na taotaogē gi areglamenton disision yan lai. Puru checho' gotpe ya taya' inadahe pot para ta protehe reputasionta.

Gi hilo este, siempre lokue' hafa i presente na industriar poker ha prebeniniye i programan retirao yan JTPA ni umayuyuda famaguonta manman aligao chochu', ufaliño. Ufaliño sa' i proposito i para umana' guaha huegon casino gi todo hotels yan motels. Haf' takeke chogue nu hita afañelos? Kao i pueston lehislatura en fin un siya 'nai man malisensia i membro man na 'halom industria na dañosu yan piligrosu para i publiko?

Esta guaha 'nai hu sogne i kliman El Niño kao patte gi man estetotba gi man haso tunas yan klaro gi intension man mapropone siha na lai. Lao hu repara na dipotsihe bisio gi membron lehislatura i siha ha' man dinanche ke hemunos siha ni sentimenton publiko. Hagas man tinatme ni pestin ayo i hu fananaan chetnot seminteyo 'nai guaha mañgondudukta hunta lao ni uno ume'ekuñgog sa' man matai i mangaige guihe.

Hu repara lokue' na tafa' hayuta i para ta hatsa un dankulo yan bonito na palasyo. Dispues de monhayan ta atane i uttimo lulo, tatutuhon yumulañg papa' entero ayo na kuetpon guma' sa' manmalago hit la dankulo na palasyo. Mauleg ha' ta chogue este an miyon yan miyon finkastā. Lao hita ha' i chaleg yan botlu sa' ti man fitme hit gi disisionta como un rasan taotao. Kontodo i para ufan man inbesta guine ha chule' chalan dankulo' sa' kada rato tatulaika hināsota. Estague' dañosu na kustumbre osino atetu kontra i reputasionta.

Yangin para kada biahe para ta tātme hoyun problema ni et mas chadeg na atte sin benefision sentro na prinsipion disision, kulan hulilie' hafa mamamaila' para hita. Ayo buente na baiho dimo gi me'nan Congresson Estados Unidos de America ya baiho famaisen na ufan halom ya siha hu na' gasgas i machalapon na halom gima' ta sa' ti tana' siña.

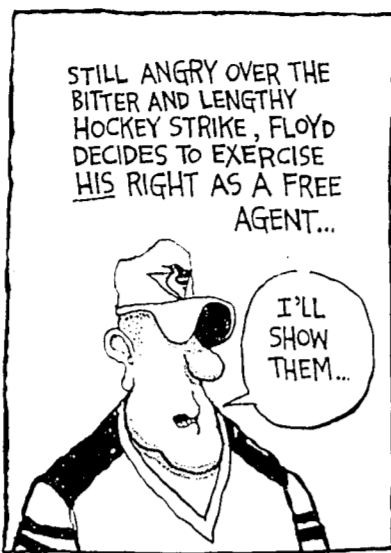
Trabiha guaguaha' inañgokogho gi taotota maseha abarambabao gi kada tres rato pinekatta. Lamegai guaddia gi halom publiko ni esta lokue' man fatigao ni mañan lehislatura. Ya hoñgeyo' afañelos, piot hamyo ni man kinetbabata pago na esta i kampanan para man husga sige mas uma' gañg gi kada ha muebague' i kanai rilos. Ya yangin ufato ayo na ora 'nai para in krusa un tolai sin i sendalun miyo, esta' giya hamyo sa' solu hamyo mismo fumunas i konfiansan i publiko.

Polu i industriar casino amano 'nai gaige pago. Enlugat de in yilañg pot ambenteria, maulegña ta ayudaye puede lachadeg sumaonao gi manalamagai na salape para i pottamonedan gobietnamentota. Muñga lokue' masede estotbu gi industriar poker sa' ayudo para i man retirao yan famaguonta. Yangin atogante hao gi siyan publiko, pues fanue' ham na guaha mas nina' siñamo fuerake para un distrosia i pas yan sueno na kinalamten taotao isla ni matuño como perlas iya Pasifiko.

### Haye Kapitan Este na Proposito?

Hu tuño ha' haye gai naan i gaige gi mapropone na akto pot casino para iya Saipan. Lao i primera kuestion: Haye dipotsihe gaige gi taten este na proposito? Kao este un dañosu na akto uttimo nina' siñan miyo komo guadian yan representanten i publiko? Kao propio señores na pot petsonat na interes para bai'n mattit pago i ingegesa na pas gi halom komunidat Saipan?

Siempre un dia baiho soda' haye este na kabayero ya guaho ha' mismo bai' lagnos dibuenamente giya hamyo puede in tiño maskaran mataña yan kao gasgas intensiona nu hamyo. Dispues de intiño haye este siha na señores, na setbe sablen miyo ni publiko an matto i oran man sentensia. Ya ni infan chinillie' un kostat na kiluus, asie' sa' hombre si Yuus man asisie', lao nae' lokue' ni ha mirese na kastigo ginen lapēs miyo. Si Yuus Maase.



STILL ANGRY OVER THE BITTER AND LENGTHY HOCKEY STRIKE, FLOYD DECIDES TO EXERCISE HIS RIGHT AS A FREE AGENT...



I'M GONNA WATCH BOWLING INSTEAD!

### JACK ANDERSON and MICHAEL BINSTEIN WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

## U.S. fighting anti-sanctions tide in U.N.

**UNITED NATIONS**—In closed-door consultations of the 15-member Security Council, the United States is fighting an increasingly lonely battle against lifting U.N. sanctions imposed against Iraq in 1990.

Other members, led by France and Russia, are anxious to certify that Saddam Hussein and Iraq are in full compliance with the conditions of the sanctions. That's at least in part because these countries stand ready and eager to reap the harvest of Iraq's largely idle oil fields.

The very prospect of reopening Iraq is alarming to Ambassador Rolf Ekeus, no nonsense Swedish diplomat who heads the U.N. Special Commission for the Disarmament of Iraq. He has been Saddam's prime nemesis since the end of the Gulf War. The commission has been conducting arms inspections since 1991.

Ekeus concedes that Iraq has been quite cooperative in the last year or so. Saddam is no longer lying on the same scale as before, and he has stopped blocking inspectors or permanent cameras in some of the key facilities, as required by the U.N. resolutions.

For all of Iraq's "cooperation," Ekeus is not excited about the prospect of a regenerated Iraq. Despite the dismantling of Iraq's once mighty arsenal, Ekeus once explained to a small gathering in Washington that "the capabilities" are there for Iraq to fully rearm, including "the supply system, the banks and the money." When the oil embargo is eventually lifted, Ekeus said, "Iraq will get all the cash and that will be of great concern. With the cash, the suppliers and the skills, they will be able to reestablish all the weapons programs. They will grow up like mushrooms after the rain."

Jules Kroll, whose company has been hired by the Kuwaitis to identify hidden Iraqi assets abroad, agrees with Ekeus.

"The network and the arrangement that was set up (by Iraq) in the years prior to the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait still exists," Kroll recently told a congressional panel. "Some of the players have changed, but the strategy is essentially the same. Many of the same businessmen who were operating in France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Austria and other countries, are still there."

Over the past year, businesses from several countries have slipped into Baghdad, trying to be first in line when the sanctions are lifted. Sources told our associate Dale Van Atta that the French and the Russians are first in line because they have been Iraq's chief allies in the secret "informal" consultations of the Security Council. China is described as "going along" with them.

China, Russia and France account for three of the five most important members of the Security Council—the "Perm Five," as diplomats call them here because any one of them can veto U.N. decisions. A fourth member, Great Britain, still sides with the United States, though British resolve is weakening. Sources here say their stance is becoming more of a favor to the United States than an independent position.

Trade delegations have visited Iraq not only from Russia and France, but from Japan, Italy, Spain, Canada and Brazil, according to our sources. Oil companies from Germany, Greece and even Great Britain have been dicker in Baghdad over oil exploration and marketing rights.

"If the ban on oil exports were lifted, Iraq could earn from \$12 billion to \$15 billion a year in income, which would enable it to resume the large-scale smuggling of dual-use equipment and technology needed to produce non conventional arms," warns Michael Eisenstadt of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. "Iraq would probably sell its oil at discount prices in order to create privileged trade ties with key Western states and to carve out a niche for its product in a glutted market."

At least one former Iraq adversary—Iran—apparently isn't waiting for sanctions to be lifted. The U.S. delegation told the Security Council on Dec. 7 that Washington had "evidence of Iranian complicity in the smuggling of Iraqi petroleum through Persian Gulf ports in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions prohibiting such trade."

One of the few remaining weapons in America's stance against any lifting of the sanctions is the unresolved issue of Kuwaiti prisoners of-war. Though Saddam Hussein denies that any prisoners are still being held, hundreds of Kuwaitis remain unaccounted for.

## Hawkins Chamber's Task Force rep

By Rafael I. Santos  
Variety News Staff

A TOP official at the Duty Free Shoppers-Saipan, one of the companies which opposed heavy tax increases, has been appointed to represent the influential Saipan Chamber of Commerce to the tax task force.

The task force was created by the new tax measure which was hurriedly approved by both houses of the legislature the other week. Under House Bill No. 9-250 also known as Public Law..., the task force will study existing tax law and regulations and recommend necessary changes to such regulations to the governor and the

legislature.

David Hawkins, DFS vice president will act as the chamber's representative to the task force. His appointment was announced yesterday by chamber chairman Efrain F. Camacho. Members of the business organization got a summary and implications of the new tax increases during their luncheon meeting at the Pacific Islands Club yesterday.

The tax task force is composed of 13 members and will hold three-year terms. Members are the secretary of finance, Governor's Special Assistant for Management and Budget, representatives of the House Speaker, Senate President,

chamber, garment industry, hotel association, bar association, and small businesses.

A tax accountant and two members of the previous tax task force will also be part of the new task force.

The DFS vice president understood his responsibility as a task force member, said Camacho in announcing Hawkins's appointment.

Hawkins, one of the directors of the chamber board, was among Saipan businessmen who expressed disappointment over the hasty passage of the new tax law. He and DFS President Playford Ramsey complained that the

governor's version of the tax package passed both chambers of the legislature without giving the public and the business sector time to express their opinions.

The two DFS officials were also unhappy with the failure of the lawmakers to fully explain the ramifications of the tax increases.

Hawkins lamented that the measure got passed easily when no one in the legislature "is a tax expert." "Rep. Hofschneider said it best - Nobody in the Legislature is a tax expert - and yet they pulled this bill out of the log that have been prefiled several months ago. I don't know if anybody even the tax experts know what's in the bill," he told the Variety in a recent interview.

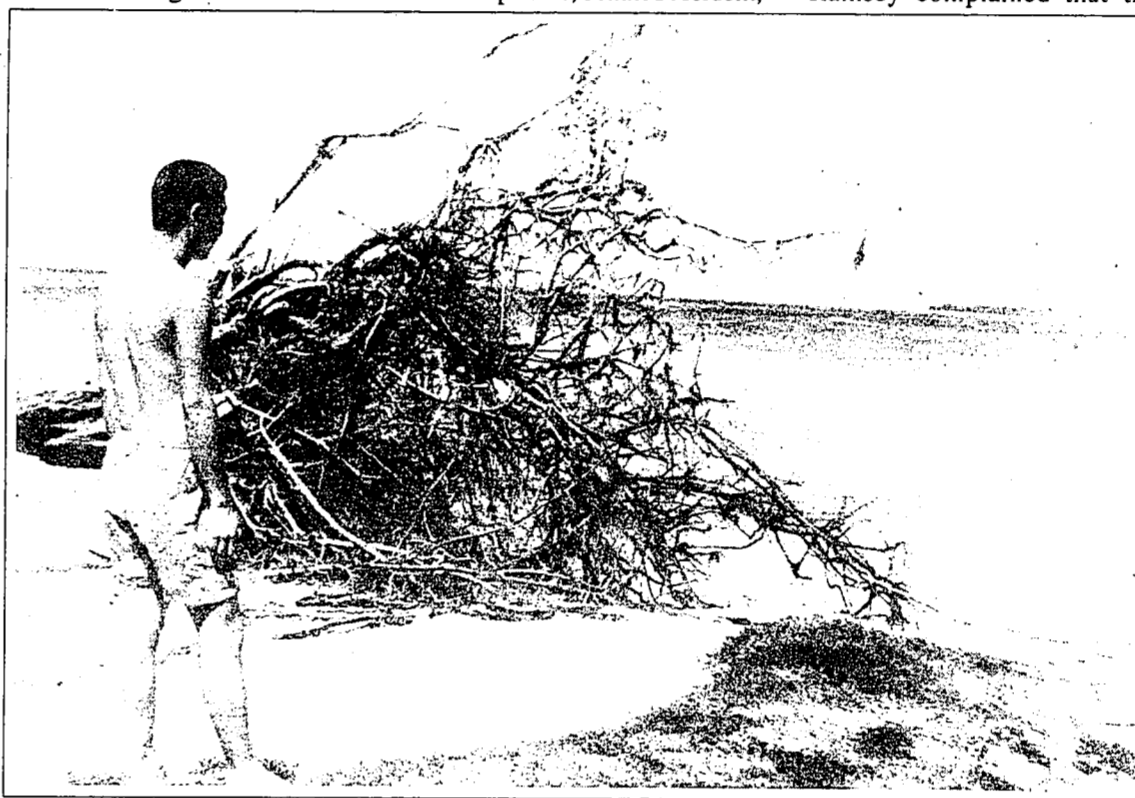
The chamber director was worried about the long term effect of the new tax system. He said the government action will discourage people to spend much here. Visitors for example would eventually opt for other tour destinations instead of Saipan where tour items are more expensive.



David Hawkins

Hawkins has described the new increases as "too big" and anti-business.

"It's not good for business. The Chamber has worked for several months with the House on tax reform. Business is not against tax increases but only against heavy increases. We want a moderate increase so business can assume the new tax rates and get used to and digest it."



A Japanese tourist stands near the uprooted pine tree at Micro Beach while watching the windsurfers having some fun time yesterday.

## Bail raised for woman in foiled departure

By Rafael I. Santos  
Variety News Staff

THE SUPERIOR Court yesterday refused to reduce the \$10,000 cash bail set for the release of a Chinese woman accused of soliciting prostitution, but instead it increased the amount to \$15,000.

Associate Judge Marty Taylor increased the bail during a hearing yesterday morning, saying Weng Heui Li is a flight risk.

Weng was arrested Monday afternoon at the Saipan International Airport while allegedly attempting to leave the commonwealth. Weng was free on a \$1,000 cash bail at the time of her arrest.

The defendant was first nabbed with four others at the Pacific Islands Club last December on prostitution charge. She and three other women were charged with soliciting prostitution and conspiracy to engage in prostitution.

An information filed by the Attorney General's Office alleged that the women agreed to engage in sexual conduct for a fee. Tang Hui Yun, the person who allegedly brought the Chinese women to a hotel room, was charged with promoting and conspiracy to promote prostitution. He is being held

on a \$50,000 cash bail.

Assistant Attorney General Alan Gordon yesterday said Weng deceived the government for declaring her passport had been lost. He said the defendant could not be trusted as manifested by her alleged attempt to flee jurisdiction.

Law enforcers seized a one-way ticket to Shanghai, China and a passport, all allegedly belonging to her. Weng had stated in an affidavit that she had lost her passport.

The government has not yet filed additional charges against Weng. Gordon said the woman may be charged with perjury for lying to the authorities.

Also on Monday, Chen Chao Hua, the alleged leader of the prostitution organization busted in December, was arrested at the airport. The government said the defendant possessed a one-way ticket to Japan and \$31,000.

Gordon has described Chen as the "top man" in the alleged prostitution ring.

Weng was ordered by Judge Marty Taylor to stay away from sea ports and airports. She must not leave the island without a

court permission, the judge said. Also in Superior Court, a man convicted of sexually abusing a child was ordered to complete 500 hours of community work service which was ordered by the court in September.

Wil Meschol entered a plea of nolo contendere or no contest to the sexual abuse charge and was incarcerated as a result. Aside from the jail term, he was ordered to perform community work. However the Division of Corrections could not provide security for the defendant at the Smiley Cove Marina where the work was supposed to have been done, defense attorney Eric Smith said.

Meschol was given parole last Saturday but could not leave for Palau, his place of origin, because of the incomplete number of community work service. The court ordered him last year to leave the island 72 hours after his release.

Smith asked that the number of hours of community work service be modified, but the court refused. Meschol has performed about 200 hours of community work service.

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# Artists sought for FESTPAC

THE COMMONWEALTH Council for Arts and Culture is the sponsoring agency for the selection of delegates to represent the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands at the upcoming "7th Festival of Pacific Arts" (FESTPAC) in Apia, Western Samoa.

Interested visual artists, craftspeople and performing artists must fill out and return an application and biodata form available at the Arts Council office by February 20, 1995. A selection will be made on March 11, 12 and 13 at the Flame Tree Arts Festival by three panels of judges. Artists, craftspeople and performers who do not submit the application and biodata by February 20, 1995 will not be considered by the judging panel.

The Festival of the Pacific Arts

is held every four years at a South Pacific site. Previous FESTPACS were held on the Cook Islands, Australia and Tahiti.

The Festival seves to highlight the best Pacific artisans and performers and Pacific cultures in general, and is the largest of its kind throughout the Pacific Island regions.

From the most ancient artforms and practices to modern island art and music, the Festival sets the stage for a study in both the differences and similarities of our related cultures and serves to assist in the promotion and preservation of many almost extinct artforms.

Interested artists, craftspeople, and performing artists may pick

up a copy of the "FESTPAC Criteria", which includes general guidelines, and requirements for applicants and application and biodata forms at the Arts Council office at the CNMI Convention Center, Capitol Hill. For further information on the FESTPAC, you may contact the Arts Council at 322-9982 or 322-9983.



An aboriginal artist from Australia works on a piece at the 1988 Festival of the Pacific Arts.



Members of the New Guinea delegation prepare for their performance at the FESTPAC in Australia last year.

## PSS' Torres receives prestigious award

PSS — The Public School System learned earlier this month that Commissioner of Education William S. Torres, on behalf of the PSS, has received a prestigious award from the National

Association of State Directors for Vocational and Technical Education.

Torres was one of only 10 individuals nationwide to receive the award for "outstanding contributions to vocational technical education".

The Commissioner said the award should really be given to the entire PSS vocational education program, which has really been responsible for the program's success.

"The key has been the collaborative effort between PSS Vocational Education Coordinator Patrick Tellei, and the principals and vocational education teachers at each school. And of course, all of our success would not be possible without the leadership of Board of Education Chairman Daniel O. Quitugua and Deputy Commissioner for Instruction Margaret C. Dela Cruz," Torres said.

PSS Vocational Education Coordinator Patrick Tellei said that he, as a member of the Association, nominated the Commissioner for the award for his "commitment toward strengthening the program."

"I think that it is important that the Commissioner does not see our vocational education program as a 'traditional' program that only exists to prepare students for employment after graduation from high school," Tellei said.

"Instead, the Commissioner sees our vocational education program as one that prepares all students to be life-long learners and



William S. Torres gives them options upon graduation from high school. Students can either seek employment after graduation or seek to continue their studies in college," Tellei said.

The Association has 56 directors, which includes representatives from 50 states and six U.S. insular areas.

Each state's representative can nominate up to three individuals from a particular state for the award each year. The nominations then are submitted to a 10-member judging panel made up of Association members.

Tellei said that the panel does not present any particular number of awards each year, but rather "gives the awards to the nominees that the panel feels are worthy of the award."

The Association, according to Tellei, is very influential in shaping national vocational education policies and programs.

For more information about the Association and the award won by the Commissioner of Education, contact Tellei at 322-6452/6453.

# Leaders: Bill attacks Covenant

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

TWO MORE top leaders of the CNMI have joined Governor Froilan C. Tenorio in his call for Congress to take a cautious approach in dealing with Rep. Elton Gallegly's Omnibus Territories Bill currently before the US House of Representatives.

In separate testimonies to the Lands and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Native American and Territorial Affairs Committee of the US House, Washington Representative Juan N. Babauta and House Speaker Diego T. Benavente cautioned that passage of H.R. 602 will radically alter the CNMI's unique political relationship with the US in a manner not to the best interest of both sides.

"H.R. 602 is bold in its proposals and broad in its sweep. It shakes the political and economic foundation of the CNMI. Never before have the terms of the Covenant been so altered," said Babauta as he addressed the subcommittee in a hearing early yesterday morning (Saipan time).

Benavente, in a written testimony he submitted, also said the omnibus measure, if passed in its present form, would harm the CNMI economically, politically and culturally.

"I am saddened because I believe that if enacted, H.R. 602 would permanently alter the relationship between the US and the CNMI," the speaker said.

H.R. 602, introduced by Gallegly, contains provisions laying out how the new Congress will treat issues concerning insular areas and territories. Gallegly is the chairman of the Subcommittee that heard the bill.

As far as the NMI is concerned, the measure seeks to apply the federal minimum wage, labor and immigration laws in the CNMI aside from ending a system that allows for rebates of taxes. The CNMI has been given control over all of these areas under the Covenant it entered into with the US.

Under Gallegly's bill, the CNMI's control of its own immigration will cease such that incoming alien workers would be made to address documented needs as with the federal waiver regulations used in Guam. The number of alien workers would then be trimmed down to the high level of aliens in 1992 with future upward adjustments as the resident population grows in the Commonwealth.

Also, the Gallegly measure would impose the federal minimum wage of \$4.25 in the Marianas, at the same time eliminating the local government's privilege to rebate 95% of the tax revenues it collects.

In his testimony before the subcommittee, Babauta stressed that although the changes pushed by the bill are permissible under the Covenant, the long years of negotiation by both the US and CNMI governments should not eclipse the need for corrective changes as sought by the omnibus bill.

"The changes are permitted



Juan N. Babauta



Elton Gallegly



Diego T. Benavente

under the Covenant. But that agreement came after three years of negotiation by the Nixon and Ford Administrations and lengthy congressional and public scrutiny. We must respect that effort and never change the Covenant without fully understanding what we do," said Babauta.

According to the CNMI's man in Washington, the Covenant has been more of an American success story that had the CNMI surging from subsistence and subsidy to nearly a billion dollar gross domestic product in 20 years.

Babauta noted that since the omnibus bill cuts to the core of the economy, the success of the CNMI under the Covenant could not longer be guaranteed, as the cost of the basic tenets of economic progress will all be altered.

"The cost of labor and materials, the size and composition of the labor force, the availability and distribution of capital will be altered by this bill," said the Washington representative.

He warned that if Congress reaches in to adjust these basic elements of the economy, then Congress better understand the separate and synergetic changes that will result and be willing to accept responsibility for those results.

"The net result would be economic collapse," said Benavente on what the Gallegly measure will amount to. "Economic collapse inevitably leads to political instability, especially in a place such as our islands where western-style democracy is still in its infancy. The cultural effects would likewise be devastating," he added.

So however, commendable the intent of the bill may have been, it's net effect on the Commonwealth would be harshly punitive as it would bring great and unnecessary hardship to the islands, said the speaker.

Although both officials started on a pessimistic note about how the Gallegly bill will affect the islands, Babauta for his part said he believes there are some good points in it, especially those pertaining to the creation of a wage review board and the imposition of an alien labor cap in the CNMI.

"I have been an advocate of the wage review board system. This system worked in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands until those economies reached parity with the rest of the US. The system works today in American Samoa. It is the right thing to do for the CNMI," said Babauta.

With regards to minimum wage, the Washington representative said he fully supports an increase but that the wage level is better left an economic decision.

As far as immigration control is concerned, Babauta said replacing CNMI border control with federal border control will not change the inherent danger of exploitation an immigrant faces in the CNMI if the intent was meant to guarantee protection of fundamental human and civil rights.

The Gallegly bill includes a proposal to place a cap on the total number of immigrants with subcaps placed on the number of contract workers in each of the four major CNMI industries. Section 203 of the bill also puts federal Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in charge of CNMI borders and makes the federal Immigration and Nationality Act apply in the CNMI.

In agreeing with a cap, Babauta said he believes the people of the CNMI have placed themselves at risk of losing political and economic control of their culture and home by allowing themselves to

be a minority.

"Placing a cap on new immigration would stop the erosion of control and provide breathing room for the people to consider what kind of a future they want for the NMI," said Babauta.

"Local control of immigration was originally portrayed as a tool for protecting the indigenous people. If we choose to use it as such, we should retain that control. If we decide we do not care to preserve our status in our islands, then the argument for local control loses force," said Babauta.

On the privilege to issue tax rebates, Benavente reminded the subcommittee that the CNMI has taken serious steps toward reform on our own and also pointed out that the current state of the economy is much more fragile than may be immediately apparent.

"The majority of our people are neither wealthy nor sufficiently trained to assume leadership or even middle management of the industries on which our economy depends," said Benavente.

The speaker said he believes this provision on the bill is based on two misconceptions: that there is a relationship between US financial assistance to the CNMI and the latter's authority to rebate taxes; and that the tax rebate scheme is a windfall for CNMI residents.

"The CNMI rebate is not a gift nor a privilege. It is part of a comprehensive tax scheme that gives the CNMI government flexibility to ensure that taxes are low enough to ensure favorable business climate and high enough to meet government revenue needs," said Benavente.

## Hopwood PTA meet

HOPWOOD Jr. High School is informing all parents, sponsors, and legal guardians that the 2nd Quarter Parent-Teacher Conference is scheduled on Friday, February 3, 1995 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

Your presence in this very important school activity will definitely be appreciated by our students, teachers and staff of this great learning institution.

Happy Birthday  
**Tito Salas**  
From: KES Staff

# ATTENTION TO ALL VISMINDA MEMBERS

THERE WILL BE A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1995 AT 7:00 P.M. TO BE HELD AT KILILI BEACH PARK.

THE FOLLOWING AGENDA WILL BE DISCUSSED AS FOLLOWS:

1. ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2. DISTRIBUTION OF ID CARDS
3. OTHER MATTERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL AT  
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**NMC Training for February 1995**

**Safety and Health Workshops**  
for all industries

<b>10-Hour (2 DAY) OSHA Accredited Voluntary Compliance</b>			
February 13 and 15	Time: 8:00am-2:30pm	Fee: \$45	Room: V110
<b>Fire Safety and Prevention</b>			
February 17	Time: 8:00am-12:00	Fee: \$35	Room: V110

Contact Alfred Johnson at 234-5498 ext 1806 for more information about the Safety and Health Workshops. No refund after close of registration.

**Small Business Seminars**

<b>How to Start a Small Business</b>			
February 13 to 20	Time: 8:30am-10:00am	Fee: \$5	Room: V108
<b>Bookkeeping for Small Business</b>			
February 21 to 28	Time: 8:30am-10:00am	Fee: \$5	Room: V108

This fee is to cover the cost of registration and handouts.

**Human Resources Training Office (HRTO)**  
(government employees only)

<b>Fire Safety and Prevention</b>			
Friday 10 Feb	Time: 8:00am-12:00noon	Fee: none	Room: V108
<b>Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) (2 offerings)</b>			
February 7 & 8	Time: 8:00am-5:00pm	Fee: none	Room: Y1
February 21 & 22	Time: 8:00am-5:00pm	Fee: none	Room: Y1
<b>Supervisors, Managers &amp; the Law (2 offerings)</b>			
February 6	Time: 1:00pm-5:00pm	Fee: none	Room: V110
February 27	Time: 1:00pm-5:00pm	Fee: none	Room: V110

Contact Rose Igitol at 234-5498 ext 1804 for more info. about the HRTO and Business Workshops. HRTO participants must be designated by their Dept. Head.

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## Suva, Fiji landowners seek their land back

ABOUT 150 landowners from Suva and Waidina Tikina in Naitasiri in Fiji marched through part of Suva to Government House Monday and handed a petition to President Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara demanding the return of their land from an American logging company, Daily Post reported Tuesday.

The landowners want to reclaim their land from Merit Timber Products, which was granted concession to log timber in the province.

The logging company, landowners and the Native Land Trust Board have been deadlocked in court over differences for the past 13 years.

Landowner spokesman Alifereti Senibiau said about 400 people signed the petition. Senibiau said merit have a timber concession of 30 years and they only received \$50,000 US dollars for two years.

Senibiau alleged the American timber company breached the forestry act which led to a court dispute. The claim was refuted by Merit's managing director David Briggs. Briggs said the matter was taken to court following several protests and a roadblock by some landowners in the early 1980's. PacNews.

## RP to continue efforts to resolve Spratleys conflict

**FOREIGN Affairs**

Undersecretary Rodolfo C. Severino today said that the Philippine Government will continue its efforts at preventing or resolving potential conflict in the South China Sea.

Pointing out that the South China Sea question is related to the maintenance of peace and stability in the region, he said that these efforts will be conducted particularly within the context of the Manila ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea of 1992. The Manila ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea, which was adopted by the ASEAN-member countries as well as by all the claimants to the South China Sea, prescribes the peaceful resolution of all issues relating to the con-

flicting claims in the South China Sea.

Undersecretary Severino made this reassurance in response to reports that certain foreign military elements have been increasing their military activities in the South China Sea, particularly within the KIG.

According to Undersecretary Severino, the Department of Foreign Affairs is still awaiting confirmation from the Department of National Defense of the presence and Nationality of the reported additional foreign military forces within the KIG. He said that, while there are foreign forces within the area claimed by the Philippines, and while there are also Philippine forces on islands claimed by others, what is important is that the peace and stability in the area be maintained through a cap on further militarization.

Undersecretary Severino added that this is not just a bilateral concern for the Philippines but a multilateral concern of all claimants and parties interested in the stability of the South China Sea and the East Asia region as a whole.

In response to some reports that the Philippines claims only some islands within the Kalayaan Island Group, Undersecretary Severino clarified that the Philippines does not only claim eight. Islands in the KIG but owns all the islands and waters of the KIG as defined in Presidential Decree 1596 of 1979.

## Australia offers scholarships

THE AUSTRALIAN government is offering 150 scholarships for study in Australia next year, according to a report in the Australia-South Pacific Newsletter published by the Australian Embassy in Suva.

The scholarships are being offered under an Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB) program. The scholarships are available to people from Fiji, the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia (including the Marshall Islands and Palau), Nauru, new Caledonia, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

An AIDAB spokesman said the objective of the scholarships is to

promote human resources development within the region through opportunities provided by training in Australia. he said awards are provided by training in Australia.

He said awards are provided for study at Technical and Further Education Institutions (TAFE) and universities in Australia for courses chosen by the awardee. the scholarships cover tuition fees, a living allowance and return airfares to Australia and a basic health insurance cover. PacNews

## Fiji PM's policies receives backing

A GROUP comprising members of the ruling Soqosoqo ni Vakkavulewa ni Taukei Party's West Urban constituency in Fiji has said it would support Prime

Minister Sitiveni Rabuka and his government in its policy decisions, Fiji Times reported Tuesday.

The West Urban constituency publicity director Joe Vala Cakau said the group supports the government's Chinese migration plan and the lifting of the Sunday Observance Decree saying "investments in Fiji will create employment thus solving the very increasing crime rate in the country."

Cakau said Rabuka supporters in the SVT party were alive and continued to fight for the rights of the people and not only for a certain group.

His comments followed opposition by some SVT members on the lifting of the Sunday Observance Decree, the government's proposed Chinese migration plan and the adoption of "Fijian" for a common identity by cabinet.

The opposition came from the Laukoka SVT branch in a meeting on Friday. PacNews

## Volcano reports kept from Vanuatu media

VANUATU'S Minister for Transport and Public works, Amos Bangabiti, has ordered the media not to report anything about the volcano on his island of Ambae, RNZI reported Wednesday.

Bangabiti, who is the MP for Ambae, has ordered all news reports about the dormant volcano on his island removed from the news media.

The minister says is making the move to reduce what he called unnecessary confusion, panic, fears and rumors among his people and claims there was conflicting reports by the media of a possible eruption.

Bangabiti is also not happy with the french organization ORSTOM who are monitoring volcanic activity and earthquakes in the country. He says they and the National Disaster Office gave out alarming reports on the volcano but would not say exactly if it was going to erupt or when.

An ORSTOM official wouldn't comment on the minister's statement but said nobody in the world could predict exactly when a volcano would erupt. PacNews

## Cane growers laud gov't move

THE FIJI Can Growers Association has praised the government for clarifying procedures that should be followed by cane growers whose land leases begin expiring from 1997, Fiji Times reported Tuesday.

Association General Secretary Jaganath Sami said this would avoid exploitation of can growers and stop the present "panic situation".

Sami said the association was glad that Foreign Affairs Minister Senator Filipe Bole had responded to their call and clarified the procedures.

In a statement last week Senator Bole said as the first step, growers should begin negotiations with their landlords to find out their intentions about the land under lease.

Bole clarified that as far as native land was concerned, the landlord was the Native Land Trust Board, with state land, the landlord was the lands de-

partment and with freehold land, it was the landowner himself. he said growers who still faced problems after talking to the landowner should consult their union or seek assistance from their parliamentarians.

Land leases under Agricultural Landlord and Tenant Act (ALTA) begin expiring from 1997. Most of the land leases are currently held by Indian cane growers. PacNews

## First global trade meet to be held in Singapore

**By KENNETH L. WHITING SINGAPORE (AP)** - With the year barely a month old, Singapore has achieved one of its key foreign economic policy goals for 1995: to stage the founding meeting of the World Trade Organization.

This small city-state was overwhelmingly endorsed in Geneva on Tuesday as the site for the first ministerial conference, which must be held by December 1996.

Delegations from Asia, Latin America and Europe at the WTO's general council all agreed that the conference to review progress in liberalizing global commerce should be held by one of the "Asian Tigers," as some of the region's booming economies are known.

Singapore offered to host the first WTO meeting during the signing of the Uruguay Round trade accords in Marrakesh, Morocco, in April.

Then came opposition from U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, part of a row over the lashing of American teen Michael Fay for vandalizing cars.

"The United States believes the trade ministerial meeting ought to be held somewhere else," Kantor said in May.

Singapore expressed regret over Kantor's remarks and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said it would press its bid to hold the conference.

The U.S. State Department said Kantor was expressing his own view rather than that of the Clinton administration.

However, new U.S. Ambassador Timothy A. Chorb said when he arrived in September "that for cost-containment reasons" Washington long favored holding major meetings of international bodies in the cities where they are headquartered. The new trade organization is to remain in Geneva.

In what was seen as a softening

of his stand, Kantor said in November he would not oppose Singapore holding the second meeting as long as the first took place in Geneva.

Not good enough, said Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, since the first conference would underscore Asia's growing significance as a vital economic region.

"Singapore has expressed its wish to host the first meeting for symbolic reasons. In the second meeting, the symbolism is gone," Goh said after the mid-November summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum at Bogor, Indonesia.

Meantime, diplomats from Singapore sought support in scores of world capitals.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said "it is for the members of the World Trade Organization, not the U.S. Trade Representative, to decide where to hold the first World Trade

Organization ministerial conference."

Singapore newspapers reported last week that the support of some 105 of the 128 WTO members had been lined up in advance.

The United States raised no objections at Tuesday's general council meeting in Geneva, according to delegates present.

There was no immediate reaction in Singapore during the Lunar New Year holiday.

The council also elected K. Kesavapany, Singapore's ambassador in Geneva, as its chairman. He was the sole nominee to head the main political body.

The race for director-general remains open. Former Italian Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero, former Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and former South Korean Trade Minister Kim Chul-su are candidates.

Each is backed by regional blocs and shows no sign of withdrawing, making it unlikely that a decision can be made before a target of Feb. 15.

## FBI knew in advance of trade center bombing says defense

**By LARRY NEUMEISTER NEW YORK (AP)** - The FBI was warned of a plot to bomb the World Trade Center but ignored the tip and paid dearly when its reputation was damaged by the blast, a defense attorney in a federal conspiracy trial said Tuesday.

"The FBI refused to investigate the possibility that something like this could happen, and in February of 1993 their arrogance and audacity blew up in their face," attorney John Jacobs told a Manhattan jury.

Jacobs' accusation could become the cornerstone for defense claims that the government, to save face after the bombing, created a mammoth terrorism plot, then squelched it and played the hero.

Jacobs attacked the government in the second day of opening statements in the trial of 12 Muslims accused of plotting to terrorize New York City by blowing up bridges, tunnels and the United Nations. The government says the trade center blast was part of the broader conspiracy.

The prosecution said Monday that the men had declared a "holy war" against the U.S. government and sought to force Washington to change its Middle East policies.

The defense lawyers spent most of their time pounding away at the government's handling of the conspiracy case and its star witness, informant Emad Salem.

Valerie Amsterdam, the lawyer for Fares Khalafala, went so far as to charge that at one point, Salem "was their No. 1 suspect in the World Trade Center bombing."

Nobody struck harder than Jacobs, however. His voice rose in anger as he punched his fist in the air and accused the government of using Salem to entrap the defendants as part of an orchestrated attempt to resuscitate its reputation.

"You see and will learn that the FBI knew someone was going to bomb the World Trade Center," he said. "The FBI ignored the warning."

The bombing killed six people, injured 1,000 and caused more than a half-billion dollars worth of damage. It also raised terrorist fears among Americans.

In the aftermath, the FBI re-established relations with Salem, who earlier had infiltrated a group of men including Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman that was believed responsible for the bombing and the 1990 assassination of extremist Rabbi Meir Kahane at a Manhattan hotel. The 56-year-old blind

sheik, cast by prosecutors as the leader of the terror conspiracy, is among the defendants.

Salem had broken off his relationship with the government in mid-1992 because he did not want to testify at trials and lose his anonymity, the prosecution said Monday.

But it was Salem who told the FBI about the impending trade center attack, Jacobs said.

According to a transcript of one conversation between Salem and his FBI handlers, Salem claims he had tipped the agency about the bombing.

Jacobs said that James Fox, an assistant director of the FBI and head of the agency's New York office, was suspended shortly before retirement by FBI Director Louis Freeh because Fox said publicly that Salem never warned the FBI.

The defendants are accused of planning to bomb FBI headquarters, the United Nations, the Lincoln and Holland tunnels and the George Washington Bridge in a single day.

They also are accused of plotting to murder Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and kidnap Henry Kissinger and President Nixon.

If convicted, the men could face life in prison.

## Seoul foreign minister to visit US, UN, Japan

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - South Korea's foreign minister will depart Saturday for the United States and Japan on a visit expected to focus on a recent U.S.-North Korea nuclear accord, a ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

In Washington, the foreign minister, Gong Ro-myung, is to meet with his U.S. counterpart, Warren Christopher, and Defense Secretary William Perry to discuss the nuclear accord signed in October, ministry spokesman Chang Ki-

ho said.

Gong will review the situations on the Korean peninsula with U.S. officials and affirm close security ties between the two allies, he said.

The South Korean foreign minister then will fly to New York where he will meet with U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and ambassadors to the United Nations from several nations, he said.

On his way back home, he will stop over in Tokyo for talks with

Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, expected to center on cooperation over the nuclear accord.

The Oct. 26 nuclear pact aims at dismantling North Korea's nuclear program, suspected of being used to make weapons. In exchange, the United States has promised two new, safer reactors, and replacement fuel, expected to cost \$4.5 billion. Washington also promised to improve ties.

South Korea and Japan have said they would pay the bulk of the costs.

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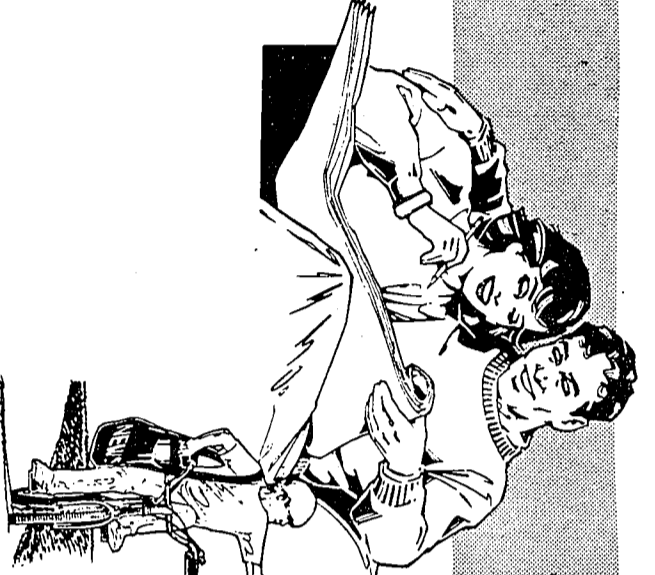
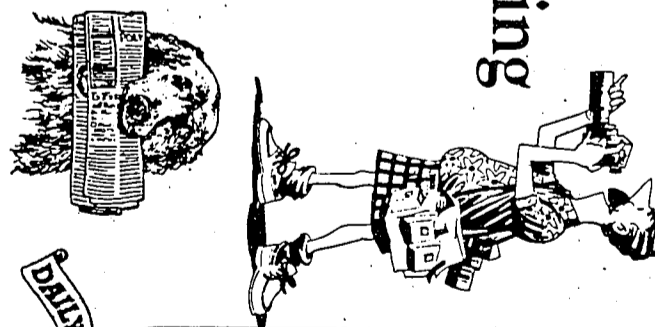
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# Russian, lucky charm for NASA crew

By MARCIA DUNN  
**CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP)** - On his first trip into orbit, Russian cosmonaut Vladimir Titov almost crashed into a space station. Five months later, he was catapulted off an exploding rocket. Another time, he had to abort a spacewalk when a wrench broke.

Who would want to fly with this guy? Five NASA astronauts for starters. They consider Titov a good-luck charm. After all, he's still around to talk about his space misadventures.

The six are scheduled to blast off aboard Discovery early Thursday on a mission to rendezvous with the Russian space station Mir. Titov will become only the second Russian to fly on a U.S. space shuttle.

"All the time I said I have good luck because we have two times

for bad accident," Titov said. "Is good luck or bad luck? OK, bad luck if crew has died. That's bad luck."

Titov, 48, a cosmonaut since 1976 and a Russian Air Force colonel, has been waiting for this moment for more than three years.

Titov and Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev moved to Houston in 1992 to train at Johnson Space Center as part of an astronaut-cosmonaut exchange. Krikalev flew on Discovery in February 1994; Titov was his backup.

Titov will talk via radio to the three cosmonauts aboard Mir as Discovery flies within 35 feet (10 meters) of the 100-ton station. NASA wants the practice before space shuttle Atlantis docks with Mir in June; that will be the first of seven Atlantis-Mir dockings.

During the eight-day flight, Titov will use the shuttle robot arm to release a science satellite and move two spacewalkers around the cargo bay.

Titov has far more experience than his American crewmates: He has spent 368 days in orbit, 366 of them on a single mission.

"He does not push anything of his experience on us. We have to actually draw it out of him," said astronaut Michael Foale.

Titov admitted he'd feel better if Discovery had an escape system like the one that saved his life in 1983. "But if not, OK, I will feel myself like American astronaut," he said, smiling.

His first close call occurred in April 1983 during a docking attempt with the Soviet Salyut space station. Lacking rendezvous radar, Titov had to rely on his eyes and ground radar. His spacecraft closed in so fast that Titov, fearing a collision, swerved

and aborted the rendezvous.

On his next launch attempt, in September 1983, fire erupted at the base of the Soyuz rocket one minute before liftoff because of an open fuel valve. Burned wires prevented the automatic escape system from kicking in, forcing launch controllers to activate the system via radio commands.

With the rocket engulfed in flames and tilting, the escape module holding Titov and cosmonaut Gennadiy Strekalov was thrown clear. Seconds later, the rocket exploded.

Titov and Strekalov were airborne for 5 1-2 minutes. They landed safely four kilometers (2 1-2 miles) from the pad.

"Anyone who has seen the video of his rocket exploding and him ejecting through the fireball knows what I'm talking about: He's our good-luck charm," said Discovery's commander, James Wetherbee.

Titov finally returned to orbit in December 1987. His wrench snapped during a spacewalk outside Mir. The mission also lasted a year, eight months too long for his taste. He missed his wife and two children. He also missed the world news.

"Four months is best time" for a space flight, Titov said. "It's enough time for adaptation. It's enough time for good job. You have enough power. You feel good."

Titov and cosmonaut Musa Manarov's 366-day mission was a space endurance record until January, when cosmonaut Valery Polyakov surpassed that mark aboard Mir.

There will be no more long space flights for Titov. He said Russian doctors have restricted him to missions of one month or less to limit his exposure to space radiation. Titov doesn't mind. In fact, he said, he's grateful.

## THIRD ANNIVERSARY ROSARY

IN MEMORY OF  
**SUE A. SANTOS**

We would like to remind all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers for the commemoration of our beloved mother/wife beginning Saturday, February 4th 4 p.m. at our residence next to angel's House in Chinatown.



The Mass of Intention will be celebrated at Kristo Rai Church on Saturday, February 11th at 6 p.m. Dinner will follow at our residence.

Please join Us!  
**Antonio A. Santos and Family**



## Death & Funeral Announcement

**Natividad Dela cruz Tenorio**

(Dan Luis BB) D.O.B. OCT. 1, 1940 D.O.D. JAN. 28, 1995

**Pre-deceased:**  
 Husband : Luis Arriola Tenorio (Deceased)  
 Son : Antonio Thomas DLG. Tenorio (Deceased)  
 Parents : Jose DLG. / Luisa V. Dela cruz  
 Parents-in-law : Lino P. & Magdalena A. Tenorio  
 Brothers : Augustin V. & Federico V. & Herman V. Dela cruz (Deceased)

**Survived by Children & in-Laws:**  
 • Luisa Delacruz Tenorio • Mary Ann T. & Gilbert A. Ada  
 • Margaret T. & Hiroshi Sakamoto

**Grandchildren:**  
 • Luis Gilbert T. Ada • Shigeo Luis T. Sakamoto

**Sisters & Brothers:**  
 • Magdalena DLG. & Nicolas A. Tenorio • Lucy DLG. & Roy Pangelinan (Guam) • Ferrina DLG. & AL P. Tudela (Guam) • Maria DLG. & Herman Quichocho (Guam)  
 • Margaret DLG. & Tsujoshi Sato (Japan) • Engracia DLG. & Antonio Esteves (Guam) • Ana V. Delacruz • Vicente & Herda Delacruz (Guam)  
 • Bernadita DLG. & Joe Borja (Guam)

**Sister & Brothers-in-Law:**  
 • Trine A. Tenorio & Pedro & Isabel Tenorio • Joe (deceased) & Crispina T. Tenorio  
 • Joaquin (deceased) & Ana T. Chong • Nicolas & Magdalena DLG. Tenorio  
 • Maria T. & Eusebio Chargualaf • Connie T. & Leonard Kauler • Lourdes A. Tenorio  
 • Juan A. Tenorio (deceased)

**Numerous cousins, nephews, & nieces:**

Last Respect will be paid on Saturday (Feb. 4, 1995), Beginning at 8:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. at her residence in Kagman II. Mass of Resurrection will be offered at 3:30 p.m. at San Vicente Church. Interment will follow immediately at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Dinner will follow immediately at her residence in Kagman II.

Thank You  
 The Family



# Jesuit Order looks to faithful to aid education and activism

By BRIAN MURPHY  
**VATICAN CITY (AP)** - With Jesuit membership in decline, the influential religious order is looking to Roman Catholic lay people to help sustain a tradition of education and activism that at times has angered the Vatican.

Possible stronger ties between the Jesuits and the laity including a greater role in running Jesuit-founded colleges is among the key themes emerging at a conference to set the order's agenda for the coming years.

Handing more responsibilities to people outside the clergy is seen as a way to maintain the Jesuit's worldwide presence in higher education and social work.

But the conference debate also has raised possible risks of weakening the Jesuits' deeply rooted independence, which is respected in the secular world but sometimes at odds with conservative Catholic authorities.

"We are changing, the world is changing. We are trying to define what it is to be a Jesuit and have Jesuit ideals," said the Rev. Joseph Tetlow of St. Louis, Missouri, one of 233 delegates to the three-month conference that began Jan. 5.

One proposal is giving lay administrators more control over operations at Jesuit-affiliated institutions, including their 28 colleges and 46 high schools in the United States. Jesuits would take

an overseeing role to keep a strong emphasis on religious and social justice issues, delegates say.

Such a plan, however, could place the Jesuits in the middle of disputes between the Vatican and educators over curriculum and faculty. Already, Jesuits are worried about a Vatican directive that could give local bishops sway over religious courses at Catholic universities. The scope of the Vatican order is still under debate.

The Jesuits have been moving slowly toward giving more decision-making power to the laity since 1965, said the Rev. Stephen Sundborg of Portland, Oregon, leader of the Jesuits' northwestern U.S. region.

"But the falling number of Jesuits has really forced the issue now."

In 30 years, the order has dropped from a high of more than 36,000 members to about 23,000 mirroring an overall decline in the Catholic priesthood.

Some conference delegates have raised the idea of allowing part-time commitments by men and women interested in aiding Jesuit work. The proposed "associate" Jesuits would agree to assignments such as soup kitchens, AIDS hospices, missionary work in exchange for housing or a stipend. No vows of chastity would be required, according to conference participants.

Sundborg said the idea sprung

from requests by some Catholics seeking a closer bond with the Jesuits, but unable to join the order. An experiment is under way in the order's Milwaukee-based region where four couples and three women have made pledges to work in Jesuit programs, including adult literacy classes and inner-city aid groups.

It was not yet clear whether associate membership would be endorsed in the conference's final document, expected in March. But in October, some Catholic leaders at a Vatican synod urged consideration of part-time vocations as a way to offset the declining number of clergymen and nuns.

"We're not trying to create second- and third-class Jesuits," said the Rev. Bert Thelen, who leads the Milwaukee program. "The associates maintain their lives, their homes. The Jesuits keep their unique identity. There is a clear distinction."

Jesuits have long been on the vanguard of Catholic Church movements, particularly in fighting poverty and abuse of rights. But their activism has sometimes caused friction with the Vatican.

Pope John Paul II opened the conference by telling Jesuits that religious orders must be "in obedient agreement" with the Vatican.

The conference is the 34th since the Jesuit order was founded in 1540 by St. Ignatius Loyola.

# Solomons notes lack of schools

SOLMON Islands has admitted it does not have enough secondary schools to satisfy demand, RNZI reported Tuesday.

10,000 students attempt to enter secondary school via the entrance examination, but the present schools can accept only

3,000 into form one.

Solomon Islands Prime Minister, Solomon Mamaloni says he accepts this is a problem his government must address. An education department spokesman says parents are bitter because they realize even their children pass

the exam, they often can't go to school.

The government is building additional secondary schools to ease the problem, but it's reported that requests for the building of others continues to flood in to the education department. PacNews

## Keep Saipan Clean And Beautiful

# Gov't rules unions may bargain

**SYDNEY, Australia (AP)** - Employer groups are outraged Tuesday over a federal arbitration board's ruling that businesses must negotiate with unions even in non-unionized work sites.

Their criticism follows a rul-

ing by the Australian Industrial Relations Commission on Monday requiring a Sydney company, Asahi Australia, to negotiate with Automotive, Food, Metals and Engineering Union over wage rise demands by the union of 14.5

percent.

The Asahi shop of about 60 workers is not unionized, and the workers have previously rejected union offers to organize them. The shop mainly makes artificial diamond drilling tools for the

mining and oil industry.

The ruling was seen as a crucial test case by both employers and unions of whether the federal law requiring "bargaining in good faith" could be used by unions to pursue wages claims and agree-

ments at nonunion work sites.

The main employer's group, the Metal Trades Industry Association, immediately announced it would seek a stay on the decision and an appeal would be lodged.

MTIA chief executive Bert Evans said the decision was totally unreasonable.

"It is a ludicrous proposition to suggest that under the (Industrial Relations Reform) act a union can represent people in wage negotiations who are not members and they know nothing about," he said.

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry executive director Bryan Noakes said it was "another demonstration of the absurdity of the government's industrial relations legislation."

The opposition Liberal Party spokesman on industrial relations, John Howard, said the decision demonstrated the "frightening reach of union power under the new Industrial Relations Act."

"This is a blanket invitation for unions to barge into every nonunion site in Australia," he said.

# Japanese mission studies funding for RP projects

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** - A Japanese delegation is in the country for a technical evaluation of Philippine projects proposed for funding under the 20th Yen Loan Package, the government said Wednesday.

The team from the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund will be in the Philippines until Feb. 24 to talk with proponent agencies and make site surveys of proposed projects, the National Economic Development Authority

said.

Later, the team will report its findings to the Japanese government which will decide which of 23 proposed projects to finance under the package.

These include highway, power,

water supply and other development projects.

Japanese financing may cover 75 percent of the total project cost or the entire foreign exchange requirements, whichever is higher.

Japanese Economic Cooperation Fund loans are provided at a 3 percent yearly interest rate with a 30-year repayment period, including a 10-year grace period.

In December 1994, the Philippine government and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund signed the 19th Yen Loan Package for \$991 million.

## 'Double. . . Continued from page 1

reactive to January 1, so you would have set your price based on a 5% tax when in actuality it became a 25% tax," he told the Variety. "That would have been unfair."

Burger briefed fellow chamber members on the negative impact of the new tax increase during a membership meeting of the business organization at the Pacific Islands Club yesterday.

The accountant also expressed concern over the possibility of double taxation on people engaged in partnership ventures.

According to him, a partnership pays gross revenue tax on all the invoices and the profit of that partnership passes through to the partners who will then have to pay taxes again on that "pass through amount."

"And that is double taxation," he stressed.

"The double taxation is that the partnership pays a gross revenue tax and the individual partners are now [going to] pay gross tax revenue as well," he said.

Meanwhile, Burger echoed earlier warning by businesses that they would have to raise prices because of the new tax increase especially on the excise tax. In the end it is the people who suffer because the burden goes back to them, he said.

"They have no choice but to raise prices. If they don't raise prices, they don't have profits."

Businesses, he said, have to have profit to pay their employees and utilities and other expenditures. Burger noted that tax rate on items such as jewelry and leather goods was raised to 500%.

Earlier, David Welch of Deloitte & Touche said the tax law "does need some legislative changes."

Welch explained the changes in the excise taxes, gross revenue tax and other related provisions of the new law.

Public Law 9-22 has extended the period of time within which the Department of Finance must return the tax rebates of businesses and individual taxpayers. The 45-day limit was changed to six months. This means that beginning next year not all tax rebates may not be issued after or within the 45-day limit even if there was no problem with income tax returns.

Taxpayers don't get their rebates on time normally because of errors in the income tax forms or missing information.

Burger was worried where would the government get the money for the tax rebates if there is no rebate trust account that holds the funds. He said there is no account set up for this purpose.

## Takeover. . . Continued from page 1

America may have on them.

Also discussed was the Omnibus legislation for territories.

Tenorio was said to have fared generally well in advancing the cause of the CNMI to the Subcommittee on Native American and Territorial Affairs, the panel hearing the bill which seeks to apply federal immigration, labor, minimum wage laws in the CNMI.

The bill, H.R. 602 also known as the Omnibus Territories Act, was introduced by Rep. Elton Gallegly, who is chairman of the subcommittee. The measure also seeks to eliminate the CNMI's privilege to rebate taxes.

According to Borja, the hearing went on very well with the governor making a "forceful" presentation, although he indicated Gallegly may have not sat in for the entire duration of the governor's speech on the floor.

"I can say the governor's testimony was forceful. I think in this kind of situation it was necessary to be forceful. We have seen the sentiment of Congress and now, with a bill in Congress, we see that what we were hoping to be idle threats are not really idle threats. They're planning to go

through the concerns they have stated in the past," said the acting governor.

"I think it was good for the governor to come straight out and tell Congress what is really happening here. The true life situation. I am happy the governor did that in terms of being direct and frank to the members of the committee," he added.

Asked about what Gallegly's absence during most part of the governor's floor presentation means, Borja said he would not speculate on whether that could be a sign the US lawmaker may have made up his mind to pursue the bill's passage.

"He may have caught a portion of the governor's oral presentation, but it was the American Samoa Delegate (Eni Faleomavaega) who chaired a good portion of the hearing," said the acting governor.

"I really don't want to guess on this. There are a lot of possibilities. As you know the Republican majority in the House recently amended their rules. Maybe there was an important measure that he had to go out and vote on," said Borja.

Nevertheless, Borja acknowledged that the INS' statement of support against federal immigration control, although non-conclusive on the fate of the measure, was indeed a positive development.

"As you would recall, I had said it was important that Galegly be informed of our situation out here that he knows the history of that provision. With regard to the fear of legal immigrants coming over here, I was told that INS statement did mention that aspect and other aspects that at this point in time it is just not wise for them to takeover local control of immigration," said Borja.

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# Cocaine war hits remote forest lands in Colombia

By CHRIS TORCHIA  
SAN JOSE DEL GUAIVIARE, Colombia (AP) - Eli Lopez gestured at a field of green coca shrubs deep in Colombia's equatorial forests, where guerrillas and drug traffickers move about at will.

"A lot of people live off this," the 34-year-old storekeeper said of the plant used to make cocaine. "It's their only means of support."

Stepped-up government efforts to wipe out coca plantations have turned the remote forests into a war zone. But the battle against the drug cartel that supplies most of the world's cocaine threatens the only livelihood of many peasants.

Lopez, whose father owns several coca plots, said the threat is making coca farmers increasingly desperate. Peasants often block roads and airport runways.

In the southern state of Putumayo, about 1,000 impoverished coca growers have taken over oil installations, shutting down production.

Guerrillas, who say they represent the country's impoverished, collect commissions on coca harvests and shoot at police planes which spray herbicide.

Most days, a U.S.-supplied light plane skims off the airport tarmac in San Jose del Guaviare, 270 kilometers (170 miles) south-east of the capital Bogota. The Colombian pilot spots coca fields and pulls a lever in the cockpit, shedding white streaks of the weedkiller glyphosate.

Last week, one plane limped back to San Jose with four bullet holes, one through the cockpit. The pilot, who has been shot at several times before, was unhurt.

The 46-year-old pilot, who requested anonymity for security reasons, said he was fumigating a coca field when he heard gunfire below.

"I guess it was the guerrillas," he said.

Two police helicopters accompanying the plane raked the forest with M-60 machine-gun fire, but the vegetation was too dense to pinpoint the source of the shots.

The government plans heavier fumigation this year in the lawless Guaviare forest, hundreds of miles of jungle dotted with coca fields prowled by jungle cats and other wildlife.

Traffickers used to import most coca from Peru and Bolivia but are now growing more themselves to become more independent. Although Peru remains the main supplier of the shrubs that can grow 2 1/2 meters (8 feet) tall, Colombia has replaced Bolivia as the second-largest grower of coca.

The Medellin cartel finally collapsed in December 1993 when security forces killed leader Pablo Escobar.

But the Cali cartel moved in and took over some Medellin operations. It now supplies 80 percent of the world's cocaine and has corrupted top levels of Colombian industry and government with bribes and intimidation.

Since 1990, the amount of land in Colombia used to grow coca has tripled to at least 85,000 hectares (210,000 acres), prompting the government to take stronger action.

"We'll wipe out illegal cultivations to the last plant," vowed Justice Minister Humberto Martinez.

But peasants in Guaviare complain the spraying also kills plantain, yuca, corn and other food crops, contaminates river water and causes rashes and breathing problems. At one river hamlet, more than half a dozen chickens lay dead on the baked earth. Residents said the birds had eaten fumigated corn.

Mario Rodriguez, a farmer with a machete slung over his shoulder, pointed at a parched grove of plantain trees he said was sprayed last month.

"You can see there's no coca here," he told a reporter.

The government said the weedkiller is not harmful in small doses but does plan to further study its effects this year.

For peasants, coca is good business. A peasant can earn as much as the equivalent of \$22.50 a day stripping coca leaves but only \$ 6.25 harvesting other crops.

Authorities say rebels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia get paid to protect jungle cocaine labs.

"It's a market that gives them the ability to sustain themselves and buy weapons," said Navy Capt. Jaime Preciado, who heads a base of 100 men on the Guaviare River.

screamed and shrieked as if he were a rock star.

Many in the crowd were election bureau employees who left their jobs to catch a glimpse of Marcos. "My wish is fulfilled," cried one female election bureau employee when she touched by his hand.

A woman staffer from the nearby Finance Department kept babbling: "I shook hands with him. I shook hands with him."

"This will be Bongbong's stepping stone for the presidency so that he will continue with all the good things his father did

" said Cora Young, president of the "Bongbong, I Love You" group, the younger Marcos' campaign volunteers. Marcos Jr. fled the country with his family after the 1986 uprising that toppled his father, who died in exile in Hawaii in 1989.

Mrs. Aquino lifted a ban on the Marcos family in 1991. Marcos Jr., his mother and two sisters returned to the Philippines in November of that year. Imelda lost the presidency in a seven-year contest won by Ramos in May 1992.

Marcos Jr., was elected to the House from his father's old stronghold in northern Luzon Island.

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1 ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER-High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,500 per month.  
Contact: MAS MAULEG CORPORATION dba Mmc Tours, P.O. Box 228, CHRB Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-6201(2/9)W/1443.

1 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: COMMONWEALTH GARMENT MFG. INC. P.O. Box 741, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-3481(2/2)TH/17999.

**Accountant**  
1 ACCOUNTANT- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75-5.20 per hour.  
15 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
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1 ACCOUNTANT- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,200 per month.  
4 CORRUGATE COMBINING MACHINE OPERATOR-High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: NICK'S AND MICHAEL'S CORPORATION, P.O. Box 1219 CK, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-3311(2/2)TH/17996.

**Administrative Assistant**  
1 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$550 per month.  
Contact: COSMOS INCORPORATED dba Sea World Fish Center, Caller Box PPP 642, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-4117(2/2)TH/18002.

1 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
1 GENERAL HELPER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$3.00 per hour.  
Contact: RICARDO DUENAS dba Aquatic Marine, PPP 148, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 235-8044(2/9)W/18062.

**Miscellaneous**  
1 SALES SUPERVISOR- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: ACORN'S J. KIM CORPORATION dba New Olympic Market, Caller Box PPP 222, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-6858(2/2)TH/18003.

1 HOUSE WORKER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: ALLIANCE ENTERPRISES, INC. dba R & R Instaclean, P.O. Box 1803, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-2996(2/2)TH/18001.

1 BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.45 per hour.  
Contact: ANTONIO M. CAMACHO dba Nang Ocha Enterprises, P.O. Box 2668, CK, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 235-0927(2/2)TH/18000.

1 APPLIANCE REPAIRER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: ROMAN B. MATSUMOTO dba Garapan Safeway Laundromat, P.O. Box 1459, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-5765(2/2)TH/17998.

**Employment**  
1 OFFICE NURSE- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$16,000-20,000 per annum.  
Contact: MHM, INC dba Saipan Health Clinic, P.O. Box 2878, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-2901(2/16)TH/18115.

1 SUPERVISOR- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$4.50-8.00 per hour.  
Contact: TROPICAL COLOR FILM DEV. CENTER MIC. INC., P.O. Box 608, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-6306(2/9)W/18065.

1 ENGINEER- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$825 per month.  
1 PAINTERS  
11 MASONS  
11 CARPENTERS - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: E. C. GOZUM & COMPANY INC. dba Tsk-Ecg Emilio Gozum Manpower, P.O. Box 2510 Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 256-1931(2/9)W/18063.

## Miscellaneous

1 STORE SUPERVISOR- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$3.05 per hour.  
Contact: J. WONG & SONS INC., Box 2772, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9772(2/9)W/18059.

1 SUPERVISOR- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$4.50-8.00 per hour.  
Contact: TROPICAL COLOR FILM DEV. CENTER MIC. INC., P.O. Box 608, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-6306(2/9)W/18065.

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2 CARPENTER  
1 PAINTER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: EMILIO P. QUIATCHON SR. dba Eq Construction, P.O. Box 1073, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-8827(2/9)W/18058.

1 AUTO-MECHANIC  
1 AUTO-BODY REPAIRER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.45-3.00 per hour.  
Contact: FILOMENO F. ANO dba Philippine Eagle Enterprises, P.O. Box 1900, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 288-0928(2/9)W/18060.

1 MAINTENANCE WORKER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.95 per hour.  
Contact: EUSEBIO RECHUCHER, P.O. Box 5437, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9774(2/9)W/18064.

1 DRESSMAKER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: DOLLAR UP SOUVENIR MART, P.O. Box 1787, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-6206(2/9)W/18054.

1 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.50-3.00 per hour.  
Contact: YANG JIN COMPANY dba Yang Jin Buying & Trade Information Service Company, AAA-12, Caller Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 235-2421(2/9)W/18056.

1 SHOE REPAIRER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: SAPPHERE ENT. INC., P.O. Box 2869, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9869(2/9)W/18043.

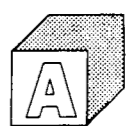
1 GENERAL MANAGER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$3,150 per month.  
2 TOUR COUNSELOR- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,565 per month.  
Contact: NTAMICRONESIA & SOUTH-ERN PACIFIC dba Mach Tours Saipan c/o SAIPAN GRAND HOTEL 1st Floor P.O. Box 369 Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9309(2/16)TH/18119.

1 ACCOUNTANT- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$900 per month.  
1 GAS STATION ATTENDANT  
1 LAUNDRY WORKER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
Contact: SAIPAN INDUSTRIAL GAS, INC dba Laundry Max., P.O. Box 5034 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-5105(2/16)TH/18116.

1 ACCOUNTANT- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,000 per month.  
1 TRAVEL AGENT- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,000 per month.  
Contact: KOREA TOURISM, INC dba Koreana Tours Bureau Caller Box PPP-158, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 233-3001(2/16)TH/18123.

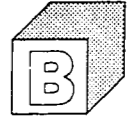
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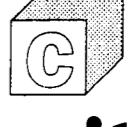
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BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE! We must stem the epidemic of drug-abuse. We must educate ourselves and our children to the dangers.

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT FY 93 HOME PROGRAM

This is to inform the general public that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) formerly the Mariana Islands Housing Authority (MIHA), will be accepting HOME Program rehabilitation loan applications for rehabilitation and repair activities of residential dwelling units owned and occupied by very low-income families. Grants will also be made available, but only in situations where applicants demonstrates a critical need for financial assistance and proven lack of financial resources for loan repayment.

Under the HOME Program, low-interest (3%) loans of up to \$10,000.00 with a repayment term of fifteen (15) years will be available for, but not limited to, construction of water catchment tanks; sewage disposal system; installation of special equipment for handicapped and/or disabled household member(s); installation of additional window(s) for adequate ventilation; repair or replacement of roofs damaged by storms or typhoons; repair or replacement of deteriorating plumbing system; repair or replacement of hazardous electrical system; and construction of additional room(s) to alleviate overcrowding.

The following requirements must be met, as a minimum, to be eligible for financial assistance:

1. Combined gross annual income of all persons 18 years or older, must be less than or equal to 50% of the median area income;
2. Must have fee simple or at least a forty (40) year leasehold on the property; and
3. Property to be assisted must be principal residence.

The time period of acceptance will begin on January 10, 1995 and end on February 10, 1995, or for period of time to allow for the receipt of the first eight (8) rehabilitation loan applications, whichever comes first. Recipients among those applicants determined eligible for assistance, will be selected at random by a drawing of lots.

Those interested in obtaining a rehabilitation loan application or a copy of the HOME Program "Program Description", should contact the NMHC Central Office at telephone nos. 234-6866/7670/7689 or 9447; Tinian residents call 433-9213; and Rota residents call 532-9410.

It is NMHC's policy and commitment that "Minority and Women -Owned Businesses" be given equal opportunity to compete for contracts for rehabilitation and repair work on properties assisted with HOME funds.

"NMHC is an equal opportunity and fair housing public corporation"

# Cocaine war hits remote forest lands in Colombia

**By CHRIS TORCHIA**  
**SAN JOSE DEL GUAVIARE, Colombia (AP)** - Eli Lopez gestured at a field of green coca shrubs deep in Colombia's equatorial forests, where guerrillas and drug traffickers move about at will.

"A lot of people live off this," the 34-year-old storekeeper said of the plant used to make cocaine. "It's their only means of support."

Stepped-up government efforts to wipe out coca plantations have turned the remote forests into a war zone. But the battle against the drug cartel that supplies most of the world's cocaine threatens the only livelihood of many peasants.

Lopez, whose father owns several coca plots, said the threat is making coca farmers increasingly desperate. Peasants often block roads and airport runways.

In the southern state of Putumayo, about 1,000 impoverished coca growers have taken over oil installations, shutting down production.

Guerrillas, who say they represent the country's impoverished, collect commissions on coca harvests and shoot at police planes which spray herbicide.

Most days, a U.S.-supplied light plane skims off the airport tarmac in San Jose del Guaviare, 270 kilometers (170 miles) southwest of the capital Bogota. The Colombian pilot spots coca fields and pulls a lever in the cockpit, shedding white streaks of the weedkiller glyphosate.

Since 1990, the amount of land in Colombia used to grow coca has tripled to at least 85,000 hectares (210,000 acres), prompting the government to take stronger action.

"We'll wipe out illegal cultivation to the last plant," vowed Justice Minister Humberto Martinez.

But peasants in Guaviare complain the spraying also kills plantain, yucca, corn and other food crops, contaminates river water and causes rashes and breathing problems. At one river hamlet, more than half a dozen chickens lay dead on the baked earth. Residents said the birds had eaten fumigated corn.

Mario Rodriguez, a farmer with a machete slung over his shoulder, pointed at a parched grove of plantain trees he said was sprayed last month.

"You can see there's no coca here," he told a reporter.

The government said the weedkiller is not harmful in small doses but does plan to further study its effects this year.

For peasants, coca is good business. A peasant can earn as much as the equivalent of \$22.50 a day stripping coca leaves but only \$ 6.25 harvesting other crops.

Authorities say rebels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia get paid to protect jungle cocaine labs.

"It's a market that gives them the ability to sustain themselves and buy weapons," said Navy Capt. Jaime Preciado, who heads a base of 100 men on the Guaviare River.

Last week, one plane limped back to San Jose with four bullet holes, one through the cockpit. The pilot, who has been shot at several times before, was unhurt.

The 46-year-old pilot, who requested anonymity for security reasons, said he was fumigating a coca field when he heard gunfire below.

"I guess it was the guerrillas," he said.

Two police helicopters accompanying the plane raked the forest with M-60 machine-gun fire, but the vegetation was too dense to pinpoint the source of the shots.

The government plans heavier fumigation this year in the lawless Guaviare forest, hundreds of miles of jungle dotted with coca fields prowled by jungle cats and other wildlife.

Traffickers used to import most coca from Peru and Bolivia but are now growing more themselves to become more independent. Although Peru remains the main supplier of the shrubs that can grow 2 1/2 meters (8 feet) tall, Colombia has replaced Bolivia as the second-largest grower of coca.

The Medellin cartel finally collapsed in December 1993 when security forces killed leader Pablo Escobar.

But the Cali cartel moved in and took over some Medellin operations. It now supplies 80 percent of the world's cocaine and has corrupted top levels of Colombian industry and government with bribes and intimidation.

# Marcos Jr., coup leader running for RP Senate

**By ROMY TANGBAWAN**  
**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** - The son of late strongman Ferdinand Marcos and a former renegade army officer who launched at least three coup attempts entered the race Wednesday for the Senate in the May national elections.

December 1992 after Mrs. Aquino left office and was succeeded by President Fidel Ramos.

"I hope it will usher in an era of new politics," Honasan said of his candidacy. "We will bring back the issue to the people."

Honasan and several other rebel soldiers were granted "safe conduct passes" by the Ramos government in 1992 while peace talks were underway with his group. The talks have dragged on for years without resolution.

About 1,000 supporters and star-struck, mostly female, government employees jammed the halls of the election office as Rep. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., submitted his certificate of candidacy.

Four hours later, former Lt. Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, accompanied by a smaller, mostly male, crowd of supporters, registered at the Commission on Elections.

Honasan, 46, was a key figure in the 1986 military revolt against the elder Marcos, which touched off the "People Power Revolution" that swept Corazon Aquino into office.

Both Marcos, 37, and Honasan are among several controversial figures expected to seek office in the May 8 election, when voters will choose 12 of the country's 24 senators, governors, mayors and House of Representatives members. Ramos' term expires in 1998.

Honasan said former Col. Alexander Noble, who led an abortive coup in 1990, will run for governor of Agusan del Sur province. Marcos' widow, Imelda, is expected to run for the House from Leyte province, even though she faces 24 years imprisonment on a graft conviction.

She remains free on bail.

The younger Marcos had trouble reaching the office of the Commission on Election because of an enthusiastic crowd which

screamed and shrieked as if he were a rock star.

Many in the crowd were election bureau employees who left their jobs to catch a glimpse of Marcos. "My wish is fulfilled," cried one female election bureau employee when she touched by his hand.

A woman staffer from the nearby Finance Department kept babbling: "I shook hands with him, I shook hands with him."

"This will be Bongbong's stepping stone for the presidency so that he will continue with all the good things his father did," said Cora Young, president of the "Bongbong, I Love You" group, the younger Marcos' campaign volunteers.

Marcos Jr. fled the country with his family after the 1986 uprising that toppled his father, who died in exile in Hawaii in 1989.

Mrs. Aquino lifted a ban on the Marcos family in 1991. Marcos Jr., his mother and two sisters returned to the Philippines in November of that year. Imelda lost the presidency in a seven-year contest won by Ramos in May 1992.

Marcos Jr., was elected to the House from his father's old stronghold in northern Luzon Island.

### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

RFP. NO.: **RFP95-0019**  
 FOR: **SECURITY SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE OF THE AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK**  
 OPENING DATE: **FEB. 10, 1995** TIME: **3:00 P.M.**

INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN.

/S/ EDWARD B. PALACIOS

## BAKERS NEEDED (NEW)

Three Bakers and two helpers for bread and pastry with experience of three years working in bakery, familiar with mixing and baking a variety of bread categories. Salary starts at \$2.75 to \$3.50 per hour.

Apply at Dandan Bakery House  
 San Vicente, Dandan. Tel: 234-0862  
 or  
 Younis Art Studio, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 231 Saipan, MP 96950  
 Tel: 234-9797

## NEW HIRE

**2 Graphic Artists**  
 Minimum 4 years of experience in working for advertising agency or Graphic Arts Studio  
 Salary \$3.00 per hour or more depends on experience and knowledge.

Apply in person or send resume and sample of work done recently at last place of work.  
 Younis Art Studio, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 231, Saipan MP 96950

**Two News Reporters/Writers**  
 With experience of at least two (2) years working for newspaper daily or weekly.  
 Salary starts at \$750.00 per month.

Apply at Younis Art Studio, Inc. in person or send resume and samples of written and published reports.

## Position Open (New) TYPIST

Speaks Good English, Fast and experience in typing and proofreading.  
 3 years experience. Starting Salary \$3.00/hr.  
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# Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section

### Employment Wanted



**Manager**  
 1 ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER-High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$5,000-9,000 per hour.  
 Contact: ROYAL NETWORK CORPORATION dba Ran-Tan Marine Club, P.O. Box 3099, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 235-6778(2/9)W/18057.

1 ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER-High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,500 per month.  
 Contact: MAS MAULEG CORPORATION dba Mmc Tours, P.O. Box 228, CHRB Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-6201(2/9)W/1443.

### Accountant

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1 GENERAL MANAGER- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$3,150 per month.  
 2 TOUR COUNSELOR- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,565 per month.  
 Contact: NTA MICRONESIA & SOUTHERN PACIFIC dba Mach Tours Saipan c/o: SAIPAN GRAND HOTEL 1st Floor P.O. Box 369 Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9309(2/16)TH/18119.

1 ACCOUNTANT- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$900 per month.  
 1 GAS STATION ATTENDANT  
 1 LAUNDRY WORKER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
 Contact: SAIPAN INDUSTRIAL GAS, INC dba Laundry Max., P.O. Box 5034 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-5105(2/16)TH/18116.

1 ACCOUNTANT- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,000 per month.  
 1 TRAVEL AGENT-High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$1,000 per month.  
 Contact: KOREA TOURISM, INC dba Koreana Tours Bureau Caller Box PPP-158, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 233-3001(2/16)TH/18123.

1 OFFICE NURSE- College grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$16,000-20,000 per annum.  
 Contact: MHM, INC dba Saipan Health Clinic., P.O. Box 2878, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-2901(2/16)TH/18115.

1 HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
 Contact: VICENTE C. CAMACHO dba Summer Holiday Hotel., P.O. Box 908, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-3182(2/16)TH/18124.

3 GUIDE TOUR- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$3.00 per hour.  
 Contact: KO YOUNG CORPORATION dba New Korea Travel Agency., AAA 828, Box 10001, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 235-3766(2/16)TH/18118.

1 DRESSMAKING- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
 Contact: VIVIAN P. CRUZ dba Holiday Shop Dressmaking and Tailoring., P.O. Box 5434 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 233-6910(2/16)TH/18120.

2 SALES CLERK- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
 3 WAREHOUSE WORKER- High school equiv., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.45 per hour.  
 Contact: DINO M. JONES dba D/L Recruiting Agency Caller Box AAA-1157 Achugao, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-8151(2/16)TH/18127.

1 SALESPERSON- High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary \$2.75 per hour.  
 Contact: SAIPAN AUTO SUPPLY CO., INC dba Sacco Service Plus., P.O. Box 67, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-8379(2/16)TH/18122.

DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication  
 NOTE: If some reason your advertisement is incorrect, call us immediately to make the necessary corrections. The Marianas Variety News and Views is responsible only for one incorrect insertion. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time.

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 or  
**B = BE FAITHFUL**  
 or  
**C = CONDOM USE**

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## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

### FY 93 HOME PROGRAM

This is to inform the general public that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) formerly the Mariana Islands Housing Authority (MIHA), will be accepting HOME Program rehabilitation loan applications for rehabilitation and repair activities of residential dwelling units owned and occupied by very low-income families. Grants will also be made available, but only in situations where applicants demonstrates a critical need for financial assistance and proven lack of financial resources for loan repayment.

Under the HOME Program, low-interest (3%) loans of up to \$10,000.00 with a repayment term of fifteen (15) years will be available for, but not limited to, construction of water catchment tanks; sewage disposal system; installation of special equipment for handicapped and/or disabled household member(s); installation of additional window(s) for adequate ventilation; repair or replacement of roofs damaged by storms or typhoons; repair or replacement of deteriorating plumbing system; repair or replacement of hazardous electrical system; and construction of additional room(s) to alleviate overcrowding.

The following requirements must be met, as a minimum, to be eligible for financial assistance:

1. Combined gross annual income of all persons 18 years or older, must be less than or equal to 50% of the median area income;
2. Must have fee simple or at least a forty (40) year leasehold on the property; and
3. Property to be assisted must be principal residence.

The time period of acceptance will begin on January 10, 1995 and end on February 10, 1995, or for period of time to allow for the receipt of the first eight (8) rehabilitation loan applications, whichever comes first. Recipients among those applicants determined eligible for assistance, will be selected at random by a drawing of lots.

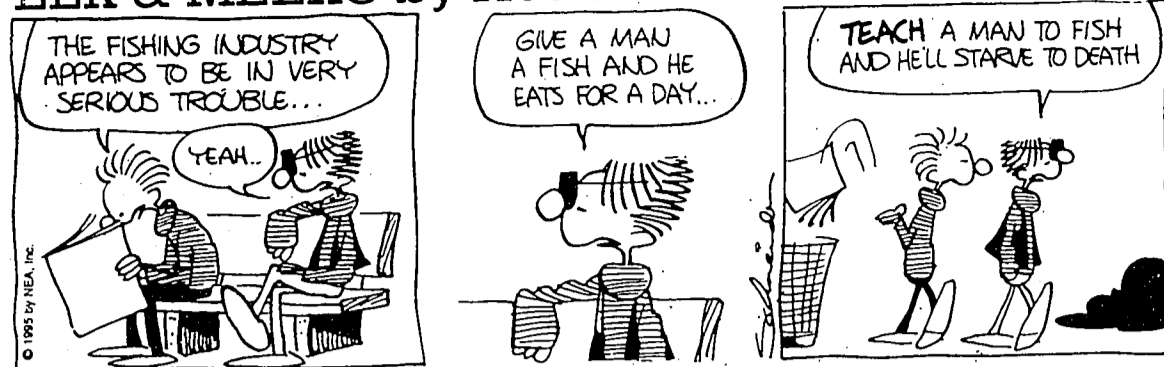
Those interested in obtaining a rehabilitation loan application or a copy of the HOME Program "Program Description", should contact the NMHC Central Office at telephone nos. 234-6866/7670/7689 or 9447; Tinian residents call 433-9213; and Rota residents call 532-9410.

It is NMHC's policy and commitment that "Minority and Women -Owned Businesses" be given equal opportunity to compete for contracts for rehabilitation and repair work on properties assisted with HOME funds.

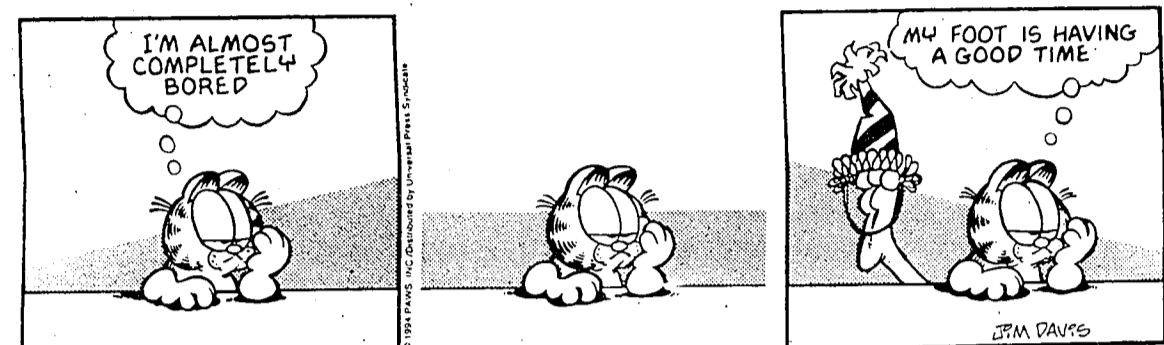
"NMHC is an equal opportunity and fair housing public corporation"



### EKK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



### Garfield® by Jim Davis



### PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



### STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are an attractive, energetic, charismatic and highly imaginative individual. You are sometimes so easygoing in even the most urgent tasks that others don't give you credit for being a clever, progressive thinker. Your calm, cool demeanor belies an active current just beneath the surface. Your creativity spawns numerous projects and drives you to take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way. Once you set your sights on something — or someone! — you spring into action and get what you want. You may not be outspoken, but you have strong opinions about most things.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

**FRIDAY, FEB. 3**  
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — A combination of tact and aggression can win the day, but take care not to underestimate your opponent.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 21)** — You may try to play it by ear today, but someone close to you is gaining ground simply because he/she has laid out a careful plan.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — You can successfully put your worries behind you today — provided you use a little extra energy to address your concerns directly.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — A false start may leave you struggling to catch up, but your efforts will pay off doubly by the end of the day.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Dramatic developments may work wonders for you today. Others may abandon ship prematurely, though, and leave you to pick up the pieces.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — Avoid drastic mood swings today and steer clear of those who know

how to press your buttons. Stay aware of your surroundings.  
**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — This is a good day to try a new look or a new pattern of behavior, even if you feel self-conscious at first.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — You will receive long-awaited benefits today. As a result, your personal affairs may be in better order than you had expected.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — That promotion you've been waiting for may now seem further off than ever before, but don't be too hard on yourself.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — You might jump to conclusions and take things a bit too personally again today. Try to be more objective and thick-skinned.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Your energy cycle is high at this time, so don't let an important opportunity slip through your fingers. Act now!

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Though a given situation may seem urgent, it would be best to wait a day or two before having that heart-to-heart with someone in charge.

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### CLOSERS

In 1910, each citizen's share of the U.S. national debt was \$12.41. By 1992, it had risen to \$15,846.

Many people know that, at 840,000 square miles, Greenland is the world's largest island. But can you name the next four biggest? In descending order, they are: New Guinea, Borneo, Madagascar and Baffin islands.

The winner of the first Indianapolis 500 auto race, in 1911, was Ray Harmon, who drove his Marmon Wasp an average speed of 74.59 mph.

The Netherlands, originally settled by Celtic and Germanic tribes, was conquered by Julius Caesar in 55 B.C.

After the European discovery of the New World, most Indians in the Americas were killed not by war, but by diseases brought over by European colonists and explorers.

The Grand Canyon continues to deepen today.

For several centuries, cartographers placed east at the top, where north appears on today's maps.

The adjective "eagle-eyed" is quite accurate. Eagles have large eyes that see far ahead and well to the sides. They also have transparent eyelids that protect them from bright sunshine and dust.

A beautifully illustrated new comic book by Toronto artist Chester Brown recounts Bible verses Matthew 12:46-13:58, including the parables of the sower, the tares and the mustard seed.

To save energy, fill the unused spaces in your freezer with water-filled milk cartons.

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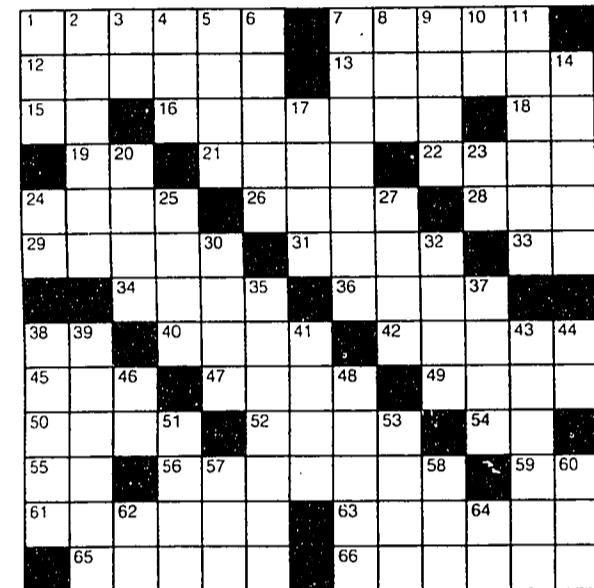
### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

**ACROSS**  
1 Prophecy  
7 Stop  
12 Lots  
13 Commands  
15 Computer abbr.  
16 Declared  
18 Neon symbol  
19 King of Bashan  
21 Promptly  
22 Like some cheeses  
24 Tan  
25 Agreement  
28 Peer Gynt's mother  
29 Logical  
31 A Beery  
33 26th pres.  
34 Case for small articles  
36 Forehead  
38 Brinkley ID  
40 — even  
42 Pouch

**DOWN**  
1 "Alley —"  
2 Over- decorative  
3 Commercial  
4 — Gulgler  
5 — Do It Again!  
6 Bar legally  
7 Pipe

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**  
BASE USE PHOT  
ETTA RST EYRE  
AIRGUN ARABLE  
SPEED ERRED  
ERIN DALI  
MAP CITED DNA  
EE CON OP  
ASP GHOST EWE  
EBOE EATS  
LOREN RECAP  
ARMLT CORONA  
RAIL HER IRKS  
ANTS ELY STAT

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HHLHOT  
HAMMERC  
OAEHASH  
OHTHREE  
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WORD LIST: HORN, HOE, HAMMER, HOG, HOOK, HELMET, HEART, HORSE, HATCHET, HAT.

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## Alcazar wins billiard tourney

RICO ALCAZAR won the 1995 Budweiser First 8-Ball Billiard Tournament held recently at Chemi Boy pool hall in Dandan.

Alcazar topped 18 other players in a double elimination format to win the \$114 cash prize, a Bud Light pool cue and Budweiser products donated by Marianas Pacific (MarPac) Distributors.

Bino Taisacan landed first runner-up to win \$76, a gasoline gift certificate from Shell and Budweiser products.

Third place was Rudy Alegre. He won water park passes for two, compliments of Pacific Islands Club, and Budweiser products.

Fourth placer Frank David won a large pizza and drinks from Bobby Cadillac and Budweiser products.

Kim Prinz, official tournament scorer and statistician, gave away the prizes on behalf of game organizers Chemi Boy Enterprises of Jose Tarope and Ampac Ltd.

The cash prizes were proceeds of the \$13 entry fee. Ampac Ltd. is a distributor of a long line of pool equipment, accessories and tables. It also offers service to pool table operators on Saipan. It is operated by Kim Prinz and husband Fred Prinz.

Prinz said that the tournament was first started in October last year. "There are many good players on the island but the sport is not taken seriously. Bars and clubs are good places to promote the game but there are limited tables because of space limitation," Prinz said.

Prinz said that with tournaments, players will aim to form an association and further promote the pool game. As a result of the start of the tournament last year, the organizers will hold a year-round 8 and 9 ball tournaments for 1995.



Rico Alcazar, left, receives his cash, Budweiser products and prizes from 1995 Bud Light 8 & 9 Ball Billiard Tournament scorer and statistician Kim Prinz late last month at the Chemiboy Billiard hall, in Dandan.

### Rocball tournament schedule

- SECOND ROUND games schedule\*
- February 2, Thursday, Bwbwivs versus Islanders
  - February 3, Friday, No fear versus Brothers
  - February 6, Monday, Tin Kun versus Nails
  - February 7, Tuesday, White Lace versus Bwbwivs
  - February 8, Wednesday, Hardcore versus Da Kind
  - February 9, Thursday, Bad Boys versus Jammers
  - February 10, Friday, Western Carolinian Club versus Super Blood Sisters
  - February 13, Monday, Beach Bombers versus Ting Tai
  - February 14, Tuesday, Homeboys versus Jammers
- Schedule will be strictly followed weather permitting.

### Little League meets

LITTLE LEAGUE President Al Taitano wish to inform all team managers, supervisors and coaches that there will be an important meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 1995, at 6 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada conference room. Old and new agenda and the opening of the 1995 Major Little League season will be discussed in the meeting.

Your presence and cooperation is needed for the success of the 1995 season. For more information, please call Mr. Al Taitano at 322-4033, extension 72.

Team	W	L
Pepsi	3	0
FTSNE	2	0
Bud Light	2	1
Ol' Aces	2	1
Spalding	2	1
Sunrisers	1	1
Sharks	1	1
Alu'u	1	1
Joeten	0	2
Hi-Five	0	3
Lite	0	3

## Women's softball league results

Team:Coca Cola Player:	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	BA
Celis, Margo	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	000
Taitenford, Dora	14	43	11	19	1	1	4	7	0	3	442
Abraham, Lisa	2	8	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	250
Matluk, Keyzie	14	47	15	21	1	0	0	12	5	3	447
Ngiraidong, Doris	11	37	9	12	0	0	0	7	0	5	324
Franz, Pola	13	39	10	19	2	0	2	17	5	5	487
Atalg, Mariane	6	16	4	2	0	0	0	3	2	3	126
Omehelang, Polly	13	41	7	16	0	1	3	14	5	2	390
Rodeo, Cindy	5	14	7	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	359
Demel, Lucinda	11	28	12	9	0	0	0	4	4	4	321
Kapileo, Jacinta	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	000
Haruui, Alvina	12	33	13	15	1	0	0	0	7	1	455
Yamada, Maryann	13	37	8	11	0	0	0	5	6	6	297
Soken, Mariana	13	37	14	18	0	1	5	24	5	4	486
Tenorio, Elma	11	33	9	17	1	0	1	15	3	4	515
Seas, Kari	10	30	8	7	0	0	0	2	1	2	233
Franz, Delora	13	39	12	15	2	1	0	5	3	3	385
Lizama, Nadia	8	22	11	9	0	0	1	2	3	1	318
Karen	6	23	11	9	0	0	0	0	1	2	391
Total	532	160	204	8	4	16	120	51	50	583	

Pitcher	G	INN	R	ER	Hit	2B	3B	HR	BB	SO	W	ERA
Omehelang, Polly	13	83	84	40	145	8	2	8	22	42	7-6	3.37
Franz, Polla	3	18	35	14	43	6	3	2	6	6	1-2	0.44
Total	16	101	102	54	188	14	5	10	28	48	8-8	3.74

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- Banana Cake
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# SPORTS



## Hornets, Spurs beat opponents

**NEW YORK (AP)**-For the Charlotte Hornets and San Antonio Spurs, it was a month to remember. For the Golden State Warriors, it was one to forget.

A 97-88 victory over Washing-

ton on Tuesday night gave the Hornets an 11-4 record in January, the best month since the U.S. National Basketball Association franchise started play in 1988. Their previous best was 10-4 last April. With a 97-96

win at Sacramento, the Spurs also finished the month 11-4.

"In the early part of the season we were trying to find ourselves, and over the last two months we've really put it together," said Hornets guard Muggsy Bogues, who had 20 points.

Things keep falling apart for Golden State, who finished January 2-11. The Warriors' short roster Latrell Sprewell and Rony Seikaly are injured, along with Ricky Pierce, Manute Bol and Chris Mullin got even shorter when rookie forward Clifford Rozier was suspended for missing a shootaround.

Then forward Tom Gugliotta went down with a bruised knee late in the first half against the Knicks, leaving only eight players to finish a 90-87

loss.

"Here we go again," guard Tim Hardaway said. "We just have to deal with it."

Spurs 97, Kings 96

Dennis Rodman tipped in the rebound of David Robinson's miss with 8.0 seconds left, lifting San Antonio over Sacramento for its fourth straight win.

Rodman, who had 10 of his 19 rebounds in the first quarter, finished with six points. David Robinson led the Spurs with 23.

The Spurs have won 19 of 24.

Mitch Richmond tied his season high with 33 points for Sacramento, which won its five previous games at home.

Rockets 86, Nuggets 74

Hakeem Olajuwon's 25 points

and 13 rebounds helped Houston send Denver to its 10th road loss in 11 games.

The Nuggets didn't score in the final 4:26 of the first quarter and ran into another dry spell in the first 3:01 of the third period.

Rodney Rogers led Denver with 23 points.

Bulls 119, Lakers 115

Chicago made its first 10 shots of the second half to rally past Los Angeles, which lost for just the third time in 16 games at the Forum.

Scottie Pippen led the Bulls with 34 points and 13 rebounds. B.J. Armstrong added 25 points, and Toni Kukoc had 22 on 8-for-11 shooting.

Nick Van Exel led the Lakers with 27 points and tied a career high with 16 assists.

### Wild Locals route Super Blood Sisters

**WILD LOCALS** defeated Super Blood Sisters in four sets, 45-11, on the second day of the second round of the 1995 World Organized Rockball at the Marianas High School Puga Court in Susupe.

The Wild Locals scratched the Blood Sisters in the first set, 12 to 1. The Wild Locals again gained the upper-hand in the second set when it matched the Blood Sisters, 15 to 1.

In the third set, the locals went wild and mercilessly scunked the Blood Sisters, 12 to zero.

The Blood sisters put up a close fight in the fourth and last set but ran out of time, 6 to 5 in favor again to the Wild Locals.

The win delivered the Blood Sisters its first defeat. Super Blood Sisters has a 1-1, win-loss card.

Nineteen aces, five xunks, five kees and a goal were recorded in the match-up.

Donella Somol and Jennifer Rebueng, both of the Wild Locals, emerged as the heavy hitters in the game. Both scored 10 points each.

Somol registered four aces and one xunk, while Rebueng posted three aces and two kees.

The heavy hitter in the losing team was Charlene Quitano who scored three aces.

Pwipwiis will collide against the islanders today. (AAPD)

### Pepsi vs Alu'u tonight

**LEAGUE LEADER** and Tahiti-bound CNMI all-star Pepsi team will play against Alu'u team following the opener clash between Joeten and Sunrisers in the continuation of the 1995 Lite beer island-wide basketball league.

In the first game, winless Joeten team will aim to improve its 0-2 win-loss card, while the Sunrisers will bid to join three teams currently tied in third with a 2-1 win-loss card. Sunrisers stands with 1-1 slate.

If San Vicente Sunrisers coach Pat Tudela can galvanize his team to win over Joeten, the win will push Joeten to the bottom of the overall together with Hi-Five and Lite beer teams. Sunrisers is sponsored by Solid

Builders, while Joeten is the first team in the league from the Joeten group of companies.

A Joeten win, on the other hand, will provide the team more room to break away for good from the last runners.

In the second game, Pepsi will aim to continue its winning streak to fortify its leadership. Pepsi has yet to lose after three outings so far.

A Pepsi win will also place Alu'u second to the last runner with a 1-2 card from its current 1-1 performance. An Alu'u win on the other hand, will tie the team with other third runners with a 2-1 card. (AAPD)

Team Standings

Continued on page 19

### MONDAY SABA STATS & FIGURES

Team: Ol' Aces							Team: Bud Light						
Coach: Elias Rangamar							Coach: Danny Cabrera						
Player	No	2P	3P	FTA	FTM	TP	Player	No	2P	3P	FTA	FTM	TP
Jerry Ayuyu	5	4	0	3	0	8	Dado Vistal	4	9	0	9	6	24
Tony Luzana	6	5	1	0	0	13	Masga Oscar	16	2	0	10	5	9
Junior Rengual	2	6	0	2	2	14	Talalemotu Facea	7	2	0	0	0	4
Jim Freeman	1	9	0	8	4	22	Iglesias, Frank	10	2	1	0	0	7
Eric Plynske	0	7	0	0	0	14	Sablan, Charlie	6	3	2	0	0	12
Joe Taitano	8	0	0	0	0	0	Sablan, Tony	8	0	0	0	0	0
Jeff Olapai	13	0	0	0	0	0	John DL Guerrero	5	0	0	0	0	0
Ron Atalig	10	2	0	2	1	5	Lorber	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leo Ruluked	0	1	0	0	0	2	Palacios, Felix	9	3	0	0	0	6
Mike Majors	14	1	0	3	0	2	Pineda, Elmer	14	0	0	0	0	0
Wayne Pua	0	0	0	0	0	0	Palma, Edgar	1	3	3	4	3	18
Elias Rangamar	4	4	2	2	2	16	Remulano, Noel	18	3	0	2	0	6
<b>Total</b>		39	3	20	9	96	<b>Total</b>		27	6	25	14	86
Team: Spalding							Team: Lite						
Coach: Greg Reyes							Coach: Frank Palacios						
Player	No	2P	3P	FTA	FTM	TP	Player	No	2P	3P	FTA	FTM	TP
Gus Palacios	7	8	1	9	8	27	Dennis Carnacho	7	4	0	1	1	9
Dave Demapan	4	6	1	1	1	13	John Duenas	9	1	0	0	0	2
Diego Masga	12	0	0	0	0	0	Juan Diaz	16	9	0	3	0	18
Jess Pacheco	18	4	0	2	1	9	Dimas Omar	13	2	2	0	0	10
Dong Palapil	14	8	0	24	13	29	Juan Salas	4	15	2	3	1	37
J.J. Fajardo	5	0	0	0	0	0	Jess Stol	11	2	1	3	2	9
Ramon Palacios	9	5	0	0	0	0	Darrin Buttris	12	1	0	0	0	2
Danny Maratita	6	0	0	0	0	0	Jason John	14	0	0	0	0	0
John Cruz	17	0	0	0	0	0	Melvin Sakisat	8	2	0	0	0	4
Ben Matagolai	16	2	0	0	0	4	G. Nolar	15	0	0	0	0	0
Joseph Ito	13	1	0	2	0	2	Frank Palacios	6	0	0	0	0	0
Antonio M.	11	0	0	0	0	0							
<b>Total</b>		34	1	38	23	94	<b>Total</b>		36	5	10	4	91



Former pro football star turned minister Rosey Grier, strums his guitar as he sings, "Jesus is the Answer," to inmates Wednesday, Jan. 25, 1995, at the Thumb Regional Correctional Facility in Lapeer, Mich. Grier got a standing ovation from the inmates at the prison located about 90 miles north of Detroit. (AP Photo)

### RGA qualifier tourney moved

THE REFALAWASCH Golf Association (RGA) qualifying tournament for the Ace for the month of February is moved to Sunday, February 5th at LauLau Bay golf resort.

The tournament was originally scheduled a day earlier, Saturday, February 4th.

RGA members who will play may call Tony Rogolofoi at 234-1001 regarding the new schedule.

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