

Babauta: 'DOI role outdated'

By Rafael H. Arroyo

When it comes to insular area policies

RESIDENT Representative to the US Juan N. Babauta yesterday said there is indeed a need for new federal policies on matters concerning insular areas due to the "ineffectiveness" on the part of the US Interior Department to champion the cause of the non-state members of the US political family.

In an interview yesterday, Babauta said he fully agrees with the position taken by three insular area members of US Congress on less power for the Interior Department's Office of Territorial and International Affairs in dealing with the territories as this would be a regression with regards to .

"I feel strongly that the Interior's policies towards the insular areas are old, obsolete and needs to be changed and the alternative is to go with the proposal of the three delegates," said Babauta.

Earlier this week, insular delegates to US Congress Ron De Lugo (Virgin Islands), Eni F.H. Faleomavaega (American Samoa)

and Robert A. Underwood (Guam) reiterated their opposition to a planned policy making council that puts the OTIA in a lead role in



Juan N. Babauta

dealing with insular area issues within the federal government. They indicated preference that OTIA not be given any role anymore on the council.

In a letter to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, the three said giving OTIA a coordinating role regarding policies within the jurisdiction of other agencies would inevitably centralized power, adding a bureaucratic hurdle to decisions.

"DOI has had stewardship over the insular areas but in all honesty I do not see it addressing issues that are pro-active and supportive of insular area needs," said Babauta.

He took note of a recent statement supposedly made by De

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Waitress files \$.9M suit vs. DPS, gov't

THE CNMI government as well as the Department of Public Safety and a police officer have been summoned to answer a complaint alleging that a waitress's constitutional rights were violated due to "unlawful arrest and imprisonment."

Maria Teresa T. Carandang's case against the defendants stemmed from an incident last July during which she was accused of theft by a co-worker at Bobby Cadillac's, a restaurant along Beach Road in Garapan.

Carandang, a Philippine national, filed a civil case at the U.S. District Court only on Tuesday, a case that would make her a virtual millionaire should she prevail.

She named the government, DPS and officer Raymond S. Pangelinan as respondents, accusing them of trampling upon her rights when she was arrested

and imprisoned following a complaint of theft from a fellow worker.

Carandang, who is also a supervisor at the said restaurant, said she was arrested and handcuffed by Pangelinan "in an abusive and incorrect manner," after the policeman received complaint of theft from a certain Elena M. Ramos.

Ramos was said to have called the DPS and reported that her purse was missing. She reportedly suspected Carandang of taking the purse, but found no money after searching the plaintiff's pants and blouse with bra off.

No one could tell that Carandang stole the money, but Pangelinan still arrested the plaintiff despite lack of probable cause, the complaint partly read.

According to Carandang, the arrest was carried out with the intent and purpose of humiliating

and embarrassing her in the presence of many people.

She also complained that as a result of the alleged abusive and improper handcuffing, she suffered severe cuts on each of her two wrists which required treatment.

Each of Carandang's wrists are now permanently marked and scarred from these cuts, the complaint said.

Aside from the improper handcuffing, Carandang also cried of illegal detention for at least 6 hours and that she was never allowed to post bail nor to contact someone from confinement.

These, the waitress said, "resulted in further humiliation and embarrassment."

Carandang's imprisonment were taken at the direction of Pangelinan and the personnel of DPS, who are using the facilities

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US told to answer suit by January 17

THE U.S. District Court has agreed to extend to 30 more days the time within which the United States government, the State and Interior Departments must file an answer to a civil case filed by a group of Palauan citizens last October.

District Court Judge Alex Munson granted the request to Enlarge Time to File an Answer or Other Pleadings by the U.S. district attorney late last week.

From 60 days, the respondents now have 90 days to answer the civil case filed by lawyer Martin Wolff, lawyer for the plaintiffs.

Lawyers for the U.S.

government and the state and interior departments have earlier stated that the 60-day period would not be enough for them to answer the complaint.

According to the respondents some input, review and approval of the answer by several government agencies were needed and that doing so require a lot of time.

The lawyers also cited the geographical problem saying there is a great distance between Washington, D.C. and other areas on the East Coast of the United States where the affected agencies and their legal staffs are headquartered.


Another reason for making the request was the added difficulty in the postal service during the holiday seasons.

Judge Munson granted the request, giving the respondents until January 17, 1994 for the filing of the answer to the complaint.

On October 19, 1993, Ltelak Fritz, Gabriel Ngirmang, Isabella Sumang, Ngeriut Matlab, Augusto Naruo, Elicita N. Morei, Uburk Ngchar, Tipkung Nakamura, Ilong Isaol and Gibbons Kuartei filed a complaint for Declaratory Relief which they can do so under 28 U.S.C. 2201.

The Palauans asked in their complaint that a letter from Secretary Warren Christopher of the State department regarding the Compact of Free Association





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Bills for creating national information access propose

By DIANE DUSTON

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration will propose legislation soon designed to ensure all Americans have access to a national information network that is taking shape, Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday. The goal will be to open the communications field to more competition and ease consumer access to the latest innovations in technology along this emerging information highway, he told the National Press Club.

The fine points still must be worked out, but Gore said the White House supports eventual removal of judicial and legislative restrictions on all types of telecommunications companies, including cable, telephone, utilities, television and satellite.

He said the White House is interested in encouraging private investment; promoting competition; ensuring everyone access to the network and avoiding a society of information "haves" and "have nots."

Gore praised the work of Congress, which already has several bills addressing telecommunications concerns.

"Between now and the beginning of next session, we'll be continuing our dialogue with Congress, industry and public interest groups to formulate our proposal for legislative and administrative action that will clear the way for the communications marketplace of the future," he said.

The government is faced with regulating a new world of telecommunications that hasn't taken shape yet.

Mergers between telephone, cable television and computer companies are occurring rapidly as corporations gather the expertise and technology they need to give consumers interactive TV, picture telephones and computer systems that provide access to the major data centers of the world.

Although the great visions of the communications corporations haven't hit the mass market yet, it's quite clear, officials say, that

the Communications Act of 1934 needs an overhaul.

Also, the court agreement that broke up American Telephone and Telegraph 10 years ago is too restrictive in the rapidly changing media environment, administration officials say.

In 1934, the government needed to protect the scarce public airwaves from being dominated by a single voice.

Now, digital technology has dramatically expanded the capacity of the airwaves for competing wireless communications devices. Coaxial and fiber-optic cable offer other high-capacity channels for even more information from a broad range of sources.

The telephone companies have gone from a monopoly - AT and T - delivering local and long-distance voice transmissions to three major long-distance Bell companies and seven regional Bell systems all interested in global services that include both voice, data and video transmissions.

American telecommunications companies lead the world in the communications industry and are viewed by the administration and Congress as a big, bright spot in the U.S. economy.

Many new jobs are expected to be created by companies manufacturing for the mass consumer market as new technologies are refined. Individual access to vast information networks through home computers could revolutionize the way people work. Interactive TV could bring about an explosion in programming, with home shopping networks significantly altering the way people buy goods.

Plutonium salesman sentence suspended

FLensburg, Germany (AP) — A German court convicted a British salesman of breaking arms export laws by trying to sell low-grade plutonium and gave him an 18-month suspended sentence.

Norman Derbyshire, 52, also was convicted on Monday of dealing in radioactive substances and receiving stolen goods.

Derbyshire, who has been living in the northern city of Flensburg, met with three other Britons in Hamburg in October 1992 and sold them a plutonium sample, saying 80 kilograms (176 pounds) of the substance were available from Eastern Europe.

The deal was discovered and publicized by the British newspaper Sunday Express.

German investigators concluded the plutonium sample came from a sensor of an East European-made smoke detector, contained only a small amount of plutonium and was not dangerous.

Garapan Elem. School property now belongs to PSS

By Ferdie de la Torre

THE MARIANA Islands Housing Authority finally decided yesterday to transfer of approximately 30,619 square meters of property at Garapan Elementary School to the Public School Systems as a significant Christmas present to the PSS, children and parents.

In a press conference yesterday morning at MIHA, John Sablan, MIHA Executive Director, led the signing of the documents along with the MIHA Board of Directors Chairman Joaquin Atalig; Norman Tenorio, Vice Chairman; Rufina Miles, Director, and Ben Sablan, Secretary, signalling the complete transfer of the Garapan Elementary School to the PSS.

Also present were PSS Commissioner William S. Torres; Margaret de la Cruz, PSS Acting Deputy Commissioner for Administration; Lou Mendiola, Garapan Elementary School Principal; Jack Tenorio, PTA President, and Bill Martin, PSS Federal Programs Coordinator.

Executive Director Sablan explained that the property where Garapan Elementary School is situated was not completed its official transfer when it was deeded on Nov. 1, 1968 from the former Mariana Islands District Housing Authority (MIDHA) to

the Trust Territory Government to construct the school due to the typhoon.

At the same time, Sablan said, the Trust Territory Government executed an agreement to provide MIDHA an exchange of property however it was never officially transferred.

Upon learning the incomplete transaction to provide MIHA land exchange, Sablan pointed out, he secured approval from the Board of Directors to request assistance from the Governor's Office and Marianas Public Land Corp. to provide MIHA with its rightful land exchange.

Sablan said up to now MPLC did not come up with MIHA's land exchange for Garapan Elem. School property.

He said to settle the pending land exchange from MPLC and to ensure that the interest of the students, teachers and faculty members of Garapan are protected on whatever improvements they have already done or will be doing in the future, the MIHA Board of Directors decided on their meeting last Friday to transfer the property permanently to the PSS.

He stressed however that "PSS is restricted to use this property only... again only for the purpose of operating a public school system."

"On behalf of the MIHA Board

of Directors, my staff and myself, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations for this big Christmas present to PSS staff, and our students and faculties of Garapan Elementary School," Sablan said.

PTA President Tenorio who has been very aggressive in pursuing the transaction, said in behalf of the PTA, he was very pleased because "finally we are certain

that the school property will remain permanently to the PSS."

Tenorio explained that what actually motivated him to pursue the transfer, was when he read in the newspapers last year that MIHA was planning to develop the property adjacent to the school into subdivisions.

Torres on his part, extend his gratitude to PTA and MIHA for helping the PSS which is "a big

gift to the school and children."

Torres said for him it was a double gift because it does not only provide permanence or certainty but also give provision for future expansion of the school.

"The signing of the transfer means we now have resolved the legal mechanism... Any future dispute can now be resolved in the court," Torres said.



Mariana Islands Housing Authority Executive Director John Sablan announces the transfer of property at Garapan Elementary School before the members of the Board of Directors, and representatives from PTA, PSS and Garapan Elementary School during a press conference. (photo by Fozz Rahman)

Bank of Guam sued for 'violating' customer's right

THE Garapan-based Bank of Guam has violated the financial privacy of one of its customer, according to a complaint which has been filed at the U.S. District Court. The complainant, lawyer Bruce L. Jorgensen is asking the U.S. District Court to award him at least \$2 million in actual, statutory and punitive damages.

In his December 17 civil case, Jorgensen accused the bank of not protecting his right to financial privacy despite his "timely demand" for it and demanded actual, statutory and punitive damages totalling to more than \$200,000.

Financial privacy which was guaranteed by the Financial Privacy Act is also embodied in the commonwealth code.

"(E)very customer of every bank shall be respected by each director, officer, agent, employee... (and should not) disclose any financial record of any customer..." 4 CMC 6454 partly states.

The complaint for damages and other relief was filed by Jorgensen's lawyer, Mitchell F. Thompson of the Maher & Thompson law offices in Guam.

In his complaint, the Saipan lawyer said on or before July 23 of this year, he was a customer of the bank whose main offices are located in Agana, Guam.

Jorgensen said he maintained two checking accounts.

According to the lawyer, he had informed the bank officials that he wanted to invoke his right to

financial privacy. However six days after forwarding a memorandum to the said bank, the plaintiff's accounts were disclosed, the 6-page complaint said.

"Despite Mr. Jorgensen's timely demand that defendant protect his right... (the bank) failed to comply with its obligations under the United States Right to Privacy Act..." the lawsuit stated.

Jorgensen's complaint did not specify to whom Bank of Guam disclosed his accounts, saying only that it did not follow the example of another Saipan bank which when subpoenaed to reveal the financial records of a customer, the bank refused.

Bank of Saipan was served with a subpoena this year, but rejected the order and complied with its obligations under the Right to Financial Privacy Act, the civil suit said.

In Lorenzo Ayuyu vs. Commonwealth Investment Company, et al., Jorgensen said Bank of Saipan protected the financial records of its customer and a subpoena to reveal the financial records of the same customer was quashed by the Superior Court.

Jorgensen, aside from asking \$200,000 damages Jorgensen, also wants the defendant to pay him reasonable attorney's fees and the cost of the suit.

Bank of Guam officials were not immediately available for comments.

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Inos, Balajadia join transition efforts

FINANCE and Public Works Directors Eloy S. Inos and Elizabeth S. Balajadia were named by Governor Larry I. Guerrero to be part of his team tasked to work with the incoming administration's transition committee.

Also yesterday, the group informally held its initial meeting with

the Tenorio-Borja transition committee, notwithstanding the non-certification of the results of the recent general elections.

"The meeting was very productive and very cordial. It brought about assurances of cooperation between the combined transition team," said John Joyner, Guerrero's

public information officer and member of the current governor's transition team.

He said specific steps on how the turnover of executive functions would be commenced were discussed in the meeting that lasted almost the whole morning yesterday.

Present during the meeting from the Tenorio side were Lieutenant Governor-elect Jesus C. Borja, Mitch Pangelinan, Efrain Camacho, Brenda Y. Tenorio, and Lecia Eason.

On the other side, present were transition members Joyner, Inos, Balajadia, Angie Iba, Maria Pangelinan, Joaquin Villagomez, Tim Bruce and Governor Guerrero and Lieutenant Governor Benjamin T. Manglona.

Inos and Balajadia were named by Guerrero as additional members of his group in a memorandum to all department heads Monday.

He reiterated his call for all departments and agencies to extend every courtesy and assistance possible to the new administration's Office of Transition.

Under the statute, a transition office is established on the day the Board of Elections certifies the election of a governor that does not succeed himself in office.

This means that the transition committee has yet to conduct official business until election results are certified.

This has posed a problem considering that the Board has foreseen a dragging voter challenge process, notably in Rota where the election was most controversial.

But according to Joyner, even if they could not officially do business, they can start informally discussing ways and means to effect a

smooth transfer of executive power from the Guerrero administration to the Tenorio-Borja government. He said that was the purpose of yesterday's meeting.

"We have talked about a lot of things, but generally, we focused on how we could make sure government continues to function during transition," said Joyner.

According to Joyner, the group also discussed proposed schedules for planned visits of the Tenorio transition team of the different departments and agencies, in view of the short time it needs to work within.

"We talked about the lack of time and proposed that we work not only on normal weekdays but even weekends. But in all possibility, a total transition will not occur by January 9, it might go beyond that," said Joyner.

The group likewise named contact persons from each side and discussed up to what level in the government bureaucracy are courtesy resignations needed.

But a major topic of yesterday's discussion was on funding for the January 10 inauguration and for the entire transition effort as a whole.

Joyner said the group was wary of the fact that wherever the additional money is tapped from, it has to be taken from some other agency or activity.

He said both sides were seeking ways to make ends meet.

DPS releases autopsy on man killed in riot

By Ferdie de la Torre

THE DEPARTMENT of Public Safety released yesterday the autopsy result conducted by the Commonwealth Health Center on the 19-year-old man who was killed during a riot last Friday in Koblerville.

In yesterday's regular press briefing, Cathy Sheu, DPS public information officer, said autopsy conducted by Dr. Robert Hanan of the CHC showed that the victim Antonio C. Duenas Jr., died from intracranial bleeding cause from the forced blow to the head.

Sheu said the Criminal Investigation Division reported that no arrest was made yet. The case has been further investigated.

Earlier, it was reported that a male Chamorro teenager was

arrested and investigated at the DPS after the riot.

John Reyes reported to the DPS last Friday at 10:34 p.m. about the riot between two groups of persons that happened in his house in Koblerville.

A group of persons was allegedly having a drinking spree when a male person approached and asked regarding a family problem which triggered an argument.

A riot erupted after the male person left but returned later along with some of his companions, the DPS initial investigation showed.

Sheu did not elaborate whether the DPS has already identified the persons involved in the rumble.

Duenas was allegedly still conscious when he was brought to CHC but he later died. He

suffered wounds on the head inflicted by hard object, the DPS earlier said.

Meanwhile, Sheu said a 26-year-old man was arrested yesterday before dawn for resisting arrest and battery on a police officer in front of Classic Night Club in Garapan.

Sheu said the report showed that the responsible Paul Basilius, of Koblerville, approached a police officer in front of the club and slapped him on the face.

It was gathered that the police officer responded to the club after Basilius allegedly failed to pay his drinks worth \$8. It was later settled after Basilius friend paid the amount.

The officer was about to leave the club when the responsible allegedly slapped him.

Korean sailors leave Saipan for 5-day voyage back home

WITH mixed feelings and emotions, hundreds of South Korean navy sailed back to their homeland yesterday morning following a 24-hour stay on Saipan which they have described as "beautiful."

Clad in the traditional white uniforms for navy, more than six hundred sailors boarded the three ships minutes before the 10:00 o'clock scheduled departure of the vessels.

However, despite clear weather, the Cheon-Ji, Che-ju and the Kyoung-Buk did leave on the scheduled departure time. Fifteen minutes past 10:00 a.m., South Korean Consul General Kyung Tai Park and his wife Young as well as other Korean nationals were still seen talking and shaking hands with the sailors and navy officers.

The vessels left only before 11:00 a.m. for a five-day voyage to the Korean peninsula.

With Admiral Kim Tae-II as the commander, the three-ships composed the Cruise Training Unit of the democratic Korea.

The sailors arrived on Saipan from the Solomon Islands at around 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday.

According to Asst. Chief of Staff for Logistics, Kim Byung Duk, the Chen-ji, Kyoung-Buk and the Che-ju sailed the Pacific waters for more than three months.

The ships left the Korean peninsula on September 8 and sailed to 16 ports in the Asia-Pacific region.

The voyage brought the sailors to Malaysia, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

From Sri Lanka, the three ships sailed towards Indonesia and proceeded to nearby Papua New Guinea afterwards.

Then from New Guinea, the sailors stopped at a port in Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa and Solomon Islands before coming to Saipan which is their final destination.

Soon after their vessels were anchored at Charlie Dock in Puerto Rico, the visitors went straight to famous tourist spots on the island.

The sailors were divided into two groups, according to Paul Khang, President of the Korean Association here, who coordinated the sight-seeing tour of the Korean visitors.

The historical places visited by the sailors included the Korean Memorial park, Banzai Cliff, Last Command Post, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island and the famous Grotto.

Khang said the stay of the sailors was too short that there were not able to see much of Saipan.

The visitors roamed around the island aboard buses provided by Korean garment factories and hotels. Khang had earlier requested the Public School System for buses and drivers for the sight-seeing tour. However, Khang said they could not agree with the charges.

On the eve of their departure,

the Korean sailors hosted a dinner reception for top CNMI government, business and Korean leaders on the island.

Governor Lorenzo Guerrero who earlier met with the ship's captains and admiral Kim at his Capitol Hill office, led government officials during the night's affair which was highlighted by

traditional Korean music performed by the sailors themselves. With Guerrero were his wife Matilde and Lt. Governor Benjamin T. Manglona.

Other prominent figures who attended the dinner reception aboard Cheon-Ji, the biggest among the ships, were Lt. Governor-elect Jesse Borja and his wife Mary Arne,

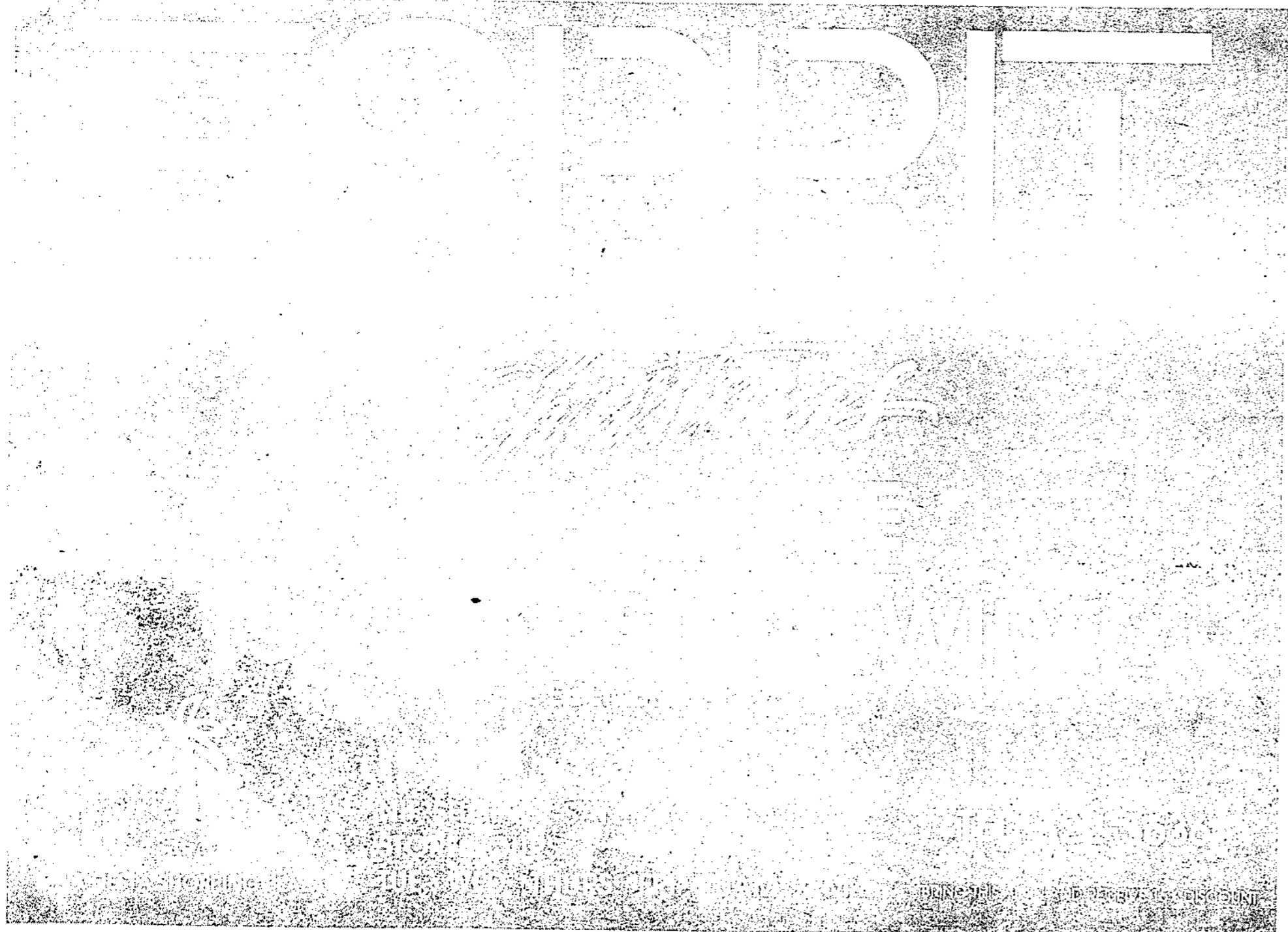
and Superior Court Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro.

Governor-elect was not seen during the dinner time which featured Korean delicacies.

Business leaders including Saipan Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Dino Jones too time to attend the 6:30 dinner reception.



From left to right: Choi In-Taek, SGMA Board James Lin, SGMA V. Chairman John Reggins, SGMA Chairman Richard Pierce, SGMA Exec. Director Antonio Cabrera, Karidat Exec. Director & Staff.



SGMA and Karidat in joint commitment

THE SAIPAN Garment Manufacturers Association donated recently \$5,000 to Karidat for operations as both jointly announced their commitment to work together in addressing problems in the NMI's workplaces and homes.

In response to a letter dated Oct. 13, 1993 from Karidat's Executive Director Antonio Cabrera to SGMA's Executive Director Richard A. Pierce, the SGMA agreed and accepted Karidat's offer to "ideally" address the complaints the NMI Social Service Center receives from persons employed in the industry.

The goal can be addressed by working with the SGMA through an informal mechanism that provides for mediation and self-monitoring to prevent abuses and to allow complaints to be cleared up internally in some fair manner.

SMGA praised the approach as a solution to one of the problems the industry has been labeled with human right violations and said "If there is a problem we want to identify it, address it and solve it. It also helps in our assessment of the individual companies within our group."

"We can also accept Karidat's concern that such a mechanism must guarantee and protect an

employee from retaliation. For that reason we will trust Karidat's method in formation of the mechanism."

The second part of the working relationship between Karidat and SGMA deals with the number one social ill in the NMI: alcohol and drug abuse.

SGMA will source technical assistance to address the ever-increasing demands placed on Karidat by the NMI's single largest destroyer of human lives and families. The US's most prestigious foundations for the education, understanding and treatment of alcohol and drug abuse will be tapped and utilized.

"SGMA wants to give more than just money and jobs to the NMI. We would really like to try to be a part of the family. And as a part of the family we feel its our responsibility to do whatever it takes to get help for those that need it."

Cabrera said "we need community support. Without it we would fail in our Christian obligation to provide assistance to those that are left behind as a result of economic development. If we don't take care of these people we will have social problems and the community will suffer as a whole."

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Aborigines land bill heads for parliament

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Aborigines rejoiced Tuesday as it became clear that Parliament would pass historic legislation to recognize native land rights in Australia for the first time in more than two centuries.

The breakthrough, in a marathon parliamentary debate, came Tuesday afternoon when two West Australian Greens, who hold the balance of power in the Senate, said they would support the native title bill.

The bill is now likely to pass both houses of Parliament late Tuesday or early Wednesday.

"It will make a great day for indigenous Australians and I hope a great turning point in their recent history," Prime Minister Paul Keating said.

"This has been the longest continuing problem that Australia has faced for 200 years, recognizing that indigenous people, that native people, had the right to their own soil," he said.

Lois O'Donoghue, who chairs the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, praised the decision. Torres Strait Islanders live in the tropical far north and the strait islands.

"There were many times when we felt our rights were being ignored. But tonight we hope that all of you are going to rejoice with us on what we see as a historic day."

Already, more than one-seventh of Australia's vast area of more than one million square miles has

been set aside, in one way or another, for the country's 265,000 aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

However, the nation's courts did not recognize native title to land until Australia's High Court ruled 18 months ago that native title could still exist where aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people had maintained a continuous association with their land since white settlement began in 1788.

In practice, that means native title claims will essentially be limited to public lands held by the federal or state governments. Government officials estimate that 5 percent to 10 percent of Australia's lands could realistically be subject to Aboriginal land claims.

Until the High Court's ruling, Australian law was based on a legal fiction known as Terra Nullius, which held that Australia had been an empty land when the white settlers arrived.

Evidence shows aboriginal occupation stretching back at least 40,000 years.

Australia's powerful mining companies have protested that the proposed government legislation is unworkable, and they called for it to be abandoned now and completely redrafted next year. They contend that unless existing land titles are safe from challenge, development and investment will be curtailed.

Opposition leader John Hewson of the Liberal party predicted the government would be forced to revise the bill next year and would not rule out repealing it if his coalition won the next election.

The nation's farmers joined in supporting the bill when they were assured in an amendment that they would be able to renew their land leases without challenges from Aboriginal groups. Mining leases did not receive the same protections.

State and federal tribunals will evaluate land claims to determine whether Aboriginal groups can prove that they or their ancestors had traditionally used an area for hunting, or had religious or cultural claims on it.

Clinton signs legislation for treatment of Gulf War veterans

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton signed legislation to require the Veterans Affairs Department to treat Persian Gulf War veterans for diseases that may have resulted from exposure to toxic substances.

"Over the past 2 1/2 years, Persian Gulf veterans have experienced a wide range of health care problems that have eluded diagnosis and cure," Clinton said in a statement on Tuesday, one day after he signed the bill.

He said the veterans' symptoms

include fatigue, painful muscles and joints, bleeding gums, skin rashes, short-term memory loss and hair loss.

"With this legislation, the VA will have the authority to provide to these veterans both inpatient and outpatient care on a priority basis," Clinton said. "Thus, we can help make certain that these veterans' health care needs are met as fully as possible while important research into their problems goes forward."

Possible chemical and biological contamination during the Gulf War

has become an issue because of the thousands of veterans suffering from debilitating and undiagnosed illnesses that have come to be known as Persian Gulf syndrome.

Oil fire fumes, pesticides and other environmental hazards have been raised as possible causes. The Pentagon says it has been unable to pinpoint a single reason for the illnesses, and has emphasized that there were no known incidents of chemical agent exposures or detections during the war.

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Health focus

Connie G. Speros



FIRST, I want to address a reader's question about negative-calorie foods. All foods have calories; some have few. The author of the book probably lists foods which have few calories. For example, a cup of lettuce or cucumbers or cabbage has less than 25 calories.

Since our bodies use energy (calories) to digest and metabolize food, the author implies that these foods have negative calories because our bodies use all or more of the calories in those foods for digestion.

This is a logical concept. But, instead of filling the author's pocket, fill your stomach with more fruits and vegetables in place of meats and snack foods. Most fruits and vegetables have less calories.

The Holidays implies for some people office parties, dinner parties and overeating. Dieters and health conscious folks need not throw willpower into the wind. The holidays are a time to eat, drink and be merry without regret. If you are worried about weight gain or loss of control, plan ahead.

Office parties, dinner parties, and pot-luck feasts are not feeding frenzies or grazing opportunities. Plan not to skip meals that day so that you do not arrive starved. Plan to include or continue your regular exercise throughout the holidays. Plan to bring a lowfat dish, if pot-luck style, so that you have at least one good choice. Skip fried foods and take only small bites of heavy, fat laden foods. Refuse dessert if you are not hungry.

Alcoholic beverages not only contain calories, but they reduce your ability to sense physical hunger and weaken your control. Drink with moderation or plan to bring a non-alcoholic or diet beverage.

The holidays are not a time to deprive yourself, nor are they a time to overindulge. So, eat and drink moderately, so that you are merry not sorry.

Babauta... continued from page 1

Lugo saying OTIA should have been functioning more as advocates of the territories and those who could have lobbied on their behalf when it comes to federal agency dealings.

"To a certain extent, Interior may have been advocates of the areas. But in my opinion, they have not done enough, thereby rendering their role ineffective. We, insular areas definitely need more attention," said Babauta.

Babauta shared the three delegates' non-acceptance of a paternalistic role for OTIA in the proposed policy council saying what is needed is a policy that could enable insular areas to deal directly with federal agencies.

Babbitt, for the last few months, has been trying to draw up a consensus among leaders of insular area governments as the federal government gets ready with the creation of a formal institutional structure within the White House for territorial issues.

The delegates said what they are seeking is a way to compensate for the areas' lack of power in the regular federal process. Additionally, while it should enable them to get attention at the level states do, any system should also provide for individual consider-

ation of the different situations and needs of various insular areas.

One of the elements stated by De Lugo and company in the policy council proposal is one that will provide for Northern Mariana Islands relations issues to be negotiated by a representative of the president, as required by the US-CNMI Covenant and the law that approved it.

Such an official should be a real representative of the president and report to the White House. It should also provide for other matters to be handled directly by agencies with the CNMI's Resident Representative, as also intended by the Covenant.

According to Babauta, he fully agrees to such a proposal as it would basically strengthen adherence to the Covenant.

"There are provisions in the Covenant that pertain to US-CNMI consultation and I am glad that Mr. De Lugo, recognized that it is time we adhere more to the Covenant, regardless of the proposed council's role," said Babauta.

"I sincerely hope that the creation of the council will not eclipse the advantages the CNMI has with the Covenant," the Washington representative added.

Flame Tree Brass to perform at La Fiesta

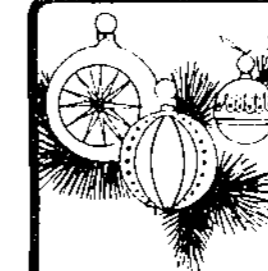
The Flame Tree Brass, a Saipan Brass Quintet featuring Trumpets, French Horn, Trombone, and Tuba will be performing LIVE at La Fiesta-San Roque Mall on Wednesdays, December 22 and 29 at 6:00 p.m.

The Flame Tree Brass perform a variety of traditional Christmas music

and other special selections, said in news release from FTB.

The group offers a unique music listening experience on Saipan. Proceeds from performances this Holiday season will benefit KARIDAT, a Northern Marianas Social Services Agency.

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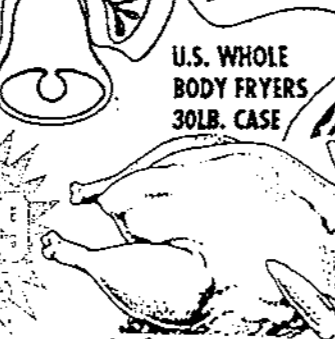




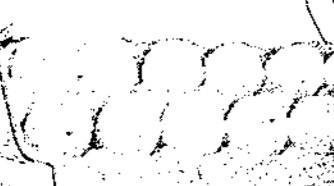

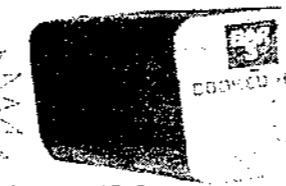
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Russia: It might be worth staying awhile

By CARL HARTMAN

MOSCOW (AP) — If you're looking for a spot to spend a long, cheap, cool vacation, give some thought to Russia. But don't make the trip until late spring or summer.

A sojourn in Russia, which requires a spirit of adventure and an interest in giving up cornflakes (\$6 a box) for caviar (only about \$2 an ounce), can be instructive.

Streets in Moscow and St. Petersburg are an endless fascination of majestic classical buildings, Stalin-style skyscrapers, kiosks that sell everything from caviar to

Korean sportshirts. Moscow has fantastically painted churches that look like daring designs for wedding cakes.

St. Petersburg offers the Hermitage, with its great collection of art, and a wealth of other palaces built by Peter the Great and his successors.

Summer temperatures in Moscow and St. Petersburg rarely reach 80 degrees (26.6 degrees) and the days are long: In July it doesn't really get dark until after 11. There can still be snow in May, but June is usually nice. So is September, and often the first half of October.

Group tours are cheap in winter, for good reason. If the Russian winter defeated Napoleon and Hitler, it can be expected to vanquish the average tourist.

A standard economy-class flight from New York to Moscow can cost \$1,197 each way, but some agencies advertise flights for as little as \$420.

If you have time, get a bargain flight to western Europe and take a train to Poland, then find a cheap fare in local currency.

Surveys call Moscow one of the world's most expensive capitals. They are right if you stay at the Metropole, where the cheapest single room costs \$330 and breakfast is \$22 - hard currency, please, no rubles accepted.

More modest hotels have rooms for \$30 to \$40 if you can stand a little discomfort and uncertain plumbing.

The bed and breakfast industry is thriving. U.S. agencies can arrange accommodations starting at about \$75 for a double, but prices negotiated on the spot are much lower. Some proprietors also will do a generous home-cooked dinner for about \$8.

Food is plentiful, and sometimes a surprise. The hostess at a bed-and-breakfast may serve cold fish and chocolate cake for breakfast, and feel hurt if you refuse.

Try restaurants run by people from Georgia, which supplies much of the best food and wine to

Moscow and St. Petersburg. Russians will recommend a careful look at the bill, which will be immense by their standards but reasonable compared with New York or Paris.

Russia's dual economy is an endless fascination. A man's haircut can be had for the equivalent of 70 cents, but a glass of fruit juice in a cafe for foreigners may cost more than \$3.

A good seat for the opera or ballet at the Moussoorgsky Theater in St. Petersburg

goes for 40 rubles, or 4 cents, and movie tickets are 20 cents.

For the Bolshoi in Moscow, however, you may have to pay a scalper \$20 or \$30 for an orchestra ticket that cost him 75 cents.

Just a few cents will buy entry to the Kremlin, but once inside, the price of looking at the czar's jewels might be another \$17. You can pass.

The International Herald Tribune costs \$2, but two interesting English-language dailies are given away in hotel lobbies.

While a buffet dinner and a performance by Alla Pugachova, one of Russia's most popular singers, may cost \$250 a person, some restaurants serve good meals with wine for about \$15.

But choose the restaurant carefully. Some keep the food around until they sell it, and refrigeration is not all that common.

If you worry about the water, and you probably should, beer, canned

fruit drinks and bottled mineral water are plentiful. American colas have become almost a mania. Travel in Moscow is cheap. The subway, magnificently designed but getting grimy, costs 10 rubles, about a penny.

Bus rides are only one ruble, but you punch your own ticket on an honor system, so few people seem to pay even that. Apparently, only the very timid seem to fear being caught by an inspector and fined 500 rubles (50 cents).

Taxi drivers will ask high prices but are willing to bargain, especially with someone who can say "I have no dollars" in Russian. A Russian-speaking friend argued a driver into a trip halfway across St. Petersburg for 2,000 rubles (\$2).

Foreigners are supposed to pay 7,000 rubles (\$7) to get into the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, but Russians pay only 40 rubles, and sometimes one will buy a ticket for you. If you are young and wear jeans, a Florida T-shirt and dirty running shoes - the current uniform - you may pass for a Russian.

Even if you have no Russian, it is wise to learn the Cyrillic alphabet. The men's room is marked with an M, which is the same in both alphabets, but the one on the ladies' looks like an X with a vertical bar down the middle. In the subway, you need the Cyrillic alphabet to tell where you are.

Graves retiring, Sakamoto named to AP's Hawaii Chief

NEW YORK (AP) — Gordon Sakamoto, a veteran Hawaii newsman, has been named chief of bureau in Honolulu for The Associated Press, responsible for AP operations in Hawaii and the Central Pacific.

The appointment was announced today by Louis D. Boccardi, president and chief executive officer of the AP.

Sakamoto, 58, succeeds Howard Graves, who is retiring after 41 years with the AP.

Sakamoto joined the AP in April after working for five years as a marketing specialist for the state of Hawaii.

He also worked for United Press International for 27 years in San Francisco and Honolulu, where he was in charge of Hawaii operations.

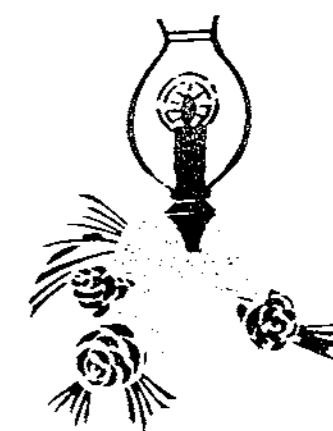
Sakamoto is a native of Honolulu and a graduate of Missouri Valley College.

Graves, 67, has been bureau chief in Honolulu since 1982. He earlier was bureau chief in Portland, Ore., and Albuquerque, N.M., and held other news assignments in Little Rock, Helena and Denver.

He is a native of Robinson, Ill.



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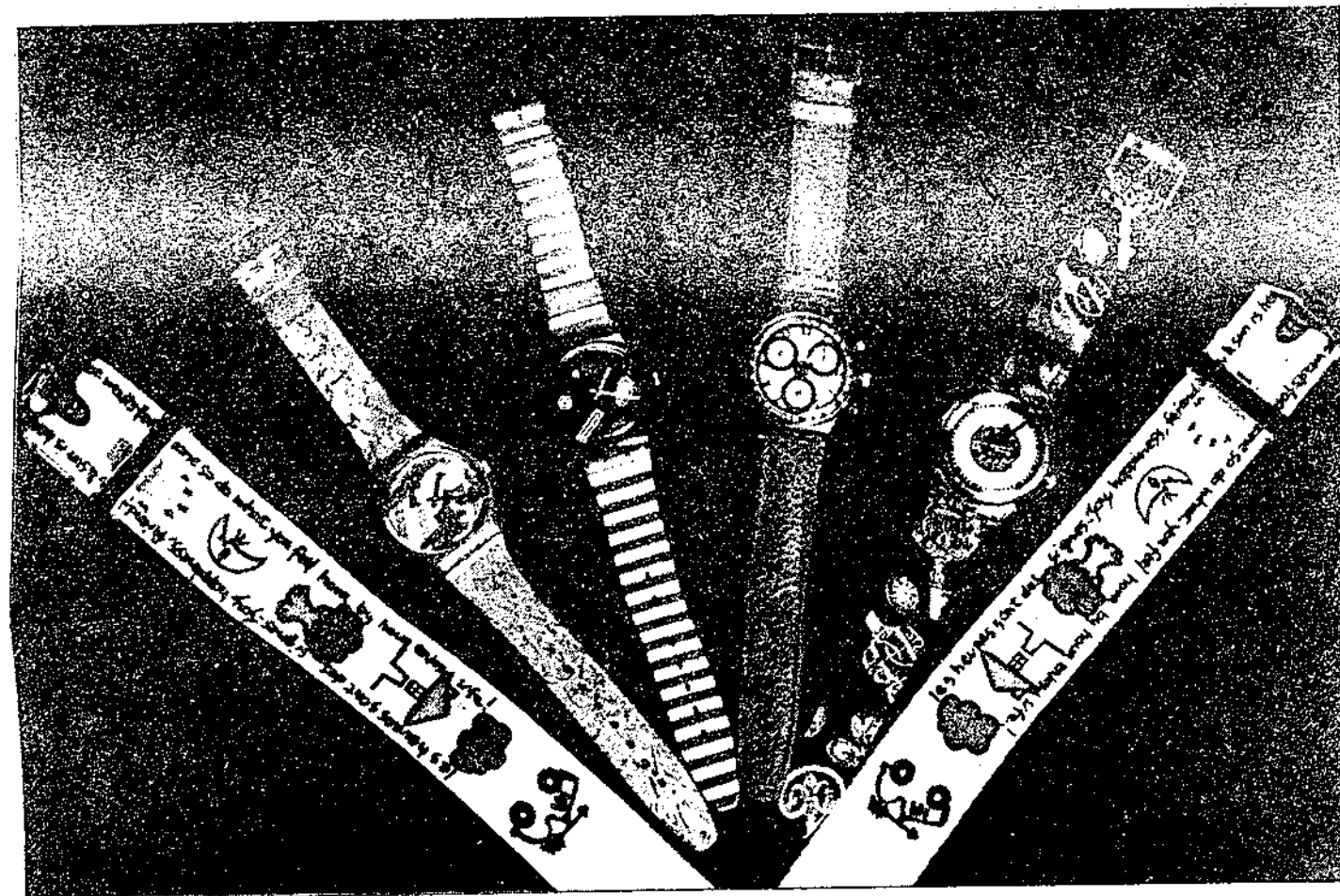
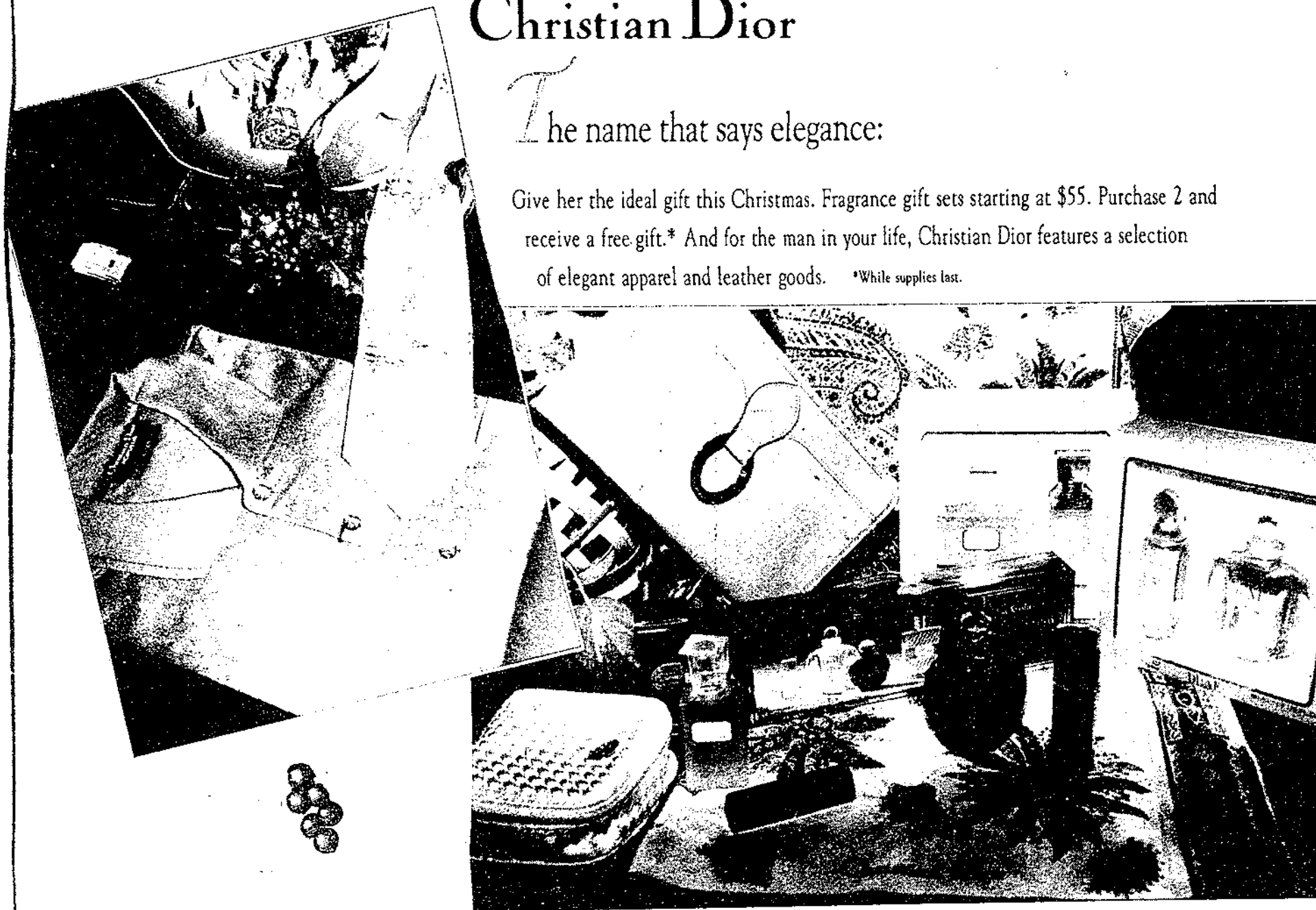


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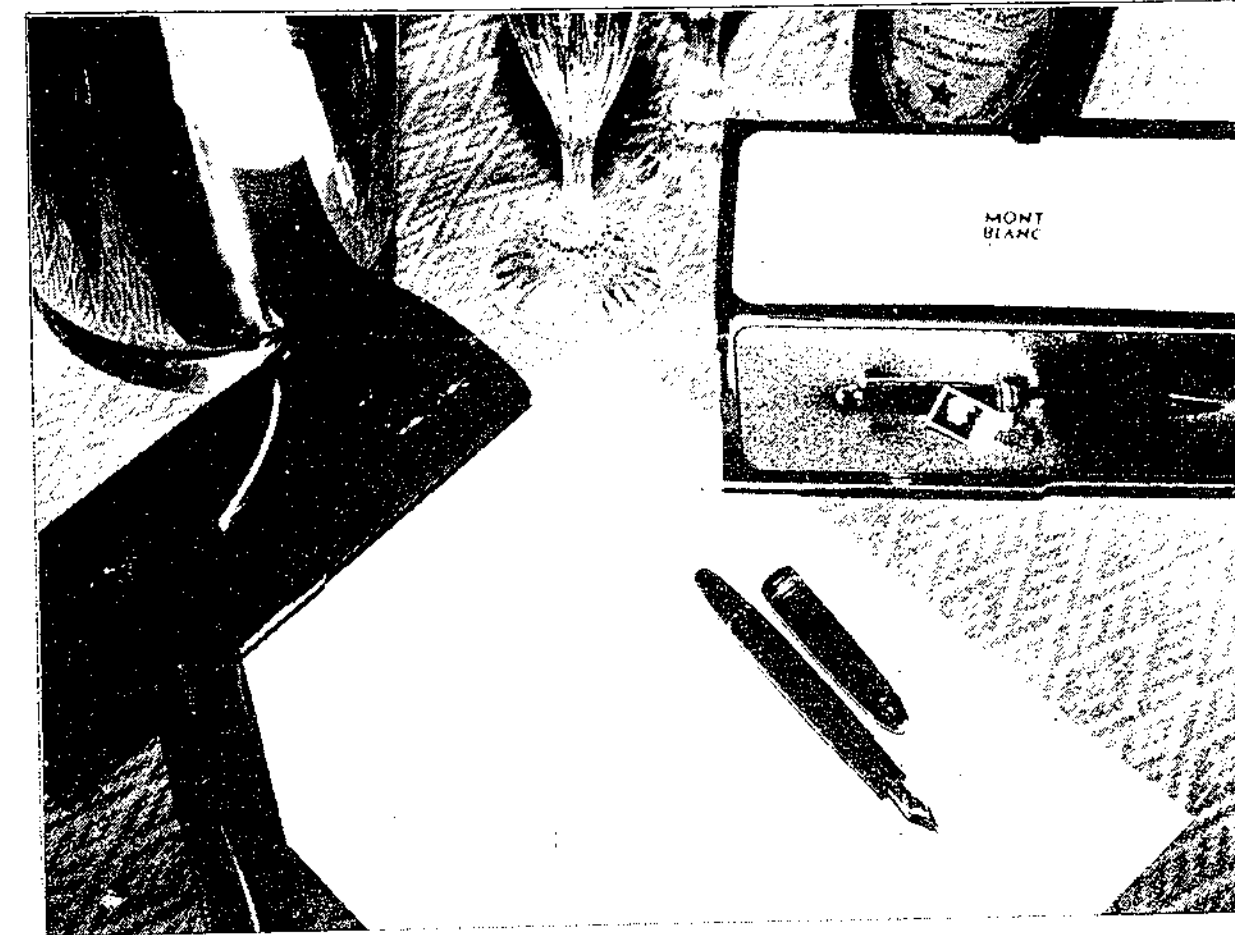


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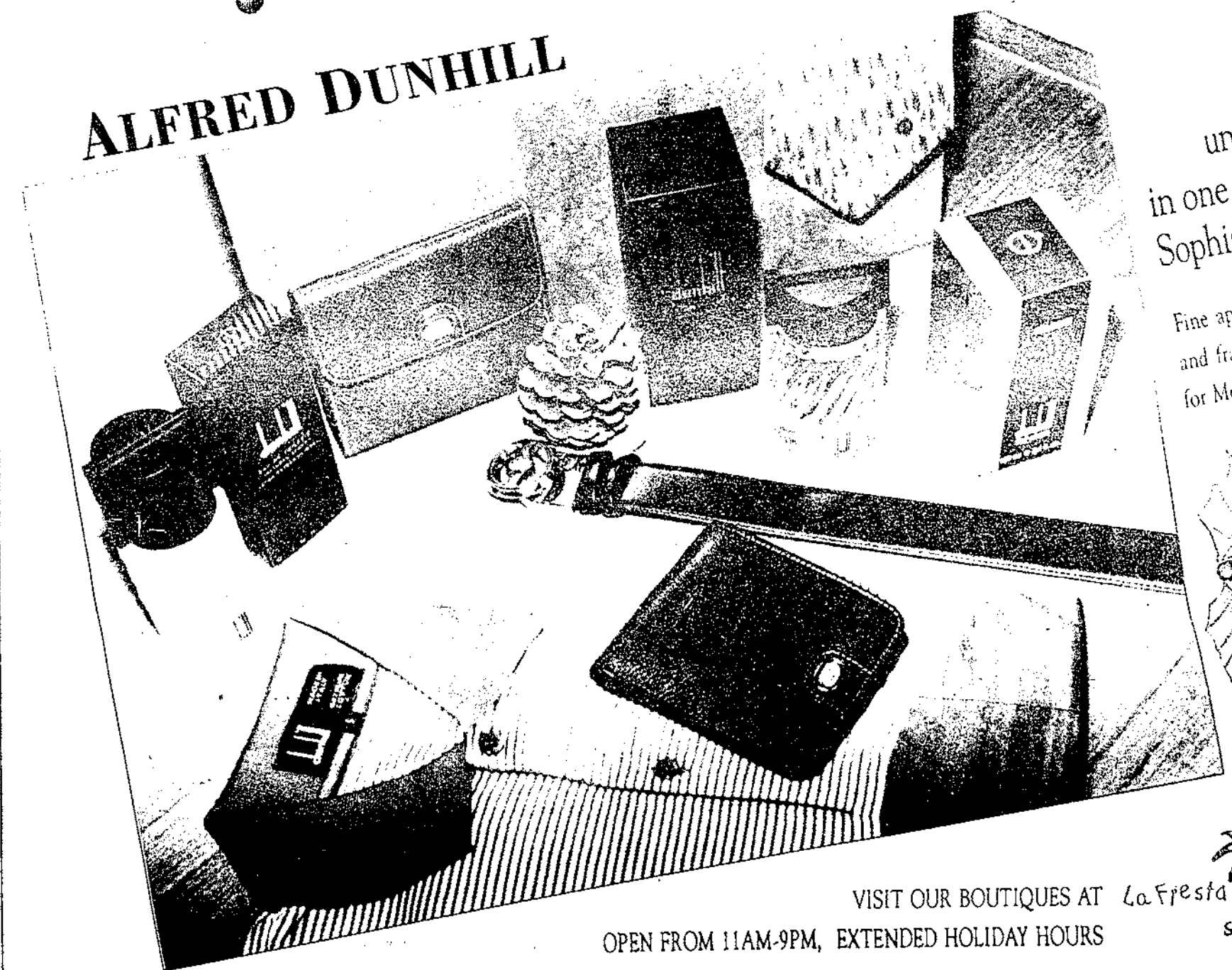
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ALFRED DUNHILL



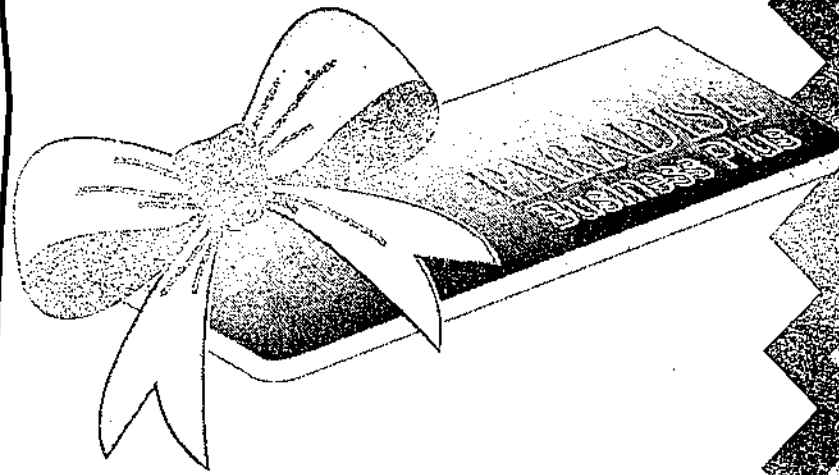
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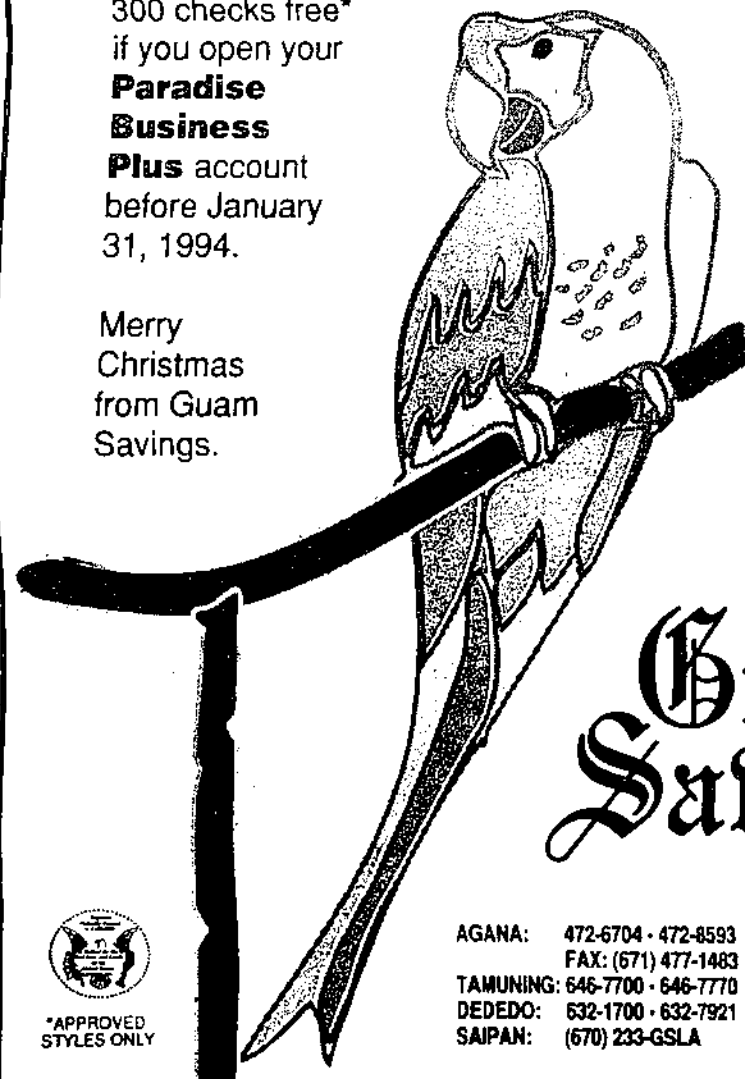


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White House admits papers removed from office of dead aide

By TERENCE HUNT

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is acknowledging that records of business deals involving President Clinton and his wife were removed from the office of deputy counsel Vincent Foster Jr. by a top administration official two days after Foster's suicide.

The White House said late Monday that White House counsel Bernard Nussbaum on July 22 took control of tax materials and records of the Clintons' dealings with an Arkansas real estate partnership known as Whitewater Development Corp. and sent them to the president's personal attorney in Washington. Foster killed himself July 20.

Investigators probing Whitewater and the operator of a failed Arkansas savings and loan association were not allowed to review the materials.

White House communications director Mark Gearan said the files were in the possession of David Kendall, the president's personal attorney.

In the presence of law enforcement officials, Nussbaum personally examined the documents and decided on their disposition, Gearan said. The law enforcement officials were not given an opportunity to inspect the papers, Gearan said.

"It was just the process," Gearan added. "Bernie categorized them."

"All the files were handled appropriately," Gearan said. "They (the Clintons) are not the subject of any investigation."

Gearan issued a statement on the papers in Foster's office after The Washington Times published a story Monday under the headline, "Clinton papers lifted after aide's suicide."

Quoting two unidentified U.S. Park Police investigators, the newspaper said Foster's office was searched by Nussbaum and two Clinton political operatives less than three hours after Foster's body was found.

The story said the documents taken from Foster's office included files he maintained on Whitewater and on James B. McDougal, a Whitewater partner and owner of a failed Arkansas savings and loan.

Questions about the Whitewater real estate venture emerged when the Justice Department opened a criminal investigation of the Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan owned by McDougal. The probe is focusing on whether McDougal drained funds from the S-and-L to back real estate projects—including Whitewater — or to benefit politicians, including Clinton.

Gearan said files found in Foster's office were examined by Nussbaum on July 22 "in the presence of representatives of various law enforcement agencies."

Afterward, Clinton's papers were sent to his attorney, while files pertaining to Foster's White House duties were kept in the counsel's offices and files personal to Foster and his family were sent to his family's personal attorney, Gearan said.

US gov't. . . continued from page 1

sent by Christopher on May 6, 1993, six months before the holding of a referendum on the Compact of Free Association, which Palauans approved overwhelmingly.

In his letter, Christopher assured President Nakamura of the United States' commitment to the terms of the amended version of the compact covering military land use rights, federal programs, civil aviation and construction of a 53-mile long road system.

Convinced that the contents of Christopher's letter were binding, Palau's legislature enacted Public Law 4-9 incorporating some of the contents of the letter.

On August 4, 1993 however, Assistant Interior Secretary for Territorial and International Affairs Leslie Turner forwarded a letter to President Nakamura indicating that Palau's understanding of Christopher's letter "constituted internal enactment."

In the same memorandum, Turner also clarified that Christopher's letter was not an agreed bilateral agreement and that the language of the compact would prevail over the May 6 letter of the state department chief.

The plaintiffs complained that the different views coming from

two key U.S. government departments were confusing.

With barely three weeks before voting in a referendum, the ten Palauans filed the case at the district court last October. The federal court was asked to declare the right of Palauans to rely upon Secretary Christopher's letter as binding upon the compact interpretation and implementation.

The Compact of Free Association was anyhow ratified by the people of Palau on November 9.

However, the state and interior departments must still answer the complaint.

In approving the request for extension, Judge Munson said the plaintiffs' attorney in Palau must be served with a copy of the order via fax machine and through the mail.

The U.S. District Attorney's office was able to mail a copy of the extension however it failed to send a copy via facsimile.

It said the assistance of a local telephone company was sought a number of times to be able to reach atty. Wolff, but to no avail.

Telephone operator reportedly said that he could not make any connection to the lawyer's number.

Dollar, Gold settle mostly lower

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. dollar settled lower against most key currencies but continued to rise against the Japanese yen in subdued trading Tuesday.

Gold prices posted gains in Asia then declined across the board. On the New York Commodity Exchange, gold bullion for current delivery settled at \$387.90 a troy ounce, down \$1.40 from Monday. Republic National Bank said gold lost \$1.50 an ounce to a late bid price of \$387.50.

Trading continued to focus on the Japanese yen and the Swiss franc. The dollar strengthened against the yen amid more talk that the Japanese central bank might cut interest rates early next year to stimulate the economy.

Lower interest rates would further undermine the yen by making yields on yen-denominated securities less attractive to investors.

Further, "the market is now really beginning to get nervous over the economic and political situation in Japan," said Stephen Flanagan, a vice president at PaineWebber Inc. "That's keeping the yen weak."

The market largely ignored comments by Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, who said he doesn't envision the United States intervening to support the Japanese currency. Bentsen also said he was disappointed so little progress has been made in opening Japanese markets to U.S. goods.

The dollar was out of the spotlight most of the day. The Swiss franc drew strength and Europe's "safe haven" currency moved higher. Flanagan noted that amid Germany's economic problems and growing disputes with labor, investors are inclined to abandon the German mark, and the Swiss franc has been the primary beneficiary.

"For the dollar at this time of year, it's more of a speculative market, and that means dealers are not necessarily trading the dollar," Flanagan said. Most dealers have settled their accounts and are awaiting the new year.

In Tokyo, the dollar closed at 110.75 yen, up 0.48 yen from Monday's close. Later in London, the dollar was quoted

Grain futures end mostly higher in quiet session

CHICAGO (AP) - Grain and soybean futures prices ended mostly higher in quiet trading Tuesday on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Support stemmed from strong overseas sales of soybean oil and generally strong export demand for wheat, said David Armstrong, grains analyst with the Chicago Corp.

He said traders were disappointed by indications Morocco bought wheat from France instead of the United States but the wheat market refused to break sharply on news.

Wheat for March delivery rose 1 1-2 cents to \$3.73 1-4 a bushel; March corn rose 1-2 cent to \$2.98 3-4 a bushel; March oats rose 1 1-2 cents to \$1.35 a bushel; January soybeans climbed 2 cents to \$6.87 3-4 a bushel.

at 111.00 yen. In New York, the dollar settled at 111.18 yen, up from 110.65 yen on Monday.


In London, the British pound rose to \$1.4880 from \$1.4855 late Monday. In New York it cost \$1.4880 to buy one pound, more expensive than Monday's \$1.4860.

Other late dollar rates in New York, compared with late Monday's rates included: 1.7103 German marks, down from 1.7125; 1.4503 Swiss francs, down from 1.4580; 5.8155 French francs, down from 5.8388; 1,669.00 Italian lire, down from 1,673.00, and 1.3449 Canadian dollars, up from 1.3438.

Gold fell in London to a late bid price of \$388.25 a troy ounce, compared with \$389.50 bid late Monday. In Zurich, the metal fell to a late bid of \$387.75 from \$388.60.

On New York's Comex, silver bullion for current delivery settled at \$5.063 a troy ounce, down from \$5.108 on Monday.

*On the 26th of December,
You will Pass the Century Mark and
Celebrate the Most Memorable Day
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May You have more Birthdays to
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this coming New Century.*



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Businesses plan investment in plant and equipment

By DAVE SKIDMORE

WASHINGTON (AP) — American businesses plan a third consecutive increase in investment spending next year, taking advantage of low interest rates and strong profits to buy efficiency-enhancing equipment. Based on a survey of more than 7,800 businesses in October and November, the Commerce Department on Tuesday estimated plans for spending on equipment

and buildings next year at \$ 617 billion, up 5.4 percent from this year. Helped by low interest rates and high corporate profits, capital spending has been one of the economy's strongest sectors almost since the end of the 1990-91 recession. Pressured by their inability to make price increases stick, companies are buying computers and other high-tech equipment to make their operations more cost-

efficient. However, at the same time, they've been slower to expand their payrolls than during other post-World-War II recoveries. "We're seeing an unusual amount of investment spending for such a weak economic recovery," said economist Priscilla Trumbull of The WEFA Group, a Bala Cynwyd, Pa., forecasting firm. "But it's largely because businesses have to invest to make

their workers more productive and lower costs. When prices don't increase, the only way to increase profits is to cut costs," she said. This year's estimated investment spending increase, 7 percent, would be the best since 1989. It marks a slight downward revision from the 7.1 percent estimate three months ago, but an increase from the 5.3 percent estimate a year ago. Trumbull said investment spending could show a similar pattern in 1994, with businesses starting out relatively cautious and then increasing their plans as economic growth holds up through the year. Spending rose 3.4 percent in 1992 after recording a rare 0.8 percent drop in 1991. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown said investment plans for 1994 "suggest economic growth should be sustained into the next year, reflecting continued balance in the recovery between consumption and investment." Economist Maury N. Harris of PaineWebber Inc. said increased investment by American companies should expand their productive capacity and help avoid inflation-causing

production bottlenecks. "The healthy increases in domestic capacity will help contain inflation. That's the good news out of this," he said. Manufacturers plan a 3.8 percent increase in investment spending next year, compared with a 3.1 percent rise in 1993. Non-manufacturing companies plan a 6.2 percent increase, following an 8.8 percent increase this year. Among the industries with the largest increases planned next year were blast furnaces and steel works, 25.9 percent; stone, clay and glass manufacturers, 15.5 percent; electric utilities, 10 percent, and food and beverage companies, 9.9 percent. Those projecting declines included airlines, 35 percent; aircraft manufacturers, 21.1 percent, and non-iron and steel metal goods manufacturers, 10.8 percent. Trumbull said the strength in steel reflects the development of new "mini-mills." Gains in stone, clay and glass products are related to the upturn in residential construction. The drop in non-iron and steel spending reflects the weak worldwide market for aluminum.

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION



From the family of the late
Bernadita Camacho Reyes (Pinkerton)



Words cannot express our sincerest appreciation to all our relatives and friends for your kind expression of sympathy extended to us during our sorrow and grief. Your presence at the rosary, funeral mass and burial have enlightened the heavy burden we carry in our hearts.

We would also like to extend our thank you's to the management and staff of the Commonwealth Health Center, Saipan, the Medical Referral staff at CHC, the staff of the Straub Hospital in Honolulu, Bishop Tomas Camacho and Fathers Patrick, Eric, Roque and clergy members, Frank Cabrera Funeral Service, Blossoms Floral Shop, Mrs. Margaret Dela Cruz, our te'cha, Mrs. Frances S. Ramon (Deda), and most of all...Bernie's friends.

For this and all other forms of assistance that you have given us, we sincerely say...

...DANGKULU NA SI YU'US MA'ASE!

The Family

Christmas Used Car Sale

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Japanese companies to explore oil in Vietnam

By BRUCE STANLEY

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Mobil Corp. and three Japanese companies have been awarded the right to explore a potentially large oil and natural gas field off the coast of Vietnam, an official for one of the Japanese companies confirmed Tuesday. The four won a 72.5 percent interest in a block containing the Thanh Long (Blue Dragon) structure, which some industry experts believe to contain more than 700 million barrels of oil. Nissho Iwai Corp., one of the consortium partners, learned of the award Tuesday at its Tokyo headquarters, said a company official in Hanoi, who spoke on condition of anonymity. The other consortium members are Japan Exploration Co. Ltd.,

and Indonesia Petroleum Ltd., also a Japanese company. Mobil reportedly holds a 50 percent share in the consortium, Japan Exploration 25 percent, Indonesia Petroleum 15 percent and Nissho Iwai 10 percent. Mobil officials could not be reached for immediate comment. The remainder of the block is to be held 15 percent by PetroVietnam, the state-owned Vietnamese oil company, and 12.5 percent by Zarubejincft, a Russian company. Mobil was the only American company to bid to explore the block, which lies off the coast of southern Vietnam. Under terms of the 19-year-old U.S. economic embargo against Vietnam, Mobil can gather seismic data and do test drilling, but cannot pump or sell any oil. Some industry experts say exploratory tests could take up to two years and that Blue Dragon might not make money for at least five. Mobil struck oil in the 1970s off the coast of what was then South Vietnam. It pulled out after the Saigon government fell to North Vietnamese Communist troops in 1975. Vietnam is now producing oil in commercial quantities at only one offshore field, known as Bach Ho (White Tiger). VietSovPetro, a Vietnamese-Russian joint venture, is the producer. Preparations are under way for development at two other fields, Rong (Dragon) and Dai Hung (Big Bear). Together, the three known fields are estimated by some industry analysts to have a total recoverable oil reserve of 750 million barrels.

World's trouble spots faced with food shortages

By NICK LUDINGTON

WASHINGTON (AP) — Millions of people in 20 countries stricken by war or civil turmoil are faced with starvation and malnutrition in 1994, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. "There is plenty of food to feed all of the world's 5.4 million

people," said Edouard Saouma, FAO's director-general. But he said it is difficult to grow food and distribute it efficiently to the starving and malnourished in nations wracked with wars, civil wars and economic chaos. Saouma issued a statement with Tuesday's release of FAO's report, "Food Outlook." The report said "grave regional food short-

ages persist." Most of the threatened populations are in Africa. In Angola, Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sierre Leone, Somalia, and Sudan political strife or civil war disrupt growing and distribution. Adverse weather conditions affected harvests in some countries.

In Europe, fighting in former Communist states of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia, Georgia and Tajikistan is disrupting food supplies. In Iraq, hit by a U.N. embargo and factional fighting, "the food and nutritional situation continues to deteriorate," the report said. Continuing civil war in Afghanistan will mean continuing food short-

ages there. "In Haiti despite normal crop production so far this year, the food supply situation is extremely serious due to disruption of domestic economic activity and disruption of the flow of humanitarian assistance," the report said. World production of cereals - the basic diet in most countries - dropped 4 percent in 1993 the FAO said.

Budget deficit running 2.8 percent higher in fiscal 1994

By DAVE SKIDMORE

WASHINGTON (AP) — Increased spending on federal retirement and medical benefits helped boost the budget deficit in the first two months of the new

fiscal year by 2.8 percent over last year, the government said Tuesday. The deficit in November totaled \$38.4 billion, up 17.3 percent from a year ago. The combined shortfall for November and October, the

first month of fiscal 1994, totaled \$83.8 billion, up from \$ 81.5 billion a year earlier. And chances are the red ink will continue to accumulate more rapidly than a year earlier because the government is resuming its savings and loan cleanup program after a stall of more than year and a half.

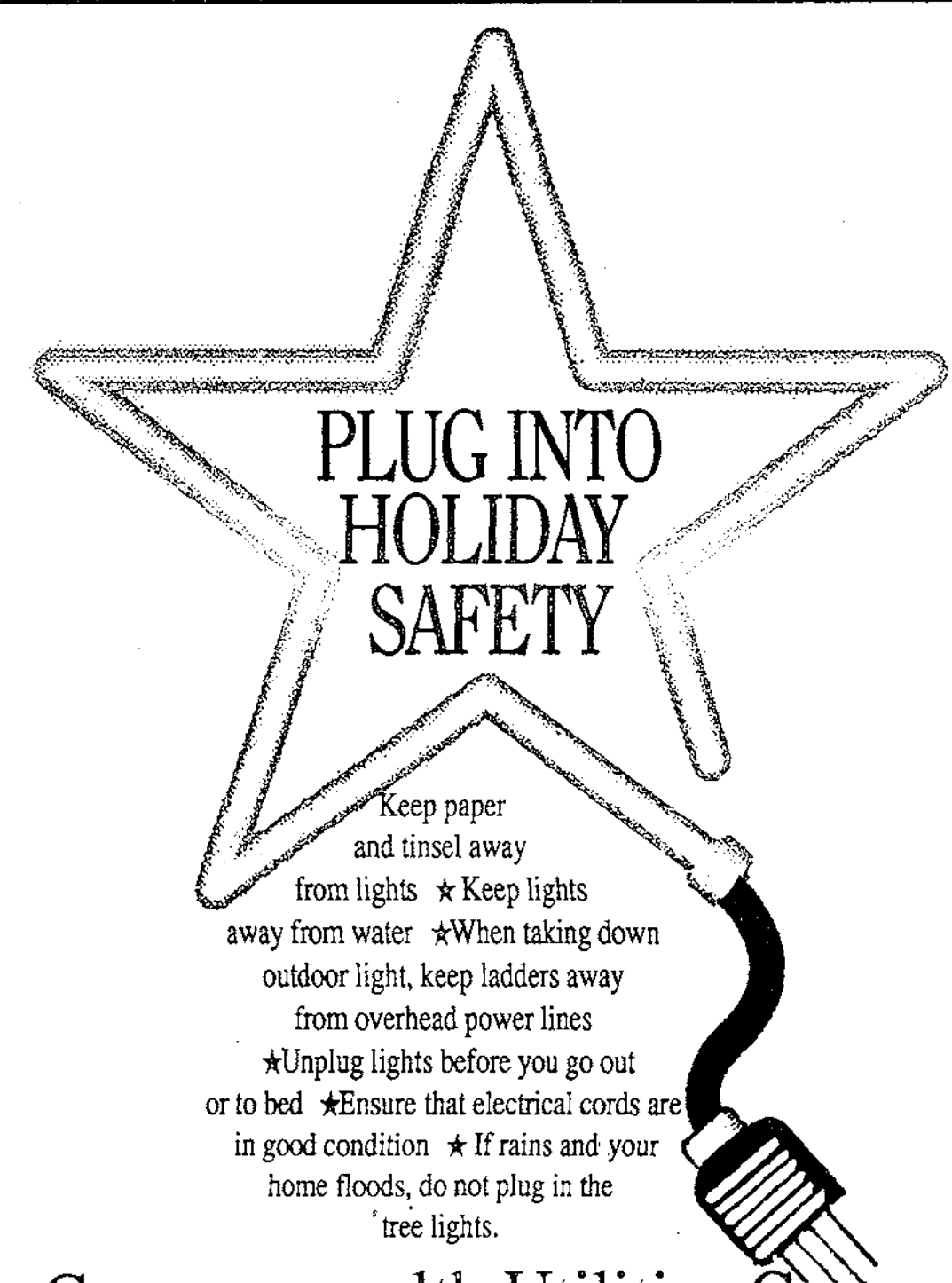
Spending on Social Security totaled \$25.5 billion in November and \$50.1 billion for the fiscal year so far, up 6.8 percent from a year ago. Spending by the Department of Health and Human Services for everything except Social Security also was \$50.1 billion for the year so far. That's 12.5 percent higher than last year. This category, which includes Medicare and Medicaid, totaled \$24.7 billion in November.

Offsetting the increased benefit spending were declines in military expenditures and interest on the public debt. Defense spending totaled \$21.8 billion in November and \$44.9 billion so far this fiscal year, down 2.1 percent from the year before. Interest on the public debt was \$22.3 billion last month and \$39.9 billion so far this year, down 1.4 percent from a year ago. The government's deficit in 1993, which ended Sept. 30, totaled \$254.7 billion, a three-year low, after hitting a record \$290.3 billion in 1992. The Clinton administration projects the deficit will rise slightly this year, to \$ 258.7 billion.

Waitress...

continued from page 1 which the CNMI government owned, making the three liable for the alleged unlawful arrest, the complaint stated. No criminal charges were filed against the waitress at the time of her incarceration and even until now. The plaintiff was totally unable to go to work and sustained damages for loss of earnings as a result of her arrest, the civil case filed on Tuesday said. "By reason of... unlawful conduct of defendants, and each of them, plaintiff suffered, and continues to suffer, great humiliation, embarrassment, and physical and mental suffering, as well as loss of reputation in and among her co-workers, associates, family and friends." Carandang enumerated several constitutional provisions as her bases for filing the case. The defendants' actions violated the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. constitution and Article I, Section 3 and 5 of the CNMI constitution, she said. The said provisions guarantee the right to be secure in person, papers, and affects against unreasonable searches and seizures. The waitress also cited her right to an attorney and to be informed of the nature and cause of the charge against her as guaranteed by the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments. Other rights which according to Carandang were violated by the defendants include the right not to be deprived of right to life, liberty or property, right to privacy. "The actions, conduct and behavior of defendants, and each of them, were performed knowingly, intentionally and maliciously, (thus) the plaintiff is entitled to an award of punitive damages," the complaint filed by Atty. James S. Sirok said. Carandang is asking the district court to award her compensatory damages not less than \$100,000 for each of the defendants. She also wants the federal court to award her punitive damages in the amount not less than \$200,000 for each of the defendants. These are on top of the actual damages of not less than \$1,000 and attorney's fees which the plaintiff is asking from the court. If the district court awarded all the damages, Carandang will receive more than \$900,000, making her a virtual millionaire.

President Clinton signed legislation Friday making available up to \$18.3 billion to the Resolution Trust Corp. The agency plans this week to begin advertising most of the 63 insolvent Savings and Loans in government custody. It sells them



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- ★ If rains and your home floods, do not plug in the tree lights.

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Board of Directors, Management & Staff

U.S. report limited trade talk progress

By P.H. FERGUSON

TOKYO (AP) — U.S. and Japanese negotiators made little headway in their latest round of talks on ensuring Japanese protection for American copyrights and other intellectual property rights, a U.S. official said Tuesday.

"It's going to be a very difficult series of talks," said Michael Kirk, acting assistant secretary of commerce. "I'm not optimistic about the direction talks have gone so far."

The talks are a part of the so-called framework talks initiated by the Clinton administration. The aim is to reduce the large U.S. deficit in trade with Japan by negotiating a wider opening of the Japanese market in such areas as pharmaceuticals, insurance, automobiles and construction.

Kirk said his Japanese counterparts lacked a "sense of willingness" and that the United States "is going to have to consider additional

measures to try to move the intellectual property issue forward."

He declined to say whether that might include trade sanctions.

A major issue in the intellectual property rights talks is decompiling software, a step Japan is considering allowing. U.S. software accounts for some 55 percent of the packaged software bought in Japan and about 75 percent worldwide, U.S. trade officials say.

When software is decompiled, its codes and blueprints are analyzed. Unscrupulous programmers can make a few changes in a program's basic form and sell it as their own.

The recently concluded Uruguay Round of global trade talks included agreements on the protection of software and intellectual property rights, but those agreements will not go into effect until 1996. The United States hopes to clinch an agreement with Japan by next summer.

The software market, Kirk said, is a leading export earner and "the U.S. is going to protect its exports."

Vending machines to be removed from Tokyo streets

TOKYO (AP) — Merchants have been ordered to remove more than 35,000 vending machines that encroach on Tokyo streets, police said Tuesday.

Tokyo's bottler of Coca Cola estimated the order would cost it more than 6 billion yen (\$54.5 million).

After citizen complaints about machines intruding in public space on streets, police investigated all vending machines in Tokyo between Oct. 25 and Nov. 10, said a police official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

He said police ordered the owners to remove 35,914 intruding machines by the end of this year. Violators face up to one year in prison or 200,000 yen (\$1,800) in fines, he added.

Japan is the undisputed vending machine capital of the world. It has 5.41 million vending machines, one for every 23 people, according to the Japan Vending Machine Manufacturers Association. The U.S. ratio is one machine to 42 people.

Vending machines take in at least \$4.15 billion a year and offer almost

anything small enough to fit inside. Their wares include soft drinks, alcohol, tobacco, food, pearl necklaces, freeze-dried noodles with hot water and chopsticks, and condoms.

Teisuo Higura of Tokyo Coca Cola Bottling Co. said police ordered it to remove 12,000 of its 50,000 vending machines, and the company has bought 4,700 slimmer new machines to replace wider machines.

Higura said the purchase cost the company 3.2 billion yen (\$29 million) and the company's sales would decline by 3 billion yen (\$27 million) because some machines could not be replaced at their present locations.

He said Tokyo Coca Cola bottling, an independent Japanese sales company with exclusive sales rights for Coca Cola drinks in Tokyo, has annual sales of about 120 billion yen (\$1.1 billion).

Another sales company, Hachyo Co., said 3,000 of its 13,000 vending machines were ordered removed and the company estimated the loss of sales revenue at more than 1 billion yen (\$9 million).

ASEAN sets up sugar association

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Indonesia and the Philippines have formed an ASEAN Sugar Cane Technologies Association to bolster cooperation toward improved efficiency among the region's sugar producers, an Indonesian official said Tuesday.

The association is necessary to anticipate competition following conclusion of a new global trade accord lowering trade barriers, said Syamsir, chairman of the Indonesian Association of Sugar Experts and of the new association.

ASEAN — the Association of Southeast Asian Nations — groups Indonesia, the Philippines, Thai-

land, Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.

"Currently, we are not ready to compete against sugar imports from the European Community, which provides subsidies for its agricultural products," Syamsir said.

So far, he added, ASEAN members have not imported any sugar from the EC. They produce enough sugar for the region's needs, he said.

Indonesia annually produces 2.5 million tons of sugar, Thailand 4 million tons, the Philippines 2.1 million tons and Malaysia 500,000 tons.

Syamsir said documents establishing the new association were signed Saturday.

PUBLIC NOTICE
In the Superior court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

ADOPTION CASE NO. 93-141
In the matter of the Petition for the adoption of:
LIEZLE DORONILA LUMAUG
and **LYNDON DORONILA LUMAUG**,
Minors,
By: **MALACHY A. CULLEN**,
Petitioner,

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on December 30, 1993, Thursday, at 1:30 PM in the courthouse of the Superior Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the petitioner will petition the Court to adopt the above-mentioned minors.
Dated this 21st day of December, 1993.

REYNALDO O. YANA
Attorney for Petitioner

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1 SALES MANAGER - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.15-\$3.00 per hour.
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1 CARPENTER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.25-\$2.50 per hour.
Contact: ISLAND WINDS CORPORATION, P.O. Box 1960, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 233-0508(12/30)TH/13813.
1 MANAGER - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$1,000 per month.
1 SUPERVISOR - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$4.05 per hour.
5 WAITRESS, NIGHT CLUB
2 SINGER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45 per hour.
Contact: GEMS CORPORATION dba Coco Club & Restaurant, P.O. Box 1519, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-3777(12/23)TH/13745.

1 GENERAL MANAGER - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$1,200 per month.
Contact: MECHILLE CORPORATION dba Tong Yang Carpet, BIF Furniture & Esquire Beauty & Facial Shop, P.O. Box 1568, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-1361/62(12/23)TH/13746.
1 DISPATCHER
1 AUTO MECHANIC - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45-\$3.00 per hour.
1 ELECTRICIAN
1 MECHANIC HELPER
1 BLOCK MAKER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45 per hour.
5 PLUMBERS
3 CARPENTERS - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45-\$4.00 per hour.
5 PLUMBERS - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45-\$5.00 per hour.
1 LATHE MACHINIST - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.70-\$3.00 per hour.
Contact: CONSTRUCTION & MATERIAL SUPPLY, INC., P.O. Box 609, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-6136(12/30)TH/7291.

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1 CIVIL ENGINEER - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$5.80 per hour.
Contact: MELITON L. RAMOS JR. dba Melram Enterprises, P.O. Box 537 CHR, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-3284(12/23)TH/13750.
ACCOUNTANT
1 ACCOUNTANT - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$1,200 per month.
2 AREA DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISOR - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$800 per month.
1 WAREHOUSE WORKER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$600 per month.
Contact: MICRONESIAN BROKERS (CNMI), INC. dba Micronesian Brokers, Inc., PPP 128 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-0318/029(12/23)TH/7224
1 ACCOUNTANT - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$900 per month.
Contact: TOWN HOUSE, INC. dba Dept. Store, KFC, Payless, P.O. Box 167, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-6131(12/30)TH/7279.

GARMENT FACTORY WORKER
1 CUTTER, MACHINE - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.15-\$2.25 per hour.
2 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.15 per hour.
Contact: ONWEL MFG (SAIPAN) LTD., P.O. Box 712, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9522-25(12/30)TH/13814.
MISCELLANEOUS
1 SALES REPRESENTATIVE - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$3.18 per hour.
Contact: LOEWE MADRID 1845 dba Loewe Saipan, Inc., Caller Box 5236 CHR 2-117, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-6224(12/30)TH/7285.

MECHANIC
1 H.E. MECHANIC - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.75 per hour.
Contact: TM CORPORATION, Caller Box PPP 216, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-2700(12/23)TH/13748.
2 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.50-\$4.00 per hour.
2 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.50-\$3.00 per hour.
Contact: COMMONWEALTH MARITIME GROUP CORP. dba Commonwealth Maritime Company, P.O. Box 803, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 233-0508(12/30)TH/13811.
1 AIRCONDITION AND REFRIGERATION MECHANIC - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.15 per hour.
Contact: BIENVENIDA C. BARASI dba MFA Energy Enterprises, P.O. Box 1604, Saipan, MP 96950(12/30)TH/13810.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER
4 CARPENTER
1 H.E. OPERATOR
1 SHEET-METAL WORKER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.15.
Contact: H.S. LEE CONST. CO., INC., P.O. Box 440, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-6856/5201(12/23)TH/7227.
1 WAREHOUSE WORKER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45-\$4.00 per hour.
2 PLUMBER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45-\$3.00 per hour.
Contact: JESUS B. YUMUL dba YCO Corporation, P.O. Box 932, CK Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9805/7425(12/23)TH/7220.
1 SHORT ORDER COOK - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$3.00 per hour.
1 COOK - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$400-\$550 per month.
Contact: PEDRO C. SABLAN dba In & Out Cafe, P.O. Box 2785, Saipan, MP 96950. No phone calls (12/30)TH/7283.

3 BEAUTICIAN
2 TAILOR - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.15 per hour.
Contact: JRE ENTERPRISES INC. dba JRE Tailoring & Dress Shop, P.O. Box 421, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-5206(12/23)TH/13740.
1 FOUNTAIN SERVER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45 per hour.
Contact: SUNDANCE MARKETING dba Big Dipper Ice Cream Factory, P.O. Box 27, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-9352(12/30)TH/13820.

1 SALES REPRESENTATIVE - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.95 per hour.
2 CASHIER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.95-\$4.00 per hour.
Contact: A. TESTONI dba Buetes Saipan Inc., Caller Box 5236 - 116, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 322-4691(12/30)TH/7286.
4 COOK - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.45-\$3.50 per hour.
Contact: YANOCENTERPRISES INC. dba Kinpachi Restaurant, P.O. Box 89, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 234-6900(12/23)TH/13738.
1 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$4.85 per hour.
1 GRAPHIC DESIGNER - College grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$5.80 per hour.
Contact: MEGAVISION INTERNATIONAL, P.O. Box 1959, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 235-6882(12/23)TH/13749.
2 HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.50 per hour.
Contact: ARNALDO G. GUBAN dba Argie Maintenance/Counter Services, P.O. Box 2120 CK, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 235-3663(12/30)TH/13817.
1 BEAUTICIAN - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$2.15 per hour.
Contact: GENEROSO D. HUERTAS, SR. dba Gene's Barber Shop & Beauty Salon, P.O. Box 132 CK, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. No. 233-6662(12/23)TH/13739.
3 VIDEO OPERATOR - High school grad., 2 years experience. Salary: \$3.25 per hour.
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PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CIVIL ACTION NO. 93-1305
NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Hearing Date: January 18, 1994
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Judge: Demapan
In the Matter of the Estate of PACIFIC F. BORJA, Deceased.
TO ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF PACIFIC F. BORJA, DECEASED
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT LUCY B. SAN NICOLAS has filed with the Clerk of this Court her Petition for Letters of Administration of the Estate of Pacific F. Borja, deceased. The hearing of the Petition is set for Tuesday, January 18, 1994 at 1:30 p.m. at the Superior Court, Civic Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.
For further particulars please refer to the Petition on file herein, or contact counsel for petitioner, Bruce L. Mallman of White, Pierce, Mallman & Nutting, Joeten Center, Susupe, P.O. Box 5222, Saipan MP 96950; telephone (670) 234-6547 and facsimile (670) 234-6537.
CREDITORS of decedent or of his estate are hereby notified that they must file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court within (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or the claims will be forever barred.
DATED: December 18, 1993 Fred F. Camacho, Clerk of Court
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

PUBLIC NOTICE
In the Superior court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
ADOPTION CASE NO. 93-142
In the matter of the Petition for the adoption and change of name of:
JOHNEDIL NAVARRO TAGUIBAO
Minor,
By: **JACKIE ELZIE LITTLE**
Petitioner,
NOTICE OF HEARING
Please take notice that at 2:30 p.m., December 29, 1993, or as soon thereafter as can be heard, this Court will hold a hearing at the Superior Court, Susupe, CNMI, for the specific purpose of:
1. Determining whether a decree of adoption of JOHNEDIL NAVARRO TAGUIBAO, a minor child, should be granted to Petitioner herein;
2. Affording any party adversely affected an opportunity to be heard.
Dated this 22nd day of December, 1993.
Louise C. Hofschneider
Deputy Clerk of Court

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STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you one of the most upright, forthright, and dignified individuals born under your sign. You are never one to cheat others, and you will work hard to see that the world treats those you love with greater care, greater consideration, and greater fairness than before. You cannot tolerate injustice of any kind — especially when it is the result of intentional mistreatment at the hands of someone unscrupulous or otherwise ill-motivated.

You are sensitive and at times highly emotional, and you can be influenced against your will by those who understand your natural rhythms — for there are certain distinct periods in which you are far more vulnerable and suggestible than others. One thing to which you seem insensitive to, however, is criticism.

Also born on this date are: Harry Guardino, actor; Robert Bly, author; Deems Taylor, composer and critic.

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.

DATE BOOK

Dec. 23, 1993

Today is the 357th day of 1993 and the third day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1987, Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California, completing the first non-stop flight around the world without refueling.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Joseph Smith (1805-1844), religious leader; Jose Greco (1918-), dancer, is 75; Robert Bly (1926-), poet, is 67; Paul

FRIDAY, DEC. 24
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You very likely have a big day in store, and yet anticipation and excitement may still be on the rise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — How you respond to surprises will tell the tale today. You don't want to reveal too much too soon, do you?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — That which appears evident to you today may be just a ruse, planted to mislead you intentionally.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — What you can enjoy tomorrow you may want to enjoy today — and there's no reason not to provided all around you agree.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — This is a good day to put the finishing touches on a family project. Time's a-wasting — so you'd better be focused!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may be inclined to worry needlessly about those things you cannot control — and which do not directly affect you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Your sensitive nature is likely to be all the more sensitive as family matters come to the forefront to-

day.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — There is no reason to work hastily today. You don't want the finishing touches to betray any lack of care, do you?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You will be required to be more outgoing and gregarious throughout the day. Social situations are not to be avoided.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Confidence in yourself and in your best-laid plans will send you through the day on a note of highest expectation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You can suffer fools gladly today, and avoid any lasting effects of minor setbacks. You can turn negatives into positives!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You've been going about your business one day at a time — but now a major push is called for at the end.

For your personal horoscope, telescope, lucky numbers and future forecast, call AstroTone (95¢ each minute; Touch-Tone phones only). Dial 1-900-740-1010 and enter your access code number, which is 500.

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SOURCE: THE WEATHER CHANNEL'S 1993 Weather Guide Calendar, Accord Publishing, Ltd.
TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Dec. 20) and full moon (Dec. 28).

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The expression "passing the buck" does not refer to the dollar bill. In various card games, a marker called a "buck" is placed on the table before one of the players to remind him of his turn to deal. The marker is passed from player to player as the turn to deal goes around.

Ireland is not unique in having no snakes native to it. The same is true of Hawaii, Iceland, Crete, Malta, New Zealand and many other islands.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Investigative agency.
4 Nothing.
9 Cooling device.
12 Cut of meat.
13 Foe.
14 Permit to.
15 Slander.
17 Grind together.
19 Sioux Indian.
20 Pope's name.
21 — Major (constellation).
23 Long TV show.
27 Walks unsteadily.
29 Operates.
30 Symbol for nickel.
31 Plot of soil.
32 Desert plants.
34 Marsh.
35 Cyprinoid fish.

DOWN
1 Govt. housing org.
2 Bachelors' dogs.
3 Foisted.
4 Goose egg.
5 Mosaic piece.
6 Confederate general.
7 Centimeter (abbr.).
8 Sanitary.
9 Spark.
10 Roman bronze.
11 — degree.
16 And others (2 wds.).
18 Cashews, e.g.
20 Real-estate map.
21 Cities.
22 Musical instruments.
24 Ed Sullivan, e.g.
25 — a million.
26 Simpleton.
28 Hardly.
33 The osama.
34 Shudder.
36 Streak in marble.
38 Rams' mates.
40 Fork part.
41 Edible seaweed.
45 Actress Madeline —.
46 Astronaut's ferry.
47 Bitter vetch.
48 Wheel projection.
49 Jima.
50 TV news source.
53 College degree (abbr.).

Answer to Previous Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15		16				17	18			
21	22		23	24		25	26			
27		28	29			30				
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	43					44	45			
46	47					48			49	50
51			52	53					54	
55			56						57	

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Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Menus

Oceana House

Choose from 2 set menus at Saipan's best Gourmet Restaurant, with music by Bruno dalla Pozza and a free gift for all ladies.
\$65 five-course menu with choice of Prime Rib or Stuffed Turkey Breast.
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From 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Oceana House

Candlelight dinner in a beautiful setting and cozy atmosphere. Choose from two set menus with choice of main course. Our pianist Bruno enhances your experience with Christmas melodies.
\$65 and \$85 for adults, \$29 for children under 12 years.
From 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Christmas Day Brunch

What better way to start off Christmas Day than with our Gourmet Champagne Brunch at Oceana House & Kili Cafe & Terrace. Experience the largest buffet with traditional Cranberry Glazed Turkey, Suckling Pig, Sushi, Sashimi and Teppanyaki Grill specialties. Free champagne and live music by the Spirals Quartet.
\$25 for adults, \$12.50 for children under 12 years.
From 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Christmas Eve Buffet

Enjoy a spectacular Christmas Eve buffet featuring a variety of Asian specialties with Sashimi, Sushi, King Crab, a full Tempura station and traditional favorites including Stuffed Turkey, Prime Rib, Rack of Lamb and more. While strolling singers serenade you with Christmas carols.
\$27.50 for adults, \$14 for children under 12 years.
December 24

Kili Cafe Christmas Seafood Dinner

It's seafood galore at our beautiful Kili Cafe & Terrace. You're never more than a few steps away from our sumptuous buffet of Crabs, Reef Fish, Sushi and Sashimi, Prawns and traditional carveries and delicious desserts.
\$27.50 for adults, \$14 for children under 12 years.
December 25

The Chinese Restaurant

Chef Leung has prepared two set menus for you.
\$50 and \$40 for adults, \$25 for children under 12 years. Three private rooms are available for parties of 8 to 14 people.
December 24 & 25
From 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Skippers Beach Bar Christmas Reggae Jam

What the locals do and dance to the irie tunes of the "Y-NOT" reggae band on Micro Beach. A fun filled exotic night with exciting cocktails and free snacks. No cover charge.
December 24
From 8:30 p.m.

Prices are subject to a 10% service charge.

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SPORTS



Dallas a game away from dubious distinction

By BILL BARNARD

NEW YORK (AP)—The Dallas Mavericks, who took advantage of a late spurt to reach 11 victories last season, didn't want to worry anymore about setting records for losing.

The record watch has started anew, however, and now only one game separates the Mavs from a 20-year-old mark for consecutive defeats in one season.

The 1972-73 Philadelphia 76ers, the same team whose nine victories were almost matched by Dallas last season, had 20 consecutive defeats from Jan. 9 to Feb. 11, 1973. Cleveland has the overall record for losses with 24 straight over a two-season span in 1982.

With last year's first-round pick,

Jim Jackson, and this year's No. 1, Jamal Mashburn, added to the team for a full season, these record chases were supposed to be a thing of the past.

Instead, reserve guard Tim Legler says, "It's been one horror movie after another."

While the Mavericks' last six games have been against the NBA's Godzillas - New York, Seattle, Houston, Portland, Phoenix and Seattle - the next monster on their schedule is more their size.

Wednesday night's game at Milwaukee will be against a team that is 1-8 at home, which would be the worst in the NBA if it wasn't for the Mavericks' 0-12 mark at Reunion Arena.

"The team has made some improvement," coach Quinn

Buckner said. "We've been playing some of the best teams in the league the last few games. We've learned even from losing to them."

But Buckner, under fire in recent weeks for drill-sergeant coaching methods, said he takes no solace in facing the Bucks.

"I don't see any value in motivating the team not to set a record," Buckner said. "The downside of doing that is if you lose, then you've got another negative."

"There are no easy teams in the NBA. If we do things the way we want to do them, we can win. We thought if we did things the right way, we could beat New York, one of the best teams in the league."

The Bucks are 5-10 on the road

and 6-18 overall after beating the Clippers in Los Angeles on Monday. Dallas is 1-22.

"I look at the Milwaukee game as a game we have to win," Jackson said. "But that's my outlook for every game, regardless of who we play. It doesn't work when you just try to be competitive against teams like Houston or New York and then say, 'We'll try to beat Milwaukee and Minnesota.'"

"The incentive is always there to win the next game every time you lose, even when it's just one game."

Dallas is 1-10 on the road, the lone victory coming Nov. 12 at Minnesota.

"I'm not worried about the record, we just want to get better every game," Buckner said. "If you're concerned about records,

you might be missing opportunities to get better."

Buckner, who never coached at any level before this season and was an NBC analyst before taking the Mavs job, was facing rebellion from his players a few weeks ago. Especially Mashburn, who thought Buckner's regimented ways were preventing him from exploiting his natural instincts for the game.

Mashburn, however, said the conflict was overblown.

"It was never personal between the players and coach," Mashburn said, "just a difference of opinion. On a team with one victory and more than 20 losses, there's nothing else for people to write about except bad things. We understand each other better now."

US gear up for World Cup mania in New Jersey

By JEFFREY BRODEUR

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Contrary to popular belief, there are some tickets left to the seven World Cup soccer games to be played next summer at Giants Stadium - if

you've got \$1,125 for each seat.

But organizers of the New York-New Jersey portion of the cup said Tuesday everyone will be able to soak up the excitement of the world's largest sporting event when it comes in June.

"You can't believe the passion that will go along with this event," said George Zoffinger, chairman of the New York-New Jersey World Cup Host Committee. "It'll be contagious. Don't underestimate the impact that it will have on the state."

Zoffinger was barely able to contain his glee as he spoke at a Statehouse news conference also attended by Gov. Jim Florio. Zoffinger said pairings for the Giants Stadium games were an organizer's dream come true.

Italy, Ireland, Norway, Saudi Arabia and Morocco all will play first-round games, with the possibility of some huge matches at the stadium looming for the second round and semifinals.

"We did far better (in the draw) than even our earlier expectations," said Zoffinger. "I think in some case we did have some luck on our side, but we worked hard for these games. There are seven games at our site, more than any other venue."

He admitted the placement of Ireland in his group was a major surprise, one that disappointed organizers of matches at Foxboro, Mass., outside Boston.

"There are winners and losers," he said. "It just so happens that we were fortunate enough to have them placed with us."

Zoffinger said an original estimate on the economic impact of the World Cup was \$400 million, but that it is now thought that figure would be exceeded.

He pointed out that the Italian team has rented out an entire hotel while it trains in Bernards Township.

"I can't tell you an exact figure, but let's just say it was significant," he said with a smile.

Zoffinger said some premium-level tickets remain for sale at \$1,125 each for a seven-game package.

Florio said that while the games would boost New Jersey's economy, it would also give the

state a chance to show off to the world.

"It brings tremendous economic, athletic and cultural benefits and gives us a chance to show the world what New Jersey has to offer," he said. "New Jersey has been the gateway to freedom for more than two centuries, with Ellis Island right off our shores, and we're proud to be home of so many ethnic communities."

Enthusiasm from those communities will spread over to areas not so familiar with the sport, or the frenzy surrounding it, Florio predicted.

The governor admitted his mixed heritage made for difficulties in choosing a team to root for at the June 18 opening match between Italy and Ireland. Florio's mother was Irish, while his father was Italian.

"I will make a determination at some point, one that will probably go unannounced," he said.

Beliavsky takes clear lead in PCA chess qualifier

GRONINGEN, Netherlands (AP) — Ukrainian grandmaster Alexander Beliavsky took clear first place Tuesday in the \$230,000 Professional Chess Association Qualifier.

Beliavsky beat second-seeded Russian Vladimir Kramnik with a reversed Open Sicilian opening as black, building a heavy central attack which took him into the endgame a pawn ahead.

Beliavsky was one of world champion Gary Kasparov's seconds when he beat British challenger Nigel Short in the PCA world championship match in London earlier this year.

English grandmaster Michael Adams was tied for second on 2 1/2 points from three games after crushing Bulgarian Kiril Georgiev with a stunning new variation of the Caro-Kann defense for black.

His flank knight maneuver (12...Na4) was analysed by British grandmaster Jonathan Speelman five years ago, but Adams kept it as a reserve secret weapon until this tournament.

A massive Adams attack on the White King forced Georgiev to resign on move 29.

After the game, Adams commented on the rivalry of the PCA, which Kasparov and Short founded in February, and rival chess ruling body FIDE, which they left after a prize fund dispute.

"The PCA held its most prestigious event first which is a slightly odd start for any organization," he said but added, "in terms of money the PCA has a clear edge over FIDE."

Adams said PCA prize money, boosted by a sponsorship deal with computer chip makers Intel, now dwarfed FIDE prizes.

The top board pairing of Latvian Alexander Shirov and Russian Evgeny Bareev played a lively draw, after which both grandmasters joined Adams in second place.

The fourth player tied for second was American Joel Benjamin, who cruised through with black against Israeli Ilia Smirin using the Sicilian Richter-Rauzer defense.

Hungarian teenage prodigy Judit Polgar scored an unremarkable victory against Eduardas Rozentalis of Lithuania to stay in contention for a place in the knockout tournament to decide who will play Kasparov for the PCA world title in 1995.

Golfers protest planned gov't crackdown on golf courses

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — About 10,000 golfers, golf course owners and caddies marched through Taipei Tuesday to protest a government plan to crack down on unlicensed golf courses.

The protesters, chanting slogans and waving banners that read "Do Not Deface Golf" and "The Government Is Killing Golf," demanded that the government amend golf course licensing regulations.

Famous Taiwanese golfers Hsieh Min-nan, Lu Liang-huan and Chen Liang-hsi joined in the march, which weaved about four miles (6

kilometers) through Taipei to the legislature, where protesters presented the government with a petition.

Golf is one of Taiwan's most popular sports, but many courses don't have official approval.

Earlier this month, the government issued warnings to 31 illegal golf courses, demanding that they improve safety and environmental protection and complete licensing requirements.

Seventeen courses were told to close immediately, but officials say that only one did so.

Education Minister Kuo Wei-fan told reporters Monday that the government is not against golf but opposes illegal courses.

Officials say only four of Taiwan's 40-odd courses are legal. The rest either violate environmental and building rules or aren't licensed.

There are at least 200,000 golfers in Taiwan and golf courses can hardly meet demand. Golfers often have lengthy waits to join clubs, which can charge between U.S. \$11,300 and U.S. \$226,400 for membership.

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