

DAILY**Marianas Variety** News & Views

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Saipan, MP 96950
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Passage of wage bill urged

By Rafael H. Arroyo

GOVERNOR Lorenzo I. Guerrero sought the help of Senate President Juan S. Demapan Tuesday in facilitating passage of the bill to increase the minimum wage.

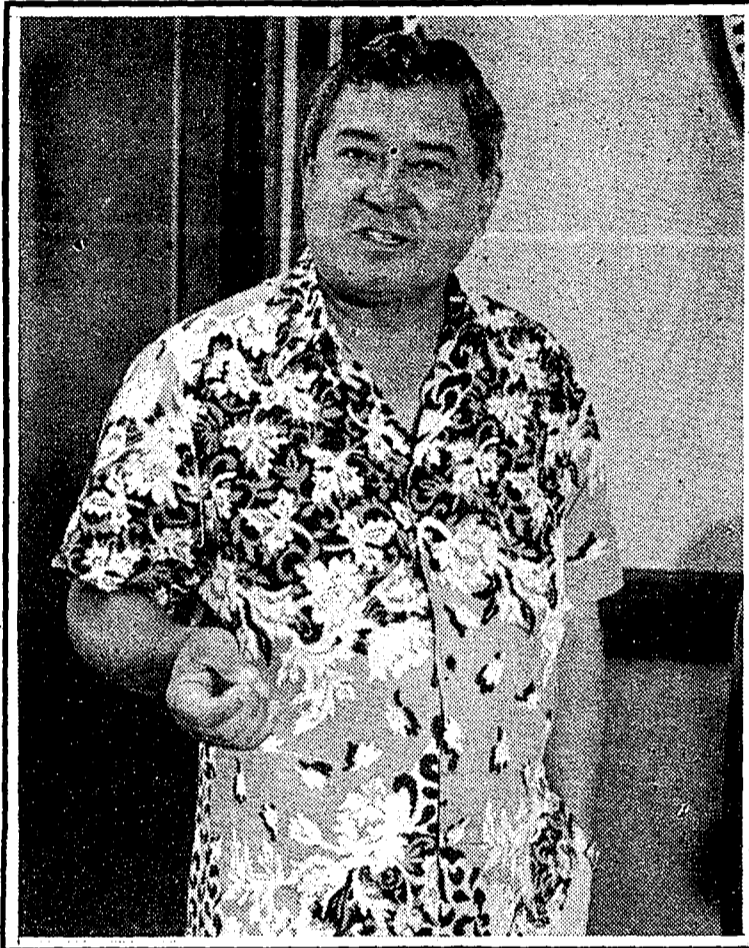
In a letter sent to Demapan a day before he left for Washington, D.C., Guerrero stressed the need for expeditious Senate action on House Bill 8-197, saying that congressional attention is focused on it.

"Passage of the bill will go far to show US Congress that we are capable of controlling our own government by democratic process. Otherwise, we will be sending a message that we do not control ourselves but are controlled by very small and powerful interests," Guerrero said.

Congress has expressed concerns over the CNMI's labor and economic policies, including the \$2.15 hourly minimum wage, almost half the federal wage rate.

In response to Congress' call for a higher minimum wage, last

continued on page 4



Lorenzo I. Guerrero



Juan S. Demapan

Panel to study moratorium on hiring of nonresidents

A SPECIAL committee of the House of Representatives is looking at the possibility of imposing an across-the-board moratorium on the hiring of additional nonresident workers in the CNMI.

This was learned yesterday from Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider, chairman of the newly-formed Select Committee on Labor and Immigration. He said in an interview that there is a need to either freeze or place a quota on the recruitment of alien labor to address the growing surplus of "idle alien workers" in the CNMI.

He, however, clarified that such a moratorium would not be implemented in such a manner that would retard the growth and economic development of the Commonwealth.

"It's clear that the basic concept of supply and demand must be adhered to. In order for us to address the demand for higher minimum wage in the private sector, we must reduce the supply of labor, specifically surplus alien labor," Hofschneider said.

There are a lot of workers currently on island who were recruited from off-island but are now idle due to the current slack in the job market, he said.

Citing the construction industry as an example, Hofschneider said a number of workers have been forced into other types of jobs beyond their line of work because of the lack of projects.

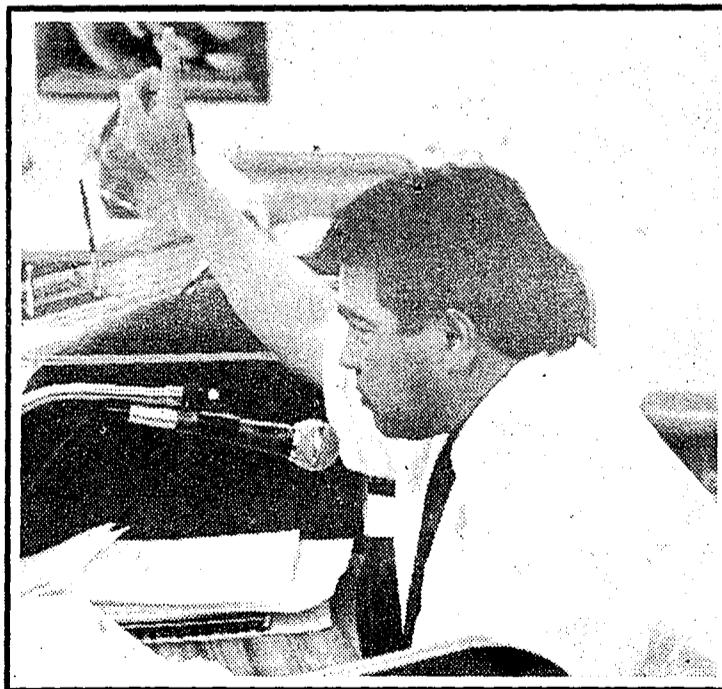
Other industries suffer as these workers offer unfair competition to those in the job market that are qualified to do the job.

"If we need to provide a mechanism where we have to look at certain industries only, then so be it. We're still not concrete on putting the moratorium in general terms. The committee feels caution should be exercised so as not to restrict on the development of the CNMI," Hofschneider said.

Otherwise, Hofschneider said the government should be in a position to have a handle on every specific industry with regards to labor requirements so as not to have an excess labor pool.

"Only if we could manage labor force properly can we come up with sound policies with regards to demands for increases in wage and salaries. The reduction of the surplus alien labor may be viewed as a beginning to the resolution of issues on minimum wage hikes," he said.

The Department of Commerce and Labor is currently restricting the



Heinz S. Hofschneider

hiring of nonresident workers for non-essential positions, such as nightclub workers and drivers and for those jobs that can be easily filled by local people.

Hofschneider said the criteria could be expanded to further minimize the increase in the alien labor force.

The seven-member committee was formed last week by Speaker Thomas

P. Villagomez to review labor policies.

Acting Speaker Diego T. Benavente, proposed the inclusion of immigration in the committee's work.

He said the impact of the Compact of Free Association on the resources of the CNMI may also be worth looking into. (RHA)

Bank workers charged with embezzlement

TWO WOMEN have been accused of separately pocketing a total of \$74,894 in savings deposits while still employed with the Bank of Saipan.

A representative of the bank told police Tuesday that one of the women transferred a deposit worth \$37,502 from the savings account of an unnamed client to her own savings account with the bank. She later withdrew the money.

She allegedly made the illegal transfer between the latter part of December 1992 to last month.

The other woman, who worked at the bank's Garapan branch, allegedly transferred \$37,392 from another depositor's account to her own savings account.

She allegedly transferred the money within the period December 1991 to October 1992.

Assistant Police Chief Ray B. Camacho said the two clients who lost their deposits had been compensated by the bank.

The Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation is still investigating the case.

Also on Tuesday, two elementary students were apprehended after they were caught stealing

continued on page 2

Third complaint against cop filed

ANOTHER complaint that a police officer assaulted a private citizen was filed with the Department of Public Safety Tuesday, police said yesterday.

Assistant Public Defender John Seamon was the latest to complain in behalf of the alleged victim identified only as Joel Trecho.

It was the third such complaint relayed to the DPS in less than a week.

The alleged assault on Trecho, however, occurred about a month ago and no details were available, except that he was being questioned on a traffic offense when he was allegedly attacked.

Assistant Police Chief Ray B. Camacho said the DPS leadership would not tolerate harassment or brutality by men in uniform but said victims must immediately report any such incident to the police.

"Don't wait for a long period before filing of the complaint when the evidence is gone," he said, explaining that a person recently attacked must have bruises or other telltale marks on the body.

Investigation on the allegations, however, was put on hold because Capt. Bertha Tudela, chief of the

Internal Affairs Division, is on leave.

DPS' Criminal Investigation Division could not investigate because in at least one of the complaints, the harassment allegedly happened inside the CID office.

All three police officers accused of police brutality were unidentified.

Last Friday night, a Northern Marianas College student accused a Saipan police officer of mauling him.

Melion Perney, 27, claimed he was picked up for an unknown reason from a basketball court in Susupe then punched, kicked and beaten up in an undisclosed place.

On Monday night, Quirino Adlaom, 28, claimed he was pushed by a police officer while he was made to breathe into a machine that determines the extent of drunkenness or whether a person is drunk or not.

Police Chief Antonio A. Reyes said authorities have encountered many other instances in which a person arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol made up stories that they were harassed to get away with the offense. (GLD)



TOYOTARO Kanda, managing director of Kirin Service Food Co. Ltd., a 100 percent subsidiary of Kirin Brewery of Japan, visited Saipan Beer Factory Boga Boga at the La Fiesta in San Roque. Photo shows (from left) plant manager Fujio Nakazawa, chef Makoto Shiota, general manager Kazuteru Sudo, assistant chef Kiyohiro Fukuyama, Kanda and restaurant manager Shiro Enomoto.

Payne's bill will devastate economy, Guerrero says

REMOVAL of the Commonwealth's duty-free privilege as proposed by Congressman Lewis F. Payne will have devastating effects on the local economy, Representative Pedro R. Guerrero said Tuesday.

"Eliminating these benefits will have serious repercussions on the ability of the CNMI to develop a self-sustaining economy. It will discourage foreign investment in export manufacturing and trigger the exodus of existing manufacturers to other countries," Guerrero told Payne in a letter.

Payne's proposed, H.R. 997, seeks to deny the CNMI the duty-free benefit unless the minimum wage is raised to the current federal level and the local labor share in the production of export goods is increased to 50 percent.

Payne also proposed the assignment in the CNMI of a full-time resident compliance officer by the US secretary of Labor to monitor

compliance with federal labor laws.

The proposal was in retaliation to the alleged unfair competition faced by US-based garment companies from CNMI factories which use cheap alien labor.

The bill is with the House Subcommittee on Trade chaired by Rep. Sam Gibbons, who has started soliciting comments. A public hearing is scheduled on March 29.

According to Guerrero, approval of Payne's measure will signal the demise of the garment industry which relies heavily on the duty-free privilege to remain competitive.

He said businesses such as air and surface transportation, terminal and stevedoring operations, freight forwarding, insurance, wholesale and retail, apartment rental, auto dealerships and construction, which also rely on the garment industry for a substantial portion of their revenues, would

be adversely affected and might be forced to close.

The CNMI garment industry is not competing with mainland industries but only with the Asian market, Guerrero said.

He also said a move to increase the minimum wage would exacerbate the situation and only hasten the closure of labor-intensive industries in the CNMI. Likewise, he said Payne's condition that a 50 percent local labor force be maintained in the industry was impossible to attain.

"We know the US is entering another phase in its quest to strengthen its economy. IBM laid off 30,000 employees because it could not compete internationally. Has the US started restricting imports of computer and other allied equipment to protect 30,000 US mainland jobs? One of the factories of General Motors succumbed to competition against Japanese car makers.

Bank... continued from page 1

items from a teacher's car. The theft was reported at 8:23 a.m. and took place in the Kobleville Elementary School premises.

The two elementary students al-

legedly broke into the car of one of the school's teachers and took a pair of gloves and a thermos from the vehicle.

Meanwhile, the management of

Starlight nightclub in Garapan complained that a customer failed to pay over \$100 in bills shortly before the establishment closed at 1:56 a.m. yesterday. (GLD)

Passage... continued from page 1

year, Guerrero formed task force which, after a study, recommended that the local basic pay be raised by 30 cents each year from 1993, until it reaches \$4.25 in 1999.

The proposal, in the form of HB 8-197, was passed on first and final reading by the House of Representatives in January and is now awaiting Senate action.

Guerrero said the proposed Minimum Wage and Hour Act of 1992 was carefully prepared to strike a balance between fairness and workability within the economy and would probably satisfy the concerns of US lawmakers.

He said failure to act on the measure expeditiously would severely jeopardize the time, energy, effort and money invested by the CNMI government on Covenant Section 702 and 902 con-

cerns.

Section 702 of the Covenant provides for guaranteed federal financial assistance for the CNMI to achieve a standard of living comparable to the average American community. Section 902, on the other hand, provides for regular consultations between the two governments on matters that affect their relationship.

Guerrero and other officials are currently in Washington, D.C. to attend the public hearing tomorrow called by the House Subcommittee on Insular and International Affairs regarding the seven-year federal financial assistance package for the CNMI under Section 702.

According to Guerrero, without the passage of the bill in its original version, the task of securing the new seven-year financial commitment, as well as the

CNMI's defenses in the areas of labor, immigration and the Headnote 3(a) duty-free status, is made far more difficult.

"It would greatly strengthen our negotiating position if we could arrive at the 702 hearings with the new minimum wage act signed into law," he said.

Over \$120 million in 702 funding, local control of labor and immigration and continuation of the Headnote 3(a) exemption from import duties all hang in the balance of the CNMI's credibility with Congress, Guerrero said.

"We need support in Congress if we are to improve our infrastructure control, control our guest workers and attract investment to diversify our economy, and that the passage of the minimum wage act is a step in that direction," he said.

CPA seeks proposals for airport terminal

THE IMMIGRATION and customs processing area at the Saipan commuter terminal will be expanded to twice its present size to accommodate the growing number of passengers from Tinian, Rota and Guam.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is seeking qualified contractors to bid on the project that is expected to be completed 30 days after a notice to proceed is given.

According to Efrain F. Camacho, CPA's consulting engineer, the project will be done during at night, after tenants and operators are closed for business so as not to disrupt operations at the terminal.

"Since Continental Micronesia no longer serves

Rota with a Boeing 727 aircraft, more passengers are now being routed through the commuter terminal," Camacho said. "There has also been an increase in the number of tourists to Rota and Tinian."

The CPA consulting engineer said the project is an "interim measure." The Commonwealth Ports Authority has two options regarding the long-term solution for the Saipan commuter terminal in anticipation of Rota opening its hotel/golf course resort. One is to relocate the current terminal to another location, and the other would be to incorporate the commute terminal building into the overall main terminal building with the commuter operation being on the ground floor.

Hawaii may have second Filipino high court justice

By Ben DiPietro

HONOLULU (AP) - The Senate Executive Appointments Committee voted unanimously Tuesday to approve Mario Ramil's nomination as an associate justice to the state Supreme Court.

Ramil's nomination now heads to the full Senate for a vote that Senate President James Aki said could be held by the end of the week. If approved, he would replace the late Justice James Wakatsuki.

Ramil was treated much gentler by the committee than attorney Sharon Himeno, Gov. John Waihee's first nomination for the high court seat who was rejected by the Senate last month. Himeno was slammed for her political connections and her involvement in a questionable land deal involving her father's company, her law firm and the state.

"I thought I was grilled pretty hard, but I was happy about it," Ramil said. "It just seemed to go according to script, according to the way they wanted it to go," said state Sen. Mary George, the only Republican on the committee.

There were no questions about Ramil's political connections as a former director of the state Department of Labor and state Insurance Commissioner. Lt. Gov. Ben Cayetano, who called Ramil a political insider when his nomination was announced, submitted testimony in favor of Ramil's nomination but didn't attend the hearing.

Ramil defended himself against critics who questioned his political ties, and said he lacked judicial experience and good judicial qualities.

"I have been involved in politics,

there's no secret about that. But I made rulings against my friends when I was insurance commissioner. People understand that's how you have to operate," Ramil said. "My experience as insurance commissioner, as well as director of labor, are very relevant to the Supreme Court. We must have a Supreme Court with a human factor, with compassion and sensitivity. I also agree that the analytical side is very important, as is integrity."

Most of the testimony submitted supported Ramil's nomination, including testimony from numerous Filipino groups backing a favorite son, the state AFL-CIO, former Big Island mayor Lorraine Inouye and various attorneys and lawyers' groups.

Opposition was raised by the state Republican Party, Small Business Hawaii, private citizens and former Honolulu mayoral candidate Jack Schweigert. Hawaii Women Lawyers, upset the governor didn't nominate a woman, submitted testimony expressing no opinion.

One Department of Labor worker, Manuel Fragante, claimed Ramil mishandled his discrimination case against the department. Ramil said he ruled only on Fragante's claim that a Labor Department investigator assigned to his case had lied, and said he couldn't rule for Fragante because he had no proof the investigator lied.

State Republican Party Chairman Jared Jossem was grilled by several committee members after expressing doubts about Ramil's legal experience. Jossem said the committee gave Ramil "easy passage" and failed to ask hard questions regarding his dealings as state insurance commissioner and Labor Department director.

10 lawmakers back Proa's salvage plan

TEN MEMBERS of the House of Representatives have opposed Washington-based IOTA Partners' application for an undersea salvaging permit.

They recommended that the permit be granted to a local firm, search for the remains of the Nuestra Señora Dela Concepcion, a Manila galleon believed to have sunk off Agingan Point in the 16th century.

Concepcion was carrying 40 odd chests of gold jewelry and 1,500 cases of gold bullions when it flourished.

IOTA and the American Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) have proposed to undertake salvage operations off Agingan Point.

IOTA and AIMS promised the government a substantial portion of whatever treasure was recovered from the Concepcion.

In a letter to the governor on March 11, the ten legislators indicated support for Proa Partners, a local firm with whom IOTA earlier arranged for a partnership. The joint venture never materialized.

"We the undersigned support the efforts of Proa Partners to conduct

undersea salvage operations in Commonwealth waters. We believe it would be more advantageous for our government to award the contract with Proa than with IOTA," the legislators said.

The joint letter was signed by Representatives Diego T. Benavente, Stanley T. Torres, Pedro R. DL. Guerrero, Jesus T. Atiao,

Herman T. Guerrero, Crispin I. DL. Guerrero, Mametto U. Maratita, Francisco DLG. Camacho, Pete P. Reyes, and Ana S. Teregeyo.

The letter was in response to Guerrero's earlier request for the Legislature's comments on IOTA's proposal.

Proa offers 55 percent of the treasure find to the CNMI government, significantly higher than the

25 percent offered by IOTA.

Aside from that, Proa has local ownership and is believed to have agreed with AIMS for a joint venture. "We believe a locally-owned company should be accorded the opportunity to recover historical artifacts located in the CNMI," the lawmakers said.

They said there was no need to make hasty decisions on the proposal since time is not a crucial factor. "The ship wrecks have been there for hundreds of years and a few more months or one more year would not significantly affect them. We therefore urge you not to proceed with the IOTA contract in order to meet a deadline and recommend instead you begin negotiating with Proa Partners," the lawmakers said. (RHA)


ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS MEETS

Alcoholic Anonymous, a support group for those with drinking (or drugging) problems meets every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 7:00 p.m., and Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Kristo Rai Church in Garapan.

For more information, call the HOTLINE at 234-5100 or Wolf M. at 234-6615 (and leave message).

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One (1) year experience as a legal secretary, or two (2) years experience as a secretary, or equivalent experience. Must have excellent computer typing and communication skills.

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03/18, 19, 22, 26 - AC 004267

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. Box 1370 CK
SAIPAN, MP 96950

TEACHING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Public School System (PSS) is soliciting applications for teaching Positions for which interviews will be conducted will be in the areas of elementary education including music and P.E.; in the secondary education (Math, English, Business Education, Art, Science, Social Studies, P.E., etc.); special education speech pathology, physical and occupational therapy, and in educational psychology. In addition, PSS is looking for curriculum specialists in the areas of testing and P.E. Interested applicants must possess a minimum of a BA/BS Degree and must be a holder of a valid teaching certificates/license. Information on salaries and benefits will be disseminated during the interview.

For applications, interviews and additional information, you may contact or visit the Staff Services Office in Saipan at Lower Base, call 322-9823 or Fax 322-4056. In Guam, please contact Mrs. Maggie Castro at the Marianas/Guam Liaison Office at Asia Plaza Building in Tamuning, Guam or call 646-9181/9182.

(s) William S. Torres
Commissioner of Education

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ATM

Study sees upheavals unless poor receive aid

By Paul Recer

WASHINGTON (AP) - Global environmental damage and political upheaval in dozens of nations could occur unless the industrial world helps the rural poor in the tropics to grow crops without ravaging the rain forests, a report says.

The study released Tuesday by a National Academy of Sciences panel noted that rain forests throughout the tropics are being destroyed to establish farms.

The loss of the rain forests can contribute to changes in the worldwide atmosphere, and could lead to global warming, some experts believe. Meanwhile, in many cases, the lands cleared of forests are suitable for crops for only a

short time and then are abandoned, leading to more forests being cut.

Many of the rural poor in the tropical countries, however, must farm these lands in order to feed themselves, the NAS report said.

The tropical rain forests are distributed through some 60 countries and are home to about one-third of the Earth's people. The areas, principally, are in the Amazon River basin of South America, in Central Africa and in south-eastern Asia.

Richard R. Harwood, chairman of the Academy committee that researched the problem, said that the study shows clearly that "it's essential to help people in these countries meet their food and cash needs in the process of solving global environmental problems.

"Unless we do, the massive numbers of rural poor will always be a festering problem," he said. "They can destabilize governments."

Harwood said that immediate action is required because changes are occurring so rapidly in the tropics that some areas will be degraded beyond hope within a generation.

Social and political issues present the greatest barriers to solving the problems, said Harwood. He said a major issue is who can own and control land in the tropics. Farmers are more apt to use and abandon land if they can't gain clear ownership and this can prevent establishment of a system of sustainable agriculture, said Harwood.

Bosnia leads in killings of journalists

NEW YORK (AP) - Violence in Turkey and Bosnia-Herzegovina accounted for more than one-third of the 49 journalists killed or missing worldwide in 1992, the Committee to Protect Journalists said today.

The victims included American television producer David Kaplan, of ABC-TV News, who was killed in August by a sniper in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

At least 90 reporters are being held prisoner, including 27 in China and 18 in Kuwait, the New York-based group said in its annual survey "Attacks on the Press."

Nearly all the journalists involved were local reporters.

The 200-page report included a foreword by Terry Anderson, the former chief Middle East correspondent for The Associated Press, who was held captive for 6 1/2 years in Lebanon. He was released Dec. 4, 1991.

"Journalists are vital to the process by which any country can move ... from dictatorship to freedom," Anderson said. "And they pay a far higher price, far more often, because the dictators know how important they are." The number of reporters killed declined from the record 61 in 1991. But the report said attacks on journalists and news organizations soared to a record 1,625 worldwide - ranging from raids to assaults and killings.

More than half the 49 documented killings took place in Europe or the former Soviet Union, which have surpassed Latin America as the most lethal regions for journalists, the report said.

It linked many of the killings and assaults to ethnic and nationalist conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, former Soviet Union and India.

Turkey had the highest reported death toll for journalists, with 11 killings in 1992.

Bombay sees new wave of bombings

By Thomas Wagner

BOMBAY, India (AP) - In the wake of the bombings that killed 517 people, currents of rumor and fear are running through this bustling city of 10 million people, but there is also an air of defiance.

Though the bombers and their motives aren't known, police have arrested several Muslim gangsters, and there is speculation the bombings were revenge attacks by Muslims.

A new bombing early Wednesday in Calcutta, in eastern India, wrecked two buildings, killing at least 25 people and injuring 100, police and news agencies reported.

If police confirm that Muslims planted the bombs in Bombay, more deadly religious riots like the ones that claimed 800 lives in the city in January are sure to break out, many residents believe.

Others are determined not to succumb to fear.

"We must show bravery to the rest of the world, and that's what we're doing," said banker Vasuder Luthria. He was interviewed in an undamaged building where the stock market was relocated after a bomb hit the main trading center Friday.

The 13 bombs killed people at the market, in hotels and skyscrapers, in shops, buses and taxis. One car bomb destroyed three apartment buildings a mile (1.5 kilometers) from the comfortable home of Sunanda Varma, 27.

"On Sunday, I wanted to bring my two sons to an amusement park, but my parents wouldn't let us go. We don't even drive to shopping markets anymore because we're afraid another bomb will go off," she said.

On Monday, the train her husband boarded for New Delhi was delayed for four hours by a bomb rumor. While that was happening, a high school near their house was closed by another bomb scare.

"Our servants hear a lot of rumors on the street," Mrs. Varma said in an interview at a restaurant near her home.

"My milkman told me this morning that police had found a bomb near my house. It was a total rumor. But the result of all this is that I don't feel safe driving around this city and I really used to."

Suspects in the bombing include a Muslim family whose restaurants and hotels were destroyed by Hindu arsonists during communal riots in January. The family fled to the Persian Gulf city of Dubai after the attacks.

On Monday, police fought a gun battle with two suspects with long arrest records. The gunmen escaped.

Many more Muslims than Hindus died in the communal riots in January. Mrs. Varma believes Muslims carried out the latest attacks in revenge.

"We really hope riots don't break out again," she said.

At K.C. College, where IDs were being checked at the door Tuesday, Sohail Ahmed, a 20-year-old physics major, said Muslims and Hindus had become closer since the bombings.

"Many people from both groups have been helping each other," he said while standing in front of the school with Hindu students.

At Fisherman's Colony, a slum in Bombay's southern harbor, men stood around a 20-foot-long (6-meter-long) shark netted the day before and described their fear after a bomb hit a nearby skyscraper Friday.

But since then, "life has returned to normal," said 13-year-old Dushan Tandel.

Just as businessmen at the World Trade Center moved quickly to relocate after the Feb. 26 bombing in New York, Bombay's business community quickly relocated its damaged stock market.

CCAC to host arts fair at La Fiesta

THE COMMONWEALTH Council for Arts and Culture in coordination with the La Fiesta San Roque Shopping Center, will host the "Arts of the Islands Fair."

The exhibit is one of the many events that will take place during the Marianas Visitor's Bureau's Tourism Week. Displays will

include work from local professional artists and craftspeople, as well as student exhibits.

The activity will take place at the La Fiesta San Roque Shopping Center on May 8 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. The public is invited to come and tour the exhibit. Work will be for sale.

If you are interested in exhibiting work at the fair, registration forms can be picked up at the CCAC office at the Convention Center, Capitol Hill. The deadline for registration is April 23, 1993. For more information, please contact the CCAC office at 322-9982/9983.

DFS exec to speak at BASIC meeting

THE NEXT Business Assistance, Sharing Information and Cooperation (BASIC) meeting will be held on March 30 from 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Pacific Gardenia's El Segundo Restaurant.

The discussion topic for the meeting will be hiring and training personnel.

Marian Aldan-Pierce, vice president for human resources at DFS will be the guest speaker.

BASIC meetings are free and open to all small business owners and managers in the CNMI. Participants discuss relevant issues concerning doing business in the

Commonwealth and work together to resolve common problems.

For more information, contact Ellie Friedman at the Department of Commerce and Labor, 322-4324, or Jim Bingham at the NMC Small Business Incubator, 235-1551.

Theft charges filed against NMC cashier

A CASHIER of the Northern Marianas College was charged yesterday with three counts of theft in the Superior Court.

Doris Pangelinan Koch, in her mid-40s, allegedly embezzled more than \$2,000 in tuition and other school fees in January.

According to the complaint filed by Assistant Attorney General Steven P. Pixley, the \$905 was stolen on Jan. 11. The money was student Keong Oh's tuition payment.

On same day, Koch allegedly

pocketed the \$790 paid by Kim Hyung Jin, another student, to the NMC.

On Jan. 19, the cashier allegedly took the \$650 tuition payment of Koo Cho Jin.

Koch, will be arraigned this morning.

The complaint against Koch said she thrice violated Sections 1601 (a) and 1608 of Title 6 of the Commonwealth Code.

A person convicted of stealing \$250 to \$2,000 may be, jailed for five years. (GLD)

PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY

Sanitary inspection to begin in Dandan

THE PUBLIC Health sanitation unit will conduct a village premises inspection in Dandan Village on April 16 and 17 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The purpose of the inspection is to monitor public health and sanitation standards and ensure that they are being maintained on all residential lots. All dandan residents are urged to extend their full cooperation.

The following are recommended as ways to maintain the surroundings of your residences:

1. Trim vegetation short and do not allow it to overgrow.
2. Organize all construction materials neatly and elevate at least two feet above the ground.
3. Properly secure pit latrine to prevent entry of rodents, flies and other vermin.
4. Backfill stagnant pools to prevent breeding ground for mosquitoes and flies.
5. Equip sinks with waste water pipe system, and connect to a proper cesspool.
6. Provide adequate dumpsters on premises and elevate at least 2 feet above the ground.

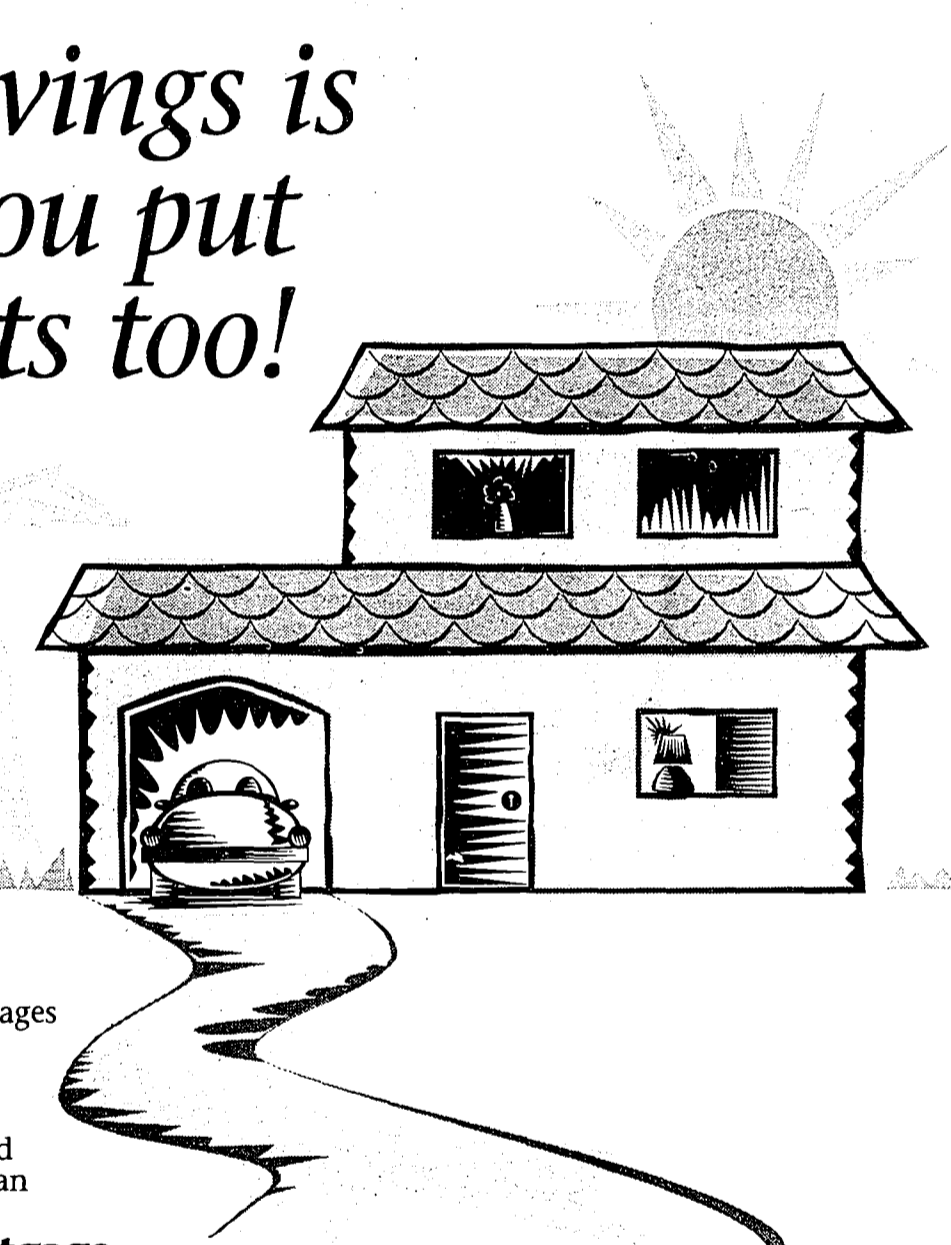
MAN MA infofoma i residentin i sengsong iya Dandan na i gurupon sanida osino i Public Health sanitation unit para uha conducta inspeccion gi kada sition guma gi halom i sengsong Dandan gi Abrit dia 16 & 17, para umatuhon gi oran alas 8 gi egaan asta alas 4 gi pupuenge.

I proposition este na inspeccion i pot i para uma li'e kao man ma kukumple i man ginagagao siha gi pot areglon hinemlo publico yan sanidad gi kada sition guma. Residentin iya Dandan con ginellie man ma sosoyo na uha extiende cabales i cooperasion niha ya uha na bonito yan arglao i oriyen gima niha. I man sigiente siha man ma recommenda na ufan machogue gi oriyen guma:

1. Todo man lokka osino man anako na cha'guan debe de ufan ma yabao.
 2. Todo man disareglao na material isha gi oriyen guma debe de umana familia ya ufan ma oddas pot lomenos 2 pie gi hilo tano.
 3. Todo komun debe de ufan ma asegura na ti ufan hinatme cha'ka, lalu yan pumalo gaga siha.
 4. Todo fachi pat banadero gi oriyen guma debe de ufan matatni pot para hu inataha i namu yan lalu na ufama.
 5. Todo nagasi osino labadod debe de ufan manayiye pipe ni ma estira ya manachetton guato gi propio na hoyun nangasi.
 6. Sufficienti na sahguan basula debe de umana guaha gi hiyong guma ya debe de ufan ma oddas pot lomenos 2 pie gi hilo tano.
- I cooperasion i residentin Dandan Guine na suntu simpre Hu asugura i ginatbo yan mina'lak i sengsong Dandan.

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Hong Kong: Don't worry about '97

By Nick Legaspi

Continued from yesterday

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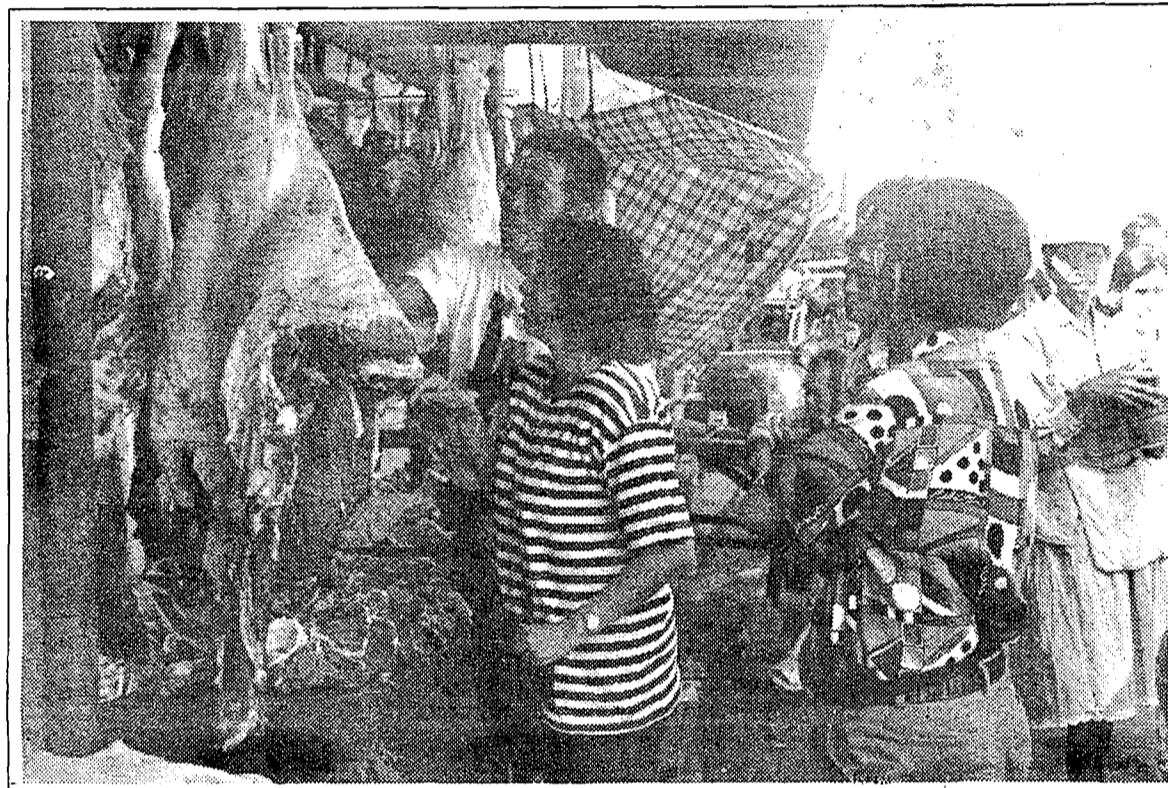
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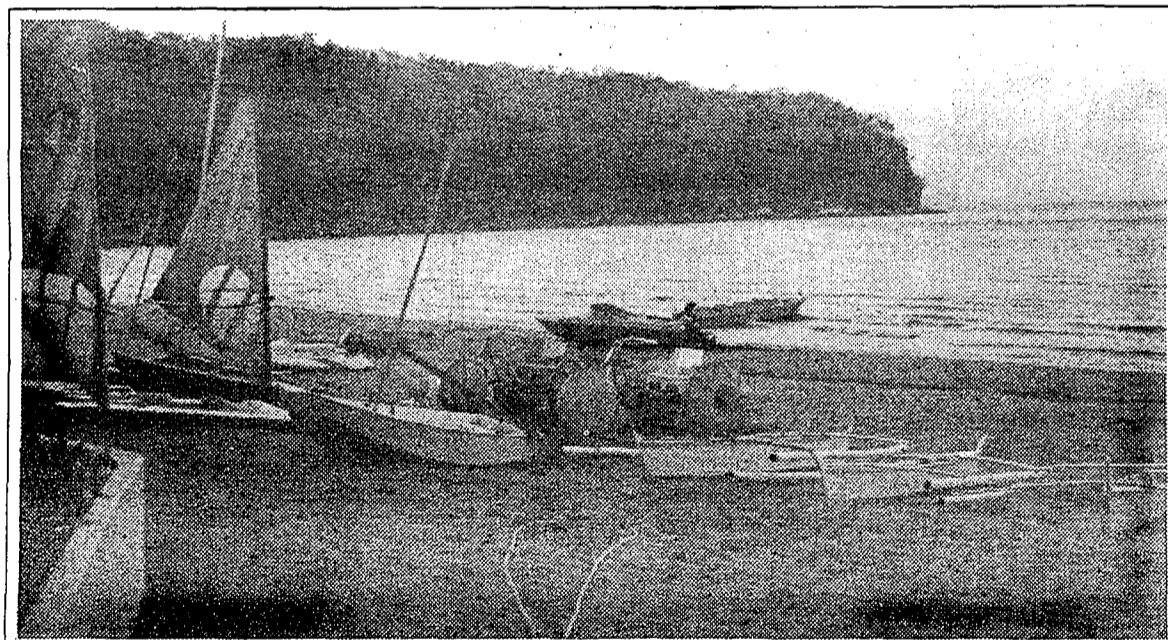
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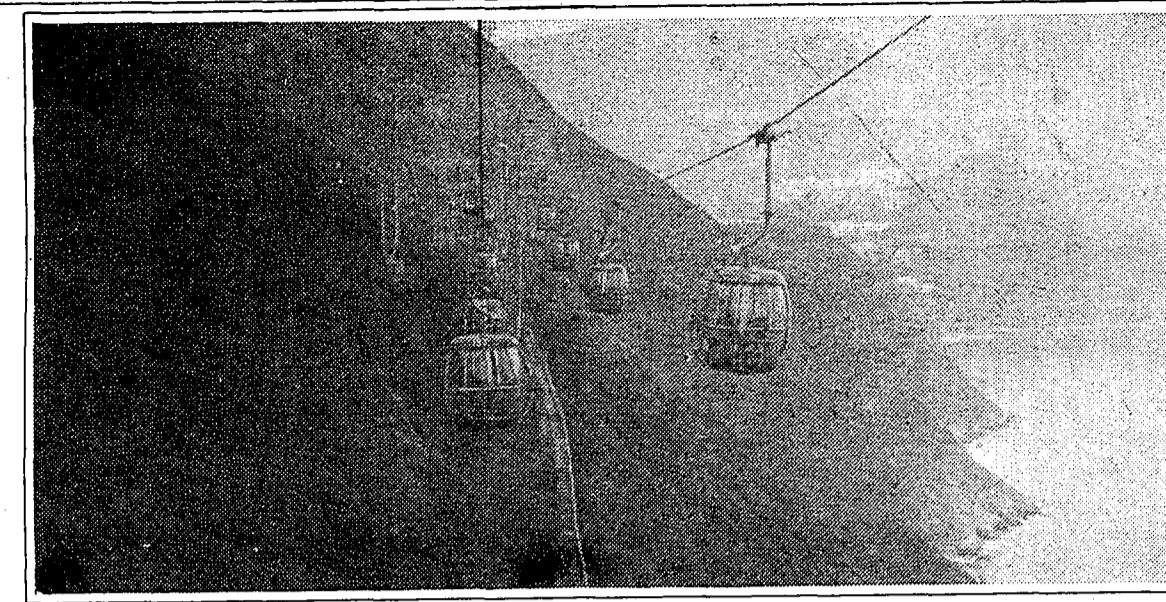
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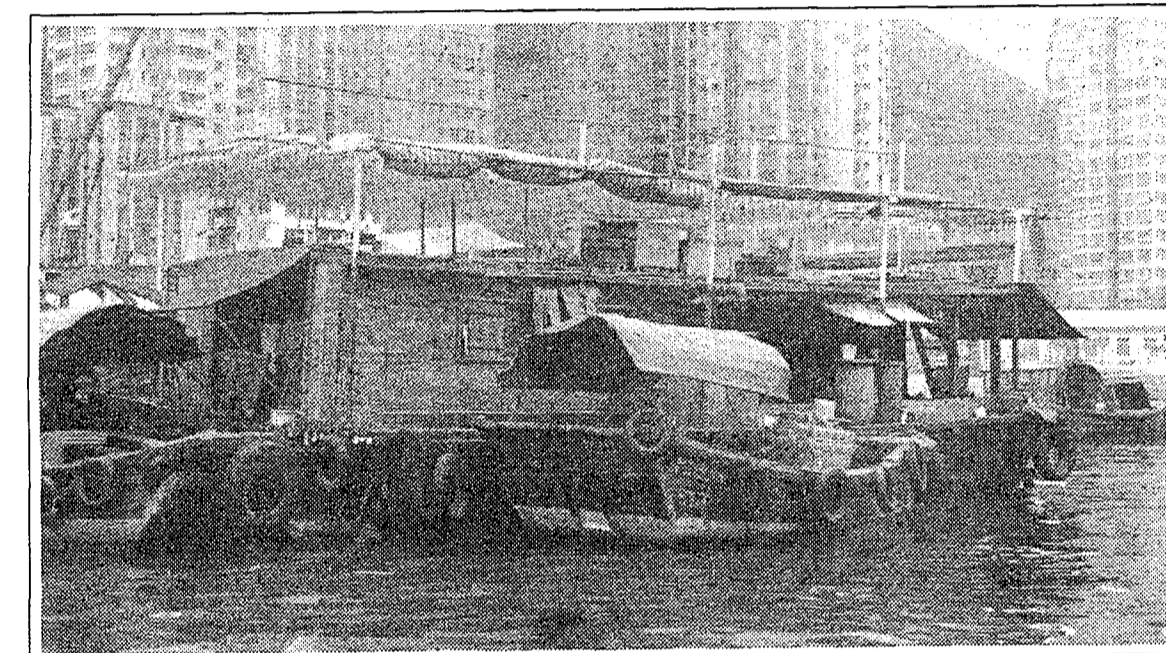
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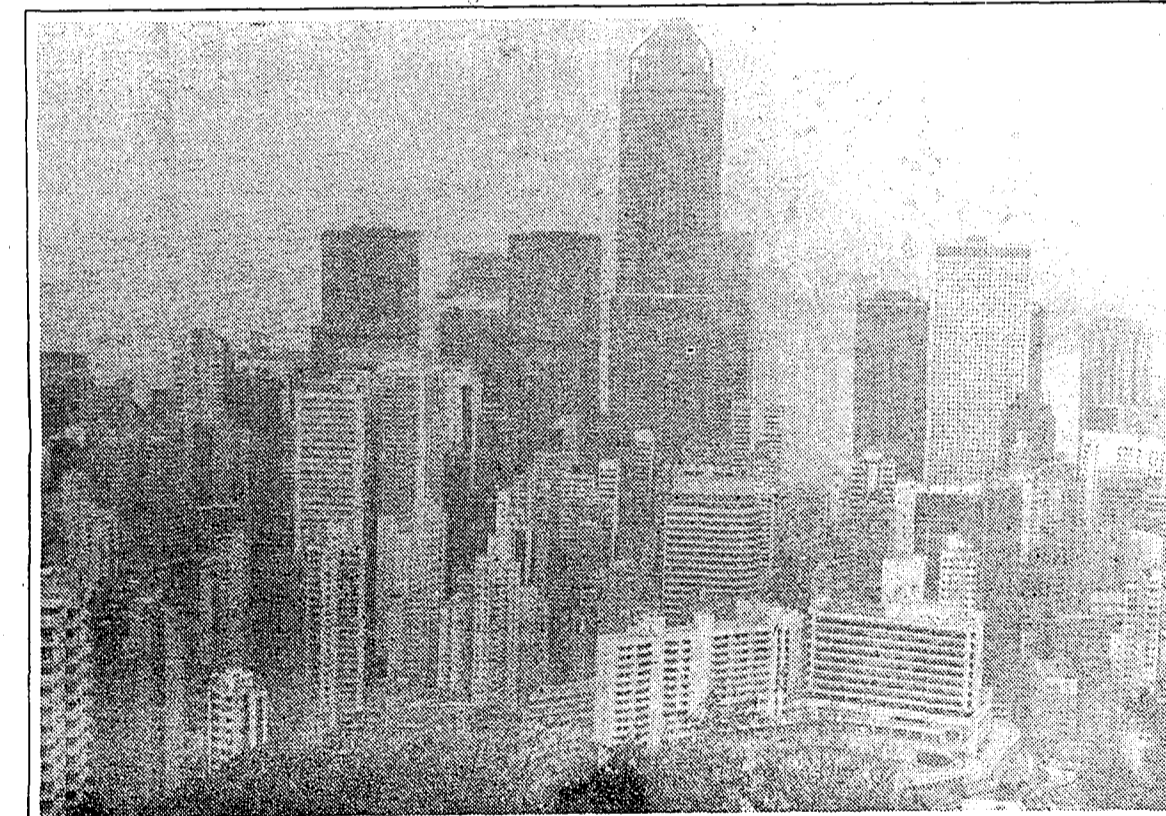
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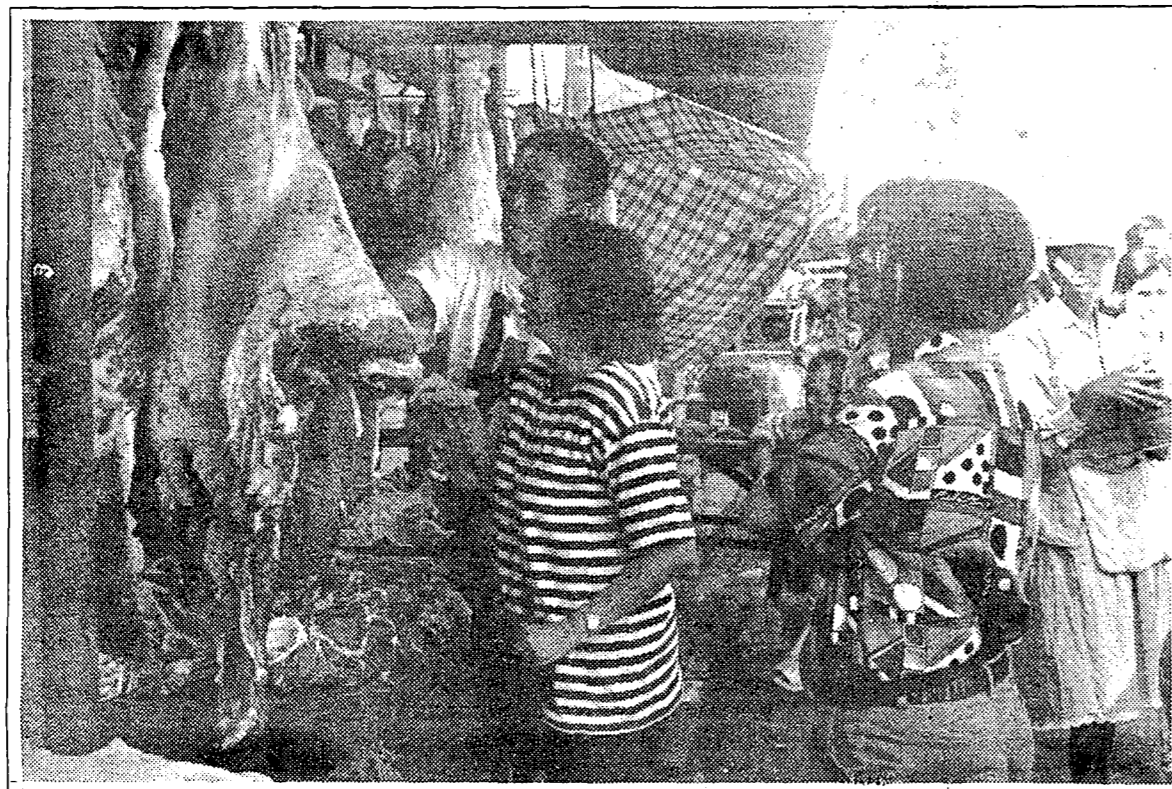
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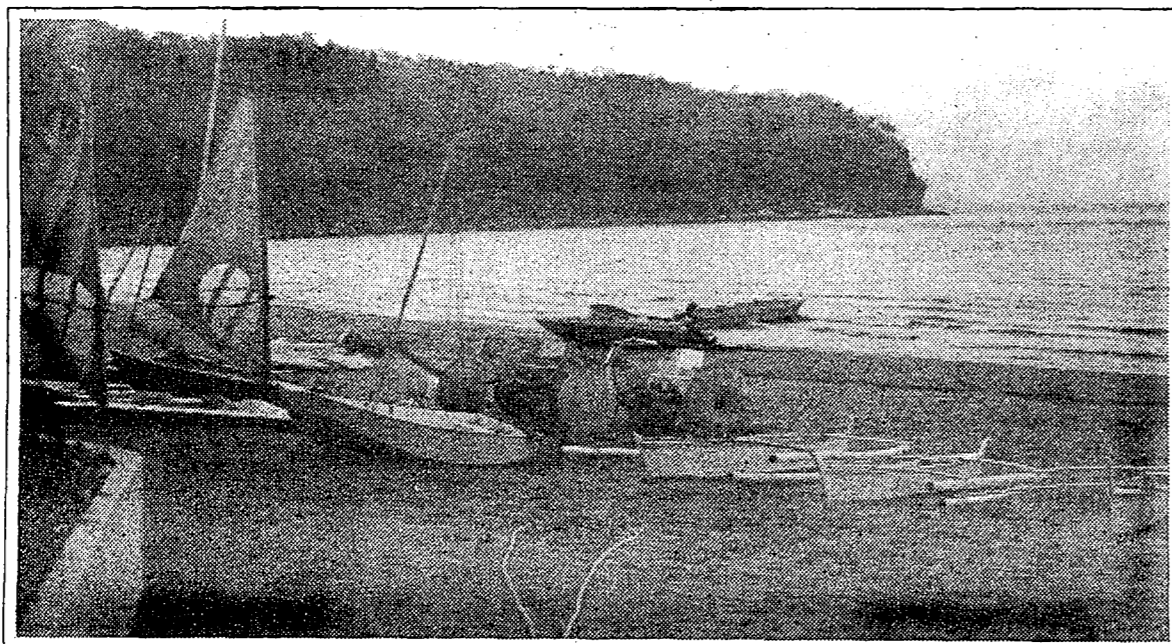
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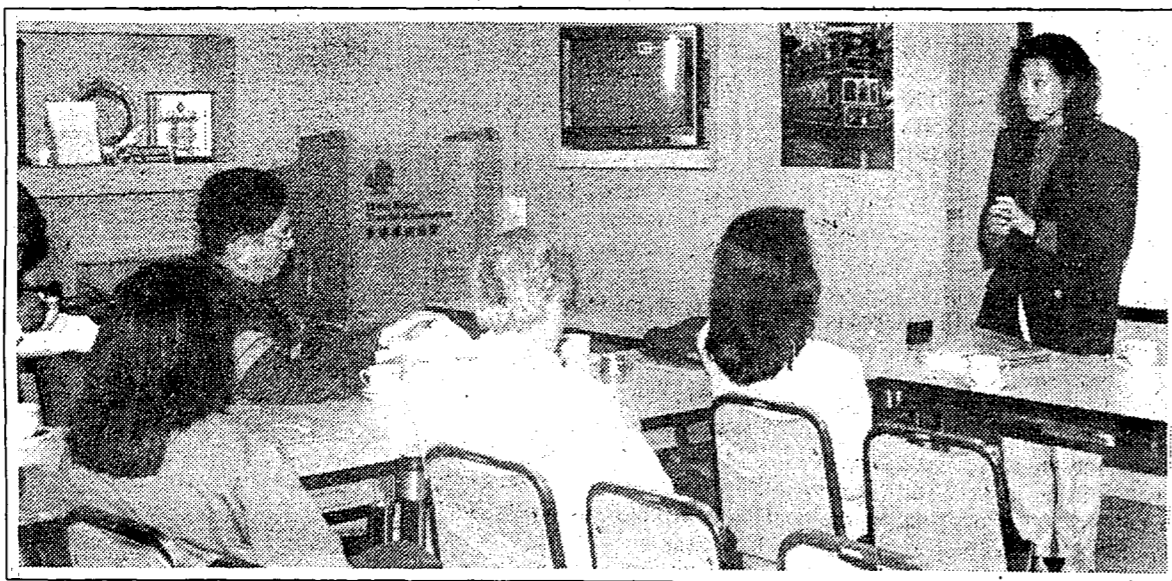
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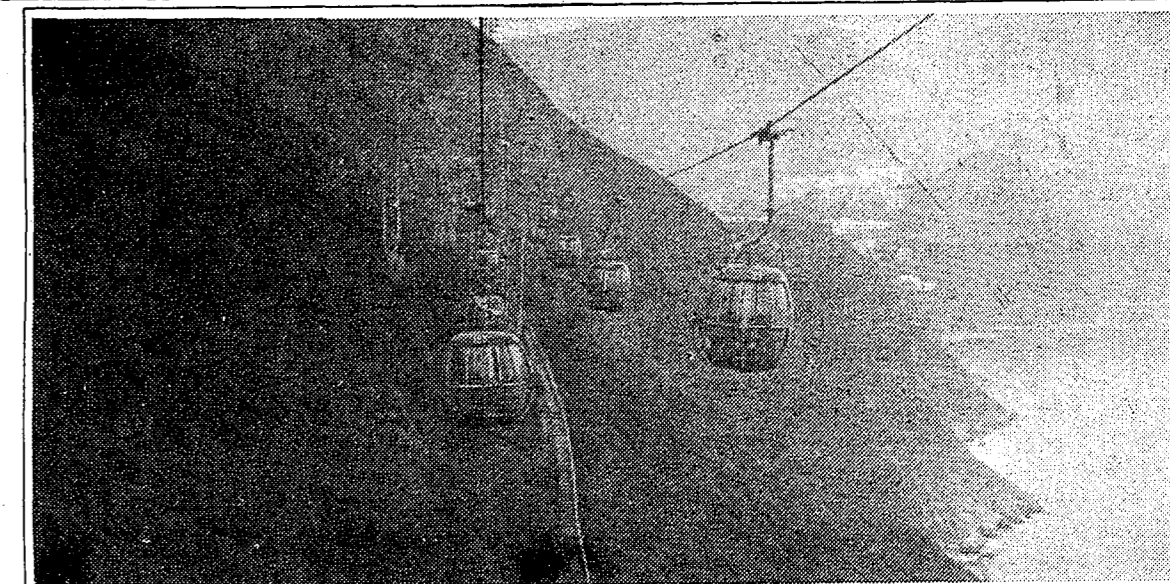
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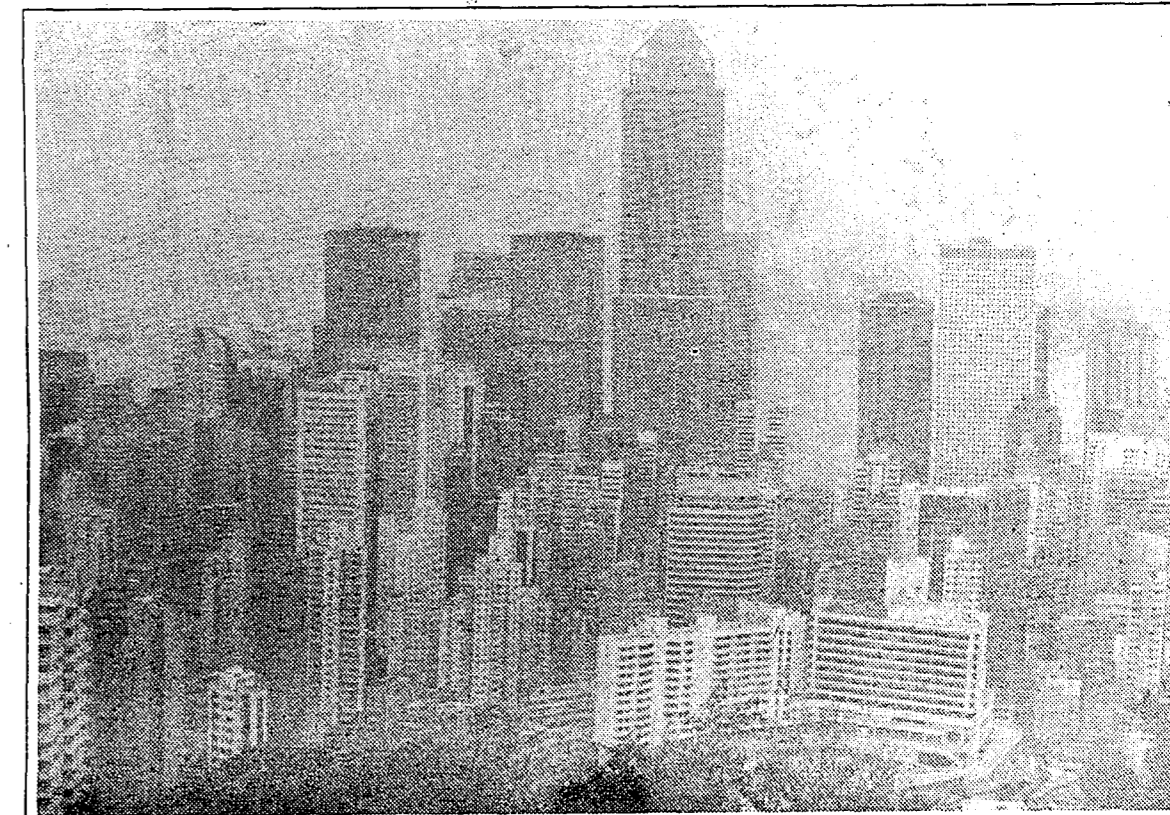
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Business/Finance

US trade deficit soars to \$58.77B

By John D. McClain

WASHINGTON (AP) - The broadest measure of the US trade deficit shot up by a dramatic \$58.77 billion in 1992, including a \$6.25 billion jump in the final three months of the year, the government said today.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

In the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

ADOPTION CASE NO. 93-23

In the Matter of the Petition for Adoption of: RHODORA GUTIERREZ CLEOFAS,

minor, By: JUAN T. HOCOG, Petitioner.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on March 25, 1993, Thursday, at 1:30 PM in the courthouse of the Superior Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the petitioner will petition the Court to adopt the above-named minor. Dated this 16th day of March, 1993.

/s/Reynaldo O. Yana Attorney for Petitioner

PUBLIC NOTICE

In the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island

CIVIL CASE NO. 93-318

In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Estate of: MENJOR ALEXANDER BUEKIS, LANI MARIE BUEKIS and LAURINO B. BOMBON, minors, By: THERESITA B. BOMBON Petitioner.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on March 18, 1993 at 1:30 p.m. in the courthouse of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Susupe, Saipan, Theresita B. Bombon will petition the court to be appointed guardian of the estate of the above-named minors. Dated this 1st day of March 1, 1993.

/s/Reynaldo O. Yana Attorney for Petitioner

The Commerce Department said the 1992 shortfall in the US current account totaled \$62.45 billion, up from \$3.68 billion a year earlier and the widest gap since it totaled \$92.12 billion in 1990.

"Cash contributions from coalition partners in Operation Desert Storm held down the current-account deficit in 1991, but no sizeable contributions were received in 1992," the report said.

The deficit in the final three months of 1992 totaled \$22.02 billion, up from \$15.77 billion during the July-September period.

The current account is considered the best gauge of America's standing with the rest of the world because it measures not only trade in merchandise but also trade in services and investment flows between countries.

Many analysts had expected the deficit to widen last year as weakness in economies overseas cut into US exports. Exports had been one of the few areas of strength in the US economy in the last four years.

Japan's trade surplus expands to \$97.54B

TOKYO (AP) - Japan's trade surplus expanded by 3.7 percent in February, the 26th consecutive month of increases from year-earlier levels, the Finance Ministry said Tuesday.

The February surplus of \$10.56 billion brought the total for fiscal 1992 to \$97.54 billion, already an annual record, with one month left in the year. The previous record was \$89.73 billion in fiscal 1986, the ministry said. Japan's surplus with the United States rose by 19.2 percent to \$4.37 billion in February. That brought the fiscal 1992 surplus with that nation so far to \$41.65 billion, up 18.0 percent from the first 11 months of fiscal 1991,

At the same time, these analysts noted that an improving US economy was sharpening American appetites for imported goods.

The current account opened the year with a \$6.37 billion gap, the best showing since early 1991 when allied contributions to US Desert Storm efforts in the Gulf helped provide two rare surpluses. That helped to shrink the gap to \$3.68 billion in 1991.

But the imbalance swelled to \$18.28 billion in the following three months.

For all of 1992, the deficit in merchandise trade widened by 31.2 percent, from \$73.4 billion to \$96.3 billion. Exports rose 5.6 percent to \$439.3 billion, but imports shot up by an even larger 9.5 percent to \$535.5 billion.

The surplus on services increased 21.6 percent to \$55.1 billion, smaller than the 1991 increase. The increase was attributed to travel and passenger fares.

But the surplus on investment income fell 38.4 percent to \$10.1 billion.

A category known as unilateral transfers, which includes US foreign aid payments, shifted to a negative \$31.4 billion in 1992 from a positive \$8 billion a year earlier.

said a ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Japan's global exports fell by 0.5 percent from a year earlier - the first decline in 33 months - to \$27.97 billion, while its imports declined by 2.8 percent to \$17.41 billion, the official said.

He said that in trade with the United States, Japan's exports rose by 6.2 percent to \$ 8.44 billion in February while its imports fell by 5.0 percent from a year earlier to \$4.06 billion.

Japan's surplus with the European Community narrowed 18.7 percent from a year earlier to \$2.73 billion. Japanese exports fell 14.4

continued on page 11

Dollar rises; gold dips

NEW YORK (AP) - The US dollar rose against most major currencies Tuesday but fell against the Japanese yen as Japan's trade surplus with the United States widened.

Gold prices dipped. On the New York Commodity Exchange, gold bullion for current delivery traded at \$329.10 a troy ounce, off 20 cents from Monday. Republic National Bank of New York

quoted a late bid for gold at \$328.85 an ounce, also off 20 cents.

John McCarthy, chief trader with ABN-Amro Bank N.V., said the foreign exchange markets moved spiritedly Tuesday.

The dollar fell against the Japanese yen amid news that Japan's trade surplus had risen and that it was the 26th time consecutive

continued on page 10

Exchange rates

NEW YORK (AP) - Foreign Exchange, New York prices. Rates for trades of \$1 million minimum.

	FOREIGN CURRENCY IN DOLLARS		DOLLAR IN FOREIGN CURRENCY	
	TUE	MON	TUE	MON
Argent Peso	1.0000	1.0024	1.0000	.9976
Australia Doll	.7035	.7027	1.4215	1.4231
Austria Schill	.0855	.0856	11.699	11.685
Belgium Franc	.0292	.0292	34.22	34.19
Brazil Cruzeiro	.00004	.00004	23200.00	22800.00
Britain Pound	1.4482	1.4363	.6905	.6962
30day fwd	1.4444	1.4325	.6923	.6981
60day fwd	1.4414	1.4297	.6938	.6994
90day fwd	1.4384	1.4268	.6952	.7009
Canada Dollar	.7997	.8019	1.2505	1.2471
30day fwd	.7983	.8005	1.2527	1.2492
60day fwd	.7950	.7990	1.2547	1.2515
90day fwd	.7955	.7976	1.2571	1.2537
Chile Peso	.002607	.002594	383.61	385.54
China Yuan	.1744	.1750	5.7336	5.7157
Colombia Peso	.001540	.001540	649.40	649.40
Czechosl Koru	.0350	.0349	28.61	28.67
Denmark Krone	.1566	.1565	6.3850	6.3905
ECU	1.16630	1.16680	.8574	.8573
zEcuador Sucre	.000552	.000556	1812.02	1800.02
dEgypt Pound	.2994	.2994	3.3405	3.3405
Finland Mark	.1660	.1654	6.0225	6.0450
France Franc	.1770	.1771	5.6505	5.6455
Germany Mark	.6014	.6020	1.6629	1.6610
30day fwd	.5987	.5993	1.6703	1.6687
60day fwd	.5966	.5973	1.6761	1.6741
90day fwd	.5946	.5949	1.6819	1.6810
Greece Drachma	.004442	.004456	225.10	224.40
Hong Kong Doll	.1293	.1293	7.7340	7.7350
Hungary Forint	.0117	.0117	85.59	85.71
India Rupee	.0318	.0319	31.400	31.300
Indonesia Rupiah	.000485	.000485	2062.03	2060.03
Ireland Punt	1.4612	1.4615	.6844	.6842
Israel Shekel	.3571	.3648	2.8000	2.7416
Italy Lira	.000622	.000624	1608.00	1603.00
Japan Yen	.008552	.008442	116.93	118.45
30day fwd	.008589	.008485	116.43	117.85
60day fwd	.008552	.008428	116.93	118.65
90day fwd	.008430	.008316	118.63	120.25
Lebanon Pound	.000571	.000570	1752.00	1754.00
Malaysia Ringg	.3850	.3845	2.5975	2.6010
z Mexico N. Peso	.320616	.320924	3.1190	3.1160
N. Zealand Dol	.5300	.5265	1.8868	1.8993
Netherlands Guild	.5352	.5358	1.8683	1.8665
Norway Krone	.1414	.1416	7.0715	7.0715
Pakistan Rupee	.0380	.0382	26.35	26.20
y Peru New Sol	.5682	.5651	1.760	1.770
zPhilips Peso	.0396	.0396	25.26	25.25
Poland Zloty	.000063	.00006315967	15949	153.55 154.30
Portugal Escud	.006513	.006481	653.00	653.00
aRussia Ruble	.001511	.001531	662.00	675.01
Saudi Arab Riy	.2667	.2667	3.7495	3.7501
Singapore Doll	.6042	.6079	1.6550	1.6451
cSo. Africa Rand	.3142	.3136	3.1825	3.1890
fSo. Africa Rand	.2116	.2151	4.7250	4.6480
So. Korea Won	.001262	.001259	792.40	793.98
Spain Peseta	.008428	.008410	118.85	118.90
Sweden Krona	.1276	.1275	7.8372	7.8415
Switzerland Fra	.6564	.6572	1.5235	1.5215
30day fwd	.6552	.6561	1.5263	1.5242
60day fwd	.6542	.6551	1.5286	1.5264
90day fwd	.6533	.6542	1.5306	1.5285
Taiwan NT	.0383	.0384	26.10	26.07
Thailand Baht	.03926	.03939	25.47	25.39
Turkey Lira	.000107	.000108	9340.00	9266.00
U.A.E. Dirham	.2724	.2724	3.6715	3.6715
Uruguay Peso	.000270	.000273	3700.00 3	657.00
Venezuel Boliv	.0118	.0118	84.4500	84.4300
Yugoslav Dinar	.00133	.00133	750.00	750.00

ECU: European Currency Unit, a basket of European currencies. The Federal Reserve Board's index of the value of the dollar against 10 other currencies weighted on the basis of trade was 94.31 Tuesday, off 0.23 points or 0.24 percent from Monday's 94.54. A year ago the index was 90.80 c-commercial rate, d-free market rate, f-financial rate, y-official rate, z-floating rate. Prices as of 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time (1900 GMT) from Telerate Systems and other sources.

Spot metal prices

NEW YORK (AP) - Spot nonferrous metal prices Tuesday.

Aluminum - 52.0 cents per lb London Metal Exch. Tue.
Copper - 1.0985 dollars per pound.
Lead - 32 cents a pound.
Zinc - 48.34-52.34 per pound, delivered.
Tin - 3.7377 dollars per pound.
Gold - 329.00 dollars per troy oz.
Silver - 3.660 dollars per troy oz.
Mercury - 205.00-210.00 dollars per 76 lb flask.
Platinum - 351.00-352.00 dollars troy oz., N.Y. (contract).

New York closing prices

NEW YORK (AP) - New York Stock Exchange closing prices Tuesday:

AMRORLD	C hiqua 15	HousInt 68 3-4	P roctG s 53
AMR 59 7-8	C hyslr 39 5-8	ITT Cp 77 1-8	Q uakO 65 5-8
ASALid 36 3-4	C ilicorp 29 5-8	ITW 75	Q uantm 12 3-8
Atlabas 26	C oastal 25 1-2	I mceras 25 3-4	R alsPu 50 3-8
AetnL 48	C oacCl s 43 1-8	INCO 23	R aythn s 56
Alcan 18 7-8	C olgPal 64 5-8	IBM 55 1-8	R eyMI 52 1-8
AlSgnl 67 7-8	vJolGs 23 1-2	InfFlav 116 3-8	R ockwl 29 5-8
A lcoa 70 5-8	C mwE 27 3-8	InfPap 65 1-4	R oyd 86 3-8
A max 19 5-8	C omsat 54	J ohnJ n s 42	S alomn 40
A mHes 51 3-4	C onEd 35 1-4	K mart s 24 7-8	S aralEs s 29 7-8
A Brand 33 3-8	C omNG 47 7-8	K ellogg 65 5-8	S chrPI 58 1-4
AEPw 35 5-8	C omngin 34 3-8	K erMc 46 7-8	S chmb 59 3-4
A mExp 27 3-8	C urtWr 38 7-8	K rea 12 1-2	S colP 38 3-4
A GenCps 31 1-2	D eere 54 1-2	K roger 17 3-4	S ears 51 1-8
A Home 63 3-8	D eliaAir 50	vJLTV 5-8	S mBeeq s 28 5-8
A mStrs 41 1-8	D ialCp 42 1-4	L illy 48 3-4	S onyCp 34 1-2
A T and T 57 7-8	D igital 46 3-4	L ilton s 52 3-8	S outhCo 40 3-4
A moco 54 7-8	D owCh 53 3-4	L ockhd 61 3-8	S pellEnt 6 7-8
A nheus 53	D ressr 19 1-4	M atsuo 95	S unCo 27 7-8
A rmcoc 7 5-8	D uPont 47 1-8	M cDeri 27 1-4	S upval 32 5-8
A sarco 23 3-4	E Kodak 54 1-2	M cDonl 52 1-2	T RW 51 1-8
A shOil 29	E aton 84 1-2	M cDND 55 1-8	T andy 26
A rific 117 7-8	E nergy 35 3-8	M cKes 43 7-8	T eldyn 22 5-8
A von 64	E xxon 64	M esrx 18 1-4	T encco 47
B akRhu 23 1-2	F MC 47 5-8	M erLyn 73	T exaco 63 1-2
B ankAm 52 1-2	F edNM 82	M MM 108 5-8	T exInst 62 3-8
B ankTr 73 1-2	F stChc 43 1-4	M obil 69 5-8	T exUtl 44 3-8
B auschL 56	F Intst 55 3-4	M onsan 52 3-4	T extron 44 7-8
B engIB 3-4	F lemng 32 1-2	M orgSI 60	T imeW s 35 3-8
B ethSil 17 7-8	F luor 43 1-2	M ord 48 1-2	T ravler 27 1-8
B lackD 18 1-2	F ordM 48 1-2	M otoria s 66	T rinova 25 5-8
B oeing 35	F uqua 13 1-4	N l Ind 5	U AL Cp 117 1-2
B oiseC 25 5-8	G TE 36 1-4	N Navist 2 5-8	U S G 1-2
B orden 28 1-4	G DYN 118 1-4	N WVal 3-16	U SXMar 19 1-2
B rMyS 56	G nEnI 86 7-8	N lksSo 64	U SXUSS 40 1-8
B mwk 15 7-8	G nMll 72 1-4	O cciPet 20 7-8	U Carb 16 7-8
B urInH 49 1-2	G nMotr 38 1-2	U nPac 58 7-8	U nisy s 13 5-8
C BI 26 3-4	G aPac 64 3-8	P acGE 34 3-8	U nTech 46 7-8
C BNS 205 1-2	G illele 60 7-8	P arCom 48 3-4	U nocal 27
C IGNA 61 1-4	G drich 46 1-8	P enney 84 3-8	W aml 67 7-8
C PC s 49 1-4	G oodyr 74 5-8	P epsiC 40 7-8	W elsF 108 1-4
C SX 69 3-8	G race 38 1-8	P izer 60	W sigE 13 3-8
C ampSp s 44	G IAPc 23 3-8	P helpD s 51 7-8	W eyerh 41 3-4
C dnPcg 14 1-2	G WFR 18 3-8	P hllMr 64 5-8	W hitm 14 1-2
C apClb 52 1-2	H albin 36 3-4	P hlpP 28 3-8	W hitlkr 15 7-8
C ater 57 5-8	H einz 40 7-8	P ionrE 18	W olvth 30 1-4
C eridian 15	H ewPk 77 3-4	P olaroid 28 5-8	X erox 83 3-8
C hase 34 7-8	H msitke 12 5-8	P rimca s 47 7-8	Z enithE 7
C hmBnk 43 1-4	H onda 23 1-4		
C hevrv 77 3-4	H onyw s 32 5-8		

Stocks narrowly mixed

NEW YORK (AP) - The stock market was narrowly mixed Tuesday, after a weaker-than-expected report on construction of single-family homes.

The Commerce Department said housing starts rebounded 2.5 percent in February, but many private economists had expected a 4.5 percent increase.

In addition, applications for building permits, often a barometer of future activity, fell for a second straight month.

"The numbers weren't very conclusive one way or the other," said Robert Stovall, president of Stovall-Twenty-First Advisers. "The market is groping around for a trend."

Bonds rallied slightly on the construction news, bringing down interest rates again. Low interest rates are good for stocks, in part because investors turn from bonds

to equities looking for the best return on their money.

Many traders were also waiting for Wednesday's US Consumer Price Index data, analysts said. The index is expected to have risen 0.3 percent in February.

A bigger-than-expected rise in wholesale prices helped trigger last week's late selloff in both stocks and bonds.

Stocks were lower abroad. In Tokyo, the 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average shed 117.88 points, or 0.65 percent, while in London, the Financial Times-Stock Exchange

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03/18, 15, 22, 11, 18, 25

Weather... continued from page 9

because it measures not only trade in merchandise but also trade in services and investment flows between countries.

On the housing report, analysts said the building that would have taken place during the first quarter merely is being postponed until spring and that the fundamentals remain in place for moderate growth this year.

"Housing is going to be a bright spot in 1993, mainly because mortgages are down to their lowest levels in 20 years," predicted David Jones, an economist with Aubrey G. Lanston and Co., a New York securities dealer. Housing starts totaled 1.21 million at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, the Commerce Department said, up from 1.18 million in January but less than the 1.23 million that many economists had been expecting.

The revised 8.4 percent drop in January was even larger than the initial 7.2 percent estimate. It pushed starts to the lowest level

since they totaled 1.11 million last July.

"It's clear that weather is having a depressing effect on housing activity," contended economist David Berson of the Federal National Mortgage Association. "We'll see that in March as well with the Great Blizzard of '93."

Robert G. Dederick, an economist with the Northern Trust Co. in Chicago, agreed, but added, "I'm confident that spring will come, and when it does, we'll see a pickup in housing."

According to surveys by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., mortgage rates averaged 7.68 percent in February. They fell to 7.44 percent during the week ended March 5, the lowest since 7.43 percent Feb. 9, 1973, although they had edged back up to 7.47 percent by last Friday.

The U.S. foreign merchandise trade deficit increased 31.2 percent last year to \$96.3 billion. Exports swelled by 5.6 percent, but imports grew at an even faster 9.5 percent.

Bentsen... continued from page 9

want to make sure we have plenty of cushion to cover any conceivable S-and-L cleanup costs. We still contemplate, and we have set aside 34 billion dollars in the budget for the costs of the S-and-L bailout. We hope and believe that will be enough."

The new appropriation, if approved by Congress, would bring total bailout spending since 1989 to \$132 billion. Adding in the \$70 billion estimated cost of fulfilling the FSLIC's promises made in 1988 bailout deals brings the total cost of the program past \$200 billion.

The RTC, which has spent or committed roughly \$87 billion, has been without funding since last April. The Bush administration could not persuade Congress during an election year to provide more and had estimated the delay was adding \$6 million a day to the cleanup's ultimate cost.

"But we believe our request is sufficient to complete the job, once and for all," Bentsen said. "If the full amount provided is not needed, it will not be drawn from the Treasury."

Dollar... continued from page 8

month it had been higher than a year earlier.

For February, the surplus with the United States rose 19 percent to \$4.37 billion.

In addition, the Japanese finance ministry said the surplus would be even greater in March.

In New York, the dollar traded at 117.00 Japanese yen, down from 118.65 yen late Monday. Overnight in Tokyo, the dollar closed at 117.78 yen, down 0.40 yen from Monday's close. Later in London, the dollar was quoted at 117.80 yen.

In New York, a British pound cost \$1.4485, more expensive than the \$1.4350 it cost late Monday. In London, the British pound rose to \$1.4465 from \$1.4335 late Monday.

Other late dollar rates in New York, compared with late Monday, included: 1.6635 German marks, up from 1.6625; 1.5260 Swiss francs, up from 1.5230; 5.6535 French francs, up from 5.6515; 1,608.00 Italian lire, up from 1,605.00; and 1.25075 Canadian dollars, up from 1.24785.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late Monday: 1.6610 German marks, unchanged; 1.5223 Swiss francs, up from 1.5220; 5.6478 French francs, up from 5.6465; 1.8673 Dutch guilders, up from 1.8668; 1,607.00 Italian lire, up from 1,605.00; and 1.2503 Canadian dollars, up from 1.2466.

Gold rose in London to a late bid price of \$329 a troy ounce, compared with \$328.65 bid late Monday. In Zurich, the precious metal rose to a closing bid of \$328.80, compared with \$328.65 bid late Monday. In Hong Kong, gold rose 67 cents to close at a bid \$329.26.

On New York's Comex, silver bullion for current delivery traded at \$3.648 a troy ounce, down from \$3.654 late Monday. Silver bullion traded in London at a late bid price of \$3.66 a troy ounce, down from \$3.63 bid late Monday.

CNMI CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION !ATTENTION! ALL CONTRACTORS, DEVELOPERS and REALTORS OPERATING IN THE CNMI

The CNMI CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION would like to invite your participation and membership in the Association. It has become very apparent over the last several years that a strong and dynamic Association is a necessary watchdog and is essential to the economic health of the industry as well as the CNMI. In the past the CNMI Government did not understand nor appreciate the direct relationship between the financial well being of the industry and a healthy CNMI economy until it was too late. As a result the industry has ended up in the sad state it is in today and the CNMI Legislature is struggling to come up with a workable balanced budget due to the shrinking revenues. We have watched Billions of dollars worth of projects depart our drawing boards for locales more hospitable to Developers. Some of the problems of recent years the industry has endured are: ill advised permit moratoriums at CUC and CRM, arbitrary impact fees, excessive waiting periods for permits of all types; Labor, CRM, etc.. The ART XII LAWSUITS alone have stopped the whole industry from pursuing any new projects. If MIHA had heeded the Associations' warning in the mid 1980's about the OCK Housing project it would not be in the financial quagmire it now finds itself. The Construction Industry would be building homes for hundred of homesteaders rather than watching MIHA try to sell its' low-income housing to pay off its' debts.

The CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENT/ REAL ESTATE Industry is by far the largest component of the private sector and of course the largest contributor to the CNMI's coffers. Being such it is absolutely essential that the Lawmakers and Policy makers of the CNMI are aware of the effects of their activities on the industry. Such input can best come from a strong, dynamic and vocal Association. YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSOCIATION WILL BEST ASSURE THE PROSPERITY OF THE INDUSTRY AND THE CNMI.

The next meeting of the ASSOCIATION will be held at the PACIFIC GARDENIA HOTEL at 12:00 NOON on SATURDAY, 20th of March 1993.

The featured guest speakers will be the ATTORNEY GENERAL of the CNMI who will speak on ART. XII, and Mr. Ken White from the CNMI COLLEGE who will tell us about the ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA, Supervisory Training Program being offered by the College. For more information concerning membership and the next meeting please watch the local newspapers and listen for our radio announcements or contact the following person:

Mr. Mike Schadeck, Public Information Officer, CNMI Contractors Association
Tel. #234 7193
Fax #234 6093

THANK YOU

3.18.19(004273)

Greenpeace urges global talks to stop plutonium production

By Gene Kramer

WASHINGTON (AP) - Greenpeace on Tuesday accused the United States and other nuclear weapons powers of undermining their own policies against the spread of atomic arms by producing and stockpiling plutonium. President Clinton's administration was urged by the activist environmental and anti-war organization to press for global negotiations to halt all reprocessing of spent atomic fuel into plutonium, a radioactive substance used for nuclear bombs as well as atomic power.

"The possession of any plutonium has an implied military threat," Greenpeace said, and blurs the line between capability to make weapons and intention to acquire them.

Reprocessing plants in operation or planned in Britain, France, India, Japan and Russia by the year 2,000 will turn out more plutonium "than was produced during the last half century of the nuclear arms race," it said. Japan "has impeccable credentials" favoring nuclear nonproliferation - but its controversial decision to

accumulate plutonium could trigger a future nuclear arms race with North and South Korea, destabilizing Northeast Asia, Greenpeace said.

The warnings came in a 50-page study, "The Plutonium Trade - a Troubling New Era of Proliferation," issued by Greenpeace at a news conference.

Greenpeace launched its anti-plutonium campaign by sending boats and planes last January to track the Japanese ship carrying the first in a planned series of plutonium shipments from Europe to Japan.

Under current projections, Japan could have 49 tons of plutonium from British and French reprocessors by 2000 - enough to make 7,000 atomic bombs if it abandoned its renunciation of nuclear arms, Greenpeace said.

It urged closing of a long list of nuclear fuel processing facilities in Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Japan, Israel, India, Pakistan, Argentina, Brazil, Russia and the United States.

The United States was also asked to review or amend nuclear cooperation agreements with Japan and South Korea to prevent

their acquisition by shipment or through technology of plutonium from US-supplied nuclear power fuel.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, scheduled for review in 1995, should be amended to ban plutonium production, Greenpeace said. A preliminary conference beginning the review process is scheduled next May.

"As part of its suspected nuclear weapons program," North Korea by 2000 could obtain up to 3 tons of plutonium for making perhaps 430 bombs, Greenpeace said, adding this would prompt South Korea to "continue to seek access to reprocessing and plutonium" with help from Russia, Britain and Canada.

Past US administrations endorsed Japan's quest for plutonium while working to keep South and North Korea from acquiring it.

Greenpeace spokesman Tom Clements said copies of the report were being sent to Clinton's National Security council, to the staff of Vice President Al Gore, who monitors environmental issues, and to the US Energy Department.

Japan's... continued from page 8

percent to \$4.89 billion, while imports declined 8.2 percent to \$2.16 billion.

The official attributed the overall increase in the surplus in Febru-

ary to a sharp decrease in imports of automobiles and airplanes, apparently reflecting Japan's economic slowdown.

Japan's imports of automobiles fell by 21.2 percent from a year earlier to \$274 million and those of airplanes declined by 19.4 percent to \$279 million.

Imports of electronic products including semiconductors and of lumber increased, the official said.

He said Japan's exports of televisions sets, video tape recorders and television cameras declined by 31.5 percent from a year earlier to \$744 million and those of ships fell by 11.6 percent to \$529 million.

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3/18, 18 (10895)

AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE

Equitable Insurance Company, Inc., a domestic corporation existing under and by virtue of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands wishes to announce that on a meeting of the Stockholders held March 11, 1993 at its office, it was proposed that its capital stock be increased from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

Any person who may object to such an increase may file their objections with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner within one week from the date of the last publication of this notice. This announcement is in compliance with 4cmc Div. 7, section 7306 (i) of the Commonwealth Insurance Act of 1983.

This notice will expire on March 31, 1993.

3/18, 24, 31 (10841)

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03/18, 17, 18, 19, 22

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) wishes to announce the following job vacancies:

1. Administrative-Fire Protection Training Officer (ARFF Station on Saipan)
2. (2) Radio Operator-Weather Observer (Saipan Airport Advisory Station)
3. (2) Field Maintenance Workers (Saipan Airport Operations)
4. Recording Secretary (CPA Office, Saipan)
5. Civil Engineer (CPA Office, Saipan)

Application forms and job description are available on the 2nd Floor, Arrival Building of the Saipan International Airport. The dateline for submission of applications is on March 19, 1993 at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact CPA at 234-8315/6/7.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

JOAQUIN LUJAN CHONG

Born April 3, 1930, was called to his eternal rest on Thursday, March 11, 1993 at the age of 62 years.

He is survived by his:

- Wife: Ana (Arriola) Tenorio Chong
- Predeceased Parents: Jose Chong and Maria Santos Lujan
- Predeceased Pa rents in Law: Lino Pangelinan Tenorio and Magdalena Arriola Tenorio
- Children & Spouses: Jesus C. and Maria Magdalena C. Concepcion, Santiago F. and Bertha C. Tudela, Bret and Dolores C. Daugherty, Vicente T. and Mikie Chong, Jose, Ramon, & Thomas T. Chong, Michael L. & Maria Lourdes C. Muna, Winnie and Jacqueline T. Chong
- Brothers, Sisters & Spouses: Jesus L. & Josepha S. Chong (both deceased), Lorenzo (deceased) & Edna C. Ayyu, Dr. Jose L. & Ramona S. Chong, Manuel L. & Esperanza C. Chong, Luis T. & Tomasa C. Camacho, Miguel E. & Emilia C. Sablan, and Magdalena Nixio Chong, (deceased).
- Brother & Sister in Laws & Spouses: Trinidad A. Tenorio, Pedro A. & Isabel S. Tenorio, Jose A. (deceased) & Crispina T. Tenorio, Nicolas A. & Magdalena D.L.C. Tenorio, Luis A. (deceased) & Esperanza D.L.C. Tenorio, Eusebio S. & Maria T. Chargualaf, Leonard & Connie T. Kauter, Lourdes & Juan (deceased) A. Tenorio.

He is additionally survived by fourteen (14) grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Last respects may be paid on Friday, March 19, 1993 from 8:00 a.m. at the residence in As Lito. Responso will be at 12:00 p.m. The body will leave the residence at 3:00 p.m. followed by a Mass for Christian Burial at 4:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Cathedral and burial will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at the residence in As Lito.

From the Family.



Bombings in US up 20%

WASHINGTON (AP) - The number of bombings in the country increased 20 percent last year and the value of property damaged or destroyed doubled, federal law enforcement agencies said Tuesday.

There were 2,989 bombing incidents last year, up from 2,490 in 1991, the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said in a joint statement.

The bombings cause an estimated \$12.5 million worth of property damage, up from \$6.3 million in 1991, the agencies said.

The total number of deaths from bombings decreased from 27 in 1991 to 26 last year. But authorities reported that the number of people injured by the attacks increased sharply, from 246 in 1991 to 349 last year.

The increase in the number of bombings last year was not as nearly as dramatic as the rise in recent years.

The number of bombing incidents increased nearly 31 percent from 1,208 in 1989 to 1,592 in 1990. Bombing incidents increased 57 percent between 1990 and 1991, according to figures compiled by the two agencies.

People and places

Bugs taken inside Biosphere 2

ORACLE, Ariz. (AP) - More predatory bugs to fight crop pests will be taken inside Biosphere 2, the experimental enclosed habitat where scientists had hoped to spend two years sealed inside.

Predatory mites were put into the steel-and-glass structure in October to eat broad mites and spider mites that ravaged bean and potato plants. Now the predators cannot be found. They may have gone into hibernation, said Jim Litsinger, an entomologist.

Litsinger said Monday about 1,200 predatory mites and earwigs were to be taken into Biosphere 2 on Tuesday.

Up to half the project's crops have been destroyed by the mites. Biosphere officials are concerned they may have to bring in food for the eight-member crew to survive until their mission ends in September.

The project's goals are to develop ways to recycle air, water and wastes, grow food and raise animals in an enclosed environment. It has been beset by problems, however.

The dome has been unsealed more than a dozen times to remedy various problems. In January, oxygen had to be pumped inside.

Dewi Sukarno sues lawyer

ASPEN, Colo. (AP) - Former first lady Dewi Sukarno of Indonesia is suing the lawyer who defended her against charges she slashed a woman's face at a party. She says his \$900,000 fee is too high.

The lawsuit against lawyer Barry Slotnick of New York was filed Monday in Pitkin County District Court.

Sukarno was accused of cutting up fellow jet-setter Minnie Osmena, granddaughter of a former Philippine president, at an Aspen party last year.

Rather than face trial and risk up to 16 years in jail if convicted, Ms. Sukarno, 52, pleaded guilty to a lesser charge and spent 34 days in the Pitkin County Jail. She was released March 1.

Slotnick's firm replied to the lawsuit with a statement: "We regret Ms. Sukarno has seen fit to sue Slotnick and Baker for what appears to be a return of monies paid not only to our firm but also to her three Colorado lawyers, her private investigators and her expert witnesses, all of who were retained by her."

Sukarno, believed to be in Paris, could not be reached for comment.

Charles visits troops in Croatia

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) - England's Cheshire Regiment commander, better known as Prince Charles, visited British troops with the UN's Operation Grapple in the former Yugoslavia on a royal mission to lift morale.

Charles came to Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina dressed for the occasion in a British Army pullover and trousers and a peaked khaki cap bearing his regiment's badge.

During his one-day visit Tuesday, Charles was to meet representatives of all British units serving with UN forces.

He landed in a Royal Navy Sea King helicopter at Divulje barracks, near the Croatian city of Split, and was met by British force commander Brigadier Andrew Cumming and Ambassador Bryan Sparrow.

"This is a great boost for morale as we enter the last few furlongs of the first Operation Grapple tour," Cumming said.

The prince also planned to visit a distribution center of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees before flying back to Split to return home.

Queen honors Inspector Morse

LONDON (AP) - Actor John Thaw, whose television portrayal of the morose, beer-loving British Chief Inspector Morse is known in America to watchers of the public television "Mystery" series, was honored Tuesday by Queen Elizabeth II.

Thaw was made a CBE, a commander of The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, which recognizes public service.

The actor is best known here as Morse, the irascible bachelor Oxford detective who roams the university town with his long-suffering and much-married sidekick, Sgt. Lewis.

Asked how Morse might have reacted to the honor, Thaw said: "I think he would have been rather chuffed (translation: "delighted") like I am. He might not admit it, but he would be."

Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood Day

PITTSBURGH (AP) - It couldn't have been a more beautiful day in the neighborhood. After all, Mister Rogers was being honored for 25 years of hosting his children's program on public television.

Mayor Sophie Masloff declared Tuesday "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Day" in honor of "25 years of positive images and role models for children, 25 years of caring."

"It's not the honors and not the titles and not the power that is of ultimate importance," Fred Rogers said. "It's what resides inside."

Rogers, 64, was born in Latrobe, Pa. He was ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1962 with a charge to continue his work with children and families through television.

"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" has been produced at Pittsburgh public television station WQED since 1968. The series is viewed in 8 million households a week, often by children of baby boomers who watched the show as kids.

"I feel that now I'm a grandfather to many of the young children rather than just a parent," said Rogers, himself a real-life granddad to a 4-year-old named Alexander.

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2 NIGHT AUDITOR - High school grad., 2 yrs. experience. Salary \$2.50 - \$4.00 per hour.
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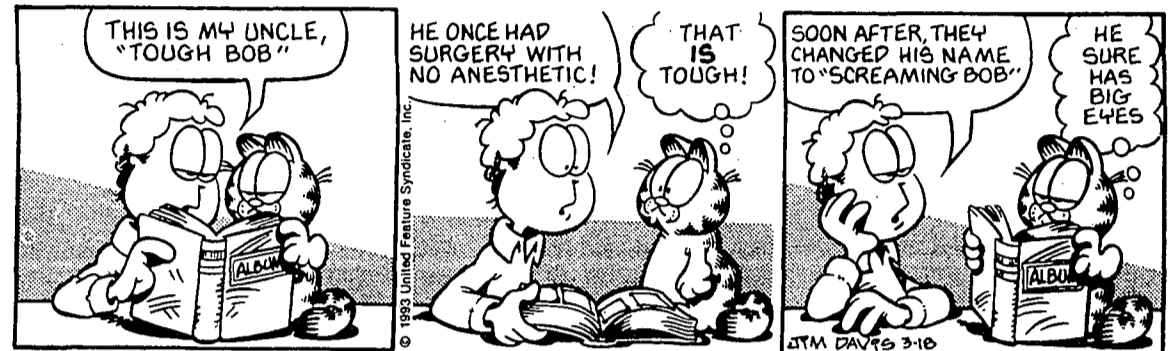
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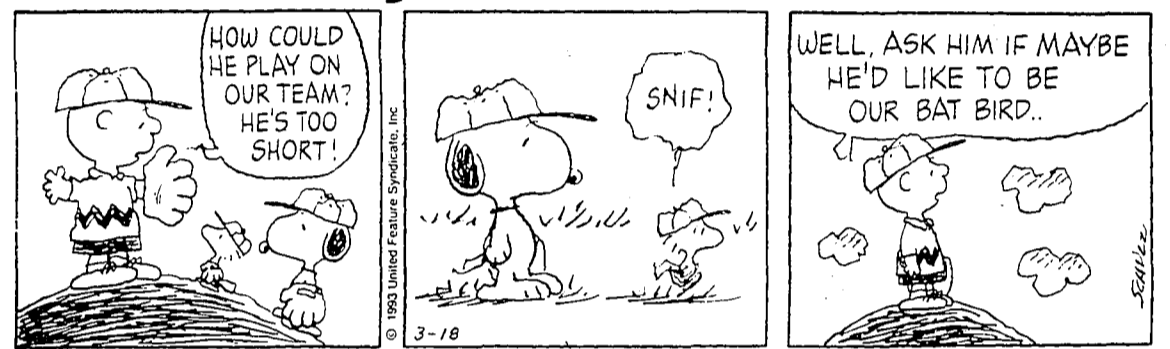
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By Stella Wilder
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DATE BOOK

March 18, 1993

Today is the 77th day of 1993 and the 88th day of winter.
TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1766, the British Parliament repealed and the Stamp Act because of widespread opposition to it in America.

actor, is 68; John Updike (1932-), novelist-short-story writer, is 61; Charles Pride (1939-), singer, is 54; Wilson Pickett (1941-), singer-songwriter, is 52.
TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1953, Indiana defeated Kansas 69-68 and won the NCAA basketball championship.

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ACROSS
1 Couple
5 Hyson
8 Festive
12 "God's Little..."
13 Vase
14 Norse god
15 Cube
16 Pen
18 Kimono sash
19 UK Princess
20 Emerges
21 XVII x III
23 "Cid"
24 Mends with cotton
26 Pertaining to the cheek
28 Uncanny
29 Pale
30 Large tub
32 Intertwine
33 Novelty
34 Lessen
35 Summer: Fr.

DOWN
1 Remunerated
2 Unforeseen occurrence
3 Anger
4 Concerning
5 "As the World..."
6 Goddess of discord
7 Emmet
8 Proceed
9 Fuss
10 Free
11 Dye plant



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IOC prefers arbitration, not lawsuits

By Stephen Wilson

ATLANTA (AP) - Olympic officials, worried about the possibility of more Butch Reynolds cases, moved forward Tuesday with plans to require athletes to settle their grievances by arbitration rather than civil law suits.
The athletes' commission of the International Olympic Committee urged the world body to draw up regulations which would discourage competitors from filing multimillion-dollar suits to challenge drug suspensions or other decisions.

seeking to compete in the Olympics would sign a waiver agreeing to go to the IOC's Court of Arbitration for Sport in the event they wanted to pursue a grievance.
The athletes' commission of the International Olympic Committee urged the world body to draw up regulations which would discourage competitors from filing multimillion-dollar suits to challenge drug suspensions or other decisions.

The litigation issue has been highlighted by the case of Reynolds, the world record-holder at 400 meters who went to court to fight a two-year doping suspension he claimed was unfair.
A US district court judge in Ohio recently awarded him \$27.3 million in damages, a verdict the International Amateur Athletic Federation has refused to accept.

letes are not restricted unduly," he said, "but we also hope that the capacity of one athlete to cause chaos in a particular sport is not allowed to continue."
Montgomery acknowledged it would be difficult to convince some athletes to give up their right to sue - "particularly when there is a lot of money involved."

"Having it here does serve to focus the attention," he said. "But it's a growing problem, one which we've been trying to come to grips with for some time."
On the doping issue, the athletes' commission observed that some international federations aren't doing enough to combat drug use on a global basis.

Mevericks...

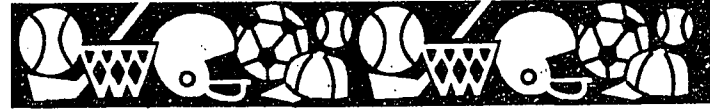
continued from page 16
NBC, saw the Mavs lose 109-96 to Utah on Monday night. He will stick around for O'Neal's visit.
Rookie Jim Jackson, who is making \$100,000 per game after signing just two weeks ago, had another rough night. He hit only 3 of 14 shots and finished with 12 points.

Sabatini...

continued from page 16
Top seed Steffi Graf continued her March march through Florida, sweeping Patty Fendick 6-1, 6-4. Graf has lost just nine games in her three matches at Key Biscayne and dropped only one set on her way to winning the Virginia Slims of Florida earlier this month.

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SPORTS



For \$7M, Foreman will fight puncher

By Tim Dahlberg

LAS VEGAS (AP) - To George Foreman, knocking a fighter out is simply a matter of being willing to take a chance.

When Foreman meets Tommy Morrison on June 7, he expects both fighters will be taking chances.

"I'll probably be knocked down," Foreman said Tuesday at a press conference formally announcing the bout. "But I've been knocked down before. And I've always been willing to get back up and fight."

Foreman, who at 44 is probably the biggest puncher in the heavyweight division today, continues a comeback now stretching into its sixth year with the scheduled 12-round fight against Morrison.

A guaranteed \$7 million and a chance to make millions more from the pay-per-view were enough to overcome Foreman's reluctance to match his power against Morrison's.

"This is not what I wanted at all but I'm going to go for it," the former heavyweight champion said. "I didn't want to fight a puncher at this stage of my career."

Foreman, who has 67 knockouts in 72 wins, will not only be fighting a puncher in Morrison, but one who is 20 years younger.

Morrison, though, has fought mainly washed-up heavyweights and former contenders in building up a record of 35-1 with 31 knockouts.

"Ninety percent of his matches have been knockouts and the same thing with me," Foreman said.

"We're both willing to take chances by throwing power punches that cause us to expose our chins for a second. You've got to be daring to do it and that's why there is so few power punches among heavyweights today."

Foreman and Morrison both last fought Jan. 16, when Foreman stopped Pierre Coetzer in the eighth round and Morrison got off the canvas to stop Carl Williams in the eighth round on the same card.

Morrison will earn \$1 million plus a percentage of revenues for the fight, which will be held at the UNLV campus arena.

"It's a great opportunity," Morrison said. "In this sport you sometimes have to step on someone going up to get to the top."

In addition to both being powerful heavyweights, both fighters are aspiring actors.

Morrison had a part in the last Rocky movie, while Foreman has filmed a situation comedy pilot expected to go into production this fall.

Seattle Mariners rout California Angels 12-0

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) - The Seattle Mariners, who went into the game with a major league-worst exhibition record of 1-10, finally put their hitting and pitching together Tuesday and routed the California Angels 12-0. Seattle's only other victory of the spring also came against the Angels, a 7-6, come-from-behind win on Friday.

Mariners manager Lou Piniella had been openly critical of his pitching staff, which came into Tuesday's game with a 7.37 ERA. But John Cummings, Jim Converse, Dave Wainhouse and Russ Swan on a four-hitter.

Tino Martinez doubled twice, singled and drove in four runs for the Mariners, and Edgar Martinez contributed a pair of doubles and two RBIs.

Omar Vizquel also drove in two

runs with a double as the Mariners scored three times in each of the first three innings.

Angel starter Russ Springer gave up seven hits, walked three and hit two batters, lasting just 2 2-3 innings of a scheduled four-inning stint. In his bid to win the No. 5 spot in the Angels' rotation, Springer has an ERA of 12.91.

Wildness has plagued Angel pitchers, who have hit seven batters and walked 14 in their last four games. Springer admitted he may be putting added pressure on himself because he was involved in the trade with the Yankees that cost the Angels one of the most popular players in their history, Jim Abbott.

"They want to make the trade look good, so they're giving me every chance to make the club," Springer said, "but I haven't

shown them anything yet to deserve a job. This is probably one of the worst stretches I've ever had for three consecutive outings.

"I know I can pitch in the big leagues. I just have to hit a groove."

Angel manager Buck Rodgers would like to see that happen, too.

"We know he's got some tools. We're going to keep running him out there," Rodgers said. "I've seen him on the side with a pretty good fastball and pretty good command, but until I see it in a game, I have to assume it's being left in the bullpen."

Rodgers said he intends to tinker with Springer's delivery and try to speed him up a little.

"Today when he got ticked off with himself, he started to speed up a little on his own," Rodgers said,

Mavericks move closer to loss record

By Denne H. Freeman

DALLAS (AP) - The Dallas Mavericks could stake their claim as one of the NBA's all-time inept teams Wednesday night with a little help from Shaquille O'Neal.

The Mavs are shooting for their 20th consecutive loss and the way Dallas shoots field goals another loss should be within easy reach, particularly with point guard Derek Harper injured and slam-dunking O'Neal and the Orlando Magic invading Reunion Arena.

With a loss, the Mavs would tie the record for most consecutive losses in one season set by Philadelphia from Jan. 9-Feb. 11 in 1973.

The NBA record for consecutive losses is 24 by Cleveland from March 19-Nov. 5, 1982.

After playing the Magic, Dallas has five consecutive road games at Philadelphia, New Jersey, Atlanta, Washington and Boston. The Mavs are 0-29 on the road this year but are still far behind the NBA road loss record of 43 by Sacramento from November 1990 to November 1991.

Dallas has won only four games this season, one each in November, December, January and February. The Mavs are taking dead aim on the NBA's worst season which is only nine victories by the 1972-73 Philadelphia 76ers.

Quinn Buckner, who takes over as coach next year after he finishes his broadcasting job with

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Armstrong leads Bulls to victory

CHICAGO (AP) - B.J. Armstrong knows he's not the Chicago Bulls' first choice to shoot the ball, especially with the game on the line.

"I'm usually the last option," Armstrong said after scoring a career-high 28 points Monday night, including 12 in the fourth quarter, and making 10 for 10 from the free throw line, leading the Bulls to a 101-94 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers.

"Sometimes you get the ball and sometimes you don't, but when you do get the ball you have to take the shot. Fortunately, my shots went down," Armstrong said.

Michael Jordan scored no points in the decisive fourth quarter, but finished with 23. Scottie Pippen added 15 points, 11 in the final quarter. And Horace Grant, returning from a two-game absence because of tendinitis in his left knee, grabbed 17 rebounds.

"B.J. stepped up big for us and we stayed active on the boards," said Bulls coach Phil Jackson. "That won it for us."

The Bulls, playing their fourth game in five nights, climbed within half a game of the idle New York Knicks for the Eastern Conference lead. And with Cleveland's loss to Washington, the Bulls built their Central Division lead over the Cavaliers to 2 games.

The Clippers' loss, combined

with a victory by the Lakers, dropped them three games behind their hometown rivals in the race for fourth place in the Pacific Division.

"We played a very good game and had chances to win," said Ron Harper, who scored 21 points for Los Angeles to go with Danny Manning's 23.

"They just got too many offensive boards, especially late in the game. B.J. also got hot and made some big shots. Even when we seemed to stop them, they kept getting the ball back to him."

The Bulls outrebounded Los Angeles 58-48.

"You can't give up 23 offensive rebounds," said Los Angeles coach Larry Brown. "That was the story all night with them beating us to loose balls every time. Horace looked to have fresh legs. He really hurt us."

The Bulls trailed 75-74 heading into the fourth quarter.

Pippen scored six of the Bulls' first eight points in the final quarter. Then Armstrong added five in a row, including a free throw after a technical was called against Loy Vaught at 6:46, putting Chicago ahead 87-81.

A layup by Stanley Roberts at 2:56 cut Chicago's lead to 91-90. Pippen countered with a 3-pointer and Armstrong scored the Bulls last seven points with a 3-pointer and four free throws as Chicago put on a 10-4 run to end the game.

Sabatini saves best tennis for rainy day

By Steven Wine

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP) - Gabriela Sabatini saved her best tennis of the year for a rainy day.

Still struggling to bounce back from a virus that hit her at the Australian Open in January, Sabatini began blasting winners from the baseline Tuesday - just in time to avert an upset against Amanda Coetzer at the Lipton Championships.

After the start of their match was delayed 3 1/2 hours by rain, Coetzer easily won the first set and led the second 2-0. Then came Sabatini's sudden turnaround for a 1-6, 6-2, 6-1 victory and a berth in the quarterfinals.

"She definitely started hitting the ball a lot harder," Coetzer said.

"I changed my game," Sabatini said. "I tried to go for it and not just hit the ball. That's the way I like to play. I'm going to have to

start doing it from the beginning."

Bad weather again plagued the tournament, which had both sessions postponed Saturday because of high winds. Rain Tuesday caused three delays totaling more than five hours.

"It's been an exciting day today, huh?" joked No. 3 seed Stefan Edberg, who rallied to beat Javier Frana in a third-round match, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.

No. 8 Andre Agassi eliminated qualifier Jason Stoltenberg 6-0, 6-1.

"To beat anybody like that, you have to be playing great tennis," Agassi said. "On the other hand, he was missing a lot of shots."

Including a second-round victory over Aaron Krickstein, Agassi won 19 consecutive games over the course of two matches.

"I absolutely love being on the court now," he said. "I'm really enjoying it - win or lose."

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