

# Marianas Variety

News & Views

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## 'Veto 3-year limit'

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THE SAIPAN Chamber of Commerce (SCC) yesterday urged Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to veto a bill that will require nonresident workers to leave the Commonwealth after three consecutive years of stay, before they are allowed to be hired back.

In an interview with reporters, Chamber President Jose C. Ayuyu said Senate Bill 11-71, authored by the governor's brother, Sen. Juan P. Tenorio, "just doesn't make sense."

"At this point," said Ayuyu, "we are urging the governor to veto the bill."

"We can just be rational."

Ayuyu said SB 11-71 "is not

*Ayuyu tells Teno S.B. 11-71 'just doesn't make sense'*



Jose C. Ayuyu

practical to (him)."

"It doesn't make sense," he reiterated.

He said earlier measures pro-



Pedro P. Tenorio

posed to limit the stay of nonresident workers in the Commonwealth "did not work."

Ayuyu maintained that the

CNMI already has enough labor and immigration laws that, if enforced to the fullest extent, will solve "a lot of concerns."

"I think," said Ayuyu, "the first thing we really should do is... to see if we can enforce the existing laws right now."

"Let's make the existing laws work before we come up with a new law again," he added.

Ayuyu argued that a lot of labor and immigration problems "could be resolved to a great extent by just enforcing existing laws."

"We don't need new laws to  
Continued on page 20

## Aldan-Pierce says tourism industry needs a 'quick fix'

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

MARIANAS Visitors Authority board director Marian Aldan-Pierce yesterday said a quick fix is needed to address the continued decline of tourist arrivals in the CNMI.

Pierce in an interview said MVA and the business sector are looking into getting returns of huge investments being put up in the tourism industry.

"We realize that (tourism arrivals) have been on the decline. We just do hope that it will turn around," said Pierce after she and other MVA board members were sworn in.

Under the "Visit the

Marianas" campaign, she pointed out it was really the private sector that got together and came up with such a project to address the problem.

"That will be the quick fix (visit campaign) between now and the end of the year. In the meantime, once the board gets together and organized, then certainly we will be looking at other promotions to complement the 'Visit 99,'" Pierce said.

She attributed the problem of the decline to "politics of the times" in the CNMI, aside from the Asian economic crisis.

"It's unfortunate but certainly we have to wait until the new

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## Tenorio keen on scrapping \$100K investor deposit

By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff

FACED with a slumping tourism industry and decreasing revenue collection, the CNMI government is starting to see the ills of imposing a \$100,000 security deposit to foreign investors who seek to do business in the Northern Marianas.

Even Governor Pedro P. Tenorio finds the legislation virtually scrapping the \$100,000 security deposit and which was passed by the House of Representatives last week an acceptable alternative to increase business activity in the commonwealth.

"It is an acceptable way of en-

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## Emotions flare at Guam's ceremony for KAL victims



Korean official warns family members that authorities will be arresting individuals who become violent at the KAL 801 memorial site. Hot heads almost led to rioting at the site of the crash that killed over 200 people exactly one year ago today. Photo by Jacob Leon Guerrero

By Brandon N. Ashcraft  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — Conflict marked the day set aside to honor the victims of the ill-fated Korean Air Flight 801 and help ease the pain for their family and friends.

Members of Guam's Korean community and relatives of those who perished in the crash clashed with KAL representatives during the memorial ceremonies yesterday.

The disturbance broke out after many angered words were exchanged between the victims' kin, the members of the Korean Association of Guam (KAG) and Korean Airline (KAL) officials.

The scuffle began before the ceremony when Won-Kyun Kim, representatives of the victims' families, moved that the religious rite be held today instead of yesterday.

The event almost escalated into a riot incident after an unidentified Korean national came out of the crowd and chased an unidentified KAG official.

An unidentified female official was seen attempting to speak to the  
Continued on page 19



A woman is being loaded into Macaw Helicopters' Air Ambulance on Rota during one of two flights yesterday to transport sick persons to CHC on Saipan. (Macaw Helicopter photo)

## 8-hour power outage today

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THERE will be an eight-hour power outage in some parts of the island starting this morning as the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) rushes the completion of its feeder IV renovation project, CUC spokesperson Pamela Mathis said.

"Saipan's oldest electrical system," said Mathis, "will be replaced within a few weeks."

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## WEATHER Outlook



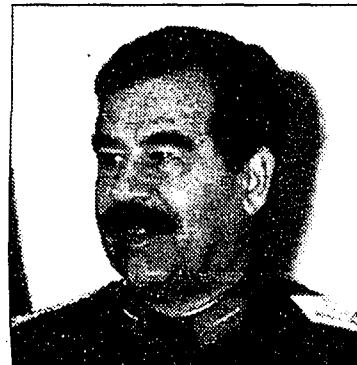
Mostly cloudy with scattered rainshowers

Pac Newspaper Stocks

# Saddam OKs plan to shake off sanctions

By LEON BARKHO  
BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Just hours after the chief U.N. inspector left Baghdad in a dispute over arms talks, President Saddam Hussein approved a plan Tuesday that Iraq hopes will end crippling economic sanctions.

Richard Butler, who heads the U.N. Special Commission, left Iraq on Tuesday, saying the government was refusing further disarmament talks — throwing into uncertainty the future of the U.N. program to eliminate Iraq's arsenal of mass destruction.



Saddam Hussein

The Iraqi News Agency reported that Saddam, during a meeting of his top advisers, approved measures aimed at ending the sanctions.

INA said the measures would be announced soon but did not say what they were.

Butler said the impasse stemmed from Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz's demand that Iraq be given a clean bill of health on its weaponry.

"I told him that I cannot fulfill your demand because I don't have the evi-

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# Dow plunges



Gina Balice, a trade checker, holds her head as the Dow Jones closes at the Chicago Board of Trade Tuesday in Chicago. The Dow Jones industrial average plummeted 299.43 points to 8,487.31 points for the market's third biggest point loss in a single day. AP

By BRUCE MEYERSON  
NEW YORK (AP) — Traders will be keeping a close watch on markets Wednesday to see if a precipitous drop on the New York Stock Exchange brings similar drops elsewhere in the world.

The Dow Jones industrial average plunged nearly 300 points on Tuesday, suffering its third-biggest point drop

ever and raising fears the stock market's tumble is far from over.

Japanese stock prices fell early Wednesday. The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average lost 180.82 points, or 1.13 percent, to close the morning session at 15,842.76 points.

Traders said, however, that the Tokyo market was relatively firm despite the plunge in New York because of expectations for further action from Japan's new government to stimulate the economy.

In New York, the Dow fell 299.43 points to finish at 8,487.31 in the second busiest day in history. Only the 554.26-point loss of Oct. 27, 1997 and the 508.00-point fall of Oct. 19, 1987 were bigger. But in percentage terms, the drop was not close to a record.

In just 12 sessions since it closed at a record 9,337.97, the Dow has fallen 850 points or 9.1 percent to its lowest level since March. The Dow is still up 7.3 percent so far this year.

The Dow, measuring the movements of 30 big-name companies from IBM to Union Carbide selected by the editors of The Wall Street Journal, is closely followed as a popular gauge of the stock market's health.

The past few weeks have been dominated by a series of discouraging signals on the economy and company profits, as well as continuing troubles in Asia, dashing hopes that improving conditions in the second half of 1998 would justify the market's lofty heights.

The surprising drop has left investment pros divided over whether the market is mired in one of its frequent post-rally downturns, popularly known as a correction, or caught in the throes of something far more severe.

Several of Wall Street's most prominent optimists have expressed doubts about the bull market's staying power in recent days.

Ralph Acampora, an outspoken market analyst at Prudential Securities, noted for his predictions that the Dow would hit 10,000 this year, appeared on CNBC twice on Tuesday, declaring that the bull is giving way to a bear market.

A normal "correction" is typically defined as a 10 percent drop, while "bear markets" are usually described as drops of more than 20 percent.

Other leading analysts, however, maintained an optimistic stance, noting that there's still no recession and that both interest rates and inflation remain low.

"You don't have much more than a correction in the stock market here," said Jeffrey Applegate, chief investment strategist at Lehman Brothers.

On Tuesday, the Conference Board, a business research group, said its In-

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# Date set for 902 talks

By Aldwin R. Fajardo

Variety News Staff

DIFFERENCES on issues between the CNMI and the US governments are expected to be discussed when representatives from each side air their concerns during negotiations under Section 902 of the Covenant starting September 16.

Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan said federal representatives led by Edward B. Cohen have agreed to resume Covenant 902 discussions September 16, with hopes to establish better relations between the Commonwealth and the United States.

"The ultimate goal of this talk will be to move toward a better relations with the federal government. Each one of us will make a list that will be included in the agenda," Sablan told reporters yesterday.



Jesus R. Sablan

He said both panels are expected to identify common items that will be included in the agenda, although each negotiating team has already prepared a list of issues that may be brought up during the talks.

"Each one of use will make a list that will be included in the agenda, or what will be the most sensible issues or items that we need to discuss," he stressed.

In his July 31 letter to Sablan, Cohen expressed appreciation on the CNMI panel's willingness to engage in a discussion about immigration control, minimum wage and customs issues associated with the garment industry.

He was also proposing that both CNMI and US panels draft a statement of objectives which will iden-

tify goals for each of the three areas identified — immigration, minimum wage and transshipment.

He is anticipating that issues with regards to amending the Covenant to take away the Commonwealth's authority on minimum wage and immigration granted under Section 503[a] of the Covenant and on customs under headnote 3[a] will likewise be brought up during the talks.

The CNMI 902 negotiating panel has suggested the inclusion of the issue on submerged lands to the discussion but Cohen said it would not

be productive or prudent, citing the law suit filed by the Commonwealth for the US District Court to resolve ownership and control of the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone.

"Because that issue is in litigation and given that we have been unable to make progress beyond my proposal in prior 902 consultations on this issue, I don't think it would be productive or prudent to put that issue on the agenda at this time," he told Sablan.

At the same time, Cohen agreed to

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# Kuwait stops ship violating Iraq embargo

KUWAIT (AP) — The Kuwaiti coast guard has intercepted two wooden boats that apparently were violating the U.N. trade embargo against Iraq, Kuwait's Interior Ministry said Tuesday.

The boats were seized in Kuwait's territorial waters on Sunday, the ministry's spokesman, Col. Bader Saleh, told The Associated Press.

He said the boats, registered in the United Arab Emirates and manned by

13 Asian sailors, were carrying dates and fertilizer from Iraq. Saleh gave no other details.

Scores of ships have been intercepted in the Gulf since the United Nations imposed economic sanctions on Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The sanctions ban air travel to and from the country and international trade of all commodities, including oil.

The U.N. Security Council has said

the sanctions will not be lifted until U.N. inspectors certify that Iraq has complied with resolutions calling for the elimination of its weapons of mass destruction.

Iraq says it has destroyed its weaponry and has demanded that the sanctions be lifted. Baghdad has called on Arab countries to ignore the trade ban and has actively sought to circumvent it.

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# 'Too many exemptions under moratorium law'

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

GOVERNMENT is granting exemptions on the hiring moratorium law to the extent that it has made the move to stop the entry of new nonresident workers futile, Chamber President Jose C. Ayuyu yesterday said.

"There is a moratorium right now and...it is not working because everybody is asking for an exemption. They (government officials) have (imposed) a moratorium and yet they are exempting a lot of businesses," Ayuyu told reporters in an interview.

"Why, in the first place put a moratorium when you know left and right

it is going to be violated or people will be asking for exemption?" he raised.

Ayuyu said it is his "understanding" that there is "a lot of exemptions already (granted)."

"Let's have a fair playing field for everybody. If (one) wants an exemption, I think we should make it available to everybody," he said.

The Chamber, according to Ayuyu, is opposed to the law as it stifles economic growth.

"We have an economy that needs to grow, we don't want to close the door to any new opportunities... that

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# Air Ambulance fly 2 critically-ill patients

MACAW Helicopters has been credited with saving one, possibly two, lives on Wednesday, August 5. In a pair of dramatic Air Ambulance missions flown just hours apart, Macaw was dispatched to Rota to pick up critically ill patients and transport them to Saipan.

Macaw, which is the only federally approved Air Ambulance service in Micronesia, used its Bell 206 helicopter for the missions. The helicopter is jet-engine powered and can accommodate two patients plus the necessary air crew and attendants.

In the first dispatch a Mr. James

Pangelinan was picked up in Rota and flown directly to the Saipan Commonwealth Health Center (CHC). As of mid-day Wednesday he was reported to be in guarded condition.

"From what we heard, it is very likely Mr. Pangelinan would not have lived if we didn't get him directly to the CHC so quickly," said Macaw President Mike Cunningham.

"The CHC has a helicopter landing pad just a matter of yards from the emergency room." Because of the landing pad, Cunningham noted

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EMTs take out Lucy Barcinas, a kidney patient from Rota, from an ambulance at CHC yesterday afternoon. Barcinas was flown on a Macaw helicopter to Saipan. Photo by Ferdie de la Torre



Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio administers the oaths for the new MVA board of directors yesterday. From right are David M. Sablan, Joseph M. Mendiola, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Frances L.G. Borja, Kioshi Aikawa, Bartley Jackson and Julian S. Calvo. Photo by Ferdie de la Torre

# Governor assures MVA of a bigger funding, but wants to see arrivals

By Ferdie de la Torre

Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday said the administration will approve the Marianas Visitors Authority's request for increased funding if the agency could guarantee to bring in tourists.

"I think there's no question that we need some budget increase in the promotion...but again if the MVA assures us that the promotional expenses bring more tourists, why not?"

## Wiseman wants out of case

By Zaldy Dandan

Variety News Staff

THE LAWYER of the woman accused of promoting prostitution and illegally withholding documents wants out of the case.

David Wiseman, during yesterday's hearing, said he no longer has direct communication with his client Min Wang, alias Linda Wang, who is believed to be still in China.

Superior Court Associate Judge Timothy H. Bellas, however, told Wiseman to "hold off" his motion to withdraw.

Bellas then issued a bench warrant for her arrest, with bail set at \$50,000.

Wang, who was facing a maximum penalty of 60 years in jail, was allowed to visit her ailing

Tenorio said after he administered the swearing in for the new MVA board members.

With the government's very limited resources, Tenorio however said, he does not know whether the administration can come up with the need the MVA is asking for "at this time."

According to MVA acting Managing Director Alvaro Santos, the agency has submitted to the Governor's Office a \$10.7-million budget for Fiscal Year 1999 to make CNMI's tourism industry competi-

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# Lack of political will blamed for Puerto Rico dump mess

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

THE DISASTER waiting to happen at the Puerto Rico dump is caused by government's alleged lack of political will to address the problem on solid waste management, Chamber President Jose C. Ayuyu said yesterday.

In an interview during the Chamber's general membership

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# OPA clears Maya Kara

By Mar-Vic C. Munar

Variety News Staff

THE OFFICE of the Public Auditor has cleared acting Atty. General Maya Kara of ethical violation charges, saying she did not participate in the settlement negotiations between the Attorney General's Office and the I&S Advertising Agency, which was represented by her husband.

I&S was collecting payment from the CNMI government for the promotional projects it had undertaken for the former

meeting held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, a visibly irate Ayuyu said government "should have corrected that problem a long time ago."

"The problem is," said Ayuyu, "we just lack the determination to make a decision."

"There is no political will." Ayuyu also chided the previous administration for spending close to

Continued on page 20

OPA issued the opinion Monday in response to the conflict-of-interest issue raised by some legislators in connection with the role of Kara's husband, Bruce Mailman, in the I&S deal.

I&S was collecting payment from the CNMI government for the promotional projects it had undertaken for the former

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

**STRIKE THAT!**  
By Ferdie P. de la Torre



## Horror along Middle Road

A WOMAN was driving a pick-up truck along Middle Road one evening on her way home when two male Chinese suddenly crossed the highway. The driver avoided the first man, but struck the other person.

Responding emergency medical technicians transported the Chinese to the Commonwealth Health Center. The victim suffered head injuries and internal bleeding. The driver was unhurt, but she was trembling in fear.

Less than a week before that, a man who was driving a car on his way to work was surprised when a Chinese woman suddenly crossed Middle Road. The woman had broken right shoulder and legs. She was admitted in the Intensive Care Unit at CHC. But what's new with these accidents?

As a reporter covering police beat, I have written numerous news stories about Chinese struck by vehicles along Middle Road. I have taken so many pictures of bloodied victims, some of them crying during accidents on the same highway. I am tired of writing the same stories. It's like writing stories about shoplifters at DFS caught through a surveillance camera.

In fact, recently I almost struck two Chinese women along Middle Road in Gualo Rai on my way to our office. The two women suddenly crossed the highway and believe me, they were not even looking at my direction. I stopped the car, but I did not utter profanities at them as some people usually do. I simply smiled at them, shook my head, and mumbled my favorite word: "Laiñal!" Cursing at them will not help, anyway.

Statistics from the Department of Public Safety show that pedestrian crashes in the CNMI not only involve Chinese, but also Koreans and Filipinos who are working at garment factories and construction companies. Statistics also indicate that vehicular accidents involving pedestrians are increasing in the Commonwealth.

Authorities recorded a 43 percent increase in pedestrian crashes in 1997. In 1996, there were two fatalities and 23 crashes, while a year later, the figure rose to 54 crashes and two pedestrian deaths. In 1995, three "walkers" were killed and 31 pedestrian crashes occurred.

Perhaps there is a need to replace all the pedestrian crosswalk markings with street lights on the side of the road on accident-prone areas along Middle Road, particularly in Gualo Rai and Beach Road in San Antonio. Street lights illuminate the crosswalk.

Last year, DPS, Office of Special Programs, and the Department of Public Works worked together to improve the highways by assisting in the printing of educational materials for newly-installed traffic signal light intersections.

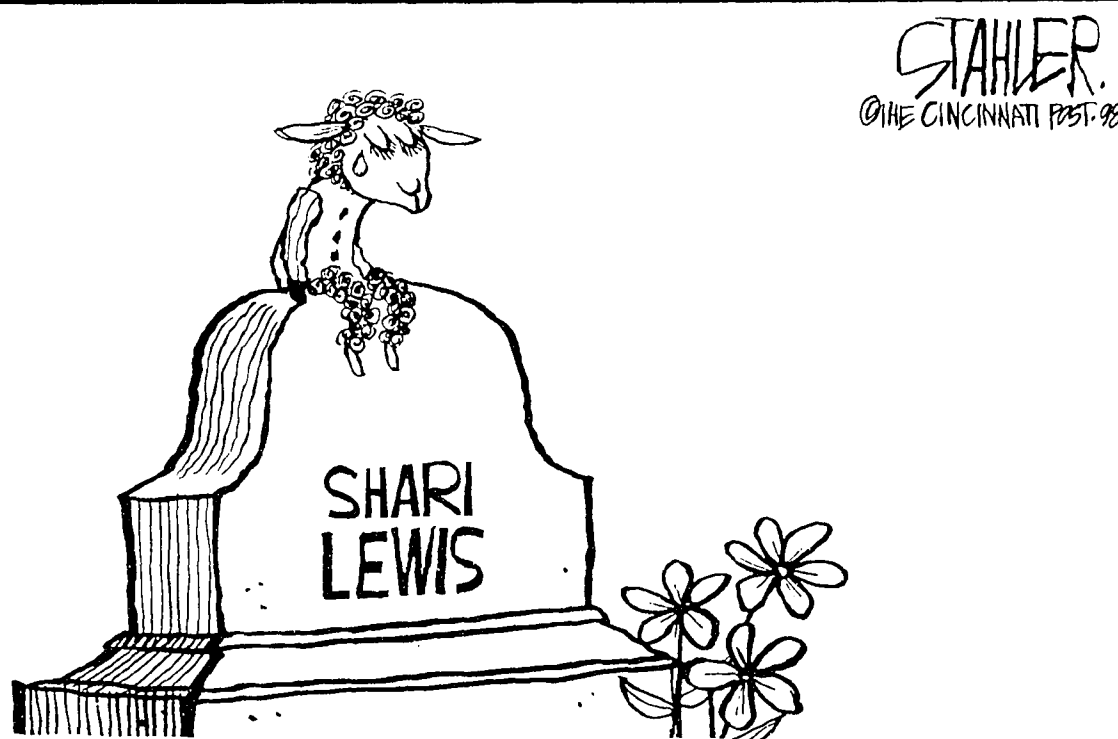
The move of the two private firms in procuring and donating Lightguard System or crosswalk warning devices to the government was also commendable. The devices which are now installed in different areas on Saipan have improved the pedestrian safety on highways.

Aside from donating warning devices, our businesses should help DPS in its pedestrian safety program. We cannot always blame the motorists in all these crashes, but also the pedestrians who suddenly cross the busy highways. Employers should educate their employees on the proper use of highways, particularly in crossing them safely. Tell them that cars are obviously different from bicycles. Now, motorists, if you encounter such kind of pedestrians, just smile and mumble your favorite word, if you can.

FOUR dead stingrays were recently found south of Kili Beach during the Division of Environmental Quality's monthly clean up activity. Two of the stingrays were in the process of "giving birth". Several baby sting rays were left dead on the beach. One of the rays had its tail cut off, most likely taken for souvenir. The rays appeared to have been brought up with a dragnet.

Who caught those stingrays should be penalized. All caught fish not intended for consumption and were not returned to water after taken by a dragnet is a clear violation of fishing regulations and prohibitions.

SOMETIMES lawyers get bored while waiting for their clients' case to be heard because of so many criminal proceedings scheduled in the Superior Court. One lawyer was sitting behind the courtroom railing, waiting for the turn of his client to plead guilty to a burglary case. To keep himself busy, the lawyer, in a low voice sang to the tune of "Let it be": "Speaking words of wisdom...plead guilty." Perhaps Mr. Attorney was playing "Knock, knock, whose there."



JACK ANDERSON and JAN MOLLER

## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

## Underground visitors' center at Capitol?

Back in 1989, our law-enforcement sources provided a terrifying tip: Security at federal buildings had not kept up with recent advances in firearms technology. As a result, almost anyone could sneak a gun into the U.S. Capitol, these sources said.

Following up on the tip, we made an appointment with then-Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., who was going to talk to us about potential security problems at the Capitol.

But we also wanted to check the security apparatus ourselves, so we devised a "field test" that unfortunately involved breaking the law. The results were disappointing.

To our meeting with Dole we took with us a plastic Glock handgun, which we disassembled and stashed in a briefcase. The bullets were kept separate in a coat pocket. Without delay, the Capitol Police waived us through the metal detectors that guard the people's house.

When we presented Dole with the gun, the senator was anything but amused.

This decade-old stunt came to mind this week as we mourn the passing of two brave Capitol Police officers, John Gibson and Jacob Chestnut, who lost their lives protecting the thousands of people who walk the Capitol corridors each day.

Although security at the Capitol hasn't changed much in the years since our experiment, we probably underestimated the commitment and valor of the men and women who guard the entrances to the Capitol and surrounding office buildings. The real lesson in last Friday's tragedy is that the police did their jobs when they were most needed.

One other thing also jumps out: The Capitol, despite the ever-present threat of terrorism, is still one of the safest places in the country, if not the world. Which is why we're skeptical about the predictable clamor in Congress to "do something" in the wake of the shootings.

In a city where the murder rate has been among America's highest for a decade now, the Capitol is an oasis of peace. Before last month's incident, shots had not been fired in the Capitol since 1954, when Puerto Rican nationals opened fire in the visitors' gallery and wounded several members.

More recently, a bomb exploded in 1983 just off the Senate chamber — which caused no deaths or injuries but prompted the installation of metal detectors at all Capitol entrances.

There's no doubt that the metal detectors were a necessary step. And if the deaths of Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson prompt officials to tinker

with the security a bit, that's a good thing too. In fact, the Capitol Police have already added personnel in the wake of the shootings, to guard against copycat crimes that often arise after such horrible, well-publicized events.

But members of Congress ought to resist the temptation to use this horrible crime as an excuse to spend \$125 million on themselves. That's what a proposed underground visitors' center under discussion would cost. Republicans say they want to use private funding to pay for half of the project, but that still leaves more than \$60 million — plus overruns — coming out of taxpayer pockets.

Plans for a visitors' center have been kicking around since 1995, when blueprints were first revealed. Its purpose would be twofold: to provide a central location for people to learn about the history and traditions of Congress, and to establish a single checkpoint for all tourists entering the Capitol.

Yet the visitors' center would also damage one of the finest features of the people's house: its accessibility. By herding tourists through a visitors' center, politicians would create two distinct classes of people on the Hill — those who "belong" (members, staffers, journalists) and those who are just gawking (everyone else).

As things stand now, everyone from Newt Gingrich to Joe and Jane from Topeka come into the Capitol the same way, passing through the same metal detectors. It's what sets the people's house apart from the White House, which is an armed fortress by comparison. Under the new plan, anyone holding a laminated pass, like reporters and staffers, would still be allowed to walk through any entrance. Tourists would quickly become second-class citizens.

It's still early in the deliberations, meaning everything is still up for debate. Some House Republicans are queasy about the thought of spending so much money on themselves, especially in an election year.

Members of Congress ought to think long and hard before they rush to judgment on a visitor's center. For every little bit of added security means a tiny loss of freedom for everyone else. They need to remember that no amount of security is going to prevent a determined terrorist from wreaking deadly havoc.

And they ought to realize that the best way to honor the memory of the two slain officers may be to do nothing at all.



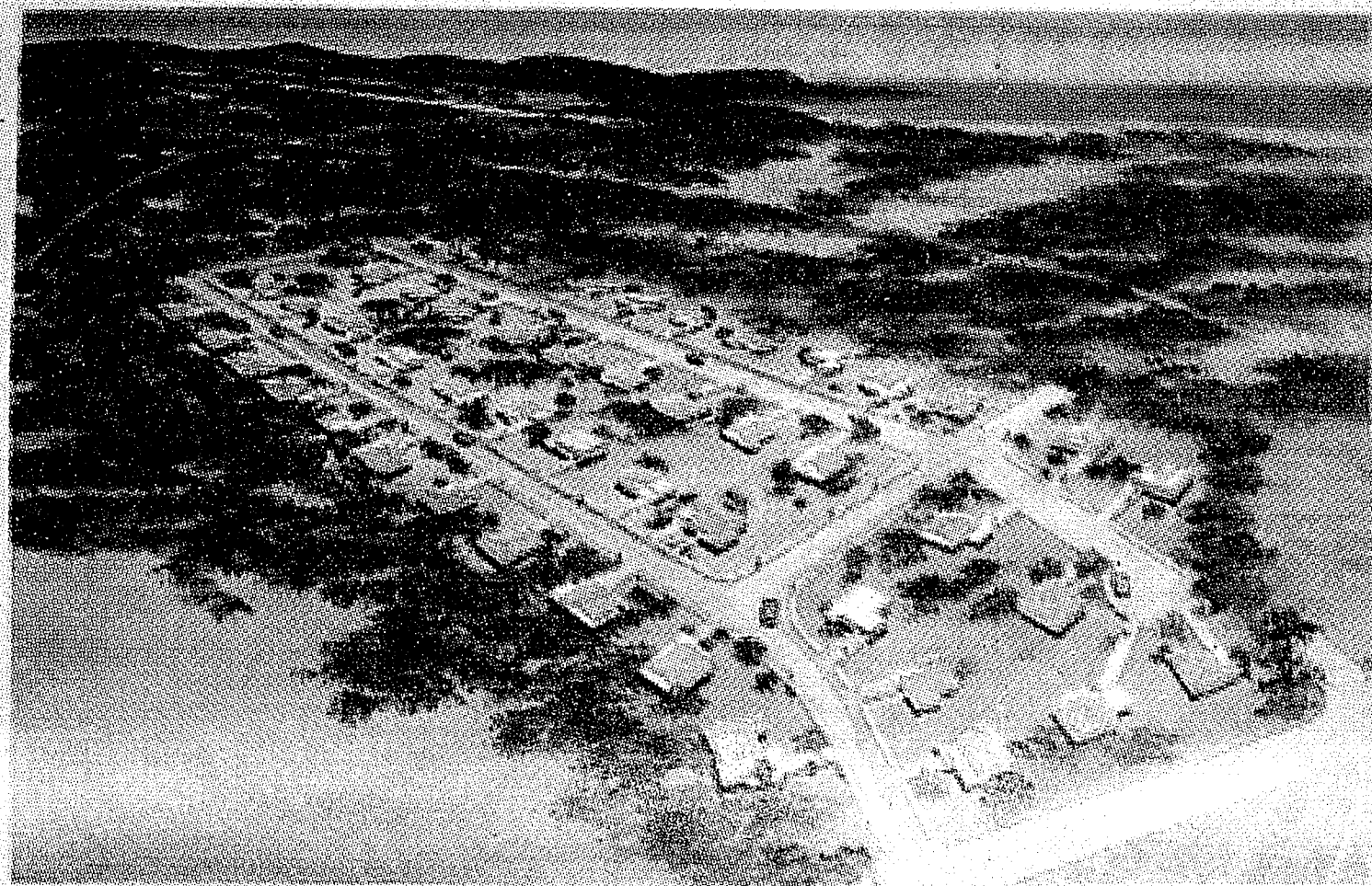
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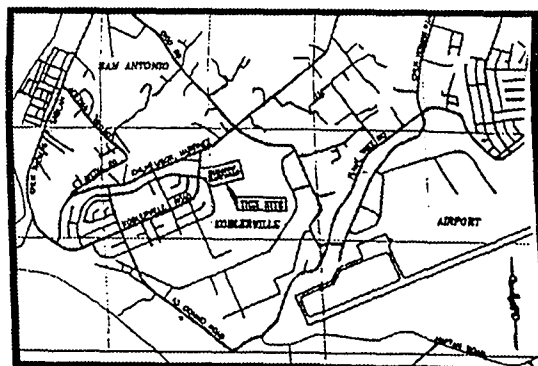


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## Solid Builders sues two non-paying customers

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

SOLID Builders has sued two of its customers for their alleged failure to pay for the septic tanks they ordered.

In separate civil complaints filed in the Superior Court, Solid Builders' Benigno T. Fejeran is asking for compensation and punitive damages from Cathy Warakai and Connie Itibus.

Fejeran, who is represented by lawyer Bruce Berline, alleged that Warakai and Itibus owe him \$6,388.50 and \$5,821.67, respectively.

He is accusing them of breach of contract, unjust enrichment and fraud.

According to Fejeran's complaint, Warakai entered into a written sales contract with him on or about Oct. 29, 1993 for

the purchase of a 1500 gallon septic tank, leaching field, excavation and backfill, including services and charges for a rockbreaker and securing approval from the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Fejeran said the total cost was \$7,288.50 to be paid in 37 bi-monthly installments.

However, he alleged, Warakai made a total payment of only \$900 from Nov. 1993 to Feb. 1996 and has not made another payment since then.

For her part, Itibus allegedly purchased a 1500 gallon septic tank and a 2500 gallon leaching tank, including related services, from Fejeran on or about July 2, 1996.

He said Itibus has so far made only one payment of \$100 in Oct. 25, 1996.

## Underwood urges Clinton to visit Guam in November

By Maxine Hillary  
Variety News Staff

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Robert Underwood has invited President Bill Clinton to visit Guam after the president met with members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus yesterday.

During the meeting Underwood brought to the President's attention the inadequacy of Guam's allotment in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

CHIP was instituted under the Clinton administration in efforts to assist uninsured children.

Underwood said, "Unfortunately, the amount for Guam comes to approximately \$200 per child, which wouldn't cover very many kids and is insufficient to insure those in Guam who are eligible."

Underwood told the President



Robert Underwood

that the territories needed to be treated more equally.

The Congressman said that he feels that since CHIP has special importance to the President, he believes the President's response will be positive.

"He is going to help us, as well as Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas and the Virgin Islands."

Islands."

Underwood also encouraged Clinton to appoint a local person to the position of U.S. Attorney on Guam.

Underwood reminded the President that the island has not had a permanent U.S. Attorney for nearly ten years and that the appointment of a Guam native would be a "feather in his cap."

Clinton is slated to visit India in November. That may be a good time for him to stop over on Guam.

According to the Congressman, the President's office is trying to work out details of the suggested visit and hopefully, they will be able to announce that the President will come to Guam in November in conjunction with Governor Gutierrez' current visit to Washington this week.

## More accessible office for STD program sought

By Haidee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

OWING to the nature of its services, the National AIDS Committee yesterday said it will relocate its Communicable Disease Control Program Office to a bigger, more convenient and more accessible area.

Program manager Elsie Ramon said the current office space at the Commonwealth Health Center is too small and inconvenient to accommodate the number of people who need counselling and laboratory testing for HIV and other communicable diseases.

"We want to relocate our office to better serve our clients and patients," Ramon told the Variety.

Meanwhile, NAC chairman Cong. Dino M. Jones said that the commission is looking at around \$60,000 worth of federal funding for the transfer to a new building.

"We are looking at a more accessible area, possibly between Garapan

and Chalan Kanoa," he said, adding that they need to maximize their resources to accommodate more patients.

The legislator added that the current CDCP office provides no privacy to those who want counselling.

He also cited an experience by a fellow congressman who wanted to talk to CDCP manager Ramon concerning the commission's activities, only to be asked by the telephone operator if he has an STD.

"Much as we want to have more people to come to us, we also want them to be protected from public annoyances," said Jones.

The new office, according to NAC members present during yesterday's meeting held at the China House Restaurant, should have at least three rooms for administrative, counselling and clinical purposes.

Jones also remarked that since the NAC's creation, it has done a lot to educate the public about HIV/AIDS

and other communicable diseases.

"We are making progress by monitoring the number of new STD cases. We're trying our best to get in touch with the community, schools and employees. We are doing good with the emergency health screening program for non-resident workers," he said.

The legislator, however, said that "privacy" oftentimes hinders the commission from doing

"What is really preventing us is the confidentiality part of exposing information on patients who are being monitored. But we look at it as a challenge," he said.

### Employee gets reprimand for gov't time abuse

FINANCE Secretary Lucy Nielsen has reprimanded the department's technical financial analyst who was found to have abused government time, resulting in salary overpayment.

Nielsen's action was made in response to the Office of the Public Auditor's recommendation.

In a report released yesterday, Public Auditor Leo LaMotte noted that the financial analyst concerned had abused his status as an employee exempt from overtime under the Fair Labor Standards by repeatedly coming late for work, taking time off at will and leaving work several hours earlier before his off-duty hour.

OPA noted that the employee was paid in full without deductions although he had not performed additional work and was not charged annual leave to offset the lost hours.

During the six-month period covered by OPA investigation, it was found that the employee's absences resulted in total hours worked of only 456 hours out of 748 hours required of him.

As a result, OPA said, the employee was overpaid by 292 hours which translates to \$5,975.

Investigation also found that the employee was overpaid \$327 in overtime when he was temporarily assigned at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, from December 1997 to January 1998. (MCM)

# DEQ, CPA reach agreement

By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff

THE COMMONWEALTH Ports Authority has been granted permit to dispose dredged materials at the Puerto Rico landfill on certain conditions reached under an agreement with the Division of Environmental Quality.

"CPA and DEQ officials have been working to come up with some agreement as to how long and how much dredged materials can be dumped at the landfill," Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio said after meeting with agency officials yesterday.

Tenorio said CPA and DEQ officials have already reached an agreement as to how many tons of dredged materials can be disposed at the Puerto Rico landfill. This, after DEQ issued an order stopping the disposing of dredged materials at the landfill.

"They already agreed that a certain tons can be dumped at the Puerto

Rico landfill until we move the dumpsite to a more appropriate place in Maipi," the governor told reporters.

DEQ director Ike Cabrera said that under the agreement, CPA will only be allowed to dispose dredging materials on certain areas of the Puerto Rico landfill, citing earlier reports on the possibilities of a mudslide.

"There will be no disposing of dredging materials on the top area of the dumpsite. CPA can only dispose waste materials at the side of the landfill near Beach Road," he told Variety.

The Ports Authority has been producing DEQ to allow CPA to dump a maximum of \$50,000 cubic yards of dredging materials at the landfill but Cabrera said his office can only allow CPA to dispose 30,000 cubic yards.

"There will be no dredging on the top side of the dump. We can only

allow them to dump 30,000 cubic yards of dredging materials at the landfill," he stressed.

At the same time, Cabrera said DEQ and CPA has already settled an apparent dispute between the two agencies on grounds that the Ports Authority refused to heed an order issued by his office to stop dumping dredging materials at the landfill.

"We have already settled that. We met and discussed the issue last Tuesday," he added.

CPA, in a press statement, said the agency was merely helping the public works department put off the fire at Puerto Rico landfill, dismissing claims by environment officials that CPA did not heed the stop order.

"CPA did instruct its contractor to cease disposal of dredged material since July 26, 1998, one day in advance of the directive becoming effective."

Continued on page 20

## Fund will not pay pension for 3-year gov't employees

By Haidee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE NMI Retirement Fund will not pay pension benefits to people who work with the government for only three years.

Fund Administrator Edward H. Manglona said the legal counsel already issued an opinion on Public Law 11-9, but left to the Fund's Board of Trustees the decision on whether to retain the old interpretation or adopt a new one.

Since the Board didn't act on it during its recent meeting at Tinian, then the original interpretation holds through, according to Manglona.

"The Board didn't act on it although it has a choice, legally. That means the Board maintains the original interpretation of the law. But I don't want it to be construed as the Board's making a decision yet. It just didn't act on it," Manglona told the Variety.

Challenges to the interpretation of the said law came right after the Retirement Fund Act was amended and became law on April.

P.L. 11-9 increases the period from three to 10 years the contributing membership service for one to be eligible for retirement benefits.

"It will allow us to collect contribu-

tions for ten years and invest that contribution. It will give us the opportunity to accumulate funds needed to pay for pension benefits," said Manglona.

He added that people who have not yet vested in the system will be covered by the new law, while those who already had three years in the government on the date that the law became effective, will not be covered.

Manglona also said that they have received challenges to the interpretation of the said law and requested them to do the request in writing.

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1990 U	SUBARU LOYAL STA. WAGON	ABA 420	90	\$ 2,500.00
2015 UR	NISSAN HARDBODY	AAO 396	90	\$ 2,500.00
2075 U	DAIHATSU CHARADE	AAV 058	92	\$ 2,500.00
1957 U	MAZDA PROTEGE 4DR SEDAN	AAU 678	91	\$ 3,500.00
1996 U	HYUNDAI SONATA	AAR 195	90	\$ 3,500.00
2060 U	HYUNDAI ELANTRA	AAV 834	92	\$ 3,785.00
2012 U	MAZDA RX-7	AAR 497	90	\$ 4,500.00
2017 U	MAZDA PROTEGE 4DR SEDAN	AAS 014	91	\$ 4,500.00
2088 U	DAIHATSU ROCKY	AAV 928	91	\$ 4,500.00
1986 U	HYUNDAI SONATA 4DR SEDAN	ABH 262	92	\$ 5,500.00
2096 UR	FORD SABLE LS	ABL 572	91	\$ 6,500.00
2067 U	JEEP CHEROKEE	ABC 119	89	\$ 6,500.00
2102 U	MAZDA B2600	ABC 421	91	\$ 6,500.00
2091 UR	MAZDA PROTEGE	AAW 656	92	\$ 7,000.00
2080 U	NISSAN SENTRA	AAV 166	93	\$ 7,500.00
2047 P	MAZDA 626 4DR SEDAN	AAV 227	93	\$ 9,200.00
2095 U	TOYOTA 4 RUNNER	ABF 945	91	\$ 9,500.00
2101 UR	MAZDA 4X2 CAB PLUS	ABL 423	97	\$14,000.00
1961 U	MAZDA 929 4DR SEDAN	ABC 411	92	\$14,500.00
2094 UR	MAZDA 929 4DR SEDAN	ABU 382	95	\$16,000.00

## USED CARS Tinian

2029 U	SUZUKI SWIFT	AAE 151	88	\$ 800.00
2100 U	TOYOTA TERCEL 4 DR SEDAN	AAJ 112	87	\$ 800.00
2090 U	SUBARU WAGON	AAN 932	86	\$ 1,000.00
2065 U	MAZDA 323	AAK 057	89	\$ 1,000.00
2040 U	TOYOTA TERCEL	ABA 122	90	\$ 1,000.00
2045 U	MAZDA B2600 CP PICK UP	AAO 264	90	\$ 1,500.00
2081 U	TOYOTA COROLLA	ABB 591	89	\$ 1,500.00
2099 U	HONDA CIVIC STA. WAGON	AAJ 342	89	\$ 2,000.00
2017 U	NISSAN PICK UP	ABC 825	89	\$ 2,000.00
2013 U	TOYOTA CAMRY 4DR SEDAN	ABJ 474	89	\$ 2,250.00
2071 U	NISSAN PICK UP	AAM 750	89	\$ 2,500.00
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2098 U	MAZDA PROTEGE	AAS 009	91	\$ 2,700.00
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2064 U	NISSAN SENTRA	AAN 956	92	\$ 3,995.00
2092 U	MAZDA RX-7	GORJUS	89	\$ 4,000.00
2014 U	HYUNDAI LEGACY 4 DR SEDAN	AAN 788	90	\$ 5,000.00
2016 U	HYUNDAI EXCEL 4DR SEDAN	ABC 111	91	\$ 5,000.00
2025 U	TOYOTA HI-LUX P/UP	AAX 113	91	\$ 5,700.00
2079 U	MAZDA B2200 PICK UP	ABB 601	91	\$ 7,200.00
2084 U	TOYOTA PREVIA	ANN 593	96	\$ 7,850.00
2085 U	HYUNDAI ACCENT			

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby give notice that a Special Board Meeting will be held on Friday, August 7, 1998, 9:30 a.m. at the MVA Conference Room, Professional Building in San Jose.

### AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters
  - a. Roll Call
  - b. Adoption of Agenda
- II. Election of Officers
  - a. Chairman
  - b. Vice-Chairman
  - c. Treasurer
  - d. Secretary
- III. Appointment of Committee Chairmanship
  - a. Policy
  - b. Personnel
  - c. Public Relation & Advertisement (PR&AD)
  - d. Finance
  - e. Tourist Site Development
- IV. Other Urgent Matter(s)
- V. Adjournment

/s/ALVARO A. SANTOS  
Acting Managing Director



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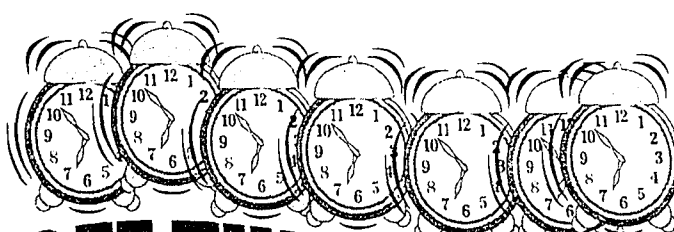
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The Around the Islands section covers community stories, local events, and cultural activities. Should you have a story you would like to share, or an event that needs to be covered, contact Laila at 234-6341

# CCH marks Nat'l History Day

THE CNMI Council for the Humanities is organizing a National History Day program throughout the Commonwealth for both public and private schools.

National History Day is seen as way for students to study and learn about historical issues, ideas, people and events.

The yearlong educational program fosters academic achievement and intellectual growth.

In addition to acquiring useful historical knowledge and perspective during the series of district, state and national competitions, students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills that will help them manage and use information now and in the future.

According to a news release from the Council, the program begins in September, at the start of the school year. Curriculum and contest materials are distributed to history day coordinators and teachers throughout the country.

The theme for 1999 is Science, Technology, Invention in History, Impact, Influence, Change.

In many states and district, teachers are invited to workshops where they share ideas about how the year's theme can be most effectively addressed and also receive bibliographies and a list of possible topics. Teachers then introduce the program to their students who, in turn, choose a topic and begin their research.

Students are encouraged to choose any topic in local, national or world history and investigate its historical significance and relationship to the theme by conducting extensive primary and secondary research.

After analyzing and interpreting their information, students present their findings in papers, exhibits, performances and media presentations that are evaluated by historians and educators.

National History Day has two divisions; the junior division (grades 6-8)

and the senior division (grades 9-12). Students can enter one of the following four categories: individual paper, group exhibit, group performance (a dramatic portrayal of the topic), group media (a documentary using either slides, video or a noninteractive computer program). Groups can consist of two to three students.

District History Day contests are usually held in February or March. District winners then prepare for and compete at the state contests, usually held in late April or early May.

The top two finishers in each category at the state contest become eligible to advance to the national contest held in June at

the University of Maryland at College Park.

For more information on the National History Day program, please call or write to Isaac Magofna at 235-4785 or Isaac Magofna, assistant director & program officer, AAA 3394, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950.

## CNMI Red Cross's Club 200 raffle: Odds of winning high

WHILE the exact number of tickets to the 10th Anniversary American Red Cross Club 200 event to be sold cannot be known, the odds of winning are high.

Even if the Northern Mariana Islands Chapter achieves its goal of 1000 tickets sold, the odds of having the winning number are still fairly good.

According to basic calculations and based on the number of minimum prizes that are planned, each ticket buyer (couple) would have at least one (1) in less than forty (40) chance of winning if 1000 tickets are sold.

All prizes are valued well over the base cost of the ticket and include prizes as high as \$25,000 cash. The ticket also includes entry for two to the event at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Saipan, but you also do not have to be present to win.

The proceeds from the event go to the Northern Mariana Islands Chapter of the American Red Cross



One of last year's winners is congratulated during the Red Cross Club 200 event held at the Hyatt poolside. (Red Cross Photo)

and are used in the local community to provide disaster prevention and response, Armed Forces emergency communication, Health and Safety education and other necessary community services.

The American Red Cross is the organization that translates your car-

ing and concern in to immediate action for all the people of the Commonwealth.

The Red Cross is not a government agency. They rely on us. For more information on how to support the Red Cross through the Club 200 event call 234-3459.

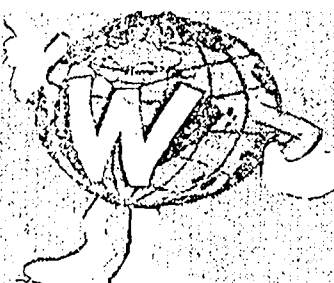
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The Around the Islands section covers community stories, local events, and cultural activities. Should you have a story you would like to share, or an event that needs to be covered, contact Laila at 234-6341

## Guam community briefs

Compiled by Maxine Hillary  
Variety News Staff

### Decolonization Meeting

The Commission on Decolonization will hold a meeting today, August 6, at 2:00 p.m. in the Governor's Conference Room at Adelup. For more information or special accommodations please call 475-9222.

### Head Start Parent Orientation

If your child has been selected to attend Head Start for the academic year 98-99, the following locations and times have been set for orientation. Parents are requested to please not bring children to this orientation.

If you are unable to attend an orientation in your area, please attend one in another area.

Tuesday, August 11, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Marcial Sablan (Agat) Elementary School Cafeteria District "Haya": M.U. Lujan, Talofofo, Inarajan, Merizo, Marcial Sablan (Agat), J.P. Torres and Truman.

Wednesday, August 12, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. George Washington High School Cafeteria District "Kattan": Agana Heights, P.C. Lujan I & II, Price I & II, C.L. Taitano I (a.m.) and II (p.m.) and Tiyan I & II.

Thursday, August 13, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Simon Sanchez High School Cafeteria Districts "Lagu" and "Luchan": Tamuning I (a.m.) and II (p.m.), Upi, Mount Santa Rosa, Harmon Loop, Wettengel, Maria Ulloa and Finegayan I and II.

### Parent/Child Orientation and the First Day of Class

Children will be scheduled at different times. Please call the Head Start Central Office at 475-0484/5 to find out when you and your child should attend. Parent/Child Orientation will be held in your child's classroom.

This is an opportunity for your child to meet his or her teacher and teacher aide as well as classmates and their parents. The Bussing Supervisor for your area will also be present. Monday, August 24th is the first day of classes.

Reminder: Physical examination/immunizations and other required medical documents must be completed and turned in to the Head Start Central Office in Hagatna before children can be admitted to the program by August 21st.

### Guam Marketing Society to Present Speaker

The Guam Marketing Association (Formerly the American Marketing Association) proudly presents U.O.G. Marketing Professor Dr. Michele Wayne, Ph.D. at a special buffet luncheon at 1:30 a.m. on Monday, August 10th at the Hyatt Regency in Tumon. Dr. Wayne will speak on "Positioning for Competitive Advantage." Lunch is \$20.00. Please RSVP by August 6, 1998 via fax 649-8883. For more information please call Robin Kennedy at 649-8814 or Jackie Schaefer at 649-0883.

### Georgetown University to Host Pacific Island Lecture Series

Georgetown University will present the Peter T. Coleman Lecture of Pacific Policy in early 1999. The Lecture Series is named after former Governor of American Samoa Peter T. Coleman who graduated from Georgetown's College and Law Center.

The series is the result of an agreement between Dean Robert Gallucci of the Georgetown University and the Council of Micronesian Chief Executives. Earlier this year Governor Carl Gutierrez approached the University asking them to assist in raising Pacific Island awareness among Washington-based politicians. Dean Robert Gallucci of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service stated, "The Pacific is a vast region whose significance is overlooked by mainstream policymakers. I embrace Governor Gutierrez' visionary initiative to raise the level of our awareness of the contributions and potential of the Pacific and its people."

## CNMI Guide goes on-line

ERAN MORE of the Takakunai Silver Gift Shop in Garapan in cooperation with a local economist has embarked on creating comprehensive internet web pages concerning a wide variety of subjects related to the NMI.

Presented in a non-commercial format, the data and information includes a virtual tour and island life, both pre-war and current, as well as links to the weather and a photo gallery, a news release said.

The history section and an series of 80 essays written by economist and military historical cartographer, Wil-

liam H. Stewart have been presented for use by students, potential investors, businesses, researchers and others interested in the islands and current issues.

The "CNMI Guide" is an extensive repository of information covering a wide variety of subjects related to the history, geography and economy of the Commonwealth.

It includes an index of businesses and activities as well as detailed facts of value to the potential visitor as well as those tourists currently "on island, new residents and those planning to

relocate to the Commonwealth.

The site presents information on investment opportunities, analyses of the tourism sector, World War II historical accounts and a wide variety of subjects concerning the area's population, labor force and social issues.

Lavishly illustrated with maps, sketches, photographs and maps, it is the "one stop" computer location for accurate information on the Northern Mariana Islands.

The site is located at [www.cnmi-guide.com](http://www.cnmi-guide.com)

## Bluesmen to help tsunami victims

By Maxine Hillary  
Variety News Staff

**HAGATNA**—Victims of the catastrophic tsunami that struck Papua New Guinea last month will be getting some help from some Guam-based musicians.

On Sunday, August 9th when the Micronesia Blues Society will present

"Blues for New Guinea," a fundraising concert with proceeds going to help survivors of the giant wave that swept away whole villages leaving thousands dead and at least six thousand people missing.

The tsunami was caused by an offshore earthquake. Ten villages on the northern coast of Papua New

Guinea were destroyed.

The Red Cross has sent aid; and governments and humanitarian organizations all over the world are responding with similar help.

Performing at the benefit concert will be Danny Perez and the Blues Scholars with special guests Tokyo

Continued on page 20

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

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

### How to list your event with Community Calendar

- Listings must pertain to events such as weddings, christenings, anniversaries, special observations or occasions, achievements of local residents and activities of non-political local organizations and groups.
- Information must be accompanied by all information concerning the event. I.e., names, dates, places, event title, etc. Also include phone numbers and contacts for additional information. Be as complete as possible.
- Photos must be accompanied by appropriate captions and identification of subjects in photos.

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

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



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## DPH girds for expansion

By Haidee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE DIVISION of Public Health is all eyes on the construction of new administrative and medical facilities following the Board of Public Land's (BPL) approval of its request for additional land area close to its vicinity.

Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez yesterday told reporters that they will be working this

week with the US Army Corps of engineers to look into the actual cost of building a new Public Health building and medical storage facility, among others.

He said that a master plan needs to be secured first to be able to determine where the whole construction is going, and to restructure the old facility.

"A master plan for public health facilities is also being worked out

which incorporates not only the public health facilities but also the expansion of the mental health facility, the transitional living quarters for Rota and Tinian referral patients and medical storage facility," Villagomez said.

He added that the whole piece of property which is just within its current vicinity will be another "campus" of the DPH.

Continued on page 19

## Chamorro language is still big in schools

By Maxine Hillary  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — There was a time on Guam when students were punished for speaking Chamorro in school and discouraged from speaking it at home.

As a generation of Chamorros grew up with little knowledge of their language, educators and legislators worried that their language and along with it, their culture might die out in favor of English and western culture. In 1977 Bill 14-53 was passed, requiring that Chamorro be taught in the grade schools. In the early 90s, the bill was amended to include middle and high schools.

On day one of the new academic year, school program consultant for Chamorro Studies, Antonia Castro talked about the importance of teaching the Chamorro language to kids from kindergarten all the way through high school.

"We are perpetuating our language and culture," she says. "We want our kids to be aware that we have a language and a culture of our own."

While some would argue that Chamorro shouldn't be required,

Guam's educational system makes student provisions for it.

Children from kindergarten through second grade study the language at least 20 minutes per day. Third, fourth and fifth graders have 30 minutes of instruction and middle and high school students take Chamorro classes usually for an hour each day.

Castro says the methods of effectively teaching the language vary according to the grade level. "We use anything from total physical modeling, where we would, for example, tell a child to sit down in Chamorro while we point to a chair to the whole language approach where we teach everything about an object using the language."

She cites the example of an apple. In the total language approach, a student would be shown an apple and then learn all about the apple, i.e., its color, texture, taste, etc. in Chamorro.

Chamorro language teachers also use stories and question/answer sessions to perpetuate the language.

"We have our own curriculum,"

Continued on page 19

# DPH gets epidemiologist

By Haidee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE DIVISION of Public Health now has an in-house epidemiologist, the first ever since the agency's inception.

Edward P. Diaz Jr., the first local epidemiologist in the CNMI, is now working under DPH's Health Planning and Statistics Office.

An epidemiologist is the one who determines the distribution and occurrences of diseases or health events in a specified area, through the application of scientific methods.

"A lot of people may disagree with us, but we're more of health detectives; that's what we are. We always investigate, we always ask why these diseases occur," Diaz told the Variety.

He added, "What we do is to recognize patterns of how diseases occur. The importance of this is that if we don't know the profile of the population, we don't know how to address certain diseases because we don't know the root of the problem. We're not just dealing with the symptoms of disease."

The 25-year-old Chamorro added



Edward P. Diaz Jr.

that through his job maybe a new field in CNMI but DPH have been using epidemiological methods ever since.

"It's a new discipline here, but I'm not saying that we haven't done it before. Our program managers apply epidemiological concepts to the work they do. I'm just here to formalize," he said.

He, however, pointed out that he is not trying to improve the DPH, but only to be an added resource to its pool of experts.

Diaz earned his Bachelor's De-

gree in Biology in Chaminade University of Honolulu. He attended the University of Hawaii-Manoa's College of Continuing Education and Community Service, before concen-

trating on Epidemiology at the same school.

He spent his internship at Hawaii's Department of Health as an epidemiology fieldworker. He also spent his

on-job training at the University of Hawaii's Cancer Research Center.

He said he came back to Saipan to serve his own community where his family and friends reside.

## Term limits on boards, commissions

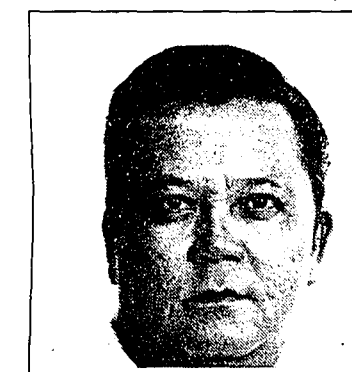
By Haidee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

IF HOUSE Bill 11-66 will have its way, then board and commission members will strictly be co-terminus with the governor who appointed them.

The bill, which is authored by Sen. Juan P. Tenorio, imposes term limits on all statutorily created boards and commissions.

It pointed out that the efficient and expeditious administration of public services requires harmonious relations between boards and commissions and the executive branch.

But such harmony, added the bill, is disrupted by members of boards and commissions ap-



Juan P. Tenorio

pointed by previous administrations to terms which carry over into newly-elected administrations.

"Such carry-over terms may

create unnecessary potential for conflicts on policy and other key elements of public administration between the new administration and one or more boards and commissions," said the bill.

The bill also said that the term for board, commission and authority members shall expire 60 days after inauguration of a new governor.

House Bill 11-66 also inserted a new subsection in the Constitution which says that a nominee to the board or commission will not have an authority to act in any capacity in the position for which he was nominated until confirmed by the Senate or House.



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## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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The Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport is looking for individuals for the following position:

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The minimum pay level is PL 22 or \$610.00 bi-weekly.

Applicants selected for this position must submit to and pass a urine drug test for controlled substances, in accordance with CPA's Drug & Alcohol Policy. Drug testing will be at the applicant's own expense. In addition, must pass a physical fitness test and a complete medical physical evaluation in accordance with CPA's Physical Fitness Policy and NFPA #1003 "Qualifications for Airport Fire Fighter."

Application forms are available at the Ports Police Office on the first floor of the Arrival Building or at the Administration Office on the second floor of the same building. Application forms must be accompanied by an updated police clearance. The deadline for submission of application is August 17, 1998 at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, please call 664-3500.

/s/Carlos H. Salas  
Executive Director

## 2 teeners nabbed in brawl

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

POLICE on Tuesday arrested two brawling teenagers for disturbing the peace, but failed to catch burglars who ran away with a cassette player.

Department of Public Safety (DPS) spokesperson Rose T. Ada yesterday said police officers arrested the two teenagers, aged 15 and 18, who were "slugging it out" at the lower MIHA in Garapan.

The two were then brought to the juvenile office.

As the incident occurred at 3 in the morning, the teenagers are also facing curfew violation charges.

In a separate incident, burglars broke into the abandoned office of Plaza Travel Agency at the JQV establishment in Garapan and took off with a cassette player.

A witness saw three male individuals entering the building and called the police.

When the responding police officers arrived, however, the suspects

had already fled the scene.

DPS is now asking the public for any information regarding the case.

DPS's phone number is 234-6333, while the Crime Stoppers' hotline is 234-7272.

No show in court  
Meanwhile, a man charged with beating up two men again failed to appear before the Superior Court hearing on his case.

A Koberville resident, Juan R. Ayuyu, 48, is accused of "unlawfully, purposefully, knowingly, or recklessly, strike, beat, wound, or otherwise cause bodily harm" Qisen Zhang and Jian Hua Lin.

Ayuyu, moreover, allegedly made an unauthorized entry upon the property of Qisen, "was lawfully advised to leave or desist and refused to promptly do so."

The hearing for the case was originally scheduled for July 7, but Ayuyu was not served the court summons.

Ayuyu also was not served for Monday's hearing.

## DPL looks at MITC proposal

By Louie C. Alonso  
Variety News Staff

PUBLIC Lands Director Bertha DeLeon Guerrero yesterday said her office is still "carefully looking into" the proposal submitted by a firm attempting to manage the Managaha Island.

The Managaha Island Trust Corporation (MITC) has been requesting the Division of Public Land (DPL) to grant them an exclusive authority over the island since the Tasi Tours' lease of contract is set to expire on September this year.

In a phone interview, Guerrero said the Board of Public Lands have the only right to approve and decide on what particular entities should be given the exclusive grant for the use of any public land like the island resort.

She also stressed the Managaha Island belongs to people of Northern Mariana descent.

"It is written in the CNMI Constitution that all CNMI public land are owned collectively by the NMI de-

scent people," Guerrero said.

Guerrero's remarks came after MITC passed a proposal, asking the DPL's approval for the use of the island.

MITC said they are planning to transform the island into a so-called "Micronesian Cultural Center."

Tasi Tours has been operating on the island over the past eight years now.

According to the firm's proposal, the exclusive authority given to Tasi Tours "destroyed all opportunities for locally owned water sports-oriented businesses to operate on the island."

As a result, said MITC, the local people are "discouraged and excluded from operating any businesses there."

However, Guerrero said that DPL is on the planning stage of getting other proposals from other entities and decide which among these groups has the best interest over the Managaha Island.

## Upi, Mount Sta. Rosa set to open by tomorrow

By Cristina Maquera  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — Upi Elementary and Mount Santa Rosa Elementary will be ready to open their doors to welcome students Friday.

Mike Napoli, principal of Mount Santa Rosa Elementary, said all the teachers have moved into their classrooms. The school is still waiting for more books, however.

"We have a very minimum amount of books," Napoli said. Other concerns are the playground, landscaping, and office supplies.

Mount Santa Rosa will have programs including Resource, Special Education, and GATE. The DEED program will be held at Upi Elementary.

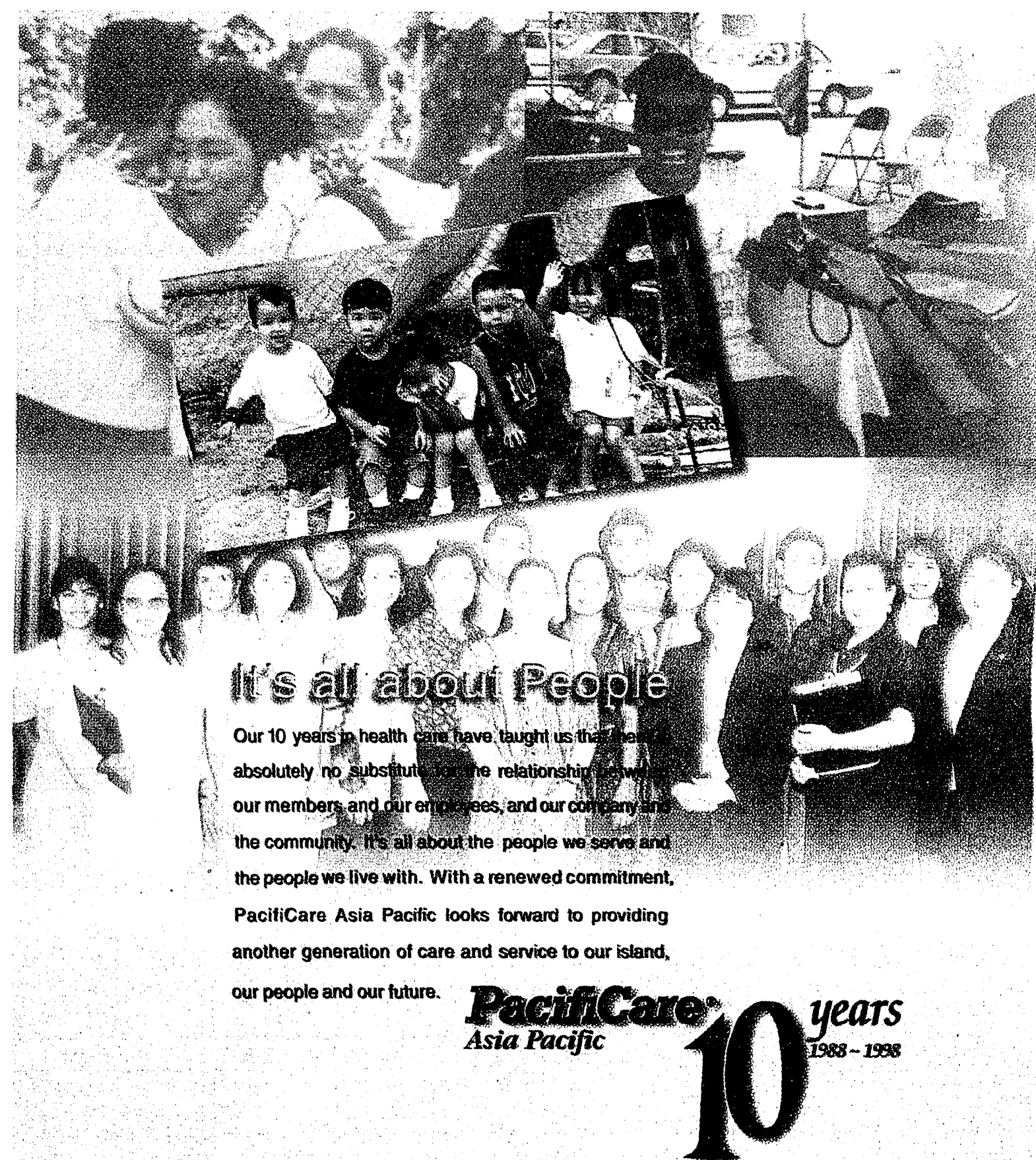
Napoli said he also "appreciates the support of those who helped."

The faculty, staff, and administration of Upi Elementary School are excited about their move into the new school.

According to Principal Emily Sanchez, all of the "teaching positions have been filled and... they have all the essentials."


Upi Elementary will have programs such as GATE, LOTE, DEED, and the Compact-Impact Program. The school is still awaiting the approval of the grant for the School Learning Improvement Plan.

Students from both Upi and Mount Santa Rosa can attend the DEED program, which is run from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. This is the school's first year to implement DEED.



# It's all about People

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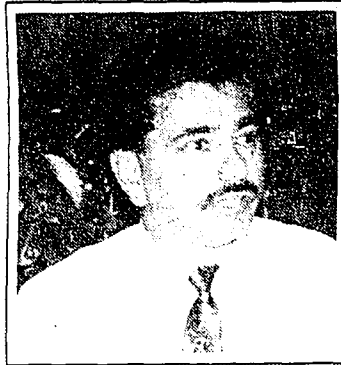


# 10 years

1988 - 1998



## Bellas: Gov't need not pay for legal fees of convicted cops



Timothy H. Bellas

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff  
SUPERIOR Court Associate Judge Timothy H. Bellas yesterday ruled that the two police officers convicted of beating up a burglary suspect can not ask the government to pay for their legal defense in the civil lawsuit filed by the burglary suspect in the federal District Court.

Bellas, however, said the government should pay for the legal defense of the three other police officers acquitted of the assault and battery and misconduct in public office charges.

Norbert Pua and Chris L. Guerrero could still ask the government to reimburse their legal fees if the Supreme Court reverses their conviction.

Pua filed an appeal to the Supreme Court recently.

The five police officers—Pua, Guerrero, Hillary Tagabuel, Jesse Seman and Joaquin Salas—asked the Superior Court last June to order the Department of Public Safety to

provide them with legal representations or pay for their defense in the civil lawsuit filed by Francis Eugenio, the burglary suspect.

Eugenio has sued former Public Safety commissioner Jose M. Castro, the CNMI government and the five police officers before the federal District Court.

Eugenio is demanding \$3 million in damages in connection with the beating incident.

The civil lawsuit was filed shortly after the Superior Court found Pua and Guerrero guilty of beating up Eugenio while in police custody.

The trial for this lawsuit is set early next year.

Eleven police officers were charged last January with assault and battery and misconduct in public office after Eugenio alleged that he was mauled by the police officers on Dec. 1, 1997.

The mauling incident occurred in the Criminal Investigation Bureau office where Eugenio was brought after being arrested for breaking into Wendy's Restaurant in the evening of Nov. 29, and seriously injuring a police officer who rushed to the restaurant after its alarm went off.

Eugenio claimed that the police officers assaulted him, sprayed him with mace, and forced him to eat a piece of paper.

In separate rulings, Bellas convicted Pua and Guerrero, and acquitted Salas, Seman, Tagabuel, Sgt. James DL Guerrero, Jason Tarkong, Jose Saures, Jesse Concepcion, Dr. Wain Stephen and Jack Camacho.

## SAES given 4 air-cons

By Louie C. Alonso  
Variety News Staff

SAN ANTONIO Elementary School received four brand new airconditioning units from Mariana Garment Manufacturing, Inc. and the United International Corporation yesterday.

SAES principal Doris Thompson presented the certificates of appreciation to MGM's manager William Fong, UIC president James Lin and Rep. David Apatang.

The ceremony was witnessed by SAES students, Rita Sablan of

Public School System and members of the media.

Thompson said the donations will be a big help to the students.

Good airconditioning according to her, influences the learning of the students.

She added, "When you visit the classroom where it is too hot, you will see that the kids are distracted by the heat. They are trying to keep cool in vain and at the same time, they are trying to pay attention to the teacher."

Some sixth grade students in SAES were having classes yes-

terday under the tree in SAES compound because of the hot classrooms.

Lin who donated two airconditioners said that doing social activities like this one is his responsibility to help the community.

"I am willing to help the community to the best of my capability. I am part of this village and the kids really need cool classrooms in this hot weather," Lin said.

Lin also sponsored the recent trip of all SAES teacher to China. Lin provided the airline ticket for the teacher who attended a conference in Beijing.

## Karidat prepares for next campout

KARIDAT and its Youth Development Program Office will be conducting its next Weekend Campout Program for interested CNMI male youths that are between the ages of 13 thru 17 from August 14-16 at a location within

Saipan yet to be determined.

If you are interested in taking part in this upcoming weekend campout, please contact the house of Manhoben at telephone 234-9026/7 during normal working hours starting yesterday, August

5th but no later than Monday, August 10th.

Due to the limited number of youths that can participate in the program at any one time, Karidat will accept applicants on a first-come-first serve basis.

## Guam Baha'is fear persecution

By Sara Grant  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA—The execution of an Iranian Baha'i last month by the Islamic government has caused fear among Guam's Baha'i community.

On July 21, Iranian authorities hanged Ruhollah Rowhani for allegedly converting a Muslim to the Baha'i faith.

Manoucher Sabeti, a Baha'i member originally from Iran, now residing on Guam, said he left his homeland

because of religious persecution.

"This execution happened in my home town of Mashad...it's very alarming."

Baha'i statistics state that more than 200 members in Iran have been executed since 1979, "solely on account of religion."

Secretary general for the Guam Baha'i Faith, Rose San Nicolas said Iranian Baha'is on Guam feel they are in great danger.

"They haven't been to their home-

land for many, many years because they are afraid of what will happen," she reported, "they are not allowed to proclaim their faith; they can only have small, private gatherings."

San Nicolas also said the parents of a Baha'i member who lives in Saipan were executed in the 1980's.

Baha'i students in Iran have been barred from universities since the early 1980's and recently from the fourth year of high school, which,

Continued on page 20

# RP stocks hit 5-yr low

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine stocks fell sharply today, with the main index closing at its lowest level in more than five years, a drop that traders said reflected continued concerns over domestic and regional economic crises.

The 30-share Philippine Stock Exchange Index fell 31.63 points, or 2 percent, to 1,511.44 — its lowest close since it hit 1,480.30 on April 2, 1993. The index dropped 64.54 points Monday.

On Jan. 9 this year, the index hit a low of 1,450 during the day, but closed back up at 1,518.

Today's lowest point was 1,496, but late buying reversed some of the losses.

The broader All Shares Index fell 8.69 points to 485.36, following Monday's 17-point decline.

Losers trounced gainers 80 to 13, with 34 issues unchanged.

Ramon Lucas, a trader for Kim Eng Securities, said that while there are concerns about the slowdown of the Philippine economy, "the biggest

concern remains the regional overhang."

Market participants are anxiously watching to see how effective the new government of Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi will be in implementing pledges to rev up the Japanese economy.

A further slowdown in Japan's economy could trigger another round of regional currency devaluations.

Compounding the regional concerns was the overnight decline of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which

fell 96.55 points to 8,786.74, following a 143.66-point decline Friday.

"Nothing new is happening; it's the same concern about regional economies," said Helen Alvarez, research director for All Asia Securities Corp.

The peso, meanwhile, weakened because of concerns over the Japanese yen, dealers said. The dollar averaged 42.128 pesos, up from 42.082 pesos on Monday. It reached a day-high of 42.175 pesos and was last traded at 42.155 pesos.

## Estrada urges use of Filipino language in official business



Joseph Estrada

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Joseph Estrada, who makes jokes about his own poor English, urged all public officials Tuesday to start using the Filipino language in official business.

"This is the language of our countrymen. This is the language

of our heroes and our ancestors. This is the language now of your president," Estrada said in Filipino during a visit to the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

Estrada, who took office June 30, said globalization should not be used as an excuse to suppress the use of the national language.

There are at least 70 languages spoken in the Philippines. Two are official: English and Filipino, a derivative of the language spoken by the Tagalog people in the Manila region. English is often used by officials in speeches and in government documents.

"I want our Cabinet officials to be fluent and excellent in speaking our national language not because I don't know how to speak English but because most of them

Continued on page 19

Effective August 1st

## Freedom Air

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
FLT NO.	*100	300	100	300	*100	300	*100
GUAM LV	8:00 AM	3:30 PM	8:00 AM	3:30 PM	8:00 AM	3:30 PM	8:00 AM
ROTA AR	8:30 AM	4:00 PM	8:30 AM	4:00 PM	8:30 AM	4:00 PM	8:30 AM
ROTA LV	8:50 AM	4:20 PM	8:50 AM	4:20 PM	8:50 AM	4:20 PM	8:50 AM
TINIAN LV	9:25 AM		9:25 AM		9:25 AM		9:25 AM
TINIAN AR	9:45 AM		9:45 AM		9:45 AM		9:45 AM
SAIPAN AR	10:00 AM	4:55 PM	10:00 AM	4:55 PM	10:00 AM	4:55 PM	10:00 AM
FLT NO.	200	*400	200	400	200	*400	200
SAIPAN LV	10:20 AM	5:15 PM	9:45 AM	5:15 PM	10:20 AM	5:15 PM	9:45 AM
TINIAN AR	5:30 PM		5:30 PM		5:30 PM		5:30 PM
TINIAN LV	5:50 PM		5:50 PM		5:50 PM		5:50 PM
ROTA AR	10:55 AM	6:20 PM	10:20 AM	5:50 PM	10:55 AM	6:20 PM	10:20 AM
ROTA LV	11:15 AM	6:40 PM	10:40 AM	6:10 PM	11:15 AM	6:40 PM	10:40 AM
GUAM AR	11:45 AM	7:10 PM	11:10 AM	6:40 PM	11:45 AM	7:10 PM	11:10 AM

DYNASTY HOTEL & CASINO  
CHARTER FLIGHTS

### Daily Flight Schedule

FLT NO.	101	103	105	107	109	111	113	115	117	119	121	123
SAIPAN LV	6:45 AM	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	8:40 AM	9:30 AM	10:45 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:00 PM	4:40 PM	5:00 PM
TINIAN AR	6:55 AM	7:40 AM	8:10 AM	8:50 AM	9:40 AM	6:10 PM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	2:40 PM	4:10 PM	4:50 PM	5:10 PM
FLT NO.	102	104	106	108	110	112	114	116	118	120	122	124
TINIAN LV	7:05 AM	7:50 AM	8:20 AM	9:00 PM	10:00 AM	11:05 AM	11:50 AM	1:30 PM	2:50 PM	6:10 PM	5:00 PM	5:30 PM
SAIPAN AR	7:15 AM	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	9:10 AM	10:10 AM	11:15 PM	12:00 AM	1:40 PM	1:40 PM	4:30 PM	5:10 PM	5:40 PM

Note: \* New Schedule

\*\*New Flight

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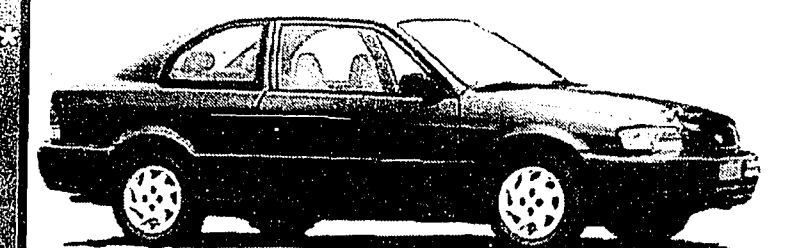
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## Mysterious disease afflicts kids in Niue

**ALOFI (Pacnews)**—Health authorities on Niue have still not positively identified an illness that is affecting local children and has caused the closure of the country's schools.

Health Department officials originally referred to the illness as having similar symptoms to rheumatic fever.

Niue Health Department authorities say they will now screen all children on the island between the ages of 12 and 15.

Niue's Director of Health, Dr. Louisa Wootton has confirmed that medical assistance is now being sought from New Zealand to positively identify the ailment.



Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation (MTC) is seeking a

### Section Supervisor General Accounting

Selected candidate will be responsible for managing MTC's general accounting functions to ensure timely and accurate completion of financial statements and supporting records, analytical statistics, and reports to regulatory bodies and taxing authorities. Implement financial systems controls and accounting standards in accordance with FASB and GTE requirements. Manage the preparations of annual strategic and operating budgets, and monthly reporting of budget variances. Also responsible for all cash management functions and compliance with debt covenants imposed by the Rural Utilities Service (a substantial creditor of MTC).

Bachelor's Degree in Finance/Accounting required. Five years of progressive management experience in telephony accounting, with two years in supervisory role. MBA/CPA preferred. Expertise in Finance/Accounting/Audit disciplines (five years experience). Thorough knowledge of GAAP and GTE Finance/Accounting practices. Excellent oral and written communications skills.

Human Resources Office  
Micronesian Telecommunications Corp.  
P.O. Box 306  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Phone: 670-234-6600  
Fax: 670-235-9559

MTC is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer  
Application or resume must be received by the Human Resource office on or before August 14, 1998.



Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation (MTC) is seeking an

### ACCOUNTANT

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Thorough knowledge of internal controls, thorough knowledge of cost controls. Familiarity with GAAP and GAAS. Good interpersonal and communication skills. Bachelor's degree in Accounting, 3-4 years of accounting experience with evidence of progressive levels of responsibility (public or internal audit experience highly desirable). CPA required.

Human Resources Office  
Micronesian Telecommunications Corp.  
P.O. Box 306  
Saipan, MP 96950  
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## Elsewhere in the Pacific Skate: No B'ville independence

**CANBERRA, Australia (AP)**—Papua New Guinea will never allow the troubled island of Bougainville to become independent, Prime Minister Bill Skate said Tuesday in a move that could threaten a delicate peace plan.

"Let me make it quite clear, the question of independence, that will never be given as long as I am the prime minister or as long as anyone who comes after me is

prime minister," Skate told the National Press Club during his Australian visit.

A 10-year civil war on the island ended this year with the signing of the Lincoln agreement in New Zealand between the Papua New Guinean government and Bougainville rebels. The conflict began in 1988 over control of the giant Panguna copper mine and claimed thousands of lives.

The peace accord did not rule out independence for the island at some stage, but Skate vowed never to allow the island to be freed from his country's rule.

"The Lincoln agreement is quite clear, there was nothing in that agreement that talks about independence," Skate said.

"And they know my view, I have made it quite clear when I visited Bougainville, that independence is non-negotiable."

Skate played a crucial role in ending the Bougainville conflict after he was elected prime minister in the wake of the Sandline affair, when the previous government, led by former prime minister Julius Chan, hired mercenaries



Bill Skate

to try to defeat the Bougainville rebels.

Earlier, Skate announced the formation of his country's first stock exchange and plans to wipe out his country's budget deficit.

"They've been talking about it for the last three years and today I just gave a direction - we are going to have a Papua New Guinea stock exchange," he said.

"We're going to put in professional people, it's going to be so transparent and that is going to give the right signal to the investors throughout the world."

## More resignations from Solomons government

**HONIARA (Pacnews)**—Two more ministers and a backbencher have resigned from the Solomon Islands government.

This comes after the resignation yesterday by sacked Solomon Islands finance minister Manasseh Sogavare, who accused the government of Prime Minister Bartholomew Ulufa'alu of cronyism and hypocrisy.

In letters addressed to the Prime Minister, today, Education and Human Resources Development Minister and Minister for Indigenous Business, Lester Saomasi, announced that

they would quit the government. Backbencher Johnson Koli also resigned.

Mr Saomasi had his ministerial commission withdrawn earlier this week, by Governor General, Sir Moses Pitakaka, on the advice of Prime Minister Ulufa'alu.

Mr Saomasi says Mr Ulufa'alu's action was a clear sign that the Prime Minister no longer had confidence in him as a minister.

This takes to five the number of ministers who have quit the Solomon Islands Alliance for Change Government.

## Islands will air concerns

**TARAWA (Pacnews)**—Small island states in the Pacific will be able to voice their concerns on environmental issues related to the Greenhouse Effect, via a radio documentary being produced by international environmentalists.

American freelance radio producer Elsie Fried and environmentalist Peter Kreysler of Germany have been gathering in-

terviews in the Pacific region for a radio programme to air in the U.S., Britain and Germany.

The programmes will be aired on the eve of the next World Climate Conference in Buenos Aires on November 25th this year.

The environmentalists say they will compile the program from interviews to be gathered in the Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Fiji, and Tonga.

## Sacked minister scores gov't

**HONIARA (Pacnews)**—The Solomon Islands former finance minister, Manasseh Sogavare says the government of Prime Minister Bartholomew Ulufa'alu is indecisive in dealing with major development projects.

In his letter of resignation from the Solomon Islands Alliance for Change government, Mr Sogavare said the Solomon Islands public is fully justified in its criticism that the government has done nothing for the

last eleven months.

He says many applications from many local and foreign investors to begin businesses, which do not require government funding are still awaiting approval - because of government bungling.

On issues of reform, Mr Sogavare says he is tired of government excuses such as restoration of credibility and debt servicing as reasons for delays in implementation of government policy.

## As Yangtze embankments collapse:

# China flood death toll surges

**By JOHN LEICESTER BEIJING (AP)**—Waterlogged levees along China's flood-swollen Yangtze River have started to collapse, wreaking death and destruction on a massive scale, state media said Tuesday.

Torrential rains in southwest Sichuan province also have triggered flooding that killed at least 20 people, pushing the known death toll from floods caused by unusually heavy and early summer rains this year to 1,288.

With a tropical storm and another flood tide expected, the threat mounted of further breaches along the already weakened levees that protect millions of people and rich farmland from the Yangtze, the world's third-longest river.

Main Yangtze dikes remain intact but secondary levees were breached in at least two counties and a city in central China's Hubei province, "causing huge loss of life and property," the official China Youth Daily reported.

The newspaper gave no casualty figures. But a human rights group said 150 soldiers and hundreds of villagers were swept away when a levee suddenly collapsed Saturday in Hubei's Jiayu County, about 70 kilometers (43 miles) upriver from the industrial center of Wuhan.

As of Monday, the bodies of nine soldiers had been recovered, the Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China said. The Hong Kong-based group said more than 1,000 people were believed missing.

Local officials have barred foreign journalists from visiting the worst flood areas, and state-controlled media tend to provide delayed or conflicting accounts and downplay casualties.



Soldiers hand each other sandbags to build a 300-meter levee in Nanchang in south China's Jiangxi province Monday. The threat of further floods loom the embankments of the Yangtze, the world's third-longest river, reportedly gave way. AP

The official newspaper Yangcheng Evening News said some 400 soldiers were swept away when the levee that had been protecting some 56,000 people in two towns collapsed. Soldiers and police pulled nearly 20,000 people from the water, the newspaper said.

In a bid to lower the Yangtze's waters, Hubei authorities abandoned 11 small dikes to divert floodwaters, Xinhua said. The strategy caused 400 million yuan (dls 48 million) in flood damage, but helped protect Wuhan city, it said.

More than 100,000 people

lost their homes when a levee burst in Anxiang, in neighboring Hunan province, on July 24, the state-run Xinhua News Agency said. Victims were living in tents, "without adequate food and drinking water," Xinhua said.

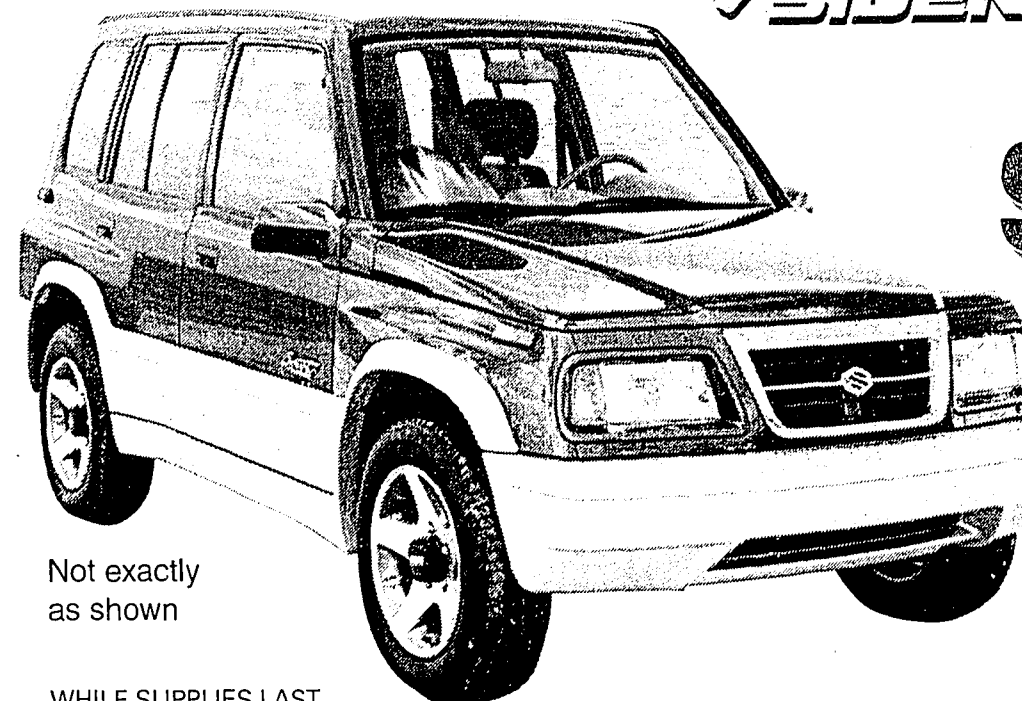
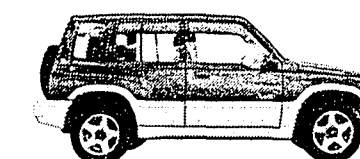
In all, the Yangtze was threatening to burst its embankments in 3,200 places, and 1,800 of these possible breaches were "major," Xinhua said.

"The flood control situation along the Yangtze remains extremely serious and will remain so for the foreseeable future," it reported.

Millions of soldiers and civilians have been manning the



More than a million soldiers, militiamen and reservists have been drafted into flood control efforts as flood levels on the Yangtze reached levels unseen in more than four decades. AP



Not exactly as shown

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## New \$20 bill out soon



The front and back of the newly designed \$20 bills which Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin announced Tuesday would begin being issued Sept. 24, 1998. The new \$20 note contains improved security features to deter counterfeiting. AP

## Man, 92, pleads guilty

**GRANTS PASS, Oregon (AP)** — A 92-year-old man who fatally shot his Alzheimer's-stricken wife rather than put her in a nursing home agreed Tuesday to a reduced homicide charge.

Henry Jeffrey, who is nearly blind, had faced a mandatory prison sentence of 25 years for murder or six to 10 years for manslaughter with no hope for early release.

Instead, he pleaded guilty to criminally negligent homicide. The charge falls outside mandatory sentencing guidelines and a judge has the option

of imposing probation only.

The judge set sentencing for Oct. 5. Jeffrey remains in custody at a nursing home.

Jeffrey was arrested two years ago after he shot his wife, Helen, once in the head while she slept. Sheriff's deputies found the 88-year-old woman dead in her bed.

She had spent four months in a nursing home to recuperate from a broken hip. After she went home, she began slipping into dementia and feared she would be institutionalized again, said Jeffrey's lawyer, Chris Mecca.

## Republicans mull strategy on skilled immigrant visas

**By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT WASHINGTON (AP)** — Republicans in Congress and technology executives are scrambling this week to salvage from a threatened presidential veto a bill to let 190,000 more high-skilled foreigners into the United States.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey pulled the bill from consideration last Friday when the White House warned of a possible veto after House Republicans quit wrangling among themselves over the issue.

The veto threat was "a slap in the face to America's high-tech industry," Andrew Weinstein, a spokesman for House Speaker Newt Gingrich, said Tuesday.

Gingrich met Monday evening with executives from Microsoft, Texas Instruments, Hewlett-Packard and Sun Microsystems and other organizations, urging them to intensify their lobbying on behalf of the bill.

The high-tech industry has been clamoring for an increase in the H-1B visa program, which is capped at 65,000 visas annually.



Dick Armey

The limit was hit in May, four months before the start of the new fiscal year. High-tech companies can't bring in any more foreign computer programmers until then.

"This is the highest priority item for our industry," said John Boidock, vice president of government relations for Texas Instruments. "Not reaching a conclusion in the very near future would be disastrous."

The Senate passed a bill in May to temporarily boost the visa program. But the drive ran aground

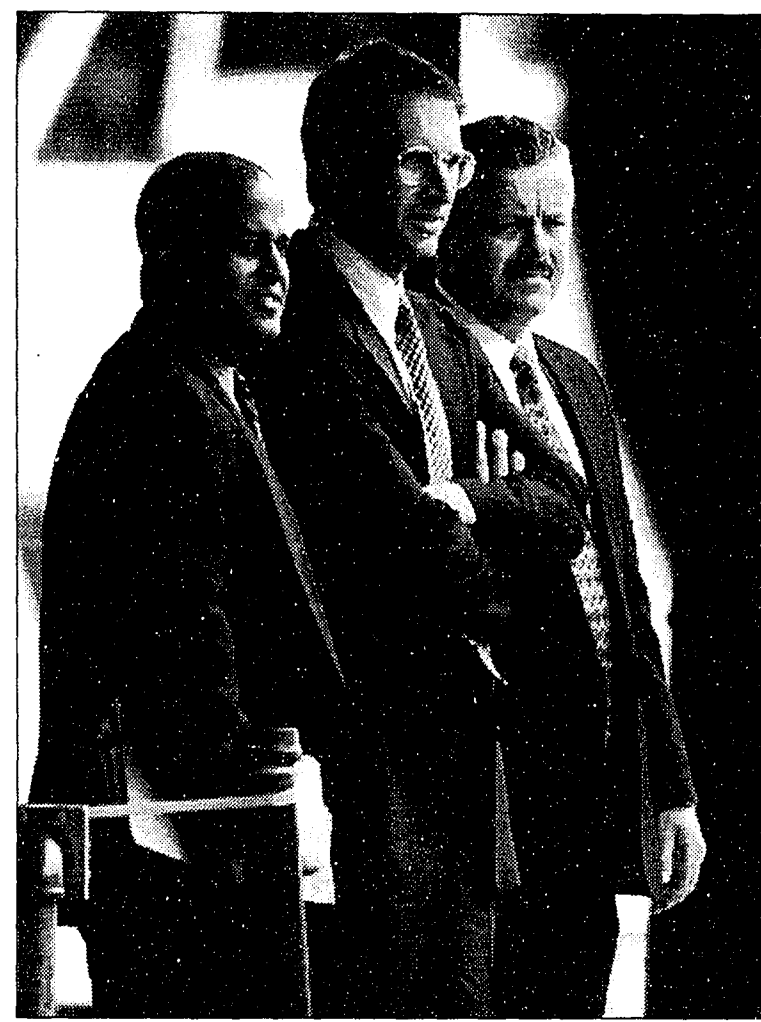
in the House amid concerns over no provisions in the bill to prevent companies from firing American workers so they could hire foreign ones at lower wages.

Mindful of White House concerns, GOP leaders crafted a compromise adding to the measure some worker protections and funds for training programs. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott tried to bring the compromise up Thursday but was blocked by Minority Leader Tom Daschle.

The Senate now is gone for August, but the House could still take up the compromise before it leaves town at week's end. Gingrich told the executives.

Industry officials are chafing at what they view as the administration's eleventh-hour opposition to the compromise. White House officials said they were presented the text of the bill less than a day before its scheduled House consideration.

Administration officials have proposed 15 changes and are still negotiating with the chairman of the Senate Judiciary immigration subcommittee.



Unidentified Secret Service agents leave federal court in Washington Tuesday where a grand jury is investigating an alleged affair between President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky. AP

## US governors fret over Asian crisis

**By RON FOURNIER MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Revenues are high. Unemployment is low.

Surpluses are a happy reality in most state budgets. Yet the nation's governors are worried that Asia's financial crisis will choke their economies.

"When will it hit us?" Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar asked Tuesday.

His question was the focus of discussion on the final day of a National Governors' Association conference, as the governors of U.S. states explored a potential dark lining in their otherwise bright economic outlooks.

The day's keynote speaker, Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers, said Asia's financial troubles are having "a very substantial impact" on all world economies.

"Make no mistake, containing these problems is crucial to our future," Summers said.

Governors whose states depend on exports to Asia should be most alarmed, Summers said. And he urged them to lobby Congress on behalf of the International Monetary Fund, which tries to rescue struggling economies.

"Our ultimate and continuing prosperity is embedded in the ultimate and continuing prosperity of the world," Summers said.

He told Edgar, a Republican, and other governors that Asia's troubles can be contained with help from outside the region. "There is no way it needs to pose a threat to the basic momentum" of the American economy, Summers said.

With few exceptions, Demo-

cratic and Republican governors alike are custodians of strong economies. Budget surpluses in 47 states allow governors and lawmakers to approve modest tax cuts or new spending programs — and often both.

Governors in 28 states are setting aside money in case the economy sours. In Michigan, Gov. John Engler, a Republican, has a \$1 billion "rainy day fund."

So why worry? History shows that state revenue cushions can be wiped away within months; surpluses disappeared from many state budgets between 1990 and 1991, NGA records show.

And if Asian customers stop buying goods from American businesses, state budgets will be impacted, governors said.

"Michigan is the nation's No. 4 exporter, so we have to pay attention to what's happening globally," Engler said. Some Michigan businesses are already feeling the pinch, he added.

North Dakota's unemployment rate is only 2 percent and all economic indicators are strong, yet Republican Gov. Edward Schafer says his administration recently lowered its projection for economic growth from 4 percent to 2.8 percent.

"Our economy is dependent on agriculture and oil, both of which are suffering from a low-price syndrome," said Schafer, whose state sells about 40 percent of its wheat overseas.

The U.S. government is seeking \$18 billion to replenish IMF coffers depleted by the need to assemble more than \$100 billion in rescue packages for troubled Asian countries.

## White House lawyer testifies after chief justice rejects plea

**By JOHN SOLOMON WASHINGTON (AP)** — Pressing their investigation into the circle of White House lawyers, prosecutors in the Monica Lewinsky case questioned one of President Bill Clinton's legal troubleshooters before a grand jury Tuesday after Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist refused to allow further delays.

White House special counsel Lanny Breuer spent several hours before the grand jury investigating an alleged presidential affair and coverup, but his appearance ended with another courtroom dispute that threatened to rekindle a battle over attorney-client privilege.

Breuer, White House lawyers and prosecutors from Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's office met behind closed doors

with U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson after the appearance.

Legal sources familiar said the White House might try a second time to seek emergency intervention from the U.S. Court of Appeals or Rehnquist to spare Breuer from answering questions they believe infringe on Clinton's right to confidential advice.

An affable and respected lawyer, Breuer arrived at the courthouse to a throng of reporters who asked his reaction about all the fuss his appearance had caused. "I'm honored," he quipped.

White House officials said Breuer was unlikely to possess much firsthand knowledge about Clinton's relationship with Ms. Lewinsky.

But his role in processing subpoenas, gathering documents and

contacting witnesses placed him in the middle of the president's damage control effort.

The White House is appealing those rulings to the Supreme Court. With those victories in hand, Starr subpoenaed Breuer to appear Tuesday while Lindsey recovers from back surgery.

The White House asked both the appeals court and Rehnquist to issue an emergency stay that would block any questioning of Lindsey or Breuer until the justices decide whether to take the case.

The White House made clear it fears that more of its lawyers, possibly even Counsel Charles Ruff, now will be summoned. "We anticipate that additional subpoenas will soon follow," it told the Supreme Court in a filing.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Due to a busy business period on Saturday, August 8th, Waterpark Passes will not be available for sale.

Thank you for your understanding.

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## EMPLOYMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

## HOUSE LEGAL COUNSEL

POSITION:

**DUTIES:** The House legal counsel drafts legislation, legal opinions, committee reports, house rules, and correspondence for the members of the CNMI House of Representatives and its committees. Advises the members and Committees on proposed legislation, parliamentary rules, and other legislative matters. Represents the House in litigation. Acts as parliamentarian. Reviews and drafts employment and other contracts of the legislative branch.

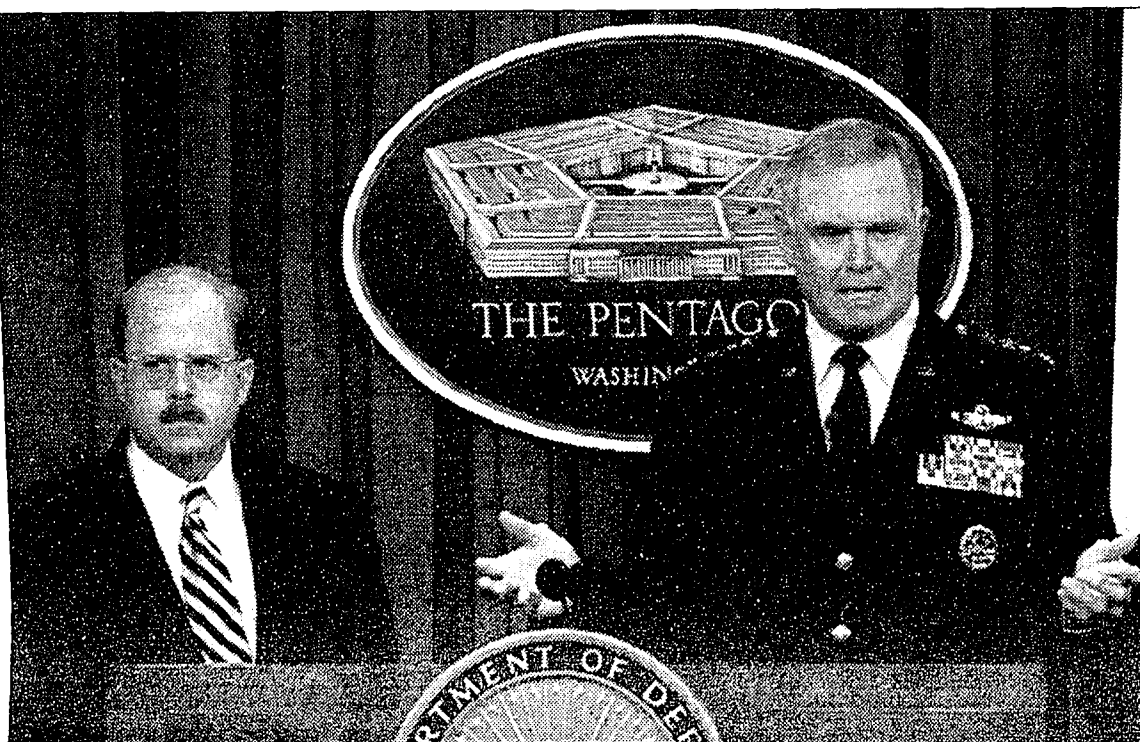
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Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan (right) accompanied by acting Air Force Secretary F. Whitten Peters, gestures during a Pentagon news conference Tuesday to discuss the revamping of the Air Force. The Air Force will revamp its fighter and support units into 10 combat-ready teams that will rotate responsibility for crisis around the globe. AP

## B.C. Indian tribe signs historic treaty

**NEW AIYANSH, British Columbia (AP)** — To the rhythm of drums and ancient songs, chiefs of the Nisga'a Indians neared the end of a century-old quest Tuesday by signing a treaty giving them land rights and self-government in their rugged mountain homeland.

Hundreds of Nisga'a in traditional robes and headdresses burst into cheers when the treaty was signed at a community hall. Their chiefs stood in triumph on the podium, along with top officials of the federal and British Columbia governments which had negotiated the treaty over the past 25 years.

The treaty must be approved within 90 days by a vote among the Nisga'a, then ratified by the federal Parliament and the British Columbia legislature. The

majority parties at both the federal and provincial level strongly support the treaty.

The Nisga'a chief negotiator, Joe Gosnell, told the crowd at the signing ceremony how Nisga'a leaders paddled by canoe to the provincial capital, Victoria, in 1887 to request a treaty. They were rebuffed, and the Nisga'a then endured "100 years of darkness," Gosnell said.

"Today, that has changed forever," he said. "Today we make history as we correct the mistakes of the past and send a signal of hope around the world."

It was an historic day not only for the 5,500 Nisga'a, but for all Indians in British Columbia. None of the other 50 Indian communities has obtained a treaty in this century, and the Nisga'a settlement is expected to serve as a

loose model for other deals.

The treaty gives the Nisga'a \$190 million (\$126 million U.S.) in cash over 15 years, plus title to 1,930 square kilometers (745 square miles) of land in the Nass Valley of northwestern British Columbia.

The Nisga'a, now plagued by an unemployment rate of about 60 percent, will get rights to resources on their land, including timber, minerals and fish. They will be able to pass their own laws and operate their own court system; in return they relinquish their tax-exempt status and agree to make no future claims.

British Columbia's two main opposition parties have demanded a province-wide referendum on the treaty, but Premier Glen Clark has rejected the appeal.

Feel like catching up this weekend?

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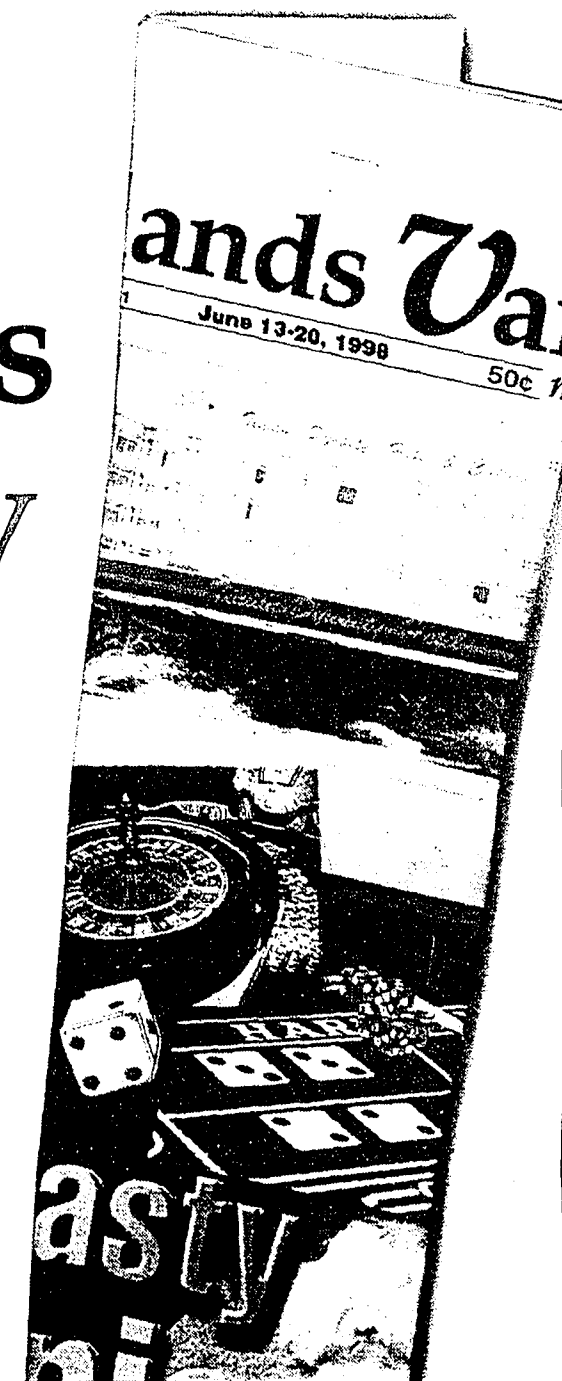
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# Israel Labor Party chief sees a collision with Arabs ahead

By BARRY SCHWEID

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton's national security adviser reaffirmed Tuesday the administration will keep pushing for a breakthrough in lagging peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians — and will speak out if the talks failed.

Sandy Berger, who helps formulate U.S. policy in the Middle East, made the statement in an unannounced meeting with Ehud Barak, leader of Israel's opposition Labor party and would-be prime minister. Berger "affirmed the U.S. will continue to push for a breakthrough," a senior U.S. official told The Associated Press.

"And if proves impossible, we are prepared to offer a public explanation."

Barak, who is critical of the tough line the Israeli government is taking, predicted disaster if peace talks with the Palestinians broke down.

"We can see through the fog that we are heading toward a collision," Barak told reporters as he mounted a campaign to get his party's conciliatory views across to the Clinton administration and the American public. "We are trying to warn against it."



Visiting Romanian Prime Minister Radu Vasile (right) holds hands with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat as they walk to Arafat's office in Ramallah Tuesday. Vasile is on a 4-day visit to Israel and the Palestinian Authority. AP

Here with several top advisers, Barak told reporters that the Israeli government was shortsighted in focusing its security concerns on a slice of the West Bank.

"I do not see what can be gained by cornering (Yasser) Arafat beyond a certain point," the former general said. The negotiations are in near-dead-

lock. Israel is refusing to relinquish another 13 percent of the West Bank but has signaled its willingness to give up 9 percent.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says yielding more would jeopardize Israel's security. He is also demanding tougher counterterrorism measures by the Palestinian Authority.

But Barak, describing the Palestinians as the weakest militarily of Israel's Arab neighbors, said Iran and Islamic fundamentalists posed the gravest threat to Israel. Reaching a compromise agreement with the Palestinian Authority would make it harder for Iran and Iraq to use the dispute as leverage against Israel.

The Labor Party leader began his visit Monday, meeting with members of Congress and with Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk. He told reporters at breakfast Tuesday that he was not calling for U.S. pressure on Israel to agree to terms with the Palestinians.

But if the negotiations collapsed, Barak said, he would expect the administration to make a public statement on its views to the American public and the people in the Middle East.

Other options also are under con-

sideration, State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said.

Before the direct talks, State Department officials hinted at suspending U.S. mediation of the talks failed.

But Rubin backed off Tuesday. "Remember," he said, "our goal here is to do what we can to try to bring the peace process back on track, to determine whether there is a basis for a breakthrough that we have been working hard on for some weeks and months now."

The Clinton administration has urged Israel to offer specific proposals. Netanyahu said Tuesday his negotiators had done so and that he hoped the Palestinians would consider them and continue talking.

Palestinian negotiator Hassan Asfour said Israel had offered to withdraw from 10 percent of the West Bank and turn another 3 percent into a nature reserve where Israel would retain overall security control and the Palestinians would be forbidden to build.

"This is rejected by the Palestinians," Asfour said. "Our position is clear: We were presented with an American proposal in March, and that is what we stand by."

## Palestinians reject Israeli pullout plan

By SAMAR ASSAD

JERUSALEM (AP) — Palestinian negotiators rejected an Israeli pullout plan that would make part of the West Bank a restricted "nature reserve," leaving it unclear Tuesday whether the sputtering peace talks would go on.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat and Israeli envoy Yitzhak Molcho met for several hours Monday night in Jerusalem but did not speak to reporters afterward. Erekat briefed Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat on the talks late Monday night.

Israeli news reports said Israel was waiting for a Palestinian response to proposals made at the meeting.

Israel and the Palestinians returned to the negotiating table two weeks ago, after months of stalemate during which the United States failed to win Israeli backing for a proposal to turn over an additional 13 percent of the West Bank to Palestinian control.

Palestinian negotiator Hassan Asfour told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Israel had proposed that 3 of the 13 percent be land in the Judean Desert classified as a "nature reserve," over which Israel would retain overall security control.

"This is rejected by the Palestinians," Asfour said. "Our position is clear: We were presented with an American proposal in March, and that is what we stand by."

## Chamorro

Continued from page 10

Castro offers. "We teach our students anything from salutations, family members, the names of foods, animals — it's easier to do it that way for the very young children."

Most Chamorro parents see the value of requiring that Chamorro be taught in the schools but some off-

islanders do not.

Chamorro is not a widely spoken language outside of Guam and the Marianas and some people would prefer that it be offered as an elective or eliminated in certain grades all together.

Castro holds that it isn't just language that is conveyed in Chamorro classes. Culture is a big part of the curriculum.

"We explain to parents that object

that this is our island and this is our language and our culture. We want to show them what we have here," Castro contends. "We try to make it as fun as possible."

Indeed, field trips to the beach, the local zoo and other areas provide back up for classroom instruction.

Students are exposed to artifacts and shown pictures and other resources to illustrate the connection between the culture and language.

start as soon as the federal grants and matching fund requirements are already met.

He added that the first year will probably be more on architectural and engineering works.

"You'll probably be seeing actual construction on the second year. But the work will start as soon as the CIP has been approved," he said.

federal grants.

"The bulk of that will come from the capital improvement project (CIP) fund and the Community Development Block Grant, a federal grant administered through the Mariana Island Housing Authority," Villagomez said.

The health chief remarked that the construction of the new facilities will

teams will meet on Saipan beginning September 16 until September 18. "These dates provide you with additional time to respond to the questions I have raised in this letter so that our meetings can be maximally productive," he said.

Cohen mentioned that the issue of

"is designed to be a temporary measure and is not well-suited to be a long-term solution."

It is believed that government enacted the moratorium law allegedly to appease the federal government.

However, Ayuyou said Insular Affairs Director Allen Stayman "did not even know" about it.

United States for emergency medical transportation. For example, their unique ability to take patients directly from accident scenes to hospitals is a critical link in modern medical care. Cunningham stated that "Macaw is proud to have introduced this modern, life-saving service to the Commonwealth."

operating in a continuing resolution. Tenorio has expressed optimism that with the new MVA board, tourism industry in the CNMI will improve.

"The new board members have different ideas as to the type of promotion they like to see here in the CNMI to entice people from other countries to visit us," he said.

required to report to the Commonwealth Health Center for possible alcohol counseling.

Steinborn, who represented the government in the case, said Nekaifas, in the evening of May 31, was seen entering the rear door of Triple J office in Gualo Rai and afterwards breaking into a van parked outside the nearby office of Hongkong Entertainment (Overseas) Entertainment.

Responding police officers nabbed Nekaifas, who was drunk.

He had several golf balls in his pocket that were taken from the van.

Nekaifas was ordered by Bellas to pay restitution to the van owner in the amount to be determined by the Probation Office.

pending settlement negotiations by assigning a subordinate the responsibility and full authority over the transaction, including the settlement," LaMotte stated in the advisory opinion.

LaMotte said OPA did not find evidence to show that Kara "in any way became involved in the negotiations gave advice or received information concerning the matter, or otherwise acted improperly."

## Date set ...

Continued from page 3

tackle enforcement of federal laws in the CNMI by the federal government or through joint effort with the CNMI. The US and CNMI negotiating

## Too many ...

Continued from page 3

our business people may want.

"So if a new business comes in here that will employ a lot of people, that will contribute to the general revenue of our government and in the end, improve the livelihood of our people,

## Air Ambulance ...

Continued from page 3

"an airplane would not have done the trick. This was an example of the life-saving power of helicopters in the air ambulance role."

A handful of hours later, Macaw returned to Rota and picked up a Ms.

we have no reason why we should subject that opportunity to a moratorium," said Ayuyou.

Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan, in March this year, signed House Bill 11-163 into Public Law 11-6.

In doing so however, he urged the Legislature to enact a "more workable" hiring moratorium. He insisted that the moratorium

Lucia C. Barcinas, She, too, was flown to Saipan for treatment at Saipan's CHC.

"We called CHC and so far she's doing well," said Cunningham. "We're all wishing her the best, and we're glad we could help her in her hour of need."

Helicopters are widely used in the

## Teno assures ...

Continued from page 3

posals.

Tenorio in an interview said for sure MVA will get revenue as the agency is guaranteed a 70 percent of the room tax (hotel occupancy) and container tax.

The governor said after the MVA is fully organized, the board will come up with a proposed budget and submit it to the administration and Legislature for approval.

Aware that the MVA needs funding for the "Visit the Marianas" program that will kick off next month, Tenorio said, MVA still have money available for the promotion as it is

\$110,000 in fines.

Steinborn said another suspect in a similar case went to China and has not returned.

In another Superior Court hearing, a man accused of burglary and resisting arrest changed his not guilty plea in return for a suspended jail sentence.

Antonio W. Nekaifas, 22, yesterday pleaded guilty to the charges.

Under the plea agreement, Nekaifas is sentenced to six years for burglary and resisting arrest, all of which are suspended except for 60 days.

Nekaifas is also placed on a five year active probation and is

## OPA clears ...

Continued from page 3

Marianas Visitors Bureau.

Mailman represented I&S during the settlement negotiations, which yielded a compensation agreement between AGO and the Japanese advertising agency.

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio announced Kara's appointment on

July 2 while the negotiation was nearing conclusion.

In clearing Kara, Public Auditor Leo LaMotte noted her decision to delegate the authority to settle the matter to her subordinate.

"We feel that the [acting attorney general] made a prompt and responsible decision of putting the I&S matter outside [her] influence and control during the

## Estrada ...

Continued from page 13

don't know how to speak Filipino," he said. "How will they talk to ordinary citizens if they speak English? They should lead by example."

Estrada said countries such as South Korea, China and Japan use their native language despite their knowledge of English.

He said he will change the use of English in official business and urged officials to use Filipino from now on.

"Now even interpreters will have jobs," he added.

## Emotions ...

Continued from page 1

crowd but was instead, pushed into the podium by an unidentified man who grabbed her by the back of her shirt in an apparent attempt to hit her.

As the scuffle intensified, members of the Guam Police Department's (GPD) Highway Patrol officers, along with a number of military volunteers and the Military Police moved in to pacify the crowd.

The fighting subsided but the exchange of words went on how-ever.

An unidentified man at the back of the crowd assisted in getting mourners who were in support of the proposition to hold the religious ceremony today to leave.

KAG and KAL officials refused to comment on the incident.

Won-Kyun's proposal was meant to observe a Korean tradition requiring the religious ceremony to be performed on the exact day of the year following the death.

The crash, it will be recalled, occurred at 1:42 a.m. of August 6, 1997. Yesterday's ceremony was

a day early.

The memorial has been shrouded with controversy, one of which is whether the Navy will allow entry to the area where the new memorial now sits, since it holds title to the easement.

The Navy has not commented on the matter.

But Navy spokesman, Lt. Nick Balice, stated they "certainly will provide an opportunity to come here on the 6th (of August)."

He said the Navy is very sympathetic to the situation. "We have frequently and in the past made the site available to family members to pay their respects when they come on island."

Lt. Balice said the Navy will allow access to the site today but will not participate in the event.

The ceremony was supposed to be done in two parts.

The first involves the actual unveiling and dedication of the memorial, followed by a break for family members to reflect and to mourn.

The second was intended to be a religious ceremony where friends and kin of those who died will be given time to pray for all of those who lost their lives, as well as those who had survived.

## 8-hour ...

Continued from page 1

A few more power poles, she said, will have to be erected and brand new high voltage wires will be installed in Sadog Tasi by the end of this month.

"As linemen string the new high voltage wires, they will be working adjacent to the existing energized lines," said Mathis.

This, according to her, will cause CUC to cut the power supply while its crew finishes the project.

The utilities agency, Mathis said, estimates that the power will be turned off "three to four times" between today and the end of the month.

Power will be out from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Affected areas in today's outage will be that portion of the island from Vestcor in Sadog Tasi to the Sablan Rock Quarry housing facility.

The Flame Tree apartments, "barracks" on Capitol Hill road, the Sablan Aldan property and the Prince Hotel will not have power from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

On next Thursday, Mathis added, power will likewise be out from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm in the entire Sadog Tasi area from Vestcor, Mizutani, Sablan, Arriola and Tudela off to the quarry road and down to the Mobil gas station.

Meantime, Mathis said the scheduled power outage on Saturday has been canceled as the necessary equipment for another ongoing project has not arrived on island.

## TENTH ANNIVERSARY ROSARY

In loving memory of the late

## VICENTE SANTOS SABLAN

*of San Antonio, Saipan*

We, the family would like to invite our relatives and friends to join us in nine days of Holy Mass as we commemorate the Tenth anniversary of passage into eternal life of our beloved.

The following Masses are offered for the repose of his soul:

August 8, 1998	Saturday	6:00 a.m.	Mount Carmel Cathedral
August 9, 1998	Sunday	8:00 a.m.	San Antonio Church
August 10, 1998	Monday	6:00 a.m.	Mount Carmel Cathedral
August 11, 1998	Tuesday	6:00 a.m.	Mount Carmel Cathedral
August 12, 1998	Wednesday	6:00 a.m.	Mount Carmel Cathedral
August 13, 1998	Thursday	6:00 a.m.	Mount Carmel Cathedral
August 14, 1998	Friday	6:00 a.m.	Mount Carmel Cathedral
August 15, 1998	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	San Antonio Church
August 16, 1998	Sunday	8:00 a.m.	San Antonio Church

Dinner will be served immediately after the Holy Mass on Saturday, August 15, 1998. Kindly join us.

Maria Muña Sablan, Children and Family



Palestinian women in Gaza demonstrate in front of the Red Cross office for the release of Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails Monday. AP

## Fifth Anniversary Rosary

The family of the late  
**Francisco Santos Borja**

cordially invites our friends and relatives to join us in prayers as we commemorate the "Fifth Anniversary" into his eternal home with God.

Nightly Rosary will be held at the family's residence in As Teo, Santa Lourdes, at 7:00 P.M. beginning Wednesday, July 29, 1998 until Thursday, Aug. 6, 1998. On the last day, there will be a final rosary at 12:00 noon.

Daily mass of intention will be offered at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00 A.M. until the final day at 5:00 P.M. at Santa Soledad Mission in Kagman.

Dinner to follow at the family's residence. Kindly join us.

**Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Maase  
Ginen i Familia**





## Lack of . . .

Continued from page 3

\$1 million in designing a sanitary landfill system that will not work because it was "incomplete" and did not pass federal standards.

"It doesn't take a scientist to figure out how to solve it. Let's not spend another one million to solve it. Let's just do it," said Ayuyu.

It will be recalled that Timothy Villagomez, executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. (CUC) who forms part of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's task force on solid waste management, at a recent press conference, said the task force, in its "infancy stage" late February this year, found out that the design prepared by the Department of Public Works (DPW) during the previous administration "was not capable of

opening a new landfill in Marpi" as supposedly planned.

He said the work required "a lot more work than was anticipated."

Villagomez said the previous administration allegedly spent between \$400,000 and \$500,000 for the design.

"But there's a lot of things that was associated with it. Altogether, it was close to a million dollars that was expended in the last administration," Villagomez said.

"The design is incomplete for us to open a new landfill," he added.

The Commonwealth, according to Villagomez, may face another citation from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) over concerns about the Puerto Rico dump.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), following a "verbal agree-

ment" reached with DPW has, since August last year, started dumping dredging materials at the dumpsite.

The move was supposed to address problems on dump fire incidents and sanitation.

The mounting dredging material has, however, posed new hazards in that it could, according to Villagomez, cause mud slides "maybe inland or out into the ocean" when the rainy season sets.

"The amount of dredging material, in addition to the daily trash that have been dumped over Puerto Rico is too excessive right now. (It is) uncontrolled," Villagomez has said.

The Commonwealth is now officially entering the typhoon season and concerns are being raised among various sectors regarding the possibility of mud slides caused by the dredging materials.

## Guam . . .

Continued from page 12

according to a report from the Guam Baha'i office, "limits economic opportunities and impoverishes the community."

The Baha'i Faith is an independent world religion which originated in Iran in the 1840's. Its members are now accused of being "tools of world Zionism" by Islamic fundamental-

ists.

A release from The U.S. State Department says that currently 15 Baha'is are imprisoned, "seven of whom are sentenced to death."

The Guam Baha'i report states that Iran's justification for the persecution is because "Moslems generally believe that Mohammed is 'the seal of prophesy' and that there can be no revelation after Islam."

Sabeti said the executions have

happened sporadically.

"Although there has been much effort by several governments who have condemned the persecution, it continues to go on."

Sabeti moved to Texas in 1976 and later came to Guam because he found it similar to his homeland.

"It's difficult for other Baha'is around the world to understand because they have so much freedom. The only thing we can do is to pray for those in Iran."

## Saddam . . .

Continued from page 2

dence," Butler said after flying into Bahrain en route to New York. "After I said that to him, Aziz replied, 'Then we can't talk any further.'"

Butler said he would brief the U.N. Security Council about the impasse on Thursday.

Butler's political adviser, Gustavo Zlauev, said Aziz also refused to accept a proposal to speed up the pace of weapons inspections. "The talks were getting nowhere," he said.

Zlauev said much more work must be done to get a clearer picture of Iraq's weapons capability.

Until U.N. inspectors certify that Iraq is free of weapons of mass destruction, the U.N. Security Council will not lift economic sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, which led to the Gulf War.

In Washington, White House spokesman P.J. Crowley said Saddam should not hope for an end to the sanctions until Iraq complies with its obligations.

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said Saddam had "shot himself in the foot" by mishandling a chance

to end economic sanctions. "Iraq has only harmed itself," Rubin said.

Iraq's latest stand threatens to bring to a halt the U.N. commission's seven-year search for the illegal weapons, a mission often disrupted by confrontations between Iraqi and U.N. officials.

In New York, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said the next step could be determined only after Butler's report to the Security Council.

Iraq's charge d'affaires at the United Nations, Said Hasan, said it would be impossible to follow the proposed accelerated schedule now that talks have broken down.

## Dow . . .

Continued from page 2

dex of Leading Economic Indicators slipped in June for the second straight month. The lengthy General Motors strikes got most of the blame and economists said it was too early to warn of a

recession in the months ahead.

But perhaps even more threatening than the economic backdrop, has been an apparent shift in market sentiment. While bargain hunters have helped cushion every slide over the past few years, any hint of a rebound during the past few days

has quickly evaporated.

"It's a little early to tell, but it seems as though what we're seeing is a change in psychology from buying the dips to selling the rallies," said Richard A. Dickson, a technical analyst at Scott and Stringfellow Inc. in Richmond, Virginia.

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## Veto . . .

Continued from page 1

correct the problems," he stressed.

The Senate passed the controversial bill last week.

Tenorio said enacting the bill into law is supposedly in the best interest of the CNMI government, nonresident workers and their employers.

The proposed three-year limit will apply to all nonresident workers in the CNMI, except for those holding professional or executive positions earning an annual salary of more than \$30,000.

The bill defined professional as those who are receiving more than \$30,000 in annual compensation;

those who are in fields requiring advanced training or original or creative work which is artistic; and those who are engaged in teaching, dental, medical, nursing and other medical professions.

Under the bill, a nonresident worker will not be permitted to remain in the CNMI for more than three consecutive years without leaving the Commonwealth and remain off island until such time the worker has secured employment in the islands.

Tenorio said reports on the number of nonresident workers outnumbering the indigenous population without benefits and legislative representation prompted him to introduce the bill.

## Aldan . . .

Continued from page 1

administration came in and some reorganizations are done. And it is unfortunate because in the meantime, we are not as visible as we should be where we should be," Pierce said.

Pierce stated that because of politics and controversies here, Guam, which has a pro-active tourism industry, is taking advantage of the situation.

On the other hand, Pierce said, she is in favor of hiring a new advertising firm to promote the CNMI in Japan after the botched promotions deal with Japan-based I&S Advertising Corp.

Granted that there are other

forces beyond what I & S advertising agency can do, she said, the firm could have done a lot more to be effective.

"I think if they (I & S) have embraced the private sector, the people who know what we needed to do and how we needed to do...at least get input from us, then they could have been more effective," Pierce said.

Although the members of the board all come from the private sector, Pierce added, people must not expect them to have "some kind of a miracle pill" for the problem.

"There are problems beyond our control...all we have to do is make sure that we are out there promoting the islands because that is our job," she said.

## Tenorio . . .

Continued from page 1

couraging more foreign investors to come in and at the same time allow the money to circulate within the local economy," Tenorio said.

He added that even when House Bill 11-131 virtually scraps the \$100,000 cash security deposit requirement, foreign investors will still have to come up with a financial bonding or letter of credit from banking institutions.

"It is acceptable because I also would like to see that the \$100,000 be used by the investors to improve their merchandising or services or infuse it within the local economy," he pointed out.

HB 11-131 which seeks to institute flexibility on the 100,000 cash deposit requirement among foreign investors comes as a relief to the business community.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Joe C. Ayuyu said the passage of the legislation is a good news for the CNMI business community.

"We need to encourage the Senate to pass the legislation and the governor to sign it into law. We have long been waiting for that," Ayuyu said.

House commerce and tourism committee chair Rep. Oscar Babauta said

the bill, when signed into law, will allow foreign investors to just secure a letter of credit from any banking institution in the Commonwealth.

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

Under the legislation, foreign investors may also be allowed to use a pre-paid aggregated amount equivalent to \$100,000 on any lease of property.

As it is, the money may instead be infused into the local economy instead of having it sit idly in a financial institution.

The bill also proposes the provision of a bond on the leasehold of the property and other assets of the investors in the Northern Marianas.

Babauta also raised hopes the flexibility measures instituted on the \$100,000 deposit requirement will encourage more foreign investments into the CNMI, adding that most of CNMI's foreign investors lease private properties.

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

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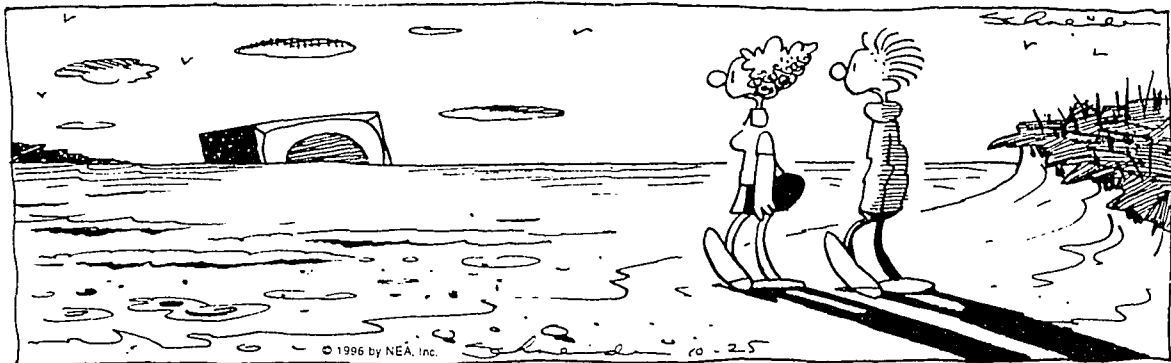
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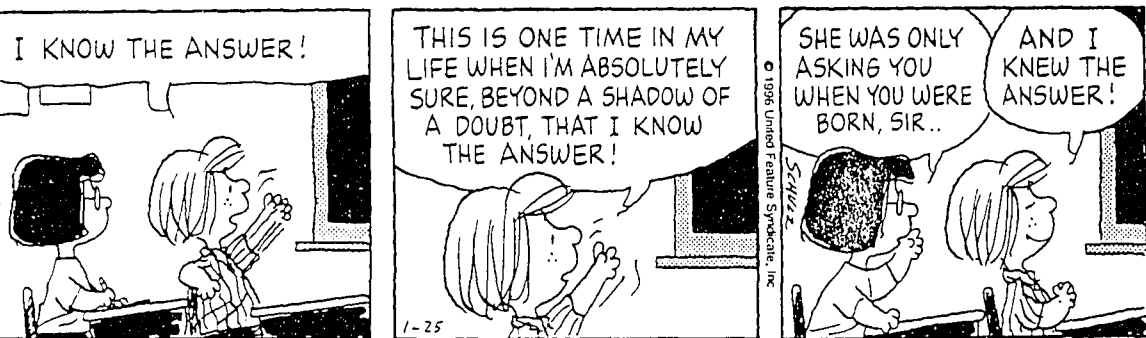
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STELLA WILDER

## YOUR BIRTHDAY

## THURSDAY

BORN today, you should be able to take advantage of all your many talents — provided you don't let yourself become emotional when a rational approach is required. Unlike many born under your sign, you become vulnerable when your head and heart are imbalanced. You must always strive to keep things in line, maintaining a proper perspective even when things are difficult. You enjoy improvisation, but it can be dangerous for you.

You aren't afraid of making mistakes, but you don't look forward to them, either. Adept at rising to challenges resulting from minor errors, you can turn defeat into victory with a minimum of effort.

Also born on this date are: Lucille Ball, actress; Alfred Lord Tennyson, poet; Peter Bonerz, actor and director; Freddie Laker, airline executive.

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

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — There's much for you to accomplish at this time. Have your priorities in order, and be willing to uphold them.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Explore something new and exciting with an old friend, or someone who may become more than a friend in the near future.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — Be ready to put up with external influences today, and attempt to derive more strength than usual from within.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — You can accelerate the healing process today, recovering from a recent emotional injury without any sign that something was wrong.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — You may be under someone's thumb throughout most of the day, but you'll eventually get the chance to express yourself.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Don't expect to have much time to yourself today. Duty calls, and you're not about to disappoint

those who count on you.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Personal affairs are highlighted today, and you'll benefit from renewed enthusiasm. Luck is on the rise.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Take care not to say the wrong thing at the wrong time today. Guard against making thoughtless errors.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — You'll feel stronger influences than usual today from parents, friends, and partners. You may be tempted to go it alone.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — Take advantage of information at your fingertips today, and you'll make a mark that others will notice.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Depend on those around you today to come through with the bits and pieces you need to make decisions others are counting on.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — Minor adjustments are necessary before you reveal a new plan today. Those who listen have the power to support you in many ways.



AIMING TO GET A NEW JOB? GIVE THE CLASSIFIED ADS A SHOT!



## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

## ACROSS

- 1 Wash cycle
- 5 Ham or salami
- 9 Pro —
- 12 Ending with six
- 13 Data
- 14 Call — day
- 15 Actress —
- 17 26th pres.
- 18 Participated in a marathon
- 19 Edges
- 21 Fluff the hair
- 23 Not temporary (2 wds.)
- 27 — est
- 28 Confused (2 wds.)
- 29 Ms. Thurman
- 31 — roll
- 34 Calcium symbol
- 35 Genetic material (abbr.)
- 37 DC VIP

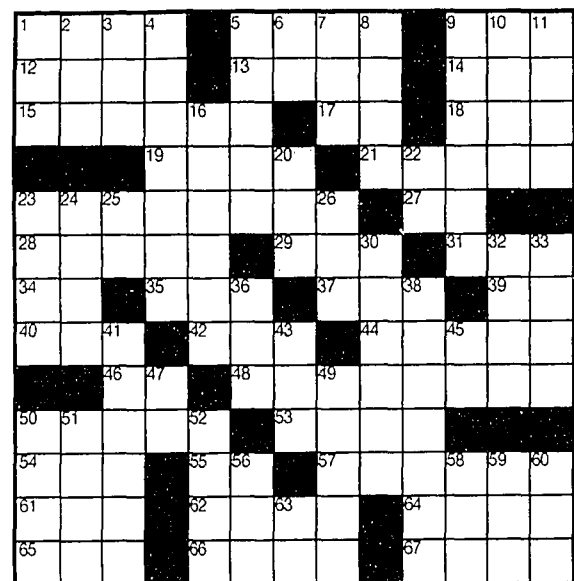
## DOWN

- 39 Negative prefix
- 40 Article
- 42 — Sumac
- 44 Actress
- 46 Hebrew
- 48 Introduction
- 50 Fabulist
- 53 — — — tat
- 54 Asian holiday
- 55 Word of surprise
- 57 Boston team (2 wds.)
- 61 Native metal
- 62 Muni or Anka
- 64 New Rochelle, N.Y. college
- 65 — favor
- 66 Perches
- 67 Coagulate

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

STIRS BERRA  
THROWN CUSTER  
AA CAESARS ER  
FLO GOOFY UFO  
FIRM NIT ANEW  
AVOW LARGER  
ISIT NINA  
SLEZAK GERE  
HALS LAB STAT  
ENE ACRES HGW  
NT EMULATE LE  
RANSOM TOUPEE  
ISLES WRIST

2-12 © 1998 United Feature Syndicate



- 11 Lion's pride
- 16 Prayer
- 20 Dallas, Texas
- 22 Vowel sequence
- 23 As a matter of —
- 24 — Jazz
- 25 Swit ID
- 26 Printer's measures
- 32 Charge with gas
- 33 — club
- 36 Current unit
- 38 Homeless
- 41 Holiday for a parade
- 43 Part of ETA
- 45 16 ozs.
- 47 A Jackson
- 49 Noblemen
- 50 Above and touching
- 51 Mr. Saarinen
- 52 Boston — (music)
- 56 "Ball —"
- 58 The sun
- 59 Yoko —
- 60 Totem pole
- 63 Guido's low note

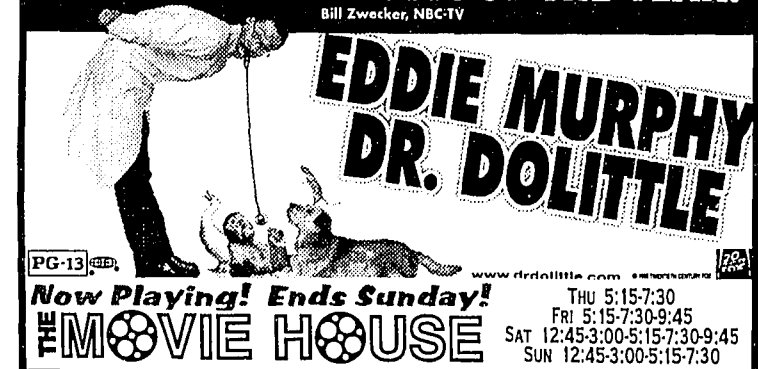
## KidSpot FIND THE WORDS. THE NAMES OF THE PICTURE CLUES ARE

HIDDEN IN THE SQUARE. CIRCLE EACH WORD, GOING ACROSS, DOWN OR DIAGONALLY.



WORD LIST: BEAVER, EIGHT, ANTS, SNB, RNOEIB, OSWANI, WHALET, RABBIT, SEAL, WHALE, RABBIT, TENT.

## "THE FUNNIEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR!"



## NBA loses lockout ruling

By Chris Sheridan

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The NBA was dealt another setback Tuesday by arbitrator John Feerick, who ruled he has jurisdiction to hear a grievance filed on behalf of players with guaranteed contracts who are not being paid during the lockout.

Feerick, who reduced Latrell Sprewell's suspension and reinstated his contract last March after a lengthy arbitration hearing, is expected to schedule a hearing for as early as next week.

Formal bargaining talks between the NBA and the union are scheduled to resume Thursday — the first talks since June 22 — as the lockout enters its sixth week.

Feerick's latest ruling came five days after lawyers for the league declined to attend the jurisdictional hearing on whether he had the authority to hear the case. The league had indicated, however, that it would appear to contest the grievance if Feerick ruled he has jurisdiction.

Earlier last Thursday, the league went to federal court and failed to convince a judge to issue a temporary restraining order halting the jurisdictional hearing.

The league has filed a lawsuit against the union in U.S. District Court claiming that Feerick's term as official arbitrator expired June 30 when the collective bargaining agreement ended. The league also asked the court to rule that it does not have to pay players during a lockout, but the union's response is

not due for another 1 1/2 months.

"The important thing is that the NBA owners will not be able to delay this case through the court system, but instead will have to plead their case expeditiously before the arbitrator," union director Billy Hunter said. "The players very much want to get back to playing ball, and we welcome any developments that will speed up the process."

The union filed the grievance on behalf of some 220 players just a few hours before the lockout commenced — a factor Feerick pointed out in his decision.

The grievance is based on the contention that the NBA and its member teams committed an "anticipatory breach of contract" by

announcing their intention June 29 that they would not pay monies due under guaranteed contracts.

"I find that I have jurisdiction and that the dispute is arbitrable. In so finding, however, I express no view of the merits of the underlying dispute," Feerick wrote in his two-page ruling.

Kenny Anderson of the Boston Celtics was the first player to miss a paycheck. His contract calls for him to receive his entire salary of \$5.8 million on July 1.

Tim Duncan of San Antonio was due to receive 15 percent of his \$3.4 million contract last month, and Chris Gatling of New Jersey was due \$4 million of his \$4.2 million salary.

The NBA declined comment on Feerick's ruling.

## Swimming . . .

Continued from page 24

home the four gold medals she's won thus far, and David Palacios, a favorite coming in to the '98 Micronesian Games, has earned three golds and a bronze.

Jacoby Winkfield struck gold in the 100 meter Breaststroke, Justin Pierce has three medals, and the list just goes on with Tracey Feger, Audra Winkfield, and Jennifer Pierce all placing in various events.

So what does a coach do to keep her team ready for the remaining days of competition?

"Basically I'm a Supermom," laughed Sakovich. "I've got to tell them 'No, you can't go watch every single event. You need to go home and go to bed.' I make sure they're eating properly, getting lots of rest, and not letting them get over-tired."

But it isn't just the CNMI on display here. Nicole Hayes from the host nation is swimming well, taking two silver and two bronze medals thus far.

And Andrea Lindborg, who did so well in '94, continues to perform strongly for the Marshalls, swimming her way to two gold medals and a silver.

## Guam . . . Continued from page 24

matched up last night but scores from that contest were not available at press time.

Other scores from Monday through Wednesday morning:

MEN'S		WOMEN'S	
Chuuk	81	Guam	80
Kiribati	42	Kosrae	14
Kosrae	105	Palau	99
Yap	56	Chuuk	21
Pohnpei	101	Yap	57
Nauru	86	Nauru	50
Kosrae	82	Pohnpei	61
Chuuk	55	Kiribati	46
Palau	73		
Kiribati	45		

## Japan . . .

Continued from page 24

from Hong Kong. They were the loudest, the happiest and the craziest fans seen at the games. Courage, and a big heart, the best would without a doubt be given to the youngsters from Guam. Its difficult enough playing on unfamiliar territory, couple that with a losing record and it may become downright hard, very hard to go out onto that ballfield to give it another shot. But, that, they did. And they did it with grace. They held their heads high and tried their best. Without complaint they gave the fans something to remember.

The second place winner went to the Phillipine All-Stars. Despite travel delays, once on island however, they showed excellent skill on the ballpark.

Their biggest win was their

and he even has the title for Chapter 1.

"Just ask for the autograph," said McGwire, who doesn't like the approach, "I'm sorry to bother you, but ..."

"He figures if somebody really was sorry to bother him, they shouldn't be bothering him in the first place."

"I always tell people, 'You don't need to say that.' Just say, 'May I please have your autograph?'"

And most of the time, he says, you'll get it.

"Listen, you can't make everybody happy. And they have to respect my privacy. I respect theirs," McGwire said.

"So, if I don't sign an autograph, obviously there's a good reason why I don't sign. But I would say the majority of the time, I do it."

As for disappointments, McGwire realizes he's going to have to take a day off soon, dismaying thousands of fans.

Entering Wednesday, he hadn't homered in 24 at-bats and had struck out 10 times in his last 17 at-bats, a clear sign he's getting tired.

The remedy would be a day off, something he has done six times this season.

"Everybody says, there's a chance for him to do it if he stays healthy," McGwire said.

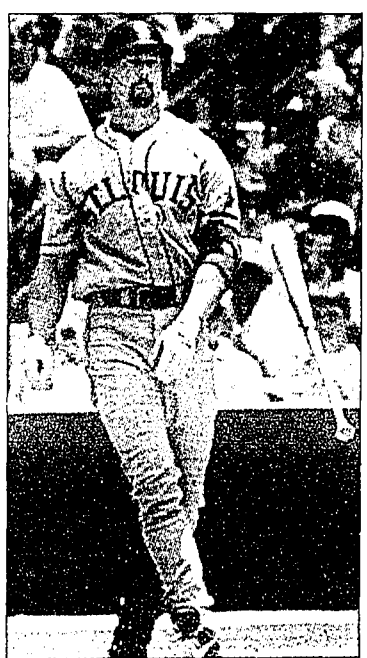
"Well, the times that people usually get injured is when they're tired. I've always said days off go a long way. I'm not Cal Ripken."

Who, by the way, homered on the night he broke Lou Gehrig's record for consecutive games and got the ball back from the fan who caught it.

The ransom? Ripken's signature on a bat, that's all.

McGwire could live with that.

## McGwire won't pay ransom for ball



Mark McGwire

By Arnie Stapleton

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — If Mark McGwire breaks Roger Maris' record, somebody else will have to pony up the big bucks for home run No. 62.

"I wouldn't pay a dime for it," he said.

Joseph Burr, a sports memorabilia collector from suburban Milwaukee, likens the record-breaking ball to a winning lottery ticket.

"Some kid's going to become an instant millionaire," he said. "It's easily over \$1 million."

McGwire, stuck on 45 homers for nearly a week entering Wednesday night's game at Milwaukee, can't fathom that.

"Let me ask you, who's going to pay the money?" he said. "I'm not." But you can bet somebody else will.

After all, the founder of the Psychic Friends Network paid a cool \$500,000 for Eddie Murray's 500th home run.

The St. Louis Cardinals slugger is put off by the naked greed.

"If somebody's going to put a price on a ball like that, to me that's worthless," McGwire said.

"If somebody wants a bat or a jersey or a ball (in exchange), then that means something. But if somebody's going to hold this ball hostage for a dollar sign, you can take it home with you. There is not a piece of memorabilia that's worth a dime."

Unlike many other stars, McGwire refuses to enter autograph deals. With the exception of some promotions to benefit his charity, Mark McGwire Foundation for Children, McGwire doesn't sell autographs.

That's not to say he doesn't sign until his hand aches.

As he closes in on Maris' record of 61 homers, McGwire said he can't go anywhere without getting mobbed. But he won't become a recluse.

"I don't change who I am," he said. "I go out and I do what I need to do. But, you know, it's been sort of uncomfortable this year. It just seems everywhere I go somebody's tapping me on the shoulder or sliding a piece of paper on the table. Or even coming down and just sitting at your table with you."

Uninvited guests? That's what it's come to?

"Oh, yeah, quite a few times. I just ask them, 'Do you do this often?'" McGwire said with a smile.

McGwire said somebody should write a book on autograph etiquette,



## SPORTS



# NMI gold rush continues

**KOROR, Palau** — The powerful CNMI swim team captured six more gold medals Tuesday night, during the second day of the swimming competition in the Fourth Micronesian Games currently going on at the Republic of Palau. This brings to eleven the number of gold medals won by the swim team as of Tuesday night.

The CNMI captured six gold out of seven events last night. The only event the CNMI did not win the gold was in the women's 50 meter freestyle, when Tracy Feger of the CNMI came in third for the bronze.

Andrea Lindborg of the Republic of the Marshall Islands took the gold,

followed by Nicole Hayes of Palau with the silver.

Xenavee Pangelinan took home two more individual gold medals, one in the 50 meter butterfly and the other in the 200 meter breaststroke.

She also took part in the team competition which blew away the competition in the 4x50 meters women's relay with teammates Tracy Feger, Jennifer Pierce, and Audra Winkfield.

To date, Pangelinan has won four gold medals in individual events and one in the team competition.

David M. Palacios won the gold in the 50 meter backstroke, followed by

Seung Lee Gin who won his second silver in the swimming competition. Samuel Lee of Guam came in third.

Jacob Winkfield grabbed the gold in the 100 meter breaststroke. Teammate Justin Pierce came in second while Guam's Peter Manglona took the bronze.

In the 200 meter breaststroke won by Xenavee Pangelinan, the CNMI's Jennifer Pierce won the silver. Guam's Alison Aglubat came in third.

## Micro Games medal haul

By Michael Wright

Variety News Staff

Through four full days of competition:

Team	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Palau	10	22	12	44
CNMI	16	13	6	35
Nauru	17	1	6	24
Guam	7	9	8	24
Marshall	2	1	7	10
Kiribati	0	5	2	7
Yap	4	1	2	7
Pohnpei	0	1	7	8
Kosrae	2	3	1	6
Chuuk	1	3	1	5

## Swimming is a gold mine for the CNMI

By Michael Wright

Variety News Staff

**KOROR, Palau** — Robert Jordan served notice on day one, and he and his teammates, women and men, have been dominating the swimming competition ever since in the '98 Micronesian Games in Palau.

After Jordan won the first gold medal of these games in the 2-mile open ocean event last Saturday, CNMI swimmers have gone on to a mass an amazing 22 additional medals through Tuesday night, including 12 golds in only 14 races.

"We're feeling pretty good," CNMI Coach Jean Sakovich said with great understatement. "There are certain events which I thought we'd dominate in, but there always seems to be a surprise factor too."

For team CNMI, the brightest surprise has been the swimming of Seung Gin Lee. The 13-year old took silver in the 2-mile open ocean, the 200 meter Freestyle, and the 50 meter Backstroke.

"We just kind of threw him in a few events, knowing he would do o.k., but he's placed in every event he's been in. We're real pleased," said Sakovich.

Xenavee Pangelinan better have a strong neck if she wants to carry

Continued on page 23



Steffi Graf of Germany hits a backhand shot during her first-round match against Julie Halard-Decugis of France at the Toshiba Tennis Classic in Carlsbad, Calif. Tuesday. Graf won the match 6-2, 6-2. AP

## Guam beats CNMI basketbelles

By Michael Wright

Variety News Staff

**KOROR, Palau** — The CNMI women's basketball team have been having fun at their first Micronesian Games competition.

That is, until Wednesday. They ran into a buzzsaw that is the team from Guam and got shellacked 76-29.

Coming into the game, the CNMI women were 3-0, having beaten Pohnpei, Kiribati

and Kosrae. But Guam is a little different.

Team CNMI could only manage 12 first-half points to Guam's 34, and it didn't get any better in the second. The CNMI's 17 points weren't nearly enough to give Guam their first defeat of the tournament.

Their male counterparts had a rough day too. After barely squeaking by the Marshalls on Tuesday, 82-80, the CNMI men dropped an important one yesterday to Pohnpei, 92-86.

day to Pohnpei, 92-86.

The loss puts them at a disappointing 1-2, virtually knocking the CNMI out of contention for a medal.

Pohnpei, meanwhile, is now a surprising 3-0 in their pool and while likely face heavily favored Guam in their bracket.

In the Men's B Pool, Palau has gotten three wins in as many games, while Kosrae also has a 3-0 mark. The two teams

Continued on page 23

## Boats for fishing derby to undergo inspections

ALL BOATERS participating in the 14th Annual Fishing Derby Tournament, slated for this weekend are advised that the Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety Section will be conducting a mandatory inspection on each vessel.

The inspection is scheduled to commence today, (August 6), and Friday, (August 7) between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Inspections will also be conducted on Saturday, the day of the event, at 5:30 in the morning.

As this pre-derby inspection has been deemed necessary, all boaters who fail to have their vessel inspected will not be allowed to participate in this prestigious event.

The inspection is free of charge. Please call the Boating Safety Office in Lower-base at 322-4037 to schedule an inspection.

## Halina's too much for Unifil

By Tony Celis

For the Variety

THE ELIMINATION-ROUND continued last weekend for the Budweiser-RP Centennial Basketball League with Michelob-

Halinas routing BudIce-UniFil 80-60 for the first win in play-off competition.

O'douls-RB/ Asper narrowly defeated Budweiser-CMSI by a

Continued on page 23

## Japan All-Stars simply the best

By Tony Celis

For the Variety

THE 1998 Far-East Little League Tournament has come to its conclusion and while all the players are winners, the Japan All-Star team has simply proven themselves the best in this tournament. The Japanese little league heroes are now on their way to Williamsport, Pennsylvania, to compete in the 1998 Little League World Series.

Maybe, more important than winning the tournament is how the players and the fans enjoyed the games, after all little league baseball is about having fun, making friends, and life.

If trophies were given for the best cheering squad, the vote would go to the team members

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