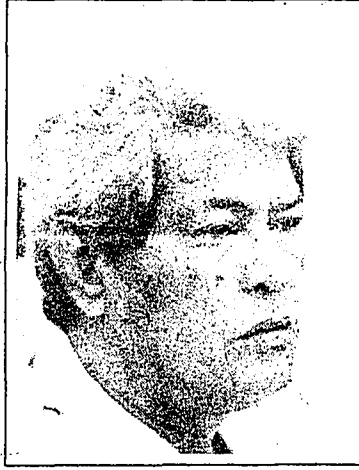




Gregorio C. Sablan



Gonzalo Santos

## 2 top officials leaving soon?

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

THERE IS word going around in government circles that two top ranking Administration officials may possibly be headed out of their jobs soon.

The Variety yesterday gotten wind of reports that Management and Budget Special Assistant Gregorio C. Sablan and Labor Director Gonzalo Santos may possibly either resign or get terminated for still unknown reasons.

No confirmation, however, has been obtained yet from the Administration on the veracity of such reports.

There has been word going around that Sablan is eyeing a "less controversial" position in government after he apparently has not been able to impress the chief executives with his performance as OMB special assistant.

Santos on the other hand was reportedly given a memo by Governor Froilan C. Tenorio indicating the latter's displeasure at how complaints of labor abuses are being handled by the Labor Division.

The existence of such a memo was confirmed to the Variety by Administration insiders.

Santos, who is the governor's

first cousin, is reportedly being pressed by the governor to be more aggressive in disposing complaints.

However, action on labor abuses  
**Continued on page 11**

# Japanese drops dead by beach

By Rafael I. Santos  
Variety News Staff

A JAPANESE tourist died at the beach side of Pacific Islands Club Monday while a Talafofo man was kidnapped at gunpoint by two unidentified suspects before Christmas, the Department of Public Safety said yesterday.

On Monday morning, Nomura Yuki, 34, "fell" on the beach side of PIC in Koblerville, DPS spokesperson Cathy Sheu said yesterday afternoon. The victim was rushed to the Commonwealth Health Center where he was pronounced dead.

The cause of his death was not known and police have ruled out foul play. Sheu said DPS had no

information as to what caused the death of Yuki. The case is not under investigation.

It was not also clear what the Japanese was doing when he collapsed.

DPS received a report of the incident at around 11:08 Monday morning, police reports indicated.

Meanwhile, a man was forcibly brought to a secluded area in Talafofo and tied to a tree, Sheu said.

The 25-year-old man, whose name was not provided, was in a farm house when two unidentified suspects approached him and pointed a gun at him before Christmas. The suspects then brought the victim to a nearby bushy area

and tied him to a tree.

DPS had no information as to how many hours did the victim spend in the bushy area on December 23.

Somehow the victim managed to free himself and reported the kidnapping to the authorities, the spokesperson told reporters. The motive for the kidnapping was not known as of this time.

Sheu said police are investigating the incident. No arrests have been made so far.

On Thursday, DPS also received another kidnapping complaint. This time the incident used to stay together.

Police reports said a mother  
**Continued on page 11**

## No deaths, injuries on road this Christmas

CHRISTMAS ended merry and quite peaceful for the people of Saipan as police reported zero fatalities during the celebration of this Christian holiday.

Although close to fifty automobile accidents occurred between Thursday and Monday, no one was rushed to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment of injuries as

a result of an auto accident.

Reports compiled by the Department of Public Safety indicated that forty-four vehicular collision and other auto accidents occurred on island. However, none of the accidents involved fatalities.

Alcohol consumption during the holiday was expected to go up, but this prediction did not translate to a relatively higher

number of DUI cases on island.

Police apprehended about fourteen people for reckless driving/driving under the influence of alcohol between December 22 and December 26, police reports indicated.

Although there were some arrests made, there were no injuries reported as a result of

**Continued on page 11**

## \$2.75 wage nears

BARRING unforeseen circumstances, the scheduled 30-cent increase in the local hourly minimum wage from the current \$2.45 appears headed towards implementation Monday next week.

But on the other hand, Vice Speaker Jesus P. Mafnas yesterday warned that without a determination on the affordability of the upcoming wage increase, people of the CNMI may carry the burden of the 30-cent hike.

Under Public Law 8-21, a \$2.75 minimum wage is to take effect January 1, 1995 in all industries except for a few worker categories given exemption from the statutorily-prescribed wage level.

January 1st being a Sunday, the effectivity of the new wage level comes the next day, Monday.

The possibility of the new wage pushing through seems very imminent after the Senate leadership seem to make good its earlier plan not to call for a session until a \$2.75 basic pay is already in place early in the new year.

Senate President Juan S. Demapan has earlier gave an assurance he would try to derail the chances of House Bill 9-322, which calls for a suspension of the scheduled wage hike, by not allowing it to get calendared in a Senate session.

**Continued on page 11**



SAIPAN Community School parent Femy Rey, extreme right, is assisted by her friends in preparing traditional Christmas delicacy made of sticky rice, coconut milk and a little salt. The group was spotted by a Variety lensman on the night of December 23rd. The Rey family uses young palm leaves to "wrap" three spoonful of the rice mixture, a recipe in central Philippines. The delicacy which they call "suman" is cooked in about thirty minutes or so in a large boiling pot. Also in photo are, L-R: Lila Clavel, Lorna Mojado and Rey's daughter Klaris.

**Weather Outlook**

Continued fair skies.

# Two die, 16 missing in boat sinking

TOKYO (AP) - Two fishermen died and 16 were missing Tuesday after their boat sank in rough seas off Japan's central Pacific coast, the Maritime Safety Agency reported.

The two who died were among four rescued by other fishing boats after more than 11 hours in the water without life jackets, said the agency, Japan's coast guard.

One of the survivors, Koichi Tsuji, 58, said he felt the ship in danger as it plowed into high waves and leaned over, and he and three others jumped overboard before it capsized, the agency added.

Patrol boats found a life raft with the markings of the 39-ton

Gorodake Maru No. 25, but no crewmen were aboard, said an agency official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

He said the boats also found pieces of the ship's deck and boxes for storing fish at the scene, about 10 kilometers (six miles) east of Omaezaki, which is about 175 kilometers (110 miles) southwest of Tokyo.

The Gorodake Maru, with 20 crewmen aboard, was heading for its nearby home port Monday night

when it lost radio contact with other fishing boats, the official said.

Winds were blowing at up to 72 kilometers (45 miles) an hour and waves were 2.5 meters (8 feet) high in the area, he added, but despite the onset of winter, sea temperatures still were 21 degrees Celsius (70F).

The official said seven patrol boats, 41 fishing boats, a plane and three helicopters were searching for the missing crew members.

# China executes 8 criminals

BEIJING (AP) - Eight murderers, robbers and thieves were executed in Beijing Tuesday. Their cases were among the more than 10,000 that police in the capital have solved this year, official newspapers reported.

The Beijing Evening News said the eight executions were for "particularly odious" crimes that had hurt society and angered the masses.

The brief report listed the criminals' names and convictions but gave no details of their crimes.

The People's Public Security News said Tuesday that by November, Beijing police had solved more than 10,000 crimes, captured more than 500 fugitives and confiscated "a batch" of firearms. No comparative figures with previous years were immediately available, but anecdotal evidence suggests that crime is on the rise nationwide.

The situation has become so serious that top leaders held a nationwide conference during the weekend and called for greater crime prevention efforts.

The report said Beijing police have solved "a series of large cases that had a great impact and caused great harm."

Among them were a thief who



Members of the Japanese Self Defense Force detached to Goma say goodbye to a group of colleagues before going home Dec. 15, 1994. A first group of 120 Japanese soldiers, who came to Goma as a humanitarian mission to help Rwandan refugees three months ago, left Goma the week before. The Japanese will have completed their pullout by last week. (AP Photo)

# Manglona takes over Retirement Fund helm

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

EDWARD H. Manglona has started his term as the new administrator of the Retirement Fund, this was learned yesterday.

Manglona was confirmed by the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees last December 7th to serve as full-fledged administrator of the Fund.

He succeeds erstwhile Administrator Tomas B. Aldan in running the affairs of the Fund.

Aldan retired effective last Friday after serving as administrator for the last eight years and nine months.

The former administrator was confirmed as being terminated "without cause" by the Board of Trustees as early as August of this year, cutting short his contract which was supposed to last until December 1997.

Manglona, who has served as deputy administrator under Aldan and often times acting administrator, was quickly tapped by Governor Froilan C. tenorio to replace the retiring official.

Manglona's appointment was made pursuant to section 509(b) of Executive Order 94-3 which gives the governor the authority to nominate the Fund Administrator subject to confirmation by the Board of Trustees.

Prior to the E.O., the Fund administrator is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees.

That provision though was changed when the governor's E.O. took effect to delegate the appointing authority to the governor subject to the board's concurrence.

In his nomination letter for Manglona, the governor expressed confidence on the abilities of the new administrator.

"Mr. Manglona is dedicated to ensuring that the mandates of the Fund and the goals of my Administration are carried out efficiently. I feel he is well qualified to fill this role," said the governor.

The new Administrator takes office by December 24th, a Saturday meaning his first day on the job was yesterday after the long Christmas holidays.



Tomas B. Aldan



Leaders of the Direchon I Natibu movement in one of their regular meetings at the new multi-purpose building in Susupe. From L-R: Frank Agulto, Steven Killeman, David O. Sablan, president; Parole officer Jess Bermudes and Antonio Mareham.

# Law sought against frivolous labor complaints by workers

## Chamorro rights group bats for "equal" protection

By Rafael I. Santos  
Variety News Staff

MEMBERS of the newly organized Direchon I Natibu Movement said they bonded themselves together primarily to protect the rights of Chamorros and Carolinians and help improve the image of the commonwealth.

But they were quick to add that their organization was formed not to stand against any ethnic group in the community, rather, to help other races get fair treatment.

"We're not trying to target the Chinese, Filipinos or Sri Lankans. This (movement) is an equal protection group," David O. Sablan, president of the organization said in an interview this week.

Sablan together with the rest of the movement's officers explained the objectives of the newly-formed group early this week.

Direchon I Natibu has recently been chartered. Leaders of the group include businessmen and government employees. Aside from Sablan, the other officers are Antonio Mareham, first vice-president; Manases S. Borja, second vice-president; Jess C. Bermudes, secretary; and Frank C. Agulto, treasurer.

Sablan was a former police officer and has worked for the legislature before forming its own company called D's Professional Services. Mareham was a former Marianas High School teacher and has worked for the Community Action Agency, a federally-funded program. He has also worked as a legislative researcher before becoming a businessman.

Borja was a former congressman and a commissioner. Bermudes, the new Parole Officer, was the first criminal private investigator at the Public

Defender's Office and the first deportation officer. Agulto said he is a businessman.

The board of directors is led by Steven I. Killeman who was a former Public Information Officer in the legislature. He now works as Deputy Parole officer.

According to Sablan, the movement will see to it that everyone in the community, regardless of his country of origin, is treated fairly.

He said in a case-to-case basis, his group will assist abused workers. "We will come in and see what we can do."

### Friend of businesses

CNMI employers will also get help from the movement which already has about 50 members. Businesses whose image has been affected as a result of labor complaints against them will be assisted, according to Sablan.

At the same time foreign businessmen will get assistance in understanding CNMI culture, traditions and laws so that they would know how to conduct their affairs here, Sablan said.

Sablan observed that some of the reported violations were due to lack of understanding of CNMI laws and to some extent, the people's culture.

Movement members are also considering helping businesses find "suitable local workers" through "referral."

### Group decries bad publicity

In an interview, the group decried what they called the damaging reports about the commonwealth and its people that have appeared in United States, Philip-

pine and Saipan newspapers.

Sablan said the movement would try to erase the CNMI's negative image. "It's everybody's dream," he said. Contrary to allegations in a national newspaper, the Northern Marianas is not a "hell in the Pacific," stressed the consultant.

What have smeared the good reputation of the Mariana islands were the reports about rape and other forms of abuse by employers against their workers, he said.

While acknowledging that some employers were guilty of labor abuse, the movement said a number of non-resident workers have been creating some of the problems.

Bermudes, who has worked for the labor department as an investigator, said not all complaints lodged by alien workers had merits. Some complainants troop to the labor office with false claims and accusations, he observed. Their real intent, he said, is to get new and perhaps better employment.

Sablan commented that at times, labor complaints are being used as a vehicle by some workers to get new jobs. The movement may ask the legislature to come up with a law that would make it a crime to file frivolous complaints with the labor office.

Philippine Consular officials have said they had encountered a few workers with unfounded allegations, but Consul Renato Villapando and labor attaché Vicente Manzano said such workers have been discouraged to file complaints with the labor office.

Manzano evaluates labor complaints of Filipino workers to determine if they have valid claims. If labor abuse is very evident, the complainant is presented the op-



tions that he may consider. The labor representative said in a previous interview.

Direchon I Natibu movement did not single out the Filipinos as making false claims. But Philippine workers have been among non-resident workers who often complain of unfair labor practices.

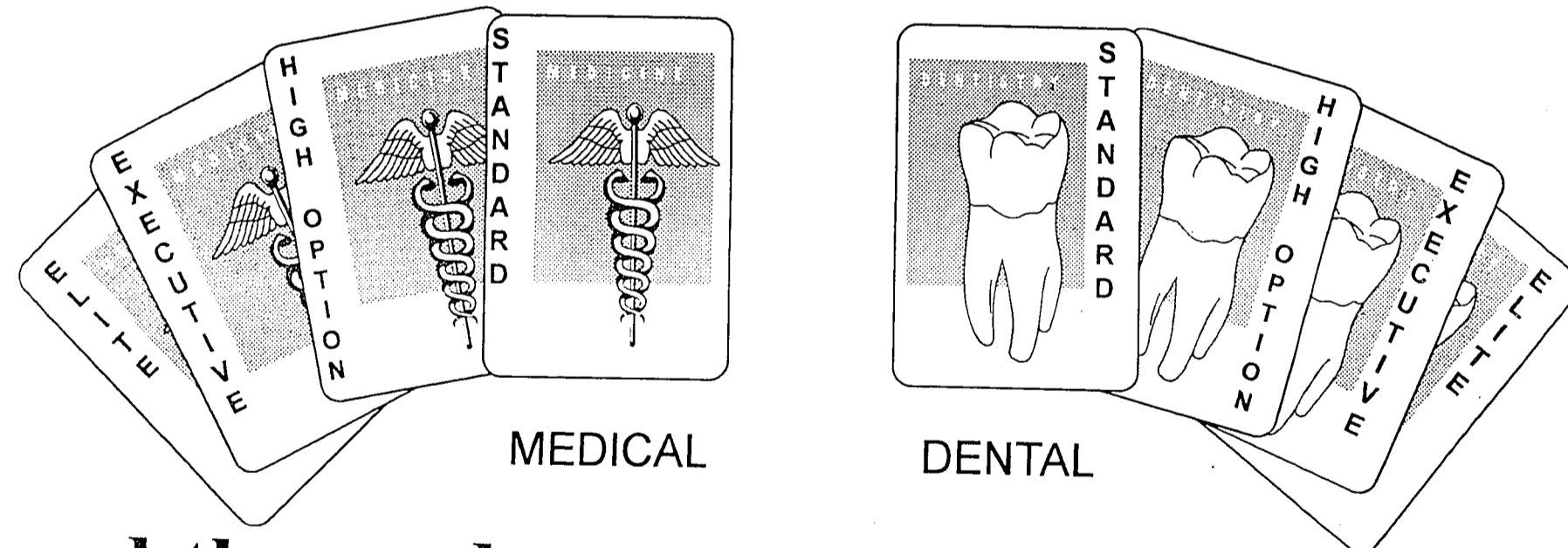
Some employees of the government are partly to be blamed for the alleged abuse of the system by alien workers, according to the organization. There were instances, they said, when complainants were favored instead of the employers in a labor dispute. The group did not cite specific incidents of alleged bias on the part of labor employees.

Movement officials also echoed allegations that bribery is being perpetuated by some labor employees. They believed this has encouraged guest workers to file frivolous complaints.

A few months ago, a labor employee was charged with bribery and misconduct for allegedly accepting bribes for the issuance of work-permits. This case is now

Continued on page 7

# It's your deal...



# and the cards are stacked in your favor.

Now, with FHP, you can select from among four Medical plans and four Dental plans to deal you a hand that best suits your health care needs.

So, CNMI Government Employees, with the recent changes in the Government Insurance Program, don't let your health care choice be a blind draw. See what FHP has to offer now!

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

## JR's Agenda by John S. DelRosario, JR.

### Of Common Denominators

There's no immunity in what we call "moments of sorrow" when one or both of our parents are called to their eternal rest. Well, at least not in this culture. The tears of love flow like a broken river dam rushing down the crevices of our tired eyes and blank faces as we try to brave the moment of reality. Perhaps it is one of the most dreadful moments in our lives. It even punctures the steely hearts of tough minded men.

Throughout the nine-day rosary, we see in the screens of our minds or day dreams an instant replay of some of our most treasured moments together with them. The flash back turns to temporary reality which postpones or nullifies the notion that they have expired. In other words, *while death is reality we try to fend it off when it comes to a loved-one. It usually sinks in days after all our friends and relatives have returned home and everything around the house turn to fearful silence.*

In the quiet corner of our minds, we begin contemplating the future with that bothersome notion that our common denominators are gone for good. It is here that we start reviewing what our parents have taught us—filial unity. It is at this juncture where we begin to see a new reality—each of us has an obligation—and the gravitating force that once kept us together is no longer around to keep unity intact. Each attends to his/her filial obligations. A weird sense of filial independence among siblings takes its permanent seat as well.

We enter a new cycle and don the robes of that common denominator for our own children. We finally acknowledge and accept that our own common denominators are now swimming in the sea of eternal peace and tranquility. They leave behind a legacy as pillars and foundations of filial unity, a cultural tradition that may be around for quite some time. Excuse the underlined phrase "may be around". *Perhaps the constantly changing socio-economic landscape would bring with it a further erosion of a time-honored tradition—caring for our parents—an entirely new mode of indifference and insensitivity about parental care.*

*It is awesome how our parents have served as the ultimate pillars and foundation of filial unity among siblings.* Through the years, we shared moments of triumph and defeat as we collectively struggled to make ends meet in a constantly changing island setting. Each must pitch-in as they (parents) watch over us day and night. They know who among us would be the most successful or problematic kid during the years. *Despite that sentiment, their words of encouragement never ceases to visit and revisit our callous ear drums.*

Yes, they walk through the Garden of Eden free at last of the abyss of this hellish world known as planet earth. It must be a great feeling meeting St. Peter to pick-up your assigned lot and heavenly mansion you've earned through good deeds in this temporal setting. It must be a great feeling too meeting your own family and the entire clan at the pearly gate as they harmonize "Mine eyes have seen the glory...of the Lord". *May we pray for them as we don our robes as "common denominators" of our own children. Happy New Year's!*

### Direchon Natibo Organization

The recently organized civic group called "Direchon Natibo" (indigenous rights) depicts a prevalent sentiment at the grassroots level of the inefficiency of policy makers in dealing with substantive issues affecting the livelihood of the working man. Its emergence crystallizes the mañana syndrome among policy makers who seemingly can't make apples from oranges on substantive issues right before their noses. It brings into focus the question of competency among policy makers especially legislators.

There's a strong sentiment of despair at the grassroots level and a certain people have decided to formally organize itself to make its views known that they can no longer stomach the incompetency of policy makers. The lack of concrete actions to right the economic injustices emanating from a biased labor law is a good example now under close scrutiny by Direchon Natibo.

In the words of one of its members: "The application of the minimum wage law at \$2.45 an hour still gives non-citizens an economic advantage in that they also receive other perks that are denied indigenous workers". Most companies here, i.e., hotels, airlines, large grocery stores, among others, would advertise management positions which are denied locals almost outright. This scheme (networking system) may be a corporate culture. However, it espouses a policy of complete alienation of the indigenous people from partaking in corporate level posts.

Other smaller foreign owned companies have become ultimate conduits to bringing in more of their own kind of people regardless of the positions advertised in the media. Indigenous applicants are rejected, outright! A whole year is just about gone and our men of wisdom have yet to diagnose anomalies in the current labor laws of the CNMI. Furthermore, we constantly change boat in mid-stream depicting instability in policy decision making which is a deterrent to investment in itself. We're as unpredictable as the storms that frequent these islands during the winter months. The only thing we have today is hope that happenstance doesn't continue its assault in the way we concoct ad hoc decisions over lasting ones. Think about it. Your policy makers are still convinced the honeycomb will go on in perpetuity or forever.

### Berry's World



### Berry's World



## Letters to the Editor

### Where we stand on global wages

Dear Editor,

BASED on my study of "Foreign Labor Trends," a document released by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, I cannot but conclude that the CNMI ranks high in the world of minimum wages, placing only behind the world's richest and most developed countries that have minimum wage statutes. The most recent information I can get on global hourly minimum wages are as follows.

1. Sweden \$9.23 (1992)
2. Belgium \$8.00 ('92)
3. Netherlands \$7.68 ('92)
4. Australia \$6.14 ('92)
5. France \$5.80 ('92)
6. Kuwait \$4.84 ('92)
7. Japan \$4.75 ('93)
8. U.S. & Guam \$4.25
9. Canada \$4.19 ('93)
10. New Zealand \$3.32 ('93)
11. Israel \$3.12 ('93)
12. Taiwan \$2.85 ('92)
13. Saipan \$2.75 ('95 level + \$30 annually to \$4.25)
14. Spain \$2.30 ('92)
15. Greece \$2.25 ('93)
16. Portugal \$1.98 ('92)
17. Eastern Caribbean \$1.88 ('91)
18. South Korea \$1.78 ('92)
19. Turkey \$1.40 ('93)
20. Palau \$1.35 ('94 Nov. Far Eastern Econ. Review)
21. Panama \$1.18 ('93)
22. Tunisia \$.80 ('93)
23. Morocco \$.73 ('92)
24. Dominican Republic \$.72 ('92)
25. Chile \$.67 ('93)
26. Columbia \$.66 ('93)
27. Bangkok, Thailand \$.62 ('93)
28. Argentina \$.61 ('92)
29. Mexico \$.58 ('93)
30. Honduras \$.57 ('92)
31. Philippines \$.53 ('90)
32. Uruguay \$.52 ('93)
33. Czechoslovakia \$.45 ('91)
34. Egypt \$.40 ('92)
35. El Salvador \$.40 ('91)
36. Pakistan \$.38 ('92)
37. Bangladesh \$.32 ('93)
38. Jamaica \$.30 ('93)
39. Zimbabwe \$.30 ('93)
40. Brazil \$.26 ('92)
41. Indonesia \$.26 ('94)
42. Liberia \$.25 ('91)
43. Bolivia \$.24 ('93)

44. India \$.22 ('92)
45. Vietnam \$.22 ('94 WSJ)
46. Nigeria \$.16 ('92)
47. Nicaragua \$.15 ('92)
48. Venezuela \$.08 ('90)
49. Haiti \$.05 ('88)

Countries with no national minimum wage laws include Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Austria, China, Finland, Italy, Iceland, Ireland, Russia, South Africa, Norway, Suriname, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom (Britain). I believe that Cuba, North Korea, Laos, Cambodia, Peru, Ecuador, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Mongolia, Fiji, Burma, Greenland, Ghana and Senegal also do not have minimum wage laws; but if they do, the hourly amounts are probably nothing compared to the CNMI's \$2.75 plus \$.30 each year to \$4.25.

Clearly, we in the CNMI already stand very high in a world of minimum wages.

Very faithfully,

/s/CHARLES P. REYES, JR.

### On New Year resolutions and fathers

Dear Mr. Editor:

RESPECTFULLY submitted are my reflections for this coming year, another year, here in Saipan, which I'd like to share with my co-workers and fellow human beings in this earthly journey.

New Year and Resolutions and Dads

In this island of beauty and work opportunities (where "equal opportunity employers" abound), New Year offers another chapter of growth, development and progress for everyone, depending on how its challenges are met and handled.

So it best be that whatever we do, we do it well, and more so, with love, that we may do it to perfection. We should also never sacrifice Truth even at the risk of losing something we perceive vital or important. A sincere and

honest person loses nothing - there is just the closing of one door to open another; a parting for something, to gain another of better quality and much more value in its place. Hence, have no fear, except of the Lord. Do not set limits in what could be done and in whatever you do, lead! Leaders are not measured by job descriptions. "Whereas a manager administers and maintains, a leader innovates and develops; whereas, a manager relies in systems and counts on controls, a leader relies on people and counts on trust; and whereas the manager does things on his own, the leader does the right thing." (Fortune Magazine.)

We must persevere and run our race to the fullest, that we may achieve success. And everyday, Be Happy, by liking what we get, even problems, knowing that we have the ability to deal with them. In that way, we will always be

grateful for each moment of our lives and thus relish the experience of living!

Finally, for each profound truth we use and gain in each living experience, let us not miss the opportunity to acknowledge and thank our Dads for they are the ones who basically gave us that initial start or the push to gain momentum. For some of us, like me, it will be another year without our dads (Tatays) but from that time we have physically lost them, the truth, the wisdom of their words daily unfold before us, each day guiding us in our reflections and giving us much needed comfort and assurance that Life is worth Living, no matter what, so Live It To The Fullest While We Still Got The Chance!

Truly yours,

/s/LORRIE B. HALSTROM

# Rota family sues cops, gov't \$5M lawsuit alleges police brutality, illegal detention

By Rafael I. Santos  
Variety News Staff

A ROTA family has sued the CNMI government and its police officers alleging police brutality, false arrest, and illegal detention.

It was the latest civil rights lawsuit brought against law enforcers and the government since the filing of a similar complaint last month.

Dandan resident Anthony Chargualaf Flores filed a \$5 million lawsuit against the government, DPS and police officers, saying he was a victim of false arrest and illegal detention.

The complaint stemmed from a September 1993 incident in which Flores was arrested following a police operation described by his lawyer as a "military assault." Although a gun was found in his room on September 28, 1993,

Flores was exonerated of a gun charge after the court found an illegal search and seizure.

Similar claims were made in the latest complaint against policemen by John Anthony Mendiola, Maria Mendiola, Jonalene Mendiola and Maria Atalig, all residents of Rota.

In their December 22 complaint, plaintiffs alleged that defendant Edward C. Barcinas attempted to seize John Anthony by gunpoint on December 24, 1992. The action was made without justification or a probable cause and a warrant, the 14-page complaint said.

Defendants went to the Mendiola's residence looking for a gun, the complaint indicated.

On the same day, defendants Fidel P. Manglona, Helen C. Kani, Odilio Manglona, Jose T. Calvo, John T. Barcinas, Edward and

three other law enforcement officers allegedly entered complainant's home without a warrant or probable cause and illegally arrested John Anthony.

At the Rota police station John Anthony was struck numerous times in the stomach and arm with a police flashlight, the complaint said, adding that the 18-year-old was choked and sprayed with mace in the face.

Calvo allegedly watched as John Anthony was assaulted.

While being battered, John Anthony was questioned about the

whereabouts of a gun. Police conducted the interrogation without informing complainant of his Miranda rights, the civil complaint alleged.

He was never charged with a criminal offense and released after four hours of detention, the lawsuit said, adding that no police report of the arrest nor the search was ever filed.

The Mendiola family is claiming a number of civil rights violations. These include illegal entry and search of home, excessive use of force, false arrest and ille-

gal detention, invasion of privacy, and battery.

Both the United States and CNMI constitutions guarantee people's right to remain secure in their homes and free from illegal search and seizure.

Complainants are asking an unspecified amount of damages to be proved at trial. They also want the defendants to pay for the cost of the suit and reasonable attorney's fees.

The Mendiola's complaint was filed by Saipan lawyer Richard W. Pierce.

## Another CPA retirement

THE SUPERVISOR for the Landscaping Division at the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) tendered his resignation effective December 10, 1994 "with great reluctance" to go into retirement.

Francisco B. Manibusan, 46, in his November 10 letter to Executive Director Carlos A. Shoda, stated that he appreciated the opportunity to work and "to contribute ideas to my fellow workers. I want to express my deepest gratitude for the knowledge/experience I have gained and which will help me in my future endeavors."

Manibusan has been the Supervisor for the Landscaping Division since October 1, 1988. The Landscaping Division's responsibilities at the CPA include beautifying the areas around the airport, planting flowers, trimming trees, mow-

ing the lawn, as well as cleaning around the general area.

"Their Landscaping Division's responsibilities are huge," said Regino M. Celis, Manager of the Saipan International Airport. "Everybody knows that a visitor's first and last impression of any island or country is the airport. Frank Manibusan knows that and he had done an excellent job, although there is always room for improvement."

Last year, Manibusan and his nine-man staff planted bougainvillea flowers at the entrance to the Saipan International Airport property from the Chamber of Commerce sign begins all the way into the terminal's entrance. Manibusan also maintained the potted plants and flowers located within the terminal and the CPA's main offices. He visited landscaping businesses and nurseries around the island looking for flow-

ers and other plants to buy for the airport. In addition, the CPA maintains its own nursery.

The 46-year-old Garapan resident began working for the CPA on March 6, 1983 as Assistant Supervisor, Trainee for the Landscaping Division. In October of the same year, he was promoted to Assistant Supervisor. Prior to his government career at the CPA, Manibusan worked as a Lineman for the Trust Territory Government Communication Receiver Site in Kagman under the Department of Transportation and Communication from 1972 to 1982. He started out as a Tradesman in Kagman and worked from June 1965 to April of 1972. Manibusan started out earning 40 cents an hour with the T.T. Government and ended up earning \$31,757 a year as head of the Landscaping Division.

## NEW YEAR'S Special

**CLARET**  
FRENCH RESTAURANT  
January 1 to January 3, 1995  
6:00PM-9:00PM  
\$50.00, \$70.00 & \$100.00 per head

**MENU (\$70.00/pp)**

- THREE KINDS OF HOMARD (Marrinade, Smoked & Rawaki)
- FRICASSEE OF SWEET BREAD & MEUNIERE OF UNAGI FISH W/ CAVIAR
- MOL OKEVHA SOUP
- GRILLED 'SULZUKI' FISH, THYME FLAVOR WITH RED WINE SAUCE
- SHERBET
- SALAD
- SAUTED BEEF WITH FOIE GRAS
- DESSERT
- COFFEE
- BREAD

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**  
December 31, 1994

**PART 1 (Special Buffet Dinner)**  
5:30PM-8:30PM  
Hibiscus Hall, Anapuni & North Paul side  
\$36.00 per head

**PART 2 (Cocktail Party)**  
9:00PM-12:00AM  
South Paul side  
\$20.00 per head

\*If you buy Part 1 & 2 ticket the price will be \$50.00 only

NOTE: Ticket is available in all Restaurant Cashier.

**SHIMBASHI**  
JAPANESE OUTLET  
January 1 to January 3, 1995  
11:30AM-2:00PM  
\$9.00 per head

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December 26-31 10:00am to 7:00pm

MEDIA America Inc.'s long-running short form radio feature Pulse Of The Planet presents its 1,000th program this month on December 30th.

Syndicated to over 200 radio stations in the United States in addition to over 130 countries world-wide, the critically acclaimed series is carried by such powerhouse News, Talk and Information stations as WJR/Detroit, KTRH/Houston, KIRO/Seattle, KOA/Denver and KSDO/San Diego, to name a few, and is heard locally every weekday at 10:30 a.m. on KRSI/Hot 98 FM.

From an initial focus on environmental matters, Pulse Of The Planet has evolved to include how innovations in science and technology will improve our quality of life.

Response from listeners and radio stations continues to be overwhelmingly favorable. In fact, representatives of the Nature Company were so impressed with the series that they recently released a compilation CD Book of

Pulse Of The Planet's best moments over the past four years. "The heavy use of actual on-location sounds blended with interviews from many of the world's foremost scientists and environmentalists, continues to garner the series critical praise and awards for excellence in radio journalism." Comments Media America, Inc. President Gary Schonfeld, "Pulse Of The Planet is truly great radio."

Jim Metzner, producer and host of Pulse Of The Planet says, "With thanks for the continuing support of our listeners and stations, we'll take a deep breath and try for 1,000 more!"

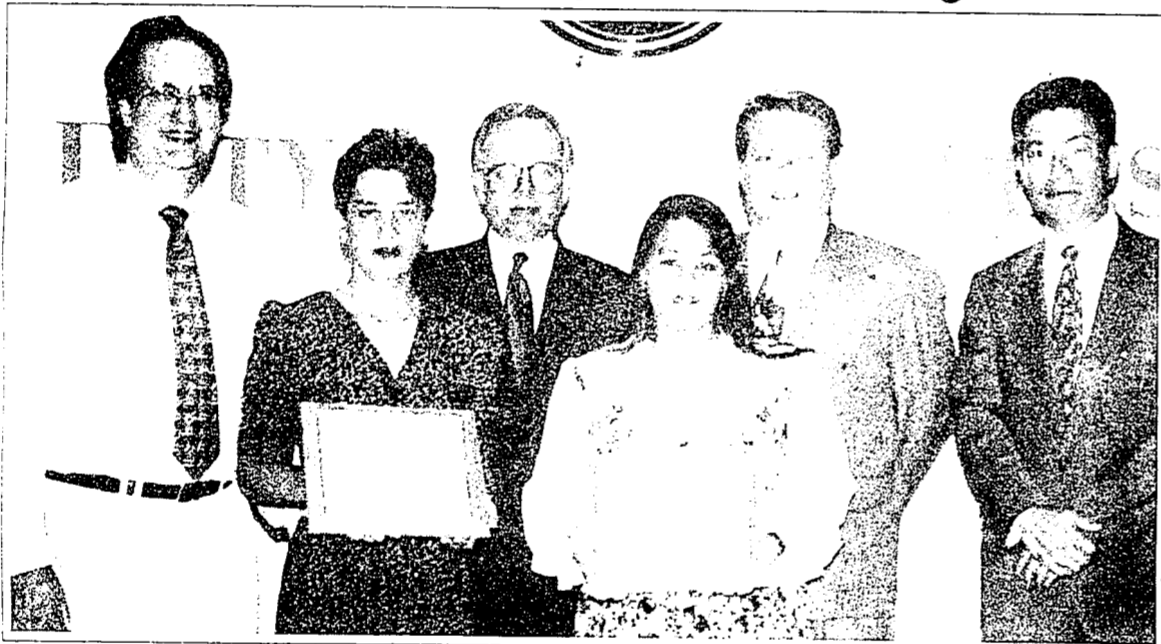
"Jim's ability to cover intricate and complex topics in an entertaining and easy to understand manner in the space of two minutes is a remarkable feat." Notes Jamie Murray, DuPont Global Brand Manager, Pulse Of The Planet's underwriter. "To create 1000 of these riveting features over the course of the last four years leaves Mr. Metzner in a

class by himself. DuPont is proud to be so closely associated with such a distinguished radio series and such distinguished talent."

Hot 98 FM General Manager Patrick Williams added, "Pulse Of The Planet is the finest program of its type being produced anywhere. We are fortunate indeed to be a Media America affiliate and we're pleased and privileged to include Pulse Of The Planet in our line-up. Here's to the next 1,000 installments!"

Pulse Of The Planet is distributed nationally/internationally by Media America Inc. The series is produced and hosted by broadcast veteran Jim Metzner. The series has, and continues to be, fully sponsored by DuPont, to recognize the role of research and technology in our daily lives. Locally, Pulse Of The Planet is sponsored by United Airlines, out of a concern for the environment, and is broadcast weekdays at 10:30 a.m. on KRSI/Hot 98, 97.9 on your FM radio dial.

# DFS employees of year



(l-r) Playford M. Ramsey, General Manager-DFS Saipan Limited, Bobbie Feger-Sales Employee of the Year, Robert Coe, President-DFS Midpacific Region, Mel Aguon-Sales Support Employee of the Year, David Hawkins, Vice-President of Finance, and Bill Yamanoha, Manager for Saipan's Galleria.

BOBBIE Feger and Melinda Aguon were named as 1994 Employees of the Year for DFS Saipan Limited. Robert Coe, President of DFS Mid-Pacific Region, Playford M. Ramsey, General Manager of DFS Saipan Limited, and John M. Romisher, Director of Training at DFS Saipan Limited presented awards to Bobbie and Mel at the Annual DFS Christmas Party. This year the Christmas Party was held on December 18 at the Grand Hotel.

Each Employee of the Year was awarded a Certificate of Excellence and a check worth \$1,000.00 during the ceremony.

Ramsey praised Bobbie and Mel for their excellent attendance records, exemplary behavior, dependability, and strong work records at DFS Saipan Limited. Bobbie was selected from the Sales Category and Mel was selected from the Sales Support Category.

Bobbie and Mel were selected earlier this year as Employees of the Month which qualified them to be selected as 1994 Employees of the Year.

# Palacios: Jailing ex-soldier unfair



Joe Palacios

By Rafael I. Santos  
Variety News Staff  
A VETERANS Affairs official has expressed disappointment over the decision of the Superior Court to imprison a Gulf War veteran for a misdemeanor offense of assault and battery. Joe Palacios, director for Veterans Affairs Office, said last

week that sending Francisco L. Kaipat to jail was not a good decision and unfair for the defendant. Kaipat, who served the United States military for eleven years, is suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD resulting from the war, according to Palacios.

Defense counsel and assistant public defender Ted Christopher informed the Superior Court last week of the defendant's disease and the need to undergo medical treatment on Guam.

Judge Marty Taylor however disregarded Kaipat's alleged condition due to the seriousness of the assault on a security guard. Kaipat was convicted to assault and battery for attacking A.T.M. Mouzaffour Hossain with an axe and pointing a rifle at him.

Palacios told the Variety last week that the defendant was not a bad person. His actions were result of his sickness that cannot be treated on island, he said. PTSD,

a mysterious disease, makes a person violent at times, he said. The Veterans Affairs officials added that Kaipat, just other soldiers suffering from PTSD, are having nightmares associated with the war.

There are about 70 Gulf War veterans in the CNMI and about 15 percent of them have gone through PTSD tests, according to

Palacios. They are now getting compensation from the U.S. Veterans Affairs department for acquiring the mysterious disease. Meanwhile, Kaipat is challenging his conviction and the sentence handed down by the court last week.

Christopher has filed a notice of appeal in Superior Court, making true his promise to elevate the

matter to the Supreme Court. The public defender also wants a stay of the sentence pending the outcome of the appeal. Judge Taylor has denied a request from the defense to allow the defendant to serve his sentence in a later date. Taylor remanded Kaipat to the Department of Public Safety immediately after the pronouncement of the one-year sentence.



Gulf War veteran Francisco L. Kaipat (right) being led to prison by marshal Joe Garcia after being convicted of assault and battery charges.

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Caesar Salad Pate Platter Italian Meat Platter	MAIN ENTREE Select Steamed Crab Legs with fresh Herb's	Apple, Cheese, Cherry, Danish, Croissants and Rolls	Sliced Ham, Turkey and Roast Beef
Chef Carved Prime Rib of Beef	Broiled Split Lobster Tails in Tri-color Peppers	Chicken Breast Stuffed with Prosciutto and Fontina	Fresh Fruit and Cheese Display Seafood Sevice
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# Law... Continued from page 3

pending in Superior Court.

## Not for alien ban but for reduction

Direchon I Natibu Movement said it recognized the crucial role alien workers play in the commonwealth and its members believe banning them would severely impact the economy.

In fact, Sablan believed the commonwealth would be paralyzed if the ban on Chinese and Filipino workers gets ever implemented this early. The movement indicated that the private sector and the government should limit its dependence on guest workers.

First vice president Mareham suggested that the government should come up with a policy that would lead to an eventual reduction of contract workers in the three island of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

"Government and private sector [employers] should establish a program that would eventually

replace alien workers," Mareham said. He urged both to "consider it seriously" and not just make all the usual rhetoric.

Mareham promised his group's help in determining a way to lessen the commonwealth's dependence on alien laborers. "We will come up with recommendations to the government and the legislature [regarding this proposal], he added.

Another concern that the government should look into is the land issue, they said. Sablan noted that in the past years, there has been a lot of land development going on. Golf courses, hotels and other big projects have sprouted occupying hectares of public lands.

The movement urged the government to limit the number of leases extended to foreign investors so that the coming "generations will still have lands." "They should stop big lands being leased," Mareham said. The group said it prefers what it called a "controlled development."

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# Palau dev't bank names new head

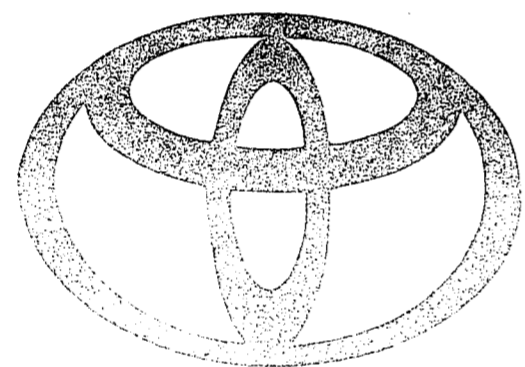
**By Sarah Clayton**  
*For the Variety*  
**KOROR, Palau** - In an effort to strengthen its financial base, the National Development Bank of Palau has chosen a Palauan financial consultant who has resided in the United States for over 25 years as its new president, NDBP Vice President Otoichi Besebes said Friday.  
 The bank has selected John Marumoto, who currently has a financial consultancy in California and who served on the Republic of Palau Commission for a little more than a year in the late '80s.  
 "The bank needs capital so we looked for expertise that would help," the chairman of the bank's board of directors, Masami Elbelau, said.  
 Marumoto's experience should help him locate and obtain funding from the U.S., he said.  
 He was chosen from a slate of 12 and was the only non-American who applied, according to Besebes. Currently, the bank and Marumoto are in the final stages of negotiating the terms of the new president's contract, Elbelau said.  
 "I'm confident that we will get

our new president by the beginning of the new year," he said.  
 The new president is scheduled to begin his two-year term Feb. 1. However, if terms cannot be agreed upon with Marumoto, the board has an alternative candidate from Guam, Elbelau said.  
 The new president will take the place of Alfonso Oiterong who passed away earlier this year.  
 The governmental lending institution's mandate is to promote economic development by providing local enterprises with low-cost capital.  
 However, with \$3.1 million in assets and without recent increases in funding, the bank was able to disburse only \$823,793 in loans in FY '93.  
 This concerns Besebes as Palau is increasingly turning to foreign investors to bring capital into the economy.  
 "Our economy is increasing, but local people's share of the pie is decreasing," Besebes said.  
 The bank has been telling loan applicants to downsize their operations because it doesn't have enough funds to meet the needs of Palau's entrepreneurs, Besebes said.  
 "We have over \$1.5 million in applications - some dating back to '93," he said.  
 Besebes said that if he had his wish, he would add another \$5 million to the bank's assets.  
 "Give us \$5 million and we will never ask for anything else," he said.  
 In recent years, the NDBP has only received about \$50,000 year in operating grants from the national government.  
 However, in the proposed fiscal year '95 budget, President Kuniwo Nakamura has asked that \$500,000 be appropriated for increasing the loan fund and another \$500,000 for the Farmers Home Administration home loan program to be administered by the bank.

# Gov. Lutali stands by firm fined by OSHA

**AMERICAN Samoa Governor AP Lutali** has expressed his support for Starkist Samoa, which was fined \$1.8 million by the Federal government for violation of US health and safety laws, Hawaii Public Radio reported Friday.  
 Lutali said in a statement released by Starkist that the company makes the safety and health of its employees, its number one goal.  
 The company's statement said that Starkist has invested approximately \$2 million in the past year in an aggressive workers safety program, and that its tuna cannery has a workplace injury rate five times lower than the industry average.  
 Starkist is American Samoa's largest private employer with more than 2,000 employees. (Pacnews)

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# PBDC tackles coral reef initiative

**REPRESENTATIVES** of the Governments of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and the State of Hawaii, meeting in Honolulu, recently concluded an effort to identify potential program activities for the Coral Reef Initiative (CRI).  
 A cooperative effort, aimed at improving the management of coral reef ecosystems in the United States and other parts of the world, was initially announced at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States by U.S. Department of State Under Secretary Tim Wirth in March of this

year.  
 The four Governors who serve as the Board of Directors of the Pacific Basin Development Council (PBDC), commended the Federal government on the development of the CRI at their Annual Meeting held on the island of Hawaii in August. The Governors pledged their commitment to making the U.S. domestic CRI a true partnership between the American Flag Pacific Islands (AFPI) and the Federal government.

The Governors directed PBDC staff to work with island and Federal officials to convene the planning meeting, and requested that the Office of Territorial and International Affairs (OTIA) of the U.S. Department of the Interior to provide a technical assistance grant to PBDC to support the effort.

Planning meeting participants included representatives of coastal zone management, aquatic resource management and environ-

mental management agencies from the four island jurisdictions, the Governors' offices in Hawaii and the Northern Mariana Islands, the University of Guam, the University of Hawaii, the East-West Center, the Pacific Science Association, the Sierra Club, the Office of Territorial and International Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management at NOAA, the Office of Oceans, Science and Technology at the U.S. Department of State, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, the Office of Pacific Island and Native American Programs at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Planning meeting participants agreed that the CRI management effort should focus on building political support for improved coral reef management, expanding scientific assessment

and monitoring programs for coral reef ecosystems, increased public awareness and education on the importance of coral reef ecosystems and human activities that threaten their health, improving regulations and enforcement aimed at controlling land and marine-based sources of pollution as well as overharvesting and overfishing reef areas, and highlighting the impact of population growth and coastal development on the health of coral reefs.

Participants developed recommendations for specific activities in each of these areas that will be made to the four island Governors and Federal agencies involved in planning the CRI at a national and international level.

Federal and island officials also discussed the contributions that the (AFPI) governments could make to the International and National CRI.

These included participation in the planning of the International Coral Reef Initiative Workshop

scheduled for the Philippines in June of next year.

Contributions could also be made by sharing scientific and management expertise of the four island governments, the University of Hawaii and the University of Guam, and non-governmental organizations.

For additional information contact the following:

**AMERICAN SAMOA:** Lelei Peau, Program Manager, Coastal Zone Management: (684) 633-5155

**GUAM:** Mike Ham, Coastal Zone Program Manager: (671) 472-4201

**HAWAII:** Douglas Tom, Program Manager, Coastal Zone Management: (808) 587-2875

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS:** Nick Strauss, Office of the Governor: (670) 322-5091

**PACIFIC BASIN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL:** Jerry B. Norris, Executive Director: (808) 523-9325.

# Ex-chief of Palau Rev & Tax in funds embezzle charges

**By Sarah Clayton**  
*For the Variety*  
**KOROR, Palau** - The former acting chief of the Division of Revenue and Taxation turned himself in Friday for his second weekend of his sentence for embezzlement of more than \$800 after losing his appeal earlier this month.

Henry Sablan must serve three consecutive weekends, from 6 p.m. Friday to 6 a.m. Monday, in jail.

On Dec. 15, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court reaffirmed the Sablan's conviction.

The trial court ruling was made in October last year on a charge of embezzling \$866.14 from the National Treasury.

Sablan then received a stay of execution pending the higher court's evaluation of the conviction.

In his appeal, Sablan argued that there was insufficient evidence to prove embezzlement.

However, the appellate court said in its decision, "There is ample evidence from which a reasonable trier of fact could conclude that appellant intended to cash the check he cashed, despite his protestations that it was a mistake."

Sablan declined to comment on the outcome of his appeal.

However, in the lower court trial, he claimed that he had intended to cash a check for a \$850 that was a refund on a reservation deposit - not a \$866.14 check by the same restaurant to pay tax to the national government.

Sablan paid restitution of the funds before being granted a stay of execution of his sentence.

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## 2 top...

**Continued from page 1**  
could not possibly be quicker due to grey areas in the Labor laws that prevent fast disposition of such cases.

The Labor chief is currently on leave and is said to be contemplating resignation before he gets terminated by the governor.

The Variety last week received a tip from a letter sender who said Santos is being sacked in an "internal coup" within the division.

Santos' office has lately made the headlines owing to alleged internal problems that reportedly has caused demoralization among rank-and-file employees.

The labor director, however, said problems among employees have nothing to do with whatever plans he may be considering in the future.

The Variety yesterday contacted Public Information Officer Bruce Lloyd to verify the reports about Sablan and Santos but he declined to confirm or deny them. He, how-

ever, admitted hearing such rumors about the two officials.

Sablan was contacted for comment by the Variety at least twice at his Capitol Hill Office but was said to be on Tinian. His assistant, Eli Cabrera was also not available to shed light on the reports.

Santos was chanced upon by this reporter yesterday morning but refused to give "on-the-record" statements.

He, however, gave indications that seem to confirm he may indeed be on the way out.

## No deaths...

**Continued from page 1**

drunk driving or reckless driving.

The zero fatality may have been due to the vigorous campaign of the DPS and its highway safety office against drugged and drunk driving. The month of December has been proclaimed by Governor Froilan C. Tenorio as Drugged and Drunk Driving Prevention Month.

Massive campaign against drunk driving kicked off with a candle light parade early this month. Police officers also visited many schools educating students the effects of driving under

the influence. Tens of thousands of people die in the United States every year because of drunk driving.

Aside from zero fatality during the long weekend, there were also a minimal number of burglary and theft incidents on island.

DPS records between three to seven incidents of burglary and theft every day and this number was observed to have gone higher before Christmas. Surprisingly, only few cases of break-ins occurred on Saipan between Thursday and Monday.

Police reports indicated that about seven burglary and theft incidents were committed by unknown suspects. This is quite lower than the

usual daily number of such crimes.

Theft incidents including shoplifting at Pay-Less Department Store in Susupe were rather high. Police reports indicated that thirteen thefts occurred between December 22 and December 26.

Also during the long weekend, 16 assault and battery and nine assault with dangerous weapon cases were reported to DPS. The public safety department also received 20 complaints of disturbing the peace and ten criminal mischief.

The rest of the crimes included kidnapping, resisting arrest, child abuse, littering and forgery and theft.

## Japanese... Continued from page 1

complained to the police that her four-year-old son was taken by her ex-husband without her consent. The

complainant's estranged husband was arrested, according to Sheu in a press briefing yesterday afternoon.

## SISTER THERESA

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## \$2.75 wage... Continued from page 1

The Senate leadership last week disposed of the Judiciary Budget Bill in a hastily-called session just to relieve the upper chamber of any pressure that may come its way.

This is because with the very urgent Judiciary Budget bill already behind them, senators would thus not be pressured to call for a session and may opt to just sit back and let the minimum wage increase go on unhampered.

Without a session being called by the Senate, the move to suspend the wage hike is preempted because House Bill 9-322, the bill Mafnas authored calling for the suspension of the upcoming wage hike is not acted on.

The House earlier this month passed H.B. 9-322 hoping to preempt the scheduled pay hike until a wage and salary review board is reestablished. Mafnas also wants the panel to come up with a recommendation on the feasibility of the 30-cent increases first before any increase is made.

"We're talking about our people being burdened here if we find out later that the 30-cent increase is not economically affordable," said Mafnas in a telephone inter-

viewer yesterday. That is because, he said, the increased cost in wages will eventually be passed on by businesses to consumers.

"This is something I could guarantee. The general public bears the brunt of all this. One example is that the cost of building houses will be higher and who will be hardest hit? Our local people, first time homebuilders," said Mafnas.

Asked to comment on Demapan's stonewalling his wage suspension bill, Mafnas said he respects the president's prerogative to decide on when to call for a session.

He, however, pointed out that Demapan may be doing the people of the CNMI an injustice by trying to preempt Senate debate on his bill.

"While I respect his authority, I don't think he should prevent debate on this bill. He should just let the proponents and opponents of the bill discuss its merits, give the general public the opportunity to have a wage review board to make the determination on wages," said Mafnas.

"I hope he rethinks his position," said the vice speaker.

# ISUZU TOP 10

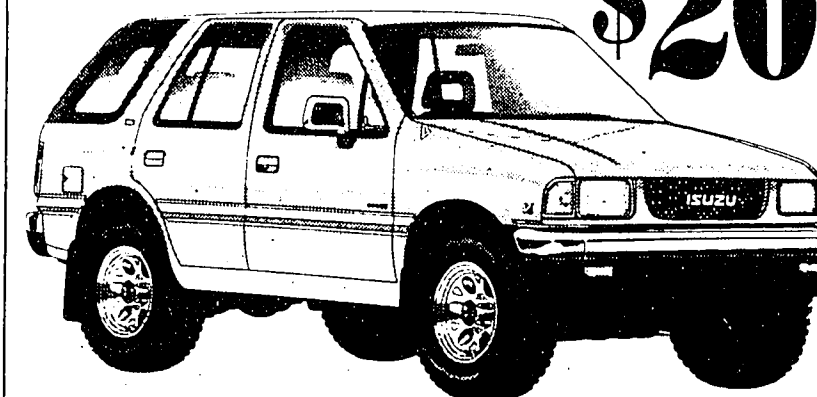
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# Palauans discuss PUC's policies

by Sarah Clayton  
For the Variety

**KOROR, Palau** - At a public hearing Thursday night on regulations for the newly formed Public Utilities Corp., the utility's business manager asked that customers be given more than 15 days to pay their bill.

Rukebai Inabo asked that the period for payment be extended to 30 days and the deposit be increased from two to three times the estimated average monthly bill.

She warned that many people may not be able to pay on time because senior citizens only receive their stipends once a month and other customers do not col-

lect their mail regularly.

Joel Toribiong, owner of Lebuu Tire Shop, said his concern is that there be no favoritism in the application of service.

Steven Swords, acting general manager, assured all those present that service is to be distributed in a "first come, first served" manner and that Inabo's request is likely to be adopted.

Under law, the hearing must be held to collect public questions and comment to make sure the regulations that will guide customer service meet the needs of consumers and to use that information to make revisions.

However, only about 19

people came, with most of those being PUC board members and employees.

Swords said the new regulations are basically the same as those created by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Development when it ran the electric power utility.

However, he warned that the new ones will be more strictly enforced than in the past.

"The regulations will provide a process that can be followed so that customer service can be maintained," he said.

Areas that he believes will be of concern to the public are the deposit requirement and service discontinuance procedures.

According to the regulations, people with a good credit record within the past two years will not need to put down a deposit.

However, new customers and those who have received more than two final notices within the last 12 billing periods will be required to place a deposit of at least twice the estimated average monthly bill.

The new regulations will also enable the PUC to cut service to customers five days after they have been served a discontinuance of service notice, or after a minimum of 20 days of nonpayment.

At this point, the PUC is facing over \$1 million in delin-

quent payments, he noted.

The electric power utility was privatized this summer and is currently operating under regulations established by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Development.

To allow the PUC some time to take over the reins of management, the government is subsidizing the utility, with \$5.2 million allocated for general operations and capital improvements in the proposed budget for fiscal year '95.

But Swords said the subsidies are scheduled to end within a few years, therefore the PUC must quickly make itself profitable.



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# French commandos kill hijackers

**By CHRISTOPHER BURNS MARSEILLE, France (AP)** - In one of the most successful anti-terrorist operations in aviation history, French commandos ended a Christmas hijack crisis in a hail of bullets which left four Algerian extremists dead.

The former hostages and their rescuers were elevated to national heroes, and praise was also heaped upon the French government for its tough stance against the Islamic militants, who were apparently intent on a blood-bath.

"We expected death. We were waiting for the explosion," said Ali Kalak, an Algerian. "We never thought there would be such a successful intervention," Kalak told APTV at Orly airport in Paris early Tuesday.

Cheers, tears and joyful chaos greeted nearly 80 former hostages as they arrived at the air-

port from Marseille. About 65 more passengers were due to fly in later Tuesday to be reunited with family and friends.

Members of the National Gendarmerie Intervention Group (GIGN), an elite special forces team which stormed the plane Monday, were given the loudest applause. They were accompanied by French Defense Minister Francois Leotard.

Twenty-five people were injured, including 13 passengers, three crew members and nine commandos in the assault on the plane, according to the Interior Ministry.

Many people were too shaken to speak to journalists crowding the arrival center in Paris. Others refused to give their full names for fear of any reprisals against their families in Algeria. Some needed help in walking.

Several of the former hostages

said they had been well-treated despite the terror.

"They were very correct with us," said an Algerian who identified himself only as Ahmed. "We talked normally with them. They discussed everything about Algeria," he said.

A team of psychologists was drafted in to start a long counselling process to help overcome the trauma.

"They are likely to suffer from the image that they have to be on permanent guard, from the illusion of being attacked, from a phobia about taking public transport, a phobia about going out, and huge sleeping difficulties," said Dr. Gerard Crocq, a Paris psychiatrist who met hostages released during the weekend after the Air France Airbus was seized at Algiers airport.

Crocq warned that many would likely have recurrent nightmares, especially if they

had witnessed the assassination of three hostages at Algiers.

An Algerian, a Vietnamese and a French national were murdered and their bodies dumped on the tarmac.

The hijacking marked the first time that Algeria's nearly three-year-old civil war has overflowed onto French soil. More than 11,000 people have been killed in clashes between Algerian authorities - backed by France - and Islamic fundamentalists who have increasingly targeted foreigners.

President Francois Mitterrand sent his congratulations "to the government, the security forces and the plane crew."

Premier Edouard Balladur indicated he had personally given the order to storm the plane after consultations with Charles Pasqua, the controversial Interior Minister who advocates a tough stance against Islamic fun-

damentalism.

The outcome was seen as a personal boost for Balladur, who has presidential ambitions but has not yet declared his candidacy for next year's elections.

Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, a fellow right-winger and likely rival for the President's post, paid an unusual tribute to the action of the government.

"France will struggle inexorably against terrorism and will not give into blackmail whatever the source," Balladur said. He interrupted a Christmas break in a ski resort to travel to Marseille.

The air pirates, who had demanded access to the international press, triggered the assault by opening fire on the control tower, shattering a window.

Dramatic television footage showed black-clad commandos storming the plane at 5:20 p.m. (16:20 GMT), setting off explosions amid an exchange of gunfire.

Live television showed copilot Jean-Paul Borderie clambering out of a cockpit window and falling to the ground. He got up, clutching one arm, and limped away.

Inflatable emergency slides were deployed on both sides of the plane. Passengers started sliding down and were escorted away with their hands up as more commandos rushed in from behind the plane.

"They made us lie on the floor and then told us to descend," said Ahmed of the commandos. Other passengers said they were stunned at the speed of the rescue operation.

An Algerian man in his 40s told The Associated Press: "I'm very relieved. It was very fast once it began." He gave a thumbs-up sign. "I'm okay. I was lucky."

It was the sixth time an Air France plane had been hijacked in less than 10 years.

# Chinese solons want end to funding problem

**BEIJING (AP)** - China's lawmakers are calling for more funding for education to ease chronic shortages nationwide.

The government's current level of spending on education, about 2.6 percent of the gross national product, cannot meet the needs of educating several hundred million Chinese students, the China

Daily on Tuesday quoted Qu Geping, a member of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, as saying.

The committee is reviewing a draft of an education law. Some lawmakers have proposed that the amount of central government funds to be allocated for education should be written into

the law. The reports did not say how much of an increase was proposed.

Local governments are mainly responsible for basic education in China. Many schools have had to turn to sideline industries in order to raise funds, and some poor rural areas have high drop-

out rates because schools are unaffordable.

The problem of teachers going without pay from local governments has become "quite common" across the country, the Xinhua News Agency reported.

Qu advocated a new education tax and said the government should encourage more individu-

als and organizations to set up schools.

But lawmakers also criticized some privately run schools for having high admission fees and making "exorbitant profits," Xinhua said. The lawmakers found these "aristocratic schools" are far beyond the means of most working people in China.

# Australia running out of rooms for refugees

**DARWIN, Australia (AP)** - Another vessel carrying about 50 boat people was sighted headed for Darwin on Tuesday, as officials began transferring recent

arrivals from China to a detention center that is running out of room.

A boat was spotted about 180 miles northwest of Darwin and was expected to be escorted in

overnight, Coastwatch surveillance service spokesman Leon Beddington said.

The vessel is the fourth carrying boat people spotted in north-

ern waters since Thursday, and would bring to more than 700 the number to arrive in northern Australia since mid-November.

Earlier Tuesday, the Immigration Department started airlifting 273 Chinese boat people from the previous three vessels to the Port Hedland detention center in Western Australia.

A total of 881 boat people have arrived in Australia on 17 vessels during 1994, not counting the vessel now approaching Darwin. That is the biggest influx of asylum-seekers in 15 years.

The department's Northern

Territory director, Peter Watters, said the deluge of refugees - the largest since the end of the Vietnam war in the 1970s - had "gone beyond being just a worry."

He said a clear message must be sent to any prospective asylum-seekers.

"The message is that people shouldn't believe they can just waltz into our country and get refugee status," Watters said.

The three latest vessels had all come from the southern Chinese port city of Beihai, apparently as a result of the demolition of housing blocks there, he said.

# Artist's son charged in X'mas tree burning

**NEW YORK (AP)** - The son of an internationally renowned French artist has been charged with setting four Christmas trees ablaze near Rockefeller Center in midtown Manhattan.

Bertrand Delacroix, 29, the son of "naif painter" Michel Delacroix of Paris, told Rockefeller Center security guards that he and a business assistant torched the trees early Sunday morning - causing more than \$5,000 in damage - because "it is a custom in France," the newspaper New York Newsday reported.

Police said they believe the pair may have wanted to burn down the 80-foot-tall (24-meter-tall) Norway spruce Christmas tree in Rockefeller Center that is a New York landmark during the holiday season, the newspaper said.

Delacroix, the owner of an art gallery in Manhattan's Greenwich Village neighborhood, and his assistant, Jean-Michel Herbert, 29, a French-Canadian, were charged with criminal mischief, the newspaper reported. Arson charges are being considered.

Police said the suspects were seen loitering around the Rockefeller

Center tree around 6 a.m., the New York Daily News reported. The large tree is closely guarded.

They were arrested a block away

after a security guard saw them throw cans of flammable liquid with rags stuffed inside to set fire to four 12-to-14-foot.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 94-1212**  
BANK OF HAWAII,  
Plaintiff,  
-v-  
ESTEPHANIA T. MATAKY,  
Defendant.

**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**  
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file an answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to White, Pierce, Malman & Nutting, the Plaintiff's Attorneys, whose address is P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above court:  
/s/Deputy Clerk of Court  
Dated, this 15th day of November, 1994.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 94-519**  
CLIFFORDS S. LAU, dba BEACH ROAD PLAZA,  
Plaintiff,  
-v-  
ARTHUR ITHLONG, SR. dba A & T ENTERPRISES,  
Defendant.

**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**  
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file an answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to White, Pierce, Malman & Nutting, the Plaintiff's Attorneys, whose address is P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above court:  
/s/CHARLENE TEREGEYO  
Deputy Clerk of Court  
Dated, this 15th day of November, 1994.

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# Japan's jobless rate dips

TOKYO (AP) - Japan's unemployment dipped slightly in November, but the number of job offerings remained little improved for the third consecutive month, the government said Tuesday.

The Management and Coordination Agency said the nation's jobless rate stood at a seasonally adjusted 2.9 percent last month, down 0.1 percentage point from October.

Japan's jobless rate rose to a seven-year high of 3.0 percent in

July and stayed at that level for another three months before it showed a slight decline in the latest reporting month.

An agency official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the latest monthly figures showed the labor market's condition still remains severe.

"We aren't yet sure if this improvement will persist as a trend," the official said.

In a separate report, the Labor

Ministry said the ratio of job openings remained unchanged in November from the two previous months, standing at 0.64. The ratio means there were only 64 job openings available for every 100 workers seeking employment.

When Japan's economy boomed in the late 1980s, the nation's unemployment stood at around 2.5 percent. But the employment situation has deteriorated steadily since the onset of an economic slump in 1990.

Some economists say that if Japan used Western calculation methods, its current unemployment would fall between 5 and 8 percent.

Japan's highest unemployment rate since the government began taking statistics in 1953 was 3.1 percent in May of 1987.



Robert Hahn, business representative of Teamsters union local 952, center, chants a protest slogan with fellow union members after they entered a working area at Merrill Lynch against the wishes of Tracy Marlin, right, administrative assistant at the company offices in Santa Ana, Calif., in Orange County. The Teamsters claim that Merrill Lynch bears some responsibility for the financial woes of Orange County. (AP Photo)

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands expects an allocation of \$886,000 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funds for fiscal year 1995 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The grant funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities principally benefiting low and moderate income persons. Information concerning eligible uses of the grant funds may be obtained upon request at the offices of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC, formerly MIHA) located on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of persons. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG-funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulations and applicable local law.

In order to plan ahead as to the use(s) of the fiscal year 1995 CDBG allocation which is expected within the next few months, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), which administers the CDBG program on behalf of the CNMI government, will be conducting hearings to obtain public input on community development and housing needs and to provide information to the public on the status of approved and ongoing CDBG projects. The hearings have been scheduled to be held as follows:

- 1. On Rota, December 27, 1994 at 6:30 p.m., at the Rota Public Library.
- 2. On Tinian, December 28, 1994 at 6:30 p.m., at the Tinian High School Cafeteria.
- 3. On Saipan, December 29, 194 at 6:30 p.m. at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan.

Additional inquiries concerning the CDBG program may be directed in writing to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 514, Saipan, MP 96950, or by calling telephone numbers 234-6866/9447/7689.

/s/ JOHN M. SABLAN  
Corporate Director

## INVITATION TO BID

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) formerly the Mariana Islands Housing Authority (MIHA), is soliciting sealed bids for the construction of the **As-Liyo Tank and Waterline Project**. Bids, in duplicate, must be marked "CDBG-Construction" and submitted to the office of the Corporate Director of NMHC in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 28, 1994, at which time all bids received will publicly opened. Bids received after this deadline will not be accepted under any circumstances.

A bond of 15% of the total bid price must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond made payable to NMHC. The bidder is required to submit with the proposal: 1) a copy of valid CNMI business license; 2) updated financial statement; 3) listing of existing and past projects, including date of completion; 4) listing of manpower with copies of CNMI-issued work permits; and, 5) a complete listing of equipment.

Plans and specifications of the project are available at the NMHC Director's Office in Saipan, or in Rota NMHC Sub-Office (formerly MIHA's Office) on or after Wednesday, November 30, 1994. A non-refundable payment of \$350.00 is required for each set of the Plans and Specifications.

Attention is called to Section 3 of the Housing and Development Act of 1968 which requires the provision of training and employment, and the awarding of contracts for work on the project, to low-income project area residents and business concerns. NMHC also notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that, in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority and women's business enterprises will be accorded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of NMHC.

/s/ JOHN M. SABLAN  
Corporate Director

## Singapore police arrest nineteen illegal workers

SINGAPORE (AP) - Police raided a construction site and arrested 19 foreign workers who did not have required work permits, and their contractors face jail and caning, news reports said Tuesday.

Employers in Singapore need to pay a levy to the government for every worker they hire from abroad. The rule is strictly enforced but some contractors smuggle in laborers illegally to avoid the levy and work benefits they must provide under the law.

The Straits Times newspaper said 16 of those arrested in the pre-dawn raid on Monday were illegal immigrants and three others had expired visas. Their nationalities were not disclosed.

There are more than 300,000 foreign workers in Singapore, constituting 18 percent of the total work force. Most of them are from Asian countries such as Thailand, Indonesia, India and the Philippines.

If the contractors are convicted of employing more than five illegal workers at the same time, they could be flogged, the Times said. They may also be jailed for six months and fined up to \$4,100.

The arrests come amid concern at rising lawlessness among foreign workers. Last month, 19 workers were arrested after a fight with knives and scathes at a construction site.

According to statistics, the number of murders at construction sites increased more than three times last year from 1992. Robberies also doubled during that period.

## Singapore company being sued in Laos

SINGAPORE (AP) - A Singapore holding company is being sued for \$2.6 million over a rental dispute in the only luxury hotel in the Lao capital of Vientiane, news reports said Tuesday.

The dispute involves the Belvedere Hotel, whose owner leased it to Lao Detico Company Ltd. for 32 1/2 years in 1991, the Straits Times newspaper reported.

Lao Detico, which is incorporated in Laos, subleased the 235-room hotel to Singapore-based Guthrie GTS Ltd., which renovated it at a reported cost of \$8.5 million.

Lao Detico, owned largely by a Singapore businessman, is now seeking the repossession of the four-star hotel, the Times said.

It said Guthrie was supposed to pay Lao Detico rentals amounting to more than \$20,000 a month plus a certain percentage of the gross income each year.

Guthrie, however, wants the lease agreement to be scrapped because it doubts the legality of the Lao Detico Co. Ltd. itself, the Times said.

The Belvedere, opened on Nov. 7 last year by the Laoian deputy prime minister, is one of the first international hotels to be built in Laos since the country opened up to foreign investment a few years ago.

# Yeltsin chides ministers over Chechen

By DEBORAH SEWARD  
MOSCOW (AP) - President Boris Yeltsin rebuked his defense and interior ministers for the military operation that so far has failed to rein in the separatist republic of Chechnya, a newspaper reported Monday.

The daily Segodnya said the ministers were subjected to "extremely frank and sharp criticism" at Monday's meeting of Yeltsin's Security Council. The newspaper said it didn't "dare reproduce in print" the president's words.

Yeltsin sent troops to Chechnya on Dec. 11 in an attempt to force Chechen President Dzhokar Dudayev to abandon the republic's three-year-old drive for independence.

Instead of a quick operation, the Russian offensive has already dragged on for more than two weeks. Russian warplanes have ravaged Grozny. Scores of civilians have perished and much of the city has been reduced to ruins. Tens of thousands have fled the besieged capital.

On Monday, Yeltsin declared that Russian troops are in Chechnya to stay, but said it is time to halt the army's offensive against the rebel republic.

Yeltsin is scheduled to make an TV address to the nation at 8:35 p.m. (1735 GMT) on the situation in Chechnya.

Yeltsin has remained out of sight since sending up to 40,000 Russian troops into Chechnya. His decision to use force has

been widely criticized, even by reformers who have supported him in the past. Polls show most Russians oppose the decision, which provoked sharp disagreements within the military, the parliament and the Kremlin itself.

However, mass demonstrations called for by reformers have not materialized.

At Monday's Security Council meeting, Yeltsin said the army could be withdrawn from around Grozny, the Chechen capital, to other points inside the tiny Muslim republic in southern Russia.

Many Russian soldiers have refused to advance into Grozny, saying they won't fire on civilians. A number of commanders who balked reportedly have been replaced.

In outlying areas, Russian troops have encountered stiff resistance from Chechen fighters in several strategic villages. But the Russians appear to control many major roads as well as the borders.

Yeltsin admitted Monday that there had been some "difficulties" with the Chechen operation, but said "we've reached the moment when it's possible to wind up military participation and begin the second" phase.

"We have reached the stage of restoring constitutional, legal order," he said.

His remarks were reported by the ITAR-Tass and Interfax news agencies. Both also said there would be another offer to negoti-

ate with Dudayev.

There was no official response from Dudayev, but his vice president, Zelimkhan Yandarbiev, told Interfax on Monday negotiations were possible.

"The situation can be frozen, talks can be started," he said. "And the first round could be on the issue of the presence of (Russian) troops."

Dudayev, who declared Chechen independence in 1991, has said he will never negotiate with Russian troops on Chechen soil.

The horrific scenes of death and destruction coming out of Chechnya have also prompted a number of foreign governments, including the United States, to express sharp concern.

On Monday, Patriarch Alexy II, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, said that nothing "can justify the losses and sufferings of peaceful civilians."

Much of Grozny was without electricity or heat. Telephones worked sporadically. Hospitals were running out of medicine and bandages.

But amid the rubble, near the central square, someone had put up a New Year's tree amid next to a burned out tank.

Moscow insists that Chechens disarm and drop their bid for independence. The Chechens see the Russians as invaders.

Yeltsin's hawkish minister for ethnic affairs, Deputy Prime Minister Nikolai Yegorov, on Monday urged a quick assault on Grozny.

Yegorov told the Interfax news agency any sign of weakness on the part of the Yeltsin administration could trigger ethnic strife elsewhere in Russia.

Oil is another factor in the Chechen equation.

Russia wants a piece of a huge deal to pump Caspian Sea oil but it needs a secure pipeline route through the Caucasus region. Chechnya, which already has major oil and gas pipelines, lies in the heart of this region.

## DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

\*\*\*\*\*  
**EPIPHANIO CABRERA**  
(EPIN-POTU)  
FEBRUARY 24, 1953  
DECEMBER 24, 1994  
\*\*\*\*\*



Epiphanio Cabrera (Potu) was called to his eternal rest on December 24, 1994 at the age of 41.

- Predeceased by:**
- Mother : Maria San Nicolas Cabrera (Potu)
  - Mother-in-law : Mercedes V. Estolano
  - Father-in-law : Florentino A. Estolano
  - God Mother : Dolores T. Benavente
  - God Father : Santiago C. Tenorio (Confirmation)
- He was survived by:**
- Wife : Cleofe E. Cabrera and
  - Children : MaryAnn, Epiphanio Jr., Albert Hohn, Yvonne Rose, Dennis Lee, Kimberly Josephine, and Justin Cabrera.
  - Godfather : Dionicio C. Torres (Baptismal)

He is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral will be on Friday, December 30, 1994 beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the residence of the deceased in Chalan Piao. Christian Mass and Burial services will be at 3:00 p.m. at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral on the same day. Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m.

# JOINT ANNIVERSARY ROSARY

**50TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY**



**JESUS SEMAN VILLAGOMEZ**

**JOAQUINA TENORIO VILLAGOMEZ**

The family of the late **MR. JESUS SEMAN VILLAGOMEZ** and **MRS. JOAQUINA TENORIO VILLAGOMEZ**, wishes to invite relatives and friends to the **50th Anniversary Rosary** of our departed loved ones. Nightly rosary will be said at 7:00 commencing on December 31, 1994 at the residence of their son and daughter-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Jose T. Villagomez, in As Lito.

On Saturday, January 7, 1995, the rosary will be said at 12:00 noon and a special mass of intention will be celebrated at 5:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Dinner will be served after the mass at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Jose T. Villagomez in As Lito.

The final day of rosary will be on Sunday, January 8, 1995 at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us.

DR. & MRS. JOSE T. VILLAGOMEZ

# Palestinian protestors dragged off disputed site

By HAITHAM HAMAD  
AL-KHADER, Occupied West Bank (AP) - In a growing confrontation that could further sour Israel-PLO peace talks, Israeli troops on Tuesday dragged Palestinian protestors off a disputed rocky hilltop.

Jewish settlers followed and uprooted olive trees that had been planted by the demonstrators to underscore their claim to the land in the occupied West Bank, which the settlers want to use for construction.

Soldiers detained at least 50 demonstrators and loaded them onto an army truck.

"You have the guns and we have God with us," shouted Fatimah Salah, 65, as four soldiers grabbed her arms and feet and dragged her away from the hill. "This is our land. We are not moving from here."

PLO officials have threatened to suspend autonomy negotiations with Israel if the government goes ahead with plans to construct 500 housing units on 150 acres (60

hectares) of land just south of Bethlehem.

The land on the outskirts of the Palestinian village of Al-Khader is claimed by the Jewish settlement of Efrat, heavily populated with Americans and other Westerners. Al-Khader residents say the land was taken from them illegally.

Josh Adler, an immigrant from Brooklyn, New York, who has lived in Efrat for six years, said the land belongs to the settlement.

"The local Arab population, with

the encouragement of the leftist Israeli Jews, are trying by force to take over land that doesn't belong to them," said Adler as he uprooted olive trees.

Efrat officials say the settlement was given the land by the Israeli government in 1983.

"We have every right to build here," said Rabbi Shlomo Rifkin of Efrat. "This is a Jewish area. This is not a Palestinian area."

The confrontation has been escalating since Thursday, when bulldozers started clearing the land

for a bypass road around Bethlehem.

The issue is also pitting Israeli supporters of expanding Palestinian autonomy against those who oppose it. On Monday, Israeli Cabinet minister Shulamit Aloni accused the government of stealing Palestinian land by force of arms.

Some 850 families live in Efrat, located just 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of Jerusalem. It attracts many young couples who cannot afford to buy apartments in Jerusalem's top-dollar market.

# Seoul plans unpopular traffic ban

SEOUL (AP) - Seoul on Tuesday adopted a rotating ban intended to ease its growing traffic nightmare by keeping 10 percent of all passenger cars off its streets on weekdays.

Violators would have to pay a \$825 fine.

The idea has come under attack since it was made public earlier this month. Critics call it a band-aid measure that still leaves the capital city with too-narrow streets

and other bottlenecks that make bumper-to-bumper traffic an all-day problem.

The prime minister's office, which has final jurisdiction over Seoul, still could veto the plan.

Otherwise, a six-month trial will begin in February.

Seoul's already congested traffic is expected to come to a near standstill next year when many of the bridges across the Han River, which divides the city, undergo

repairs.

These were ordered after one bridge collapsed in the morning rush hour earlier this year, killing 32 people. Experts have said constant heavy traffic, on top of faulty construction, helped cause the collapse.

Checks and repairs also have been

ordered for tunnels and overpasses throughout Seoul.

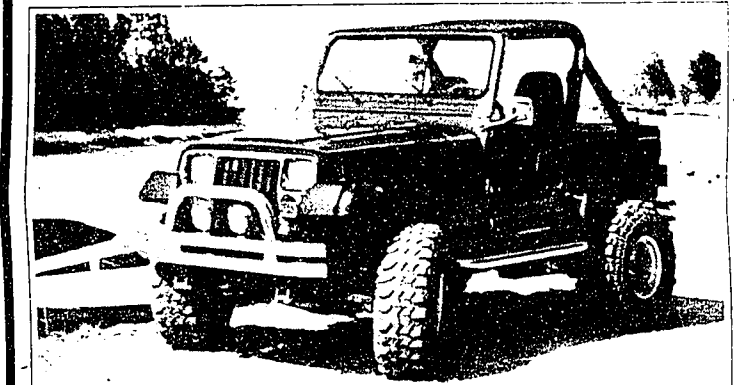
Under the new plan, license numbers will determine which cars must stay off the streets. For example, a car whose license number ends with 7 cannot be on the road on the 7th, 17th or the 27th day of any month.

The ban would be lifted at night

and on weekends.

Seoul is home to one-third of the nation's 44 million people and half of the nation's cars. An average of 532 new cars a day rolled off assembly lines and on to Seoul's crowded streets last year to join the 3 million already contending for space.

## 1990 JEEP WRANGLER FOR SALE



SIX CYL. 1990 JEEP WRANGLER, 41,000 MLS. P.S., P.B., A.C., LIFT KIT, TOW-BAR, ALLOY WHEELS. NEW SOFT-TOP AND DOORS. \$9,500 OR BEST OFFER MUST SELL LEAVING ISLAND. CONTACT ROB GRANT AFTER 5:00 P.M. APT. B113 FINA SISU AIRPORT HOTEL.



Japanese Buddhist monk Yusan Yamoto leads circle of circle of prayer as David Williams, foreground, prays at the United National Plaza in San Francisco, Thursday, Dec. 15, 1994, to help publicize the Global Peace Walk 1995 from New York City to San Francisco from Jan. 15 through June 30 (AP photo).

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DPW95-RFP-00312

The Department of Public Works, CNMI Government, is once again soliciting for proposals from engineering firms to perform a "siting study" for the proposed landfill site in Saipan.

The proposals shall be evaluated based on the following but not limited to:

- qualifications
- experience
- familiarity with EPA's and DEQ's requirements
- familiarity with the environment
- time frame

The proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes to the Director, Procurement and Supply Division (MARPANDS), Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 2:00 p.m. on January 11, 1995. The scope of work can be picked up at the Office of Technical Division, Department of Public Works, Lower Base, Saipan, MP96950.

The Government reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, and to waive any irregularities in any proposal in its best interest.

Please be advised that RFP-DPW94-00276 and RFP-DPW93-00308 have been cancelled.

/s/ELIZABETH H. SALAS-BALAJADIA, P.E.  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/EDWARD B. PALACIOS  
Director, Div. of Proc. & Supply

DATE: 12/20/94

# N. Korea accuses US of spying

By PAUL ALEXANDER  
SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - A letter of regret wasn't enough. North Korea said Tuesday that U.S. officials must apologize for a "deliberate act of espionage" - the intrusion of an American helicopter into its airspace.

U.S. officials again denied spying. The State Department dispatched Thomas Hubbard to seek the release of U.S. pilot Bobby Hall, whose prospects for immediate freedom plummeted.

The statement by Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency was only its third mention of the Dec. 17 incident in which the U.S. Army OH-58C helicopter strayed across the Demilitarized Zone and crashed or was shot down.

Hall was captured and fellow Chief Warrant officer David Hilemon died. Hilemon's body was

returned last Thursday as part of a deal worked out by U.S. Rep. Bill Richardson, who said it called for Hall to be freed "very soon."

The rhetoric-filled statement came just as there appeared to be progress in obtaining Hall's release and raised questions at the sudden turnaround.

Does the North really want an apology and an admission of spying, or is this an effort by Pyongyang to obtain concessions from the United States?

Even more ominously, is it a sign that military hard-liners are in control of the reclusive communist country, and not Kim Jong Il, the designated heir of his father, long-time leader Kim Il Sung, who died July 8?

"All facts clearly prove that the intrusion of the U.S. helicopter... is a grave violation of the sovereignty

of the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) and a deliberate act of espionage," the KCNA statement said.

"In view of the seriousness of the incident, we cannot but investigate the truth of the incident more deeply."

The North has said Hall will not be released until it completes its investigation. Its statement said Washington "must admit its responsibility... and clearly show an honest and reasonable attitude before it is too late."

U.S. officials sent Pyongyang a letter of regret over the weekend. They were surprised by the statement's tone but noted North Korea is known for high-voltage rhetoric, sometimes even amid diplomatic breakthroughs.

Jim Coles, a spokesman for the U.S. and U.N. military presence in

Korea, strongly rejected North Korea's accusations.

"This absolutely was not a mission of that nature," he said. "As we have said, this was a routine training flight that unfortunately strayed into DPRK airspace."

Hubbard, an expert on East Asian affairs, was the No. 2 U.S. official in the negotiations that yielded a nuclear accord signed with Pyongyang two months ago.

U.S. officials said he was chosen because his rank is low enough to avoid the appearance of increased pressure, but high enough to afford North Korea's concerns a measure of credibility.

He was keeping a low profile, with no media allowed for his arrival in South Korea late Tuesday or his planned crossover of the Demilitarized Zone on Wednesday.

There were hopes he would be allowed to bring out Hall. Richardson accompanied Hilemon's body when it was repatriated.

Korean News Service, a pro-North Korean news agency in Tokyo, released a photograph Tuesday obtained from the North Korean government that the agency said showed Hall after the helicopter went down, standing in a flight jumpsuit with his arms in the air. The agency also released a photograph it said showed the wreckage

of the helicopter, which appeared to have been completely destroyed.

U.N. officials had been cautiously optimistic Monday after a meeting of generals at Panmunjom, even though it yielded "no substantive progress" other than agreement for another meeting.

North Korea, through its United Nations contacts, requested the visit of a U.S. representative and suggested it would facilitate Hall's return, said a senior U.S. administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Officials have speculated the pilots became disoriented because fresh heavy snow had covered landmarks and navigational markers.

North Korea rejected that explanation.

"It is practically incredible for this pilot to mistake the terrain at such a low altitude..." the KCNA statement said.

"Moreover, the fact that the helicopter did not respond to our warning signals but tried to escape... eloquently proves that the intrusion was not a 'stray' flight..."

The statement claimed the helicopter was flying at an altitude of 400 meters when it crossed the rugged Demilitarized Zone that separates the two Koreas at 10:35 a.m.

After two warning signals, the chopper lowered its altitude and continued to fly north, it said.



Some 5,000 people crowd outside the People's Supreme Court in Hanoi, Dec. 15, 1994 as they scream and applaud when the chief trial justice announced over loudspeakers that the death sentence was upheld for a policeman who shot and killed a 20-year-old man while attempting to rob him. It was a rare test of justice in a nation used to cover-ups of official crime. (AP Photo)

## INVITATION TO BID DPW95-ITB-00310

The Department of Public Works in conjunction with the Public School System is soliciting sealed bids for the Construction and Improvements of Marianas High School Concrete Walkways, Saipan, MP 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 04, 1995 at which time and place the bids will be 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. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check, Bid Bond or other form acceptable to the Government made payable to the Treasurer, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 1471".

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal, a copy of his business permit as a compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Specifications and Plans of the project are available on or after December 19, 1994 at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works in Saipan. A non-refundable payment of \$150.00 is required for each set. Pre-conference for this project will be held at 2:00 p.m., local time, Tuesday, December 27, 1994.

Attention is called to the Labor Standards Provisions for Wage Rate Determination of the CNMI Classification and Salary Structure Plans, 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 or cashier's check which will be returned to the bidders in accordance with the specifications section, "Instruction to Bidders" Page 1-2, Paragraph No. 05, 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 AND SIGNED BY:

/s/ELIZABETH H. SALAS-BALAJADIA, P.E.  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/WILLIAM S. TORRES  
Commissioner of Education

DATE: 12/15/94

DATE: 12/16/94

## FOR SALE

**PRINTING MACHINE:** Rota print Model No. R3850 NP for small printing jobs; vouchers; business cards; invitation cards; and leaflets (approx. 3 tons)

**PAPER CUTTER:** Manual paper cutter by Accurate (approx. 1 ton)

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MR. S. JOSHUA BERGER at  
WHITE, PIERCE, MAILMAN & NUTTING  
Tel. 234-6547



ATTN: TAXICAB OPERATORS  
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

RE: TAXI SERVICE AT PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

Effective January 01, 1995 only drivers and taxicabs authorized by PIC management will be allowed to service the hotel. PIC would like to encourage all who accept the policies set forth by the Bureau of Taxicabs and Pacific Islands Club Saipan to apply. PIC strives to maintain a safe and pleasant stay for its guests.

Applications and details are available starting December 01, 1994 from the Pacific Islands Club's Personnel Offices and are due before NOON on or before Friday, December 30th, 1994. After this time all registration is closed for 1995 and will open again Dec. 01, 1995 for 1996

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS JANITORIAL SERVICES

1. SERVICES REQUIRED  
The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) requires janitorial services to be performed at the Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) and at the Seaport Office Building.

2. SCOPE OF WORK  
The proposer selected will provide janitorial services on a daily basis at the two locations.

3. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION SERVICES  
The required services will commence on or after the Notice to Proceed and continue for a period of two (2) years.

4. SUBMITTAL DATE  
Proposals should be submitted to Mr. Carlos A. Shoda, Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than January 10, 1995 at 2:00 p.m.

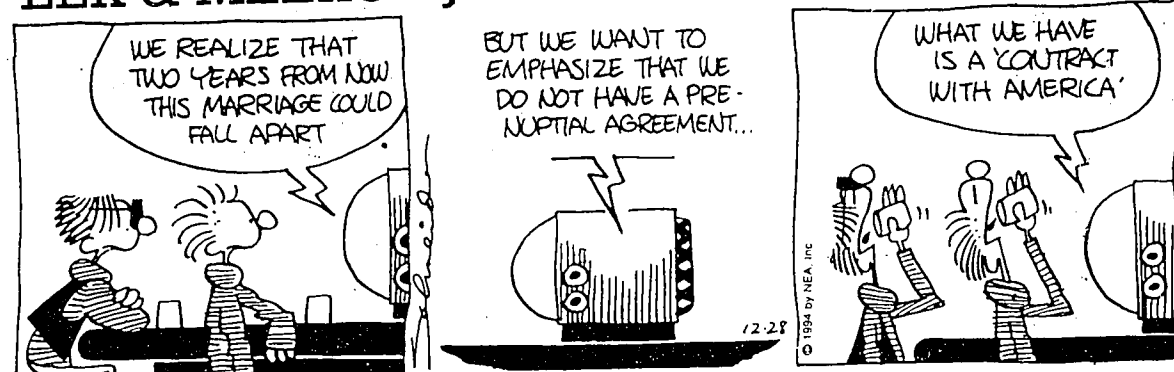
5. PROPOSAL  
The contents of the proposal shall contain at least:  
a. A complete resume of the proposer setting forth his experience pertinent to the services to be provided.  
b. A list of all equipment to be used.  
c. Confirmation that the proposer is licensed to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.  
d. A list of references.  
e. The fee to be charged the CPA.

6. EVALUATION  
The factors used in evaluating the proposals submitted will be the criteria set forth in Section 5. The CPA will select a proposer within thirty (30) days following submission.  
The CPA reserves the right to reject any proposals in accordance with Section 3.2 (7) of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/CARLOS A. SHODA  
Executive Director



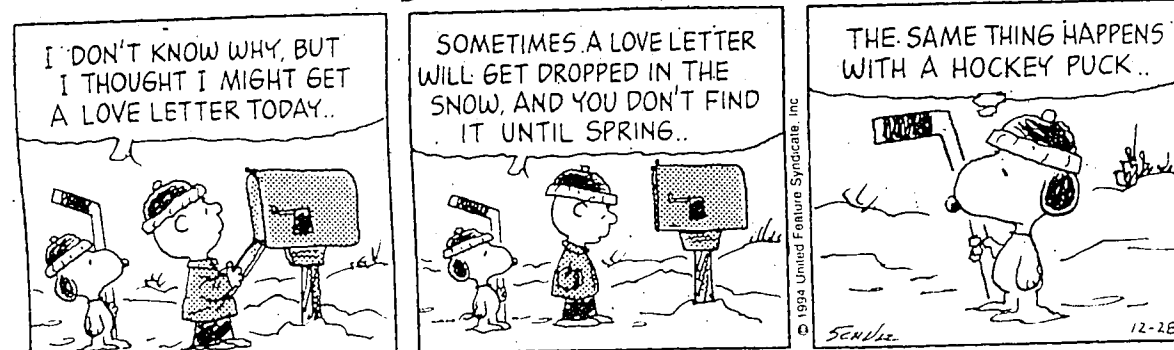
### EK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



### Garfield® by Jim Davis



### PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



By Stella Wilder

## YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you have a great capacity for taking things in stride. You use your sense of humor and your calm, rational approach to help others and yourself through the tough times. You enjoy teasing people, and although your jokes rarely go too far, you must always take care not to be misunderstood if you put one over on someone you love. There are times when you must take things a little more seriously, at least on the surface. You enjoy the pleasures of home life and you always work to provide for yourself and your family.

You have something of a temper, and your anger may spawn regrettable words and actions. You know how to forgive and how to ask for forgiveness, though, and you are never one to hold a grudge.

Also born on this date are: John Molson, brewer; Hubie Green, golfer; Maggie Smith, actress.

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.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 29**  
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — You may act out of character today. An explanation may be needed for someone who knows you too well not to notice your strange behavior.  
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Admitting that you might be wrong will ease underlying tensions today. The door can soon be opened for honest exchange and discovery.  
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Avoid becoming too possessive or too defensive today. You must sometimes accept a defeat before you can truly enjoy a victory.  
**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — You may be extravagant today, so prepare to face the consequences tomorrow. You might be able to avoid long-term damage.  
**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — You may be entirely incompatible with a recently assigned partner at work. If so, splitting up will solve your problems before they escalate.  
**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Suspicion may overshadow your trust today. Take care not to make

bad things worse by insisting on knowing the truth prematurely.  
**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — A friend will supply your every need today as long as you are willing to do the same in return.  
**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Your response to the unexpected will be telling today. It may even result in a surprising development that benefits you and someone close to you.  
**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Certain things might prove to be too much even though you want to be easygoing and tolerant. Speak up!  
**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — You may feel adventurous today. Danger is something you can face head-on at this time, so go try something new.  
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — A new co-worker is likely to prove more than a valuable asset. Very soon you will find that you have a new friend.  
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Now is no time to wallow in your unhappiness. It is essential to focus on the positive things all around you today.

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between last quarter (Dec. 25) and new moon (Jan. 1).

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** On this day in 1902, Syracuse defeated the Philadelphia Nationals 6-0 in Madison Square Garden. It was the first professional football game to be played indoors.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "He advocated with skill, intelligence and good breeding the outworn doctrines which are responsible for four-fifths of the political troubles of the United States." — Theodore Roosevelt on Woodrow Wilson

**TODAY'S WEATHER:** On this day in 1897, Dayville, Ore., registered the state's all-time December high temperature — 81 degrees.

**SOURCE:** THE WEATHER CHANNEL © 1994 Weather Guide Calendar, Accord Publishing, Ltd.

### DATE BOOK

Dec. 28, 1994

Today is the 362nd day of 1994 and the 8th day of winter.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** On this day in 1869, William Sempile received a patent for his newest invention — chewing gum.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), U.S. president; Earl "Fatha" Hines (1905-1983), musician; Terry Sawchuck (1929-1970), hockey great; Maggie Smith (1934-), actress, is 60; Denzel Washington (1954-), actor, is 40.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

**ACROSS**

1 Resound  
 5 Ear (comb. form)  
 8 Beige  
 12 Goddess of discord  
 13 Paddle  
 14 Mr. Slaughter  
 15 Prevaricate  
 16 Drive  
 18 Basketball org.  
 19 — Louis, MO  
 20 Jumps  
 21 Irving ID  
 23 Supposing that  
 24 Songstress  
 26 Chemical dye  
 28 Lucci TV role  
 29 Western hemisphere assn.  
 30 Gravel ridge  
 32 "Star Trek" captain  
 33 Choose  
 34 — the

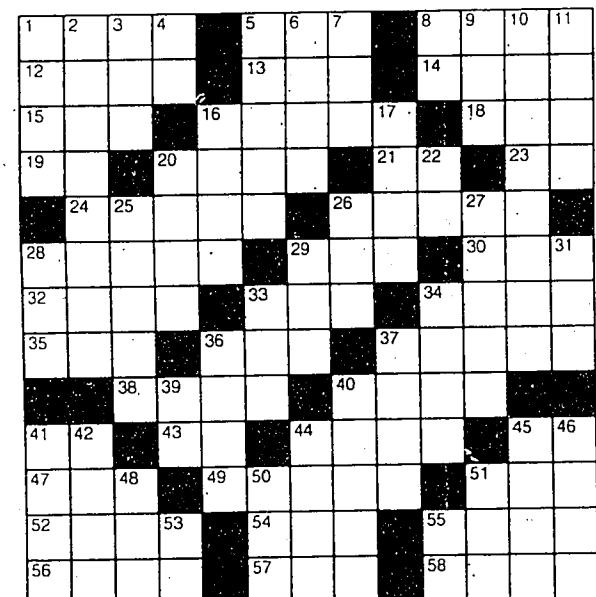
**DOWN**

35 Choke  
 36 Cricket positions  
 37 Gleam  
 38 Outside (comb. form)  
 40 A Roberts  
 41 Wilder ID  
 43 Near  
 44 Iroquoian  
 45 Silver symbol  
 47 Grain  
 49 Group of eight  
 51 Individual  
 52 — Simone  
 54 Moccasin  
 55 Pincely Italian family  
 56 Grafted (heraldry)  
 57 Model Carol  
 58 Sales option (2 wds.)

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

(old slang)  
 16 Lights out!  
 7 Native metal  
 8 — cummings  
 9 TV news source  
 10 Edward G. —  
 11 Air defense org.

16 Scent  
 17 Country of Asia  
 20 Ruble  
 22 This — it!  
 25 Mournful song  
 26 Gnarw  
 27 Poetry foot  
 28 MD's chart  
 29 Harvest goddess  
 31 Noun suffix  
 33 Yoko —  
 34 — Nastase  
 36 Director  
 37 Fortitude  
 39 Applegate ID  
 40 Build  
 41 — With the Wind  
 42 Wagon  
 44 And others (Lat. abbr., 2 wds.)  
 45 One opposed  
 46 The Bee —  
 48 Explosive (abbr.)  
 50 Acct.  
 51 Forerunner of CIA  
 53 Diphthong  
 55 Babylonian deity



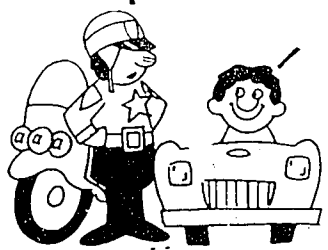
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5 4-1-11-2-7-10

3-8-10 8-7-2.

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 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

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## SYFL... Continued from page 24

all the four teams regardless of they are the champion or not.

Romisher said that league officials will not be giving away special awards to any particular individual or team.

There will also be no distinction on the size and design of the trophy for the champion team compared to a non-champion team.

"This is not a high school team. We are not sanctioned yet. The 1994 season is just a warm-up. This is the reason why there will be no special awards based on statistics or performance," Romisher said.

The first commissioner added that SYFL will only start to give special awards to individual players when the league games will be sanctioned and when the midget division is formed. Somebody must also be appointed to

## 3rd annual... Continued from page 24

teams from Saipan.

"We have no confirmation yet from Rota and Tinian but we encouraged the players there to form a team and join the tournament. The tournament will serve also as a qualifier for the CNMI South Pacific Games team," Barcinas said.

Barcinas is also calling the attention of sports-oriented corporations to sponsor the tournament.

At stake in the tournament are first to fourth places, most valuable player, top six players from six teams and best sportsmanship awards.

Deadline for submission of rosters and entry is on January 10th.

"We are encouraging all interested players who are willing to put up a team to join the tournament. This could be a way for the SPG aspirant to make it in the CNMI team," Barcinas said. (AAPD)

take charge of recording and summarizing pertinent league statistics.

Romisher said that after the awards banquet next month, league officials will sit down to discuss the plan of forming the midget division.

Once the midget division is formed, both the pee-wee and midget divisions will, at the same time, commence their respective competitions.

League officials are planning to finish the two divisions' respective tournaments at the same time before next Thanksgiving Day.

"We hope to start the next season by September," he said.

The Saipan Youth Football League was successfully inaugurated, in late October, after a year of preparation.

The event was considered a historical milestone in local sports. Football was last played in the late sixties here but not in a formal league.

The SYFL officials managed to organize four teams for the pee-wee division this year. League officials are eyeing the formation of the midget division next year, and later want to form a high school level league.

The inaugural season was captured by Northern team. First runner-up is the Southern team while the third runner up is the Eastern team with Central team in fourth place.

Following the inaugural season, the Guam Football League sent four teams, two teams each from their pee-wee and midget divisions two divisions two weeks ago.

The midget divisions of the Guam Marauders and the Guam Chiefs played an exhibition game while the pee-wee divisions from both teams played with the Saipan's Northern and Southern teams.

Northern played against and excelled over the Marauders while Southern played against the Chiefs. The Chiefs won. (AAPD)

## Suns... Continued from page 24

Hakeem Olajuwon had 24 points, 12 rebounds and seven block shots and Elie finished with 19 points. Carl Herrera, filling in for injured Otis Thorpe, scored 15 points on 7-of-8 shooting and reserve Pete Chilcutt chipped in a season-high 12 points.

For Miami, Glen Rice, who scored 37 and 30 points in his last two games on 23-of-44 shooting, finished with 20 points, hitting 8-of-22 Monday night. Rice missed 8 of 11 in the first half and Miami was in a 48-38 hole at halftime.

Magic 128, Bullets 121

Nick Anderson scored a season-high 35 points, including 11 in the fourth quarter and four in overtime, to lead the Magic past the crippled Bullets.

Anfernee Hardaway scored 29 and Shaquille O'Neal had 28 for the Magic before fouling out with 1:04 left in regulation. Orlando won its fourth

## Boxer... Continued from page 24

The injury was the first of its kind for Nunez, who has a career record of 25 victories and three losses. Saen uon has an 18-0 record.

Songchai Ratanasuban, promoter of the match, called Nunez "a tough fighter" and said he should fully recover in three to six months.

Songchai said that after Nunez's recovery at the hospi-

## PABA... Continued from page 24

second runner-up RB Electrical team.

In a separate interview, newly-elected PABA tournament committee chairman and Customs Officer, Briggs Hernandez said there is no definite date yet when the trophies will arrive.

Hernandez will be committee chairman for the long-overdue awarding ceremony

straight and improved its NBA-best record to 21-5 despite struggling against slumping Washington.

Rookie Juwan Howard had a career-high 24 points and 14 rebounds for the Bullets, who played without injured starters Chris Webber, Rex Chapman, Don MacLean and Kevin Duckworth.

Cavaliers 123, Celtics 102

Mark Price sank a team-record seven 3-point shots and scored 36 points as the Cavaliers won their ninth straight game.

The Cavs' streak is two short of the franchise record of 11 straight set last February and March.

Price made seven of his nine 3-point attempts — four in the second quarter — and converted a rare 4-point play, the second of his career and sixth in team history.

Sonics 123, Kings 103

Sam Perkins came off the bench to score a season-high 26 points and Detlef Schrempf added 21 points as the Sonics avenged their only

homecourt loss.

The Sonics won their 12th straight game at the Tacoma Dome. They used an 20-6 run over 6:34 of the third quarter to take a 90-58 lead and cruised.

Rookie Brian Grant led the Kings with 23 points and seven rebounds and Olden Polynice added 20 points. The Kings dropped their third straight road game.

76ers 101, Blazers 94

Clarence Weatherspoon scored 14 of his 23 points in the fourth period and Dana Barros added 23 for Philadelphia.

Weatherspoon's 12-foot baseline jumper broke a 92-92 tie with 1:20 left in the game. Two free throws by Willie Burton with 22 seconds remaining gave the 76ers a 98-93 margin. Burton finished with 16 points.

Portland's Rod Strickland led all scorers with 26 points and Clyde Drexler added 25 as the Blazers shot only 28 percent (15-of-53) in the second half.

tal, his promotion company would provide him with first class hotel accommodations in Bangkok as well as a first class ticket back to the Dominican Republic.

"Even though our contractual obligation is complete, it is our duty to take responsibility and show the kind nature of the Thai people to Danny Nunez," Songchai said.

for the 1994 season. He replaced Western Sales Company Manager Rick Tayco who resigned last month out of "disgust" with some of his colleagues in PABA.

Hernandez, however, promised that the awards ceremony will be simple but colorful as has been the practice in the past.

Expected to be invited the occasion is Philippine Consul Renato Villapando.

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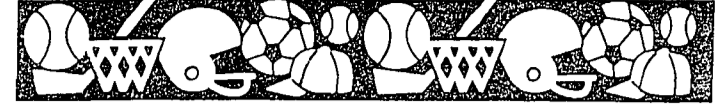
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## SPORTS



# Suns best Mavericks, 139-113

PHOENIX (AP) - Kevin Johnson scored 20 points, hitting three technical free throws during a third-quarter surge, and the Phoenix Suns won their 25th straight home game over two seasons by beating the Dallas Mavericks 139-113 Monday night.

Jim Jackson of Dallas, the NBA's No. 2 scorer, matched his average

with 28 points, but the Mavericks couldn't recover after falling behind 94-70 on Johnson's conversion of the second technical on coach Dick Motta, who was ejected with 4:09 left in the third.

Jamal Mashburn had 21 points and Roy Tarpley 16 for the Mavericks. Bucks 101, Nets 97

Vin Baker scored 11 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter and Glenn Robinson finished with 20.

The Bucks, who snapped a four-game losing streak, led 100-90 with a minute left before faltering on defense.

Jayson Williams made the first of two free throws for New Jersey.

Kenny Anderson grabbed Williams' miss and scored with 28.9 seconds left. Anderson sank a 3-pointer with 15.4 seconds to go, but the Nets came no closer.

Timberwolves 82, Clippers 81  
Pat Durham, seeing extended playing time because of Isaiah Rider's one-game suspension, made a 3-pointer with 22 seconds to play.

Rider, the Timberwolves' leading scorer with a 20.1 average, was suspended without pay for Monday's game after missing the team's shootaround earlier in the day.

Durham, who was playing in the CBA until Nov. 24, hit a 3-pointer from the top of the key to give the Timberwolves an 80-78 lead. Los Angeles' Pooh Richardson missed a 3-pointer with 6.5 seconds left, and Christian Laettner made two free throws to make it 82-78.

Rockets 101, Heat 88  
Mario Elie scored Houston's first 11 points of the fourth quarter, including three 3-pointers, to propel the Rockets to a 10th consecutive victory over Miami.

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## US edges Russia in world hockey

INNISFAIL, Alberta (AP) - Goaltender Doug Bonner held off Team Russia in the third period to help Team U.S.A. to a 4-3 victory Monday in the World Junior Hockey championships.

The Russians scored all three of their goals in the third period and pressed for the tying goal but

Bonner held them off, giving Team U.S.A. its first win in the tournament.

The 18-year-old handled 14 shots in the third period. The Russians had 33 shots on goal in the game.

There was no scoring in the first period. The U.S. team scored all of its four goals in the second

period.

Jon Battaglia opened the second-period scoring with a power-play goal. Shawn Bates had two goals, and Adam Deadmarsh added another for the Americans.

Igor Melyakov, Valentin Morozov and Alexandre Koroliouk scored for Russia.

## Boxer who sustained brain injuries shows improvement

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) - Flyweight boxer Danny Nunez of the Dominican Republic, who was hospitalized with head injuries after losing a title bid, showed improvement Tuesday but remained in intensive care, a doctor said.

Nunez, the eighth-ranked challenger, was stopped in the 11th round Sunday by World Boxing Association champion Saen Sor Ploenchit of Thailand.

Nunez, 27, was listed in stable condition at Bangkok's Bamrungrad Hospital. He lost consciousness right after the

fight and was diagnosed as suffering from hemorrhaging and swelling of the brain.

Nunez fought a spirited fight, but was at a disadvantage after Saen opened cuts on his forehead and above his eye in the early rounds.

Saen, 23, pummeled Nunez for almost a minute when he had him trapped against the ropes in the eighth round; but the challenger recovered some vigor in the ninth, only to receive more punishment in the 10th.

With strength spent, Nunez did little but stumble around the ring for about 45 seconds in the 11th

round, when Saen knocked him down and the referee stopped the fight as he shakily stood up.

Moments later, Nunez lost consciousness and was taken to the hospital in Rayong, site of the match, 145 kilometers (90 miles) southeast of Bangkok.

Dr. Panit Tientanue of Bamrungrad Hospital said Nunez did not require any surgery but will be given another computer scan Wednesday and be kept under observation at the hospital for a week.

"After 12 hours, the blood

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## 3rd annual Jam-attack volley tournament slated in January

The Saipan Amateur Volleyball Association (SAVA) wish to inform all active volleyball players to join the Third Annual Jam Attack Volleyball tournament which will be held in January at the Gilbert C. Ada gymnasium in Susupe.

SAVA President Jonas Barcinas told Variety Sports that the three-day event will take place on January 13th, 14th and

15th.

Game schedule on January 13th is from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.. The January 14th schedule starts from 9 a.m. up to 8 p.m., while the championship games which will be held on the 15th will start from 9 a.m. and will end at 4 p.m.

Last year, the men's and women's team from Guam dominated the tourney.

The PIVA team bagged the

men's division while the University of Guam Titans flew back home with the women's division crown.

Interested parties may call Barcinas at 288-7682 or 234-6219. Entry fee is \$150.00.

Expected to join the event are three men's teams and two women's teams from Guam and six men's teams and four women's

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## SYFL postpones awards banquet

The awards banquet for the first Saipan Youth Football League which was originally scheduled tomorrow will be moved to mid or late January.

League Commissioner John Romisher said that the postponement was due to a post season audit of equipment and uniforms

used in the first season.

Romisher said league officials have to first account all the equipment in the possession of the four teams.

After collecting all the equipment, the teams will be freed of any accountability to the league.

Preparations for the banquet can

be attended to after all teams have been cleared.

Romisher said they will be giving t-shirts and certificates of active involvement in the first league to all the first peewee players.

Trophies will also be given to

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## PABA inter-commercial kicks off Feb. or March

The Philippine Amateur Basketball Association will push through its inter-commercial league, not in January, but tentatively, in late February or early March of next year.

Filipino Amateur Sports Association President Rollie Bigalbal told Variety Sports that the kick-off date for the said league will depend on the schedule of the awards night for the 1994 season.

"It has been decided by league officials that the inter-commercial league will be held only after the awarding for the 1994 season will be held. Without the awarding, there will be no inter-commer-

cial league," the FASA official said.

Bigalbal added that the schedule for the awards night and the opening of the inter-commercial league is also dependent on the arrival of the trophies which will be given to the deserving team and individual players in the 1994 season.

"As soon as the trophies arrive, the awarding will immediately follow so we can also attend to the opening of the inter-commercial league," he said.

Bigalbal is also the managing coach of the 1994 season

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## Vikings defeat 49ers

By RON LESKO  
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - No Warren Moon. Not much Steve Young or Jerry Rice. Just a lot of backups and a lot of defense, and that was enough to give Minnesota the NFC Central championship Monday night.

Rookie Dewayne Washington returned a fumble for a touchdown and John Randle had two of the Vikings three sacks in a 21-14 victory over San Francisco, snapping the 49ers 10-game winning streak.

In the final game of the regular season, Minnesota (10-6) clinched its second division title in coach Dennis Green's three years. It did so without Moon, the Pro Bowl quarterback who sat out with a knee injury.

The Vikings also did it with their most inspired defensive performance in weeks against a San Francisco offense that relied on reserves in the second half. Minnesota now will play host to Chicago in a first-round playoff game Sunday.

The 49ers (13-3) are guaranteed home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs, and will take next weekend off. Many of their key players got an early start on their rest time Monday night.

But not before Young and Rice

combined for a TD and several records.

Young, who came up limping after a hard hit by linebacker Carlos Jenkins in the first quarter, surpassed Joe Montana's passer rating of 112.4, set in 1989, with a 112.8. Young also eclipsed Ken Anderson's NFL record for completion percentage, set in the 1982 season at 70.55, with a 70.7.

Young completed 12 of 13 passes before leaving early in the second quarter along with Rice. He hit on 325 of 460 passes this season. His 35 TD passes broke Montana's team record of 31.

Young's TD total included a 6-yard pass to Rice on the second play of the second quarter to tie the game 7-7. That gave him the highest rating for a season.

Rice has 820 career receptions, second to Art Monk.

Elvis Grbac replaced Young on the next possession, and the San Francisco offense did little the rest of the night until Grbac's 1-yard TD pass Ed McCaffrey made it 21-14 with 3:53 left in the game.

The Vikings never let the 49ers get the ball again.

Sean Salisbury went the whole way at quarterback for Minnesota in his first action of the year.

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