

# Marianas Variety

## News & Views

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED ON SAIPAN M.I.

LL MAY 12, 1978 - VOL. 7 NO. 9 - PRICE \$1.15 -

## Senators Second Attempt To Block FEBC's Land Lease

By Eve Lowe  
Staff Writer

SAIPAN - Attempts by the non-profit organization, Far East Broadcasting, to establish itself in the Northern Marianas appear to have been threatened by a new setback, if a move by

several members of the Legislature is any indication.

A joint resolution, authored by Rep. Joe Lifofoi, (Terr.) and signed by seven other congressmen, strongly opposes the use of Tanapag Village lands for FEBC's construction of a 240-

foot broadcast antenna. The land, Lifofoi says, is the identical area requested by the former Village Commissioner for village expansion.

Revenues accruing to the government from FEBC's rent payments have already been

reduced to one-fifth of those originally anticipated, due to intervention by the last Northern Marianas Legislature which blocked a previous land lease arrangement, and in the opinion of one official, the government could now suffer

the added consequences of an expensive law suit if Far East decided to sue for default on the second agreement.

FEBC came under fire from the 5th Northern Marianas Legislature in August last year for commencing earth-moving operations without a permit on land in the Marpi area, leased to them by the government under the commissionership of Erwin D. Canham.

The Legislature also took the position that the 26 acres had been leased without their consent, and that Canham's waiver of legally-required public notices advertising the lease was open to question.

The world-renowned Christian broadcasting organization was successfully kicked off the Marpi site following the Legislature's efforts to retain the area for environmental and historic preservation.

Those thwarted land negotiations, which began in 1975, were followed by several months of nomadic search among government and private land areas for a new home to erect the company's proposed antenna farm.

Finally, all appeared to have been settled to the satisfaction

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Grand prize of \$1000. in cash awarded to Doris Guerrero and her mother Linko Guerrero of San Vicente Saipan. The first prize is from Tinian's San Jose Fiesta raffle which held May 6, 1978. Participating in the presentation are (L-R) Sen. S. Dela Cruz, Monsignor Camacho, Rep. S. King, Sen. J. Hofschneider, Sen. H. Diaz and Tinian Mayor F. Mendiola. Certificates of appreciation were presented to J. Hassing, Speaker O. Rasa, W. Nabors, and V. Camacho for their generous contributions to the Tinian Fiesta.

## Commission Approves Hilo Statement

KOLONIA, PONAPE, (COM RELEASE) -- In a unanimous vote of the Commission on Future Political and Transition, the Hilo statement of agreed principles for Free Association was approved and adopted during its afternoon meeting of May 5, 1978. All Commission members agreed to lift the Ad Referendum qualification to Bailey Olter's signature on the Hilo statement of principles.

Senator Olter, Chairman of the Commission's Committee on Future Political Status, signed the Hilo statement on April 9 with the understanding that it would be referred to the Commission for its review and consideration.

"I have mailed Ambassador Rosenblatt a letter today," Senator Olter said in Ponape, "in

which I have informed him of the Commission's decision to approve the Hilo statement of principles and thereby lift the previous qualification."

The letter includes a statement by the Commission that it was pleased to receive assurances from the U.S. delegation that the U.S. intends to exercise any defense authority reasonably so as not to infringe unduly on the exercise by the government of Micronesia of its important marine resources and commerce authorities, Olter indicated.

"The precise mechanism by which the U.S. defense interests and Micronesia's foreign affairs authority will be coordinated awaits further discussion and negotiation," the Chairman said.

"We are somewhat concerned," Olter remarked, "that

the U.S. seems to be moving away from a position it had accepted in 1976, that questions arising under the operation of an agreement of Free Association, would be submitted to a general dispute settlement procedure."

"The progress achieved in Hilo, however, indicates a genuine willingness on the part of the United States to recognize the legitimate interests of Micronesians, and we are optimistic that any final document will protect adequately our foreign affairs, including marine resources," he said.

The Commission has received an indication from Washington sources that Ambassador Rosenblatt agreed with the Commission's proposal for the scheduling of another round of status talks sometime after August.

## Legislature Halts Hiring

By Eve Lowe  
Staff Writer

SAIPAN - The former director of the Office of Transition Studies and Planning (OTSP) has been appointed to a key position in the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Pete A. Tenorio was officially announced to have joined the Legislature's staff May 2 as special advisor for Executive and Federal Relations, reporting directly to the presiding officers. Tenorio will hold a salary of \$26,000 a year.

In his new role, Tenorio will provide advisory and consultative services in the implementation of plans put out by OTSP, and will coordinate Legislature-

initiated capital improvement, and federal programs.

His appointment was announced simultaneously with that of Pete M. Atalig, also a former OTSP staffer, who has been hired as assistant legislative counsel at an annual salary of \$25,000.

Following announcement of the two appointments, an internal memo from Program and Budget Officer Ben Fitial to the presiding officers and all committee and delegation chairmen, shows the current level of hiring to be "almost complete."

However, Fitial added later, all hiring at the Legislature has now ceased.

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# Tuberculosis Considered Prevalent In Pacific

By Eve Lowe  
Staff Writer

SAIPAN -- Thirty Micronesian students enrolled at a California junior college have shown positive reactions to skin tests for tuberculosis, State health officials said recently.

An Associated Press story out of Susanville, California, said the 30 Micronesians were among 87 foreign students enrolled at Lassen College. The students were tested for the disease by school and county health officials last December after two teachers showed newly positive reactions to the skin test.

Of the 64 foreign-born students who showed positive results, besides the 30 Micronesians, 19 were from Iran, six from Japan, five from Saudi Arabia, two from Hong Kong and one each from Mexico and Cambodia.

Although the officials report no active cases of tuberculosis among those tested, health officers said that the combination of the positive results, and five "suspicious" chest X-rays, warranted a year-long program of medication. It is not known whether any Micronesians are included among those five students.

Questioned on the AP story, Trust Territory Chief of Communicable Disease Control, Dr. Cam McIntyre, said that positive reactions to the PPD (purified protein derivative) skin test do not necessarily signal active TB. Persons can show positive results if they have a history of exposure to the disease, he said.

INH, one of three major drugs administered to tubercular patients, would be given as a precautionary measure to positive converters of the disease in order to reduce any active symptoms, McIntyre said.

The department chief also added that the number of active

TB cases logged in the Trust Territory has been greatly reduced in recent years.

Whereas in the 1960's tuberculosis may have been considered "prevalent" in Pacific island nations, in 1971, the Trust Territory accounted for 170 patients receiving treatment. The number dropped to around 50 last year for the TT's 129,000 population, a rate indicated to be three times higher than in the United States.

Guam, during January and February this year, has shown a higher level than the Trust Territory and Northern Marianas combined, with 14 fresh out-

breaks of tuberculosis for its 87,000 civilian population, official figures show. The TT and Northern Marianas reported 10 new cases for the same two-month period.

As a result of the health checks, Lassen College administrators have enacted a new policy requiring foreign-born students to take a tuberculosis skin test prior to registration.

Most of the students enrolled at the college live either with families or in communal arrangements, but 128 live on campus in the college dormitory.

## Marianas - TT Delegations Leave For U.N.

SAIPAN -- The United Nations Trusteeship Council annual hearing on the United States' administration of the Trust Territory is scheduled to begin in New York Monday, May 15.

Twenty-five representatives of the Trust Territory administration, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas government and legislature, Congress of Micronesia, and petitioners on behalf of the Voice of the Marshalls group, departed this week for the session, due to close May 25.

According to the Micronesian News Service, an opening statement on the U.S. administration of Micronesia is scheduled to be presented to the Trusteeship Council on May 15.

Petitioners will address the Council on May 17 and questions on the Trust Territory administration are slated for May 18 and 19. A general debate will follow on May 22 and 23 with further discussion from May 23 until the close of the hearing.

Members of the Trusteeship Council will look into the question of scholarship offers by U.N. member states, and training facilities made available to Micronesia. Other questions will be directed to the dissemination of United Nations information in the Trust Territory.

On May 26, a scheduled discussion to examine the attainment of self-government or independence by the Trust Territory, will be followed by

arrangements for the dispatch of a visiting U.N. mission to observe the July 12 referendum on the draft Constitution for the Federated States of Micronesia.

Representing the Trust Territory executive branch during the session will be: High Commissioner Adrian P. Winkel; Deputy HiCom Juan A. Sablan; Director of the Office of Planning and Statistics, Lazarus Salii; Acting Administrator of the Department of Administrative Services, N. Neiman Craley Jr.; and Chief of Public Information, Bonifacio Basilius.

Governor Carlos S. Camacho will head the Northern Marianas Commonwealth government delegation, accompanied by Legislative Affairs officer, Vicente Santos.

It has also been officially

announced that Senate President Larry Guerrero and House Floor Leader Pedro Nakatsukasa departed May 11 for New York. The two Commonwealth Legislature members were accompanied by Pete A. Tenorio, the Legislature's special advisor for Executive and Federal Relations.

From the Congress of Micronesia, Rep. Raymond Setik and Senator Bailey Olter will serve as special advisers to the United States delegation.

Setik and Olter will be accompanied by Senate President Tosiwo Nakayama, House Speaker Bethwel Henry, Senate Clerk Nishima Siron, House Clerk Tadao Sigrah, Legislative Counsel Fred Ramp, and Brian Farley, COM Public Information Specialist.

Also attending from the Congress of Micronesia are: Rep. Ekpap Silk, Commission on Future Political Status and Transition; Leo A. Falcam, Micronesian Washington Office; and David Swanston, Congress Consultant.

Ifoij Litokwa Tomeing, President of the Voice of the Marshalls and Congressmen Chuji Chutaro and John Heine, will be in attendance to petition on behalf of the pro-unity group. Chutaro and Heine will also respectively serve as the group's advisor and translator.

The forty-fifth session of the Trusteeship Council is scheduled to adopt a report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council on June 5.

## Two Year College Proposed On Saipan

SAIPAN -- Western Michigan University's proposal to start a two-year college on Saipan has the support of Continental and Pan American Airlines, who say they will house students in their respective hotels.

According to a concept paper

from Dr. John W. Kofel, Director of the International Education Center at WMU, it is feasible that by using existing facilities for classrooms and dormitories, 1,000 students could begin studying in the fall of 1978.

Although geared primarily to

Japanese students who would otherwise not be able attend the over-crowded colleges in Japan, or who simply desire a western-type education, Kofel's report indicates that the program will be available to all interested persons, regardless of nationality.

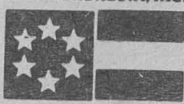
The proposed bilingual higher education program is funded jointly by the University and federal grants. WMU currently conducts similar programs in 12 other countries, including a doctoral program on Guam.

In a letter to Ruth Van Cleve, Director of Territorial Affairs,

Kofel said that he has received optimistic opinions from others who helped develop the concept paper, and that the only pessimistic note was "how we will limit enrollment to the proposed 1,000 students."

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# Legislature Endorses Food Stamp Program

SAIPAN — A rumor that Governor Carlos Camacho was opposed to the federal food stamp program prompted the drafting of a Senate joint resolution this week requesting implementation of the program in the NMI.

Introduced during Thursday's session, the resolution was unanimously adopted by the senators, who previously said they would like to see the program implemented as soon as possible.

A report from the USDA Food and Nutrition Services indicates that some 11,000 (or 76% of the population) would be eligible to participate in the program, receiving annual benefits of about \$5.5 million.

Legislators agreed that although it "falls short of a

Utopian solution," the program would greatly benefit the people, particularly in the absence of a salary increase. They also noted that it would release individual spending on food items into consumer goods and savings.

In a House speech Wednesday, Rep. Pedro Nakatsukasa (Terr.) remarked that in his opinion, the benefits of food stamps warrant prompt implementation, and that he would do everything in his power to expedite the program.

Despite the legislators' concern for its speedy application, implementation of the program could take some time. Governor Camacho said recently that he would be conferring further with U.S. Congressman Phillip Burton before making his final decision.

Camacho is due to meet with Burton during his present trip to the United Nations in New York.

Following his most recent visit to Washington D.C., Camacho denied allegations that he disapproved of the federal program. He admitted that food stamps could be beneficial to the NMI, but due to lack of complete information, he was not convinced that it was the complete answer for Commonwealth citizens.

Before departing for New York, Camacho said he would stop off in Honolulu for a one-day meeting of federal coordinators from Region IX and Pacific area nations at which information on other feeding programs applicable to the Commonwealth might be made available.

## Departments Organization Measure Approved

SAIPAN (NMCL) — The House of Representatives gave preliminary approval to a measure which would establish the organization of the executive branch and require the appointment of officials with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The measure—a revised version of a bill originally submitted by the administration would establish the Offices of the Governor and Lt. Governor, and provide the chief executive with six assistants all of whom, with the exemption of the Executive Assistant for Carolinian Affairs, would be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The measure (SB 1-3) proposes to establish the following departments and offices: Attorney General; Immigration and Naturalization; Public Defender; Public Auditor;

Community Affairs; Commerce; Emergency Services; Finance; Public Health and Environmental Services; Natural Resources; Education and Board of Education; Board of Professional Licensing; and Department of Public Works.

Persons appointed by the governor to head departments on boards as proposed in the measure would have to undergo the advice and consent of the Senate unless otherwise provided for. The measure further provides for minimum qualifications for nominees, including the duties and responsibilities of each department.

The measure has been assigned to the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations. The committee held public hearings on the measure on Thursday, May 11 at the House Chamber.

## Senators React To Governors Remarks

SAIPAN, (NMCL) — For the second time this week, the presiding officers of the legislature criticized Governor Carlos S. Camacho for his "habitual distortion of facts and misleading statements to the public"

that the legislature has been mishandling public funds.

Governor Camacho appeared on WSZE-TV last weekend and pledged to cooperate with the legislature for the good of the people. But instead, he ended up accusing the legislature of mis-

using public funds for official congressional trips abroad.

In a letter to the governor, the presiding officers told Camacho that his critical and distorted statements against the legislature "do not cater" to his doctrine of working together in harmony.

Said Senate President Larry Guerrero and House Speaker Oscar Rasa: "We could easily bad-mouth you and release statements damaging to you and your administration. But we do not wish to emulate your type of reporting to the people because it is an insult to the public and

the information presented is self-serving, distorted, and politically motivated."

They said the legislature is not convinced that the governor's trips accomplished anything of substance other than to present a Marianas flag to some people.

They declared: "In total, we found your trips to be wasteful, and the fact that you reported otherwise does not make such trips beneficial nor in the public interest."

The presiding officers pointed out that "whatever trips the legislature takes is consistent

with our mandates to help the public and nothing else. We do not hope to produce miracles like you, but we will rather produce and bring back small benefits rather than bring back empty promises and hopes that have no foundation whatsoever." Guerrero and Rasa said the governor seems to be a great expert in the latter.

They concluded that Governor Camacho must tell the truth for a change because the legislature is not competing with him "on how frequently should our branch of government lie to our constituents."

## House Suspends Action

SAIPAN, (NMCL) — The House of Representatives has suspended further meetings to accommodate the governor's request for an opportunity to review the revised Government Organization Act and to screen his department directors' input on the measure.

Administration witnesses requested for more time through the instructions of the governor during public hearings May 11. Speaker Oscar Rasa said the suspension of the meetings will give the governor and his staff ample time to review the bill.

He said the postponement of the session will also allow the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations to hold public hearings on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Speaker Rasa said the measure is very important and it is vital to get the views of not only the administration, but concerned citizens in the three municipalities.

The House membership agreed to reconvene its session on Monday, May 22, at a request from the Senate. This is because the nine-member Senate will not

have a quorum when some of the senators leave this week:ed for Tokyo to attend the Micronesian/Japan negotiations relative to war claims. The Senate President and the House Floor Leader have already left Saipan for New York where they are scheduled to address the United Nations Trusteeship Council on May 15.

In the meantime, the House Appropriations Committee is reviewing the administration budget. Other committees have also been instructed to review major legislation already received from the Senate so that they receive appropriate consideration when the House next meets.

Speaker Rasa said he is very disappointed that the governor's office is not ready to entertain the Government Organization Act. He said it is also very disappointing that the governor submitted his proposed bill without appropriate input from the various department heads.

The House has three more working days left before adjournment; the Senate four.

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# Scholarship Boards Measure Considered

SAIPAN, (NMCL) -- The Senate this week gave final approval to a measure which would establish Municipal Scholarship Boards for Saipan, Tinian and Rota. The measure (SB 1-48) literally zipped through the Senate without debate.

Consideration of the scholarship board measure was prompted by confusion born out of differing legal opinions between the legislature and the administration as to whether the previous boards are in fact defunct or are still in existence as provided by the Constitution under Continuity of Laws.

The measure now goes to the House of Representatives for further consideration. If it goes through the House and is eventually signed into law by the governor, the various boards will be able to process applications for scholarship assistance to deserving Marianas scholars abroad. Most senators felt the present confusion was unnecessarily inflicted upon Northern Marianas students who do not deserve the inconvenience.

Consideration of the measure prompted Senator Hilario F. Diaz of Tinian to remark that "every step must be taken to expeditiously consider favorable action of the scholarship board's bill in that there is an urgent need to assist the many North-

ern Marianas students abroad." Diaz also declared he is strongly in opposition to proposals to centralize the scholarship board, which he said will not be in the interest of the various senatorial districts in the Marianas.

The Senate also gave final approval to a measure amending custody of public funds for the operation of an agricultural and marine products marketing program for Rota. The measure now

goes to the House for further consideration. If approved by the House and eventually signed into law by the governor, the Mayor of Rota will take charge of the expenditure of funds of about \$20,000.

In other action, the House gave final approval to a Senate measure relative to the selection of an official Commonwealth seal. It also gave preliminary approval to House Bill 1-61

which would make technical amendments to Public Law 5-42 relating to the deed of trust instrument and a Senate measure dealing with the designation of certain holidays each year as legal holidays.

The House also adopted a number of joint resolutions during Tuesday's session.

Among the more interesting ones, are: HJR 1-16 expressing extreme dissatisfaction on the

increase of air fare by Continental/Air Micronesia (see related story); 1-12 asking the governor to submit to the Senate nominees for the positions of Director to the Marianas Public Land Corporation; and 1-13 requesting the President of the United States, and the U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board to support H.R. 9472.

## Excise Tax Bill Introduced

By Beverley Lund

SAIPAN -- A bill to repeal existing import duties and implement new excise taxes in the NMI emerged from the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs in its final redrafted form this week.

Senate Bill No. 1-35, if enacted, would repeal Sections 52 and 53 of the TT Code as applied to the Commonwealth, and Public Law 5-55.

The current import duty law which became effective Jan. 9, 1978, was recently amended, requiring all persons to pay an excise tax on all imported goods, whether for resale or for private use and consumption.

The new bill proposes levying

excise taxes on commodities imported for resale purposes only.

According to the Committee's report, at public hearings recently, the bill introduced by Senator Julian Calvo drew favorable comments from local businessmen, and is supported as redrafted by the businessmen and the general public.

If enacted, the bill would levy taxes in the following amounts:

1% on all foodstuffs; 3% on all goods except fuel, tobacco products and alcoholic beverages; 2 cents per can of soft drink; 7 cents on a pack of 20 cigarettes; 50% of the value of other tobacco products; 4 cents per can of beer; \$1.40 per 1/5 gallon of distilled alcoholic beverages; \$2 on a

gallon of wine; 5 cents on each gallon of fuel; and 1% of the value of agriculture and fishing equipment and supplies.

Under the existing import duty laws, fuel, agricultural needs and fishing supplies were exempt from taxes.

All other imported products, except those previously specified would be levied a tax of 5% of their value.

The new law would allow individuals to import all items free of taxation except large quantities of cigarettes, beer, liquor and wine. Travelers may bring limited amounts of cigarettes, liquor and wine into the Commonwealth without having to pay an excise tax.

Non-profit organizations such as churches would be exempt from any taxation.

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# Allowance Money-It's Up To Legislators

By Eve Lowe  
Staff Writer

SAIPAN — With a second money statute on the books since the formation of the Commonwealth Legislature, members are beginning to line up to collect on the benefit.

The "official representation" allowance, signed into law by Governor Carlos Camacho last week, provides each legislator with \$8,000 a year to defray expenses in connection with official duties.

First in line to apply for partial payment of the allowance was Rep. Plasio Tagabuel, (Terr.) sponsor of the bill, who asked for \$7,400 from the treasury to cover "entertaining and representation" costs, and other members are trickling in for the over-the-counter amount.

Debating on the issue two months ago while in formation of their budget, members voted overwhelmingly in favor of an official allowance, although they were publicly criticized by former Resident Commissioner Erwin Canham for granting themselves a "blanket salary increase."

But the money derives from public funds and is "definitely not a salary increase," in the legal opinion of David Price, the lawmaking body's newest legislative counsel member.

"When dealing with public funds, the legislators are in effect trustees of the public's money, and are civilly or

criminally liable for the proper use of those funds," Price says.

Some members have also taken exception to Governor Camacho's strong transmittal message accompanying approval of the bill, in which he dwelled heavily on accountability for the funds' spending. Camacho cautioned that they were subject to public audit, and that the legislators should keep careful track of their expenditures.

Say Tagabuel, "the bill's language does not specifically provide for members' individual accountability, although we will not object to being audited at any time. "My primary accountability is to my constituents and myself," he said.

Conceding that legally, a member can spend the entire amount on a new car, or "officially" entertain a girlfriend, if she happens to be a constituent - in the interests of official representation - Tagabuel said, however, that members are accountable to their own consciences.

House Speaker Oscar Rasa, remarking on the absence of legally binding language to justify the funds' use, said that the bill was never intended to include an accountability clause, but, "There comes a point where individuals must be accountable to themselves. We cannot nursemaid them every step of the way."

Adding that the members are "responsible people,"

Appropriations Committee vice-chairman Felicidad Ogomuro (Terr.) said, "We will welcome an audit any time."

Camacho's pitch for a preferably lower allowance, conveyed at the bill's signing, is contested by the senators and representatives, who argue that heavy demands made on them for cash donations to community functions are draining on their personal resources.

Congressmen are frequently approached for money to support local fiestas, Boy Scout projects, and fund-raising drives, and although we are happy to contribute, Tagabuel adds, "some members have given away as much as \$4,000 a year out of their own pockets."

The gesture of making financial contributions may pose a future problem when the congressmen's books do finally come under an auditor's inspection, because, says Tagabuel, he recently handed out several \$20 bills to Northern Marianas students at a stateside college.

"They had problems," he said, "and I am not going to refuse to help them. But I am also not going to ask a student in trouble, or one of my local constituents, for a receipt - that defeats a spontaneous offer of assistance."

The official allowance, while easing depletion of members' constitutionally-set \$8,000 annual salaries, will also supplement the cost of establishing

their precinct offices.

The satellite office concept - a second cause of major debate - will remove the members from the central legislature building and place them out in the field among the voters, a move a majority feels will put them where they belong - at the grass roots level.

Administrative Officer Jesus Mafnas said recently that constituents are reluctant to visit the central office, particularly to resolve financial problems, because of the lack of privacy. The field offices will smooth over that social problem, he said.

But the cost to the public for the closer relationship will be

paid with a \$4,000 per member price tag, shown in the Legislature's budget.

Leases have already been signed on four precinct offices (Garapan, San Antonio, San Vicente, and San Roque) at rents, sources say, vary between \$170 and \$250 a month.

The \$4,000 ceiling allotment will likely not meet the full expenses associated with a one-man legislature - clerical staff, office supplies and equipment, and property rental - and in spite of the back-up \$8,000 official representation allowance, some congressmen may still find they are dipping into their own pockets.

## Baseball today?

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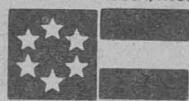


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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Editor:

The Governor's remarks during his television appearance on May 6 and 7 once again illustrated his complete lack of respect and understanding of the role of the Legislative branch of our government. His main point throughout the appearance seemed to be that if all trips are stopped by the Legislature, then all of his problems and the problems of our islands will be solved, and his administration will only then be able to fulfill those empty promises he pledged during his political campaign.

I am not writing to further confuse the issue of who should or should not take trips. I feel, however, that the Legislature has just as much right and moral obligation to carry out its responsibilities to the public in the most efficient, prudent and responsible manner it sees fit. The Governor's continued preoccupation over the Legislature's business indicated to me his narrow-mindedness and unexcusable tendency to pass the buck and to blame the Legislature for his lack of production in office.

I am writing primarily to challenge and to expose, for the public to judge, a number of statements that the Governor made in that television appearance. I feel that no one who knows any better should let certain erroneous and distorted official statements of the Governor remain unchallenged.

The Governor made specific reference to the funding of the permanent power plant on Saipan by the United States Congress. In his own words, he seemed to imply without a doubt that the inclusion of the funds for the power plant in fiscal year 1979 budget by the U.S. Congress was done so because he was there to request such funds from Congress.

I happened to be in Washington, D.C. at the time that such incident took place and I know the full facts and background about the power plant funding. The Governor misled the public by telling them that he was instrumental in convincing Congress to provide the funds for the power plant. As a matter of fact, the funding has not been approved as yet. The recommendation to authorize appropriation was contained in a report of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to the Committee on the Budget which was printed on March 13, 1978. This recommendation was authorized by the House Interior Committee one month before the Governor arrived in Washington, D.C. around April 10, 1978.

Why would the Governor, knowing full well that his statement could be challenged, tell such a bold-face lie to the public about his role in convincing Congress of the Marianas need for a power plant? I can only surmise that the Governor was desperate to find justifications for his trip and to promote himself as the sole person looking after the interest and needs of the Northern Marianas.

During one discussion with the Governor in Washington, D.C. over the power plant in which several Marianas witnesses were present, the Governor in fact confessed that he knew nothing about the power plant funding in Congress and that he will not support any request for something that he knew nothing about.

In front of those witnesses which included the undersigned, Senator Ben Manglona, Washington Representative Eddie Pangelinan, Jack Torres, Pete Sasamoto and Manny Sablan, the Governor criticized Mr. Pangelinan for not informing him prior to his arrival about the intent of Congress to fund the power plant project. If the Governor was truthful about his role in convincing Congress of the need for a power plant on Saipan, why was it that he was angered by the lack of information from Washington about the intent of Congress to provide funds for the power plant?

I have been involved in various efforts through the Congress and U.S. Agencies in the planning for the power plant for Saipan as a Director of OTSP, and in fact it was partially through my constant plea and communications to Congressman Burton that the funds were finally requested by Congressman Burton's committee.

All the dirty work for the power plant was completed prior to the Governor's inauguration, yet he proceeded to inform the public that it was all his doing. The Legislature, in fact, submitted several letters to various chairmen of the Congressional committees in support of the power plant funding, yet the Governor chose to ignore those efforts and contributions of the Legislature. Senator Ben Manglona and Congressman Placido Tagabuel in fact were instrumental in providing the necessary justification for the funding of the power plant while they were in Washington for the budget hearing.

It took Senator Manglona, Eddie Pangelinan, Pete Sasamoto and myself two meetings with the Governor which included Mr. Howard Willens and Manny Sablan to convince the Governor to sign letters addressed to the chairmen of the Appropriations Committees in support of the power plant funding. Congressman Joe Lifofoi was also in the meeting and was a witness to the reluctance of the Governor to support the power plant funding request.

In the meeting, the Governor repeated his objection and hesitation to support the request because he was "afraid to be grilled by Congress." We were talking about the fate of the \$12 million for the power plant which is badly needed, and I was shocked to hear from our Governor, who came to Washington to testify on the budget, and as he claimed, on the power plant, that he was afraid to testify. I personally told the Governor in front of those present that I would be willing to be grilled and embarrassed in front of the United States for \$12,000,000 even if just to put our statement of needs for the funds into the hearings records of the Committee for future reference.

The Governor gave Saipan's TV audience the impression that all was well and that his trip to Washington and the ensuing discussions with Congressional members were successful. He completely ignored to inform the people that in the Senate Appropriations hearings chaired by Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska, the Governor was literally kicked out of the hearings because he did not submit the Marianas budget as expected and the Senator refused to discuss financial matters in the absence of back-up information and justification documents from the Marianas.

The Governor was not even aware of the seriousness of the situation and perhaps he did not know that U.S. Congress does not approve appropriation of funds without justifications. He was politely and diplomatically dismissed by the presiding officer and he did not even have the time to present the Marianas flag as he did in other official gatherings.

The Governor was asked to put a statement into the record on the \$12 million proposed funding for the power plant. His response was an embarrassment. He did not say one audible word in support of the project funding. I hope this was not what he was

referring to on television when he implied that he was instrumental in the approval of the funds for the power plant. To say in his report on TV that he made possible the approval of the funds for the power plant was, in my opinion, a deliberate deceit and an insult to the public trust placed in the office of the Governor.

As one who feels strongly that our government must be run by honest officials, I feel that the governor's first historic report to the public has set a shameful precedent. The public deserves to be told the truth even if it means sacrificing one's political future and personal reputation. Although the oath of office under our Constitution does not specifically bind officials to tell the truth, it is inherent in the Constitution and a standard dogma for officials to faithfully discharge their duties.

The doctrine of "thou shall not lie" may not be a constitutional requirements. However, we need not be religious about honesty and telling the truth. Although it may hurt sometimes, truth is the best and most honorable answer.

The Governor needs to bring a public observer on his trips who can verify freely and without fear of reprimand his activities (official activities especially) during his public-interest trips. Twisting of information to achieve political popularity by our chief executive should not be condoned as a trademark of our executive branch.

Pedro A. Tenorio  
Garapan Village, Saipan, M.I.

Dear Editor:

We will appreciate if you publish this letter. I would like to take this opportunity to speak on behalf of all Micronesian students in the State of Oregon, in extending our sincere gratitude to Ambassador Peter Rosenblatt for his understanding of the wishes of Micronesian people, as far as the question of sovereignty is concerned. Now that the most difficult task in the negotiation has been resolved, compatibility of Free Association and the Constitution, we see Free Association appropriate to Micronesia.

We would also like to thank those Micronesian officials who made Micronesia-United States negotiations successful. We believe that political freedom to Micronesia is no longer a dream if we stick to new developments made in Hilo, Hawaii, in our future talks. We look forward to participating and hope for a successful referendum in July.

Heinrick Stevenson  
President,  
Micronesian Student Gov'n't. of Oregon

Dear Editor:

Without consultation with the leadership of the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature Washington Representative Edward Pangelinan has advised the Legislature to either take a neutral stand or support the selection of Hawaii Judge Alfred Laureta because of his connection to Hawaii Senator Daniel Inouye.

Pangelinan representing the Marianas knows that the leadership of the Legislature is against the appointment of Laureta for the Marianas Federal Judge post. During its Second Special Session, the Fifth Marianas District Legislature adopted Resolution No. 5-210 S.D. 1, nominating Mr. Roger St. Pierre to be appointed by President Carter for the position of Federal District Court Judge for the Northern Marianas.

The Fifth District Legislature and the First Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature have taken the position that former Chief Public Defender Roger St. Pierre be given the Federal District Judge post in the Commonwealth.

Roger St. Pierre is the choice of the people of the Northern Marianas. St. Pierre also has an "enviable reputation and an unblemished record" and is versed with the laws of the Marianas and Federal laws applicable to the Marianas.

It is seriously hoped that the Hawaii delegation in the U.S. Senate will not take the position that simply because they have helped the Marianas cause in Congress, that the Marianas will not question the nomination of Laureta. It is hoped that their support of the Marianas cause was solely based on "merits and not on any other issue."

Sincerely yours,  
Joe C. Guerrero

## Legislature Halts Hiring . . . . .

Continued from page one

With members outnumbered 3 to 1, the Legislature now supports 69 legal, consultant, research, administrative, and clerical staff, a figure close to the budgetary limit of 78 projected in the lawmakers' recently approved appropriation bill for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The Legislature currently pays out \$60,000 a month in staff salaries, \$3,200 a month below the budgeted limit.

Fitial said this week that a halt had been called to the current hiring program even though four vacancies remain on legislative committees.

The vacancies will be filled by shuffling staff between the remaining fully-staffed committees, he said.

Lawyers at the Legislature have been hired at salaries

comparable with stateside earnings, with Roger St. Pierre and David Price, the newest legislative counsel member, earning the top figure of \$36,000 a year.

Committee consultants fall well below the legal staff in earning power, holding down salaries of \$11,000 a year, and committee researchers tagged at \$9,000. Secretaries and clerk-typists earn between \$3,000 and \$6,000, Fitial said.

According to Administrative Officer Jesus Mafnas, the Legislature is exempt from present hiring policies existing under the executive branch. Position vacancies have not, therefore, been advertised for the requisite 30-day period, a legal requirement to protect the local labor market.



## Continental Air Mike Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

SAIPAN — Continental Air Micronesia will be celebrating its tenth anniversary of service to Micronesia over this weekend, according to airline officials here.

The event will be marked by an all-day luau on Micro Beach beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday and continuing through the evening.

Airline officials have organized games and contests for children, and several hundred persons are expected to attend.

Air Mike began its commercial jet service on May 16, 1968 with one Boeing 727 jetliner. "At that time," said the airline's general manager, Gene Hassing, "few people held Continental's optimism about the feasibility of providing jet aircraft service to the coral runways of the Micronesian districts."

Noted Hassing: in its 10 years of operation, Air Mike has flown over 1,250,000 passengers, and its nucleus of employees has grown from 26 to 206. In a typical month, the airline has over one hundred flights departing Guam International Airport.

The celebration will be jointly hosted by local management and visiting top officials from the airline's Los Angeles headquarters.

## Winkel Proclaims Maritime day

SAIPAN (MNS) — Trust Territory High Commissioner Adrian P. Winkel has designated Monday, May 22 as National Maritime Day in the Trust Territory.

Winkel said in a proclamation signed on May 4 that ocean transportation in the Trust Territory plays a most vital role in the daily lives of the Micronesian people.

The High Commissioner urged the people of the Trust Territory to observe and honor May 22 in recognition of the Micronesian Merchant Marine, by displaying the flags of both the United States and the Trust Territory at appropriate places.

Winkel also asked that public attention be directed to the important role TT ocean transportation and waterborne commerce plays in Micronesia's economic and social development through appropriate activities and ceremonies.

He also called on all ships in the Trust Territory to observe May 22 by flying their holiday colors.

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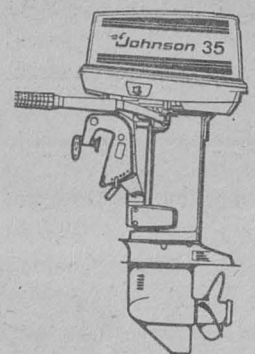
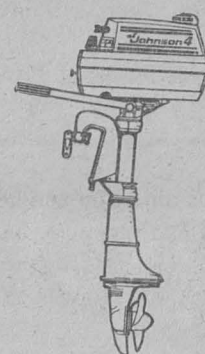
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# Friendship Ties Of Hafa Dai And Sayonara

By Beverley Lund

SAIPAN — Passengers aboard the Japanese liner Nippon Maru were greeted by a crowd of about 100 students, tour guides, and interested residents as they arrived on Saipan early Monday (May 8).

As the huge white ship slowly approached Charlie Dock, several of the 65 Marianas High School students eagerly rushed forward to assist dockworkers securing the lines.

Greetings of "Hafa Dai" were exchanged between students on the ship's deck and those on the dock. Although no further words could be exchanged across the distance, the International language of music from a loud-speaker encouraged friendliness as Japanese and Saipanese clapped their hands in time to the tunes.

The 500 Japanese visitors and MHS students boarded buses for the first of two days of touring historic sites and relaxing on beaches on Saipan. A highlight of the day was a memorial ceremony at Suicide Cliff.

A picnic lunch at Micro Beach was hosted by MHS students, and in exchange, the Japanese invited the students to a reception on board ship in the evening.

Quantities of delicious food and drink were available to the guests and the few curious persons who invited themselves aboard. A special invitation to join the festivities was issued to the crew of a Coast Guard buoy-tender that had arrived shortly after the Nippon Maru that morning.

Movies could be seen in the forward lounge while Island entertainment was enjoyed on the after-deck. Entertainers included Ramon and his Tahitian dancers, and group of Trukese singers and dancers whose pride in the flawless execution of several stick dances was evident from the expressions on their faces.

Surprise entertainment on Charlie Dock was innovated with the arrival of some 100 MHS students in Native attire, bearing aloft two fabricated "huts" on which were painted words of greeting and friendship. Passengers and visitors on ship greeted the demonstration of dancing and singing enthusiastically.

Despite the language barrier, the feeling of friendship persisted throughout closing ceremonies as everybody joined in lines, putting their arms around each other's shoulders and swaying to the music of

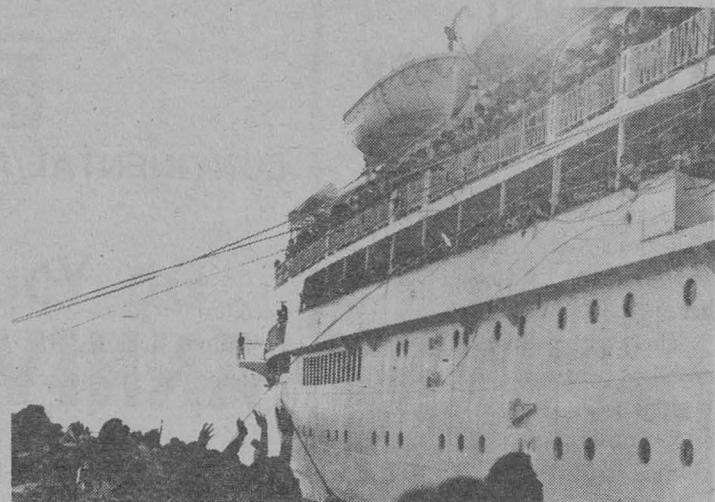
farewell songs.

As the Japanese formed a double line along the passageway, visitors filed by, shaking hands, and exchanging "Good night," "Goodbye," and "Sayonara," as they left the ship. Several small gifts were presented to the visitors as they left.

One young Japanese girl who spoke no English but "goodbye" nevertheless seemed to comprehend the gesture of friendship when an MHS student removed her maramar and placed it on the other girl's head.

Another reception for the host students was held on board prior to departure at the end of the second day of the Japanese youths' visit, with more gifts being given to the MHS students.

As the Nippon Maru prepared for departure, some of the students helped the dockers cast off the lines, while the rest joined the Japanese in singing several songs. Hundreds of streamers were tossed from the ship's deck to the students on Charlie Dock, to be held in friendship at each end until the pull of the distance between the ship and the dock broke the streamers — but not the bond of friendship.



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The Nippon Maru arriving and preparing for departure.

Photos by: Nelson Lund

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# Attempt To Block Land Lease...

Continued from page one

of both the government and FEBC, when Canham's administration came up with an alternative site.

The broadcast company's cancelled lease on the Marpi site was transferred over to a 5-hectare piece of Tanapag village swampland, where their \$36,000 downpayment for one year's use of the Marpi land covered a 5½-year period in Tanapag.

Although FEBC acquired a smaller, cheaper, and seemingly less desirable plot, an FEBC company official reports the Tanapag land to be more suitable to broadcast purposes due to its dampness permitting a clearer ground signal.

The Tanapag land deal also solved a potential problem for the government - expensive reclamation of land that, during four months of the year, lies under 18 inches of water.

But three years of extensive negotiations and eventual resettlement have come close to naught with the introduction of the congressman's resolution.

Blasting the transitional government for its use of public land to accommodate outside interests at the expense of the homestead program, Lifofoi also attacked the present administration for its failure to appoint members to the board

of the Public Land Corporation.

In the congressman's words: "It is appalling that 500 applicants (are) waiting for village homesteads on which to build their homes (yet) needed village lands are being given away.

"Applicants for homesteads have been told that they must await the formation of the Public Land Corporation before any public land can be used for homestead purposes while outside interests can be accommodated without meeting the same requirements," he charged.

While Friday a public hearing is scheduled to openly discuss the matter, both the executive and Far East Broadcasting officials are approaching the problem philosophically.

Reacting to the possibility that FEBC might face another search for suitable land, Administrative Officer Mitch Pangelinan said this week he doubted the Governor "would back out on this one."

"It will cost the government a lot of money," Pangelinan said, noting that this would be the second time the government would have reneged on a lease agreement with the company. Pangelinan also pointed out that Far East's rent payments will accrue to the coffers of the Public Land Corporation.

FEBC's top official, Norman Blake, the company's project

director for its Micronesian operation, reacted to Lifofoi's resolution by saying that if the Legislature acts on its intent, they will simply wait for the government to offer them a third site.

Blake said the company had

made a capital outlay of some \$120,000 in a Susupe-based studio where it broadcasts AM programs under the call letters, KSAI.

A now abandoned partially-completed building in Marpi is included in the total outlay,

Blake said.

Last year, the company completed construction on the Saipan Community School in Susupe, a gift to the protestant church, which cost in the region of \$44,000.

## U.S. Citizen Requirement For Jurors In Marianas Suspended

SAIPAN — President Carter said Thursday he has issued a proclamation suspending the requirement of U.S. citizenship for jurors in the district court for the Northern Marianas, according to a United Press International (UPI) release dated Washington.

A White House statement said the suspension was required because most of the inhabitants in the Northern Marianas will acquire U.S. citizenship only after termination of the trusteeship agreement for the former Japanese-mandated islands.



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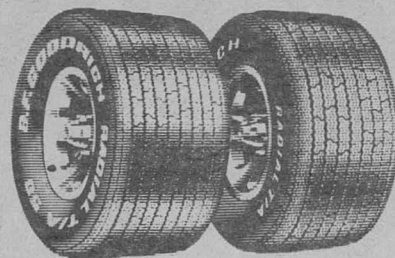
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# Action On Majors Act And Others

SAIPAN — Both the Senate and House of Representatives accepted various recommendations reached by the Conference Committee relative to the Mayors Organization Act of 1978.

Essentially, the committee recommended that because each mayor is a constitutional officer, he should therefore be left free from the immediate control of the executive branch in order to be effective in the exercise of his authority and in the execution

of Commonwealth laws.

It further recommended the establishment, as agencies of local government within the government of the Commonwealth, the offices of mayor comprising the duly elected mayors of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands.

A further recommendation of the committee is that each mayor should receive an equal annual salary of \$12,000 "irrespective of the number of constituents represented . . . ."

These recommendations were accepted without controversy in both Houses. The measure now goes to the governor for his consideration.

Meanwhile, the Senate gave final approval to a measure which would establish a Trial Court for the Commonwealth and provide for the qualification of judges. The measure, (SB 1-11) viewed as one of the more important pieces of legislation, now goes to the House for further consideration.

Other measures given final approval during Wednesday evening's session include, Senate Bills: 1-13 to authorize the two presiding officers of the legislature to schedule a joint legislative session once a year on Rota and Tinian, contingent upon the availability of funds; 1-15 to prohibit the act of contempt against a legislator in the execution of his official duties and to provide penalties therefor; 1-35 to repeal pertinent sections under Title 77 of the TT Code as they apply to the Commonwealth and to levy an excise tax on goods, merchandise, or commodities; and, 1-37 to establish a procedure for the issuance of certificates of identity to all persons in the Commonwealth who will derive U.S. citizenship upon termination of the Trusteeship Agreement and who are entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states of the U.S.

These measures will now go to the House of Representatives

for further consideration. Both the Senate and the House are working to approve major pieces of legislation before they adjourn sine die.

In other action, the Senate adopted a resolution which would ask the U.S., as administering authority for Micronesia, to initiate a dialogue with the U.N. Security Council for the purpose of terminating the Trusteeship Agreement as it applies to the Northern Marianas sometime this year.

Other resolutions adopted this week include: Res. 1-17 requesting the governor to take all necessary measures to establish a first quality trade school in the Commonwealth; and, Res. 1-16 which asks the governor to provide budgetary allocation in the FY 1979 C.I.P. budget for the construction of bleachers at the basketball court and to fence the tennis court on Tinian.

## Congratulations

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Public Law 93-203, the Office of the High Commissioner wishes to inform the general public that the Trust Territory has applied to the U.S. Department of Labor for Fiscal Year 1978 SPEDY summer program of \$93,791 under CETA Title III, Part A.

### Summer Program Title III, Part A

Geographic	distributions	of funds	as follows:
District			Allocation
Palau			\$12,193.00
Yap			\$ 9,379.00
Marianas			\$12,193.00
Ponape			\$11,255.00
Truk			\$16,882.00
Marshalls			\$14,069.00
Kosrae			\$ 5,627.00
PATS			\$12,193.00
		Total	\$93,791.00

Residents of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands wishing to review and comment on the application may do so at the Headquarters Training and Employee Development Division, Bureau of Personnel, Saipan, or at each District CETA Office.

Comments within 30 days of this announcement may be submitted to:

Honorable Adrian P. Winkel  
High Commissioner  
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

or  
Mr. William J. Haltigan  
Assistant Regional Director for Employment  
& Training Administration  
U.S. Department of Labor  
450 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102



## Kusina Talk

By Nancy Rody  
Nutritionist



Dear Friends:

Red velvet cake is a recipe made famous by the renowned Waldorf Astoria Hotel restaurant in New York. The secret of the lovely red color is the soda and vinegar mixture which is folded into the cake batter before baking.

Red Velvet Cake

½ cup shortening  
1½ cups sugar  
2 eggs  
2 tablespoons cocoa  
2 ounces red food coloring  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 cup milk with 1 tablespoon vinegar  
2½ cups flour sifted with 3 tablespoons cornstarch  
1½ teaspoons soda  
1 tablespoon vinegar

Cream shortening, sugar and eggs. Make a paste of cocoa and red food coloring and add. Mix salt and vanilla with milk and vinegar. Add to mixture alternately with flour and cornstarch. Mix soda and vinegar and fold (do not beat) into mixture. Bake at 350°F. Makes two 9" layers.

Icing

4 tablespoons flour  
1 tablespoon cornstarch  
1 cup milk  
1 cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla

Cook flour, cornstarch and milk to a stiff paste, then let mixture get completely cold. Cream butter and sugar. Add flour mixture and beat well until it looks like whipped cream. When icing cake, swirl icing with back of spoon and it will hold its shape.

For those of you who have a "Saipan Swim Club Cook Book," we would like you to know of two corrections of typographical errors. On page 81 the "Best Ever Coconut Cream Pie" recipe should read 4 teaspoons flour not 4 tablespoons flour. On page 107, 4 eggs should be added to the list of ingredients.

Hafa Adai,  
Nancy



A Type 95 Japanese WWII Tank is among many other historical displays comprising the new museum which officially opened May 14, 1978 on Saipan across from the municipal building.

## Burglary At Joeten Center

By Beverley Lund  
Staff Writer

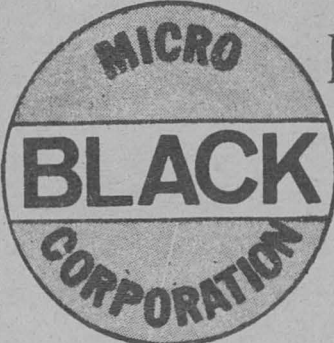
SAIPAN — An investigation into a burglary at the Joeten Shopping Center has revealed at least 12 guns missing from stock.

According to Chief of Investigation Jose Babauta, five .410 shotguns and seven .22 rifles were taken from display cases on the premises April 27. In addition, a stereo set and a man's wristwatch were reported missing. Babauta also said that an attempt was made to open the safe, and that there is a possibility that more items are missing from the store than are now realized.

The burglary is reported to have occurred between closing time April 26 and when the incident was reported to Police at 8 am the next morning. Night Security Guards reportedly saw nothing unusual during their routine checks of the store.


Police have no suspects, and no charges have been filed, as the matter is still under investigation, stated Babauta.

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## Bid Invitation

The Director's Office will receive sealed bids for the construction of the Sewer System Improvements at Hopwood Junior High, approximately 530 feet. Bids in single copy will be accepted until 2:00 P.M., local time. May 25, 1978 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. A bond of 10% of the total bid price must accompany the bids. This security may be a certified check cashier's check or bid bond, made payable to the Treasurer, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. N6089000".

A non-refundable payment of \$20.00 is required for each set of plans and specifications available on or after May 11, 1978 at the Technical Service Division, Department of Public Works, Saipan, Mariana Islands.

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in the bid proposals in the interest of the Government.

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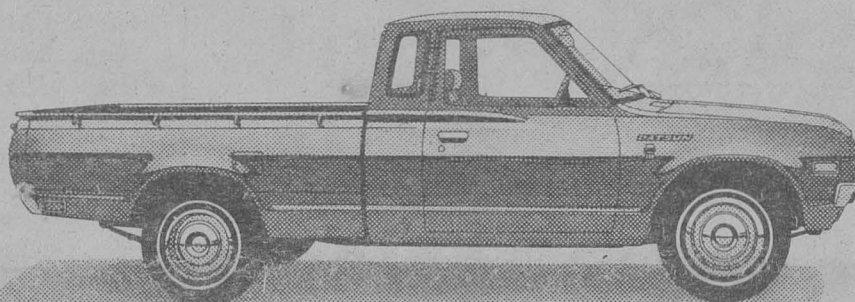
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## '78 DATSUN '78

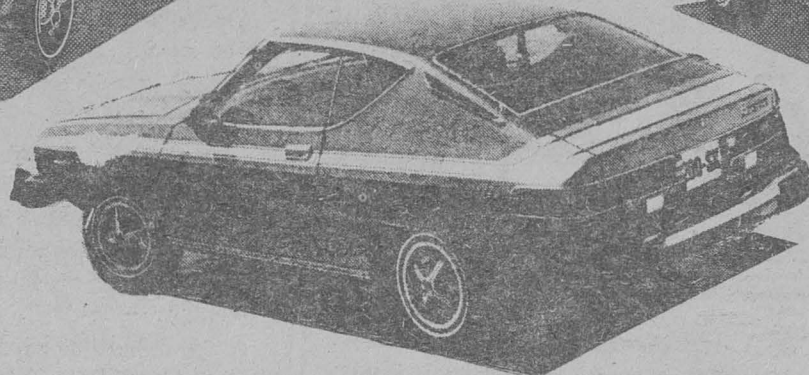


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