

Excise taxes hit \$15.6M in 6 mos.

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff

DESPITE the economic crunch, the CNMI government's total excise tax collections from October 1997 to April 1998 reached \$15.6 million, an amount that will help offset some of the losses incurred by the government in its total revenue collections, it was learned.

Mike Sablan, special finance and budget adviser to the governor, said the \$15.6 million excise tax collections, as well as the \$18.6 million user fee collection will help make up for the negative impact of the economic downturn on the government's emptied coffers.

"The increase in other general commodities like construction materials and general food items have offset, to a large extent, the



Mike Sablan

impact of the economic crisis in our collections," Sablan told the Variety.

He said that the government's accumulative deficit as of Dec. 31, 1997 was \$34 million.

Excise taxes are imposed on

imported commodities entering the CNMI, including cigarettes, tobacco, beer and malt beverages, construction materials, agricultural goods, leather goods, jewelry and cosmetics.

The \$15.6 million excise tax collection is lower only by \$100,000 from the projected figure for the six-month period. The projection, said Sablan, was revised when the new administration took over. He added that the downturn in tourism have also negatively affected the excise tax collections. The government's actual excise tax collections in 1997 was pegged at \$250,853,647.

"Our focus since January was the CIP projects. Due to an increase in construction activities here, we'll generate more, and

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Over Clinton campaign funds:

US Senate panel clears Guam of improprieties

By Maxine Hillary
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA, Guam — A U.S. Senate Committee has found Guam not guilty of improprieties in connection with the territory's contributions to President Bill Clinton's 1994 campaign.

In a report to the U.S. Congress, Sen. Robert G. Torricelli stated that a Republican majority Congress made "misleading and damaging statements" about the political contributions of United States Citizens from the territory of Guam.

He called on US Congress to apologize to Guam for allegations that the campaign contributions made by Guam's citizens were inappropriate and had a negative effect on Guam's participation in the political process.

Guam Member of Congress



Robert Underwood

Robert Underwood commented from his Washington office that since Guam is not allowed to vote in presidential elections, campaign contributions are one of the few ways it can participate in the political process.

"I'm glad that Sen. Torricelli issued that statement. It is very painful as a U.S. citizen on Guam to not be able to partici-

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BOE imposes time clock for PSS teachers, staff



Rita H. Inos

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff

THE BOARD of Education yesterday approved the policy of requiring all Public School System employees, including teachers and school administrators, to

punch in on a time clock for their attendance starting this school year.

The policy also mandates every public school to have one or more time clocks, depending on their student populations.

PSS Commissioner Rita H. Inos said the policy is part of the austerity measures that the CNMI government is currently observing.

She said the Board wants PSS employees and staff to be held 'accountable' for their attendance since they are being paid by the government for the education of the children.

"This is a mechanism for accounting on attendance and the resources that we are being paid

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Joseph M. Borja, executive director of the Chamorro Land Trust, points to a map showing where these people's lots are during a meeting yesterday in Yigo.
Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

Judicial nominees confirmed, but Senate holds off on AG appointee

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

THE CHAIR of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigation says House legal counsel Maya B. Kara has the makings of a "fearless" attorney general.

However, her confirmation by the Senate may have to

wait for a while.

Sen. David M. Cing (D-Tinian), in an interview, said he and the other members of the committee, or EAGI, will quiz Kara with several questions that the Attorney General's Office (AGO) has so far failed to answer.

Included in these questions, Cing said, are legal issues raised during EAGI's investigation last

year of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC).

"I think we'll finally have answers from (AGO if Kara's there)," Cing said.

"She's not afraid like the other attorneys, and that's why she'll be confirmed," he added.

Kara was nominated last

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New anti-prostitution law, 2 others enacted

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday signed into law the Commonwealth Health Center revolving fund, the housing loan and the anti-prostitution bills.

Introduced by Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider (R-Prec. 3, Saipan), House Bill 11-187 would establish an annual revolving fund for the purchase of CHC's medical supplies and equipment.

In signing the bill, which is now Public Law 11-21, Tenorio said there is "indeed a need for CHC to purchase life-sustaining pharmaceutical supplies and other equipment on a more timely and reliable basis."

Tenorio also signed the bill introduced by House Majority Leader Ana S. Teregeyo (R-Prec. 1, Saipan), H.B. 11-55, which would impose strict prohibitions

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Gabriella Mazzali, a British nurse who suffered burns after being doused in petrol and set alight in her Sydney home, speaks to reporters during a news conference before leaving Australia, Tuesday. Mazzali was attacked by a man in her Sydney apartment on February 4, 1998, and suffered third degree burns to 90 percent of her body. AP

Clinton: More attention for American Indians

By **SONYA ROSS**
ARLINGTON, Virginia (AP) — Following up on the advice of his advisory board on race, President Bill Clinton says American Indians need special attention in getting over the "pathetic and inadequate" conditions created for them by the federal government.

During a roundtable discussion on race Wednesday, Clinton said the country must act to ameliorate the isolation and neglect that Indians feel. He admitted he did not know much about Indians until he ran for president in 1992 and, after visiting a few reservations, concluded that this country has given them a raw deal.

"The paternalistic relationship the U.S. government has kept them in was pathetic and inadequate," Clinton said. "They literally got the worst of both worlds. They weren't



Bill Clinton

getting enough help, and they certainly didn't have enough responsibility and power, in my view, to build a future."

Clinton spoke after his race advisory board reminded him that he should develop a strategy to address American Indian concerns. That suggestion grew out of a meeting in Denver in March, where pro-

testers complained about Clinton's failure to appoint an Indian to his race panel.

The president's remarks pleased Sherman Alexie, an author-filmmaker who directed a film on Indian life. He said Indians were tired of being ignored in discussions of race, when so many of their problems are based on race.

"A poor Native American faces more hardships than a poor anybody," Alexie said. "I didn't have running water until I was 7 years old. I still remember when the toilet came."

"Nobody talks about Indians," Alexie said. "Usually what they'll do to me is come up and tell me they're Cherokee."

That drew laughter from the president, who had said his grandmother was one-quarter Cherokee.

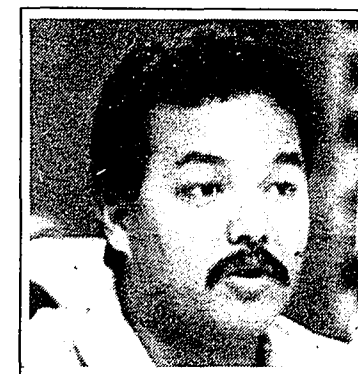
Clinton's session with eight panelists was taped to air Thursday night on PBS' television program "NewsHour." The White House billed it as Clinton's third town hall meeting on race, but there was no audience or live broadcast, as there had been in the previous two.

The session was held as Clinton's advisory board was preparing a report for him to use in writing his own assessment of race, due at the end of the year. The White House has said Clinton would keep the discussion alive in some form through the rest of his term.

Wednesday's panel, which comprised authors, columnists and other commentators, urged Clinton to use his office to remind Americans that integration is still an admirable goal. Clinton called for "a vocabulary that embraces America's future," while acknowledging the country's past errors on race — starting with the first ones against American Indians.

Cynthia Tucker, a columnist at The Atlanta Constitution, said there must be "an acknowledgment that African Americans and Native Americans especially have suffered burdens others have not. But I also think that all of us, including African Americans, need to acknowledge how much the world has changed."

Senate OKs 'reform measures'



Paul A. Manglona

By **Zaldy Dandan**
Variety News Staff

SENATE President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) says the "CNMI should mean what it says and do what it should do," and the Senate did just that by passing legislation that would hike the garment manufacturers' user fee and create a credible wage review board.

Both bills are considered crucial in proving to Washington, D.C. that the commonwealth can solve local labor and immigration problems locally.

"Our action today is an example of how the CNMI can address our own concerns without waiting for the federal government to step in," Manglona

told the Variety yesterday, shortly after the Senate session.

"It shows that we are very much concerned about these problems and that we intend to resolve them," he added.

Senate Bill 11-46, or the wage review board act, and House Bill 11-244, the user fee hike act, now head to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, who is expected to sign them into law.

"We just can't keep changing our minds regarding labor and immigration reforms," Manglona said. "No one would believe us."

And that was the problem, headed, with the previous administration, which was elected on a reform platform, only to allow previously enacted reform legislation to be scaled down.

Manglona said the bills passed yesterday may not be perfect, "but their passage shows our willingness to move forward."

The only snag in yesterday's session was a "spirited" discussion of Sen. Juan P. Tenorio's (R-Saipan) motion to refer H.B. 11-244 to a committee pending an independent and Office of the Public Auditor-certified audit of the garment industry's earnings.

Tenorio chairs the Senate Committee on Resources, Development and Program.

Using a makeshift chart on the proposed .2 percent hike of the user fee, Tenorio said CNMI leaders "owe it to our people and our children to find out how much should this industry really contribute (to this community)."

He described the garment industry as having the most significant negative impact on the CNMI, particularly on the Puerto Rico dump, which is now considered an environmental hazard.

"Who will pay for the dump's cleanup? Our children?" Tenorio said.

He added that a study will also be fair to the garment industry.

"If the study shows that they can't afford it, I would go along with it," Tenorio said.

But he also noted that the industry survived and even experienced growth after the enactment of a 50-cent wage hike a few years back.

"Now they're saying that .2 percent hike, which is a mere 20 cents for every \$100, may be too much," Tenorio said.

For their part, Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez (R-

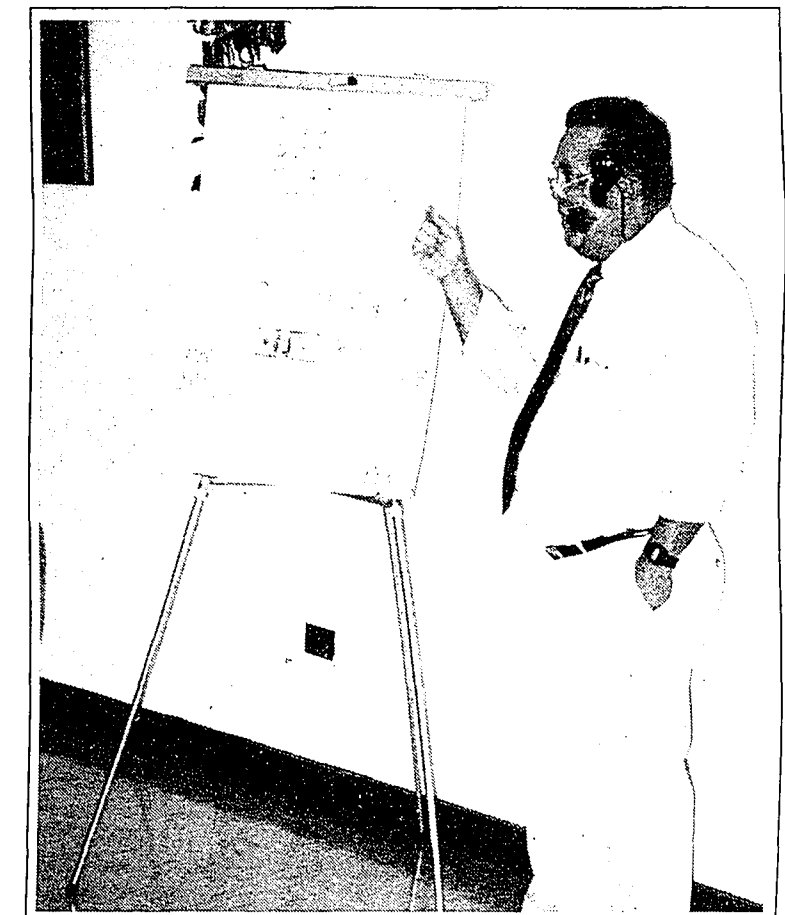
Saipan) and Senate Majority Leader Pete P. Reyes agreed with Tenorio that a comprehensive industry study is needed.

However, they added, the CNMI should collect the .2 percent while waiting for such a study.

"Let's pass this bill now and (in that way) help our good governor," Reyes said, referring to the cash-strapped condition of the government.

A member of the Senate leadership, who declined to be identified, told the Variety that Senator Tenorio was "more than certain" that the industry could afford more than the 2 percent user fee hike proposed by H.B. 244.

"He also knows that if we pass the bill now, the pressure on the industry (to reform itself) would ease," the senator said.



USING his makeshift "visual aid," Sen. John P. Tenorio shows his colleagues how "insignificant" the proposed .2 percent user fee hike is for the garment industry. Photo by Zaldy Dandan

DPH cuts down on 'manpower nurses'

By **Aldwin R. Fajardo**
Variety News Staff

THE PUBLIC health department is downsizing its pool of manpower nurses, citing discrepancies on the salaries received between direct-hire and agency-supplied nurses.

Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez said his office is currently ironing out issues raised over the inequalities in the monthly income of directly and manpower hired nurses, who are practically performing the same loads.

"The issue we have here is that we need to have a better control in our recruitment of nurses. That is one major concern because we have apparently developed a two-pronged hiring practice here," he said.



Joseph Kevin Villagomez

Villagomez said nurses who have been hired directly are receiving better benefits than those supplied by manpower agencies. "Manpower hire gets less than how much we will be

paying directly."

"So we are subjecting ourselves to potential liability here. We cannot ignore the morale of one sector in our staff. We are asking them to do the same amount of work and they get less than the other side. There are some inequity there," he told reporters.

He said the government is providing the housing facilities of nurses hired directly, and although manpower agencies shoulder the expenses of its pool of nurses, "there is a salary inequity and that's the concern we have."

At the same time, Villagomez clarified that the DPH has not commissioned a manpower agency to solicit

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Poll body rules there will be no primary for Guam Senate race

By **Sara Grant**
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA, Guam—Chairman of the Guam Election Commission, Joseph Mesa, ruled yesterday the primary senatorial election will be

cancelled due to lack of candidates.

The primary will be held for the gubernatorial election only.

The filing deadline on Tuesday resulted in 15 republican and 16 democratic candidates meeting the neces-

sary qualifications to run.

One perspective candidate was denied the opportunity to run for a legislative position due to the lack of 6 registered voters' signatures.

The primary for the non-voting delegate to the House of Representatives was also cancelled due to a lack of opposition to Congressional Delegate Robert Underwood.

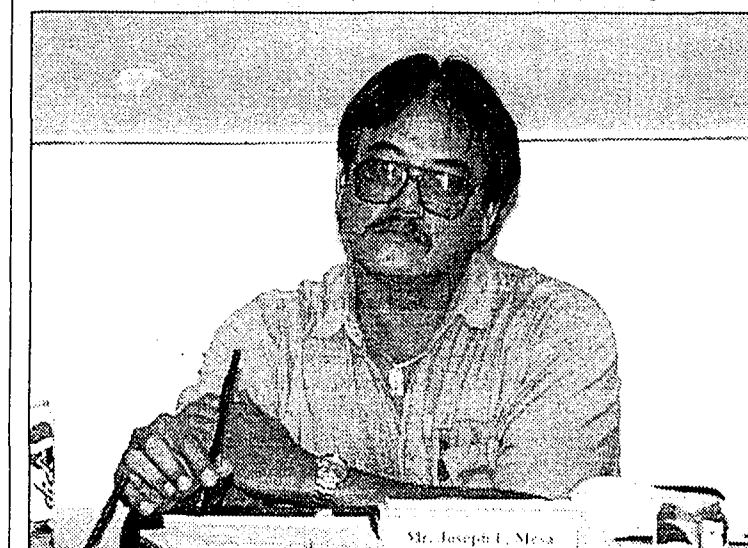
Manuel Q. Cruz (R) is running for a congressional position and will face Underwood in the general election.

At the regular board meeting, Mesa brought up the issue of campaign contributions.

"How will the election commission address the limit on the contributions if there is no primary?" he asked.

Legal counsel for the commission, Cesar C. Cabot, requested time to

prepare a formal opinion to present to the commission at a later date.



Joseph F. Mesa, chairman of the Guam Election Commission announces there will be no primary election for the Senatorial Race and the Washington Delegate post during yesterday's commission meeting in Hagatna. Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

Due to unstable policies:

Babauta says CNMI is losing foreign investment to Guam

By **Aldwin R. Fajardo**
Variety News Staff

THE NORTHERN Mariana Islands is losing business opportunities to Guam because of its unstable foreign investments policies, which are also branded too restrictive by government officials and commerce leaders.

House committee on commerce and tourism chair Rep. Oscar Babauta said the Commonwealth has recently lost two foreign investors, one of them preferred to do business on Guam.

"As I have been informed, a couple of foreign companies have considered doing business in the CNMI, but they chickened out when they learned of our restrictive investment policies," Babauta said.

He said the businessmen particularly found too "restrictive" the \$100,000 security deposit requirement imposed by the CNMI government on new investments that would come in to the islands.

"Upon learning of the deposit policy, one of the two companies deviated to Guam while the other one went back to Japan," he told Variety.

In Guam, for \$250,000, investors can get a green card and US citizenship after five years. Guam, which is only about 100 miles south of Saipan, is attracting many investors because of non-protectionist laws that offer benefits and incentives.

Babauta said his committee has already introduced a bill that would address the flaws in current invest-

ment policies, but added that discussions were temporarily suspended due to minor concerns raised by some members of the Legislature.

He disclosed that some legislators are battling for the complete scrapping of the \$100,000 security deposit. He said, however, that this may pave way for nuisance investors to come in to the CNMI.

He pointed out that instead of requiring investors to come up with the \$100,000 security deposit, the government may instead require them to secure bond certification by a notable financial institution in CNMI, Guam or in the US.

He was also proposing the provision of a bond on the leasehold of the property and other assets of the investors in the Northern Marianas, adding that when the bill is passed and became public law, more small-scale and large businesses will be coming in to the CNMI.

"It is going to start opening up several investments that would enhance the collection of resources in the Commonwealth. This is one major reason why I am supporting the imposition of some kind of flexibility in the foreign investments law, especially with our present economic condition," he stressed.

Foreign investment was frozen on Saipan until 1973, and was opened in 1982 after it has become a Commonwealth of the United States and the foreign investment law was abolished.

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EDITORIAL

Decisive action needed on attrition legislation

THE CNMI must mean what it says and say what it means. When leaders say they will institute reforms, they better do so in good faith, lest they lose credibility.

This is the concern Speaker Diego T. Benavente raised in light of some House members' reluctance in approving legislation to set a cap on the number of garment factory workers on Saipan.

The House in a session last week approved a bill to increase the user fee imposed on garment exports leaving the Commonwealth but balked at the move to impose caps on the garment industry.

Although the user fee hike approval is quite a symbolic feat by itself, the indecisiveness by some House members on the proposal to put limits on the number of workers in the industry may have serious implications.

For one, this might send a message to Washington that the CNMI continues to pay lip service to its promises of locally-instituted reforms, especially in this most controversial sector of the CNMI community.

CNMI critics, like OIA Director Al Stayman have long denounced the garment industry's supposed influence over local lawmakers, citing it as reason why the garment industry continues to grow unchecked. This alleged connection also made skeptics out of other key Congressional officials on the CNMI's sincerity to pursue reforms.

The garment attrition package brought up by a special committee in the House should be a good opportunity for the CNMI to show good faith, that it means what it says when it comes to instituting these reforms.

The reluctance of some House members to enact such legislation only shows a lack of resolve on CNMI's part and could hurt its credibility before US Congress.

The impression that could be created is that business influences have come into play and that the garment industry lobbyists have again prevailed upon local policymakers.

CNMI leaders should realize that they have flip-flopped on reform issues a lot of times already and that the need to rebuild credibility is more crucial than ever.

It has to be expected again that CNMI critics in Washington will jump in and say, "...the CNMI has again crumbled to the pressures of special interests..." or that "...the garment industry has again imposed itself on government leaders..." so it's time for Washington to act...

It is high time that this observation is disputed. While US Congress is in an apparent lull in its push for federal takeover legislation, there will be a time in the near future when local leaders will again face the powers in Washington to argue for continued local control.

When that time comes, what can the CNMI leaders tell them? It is not too late for CNMI leaders to prove themselves worthy of the trust and confidence of the federal government; that they are capable and willing to handle things on their own locally.

They must decide quickly, as surely there is still a chance to think whether they want to continue letting more garment factory workers in or whether putting a limit would serve the people right.

They should act decisively on this, and not allow special interests to blur their judgment.

Get this reform legislation through not just because US wants it, but moroso because it's the responsible thing for leaders in the CNMI to do.



Variations

Zaldy Dandan

An African-American-Filipino hero

"[The United States] could have...left the competent Filipino army to starve out the little Spanish garrison and send it home, and the Filipino citizens to set up the form of government they might prefer, and deal with the friars and their doubtful acquisition according to Filipino ideas of fairness and justice—ideas which have since been tested and found to be as of high an order as any that prevail in Europe or America."

—Mark Twain, North American Review, Feb. 1901

"We never left one alive. If one was wounded, we would run our bayonets through him."

—From a letter of an American soldier, describing to his mother how the US military pacified Filipino patriots resisting US colonial rule.

EXACTLY a hundred years ago, while members of the Anti-Imperialist League led by Twain, William James, William Dean Howells and Andrew Carnegie were tirelessly updating the American public on the latest barbarism committed by American soldiers in the ongoing Philippine war, a 23 year old African-American serving in one of the segregated regiments defected to the Philippine army headed by 27 year old Emilio Aguinaldo. And for two years David Fagen—or Fagan, according to other historians—"wreaked havoc upon the American forces."

A laborer from Tampa, Florida before being recruited into the US army, Fagen was the most famous African-American soldier who joined the Filipinos fighting for their newly won independence against the powerful army of a supposed ally turned colonizer. In this centennial year of that war—which resulted in the slaughter of more than 600,000 Filipinos—a Hollywood movie about Fagen is now in the works.

A Filipino-American researcher-writer, Rene Ontal, is writing the screenplay, reports the Philippine Daily Inquirer. He was quoted as saying that the movie "will not only bring to the fore historical skeletons in the closet of the United States, but also renew the affinity between black Americans and the brown Filipinos." They were, for example, called niggers by white Americans.

A sergeant in the 24th Infantry—Fagen's outfit—wrote to a Cleveland newspaper: "I have not had any fighting to do since I have been here and don't care to do any. I feel sorry for these people and all that have come under the control of the United States. I don't believe they will be justly dealt by." The first thing in the morning is the "Nigger" and the last thing at night is the "Nigger."

It is said that Fagen defected to the Philippine army after reading a recruitment letter addressed to "The Colored American Soldier." Ontal says the letter was written by Aguinaldo's prime minister, Apolinario Mabini,

who would later be deported by the US to Guam. American historian Howard Zinn mentions that another African-American serving in the Philippines was "struck by a question a little Filipino boy asked [him], which ran about this way: 'Why does the American Negro come...to fight us when we are much a friend to him and have not done anything to him. He is all the same as me and me all the same as you. Why don't you fight those people in America who burn Negroes, that make a beast of you...?'"

Fagen was inducted as a lieutenant in the Philippine army. He was promoted to captain when he captured a West Point graduate, who was later exchanged for 12 Filipino POWs—a rarity in those days as the US army preferred to simply kill any Filipino, regardless of sex and age.

Ontal says Fagen's capture became an obsession for the publicity-loving Col. Frederick Funston, the man responsible for capturing Aguinaldo with the help of traitors from Macabebe, Pampanga. (Funston's feat was later "immortalized" in another North American Review article by that great and good and beautiful American, Mark Twain.)

Now we arrive at that part of Fagen's life that is so problematic for historians that fictionists could only have a field day imagining dramatic possibilities.

Here's Ontal's version: Shortly after Aguinaldo was captured, Fagen's Filipino commanding officer decided to surrender, but not before devising an escape plan for Fagen. This was after the commanding officer learned that the US army wanted Fagen dead, period.

"In Dec. 1901, an ex-comrade of Fagen reported to an American barracks [in Central Luzon] and said he had Fagen's head inside his bag," says Ontal. US Army records show that the head was in an advanced state of decomposition but was of negroid characteristics. At any rate, the ex-comrade also surrendered some of Fagen's personal effects including the class ring of the West Pointer he had captured. Funston then declared the Fagen case closed. This, says Ontal, remains the official US Army account. However, he adds, some American historians recorded sightings of Fagen months after his supposed death. There was also no record of a bounty payment to the ex-comrade. Some now suspect that Fagen's commanding officer engineered the whole scenario. Ontal says that during World War II an American soldier, while running away from the Japanese, met an old African-American deep in the jungles of the Philippines. The soldier later recounted to Ontal that the black man embraced him and said "It has been 40 years

Continued on page 5

JACK ANDERSON and JAN MOLLER WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Nauru trades health for wealth

GOOD health is more valuable than almost any amount of money. That sentiment has never been truer than on an island in the Pacific that has fascinated us for years. It's called Nauru, and it lies midway between Hawaii and Australia. At a little over eight miles square, Nauru is smaller than most airports — and is the smallest republic in the world.

Until recent years, Nauru was one of the richest countries in the world, with a per capita income of more than \$30,000. That's been cut in half in recent years because Nauru's sole export, fossilized bird droppings, has been decreasing.

A century ago, a New Zealand chemist discovered the oval-shaped atoll had a huge reserve of the highest-grade phosphate ever found. When combined with sulfur, it becomes superphosphate, just the ticket to make Australian and New Zealand phosphate-deficient farms flourish.

The population consists of 7,000 Nauruan natives — who are a blend of Polynesian, Micronesian and Melanesian — and another 3,000 guest workers from neighboring Pacific islands.

So from the 1970s to the 1990s, with hundreds of millions of dollars to share among only a few thousand people, the Nauruans went on a spending spree, importing whatever they felt they needed from anywhere around the world.

They did this, as it turned out, at the risk of their own lives, as our associate Dale Van Atta found on a visit to the remote island. He discovered the memorable sign of Nauruan wealth is not the size of the families, but of its individual members.

They've become a fat people because their native diet has been replaced by a preference for canned and frozen foods. There are no import duties or sales taxes, and the government further subsidizes the shipped-in, processed food. Meat brought from Australia more than 2,000 miles away is cheaper in Nauru than in an Australian supermarket.

Nauruans even import fish. Some do fish for sport, but many lost the once-native skill. They prefer to buy local fish or locally grown products from guest workers who are hustling to supplement their salaries.

The change in Nauruan diet, what social scientists call the "Coca-Colonization" of their lifestyle, is doing them in. They have all the diseases of affluence, including one of the highest rates of hypertension and heart disease in the world.

The poor diet — and perhaps the kicking in of a "thrifty gene" that allowed Pacific peoples in the past to build up fat for lean times — has led to obesity in nine out of 10 Nauruans. It's not unusual for a young man to push the scale past 300 pounds.

As a result, they have become the ample butt of jokes throughout the Pacific region. Foreigners deride them for taking up two seats on Air Nauru, or say that "Nauruans consume twice as much as Canadian lumberjacks in midwinter."

The jokes aren't funny because, in this case, the truth doesn't just hurt, it kills. Nauruans suffer from the highest rate of diabetes on earth — 42 percent of those over age 20, and a whopping 60 percent of all older adults. It is the leading cause of nonaccidental death in Nauru.

"No wild animal ever gets diabetes," one British expert, Dr. Denis Burkitt, observed. "Hunter-gatherer populations don't get diabetes. This disease is one of the first diseases that comes after you begin the clever Western diet. Nauruans gave up eating the island food they had traditionally adopted. And instead they began importing hamburgers, cola drinks, French fries, and what have you. Now, over 40 percent of the entire population of Nauru over the age of 20 are diabetics."

Dr. Jay Skyler, president of the American Diabetes Association, agrees. "Nauru is a telescope in time of the Westernization process, from a relatively poor, remote, agricultural and fishing country to one that's close to the world's highest per capita income. In the space of just 70 years, they've become a more sedentary and very Westernized society, and diabetes now hits two of three in a certain age group."

Nauruans have also succumbed to alcohol, which the government subsidizes as well. Beer and whiskey are cheaper in Nauru than Australia, from where most of it comes. So much Australian Foster's beer is consumed that its blue cans are the most visible rubbish around the island; in fact, some have suggested Nauru be renamed "Blue Can Island" or "Foster's Island."

In the routinely upbeat local news sheet, we read the profile of an elderly Nauruan woman who concluded her thoughts with a classic understatement: "Miriam Cain still remembers those bygone days as the 'good old days' when alcohol problems did not exist and families spent time on the reefs, making garlands and doing the various chores. Miriam also remembers life in Nauru 30 years ago as healthy and lively. Today she sadly shakes her head as she worries that some of the evident changes in people are not for the best."

Miriam and the older generation are thinking these days that they traded their health for a mess of phosphate fertilizer.

An African . . .

Continued from page 4

when I last saw an American soldier."

History books—the good ones, that is, and not the crap currently used in schools—record that a thousand other black Americans were sent home two months before their tour of duty was over in 1902, but they decided to settle in the Philippines to escape racism in the US. They were sent home even before their tour was over because of their excellent relations

with Filipinos and the growing rate of intermarriage. This, according to then President Theodore Roosevelt's advisers, made the black soldiers' loyalty "no longer unquestionable."

I hope Denzel Washington would be cast as Fagen and that they shoot the movie in the Philippines. The producers should also hire Dennis Rodman, who could finally have a reunion with his dad, now a local celebrity of sorts in Pampanga, and I'm absolutely not kidding.

Economic outlook

Confusion and the Non-Resident Labor issue

By William H. Stewart, Economist For the Variety

An interesting observation was made in the July 3rd Letters to the Editor section of the Variety. Briefly paraphrasing, a local businessman pointed out that in this period of economic slowdown to cut business expenses to remain competitive, those firms with an employee mix of nonresident and local workers are often forced by virtue of contractual obligations with their alien workers to remove local workers from the payroll first.

Remembering that there are only two ways to make money, one must strive to hold business expenses and increase sales.

If unable to increase sales, a manager must at least attempt to hold sales levels (income) and reduce expenses. One method to achieve the latter is to reduce payroll costs as the writer of the above letter was attempting to do.

His point made a lot of sense. One would think that the exact opposite would be the case in the Commonwealth.

That is, if you have to reduce employee payroll expenses in an attempt to remain in business, the nonresident worker would be the first to be laid off.

However, one must also keep in mind that considering the high cost of recruiting off island skills, the employer no doubt has a greater investment in the nonresident worker than that of a local hire.

The costs of recruitment for a single alien employee, over and above their salary, is about \$1,400 in the first year and some \$650 in renewal fees in the second year and this does not include the cost of return air fare to the point of recruitment.

At any rate, the choice of who goes and who remains employed in the business is a management decision and should be left to the discretion of the employer in the effort to protect his investment. It's his or her money and not that of the government.

The entire issue of nonresident worker employment has been one of much confusion, discussion, controversy and frustration by all parties concerned.

The legislators who have tried to accommodate the needs of the employer as balanced against the desire to encourage the employment of the indigenous population have tried many times to achieve a balance that is workable by almost everyone concerned.

Over the years the various legislatures have not been pleased with the state of affairs related to the recruitment, employment and retention of non resident workers as evident by the frequent changes in the law and the constant modification of regulations which have become almost impossible to comprehend much less anticipate.

However, hard the lawmakers try to accommodate the needs of all parties, invariably the unanticipated, unintended consequences of some facet of the law always presents itself to the distress of someone.

The Department of Labor and Immigration, and often the federal government, have tried to be all things to all people and have frequently failed. Indeed, many of the workers themselves are often trapped in the bureaucratic morass of one legal entanglement after another resulting in frustration in the extreme.

I am not aware that those in the business community who employ non U.S. citizens have ever been asked to get together among themselves, outside a formal legislative hearing, and decide once and for all what would be the best solution to this enduring problem.

The business community could then take suggestions to the legislature to learn if the solutions are in line with the responsibilities of law makers to protect the rights and welfare of the worker as well as those of the employer, all of which should be designed toward maintaining a sustainable economy, employment opportunities for U. S. citizens when such qualified people are available and the government's tax base. In terms of laws regarding the nonresident worker, and to misquote Pogo, "we may not have recognized that the problem is us."

There seems to be an inherent conflict, or inconsistency, in any attempt on the one hand to maintain as much local homogeneity in the island society as possible by monitoring the introduction of alien workers - while on the other - encourage ever more development that is certain to introduce an ever increasing number of nonresident employees.

The result being that in the long run the latter policy will erode that of the former. Each is incompatible with the other and is tantamount to "wanting to keep your cake and eat it at the same time."

I venture to state that it is precisely this inconsistent and unattainable goal that has contributed in no small measure to the non-immigrant issue in the Commonwealth.

Since one can't have it both ways there appears to be no solution that is entirely acceptable to everyone. We are in the pathetic position of being unable to "unscrew" something that that is "screwed up" to put it politely.

Having advanced the above observations, and at the risk of appearing self serving, (which I hope I'm not so perceived), I would like to suggest that in times of economic difficulty such as we now experience, that those agencies within the executive and legislative branch directly concerned with development and non-resident issues employ more economists or business people as advisors and fewer attorneys in an attempt to seek a workable solution. In my judgment many in the legal profession, a fine of work which relies more often than not on historical legal precedent rather than creative thinking and economic problem solving, are not always capable of recommending a workable resolution to the issues effecting the economy.

If they are capable - why hasn't it been done with respect to the non-resident worker issue?

Laws which influence economic policies are much too important to be left entirely up to lawyers and legisla-



Bill Stewart

tors, many of whom have never had to employ nonresident workers other than perhaps office staff or had to meet a manufacturing or service oriented payroll on time or do anything other than produce a legal argument or appear in court.

In my opinion this is not the profession to rely solely upon in times of economic difficulties.

This is not to imply that legal advice is not needed - it is - but should be supplemented with that of entrepreneurship and economics.

Many of the laws, particularly federal laws and some local legislation, presumed to influence economics are written in such a convoluted swamp of mystic prose within a quagmire of legal gobbledygook that they are incomprehensible even to the best educated or literate and serve to complicate and confuse rather than inform and guide.

If many of these laws appear as such to one who can comprehend English, imagine the dilemma of the investor who cannot.

There is a simple test to be applied in support of the above and it is the following.

I believe that very often when an issue relative to a great many provisions within our laws are before a jury to support a decision, that no attorney would rely entirely and exclusively upon a *verbatim* quote of most of our laws as written without any additional explanation as to what was read to the jurors.

Very few would want to take the chance that the jurors might not understand what was cited without additional verbal guidance as to what the law intended. Which raises in my mind the question - for whom are most laws written - attorneys or the populous at large?

I have also noticed among some in the business community with whom I associate that a great deal of cynicism is leveled at several agencies of the government and the legislative branch.

So much that I suspect that the various agencies involved in the issue and some of the lawmakers are unaware of this censure since many of those who are disgruntled within the business community are afraid to be openly candid about the matter for fear of reprisal in one subtle form or another.

This is not healthy for all concerned.

For those administrators in the executive and the several lawmakers in the legislative branch not to know the above is one thing - not

Continued on page 33

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Rota's first business magazine out soon

By Marc Hizon
For the Variety

ROTA Trading Company a locally owned establishment in Rota has taken a bold step in publishing the first-ever Business & Information Monthly Magazine.

Focused primarily on maximizing exposure of local (Rota) business establishment, it aims at informing the general public and potential investors of what this naturally blessed island can offer.

For its first issue, the magazine focuses on the airport expansion project and the construction of the San Isidro Church in Sinapalo.

Showcasing Rota's defiant stand towards achieving economic recovery despite recent tum of events.

Patterned for business and information, the magazine shares informative business tips for today's entrepreneurs. Collections of hu-

mor and classified ads section are available for the general public at a very reasonable cost.

RTC President Paterno S. Hocog said, "We take great pride in this endeavor, it is high time that we pave the way for our island to be recognized. Likewise, this is our share in being partners with the community."

Initial publication of 400 copies and subsequently increase as time progresses. Circulation will be on and off island in order to capture wider readership and subscription.

"Rota entrepreneurs and the community has inspired us to achieve this goal, our effort to shape a better business environment for Rota has commenced," stated Justin S. Manglona, managing editor.

Future issues shall cover significant events and personalities on the island.

Gov't pays \$80,000 per hour in salaries

By Aldwin R. Fajardo
Variety News Staff

THE GOVERNMENT is coughing out more than \$80,000 per hour as payment for personnel salaries alone, according to House ways and means committee chair Rep. Karl Reyes.

This makes the CNMI government pay an average of \$18-\$20 per hour for every public office employee, which approximately total 4,300 to 4,800.

But this figure is already inclusive of other benefits which eat up at least 22 percent, Reyes said. Without the 22 percent, the government will still have to pay its employees close to \$68,000 every hour.

"I think it's way too high but this is average, including rank and file employees and officials. But this is big, looking at the \$86,538

per hour the manpower alone," Reyes said.

More than \$180 million from Governor Pedro P. Tenorio's Fiscal Year 1999 budget have been appropriated for government employees' salaries.

"When divided by 2,080 hours, it is costing the government \$86,538 per hour. That's how much the government coughs out every hour," he said.

Salaries of government employees account for 75 percent of the \$246.7 million proposed budget for 1999.

The higher pay given by the government is apparently the reason why local residents are more interested in securing jobs from the public sector than the private sector. Commonwealth Development Authority chair Juan S.

Tenorio said that a big slice of unemployed local residents in the islands' workforce is voluntary.

"They chose to be in that situation. It is either they don't want to work for the private sector where there are more than sufficient job opportunities, or they just don't like to work," Tenorio said.

Workers of Chamorro and Carolinian descent were concentrated in public administration [34.9 percent and 28.1 percent respectively], professional and related services [22 percent and 24.6 percent], and retail trade industries [11.6 percent].

The commerce department reported that during the 1995 census, Carolinians had the highest unemployment rate at 21.2 percent while Chamorros account for around 12.5 percent.

TCGCC may face lawsuit

By Aldwin R. Fajardo
Variety News Staff

THE FAMILIES of four deceased government employees may press charges against the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission for its failure to pay their relatives' retirement pension.

Senator Juan P. Tenorio said the government has the responsibility to match the retirement premium of public administration employees and failure to do so may mean legal battle.

"It has unfortunately become a political issue. This may mean lawsuit for the Tinian gaming commission because the government is obligated to contribute to the Retirement Fund," Tenorio said.

The Retirement Fund has denied the release of death benefits to the relatives of four deceased TCGCC employees due to the absence of proper contribution records.

"They were supposedly employed by the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission, but we never had any document or information that says they are actually employed by the said agency,"

Fund Administrator Edward H. Manglona said.

Manglona said that although the Commission has shown copies of a contribution check and personnel action, they were submitted late, and did not specify the exact date of their recruitment since the Fund gives benefits only to those who have been contributing for a couple of years already.

"It is like getting a life insurance policy for someone who's already dead or insuring one's car after it figured in an accident," Tenorio told Variety.

He said TCGCC people may be held liable should the claimants of the former government employees decide to bring the case to the court.

"These guys can be held liable if the families decide so. It is not being very prudent and judicious on their part. Had the commission paid their premium, there should have not been unfortunate and heart-breaking incidents like these," he said.

He also said the pressure should not be put on the Retirement Fund but to the Commission since it was the latter which apparently failed to fulfill its responsibilities to its former employees.

"The Fund is right, you cannot pay the premium after you died. It is only fair and logic tells us that the Fund is right," he stressed.

The issue continues to arise after the Fund first denied the pension claims of the relatives of the deceased persons. They then sought the help of government officials and the TCGCC to ask the Fund to reconsider its decision. But to no avail.

In his letter to Manglona, TCGCC Commissioner Joaquin Borja said that the deceased were "bonafide employees of the Commission" but did not present any paper to prove it.

Borja also admitted that the untimely remittances of the deceased contributions were due to the Commission's inability to pay accordingly.

"At the time in question, the Commission did not have the financial capability to timely pay the retirement contributions of the deceased. However, the Commission made the payments subsequent to the fact..." said Borja.

Tobacco settlement to help educate youth

By Maxine Hillary
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA, Guam — Guam has received the first in a series of payments stemming from an out-of-court settlement between tobacco companies The Brooke Group and Liggett and the Guam Attorney General's office.

According to a press release from the office of Acting Attorney General Gus. F. Diaz, the first payment amounts to \$50,000. Guam will receive the same amount in November of this year for the second payment. Guam will also receive \$112,500 a year for the next eight years as reimbursement for Medicaid expenses and other tobacco related public expenditures for illnesses related to smoking tobacco.

Under the settlement terms, the

AG's office has agreed not to file lawsuits against the Liggett and Brooke Group.

The settlement does not affect other private litigation against the company from parties other than GovGuam.

According to Diaz, the Ohio Attorney General's office was instrumental in procuring the settlement as it included Guam in its request for compensation for State monies used to treat smoking related illnesses and conditions.

Guam would not have been able to afford to litigate separately. "I think this is extremely good news for the taxpayers of Guam," he stated.

"When you consider the relative ease of this settlement,"

The money from the settlement

RFP for new landfill out

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

THE government task force created to address concerns on the Puerto Rico dump yesterday agreed to finalize a request for proposal (RFP) on the design and construction of a new solid waste facility which will be constructed on a portion of Marpi, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) yesterday said.

Pamela Mathis, Utilities PIO, said the Department of Public Works (DPW) is now putting finishing touches on the RFP which is expected to be out Monday next week.

Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan, Mathis said, is set to announce a more detailed account of the project also next week.

The task force, according to earlier reports, has resolved to close the Puerto

Speaker to push attrition bill

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

HOUSE Speaker Diego T. Benavente (R-Prec. 2, Saipan) says the enactment of legislation that would impose an absolute quota on alien workers in the garment industry remains "a priority."

"We're still pushing for it, and we'll continue to push for it," he told the Variety.

With its leadership still deadlocked on the quota issue, the House of Representatives on Monday passed a bill, H.B. 11-244, that would hike the garment manufacturers' user fee from 3.5 to 3.7 percent, but would not impose a quota.

The original bill introduced by the speaker, H.B. 11-139, called for both a hike in user fee and the "attrition" in the number of alien



Diego T. Benavente

workers in the industry.

But Benavente said the attrition provision "remains on the table," adding that the House is only waiting for the officials statistics on the garment industry before passing a quota bill.

"We've asked the Department of Labor and Immigration to come up with hard numbers, and if they

need to do a head count in every factory, we'd wait for it," Benavente said.

A member of the leadership, who requested anonymity, earlier admitted that the lobby efforts against the quota "are very strong."

The Special Committee chaired by Rep. Oscar M. Babauta (R-Prec. 2, Saipan) recommended a quota of 14,714 alien workers for

the garment industry "as a whole," which is the actual number of alien workers in the industry.

The committee also recommended increasing the user fee from 3.5 percent to 3.7 percent.

PSS will have enough books for school kids



Marja Lee Taitano

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff

THE BOARD of Education has assured that there will be enough books and instructional materials for school children this coming school year following the approval of \$253,000 reprogrammed funds.

BOE chairwoman Marja Lee Taitano yesterday said that the governor's office approved the shifting of funds originally appropriated by Public Law 10-34 for Public School System office equipment, to the purchase of books and library materials.

"We will be having enough books and other instructional materials for our children this school year. The governor and the legislature have been very helpful to the educational system," Taitano said during yesterday's Board meeting.

PL 10-34 earmarked a total of \$253,000 for one-time office equipment needs last year. The BOE earlier said that if the allotment authority was shifted to the books class code, many schools could address their needs for the school year that begins on August 3.

Under the fiscal year 1998

reprogrammed budget, the amount of \$100,000 earlier earmarked for the PSS central office equipment will now go to the acquisition of books and other reading materials. The Garapan Elem. School now has \$14,000 for books; the GTC Elem. School has \$20,000; San Antonio Elem. School has \$15,000; Tanapag Elem. School has \$12,000; Koblerville Elem. School has \$10,000; Hopwood Jr. High School has \$20,000; Marianas High School has \$20,000; and, Tinian High School has \$15,000.

The PSS is also expecting a \$4 million consolidated grant from the US Department of Education which will be used for the purchase of school materials like books and computers, as well as in supporting various educational programs such as the 'safe and drug-free program'.

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The school is guided by a working philosophy which focuses on developing our youth in four key areas: a well rounded formal education covering the academics, the arts, and physical development; an understanding of Christian beliefs which is both practical and functional; a well defined sense of moral and ethical values; and service to the community

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AROUND the Islands

The Around the Islands section 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

Limes Rotary's Citizen of Year

By Louie C. Alonso
Variety News Staff
Luis Marciano Limes was honored by the Saipan Rotary Club as the Rotary Citizen of the Year last June 27, 1998.

Limes was chosen by the SRC due to his outstanding contribution to the islands for decades now.

Mike Sablan who made a speech before the Saipan Rotarians, described Limes as a "very quiet, unassuming, and humble man who dedicated his career to our educational development, political development and the development of music."

In 1957, Limes taught science, social studies, physical education and music at Hopwood Junior High School where he also set up an audio visual program.

His audio visual program became a success that prompted the Trust Territory Department of Education to transfer Limes to their Central Office in 1963 to start an AV program for the entire Trust Territory.

His other accomplishments in education include his participation in establishing an Adult Basic Education Program which include courses in banking, civil rights and other courses

that helped the local people become better citizens in their new and changing political environment by teaching them their civic duties and responsibilities.

Limes also started a program for youth in which he placed young people in jobs like what JTPA is doing today.

Limes also got involved in starting up a project that reached out to the people in the community. This project was the first bookmobile in Micronesia.

However, Limes was also an active player in politics where he served as a village commissioner in the 1960s.



SAIPAN Rotary Club president Dave Burger hand the microphone to Board of Public Lands member Luis M. Limes during a recent club meeting. Limes is the Rotary Citizen of the Year.

Photo by Zaldy Dandan

Limes was also elected to the Third Marianas District Legislature in 1968-72.

Came 1975 and Limes was elected to serve as a delegate to the Micronesian Constitutional Convention. He was a delegate to the First and Second Northern Marianas Con-

stitutional Conventions that helped shape the political structure of the commonwealth.

Limes had also served the Board of Education and distinguished himself by becoming its first chairman.

But the best contribution ever made Continued on page 34

Computer lessons today at House of Manhoben

By Louie C. Alonso
Variety News Staff

To provide kids a different summer program, the House of Manhoben is coming out with a four-week Computer Development Course starting today.

The center will be teaching different sessions of the same class every Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

A total of 16 students are currently enrolled in the student with 4 students per class.

However, one session of the program is set exclusively to Karidat staff to improve their computer skills.

If the enrolled students completed the 4-week computer course, they

will be given certificates of completion and identification card.

The issuance of that ID card will give each student a full access to the center's computers.

Volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) are providing instructions, tutoring, and in-door/outdoor recreations for the students.

Each computer session lasts for about an hour.

The House of Manhoben came out with this youth program to keep the kids away from the different vices and improve their knowledge and skills in different programs.

'Pescan Talaya' slated

By Louie C. Alonso
Variety News Staff

Do you want your kids learn the art of Talaya fishing?

Supported by the federal funds under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program and was received through a subgrant award from the CNMI Criminal Justice Planning Agency, Karidat's Manhoben offers a Pescan Talaya Program for males from 10 to 17 years old.

The program is designed to teach the kids the traditional and contemporary techniques of talaya net fishing to NMI youth.

This program will start on July 27 and will run until August 7, 1998.

What will make the kids enjoy this program is the area of education.

Kids will be taught in the classroom and part will be at the beach.

The program aims to develop the kids' skills in knowing what talaya fishing is, the different types of talaya for different types of fish, effects of weather and other natural causes to fishing.

Kids will be provided a transportation to and from the beach and talaya nets by Karidat. Specific hours of teaching will be set to coincide with the tide schedule and will be announced at a later date.

The instructor for this course is Justice Ramon Villagomez.

The program will only open 12 slots for the enrollees. Interested parties should come and sign up immediately.

For further inquiries, enrollees could reach The House of Manhoben at 2349026/7.



Chamorro dance instructor Frances Sablan teaches the students of the Manhoben special program "Balian Marianas" how to make some accessories for their costumes.

Photo by Louie C. Alonso

Marianas Medical Center

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AROUND the Islands

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Underwood to lay wreath

By Maxine Hillary
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA, Guam — Congressman Robert Underwood will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery today to pay homage to Guam service personnel who lost their lives during World War II.

He will be joined by WWII veteran and Hawaii Senator Daniel Akaka and retired Marine Corps brigadier general and former Guam Delegate Ben Blaz.

In laying the wreath the congressman will not only be honoring Guam's fallen soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, he will be calling attention to Guam's unique role in World War II. "We do this to draw some national



Robert Underwood

attention to issues pertaining to Guam as well as our own unique historical experience as the only American territory populated by civilians to be occupied during World War II," he stated in a press release.

Gutierrez presents Maga Lahi awards to students

GOVERNOR Carl T.C. Gutierrez presented the Maga Lahi Awards to 11 members of the first international student exchange with the Japanese City of Yaizu this week.

The students will be visiting Yaizu as part of the Sister City Program from July 14th to July 20th.

Yaizu is located 250 miles southwest from Tokyo. The students will also visit Tokyo and Atami.

The Maga Lahi Award is presented to individuals whose actions contribute to furthering the interests and welfare of Guam.

Winners include Sharon Cadag, Jamie Cruz, Christiana DeGuzman, Lyra Formanes, Marilou Japitana, Allyn Korenko, Pearl Manglona, Joy Rioja, Dwayne Santos, Cherise Wolford and Hong Son.

GVB illumination art winners named

THE Guam Visitors Bureau has announced the winners of the "Got a Bright Idea" art illumination contest on Saturday, July 4, 1998.

The sculptures can be seen along San Vitores Blvd. in tourist center Tumon.

First place winner is Ronnie Basilio from Port Enterprises. Second and third place prizes went to Veronica Delacruz and Anacleto S.N. Pocaigue from Top Builders.

GVB gave out eight prizes in all. The illumination campaign is part of Guam's Big Summer Festival which runs from July to December.

Cruz retires

THE retirement of Commander Barbara J. Velasco Cruz of Mangilao will be honored on Friday, July 10 at 10:00 in front of the Governor's Complex at Adalup. Governor Carl T.C. Gutierrez will speak at the ceremony.

Cruz graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in Tumon in 1978. During her 20 years of service with the Navy, she has help posts on Guam as well as in San Diego, California, Singapore and Japan. Cruz will remain on Guam with her daughters Antonia and Brandi.

Thornburgh makes President's List at Seattle University

TERRENCE Thornburgh, a freshman at Seattle University, made the President's List with a perfect 4.0 grade point average during the spring quarter.

This is the third consecutive quarter that Terrence has made a 4.0 grade point average.

Dr. John Eschelmann, Provost of Seattle University, in a letter dated June 25, 1998, congratulated Terrence on joining a select group of Seattle University scholars who made President's List which requires at least a 3.9 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

He stated that Terrence's outstanding academic achievement is, "evidence of your ability to

focus your intellect and energy effectively to achieve academic excellence."

Eschelmann added, "We are most proud to count you among our Seattle University community of scholars and wish you continued success in all your pursuits."

Terrence is a graduate of Marianas High School and is a Teacher Academy Program alumni.

He is the son of Tim Thornburgh who works as Federal Program Coordinator for the CNMI Public School System.

Terrence is working at S-Mart for the summer and will return to Seattle University in September when the fall quarter begins.

Underwood emphasized that the laying of the wreath is a non-political event. "In matters honoring the historical experiences of Guam, there

are no political differences."

The ceremony is also expected to be attended by the Secretary of the Army along with the ambassadors of

Fiji and the Philippines.

Former Guam residents living in the Washington, DC area are also expected to attend.

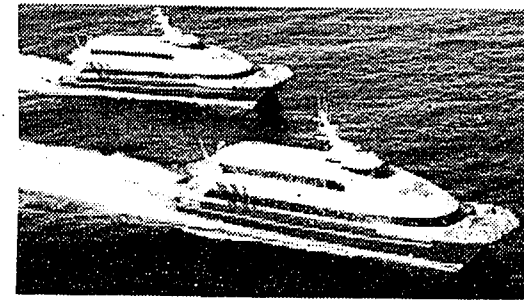

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Guam Task Force meets with legislators:

Family violence act discussed

By Sara Grant
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA, GUAM—The Family Violence Task Force met with legislators Wednesday to refine a draft of Bill 547, also known as the Family Violence Act of 1998.

According to the author of the bill, Vice Speaker Anthony C. Blaz (R), several round table discussions are being held for input before it is presented to the legislature.

Head of the Attorney General's Family Abuse and Sexual Crimes Department, Alicia Limtiaco, said the draft still needs more refinement.

"Nevertheless, we're much closer to bringing it forward because all the agencies that see these problems on a daily basis have been able to work together and express their concerns," she said.

The task force, which is made up of representatives from the Guam Police Department (GPD), the Attorney General and Public Defender's Offices, Superior Court, Victims Advocates Reaching Out (VARO), and Guam Community College, has spent many hours editing the original draft presented in May.

The intent of the proposed legislation is to "assure the victims of family violence the maximum protection from abuse the law can provide."

It states "there are hundreds of persons in Guam who are regularly beaten, tortured and in some cases even killed by their spouses and co-habitants..."

Volunteer with Guam Legal Services, Karen Carpenter, said she felt this bill is workable.

"Our main goal is to insure the safety for victims and create accountability for the perpetrator, and this bill is closer to doing that," she said.

Member of the task force and GPD captain, Edward T. Kabina said "this legislation speaks loudly and clearly: family violence will not be tolerated."

A section was added to the draft which calls for accountability of elected and appointed public and government officials.

If an individual has been convicted of family violence, they "may not run for or hold an elected public office... judicial office... or (be) director or deputy director of any government entity..."

The proposal calls for mandatory confinement of a perpetrator after an arrest. Currently, the law allows an arrested abuser to be released to appear in court later.

Representatives from the Public Defender's Office said that mandatory confinement is a very effective way to deal with this type of crime.

One section of the bill establishes and requires family violence training programs for law enforcers: "GPD, the Office of the Attorney General, the University of Guam and the Guam Community College... have a role in promoting a broad base, multi-lateral foundation and cooperative framework for a Family Violence Training program to support core cadet and law enforcement curricula."

The bill also makes it a requirement to notify victims of available legal services, such as the right to obtain restraining orders, to remove the abuser from the residence, and to gain custody of the children.

Law makers will continue to work on the bill which will be presented to the Legislature in the next session for a vote.

We are now accepting listings for our new Community Calendar section.

Listings must pertain to events such as weddings, christenings, anniversaries, special observations or occasions, achievements of local residents and activities of non-political local organizations and groups. We will be happy to list ongoing or weekly events such as club meetings, support groups, sports events, etc.

How to list your event with Community Calendar

Listings must pertain to events such as weddings, christenings, anniversaries, special observations or occasions, achievements of local residents and activities of non-political local organizations and groups.

Information must be accompanied by all information concerning the event. I.e., names, dates, places, exact title, etc. Also include phone numbers and contacts for additional information. Be as complete as possible.

Photos must be accompanied by appropriate captions and identification of subjects as possible.

Listings for CNMI can be faxed to (670) 234-9271 or mailed to: Marianas Variety, Community Calendar, P.O. Box 231 Saipan, MP 96950.

Listings for Guam can be faxed to (671) 649-4687 or mailed to: Marianas Variety, Community Calendar, 960 South Marine Drive, Suite 152, Tamuning, Guam 96911. E-mail us at: yas@gtepacifica.net



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Two of Dadang Six get homes through NMHC

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

AT LEAST two of the Dadang 6 were finally accommodated homes through the Northern Mariana Housing Corp. (NMHC). Tomas B. Aldan, Board of Public Lands (BPL) Chair said yesterday.

"As of our (recent) communication, they (NMHC officials) were able to place two of the Dadang 6 (at the housing facility)," said Aldan.

Aldan said NMHC is "waiting for other vacancies" to accommodate the remaining four.

The move is believed to have been a result of a recent discussion on the plight of the six Filipino-Americans between Aldan and Senate Pres. Paul A. Manglona.

"I told the good senate president to talk to the NMHC," said Aldan.

Aldan said the Dadang six will still have to pay necessary bills "but not as high as the others."

The Dadang 6 were evicted from their Rota residences a few months back after the Division of Public Lands (DPL) established that they were encroachers.

Manglona have since work to have them settled.

The senate president, in his May 8, 1998 letter to Aldan, appealed that the Board "ex-



Tomas B. Aldan

change an equivalent amount of (his) personal land to (government) so that (Dadang 6) may continue to reside in Songsong village."

Manglona also proposed that the Board "offer" Dadang 6 a five year lease, "taking into consideration, the improvements that were made on the land and the return investment to the CNMI."

Such arrangement, he said, will provide Dadang 6 "ample time to save fund to relocate and rebuild (their homes)."

The division apparently rejected Manglona's land exchange request as there reportedly were no justification to grant it.

Land exchange agreements, according to DPL Director Bertha Leon Guerrero, are only being done for public purposes like a road right-of-way issue or power plant construction.

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Jin Apparel risks license revocation

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

MANAGEMENT of a garment firm facing revocation of its license is now looking into allegations it has violated the Commonwealth's licensing law.

Jenny Kirk, Personnel Manager of the Jin Apparel Inc., refused to comment on the commerce department's move.

But David Wiseman, legal counsel for the firm expressed disappointment over the matter, saying a lot remains to be seen on government's efforts to entice investors into operating in the Com-

monwealth if establishments are being ordered to close down.

"(Government is trying to) encourage investment. To try to close... businesses leaves a lot to be desired," said Wiseman, in a phone interview.

He refused to discuss the revocation bid though.

"No comment," he said when pressed for an answer.

Variety repeatedly tried to contact acting Commerce Secretary Bernadita T. Palacios to shed light on the matter but failed.

Variety likewise contacted Pam Halstead, head of the commerce

department's Business License Office (BLO) who however said she "has instructions not to discuss the matter with anyone who might inquire."

In a public announcement issued on Wednesday, Palacios issued a notice of intent to revoke or suspend Jin Apparel's license.

"The Secretary of Commerce," read Palacios's statement, "has determined that you have violated Section 4 CMC 5611 (D) (1) (D) of (the) Business Licensing Statute."

Jin Apparel, according to Palacios, also violated business licensing regulations.

According to the public announcement, a hearing has been scheduled on the matter on July 28 this year at the commerce department's Administrative Hearing Room.

Palacios's letter was addressed to a certain Eric S. Smith, Jin Apparel's registered agent.



Randy Kresge from Fire Arms Training Systems (FATS, Inc.) is on Guam this week to set up and conduct operational, troubleshooting and maintenance on a new judgmental pistol shooting equipment that will allow Guam Police Department Officers "Split Second" decision making and firearms accuracy skills.

Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

AGO seeks seizure of construction equipment

By Ferdie de la Torre

Variety News Staff

AFTER going after a vehicle and karaoke equipment, the Attorney General's Office and the Division of Immigration are now seeking the forfeiture of construction equipment.

The AGO and Immigration yesterday filed another petition seeking the forfeiture of a firm's construction equipment and personal items allegedly used in connection with the employment and harboring illegal aliens.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Robert Goldberg, counsel for the petitioners, asked the Superior Court to forfeit such equipment and other property, including two pick-up trucks, belonging to Tower Construction.

"This action involves serious violations of the Commonwealth's immigration laws," said Goldberg, adding that the filing of the petition was part of the government's "zero tolerance" policy of strict enforcement of immigration laws.

The lawyer in the petition stated that the immigration officers seized the equipment in connection with an immigration enforcement operation at Tower Construction site in San Vicente last June 4.

Goldberg said Tower Construction employed numerous Chinese, Filipino, Korean and Bangladeshi overstaying aliens as construction workers.

The government has filed 16 separate deportation cases for immigration violations.

Goldberg said the trial court has entered several deportation orders of these cases.

Goldberg said all right, title and interest in the construction equipment and all other personal property should be transferred to petitioners immediately.

It was the third such kind of petition filed in a week by Goldberg to get equipment belonging to private firms which were allegedly used in violation of immigration laws.

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Zachares on labor situation:

'It's gone out of control'

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff
LABOR and Immigration Secretary Mark Zachares yesterday said he is "revisiting" an agreement reached last year between his office and the

commerce department on the financial screening of establishments applying for nonresident workers. Speaking before members of the Commonwealth's chapter of the Society for Human Resource Manage-

ment (SHRM), Zachares explained the move is part of government's plan to continuously weed out "fly-by-night" firms mostly manpower agencies and guard duty companies. There were, according to Zachares,



Mark Zachares an estimated 400 manpower and service firms operating in the Commonwealth.

A sizeable bulk of labor complaints filed by workers at the Department of Labor and Immigration (DOLI) stemmed from these firms' alleged unfair labor practices.

"It's out of control," said Zachares. "It's almost like a cancer, instead of (treating it with) chemotherapy, I have to take it off. That's how bad it is," he said.

Zachares said only legitimate man-

power agencies and security firms—those which has the financial capability to sustain employment of a labor pool—should be allowed to operate in the Commonwealth.

"We want to let (only) the real people, the real business to remain," he said.

The agreement was forged under the term of then DOLI secretary Thomas O. Sablan.

It was reached after a commerce department study showed that manpower agencies have been causing an abnormal situation where unemployment exists among nonresident workers.

Members of the business community present during the SHRM meeting however expressed concerns saying the move has been adversely affecting their operation as difficulties have been experienced in hiring service workers.

This, they said, is being aggravated by the recent enactment of a law imposing a moratorium on the entry of more nonresident workers in the Commonwealth.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW98-IFB-019
July 10, 1998

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Department of Lands & Natural Resources (DLNR) are soliciting sealed bids for Construction of Kaganan Water Tanks on the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Magnitude of this project is between \$100,000.00 and \$300,000.00.

Sealed bids, in triplicate, must be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, Monday, August 10, 1998, at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A bid bond of fifteen percent (15%) of the total bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a bid bond executed by a U.S. Treasury listed insurance company, certified check or cashier's check made payable to the CNMI Treasurer with a notation on the face of the check: "Check Account No. 44660".

The specifications, drawing, and bid documents are available on or after Friday, July 17, 1998 at the Technical Services Division (TSD), DPW, Lower Base, Saipan. A cost of one hundred fifty dollars (US\$150.00) is required for each set; payment to be made to the CNMI Treasurer, credit "Account No. 610K".

A Pre-bid Conference for this project will be held at 10:00 a.m. local time, Monday, August 3, 1998 at the DPW Conference Room, Office of the Secretary, Gualo Rai, Saipan. All questions concerning this project must be submitted in writing to the DPW Technical Services Division, Lower Base no later than close of government business, August 3, 1998.

The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds executed by a U.S. Treasury listed insurance company and in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price. Performance time for completion of the project is one hundred fifty (150) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at two hundred dollars (US\$200.00) per calendar day.

Attention is called to the Labor Standard Provisions for wage rate determination and payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the specification must be paid on this project.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands with the exception of bid bonds, certified checks, or cashier's checks which will be returned in accordance with the specifications section title "Instruction to Bidders".

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal in the interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Juan B. Cepeda
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/Joaquin A. Tenorio
Secretary of Lands & Natural Resources

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Acting Director, Procurement & Supply

Rechebei named new Crime Stoppers chair

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE CNMI Crime Stoppers named Liz Rechebei as the organization's new board chair, the Variety learned yesterday.

Crime Stoppers outgoing board chairman Manny T. Vilaga said Rechebei was chosen by the board of directors as new head of the organization.

Vilaga said Rechebei has served as secretary of Crime Stoppers. Vilaga, whose term expired last June 30, served as chairman for the past three years.

Rechebei is off-island.

The outgoing chairman said with the new set of officers, the CS Program will continue to serve the Commonwealth without expecting personal gain.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Please note, there has been a change in the price of Waterpark Passes at the Pacific Islands Club. Effective July 6th, Waterpark Prices are as follows:

Children under 18 years old - \$20.00
Adults 18 and over - \$20.00
Children 3 and under are Free

All children must be accompanied by an adult chaperone 18 and over.

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB

Accident blamed on pedestrian

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A 24-year-old man was injured after he was struck by a car along Middle Road in Garapan Wednesday night.

Public Safety Information Officer Rose Ada said the victim, Bishny Bahadur Khadka, suffered abrasion on the left side of his head, left elbow, right hand and right foot.

Ada said the police during preliminary investigation, however, found Khadka to be at fault in the accident for not yielding to vehicles on the highway.

Ada said investigators also cited that the victim crossed the highway at a poorly lit area.

Investigation showed that while Ronnie Pinta Badilles was driving a car northward on the outer lane of 2W Highway in front of Alto Market, a woman pedestrian crossed from the shoulder south-bound lane.

The woman's companion, Khadka, also came running out in front of the car on the inner lane.

It was then that the car struck the victim, Ada said.

The driver immediately stopped and assisted the victim and the woman. He brought the victim to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment.

Meanwhile, a band member at Lexus Club was seriously injured after he allegedly tried to commit suicide using a leather belt tied to a doorknob Wednesday afternoon.

The victim, a 29-year-old man, was placed under observation at CHC, police said.



One of the beading class students (second from left) is carefully putting the beads to his nylon string. These kids follow the step by step procedure prepared for them by their beading instructor Lucy Sablan. Photo by Louie Alonso

Woman charged in alleged hiring fraud

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A FORMER employee of the then Department of Commerce and Labor who pleaded guilty to a 1994 bribery case, is facing a new criminal case for allegedly involving in a direct hire fraud scheme victimizing several alien workers.

Lillian T. Duenas, of Derrin Hill, was charged with nine counts of theft, eight counts of theft by deception, seven counts of criminal deception, and one count of forgery.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Marvin J. Williams, in the complaint filed in the Superior Court, said Duenas stole money totalling \$6,460 from eight non-resident workers and \$846 from Grace International Inc.

Williams said the defendant, as personnel manager for Grace International, stole in separate incidents last January from alien workers—Edgar Gariban, Norberto R. Perez, Marcianita Hibi, Amelia Alava, Norma Quejano, Josefina Requerme, and Artemio A. Galutan.

The prosecutor said Duenas also stole cash money from Chao Chen on or between July and Oct. 1997.

Williams said Duenas obtained such money from the victims by falsely stating that she could hire non-resident workers directly as authorized by Grace International.

Last Jan. 13, the government lawyer added, Duenas stole \$846 from Grace International by forging a check on the account of the company payable to her.

Duenas was summoned to appear and answer the charges in court on July 20.

In 1994, the government charged Duenas with three counts of bribery and three counts of misconduct in public office for accepting bribes in exchange for issuances of entry and work permits. She was employed with DCL when the offenses were allegedly committed.

Duenas signed a plea agreement with the government in which she admitted guilty to one count of bribery. The court accepted the plea and dismissed the remaining charges.

The court sentenced her in 1995 to five years' imprisonment, all suspended except six months.

In Sept. 1995, Superior Court Associate Judge Edward Manibusan during a resentencing ordered the defendant to spend five years in jail, all suspended except 10 days.

Among the conditions of the suspended sentence was placing Duenas on probation from Sept. 14, 1995 to Sept. 14, 2000.

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'Tax everybody else'-- Aldan

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff
A local bank official yesterday proposed that government impose new taxes "on everybody" so that

the burden caused by the current budgetary problems is "shared by all and not just one industry sector."
"We are all beneficiaries of the

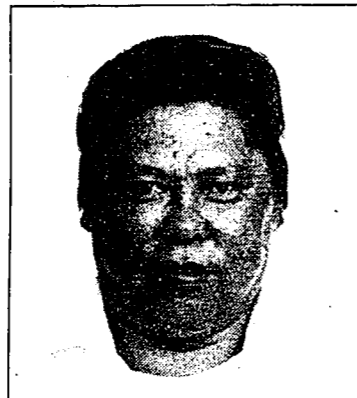
same services the government will tax (anyway)," said Tomas B. Aldan, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bank of Saipan (BOS), in an interview.

Aldan's remarks came a day after James Lin, President of the Saipan Garment Manufacturers' Association (SGMA), said government is singling them out in a bid to generate badly needed revenues by moving to increase the current 3.5 percent user fee to 3.7, and imposing a cap on the number of garment workers.

Lin recommended that other industry sectors, like the banking community, be imposed new taxes as well.

"It's true," Aldan said, "(government) is essentially trying for more revenues."

"It needs more money. But why should just one industry pay all these



Tomas B. Aldan

However, The Saipan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) has been standing strong on its position opposing new tax schemes, even increased licensing fees, until it is convinced government itself has duly implemented austerity measures.

The move to increase the garment sector's user fee has been advocated by Insular Affairs Director Allen Stayman.

This, according to Stayman, will enable the Commonwealth to generate more than enough funds to match the \$11-million requirement for federal grants on Capital Improvement Projects (CIP).

Ironically, Stayman's proposal was made after the Chamber proposed that the CNMI government be allowed to waive its matching fund requirement so that fresh capital can be infused into the Commonwealth's ailing economy.

?" he raised.

Aldan proposed that a bill be enacted to allow government collect new or more taxes from businesses and individuals for a certain period of time - one to two years - until the coffers are sufficiently filled.

"Everybody should contribute," he said.



A high ranking Chinese Taipei government official leaves the old Guam airport after arriving from an overseas conference yesterday.
Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

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Elsewhere in the Pacific Fiji sees loss of millions in sugar industry earnings

SUVA (Pacnews)—Fiji will lose over \$F100 million (\$US49m) in sugar industry earnings due to the expected shortfall in cane and sugar production this year.

This was disclosed by the Acting Minister for Agriculture, Lagisoa Delana while introducing a Bill to amend the Sugar Fund Authority Act in the Lower House this morning.

The bill if passed will allow the release of about \$F27 million

(\$US13m) for crop rehabilitation, Island Networks Corporation reports.

Delana says its estimated that the 1998 crop will now be ONLY 2.5 million tonnes of cane, adding that the situation could worsen.

He said the crop will continue to drop if the drought continues and this could result in a further decline in the revenue.

Meanwhile, Labour leader Mahendra Chaudhry says crop rehabilitation for sugarcane farm-

ers affected by the drought is NOT a priority right now.

Contributing to the debate on the Bill, Chaudhry says the exercise will only be possible if Fiji has favourable weather.

He says what is more important to the farmers point of view now, is how they would survive over the next 15-18 months because statistics presented have indicated that thousands of farmers would be in dire straits.

Islands urged on good government

SUVA (Pacnews)—New Zealand's deputy prime minister and treasurer, Winston Peters says the lack of 'constitability' and subsequent political options provides potential opportunity for the possible lack of accountability and transparency in small island states.

He was speaking at the Fi-

nance and Economic Ministers Meeting presently underway in Nadi, Fiji.

He said Singapore and New Zealand are rated by the non government organisation, Transparency International, as the leading countries with the least occurrence of official corruption. Peters says to achieve development goals, some island states

should consider more stringent self-regulation, and more openly practice principles of transparency and accountability.

Peters said in order to successfully implement public sector and economic economic reform programmes, governments must more actively involve civil society partners, such as NGOs.

SPF ministers agree on economic action plan

SUVA (Pacnews)—Ministers from South Pacific Forum member countries met in Nadi, Fiji July 7-8 for the second annual Forum Economic Ministers Meeting.

In July 1997, in Cairns, Australia, Ministers agreed on a Forum Economic Action Plan to promote good economic management.

This was endorsed by Forum Leaders in the Cook Islands in September 1997, who asked Economic Ministers to review and report back to them progress in the implementation of the Action Plan.

This task was a key focus for Forum Economic Ministers, though many new issues were also considered. In reviewing implementation of the Plan, Ministers noted good overall progress, taking into account capacity constraints facing some members.

This review of the 1997 Action Plan and new matters raised in the course of the meeting are covered in the attached Forum Economic Action Plan - 1998 Review.

The meeting was held against the backdrop of regional and global economic difficulties, as starkly underscored by the Asian crisis.

Ministers remained confident that the best way to respond to such diffi-

culties is by continuing to strengthen their economies by pursuit of the 1997 Action Plan.

Key outcomes which Ministers agreed to address as appropriate to their country's circumstances include measures to reduce infrastructure; service and energy costs for the business sector and to promote greater consultation between government and business at the national and regional levels.

They also agreed on measures to address the welfare needs of their people in economic reform processes; the value of free trade among Forum members, requesting that the Forum Secretariat further develop for consideration a framework for such an agreement.

The ministers also agreed in adopting a common position with respect to many multi-lateral trade issues, including the development of a vulnerability index and the deferment of any decision on the graduation of Vanuatu from LDC status, considering the importance of telecommunications based information and business, to encourage the development of the information economy in the region and to consider regional strategies for this purpose at their next meeting.

American Samoa hopes for faster airport service

PAGO PAGO (Pacnews)—Complaints about the long waiting time for luggage at Pago Pago International airport in American Samoa should be a thing of the past now that the airport is getting a bigger and faster conveyor belt.

An airport spokesman said that the new conveyor belt will reduce the "Once we install this new conveyor, it should take care of the popular complaint that passengers have to wait for a long time for their luggage," he said.

The conveyor belt should be in place by this weekend when large contingents from the mainland and Hawaii are arriving for the annual conference of the main church in the territory, the Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa.

The new conveyor belt cost \$US130,000 and took a crew from New Zealand two weeks to install.

Fisheries pact signed

HONIARA (Pacnews)—The Solomon Islands government has signed a subsidiary fishing agreement with the Taiwan Deep Sea Boat Owners and Exporters Association.

The agreement was signed by the minister for agriculture and fisheries Dr Steve Aumano and the chairman of the association VI CHEN, SIBC reports.

Under secretary, fisheries Albert Wata says the agreement allows 20 vessels from the association to catch 1,500 tonnes of tuna at the cost of \$US10,000 per vessel a year in access fees.

Each vessel is expected to pay an additional \$US500 permit fees.

Wata says additional vessels fishing under this agreement will be required to pay \$US15,000 plus the permit fee.

Wata applauds the arrangement saying the Taiwan Deep Sea Boat Owners and Exporters Association will be paying all the fees one year in advance.



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US, India talk over nuke tests

By Donna Bryson
NEW DELHI, India (AP) — In talks with a United States envoy angered by its nuclear tests, India hopes to make the most of the chief concession it can offer: signing an international test ban treaty it once denounced as weak and unfair.

For both sides, compromise will be difficult. U.S. envoy Strobe Talbott and his Indian counterpart, Jaswant Singh, meet Thursday in Frankfurt, Germany, for the second round of what are likely to be protracted negotiations. They met in Wash-

ington in June, and further talks are planned to try to repair ties strained when India set off a series of underground nuclear tests in May.

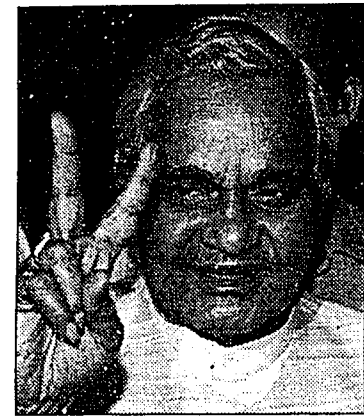
Washington responded to the tests by cutting off aid and loans and calling on New Delhi to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty unconditionally.

Neighboring Pakistan answered with its own tests, sparking fears their 50-year rivalry could erupt into nuclear war and leading to U.S. sanctions against Pakistan as well.

The day Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee announced India's first tests, he said he would consider signing some form of the test ban treaty. Indian leaders have long opposed it, maintaining it does nothing to strip the five traditional nuclear powers of their weapons of mass destruction.

They charge that instead, it freezes the technical advantage decades of testing has given those nations — the United States, Russia, China, France and Britain.

India's retreating from its once-strident opposition will require reshaping domestic public opinion, said Jasjit Singh, director of New Delhi's inde-



Vajpayee

pendent Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses.

A resumption of U.S. aid and loans could help Vajpayee sell the treaty, Singh said. Even better, he said, would be allowing India unrestricted access to nuclear energy components that can also be used for weapons.

The United States and 33 other nations in the Nuclear Suppliers Group have banded together to try to keep "dual-use technology" out of the hands of countries like India.

Indian officials often portray their nuclear confrontation as involving only the United States. But many other countries joined Washington in condemning India's tests

and imposing economic sanctions.

When the test ban treaty came to a vote in the U.N. General Assembly last year, 158 countries supported it; only India, Bhutan and Libya were opposed.

On both sides, lack of trust will make negotiations difficult.

Since Singh and Talbott last met, President Clinton visited China, where he joined President Jiang Zemin in calling on India and Pakistan to sign the treaty. India, which considers China's nuclear weapons its main security threat, was livid.

"This kind of damage done to the prospects of deal-making should have been avoided," said Brahma Chellaney, a nuclear affairs specialist with New Delhi's independent Center for Policy Research.

For its part, Washington's skepticism about India's intentions was underlined last month when Secretary of State Madeleine Albright accused New Delhi of trying to "test its way in" to the nuclear club.

Success or failure of the talks could affect whether Clinton will go through with a visit to India, tentatively set for November.

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 Office of the Executive Director

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ADDENDUM 1

This is to notify all prospective bidders that the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is extending the closing date of the above-mentioned invitation for bid. The decision to extend the closing date is based on numerous requests from bidders, and also to ensure that adequate time is allowed for re-evaluation and clarification of plans and specifications. The closing date is changed from July 10, 1998, to July 24, 1998. All other information mentioned in the solicitation should remain the same.

Timothy P. Villagomez
 Executive Director

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Fugitive denied residency

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Fugitive Australian businessman Christopher Skase has 15 days to get out of Spain after an application to renew his residency permit was denied, the Australian government said Wednesday.

Australian Justice Minister Amanda Vanstone said that while the decision means substantial inconvenience for the failed tycoon, it was no guarantee Skase would return to Australia.

Australia has since 1994 been seeking Skase's extradition from the Spanish resort island of Majorca, to where he fled after being charged in 1992 in relation to the \$930 million (Australian dollars 1.5 billion) collapse of his Qintex group of companies.

He avoided the 1994 extradition attempt when a Spanish court ruled that he was not well enough to return to Australia. However, he has since then been seen walking his dogs and playing in a golf tournament.

Vanstone said Skase had been informed of Spain's decision Tuesday, giving him 15 days from Wednesday to either leave the country or launch an appeal.

"It is very important to stress that Mr. Skase does have judicial appeal processes available to him," Vanstone told reporters.

Skase's Spanish lawyer, Antonio Zoll, said Skase would appeal the decision and would also seek to extend the period of grace to 90 days, the domestic news agency Australian Associated Press reported.

Zoll said Skase was told his application was turned down because he no longer held a passport. It was

handed to the Australian government in May when he re-applied for residency.

An appeal, Zoll said, would be made to an administrative appeals tribunal on the grounds that Skase was denied his fundamental rights.

Skase was said to be angry and nervous about the deportation decision as he remained at his mansion hideaway on the Spanish resort island of Majorca.

Skase two weeks ago launched proceedings against Spain's earlier refusal to grant him Spanish identity documents. That appeal followed Spain's delivery of Skase's Australian passport to the Australian government.

Vanstone said Skase is not obliged to return to Australia if he can find another country to go, and that "presumably ... he has made plans."

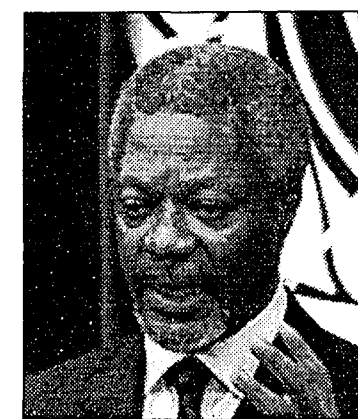
She called on Skase to give up and come home.

"I would hope that Mr. Skase would simply decide that enough is enough and come home and face Australian justice. After all, he claims he's innocent of any wrongdoing," she said.

Annan urges creation of world criminal court

By NICOLE WINFIELD UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Concerned that time is running out, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged negotiators Wednesday to finalize work on creating the world's first permanent war crimes tribunal.

Negotiators from over 150 countries have been attending a confer-



Kofi Annan

ence in Rome since June 15 to try to create the court that would try war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. The marathon conference is set to end July 17.

In a letter to the president of the conference, Giovanni Conso, Annan said he appreciated that everyone was working hard and would spare no effort to make the court a reality.

"Time is nevertheless running short," Annan said.

"I would therefore like to convey to you and to the conference my sincere hope that the participating states will find the necessary spirit of cooperation in order to be able to finalize the statute on July 17 with a view to creating a court which is strong and independent enough to carry out its task," Annan wrote.

One especially deep divide among the negotiators is whether the court should have a prosecutor free to open investigations on his or her own. The United States is firmly opposed to the idea, arguing that cases should come from individual states or the Security Council.

In his letter, the U.N. chief outlined what he said should be the goals of a permanent court.

"The overriding interest must be that of the victims, and of the international community as a whole," Annan wrote.

"The court must be an instrument of justice, not expedience. It must be able to protect the weak against the strong. It must demonstrate that an international conscience is a reality."

The idea of an international criminal court dates back to the Nuremberg war crimes tribunals of World War II. The idea was revived a few years ago amid the horrors in Bosnia and Rwanda — for which ad hoc courts have been formed to prosecute war criminals.

Hashimoto: Permanent tax cuts

By Martin Fackler TOKYO (AP) — His party's popularity flagging ahead of upcoming elections, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto gave his first clear indication Wednesday that he will seek permanent tax cuts to revive Japan's recession-bound economy.

"As part of permanent revisions of the tax system, I aim to create a tax system that can receive the support of the people," Hashimoto said at a news conference while campaigning in the central Japanese city of Nagoya.

Hashimoto gave few details, other than to say the cuts would take effect next year.

He also said his governing Liberal Democratic Party would come to a decision before the year's end about lowering corporate taxes.

The Japanese currency dropped against the U.S. dollar, as traders expressed frustration at Hashimoto's failure to offer a more specific plan. In late New York trading, the dollar was quoted at 139.27 Japanese yen, up from 138.75 late Tuesday.

"Come on, let's get real," said Tony Coveney, treasury director at N.M. Rothschild and Sons in London.

Earlier, Japan's major stock indexes had climbed in anticipation of tax cut promises by Hashimoto, who spoke after the stock markets closed.

The promise marks a change of direction for Hashimoto, who had avoided taking a clear stand

on permanent tax cuts, stressing instead the need to rein in Japan's ballooning national deficit.

At times during the campaign, Hashimoto seemed to flip-flop on tax policy, calling for "permanent tax reforms" and then appearing to backtrack by saying those reforms wouldn't reduce the nation's overall tax burden.

Analysts said Hashimoto's hand may have finally been forced as opinion polls show his party unlikely to win a majority in upper house elections on Sunday.

"Domestic politics has taken over," said Gerard Lyons, chief economist at DKB International in Tokyo.

Polls published Wednesday morning by major Japanese newspapers showed the LDP as



Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto holds his ballot before casting an absentee vote at Chiyoda ward office in downtown Tokyo Tuesday. The July 12 vote covers half the 252 seats in the upper house. It is widely seen as a referendum on Hashimoto's management of Japan's slumping economy.

many as nine seats shy of the 69 it needs to gain a majority.

They also show opposition parties such as the Japan Communist Party likely to increase seats as they campaign on platforms calling for sweeping tax cuts.

Japan also has come under increasing pressure abroad to pull its economy out of recession to halt the yen's slide and help prop up Asia's ailing economies.

Some economists have called on Hashimoto's party to adopt a reform of the tax system that would pay for rate cuts for the wealthy by increasing the number of Japanese who must pay taxes.

Japanese currently are not required to pay income tax unless they earn more than \$25,000 per year.

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Japan to loan Russia \$8-B

TOKYO (AP) — The Russian government will sign a contract with the Export-Import Bank of Japan to obtain \$800 million worth of untied loans, a major newspaper reported Thursday.

The signing will take place during Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko's visit to Tokyo starting Monday, the Nihon Keizai business daily said.

The funding is part of a \$1.5 billion untied loan promised by Japanese Foreign Minister Keizo Obuchi when he visited Russia in February, the report said.

The \$800 million component will go to modernize Russia's coal mining operations, a priority in Russian industrial reorganization.

To date, Moscow has already received loans totaling \$400 million from the World Bank, and will obtain half of the \$800 million loan from the Export-Import Bank by the end of July, the Nihon Keizai reported.

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HK legislators: Boost economy

HONG KONG (AP) — Legislators from across the political spectrum buried differences Wednesday and overwhelmingly backed an aggressive economic stimulus package, presenting Hong Kong's post-handover government with its first meaningful opposition.

Members of the 60-seat legislature voted 51-1 in favor of a motion demanding deep tax cuts and fee reductions than what the government has proposed.

The motion has no legal effect, but it places the government under tremendous pressure. It also could be a sign of future cooperation among the disparate parties.

While pro-Beijing politicians and Hong Kong's business elite form a

solid majority generally loyal to the government, there has been speculation that the pro-Beijing faction could line up with government critics on economic issues.

Hong Kong, following much of Asia, is heading into economic recession. The government has announced several packages to stimulate the economy, but says there is relatively little it can do.



Cargo pile up next to freight planes at Hong Kong's new Chek Lap Kok airport Tuesday. Fending off criticism that they were unprepared, managers of Hong Kong's huge new airport said they were solving a string of problems that left passengers waiting for bags, stuck on planes or wondering where flights were.

Financial Secretary Donald Tsang refused to make any commitments to the legislators, saying the government must be a prudent fiscal manager.

"We may not solve all our problems no matter how much more we spend," Tsang said. "I agree this is time we return our riches to the people, but we must do it reasonably."

Supporters of the motion, sponsored by Chan Kam-lam of the pro-Beijing Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong, included government supporters and critics, and labor and employee representatives.

Seven political parties and about a dozen independents, forming an overwhelming majority in the legislature, formed a coalition last month to demand the stimulus measures.

Yeung Sum, vice chairman of the Democrats, Hong Kong's main oppo-

sition, said the unity was encouraging.

"This is a good start, and a good development in Hong Kong politics. We can drop our political difference, and work together with one another to improve people's lives."

"The single good thing that came out of the financial crisis is it has brought us together," said Miriam Lau, of the pro-business Liberal Party.

The government last month introduced a multibillion-dollar stimulus package that received mixed reviews. Officials froze land sales until March and reduced taxes and fees. The package will result in a budget deficit.

Hong Kong's economy contracted 2 percent in the first quarter, the first contraction in 14 years. Unemployment is at a 15-year high at 4.2 percent.

INVITATION FOR BIDS COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION CUC-IFB98-0032

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, is soliciting sealed bids for the construction of TANAPAG/SAN ROQUE WATERLINE PROJECT, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sealed bids shall be identified on the outside of the envelope by the Invitation for Bids No. CUC-IFB98-0032. Bids in duplicate will be accepted at the Office of the Special Advisor, Procurement and Supply, CUC, at Lower Base, Saipan until 3:00 p.m., on July 28, 1998, at which time and place will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or other form acceptable to the CNMI government made payable to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business permit in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general, of installation of approximately 4 miles of underground PVC pipes, size ranging from 4-inch to 8-inch diameter, including valves, fittings, service laterals, and meters.

A non-refundable payment of \$250.00 is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after July 7, 1998 at the Water Division Office, CUC, Saipan. A pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on July 14, 1998, at the CUC Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit is scheduled following the pre-bid meeting.

Attention is called to the Labor Standard Provisions for Wage Rate Determination of the CNMI Classification and Salary Structure Plans and that payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the specifications must be paid on this project.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

/s/TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-98-0025 June 17, 1998

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive bids from responsible firms capable of supplying and delivering power distribution electrical line materials for the Chalan Kanoa and Susupe Villages Electrical Distribution Upgrade Project on the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), approximately 150 miles north of Guam.

Interested Parties may pick up a bid package at CUC's Procurement & Supply Office in Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI, during normal work hours (7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.) or have the bid package faxed upon request.

Bidders shall provide a certification signed by a principle of the company stating that the company has in the past, and is currently, in compliance with all applicable CNMI and federal labor laws. Should the company be unable to provide such certification, the company must provide a written explanation as to why, including a description of any violations of such labor laws and any remedial action taken. FAILURE OF THE COMPANY TO PROVIDE THE CERTIFICATION OR EXPLANATION IS GROUNDS TO REJECT THE ENTIRE BID.

Bidders shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the successful bidder in fulfilling the contract, including excise taxes.

Bids in duplicate must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked CUC IFB 98-0025, to CUC, Procurement & Supply Section, P.O. Box 1220, Lower base, Saipan no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, Friday, July 17, 1998. Bids received late will not be considered. The bids will be opened and read aloud at the CUC conference room after bid closing.

The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the necessary funding and/or required approval to enter into legally binding arrangements to complete the entire project.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC.

The IFB does not commit the CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a bid under this request, or to procure or contract for materials.

CUC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defect in said bids, or any of them, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
Executive Director

Hong Kong airport service improves

HONG KONG (AP) — After two days of misery, passenger services improved today at Hong Kong's new airport, but computer problems forced air cargo handlers to extend a shipping embargo.

Merchants complained that fresh flowers, fruits, vegetables and seafood all were arriving late and spoiled. Seafood wholesalers and retailers said they were facing the loss of half their profits.

Hong Kong's media were sharply critical. Editorials questioned whether airport officials had rushed the opening of Chek Lap Kok airport, and in the process damaged Hong Kong's reputation rather than giving the territory a much-needed morale boost.

The \$2 billion airport, built on a manmade island, replaced Hong Kong's old and overcrowded Kai Tak airport. But since the new airport opened Monday, passengers have suffered delays in baggage handling and flight information. Some complained they had to wait an hour or more to get off their planes after they

arrived, and many said that the vast airport's signs were poor.

One of the most damaging developments was the decision Tuesday of a major cargo handler, Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals, to temporarily move import and export clearance operations back to its facilities at the old airport until the computer bugs could be straightened out. It also placed a 24-hour embargo on cargo carried by passenger planes.

Officials said today that things were getting better in the new passenger terminal. The airport's corporate development director, Clinton Leeks, told Hong Kong radio the flight information system was now working and baggage backlogs had been cleared.

The real problems were at the new cargo terminal, and it did not appear that they would be solved overnight.

Television reports showed the streets of an open seafood market littered with crabs that died by the time they arrived at market. Seafood shipments were being delayed 20 hours at the airport, TV-B said.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



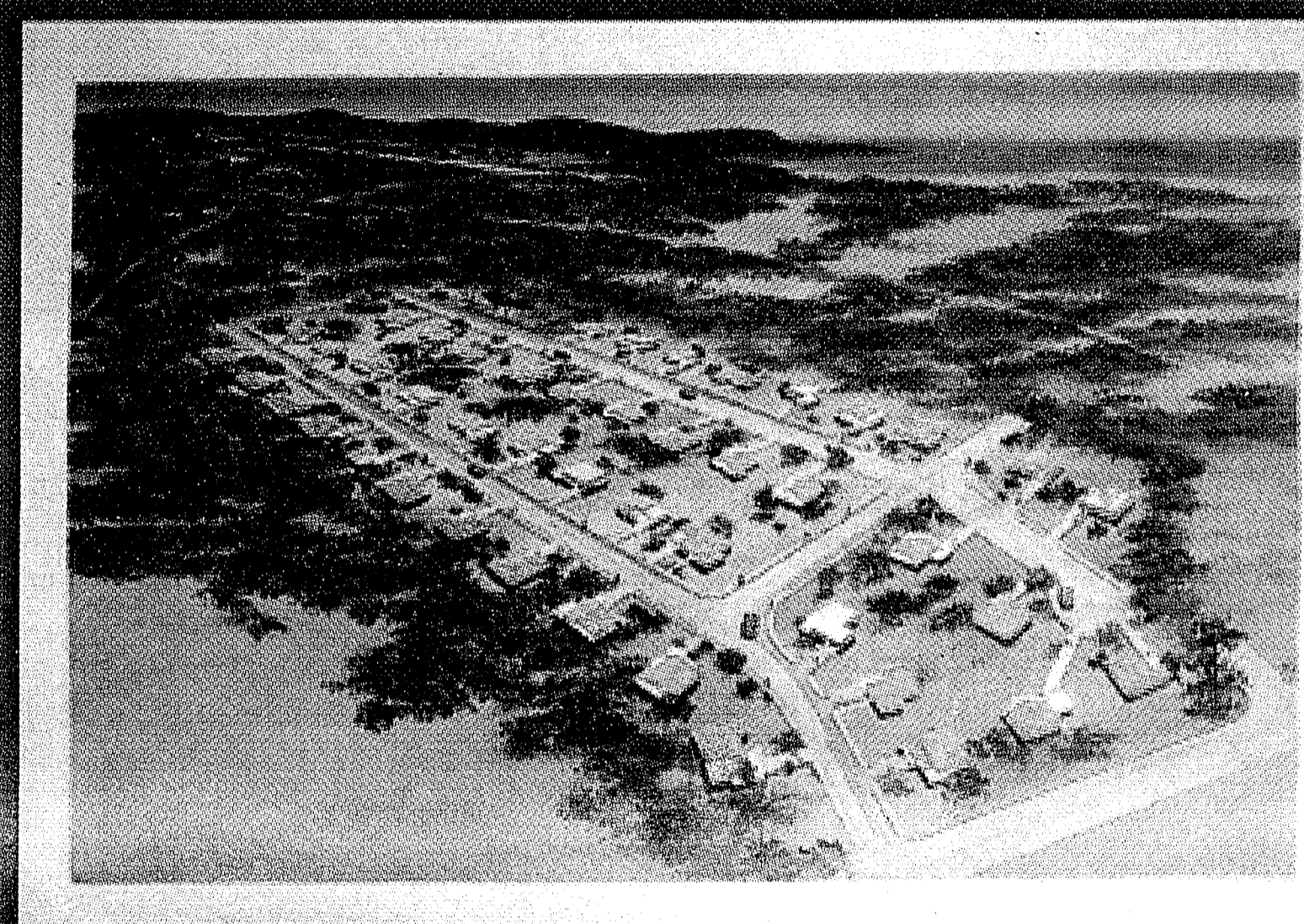
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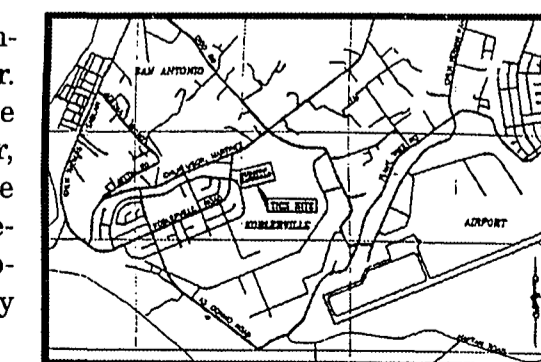


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Indonesia seeks \$6B in loans

By PATRICIA LAMIELL
NEW YORK (AP) — Indonesian officials said Wednesday that they will seek an additional \$4 billion to \$6 billion in new loans from international banks and expressed confidence that they would get it.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund is expected to release \$1 billion of aid to Indonesia as early as next week, to assist the struggling country in getting back on its feet, IMF and Indonesian government officials said.

The \$1 billion in aid would be part of a \$43 billion package the IMF approved in October. The latest installment of the aid has been delayed by concerns about economic and political instability in Indonesia.

David Burton, a senior advisor for Asian affairs at the IMF, said he was "hopeful and confident" that the agency would release the funds.

The announcement came at the kickoff of an international tour by Indonesian officials to visit banks in the United States, Japan and Europe. The Indonesians are seeking new loans and also want to arrange new repayment terms for about \$80 billion in existing bank and corporate debt.

"This was a very constructive meeting," said Robert Strong, Chase Manhattan Corp.'s senior credit officer, who is representing Chase in the discussions. "I am optimistic that (the program) will move forward."

So far, international banks have restructured \$1.4 billion out of \$4 billion to \$5 billion in trade financings to Indonesia. Indonesian banks owe an additional \$8 billion to \$9 billion in short-term debt, set to expire by April 30, 1999, to international banks. Of that amount, Indonesia's goal is to get at least \$6 billion extended to as long as four years, Strong said.

An additional \$64 billion in individual corporate debt will be restructured on a case-by-case basis, with the backing of the newly formed Indonesian Debt Restructuring Agency, Strong said.

Asia's financial meltdown, which began last summer, has hit Indonesia the hardest of all the economies in the region.

The value of the rupiah has dropped more than 80 percent in the past 11 months. Inflation is soaring and unemployment is climbing as hundreds of companies find themselves unable to cope with huge debt.

There have been food shortages and rioting, which led to the resignation of President Suharto in May.

Separately in New York, the Standard and Poor's Corp. credit-rating agency confirmed a negative outlook for Indonesia, reflecting "continuing uncertainty regarding the new government's commitment to political and economic reform."

Retaliation by Seoul:

S. Korea to expel Russia envoy

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea ordered the expulsion of a Russian diplomat today, four days after one of its own envoys was kicked out of Moscow on spying charges.

The Foreign Ministry said Oleg N. Abramkin, one of six embassy councilors, was declared persona non grata and given three days to leave the country.

The ministry said Abramkin had engaged in "activities that go against his status as a diplomat" — a common diplomatic euphemism for spying. It did not elaborate.

South Korea had promised retaliatory measures ever since Cho Seong-ho, a political officer at its embassy in Moscow, was ordered expelled Friday for allegedly obtaining classified data from a Russian contact.

On Tuesday, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Vladimir Rakhmanin urged Seoul not to use Cho's expulsion as a pretext for retaliation.

In Moscow, the Russian news agency Interfax quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Grigory Karasin as calling South Korea's action "an absolutely unwarranted and inequitable response." He said he had conveyed Russia's displeasure to South Korean Ambassador Lee In-ho.

Cho was detained for about two hours after he met with the alleged contact last Friday, then ordered to leave Russia. South Korea protested the way Russia handled the case, especially Cho's brief detention by Federal Security officials despite his diplomatic immunity.

The Federal Security Service, a successor of the Soviet-era KGB, identified Cho's Russian contact as Valentin Moiseyev, a deputy chief of the Foreign Ministry's First Asian Department, which deals with North and South Korea as well as China and Mongolia.

It planned to charge Moiseyev, who remains jailed, with turning over classified information to South Korea.

It was the first time a South Korean diplomat had been expelled by Russia since the two countries established diplomatic ties in 1990.



Cho Sung-woo, a diplomat at South Korean Embassy in Moscow, center, is surrounded by reporters after Cho arrived Kimpoo International Airport in Seoul Tuesday. Cho was expelled by Russia after questioning him for hours on espionage charges last July 6. AP

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

THE CNMI GOVERNOR'S DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THROUGH GOVERNOR PEDRO P. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS R. SABLAN, THE AVAILABILITY OF GRANT FUND FOR ONE PROJECT LISTED BELOW.

SC/CE 98-2000SP TRAINING FOR LOCAL EDUCATION BOARDS AND PERSONNELS, PARENT OF CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ON "INCLUSIVE EDUCATION". EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF SERVICES AND SATISFACTION OF PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES WITH CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM. DEVELOPMENT OF A CNMI "INCLUSIVE EDUCATION BEST PRACTICES" HANDBOOK.

EXPECTED OUTCOME: STUDENTS REACH THEIR EDUCATIONAL GOALS

DESIRED OUTCOMES: -STUDENTS HAVE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES BASED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND GOALS AND HAVE ACCESS TO AN ARRAY OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS -PARENTS KNOW THEIR RIGHT REGARDING THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION -EDUCATORS ARE PREPARED TO EDUCATE ALL STUDENTS AND PUBLIC POLICY SUPPORTS APPROPRIATE EDUCATION

DESCRIPTIONS: THE CNMI GOVERNOR'S DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL IS INVITING INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL FOR A PROJECT TO PROVIDE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS, ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ENROLLED IN OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM AND TO REVIEW, IDENTIFY, ANALYZE, EVALUATE AND PREPARE A REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND SATISFACTION OF PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ENROLLED IN OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM DEVELOP A CNMI "INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: BEST PRACTICES" HANDBOOK FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND CONSUMERS. DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR TEACHER RETENTION AND PROVIDE.

ELIGIBILITY/REQUIREMENTS: ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS CAN BE PUBLIC AGENCIES, PRIVATE ONPROFIT AGENCIES OR PRIVATE FOR PROFIT AGENCIES WITH PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES IN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION TRAINING AND CONDUCTING AND COMPLETING AN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT REPORT. WORK EXPERIENCE WITH EMPHASIS OR RESEARCH MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH PROPOSAL.

TERMS: SELECTED CANDIDATE MUST BE WILLING TO TRAVEL TO AND WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (IF NECESSARY), SIGN A GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT CONTRACT, PROVIDE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. THE COUNCIL WILL GUARANTEE A MINIMUM OF 75 TO A MAXIMUM OF ONE HUNDRED-FIFTY WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS. PROVIDE STAFF AND OFFICE SUPPORT TO THE AWARDEE. THE COUNCIL WILL MAKE ALL THE NECESSARY TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS, COORDINATE TRAINING ACTIVITIES, PROVIDE STAFF AND OFFICE SUPPORT. PROJECT BEGINS AUGUST 1, 1998 AND SHALL END SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 UNLESS OTHERWISE EXTENDED.

FUNDING: \$21,000.00 (INCLUDE: PROFESSIONAL FEE, AIRFARE, GROUND TRANSPORTATION, MEALS FOR ONE PERSON, TRAINING MATERIALS AND MASTER COPY OF A REPORT AND A CNMI "INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: BEST PRACTICES" HANDBOOK).

DUE DATE: JULY 17, 1998.

FOR SPECIFICS ON TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OR FOR ANY GENERAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE COUNCIL PROGRAM OFFICER AT (670) 322-3014/1015.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-98-0031

June 26, 1998

The office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting sealed bids for the construction of the GUALO RAI SEWER SYSTEM, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The sealed bids shall be identified on the outside of the envelope by the invitation for bid number CUC-IFB-98-0031. Bids in duplicate will be accepted at the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, at Lower Base, Saipan, until 2:00 p.m., local time on July 26, 1998, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The base bid for this project consists of about 6,000 linear feet of gravity sewer, 36 manholes and sewer appurtenances.

A non-refundable payment of \$250.00 is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and bid Forms, available on or after June 26, 1998 at the Wastewater Division Office, located at Sadog Tasi, Saipan. A pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled for 2:30 p.m., local time, on July 16, 1998 at the Wastewater Division Conference Room, at Sadog Tasi, Saipan.

A bid guarantee of ten percent (10%) of the total price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or other form acceptable to the CNMI Government made payable to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business Permit in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the CNMI.

Attention is called to the Labor Standard Provisions for Wage Determination of the CNMI Classification and Salary Structure Plans and that payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Specifications must be paid on this project.

The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the necessary funding and/or required approval to enter into legally binding arrangements to complete the entire project.

CUC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest. All bids will become the property of CUC.

All inquiries shall be directed to Mr. Edward Babauta, Wastewater Project Engineer, at telephone numbers (670) 322-6706/7179.

TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
Executive Director



An Indonesian woman is helped out of a cooking oil distribution center in Jakarta after she passed out from waiting in the long lines to receive cooking oil Tuesday. Indonesia's worst economic crisis in decades has caused prices of staple foods to rise rapidly and shortages and distribution problems are increasing. AP

UN: Indonesian food woes acute

ROME (AP) — Nearly half of Indonesia's population faces acute food shortages following a prolonged drought and a worsening economic crisis, a U.N. agency said Wednesday.

The Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization said fewer people were able to buy food because of high unemployment and rising prices, following the depreciation of the local currency.

The agency estimated that by the end of 1998, nearly half of Indonesia's approximately 200 million citizens will fall below the poverty line. In 1996, there were 22.5 million poor, according to FAO.

Insufficient rainfall, as well as locust infestations in some areas, mean this season's harvests of rice and other crops will be less than expected, said the agency, which appealed to international donors to provide additional assistance.



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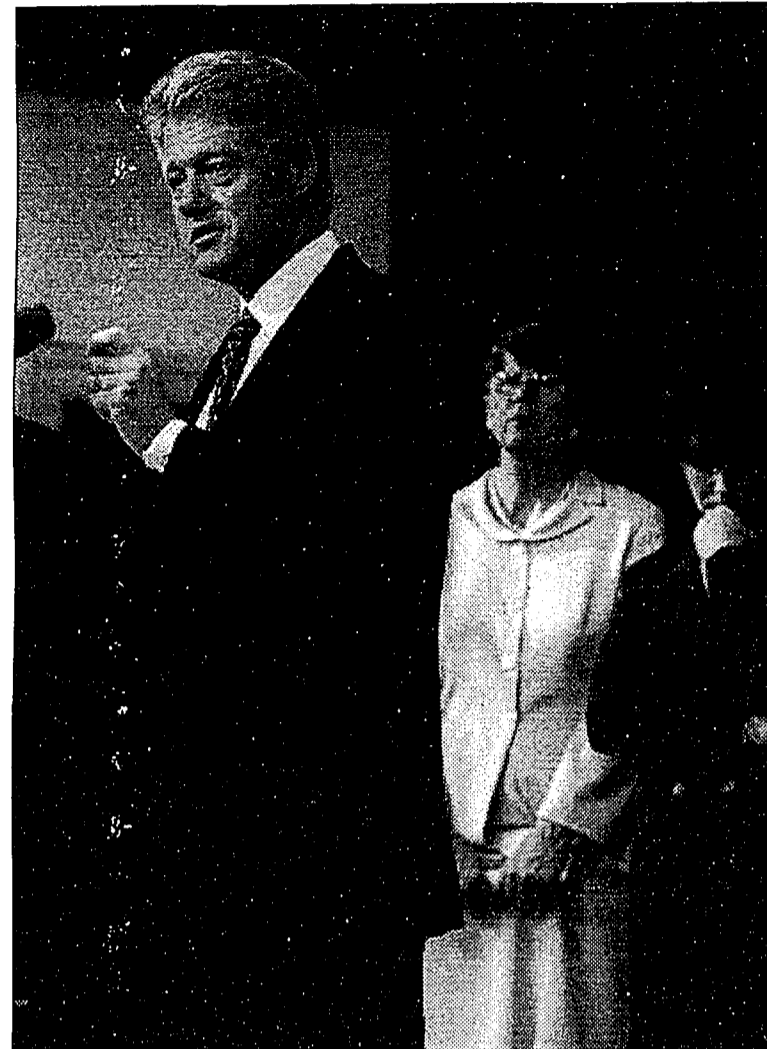
Clinton pushes gun access bill

By Robert Burns
WASHINGTON (AP)—With the grieving mother of an Arkansas school shooting victim at his side, President Clinton urged states and Congress to impose stiffer penalties against gun owners who fail to keep firearms out of the reach of children.

"As parents, public officials, citizens, we simply cannot allow easy access to weapons that kill," Clinton said Wednesday at a somber ceremony that put a human face on the problem of gun violence in schools.

Suzann Wilson, mother of 11-year-old Britthney Varner, who was among four girls and a teacher shot to death by two boys at Westside Middle School in Jonesboro, Ark., on March 24, choked back tears as she recalled that tragic day when "my life was changed forever."

Ms. Wilson said the school boys who opened fire that day had broken into the home of one boy's grandfather and taken several rifles and more than 500 rounds of ammunition. They earlier had tried but failed to get guns from a locked safe in one of their own homes.



President Clinton speaks in the Old Executive Office Building in Washington Wednesday to call on states and Congress to tighten restrictions on children's access to guns. Attorney General Janet Reno, center, and Suzann Wilson, mother of 11-year-old Jonesboro, Ark. victim Britthney Varner listen.

"It was those guns and that ammunition that they had used to shoot the four children who died and injure the 10," she said.

In an emotional plea, she urged that Americans everywhere learn from Jonesboro's tragedy.

"To every gun owner in America, I want to say: Please, please, for the sake of the children, lock up your guns. Don't let your children borrow the gun, or don't let them steal the gun. Be responsible. Don't let your gun become an instrument of murder. Don't let what happened in Jonesboro happen to your town," she said.

Citing the example of laws against drunk driving and penalties for not wearing seat belts, Ms. Wilson said firearm possession laws can succeed in reducing gun violence among youths.

"Lives will be saved," she said, and "once again our children will be able to return to school safe."

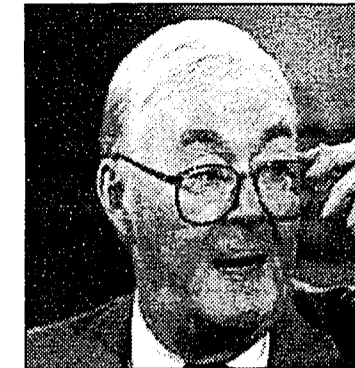
Clinton thanked Ms. Wilson for having the courage to talk about the school shootings so soon afterward.

"Most people wouldn't feel like going out of the house, much less coming all the way to Washington," the president said, adding that he felt

Continued on page 34

Senate to OK IRS overhaul

By Alan Fram
WASHINGTON (AP)—Inanelection-year swipe at one of the government's least popular agencies, Congress moved Wednesday toward sending President Clinton a bill restructuring the IRS and granting new rights to taxpayers embroiled in disputes with the agency.



Daniel Patrick Moynihan



Frank Murkowski

Ten months after Senate Finance Committee hearings spotlighting alleged IRS abuses gave the issue unstoppable political momentum, the Senate was poised to bestow its overwhelming seal of approval on the bill.

The House passed it by 402-8 on June 25, and Clinton's promised signature would finalize the most dramatic changes at the IRS in four decades.

Final passage had been expected Wednesday afternoon. But it was reset for Thursday when debate dragged toward dinner time, past when it could easily be highlighted in evening television news broadcasts.

The bill would shift the burden of proof from the taxpayer to the IRS in many tax court cases, and make it easier for someone winning a tax case to have their costs reimbursed by the government. It would also forbid the IRS to force people to pay interest and some penalties if the agency did not notify them of the problem within 18 months of filing their return.

A nine-member board — including six private citizens — would oversee the operations of the 102,000-employee agency. Employees could be fired for hiding mistakes, and the power and number of the IRS's taxpayer advocates would be expanded.

"Americans have every reason to celebrate," said Sen. William V. Roth Jr., chairman of the finance panel and chief author of the legislation. "They have let their desire be known, and they have been heard."

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, the finance committee's top Democrat, called the bill "an exceptional piece of legislation, and not an everyday event."

The Clinton administration — which opposed Congress' effort to revamp the IRS until after the Senate hearings — also heaped praise on the measure.

"This bill will help give Americans an IRS that is not only off people's backs but is, more importantly, on their side," said Vice President Al Gore.

"The president is eager to sign this bill into law and to make our tax system work better for ordinary families."

While many of the measure's provisions are aimed at creating a more user-friendly agency for all Americans, experts said the changes in taxpayers' rights would affect relatively few people.

Of the 212 million personal and business returns filed annually, only about 4 million to 5 million end up in dispute with the IRS, said Phil Brandt, the agency's former chief compliance officer now with the accounting firm KPMG Peat Marwick.

The bipartisan consensus over what Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., called "the agency we love to hate" was a striking contrast to the bitter battles being waged over managed care, public support for private schools and other issues as campaigning heats up for this November's elections.

But it was far from a truce. Some Republicans depicted the bill as a steppingstone toward their larger goal

of overhauling the entire income-tax code.

"It does not resolve the problem," said Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H. "But as an interim step... this bill makes great progress."

Critics were few.

Durbin and Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., said the rich would benefit from a provision shortening the wait-

ing period before investors qualify for the reduced 20 percent capital gains tax from 18 to 12 months. And Moynihan said shifting the burden of proof to the IRS in many cases could encourage more aggressive audits.

"I recognize the political popularity of that provision, but I fear it ultimately may work against the taxpayer. Be warned," he said.

Even so, most senators used the daylong debate to criticize the IRS and laud the legislation.

"In a democracy, there is no place for Gestapo-type tactics," said Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska.

"A first step toward restoring the confidence the American people have to have in our voluntary system of tax compliance," said Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun, D-Ill.

Even before the Senate hearings, lawmakers' antipathy toward the IRS was running high. A \$3.3 billion modernization of agency computers was deemed a flop, and a bipartisan congressional commission concluded last year that an outside board of directors should address management woes.

The bill is expected to cost \$12.9 billion over the next decade, mostly as a result of lost collections of taxes and penalties. To pay for it, the measure would raise revenues, mostly by letting some wealthy, elderly invest-

ment accounts into a different kind of IRA.

The legislation would also:

- Make it easier for people to avoid responsibility for tax problems caused by former spouses.
- Let taxpayers sue the government for up to \$100,000 for civil damages caused by IRS negligence.
- Forbid the IRS to seize a taxpayer's home without a court order.
- Make it a felony for executive branch officials to order politically motivated audits.
- Rename "most favored nation" trade status, which applies to all but seven countries, as "normal trade status."
- Make many employer-provided meals tax-free, a provision inserted by lawmakers from Nevada, where many casinos provide meals to workers.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW98-RFP-017 July 3, 1998

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Department of Public Health (DPH), are soliciting sealed proposals for the Architectural/Engineering Design of a new Hemodialysis Ward addition to the Commonwealth Health Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 4:00 p.m. local time, Friday, July 31, 1998. Sealed proposals must be marked "DPW98-RFP-017; A/E Design of CHC Hemodialysis Ward".

All inquiries must be submitted in writing to Mr. Andrew W. Smith, P.E., Director of Technical Services Division, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than close of government business, Monday, July 20, 1998.

Proposals must include the following:

1. Updated Standard Forms 254 and 255;
2. Design Approach and Methodology;
3. Design Team members/Firms
4. Project Schedule

Proposals will be evaluated by committee and a selection will be made based on the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated competence in the design of medical facilities with documented experience in the design of hemodialysis units. (50%)
2. Qualifications of Principal(s) and key staff to be assigned to this project (30%)
3. Approach to providing design services. (10%)
4. Time frame to complete the project. (10%)

The selected firm will be required to work jointly with DPW and DPH to determine the available area for the new hemodialysis ward, patient population (existing and projected), and comparability with existing CHC facilities.

A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified A&E firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the CNMI Government.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal in the interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/Juan B. Cepeda /s/Herman S. Sablan /s/Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez
 Acting Secretary of Public Works Acting Director, Proc. & Supply Secretary of Public Health



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Labor and Immigration Division of Labor

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following persons (Employees of American Thousands Profits Corp., Ltd.) with pending Agency Case are hereby notified to report to the Division of Labor, Enforcement Section (MLM), 2nd Floor of Afetna Building, San Antonio, Saipan on July 13, 1998 at 9:00 a.m.

Labor/Agency Case No.
AC No. 98-039

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Chen Lian Dui | 8. Jin Guo Dao | 15. Lu Dun Yi |
| 2. Chen Lizhen | 9. Jin Zhenghua | 16. Lu Dun Yu |
| 3. Chen Rui Lin | 10. Li Zaidui | 17. Xu Xing Bao |
| 4. Chen Wen he | 11. Li Zhen Zhu | 18. Wang Jin Ting |
| 5. Chen Yi Wang | 12. Lin Xiaoguo | 19. Zheng Xiugin |
| 6. Cheng Qi Xiong | 13. Lin Yaying | 20. Zheng Xiuyingmei |
| 7. Feng Kunsheng | 14. Lu Bing Huao | |

Failure to appear at the Division on or before the date and time specified above shall be grounds for dismissal of the above case. Furthermore, appropriate actions and/or sanctions shall be taken against the above individuals, which will include the referral of their names and/or matters to the Division of Immigration for proper actions.

Dated this 22nd day of June, 1998.

/s/GIL M. SAN NICOLAS
 Acting Director of Labor

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Excise . . .

Continued from page 1

this will help our economy to become stronger," said Sablan.

He added that the government will be able to meet its target \$30.8 million excise tax collection for the whole year of 1998.

"I'm very confident that we will be able to meet the projected collections because of

two main reasons. One, the continuing upsurge in construction activities. Two, the Tinian-Casino industry which was not included in last year's revenue collections," said Sablan.

While the construction materials collections went up, Sablan said that the cigarette collection was down by \$570,000. The leather goods collections also went down by \$510,000, and the cosmetics

went down by \$253,000.

Earlier, Sablan reported that the government exceeded by \$3 million its \$15.6 million projected user fee collection from October 1997 to April 1998 due to a strong garment export, coupled by efficiency in collections have affected this development.

Sablan, however, pointed out that the excise tax and user fee collections are only two of the components of government collections.

US . . .

Continued from page 1

part in federal elections. The president is just as much our president but we don't have a voice."

The Congressman, a member of the Asia-Pacific caucus, finds it ironic that while Guam cannot vote in presidential elections, it is allowed to donate money to presidential campaigns.

He also said that since the allegations of campaign improprieties surfaced, many Asians and Pacific Islanders have been cautious of becoming involved in politics. "This has had a debilitating effect," he commented. "It's a double whammy to not be able to vote and now we are criticized for contributing."

Underwood cited instances where Asian-Americans have said they feel they were stigmatized by the allegations. "People say to me, — I used to have access to politicians until all this attention focused on Asian money."

Critics of Guam's political contributions asserted that campaign money was donated to further Guam's quest for a change in political status. Underwood quells those thoughts stating, "The Commonwealth issue has been in front of Congress for ten years and not-

ing has changed. If campaign funds could buy a shift in our political status, why didn't anything change?"

On Guam, Governor Carl T.C. Gutierrez commented that he appreciates Torricelli's efforts to exonerate Guam from any wrongdoing.

"I am very happy that our good name is restored. We can't vote in the general election so campaign donations are the only way we can express our interests by assisting the man who tries to get more representation for us in his bid for re-election," he said.

Gutierrez said Guam has 150,000 disenfranchised citizens whose voice was in danger of being stifled by the allegations of illegal campaign contributions.

He encouraged Congress and the federal government to recognize Guam for its important place in the United States' economy.

"Guam needs to be elevated as a great economy — they need to bring us into the national economic strategy in Asia. We can be the economic bridge between Asia and the West."

Meantime, in Washington, Senator Torricelli commented, "I believe the residents of Guam deserve our profound apology and our encouragement to remain involved in the political process."

BOE . . .

Continued from page 1

of. It will also help us with the data we need to make good decisions in the future," Inos said during yesterday's sixth CNMI BOE meeting held at the Nauru Building.

The policy, however, was met with criticism, especially from teachers present during the meeting.

A teacher from Marianas High School said the imposition of this policy implies that the BOE does not trust teachers when they just sign in at a logsheet.

Inos, however, pointed out that the time clock system is not meant to punish teachers, unless they come to school often late, or always go home early. She added that the new system will give meritorious pay to those teachers who work overtime.

"I don't think it is a matter of trust; it's basically for the account-

ability issue. It's not for punitive purposes but to correct some attitudinal problems," said Inos.

Currently, public school staff log in on designated sheets for the time they come to school in the morning, as well as the time they go home in the afternoon, and they affix their signature beside. They are also required to be in the school for eight hours on school days.

Although the time clock system is being implemented in some schools, Inos said that majority of public schools does not have time clocks.

BOE chairwoman Marja Lee Taitano also agreed that the time clock system is the "best way" to track down the attendance of PSS employees, as well as the "best way" for the "matter of accountability."

"Let's give this system a try and if it doesn't work, then perhaps we'll go back to the old, manual system. It's not going to be forever," Inos said.

Judicial . . .

Continued from page 1

week by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, who also named Juan T. Lizama and John A. Manglona to serve as associate judges of the Superior Court.

Lizama and Manglona will replace Presiding Judge Alex Castro and Associate Judge Miguel Demapan, both of whom are nominated to the Supreme Court.

The senior Superior Court judge, Edward Manibusan, was nominated as the new presiding judge.

The judiciary nominations were confirmed yesterday, together with Vicente C. Camacho, Charles P. Reyes and Edwin M. Hofschneider. Camacho and Reyes will

serve on the Retirement Fund board of trustees, while Hofschneider will serve on the board of directors of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The governor yesterday hailed the confirmation of his nominees, expressing confidence at the same time that the new judges and justices will competently perform their duties.

If confirmed by the Senate, Kara, for her part, would be the first "non-acting" attorney general of the commonwealth since Richard Weil resigned in 1995.

Weil was succeeded by Sebastian Aloat and Robert Dunlap.

Lacking the required "residency" in the CNMI, the two served in "acting" capacities.

Yahoo beats expectations

NEW YORK (AP) — Yahoo Inc., the Internet darling whose stock has rocketed recently, reported unexpectedly strong quarterly results Wednesday as millions more people visited its popular Web site.

Yahoo also disclosed that Softbank Holdings Inc. of Japan paid \$250 million to boost its stake in the company to 31 percent.

Yahoo, based in Santa Clara, California, said it lost \$36 million, or 81 cents per diluted share, in the three months ended June 30. That was wider than the loss of \$21.6 million, or 50 cents per diluted share, in the comparable year-ago period.

But excluding a one-time charge of \$44 million for an acquisition during the period, Yahoo earned \$8.1 million, or 15 cents per share — far outperforming analysts' estimates of 9 cents per share, according to a survey by First Call Inc.

Revenue grew to \$41.2 million from \$14.1 million.

Yahoo's stock nearly doubled this past month amid a surge of investor enthusiasm for companies with popular Web sites for directing Internet users to other Web locations. Yahoo sells advertising on its site, which includes a range of features from chat, news and search services.

Yahoo released its results af-

ter the close of financial markets.

After soaring in recent sessions, Yahoo's stock fell 2.5 percent on Wednesday, down \$4.8125 to \$186.1875 on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

The company said it counted 115 million page views of its Web site per day during June, up from 95 million in March. The number of registered members also grew to 18 million from 12 million.

For the six months ended June 30, Yahoo lost \$31.7 million, or 72 cents per diluted share. That compared to a loss of \$22.3 million, or 52 cents per diluted share, a year ago.

Revenue rose to \$71.4 million from \$24.2 million.



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But, i can guarantee
my love for you.*

*Happy Birthday
Darling*

I Love You Forever...

From: NORMAN A.

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93 Hyundai Excel (3R256)	\$4,595
91 Subaru Legacy (71005A)	\$4,495
92 Subaru Loyale S/W (7H160A)	\$5,995
91 Isuzu 4X2 Pick-Up (1R305)	\$4,950
91 Mazda RX7 (7H135A)	\$6,995
94 Mazda Protege 4dr (8M164A)	\$7,495
92 Toyota 4X4 Pick-Up (8M161B)	\$7,995
94 Toyota Tercel 4dr (8M140A)	\$8,995
95 Mitsubishi Mirage (6R294)	\$9,095
96 Hyundai Sonata GLS (6R273)	\$10,495
94 Mitsubishi LRV Sport (16P249A)	\$10,995
95 Mitsubishi Galant (5R289)	\$11,995
92 Isuzu Rodeo 4x4 (2R242)	\$11,995
97 Hyundai Sonata GL (7R275)	\$11,995
90 Toyota 4-Runner (16R261)	\$12,595
93 Toyota Camry LE (8M158A)	\$12,295
97 Hyundai Sonata GLS (7R298)	\$13,595
95 Mitsubishi Eclipse (6R291)	\$13,795
95 Isuzu Rodeo 4x4 (5R198)	\$16,295
91 BMW 735i (1R306)	\$18,595
96 Mitsubishi Montero (6R197)	\$19,995

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Chip maker sees bigger quarterly loss

SUNNYVALE, California (AP) — Advanced Micro Devices Inc. lost a greater-than-expected \$64.6 million in the second quarter as an industry slowdown and falling prices outweighed the success of the company's flagship K6 microprocessors.

AMD said Wednesday its loss for the April-June quarter amounted to 45 cents a share on a diluted basis, compared with a profit of \$9.97 million, or 7 cents a share, for the same period of last year.

Revenue fell 11 percent from to \$526.5 million from \$594.6 million.

The loss was much deeper than Wall Street expected. Two dozen analysts surveyed by First Call had predicted a loss of 20 cents a share.

AMD, based in Sunnyvale, Calif., reported its results after the stock market closed. Its stock finished the day at \$18.125 a share, up 12.5 cents, on the New York Stock Exchange.

Chairman and chief executive officer W.J. Sanders III said sales of AMD's flagship K6 microprocessor rose 35 percent over the first quarter to nearly 2.7 million units. The chip competes against industry leader Intel Corp.'s Pentium and Pentium II processors.

Sanders also said its profit margins from the chip improved, thanks largely to the company's completing its transition to a more advanced and efficient manufacturing process. Snags in that change had prevented AMD from meeting demand for its new chip. But sales sank in other parts of

AMD business: communications, memory and program-matic logic chips. A general slowdown in the industry and economic woes in Asia were largely to blame, the company said.

AMD expects revenues from those businesses to be no better than flat in the second half of 1998 while it predicts continued gains with the K6 chip. The company, which has sold more than 4 million of the processors so far this year, believes it can sell a total of 12 million for 1998 and at least 20 million in 1999.

For the first half of the year, AMD lost \$127.3 million, or 89 cents a share, compared with profit of \$22.9 million, or 16 cents a share, on a diluted basis. Revenue fell 7 percent to \$1.07 billion from \$1.15 billion.

Russia awaits \$10B IMF loan

By MITCHELL LANDSBERG
MOSCOW (AP) — Russian officials say they are close to striking a deal with the International Monetary Fund on a loan package aimed at reviving the country's troubled economy.

Russian officials on Tuesday announced agreement with the IMF on major issues. Anatoly Chubais, Russia's representative to international lenders, said he hoped to iron out the rest of the key issues Thursday for a loan of \$10 billion to \$15 billion.

Russia's economy has been in a tailspin for much of this year after showing its first signs of growth since well before the Soviet collapse. The government, desperately in need of cash, has been negotiating with the IMF for a bail-out loan.

In Washington, the Clinton administration said it was encouraged by the discussions. "The IMF and Mr. Chubais announced yesterday an agreement in principle on certain steps that they're going to take and we think they need to be rapidly implemented," White House press secretary Mike

McCurry said. In a gloomy prologue to the expected loan package, labor unrest in Russia spread Wednesday and the stock market slid nearly 3 percent. Thousands of unpaid defense workers demonstrated in Moscow, St. Petersburg and

other cities, while coal miners halted traffic on the Trans-Siberian railway for the sixth straight day.

Many economists say the IMF loan is essential to restore confidence to Russia's faltering markets and halt the exodus of foreign investors.

HAPPY 7TH BIRTHDAY
(July 10, 1998)
KIMBERLY MARIE M. LIZAMA
Love,
MOM & DAD

HAPPY 1ST BIRTHDAY
to our very special little
EJHAY A. SANTOS JR.
on Sunday, July 12, 1998
We love you very much...
From: Mom, Dad, Lola Flora, Ate Mayla Tita & Tito

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

Sealed proposals will be received until 10:00 a.m., Monday, July 13, 1998 at NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, at which time and place all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. The proposal documents, which are available at NMHC's Office, shall be signed by the owner or authorized agent of the firm, and shall be enclosed in an envelope which shall be sealed and clearly labeled, "BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL". Companies shall be responsible for the placement of its firm's name and address on the outside proposal envelope.

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

Proposal Specifications may be obtained at the NMHC Office in Garapan, anytime between the hours of 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Questions or additional information may be directed to Edith Fejeran, Office Manager, at 234-6866/9447.

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

MARYLOU S. ADA
Corporate Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

IT IS THE POLICY OF THE COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION (CUC) THAT THE CUC MERIT HIRING SYSTEM SHALL BE APPLIED AND ADMINISTERED ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL CITIZENS AND NATIONALS DEFINED BY THE NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES REGARDLESS OF AGE, RACE, SEX, RELIGION, POLITICAL AFFILIATION OR BELIEF, MARITAL STATUS, HANDICAP OR PLACE OF ORIGIN.

TRADES HELPER (POWER PLANT OPERATOR)

Job Vacancy Announcement No.: 98-035
Opening Date : 06/30/98
Closing Date: 07/14/98

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Power Generation Manager or his designee, the incumbent is responsible in assisting the operation and maintenance of the power plant generators.

LOCATION: COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION, TINIAN

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: GED or experience equivalent to a high school diploma. Copy of diploma or transcript and recent police clearance must be attached to application. **APPLICANTS WILL BE TESTED ON BASIC MATH AND ENGLISH SKILLS.**

STARTING SALARY: \$11,841.97-14,388.82 PER ANNUM
SALARY WILL BE DETERMINED UPON EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS.

Applications are available at the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Lower Base, Saipan, and the CUC Rota and Tinian offices

FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATIONS.

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- Two Bedroom with One Bathroom (Part of a Triplex) Furnished.

Both are available immediately with power, 24 hours city water, 1000 gallon reserved water tank, telephone and cable tv wire are in place and located in Puerto Rico Village.

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WANTED EXPERIENCED COOK

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Capri
SURREALISM



Confusion ...

Continued from page 5

know that they don't know is quite another.

If some of our lawmakers don't begin to appreciate the economic elements required to engender a suitable "business climate" for increased investment, and make such investment safe, secure and welcome, I envision there will be fewer businesses left to provide the means for future employment and increased tax revenues.

Because of the Asian crisis if we are not careful the only thing left for the vultures to pick over will be the stripped bones of an economy trying to survive.

Both branches of government must realize that they are partners in business and should strive to protect business interests - not harass it with legislation piled on legislation and regulations modified by amendments and changed with changes that are then changed time and again.

This sends a signal that the place is unstable.

Business should also realize that it is not a one-way street and that they have certain obligations which, when not met voluntarily, will have to be adhered to by mandatory regulatory require-

New ...

Continued from page 1

against "prostitution loitering and patronizing a prostitute."

It also seeks to ban prostitutes from soliciting and "enticing" customers at a public place.

The bill is now Public Law 11-19.

H.B. 11-113, for its part, would authorize the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) to lend the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. (NMHC) up to \$10 million.

NMHC would then use the money to provide home loans to qualified CNMI residents.

The bill, which is now Public Law 11-20, was introduced by Rep. Karl T. Reyes (R-Prec. 1, Saipan).

The governor said the new law "will make the cost of financing home purchases more affordable for CNMI residents, particularly low income families."

Meanwhile, Tenorio in an interview said the names of his five nominees to the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) board of directors will be announced Monday.

He told reporters, however, that the administration will have a "hands-off" policy in the selection of the MVA executive director.

"I'll just name who my nominees to the board are, and it's up to them to pick an executive director," Tenorio said.

The board of the Marianas Visitors Bureau (MVB) earlier extended to July 18 the tenure of Executive Director Anicia Q. Tomokane, whose resignation was to take effect last July 8.

MVA will fully assume MVB's duties and functions on July 18, according to the governor.

MVA, as a public corporation, is expected to be more "independent" than MVB.

ments. Businesses do not operate in the Commonwealth within a laissez faire environment. Everyone knows that selfish opportunists, avarice and unbridled greed often precipitate abuses of one kind or another, either leveled at the worker, the consumer, the environment or the tax code.

The events of the mid eighties that resulted in the development of the tourism sector and which still distort many landowner's vision of the future was a freak occurrence - the intensity of investment that Saipan experienced in those days is not likely to happen again.

Future investment will come - but it will be much slower and much more discriminating in their analysis of both the profit potential and the laws and regulations that are in place to assist that effort as well as those in place to thwart the process.

As I have mentioned in previous essays, the Commonwealth is not the end of the rainbow, foreign investment does not have to come here. There are many other

locales where it is more than welcome and this is particularly true as the economies of southeast Asia and elsewhere start to recover and offer lucrative incentives to increase foreign investment.

And don't think that the island's geographic proximity to Asia will always remain as a destination advantage.

High speed aircraft are already on the drawing boards to negate that advantage by shortening travel time to other competing areas.

If an attractive welcome mat is not rolled out, future investors will simply bypass the Commonwealth.

Editor's note: The author has been an observer of the local economy for almost 30 years and arrived at a time when there was only 55 licensed businesses with total assets of less than \$2 million. He is the author of the books: "Business Reference and Investment Guide To The CNMI", "Investment Opportunities In The Commonwealth", a "Business Information Map" and has written more than ninety essays on economic and social issues in the islands.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for the ARRIVALS AREA AIR CONDITIONING, AT ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA, MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA Project No. R-CPA-A-001-95 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., August 7, 1998, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of enclosure and air conditioning of the existing Arrivals areas as well as the installation of a shell type baggage conveyor and various other upgrades throughout the interior and exterior of the terminal building.

The project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty days (60) from the receipt of bids. Depending upon availability of funds, CPA reserves the right to hold such bid in effect for ninety days (90) from the date of bid 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 bid documents.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the established CNMI wage rate.

Each bidder must complete, sign and furnish, prior to award of the contract (Project No. R-CPA-A-001-95) the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause," a "Certification on Non-Segregated Facilities" (See Specifications).

Required Notices for All Contractors:

- The bidder 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 bidders that they (bidders) must affirmatively assure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids 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 bidder's attention is called 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, 1977, 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 Aviation Regulations, to the contract and labor provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252) implemented by Part 21 of the Regulation of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation. Also, the proposed contract will be subject to the Contractor's Certification of the equal opportunity clause.

The apparent low bidder and any known first tier subcontractor may be subject to a pre-award, equal opportunity compliance review by representatives 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 bidder and/or his subcontractors are able to comply with the provisions of the equal opportunity clause.

A bidder or prospective prime contractor or proposed subcontractor shall be required to submit such information as the Office of Federal Contract Compliance, requests prior to the award of a contract or sub contract. 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 the payment of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) for each set of plan documents. This amount is non-refundable. Payment shall be made by check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING, at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, July 10, 1998 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the consultant, in writing, at least five (5) days in advance for answers at this pre-bid conference, with a copy of the same mailed, simultaneously, to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Each prospective bidder shall file with the Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the above Saipan address, a notice of his intention to bid a form substantially similar to the supplied with the contract documents not less than six (6) calendar days prior to the date hereinabove designated for opening of proposals.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished with the contract documents by the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

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 and to waive any defects in said proposals, or any of them, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its interest.

By CARLOS H. SALAS
Executive Director
Dated: June 24, 1998

DPH ...

Continued from page 3

nursing applicants for the Commonwealth Health Center. "We have not communicated in one way or another."

"The only communication we had is that when we informed them that we are downsizing nurses hired through manpower agencies with this particular contract. So we are not going to be hiring new people," he said.

He stressed that he was surprised to see the advertisement which came out in a Manila national daily, recruiting nurses for Saipan. "I don't know about this, we never discussed this."

"We were not informed of this recruitment process. We are not hiring new manpower nurses, especially

now that we are downsizing our manpower pool," he said.

But Villagomez admitted that the CHC would be needing 15-30 more nurses to effectively run the hospital "after everything has been removed."

"We are in the recruitment process, the biggest stumbling block is the FTEs

we have very few open FTEs and we are actively recruiting directly," he said.

Villagomez said some nurses, recruited directly from the United States, are already preparing to move in to the CHC.

"We are screening the applicants properly like if they have all the credentials."

He said the CHC is hiring nurses who will be stationed at the Hemodialysis and medical surgical units, as well as the emergency and operating rooms.

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U87-155	1990	MERCEDES 300 SEL	AAV-412	7595
U87-284	1991	CADILLAC DEVILLE	AAV-759	4595
C88-004	1991	BUICK CENTURY	ABA-217	4995
C88-014	1992	CRESSIDA	ABK-502	4395
F88-007	1995	CAMRY	ABN-542	11995
U88-076	1992	CAMRY	ABL-082	7995
U88-113	1992	CAMRY	AA5-620	6995
U87-270	1992	CAMRY LE	AAW-196	6995
U88-083	1992	CAMRY WAGON	ABK-495	4595
U88-046	1995	COROLLA WGN	ABT-252	10995
C88-009	1991	COROLLA WGN	ABF-681	5995
C88-018	1995	CELICA	ABC-786	12995
U88-253	1991	CELICA ST	ABK-821	6995
C88-017	1995	TERCEL	ABE-255	8695
U87-307	1992	TERCEL	AAI-125	1595
U87-114	1996	HONDA CIVIC	ABL-133	12995
U88-051	1991	HONDA CIVIC	ABK-977	10995
U88-051	1991	ACCORD LX	ABK-063	9895
U88-093	1991	MX-6 COUPE	AAK-311	4695
U88-098	1991	MAZDA 323	AAU-688	3495
U88-116	1995	SUBARU IMPREZA	ABK-188	9995
U87-214	1993	SUBARU LOVALE	ABM-328	12995
U88-111	1993	HYUNDAI ELANTRA	ABM-682	5995
U88-120	1995	4x2 EX-CAB	AAK-760	5295
C88-019	1991	4x2 EX-CAB	ABO-952	7995
U88-035	1992	4x2 EX-CAB	ABO-961	7995
U88-023	1991	4x2 EX-CAB	AAZ-261	3995
U88-107	1991	4x2	AAV-459	3995
U88-012	1992	4x2	ABU-713	2495
U88-055	1992	4x2 EX-CAB	ABU-712	6495
U88-041	1991	4x2 XCAB ALUM/DED	AAV-469	6305
U88-125	1991	4x2 EX-CAB	AAW-193	5695
U88-028	1996	TACOMA 4x2 XCAB	ACF-302	12995
U88-092	1996	TACOMA 4x4	ABJ-725	16995
C88-013	1997	T100 4x4 X-CAB	ACA-561	13995
F88-006	1997	T100 4x4 X-CAB	ACA-561	15995
U88-063	1995	T-100 4x4 SR5	ABD-623	15995
C88-002	1995	T100 4x4	ABD-295	15995
U88-016	1995	T100 4x4 SR5	ABD-295	15995
C88-007	1995	T100 4x4 EX-CAB	ABE-306	11995
C88-002	1995	T100 4x4	ABD-296	15995
U88-057	1993	ISUZU 4x2	ABE-285	4495
U88-075	1993	MAZDA 424 B3000	ABM-852	5695
U88-056	1991	NISSAN 4x4 EX-CAB	AAT-387	5495
U88-013	1995	RAV4	ABF-048	15995
U88-015	1995	4-RUNNER	ABC-374	15995
U87-319	1995	4-RUNNER	HIDE	15495
U88-031	1992	4-RUNNER	AAW-734	11995
U88-054	1990	4-RUNNER	AAW-139	10495
U87-034	1991	4-RUNNER	AAW-819	8995
C88-003	1991	4-RUNNER	AAK-125	5995
U87-222	1992	4-RUNNER	AAK-453	8995
U88-007	1991	4-RUNNER	AAW-075	8995
U87-189	1990	4-RUNNER	AAW-522	7995
U88-056	1992	4-RUNNER	AAI-790	5995
U88-081	1995	LANOCRUISER	32995	
U88-102	1993	LANOCRUISER	19995	
U88-079	1996	PATHFINDER	16995	
U88-074	1989	PATHFINDER	AA5-291	5995
U88-011	1990	JEOP CHEROKEE	AAK-996	7495
U88-105	1990	ROCKY	AAW-141	4495
U88-082	1995	CHEVY VAN	AAK-539	3995
U87-253	1994	MONTERO	AAW-111	12995
U88-054	1991	MAZDA MPV	ABV-795	6495

SPORTS UTILITY

Microl Corporation
An Incheap Motors Company
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Call us at 234-5911 or Fax us at 234-6514

Tobacco . . .

Continued from page 6

has been appropriated for tobacco education for Guam's youth. Senator Eduardo Cruz, M.D. was instrumental in getting Bill 24-174 passed in anticipation of the forthcoming settlements.

The Health and Human Services Fund created by the bill will not only provide funding for tobacco prevention but financial assistance for health care programs and the purchase of medical technological equipment.

Ron Tangye, Director of Communications for Cruz's office stated, "The Senator knew the tobacco settlement was coming down and he wanted to

make sure the monies would be used to catch kids at a very early age to educate them about the dangers of smoking." Tangye said that as a medical doctor and a surgeon, Cruz has seen all too often the effects of smoking on Guam's population. "As young as elementary school."

Tangye asserted that while the settlement may be big money to some, it really doesn't begin to touch the numbers of people on Guam who are affected by tobacco use.

"Dr. Cruz stated that this settlement is woefully inadequate. We should be getting ten times that number. Smoking is so prevalent on this island."

In the meantime, Health Educator Eugene Santos commented that the settlement comes as welcome news since smoking prevention efforts have

been very limited on island. Santos sees education as the most valuable resource in keeping Guam's youths from smoking and in getting those that do to stop. "We should collaborate with all the schools on island," he says. "Not just DOE schools, but private schools and the Department of Defense schools. We need to educate teachers, but students as well."

Santos says that role models who don't smoke are especially important to the tobacco prevention effort. Film stars from the Philippines have already been to Guam to speak with youths about the perils of smoking, but role models aren't just people seen onscreen.

"The whole community needs to get involved. Kids will do what the adults around them do. If you don't have people getting off of tobacco, you can't

expect their children to."

Santos cites peer pressure and aggressive advertising targeted at young smokers as some of the reasons young smokers get started. He also brings up the idea that while tobacco never had a traditional role in Guam's culture, the culture has inadvertently tolerated the habit.

"We are more amenable to many things here on Guam," he asserts. We are non-confrontational and we put up with second hand smoke and we are

culturally more permissible of certain behaviors."

He cites drinking and driving and recreational drug use as other non-traditional behaviors that people on Guam engage in that aren't healthy. While the messages are to stop smoking, the smoking continues. "We need to practice what we preach."

Estimates are that at least 30 percent of Guam's adults smoke cigarettes and at least 40 to 50 percent of island youths.

RFP . . .

Continued from page 6

Rico dump and designate the western tip of the island for a new landfill site.

Government's solid waste management program has been in the works over the past several years. It however failed to get off the ground over disagreement with concerned federal authorities on its design.

Mathis said the task force agreed

to put out an RFP for interested parties to "redo" the old DPW "scope of work design."

"The government," Mathis, quoting Utilities Executive Director Timothy Villagomez said, "says Puerto Rico is a problem, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has placed an administrative order against CNMI."

"The sooner we open an alternate site, the sooner Puerto Rico can be closed and cleaned."

The EPA debate stemmed on emission concerns.

Limes . . .

Continued from page 8

in the CNMI music was made by Limes.

He formed a band called Four Winds with his former co-teachers and educators in Guam Howard Kinstetter, Gordon Tyndincol and Fred Eckman.

His band produced the very first album in the Northern Marianas. The local classics such as Careless Love and I Kapji inspired many of other local artists and set the way for other

Clinton . . .

Continued from page 28

a personal connection to the tragedy.

"I will always personally remember receiving the news from Jonesboro because it's a town I know well," he said. "... Once you know a place like that you can't possibly imagine something like this occurring. But it's happened all over the country."

Clinton expressed his support for a bipartisan Senate proposal for legislation that would hold adults criminally responsible if they allowed children easy access to loaded firearms. The proposal is co-sponsored by Sens. Ri-

chard Durbin, D-Ill., and John Chafee, R-R.I.

"We can't shrug our shoulders and say accidents happen, or some kids are beyond hope," Clinton said.

"That is a copout. Every one of us must step up to our responsibility." Clinton has spoken out frequently on youth gun violence in the weeks since a spate of shooting incidents at schools, most recently a May 21 attack on students at a high school in Springfield, Ore. During a visit to the school last month, Clinton endorsed legislation introduced by Oregon Sens. Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith to require that students caught with guns be held by officials for 72 hours of observation and evaluation.



JOHN M. CHAMBERS
ATTORNEY AT LAW

ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF HIS OFFICE

FOR THE PRACTICE OF LAW

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GARAPAN #01176
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SAIPAN, MP 96950

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FACSIMILE
(670) 233-6903

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Chalan Kanoa needs

WAITRESSES

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FLORANTE at 235-5457

WANTED

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1 - ACCOUNTANT

JOB PLACE - ROTA

PERMANENT POSITION/ESTABLISHED COMPANY

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Call: 532-3366/0588 Fax: 532-9202

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- 3,700 sq. meters in San Roque. Road frontage, ocean view, water and power.
- 27,000 sq. meters in Rota. Accessible to bench and great view.
- 2,000 sq. meters in Tinian. Great view with access to water and power.

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nis Nilizeki International Saipan Co., Ltd.
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2 BEDROOM APARTMENT

For more information
Contact Tel. # 322-3797/3798

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

City Trust Bank, Plaintiff, vs. Young J. Oh and Kum Sun Oh, Jointly, and Severally, Defendant(s). Civil Action No. 97-396

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 16, 1998, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 003-118, located on San Antonio, Saipan, CNMI, containing an area of 945 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing Cadastral Plat No. 003-100 dated February 17, 1971.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 1998 at the hour of 2:00 p.m. at the law office of James S. Sirok, 2nd Floor, J.E. Tenorio Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before or after a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law office of James S. Sirok, 2nd Floor, J.E. Tenorio Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the Plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the Plaintiff, in care of White, Pierce, Mallman & Nating, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, by the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, Plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

Court Approval Required. Every sale is subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is granted.

Removal or Storage of Personal Property. The successful bidder shall be one (1) working day after court approval of the sale to remove any personal property purchased from the place of sale. After the expiration of this 24-hour period, the successful bidder shall bear the entire risk of loss of or damage to such property, and shall be liable for all expenses of caring for and/or storing such property.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the Plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice. DATED, this 2nd day of July, 1998.

By: JOHN B. JOYNER, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Union Bank, Plaintiff, vs. Juan L. Evangelista, Defendant. Civil Action No. 94-1046

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Amended Order issued by the Court in this matter on May 22, 1996, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Tract 22845-19 (part of original Tract 22845-REM, A.H. 31), as more particularly described on Drawing Cadastral Plat No. 208384, the original of which was recorded August 2, 1984, as Document No. 84-1398 at the Office of the Commonwealth Recorder, Saipan.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, August 14, 1998, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., at the law office of White, Pierce, Mallman & Nating, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before or after a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law office of James S. Sirok, 2nd Floor, J.E. Tenorio Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the Plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the Plaintiff, in care of White, Pierce, Mallman & Nating, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, by the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, Plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

Court Approval Required. Every sale is subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is granted.

Removal or Storage of Personal Property. The successful bidder shall be one (1) working day after court approval of the sale to remove any personal property purchased from the place of sale. After the expiration of this 24-hour period, the successful bidder shall bear the entire risk of loss of or damage to such property, and shall be liable for all expenses of caring for and/or storing such property.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the Plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice. DATED, this 2nd day of July, 1998.

By: JOHN B. JOYNER, Auctioneer

Classified Ads Section

Marianas Variety News & Views

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

Employment Wanted

Job Vacancy Announcement

02 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 BEAUTICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: YANG HONG DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LTD. Tel. 235-3807(7/10)F27112

01 DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: EUGENE LOUIS CORPORATION dba Oleani Market (7/10)F27113

01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$8.00 per hour
Contact: JORETH TRADERS, INC. Tel. 234-5000(7/10)F27114

01 BARTENDER-Salary:\$3.35 per hour
Contact: DELEN ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Marijos Restaurant Tel. 235-8945(7/10)F27115

01 WAREHOUSE WORKER-Salary:\$4.25 per hour
Contact: AMBYTH SHIPPING MICRONESIA, INC. dba Intermodal Freight Forwarders Tel. 322-0970(7/10)F27116

02 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
03 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
Contact: BLACK MICRO CORPORATION Tel. 234-6800(7/10)F73050

01 SALES PERSON-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: SHADOWIN INTERNATIONAL INC. dba Shadow Gift Shop Tel. 235-3999(7/10)F27111

03 TOUR COUNSELOR-Salary:\$800.00 per month
Contact: METRO SAIPAN, INC. dba Expo Tours Tel. 234-0886(7/10)F27109

03 OFFSET OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05-4.40 per hour
01 CAMERA OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour
01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary:\$650.00-1,250.00 per month
Contact: PACIFIC PRINTING PRESS, INC. Tel. 233-1917(7/10)F27110

01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$550.00 per month
Contact: TALON ELECTRONICS & DEV. CORP. dba TEDCO Tel. 234-7108(7/10)F27106

01 AREA SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.40 per hour
Contact: TRANSAMERICA CORPORATION Tel. 234-1629(7/10)F73081

01 KITCHEN HELPER-Salary:\$4.35 per hour
01 REFRIGERATION MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.70 per hour
01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$4.15 per hour
03 COOK-Salary:\$3.25-4.30 per hour
01 FRONT OFFICE CASHIER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 NIGHT AUDITOR-Salary:\$4.35 per hour
01 GARDENER-Salary:\$3.45 per hour
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$4.00 per hour

03 WAITRESS-Salary:\$4.80 per hour
01 FLOOR SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$5.85 per hour
01 JANITRESS-Salary:\$4.35 per hour
01 HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: PACIFIC MICRONESIA CORPORATION dba Dai-Ichi Hotel Tel. 234-6412(7/10)F73067

03 GROUNDS KEEPER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: RAINALDO C. AGUON dba 3'A's Ground Maint. Tel. 235-1853(7/10)F27117

02 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: ANGEL P. CRUZ dba La Filipiniana Restaurant Tel. 234-3569(7/10)F27107

01 SECURITY GUARD-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 PAINTER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: RENATO G. AZUCENAS dba Myra's Trading, Const. & Manpower Services Tel. 234-3193(7/10)F27105

01 WELDER-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 WAREHOUSEMAN-Salary:\$3.05-6.00 per hour
01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 CEMENT MASON-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 MECHANICAL ENGINEER-Salary:\$1,000.00-1,600.00 per month
01 MACHINIST-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 SHEETMETAL WORKER-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
Contact: BLACK MICRO CORPORATION Tel. 234-6800(7/10)F73051

02 BRANCH MANAGER-Salary:\$4.25 per hour
Contact: TROPICAL RENT A CAR INC. dba House of Fabrics Tel. 288-0373(7/10)F27120

01 DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$1,500.00 per month
Contact: PIER WAVE ENTERPRISES INC. dba Pier Wave Shop Tel. 233-0892(7/10)F27121

01 CEMENT MASON-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: HUGH HARGROVE dba Landmark Ltd. Tel. 235-1257(7/10)F27122

01 CEMENT, MASON-Salary: \$3.10 per hour
Contact: PEDRO C. SAN NICOLAS dba PAB Construction Tel. 322-3045(7/10)F27194

01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: THE SAMURAI CORPORATION dba Hyaku-Ban Rest./Southern Cross Rest. Tel. 234-3374(7/17)F27192

02 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.05-7.00 per hour
Contact: BURGER AND COMER, PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION Tel. 235-8722(7/17)F27191

02 TOURIST INFORMATION ASST.-Salary: \$8.00-2,500.00 per month Japanese Language Preferred
01 SUPERVISOR, TOUR AGENT-Salary: \$800.00-1,400.00 per month Japanese Language Preferred
01 COUNSELOR, TRAVEL-Salary: \$900.00-1,100.00 per month Japanese Language Preferred
Contact: R & C TOURS SAIPAN, INC Tel. 235-7621(7/17)F27198

01 MAINTENANCE MECHANIC-Salary: \$850.00-1,850.00 per month
Contact: SAIPAN SANKO TRANSPORTATION, INC. Tel. 235-7621(7/17)F27196

01 MECHANIC, MAINTENANCE-Salary: \$800.00-1,100.00 per month
Contact: WINDSURFING SAIPAN, INC. Tel. 235-7621(7/17)F27197

01 PURCHASING CLERK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: PACIFIC MICRONESIA CORPORATION dba Dai-Ichi Hotel Tel. 234-6412(7/17)F73225

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$6.00 per hour
CONTACT: LAW OFFICES OF VICENTE T. SALAS dba Vicente T. Salas Tel. 234-7455(7/17)F73224

01 TOUR GUIDE-Salary: \$700.00-1,520.00 per month
01 TOUR GUIDE-Salary: \$700-1,750.00 per month
Must be able to read, speak, write Japanese
Contact: TASI TOURS & TRANSPORTATION Tel. 235-9373(7/17)F73208

01 WEDDING CONSULTANT-Salary: \$1,300.00 per month
Contact: WATABE SAIPAN, INC. dba Watabe Wedding (7/24)F73314

01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary:\$5.15 per hour
Contact: ALLAN E. & CYNTHIA S. RODEO dba Tanapag Auto Repair Shop Tel. 322-5572(7/24)F27258

01 TRAVEL COUNSELOR-Salary: \$1,200-1,400.00 per month Japanese Speaker Preferred
Contact: KAN PACIFIC SAIPAN, LTD. dba Mariana Resort Hotel Tel. 322-4692(7/17)F73212

01 APPRAISER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 GOLDSMITH-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: WAN YUAN JEWELRY (SAIPAN) INC. Tel. 235-7464(7/17)F27188

01 CLERK, COST-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: S.J.F. CORP. Tel. 233-0441(7/17)F27189

01 COOK HELPER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: MING DYASTY INVESTMENT CORP. dba Ming Palace Chinese Rest. Tel. 234-1005(7/17)F27187

01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY CORP. dba I.M.C. Catering Tel. 235-3404(7/17)F27185

01 BARBER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: HONG SEUNG CORP. Tel. 235-3403(7/17)F27186

01 BOAT REPAIRMAN-Salary: \$3.05-4.35 per hour
Contact: SEA STAR, INC. Tel. 234-3533(7/17)F73197

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$900.00-1,300.00 per month
01 SALES ENGINEER-Salary: \$650.00-750.00 per month
01 SUPERVISOR (OPC. MACHINE)-Salary: \$4,00-4,50 per hour
Contact: ISLAND BUSINESS SYSTEM & SUPPLY CNMI CORP. Tel. 234-8003(7/17)F73230

07 CARPENTER-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
03 MASON, CEMENT-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 SHEETMETAL SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$1,000.00-1,500.00 per month
01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
Contact: BLACK MICRO CORPORATION Tel. 234-6549(7/17)F73238

01 TOUR GUIDE-Salary: \$700.00-1,520.00 per month
01 TOUR GUIDE-Salary: \$700-1,750.00 per month
Must be able to read, speak, write Japanese
Contact: TASI TOURS & TRANSPORTATION Tel. 235-9373(7/17)F73208

04 TRAVEL COUNSELOR-Salary: \$2,930.00 per month
Contact: PACIFIC MICRONESIA TOURS INC. Tel. 234-3913(7/24)F73313

07 CEMENT MASON-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 CONSTRUCTION HELPER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 STEEL WORKER-Salary:\$3.30 per hour
02 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.10-3.30 per hour
Contact: NORTH PACIFIC BUILDERS, INC. Tel. 235-7171(7/24)F73306

01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: RTS TRADING CO., LTD. dba Papa Audio Vision Tel. 322-3012(7/24)F73308

01 WEDDING CONSULTANT-Salary:\$1,300.00 per month
Contact: WATABE SAIPAN, INC. dba Watabe Wedding (7/24)F73314

01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary:\$5.15 per hour
Contact: ALLAN E. & CYNTHIA S. RODEO dba Tanapag Auto Repair Shop Tel. 322-5572(7/24)F27258

02 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 DANCER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: WAYNE A. SHIMABUKURO dba Stop Light Night Club Tel. 288-7817(7/24)F27261

01 ELECTRICIAN, BUILDING-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER BUILDING-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: CHOI CORPORATION dba Korea Hardware Tel. 234-7413(7/24)F27260

01 DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$700.00-800.00 per month
03 COOK-Salary:\$3.05-4.25 per hour
Contact: YANO ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Kinpachi Restaurant/Kinpachi & Dollor-Shop Tel. 234-6900(7/24)F27257

01 MANAGER-Salary:\$1,000.00 per month
01 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 EXPEDITER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary:\$850.00 per month
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05 STEEL WORKER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
12 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
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02 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
02 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: PARK'S CORPORATION dba Kung Chun Restaurant Tel. 234-1250(7/24)F27259

02 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
02 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: PARK'S CORPORATION dba Kung Chun Restaurant Tel. 234-1250(7/24)F27259

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02 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: PARK'S CORPORATION dba Kung Chun Restaurant Tel. 234-1250(7/24)F27259

APARTMENT/HOUSE FOR RENT

FLAME TREE TERRACE - LOWER CAPITOL HILL

3 & 4 - BEDROOM HOUSE
1 & 2 - BEDROOM APARTMENT

For more information
CALL TEL. # 322-3366/5558 FAX: 322-3886

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP No.: RFP98-0057
FOR: PROCUREMENT OF OFFICE FURNITURE
OPENING DATE EXTENDED TO: JULY 17, 1998 TIME: 4:30 P.M.

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Division of Procurement and Supply, are soliciting competitive proposals to qualified individuals or firms for procurement of office furniture for the new judicial complex (Guma Hutisias/Imwal Aweweel/House of Justice) in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Interested individuals or firms may pick proposal forms and specification at the office of the Acting Director, Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Acting Director, Division of Procurement & Supply

NEW CLASSIC APARTMENT

- EST. SINGLE BED ROOM
- EST. TWO BED ROOM
- EST. OFFICE + ROOM
- EST. 24 HOURS HOT WATER
- EST. BACK-UP POWER GENERATOR
- EST. AMPLE PARKING SPACE
- EST. BEST LOCATED IN GARAPAN
- EST. AIR CONDITIONER AND HOUSE HOLD FURNITURE

LAND FOR 55-YEAR LEASE

9,000 + M2, \$25/M2
Located a Few Hundred Feet from Main Road
Tanapag Village, Saipan
Land can be subdivided
Serious inquiry only: (670) 287-8675, 285-8708
Fax: (670) 285-8708

APARTMENT FOR RENT

1 BEDROOM
Fully Furnished, 24 Hrs. Water
1st Floor
Contact: Priscilla Santos 234-9548

APARTMENT FOR RENT

- 2 Bedroom, Fully or Semi-Furnished
- Free MCV Cable
- 24 Hours Reserved Water Supply
- Laundry Facility
- Large Yard with Fence
- Located in As-Lito

For more information please call 234-0870 or 288-7285 and ask for Thelma or Esther anytime after 5:00 p.m.

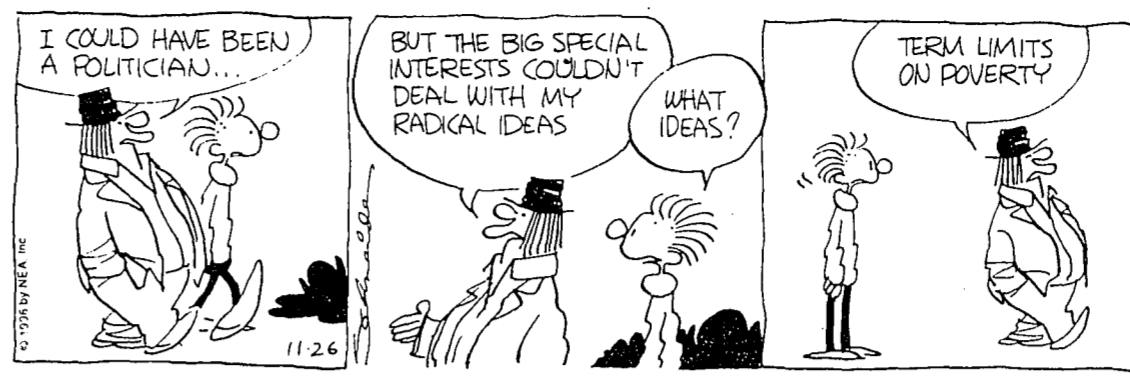
LOT FOR SALE

- San Vicente, 1583 sq. m.
- Tutaran, 5851 sq. m.
- Capitol Hill, 3420 sq. m.

Contact: Frank Yuan
Tel. 1-626-588-3660 Fax: 1-626-588-3655
E-mail: frank@cm.com

BUCKLE - UP

EK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



Garfield® by Jim Davis



PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder
BORN today, you are a single-minded and accomplished individual who sometimes has trouble mixing and mingling with others in casual situations. The fact is you often prefer your own company to the company of others; you're likely to build a life for yourself which affords you the opportunity to enjoy the solitude you have come to cherish. You do your best work when uninterrupted and undisturbed, relying on your thoughts, dreams, and ideas to give you strength throughout your life. You love hobbies, and are likely to have many.

Also born on this date are: Pearl Buck, author; Greg LeMond, cyclist; Jerome Kersey, basketball player; Charles Robb, U.S. senator.

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 27
CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You may have to travel some distance today to get the answers to one or two key questions you've been asking for some time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Keep up the pace and don't let anyone tell you you're on the wrong track. Trust your instincts today; you'll know if you've gone astray.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — What pleases you today surely won't please everyone else, and you're going to have to adopt a "live and let live" attitude to avoid conflict.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Someone may be interested in getting a "behind the scenes" look at what you're up to, and you'd be wise to do what you can to oblige.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Possibilities are multiplying, and you may have to slow down today to give yourself time to make up your mind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — A misunderstanding may result in a difficult situation that is almost impossible for others to appreciate. Do what you must.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Your routine may be interrupted suddenly today, requiring an adjustment on your part.

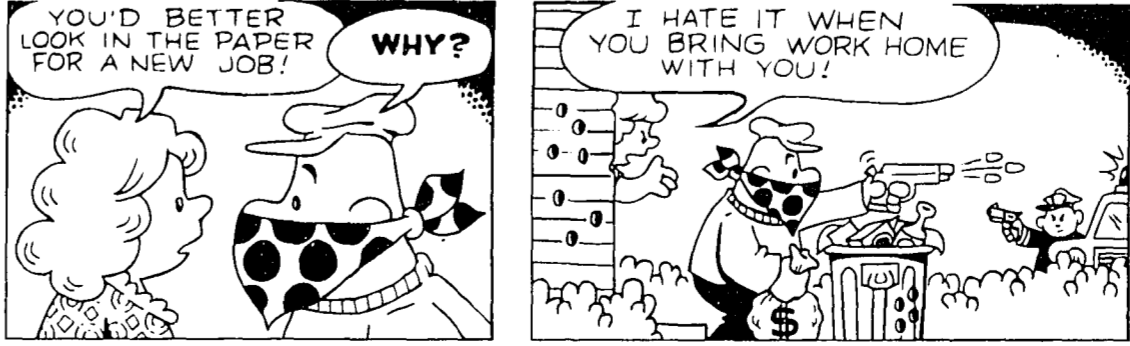
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You'll get the whole story in all its gory details if you're patient and wait until a major participant is ready to give you the scoop.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — This is a good day to take advantage of the contacts you've established over the last few weeks or months. Get others to support your efforts!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — It's important that you come up with an effective alternative to outdated methods. Use your imagination.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — There's no reason to think you're in the doghouse. You can explain yourself fully, and others are sure to understand.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Someone is likely to come to you with a surprise, but recovery can be swift if you avoid knee-jerk reactions.



AIMING TO GET A NEW JOB? GIVE THE CLASSIFIED ADS A SHOT!

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Hebrew leader
6 Baseball great
11 Flower child
12 Gap
14 — fresco
15 in — (roulized)
17 Anglo-Saxon serf
18 Agt.
20 Antique car
23 Cleo's nemesis
24 Entreat
26 Former TV host Bob —
28 — "lu, Grute"
29 Academy Award
31 Julia or Eric
33 Brother of Jacob
35 Actress Ward
36 Shorten
39 — "Evy" Mountain

42 That is (Latin abbr.)
43 Bread cakes
45 North Sea
46 Three, in Italy
48 Synthetic material
50 Yalle
51 Applaud
53 Paradise
55 Running
56 Portrayer of
1 Across
59 New York State city
61 Gawk at
62 Shuts noisily

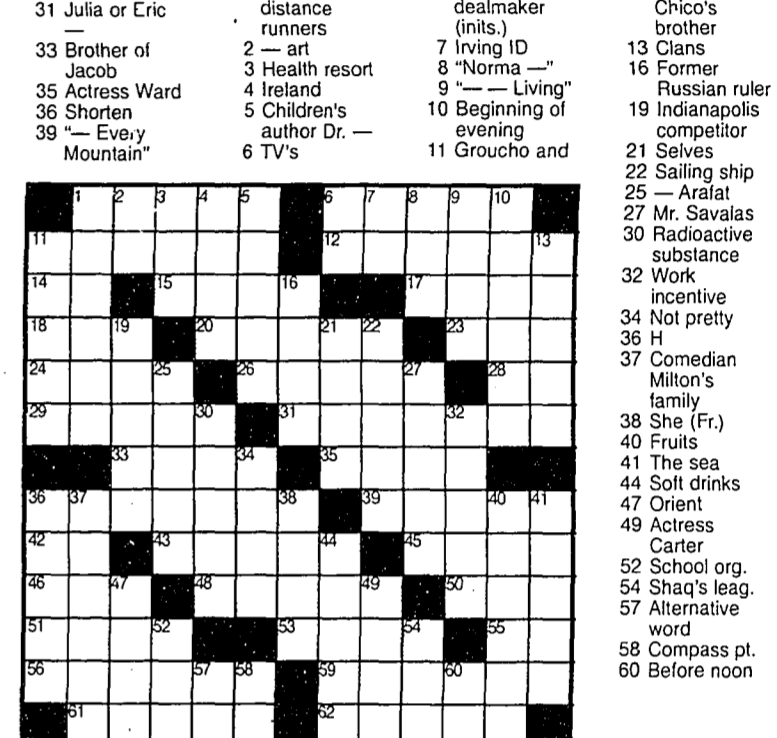
DOWN

1 Middle distance runners
2 — art
3 Health resort
4 Ireland
5 Children's author Dr. —
6 TV's dealmaker (inits.)
7 Irving ID
8 "Norma —"
9 — "Living"
10 Beginning of evening
11 Groucho and Chico's brother
13 Clans
16 Former Russian ruler
19 Indianapolis competitor
21 Selves
22 Sailing ship
25 — Arafat
27 Mr. Savalas
30 Radioactive substance
32 Work incentive
34 Not pretty
36 H
37 Comedian Milton's family
38 She (Fr.)
40 Fruits
41 The sea
44 Solt drinks
47 Orient
49 Actress Carter
52 School org.
54 Shaq's leag.
57 Alternative word
58 Compass pt.
60 Before noon

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TOES	DEED	BSA
INCH	UNDO	EON
AESOP	GIELGUD	
	TONGUE	OILS
FIAT	IL	OWN
ESS	WAFFLE	LB
NAY	IN	ID
DN	UTTERS	ORR
	ASH	DS
DABS	MITTEN	
IVORIES	CRIME	
NON	RIOT	ISIS
ANE	ERNE	THAT

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KidSpot™ by Dick Rogers

1 DOWN: UNDO

8 ACROSS: OPPOSITE OF THICK

2 DOWN: MOON

9 DOWN: OPPOSITE OF OUT

5+4=

6 DOWN: 5+4=

7 ACROSS: 5+4=

1 DOWN: UNDO

10 ACROSS: OPPOSITE OF FAR

4 DOWN: UNDO

DOWN: 1. BOAT, 2. COMET, 3. EGG, 4. OTTER, 6. NINE, 9. IN, 10. NEAR.

CROSS: 1. BUCKET, 5. MAGNET, 7. TIE, 8. THIN, 10. NEAR.

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— Jimmy Carter, THE NASHVILLE NETWORK

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Fri 7:15-9:45 • Sat 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45 • Sun 2:15-4:45-7:15

THE MOVIE HOUSE

SHOWINGS 2:15 & 7:15

Classified Ads First

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the matter of the Guardianship of Sonya Frieda Reyes Demapan, Minor Child.

By: Ignacio Leon Guerrero Demapan, and Frieda Delos Reyes Demapan.

FCD-GU Civil Action No. 98-0231

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the matter of the Guardianship of the Estate of Rosa Concepcion Aguon (Incompetent)

By: Margarita Aldan, Petitioner.

Civil Action No. 98-695B

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Berjice Bernard Ramon Duenas, et al., Plaintiff

VS. PAMIFICAMICRONESIA TOURS, INC., et al., Defendants

Civil Action No. 97-1032C

PUBLIC NOTICE

The petition of Ignacio DLG. Demapan and Frieda R. Demapan seeking to be appointed as Guardians of Sonya Frieda Reyes Demapan, minor child, have been set for hearing before the Commonwealth Superior Court, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, on the 20th day of August, 1998 at 9:00 a.m.

Any person who has any objection to this petition may file his or her objection with the Commonwealth Court at any time before the hearing, or may appear at the time set for hearing to present such objection or interest in the above-captioned matter.

Dated this 12th day of June, 1998.

s/Clerk of Court

PUBLIC NOTICE

The petition of Margarita Aldan seeking to be appointed as guardian of the estate of Rosa Concepcion Aguon have been set for hearing before the Commonwealth Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, on the 4th day of August, 1998 at the hour of 1:30 p.m.

Any person who has any objection to this petition may file his or her objection with the Commonwealth Court at any time before the hearing, or may appear at the time set for hearing to present such objection or interest in the above-captioned matter.

Dated this 6th day of July, 1998.

/s/Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the matter of the Petition For General Guardianship of: Gabby Pajila Sotto, a minor,

By: Manuel S. Cabrera Jr. Petitioner.

Civil Action FCD GU No. 98-273

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on July 28, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. in the courthouse of the Superior Court, the petitioner will petition the court to be appointed general guardian of the above-named minor.

Dated this 8th day of July, 1998.

/s/Reynaldo O. Yana Attorney for Petitioner

APARTMENT FOR RENT

* FULLY CONCRETE/TWO (2) BEDROOMS
* FULLY FURNISHED/24 HOURS WATER
* LAUNDRY MAT AVAILABLE/FREE TRASH COLLECTION
* REASONABLE PRICE
CALL TEL. 322-3581 FOR MORE DETAILS!

JOB VACANCY

1 Lifeguard (Local Hire)
Rate Starting \$3.50

MUST HAVE a CPR Certified & Life Guarding Certificate

Interested person can apply at: Saipan Ocean View Hotel. Tel. # 234-8900/8901

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the matter of the Guardianship of: Gabby Pajila Sotto, a minor,

By: Manuel S. Cabrera Jr. Petitioner.

Civil Action FCD GU No. 98-273

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on July 28, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. in the courthouse of the Superior Court, the petitioner will petition the court to be appointed general guardian of the above-named minor.

Dated this 8th day of July, 1998.

/s/Reynaldo O. Yana Attorney for Petitioner

APARTMENT FOR RENT

- 2 Bedroom, Fully Furnished, Split Type A/C All Rooms Including Living & Dining

- Breezy Atmosphere, Ocean View, - Spacious Parking

- 24 Hours Power & Water W/ Standby Generator

Please call: 235-7171/7272 8:00AM to 5:00PM

An application was filed with the Federal Communications Commission, Washington D.C. to assign the permit of KPHX-FM, Garapan, Saipan from Saipan Cable Telecommunications, Inc., to Leon Padilla Ganacias on June 29, 1998. A copy of the application and related papers are on file for public inspection during normal business hours at RadioCom Saipan, next to Sisters Convent in Chalan Kanoa.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Capitol Hill - Old Man by the Sea Road, 2 bedroom, large family room. 980 sq. ft. living area on 1,120 sq. meters. Leased land lease runs to 2014. House needs work. Appraised in 1997 at \$70,000. Reduced to \$50,000 / negotiable.

For more information write: P.O. Box 21207 GMF Guam 96921 Tel: (671) 472-5499 E-mail: cornwell@kuentos.guam.net

FOR RENT

(2) Apartment Units For Rent Location: Garapan

(2) Bedroom, 1 Bath, Fully Furnished w/Air-Con, 24 Hr. Water, Laundry Facilities Available.

For more info: Please call 322-9240 ask for Evelyn.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Located in San Antonio, Beach Road

For more information please call 234-7155 or 234/6830/6843

FOR RENT

APARTMENT & STORE SPACE 2 BEDROOM, SEMI-FURNISHED INSIDE CHALAN KANOA PLEASE CONTACT: 234-3225

GARAGE SALE

CAR/PICK-UP/VAN FURNITURES • APPLIANCES

Starting July 18 '98 (Everyday) 9am-6pm Pks. call 288-1241/Marlene for more details

FOR SALE

CARGO VAN

DODGE RAM 1987 \$1,000

Contact: Tel. 288-6617/18

FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT STUDIO TYPE - \$350 Including Power • Water Single or Couple Only (Kohlerville) Tel. 234-1233(Day) 288-2222(Evening)

FOR SALE

DRESS SHOP

Located San Antonio *Good Location including everything inside the shop thread, zipper, buttons, garter and a lot of fabrics. Very cheap. Interested please call 513 at 235-4194 Price negotiable/terms can be.

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

Second Floor, 1,100 sq. ft. at \$1.10 per sq. ft. Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan Call 322-3685 or 233-1837

FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT STUDIO TYPE - \$350 Including Power • Water Single or Couple Only (Kohlerville) Tel. 234-1233(Day) 288-2222(Evening)

FOR RENT

(2) Unit/Concrete House Location: Dandan

(3) Bedroom, (1) Bath, Fully Furnished w/Air-Con, 24 Hr. Water

Please call: 322-9240 ask for Evelyn

APARTMENT FOR RENT

\$600.00/month Fully Furnished 24 hrs. water *Swimming Pool *Restaurant *Quiet Place Located in China Town Contact: 233-4378-anytime

FOR SALE

USED PIANOS

FOR \$400 - \$600 Contact: Tel. 288-8181 or 235-8282

1998 Mens Major Baseball League
(Team Standings as of Sunday, July 5, 1998)
Compiled by Frank M. Palacios

TEAM	WIN	LOSS	PCT	GB
Miller Lite Brewers	10	1	.909	—
UMDA Aces	7	5	.583	3 1/2
Kautz Glass Glazers	6	5	.545	4
The Chiefs	4	7	.364	6
S/V Young Guns	1	10	.097	9

Batting Leaders: (Based on 34 or more at bat)

PLAYER	TEAM	AB	HIT	BATTING
Frances George	Brewers	34	17	.500
James Soback	Aces	34	17	.500
Cowley Ngiraadong	Chiefs	51	25	.490
Frank Pangelinan	Brewers	42	20	.476
Derron Flores	Y. Guns	43	20	.465
Wilber Ada	Glazers	39	17	.436
Glen Palacios	Aces	48	19	.396
Nick Guerrero	Brewers	43	17	.395
Clark Ngiraadong	Chiefs	46	18	.391
Tony Camacho	Brewers	36	14	.389

Pitching Leaders:

PLAYER	TEAM	G	INN	ER	HIT	W/L	ERA
Elmer Sablan	Brewers	5	52.2	14	57	6-1	2.49
Bill Camacho	Aces	6	27.1	8	33	3-2	2.63
Norman Tenorio	Aces	8	40.2	15	47	2-1	3.32
Larry Guerrero	Glazers	5	33.1	13	37	3-1	3.51
Chris Nelson	Aces	3	25	10	30	2-1	3.60
Dominic Chong	Brewers	4	14.1	6	17	2-0	3.77
Everett Ngiraadong	Chiefs	3	12.1	7	24	0-1	5.56
Ryan Kenan	Chiefs	8	56.2	35	95	1-5	5.52
Joe Terlaja	Y. Guns	10	25.1	34	92	1-5	5.88
Marvin Ada	Y. Guns	7	24.1	16	37	0-2	5.92

Runs: (18) M. Guerrero (15) T. Camacho, Cowley, G. Palacios (13) S. Coleman, B. Hocog, N. Guerrero, F. Pangelinan, G. Camacho
Doubles: (7) Steve Coleman (6) B. Hocog, W. Ada, Frank Pangelinan
Triples: (5) Frank Torres (3) Glen Palacios (2) eight players
Home Runs: (2) Jerry Ayuya, Ben Hocog, Mike Guerrero (1) Glen Palacios, Steve Coleman, James Soback, Gus Pangelinan
RBI's: (16) Wilber Ada (15) Ben Hocog (13) Craig Sanchez

Strikeouts: (55) Ryan Kenan (49) Elmer Sablan (33) Joe Terlaja

International . . .

Continued from page 40

Guam hosted last year's event and asked if Guam could hold it again this year, Camacho noted. Each delegation will comprise of 19 players, coaches and a manager. The teams will stay at the International Trade Center Hotel. Transportation will be provided through Government of Guam services. A meeting is scheduled for 3 p.m. today at the Mayor's Council of Guam Office, RJB Governor's Complex, to finalize coordination and scheduling of games.

This tournament coincides with Guam's Liberation Day festivities. It is a prelude to the Saipan International Fishing Derby Aug. 8-9, Perez said. Last year more than 83 boats entered. In 1996, there were close to a hundred. "We hope to attain our target of over 100 boats this year," said Perez. "We're inviting everyone who is an avid or moderate fisherman to participate. This is a good, fun and competitive tournament. Our sponsors have helped to award entrepreneurs and winners with very good prizes." Major sponsors of this event include the Guam Fishermen's Co-Op, Shell Guam, Inc. and Mid-Pacific Liquor Distributing Co.

All . . .

Continued from page 40

For more information, please contact Perez at the Micronesian Marine Center (671) 477-6256 or fax (671) 477-2628. Derby information can also be obtained at the Guam Fishermen's Co-Op (671) 472-6323. Winners will be determined among five categories: Marlin, Yellowfin, Wahoo, Mahi-mahi and Bonita. Bonita is a category designed for smaller boats, according to Perez. Competition will run from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. the first two days and from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the final day. Boats will leave and return from the Agaña and Agat Marinas.

Saipan . . .

Continued from page 40

scored 2 times including 2 triples and 3 RBI's. Jess Waboll had 2 hits, scored 2 times as Team Saipan stop Tinian All-Stars 15-1 in a Mercy Rule. Daryl Ada and Bill Kaipat also scored 2 runs a piece. Saipan scored in every inning, scored 3 in the first, nine in the second, two in the third and one in the fourth inning. Saipan also pounded out 12 hits in 25 trips to the plate. Joel Crisostomo and Rick Jones was unstoppable on

Saipan Big-Leaguers off for Guam meet

By Louie C. Alonso
Variety News Staff

The Saipan Big League delegation is leaving the island tomorrow to compete for the Far East Tournament on Guam on Monday.

According to team manager Manny Evangelista, the players have been practicing for two weeks now. "They are actually short in terms of practicing. I guess, two weeks preparation is not enough but I believe that they are in their best form for the competition on Monday," says Evangelista. Saipan Big League players consists of 16-18 year old boys who would compete against Guam in a do-or-die battle. Evangelista continues, "From what I've heard, we will be playing only against Guam. If that happens, it's a winner takes all

Santos, Kevin Kapilto, Patrick DL Guerrero, Tony Manibusan, Hans Pua, Lea Maralita, Manuel Sablan, Ned Norita, John Paul Sablan, Ken Borja, Mike Cruz, Jerome delos Santos, Landon Martin, Alfonso Great and Robert Bansil. However, Saipan will host the Far East Tournament for the Little League this July 27, 1998.

1998 CNMI DISTRICT LITTLE LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

TEAM: TINIAN/ROTA

TINIAN	POS	RB	R	H	RBI	ROTA	POS	RB	R	H	RBI
Josh Sanchez	5	2	0	0	0	Jarret Blair	6	1	1	1	0
Kimberly Menez	4	2	0	1	0	Troy Ogo	4	3	2	2	0
Javier Cruz	8	2	0	1	0	Xerxes Camacho	5	1	2	1	0
Gilbert Macaranas	6	1	1	0	0	Billy Greathouse	2	1	2	1	0
Sylvester Palacios	3	2	0	1	1	Jesse King	2	0	0	0	0
Eldred Shai	2	2	0	1	0	Baryl Hocog	7	2	1	1	2
Ryan Lizama	7	2	1	0	0	Greg Hocog	7	0	0	0	0
Michael Aquinog	9	2	0	0	0	Jonathan Rosario	3	3	2	2	3
Jerome Sakisat	1	0	0	0	0	Joe Rosario	3	0	0	0	0
Joseph Untalan	8	2	0	0	0	Zachary Santos	1	2	1	1	2
Total	18	2	5	1	1	Eric Manglona	8	1	1	1	0
						Max Muna	8	0	0	0	0
						Marty Ogo	9	1	0	0	0
						Anthony Caspus	9	0	0	0	0
						Total	15	12	10	7	

Base-on-Balls: (2) Xerxes Camacho (1) Billy Greathouse, Jesse King, Baryl Hocog, Zach Santos, Marty Ogo
Strikeouts: (1) Josh Sanchez, Sylvester Palacios, Ryan Lizama, Troy Ogo, Baryl Hocog, Zachary Santos
Hit by Pitch: (1) Eric Manglona
Stolen Base: (1) Ryan Lizama
Error: (2) Jonathan Rosario, Gilbert Macaranas (1) Josh Sanchez, Eldred Shai, Jarret Blair, Joe Rosario
Double: (1) Xerxes Santos, Billy Greathouse, Zach Santos
Triple: (1) Jarret Blair

TEAM: SAIPAN/ROTA

SAIPAN	POS	RB	R	H	RBI	ROTA	POS	RB	R	H	RBI
Ben Jones	8	3	2	2	0	Jarret Blair	6	2	0	0	0
A.J. Taitano	4	2	0	0	0	Troy Ogo	4	1	0	1	0
Ian Babauta	4	1	0	0	0	Anthony Campus	4	1	0	0	0
Sam Babauta	2	3	2	2	0	Max Muna	1	2	0	0	
Rick Manahane	1	3	3	4	4	Xerxes Camacho	5	1	0	0	
Jess Waboll	6	3	0	0	0	Billy Greathouse	2	2	0	0	
Jess Taisacan	7	2	0	1	0	Baryl Hocog	7	2	0	1	
Leroy Kani	7	1	0	1	0	Jonathan Rosario	3	1	0	0	
Ricky Jones	9	2	2	0	0	Zachary Santos	3	1	0	0	
Jack Lizama	9	1	0	0	0	Jesse King	9	1	0	0	
Daryl Ada	5	2	1	2	3	Joe Rosario	9	0	0	0	
Joel Crisostomo	6	1	0	0	0	Eric Manglona	8	1	0	0	
Bobby Coldeen	3	2	0	1	0	Total	15	0	2	0	
William Kaipat	3	0	0	0	0						
Total	26	10	14	7							

1998 CNMI DISTRICT LITTLE LEAGUE TOURNAMENT BATTING RECORD

SAIPAN TEAM

PLAYERS	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	HP	BATTING
Ben Jones	2	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.667
A.J. Taitano	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000
Ian Babauta	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000
Sam Babauta	2	6	4	5	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	.833
Rick Manahane	2	6	4	4	1	0	2	5	0	0	0	.667
Jess Waboll	2	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.286
Jess Taisacan	2	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Leroy Kani	2	4	2	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1.000
Ricky Jones	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1.000
Jack Lizama	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Daryl Ada	2	3	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1.000
Joel Crisostomo	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	.333
Bobby Coldeen	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.333
William Kaipat	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1.000

ROTA TEAM

PLAYER	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	HP	BATTING
Jarret Blair	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.333
Troy Ogo	2	4	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.750
Anthony Campus	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000
Max Muna	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000
Xerxes Camacho	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	.500
Billy Greathouse	2	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.333
Baryl Hocog	2	4	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	.500
Jonathan Rosario	2	4	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	.500
Zachary Santos	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	.333
Jesse King												

SPORTS



Saipan advances to Far East meet

SAIPAN All-Stars earns the right to represent the CNMI in the upcoming 1998 Far-East Little League Baseball Tournament after winning the CNMI District Tournament held on Tinian, July 6th through the 8th, 1998.

In the opening game on Monday, at Tinian Little League Field, Saipan All-Stars slammed 3 long hits straight away dead center, 2 coming from Rick Manahane and 1 from Daryl Ada, as Saipan All-Stars downed Rota All-Stars 10-0.

Manahane also added with 4 runs batted in while Ada with 3. Manahane was superb on the mound facing only 16 batters, walk 1, struck out 6, gave up 2 hits and at one point struck out 4 consecutive batters. Sam Babauta, the 1998 Batting King had 2 doubles while Rick and Ben Jones all contributed

"INNINGS"													
Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	Error	LOB
Saipan	3	9	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	15	12	2	5
Tinian	0	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	4	4

Pitcher	Team	INN	R	ER	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	SO	HB	WP	DEC	ERA
Joel Crisostomo	SPN	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	1	W	-
Ricky Jones	SPN	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	-	-	-
Thomas Sandburgen	Tinian	2/3	14	4	12	1	0	1	2	1	1	-	L	-
Javier Cruz														

with 2 runs a piece.

In the second game of the toumey, the Rota All-Stars beat the Tinian All-Stars, 12-2.

Troy Ogo and Joseph Rosario both went 2 for 3, scored 2 runs a piece and the Rota All-Stars took advantage of 7 costly errors as they went on host island All-Stars to defeat in a game shortened to 4 innings due to the mercy rule.

Rosario also added in with 3 runs batted in while Zach Santos and Baryl Hocog added in with 2 RBI's

On Wednesday, the final game was won by Saipan All-Stars over Tinian All-Stars, 15-1.

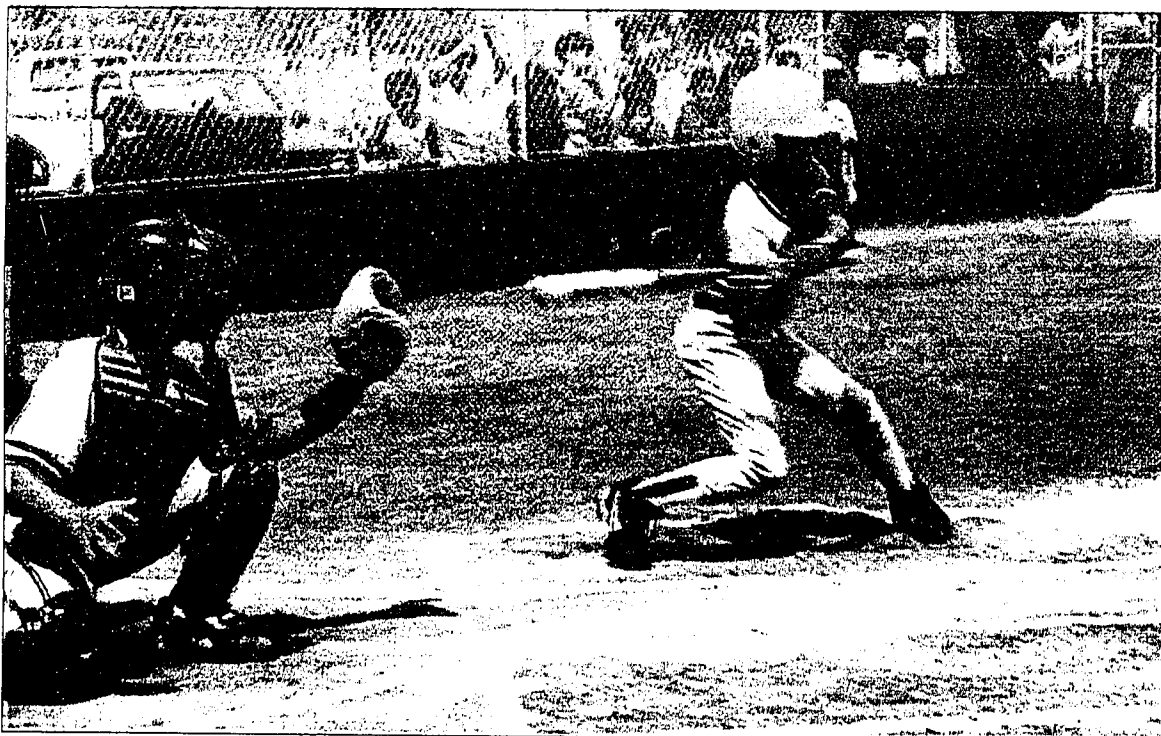
Sam Babauta went 3 for 3, scored twice and sent one out to right center field. Leroy Kani had 3 hits

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TEAM: SAIPAN/TINIAN
Compiled by Francisco M. Palacios

SAIPAN	POS	RB	R	H	RBI	TINIAN	POS	RB	R	H	RBI
Leroy Kani	7	3	2	3	3	Josh Sanchez	2	0	0	0	0
Ian Babauta	4	3	1	0	0	Kimberly Menez	4	2	0	0	0
Sam Babauta	2	3	2	3	2	Michael Aquinog	5	1	0	0	0
Jess Wabol	6	4	2	2	0	Gilbert Macaranas	7	2	0	0	0
Rick Manahane	8	3	1	1	1	Ringo Reyes	8	0	0	0	0
Joel Crisostomo	1	2	1	1	1	Eldred Shai	6	1	1	0	0
Jesse Taisacan	9	2	1	0	0	Janel Aldan	9	1	0	0	0
Daryl Ada	5	1	2	1	1	Napu Aldan	3	1	0	0	0
William Kaipat	3	1	2	1	0	Thomas Sandburgen	1	0	0	0	0
Ben Jones	7	0	1	0	0	Sakisat Jerome	5	0	0	0	0
A.J. Taitano	4	1	0	0	0	Joseph Untalan	9	1	0	0	0
Ricky Jones	1	0	0	0	0	Lizama Ryan	3	1	0	0	0
Jack Lizama	5	1	0	0	0	Silvestre Palacios	3	1	0	0	0
Bobby Coldeen	3	1	0	0	0	Javier Cruz	4	0	0	0	0

Base on Ball: (2) Josh Sanchez, Ringo Reyes (1) B. Jones, S. Sanchez, J. Crisostomo, R. Jones, W. Kaipat, J. Sakisat, E. Shai
Strikeouts: (2) Kimberly Menez (1) M. Aquinoc, J. Aldan, J. Untalan, N. Aldan, R. Lizama
Hit by Pitch: (1) Daryl Ada
Stolen Base: (2) Ben Jones
Errors: (1) Eldred Shai, Napu Aldan, Ringo Reyes, Thomas Sandburgen, Sam Babauta, Jack Lizama
Double: (1) Joel Crisostomo
Homerun: (1) Sam Babauta



Tinian Little League All-Stars' Kimberley Menez, the lone female to play in the series, swings for an in-park double against the Rota All-Stars during the CNMI District Tournament held on Tinian. Rota won this game, even as Saipan emerged overall winner for the right to play in the Far East Regional tournament set later this month.

All set for Guam-Marianas International Fishing Derby

By EDDIE SIGUENZA

For the Variety

HAGATNA, Guam — Guam's best fishermen as well as those in the Northern Marianas will battle later this month as the Third Annual Guam-Marianas International Fishing Derby takes place.

The July 24-26 event will award cash prizes and more to winners of five categories, according to Even Coordinator Tim Perez.

Last year, Ephrem Taimanao of Rota and his family crew aboard the "O.J. Boy" won first place in the marlin division, hauling in a 400-plus pound fish, Perez said.

"The good thing about this tournament is it draws a lot of competitors because the prizes are very good," Perez said.

"Everyone in every boat has a chance to win. Our local fishermen look at this tournament the most because they get to compete with others from off-island."

The derby is an extension of the once-popular Governor's Cup Fishing Tournament, which lasted almost two decades.

According to Perez, this tournament is mandated by law to be hosted annually by the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative.

But recent alterations in sponsorship and regulations changed the name of the tournament to the Guam-Marianas International Fishing Derby.

Entry fee is \$300 per boat.

The rules session and kick-off meeting is scheduled for July 22 at the Guam Fisherman's Co-Op at the Agana Boat Basin.

All interested participants still have time to enter, Perez said.

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Calling all Chess aficionados here

THE CNMI Chess Association has scheduled a general membership meeting on Sunday, July 11, at the 13 Fishermen Memorial along Beach road.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

All association members and interested players are invited to attend.

Association vice president Junnel Lomantas said there may

be a 15-minute active chess tournament during the "get-together."

He said the meeting will discuss ways to revive the association, which was "reestablished" in Dec. 1994, and how to resume its various chess activities in the CNMI.

For more information, contact Lomantas at his daytime phone number, 233-3193, or through his pager, 234-4433. (ZD)

International baseball returns to Guam July 13

By EDDIE SIGUENZA

For the Variety

HAGATNA, Guam — International baseball returns to Guam starting Monday, July 13 when the long-running Guam Little League Baseball Organization hosts the 1998 Far East Regional Baseball Tournament.

Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will join teams from Hong Kong and the Philippines in Senior Division (13-15 years old) play.

Only Guam and the CNMI will lock heads in Big League (16-18) action.

"I think this is going to be a competitive tournament," said Frank Camacho, Assistant District Administrator for Senior Division and one of the Far East Tournament organiz-

ers.

"The CNMI always comes out with strong teams and the Guam teams are just as ready. They'll give everyone a run for their money."

The tournament winner goes on to play in the Little League World Series in Florida, Camacho said.

Guam won it last year.

It also won two games in Kissimmee, Florida during the World Series.

The tournament will run for four days at Paseo Stadium, site of last year's event. Opening ceremonies are scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday, July 13.

The first game will be played at 11 a.m.

Guam and the CNMI will play a Best-of-3 Series to determine a Big League cham-

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