



# Marianas Variety

News  
& Views

Micronesia's Leading Newspaper Since 1972

Vol. 26 No. 58

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Wednesday • June 2, 1999

Saipan, MP 96950  
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## 62 Rota homesteaders may lose their permits

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

SOME 58 village homesteads and at least four agricultural ones on Rota have been found not complying with government regulations requiring permit holders to build structures within three years.

In an interview, Public Lands Administrator Louise Morisheta said the 62 permit holders will be issued revocation notices in the coming days.

"These people will be notified in letter. We have been packed up issuing revocation letters. We will be notifying these people on the revocation of their permits," said Morisheta.

She said though that the Division of Public Lands (DPL) may have to allow the erring permit holders an extension depending on the latter's justification for failure to build houses on their designated lots.

Areas covered by the inspection, which was held January this year, include Sinapalo II and III.

Morisheta said there is another 63 village homestead permit holders on Sinapalo III that were found not complying with the regulations.

But, she said, since the village is a relatively new one, the erring homesteaders will merely be issued notices asking them to expedite construction.

The 58 village homesteads recommended for revocation is all in Sinapalo II.

No inspection was done on Sinapalo I as the lots there have already been deeded.

There were 13 agricultural homesteads inspected of which four were recommended for permit revocation and three will be issued letters to continue improvement.

Continued on page 23

## Plan to put up schools in Alamagan, other isles

By Louie C. Alonso  
Variety News Staff

THE PUBLIC School System's new capital improvement projects would consist of schools to be built in the remote islands of Alamagan, Anatahan and Agrigan.

Education officials said funding for the new school projects would be taken from the \$32 million it recently received from the CNMI's general obligation bond.

In the recent CIP committee meeting, Board of Education member Thomas Pangelinan pointed out the need to have small

Continued on page 23



Sixth grade students from San Vicente Elementary School sing the CNMI anthem before the graduation rites for the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program yesterday.  
Photo by Marla C. Alonso

## Teno to US Military on FDM runs

### 'Use it but don't destroy it'

By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff

WHILE recognizing the importance of bombing exercises in Farallon de Medinilla to America's readiness in fighting a war, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday appealed to the US Military to minimize destruction in the island and its surrounding reef.

Tenorio said the Commonwealth had been assured by the US Navy in the Marianas that the Farallon de Medinilla has sustained very little damages resulting from the military exercises in the area.

"We had been assured by the US Defense Department that they are not destroying the island and its surrounding envi-



Pedro P. Tenorio

ronment," he said. Members of the CNMI Legislature have previously raised concerns on the damages bore by the island due to bombing exercises around the island.

He asked, however, the US

Military to continue with its regular assessment of the bombings' impacts on the island and its surrounding reef.

But even amid environmental concerns, Tenorio said the Commonwealth is not likely to ask the US Military to stop its bombing exercises in the island as it is guaranteed under the agreement reached between the CNMI and the US governments in 1976.

"It's part of the agreement we entered with the US government under the Covenant. The military training in Farallon de Medinilla is part of that pact that the CNMI people approved."

"It would be unfair for me to

Continued on page 23

## Rota mayor: Casino only one among other options

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

MAYOR Benjamin T. Manglona yesterday said the establishment of a casino on Rota is only one of several options being considered to improve the island's economy.

"That we are thinking about having a casino has never been a secret," the mayor of Rota said, but stressed that there is still no negotiation taking place between his office and interested investors.

"We're still evaluating that option like we're evaluating having tuna cannery or water bottling on our island" he said, at the same time expressing disappointment that information about the casino proposal has



Benjamin T. Manglona

been leaked to the media.

Manglona said it is the people of Rota who will have to decide whether to legalize casino gambling there.

"I have never been afraid to say something that I believe is

Continued on page 23

## Clinton eyes one year China trade renewal



Bill Clinton

By Donna Smith  
WASHINGTON (Reuters) — With hopes fading of an early agreement to bring China into the World Trade Organisation, President Bill Clinton is expected this week to ask Congress for a simple one-year extension of U.S. trading privileges for China.

He is expected to ask on Thursday for just a one-year renewal because negotiations on a broader deal with China have suffered a series of setbacks.

These include the failure of

Clinton to strike a deal with Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji during his visit to the United States in April, the bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade earlier this month and the release of a scathing report last week alleging Chinese nuclear spying.

Even a scaled-down request for renewal of China's trade status - once called Most Favoured Nation (MFN) and now named Normal Trade Relations (NTR) - for just one year will likely spark an intense battle in Congress, where China bashing is in vogue.

"I think there are people who are going to perceive that trade is another avenue for espionage," said Russell Smith, a trade lawyer with Willkie Farr & Gallagher.

Congress can vote to overturn Clinton decision to renew trade benefits. NTR gives China the same low-tariff access to U.S. markets as nearly every other country in the world.

Labour unions oppose it, but business groups plan to fight hard for it and trade analysts believe that in the end lawmakers will

Continued on page 22

## Japan's jobless rate reaches all-time high

TOKYO (AP) — The number of unemployed people in Japan rose to a new all-time high in April, while the jobless rate among men hit a record 5.0 percent, the government announced Tuesday.

Japan's overall jobless rate, however, remained steady at a record high 4.8 percent in April, the statistics bureau of the Management and Coordination Agency said.

The number of people without jobs increased to 3.42 million, a rise of 0.9 percent from

March, while the number holding jobs fell 630,000 from a year earlier to 64.69 million, it said.

The jobless rate among men broke the previous record set in March of 4.8 percent, as more men were forced out of their jobs, said an agency official briefing reporters on the data.

The jobless rate for women fell by 0.3 percentage point to 4.5 percent.

Japan's jobless rate has worsened in recent months, increasing

Continued on page 22

## FIGUEROA'S UNPLUGGED!

Roger Leonard plays all the rock-n-roll favorites on his acoustic guitar, He welcomes other musicians join in and play along.

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With seats of opposition parties vacant for abstention, lower house legislators stand up to approve a package of three bills that would allow wiretapping in investigations into organized crime, paving the way for their passage into law Tuesday in Tokyo. Opposition parties say the bills threaten citizens' right to privacy. AP

## Japan's anti-organized crime bill becomes law

By MARTIN FACKLER  
TOKYO (AP) — Japan's lower house Tuesday passed a bill that would finally allow police to use wire taps against organized crime, a power long enjoyed by law enforcers in other countries.

But as the bill goes to the upper house for final approval, opposition groups have vowed to fight it to the end.

They cite concerns about the Japanese police's spotty record of using its powers in support of conservative rule and against left-wing politicians and groups.

By passing the lower house, the more powerful chamber in Japan's bicameral Parliament, the bill is almost assured of becoming law. Behind the measure has been a groundswell of public support.

A large segment of voters had long opposed handing police increased powers as long as memories were still fresh of secret police brutality during World War II and then crackdowns on radical students and labor unions in the 1950s and 1960s.

That changed in the wake of the 1995 poison gas attack on Tokyo subways by a religious cult that killed 12. An enraged public de-

manded law enforcement be more aggressive in monitoring potentially dangerous groups.

For their part, police have long sought the power to wire tap, saying it would strengthen their hand against the yakuza, Japan's organized crime syndicates. They point to how recorded conversations helped U.S. investigators lock up New York Mafia boss John Gotti for life.

Two other bills also under consideration would stiffen penalties for organized crime and increase protections for witnesses.

The wire tap bill has already been rewritten once in an attempt to allay opposition fears.

The new version requires police to seek court permission for each wire tap, and that would be granted only in cases involving smuggling of drugs, weapons or persons, and murder. Kidnapping and arson were stricken from the list during the revision.

Opposition remains stiff, however, because of a deep-seated distrust of the police.

Critics of the bill point to an incident in 1986, when a Communist Party lawmaker accused police of bugging his phones.

Police at first issued denials but were eventually forced to admit the taps were theirs.

To address these concerns, the bill requires a third party monitor be present to ensure that wire taps are used only for their intended purposes. Transcripts of all taped conversations must also be submitted to a court.

"When the police, who are supposed to be enforcing the law, get caught breaking it, they just feign ignorance," said an editorial in the influential, left-leaning Asahi newspaper.

"In this country, no institution exists that can seriously control or serve as a check on the police," the Asahi said.

Leftist opposition to bills is not without irony, given the role the underworld has lent in the past to roughing up leftist demonstrators and labor unions.

But opponents say they have no choice for fear the new powers would be used for political purposes.

"Ordinary citizens will end up becoming the main targets," Yukio Edano, an opposition Democratic Party lawmaker, was quoted as saying in the Asahi.

## Deadly virus kills 2 in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — A new virus that has killed more than 100 people in Malaysia has claimed the lives of two more victims on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur, news reports said Tuesday.

Both of the latest victims were workers at a pig farm who had been hospitalized since May 15 after being infected with the deadly Nipah virus, the Sun newspaper reported.

Their deaths, which occurred last Friday and Saturday, brought the official death toll for the viral

encephalitis outbreak in this Southeast Asian nation to 103.

The virus first surfaced in Negri Sembilan state in western Malaysia. It has since swept into the states of Perak, Johor, Kelantan, Malacca and Selangor.

Health officials initially believed the disease was Japanese encephalitis, which is transmitted from pigs to humans by the Culex mosquito. Later, scientists identified a new virus, named Nipah after the Malaysian village where it claimed its first victim.

The stubborn virus, which first spread from pigs to humans, has baffled international and local scientists researching its origin and mode of transmission. Scientists recently determined that it might be spread through other animals, including horses, cats and dogs.

The eight-month outbreak has ruined the pig-farming industry in many parts of Malaysia. Pig farmers in the worst-hit area, 60 miles southeast of the capital of Kuala Lumpur, abandoned their homes in March.

# MVA eyes China Airlines

By Haldee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

HOPES are high that China Airlines will consider flying directly to Saipan as current market demand shows great potential, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) disclosed yesterday.

The Taiwan-based airline firm had its inaugural flight in the neighboring island of Guam on March 18, and the CNMI is optimistic it will also receive the same flights and services.

Taiwan arrivals into the CNMI posted the largest increase of 33 percent among the Northeast Asia markets in April compared to the same period last year.

MVA also recorded a 95 percent increase in arrivals from Tai-

wan in February and 23 percent in January this year.

MVA Board chairman David Sablan said when the CNMI first expressed its willingness to have China Airlines to service Saipan early this year, the said airline firm did not discount the idea.

"I think we should revisit them ... Taiwan as a point of origin has a great potential. The market is there," said Sablan, as he urged Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's Aviation Task Force to form a mission team to hold discussions with the officials of China Airlines soon.

The MVA official pointed out that Taiwan nationals have restarted travelling to other destinations like Thailand after getting hit by the Asian economic crisis,

and the CNMI also aims to capture part of Taiwan travellers' group.

Sablan said MVA is in the process of developing the Chinese market in order to induce China Airlines to operate here.

"We are willing to cooperate with them, to extend incentives to them just like what the Aviation Task Force and the CPA are giving to airlines that qualify to these various incentives ...

"We should really develop that market together with the airline which is willing to provide us service from Taiwan as point of origin," said Sablan.

He added that China Airlines, which boasts of latest equipment, may utilize Boeing 757 and

Boeing 767.

"Most likely they will be using newer equipment," he added.

China Airlines is flying bi-weekly to Guam using MD-11 aircraft which has a capacity of 304 passengers.

Early this year, MVA requested Far Eastern Air Transport (FAT) to service the CNMI. Although FAT did not down play the idea, it admitted having some problems on its equipment.

MVA then moved to request Eva Air but the airline firm was more interested in servicing metropolitan cities.

"Obviously, Saipan is a resort island so they did not consider flying here," said Sablan. Only China Airlines had the

greatest potential, to service the CNMI at that time and the MVA now is pursuing this.

In related news, a Taiwan-based magazine, China Times Weekly, recently visited Saipan to take photographs for its June issues, a development which local tourism officials believe will give the CNMI additional exposure as a prime tourist destination for Chinese nationals.

The most popular modelling magazine in Taiwan, CTW will give the CNMI four pages of exposure through editorial or a travel report, and 28 pages of photographs of spots and swimsuits.

CTW has a 250,000 circulation and a readership profile of 18 to 45 years old.

## MVA's Saipanda big hit in Japan

By Haldee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE MARIANAS Visitors Authority's advertising concept "Saipanda" has now become a sensation in Japan three months after its formal introduction, a development which is expected to boost Japanese arrivals into the CNMI, it was learned.

Bartley Jackson, MVA Board member, informed tourism officials of Saipanda's effectiveness as a vehicle to separate and differentiate the identity of Saipan from Guam, on top of Japanese nationals' apparent penchant for characters and mascots.

MVA admitted that among tourists who have not heard of Saipan or who have not known its location, the mere mention

of Guam used to make it easier for them to relate.

With the introduction of Saipanda, Japanese have become more curious about what it stands for and therefore makes them more interested.

Local tourism officials have expressed optimism this advertising concept will put Saipan in Japanese tourists' priority list of favored destinations.

"Saipanda is now creating a mind share for Saipan separate from Guam. We are creating a lot of attention and interest in Japan and the recall of Saipan is proving helpful for us," Jackson said.

Saipanda, an attention-getting mascot, is a new character re-

Continued on page 22



Swimsuit models straight from Japan get ready to shoot a video for the NHK network (Japan-based) at the Micro Beach. Photo by Marian A. Maraya

## Cing blasts Hocog for 'absenteeism'



David M. Cing

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

SENATOR David M. Cing (D-Tinian) yesterday said voters should be reminded that the man running against him missed half of the 32 House sessions held from January 1998 to March of this year.

Rep. Jose A. Hocog (R-Tinian),

according to Cing, should explain to the people of Tinian why he is the "number one absentee legislator."

Cing added, "Now he wants to become a senator with a four-year term—does it mean that, if he wins, he would be absent for two of those four years?"

Hocog has more absences in his first 14 months as House member compared to Cing's record during the past eight years, the senator said.

"The reasons for those absences were valid—either I was on official business or I had to attend to my mother, who was then sick and dying," Cing said.

"The voters should not tolerate absenteeism among their elected representatives.

"I now wonder whether House Floor Leader Ana S. Teregeyo (R-Prec. 1, Saipan), who is a very hardworking, very capable legislator, knows about Hocog's ab-

Continued on page 22

## DPH warns the public against dengue, Japanese encephalitis

By Haldee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE DEPARTMENT of Public Health yesterday issued a stern warning to the community against possible outbreak of the dreaded dengue fever and the Japanese encephalitis virus.

Acting Health Secretary Ned Arriola yesterday said current weather condition has increased the breeding of adult mosquitoes which are carriers for life-threatening viral diseases.

"Rainy days are here again, and we don't want to take any chances. We don't want another outbreak," said Arriola.

DPH's issued the warning to help prevent mosquito-borne outbreak in the CNMI just like the recent dengue outbreak in the Philippines and the Japanese encephalitis in Malaysia which forced its



Ned Arriola

government to kill hundreds of pigs.

"All home owners, business establishments, schools and the general public has a vital role in preventing the spread of harmful communicable diseases that can be transmitted by mosquitoes by simply following prevention steps ...," said Arriola.

The acting health secretary

urged home owners, schools, business establishments and the general public to clean their surrounding by disposing of trash and garbage properly, among others, to prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

DPH also advised the community to cut down or trim overgrown bush or grass to at least two to three inches from the ground and to discard empty bottles, cans buckets and other artificial containers that can hold water, by either turning them upside down or take them to the public dump.

Saipan recorded an outbreak of Japanese encephalitis in October 1990 with one male death and 14 cases. The U.S. Centers for Communicable Diseases assisted the CNMI in the said outbreak.

Japanese encephalitis is a disease caused by virus trans-

Continued on page 22

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



## Stories of the islands

IN the earlier times, islanders gathered at night to tell and listen to stories. They told enchanting tales that answered questions about how the world was created; how things became the way they are; why animals behave the way they do, etc.

According to a Northern Marianas legend, mosquitoes were produced by the curdled blood of a woman who was killed by her husband because of her infidelity. The woman was an absolute whiner when she was still alive. That, according to the legend, was the reason why mosquitoes buzz in our ears. They suck human blood in hopes of becoming "human again."

Pacific island legends have survived oral transmission from one generation to another. Here comes a written version of the story-telling tradition that would provide a window into the enigmatic part of the world, which most visiting writers from the west unfairly depict as a region inhabited by "cannibals" as well as Spam and Budweiser freaks.

The story of mosquitoes is among the 44 legends retold in the book *Pacific Island Legends: Tales from Micronesia, Melanesia, Polynesia and Australia*, published and recently released by the Bess Press, Inc. The authors are people known to most of us: Bo Flood, instructor at the Northern Marianas College; William Flood, pediatrician at the Saipan Health Clinic who writes weekly health column for the Variety; and Beret E. Strong, former principal of the Northern Marianas Academy. The book is illustrated with culturally appropriate woodcuts by Saipan artist Connie J. Adams.

Samples of the enchanting legends in the book were published earlier by the *Islands Variety* (which, sadly, folded a few months ago.) The 280-page book contains legends from each and every island in the Pacific.

A legend from New Caledonia explains that the seagull digs in the sand at low tide to look for the first mussels that hid from her a long time ago. A Guam legend describes how women saved the island from an island-eating monster. A poor village boy from Caroline Islands is able to marry the tribal chief's daughter by stealing the moon.

A scatter-brained warrior from New Zealand goes to the world of spirits to earn his wife's forgiveness by getting a tattoo. It is because of this man's forgetfulness that all living are forever blocked from entering the world of spirits.

Legends are stories that don't demand logic; they are stories in which possibilities are infinite. They have been existing long before the magical realism of Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Salman Rushdie, which defies the concept of impossibilities, became part of modern literature.

Although written for the upper-elementary/middle school level, *Pacific Island Legends* produces a lyrical magic that is inherent in every story. Some of them are funny; others are sad; and still others are tragic. Just like our own life. At any rate, they speak a universal language.

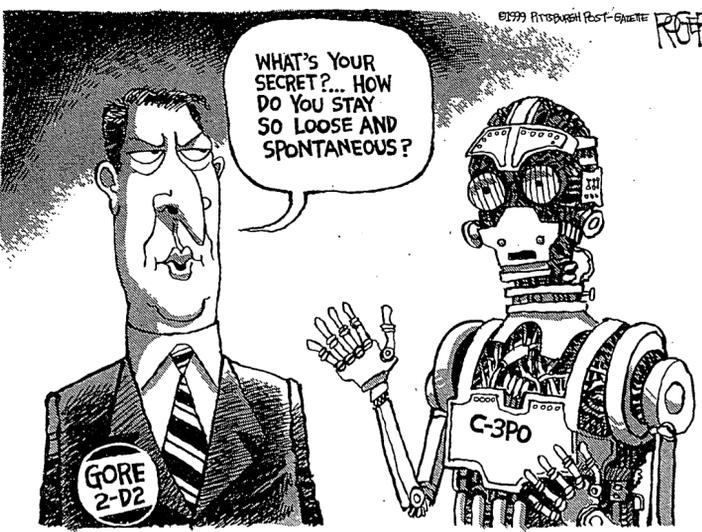
Now, make sure you grab a copy of the book. (Visit [www.besspress.com](http://www.besspress.com))

Here's a recommendation from the authors: Before you start reading, close your eyes. Imagine the sweet smells of the jungle surrounding you. The firelight is flickering. Listen to surf and the wind clattering through the coconut palms.

Listen to the story speaks; it speaks to you.

Listen....

These are stories of the islands and their people.



## Info-Tech Corner

By David T. Hughes  
For the Variety

### Office 2000 may be for you (Part 1)

IT'S coming .... coming .... coming ... the ALL NEW ANDEXCITING STUPENDOUS AND COLLOSSAL END-ALL, BE-ALL office productivity program. Tah Dah!! Yes, FINALLY, Microsoft Office 2000 is coming out of the gate and will be ready for public consumption later this month.

Is the end result worth all the PR hype that's going to surround Microsoft's upgrade of Office 97? The answer is yes ... and no ... depending on who (whom?) is doing the answering.

I've been using Office 2000 for the past few months - first as an advanced beta and then the final "gold" version that's going to be sold. If the truth were known, it was hard to tell the difference between Office 97 and Office 2000. However (my favorite word), I noticed that the pieces of the package I use most - Word, Excel, Front Page and Access worked smoother and seemed to be more intuitive.

My experience is akin to getting a new set of tires for an older car. It still goes, but you seem to be more satisfied with the smoother ride. Office 2000 seems to offer that "smoother ride" that we all crave.

Above all, decide if you want to spend the upwards of \$200-800 it will take to upgrade from Office 97. For many of us that's a good hit. In my opinion it's worth it for the individual who NEEDS and USES their computer every day for word processing, spread sheet management or Access data massaging.

If you use your computer to do a few letters, maybe put the family budget on a spreadsheet, track a few stocks, etc., then I'd recommend staying with Old Faithful — Office 97.

This column is written from the consumer viewpoint and I am not necessarily swayed by what the "big computer magazines" have to say because to some extent they are beholden to Microsoft and other advertisers. Does that affect what they write? I really can't say.

Microsoft and other software dealers provide me with a free copy of the program to use as I see fit. Usually I just install the software and put it through its paces and probably never touch it again except to move it from one hard drive to another.

I now have five hard drives in my poor machine. They hold several years' worth of software tests.

Microsoft Word is and has always been my word processor of choice because of how well the files it outputs can be used in other things instead of just letters or a few columns.

I loved my Office 97 version, but Office 2000's edition is so much better because the giant software company has taken a leaf from Burger King and made it — and ALL THE OTHER PROGRAMS IN THE OFFICE 2000 SUITE — adjustable "your way."

I found the intuitive program bars wonderful. As you use certain aspects of the programs such as file, edit, format and the subprograms, the access actually moves higher up on the menu bar. So, if you use an obscure command a lot you will find it is at the beginning of the menu bar and no longer at the end. Plus, the Office 2000 suite allows you to turn off and on various components of the programs, move them around on window bars, create specialized command bars that float or stay put as you wish.

Office 2000 was designed from the ground up to be used in a collaborative office or work group atmosphere. A Mercedes will probably do 200 miles an hour if pushed. But, in both cases you don't HAVE to do either.

The Office 2000 programs work just fine in the one-person office and if the user has to interface with a larger office atmosphere, then the small time guy has the same powerful tools as the corporations.

As we all know Internets and Intranets are becoming the common denominator for the business world. Those networks speak hypertext markup language or HTML. Microsoft has designed office 2000 with that fact in mind. EVERYTHING you can do with the suite is easily converted into an HTML structure.

Yes, I mean everything. I was especially impressed with how Microsoft has jazzed up PowerPoint. In the past it was almost impossible to create a PowerPoint presentation designed to be shown in real time on a web page.

Doing so required a convoluted series of downloading players that did not always work or as my grandfather used to say — "worked at" something.

I really don't have enough room here to talk

Continued on page 22

## Deportation bill needs to be reviewed further

By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff

GOVERNMENT officials have acknowledged the need to clarify existing policies dealing with the deportation of nonresidents, who have already outnumbered the indigenous population.

But Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio wants any proposal to ease deportation proceedings or clarifying grounds for deportation reviewed thoroughly in order to avoid the implementation of another law that may not actually address the problem.

Tenorio has indicated support on moves from the Legislature to clarify confusion on the provisions of the Constitution and address the problems surrounding the conflicting interpretation be-

tween the Superior Court and the Attorney General's Office.

He however stayed away from the legislation offered by Rep. Oscar M. Babauta, adding that whether he will support any particular legislation or not depends largely on how the bill has been drafted.

The governor is yet to receive any copy of the proposed measure and said he would rather keep mum on Babauta's proposed bill until he gets a copy and reviews the provisions it offers.

"I have not seen the bill yet but I think it depends on how the legislation is drafted. Right now, I'm not sure how it is drafted," he said.

But the CNMI chief executive offered an unsolicited advise:

"Review the proposal thoroughly."

Tenorio explained that an extensive review of the proposal is needed if it is really intended to solve the concerns raised by local residents on the allegedly increasing crime incidents that involve foreign workers.

Over the last 10 years, crime incidents in the Northern Marianas have jumped nearly three-fold with around 4,000 cases documented last year compared with the 1,000 incidents in 1988.

According to Babauta's proposed legislation, a single conviction of misdemeanor in the CNMI or court sentence on charges of prostitution and illegal drugs will be grounds for deportation of foreign workers.



Acting Chief Justice Alexandro Castro administers oath for Tinian's first lawyer Lucia L. Blanco-Maratita last Friday at Guma Hustisa. Photo by Ferdie de la Torre

## Teno not keen on casino for Rota

By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff

PROPOSALS to legalize casino gambling in the island of Rota is not likely to chalk up Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's support as he yesterday reiterated his stand against the establishment of gambling facilities in the Northern Marianas.

"Personally, I will not support any casino or gambling in the CNMI," he said, explaining that the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino was established following a referendum which reflected the will of the residents of the island.

Moreover, the Northern Marianas is in an economic condition not conducive to casino gambling as manifested in the fate of the Tinian Dynasty which continues to suffer from low occupancy rate due to the still unstable tourism industry in the CNMI.

Tenorio pointed out that the casino gambling facility on Tinian was decided upon by is-

land residents, adding that the same process will be implemented in Rota whether or not the local population will go for the duplication of Tinian's experience.

"I'm not sure whether the people of Rota will vote for the legalization of casino gambling there," he said. He added a host of factors will have to be considered before another gaming facility is erected.

However, Tenorio said everything will have to depend on the people of Rota's will although he openly expressed opposition against gambling in the Northern Marianas.

"My personal view is that I will not support any casino in the CNMI but I will respect the decision that may be reached by each senatorial district. If the people of that particular district wanted a casino, there's nothing I can do because they have to go through the initiative by referendum," he said.

Continued on page 22

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## Health group considers HIV policy change

By Haidee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE ASSOCIATION of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), of which the Commonwealth Health Center (CHC) is a member, is seeking to amend its policy on HIV/AIDS counseling and testing for pregnant women.

In a report, ASTHO said its executive committee already approved the proposed amendments.

The full membership is set to vote on the amendment in September to make it official.

This amendment, said ASTHO, was prompted by the Infectious Disease Policy Committee's review of the Institute of Medicine's report entitled "Reducing the Odds: Preventing Perinatal Transmission of HIV in the United States."

The central recommendation from the IOM report is the adoption of a national policy of universal HIV testing — with patient notification — as a routine component of prenatal care.

CNMI Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez earlier offered

Continued on page 22

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7.38%	3 MOS	\$ 1000	→	\$ 100,000	X 90 days	= \$ 1,819.72	\$ 101,819.72
				\$ 50,000	X 90 days	= \$ 909.86	\$ 50,909.86
				\$ 25,000	X 90 days	= \$ 454.93	\$ 25,454.93
				\$ 10,000	X 90 days	= \$ 181.97	\$ 10,181.97
7.88%	6 MOS	\$ 1000	→	\$ 100,000	X 180 days	= \$ 3,886.02	\$ 103,886.02
				\$ 50,000	X 180 days	= \$ 1,943.01	\$ 51,943.01
				\$ 25,000	X 180 days	= \$ 971.51	\$ 25,971.51
				\$ 10,000	X 180 days	= \$ 388.60	\$ 10,388.60
8.25%	12 MOS	\$ 500	→	\$ 100,000	X 12 mos	= \$ 8,250.00	\$ 108,250.00
				\$ 50,000	X 12 mos	= \$ 4,125.00	\$ 54,125.00
				\$ 25,000	X 12 mos	= \$ 2,062.50	\$ 27,062.50
				\$ 10,000	X 12 mos	= \$ 825.00	\$ 10,825.00
8.75%	18 MOS	\$ 100	→	\$ 100,000	X 18 mos	= \$ 13,113.01	\$ 113,113.01
				\$ 50,000	X 18 mos	= \$ 6,556.51	\$ 56,556.51
				\$ 25,000	X 18 mos	= \$ 3,278.25	\$ 28,278.25
				\$ 10,000	X 18 mos	= \$ 1,311.30	\$ 11,311.30
9.00%	30 MOS	\$ 100	→	\$ 100,000	X 30 mos	= \$ 22,487.64	\$ 122,487.64
				\$ 50,000	X 30 mos	= \$ 11,243.82	\$ 61,243.82
				\$ 25,000	X 30 mos	= \$ 5,621.91	\$ 30,621.91
				\$ 10,000	X 30 mos	= \$ 2,248.76	\$ 12,248.76

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**Marianas Variety**  
Serving the Commonwealth for 26 years  
Published Monday to Friday By Younis Art Studio, Inc.

Publishers:  
Abed and Paz Younis  
Rafael H. Arroyo, Editor

P.O. Box 231, Saipan MP 96950-0231  
Tel: (670) 234-6341/7578/9797/9272  
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Member of  
The Associated Press (AP)  
NINA NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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## Senate to confirm all but one

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

THE SENATE is expected to act today on the administration-drafted House bill that would appropriate \$13.8 million worth of capital infrastructure projects for fiscal year 1999, including the improvement and expansion of Tinian's airport, as well as Rota's health center, roads and airport runway, it was learned.

The Senate will also confirm all but one of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's recent nominees to government boards, and adopt the joint resolution that formally invites the governor and Resident Rep. Juan N. Babauta to deliver the annual State of the Commonwealth and State of the Washington Office address, which is slated for tomorrow.

To be confirmed are  
• Marian DLG. Tudela and Thomas I. Saures—Retirement Fund's board of trustees;  
• Dolores S. Taman, Edward A. Villagomez and Juan M. Santos—Coastal Resources Management (CRM) appeals board of directors;  
• Rosario M. Elameto—Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s (CUC) board of directors;  
• Francisco Q. DL Guerrero—Professional Licensing Board; and,  
• Leonardo T. Calvo—Civil Service Commission.

The only nominee who will not be confirmed today is Laura I. Manglona, who was named to CUC's board of directors.

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigation (EAGI) is still determining whether Manglona, who is already employed by the government, can serve on the board.

Certain government boards cannot have members who are already working for the government.



US Army Reserve's 3rd PLT, 422nd (SEP) Infantry execute the 21 Volley Rifle Salute during the Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park in Susupe last Monday.  
Photo by Maria C. Alonso

## Man in extortion case gets 31 mos.

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE FEDERAL court yesterday sentenced to 31 months' imprisonment a man who was among a group of Chinese nationals busted by Federal Bureau of Investigation-CNMI Task Force for engaging in an extortion racket.

Judge Alex R. Munson said upon release from jail after completing the sentence, defendant Shuji Liu shall be turned over to the Immigration authorities for immediate deportation.

If the deportation proceedings fail, Munson said Liu shall be

placed under a three-year supervised probation.

The judge also required the defendant to pay \$3,964 in restitution to the victim Guo Hua Lu.

Munson said the sentence is appropriate to send a strong message to the community or deter other guest workers who might otherwise be inclined to involve in extortion ring.

Liu and co-defendants Delin Fang and Xiong Jie Li were indicted for conspiracy to interfere with commerce by extortion.

Liu and his court-appointed counsel Jesus C. Borja entered a plea agreement with the US

Attorney's Office represented by Assistant US Atty. David T. Wood.

Defendant Liu pleaded guilty of the charge.

Wood said after the arrest, Liu cooperated with the FBI's investigation.

Court information showed that on July 5, 1998 at 9 a.m. victim Lu was at his residence in Chalan Laulau when defendants Liu and Fang came looking for him.

Liu demanded \$400, but Lu refused to pay. Six Chinese men, including the suspects, returned on board Fang's car.

The suspects went inside the

apartment and beat Lu until he was disoriented, court papers said.

The group asked for an additional \$1,000 by the end of the day and told the victim that \$1,000 more would be required each day.

When Lu later tried to leave the apartment to call the police, the suspects came and started beating him again, court records indicated.

FBI-CNMI Task Force agents led by Lt. Edward Manalili arrested one of the suspects during an entrapment in San Antonio in Aug. 1998, resulting with the arrest of other Chinese nationals involved in extortion racket.

## Land owner files Article 12 case

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

A LAND owner has filed an Article XII case in Superior Court in an attempt to recover her land which she had leased to a private corporation.

Jovita B. Tomokane asked the court to void a lease agreement with defendant Tokyodo Enterprises, Inc. due to alleged unconstitutional sale of the subject 3,101 square meters of land in Susupe.

If the court should only declare the violative provision of the lease agreement as being void, Tomokane sought to terminate the lease for failure to pay rent and to secure a judgment for rent owed.

Tomokane, through counsel Jesus C. Borja, requested the court to declare that the lease is void for violating Article XII.

Plaintiff also sought judgment awarding possession of the land

and declaring the lease forfeited and terminated for defaulting on the \$12,300 rental payments.

Borja in the complaint said that in 1989 Tomokane leased the land to Tokyodo for a 55-year term.

Pursuant to the lease, plaintiff granted Tokyodo the option to purchase the premises if the first year's rental of \$6,600 plus \$46,117 were paid within one year of the date of the execution of the lease.

Borja said the firm exercised its option and paid plaintiff \$57,000.

The lawyer pointed out that since Tokyodo was incorporated in 1980, until the July 1996 filing of its last annual corporation report, it never complied with Article XII requiring 100% of its directors and voting shareholders to be persons of Northern Marianas descent.

Plaintiff had no knowledge until late last year that the lease she executed violated Article XII,

Borja said.

In Dec. 1998 counsel for plaintiff sent Tokyodo and its then registered agent, Peter Yun, a letter advising that the May 1989 lease violated Article XII.

The letter was returned unclaimed, Borja said.

During the first five years, Borja stated that Tokyodo should have paid the rent of \$33,000.

Borja said the amount was paid, but during the second five years, defendant should have paid rent \$36,300 but gave only \$24,000.

Defendant was required to pay \$7,260 by May 1997, but it gave only \$2,200.

"Defendant has breached the terms of the lease, by failing to pay rent. Plaintiff has not received rent since Sept. 1997. She has been entitled \$12,300 under the lease," the lawyer added.

## Woosung fined

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

A BIG construction company has been fined \$2,000 and asked to pay at least four alleged abandoned guest workers \$35,600 for "work not provided" and liquidated damages.

In a ruling he recently penned, Linn Asper, supervisor of the Department of Labor and Immigration's (DOLI) Administrative Hearing Office (AHO) said Woosung Construction Co. Ltd. "has reduced its business on Saipan to the extent that it should be considered closed."

"By virtue of its failure to take responsibility for the (guest workers), (Woosung) should be considered to have

abandoned them," Asper said in his ruling.

According to Asper, Woosung allegedly convinced many employees to return to the Philippines for an unpaid "vacation."

Woosung, Asper said, failed to bring the employees back as promised.

The four guest workers did not leave the commonwealth and were instead left without employment.

"(The guest workers) should be awarded for work unprovided. (Woosung) should be fined \$2,000 for labor law violations and should be permanently barred from the employment of nonresident workers in the commonwealth," Asper said.

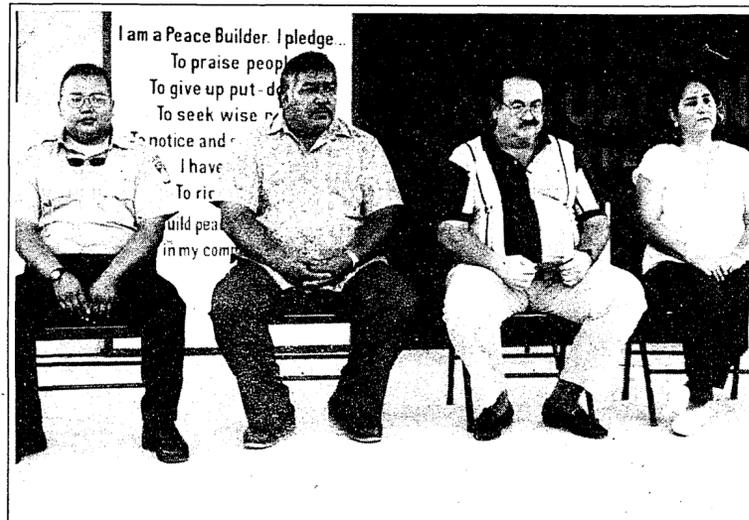
Asper referred the matter to the Attorney General's Office (AGO)

to assist the workers in collecting their money claims.

At least two of the workers—Loreto Cabo and Jesus Lorenzo—were given transfer employment relief while one—Gregorio Capaoran—has opted to repatriated. The fourth worker—Gil Paclibar—has changed his immigration status by marriage.

Variety contacted Woosung but all lines listed in the directory has been changed or out of service.

Variety likewise contacted lawyer Antonio Atalg who is said to be representing the company. Atalg was in a conference. He did not return call as of press time late yesterday afternoon.



From left, PO1 Edward Maratita, Jr., SVES PTA President Roman Benavente, Public Safety Commissioner Charles W. Ingram, Jr. and SVES Principal Martha Haberman witness graduation rites for 92 SVES students who completed the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program yesterday.  
Photo by Maria C. Alonso

## Teno gov't lauded for surplus, deficit reduction amid slump

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

THE CHAIR of the House Committee on Ways and Means yesterday said Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio should be commended for reducing the deficit despite the significant decrease in government revenues.

Rep. Karl T. Reyes (R-Prec. 1, Saipan) said Tenorio's sound fiscal policies are keeping the government "afloat" even as the economy remains in a slump.

Reyes said in 1998 alone, the administration succeeded in reducing government expenses, resulting in some savings by the end of the year.

Further, he said, the size of the deficit—which stood at \$57.3 million as of Sept. 30, 1997—has finally stopped increasing.

At the same time, Reyes said the governor has created several task forces and pieces of legisla-



Karl T. Reyes

tion that aim to attract new investments in the CNMI.

"It's not that the administration and the Legislature are not doing anything to improve the economy," he said.

"We have to remember that this economic crisis is regional, and is preventing Asian investors from bringing their countries.

"That's why the intent of [the administration-backed] free trade zone legislation is to lure more US investments, to convince them that opening businesses here will be good mainly because we're near Asia," Reyes said.

"You could say that right now the governor is trying his best to do what could be done to improve the economy.

"And we should also remember that the governor is doing all these things while under pressure from our critics in the federal government who do not want the kind of economy we have," he said.

Administration officials earlier said that they have so far paid \$27 million in outstanding bills "inherited" from Tenorio's predecessor.

They warned, however, that the \$57.3 million deficit as of Sept. 30, 1997 could further increase

Continued on page 22

## DPL was 'assured' by Shoda on Rota land



Bertha Leon Guerrero



Carlos A. Shoda

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THE DIVISION of Public Lands (DPL) was assured by then Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) executive director Carlos A. Shoda that CPA will be responsible for problems arising from the transfer of the Rota harbor land occupied by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. (CUC) to the ports authority.

In an interview yesterday, DPL Director Bertha Leon Guerrero at the same time said the division will "see what (it) can do" to "help" CUC in its bid to get back the contested site, which is needed for a power plant expansion project on the island.

Guerrero said the division was given assurance by then CPA Executive Director Carlos A. Shoda that the ports authority will handle problems arising from the transfer of the contested land to CPA, which took place during the previous administration.

She recalled raising concerns during deliberations on the transfer that CUC was occupying the site.

"One of my concerns was that CUC is (already) there (harbor). That was something I had brought up. The former director Shoda indicated... CPA will be responsible in relocating CUC. He was like saying, 'Don't worry, it's (his) problem.'"

"My biggest concern is that why

should we designate the land that is already being utilized by CUC," said Guerrero.

Guerrero said DPL may have to review the deed transfer.

"Understand what their (CUC's) concerns are. I can understand their problem. We are going to have to review the designation that we gave CPA. I may have to discuss this with our lawyers," said Guerrero.

"If CUC asks our help, we'll see what we can do to help them. We'll try.

If there is something that we can do we'll try and see what we can do," Guerrero added.

She said DPL may be compelled to "support" CUC on its appeal to have the land back so long as it is premised on the "efficiency" and "effectiveness" of the power plant and on minimized expenses that may be incurred in constructing it.

The CUC has been requesting CPA to give back the harbor land to allow it to move on with its Rota power plant expansion project. The utility agency has issued a request for proposal in connection with the 10-megawatt project.

The CUC started making the appeal shortly after it bailed CPA out a few weeks back from a financial quandary the latter found itself in due to its stalled airport sewer line project.

Utility Board Chair Juan Dela Cruz has said CPA should return the favor by giving back the land.

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## Human smuggling trial on in Guam

By Eric F. Say  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — The US District Court yesterday resumed the trial of five men accused of human smuggling involving natives from China's Fujian province.

The trial is on its third week. Undocumented Chinese who had testified at the court alleged that they paid Fu Wu Chun to bring them to Guam. The Chinese migrants said they fear for their lives and that members of the "snakeheads" gang who brought them here are very powerful with connections.

An apparently frightened Li Qing Xue told the court that the boat that they used stopped

about 200 miles outside Guam. It waited when it received a radio message that a previous boat ferrying illegals encountered trouble entering Guam earlier.

Xue said that the boat turned around to go back to China. He and the other smuggled aliens got scared.

They were told by one of the five men charged with smuggling nicknamed "Da Tou" Li that if they each were to sign a I.O.U. for an additional payment of 50,000RMV, the boat would turn around and go to Guam.

Xue said each person signed the paper but later jump on Da Tou and beat him up because

Continued on page 9

## CNMI bashing by media hurts investment hopes

By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff

CRITICISMS hurled against the Northern Marianas in the mainland US are hurting the Commonwealth government's efforts to entice foreign investors to pour in fresh capital into the islands, according to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio.

Concerns have been raised by prospective foreign investors that they may suffer similar bashing from media and human rights organizations should they decide to operate a business in the CNMI.

But the governor is optimistic that foreign businessmen wishing to invest in the Northern Marianas are more familiar with the islands and are more objective in their view of what actually transpires in the CNMI, as well as how the government is addressing loopholes raised in the mainland US.

"They are familiar with the place and they know what's going on. We assure those people who want to invest over here that we are doing our best in trying to make sure that the investors are being protected and at the same



Pedro P. Tenorio

time, they comply with local and federal laws," Tenorio said.

The CNMI have failed to encourage fresh foreign investments into the islands with the Department of Commerce recording less than 10 applications for new businesses since January last year.

Also, the Northern Marianas has witnessed a severe dislocation of businesses last year with more than 1,700 establishments reported to have closed shop since January 1998 due to the dramatic decline in local economy and the

increasing animosity between local and federal officials on issues surrounding minimum wage and immigration.

At the same time, the CNMI chief executive lashed back at ABC's 20/20 crew which, he said, went to Saipan to gather information which will better serve the program's intentions at the expense of objectivity.

"I was hoping that they will be more objective on the [prostitution and sweatshop] issues. However, they just have one purpose and their purpose is to videotape what they want to show on national television and listen to what they want to hear," Tenorio said.

He said the 20/20 crew did not even bother to inquire about the Commonwealth government's reform efforts, as manifested by the way questions were asked the governor during the interview.

"It would be more appropriate if they can report what we have done and what we have been doing. Unfortunately, they decided not to do so. There's nothing we can do about it," he added.

## Tarantino likely Guam AG

By Eric F. Say  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — Prominent island residents including a former police chief say that John F. Tarantino is a man that has very high ethical standards, is beyond reproach and a good choice to be Guam's attorney general.

Former police chief Adolf Sgambelluri, in his testimony before the Legislature's Judiciary Committee chaired by Sen. John Salas, said Tarantino has demonstrated "leadership highlighted by intelligence and compassion," and is "a head and shoulders performer."

Sgambelluri said Tarantino's nomination deserves to be confirmed by the Legislature.

Oscar Miyashita, managing partner of Ernst & Young accounting firm, told the com-

mittee that Tarantino is a person not afraid to express his opinion.

Calvin Hollaway, who resigned over two years ago, was the last attorney general whose nomination was confirmed by the Legislature.

Members of Salas' committee was concerned that the integrity of the office has been "damaged" by political interference.

Describing Gov. Carl T. Gutierrez as someone who "very much wants to be in control," Sen. Joanne Brown asked Sgambelluri, "what makes you think that Tarantino wouldn't be just another puppet for the governor to play with?"

Sgambelluri replied, "In the past we have had phonies filling the shoes of AG, but I wholeheartedly believe this man is not [a phony]."

Guam attorney and business-

man Robert Klitzkie also pushed for the speedy confirmation of Tarantino's nomination.

He said Tarantino is a "quick study," honest, has a keen sense of ethics, and a commitment to the public good.

Tarantino, for his part, told the committee that he would perform his duties with the same consistency and integrity that marked his 17 years of practicing law on Guam.

When asked about special fundraising ticket sales within the Law Department, Tarantino said such activities occurring during his watch will not be tolerated and must be reported immediately.

Tarantino's name is expected to be brought up for confirmation by the Legislature when it holds a session later this month.

## Manglona to go up to Supreme Court?



John A. Manglona

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

JUDGE John A. Manglona is likely to go up in the CNMI Supreme Court to fill up the position to be vacated once Miguel S. Demapan is named chief justice, sources said yesterday.

Sources said Manglona is the top contender for the position of associate justice as Presiding Judge Edward Manibusan allegedly opts to stay in the lower court.

The same sources said Manglona may get the position

Continued on page 22

## Court orders auction

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE SUPERIOR Court has ordered the Department of Public Safety to sell at public auction a private firm's interests in seven parcels of land to satisfy a \$1.5 million award to a woman who was humiliated in public.

Presiding Judge Edward Manibusan asked the DPS' police chief to execute, in accordance with the law, the sale of real property interests belonging to Marianas Agupa Enterprises, Inc. to satisfy the award to Angelita P. Mendiola.

Manibusan in his order issued

Continued on page 22



Children assist their families in selling their local produce during Saturday's agricultural fair in Susupe.

Photo By Maria C. Alonso

## SVES still the largest school



Martha Haberman

By Louie C. Alonso  
Variety News Staff

DESPITE the opening of Dandan Elementary School last March, San Vicente Elementary School will still be the largest grade school next school year, principal Martha Haberman said yesterday.

Haberman said SVES is expecting some 700 to 800 enrollees when schools open.

Dandan Elementary School will accommodate more than 400 transfer students residing in Dandan village.

"I could say that we will still be the largest school next year because we still have to accommodate students from Kagman area

until Kagman Elementary School opens," Haberman said.

The principal added the school will experience a large number of teacher loss because 13 of its teaching staff will not renew their contracts after the June 18 expiration date.

Haberman said she is looking forward in the local teachers job fair this month to offset the number of teachers who will leave SVES after the contract expiration date.

Other schools aside from SVES, will also try to get the replacement of some teachers who opted not to renew their contracts after June 18.

Associate Commissioner Rita Sablan earlier said PSS needs 50 more teachers for Saipan schools so as not to disrupt the classes for the next school year.

PSS targets to get the fresh graduates from the Teachers Academy to teach in the school level.

As early as today, the school administration of SVES is preparing for the opening of classes next school year.

With the transfer of some students to Dandan Elementary School, SVES will operate next school year under the single track program.

## Human . . .

Continued from page 8

of the treatment they were receiving.

He also said they were all angry at the way the trip had been

handled by the Da Tou's men.

So far testimony given at trial has pointed to high level police officers from China were involved in getting the immigrants to the boat before it left Nan Ou island off the coast of China.

The trial continues today at 9 am.

## Amnesty-seekers try to beat program deadline

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THE NUMBER of overstayers seeking amnesty could reach more than 3,000 as several hundreds more trooped to the Department of Labor and Immigration (DOLI) yesterday to beat the deadline on government's limited immunity program.

In an interview yesterday, Task Force Limited Immunity chief Jeffrey Camacho at the same time said a number of those applying for amnesty were already illegally hired by employers coming forward to avoid prosecution for harboring illegal aliens once the six-month grace period is over.

Camacho also said that there were isolated cases involving amnesty-seekers being disqualified as they have been here after Jan. 1 last year. The limited immunity law only covers

illegals who have been here before the mentioned cut-off date.

Camacho failed to give figures on the overall result, explaining that the task force is still ironing out the numbers.

The limited immunity program is part of the government's efforts to shape up its labor and immigration affairs amid mounting pressure from the federal government which has been claiming that the commonwealth's employment scene is one heavily dependent on abused foreign workers.

The program started Jan. 1 this year following law enacted on the matter late last year. The program expired yesterday.

Camacho reiterated that DOLI operatives will today begin its crackdown on overstayers who have opted to remain in hiding.

Continued on page 22

## SGMA install members of compliance committee

By Rene P. Acosta  
Variety News Staff

The garment industry has installed members to a seven-man compliance committee tasked to monitor its member's adherence to its soon to be fully implemented code of conduct.

The body which will continue to work for the complete implementation of the policy and guidelines governing the island's factories is being headed by former labor director Frank Camacho.

Camacho, also a former deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety is joined by other officials from various factories. They are Francis Lam, Annie Castro, Moses Fejeran, William Fong, Eloy Inos, and Mathilde Cabrera.

The officers were installed during a meeting SGMA members held last May 26.

The SGMA has also been done with its review of proposals submitted by different groups which have applied to become the association's external monitoring group for the code of conduct, and one company, Price Waterhouse Coopers, appeared to be on top of the list.

The advanced training for the code which is being administered for SGMA by the Business for Social Responsibility is scheduled this August.

The association is expecting to have officials from the OSHA and EEOC during its sessions, which are the final training requirements for the implementation of the code.

Richard Pierce, SGMA executive director, said the compliance committee would be responsible in monitoring the factories' submission to the code.

It can recommend to the SGMA board the taking of sanctions against any violating companies, and can issue certifications in behalf of any factory member.

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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 234-8341

## 94 San Vicente students complete DARE program



Charles W. Ingram Jr.

By Louie C. Alonso  
Variety News Staff  
A TOTAL of 94 San Vicente Elementary School students graduated yesterday from the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.  
DARE program is being coordinated by PO1 Edward Maratita, Jr. of the Department of Public Safety.  
Public Safety Commissioner Charles W. Ingram Jr., who was the guest speaker at the event, told students that all of the les-

sions they have learned in the program would be useful in their lives when they grow up.  
Students learned many things in the program such as the different types of prohibited drugs and how it can affect the user.  
The program also taught students how to say "no" when someone offered them drugs.  
The aim of the program is to educate the young students on the dangers of drugs and how it can destruct the life of the user.  
At the graduation rites, principal Martha Haberman emphasized the value of healthy community to 6th grade students.  
She said each of the program graduates should have self-control and self-discipline to avoid drug problems in the local community.  
"When we read the newspapers, we want to see names. And we never want to see your names to be part of not-so-good things which cannot give pride to our school," Haberman said.



Covered in loud colors, this pick-up was a popular attraction at the recent 1999 Saipan Supershow. Photo by Marian A. Maraya

## 12 seniors Japan-bound

By Louie C. Alonso  
Variety News Staff  
TWELVE senior citizens from the Office of Aging Administration will

leave for Japan next month to participate in an international golf tournament for elder people.  
According to OAA Exec. Dir. Annie Flores, the agency has chosen six participants from Saipan, and three participants each from the islands of Tinian and Rota.  
Flores said the selection process for the 12 participants was held last April when the Aging Center held a local golf tournament.  
But the cash-strapped Aging Center, Flores disclosed, could not provide air tickets to the 12 older citizens and their chaperons so they are looking for sponsors to help the manamkos participate in the tournament.  
Last year, the Office of the Governor shouldered the airfare of the participating senior citizens in the golf tournament.  
CNMI participation in the Japan event is part of the CNMI's celebration for the Year of the Older Citizens.  
Last week, OAA concluded the celebration of the Mes Manamko (Older American's Month).  
The purpose of the celebration for the Year of Older Citizens in the CNMI is to recognize the contributions made by the senior citizens in the local community.  
Today's generation, OAA said, must focus on the needs of older persons and promote the philosophy that societies should be inclusive in nature, should embrace all populations, and should share their resources equally.

## Share magic, wisdom of the Pacific islands

Did you ever wonder why mosquitoes suck blood? Are you curious about where and why the Maori first learned the art of tattoo? Or how various islanders remember the story of the creation of the world?  
Legends recount the tales of magic and the supernatural as well as addressing themes like family, love, respect, nature, courage, rites of passage, history and tradition — some in this case involving cannibalism.  
Now the legends that have embodied the culture and values of Island people for centuries are available in one beautifully illustrated, easy-to-read volume: *Pacific Island Legends: Tales from Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia, and Australia* by educators Bo Flood, Beret E. Strong and William Flood, with culturally accurate illustrations by Connie J. Adams.  
Everyone interested in the Pacific Islands will appreciate the beauty and depth of this volume — residents, visitors, scholars, military and armchair travellers alike.  
The 44 legends from all over the Pacific are a window into an often overlooked part of the world. Perfect for teachers, the book is also a literary companion to two popular Bess Press textbooks, *Pacific Nations and Territories* and *Pacific Neighbors*.  
Continued on page 22

## OES fundraising rummage sale

THE OLEAI Elementary School (OES) Faculty Club will be holding a fundraising rummage sale on Saturday, June 5.  
The sale will be held in the school's cafeteria from 8 a.m. to 12 n.  
OES is located in the village of San Jose on Texas Road.  
Follow the signs on June 5th.

## ATTENTION ARTISTS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The NMI Council for the Humanities and the CNMI Council for the Arts and Culture are interested in awarding an art commission to commemorate the millennium. We envision a series of historical paintings celebrating the strength, endurance and adaptability of the indigenous people of the Northern Mariana Islands. Over the centuries the indigenous people of these islands have demonstrated countless times and in countless ways an extraordinary ability to adapt to profound changes in nearly every aspect of life—religious, economic, political and cultural. And despite all the upheavals and vicissitudes of thousands of years of history the people and their culture are still here intact. We want to celebrate this quality and preserve this unique history for future generations. Respondents should consider these requirements:

- The theme for these paintings, the single element that ties them all together is: The Endurance of a People and Their Culture. The paintings must be based in the history and culture of the Mariana Islands. Respondents may consider historical events, folklore, legends, stories, songs, dance or any other appropriate cultural expression to emphasize the theme.
- The paintings must be painted on a material that will withstand time and the elements.
- The paintings will be displayed at the CNMI Museum in the recessed arches underneath the covered walkway. These arches are approximately three inches deep, six feet tall, and five feet wide. Paintings will be protected by a transparent barrier. Both paintings and barrier must be removable. (The cost of the barrier is not part of the proposal).
- As many as six paintings may be necessary.
- Deadline for completion is January 1, 2000.

Respondents should submit pencil or charcoal sketches, and/or paint studies of each painting, a brief narrative explaining the overall composition of the paintings, the historical and cultural basis for each, how the theme is expressed through out the series, and plan for completion including the total cost of the proposed paintings. The Humanities Council and the Arts Council will select the artist or artists based on these submissions. Sealed proposals must be submitted to the Humanities Council office located on the ground floor of King's Plaza in Dandan by the close of business on June 17, 1999. Selection is final and any or all submissions may be rejected. This is a competitive project with a funding range of up to \$25,000.



Philippine Secretary of Health Department Alberto Romualdez (right) grabs the neck of a smoking mascot as Sen. Juan Flavier (left) and Dr. Shigeru Omi (center) of the World Health Organization look on during the World No Tobacco Day campaign in suburban Quezon City Monday. AP

## Pacific free trade area pushed

SUVA (Pacnews) — Forum Trade Ministers meeting in the Fiji capital, Suva have been urged to seriously consider the long-term benefits of the proposed Free Trade Area.  
Speaking to a high level closed door session of forum trade ministers, Forum Secretariat's Secretary General, Noel Levi said the proposed regional trade grouping would determine whether the nations of the Pacific region are ready to respond as a region to the enormous pressures of globalisation and trade liberalisation.  
Levi said the idea is not new. It was first discussed at the Forum meeting in 1971 by founding members of the Forum Secretariat, who felt the need to form an economic union in the region.  
He said this vision had not been realised and hope the trade ministers would build on what the founding fathers of the Forum Secretariat discussed 29 years ago.  
"The main difference between 1971 and now of course is that we no longer have the luxury time in front of us and major events and pressures continue to raise the need for us to respond and quickly respond."  
"The whole world around us is organising themselves into trading blocs because they see that as the only way to make themselves strong enough to deal with globalisation and trade liberalisation", Noel Levi said.  
He said only last week; another region of developing countries in Africa reached an agreement also to form themselves into a free trade area.  
Levi challenged the ministers saying "we are perhaps the only region in the world that has not engaged in a trading bloc to help meet the demands of trade and liberalisation. The fact that our individual smallness and isolation would seem to be a clear indication that we do need to form a trade bloc to create economies of scale, to enhance our strengths and to foster a collective purpose."  
The draft framework agreement has taken into consideration the welfare and economic benefits of many members who are relatively small.  
"The agreement is initially to be an arrangement between countries of similar development status with common trade interests. Our members are saying they need time to adjust and to gather some strengths and momentum before taking the big step of non-preferential liberalisation. That is what we have tried to capture in the draft framework agreement," Levi said.  
The Forum Secretary General appealed to trade ministers to endorse the draft agreement and begin negotiations in earnest.  
He said the negotiation process would take months before a draft treaty is text is ready for consideration.  
"Even if by the end of next year you agree to establish the proposed free trade area, its gradual implementation over 8 to 10 years or more, would mean that you would have the time to make the necessary adjustments," Levi said.  
A decision by the trade ministers would be further deliberated by Forum leaders in Palau later this year.

## Pacific islands set to benefit from yachting events

AUCKLAND (Pacnews) — The Trade Commissioner of the South Pacific Trade Commission (SPTC) in Auckland, New Zealand, Parmesh Chand, says the Pasifika America's Cup project is making good progress.  
The project is an effort by the SPTC to maximise the economic benefits from the Pacific Islands arising from the holding of the Louis Vuitton and America's Cup Regatta in Auckland, New Zealand.  
"The sailing of the America's Cup races in Auckland was too important an event for the South Pacific region to let its opportunities slip by," he said.  
"Our project pulls the Pacific into the event and will enable the Islands to contribute their cultural and entertainment qualities while benefiting from the promotion of South Pacific tourism and other opportunities," Chand said.  
A key part of the project is the SPTC's creation of a Pasifika Shop in the heart of the America's Cup village that will run for the duration of the regattas from mid October 1999 until early March 2000.  
The Pasifika Shop will encompass displays and promotions by many of the Pacific Islands.  
Chand commented, "We are working closely with America's Cup Village Ltd to ensure the Pasifika Shop is a vibrant, entertaining part of the public's appreciation of the America's Cup village."  
The SPTC, he said, was also working closely with the America's Cup Village Limited to ensure there is a high Pacific Islands content in the village's entertainment programme.  
"This programme is being put in place for the duration of the regattas. Of particular interest to the SPTC is the great sailing tradition of the Pacific Islands canoes are recognised. Plans are being made with organisers and various Pacific Island cultural groups to achieve this through the participation of canoes in some of the regattas' key cultural and entertainment events," Chand said.  
The project also covers efforts to facilitate the visits of "super yachts" to the Pacific Islands while these vessels are in the South Pacific for the America's Cup and the Sydney Olympics.  
"We have a consultant in place working on the project and excellent results have been forthcoming over the last month," Chand reported.  
"We are particularly grateful for the administrative support we have received from the Forum Secretariat and the funding support received from the Centre for the Development of Industries in Brussels."

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# Fiji banks freeze personal loans

SUVA (Pacnews) — Most banks and financial institutions in Fiji have stopped providing personal loans as a result of the introduction of the Consumer Credit Act.

Chairman of the Association of Banks in Fiji, Brian Bliss, said its members are unable to comply with many provisions of the new legislation that came into force on May 7.

The introduction of the new Act would mean that lending institutions would have to change computer systems and documentation, including security documents, letters of offers and loan agreements.

The Act makes it illegal for credit providers to extend credit unless they are in full compliance with the Act.

Westpac Banking Corporation said it would take at least two years to implement the changes while the Bank of Hawaii said it would

take until the middle of next year to make the changes.

Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudhry lashed out at the financial institutions for their decisions to stop providing loans.

He instructed the Ministry of Commerce to convene an urgent meeting next week with the banks.

"I would like to assure the public not to panic. The Government will meet financial institutions where we will discuss the issue. If need be, the Government may use the Fiji Development Bank in providing financial services to the public," he said.

## Vanuatu PM to reshuffle his Cabinet

PORT VILA (Pacnews) — Vanuatu's Prime Minister, Donald Kalpokas has announced a reshuffle of his Cabinet.

The former Minister of Agriculture, John Morsen Willie is the new Minister for Geology, Mines, Rural Water Supply, Energy and Environment.

Former Lands Minister Silas Hakwa was asked to take up the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry. However, he refused the new portfolio and told the Prime Minister he would prefer to run his private legal practice.

Hakwa has assured the Prime Minister of his loyalty to the Vanuaaku Pati and support for the Government. A Government statement said Hakwa would be available to advise the Government when necessary.

The Prime Minister accepted the decision of Hakwa and thanked him for his significant

Continued on page 15

## Elsewhere in the Pacific

# PNG troops rescue Indonesia hostages

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP) — Soldiers on Monday rescued 11 Indonesians held hostage by Free Papua Movement (OPM) rebels for almost a month.

The seven women and four men were reportedly safe Monday night and on their way to the Indonesian consul in the town of Vanimo on the border of Papua New Guinea and Irian Jaya, Deputy Police Commissioner Gary Baki said.

Baki said the Javanese hostages held captive in the jungles of Bewani since May 5 were rescued by security troops at midday Monday.

He did not release details of the rescue operation or whether there had been any casualties sustained either by the security forces or the rebels.

It was not clear whether the troops stormed the rebel camp to free the hostages or whether the rebels gave up the hostages when

they were surrounded. Baki described the rescue operation as a desperate attempt to save the hostages.

It was carried out by members of the Papua New Guinea Defense Force based in Vanimo, whose main task is to patrol the common border with the Indonesian province of Irian Jaya.

The platoon of soldiers were helped by 35 members of a Police Mobile squad flown in from the highlands township of Wabag for the operation.

The rescue operation went into full swing from last Friday after negotiations to release the hostages broke down.

It involved about 70 security force personnel who were put in strategic locations near the camp where the hostages were being held at Bewani inside the Papua New Guinea border.

The 11 hostages had been captured during a raid by the rebels

on a building project at Arso, in Irian Jaya.

They were to have been released Friday to a high-powered delegation from led by Defense Minister Peter Waieng.

But when the talks failed at the last minute, OPM rebel leader Hans Bormay had a change of heart and the handover was called off.

Hans Bormay, the rebel leader who led the May 5 raid, had said the abductions took place because the rebels were frustrated by the withdrawal of Indonesian military authorities from a scheduled meeting in February to discuss independence claims for West Papua.

The Organization of the Papua Merdeka (OPM, or Free Papua) has been fighting for an independent Melanesian state of West Papua since 1964, when the former Dutch West New Guinea became part of Indonesia.

The United Nations recognized Indonesian sovereignty in 1969.

## Niue's Attorney General sacked

ALOFI (Pacnews) — Niue's Attorney General, New Zealand lawyer Warner Banks has been sacked by the Cabinet.

It's the latest move in a saga also involving the Chief of Police, the Niue Public Service Commission and the Cabinet.

Warner Banks, a former Hong Kong magistrate and Coroner was given an hour's notice to quit, despite a contract with the

Government which gives either party 90 days to terminate the agreement.

Banks says Cabinet sacked him because he gave independent legal counsel to people in Government who were entitled to receive it, which was the job of the Attorney General in any country.

In another development, Niue's Police Chief, New Zealand detective Andrew Lovelock remains in

his job despite a notice to quit issued by the Public Service Commission.

He has challenged the two Commission orders in the High Court and has won both bases.

Lovelock was removed from office after allegations that Police failed to carry out an order from the Speaker to remove a parliamentarian from parliament.

## Bougainville Congress to work for independence

RABAUL (Pacnews) - The newly-elected President of the Bougainville Peoples' Congress (BPC), Joseph Kabui, says negotiations with Papua New Guinea over the future political status of Bougainville will be tough.

"Independence is not a new debate between Bougainville and PNG. Its cause, however, was colonialism, not the people of PNG. It has now been written in blood and we must address it directly and honestly. It is still a long road ahead," said Kabui.

"However, I think we have all had a chance to stand back and look at the situation over these past two years of peace. I believe that PNG can see there is no turning back from the aspirations of the Bougainville people and I am confident we will reach an early understanding on the way forward to lasting peace."

Kabui, the former Vice-President of the Bougainville Interim Government and a pro-independence supporter, was elected as President of BPC with an 88.5 per cent majority. President Kabui won the last elected premiership in 1988 by a similar margin.

A statement from his office said the two Vice-Presidents, James Tanis and Thomas Anis, are also independence campaigners.

"I am honoured by the trust my people have placed in me in selecting me to lead this historical Government into negotiations with PNG on the question that has been at the bottom of these past twelve years of conflict and division," Kabui said.

Kabui appealed to PNG and the international community to appreciate the fact there could be no turning back for Bougainville.

## Samoa agrees to increase compensation for student

APIA (Pacnews) — Samoa will pay \$F197,212 (\$US62,206) to a Fijian student, Saimoni Tuigali, as final payment of his claim against three Samoan students who assaulted him, the Prime Minister's Department has announced in the capital, Apia this week.

Tuigali lost his eyesight in the attack.

"In September 1997, Government paid to Cromptons (Tuigali's) legal counsel the sum of \$F37,027 as settlement of the claim," a statement from the Prime Minister's Office said.

However the amount was disputed and the extra sum was added.

Tuigali and his attackers were students at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Suva.

The Samoan students accused of assaulting Tuigali reportedly took shelter at Reverend Peniamina's home after the attack.

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Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold a Special meeting on Thursday, June 3, 1999, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fund Conference Room, Rota.

**AGENDA**

A. CALL TO ORDER  
B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA  
C. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES  
D. REPORT OF THE HEARING OFFICER  
E. REPORT OF THE LEGAL COUNSEL  
F. REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
G. REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE  
H. CORRESPONDENCE  
I. OLD BUSINESS  
1. FY 2000 Budget - GHLL, WCC and NMIRF  
2. GHLLP  
a) Rules and Regulations - Amendment  
b) Premium Rates  
J. NEW BUSINESS  
1. Refund of Contributions  
2. Request for Reemployment Exemption  
3. Appeals on Benefits  
a) Consolidation of Benefits  
b) Computation of Annuity  
4. MHLF - Request for Approval of New Contractor  
K. MISCELLANEOUS  
1. Money Managers' Reports Ended 3/31/99  
2. IFEBP Article - Investment Manager  
3. Article on Entitlement to Life Insurance Proceeds.  
L. NEXT MEETING  
M. ADJOURNMENT



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Felipe Fernandez and his wife Lydia pray before the marble cross bearing his father's name, Sgt. Luis Fernandez, during the American Memorial Day commemoration to honor war heroes on Monday at the American Cemetery at suburban Makati city.

# RP, IMF maintain economic targets

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — The Philippine government and the International Monetary Fund have decided to maintain their 1999 revenue and growth targets for the country despite an initial shortfall in revenue collection, an official said Monday.

Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu said both sides are optimistic the targets can be met despite the shortfall in the first four months of the year. The government is aiming to collect 521.9 billion pesos (\$13.7 billion) in revenues this year.

Gross national product is projected to grow between 1.5 percent and 3.5 percent this year, while gross domestic product growth is targeted at between 1 percent and 3 percent. GNP measures a country's total production of goods and services,

while GDP excludes the billions of dollars sent home each year by overseas Filipino workers.

On Friday, the government announced sharply better-than-expected first quarter growth data, boosted mainly by strong agricultural output and steady growth in the services sector.

GNP grew 2 percent in the first quarter while GDP rose 1.2 percent. The government initially predicted GNP and GDP growth of 1 percent and 0.8 percent, respectively, for the three-month period.

Espiritu said the government will be able to make up for its revenue shortfall in the coming months, and that revenue collection in May has already shown an improvement. The data are due for release this week.

In the first four months, the

government posted a budget deficit of 22.023 billion pesos (\$579 million), exceeding the ceiling of 14.796 billion pesos (\$389 million) prescribed under the IMF program.

An IMF mission is in the Philippines to conclude a review of the country's economic performance in the first quarter. The review is a continuation of one conducted in April, which was unable to cover revenue targets because the government's data was not complete.

The government must meet its economic targets to continue to tap a borrowing arrangement with the IMF and hopes to draw an additional \$220 million under the arrangement in June.

## Cory Aquino gets telemedicine demonstration

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Former Philippines President Corazon Aquino says the computer technology she saw at a Texas hospital this week could help developing countries such as her own.

Ms. Aquino listened as Dr. Yadin David explained how Texas Children's Hospital uses interactive computers to give medical advice via the Internet to rural and foreign communities.

"I hope that, in time, the Philippines will have access to telemedicine," Ms. Aquino said. "No matter how far away from Houston you are, you can touch base with (specialists)."

Ms. Aquino, who succeeded Ferdinand Marcos in 1986, was in Houston to give the University of St. Thomas commencement address Saturday. She also spoke to the Houston World Affairs Council on Friday.

At Texas Children's Hospital Center for TeleHealth, she heard how Houston physicians are using telemedicine to diagnose illnesses and treat patients far away. Doctors can use interactive computers to hold two-way conversations, send documents, examine patients and look at X-rays.

David, director of the TeleHealth center, said telemedicine allows for earlier medical intervention, local hospitalization and steady care when a patient must go to another city or country for treatment.

Texas Children's wants to expand its telemedicine program to the Philippines, and Ms. Aquino seemed receptive.

She said it might have helped experts diagnose a little-known heart disease affecting one of her seven grandchildren.

She said doctors had trouble diagnosing Kawasaki syndrome, a disease found mostly in young Asian boys which can lead to weakening of the heart if it isn't treated.

# Estrada cancels safe conduct passes of rebel negotiators

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — President Joseph Estrada said Monday he has canceled the safe conduct passes of Communist rebel leaders after the guerrillas terminated peace talks with the government.

The cancellation of the passes exposes rebel consultants and negotiators to possible arrest if they have pending arrest warrants.

The government has not announced any plan to pursue such arrests.

"They're the ones who refused to continue the talks. We have no choice at this point in time so we'll terminate all these," Estrada said.

Estrada said the government is prepared for possible repercussions.

He said there was no need to place the military and po-

lice forces on heightened alert when he leaves Wednesday on a trip to Japan and South Korea.

The Marxist rebels announced they were pulling out of the peace negotiations on Friday, a day after the Philippine Senate approved an accord allowing U.S. troops to resume large-scale military exercises and ship visits in the country.

The National Democratic Front, a Marxist umbrella group, said the passage of the military agreement with the United States violated Philippine sovereignty.

Rebel leaders warned that the talks' cancellation could lead to a resumption of high-profile rebel attacks.

Estrada has said the rebels were simply using the approval of the Visiting Forces



Joseph Estrada

Agreement as an excuse to terminate the talks, which began in 1992, and called the rebels insincere.

Estrada complained that the rebels continued to attack the government despite the release

of political prisoners by two previous administrations and the issuing of safe conduct passes to rebel leaders involved in the peace talks.

Earlier this year, Estrada canceled the safe conduct passes after the rebels kidnapped several military and police officers. He restored them after the hostages were released.

Prior to the dispute over the VFA, the rebels had suspended talks with the government after Estrada imposed what they said were unacceptable conditions, including conducting the negotiations under the framework of the Philippine constitution.

The rebels have been fighting the government for a Marxist state in the Philippines since the late 1960s.

# Central Bank chief to retire

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — The Philippines' respected central bank chief, Gabriel Singson, said Monday he will step down as scheduled, quashing speculation that he might agree to an extension of his six-year term, which ends July 5.

President Joseph Estrada had earlier said he was willing to prolong Singson's term if the central bank governor would agree.

Singson was one of the few officials appointed by former President Fidel Ramos retained by Estrada.

Singson refused to categorically state if his replacement will be Philippine Commercial International Bank president Rafael Buenaventura, Estrada's former schoolmate and reportedly his choice as new central bank chief.

"I can't confirm it. But if I will bet on it, I will give it 10 to 1 odds," said Singson.

Singson said the new central bank governor should be patient, courageous, decisive and not sensitive to criticism if he is to succeed in the job.

Singson said he considers his "most important accomplishments" as central bank governor a stable price regime and a stable financial system that has weathered the Asian crisis largely unscathed.

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## Vanuatu . . .

Continued from page 12

contribution as Lands Minister.

Prime Minister Kalpokas will take charge of the Minis-

try of Agriculture for the time being.

The Prime Minister advised that political and support staff of the former Minister should continue their work as normal.



# PUBLIC NOTICE

THE  
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All Nippon Airways (ANA) president Kichisaburo Nomura announces corporate plans during a news conference in Tokyo Monday. Japan's second largest airline, said it would cut its 28,000-person global workforce by 10 percent by March 2003.

# All Nippon Airways unveils new reforms

**TOKYO (AP)** — Japan's All Nippon Airways Co. will cut 10 percent of its worldwide work force and establish a new discount airline as part of a broad reform strategy, the company said Monday.

Japan's second largest airline said it would cut its 28,000-person global work force by 10 percent by March 2003.

Most of the cuts will be made at the ANA parent company where 1,700 jobs will be trimmed through early retirement and by limiting new hiring, the company said in a press release.

The other cuts will be made at subsidiaries and affiliates, though the company did not say where.

A nearly two-year-long economic crisis has curbed demand for plane tickets in Asia, and a stubborn recession has dampened travel demand at home.

Meanwhile, the establishment of new discount airlines such as Skymark Airlines Co. has put pressure on big flyers to cut fares.

"The business environment in Japan is extremely difficult right now," ANA President and CEO Kichisaburo Nomura said in the statement. "Many of the reforms we will undertake are going to be challenging, even painful," he added.

The president's salary will be cut by 25 percent, the company announced, though it didn't say how much he would make.

ANA will set up its own low-cost airline this year that will focus on routes out of the western Japan city of Osaka, the company said without providing details.

The carrier will also reduce interest-bearing debt by 130 billion yen (\$1.07 billion) over the next four years to about 610 billion yen (\$5.04 billion).

The announcement follows a dismal earnings report from ANA last week.

ANA suffered a parent net loss of 6.59 billion yen (\$54.46 million), deeper than its year-earlier loss of 2.68 billion yen (\$22.15 million). The loss stemmed from higher operating costs and a one-time charge to pay workers who retired early under an existing plan to cut jobs.

## Japan's Nikon posts loss on weak sales

**TOKYO (AP)** — Major camera maker Nikon Corp. on Monday reported a consolidated net loss of 18.23 billion yen (\$150.21 million) for the last fiscal year due to a drop in industrial equipment sales.

Nikon, which had posted a 8.32 billion yen (\$68.56 million) net profit a year ago, blamed its poor performance on weak demand for precision instruments, such as devices used to make semiconductors.

Group sales slid 18 percent to 305.76 billion yen (\$2.52 billion) in the fiscal year ended March 31, the company said. Higher revenue from cameras and glasses was offset by lower revenue from industrial equipment, it said.

While Nikon said business conditions will likely remain severe in recession-hit Japan and other Asian nations, it expects to return to the black in the current business year, which ends in March 2000.

The company forecast a group net profit of 5.0 billion yen (\$41.19 million) on sales of 350 billion yen (\$2.88 billion).

Nikon had previously released its parent company earnings results for fiscal 1998 — a net loss of 9.87 billion yen (\$81.32 million).

# Threats ahead of ballot

**VIQUEQUE, Indonesia (AP)** — U.N. polling officials fanned out across remote parts of East Timor on Monday despite threats from militiamen opposed to an August independence referendum.

Militia groups are accused of waging a campaign of violence to derail the Aug. 8 ballot which will let East Timorese choose between making their homeland an autonomous state within Indonesia or breaking away completely.

Pro-independence activists say militiamen have killed dozens of civilians and intimidated thousands. The United Nations, which will supervise voting, on Monday repeated a demand that Indonesian security forces restore order.

"We have received general threats from the militias against U.N. personnel," said David Wimhurst a spokesman for the U.N. Assistance Mission in East Timor, or UNAMET. "Obviously the security situation in Timor is not good."

He did not elaborate.

"The militias have to lay down their arms," Wimhurst said.

"We'll be working with the Indonesian police and with influential leaders to get this violence to end."

In another development, 500 Indonesian policemen left for East Timor on Friday to help control the situation in the lead-up to voter registration that begins June 17. Military chief Gen. Wiranto said a total of 8,500 police and soldiers will be involved in safeguarding the vote.

In Jakarta, UNAMET chief Ian Martin met jailed rebel leader Jose Alexandre "Xanana" Gusmao on Monday to discuss security in East Timor. Martin planned to formally open the U.N. headquarters in Dili on Thursday, joining 58 U.N. officials already there.

About 600 civilian U.N. personnel, as well as about 280 foreign police advisers, will be in East Timor before the ballot.

About 200 voter registration and polling stations are to be established by June 17.

Wimhurst said UNAMET's presence had helped create a safe atmosphere in Dili and that the arrival of more officials would further assuage tensions across the troubled territory.

"When our presence is felt on the ground, it will have a calming effect," Wimhurst said.

On Monday, a four-member team flew by helicopter to Viqueque, 120 kilometers (75 miles) southeast of Dili, the territorial capital.

Before their arrival, town resi-

dents said a militia group had killed several independence activists and were patrolling its streets after dark unchallenged. Many carried automatic weapons.

Residents accused Indonesia's army of assisting militiamen — a charge that has been denied repeatedly by its top brass.

Meanwhile, the military accused pro-independence guerrillas of killing three anti-independence supporters near Viqueque on Friday.

Indonesia invaded East Timor, a former Portuguese territory, in 1975.

In a surprise policy reversal last January, Indonesia said it would consider granting independence to East Timor if its people rejected an autonomy offer.

Portugal and Indonesia have signed an agreement allowing the ballot to go ahead under U.N. supervision.



Surrounded by his armed guerrilla fighters, separatist rebel commander Abdullah Syafii, in white shirts, pose for a snapshot in Dayah, Aceh Province Saturday. Suspected rebels ambushed a military convoy and killed nine soldiers Saturday, saying, "The general election of Indonesia is for Indonesians."



**Office of the Job Training Partnership Act  
Office of the Governor**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Lower Base  
Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950



**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
(04/29/99)

## SUMMER JOB

THIS IS TO INFORM ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SPECIFICALLY FOR SAIPAN (AGES 16 & UP) THAT THE GOVERNOR'S JTPA OFFICE IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM.

PRIORITY CONSIDERATION WILL BE ACCORDED TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO ARE BELOW THE POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINE. HOWEVER, DEPENDING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL FUNDS, THE PROGRAM MAY ACCOMMODATE THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERED HIGH INCOME (WITHIN THE SAME AGE RANGE) TO FULFILL THE 300 SLOTS.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS **FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1999**. NO APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE ESTABLISHED DATE.

APPLICATION CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE MHS COUNSELOR'S OFFICE OR THE JTPA OFFICE LOCATED DIRECTLY ACROSS CUC. FOR INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT MR. MARTIN PANGELINAN OR MRS. LAURENT T. CHONG AT 664-1700/4.



/s/FELIX NOGIS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Exercise,  
not necessarily  
to lose weight,  
but to enhance  
circulation.**



**Office of the Job Training Partnership Act  
Office of the Governor**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Lower Base  
Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950



**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
(04/29/99)

## SUMMER JOB

This is to inform all High School students (Ages 16 & up) that the Governor's JTPA Office is now accepting applications for the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program for the following islands:

Island	Slots	Contact	Office	Phone
Tinian	50	Anna Marie Hocog	Personnel Office	433-0032
Rota	50	Olen Jacob	Labor & Immig.	532-4003

Furthermore, priority consideration will be accorded to U.S. and CNMI Residents, who are economically disadvantaged pursuant to the Poverty Income Guideline. Depending on the availability of local funds, the Program may accommodate those students who are considered high income (within the same age range) to fulfill the 50 slots.

Deadline for application submission is **June 04, 1999**. To ensure fairness, application will not be accepted after the aforementioned established date.



/s/Felix Nogis  
Executive Director

**Diabetics,  
to prevent foot  
amputation,  
join the  
foot clinic.**



Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif (center) addresses Islamic clerics at a mosque in Lahore Monday. In his address, Sharif accused India of ruthlessly killing innocent Kashmiri people. He said the militants were "freedom fighters" and not terrorists or extremists. AP

## Pakistan: Any weapon to be used for defense

By KATHY GANNON  
ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan has warned that "any weapon" in its arsenal — which includes nuclear weapons — could be used to defend itself against neighboring India, according to newspaper reports on Monday.

The warning came against a backdrop of blistering artillery barrages along the disputed Kashmir border that killed 15 Pakistani civilians overnight Sunday, and more Indian air strikes against rebel positions in the Kargil hills on its side of the Kashmir divide.

"We will not hesitate to use any weapon in our arsenal to defend our territorial integrity," Shamsad Ahmed, the No. 2 man at the foreign ministry, was

quoted as saying by the independent English-language The News.

Uneasy relations between Pakistan and India plummeted last week when Indian jet fighters launched an air campaign against Muslim secessionists in the Kargil mountains on their side of the disputed border.

At a meeting Monday of Islamic clerics in the eastern Punjab capital of Lahore, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif accused India of "ruthlessly killing innocent Kashmiri people" and he said the militants were "freedom fighters" not extremists or terrorists.

However at their training camps in Pakistan-ruled Kashmir, the militant organizations espouse a rigid interpretation of Islam, the same as the Taliban religious

army, next door in Afghanistan. Sharif also repeated Pakistan's denial that it is sending in

Pakistan troops disguised as militants.

India accuses the Pakistan military of capturing a 5-kilometer (3-mile) piece of territory on its side of the border, then handing over the mountain posts to militant Islamic insurgents to defend.

The Pakistan Army has called the allegation "rubbish," but analysts here said the situation on the disputed border has deteriorated to a point not seen since 1971, the last time India and Pakistan fought a war.

That time the war was over Bangladesh or what was then East Pakistan. India and Pakistan have also fought two previous wars over Kashmir.

India has vowed to continue its military operations in the Kargil conflict zone until it regains its lost territory.

Both countries lay claim to a united Kashmir, which was divided between the two neighbors after British rule of the Asian Subcontinent ended in 1947.

Pakistan has proposed to send its foreign minister, Sartaj Aziz, to New Delhi to try to defuse tensions. On Monday India accepted the offer.

Pakistan also has been using the latest escalation in tension to push for international mediation of the Kashmir dispute. India has flatly refused the involvement of the international community.

The international community has been calling for restraint by both countries. But Pakistani officials want a more direct involvement, repeatedly warning of the dangers of a confrontation in a region where the combatants both have nuclear weapons.

## India agrees to talk peace

By HEMA SHUKLA  
KARGIL, India (AP) — India agreed Monday to high-level talks with Pakistan to defuse tensions over the disputed Kashmir region, even as its jets pounded positions held by guerrillas in the mountainous territory.

International concern is growing over the hostilities between the world's two newest nuclear powers over the divided Kashmir region, where India accuses Pakistan of backing guerrillas who seized mountain positions earlier this month.

Six people were killed when an artillery shell demolished a government building in Kargil early Monday, said officials of the state government. Several more people were injured, in the highest casualty toll reported so far from an artillery attack.

The Foreign Ministry in New Delhi said Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had "considered and accepted" a proposal

by his Pakistani counterpart Nawaz Sharif to dispatch his foreign minister, Sartaj Aziz, to India. The dates were being discussed, said a statement.

The proposal came in a telephone call from Sharif Friday night. Vajpayee said he would consider the idea, but India was concentrating on evicting the infiltrators from the Indian side of the unofficial border. Since then, there was no further contact between the two leaders, said a spokesman for Vajpayee.

On Sunday, Vajpayee said he had turned down a proposal by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to send an envoy to the region.

"I told him if he wants to send an envoy, send him to Pakistan, there is no need to send him to India," Vajpayee said at a public meeting, describing the telephone conversation late Saturday with Annan.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and British Foreign Minister Robin Cook also spoke with their Indian counterpart, Jaswant Singh, to express concern over the fighting.

An air force spokesman said strikes continued Monday. On the ground, Indian troops scaled towards the strategic snow-covered ridges held by guerrillas overlooking a main highway. Artillery duels continued between Pakistani and Indian forces.

A major battle was developing in the eastern sector. Reporters seeking to reach the town of Batalik, about 60 kilometers from Kargil, were turned back at a checkpoint.

Near the town of Dras, a senior commander said his troops were closing in on two outposts and were within 50 meters of the intruders holding

the heights. He said two officers and an unknown number of soldiers were killed Sunday in the battle for the two peaks, now shrouded in fog and slippery with fresh snow.

Indian artillery batteries stepped up the pace of shelling along the highway running parallel to the ridges seized by the raiders. At one post near Kargil, hundreds of empty shell casings were piled high, as a half dozen 105 mm guns thundered in unison in the direction of Pakistan.

In New Delhi, India demanded the immediately release an Indian pilot in Pakistani custody, the Foreign Ministry said. Lt. K. Nachiketa had ejected from his MIG fighter jet and landed in the Pakistani territory on Thursday. "The Indian air attache in Pakistan should have immediate access to the pilot," said the spokesman, Raminder Singh Jassal.

Senior front-line officers confirmed that for the first time since Indian airstrikes against the guerrillas began Wednesday, the air force has begun using French-made Mirage 2000 fighters.

The Mirage can jam air defense batteries and drop cluster bombs, missiles or other guided ammunition, the paper said. Independent confirmation of the report was not immediately possible.

Vajpayee has pledged to keep fighting until the guerrillas are driven from the Indian-held part of Kashmir — something military officials say could take weeks of bloody hand-to-hand fighting.

In Islamabad, Pakistan warned it would use "any weapon" to defend itself against India. "We will not hesitate to use any weapon in our arsenal to defend our territorial integrity," Shamsad Ahmed, the No. 2 man in the Foreign Ministry was quoted as saying by The News daily.

Last year, both India and Pakistan detonated nuclear devices and both are working on delivery systems for nuclear warheads.

Kashmir has been at the center of two wars fought by India and Pakistan. Both countries claim the entire territory, which is now divided between them, and there are frequent exchanges between the two sides. Meanwhile, Kashmiri Islamic groups have been fighting to gain independence from Hindu-dominated India or join Pakistan.

Vajpayee accused the guerrillas Monday of trying to alter the Line of Control, the cease-fire line established by India and Pakistan in their last war. He told a group of businessmen that it was "a warlike situation" in Kashmir, a spokesman said.

# Obuchi favored in LDP race



Keizo Obuchi

By Jon Herskovitz  
TOKYO (Reuters) — Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, riding high in polls but near the end of his first term as leader of Japan's ruling party, will likely beat two heavyweight challengers in a forthcoming leadership race, political sources say.

Recent polls show support for Obuchi has more than doubled to about 40 percent since he took office last July.

But that has not stopped two senior members of his Liberal Democratic Party - Koichi Kato and Taku Yamasaki - from saying they will challenge him in a leadership contest that must be held before his term as party leader expires at the end of September.

Political analysts said the two men are mainly trying to lay the groundwork to inherit the mantle of party leader - which carries with it the premiership by virtue of the LDP's majority in parliament's Lower House - after Obuchi serves another term.

Obuchi is currently finishing out the term of his predecessor Ryutaro Hashimoto,

who resigned as party president and prime minister after a disastrous showing by the LDP in an Upper House election in July.

Most analysts agree Obuchi, who overcame being described as a dull party operative and a "cold pizza" when he took office, is almost certain to win the race and a two-year term as LDP president.

"Everybody thinks the possibility of Obuchi being re-elected is very high," said Shinichi Yoshida, a senior political writer for the national Asahi Shimbun newspaper.

"The main reason the two (Kato and Yamasaki) are running is to establish very solid positions in the next LDP presidential election," Yoshida said.

Kato and Yamasaki, who both head smaller LDP factions, will need the support of members of Obuchi's faction, the party's largest, if they hope to become prime minister, Yoshida said.

While faction numbers will decide the outcome of the LDP race, Obuchi and his challengers are expected to focus their policy debate on economic issues - how to revive Japan's moribund economy while keeping the country's record high jobless rate from soaring much further.

Kato, a former diplomat, is one of the party's leading internationalists. He served as LDP secretary-general under Hashimoto and is one of the few party politicians to have addressed world television audiences in English.

He is advocating more "supply-side" measures to revive the economy, saying that tax-cuts and other measures to

stimulate demand have been ineffective. Supply-side reforms aim at shifting resources to growth-generating sectors while reducing excessive and unproductive capacity in other industries.

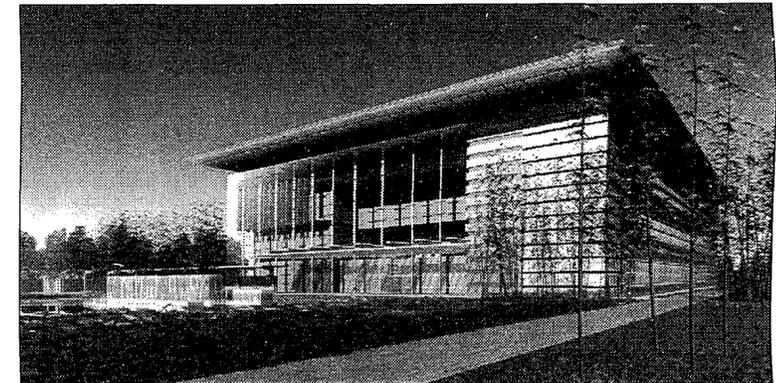
"A presidential election can be viewed as either a power struggle or an opportunity for policy discussion," Kato told the financial daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun.

Yamasaki, who was the LDP's policy chief under Hashimoto, remains one of the party's power brokers.

Talk that key party factions were ready to move the LDP president race forward by about a month to late August has fuelled speculation that an extra session of parliament will be called in early September, possibly to debate a supplementary budget to try

to kick-start the economy. That could also clear the decks for an early general election for the Lower House, political analysts say.

The LDP has a firm majority in the powerful lower chamber and an election does not have to be held until October 2000, but the ruling party wants to cement its control before the economy worsens any further.



An artist rendering shows the facade of a new Japanese Prime Minister's Official Residence which will be built by 2004 in a 43.5 billion yen (\$354 million) project in the compound of the current official residence in the heart of Tokyo's government district. AP

### 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.

Job Vacancy No. 99-013

Opening Date: 05/26/99

Closing Date: 06/09/99

#### CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

DUTIES: Responsibilities include performing a wide variety of customer services such as assisting in verifying and resolving customer disputes and or inquiries on billings, payments, adjustments, and other utility charges. Will be responsible for monitoring customer accounts for disconnection or reconnection. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.

LOCATION: COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION, SAIPAN

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High school or equivalent. Four (4) or more years direct customer service experience. Private sector experience preferred. Must have some experience with accounts and collections. Computer skills required.

STARTING SALARY: \$11,681.76 - \$15,105.87 per annum

Applications are available at the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Lower Base, Saipan, the CUC Rota or Tinian office.

Copy of diploma and/or official transcript and recent police clearance must be attached.

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

### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Job Vacancy No. 99-014

Opening Date: 05/26/99

Closing Date: 06/08/99

#### SECRETARY I

DUTIES: Responsible for performing various secretarial and administrative duties as assigned. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.

LOCATION: COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION, SAIPAN

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High school plus two (2) years related work experience or an Associates degree. Word processing and writing (composition) skills required. Must be proficient with data base software. APPLICANTS WILL BE TESTED.

STARTING SALARY: \$13,703.64 - \$18,356.51 per annum

Applications are available at the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Saipan, the CUC Rota or Tinian office.

Copy of diploma and/or official transcript and recent police clearance must be attached.

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

### DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

*Kimberly Corina Merano Sanchez*  
DATE OF BIRTH: NOVEMBER 13, 1994 - DIED: MAY 27, 1999

#### SHE IS SURVIVED BY HER:

Father: John Sanchez  
Mother: Christina P. Merano  
Brother & Sister: Johnny Jac Sanchez

Brigida Sanchez  
She is additionally survived by Cousins, Aunts, Uncles & Grandparents:

Barbara Pangelinan  
Nilo Rabino  
Lydia S. Sanchez  
Antonio S. Santos  
Godparents: Elma Pangelinan  
Antonio P. Reyes



Viewing and burial service will be on Friday, June 4, 1999 at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral, Chalan Kanoa at 2:00 p.m. Burial will follow at the Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Dinner will be served beside Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

## Report: Smoking remains a chronic problem in Asia

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — With almost 71 percent women and 80 percent men puffing away in Southeast Asia, smoking has become a chronic problem in the region, a World Health Organization report said.

WHO Regional Director Dr. Uton Mughtar Rafei said tobacco could soon become a bigger killer than AIDS, tuberculosis, maternal mortality, traffic accidents, suicide and homicide put together, the United News agency reported.

Unlike in the West, where tobacco is mostly smoked, Asians not only smoke it, but chew it.

In 1997, it was reported that 194 million men and 45 million women use tobacco in India alone. More than 800,000 deaths in India are caused by diseases related to tobacco use, a WHO report said.

About 90 percent of all oral cancer cases in India were among tobacco addicts.

## BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY

# ROBERT CARPIZO

From Marianas Variety Staff

## Jackson eyes release of two aid workers



Jesse Jackson

By David Lawsky  
**WASHINGTON (Reuters)** — U.S. civil rights leader Jesse Jackson said on Monday he had asked Yugoslavia to release two Australian aid workers and a local colleague jailed as spies, saying they were being used as "war trophies."

Jackson, who obtained the release of three American soldiers from Yugoslavia earlier this month, also renewed his call for NATO to stop bombing Yugoslavia for 72 hours.

"I talked with the foreign minister, (Zivadin) Jovanovic, yesterday, appealing to him to release the three," Jackson said in a telephone interview in Washington.

"They are being used as war trophies and they should be released, just as the three American soldiers were released. And that's how I appealed to them," Jackson said.

Jackson quoted Jovanovic as saying "he would get back to me on it." He said he planned to speak with the foreign minister again on Tuesday.

A Yugoslav judge on Saturday sentenced the Australian CARE workers to prison terms for carrying suspicious documents. CARE said Yugoslav border guards misinterpreted situation reports the workers were carrying.

Steve Pratt was sentenced to 12 years and Peter Wallace received four years. A Yugoslav colleague, Branko Jelen, was given six years.

CARE said the men were delivering food and medical supplies to Serb refugees displaced during the 1992-1995 Bosnia war.

When Jackson went to Yugoslavia to seek the release of three American soldiers - Christopher Stone, Andrew Ramirez and Steven Gonzales - he side-stepped a request from Australia to help win freedom for the aid workers.

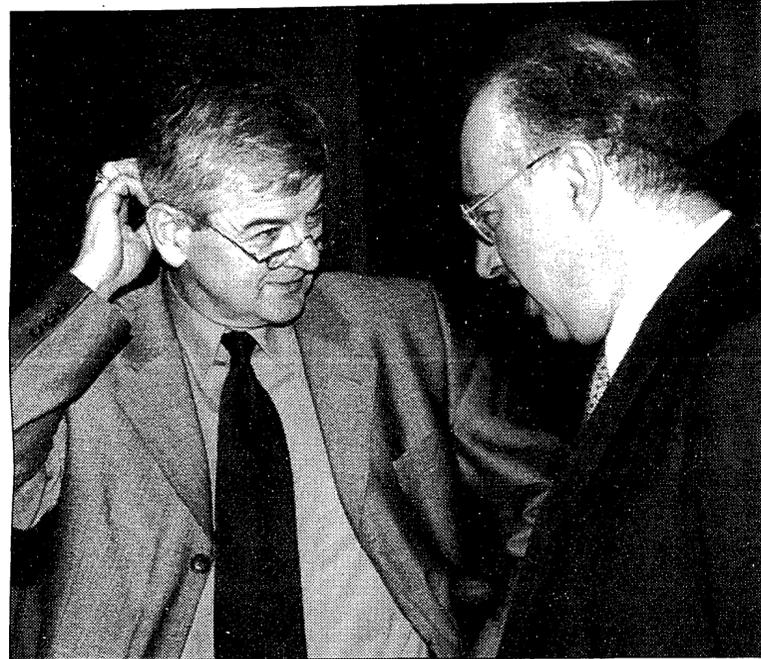
Australia, outraged by the jailings, has launched a campaign for their release. Former Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, U.N. Human Rights Commissioner Mary Robinson and South African President Nelson Mandela are among those seeking the release of Pratt and Wallace.

Jackson said the issue of the CARE workers was part of a bigger picture. Late last week, Jackson joined more than two dozen Democratic members of the House of Representatives in seeking a 72-hour ceasefire from NATO.

Jackson said on Monday a bombing pause was important because the nature of the war was beginning to change. "Unintended consequences, and what we call 'collateral damage,' is now beginning to drive the war," he said.

Jackson said destruction of Serb infrastructure had left the country in terrible shape, without stopping the war.

"The humanitarian crisis within Yugoslavia is now becoming greater than the humanitarian crisis is within the (refugee) camps," he said.



German Foreign Minister and President of the EU Council of Ministers, Joschka Fischer (left) talks with Greek Deputy Minister for European Affairs Giannos Kranidiotis moments before start of the EU Foreign Ministers council at their Brussels headquarters Monday.

## Envoys ready to test Yugoslav peace signal

By Ian Geoghegan  
**BRUSSELS (Reuters)** — Emissaries from Russia and the European Union are preparing for a visit to Belgrade to test what Yugoslavia means by its apparent peace signals.

But NATO, carrying its air war on Yugoslavia into its 70th day and plunging the Yugoslav capital once more into darkness, is still talking hard ball.

Alliance hawks like British Foreign Minister Robin Cook insist Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic will not be invited to haggle over terms with Russia's Viktor Chernomyrdin and Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari.

If Milosevic "wants to end the conflict then it has to be on the basis of the NATO objectives," Cook told reporters at a European Union foreign ministers meeting in Brussels. "All members of NATO have said that there's to be no compromise in this conflict," he said.

And alliance spokesman Jamie Shea, taking a more aggressive line on the mounting toll of civilian deaths, said on Monday that air strikes reported to have taken dozens of lives were aimed at legitimate military targets.

Yugoslav media say more than 50 civilians were killed in the past two days in raids which included a strike on a sanatorium in the southern Serbian town of Surdulica and a direct hit on an apartment building in the southwestern

town of Novi Pazar. The state news agency Tanjug carried a warning to the West from Milosevic's office on Monday, saying that "Massacres and crimes intensified by the NATO aggressor each day...are undermining resumed peace efforts."

The agency also made official weekend reports that Yugoslavia was ready to accept terms set out by the Group of Eight - a milder, Russian-backed version of NATO's war aims.

Both sets of terms were formulated before the U.N. war crimes tribunal indicted Milosevic for war crimes - a step many experts said would make a diplomatic solution more difficult.

The difference between the two lies mainly in what sort of foreign military force would be allowed to take control in Kosovo to protect its ethnic Albanian people from Serb forces.

The Russia-backed version, which could form the basis of a U.N. Security Council mandate without risking a veto from Moscow, leave more room for non-NATO forces to take a prominent role and for countries like Greece, which has held back from the air assault, to represent NATO inside Kosovo.

But Kosovo Albanian sources say that without the protection of the main NATO member armies, the more than 900,000 refugees who have fled or been expelled since the

bombing began on March 24 would not return to their homes.

Shea bluntly declares that the primacy of NATO forces in taking control in Kosovo is a must: "No NATO, No Go." Bill Clinton, in a Memorial Day speech honouring the dead of American's wars, denounced "appalling abuses" by Serb forces against ethnic Albanians and said that Kosovo was "a very small province in a small country, but it is a big test of what we believe in."

"Our objectives in Kosovo are clear and consistent both with the moral imperative of reversing ethnic cleansing and killing and our overwhelming national interest in a peaceful undivided Europe," Clinton said.

"The objectives are that the Kosovars will go home, the Serb forces will withdraw, an international force with NATO at its core will deploy to protect all of the people, including the Serb minority."

The European Union, whose leading members all belong to NATO and take part in its air war on Yugoslavia, announced in Brussels on Monday that it was sending Ahtisaari, the president of non-NATO Finland, to Belgrade with Russian Balkans envoy Viktor Chernomyrdin on Wednesday.

The two go-betweens will meet Washington's Kosovo specialist Strobe Talbott in Bonn on Tuesday, along with Germany's Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

# Mubarak slams Saddam

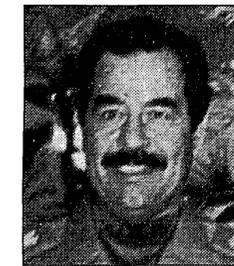
**SOHAG, Egypt (AP)** — President Hosni Mubarak has rebuffed Iraq's attempt to participate in an Arab summit meant to prepare for renewing peace talks with Israel.

Mubarak, speaking to reporters Sunday while touring economic projects in this city some 390 kilometers (240 miles) south of Cairo, said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein "is unstable in his behaviors."

The Egyptian president said Iraq was claiming that Egypt



Hosni Mubarak



Saddam Hussein

opposes any Iraqi participation in an Arab summit, but in fact "there isn't any Arab country that agrees on Iraq's presence in any summit."

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has called for a summit of Palestinians, Syrians, Lebanese, Egyptians and Jordanians following moderate Ehud Barak's victory in Israel's May prime minister's race.

Barak has promised to revive the peace process.

Egypt and Jordan, the only two Arab nations at peace with Israel, have been the main backer's of Arafat's proposal. The other three proposed participants would be directly affected. It was not clear why Iraq

was pushing to participate. Attempts to quickly convene an Arab summit have stalled, apparently because of Syrian reluctance. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said Sunday that a meeting will not be held before Barak forms his government in Israel.

Egypt's relations with Iraq were tense a few months ago but improved recently after Baghdad increased its trade with Cairo under the U.N.-sponsored oil-for-food deal.

Earlier this month, Cairo turned down a request by the Iraqi National Congress, the main Saddam opposition group, to host a key strategy session in Cairo.

## Bahrain to open doors for foreign oil investors

**MANAMA (Reuters)** — Bahrain's prime minister pledged on Monday to encourage foreign oil investment and to boost the role of the private sector in the Gulf Arab state.

"One of the government's top priorities is to increase and diversify the state's income...and open the door for more oil exploration and encourage foreign investment in this field," Sheikh Khalifa bin Sulman al-Khalifa was quoted as saying by the Gulf News Agency, a day after his reappointment as premier.

Bahrain, the least wealthy of the Gulf Arab states, is a small, independent oil exporter.

It produces around 40,000 barrels per day (bpd) from its own fields and receives the entire production of around 120,000 bpd from an offshore field it shares with Saudi Arabia.

Last year, the island state signed a deal with U.S. energy firm Chevron to drill for oil in the northern and western offshore areas close to Saudi Arabia, which is the world's biggest oil producer and exporter. Chevron said last month it ex-

pected to start offshore oil drilling in Bahrain next year.

"In the coming period, the priorities will be continuing comprehensive economic development and encouraging the private sector to lead the economic development programme," Sheikh Khalifa said.

As well as reappointing the prime minister, Bahrain's Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa named a new finance minister in a limited cabinet reshuffle as part of a pledge to give the economy top priority.

## US jets hit Iraq air defense site

**ANKARA, Turkey (AP)** — U.S. fighter planes attacked an Iraqi air defense installation Monday after being targeted by radar and fired upon by artillery, the U.S. military said.

Air Force F-16s launched a high-speed anti-radiation missile at a radar site near the city of Mosul after being challenged during a routine patrol of the no-fly zone over northern Iraq, the military said in a statement from the Incirlik air base in southern Tur-

key. The jets returned to base unharmed after the attack, 400 kilometers (250 miles) north of Baghdad. It was not immediately known if the Iraqi radar site was damaged.

U.S. and British warplanes operating out of Incirlik enforce the northern no-fly zone, set up after the 1991 Gulf War to protect Iraqi Kurds. A similar no-fly zone in southern Iraq was set up to protect the Shiite minority there.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that the CNMI Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) will be having its State Plan Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2000 for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota on the following dates:

Date:	Meeting Site:	Time:
June 8, 1999	Tinian Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
June 10, 1999	Rota Rota Health Center Conference Room	5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
June 11, 1999	Saipan Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Navy Hill, House #N2	5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

State Plan Attachments will be available for pick up on June 4, 1999.

Residents of Saipan may obtain a copy of the State Plan Attachments at the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation in Navy Hill, House #N-2.

Residents from Tinian and Rota may obtain a copy from their respective Mayor's Office or Health Centers.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting, but requires accessible for mat such as large print of sign language interpreter must call 664-6537 or 664-6538 (voice); or 322-6449 (TDD-Tele-Device for the Deaf)

/s/MARGARITA C. TORRES  
 Acting Director

## Death & Funeral Announcement



**ELENA  
 ROSARIO TORWAL**

better known as  
**"RAMUNE"**  
 was called to her eternal rest in the grace of our Lord on  
 Thursday, May 27, 1999 at the age of 60.

### PREDECEASED BY:

Son: Rutick Kulat  
 Parents: Mihkelina Stole Rosario/David (Welleri) Rosario  
 Grandson: Joseph Jacob Torwal  
 Brother: Orensio B. Rosario  
 Parents-in-Law: Isikl & Uchel Torwal & Therturui Mariur & Urelang Swei

### SURVIVED BY:

Husband: Marino Mariur Torwal  
 Children & Spouses/Grandchildren: Linda Kulat (Scott, Rickson, Chris, Roderick & Renwick; Nancy Rosario, Scott Torwal (Lucas), Sophia T. & Ray C. Dela Cruz (Holly & Rainbow), Paula Torwal (Nathan, Mikelina, George, Marleina, Pierson, & Keoni), Roman Torwal (Anastasia), Grace Silmai, Gina T. & Herman Q. Aldan (Orren & Oshen), Germain R. Torwal (Timothy, Joseph & Marco), Galileo R. Torwal, Hailey S. Torwal (Frances & Juan)  
 Sisters/Brothers/In-Laws: Ukolino Rosario/Martha; Virginia (Petra) Rosario, Ana Rosario, John Kulat (Joanna), Nikontro Johnny/Mihter, Ricar Kulat (Katarina), Alterino Rosario/Nieves, Limuei Rosario & Alper Lengsi, Greg Stole  
 In-Laws: Fritz Rubasch(†)/Ltelat Fritz & Children, Sadang (†), & Maria Silmai, Jonas & Tasha Sabang, Johanna & Elias Okamura, Pedro (†) & Thertong Sabang, Valentin (†) & Roberta Mariur (†), Benhardt (†) & Machiko Arurang (†)  
 Reared Family: Trinidad C. Duenas (†)/Ignacio; Connie C. Togawa/Ignacio, Andrea B. Cabrera, Arlene C. Torres/Stanley, Herman B. Cabrera/Abby, Felix B. Cabrera(†)/Agnes, Antonio B. Cabrera/Fatima, Emerenciana & Jose Reyes & children  
 Additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles, relatives & friends.

Rosary is being held nightly at 8:00 p.m. at her residence in Chalan Kanoa Dist. #3. Last respects may be paid on Friday, June 4, 1999 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 3:30 p.m. Interment will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

**PACIFICA FUNERAL SERVICES**  
 235-6516

## Share . . .

Continued from page 10

The teacher's manual includes valuable background on each of the islands, educational activities, a thematic, and resources for further information.

For the first time, the Bess Press

is posting excerpts onto their website at [www.besspress.com](http://www.besspress.com). Read the story of the terrifying, people-eating Mejenkwaad from the Marshall Islands. Or, if you're not too frightened, the legend of Kiribati who stole from a fierce giant. Read how the fire-walkers of Fiji got their special magic and more.

As of last count made last week, there were 2,700 overstayers who have availed of the program, nearly half being Filipino nationals.

choices to fill up Manglona's position in the Superior Court.

Tenorio told the Variety Monday that he will finally announce the appointment of chief justice by next week.

The chief executive refused to name his appointee to the highest judiciary post.

Sources, however, disclosed that Demapan, who is said to enjoy strong support of lawmakers, is the likely candidate.

## Amnesty . . .

Continued from page 9

Earlier, Camacho said government will likewise be closely monitoring the 1,500 amnesty seekers who were issued tempo-

## Manglona . . .

Continued from page 8

although the administration of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio is also considering Judge Timothy Bellas.

Tenorio just appointed this year Manglona and Juan T. Lizama as trial court judges.

Meanwhile, sources added, lawyers Eric Smith and David Wiseman are among the top

## Court . . .

Continued from page 8

Friday listed Agupa's reported seven parcels of land in the CNMI measuring a total of 272,942 square meters.

Mendiola in 1993 sued Agupa and other defendants after she was humiliated by some of the firm's officials. The jury awarded her damages.

The CNMI Supreme Court affirmed the trial court's judgment in Aug. 1998 and issued a man-

date.

Mendiola, through counsel Paul A. Lawlor, said Agupa does not have any personal property in the CNMI, but does have substantial interests in real property.

Lawlor asked the court to conduct hearing requiring Agupa to determine ability to pay the judgment and to have a writ of execution issued as to the company's interests in real property.

Manibusan granted last March 22 Mendiola's request for a writ of execution as to all of defendant's lands at the hearing.

## Teno . . .

Continued from page 5

Reports claimed that two companies — one from Hawaii and one from Macau — have indicated intentions to open a gambling facility on Rota. Executives of the two firms are reportedly conducting informal negotiations with local officials.

Rota residents are also likely to

support the move following frustrations on the current economic contraction which began when major currencies in Asia depreciated against the US dollar in middle of 1997.

Island voters, in two separate referendums, have previously rejected proposals to establish gaming facility in Rota but are now supporting moves to legalize casino gambling there.

## Health . . .

Continued from page 5

the same approach in requiring pregnant women to undergo HIV/AIDS testing in line with a public hearing on House Bill 11-327 which seeks mandatory AIDS testing for pregnant women.

Instead of requiring a "mandatory HIV/AIDS test," Villagomez said a more acceptable one is the

"routine with notification" approach.

Under the recommendation, HIV screening would be routine with notification, meaning that the test would be integrated into the battery of prenatal tests and women would be informed that the HIV test is being performed and have the right to refuse it.

This means that most women will be tested unless they explicitly opt out.

## Teno . . .

Continued from page 7

once the figures from October to November 1997 are audited.

The CNMI's only two-term governor, Tenorio left office in

1990 but returned to politics six years later to successfully seek the Republican Party's gubernatorial nomination.

Elected to an unprecedented third term in November 1997, Tenorio was sworn into office in January of last year.

## Office . . .

Continued from page 4

about the literally hundreds of changes, additions and improvements that are incorporated in Office 2000, but I'd like to talk about just a few of the more important changes.

If you have to work in a different language, Office 2000 will "understand" what you are doing, even making adjustments in such things as autotype and

autocorrection.

For those of you who are unfortunately not using Office 97 at this time ... "autocorrection" allows a user to both automatically or manually designate "problem words" and fix them on the fly. An example is that many times someone will mistype a word by ingrained habit. Let's say you always type

"dgo" instead of "dog. You can tell the auto correct wizard to always change dgo to dog. Office 2000 has made this pro-

cedure much easier to initiate and edit.

We all cut and paste from one document to another. How many times have you wished you can cut several things from a single or various documents and then pick and choose what you want to paste and where.

Office 2000 does exactly that. You may cut or copy anything from any document and as long as the program is not closed, any or all of the copied material is available on a little pop-up menu.

## MVA's . . .

Continued from page 3

sembling a panda bear with a rhinoceros horn nose. The name is a triple play on words that ties in the name of the island of Saipan, the panda and the rhinoceros ("sai" in Japanese).

MVA granted a \$1.9 million contract to Dentsu Account Management Division 10 for the creation

of Saipanda, which was formally introduced in Japan on March 1.

Despite skepticism from certain individuals here, Saipanda has become a success for MVA in efforts to entice more tourists to the CNMI.

In line with this advertising concept, the MVA Board also approved budgets for additional Saipanda mascots and buttons.

The Japan-Marianas Tourism Club (JMTC), Mariana Kai, Japan

Airlines, Continental Micronesia, Northwest Airlines and tour operators and even media in Japan had been receptive in the Saipanda concept.

"They were receptive, and that it is a noble idea to generate more travel (to the CNMI) . . . We can work together and have common goals," MVA managing director Perry Tenorio noted during his earlier visit to Japan.

## Cing . . .

Continued from page 3

ment expenses.

But Hocog's chief of staff, Li-ana S. Hofschneider, said all of the Tinian Republican's absences were justified.

"He was excused," she said, adding that Hocog is not neglecting his duties, referring to the significant number of bills he introduced that became law.

"He has a lot of community-related activities, and is so involved at the local level that he is always there among the people of Tinian during sporting or com-

munity events," Hofschneider said.

"He wants to be there in person for the people."

A former Democrat, Hocog is running with Municipal Council Chair Henry H. San Nicolas.

Cing, for his part, is running with Municipal Council Member Norman S. Palacios, who will campaign as a CNMI Republican.

Hocog is a freshman House member, while Cing is aiming for a third term as senator.

## DPH . . .

Continued from page 3

mitted through the bites of Culex tritaeniorhynchus mosquitoes. It is a viral disease that can affect the central nervous system ad

cause severe complications and death.

DPH has recorded three cases of the life-threatening dengue in 1998.

At the same time, DPH intensified its mosquito surveillance in line with the prevalence and outbreak of certain diseases like

malaria and dengue in neighboring countries.

"We regularly check mosquito larvae at the seaport and airport using ovi-traps to check whether we have a dangerous mosquito being brought here or none," David Rosario, public health advisor, said earlier.

## Clinton . . .

Continued from page 2

heed the arguments of the business community and back Clinton's decision.

The debate could set the stage for a much bigger battle over granting permanent NTR to China as part of its bid to join the WTO. The administration had hoped to sew up a trade deal with China on its WTO entry by the time Clinton made his decision to renew normal trade ties for another year. That would have given lawmakers the opportunity to consider permanent NTR at the same time.

Those hopes have faded in the shadow of NATO's accidental bombing of China's embassy in Belgrade. There have been no WTO negotiations with China since the bombing and none have been scheduled.

Both U.S. and Chinese officials have said they would like to see China enter the global trade body

by the end of the year which would subject Beijing to global trading rules in time for a new round of trade liberalisation negotiations expected to be launched in Seattle in December.

A major problem is the report on Chinese spying, assembled by a special House committee headed by Representative Christopher Cox, a California Republican, which has raised doubts about whether lawmakers would go along with normalising trade relations with China.

"Obviously, the Cox report creates a difficult context," Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat told reporters last week.

"But I think it's important that Mr. Cox himself took great pains to differentiate between the issue of what China may or may not have done with respect to nuclear secrets on the one hand and trade with China on the other," Eizenstat said.

At a news conference last week, Cox said he would support China's

entry into the WTO on commercially acceptable terms adding that what negotiators have gotten so far from from Beijing was not enough to meet that standard.

"But I would separate that set of issues from security issues such as the extent of our military cooperation and the extent of our preparedness and counterintelligence issues which respond directly to the espionage threat that is outlined so richly (in the report)," Cox said.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, though, has urged caution on a WTO trade deal with China.

Also, Sen. Jesse Helms, a North Carolina Republican who heads the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Representative Benjamin Gilman, a New York Republican who heads the House International Relations Committee, urged Clinton in a letter last week to suspend the trade talks while Sino-U.S. relations undergo a review.

They were joined by two senior Democrats who sit on their committees.

## Japan's . . .

Continued from page 2

ing pessimism about the nation's economy, which is struggling through its worst recession in

of work due to corporate restructurings or failures.

Of all the jobless people currently seeking work, a record high 1.15 million were forced out of their jobs, while 1.08 million left previous positions voluntarily.

Economists in Tokyo had forecast the overall jobless rate would rise to 4.9 percent, Dow Jones Newswires reported.

Tuesday's data highlighted the recent sharp rise in the number of people being forced out

# Rift slows bid to cut greenhouse gases

By Mark John BONN (Reuters) — Efforts to cut emissions of greenhouse gases blamed for global warming are being hindered by a rift between Europe and the United States over the issue, a top United Nations official said on Monday.

Chief U.N. climate official Michael Zammit Cutajar, opening a meeting on climate change, said the United States and Europe still

disagreed sharply on how to apply the December 1997 Kyoto protocol, which sought binding cuts on emissions.

"There is a clear difference between two economically powerful groups of countries on this issue," Cutajar said at the start of talks in Bonn between delegates from some 150 countries.

He said it was "highly likely" that the row would not be resolved

in time for a meeting of ministers this November, and that further negotiations would be needed to meet deadlines for emissions cuts laid out in the Kyoto treaty.

At a summit in the Japanese city of Kyoto 18 months ago, 111 days of talks and a chaotic finale that came near to collapse produced the world's first treaty on cutting greenhouse gases, present in car exhaust fumes and other pollutants.

## Plan. . .

Continued from page 1

schools in the three islands.

It is stated in the approved PSS CIP that the education agency will only build a new school in Anatahan but Pangelinan allowed the CIP coordinators to add two places in the Northern Islands which the committee eventually adopted.

Tinian, meanwhile, would get a new middle school, classrooms and restroom and shower facilities.

The Sinapalu Elementary School will be completed and with new classrooms, restroom and shower facilities and some contribution to new Rota public library.

Pangelinan said PSS should coordinate with the Northern Islands Mayor's Office for the construction of new schools in the

three islands.

Each of the three islands will have one building which will house rainwater catchment facility, one classroom and other necessary equipment needed for the establishment.

In early reports, the Office of the Northern Islands Mayor is in need of sponsors who could provide necessary infrastructure to the Northern Islands to continue the development in the area.

## Rota mayor. . .

Continued from page 1

in the best interest of Rota, but I prefer to say it at the right time.

"I want to make an announcement about [the proposal to have a casino] when we're ready," the mayor said, but did not elaborate.

Asked about concerns that a casino on Rota will be bad for Tinian's hotel casino, Manglona said "We respect the decision of the leaders and the people of Tinian to have a casino, so I hope they would also respect the decision of the people of the Rota, whatever that decision might be."

He added, "We don't want to fight over this issue. We just want to give our people a chance to

have a better life. We're not a threat to any of the senatorial districts. And we will try to get their blessing and support."

In a separate interview, the chair of Rota's legislative delegation yesterday denied that any of the island's elected officials are pushing for the establishment of a casino.

"It's the people who will ultimately decide, not us," Sen. Edward U. Maratita (R) said.

As required by the Constitution, the people of Rota could propose the legalization of casino gambling on the island through the local initiative process.

## 'Use it. . .

Continued from page 1

tell the US Military to discontinue the exercises there. We are just hoping that they will seriously be more concerned about the environment. At this time, I have no intentions of telling them to discontinue the bombing," he added.

Earlier, Col. Mark J.D. Gehri, Commander of the 36th AirBase Wing Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, noted the significance of the bombing exercises in Farallon de Medinilla to the US Armed Forces' efforts in keeping itself as the strongest military in the world.

Gehri disclosed the B2 crew

that trained two months ago at the bombing range in Farallon de Medinilla are now engaged in the NATO air attacks in Kosovo, Yugoslavia.

He pointed out that military exercises in Farallon de Medinilla will continue in order to maintain the readiness of the US to go to war. In the Pacific region, the US military's bombing range is the Farallon de Medinilla which is an uninhabited limestone island north of Saipan.

Gehri said possible destruction resulting from bombing exercises is something that cannot be completely eliminated. "It's a trade off that we have to make. There are some places when you have to

deal with that in order for us to be ready and I know everyone wants America to be ready."

The military drops live ordnance at the bombing range in Farallon de Medinilla.

However, Gehri said the military tries to simulate some exercises to at least reduce the possibility of destroying the island and its surrounding reef which is believed the richest in the region.

The US military conducts air and naval bombing exercises in the Marianas, particularly in Farallon de Medinilla. The most recent rigid military exercise conducted in the region involved the Kitty Hawk Battle Group.

## Man. . .

Continued from page 1

Saipan's major tourist attraction. It was the scene of mass sui-

cides when hundreds of Japanese civilians leaped to their death shortly after US forces invaded Saipan in 1942.

The Cliff, which is about 800 feet above sea level, is now the

site of the Peace Memorial Park, a shrine built by Nanyo Kohatsu Kaisha, the Japanese company that developed the sugar cane industry on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota from 1914 until World War II.

## 62 Rota. . .

Continued from page 1

Government inspected all homesteads in the commonwealth to ensure that permit holders are

complying with regulations and observing the three-year grace period given them to build houses.

Initial results of the inspection on Saipan revealed that most delinquent permit holders are in

Kagman III, a prime land area.

Most erring permit holders on Saipan were given extension after having cited the current economic crisis as reason why they have failed to build houses.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

**SUSUPE:**  
One bedroom/two bedroom fully furnished apartment with back up generator, telephone and cable ready, laundry facilities, 24 hour water, nice parking, private and safe.

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Two bedroom fully furnished apartment, telephone and cable ready, laundry facilities, 24 hour water, nice parking, private and safe.

For more information, please call Henry K. Pangelinan at 234-5236 or 235-7080

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

JP Case No. JP0390-99  
Adoption Case No. AT0022-99

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KOTVREED RAIN INCHIN, As Father of and MEDCY WAININ INCHIN, As Mother of and THE ADOPTION OF AMFREED INCHIN, a minor, by JOSITA T. SAN NICOLAS and CARMELO G. SAN NICOLAS Petitioners.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED KOTVREED RAIN INCHIN P.O. Box N Chuuk, F.S.M. 96942.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon the Law Office of ROSS E. PUTNAM, ESQ., petitioner's attorney, whose address is 153 Martyr Street, Agaña, Guam 96910, an Answer to the Petition for Termination of Parent-Child Relationship and Petition for Adoption, which are filed herewith and served upon you within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, Judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

Dated this 27th day of May, 1999.

/s/CLERK OF COURT

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One bedroom available, fully furnished, with secured fence, back-up generator, coin operated laundry, swimming pool, w/ assigned parking lot for each unit, live-in maintenance for a discounted price of \$500.00/mo. excluding utilities. Located in As Perdido - Cattleya Apt. Studio type and two bedroom also available in Garapan.

Please call Tel. #235-1799 or 234-2829 for more information.

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It can also help you reduce your weight.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

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And since a 12-year study shows that being 40% or more overweight puts you at high risk, it makes sense to follow these guidelines for healthy living!

Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables rich in vitamins A and C—oranges, cantaloupe, strawberries, peaches, apricots, broccoli, cauliflower, brussel sprouts, cabbage. Eat a high-fiber, low-fat diet that includes whole-grain breads and cereals such as oatmeal, bran and wheat. Eat lean meats, fish, skinned poultry and low-fat dairy products. Drink alcoholic beverages only in moderation. For more information, call 1-800-ACS-2345.

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

**Save Power**

**READ WITH YOUR CHILD EVERYDAY.**

# Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section

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

### PUBLIC NOTICE

All interested resident workers are urged to register at the Dept. of Labor & Immigration, Division of Employment Services for the job/s being advertised in which you are qualified and available. For further assistance, please call Alfred A. Pangelinan at Tel. 664-2078.

01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: YANG HUN LEE dba Transpacific Corporation Tel. 234-3181/(6/2)W31129

01 (SCUBA DIVING) INSTRUCTOR SPORTS-Salary:\$1,800.00 per month  
Contact: BIG DOG CORPORATION dba Big Dog Dive Station Saipan Tel. 322-2363/(6/2)W31127

01 (ASSISTANT ADVISOR) SPORTS INSTRUCTOR-Salary:\$1,000.00 per month  
Contact: TANDEM SKYDIVE (SAIPAN), INC. Tel. 234-5860/(6/2)W31124

19 HAND SEWER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: TOP FASHION CORPORATION Tel. 322-1611/(6/2)W31122

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01 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
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01 SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.25 per hour  
Contact: ALPEX CORPORATION dba AlpeX Market Tel. 235-1444/(6/9)W31250

01 COOK HELPER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 MANAGER (STORE)-Salary:\$800.00 per month  
Contact: D.L.Z. AMERICAN CORP. dba Xin Hua Mart/Xin Hua Auto Repair Tel. 288-1388/(6/9)W31249

02 AUTOBODY REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.75 per hour  
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Contact: DR. TODD K. JOHNSON dba Toothworks Tel. 234-3810/(6/9)W31234

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Contact: HOTEL NIKKO SAIPAN, INC. Tel. 322-3311/(6/9)W31235

01 CARGO AGENT-Salary:\$3.05-3.60 per hour  
Contact: SAIPAN SHIPPING COMPANY, INC. Tel. 322-3858/(6/9)W31237

01 BUILDING MAINTENANCE-Salary:\$3.05-4.50 per hour  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$4.00-5.60 per hour  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
02 MECHANIC, AUTO-Salary:\$3.05-6.75 per hour  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
02 (ASSISTANT) MANAGER-Salary:\$900.00-1,950.00 per month  
Organizing managers in office works, organizing office operations and procedure, supervises staffs and other related duties. Also, assists in scheduling the tour of our in coming tourists. Assisting in managing and coordinating tourist control, hotel reservations and bus transportation and coordinate business operation.  
Good communication skills (Japanese & Chinese speaking preferred).  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
02 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$3.05-5.80 per hour  
Aides executive in staff capacities by coordinating office service, such as personnel, budget preparation and control, housekeeping, record and special management methods in order to improve workflow.  
Computer skills and Japanese speaking preferred.  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
03 (SUPERVISOR, MARINE) SPORTS-Salary:\$900.00-2,200.00 per month  
Supervision of marine sports activities to individuals at a private or public recreational facility. Supervises the teaching and demonstration of principles and techniques of regulations of body to achieve proficiency of marine sports activities including observation of practices, explains and enforces rule and regulations to individuals.  
Japanese speaking, reading and writing preferred.  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
01 MARINE SPORTS INSTRUCTOR-Salary:\$800.00-1,700.00 per month  
Instructs individuals and or groups in theory of sports activity. Explains and demonstrates principle techniques and methods of regulating movement of body, hands and feet to achieve proficiency. Explains and enforces safety rules and regulations.  
Japanese speaking, writing & reading preferred.  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
01 (SCUBA DIVING) INSTRUCTOR-Salary:\$800.00-2,300.00 per month  
Gives lectures, instructions, tests and demonstration on sports diving to individuals or groups. Includes proper use of apparatus and equipments and its inspection. Trains and develops and evaluates diving instructors. Explains and enforces safety rules and regulations.  
Japanese speaking, reading and writing preferred.  
Plus \$300 housing allowance  
Contact: PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. Tel. 322-8876/(6/2)W78699

01 SHIPPING CLERK-Salary:\$3.50-8.50 per hour  
Contact: HANDSOME TEXTILE (SPN) CORP. Tel. 322-1504/(6/2)W31143

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: E.C. GOZUM & CO., INC. Tel. 256-0331/(6/2)W31142

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$750.00-800.00 per month  
01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
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01 ALUMINUM (STEEL) FABRICATOR-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour  
01 WELDER-Salary:\$3.05-3.20 per hour  
01 DRAFTSMAN-Salary:\$800.00 per month  
01 STEEL WORKER-Salary:\$3.15 per hour  
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01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$1,000.00 per month  
Contact: PACIFIC BASIN INSURANCE, INC. Tel. 234-5860/(6/2)W31152

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01 SEWER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: AREOAJITA A. EVANGELISTA dba Nita's Dress Shop Tel. 234-1155/(6/2)W31133

02 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
04 MASON-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: FLORENCE MELINDA DLG. ALEPUYO dba C&J Const. Co. Tel. 322-1954/(6/2)W31132

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Contact: JIEME N. PORTIN dba Star Home Gaming Inc./Hard Head Gameroom Tel. 235-0471/(6/2)W31131

01 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER BUILDING-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: YANG HUN LEE dba J. Lee Development Corp. Tel. 234-3181/(6/2)W31130

01 MASON-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: SU CORPORATION Tel. 288-9430/(6/9)W31238

01 AUTOBODY REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.30 per hour  
Contact: B&R CORPORATION dba Beach Road Auto Repair Shop Tel. 234-7184/(6/9)W31239

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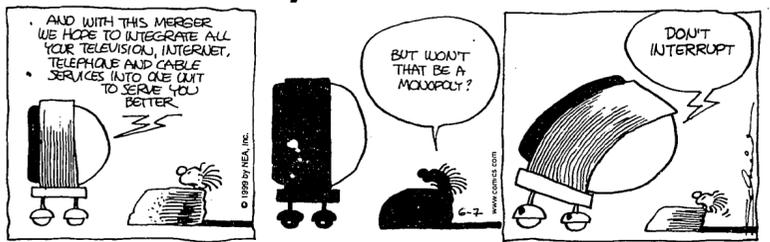
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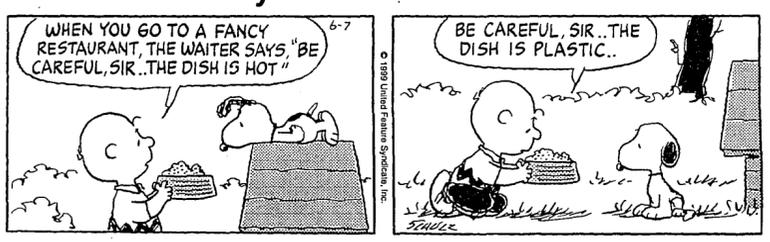
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## STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2  
Born today, you are never afraid of getting yourself into difficult and complex situations. You always remain confident that with ingenuity and imagination, you can get yourself out of these situations with relative ease. Indeed, your cleverness and your ability to see things from a unique and inimitable point of view will always serve you well, particularly when you are facing challenges that are the most pressing and difficult. It's not that you will never experience failure, but you will be able to turn even the most blatant failure into a positive learning experience.  
You are sure to develop bad habits in your life, everyone does, and this will not make things easier for you. You will, however, always maintain a high level of self-awareness which should keep you on a relatively even keel at all times. You know what you're made of and you understand the good and the bad.  
Also born on this date are: Dana Carvey, actor and comic; Barry Levinson, director; Sally Kellerman, actress; Marvin Hamlisch, composer and songwriter; Thomas Hardy, author; Stacy Keach, actor; Pope Pius X.  
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.  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 3**  
**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**— You can persuade even the most stubborn listener that your point of view is truly the most beneficial today. Others are likely to look to you for advice.  
**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**— You may actually be putting yourself in danger today without even knowing it. Keep your distance from anything that is an obvious risk.  
**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**— You may have to be unusually thrifty today until you get a little more information regarding your current financial status.  
**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**— You'll score points with a friend or loved one today simply by following your instincts and doing something at exactly the right time.  
**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**— Your charm and magnetism will serve you well today. When it comes to giving orders, you must be subtle, tactful, and always willing to listen.  
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**— A Virgo or Libra native holds the key today, and you must be willing to ask for the assistance you require. Someone is indeed waiting to help.  
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**— Despite your warnings, someone you live with or work with is likely to make a decision that causes problems for you today. Remain calm!  
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**— Good luck can be yours today, but you mustn't take it for granted. Keep up your efforts and prepare for a time when your luck may actually turn.  
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**— It's a good day to "come home" again, whether literally or figuratively. The odds are in your favor when it comes to an old friendship.  
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**— You may have a rather short fuse today. Try to do all you can to avoid situations that you know will be trying to you in some way.  
**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**— Concentrate on relationship issues today. Do what you can to give more attention to a loved one who feels the need for increased communication.  
**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**— It may take you some time to figure out logistics and other practicalities today. Concentrate on the details and don't overlook finances.



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ACROSS  
1 Speed meas.  
4 Sausage  
9 Butter square  
12 Roman 1,002  
13 Ann., Mich.  
14 To be in debt  
15 Light  
17 Non-metallic element  
19 Obtained  
20 — the Family  
21 Employs  
23 AM's counterpart  
24 Wood-shaping machine  
27 Wrong (pref.)  
28 Hawaiian food fish  
30 No (Russian)  
31 At home  
32 Obliteration  
34 NW state  
35 Phonetic symbol  
37 Bellows, Gerard and Hodges  
38 Chicken  
39 — Plan account  
41 Between MT and MN  
42 — "Breckinridge"  
43 Borneo ape  
45 Cry  
46 Without meat or milk  
48 — saint  
51 Bind  
52 — barrel  
54 Hostelry  
55 Commercial  
56 V.I.P.  
57 Scottish river  
Answer to Previous Puzzle  
GNU, KO, FONDA, NARROW, LLOYDS, AS, YALTA, OLEA, WAG, LEAN, NA, ABATING, NHL, SPIRY, LEES, AI, POPEYE, LOATHE, US, SEPT, ROAN, DES, AIRRAID, AF, GUYS, OWN, OHNO, REDID, AE, DAKOTA, EDICTS, MADAM, RE, ITS  
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## KidSpot™ by Dick Rogers

7+4= 10 ACROSS  
4 ACROSS  
2 ACROSS: OPPOSITE OF girl  
8 DOWN  
6 DOWN: OPPOSITE thick  
5-2= 7 ACROSS  
2 DOWN  
9 DOWN  
5-4= 3 DOWN  
5 ACROSS  
10 DOWN  
ACROSS: 1. STAR, 2. BONE, 3. ONE, 4. BAT, 5. THIN, 6. HOLE, 9. EYE  
DOWN: 1. STAR, 2. BONE, 3. ONE, 4. BAT, 5. THIN, 6. HOLE, 9. EYE

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NL roundup

# Vaughn homers to key Reds win

By The Associated Press  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Greg Vaughn homered and Ron Villone and Scott Williamson combined for 6 1-3 innings of hitless relief to lead the Cincinnati Reds to a 5-3 victory over the New York Mets on Monday.

It was the fourth straight loss and fifth in seven games for New York. Cincinnati has won three in a row and 11 of 15 to improve to three games over .500 (25-22) for only the second time since September 1996.

Vaughn, who missed the last

six games with an abdominal strain, hit a solo homer to give Cincinnati a 4-3 lead in the fifth. Vaughn is batting just .211 with 10 home runs after hitting 50 homers last season.

Pokey Reese added a solo shot in the seventh.

**Pirates 5, Dodgers 4**

In Pittsburgh, Warren Morris blooped a tiebreaking single to center as the Pittsburgh Pirates, helped twice by some lackadaisical Los Angeles outfield defense, scored twice with two outs in the eighth inning to beat the Dodgers.

The Pirates won their fourth in a row and seventh in nine games. Raul Mondesi's run-scoring single in the top of the eighth put the Dodgers up 4-3, and reliever Jamie Arnold (2-1) quickly got the first two batters in the bottom of the inning before walking Kevin Young.

Jason Kendall's fly ball then fell in front of left fielder Gary Sheffield, who didn't break especially hard on the ball or charge it once it landed. That allowed Young to score all the way from first and Kendall to take third on

the throw.

**Brewers 8, Padres 2**

In Milwaukee, Hideo Nomo allowed three hits in 6 1-3 innings for his fifth straight strong start. Nomo (2-1), released by the New York Mets and Chicago Cubs earlier this season, has a 2.41 ERA in five starts since being signed by the Brewers.

After giving up two runs in a 39-pitch first inning, Nomo settled down. He allowed a leadoff single to Ruben Rivera in the second and then retired the next 15 batters.

Ron Belliard homered and scored twice and Jeremy Burnitz drove in two runs for the Brewers, who won consecutive home games for the first time this season.

**Cardinals 5, Marlins 2**

In Miami, Edgar Renteria, Kent Bottenfield and a television replay helped the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Florida Marlins.

Former Marlins World Series hero Renteria hit a pair of solo homers against his ex-teammates, while Bottenfield pitched five innings and improved to 8-2, tying him for the NL lead in victories.

Television also had a rare role: The Marlins played the game under protest after the umpiring crew consulted a TV replay before changing a call, costing Florida a run.

**Phillies 4, Giants 3**

In Philadelphia, Alex Arias capped a four-run seventh inning with a solo homer off John Johnstone as the Phillies handed San Francisco its fifth straight loss.

Arias' second homer of the year came after the Phillies ended a

22-inning scoreless drought with three runs, tying it at 3 and chasing starter Kirk Rueter.

Yorkis Perez (2-1) got two outs in the seventh for the victory and Wayne Gomes pitched two innings for his fourth save.

Johnstone (4-2) took the loss. Braves 3, Rockies 1

In Atlanta, Brian Jordan had three hits, including a pair of run-scoring singles, to help Kevin Millwood win his fourth consecutive decision.

Millwood (6-3) gave up seven hits, walked one and struck out five in seven innings. He allowed only a solo homer to Vinny Castilla.

Mike Remlinger pitched a scoreless eighth and John Rocker pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 12 opportunities.

Pedro Astacio (4-5) fell to 2-12 in his career against the Braves.

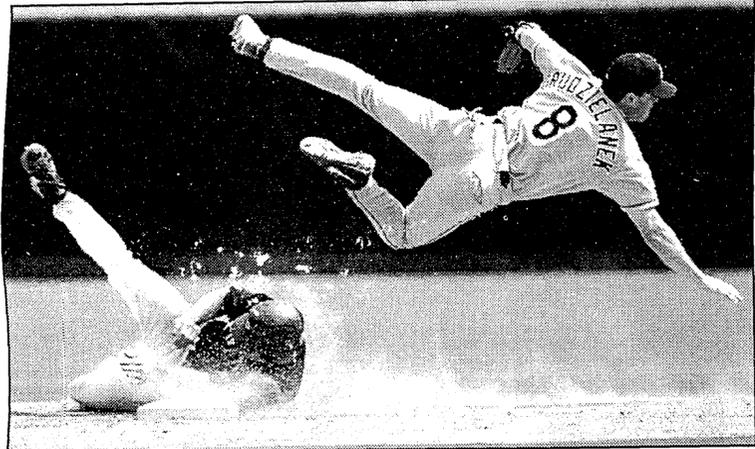
**Diamondbacks 8, Expos 5**

In Montreal, Kelly Stinnett hit a two-run homer in the 10th inning as Arizona won its seventh straight.

Steve Kline (1-2) gave up the homer to Stinnett after walking Travis Lee with one out. Kline also gave up a solo shot to pinch-hitter Greg Colbrunn later in the inning.

Darren Holmes (3-1) got the last out of the ninth for the win, and Gregg Olson pitched the 10th for his seventh save in 12 chances.

Arizona rookie Byung-Hyun Kim, who got a save in his major league debut Saturday against the New York Mets, gave up a game-tying, three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth to Orlando Cabrera.



Los Angeles Dodgers shortstop Mike Grudzielanek, top, flies over Pittsburgh Pirates Jason Kendall as he completes the double play on Warren Morris in the sixth inning in Pittsburgh. AP

## Report says Irvin is asking Cowboys to consider trade

**DALLAS (Reuters)**—Five-time Pro Bowl wide receiver Michael Irvin has asked the Dallas Cowboys to consider trading him, according to a report in the Dallas Morning News on Monday.

Steve Endicott, the agent for Irvin, the Cowboys' all-time leading receiver, told the newspaper Irvin had not demanded a trade, "but has let the Cowboys know if something comes along that benefits the team and himself, he would be in favour of it."

Irvin, 33, had team highs of 74 catches and 1,057 yards last sea-

son but only one touchdown. He had just 12 catches for 189 yards in the final month of the season and his streak of 117 games with at least one catch came to an end in November.

With coach Chan Gailey's offensive system featuring more balance, Irvin is expected to have a lesser role.

In addition, while the team has restructured the contracts of quarterback Troy Aikman and running back Emmitt Smith - other key members of the offence during Dallas's Super Bowl winning sea-

sons - they have not done so for Irvin.

Team officials did not comment on the request.

Irvin requested a trade in 1996 after pleading no contest to a second-degree felony drug possession charge but stayed on with the Cowboys.

Irvin, the 11th overall pick in the 1988 draft, is 10th on the all-time list with 740 receptions, which ranks fourth among active receivers. He has 62 touchdowns and has caught 70 or more passes in seven of the last eight seasons.

## Guam . . .

**Continued from page 27**

then Lloyd Lagutang popped in a three-pointer to ignite Guam's run-away spree. Led by veteran Joey Santos coming off the bench and starter Mike Lee, Guam outscored the Marshalls 20-4 in the next three-and-a-half minutes and 25-8 in the final six minutes of the half to take command at the half, 49-29. Santos scored eight of his 10 points during that run.

Lee dropped in seven in that same period and finished as the Guam's high scorer with 19.

There was no stopping Guam the rest of the way. With court time spread pretty evenly around and the fastbreak coming to life a bit, the local cagers outscored the Marshalls 52-31 in the second half. Guard Arnold Mesa hustled in eight of those points.

Mike Swaney added 11 for Guam while Mesa and Chris Fernandez had 10 apiece. The Marshalls were paced by forward

Robert Pinho who scored 19 points including two treys. Kattil added 13 and Justin Dohrman scored eight for the hard-playing Marshallense.

Shimizu promised a better controlled, more settled Guam team going into their contest last night against the Cook Islands.

"As far as Game Two, Game One is out of the way. Let's put that behind us. We're going to come out stronger. You'll probably see a different Guam team again."

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## Solomons . . .

**Continued from page 27**

tory with a heads up backset into an empty spot on the CNMI's defense.

The third set had much of the same with unforced errors by both teams. Better technical play by the Solomon Islands made the difference as they completed the

sweep.

In other games: Tahiti swept the Federated States of Micronesia 25-16, 25-11, 25-14. New Caledonia defeated Palau in three sets 25-15, 25-15, 25-11.

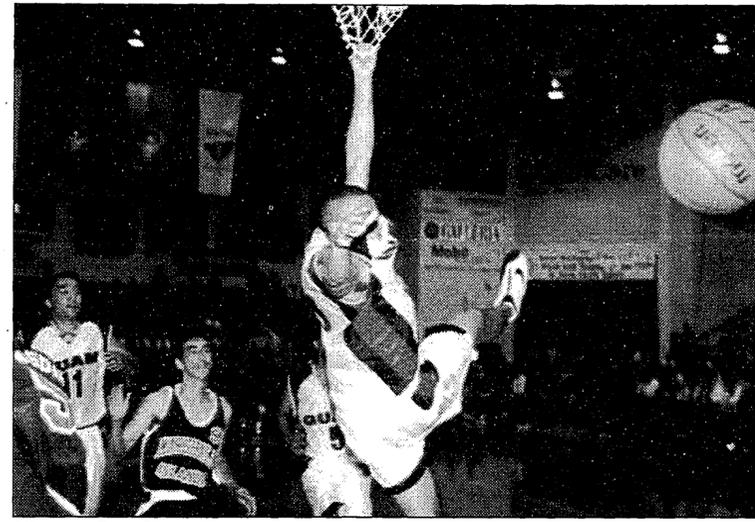
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# Guam cagers beat Marshalls



Mike Lee of Team Guam loses his balance after one of his two dunking attempts against the Federated States of Micronesia quintet. Guam scored 101, FSM 60. Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

By Tony Diaz  
 For the Variety

BEFORE Guam's men's basketball team hit the court for its first test of the 11th South Pacific Games Monday, head coach Paul Shimizu said he was still looking for the persons who would step up to assume leadership roles on the squad.

The search is still on. But at least we got a glimpse of the possible candidates.

Using a wide range of player combinations and spreading playing time around pretty evenly, Guam carved out an important 101-60 opening day victory over the Marshall Islands in evening competition at the University of Guam Fieldhouse.

"We were able to work some kinks out, we showed some different things out there," said Shimizu. "Our coaches, we had a chance to look at the team and different combinations. We know we have a lot to work on, so what we're doing now is we're going to set it in phases."

Much work to do, indeed. Facing one of the weaker forces of SPG ball, Guam had a surprisingly tough time in the beginning. It was a game that saw the home team struggle to find its tempo. Guam shook off a sluggish and sloppy start and finally got its fastbreaks and perimeter shooting going to eventually run away from the smaller but scrappier Marshallense.

"Yeah, slow start," said Shimizu. "You know that opening game jitters, butterflies." Butterflies. Cobwebs. Rust.

Whatever you want to call it, these jitters bugged Guam.

Nearly six minutes had elapsed in the first half and Guam was up only 12-10. At the 8:15 mark, Guam still led by a single bucket, 21-19.

The home boys packed a lot of

speed and enthusiasm. But it was not a controlled type of energy and in the early portions of the game, Guam missed a big number of easy buckets from the inside.

"Guys were so nervous. It's good energy, it's good nervous energy. It's just that we were rushing," said Shimizu. "We did not take our time to execute. We forced it, we were just so jittery out there."

Big man Fred Peters swished a nice top-of-the-key three-pointer to make it 24-19 and then the Marshalls brought it to 24-21 with a bucket by guard Rantly Kattil.

That's when Guam had enough. Eddie Pelkey hit a free throw and

**Continued on page 26**

## Men's Basketball

Guam 101, Marshall Islands 60

**Guam (101)**  
 Pelkey 2 0-0 4, Mesa 5 0-0 10, Pinaula 3 0-0 6, Lagutang 3 0-0 7, Swaney 42-4 11, Cepeda 32-2 9, Han 2 0-0 4, Fernandez 41-2 10, Gutierrez 1 0-0 2, Lee 8 3-5 19, Santos 5 0-0 10, Peters 40-0 9. Totals 448-13 101.

**Marshall Islands (60)**  
 Jormelu 2 0-0 5, Langidrik 0 1-2 1, Heine 1 0-0 2, Kattil 3 7-9 13, Pinho 6 5-9 19, Corder Jr. 1 4-6 6, Lewi 1 0-2 2, Aneo 0 0-0 0, Tokanang 2 0-0 4. Totals 19 19-31 60.

Three-point goals - Guam 5 (Lagutang 1, Peters 1, Swaney 1, Cepeda 1, Fernandez 1), Marshalls 3 (Pinho 2, Jormelu 2). Fouled out - Lagutang. Total fouls - Guam 26, Marshall Islands 15. Technical fouls - Langidrik 1, Cordero Jr. 1. Half-time - Guam 49, Marshall Islands 29. Officials - Bobola, Soalabai.

## Cagebells prevail over Cook Islands

By Tony Diaz  
 For the Variety

WHY settle for two points when you can have three?

That's the way Guam's lady hoopsters seemed to be thinking Monday evening as they proudly opened the South Pacific Games in triumphant fashion.

Led by Rachele Camacho's hot hand, Guam whooshed in six three-point buckets on its way to dropping the Cook Islands 58-44 in their first game of the SPG basketball tournament.

Camacho was the main sur-

veyor from three-point land. She sizzled in four of her team's six threebies, including three of them in the second half while finishing with 18 points to lead all scorers.

Tosca Lindberg went right to work in the opening stanza for Guam, scoring three buckets and converting three free throws for nine points which helped the home team pound out a 27-21 advantage at intermission.

Guam came alive for 31 points in the second half while holding Cook Islands to 23.

Suddenly, fans at the fieldhouse were treated to the Rachele Camacho Show. She

scored her team's first 11 points of the second half, pumping in two points and then swishing away for three consecutive three-pointers to help provide Guam with the winning momentum.

Lindberg followed Camacho with 13 points on the evening. Rita Lynn Anderson scored nine points and Michelle Sison added seven.

Cook Islands had two players in twin figures. Center Tere Car led her team with 12 points, seven coming in the final half. Teammate Mamu Jano added 10 points.

## FSM bows in slowpitch softball

By Eddie Siguenza  
 Variety News Staff

IT WAS 3-0 even before powerhouse Guam got up to bat Monday night in South Pacific Games men's slow-pitch softball. That's because upstart Federated States of Micronesia batted first and ripped three home runs.

Then the slugfest began. Guam slammed eight home runs in the first inning, then added 10 more the rest of the game enroute to a 26-16 battering over FSM in Monday's late game.

Eighteen home runs, four alone by leadoff batter Ray Aguon, the host team hit. If they were all solo shots, Guam still would have won.

"If the guys continue to do what we did tonight, we'll be rolling,"

Guam Coach Ben Camacho said. "When we got behind in that first inning, the guys liked that. It's added pressure for us."

Eight of Guam's 13 batters hit homers. Aguon had four. Harry Crisostomo and Mike Cepeda had three. Three others had two.

"It all starts off with the leadoff hitter," said Aguon. "Just hit the ball, that's our philosophy. We got so much power on this team. We got all the big boys."

FSM added to the derby. It had six homers, two by Ilapsis Franklin.

"They did a good job and should keep their heads up," said FSM Manager William Hawley. "That's softball. It's the team with the most power. But we

were not intimidated by them because we can hit home runs, too."

Guam didn't keep FSM down completely until the bottom of the fifth inning, when Cepeda's two-run homer secured the 10-run mercy killing after five innings. In fact, Guam only led 18-13 after two-and-a-half innings.

In softball action yesterday, the FSM women wasted nothing in a 28-2 romp over Solomon Islands in slow-pitch action.

Also in slow-pitch, the FSM men came back from the loss to Guam to edge Palau 11-10.

In fast-pitch action, Nauru stopped Cook Islands 19-9. And Guam routed Marshall Islands 11-3 in their opener.

## 2 top Guam tennis seeds fall

By Francis Dalisay  
 For the Variety

People complain about the Monday morning blahs, but Guam's two top-seeded tennis players had the blues after Tuesday's morning matches.

Guam got a setback yesterday when the team's top two seeds of

Lynn Nguyen and Dave Smith were defeated by opponents from Fiji.

No. 2 seed Smith was defeated by Hitesh Morriswala, 6-2, 6-3 in the 8 a.m. match. Then in the very next contest, No. 1 seed Nguyen was bombed by Fiji's No. 1 seed Sanjeev

Tinkaram, 6-2, 6-1.

In the late afternoon, Nguyen returned to the courts and apparently recovered from his misfortune in the morning. He teamed up with Mark Arakawa to beat back a challenge from David O'Conner and Ajay Raniga of Fiji.

## Solomons defeats CNMI

By Patrick Lujan  
 For the Variety

IN A battle of two of the shorter women's volleyball teams, the Solomon Islands gained its first SPG victory with a 25-17, 25-21, 25-14 sweep over the CNMI.

In the first set CNMI jumped out to an early 6-4 lead before the Solomon Islands went on a 12-3 spurt before the CNMI's Percy Boddy spiked into the net. The Solomon Islands took the first set after a service error by

CNMI's Kadya Moses.

The Solomon Islands got off to a quick start in the second set scoring the first 7 points, capped off by a backcourt kill by Corona Talavalu. Team play got ugly as 24 of the 46 total points were a result of unforced errors, 12 by each team.

On the final point of the set, the longest rally thus far in the Games, Solomon Island's Margaret Manebona sealed the vic-

**Continued on page 26**

## Fiji boxers win bouts

By Eddie Siguenza  
 Variety News Staff

THE South Pacific Games boxing competition commenced last night at the new Guam Sports Complex, but not to good news to the local fighters.

Two of Guam's young pugilists lost by decisions to Fijian opponents last night. Guam's George Arcenal lost by decision to

Gyanendra Kumar at 51 kilograms. Also, promising contender Joseph Unpingco sadly lost to Anosa Sorodonu at 60 kgs. By decision as well.

Guam's other fighters, Ted Dela Pena at 71 kgs. and Bruce Santos at 75 kgs. Were slated to fight later in the evening.

Their results were unavailable at press time.

# SPORTS



# Spurs edge Blazers

By BOB BAUM  
 SAN ANTONIO (AP) — On a day when the San Antonio Spurs seemed destined for defeat, Sean Elliott wouldn't let it happen.

Elliott made six of seven 3-pointers, two in the final minute.

His last one, off-balance and from his tip-toes, came with nine seconds left as the Spurs came from 18 points down in the third quarter to beat the stunned Portland Trail Blazers 86-85 Monday.

"I felt good the whole game," Elliott said. "Sometimes you get in a situation where you feel that you can't miss."

"This gives us a tremendous amount of confidence," he added, "and it has to break them a little."

The Spurs' eighth consecutive playoff victory gives them a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference finals. The best-of-7 series resumes Friday in Portland. By then, maybe the Blazers will have gotten over the way they lost this one.

"In a word, I would probably say gut-wrenching," Portland coach Mike Dunleavy said.

Damon Stoudamire, who scored 15 points for the Blazers, missed one of two free throws with 12 seconds to play to keep the door

## Elliott sizzles to put San Antonio ahead 2-0 in series



San Antonio Spurs' Sean Elliott (32) strips the ball from Portland Trail Blazers' Damon Stoudamire to end Game 2 of the NBA Western Conference Finals in San Antonio. The Spurs won, 86-85, with a last second three-point shot from Elliott. AP

open for San Antonio.

"We're so sick and tired of losing to this team right now.

They've become a thorn in our side," Stoudamire said. "But by no means is this series over. We still feel good about ourselves and we still feel we can win this series."

After a timeout, Elliott took the inbounds pass, barely avoiding a steal attempt by Stacey Augmon, then let go from his tip-toes on the sideline as Rasheed Wallace lunged toward him. The ball went in and San Antonio had its only lead of the game as the packed Alamodome crowd of 35,260 went wild.

Jim Jackson and Walt Williams both missed shots in the final seconds for Portland.

Tim Duncan had 23 points, 10 rebounds and five blocked shots for the Spurs, while Elliott added 22 on 8-of-10 shooting, his best ever in the playoffs. David Robinson of the Spurs scored 14 points and a key steal that prevented Portland from scoring at 84-81.

Arvydas Sabonis, who had only five points in Portland's 80-76 loss in Game 1 Saturday, had 17 points for the Blazers, while Wallace, saddled with foul trouble all game, had 13 points.

## XXI SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES 1999



### In SPG Baseball

## CNMI bows to American Samoa

By Eddie Siguena  
 Variety News Staff

ONE thing is for sure about American Samoa: When it travels, it brings heavy baggage.

The tough Samoan baseball team packed artillery with its South Pacific Games arsenal and displayed it yesterday at Paseo Stadium. It started with a 9-2

bombing over the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, then ended with a 28-13 mercy killing over New Caledonia.

That's 37 runs in only two games. American Samoa played a doubleheader yesterday due to Monday's rainout.

CNMI also was in a doubleheader. After losing to the Samo-

ans, CNMI scored a 10-2 victory over Federated States of Micronesia about five hours later.

But yesterday was the day for Samoans. In two games, they rapped nine home runs, including seven against New Caledonia. American Samoa meets FSM later today and still has powerhouses

Continued on page 26

## Swimming lessons

THE SAIPAN Swim Club will conduct its annual session of swim lessons for children and adults beginning June 17 thru June 30, 1999.

Lessons will be held on weekdays only from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Participants completing the session will receive American Red Cross certificates.

There are seven levels of swimming lessons from Beginner to Advanced. All will be available.

Continued on page 26

## IVYBL rosters

THE IVYBL will open on June 21st with 15-man rosters, the league announced.

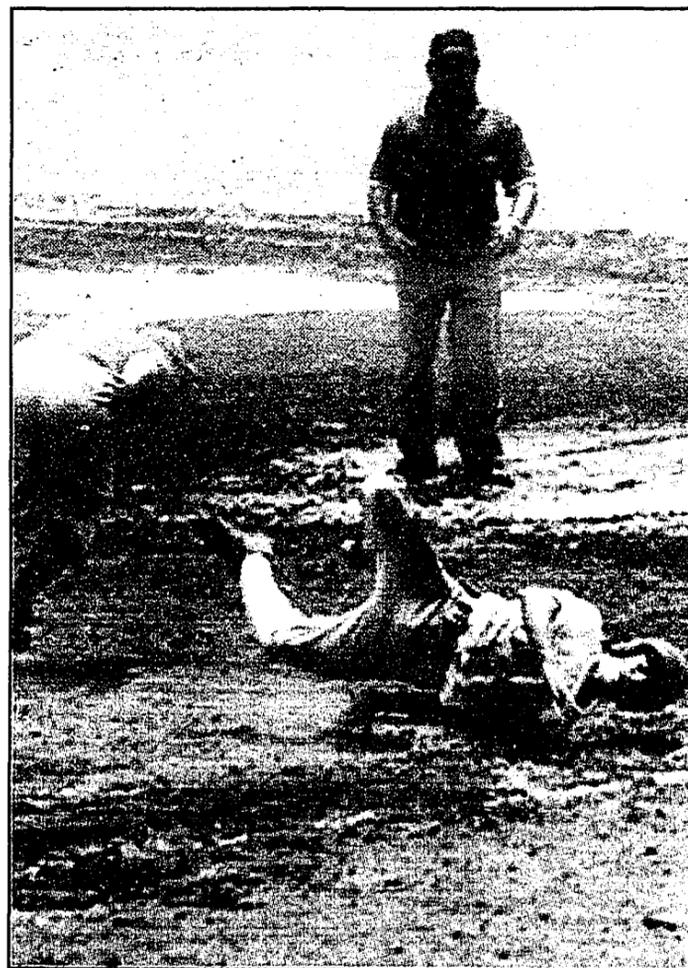
Roster is limiting four 14-year-olds and the rest 13 to 12 years.

One must turn 15 at the end of the season to be eligible to play.

Rosters must be turned in at the Gym. Deadline for submission of rosters is on June 11.

Contact Pat Tuchela at 322-9457.

Waiver forms can be picked up at PSS. Ask for Pat.



A CNMI player crash lands at first base after being tagged out by Stanley Filiaga of American Samoa. Umpire Frankie Francisco watches the play. American Samoa won, 9-2.

Photo by Eduardo C. Siguena

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