

# Housing boom seen

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE NORTHERN Marianas Housing Corporation sees more economic activity in the CNMI as more construction of houses are expected in the next few months following the approval of \$21-million in home loans.

NMHC Corporate Director Marylou Ada in an interview Monday said the completion of the Marianas Public Land Trust-NMHC home-own financing is a big boost to the home loan programs.

"We're very happy because to

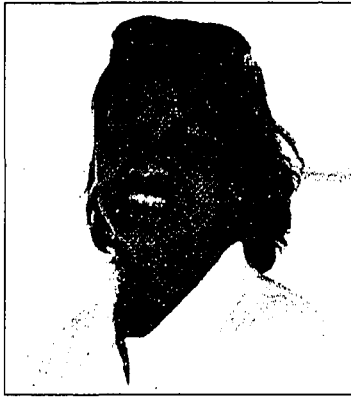
## Ada: \$21M home loans to keep construction sector busy

date we have approved about \$21 million of loans...so that means there will be more home-loan construction that you will be seeing," Ada said.

The construction boom in housing projects, the director explained, will in turn help generate some economic activity in the islands.

"NMHC is achieving its primary goal of providing home ownership to the people that are still in dire need of housing," Ada pointed out.

The corporate director noted that there is an increase of home loans now as a lot of people have



Marylou Ada

realized that building houses is a better long-term investment.

Ada said NMHC is more re-

sponsive and effective in running the agency's section 8 program, the subsidize public housing.

Under the Section 8 program, Ada said, the agency built 177 housing projects and 81 vouchers for low-income families.

Section 8 program is a joint cooperative effort between NMHC, the Commonwealth and the federal government to make available needed housing to qualified families through federally-subsidized rental payments.

Ada pointed out that NMHC has been working closely with these recipients so that they subsequently can be self-sufficient.

"We do that with a lot of education program...providing them assistance, transportation, and getting them apply for jobs and also teaching them the basic skills of life..." Ada said.

Ada said they are working hard in achieving self sufficiency to

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## Missing man found dead at Rota beach

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

A MAN was found dead Monday at a beach on Rota, according to the Department of Public Safety.

Variety sources said the body of the man, a Filipino national, was already decomposing.

The man, who was about 40 years old, was working for Rota Resort and has been reported missing for almost a week before his body was found floating at the beach in Songsong, sources said.

The man has a brother-in-law on Rota who has already been informed about the incident, the Variety was told.

The body will be brought to Saipan for autopsy.

However, DPS spokesperson Rose Ada yesterday said the department can "neither confirm nor

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THEY STILL LIKE IT HERE. Japanese tourists enjoy a sunset cruise Monday afternoon aboard the Jade Lady III boat. As arrival numbers continue to fall, efforts are underway to promote the CNMI as a value-added destination for tourists.

Photo by Mar-Vic C. Munar

## Leaders plan to secure release of 3 years worth of Covenant funds



Diego T. Benavente



Paul A. Manglona

CNMI Legislature said.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona and House Speaker Diego T. Benavente said the CNMI government has appropriated and, by end-1998, will obligate Covenant funds from 1993 to 1995.

"...the CNMI has not simply been resting on its laurels. We are aggressively identifying both projects and funding schemes for the balance of the Manglona-Guerra Covenant funds," the two leaders said in a letter addressed to US Rep. Don Young.

The CNMI Legislature is also asking Young, chairman of the US House resources commit-

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By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff  
THE CNMI government expects to obligate all funds allo-

cated for the Northern Marianas by the US government under the Covenant by end of this calendar year, the presiding officers of

## Santos hits Guam Waterworks

By Sara Grant  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA, Guam—Senator Angel L. G. Santos (D) has claimed that Guam Waterworks is being remiss in promptly fixing a broken waterline in Barrigada village.

GWA denied the charge and claims it will repair the leak as soon as the needed equipment becomes available.

According to a release from the senator's office, the leak, which was located on Captain Reyes Way, was reported by village residents over the weekend.

They were told by GWA it could not be fixed right away because

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## Tiyan office burglarized again

By Jacob Leon Guerrero  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA—The Administrative Director of the Chamorro Land Trust Commission (CLTC) is asking thieves to stop breaking into his office. "Please stop (it)," said Joseph Borja.

Borja's request was made following a third break-in and robbery at the CLTC Tiyan office, early Monday morning.

According to Borja, the thieves stole between \$150 and \$160 and some keys. The mon

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# US raps China, Myanmar

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright confronted several Asian nations at a conference, criticizing Myanmar for blocking the movements of opposition leader Ang San Suu Kyi and China for jailing dissidents after President Bill Clinton's visit.

She said turmoil in Myanmar, still called Burma by U.S. officials, was posing "a threat to the stability of the region."

As ministers of 20 Asian and Western countries and the European Union met Monday at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum, Nobel laureate Suu Kyi spent a fourth day Monday stuck in a car on a rural Myanmar highway surrounded by government security personnel. She was arrested Friday on her way to a meeting with supporters.

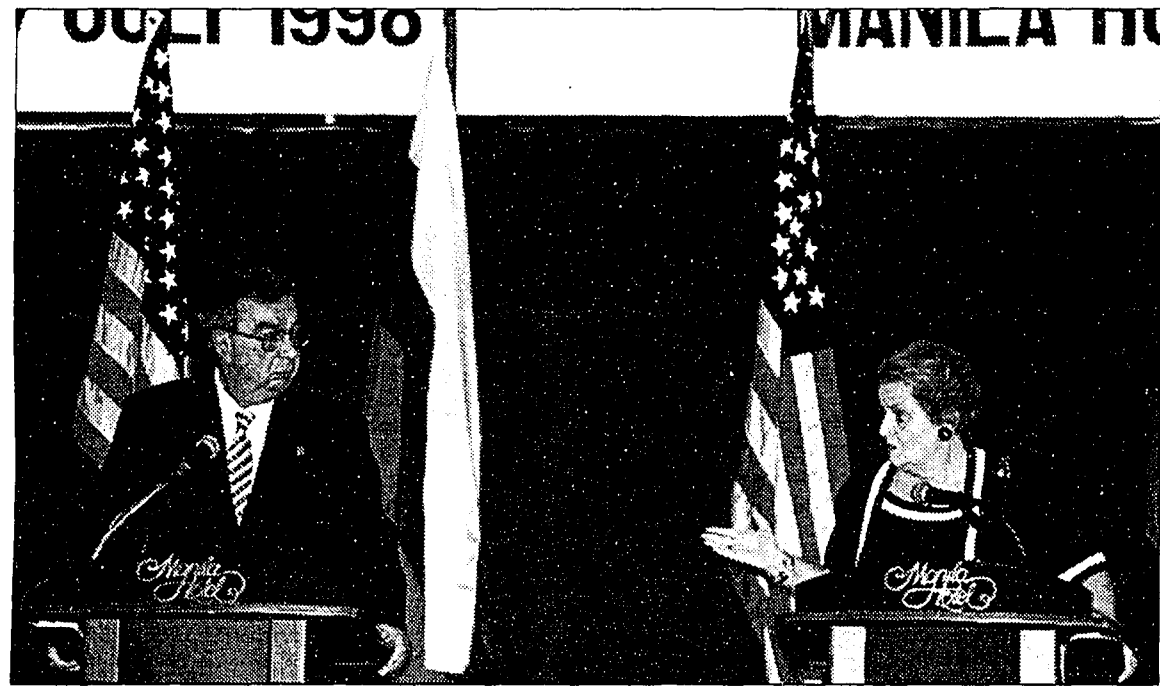
In denouncing the military-ruled government of Myanmar, a participant in the conference, Albright said the United States would hold it "directly responsible" for the health and welfare of Suu Kyi.

Albright went public with her complaints after Myanmar Foreign Minister Ohn Gyaung defended his nation's actions in a closed-door session with participants.

Ohn Gyaung was asked by The Associated Press to comment on Albright's concerns for Suu Kyi. "Nothing will happen to her," he said of the opposition leader.

The conference host, Philippine

## Albright confronts several Asian nations at conference



Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov (left) looks at U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in response to her call during a joint press conference in Manila Monday. Albright and Primakov are participating in the ASEAN Regional Forum and Post-Ministerial meetings. AP

Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon, said later that Albright's statement of concern was "just too vague" for the rest of the group to adopt.

"We have not seen any deterioration in (Suu Kyi's) health or capacity to think," Siazon said.

Recounting her conversation with Chinese Foreign Minister Tang

Jiaxuan, Albright told reporters she noted that China had released some prisoners, but "I made ... quite clear that arresting people is not the way that we see follow through."

A senior U.S. official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Albright was concerned about the arrests of about 20 dissidents after

Clinton returned from 10 days in China earlier this month.

The Chinese delegation didn't respond directly to her concerns, but "they couldn't miss it" as criticism, the official said.

Despite Albright's sharp words for Myanmar and China, the annual security forum of the Association of

Southeast Asian Nations produced much agreement, both on the need to do something to stop Asia's economic crisis and a statement that "strongly deplored" nuclear tests in May by India and Pakistan.

In a statement, ministers from 19 of the countries plus the European Union said the tests heightened tension in a region already on edge from a growing economic crisis.

The statement did not mention the nations by name, only referring to two countries in South Asia.

"Since we know our geography too well, it was not necessary to identify them," said Siazon said.

India dissented from the report and defended the tests it carried out in May "because the nonproliferation regime had turned flawed and discriminatory."

Pakistan was not a member of the conference.

Albright said she made U.S. concerns over human rights known in a meeting with Tang, the Chinese foreign minister.

"While we both consider, and I especially, (that) one of the major successes of the president's trip was to raise human rights issues publicly in China, ... I did raise our concerns about some of the recent arrests," she said.

Albright said she and Tang also discussed the House vote last week

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## China threatens to use force to take back Taiwan again

By Charles Hutzler  
BEIJING (AP)—In its first public defense policy review in three years, China renewed a threat Monday to retake Taiwan by force, criticized nuclear tests by India and Pakistan and hinted that the United States is a potential menace to the country's security.

In issuing the report, the State Council, or Cabinet, again said China wants a stable world order to pursue its primary goal of economic development. It said it would never attack or invade unless first attacked.

Although it noted an overall easing of tensions worldwide, the State Council said threats persist.

Without naming names, the policy review assailed "hegemonism"—a euphemism for the United States and its superpower status—and the U.S. alliance with Japan.

"Hegemonism and power politics remain the main source of threats to world peace and stability," the policy paper said.

"Some countries, by relying on their military advantages, pose military threats to other countries, even resorting to armed intervention."

The policy review criticized, again without specifying, the U.S.-Japan security treaty as "an infringement upon and interference in China's sovereignty." Renewed treaty guidelines

issued last year drew Beijing's anger after a Japanese politician suggested that the pact covered potential conflicts over Taiwan.

China is sensitive about activities that undermine its claim to Taiwan as a renegade province.

Japan ruled the island for 50 years until its defeat in World War II and the United States backed the island through much of the Cold War and continues to sell it arms over Beijing's objections.

In keeping with China's usually prickly statements on Taiwan, the State Council renewed a pledge to seek peaceful unification with the

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## Miyazawa may become Japan Finance minister

By Todd Zaun  
TOKYO (AP)—The man expected to become Japan's next prime minister focused Monday on his choice for finance chief, a key appointment in his effort to turn around the country's sagging economy.

Foreign Minister Keizo Obuchi, elected president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party last week and nearly certain to be voted premier by Parliament, was reportedly leaning toward former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, a ruling party elder and economic specialist.

Obuchi was expected to ask Miyazawa to take the key post in a new Cabinet expected to be announced later this week, the national newspaper Yomiuri reported Monday.

Miyazawa's participation was seen as necessary to help Japan overcome its "unprecedented" economic crisis, said the paper, citing unidentified top party officials.

Miyazawa is widely respected as an expert on financial affairs and advocate of international cooperation.

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## NZ gov't loses majority

By RAY LILLEY  
WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The New Zealand government coalition Tuesday lost its one-seat majority in Parliament after a member defected citing "a long list of deceptions and betrayals" by Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters.

But Prime Minister Jenny Shipley has maintained her hold on power after securing the support of at least one independent legislator.

The National Party-led governing coalition also holds a firm eight-vote commitment from the ACT New Zealand Party which ensures it will win votes of confidence and supply, or money bills, in Parliament.

Shipley said Tuesday the government "continues to enjoy a significant majority on confidence and supply" and that stability of government was assured.

Shipley, who said last week she considered calling an early election to end infighting among the coalition, said there was "no threat whatsoever to the government's commitment or

ability to deliver quality government."

There was no significant reaction from financial markets, which had expected the defection.

The latest flare-up follows a row last week in populist Peters' New Zealand First Party, during which five Maori legislators threatened to quit because of conflict over policies and race issues with party colleagues.

New Zealand First legislator Neil Kinton followed through on the threat and Tuesday quit the party caucus.

"A long list of deceptions and betrayals by Winston Peters of his own caucus, NZ First caucus, NZ First policies and principles and tens of thousands of people who voted for the party at the last election, have forced me from the party today," Kinton told reporters.

"I couldn't stay a day longer under Peters' leadership knowing that he had turned his back on promises made at the last election and in the certain knowledge that nothing was going to change," he said.

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# Agency input on CIPs rushed

By Aldwin R. Fajardo  
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Pedro P. Tenorio is giving the Legislature and various government agencies until today to compile a list of Capital Improvement Projects which will be funded under the third seven-year period financial agreement with the United States.

"Because time is moving quickly and our consultants will be arriving on island...you have by Wednesday [today] to send us any comments or recommendations," Tenorio said in a letter to the Legislature.

He said the cost estimator needs enough time to be able to finalize

the CNMI's first draft of the top 50 high priority projects. "The preparation of this comprehensive list of priority CIP projects is the necessary first step toward making these funds available for expenditure."

So far, proposed priority projects amounted to close to \$650 million, with Saipan and the Northern Islands eating up at least \$335 million; Tinian, \$143 million and Rota with some \$169 million.

The government is also identifying priority projects which will be financed under the \$154 million funds available under the third agreement. Initial list of proposed

projects now totals \$500 million. Tenorio said discussions with financial institutions to explore funding opportunities are also underway. He cited the Army Corps of Engineers which provided technical assistance in estimation of project costs and master planning.

He said the task of trimming down \$500 million in proposed projects to \$154 million in funding is not an easy task, adding that the US Army Corps of Engineers will only help in the form of a physical planner and a cost estimator.

"They will not be involved in the prioritization of CIP projects; this will be left for the local govern-

ment to decide," he said. The Army Corps will start their work on Saipan on August 4 and should have already been provided with a selected list of priority projects.

At least one-eighth of the total

\$154 million will go to Rota and Tinian while Saipan is entitled to about two-eighth of the available money. "Our list of priority projects must fit the total available funding," the governor stressed.

## \$3.8M in Covenant funds eyed to build new schools

By Haldee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE GOVERNMENT may redirect some of the Covenant funds appropriated for projects prior to fiscal year 1996 to be able to generate \$3.8 million needed for the immediate construction of two new elementary schools.

The new Dandan Elementary School needs \$1.3 million for its construction, while the Kagman Elementary School needs \$2.5 million.

Waiving pre-1996 Covenant funds is one of the three options brought out during yesterday's special Board of Education meeting with government officials.

The other two options is to waive around \$4.8 million funds from the Commonwealth Development Authority, and to tap covenant funds for 1996 to year 2002.

Mike Sablan, special finance and budget officer to the governor, yes-

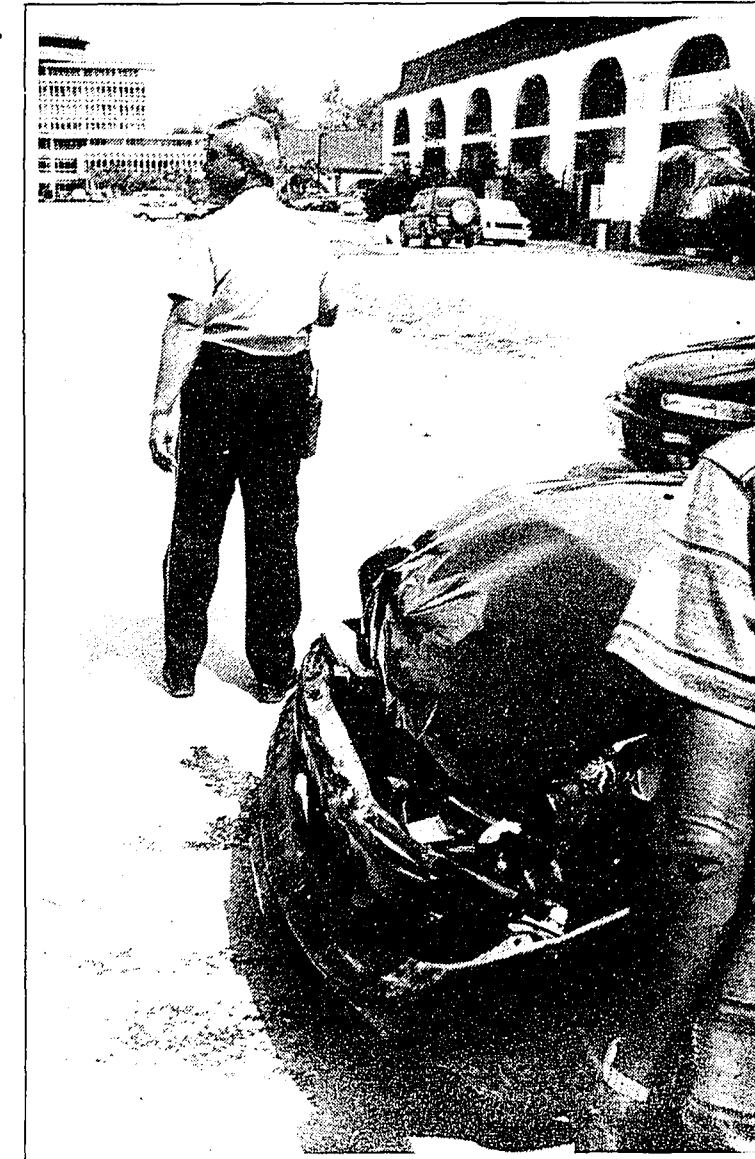


Mike Sablan

terday said that reprogramming Covenant funds appropriated for pre-1996 projects is better than meeting matching fund requirements for the seven-year plan which starts from 1996 to year 2002.

"My preference is to tap pre-'96 Covenant funds because they have already been matched, and we don't need to match them. The only question is, which projects can we

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A police officer directs traffic after a collision occurred at the traffic light yesterday across Diamond Hotel. Photo by Sonnie Sablan

## Masked man robs store at gunpoint in Harmon

By Jacob Leon Guerrero  
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA—A masked assailant robbed the New Martin Store in Harmon early Monday evening at gun-point.

According to PIO, Larry Flores, of the Guam Police Department, the suspect entered the store and confronted the cashier, a 26 year old Harmon woman. He demanded that she give him all the money in the register.

He handed her a black pouch instructing her to place the cash inside the pouch.

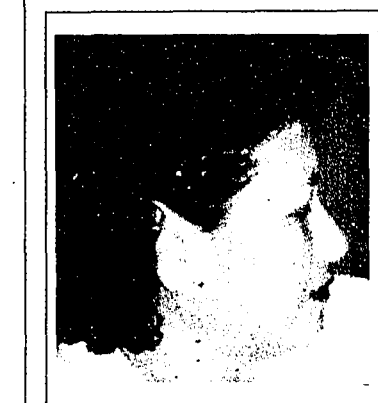
She placed \$200 in the pouch and gave it back to him. The suspect fled on foot.

The suspect is described to be between 5'6"-5'7" tall, with a medium build and a dark complexion.

He was wearing a white cloth around his head, a camouflage shirt, and blue jeans.

The case is still under investigation. Anyone who may have any information are asked to call GPD at 472-8911 or CRIME-STOPPERS at 477-HELP.

## PSS: No bus re-routing for out-of-zone children



Margaret dela Cruz

By Haldee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff  
UPON STRICT compliance to the Board of Education-mandated school zoning policy, the Public School System is urging parents to drive and fetch their children to and

from school if they choose to enroll them in out-of-zone schools, according to a top education official.

Margaret dela Cruz, PSS Deputy Commissioner, yesterday said that school buses will not be allowed to re-route to accommodate out-of-zone students unless it is the PSS that requires them to attend these school because of overcrowding in some schools.

"If the parents choose to send their child to a school that's not within their zone, then the PSS will not re-route their buses to provide transportation for them," dela Cruz told the Variety.

She added, "If, because of overcrowding, the PSS places the child in an out-of-zone school, it becomes the responsibility of the system to

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At Lihestran Guahan yesterday morning, Sen. Mark Charfauros listens to Sen. Felix Camacho during a break. Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

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WITH  
MR. JOHN BNADO CAMACHO ON AUGUST 21, 1998.



from: The family & friends in Russia & Saipan



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

## Flights

Mar-Vic C. Munar

### I can park on the blue spot

HERE's a recent legal doctrine that demonstrated how the simplest of disputes can develop into the most intricate legal issue.

It arose from a woman's cavity that needed filling, yielding a landmark US Supreme Court decision that has major implications on health care providers, insurance policies and employment setting.

Last June 25, the nation's highest court has ruled that HIV infection is a disability covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act. It was the first judicial interpretation of what Congress meant by disability since ADA's enactment in 1990.

The case stemmed from Sidney Abbott's routine trip to the dentist in September 1994. He arrived at Dr. Randon Bragdon's clinic for a scheduled appointment. On her registration form, she indicated that she was infected with HIV virus.

Upon examination, Bragdon found a cavity in one of Abbott's teeth. But the dentist had refused to perform a cavity-filling job on her in his clinic, citing his own infectious disease policy. He nonetheless suggested that he treat her in a hospital setting which he said would cost additional fees. This prompted Abbott to run to the court.

The nine-man tribunal grappled with the case, which was finally decided on a split vote (5-4) and spawned five separate opinions from the concurring and dissenting sides. Although the concurring justices could not settle the issue of whether treating Abbott posed a "direct threat" to Bragdon's health and safety, they all agreed that the dentist had discriminated against the HIV-infected woman.

Under ADA, disability is defined as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one of the major life activities of the individual."

In the majority opinion penned by Justice Anthony Kennedy, the Supreme Court stated that, "In light of the immediacy with which the virus begins to damage the infected person's white blood cells and the severity of the disease, we hold that it is impairment from the moment of infection."

"Reproduction," the court added, "falls well within the phrase 'major life activity' because reproduction and the sexual dynamics surrounding it are central to the life process itself."

People with disabilities definitely don't deserve to be discriminated. And that is what ADA is all about.

ADA, noble it may be, however, has the manipulative tendency—thanks to lawyers. Law deals with semantics, and *Bragdon v Abbott* showed how far semantics could be used to suit some people (including those Congress never thought about).

While ADA already has a long roster of people considered disabled, the Supreme Court's ruling has further stretched the interpretation of "disability," thereby opening a vaster room for more individuals in the category. But, as they say in legal lingo, "it may be a bad law, but it's the law."

Following the logic of *Bragdon v Abbott*, anyone can profess to be covered by ADA and claim privileges due people with real disabilities—at least disabilities that we know in layman's language (e.g. crippled, blind, deaf, mute, mentally retarded, etc). With the court's decision, the phrase "major life activity" can probably stretch to include other "life activities."

One doesn't have to be a physician or scientist to decide, for example, that a respiratory illness involves lungs, which affect a MAJOR life activity, that is breathing. Those afflicted with this disease could, therefore, pass for "disabled."

I'm chronically attacked by migraine, which I swear affects my thinking and writing process—a major life activity for me. I am a nicotine addict. If I don't smoke I don't function; it stops my "major life activity."

I am therefore a person with disability in more ways than one. In that case, I am covered by ADA and I can park on a blue spot. And if somebody tries to harass me into moving my car, I would call Atty. Bill Campbell.



JACK ANDERSON and JAN MOLLER

### WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Hoover saw Einstein as red

NO matter what a person's stature, The late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover would vacuum up gossip, scurrilous rumors and sometimes outright inventions in an effort to bring the high and mighty to their knees before him.

Among the more ridiculous targets of Hoover's snoops were Jimmy Stewart, John Wayne, Walt Disney and John Lennon.

You can add to that list Albert Einstein, the greatest physicist of this century, whose genius led to development of the atomic bomb that helped his adopted country win the war with Japan.

Hoover apparently was convinced that Albert Einstein was a communist spy—but it was all based on fallacious "evidence" trumped up by FBI agents aiming to please the dictatorial director.

Our associate Dale Van Atta took four years to pry some of the investigative file out of the FBI, and we eventually obtained 1,500 of 1,800 pages contained in the file.

What makes this salacious bit of Hooverism more relevant today is the penchant of some to try to gain headlines—or sales—by suggesting Einstein was a communist agent.

The latest permutation came when Sotheby's recently auctioned off love letters Einstein wrote to a woman named Margarita Konenkova, after the death of his second wife in 1936; Konenkova was alleged to have been a Soviet spy. The letters were proof positive, some suggested, that Einstein had the requisite espionage links to spy for the Soviet Union.

That is ridiculous. We have closely examined the "evidence," and historical writings on Einstein, including his own, and there is not one iota of proof that he even toyed with the idea of being a Soviet spy.

Yes, Einstein was both a pacifist and a "joiner." He lent his name to a number of groups and committees that he believed were sincerely trying to promote world peace. Several of these groups were regarded as subversive, and his association with them was enough to arouse Hoover's darkest suspicions.

In dealing with the man whose theory of relativity was the fundamental concept behind nuclear energy, the government gumshoes devised a formula of their own: D equals AS2—"disloyalty equals association times suspicion squared."

According to documents in the file, Einstein WAS offered a chance to work in the Soviet Union in 1946, after World War II. He could have "whatever funds, laboratories, buildings, equipment,

books and assistance he might need," according to a report from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

Einstein's brilliant response, also in the files, was a letter in Hebrew to Joseph Stalin himself, expressing appreciation for the offer, but asking: "Why are Jewish scientists not permitted to hold prominent posts? Why are apparently unnecessary obstacles placed in the way of Jewish scientific and research workers? Why were certain Jewish professors of medical science... not elected to the recently created Medical Academy?"

The implicit charges of anti-Semitism were at first denied, and the Soviets repeated their offer to Einstein. But Stalin had his secret police investigate the scientist's charges, with astonishing results: "Certain high Soviet officials were discharged for anti-Semitism. The professors named by Einstein were elected to the Academy."

But Einstein never gave a second thought to going to work in the Soviet Union.

Army intelligence agents dutifully ran down an accusation by a former Berlin dress-shop owner who claimed Einstein was a communist. The agents reported that the woman "did not make a favorable impression as to her reliability." In fact, she was an "amateur mathematician" who was miffed because Einstein hadn't replied to her letter asking his help on a system that would enable her to win a Berlin gambling pool.

Hoover never followed up on this information since any evidence against Einstein would have needed to hold up in court.

Another wild goose chase began when an informant told the FBI that "Dr. Einstein... (was) the brain that was setting up Hollywood in the 1930s for the big communist push." The best the G-men could produce on this was a 1954 report on Einstein's friendships with Charlie Chaplin and architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Of the sadder items in the Hoover-Einstein files were two letters forwarded by the late gossip columnist Walter Winchell, who was trying to ingratiate himself with Hoover in return for information. The two letters, sent in 1950 and 1951, contain derogatory scuttlebutt about the Nobel Prize-winning physicist.

The FBI began its intensive investigation of Einstein in 1950. And it wasn't until July 27, 1955, that the FBI issued a final recommendation after "all logical investigation had been conducted." The recommendation: "Close case."

It was high time. Einstein had died three months earlier at the age of 76.

# Palefsky named Public Defender

GOVERNOR Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday nominated Harvey M. Palefsky to be the CNMI's Public Defender.

The appointment requires the Commonwealth Senate advice and consent.

Palefsky, 43, is currently the Acting Public Defender. Prior to his appointment, he was the Assistant Public Defender from June 1997.

From 1992-1997, he was the Colorado State Deputy Public



Harvey M. Palefsky

Defender for Montrose Regional Office.

Palefsky also served as the Deputy Public Defender for the Federated States of Micronesia and head of the Pohnpei State office, from June 1990 to August 1991.

Palefsky received his Law degree from New York University School of Law in June of 1979. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware in

June 1976.

In his letter to Senate President Paul A. Mangiona, the Governor stated: "The Lieutenant Governor and I look forward to having an experienced and capable person to

fill this vital role, and feel that Mr. Palefsky is the right choice."

He added that Palefsky is qualified to fulfill the vital responsibilities of the Office of the Public Defender.

## Muña named VAO chief

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Pedro P. Tenorio has named the replacement for Joe Palacios as director for the Division of Veterans Affairs of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Tenorio appointed Jesus Muña to serve as new VAO director. The appointment does not require the advice and consent of the Senate.

"The Lt. Governor and I have confidence in your abilities and look forward to working with you," said Tenorio in a recent letter to Muña.

With the appointment, Muna was required to file a statement of financial interest with the Public Auditor's Office.

Palacios had served as VAO chief since the term of former Gov. Larry Guerrero who is a Republican, and a former Gov. Froilan Tenorio, a Democrat.

The transition committee reportedly included Palacios as among the four candidates for the position of VAO director.

It was then acting DCCA Secretary Eloise Furey who informed Palacios that the Teno administration had given him a 90-day extension as VAO head.

Palacios since 1993 pushed to realize the State Veterans Cemetery project designed to accommodate burial sites for both current and future veterans and possibly their families.

This month, Tenorio also named Francisco M. Rabauliman as new executive assistant for the Carolinian Affairs Office.

Rabauliman replaced Jesus Elameto as CAO chief.

When Elameto tendered his courtesy resignation to allow Tenorio to appoint cabinet members, Simeon Odoshi served as acting executive assistant.

## A 'Flood' of medical info

By William L. Flood, MD  
Pediatrics, Saipan Health Center

### About strep infections

Infections with the strep bacteria can take many forms. Here in the CNMI we see them all!

Strep throat, or strep tonsillitis, is probably the most common. Many different bacteria and viruses can cause sore throats ("pharyngitis") or sore tonsils ("tonsillitis").

The only way to be sure it is strep is to do a throat culture, which may take 1-2 days to be interpreted.

Strep infection of the throat causes a really sore and red throat, often covered with a thick coating (the parents often call these "pus pockets").

The kids have fevers and the glands in the neck get big and sore. Sometimes a fine red rash, feeling a bit like sandpaper, covers the body.

When the rash accompanies a strep throat but the patient is not too sick, we call it "scarletina."

When they are really sick, it is called "Scarlet Fever." It's a matter of degree. Strep infections of the skin are almost as common as those of the throat.

This is called "impetigo."

This is especially common in hot climates, like Saipan. The usual appearance is small pus-filled blisters with honey-yellow crusts. We see a lot of impetigo around the base of the nose where the constant "drip-drip-drip" of runny nose breaks down the skin protection.

We also see it on the knees and legs where kids are always getting cuts and scrapes.

These two infections, of the throat and of the skin, are usually easy to treat and not too serious.

They can lead to complications, however, like Acute Rheumatic

Fever and Glomerulonephritis. I will be talking more about these next week.

Other strep infections may not be so easy.

In recent years, there have been more and more reports of strep invading deeper into the body from its beach-heads in the skin and throat.

These "invasive strep infections" can be life threatening.

Strep infections of the skin, looking a lot like a severe form of Scarlet Fever, can lead to a condition called "scalded skin syndrome."

The skin peels in sheets, like after a bad burn, and the child can be terribly sick and feverish. Certain strep manufacture a toxin, or poison, which causes this massive reaction.

"Toxic shock" can also come from strep.

This rare problem was first seen in young women using tampons.

A different toxin causes a dramatic drop in the blood pressure and can even lead to death in severe cases. "Necrotizing fasciitis" is the strep infection everyone fears. Also called "flesh eating strep," it is the Godzilla of strep infections.

It isn't new, though. Thousands died from this infection during America's Civil War, and it has probably been around since antiquity.

In "flesh-eating" infections, the strep invades deep inside the muscle layers, and spreads quickly along these hidden surfaces.

Large areas of muscle can be infected from the inside-out before signs appear on the surface.

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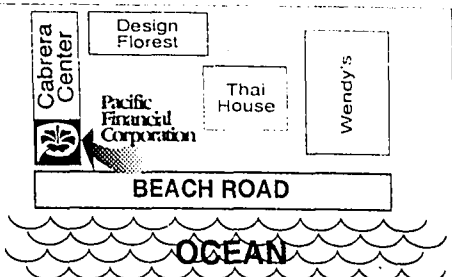
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# More highway safety funding

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE DEPARTMENT of Public Safety will get an increased federal grant in Fiscal Year 1999 for its highway safety program, according to DPS deputy commissioner Claudio Norita.

Norita said because of the new transportation funding approved by the US Congress, the CNMI's highway

safety program will get \$350,000 budget or an increase of \$50,000 from previous year.

Norita in an interview explained that under the Transportation Act, new requirements are needed by territories and other states to fulfill to get further funding.

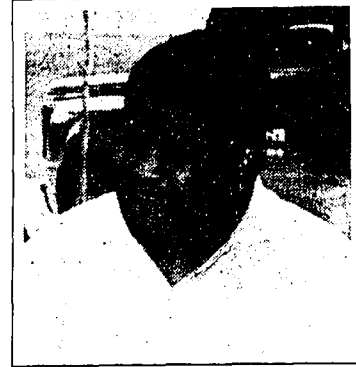
The deputy commissioner and DPS Commissioner Charles W. Ingram attended the recent Region 9 meeting

for highway safety funding conducted in Hawaii.

Those who participated in the meeting were representatives from CNMI, Honolulu, Guam, and the American Samoa.

Norita said at the conference they presented the CNMI's highway safety programs 1998 mid-year report.

Norita said they informed the federal



Claudio Norita

government that CNMI as contained in the report has a very high rate of safety belt usage with 96 percent.

"The figure is very high as compared to California and other states. In fact in our region alone, we're averaging only 70 or 80 percent in safety belt usage," he said.

Norita also stated that driving under the influence of alcohol cases are also down as compared to previous years and other states and territories.

"Overall we have a very effective highway safety program," he added.

## Alien worker charged with assault pleads not guilty

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

A MAN WHO allegedly stabbed and wounded his co-worker pleaded not guilty yesterday.

Sergio Inabangan, however, remains in police custody after failing to post the \$10,000 cash bail set by Superior Court Presiding Judge Edward Manibusan.

Inabangan's counsel is acting chief public defender Harvey Palesky, who told the judge that Inabangan's employer will soon arrive and can be named as third party custodian.

Inabangan was slapped with dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and aggravated assault and battery charges last July 13.

According to court information obtained by the Variety, the victim, Salvador Rangel, "teased" Inabangan during a birthday party at their barracks, which led to a fight between the two.

Meanwhile, a woman was rushed to the Commonwealth Health Cen-

ter (CHC) due to injuries sustained after the car she was driving went out of control and "overtaken" on a road near Banzai Cliff in Marpi.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Rose Aday yesterday said the incident occurred on Sunday morning.

She identified the motorist as Rochelle Tomokane, 22.

Ada said Tomokane, who was driving a 1987 Pathfinder, sustained facial abrasions, a fractured left arm, injuries to the chest and lower extremities.

An unidentified passenger was also brought to CHC, was treated and released.

The Pathfinder's driver side and hood portion were damaged, Ada said.

The accident, she added, happened when the Pathfinder lost control while "negotiating" a sharp curve.

Ada said the incident is now being investigated by DPS to determine whether alcohol or speed was a factor.

## Senate postpones Kara's confirmation hearing

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

THE SENATE Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigation moved yesterday to postpone the confirmation proceeding for newly appointed Attorney General Maya Kara, pending full review of the settlement agreement between the I&S Advertising Agency and the Attorney General's Office.

The committee's decision was based on anonymous request.

A source, citing "conflict of interest," noted that Kara's lawyer-husband Bruce Mailman represented I&S during negotiations, in which both parties agreed that the CNMI government would pay I&S for its expenses on promotional services for MVB.

The settlement was made in early June. Kara was appointed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to head the AG's office on July 2.

When reached for comment, Kara clarified that she had nothing to do with the settlement agreement, saying that as soon as she assumed the post she immediately delegated the matter to Asst. Atty. Gen. Sally Pfund.

"I was aware of the fact that a negotiation was ongoing that's why I withdrew from that issue; the first thing I did when I assumed the post was to delegate the authority to settle the matter," Kara said.

In a related development, Mailman clarified that he did not represent businessman James Lin at last year's

legislative proceeding that heard the land lease proposal for the Bird Island resort project.

Mailman was reacting to former congressman Stanley Torres' suggestion that the lawyer's alleged involvement in the project has brought a conflict of interest on Kara's part.

Lin is the project's developer for the resort project, which was opposed by Torres when it was discussed at a public hearing held by a Senate-House joint committee on natural resources. Kara was then the House's legal counsel.

"I did not represent James Lin anytime during the legislative process," Mailman told the Variety. "I did not appear at the public hearing."

Mailman said it was only after the House resolved the Bird Island issue in mid-August of last year that his law firm entered into business with Lin's company, the United International Corporation (UIC).

Mailman said his law firm represented UIC in a labor case.

"I'm distressed by Stanley's attacks on me and my wife," Mailman said. "Maya and I care about our reputation; we always try to do the right thing and avoid any conflict of interest."

Mailman also brushed off Torres' claim that he (Mailman) represents only foreign investors.

"Our law firm represents different clients. We represent a lot of local people," Mailman said.

# CUC probes island-wide outage

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THE COMMONWEALTH Utilities Corporation (CUC) is investigating why the control panel of its plant bogged down and caused the island-wide rush hour power outage yesterday morning.

"The control panel of the whole

power plant control panel went down (so) all of the engines shut down at 9:10 (am)," said Mathis.

Mathis said CUC "immediately" restored power by 10:00 that morning.

"It (outage) is under investigation, (CUC's) electrical people have to determine it," said Mathis.

## Home owners warned on risks of faulty wiring

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

THE COMMONWEALTH Utilities Corporation (CUC) yesterday warned homeowners against installing their power inside their houses citing risks of faulty wiring and fines for violating building code.

"There is a lot of people... they build a house... they ask somebody else to install their power inside their houses," said Pamela Mathis, CUC PIO.

Citing most current figures, Mathis said there were at least 13 fire incidents on the island that were caused by electrical wirings in 1996.

Furthermore, at least one person is being electrocuted in the home every 36 hours, according to the National Electric Safety Foundation (NESF).

The foundation said there have thus far been 155,000 fire incidents that have claimed more than 700 lives, injured 7,000 more and cost \$1 billion in property damages.

The CUC, according to Mathis,

can not inspect in-house power distribution system as this falls outside of the agency's area of jurisdiction.

The task falls under the Department of Public Works (DPW).

In other developments meanwhile, Mathis lamented that few factories are heeding the CUC's call for them to use a power generator system to ease the utilities agency's load.

"Several (factory owners) insists. Several ask nicely. Several call us (saying that) they are offline (when) they are really not," said Mathis.

"There are (a) few that are really wonderful to deal with (and) a few more that would help us," she added.

There were also incidents when CUC, according to Mathis, encounter language problems with some factory operators.

Mathis said several factories have experienced being disconnected from the CUC powerline. Power however is restored after peak hours.

Power also went out Monday afternoon lasting until night time due to a repair that was being done on worn down power engine springs, according to Mathis.

"We had a portion of feeder II (which covers) Beach Road... offline," said Mathis.

Power was out from 5:00 pm until 8:30 pm from a mile's stretch of Beach Road to the Quartermaster post and a section of Middle Road.

Power also went off from 8:40 pm to 10:00 at the very last portion of

feeder six which, according to Mathis, services a less populated area of Koblerville towards the Coral Ocean Point (COP).

"We were working on the auxiliary part of the engine springs... worn down... there were vibrations... we have to stop this," explained Mathis.

She said the utilities agency were able to install new ones.

"The engine is back and working. We have enough power to supply everybody if all consumers will conserve," said Mathis.

The power outage yesterday morning, according to Mathis, was "totally different" in that "it had nothing to do with rotating power outages."

She said CUC encountered a "problem in the power plant auxiliary equipment control panel of the whole power plant."

Mathis gave no assurance there will not anymore be power outages.

"We always warn the public two things: you'll never know when you're going to have mechanical or electrical problems," she explained.



NMI International Queen Sonya Pangelinan and first runner-up Katrina Manning pose for a picture with the M.C. Barrio Dance Group, who will be leaving for the Chitose Beer Festival in Japan. Photo by Sonnie Sablan

Effective August 1st

## Freedom Air

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

DYNASTY HOTEL & CASINO  
CHARTER FLIGHTS

FLT NO.	GUAM LV	TINIAN AR	TINIAN LV	GUAM AR
71	7:15 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	9:00 PM
73	9:30 PM	10:15 PM	10:30 PM	11:15 PM
74	5:00 PM	5:45 PM	6:00 PM	6:45 PM
77	7:15 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	9:00 PM
79	9:30 PM	10:15 PM	10:30 PM	11:15 PM

### Daily Flight Schedule

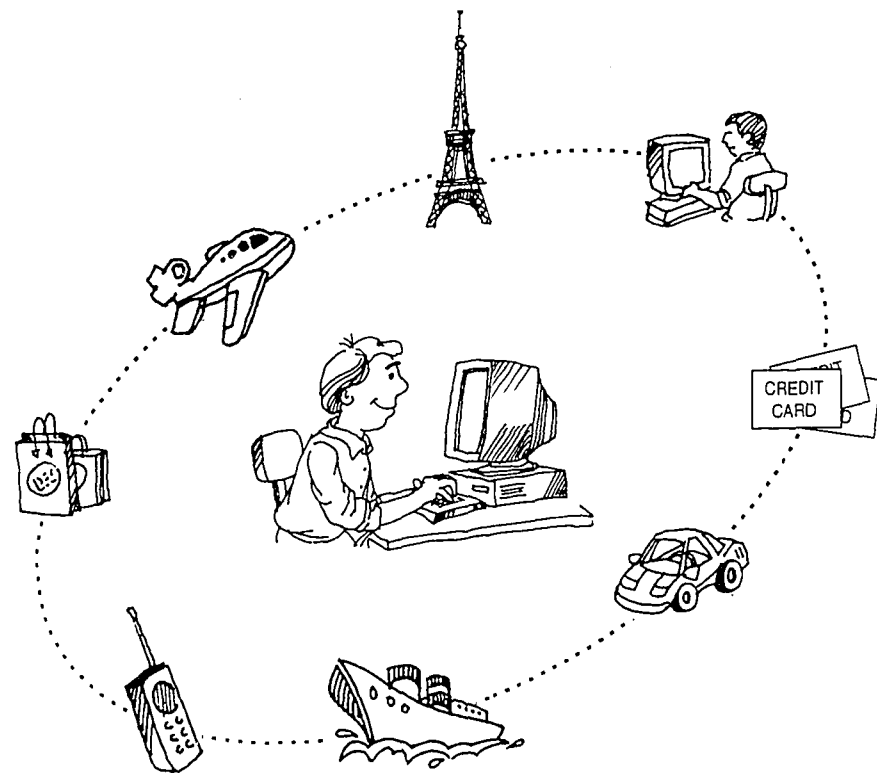
FLT NO.	101	103	105	107	109	111	113	115	117	119	121	123
SAIPAN LV	6:45 AM	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	8:40 AM	9:30 AM	10:45 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:00 PM	4:40 PM	5:00 PM
TINIAN AR	6:55 AM	7:40 AM	8:10 AM	8:50 AM	9:40 AM	6:10 PM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	2:40 PM	4:10 PM	4:50 PM	5:10 PM
FLT NO.	102	104	106	108	110	112	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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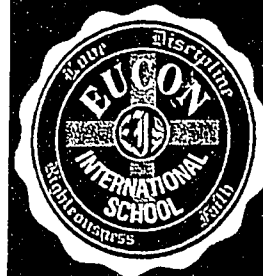
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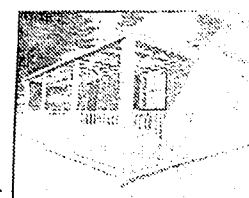
# AROUND the Islands

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



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting for all Carolinian's Community is schedule to be held on:

Wednesday, July 29, 1998  
Carolinian Utt  
7:00 P.M.

Congressmen Timmo Olopai, Melvin Faisao and Congresswoman Malua Peter will be making a presentation. Other vital issues of concern will be discussed.

For more information, you may call the office of Congressman Timmo Olopai at 664-8466.

Everyone is invited.  
Your presence is appreciated.

OLOMWAAY

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@gtepacifica.net

## PIA gears for Rota Fiesta

REPRESENTATIVES from Pacific Island Aviation, Inc. met yesterday with Rota Mayor Benjamin T. Manglona and pledged to support the 1998 San Francisco de Borja Fiesta.

PIA's Chief Executive Officer Robert F. Christian assured Manglona there will be adequate air transportation service during the island's celebration of its annual fiesta.

"We recognize the importance of the fiesta, not only to the church and community, but also to the businesses of Rota. We are committed to providing sufficient capacity for all those that wish to enjoy this important annual event."

The fiesta is scheduled for October 11th, although festivities are planned to occur right through the three-day weekend.



Benjamin T. Manglona

During the fiesta period, PIA will be offering double the number of available seats and cargo capacity.

Presently, PIA offers 4 flights daily to and from Saipan Rota, and 3 flights daily to and from Guam.

Extra flights are scheduled, as demand requires.

## Guam Calendar School orientations

Orientation for 6th grade and new 7th and 8th grade students attending F.B. Leon Guerrero Middle School will take place on Thursday, July 30th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Transportation is not provided. For more information please call 653-2080/90.

\*\*\*

Orientation for incoming Dedado Middle School 6th grade students is scheduled for Wednesday, July 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The orientation will be conducted in the school cafeteria. Parents are encouraged to attend.

For more information please call 632-5647 or 632-9557 or the Department of Education Public Information Office at 475-0457.

\*\*\*

Teacher Orientation for all Chamoru language teachers will take place on Friday, July 31st at Southern High School from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information call Chamoru Studies at 475-0537.

## GCC exams

The Fall 1998 Math and English Placement Test for students entering Guam Community College is scheduled for Saturday, August 1st at 8:00 a.m. in Room C-22.

The fee for the test is \$10.00. Please pay at the cashier's office which will open at 7:30 a.m. Seating is limited.

Please come early to secure a seat.

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## Manamko Advisory Council elects officers

By Louie C. Alonso

THE MANAMKO from the Office of the Aging Administration has elected new sets of council officers for this year.

The Saipan Manamko Advisory Council voted Angelica Omar as its new chairperson and John Duke Kaainoa as vice chairperson.

Other officers include Ignacio Ada (secretary), Teofilia DL Guenero (treasurer), Kim Joon (member), Virginia Aguan (member), Vicente R. Iginoes (member) and Basilia Kaipat (member).

These 8-man council is tasked to lend services to help the aging employees and other Manamko in the administration.

Lino Olopai of the Aging Administration said, "Though they are not that strong enough to carry all tasks, the board of directors in the administration will help them in all of the activities."

The selection of the 8 officers was made through an election last July 14 while in July 23, the 8 selected officers have chosen among themselves who will be the most appropriate Manamko to chair the council.

The Saipan Manamko Advisory Council is a non profit organization under the Manamko's umbrella that started in 1992.

## Operation DUI on Guam

Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — Island motorists may want to think twice before drinking and driving. The Guam Police Department will be conducting Operation DUI again this weekend.

The operation is an ongoing project of the department in an effort to keep the streets safe.

According to PIO, Ron Taitano, Operation DUI is mainly a deterrent, against the possibility of people drinking and getting behind the wheel.

Taitano says that overall the operation has been effective, especially when the media provides the information to the public.

He says that if the operation only garners a couple of arrests, it was a success because the public knows not

to operate a vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Penalties for driving under the influence range from a \$1,000 fine and confinement for 48 hours, as a misdemeanor, to a \$4,000 fine, one-year imprisonment, suspension of drivers license for five years, and forfeiture of your vehicle, as a third degree felony.

The operation will commence on Friday, July 31, at 7:00 p.m., and end 6:00 a.m., Sunday, August 2.

Operation DUI sobriety checkpoints will be at the following areas:  
Route 1: Hagatna, Upper Tumon, Anigua  
Route 8: Maite, Barrigada  
Route 10: Barrigada, Mangilao  
Route 14: Tamuning, Tumon

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# AROUND the Islands

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## PIC wins lifeguard challenge



The Pacific Islands Club team composed of (from left), Jacqueline Rockman, Sean McCue and Kelly M. Frazier pose for a photo at the First Annual American Red Cross Lifeguard Challenge. The trio placed first in the competition.

LAST Saturday, four three-person teams completed in the First Annual American Red Cross Lifeguard Challenge, the CNMI chapter said in a news release.

Lifeguards from five of the hotels on island battled it out on Saturday to prove their a lifeguard skills and the Pacific Islands Club Team composed of Sean McCue, Kelly M. Frazier and, Jacqueline Rockman, emerged winners.

Second Place went to Hyatt Regency Saipan's Jacoby Winkfield, Timothy Namuh and Tony A. Ganiz. Aqua Resort/Plumeria Resort's Billy Jo Alfred, Onafer Kiku and

Steve Winchel placed third while Kan Pacific's Jesus Ronquillo, Roy R. Ocanada and Diego A. Pua placed fourth.

Lifeguards competed in a variety of events to test their skills and simulate actual lifesaving situations.

The final event proved to be exciting for the spectators as well as participants. It simulated a real life situation in which a child mannequin was actually saved after disappearing and sinking to the bottom of the pool.

Participants tested their skills at both rescue, CPR and First Aid. Again, PIC came out on top of the final event, but was followed very closely by

Aqua/Plumeria.

Kan Pacific and Hyatt both provided a challenge to PIC in the swimming competitions with Jacoby Winkfield proving to be the strongest swimmer and Kan Pacific placing second in the 1500 meter medley.

Overall, all participants completed the events with strong times and showcased the skills that have made the American Red Cross the leader in lifeguard training.

A barbecue will be held for all participants and event volunteers on August 23, 1998 at 6pm at Pau Pau beach to award certificates for those with outstanding performance and to recognize the final winning team from Pacific Islands Club.

The American Red Cross expressed

thanks to three individuals who were the driving force behind this event and who in the last year have certified

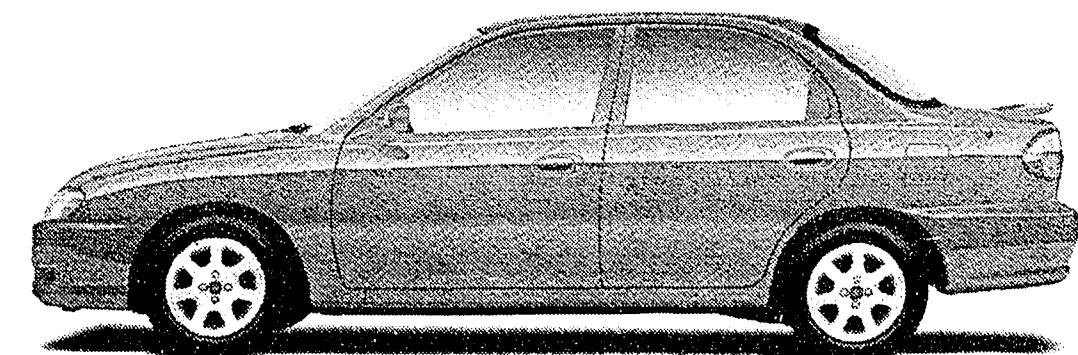
nearly all of the lifeguards on-island. "Abner Weed, Ed Johnson and

Continued on page 19



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With new law against loitering

# Anti-prostitution drive heats up

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

IT'S back to the old cat-and-mouse game once again in downtown Garapan.

Following the recent enactment of Public Law 11-19, the new anti-prostitution law, police as well as labor and immigration operatives have renewed its drive against overstaying and illegally employed nonresident workers believed linked to a flesh trade ring operating in the tourist area.

Teams of blue-uniformed labor and immigration agents can be seen combing Garapan's streets

almost every night while plainclothes operatives, well-placed sources said, have been "hanging around" suspected prostitution "hotspots."

Against this backdrop are groups of female Chinese nationals seen running from one end of a street to another in an obvious attempt to elude questioning and possible arrest.

"It's action time," said one labor and immigration operative insisting anonymity.

The Department of Labor and Immigration (DOLI) has, however, yet to release official fig-

ures on the number of suspected prostitutes and pimps thus far arrested since the campaign kicked off a few weeks back.

DOLI Secretary Mark Zachares, shortly before he left for a recent Washington D.C. visit announced that the department is holding "preliminary discussions" with Public Safety Commissioner Charles W. Ingram Jr. on the re-activation of an anti-prostitution task force.

"I have preliminary discussions with Commissioner Ingram to re-invent or re-ignite a task force with them as different from the

past," Zachares has said.

He vowed increased efforts in Garapan and the San Jose area.

"We will again patrol the streets... this will be ongoing for quite a while until the message is out," said Zachares.

"We will not tolerate prostitu-

tion on street corners, in downtown Garapan, in downtown San Jose or wherever it may be," he added.

Public Law 11-19 imposes strict prohibitions against prostitution, loitering, and patronizing prostitutes.

## Non-cooperation hurts tourism promo efforts

By Aldwin R. Fajardo

Variety News Staff

UNWILLINGNESS to cooperate by some big players in the industry to drop their rates is hampering efforts at encouraging more visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands, according to a business sector leader.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Joe C. Ayuyu is urging big industry players to contribute in creating better value and clearer image for the CNMI as a destination.

"The big players in the industry must put their money where the problem is rather than just talking about it. They have to be very proactive in terms of doing everything they can to create value [for the CNMI]," he said.

Ayuyu stressed that everybody who is involved in the tourism industry should start sacrificing now, instead of passing over the bulk of responsibility to the cash-strapped government.

"The answer to our tourism problem is not the appointment of new board to the Marianas Visitors Authority or government subsidy. The private sector has to also make sacrifices," he said, adding that everybody should contribute to the success of attracting more tourists.

He cited the case of a small boat operator who has complained of declining number of customers who are going on a sunset cruise. He said the boat owner has informed tour agents that he dropping off prices.

"But to his surprise, the agents did not lower the price to the consumers in Japan. So, the price remains the same. There are other players in the industry that are not willing to sacrifice so how can we work as a team," Ayuyu told Variety.

Ayuyu is pressing for an across the board decrease in tourism-related rates in what he said should



Joe C. Ayuyu

perk up visitor arrivals to the CNMI and make tourists spend more than how much they cough up at present.

At the same time, he said changing the MVA board members when the economy is down as it is now will not make any difference. "We're not going to see more tourists now simply because the board has been changed but I think it is time that we take new directions on how we may be able to attract more visitors."

He pointed out that the Japanese economy is down in such a way that unemployment is very high, and at the same time, outbound traffic has either been stagnant or declining "because people just don't have the money to travel overseas."

He added that Japanese are now traveling within their country and this should already cause alarm for the Northern Mariana's tourism industry since Japan is its major market in Asia.

"I still think that the answer is not putting in new members but the determination of the government to provide financial support to the organization. The new board should also give small businesses the opportunity to participate in their programs to promote the CNMI," he stressed.

## Assistance offered to increase locals' skills

By Louie C. Alonso

Variety News Staff

THE OFFICE of Indigenous Affairs will introduce a project that will help increase the technical and business skills among the local people of CNMI.

The project, according to OIA Resident Executive Ike Demapan, will provide assistance to locals lacking expertise in different field of works but wants to find a better job.

Demapan said that the purpose and objective of the project is to implement and facilitate a program to increase local technical and business skills.

Demapan said that one of the mandates of the Indigenous Affairs Office is to assist and promote local entrepreneurial development for the indigenous people. "As a Resident Executive for Indigenous Affairs, I strongly feel that such project is imperative and vital to provide to our local U.S. citizens who has interest and potential to own and operate their own business activities."

"It will also assist other local individuals who are currently operating their own small business ameliorate and solidify their business acumen," Demapan said.

## Elsewhere in the Pacific Scientists work on system to prepare for tsunamis

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — A network of seismological beacons will be installed along Papua New Guinea's north coast as an early warning device against future tsunamis, the Australian government said Monday.

Australian scientists will travel to Papua New Guinea on Tuesday to begin work with an international team of seismologists trying to understand the cause of the disaster, Resources Minister Warwick Parer said.

"The seismologists will be assisting the Papua New Guinea Geological Survey to install a network of seismographs at Wewak, Aitape, Vanimo and at Nuku, south of Aitape," Parer said.

"These will be used to locate aftershocks which will highlight the source region of the magnitude 7 earthquake that triggered the destructive tsunami."

A tsunami believed to have been caused by an offshore earthquake struck the northwest coast of Papua New Guinea on July 17, destroying villages, killing 2,000 people and leav-

ing thousands more homeless.

Australian Geological Survey Organization seismologists Kevin McCue and Malcolm Somerville will be the first seismologists to visit the area since the disaster.

Parer said the scientists would use information from the network to try to protect the people of Papua New Guinea from a repeat of the tragedy. "Seismologists will be able to estimate the warning time between the

occurrence of an earthquake and any resulting tsunami hitting the coastline," Parer said.

"This work will contribute to planning guidelines for rehabilitation of this region and other vulnerable coastal communities."

It is unclear how well the warning system will work, as victims of the tsunami who felt the earthquake said the wave hit the coast within minutes and there was no time to escape.

## South Pacific's finance ministers gather in Fiji

NUKU'ALOFA (Pacnews)—South Pacific finance ministers begin meeting in Fiji this week to work on a budget for the University of the South Pacific, for the next financial year.

The ministers, representing member countries of the university, will look at the budgetary requirements for the main campus in Suva and other U-S-P centres in the region.

Officials say finding ways to speed-up the payment of allocated contributions by member countries will be one issue to take priority at the Suva meeting.

## US State warns FSM Compact negotiations may be at risk

HONOLULU (Pacnews)—The United States has accused the Pohnpei state government in the Federated States of Micronesia, of driving an American company out of business through its involvement in the pepper production industry.

The US State Department, has issued a report alleging that the government purchased pepper at inflated market prices in order to

put Island Traders, a company owned by American businessman Robert Arthur, out of business.

The State Department report says the Pohnpei government's direct competition with the private sector could jeopardize negotiations over a renewed United States-Federated States of Micronesia Compact of Free Association due to begin next year.

## STDs increase in Tonga worries health officials

NUKU'ALOFA (Pacnews)—Tongan health authorities have expressed concern at the rise in cases of Sexually Transmitted Diseases being recorded in the Kingdom.

Radio Tonga reports that Dr Taniela Lutui from Nuku'alofa's Vaiola hospital says he is particularly concerned that the latest case of an S-T-D was reported in a 13-year-old boy.

Doctor Lutui says this brings to 26, the number of people in the Tongan capital treated for S-T-D's in the last five months.

He says most Tongans are very much aware of the consequences of risky sexual behaviour - but some have chosen to ignore public awareness campaigns mounted by media organisations and the Tongan Ministry of Health.

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As new Constitution comes into force

# Fijians settle on new name

By ROBERT KEITH REID  
SUA, Fiji (AP) — Long-held grievances that have split the Pacific Island nation of Fiji for decades ended Monday when a new constitution abolishing discrimination non-indigenous Fijians came into force.

Symbolic of the reform, the about 800,000 people of Fiji, after 28 years of infighting, have finally agreed on a name for themselves in their multiracial society.

From Monday, indigenous Fijians as well as the descendants

of Indian, Chinese and European laborers and traders will all be officially known as Fiji Islanders.

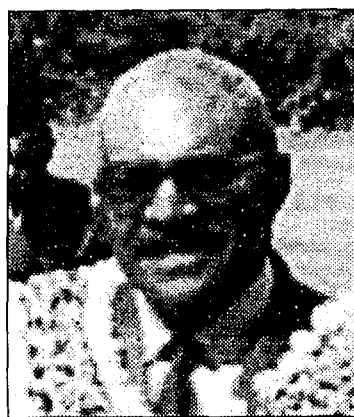
The new name is part of sweeping reforms to the rules of government in Fiji, ushered in by the new constitution, which came into force from midnight Sunday.

The new constitution ends an internationally condemned system of government which was installed after two military coups in 1987.

The official name for the

360 island archipelago will also change, to the "Republic of the Fiji Islands" from the "Sovereign Democratic Republic of Fiji."

Since gaining independence from Britain in 1970, indigenous Fijians — a Melanesian people strongly influenced by Polynesian culture who form just over half the total population — have opposed the use of the word Fijian to describe the nationality of decedents of sugar plantation workers and



Sitiveni Rabuka

traders from India, China, Europe and other countries.

Indigenous Fijians claimed applying the description to other citizens, particularly Indians, undermined their historic primacy.

They said this even though Fijian is not a Fijian word, being derived from a description of the country's people by the British navigator James Cook 200 years ago.

Indigenous Fijians referred to Indians as Kai India or Fiji Indians and to white people as Kai Valagi.

In recent years many citizens of Indian descent referred to themselves as "Indo-Fijians," but that didn't go down well with Fijians either.

Indigenous Fijians refer to themselves as "i taukei" — literally "owners of the land" — and retain communal ownership of 87 percent of all of Fiji's land mass.

The divisions erupted into the 1987 coups, in which the Fijian-dominated army overthrew what in a general election had become the country's first Indian-dominated parliament and government.

The new constitution replaces a document imposed in 1990 by the post-coup regime.

It barred non-Fijians from becoming prime minister, president or other key government posts and gave Fijians, who until recently were less than half the population, a guaranteed parliamentary majority.

The new constitution follows international criticism, and is a condition of Fiji's reentry into the British Commonwealth.

The new constitution removes discriminatory clauses, adds a bill of rights and freedom of information laws, creates a human rights commission and a 71-member elected Lower House of parliament in which native Fijians are not guaranteed a majority.

A 52-member Upper House Senate will be composed of 14 Fijian members nominated by the Great Council of Chiefs, nine nominated by the prime minister, eight by the leader of the opposition and one by the island of Rotuma.

Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka, who led the 1987 coups and was elected prime minister in 1992, has said the first election under the new constitution will be held in March 1999.

The president will be nominated by the chiefs.

Election campaigning is already underway. In recent months about six new small Fijian political parties have emerged to oppose Rabuka's party, the Fijian Political Party.

But Rabuka and opposition leader Jai Ram Reddy, who has the support of most of the Indian community (46 percent of the population) and who jailed during the coups, have declared their desire to work together, perhaps in a coalition government.

# Estrada: Bleak picture

By OLIVER TEVES

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Painting a bleak picture of the Philippine economy and the cash-strapped government that he inherited, President Joseph Estrada unveiled an austerity and revenue generation program in his first state-of-the-nation address Monday.

"I won't beat around the bush. We are facing a severe crisis that is rocking the whole of Asia," Estrada said.

"The government cannot shore up the weakness of the economy. In short, the government is bankrupt."

Sniping at claims by the administration of his predecessor, Fidel Ramos, that the number of poor Filipinos has declined over the last six years, Estrada said the statistics are meaningless to ordinary people.

"Poor is poor — no money, no food, no roof over their heads, no dignity and especially no hope," said Estrada.

Estrada, a former actor who portrayed

underdog heroes championing the poor, campaigned on a pro-poor platform in the May 11 election.

Estrada said that while the economy is slowing, commodity prices, unemployment and the crime rate are rising.

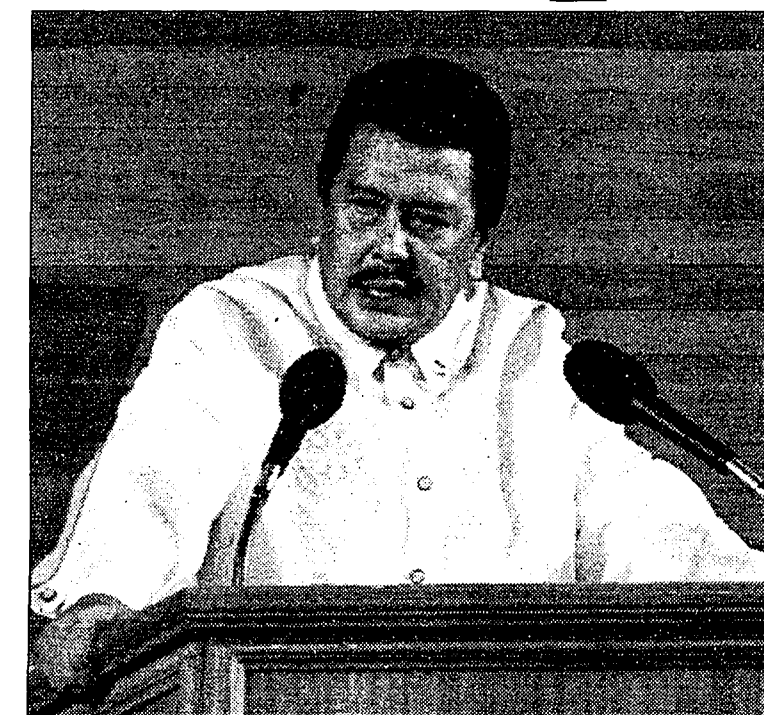
Labor productivity is declining as more and more Filipinos are unable to go to school because the government could not increase spending for public education, he said.

Estrada said that after 26 years, only 57 percent of lands targeted for distribution in a land reform program have been distributed and agricultural productivity is also declining.

While the budget deficit is ballooning to an expected 70 billion pesos (about \$ 1.7 billion), corruption and foreign debt service continue to drain the government's coffers.

Estrada said his administration will continue the economic and political reforms of his predecessors.

"But we race against time as an



Philippine President Joseph Estrada delivers his first State of the Nation Address before the Congress in Manila Monday. He announced outlines of his program to lead the nation in the next six years which include vital economic reform measures to cope with the Asian financial crisis.

impatient public asks us: when will those reforms pay dividends for the common man," he said.

"Well, we just have to begin now. With honesty, with thrift, with efficiency."

He said he has ordered the with-

holding of 25 percent of budget allocations and 10 percent of allotments for local governments, and urged Congress to abolish its pork barrel and postpone programs, including military modernization, funded by the sale of military camps this year.

To raise additional revenue, Estrada also asked Congress to pass a law to privatize the state-run National Power Corp., the largest Philippine company.

He said government shares will be sold in other major corporations, such as the Philippine National Bank and Petron Corp., the country's largest oil refiner.

To make more funds available for small and medium enterprises, he said he will reverse the practice of government finance corporations that allow large companies to corner loans from the government.

He said the current crisis has shown the vulnerability of an economy when it relies on foreign investment, and urged citizens to increase their savings to increase domestic capital.

Despite spending cuts, Estrada said the government will ensure continued basic health care and other social services.

He indicated that he wants to trim the bureaucracy but did not elaborate.

"My aim is to help our country escape the recession," he said.

"My solutions are obvious. My proposals may be commonplace, but they were never adopted before. In sum, they are to spend wisely and less."

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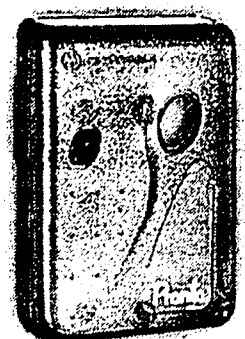
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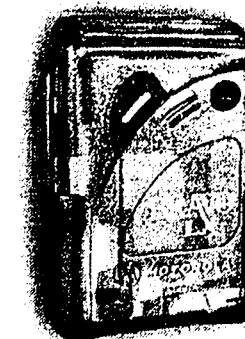
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## President defends support for military agreement with US

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Joseph Estrada, once a staunch opponent of U.S. military bases in the Philippines, defended Monday his decision to support an agreement that would allow a resumption of joint military exercises.

"Until we develop a credible military deterrent, we must depend on the goodwill of our neighbors, on our treaty commitments with the United States, and on the skills of our diplomats in conveying to everyone that we want only peace, stability and shared prosperity," Estrada said in his first state-of-the-nation address to Congress.

Earlier this year, U.S. and Philippine officials signed a visiting forces agreement that would provide certain legal protections to U.S. soldiers while in the Philippines.

Estrada even made a movie against the base, which has since been converted into a successful industrial and tourism center.

"It is said that my stand as a senator against the U.S. bases treaty ... disqualified me as president from endorsing the visiting forces agreement with the United States," Estrada said in his speech.

"On the contrary, because I stood up for Philippine sovereignty in 1991, now as your president, I have the moral right to stand up for Philippine security today," Estrada said.

Critics say the agreement, which requires ratification by the Philippine Senate, could shield American soldiers who commit offenses from criminal prosecution in Philippine courts because of various loopholes.

The agreement generally gives the United States jurisdiction over soldiers who commit crimes while on duty, while the Philippines has jurisdiction over crimes committed while off-duty.

Critics say the Philippines is likely to waive its jurisdiction if requested by the Americans, except in cases "of particular importance" to the Philippines.

Under the agreement, American authorities can issue an "official duty certificate," which would show that an offense by a U.S. soldier was committed while on duty, justifying their jurisdiction and custody over the offender, they say.

## Policemen, militiamen killed in rebel ambush

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — At least three policemen and a militiaman were killed in an ambush by communist rebels in the southern Philippines over the weekend, the national police said Monday.

The victims were on a jeep Saturday when they were fired upon by New People's Army guerrillas hiding on the side of a road in Davao Oriental province, about 965 kilometers (600 miles) southeast of Manila.

Another policeman, an army sergeant who hitched a ride and two civilians were wounded in the ambush, police said.

The rebels seized three assault rifles and ammunition from the slain po-

licemen before escaping, the police said.

The rebels continue to engage in occasional hit-and-run attacks against isolated military and police units despite ongoing peace negotiations.

The talks to end three decades of insurgency have resulted in an agreement on respect for human rights, which has not yet been approved by Philippine President Joseph Estrada.

The human rights accord is the first of four agreements before a political settlement is reached.

The three others cover economic reforms, political reforms and disposition of armed forces.

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# US sailors deny rape

PERTH, Australia (AP) — An American sailor Monday denied participating in the three-way rape of a schoolgirl, telling an Australian court the 15-year-old initiated sex with all three men then asked for money.

"It took as consensual because she initiated most of what was going on in the room. It wasn't by force," Timothy Tolbert, 25, told the Perth District Court.

He and fellow U.S.S. Constellation sailors Darryl Benson, 21, and Damian Hargrove, 20, have pleaded innocent to 12 charges alleging acts of sexual penetration, attempted penetration without consent and indecent

assault.

The girl, now aged 16 and whose identity was suppressed from publication, told the court she consented to sex with Hargrove in his Perth hotel room on May 5, 1997, because she needed somewhere to stay the night after running away from home.

After having sex with him, the girl accompanied Hargrove into the city, where they met the other two men and returned to the room.

She said the three forced her to perform oral sex, raped her, then left her crying and alone in the room.

But Tolbert testified that when they

returned to the room, Hargrove and the teenager hopped on the bed together.

"There was laughter and giggling going on. Later the covers came off and I noticed she was performing oral sex on Hargrove," he said.

Tolbert said the girl began "fondling" Benson, and voluntarily per-

formed sex acts on Benson and himself.

After sex, Tolbert said the girl asked them for money "to get something to eat."

"We had Australian dollars 20 (U.S. \$12) and her reply was 'All the stuff I did, that's all it's worth, 20 dollars,'" Tolbert said.

The men left the room, telling the girl they were going to a bank teller machine to get more money. They did not return.

The girl denied asking for money. "They raped me. I never asked for any money at all," she said.

The trial continues before a judge and jury.

## Taiwanese president calls on China to stop political dispute

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — President Lee Teng-hui on Monday called on China to put aside its political dispute with Taiwan in order to concentrate on modernization and democratic reforms.

"Instead of wasting energy to try to settle our political differences, we might as well work together to achieve the goal of modernization and create better welfare for our people," Lee said in an address to the National Assembly.

"The true essence of the issue is a race between two systems," he said.

Lee's comments came as China is stepping up pressure on Taiwan to hold talks to settle their political differences after gaining clout from the visit of U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Clinton was the first U.S. president to state publicly the policy that the United States would not support Taiwan's independence or



Lee Teng-hui

membership in organizations such as the United Nations.

Taiwan is governed by the Nationalists, who fled to the island after being swept out of the Chinese mainland by the communists in 1949.

China regards Taiwan as a renegade province subject to reintegration by force.

Lee urged China to face the politi-

cal reality of a separate Taiwan. "If they deny this reality on purpose, ... it will only cause damage to peace and to our future cooperation," he said.

He said Taiwan is concerned more about whether China will "come back to the right side of history" by promoting democracy than about the U.S. attitude toward Taiwan.

Taiwan prefers to resume the dialogue suspended by Beijing in 1995 by focusing on practical matters such as trade and fishing disputes.

Officials say after mutual trust is established, the two sides can move on to more sensitive political issues.

But Chinese negotiator Li Yafei insisted at a meeting with his Taiwanese counterpart in Taipei on Sunday that the two sides begin political talks or not resume the dialogue at all.



Li Yafei, right, deputy secretary general of China's Association of Relations Across the Taiwan Strait, shakes hands with his Taiwanese counterpart, Jan Jyh-hong in Taipei Sunday as they began a session to arrange details about Foundation chairman Koo Chen-fu's first ever visit to China in September. AP

## Bankruptcies rising in Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP) — Bankruptcies and business closures are on the rise in Singapore as its vulnerable economy stalls, job losses increase and fatalism sets in, according to a news report on Monday.

Personal bankruptcies rose 20 percent to 986 in the first half of 1998 compared to last year, of which 41 percent were due to failed businesses and 16 percent to job losses, reported The Straits Times.

Company closures also jumped during the economically trying period, increasing 18 percent to 125 liquidations from January to June this year against 106 in the first half of

1997.

Small to medium enterprises fared worst, with 42 percent of these closures among companies with paid-up capital of between 100,000 to 500,000 Singapore dollars (\$58,000 to 291,000).

Most of the 125 liquidations were companies in the commerce, construction and manufacturing sectors.

A lawyer who frequently represents lenders told the newspaper that debtors are now more resigned to fate.

"Now, they just seem to accept that they cannot repay, that the situation is really beyond their control," Tan Peng

Chin was quoted as saying.

Singapore's economy, though spared the brunt of economic catastrophe striking some of its neighbors, has nevertheless slowed significantly since the onset of the Asian crisis.

Its manufacturing sector has slumped due to regional and global factors, while the service, retail, commerce and construction sectors remain sluggish.

The government recently slashed the growth forecast for 1998 to between 0.5 and 1.5 percent, and the prime minister has warned that a recession is likely next year.

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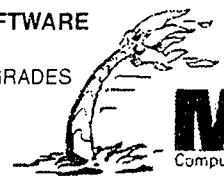
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### PUBLIC NOTICE

July 24, 1998

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Subian, through the CDA Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) Board of Directors will hold its regular meeting on Thursday, July 30, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the CDA Conference Room, Wakin's Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan.

#### AGENDA:

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  1. Roll Call
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
- IV. REPORTS
  1. Fund's Availability Report
  2. Chairman's Executive Director's Report
  3. Personnel & Budget Committee Report
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  1. Pacific Gardenia Hotel
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
  1. 80 Megawatt Power Plant
- VII. DCD MATTERS
  1. Reports
  2. Loan Applications
- VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
- IX. OTHER MATTERS
- X. ADJOURNMENT

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

(Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

JUAN S. TENORIO  
Chairman, CDA Board of Directors

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## China warns ASEAN:

## Crisis threatens stability

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — China warned Monday that as East Asia's financial crisis continues, new problems could emerge to threaten regional stability.

Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan, addressing a security forum hosted by the Association of South-east Asian Nations, stressed that economic growth is the "material basis" for regional and global security.

East Asia's financial crisis, he told the ASEAN Regional Forum, "fully indicates that economic security has increasingly become an inseparable part of national and regional security."

"The crisis" broke out ferociously...

no less than that of a war," he said. For China, he said, economic security means safeguarding the economic sovereignty of the state.

Tang, however, called for countries in the region to promote deeper economic cooperation and, in particular, to take "strict precautions" against excessive currency speculation.

It was the devaluation of the Thai baht in July 1997 that unleashed speculative attacks against several currencies in the region and started East Asia's now year-old financial crisis.

"Economic security is mutual, and it is inadvisable to try to shift one's troubles onto others," Tang said.

## UN envoy sent to Angola

By NICOLE WINFIELD

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — With an upsurge of violence threatening Angola's U.N.-brokered peace accord, the U.N. chief is sending a top official, Lakhdar Brahimi of Algeria, on an emergency mission this weekend to the west African nation.

Brahimi will urge the government, and in particular the former rebel movement UNITA "to desist from any action which could undermine the peace process and to resume negotiations without delay in order to fully and expeditiously implement the remaining provisions" of the 1994 peace accord, a statement said.

Brahimi, travelling as Secretary-General Kofi Annan's special envoy, was to arrive in Angola this weekend, the statement said.

Fighting between the government and the former rebel movement UNITA has spiraled in recent weeks, with a reported massacre last week

in which 215 people were killed, including 88 burned in their huts, U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said Monday.

The U.N. Angola mission dispatched a team to northeastern Lunda Norte province over the weekend to investigate the attack in the diamond-mining village of Bula, about 250 miles (400 kilometers) east of Luanda.

Team members were told by government officials that about 40 men, armed with AK-47 rifles, hand grenades and other weapons carried out the attack, which also injured 70. The team flew over Bula and reported it burned and deserted, Eckhard said.

Human rights workers interviewed 10 of the survivors, who blamed the attack on UNITA. Armed men surrounded the village, entered it killing everybody they could before looting the place and burning it to the ground, Eckhard said. The team was

Continued on page 19

## PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO 1 CMC § 9610, GOVERNOR PEDRO P. TENORIO, LT. GOVERNOR JESUS R. SABLÁN, AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC LANDS, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC LANDS (DPL) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, ARE HEREBY GIVING NOTICE THAT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC LANDS WILL COMMENCE ON FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1998 AT 5:30 P.M.

The meeting is scheduled to continue from day to day until completed and as such, the meeting will be reconvened the following day at 8:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m., and at the same place if the board calls a recess of this meeting. The meeting will be held at Pacific Gardenia Hotel Banquet Hall Room No. 1 in Chalan Kanan.

- AGENDA:
- Roll Call
  - Communications
    - House Bill No. 11-36
    - House Local Bill No. 11-01 (Draft 7)
    - Drafting Bill
  - Report of the Director
    - J.C. Tenorio (South of Tropical Laundry)
    - Martin A. Manglona - Roadway Acquisition
    - Margarita M. Igilji
    - M.S. Villagomez - Pending Acquisition
    - Vicente A. Ichihara - Pending Basin
    - Felipe A. Salas - Roadway Acquisition
    - Anselmo Iglesias
    - Jose Manglona - Agricultural Homestead Waiver
    - Joaquin C. Lizarra
    - Eugene Santos
    - Ponce Raza
    - Wushin Corporation
    - Tinian Marine Resort Limited
    - Black Micro - Draft Permit
    - Marianes Aguya - Status Report
    - Southern Cross - Status Report
    - Sea Tel
    - Fu Yue (Lucky)
    - CTSI Land Lease
    - Coral Ocean Point Lease Agreement
    - Tanapag Leaseback Area
    - 11th Tinian Joint Legislative Delegation - Request three hundred (300) Homestead lots next to Taga Petroleum diesel tank
    - NMHC - Request to reserve Lot No. 012 T 06 for future expansion of Tinian housing stock
    - Rep. Malua Peters - Request for designation of Lot No. 076 D 16 for Youth Center Facility
    - Capital Hill Cemetery
    - Garapan Bus Stop
    - Designated Agricultural Homestead - Rota
    - Report of the Legal Counsel
    - Unfinished Business
      - Public Land Lease Request
      - Rudolph's - Request for 90 days extension
      - Saipan Leisure Corporation - Draft Lease Agreement
  - New Business
    - Public Land Lease
    - MDC Lease
    - Nakamoto Development Inc.
    - CNMI Government Public Land Request
    - Department of Public Health - Request for designation of public lands
    - Department of Public Works - Tanapag Scrap Metal Site
    - CUC - Request to use a small portion of Agriculture Farm Plot No. 004 G 06 to explore water resources
    - Pending Land Exchange Matters
      - Luis P. Cristofino - Land Compensation
      - NMHC - Accommodation Mortgage & Grant of Public Domain
    - Agricultural Homestead
      - Justin S. Manglona - Rota
      - Ana O. Mendola - Rota
      - Antonio T. Manglona - Rota
    - Village Homestead
      - Ramon King Quichocho (Request for waiver)
    - Agricultural Homestead Waiver
      - Jose H. Santos
      - Delina N. Santos
      - Barbano B. Flores
    - Deeds
      - Village Homesteads
      - Agricultural Homesteads
    - Administrative Matters - Rota Office
    - Public Comments
    - Adjournment

/s/TOMAS B. ALDAN  
Chairman, BPL

Tang's address made no mention of the yuan or the country's oft-stated commitment not to devalue the Chinese currency.

Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, however, said he believes the economic crisis so far has had little effect on regional security.

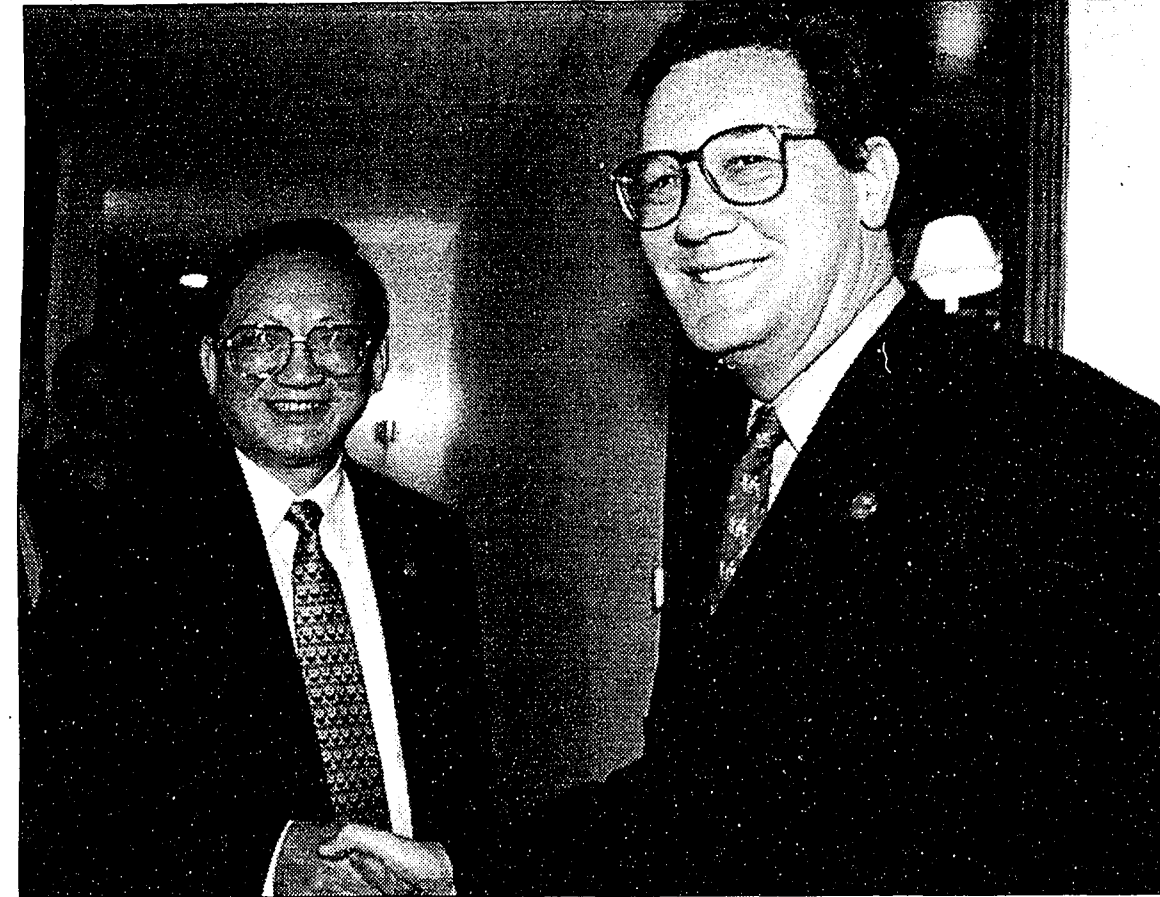
On the positive side, he said, many countries have had to re-

duce their defense expenditures because of the currency crisis. But that has been offset by the fact that they also have had to reduce joint military exercises, which are an important confidence-building element, he said.

In the short term, he said, the greatest risk of the economic crisis to security is in illegal movements of people seeking jobs.

But in the long term, different countries will emerge from the economic crisis with different levels of success, and that will lead to shifts in the balance of power, he said.

The one-day ARF meeting includes officials from the United States, China and Russia. ASEAN foreign ministers are to meet separately with many of the ARF invitees on Tuesday and Wednesday.



Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer (right) and his Chinese counterpart Tang Jiaxuan shake hands as they hold talks in Manila Monday. For the recent flood victims in China, Downer promised aid through the Red Cross. AP

## China demands US Congress respect its claim to Taiwan

**BEIJING (AP)** — China on Monday demanded the U.S. Congress respect Beijing's claim over Taiwan and stop passing resolutions reaffirming American support for the island.

"We demand that members of the U.S. Congress strictly comply with the 'one China' policy, cease all interference in China's domestic affairs and refrain from hampering further improvements in Sino-U.S. relations by using the Taiwan issue," Foreign Ministry spokesman Tang Guoqiang was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency.

Tang's comments marked the second time in two weeks he has criticized the House of Representatives for passing a resolution on July

20 that vowed to continue U.S. arms sales to the island and urged its membership in the World Bank and other international bodies.

Always prickly over perceived foreign interference in its domestic affairs, China saves its harshest invective for Taiwan's campaign to win recognition abroad and any foreign backing for that effort.

Congress exhibited "total disregard for norms guiding international relations" and the resolution "seriously infringed on China's national sovereignty and wantonly interfered in the nation's internal affairs," Tang was quoted as saying.

He earlier attacked the Senate for passing a similar statement and accused supporters of the resolutions of

plotting to sabotage warming relations between Washington and Beijing.

Members of Congress believed the show of support for Taiwan was necessary after U.S. President Bill Clinton made statements in China seen as tilting towards Beijing.

Clinton said Washington did not support an independent Taiwan nor its entry into organizations of sovereign states.

Although the sides have been united for just four of the past 100 years, China continues to claim Taiwan as a renegade province to be reunited by force if necessary.

Taiwan is governed by the Nationalists, who fled to the island after being swept off the mainland by Communist Party-led forces in 1949.

## 8 killed in 3 Kashmir encounters

**JAMMU, India (AP)** — Security forces and guerrillas in the northern state of Kashmir fired at each other in three separate incidents, leaving eight people dead and four others injured, officials said Monday.

Six people, including a civilian, were killed in a fierce exchange of gunfire Sunday night between Indian army soldiers and the militants in Surankote town in Poonch district, 210 kilometers (130 miles) northwest of Jammu, the winter capital, an army spokesman said on condition of

anonymity. The building from where the militants caught fire, trapping them, he said.

Soldiers later recovered six partially charred bodies that they identified as a local civilian and four Pakistani and one Afghan militants.

One other militant and a paramilitary soldier were killed in two separate encounters in the state Sunday, he said. Four persons were injured.

India regularly accuses neighbor-

ing Pakistan of helping Indian and foreign guerrillas fight a proxy war over Kashmir, the northern territory claimed by both nations. Pakistan says it only gives the rebels moral support.

An insurrection erupted in 1989 in Kashmir, with militants fighting security forces.

They want Kashmir to either become independent or join Pakistan. More than 15,000 people have been killed in frequent gun battles since then.

## Santos ...

Continued from page 1

GWA "needed to locate a backhoe."

Spokesperson for GWA, Patrick Lujan said yesterday

## Leaders ...

Continued from page 1

tee, to seriously consider amending US Public Law 104-134 to delete the matching requirement for Covenant funds.

Manglona and Benavente said waiving the matching fund requirement is not only justified under the CNMI's present economic condition, "it is further bolstered by the fact that over \$630 million in CIP projects have been identified by the CNMI."

They said that since entering into the Manglona-Guerra 702 Covenant Funding Agreement in December of 1992, the CNMI government has appropriated all Covenant funds appropriated by Congress and matching local funds for fiscal years 1993, 1994 and 1995 for a total of \$100,237,000.

In 1992, CNMI and US representatives inked a multi-year financial assistance agreement [Manglona-Guerra Agreement]. Under this pact, the CNMI for the first time agreed to provide a local match for the federal CIP assistance.

"These funds were appropriated to fund CIP projects for solid waste, power, water, roads and education," the legislators said.

They also stressed that of these appropriated funds, the balance of approximately \$53 million have been committed to various CIP projects which will be obligated by the end of this calendar year.

Special finance and budget adviser to the governor Michael Sablan earlier disclosed that some \$61 million in total funds allocated to the Northern Mariana Islands during the first two agreements guaranteed under the CNMI-US Covenant remain unobligated.

Sablan said unappropriated Covenant funds under the first and second agreements have been reduced by \$16 million from \$77 million by end-1997 to \$60 million during the last six months.

The reduction was a result of new projects recently approved and now underway, according to Sablan. Of the \$61 million, \$27 million has been allocated to the closure of the Puerto Rico dump and the opening of a sanitary landfill; \$4 million has been reserved for the Kagman school project and approximately \$10 million is reserved for other Capital Improvement Projects.

However, funds allocated under the Covenant which remain unobligated total \$214 million, including the \$154 million funding under the third seven-year agreement.

He said the government is also identifying priority projects which will be appropriated under the \$154 million funds available under the third agreement. Initial list of proposed projects now totals \$500 million.

the agency's backhoe was being used to repair a more serious leak at the commercial port.

"We have to assess the leaks which can range from minor to those that must be fixed immediately," he explained.

GWA prioritizes leaks according to a rating system.

Lujan stated that he couldn't be sure of the severity of the leak in Barrigada, but he believed that it was not an "immediate concern."

Policy analyst for Santos' office, Alvin Duenas, said he's surprised that the agency has only one backhoe.

"They're the primary agency for water distribution," he asserted, "they must have more equipment in-house to deal with these problems. If not, we're in trouble."

Lujan said GWA does have more backhoes but the others are currently being repaired. Lujan added that the leak

should be repaired today.

Meanwhile, a water leak occurred yesterday on Nimitz hill at the old enlisted housing.

Spokesperson for the Navy Lieutenant Nick Balice described it as "less than a faucet," which has been corrected.

On Monday, island officials declared Water Conservation Level III, which prohibits the washing of cars or flushing of driveways. It allows for the watering of plants every other day only between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 8 in the morning.

Lujan affirmed that residents who violate the new mandates may be prosecuted.

"We don't want to be water police, but in some situations we may have to," he said.

He explained the penalties may include a resident's water being cut-off, the charge of a misdemeanor, or a felony for harsher cases.

## Daiwa Sumitomo to form new bank

**TOKYO (AP)** — In the latest aftershock from Japan's financial system reforms, Sumitomo Bank Ltd. and Daiwa Securities Co. have agreed to form a Western-style investment bank, media reported Tuesday.

The two companies will spin off their capital market and corporate-client divisions, combining them in an investment-bank offering sophisticated financial services to corporate customers, the Nihon Keizai business daily reported.

The new company will provide securities underwriting, trading, mergers and acquisitions services and derivative transactions, the daily reported.

Quoting sources at the two companies, the reports said the venture would be announced later Tuesday.

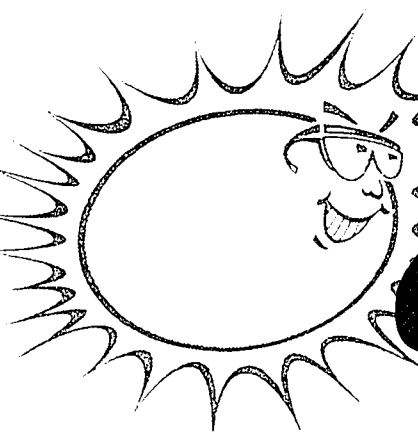
Sumitomo and Daiwa are also reportedly studying a possible consolidation of overseas securities units, while Sumitomo is considering merging its securities subsidiary, Sumitomo Capital Securities Co., into the new company, the paper said.

The two are also seeking to form a tie-up with an overseas institution, the paper said.

Sources at the two financial giants said the new venture is expected to start operating in April of next year with capitalization of 300 billion yen (\$2.1 billion), Kyodo News service reported.

Daiwa will have a 60 percent stake while Sumitomo will take the remaining 40 percent, Kyodo said, quoting the sources.

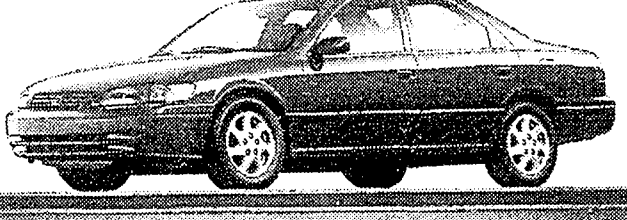
The reported move is the latest in a continuing consolidation in Japan's financial industry.

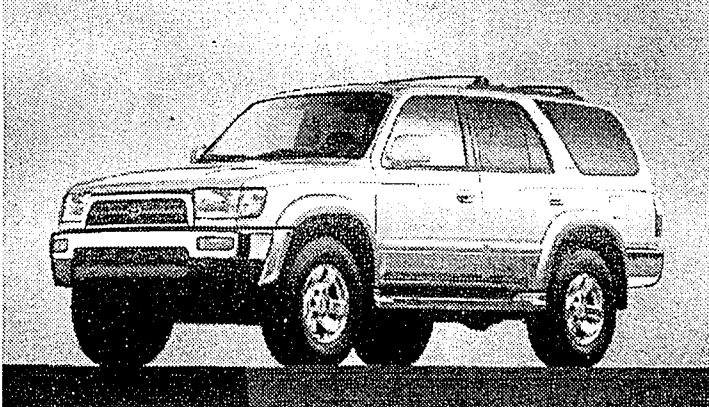


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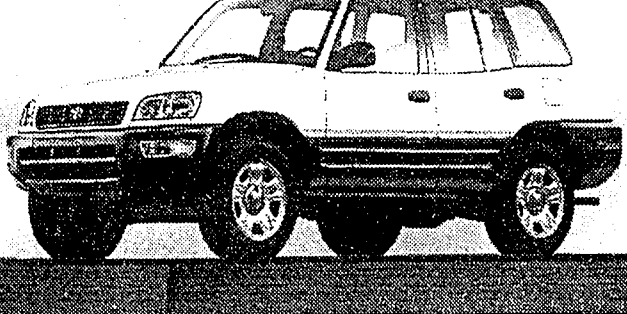



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# Iraq accuses US of bomb

By WAIEL FALEH  
BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq on Monday accused the United States and American-backed Iraqi opponents of being behind an explosion in Baghdad last week.

A car exploded in the parking lot of Baghdad's Al-Rasheed Hotel on Friday, causing minor damage and no injuries.

There has been no claim of responsibility.

Al-Thawra, which is published by the ruling Baath party, charged in an editorial on Monday that the United States was behind the blast. It cited recent reports from Washington that the Clinton administration has asked the U.S. Congress to fund covert operations against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Reports say that the American administration has paid money for the so-called opposition to carry out political, media and secret operations against Iraq and its people," said newspaper said.

It added that the explosion at the Al-Rasheed "is one of the activities which those agents were to carry out."

It did not cite any evidence for the allegation.

Al-Thawra said it expected further violence by Iraqi opponents of the regime, saying: "We expect the explosion to be the beginning of other terrorist acts in order to utilize the payment from their American and Zionist masters."

The paper said the Clinton administration was resorting to plots against the Iraqi regime "to cover their failure" to bring Iraq to its knees with sanctions.

It was a reference to stringent U.N. trade sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The United States and Britain have led the fight in the U.N. Security Council to keep the sanctions in place until Iraq has eliminated its weapons of mass destruction.

The paper said that now that there is rising support in the United Nations for lifting the sanctions, the Americans were adopting "this dirty, cowardly way" to punish Iraq.

## Ex-PM Bhutto gets more time to defend herself

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP) — Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto pleaded for more time Monday to defend herself against corruption charges, and was granted three weeks before her next court hearing.

She was also ordered to post a bond of 5 million rupees (about \$800,000) to avoid going to jail pending trial in the case stemming from the government's purchase of tractors to be sold to farmers at subsidized prices. Ms. Bhutto and her husband Asif Zardari are accused of receiving kickbacks in the \$33 million tractor deal.

Zardari, who was also in court Monday, was ordered to post his own 5-million-rupee bond in the case, though he is already jailed in several other cases.

Ms. Bhutto had missed a previous hearing because she was in Dubai visiting her three children, prompting the special corruption court to issue an arrest warrant that was later overturned.

The court set the next hearing for Aug. 20. Judges had originally scheduled the next hearing for Thursday, but relented after Ms. Bhutto rose in court to say that would not give her enough time to prepare her case.

"I will not be able to defend myself," said Ms. Bhutto, who

has said the charges against her were fabricated by her political enemy, current Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Before the hearing, police beat back hundreds of her supporters who had tried to enter the courtroom. Police feared the supporters would disrupt the hearing.

The judges said Ms. Bhutto and Zardari would not have to appear at the next hearing, and instead could be represented by their lawyers.

Earlier this month, a Swiss Court indicted Zardari on charges of money laundering and said it was clearing up details before charging Ms. Bhutto herself.

Zardari has been in jail since his wife's government was dismissed in November 1996 on charges of corruption and ineptitude. Zardari faces Pakistani charges of corruption as well as murder in connection with the 1996 shooting death of Ms. Bhutto's estranged brother, Murtaza. Zardari has denied the charges.

Sharif, pledging he would clean up government, swept to power in elections last year.

Once in office, he set out to prove Ms. Bhutto and her husband took millions of dollars in kickbacks and bribes and hid the money in Swiss bank accounts.

## Palestinians reject reported Israeli withdrawal proposals

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel is trying to bring the Palestinians back to the negotiating table with proposals for joint security control of a small area in the West Bank, Israeli media reports said Monday.

But Palestinian officials said they would not consider any proposals that were not in line with a U.S. initiative for an Israeli withdrawal from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank.

Israel has refused to accept the American initiative, and talks on the long overdue troop withdrawal have been deadlocked for months.

Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Mahmoud Abbas, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's top deputy, met secretly Saturday night in an effort to restart the talks.

A spokesman for Mordechai said talks would resume soon, and Israeli

media reports said the Palestinians had agreed to rejoin the talks after hearing concessions presented by Mordechai.

Israel seized the West Bank from neighboring Jordan in 1967.

Israel has balked at turning over more than 10 percent more of the West Bank to the Palestinians before a final peace settlement is reached.

But the Maariv newspaper said Mordechai told Abbas that Israel was willing to share security control with the Palestinians in another 3 percent, and that the 3 percent would be on contiguous land near Bethlehem in the Judean Desert.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, speaking Monday on Israel Radio, said there had been no agreement on the 3 percent or any other matter.

"We are discussing various sug-

gestions, but no agreements have been reached," he said.

He said, however, that there had been a decision to restart the talks.

Palestinian negotiators, however, said the talks would not resume until the Israelis brought new ideas that did not contradict the American proposal.

Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to Arafat, said Monday that the reported 3-percent proposals were not new and not in line with the U.S. proposal.

"If these are the ideas they bring to the Palestinian side, then Netanyahu is sentencing the talks to failure," he told The Associated Press.

Tibi said no new talks on the redeployment were scheduled, although Abbas was to meet Monday night with Israeli police minister Avigdor Kahalani to discuss other issues of Israel-Palestinian relations.



An Israeli soldier surveys the wreckage of an Israeli air force A-4 Skyhawk jet fighter that crashed in the West Bank during a training exercise Monday. The plane crashed into a wheat field in the village of Tarkouniya, west of Hebron and broke into hundreds of pieces. A pilot and a student pilot ejected from the U.S.-made plane before the crash. AP

## Commander, 1,500 defect to Taliban side

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A Taliban spokesman said an opposition commander and his 1,500 fighters switched over to the Taliban side Monday.

The move by Abdul Khair Hakimi, which could not be independently confirmed, would put several villages in central Ghor Province under Taliban control and could allow the religious militia to open a new front against its

enemies. The Taliban spokesman said on customary condition of anonymity that Hakimi had pledged to defend the Taliban administration.

There were also reports Monday of continued fierce fighting in Faryab Province, north of Ghor. The Taliban army moved into Faryab two weeks ago, handing troops led by former communist

general Rashid Dostum their most serious setback in the past year.

The Taliban religious army rules in about 85 percent of Afghanistan and controls the capital, Kabul.

The anti-Taliban alliance that controls the remaining 15 percent of Afghanistan, mostly in the north, has been weakened by fighting among its factions.

## UN envoy . . .

Continued from page 16

to return to the village this week to continue the investigation.

UNITA — a Portuguese acronym for the National Union for the Total

Independence of Angola — runs diamond-mining operations in Lunda Norte. The diamonds provide the movement with hundreds of millions of dollars annually, analysts say, but recent Security Council sanctions have banned UNITA's diamond exports.

## US raps . . .

Continued from page 2

endorsing Clinton's extension of normal-trade relations, a vote Albright praised.

Meanwhile, Tang assured the United States it will follow through on its pledge to stop targeting the 13 nuclear missiles it has aimed at U.S. cities, although he did not say when — or whether it had already done so.

## NZ gov't . . .

Continued from page 2

Kirton, a junior health minister until he was sacked by Peters, who is also Treasurer, said the "last straw" was Peters' economic management.

His resignation leaves New Zealand First with 16 votes and Shipley's National party 44, giving the government coalition 60 of Parliament's 120 votes.

But with the support of ACT and with two other independent legislators saying they were prepared to strike a deal to keep Shipley in power, the government's position appeared

safe. Kirton, disaffected since his sacking last year, recently stepped up attacks on Peters, criticizing government spending cuts and defying Peters' threat to expel rebel legislators.

Kirton said he would vote with the Labor opposition, and in effect had joined the opposition benches.

"Peters and New Zealand First have lost their souls and appear to no longer care for the so many New Zealanders who are missing out on a fair share of the economy gains," Kirton said.

Kirton said New Zealand First deserved its recent falls in opinion polls, down from a high of 28 percent to around two percent.

## China . . .

Continued from page 2

island but added that Beijing "will not commit itself not to resort to force."

While taking issue with India and Pakistan for conducting nuclear tests, the State Council singled out New Delhi for harsher treatment, criticizing it for "flagrantly" defying the international community.

Pakistan is a decades-old ally.

If largely a recitation of long-held and oft-repeated positions, China's first published defense policy review since 1995 was notable for bringing a modicum of transparency to the

largely secretive workings of the world's largest standing army.

Defense officials from the United States and other countries have urged China to publish more information about the People's Liberation Army more often to dispel suspicions about Chinese intentions.

The policy paper provided some details on a plan to trim the PLA by 500,000 to 2.5 million members.

Overall the army will shrink 19 percent, the navy 11.6 percent and the air force 11 percent, the paper said.

It also released figures on conventional weapons imports and exports registered with the United Nations between 1992 and 1996.

## Miyazawa . . .

Continued from page 2

Obuchi may also ask Miyazawa to serve as deputy prime minister, the newspaper said.

The task facing Japan's future finance chief is not enviable: The country is grappling with its worst recession in decades, record-high unemployment and bankruptcies, and a financial system weighed down by mountains of bad debt.

"It's not a very desirable position at present," Andrew Shipley, chief economist at Schroders Securities (Japan), told Dow Jones Newswires.

## PIC wins . . .

Continued from page 9

Steve Yach worked hard to make this event a reality not only to allow the participants to show their skills, but also to promote life guarding in the Commonwealth and to draw attention to the need for lifeguards at all the swimming locations on-island," said

## About . . .

Continued from page 5

Once again, toxins are produced which help the strep spread, as well as cause lethal complications such as high

"The finance minister will preside over the demise of the Japanese banking industry."

Before serving as prime minister from 1991-1993, Miyazawa held various senior Cabinet positions, including foreign minister and finance minister.

Before entering politics, he worked as a bureaucrat in the Finance Ministry.

Obuchi is expected to be formally voted into office as prime minister Thursday.

He succeeds outgoing Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, who announced his resignation after the party suffered a humiliating defeat in July 12 elections for the upper house of Parliament.

Cassandra Ely, executive director.

According to Ely, the event is planned to continue each year and it is hoped that eventually all the hotels and businesses with lifeguards will participate.

For more information on how you can become an American Red Cross certified lifeguard or for health and safety services training, please call 234-3459. Help Can't Wait.

fever, rashes and falling blood pressure. Happily, all strep infections can be treated with antibiotics.

The complications can often be prevented as well.

I will be writing more about these in the next installment.

Brahimi is Secretary-General Kofi Annan's special representative in his efforts at peacemaking and preventive diplomacy. He is also the U.N. chief's special representative to Afghanistan.

His trip follows the June 26 death of Alioune Blondin Beye, Annan's

special representative to Angola, who perished along with five members of the U.N. Angola mission and two pilots in a plane crash near Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

Brahimi was to make recommendations about the future U.N. presence in Angola, including whether a

replacement special representative should be named.

The government and UNITA signed a U.N.-brokered peace pact in 1994 to end their two-decade civil war, but lingering hostility between them has delayed the agreement's full implementation.

"We have a mature partnership now," she said of the U.S.-Russian relationship.

"We can hit the ground running," echoed Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who shared a

news conference podium with her.

High on the agenda of the September meeting, Albright said, will be nonproliferation issues, then nuclear tests by Iran and Pakistan, violence in Kosovo and the current financial cri-

sis. For his part, Primakov said Russia would work hard to fight its way out of its own financial crisis. "We, too, will have to swallow that bitter pill," he said.

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc., a Non-Profit Organization is pleased to announce the availability of an Advocate position. This position will be located on Saipan CNMI.

### Position Description

The advocate will handle cases involving the rights of people with disabilities under the supervision of a Program Coordinator. A detailed position description may be obtained at the NMPASI office on Middle Road, Across Triple J car lot.

### Minimum Requirement

An AA degree from a recognized US College and at least 2 years experience working with individuals with disabilities. A good recommendation from previous employer(s).

### Affirmative Action Policy

NMPASI is an equal opportunity employer which employs persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, and national origin. The agency makes reasonable accommodations for qualified applicants and employers who have a disability.

### Salary

Starts at \$16,500.00 - \$24,000.00, depending on qualification

### Application Procedure

Please submit a resume to the attention of:

Lydia F. Barcinas  
Executive Director  
Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc.  
P.O. Box 3529  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Fax No. (670) 235-7275

Application deadline for this position is August 07, 1998, or until filled.

## 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 Wednesday, Aug. 5, 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



## Judge . . .

Continued from page 3

Villagomez were getting into their car.

Cruz sustained injuries to the head and hand.

Sablan then allegedly pointed the gun at Villagomez, and took her to her sister's house.

Sablan has pleaded not guilty.

He could face up to 51 years of imprisonment if found guilty.

Campbell is his fourth court-appointed attorney, and a jury trial has been set for March next year.

Ross Buchholz, criminal division chief of the Attorney General's Office, is prosecuting the case.

Sablan had two previous drug-related cases in which he agreed to a plea agreement, the Variety learned.

## PSS . . .

Continued from page 3

provide their transportation."

Under the school zoning policy, students will be placed at schools within their area of residency. Thus, if a student lives in Garapan, he should be enrolled at the school within that area.

Dela Cruz also remarked that the routing of buses are almost on its final stages, and will be pub-

lished this week in newspapers for the parents and students to know.

She added that there have been no changes in designated bus stops.

"Bus routing also is about the same. What we're doing is to wait for the principals to submit their rosters of students so that we will know exactly how many students are there in each bus stop to make sure that there is an ample transportation for them," she said.

"might jeopardize investigation."

The case, the Variety was told, "is a sensitive one."

**Security guard beaten up**

Meanwhile, a 35 year old man was arrested for disturbing the peace, assault and battery, and resisting arrest charges.

DPS spokesperson Rose Ada said the man, "Jiersky Kin," allegedly punched and kicked

## \$3.8M . . .

Continued from page 3

hold back for now so that both new schools can proceed," Sablan told reporters.

He said there are a number of projects during the previous years that have not been started yet, and the fund originally intended for them can be used by PSS.

Sablan added that the unmatched Covenant funds for 1996 to year 2002 can't be tapped unless CNMI is able to identify resources for local matching, and to come up with a prioritized list of projects for the seven-year period.

He said that if the government chooses the second option, it will lose the "doubling effect" of the covenant funding.

"If we tap the 1996 to 2002 funding, we lose the doubling ef-

fect because if we have \$5 million in local funds, we match that with \$5 million federal funds. I'm hopeful that we will be able to identify some projects that can help PSS and to help secure loans to replenish the funding for these projects," said Sablan.

Meanwhile, BOE chairwoman Marja Lee Taitano said that PSS cannot proceed with its projects until they have secured full funding.

"These are 'emergency schools' and we need funding right away," she said.

House Speaker Diego T. Benavente, who was present during the BOE special meeting, also expressed preference to tapping pre-'96 funds.

"That will be the best thing to do because actually we're doubling our money for future projects. We like to look at this option," he said.

He added that although most of the old projects are critical, the PSS

projects are also one of them.

"We will try to get legislative members together and take away some money that have been identified for their area to reprogram to the PSS which is very important. We just have to work together and set our priorities straight, and make those money available," he told reporters.

Benavente added that the legislature will be waiting for the administration to identify funds for old projects that can be reprogrammed for PSS' \$3.8 million needs.

"If not," said Benavente, "we have to sit down again and discuss what else can we do to come up with funding for those two schools."

The Dandan Elementary School is expected to be finished on December 1998, while the Kagman school is targeted to be finished by September next year.

## Missing . . .

Continued from page 1

deny anything" pending a report that will be submitted by DPS-Rota.

Rota's deputy resident director for public safety Frank Taisacan, for his part, refused to comment, while the Office of the Rota Mayor said any information released to the media

When the police arrived at Fun & Game the scuffle was still ongoing, Ada said.

Kin was allegedly shouting profanities while being arrested, she added.

Shariful, who works for GST Security, was transported to the

Commonwealth Health Center aboard an ambulance.

Ada said Kin was detained for several hours and was released.

His case is now being investigated by DPS, which will submit a report to the Attorney General's Office.

## Tiyan . . .

Continued from page 1

was in a cash box, in the Administrative Services Building, it was learned.

The keys were kept in the director's office in a separate building, prompting the Commission to start changing locks throughout the department.

Borja stated that nothing else was taken in either office, though he noted that computers were

turned on.

He said it is early to tell whether the intruders tampered with any of the files in the computer.

He nonetheless assured the commission has a secured set of back-up files.

The Land Trust offices were closed most of Monday while Guam Police Department's Crime Laboratory Unit and Borja completed their investigation.

The director announced that he couldn't think of anyone who might have been responsible for the robbery.

Police are reportedly looking into names and plate numbers of people that were in the area when then incident happened. The information were provided by Tiyan security forces.

## Leaving Island

Must sell 1997 Daewoo TICO 4-Dr. Hatchback, Manual, Transmission Only 6,000 miles, Excellent Condition Great, Gas Mileage 44,000 OBO Call: 322-3457

## New Man Health Massage

Massage, acupuncture, and Ancient Herbal Medicine Available for all kinds of Sickness to ache Call 234-9088 for appointment

## LOT FOR SALE

San Vicente, 1583 sq. m. — Tutaran, 5851 sq. m. — Capitol Hill, 3420 sq. m. — Contact: Frank Yuen Tel. 1-626-588-3660 Fax: 1-626-588-3665 E-mail: frank@c-mc.com

## LOST PASSPORT

Name : KIM, MI SOOK  
Passport No. : GK 0336978  
Place : CHALAN KANOA

## BAYVIEW MARKET FOR RENT

beside SVRB Post Office  
Including: Freezers, Refrigerators and Shelves  
For more information, contact Tel. 256-9483/4244

**Happy Birthday**  
**LITO**  
Santilices . . .  
From Marianas Variety Staff Ed & Med

# Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section

## Employment Wanted



## Job Vacancy Announcement

01 SECURITY GUARD-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour  
Allowance: \$50.00 Gasoline allowance per month taxable.  
Contact: STS ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 235-3760(7/29)W27324

01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: TODD K. JOHNSON Tel. 234-3810(7/29)W27325

01 ASSISTANT MANAGER-Salary:\$6.00-6.40 per hour  
Contact: SILK ROAD CORPORATION dba Saipan Country Club Tel. 234-7300(7/29)W27326

02 STORE MANAGER-Salary:\$5.00 per hour  
Contact: WINCHELL'S INC. dba Winchell's Donut House Tel. 234-5566(7/29)W27327

01 PHYSICAL THERAPIST-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: OOSAKO, LTD. dba Aroma De Este Tel. 322-3322(8/5)W27414

01 MASON CEMENT-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 MAINTENANCE-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: TIRSO J. ADRIATICO dba Micronesia Woodcraft Ent. Tel. 235-7631(8/5)W27419

02 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: PUYAT & SON'S AND CO. INC. Tel. 234-5708(8/5)W27420

02 AIRCON MECHANIC(AUTO)-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: SOHALE SAMARI dba Island Air Conditioning Tel. 323-2665(8/5)W27421

01 A/C & REF. TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$4.50-6.00 per hour  
Contact: JWS AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATOR, INC. (8/5)W73505

01 COOK-Salary:\$1,600.00-1,760.00 per month  
01 RESTAURANT MANAGER-Salary:\$2,200.00-2,420.00 per month  
01 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05-3.35 per hour  
01 CEMENT MASON-Salary:\$3.05-3.35 per hour  
02 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05-3.52 per hour  
02 HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER-Salary:\$3.05-3.35 per hour  
01 AIR-CONDITIONING TECH.-Salary:\$3.05-3.35 per hour  
02 MAINTENANCE REPAIR-Salary:\$3.05-4.18 per hour  
01 APPLIANCE REPAIRER-Salary:\$1,800.00-1,980.00 per month  
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.15-3.47 per hour  
01 AUTO BODY REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.15-3.47 per hour  
01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$3.05-3.35 per hour  
Contact: KAN PACIFIC SAIPAN, LTD. Tel. 322-4692(8/5)W73501

01 CHEF DE CUISINE-Salary:\$1,150.00-2,300.00 per month  
02 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.50-4.95 per hour  
01 ASSISTANT RESERVATION SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.05-4.50 per hour  
04 WAITRESS/WAITER-Salary:\$3.05-3.63 per hour  
01 SUPERVISOR, COOK-Salary:\$5.50-10.67 per hour  
04 COOK-Salary:\$3.05-3.90 per hour  
03 BARTENDER-Salary:\$3.05-3.58 per hour  
Contact: SAIPAN HOTEL CORP. dba Hafadai Beach Hotel Tel. 234-6495(8/5)W73496

01 PIPE FITTER-Salary:\$3.50-4.00 per hour  
Contact: SEAFX, INCORPORATED Tel. 322-0997(7/29)W27322

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$5.00 per hour  
Contact: AMBYTH TRUCKING, INC. Tel. 322-8722(7/29)W27321

01 BLDG. MAINTENANCE REPAIR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary:\$1,800.00 per month  
Contact: WOO YOUNG CORPORATION Tel. 234-1199(7/29)W27320

01 MAINTENANCE MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: COMMONWEALTH GARMENT MFG. INC. Tel. 235-7550(7/29)W27319

01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour  
Contact: BLACK MICRO CORPORATION Tel. 234-6800(7/29)W73378

01 ASSISTANT MANAGER-Salary:\$826.91 per month  
04 HAND PACKAGER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
04 WAREHOUSE WORKER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
48 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
05 CUTTER, HAND-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
04 PRESSER, HAND-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
04 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: MIRAGE (SAIPAN) CO. LTD. Tel. 234-3481(7/29)W7318

01 CASHIER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: HANS CORP. Tel. 234-6721(7/29)W27334

01 DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: NAINA ENTERPRISES INC. dba Roshis Variety Store Tel. 234-6533(7/29)W27333

01 COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN-(Cellular & Paging)  
Salary:\$1,600.00-1,900.00 per month  
Qualified individual must have the following qualifications:  
- A degree in Electrical Engineering major in Electronics and Communications;  
- Two years experience as a Switch Engineer;  
- Knowledge in maintaining Motorola and Celcore switches, ATG and HDII Base Stations and Digital Microwave Radio;  
- Mastery in Unix-QNX base program, Unix SCO Software and full knowledge in maintaining Paging terminals and transmitters;  
01 FINANCE MANAGER-Salary:\$1,900.00-2,300.00 per month  
- Manage, direct and control the company's accounting and finance activities;  
- Directly responsible for the company's Billing Operations, Accounts Receivable Management and Collection functions;  
- Prepare various financial analysis and submit periodic management reports and other reports that management may require from time to time;  
- Negotiate and make representations with various government agencies like Bureau of Customs, Revenue & Taxation, Department of Finance, AG's Office, Bureau of Commerce, etc.;  
- Mastery in ARIS System (Universal Billing Software), Excel, Lotus 1-2-3 and Microsoft Works required. Must be a CPA.  
Contact: GUAM CELLULAR & PAGING dba Saipan Cellular & Paging/ Hans W. Mickelson (Cell 483-4267) Tel. 322-1111; 235-7243(8/5)W73494

01 CASHIER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05-\$4.62 per hour  
Contact: MOBIL OIL MARIANA ISLANDS, INC. dba New Tinian Service Station Tel. 322-9453(8/5)W27412

02 SURVEYOR HELPER-Salary:\$3.05-3.90 per hour  
Contact: CANDIDO I. CASTRO dba Castro & Associates Tel. 235-7410(8/5)W27418

01 SUPERVISOR, FINISHING DEPT.-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 RECEIVING & SHIPPING SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour  
10 SEWER, HAND-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
08 PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour  
05 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
04 SHIPPING & RECEIVING SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour  
02 WAREHOUSE WORKER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
150 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
08 MESS COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
08 EMBROIDERY MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
06 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
28 PRESSER MACHINE-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
14 (HAND) PACKAGER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
03 SAMPLE MAKER-Salary:\$3.05-3.45 per hour  
05 QUALITY CONTROL TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour  
01 PRODUCTION MANAGER-Salary:\$3.05-5.00 per hour  
03 MACHINE REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary:\$3.05-5.00 per hour  
04 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour  
01 COMPUTER OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour  
Contact: MARIANAS GARMENT MFG. Tel. 234-5821(8/12)W27561

01 COMMUNICATION MANAGER-Salary:\$1,500.00 per month  
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$700.00 per month  
03 H.E. MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.05-3.25 per hour  
01 MECHANIC HELPER-Salary:\$3.05-3.25 per hour  
01 ELECTRICAL ENGINEER-Salary:\$800.00 per month  
05 CABLE SPLICER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 STEELMAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 PLUMBER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
02 SUPERINTENDENT-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour  
01 AUTO BODY REPAIR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 WELDER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 BUILDING ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
03 HEAVY EQUIPT. OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: ORIENTAL ENTERPRISES INC., dba Marianas Communication Services Tel. 234-7878(8/12)W73597

01 MECHANICAL ENGINEER-Salary:\$1,100.00 per month  
Contact: GAUDENCIO C. MACALINAO dba Unity Trade Service, Inc. Tel. 322-7461(8/12)W73596

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.50-4.75 per hour  
02 COOK-Salary:\$3.05-4.30 per hour  
01 WAITER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: DIAMOND HOTEL CO., LTD. dba Saipan Diamond Hotel Tel. 234-5900(8/12)W73595

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: SAPPHIRE ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Salyn's Beauty Shop Tel. 234-9869(8/12)W73552

01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.05-5.10 per hour  
Contact: TASI TOURS & TRANSPORTATION INC. Tel. 235-9373(8/12)W73586

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$3.50-4.00 per hour  
Contact: J.C.A. INC. dba McDonald's of Saipan Tel. 235-8761(8/12)W73593

01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary:\$2,300.00 per month  
01 SPORTS INSTRUCTOR-Salary:\$1,000.00 per month  
Contact: AQUA DEL REY SAIPAN, INC. Tel. 234-7040(8/12)W27557

01 PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER-Salary:\$550.00-600.00 per month  
01 RESERVATION CLERK-Salary:\$550.00-600.00 per month  
01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$800.00 per month  
Contact: SAIPAN KORESCO CORPORATION dba Saipan Koresco Resort Club Tel. 288-6001(8/12)W27558

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$750.00 per month  
Contact: ROY E. ALEXANDER dba Alexander Realty/Alexander Drilling Co. Tel. 234-5117(8/12)W27553

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: SAPPHIRE ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Salyn's Beauty Shop Tel. 234-9869(8/12)W27552

01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$3.05-3.25 per hour  
Contact: ANICIA C. SONODA dba Chamorro House Restaurant Tel. 234-7361(8/12)W73592

02 DELIVER ROUTE TRUCK (DRIVER)-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: GLOBAL ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Diamond Ice & Water Tel. 234-5922(8/12)W27560

02 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
04 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: KC POON'S INC. dba KC Poon's Restaurant (8/12)W27569

01 ENGINEERING MANAGER-Salary:\$2,500.00 per month  
Contact: KAM CORPORATION dba General Contractor Tel. 288-6965(8/12)W27567

01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary:\$1,000.00-2,941.00 per month  
Contact: BRISTOL-MYERS OVERSEAS CORPORATION dba Bristol-Myers Squibb Tel. 235-0379(8/12)W27583

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$6.88 per hour  
Contact: CALVO-UMDA INSURANCE CO., LTD. Tel. 234-5690(8/12)W27568

01 CAR FOR SALE  
BMW1987 Model 320 I, 6 cyl  
42,000 Miles, Pristine Condition  
Asking Price \$7,500.00  
Call 288-7766

APARTMENT FOR RENT  
STUDIO TYPE - \$350  
Including Power • Water  
Single or Couple Only (Koblerville)  
Tel. 234-1233(Day) 288-2222(Evening)

Pocket Club Tournament  
Every Friday 9:00 pm  
8 Balls & 9 Balls Tournament  
Lots of prizes and more

House for Rent/Lease on Kagman No. 1, walking distance to Marine Beach and Laolao Bay Golf Club.  
3-Bedroom Concrete House  
2-Bathrooms  
2-car Carport  
Laundry Room  
Steel Bar on every Windows  
Big Yard  
Big Water Tank in case there's Typhoon/Power-Outage  
24-hour Running Water Service  
Semi-Furnished/Furnished - Rental fee is negotiable.  
Call 322-6584/2543 or write to Box 1496, Saipan, MP 96950

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
Our Life Department is looking for a  
LIFE INSURANCE SALES PERSON  
to market our extensive portfolio of life and cancer plans.  
Applicants must have a wide knowledge of the people of the CNMI and their needs. Excellent training and benefits will be provided.  
Salary will be commensurate to experience.  
LOCAL HIRE ONLY  
Please mail your resume to:  
MOYLAN'S INSURANCE UNDERWRITERS INT'L. INC.  
P.O. Box 658 CK  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Attention: Gloria Balila  
Resumes must be received not later than August 15, 1998.  
Telephone calls will not be entertained.

LOST PASSPORT  
Name: LIU MEI HUA  
Nationality: CHINESE  
Employer Company Name: HANSAE, INC.  
Tel.: (Work) 234-1051 • (Home) 234-1052

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS

Luis M. Cepeda Plaintiff,

vs. Kim Tae Young, and Jeong Hae Sung Defendants.

Civil Action No. 98-686A

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

From: The Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

To: All the above-named Defendants

You are hereby summoned to appear within twenty (20) days after final publication of this summons and completion of posting, and defend in the above-captioned action in the above-entitled Court, and answer the Complaint of Plaintiff, Luis M. Cepeda, and serve a copy of your answer upon the Plaintiff's attorney, The Law Offices of Robert C. Naraja, P.C., P.O. Box 1960, Saipan, MP 96950. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you according to the relief demanded in the complaint which has been filed with the Clerk of said Court. The complaint contains allegations for the termination of a certain Lease Agreement of which you are party to in your respective capacities as Lessor and as Assignee.

By JOVITA C. FLORES Clerk of Court

## MALE GOLDEN RETRIEVER

AKC REGISTERED  
8 WEEKS OLD  
\$1,000.00  
INCLUDES  
KENNEL, DOG BOWLS, DOG FOODS AND GROOMING ITEMS

CONTACT:  
236-5596

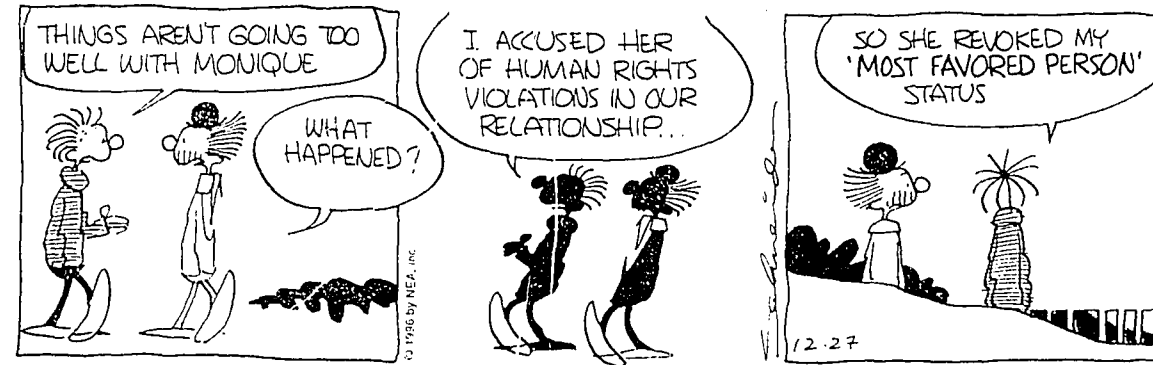
## LOCAL HIRE ONLY WAITRESS

Salary:\$3.15; should be 21 years old or older; at least with one year experience. Please bring Police Clearance.

COOK  
Salary:1,200.00 per month, should be able to cook & prepare canton chinese dishes, at least 2 years experience.



## EEK &amp; MEEK® by Howie Schneider



## Garfield® by Jim Davis



## PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



STELLA WILDER

## YOUR BIR'THDAY

## WEDNESDAY

Born today, you are a clever and complex individual. There are times when you're too smart for your own good, tying knots out of the simplest facts or observations, and making the world around you seem more complex than it really is. The solution? You can learn from those willing to let things happen organically—your eagerness to play an influential role is what compels you to overcomplicate things. There are times when you would benefit from taking a more laid-back attitude toward life.

Highly thoughtful when it comes to your work, you follow plans you've made with great care. You're able to improvise when the situation demands it, but you prefer to map things out ahead of time.

Also born on this date are: Melvin Belli, lawyer; Peter Jennings, journalist and anchorman; Michael Spinks, boxer; David Warner, actor.

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

## THURSDAY, JULY 30

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**—You may have to stand up to those who expect too much from you right now. Don't let yourself be bullied into something that doesn't suit you.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**—Things may develop in surprising ways. Take care to maintain firm control over your output.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)**—You can expect to encounter someone ready and willing to oppose you at every turn today. Be sure to have a concrete but flexible plan.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**—You should be able to overcome a major obstacle today with the help of a close friend who knows just when he or she is needed.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**—You're after more than a routine solution to an unexpected dilemma today. A happy ending depends on your willingness to adjust.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**—Put your best foot forward today, but be sure it lands on solid ground! You're not safe until all is secure.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Take advantage of an unexpected bargain today—but only if you're ready and willing to take immediate action when you get the news.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**—Do you have what it takes to do a job to the satisfaction of those in charge? If you lack confidence, the answer may be no.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**—You're likely to come up against someone who wants you to do things his or her way. Negotiate for better terms—now!

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**—You may have to dig a little for a golden opportunity, but it should be easy to recognize when it's finally uncovered.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**—There's never been a better time to show your true feelings to someone who matters more than he or she expects.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**—You are likely to surprise yourself today by going after something with renewed enthusiasm and energy. You can come out a winner.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

## ACROSS

- 1 Worker
- 4 Relocated
- 9 Ms. Hagen
- 12 Broadcast
- 13 Tidal flood
- 14 Ms. Peoples
- 15 "The Green"
- 17 Boorish
- 19 Table scrap
- 20 Water-encircled lands
- 21 Prefix with mount or meter
- 23 Davis ID
- 24 — Age
- 27 Harris and Sullivan
- 28 Winter covering
- 30 Ms. Bagnold
- 31 Artificial language
- 32 TV's Beaver Cleaver
- 34 "North By Northwest" actor (init.)

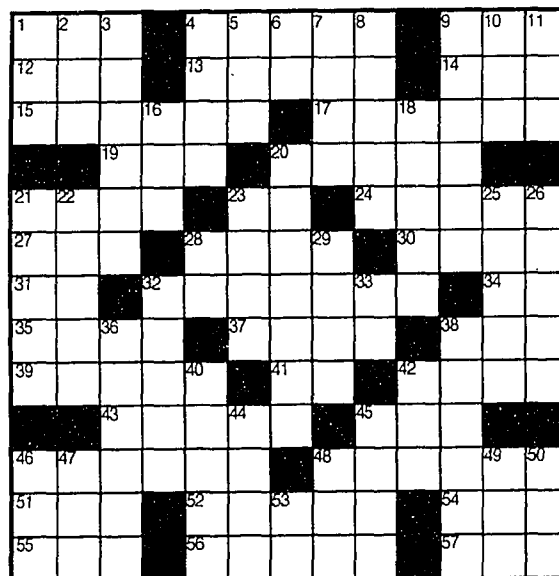
- 35 "La Douce"
- 37 Israeli dance
- 38 — Na Na
- 39 Producer Norman and family
- 41 Irving ID
- 42 Oscar-winning actress
- 43 Rule
- 45 Douglas (tree)
- 46 TV's Paul —
- 48 Claws
- 51 Chicken
- 52 Attempt to do (2 wds.)
- 54 Flying saucer (abbr.)
- 55 Spanish gold
- 56 Pile of
- 57 Postal abbr.

- 1 Scrooge's expression
- 2 Vowel sequence

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

VAL LATEX BAR  
IDO ENDER ONA  
CIANAAN KARATE  
SPUD YEE  
PLOP LVI URS  
IER SLINGSHOT  
LA TRI FOE UR  
ASTRONAUT DNA  
FETA GER RASP  
CP RITE  
SCOTTIA ARCADE  
HAD TASTE WES  
ETE ARIES NET

2-4 © 1998 United Feature Syndicate



## KidSpot™

by Dick Rogers

## GUESS WHO?

I'M A LEGENDARY CREATURE  
I'M SURE YOU'VE NEVER MET.  
I'M SAID TO HAUNT THE SNOWY  
MOUNTAINS OF TIBET.  
COME FIND ME IF YOU CAN.  
I'M CALLED THE \_\_\_\_\_.

TO NAME THE CREATURE, CROSS OUT ALL THE  
LETTERS THAT APPEAR FOUR TIMES IN THE  
WORD GRID. READ THE  
LEFTOVER LETTERS.



P	A	B	D	O
M	D	I	N	P
A	B	D	L	E
S	P	N	O	W
M	D	A	N	P

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ANS: CROSS OUT THE D'S AND P'S - ABOMINABLE

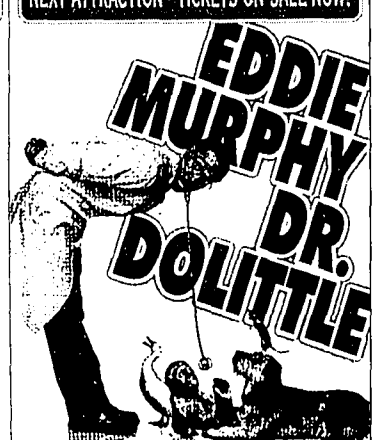
## THE MOVIE HOUSE

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - 5 MORE DAYS!

NEXT ATTRACTION - TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

RETURNS TODAY!  
SEE IT AGAIN!

WED/THU 5:15-7:30  
FRI 5:15-7:30/9:45  
SAT 12:45-3:00/5:15-7:30/9:45  
SUN 12:45-3:00/5:15-7:30



## Guam gets skate park

By Cristina Maquera

Variety News Staff

**HAGATNA**—Guam's skateboarders and rollerbladers now have a place to practice their skills.

For the past four weeks, boarders and bladers have made their way to the Tamuning community center, where the ramps are located.

In July 1997, the Guam Skateboarding Association (GSA) approached First Lady Gerie Gutierrez for her assistance with their project to create a performance park.

The First Lady saw this as

providing the youth with "positive, healthy alternatives" to the drugs and activities detrimental to their welfare, which are the goals of her War on Ice Campaign.

In conjunction with the War on Ice Campaign, the Government of Guam, local skaters and private businesses, six ramps were constructed. The project, which totaled about \$5000, was funded by private donations.

The Department of Public Works built the ramps with the voluntary aid of skaters who planned to use the ramps.



Tamuning skateboarder Mathew Pipes, 12, was caught sky high doing a "kick flip grab" on Tuesday, July 28. Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

The ramps made their debut in the Generation Next Fest in October 1997. While the GSA anticipated only 50 to 60 skaters on island, over 200 participated on the ramps at the Fest.

The GSA held its first skate contest later that week, on Halloween night. A skatepark was in demand.

Just four weeks ago, the ramps were moved from storage in a Tiyen warehouse to the Tamuning Community Center for use by all interested. The Skate Park is open all week.

GSA's mission is "to provide a facility in which skateboarders and inline skaters may practice and develop their skills in a safe and challenging environment."

In accord with the safety goal, the park has some guidelines. Entrants are required to sign a waiver of liability.

They must also wear safety equipment such as helmets, hand, elbow, and knee pads and appropriate footwear.

All equipment is subject to inspection before entrance to the park. Also, the park is supervised by an adult.

## Japan . . .

Continued from page 24

team Japan. First up, F. Tetsuya, another homerun. His teammates would add eight runs more, before being retired.

Guam's Jay Perez, (31) was 2 for 2, with 1 RBI, Mark Reyes, (2), 1 for 2, with 1 RBI.

Japan All-Stars was led by F. Tetsuya, going five for five, seven runs-batted-in, and three homeruns, followed by S. Tetsuya, 3 for 5, 2 RBIs and one home run.

Guam's loss was its second in as many games. Winning pitcher went to S. Ikeda (10), while K. Cruz (3), took the loss.

WP S. Ikeda (10)  
LP Kevin Cruz (3)

## UOG . . .

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Lite committed a few fouls and gave UOG a chance at the foul line. But, it seemed as if the only player on the UOG squad that scored a free throw was Tony Thompson, possibly saving the game. Only 31 seconds remaining Lite pulled within one point after UOG fouled and the score was 53-54.

In the end though it proved that Tony Thompson was the hero hitting two more free throws to put UOG up 56-53, and Lite could just not pull it out. After the smoke cleared UOG came out with a very close victory, beating the Lite Wizards by a narrow 59-58.

"It was an evaluation point to an up and down season. We were second to last, our goal was to make it to the playoffs. The last games, it was just one coming together," said UOG Head Coach Bob Pelkey.

"UOG played a good defense. Our guys ran out of hope in the

end," stated Joey Gogue head coach for the Lite Wizards.

"The game could have gone either way, but our defense stepped up, and our offense came out in the final two minutes," said Noy Javellana who had team-high with 14 points for UOG.

Tony Thompson, who was the key to UOG's win stated, "It feels great, it has been a long week. It's great for the Micronesia Games coming up. Thank God it's all over. I knew that in the final minutes I had to be ready for the final shots." He also posted 11 points for his team.

Joey Almoguera who had the second to highest score for UOG with 13 stated, "It was exciting. In the beginning of the season we were strong, then in the middle of the season we had a struggle. It was a long run—we didn't take anyone for granted."

But once again for the third straight night in the tournament the games highest scorer came from the losing side of the ball, as Jon King of the Lite Wizards posted a strong 18.

## CNMI . . .

Continued from page 24

hitting game as they prepare for their upcoming opponents.

"Korea and Japan are two of the top competitors in the tournament. We need to work on our hitting game a little bit in order to be ready for them."

Benavente thinks his team's approach to the tournament is a simple, yet effective one: take it one game at a time.

"We're done with this game," he said. "We will look at what we did right. We will look at what we did wrong. We'll make adjust-

ments. Mainly, we just want to stay focused and do our best for our families, our friends, our island."

Judging by their win on Tuesday, they're doing more things right than wrong.

There have some on-going scheduling problems for organizers of this year's tournament, as participants await the arrival of the Philippine team.

Though the week-long schedule remains a puzzle at this point, what is clear is that Japan will play Hong Kong today in the first game at 9:00 a.m., while Korea takes on Guam in the second contest.

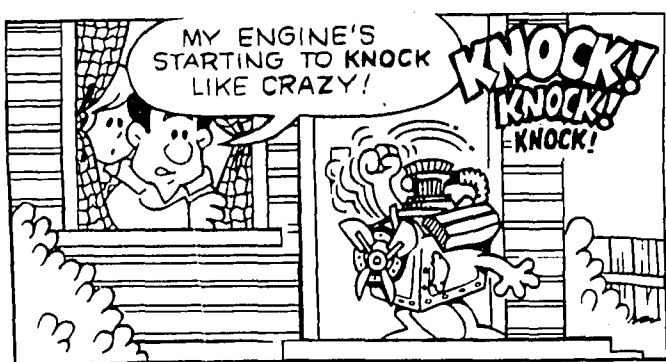


Before a packed crowd at the Micronesian room of the Guam Hilton hotel on Monday, the Guam National Olympic Committee presented the 1997 Bank of Guam Athletes of the Year. Some of them will be winging to the Micronesian Games in Palau while others will go on to mainland colleges and universities.

Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza



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## SPORTS



## Far East little league

## CNMI beats Hong Kong

By Michael Wright  
Variety News Staff

THE VERY young CNMI All-Stars are playing like a group of much older, very mature All-Stars.

Saipan dispatched of Hong Kong yesterday 12-4, to push their record in the 1998 Far East Little League Tournament to 2-0. As in Monday's win over Guam, they did it with a big second inning, scoring seven runs this time. No hit was bigger, literally, than Sam Babauta's Mark McGwire-like blast which cleared two center field fences. While everyone at the San Vicente ballpark marvelled at the two-run homer, it made the score 8-1, giving the CNMI a sense of confidence that propelled them to the victory.

"We considered ourselves very prepared going into this tournament," CNMI Head Coach Tony Benavente said. "We feel we have the confidence to win it all."

A couple of RBI hits from Saipan's A.J. Taitano and Babauta in the third inning gave the home team a 10-1 lead, and the CNMI

threatened to run away with this one. But the team from Hong Kong refused to fold.

A two-run homer by Tsang Yu Kin in the bottom of the third made the score 10-3. And things got a bit tighter later on as the CNMI failed to score in the fourth and fifth innings.

Meanwhile, Hong Kong's Omura Yohei had a ground-out RBI in the fourth inning, bringing in Ng Hon Ming after he got into scoring position with a double. But Saipan's steady pitching came to the fore again. Joel Crisostomo, who replaced Ricky Jones on the mound late in the third inning, finished the game with six strikeouts including two big ones in the fifth.

Two errant Hong Kong pitches in the sixth inning allowed Bobby Coldeen and Crisostomo to steal home in separate plays, providing the contest with its final margin.

Despite getting 12 runs on 11 hits, Coach Benavente believes the team needs to address their

Continued on page 23



CNMI infielders talk over their strategies at the pitcher's mood in yesterday's game versus Hong Kong

## UOG Alumni win F&amp;F basketball

By Prakash Hemlani  
For the Variety

HAGATNA, Guam — With UOG and the Lite Wizards looking very strong in the Fun & Fitness playoffs — UOG with an undefeated record, and the Wizards with two upset victories — Sunday night's Fun and Fitness basketball Championship was surely one for the books.

Only four minutes into the game Lite jumped to a 15-9 lead on the strength of a Joe Taitano

three-pointer.

Up until the final minutes of the half was nothing but a seesaw battle between these two teams, with the lead changing hands a number of times. In the closing minutes of the half both teams had fouls to give, and took advantage of it by fouling each other.

With Only :05 seconds left in the half UOG fouled the Wizards and after scoring both free throws, Lite was within one point at the half, as UOG led 29-28.

Five minutes into the second

half the battle continued as the game was locked at 36-36. UOG stepped up their game a little at that point and with only 7:06 held their biggest lead of the game 46-42.

Yes, the biggest lead of this true championship game was only four points.

From that point on it only a matter of time as the nail biter began.

With 1:02 remaining in the game and the score tied at 52,

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## Japan Little Leaguers just too much for Guam

By TONY M. CELIS  
For the Variety

THE SECOND game Tuesday was between Guam and Japan all-stars, with the latter proving to much to handle for the Guam All-Stars.

After two innings of equal action (both teams scored two runs in the first and none in the second inning), it was to be Japan who would turn the momentum of the ball game around.

Japan, exploded in the third inning. After one out they (Japan) would place the next seven batters on base, when F. Tetsuya, (no. 1) hit a towering homerun over center field, bringing in three more runs.

A pitching change by Guam manager, Ed Cruz, could not effect the already "hot" Japan, as the next batter, S. Tatsuya, (3), later send another ball, out of the ball park, for a solo home run. Japan sent six more batters to the plate, scoring fifteen runs before the inning ended.

Eighth inning action once again witnessed the batting power of

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The University of Guam Alumni Basketball team are the champions of the Fun and Fitness league narrowly winning against the Lite Wizard, 59-58 Sunday night at the UOG fieldhouse.

Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

## League Standings

Friday Night League-Saipan Bowling Center  
Results for Week N. 24 of 24

Pos	Team#	Team	Won	Lost	Pct	TotPins	Ave	Gm	Ser
1	8	L&W	57.0	39.0	59.38	69900	1137	3266	
2	9	Wushin Corp.	54.5	41.5	56.77	69700	968	1072	3075
3	1	Joeten Ent.	52.0	44.0	54.17	68995	958	1098	3094
4	4	Calculators	52.0	44.0	54.17	68676	953	1096	3089
5	11	Youth Sharks	51.0	45.0	53.13	69539	965	1069	3127
6	10	Micro Toyota	51.0	45.0	53.15	69204	961	1087	3059
7	6	Spn. Stevedore	48.5	47.5	50.52	69434	964	1108	3097
8	7	Kang's Motor	47.0	49.0	48.96	69087	959	1093	3074
9	12	NMBA Youth	46.0	50.0	47.92	65232	945	1072	3095
10	3	World Mechanic	41.0	55.0	42.71	68275	948	1036	3002
11	2	Amybth Shipp.	41.0	55.0	24.71	67892	942	1057	3093
12	5	P.S.T.C.	33.0	63.0	34.38	56623	943	1059	2996

## SAIPAN

P.O. Box 231 Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel. (670) 234-6341 • 7578 • 9797  
Fax: (670) 234-9271  
E-mail: younis@gtepacifica.net  
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