



# Marianas Variety

News  
& Views

Micronesia's Leading Newspaper Since 1972

Vol. 25 No. 25  
©1997 Marianas Variety

Thursday - April 24, 1997

Saipan, MP 96950  
Serving CNMI for 25 Years **50¢**

## Land deals in limbo

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

PUBLIC Lands Director Bertha Camacho yesterday urged government to immediately resolve the debate on the new land law saying the matter is unduly holding back her office's handling of all pending cases.

In a phone interview, Camacho lamented that "it is the people who are receiving the brunt" of the delay caused by questions on the legality of House Bill 10-325.

"Right now, there's nothing we can do unless a board is created... and I'm really concerned about it," said Camacho.

"For the benefit of the people who have been waiting for so long now, I would like to see an immediate resolution to this (debate)," she said.

### Camacho says people bear brunt of land controversy



Bertha Camacho

She failed to give estimates on the number of people affected nor on the pending cases, though.

Among such cases involve a parcel of land belonging to the family of Community and Cul-

tural Affairs Secretary Thomas A. Tebuteb who is still caught in a dispute involving the Monsignor Guerrero road project.

Camacho said she is now reviewing the new law which, she added, is seen "to impact a lot on our operation."

"A lot of things are added to our responsibility. I think I may have to overhaul the DPL," Camacho said.

Sponsored by Rota's Rep. Vicente M. Atalig, the new law seeks to reestablish an autonomous board that will manage public lands.

Gov. Froilan Tenorio has warned the House of Representatives's recent veto override on the bill will lead to chaos saying it is a badly-written piece that may have even failed

constitutional requirements.

He said he will challenge the law's legality in the court citing at least two grounds: The conflict of interest that at least three senators and a congress-

man who voted for the veto override allegedly have; and a move made by the 1985 Constitutional Convention which voted to abolish the autonomous Marianas Public Lands Commission, and transfer its function to the central government.

### Demapan, Guerrero may be Democratic Senate bets



Juan S. Demapan

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

FORMER senators Juan S. Demapan and Herman R. Guerrero could be the Democratic Party's senatorial candidates for Saipan, it was learned yesterday.

But according to party chair Daniel O. Quitugua, the party has yet to finalized its senatorial and House slates, with the exemption of Precinct 4.

Quitugua, however, confirmed that Demapan and



Herman R. Guerrero

Guerrero are in the list of possible senatorial candidates.

Aside from the two, Quitugua yesterday said the governor's special assistant for management and budget Elicco D. Cabrera and former representatives Pete S. Arriola and Pete C. Arriola are also being considered.

Quitugua said the party will announce its official bets on May 10, during a mini-convention, when all the names of the

Continued on page 20

## Peru hostage crisis ends

### Troops storm compound; 14 rebels, one hostage killed

By LYNN MONAHAN

LIMA, Peru (AP) - In a lightning assault, Peruvian troops stormed the Japanese ambassador's mansion and rescued 71 hostages held for four months, killing all 14 rebel captors as the unsuspecting guerrillas reportedly played soccer.

One captive, Supreme Court Justice Carlos Giusti, and two soldiers also died, President Alberto Fujimori said. Some hostages were secretly warned before the raid, one of the freed men said.

Fujimori said 25 other captives were injured in the gunfire Tuesday and explosions that rocked the compound, only two seriously - Peru's foreign minister, Francisco Tudela, and another Supreme Court justice, both suffering gunshot wounds.

"I didn't waver for a single minute in giving the order for this rescue operation," said the president, who throughout the crisis adamantly rejected the guerrillas' demand that jailed comrades be freed in exchange for the captive diplomats and businessmen.

The operation ended an international ordeal that had transfixed two nations and focused global attention on a leftist rebel group, Tupac Amaru, which has waged guerrilla war here since 1984.

In Tokyo, Japan's prime minister called it a "splendid rescue," but also said it was "regrettable" that Peru had not forewarned his government of the surprise, broad-daylight attack.

Fujimori told reporters late Tuesday that intelligence in-

Continued on page 20



Former Peru Supreme Court judge, Moises Pantoja, one of 71 hostages rescued when Peruvian troops stormed the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima Tuesday, is welcomed by relatives at a military hospital. All of 14 rebel captors were reportedly killed in the assault.

AP Photo

## OPA audit: Rota official had 'conflict of interest'

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

THE DIRECTOR of Rota Health Center had "abused her power and authority" when she participated in transactions that involved the government's lease of her husband's apartment on Rota, the Office of Public the Auditor disclosed.

In a report submitted yesterday by Public Auditor Leo LaMotte to Finance Secretary Antonio Cabrera, OPA said Director Marja Lee Taitano used the center's funds "to settle the utility bills, amounting to \$4,282.02, of two RHC employees who occupied the apartment leased by the director's spouse to RHC."

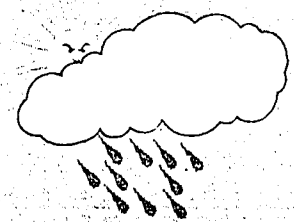
Taitano is also an elected member of the Board of Education.

The audit involved a three-bedroom apartment which was leased on July 28, 1994 by the director's

husband, Crispin Taitano to the center to house RHC's personnel. At the time, his wife, was not yet employed by the government.

Continued on page 20

## WEATHER Outlook



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers

# Fujimori hailed for raid

By LYNN F. MONAHAN  
**LIMA, Peru (AP)**—No one knew the soldiers were there, making last-minute preparations for the assault. Then, in a blur of exploding gunfire and running commandos with white ladders, the strike was on—and over, victoriously, in less than a half-hour.

For weeks, the scene outside the Japanese ambassador's residence had been sleepy: a few policemen on guard duty, Red Cross workers routinely bringing in food. It looked like President Alberto Fujimori and Nestor Cerpa, chief of the Tupac Amaru hostage-takers, had settled in for a test of wills that might take months more.

All that changed without warning Tuesday, just before 3:30 p.m. (2030 GMT). Suddenly, soldiers were running along the tree-lined



Alberto Fujimori

streets surrounding the compound, white ladders in their hands. Seconds later, the shooting started.

Under a fiercely hot sun, a small team of soldiers stormed through the double doors of the

compound's outside wall. Gunfire increased as they charged the front of the building.

The assault was on, and firing was intense. A loud explosion shook the front of the building. Smoke rose as the soldiers blew open the door and burst inside the colonnaded mansion, said to have been designed after the antebellum home in "Gone With the Wind."

Another explosion shook the right side of the building and smoke rose from a window. With another large boom, thick smoke belled from the rear of structure.

Soldiers attacked the rear of the building and others appeared, crouching, on the small roof of an annex attached to the building. Shooting grew to a crescendo. Then it quickly died away.

As more explosions resounded from the besieged compound, hostages began appearing on the roof. On hands and knees they crawled along the flat roof to a side stairway, where more combat troops guided them to the ground.

Some were carried out, injured and unable to crawl.

According to an unconfirmed report, some soldiers used a tunnel that police had dug earlier in preparation for such an assault. Reports of the tunnel's existence had infuriated Cerpa, who called off negotiations for a time.

As darkness fell on the charred mansion, Fujimori appeared at the scene to tour the battleground.

Later, he left, shaking hands with soldiers outside.

The 150-man military-police assault team struck at about 3:30 p.m. (2030 GMT), pouring through the compound's front gate, then blasting open the mansion's front door. Others attacked from the rear, and a third unit climbed to the rooftop and shepherded hostages down.

It ended quickly. As smoke billowed over the residence, triumphant soldiers hauled down the guerrillas' flag, and ex-hostages and rescuers cheered and jubilantly sang the Peruvian national anthem. A large pool of blood could be seen at the bottom of a stairway.

## US had 'indication' of Lima rescue raid

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER  
**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The United States had some "indications" in advance that Peruvian forces were preparing to storm the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima, but received no prior word officially, Defense Secretary William Cohen said Tuesday.

The raid to rescue hostages seized four months ago by leftist guerrillas "was entirely a Peruvian government operation," the defense secretary told reporters in a brief interview at the Pentagon.

Later, in an interview on CNN, Cohen said: "The U.S. played virtually no role."

Asked if the U.S. had provided any assistance throughout the four-month hostage incident, Cohen told CNN: "Well, we have offered services to the Peruvian government, the exact nature of which I really can't say. But this was principally and solely an operation by the Peruvian government."

When the hostages were first seized



William Cohen

last December, six Americans were among those detained, but they were released within days.

The administration deployed assets for a potential rescue operation but withdrew them after the Americans were released, said National Security Advisor Samuel Berger.

The troops stormed the Japanese ambassador's mansion Tuesday afternoon, freeing dozens of hostages and ending the four-month standoff with leftist guerrillas. All the rebels—believed to number 15—were reported killed.

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori said all 72 captives were rescued, but an undetermined number were injured in the gunfire and explosions that rocked the compound. A diplomat reported seeing one dead hostage and three or four wounded soldiers.

At the Pentagon, Cohen told reporters: "We had no official warning, as such no notification, that such a rescue attempt was to be made."

But the defense secretary added: "I think that there were perhaps some indications; how soon they came before the actual operation, is unknown to me. It may have been a brief foreshadowing, the repositioning of SWAT teams or such going in. It did not come as a complete surprise as such."

At the White House, spokesman Eric Rubin also said the U.S. had received no advance notification from the Peruvian authorities, "and we did not in any way participate in this operation."

Rubin said the United States has taken the position that the rebels bear "full responsibility for this crisis. We have stated that because of this, 'we've been calling our clientele and checking their problems

## 'It was over in minutes'

By KOZO MIZOGUCHI  
**TOKYO (AP)**—Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto praised Peru on Wednesday for freeing Japan's 24 hostages, but also said Lima should have told him about the military attack beforehand.

"Our country was not informed in advance and this is very regrettable," Hashimoto said, shortly after the assault on the residence of Japan's ambassador by a Peruvian strike team.

The compound is technically Japanese soil, and Tokyo and Lima had an agreement that President Alberto Fujimori would seek Japan's permission before attacking it and the rebels holding the captives inside.

But Hashimoto also said that all of the Japanese captives—12 businessmen and 12 diplomats—were

rescued safely, and he praised Peru for the success of the operation.

Later in the morning he spoke with Fujimori for 15 minutes by phone, and told reporters at a second news conference that if he were in Peru's position, "I might have done the same thing."

"I expressed regret over the use of force, but I told him I understand why he did it," Hashimoto said.

The prime minister also said that Fujimori had a message for the Japanese: "We completed our task without giving in to terrorism," the president said, according to Hashimoto. "I express my thanks for showing trust in me and my government."

Japan's ambassador, Morihisa Aoki, told reporters in Lima that he injured his legs and hips while escaping as Peruvian soldiers and police stormed Aoki's residence, setting off

sporadic explosions that rocked the compound for more than an hour.

After his rescue, Aoki told Hashimoto in a telephone conversation that all the Japanese hostages had been rescued, some with minor injuries, the prime minister said. Aoki told reporters in Lima the raid occurred on his 29th wedding anniversary.

In Tokyo, Aoki's son, Morimachi Aoki, said he was relieved by his father's release. "I'd like to chat with him over a cup of sake soon," he told reporters.

Employees at Japanese companies whose workers were among the hostages—including Marubeni, Toyota and Mitsubishi—watched TV footage of the dramatic raid, and executives briefed workers on the condition of those freed.

## US ban on new Burma investment welcomed

By GRANT PECK  
**BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)**—Opponents of Burma's military regime praised the Clinton administration Tuesday for banning new U.S. investment in Burma, saying Washington had fulfilled its promise to take action against a junta accused of large-scale repression.

But Unocal Corp., which has a \$1.2-billion partnership deal with Total of France to develop offshore natural gas fields, objected. Stakes in the oil and gas sector make the United States one of Burma's biggest investors.

Unocal chairman Roger Beach said the sanctions would cost the United States jobs without ensuring an improvement in human rights. In an interview in Bangkok with the Dow Jones News Service, Beach called the decision a "temporary setback" to Unocal's business plans in Burma but said "it won't change our strategy one iota."

If Clinton's move "bars only new American investment, the government will just laugh," said a Burmese businessman involved in a joint-venture factory who spoke on condition not be named. "As long as Unocal

and Texaco are in town, they (the government) will not be bothered."

Tin Oo, vice-chairman of the opposition National League for Democracy, said in a telephone interview from Rangoon, the Burmese capital, that the U.S. move "is one we have very much longingly hoped would happen."

The leader of the league, 1991 Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, renewed her call for sanctions two months ago, saying worsening repression since student unrest in December had resulted in more than 100 arrests.

In Bangkok, a Burmese exile opposition group, the All Burma Students' Democratic Front, called the sanctions "a major step" toward forcing Burma's junta to acknowledge Mrs. Suu Kyi's party as the democratically elected government.

The National League for Democracy won a landslide victory in a 1990 election but the military refused to let parliament be seated. Many of the lawmakers have since been forced into exile or imprisoned, and the party operates under tight restrictions.



Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, right, looks at German soldiers during a wreath laying ceremony at Berlin's memorial for victims of war and dictatorship on Monday. Scalfaro is on a four-day visit in Germany. AP Photo

# DOLI eyes Nepal, Thailand

By Jojo Dass  
 Variety News Staff

THE DEPARTMENT OF Labor and Immigration recently sent a delegation to Thailand and Nepal to "ascertain foreign labor practices" in these countries and "advise local governments of CNMI Immigration and labor laws," documents obtained by the Variety revealed.

The move came in the midst of stalled negotiations between RP and CNMI governments on the policy of granting Filipino workers free board and lodging as has been required from other host countries.

In his memorandum sent to Gov. Froilan Tenorio, DOLI Secretary Thomas O. Sablan said the trip, made from March 28 to April 5, was able to establish recruitment procedures observed in these countries as well as skill levels of prospective overseas contract workers.

In its Thailand visit, the delegates, the report said, gathered that the Thai government is currently implementing measures meant to address the

## Delegation sent to study potential Asian labor markets



Thomas O. Sablan

problem on English language skills of its workers.

The delegates had a meeting with Kerd Kulnet, managing director of Thailand's major foreign employment agency, the Majal Development Corporation who, the report said, was "candid in his assessment that Thai workers are highly skilled in

many diverse occupations" except that they however, were lacking in English skills.

Thailand foreign employment agencies, the report said, provide \$1.25 million in bonds for the workers with labor deployment requests submitted to and approved by the government's labor department.

The Thai government, the report further said, has also expressed concern on the illegal employment of its workers abroad, and has requested that CNMI accept only those who possess valid overseas cards issued by its labor department.

"It is our opinion that the Thai labor market is well-developed with highly-skilled and diverse workers. Additionally, the government has implemented strict controls over these workers and the recruiting agencies that deploy them," Sablan said in his report.

Nepal, for its part, is "expanding manpower services to foreign employers," the report said.

The country, the delegates gathered, has a diverse category of workers ranging from skilled technicians to unskilled labor.

Its government, however, has

stressed that no Nepalese woman would be allowed to work abroad as entertainers or bar girls.

The US government, it was also established, "maintains excellent relations with local police agencies as well as immigration and labor officials."

"The US Embassy will provide immediate assistance if CNMI experiences specific labor or immigration problems," said Sablan's report.

"It is the delegates' opinion that the Nepal labor market has the capability to provide skilled and semi-skilled workers to CNMI. The government and the private sector labor agencies seem to cooperate and they both share a profound concern for the welfare of their workers," said the report.

## Guerrero: I'll do my best to help Tenorio win 2nd term

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
 Variety News Staff

SAIPAN Mayor Jesus S. Deleon Guerrero vowed yesterday "to do my best" to give Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio a second term.

Tenorio, the Democratic Party's standard bearer for the November elections, announced Tuesday that he had chosen Guerrero to be his running mate.

"He (Tenorio) is tough and fair. He produces positive results. He's the kind of leader I would want to work with, that's why I accepted the nomination," Guerrero told the Variety.

Tenorio's advisers believe the mayor would be "an excellent choice" for a running mate as he is "well-liked and has a big family."

Analysts maintain that in small

community politics, having a big family gives a candidate better chances of winning in elections.

"I wouldn't say the governor picked me for popularity reason or for the size of my family," Guerrero said. "He chose me because he likes my style and I thank him for his confidence in me."

Guerrero earlier told the Variety that he would retire from politics upon expiration of his mayoral term, because he wanted to spend more time with his family.

"When I was approached by the governor, my wife and relatives told me to 'go and try one more time.' So this decision has their blessings," said Guerrero, who is serving a second term as mayor.

Asked to predict the chances of the



Jesus S. Deleon Guerrero

Tenorio-Guerrero ticket, the mayor said: "I'm sure the other tickets believe they are winning. It's hard for me to guess but I promise to do my best to give the governor a second term."

## Blas gets 6 more months for contempt

By Ferdie de la Torre  
 Variety News Staff

SUPERIOR Court Associate Judge Timothy Bellas ordered yesterday convicted Edwin P. Blas to serve six months imprisonment in a criminal contempt case.

Bellas sentenced Blas a six months on each of the two counts of criminal contempt charges.

Bellas, however, said the sentence shall run concurrent with each count but consecutive with Blas' jail term in previous criminal cases.

It means Blas, who is currently under detention, must serve six months' imprisonment in addition to his present jail term.

During a bench trial last month, the court convicted Blas to two counts of criminal contempt.

The decision was rendered less than a week after the jury found Blas guilty on all charges in connection with an attempted rape case in 1995.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Frieda Leonard in the complaint stated that on July 16, 1996, Blas failed to comply a bail order

of the trial court in his 1995 criminal case.

Blas had several criminal cases, including accessory to a brutal murder of a Filipino worker several years ago where he was sentenced to 10 years in jail.

At present he is serving a revoked parole.

The government also linked Blas to the 1996 murder of a Filipina store cashier in Gualo Rai although no charges have been filed yet in that case.



4th Grader Andrea Negrete performs a violin piece during a Saipan International School's presentation in the 2nd Annual Governor's Office on Youth Affairs Spring Youth Concert held last Saturday at the Charley's Cabaret at the Pacific Islands Club. Photo by Erel A. Cabatbat

## CDA loan delinquency rate increases to 9 percent

By Rick Alberto  
 Variety News Staff

DELINQUENCY rate among borrowers from the Commonwealth Development Authority has risen from 6 to 9 percent, its board chair has disclosed.

Juan S. Tenorio said one of the factors that contributed to the 3 percent rise in delinquency was the "absence of a good economy."

"But the economy is moving up now," Tenorio said in an interview, adding that because of this, "we've been calling our clientele and checking their problems

with regards to their loans."

"Rather than foreclosing it (loan), it will be cheaper for us to just call him (borrower) and fix the loan," he said.

The CDA official said that for the last five years the agency has exercised patience with regards to unpaid loans because "we know there's an absence of good economy."

To substantiate his claim, Tenorio said that in the past "all you see around the island are signs 'For rent'; now we feel that those signs are gone. So it means that there's an indication that the economy is climbing up."

Tenorio said though that a redeeming factor on delinquency is that the borrowers are paying their loans, although not the full amount.

The biggest loan portfolio of CDA is on commercial buildings and apartments.

Tenorio said the economy reached the bottom during the period 1990-95 so that "everybody dropped the rental fees," contributing to the increase in delinquency rate.

"But yet people are paying their loans," Tenorio said.

"But now we're calling in whether we can refinance their loan to make it better, since the

economy is coming up," he added.

Tenorio admitted that there are some loans that are difficult to refinance because of a statute that loans can't go on for over 20 years.

In the past few years the CDA has declared some loans in default, including Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s \$84-million debt.

Tenorio said in the case of three delinquent borrowers, the CDA decided to auction their properties.

Tenorio said they had been criticized for being too lenient with borrowers.

"But the function of the CDA is to stimulate the

economy and at the same time to get at least the principal back of our funds, and I could say that CDA is at least part of this development in the Northern Marianas with regards to the commercial and services types such as fishing and farming," he said.

The CDA has had a moratorium in the granting to direct loans for commercial and apartment buildings. What it does, however, is just guarantee the loans applied with local banks.

But for loans to fishermen and farmers, the CDA give direct loans, since no banks grant these kinds of loan.

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

## Dilubiu iya Ponape

Ginen: John S. DelRosario, Jr.

Guine gi nigapña, poduñg motmut uchan sin deskanso giya Ponape. Dilubiu i tano'. Maseha mano metgot mampos na milag hanom. Tinipa un' patte gi hegso' iya Sokehs ya tinampe papa' dos guma' 'nai guaha kase 14 na taotao gi dos familia. Kwarto esta manmasoda', lao i pumalo manmasupone na manhinafot nu i eda' ya mandimalas.

Megai taotao ginen otro soñgsoñg siha manmatto para u fan manayuda gumuadog i tinilada pot tinilada na odda' ni pinapa nu i duron milag hanom. Kontodo i militat mangaige. I Gobietno as Del Pangelinan hafaisen i presidenten i Federated States of Micronesia para u deklarar emethensia i estadon Ponape pot este na gotpe. Pot primet biahe dilubiu iya Ponape maseha tuñguon' komo hatdin parahiso gi halom iya Micronesia.

Yangin inhasso i ichan 1979 ni pumalopu' hit ya kontodo Sadog Hagoi hana' milalag huyong esta i lagon katedrat, pues mas motmut yan fote na uchan poduñg sin deskanso guine gi nigapña. I eda' giya Ponape mas kalo ke edata guine. Ayo mina mappa 'nai inichane nu i diro gi hinanao Paygon Isa.

### Si Lang yan Gere'

Los uttimos ha annunsia si Governor Froilan C. Tenorio na si Mayot Jesus S. Guerrero ha ayeg komo gachoñgña para i mamamaila' na eleksion gobietno pago na sakan gi Nobiembre. I rason na si Mayot Gere' ha ayeg sa' metgot na kabayero segun i dos na eleksion mayot 'nai todo i dos biahe felis hinanaoña. Bien saludo para i dos kabayeros. Esta pago kabales i listan kandidato para i primet yan segundo puesto.

Dididi' tafatf para ta ebalua hafa sustansiaña este na dinaña. Lao ti umahña na este na hinanao siempre u anog dibision parentela siha gi todo koyentura. Metgot na Republican si Mayot Gere'. I kuestion kao siña ha sustene i hagas tumatituyegue' gi estrakadan eleksion mayot gi manmapos siha na sakan. Siempre este na asgon mapagahas u klaro gi dispues. Lao gai taotao ya ti siña ta diskutenta ni unabas.

Intiño ha' i dos otro kabayeros ni pumetsisige i mismo puesto tat komo si Teno-Pepero yan Borja-Sablan. Maseha todo hiniyong kompetensia animo gi halom katma yan pagyo, debi ta akseptar na guaha para hita yan ti para hita. Dispues de ketu i petbos gi sagafia 'nai gumuaha tiempo para ta kula amano 'nai guaha suette yan linesgon.

### Satbasion amot bineno

Na'magof i guaha animon taotaota kumesatba i uson 'nos kuantos na amot bineno ni muna chachatsaga i komunidatta pago. Mampos na' matman yangin intiño i numeron taotao yan estao niha ni umu'usa este na bineno diaramente osino siha muna fan hahalom este siha na amot ya mabebende gi halom manhoben yan man-amko'.

I kuestion ni sesso hu faisen maisayo', kao propio i manera ni ta petsisige pot para ta ayuda i mañeluta siha ni munesesita ayudo pot uson amot bineno. Amano mas propio na chalan: i preso 'nai ta poñgle todo i manmagacha' manman bebende osino umu'usa este na gaga' pat tratamiento ginen un' mediko pot para umasueta ginen este na chinatsaga?

I lehislatura ha konsiderada un' akto 'nai todo i manmagacha' manman 'halom osino manbebende amot bineno, u fan mapreso 'ta i uttimon linala' niha. Yangin este na chalan para tatatiye, pues siempre un'dia u megai mampos taotao gi preso 'nai esta ti manhuhulat gi mismo facilidat. Siempre ta tulaike i lai ya umana' lañahlalañg i kastigo pot para ta ataha i minegai taotao gi halom preso. Gigon humuyong tatte gi komunida, ha tutuhon i hagas bisioña. magacha' taio, tumalo halom gi preso. Hafa este na siso' amakan sabanan i Edot.

Lao yangin tana' metgot mas i para u fan ma'amte este siha na taotaogae, siempre mas guaha kinemprendeña na dañosu i ha petsisige sa' mampos destrosio gi petsona ni umu'usa yan dañgkulo na dañg gi inetnon mauleg na familia. Gaogho na este na chalan ta chule' i para ta ayuda i prohimo gi chinatsagaña ke ta dagao halom gi tribunat 'nai siempre un'dia ufalagnos ya u tutuhon hagas bisioña ni ti kombene.

\*\*\*\*\*

Kada dia i edot manlofan mantension ya ha popolu gi madogña para yangin matto i tiempom manehgehñg. Sige i apacha' manbutleha hafa na kana' ha pupunogue' i edot machocho'. 'Nai matto i haanen mat tiempo, dumeskansas i edot ya kada ñalañg, guaha neñgkano' para u kano'. I apacha' sige gumupo man-espipihu naña. I punto: I taotao debi u tuñgo' man'adahe 'nai guaha siña ha pega gi fondun kaha para usuña guie na tiempo 'nai guaha chinatsaga. Si Yuus Maase yan ghlisow!



## JACK ANDERSON and JAN MOLLER WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### There are kids in the hall at Commerce

WASHINGTON — The Commerce Department is paying a 25-year-old Harvard graduate student nearly \$50,000 a year to develop an "international trade program."

Juan Verde, who is registered as a full-time student at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, moonlights as a globetrotting bureaucrat for Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA). Verde's travels have taken him to China Ecuador, Chile, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica, among other places and have cost taxpayers more than \$18,000.

In defending Verde's employment, MBDA director Joan Parrott-Fonseca says the agency estimated Verde's skills were at the level of a GS-9 government employee. But federal guidelines stipulate that a GS-9 should have a master's degree and at least five year's experience—or much more than the meager qualifications Verde brought with him when he received a government contract in November 1995.

At that time, the most impressive item on the then 23-year-old's resume was an unpaid internship with the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration. He also had completed a Graduate Certificate Program in International Business at Georgetown University, earned by attending classes four hours per week for one semester. That's a far cry from a graduate degree, which Verde won't receive until next spring.

When we first asked Parrott-Fonseca about Verde's employment last summer the director dismissed our inquiries as a being based on a "rumor" and a "complete, absolute untruth." But several months later, after we presented her with further evidence of Verde's employment, Parrott-Fonseca changed her story.

"The government got a deal with Juan Verde," she told our associate Kathryn Wallace. Parrott-Fonseca now claims that Verde is doing the job of two full-time senior employees for a fraction of the cost. She insists that Verde has "unique qualifications" for the job.

Verde's windfall comes as the MBDA is laying off dozens of qualified, longtime employees. The agency recently fired 55 veteran employees in an effort to cut costs. Among them was Gavin Chen, an international trade specialist who once had many of

the same job responsibilities Verde now has. Chen has a doctorate in economics and finance, and has specialized in international financial development for more than 20 years. He conducted trade missions for the MBDA as far back as the mid-1980s, when Verde wasn't even old enough to have a driver's license.

Chen was making \$30,000 more per year than Verde when he was fired in December. Then again, Chen didn't have to juggle his duties at Commerce with term papers. Nevertheless, Parrott-Fonseca claims in a written statement that "there are no other staff members (at MBDA) with the necessary international trade mission capacity to successfully develop the international trade program."

Verde himself seems unfazed by having to balance studies at one of the world's most demanding universities with traveling the globe for the Clinton administration. "I'm doing a lot and trying to do my best," he told us, insisting that he is properly qualified to develop trade initiatives for the Department of Commerce. Though Verde promised twice to send us his resume, he never did.

Parrott-Fonseca's initial denial of Verde's employment raises serious questions. If Verde is truly qualified for the job, why hide it? Parrott-Fonseca insists that "at all times" she's provided us with "truthful and accurate information." But the MBDA director was certainly well aware of Verde when we first started asking questions last summer. MBDA travel records we've obtained reveal that Verde accompanied her on trips to China, Ecuador and Chile during the spring of 1996.

Parrott-Fonseca herself has come under fire for extensive traveling at the expense of taxpayers. As we first reported last year, the MBDA director was on the road for 212 days during an 18-month period beginning in 1995. "I don't want to travel (this much)," she told us last fall, maintaining that her trips involved more grind than glamour.

But documents we've reviewed detail a travel schedule that often put Parrott-Fonseca in luxury locations. On one 1995 visit to Puerto Rico, for example, she stayed at the El San Juan Hotel and Casino, a 390-room beach front resort with two swimming pools, a health club and four restaurants.

During her stay there, Parrott-Fonseca ran up a \$29.25 tab at the "wine & cheese" bar and charged another \$20 at the "la veranda" pool bar.

# Another snake sighting

THE DIVISION of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) reported another sighting of a Brown Tree Snake Tuesday last week.

According to a news release from DFW, the sighting took place in the Chalan Lulau area specifically, the Mariana Communication Service (MCS) area.

Immediately, the Division sent out its Brown Tree Snake technicians and Herpetologist, who later confirmed the sighting to have been the dreaded

snake species.

DFW has had calls from the public concerning Brown Tree Snake sightings from as far back as the mid 1980's, and as recently as April 5, 1997.

Brown Tree Snakes are arboreal or tree-dwelling reptiles and are thus, excellent climbers.

They are also nocturnal, or are only active during the night which makes them particularly difficult to see.

The snakes usually are

brown in color in the daylight, but are yellowish on the underside at night when flashed with a light.

They move considerable distances at night and can change place of dwelling from one end of the island to the other end in less than three days.

Snakes pose a particular threat to the native bird population of Saipan, Tinian, Rota and the Northern Islands as

they prefer to make tree branches their "home."

Brown Tree Snake also are an economic threat, since they have caused several power outages on Guam.

Brown Tree Snakes may also reduce tourist travel to the islands due to the loss of wildlife, the release added.

On Guam, they have caused the extinction of 9 out of 11 endemic (native) bird species. "It would be a great tragedy

for the CNMI to lose its beautiful native bird species," DFW said in the release.

DFW has urged the public to report all snake sightings. Anyone who sees a snake is asked to exercise caution but to try to kill it and contact the DFW at 322-9627/9628.

After office hours, sighters may contact the 24-hour emergency hot-line at the Office of Civil Defense at 322-9529/4077.

## Search continues for tourist missing at sea

THE SEARCH and rescue operations for the missing tourist who was believed to have drowned in the sea near Grand Hotel continued yesterday.

Public Safety Information Officer PO3 Cathy Sheu said as of afternoon the DPS Boating Safety and Emergency Management Office personnel were still trying to locate the tourist's body.

The Grand Hotel reported to DPS about a missing person Monday before dawn.

Witnesses later spotted a body floating at the Sugar Dock.

Responding rescue team from DPS and EMO, however,

failed to find the body.

In other police report, burglar's broke into a warehouse in Garapan and stole three motorcycles Monday afternoon.

At Friendship Karaoke in Garapan, three women were arrested when they engaged in a fight Monday night.

Arrested for riot were Cecilia Yuan, 27, Silver Yuan, 44, and Ming Zhao Lee, 30.

At Commonwealth Health Center, a 46-year-old man complained that an unidentified person's stole his medication, recorder, and walkman inside his vehicle at CHC's parking lot the other day. (FDT)

## SAES to hold Science Fair

SAN ANTONIO Elementary School's Science Fair & Science Day gets underway this Thursday and Friday April 24th and 25th, the school announced in a news release.

Thursday's activities include a school wide science fair with all students from Kindergarten to 6th grade displaying either a scientific experiment or a science project. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be chosen at the different grade levels.

On Friday, San Antonio moves into their 2nd annual Science Day which involves different invention contests such as The Puff Mobile Race, The Egg Drop contest, the Flying contraption contest, and the Paper Airplane flying contest. Each of these contest allows

students to invent and test their inventions against other student's inventions.

A new event at this year's Science Day is a Health awareness contest called "Jousting for Health".

In this activity, students have to answer the opportunity to walk a balance beam to the middle where they will meet a competitor.

At this point both competitors try to knock each other off the beam with a pillow sword. Winners will be awarded healthy prize such as toothbrushes, natural fruit juices, and granola bars.

Following the science day activities, all the students will participate in a walking beach clean-up from San Antonio to Hopwood Junior High School.

**DO YOU HAVE \$200 TO THROW AWAY?**

WHETHER YOU ARE WALKING, DRIVING, SAILING, OR FLYING. LITTERING IS ILLEGAL IN THE CNMI.

If you have any questions concerning the Litter Control Law, please contact Benusto Somol, Litter Control Coordinator at the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) at 234-1011/1012. LET US KEEP CNMI LITTER FREE.

## Legend of the Coconut Tree



Andrea Camacho shares the "Legend of the Coconut Tree" with SDA School during National Park Week's Cultural History Day at American Memorial Park. The Aging Center also provided skillful weavers, mwar mwar makers, musicians, singers and dancers. In exchange, the children sang for the Man'amko and Saipan Community School Band performed.

In Recognition of the **American Memorial Park Week** and the **Secretary's Week**, our popular Friday night **Happy Hour** will be extended for the entire week of **April 21-26, 1997. Special Happy Hour discount Price with FREE Chasers daily!**

TIME: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

As a special treat for this week, bring this AD and receive **10% discount** on your "Special Dinner" price from the **COCONUT HOUSE RESTAURANT**. We specialize in local favorites and Mongolian Barbecue. We Open Monday - Saturday from 6 PM - 10 PM.

Different menu for the Happy Hour Chasers:

Fish Kelaguin \* Katdon Pika \* Pig Fritada \* Chicken Chicharon \* Lechon Kawali \* Szechuan Bang Bang Chicken \* Fresh Sashimi \* Popcorn...

Plus of course our many flavors of tropical fruit Ice Cream, which include our Special Coconut Ice Cream, Japanese Green Tea Ice Cream, Pastries, Coconut Donuts, Apigigi and more available at the **Hula Girl Ice Cream Shop**. Open Monday - Saturday from 7 AM - 10 PM, and Sundays from 7 AM - 5 PM.

Inquiries: Please call **233-1669**



# Hay Group to present report

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

A HAY Group management consultant is scheduled to arrive today to present to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio the final draft of the analysis and report on the CNMI minimum wage.

The governor's spokesperson

Mark Broadhurst said yesterday that Hay Group's George Ketner will be in the CNMI for a week, and will hold a series of presentations and meetings with administration officials, members of the Legislature and businessmen.

Broadhurst said Ketner, an economist, was one of the re-

searchers and analysts behind the report, which recommended against any increase in the local minimum wage rate of \$3.05 an hour.

Tenorio, in an interview yesterday, said he is satisfied with the report's findings.

He said the report supported his

position that the CNMI can not afford any wage hike.

With some federal officials and U.S. congressmen pressing the CNMI to hike its minimum wage, Tenorio—who used to be in favor of it—last year contracted the Hay Group to study local wages and recommend a minimum.

The Hay Group was paid more than \$80,000 for the report, according to Broadhurst.

The report has been eagerly

awaited by CNMI and federal officials, as well as by some members of Congress.

All have stated that they will look into the report before further commenting on the local wage rate.

A worldwide consulting firm with several headquarters in the mainland U.S., the Hay Group has offices and clients in Canada, the Asia-Pacific region, Latin America, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

# Tenorio to meet parents on teacher academy bill

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio will today meet with parents lobbying for a bill that would give scholarship to students who want to be teachers.

Tenorio said Tuesday that he still undecided whether or not he will sign House Bill 10-270.

"It sounds like a good bill, but why does it discriminate against students who want to be engineers, or other professions aside from teachers?"

He said those who would benefit from the scholarship might not end up as teachers.

The bill, he said, "leaves room for abuse."

A press release from the Public School System claimed yesterday that Tenorio has already decided to sign the bill.

However, the governor's special legal counsel Douglas Muir yesterday said Tenorio has yet to decide what action to take.

PSS later cancelled the press release.

The House of Representatives unanimously approved the bill last week before a jam-packed gallery of parents who cheered and applauded when Speaker Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) announced the result of the vote.

Sponsored by Rep. Stanley T. Torres (Ind.-Saipan), the bill states that there is a need to create a schol-

arship program "to encourage more CNMI scholars to become teachers to serve our rapidly growing student population."

Creating a pool of local teachers will decrease the "costly dependence on recruiting teachers from outside the CNMI," according to the bill, which would provide an annual funding \$12,000 for every scholar.

In order to qualify for the program, the student has to be a U.S. citizen, a resident of the CNMI for at least three years, and is enrolled in an accredited teacher training program at a college or university.

Students chosen for the program are required to return to the CNMI and teach after graduation.

# HK firm files claim vs garment company

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff

A HONG KONG firm yesterday filed monetary claims totaling \$124,687.68 against a local garments company which allegedly refuses to pay fabric orders.

Alltex Industrial Co. Ltd. of Hong Kong, in its complaint filed before the federal district court, alleged that Advance Textiles Corp. currently owes Alltex \$36,226.84 in fabric shipments made between Jan. 1, 1994, and July 1995, and that despite numerous requests for payment, Advance Textiles had refused to pay the amount.

Again on Aug. 21, 1995, Alltex claimed to have shipped 15.116.9

kilograms of cotton single knit jersey fabric worth \$54,420.84 which Advance Textiles again allegedly refused to pay.

The same kind of fabric was subsequently shipped to the defendant in October of 1995. The fabric weighed 13,000 kilograms and was worth \$34,000.

Again, "despite numerous requests... (to) make payment in full, and despite numerous promises by ATC to make payment, ATC has refused and continues to refuse to pay the amount owed," the complainant stated.

Aside from the amount it is seeking from the defendant, Alltex has asked the court to declare Advance Textiles liable for breach of contract.

# 2 workers 'beaten up'

TWO Dai-ichi workers suffered injuries after two unidentified men reportedly beat them up in Garapan Tuesday before dawn.

Police said the two Filipino workers, ages 25 and 31, were taken to the Commonwealth Health Center.

The 25-year-old man suffered laceration to the head while the second victim sustained a cut on the left eyebrow and a bleeding nose.

Investigation showed that the victims were walking towards their barracks when the suspects approached

and assaulted them near the fire station.

The suspects fled. In other police report, a 22-year-old man was arrested shortly after the ran away from the Department of Public Safety Detention Facility before dawn yesterday.

Police said Philip Mino of San Vicente was taken earlier to DPS for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Mino was later caught at the Joeten parking lot in Susupe. (FDT)

# NMI eyes US DOE grant

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio has announced the CNMI will receive a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education, to provide classroom computer equipment and teacher computer training.

According to a news release, the CNMI is one of two U.S. territories and seven states to share \$11.8 million in "technology literacy grants" announced at the White House last weekend by President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore.

"I'm not in favor of begging for every dime that we can get out of Washington," Governor Tenorio said, "but this is a case where it's essential that everything be done to make sure that our kids have the skills to use this technology as they get ready to compete in the next century and I think the federal government should be encouraging it."

The Clinton Administration and particularly the Vice President have made increasing school access to the Internet and teacher/student training on computers a hallmark. One goal is to connect every school and classroom in the U.S. to the Net by year 2000.

Tenorio said the grant is particularly timely, since it comes just before the Federal Communications Commission ruling on universal service, which is expected to open the way for classroom Internet connections at special subsidized rates.

"I have accepted the President's challenge and now want our citizens to get behind it by assisting PSS and the private schools in providing the expertise and equipment to hook up every classroom to the Internet," said Tenorio.



Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Domingo Siazon, Jr. and Ambassador Hiroyuki Yushita, right, check the prototype of the new Japanese embassy during its formal inauguration in Manila Wednesday. AP Photo

# Muslim rebels may fight again if promises delayed

By JIM GOMEZ

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A leader of a Muslim rebel group that signed a peace pact with the government warned Tuesday its members may take up arms again if development of their southern Philippine homeland is delayed.

Muslimin Sema, secretary-general of the Moro National Liberation Front, said government financial help has come in trickles and is not enough to help about 50,000 rebels start new lives.

Massive defections of MNLF rebels to other active Muslim rebel groups "might happen should this situation prevail," Sema said.

He denied reports that hundreds of disgruntled MNLF fighters already have defected to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, the larger of two Muslim groups still fighting the government.

Sema was in Manila Tuesday to accept \$ 500,000 in food aid and livelihood projects from the United Nations Development Program, one of the first grants of foreign assistance to the former guerrillas.

U.N. resident coordinator Sarah Timpson said the grant was aimed at preventing the former rebels from waging war again. She said it was "a response to the rising sense of frustration and discontent felt by MNLF forces, families and communities in the face of unmet expectations."

Another \$ 500,000 grant is being planned, Timpson said. She said some donor countries, such as the Netherlands and Spain, also plan to help.

Sema described the U.N. grant as small, but thanked Timpson and the United Na-

tions for helping.

The MNLF signed a peace agreement with the Philippine government last September, ending a quarter-century rebellion that cost more than 120,000 lives.

In the pact, the government agreed to provide increased autonomy to Muslim areas in the southern Philippines, while the rebels dropped their demand for a separate Muslim state.

The MNLF also was given control of a new council that will oversee economic development projects in 14 impoverished southern provinces for three years.

Economic Planning Secretary Cielito Habito said the government was working to hasten economic development and improve infrastructure in the Muslim autonomous region, but that development "will not happen at the drop of a hat."

The rebels consider the 14 southern provinces their traditional Muslim homeland, but generations of Christian settlers have come to dominate many areas.

Though the region is rich in natural resources, poverty and crime are widespread because of years of rebellion and government neglect.

The peace accord is a major achievement for President Fidel Ramos, who has sought since taking office four years ago to settle three separate insurgencies—by Muslim rebels, communists and right-wing soldiers—that destabilized the nation and impeded economic growth.

# No banking crisis in RP, says Central Bank

MANILA, Philippines (AP) Rumors of a serious financial crisis involving banks and two property companies are unfounded, a senior Philippine Central Bank official said Wednesday.

Rumors that Megaworld Properties and Holdings Inc. and its subsidiary Empire East Land Holdings Inc. are suffering grave cash flow problems have swept through the stock market for the past month.

The rumors have sent their share prices plunging and dragged down other property developers as well.

The rumors have been magnified by fears that the Philippines may follow the path of Thailand, where financial institutions have been crippled by real estate defaults.

"None of the banks involved with Megaworld and Empire East have reported serious loan default problems, nor have we seen any indication that such problems exist in the system," Central Bank Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said. Reyes heads the Central Bank division which examines the health and performance of the country's financial institutions.

"If the two companies go belly-up, it's not because of any loan default problems but because of all these rumors," Reyes said.

On Tuesday, both companies' share prices dropped about 30 percent from the previous trading day as the market reacted to fresh rumors alleging that Empire East is about to file

for bankruptcy.

Overall, the Manila stock market index plunged 2.9 percent Tuesday, with property developers among the worst hit.

Both Thailand and the Philippines have experienced rapid growth and building booms. But Manila's economic expansion is much more recent and its construction boom is attributed largely to pent-up demand.

Andrew Tan, chairman of the two property developers, also denied the rumors, which he described as "vicious and nasty."

But in a sign the central bank is taking the concerns seriously, it announced Monday that it has ordered a review of banks to ensure that their loan exposure to the property sector is not excessive.



## CONWOOD PRODUCTS, INC.

Tel. 235-3501 • Fax 235-3503 • Chalan Laulau

NO ONE BEATS OUR PRICES!






NEW ARRIVAL

Rebar, Grade 40, 20' length (Short Ton bundled)  
#3, #4, #5, #6 - \$425.00/bundle

Mahogany Plywood & Mahogany Door Jamb:  
1/8" thru 3/4" X 4' X 8'  
2 X 4, 2 X 6, 2 X 8 Jamb (Interior & Exterior)



Plyform BB OES Grade (Per Bundle)

5/8X4X 8 5 Ply \$25.50/each • 7 Ply \$28.00/each

Hem-Fir Untreated Lumber (KD)

2X4X8' thru 20' (Starting \$4.55/each)  
Bundle Prices also available

Hem-Fir Treated Lumber - Brown Toned, Incized

2X4X8' thru 20' (Starting \$5.05/each)  
2X6X16' thru 2X12X20' (Starting \$16.90/each)  
4X4X16' thru 4X8X20' (Starting \$23.00/each)

Galv. Roof Tin (Japanese Made)

26 GA X 31.5 width (Starting at \$10.15)  
8', 10', 12' & 16' Available

AND MANY MORE

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM OUR GUAM YARD

(Minimum volume applying can deliver to you within a week!)

- Mahogany Doors (U.S. Made) - Interior & Exterior
- Mahogany Door Jamb - Interior & Exterior
- Mahogany Plywood - 1/8 thru 3/4 Interior & Exterior
- Mahogany KD Lumber - 1X1 thru 2X12
- Aluminum Windows (U.S. Made)
- Californian Red-Wood, KD, 1X4 thru 2X12
- American Red Oak Lumber KD

SPECIALIZING IN WOOD PRODUCTS AT WHOLESALE PRICES

ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS MEETS

The Saipan Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 7:00 p.m. at the Kristo Rai Church Social Hall Kitchen in Garapan, across from the Horiguchi Building. If you have a drinking or drugging problem call 234-5100 and they will put you in contact with someone who might be able to help.





# DIAMOND'S HOTELS

\$ 18.00

Champagne Sunday Brunch

Plumeria Restaurant 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

Kids 4-11 - \$12.00 *Try it, you'll love it!*

SAIPAN DIAMOND HOTEL

\$ 7.00 All-You-Can-Eat

Chinese Lunch Buffet

Kongo Hanten Chinese Restaurant

Everyday 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
Menu changes daily - Iced Tea included.



We make great cakes!

Call us now to book your Wedding Reception  
Christening or any kind of Banquet

Tel. 234-5900 Fax: 234-5909

## Western Samoa wants to be called just Samoa

SUVA, Fiji (AP) - The lives of islanders on one South Pacific nation may become a bit simpler when they are known simply as Samoans instead of Western Samoans.

The government of Western Samoa has introduced legislation to delete from the country's name the word "Western," which has been used for nearly a century to distinguish it from its eastern neighbor, the U.S. colony of American Samoa.

Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana of Western Samoa said the change is intended to conform with the formal use of the name

"Samoa" in the United Nations, the country's Radio 2AP said.

The government network, monitored in Fiji, said a public opinion survey would be conducted on the proposed change.

The Samoan Islands were colonized under an 1899 agreement under which Germany took the nine western islands and the United States took the seven eastern islands.

Western Samoa became independent in 1962 and now has about 160,000 people, who are mostly Polynesians. Some 82,000 of them live on Upolu, one of the two main islands of the country.

## Lead economic advisor arrives to take FSM post

HONOLULU (Pacnews)—The new leader of the FSM government's four-person Economic Management Policy Team, Dr. Richard Mark Sturton, has arrived in Pohnpei to take up his post.

An experienced economist and policy advisor to Pacific governments, Sturton's most recent advisory position was with the National Reserve Bank of

Tonga, which was made possible by technical assistance funding from the International Monetary Fund.

Dr. Sturton previously served as a research associate for over five years with Hawaii's Pacific Islands Development Program, where he developed models for private sector economic development in the Pacific.

## Hina downs Tonga power lines

NUKU'ALOFA (Pacnews)—The damage to the power lines and equipment on Tonga's Tongatapu Island, as a result of cyclone Hina is estimated at around 700,000 pa'anga (\$US550,000).

The head of the Tonga Electric Power Board, Soane Kautai, says about 90 percent of the power lines for central Nuku'alofa have been restored, and power restoration work to Lalaliku and

Niufoua areas will take at least four to six weeks time, Radio Tonga reports.

Soane says initially, the damage to power lines and facilities was estimated at around 40 percent, but as repair work progressed, they realized how bad the situation was within Tongatapu and "Eua islands. He said the board has submitted an urgent request to government for new equipment and extra staff.

## Elsewhere in the Pacific Fiji to national airline: Check Airbus before buying Boeing

By ROBERT KEITH-REID  
SUVA, Fiji (AP) - Fiji's government has told the national airline to defer purchasing three Boeing airliners and reconsider offers by its European rival, Airbus Industrie.

An official statement said Tuesday the government "merely wanted to ensure that tenders, including that from Airbus, are given equal considerations."

Air Pacific, which is 78 percent owned by the government, placed an order last year for three Boeing 737-700 jets and an option to buy a fourth. The first aircraft was scheduled to be delivered in mid-1998.

It was not clear if the order was a firm one or simply a letter of intent, which means the order can be can-

celed.

A government spokesman denied that Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka's administration was interfering in the management of the airline.

Tuesday's announcement comes as Rabuka traveled this week to France to meet with President Jacques Chirac. He is also due to visit the Airbus factory at Toulouse with Air Pacific's chief executive, Andrew Drysdale.

Rabuka was reported to have summoned his Trade and Industry minister, Isimeli Bose, to France on Tuesday in connection with the Airbus bid.

In recent months, European, British and French diplomats are known to have put pressure on the Fiji government to buy the European

consortium's Airbus planes.

Fiji is a substantial recipient of European aid. Also, Europe provides a guaranteed market for about a third of Fiji's sugar exports at a preferential higher price.

Rabuka was in Europe last week also for negotiations with the European Union on a successor to a convention on aid and trade due to expire in 2000.

Airline sources said the Airbus 319, 320 and 321 series planes offered by Airbus Industrie would not be suitable to Air Pacific, as none of the aircraft types are operated in the South Pacific region, which would make maintenance more expensive.

Besides, the cost of retraining pilots and technicians would be high, they say.

## Rebel attacks prompted gov't use of mercenaries, says Chan

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP) - Former prime minister Sir Julius Chan said Wednesday that an upsurge in rebel attacks on Bougainville island last year prompted his decision to hire foreign mercenary soldiers.

Making his first appearance before an independent judicial inquiry into the mercenary contract, Chan said he had earlier rejected offers from mercenary company Sandline International to help solve the nine-year Bougainville secessionist war.

Chan said an increase in rebel activity last November, including the murder of three soldiers, the capture of three more and the infiltration of rebels into the government-held north of

Bougainville had helped prompt his change of heart.

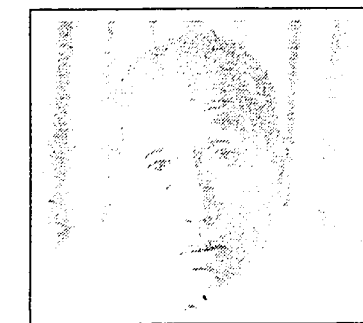
This was despite his initially agreeing to advice from his department secretary, who in a letter last September had recommended rejecting Sandline. "Something must be done to put this to a stop ... events had overtaken that letter," Chan told the inquiry.

Military and public pressure forced Chan to stand down as prime minister late last month pending the outcome of the judicial inquiry into the Sandline contract.

Underpaid Papua New Guinea soldiers protested against the government's \$36 million deal with Sandline and mutinied on March 17, refusing to work with the mercenaries.

Public anger over the contract forced Chan and his finance and defense ministers, to step down pending an independent judicial investigation into the legality of the contract.

The inquiry also heard Wednesday that Sandline director Tim Spicer had sought an interest in Bougainville's giant Panguna copper mine as late as



Julius Chan

January this year.

Earlier, the retired Scots Guard lieutenant colonel told the inquiry Sandline associates had proposed taking shares in the mine, but the offer was not taken up.

However in a Jan. 8 letter to Chan, read to the inquiry Wednesday, Spicer suggested a buyout of the Panguna mine by Sandline associate Branch Minerals.

Chan said Spicer had never again raised the issue of buying shares in the mine.

### COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT


The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) at the Saipan International Airport is looking for applicants for the following position:

#### (1) CUSTODIAL I

The employee for this position is responsible for performing clean up procedures and carrying out the activities of the Custodial Division, including general clean up of all areas of the main and commuter terminal building complex. The minimum qualification is graduation from high school or GED plus some experience in clean up work. The minimum pay is PL-12, or \$471.73 bi-weekly and the maximum is \$640.44 bi-weekly, depending upon qualifications.

Application forms are available at the Administration Office, on the Second Floor and Ports Police Office on the First Floor of the Arrival Building at the Saipan International Airport. Application forms must be accompanied by an updated police clearance dating back five years. The deadline for submission of application is May 2, 1997 at 4:30 p.m. For more information, please contact CPA Office at 664-3500

REGINO M. CELIS  
Manager  
Saipan International Airport

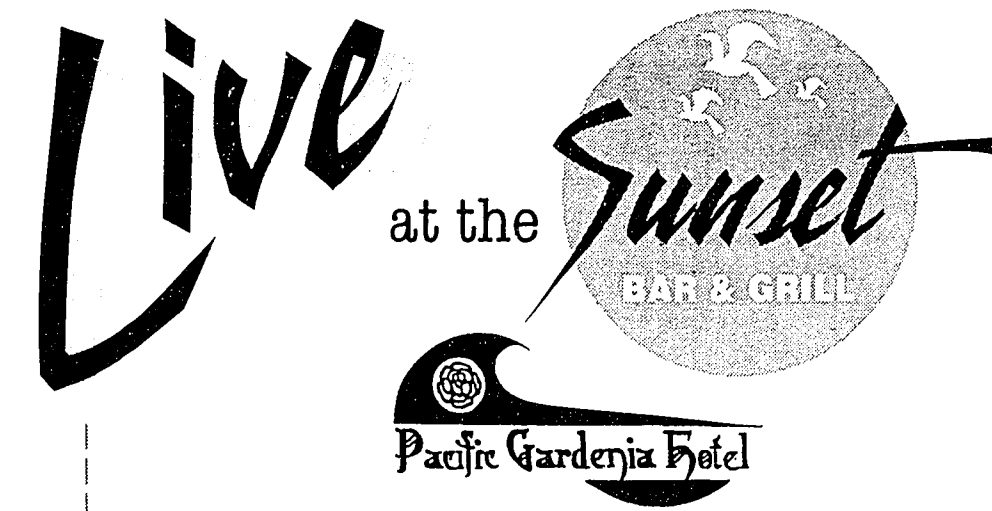


## The Chairman of the Democratic Party of the CNMI wishes to announce the postponement of the Fundraising Official Announcement for Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Running Mate

which was scheduled to be held this  
Friday, April 25, 1997,  
at Pacific Islands Club (PIC)

The Fundraise event will be held on:  
May 10, 1997  
Same Place: Pacific Islands Club (PIC)  
Time: 6:00 p.m.

The Fundraising is being postponed to permit the announcement and introduction of the Party's full slate of candidates from Rota, Tinian and Saipan.



### Celebrates Secretaries Week

From 5 - 7 pm  
with  
BUD FAMILY  
for Only \$2.00  
at

Monday, April 21  
THAI HOUSE

Tuesday, April 22  
TONY ROMA'S

Wednesday, April 23  
RUDOLPHO'S

Thursday, April 24  
OLEAI BEACH

SPONSORS:

PENA HOUSE

SAIPAN SHIPPING CO., INC.

SEHMA'S

SAIPAN

SAIPAN

Budget

Juanny's BEAUTY SALON

Oleai BEACH CLUB

Rudolpho's

CAPRICIOSA

TONY ROMA'S (FAMOUS FOR RIBS)

Thai House

## Secretaries Week Concert

FRIDAY, APRIL 25th

Doors open at 7:00 pm

Opening with

The KOOL CHANGE Band

Featuring direct from Guam

KAPAZ Band  
(GUAM'S PREMIERE DANCING BAND)

For one night only!



Enjoy great old  
ROCK & ROLL,  
REGGAE, and  
JAZZ  
music with  
your friends  
and co-workers

Raffle Prize Giveaways WIN \$500 CASH

A Charity concert all proceed to be donated to Mount Carmel School!



Tickets just \$12.00  
includes 1 BUD FAMILY  
of your choice. And  
Bud Family specials  
all night long!



"Put your toes in the sand and a Bud in your hand at the Sunset Bar and Grill!"  
and enjoy the music of The Kool Change Band and Kapaz



Some 200 blind masseuses shout slogans in a demonstration outside the Legislature in Taipei Friday protesting planned legal changes that would open up their business to sighted people. At present, only blind people are permitted to work as licensed masseuses in Taiwan. AP Photo

## Japanese firms issue sexual harassment prevention rules

By MARI YAMAGUCHI  
TOKYO (AP) - Don't call female colleagues "babe." No straying hands on shoulders, hips or thighs. And please, take down those centerfolds pinned up around the office.

This is some of the behavior proscribed in a sexual harassment prevention manual issued this week by an association of Japanese companies with subsidiaries in the United States.

Some of the ideas might seem like common sense, but they are needed reminders in Japan, where women are often touched in the office and men think nothing of asking them about their sex lives.

The problem is coming to the fore as

more Japanese companies move overseas. Workers at Mitsubishi's subsidiary in Normal, Illinois, for example, have been accused of harassing hundreds of women.

"Since the awareness about sexual harassment is very limited among Japanese companies... we decided to promote their understanding inside and outside Japan," the Japan Overseas Enterprises Association said in a statement.

The guidebook, released Monday, tells Japanese employees overseas that remarks and attitudes often accepted at home could be considered offensive elsewhere.

"Avoid regarding women as temporary assistants or affirming sex roles such as 'home is the place for women, work for men,'" the manual advised. Among other no-no's:

- asking female employees their age, whether they have boyfriends, are married or have children.
- calling women employees "honey," "baby," "girlie" or other casual names.
- telling obscene jokes.
- making remarks on clothes and appearance.
- randomly touching shoulders, hips and other parts of their bodies.
- asking them out to one-on-one meals.
- posting nude posters and calendars in the office.

## Taiwan reporters innocent of libel

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN  
TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A Taiwan court found two reporters innocent of libel Tuesday for writing that a ruling party politician offered a \$15 million donation to President Clinton's re-election campaign.

The case of American journalist Ying Chan and Taiwanese reporter Hsieh Chung-liang was seen as a crucial test of free speech in Taiwan.

District Court Judge Lee Wei-hsin ruled that the two met the requirements of "good intent" under Taiwan's criminal libel law.

The two, who had faced up to two years in prison if convicted, were not available for comment. Chan, who also writes for the New York Daily News, said Monday that the outcome of the trial would influence reporters' willingness to tackle controversial topics.

Liu Tai-ying, head of the Nationalist Party's Business Management Committee, brought the charges over a report by the two in Hong Kong's Yazhou Zhoulun magazine that he offered a \$15 million donation for President Clinton's re-election campaign.

The source for the story, Taiwanese lobbyist Chen Chao-ping, defended the article but later settled after Liu sued him.

But Chen's statements still backed up the story and the magazine had established that the meeting between Liu and former White House aide Mark Middleton took place, the judge said.

Chan and Hsieh allege only that Liu made the offer, not that any such transaction ever occurred.

The verdict was a guarantee of the Taiwanese people's "right to know," and a victory for journalistic freedom, said Chiu Li-pen, Yazhou Zhoulun's editor in chief.

Free press advocates in Taiwan and abroad have criticized Taiwan for permitting prosecution of reporters. The trial was held under a 1935 law that allows criminal trials on libel charges. The United States limits libel cases to civil court.

The Committee to Protect Journalists and 10 U.S. news media companies, including The Associated Press, condemned such libel prosecution as a violation of press freedoms recognized by the United Nations.

## Hong Kong police seize girl, mom for deportation

By RAYMOND CHOW

HONG KONG (AP) — Cracking down on illegal child immigrants from China, authorities forced their way into an apartment Tuesday, and seized a mother and her 9-year-old daughter whose plight has made headlines in Hong Kong.

The unusually public raid, with TV cameras rolling, may have been meant to send a message to parents in China who are contemplating smuggling their children into Hong Kong in hopes of an amnesty when China takes over the British colony in 70 days.

It came a day after Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's leader-in-waiting, warned there would be no let-up in the pursuit of illegal child aliens.

The number of children arriving illegally has jumped from 754 in 1996 to more than 1,300 so far this year.

Firefighters stood by with axes and water hoses in case of resistance as officials knocked on the door of the apartment. When it opened, they forced their way in, handcuffed the weeping mother, Zhou Yuzin, and took her away along with her daughter, Chung Yuet-lam, to await deportation.

The mother is married to a Hong Kong man but is not entitled to live here. She smuggled Chung into Hong Kong when she was 3 months old, and escaped detection until two years ago.

The girl has since lived under threat of expulsion. Her mother oversaw her visa to fight for Chung, and also became subject to deportation.

Despite its imminent merger with China, Hong Kong will retain some of its immigration procedures and the border will stay in place.

The government says many parents have been led false amnesty rumors by child-smugglers seeking to increase their business.



Nine-year-old Chung Yuet-lam raises her hand during a class lesson in this April file photo. Chung is an illegal immigrant in Hong Kong, and is about to be tossed back to China with her mother. AP Photo

# Japan urges less of US bases

TOKYO (AP) — Calling U.S. military bases on Okinawa an "excessive burden," Japanese lawmakers formally urged the government Tuesday to reduce the U.S. military presence on the southern island.

The resolution by the powerful lower house of the Diet, Japan's parliament, came five days after it passed a law to force reluctant Okinawans to continue leasing their land for American military bases.

The text of Tuesday's non-binding resolution, reprinted in the national newspaper Asahi, said the government should seek to "consolidate, realign, reduce and relocate" the bases, which occupy 20 percent of Okinawa.

The island, about 1,000 miles southwest of Tokyo, is host to two-thirds of the 47,000 U.S. troops stationed in Japan. Washington leases land for the bases from about 31,000 Okinawans. Some 3,100 leases are due to expire May 14.

Opposition to the heavy military presence surged in 1995 when

three U.S. servicemen raped a 12-year-old Okinawan girl. Okinawans long have complained about military-related crimes and noise from military aircraft.

The resolution Tuesday was the first time since 1971 that parliament passed a measure on the U.S. military facilities in Okinawa. The United States returned the island to Japan the following year.

Tokyo and Washington agreed last year to return local government land used by one air base on Okinawa and to move artillery exercises to bases elsewhere in Japan.

But they also have said Okinawa is a cornerstone of the overall U.S.-Japan defense strategy for Asia, and that they will not cut the overall U.S. military presence in Japan.

Under the U.S.-Japan mutual security treaty, Tokyo is obliged to provide land for U.S. bases.



A man fights back at a Diet security guard in a scuffle during a Diet session on a government bill to allow the continued compulsory leasing of land in Okinawa for use by the U.S. military in Tokyo. AP Photo

## Japanese executives settle mob suit

TOKYO (AP) — Executives of a leading Japanese department store chain have agreed to repay the company \$1.36 million for money they gave to extortionists.

The agreement is part of an out-of-court settlement Monday of a shareholder lawsuit against Takashimaya Co. It marks the first time a Japanese company will be reimbursed by employees for such payoffs.

The case involved "sokaiya," people who demand payment from corporations in exchange for not disrupting annual shareholders' meetings by heckling or raising embarrassing issues.

The lawsuit against Takashimaya sought a refund of \$1.28 million, the amount former executives paid mobsters in exchange for ensuring quiet annual meetings in 1994 and 1995.

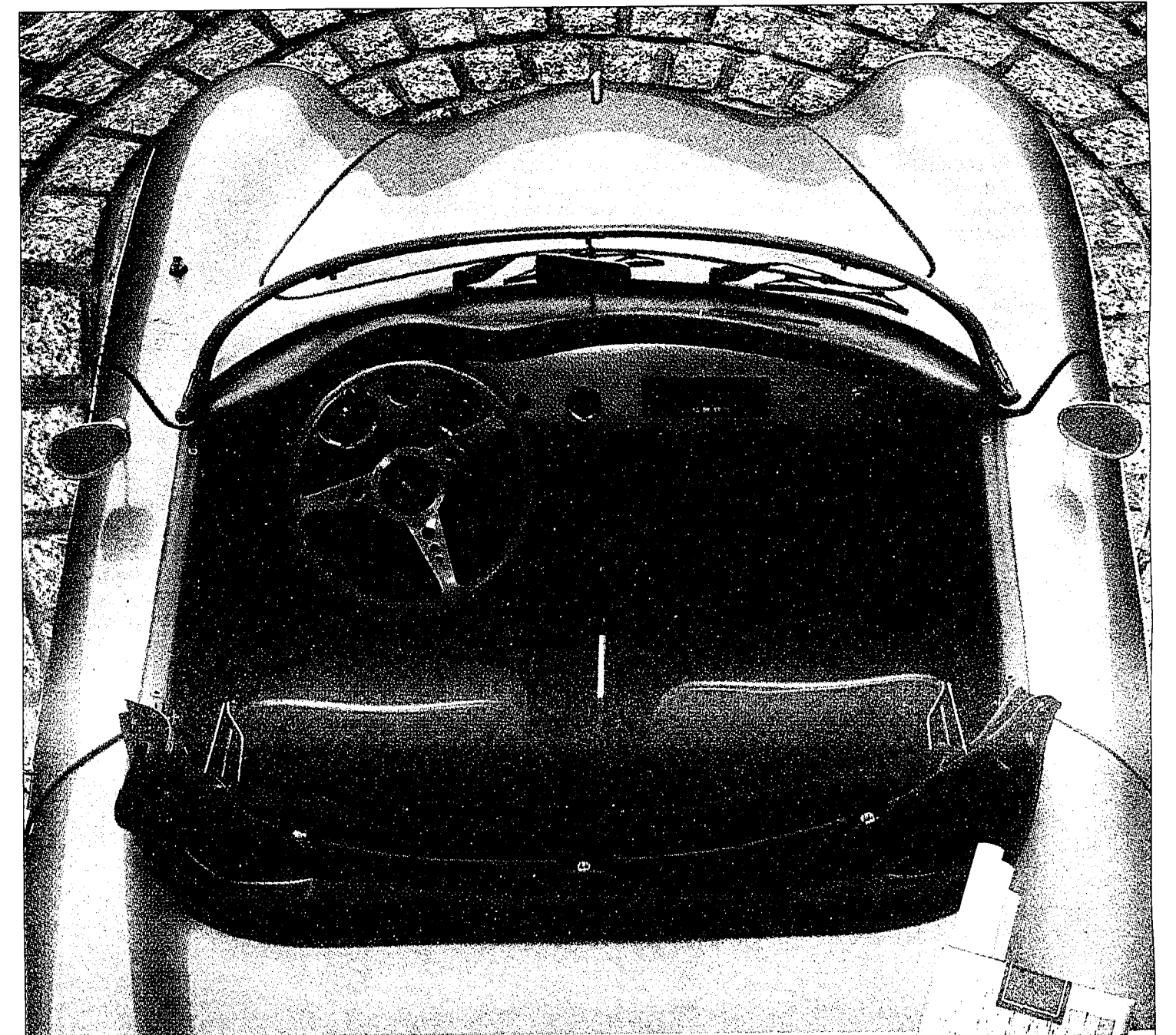
The executives agreed to pay \$1.36 million, which included the cost of expenditures that had not been accounted for.

Nine current or former company officials, including former Takashimaya president Hiroshi Hidaka, were named in the lawsuit, as was reputed mob chief Isao Nishimura.

Yasuo Hosoi, spokesman of the Osaka-based Takashimaya, said that in the settlement, the company also promised to open its shareholders' meetings to the media starting this year.

Several other Japanese companies have been hurt recently by scandals involving sokaiya. Nomura Securities Co.'s president said today that he will resign because of stock deals allegedly made on behalf of the racketeers.

Nomura Securities, Japan's biggest brokerage, came under fire after two of its former managing directors allegedly made unauthorized stock trades and funneled the profits to a client linked to organized crime.



# BENSON & HEDGES

The premium 100mm menthol cigarette

FOR THOSE WITH A TASTE FOR QUALITY.

**SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Cigarette Smoke Contains Carbon Monoxide.**

15 mg "tar", 1.1 mg nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.

## TENT SALE

BEFORE

### 50-70% OFF

THE REGULAR RETAIL PRICE

On APRIL 26, 1997 ONLY

9:00AM - 3:00 PM

### 70-90% OFF

Items that were previously priced from 50-70% OFF the regular retail price are further reduced to 70-90% OFF the Retail Price.

## ALL ITEMS MUST GO!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air Bed Full</li> <li>3,400 BTU Air Con</li> <li>Mac Weed Trimmer</li> <li>Car Battery</li> <li>Go Cart Izu</li> <li>Coffee Maker</li> <li>Ice Tea Maker</li> <li>Money Mill Bank</li> <li>32GT Thermolectric Cooler</li> <li>Wen Cordless Drill 9.6 Volt</li> <li>9 x 12 Envelope</li> <li>Electric Fan</li> <li>Office Jet Fax/Copier/Printer Set</li> <li>Canon Fax Phone</li> <li>DR. Scholl's Foot Massage</li> <li>Foot Pump</li> <li>Coleman Powermate Generator</li> <li>2 1/4 Ton Floor Jack</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Casio Song Star Karaoke</li> <li>Student Lamp</li> <li>Multi Lantern</li> <li>Hallway Mirror &amp; Drawer</li> <li>Open Neon Sign</li> <li>Farberware Convection Oven</li> <li>Sanyo 1000 Watts Microwave Oven</li> <li>Answering Machine</li> <li>Cordless Phone</li> <li>Speaker Phone</li> <li>Pressure Washer 1000 PSI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 Pin Computer Printer</li> <li>1 cu ft Fire Safe</li> <li>Massage Seat Cushion</li> <li>Home Guard Rechargeable Light</li> <li>Singer Sewing Machine</li> <li>Cast Iron Skillet</li> <li>Sony Walkman</li> <li>Air Hockey Table</li> <li>Bushnell Telescope</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EZ Up Tent</li> <li>Zo Animals</li> <li>Gas Hedge Trimmer</li> <li>Canon QS200 Typewriter</li> <li>Dirt Devil Cordless Vacuum</li> <li>Casio Walkie Talkie</li> <li>Bulova Wall Clock</li> <li>Coleman Water Jug</li> <li>X'Mas Center Piece</li> <li>25-Bulb X'mas Lights</li> </ul>
---	--	---	--

# 93 massacred in Algeria

By RACHID KHIARI  
ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Attackers used knives, hatchets and shovels to kill 93 villagers, including three children, in the bloodiest massacre of a five-year

Muslim insurgency. The early-morning massacre was the latest violence in a campaign of terror by Muslim insurgents in advance of June 5 parliamentary elections, in which they are banned from

running. The Interior Ministry said 47 men, 43 women and three children were killed near the town of Bougara, 12 miles south of Algiers. In addition to the 93 dead, 25 people were injured in

the attack, 18 of them seriously. Security forces said knives, hatchets and agricultural tools — shovels and hoes — were used to kill the victims. Authorities arrived during the massacre and killed some of the attackers, the ministry statement said without elaborating.

Some townspeople were mutilated by their attackers — their heads, legs or arms severed — according to hospital workers in Algiers and Blida, site of the Algiers-area army garrison. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

The June elections will be the first since the army halted January 1992 parliamentary voting to thwart a likely victory by the now-banned Islamic Salvation Front. The move triggered the insurgency, and repression by security forces, which have left more than 60,000 people dead.

The Interior Ministry denounced "this blind massacre committed by criminals who want to oppose the national recovery."

Authorities often refer to Muslim insurgents as criminals.

Members of a family who fled the area described the heavily armed group as Islamic guerrillas. They said the group began killing villagers because they refused to "collaborate."

Armed groups depend for their survival on ordinary citizens who provide food, money and other ne-

cessities. "We have no more to give. They've already taken everything: money, food, animals," one member of the arriving family said on condition of anonymity.

The massacre was the biggest single mass killing since the birth of the insurgency.

Muslim militants killed 22 people in another village massacre earlier this month. Such massacres around Algiers have become increasingly common, killing more than 370 people, including Tuesday's victims, in the past month.

Most massacres, including the latest, have taken place in the Mitidja Plain, a fertile area running 30 miles around Algiers and dotted with poor villages.

The Armed Islamic Group, blamed for most of the massacres, wants to topple the government and install a state based on a strict interpretation of Islamic law. The Islamic Salvation Army, military arm of the Salvation Front, claims it wants to be part of the democratic process.

The government has formed local militias, arming citizens to help battle insurgents. Some of the massacres are said to target members of the militias, which are thought to be numerous in the Mitidja.



Red Cross workers carry a wounded Zairian villager to a truck in the village of Kasese, 25 kilometers south of Kisanqani. Six people were gunned down in an attack on the village by unknown assailants. AP Photo

# \$11,888

## HYUNDAI accent

### The Four Door With More!

Power Steering  
Dual Air Bags

AM/FM Cassette Player  
Air Conditioning

Hot Colors!

*Customer First*

## TRIPLE J MOTORS

A DIVISION OF TRIPLE J SAIPAN, INC.  
Garapan, Beach Road 234-7133

## New battle in Zaire camps

By HRVOJE HRANJSKI  
KISANGANJ, Zaire (AP) — New fighting was reported Tuesday outside the sealed-off refugee camps of central Zaire, further jeopardizing the 100,000 Rwandan refugees already devastated by disease and hunger.

Rebels blocked aid workers from the camps for a second day, even commandeering the fuel that aid agencies needed for inspection flights over the camps. Aid workers had no way to help the refugees, who have been dying of starvation and disease at a rate of 60 a day, or even to learn what was happening to them.

"There is a battle. We're meeting very stiff resistance from Rwandans," declared Senki Sabimana, a spokesman for the rebel alliance that controls the eastern half of Zaire.

The rebels said their forces and Rwandan Hutu soldiers and militiamen started fighting after residents around the camp went on a rampage Monday, blaming the refugees for the killing of six local people. The mobs looted food supplies and attacked aid workers and journalists.

The rebels — many of them ethnic Tutsis from eastern Zaire — have periodically fought former Rwandan Hutu soldiers and militiamen during their seven-month insurgency against Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko. Innocent men, women and children among the refugees are caught in the middle of the dispute, which has its roots in the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

The Hutus at the camps in central Zaire are among more than 1 million Rwandans who fled their country after Hutus slaughtered a half-

million Tutsis there.

In Geneva on Tuesday, the United Nations said the rebels had given them permission to investigate claims that rebel forces slaughtered the refugees as the rebels advanced across eastern

Zaire. The U.N. Human Rights Commission cited accounts of mass graves containing anything from a few hundred to 50,000 corpses.

But U.N. officials were more worried Tuesday about the refugees at the camps in central Zaire.

"We just don't have information," said Paul Stromberg, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. "We're very concerned about what's going on there because the refugees, sensing insecurity, may leave."

U.N. rebel and Rwandan government representatives met Tuesday to discuss access to the camps and the start of a refugee airlift repeatedly delayed by the rebels. Aid workers want to start Africa's largest refugee air evacuation soon, flying the 100,000 people to the Rwandan border and sending them home.

"We want firm political commitments from Rwandans and (rebel leader Laurent) Kabila that repatriation can start as we have planned it," said Kilian Kleinschmidt, UNHCR representative in Kisangani.

The rebels have said they wanted the refugees driven the 375 miles to the border town of Bukavu. But much of the road is a muddy track that would require millions of dollars and several months to repair.

While Zairian rebels and Rwandan militiamen fight, Rwandan Hutu refugees — many of them women and children — are dying in the camps.

# Florida to sue Fed gov't

By BRENT KALLESTAD  
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Gov. Lawton Chiles plans to sue the federal government to preserve welfare benefits for more than 100,000 legal immigrants in Florida.

"Some of them have been in the country for 40 or 50 years but for

**Number of immigrants to US jumps 27 percent**

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly a million foreigners were granted legal permanent residency in the United States last year, a 27 percent increase over the number given green cards the year before.

Some 915,900 people legally immigrated here in 1996, up from 720,461 in 1995, the Immigration and Naturalization Service said Tuesday.

Pro-immigration and anti-immigration groups alike pounced on the statistics to buttress their arguments.

"We don't need increasing numbers of immigrants," said Dan Stein, head of the Federation for American Immigration Reform, which favors a moratorium on most immigration. "The whole system is out of control, and what we need is an immigration timeout ... to allow Congress to rework the system so that it protects America's long-term interests."

But a pro-immigration coalition pronounced the 1996 increase a temporary surge, noting that INS projections show rates declining in the next year or two.

"Legal immigration is a highly regulated and tightly controlled system that we believe serves the national interest," said Jeanne Butterfield, executive director of the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

While the 1996 numbers mark a reversal of a four-year decline, legal immigration rates remain well below the highs posted at the turn of the century, when waves of immigrants flocked to Ellis Island.

Newcomers account for four of every 1,000 residents now — down from 12 per 1,000 in 1910, said Stephen Moore of the Cato Institute, which favors higher rates of legal immigration than permitted now.

Last year's increase is due in part to a 1986 law that provided amnesty to nearly 3 million illegal immigrants. As those immigrants became citizens after five years of legal residency, they in turn have been bringing spouses, children and parents to the United States.

Other reasons for the increase include delays in processing applications in 1995, which pushed many into 1996, and a one-time gain in family preference visas in 1996.

various reasons do not qualify for citizenship," Chiles' spokeswoman April Herrle said Tuesday. "The governor thinks it's completely unfair."

Chiles plans a news conference Wednesday to announce the lawsuit, claiming many elderly and disabled immigrants will lose benefits that help them pay for food and other basics.

Chiles has been lobbying Presi-

dent Clinton for help to prevent the immigrants — most living in South Florida — from losing benefits under federal welfare reforms that take effect in August.

About 95,000 Floridians will lose an average \$76 a month in food stamp benefits, and 54,000 will lose an average \$342 a month in supplemental Social Security payments.

News of the planned lawsuit was

instantly welcomed at Miami's Little Havana Activity Center, where poor seniors are served free meals.

"Finally hope for so many who are sick like me ... without benefits and without family in this country," said Estela Callava, 72, who recently had surgery for an aneurism.

Another diner, Raquel Fajardo, 81, has flunked the citizenship test

three times. "I don't believe what I'm hearing, but I hope that it's true ... so that we can begin to live again without this desperation that is driving us crazy," she said.

An estimated 420,000 illegal immigrants — about 10 percent of the country's illegal immigrant population — live in Florida, according to the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

## UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	December 31,	
	1996	1995
<i>(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)</i>		
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and due from banks	\$ 2,268,771	\$ 2,274,088
Interest bearing deposits in banks	537,210	317,025
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under resale agreements	3,937,697	3,352,423
Total cash and cash equivalents	6,743,678	6,343,536
Trading account securities	2,164,197	1,960,551
Investment securities available for sale		
Investment securities held to maturity (market value of \$274,405 and \$376,100 as of December 31, 1996 and 1995, respectively)	268,195	363,287
Loans	20,898,105	20,276,089
Less: Allowance for credit losses	(523,946)	(555,149)
Net loans	20,374,159	19,670,940
Customers' acceptance liability	778,378	719,581
Premises and equipment, net	410,821	421,921
Intangible assets	91,129	104,579
Other assets	552,218	631,244
Total assets	\$29,234,059	\$27,546,859
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Deposits in domestic offices		
Noninterest bearing	\$ 7,381,078	\$ 7,036,960
Interest bearing	12,607,691	10,885,810
Deposits in foreign offices		
Noninterest bearing	274,031	342,430
Interest bearing	1,270,160	1,389,834
Total deposits	21,532,960	19,655,034
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements	1,322,654	1,195,058
Commercial paper	1,495,463	1,389,870
Other borrowed funds	758,251	1,065,058
Acceptances outstanding	778,378	719,581
Other liabilities	468,420	536,688
Subordinated capital notes	382,000	501,369
Total liabilities	26,739,126	25,062,767
<b>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Parent direct interest in equity of bank subsidiary	128,689	159,996
Preferred stock:		
Authorized 5,000,000 shares, issued 1,350,000 shares 8 1/4% Noncumulative, Series A	135,000	135,000
Common stock — \$5 stated value, authorized 100,000,000 shares, issued 54,762,653 shares and 54,670,283 shares as of December 31, 1996 and 1995, respectively	273,813	273,351
Additional paid-in capital	1,310,813	1,306,697
Retained earnings	635,180	585,680
Cumulative translation adjustment	(2,752)	(972)
Net unrealized gain on securities available for sale	14,190	24,340
Total shareholders' equity	2,494,933	2,484,092
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$29,234,059	\$27,546,859

## UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA, N.A. - SAIPAN BRANCH

Statement of Condition  
December 31, 1996

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and due from banks	\$ 5,817,644
Loans receivable (note 3)	62,317,615
Accrued interest receivable	349,764
Other assets	92,946
Due from Head Office (note 5)	34,961,575
Premises and equipment (note 4)	424,827
	\$ 103,964,371
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Deposits:	
Demand	\$ 30,827,177
Savings	42,321,276
Time, \$100,000 and over	22,212,911
Other time	
	8,337,894
Total deposits	103,699,258
Accrued interest payable	260,911
Other liabilities	4,202
	\$ 103,964,371
Commitment (note 8)	

The audit reports of Union Bank of California is available for public review at the Office of the Director Banking, Department of Commerce and Labor, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

Member FDIC

# Iran to test missiles

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) - Iran will test various missiles and carry out air, sea and land operations in war games starting Tuesday on its southern Gulf coast, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported. It quoted Brig. Gen. Rahim Safavi, deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, as saying that the three-day exercises would involve 200,000 men.

"The exercises aim to upgrade the military and defense capability of the forces," IRNA quoted Safavi as saying. He said the maneuvers did not threaten any country.

Safavi added that corps' experts and engineers had the technical know-how to build various missiles.

Western intelligence sources say Iran has been trying to increase the range of its missiles

with help from China, North Korea and Russia.

Earlier this year, there were reports that Moscow had provided Iran with the technology to build Russian SS-4 missiles, which have a 2,000-kilometer (1,250-mile) range.

That's almost three times greater than any missile now in Iran's arsenal. The missiles could threaten U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia, neighboring Gulf countries and Israel.

Russian intelligence officials and arms exporters have denied there is any missile deal.

Tuesday's war games are code-named "Tariq-ul-Quds," or "the Road to Jerusalem," Safavi said.

Iran, which regularly conducts war games in the Gulf, has been rebuilding its military strength since the end of its 1980-88 war

against neighboring Iraq. Iran has a combined armed force of more than 600,000 troops, among the largest in the Middle East. Last year 200,000 men took

part in military exercises inside Iran.

Iran routinely criticizes the presence of U.S. forces in the Gulf, which it regards as its own sphere

of influence. It often urges pro-Western Gulf Arab states to join it in a regional defense alliance that would give no role to the United States.

## Tensions prompt Iran to recall envoys from Europe

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran is recalling ambassadors from 14 European nations amid tensions with the West over a German court verdict blaming Iran for political killings abroad, Iranian radio said Tuesday.

The radio report did not specify the 14 nations. It said only that Foreign Minister Ali Akbar

Velayati met late Monday with the Iranian envoys to discuss relations with Europe.

All 15 European Union countries recalled their ambassadors from Tehran after a German court's April 10 conviction of an Iranian and three Lebanese men for killing an Iranian dissident and three companions in 1992 in Berlin. The court said the killings were ordered by Tehran's top leaders.

The Tehran radio report was the first indication that Iran had responded to the EU action in kind. Iran has exercised restraint over the ruling in order to preserve its ties — and trade — with Europe.

Also Tuesday, Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, again charged that the United States and Israel had pushed Germany into the court ruling.

"In the recent affair there was a lot of effort to ... isolate Iran and the Iranian nation, and to make Europe and Asia confront Iran," he told reporters in the southern port of Bandar Abbas. "But the agents of arrogance (the United States and the West) and the Zionists — of which the German government has become a toy — did not succeed in their plot."

He promised "a forceful re-

sponse to anyone who tries to talk to it (Iran) with arrogance."

Khamenei was in the South to preside over three days of military maneuvers, beginning in the Gulf on Tuesday, that will involve air, sea and land operations. As part of the exercises, Iran plans to test various missiles, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

About 200,000 men are to be involved in the maneuvers.

Western intelligence sources say Iran has been trying to increase the range of its missiles with help from China, North Korea and Russia.

Earlier, Tehran radio said a procession calling itself the "Death to America Caravan" set off on foot for the Tabas desert to mark the failed U.S. attempt to rescue American Embassy hostages in 1980.

A rally was to be held Friday at a spot where a U.S. cargo plane collided with a helicopter. Eight U.S. servicemen died in the accident on April 25, 1980.

The mission was dispatched by then-President Jimmy Carter to rescue 52 Americans taken hostage at the U.S. mission in Tehran in the wake of Iran's Islamic revolution. The hostages were freed Jan. 20, 1981.



Hungarian Prime Minister Gyula Horn, right, and his Malaysian counterpart Mahathir Mohamad take part in arrival ceremonies at Malaysia's parliament in Kuala Lumpur Monday. Horn is leading a 40-member business delegation aimed at promoting trade opportunities between Hungary and Malaysia. AP Photo

# Jiang arrives in Moscow

By MITCHELL LANDSBERG MOSCOW (AP) — Frustrated by the West, Russia turned its hopes eastward Tuesday as Chinese President Jiang Zemin began a five-day state visit intended to cement friendlier ties between Moscow and Beijing.

Jiang stepped off his plane to a warm welcome by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, then sped by motorcade to the Kremlin, where he was to meet with Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Wednesday.

Jiang's visit was well-scripted, leaving little room for suspense. But interest was focused on the trip's undercurrent of opposition to NATO expansion and the United States' role as the world's lone superpower.

In a statement distributed after his arrival, Jiang spoke of "the establishment of a new type of relations between the Russian and Chinese state, aimed at long-term neighborliness and friendship."

Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Yastrzhembsky, said Monday that the two presidents would issue a joint statement opposing "anyone's attempts to play the role of an absolute leader in international affairs."

After decades of bitter hostility, Russia and China have cautiously established warmer relations in the past few years. Russia, in particular, looked to Jiang's visit as a respite from its troubling relations with the West.

NATO's plans to include some European countries once within Moscow's sphere "is leaving us with no other choice" but to turn eastward, said Mikhail Titarenko, director of Russian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Far East Studies.

Yeltsin halted a vacation at Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi to return to Moscow for the summit.

The Russian leader had visited China last year and signed a breakthrough cooperation agreement with Jiang, though neither side has publicly raised the possibility of any formal alliance.

Jiang and Yeltsin will meet in Yeltsin's refurbished Kremlin residence. On Thursday, they will be joined by leaders of the Central Asian nations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to sign an agreement to reduce troops along their borders.

Jiang told the ITAR-Tass news agency that the agreement would have "far-reaching importance" for the five countries.

Jiang brings a unique perspective to Chinese-Russian relations: As a young electrical engineer in the mid-1950s, he spent two years in Moscow training at what is now the Zil

automobile plant.

Not long after, the two communist giants had an ideological falling out that chilled relations for three decades. The Sino-Soviet border was a scene of constant tension and occasional clashes.

Relations have grown warmer since a May 1989 summit in Beijing. China and Russia already are drawing down troops along their frontier.

Irina Kobrinskaya, a foreign affairs analyst at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Moscow, said the demise of communism in Russia freed the two countries to focus "on real national interests," not ideological hair-splitting.

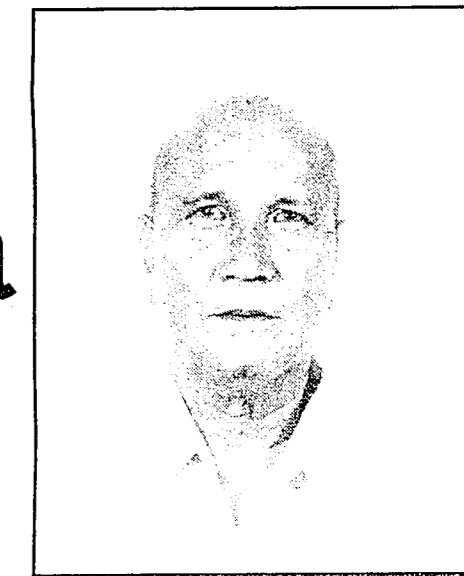
With mutual trust growing, two-way trade rose by 25 percent last year, reaching \$7 billion as China became a major customer for Russian weap-



Chinese President Jiang Zemin, right, and Russian First deputy Premier Boris Nemtsov stand at attention near the Tomb of Unknown Soldier in Moscow, Wednesday. Jiang arrived Tuesday for a five-day visit. AP Photo

## Death & Funeral Announcement

### Antonio Sablan Cabrera



Better known as  
**Antonio Chedoe**

Date of Birth April 23, 1934  
Died: April 17, 1997  
at the age of 63

He is the son of the late Jose San Nicolas Cabrera and Cecilia Palacios Sablan Tudela  
Stepfather: Agustin Sablan Tudela  
Sisters: Margarita Cabrera Tudela, Carmen Cabrera Tudela  
Brother-in-laws: Jose Cabrera Tudela, Rafael Deleon Guerrero Reyes

He is survived by his wife: Susan Castro Cabrera  
Son & Daughter: William Benavente & Olanda Cabrera Williams  
And also survived by numerous nephew and nieces.

Last respects will be paid on Saturday, April 26, 1997 at his Sister & Brother-in-law Margarita & Jose Tudela's residence in Chalan Kanoa, starting at 8:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 4:00 p.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral and funeral services will follow immediately at the Mount Carmel Cemetery.

*From the Family*

**Island Florist Funeral Service**

Located Beach Road Chalan Kanoa  
Tel.: 235-1001 open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.





*Spot... Match... Win!*

the game you can play **EVERY DAY** and  
**WIN \$\$\$ Millions Daily!**

**LISTEN** for your lucky Island  
Keno numbers mornings on  
Power 99 and KZMI FM

**SEE** your lucky Island Keno  
numbers on KMCV channel 7  
nightly at 8pm.

**"You GOTTA be  
IN it to WIN it!"**



Visit the CNMI LOTTERY  
and learn how to play!  
Beach Road, San Jose  
235-8441

# US mulls flood relief plan

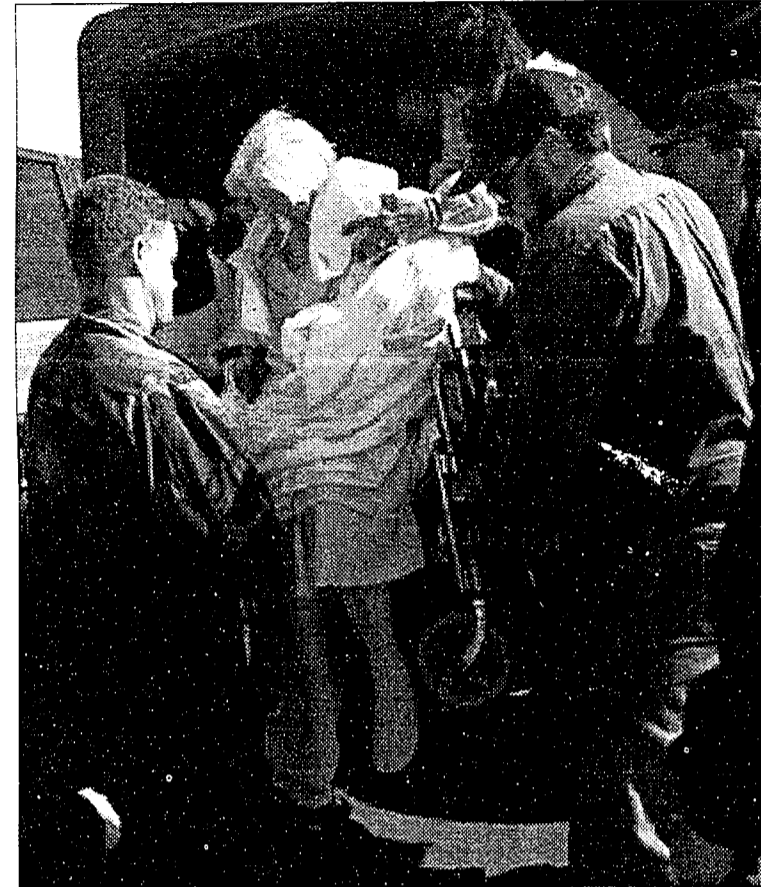
By PHILIP BRASHER  
WASHINGTON (AP) - The White House is mapping out a "Marshall plan" effort to help the upper Midwest rebuild homes, roads and utilities devastated by an epic season of blizzards and flooding.

President Clinton was expected to announce a package of stepped-up financial aid for the region during a hastily arranged trip today to Grand Forks, North Dakota. Grand Forks was turned into a ghost town when the Red River swamped the city over the weekend.

The Marshall Plan was the massive U.S. aid program that rebuilt Europe after World War II. States and local governments are usually expected to pay 25 percent of the cost of rebuilding after a natural disaster. But North Dakota Gov. Ed Schafer and the state's congressional delegation asked the Clinton administration on Monday to foot the entire bill.

Minnesota Gov. Arne Carlson asked the federal government to pay 90 percent. Damages in the region are likely to exceed \$1 billion, said Sen. Byron Dorgan, a North Dakota Democrat. By comparison, North Dakota's entire state budget is about \$2 billion a year.

"This is an unprecedented situation and it requires an unprecedented response," said Sen. Kent Conrad, another North Dakota Democrat. Clinton was to tour the Grand Forks area by helicopter and then meet with rescue workers and refugees at the Grand Forks Air Force Base, 15 miles (25 kilometers) west of the river. More than 2,000 evacuees are staying there. Sewage-fouled river water covered 75 percent of Grand Forks and virtually all of neighboring East Grand Forks, Minnesota, on Monday. A large section of downtown Grand Forks was destroyed by fire. Erskine Bowles, Clinton's chief of staff, discussed recovery plans for the upper Midwest with Cabinet members Monday and later met with the North Dakota and South Dakota congressional delegations.



A woman is taken off an Army truck after being evacuated from United Hospital in Grand Fork, N.D., Sunday as floodwaters continued to rise in North Dakota and Minnesota. AP Photo

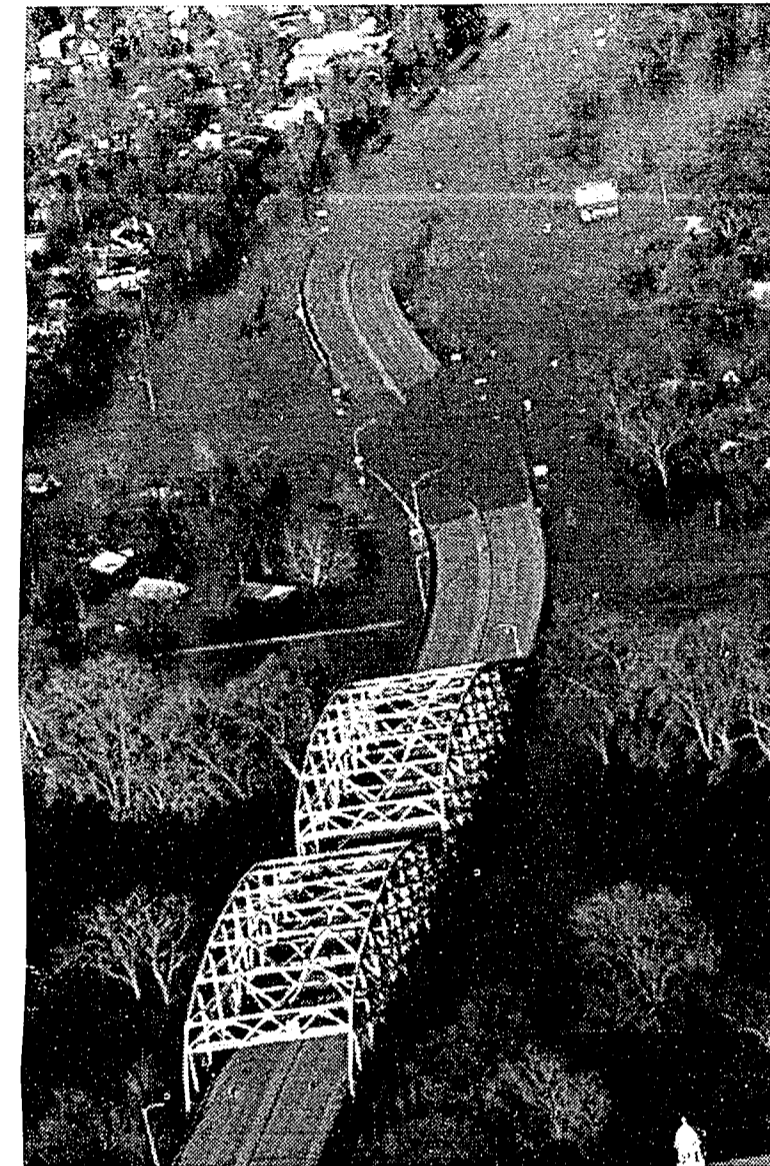
Bowles said the region would require a "Marshall plan-type response," the lawmakers said. All of the Dakotas and much of Minnesota already have been declared federal disaster areas. A team of federal officials was flying into Bismarck, North Dakota, Tuesday to start organizing the region's recovery.

"We're going to be there for a long time. This is a big one," said Lucy Suiter, associate director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. "It's going to take a while to clean up." The full extent of the disaster won't be known until the river recedes and officials can assess damages to roads, buildings and homes, Suiter said. Federal agencies were assessing the region's needs on Monday to see how much federal money will be needed beyond the \$2 billion that Clinton already requested in a disaster assistance bill last month.

er Emergency Management Agency. "It's going to take a while to clean up."

The full extent of the disaster won't be known until the river recedes and officials can assess damages to roads, buildings and homes, Suiter said.

Federal agencies were assessing the region's needs on Monday to see how much federal money will be needed beyond the \$2 billion that Clinton already requested in a disaster assistance bill last month.



The Kennedy Bridge which connects Grand Forks, N.D. and East Grand Forks, Minn., is closed due to the flood waters Sunday. Most of the residents in both towns have been evacuated as flood waters from the Red River continue to rise. AP Photo

# Defector: N. Korea has nukes



Hwang Jang Yop

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A high-ranking North Korean defector says North Korea has nuclear and chemical weapons capable of "scorching" South Korea and Japan, South Korea's intelligence agency revealed Tuesday.

Hwang Jang Yop's reported disclosure is the most credible testimony so far that North Korea has developed tactical nuclear weapons. The isolated communist nation has denied having a nuclear weapons program.

South Korea's Agency for National Security said Hwang made the allegations in a secret report he wrote in August, before his Feb. 12 defection in Beijing. The agency would not say how it obtained the report.

One of 12 members of the North's highest decision-making body, Hwang is the top North

Korean official ever to defect. When he arrived in Seoul on Sunday, Hwang said he fled to warn the world that North Korea's 1.2 million-member military is preparing to unleash a suicidal war.

"If anyone doubts North Korea's thinking that it would use war as a means of unifying the peninsula, he must be the stupidest of all," he was quoted as saying.

"North Korea is capable of scorching South Korea with nuclear weapons, chemical

weapons and rockets," the report said.

"North Korea believes that it can win a war against South Korea and that if the United States intervenes, it plans to scorch Japan too."

Excerpts from the report were published by the leading Chosun Ilbo newspaper Tuesday.

After two years of negotiations with the United States, North Korea froze its suspect nuclear program in 1994 in exchange for two Western-

developed nuclear reactors worth \$5 billion.

But its refusal to let U.N. officials check records of its nuclear activity has raised questions about North Korea's claim that it never intended to develop nuclear weapons.

The CIA said last year that the North was believed to have secretly extracted enough plutonium to make at least one atomic bomb.

Hwang is being held in seclusion and was not available for comment. South Korean

intelligence agents will soon begin an extensive interrogation of the defector.

Meanwhile, the commander of the 37,000 U.S. soldiers deployed in South Korea warned that the threat to peace remained "real and dangerous."

"While North Korea's population is grievously suffering, due to economic collapse, its military remains strong and capable. Let there be no mistake; this military force poses a real threat," Gen. John Tilelli said Monday.

## No deal on Korean peace talks

By ROBERT H. REID

NEW YORK (AP) - Talks to persuade North Korea to join peace negotiations broke down after the United States and South Korea refused the North's demand for additional food aid.

South Korean officials said their delegation would return to Seoul on Tuesday. The United States said the peace talks offer remained on the table and contacts would continue among the three countries' diplomatic missions.

North Koreans insisted they could not accept the proposal for peace talks, which would include China, without accompanying guarantees of badly needed food aid, South Korean sources said on condition of anonymity.

The North also insisted that the United States abandon its economic

sanctions and other "hostile activities" against the reclusive Stalinist state, the South Koreans said.

The United States and South Korea say they will not allow the peace talks to hinge on food donations, which North Korea wants to avert famine in the isolated communist country.

In Washington, a State Department spokesman said the United States will not consider North Korean demands for more food aid until Pyongyang clarifies its stance on entering proposed peace negotiations.

"We can't wait forever," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said Monday.

Burns said the North Koreans have continued to ask for additional U.S. food aid on top of the \$25 million already pledged.

"We've always responded positively

to the United Nations when North Korea has been in trouble on the question of food," he said.

"So I think we've shown our good faith on that issue. But clearly, the North Koreans just need to make a fundamental decision; do they want to go forward with four-party talks or not?"

In South Korea, South Korean Foreign Minister Yoo Chong-ha told a parliamentary committee Tuesday that the government would continue to reject a North Korean demand for food aid as a precondition for four-way talks.

Although the three sides agreed to continue low-level discussions, the failure to win a North Korean commitment during six days of discussions was a setback for the United States and South Korea. The two countries have tried for

a year to begin negotiations on a treaty to replace the 1953 armistice that ended fighting in the Korean War.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokeswoman Elaine McDevitt said Monday, "We had working-level talks in New York today for two hours. They were useful, and all sides agreed to continue working-level contacts to re-evaluate the peace proposal. At this time, further work needs to be done. Further meetings have yet to be scheduled, but they are certainly possible."

Suh Ji Won, spokesman for the South Korean mission to the United Nations, said, "The working level channel is always open. But if something tangible had developed from this meeting, it would have been much more desirable."

## THE HEARTBEAT

Discotheque, Theatre & Night Club

proudly presents

NEW ZEALAND'S FINEST BEER



on tap

for only

\$2.50/mug

Thursday Nights

located on Beach Road, Susupe, across from Grand Hotel

## Canada braces for Red River flood flow

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) — Manitoba's premier declared a state of emergency Tuesday for regions in the path of the flooded Red River and worried that unprecedented preparations still might not be enough to avert disaster.

More than 1,200 people in towns close to the North Dakota border have been ordered to flee their homes since Monday. Officials predicted the north-flowing floodwaters would hit the abandoned Manitoba border town of Emerson by Friday.

Further downstream, authorities were cautiously optimistic that Winnipeg would be spared major damage because of a huge flood-diversion channel dug around the city in 1965. But even in the provincial capital, people were busy erecting sandbag barriers around about 500 riverfront homes considered vulnerable. "Preparations are better than they've ever been," Premier Gary Filmon said. "It still might not be enough. ... We don't know how bad it's going to get."

A hockey rink in Winnipeg was converted into a reception center for the hundreds of residents ordered to leave their farming towns further south. Local TV stations joined forces to set up a 24-

hour flood information channel that will stay on the air until the crisis ends.

The evacuations in Manitoba began Monday, when Emerson's 750 residents were ordered to leave and told that they might not be able to return for three weeks. The evacuees included acute-care patients driven away from the hospital on a flat-bed truck.

About 400 people in Dominion City, a short drive to the north, began evacuations Tuesday.

Although hopes remain that dikes will keep the towns dry, officials expect they will be surrounded by huge lakes that would leave no way out should the water break through.

"We don't want any loss of lives and we don't want any mass panic," Emerson Mayor Wayne Arseny said.

The evacuation order angered Ron Dupuis, who wanted to stay and sell hamburgers to construction crews working on the dikes.

"They're making me close down," Dupuis said. "There's absolutely nothing we can do. We have to look in from the outside."

Southern Manitoba is accustomed to spring flooding, although this year is expected to be the one of the worst.

PRIZES • FUN • GAMES • CONTEST • ENTERTAINMENT • BANDS • DANCE GROUPS • FARMER'S MARKET • FRESH PRODUCE • ARTS & CRAFTS • HANDICRAFTS

# CELEBRATE SATURDAY

All kinds of food entertainment

# Good Family Fun

9:30 am - 7:00 pm April 26 near Fina Sisu housing

## Farmers' Market Handicrafts

# NMC Charter Day

PRIZES • FUN • GAMES • CONTEST • ENTERTAINMENT • BANDS • DANCE GROUPS • FARMER'S MARKET • FRESH PRODUCE • ARTS & CRAFTS • HANDICRAFTS

**MARKETING INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE & CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE**

**With Growth Comes Opportunity**

If you can communicate effectively with clients, enjoy the challenge of developing solutions to insurance problems, and want to have a rewarding career with an innovative insurance agency.

**Takagi & Associates, Inc. is accepting applications now.**

Your success will be based on your ability to be a contributing member of a high-energy team of professionals.

PLEASE APPLY IN PERSON AT:

**TAKAGI & ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
*Professional Insurance Consultant*  
 BOH Bldg., 2nd Floor, Marina Heights Park  
 Puerto Rico • Ph. 322-8117-8118

**WIN MILLIONS!**

Play and be a winner!

LOTTERY, VIDEO POKER, VIDEO BLACK JACK AND BIG 6 MONEY WHEEL  
**GUARANTEE "IT WORKS"**

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ How to win book(s) at purchase price of only \$79.95 includes \$PH

Postal Money Order  
 Enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**BA MARKETING**  
 P.O. Box BBB 136-Caller  
 Box 70002  
 Saipan, Mp 96950

**JOSHUA GENERATION ACADEMY**

Enrollment for the 1997-1998 school year will begin on April 28, 1997.

Openings available for:

- Nursery - 2 and 3 years old
- K-4 - 4 years old
- K-5 - 5 years old
- 1st grade - 6 years old
- 2nd grade - 7 years old

Extended time is available for all Joshua Generation Academy students. For inquiries please contact Alice Jacoba or Lilian Handayan at JGA @ 235-2487

**MISSING PERSON**



**MS. HUA YAN KUN,**  
 26 years old and whose picture appears hereon, is missing. If anyone knows her whereabouts, please contact Annie V. Castro at 234-8607/09.

**MISSING PERSON**



**MS. WANG HONG MEI,**  
 24 years old and whose picture appears hereon, is missing. If anyone knows her whereabouts, please contact Annie V. Castro at 234-8607/09.

**"THERE'S NO HOPE IN DOPE"**

**Demapan . . .**

Continued from page 1

party's candidates will be endorsed.

There are only two House candidates who, as of yesterday, have been endorsed by the party: incumbent Rep. Dino M. Jones, the current House minority leader, and former representative Gabriel B. Babauta.

The two are the official Democratic candidates for Precinct 4's two House seats.

Quitagua said that unlike the 1995 midterm elections when the party failed to field a complete slate of candidates, the party now has more candidates than the positions available--the lone resident representative slot, six Senate seats, 18 House seats, three mayoral positions and nine municipal council seats.

"That's why we can't finalize our slate yet," he said.

As a Republican, Demapan was Senate president from 1992 to 1996.

In 1995, the Republicans nominated Juan P. Tenorio as their senatorial can-

didate instead of the reelectionist Demapan who ran as an independent, but lost.

In 1993, Demapan entered the Republican Party's gubernatorial primary which was eventually won by then incumbent governor Lorenzo I.D.L. Guerrero.

Sometimes that Demapanranto "spoil" the candidacy of Resident Rep. Juan N. Babauta, who lost to then governor Guerrero by a few hundred votes.

H.R. Guerrero, for his part, topped the first senatorial election on Saipan, in which he came ahead of Pedro P. Tenorio and Lorenzo I.D.L. Guerrero,

**Peru . . .**

Continued from page 1

formation convinced him it was an ideal time to end the impasse by force.

He apparently was referring to word of the indoor soccer game. Bolivian Ambassador Jorge Gumucio, one of the freed hostages, said eight hostage-holders were playing soccer in the main hall of the diplomatic residence when the security forces struck, first setting off an explosion in a tunnel directly under the hall.

It was about 3:30 p.m. The 140-man military-police assault team poured through the compound's front gate, then blasted open the mansion's front door. Others attacked from the rear, and a third unit climbed to the rooftop and shepherded hostages down.

It ended quickly. As smoke billowed over the residence, triumphant soldiers hauled down the guerrillas' flag, and ex-hostages and rescuers cheered and jubilantly sang the Peruvian national anthem. A large pool of blood could be seen at the bottom of a stairway.

The dead rebels included the group's leader, Nestor Cerpa, and at least two teen-age girls. Gumucio said Cerpa was one of those playing soccer. Gumucio also said authorities managed to warn some of the captives 10 minutes before the raid. He declined to say how.

The relatively low casualty toll among hostages was surprising to some. An armed forces assessment early in the 126-day siege estimated such an assault would cost the lives of 70 percent of those in the compound.

The hostages, all male, were mostly

both of whom would later become governor.

The former senator ran for governor in 1981, but lost to Tenorio.

H.R. ran and won a Senate seat again in 1985.

In 1989, he entered the Democratic Party's gubernatorial primary, but lost to his running-mate in 1981, Froilan C. Tenorio.

The last time H.R. ran in an election was in 1993, as a senatorial candidate in tandem with former speaker Vicente Sablan. They lost to the team of current Senators Thomas P. Villagomez and Jesus R. Sablan.

Peruvians, but also included 24 Japanese - 12 businessmen and 12 diplomats, including Japan's ambassador, Morihisa Aoki, who suffered a slight elbow injury during the rescue.

Less than an hour after the raid, Fujimori strapped on a bulletproof vest and victoriously entered the compound. Heshookex-hostages' hands and joined with them and soldiers in singing the national anthem.

Smiling and carrying a large red-and-white Peruvian flag, Fujimori traveled with two loads of hostages, apparently unharmed, to a military hospital. From inside the buses, the freed men gave the thumbs-up sign and smiled.

Other hostages were rushed off in ambulances. Friends and family gathered at the nearby hospital to look for loved ones.

Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Peru had not told him in advance of the raid, even though the compound is technically Japanese soil.

Japan had repeatedly asked the Peruvians to avoid any actions that might endanger the hostages.

"Our country was not informed in advance and this is very regrettable," Hashimoto said. But he expressed support for Peru's leader, saying, "There should be nobody who could criticize Mr. Fujimori for his decision."

The two national leaders consulted closely during the crisis, at one point meeting in Canada, where Fujimori agreed to talks with the guerrillas. He subsequently traveled to Cuba and won President Fidel Castro's agreement to grant asylum to the rebels if necessary to end the stand-off.

**OPA . . .**

Continued from page 1

OPA also noted that Taitano procured a washing machine for herself and demanded \$700 as payment "without providing any proof of its cost and age."

According to OPA, the CNMI Procurement Regulation "prohibits any employee from participating directly or indirectly in a procurement when the employee knows that the employee of any immediate family member has a financial interest pertaining to the procurement."

Rota Mayor Joseph Inos, responding to OPA's recommendation, said he would take corrective measures to prevent "the recurrence of these problems in the future."

Inos, however, defended Taitano. "Mrs. Taitano did little wrong. Her omissions were minor. The public was not cheated."

Inos, commenting on the CNMI Ethics Act, said "public servants in this close knit Commonwealth find it difficult to avoid doing business with the family."

**Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section**

**Employment Wanted**



**Job Vacancy Announcement**

- 01 BODY FENDER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MELITON R. MENDEZ dba Wide Technical Services Tel. 322-1110(4/24)Th228795
- 02 COMMERCIAL CLEANERS-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 02 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 Contact: MARIANAS BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS Tel. 235-7763(4/24)Th228800
- 02 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$3.50-6.50 per hour  
 03 SALES ASSOCIATE-Salary: \$800.00-1,250.00 per month  
 01 STORE MANAGER-Salary: \$1,500.00-2,250.00 per month  
 Contact: LOUIS VUITTON, INC. dba Louis Vuitton (4/24)Th228801
- 01 AUTO PAINTER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 AUTO PAINTER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 AUTO BODY FENDER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 MECHANIC, AUTO-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MOTION AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR CENTER, INC. Tel. 235-3481(4/24)Th228808
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.75 per hour plus \$150.00 housing allowance  
 Contact: TECIO PACIFIC SAIPAN CORP dba Tecio Boutique Saipan Tel. 322-5897(4/24)Th228802
- 02 TOUR COUNSELOR-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 Contact: MIN YOUNG CORPORATION Tel. 235-1191(4/24)Th228803
- 01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: SUSANA T. MAFNAS dba Traveler's Lodge Apartelle Tel. 235-5121(4/24)Th228804
- 01 AUTO BODY FENDER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: JOSE M. MANIBUSAN EMPLOYMENT SERVICE Tel. 235-0629(4/24)Th228807
- 01 GRAPHIC ARTIST-Salary: \$3.25-8.00 per hour  
 Contact: YOUNIS ART STUDIO, INC. Tel. 234-6341(4/24)Th65359
- 01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary: \$5.00-10.00  
 01 ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: AMANA CORPORATION (4/24)Th228805
- 01 TRAVEL AGENT-Salary: \$3.05-5.00 per hour  
 Contact: INTERKAM CORPORATION dba Interkam Travel Agency Tel. 235-5555(4/24)Th228806
- 01 COLOR DEVELOPER (PHOTO LAB)-Salary: \$800.00-1,150.00 per month  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$4.50-6.00 per hour  
 01 PHOTOGRAPHER-Salary: \$3.05-3.90 per hour  
 01 OPERATION MANAGER-Salary: \$1,500.00-2,830.00 per month  
 Contact: TROPICAL COLOR FILM DEVELOPING CENTER MIC, INC. dba Tropical Color Tel. 234-7229(5/1)228888
- 02 AIRCON. REF. TECHNICIAN-Salary: \$3.05-5.00 per hour  
 Contact: ICE BERG CORPORATION Tel. 288-8384(5/1)Th228872
- 01 CLEANER, COMMERCIAL-Salary: \$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: JOSE G. & ARLENE S. ISIP dba JP Enterprises Tel. 233-5646(5/1)Th228884
- 01 ASST. FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$2.90-3.35 per hour  
 Contact: SAIPAN HOTEL CORP. dba Hafadi Beach Hotel Tel. 234-6495(4/24)Th65339
- 01 ASST. OPERATION MANAGER-Salary: \$1,300.00 per month  
 01 RESTAURANT MANAGER-Salary: \$1,000.00-1,800.00 per month  
 02 ASST. RESTAURANT MANAGER-Salary: \$1,300.00-1,500.00 per month  
 02 ASSISTANT CHEF-Salary: \$1,200.00-1,800.00 per month  
 02 SALES PERSON-Salary: \$3.05-3.20 per hour  
 01 HEAD WAITER-Salary: \$ 3.05-3.55 per hour  
 01 WAITER-SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$3.05-3.57 per hour  
 03 WAITRESS (REST.)-SALARY: \$3.05-3.32 per hour  
 01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05-3.95 per hour  
 Contact: MICRO PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. dba Saipan Grand Hotel Tel. 234-6601 Ext. 112(Mr. Domingo C. Cruz) (4/24)Th65341
- 01 ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour  
 01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour  
 01 GENERAL MAINTENANCE HELPER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: YCO CORPORATION dba YCO Servistar Hardware/Liberty Plaza, YCO Construction Tel. 235-6604(4/24)Th65348
- 03 BEAUTICIAN-Salary: \$600.00 per month  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$900.00 per month  
 02 CARPET LAYER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 (GENERAL) MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MECHILLE CORPORATION dba Tong Yang Carpet, BIF Furnitures, Esquire Beauty Shop & Wholesale Tel. 234-1361(4/24)Th228794
- 01 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour  
 02 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour  
 Contact: MARIANAS REPAIRS COMPANY, INC. Tel. 234-9083(4/24)Th228795
- 01 GARBAGE COLLECTION DRIVER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: CHUNHUA X BENAVENTE Tel. 234-6686(4/24)Th228797
- 01 DANCER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 SEWER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 AUTO BODY FENDER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 03 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 02 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: LUZVIMINDA S. INDALECIO dba Jacie's Manpower Agency Tel. 288-3687(4/24)Th228798
- 01 MAINTENANCE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 PAINTER-REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 02 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MANUEL R. & GLORIA L. MESA dba M & G Ent. Tel. 288-1780(5/1)Th228877
- 01 ARCHITECT-Salary: \$2,800.00 per month  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$1,100.00 per month  
 06 CARPENTER-Salary: \$2.90-3.30 per hour  
 02 MASON-Salary: \$2.90-3.30 per hour  
 Contact: NORTH PACIFIC BUILDERS, INC. Tel. 235-7171(5/1)Th228879
- 01 SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$550.00 per month  
 04 WAITER (RESTAURANT)-Salary: \$3.05-3.10 per hour  
 05 COOK-Salary: \$3.40 per hour  
 Contact: AAND C ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 233-2599(5/1)Th228880
- 01 WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$2.90-3.35 per hour  
 02 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$2.90-5.50 per hour  
 03 IRONING PRESSER (MACHINE)-Salary: \$2.90-3.15 per hour  
 05 (CUTTER) CUTTING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$2.90-3.10 per hour  
 02 SEWING MACHINE REPAIRER (MECHANIC)-Salary: \$2.90-9.50 per hour  
 02 COOK-Salary: \$2.90-5.00 per hour  
 01 CUTTING SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$8.00-12.00 per hour  
 01 FACTORY MANAGER-Salary: \$3,000.00-4,700.00 per month  
 Contact: PANG JIN SANG SA CORPORATION Tel. 234-7951(5/1)Th65436
- 02 WAREHOUSE WORKER-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour  
 Contact: YCO CORPORATION dba YCO Servistar Hardware/Liberty Plaza/ YCO Construction (5/1)Th65440
- 01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: DAR CORPORATION, INC. Tel. 235-2437(5/1)Th65447
- 01 MICROFILM COMPUTER OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: JARIDON INCORPORATED Tel. 234-6651(5/1)Th65449
- 01 CARPENTER-Salary: \$3.05-3.75 per hour  
 01 DELIVERY ROUTE TRUCK DRIVER-Salary: \$3.05-4.75 per hour  
 Contact: SAIPAN ICE & WATER CO., INC. Tel. 233-9298(5/1)Th65452
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.50-4.50 per hour  
 Contact: PELLEY ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 233-9298(5/1)Th65453
- 01 ASSISTANT MANAGER-Salary: \$650.00-1,250.00 per month  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$630.00-640.00 per month  
 02 COOK-Salary: \$3.05-5.05 per hour  
 Contact: NINO'S INC. Tel. 233-9298(5/1)Th65454
- 02 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: BER'S ENTERPRISES Tel. 235-3677(5/1)Th228973
- 01 H.E. OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MARCELINA B. ERMITANIO dba A.J's Enterprises Tel. 235-4185(5/1)Th228974
- 01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: GENPRO INTERNATIONAL, INC. Tel. 235-1781(5/1)Th228976
- 01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MONG KHON K. PALACIOS dba Bualang Thai Restaurant Tel. 234-3720(5/1)Th228971
- 01 ASST. MANAGER-Salary: \$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: MICRONESIAN SERVICE ADJUSTMENT CORP. Tel. 235-2259(5/1)Th228981
- 01 MANAGER-Salary: \$530.00-3,130.00 per month plus housing allowance of \$850.00/month.  
 Contact: WATABE SAIPAN, INC. dba Watabe Wedding Tel. 234-3533(5/1)Th228982
- 01 WAITRESS, HEAD-Salary: \$3.15-3.50 per hour  
 Contact: STRINGSTONE ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Bistro Tel. 233-0640(5/1)Th228983
- 01 STOCK CONTROLLER-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 Contact: ACORN S.J. KIM CORPORATION dba New Olympic Market Tel. 322-6858(5/1)Th228985
- 01 COMPUTER PROGRAMMER-Salary: \$600.00-800.00 per month  
 Contact: ROYAL CROWN INSURANCE CORPORATION Tel. 234-2256(5/1)Th228986
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.50-6.50 per hour  
 04 EMBROIDERY MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 15 PACKER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 36 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 11 IRONER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 36 CHECKER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 04 STOCK CLERK-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 02 CUTTER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 Contact: WINNERS CORPORATION Tel. 235-1805(5/8)Th228984
- 01 BAKER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: BOSTONIAN INCORPORATION dba Manufacture Bake Goods Wholesale Gen. Merch/Retail Gen. Merch. Tel. 235-4310(5/8)Th228985
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$850.00-900.00 per month  
 01 SALESMAN-Salary: \$700.00-800.00 per month  
 Contact: COMMERCIAL TRADING OF SAIPAN INC. Tel. 234-6089(5/8)Th228986
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$5.50 per hour  
 Contact: BURGER & COMER, PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION Tel. 235-8722(5/8)Th228988
- 01 INSTRUCTOR, SCUBA DIVING-Salary: \$900.00-1,000.00 per month  
 Contact: COMMONWEALTH MARINE LEISURE CORP. dba Marine Sport & Leisure (5/8)Th228989
- 01 WELDER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 01 GENERAL MAINTENANCE-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 02 MASON-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
 Contact: VARGAS CORPORATION Tel. 235-0297(5/8)Th228992
- 01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.57 per hour  
 Contact: JUAN T. LIZAMA dba Law Office of Juan T. Lizama Tel. 234-7220(5/8)Th228996
- 01 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER, BLDG.-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: SL CORPORATION Tel. 234-7220(5/8)Th229001
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$4.50 per hour  
 Contact: AUSIA INT'L. (SPN) INC. Tel. 235-2217(5/8)Th229002

**DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication**  
 NOTE: If some reason your advertisement is incorrect, call us immediately to make the necessary corrections. The Marianas Variety News and Views is responsible only for one incorrect insertion. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time.

- 01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: DAR CORPORATION, INC. Tel. 235-2437(5/1)Th65447
- 01 MICROFILM COMPUTER OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: JARIDON INCORPORATED Tel. 234-6651(5/1)Th65449
- 01 CARPENTER-Salary: \$3.05-3.75 per hour  
 01 DELIVERY ROUTE TRUCK DRIVER-Salary: \$3.05-4.75 per hour  
 Contact: SAIPAN ICE & WATER CO., INC. Tel. 233-9298(5/1)Th65452
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.50-4.50 per hour  
 Contact: PELLEY ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 233-9298(5/1)Th65453
- 01 ASSISTANT MANAGER-Salary: \$650.00-1,250.00 per month  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$630.00-640.00 per month  
 02 COOK-Salary: \$3.05-5.05 per hour  
 Contact: NINO'S INC. Tel. 233-9298(5/1)Th65454
- 02 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: BER'S ENTERPRISES Tel. 235-3677(5/1)Th228973
- 01 H.E. OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MARCELINA B. ERMITANIO dba A.J's Enterprises Tel. 235-4185(5/1)Th228974
- 01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: GENPRO INTERNATIONAL, INC. Tel. 235-1781(5/1)Th228976
- 01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: MONG KHON K. PALACIOS dba Bualang Thai Restaurant Tel. 234-3720(5/1)Th228971
- 01 ASST. MANAGER-Salary: \$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: MICRONESIAN SERVICE ADJUSTMENT CORP. Tel. 235-2259(5/1)Th228981
- 01 MANAGER-Salary: \$530.00-3,130.00 per month plus housing allowance of \$850.00/month.  
 Contact: WATABE SAIPAN, INC. dba Watabe Wedding Tel. 234-3533(5/1)Th228982
- 01 WAITRESS, HEAD-Salary: \$3.15-3.50 per hour  
 Contact: STRINGSTONE ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Bistro Tel. 233-0640(5/1)Th228983
- 01 STOCK CONTROLLER-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 Contact: ACORN S.J. KIM CORPORATION dba New Olympic Market Tel. 322-6858(5/1)Th228985
- 01 COMPUTER PROGRAMMER-Salary: \$600.00-800.00 per month  
 Contact: ROYAL CROWN INSURANCE CORPORATION Tel. 234-2256(5/1)Th228986
- 04 DRY CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 03 PRESSER/LAUNDRY OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 02 DRY CLEANING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour  
 Contact: FABRICLEAN OF CNMI, INC. dba Marianas Cleaners Tel. 234-6239(5/8)Th65495
- 04 WAITER'S-Salary: \$3.50 per hour  
 03 COOK-Salary: \$3.25 per hour  
 Contact: ST CORPORATION dba Bigi Bar & Restaurant/Sol Torres Tel. 235-1051(5/8)Th228977
- 04 SINGER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 02 WAITRESS (NC)-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: WESTERN PACIFIC ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Kimchi Cabana Night Club & Rest. (5/8)Th228979
- 01 TOUR CONSULTANT-Salary: \$6.17 per hour plus \$400.00 housing allowance per month  
 Contact: NIPPON TRAVEL AGENCY MICRONESIA, INC. dba Mach Tours (5/8)Th228978
- 01 SALES PERSON-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: DOUBLE "B" ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 234-9045(5/8)Th228980
- 01 PHOTO ASSISTANT-Salary: \$4.00-4.50 per hour  
 Contact: SAIPAN CUSTOM PHOTO INC. Tel. 235-8857(5/8)Th228981
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.05-5.00 per hour  
 01 WAREHOUSEMAN-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED dba Cost & Save Wholesale Tel. 288-0202(5/8)Th228982
- 02 SILK SCREEN PRINTER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: YUMIKO CORPORATION dba Yuchiro's Printing Design Tel. 233-0955(5/8)Th228983

**JOB VACANCY**  
 One (1) Sales Clerk

apply at Sala Crystal Bldg.  
 Room 203 or call  
**233-8081/82**  
 Local Hire Only.

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT**  
 400 Sq. Ft. with Bath, A/C & 24 Hours Water & Power

Contact: Vestcor Village 322-3797

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
 One (1) Studio Type, good water, power & hot water in Koblenville \$400.00 per month Utility included.  
 Quiet, single or couple only  
 Day 234-1231; Eve 288-2222

**FOR RENT**  
 Newly Built 3 bedroom/2 bath House in Papago, Furnished or unfurnished.  
 Call 256-3695

**SAVE WATER**

**LEAVING ISLAND SALE CONTINUES!**  
 Hurry!!! to SAVE!  
 Final Day, Sunday 4/27 '97  
 Huge quantity of quality stategies household items: Furniture, lamps, pictures, kitchen materials, clothes, books, Harvard Classics/Great Books, tapes, records, vacuum cleaners and MUCH MORE at drastically reduced prices. Cash and Carry and Save!  
 Daily 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM #4A Village View Apt., San Roque, next to San Roque Church, Tel. 322-9676.  
 Also: African Grey Congo Parrot, Tame, Talks, Friendly \$1,200.00  
 1990 Suzuki Swift, \$4,200.00

**LAND FOR LEASE**  
 Approximately 800 square meters with 100 feet frontage on W-2 highway in Tanapag. \$75,000.00 for 55 year lease.  
 Good commercial location, great investment.  
 Call 235-6633.

**LEAVING ISLAND SALE**  
 Rolltop desk, entertainment center, table 4-chairs, water bed with 12 drawers, dresser, 2 night stands, portable washer, microwave stand, clothes & misc. items.  
 For more information call 322-1682 after 6:00 p.m.

**CLASSIFIED ADS FIRST**

EEK & MEEK®

by Howie Schneider



Garfield®

by Jim Davis



PEANUTS®

by Charles M. Schulz



STELLA WILDER

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are by no means a coward, but you have been known to back away from certain difficult situations prematurely, thinking that the odds may be far greater than they actually are. Still, you have an ambitious and strong-willed approach to life when you feel you are on the right track. Once you've got the bit between your teeth, you're not about to swerve or hesitate at all! You are the portrait of great confidence coupled with insecurity, and you often overcompensate for your feelings of doubt with an overly aggressive stance in your professional life.

You have a good head on your shoulders, and you know how to think about things in a clear, straightforward and uncluttered fashion; still, you tend to be quite emotional about even the most routine issues. It is important for you to balance thought and feelings with great care in all things. Also born on this date are: Eric Bogosian, actor and playwright; Vince Ferragamo, football player; Shirley MacLaine, actress; and author; Barbra Streisand, singer, actress and director.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and

read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 25**  
**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — You will very likely be feeling much better today than you had expected. Your enthusiasm is high, and your will to succeed is strong.  
**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Today is a good day to remind those in authority that you have paid your dues. Take care, however, that your demands are realistic.  
**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — Friends may seem to come right out of the woodwork today, surrounding you with good feelings and the support you feel you've recently lacked.  
**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — This can prove quite an active and dynamic day. You won't succeed at everything, but you'll learn how to succeed when making subsequent attempts.  
**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Take care that you don't fall prey to those who would confuse you simply by sending cryptic messages that are actually quite unimportant.  
**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — This can prove a memorable day for you. Be sure to share your ideas with others in order to maxi-

mize your potential and secure major rewards.  
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — You are on the verge of making a major new discovery, but you're going to have to be quite brave in order to take those last few steps.  
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Take care that you're not acting purely on instinct today; you must give careful thought to what you are doing — and why.  
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Pull out all the stops today and you can have the world in the palm of your hand by nightfall. Hesitate in any way and you might risk much.  
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Do not overspend today. Sure, you must come up with the cash in certain areas, but even big purchases can be negotiated. Get a bargain!  
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — You are going to be in the spotlight whether you like it or not. Take care that you don't become defensive when others are asking questions.  
**<B>B>ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — You will be able to surround yourself with others who make you look good simply by doing their own jobs well. However, do not simply rest on your laurels!

Electronic filing is becoming more popular. As of June 3, 1994, the IRS received 13.5 million on-line returns, a 9.4 percent increase over the previous year.  
 The average American taxpayer spends 27 hours per year on tax matters.  
 Pizza is no longer just an "Italian dish." In Japan, squid and eel are popular toppings and red herring is a favorite in Russia. Shrimp and pineapple top the majority of Australian pizzas.  
 Earth Tip: Gasoline is extremely toxic with respect to processing the

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS  
 1 Incorrect (prefix)  
 4 Pointed tools  
 8 Silent  
 11 Of North Atlantic nation  
 13 Mr. Parseghian  
 14 Symbol for scandium  
 15 Cry of affirmation  
 16 Star of "The Lost Boys"  
 18 Start of the work wk.  
 20 Yellow ocher  
 22 Roman 1,002  
 23 "Auld Lang —"  
 25 Seed  
 27 Sipowitz's first name  
 30 Skin problem  
 32 Court  
 34 — Clear Day —  
 35 — Eliot

DOWN  
 1 "Star Trek" character  
 2 That is (Latin abbr.)  
 3 Crafty  
 4 Author Nin

4-24 © 1997 United Feature Syndicate

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	R	R	G	A	I	T	E	T	C		
C	L	E	O	P	A	T	R	A	B	I	O
T	T	E	E	L	K	A	N	S	A	S	
A	E	R	S	O	B	L	Y	E			
O	R	B	S	P	E	A	E	N	I	D	
I	L	L	R	U	G	S	T	A			
T	V	Y	O	U	N	G	E	R	E	M	
E	E	E	B	S	A	E	A	U			
M	E	N	U	E	R	R	G	R	O	W	
E	S	S	D	Y	E	E	S	E			
C	A	R	N	A	L	D	O	R	C	L	
S	A	G	C	E	L	E	S	T	I	A	
T	R	Y	K	I	E	R	E	I	R		

5 Devane ID  
 6 Brim  
 7 Confidence game  
 8 Dolphins' quarterback  
 9 Swiss canton  
 10 A Davis  
 11 Beliefs  
 12 Roman bronze  
 17 Juan's aunt  
 19 Compass pt.  
 21 Let down  
 24 Lamprey  
 25 Finished first  
 28 Genetic material (abbr.)  
 29 Sweet potato  
 31 NJ cager  
 33 "The — Couple"  
 35 Boxing score (abbr.)  
 36 Title of respect  
 38 Rita —  
 39 Distress signal  
 42 "ink" star  
 45 LP speed  
 47 — Angeles  
 49 Stallone role  
 51 In a pile  
 52 Horse color  
 54 Ms. Hayworth  
 56 Exotic  
 58 Women's —  
 59 Dined (poetic)  
 60 Before  
 62 Aug. time  
 66 Negative prefix  
 67 Olsen ID

Elementary, Junior High, HS Track and Field Championships

PSS Memorial Olympics kicks off today

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
 Variety News Staff  
 THE PUBLICSCHOOL System will hold its 1st Annual Memorial Track and Field Championships for Elementary, Junior High and High School starting today, April 24 at the Susupe Sports Complex.  
 The event, which was organized through the help of Northern Mariana Islands Track and Field Federation, will have four meets scheduled to run until May 24, the All Schools Championships.

Organizing committee member Elias Rangamar said that Marianas Baptist Academy (MBA), Grace Christian Academy (GCA) and Hopwood Junior High School have confirmed to see action in the Junior High School division.  
 "MBA and GCA will be joined by Marianas High School in the High School category," Rangamar added.  
 Elementary students will compete in the 100M, 200M, 400M, 800M and

1,500M events while the junior high and high school divisions will feature competitions in the 100M, 200M, 400M, 4x100M relay, 4x400M relay, high jump, long jump, javelin throw, discuss and shot put events.  
 In today's events, action will start in the 100M, 200M, 400M, 4x100 relay, discuss and shot put events.  
 The track and field championships will resume on May 1 with the middle distance events, 800M, 1,500M and the 4x400M relay, along with the high

sportsbits

RGA May Qualifier

The Refalwasch Golf Association would like to announce that there is still one slot left in its forthcoming May Ace of the Month Qualifying Tournament on Saturday, April 26 at Rota Resort and Country Club Golf Course.  
 In a related matter, all club members who have confirmed their participation in the qualifying tournament will leave this coming Friday, April 25.  
 All club members are advised to contact RGA president Tony Rogolifoi or Joe Lizama at 234-1001 or 234-1002 for more details.

SSA Coed Tournament

The deadline for submission of lineups to the forthcoming Saipan Softball Association's 1st Coed Mountain Ball Slowpitch League will be on next Friday, May 2.  
 A minimum of eight teams are needed to start the historic mixed softball tournament at the Susupe Softball Field.  
 A minimum of 20 players per team with the requirement that five men and women will be playing in the field. Defensive positions, as well as the batting order will alternate between men and women.  
 All interested individuals, sponsors, coaches and team managers are requested to call Joe Torres at 234-6098; Paul Baron at 322-7814; or Newman Techar at 234-5911 for more details.

BANMI Meeting

The Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands will have a Board of Directors meeting on Friday, April 25, 6 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym Conference Room.  
 The agenda include the selection of the 1996/97 Islandwide Men's Basketball League's regular season MVP and Sportsmanship Award, selection of the national team coach for the 1997 South Pacific Mini Games, nomination of Oceania Basketball Confederation officers and the start of BANMI's next league.  
 For more information, please call BANMI president Tony Sablan at 664-3110 or Mike White at 235-5937.

Over 30 Cage Loop Meeting

Organizers of the forthcoming 30 years old and above Basketball League will have a meeting tomorrow, April 24, 6:30 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym Conference Room.  
 All interested players who would like to participate in the unique cage tournament are advised to contact Tony Rogolifoi or Elias Rangamar at 234-1001 or 234-1002.

AGC's April Ace

The Amigos Golf Club will hold its April Ace Tournament this coming Sunday, April 27 at the Kingfisher Golf Links.  
 Tee off time is set at 5:45 a.m. but golfers are requested to be at the greens at least 30 minutes before tee off time.  
 For more information, please call Annie Pickelsimer at 664-2286.

14th Annual Tourism Fun Run

The Marianas Visitors Bureau will hold its 14th Annual Tourism Charity Fun Run on May 4, 1997.  
 The annual charity fun run will start from the Marianas Resort Hotel, road entrance, then head north towards Marpi and will turn around at the Korean Peace Memorial and back. Race will start at 6 a.m.  
 Proceeds of the event will be given to a charitable organization.  
 Registration fee will be \$25.  
 For more information, please call Jack Diaz or Martin Duenas at 664-3200 or 664-3201. (EAC)

Red Cross to hold 11th Annual Walkathon



Walkathoners—Last year's participants in the Annual Walkathon prepare to take the road. The American Red Cross is set to hold the yearly event on May 2. (Photo courtesy of Cassandra Ely)

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
 Variety News Staff

THE AMERICAN Red Cross is set to hold its 11th Annual Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, May 3 at the Micro Beach Park.  
 Valuable prizes await the top three winners in nine categories that include high school/junior high schools, elementary, government agency, and business companies.  
 Individual winners in the elementary, junior high, high school, college and adult divisions will also receive prizes.  
 The fundraising event gives recognition to any school, government agency, private companies and individuals that can draw the most number of entries in the yearly walkathon.  
 Cassandra Ely of the American Red Cross (ARC) said that the Walkathon will cover a distance of 10 kilometers that will start from Micro Beach Park then head towards the Hakubotan/Oleai Center area then back.  
 ARC is hoping to raise \$20,000 that will support the Northern Mariana Island's entire budget this year. The Walkathon is one of Red Cross' three major fund raising events.  
 Registration will start at 5:30 a.m. and the official walk starts at 7 a.m. A donation of \$10 will be asked from each participant.  
 Ely also added that among the valu-

able prizes that will be given include a weekend package from Aqua Resort Club, gift certificates from National Office Supply, Rudolph's, Thai House, Baskin Robbins, Herman's Bakery, Subway, and McDonald's and many more.  
 Other winners will also receive go kart, golf and bowling passes.  
 The annual walkathon is sponsored by IT&E Island Apparel, Shell Marianas, Bank of Hawaii, Pacific Subsea Saipan, Inc. and the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association, Ltd.  
 For more information, please call the American Red Cross at 234-3459.

KidSpot™

THE CODE

Q. WHAT DID THE SKELETON BUY AT THE SUPER-MARKET?

BREAK THE CODE TO FIND OUT. EACH BOX CONTAINS THREE DOTS WHICH STAND FOR LETTERS. FIGURE OUT WHICH LETTER EACH DOT STANDS FOR BY THE BOX IT IS IN, AND BY ITS POSITION.

EXAMPLE: □ = A

•••	•••	•••	•••
ABC	DEF	GHI	
•••	•••	•••	•••
JKL	MNO	PQR	
•••	•••	•••	•••
STU	VWX	YZ	

© 1995 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

CLOSERS

TAX TIDBITS: According to a poll in the Wall Street Journal, 37 percent of Americans favor a complete overhaul of the tax system. Sixty percent believe the U.S. tax code is basically unfair.  
 Americans will pay more than \$2 trillion in taxes this year. Laid end-to-end, that amount in dollar bills would stretch 189,393,939 miles.  
 The IRS receives about 1 billion documents, 204 million returns and 65 million telephone calls per year.

Electronic filing is becoming more popular. As of June 3, 1994, the IRS received 13.5 million on-line returns, a 9.4 percent increase over the previous year.  
 The average American taxpayer spends 27 hours per year on tax matters.  
 Pizza is no longer just an "Italian dish." In Japan, squid and eel are popular toppings and red herring is a favorite in Russia. Shrimp and pineapple top the majority of Australian pizzas.  
 Earth Tip: Gasoline is extremely toxic with respect to processing the

ability to contaminate 750,000 gallons of water. Patronize service stations that use vapor recovery devices (those flexible cuffs that surround the nozzle) and don't "top off" the tank, which often causes spillage.  
 Twenty years ago producing a ton of steel in an hour required 12 steelworkers. Today it takes fewer than five.  
 A new book, "Sane Investing for the Non-Financial," deals with investing in approachable, plain language. Among its revelations: bonds sold by the Treasury that mature in more than one but less than 10 years are called Treasury Inflation Protected Securities.

TIME MAGAZINE says: "YOU MUST SEE 'EVITA'!"

WINNER—5 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS BEST PICTURE

EVITA

Thursday: 7:00  
 Friday: 7:00; 9:45  
 Saturday: 3:00; 7:00; 9:45

Showtimes 234-FILM

THE MOVIE HOUSE  
 Check us out at: www.saipan.com/business/moviehouse

Martin...

Continued from page 24

ongoing 1997 CNMI Senior League Baseball at the Frank M. Palacios Ball Field.  
 Martin is averaging a league's best .667 batting accuracy after connecting on four hits out of six attempts to lead Cougar Eric Lizama and teammate Robert Bansil.  
 The Saipan Stevedore slugger is hitting a .625 average on 5 of 8 performance at the plate to come in at second while Bansil has connected on four hits out of seven attempts for a .571 average.  
 Tanapag Braves' Hans Pua is next in the batting order followed by Joe Flores of the Cougars.  
 Pua is hitting a .556 success rate on 5 of 9 stints to rank fourth with Flores at fifth after going 3 of 7 for a decent .429 rating.  
 Santos, on the other hand, is showing the way in the pitching category with his 0.64 earned run average (ERA). The Cougars' ace pitcher has yielded only two hits that resulted in one earned run in 11 innings in two games.  
 Bansil, Pua and fellow Brave Hans

Kapileo round up the four leading pitchers of the league with ERAs of 2.03, 2.33 and 2.80.  
 Bansil has issued seven hits that led to three earned runs in 10 and 1/3 innings he manned the mound for San Roque. Pua is third after giving up six hits that resulted to two earned runs in six innings that he played.  
 Lastly, Kapileo trails teammate Pua at fourth after getting tagged with eight hits for two earned runs in 15 innings. Kapileo, however, is pacing two other statistical categories.  
 The Braves' standout paces the most strikeouts department with 35 or 15 more than second-running Santos.  
 The pitching leader has retired 19 batters so far or five more than UIC Mariners' Audie Moses who had 14.  
 Kapileo is leading the most runs scored with five along with JV Pangelinan of the Tanapag Braves. Six other players are tied for joint third with four runs apiece.  
 Cougar Joe Flores leads the doubles department with two while Pua and Jeremiah Suel of the D-9ers are tied for first in triples with two each.  
 Prolific Robert Bansil is the current homerun king and the co-leader in RBI rate.

D-9ers...

Continued from page 24

in the relay and in the sprints," Rangamar added.  
 Aside from the eight high school students, the NMITFF will also send at least six or seven athletes to compete in the Middle School or Junior High School Division on Saturday.  
 The High School team is set to leave for Guam tomorrow at 2:20 p.m. along with Rangamar and Ray Kapileo, the team's other coach.  
 after yielding seven runs, six bases on balls, one hit while fanning five batters in four and 4/3 innings at the mound.  
 Both teams fared dismally in the hitting category as the two rivals could only hit two out of 25 attempts for a low .080 batting percentage.

Women's Thursday Night League

Team Standings

Pos	Team	W	L	Pct	Topins	Ave	GM	Ser
1	Island Garden	57.0	35.0	61.96	65178	944	1033	2955
2	Budweiser	55.5	36.5	60.33	65882	954	1079	3010
3	JTG Enterprises	49.0	43.0	53.26	65734	952	1057	3034
4	DFS Saipan	49.0	43.0	53.26	64731	938	1040	2963
5	Clippers	47.0	45.0	51.09	64932	941	1051	3028
6	Kan Pacific	47.0	45.0	51.09	64613	936	1099	3005
7	Nie Busters	46.5	45.5	50.54	62181	942	1029	2951
8	Jaridon	46.0	46.0	50.00	65581	951	1075	3126
9	Jets	44.5	47.5	48.37	64757	938	1087	3033
10	Sunset Villa Resort	41.0	51.0	44.57	64276	931	1039	3025
11	Team #10	39.5	52.5	42.93	64168	929	1034	2919
12	Joens Enterprises	27.0	65.0	29.35	60317	913	1085	2942

High Scratch Game	Score	High Scratch Series	Score
Budweiser	897	Budweiser	2529
Jets	888	Jaridon	2526
Jaridon	875	Clippers	2455
High Handicap Game	Score	High Handicap Series	Score
Kan Pacific	1099	Jaridon	3126
Jets	1087	JTG Enterprises	3034
Joens Enterprises	1085	Jets	3033
High Scratch	Score	High Scratch Series	Score
Palacios, Rita	238	Camacho, Julie	606
Moody, Carol	232	Middleton, Mickey	601
Sablan, Melvia	232	Palacios, Rita	576
Guerrero, Lucy M	232		
High Handicap Game	Score	High Handicap Series	Score
Guerrero, Lucy M	270	Camacho, Julie	719
Sablan, Melvia	268	Middleton, Mickey	700
Moody, Carol	265	Rising, Duquesne	688
High Individual Ave.	Score		
Palacios, Rita	174.09		
Camacho, Diana	170.38		
Camacho, Tina S	166.10		

# SPORTS



## 1997 CNMI Senior League

# D-9ers tame Cougars, 13-11

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
Variety News Staff

Team Standings	W	L
San Roque D-9ers	2	1
S. Stevedore Cougars	2	1
Tanapag Braves	1	
UIC Mariners	0	3

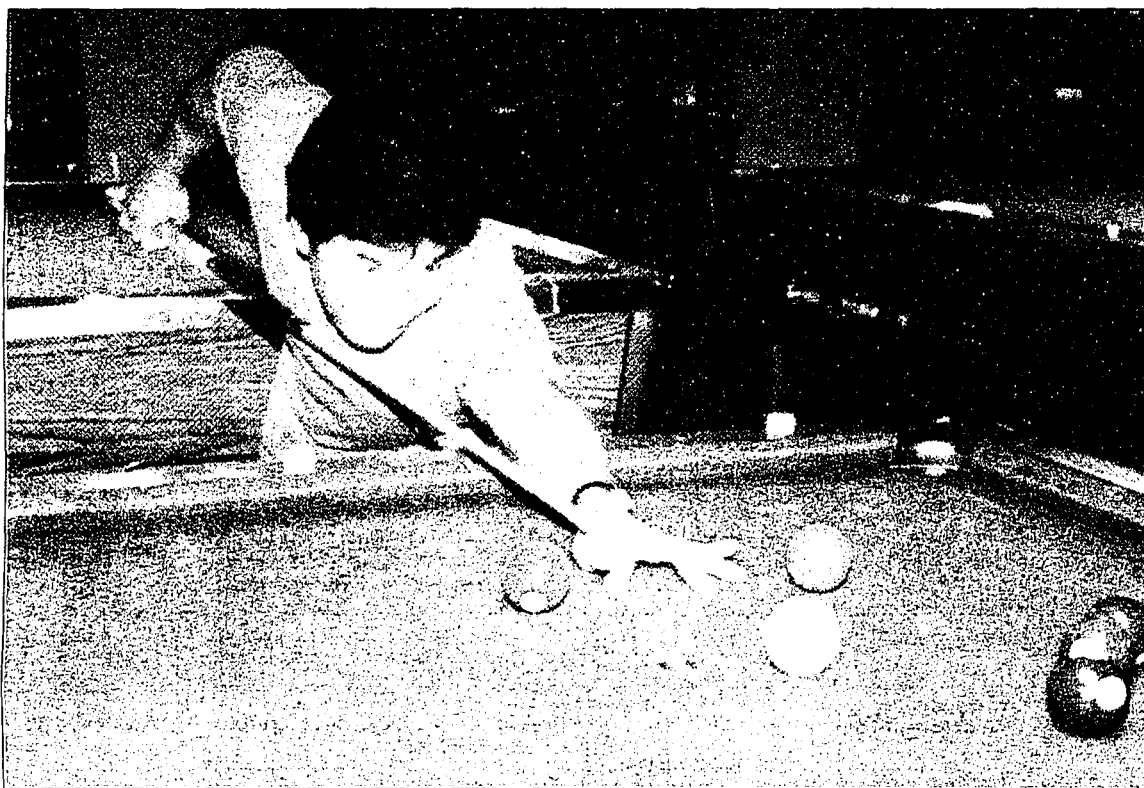
THE San Roque D-9ers overhauled a big run by the Saipan Stevedore Cougars in the sixth inning to hack out a hard earned 13-11 victory last Tuesday night in the 1997 CNMI Senior League at the Francisco M. Palacios Ball Field. The D-9ers were ahead, 7-4, after five innings when the previously undefeated Saipan Stevedore team rallied for seven runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to grab the driver's seat, 11-7.

In the changeover, it was the D-9ers turn to wax hot, pelting the Cougars with six runs to reclaim the lead for good, 13-11. The D-9ers preserved the win after winning pitcher Anthony Benavente struck out Joe Flores and Alvin Roppul for the final two outs of the ballgame as the San Roque ended the Cougars' two-game winning streak. The D-9ers took an early 4-0 lead

after the first three innings before the Cougars broke through the scoring column with two runs in the bottom of the fourth. San Roque extended the lead to five after racking three more runs in the top of the fifth. The Cougars countered with two runs in their own half entering the pivotal sixth. Glenn Dikito led the D-9ers offense

after going 1 of 3 with two runs. The San Roque third baseman likewise knocked in three RBIs. Robert Bansil ably supported Dikito by hitting 1 of 4, scoring two runs and driving in an RBI. Jonathan Guerrero paced the Cougars' losing cause by going 1 of 2 with two runs aside from knocking an RBI. Jonathan Delos Santos took the loss

Continued on page 23



No. 2 —Roy Durumpili eyes the no. 2 ball during the Budweiser Islandwide 8-Ball Open held last Wednesday night at Corner Pocket in Garapan. (Photo by Erel A. Cabatbat)

### 1997 CNMI Senior League's statistical leaders

## Martin, DL Santos show way

Compiled by LL Deputy Administrator Tony Rogolifio

Name	Team	AB	Hit	Ave.
Landon Martin	SR D9ers	6	4	.667
Eric Lizama	Cougars	8	5	.625
Robert Bansil	SR D9ers	7	4	.571
Hans Pua	Tanapag Braves	9	5	.556
Joe Flores	Cougars	7	3	.429
Jeremiah Suel	SR D9ers	9	3	.333
Leeroy Camacho	UIC Mariners	6	2	.333
Michael Pangelinan	Tanapag Braves	6	2	.333
James Santos	UIC Mariners	7	2	.286
Alvin Roppul	Cougars	7	2	.286

Name	Team	GM	INN	ER	HIT	ERA
Jonathan DL Santos	Cougars	2	11	1	2	0.64
Robert Bansil	D9ers	2	10 1/3	3	7	2.03
Hans Pua	Braves	2	6	2	6	2.33
Kevin Kapileo	Braves	3	15	6	8	2.80

Strike-Outs: Kevin Kapileo, Tanapag Braves(35), Jonathan Delos Santos, Cougars(19), Audie Moses, UIC Mariners(14)  
 Runs: Kevin Kapileo, Braves JV Pangelinan, Braves (5), Six others tied at (4)  
 Doubles: Joe Flores, Cougars(2), Six tied at (1) ea.  
 Triples: Hans Pua, Braves, Jeremiah Suel, D9ers(2), Four others tied at (1)  
 Home runs: Robert Bansil, D9ers(2) Three others tied at (1)  
 RBI: Robert Bansil, D9ers, Eric Lizama, Cougars(5), Four tied at (2)

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
Variety News Staff

LONDON MARTIN of the San Roque D-9ers and Saipan Stevedore Cougars' Jonathan DL Santos are the current batting and pitching leaders

Continued on page 23

## Guam Interscholastic Track and Field Dual Championships NMITFF to see action in Guam Meet



Sidro Tebuteb



Wayne Pua

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
Variety News Staff

THE NORTHERN Mariana Islands Track and Field Federation is set to send eight athletes to compete in the 1997 Guam Interscholastic Track and Field Dual Meet in John F. Kennedy High School tomorrow.

The track and field championship, which will start tomorrow until Saturday, will feature high school and junior high school athletes from all over Guam.

"This will be the first time that the NMITFF is invited to compete in the

All Guam Track and Field Championship," NMITFF coach Elias Rangamar said.

1996 Athlete of the Year Sidro Tebuteb will banner Saipan's bid along with veteran sprinter Wayne Pua, John Ogumoro, Tony Piteg, Frank Mizutani, Albert Cabrera, Olivia Tebuteb and Vanessa Model.

Sidro will compete in the javelin, discuss and shot put events while Pua will represent the team in the 100 meter, 110 meter hurdles and 4x100M relay events.

Rangamar is expected to enter

Ogumoro in 400M sprint and the 300M hurdles with Piteg running in the 100 and 200M races as well as in long jump.

Mizutani will be fielded in the 200 and 400M and in the high jump. Mizutani will also be a part of the Saipan 4x100M relay team.

Cabrera, on the other hand, will join the shot put events along with Sidro.

Olivia will represent Saipan in the 100 and 200M races while the remaining female member of the team, Model, will participate in the Javelin, Shot Put and Discus events.

Except for Sidro and Pua, the rest of the team members will be competing for their first-ever off island track and field championships.

Despite the lack of experience of most members of the team, Rangamar is optimistic that the team will perform well in the Guam event.

"I think we have a good change of doing well in Guam, especially in the field events with Sidro competing. I also expect the team to good

Continued on page 20



Orlando Pace, right, Ohio State's massive tackle, holds a St. Louis Rams jersey with the help of NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue after Pace was chosen by the Rams as the first-round pick in the NFL draft in New York.

AP Photo