

'No automatic citizenship'

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE CONSTITUTION of the United States does not grant automatic citizenship by birth, according to visiting California Rep. Brian Billbray.

Billbray, at a press conference Monday, said the granting of citizenship under the Fourteenth Amendment will be defined in a bill he recently filed in Congress.

"My bill doesn't take away the (citizenship) right," he told reporters. "What it does is that it defines that Fourteenth Amend-

Billbray bill seeks to define 14th amendment

ment doesn't give automatic citizenship to certain people in the country; not everybody gets free automatic citizenship."

The Fourteenth Amendment provides that "(a)ll persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the US and of the State wherein their reside."

Billbray said the citizenship issue was among the major concerns he and his colleagues discussed with Gov. Froilan C.

Tenorio when they met Monday.

Billbray is on a 5-day visit with Reps. John Duncan and Dana Rohrabacher.

"It is a legitimate issue here," Billbray said. The issue will affect the Commonwealth being a member of the American family.

CNMI residents were granted US citizenship by virtue of the Covenant which was forged upon expiration of the Trusteeship Agreement.

Section 303 of the Covenant

the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement and subject to the United States will be citizens of the United States at birth."

The citizenship issue is one area which the local government wants to renegotiate with the federal government in the 902 talks, a forum which involves discussion on the relationship between the US and the CNMI governments.

Under the present setup, all children born in the CNMI, regardless of their parents' citizenship, automatically become US citizens.

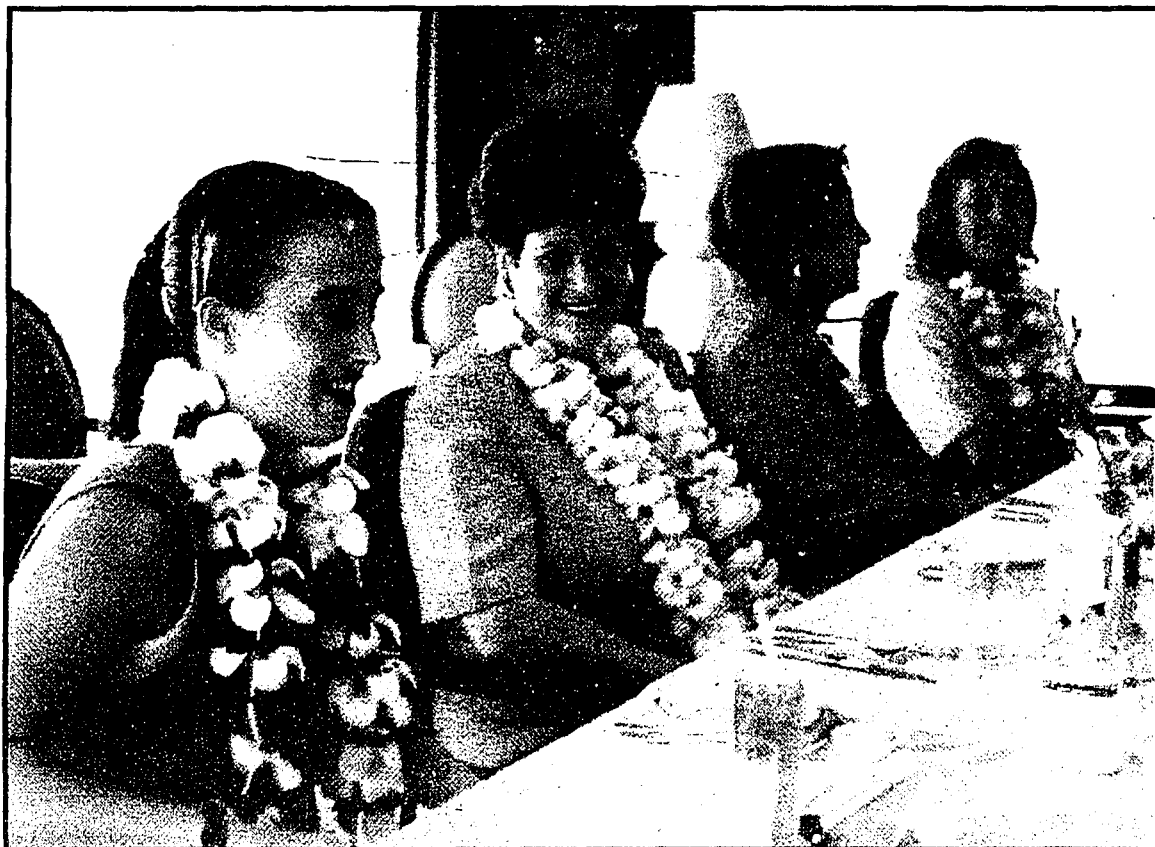
The Tenorio administration has proposed limiting citizenship to children with at least one US citizen parent.

About 200 hundred babies born in the CNMI to alien parents acquire automatic citizenship each year.



Brian Billbray

provides that "all persons born in the Northern Marianas on or after



CONGRESSIONAL LADIES. Rhoda Carmony (from left), fiancée of Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, Lynn Duncan, wife of Rep. John Duncan Jr., First Lady Grace Tenorio, and Karen Billbray, wife of Rep. Brian Billbray, smile during lunch at Dai-Ichi Hotel's Claret Restaurant. Tuesday's luncheon was hosted by the first lady.

Youth suicides in the CNMI alarm WAO

THE WOMEN'S Affairs Office, alarmed over the increasing cases of youth suicide in the Commonwealth, has asked the Church to participate in giving counsel to the young people in the community.

"It is a sad feeling to hear local news about our youth at the age of 15 to 20 who have been accused of taking the life of a person and the high rate of suicide by young males," WAO executive director Remy Sablan said in a Dec. 30 letter to Bishop Thomas Camacho of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

Sablan said several youth seminars have revealed that "almost everyone of them (young people) admit that at one point they attempted to commit suicide."

At least three cases of youth suicide in the Commonwealth have been reported in the past year.

Sablan said this is an indication that the counseling services and rehabilitation program being offered by government agencies to

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Sablan not giving up on gov't pay increase

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

SENATE President Jesus R. Sablan said Monday that legislators are considering an override of the line-item veto



Jesus R. Sablan

on the fiscal year 1997 budget bill section that would have provided a salary increase for government employees.

Sablan said he has "not abandoned the idea" of a salary adjustment for government workers.

"The last time they got a pay hike was in 1991," he said. "It's about time they get a raise."

Sablan said that challenging Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's line-item vetoes on the budget will only be the "last resort."

"Why go to the court when we could resolve it by, for example, sitting down with the governor so we can all find a

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CUC mulling refunds of security deposit to good-credit customers



Carlos Shoda

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

UNDER the revised Commonwealth Utilities Corp. policy on security deposits, a customer may request a refund after five years

but only if the customer has a good credit rating.

The policy, which was presented during the CUC board meeting last Monday, was last revised in 1994.

Board member Carlos Shoda, however, suggested publicizing the new revised policy to get public comments and revise it further if necessary before it is finally adopted.

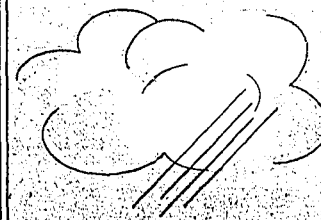
The revised policy gives the CUC the right to investigate the credit rating of all customers requesting refund.

A good credit history will be based on the years of service, time payments, absence of disconnection notices and promissory notes, credit reports, and bank references and guarantees, among other factors.

The refund, according to the revised policy, will be in the form of either credit on the account or

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Weather Outlook



Cloudy period with isolated showers

Laser eyed to repair wounds

By WILLIAM McCALL
PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) - Most soldiers die because they bleed to death on the battlefield. In a few years, a medic with a hand-held laser and a patch designed by an Oregon doctor may be able to save some of those lives.

The Army has given Dr. Kenton Gregory a \$4.3 million research grant to use an infrared laser and reconstituted animal tissue to patch holes in the body.

The technique could have wide applications for routine surgery far from military operating theaters where the time spent moving from battlefield to hospital is

a wounded soldier's greatest danger.

Gregory derives a material called elastin from animal tissue. Also found in humans, elastin can be fashioned into a replacement for arteries and veins or into a patch for a section of intestine or bladder. Using a laser, it can be welded directly to tissue around a wound or a surgical incision, closing the wound or incision without stitches and thus reducing the period of recovery.

"Instead of tediously using needle and thread, and waiting about six weeks to heal, the laser fuses the replacement instantly," Gregory said.

Microscopic photos of experimental welds done on animals show the replacement and the surrounding tissue neatly joined with no gaps or spaces, much like bricks and mortar.

The elastin is dyed green to absorb the infrared laser, which passes through normal tissue without damage. The laser can be reduced to a hand-held unit for use on the battlefield. Earlier laser models were the size of refrigerators.

"You don't even need a doctor," Gregory said. "You could train a technician to do it, at least until you get the patient to a hospital."

Col. William Wiesmann, a physician who directs the Army combat casualty care research program, oversees Gregory's research for the military.

Wiesmann said the Army is hoping to train its medics to use elastin and lasers to control bleeding long enough so that wounded soldiers can be taken to a hospital. Technology is advancing so fast, he said, the lasers could be reduced to the size of a pen easily carried by a medical corpsman.

"Ninety percent of our deaths occur before we get the wounded to the hospital," Wiesmann said. "Any new technique that can be used to control hemorrhage before treatment is lifesaving by definition."

Gregory trained and taught at Harvard before he joined Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland. He developed ways to synthesize elastin as part of his research into repairing arteries and veins leading to the heart.

"Elastin is the only thing the body cannot regenerate by itself when we repair a blood vessel," he said. "So we figured out a way to make it ourselves."

Starting with a blender and animal parts scrounged from a slaughterhouse, Gregory and the team of researchers he has assembled as director of the Oregon Medical Laser Center devised a method of extracting the elastin and fashioning it into artificial vessels.

The material made from elastin could be used to replace vein grafts, metal stents

(lattice-like sections of tiny pipe used to reinforce blood vessels) or other synthetic substitutes, such as Dacron or Gore-Tex.

Animal studies show promise, but clinical trials are needed.

Even if the research and trials go quickly, it could be five to six years before elastin and laser welding technology are approved for medical use in humans, Wiesmann said.

Nonetheless, the research has attracted attention from investors.

Two venture capital firms, Shaw Venture Partners of Portland and Hillman Medical Ventures of Philadelphia, have formed a new company, Latis, to help develop tiny laser catheters that can be used to destroy clots that cause strokes in the brain.

The stroke research is an outgrowth of Gregory's work with a larger laser catheter that can be inserted into large blood vessels near the heart to break up a clot or remove plaque. The cardiac laser catheter already has undergone clinical trials with highly successful results.

The elastin technology could lead to its own company, said Chuck Hadley of Hillman Medical Ventures.

"I think it has incredible home run potential," Hadley said. "It could have immediate benefit for the Army, but it could have a much bigger commercial impact down the road."

Elizabeth Dole glad to 'return' to Red Cross

WASHINGTON (AP) - Elizabeth Dole returns Thursday to her \$200,000-a-year job as president of the American Red Cross and says she can't wait to tackle the many challenges awaiting the country's best known disaster relief agency.

Mrs. Dole took a 14-month leave of absence from the Red Cross to help in her husband Bob Dole's unsuccessful presidential campaign and has said all along that she planned to return.

"Coming back to the Red Cross is like coming home," she said in a statement, adding that she considers working there something more than a job. "For me the Red Cross is a mission field and it's great to be back."

Although there has been speculation that Mrs. Dole, who held Cabinet positions in both the Reagan and Bush administrations, might one day herself run for political office, she repeatedly has said she wanted foremost to return to the Red Cross.

She was widely seen as one of her husband's greatest assets during his campaign for president and won plaudits for her appearance at the National Re-



Elizabeth Dole

publican Convention in San Diego.

Mrs. Dole became president of the American Red Cross in February 1991. She took a leave of absence from the relief agency in November 1995 to help her husband's presidential bid.

"I look forward to taking on the numerous humanitarian challenges in the months ahead and to intensify Red Cross services to families and individuals in neighborhoods across the nation and around the world," she said.

CUC faces \$3.7M shortfall



Timothy Villagomez

By Rick Alberto

Variety News Staff

THE Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is trying to avert a \$3.7-million shortfall projected for this month through cost cutting

Villagomez tells CUC Board of 'bleak' January

and a more aggressive collection effort, officials said.

In his report to the regular meeting of the CUC board, Executive Director Timothy Villagomez disclosed that "our projections of the January cash flow are bleak."

"If CUC is to pay all its January bills on time, we'll be short by \$3.7 million," Villagomez told the board.

"Despite our shortfall, we are attempting to act in good faith with the law that requires CUC to pay a one percent tax to the Office of the Public Auditor," he added.

The executive director said they had sent a letter to the public auditor last November that CUC could pay \$5,000 monthly,

which is less than 1 percent of its annual budget.

He claimed the amount "does fairly represent the services" rendered by the OPA, which "has not responded to our offer."

In an interview later, Villagomez said that to lessen or avert the shortfall, CUC "is aggressively looking at its collection efforts again, at the same time doing some internal cost cutting."

The CUC board, he contin-

ued, "wants to make sure that the seventy-five days of delinquency should be cut tremendously, and they have directed me to seek other remedies as far as the collection effort (is concerned)."

He said the predicted shortfall was based on the increase of the fuel cost and the overhauls of power engines.

Villagomez told the Variety that CUC's comptroller was working on a "financial plan"

that would enable the CUC to pay its vendors.

In another interview, CUC board chair Benjamin A. Sablan said that the CUC has to change its spending habit and enhance its collection effort to avoid any shortfall.

"What the board and the management should do is really curb and curtail major expenses," Sablan said.

"I think the only way we can hurdle this financial obstacle is to live within our means for the meantime," he added.

Court upholds the right of any detainee to a 'liveable' prison

By Mar-Vic C. Munar

Variety News Staff

THE SUPERIOR Court has upheld the detainees' constitutional rights to humane treatment while awaiting trial in detention.

The court, moreover, frowned on the setup where pretrial detainees are kept in the same facility that houses convicted criminals.

"The comingling of pretrial detainees with convicted inmates suffering punishment for their crimes violated the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment rights of pretrial detainees to be free from punishment until convicted, of crimes by due process of law," Associate Judge Timothy Bellas wrote in a draft injunction he issued Monday.

Bellas issued the injunction acting on a petition for release from custody (writ of habeas corpus) filed by robbery suspect William Sablan.

Chief Public Defender Dan DeRienzo, who represents Sablan, has always compared the jail in Susupe to a medieval dungeon, and, at least three times, he called for its closure.

The court converted the ha-

beas corpus proceeding to "a civil action under federal civil rights law" to address the jail issue.

Complaints raised by Sablan, through the public defender, included lack of bedding in the cell, inadequate toilet facilities, poor cell ventilation, roach and mice infestation, and unsanitary dining area.

Bellas, citing earlier Supreme Court rulings, upheld the detainees' constitutional rights to be provided with nutritional meals, clean, safe, and liveable space, and adequate medical attention.

Pretrial detainees, Bellas more-over said, should be housed separately from "dangerous convicted inmates who pose threats to their personal security unless physical facilities do not permit their separation."

"Although cruel and unusual punishment concerns 'the unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain,' the US Supreme Court has stated that harsh conditions and rough disciplinary treatment are part of the price that convicted individuals must pay for their offenses," Bellas said.

"While this standard establishes a difficult path for convicted crimi-



Judge Timothy Bellas

nals to establish deplorable conditions in their prisons, the Supreme Court appears to have created a somewhat easier route for pretrial detainees like Mr. Sablan."

Bellas ordered the respondents to submit their reply in 20 days upon issuance of the order.

DeRienzo first demanded the closure of jail in May last year when he sought the release from custody of Chen Sheng Long, a suspected Chinese syndicate member.

He renewed his call last August, on behalf of another client, Chen Guo Xiong.

Group circulates petition on free food for workers

By Zaldy Dandan

Variety News Staff

A PETITION circulating on Saipan is urging the CNMI government to give free board and lodging to the Commonwealth's nonresident workers.

Filipino labor union leader Vic Perez yesterday said the petition was drawn up by a "Solidarity Committee" to which he and "other not to be identified" alien workers belong.

Perez, who is one of the nominees for the Philippine Bayani (Hero) Award, said the committee has no ties with Local 5 labor union.

"You have heard from the governor, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the Philippine government regarding this issue," Perez said, "but did you hear from the guest workers themselves?"

"This is it."

He said the petition is not only for the Filipino contract workers, but for all guest workers regardless of nationality.

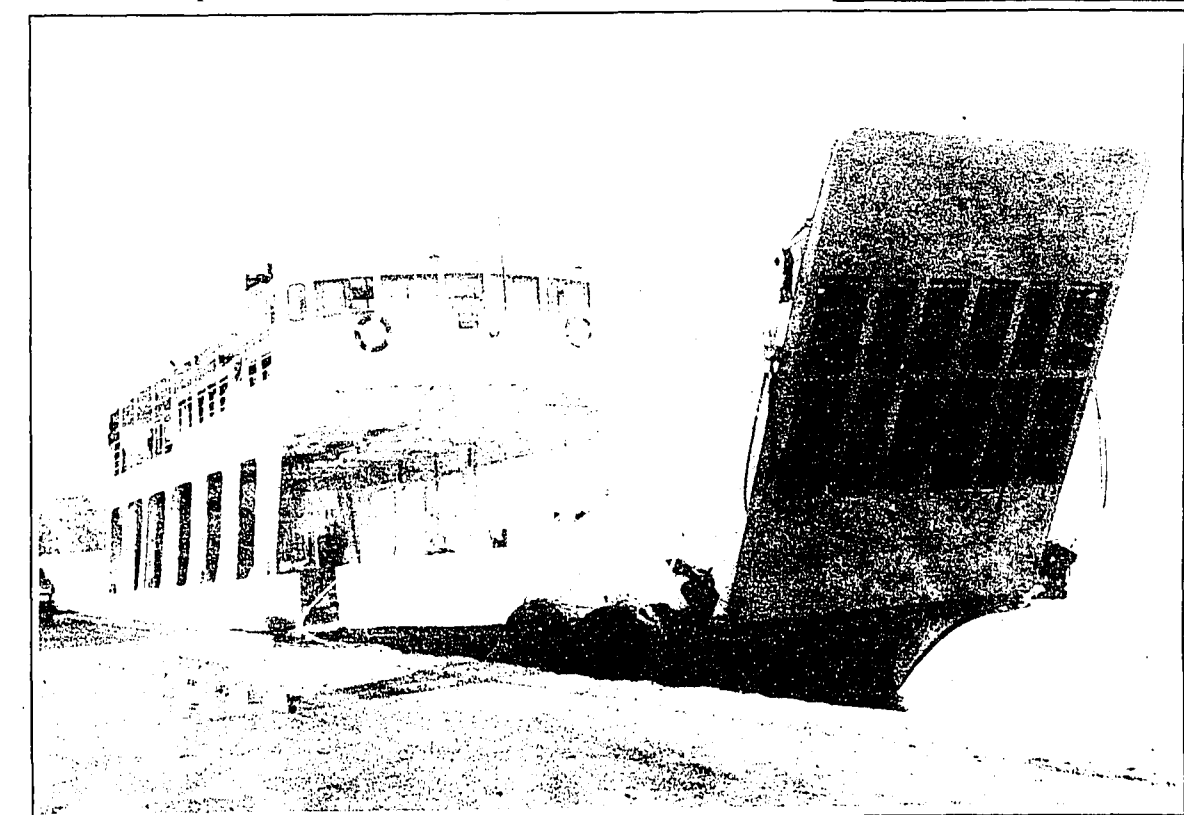
Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, in a Dec. 17 interview, vowed to block any moves granting food allowance to Filipino workers.

Granting such benefits, he said, will only "hurt" the local economy.

But House Speaker Diego T. Benavente, in a separate interview, said it would be practical for the CNMI to incorporate Philippine regulations imposed in the hiring of workers into the local labor law since Filipinos form the bulk of CNMI nonresident workers.

He said employers refusing to give food and housing allowances may turn to such countries as Bangladesh and China for man-

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ROLL-ON, ROLL-OFF. This barge was purchased by the Republic of Palau government from Cebu, Philippines for \$180,000 to ferry passengers and cargo between Iral and Koror in light of the collapse of K-B Bridge last September. The vessel has a capacity to carry about 15 vehicles and up to 150 passengers per trip.

FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY ROSARY

We, the family of the late
"DAVID TAITANO ALDAN"

invite all Families, relatives, and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 1st Year Anniversary of our beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather, Son, and Brother.

Nightly Rosary will be said at the family's residence in Afetna, San Antonio beginning December 30, 1996 (Monday) thru January 07, 1997 (Tuesday) at 8:00 P.M.
(On December 31, 1996, Rosary will be said at 3:00 P.M.)

On the final day January 07, 1997, rosary will be said at 12:00 noon. Mass of intention will be offered at 6:00 P.M. at San Antonio Church. Dinner reception will follow at the said location

Daily Mass Schedule
(12/30/96) - 6:00 A.M. - Mt. Carmel Cathedral
(12/31/96) - 8:00 P.M. - San Antonio Church
(01/01/97) - 7:00 A.M. - San Antonio Church
(01/02/97) - 6:00 A.M. - Mt. Carmel Cathedral
(01/03/97) - 6:00 P.M. - San Antonio Church
(01/04/97) - 6:00 A.M. - Mt. Carmel Cathedral
(01/05/97) - 6:00 A.M. - San Antonio Church
(01/06/97) - 6:00 A.M. - Mt. Carmel Cathedral

Please kindly join us in prayers.
Thank You Yan Si Yu's Maase.
"Ginen I Familia"

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday
Sunday
Monday

FORUM

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

EDITORIAL

New friends, old critics

If the current strategy employed by Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio to counter the bad publicity the CNMI has been getting in the nation's capital still fails to get the desired results, then maybe it is time for the CNMI not to bother at all with how US Congress views this youngest member of the American political family.

Not that the CNMI care less about how the federal government treats the local government, but more because the national government has become increasingly difficult to please.

The whole image-building process is becoming an expensive proposition. Precious taxpayer monies are being spent to maintain an ever-growing pool of pricey Washington, D.C.-based consultants just to counter the tide of criticism leveled at the Commonwealth.

There have also been countless trips made by CNMI officials to D.C. to orient congressional panels about how the labor and immigration situation has greatly improved.

Yet it seems no amount of encouraging words can appease the congressional critics who seem to have made up their minds on how to look down at their fellow Americans in this side of the Pacific.

Take Cong. George Miller for instance.

During a recent House committee vote on the CNMI non-voting delegate bill, the Ranking Democrat in the Natural Resources Committee revived his attacks on the CNMI for the same old allegations of labor and rights abuse years ago, as if nothing has been done to correct the situation.

With the Republicans retaining control of both houses of the incoming 105th US Congress, it may not be surprising to imagine the likes of Rep. Elton Gallegly again pulling strings together to make sure the prospect of immigration and minimum wage takeover remains a possibility for the CNMI.

With adverse congressional action looming in the horizon, it makes sense for Gov. Tenorio to try every trick there is to hold disaster at bay, including his current plan to bring in any member of Congress interested in seeing the Commonwealth first hand.

The strategy is noble and is obviously buoyed by optimism that there is much about the CNMI to be proud about. But the question is, is it worth it?

The governor may be right when he said that the cost of playing hosts to congressional delegations and think-tanks is a drop in the bucket when compared to the resultant economic costs of an immigration takeover. But the question that needs to be asked is how sure is he that hosting a few congressmen and DC-based opinion shapers will indeed quell critical congressional action against the Commonwealth and for how long?

One must remember that a previous visit by a group of congressional staffers last year had once drawn the ire of the powerful chairman of the Native American and Insular Affairs subcommittee.

Gov. Tenorio's shoving the staffers, his good intentions, notwithstanding, was then perceived by Chairman Gallegly as a "backdoor scheme to skirt the human rights issue."

So it is always possible that the governor's penchant for first-hand propaganda could backfire. Instead of the CNMI earning advocates in US Congress, it may end up faced with a more energized battery of critics on the House floor, with more ammunition at that.

And of course, there is always that possibility that even if congressional visitors make true of their promise to turn in a good word for the Commonwealth, the fact that their trips were paid for by local government raises doubts on how objective their perceptions of the Commonwealth are.

The entire CNMI community surely must give Gov. Tenorio all the support he needs in his quest for a better treatment from US Congress. He should be credited for trying this new method. However, it is important that the government remain guarded as to possibilities and the realities of dealing with what could be the world's most powerful institution—US Congress—and the ever-complex politics being played within.



1997: Political Season set in motion

We begin this year wary that the Democratic Party must settle its score on who would be its standard bearer for the November gubernatorial race. Efforts to regroup the Tenorio-Borja tandem during the last quarter of 1996, failed.

Governor FC Tenorio is at the apex of his political career. Lt. Governor Jesse Borja's strength has yet to be tested as a principal candidate or alone. Whoever makes it in the primary will go on to face the Republican tandem of Teno-Pepero.

Meanwhile, former Governor Pete P. Tenorio is waiting in the wings, meticulously refurbishing the bridge he twice crossed, successfully. Across the gulf of a politically different persuasion, he watches whether it'll be his nephew or Lt. Governor Borja. Whoever survives the impending democratic primary showdown has his work cut out for him. It's one more half-hurdle before a full-blown political superstorm.

An optimistic view of 1997

I am optimistic that both sectors would put its best foot forward in the infusion or refinement of major investments. The NMI is where East meets West. It is located three to four hours from the world's fastest growing new economies. Despite our problems, we've proven that the "free market" concept works!—and is poised to pan-out even more successfully if government intervention is kept at a minimal.

I embrace with enthusiasm the administration's plan to implement the voucher system in education. It augurs well with dedicated efforts by the Public School System to strengthen the reading program and quality of teachers throughout the public schools. MTC deserves our accolades for plans to install the Internet in PSS classrooms at a reduced rate. With the SCC's Education Committee's role to promote literacy here, this collective contribution should set a new era in education in the NMI.

We seem to have the penchant of turning molds into mountains. We're restless and reckless if we must content with something simple or sticking to basics. Thus, the creation of an awfully complex tax system, a monstrosity we can't even domesticate. Isn't it time that we explore the flat tax system? It's simpler and may be far more workable than the current tax code. Let's look into it.

In health, while the cost of medical referral would decrease with the participation of the various HMOs (clinics) here, the community must begin addressing the first three killer diseases among the indigenous people. If I'm not mistaken, cancer is on the rise among our people, i.e., uterus, cervix, breast, stomach, lungs, colon and oral cancer. Then there's AIDS, renal failure and long-term health care. It is a concerning matter that have assailed the local populace like a seasoned nocturnal thief. HEW committees in the legislature must jerk itself out of its complacency or ignorance?—and begin making good on your oath to serve the Northern Marianas Commu-

nity. Hello, anybody home?

I am equally optimistic that a fair labor law would be considered to grant justice for both employer and employee. It should rid the system of leaving employers entirely at the mercy of guest workers who have seemingly turned suing their employers into a cottage industry. No sir! Consider your wage and benefits today and ask yourself whether you'd do better back home where millions of your countrymen are without skills and most importantly, without jobs. And if you don't like it here, try Saudi Arabia where your rights to due process doesn't even exist.

Tourism remains the only industry being subsidized by the government at the expense of other industries here. This subsidy started some twenty years ago. Visitor arrival fluctuates, truly illustrating the very nature of the industry, fickle! Perhaps it is about time that the Marianas Visitors Bureau is privatized much like the Hawaii Visitors Bureau. I say privatization is in order so that the principals, i.e., hotels and everybody connected with the industry can begin taking full responsibility in terms of cost with minimal or no government subsidy. Is it a fair proposition? Definitely!

With the rash of cold blooded murder allegedly involving our young people as perpetrators, one gets a chilling query just how safe is this community for both visitors and residents alike. The commission of heinous crimes by our very own young people is a tale of the deeply rooted influence they must have picked-up on television blossoming with violence and sex. This situation is further exacerbated by the lack of parental guidance who are also too preoccupied with their own personal affairs to fulfill their obligations. Does anybody care about the future of these young people? Have we purposely ignored their needs? Indeed, we need to revive and refine what parenting is all about beginning this year.

While it is easy to point our accusatory fingers towards DPS for the apparent non-resolution of about ten homicides in 1996, I venture to say that "we have found the enemy and the enemy is us!" True, DPS hasn't been able to solve any of these crimes so that the perpetrator is brought to justice and the community given a sense of peace and security. I often quiz myself what seems to be the problem, i.e., management, lack of investigative expertise or manpower? Regardless, the more fundamental problem is with parenting and all that goes on at the home front.

For the sake of the Northern Marianas Community, we need to organize an indigenous group comprising of intellectuals, judges, attorneys, doctors, social workers, teachers, administrators, journalists, among others. The purpose is to begin addressing and following-up what must be done to strengthen time honored traditional moral values. We can't allow this growing social malignancy to take the better part of our children's future. Either we roll up our sleeves now and do something concrete about it or Murphy's Law would take its permanent seat. Well, let's join hands and proactively make life better for one and all this year. Thanks.

JACK ANDERSON and MICHAEL BINSTEIN

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Debate rages about banks' expansion

WASHINGTON — The spirit of cooperation that's sweeping Washington could soon bring major changes to the way banks do business. Unfortunately, what's good for banks might not be good for consumers and taxpayers.

Congress, with the help of regulators and the Clinton administration, are on the verge of allowing banks to enter new businesses, such as insurance and securities that they've been largely barred from in the past.

But some consumer advocates worry that if the new business ventures fail, taxpayers and depositors could end up paying the tab to bail them out. Michelle Meier of the Consumers Union, for example, worries that a new rule proposed by the Comptroller of the Currency could expose taxpayers to the same kind of risks that spawned the savings and loan bailout in the late 1980s.

It's part of a movement called "bank modernization," which has been debated for years. While some groups still oppose modernization, it now seems inevitable that—in some form—it's going to happen.

In the past few years, many banks have already branched out by selling mutual funds, stocks and annuities. As of the end of the third quarter last year, 2,134 banks had sold a total of \$184.3 billion in mutual funds. The new businesses are not protected by deposit insurance, which guarantees all conventional bank deposits up to \$100,000.

Two major proposals are being floated to modernize bank regulations. One is authored by the comptroller's office, which oversees nationally chartered banks. The other comes from the Federal Reserve Board, which oversees state banks. Many in Washington think that what's really going on is a turf battle between Comptroller Eugene Ludwig and Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan.

The Federal Reserve plan would allow banks to enter new ventures, but it would have to be through holding companies that are linked to the bank. The comptroller's plan would compel banks to form new subsidiaries if they wanted to sell insurance or other, non-insured financial products.

As we reported last spring, the line between insured and uninsured investments is often blurred by banks wishing to attract customers to their new products. Customers are often lured into a false sense of security by seeing the reassuring symbol of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. emblazoned on the door of a savings institution.

One of the central findings in an FDIC report issued last spring was that 28 percent of prospective bank customers surveyed were not informed about the lack of FDIC protection for these investments, and 30 percent were not advised about the lack of bank guarantees.

Other observers worry that the new businesses will not have adequate regulation. The savings and loan mess came about in part because regulators fell asleep at the switch—or, in some cases, backed off because of political pressure. To prevent the same fate from befalling the banking industry and any new ventures sources told our associate George Clifford III, regulators will need more resources to go after troubled institutions.

Finally, some activists worry that bank modernization will mean less money for community investment. Banks are required under the Community Reinvestment Act to make loans available to low and moderate-income borrowers in their communities. Some banks have warned to the idea in recent years, even defending the law before Congress. But other banks still believe it hurts their competitiveness to lend money where they otherwise would not.

Some experts think more money may be available if the comptroller gets his way. Under Ludwig's plan, money would flow from the new businesses back to the banks, and could be used for community reinvestment.

Under the Fed plan, however, some critics contend profits would not move back to the bank and therefore there would be smaller bank assets—and possibly less money for community reinvestment.

"(Ludwig) is right," said John Taylor, president of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, a nonprofit group. "Having these other businesses under the bank as opposed to the holding company would make more money available. Mainly because the profit would come to the bank and be counted as part of the bank's profit."

However, Joseph R. Coyne, a Fed spokesman contended there is "really not much difference" in available community reinvestment money between the two plans.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Read this again and again

Dear Editor:

I AM writing this letter for two groups of readers. One group is composed of the friends of my son at MHS and elsewhere on Saipan. The second group is composed of the parents of the first group.

To Alton's friends, let me say this: suicide is not a solution to any problem; it is a part of the problem. And to parents, let me say this: suicide can come without any apparent warning signs. If your son or daughter knew Jerry Cruz or Alton Farley—they have been affected by their deaths. It just may not be apparent to you.

There are over 20 people in an immediate circle of friends of Jerry and Alton. All were very affected; some are in counseling sessions. Some are not. Jerry is gone and so is my son. So I am concerned about the "survivors" of suicide. (Or are they they victims?)

Of course there is a difference be-

tween thinking and talking about "doing it", and actually committing the act. So let me advise the young friends of my son, that his death did not solve anything. In fact, it has caused immeasurable pain and suffering to his family and friends. And I know that was not what he meant to do. He felt somehow responsible for Jerry's death. I told him that he should not feel this way. There was no way he could have prevented it. But he apparently could see only suicide as the solution to end his pain. He was wrong.

I have been and will continue to think a lot about Alton and what he did. I have been in great pain, but I am not angry at him, only puzzled. I have forgiven him, and I hope he forgives me. For his friends out there, give his death meaning by committing yourself to a positive life and by helping other people.

I could write the obvious: If Alton

had chosen life instead of death, then he could have found the cure for cancer, or AIDS or become a Nobel prize winner in physics. That would make his loss a tremendous loss for humankind.

But what was really lost was Alton's chance to be a loving husband and father, and raise a strong and caring family as a part of a strong and caring community. That is the opportunity lost. I urge his young friends to choose the positive course.

Pain hurts. But pain is not just hurt, pain means we are healing. We will survive the pain. We will heal. We will bring life and light to our lives.

And to the parents. Talk to your son or daughter. Read this letter with them. Read it again. And again. And again.

Sincerely,

Brian Farley

Mojica writes on Benton's comments

Dear Editor:

ANYONE who is familiar with recovery/treatment of alcohol or drug abuse knows one fact. You cannot help someone who does not want help. And people usually don't want help until they hit what we call bottom. A bottom is when you can't go any lower without dying. Maybe you have lost your job, your family, your house, car, everything. At

this point you decide "maybe I need help." I agree with Mr. Benton in that the C.N.M.I. government cannot afford to help all of its employees who will test positive after being tested for drugs. There are just too many. And I agree that if you fire them, they will probably get money somewhere else. I am sure that in many cases we as tax payers are

already paying for a great deal of drug and alcohol abuse. But I disagree with Mr. Benton in the concept of stopping the drug before it comes in. Just look at the United States and the billions of dollars that are spent yearly in interdiction. I believe in what the Latin American countries tell the U.S. Stop the

Continued on page 39

A new direction for Rota

Dear Editor:

THE time for reviewing our past and forging for a new direction has come. A time resolution. In a small island like Rota, forging a new direction can be a monumental task because sometimes that new direction calls for a breaking of a well established tradition and family practice. However, we all have to grow up and accept change. A change that will prepare us and our children to face the 21st century lurking close by.

No doubt, our small community

had experienced hardship and witnessed progress that defined our present status. We are in a new year 1997, perhaps we should greet this year wisely. We should pause instead of partying wildly, ask ourselves several questions to prepare ourselves for the future. The questions should be: What can I do to change bad traditional practices while protecting and promoting good ones with least pain? Local leaders in the past focused on what they could get out of the country's money pot instead of what

could be done to that pot. How can I change this attitude? What can I do to convince our leaders to strengthen the economic base of our island? How can I convince people from this small island of Rota and the people of other CNMI Islands to prepare the country for the future instead of building bridge to the past? As voters, we should think wisely. "HAPPY NEW YEAR."

Sincerely

Frank M. Atalig

To Cabrera: 'Why thank you?'

Dear Editor:

Pls. print this open letter to Mr. Eli Cabrera, OMB chief.

We are writing to recognize you for your effort in convincing the Governor to consider rescinding Executive Order 96-3.

We are writing to thank you at the request of Jose M. Castro, Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. He advised us that you are re-

sponsible and we should be thankful to you. This was during an official meeting held at the Susupe Fire Station on Monday, December 23 at 2:00 p.m. in which he informed us that the Governor had rescinded his Executive Order.

Following the Commissioner's meeting with us we began asking, "Why should we be thanking you?" What interest do you have in

this Order? If you work for the Office of the Governor wouldn't you support his Orders and Directives? Why would you convince the Governor not to support EO 96-3? As his Cabinet member it is your responsibility to support the administration in accomplishing its goals?

The Governor signed EO 96-3 on August 30. On No-

Continued on page 35

Ban unlimited fishing

Dear Editor:

PLEASE, someone can you tell me the benefits of unlimited fishing by H2 workers on Saipan's reefs? Does it positively affect our economy? Does it improve our environment? Does it raise the quality of life on Saipan?

No. No. No. Hs workers are allowed to work in the CNMI under the thought that they will raise the quality of life here. If they are engaged in

activities that are counter to this goal, why should they be allowed continue? CRM just concluded that Saipan's reef fish are declining. Tourists come to the CNMI to enjoy the environment. Fishing, snorkeling and diving are activities that suffer because of this reef fish decline.

In the framework of these questions, can someone tell me why

H2 workers are allowed to fish at all?

Capt. William McCue
John F. Longley
Jerome Wong
Cris Williams
Henly Kladikm
Cuci Alvarez
Ian Carr
Capt. Robert Rothwell
Robert Richardson

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NINA NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

CrimeStoppers gears for 1997

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

AN INDEPENDENT group of anti-crime crusaders is now "honing" its machinery in a bid to keep crime rates from rising in light of the increasing number of tourists arriving in the Commonwealth.

In an interview during its meeting Tuesday, Manny Villaga, local chairman of the Northern Marianas Islands CrimeStoppers said the group aims to intensify coordination with the public and police as part of measures to keep crime rates low.

This, he said, will further be ironed out in the scheduled

CrimeStoppers' Regional Meeting to be participated in by members of the group's chapters in Guam, Palau and the Philippines and which will be held on the island this month.

He said CS is now arranging for an office space in downtown Garapan. It is also exploring the feasibility of a system allowing Rota and Tinian residents to call collect to Saipan and report crime incidents.

Further, CS, Villaga said, is working on the need to have ethnic representation on its new members.

James Lin, spokesperson of the Saipan Garments Manufacturers' Association, it was gath-

ered, is being invited for membership.

"We want to have closer coordination with the public... we want to be more efficient in handling calls from distressed persons, we are now working on this," said Villaga.

He said crimes like theft, robbery, extortion, and even murder are expected to increase along with the projected rise in the number of arriving tourists mostly from Japan.

"We see a consequent rise in the number of tourist-related crimes as more foreigners come in... we are preparing for this, we certainly do not want to be caught flatfooted," Villaga said.

Government projections placed the total number of tourists arriving in the CNMI from the current 679,000 to 1.3 million by the year 2001.

Along with this, is the expected corresponding increase in the number of hotel rooms from the present 4,000 to more than 9,000 also by the year 2001.

Visitor expenditures too, still according to government projections, will soar from \$579.3 million in 1996 to as high as \$2.7 billion by 2001.

"We are going to have a very busy and crowded tourist place here... and we are anticipating more crimes... we will preempt



Manny Villaga

this crime increase," said Villaga.

Triple J announces 97 scholarship program



EIGHT talented and creative local high school students will have the chance to win \$5,000 in college scholarships later this year in recognition of their performances in Triple J Motors' upcoming television advertising campaign.

According to a news release from Triple J, auditions will be held this month at high schools on Saipan.

"This event has become a high point of our yearly marketing plans as it's both a lot of fun and ends up providing a big boost for the education plans of local high school graduates," says Wayne Hunt, Triple J's general manager, commenting on his

company's Fourth Annual Student Scholarship Program.

The program has provided \$20,000 in scholarships to 12 students since it began in 1994.

Following auditions at the various high schools, Triple J will select eight students to appear in four separate television commercials that the students themselves will write and direct to promote the sale of Triple J vehicles.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing a big turnout at these try-outs," Hunt says about the auditions being held between Jan. 20 and Jan. 24.

The students will be paired up and asked to create original television advertisements for the Hyundai, Mitsubishi and Isuzu vehicles for sale at Triple J. Once these 30-second skits are produced, they will air on both Marianas CableVision and Saipan Cable Television during March, April and May.

The public will be urged to stop by Triple J's locations in Chalan Laulau and Chalan Kanoa on Saipan to cast their votes for their favorite student actor.

In early May, all votes will be tabulated and an awards banquet will be held in the students' honor to deliver the scholarships before the end of the school year.

Two categories will be selected, one for the most popular actor or actress as voted by the general community, and the other for the most talented actor or actress voted by Triple J and Sunset Advertising Group.

Winners in each category will receive a \$2000 scholarship for first place and \$500 for second place respectively.



Bisom case tossed back to US court

By Rick Alberto

Variety News Staff

THE case of a former legal counsel for the Office of the Public Auditor was tossed back Tuesday from the CNMI superior court to the federal district court, after the latter had dismissed it in November 1996.

Defendants CNMI, former temporary Public Auditor Robert D. Bradshaw, and former Public Auditor Scott Kheng Shang Tan caused the removal of the case, saying the federal court has the original jurisdiction and that the case may be removed to the district court under certain provisions of the United States Code.

Bisom filed the case with the superior court last Dec. 5, but the defendants received a copy of the complaint only after their counsel obtained one from the clerk of superior court.

No defendant had been served with the summons and complaint. Neither any of them had a copy of the summons, the removal notice stated.

Bisom's complaint, however, claimed the superior court had jurisdiction over the case, citing the Commonwealth Judicial Reorganization Act of 1989.

Earlier on Nov. 14, 1995 Bisom filed the case in the district, but a year later, the court dismissed it for the court's "lack of subject matter jurisdiction."

According to the complaint, which was docketed as civil case 96-1320 at the superior court, Bradshaw terminated Bisom's employment on Dec. 28, 1993, motivated by political considerations.

Bisom, through his lawyer,

Jay H. Sorensen, explained that he was legal counsel under the defendant's predecessor, Tan, who had been perceived as a political opponent of then Gov. Lorenzo I. DeLeon Guerrero.

Bisom also said he had questioned the legality and propriety of the "single audit" which the Bradshaw allegedly insisted to be done, as well as questioned Bradshaw's legal authority to act as public auditor.

Bisom said his termination caused him losses in salaries; housing, annual leave, retirement, and medical benefits; use of government vehicle; and expatriation and repatriation benefits and allowances.

When he was terminated, Bisom claimed he was not given proper notice and an opportunity to be heard to question his termination.

Although he was terminated for cause, Bisom said no real cause existed to terminate his employment contract.

Bisom claimed that in December 1995, Bradshaw, among other things, confiscated the keys to his office and the government car assigned to him, instructed him that he could neither make nor receive telephone calls without Bradshaw's prior consent, and directed him not to leave the office without the defendant's prior approval.

On Dec. 10, 1993, Bradshaw filed a complaint against Bisom with the CNMI Bar Association for alleged violations of legal ethics, but the complaint was dismissed because the charges lacked legal or factual bases.

Bisom said he had requested the CNMI to pay for his defense in that case, since he was a government employee.



Your Health

(A public service project by the staff of the Commonwealth Health Center)

What an ulcer feels like?

By Dr. Stephen Sullivan

THE stomach produces an acidic juice that is strong enough to digest tough meat and dissolve old nails. Ever wonder why we don't digest ourselves? Well sometimes we do and we get ulcers.

The lining of the stomach and upper intestine protects itself from acid with a special mucus and a neutralizing juice that contains bicarbonate. The acid can't get at the lining. However this protective barrier can be weakened by cigarettes, some medications like aspirin and related drugs called non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs for short) and by an infection with a germ called Helicobacter pylori. When the lining is weakened we may start to digest ourselves and ulcers form in the stomach or in duodenum which is the first part of the upper intestine.

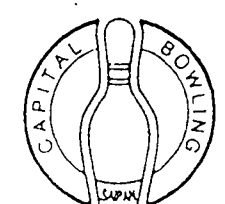
Many ulcers are painless but often they hurt. Sometimes they hurt a lot! Ulcer pain is usually in the center of the abdomen, half way between the bottom of the breast bone and the belly button. It may go through into the back. The pain is burning, aching or gnawing. Sometimes people say it is like bad "hunger pains." Perhaps they describe it that way because ulcer pain often occurs when the stomach is empty and goes away for a few hours after eating. Sometimes ulcer pain can be made worse by eating. When eating makes an ulcer hurt more, the ulcer is usually in the stomach and not in the duodenum. The commonest times for an ulcer to hurt are in the late morning before lunch; in the afternoon before dinner and sometimes late at night when it may wake the ulcer sufferer from sleep. Antacids and milk almost always make ulcer pain better within a few minutes. Strangely, ulcer pain comes and goes even without treatment often in the spring and fall of the year but it does tend to come back year after year.

Pain is the commonest ulcer symptom but ulcers may also bleed, cause vomiting or perforate. If an ulcer eats into an artery it will bleed. Vomited blood may be red like blood or it may be black or brown and be described as "coffee grounds". When the blood comes out the bottom end it is usually soft, sticky, smelly and black, like tar. The medical name for this is melena. Rarely an ulcer will eat all the way through the lining of the stomach or duodenum and acid will leak out into the abdomen. This is called a perforation and is incredibly painful. Even the strongest, bravest man or woman will not wait long at home before coming to the hospital. Ulcers may form scars at the exit of the stomach and make it hard for the stomach to empty. When this happens, feeling very uncomfortable after meals and vomiting of old food are the main symptoms.

Now that we know that ulcers are due to a lining weakened by infection or drugs and not by mental stress or poor diet, the treatment of ulcers has become much easier. Ulcers can be cured by stopping the medications that may be causing them or by taking a course of antibiotics to kill the Helicobacter that has weakened the lining. This will cure at least 90% of ulcers. Most bleeding ulcers will stop on their own but perforations and bad scarring usually need to be fixed with an operation.



Participants in last Tuesday's Crime Stoppers Board meeting discuss the organization's plans for this year. The meeting was held at the Dai-ichi Hotel.

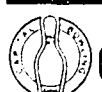


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Foster care program seeks more support

THE Child Protective Unit is restructuring their foster care program to better serve the children and to give added support to foster parents.

"We are designing a program specifically for the CNMI, to protect and serve the children who are in danger from physical and sexual abuse as well as neglect "the programs said in a news release."

"The rates of abuse in the CNMI are far higher than that of the U.S. We must make children a priority and stop the cycle of abuse before another child has to die in the CNMI."

The unit is currently looking for foster parents to join their ranks in serving the children of the CNMI," it added

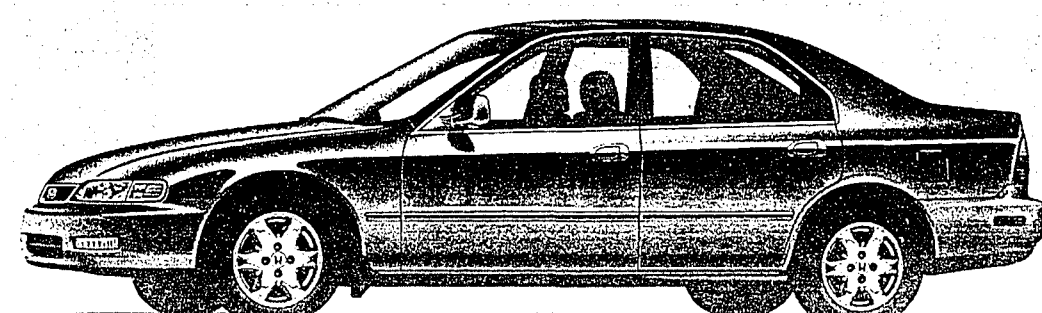
"It may be a tough job, but it can also be the most rewarding job you ever do."

"If you are a responsible adult who has some extra love to share with a child, you may be right for foster care," said proponents the program.

According to the program many of children need a loving home until their home problems can be mended. When they are unable to return home, adoption is the next step. Finding qualified individuals in the CNMI to be foster parents is not always easy.

If you would like to learn more about foster care or are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact Daniel Roberts, Foster Care Coordinator, at 664-2550.

1997 HONDA ACCORD



1997 Accord EXL 4DR V6



1997 Accord LX 4DR

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Rep. Torres urges Gov. Tenorio:

'Do all it takes to get Continental'

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

THE CNMI government should "do all it can" to convince Continental Micronesia to relocate its central operations to Saipan, Rep. Stanley T. Torres said Wednesday.

"Other airlines will come and go, but Continental Micronesia is out here for the long haul," Torres said in a letter to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio.

"Let's give them the advantages they need to make Saipan their home (approximately 500 jobs) and we will all benefit because of it."

Continental Micronesia, he said, has not yet finalized its plans for an aircraft maintenance facility.



Stanley T. Torres

Torres said that with the airline's decision to eventually reduce landings on Saipan from 138 to 66 weekly, "the negative impact will be like a chain reaction."

"We will see fewer tourists, less landing fees, less fuel purchases, less everything because of this move to make Guam."

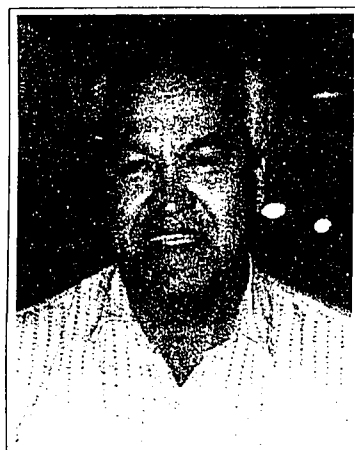
Continental Micronesia's official operating hub even more that it is now.

Guam's gain will be our loss."

The airline was born on Saipan, he added, and the CNMI government should be doing everything possible to entice it to stay here.

"They're our bread and butter. Let's protect what we already have."

Commonwealth Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos A. Shoda, in a Nov. 27 interview, said the CNMI has a "very good chance" of hav-



Froilan C. Tenorio

ing the Continental Micronesia build its maintenance facility on Saipan.

Shoda said that the CNMI government's offer is "competitive" enough to convince

Continental into putting up the facility on the island.

"They're comfortable with our proposal," he said.

Among the proposals the Continental finds attractive are the tax incentives Tenorio said he is willing to offer the airline.

The governor said he and Legislature are ready to "provide more incentives if needed to attract them [Continental]."

"I'm talking about something like tax exemptions," he said.

Other proposals include:

- The immediate availability, on very attractive terms, of one of several parcels of land requiring minimum upgrading;

- The construction of all necessary taxiways without expense to Continental; and

- A one-stop permit approval and assistance in meeting applicable laws and regulations.

The CNMI government, realizing revenues and employment that can be generated from the construction and eventual operation of Continental's facilities on the island, has also issued a joint house resolution "officially" inviting the firm to build its maintenance hub here.

FSM gets grant from Japan gov't

PALIKIR, Pohnpei - The Embassy of Japan announced a grant of US\$39,998 for "Educational Sports Equipment for Youth" given to the Federated States of Micronesia Amateur Sports Association.

A grant contract between the Embassy of Japan in the Federated States of Micronesia and the FSM Amateur Sports Association for the "Educational Sports Equipment for Youth" was formally signed at the embassy last month by Mr. Kiyoshi Nishikawa, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of Japan, and Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick, President of the FSM Amateur Sports Association.

The funds will be used to purchase sports equipment which will be dispersed among the four (4) FSM states of Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae and Yap. The sports equipment will be used to implement and develop a national youth physical education, fitness and sports program in the elementary and high schools through out the FSM.

Jim Tobin, FSM National Government Sports Director, will be travelling to each of the FSM states to meet with local sports and education leaders to initiate the youth sports program, a news release from FSM said.

Rota bird nears extinction

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

THE ROTA Bridled White Eye Bird will slide down to extinction this month if measures proposed by a group of biologists on how to save them is not appropriately acted upon, it was gathered.

In their report to Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Benigno Sablan, Steven Fancy and Thomas Snetsinger of the Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center's Biological Resource Division, said the bird species population has drastically gone down from an estimated 10,760 in 1982 to about 1,170 living in some 259 hectares of old growth limestone forest

patches on the island.

The possible culprits, the report said, are habitat changes due to agricultural development and Typhoon Roy which destroyed a sizeable part of the island's tree growth in 1988.

The report, based on a 12-man survey of Rota funded by the US Fish and Wildlife in July 1996, said that a two-year "linear decline" measurement on the bird population's gradual decrease showed that Bridled White Eye will finally be extinct this month.

The group proposed that a field study be conducted to

determine why there has been "anomalies" in the White Eyes' distribution on Rota.

This is so because the biologists found out that the birds were not where they were supposed to be on the island having had retreated to the mentioned forest parts.

It also proposed that sam-

pling of mosquitoes and other possible disease carriers be held while blood samples be taken from at least 20 White Eyes to determine whether the birds have acquired life-threatening parasites.

An experiment on the control of rats and Black Drongos, another bird species, which are

known to feed on White Eyes, was also proposed through "intensive trappings and poisoning."

This, to establish whether their presence has anything to do with the dwindling White Eye population.

Also, the group proposed that involvement of Rota's local folks be tapped in efforts to save the White Eyes from extinction.



HMMM... Visiting U.S. Rep. Dana Rohrabacher with Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio in a pensive mood during Monday's media conference at the Hyatt.
Photo by R.H. Arroyo

Officials of Pohnpei State here to meet constituents

A GROUP of officials from Pohnpei State government including a high traditional leader, and the Mayor of Kolonia City was scheduled to arrive Saipan last night, to meet with Ponapeans residing in the Commonwealth.

The group is scheduled to

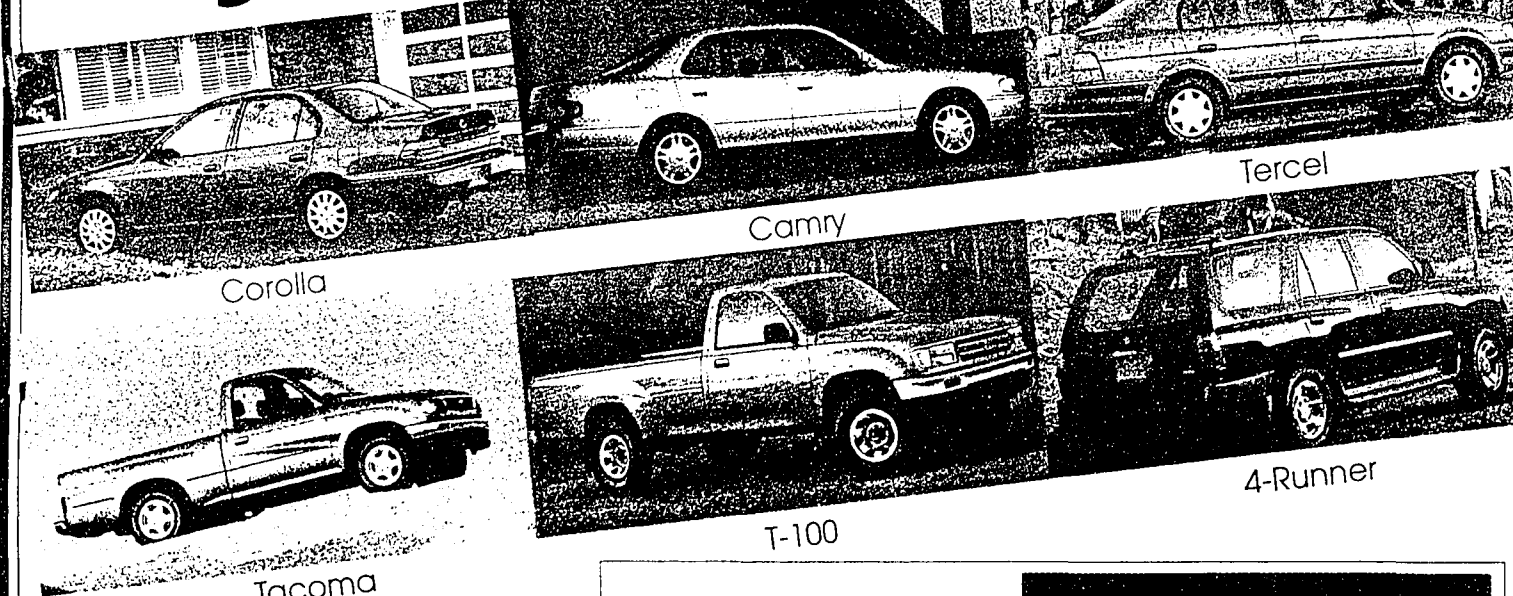
meet with Ponapeans today, January 3rd, at The Hopwood Jr High Cafeteria at 6:00 pm to discuss important issues facing the State of Pohnpei.

All Ponapeans in the Commonwealth are requested to attend this important meeting.

Don't Drink & Drive, Amigo!

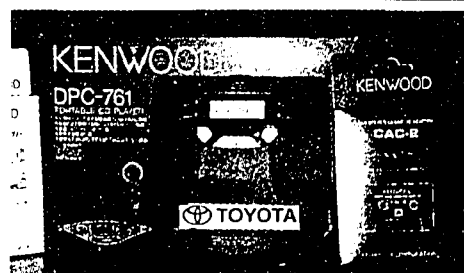
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Merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year!!!

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Our suggestions for your HOLIDAY DINING PLEASURE at the <i>Costa</i> TERRACE RESTAURANT Open Daily from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. "Breakfast Buffet Daily from 7 AM-10:30 AM" "LIGHTS & EASY SANDWICHBOARD BUFFET from 11AM-2PM"				20 Seafood Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00		21 Mongolian BBQ Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00
22 Champagne Sunday Brunch from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$10.00 Steak & Lobster Night from 6:30PM-9:30PM	23 Californian Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00	24 Traditional X-Mas Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$25.00 / Kids: \$12.50 Christmas Gala Dinner at the Raraina Restaurant from 6:00PM-10:00PM Adult: \$65.00 / Kids: \$35.00	25 Eggnog Christmas Brunch Buffet from 11:00AM-2:00PM Adult: \$18.00 / Kids: \$10.00 Steak & Lobster Nite from 6:30p.m. - 9:30p.m. Traditional X-Mas Sit-Down Dinner at the Raraina Restaurant Adult: \$55.00 / Kids: \$30.00	26 International Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00	27 Seafood Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00	28 Mongolian BBQ Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00
29 Champagne Sunday Brunch from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Adult: \$20.00 / Kids: \$10.00 Steak & Lobster Night from 6:30 PM-9:30PM	30 A Trip Across Europe Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00	31 New Year's Eve Gala Dinner at the Raraina Restaurant from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Adult: \$65.00 / Kids: \$35.00 New Year's Eve Gala Dinner at the Poolside from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Adult: \$70.00 / Kids: \$35.00	1 Hang-Over Brunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00 Steak & Lobster Nite Costa Terrace Restaurant from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	2 Italian Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00	3 Seafood Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00	4 Mongolian BBQ Dinner Buffet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Adult: \$22.00 / Kids: \$11.00

Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II, Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission, are hereby giving notice that the regular meeting for the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, January 7, 1997, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fund Conference Room, Tinian.

AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- C. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES
- D. REPORT OF THE HEARING OFFICER
- E. REPORT OF THE LEGAL COUNSEL
- F. REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
- G. REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
- H. CORRESPONDENCE
- I. OLD BUSINESS
 - 1. Retirement Fund Office Building-Update
 - 2. CGE Credit Union-Update
 - 3. GHLI Plan Document
 - 4. GHLI Agreement
 - 5. Board By-Laws
 - 6. Managers Meeting
- J. NEW BUSINESS
 - 1. Furniture RFP
- K. MISCELLANEOUS
 - 1. Technical Analyst Report
 - a) October 1996
 - b) November 1996
 - 2. Report of the Fund Custodian
 - 3. Report of the Fund Consultant
 - a) News Article
 - b) Performance Reports of the Money Managers
 - 4. Money Managers Investment Reports (period ending 11/30/96)
 - a) Provident Investment Counsel
 - b) G.D. Bjurman & Associates
 - 5. In the Matter of J.C. Camacho
- L. NEXT MEETING
- M. ADJOURNMENT

CALL FOR WORK

The First Annual

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

The Arts Council will be holding its first exhibit exclusively dedicated to the art of photography. All are invited to submit work for the exhibit. All work must be delivered to the Arts Council Office by January 8, 1997. Late work will not be accepted.

Registration is free and work will be sold free of commission. For further information, contact Robert Hunter or Sinforsosa Pinaula at the Arts Council Office, telephone: 322-9982/9983.

When: January 10 - February 7, 1996

Where: Arts and Culture Gallery
(located by the Capital Hill Post Office)

Deadline for Submission of Work:
January 8, 1996, 4:30 pm
(no late work will be accepted)

Fees: Registration is Free

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, in part, through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and local contributors.

Joint session on Kan Pacific lease

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

THE JOINT Senate-House of Representatives session on Kan Pacific's 15-year lease extension has been moved from Jan. 9 to Jan. 16, House Speaker Diego T. Benavente said yesterday.

Jan. 9, Commonwealth Day, is a legal holiday.

The Joint Senate-House Committee on Natural Resources is recommending the approval of Kan Pacific's lease extension.

In a report filed Dec. 13, House Committee on Natural Resources Chair Manuel A. Tenorio said that Kan Pacific has agreed to increase its annual base rental from \$240,000 to \$300,000 or 3 percent of the business gross income, whichever is greater.

Kan Pacific, the report added, is also a pioneer in Saipan's tourism industry, and has "conducted itself as a valuable corporate citizen," and has contributed to the economic development and welfare of the CNMI.

Among the conditions set for the lease extension are

- Five years before the expiration of the lease, the CNMI gov-

ernment will "notify" Kan Pacific that it will assume management and operation of the facilities.

- The addition of an 80-room hotel will be completed within 14 months of the effective date of the extension.

- The addition of a skating ring, multi-purpose building and 9-hole mini-golf course will be completed within five years of the extension's effective date.

- Kan Pacific will also make available to "U.S. citizens domiciled in the CNMI" discounted rates for the use of the golf course. Kan Pacific is also required to make its golf course available, at least once a month, to CNMI residents participating in a junior golf program.

To approve a land lease, 2/3 of all the legislators should vote for it.

In a letter to Kan Pacific president Naoki Kitami, Tenorio said he and his Senate counterpart Juan P. Tenorio "are confident that the amendments made on the 15 year extension, with your concurrence, would gain the support of the members."

Chinese singer to hold holiday concert Sunday

HOLIDAY is not yet over for the Chinese community in the Commonwealth.

And a holiday treat awaits them on Sunday when they will get to meet Mimy Chen, a professional singer based in Hawaii.

The Holiday Concert, sponsored by the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association, will be held at the American Memorial Park amphitheater. From 5 to 7 p.m., the audience will be treated to a host of traditional and contemporary Chinese and Hawaiian songs. Her repertoire consists of 18 songs.

She'll be accompanied by musical director, Othmar K. Mazenauer, a Swiss-born pianist and composer.

Last November, Mimy released her first album copies of which, she said, are now available in local stores.

"My album contains Chinese modern songs which are popular in Hong Kong, China, Taiwan and Singapore. I believe people will like it. We have already received good feedback from our Asian audience," Mimy said.

Cuts in her album are mostly love songs, some of which were written by Mimy herself. Mazenauer composed the music.

"I've been into music since I was



Mimy Chen

a little girl. I had been trained in school and I have performed on stage several times," Mimy said.

Mimy is no stranger in the Commonwealth. She was a student of Northern Marianas College where she took up a business course.

She transferred to a university in Hawaii to continue her college degree. She is visiting Saipan for the concert.

"I'll be graduating this June. It's fun to study and sing at the same time," she said.

The concert is organized by SGMA primarily for Chinese garment workers, but association president James Lin invites the public to come and watch. (MCM)

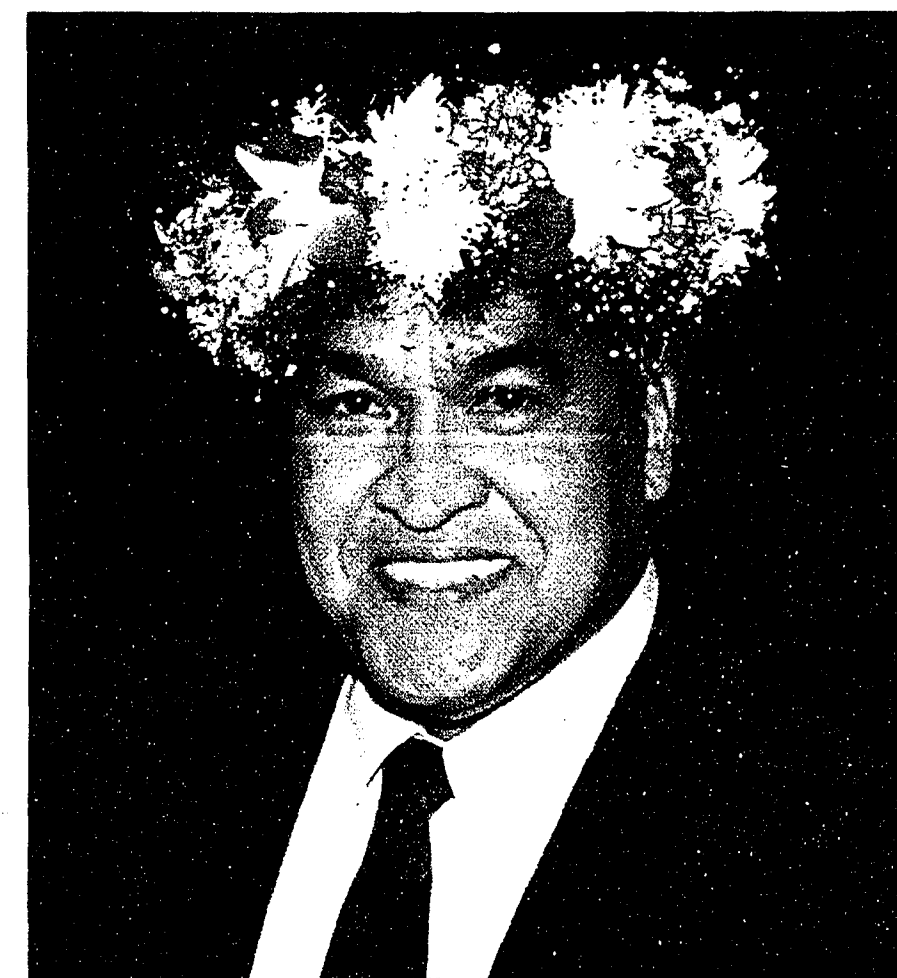
DEQ marine water report

THE Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) analyzed water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm water drainages this week as part of the regularly scheduled sampling.

The samples collected from the following locations contained

excessive concentration of fecal coliform bacteria which exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

- Beach at Tanapag Meeting Hall
- Drainage South of Dai-Ichi Hotel
- Agingan Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall

**I Maneahante para hamyo
Leadership for the People**

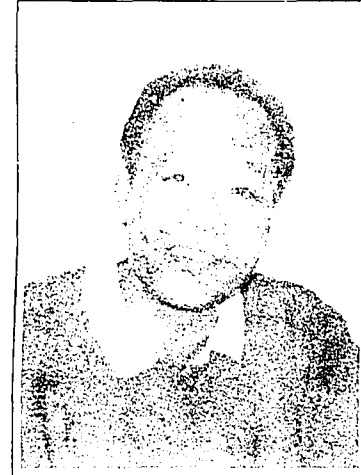
**Governor Froilan C. Tenorio
listens to your concerns
at the Governor's meeting in the villages**

**Join the Governor for
"A conversation with the people"
"E Kombetsasion yan I Taotao siha"**

**San Vicente and Dan Dan Homestead
Joaquin Tudela Recreational Park/Tennis Court
7:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

CRM hearing for Prince Hotel



Manuel C. Sablan

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

A PUBLIC hearing will be held on Jan. 16 in connection with the coastal permit application of the Prince Hotel project in Sadog Tasi.

Coastal Resources Management Director Manuel C. Sablan invited interested individuals to attend the hearing at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe at 6:30 p.m.

Sablan said written and oral comments on the project would be considered in making the decision to grant or not to grant the coastal permit.

The \$1.12-million hotel project will consist of two two-story structures each having a three-bedroom penthouse.

The hotel will have a total of 22 single rooms and three units each with two bedrooms.

It will also have a swimming pool and a coffee shop.

Located across the Charlie Dock and behind a Shell gas station, the hotel will occupy a 3,354-square-meter leased private lot.

The hotel project proponents say the additional rooms would be significantly contribute to easing the

shortage Saipan currently experiences.

The hotel would be the first in the Sadog Tasi area.

The hotel is projected to be completed by the middle or latter part of 1999.

It intends to hire locals to fill management, front desk room service and other positions.

Inquiries regarding the project can be obtained from the CRM at tel. 234-6623, 234-7320, or 234-3907.

DFW reminds on permit rule for hunting, fishing

THE DEPARTMENT of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife reminds the public to renew hunting and fishing in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Permits of licenses for hunting and fishing with fishing nets must be obtained at the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife. As

these permits expire at the end of every year, they need to be renewed, the DFW said in a news release.

Licenses to fish with fishing nets and hunting permits need to be renewed at the Division of Fish and Wildlife office on Saipan at the Lower base area, in Rota at the DLNR office in Songsong village, and in Tinian at the DLNR office in San Jose village.

PTA Council, PREL to hold drug-free seminar

THE CNMI Council of PTA, in collaboration with the Pacific Regional Educational Laboratory (PREL), will be sponsoring a two-day Drug Free Training Workshop entitled, "Drug Prevention in the NMI Through Culturally Appropriate Activities and Curriculum."

The workshop will be held in Saipan on Jan. 13 & 14, Tinian Jan 15 & 16 and Rota Jan 17 & 18 for all parents of local PTA units. Deadline for registration is

Monday, Jan 7.

Each public school in Saipan is limited to 7 parent participants only. Rota & Tinian are limited to 100 participants.

Please contact the following for registration &/or information: Saipan — Tom Camacho, 322-3014/5 or Rosa Magofna, PSS 664-3722-7;

Tinian — Henry Hofschneider, PSS Liaison, 433-9277; Rota — Jesus Taisague, PSS Liaison, 532-0561/2.

Year of the Coral Reef '97 Life Form of the Week

Threadfin Butterflyfish

The Threadfin Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon auriga*) is one of the most common butterfly fishes in our local waters. Threadfins prefer marine habitat areas such as mixed sand, rubble, and coral of shallow reef flats and lagoons. They are among the most colorful and noticeable of all coral reef fishes. Threadfins have deep, highly compressed bodies covered with moderately small ctenoid (toothed) scales extending onto the median fins and has a small mouth with rows of small brushlike teeth in the jaws. The compressed body allows these fishes to maneuver amongst coral reef crevices. It has a single continuous dorsal fin and has a slightly rounded tail. They rest on the bottom among the corals by night assuming a slightly different, more somber color pattern.

During the day most butterflyfish species patrol a home range either individually or in pairs. Some butterfly fishes, including threadfins, also mark their territories with chew marks on coral heads and chase off other butterfly fish if they enter their home range. The CNMI marine monitoring team uses the size of the territories defended by butterflyfishes as a measure of coral reef health.

Threadfins feed mainly by tearing pieces from polychaete worms, sea anemones, coral polyps, and algae. Other butterflyfishes may feed exclusively on zooplankton or coral polyps. They are generally found shallow water areas, less than 10 meters but also can be found as deep as 30 meters.

Juvenile threadfin butterflyfishes do not have the characteristic long filament from the rear of the dorsal fin. The eye spot on the dorsal fin does not fade with adulthood in Indopacific specimen. They may grow up to 8 inches long in the wild and up to 6 inches in a marine aquarium.

Please treat the Threadfin with respect as with all our precious coral reef marine life.

Keep Saipan Clean & Green

Burglars strike, cart \$3,000 worth of jewelry in Kobler

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

NOT everybody was happy on a New Year's day.

Unidentified men broke into a Kobler house and took off with \$3,000 worth of jewelry, police reported yesterday.

Police Public Information Officer Sgt. Franklin Babauta said the incident happened between 1:30 am and 6:15 pm while the house's occupants were away.

He said the victims, upon their return, noticed that the house's front door as well as that of the kitchen's were pried open.

A jewelry case was reported missing. It contained \$375 cash, three 14 K gold necklaces, a pair of white gold earring, three 14 K gold men's rings, a set of 14 K gold wedding ring, and another 14 K gold ring.

Police, Babauta said, has not established any suspects on the case.

He said probers are now questioning possible witnesses.

"We are still following up on the case," said Babauta.

In a related incident, police monitored a total of nine car accidents occurring from midnight of New Year's Day.

No injuries were reported however.

There were also several incidents of minor peace disturbance, police said.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW97-RFP-006

Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed proposals for the architectural and engineering design and the construction management of the Rota Health Center Expansion Project on the Island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Rota Health Center Expansion is presently in a state of partial construction. No construction work is ongoing. Interested architectural/engineering firms are requested to visit the site and view first-hand the physical conditions and the extent of the construction work completed to date. Proposals shall address the A/E firm's ability to perform the following essential elements:

1. Review the existing plans and specifications for the project as provided by DPW and note any omissions or inaccuracies;
2. Determine if the existing work is sound and capable of being utilized as intended;
3. Consult with the Resident Director of the Rota Health Center for any necessary changes that should be incorporated into the project;
4. Prepare new construction documents consisting of plans, specifications, cost estimates and bid package for completion of the project. Designs shall comply with all applicable Codes including ADA requirements;
5. Prepare a Construction Schedule and an O&M Impact Statement;
6. Perform Construction Management services during the construction phase of the project.

This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) at 73.3% of the cost with 26.7% matching funds provided by the CNMI Government. The award of a contract for this project is contingent upon receipt of approval from DOI/OIA.

Proposals shall be evaluated by a DPW Evaluation Committee and a consultant selection shall be made based on the following criteria:

1. Qualification of the principal(s) and proposed staff (25%)
2. Experience on similar projects (25%)
3. Proposed project approach (20%)
4. Time frame for the design work (15%)
5. Completeness of the proposal (15%)

Proposals shall be marked DPW97-RFP-006. One (1) original and five (5) copies of proposals shall be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Department of Finance, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 4:00 pm local time on January 13, 1997.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the successful proposer in fulfilling the contract, including excise taxes.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Secretary of Public Works
Date: December 18, 1996

/s/EDWARD B. PALACIOS, Director
Division of Procurement and Supply
Department of Finance
Date: December 18, 1996

Ramos: 'Growth sustainable'

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - The Philippines crossed the threshold into sustainable economic growth last year, President Fidel Ramos said in a report to the nation Thursday.

But Ramos warned that the country must not "just drift along with the tide" now that the economy has posted its fourth consecutive year of growth. He said 1997 presents the govern-

ment with numerous economic and policy challenges.

"Today we must guard against a shallow optimism that believes that all will now become well automatically," he said. "Signifi-

cant as this record may be, we have not reached the point where we can sit back and relax."

Ramos said pursuing peace talks with Communist rebels and reducing the country's high crime rate remained major policy challenges for 1997.

"If there is one area in which the word 'war' is appropriate, it is in our fight against crime," he said.

Ramos, whose six-year term began in 1992, said the Philippines has finally attained the growth levels that have prevailed in many neighboring countries for the past decade.

"This past year, we could say we have crossed the threshold from the point of takeoff toward sustainable development," he said. "Economic growth is no longer a momentary event in our economic fortune."

Ramos' address was peppered with upbeat references to the economy's robust health.

The economy's performance over the first three quarters of last year suggests that the gross national product growth rate will exceed 7 percent in 1996, Ramos said.

The unemployment rate fell to 7.4 percent in October 1996 from 8.4 percent a year earlier, according to official figures.

Agriculture grew by 4.2 percent in the first nine months of

last year, compared to 1.8 percent in same period of the previous year.

Ramos noted that the Philippine peso fluctuated only 13 centavos (less than a cent) against the dollar last year in contrast to a 95-centavo (3-cent) swing in 1995.

He said that while 33 percent of the 70 million Filipinos still live in poverty, their conditions are improving as the country's basic economic foundation is put in place.

Ramos said development is not concentrated in the Manila area but is also occurring in the rest of the country's 15 regions.

But he said more should be done to ensure that progress is sustainable.

"Stamina, resilience and daring - not instant fixes or miracles - took us over each obstacle we have hurdled," he said.

The constitution limits Ramos to a single term, which expires in June 1998. His address made no specific reference to the contentious issue of who should be his successor.

"Let the final 18 months of this administration crown our labors for reform and regeneration and prepare us for a secure and vital future for those who will follow us," Ramos said in concluding his speech.



Philippine President Fidel Ramos flashes the thumbs-up sign together with some of his cabinet ministers at a hospital in suburban Makati where he met them a day after a surgery that removed a life-threatening block in the artery to his brain. President Ramos was allowed to leave the hospital on Christmas Day. Behind him at right is Vice President Joseph Estrada. AP Photo

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---CREATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SAIPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND PSS---
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ISLAND NEEDS FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND CAREER SKILLS.

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2. YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 17 YEARS OLD AND OUT OF SCHOOL FOR 6 MONTHS.
3. VISIT THE ABE OFFICE ON THE NMC COLLEGE CAMPUS AND REGISTER.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE ABE OFFICE AT 234-3635 (EXT. 123) OR 234-3636
OR CALL DR. JACK ANGELLO, NMC ABE SCHOOL COORDINATOR AT 234-3635)

"DON'T LOSE OUT ON THE JOBS THAT NEED A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE."
"LEARN LIFE SKILLS AND CAREER SKILLS WITH CARING TEACHERS."

Elsewhere in the Pacific

Boy killed by rifle fire

PORT VILA (PNS)—Police in the northern Vanuatu town of Luganville are treating as suspicious the death of an 11-year old boy who had a gunshot wound through his eye.

Police public relations officer Pakoa Samuel says the boy was said

to have shot himself during a hunting trip with a friend.

The boy was found still cradling the gun he was said to have used to kill himself.

However, Samuel says that police criminal investigation officers sus-

pected foul play after they found that the bullet from the .22 rifle did not penetrate the boy's skull nor was there a bullet hole at the back of his head.

This was despite the gun reportedly having been fired at point blank range.

Fiji gov't gets under fire for garment investor debacles

SUVA (PNS)—The Fiji government has come under attack from the Fiji Trades Union Congress for making garment industry workers vulnerable to fly-by-night foreign investors. FTUC assistant national secretary Attar Singh says in a letter to the labour minister Vincent Lobendahn the absconding of investor Ray Majid December 15 leaving behind 150 workers in a lurch reflected poorly on the screening of investors, the Fiji Times reports.

Majid, a Palestinian, arrived last year and absconded December 15 with his personal belongings without paying wages to 150 workers. He was the owner of Lautoka-based Pee Jay's Apparel. Majid is believed to have done a similar thing in the Philippines.

Singh says the plight of the workers, who could not enjoy the festive season, was created by the government's labour market deregulation policy.

He says FTUC's repeated calls for better working conditions for

garment industry workers have fallen on deaf ears. He says government had turned a blind eye to the oppression and abuse of garment workers by many employers and was giving concessions to investors to continue to exploit the labour market.

Attar Singh says that because the workers were victims of government's negligence, government should make it a priority to compensate them and pay their Fiji National Provident Fund contributions.

Crime in PNG isles increases in 1996

PORT MORESBY (PNS)—A mark increase in armed robbery and breaking, entering and stealing has been recorded in the New Guinea Islands Region of PNG in 1996, compared with the previous year.

However, according to divisional police commander John Toguata, who revealed the increase Monday, it was compensated for by effective policing which resulted in many of the crimes being solved, Post-Courier reports.

Toguata says also that there had been a marked increase in sex

offences such as unlawful carnal knowledge, rape and incest throughout the region, but the level of all the crimes decreased and stabilized during the latter part of the year.

In summing up the year, he said break-ins maintained an upward curve in the two New Britain provinces as the year progressed.

Armed robbery reached a high level at mid-year but the rate decreased and remained at a lower level until the end of the year. New Ireland province was generally quiet and peaceful throughout the year.

Tonga's new year celebration

NUKU'ALOFA (PNS)—Hundreds of households throughout Tonga are celebrating the end of the year with their annual offering or Fakaafe. And thousands of pigs, cattle, chickens and goats are being slaughtered, Radio Tonga reports.

The offerings are being made to members of the Free Wesleyan Church, Church of Tonga, Free Church of Tonga, Consti-

tutional and the Tokaikolo Church.

Guests of honour of the Fakaafe are the ministers who will take part in the end of the year church services to begin at 10 and run until midnight and the arrival of the New Year.

The traditional Fakaafe consists of an array of local and overseas dishes with the best root crops, fruits and vegetables.

Prisoner killed in jail breakout

PORT MORESBY (PNS)—A prisoner was shot dead and two others were seriously wounded in an attempted mass jail breakout in Papua New Guinea's Western Highlands Monday.

Two others managed to escape in the confusion at Baisu jail, the Post-Courier reports.

Jail Commander Matthew Kingal says the man killed had been wanted for breaking, entering and stealing had been brought in December 23.

He says the men inside the detainee cell block tried to escape through the plywood wall between the ceiling and the window frame at about 1 am.

Kingal says 2 of the detainees when jumping down to the ground outside made noise which attracted the duty guards.

The commander says the guards saw figures running towards the far wall and ordered them to stop. He says warning shots were fired into the air but the fleeing detainees failed to stop so more shots were fired.

More people missing at sea

PORT MORESBY (PNS)—More than 10 people are still missing in waters of Papua New Guinea's Gulf Province.

Gulf authorities say that a dingy travelling from Iokea to Ihu last Monday may have capsized in rough seas, NBC reports.

Acting advisor for district services Lovate says search for the missing people is still continuing even though there are no confirmed reports of any sightings.

People living along the coastline from Kerema to Kairuku and Yule Island have been asked to report any sightings to authorities.

Lovate says the incident is the second boating accident at Kikori. Last week's incident which claimed 3 lives..

All set for American Samoa inauguration

PAGOPAGO (PNS)—Western Samoa's head of state, Malietoa Tanumafili II, will lead his country's delegation attending the inauguration of American Samoa's new governor and lieutenant governor on January 2 and 3.

He will be accompanied by Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana and several members of cabinet and parliamentarians.

The Western Samoa police band will also be going to entertain at the 2-day festivities.

However, King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV of Tonga has declined the invitation to attend the inauguration because the royal family is in mourning over the death of the queen's mother. Cook Islands Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Henry is also not going.

A spokesperson for the inauguration committee says none of the other heads of government in the Pacific to whom invitations have been sent have yet responded. These include the prime ministers of New Zealand, Australia, Fiji and Papua New Guinea and the heads of regional organisations such as the South Pacific Commission and the South Pacific Forum.

Prayer services, parades, traditional ceremonies and three balls will herald in the new administration of Governor-elect Tauese Sunia and

Lieutenant Governor-elect Togiola Tulafono. Outgoing Governor Aifililo Paulo Lutali has declared a 2 day public holiday on January 2 and 3 to encourage the public's fullest participation in the inauguration festivities.

PNG women come of age

PORT MORESBY (PNS)—A report in the Post-Courier's Nation in Review column has described 1996 as a year that saw women in Papua New Guinea become more vocal and vigorous on such issues that affected their wellbeing and that of their families.

It says various seminars, marches, rallies and awareness campaigns organized this year by women's groups and provincial women's councils saw women raise their voices louder on issues such as domestic violence, polygamy, alcohol and gambling and the detrimental effects they have on society, the Post-Courier reports.

The report says the national council of women and its network of 20 provincial councils have stepped up their fight to eradicate domestic violence from their homes.

And they have worked hard throughout the year to educate the women in their districts on such matters as primary health care and how to start up small business ventures.

This is to show women their rights and role as key contributors to the development of the nation.

The report says next year as the nation goes to the polls, women who make up 50 percent of the population have been urged to exercise their constitutional rights to vote without fear.

Infighting and petty jealousies must be put aside if woman want equality because these are the very things that will break down the solidarity that the female candidates need to win.

It says woman at the grassroots level have looked upon the educated ones to lead the way and it is unfortunate that not many educated women or women leaders have tried to do this.

The report says this is perhaps the reason why after 21 years of independence, PNG women have yet to reach the light at the end of the tunnel.

Outbreak of typhoid

PORT MORESBY (PNS)—There is an outbreak of typhoid in the Bialla District of Papua New Guinea's West New Britain Province. According to Health Advisor Augustine Moore investigation conducted by a team of health officers revealed Bialla town area and the villages of Baikakea, Bubu, Gomu and Apupul as the worst affected, NBC reports.

Health authorities in Kimbe today sent water samples taken from Bialla and surrounding villages affected by the disease to Port Moresby to determine the percentage of contamination. Moore did not disclose the number of people affected by the disease.

Meanwhile, 29 people have died from typhoid and malaria in the Kandrian District of West New

Britain. And health authorities are working around the clock to treat people from the remote Palang-Asengeng area.

Moore says the situation has improved after a health team from kandrian was sent to conduct a mass anti-malaria campaign on adults and children and distribute mosquito nets to villages affected.

Vanuatu gov't pays police allowances

PORT VILA (PNS)—The Vanuatu government has paid a special allowance to a total of 70 police and Vanuatu Mobile Force officers who took part in "operation rescue" last month in which 200 members of the VMF stand down group were arrested.

Individual checks totalling over 8,000 US dollars were handed over to Police Commissioner Peter Bong by Minister for Justice Father Walter Lini at a ceremony in Port Vila yesterday.

Lini says the payments are a symbol of appreciation by the government to those who took part in "operation rescue".

He says the arrest of the VMF members last month has re-established stability in the country.

The payments come at the same time that similar payments are being made to members of the VMF stand down group.

The payments cover the outstanding allowances which led them to abduct

the president and the former deputy prime minister of the country.

The amount involved has not been disclosed, but Lini assures that all soldiers whose names appeared in the special inquiry into the case have been paid their allowances.

The VMF stand down group had originally demanded approximately 900,000 dollars in outstanding allowances for special duties and exercises carried out as far back as 1993.

OFFICE OF THE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PUBLIC NOTICE (12/04/96)


SUMMER JOB

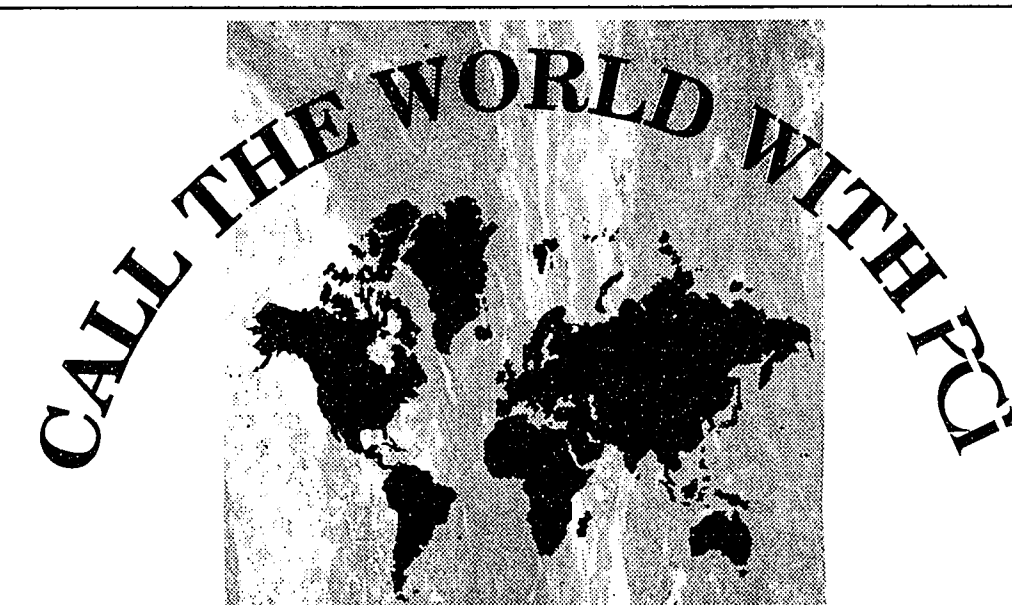
This is to inform all high school students that the CNMI JTPA OFFICE is soliciting one hundred (100) applicants for the youth vacation employment training program. Priority consideration will be accorded to those students below the poverty income guideline (economically disadvantage). However, depending on the availability of local funding, the program may accommodate those students who are considered high income to fulfill the 100 slots.

Deadline for submission is FRIDAY, JANUARY 03, 1997. No application will be accepted after the established date.

All students on BLUE TRACK are encouraged to visit the JTPA office located directly across CUC, or contact Mrs. Laurent T. Chong or Mr. Martin C. Pangelinan at 664-1700/4 for more information.

Respectfully,


FELIX R. NGIS
JTPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
xc: Public Information Officer



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Carolyn's Concepts at Town House

Carolyn's Concepts & Townhouse have teamed up to bring to Saipan the latest in beauty concepts. Townhouse is proud to introduce CAROLYN MASKOWITZ Master Cosmetologist. Ms. Maskowitz will be offering sculptured nails (full sets & fills). And doctors approved permanent make-up using up to date state of the art sterile equipment & natural vegetable dyes and depilatory hair removals.



Introductory Specials

Sculptured Nails

Full Sets..... \$39.95

Fill \$17.95

Nail Fix..... \$5.00

Permanent Make-Up

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Beauty Spots: \$50.00

Depilatory Hair Removal

Lip \$5.00

Eye Brows \$5.00

Full Face \$15.00

Offer Good Thru January 1-31, 1997

Town House

offers a full line of Beauty Products:
Shiseido, Revlon, Coty, Maybelline



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Consultation

PRE-INVENTORY CLEAR OUT SALE



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JANUARY 5-11th



\$1.69

12 oz.

Limit: 24

BUMBLE BEE TUNA in Oil/Water 6 oz. ... **1.09**
TANG ORANGE BREAKFAST DRINK 1.5 Kg. **7.79**
KIKKOMAN SOY SAUCE 1.6 Ltr. **4.39**
CSR WHITE SUGAR 2 Kg. **1.69**
BUTTERFLY VEG. OIL 560 Fl. oz. **4.49**
SPRINGFIELD EVAP. MILK 12 oz. **.79**
THAILAND RICE STICK NOODLES 16 oz. **1.39**
BISQUICK BAKING MIX 1.7 Kg. **4.99**
CAMPBELL'S CREAM of MUSHROOM 10 3/4 oz. **.99**

Herman's Bakery
PULLMAN BREAD **\$1.39**
22 oz.



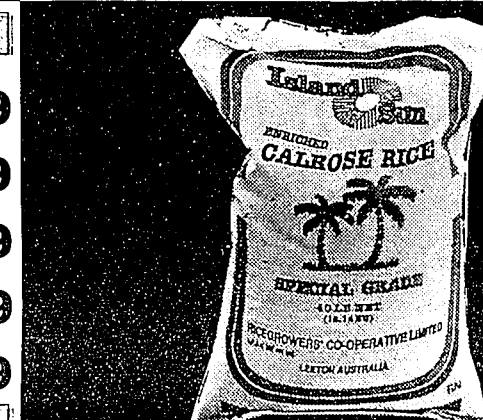
Jimmy Dean
PORK SPARE RIBS **\$14.89**
20 Lb. Case Limit: 2

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Golden Creme
ICE CREAM All Flavors/Half Gal. **4.39**
Kraft Singles
AMERICAN CHEESE Sliced 12 oz. **3.69**
Jeno's
ASSORTED PIZZA 6.8-7.8 oz. **1.69**
Springfield Frozen
FRIED CHICKEN 25 oz. **3.69**
Springfield
MIXED VEGETABLE 16 oz. **1.29**

FARMER'S SPECIALTY

Red Apples **99¢** Lb.
Brown Potatoes **59¢** Lb.



Island Sun
CALROSE RICE **\$11.99**
40 Lb. Limit: 3

QUALITY MEAT

U.S. GROUND BEEF
Really Fresh, Grind 3 Times Daily **1.59**Lb.
U.S. PORK CHOPS Family Pack... **1.99**Lb.
U.S. FRYING CHICKEN PARTS
Drumstick, Thighs 5 Lb. **4.89**Box
U.S. TOP SIRLOIN STEAK/ROAST ... **3.19**Lb.
U.S. WHOLE BRISKET **1.79**Lb.
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BLACK TIGER SHRIMP 1 Lb. **8.89**Box
Imitation
CRAB MEAT 1 Lb. **2.19**Pkg.



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RAMEN **\$8.99**
24/ 3 1/2 oz. Case Limit: 2

RAVE SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER 15 Fl. oz. **1.69**
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GINSANA GINKGOA for Mental Alertness 60 Ct. **11.99**
SPRINGFIELD ALCOHOL 16 oz. **.69**

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GINGHAM BATHROOM TISSUE 8 Roll **2.99**
SPRINGFIELD BLEACH 64 oz. **1.29**
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Front row (l to r): Stanley Mar, BDC Business Consultant, Sandy Dutro, NMC student intern supervisor, NMC President Agnes M. McPhetres, Mina Sablan, NMC Auxiliary Services Manager, Jeffric Flores, NMC student intern, Kristen Merritt, University of Portland graduate intern, Mary Ann Santo, NMC student intern, Jack Peters, NMC BDC Director. Back row (l to r): Dr. Neil Higgins, University of Portland, Gordon Neumiller, University of Washington, Dr. Roy Nishimoto, University of Hawaii, Victor Mesta, NMC Co-operative Education Coordinator, Joe Harris, Washington State University.

BDC wraps up graduate internship program in '96

THE Northern Marianas College Business Development Center (BDC) has recently wrapped up its 1996 Graduate Internship Program.

Formal project presentations were delivered by University of Washington MBA graduate Tobin Hess and University of Portland MBA grad student Kristen Merritt before a supervisory panel consisting of Dr. Neil Higgins from the University of Portland, Dr. Roy Nishimoto from the University of Hawaii, Joe Harris of Washington State University, and Gordon Neumiller from the University of Washington.

Following the presentations, an awards banquet was held where NMC President Agnes M. McPhetres presented appreciation plaques to Hess and Merritt, and also to NMC student interns Mary Ann Santos and Jeffric Flores, who mentored under the supervision of Hess and Merritt.

Also recognized was NMC senior intern Sandy Dutro, who as-

sisted both the graduate interns and NMC interns throughout the program.

According to a news release from NMC, this was the third year that the Graduate Internship Program has been made possible through a generous grant from the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA).

The program brings graduate students from Hawaii and mainland universities to the CNMI to work as consultants to local entrepreneurs and small business operators.

A highlight of the program is the pairing of local NMC undergraduate students with the graduate interns to work as teams on the assigned projects. This provides practical hands-on experience for the students and exposes the local NMC students to the opportunities that lie before them should they pursue higher education beyond the associate's degree.

Red Cross sets disaster classes for January

THE Northern Marianas Islands Chapter of the American Red Cross has scheduled the following Disaster classes for the month of January. Disaster classes are free of charge.

Basic Disaster Trainings:

Tuesday, January 14, 1997 - Introduction to Disaster - 6:00 - 1:00 pm.

Wednesday, January 22, 1997 - Mass Care 1 - 6:00 - 10:00 pm.

Wednesday, January 29, 1997 - Shelter Operations - 6:00 - 10:00 pm.

Typhoons, fires, earthquakes, floods, etc. No matter when or where disaster strikes, your local Chapter of the American Red Cross is there meeting emergency needs and providing food and shelter. But the Red Cross depends on you. You can help us help others in time of disaster. Become a Red Cross Volunteer and sign up for classes now.

All classes listed above are limited, please contact the Chapter office at 234-3459 to sign up or come by our office near the Saipan International Airport.

DFW notifies public on error in '97 calendar

CNMI residents with copies of the 1997 Pocket Size Tide Chart Calendar produced and distributed by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Fish & Wildlife, please note!!

The Division of Fish & Wildlife found an error in their 1997 Pocket Size Tide Chart Calendar. When referring to your tide chart calendar please refer to October for January and January for October. This is especially important when referring to the low and high tide, as well as moonrise and moonset. The Division of Fish & Wildlife apologizes for the inconvenience it has caused to the public.

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Potato

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Dungeness Crab **\$4.59/lb**
1/2 shell mussels 2 lbs/box **\$5.89/ea**
Squid 1lb/box **\$1.59/ea**
Shrimp (Peeled) 1lb/box **\$3.79/ea**

U.S. BEEF

Beef spareribs 20 lbs/cs **18.00/cs**
Ground Beef patty 2 lbs/tube **\$2.98/ea**
Beef Shortloin T-bone Steak **\$2.79/lb**

Pork Chops

\$2.69/lb

Pork Shoulder Steak (Bone in)

\$2.19/lb

Morinaga Infant Milk 400 g **\$3.59/ea**

Rice Cake Moch 1 **SPECIAL PRICE**

Pork feet

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Pork Hocks

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Asahi Black (can)

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Chicken Wings

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3 lbs/bag **\$5.98/ea**

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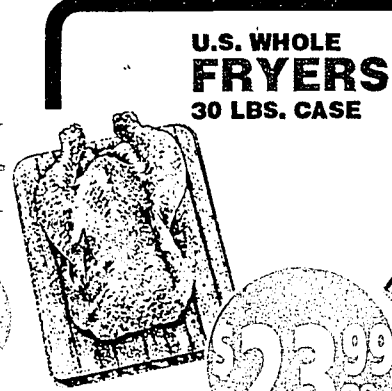
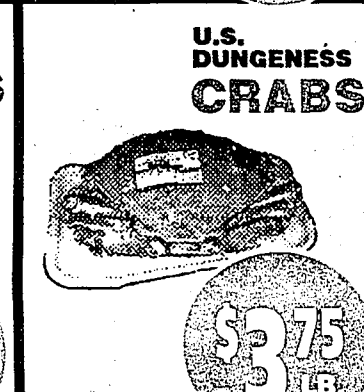
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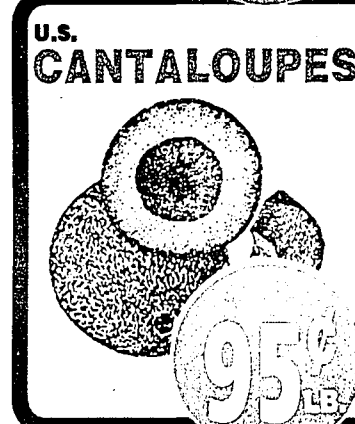
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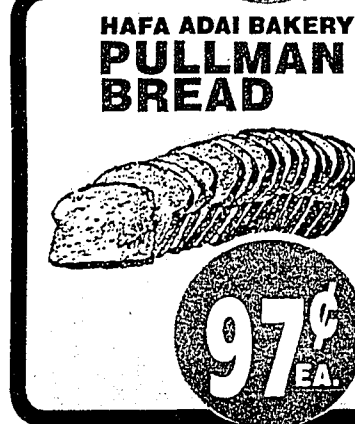
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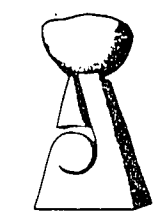
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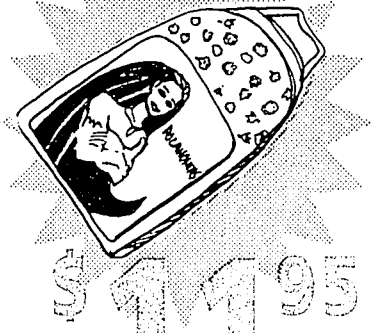
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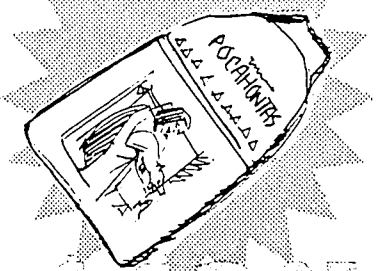
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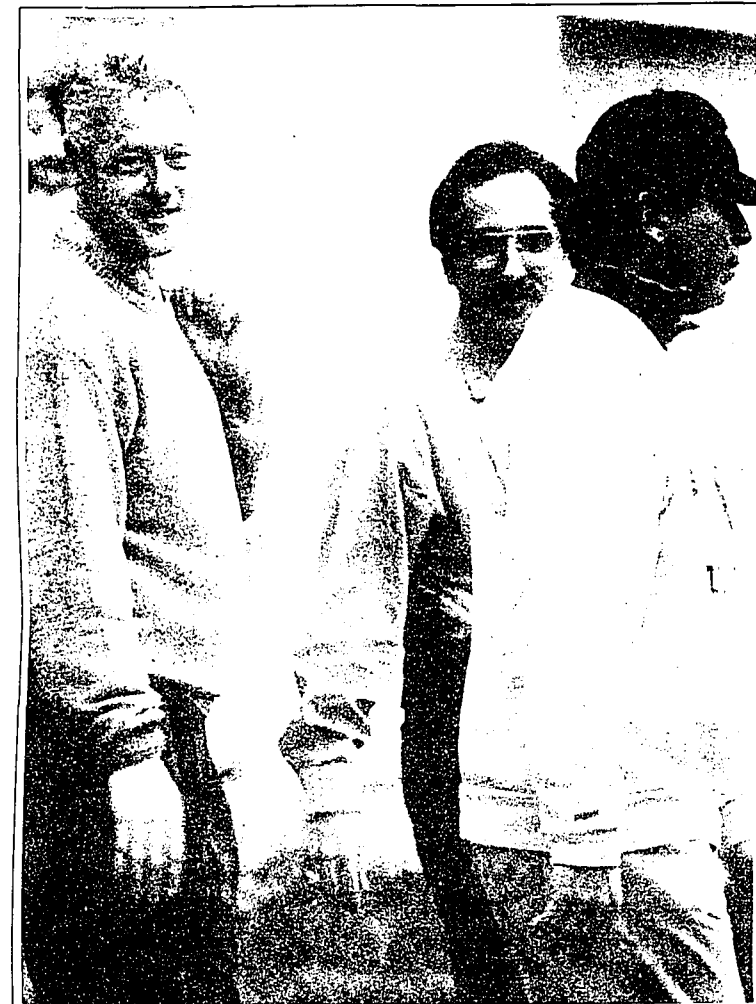
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Clinton on St Thomas retreat



President Clinton, accompanied by his brother-in-law Hugh Rodham, right, and security personnel, leaves the Fashion Centre at Pentagon City mall in Arlington, Va. Christmas eve after he did some last minute Christmas shopping after playing golf. (AP Photo)

By ROBERT BURNS
ST. THOMAS U.S. Virgin Islands (AP) - President Clinton began a four-day Caribbean holiday retreat, but not before being drawn in to the more serious business of keeping hope alive for a deal on Israel's troop pullout from Hebron.

During a Wednesday flight from Hilton Head Island in South Carolina, the president told reporters that the shooting of a number of Palestinians by an Israeli soldier in a Hebron market should not interfere with the Israeli-Arab negotiations on Hebron.

He said he believes that the two sides "will go back ... and make a good faith effort and try to wrap it up."

Clinton said he talked for about five minutes with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at mid-morning.

"I told him how sorry I was. I asked him to convey my condolences to the families," Clinton told reporters aboard the presidential jet Air Force I during the flight to St. Thomas. "I just said, you know this shows you that the longer this goes on the more difficult it is. We need to bear down and go on."

Earlier, White House spokeswoman Mary Ellen Glynn said

that the president was "outraged and saddened" by the incident in Hebron in which an Israeli soldier opened fire on a group of Palestinians with an automatic rifle.

Clinton had been briefed on the incident before departing Hilton Head Island and spoke by telephone with his national security adviser, Sandy Berger.

While Clinton telephoned Arafat, he had no plans to call Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, since U.S. envoy Dennis Ross already had called to the Israeli leader.

Asked why he telephoned Arafat, Clinton replied, "I called him because ... they were Palestinians that were shot." Clinton began the New Year with a little late-night revelry at Hilton Head. The first family - the president, his wife, Hillary, and their daughter Chelsea - spent the night at a beach home at Hilton Head Island.

True to his vacation form, Clinton managed to squeeze in a few holes of golf before attending a brunch on New Year's Day and then departing for St. Thomas.

Glynn said that while Clinton was concerned by the latest developments in the Middle East he remained hopeful that an agreement on an Israeli pullout from Hebron could be clinched.

"The president condemns this cowardly act, which was clearly designed to make it more difficult to conclude an agreement on Israeli de-

ployment from Hebron," Glynn said.

"The best answer to this action would be for the two sides to close the remaining gaps and move forward with the hard work of forging a durable peace between Israelis and Palestinians," she added.

The president was informed of the shooting incident Wednesday morning by National Security Council aide Joyce Harmon, who was with the presidential party here.

The Clintons spent New Year's Eve at an invitation-only "Renaissance Weekend" party at a beachfront hotel, where they rang in 1997 with a medley of songs with 1,600 other partiers. The Clintons are "Renaissance" regulars, having attended the exclusive family retreat at Hilton Head every year since the early 1980s. The president was up until about 1:45 a.m.

St. Thomas held the prospect of more golf plus some reading and rest before a new Congress convenes next week.

Mrs. Clinton said she and her husband had never been to the Virgin Islands. They chose St. Thomas on the recommendation of Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, she said.

They were staying at a private seaside villa. The Virgin Islands, east of Puerto Rico and lying between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, form the easternmost outpost of the United States. St. Thomas has been hard hit in recent years by hurricanes.

Spiritual leader says Trie was her follower

RIVERSIDE, California (AP) - Spiritual leader Suma Ching Hai says an Asian-American businessman who collected \$ 640,000 in questionable donations for President Clinton's legal defense fund is one of her followers.

Ching Hai, who heads a Buddhist sect that bears her name, told the Riverside Press-Enterprise on Sunday that Charles Yeh Lin Trie, a Clinton friend, became an initiate of her teachings in Taiwan.

"Of course I know him," Ching Hai said. "He came just to me for spiritual reasons because he heard about me from someone else."

Her statement was the first direct link between Ching Hai and Trie, who delivered \$ 460,000 to the Presidential Legal Expense Trust in March. He later provided more money, but the fund returned all of it - a total of \$ 640,000. Investigators working for the fund reportedly suspected many contributions were bogus.

Some donors appeared unable to afford their \$ 1,000 gifts, some check signatures had identical handwriting, and sequentially numbered money orders arrived from people in different cities, investigators concluded.

Ching Hai, born in Vietnam, is compared to Buddha and Jesus Christ by her followers. She said she advised them to help Clinton with his legal battles in the Whitewater

affair and others, but had not told them to donate money.

The 46-year-old spiritual leader also said Trie did not ask her to raise the money.

"(My disciples) asked me if they can help Clinton, if it's political motivation or not, and I say, OK just help quietly, don't blow trumpet about it," Ching Hai said before addressing a throng of followers at the Long Beach Convention Center.

Ching Hai was in Southern California for the culmination of a five-day retreat for her followers. During the event, more than 2,000 initiates spent most of their days meditating, said spokeswoman Pamela Millar.

To become a follower, members must become vegetarians and meditate more than two hours each day. Ching Hai initiates are forbidden to lie, kill, use alcohol or drugs, steal or engage in sexual misconduct.

Millar said followers of Ching Hai who decided to help Clinton sent their money to the Los Angeles center but she did not know how or why the donations were entrusted to Trie.

Millar also said it would not have been unusual for the donations to come as sequential money orders. Leaders of the group may have filled out the orders for followers who donated funds at group functions, she said.

Hostages in Peru crisis down to 74

Seven freed by rebels on New Year's Day

By JOSEPH B. FRAZIER

LIMA, Peru (AP) - Seven smiling hostages walked from the Japanese ambassador's residence to freedom in a New Year's Day release that left 74 businessmen and political officials still held by leftist rebels.

After 15 days of captivity, the seven haggard hostages left the residence about 5:25 p.m. Wednesday.

Roman Catholic Archbishop Juan Luis Cipriani, believed to be an important channel in negotiations between the rebels and the government, walked the ex-captives out of the compound and past a crowd of applauding journalists and onlookers to a waiting bus.

They were taken to a nearby police hospital for a medical examination, their bus escorted by motorcycle police.

It was the second release since Tuesday by rebels, who have been demanding the release of jailed comrades.

"On a day the church is celebrating a universal day of peace, we see more of our brothers have gained their freedom," said Cipriani, who entered the compound shortly after noon.

He said he continues to pray for the release of the other hostages, calling the negotiations "a difficult road, but a road of peace."

The rebels are demanding the release of about 300 of their jailed colleagues, but President Alberto Fujimori says he will not address their demands until all hostages are freed.

Among those freed Wednesday were Alberto Yamamoto, president of Peru's National Institute for Development, and Juan Assereto, an economic adviser to the government, the Red Cross said in a statement.

A smiling and waving Assereto shouted from the bus that he was "happy, happy" and was feeling "very good, very good," in response to questions from reporters.

The other hostages released Wednesday were identified by their companies as Makoto Sekiguchi and Haruo Takahashi of Mitsui of Peru, and Yonezo Urata and Toyooki Toda, employees of two subsidiaries of Matsushita Electric Industrial Co.

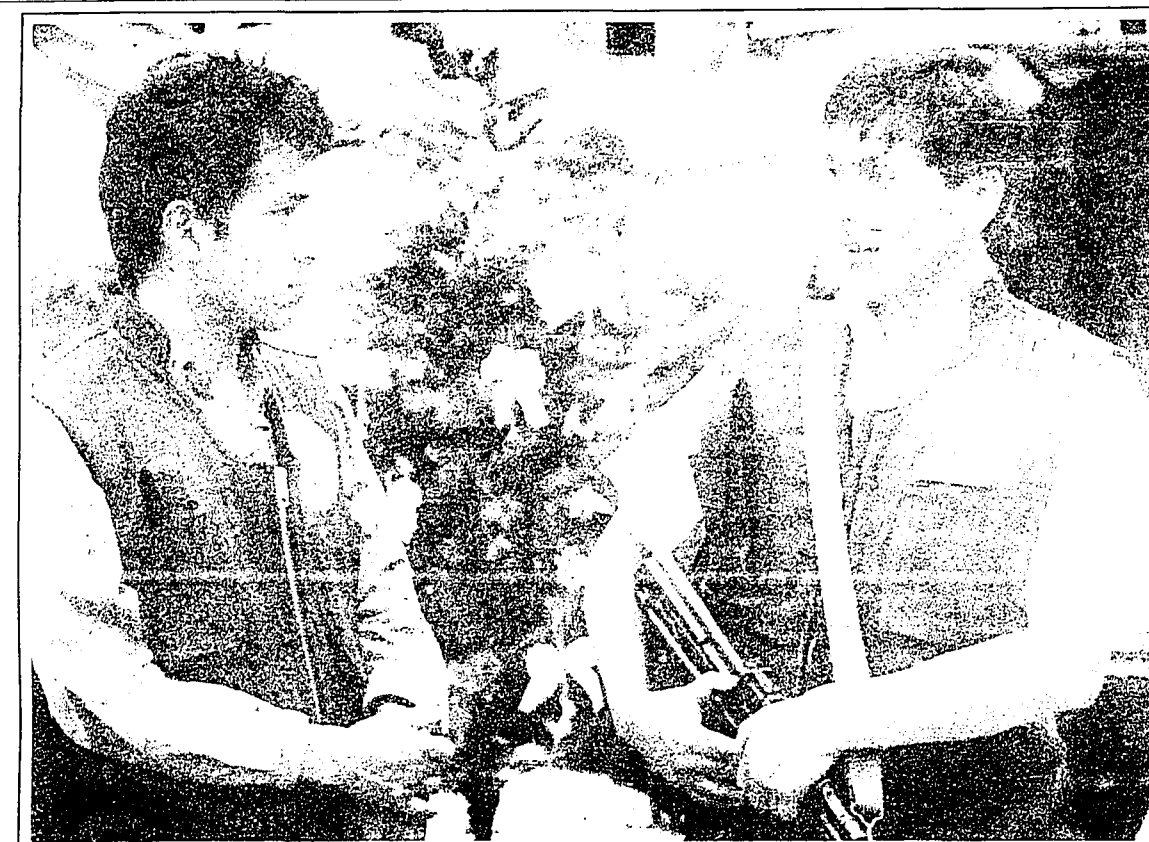
Japanese national broadcaster NHK identified the seventh man only as Jose Kamiya, a Peruvian of Japanese descent.

In Takamatsu, Japan, Toda's family expressed joy at his release.

"We didn't prepare New Year's dishes or decorations this year," Jiro Toda, the released hostage's 70-year-old father, told NHK. "Now we can have a real New Year's celebration."

The hostages had spent New Year's Eve in the darkened, garbage-filled Japanese ambassador's residence. They attended Mass by candlelight and dined on Japanese salmon, sushi and fruit sent in by the Red Cross.

Around noon Wednesday, Cipriani entered the residence with a Red Cross worker. Outside, policemen in bulletproof vests stood guard with automatic rifles, while 500 people nearby carried pro-



Two police officers stand on guard in front of a Christmas tree outside the residence of the Japanese ambassador in Lima. Tupac Amaru rebels had been holding more than 100 hostages since Dec. 17 down to 74 as of yesterday. (AP Photo)

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Commonwealth Ports Authority Job Vacancies Announcement

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has openings for the following openings at the Saipan International Airport:

- 1 (one) Chief Mechanic
- 1 (one) Electronic Technician I
- 1 (one) Ground Maintenance I
- 1 (one) Professional Plumber

The salary for the Chief Mechanic's position is anywhere between \$22,576 minimum to a maximum of \$38,601.36 per annum, depending on qualifications and experience. The employee is responsible for the overall supervision of repair and maintenance of all CPA emergency generators and heavy equipment with emphasis in aircraft rescue and fire fighting vehicles. The minimum qualifications is any combination equivalent to graduation from High School or GED and AA degree or equivalent in certification from an accredited trade school or agency plus a minimum of eight years of responsible experience in a progressive heavy equipment specializing in fire trucks and/or emergency generator repairs and maintenance operation of which four years pertain to supervisory experience.

The salary for the Electronics Technician 1 position is a minimum of \$15,106 to a maximum of \$25,811 per annum, depending on qualifications and experience. The employee is responsible for maintaining and repairing electronic devices, equipment and navigational aids at CPA. The minimum qualifications are any combination equivalent to graduation from high school or GED and AA degree or equivalent to certification as electrician from an accredited U.S. college with four years of progressive experience in airport operations, aviation or airlines.

The salary for the Ground Maintenance 1 position is a minimum of \$10,094 to a maximum of \$16,651.51 per annum. The employee is responsible for maintenance of ground areas adjacent to the lighting aids and navigational aids by performing mowing work and other clearing methods and procedures, including operating the incinerator system at the Saipan International Airport. The minimum qualifications are graduation from high school or GED and two years of experience in airport operations.

The salary for the Professional Plumber is a minimum of \$16,800 to a maximum of \$27,437.44 per annum, depending on qualifications and experience. The employee is responsible for the overall repairs and maintenance work on the plumbing system including fixtures, plumbing components or equipment of the terminal building complex. The minimum qualifications are any combination equivalent to graduation from high school or GED and AA degree or equivalent in certification as plumber from an accredited U.S. college or trade school with four years of progressive experience in airport operations, construction firms, major hotels or resorts and other commercial buildings.

Application forms are available at the Security Office, First Floor of the Arrival Building or at the Administration Office, Second Floor of the Arrival Building at the Saipan International Airport. Applications must be accompanied by an updated police clearance. The deadline for submission of application forms is January 3, 1997 at 4:30 p.m.

Regino M. Celis
Saipan Airport Manager

China enacts legal reforms

BEIJING (AP) - New laws take effect Wednesday that will give Chinese accused of committing crimes better access to lawyers and will make it more difficult for police to detain suspects for long periods.

But other landmark reforms remained under debate as the

standing committee of China's national legislature ended its last session of the year Monday without indicating the fate of additional proposed revisions to the criminal law.

State-run media had announced last week that lawmakers planned to eliminate a host of political crimes from

the law books and replace them with offenses endangering national security.

The move would represent a small step in bringing China's legal code in line with those of other nations. Chinese lawmakers first discussed doing away with the category of political crimes in the late 1980s.

None of the reforms are likely to do much to help China's beleaguered dissident community. The limits on police detentions, for example, do not affect the ability of the police to send suspects to labor camps for up to three years without trial.

The draft amendments to the criminal law, apparently still under debate by the national legislature's executive committee, would wipe out the category of "counterrevolutionary" crimes, the reports said.

Instead, those crimes - long cited in punishing democracy campaigners or other political foes the ruling Communist Party deems threatening - would become offenses "jeopardizing state security."

Increasingly, authorities have turned to China's sweeping state security laws when dealing with political activists.

In two trials of veteran dissidents in the past year or so, courts did not apply charges of "counterrevolution." Instead, they chose to convict Wang Dan and Wei Jingsheng, both previously imprisoned for "counterrevolutionary" crimes, of trying to subvert the government. Wang was sentenced to 11 years in prison, Wei to 14.

China's state security laws

are intentionally vague and contain clauses that have never been made public. Chinese authorities classify as state secrets information that is widely circulated within the 57 million-member party and government bureaucracies.

Indications are that this trend is likely to intensify. In a recent speech, President and Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin promised to crack down on those who divulge state secrets.

"Cases involving leakage of secrets must be severely investigated and punished according to law, making absolutely sure that there will be no favoritism shielding and overindulgence that breed traitors," the state-run Xinhua News Agency quoted Jiang as saying.

The amendments to China's criminal code now under discussion add new offenses for organized crime, computer crimes and securities market speculation.

They also would stiffen guidelines on reducing sentences and paroling criminals and order that all punishments outside of sentencing rules be reviewed by the Supreme People's Court.

Police who kill or injure people in the line of duty would not be liable for criminal prosecution under the amendments.

New political party in Japan



Former Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, center, announces his new party, called the "Taiyo" (Sun) Party, written in Japanese above him, during an inauguration ceremony at a Tokyo hotel last Thursday. Hata, 61, formed a new party with 12 followers in the Diet, splitting the largest opposition New Frontier Party. From left: Hiroshi Kumagai, Eijiro Hata, Tsutomu Hata, Keiwa Okuda and Toshinobu Awaya. (AP Photo)

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

INVITATION TO BID DPW97-ITB-005

Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the Department of Public Works is soliciting sealed bids for the Intersection Improvements and Installation of Traffic Signal in As-Lito and As-Perdido Intersection, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Bids in duplicate will be accepted in the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply at Lower Base, Saipan until 2:00 p.m. local time, January 31, 1997 at which time and place the bids will publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received after the above time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

A bond of 15% of the total bid price must accompany the bid. The security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check, Bid Bond or other form acceptable to the Government, made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with a notation on the face of the check "Credit Account No. 1471".

The bidder is required to submit with his bid a copy of his business permit in compliance with the Contractors Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Plans and Specifications of the project are available from the Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, Saipan, on or after December 27, 1996. A non-refundable payment of \$100.00 is required for each set; payment to be made at the CNMI Treasurer. The Pre-bid Conference for this project is to be held at 2:00 p.m. local time, January 17, 1997, in the Department of Public Works Conference Room.

Attention is called to the Labor Standards Provision for wage rate determination of the CNMI Classification and Salary Structure Plan, and payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Specifications must be paid on this project.

All bid documents received shall be the sole property of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands with the exception of bid bonds, certified checks and cashier's checks which will be returned to the bidders in accordance with the specifications section titled "Instructions to Bidders" Paragraph 5, Bid Guarantee. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Reviewed By:

/s/EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Secretary of Public Works
Date: Dec. 11, 1996

/s/EDWARD B. PALACIOS
Director, Division of Procurement & Supply
Date: Dec. 11, 1996

Hong Kong gov't blacklists democracy movers: Report

HONG KONG (AP) - The Hong Kong government has a blacklist of democracy campaigners, and used it last week to refuse entry visas to two of them, the newspaper Apple Daily reported Tuesday.

The government refused to comment on the details, but said it had to consider "the interest of the community" in weighing visa requests.

Hong Kong will become part of China on July 1, 1997, and the government is on record as saying it does not want the British colony to be "a base for subversion" against China.

Chai Ling and Yuan Ming told Apple Daily they applied to the British consulate in New York for visas to attend the 10th anniversary party of Open Magazine, a journal sometimes critical of China's Communist government.

Chai, 30, a U.S. resident and business student at Harvard University, was a leader of the 1989 democracy protests in Beijing.

She fled to the United States just weeks after the army crushed the protests at Tiananmen Square.

Yuan, 65, is a former deputy director of the Chinese Communist Party's research center. He has lived since 1988 in the United States, where he has been a visiting scholar at several universities.

Chai said the British consulate told her on Dec. 23 that her name was on a Hong Kong government "list" and she could not have a visa.

Yuan had already been rejected in 1989 and 1993, the paper said.

Unlike Chai, Yuan was not told why, but surmised the problem was political since his U.S. papers were in order, the report said.

China jailed many of Chai's fellow demonstrators on charges of counterrevolution following the 1989 protests.

Chai said she merely wanted a last look at Hong Kong before the handover, and her visit would not have provoked any trouble with China.

In a statement, the Hong Kong government said Hong Kong was "a tolerant and open society" with a "long-established and extremely liberal approach to immigration matters," but never commented on operational decisions.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL 911

Protests blamed on Suu Kyi's NLD

RANGOON, Burma (AP) - The military government Tuesday blamed Aung San Suu Kyi's pro-democracy party for the biggest protests to sweep Burma in years, and said 47 people were being held in custody in connection with the unrest.

Speaking at a special press conference, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt also claimed an ethnic insurgency group, exiled students and "above-ground destructionists" had set off a bomb Christmas Day at a Rangoon pagoda which killed five persons.

The student demonstrations, which erupted in early December, and the bomb explosion have further heightened enmity between Burma's hardline military and groups seeking multi-party democracy.

Khin Nyunt, the powerful secretary of the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council, said that 263 persons, including 180 students, had been arrested and released.

Among the 47 still being held, he said, were 13 members of Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy.

Suu Kyi, the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner, is being closely confined at her Rangoon home and allowed to leave only when the military approves her requests to go out.

Calm was largely restored to the Burmese capital after authorities suspended classes at Rangoon's universities and most secondary schools Dec. 11 and 12.

The suspension followed several days of protests by hundreds of students demanding an end to police brutality and more freedom and human rights. The series of protests was the biggest seen in Burma since the failed pro-democracy uprising of 1988.

The two-week calm was shattered Wednesday when a bomb exploded at the Kaba Aye Pagoda, a shrine which attracts senior officials as well as ordinary citizens to pray before what is believed to be a tooth of the Buddha. Five people died and 17 were hurt. None were leading government officials.

Khin Nyunt blamed the bombing on the Karen National Union, Burma's last major insurgency group still fighting the central government for greater autonomy.

He also blamed the All-Burma Students Democratic Front, a rebel group operating along the Thai-Burmese border formed by students who went into exile after the army killed thousands to quell anti-government unrest eight years ago.

Both groups have denied playing a role in the bombing and accuse the regime of staging the explosion itself to create a pretext for a further crackdown on opponents.

Khin Nyunt, who heads the omnipresent military intelligence apparatus, also blamed unnamed "above-ground

destructionists" as being responsible for the bombing. The term usually refers to Suu Kyi's party, which is founded on principles of nonviolence.

Khin Nyunt said there was "strong evidence" that members of Suu Kyi's party, exiled student groups and underground elements of the

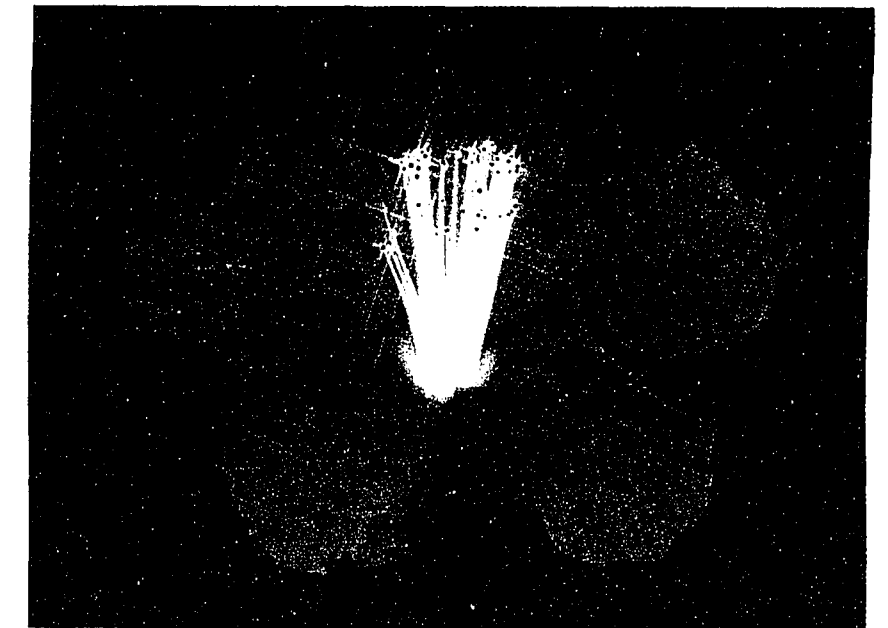
Burma Communist Party had instigated the student unrest.

Suu Kyi's followers have expressed support for the student demands but strongly denied organizing the demonstrations. The Communist party, once a powerful force, has virtually ceased to exist.

A wide spectrum of the

population rose up in 1988, fed up with decades of military rule and economic mismanagement. The junta that emerged after bloodily quelling the protests has opened up Burma to outside investment and liberalized the economy but has moved quickly to put down any political opposition.

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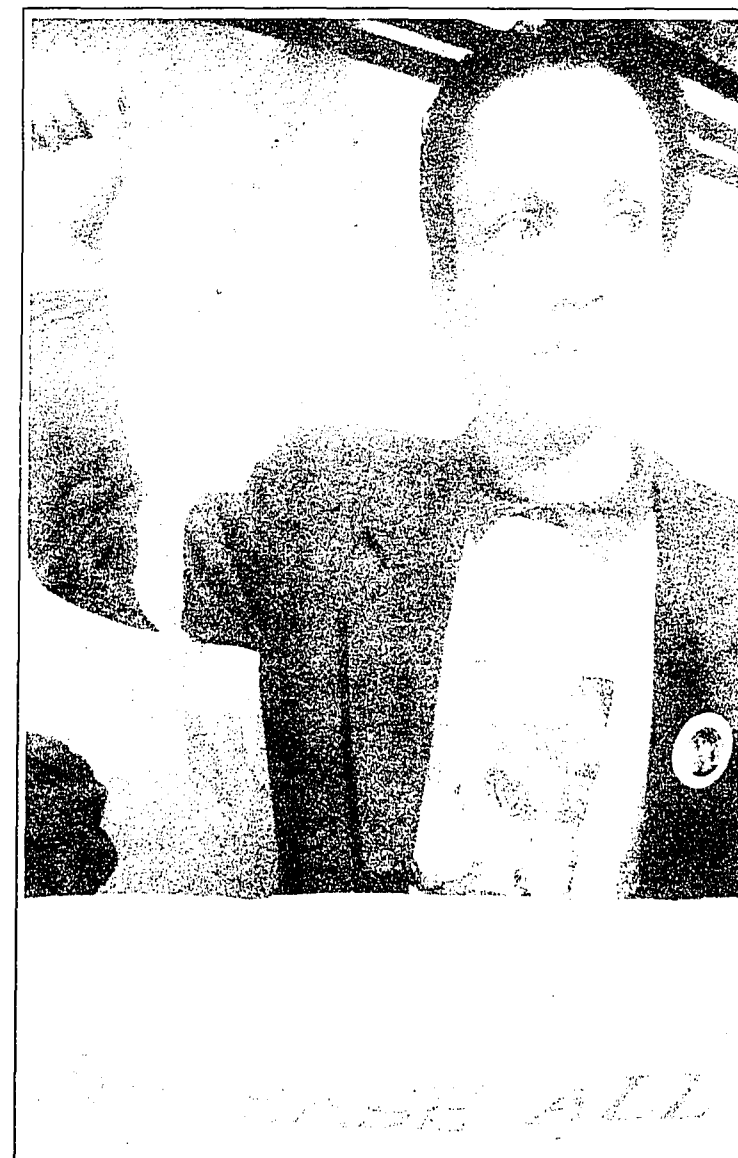
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A Burmese youth, wearing a shirt bearing a portrait of Burma's democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, raises a clenched fist during a peaceful demonstration in front of the Burmese Embassy in Tokyo, Japan. About 30 demonstrators demanded a quick release of all the students detained by the military junta, in their support to their fellow students who were protesting in Burma. (AP Photo)

Drugs 'down' new year revelers

By MICHELLE DeARMOND
LOS ANGELES (AP) - New Year's Eve revelers sickened at a rock concert after some drank an orange-colored liquid may have been hit with a combination of synthetic drugs, a hospital director said Wednesday.

Dr. Robert Splawn said concertgoers treated at the Cali-

fornia Hospital Medical Center displayed a variety of drug reactions. He was unsure what role the orange liquid played in the illness.

"Apparently several drugs were being abused," Splawn said.

At least 31 people were treated at area hospitals for dizziness, nausea and shortness of breath,

and paramedics treated 20 at the Olympic Auditorium where the all-night rock concert was held. Two people remained hospitalized Wednesday for drug overdoses; a third was critically injured when he was struck by a car in the melee that erupted when the concert was stopped.

The concert by the band "In

7th Heaven" ended well before midnight when firefighters found 10,000 people crammed into the auditorium - including four who were unconscious. The departing crowd threw objects, broke windows and at one point attacked a city bus - rocking it back and forth.

Six people were arrested at the concert for investigation of selling and distributing drugs.

Splawn said the sickened revelers didn't appear to know what was in the drink, which they referred to as "orange rush." Concert organizer Terry Cowan told reporters that the drink was a legal, herbal stimulant and that 100 bottles were handed out to the crowd.

"This is a registered product, so this is not an illegal substance," Cowan said Tuesday. "But unfortunately, quite a few people have gotten sick."

Police seized as many as 10,000 vials of the liquid. Test results were expected Thursday or Friday.

Cowan could not be reached Wednesday through the Olympic Auditorium or ticket services. There was no Los Angeles listing for him.

Drug experts and Los Angeles health officials couldn't be reached Wednesday because of the New Year's holiday.

Splawn said the sickened

concertgoers mentioned a number of synthetic drugs to hospital workers, including ecstasy, LSD and GHB, or gamma hydroxybutyrate, known as "Liquid X."

"Some participants told me people were using a combination of them," Splawn said.

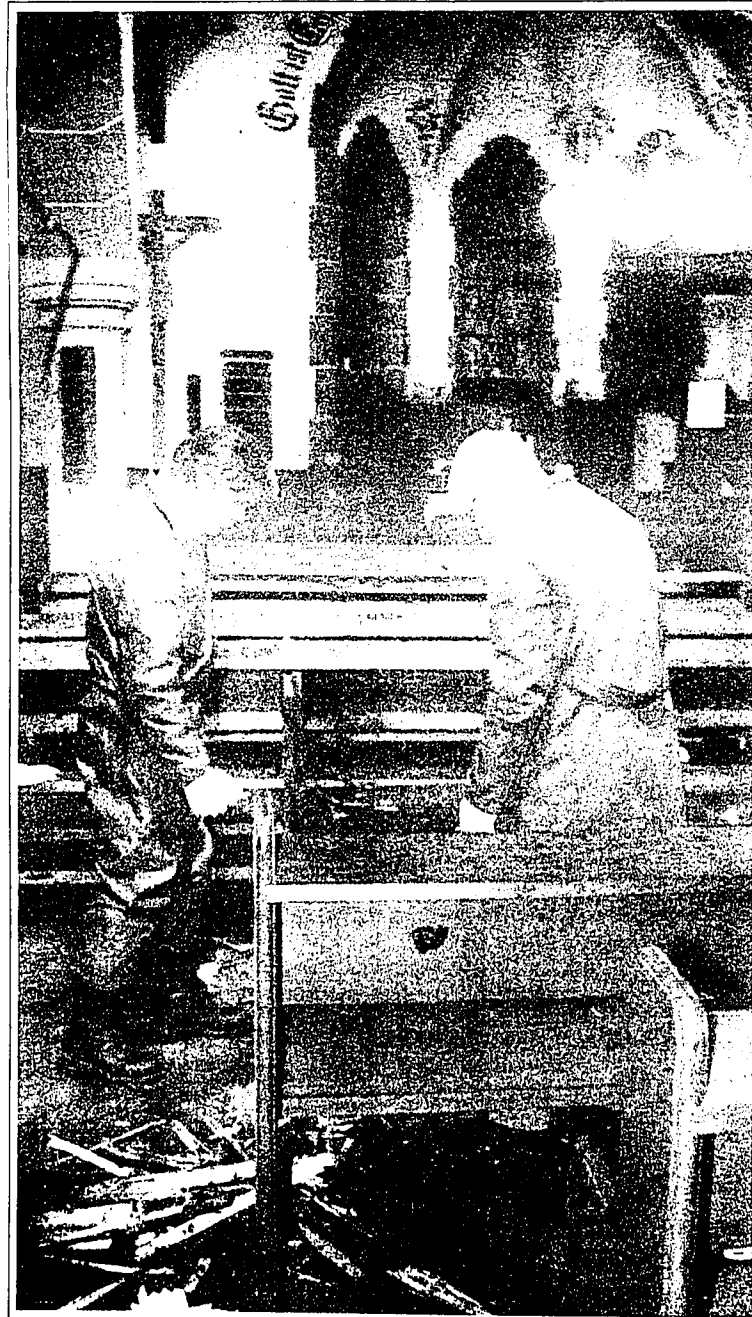
"Liquid X," one of the so-called date rape drugs - which get their name because they are sometimes used to incapacitate women so they can more easily be overcome sexually - causes euphoria or leaves a person in convulsions and possibly a coma.

The use of such synthetic drugs has been on the rise in recent years.

Ecstasy, or MDMA, is a synthetic hallucinogen that causes a feeling of relaxation and euphoria. It is typically sold for dls 10 to dls 30 a dose and is a cornerstone high at all-night "rave" parties.

MDMA, which is illegal, is different from Herbal Ecstasy, a product sold in health stores that contains amphetamine-like ephedrine.

Health workers who treated four stricken concertgoers suspected they were under the influence of ecstasy, said Adelaida De La Cerda, spokeswoman at Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Hospital Medical Center.



Forensic experts in a church in Frankfurt where a bomb exploded at Christmas Eve service. A woman apparently on a suicide mission detonated the bomb, killing herself and two other women. At least 13 people were badly wounded, at the least two of them, including a 12-year-old girl, were in critical condition. Police said the bombing did not appear to be politically motivated.

AP Photo

Thousands march in Belgrade

By JULIJANA MOJSILOVIC
BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) - Taking advantage of the absence of riot police who have blocked their marches over the past week, students took their protests to the state television building.

The students called on fellow Serbs to join their demonstration on Wednesday night against state television for broadcasting propaganda in favor of Serbia's authoritarian president, Slobodan Milosevic.

The march by approximately 5,000 students through Belgrade

was accompanied by drums, cymbals, tambourines, spoons and their trademark whistles.

Many Belgrade residents answered the students' call to add to the cacophony, banging pots and window frames to drown out the beginning of the state TV's main evening newscast.

Police allowed the protesters to march for the first time in seven days, and the crowd grew to about 8,000 as it wended through Belgrade. Only a few plain-clothes policemen monitored the crowd.

"Thieves! Red bandits!,"

jeered the students as they passed the television building, pelting it with firecrackers and snowballs.

For the past six weeks, students and the political opposition have been protesting the government's annulment of Nov. 17 local elections that the opposition won. They have also directed their protest at the state media, which they accuse of manipulating information.

The students called another protest march for 6 p.m. (1700 GMT) on Thursday.

Last week, the Organization



Serbian riot policemen run towards the center of Belgrade to quell clashes between pro and anti-President Slobodan Milosevic protesters. Thousands of supporters of the president have been bused into the Yugoslav capital for a demonstration supporting the Serbian leader.

AP Photo

Report: Deng Xiaoping hospitalized

HONG KONG (AP) - Former Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping was hospitalized for emergency treatment last week, Hong Kong's Sing Tao Daily newspaper reported Tuesday.

The report, quoting Beijing sources, did not say what the 92-year-old patriarch was treated for, or on what date.

Hong Kong newspapers fre-

quently publish updates on Deng's health, which cannot be verified because Chinese spokesmen rarely comment on such matters.

Deng was sent to Beijing's No. 301 Hospital, which is run by the People's Liberation Army and often treats senior politicians, the Sing Tao reported.

A decision to air a 12-part tele-

vision series on his life was connected to the patriarch's recent worsening health, the report said.

The program begins airing on state television on Jan. 1.

Airing the program would be unusual if Deng were in good health, as biographical films about Chinese leaders are not normally broadcast while they are alive, it said.

Hong Kong's young not adapting to Chinese future, suggests poll

HONG KONG (AP) - A poll showing that most young people see themselves as Hong Kong people, rather than Chinese, has prompted concern that the younger generation isn't making the mental adjustment to Chinese rule.

The poll, commissioned by district authorities of the Hong Kong suburb of Sha Tin, said 62.5 percent of 15- to 24-year-olds define themselves as Hong Kong people, 30 percent say they are Chinese, and 6.6 percent say they are both.

Hong Kong's population of 6.3 million is about 95 percent ethnic Chinese. The British colony re-

turns to Chinese sovereignty on July 1.

"Such a one-sided attitude is very unhealthy because it will weaken their involvement in integrating into Chinese society," Ho Han-cheung, a Sha Tin municipal official, told Thursday's Hong Kong Standard newspaper.

Their Hong Kong-oriented values prevented them from realizing that Hong Kong's development will be closely linked with China after the handover," Ho, who heads a committee on civic and youth affairs, was quoted as saying.

The poll also found 71.4 per-

cent would side with Hong Kong in any dispute it might have with Beijing after it becomes a self-governing region of China. Only 15.3 percent would take China's side, it said.

Asked to choose from a list of rights they considered most important, they seemed in broad agreement only on "human rights and freedom," cited by 59.5 percent, the poll showed.

The Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies at Chinese University said it polled 1,574 people by telephone in November. It gave a margin of error of 3 percent.

Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that, the NMHC is soliciting proposals from licensed companies in the Commonwealth engaged in providing building maintenance services, on an "As-Needed Basis", maintenance of its Central Office and Section 8 Housing Units in Saipan.

Sealed proposals will be received until 10:00 A.M., Monday, January 27, 1996 at NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, at which time and place all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. The proposal documents, which are available at NMHC's office, shall be signed by the owner or authorized agent of the firm, and shall be enclosed in an envelope which shall be sealed and clearly labeled, "BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL". Companies shall be responsible for the placement of its firm's name and address on the outside proposal envelope.

NMHC hereby notifies all proposers that it will affirmatively ensure that, in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, handicapped/disabling conditions, or national origin.

Proposal Specifications may be obtained at the NMHC Office in Garapan, anytime between the hours of 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Questions or additional information may be directed to Shirino Ngrasmau, Manager, Technical Maintenance Division at 234-7689/6866.

NMHC reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any and all proposals in the best interest of NMHC.

/s/MARYLOU ADA SIROK
Corporate Director

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing agency"

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS DIRECTOR, C.N.M.I. COURTS

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Supreme Court announces that a new position, Court Director for the CNMI Judicial Branch, is now available for immediate hiring.

NATURE OF WORK: This position will be the executive head of the administrative office of the CNMI Judicial Branch and will work under the general and immediate supervision of the Chief Justice of the CNMI Supreme Court. The Court Director will have direct management and supervision over the clerical, professional and other support personnel with the exception of the Justices, Judges, and their Law Clerks, Secretaries and Special Assistants. The Court Director will be responsible for planning, directing and supervising staff of the CNMI Supreme Court and Superior Court in the areas of administration including personnel and fiscal management, budget analysis and preparation, procurement, contract negotiations, program and project development, public relations, and related work.

QUALIFICATIONS: The Court director should hold an advanced degree from an accredited United States institution with a minimum of a four year college degree and with an emphasis in Court Administration, Criminal Justice Administration, or related fields. Preference will be given to an applicant with a Masters Degree or other advanced degree in Court Administration, Criminal Justice Administration, Public Administration, or other related fields and who have had at least four (4) years of actual supervisory experience in court management, criminal justice administration, or other related fields. Further preference will be given to an applicant who has knowledge of the principles of government budgetary processes, personnel administration, contract procedures, and possesses other related administrative skills and who also has working knowledge in the use and operation of computers and other modern office management methods.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: The compensation for this position is budgeted at Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) per annum plus other mandated government personnel benefits. The Court Director serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

INTERESTED PERSONS should send their resume and current application to the Presiding Judge of the Commonwealth Superior Court, the Honorable Alexandro C. Castro, at the Civic Center Court complex in Susupe, Saipan. For additional information about this position, call (670) 234-6401 thru 4 or by facsimile at (670) 234-8010. Resume and current application must be received by 12:00 noon on January 10, 1997.

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Happy 2nd Birthday
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Torres**
From
Daddy



An opposition lawmaker reads a book while taking break on a table at the National Assembly in Seoul early Friday morning, after they staged a protest against party counterparts who passed a controversial labor law without opposition members present. AP Photo

Police rescue 24 Thai crewmen in shipwreck

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - Twenty-four Thai sailors have been rescued after their freight ship broke loose from its moorings amid a storm and ran aground on a nearby reef, maritime police said Thursday.

Two crewmen were feared missing, police said. Three others were believed to be still on board the ship waiting for rescuers, who were fighting strong winds and rough waves to reach the 6,677-ton Jutha Jessica.

The Thai ship was moored at Pusan Port, 350 kilometers (217 miles) southeast of Seoul, when its anchor chain snapped Wednesday, sending the ship onto the rock about one kilometer away, police said.

Police rescued six sailors late Wednesday. They saved 18 more after resuming rescue work early Thursday.

All those rescued were in stable condition, police said. The ship's hull was broken in half, while the stern was lying on its side on the reef.

Police were trying to reach the ship with helicopters. Weather officials reported strong storms throughout Korea, which suspended ferry services off its south and west coasts.

Waves were up to six meters (yards) high, with winds at 65 to 90 kilometers per hour (40 to 56 mph), the officials said.

Voting brisk in poll for Singapore's parliament

By KENNETH L. WHITING
SINGAPORE (AP) - Voting was brisk in cloudy weather in the early hours of Singapore's partial parliamentary election Thursday.

At stake were only 36 of the 83 elected seats in Parliament. The ruling People's Action Party, in continuous control since 1959, returned to power automatically last week by taking 47 uncontested seats.

Voting was compulsory for about 750,000 people in the contested districts. The total electorate is 1.84 million in this city-state of 3 million people.

Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said the election - and his government's international reputation - hinges on a single constituency and one opposition candidate.

After a lackluster start, the nine-day campaign caught fire with a bitter personal clash between Goh and Workers' Party candidate Tang Liang Hong. Tang, a 61-year-old lawyer, is running in Cheng San, a group, representative constituency, or GRC.

Instead of one candidate, GRCs have teams of nominees representing a single party slate. Five seats are being con-

tested in Cheng San, in the northern part of the island.

Goh and other leaders of the PAP say they will sue Tang for comments he made during the campaign, which they claim threatens this multiethnic society's stability by appealing to Chinese nationalism.

Tang promises to see them in court with his own lawsuit.

The PAP has often used legal action against its opponents, usually with success.

In Cheng San, Tang is running on the same slate as J.B. Jeyaretnam, secretary-general of the Workers' Party. Jeyaretnam, 70, was the first opposition voice in Parliament in 15 years when he was elected in 1981.

In 1986, the lawyer was found guilty of making a false declaration of his party's accounts.

He was barred from legal practice for a year and fined, which disqualified him from Parliament.

The British Privy Council, the highest court of appeal for some former British colonies, upheld his appeal, ruling he had suffered "grievous injustice" under the Singapore legal system. Singapore no

longer allows appeals to the Privy Council.

Goh promised a new subway station, libraries, more kindergartens, better schools and the upgrading of government-built apartments for Cheng San residents if their district votes for the PAP.

"You decide whether to win big for Cheng San, for yourselves and for Singapore, or to lose big," Goh said Wednesday.

Jeyaretnam urged voters to ignore Goh's carrot-and-stick approach.

"Our people have been sat upon, oppressed, pushed from pillar to post. You are voting for upgrading of yourselves. We are the ones you want to send into Parliament. We can fight for you," he told a rally Wednesday.

Voting for the other seats is largely a test of the popularity of Goh's administration.

The issue of upgrading apartment blocks is important because more than 85 percent of the population lives in government-built apartments.

The PAP held 75 elected seats in the last Parliament and faced no serious threat from weak opponents who controlled four seats. Two were vacant.

Kim Jong Il inspects military unit

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - North Korea's reclusive new leader, Kim Jong Il, visited a military unit this week in a rare public appearance, the North's official media reported Thursday.

Kim is widely reported to take official power this year, and his public activity is closely followed by outside monitors.

During his Tuesday visit to the Korea People's Army Unit 938, Kim "warmly waved to the cheering sol-

diers and families" and "saw an art performance given by the unit's soldiers," the North's official Korea Central News Agency reported.

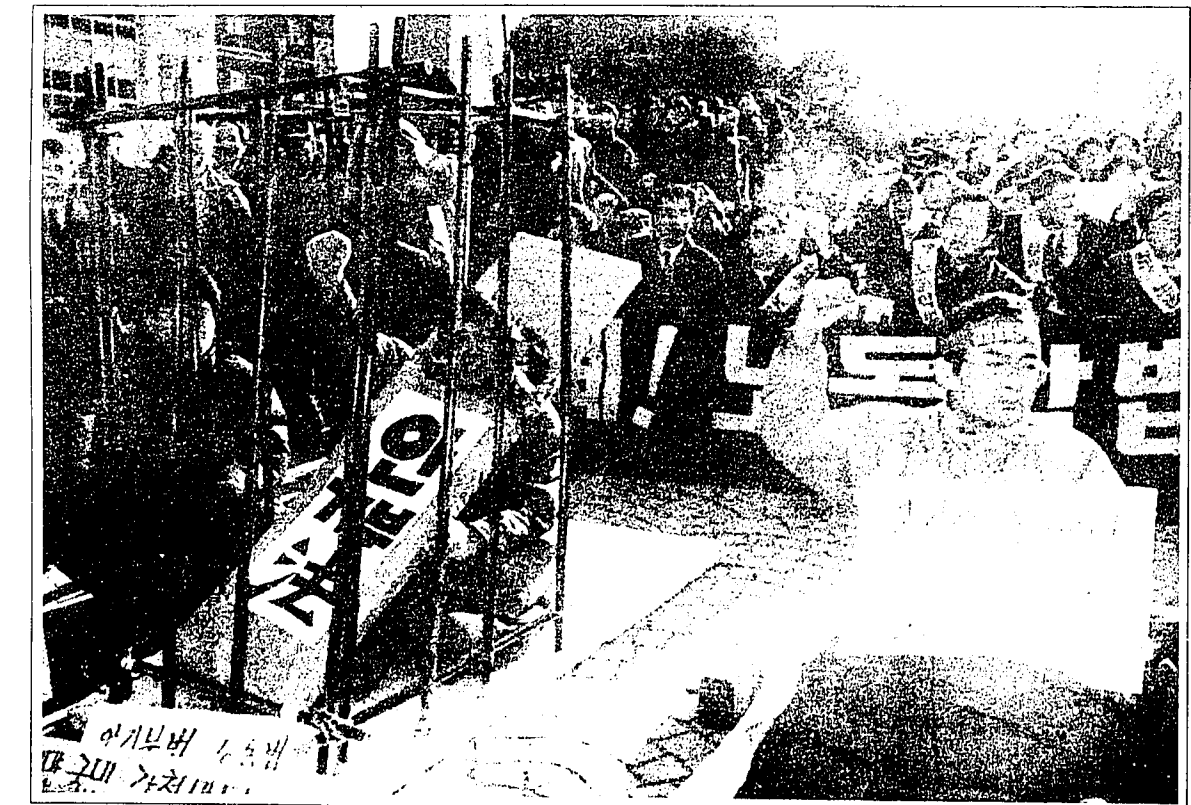
Kim has yet to become state president and ruling Workers' Party general secretary - two powerful posts held by his late father, longtime President Kim Il Sung, until his death in July 1994.

Kim has increased his public activity in recent months, strengthening speculation that he was pre-

paring for his formal accession to power.

North Korean diplomats have indicated that Kim will assume formal power soon after the third anniversary this year of his father's death.

On New Year's Day, Kim, accompanied by party and military officials, paid respects at the Kumsusan Memorial Palace in Pyongyang, where his father lies in state.



A South Korean worker, chained and locked himself in a makeshift cell, shouts anti-government slogans with other workers during a rally before starting a general strike in downtown Seoul. South Korean labor unions began strikes to protest the government's new labor law that makes it easier for companies to lay off employees and bans the formation of two unions at any worksite until 2002. Banners read: Resign President Kim Young-Sam, and Remove the new law. AP Photo

Storms subside in Northwest

By PEGGY ANDERSEN

SEATTLE (AP) - Storms began dying down and the new year brought hope the worst was over for the weary Northwest, where a week of heavy snow and rain followed by record warmth swelled rivers and created

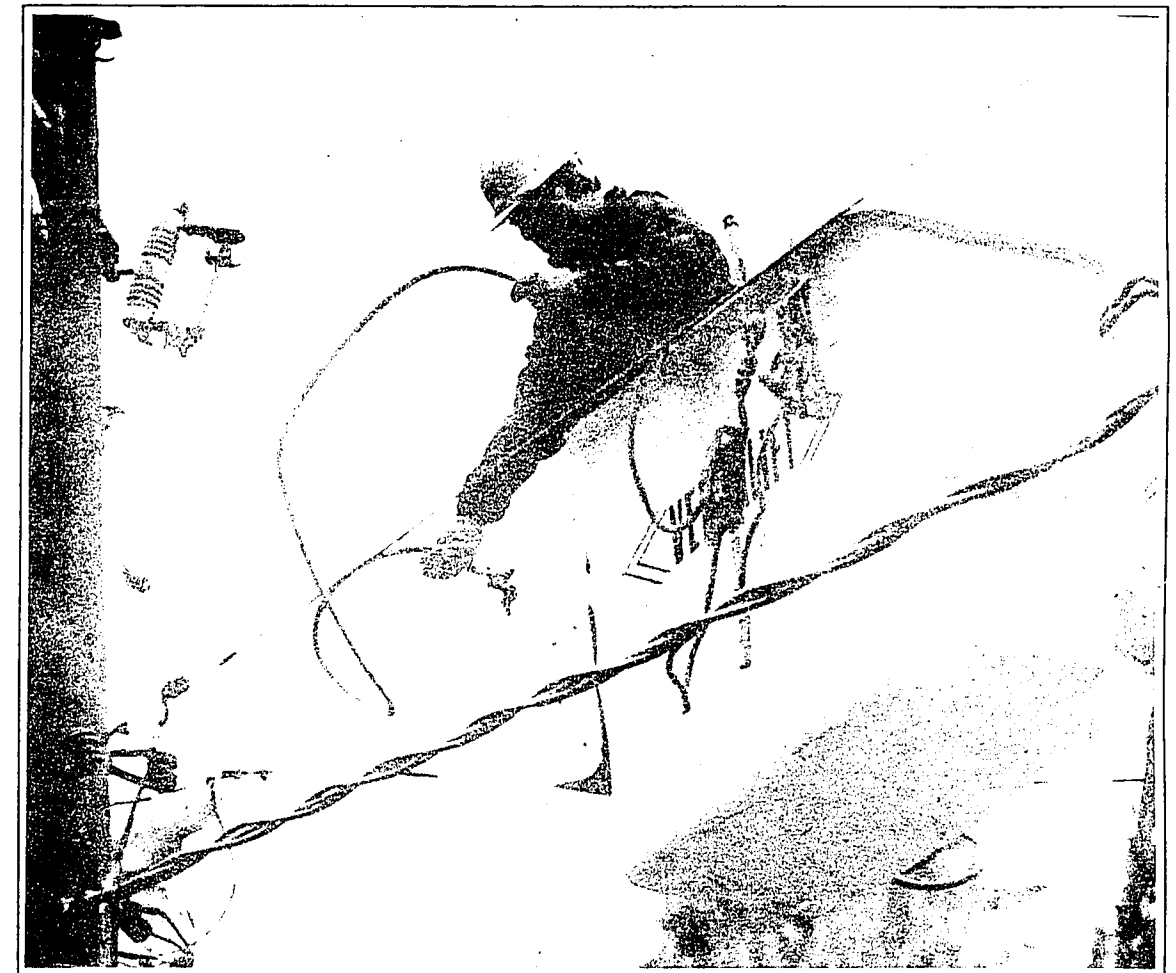
dangerous mudslides.

"Things are definitely beginning to taper off," National Weather Service forecaster Sten Tjaden said after tracking three major storms.

The break came too late for Ron Ricker, whose Shell Station collapsed

into a sinkhole during the night in suburban Lake Forest Park.

The station is beside "a small, meandering creek that now looks like the Columbia River," Ricker said. The creek undermined the station and "it basically went straight down."



Contract lineman J.D. Walker works to restore power in the west hills of Portland Ore., Friday. Thousands of homes were without power Friday in the wake of a deadly storm that grazed the northern edge of Oregon Thursday. (AP Photo)

Parents of slain girl warn: 'There's killer on the loose'

BOULDER, Colorado (AP) - The parents of a 6-year-old girl whose strangled body was found in their basement warned their neighbors Wednesday: "There's someone out there."

"There is a killer on the loose," said Patricia Ramsey, Jon Benet's mother, her voice trembling with emotion. Mrs. Ramsey and her husband, John B. Ramsey, were interviewed by CNN television in Atlanta, where they buried their daughter Tuesday.

"I don't know who it is. I don't know if it's a he or a she. But if I were a resident of Boulder, I would tell my friends to keep your babies close to you. There's someone out there."

The body of Jon Benet, last year's Little Miss Colorado, was discovered the day after Christmas in the family's upscale home in Boulder, about eight hours after she was reported kidnapped.

Authorities have refused to say who was home at the time the girl was reported missing, who found the body or release details about a ransom note. While a police spokeswoman insisted earlier this week that no one has been identified as a suspect, she said the public is in no danger.

"There's no need for concern," city spokeswoman Leslie Aaholm said at a news conference Monday, without elaborating. "I'm not going to confirm or deny whether anyone is

still out there."

The Ramseys said they had nothing to do with the death and couldn't believe their family and friends could. They said they would hire private investigators to help police, and provide any other assistance.

"Whatever they want. Whatever anyone wants, we will cooperate," Mrs. Ramsey said.

Mrs. Ramsey told CNN about finding a note demanding money, its three pages placed across one of the steps in the home. "That sounds like kidnapping to me," she said.

John Ramsey said the note warned them not to call police, but after checking their daughter's room, they did. "One of the detectives asked me and one of my friends who was there to go through every inch of the house and see if there was anything that was unusual or out of place," John Ramsey said. He described finding the body of the little blond girl in a darkened room in the basement.

"It was her," he said. "I hoped that she was still OK but I could tell that she probably wasn't. I screamed and carried her upstairs."

The parents have each hired an attorney to represent them, which Ramsey said was done at the suggestion of friends because "it would be foolish not to have knowledgeable counsel to help both us."

Police would not comment on a Rocky Mountain News report

Wednesday that authorities found evidence that the little girl may have been sexually assaulted. The newspaper quoted a source it did not identify.

Boulder police have taken hair and blood samples from some family members and friends of the slain child, evidence typically used for establishing a genetic match in a sexual-assault investigation.

The family moved in 1991 from Atlanta, to Boulder, where Ramsey is president of Access Graphics, a subsidiary of Lockheed Martin.

Happy Birthday

BILL

From your staff at J&G Payless

Flood warnings remained in effect for 14 rivers around Washington as the rain combined with melting snow from the two previous storms. Early Wednesday, Seattle posted a record high of 54 degrees (12 C).

Most Washington rivers were expected to crest during the night with only minor flooding.

In Oregon, the hardest-hit areas were along the Rogue River in the southern part of the state and Tualatin River in the Portland area.

"What a way to break in the new year," said Wayne Melnychuk as he stood just above the roiling brown Rogue River in Grants Pass.

Forecasters in Oregon warned of a possibility of significant flooding late this week in the Portland suburbs of Tualatin and Lake Oswego.

Roads were swamped at Aberdeen in west-central Washington as water from the swollen Chehalis River ran up against the incoming midday tide

in Grays Harbor.

Mudslides were reported around the region. One downtown Seattle apartment building had to be evacuated.

No serious injuries were reported Wednesday, although 14 deaths had been blamed on the series of storms in Oregon and Washington since Christmas.

States of emergency were declared in 17 northern California counties as rain which began last weekend poured into creeks, streams and rivers. Hundreds of people were evacuated from homes and trailer parks threatened by the rising water.

Flood warnings for the Russian and Napa rivers north of San Francisco were in effect through Friday. And about 200 miles (320 kilometers) north of San Francisco, the Sacramento River had forced about 300 people to leave their homes in Tehama County.

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STOCK#	YEAR	MODEL	PRICE	SEAT
U96-239	1990	BUICK LESABRE	ABC-475	6995
U95-164	1989	OLDS CIERA	AAW-960	3995
U96-094	1990	CADILLAC FLTD. BIGH	AAV-892	6995
U96-174	1990	MERCURY SABLE LS	AAT-295	4995
U96-226	1990	PONTIAC GRAND AM	AAW-191	3995
U96-074	1985	MR2	AAK-368	2995
U96-209	1988	GRESSION	AAV-456	4995
U96-082	1992	CADILLAC WAGON	ABP-311	11495
U96-188	1992	CADILLAC	ABW-774	12495
U96-254	1992	CADILLAC	ABK-342	12495
U96-160	1991	CADILLAC	AAN-848	7495
U96-218	1991	CADILLAC	ABD-551	7495
U96-243	1992	CADILLAC	AAS-369	7495
U96-245	1991	CADILLAC	AAZ-201	3995
U96-256	1991	CADILLAC	TAXI-355	6995
U96-267	1990	CADILLAC	AAS-844	9995
U96-250	1994	TERCEL	ABF-863	7995
U96-229	1994	TERCEL	ABC-903	7995
U96-261	1992	TERCEL	AAV-843	5495
U96-072	1989	SENTRA	AAL-325	1995
U96-009	1990	STANZA	AAS-531	6495
U96-239	1990	240 SX	AAO-977	7495
U96-223	1992	GALANT	ABL-641	6995
U96-081	1990	MAZDA 92S	AAT-975	4995
U96-069	1991	SUBARU LEGACY LS	AAU-028	4995
U96-186	1995	HONDA PRELUDE	ABD-025	17995
U96-206	1992	ELANTRA	ABE-701	1495
U96-029	1992	SONATA	ABH-372	3995
TRUCKS				
C96-006	1995	4X4 DLX	ABC-504	12995
C96-010	1995	T-100 4X2	ABB-520	15995
U95-191	1991	MAZDA 4X2	ABD-464	6995
U96-022	1992	MAZDA 4X2	ABJ-142	6995
U96-219	1990	NISSAN 4X4	AAW-202	6495
SPORTS UTILITY				
U96-028	1991	4-RUNNER	AAZ-902	9995
U96-091	1990	4-RUNNER	AAO-115	8995
U96-185	1990	4-RUNNER	AAK-480	9495
U96-241	1990	4-RUNNER	AAH-411	10995
U96-255	1991	PATHFINDER	ABD-263	11,995
U95-248	1988	PATHFINDER	AAH-572	3995
U96-119	1991	PATHFINDER	ABB-991	8995
U96-120	1992	ISUZU TROOPER	AAV-690	12995

Business/Finance

Gillette takes over Duracell

BOSTON (AP) - Gillette Co. and Duracell International Inc. stockholders have approved Gillette's \$7.3 billion purchase of Duracell.

Gillette, the Boston-based shaving giant, said the takeover would be completed at the close of business Tuesday. At that time, each Duracell share will be converted to 90.4 percent of a Gillette share.

Duracell, of Bethel, Connecticut, manufactures and markets batteries.

Earlier this month, while awaiting stockholder approval, Gillette announced the resignations of Duracell's top two executives and placed a Gillette vice president in charge of the company.

Charles Perrin, Duracell's

chairman and chief executive officer, and Charles E. Kiernan, its chief operating officer, said they would leave the company soon after the merger.

Edward F. DeGraan, the senior vice president of manufacturing and technical operations for the Gillette North Atlantic Group, was appointed to run Duracell.

In trading Monday on the New York Stock Exchange, Gillette rose \$1.25 to close at \$75.62 1/2 a share, and Duracell was up \$1 to \$68.37 1/2.



One of currency dealers holds his head as the U.S. dollar sprang to a 45-month high Thursday morning on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange markets. At late morning, the dollar was quoted at 115.06 yen, up 0.38 yen from its late Wednesday level in Tokyo. AP Photo

Philippines predicts a 7% jobless rate in year 1997

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - The Philippine unemployment rate is expected to be around 7.0 percent in 1997 and then decline to 6.5 percent the following year, chief government economic planner Cielito Habito said Thursday.

In a television interview, Habito gave an upbeat assessment of the state of the Philippine economy, terming 1996 a "banner year" for the country.

Many economic targets, Habito said, had been exceeded, with 1996's gross national product growth rate

expected to be a higher-than-expected 7.1 percent. At the beginning of last year, the government predicted GNP growth of 6.5 percent.

Habito said the unemployment situation last year had benefited from an absence of weather-related crises in the agriculture sector.

The unemployment rate fell to 7.4 percent in October 1996 from 8.4 percent a year earlier, according to official figures.

Habito is the government's socio-economic planning secretary.

\$24M Australian textile education center mulled

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) - The Victorian state government plans to build a \$24 million (U.S. 24 million) wool and textile education center.

Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett said Thursday the proposed National Fiber and Textiles Education Centre would cater for about 800 fulltime students from overseas as well as Australia.

He said Geelong, 50 kilometers (31 miles) southwest of Melbourne, would be an ideal site because it was a key base for Australia's fine wool industry.

Kennett said Australia's textile in-

dustry has agreed to dlr Australian 16 million (\$ U.S. 12.8 million) towards establishment costs.

He also proposes that the Victorian government and the federal government jointly put up another \$24 million (U.S. 24 million) as well as the \$5 million (U.S. 4 million) in annual running costs.

Kennett said the plan would put Australia in a position to compete against cheaper labor costs in Asia as well as the superior technical expertise in Japan and Europe.

Australia is the world's largest wool producer, but most of it is exported overseas unprocessed.

Firm buys six hotels in Australia, New Zealand

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) - Tourism Asset Holdings Ltd., an Australian hotel investment company, said Thursday it has entered agreements to buy six hotels in Australia and New Zealand.

The company said the acquisitions will be financed by debt funding of around \$97 million (U.S. 77.6 million) and from the proceeds of a \$86.9 million (U.S. 69.5 million) stock placement.

The placement of 82.7 million shares has been taken up by clients of brokerage houses Prudential-Bache Securities (Australia) Ltd. and BNP Equities (Australia) Ltd.

The six new hotels will lift Tourism Asset Holdings' portfolio to 25 properties. They are the Novotel and Mercure Hotels in Brisbane, the Perth and Princes Hotels in Perth as well as the Novotel in Auckland and the Holiday Inn in Queenstown.

Iomega moves plant to Malaysia

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Iomega Corp. plans to shift manufacturing of its portable computer disk drives to Malaysia, eliminating 500 to 700 jobs at its Roy, Utah, plant.

Iomega, a leader in portable data storage units, said Monday the move will help the company keep its costs down and prices low for consumers in the competitive market.

Production and packaging employees at the Roy plant were told they will lose their jobs beginning in March. Iomega's headquarters and research, prototype development, sales and marketing offices will remain in Roy, where the company soon will move into a new building.

The company employed 1,900 in Roy in November. Worldwide, it had

2,800 employees, up more than 1,000 from the previous year.

Malay said the company could save money on materials by shifting production to Malaysia.

"Malaysia is where most of the components for disk drives are made. A majority of our suppliers are there," he said. The company will save on shipping costs by making the move.

Malaysia prepares arrest, deportation:

Crackdown on illegal aliens

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) - The government is preparing to arrest and deport illegal immigrants who failed to take advantage of an amnesty that expired at the end of last year, immigration officials said Thursday.

The amnesty for 1 million illegal immigrants ended Dec. 31. Those who surrendered to authorities before then could obtain permits to stay and work in Malaysia.

Because of the New Year's holiday, officials had yet to take action against those overstaying. "There will be no more extension on the three-month amnesty," Deputy Home Affairs Minister Ong Ka Ting said.

Officials estimate migrants account for 10 percent of Malaysia's population of about 20 million. Of those, about half are illegal immigrants who have slipped in without work permits or travel documents.

Immigration officials said about 3,000 immigration officials, police and army personnel will go door to door nationwide in the crackdown, which they expect to start soon.

About 300,000 illegal workers employed by about 17,000 employers took advantage of the amnesty.

Malaysia's migrants come from 28 nations, some as far away as Nigeria. Most, however, come from Asian countries Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Burma, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal and the Philippines.

Economic growth exceeding 8

percent in each of the past eight years has resulted in a labor shortage.

The migrants come because of better wages and readily available jobs in the plantation and construction industries and service sector.

The 150,000 foreign maids are paid between \$140 and \$240 a month, while construction and factory workers receive as much as \$20 to \$30 a day depending on their skills.

The amnesty and crackdown resulted in part from complaints by Malaysians that illegal workers were fighting with local youths, marrying local women and trying to stay permanently. They also have been suspected of molesting or disturbing local women and engaging in crime.

"If we are too lenient, illegal settlements will mushroom and there will be a rise in squatter problems, contagious diseases, criminal activities and other social ills," Ong said.

The campaign's first target would be employers of illegal immigrants.

Employers prefer illegal workers because they work for less and can be fired at will. In addition, employers who hire them evade a government levy for foreign workers amounting to about dlr 150 a year.

Employers can be fined up to dlr 12,000, jailed five years and caned if convicted of hiring illegal workers.

Police say the problem is difficult to stamp out as many illegal

immigrants come back after being deported.

Peninsular Malaysia is separated from the Indonesian island of Sumatra by the narrow Straits of Malacca, which many Indonesian migrants cross by boat.

Malaysia also has common

land boundaries with Thailand and Indonesia. Illegal immigrants slip through jungle tracks.

Indonesian illegal immigrant Asmat from Madura, Java, said in an interview with APTV he came for the experience and for a better life after

he returns home with the money earned here.

Malaysian Pak Lirah, who lives among migrant workers, says the foreigners bring tension, problems and foreign culture, and "of course, we don't feel good seeing them behave so differently."

Don't Miss Out!
It's your last chance to see the

Festival of Lights

at



La Fiestra San Roque

Saipan ®

The lights go out on
Sunday January 5th at 10pm
and won't be back on until
next year!

Coming Soon for 1997

- 4th Annual Snow Festival
- Spring Sidewalk Sale
- Tony Roma's - "The place for ribs"
- Capricciosa
- The Adventure Store
- Much much more...



Cambodian police officers pile up weapons gave up by underground Khmer Rouge rebels at Kompong Chhang, about 50 miles northwest of Phnom Penh, Friday. About 114 Khmer Rouge fighters who have terrorized ethnic Vietnamese fishing villages defected Friday and pledged to work with the government. AP Photo

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

JANUARY 2, 1997

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby serving notice that a regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 1997 at 1:00 p.m. at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan. Following is the Agenda and the public is welcomed to attend.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- Call to Order/Roll
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Previous Minutes: October 30, 1996 & November 26, 1996

II. SECTION 8 HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS PROGRAM

III. PROJECTS

- Rehabilitation of Section 8 Units, Rota
- Pinatang Park, Rota
- Septic Tank System, Rota
- Koblenville Expansion Project
- Saipan Islandwide Walkway System
- Saipan Recreational Facility
- Building Maintenance Service Agreement - Saipan

IV. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

- Vehicle
- Hazard Insurance

V. FEDERAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE

VI. OTHER MATTERS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: AN EXECUTIVE SESSION, AS ALLOWED BY PUBLIC LAW 8-41, MAY BE HELD TO DISCUSS CERTAIN ITEMS NOTED ON THE ABOVE AGENDA.

/s/ JUAN S. TENORIO
Chairman

"NMHC IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT AND FAIR HOUSING AGENCY"

La Fiestra San Roque * La Fiestra San Roque * La Fiestra San Roque * La Fiestra San Roque * La Fiestra

New weapon vs AIDS virus

NEW YORK (AP) - Arming blood cells with a new weapon against the AIDS virus might help them fight HIV, a test-tube study suggests.

Some white blood cells can kill HIV-infected cells, but their ability is limited and they can't eliminate all the infected cells in a person.

Destroying infected cells is important because HIV repro-

duces within those cells while they're alive.

For the study, white cells were given a gene that let them produce and pump out a potent poison that specifically targets HIV-infected cells. The poison targets an HIV protein fragment on the surface of such cells.

In test tubes, these specially armed white cells killed most

HIV-infected cells but didn't harm uninfected ones. Regular white cells killed far fewer HIV-infected cells.

In people, some white cells naturally go to the lymph nodes, spleen and other places where HIV infection concentrates, said researcher Dr. Si-Yi Chen. If these white cells were armed with the targeted poison, they might stay in these areas and kill infected cells more efficiently than usual, reducing HIV's reproduction rate and prolonging patients' lives, he said.

Chen is an assistant professor of cancer biology at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest Uni-

versity in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He reports the result in the January issue of the journal Nature Biotechnology.

In an accompanying analysis, David J.P. Fitzgerald of the National Cancer Institute notes that Chen and colleagues have shown a similar approach can interfere with growth of cancerous tumors in mice.

One concern about treating people with the technique would be how to shut off production of the poison if it causes side effects, he said.

Scientists to study whether trees improve stream water quality

AVONDALE, Pennsylvania

(AP) - The best way to reduce water pollution may not be by targeting factories and sewage plants, some scientists believe, but by planting trees along the banks of small streams.

If the theory becomes public policy, it could dramatically change landscapes where trees have been cleared away for hundreds of years.

The Stroud Water Research Center, a field station of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, has a grant from the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency to examine 20 streams in Pennsylvania and Maryland over the next three years.

The concept of forest buffers for streams was developed a decade ago but is not universally accepted.

According to the center's director, Bernard W. Sweeney, the lack of trees changes the shape and character of stream beds.

For 10,000 years before European settlement, most of the land in Eastern states was forest, Sweeney said. Cutting down those trees changed the creeks and rivers.

"The resulting pastures and meadows made the streams narrow and deep," he said. "Streams with forested banks have channels that are two to four times wider."

Think of a stream in the forest, Sweeney said. It's shallow, wide and cold. The water runs fast, over a rocky bottom.

Now think of a stream surrounded by cleared pastures. It's narrow and deep. The water is not as clear and it's warmer. The banks are mud flats edged by grass, which traps sediment in its roots. As sod encroaches on the sides of the creek, it becomes narrower.

"By restoring the width, you increase the capacity to grow fish, process pollutants - in short, sustain life," he said.

The central question of the study is: "How much is this capacity increased by the reforestation effort?"

In recent years, the focus on cleaning up water pollution has shifted to "non-point sources," runoff from large areas like fields and residential yards.

Living things in small streams feed on the material washed in from the land. But if the streams don't have enough life, the nutrients end up in places such as the Chesapeake Bay, overwhelming the water life.

Dave Welsch, a watershed specialist for the U.S. Forest Service in Durham, New Hampshire, sees reforestation as a cheap way to control pollution.

"There are other ways to treat runoff," he said. "You could collect it and run it through some sort of filter, but it would be expensive."

Forest buffer zones, Welsch said, remove 80 percent of the sediments and chemicals that scientist believe should come out of small streams.

Plane crashes into S.C. house

FLORENCE, South Carolina (AP) - A small airplane clipped a tree and crashed into the second-floor bedroom of a house while trying to land at an airport, critically injuring three of the four people aboard.

The Piper Cherokee hit a pine tree Wednesday in the back yard of the house near Florence Regional Airport and flipped into the roof of the house. The house belongs to a Methodist minister and his wife, who were not home at

the time.

"The plane is just sticking up out of the back of the house," said neighbor Saleta James.

Robert Weaver was at the nearby Florence Country Club and saw the plane cross a swamp. "It sputtered one time and cut off and that was the end of it," he said, saying he heard the crash about five seconds later.

The plane was flying from Miami to Florence, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

2 firebombs cause minor damage at abortion clinic

TULSA, Oklahoma (AP) - Two firebombs were thrown at an abortion clinic, causing minor smoke and fire damage. No one was inside the building, which was closed for the New Year's holiday.

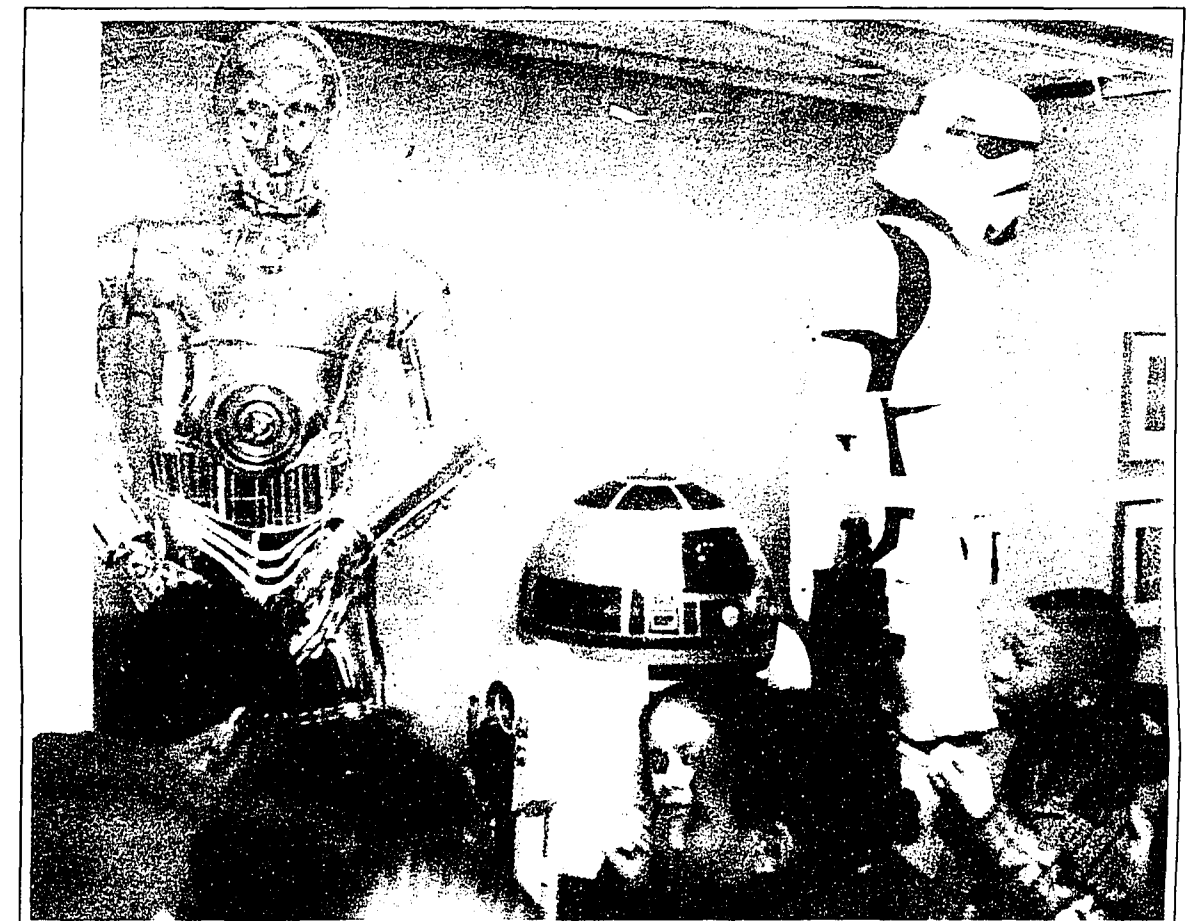
One of the bombs broke through a window and started a small fire. The second started a grass fire outside, said Sherri Finik, director of the Reproductive Services clinic. Smoke detectors went off, sending

firefighters to the scene.

Ms. Finik called the Wednesday attack "an act of futility and stupidity" and said the clinic would remain open.

Police and fire investigators were investigating and said they had no immediate suspects.

Ms. Finik said the clinic has taken security measures, such as installing motion detectors, and would review them to see if more are needed.



Students from Eastern Middle School in Silver Spring, Md., pause in front of the start of an exhibit honoring the "Star Wars" movies at the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum in Washington. The exhibit will showcase 250 original movie props, including, from left, C-3PO, R2-D2 and an Imperial Stormtrooper, when the exhibit officially opens next fall marking the 20th anniversary of the movie. (AP Photo)

High tides sweep 27 sightseers into ocean

REDONDO BEACH, California (AP) - Storm-whipped waves that arched as high as 10 feet (3 meters) swept 27 people off a rocky jetty on this Southern California beach, leaving many with neck and back injuries.

Those toppled by two big waves that crashed the rocks at King Har-

bor included tourists, fishermen and children. All were rescued by lifeguards.

"Signs are posted all the time, but there are long julls where nothing breaks and then something knocks you off," said lifeguard Lt. Phil Topar.

"It's quite a tumble - about 15 feet (4.5 meters) down to the big boul-

ders," Topar said.

Several people were treated at the site for bruises. Eight people were taken to a nearby hospital. Five were in stable condition.

The waves were blamed in part on a storm system that battered the Northern California coast with heavy rain.

KEEP JAPAN CLEAN & GREEN

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

PEDRO R. LIZAMA

Wife: Carmen Camacho Lizama;
Children: Marvin Peter A. Lizama, Patrick Cody C. Lizama, Lupe Ann C. Lizama;
Father: Mariano Crisostomo Lizama; Mother: Juliana Reyes Lizama;
Brothers & Sisters (Spouses):
Mr./Mrs. Matilde L. Pangelinan (Henry Cruz); Mr./Mrs. Jose R. Lizama (Mariana Tudela),
Mr./Mrs. Juan R. Lizama (Janet Camacho),
Mr./Mrs. Celina L. DLGuerrero (Raymond Ramos), Mr./Mrs. Lorenzo R. Lizama
(Rosa Bermudes), Mr./Mrs. Emilia L. Puyat (Lito Tiqui),
Mr./Mrs. Bernadita L. Hondl (Garry Joseph), Ms. Josephine R. Lizama (Dec.),
Mr./Mrs. David R. Lizama (Rosie Mortos), Mr./Mrs. Dorothy L. Sablan (Edward Iglecias),
Mr./Mrs. Maria Magdalena R. Lizama (Pedro Cruz), Mr./Mrs. Emiliana L. Agulto (Mathew Hiroishi)
Father/Mother-in-Law:
Simeon Omar Camacho, Guadalupe King Camacho
Brothers/Sisters-in-Law (Spouses):
Mr./Mrs. Isidro Kin (Geraldine Salas), Mr./Mrs. Mariano K. Camacho (Virginia Sto. Tomas),
Mr./Mrs. Magdalena C. Tumada (Jimmy Tumada), Mr./Mrs. Josepha K. Camacho (JesusDLGuerrero),
Mr./Mrs. Joaquin K. Camacho (Clementina Torres), Mr./Mrs. Simona K. Camacho (Joseph Chinel),
Mr. Jose K. Camacho, Mr./Mrs. Lourdes K. Camacho (Ignacio Villanueva),
Mr./Mrs. Filimon K. Camacho (Leonora Cepeda), Mr./Mrs. Roque K. Camacho (Evelyn Cabrera),
Mr./Mrs. Anuncia K. Camacho (Joseph Villanueva), Mr./Mrs. Maria K. Camacho (Perry Oloday),
Mr. Raymond K. Camacho

Born: October 13, 1961
Died: December 27, 1996

He will also be missed by numerous Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews and Friends.

Rosary is being said at Mr. & Mrs. Henry Cruz and Matilde Lizama Pangelinan's residence in San Vicente (LauLau) at 8:00 p.m. Last respect may be paid on Saturday, January 04, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Cruz and Matilde Lizama Pangelinan in San Vicente (LauLau). Mass of Christian burial will be offered at 3:00 p.m. at San Vicente Church. Interment will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Dinner will follow immediately at the same residence.

PACIFICA FUNERAL SERVICES

235-3516

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT



Jesus
TENORIO VILLAGOMEZ
[Kiyu]

BORN: DECEMBER 15, 1940
DIED: DECEMBER 30, 1996

WIFE: Vicenta Agon Villagomez

CHILDREN & SPOUSES:

Virginia & David Elstrom
Jessie & Juana Villagomez
Peter A. Villagomez
Bertha & Danny Lambert
Patricia & Antonio Aldan
Joseph A. Villagomez
James & Gerald Villagomez
Frances A. Villagomez
Bernard A. Villagomez (Deceased)
Antonette & Francisco Shai
Tricia A. Villagomez
Michelle A. Villagomez

BROTHERS, SISTERS & SPOUSES (IN-LAW):

Daniel & Rosario Villagomez
Roman & Cecilia Villagomez
Antonio & Remedio Villagomez
Isabel & Francisco Camacho
Joaquin (Deceased) & Remedio Villagomez
Jose & Magdalena Villagomez
Frances & Ron Sinkowsky

He will also be missed by numerous Grandchildren, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews & Friends.

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at the residence of his daughter Bertha Agon Villagomez in Dan Dan. Last respect may be paid on Tuesday, January 7, 1997 from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at the said residence. Funeral mass will be offered on the same day at 4:00 p.m. at the MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL CHURCH. Interment will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Dinner will be served at the house of Bertha Agon Villagomez in Dan Dan. Your prayers and attendance is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU YAN DANKULO NA SI YU'US MA'ASE
FROM THE FAMILY

FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY

We the families of the late

JOSE
MAFNAS
AGUON

better known as "TAN PING"

Invite all our families, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the First Anniversary of passage unto eternal life of our beloved.

Nightly rosary will be said at 8:00 p.m. beginning December 29, 1996 to January 06, 1997, at Mr. & Mrs. Francisco & Ancha Borja residence in Capital Hill.

On the final day, Monday, January 06, 1997 the rosary will be said at 12:00 noon at Mr. & Mrs. Francisco & Ancha Borja's residence in Capital Hill and the Mass of intention will be at San Vicente Church at 6:00 p.m.

Your prayers and attendance will be most appreciated.

GINEN I FAMILIA, SI YU'US MA'ASE

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of the late
ESTEFANIA SAN NICOLAS SABLAN
(Nina)

thank all of you, our relatives and friends, for your
prayers, condolences and generosity.

Your compassion during our time of
sorrow shall always remain in our hearts.
May God's blessing be upon us
throughout our lives.

Thank you,
The Family

5th Anniversary Mass

JOSE T.
FAUSTINO
(November 28, 1943 - January 11, 1992)

We, the family, invite all our relatives and friends
to join us in prayer for our beloved. Daily
masses will be offered every 6:00 a.m., from
Friday, January 3, 1997, to Friday, January 10, 1997,
at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

On the final day, Saturday, January 11, 1997, mass
will be at 6:00 p.m. at the San Vicente Church. Dinner
will be served after the mass at the Faustino residence
in As Lito.

Thank You
Paulina Adelbai Faustino
and Family

Hebron peace in doubt

By DAFNA LINZER

HEBRON, West Bank (AP) - Everyone in Hebron was braced for a nightmare scenario.

On Wednesday, the nightmare became real, as an Israeli soldier sprayed the marketplace with gunfire and wounded five Palestinians.

Although the shooter was not stationed in Hebron and does not live here, the attack rekindled a debate

over the presence of 500 Jewish settlers amid the city's 130,000 Arabs. And Israelis and Palestinians alike insist it proves that they - and not their hostile neighbors - are the ones in danger.

"This shows that the army can't protect us," said Palestinian vendor Hussein Natche, 27, surveying the deserted market after the shooting. "We need the settlers and the army

out of here."

Noam Arnon, a spokesman for Hebron's Jewish settlers, said that Wednesday's incident would have been far worse if Palestinian police were already deployed in the city, in line with an agreement expected later this week. "It would have only caused more bloodshed, clashes and even war," he said.

Wednesday's incident focused new anger against the settlers, whose presence has complicated Israel's planned pullout and reinforced Palestinians' belief that they are provocateurs and an obstacle to peace.

"These people should be moved,"

said Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat. "We will tell the Israeli government once again: The choice is yours, peace or settlements. You cannot have both."

The settlers see their mission as rebuilding a Jewish community that was destroyed in 1929, after Arab riots in which 67 Jews were massacred.

Arnon acknowledged that extremists were attracted to Hebron but said that most of the violence was carried out by outsiders.

Baruch Goldstein, who massacred 29 Palestinian worshippers at Hebron's Tomb of the Patriarchs

in 1994, lived in neighboring Kiryat Arba. Yigal Amir, who assassinated Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in November, 1995, in an effort to stop the peace process, was a frequent weekend visitor.

"They think they help, but they are wrong, they only hurt our cause," Arnon said.

The settlers - and their backers in government - feel their lives are in danger in Hebron, a center of support for Islamic fundamentalism. Settler leaders have fed such fears with apocalyptic predictions of coming violence.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Israeli soldiers with assault rifles watch over downtown Hebron from every possible vantage point - taking up positions on rooftops, manning checkpoints and escorting settlers who shop in the Arab market.

Even after the redeployment, Israeli troops will remain in a largeswath of downtown Hebron, including the settler enclaves and the marketplace. Some 15,000 to 20,000 Palestinians also live in the area to remain under Israeli control - a source of vexation to Palestinians.

"What peace? What redeployment?" Natche said with disgust.

Frank Carmel, a resident of Kiryat Arba originally from Seattle, Washington, said he wasn't surprised by Wednesday's violence - but by its source.

"We were expecting trouble from the Arabs," he said. "This makes the State of Israel look bad."

"It's all going to blow up eventually," he added.

The tension is such that at a meeting Wednesday between settlers and Israel's military chief, Lt. Gen. Amnon Shahak, Rabbi Moshe Levinger, the founder of the Hebron settlement, reportedly said he was "revolted" by the army and that it was not doing enough to protect the settlers. Shahak angrily walked out.



Serbian riot police stand guard in central Belgrade to quell clashes between protesters and supporters of President Slobodan Milosevic.

AP Photo

6 military officers, 2 civilians sentenced to death for spying

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Libya's Supreme Military Court has sentenced six officers and two civilians to death for spying, alleging they used equipment supplied by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Reporting the convictions Wednesday, state-controlled Libyan television said: "The agent-spies ... supplied agents of foreign governments with information relating to the country's defense secrets, for espionage purposes, by exploiting their membership of the Libyan army."

The television said they belonged to a banned organization linked to agents of foreign governments, but it did not name the governments or say when the incidents took place. The broadcasts were monitored by the British Broadcasting Corp.

The television showed an unidentified official in civilian clothes reading a statement to the court after the sentences had been read out.

The official's statement said: "You mobilized yourselves as spies against your country and allowed the enemies to get hold of military, economic and security capabilities by using sophisticated equipment supplied by the CIA."

The six officers - Col. Muftah Muhammad Gamum, Staff Col. Mustafa Abual-Qasim Masud, Flight Lt. Col. Sad Salih Faraj, Maj. Khalil Salim Muhammad, Maj. Ramadan al-Ihumi Muhammad Ali, and Maj. Mustafa Hubayl al-Fudhil - were sentenced to be executed by firing squad. The two civilians - Isad Misbah Isad al-Amin and Sulayman Ghayt Muftah

- were sentenced to die by hanging. The television said six other officers and two civilians were acquitted for lack of evidence.

Libyan experts in Egypt said they believed the case was not related to espionage but stemmed from a military coup attempt that occurred in Libya in October 1993.

Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi and his aides never acknowledged the coup attempt, characterizing the military uprising at Misratah and Bani Walid as incidents of treachery and betrayal.

The television showed pictures of the courtroom where about 12 of the accused could be seen seated in a large cage. Their heads were shaved and they appeared to be wearing prison uniforms.

Youth...

Continued from page 1

young people "is not enough." "The question here lies between those who have strong faith and those who don't," Sablan said. "These youth need prayers," Sablan added, as she urged Camacho to develop a prayer for the youth. (MCM)

Sablan...

Continued from page 1

solution," he said.

"We can't just go to court everytime we disagree with the governor,"

Tenorio's legal counsel, Ronald S. Oestreich, in an earlier interview pointed out that, contrary to what some legislators have said, the governor did not veto a salary increase for government employees.

"How can he veto something that did not exist in the first place?" he said.

The budget bill provision stated that lapsed (unused) funds would pay for salary adjustments, but Oestreich said that such funds would never become available.

Sablan disagrees.

"I don't want to be an instructor," he said Monday, "but the governor has all the flexibility with his reprogramming powers."

"I'm not saying they're wrong and I'm right - that's not the point. But if they're claiming that the government has chalked up a surplus why not spend some of it for our government employees instead of spending it on more 'Cadillac' lawyers and luxury boats?"

The administration, he added, reduced the tax rebates, increased the excise tax and the tax on gasoline.

"There is money for a raise," he said that increasing the employees' purchasing power will "help turn the wheels of the economy," which will generate revenues that will pay for the government's debts.

"We should not have a tax and spend syndrome," Sablan said. "It should be tax, spend and reward."

Oestreich has said that if money for a salary increase did exist, the Legislature should have appropriated for it.

But according to Sablan, the Legislature did not want to "wrestle" with the governor.

"We could have reduced the funding for several provisions, but we decided that we do not want another confrontation with the governor."

"We decided not to continue this budget deadlock. What we want is to deliver something to the people."

Tenorio has repeatedly urged the legislators to let the court decide on the validity of the line-item vetoes.

The governor's line-item veto, Tenorio said, is an important power, and its limits have not been clearly defined.

If both houses of the Legislature decide to litigate, Tenorio said he will instruct the Attorney General's Office to cooperate with the legislators "in moving (the case) forward to the swiftest possible resolution."

CUC...

Continued from page 1

cash. A customer, however, cannot apply for a security refund if the security deposit account does not have an average balance of at least \$3,000.

The CUC collects from every customer account a two-month security deposit based on a "sliding scale" of estimated kilowatt usage.

After a year, the customer may request a recalculation of his deposit based on actual kilowatt usage instead of the sliding scale.

The deposit may be recalculated every year thereafter.

In the case of commercial customers, they are required to pay a three-month security deposit.

They can ask for partial refunds if they had established a good credit history.

The CUC established a separate bank account for security deposits in September 1992.

In February last year, the account and all subsequent deposits were transferred to an interest-bearing checking account.

The account has grown to a total of \$1.9 million, with interest totaling about \$27,000.

Refunds made during fiscal year 1996 reached \$306,000, according to a CUC financial report.

Group...

Continued from page 3

power needs.

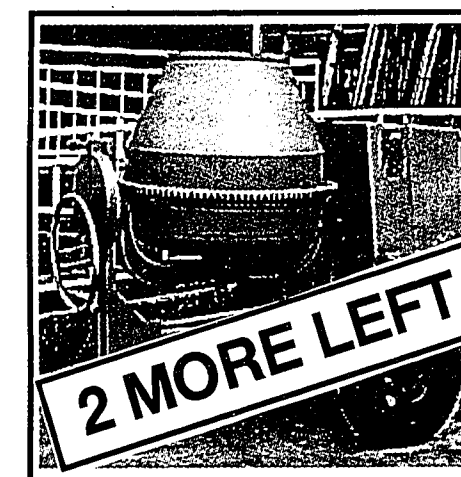
He added, however, that he believes the Philippines "is still the best source of workers" considering their "level of education, ability to speak English and cultural similarity with ours."

In an earlier interview, Philippine Labor Attache Jesus Varela said the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration is set to enforce the provisions of the Philippine Migrant Workers' Act starting Jan. 1, 1997.

One of the Act's provisions requires that the contract of a Filipino working abroad should include food and housing allowances.

Of the more than 20,000 registered nonresident workers in the CNMI in 1995, 11,578 are Filipinos; 8,397 are Chinese and 983 are South Koreans.

An undetermined number of nonresident workers are from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.



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To...

Continued from page 5

vember 14 a memorandum reinforcing the EO was sent to the Commissioner by the Governor. Both times copies were sent to you (among other people) Did you see at any time in the last four months, and prior to meeting with the Governor on December 23, express any objection to EO 96-3 to the Governor or any other persons? If so, was any of this made public?

Your opposition to EO 96-3 could not have anything to do with having relatives at DPS? Relatives who do not support EO 96-3? Relatives who lobbied with the legislature against EO 96-3 (I am sure as a taxpayer, not as a member of the Governor's Administration)?

We sure would like to know how EO 96-3 would negatively affect you, your family, or other citizens of the community to the point that you would not support your bosses' Order. We will be deeply saddened to find out that you put unjustified self-interests ahead of the best interests to the health and welfare of our community, our families, and our careers.

We are the ones who will be most affected by this order and who interact with the community that will benefit by this Order. Should anyone have questions or concerns regarding this Order they should check with those who have the expertise.

Claude E. Humpries

RECYCLE



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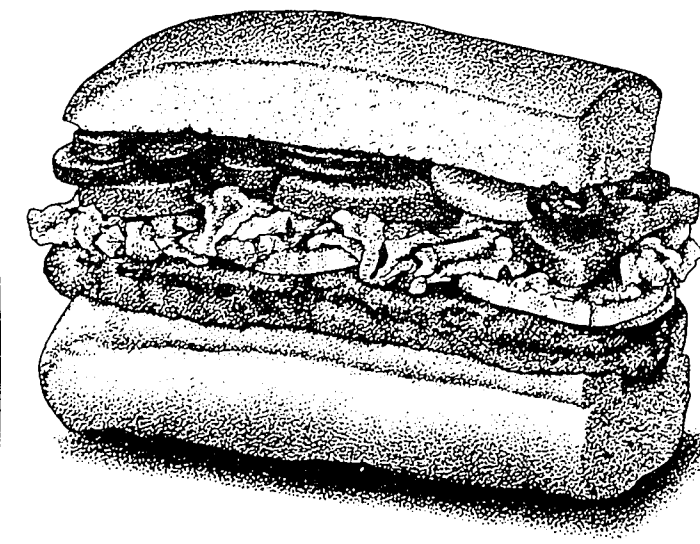
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PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO.: RFP97-0035
FOR: APPRAISAL SERVICES

OPENING DATE: JAN. 10, 1997 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, IS SOLICITING COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP PROPOSAL FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).

/S/ EDWARD B. PALACIOS
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO.: RFP97-0036
FOR: COMPLETION OF DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT DRUG AND ALCOHOL WORKPLACE POLICY AND PROGRAM

OPENING DATE: JAN. 08, 1997 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, IS SOLICITING COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR THE COMPLETION OF DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT DRUG AND ALCOHOL WORKPLACE POLICY AND PROGRAM. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP PROPOSAL FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).

/S/ EDWARD B. PALACIOS
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB97-0037
FOR: LEASE OF VEHICLES

OPENING DATE: JAN. 10, 1997 TIME: 2:30 P.M.

GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, IS SOLICITING COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR THE LEASE OF VEHICLES. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).

/S/ EDWARD B. PALACIOS
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO.: RFP97-0027
FOR: PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND CALIBRATION SERVICESOPENING DATE: JANUARY 15, 1997
TIME: 3:00 P.M.

GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, IS SOLICITING COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR THE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND CALIBRATION SERVICES. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).

/S/ EDWARD B. PALACIOS
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT One (1) Health Coordinator/Claims Examiner

Responsible for coordinating all administrative functions and operational functions within health plan division in the CNMI. Review medical claims, coordinate utilization programs, address member and provider inquiries and problems.

REQUIREMENTS: High School graduate with five (5) months or more of working experience as a nurse.

Contact: Vivian Di Guerrero

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Employment Wanted



Job Vacancy Announcement

03 WAITRESS NIGHT CLUB-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 SINGER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
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01 GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: JUAN B. CEPEDA dba JBC Aircon & Refrigeration Tel. 235-5826(1/3)F227192

01 WAITRESS-Salary: \$4.00 per hour
Contact: DIVERSIFIED ISLAND INVESTMENTS dba Bobby Cadillacs (1/3)F63610

01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.50 per hour
Allowance: Housing Allowance \$110.00 and Gasoline Allowance: \$50.00/month taxable
Contact: STS ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 235-3760(1/3)F227188

01 GRAPHIC ARTIST-Salary: \$600.00-800.00 per month
Contact: YOUNIS ART STUDIO, INC. dba Marianas Variety News & Views Tel. 234-6341(1/3)F63609

01 BLDG. MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: LUIS P. & MARIA CRISTOSTOMO dba APC Company Limited Tel. 235-5847(1/3)F227187

01 HOUSE CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: SAINT MARK INC. dba Koma Resort Club Tel. 235-2112(1/3)F227186

02 COMPUTER OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.25 per hour
02 HOUSEKEEPING (CHAMBER-MAID)-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
02 WAITER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: VALENTINA N. FRANCISCO dba Francisco Company Ent. Tel. 322-1430(1/3)F227185

03 HOUSE CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
03 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER (BUILDING)-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER-Salary: \$3.30 per hour
Contact: BIEN SEIKO INC. Tel. 322-7410(1/3)F227184

06 CONSTRUCTION WORKER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour
Contact: CHO DAE CARMEN F. SOO KANMAN CONSTRUCTION Tel. 234-7129(1/3)F227182

01 QUARRY SUPERINTENDENT-Salary: \$1,000.00-1,300.00 per month
Contact: CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIAL SUPPLY, INC dba CMS (1/3)F63606

01 BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: SAIPAN EMPLOYMENT AGENCY & SERVICES INC. Tel. 234-7327(1/3)F227180

01 BANK MANAGER-Salary: \$1,000.00-1,500.00 per month
Contact: CITY TRUST BANK Tel. 234-7773(1/3)F227179

01 SUPERVISOR - Salary: \$800 monthly
Contact: MIRAGE CORPORATION (1/10)F227226

01 MANAGER - Salary: \$1,100/monthly
01 GENERAL MANAGER - Salary: \$600-800 per hour
Contact: Meena's (CNMI) Corp. (1/10)F227228



01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05-3.75 per hour
Contact: HOTEL NIKKO SAIPAN, INC. Tel. 322-3311(1/13)M63660

01 PAINTER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
02 FINISHER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: B & P INC. dba Smart Furniture Tel. 234-7129(1/17)F227278

02 SURVEYOR-Salary: \$5.00-7.30 per hour
Contact: VICENTE A. SONGSONG dba Ben Songsong & Sons Land Surveying Tel. 322-5132(1/17)F227281

02 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: DUK-SOO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Tel. 234-7129(1/17)F227279

01 MACHINE MECHANIC/SEWING MACHINE REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.20 per hour
02 QUALITY CONTROLLER-Salary: \$3.20 per hour
Contact: MICRONESIAN GARMENT MFG. INC. Tel. 235-7121(1/17)F227280

02 (SCUBA DIVING) INSTRUCTOR, SPORTS-Salary: \$1,200.00 per month
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03 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: UNIVERSAL (U.S.) DEVELOPMENT INC. dba Holiday Club Tel. 235-4492(1/17)F227282

01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$950.00 per month
Contact: MECHILLE CORPORATION dba Tong Yang Carpet, BIF Furniture Tel. 234-1361(1/17)F227287

01 CHIEF COOK-Salary: \$2,000.00 per month
Contact: SAIPAN KOREANA HOTEL Tel. 235-7161(1/17)F227286

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Contact: KANG CORPORATION dba Comm'l. Bldg. Rental, Auto Repair Shop, Generator Repair & Rental, Retail Gen. Mdse. Tel. 288-9368(1/17)F227283

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25 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$2.90-3.05 per hour
10 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER-Salary: \$2.90-3.05 per hour
Contact: JIN APPAREL, INC. Tel. 234-3252(1/17)F227284

04 SCUBA DIVING INSTRUCTION-Salary: \$1,000.00 per month
Contact: BIG DOG CORPORATION dba Bis Dog Dive Station Saipan Tel. 322-2363(1/17)F227274

01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: MYUNG SUNG CORPORATION dba International Insurance Agency Tel. 234-1141(1/17)F227272

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
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01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.50 per hour
01 BLDG. MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.50 per hour
Contact: NORTHERN MARIANAS INVESTMENT GROUP LTD. Tel. 234-6979(1/17)F227270

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$900.00 per month
Contact: PREMIER INSURANCE COMPANY, INC. Tel. 235-4808(1/17)F227277

01 ELECTRICAL DRAFTER-Salary: \$1,200-\$1,300.00 per month
Contact: EMC2 ELECTRICAL INC. dba EMCE Tel. 322-1364(1/17)F227292

01 WAITER-Salary: \$3.05-3.39 per hour
Contact: SAIPAN HOTEL CORP. dba Hafadai Beach Hotel Tel. 234-6495 Ext. 806/898(1/17)F63725

04 COIL-REWIND-MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: KANG CORPORATION dba Kang Auto Supply, Kang Comm'l. Bldg. Rental, Kang Auto Repair Shop, Generator Repair & Rental Tel. 288-9368(1/17)F227215

02 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.00-4.00 per hour
Contact: WON'S CORPORATION Tel. 234-3429(1/17)F227214

01 SUPERVISOR (CIVIL ENGINEER)-Sports-Salary: \$1,200.00-1,300.00 per month
Contact: SHIMIZU CORPORATION Tel. 234-5438(1/17)F227212

03 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 MAINTENANCE REPAIR BUILDING-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: M N D CORPORATION Tel. 287-3300(1/17)F227213

01 MANAGER MAINTENANCE-Salary: \$5.00 per hour
Contact: MICRONESIAN GARMENT MFG., INC. Tel. 235-7121(1/17)F227220

05 COOK-Salary: \$3.05-4.50 per hour
Contact: STRINGSTONE ENTERPRISES INC. dba Bistro Tel. 233-0640(1/10)F227221

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01 CLUB SUPERVISOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
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DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication

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

HIS, INC. dba MASA SHATSU STUDIO
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ASSISTANT MANAGER
Bilingual Japanese/English. With knowledge in accounting and shatsu therapy. Salary is \$2,500/month.

2 - PHYSICAL THERAPIST
Willing to be trained but experience is an advantage. Salary is \$1,000 plus/month. Call: Saipan office: (from 4 pm - 12 am) (670) 233-2525; Guam: (671) 645-7878.

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

Isidro R. Taisacan
Plaintiff,
-vs-
Young Kee Lee and Dong Hwa Lee
Defendants.
Civil Action No. 96-1304

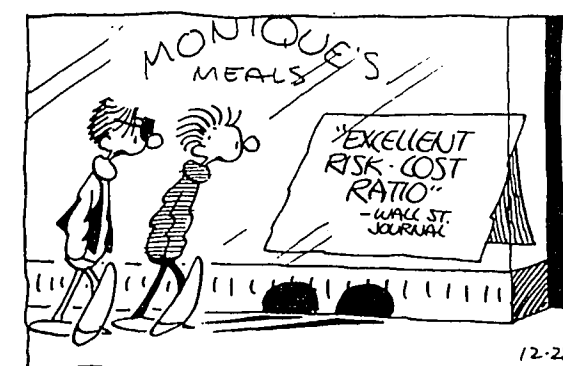
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

The Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to all the above-named defendants.

You are hereby summoned to appear within twenty (20) days after final publication of this summons and completion of posting, and defend in the above-captioned action in the above-entitled court, and answer the complaint to Plaintiff's attorney: Law Offices of Robert C. Naraja, P.O. Box 1960, Saipan, MP 96950. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you according to the relief demanded in the Complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said Court. The Complaint contains allegations in connection with certain facts, transaction, or events involving the leasing of Plaintiff's properties of which you executed the lease agreements.

/s/Clerk of Court

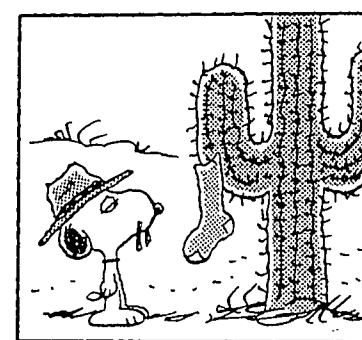
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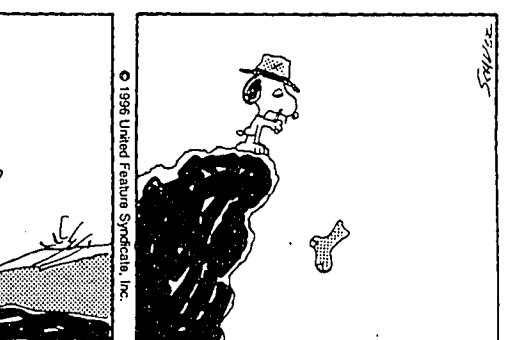
by Howie Schneider



by Jim Davis



by Charles M. Schulz



YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are a wild and wacky individual with a tremendous gift for laughter, a generous spirit and a positive attitude toward life. You grab every opportunity you encounter by the horns and run with it. You have a great deal of energy, and you never let a failure hold you back for long. Frustration and regret are two very unfamiliar feelings. You always work hard, even when you are facing incredible odds or overcoming a recent disappointment.

You seem to have boundless energy, but in fact, you must pace yourself if you wish to keep exhaustion and burnout at bay. You rely on your home life to provide you with spiritual nourishment and relaxation, and you thrive on domestic harmony at all times.

Also born on this date are: Victor Borge, pianist and comic; Dabney Coleman, Mel Gibson and Robert Loggia, actors; Bobby Hull, hockey player.

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.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today, take care not to promise things you can't deliver. Disappointment at this time can spell disaster in future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You will want to keep things balanced throughout the day, no matter how emotional others may be. Share information freely.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — A casual conversation will reveal much that was not intended. Keep your eyes and ears open for telltale signs.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You won't want to split your focus today. Concentrate on the task at hand, and stick with it until you reach the goal you've set for yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — An otherwise social situation can provide you with a great deal of professional inspiration today. Talk freely with kindred spirits.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may have to overcome several obstacles today, but none should prove as threatening as your warring attitude.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — A new development will start slow-

ly and increase in importance today. You will be surprised by the involvement of others in your private affairs.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Take the time to study what you need to know today in order to have the most current and useful information at your disposal when the time comes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Others may demonstrate interest in a new project you're ready to unveil. Do not be hurried in any way. However, stick to your timetable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Others who share your outlook will be attracted to you throughout the day. Some information will be suitable for sharing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today, you will have a chance to demonstrate your talents in a forum that will be conducive to constructive criticism and professional appreciation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You will feel as though you've come a long way today, and indeed you have! Now, focus on a few turns that are looming in the distance.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Dog's bark
- 4 Salad green
- 9 Bikini top
- 12 Type of cross
- 13 Uncanny
- 14 Parisian season
- 15 Sign up
- 17 Visitor
- 19 Hebrew month
- 21 — plus ultra
- 22 Cooking word
- 25 Labor-union grp.
- 27 Grandma, for some
- 31 Kin to beret?
- 32 Wearing away
- 34 — Paso, TX
- 35 Wine cup
- 36 Year (Sp.)
- 37 TV's Sue Ellen (inits.)
- 38 Cut out
- 41 Sault —

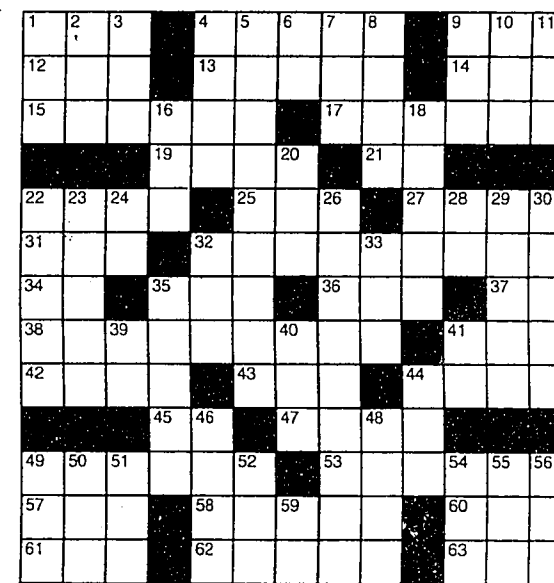
DOWN

- 1 Marie
- 42 Old musical instrument
- 43 Uncle (Sp.)
- 44 One who mimics
- 45 Bismarck's St.
- 47 TV's talking horse (2 wds.)
- 49 Polar region
- 53 Line on map
- 57 Damage
- 58 Centers
- 60 Large bird
- 61 Old pronoun
- 62 Worn away
- 63 Auricle

Answer to Previous Puzzle

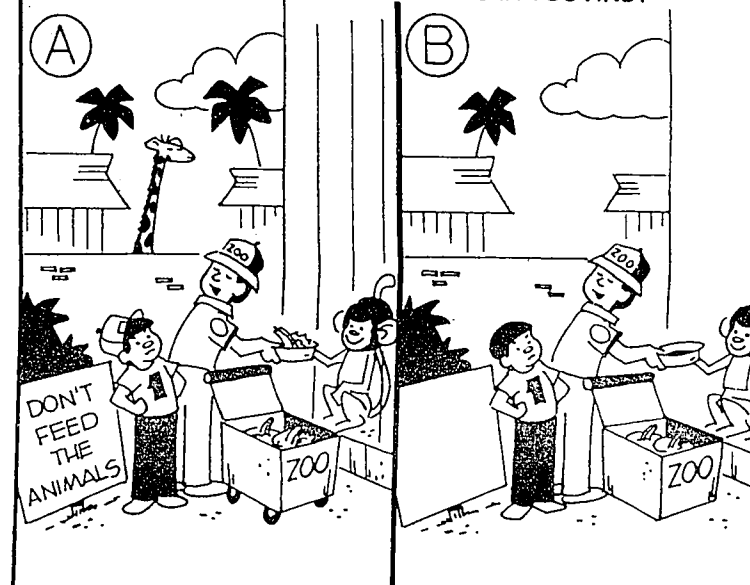
TWICE DRAIGS
BRAVES RITUAL
OE ELKS ELLA
EPI TEASE PAM
RARA RALLY AA
SNELL REDEEMS
NOEL DEMI
REENDOW REDAN
OD EGRIET NENE
BIT EERIE RAW
ITER ELBA DE
NOSHOW TOLLER
RHONE SERUM

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Friday: 2:30; 4:45; 7:00; 9:15
Saturday: 2:30; 4:45; 7:00; 9:15

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CLOSERS

Spinach, far from being rich in iron, actually has the second-least amount of iron of all vegetables. (The cucumber comes in dead last in the iron-veggie competition.) Spinach supposedly gained its high-iron reputation when a government publication ranking iron content of various foods misplaced a decimal point. Vegetables that really are high in iron include dandelion greens and soybeans.

Apparently the family spelling of William Faulkner's last name was traditionally "Falkner." Legend has it that the author adopted the alternate spelling after it appeared as a misprint on the title page of his first book.

When weather forecasters predict a 30 percent chance of rain, they mean that, out of the last 100 days with the same meteorological conditions, it rained on 30.

Everybody, but everybody, dreams, including those of you who insist you don't.

There is a land mass under the ice and snow of Antarctica, but the North Pole is just floating there.

Recent research indicates that brain cells, like muscle tissue, become more powerful when exercised.

Around the world, more goods and services were produced from 1950 to 1993 than from 8,000 B.C. to 1949.

This year, Saturn is at its brightest in August, but that is none too bright at all.

Some 75 percent of the South American country of Suriname consists of largely unexplored hills.

Think about this the next time you throw a gutter ball: Bob Leary Jr. of Erie, Pa., has officially bowled 43 games in which he scored 300.

Penn State wins Fiesta Bowl

By TIM DAHLBERG

TEMPE, Arizona (AP) - Kenny Watson's 81-yard return of the second-half kickoff Wednesday night sparked a rally that carried No. 7 Penn State from behind to beat Texas 38-15 and give coach Joe Paterno his sixth straight Fiesta Bowl win.

It was the second time this season Watson opened the second half with a long kickoff to bring his team from behind. And it couldn't have come at a better moment for the Nittany Lions, who had been dominated much of

the first half.

Watson, a freshman who averaged 23.5 yards a return, took the ball at the goal line and raced up midfield before he was finally brought down at the Longhorns 19.

Five plays later, Aaron Harris went over the right end for a 5-yard touchdown that put Penn State ahead after trailing 12-7 going into halftime.

Texas came back on its next drive to tie the game 15-15 on a 48-yard field goal, but Penn State scored on its next two drives and

wasn't threatened the rest of the game.

By the time Curtis Enis rambled 12 yards for his third touchdown of the game with 5:50 left, most in the crowd of 65,106 that was less than capacity at Sun Devil Stadium had long gone home.

The win, which came 10 years nearly to the day of Penn State's national title win over Miami in the 1987 Fiesta Bowl, gave the Nittany Lions (11-2) a 6-0 mark in the annual game. It was the 18th postseason bowl victory for Paterno, the most by any coach,

and the fourth straight bowl win for Penn State.

Texas (8-5), stumbled early but regained its composure to dominate much of the first half, taking a 12-7 halftime lead on a 7-yard touchdown run by Ricky Williams with 12 seconds left in the half.

But the Longhorns were almost completely shut down by Penn State's defense in the third quarter and failed in their effort to win the first bowl game for Texas outside its home state since 1965.

Texas found itself the victim of big plays against a Penn State team

not known for its explosiveness.

One of those plays helped seal the fate of the Longhorns when Chafie Fields took a handoff from Chris Eberly and ran 84 yards on a double reverse to the Texas 5. It set up a touchdown run by Anthony Cleary to put Penn State up 28-13 in the third quarter.

The touchdown came one drive after Enis, who had been held to only 12 yards since a 15-yard carry to open the game, ran four times for 40 yards in a drive that ended with his 2-yard touchdown plunge over the middle.

Brigham Young notches 14th win

NEW YORK (AP) - Brigham Young, the first team to win 14 games in a college football season, won't get anational championship for doing so.

The Cougars rallied to beat Kansas State 19-15 Wednesday in the Cotton Bowl at Dallas. Steve Sarkisian hit K.O. Kealaluhui with a 28-yard touchdown pass with 3:39 remaining, then Omar Morgan intercepted Brian Kavanagh's pass at the BYU 3 with 55 seconds to go.

BYU (14-1) played in the Pigskin Classic, at Hawaii and in the Western Athletic Conference title game, adding to its 11 regular-season games. Then the fifth-ranked Cougars beat Kansas State (9-3) on New Year's Day, ensuring a top-five finish in the polls.

But with No. 1 Florida State playing No. 3 Florida in the Sugar Bowl on Thursday night, and No. 2 Arizona State facing No. 4 Ohio State in the Rose Bowl, BYU - the 1984 national champion - was locked out.

"All I know is we're 14-1 and we're going to finish in the top five in the country," said Steve Sarkisian, whose two fourth-quarter touchdowns passes fueled the comeback. "That's something any team should be proud of."

Also Wednesday, it was No. 9 Tennessee 48, No. 11 Northwestern 28 in the Citrus Bowl at Orlando, Fla.; No. 16 Alabama 17, No. 15 Michi-

gan 14 in the Outback Bowl at Tampa, Fla.; and No. 12 North Carolina 20, No. 25 West Virginia 13 in the Gator Bowl at Jacksonville, Fla.

The later games were the Rose Bowl and the Fiesta Bowl, in which it was and No. 7 Penn State vs. No. 20 Texas.

In Tuesday's games, Howard edged Southern 27-24 in the Heritage Bowl, Stanford shut out Michigan State 38-0 in the Sun Bowl, Auburn held off No. 24 Army 32-29 in the Independence Bowl and No. 6 Nebraska defeated No. 10 Virginia Tech 41-21 in the Orange Bowl.

Citrus Bowl
Tennessee 48, Northwestern 28

Peyton Manning, considered a certain high pick if he chooses to leave school early for the NFL draft, emphatically stated his case that he's ready to move up. He threw for 408 yards and four touchdowns and ran for one score. Manning completed 27-of-39 passes, including a 67-yard touchdown to Joey Kent that put the Volunteers (10-2) ahead for good late in the first half after Northwestern (9-3) came back from a 21-0 hole.

The Volunteers defense contributed, too, when Tyrone Hines intercepted Steve Schnur's pass and returned it 30 yards for a touchdown on the third play of

the second half.

Outback Bowl
Alabama 17, Michigan 14

The Crimson Tide (10-3) sent coach Gene Stallings into retirement with a comeback in the fourth quarter to defeat the Wolverines (8-4).

Linebacker Dwayne Rudd returned an interception 88 yards for a touchdown after Kelvin Sigler hit Brian Griese as the quarterback released a pass.

Rudd's interception put Alabama ahead 10-6 with 12:13 remaining. Alabama scored again 10 minutes later on Shaun Alexander's 46-yard run, then withstood Michigan's last-ditch effort to get back into the game in the final 2:15.

Gator Bowl
North Carolina 20, W. Virginia 13

North Carolina (10-2), which leads the nation in turnover differential, had four takeaways as it won 10 games for only the sixth time in 106 years of football. The Tar Heels picked off three passes - two by freshman All-American cornerback Dre' Bly - and recovered a fumble.

Quarterback Oscar Davenport threw for one score and ran for one in his first career start.

The Mountaineers (8-4) lost their sixth straight postseason game and closed the season losing four of five after a 7-0 start.

recorded runner-up showings while Leison Sarapio, Waiwai Joachim, Jose Villazon and Nick Benjamin arrived in third.

North took its revenge by thrashing South, 35-16 in the final of the men's softball game. Tony Luzama and Willard Saimon led the Northwestern Stars with two homers apiece while Dan Rekesik added a triple in the final inning. Welson Saimon took the win.

Willard Saimon, Vicente Aldan, Welson Saimon, and Frank Shiro

Bulls...

Continued from page 40

maining, and Boston won its first road game with David Wesley getting 25 points.

The loss snapped a seven-game losing streak. Boston, the last NBA team to win a road win, avoided matching a franchise-worst 13th-straight road loss. The Celtics had lost 13 in a row on the road in 1978-79.

With the game tied at 102, Antoine Walker's shot from 20 feet missed. But Denver's Tommy Hammonds deflected the miss into the hands of Fox, who hit the decisive shot as he was falling away from the basket.

Ricky Pierce scored a season-high 21 points for the Nuggets, who ended the month with its worst December (3-11) since going 2-12 in 1992.

Boston's Dino Radja, had 19 points

64...

Continued from page 40

(Georgia) 2650; 23. Judit Polgar (Hungary) 2645; 24. Loek Van Wely (Holland) 2645.

Events. The annual GM and open tournaments in Groningen, Holland recently concluded with English GM Nigel Short topping the Category 16 tournament (average Elo rating: 2634), and American GM Alex Yermolinsky emerging triumphant in the Swiss system open tournament where in Chinese GM Ye Jiangchuan finished solo second, a mere half-a-point behind Yermolinsky.

The 12-man round robin tournament won by Short also included the participation of eventual runners-up Jan Timman and Boris Gelfand, Hungary's latest chess sensation Peter Leko (the only one who beat Short in the tournament) and the eternal warrior himself, Viktor Korchnoi who finished in a tie for 8th-12th place.

Last Dec. 21, world champ Gary Kasparov beat eternal rival Anatoly Karpov in their individual match en route to winning the world chess supertournament in Las Palmas, Spain.

The six-man double-round robin tourney was participated by the world's six highest rated players—Kasparov, Karpov, Anand, Kramnik, Ivanchuk and Topalov.

The final standings: 1st—Kasparov, 6 pts; 2nd—Anand, 5; 3rd—Kramnik, 4.5; 4th-5th—Ivanchuk and Topalov, 4; 6th—Karpov, 3.5.

The event's oldest player, Karpov, also lost a game to Anand and drew the rest of his matches.

It is, I think, the great Karpov's worst tournament performance. Meanwhile, in Jakarta, Indonesia, Judit Polgar squared off with Indonesia's 31-year old GM Utut Adianto (ranked 45-50 in the January Elo ratings) in a "battle of the sexes" six-game match from Dec. 12 to 18.

Time control was 25 minutes per player. Judit drew the proverbial first blood in game 2, but Utut came back in game 3—only to lose game 4.

Judit held the Indonesian to a draw in game 5, but Utut can not be denied in the last game in which the two played blindfold chess.

Judit was, of course, the heavy favorite in this match, but her performance against an older and more experienced grandmaster is actually not that bad at all.

Hungary's highest-rated player is only 20, and her future continues to look bright, if not brighter.

Game of the week. Here's Short's victory against Korchnoi in Groningen, with notes by the winner himself:

Reti's Opening
V. Korchnoi-N. Short

Groningen, 1996
1. Nf3 c5 2. b3 d5 3. e3 Nf6 4. Bb2 e6 5. c4 dxc4

A positional mistake, said Korchnoi: "You played for the world championship and you play such a move."

6. bxc4 Bc7 7. Be2 0-0 8. Qc2 Nc6 9. a3 Re8 10. 0-0 b6 11. Nc3 Bb7 12. Ng5 h6 13. Nh3 Qd7 14. f4 Rcd8 15. d3 a6 16. Rd1 Rab8 17. Nf2 Ba8 18. Nc4 19. d4

Too optimistic.

19...cxd4 20. exd4 Rbc8 21. d5 Na5 22. d6 Bf8

22...Nxd6 23. c5 bxc5 24. Nxd6 Bxd6 25. Qc3

23. Bd4 Nxc4 24. Bxc4 b5 25. Nc5 Qc6 26. Ng4?

16. Nf4! is probably Korchnoi's only chance. 26...bxc4 27. d7 Rd7 28. Nxd7 Qxe4 29. Qxe4 Bxe4 30. Nxf8 Kxf8 with a better ending for Black.

26...Rxd6 27. Ne5 Rxd4!! 28. Bxc6

The best try. 28. Nxc6 Rxc4 and Black will pick up the two knights and win.

28...Bxc5 29. Bxf7+ Kf8 30. Kh1 Qe4 31. Qxe4

After the logical 31. Qa3 Black has the following stunning sequence: 31...Rd1 32. Rd1 Rd8!! 33. Ng6 Qxg6 34. Rxd8 Bxg2 35. Qxg2 Qb1 and mate next move.

31...Bxe4 32. Be6 Rcd8 33. f5 Nf6 34. Rc1 Bb6 35. Ng6+ Ke8 36. Rf1 Ba5 37. Rg1 Rd2 38. Ne5 Bb6 (0-1)

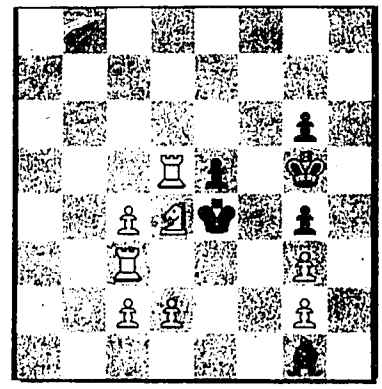
Puzzler. Due to "insistent public demand," we'll run last week's puzzle again for this week.

To the person working for Bank of Saipan (fax number 235-6260), please re-fax your solution—I can't make out anything from the solution you sent over.

Golden Enterprises' Reynaldo C. Campos asks, "What do we get if (we) solve the puzzle?"

Well, first of all, you get the thrill of actually using your brain for a worthy purpose; moreover, you also get the satisfaction of being correct.

Not a bad deal, no?



White to play and mate in two. Solutions should be sent to "64" of o The Marianas Variety, P.O. Box 231, Saipan MP 96950, or faxed through 234-9271.

For those who are as ecstatic as we are here in the Variety for having the Internet, you can also send your answer via e-mail; our address is <younis@mtccnmi.com>

1997 Islandwide Men's Basketball League Wheels in offense; Sunrisers in defense

Team Standings	W	L
UMDA Aces	3	0
Toyota Wheels	2	0
Sunrisers	2	0
Lite Ol' Aces	1	0
GC Surf&Turf	2	1
MGD Brothers	1	1
Youth All-Stars	1	1
Islanders	1	2
RCA	0	2
Sixers	0	3
Laolao Bay	0	3

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

THREE games into the elimination round of the Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands's (BANMI) Islandwide Men's Basketball League, the Toyota Wheels and the Solid Builders Sunrisers are currently leading the tournament with the best team offense and defense.

Tied with identical 2-0 win-loss slates, the Wheels have accumulated 265 points in two outings to set the pace in

offense with a whopping 132.5 average while the Sunrisers set the norm in fewest points allowed with a stingy 67.0 average.

MGD, with an even 1-1 record, is second in team offense scoring 236 points. The Brothers, however, is 14.5 points behind the Wheels averaging 118.0 points per outing.

Defending champions and current leader UMDA Aces are third with 102.6 point average. The Aces with a league's best 3-0 record have rattled 308 points.

The Sunrisers are fourth with 98.0 points per outing and the Islanders, fifth with 86.0 in three games.

In the defensive category, Get Covered Surf is second in defense, limiting its opponents to a total of 204 points in three games for a measly 68.0 average.

The Wheels are third, allowing the opposition to score only a 73.0 average. The Aces are fourth surrendering 242 points or an 80.6 average per game.

The Lite Ol' Aces are fifth with 83.0 but the team has only played a single game.

Despite playing in only a single game, the Lite Ol' Aces is leading all teams in free throw conversion after going seven for seven for a perfect 100% shooting percentage.

The Wheels are the second best free throw shooting team sinking 36 shots in 54 attempts for a 66% accuracy. Rep. Apatang Sixers are third making 41 attempts in 52 free throws awarded to the team for a 62%. The MGD Brothers and the UMDA Aces are fourth and fifth with 58% and 54% proficiency.

In the individual scoring average, UMDA's chief gunner Ric Alegre is setting the norm after scoring 107 points in three games for a scintillating 35.0 points per game.

Previous tournament's regular season MVP Ray Lizama is second after scoring 99 points in three games. The

Islanders' hotshot and coach of the Youth All-Stars is norming 33.0 points per outing.

Three MGD Brothers occupy the next three slots in the scoring derby. Tony Diaz is in third with a 29.5 average followed by Jess Dela Cruz and Ed Diaz with 27.5 and 25.5 averages respectively.

Toyota Wheels' Edwin Bubos is tied with Diaz with a similar 25.5 average in two games.

Sportsbits

RGAs' January Ace qualifier

THE Refalawash Golf Association (RGA) will its qualifying round for the January Ace Tournament this coming Saturday, January 4, 1997 at Marianas Country Club.

Te-off time is set at 6:30 a.m. but members are requested to be at the golf course at 6 a.m. Sixteen slots await members on a first-come first-serve basis.

For more information, call RGA president Tony Rogolifoi or Joe Lizama at 234-1001 or 234-1002 and Jess Wabol at 234-6167.

Little League Association's Executive Meeting

THE CNMI Little League Association will have an executive meeting on Wednesday next week, Jan. 8, 5 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym Conference Room.

The president and all board members are requested to attend the important meeting. Matters regarding the opening of the 1997 Little League Association will be discussed.

For more information, call Michael N. Evangelista at 664-5103. (EAC)

PUBLIC NOTICE (01/02/97)

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, SECTION 11, GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AUTHORITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ARE HEREBY GIVING NOTICE, THAT THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 08, 1997 AT 10:00 A.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, WAKIN'S BUILDING, GUALO RAI, SAIPAN.



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INVITATION TO BID

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FOR: PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE

OPENING DATE: JANUARY 17, 1997
TIME: 2:00 P.M.

GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, IS SOLICITING COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).

/S/EDWARD B. PALACIOS
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

(JANUARY 2, 1997)

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, SECTION 11, GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ARE HEREBY GIVING NOTICE, THAT THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON DECEMBER 27, 1996 WILL RECONVENE ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1997 AT 1:00 P.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, WAKIN'S BUILDING, GUALO RAI, SAIPAN.

AGENDA

- ROLL CALL
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES
 1. NOVEMBER 21, 1996
- OLD BUSINESS
 1. EQUITY CONVERSION - UPDATE
 2. GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ISSUE - UPDATE
- NEW BUSINESS
- CCD MATTERS
- ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER
 1. FUND'S AVAILABILITY
 2. CHAIRMAN'S/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- OTHER MATTERS

/S/ JUAN S. TENORIO
Chairman, CDA Board of Directors

SPORTS

National Basketball Association

Bulls nip Pacers, 81-79

Bulls 81, Pacers 79

In Chicago, Michael Jordan scored 28 points and held Reggie Miller to 5-of-18 shooting as Chicago rallied to beat Indiana.

The Pacers led by as many as 14 points in the first half and by eight early in the fourth quarter but scored only two points during a 7 1/2-minute stretch of the final period to lose their third consecutive game.

The Bulls won for the 10th time in 11 games and improved to an NBA-best 27-4 despite shooting a season-low 34 percent. Jordan was 12-of-29 from the floor and Scottie Pippen, who scored 18 points, was 6-of-17.

Chicago trailed 73-68 with 8 minutes left before Pippen scored five points during a 13-2 run for an 81-75 lead. Indiana was 1-for-10 and had three turnovers during its long drought.

Miller and Eddie Johnson scored 13 points apiece for the Pacers, the only team to beat the Bulls twice last regular season.

Rockets 99, SuperSonics 91

In Houston, Charles Barkley had 25 points and 14 rebounds, and led a fourth-quarter rally that enabled Houston to end a six-game home losing streak against Seattle.

The Sonics hit 14 of their first 19

shots (73.6 percent) and led 34-21, but the Rockets led 57-53 at the half and 79-73 after three quarters. Seattle scored the first 11 points of the fourth quarter to take an 84-79 lead with 8:58 to play. Hakeem Olajuwon hit a basket and Barkley followed with a three-point play and a 3-point basket to put the Rockets back on top 87-74.

Sam Perkins' 3-pointer tied it with 7:14 to play, but Clyde Drexler fol-

lowed with a 3-pointer and the Rockets held on from there.

Olajuwon finished with 24 points and 10 rebounds. Gary Payton led the Sonics with 21 points and Shawn Kemp added 18 points and 13 rebounds.

Celtics 104, Nuggets 102

In Denver, Rick Fox hit a 15-foot jumper with less than a second re-

Continued on page 38

ICBL's 1997 Budweiser Cup

Saipan Stevedore guns for 2nd win

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

SAIPAN Stevedore/Budweiser seeks its second straight win at the expense of IT&E/Michelob as two more teams debut in tomorrow night's doubleheader of the Inter Commercial Basketball League's 1997 Budweiser Cup at the CMS Basketball Court.

Saipan Stevedore who opened their campaign by blowing CMS/Budlight off the court, 134-66 in the opening game of the tournament will face IT&E/Michelob in the opener at 7 p.m.

CMS/Budlight try to enter the win column in two outings

by going up against the IT&E/SNE/Bud Ice in the second game at 8:30 p.m.

If Saipan Stevedore will be able to play the way they massacred CMS in the opener, IT&E will be in trouble. The Budweiser team showed excellent form in both side of the court in posting the 68-point thrashing. Fluid running offense, good teamwork and outstanding shot selection, not too mention the Stevedore's rebounding might, make Budweiser the odds-on-favorite in their encounter against IT&E.

Continued on page 38



California quarterback Pat Barnes, center, is sacked by Navy players Denis Kane (14) and Tom Poulter (99) late in the fourth quarter in the Aloha Bowl in Honolulu. Navy won 42-38. (AP Photo)

• Zaldy Dandan

World's top 24

FIDE'S latest Elo ratings are out, and thanks to the Internet I managed to get a hold of the planet's 24 highest-rated chess players list as of January.

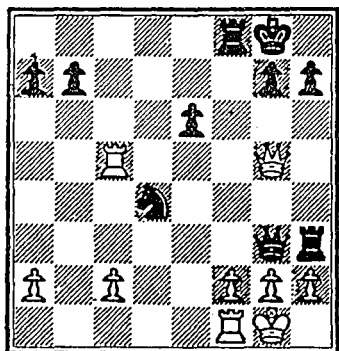
Take note that India's Vishy Anand has dislodged Fide champ Anatoly Karpov from the no. 2 spot, and that Hungarian chess queen Judit Polgar, who will turn 21 this year, is ranked no. 23 in the men's category.

Because of what British GM Raymond Keene calls the "inflation" in Elo ratings, what used to be the so-called super GM category—those with ratings of 2600+—is now teeming with 66 players.

I still remember that Asia's first GM, the Philippines' Eugene Torre, made it to the top 20 in 1983 with a rating of 2580. He would have ranked 97-108 in this list.

1. Gary Kasparov (Russia) 2795; 2. Viswanathan Anand (India) 2765; 3. Anatoly Karpov (Russia) 2760; 4. Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) 2740; 5. Vassily Ivanchuk (Russia) 2740; 6. Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria) 2725; 7. Gata Kamsky (USA) 2720; 8. Boris Gelfand (Byelorussia) 2700; 9. Alexei Shirov (Spain) 2690; 10. Nigel Short (England) 2690; 11. Alexander Beliavsky (Slovenia) 2665; 12. Evgeny Bareev (Russia) 2665; 13. Arthur Yussupov (Germany) 2665; 14. Valery Salov (Russia) 2665; 15. Michael Adams (England) 2660; 16. Vladimir Akopian (Armenia) 2655; 17. Ulf Andersson (Sweden) 2655; 18. Predrag Nikolic (Bosnia-Herzegovina) 2655; 19. Eduardas Rozentalis (Lithuania) 2650; 20. Alexander Khalifman (Russia) 2650; 21. Alexey Dreev (Russia) 2650; 22. Zurab Azmaiparashvili

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South beats North

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

SOUTH defeated North in the 1996 Annual Pohnpeian Association's Holiday Picnic Games held recently at the Hopwood Junior High School.

The South team relied on its runners to upset their Northern counterparts in bagging the field events. South leaned on its first place finishes in the 100 meter races in the children's and modest performances in the adult age group categories to accumulate 48 points.

Kiky Aldan, Keoki Olmos, Richard (Paliker) Benjamin, Jonathan Welson, and Junior Keller finished ahead of the opposition in the 100m children's age group bracket. Sheila J. Babauta, William Calimlim, Alfonse Luzama Jr., Alden Luzama and Eric Lisua finished second while Tracy J. Babauta, Ben Aldan, Gayson Keller, Naomi DLG. Ben-

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1997 Palau Major League Baseball

Airai vs Koror in season opener

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

DEFENDING champion Airai Aces launches its title retention bid by going up against the Koror Ngarametal in the opening game of the 1997 Palau Major League Baseball on January 6 at the Asahi Baseball Field in Koror, Palau.

A total of seven teams are disputing this year's baseball supremacy. Aside from the Aces and Ngarametal, the other teams include the Anguar, Ngerbeched, Ngaraard Red Torch, Meyuns and Ngerbeches.

For the first time in league's history, games will be played at night due to the completion of renovations in the Asahi Baseball Field.

The seven teams will be competing in a three round robin tournament format. One game will be played every night except Mondays.

1997 Palau Major League First Round Schedule

1. Airai Aces
2. Koror Ngarametal
3. Anguar
4. Ngerbeched
5. Ngaraard Red Torch
6. Meyuns
7. Ngerbeches

Date	Day	Time	Games
1/06/97	Monday	7:10pm	1 vs 2
1/07/97	Tuesday	7:10pm	3 vs 4
1/08/97	Wednesday	7:10pm	5 vs 6
1/09/97	Thursday	7:10pm	2 vs 7
1/10/97	Friday	7:10pm	4 vs 1
1/11/97	Saturday	7:10pm	6 vs 3
1/12/97	Sunday	7:10pm	2 vs 5
1/13/97	Monday	0:00	No Games
1/14/97	Tuesday	7:10pm	7 vs 1
1/15/97	Wednesday	7:10pm	4 vs 6
1/16/97	Thursday	7:10pm	3 vs 5
1/17/97	Friday	7:10pm	1 vs 6
1/18/97	Saturday	7:10pm	2 vs 4
1/19/97	Sunday	7:10pm	3 vs 7
1/20/97	Monday	0:00	No Games
1/21/97	Tuesday	7:10pm	5 vs 1
1/22/97	Wednesday	7:10pm	6 vs 2
1/23/97	Thursday	7:10pm	7 vs 4
1/24/97	Friday	7:10pm	1 vs 3
1/25/97	Saturday	7:10pm	7 vs 6
1/26/97	Sunday	7:10pm	4 vs 5
1/27/97	Monday	0:00	No Games
1/28/97	Tuesday	7:10pm	3 vs 2
1/29/97	Wednesday	7:10pm	5 vs 7

1/27/97 12:00 PM