

DAILY

Marianas Variety News & Views

Micronesia's Leading Newspaper Since 1972

Vol. 25 No. 140
©1997 Marianas Variety

Thursday • October 2, 1997

Saipan, MP 96950
Serving CNMI for 25 Years **50¢**

Marianas Visitors Bureau Managing Director Anicia Q. Tomokane and Japan Airlines District Manager Hideo Tomioka prepare to welcome yesterday JAL passengers from Tokyo and Osaka on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of JAL's Japan-Saipan route.

Tenorio 'dares' PIA to pull out

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday said commuter airliner Pacific Island Aviation can suspend its flights if it wants to, as there are other airlines that could fill the void.

This developed as the joint House-Senate special committee conducted a public hearing on the anticipated air transport crisis on Rota in the face of PIA's reduction of its flights to Rota by 60 percent.

"Let them (PIA) suspend. If they're not making money, they

should close down," Tenorio told the Variety.

Tenorio was interviewed during a reception at the airport celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Japan Airlines Japan-Saipan route.

The governor said Freedom Air, which is the other airline serving Rota's air service needs, can fill the void left by PIA should it stop operation.

PIA President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Christian said the other day the airline was not discounting the option of serving a 90-day notice of suspension

of its flights after Oct. 20.

At the legislature, a task force was formed whose membership comes from the Senate, the House, the Marianas Visitors Bureau, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Freedom Air, PIA, and the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands to address the air transportation problem.

The task force will meet within the next seven days and has been tasked to come up with recommendations and submit them to the Legislature in 30 days.

Tenorio said that if an airline

Continued on page 24

Evangelista says he was 'ousted' from CDA Board because of Cing

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

A FORMER board member of the Commonwealth Development Authority yesterday blamed Sen. David M. Cing's (D-Tinian) "vindictiveness" for the Senate's rejection of his reappointment this week.

Francisco B. Evangelista, in a media statement, alleged that Cing used the Senate to "retaliate" against him after the Tinian cockfight commission decided to terminate the senator's franchise license to operate the Tinian cockpit.

Cing, when asked for com-



Francisco B. Evangelista

ment yesterday, denied Evangelista's allegations.

A member of the cockfight commission, Evangelista said Cing's

original franchise license has expired and was to be opened for bidding.

"The senator does not like this," Evangelista, whose reappointment was rejected in a session Monday, said.

"It is important that everyone knows that (Cing) is not above using his office to fight his personal battles.

"And I am extremely disappointed with the other senators from Tinian for indulging his personal whims and allowing the Senate to be used by (Cing)."

Evangelista said he has "faith-

Continued on page 24

Palau cites constraints to its economic development

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

(Part 2 of a series)

PALAU has to hurdle several constraints if it has to develop economically, the republic's National Master Development Plan says.

The Plan, which is currently being discussed for adoption in Congress, identifies the key constraints that are notably also being experienced by other Pacific island economies.

They are as follows:
• A small domestic market spread across a number of islands;

• High unit costs for infrastructure and industry services;

• Narrow resource bases;

• Heavy dependence on external trade and foreign assistance; and

• Price of exports lower than the price of imports.

The master plan says Palau, which has a resident population of about 17,000, has no option to overcome the disadvantage of a small market other than to "seek an expansion of the privately traded-goods sector and, particularly, exports where scale economies can be

Continued on page 24

Govt starts to check on employers' financial standing

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

LABOR and Immigration Secretary Thomas O. Sablan vowed to weed out employers who may be financially incapable of employ-

ing nonresident workers. Sablan's assurance came as a recent agreement he signed with Commerce Secretary Pedro de la Cruz on the screening of employers' financial standing took effect yesterday.

"We'll scrutinize them (employers)...they won't get away this time," said Sablan.

"I have directed the Department to cooperate with the commerce department on this."

Under the new scheme, individual employers, or those who hire farmers and domestic helps, would be required tax report copies. Also, they must be earning at least \$20,000 a year for them to be allowed to hire the workers.

Tax reports, including that on their withholding tax for the past

Continued on page 24



Political foes. Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio (left) and Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja take time out from their campaigns yesterday as they graced kick-off ceremonies for Arbor Month. The two officials, both candidates for governor, were joined by DLNR Sec. Maggie Wonenberg (center).

Photo courtesy of PIPO

WEATHER Outlook



Mostly cloudy with widely scattered showers

As Jiang's US visit nears New era seen in Chinese-US ties

BEIJING (AP)—China expects President Jiang Zemin's upcoming visit to the United States to usher in a "new era" of stable Chinese-U.S. relations, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

Beijing and Washington both have high expectations for Jiang's late October trip, the first formal state visit by a Chinese leader in 12 years, Foreign Ministry spokesman Cui Tiankai said.

As proof, Cui cited the more than three-hour meeting at the United Nations last week between Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, a duration "rarely seen" in discussions between the nations' top diplomats.

"The Chinese and U.S. sides both believe that this visit should not only be symbolically important but should achieve practical success," Cui said at a twice-weekly media briefing.

In trying "to establish a constructive partnership," Jiang and President Bill Clinton will exchange opinions "broadly and penetratingly" on bilateral and global issues, Cui said.

Specifically, they will try to advance economic and trade ties and cooperation on environmental protection, energy and science, global and regional security and U.N. affairs, he added.

"We believe President Jiang's visit will produce a new era of long-term stability for Chinese-U.S. relations," Cui said.

Further evidence of Chinese hopes could be seen in Cui's muted response to reporters' questions about a U.S. congressional bill that would increase government-funded radio broadcasts at China and add human rights monitors to U.S. embassies and consulates.

China usually attacks such measures as hostile acts. But Cui defended China's human rights record, saying civil liberties were improving and adding that no country has a perfect record on rights.

Cui noted the good relations the Foreign Ministry has had with Voice of America. He did call for a halt to broadcasts by another U.S. govern-



Actress Demi Moore is escorted by Italian police officers after landing in Rome's Ciampino airport Tuesday. Demi Moore is in Rome to present her latest film "G.I. Jane". AP

Japan lawmaker gets jail term for bribery

TOKYO (AP) - Japan's former construction minister was convicted Wednesday of accepting 10 million yen (\$82,600) in bribes from a major construction company and was sentenced to 18 months in prison.

The Tokyo District Court ruled that Kishiro Nakamura accepted the money from Kajima Corp. in 1992, in exchange for asking government officials not to pursue charges against Kajima and other companies for rigging bids for public projects.

Nakamura, 48, a member of the Lower House of Parliament, told the court he had received the money but pleaded innocent, insisting that it was a political donation. He denied he gave any special favors to Kajima. He is expected to appeal.

Nakamura, arrested in March 1994, was released on bond and was re-elected in October last year.

His conviction of pressuring officials at the Fair Trade Commission, the government watchdog body, not to act on the bid-rigging charges is part of a wider scandal.

More than 30 officials, including two governors, two mayors and executives of major companies, have been charged in that scandal.

Bid-rigging is illegal, but it has been widespread among Japan's construction firms for nearly a century. Foreign contractors say the practice has hindered their efforts to break into the market.

U.S. Senate blocks vote on school voucher; leaves program in limbo

By Janelle Carter
WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate voted Tuesday to block consideration of a Republican-backed school vouchers program in the nation's capital, leaving its fate in question.

Senate Republicans' attempt to limit debate and avoid a filibuster failed by two votes and came just hours after President Clinton said he opposes the plan to give low-income families public money to send their children to private schools.

"I will veto any legislation that damages our commitment to public education and to high national standards," Clinton said. "I call upon Congress to challenge our public

schools, to change our public schools, but not to walk away from them."

House Speaker Newt Gingrich called Clinton's comments "a tragedy" and noted that on Tuesday students at the city's Ballou High School had to be relocated because of a leaky roof.

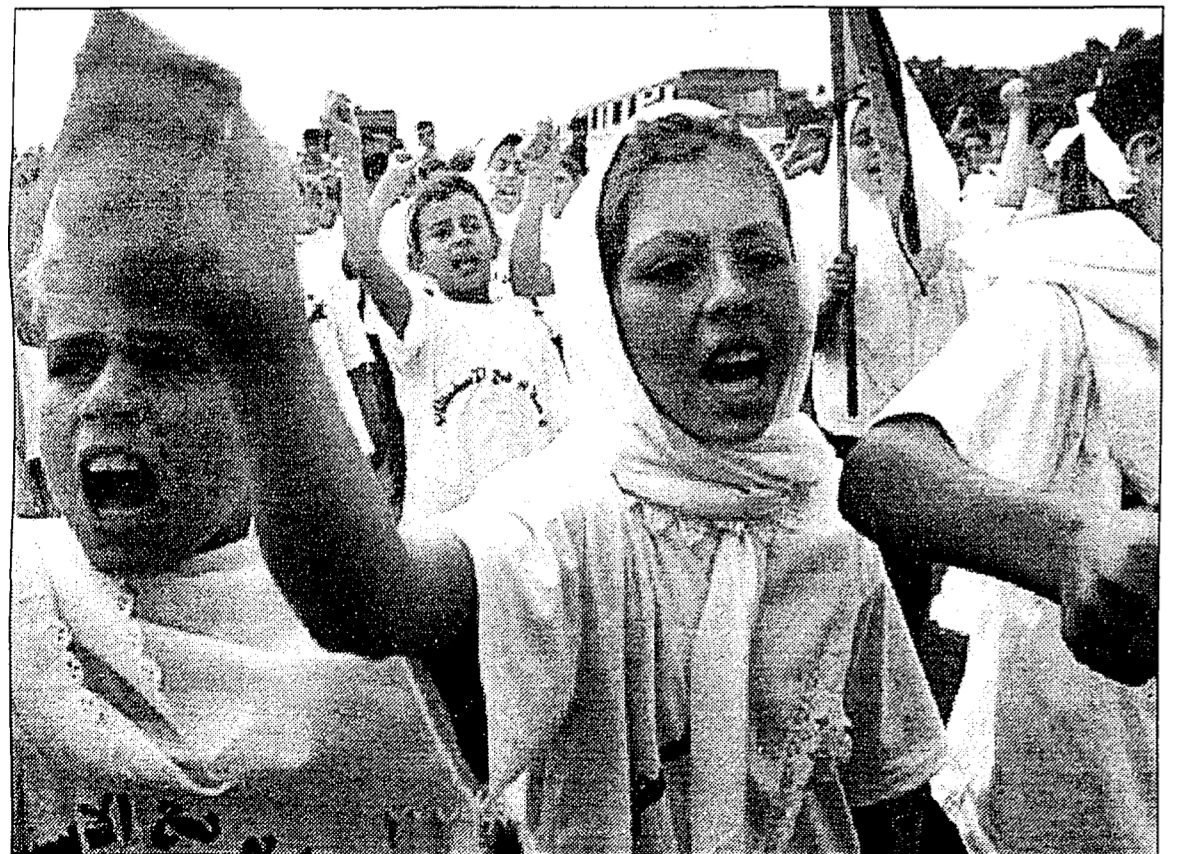
"I think it is wrong to object to the poorest children in this city having an opportunity to go to a school that is safe," the Georgia Republican said. He also challenged the president to visit Ballou.

The debate, while centering on the District of Columbia, is just as much about national education reforms.

Voucher programs are now operating in Wisconsin, Ohio, Maine, Vermont and Arizona, according to Clint Bolick, litigation director for the Institute for Justice, which defends voucher programs in court.

Bolick said each of the five programs is being challenged in court.

"The president's hypocrisy on this issue seems to know no bounds," he said, noting that Clinton's own daughter, Chelsea, attended the private



Palestinian children chant anti-Israel slogans during a protest against the Israeli policy at Erez Crossing Point, between Israel and Gaza Strip, Tuesday. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Tuesday that construction in the settlements would continue to accommodate natural growth. AP

US condemns raid, warns against Iraqi retaliation

NEW YORK (AP) - The United States condemned the attack by Iranian warplanes on rebel bases in Iraq and warned Baghdad against retaliation.

"We do not support the reported Iranian incursion into the Iraqi air space for any reason," State Department spokesman James P. Rubin told reporters on Monday.

"That said, Iraqi violations of the no-fly zone are not acceptable under any circumstances."

The U.S.-led coalition in the Gulf will enforce the no-fly zone and take "whatever action necessary" if Iraqi warplanes take to the air, he said.

Iranian warplanes on Monday bombed two military bases of the Iranian opposition group Mujahedeen Khalq, or People's Warriors, the group said. At least two Iraqi civilians were killed.

The official Iraqi News Agency said the Iraqi air force scrambled jets to chase off invading Iranian planes.

Subpoena 'defective'

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
THE SUBPOENA served to Tinian casino gaming commission executive director Paul Palmer was defective, which could prevent a successful prosecution of the Senate's contempt charges against him.

This according to the Assistant Attorney General Ross M. Buchholz, criminal division chief of the Attorney General's Office (AGO).

Buchholz said a proper subpoena should explain the testimony that the person would need to give.

"It was not done in the subpoena served to Mr. Palmer," he said.

"Now we need to determine whether that's a critical defect that would render the subpoena without force or effect."

"We're researching the question whether or not the way the subpoena was drawn would prevent us from a successful prosecution."

Buchholz said AGO will come out with a decision this week.

AGO says it may impede contempt vs Palmer

He described Palmer's decision not to show up in the Aug. 15 Senate oversight hearing as a "calculated risk," on the part of Palmer's lawyer.

He said a defective subpoena would mean that the Senate has no jurisdiction over the matter.

"The instrument to bring him in would be insufficient as a matter of law, and if that's the case, there is no basis for prosecution."

Buchholz said AGO will not file charges against Palmer unless there is sufficient basis.

But if AGO decides not to prosecute, he said he will advise the Senate to draw a proper subpoena.

The Senate found Palmer in contempt for failing to show up during the Sept. 15 Senate oversight hearing on the alleged irregularities in the operations of the Tinian casino gaming commission.

Palmer was served a subpoena last



Paul Palmer
Aug. 22,
In an interview with the Variety, Palmer said his lawyer advised him that the subpoena was "grossly defective."

But the chair of the Senate probe, Sen. David M. Cing (D-Tinian), said Palmer has "no excuses."

Cing has asked the Senate ser-

have the power to ask its sergeant-at-arms to arrest Palmer, "we would not want to violate anyone's civil rights."

Woodruff instead advised that Palmer be served a new subpoena that will "take away his excuses."

Cing says he will subpoena Tenorio

SENATOR David M. Cing (D-Tinian) yesterday said Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio should wait for his turn to be summoned by the Senate committee investigating the Tinian casino gaming commission.

Tenorio has dared Cing to subpoena him, but according to the governor's former political ally, "The governor should learn how to be patient."

Cing said the Senate probe, which he chairs, is "loaded" with witnesses.

Still, he added, Tenorio will be served a subpoena in January.

"He has a lot to explain," Cing said.

"We want to learn, for example, who authorized him to turn the Department of Finance into a lending institution."

"Also, the Office of the Public Auditor report revealed that CNMI funds are in order, that no reprogramming happened. So where did the governor get the \$2.6 million (he 'lent' to the commission)?"

"I hope he didn't borrow money again from another Chiko Hiraga character," Cing said, referring to the Japanese businessman who pleaded guilty to bribery-related charges.

However, Cing said it is Tinian Mayor Herman M. Manglona and not the governor who should be blamed for "the kind of people they have in the commission."

Members of the commission are nominated by the mayor with the consent of the municipal council.

But it was the governor, Cing said, who authorized the loan to the commission without any guidelines.



David M. Cing

As to Tenorio's statement that the Office of the Governor will no longer pay for the salaries of the commission officials and staff members, Cing said "payless paydays are customary" for those working for commission chair Jose P. Mafnas and Mayor Manglona.

He alleged that some staff members who worked for the two when they were still senators have yet to be paid.

"It's actually not surprising that they have already finished spending a \$2.6 million loan—mostly on junkets—without getting authorization from the people of Tinian who will be the ones paying for it now," Cing said.

The commission, he said, could have had enough revenues if the casino investors and vendors were not exempted from paying license and service fees.

He added, "I also don't believe the governor would stop giving money to the commission when he already act as if he own Tinian's casino." (ZD)



Winners of the 1997 Arbor Month Poster contest, from left, Jesse Ramon (Mt. Carmel), Christine Cepeda (Mt. Carmel), Jane Atalg (S.F. de Borja) and Michael Villacrusis (Mt. Carmel). Gov. Froilan Tenorio, DLNR Sec. Maggie Wonenberg, Lt. Gov. Jesse Borja and Arbor Month Chair Manny Pangelinan join them.
Photo by Jeff Tomokane

Road project breaks ground

WORK on the expansion and paving of the road to Banzai Cliff in Marpi yesterday kicked off with groundbreaking ceremonies led by Gov. Froilan Tenorio.

The \$7.3 million project, said acting Public Works Secretary Steve Lemieux, will take six months to complete.

Traffic control measures, he said, will be observed to address the problem of a build-up seen to happen as project progresses.

The project stretches from Lower Base and extends to as far down as the vicinity of Bird Island.

Western Equipment, the winning bidder for the project, according to government release, will rebuild the 2.8-mile road into a four-laned asphalt one with anti-skid pavement branching out to the As Matuis homestead.

A two-lane overlay, which will also have an anti-skid surface, will be done as part of the project.

Pavement markings and signs, it was gathered, will be installed while some power poles and lines will be relocated.

Lemieux has reportedly called the undertaking "the most important project in the CNMI."

Once completed, the road is expected to smoothen-up the long drive to the World War II tour sites frequented by the island's visitors.

An overlay of asphalt was put on the stretch of the road leading to the Hotel Nikko to do away with the previous practice of shoveling corals into the potholes.

"Even though we put down that overlay several months back, I wasn't satisfied," said Gov. Froilan Tenorio. "But with four new anti-skid lanes and much needed repair of the As Matuis intersection, I guess we're headed in the right direction." (JD)

House eyes military land for marina

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff
A RESOLUTION requesting Gov. Froilan Tenorio and the Board of Public Lands to designate a portion of the U.S. Army Reserve premises in Puerto Rico for the establishment of a marina for local fishermen was adopted Tuesday by the House of Representatives.

Vice Speaker Jesus T. Attao, in his H.R. 10-158, argued that a marina at the north-end of the military premises "would allow fishermen, who do not have the opportunity to park their boats at the (Smiling Cove) marina, a secured and convenient place to leave their boats after a hard day of fishing."

The Smiling Cove marina, according to Attao, is already overcrowded "that hauling boats in and out of the water becomes a difficult and time-consuming task for most fishermen."

Many of the fishermen, he noted, reside on the eastern portion of the island, "which is quite a distance from the (Smiling Cove) marina."

Thus, he added, "towing their boats not only becomes time-consuming but also adds to the already congested traffic on the streets of Saipan."

Attao said the "minimal parking fee" sought by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources from the Smiling Cove marina occupants can be used to maintain and secure the proposed dock site.

DLNR, however, is still trying to complete collections from boat owners using the Smiling Cove marina.

At least 25 boat owners, operating a boat each, have been issued notices early this month to settle their dues allegedly dating to as far back as four years ago.

DLNR Secretary Maggie Wonenberg, in a recent interview, said she is eyeing seizing at least 10 of the boats, three of them owned reportedly by ranking government officials, if their owners still continue to settle their accounts.

Around \$49,000 have remained uncollected from the 10 boat owners alone.

The rest of the 25, it was gathered, has replied to DLNR's notice.

USDA grants offered

By Gerr R. Cayabyab, Jr.
Variety News Staff
THE AGRICULTURAL Life Science of Land Grant Office based in the Northern Marianas College yesterday said the National 4-H Council headquartered in Washington, D.C. is now offering the '1998 Program Assistant Internship' for youths.

1, 1997(Deadline)
* Mid May- mid August Jan.
15, 1998(Deadline)
* August- mid December June
1, 1998(Deadline)

The office would like to receive as much applications but the limited quota per period is only 20.

"It is an advantage if the applicant meets the age requirement, and pursuing a baccalaureate degree in either political science, history, education, communications, parks and recreation or other related field of interest," Tudela said. She said that a variety of programs will take participants to the Capitol, White House; the Smithsonian Institution; the Arlington National Cemetery, and other major "memorials".

NMC-ALS Associate Director Margarita D. Tudela said that for the very first time, the 'National 4-H Council', under the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, opens the door for youths with ages between 16 to 21, and give them an opportunity to expand skills in leadership, citizenship, and professional development in the nation's capitol—Washington, D.C.

Tudela said the 'N4-H Council' scheduled three periods for the applicants to submit applications, as well as corresponding deadlines.

The application period is as follows:

"The 'N4-H Council' has fixed the gross salary income per week to \$250, and the deductions for Social Security and State taxes are required," said Tudela.

Tudela also said that room and board will be provided at no charge.

* Mid January- early June Nov.



This section, Around the Islands covers community stories, local events, and cultural activities. Should you have a story you would like to share, or an event that needs to be covered, contact Laila at 234-6341

Farrell urges officials to push PSS budget approval

By: Laila C. Younis
Variety News Staff
BOARD of Education Chair Don Farrell wrote a letter to top officials yesterday urging the Legislature to pass the Public School System budget for school year 1997-98.

Farrell wrote to Gov. Froilan Tenorio and House Speaker Diego Benavente urging them to call a House session to "pass the PSS budget as submitted to the Planning and Budget Office."

"The budget that we submitted is a well-thought-out plan to achieve our common goal, providing quality education for the youth of the Commonwealth," Farrell said in his letter to Benavente.

"Pass this budget and your House will go into history as the House

made a difference, the House that turned the tide for education," he said.

"Pass no budget and your House will drift into the misty past just as have other Houses that talked about education as a priority, but forgot about children in the end, where it really counts, a budget commitment," he added.

Farrell stressed to the governor that he "has the authority to call the Legislature into a special session to act on a single subject" and urges him to request the Legislature to act on the PSS budget.

"This budget incorporates all of the ingredients necessary to gradually complete the development of our Public School System, in cooperation with the private schools," Farrell said.

Farrell also said in an interview yesterday, that the 10% salary increase implemented for PSS non-certified

employees will be affected with no budget is passed by next year.

Farrell explained that the Board had incorporated the salary increase into the budget, but Commissioner of Education William Torres "had pulled the increase from lapsed funds created by vacant positions at PSS".

"According to PSS Finance Office, the lapsed funds could run out by late next year and without a budget for this year, we will not be able to pay them," he said.

"The vacancies that are paying for the increase are also critical vacancies that need to be filled," he added.

The BOE meeting scheduled yesterday was postponed until next week due to the absence of BOE members Esther Fleming and Daniel Quitiqua.

Farrell added, however, that both of the BOE members "had legitimate reasons" not to attend the meeting.



DPS Commissioner Jose Castro (left) and other DPS officials watch as Governor Froilan Tenorio signs "National Fire Prevention Week" proclamation Tuesday. Photo by Laila C. Younis

CNMI's firefighters await action on Fire Safety Code

By: Laila C. Younis
Variety News Staff
CNMI Firefighters are still waiting for the Legislature to pass a "Commonwealth Fire Safety Code", that will give them the authority to enforce fire prevention measures.

According to Department of Public Safety Commissioner Joseph Castro, the bill for a Commonwealth Fire Safety Code is "still sitting" at the Senate and "it should be quite the time to pass it."

"The key in having a fire safety code is having the authority to enforce it. Right now, we don't have the authority to remove fire hazards," said Castro.

"For example, if a warehouse or a store is stacking empty boxes outside, our firefighters can only recommend to remove it," he said.

"With the safety code, the firefighters can instruct to remove fire hazards in all areas," he added.

It has taken almost two years, according to Castro, for the CNMI government to act on the safety codes.

"This is the second bill that is now at the Senate. The first bill was vetoed by Acting Governor Jesse Borjal last year due to some technical concerns," he said.

This is the same reason, House Representative Stanley Torres said in an interview on Tuesday, why the bill is still at the Senate.

"Apparently the Senate would

like some amendments to be done due to technical concerns. We have to reword some passages," he said.

Torres noted, however, that the House will be recalling the bill back to the House for the "needed adjustments".

The Variety learned yesterday, that Bill 10-286 "Commonwealth Fire Safety Code" was recalled and is back at the House.

"Our inspections we do now are just 'courtesy'. Our enforcement is very limited and it is very difficult for us," said Fire Captain Frances Taimanao.

According to Taimanao, there is no existing uniform fire code in the CNMI and "that is a problem".

"When buildings are constructed, there are fire safety guidelines they must follow according to their capacity. But there are no laws that mandate these requirements," he explained.

Taimanao said that during recent routine inspections, some buildings were found in violation of fire safety guidelines, but "they couldn't do anything about it".

"We can only educate the public on fire prevention, but to combine it with enforcement will help us," he said.

"We believe prevention is a priority in every household and business in our communities and we can't wait until the fire safety code is passed so we can start enforcing," he added.

Federal ruling on referral complaint:

'CHC not discriminating'

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
THE FEDERAL Office for Civil Rights has ruled that the Commonwealth Health Center is not discriminating against patients based on their race or national origin under its medical referral program.

Department of Public Health Services Secretary Dr. Isamu J. Abraham told the Variety yesterday that OCR recently issued two rulings, concluding that DPHS's new medical referral regulations meet the requirements of the Civil Rights Act of

1964. Abraham said OCR, which is under the US Department of Health and Human Services, made such decision after two separate complaints were filed by some CNMI residents against the public health's Medical Referral Office.

The first complaint alleged that CHC discriminated against individuals who resided in the CNMI, but were citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau or other non-CNMI nations by denying them off-island medical referral based on

their non-citizenship or non-voting status.

According to Celeste E. Andersen, legal counsel for CHC, the case involves a Chuukese patient who claimed she had been sent to a hospital at Tripler Army Base rather than to Straub Hospital in Honolulu.

Andersen said the patient complained she had been denied an escort because of her national origin.

The lawyer said the Chuukese in the complaint included statements from other FSM nationals who had allegedly been de-



Celeste E. Andersen

in the complaint.

Under the new medical referral regulations which was adopted by DPHS on July 15, 1996, CHC's policy is to require all applicants for medical referral to be residents of CNMI.

Any citizen of another nation who satisfies the residency requirements may be eligible for benefits under the referral program.

OCR's review of the regulations revealed that they are non-discriminatory based on race, color or national origin.

Andersen said the second complaint was filed by a U.S. citizen who claimed that her medical treatment had been delayed and she had been denied a patient escort because she was not of Chamorro or Carolinian descent.

Andersen said OCR's investigation revealed insufficient evidence that CHC subjected the complainant to differential treatment based on her national origin by delaying and denying coverage for needed benefits related to off-island medical care.

Andersen said the second complaint was filed by a U.S. citizen who claimed that her medical treatment had been delayed and she had been denied a patient escort because she was not of Chamorro or Carolinian descent.

Ira S. Pollack, acting regional manager for OCR, in her report dated Sept. 9 however concluded that OCR did not find a pattern of evidence that a particular national origin group was affected adversely in practice.

Pollack said OCR has determined that the new referral program regulations meet the requirements of the Civil Rights Act and OCR's standards for resolution of the issue presented



Ms. CNMI International '97 Maria Theresa F. Acosta hands wrapped cookies to passengers yesterday to welcome JAL arrivals from Tokyo and Osaka during the celebration of the 20th anniversary of JAL's Japan-Saipan route.

Reyes calls for new gov't health insurance program

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
CITING the "indignity" and "bad treatment" that will result with the adoption of the new regulations of the government employee health insurance, House Majority Leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) said Tuesday that he may propose the creation of a new medical plan.

Reyes, in a privilege speech in the House of Representatives, said government employees—who constitute the bulk of the CNMI's local workforce—deserve better medical attention than what the new regulations will give them.

"Maybe we should start searching for an insurance company willing to provide the kind of medical attention the people need. Or maybe we should create our own government insurance program," he said.

"The people should not be subjected to this indignity. They deserve better."

For example, he said, the new regulations will limit physical therapy to 10 visits a year.

"So if you have more than 10 visits, you're on your own. If you want to stay alive then you would have to make sure you have money,"

he said.

"What about the people with traumatic head injuries with multiple fractures? They require more than 10 visits to hospital. What will now happen to them?" Reyes said.

He called the new regulations "ridiculous."

"The health insurance program before was good. When a person is sick he just needs to pay \$50 deductible for the year. When they visit the hospital there's no need to pay anymore as their insurance plan takes over," Reyes said.

He blames Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's administration for the current state of the health insurance program.

"When this administration came in, they privatized the hospital lab and the pharmacy. I introduced a bill to restrain them from further privatizing (the Commonwealth Health Center) before they give it all away."

"(Meanwhile), because of the privatization of the lab and the pharmacy, government employees covered by the group health insurance program now have to pay 20 percent of the doctor's fee and medication, and soon it's going to be harder to be treated there," Reyes said.

ISLAND SPECIAL
\$95 DAILY RATE INCL. BREAKFAST
FREE AIRPORT PICKUP & TRANSFER
GUAM REGENCY HOTEL
TEL: (671) 649-8000 FAX (671) 646-8738

Now Available!
SALE ITEMS
HOBART
Parts & Equipment
In Stock and Available for immediate delivery

FLOOR MIXER MODEL #A200-TF 20 QT. \$3,949.00

FOOD WASTE DISPOSAL MODEL #FD3/200 2HP \$2,795.00

FLOOR MIXER MODEL #D300-T 30 QT. \$4,995.00

DISHWASHER MODEL #AM-14 W/Built In 10 KW Booster Heater \$6,590.00

MEAT SLICER MODEL #1712E All S/S construction. Rebuilt \$1,490.00

DIGITAL SCALE MODEL #Americascale "0" to 30 LBS. \$799.00

Complete Parts Available for all models/24 hour service.

We accept VISA MASTERCARD

PACIFIC TECHNICAL SERVICES
GUAM 632-5000 Fax (671) 632-3333
SAIPAN (next to Saipan Zoo) 322-6000 / 6001 Cel 483-6000 Fax 322-6060

Exclusive Distributor:

HUGE INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE!!!

For All Kinds Of US Made Residential And Commercial Carpets

22% OFF For Accordion & Panel Shutters

55% OFF For All Kinds of PVC Vertical Blinds

Call Us For FREE Estimation Call Us at Tel. 235-5547 Fax: 235-5548 or visit our Showroom at Afetna Square, Ground Floor Sablan Commercial Bldg. San Antonio

cm carpet masters
Carpets, Blinds & Typhoon Shutters

Kosack: Mitchell filed Taylor case for media

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
REXFORD C. Kosack, counsel for Chief Justice Mary W.K. Taylor and wife Celina, said lawyer Theodore R. Mitchell drafted the complaint against the couple only to attract media attention at the cost of Taylor's reputation. "There is no question about it. This complaint was drafted for the media, not for the court," said Kosack in Taylor's reply on Tuesday to Mitchell's opposition to motion to strike scandalous and immaterial statements in the complaint. Kosack asked the Superior Court to grant their motion to strike in order to save time and money by not having to litigate spurious issues, to protect the reputations of the Taylor couple. Kosack said striking such scandalous statements would deter the drafting of slanderous complaints intended to primarily capture the attention of the press. Tam Amalia De Leon Guerrero Diaz sued the couple for allegedly deceiving her into signing false land documents, "theft of electricity", and breaching Chamorro customs and



Rexford C. Kosack

tradition. Kosack responded that the drafting of the complaint is an abuse of judicial process as it reads more like a "press release." Mitchell answered, urging Taylor to either admit or deny the allegations in the complaint so that the lawsuit can move on. In Taylor's reply, Kosack said plaintiffs, through Mitchell, have provided no explanation why they drafted a seven-page, 29-paragraph introduc-

tion to the complaint. "If their primary audience is intended to be the judge, certainly they would be able to understand this simple case without an introduction," Kosack pointed out. "The only reason for the introduction was to provide an 'executive summary' of the more sensational aspects of this case for the busy press," he said. Kosack said the Ninth Circuit has stated that the purpose of motions to strike is to get rid of false issues raised by a complaint prior to trial in order to save the time and money that would be expended in having to litigate them. "At present, the plaintiffs have presented us with a complaint bloated with scandalous allegations that serve only to disparage the defendants, immaterial allegations that threaten to bog down and sidetrack litigation with unnecessary battles and needlessly repetitive paragraphs put into an introduction solely to parade this case before the press," the lawyer added.

PIO to Senators: Hold more sessions than dwell on NMC

By Gerr R. Cayabyab
Variety News Staff
GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio's spokesperson yesterday said the Senate should hold more sessions and do more legislative work instead of agonizing over the composition of the Northern Marianas College board of regents.

Mark Broadhurst said under the leadership of Senate President Jesus R. Sablan (R-Saipan), the Senate held only 32 sessions for the past two years.

"There were no sessions for 627 days," Broadhurst said. "And on the days they actually worked, they came up with mostly constitutionally-flawed legislation."

He said the Senate may have been "upset" that the governor "puts politics aside, withdrew his appointees to board of regents, and reinstated Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja's nominees."

"Too bad the same couldn't be said for the Senate," Broadhurst said. "Here we have the CNMI Constitution which says nothing about the Senate's involvement being necessary in the appointment of regents, and now the Senate gets a little touchy,

a little hot under the collar. "We haven't seen such a sudden movement in the Senate in a long, long time, with the exception of Sen. David M. Cing (D-Tinian) who is busy trying to look like he is doing something for Tinian."

The Senate, in a session Monday, said the board of regents controversy is an "education disaster" for which the governor should be blamed.

Senators took turns in criticizing the AGO's legal opinion, which they said only further confused a confusing issue.

AGO has said that the governor's appointees to the board of regents do not require Senate confirmation, which was the usual practice.

House OKs bill to ban motorized watercraft in Saipan reef

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
THE HOUSE of Representatives in a morning session yesterday passed 11 bills, including a legislation to ban motorized watercraft within the Saipan lagoon.

Introduced by Rep. Manuel A. Tenorio (R-Saipan), House Bill 10-356 now heads to the Senate.

The bill states that Saipan's reef ecosystems "are dangerously stressed by many factors," including by watercraft powered by internal combustion machines.

"In order to provide a measure of relief to Saipan's reefs...it prudent to restrict the use of (motorized) watercraft," with the exemption of those used during an emergency, official government functions and in areas designated for transit or recreational use.

The bill would impose a fine ranging from \$50 to \$500.

The House also passed Senate Bill 10-77, which would require the display of vehicle identification plates. Introduced by Senate Majority Leader Thomas P. Villagomez (R-Saipan), the bill now goes to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio.

Among the other bills passed by the House which will be transmitted to the Senate:

- H.B. 10-398, to appropriate \$1 million in CIP matching funds for the Koblerville sports complex. Introduced by Rep. David M. Apatang (R-Saipan).

- H.B. 10-145, to create a commission of peace officer standards and training within the Department of Public Safety. Introduced by Rep. Rosiky F. Carnacho (D-Saipan).

- H. B. 10-400, to provide an additional eighth member to the Retirement Fund board of trustees. Introduced by Vice Speaker Jesus T. Atiao (R-Saipan).

Also passed was Senate Bill 10-79, which would require that any person being adopted in the CNMI should have been a resident of the Commonwealth for at least one year. Exempted are infants under one year old.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Juan P. Tenorio (R-Saipan), will head to the Office of the Governor.

Wiseman stays on case

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
SPECIAL JUDGE David A. Wiseman has refused to disqualify himself from handling a \$2.3 million lawsuit filed by a businessman against the CNMI government.

Wiseman in an order issued Tuesday ruled there is no appearance of impartiality and statutory basis mandating his disqualification in Joaquin M. Manglona's suit.

"This Court, after careful consideration, perceives no 'interest' financial or otherwise, that could be substantially affected by the outcome of this proceeding," said Wiseman in his decision denying government's motion for disqualification.

Manglona sued the government over alleged nonpayment of lease rentals of a building previously occupied by the Department of Labor and Immi-

Junks AG motion to disqualify himself from suit

gration. Assistant Atty. Gen. Sally B. Pfund, on behalf of the government, sought Wiseman's disqualification because of conflict of interest.

Pfund said the judge entered an order last July 11 requiring for additional issues on procurement regulations governing lease agreements be briefed by the parties.

Pfund said Wiseman in his private practice of law, participates in CNMI contracting from all angles, making himself a government contractor.

The government lawyer contended that a decision in the case holding that the CNMI Procurement Regulations do not apply to some types of contracts could exempt Wiseman's contracts from the requirements of the regulations.

In his order, Wiseman said the government's arguments and concerns are unfounded. He said the procurement regulations at issue in the case have no legal or factual relationship

to the procurement regulations governing his contract to provide legal services to the Saipan and Northern Mariana Islands Council. Wiseman said the statute man-

dates a judge's disqualification if the latter has a financial interest in the affairs of a party. The Special Judge pointed out that because he has no financial interest in any of the parties to the action, his disqualification is not required.

ISLAND SODA

JMA WHOLESALE, is introducing a new kind of SODA that will quench your thirst. Our tropical soft drink has made a BIG SPLASH across the Pacific Islands with (8) eight different flavors you'll LOVE.

- PINEAPPLE
- ORANGE
- DEW
- COLA

- TROPICAL SODA
- GRAPE
- LEMON-LIME
- STRAWBERRY

Also available: Menehune Water from Hawaii

Available at a
VERY, VERY COMPETITIVE PRICE
- you'll be surprised to know how much
YOUR BUDGET can take!!

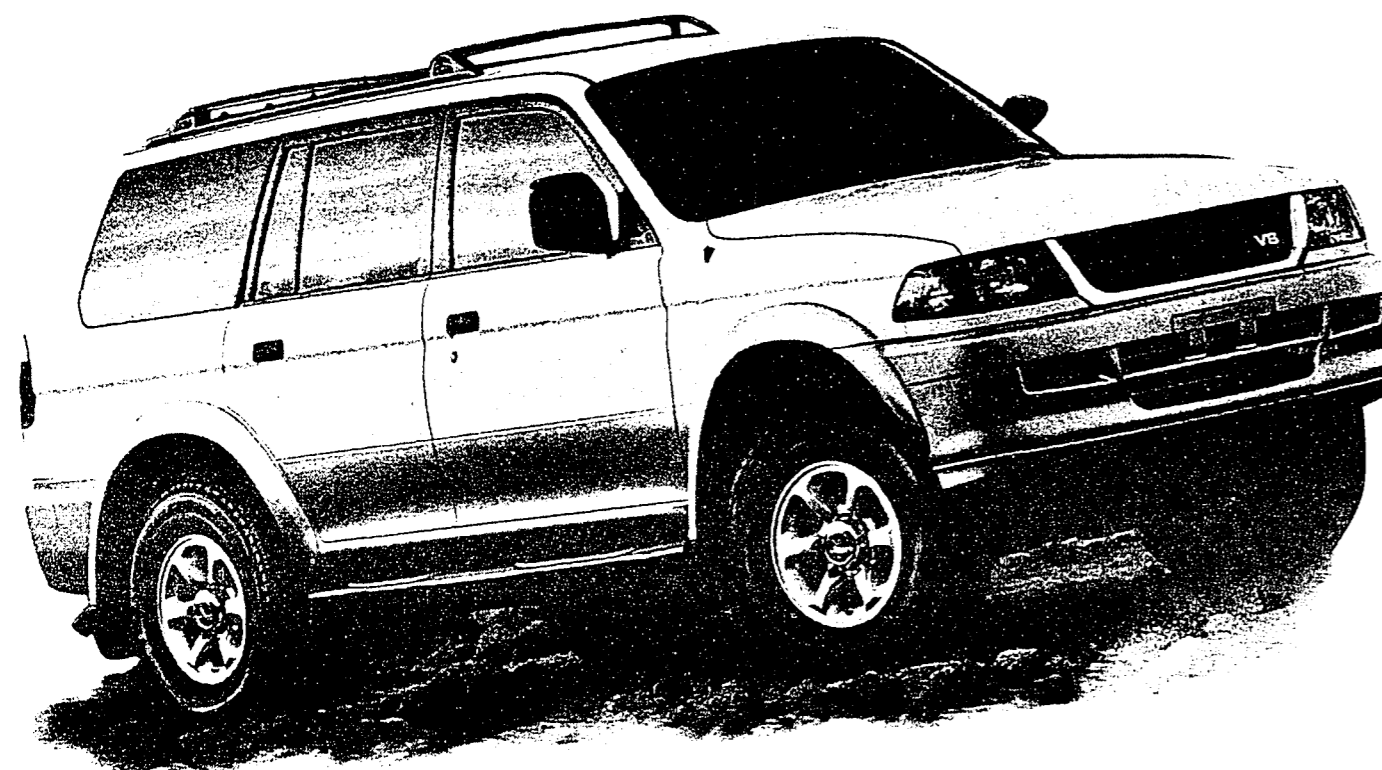
GRAB YOUR OPPORTUNITY NOW!
Ideal for campaigns, parties,
fiesta, pocket meetings
and all sorts of gatherings.

CALL TO ORDER 234-1572 or 235-4710

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK.

Introducing the New Mitsubishi Montero Sport.

only \$25,995



Just when you thought you had to settle for something less.

Customer First
TRIPLE J
New Cars • Used Cars • Parts • Service
Garapan: 234-7133 Chalan Kanoa: 234-3332

MITSUBISHI
MONTERO SPORT
Built For Living.™

Manglona happy Fund's investments doing good



Edward H. Manglona

By Gerr R. Cayabyab, Jr.
Variety News Staff
RETIREMENT Fund Administrator Edward H. Manglona yesterday credited the collective efforts of its Board of Trustees for the good performance of its investments abroad. "The joint efforts of the Board contributed a lot in the attainment of some of the Fund's goals

and perspectives," said the Administrator.

Manglona said among the countries in Southeast Asia where the Fund invested in 1995 are Singapore, Philippines, South Korea, Malaysia, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.

"As of now," Manglona said, "the total investments including those in the CNMI is \$305 million."

Total investment in Asia is \$15 million; while a total investment of \$10 million is in Europe, South America, and Middle East.

In the U.S. mainland, total Fund investments reached \$265 million, while there is \$15 million in CNMI.

He said he hopes their "investments" will generate more profits for the welfare of their retirees and dependents.

McPhetres reacts over governor's statements

By Gerr R. Cayabyab, Jr.
Variety News Staff
NORTHERN Marianas College President Agnes M. McPhetres yesterday took exception to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's press statement Monday that she is blaming the Board of Regents for all the "mess" in the College. In an interview, McPhetres said she does not know where the Governor received the misleading information.



Agnes M. McPhetres

McPhetres said she does not have any problem with any member of the Board of Regents nor have blamed anyone.

"After the confusion in the past few weeks, I am glad that stability has returned to the Board of Regents. This is important for the accreditation, and for focusing on our primary task in providing qual-

ity academic, vocational, community and adult education to our people," said McPhetres.

McPhetres stressed that whatever differences have risen, meeting the students' needs in acquiring high standard of education is the most important consideration.

Seman, Bernadita Takeda
1 (Bennet)

Dear Voters in Precinct 3

- Together we can meet the challenges the CNMI faces today and the days to come.
- I am asking for your vote of confidence November 1st to be elected to the House of Representatives.
- I am confident I can be your strong voice in the Legislature on the issues of education, tourism, the environment and our future.

Si Yu'us maase, Ghilosow, Thank you.



Biba Bennet #1

Paid by the Committee to Elect

SOME MYTHS AND FACTS CONCERNING LABOR AND IMMIGRATION IN THE CNMI

Myth: All labor complaints are human rights abuses.

Fact: The majority of complaints are wage and hour violations - labor violations that exist throughout the world.

Myth: There is a persistent pattern of labor abuse in the CNMI.

Fact: There are individual instances of abuse, which are never acceptable, but that does not constitute a pattern. When alerted to these instances, the Department of Labor and Immigration responds immediately. The Philippine Consul has said she sees no pattern of abuse. "Labor problems which may have undertones due to cultural differences are not necessarily labor abuses," she says.

Myth: There is a pattern of Chinese alien smuggling between Rota and Guam.

Fact: There has been one case of smuggling from Rota to Guam. CNMI Immigration alerted the INS in Guam. The two agencies worked together to successfully abort the operation.

Myth: The CNMI is unable to protect workers against crimes such as illegal recruitment.

Fact: The CNMI does not condone any act or crime against workers.

The Department of Labor and Immigration has taken significant steps to protect workers. As a result of a recent MOU with the Department of Commerce, Labor will be able to screen employers for fiscal health and deny insolvent employers the right to hire guest workers. It is also suspending hiring of workers in classifications for which the demand has already been filled, such as security guards. By using LIIDS, the Department has been able to detect irregularities on the part of employers who have subsequently been charged with criminal violations.

The CNMI has no control over unscrupulous recruiters in countries of workers' origin. We can be of assistance by providing information necessary to overcome this problem. Ultimately, this is a problem with which the government of the country of origin must wrestle.

Myth: The two separate databases for incoming guest workers - the LIIDS entry permit and the registration card from the Division of Immigration - are an indication of how labor intensive and duplicative record-keeping in the Department is and the Department apparently doesn't know it.

Fact: The current labor code provides for a two documentation process and must be observed. The new labor code, which the Administration has transmitted to the Legislature, provides for only one documentation. So, if the law is passed, there will be only one document, the LIIDS document.

Myth: Federal agencies have worked closely with CNMI leaders to correct problems.

Fact: While the U.S. Department of Labor, the FBI, and the DEA have been very helpful, the key agency, the INS, has only very recently given the kind of support the CNMI has been asking for for years.

Myth: 20th century U.S. Immigration Policy will meet 21st century needs.

Fact: U.S. Immigration Policy is based on migration for settlement. This is an admirable policy when there is a frontier. However, there are fewer and fewer frontiers left in the world, much less the U.S., and hordes of people seeking to better their lives.

The future lies in migration for work purposes, rather than migration for settlement. The CNMI, as an entity of small islands, is in a unique position to provide a model for the rest of the country, of how to accommodate significant migration for work in a decent, respectful way that satisfies workers, employers, and residents of the Commonwealth.

Myth: The problems of Labor and Immigration in the CNMI can be resolved by outsiders.

Fact: Centuries of outsiders have failed to address the problems of our islands. Only we can resolve our labor and immigration problems, by becoming responsible citizens committed to respecting and observing our own labor and immigration laws. We must learn to be part of the solution.

On Tinian assault case King's counsel mulls plea offer from AGO



Robert O'Connor
By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

SENATOR Esteven M. King's lawyer is looking at a plea offer extended to him by the Attorney General's Office to resolve a pending criminal case involving the alleged beating of his girlfriend, Maria DLC. Dosalua. Robert O'Connor, in a brief telephone interview yesterday said they are still carefully studying the plea offer.

"There's no definite decision yet," O'Connor said.

The Variety learned that the offer will expire at the time the case is called for a status conference, which was set this Nov. 14.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Alan Lane in an interview Tuesday admitted he offered a plea bargain to King.

Lane said the offer was no different from those they had extended to other defendants facing criminal charges.

Lane, however, refused to disclose

terms about the offer, citing its confidentiality.

But under a proposed plea agreement dated Aug. 7, a copy of which was obtained by the Variety, the AGO would recommend 90 days' imprisonment, all suspended except the first 10 days.

The 10 days in jail would be converted to 80 hours of community work service, the Aug. 7 letter from the AGO to King's lawyer, Bob O'Connor indicates.

Part of the community work service requires King to hold one or more media appearances to stress the importance of domestic conflict resolution, relationship counseling, and admission of wrong in the case, including a public apology to the victim, the AGO said.

The offer also asks the lawmaker to pay \$500 fine and obey all CNMI and Federal laws.

The AGO charged King with assault and battery and assault with a dangerous weapon for allegedly beating Maria DLC. Dosalua last July 21 on Tinian.

Dosalua later claimed she will not press charges. She said the information given by the Tinian police to the media was blown out of proportion.

Earlier, Robert O'Connor, counsel for King, said the lawmaker has reconciled with his girlfriend and "they are happily together again."

Last Aug. 13, the AGO also charged Dosalua with assault and battery for allegedly beating King.

Detainee escapes but is nabbed

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A MAN who was arrested for traffic violation allegedly escaped from police custody Tuesday before dawn.

Police said the detainee identified as 27-year-old Junior Fernandez of Gualo Rai, however, was nabbed again after a few hours.

Initial investigation showed that Fernandez was arrested for driving under the influence of

alcohol and reckless driving at 3:30 a.m.

While taken to the Department of Public Safety, Fernandez managed to escape from a correction officer.

According to DPS daily summary of activities, the suspect ran into the grassy area behind MTC Building.

At 8:41 a.m. yesterday, police officers arrested again Fernandez who was spotted driving a vehicle along Beach

Road in Susupe.

Meanwhile, a 28-year-old man was arrested for allegedly refusing to pay his bills at Exotic Night Club in Susupe before dawn yesterday.

Police said Robert Duenas of Chalan Kanoa failed to pay his drinks amounting \$185.

In Garapan, a person reportedly stole a video cassette tape from KK Gift Shop on Monday.

No arrest was made yet.



Bernard Villagomez, MTC supply and Transportation Manager, honors his employees with a Group Achievement Award for their continued support and dedication in improving supply related services. From left, Bernard Villagomez, Dolina Seidler, Allen Palacios, Daniel Ozuna, Joe Wabof and Diana Camacho.

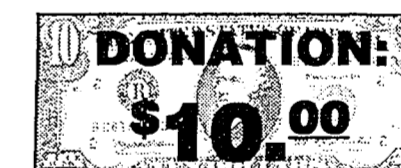
Friends & Relatives are Invited!

DINNER - DANCE

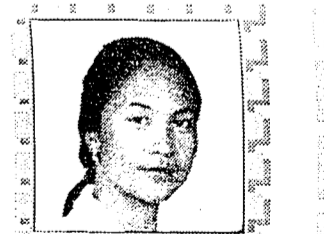
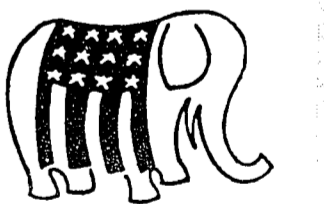
Place:
GARAPAN CENTRAL PARK

Date:
Oct. 11, 1997

Time:
06:00 - 10:00 PM



ANA DLG CEPEDA



DARLENE C. O'COMPO



FRANK GUERRERO CEPEDA

for
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Precinct No. 4**

sponsored by: Brothers & Sisters



CARMEN C. REYES

BEN
DLG
CEPEDA



DOLORES DLG CEPEDA

ROMAN
DLG
CEPEDA



CONNIE C. SABLAN

JESUS
DLG
CEPEDA



MINA C. DECHERONG

'Pacific passport alert'

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) - Immigration officials are taking a closer look at travellers carrying Pacific Island passports while cash-for-citizenship scams continue to plague the region.

A spokesman for the Immigration Service said border staff were alert for travellers using illegally obtained passports from Samoa, Vanuatu and other island nations.

Samoa's passport scandal has taken a fresh turn with disclosures that more than 500 passports were ordered for the country's 49 members of Parliament and their spouses. Five immigration officials have been suspended in the wake of the scandal.

The passport sales came under scrutiny after a Chinese national entered Samoa on a passport he allegedly bought in Tonga for US \$4,000.

Papers tabled in Parliament last week by New Zealand Labor member of Parliament Trevor Mallard indicated that 4,422 Samoan passports went unaccounted for during the

past six years.

Meanwhile, the head of the Immigration Department in Vanuatu has been barred from leaving the country after the alleged sale of 61 passports in Macau, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Another Pacific nation, Tonga, began selling passports in 1984, but this was declared illegal in 1988.

In 1991 the King of Tonga agreed to a law change that allowed passports to be issued to Imelda Marcos, widow of the former Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos, and 425 other people.



RP President Fidel Ramos taps the head of students to keep them quiet inside the Presidential Palace in Manila Tuesday while Senate President Ernesto Maceda, right, and House Speaker Jose de Venecia look on. Students flocked to the palace to witness the signing of the anti-rape bill into a law. AP

New RP law allows both sexes to sue for rape

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Fidel Ramos signed a new rape bill into law Tuesday that for the first time allows both men and spouses to sue for rape.

"Through this law, we ensure that no woman — including wives — or man is

subjected to sexual acts against her or his will," Ramos said.

Sen. Leticia Shahani, the law's principal author, said the law redefines rape as a public instead of a private crime, making it possible for the police or any person to sue for rape on behalf of a

victim. The law also broadens the definition of rape to include acts like oral and anal sex or the insertion of any object into a sex organ.

The bill first was introduced in 1989, but Shahani said approval was delayed because some lawmakers objected to the marital rape pro-

vision.

Under the new law, rape is now punishable by death under certain conditions, including when the victim is a minor, under the custody of the police or military, or when the offender is known he or she has AIDS.

New Zealand wants closer relations with Asia, Pacific

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - New Zealand wants changes in the U.N. system of regional groupings to allow it closer ties with its Pacific Island and Asian neighbors, the country's U.N. Ambassador said Monday.

In an address to the General Assembly, Ambassador Michael Powles also endorsed Secretary-General Kofi Annan's reform plans and urged member states to give him the necessary resources to carry them out.

Powles also said New Zealand is more interested in "opening up and modernizing" the work of the Security Council than in any specific formula now under discussion.

The 10 non-permanent council members are elected by region. But New Zealand, Australia and Canada are grouped with Western European states because of historic and cultural reasons.

Those countries have long complained that they are discriminated against in the group in favor of European Union states. That reduces chances of the other three to serve on

the Security Council and other U.N. bodies.

"We accordingly see value in a reconfiguration of the New York electoral groupings to being them in line with those used elsewhere in the United Nations system—where New Zealand in most cases sits with our South Pacific partners and our East Asian neighbors," Powles said.

On U.N. reform, Powles said proposals for meaningful change in the world organization would "come to naught without adequate funding."

"Member states need to trust the secretary-general to fulfill his responsibilities under the charter," he said. "We cannot mandate the organization with more and more new tasks and somehow expect these to be achieved within the current resources."

Powles said member states should "resist the temptation" to "micromanage the organization." He said the United Nations should avoid introspection and give Annan the tools he needs to revitalize the organization.

ADB okays \$107M loans

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - The Asian Development Bank on Tuesday approved loans of \$100 million to upgrade three major ports in Indonesia and \$6.8 million to improve water supply and sanitation in Mongolia.

Indonesia plans to use its loan to repair and expand the container, general cargo and passenger facilities at the ports of Belawan in North Sumatra, Banjarmasin in South Kalimantan and Balikpapan, the Manila-based bank said.

The project is important for promoting economic growth and industrialization in Indonesia's eastern region, part of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand growth triangle and the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asian growth area.

The loan from the bank's ordinary capital resources is repayable over 20 years with a grace period of five years. The interest will be based on the bank's variable lending rate system.

Environment

Brown Tree Snake Phase I

Babauta asked the Clinton Administration for more funding in fiscal year 1998 and the President added \$1 million to his budget. The Congress have approved the money.

Brown Tree Snake Phase II

Babauta helped researchers at the National Zoo get a \$160,000 grant to find viruses to stop the snake.

Brown Tree Snake Phase III

Babauta was effective at getting increased Interior Department funding for the CNMI snake effort:

FY 94	Interior funds one-year study
FY 95	\$50,000 in technical assistance
FY 96	\$120,000 in technical assistance
FY 97	\$189,000 in technical assistance

Nuclear Free Pacific

Babauta strongly opposed nuclear dumping and worked with members of Congress and environmental groups to stop Japanese plutonium shipments in the Pacific.

Fisheries Protection

Babauta worked successfully for passage of the Pacific Insular - Areas Fishery Act, which requires local conservation and management in the EEZ around the Northern Marianas.

As a Senator...

Babauta authored and passed the Groundwater Protection Act, helped ensure passage of the Solid Waste Act, was and is a strong supporter of land use planning and zoning.



"Our responsibility is clear: to protect and preserve the environment."

BABAUTA, JUAN NEKAI
Improving Our Lives

Vote Republican

Saipan Diamond Hotel

CHAMPAGNE SUNDAY BRUNCH MENU

October 5, 1997

COLD DISH
Assorted Appetizer - 16 kinds
Shrimp Cocktail and Alaska King Crab Leg Cocktail
Slice Octopus and Marinated Green Mussels
Smoke Salmon
Salmon Galantine
Marinated Duck Breast and Crab Claw Cocktail
Vegetable Crepes with Garlic Sauce
Lobster Medallion-Choud Froid
Assorted bread pastry and sandwich
5 Kinds of Salad Variation
3 Kinds of cold dish
1) salmon rice
2) spaghetti salad
3) mahi mahi escabeche

HOT DISH
Mixed pizza
Breaded Shrimp Tar-Tar Sauce
Saute Pan Scallop with sauce Sea Urchin
Braise Pork Chop
Fricassee De Poulet
B-B-Q Beef Spare Ribs
Duck Breast, Bigarade Sauce
Seafood Brochette
Assorted vegetable garnish
Spaghetti
Fried Rice

Plumeria Restaurant
11:00 am - 1:30 pm

\$18.00

\$12.00
for kids ages 4-11

2 KINDS OF SOUP
Cream Soup
Consomme Soup

CARVING
Roast Beef prime ribs

DESSERTS
Fresh Fruits Variation
Sunday Brunch Special Cakes

DRINKS
Champagne
Juices
Coffee

WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

For reservation please call: 234-5900

\$7.00

JAPANESE LUNCH SPECIAL
Yurakuen Japanese Restaurant
Daily Lunch - 3 kinds to choose from
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
(Iced Tea Included)

\$7.00

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT CHINESE BUFFET
Kongo Hanten Chinese Restaurant
Daily 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
(Ice Tea Included)
Menu changes daily



Dr. John Hope Franklin, chairman of the President's Race Advisory Board greets President Clinton at a Washington hotel Tuesday prior to the president's address before the board. The president suggested Tuesday that the board look into how children in the country's most diverse schools manage to get along on a day-to-day basis. AP

Clinton: Fix IRS, don't politicize

By Terence Hunt
WASHINGTON (AP) — Shaken by stories of IRS abuse, the Clinton administration scrambled Tuesday to relieve taxpayer anxieties and prevent Republicans from capitalizing on an easy target. President Clinton promised improvements but said, "We should not politicize it."

House Speaker Newt Gingrich responded with a verbal shot at Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, saying Rubin's attendance at financial meetings overseas last week during the Senate's tax hearings showed he was "too busy to administer the IRS."

From Congress to the White House to the Treasury Department, the charges and countercharges grew hotter. Clinton was left in the

difficult position of defending an unpopular agency and promising to make it better — while rejecting a bipartisan proposal for a citizen oversight board.

Onetime Republican presidential candidate Steve Forbes, who advocated replacing the current tax system with a so-called flat tax, said Clinton is making a mistake to align himself with a dysfunctional IRS "that is more corrupt, more complex and more Kafkaesque" than ever.

"That he cannot feel the pain the IRS is causing real American citizens is at once disturbing and quite instructive," Forbes said.

Questioning Clinton's priorities, Gingrich said the IRS — "so badly managed" — had 10 times more staff than government agencies battling illegal drugs or immigration problems.

But Clinton said, "I believe the IRS is functioning better today than it was five years ago. I think it has to improve more. And I think we should not try to sweep any of these problems under the rugs."

Rubin, in a news conference following Gingrich's attack, defended his oversight of the tax-collection agency. He also announced the IRS would start conducting "problem solving days" at offices across the country to help taxpayers.

Rubin said the Clinton administration had moved to boost customer service with an improved system to file taxes by touch-tone telephone and better responses on the agency's toll-free tax help line.

He also sought to put stories of IRS misconduct in context of mistakes made within an organization of 102,000 workers who collect \$1.5 trillion annually.

"No matter how well it's run and how careful everything is done, inevitably, every year, there

will be some number of instances that are not handled properly," Rubin said. "The key is to minimize it."

At the White House, presidential spokesman Mike McCurry criticized Gingrich in unusually harsh terms. McCurry said the speaker "is probably one institution in American political life less popular than the IRS." McCurry added, "In fact, the more he's out there, the better it is in the long run for us."

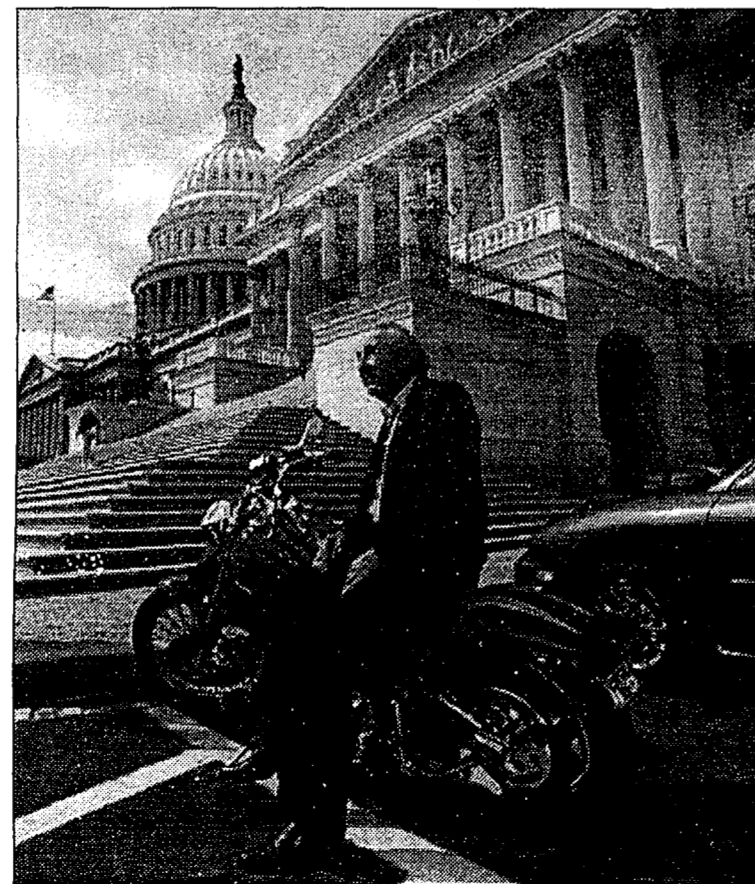
He said Gingrich's call to "abolish the IRS as we know it" was nothing more than a slogan, far from "the hard work of changing that agency" and improving its performance.

Gingrich's spokeswoman, Christina Martin, fired back at McCurry: "I'd be a little grouchy too if I had to defend a privacy-invasive, citizen-terrorizing, property-seizing bureaucratic monster like the IRS."

A week after the Senate hearings on IRS misconduct, all sides agree that the agency needs reforms but there is a sharp disagreement over who should oversee it.

A bipartisan group headed by Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Nebr., and Rep. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, has called for a nine-member oversight board of private citizens to develop the IRS' budget and long-term planning. This bill enjoys bipartisan support in the House and Senate and is being championed by House Republicans as the main IRS restructuring proposal.

The Treasury Department, in contrast, wants an oversight board of executive branch officials. Republicans oppose the administration plan as putting potential political influence over the agency.



Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo., sits on his Harley-Davidson motorcycle on a cloudy Capitol Hill Tuesday. AP

Haze dims SE Asia outlook

By Beth Duff-Brown
KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — A smoky haze has darkened the skies of Southeast Asia for weeks — and now its repercussions are darkening the region's economic outlook.

Problems across southeast Asia include the lack of sunlight and loss of crops, the medical bills from respiratory ailments, the canceled holidays and general grumpiness gnawing away at productivity — all caused by the worst smog the region has ever seen.

The tourism sector has been hurt, and several southeastern Asian currencies — already weak — have been feeling downward pressure. Some commodities such as palm oil and rubber may also be affected.

"The whole situation is hazy, using a very bad pun," said Jomo K.S., an economics professor at University of Malaya. "But I'd say the indirect effects, the consequences are really going to be quite massive."

The region's environmental problems have been caused by out-of-control fires burning on Indonesia combined with a drought caused by the El Nino ocean current. The fires have produced a haze that has forced millions of people to remain indoors, essentially shutting down daily life in many areas.

The fires spread to Malaysia on Tuesday, as firefighters fought a 1,000-acre blaze near Kuantan, 120 miles east of the Malaysian capital.

The haze blanketing the region is believed to have played a part in an airplane crash that killed 234 people in Indonesia and a deadly ship collision off Malaysia's west coast. Several foreign governments issued travel advisories after the accidents, further damaging the region's tourism sector.

Choking, blinding smog forced authorities to declare a nine-day state of emergency in the state of Sarawak, a major tourist destination on the Malaysian part of Borneo island. The alert was lifted Sunday.

"The haze is not only a national disaster. It has become an international disaster and this will badly affect our tourism sector," Andi Mappi Saming, director-general of tourism in Indonesia, told the Jakarta Post.

Tourism last year replaced petroleum as Malaysia's second largest foreign exchange earner, bringing in some \$4.5 billion.

The falling Malaysian currency, Chow said, also was hurting business by compelling Malaysian tourists to stay home, cautious about spending money that is rapidly depreciating in value.

The monsoon season in Malaysia is not expected to start for a few weeks. But in Indonesia, also suffering a severe drought, some meteorologists predict El Nino could delay the rains for months.

Christianto Wibisono, an analyst with the Indonesian Data Center, said the smog appears to be adding greater pressure to the Indonesian currency, the rupiah.

The rupiah was trading at a record-low 3.27 to the dollar Tuesday. Its value has fallen a devastating 32 percent since Southeast Asia's currency crisis began in mid-July.

"The market expects the haze will cause trouble for the economy, so the rupiah will lose value," Wibisono said.

In Johore state in southern Malay-

sia, farmers export \$33 million in vegetables each year. Vegetable production had fallen 70 percent due to lack of sunlight, said Tan Ka, secretary of the Klang Vegetable Association.

Further south, the \$7.3 billion tourism industry in Singapore has already been hit. Michael Lim of the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board said the haze would continue to curb arrivals through October.

Governments worldwide are warning their citizens to stay away, noting that tens of thousands of Southeast Asians have sought medical treatment for respiratory illnesses.

The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade updated its advisory Tuesday, saying that travelers to Malaysia, Brunei or nearby parts of Indonesia "should be aware of the impact of smog... which can have a detrimental effect on health."

Meanwhile, rescue workers on Tuesday recovered the bodies of two victims of Friday's collision between a cargo ship and a supertanker in the Straits of Malacca. Twenty-seven people remained missing and are believed dead.



Life returned to normal in Kuching after the state of emergency was lifted and the API level dropped to 36 at midday. Students returned to their classes too and these girls walk to school along the Riverfront after a week of closure. AP

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION SALE

Manitowoc
 ICE MACHINES & REFRIGERATORS

\$2850.00 Now \$1995	\$3550.00 Now \$2485	\$3400.00 Now \$2445

SPLIT TYPE AIR CONDITIONER

18K.....	\$1559
24K.....	\$1779
30K.....	\$1805
36K.....	\$1995

9K-60K Available Now!

JWS REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING, LTD.
 HOTEL & RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES
 •Authorized Distributor

Saipan Office
 Tel: (670) 235-5572
 Fax: (670) 235-5573

"Power to the People"
 "Mas FUET'SA
 para i TAOTAO"

ATALIG
 JOAQUIN QUITUGUA

FOR
 SENATOR '97
 (LUTA)

AGAINST FEDERAL TAKEOVER

Peak Power

JEEP WRANGLER

Starting at:
\$ 26,575

When the U.S. Army requested "general purpose vehicle" prototypes in 1940, only the Willys® built Jeep vehicle exceeded initial power specifications - having greater displacement, horsepower and torque than other prototypes delivered. We all know the rest of the story. That proud heritage of power continues today. The 4.0-litre six-cylinder engine standard on Wrangler Sport and Sahara kicks out 181 horsepower, 222 pound-feet of torque, and is the most powerful in its class. Peaking at 120 horses and 140 pound-feet of torque, the 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine standard on Wrangler SE is among the class leaders in power as well.

Jeep

THERE'S ONLY ONE KEICO MOTORS THE POWER OF CHOICE

SAIPAN:
 LOCATED ON AIRPORT ROAD
 NEXT TO THRIFTY CAR RENTAL
 TEL.: 234-0173

To All Citizens of the Commonwealth

If you did not vote in the last election or you are a new voter, you must report to the Board of Election no later than October 2, 1997, to register to vote in this General Election.

This is an exciting election year since we'll be choosing a team to carry our beloved islands into the new century. And every vote counts. Your vote counts! We urge each and every one of you to exercise your right to vote on November 1, 1997.

The Board of Election has set up the following business hours:

Wednesday, October 1: 7:30 AM - 9:30 PM
Thursday, October 2: 7:30 AM - 12:00 MIDNIGHT

Get answers to any questions you may have by calling the Board of Elections at 233-1061.



Your vote is important to us. Please vote on November 1, 1997.

*Na'i Animu
Giving it Your Best!*

Si Yuuse Masse Ginen si Lang & Gere yan i Familia siha!

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Mayor Jesus DLGuerrero

PARA TODO CIUDADANON I COMMONWEALTH

Yangin ti man-bota hao gi ma'pos na eleccion pat yangin nuebu hao na bibota, debi di un ma-rehistra pot mas atrasao 2 Octubre 1997, para un sina man bota gi 1 Noviembre 1997 na Eleccion. Sina hao ma-rehistra gi Oficinan i Board of Election giya Garapan. Esti na Oficina ma-bababa:

Mietkoles, 1 Octubre 7:30 AM - 9:30 PM
Huebes, 2 Octubre 7:30 AM - 12:00 MIDNIGHT

Gaigi giya hita dangkulu na inangogu pago na eleccion sa para uta-bota oficiales ni para u-gia i isla-ta halom gi nuebo na "Siglo 2000". I botu-mo mi' bali! Kon respeto, in-sosohyu na in-protehi i direchon miyo man-bota gi 1 Noviembre 1997.

Para mas infotmacion pot asunton eleccion, pot fabot agang i Board of Elections, telefon: 233-1061



I botun miyo sumen impottanti para hami. Pot fabot fan bota gi 1 Noviembre 1997.

*Na'i Animu!
Giving it Your Best!*

Si Yuus Maase. Ginen as Lang yan Gere yan i Familian niha!

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Mayor Jesus DLGuerrero

Japan vehicle exports rise

TOKYO (AP) - Japan's exports of cars, trucks and buses surged 41.6 percent in August, rising from year-earlier levels for the 15th straight month, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association announced Tuesday.

A spokeswoman for the associa-

tion attributed the sharp rise, to 369,659 vehicles, to demand for vehicles not produced abroad, such as sports-utility models.

Exports of passenger cars jumped 48.1 percent to 290,314, truck exports rose 21.5 percent to 74,779 and bus exports grew 33.7 percent to

4,566.

Exports to the United States grew 28.3 percent to 91,589 vehicles, compared with a 22.2 percent rise in July.

The spokeswoman added that Japan's auto exports likely would continue to grow at the same pace in September due to continued strong overseas demand for sports-utility models.

In July, exports rose 32.3 percent to 429,933 vehicles.

Honda posted the highest rise, up 102.9 percent to 52,087, boosted by strong shipments of its popular C-RV sports utility model to North America and Europe.

Next was Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd., up 64.8 percent to 11,552, followed by Mazda Motor Corp., up

63.4 percent to 38,750. Exports by Toyota Motor Corp., Japan's leading automaker, rose 27.9 percent to 118,597.

Exports to Latin America grew the most, up 97.8 percent to 39,679.

Exports to the EU were also strong, up 47.7 percent to 75,999, followed by the Middle East, up 33.3 percent to 32,153.



Traders on the Tokyo Stock Exchange contemplate as the stock prices fall during the morning session Wednesday. The benchmark 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average fell 78.32 points, or 0.44 percent, to finish the morning session at 17,809.39 points. AP

China '97 steel output levels at 101M tons

BEIJING (AP) - China will produce about the same amount of steel in 1997 as it did last year, while at the same time working to improve quality and reduce imports, a top industry official says.

China's steel output this year should equal the 101.1 million tons produced in 1996, when it became the largest steel producer in the world, said Liu Qi, Minister of Metallurgical Industry.

The government will emphasize

upgrading technology at iron and steel companies, even at the cost of workers jobs, the Xinhua News Agency quoted Liu as saying.

"To get the job done, you need money and the best kind of technology and you have to make proper arrangements for re-employment of those workers laid off as a result of the technological upgrading," Liu said.

China has 106 iron and steel companies, most of them set up during the mid-1950's with assistance from the

Soviet Union. While the companies produce a glut of low-technology intensive steel, they are unable to meet the country's demand for value-added products.

The government plans to build about five new iron and steel companies this year which can manufacture international-quality steel, Xinhua said.

It said that last year, China imported 16 million tons of steel, a 15 percent increase over 1995 levels. It exported 5 million tons.

Seoul expands E. coli tests for US meat

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - The South Korean government on Tuesday ordered expanded tests of beef imported from the U.S. state of Nebraska to check whether it is contaminated with E. coli bacteria.

South Korean quarantine officials detected E. coli bacteria last week on the surface of frozen and sliced beef bought from IBP Inc. of the United States. The meat came from Nebraska.

South Korean officials immediately ordered a local importer to return or destroy 18 tons of Nebraska

beef kept in warehouses.

But U.S. Department of Agriculture officials said the presence of E. coli on the outside of the beef does not violate U.S. regulations because the organism would be killed in cooking.

It would be a violation only if it were found in ground beef, where the organism could be mixed into the center and possibly escape the degree of heat required to kill it, they said.

It is the first time that the bacteria has been found in beef imported from abroad.

About 97,000 pounds (44,000 kilograms) of beef has been imported from the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Canada in the first eight months of this year. U.S. beef accounted for 60 percent of the total.

South Korea plans to import 16,700 tons of beef from abroad this year.

Firm denies responsibility for killer cough medicine

By ELAINE KURTENBACH

BEIJING (AP) - The Chinese firm that reportedly supplied a tainted chemical used in an anti-fever medication that killed at least 80 Haitian children has denied responsibility for the tragedy.

An official at SinoChem International Chemicals Co., who refused to identify himself by name or title, said Tuesday there was "no evidence" that his firm had supplied the tainted glycerin that poisoned the children.

"We sell raw materials to other countries and other companies make products after processing and sell them to other countries. There is no relation with us," the official said.

He said the case required further investigation.

The Haitian children fell ill after they took an over-the-counter cough syrup containing glycerin contaminated with diethylene glycol, a chemical usually used in lacquer and anti-freeze.

The U.S. television network CBS reported Sunday on its program "60 Minutes" that the glycerin had been traced through European companies to the state-owned Chinese firm.

The potentially embarrassing report surfaced at a time when officials in both China and the United States are seeking to minimize controversy ahead of Chinese President Jiang Zemin's state visit to Washington in late October.

Officials at China's Foreign Ministry declined comment Monday on the issue.

Ingestion of diethylene glycol can cause kidney failure, hepatitis, pancreatitis and severe neurological problems.

2 Air Force jets crash in Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - Two Taiwanese air force jets crashed into a mountain Tuesday near the eastern city of Hualien, killing three crew members, the air force reported.

The air force spokesman's office said the planes were an F-5E single-seater and an F-5F two-seat plane carrying an instructor and trainee pilot.

An initial investigation showed they had flown separately into a mountain during low-altitude training, air force spokesman Gen. Lee Chun-ming told a news conference.

Early reports had said the planes collided in mid-flight.

Rescue teams had recovered the fliers' bodies, and the accident's cause was still being investigated, Lee said. Despite fog and drizzling rain, weather and wind conditions were deemed safe enough to fly at the time of the crash, he said.

The planes were from the air force's 8th Tactical Fighter Group based at Hualien, 110 kilometers (68 kilometers) southeast of Taipei.

Taiwan operates more than 200 American designed F-5s, some of which have been in service for more than 20 years. The type makes up the bulk of Taiwan's fleet of more than 300 fighters.

It is replacing them with more advanced F-16 fighters from the United States and French Mirage 2000-5s in a major air defense upgrade. It also has put into commission its Indigenous Defense Fighter, developed at a time when Western governments were refusing to sell Taiwan advanced military aircraft due to objections from Beijing.

Taiwan has been separated politically from mainland China since 1949, when it became the last refuge of the Nationalist government of Chiang Kai-shek. The Nationalists still govern Taiwan in rivalry with the Communist Party that rules on the mainland.



Hundreds of flag-waving spectators turn up at a ceremony to raise China's national flag at Hong Kong's Convention Center, Wednesday to celebrate China's National Day for the first time since the territory was returned to Chinese rule by Britain on July 1. AP

Hun Sen gov't blames media for Cambodia's poor post-coup image

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) - Angered by recent setbacks in achieving international legitimacy, the regime of Cambodian leader Hun Sen accused the media Tuesday of inaccurately reporting on the events that led to his violent takeover of power in July.

In an 86-page report, the government said that "confusion" about circumstances leading to pitched battles in the capital July 5-6 that resulted in the ouster of co-prime minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh "has been compounded by erroneous information presented by the foreign media."

Hun Sen rapidly consolidated his power in Cambodia after the takeover, but he has failed to win international acceptance, partly because he shattered a coalition put in place in 1993 in elections held under the most costly United Nations peacekeeping mission ever mounted.

The United Nations has refused to award either faction Cambodia's seat in the General Assembly - seen as a defeat more for Hun Sen than Ranariddh - and the International Monetary Fund and World Bank have suspended loans to his government.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations has put Cambodia's membership on indefinite hold, apparently

until Hun Sen makes good on promises to hold new elections next year. And Ranariddh's men still resist total military defeat.

In an effort to improve the government's image, the Foreign Ministry sent 100 copies of its new report to the United Nations this week.

Hun Sen and Ranariddh are to meet separately Tuesday with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan in New York to plead their cases, U.N. officials in Cambodia said.

The report said that there have been conflicting and inaccurate reports about the situation in Cambodia since the July fighting, worsened by the foreign media.

"Some of the misinterpretations of events by reporters who are based outside of Cambodia happened because of the lack of knowledge about the local situation," it said. "For those correspondents who are based in Cambodia, they frequently have their own ax to grind."

Many journalists covering Cambodia were friends of members of Ranariddh's royalist FUNCINPEC party dating from the 1980s, when the group was part of a resistance coalition against the Vietnam-backed government Hun Sen then led, the report said.



PORT OF CALL Sports Bar, Tinian

Miller Time MONDAY
All Night Long
\$1.75

OLEAI BEACH BAR & GRILL

"Blue Monday" with **Dr. Bill & The House Rockers**
Every Monday in October
9:00pm to 2:00am

Promotional Giveaways

FRIDAY Miller NFL Family Night

Miller NFL T-Shirt Giveaways

BUD'S BAR

Monday AND Saturday SPECIAL
\$2.50

RITZY'S CAFE

Order Lunch, and get an "Ice Cold" Miller Lite for only \$1.50
NFL Lunch Specials MONDAY - FRIDAY 11am-2pm

CORNER POCKET

Doubles Pool Tournament every Wednesday
\$2.00
THINK WHEN YOU DRINK

Palau National Communications Corporation PNCC
PNCC RFP NO.: 97-05
CLOSING ON: 10/3/97

REQUEST FOR BID PROPOSALS

FOR LANDSCAPING PLAN FOR PNCC HEADQUARTERS

Palau National Communications Corporation (PNCC) is now accepting bid proposals from an Entity or an individual to provide landscaping design services for its Headquarters located in Airai, in particular, to provide a landscape design and then assist in the implementation of that design. Proposals should include (1) Cost of the proposed Design, (2) hourly rate for design implementation (specify maximum hours) (3) Time frame for completion of project, (4) An example of the specific plants, trees, grass, flowers, etc. to be planted, (5) Specify years of experience in this specific area, (6) List of references, and (7) List of specific projects and, if available, photos of completed projects. Bidder is responsible for all necessary state and national permits, taxes and fees. Interested bidders may contact O'Brien O. Ngemaes, Purchasing Manager, for more details and more information.

PNCC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. A submission of an offer or proposal gives PNCC the right to solicit recommendations and references from previous and present employers as to reliability and competence among other qualifications.

Proposals must be received no later than **Friday, October 03, 1997 at 4:00 p.m. Palau Time** at PNCC Headquarters Building located at Ngerusar, Airai State. All proposals must be sealed and addressed to O'Brien Ngemaes, Purchasing Manager, P.O. Box 99, Koror, Palau 96940 with RFP Number written outside the envelope.

Proposals will be opened and reviewed on Monday, October 6, at 9:30 a.m. at PNCC Headquarters Building, Airai. Bidders need not be present at the Bid Opening. All bidders will be informed of the results.

/s/ Matthew Link
General Manager
Date: 9-18-97

Palau National Communications Corporation PNCC
PNCC RFP NO.: 97-06
CLOSING ON: 10/3/97

REQUEST FOR BID PROPOSALS

FOR SECURITY GUARD SERVICE

Palau National Communications Corporation (PNCC) is now accepting bid proposals for Security Guard Service for its Headquarters Building in Airai. Security Guards services will be required from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. on work days and 24 hours on week-end and holidays. Proposals should include expected annual service fee, years of experience in this area as well as list of at least 3 references. Prospective contractor will need to be bonded. Bidder is responsible for all necessary state and national permits, taxes, and fees as well as transportation to the work site. Interested bidders may contact O'Brien O. Ngemaes, Purchasing Manager, for more details and more information.

PNCC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. A submission of an offer or proposal gives PNCC the right to solicit recommendations and references from previous and present employers as to reliability and competence among other qualifications.

Proposals must be received no later than **Friday, October 03, 1997 at 4:00 p.m. Palau Time** at PNCC Headquarters Building located at Ngerusar, Airai State. All proposals must be sealed and addressed to O'Brien O. Ngemaes, Purchasing Manager, P.O. Box 99, Koror, Palau 96940 with RFP No. written outside the envelope.

Proposals will be opened and reviewed on Monday, October 6, at 9:30 a.m. at PNCC Headquarters Building, Airai. Bidders need not be present at the Bid Opening. All bidders will be informed of the results.

/s/ Matthew Link
General Manager
Date: 9-18-97

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for the SAIPAN HARBOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TEMPORARY PAVING AND DRAINAGE SYSTEM, AT SAIPAN TANAPAG HARBOR, SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA Project No. CPA-SS-002-97 will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 1055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950 until 2:00 P.M., Friday, October 03, 1997, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project provides for the asphaltic concrete (AC) paving of 18,120 square yards (SY) of the new Dock operations area, and the main Dock access road. The areas to be paved shall comprise of a 2.5' thick overlay over a 6" pit run coral base course. In addition, eight (8) catch basins will be installed in the low-lying areas of the new container yard to provide a temporary drainage system. All aspects of this Project shall be in accordance with the plans and specifications. Construction must be performed without interrupting on-going port operations and concurrently with other construction activities of the Dock.

Proposals submitted must be available for acceptance for a period up to 120 days after the designated date for opening of proposals. CPA may award a contract on the basis of the initial offer received without negotiations. Therefore, the initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms.

The Project is being financed by funds from the CPA. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within two months (2) from the receipt of proposals. Depending upon availability of funds, CPA reserves the right to uphold such proposal in effect for four (4) months from the date of proposal opening.

This contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended, of September 24, 1965, the Federal Labor Provisions and the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) provisions as contained in the contract, specifications and proposal documents.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI Government. CNMI prevailing minimum wage shall apply consistent with Section 70-24 of the general provisions.

Each proposer must complete, sign and furnish, prior to award of the contract the "Proposer's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause," a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities" (See Specifications).

Required Notices for All Contractors

- The proposer must supply all the information required by the proposal forms and specifications.
- The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, hereby notifies all proposers that they (proposers) must affirmatively insure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for award.

The proposer's attention is invited to the fact that the proposed contract shall be under and subject to the equal opportunity clause as set forth in Part III, Section 302(b) of Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1997, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Acquisition Regulations, to the contract and labor provisions as set forth in Section 152.55 and Appendix H, Part 152, of the Federal Acquisition Regulations, and to the applicable provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252) implemented by Part 21 of the Regulations of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation. Also, the proposed contract will be subject to the Contractor's Certification of non-segregated facilities.

The apparent low proposer and any known first tier subcontractor will be subject to a pre-award, equal opportunity compliance review by representative of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, before the award of the contract for the purpose of determining whether the proposer and/or his subcontractors are able to comply with the provisions of the equal opportunity clause.

If the proposer has participated in a previous contract subject to the equal opportunity clause and has not submitted compliance reports as required by applicable instructions, the proposer shall submit, prior to award of contract, a compliance report covering the delinquent period.

A proposer or prospective prime contractor or proposed subcontractor shall be required to submit such information as the Office of Federal Contract Compliance may request prior to the award of a contract or subcontract. When a determination has been made to award the contract or subcontract to a specified contractor, such contractor shall be required, prior to award, or after the award, or both to furnish such other information as requested.

Contract documents, including plans and specifications, may be examined at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, or can be obtained from this office upon payment of FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00) for each set of plans documents. This amount is non-refundable. Payment shall be made by check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at the CPA HARBOR PROJECT SITE OFFICE, at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 26, 1997, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Consultant, Efran F. Camacho Engineers and Architects, in writing, at least five (5) days in advance for answers at this pre-proposal conference, with a copy of same mailed simultaneously to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority. Attendance at this pre-proposal conference and site visit are considered essential to the potential contractor's understanding of the project elements.

Each prospective proposer shall file with the Commonwealth Ports Authority, a notice of his/her intention to propose in a form substantially similar to that supplied in the specifications, not less than six (6) calendar days prior to the date hereinabove designated for opening of proposals.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in accordance with Section 3.2(7) of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ CARLOS A. SHODA
Executive Director

Dated: September 9, 1997

FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVERTISING (INVITATION FOR PROPOSAL/NOTICE TO PROPOSERS)

- The proposed contract is under the subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended of September 24, 1965, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.
- All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI law.
- Each proposer must supply all the information required by the proposal documents and specifications.
- The (EEO) requirements, labor provisions and wage rate are included in the specifications and proposal documents and are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.
- Each Proposer must complete, sign and furnish, prior to award of the contract (at submission of the proposal), the Proposer's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause, and the "Certifications of Non-Segregated Facilities" as contained in the Bid Proposals.
- A contractor having 50 or more employees and his subcontractors having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract \$50,000 or more will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications.
- To be eligible for award, each proposer must comply with the affirmative action requirements which are contained in the specification.
- In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.
- Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards of requirements for this employment of minorities.

House panel OKs funds for China rights monitoring

By SLOBODAN LEKIC
WASHINGTON (AP) - A U.S. House of Representatives panel voted to increase funding for U.S. government-sponsored radio broadcasts to China and to improve monitoring of human rights violations by U.S. diplomatic posts there.

"One of the great deficiencies in our own embassy in Beijing and in our consulates is a lack of personnel dedicated to monitoring human rights in that very large country," said Rep. Chris Smith, one of the cosponsors of the measure.

The 4.22 million authorized by the bill for each of the next two years would pay for 10-20 additional officials in the embassy in Beijing and American consulates in Guangzhou, Shanghai, Shenyang, Chengdu and Hong Kong.

"We need to have better eyes and ears," Smith said Monday. "That's

what this bill is designed to do."

In its introductory section, the bill said that only one diplomat in the U.S. embassy is currently assigned to monitoring human rights.

The State Department disputes that. The Clinton administration opposes the bill because it seeks to micromanage the organization of the foreign service.

Several Republicans on the Committee on International Relations opposed the measure, which claimed that political repression in China had increased in 1996, and that human rights abuses - including torture - were widespread.

"This is such harsh language," said Rep. Jay Kim. "I'm a little concerned how the Chinese government will react when they read this."

The committee also voted to increase funding for Radio Free Asia from the present figure of \$30 million

to \$40 million annually.

Radio Free Asia was established in the spring of 1996 to promote democracy in Asia's remaining authoritarian countries. Vietnam, China and North Korea are among the primary targets of the broadcasts.

In August, the State Department said China was trying to jam the broadcasts.

Sponsors said the measure was necessary to combat what they described as an effort by Beijing to censor the free flow of information into China, including placing strict restrictions on computer networks.

"I agree with the sponsors of the bill that promotion of democracy and human rights is an important element of our foreign policy," said Rep. Lee Hamilton of Indiana, the ranking Democrat on the panel.

Administration, GOP near compromise on trade bill

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. President Bill Clinton, already under fire from labor unions and environmental groups over his efforts to promote free trade, is apparently giving more ground in an effort to keep his proposal alive in the Republican-controlled Congress.

Senate Republicans said Tuesday they believed they had reached agreement that Clinton would drop all efforts to force countries to accept improved standards on worker rights and the environment as central elements of future free trade agreements.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman William Roth unveiled a draft bill that differed sharply from a proposal Clinton put forward earlier this month in the area of worker rights and the environment.

Roth's proposal specifically prohibits any global negotiations on worker rights or environmental protections from being considered under expedited congressional procedures that require an up-or-down vote without amendments.

Clinton is seeking so-called fast-track negotiating authority to expand the North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico to other countries in Latin America and beyond.

The Roth measure was to be voted on by the full Finance Committee on Wednesday and committee spokeswoman Ginny Flynn said supporters believed the Roth proposal would attract widespread support from both Republicans and Democrats.

U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, who has been leading the administration's negotiations with congressional Republicans, indicated the White House still had some reservations but believed a compromise was possible.

"I think the (Roth) bill contains a number of constructive provisions and approaches," she told reporters after testifying before the House Ways and Means Committee. "We certainly don't agree with all of the bill. But in the main, it is quite consistent with the administration's approach."

Flynn said there had been a posi-

tive reaction to Roth's proposal by the administration and subject to a one-hour briefing held with Democrats and Republicans on the committee Tuesday.

While the prospects for gaining approval of fast-track authority were brightening in the Senate, House Speaker Newt Gingrich warned that Clinton's proposal was in "deep trouble" on the House side because of an aggressive effort to kill the measure by labor unions.

"I got an estimate this morning that there may be as few as 14 Democratic votes for the bill," Gingrich said in a speech at the National Press Club. "Unless the president personally engages, I don't see how he's going to get fast track done because he today has almost no Democrats willing to work with him on this issue."

In an effort to counter arguments that free trade means lost American jobs, the Commerce Department released a report showing that 90 percent of 253 metropolitan areas experienced growth in export sales last year.



President Clinton and Col. Gregory Gardner, center, escort outgoing Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. John Shalikashvili after inspecting the troops at Fort Myer in Arlington, Va. Tuesday during a farewell ceremony for Shalikashvili. The president praised him as one of the greatest chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. AP

Trial bares 'porno in cockpit'

By JEFFREY GOLD
NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) - For years, airline pilots have been leaving little surprises in the cockpit for the next crew: dirty pictures slipped into flight manuals, hidden behind equipment panels and stuffed into seatbacks.

The practice was usually good for laughs back when pilots were an all-male fraternity and flight attendants were known as stewardesses.

Nowadays, though, the practice is at the center of a lawsuit by a woman pilot who is suing Continental Airlines for sexual harassment.

"It's like hanging up a 'men's only' sign on the occupation," said Francine Moccio, director of the Institute for Women and Work, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. "The playing field has changed. What was a big, funny joke 20 years ago is now illegal."

Capt. Tammy S. Blakey, who is seeking unspecified damages, accuses Continental of failing to keep cockpits free of pornographic pictures glued to the bottom of drawers, behind panels marked with an X, and in flight manuals.

She testified at the trial, which began Sept. 10 in federal court in Newark, New Jersey, that her complaints prompted the company to retaliate by questioning her attendance record, sending her to the company psychiatrist and forcing her to take extra qualifying tests.

She also said male pilots got back at her by scrawling her name on graphic photos, including one of a naked woman penetrated sexually with a bloody saber.

Houston-based Continental says Blakey's complaints began only after her schedule changed in 1991 and after the company raised concerns about poor attendance. The airline says it responded promptly and alerted pilots that offensive material was banned from cockpits.

Moccio, who is not involved in the Blakey case, said the scenario painted by Blakey is similar to those in other male-dominated fields such as construction, the military, and police and fire departments.

"What's happening is that the customs and traditions of the men in that occupation are tough to resist change," Moccio said. "They say, 'Why should we change for just a handful?'"

Women accounted for just 2.6 percent, or 3,346, of the United States' 127,486 airline pilots in 1996, more than double their number in 1987, according to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Blakey, 38, was hired in 1984. In 1990 she became the first woman at Continental to attain the rank of captain of an Airbus A300, a jet that carries up to 272 passengers, she testified.

Woman pilot brings sexual harassment suit vs Continental

Blakey has been on unpaid leave since mid-1993. She says she wanted to come back in 1994 after her daughter was born. But the company says she made no effort to return.

Male pilots do not dispute that pornography was standard cockpit fare in the industry, but claim it was done discreetly and is now disappearing.

A senior pilot at Newark-based Kiwi International Airlines, speaking on condition of anonymity, recalled that when he worked at the now-failed Eastern Airlines, women pilots would swap the "girlie" pictures with shots of scantily-clad men.

The president of Women in Aviation International, a pilots group based in Alexandria,

Ohio, said the atmosphere is getting better for women.

"Overall, the industry attitude is very positive," Peggy Baty said. "The incident at Continental is certainly an isolated case from my understanding and people I talk to."

That sentiment is not shared by Amanda Butler, a former flight attendant for Continental Express, who is suing that airline and parent Continental, charging they failed to respond adequately to her sexual harassment complaint.

Butler, 26, of Houston, is also suing a pilot, Rainer E. Krebs, accusing him of superimposing a photograph of her face on pictures of nude and bikini-clad women in 1995, then showing

her other allegations. Butler flew for Continental Express in 1995 and 1996, when she quit. She said racy pictures were still available to pilots.

"I had seen it in the cockpit," Butler said Friday. "What happened to me was a little bit different, in that I actually became the pornography."

REMINGTON CLUB - AMERICAN STYLE BAR

Avail our happy hour half the price from 5:00-7:00 p.m. daily.
Come one, Come all and let's enjoy the alluring performance of the **BIG BEATS BAND.**
Every night (except Tuesdays)
Infront of Dai-Ichi Hotel
Tel # 234-5449

HEAVY DUTY TYPHOON SHUTTERS

Residential • Commercial • Churches • Hotels
ACCORDION SHUTTERS
with lock & key-maximum protections: typhoon, sun/rain, security and vandalism deterrent

PANEL SHUTTERS
practical & economical

DON'T WAIT FOR ANOTHER TYPHOON DAYS WITHOUT THE PROTECTIONS OF AMS TYPHOON SHUTTERS CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE NOW

AMS Alliance Metal Specialties

TEL: 288-2678 FAX: 288-7887

VISIT US AT: basement warehouse, across from Saipan Health Clinic, As Lito 8:00AM - 5:00PM MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00AM-12:00 NOON SATURDAY

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION Office of the Board of Directors

NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) hereby calls a Special Meeting on Thursday, October 2, 1997, at 10:00 a.m. in the CUC Conference Room in Lower Base, Saipan. The following will be discussed and/or acted upon:

I. Power & Water Projects

Pursuant to Section 13, subsections (4), (5), (6) and (7), some discussion of the above may be under Executive Session.

All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ BENJAMIN A. SABLAN
Chairman

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) at the Saipan International Airport is looking for applicants for the following positions:

4 (four) Ports Police Officers I

The employees in this class is responsible for performing specific functions of the airport security including compliance with FAR 107 (federal regulation) which governs the airport security program at CPA. This class is an entry level and responsible for developing skills to effectively perform airport security procedures.

The minimum qualifications for the position is any combination equivalent to graduation from high school or GED, and an AA degree in police science, law enforcement or related field from an accredited U.S. College or University with strong desire to establish a career at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The pay range is Pay Level 22-1, or a minimum of \$610 bi-weekly to a maximum of \$1,005.05 bi-weekly (PL 22/12), depending on qualifications.

Interested applicants must pick up applications at the Ports Police Office on the first floor of the Arrival Building or at the Administration Office on the second floor of the same building. Applications must be accompanied by an updated police clearance. The deadline for submission of application is October 10, 1997 at 4:30 p.m. For more information, please call CPA at 664-3500.

REGINO M. CELIS
Saipan Airport Manager

Let's face it. Governor Froilan Tenorio's opponents will have you believe that he doesn't deserve to be re-elected just because he's made some people angry AND because he changes his mind too much.

It's true, Governor Tenorio has made people mad because he is not afraid to stand up and change what is wrong with the CNMI. As for changing his mind, he's only human and he'd have you believe no differently. When he knows he's wrong, he will change his mind in the interest of making the right decision for the people. Isn't that what we want in a true leader?

How many times in one day do YOU change YOUR mind?

We want someone who is human and not afraid to admit mistakes and stand up to people whose ideas and actions will only harm us in the long run — we want someone who will take a stand for the people even if it will cost him political points and his popularity. Times are tough, and the NMI needs honesty, even if it hurts a little. We don't need young upstarts to confuse us with nice-sounding words, but no action and no truth behind those words. Governor Tenorio has served with honor, not to win favor from the old-fashioned politicians who are only in it for themselves. As Governor he has taken the often difficult steps to make the hard, unpopular decisions that have successfully protected and benefited our people and our self-government.

Governor Tenorio and Mayor Jesus DL Guerrero will lead us in the new century with the same commitment to stand up for us and make tough decisions to ensure our prosperity and the preservation of our self-government.

Nai Animu Marianas!

NO FEDERAL TAKEOVER

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Mayor Jesus S. DL Guerrero

Vote for Lang & Gere

Statesiders ... Your Voter Registration Deadline is Near!

That's right.

If you have resided in the CNMI since September 17, 1997, and you are a citizen of the United States, then you are eligible to vote in the upcoming General Election.

But, you must first be registered to vote.

"Why register?"

Because you are now a part of a community that needs your voice to be heard on many important issues. Complaining is pointless; *voting counts!*

"I'm only here for a two year contract."

That's what many our long time stateside residents said when they first came to the CNMI.

The fact is that teachers are still in the classroom long after their initial two year contract expired, and many former government attorneys have "hung their shingle" in private practice. For whatever the reason, a large number of statesiders have remained in the CNMI well beyond their intended stay. So why deny yourself the opportunity to participate in the electoral process; *your vote counts!*

"If I registered last year, am I still eligible to vote this year?"

Good question! If you were registered to vote before the 1996 Constitutional Convention, but did *not* vote, then you *must* register again. CNMI law requires that you vote in every election to keep your registration valid.

Registration *is* easy! Bring with you to the Board of Elections a valid U.S. Passport or CNMI driver's license and your social security number.

"Enough! Just tell me where I need to go to get registered to vote."

The Board of Elections, located on Beach Road across the street from the Garapan Fire Substation, will extend its office hours to meet the October 2 registration deadline.

Monday, September 29: 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 30: 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 1: 7:30 a.m.- 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 2: 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 midnight

While other's only talk, you can take action. **Register today!**

Get answers to any questions you have by calling the Board of Elections, 233-1061

*Nai Animu Lang & Gere
Giving it our best!*

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Mayor Jesus DLGuerrero

VOTE DEMOCRAT

Lobby on for NATO expansion



Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott of Mississippi, right, talks with Hungarian Foreign Affairs Minister Laszlo Kovacs, third from right, on Capitol Hill Tuesday during a meeting between senators at foreign ministry leaders from Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic to discuss NATO expansion. AP

By LAURA MYERS
WASHINGTON (AP) - Foreign ministers from Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic are lobbying senators to approve their NATO membership, showcasing a united front they hope to bring to the alliance.

Calling their new-found kinship "a rather unusual twist of history," the Czech envoy said Monday the nations are working closely to gain final alliance acceptance to help ensure peace for an oft-divided Europe.

"The fact that the three countries are represented here today together is not an aberration," Czech Deputy Foreign Minister Karel Kovanda said as he stood outside the White House with his peers.

President Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, who met with the diplomats, declared, "I don't at this stage see any insurmountable difficulty" for gaining Senate approval of NATO expansion.

On Tuesday, Kovanda, Polish Foreign Minister Dariusz Rosati and

Hungarian Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs were meeting with senators on Capitol Hill, including Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott and the Senate NATO Observer Group, which includes NATO expansion critics.

"We'll be trying to do whatever we can to convince the still unconvinced that NATO enlargement is something that is good both for America and for security in Europe," Rosati said.

With Clinton's strong support, the 16-nation NATO in July invited Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to join the military alliance by 1999. Now, each of the current members' legislatures must ratify the amended treaty to accept the new

memberstates, formerly members of the old Soviet-led Warsaw Pact.

In Washington, where a two-thirds vote in the Senate is needed, most senators support the three countries as worthy central European candidates, but many lawmakers are concerned about the idea of expanding NATO's territory toward its former Cold War foe, Russia.

"I've been candid with them as to the possibilities of difficulties in the Senate, but likewise the potential for success," said Republican Sen. Dick Lugar of Indiana, a supporter who met with the three ministers on Monday. "I think the chances of ratification will increase as time goes on."

Lugar is a veteran of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is scheduled next week to open a series of hearings on NATO expansion, with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright the leadoff witness.

Senate skeptics, led by Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, a Texas Republican, believe lawmakers must weigh that accepting new NATO members means taking on new burdens and shaking up the most successful military alliance in history. The NATO charter mandates alliance members treat an attack on one as an attack on all and NATO costs would increase as the alliance expands.

EU opinion supports 'Mad Cow' ban on British beef

LUXEMBOURG (AP) - An opinion from an official of the European Union's highest court said Tuesday the EU ban on British beef exports was justified because it countered a "real risk" of "mad cow" disease.

The opinion by the European Court of Justice's advocate general, Giuseppe Tesouro, came after the ban was challenged by Britain's National Farmers Union, with the government's backing.

The full court is expected to rule on the issue by the end of the year, but the advocate general's opinion often is a good indication which way the ruling will go.

The EU's executive commission banned exports of British beef in March 1996 after researchers linked mad cow disease to a fatal human ailment, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

Tesouro said that the gravity of mad cow disease, or bovine

spongiform encephalopathy, "constituted a real risk, which vindicates the decision."

The NFU, whose farmers have suffered from the ban, said the EU Commission, which runs the day-to-day affairs of the 15-nation bloc, was acting outside of its mandate when it imposed the ban.

The ban also covers exports to non-EU nations.

"The ban on exports to non-member countries is an indispensable tool for ensuring that the decision is truly effective," Tesouro said.

The ban has proved to be flawed. The EU Commission has said it was aware of illegal exports involving only some 2,200 tons (1,995 metric tons) of beef.

EU spokesman Klaus Van der Pas said the commission's powers to enforce the ban were limited because border controls remained largely the responsibility of the EU's member nations.

Students take on Milosevic

By ANNE THOMPSON
VELANJA, Yugoslavia (AP) - Ethnic Albanian students in Yugoslavia's restive Kosovo province are definitely ready for school to start. They've mapped their routes, mailed their pamphlets and contacted about every human rights group they can think of.

For weeks, student union leaders have been meeting daily at their office - a crumbling red-brick house with paper taped over the windows that blocks the light but not the chill - preparing for a massive protest to demand access to a better university.

Diplomats have tried to stop them. So have local leaders.

Nevertheless, on Wednesday - the first day of the fall semester - 23,000 students and their families are determined to storm the streets.

For seven years, some 16,000 Albanian students have held underground classes, organized in private homes and financed by Kosovo residents.

Last year, President Slobodan Milosevic signed an agreement with the Albanians' outlaw president, Ibrahim Rugova to allow the return of the Albanian students to Serbian schools. But it has never been implemented.

Instead, the Albanians' campus is a village, with no real classrooms, no laboratories and no libraries. Students learn in living rooms, basements and attics, sitting and writing on wooden planks instead of desks.

Meanwhile, just a few miles (kilometers) away in the provincial capital, Pristina, Serb students study at a sweeping state school, with extra room and plenty of facilities.

The universities are just one example of a schizophrenic society where everything is separate and nothing is equal.

Streets signs in two languages. Separate shops and restaurants. Separate health clinics for giving birth to children, who will grow up going to separate schools.

One set is for the ethnic Albanians who make up 90 percent of Kosovo's 1.9 million people; the other is for minority Serbs, whose leaders control the government.

It has been like this since 1989, when Milosevic yanked away the province's autonomy, the first blow in his fight to create a greater Serbia - the fight that started Bosnia's war.

He dissolved Kosovo's government and fired Albanian civil servants. Doctors and teachers either walked off their jobs or were forced out.

In response, Albanians established a parallel administration in Kosovo - including health and education systems - that has been tolerated but always watched by Serb police.

Last year, Milosevic agreed to let Albanians return to state schools starting Oct. 1, 1996, with classes to include Albanian language and history.

Nothing changed, and students are sick of waiting. Inspired by last winter's huge demonstrations in other parts of Yugoslavia, they say their protest will last until Milosevic hears their complaints or sends police to silence them.

"We're not asking the Serb students to leave. We want them to stay," said student union president Bujar Dugolli, a history major. "But we're 90 percent



Slobodan Milosevic of the people here, and we want 90 percent of the rights, and 90 percent of the space."

The students insist the protests will be peaceful and non-political, by which they mean that - unlike other Albanians - they aren't asking for the region's independence. But this is Kosovo, and everything is political - a contest of wills between a government that wants these 80 square miles (207.2 square kilometers) for Serbs and 1.8 million Albanians who aren't about to go away.

Depressing in its poverty and bizarre in its parallel societies, Kosovo already feels like the separate country many Albanians wish they had. Across the invisible border, minarets pierce the horizon, and brick farmhouses are surrounded by walls, protecting Muslim women from prying eyes.

At Pristina University, the library has clusters of white domes, an architectural reference to the distinctive cap worn by Kosovo's Muslim men. Just next door, an Orthodox church, repre-

sending the religion of most Serbs, is being built.

"They don't need to come back to our university," said Dejan Karanovic, a 21-year-old Serb student walking across the campus. "They have their own country in Albania."

Of 18,000 Serbs at the university, only 5,000 are Kosovo natives. The rest come from Bosnia, Croatia and Yugoslavia's Montenegro republic. That still doesn't fill the five dormitories, so one has become housing for refugees from Bosnia's war - another

way to swell the province's Serb minority.

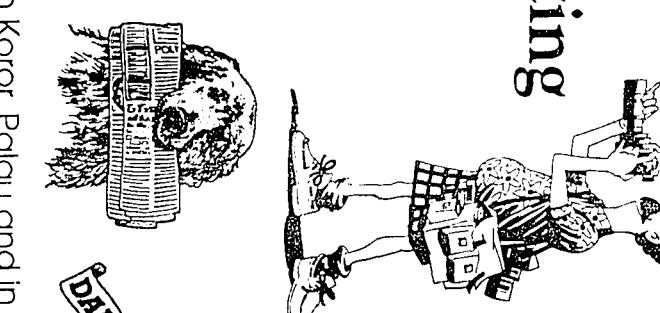
"The situation with schools is absolutely unbearable," says Fehmi Agani, a 69-year-old former sociology professor. "Not even fascism took such measures here. It's the most evident discrimination."

In 1990, the Albanians elected a shadow government, which Milosevic promptly banned. Agani is the vice president, and despite his sympathy, his government doesn't support the student protest.



Advertising in the Marianas Variety is inviting more business, sales and exposure.

The Marianas Variety daily reaches not only the offices but also the homes of many of its readers.



Call the Variety Advertising Rep. to assist you in your advertising plans. Tel. 234-6341/7578/9797. Ask for Bing.

Marianas Variety Newspaper now is distributed daily in many outlets in Koror, Palau and in Kolonia, Pohnpei.

congratulations

JAL

Japan Airlines

on your

20th Year Anniversary

Greetings from:

From the Management & Staff of

Pacific Sky Travel Service

P.O. Box 774, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 235-0942/0943/0944 Fax: (670) 235-0946

International Airlines Travel Agent Network



Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, left, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan, meets at the United Nations with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan Tuesday. AP



U.S. soldiers members of NATO peace force carry the coffins of four U.S. International Policemen, at the U.S. Eagle Air Base near Tuzla Sunday. The men, who served with the UN police in Bosnia, were killed in a helicopter crash on Sept. 17, near Bugojno in Central Bosnia. AP

Criminals traffic woman, EU official says

WASHINGTON (AP) - Criminal organizations still move drugs, arms and stolen cars across borders in Europe. With the collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe, they have added women to the list, a senior European official says.

Anita Gradin, the 15-nation European Union's commissioner for Justice and Immigration, said the former communist bloc countries are replacing Asia, Latin America and Africa, the historic sources of female sex slaves.

On a visit to Washington,

Gradin said Monday she was seeking increased cooperation from the United States in combating the problem. She said first lady Hillary Clinton would join the effort by warning women of the danger when she visits Ukraine, a former Soviet republic, in November.

A spokeswoman for Mrs. Clinton said Ukraine was a stop on a trip the first lady plans to make later in the year, but added Mrs. Clinton had not announced which topics she would address in her travels.

Gradin estimates 500,000

women a year are involved in the sex trade.

"I would say the proportions now are one-third of the women come from developing countries and two-thirds from Eastern Europe," she said.

"Young girls from countries such as Poland are promised good-paying jobs in the West in restaurants and beauty parlors, their papers are taken away from them and then they are forced" into the sex trade in cities like Hamburg, Germany, and Rotterdam and Amsterdam in the Netherlands, Gradin said.

Eek & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



Garfield® by Jim Davis



PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are far more enigmatic and secretive than most other individuals born under your sign...

read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - You mustn't take criticism too much to heart today. It is very likely that the most vocal critics don't understand what you're up to.

DATE BOOK

Today is ROSH HASHANA, it is the 25th day of 1997 and the 12th day of fall.

On this day in 1967, Thurgood Marshall became the first African-American on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Today's WEATHER: On this day in 1993, morning temperatures reached a low of about 32 degrees in northern Iowa.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 1 'I smell - 5 War memento 9 Greek letter 12 Walkway 13 Carry 14 Max - Sy Dow 15 'Witness' extras 17 Female parents 19 - Island (New York City) 21 Opera highlight 22 Shea Stadium Snares 24 Greeting 25 He was Tarzan 26 Judge Lance 27 'Raging Bull' actor 29 Movie rating 31 Mr. Cheney 32 Rooney ID 33 King of Bashan 34 Drivers' org. 35 Norton ID 36 Quickly 38 TV accessory 39 - Francisco 40 Apiece (abbr.) 41 Prophet 42 'Misery' star 44 - College (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.) 46 TV's David 48 Storehouse 51 Work unit 52 Mr. Nolle 54 - Stravinsky 55 Female ruff 56 Wallet fillers 57 Snares

DOWN 1 - - carte 2 Crash 3 Jennifer of 'Friends' 4 Exams 5 - Louis, Mo. 6 Enter (2 wds.) 7 Like - of bricks 8 Soak flax 9 I'm - 'Woman' 10 Amos or Spelling 11 Handle 16 Anderson ID 18 Angel headpiece 20 At that place 22 Dairy drink 23 Type of collar 25 Therefore (Latin) 27 Mend socks 28 Jots 29 Walking step 30 Teri - 34 Not out of the ordinary 36 Breathe with difficulty 37 Meeting to communicate with the dead 39 'Beetle Bailey' character 41 Attended (2 wds.) 42 'Moonstruck' star 43 Swiss river 44 Canceled 45 Eggar ID 47 #6 on the phone key 49 Cooking vessel 50 Bitter vetch 53 Sutherland ID



Steelers face tough road

By Alan Robinson PITTSBURGH (AP) - The Pittsburgh Steelers are badly in need of some road repairs. For nearly two seasons, the pattern has stayed the same - play an AFC Central opponent at home and win.

the division has gotten better." Only the Steelers (10-6) and Jacksonville (9-7) had winning records last season, but the Ravens won three of their first four this season before losing Sunday in San Diego 21-17.

Cowher said winning Sunday will be difficult not because of where the Steelers are playing, but who they are playing. The Ravens have one of the AFC's best offenses - they average 25.4 points, compared to Pittsburgh's 19.75 - and coach Ted Marchibroda has made a habit of turning teams around in his second season on the job.

T'wolves Garnett has no deal

By Ron Lesko MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - Kevin Garnett finally returned to the Twin Cities on Tuesday and joined in for the first time on negotiations on a reported \$120 million contract with the Minnesota Timberwolves.

But after about five hours of meetings at Target Center, Garnett retired to his suburban house without agreeing to an extension as what could be a deal or a deadline loomed for the Wolves.

Meanwhile, Cowher said cornerback Chad Scott, who has played only one full game, and kicker Chris Jacke are questionable. Kicker Norm Johnson will likely be let go as soon as Jacke proves his injured hip has healed, but Jacke has yet to kick this season.

Ivanisevic...

Continued from page 28 (7-2). Second-seeded Carlos Moya was pressured before overcoming wildcard Tommy Haas of Germany 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

Marlins...

Continued from page 28 Kevin Brown and Kirk Rueter duled for six scoreless innings, then departed after seven with game 1-all. Both starters benefited from acrobatic defensive plays.

Yankees...

Continued from page 28 single to Jeter. Lefty Alvin Morman came on and walked O'Neill to load the bases before Eric Plunk came in.

Soccer...

Continued from page 28 Interested players should get into a team and register. Each team has to have 11 players up. The registration for the first division is \$8.00 per player and second division is \$10.00.

KidSpot™ by Dick Rogers

THE PUZZLER I'M MAKING A MOVE ABOUT THE INVASION OF THE ALIEN SPACE TOADS. IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO CALL IT, YOU'LL HAVE TO SOLVE THIS PUZZLE. EACH BOX CONTAINS THREE DOTS WHICH STAND FOR LETTERS. YOU SOLVE THE CODE BY FIGURING OUT WHICH LETTER EACH DOT STANDS FOR, BY THE BOX IT IS IN, AND BY ITS POSITION.

Disney's GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE "EVERYONE WILL LOVE THIS WILD AND FUNNY RIDE!" Now Open WEDNESDAY through SUNDAY! FREE REFILLS EVERY WEDNESDAY! (ON ANY SIZE POPCORN OR PEPSI)

SPORTS

Yankees win in AL opener

By TOM WITHERS
NEW YORK (AP) - That is why they're the defending champions. The New York Yankees, using some leftover magic from their 1996 World Series run, became the first team in postseason history to hit three consecutive home runs, rallying to beat the Cleveland Indians 8-6 Tuesday night in the opener of their AL playoff series.

Trailing Orel Hershiser 5-0 after the first inning and down 6-3 entering the sixth, New York got a game-tying, two-run shot by Tim Lincecum and solos by Derek Jeter and Paul O'Neill to stun the

Indians and give a record crowd of 57,398 in Yankee Stadium a charge like it hadn't felt since last October.

"We felt if we could hold them there, we'd have a chance," Raines said. "Thank goodness we were able to get back in it. ... We always think we have a chance to come back and win."

After an off-day on Wednesday, the best-of-5 series resumes Thursday night with the Indians starting 21-year-old rookie Jaret Wright against Andy Pettitte.

Sandy Alomar hit a three-run homer in Cleveland's five-run first inning off David Cone, who lasted

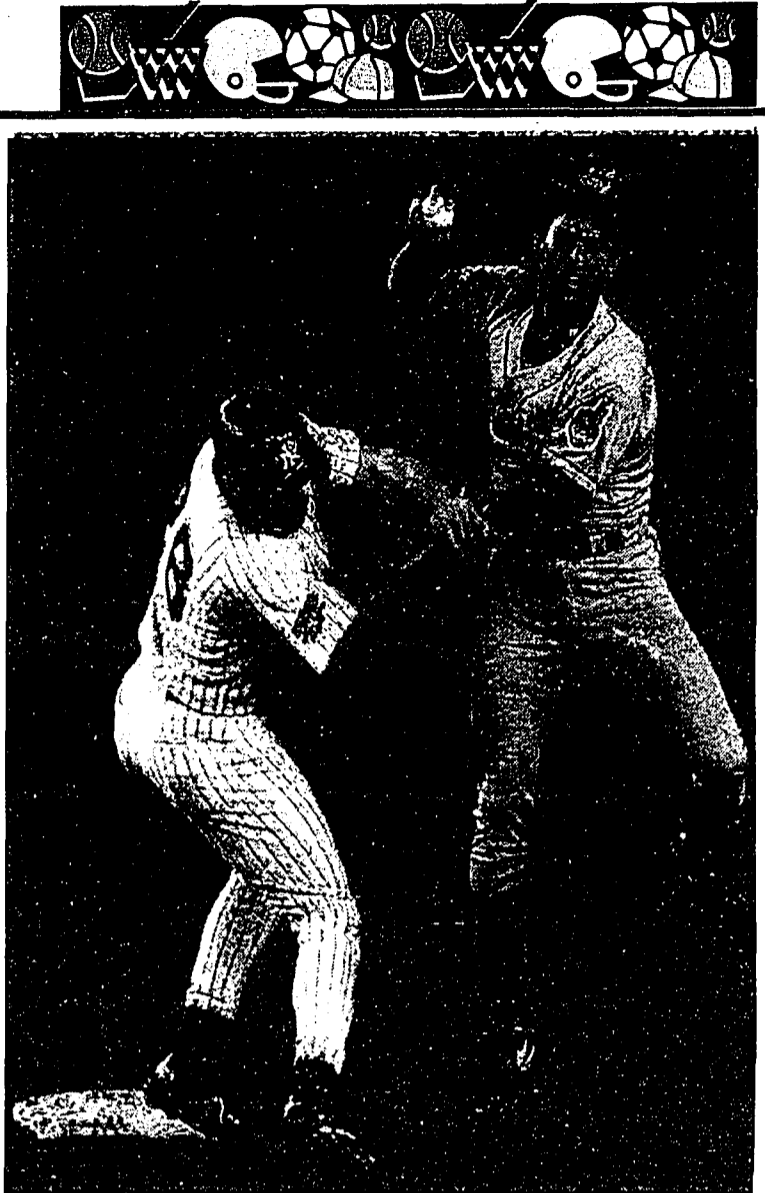
only 3 1-3 innings and must have New York manager Joe Torre thinking about what he'll do for Game 4 - if there is one.

The night got off to an ominous start for the Yankees when long-time stadium announcer Bob Sheppard skipped over Torre during pregame introductions.

Then, New York fell behind by five runs to Hershiser, baseball's preeminent postseason pitcher before chasing the right-hander in the fifth when it closed to 6-3.

Raines' sacrifice fly pulled New York within three, and Hershiser was replaced after giving up a

Continued on page 27



New York Yankees Chad Curtis (28) runs into Cleveland Indians Omar Vizquel at second base to break up the double play on a hit by Yankees' Wade Boggs during the first game of the American League Division Series at Yankee Stadium in New York Tuesday. AP

Marlins take game 1 in NL series

MIAMI (AP) - Edgar Renteria's two-out, bases-loaded single in the bottom of the ninth inning gave Florida a 2-1 victory over the San Francisco Giants in the opening game of their best-of-5 National League division series Tuesday.

The score was tied at 1 when

Jeff Conine, the only Marlins starter who has been with the team since its first game in 1993, began the ninth with a single against Julian Tavarez. Charles Johnson was hit by a pitch attempting to bunt.

After Roberto Hernandez relieved Tavarez, Craig Counsell advanced both runners with a two-

strike sacrifice, and Jim Eisenreich was intentionally walked to load the bases.

Devon White grounded into a forceout at the plate before Renteria singled to the opposite field on a 2-1 pitch. It was the Marlins' 25th win in their final at-bat, most in the majors.

Continued on page 27

Soccer warm-up tourney slated

THE CNMI Football (Soccer) Federation will be having an open soccer warm up tournament for the 1998 League, on November 9th and 16.

The competition will be divided into two divisions—14-17 years old (Open to Junior High/High

Schools both private and public, and especially school drop-out; and 18 years and up (unlimited).

All denominations are encouraged to participate, (Korean, Chinese, Thailand, Locals, American, Churches and anybody who is interested).

According to a news release from the league, the November 9th tournament will be played by the second division which is 18 years and up while November 16th will be for the 14-17 years category.

Continued on page 27



European Ryder Cup team player Costantino Rocca of Italy, right, shakes hands with Tiger Woods after he beat him by 4 and 2 in their singles match on the final day of the Ryder Cup Sunday. At center is European team captain Severiano Ballesteros. AP

Peewee, Midget Central Vikings win their games

By Priscilla T. Castro
 for the Variety

PEEWEE Central Vikings shutout the Western Hurricanes, 6-0 during their Saipan Youth Football League game last Sunday at the Airport Football Field.

Central Vikings' Stan New made the first and final touchdown en route to shutting out the Western Hurricane.

In the second game of the day, the Midget Division's Central Vikings

also defeated the Western Hurricanes 19-6 highlighted by the second quarter by the heroics of Henry Rabauliman.

In the third quarter the Central Vikings made another touchdown courtesy of Galo Tudela, while the Midget Western Hurricanes also made their first touchdown.

In the final quarter, Andres Pua did the final touchdown with Billy Quitano making the extra point to put the Vikings way ahead.

Ivanisevic defeated

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) — It's another brief week for Goran Ivanisevic.

Playing in his first tournament since losing in the first round of the U.S. Open, the third-seeded Ivanisevic was again toppled in opening round, this time in the \$975,000 Swiss Indoors tennis tournament on Tuesday.

It took only 75 minutes for Slovakia's Karol Kucera, ranked 32nd in the world, to dispose of the Ivanisevic 6-4, 6-3.

Russia's Yevgeni Kafelnikov, elevated to the No. 1 seed when Pete Sampras pulled out with an injured shoulder, defeated Swiss qualifier Lorenzo Manta 6-1, 7-6

Continued on page 27

Sportsbits

Calling All Women Basketball Players

THIS IS to inform the general public that there will be a try-out for all women who are interested in playing basketball in the upcoming Micronesian Games that will be held in Palau.

The try-outs will be held at the Ada Gym on Sunday, October 5, 12th and the 19th from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Non-Micronesian players must have resided within the Commonwealth for seven years prior to August 1, 1997.

All interested players must attend all sessions and be prepared to play.

For more information call

Continued on page 27

Marianas Variety News & Views

Micronesia's Leading Newspaper Since 1972

Vol. 25 No. 141
©1997 Marianas Variety

Friday - October 3, 1997

Saipan, MP 96950
Serving CNMI for 25 Years **50¢**

CUC can't move with desalination project

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

THE COMMONWEALTH Utilities Corp. said yesterday it cannot sign the contract for the construction of the proposed desalination plant without fund commitments from both the government and the paying public.

In a special meeting, the CUC board noted the desire of Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio to start the project, which would benefit people living in the central part of Saipan including Garapan, Chinatown and parts of Gualo Rai.

But CUC Executive Director

Timothy P. Villagomez, who is also chairman of the Governor's Water Emergency Task Force, said that until now the source for the funding of the project has not been identified.

Villagomez told the board that the legislature two months ago initially expressed its willingness to fund 25 percent of the needed \$5 million to start the project. The legislature had suggested that 75 percent of the amount be shouldered by the consumers.

Villagomez said the legislature later made a turnaround, saying the amount needed could be to-

Continued on page 52



A FUTURE MESSAGE. Mrs. Barbara Gilles's sixth grade class at Tanapag school pose proudly before their "One World, One Heart" school mural which they just finished painting recently. Photo by Laila C. Younis

Palau needs to increase revenues, cut spending

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

(Third part of a series)

PALAU has to increase revenue and restrain public expenditure to prepare for the decline of recurrent grants from the United States and the cessation of the flow of Compact funds, the country's National Master Development Plan states.

The Plan notes that financial assistance from the US has removed government financial constraints and reduced the need for macro-economic management but that

the decline of US funding support would increase, among other things, government budget deficits and debt.

Debt financing and managing an increased financial volatility would require that macro-economic policy initiatives be undertaken so that the private sector would not be adversely affected by "large, disruptive government financing shocks, domestic inflation, and credit contractions," the Plan says.

It also says, "To overcome the decline in US funding, the private sector will need to ex-

Continued on page 52

Quicker end to vehicle misuse case

Tomokane opts for 'no contest'

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

AFTER two bench warrants were issued and the bench trial was set a number of times, Anicia Tomokane's misuse of government vehicle case is finally over.

Tomokane, managing director of the Marianas Visitors Bureau, entered a plea agreement with the government and pleaded yesterday "no contest" to one count of misuse of government vehicle.

Following the agreement, Superior Court Associate Judge Miguel Demapan accepted the plea and ordered Tomokane to pay \$25 fine in court.

The Attorney General's Office charged the MVB chief last year with two counts of misuse of gov-



Anicia Tomokane

ernment vehicle after a police officer observed her operating a public vehicle while she was allegedly not conducting official government business, on Oct. 4,

1996 at 9:55 p.m.

Tomokane was charged again Wednesday with misuse of government vehicle after a police officer spotted her using a four-door 1996 Buick assigned to MVB beyond working hours and without proper authorization last Sept. 17.

Upon the AGO's recommendation, Demapan dismissed the remaining count in the 1996 case and also dropped the latest similar case.

In a telephone interview, the MVB managing director said she decided to plead "no contest" considering the fact she has so many commitments related to her position.

Entering a plea of "no contest" means a defendant neither admits nor denies the charges but he or

Continued on page 58



CLOSE ATTENTION. Guam Sen. Mark Charfauros (in striped shirt) and Rota Sen. Ricardo Atalig (foreground) listen to a witness (not shown in photo) during a hearing at the Legislature Wednesday to confront the problem of reduced flights and a possible stoppage of Pacific Island Aviation's service on Rota. Photo by Zaldy Dandan

Freedom Air to get US funding if PIA pulls out

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

FREEDOM Air, the only other airline left to service the air transportation needs of Rota, would get federal assistance under a scenario presented by the US Department of Transportation, in the event the Pacific Island Aviation ceases to fly its routes.

John V. Coleman, director of the department's Office of Aviation Analysis, was answering the queries posed by Rota Mayor Joseph Inos in connection with Rota's concern should the PIA stop operations.

One of the questions Inos asked Coleman in a letter dated Sept. 23 was whether Continental Micronesia would be obligated to provide air service if PIA pulls out.

Coleman said Continental Micronesia will not be obligated to fill the absence of Pacific Island Aviation.

Continued on page 58

WEATHER Outlook



10/10/97

Mostly cloudy with widely scattered showers