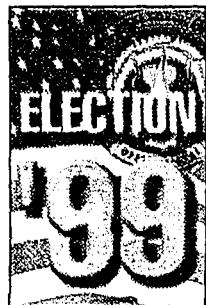


All set for elections

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

THE BOARD of Elections yesterday announced it is all set for tomorrow's big event, having assigned some 400 poll workers to



around 30 polling centers where an estimated 14,300 registered voters will be exercising their right to make a choice from 67 candi-

dates for various government posts, including the Legislature.

The voters will likewise make their positions known on at least four initiatives and on whether to retain Superior Court Associate Judge Timothy H. Bellas.

"The only thing we are waiting for right now is the morning of

Saturday," said BOE Executive Director Gregorio C. Sablan, during a final briefing with poll supervisors at the Susupe Multi-purpose Center where the election body has moved in to coordinate the event until all votes have been accounted for expectedly by Sunday afternoon.

Sablan described today's voters as "very mature."

"They know who to vote for," he said.

Voting precincts will open at 7a.m. and close at 7p.m. Actual counting of votes will begin at 11pm.

Sablan explained it is expected to take at least four hours to have all ballot boxes turned over at the Center.

He said counting may be finished by afternoon the following day. Police will be securing all polling areas throughout the ex-

Continued on page 70



Board of Elections Executive Director Gregorio Sablan (right) briefs tabulators and poll workers on election procedures yesterday at the Susupe Multi-purpose Center in preparation for tomorrow's elections.

Photo by Marian Maraya

GOP wants win via 'sweep'

By Jojo Dass

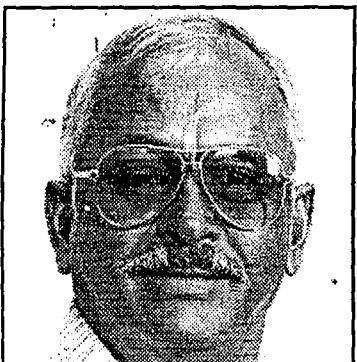
Variety News Staff

THE REPUBLICANS want a status quo at the House, or better yet, all the seats.

"We are going to take all (of it)," said party Chair Francisco DLG. Camacho, expressing confidence on the candidates' "good chances of winning."

"We hope to prevail. We hope to take the majority. We are looking at the very possibility (that) we will be getting majority of the seats. We hope to get all of it," said Camacho, in a phone interview.

Camacho said the party's candidates, mostly incumbents, are "running pretty good."



Francisco DLG Camacho

"They have good background and (public) visibility. They have good chances of winning, I can say that," said Camacho.

The Republicans are pitted against the Democrats and former

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's CNMI Reform Party which is looking at using the election to break the incumbents' hold on the Legislature.

The Republican administration has been faced with worsening economic conditions largely brought by a series of currency devaluation that affected several Asian countries including the Northern Marianas' two main tourism markets: Japan and Korea.

At the same time, nowhere in previous years has the federal government been too vocal about its plans to extend U.S. immigration laws to the com-

Continued on page 70

Democrats confident of taking 10 out of 18 seats

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

THE DEMOCRATS are certain they will get 10 of the 18 seats in the House of Representatives.

"The minimum we will get is six, the maximum is 10," said House Minority Leader Dino M. Jones, who is running for re-election.

Jones said the Democrats' edge over the Republicans is "unity" and a line-up of "good candidates" including retired school principals and accountants.

Factors placing the tide in favor of the Democrats, said Jones, are the bad economy, the federal

government's plans to extend immigration laws into the Northern Marianas, and the reported 14-percent unemployment rate among locals.

"The unemployment rate is considered significant," said Jones.

The Democrats, he said, went stoking the fire of discontent among the grassroots by going house to house, supposedly getting favorable responses from residents left agitated about the alleged failure of the incumbent Republican-dominated administration to live up to its promises.

Jones said the Democrats are

Continued on page 70

Voters have 5 legislative initiatives to think about

By Haldee V. Eugenio

Variety News Staff

VOTERS, read this.

Aside from the names of political candidates that registered voters need to choose from on tomorrow's midterm election, they are also set to vote on five legislative initiatives.

Each voter is given four out of five initiatives to vote on.

These include Senate Legislative Initiative 11-1, Senate Legislative Initiative 11-4, Judge Retention, Tinian Popular Initiative, and Rota Local

Initiative.

The voter is asked to mark one box only, either "yes" or "no" on the official general election ballot for legislative initiatives.

The most controversial of them all, SLI 11-1 proposes a constitutional amendment to provide that only persons of Northern Marianas descent can vote on constitutional amendments affecting the protections against alienation of land in Article XII of the Common-

Continued on page 70

House needs major changes— Reform

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

ALL EIGHT Reform Party candidates will make it to the Legislature because the people now realize they need "major changes" in government, said party chair and former governor Froilan C. Tenorio.

"We are doing great. I think we have a good chance for all our candidates to win. The people are already tired of this administration. We need some major changes in, at the least, the Legislature for the next year," said Tenorio.

Tenorio pointed to the \$26 million that government owes the Retirement Fund and the esti-



Froilan C. Tenorio

mated \$10 million in unsettled accounts owed the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. as examples of the administration's "faults."

He claimed government is us-

ing Fund contributions of public workers for other purposes, which is not proper and has caused the huge debt.

"I can see the government owing Retirement Fund for each share of the contribution of the government. This administration is not looking for additional revenues. I think the voters are going to realize this.

"I think they will make their feelings known on Saturday that we need some major changes," said the former governor who, ironically, was blamed for the financial woes the Republican-led government is currently dealing

Continued on page 70

Africa, Caribbean trade bill passes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional leaders — looking toward passage of the first major trade bill in five years — believe negotiators can resolve differences in competing versions of legislation to extend trade benefits to Africa, the Caribbean and Central America.

The House-passed bill only covers the 48 countries of sub-Saharan Africa. The Senate bill, approved 76-19 late Wednesday, covers these nations, plus 24 Caribbean and Central American nations as well.

Another big difference: The Senate bill gives duty-free treat-

ment only to apparel made from U.S. yarn, fabric or thread, while House sponsors say that provision is too restrictive.

Senate passage represented an important trade victory for President Clinton, who has pressed for the bill's approval before the Nov. 30-Dec. 2 meeting in Seattle of ministers of the World Trade Organization, where Clinton hopes to launch a new round of market-opening trade talks.

If enacted, it will be the first major trade bill approved since 1994, when Congress agreed to U.S. participation in that organization.

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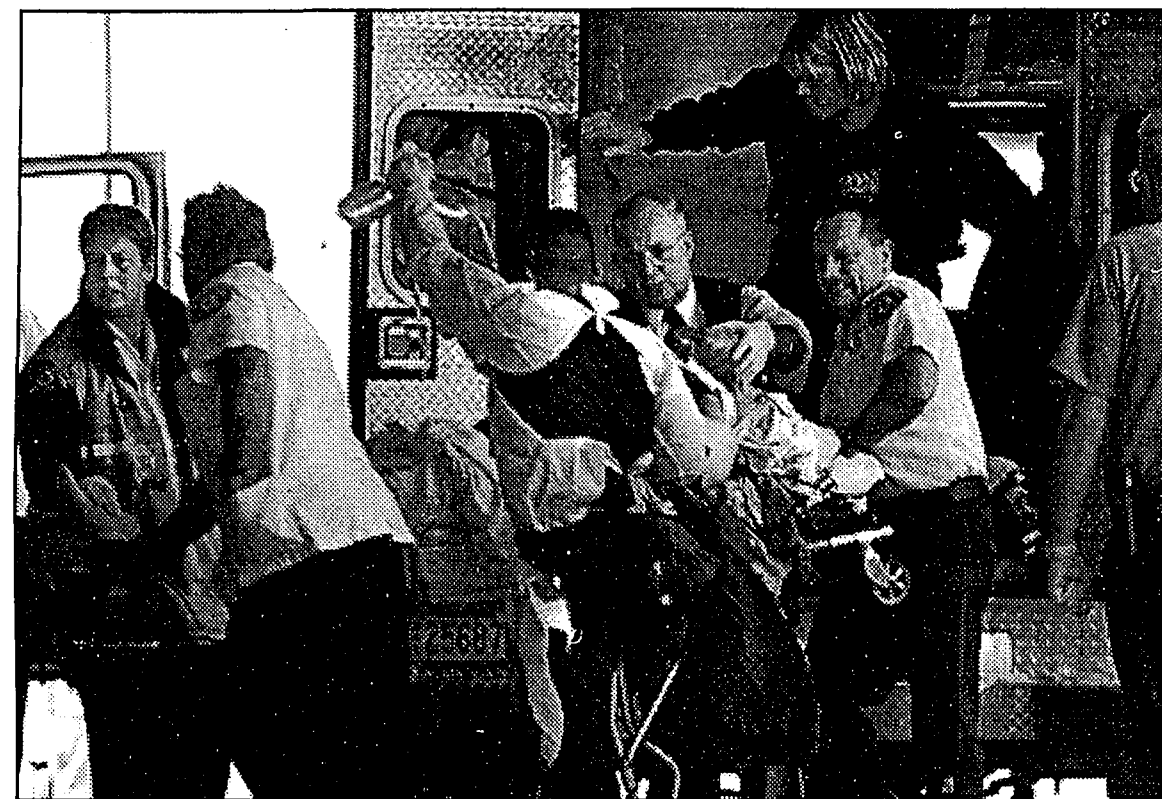
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Paramedics unload a shooting victim from an ambulance at the Harborview Medical center in Seattle, Wash. Wednesday. Four people were shot, two fatally, by a man who walked into the Northlake Shipyard building and started firing with a handgun.

Gunman kills 2 in Seattle rampage

SEATTLE (AP) — A man in camouflage clothing and sunglasses calmly walked in and shot four employees at a boat repair company Wednesday, killing two of them. The attack came a day after a deadly workplace shooting in Hawaii.

Law officers hunting for the gunman spread a massive dragnet around the area north of downtown Seattle, using helicopters and dogs to search into the night. Residents were told to stay in their homes, while children at 20 schools were locked inside for part of the day before they were sent home.

"He walked in and started shooting. That's all we know," said Pam McCammon, a police spokeswoman. Police said survivors told them that the man said nothing

before shooting seven to nine rounds with a 9 mm handgun.

The motive remained unknown, but police said the gunman seemed to know his target, walked into the shipyard building, headed directly to a small back office and opened fire.

A 19-year-old man who survived with a gunshot wound in his arm said the gunman didn't work at the Northlake Shipyard shop and he had never seen him before. All the victims were men.

The suspect, described as possibly in his 30s, was wearing an overcoat over camouflage clothing and a brown hat when he walked in the front door and went to a back office of the shipyard on the edge of Lake Union. He had brown curly hair, a mustache and wore a baseball cap and sun-

glasses.

Late Wednesday, police in Tacoma, about 30 miles south, detained a man sought by Seattle police for questioning, Seattle television stations reported. Tacoma police confirmed they helped state troopers stop a car.

KING-TV reported that the man was released after about an hour. McCammon said she could not confirm the report.

As the search continued past dark, hours after the morning shooting, Mayor Paul Schell asked the public to help and to be careful. "Check on your neighbors, check on senior citizens, check on your premises," he said.

Investigators were not ruling out that the suspect fled by boat.

Poll body reminds of election 'do's & don'ts'

By Marian A. Maraya
Variety News Staff

VOTERS, listen up. The Board of Elections (BOE) yesterday issued last-minute election reminders of absolute "do's" and "don'ts" for tomorrow's much-awaited election day.

Reminder one: posting campaign materials in polling places is not allowed on election day. According to the Board of Elections (BOE), the law states that no person or group of persons may actively campaign on the said day.

The law further states that no person or group may post or transport names, pictures, or posters or other campaign materials or set up booths within the area of the polling place or within 100 feet thereof.

BOE has designated nine public schools, the Kagman Agriculture Station and the Chamber of House

of the Representatives as polling places.

Meanwhile, Rota High School and Tinian High School will be used as polling locations for the respective islands.

In cases where the polling place is fenced in, no person or group may post or transport names, pictures, or other materials or set up booth, nor may a person loiter or socialize within 100 feet of the four corners of the fenced polling place or places.

In the case of the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, said BOE, the school boundary begins at the end of the parking lot east of the school grounds.

Furthermore, in election district number 4-C, the boundary begins on the two corners of the south side of the legislative building.

Members of the electoral committee, (i.e. the tabulators and poll

workers), are warned against bringing cellphones and pagers or other communication devices, while elections are ongoing, said Sablan.

Meanwhile, a month ago today, BOE issued a memorandum reminding the general public to refrain from selling or purchasing alcoholic beverages during the poll.

According to the law, no person may sell or purchase any alcoholic beverages or liquor on the day of election, from start to finish.

Although there are no specified provisions that would punish offenders of this law, BOE Executive Director Gregorio Sablan is strongly warning voters and candidates against it, to avoid further conflicts during election day.

Police to secure polling places

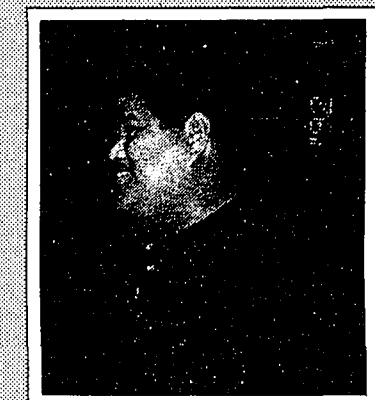
By Rene P. Acosta
Variety News Staff

AN ELABORATE security plan has been drawn by the Department of Public Safety for tomorrow's midterm elections.

Major Clyde Norita, head of DPS's Office of Special Programs, yesterday said the islands' polling places will be thoroughly covered by police officers.

DPS is anticipating that the political exercise will be peaceful and orderly just like the other past elections.

Police officers, members and cadets of the Tactical Response and Enforcement Team will be deployed in the different polling precincts as early as 6:00 in the morning and will stay in their respective posts until the



Clyde Norita

voting centers are closed.

Police will also secure the ballots and the elections officials while the ballots are being transported to the Susupe Multipurpose Center for counting.

"As always, we ask the support of the community to work with the DPS in ensuring we have a safe election," said Norita.

The DPS official said cadets and TRET personnel have been tapped due to the police's lack of manpower.

Officers assigned to the traffic, boating safety, and the motor carrier will also be on call, according to Norita, to make sure that everything is in order.

"We want to be prepared," he said.

While on the polling places, Norita said they will be enforcing rules DPS has agreed to implement with the Board of Elections.

Norita said that the elections body has already advised political parties and candidates about this new regulations.

"We will make sure that this new interpretation will be adhered to by the candidates and their supporters," said Norita.

MVA targets 10% arrival increase

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff

THE MARIANAS Visitors Authority (MVA) is targeting 49,160 more tourists for fiscal year 2000, or an estimated 10 percent increase from FY 1999's records.

Perry Tenorio, MVA managing director, said the "conservative" projection is based on current airplane seat inventory.

"Now we would like to see around 10 percent increase from FY '99 for FY 2000... based on the actual number of seats available to

the CNMI. But that's a conservative figure," said Tenorio.

Total arrivals for FY '99 were pegged at 491,602. With a 10 percent or some 49,160 expected growth, FY 2000's arrivals may be placed at 540,762.

However, FY '99 arrival is 6.6 percent lower than the 526,298 arrival record of FY '98.

The tourism industry has been the hardest hit by the Asian economic crisis among all industries in the CNMI.

After months of negative growth

in arrivals, MVA reported its highest monthly increase so far of 13.08 in September. The increase was attributed to a double-digit growth and continuous economic recovery of its two prime markets, Japan and Korea.

MVA registered a total of 40,087 visitors in September as opposed to only 35,449 visitors during the same period last year.

CNMI arrivals saw its first recovery in March after almost 20 months of deep slump due to the economic crisis.

Official election results to be known after November 11

By Marian A. Maraya
Variety News Staff

GENERAL election results will have not be official until after November 11th, right after the board certifies it as such, said Board of Election (BOE) Executive Director Gregorio Sablan yesterday.

Sablan, in an interview said the results, once tabulated and finalized, would have to be certified by the Board and the procedure is projected to be finished sometime after November 11.

"We have to wait for absentee ballots to be counted. The only time the official results can be

announced official is when the board meets and certifies the results," said Sablan.

The Board can make periodic announcements of results, but the official results will be announced the Board sits down and certifies it, according to Sablan.

Where to go to vote

Polling Place	Election District	Last Names	
		From	To
San Antonio Elementary School	1-A-1	Ada	Lacy
	1-A-2	Leon Guerrero	Zurenda
San Vicente Elementary School	1-B-1	Aaron	Castillo
	1-B-2	Castro	Hirschbein
	1-B-3	Hoog	Pangelinan, Franklin
	1-B-4	Pangelinan, Gonzalo	Schorr
	1-B-5	Schrack	Zweber
Koblerville Elementary School	1-C-1	Abon	Kinsella, John
	1-C-2	Kinsella, Mary	Yaisewil
Kagman Agriculture Station	1-D	Aaron	Zarzoso
W. S. Reyes Elementary School	2-1	Abasta	Itibus
	2-2	Iyar	Zuccaro
Oleai Elementary School	3-A-1	Ada	Nazaire
	3-A-2	Nekairies	Ythamar
Garapan Elementary School	3-B-1	Abalos	Floran
	3-B-2	Florencio	Rabaulman, James
	3-B-3	Rabaulman, Maria	Zehr
Tanapag Elementary School	4-A	Ada	Young
G. T. Camacho Elementary School	4-B	Aguito	Yumul
House of Representatives Chamber	4-C-1	Actouka	Kim
	4-C-2	King	Zeleznik
Tinian Elementary School	5-1	Abayare	Iglecias
	5-2	Ikehara	Zoran
Rota High School	6-1	Aguito	Mangiona, Marries
	6-2	Mangiona, Marrian	Woolslayer
Oleai Elementary School	S-9	All	

AGO files charges vs teenaged 'burglar'

THE ATTORNEY General's Office has charged a teenager who allegedly burglarized a house while under the influence of alcohol.

Jason Ruloked, 18, was charged with burglary, criminal mischief, and minor consuming alcohol.

According to Assistant Attorney General James Benedetto, on or about last Oct. 4 Ruloked did "unlawfully and knowingly enter a building or occupied structure...with the purpose of committing the crime of criminal

mischief."

Benedetto in the complaint stated that Ruloked "intentionally or knowingly caused damage in an amount less than \$250 to the property of the (victim)."

Benedetto added that the defendant, a person under the age of 21, "did knowingly possess or consume an alcoholic beverage" on that same incident.

The Superior Court summoned the teenager to appear and answer the charges in court on Nov. 29. (FDT)

TORRES, William Sablan (Lee)

House of Representatives

Republican, - Precinct # 3

VOTE BOTA SI

BOTA LI IBOTO SI

EDUCATION

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Cum Laude, Education Policy & Management
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- **BACHELOR DEGREE**
Political Science
University of California, Berkeley.
- **COURSE WORK**
Economics
University of San Francisco, California.
- **HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**
Marianas High School, Saipan.

FAMILY

Spouse: Priscilla Manglona Torres
Parents
Father: William Salas Torres (†)
Mother: Rosa Camacho Sablan (Rosan Guillam)
In-Laws:
Father: Prudencio Taisacan Manglona
Mother: Bernadita Cruz Atalig

EXPERIENCE

- Commissioner of Education
- Deputy Commissioner of Education
- Dir. of Planning, Research Info. Center
- Testing & Evaluation Coordinator
- Accreditation for H.S. Coordinator
- Board of Director
- CNMI Language Commission
- Pacific Region Education Laboratory
- Saipan Teachers Association
- U.S. Council of Chief State School Officer
- State-Level Ed. 2000 Panel Co-Chairman
- Pacific Schools Research & Dev. Team
- National Center for Educ. Statistics
- Teacher/Instructor (Youth & Adult)
- Delegate, 2nd Constitutional Convention (1985)

Tinian GOP alleges coercion

By Rene P. Acosta
Variety News Staff

THE PRESIDENT of the Republican Party on Tinian yesterday alleged the island's mayor is coercing government employees to vote for incumbent Sen. David M. Cing.



Elias M. Borja, in his letter to the Office of the Public Auditor, Office of the Attorney General and the Board of Elections, said Borja cited a meeting held the other day involving the municipal employees and the mayor, on the alleged pretext that the two years in office of the municipal chief executive was being celebrated.

In that meeting however, the employees, especially those that are under the mayor's account and supervision, were allegedly "told to be subjected to a roll-call at 10am up to 11 am... at the gate of the other political candidate."

Borja alleged the mayor "is a staunch supporter of... Cing."

He alleged in his letter that the employees have also "been

But Cing says 'no need to intimidate people'



David M. Cing

"Majority of the people of Tinian will carry the Cing... ticket," he added.

Cing also expressed strong objections to cheating. "I do not want to cheat people. I want this elections to be as clean as possible. I don't cheat because it will stick and ruin my life forever. I do not want to win by cheating," said the incumbent Tinian senator.

Cing implied the Republican party on Tinian are making the allegations because "they know... they can't muster enough votes."

Meantime, at least two officials of the Board of Elections on Tinian have been asked to be transferred to other election districts to ensure impartiality in tomorrow's polls.

The request was made also yesterday by Borja, claiming that two elections employees, a certain Mathew Masga and Carmen Farrell, are "known supporters of the rival Democratic Party" who have allegedly shown their "party preference in open public."

Borja's letter was addressed

to Board of Elections Chair Mike Sablan and Executive Director Gregorio C. Sablan.

Borja made the request "to generally ensure an impartial election and to avoid the appearance of impropriety in the election process."

He cited Tuesday night's meeting attended by representatives of all the political parties during which the two election officials allegedly "specifically indicated" that voters may be allowed to vote in front of poll workers and may also display their marked ballots.

"The tactical maneuver of the above scheme is to ascertain that government employees are tactically coerced or

compelled to vote Democrat," he told the chairman and executive director.

The Tinian Republican Party president, said their representatives have opposed the move, but to no avail.

"It is the opinion of the Republican Party that any election by secret ballot shall remain secret. Hence, the board shall compel all voters to peruse the voting booth when voting. The privacy and sanctity of a voter's right to mark his or her ballot in front of all other voters may create a nuisance to others, and would definitely impede the efficient administration of the voting process," Borja said.

Cing said it will be "stupid to transfer people just because they are Republicans or Democrats."

Not much money to pay poll watchers

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

THERE may not be enough funds to fully pay some 400 poll workers who will be mobilized for Saturday's midterm elections, according to Board of Elections Executive Director Gregorio C. Sablan.

In an interview, Sablan said he is giving it until after the elections to see whether he can pay the poll

workers the same amount — \$75 — that were paid them in previous electoral exercises.

"I have not decided how much to pay tabulators and poll workers because I still don't have enough money. In the past they were paid \$75 for being a poll official. But I don't have enough money to pay them \$75 now," said Sablan.

"I will wait until after election and see how much money I can come up with and make a decision to pay them. I have to pay them the same amount," he added.

Sablan said though that he is "not" at all "worried" about money, even as he noted that the Office of the Governor has been "helpful" in providing funds for BOE.

Sablan said BOE has spent an estimated \$60,000 organizing tomorrow's mid-term elections.

He said was expecting about \$90,000.

Sablan, meantime said BOE is busy preparing for the elections and is now just waiting for Saturday making sure that voting sites open and close on time.

Tallying begins at 11pm and could go through way into the afternoon of the next day, said Sablan.

Sablan expressed confidence the poll watchers who will man nearly 30 polling places come election day will show up despite the lack of funds.

"Most of these people are committed. They are supporting a particular candidate. They know that elections (require) community involvement. Some of them volunteers. They want to get involved. Some of them would offer not to get paid (but) I cannot pay one and not the other so what we'll do is balance it out," said Sablan.

BPL wants 2 lawyers out

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE BOARD of Public Lands has voted to "dismiss" its two "off-island" lawyers and instead conduct meetings in Chamorro and Carolinian languages, the Variety learned yesterday.

Sources said BPL members decided during a meeting Wednesday to "kick out" lawyer Thomas E. Clifford and Assistant Attorney General L. David Sosebee from representing the Board.

BPL members conducted the session in vernacular even with the presence of Sosebee. The Board then agreed to use local dialects "from now on" instead of English, sources added.

Pedro M. Atalig, a BPL member representing Rota, yesterday confirmed to the Variety about such Board's decision.

Atalig, however, stressed that he did not participate over the discussion and subsequent voting to "dismiss" Clifford and Sosebee because of two pending civil cases involving him and the two lawyers.

The AGO, represented by then Assistant Attorney General Clifford, filed in 1996 a \$4-million lawsuit against Atalig and six other persons over alleged land grabbing in Rota.

Sosebee on the other hand, is currently representing acting Attorney General Maya Kara and other defendants in the \$3-million lawsuit filed against former Senate



Pedro M. Atalig

President Juan S. Demapan. Atalig is Demapan's counsel in the case.

Atalig said the Board decided to request the Attorney General's Office to authorize and allow BPL to hire a lawyer from private sector who could speak in Chamorro or Carolinian.

The Board, Atalig said, also wanted to be represented by a government lawyer who could also speak the local dialects.

"The Board members want those lawyers who could understand the local culture to be hired on that basis," said Atalig, who is a former CNMI Supreme Court justice.

Among those he mentioned as well-versed in local dialects are Saipan lawyers Perry Inos, Vicente Salas, Robert Naraja, and Brian Nicholas.

Atalig said he voted for the Board's move to use the local languages during their meeting attended by Board chairman Manny P. Villagomez, secretary-treasurer

Luis Limes, and member Ana Castro.

"It was felt by the Board, including me, that Chamorro is our first language and we could communicate better in Chamorro or in Carolinian. There are some local words that are so different from

English...sometimes we cannot interpret," he said.

"We felt we could express better in the vernacular. We all agreed it was a wise decision," he pointed out.

The Board, Atalig said, agreed with the CNMI Supreme Court

that the local people have the right to speak in Chamorro or Carolinian in court proceedings.

Atalig added that when he was a presiding judge, he conducted some proceedings in Chamorro especially when there were some old people in the courtrooms.

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Man who posed as DEA agent pleads guilty

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A MAN yesterday pleaded guilty to a charge that he posed as a federal agent and searched the belongings of some students at the Marianas High School.

Nick Maning Sanchez Castro, 27, entered a plea agreement with the U.S. government. He admitted committing the crime of impersonating a federal agent.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Judge Alex R. Munson set Castro's sentencing for Feb. 8, 2000.

Munson required Castro, among other things, to cooperate with the U.S. Probation Office and stay away from school campuses pending his sentencing.

The offense carries a penalty of three years' imprisonment, \$250,000 fine, and one year probation.

Court papers said the defendant on or about last Sept. 24 "did knowingly, willfully, intentionally, and unlawfully represent himself to as an officer of the U.S."

Castro represented himself as a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agent and in such assumed character "did detain and search belongings and property of a student."

According to an MHS official, the defendant was wearing a T-shirt with "Customs" written on the back, and black long pants, and had a pistol in a holster attached to his waist.

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Sen magof i chetluhu yan kinaduhu para u resibi i botun miyo yan banidosu gue para u representa i intires miyo gi mina dose na Lehlslaturan Marianas.

Gaigi si Francisco (Mr. D.) gi mina sais na kahun, gi agapa na banda gi balotu.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

/s/ Dema /s/ Tanko

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24 HOUR SHOWTIME: 234-9000

Tinian GOP alleges coercion

By Rene P. Acosta
Variety News Staff

THE PRESIDENT of the Republican Party on Tinian yesterday alleged the island's mayor is coercing government employees to vote for incumbent Sen. David M. Cing.

Elias M. Borja, in his letter to the Office of the Public Auditor, Office of the Attorney General and the Board of Elections, said

Borja cited a meeting held the other day involving the municipal employees and the mayor, on the alleged pretext that the two years in office of the municipal chief executive was being celebrated.

In that meeting however, the employees, especially those that are under the mayor's account and supervision, were allegedly "told to be subjected to a roll-call at 10am up to 11 am... at the gate of the other political candidate."

Borja alleged the mayor "is a staunch supporter of... Cing."

He alleged in his letter that the employees have also "been

But Cing says 'no need to intimidate people'



David M. Cing

"Majority of the people of Tinian will carry the Cing... ticket," he added.

Cing also expressed strong objections to cheating.

"I do not want to cheat people. I want this election to be as clean as possible. I don't cheat because it will stick and ruin my life forever. I do not want to win by cheating," said the incumbent Tinian senator.

Cing implied the Republican party on Tinian are making the allegations because "they know.. they can't muster enough votes."

Meantime, at least two officials of the Board of Elections on Tinian have been asked to be transferred to other election districts to ensure impartiality in tomorrow's polls.

The request was made also yesterday by Borja, claiming that two elections employees, a certain Mathew Masga and Carmen Farrell, are "known supporters of the rival Democratic Party" who have allegedly shown their "party preference in open public."

Borja's letter was addressed

to Board of Elections Chair Mike Sablan and Executive Director Gregorio C. Sablan.

Borja made the request "to generally ensure an impartial election and to avoid the appearance of impropriety in the election process."

He cited Tuesday night's meeting attended by representatives of all the political parties during which the two election officials allegedly "specifically indicated" that voters may be allowed to vote in front of poll workers and may also display their marked ballots.

"The tactical maneuver of the above scheme is to ascertain that government employees are tactically coerced or

compelled to vote Democrat," he told the chairman and executive director.

The Tinian Republican Party president, said their representatives have opposed the move, but to no avail.

"It is the opinion of the Republican Party that any election by secret ballot shall remain secret. Hence, the board shall compel all voters to peruse the voting booth when voting. The privacy and sanctity of a voter's right to mark his or her ballot in front of all other voters may create a nuisance to others, and would definitely impede the efficient administration of the voting process," Borja said.

Cing said it will be "stupid to transfer people just because they are Republicans or Democrats."

Not much money to pay poll watchers

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

THERE may not be enough funds to fully pay some 400 poll workers who will be mobilized for Saturday's midterm elections, according to Board of Elections Executive Director Gregorio C. Sablan.

In an interview, Sablan said he is giving it until after the elections to see whether he can pay the poll

workers the same amount — \$75 — that were paid them in previous electoral exercises.

"I have not decided how much to pay tabulators and poll workers because I still don't have enough money. In the past they were paid \$75 for being a poll official. But I don't have enough money to pay them \$75 now," said Sablan.

"I will wait until after election and see how much money I can come up with and make a decision to pay them. I have to pay them the same amount," he added.

Sablan said though that he is "not" at all "worried" about money, even as he noted that the Office of the Governor has been "helpful" in providing funds for BOE.

Sablan said BOE has spent an estimated \$60,000 organizing tomorrow's mid-term elections.

He said was expecting about \$90,000.

Sablan, meantime said BOE is busy preparing for the elections and is now just waiting for Saturday making sure that voting sites open and close on time.

Tallying begins at 11pm and could go through way into the afternoon of the next day, said Sablan.

Sablan expressed confidence the poll watchers who will man nearly 30 polling places come election day will show up despite the lack of funds.

"Most of these people are committed. They are supporting a particular candidate. They know that elections (require) community involvement. Some of them volunteers. They want to get involved. Some of them would offer not to get paid (but) I cannot pay one and not the other so what we'll do is balance it out," said Sablan.

BPL wants 2 lawyers out

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE BOARD of Public Lands has voted to "dismiss" its two "off-island" lawyers and instead conduct meetings in Chamorro and Carolinian languages, the Variety learned yesterday.

Sources said BPL members decided during a meeting Wednesday to "kick out" lawyer Thomas E. Clifford and Assistant Attorney General L. David Sosebee from representing the Board.

BPL members conducted the session in vernacular even with the presence of Sosebee. The Board then agreed to use local dialects "from now on" instead of English, sources added.

Pedro M. Atalig, a BPL member representing Rota, yesterday confirmed to the Variety about such Board's decision.

Atalig, however, stressed that he did not participate over the discussion and subsequent voting to "dismiss" Clifford and Sosebee because of two pending civil cases involving him and the two lawyers.

The AGO, represented by then Assistant Attorney General Clifford, filed in 1996 a \$4-million lawsuit against Atalig and six other persons over alleged land grabbing in Rota.

Sosebee on the other hand, is currently representing acting Attorney General Maya Kara and other defendants in the \$3-million lawsuit filed against former Senate



Pedro M. Atalig

President Juan S. Demapan. Atalig is Demapan's counsel in the case.

Atalig said the Board decided to request the Attorney General's Office to authorize and allow BPL to hire a lawyer from private sector who could speak in Chamorro or Carolinian.

The Board, Atalig said, also wanted to be represented by a government lawyer who could also speak the local dialects.

"The Board members want those lawyers who could understand the local culture to be hired on that basis," said Atalig, who is a former CNMI Supreme Court justice.

Among those he mentioned as well-versed in local dialects are Saipan lawyers Perry Inos, Vicente Salas, Robert Naraja, and Brian Nicholas.

Atalig said he voted for the Board's move to use the local languages during their meeting attended by Board chairman Manny P. Villagomez, secretary-treasurer

Luis Limes, and member Ana Castro.

"It was felt by the Board, including me, that Chamorro is our first language and we could communicate better in Chamorro or in Carolinian. There are some local words that are so different from

English... sometimes we cannot interpret," he said.

"We felt we could express better in the vernacular. We all agreed it was a wise decision," he pointed out.

The Board, Atalig said, agreed with the CNMI Supreme Court

that the local people have the right to speak in Chamorro or Carolinian in court proceedings.

Atalig added that when he was a presiding judge, he conducted some proceedings in Chamorro especially when there were some old people in the courtrooms.

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Man who posed as DEA agent pleads guilty

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A MAN yesterday pleaded guilty to a charge that he posed as a federal agent and searched the belongings of some students at the Marianas High School.

Nick Maning Sanchez Castro, 27, entered a plea agreement with the U.S. government. He admitted committing the crime of impersonating a federal agent.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Judge Alex R. Munson set Castro's sentencing for Feb. 8, 2000.

Munson required Castro, among other things, to cooperate with the U.S. Probation Office and stay away from school campuses pending his sentencing.

The offense carries a penalty of three years' imprisonment, \$250,000 fine, and one year probation.

Court papers said the defendant on or about last Sept. 24 "did knowingly, willfully, intentionally, and unlawfully represent himself to as an officer of the U.S."

Castro represented himself as a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agent and in such assumed character "did detain and search belongings and property of a student."

According to an MHS official, the defendant was wearing a T-shirt with "Customs" written on the back, and black long pants, and had a pistol in a holster attached to his waist.

BOTA!

FRANCISCO de Leon Guerrero DEMAPAN para Congreso

Konrespetu enfaishen todo parientes yan man atungo mami na enhahaso pot fabot i chetluhu yan kinaduhu as Francisco de Leon Guerrero Demapan, agupa na ha'ane yangin man hanao hamyo guato gi sagan botacion gi eleccion Distrito Uno.

Sen magof i chetluhu yan kinaduhu para u resibi i botun miyo yan banidosu gue para u representa i intires miyo gi mina dose na Lehlislaturan Marianas.

Gaigi si Francisco (Mr. D.) gi mina saish na kahun, gi agapa na banda gi balotu.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

/s/ Dema /s/ Tanko

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FORUM

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

EDITORIAL

Make your vote count

TOMORROW the people of the Commonwealth get to wield the power of the ballot again—the right to choose leaders who will represent them in the Legislature, the Board of Education and the Municipal Councils.

They will also make a decision on vital proposals to amend the Constitution, which have been placed before them by the very leaders they elected the previous times they went to the polls.

The thing about elections, is that people get to exercise free choice on who they think can best serve their interest as a community.

They are empowered, through the ballot, to take out those who they think Akin to this right, as granted under the Constitution, the people of this Commonwealth are allowed the opportunity to take part in the collective task of charting the islands' future.

But part of this democratic right is the prerogative to elect not to vote at all, if one sees futility in the exercise.

This perhaps is what Northern Islands leader Cinta Kaipat had in mind when she urged his fellow Northern Islanders not to vote this Saturday. By advocating a boycott of the elections, Ms. Kaipat hopes to convey her people's resentment to the decision of the Board of Elections to lump them with the voters from Saipan, instead of treating them as a distinct voting bloc from a separate community up north.

Ms Kaipat may rightly have an axe to grind on this issue, considering the emotional attachment some residents have to their home-islands. But we find it rather impractical for them to heed the boycott call just because they were being made to cast their ballots as Saipan residents.

There is so much more to gain if they exercised their right to vote than if they were to boycott the elections. By participating, they can rightfully say they contributed to the success or failure of the government, that they did not stand idly by when the need to make choices came up.

Tomorrow, 14,000 registered voters will be tramping to the polling stations to exercise their right of suffrage. It is important that the voice of all voters be heard including that from the people of the Northern Islands.

The elections will validate the political maturity that, a lot of officials believe, has been attained by today's electorate.

It is important that nobody is left out.

Get out and vote. And better yet, make your vote matter.

INTERNET ADDICTS ANONYMOUS MEETING...



Variations

Zaldy Dandan

Align

MANILA — The world as we know it could end at 4:08 p.m. here (6:08 p.m. in the Marianas) on May 5, 2000. On that day, there will be a "grand conjunction" of Jupiter, Venus, Mars, Saturn and Mercury. If doomsayers are to be believed, such a planetary alignment would exert tremendous gravitational force on the Earth, causing tsunamis that would kill us all.

Doomsayers said the same thing when a similar alignment was expected to occur in 1982. They were wrong; but doomsayers, like ideologues, do not allow something as insignificant as facts to get in their argument's way.

Still, to counter the locals' fears describing these celestial events as Apocalypse Now, the national weather bureau chief has released a statement explaining what will happen when the planets line up on May 5 next year. In an interview with the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Dr. Bernardo Soriano says the planets never exactly line up, but only appear to be doing so as viewed from the Earth. He adds, however, that the alignment will not even be observed because the sun will block our view of it. More important, Soriano says, the alignment is nothing to worry about. He says a Boeing 747 flying at 30,000 feet will produce a greater tidal effect on the Earth's surface than a grand conjunction. There were no adverse effects when the planets were similarly aligned in the past. Says Soriano: "The only effect will be caused by a possible mass hysteria, which is far more powerful than gravity."

Speaking of doomsday, a bill has been introduced in the Philippine House of Representatives that would allow Filipino nationals jailed abroad to complete their prison sentence here. Why is this a doomsday scenario? Well, it is for Filipino inmates, unless one is a millionaire, in which case prison could be quite an exotic resort. Rioting, incidentally, is not an option for the rest of the prisoners unless they want to be shot by the police, whose vocabulary does not include the word "negotiation."

At any rate, Congressman J. Apolinario Lozada Jr. (Lakas-Negros Occidental) says this bill would authorize the Department of Justice to

take into custody Filipinos serving sentences abroad. But to be implemented, this measure has to be backed up by treaties with the countries that detain Filipino nationals. These countries, in turn, have to enact similar legislation to provide for the transfer of prisoners. Lozada says his proposal would also allow the foreign countries to seek custody of their nationals detained here.

The congressman, like all Philippine lawmakers, is extremely concerned about the welfare and safety of Filipino nationals working abroad. To test this concern, I'm urging the Pinoys in the Marianas, particularly those in the CNMI, to write letters to Lozada asking him to call for the scrapping of the mandatory \$65.00 (P 2,600!) life insurance fee imposed on contract workers. The fee, I was told, covers only one year of a contract worker's life. Now because there is little chance that the contract worker will actually collect insurance benefits within a year, the fee, which is non-refundable, is a virtual tax levied on us who are already paying taxes in the CNMI and whose employers have already provided us with insurance policies.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Labor Office on Saipan has to collect this fee because it has to follow Manila's instructions. Hence, Pinoy contract workers in the CNMI who consider this fee as nothing less than government robbery should complain directly, through letters, to our legislators and other national leaders, as well as to national newspapers. We have to be heard.

Speaking of Manila, those who will visit the city should dine at Café Havana in Malate. Prepare yourself for a feast of the senses. Afterward, get yourself a Cuban cigar, which the restaurant sells to diners, and check out the other Malate bars, specifically those on J. Nakpil St. I am, of course, extending this invitation only to those who are capable of being delighted by excellent food, good music, and beautiful people.

Those who are thinking of "other" delights, should repent and hear mass at the Manila Cathedral.

Letters to the Editor

LETTERS to the editor must carry the full name of the writer and signature, with a telephone number (in case of faxed or mailed letters) for verification. Letters addressed to other publications or to third parties and those endorsing particular political candidates are discouraged. All letters are subject to editing. The Variety reserves the right to reject any letters. Name withheld and unsigned letters will not see print.

"No" to Initiative 11-1

MY ADVICE to the indigenous people is, if you know what's good for you and you want to protect the only right you have left that keeps you from being completely over run by non-indigenous groups, then vote "yes" on Legislative Initiative 11-1.

Don't be misled. The only indigenous individuals who will vote against the initiative are those who are acting as secret agents for non-indigenous persons and corporations who illegally own land in the Common-

wealth. These are the holes in the loop that need to be plugged.

Yes, we may have to endure court challenges, but we have endured far greater oppositions in the past. That is why our ancestors were literally massacred to the point of extinction; to preserve what they believed in. Within the first decade of the next century there could be enough non-indigenous voters in the CNMI to silence the voice of the indigenous people. They're promoting the Commonwealth on

Channel 3. Just check out how many indigenous people there are on that film.

Other than the Indian Reservations, American Samoa and Palau, this is the only other place in the free world with landownership protection for the indigenous. The land we have rightfully belongs to the next generation. Believe me, they are going to need that edge.

We are just a drop in the sea of people waiting to overtake us. We may not be able to hold back the

river forever, but there's no reason why we should chip holes in the dam. If we allow non-indigenous persons the right to determine the outcome of a Constitutional Law that is intended to preserve landownership for the indigenous, then we are defeating the purpose of having that Constitutional Law (Article XII) in the first place. It's like inviting the wolf to guard the chicken coop.

If we should ever allow non-indigenous persons to vote on

Article XII questions then, they must have lived in the Commonwealth for at least 27 years and 6 months. That should give them enough time to own a bonafide stake in the quest for a better Commonwealth and not just be opportunists and prospectors passing by, which is who they mostly are; here today and gone tomorrow. Grab the money and run. Most of us are here for good.

JOSE C. MAFNAS
As Matuis

Concerned victim of PCB

SI YU'US Ma'ase for allowing me to air my concern.

On October 21, 1999, I attended a very important meeting at the village of Tanapag with various government officials from the Federal as well as the CNMI regarding a highly toxic chemical compound that can cause cancer, PCB.

The community was well represented also.

It was an informative public hearing for me as well as for the residents whom I met that evening and continuous to-date.

The awareness of this toxic chemical exposure in our little

community, the impact it may have done to the environment and human life is frightening and alarming which needs to be addressed immediately by our government and the US EPA.

The 22 unusual related deaths mostly young people and the different illnesses plaguing the community, surely, one can almost imagine and predict the reaction from the residents of Tanapag at this meeting.

Of course, there were all kinds of mixed reactions, outrage, disbelief, distrust, overwhelm, fear that led to emotional outburst, some were silence of a fate, did

not even know what questions to ask.

So many personal questions linger in the mind of many people, but agenda for that evening was for public education and the answers given were vague.

The concerns raised by the Tanapag residents and the CNMI officials were all legitimate.

I will not deny that the Federal officials were also helpful in their responses to questions raised by the community.

But the people's fear of the unknown exposure is a fact that cannot be taken lightly.

The magnitude of this exposure

with the added toxic, dioxin, a more potent toxic is very serious that needs a collective effort from all involved to provide solutions, and address the fear of the people to reduce the anxiety of our fate if we are exposed.

The study conducted which based its findings on random interviews and death certificates from the village may have basis, but the bottom line questions we need to hear are, how safe is our environment? How exposed are they? What actions have been taken to protect and address our health? Who pays for our screen test, treatment?

We need this assurance for ourselves and for the next generation.

We need not be victimized twice or forever because of neglect from agencies whose mission is task to address problems such as ours.

I appeal to both U.S. and the CNMI governments to be concerned for its people.

I am sure that a serious dialogue has already begun as a result of that meeting and sincerely hope it continues.

SYLVESTRE I. IGUEL
Tanapag, Saipan

Mayor's woes

I REMEMBER the times when the Mayor of Saipan was operating full speed ahead completing each and every task the general public or certain individuals that requested for services.

Traditional and cultural events were entertained left to right to everyone's expectations and satisfaction.

It was a time when the Mayor had unlimited power and jurisdiction control over the Island and its communities.

From water deliveries to coral hauling and trash disposal, they were at your service.

From control over Bingo to Batu and Cockfighting licensing, to even having it's own Municipal Treasury to conduct and budget their everyday operations and even their own payroll.

Where has this organized office gone to?

Will we ever experience it again?

What are the classes of operating the Mayor's office the way it did 40 to 50 years ago?

The answers to all of the above lies in the hands of the general public. We the people can bring all this power and resources back if we really want to.

We can make this Island beautiful again by helping one another.

We can have corals delivered to our homesteads at no cost just start us up in building our dream house.

We can have our roads repaired every time mother nature decides to tear it up.

All this without the Attorney General getting in the way.

Everything that the Mayor's Office

does for us in the past, is no longer a reality.

It is illegal in the eyes of the Attorney General.

I say let the people decide what is legal and not legal when it comes to business operations and functions done by the Mayors Office.

Let's exercise our rights and put it to as an initiative on the next general election. Let us give the Mayor more power and flexibility so he can function and operate the way he used to for everyone's benefit.

How many Mayors have come and gone and had to go to all the red tapes that the present Mayor has to go through? To my knowledge none.

The present Mayor is experiencing a nightmare in Afetnas square due to budget cuts and obsolete equipment.

From lack of manpower to restrictions from federal laws.

His fiscal budget has been cut tremendously, his resources are very limited and operating with what he's got on had trying very hard to make ends meet.

His request for additional budget is hampered by the present economic shortfall and the so called austerity measure.

But, somehow he finds a way to survive on a day to day basis.

Everyone is talking about the Mayor; The mayor is like this, the mayor is like that. But in the end it's always the Mayor's Office To The Rescue.

JOEY C. CRUZ

Why, Mr. Ingram?

LAST MONTH, I had an article out to the community in support of DPS Commissioner Charles Ingram Jr.'s stepping down or resignation.

This is because, I have been a victim, as a result of his weaknesses and poor leadership to the once great and dependable Department of Public Safety.

This year, I have twice taken the opportunity to apply as a Correction Officer at the department, to fill an existing vacancy. After the personnel office had reviewed and rated my employment application (with supportive background experiences), along with non-criminal offense police clearance official documents attached, this easily made me one of the top candidates for interview.

The first interview conducted this year went quite smoothly but, sad to say I was not selected due to what a background investigation revealed. Immediately after receiving such notice, I confronted Mr. Ingram, regarding the decision.

In response, he stated that there will be another announcement of the job vacancy and told me to take up that opportunity once again for there is shortage of correction officers in his department. Two months later, another announcement appeared and I did just that. I re-applied once again attaching same supportive credentials. Again, I received another letter from the personnel office stating that as one of the qualified top candidates for such position, I was going to be contacted by DPS for an interview. The

DPS administrative office, a couple weeks later, called me via telephone at my residence for my interview time and date.

When that time came, I received another call from the same DPS office letting me know that I need not appear for another interview, upon Mr. Ingram's instruction. The reason behind it was the same reason why I was not selected the first time — the background investigation.

I just don't understand where Mr. Ingram's decision is coming from. Since I have moved over here from Guam, in 1987 I don't remember ever being prosecuted by our Court of Law. Up to the present time, I have maintained a clean record that can be easily proven with an update non-criminal offense police clearance.

I am thoroughly confused about this concern and this has prompted me to ask an explanation from the DPS Commissioner. I will not be satisfied and I will close the door unless this matter is settled. I am looking at a clear positive decision based on qualifications and ability to perform rather than a political leverage in the hiring process. It just makes me wonder now just how qualified that individual he had just hired compared to my qualifications.

I kindly, once again and with due respect write and send this message out to our community. I would sure like to hear Mr. Ingram's comments and explanations as regards to this matter.

ALFRED F. TAITANO
Concerned citizen

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In The
Supreme Court of the United States

STANLEY T. TORRES and JEANNE H. RAYPHAND,
Appellants,

v.

MIGUEL M. SABLON, etc.
Appellees,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, etc.
Intervenors.

On Appeal From The
United States District Court
For The Northern Mariana Islands

JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

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"THE CNMI SENATE RE-APPORTIONMENT CIVIL LAWSUIT CASE NO. 97-0029 is now before the UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT, WASHINGTON, D.C. and is now No. 99-475"

I am standing firm, fighting for the re-apportionment of our CNMI Senate protecting your fundamental rights and to put into place the rights of the MAJORITY to RULE in our Commonwealth Government, Islas Marianas. The Right to Rule and Control our CNMI Government by the MAJORITY OF OUR TAX-PAYERS.

Defende yan Protecscion todo taotao para derechon MAYORIA man-manda yan man-gobietna NA TAX-PAYERS.

Whether I am in Congress or not.... I fight Judges in Court making poor and bad judgement and rights.

If elected, I will continue to support EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND PUBLIC SAFETY & LIV Fight Gasoline Price Fixing.... Fight Briberies... and Conflict of Interest dealings & dealers... HOUSING COSTS FINANCING program, waiving all unnecessary fees, such as Title Search money to build homes through or directly from Government Housing loan program... I will co

I will also make available, legal assistance for the needy people and who are cheated of their l no increase for entire 55 year term, when the Lessee - Tenant Lustily making approximately

CRIMINAL ACTIONS,...NO ACTION YET: CASE NOS. 99-312, filed July 9, 1999
99-371, filed Aug.3, 1999
99-414, filed Aug.31, 1999
99-421, filed Sep. 1, 1999
99-456, filed Sep.21,1999

Didn't Judge Bellas said that he believes that "JUSTICE DELAYED IS JUSTICE DENIED"?

A Judge should dispose promptly of the business of the Court. Is Judge Bellas on the campaign trail?

People who are accused of Criminal Action are told to wait until Judge Bellas wins the retention election.

VOTERS.... THINK ABOUT IT.

VOTE "NO" on Initiative 11-1."NMI Descent only vote is not a good law.

It is a race-based issue and will change again when my lawsuit case on the CNMI Senate re-appointment appeal before the U.S.SUPREME COURT is decided in favor of a "ONE-MAN, ONE-VOTE" principle.

Let it be. Vote "NO".

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE VARIOUS CRIMINAL MATTERS }

CRIMINAL ACTIONS 99-312, 99-371,
99-414, 99-421, and 99-456

Due to circumstances beyond my control, I feel that it is appropriate for me to take some annual leave prior to the upcoming retention election. Therefore, all of the above cited matters will be continued for the same day and time, one week later.

Should the above listing be incomplete, especially those matters normally assigned to other judges, any Saipan matter which is scheduled for this week will be continued to next week. If you have a scheduling conflict for next week, please contact my deputy clerk and she will make every effort to accommodate you.

I apologize to the parties and their attorneys for any inconvenience which may result from this short notice.

Dated this 1st day of November, 1999

Timothy H. Bellas
TIMOTHY H. BELLAS, Associate Judge

300 HIV/AIDS cases in NMI

By Haldee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff

THERE are approximately 300 cases of HIV/AIDS in the CNMI right now, and most of the indi-

viduals infected are either afraid to submit themselves to treatment or totally unaware of what has hit them, the Department of Public Health's (DPH) Communicable

Disease Control Program (CDCP) disclosed.

Elsie Ramon, manager of DPH's CDC program said this estimated figure should not be

ignored, and called on individuals, especially those who suspect they are infected to seek treatment at the hospital.

"This is a reason for us to be alarmed and concerned. We need them to come to us for treatment and to prevent more people from getting infected," Ramon said in an interview.

Seven individuals in the CNMI have already died due to AIDS since 1983.

Currently, there are nine HIV patients whose cases already progressed into full-blown AIDS, while 13 patients are HIV-positive, said Ramon.

Since the start of the year, DPH already reported one new case of HIV and another new case of AIDS.

The health official also said the "reported" cases of these dreaded sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs) are too small compared to the estimated number of infected individuals.

Once an HIV-positive case developed into AIDS, the infected

individual usually dies within two years.

DPH is set to embark on an island-wide information campaign on HIV/AIDS to address this growing concern on STDs.

Just recently, DPH's CDCP sponsored a two-day "Focus Group" discussions among CNMI women representing all sectors of the community. Ramon said this was a venue for women to air the social problems that need to be addressed by the government's health care programs.

Ramon also recognized the lack of support group for people infected with HIV/AIDS. She said this has been one of the reasons why infected individuals choose not to tell anybody they are infected because of fear of rejection and alienation.

STDs have become a major concern in the CNMI in recent months. DPH's year-to-date ending September figures on other major STD cases are as follows: 182 syphilis, 156 chlamydia and 34 gonorrhea.

Public Defender's hands are tied due to budget, staff shortage

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

NEWLY nominated Public Defender Masood Karimipour said that their hands at the Public Defender's Office are tied due to budget and staffing shortage.

"When your hands are tied, you can't give a fair fight. But we work extra hard, (put) extra long hours to make sure that the rights of the people that we represent are not prejudiced by this unequal treatment," said Karimipour in an interview.

Although PDO and the Attorney General's Office's Criminal Division have almost the same caseload, Karimipour said, the AGO has the largest staff with access not only from own inves-

tigators, but the entire police force as well.

The AGO Criminal Division currently has seven prosecutors with one more coming while PDO has five attorneys, including Karimipour.

Karimipour noted that the budget and staff shortage problem has been a problem in PDO even during the term of then Chief Public Defender Dan DeRienzo.

"We've been trying to get relief from the government since DeRienzo was here. And year after year we've been told that there's no money. And yet we see more funding going on to the AGO and their positions being filled, receiving money for training and for other things and yet we're told

that there's no money for you," he said.

To address the problem, Karimipour said, PDO staff are doing the best that they can with what they have.

He, however, stated that there is a risk that people of Saipan would suffer when they come to their office and look for help because PDO staff are getting "crushed under the weight of the cases."

"We do a lot of work in this office that goes beyond legal representation. We do probably as much social work as we do legal work. We represent and comfort not just clients but clients' families that come to us in time of distress and ask for help," Karimipour added.

Cabrera shares Faisao's concerns on passing plutonium shipments

By Rene P. Acosta
Variety News Staff

REACTING to the assessment of Rep. Melvin Faisao on the possible effects of a threat-posing uranium, the Division of Environmental Quality on Wednesday agreed with the recommendation of the legislator that the existing set-up with the federal government on nuclear pass should be corrected.

"The fact that the U.S. government can ship extremely dangerous radioactive waste within yards of our shoreline without even providing CNMI notification of such shipments is appalling and DEQ agrees with your recommendation that this situation must be rectified," said Director Ignacio Cabrera in his letter to Faisao.

Two days ago, Faisao raised concern over the apparently discreet passage of radioactive shipments near the territorial waters of the Northern Mariana Islands in the past with the knowledge of the federal government and which were kept away from the CNMI.

Faisao said that it is high time that this situation should be ironed out and even hinted that the government come up with its own set of regulations. The legislator has just come out with his report entitled "Shipments of Nuclear Waste by Sea, and Its Impact on the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

The report has been read by the environmental office.

"This report was very enlightening and based on the findings documented in the report, DEQ acknowledges that this situation presents the most alarming human and environmental risks," Ignacio said.

According to the director, his office is extremely concerned on the



Ignacio Cabrera



Melvin Faisao

"far reaching and long lasting effects of any unfortunate accidents on the environment and the people of the CNMI, especially as the report documented the safety concerns of the shipping containers and potential for terrorist activity." Ignacio said that such accidents or acts of terrorism could destroy the islands' and its inhabitants.

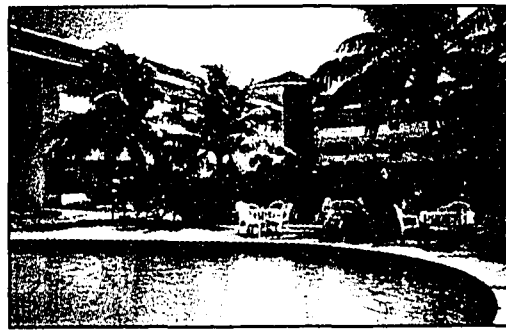
Furthermore, it will lay the CNMI as a "wasteland of radioactivity for

the thousands of years to come," just like the islands of Bikini, Eniwetok, and Rongelap have experienced.

The DEQ has committed its help in assisting Faisao in his move to rectify the "egregious situation" as it also asked the Legislature to adopt immediate and appropriate measures to protect the people and the natural resources of the Commonwealth."

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Know your BOE candidates

By Marian A. Maraya
Variety News Staff

HOW well do you know your candidates? Do they really care for issues?

Candidates aiming to fill the seats in the State Board of Education (BOE) maintain that they intend on making significant changes to CNMI's educational system.

Roman Benavente, Saipan: "Kindergarten is the foundation for higher learning."

Roman Cepeda Benavente says he is confused why kindergarten education is not compulsory among CNMI children.

"It's not constitutionally mandated but I'm hoping that if I ever get elected, I will try to look for solutions regarding this problem," said Benavente.

"I am a person who moves on, takes issues as they come, solves them and moves in a positive way," he said.

Benavente said he does not see the logic behind including kindergarten education under the Public School System (PSS) budget but not making it mandatory for all kids.

"I don't see what difference it would make, kindergarten is already within PSS, and funds are being dispensed for the use of kindergarten."

"I don't see why PSS cannot mandate it for everyone," said

Benavente.

Being a parent himself, he attests to the fact that kindergarten is the foundation for kids as they tread to a higher education.

Benavente aims to push for mandatory kindergarten education in the CNMI, among other priorities which he thinks needs immediate attention.

"I am not within the board's area yet, but I have every intention of looking into other areas with regard to the situation of PSS, as far as academic concerns and issues, and also logistic issues are concerned," he said.

Benavente said that given the chance to serve under the board, he plans on looking at the ailing busing situation at PSS and other related issues which are conflicting with the interest of CNMI children.

Though he admits to not knowing everything with regard to real issues surrounding PSS and CNMI's educational system, as of yet, Benavente assured that that will soon change.

"Rest assured that if I become elected that I won't back off on any issue. I am not a person who backs off on an issue. I pursue an issue until I solve it," he said.

Also bothered by the decline in reading skills among students in the upper grade levels (based on SAT9 results), Benavente expressed plans to discuss with the

Commissioner and her logistic staff on the issue to identify the downfall or shortfall in teaching procedures, which may have contributed to the decline.

"To that extent, we will be able to identify the problem and solve the problem," he said.

Benavente also promises to be instrumental in lobbying at the Legislature for funds.

"Not only for PSS and its programs but also on other different areas that are needed for the needs of the kids. I have lobbied even when I am a member of the PTA," he said.

Benavente has been an active PTA member for 18 years running.

He has served the San Vicente community as PTA president since 1994.

It was under Benavente's term that Dan Dan Elementary School became a reality, he said.

"I cannot personally take all the credit for that. The credits should be given to the teachers and staff of San Vicente, the children, the community, and most of all to those parents who have contributed in kind contributions to the PTA," he said.

Edward Manglona, Saipan: "No to micro-managing."

IF THERE'S any crime that the present BOE is guilty of, it's that it has taken to the task of managing PSS all on its hands.

In so many words, former Retirement Fund Administrator had this much to say about the current State Board.

"The board itself, needs to get away from micro-managing public schools and get into the business of policy-making," Manglona said.

"I have learned to deal with a policy making body and I think BOE needs to focus on making good, sound policies in the manner that the Commissioner can implement without much interference from BOE," he said.

At one time, Manglona served under the Board of Elections (BOE), although briefly.

"I also used to work for a Board, as the administrator of the Retirement Fund. So I do have some experience in developing policies and implementing those policies," Manglona added.

Furthermore, PSS apparently needs assistance in terms of how it allocates resources, according to Manglona.

"It appears that PSS needs some real good help on how it can better use those resources for the benefit of the children that PSS serves. Again, with my background and experience, I can actually help in that area," he said.

The issue of overcrowding in schools is also an area which Manglona feels should get immediate attention.

"I would like to see an elementary school built in the Matuis area. We also need to pursue a new high school," he said.

Manglona also takes to BOE member Tom Pangelinan's sentiments that a second high school in a central location is highly favorable than an alternative option.

"I am not sure whether Koblerville is an appropriate site for the high school. I think Capitol Hill is better because it's at a central location. When you look at the map of Saipan, Capitol Hill is right in the center," he said.

The added cost on making Capitol Hill habitable for construction is just a minor issue, according to Manglona.

"I think the cost would be minimal because there are infrastructure available over there already," he said.

Manglona also intends on finding an answer to the common perception that private school kids do better than public school kids.

He expressed plans on commissioning a study looking into the differences of teaching methods and procedures between the two schools.

Manglona further touched on the reading decline issue among upper grade level students (based on SAT9 results), citing that this problem may be attributed to the environment and the learning attitude.

Continued on page 65

IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE !!!



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FLORENCIO
T.
GUERRERO

ANTONIO
M.
CAMACHO

LUIS
C.
CAMACHO

ELECTION PRECINCT 111

MAX
"TIMMO"
OLOPAI
(Incumbent)

ISIDRO
"SID"
SABLAN

EGREDINO
"DINO"
M. JONES
(Incumbent)

ELECTION PRECINCT 1V

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Although 3 days remain until the election, I, nonetheless, want to acknowledge and convey a sincere gratitude to the many friends and supporters for the commitment, hard works and encouragement throughout the past several months of my campaign efforts.

A special "Si Yuus Maase" and "Oloomwaay" to the kind people of As Matuis, Marpi, San Roque, Achugao, Tanapag, As Mahetog, Capitol Hill, As Teo, Santa Lourdes and Kagman, for the trust you have placed in me and for allowing me, during the past two legislative terms, to represent your interests in the Commonwealth House of Representatives.

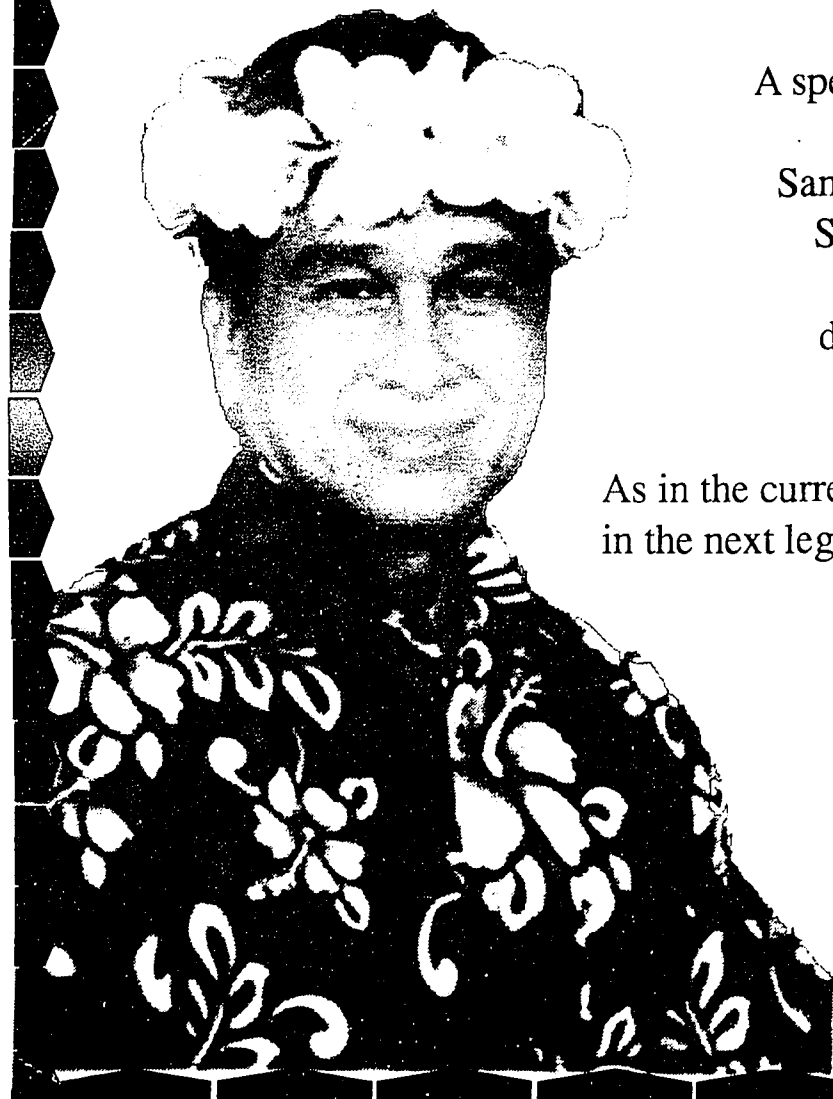
As in the current legislature, I will, with your consent, continue to work hard in the next legislature on those programs and concerns which I have outlined in this media and the Marianas Cable Television, for the betterment of our people and communities.

I humbly ask, once more, for your endorsement and your vote on Election Day, 6 November 1999.

Thank you very much.

Representative Dino M. Jones

Candidate, House of Representatives
Election Precinct IV (Saipan)



US experts train NMI police officers

By Rene P. Acosta
Variety News Staff

TRAFFIC officers are expected to improve their skills in drug and alcohol detection with the help of experts from the mainland.

Three alcohol and drug experts from the Phoenix Police Department and Pima County Sheriff's Office, both based in Phoenix, Arizona are now training officers from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan on the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN) which is now commonly used in the United States.

The HGN method, being taught by Lee Campbell, Paul Hill and Brenda Campbell, uses no gadgets except the officers' pen and detection skills.

"It is used to detect drug and alcohol concentration in the blood," said Lee in an interview while giving the training at the DPS academy yesterday.

The method employs the holding and moving slowly left and right of a pen, like a car wiper against the eye of a driver within a distance no farther than seven inches. If the eyeballs move fast

or get left out of the pen's movement, then the driver is intoxicated.

Lee said HGN is a very effective detector. The arresting officer can then initiate the follow-up test using the breathalyzer machine, he added.

The expert also said officers can detect the concentration of alcohol through the HGN in any driver's blood by about point 10 percent or higher.

He said the method, which is new to CNMI traffic officers, has been used in the United States since 1984.

Major Clyde Norita of the Office of Special Programs said the three mainland experts have been called to deliver the training through the Arizona Office of Highway Safety.

The skills that the officers will be learning could also be imparted to other traffic officers, he said.

He added that the first batch of traffic officers, if trained and certified, will be eligible to become instructors for other CNMI traffic enforcers.



Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider (holding the plaque) and Vice Speaker Jesus T. Attao (right, behind) present a legislative resolution commending the Garapan Elementary School for a six-year accreditation in a recent ceremony. Contributed photo

UOG foundation fundraiser on

THE UNIVERSITY of Guam's Endowment Foundation is sponsoring a fund-raising dinner tomorrow at the Hyatt Regency Guam Hotel at 6 p.m.

Proceeds of the event will help

fund the construction of the university's College of Business and Public Administration, the expansion and renovation of the UOG student center and the fine arts building.

Over \$20 million is needed to fund these projects.

Endowment Foundation Program Development Administrator Flora Baza Quan said along with being a fundraiser, this event is also a "friend raiser".

Quan said some 440 tickets of the 500 printed have been sold and will also be sold at the door tomorrow night. Tickets are being sold for \$150.

"We are hoping to make as much as we can... benefactors can make donations toward a project or projects of their choice," she said.

Quan said university students will also be taking an active part in the gala dinner and art auction.

Quan added that ZDTV Cam Film Festival award winner Eriex "Rex" Hermogino will be making a video presentation which outlines the mission statement, goals, and objectives of the endowment foundation.

The video presentation will also feature several interviews with notable UOG alumni who have been successful in their respective fields.

Works of art donated by local artists and art patrons, including an original etching by impressionist artist Paul Cézanne, will be auctioned off.

The event will feature a silent auction, a celebrity wine auction, and a live auction featuring the work of several international masters in addition to submissions by local artists like Ric Castro, Jose Babauta, Ron Castro, Blu Rivard, Fil Alcorn, Judy Flores, Sal Biduare, Phil Noble, Richard San Nicolas, Arman Germar, Eugene Poole, Jr. and Louis Rifkowitz.

Other items to be auctioned on include a silk screen rendering by modern-day artist Alexander Calder and a photograph by local Pulitzer prize winner Manly Crisostomo.

Jazz artists Patrick Palomo and Carlos Laguana along with the university's vocal group, The Native Tongues will be on hand to provide entertainment. TH

Power outage Sunday

THE COMMUNITY Utility announces that there will be a three hour power outage on Sunday, November 7, 1999 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The outage is needed to relocate a power pole that is in the way of the wastewater line.

The affected customers will be in southern side of Kanoa from the US Post Office, Chalan Piao and San Antonio areas.

In order to install the new system, the utility will turn off the power to protect the lives of its customers and employees.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DON PABS

From
Intoy and Friends



Ana Sablan Teregeyo

has you and your concerns in mind...



WOMEN'S ISSUES

Women have always had pivotal roles in the enrichment of the family, community, the nation and the world. The Anti-Prostitution Law (PL 8-14), as amended, and the proposed Domestic and Family Violence Act are there to remedy some of the social ills of our society. My goal is to make sure that family and women issues are given priority.



YOUTH

Preparing our children for the challenges of the future is the reason why I am here. Laws such as the CNMI Youth Congress Act (PL 8-27), as amended, and the restriction of tobacco sale to minors are there to empower our children to develop their leadership skills and to protect their health as well. Your children and their future are my priority.



ARTS AND CULTURE

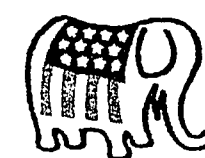
Arts and culture and the people are one. As Founder and Board Secretary of CNMI Cultural and Performing Arts Center Foundation, I wish to awaken people's awareness to the fact that arts and culture are the soul of our nation. It reflects what we are, how and why we are. To me, it is essential that we keep in touch with ourselves, our heritage, our present. We should be proud of what we are and what we can be.



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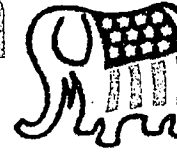
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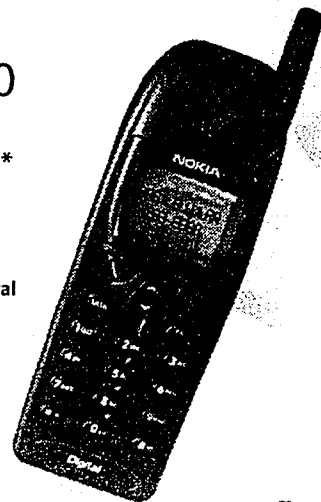
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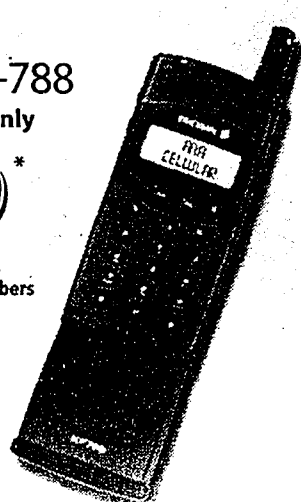
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Anonymous tips led to allegations vs Gutierrez

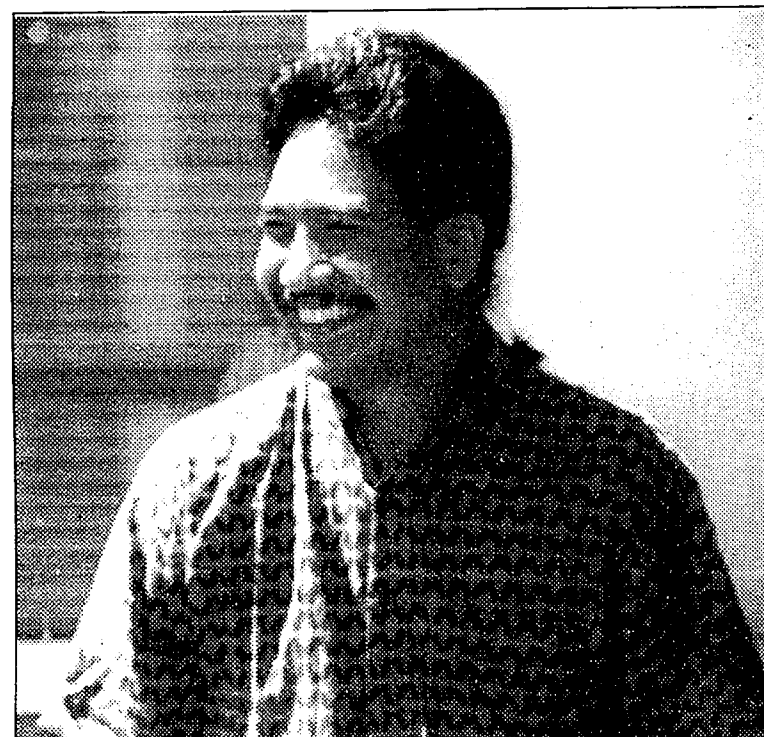
By Eric F. Say
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA—Allegations about a member of the First Family's having been involved in a drug raid by police a few years back were based on unfounded "anonymous tips," the jury hearing the slander and libel case against former senator Mark Charfauros yesterday learned.

During questioning by Atty. Randy Cunliffe, who represents Gov. Carl T.C. Gutierrez's eldest son, Tommy, Charfauros admitted that he received four to five "tips" over a two year period that something was amiss.

The jury also heard testimony by Charfauros who said he did not reply to an "interrogatory" request by the Gutierrez legal team as required by law within 30 days after the libel case was filed against him June 26, 1997.

It was not until October of 1998 when he complied.



Former Senator Mark Charfauros is all smile outside the Guam Superior Court yesterday morning. Charfauros was once questioned by an attorney about his smile.



First Lady Geraldine Torres-Gutierrez smiles on her way into the courtroom yesterday morning. Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

The Gutierrez family has brought the suit against Charfauros for going public with allegations that an immediate family member of the Gutierrezes was involved in a drug sting raid at the Golden Motel but was set free by a police officer as a favor to the governor.

Charfauros went public on a local television news broadcast in June 1997 after sending a letter to then Attorney General Calvin Holloway, with copies given to each of the 21 members of the Legislature.

Charfauros has filed a counter-suit against Gutierrez's saying that a rebuttal statement issued by First Lady Geri Gutierrez the day after Charfauros appeared on television damaged his reputation.

He said the things she said about him eventually cost him his third bid for a seat in the 25th Guam Legislature.

Cunliffe, meantime was able to get Charfauros to admit that "other" things were happening in the former lawmaker's life that may have attributed to social problems he was having. That included an extramarital affair with a woman from Rota, CNMI in which he admitted having a child with.

Charfauros also admitted that he felt "uneasy" after he went public with his allegations about the First Family.

"I had to buy specially-trained dogs, erect a fence around my Agat home and buy a weapon as a result of what happened," Charfauros admitted.

The jury is being asked to decide if the statements by Charfauros were founded or not.

If the jury decides that what Charfauros did was out of line then they would be asked to come up with monetary damages that should be awarded to the prevailing party in the case.

The trial continues today before Superior Court Judge Joaquin Manibusan at 9 a.m.

PLEASE VOTE

"Para I Taotao-ta"

"Committed, Able & Willing To Serve the People of CNMI"

ICHIHARA

BRIGIDA DELEON GUERRERO (BORJA)

For HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES Precinct No. 1

VOTE DEMOCRAT!

Dear Voters of Precinct #1,

I am Rita Ann Torres Carreon, a former student of **MRS. BRIGIDA DLG. ICHIHARA** at Koblerville Elementary School. It is a pleasure to endorse her for your vote this coming Nov. 6, 1999 election.

Seeing her educational background, I know that she can do the job right; that she knows what is best for the people of the CNMI. She is a great LEADER.

Please vote for ICHIHARA, your vote makes a difference.

Si Yu'us Maase, Thank you all!

Her former student
Rita Ann Torres Carreon

A proven and dedicated educator and a LEADER.

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"ICHIHARA Para I Taotao-ta"

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Special feature

Bleak life awaits returning OCW's

By Enza Uda
MANILA (IPS) — Like most homecomings, Remy Borlongan's began as a joyous occasion. After all, the 43-year-old widow had spent 12 years working as one of the 70,000 Filipino domestic workers in Hong Kong.

These days, however, the former nanny who was also a labour leader in Hong Kong is finding home a difficult place to be in.

For one, her meagre savings were depleted months after her homecoming. She has worked only odd jobs since, because she is deemed "over-aged" by a youth-seeking job market.

For another, Borlongan has been having a hard time connecting with her son, now 15, who has grown used to living without her. Having neighbours who think she is rich has not made the situation any better, especially when they expect her to lend them money she does not have.

"It saddens me to say it, but I feel disoriented in my own country," says Borlongan, her voice filled with frustration. "I feel lost."

Borlongan and other overseas Filipino workers like her clearly need some kind of help. But they are not getting much of that — not from the government that calls OFWs "modern day heroes", and often not even from the families for whose future they had left the warmth of home to work abroad.

Exactly how many overseas workers come home each year remains uncertain as the task of keeping count is considered too taxing and too expensive by government agencies.

But the 4.5 million contract and undocumented overseas labourers are bound to return to the Philippines at some point, with reasons ranging from terminated contracts, to illness or abuse, to good old-fashioned homesickness.

Indications are many of these returnees come home unprepared for what they will face here.

To make matters worse, the country that just last year took in 7.4 billion dollars in remittances from workers abroad has been unable to deal with this widely displaced population, which needs aid not only in finding a stable source of income, but also in reacquainting themselves with the ways in their homeland.

To be sure, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) has offered reintegration programmes since 1988. But such efforts have not had much impact, apparently because of a combination of bureaucratic red tape, short-sighted planning and lack of commitment. As one OWWA official admits, what the agency has achieved is a mere "drop in the bucket".

Roger Bohning, director of the International Labor Organisation's South-east Asia and the Pacific Multidisciplinary Advisory



Children play as a baby sleeps beside a concrete tomb Wednesday in a Manila cemetery. Some homeless Filipinos occupy abandoned niches or sometimes work as caretaker so they will have a place to stay.

Team (SEAPAT) in Manila, notes: "The Philippines has the legislative and administrative basis to address the questions of return migration."

But, he says, even OWWA's "economic interventions, although very noble in their motivations, to the outsider, give the impression of a somewhat amateurish and probably quite inefficient undertaking that is driven as much by the demands of migrants' households as by economic viability."

As it is, OWWA's highly centralised system already renders much of its services inaccessible to those in rural areas. The International Catholic Migration Commission says 70 percent of the migrant workers it has inter-

viewed were not even aware there were state-run reintegration programmes.

For instance, Naty (not her real name) learned of such services only after she had already been home for several months, and only because she was told of them by Kanlungan, an NGO that has been providing her counseling, legal support and shelter since her return in 1997.

Naty, who had spent a year in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia as a domestic worker, had been raped twice in by her employer's son. But while OWWA helped her leave Saudi Arabia, no one there had told her about its reintegration services that include counselling for traumatised returnees.

By the time she finally learned about these, what she was interested in more was OWWA's job referral service.

That itself took some time to begin operations. Unfortunately, by then, Naty was already considered too old — at 29 — by two local employment agencies OWWA referred her to for work.

She got lucky on her third referral, and was placed as a hospital janitor. But the pay was too low, and Naty is now waiting for another job prospect to come through.

As for what she thinks of the government's reintegration services, she exclaims: "My God! All my shoes have fallen apart. My hair has turned white."

OWWA officials stress that migrant workers are encouraged to save and invest in

small businesses. But putting away enough funds for capital takes years, and OFWs are often burdened with the financial needs of not only their immediate families, but that of kin and friends who refuse to believe that working abroad is not synonymous to making it big.

In a survey by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration in 1998, setting up a business was ranked last among the spending priorities of overseas workers. Respondents said they spend their remittances primarily on education and basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing and medicine.

Much of Borlongan's salary, for example, went to her son's basic needs and his education. She and her sister, who still domestic work in Hong Kong, also put some of their combined earnings into the still-unfinished renovation of the family home.

NGO workers say counseling is often unavailable for people like Borlongan, who is not even thought of as going through any kind of trouble.

Malou Alcib of Kanlungan comments that if there are not even substantial services for returnees who have been victims of abuse, those who did not go through crisis situations abroad may well expect nothing.

David Dicang of the OWWA's publication and information Division, however, says OWWA does offer "social counseling" for the wives of overseas workers, but "mostly in the regions".

He adds that in the last few years, the programme has been expanded to the husbands of female overseas workers, as well as the families that are left behind.

But OWWA Plans and Programs Director Antonieta Dizon herself admits that her agency may be hard pressed to help all returnees needing help.

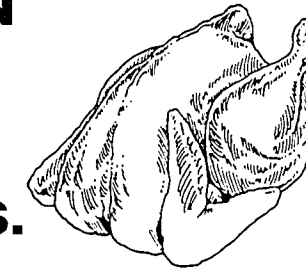
"The overseas Filipino worker is a result of the economic problems of the entire country," Dizon points out. "What OWWA is trying to do is patch up, cater to specific problems and certain cases."

Adds Dizon: "It cannot respond to the other side of the problem — the return of overseas workers, especially the return."

DOWNTOWN MARKET

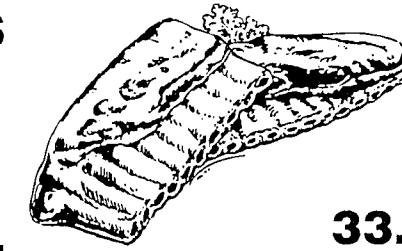
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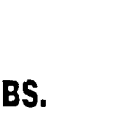
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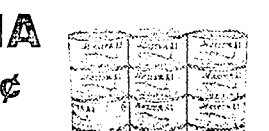
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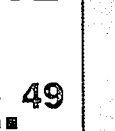
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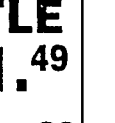
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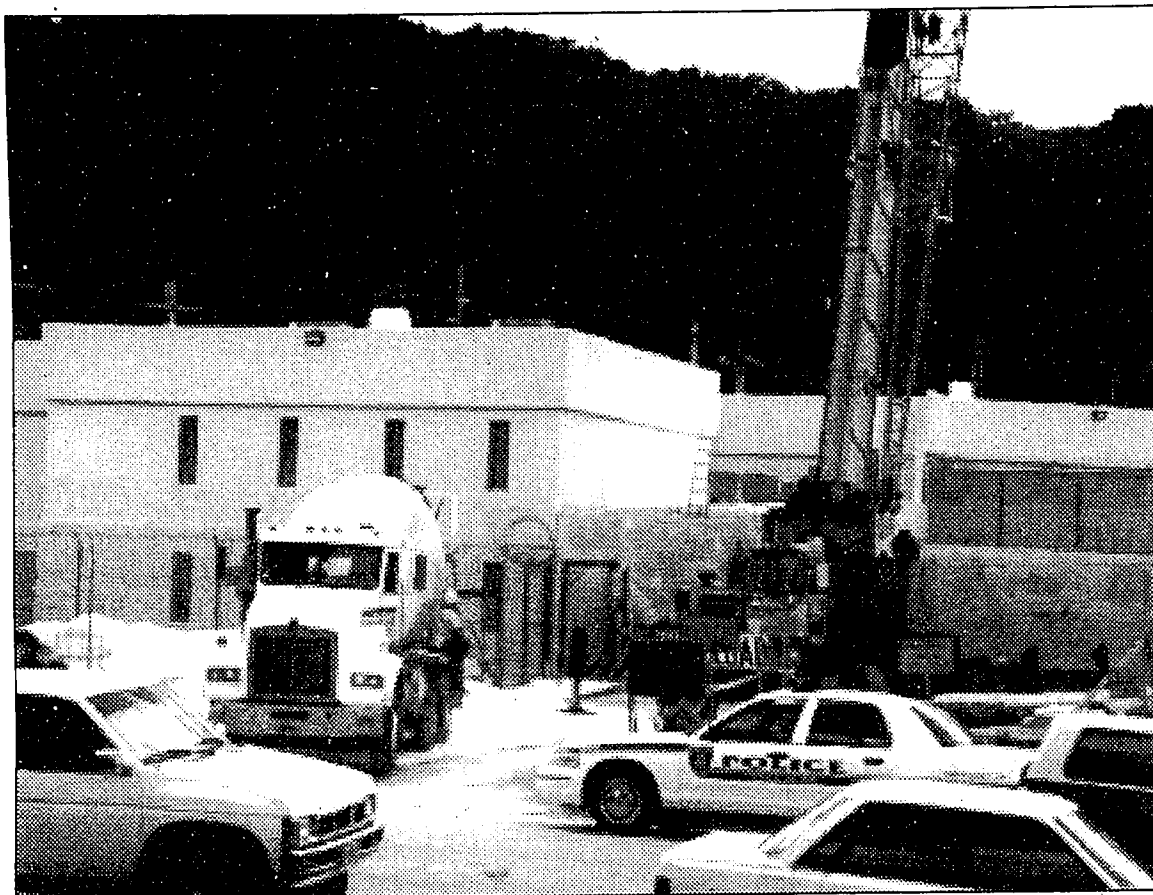
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A new wing of the Federal Detention Facility in Hagatna is being constructed to help alleviate the overcrowded conditions that exist in the facility.
Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

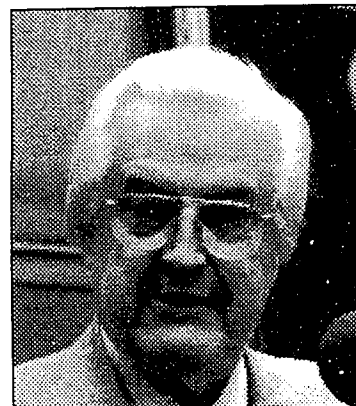
Hyde bill seen to benefit territories

HAGATNA — Congressman Robert A. Underwood said Guam and all the U.S. territories may soon have equal protection against monopolistic business practices with the passage in the House yesterday of H.R. 1801.

The bill clarifies that U.S. anti-trust laws fully apply to the territories.

"This is a very important corrective legislation. We wanted to make sure that the businesses that conduct their affairs in Guam and the other territories, whether they are corporations from the outside or are locally owned, do not engage in monopolistic practices," said Underwood.

H.R. 1801 was sponsored by Congressman Henry Hyde (R-IL), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and ranking member John Conyers (D-M) and co-sponsored by Underwood and Donna



Henry Hyde

Christensen (D-V.), Eni Faleomavaega (D-A.S.).

Underwood said the bill is a protection for the consumers of the territories by the full application of anti-trust laws. He added that there are numerous similar laws and some specifically include the territories and some do not.

Guam gets to give more info on KAL crash

HAGATNA — Congressman Robert A. Underwood said the government of Guam will get the opportunity to provide fuller, more accurate information on its rescue and response improvement efforts since the crash of Korean Air Flight 801 in August 1997.

Concerned by comments made

during the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) meeting at which the final report on the crash was presented, Underwood met yesterday with NTSB chairman Jim Hall and secured his cooperation to accept additional information for the record.

"Based on the NTSB proceed-

ings in which the Government of Guam and its response time was a subject of some concern, I wanted to make sure that we were fully protected and that the NTSB has a full accounting of the record.

"Commissioner Hall admitted that this comments were based only on the information that had

been provided to him. He extended his full cooperation and will afford us the opportunity to make sure that any additional information which we need to get into the record will get into the record," said Underwood.

To that end, Underwood continues to work closely with rep-

resentatives of the Governor of Guam in Washington D.C., to prepare for another meeting with NTSB officials today.

"At this meeting, we will be talking to the principal investigator of the crash as well as the head of the Aviation Safety Office," Underwood said.

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Bar S Jumbo Frank Hotdog .99¢	ORLEANS JACK MACKEREL 79¢ 15 oz	MILO 750 g. \$3.45	Del Monte Corn 15 1/2 oz. .69¢	Del Monte Fiesta Fruit Cocktail 29 oz. \$1.49	Better Buy Standard Foil \$7.9¢
NESCAFE 50 grm. \$1.19	SNUGGLES 64 oz \$3.79	SPARKLE Paper Towels 4 roll \$1.15 roll	CHARMIN 4 Rolls \$1.69	CLOROX 1 Gal. \$2.19	SURF 85 Loads \$15.49

In trespassing case

Santos given time by judge

By Eric F. Say
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — FORMER Senator and land activist Angel Santos has been reluctantly granted a two-week extension by U.S. District Court Judge John S. Unpingco.

Santos was supposed to appear on both criminal and civil contempt charges arising from what he calls a civil disobedience move on his part by trespassing on federal property.

A new bench trial date is still to be scheduled but Santos said he and his federal public defender, Robert Hartsock are going to make a motion that the case be heard before a jury because he [Santos] feels he cannot get a fair hearing before Unpingco.

The land in question is in the Mogfog area of Dededo, which Santos claims rightfully belongs to his family.

In a June 1993 order issued by the U.S. District Court, however, Santos was told he could not come within 50 feet of U.S. Federal Property at any time.

In a pre-trial brief submitted to the court, Santos said since the 1993 order, he has substantially complied with the order.

That same order instructed Santos to work with the legislative branch of government if he wished to challenge the title of the government to the property.

To that end, Santos sought and was elected to a seat in the Guam Legislature on two occasions.

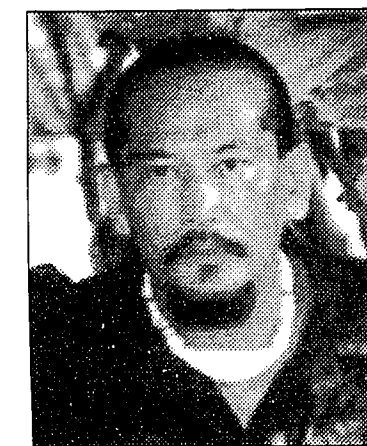
Santos said he has continued to be an advocate for the return of excess lands to the original landowners of Guam.

In recent months, he said he has become disillusioned by the fact that the will of the people of Guam — as expressed through their elected representatives — is being subverted by the actions of certain agencies of the United States and by those employed by the federal government.

In answering the most recent criminal and civil trespassing contempt charges, Santos said he has been an

invited guest at Andersen Air Force Base on a number of occasions and has possessed a Base pass for Naval Air Station as a member of the Restoration Advisory Board during his terms as a lawmaker. He said this should nullify the court order barring him from U.S. Federal property.

Santos also said he has worked within the system to try and achieve solution of what he perceives to be injustices in the manner in which the lands of the people of



Angel Santos

Guam were taken and, more importantly, the disposition of Guam lands when the military determined they were no longer needed.

Santos said he feels he is being "shafted" after being granted extension by Unpingco, and believes that the outcome is already a done deal.

"The arguments presented in our brief on Wednesday before the judge [Unpingco] are now considered totally not relevant by the court," Santos

said after Wednesday's hearing.

Santos said he told his federal public defender, Robert Hartsock, that after he saw the way Unpingco was treating him, he might as well just bypass the trial and go straight to jail.

Unpingco, meanwhile, said last week that the sanctity of the federal court system would not put up with publicity stunts that Santos has made a part of his agenda and would judge the case based upon its merits.

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Palau OKs PacifiCare application to operate

By Eileen O. Tabaranza
For the Variety

KOROR (Palau Horizon) — The Foreign Investment Board (FIB) has approved the application of PacifiCare Asia Pacific (PacifiCare) to provide comprehensive health care coverage to the residents of Palau through a pre-paid health care delivery system.

According to FIB Executive Director Encely Ngiraiwet, the board approved the application on the basis that the company has complied with all the requirements.

The FIB approved the application last Oct. 6.

PacifiCare is a Guam-based health care provider whose parent company is one of America's most admired companies.

In its application for a Foreign Investment Approval Certificate (FIAC) filed before the FIB, the PacifiCare of California (PCC), a part of the PacifiCare Health Systems, Inc. (PHSI), which placed fourth in *Fortune* magazine's

America's most admired companies in the health care services, is set to establish a PacifiCare Asia Pacific (PacifiCare) entity to offer its health care services to the Palauans.

PHSI, a Delaware corporation, is a publicly traded company on the NASDAQ stock market and is the ultimate holding company of PCC. It has offices and affiliates in 10 states and on Guam servicing roughly four million members.

PacifiCare's shareholders include PacifiCare Operations, Inc. with a 72 percent stake and PacifiCare Health Plan Administrators, Inc. with 28 percent stake.

PacifiCare will contract with health care providers on Palau to provide comprehensive medical and hospital care and other health care services to all Palauans. This is to be accomplished primarily through solicitation of private and public organizations that desire to provide comprehensive health care benefits to their employees.

PacifiCare will establish contractual arrangements with its business partners, including employer groups, health care providers, and other vendors established on Palau which may be necessary to transact and provide services.

In such an arrangement, PacifiCare ensures prompt service and payments to its contracted partners while retaining an equitable allocation for risk.

According to its local agent Kevin Kirk, being familiar with the Western Pacific region through its Guam, PacifiCare is, first and foremost, committed to the health of the residents of the region.

To carry out these services, PacifiCare will infuse a total of \$160,000 over a five-year period with an initial marketing capital of about \$50,000. This is to establish proprietary computer and software access, the development of advertising and collateral, including the fulfillment and placement of such campaigns.

Quarry project in full operation

By Malou L. Sayson
For the Variety

KOROR (Palau Horizon) — The Belau Industrial Development Corp. (BIDC) in joint venture with the Hawaiian Belau Rock, Inc. (HBRI) has put into full operation the rock quarry project at the much-contested Ngermeruees Ridge in Toitmeduch.

Despite protestations made by concerned citizens of Koror, including court battles, the BIDC was able to push with all the necessary requirements, including permits required to operate, and started full quarry operations last Oct. 15, according to Koror Del. Alan Seid, who is also one of the BIDC stockholders.

Quarrying premises have been fenced and heavy equipment from California have arrived, Seid said, noting that said project would be more economically beneficial to Palauans than most ever thought. Dynamiting of a

portion of the ridge was done for the first time last week.

The limestone reserve in the Toitmeduch area, according to Seid, would last for five to seven years, depending on the demand for quarry materials on the island.

The volume of the quarry reserve is estimated at some 500,000 to 600,000 cubic yards.

"It was a challenge for us to get this thing approved in a legal way," he said.

When asked what would be the involvement of the BIDC-HBRI in the supply of quarry materials for the construction of compact road, Seid said [they] don't have role yet, but expressed their interest in working with the contractor.

The quality of the limestone products in that area, according to Seid, is of best quality in terms of strength and its salt-free content.

Project investment, he said, runs to about \$4.5 million.

Palau gets \$30K for food safety program

By Eileen O. Tabaranza
For the Variety

KOROR (Palau Horizon) — The Palau Community College Cooperative Research and Extension (PCC-CRE) recently received a \$30,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to carry out its science-based food safety education to consumers and businesses.

According to PCC-CRE Senior Extension Agent for Food Safety and Quality Division Vernice Yuzi, this is the first time that the college received the whole amount for this particular program.

Before, the funds were divided among the three campuses in Micronesia.

The funds will be used to provide broad-based consumer food safety education aimed at reducing the incidence of food-borne illnesses on Palau.

Yuzi said there were 1,192 food-borne related illnesses in 1998 alone.

Due to the increase of such diseases not only on Palau, but around the world, Yuzi said U.S. President Bill Clinton has prioritized in his list the broad-based food safety initiative, which he called a "farm-to-table food safety initiative."

Clinton's new broad food safety initiative seeks to improve the safety of the nation's food supply through the development of a nationwide early warning system for food-borne illness, enhanced food inspections, expanded research and risk assessment, and improved food safety training and education.

To be successful in ensuring a safe food supply, a three-pronged approach is necessary, from production to consumption, Yuzi pointed out.

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Air Marshalls sells aircraft

By Giff Johnson
For the Variety

MAJURO — Air Marshall Islands' Saab 2000 is history. That's the good news; the bad news is that the sale this week of the four-year-old plane generated less than one-third of its original price tag of more than \$16 million.

The pricey, high-tech aircraft, which during its use by AMI suffered repeated and extended break-downs, was sold for \$5.3 million to a Europe-based air carrier.

AMI general manager Phil

Marshall said that the main reason for the low price is that few air carriers are using Saab 2000s, a plane that is no longer being manufactured, and AMI had only one buyer interested in the plane.

The plane was sold despite a last-minute hiccup that had threatened to drag out the sale. At the weekend, the plane was to make an "acceptance flight", which would have sealed the deal.

But the auxiliary power went down, preventing the flight

from Nadi, Fiji, where the plane has been sitting idle since April.

"It was ironic," said Marshall in Majuro, "because this was the same part that failed when the plane was first flown out from the factory to Majuro in 1995 and had to be grounded on Guam."

However, instead of waiting for days for parts to be flown in from Australia, AMI engineers in Fiji were able to solve the problem, allowing the plane to make its test flight

the following day, concluding the deal.

The sale generates much-needed cash for Air Marshall Islands - which has just recently initiated a \$28 million deal to purchase two new 31 seat planes from the German manufacturer Dornier Fairchild.

Marshall described the Saab as a plane that AMI "should never have bought." He said that the airline management was not involved in the decision to make the purchase.

Originally in the early 1990s, the government had committed to buying two Saab 2000s with an option to purchase two more.

The Saab had been in Fiji since April awaiting a buyer. Prior to that, Air Vanuatu had used it on extended lease from AMI for about a year.

When it was first in use, it linked Majuro with Kiribati, Tuvalu and Fiji - a route that Air Marshall Islands is no longer flying.

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2X8	\$12.50	14.95			37.25	46.50	
2X10	\$17.50	22.95			29.00		
2X12	\$22.50				27.50		
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Estrada orders rebel offensive

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Joseph Estrada, condemning recent attacks by Communist rebels on a police headquarters and a South Korean construction company, said Wednesday he has ordered the military to pursue the guerrillas.

"We'll go all out to find these rebels," Estrada said. "They're hurting the people, not the government."

Communist rebels, wearing military uniforms, stormed a police headquarters and seized two M-16 rifles, four pistols, two typewriters and a radio transmitter late Monday in Pola in Mindoro Oriental province, about 170 kilometers (100 miles) south of Manila.

No one was hurt in the five-minute attack, which was similar to a rebel raid on a police camp in central Bohol province in July in which rebels fled with about 50 high-powered firearms without firing a shot.

On Sunday, suspected Communist rebels raided the compound of a South Korean construction company in Quezon province south of Manila and burned the company's dump trucks after it refused to pay "revolutionary taxes," military officials said.

Estrada urged the people not to support the rebels, saying the attack on the South Korean company would delay road projects in Quezon and embarrass the government internationally because the target was a foreign company.

The rebels, however, continued their attacks, abducting a police official and three militia members in new offensives in Quezon and Camarines Norte province.

About 30 rebels stormed a police station in Quezon's Dolores town Wednesday, abducting police chief Abelardo Martin and seizing 12 guns and two-way radios.

Police chief superintendent Jose Lalisan said government troops were pursuing the guerrillas in Quezon, a mountainous region about 110 kilometers (70 miles) south of Manila.

In another attack, about 40 guerrillas ransacked houses of militiamen detailed at a police station in Aguit-it village in Camarines Norte Tuesday night, police said. The province is about 220 kilometers (135 miles) southeast of Manila.

The rebels seized three militiamen, along with cash and other valuables, and fled in two jeeps, police said.



Philippine President Joseph Estrada (center) congratulates Bank of the Philippine Island Board Chairman Jaime Zobel de Ayala (2nd right) as he receives the merger agreement between Bank of the Philippine Island and Far East Bank and Trust Company Wednesday at the Malacanang palace in Manila. The merger between the two banks will make them the largest bank in the country with a combined total assets of US\$8.8 billion and total deposits of US\$6.6 billion. Others are (from left) FEBTC Chairman Jose Cuisia, Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu and Central Bank Governor Rafael Buenaventura.

RP stocks end mixed, peso higher

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine stocks ended mixed Wednesday as demand for select blue-chips boosted the main index but profit-taking dragged down most other issues, traders said. The peso closed higher, supported by the steady Thai baht.

The Philippine Stock Exchange Index of 30 selected companies closed up 7.84 points, or 0.4 percent, at 2,043.89. On Friday, the index rose 67.08 points, or 3.4 percent. The index has now risen 6.4 percent since Oct. 26.

Decliners, however, outpaced

gainers 69 to 38, with 34 others unchanged.

Financial markets in the Philippines were closed Monday and Tuesday for a national holiday.

Among the blue chips that boosted the index was Philippine Long Distance Telephone, which finished up 10 pesos at 845 pesos. Ayala Land rose 25 centavos to 10.50 pesos.

Investors were reluctant to buy more aggressively ahead of Friday's scheduled release of the Philippine October inflation report, said Orion Squire Securities

Assistant Vice President Fitzgerald Aclan.

Socio-Economic Planning Secretary Felipe Medalla predicted Wednesday the October inflation rate would be about 6 percent, up from 5.7 percent in September, taking into account recent rises in the minimum wage and fuel prices.

A higher inflation rate could lead to a further rise in local interest rates, even after the central bank cut its overnight borrowing rate by 0.25 points to 8.75 percent earlier Wednesday, traders said.

Buchanan mulls lawsuit

To force his way into presidential debates

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan is considering legal action to force his way into presidential debates next year, his sister and top adviser said today.

"We are talking to lawyers about this," said Bay Buchanan, who was named co-chair of Buchanan's 10-day-old third-party effort. "I do not want to go the route of a lawsuit but I want to be ready."

At a news conference today, Buchanan introduced Matt Sawyer as his new counsel. Sawyer, who served in the same role during Ross Perot's 1996 Reform Party bid, specializes in getting third-party candidates onto state ballots and into debates.

Buchanan and his political team expressed concern that the Commission on Presidential Debates, which sponsored the 1988, 1992 and 1996 presidential and vice presidential debates, might exclude the Reform Party from debates in 2000 if Buchanan wins the party's nomination.

Janet Brown, the commission's executive director, said the commission is in the process of establishing criteria for participation in the 2000 debates and hoped to have them ready by early next year. "There is no issue we pay greater attention to," she said.

Perot participated in the 1992 debates as the Reform Party presidential candidate, but was not included in those held in 1996.

"The reason we believe we can do well in debates is my belief that we have a vision for this country," Buchanan said. "We have an agenda. We have ideas that are enormously attractive to millions, perhaps tens of millions of Americans who feel left out and left behind and voiceless in this system, and I'm articulating those on television and radio and by the time we get to that debate, they're going to demand that at least we get a hearing in that debate."

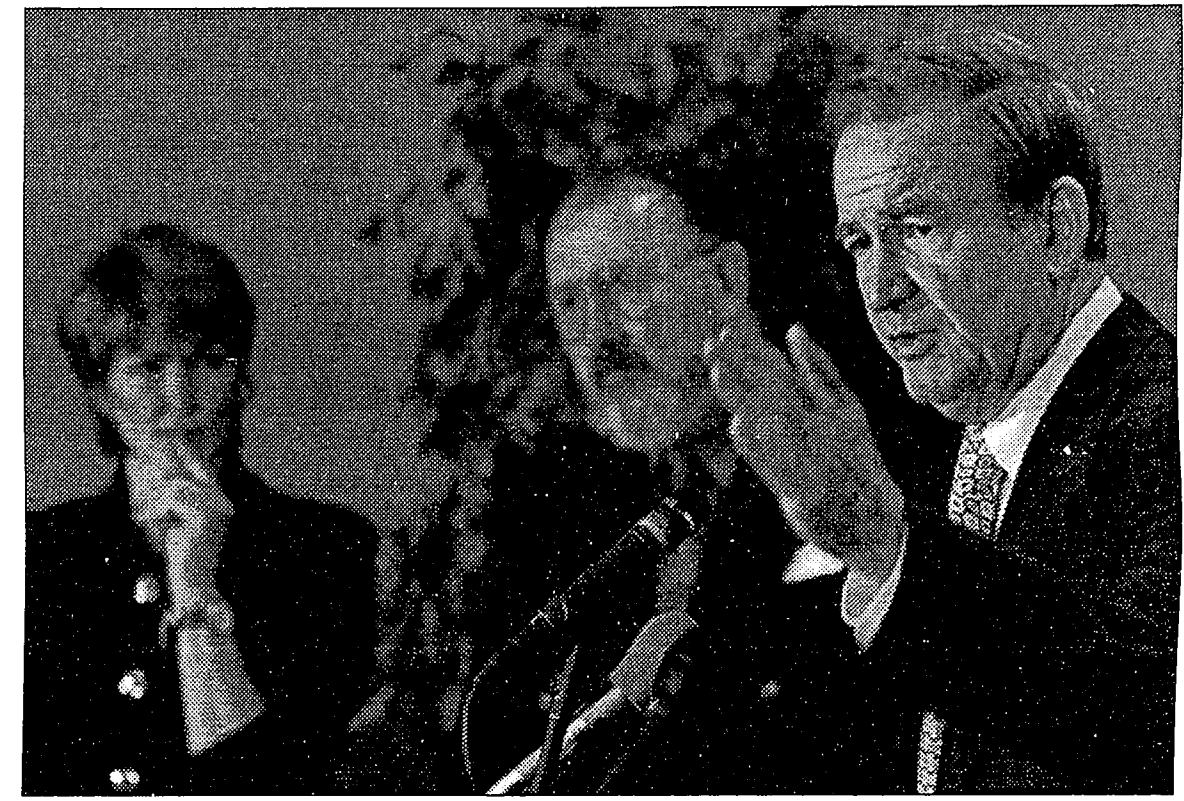
Pat Choate, Perot's 1996 running mate whom Buchanan today named co-chair of his own campaign, said there would be adequate grounds for legal action because the Reform Party is certified as a national party by the Federal Election Commission and has already qualified for federal matching money.

"There are three certified national parties, and our basis (for legal action) is each of those parties should have equal access to the airwaves

and those debates," Choate said.

Buchanan's advisers said it's too early to prepare lawsuits, given the fact that Buchanan is just beginning his quest for the Reform Party nomination. But Bay Buchanan said she feared that the commission was determined to cater to the two major parties and "keep people out who they don't want to win."

In the news conference, Buchanan also criticized politicians of both parties who support expanding trade to Africa and for opening the World Trade Organization to China.



Reform Party presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan (right) announces his national campaign co-chairs, Bay Buchanan (left) and Pat Choate, during a Washington news conference Wednesday. Buchanan is also considering legal action to force his way into presidential debates next year.

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SPECIMEN

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ELECTION BALLOT
NOVEMBER 6, 1999
ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1-D

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2. If you wish to vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write in the name of the person under "Write-In". Write in the person's name in full and make an X or ✓ within the box.

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☐ TENORIO, Juan Pangasinan (Morgan)	☐ GUERRERO, Ramon Santos (Kumot)	
WRITE-IN		
CANDIDATES FOR REPRESENTATIVES FIRST ELECTION DISTRICT - VOTE FOR SIX (6) ONLY		
☐ REYES, Karl Tudela (Incumbent)	☒ CEPEDA, Benjamin Matagolai (Apong)	☐ CASTRO, Pedro Pangasinan
☐ TENORIO, Manuel Aguilo (Brown)	☐ NAKATSUKASA, Pedro Telsakan (Pedro Jans)	☐ ICHIHARA, Brigida Deleon Guerrero
☐ TEREGEYO, Ana Sablan (Incumbent)	☐ PALACIOS, Joseph Mathias	☐ CAMACHO, Rosdy Flores (Incumbent)
☐ PALACIOS, Herman Tudela (Incumbent)	☐ DELEON GUERRERO, Floriano Tenorio (Bobby Pan)	☐ TUDELA, Juan Cepeda (Pobal)
☐ APATANG, David Mundo (Incumbent)	☐ CAMACHO, Antonio Muna	☐ DEMAPAN, Francisco Deleon Guerrero (Mr. B.)
☐ ADA, Martin Borja (Fogu-Tuhu)		
WRITE-IN		

SPECIMEN

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Voters warm up to Gore's style

DERRY, N.H. (AP) — Vice President Al Gore's new style has New Hampshire voters feeling as warm and fuzzy as the sweaters he now wears to meet them.

Margaret Ives remembers the Democratic presidential candidate's visit to her town in February for a forum on community sprawl. He was as wooden as the stool he sat on. Nine months later, she and 200 other undecided voters met the revamped Gore. No stool. No microphone. No vice presidential airs.

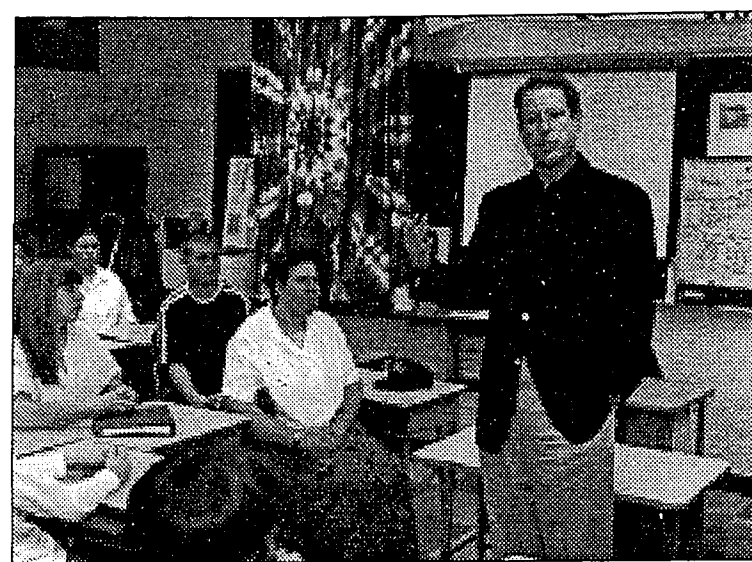
"He was very open in talking to us," she said Tuesday night as she watched Gore fulfill his promise to answer ev-

ery last question. "It was very generous of him."

Al Halpern, a high school teacher from Londonderry, agreed.

"It sounds awfully simplistic, but I think he's a nice guy, a nice guy who's very smart," he said. "I'm sure there's been some coaching, but when I'm in front of a classroom, I'm not necessarily the same as I'd be at home."

Facing a strong challenge from former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, Gore shook up his campaign last month, moving his headquarters to Tennessee. Polls show the two Democrats locked in a tight race in New Hampshire, with



Vice President Al Gore speaks to a civics class Wednesday at Merrimack Valley High School in Concord, N.H. Gore spoke on a wide range of issues from school violence to getting people involved in politics. AP

some putting Bradley slightly ahead.

Gore says the side of him that voters are now seeing harks back to his early days in Congress, when he encouraged constituents to attend open question-and-answer sessions. But where some see fuzzy, others see fake.

Linda Fowler, director of the Rockefeller Center for Public Policy at Dartmouth College, said she heard mixed reviews last week after Gore's joint forum there with Bradley.

"Some people thought he was very forthcoming, they liked what he said, they thought he was impressive," she said. "Other people talked about what they saw as hyperactive or frenetic."

Gore has improved his public speaking enormously, although he still has work to do, she said.

"When the cameras were off, and he was sitting on that stage, he lapsed right back into the policy wonkery of very detailed responses that seemed to go on and not have a very clear point," she said.

Not that the crowd seemed to mind.

"People were thrilled he stayed afterward. I know the press were cynical about it, saying this was just a way to upstage Bradley, but the people who stayed genuinely appreciated it," she said.

So did the voters who lingered in Derry. After the two-hour forum, Gore stayed for another hour to talk to voters who didn't get to ask their questions or were too shy to grab the audience microphone.

"If you've got something really important to you, don't worry," he told them. "I'll be here all night if that's what it takes."

Bits of stiffness did shine through, however.

"I'd like you to stand back up and engage in a dialogue," he told Wendy Wright, a nurse practitioner who described the pressure managed care companies put on her job.

Gore then quickly regained his stride, carefully questioning the Derry woman to get to the heart of her troubles.

"What is it that would help you most? You're exhausted, right?" he probed.

Yes, she blurted out, physically and emotionally from only having 10 minutes to treat each patient.

"Ahhhhh," Gore responded, stroking his chin like a doctor hitting upon his diagnosis.

Wright said later she appreciated his concern.

"I don't want a show put on," Wright said. "I think this is the real him. You can only act for so long."

SAVE WATER

Please Vote For

MANGLONA, Edward Hocog

Board of Education



Greetings to my fellow citizens, particularly the residents of Saipan:

I am EDWARD H. MANGLONA, a resident of Capital Hill, Saipan.

I am seeking a seat on the Board of Education to represent the island of Saipan. I am a retiree of the CNMI government, having retired in December of 1998. I worked for the CNMI for 20 years, the last four of which was as the Administrator of the NMI Retirement Fund. As Administrator of the \$350 million fund, I was deeply involved in the decision making process with respect to fund management, development of investment policies and guidelines, investment performance evaluations among others.

My experience as Fund Administrator gives me a unique perspective to help the PSS overcome some of its financial problems. And with my educational background and experiences in other areas, including that of being a teacher, I can add real value to the Board and the Public School System.

And I am very happy to volunteer my services in this manner.

I therefore ask for your support and vote of confidence this coming election on November 6, 1999. If elected, I will do my best to help PSS overcome some of its problems.

Thank you, Si Yuus Maase, Oloomwaay, and Salamat Po.

Brief Bio-Data

Personal
Residence: Capital Hill Area, Saipan
Birthplace: Rota
Age: 46

Education
Rota Elementary School, Rota
George Washington High School, Guam
B.B.A. University of Guam (1978)

Specific Training
Administrative Law: Fair Hearing Course - National Judicial College, Univ. Of Nevada, Reno, 1991
Fundamentals of Money Management - Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania, 1991
Administrative Law: Workers' Compensation - National Judicial College, Univ. of Nevada, Reno, 1992
Fundamentals of Employee Benefits - Internat'l Foundation of Empl. Benefit Plans, Brookfield, Wis., 1993
Investment Management Seminar - Internat'l Foundation of Empl. Benefit Plans, Brookfield, Wis., 1993
Attended many other workshops and seminars focusing on investments and the management of a public pension system.

Work Experiences
1994-98 - Administrator, NMI Retirement Fund, Saipan
1988-94 - Deputy Administrator, NMI Ret. Fund, Saipan
1987-88 - Admin. Officer, NMI Ret. Fund, Saipan
1984-87 - Fed. Programs Coord., Wash. Rep. Office. (DC)
1982-84 - Store Mgr., Nat'l Conv. Stores, San Jose, CA
1981-82 - Acting Resident Head, Dept. of Finance, Rota
1980-81 - Credit Analyst/EDLF Rep., Rota
1978-80 - Revenue Agent, Div. of Rev. and Tax., Saipan
1976-78 - Classroom Teacher, Rota High School
1974-77 - Warehouse Supervisor, J & G Payless, Guam

Social Activities
1980-1981 : Member & Vice Chair, Econ. Develop. Loan Fund, Saipan
1988-1989 : Member, Community Committee, MHS Accreditation Effort
1988-Present: Member, Saipan Golfers Assn.

Guard in inmate death yields

STARKE, Fla. (AP) — A prison guard turned himself in Wednesday on charges that he assaulted an inmate the day before he died after a fight with guards at Florida State Prison.

Sgt. Montrez Lucas, 30, was in jail in lieu of \$50,000 bond. Lucas, an instructor at the guards' training academy, was one of nine guards suspended over the July 17 death of inmate Frank Valdes. Valdes died after a fight that started when he was being removed from his isolation cell for making threats to guards. Valdes had been on death row for the murder of a guard in Palm Beach County.

None of the other guards have been charged.

Lucas was charged with aggravated battery, battery on an inmate and coercing or threatening another person with the intent to alter evidence.

"There is evidence suggesting that Montrez Lucas struck Frank Valdes," said Spencer Mann, spokesman for State Attorney Rod Smith. He would not discuss the evidence.

In Lucas' report documenting his contact with Valdes the day he died, the guard said he went to Valdes' cell to tell him he would receive a disciplinary report for threatening Lucas the day before.

Valdes refused to let Lucas handcuff him for a cell search

and threatened to kill Lucas. Lucas then contacted other officers. The fight broke out while officers tried to force Valdes from the disciplinary cell.

In his report, Lucas said he was notified by other guards that Valdes was not breathing. He entered the cell and saw the guards performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation on the inmate. A few minutes later, Valdes was placed on a stretcher and taken to a clinic.

Valdes was later pronounced dead at a Shands Starke Hospital.

Officers claimed Valdes, 36, was injured when he repeatedly threw himself off his bunk onto the floor. An autopsy, however, showed he had boot marks on his body, all his ribs were broken and his testicles were swollen.

Eleven corrections officers - the nine suspended in the Valdes case and two suspended for refusing to cooperate with investigators - have been ordered to attend a closed hearing Thursday in Gainesville before Chief Circuit Judge Robert Cates.

A grand jury in Gainesville, about 28 miles south of Starke, began hearing testimony in the case on Sept. 29, after about two months of investigation by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI.

PLEASE HELP RE-ELECT
OUR DAD,

Congressman
ATTAO, Jesus Torres

PRECINCT 3



As children of Jesus Torres Attao, we thank you for giving him the opportunity to serve you in the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, & 11th Legislatures.

In this November 6, 1999 election, we once again ask for your support in his bid for re-election in the 12th CNMI House of Representatives. Our dad will continue to work for the betterment of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PLEASE HELP OUR DAD, JESUS TORRES ATTAO, HELP YOU.
AYUDA SI TATAN MAMI HUMAYUDA HAMYO.
TEPENGI TAATAMEM BWE EBWE TEPENGI-GHAMI.

LET'S VOTE **ATTAO, Jesus Torres**

and all the Republican Party Candidates

Thank you, Si Yuus maase, Olomwaay, Maraming Salamat Po, Mesulang

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Designer bottle rack	\$12.99	\$10.39
Playtex snap n tote cup	\$5.59	\$4.19
Tushie wet wipes (80ct)	\$5.39	\$4.30
Timer Teddy	\$21.00	\$15.75
Surprise play exercise center	\$29.00	\$23.20
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Nursery jar set	\$29.00	\$21.75
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Runoff for S.F. mayor

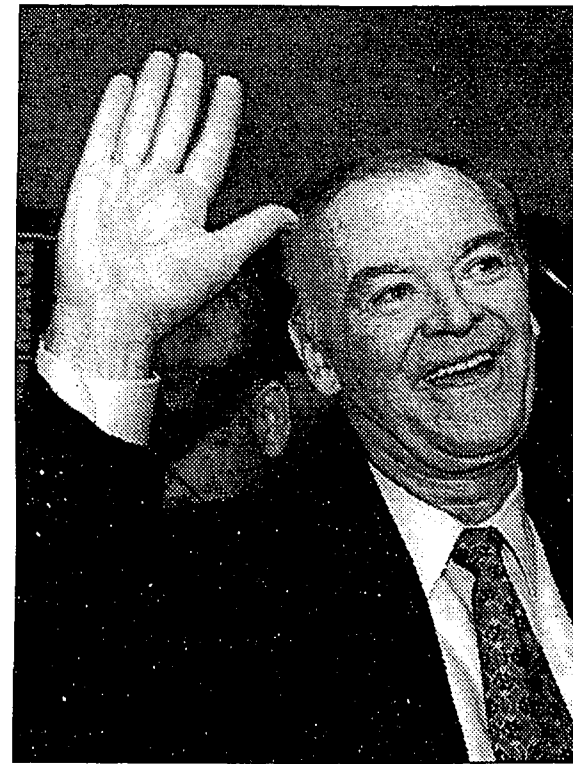
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Mayor Willie Brown will have to survive a runoff next month to win re-election. Exactly whom he'll face still wasn't clear today.

Frank Jordan, the former police chief and mayor, was a distant second, but political consultant Clint Reilly was still in the running and counting the write-in votes for Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano was expected to take hours.

With 90 percent of precincts reporting, Brown had 60,506 votes, or 48 percent. Jordan had 26,567, or 21 percent, while Reilly had 19,402 votes, or 15 percent. Counting of Ammiano's write-in votes was going more slowly. As of early today, he ranked fourth with 9,535 votes or 8 percent.

Ammiano, who is gay, drew much of his support from the city's large and politically active gay community. He said he got into the race on Oct. 13 because he felt "despair that was palpable" among voters.

The savvy and fashionable



San Francisco mayoral candidate Frank Jordan (left photo) is challenging incumbent Mayor Willie Brown (right photo) in the race to be the next mayor of San Francisco. With the absentee ballots counted, Brown took an early lead in the race over Jordan, political consultant Clint Reilly, and write-in candidate Tom Ammiano.

Brown, who was first elected in 1995 after serving as the powerful state Assembly speaker, has had to deal with a number of prickly issues.

He rashly promised at the start of his term to fix the city's public transit woes in 100 days. Patrons of the Municipal Railway's buses and trolleys are still waiting.

An army of homeless people have flocked to the city for its reasonable public assistance. A few weeks ago, Brown suggested police confiscate the shopping carts the homeless use to transport their possessions, then had to back down after a roar of public disapproval.

Other issues included soaring rents and home prices; huge chain stores moving into residential neighborhoods; and an FBI investigation into the awarding of city contracts.

Brown acknowledged Tuesday that he might have promised too much at the start of his term.

"I really thought I was what you might call the cat's meow. It would just be a matter of minutes before San Francisco would be completely turned around," he said. "Well, did I get a rude awakening."

San Franciscans also voted 62 percent to 38 percent to ban the \$1 or \$2 bank surcharges for using another bank's automated teller machines.

New York City voters reject charter voters

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Rudolph Giuliani acknowledged that he erred after voters overwhelmingly rejected a proposed City Charter revision that would have created "gun free" safety zones and boosted the mayor's power.

"I made a mistake in presenting charter revision this year," Giuliani said Tuesday. "The vote against it makes it clear that it was a mistake, and I accept responsibility for it and certainly respect the views of the voters."

Most of the issues in the charter revision question were either procedural or already covered by existing legislation, but Giuliani staged a highly visible campaign to push for the changes. The mayor, who is expected to run for the U.S. Senate next year, said the changes would be an important part of his legacy.

The proposals included requiring a two-thirds vote of the City Council instead of a majority to increase taxes; creating "gun free" zones within 1,000 feet of schools that would make it illegal for even licensed gun owners to possess a firearm; and creating an emergency budget fund from city surpluses.

Critics said the plan undercut the authority of the City Council in budgeting matters, while increasing the power of the mayor. Proponents said it would help the city operate more efficiently.

REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE FOR ANTONIO MUNA CAMACHO

Precinct #1 BIO-DATA

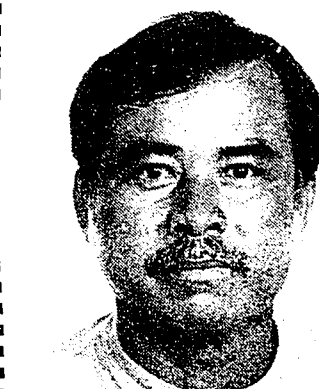
PARENTS:

Jose Acosta Camacho
Juana Muna Camacho

GRANDPARENTS:

Sebastian Palacios Muna
Rosa Sablan Tudela

Mariano Palacios Camacho
Valeriana Acosta Camacho



EDUCATION:

Master Degree in Public Administration
University of Oklahoma

Bachelor Degree
University of Guam

High School
Mount Carmel

PUBLIC SERVICES:

Delegate, 1st Constitutional Convention
Chairman, Judiciary & Government Operations, 2nd Legislature
Chairman, Judiciary & Government Operations, 6th Legislature
Member, 8th Legislature

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Manager, San Vicente Softball Team, 1976-Present
Administrator, Little League, 1993-1996
Served in other capacity as Vice President, San Vicente Parish Council

PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Author the appropriation for the construction of Koblerville Police Sub-Station
Author the appropriation for the construction of Koblerville School Base-ball Field
Co-author the appropriation for the construction of San Vicente Tennis/Basketball Courts
Author the appropriation for the construction of San Vicente Road
Author the appropriation for the water lines connecting San Vicente & DanDan
Coordinator for the Palacios power distribution in Afetnas

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Enact legislation that will provide incentives to businesses that hire local people
Repeal and Re-enact new comprehensive laws that work for all sectors of our community
Repeal tax laws that drive away and Bankrupt businesses
Protect recipients of our Scholarship Program
Advocate for a coordinated Sport & Recreation Programs
The community must be requested for input and eliminate the railroading of legislation
Enact appropriation law for the construction of DanDan Parks & Recreational facilities

**BOTA SI...
ANTONIO M. CAMACHO
DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

Diversify Economy is to Diversify Legislature

Vote For

Strong Leadership • Good Vision • People & Business Oriented

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SENATE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE NO. 1, BUT ITS SPONSORS WERE AFRAID TO TELL YOU!



Never heard of it, right?

Unfortunately, there has been zero public education about this proposed amendment to our Constitution. Apparently, its sponsors want you to simply vote "yes" without knowing how you are changing our precious Constitution. That's not the way government is supposed to work.

Does it really amend the Constitution?

Yes. It changes the section which permits all registered voters to vote on any proposed constitutional amendment. Instead, only Northern Marianas descent persons will be permitted to vote on any amendment of Article XII of the Constitution. Article XII is the section that restricts the alienation of land to persons of NMI descent.

Is there anything wrong with making this change?

Yes. It will tie up government in costly and lengthy administrative hearings and court battles. How will the Board of Elections decide who can vote and who cannot vote in the future? The Board will have to decide which voters are of Northern Marianas descent and which are not. That is not an easy task. Evidence, which must trace one's lineage back to the post-war era, is hard to obtain. Decisions will be fought hard, especially since a negative decision will call into question an entire family's right to own its land. If a local family is determined by the Board to not be of NMI descent, the decision could lead to the immediate forfeiture of their land to the government under Article XII! As you can see, this is going to lead to heartbreak for families, long court battles and a loss of government revenue in litigating these issues. Is this how we want to spend our government's money?

Is anyone "local" really at risk that they may not be determined to be of NMI descent?

Yes. I can name at least two common groups of persons who may think they are of NMI descent, but are not. First, let's look at the Constitution to see what determines if a person is of Northern Marianas descent.

A person of NMI descent is a U.S. citizen or national with at least 1/4 Northern Marianas Chamorro or Carolinian blood, or a combination thereof, or was adopted by a person of NMI descent prior to reaching the age of 18. To prove one's bloodline, it is necessary to trace lineage back to a full-blooded NMI descent person, which is defined as someone born or domiciled in the NMI by 1950 who was a citizen of the Trust Territory before termination of the Trusteeship.

Families with an ancestor from Guam may be at risk:

Those persons who trace their ancestry to a person who came to the CNMI from Guam prior to 1950 may not be of NMI descent. This is because that person would not have been able to obtain TT citizenship. So, families which consider themselves Saipanese, Rotanese or Tinianese because they have resided on those islands continuously for the past 40 years may be surprised to find they are not of NMI descent!

Children from inter-racial marriages may be at risk:

The second group at risk is our children's children. How many families have had a member marry outside the Chamorro or Carolinian races? It happens more and more frequently. Don't forget that children from those marriages will be only one-half Chamorro or Carolinian blood. If those children marry other persons who are not of NMI descent, then their children will be only one-quarter Chamorro or Carolinian blood. What happens to these children who are only 1/4 Chamorro or Carolinian blood? They lose their freedom to marry whomever they please. If they marry a non-Chamorro, non-Carolinian person, their children will be 1/8 blood. In other words, their children will not be able to inherit their family land. They may carry the culture and the language, but they will not be able to own land. It all depends upon who they marry. Is that fair?

How soon will this happen?

You might say that it will take three generations for this to happen - too long to worry about. That is not true, that time is already here for some families - and will soon be here for other families. Here is an example from my own family.

My sister, "Bobbie," is full-blooded Chamorro. She married the late Herbert Yamada, who was from Ponape. Their two children are 50% NMI descent. One of those children, Louisa Lorraine, has married Willie Garon, who is Filipino. Louisa and Willie have four children, ages 7 (twins), 4 and 2, who are 25% NMI descent. When these children prepare to marry, they cannot select a mate who is not NMI Chamorro or Carolinian, because if they do, then their children will not be able to inherit the land passed down from my sister Bobbie.

In other words, within my own lifetime, I will see members of my own family disinherited by our Constitution. If it could happen in my family, it could happen in your family. Think about it.

Now is a time to stop and think, not to take action to change our Constitution.

We need to seriously ask whether we want to continue to keep drawing distinctions between people. It will not be until the year 2011 that we can first decide what we want to do with Article XII - keep it, modify it or eliminate it.

At that point in time, some 12 years from now, our family structures will continue to change. Why load the dice now by saying only some people can vote on this issue? If you want a fair vote that truly represents our community, then let's give all of our children a chance to vote on their destiny.

Marian Aldan-Pierce

**Please Vote "No" on
Senate Initiative No. 1.**

For securing terrorism damages

Families seek Hillary's help

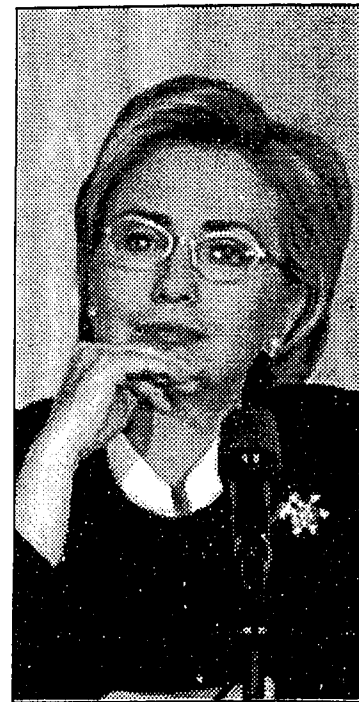


Stephen Flatow (left), whose daughter was killed in a 1995 terrorist attack in Israel, and Tom Ahella (right), whose cousin was also killed hand out press information outside the building where Hillary Rodham Clinton's exploratory office is located Wednesday.

NEW YORK (AP) — Four families who lost loved ones to terrorist violence asked would-be Senate candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton on Wednesday to do what her husband's administration has refused to — help them collect money from the nations responsible.

The families — led by the father of a young woman killed in an Iranian-backed suicide bombing and the mother of a man trying to rescue Cuban rafters headed to America — released letters to the first lady asking her to make their crusade part of any campaign she's planning in New York.

Stephen Flatow, whose daughter was killed in Israel four years ago, said he also



Hillary Rodham Clinton

hoped Mrs. Clinton would prevail upon her husband to change his policy about helping families collect damages from terrorist states.

"I think it's something that she should hit him over the head with," Flatow said at a news conference staged outside Mrs. Clinton's exploratory campaign headquarters in Manhattan.

In his letter, Flatow said he wanted Mrs. Clinton's support "so that my Alisa's death and our battle to defeat terrorism will not become a mockery."

Alisa Flatow, 20, of West Orange, New Jersey, was killed April 1995 when a suicide bomber rammed an explosives-laden vehicle into the bus she was riding to a Jewish settlement in the Palestinian-run Gaza Strip. Ms. Flatow was studying at a Jerusalem seminary.

Her father later sued the Iranian government, arguing that nation was to blame for the attack that killed his daughter. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the bombing, and the United States long ago fingered Iran for backing the terrorist group. A federal judge ordered Iran to pay the Flatow family \$247.5 million — \$20 million in compensation and the rest in punitive damages to deter future terrorism.

The 1998 ruling was the first under a new law allowing Americans to sue nations believed to sponsor terrorism for damages caused by such attacks. But the Clinton administration has opposed Flatow's efforts to collect, claiming that to do so would undermine U.S. foreign policy.

Miriam de la Pena, the mother of one of four men shot down by the Cuban government while flying a rescue mission off the coast of the communist nation, said she has faced similar roadblocks orchestrated by the Justice Department.

Democrats defend Clinton's road plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats on Wednesday defended President Clinton's proposal to ban new roads on more than 40 million acres of national forest land, saying they would cost too much and pollute waterways.

Republicans have attacked the road ban as a ploy to create vast new tracts of wilderness without the approval of the GOP-controlled Congress. Critics say the ban would keep citizens from enjoying the forests and make firefighting, tree thinning and other forest management work more difficult.

Western GOP senators slammed the proposal at a hearing Tuesday. On Wednesday, Forest Service chief Michael Dombeck returned to Capitol Hill for a House Resources Committee hearing on the issue.

Democrats on the panel praised Clinton's plan, saying the Forest Service now gets only about 20 percent of the money it needs to maintain 380,000 miles of roads and has an \$8 billion backlog of repairs. Adding new roads to that system would only worsen the financial crunch and would hurt the environment, Democrats said.

"Every dollar spent on new roads takes a dollar away from maintaining existing ones," said



Bill Clinton

Rep. Jay Inslee, D-Wash. "It's like saying you're going to build a new room on the house while the roof's caving in."

Republicans, however, complained that estimates of the land involved have ranged from 40 million to 60 million acres. They accused Clinton of making the proposal to help the presidential prospects of Vice President Al Gore.

"They (Clinton administration officials) want to prohibit any and all activity in our national forests," said Rep. J.D. Hayworth, R-Ariz.

"This administration has gone out of its way to mislead Congress ... This administration is driving the American people to serfdom," said Rep. Helen Chenoweth-Hage, R-Idaho.

Pentagon found lax in clearance OKs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon routinely skips over basic information in investigating people for security clearances and often falls months behind in reviewing those clearances, according to a congressional report made public Wednesday.

Lt. Gen. Charles Cunningham, acting director of the Pentagon's Defense Security Service, said he agreed with the finding of the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, and "will take very action to remedy the deficiencies noted."

The report, commissioned by Rep. Ike Skelton, D-Mo., found that security clearance investigations rarely cover all the areas required under federal standards and take an average 204 days to complete, more than double the 90 days deemed proper.

"These weaknesses pose risks to national security in that individuals have been granted access to classified information without undergoing a personnel security investigation that complies fully with federal standards," the GAO reported.

"I was caught by surprise" by the results, said Skelton, ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee. He commended Cunningham for moving quickly to improve the quality and speed of investigations.

The GAO randomly sampled 530 investigations conducted during the first two months of this year. The report found that 92 percent were

deficient in not including information in at least one of nine areas required by federal standards for granting clearance.

The GAO said two or more areas were omitted in 77 percent of the cases, and that fewer than 1 percent met the 90-day completion goal.

There was a backlog of 600,000 people with clearances who were overdue for reinvestigations; that is one-fourth of the Pentagon's 2.4 million military, civilian and contractor employees who have some level of security clearance. Since 1982, there have been 68 Pentagon employees convicted of committing espionage.

The Defense Security Service is responsible for interviews and records checks to ensure a candidate for security clearance does not have a criminal record or serious personal problems, and is not under the influence of a foreign country.

The GAO said that, as examples of lax investigations, the DSS did not address allegations that one subject, a former police officer, had assaulted an inmate or had an affair that produced a child. In another case the DSS did not perform an additional polygraph for a systems engineer who stated that he had failed a polygraph test regarding loyalty to the United States. Another did not verify a subject's claim of foreign military service and citizenship.

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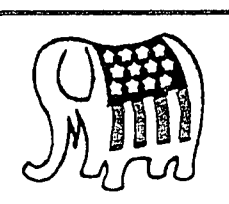
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ELECTION PRECINCT # 4



Ta Bota P Tom Basa Pangelinan



House of Representatives

To: The People of Election Precinct #4

On behalf of my family and the Committee to Elect Tom Basa Pangelinan, I am extremely honored to extend the most profound Si Yuus Maase, Olomwaay, and Thank You, to the people of Election Precinct #4 for granting us the opportunity to visit and speak to you during the pass several months on issues affecting our lives.

One of the most wonderful outcome of this election process is understanding and appreciating people and this is so monumental to us. We will always treasure the friendship and support so may have given to us.

I must now take this opportunity to extend congratulations to the candidates of this precinct for conducting professional election campaign activities:

Congressman Frank G. Cepeda
Former Congressman Ben M. Sablan
Congressman Dino Jones
Josephine G. Mesta
Justo S. Quitugua

Please make time to exercise your right to vote tomorrow, its time to make that critical decision as who should best represent the people of Election Precinct #4.

Thank you so much for your time and support.

Si Tom Basa Pangelinan

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Tom Basa Pangelinan
Chairman: Greg M. Camacho (Kachuma)
Treasurer: Jenny M. Villagomez



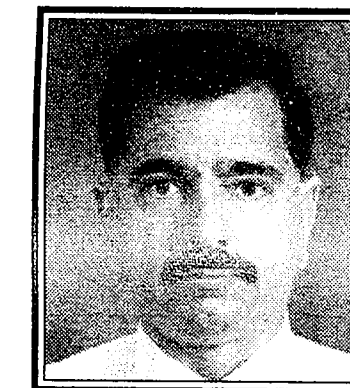
On November 6, 1999
PLEASE VOTE



YES
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AWAR

TO KEEP

TIMOTHY H. BELLAS



ON THE CNMI SUPERIOR COURT

JUDGE BELLAS is:

- ✓ Honest
- ✓ Hard-Working
- ✓ Fair
- ✓ Experienced

Thank You

Si Yuus Maase

Olomwaay

McKinney guilty in gay attack

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) — A drug-dealing roofer was convicted today of murder in the beating of a gay college student, making him eligible for the death sentence for a slaying so brutal it spurred calls for hate-crime laws around the nation.

In addition to felony murder, Aaron McKinney was convicted of second-degree murder, aggravated robbery and kidnapping in the death of Matthew Shepard. The jury of seven men and five women returned the verdicts after about 10 hours of deliberation. The jurors, however, rejected a

first-degree murder charge that McKinney had planned the attack.

The sentencing phase, where the jurors will consider the death penalty, is to begin Thursday.

As the jury prepared to announce its verdict, McKinney, 22, stood next to his two attorneys, looking impassive, arms crossed in front of him. When the first verdict was read - guilty of kidnapping - his arms dropped to his sides. His father, William, looked straight ahead with no emotion.

Shepard, 21, a University of Wyoming freshman majoring in

political science, met McKinney and Russell Henderson at a Laramie bar on Oct. 6, 1998.

Prosecutors said McKinney and Henderson lured Shepard from the bar and drove him to a remote spot on the prairie, where they tied him to a wooden rail fence, robbed him of \$20 and pistol-whipped him into a coma.

Eighteen hours later, Shepard, bruised and bleeding, was found still lashed to the fence. He died five days later at a Fort Collins, Colo., hospital without regaining consciousness.

Authorities said robbery was



Jason Tangeman (left) Barbara Parnell and Dion Custis, defense attorneys for Aaron McKinney, leave the Albany County Courthouse in Laramie, Wyo. Wednesday after a jury convicted McKinney of the murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay Wyoming college student. AP

the primary motive but that the slightly-built Shepard also was singled out because he was gay.

Henderson pleaded guilty in April to kidnapping and murder, and is serving two life sentences.

In closing arguments Tuesday, prosecutor Cal Rerucha paused for 60 seconds to let the jury reflect in silence on the beating inflicted on Shepard.

"Think what 60 seconds was to Matthew Shepard," Rerucha said. "It's a short time if you're eating an ice cream cone. It's a long time if you're descending into hell not knowing what fate will meet you there."

Defense attorneys argued that McKinney, in a drug-induced rage, lost control after Shepard made an unwanted sexual advance.

They were barred from using a "gay panic" strategy, which is based on the theory that a person with latent gay tendencies will have an uncontrollable, violent reaction when propositioned by a homosexual.

District Judge Barton Voigt ruled that the strategy was akin to

temporary insanity or a diminished-capacity defense - both prohibited under Wyoming law. The ruling essentially let the defense argue the beating was a crime of passion but not present the theory that the passion was caused by a specific mental condition.

In his closing argument, public defender Dion Custis told the jury that McKinney was in an "emotional rage."

"(He) is not a cold-blooded murderer, ladies and gentlemen, he reacted," Custis said. "There was no thought process."

Shepard's death sparked vigils around the country denouncing the murder as a hate crime and renewed efforts for laws protecting homosexuals from such crimes.

In Wyoming's Legislature, however, proposed hate-crime bills failed. Opponents complained that gays and other protected groups would get special treatment and argued that existing laws are enough. President Clinton's push to expand federal hate crime legislation to protect gays also fell short.

Feds probe radio payola

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Federal officials are investigating radio programmers at nearly 80 stations who allegedly took bribes to play songs, the Los Angeles Times reported today.

The new inquiry stems from a two-year payola investigation of Fonovisa Inc., the nation's largest Spanish-language music label, which admitted to paying up to \$1 million to programmers.

"Our investigation has moved into its second phase and we are now following the money that was paid in bribes by Fonovisa to various program directors around the country," said Richard Robinson, an assistant U.S. attorney in Los Angeles.

Investigators say other record companies also may have paid programmers to promote their artists, but the Justice Department has refused to identify any.

Mexican media giant Grupo Televisa, which owns Fonovisa, reported the illegal activities and

cooperated with authorities.

In September, Fonovisa, its president and promotion's chief pleaded guilty to federal charges relating to payola and were fined a total of \$950,000.

Fonovisa artists monopolized the top three positions on Billboard magazine's Latin airplay chart for the first five months of 1997, regularly taking about 14 of the top 40 slots. After the alleged bribes stopped, Fonovisa's presence on the Billboard's Hot Latin Tracks chart fell by half, investigators said.

Artists from the record label included such singers as Enrique Iglesias and Marco Antonio Solis, but no specific artists have been named in the payola investigation.

The Fonovisa case was the first involving a record company prosecuted under federal payola statutes passed in the wake of radio airplay scandals in the 1950s, according to U.S. Attorney's office spokesman Thom Mrozek.



Yunjong Suh, center, with mouth taped in protest, consults with another member of the San Francisco media watch group called Media Alliance during a meeting of the board of directors of Pacifica Radio Network in Houston. AP

Man trapped in elevator for 40 hours sues for \$25M

NEW YORK (AP) — A man who was trapped last month in an elevator in an office building for most of a weekend sued the owners and managers of the 51-story high-rise for \$25 million.

Nicholas White, 32, says in court papers filed Wednesday that he "sustained severe and serious physical and emotional injuries" after being trapped in the elevator for more than 40 hours, from late Oct. 15 until the afternoon of Oct. 17.

"He's still in a state of shock," said White's lawyer, Kenneth P. Nolan. "He still has not returned to work."

White, a production manager at Business Week magazine, says he got in the elevator in Rockefeller Center around 11 p.m. in the lobby of the McGraw-Hill Building, where he works.

White said he had gone downstairs to smoke a cigarette. White pushed the button for the 43rd floor, and after the elevator's ascent began, a voltage dip that lasted a 10th of a second stalled it around the 13th floor. He banged repeatedly on the doors, but nobody noticed him on a video monitor until Sunday afternoon.

Sandy Manley, a spokeswoman for Rockefeller Center Management Corp., said late Wednesday that Rockefeller Center officials had not seen the lawsuit and wouldn't comment on pending litigation.

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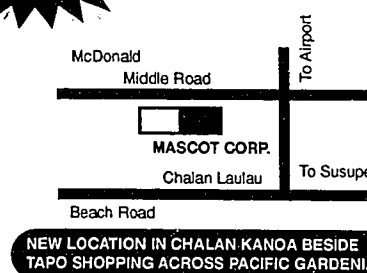


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No. 2

LIZAMA, JESUS SAN NICOLAS

(PINALEK)

"FAFA'CHU' CHU YAN ANIMU"
Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Thank You, Me Olomwaay Reemi.

PAID FOR BY: JOSE JR./ROSA TAITANO-LIZAMA AND CHILDREN

PLEASE VOTE ☒ No. 3 ISIDRO (SID) ATALIG SABLAN

November 5, 1999

My Dearest People of Election Precinct No.3:

I am writing this open letter to let you know that I am running for one of the six (6) seats in the House of Representatives apportioned to our Election Precinct No. 3 in the upcoming November 1999 Election. This Precinct covers the villages of San Jose to the South and Puerto Rico to the North. I am also writing to acknowledge with deepest appreciation for the voluntary support and assistance that my family and I have received from the many people who have helped in the preparation and circulation of my Petition for Candidacy.

To the residents and voters in our Precinct who have shown their confidence and trust by becoming signatories to my Petition for Candidacy, I want to thank you all for your actions and to ask for your continued support and vote of confidence in this Election. I know that I have the capacity to keep any promises that I make. - I pledge that I will never let you down in anything that may come my way at the Legislature if elected into office.

To the young and new residents enfranchised to vote in this Precinct in this Election and who may not know me in person or my professional background, I am hopeful that you would find the information presented in this letter and in leaflets that I will be disseminating publicly between now and the Election sufficiently noteworthy to induce you to rally behind my candidacy and to obtain your precious vote of confidence.

Briefly, my name is Isidro Atalig Sablan, better known as "Sid" born in Rota 57 years ago but have spent 52 of those years here on Saipan. I have invested 37 years of my adult life in auditing, finance and accounting profession. I retired from government services 6 years ago after having served more than 30 years in various key executive



positions dealing with auditing, accounting and finance.

I know that I can make the difference in the lives of the people here in our Precinct and the people of the Commonwealth in general, if given the opportunity to enter the legislative arena to be your advocate and your voice in legislative matters that relate to the training, experience and expertise that I possess. I also know that I am firmly committed to do the right thing for the right reason and for the right cause. What is good for the people is simply what the people wanted done at the Legislature, no more and no less. I pledge that I shall do just that and to always stay true to the people's legislative agenda.

Thank you for reading this letter and I hope that I would have your support and vote of confidence.

Sincerely Yours,

Isidro A. Sablan "Sid"

BIO-DATA

Name: Isidro Atalig Sablan (SID)
Date of Birth: July 6, 1942
Place of Birth: Rota, M.I.
Citizenship: U.S. Citizen
Parents: Benigno Olupumar Sablan (dec)

Consolation Hocog Atalig-Sablan (dec)

Spouse: Angelina Reyes Cabrera-Sablan
Children: Nadine, Evelyn Agnes, Patrick, John Anthony, Isidro (Junior), Mildred, Jeffrey Daran, and Michael Andrew

Education: Chalan Kanoa Elementary School
Chalan Piao Intermediate School
Pacific Islands Central School (PICS)
Seattle University-Washington State

University of Nebraska
University of Guam
American Management Association

Political Involvement:
1976-1978 Elected Congressman for the Saipan Municipality and served as Chairman of Appropriation Committee

Civic Involvement:
1969-1973 Member of the Saipan Rotary Club

Major Conferences Involvement:
Western Legislative Conference in Alaska State
National State Budget Officers Conference in Wisconsin State
CNMI Budget Oversight Hearing in Washington, D.C.

Standing Membership:
Member of the AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
Member of the NATIONAL STATE BUDGET OFFICERS
Member of the NATIONAL STATE FISCAL OFFICERS

Position and Title held in Government
Technical Assistance to the Governor's Special Legal Counsel
Chief of Staff - 7th House of Representatives
Administrative and Budget Officer for 2nd House of Representatives
Consultant to the Director of Finance, CNMI Government
Financial Management Officer, TT Government
Director of Finance (Acting), TT Government
District Director of Finance, Marianas - TT Government
Assistant Internal Auditor, TT Government
Classroom Teacher - Chalan Kanoa Elementary School

WASHINGTON (AP)—In one of its largest environmental enforcement actions, the government today filed lawsuits charging that 32 electric utility plants made illegal repairs to facilities, causing the release of massive amounts of air pollutants throughout the Midwest and East Coast.

The lawsuits, filed by the Justice Department on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency, seek to force the facilities to install appropriate air pollution control technology. The suits were filed in federal courts in Atlanta, Indianapolis, Tampa,

East St. Louis, Ill. and Columbus, Ohio.

The suits allege that 17 electric utility plants - owned by American Electric Power, Cinergy, FirstEnergy, Illinois Power, Southern Indiana Gas & Electric Company, Southern Company, Tampa Electric Company or their subsidiaries - violated the Clean Air Act by making major modifications to many of their plants without installing the equipment required to control smog, acid rain and soot.

In a separate enforcement action involving an administrative

order, the Tennessee Valley Authority was accused of similar violations at seven of its plants.

In addition to the lawsuits and administrative order filed today, the EPA issued notices of violations to eight other plants operated by the utilities, alleging similar violations.

In all, 32 coal-fired plants in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee and West Virginia are affected by today's action.

"When children have trouble breathing because of pollution from a utility plant hundreds of

miles away, something must be done," Attorney General Janet Reno said. "Today's actions will help clean the air and make us breathe a little easier."

Joining Reno at a Justice Department news conference, EPA Administrator Carol Browner said, "By ensuring that these plants obey the law, we are not just helping their immediate communities achieve cleaner air. We are helping almost the entire eastern half of the United States because air pollution does not stop at state borders."

The companies involved face

civil penalties of up to \$25,000 for each day of violation at each plant prior to Jan. 30, 1997, and \$27,500 for each day thereafter. The suits are aimed at forcing the utilities to install modern pollution control technology.

When Congress passed the Clean Air Act in the 1970s, it exempted the old coal-fired plants from meeting tough standards applied to new facilities so long as the plants maintained the status quo, Browner said. Lawmakers believed the old plants would eventually be replaced by newer, cleaner technologies.

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Banks sue to halt ATM measure

(AP)—Washington voters approved America's most sweeping tax-revolt plan, slashing the state's car tax and giving citizens veto power over all future tax and fee increases.

A measure to eliminate extra charges at automated teller machines passed easily in San Francisco, one of dozens of places around the nation with ballot measures Tuesday.

Oregonians defeated a measure that would have allowed murder convictions by an 11-1 jury vote instead of a unanimous one, while Maine defeated a ban on certain late-term abortions and approved a proposal to legalize medical marijuana.

Washington's Initiative 695, a citizen plan that developed when the state amassed a billion-dollar surplus but lawmakers did nothing to reduce one of the country's highest car license fees, passed 613,903 to 459,925, or 57 percent to 43 percent.

To broaden the measure's appeal, sponsors included a requirement for a public vote on all future tax increases at the

state or local level.

"People vote for good ideas, and 695 was a good idea," Tim Eyman, the measure's sponsor, told about 500 cheering supporters. "Never underestimate the stupidity of government" in not responding to taxpayers' demands.

A small business owner, Eyman framed it as a populist revolt against the power brokers who formed a coalition to try to beat the initiative, running a media blitz with a \$2 million campaign treasury.

The measure substitutes an annual fee of \$30 per car to replace a much-maligned tax of 2.2 percent of the vehicle's value - hundreds of dollars for many motorists - for a total tax break of \$1.1 billion in the 18 months remaining in the biennial budget.

For the second time in four years, Washington voters also rejected a proposal to ban most commercial fishing nets from state waters. Supporters said it could save taxpayers' money in the fight to restore dwindling salmon runs; opponents argued the measure would cripple an entire industry. It was rejected 58 percent to 42

percent. With 90 percent of precincts reporting today in San Francisco, the ATM measure had been approved by 78,049 voters, or 62 percent, while 47,345, or 38 percent, voted no.

Supporters claimed banks are gouging customers with the \$1 to \$2 fees, which more than offset ATM operating costs.

Banks say the fees are necessary to pay for the installation of more ATMs. On Wednesday, the California Bankers' Association filed suit in federal court to delay any changes and determine whether the measure is legal. No court in the nation has ruled specifically on an ATM fee ban.

The Maine referendum to ban so-called partial-birth abortion lost 190,903, or 55 percent, to 154,172, or 45 percent. Thirty states have adopted similar measures, though courts have blocked or restricted their enforcement in 20 states, setting up a likely U.S. Supreme Court showdown.

The medicinal-marijuana referendum, with 212,262 or 62 percent in favor and 132,789 or 38

percent opposed, authorizes possession and use for specific medical conditions when patients are advised by a doctor they might benefit from the drug. Voter approval means the legislation could take effect within 60 days.

Since 1996, five states - California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Arizona - and the District of Columbia have passed medical marijuana initiatives.

Also in Maine, Falmouth residents soundly rejected a ballot measure that would have nullified a homosexual-rights ordinance adopted unanimously by the Town Council last spring.

Among other measures:

- In a nonbinding referendum, the city of Ketchikan, Idaho, decided to keep the 25-year-old tradition of a mock six-gun shoot-out on Main Street during the community's annual Wagon Days festival. Supporters viewed it as good fun, but opponents mindful of the slayings at Columbine High School in Colorado wanted to do away with any show of violence.

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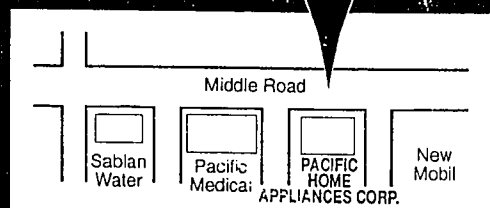
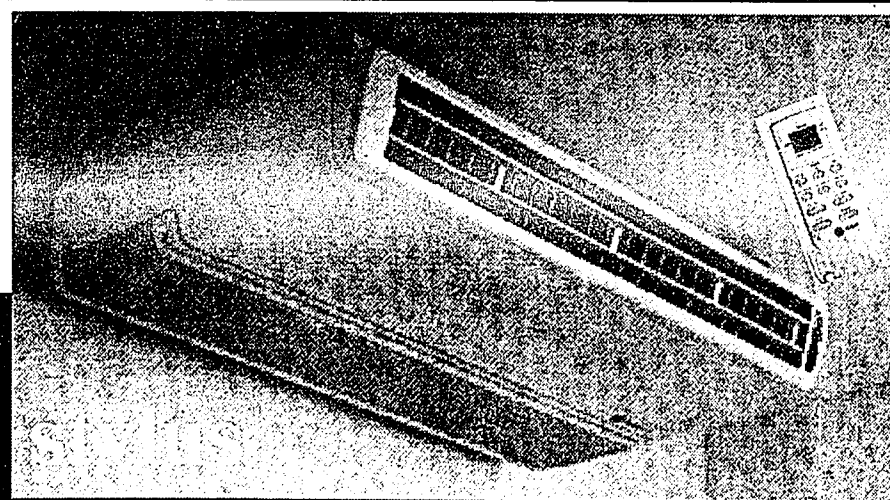
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EgyptAir problems probed

NEWPORT, R.I. (AP) — As bad weather stalled recovery efforts today at the ocean crash site, investigators looked into whether a deactivated engine part played a role in the EgyptAir disaster that killed 217 people.

The investigation was slowed today by strong wind and waves that made it impossible to keep most vessels at the site 65 miles southwest of Nantucket Island.

Many relatives have gathered at a hotel, and some had to be taken to Newport Hospital this morning after being overcome by emotion, city firefighter Mike Jones said. Hospital spokeswoman Christine Scotton would not give details on the three men, citing confidentiality rules.

After a morning meeting with the National Transportation Safety Board, other family members were irate about what they said was authorities' refusal to let them visit the crash area or the temporary morgue, or even see debris because of a fear it would be contaminated.

"We don't want to go in and touch the debris. We want to stand at the end (of the hangar) and see something," said Mike Crow, whose wife lost four relatives.

There was no immediate comment from NTSB officials.

The possibility that the engine part, an engine thrust reverser, activated during flight and con-

tributed to Sunday's crash is just one of many being considered as a cause of the crash of the Boeing 767. A thrust reverser was blamed for the crash of another 767 eight years ago in Thailand.

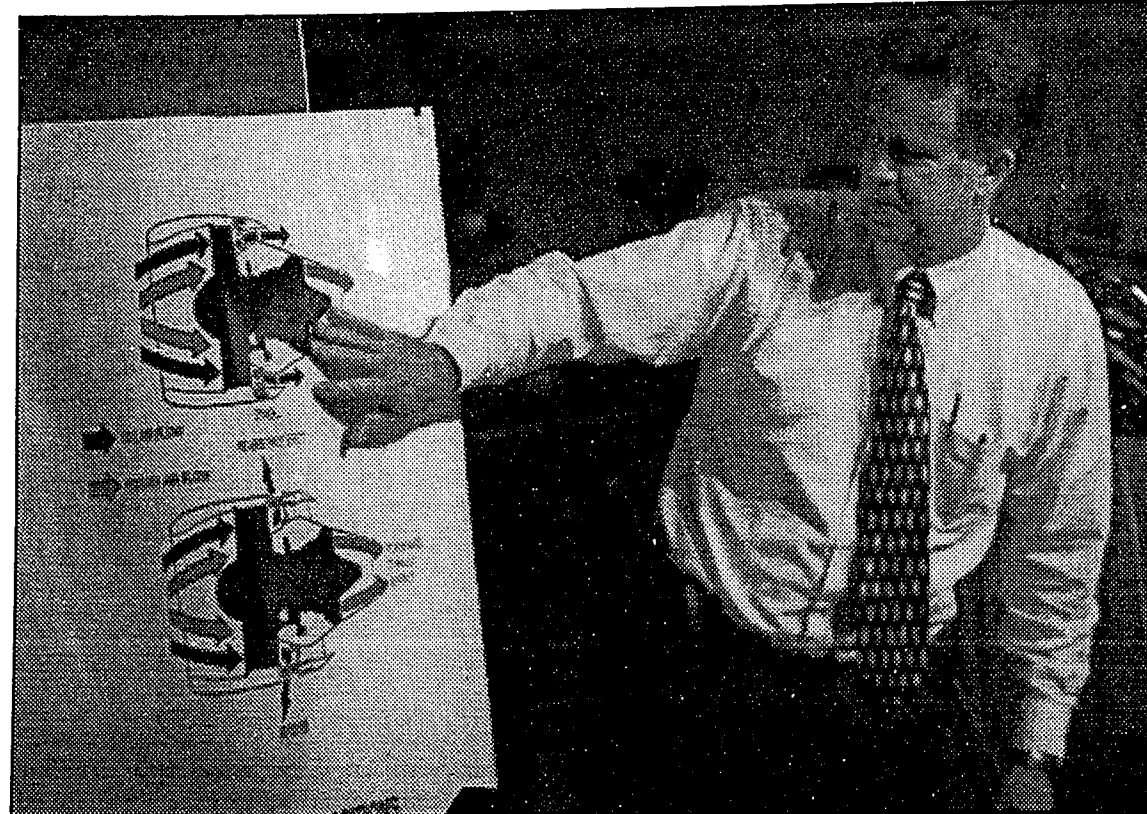
A former NTSB senior investigator, Barry Trotter, said information released so far leads him to consider the thrust reverser as a possible cause.

"The only thing that would cause this kind of catastrophic event would be a thrust reverser or some kind of explosion," Trotter said in a telephone interview today.

Some experts have suggested that inadvertent activation of the thrust reverser would have caused Flight 990 to spin sharply during its descent—something not shown on radar. But Trotter said that even if the plane did not spin, it was still possible a malfunctioning thrust reverser caused the crash.

A top Egyptian aviation official, however, said today the reverser could not have caused the crash. Even with a reverser malfunction, the pilots still would have had time to radio a distress call, said Isam Ahmed, head of Egypt's Civil Aviation Institute.

"Something had happened inside the cabin that prevented the pilot and the co-pilots from sending the distress warning," Ahmed said in Cairo. "Maybe something



National Transportation Safety Board Chief Inspector Greg Phillips talks to reporters about the mechanics of thrust reversers on a Boeing 767 aircraft, like that of EgyptAir 990, during a news conference at the Newport Naval Base in Newport, R.I., Wednesday. AP

happened inside the cabin first that cut the communications.... We must concentrate on the cabin area."

The Cairo-bound jet plunged into the sea after leaving New York.

The reverser wasn't working on one of Flight 990's two engines and was deactivated some time before the crash, investiga-

tors said Tuesday.

The reason wasn't known. Investigators said airplanes are allowed to fly with only one operating thrust reverser.

The parts are used to slow a plane after landing by reversing air flow out of the engines.

An accidental midflight thrust reverser deployment was blamed

for the 1991 crash of an Air Lauda 767 that came off the assembly line in 1989 immediately after the EgyptAir jet. After that crash, which killed 233 people, Boeing redesigned the mechanism that controls the thrust reverser.

EgyptAir said the plane used for Flight 990 underwent the modification in 1993.

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US envoy meets Gusmao

DILI, East Timor (AP) — U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia Robert Gelbard had coffee on his mind — and in his hands — as he met Wednesday with East Timor independence leader Jose Alexandre "Xanana" Gusmao.

Coffee is one of the few cash exports for East Timor. Its organic beans are highly prized by international coffee merchants like Seattle-based Starbucks.

So when Gelbard met with Gusmao for 1 1/2 hours at the Baucau airport, he brought along a small sample of processed coffee to give to the man who is widely expected to become the first president of East Timor.

"We talked about a wide range of issues, including economic development," Gelbard said. "The U.S. government has had a coffee production project for some time. We talked about increasing the size of this project. All of the coffee is sold to Starbucks. It's organic, first-rate."

As East Timor slowly starts to recover from the horrors of the anti-independence militia rampage that followed an Aug. 30 vote to break away from Indonesia, the territory is starting to think about tomorrow.

Gusmao said his discussions with Gelbard focused on many aspects of a variety of problems.

"We are looking at the future, what we can expect to do and try

to do," he said.

The talks followed a meeting Monday night by Gelbard in Indonesian West Timor with three leaders of East Timor's anti-independence movement.

Gelbard said they want to hold talks with the United Nations — which will administer East Timor for the immediate future — and expressed a wish to take part in the political process.

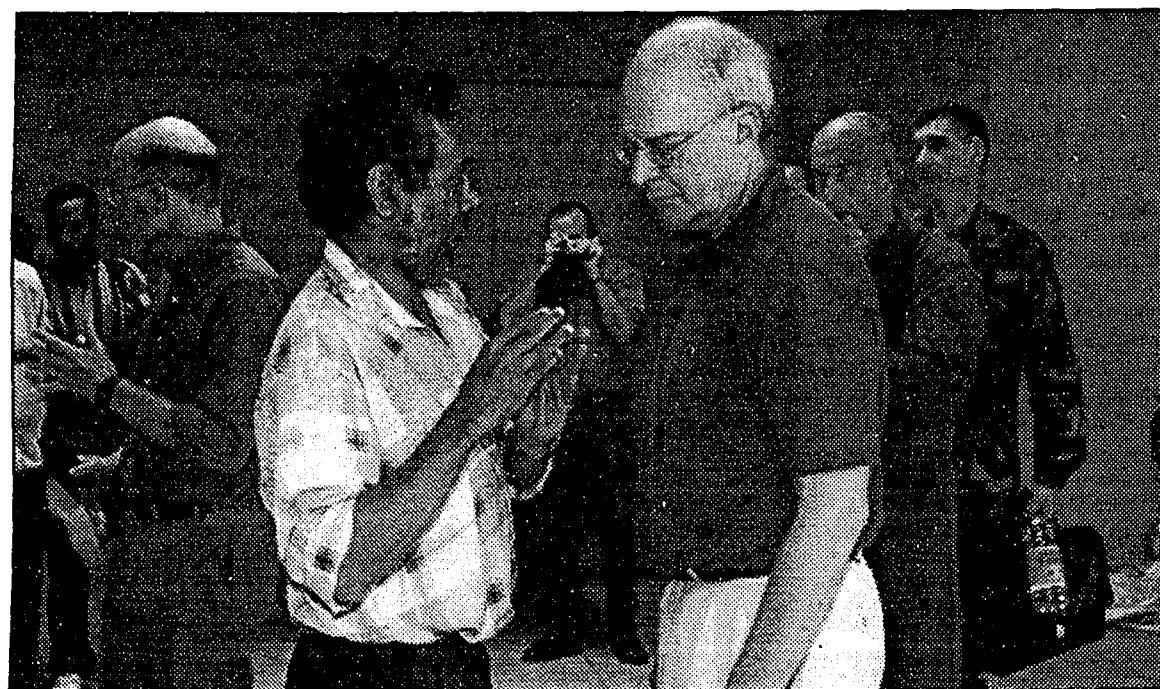
That will be one of the trickiest parts of East Timor's transition to independence, since it would involve reconciliation between opposing factions.

Meanwhile, the head of the international peacekeeping force in East Timor said Wednesday he is "frustrated" that Indonesia's army has failed to heed his appeal for high-level coordination.

Australian Maj. Gen. Peter Cosgrove said the goal is to facilitate the return of refugees from Indonesian West Timor and avoid misunderstandings. Confusion over the border's exact location has been blamed for an Oct. 10 border clash in which peacekeepers came under fire.

Cosgrove said he has been trying to talk with the commander of West Timor, Gen. Damyri, since mid-October, shortly after the shooting incident.

"If necessary, I'll provide radios on both sides of the border to



East Timorese rebel leader Jose Alexandre "Xanana" Gusmao (foreground left) talks with U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia Robert Gelbard at the Baucau airport in East Timor Wednesday. Gelbard is the first high level U.S. official to visit East Timor since the August 30th referendum vote for independence which plunged the territory into chaos. AP

ensure that we can speak where we need to speak to ensure no misunderstandings," Cosgrove told reporters.

Indonesia invaded East Timor, a former Portuguese colony, in 1975. It has now ceded control to the United Nations. The last Indonesian troops left the territory Sunday.

Cosgrove also said his "best estimate" of the number of East Timorese still unaccounted for is

80,000. He said 220,000-250,000 of a population estimated at about 800,000 remain in West Timor, where many apparently were taken under duress.

He speculated that the missing might still be in hiding in the hills, or could have dispersed across Indonesia's sprawling archipelago. He seemed to favor the theory that the population estimate was flawed, so the actual number of missing is mini-

mal.

Cosgrove conceded reluctantly that some of the missing could have been killed and their bodies not yet found.

He said peacekeepers have found 108 bodies so far. It was unclear if the total included four bodies that were exhumed Wednesday near Dili's airport. The victims apparently were killed some time ago; no other details were available.

'Asia needs to open up'

SINGAPORE (AP) — Governments should be open and innovative if they hope to be successful amid technological advances, former Australian prime minister Paul Keating said Wednesday.

"I believe it will be impossible to reach the highest levels of economic success without open societies," Keating said at a technology conference in Singapore.

"In the information age there's going to be a struggle for countries to be truly innovative and clever, and those societies that keep a clamp on expression and communications will also, to their detriment, clamp creativity."

Keating said the United States was a magnet for technologically-savvy entrepreneurs from Asia, in particular China and India, because of its open culture.

Amnesty asks world powers to end Afghan human tragedy

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Amnesty International urged world leaders Wednesday to help put an end to human rights abuses in war-battered Afghanistan.

"The United States, its West European allies and the countries of the former Soviet Union have failed to bring to an end the very human rights crisis that they helped to create," the London-based human rights group said in a statement.

"All states that have armed, trained and financed warring factions ... have a special responsibility for ending the human rights catastrophe in the country," it said.

Pakistan, Iran and other countries that are reportedly supporting warring factions, must also use their influence to ensure that these groups respect human rights, it said.

Pakistan and Iran deny supporting Afghan factions. Afghanistan's protracted civil war began nearly 20 years ago with the invasion of Soviet forces in 1979. When the troops pulled back in 1989, they left a warring country behind.

In 1996, the Islamic Taliban militia captured the capital Kabul, and in a string of victories against its opposition, seized almost 90 percent of the country.

Amnesty said the conflict has become a largely ethnic one with the Taliban targeting minorities, such as Tajiks, Hazara.

The Taliban, or the students of Islam, are Sunni Muslims and mostly Pashtun — the country's majority ethnic group. They are fighting the northern-based opposition alliance, which comprises ethnic and religious minorities, in a bid to capture the entire country.



Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid (right) greets IMF Director of Asia Pacific Affairs Hubert Neiss (left) in Jakarta Wednesday. Wahid wants to change the country's economic program with the IMF to make its policies more inclusive of agriculture and small and medium businesses. AP

"Governments will have to learn to deal with the constraints this new technology places on them, the demands of transparency everywhere will only grow," he said.

Underpinning growth in the information age was a country's capacity to develop a milieu which can sustain creativity, Keating said.

Keating urged that Australia vote to become a republic in the referendum scheduled Nov. 6.

"The way countries present themselves in the world and the image others have of them will matter so much," he said.

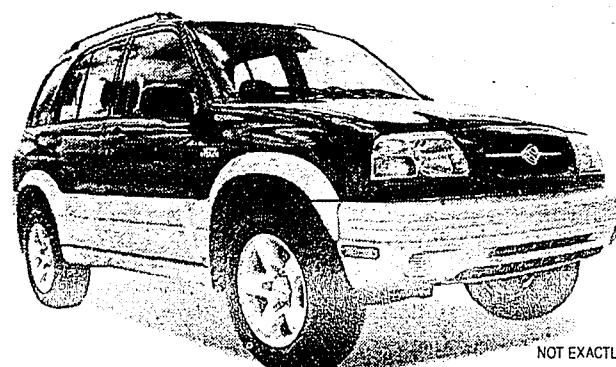
"That's just one of the reasons why Australia should vote in favour of becoming a republic next Saturday. For us it will be as important about what it says to Australians themselves as it does to others."

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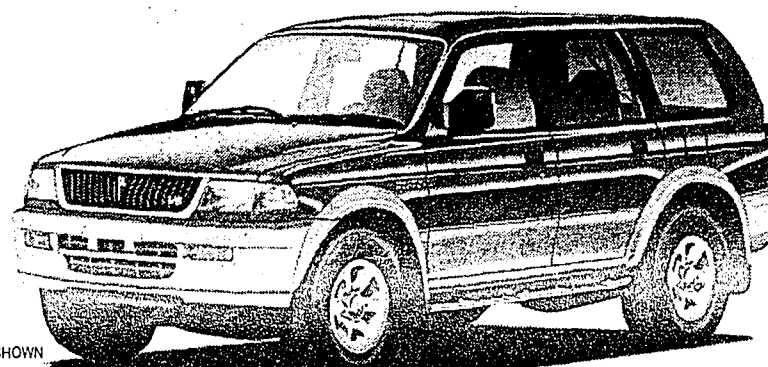
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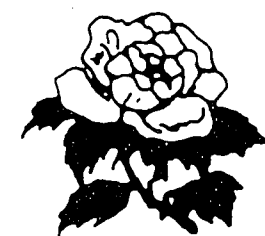
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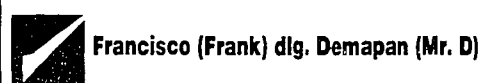
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FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (E.D.1)

For a strong youth program...
To ensure a creditable youth representation

I am very much aware that in today's population mix, more than fifty percent are between 18 to 30 years of age. This means, that unless we allocate at least ten percent of our available resources toward achieving realistic and workable solutions to the problems of our youth, a very substantial portion of our population will be left on the outside, out in the cold, so to speak.

As a House Candidate, I am assuring you, that I will leave no stone unturned, shirk no burden, be deterred by no fences, or other obstacles in order to raise youth development to a height where it should have been from the very beginning - to institute a program a real meaning, substance and clout. I will introduce legislation to establish a Governor's Youth Council, whose composition will include a creditable youth representation of the entire Commonwealth, to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.



tion will include a creditable youth representation of the entire Commonwealth, to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Council will elect its own Chairman, who shall then sit in the Governor's Cabinet. Further, the Council Members shall be elected at large by the populace, and shall have the function of being the liaison between the Governor and the Commonwealth Youth at the Council, whose composition will include a creditable youth representation of the entire Commonwealth, to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Council will elect its own Chairman, who shall then sit in the Governor's Cabinet. Further, the Council Members shall be elected at large by the populace, and shall have the function of being the liaison between the Governor and the Commonwealth Youth at the grassroots level.

I firmly believe that at this point and time in the history and development of our Commonwealth, it makes a good common sense, a necessity in fact, to have youth representatives at the highest level in our government-as they say: "When it's right- Do it!"

I am running for a seat in the House of Representatives to represent Election District No. 1, and I would be grateful to receive your vote, and be proud to represent your best interest in the House.

Join hands with me tomorrow, my friends!

Please remember me tomorrow.
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A woman rows herself and a pet dog to safety place after her home in Hoi An, central Vietnam, was hit by major flooding. Torrential rains have devastated the region over the past week, leaving at least 35 people dead. The storms have deluged homes and crops, paralyzed roadways and communication lines. AP

Floods kill at least 35 in central Vietnam

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Torrential downpours have devastated central Vietnam, spawning floods that have killed at least 35 people, the Vietnam Red Cross said Wednesday.

The death toll was expected to increase as reports trickled in from areas where phone lines were down. With the water still rising, rain continued to fall.

Vast swaths of farmland and hundreds of thousands of homes were submerged in one of the country's poorest regions. North-south transport by road and rail was paralyzed, with six trains trapped.

The ancient capital of Hue was virtually isolated by its worst flooding in 40 years.

Prime Minister Phan Van Khai on Tuesday ordered the army and provincial officials to begin rescue operations. He also sent a government delegation to assess damage.

The Vietnam Red Cross said it planned to issue a domestic appeal for help Thursday and that a request for international aid could follow. Some \$30,000 already has been sent to buy food, medicine, clothing and other supplies in seven affected provinces.

Heavy rains have dumped up to 600 millimeters (24 inches) of rain on the flood-prone region over the past week. The storms, triggered by an area of tropical low pressure, are expected to continue the rest of the week, the central weather forecasting station said.

The airport in Hue was closed Tuesday while Danang's airport announced it was shutting down Wednesday, officials said. Neither reported when it will reopen. Thirteen people were killed by

flooding in Quang Nam province as of late Tuesday afternoon, said Le Van Thu of the provincial flood and storm control committee, adding that the death toll could rise as more reports come in from outlying districts.

Thu said 150,000 houses were submerged, along with thousands of hectares (acres) of rice. "Water is everywhere and still rising," he said.

Local officials said four people had died in Quang Ngai province and 11 in Quang Tri province, where an official with the provincial flood and storm control committee reported more than 20,000 houses were submerged.

In Quang Ngai, 12 construction workers were presumed dead after a landslide buried their home. Three fishermen also were reported missing there after their boats overturned.

Vietnam's ancient capital of Hue was nearly cut off, submerged under three meters (10 feet) of water in some places.

Telecommunications went down Tuesday afternoon, so it was impossible to get estimates of casualties or damage.

Many parts of National Highway 1, the main north-south artery, were under a half-meter (20 inches) of water.

An official with the national railway company said north-south railway transport was suspended Tuesday because the tracks were damaged or submerged in 12 places. Six trains got stuck.

He said he did not know when rail transport could resume. The company runs eight north-south trains a day.

Last year, nearly 400 people were killed by flooding in central Vietnam.

Jiang ends Saudi visit

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Visiting Chinese President Jiang Zemin wrapped up his first visit to Saudi Arabia on Wednesday with cooperation agreements on oil, economy and the media.

During his four-day trip, Jiang met with Saudi King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah, who has handled the kingdom's day-to-day affairs since Fahd suffered a stroke in 1995. Abdullah visited China last year.

The officials discussed regional developments and bilateral relations, said a joint statement issued at the end of the visit.

"The two sides expressed their desire to continue economic cooperation and investment in the field of oil," the statement said.

Jiang departed from the eastern Saudi city of Dammam. Earlier Wednesday, he had visited the industrial city of Jubail on the east coast.

Jiang, the first Chinese leader to visit the kingdom, is accompanied by a senior delegation that includes Vice Premier Qian Qichen, Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan and State Development Planning Commission director Zeng Peiyan.

A group of Chinese industrialists are also part of Jiang's entourage. They met earlier this week with Saudi businessmen to discuss investment opportunities in both countries.

On Sunday, the two sides talked about expanding their rapidly growing trade ties and signed agreements on cooperation in oil, economy and the media, the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

During his trip Jiang discussed the construction of a \$1 billion refinery and petrochemicals complex in southern China which would use Saudi oil, said a Saudi official speaking on condition of anonymity. He did not give additional details.

Jiang, who arrived Sunday from Algeria, is on a two-week trip that has taken him to Britain, France, Portugal and Morocco.

Some 200 Chinese, mostly nurses, currently work in Saudi Arabia. Expatriates make up about a third of Saudi Arabia's population of 18 million.

Though the two countries only established ties in 1990, Saudi Arabia has become China's largest trade partner in the Middle East.

Saudi Arabia earlier had ties with Taiwan. Trade between China and Saudi Arabia reached 3.3 billion riyals (\$880 million dollars) in the first half of 1999. It was worth more than \$2 billion in 1998 and over \$1 billion in 1997.

Saudi Arabia bought products worth 1.6 billion riyals (\$



Premier Zhu Rongji (left) greets Chinese President Jiang Zemin at a welcome back ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Thursday. Jiang returned today from a two-week trip that has taken him to Britain, France, Portugal, Morocco and Saudi Arabia. AP

427 million) from China from January to June this year, mainly textiles, electronics, refined sugar, clothes and toys.

China bought mostly oil and petrochemicals worth 1.7 billion riyals (\$453 million) from Saudi Arabia during the same period.



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(Incumbent)



LUIS SALAS CAMACHO
"Luis Mang"



ISIDRO ATALIG SABLAN
"Sid"

VOTE DEMOCRAT

Your Candidates for Precinct 3 A-B and the Northern Islands

SI YU'US MA'ASE - OLOMWAY - THANK YOU - SALAMAT PO - MESULANG

Falun Gong members charged

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese prosecutors have formally charged six members of the banned Falun Gong spiritual movement, a human rights group and state media said Wednesday, in an intensification of a three-month campaign against the group.

Prosecutors Monday charged four — Song Yuesheng, Jiang Shilong, Chen Yuan and Liang Yulin — with organizing a Falun Gong gathering in defiance of the government's ban in southern Hainan province, the China Women's News said.

Two others, Gu Zhiyi from southwestern Chongqing city and Cui Weirui from the eastern port city of Qingdao, were charged in their hometowns, Gu for organizing demonstrations and Cui for getting Falun Gong members to go to Beijing, the Hong Kong-based Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China said.

The indictments follow a vote by China's legislature on Saturday to tighten laws against Falun Gong and other groups the government views as cults. The Hong Kong-based center reported that China's top prosecutors agency issued nationwide orders Tuesday to quickly detain and charge "backbone members" of the group.

Since banning Falun Gong on July 22 as a menace to society, Chinese authorities have detained leaders, ordered adherents to renounce the movement or risk pun-

ishment and pursued a relentless campaign of vilification against the group's U.S.-based founder in state-run media.

On Wednesday, police in Beijing also questioned at least five foreign reporters who attended a clandestinely held Falun Gong news conference last week and took away journalists' and residence permits that are required for working in China. At least one reporter was threatened with unspecified consequences if he contacts Falun Gong members again.

In Haikou, Hainan's capital, an official at the prosecutors' office said Song and the other three people charged could be tried within ten days, but added that a trial date has yet to be announced.

Three other Falun Gong leaders from Hainan whose detentions had also been reported by state media have yet to be formally indicted, either for lack of evidence or because their cases are still being investigated, said the official, who gave only her surname, Lin.

Song and the three others charged allegedly organized an illegal gathering of 183 Falun Gong practitioners in a park on Aug. 8, more than two weeks after the government issued its ban, the Women's News reported.

Prosecutors accused Song of "inciting, deceiving and organizing" Falun Gong members into disrupting the implementation of state laws, "with serious consequences," the newspaper said.



Falun Gong members practise their meditation exercises in Hong Kong's Victoria Park Sunday in front of a pile of newsletters about the sect, a day after Beijing approved an anti-cult law to squash the banned spiritual movement. The newsletters say that China is oppressing the sect, which is legal in Hong Kong.

AP

If the Haikou Intermediate People's Court, which is handling the case, accepts prosecutors' claims that his alleged crimes were particularly serious, he could be sentenced to a minimum of seven years in jail under China's criminal law.

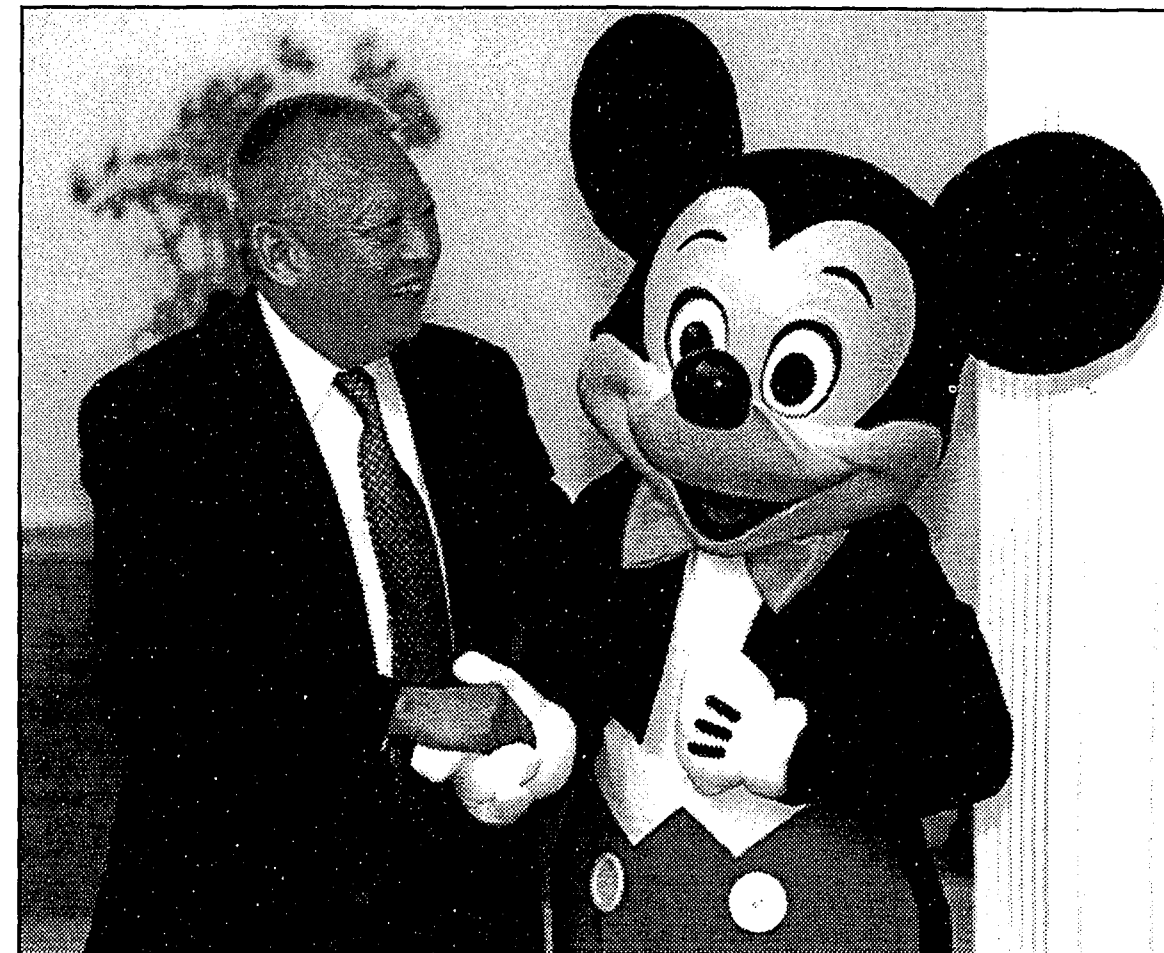
The newspaper said Song also faced an additional charge of attempting to escape from custody following his September arrest, which carries a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment.

Jiang, Chen and Liang, meanwhile, were accused of being "backbone members" of Falun Gong who "refused to mend their ways despite repeated admonitions," the newspaper said. They face a minimum of three years imprisonment if convicted, or more than seven years if their alleged crimes are judged to be extremely serious.

All four are the first Falun Gong leaders to be charged in Hainan, the Women's News said. Trials are also expected for four other Falun Gong leaders detained by police in Beijing, as well as for other members rounded up in the crackdown.

Falun Gong, founded by Li Hongzhi, who left China and lives in New York, is a blend of Taoism, Buddhism and Li's own theories. The government said the group was politically motivated and caused social instability and the deaths of 1,400 people by brainwashing them into shunning medical care.

HK Disney deal criticized



Hong Kong's government leader, Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa (left), shakes hands with Disney character Mickey Mouse, at Government House in Hong Kong. Tung has formally announced the deal that will give Disney its third international theme park location, after Paris and Tokyo.

AP

HONG KONG (AP) — The price for bringing Disneyland to Hong Kong is too high, opposition lawmakers charged Wednesday, even as the government insisted the economy will reap enormous benefits in coming decades.

Financial Secretary Donald Tsang acknowledged the territory's return on the park itself probably will be "not so

brilliant," but reiterated Hong Kong is looking to gain in many more areas.

Critics have pointed to the fact that Hong Kong will invest about 10 times as much as Disney, while holding just 57 percent of the Hong Kong Disneyland set to open in 2005.

But Tsang said Hong Kong's returns will be far greater than

whatever the park brings in, with benefits to the construction industry, and more jobs and more tourists expected to pour in, helping hotels, transportation companies, restaurants and stores.

"Disney's profit will come solely from the park; that's the extent of their return. Our return would go beyond the park's boundaries. It would

come from the entire Hong Kong economy," Tsang told reporters via satellite from London, where he was attending a conference.

Disney, based in Burbank, California, announced Tuesday it will build the park in a project financed mostly by Hong Kong taxpayers. Disney will invest 2.45 billion Hong Kong dollars (U.S. \$314 million) for a 43 percent stake, while the Hong Kong government is paying 22.45 billion Hong Kong dollars (U.S. \$2.88 billion).

"This wasn't a fair exchange. We have signed an unfair treaty," Cheung Man-kwong, a lawmaker from the opposition Democratic Party, told a special legislative briefing.

Much of the criticism has focused on the government's agreement to provide 4 billion Hong Kong dollars (U.S. \$513 million) worth of land so the park can be built at a remote site on outlying Lantau Island.

Disney is paying nothing for the land but Hong Kong insists it was no giveaway.

The deal will give the government more shares in Hong Kong Disneyland in the future — assuming the park does well enough — in exchange for the property. That could see Hong Kong's stake rise as high as 75 percent over the next 25 years.

Government economist K.Y. Tang said Wednesday the park will add 0.4 percent

to Hong Kong's gross domestic product each year for the next 50 years.

Despite concerns about the price tag, many Hong Kong people took it all in stride, figuring the project can help Hong Kong start growing again.

"It's a lot of money, but we'll make the money back," said Graham Yeung, a merchandising clerk. Local commentators applauded the deal.

"In an economy still hamstrung by recession, the long-awaited announcement is the most positive sign that better days are coming," the English-language South China Morning Post editorialized.

The Disney deal comes at a time when Hong Kong is trying to rebuild itself as a vital Asian economic powerhouse, after losing much of its manufacturing industries to cheaper mainland Chinese cities and seeing other industries savaged by Asia's financial crisis.

While neighboring economies like Singapore, South Korea and Malaysia have already registered impressive economic gains, Hong Kong is projected to grow by just 0.5 percent this year.

Unemployment is still hovering at its highest levels in years. Commentators say Disneyland will boost foreign investors' confidence in the territory, whose future has been clouded by the financial crisis and its return to Chinese rule a little more than two years ago.

Congressman MANUEL AGULTO TENORIO "BROWN"



BIO DATA



Born: December 23, 1944, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan
Spouse: Tina Cooper Tenorio (Deceased)
Children: Cathy, Frances, Anthony, Sofia, Micheal, Dianne and Manuel Tenorio Jr.

Brothers & Sisters: Jose A. Tenorio ("Pinko"), Rosalia T. Sablan, Joaquin A. Tenorio ("Dr. Jack"), Pedro A. Tenorio (former Lt. Governor), and Frank C. Agulto.

Parents: Francisco Pangelinan Tenorio and Magdalena Concepcion Agulto (both deceased)
Stepfather: Vicente Salas Delon Guerrero (deceased)

Grandparents: Joaquin Torres Tenorio & Juana Campos Pangelinan (all deceased)
Jose Magofna Agulto & Dolores Gumataotao Concepcion (all deceased)

EDUCATION

1963-1968 University of Hawaii, B.S. Agriculture
1963 College of Guam, Summer
1960-1963 Mt. Carmel High School, Diploma
1959-1960 Chalan Piao Intermediate School, Certificate
1952-1958 Chalan Kanoa Elementary School, Certificate

SPECIAL TRAINING

1971 East-West Center Technology & Management Development Institute, (University of Hawaii)
1970 Pange, ECI, SPC Agriculture Seminar
Alafua College, Western Samoa Weed Control Seminar

PUBLIC SERVICE

1997-1999

Re-elected to the CNMI 11th Legislature and maintained Chairmanship of Natural Resources Committee. Elected Vice Chairman, Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation Represented CNMI House of Representative as member to APIL Board of Directors

Re-elected to the CNMI 10th Legislature and maintained Chairmanship of Natural Resources Committee, Member of Board of Directors to "APIL".
Elected to the 9th CNMI Legislature, Chairman, Committee Natural Resources, Member Board of Directors, APIL.
Member, Board of Trustees, Ponape Agriculture & Trades School (PATS)
Member, Law Revision Commission (CNMI)
President, Saipan Chamber of Commerce
Member, Maritime Industry Committee (CNMI)
Member, Board of Directors, Saipan Chamber of Commerce
Member Delegate to the Northern Marianas 1st Constitutional Convention, Member, Committee on Natural Resources
Member, 26th Saipan Municipal Council,
Chairman, Resources & Development

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1990-1993 President, Trans Micronesia Motors, Inc.
1971-1990 United Micronesia Development Association (UMDA), in the following capacities:

- President & CEO
- President, Air Micronesia Inc.
- General Manager
- Shipping Manager
- UMDA Representative in Majuro, Marshall Islands
- Agriculture Extension Supervisor (TTPI), Majuro
- Animal Industry Officer (TTPI), Saipan
- Summer Student Assistant, University of Hawaii

1968-1971
1967-1968
1965-1967

My Dear Constituents:

On November 6, 1999, the people of the CNMI are once again tasked with the choice of electing their legislative leaders for this coming new millennium. I encourage each and every one of you to go to the polls and exercise your right as a citizen to vote for candidates of your choice to represent you through the year 2000. Our Commonwealth has gone a long way to be what it is today and our people have played a major role in shaping our community through the selective democratic process.

I have been very fortunate and honored to be your Representative for Precinct No. 1 for the past three terms. I feel that, as your spokesman and your eyes and ears in the legislature, I have contributed much in developing our Commonwealth with your blessings. I would like to continue serving our people in the Legislature, and again, I humbly ask for your VOTE of confidence this Saturday, November 6th. Please remember me and my colleagues on election day.

Thank you, Un Dangko Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaaya.

Sincerely,

Rep. Manuel Agulto Tenorio (Brown)

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Congressman Manuel Agulto Tenorio "Brown"

RP: China not the 'imagined' enemy

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine officials rejected Wednesday an appeal from China that they call off planned military exercises with the United States, and denied that Beijing was the target of the war games.

On Tuesday, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman denounced the exercises, to be held in February, for allegedly targeting China.

The exercises "are not directed against any country and neither are they addressing a specific country as the 'imaginary enemy,'" presidential spokesman Jerry Barican said.

The exercises are expected to be held in Palawan, the Philippine province closest to the Spratly Islands, a disputed area of the South China Sea.

Barican cited an agreement between China and the Philippines not to stage any war exercises in which the other side is the hypothetical enemy.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue said Tuesday that countries should preserve peace and stability in the Spratlys "instead of doing anything

that may affect the regional stability, including not holding military exercises which are targeted at others as the imagined enemy."

A long-standing dispute between China and the Philippines over several areas of the Spratlys intensified last year when China fortified structures it built earlier on a disputed reef.

The tensions with China encouraged the Philippines to revive languishing military relations with the United States. In May, the Philippine Senate approved an accord allowing the resumption of joint military exercises in the country.

Philippine Defense Secretary Orlando Mercado described China's accusation as unfortunate. He said the exercises will be held in Philippine territory and should not cause China any concern.

"We have friendly relations with China and we don't imagine conflicts with them," Mercado told reporters.

Barican said the exercises are designed to acquaint Filipino soldiers with modern military equipment and improve coordination between Philippine and U.S. forces.

PLEASE RE-ELECT



APATANG
DAVID MUNDO
for House of Representatives Precinct No. 1
#5 on the ballot

BIO-DATA INFORMATION

Wife : Antonia Pangelinan Mafnas Apatang
Children: Elaine; Deyna; David John; Velma & Charles Ayuyu Mendiola (David Peter and John Anthony); Kimberly & Ben Acebo (Jackie and Kevin); Victoria & John Benavente Reyes (John David)

Parents-in-Law: Rosa Atalig Mundo Castro/Romaldo Dela Cruz Apatang (†)
/Gregorio Palacios Castro (†); Victoria Reyes Pangelinan Concepcion/Juan Rios Mafnas (†)/Jose Aguan Concepcion

Brothers/Sisters & In-law: Primitiva Apatang Babauta/Manuel Miyasaki Babauta (†); Edith Apatang Ayuyu/Antonio DLGuerrero Ayuyu; Joseph Mundo Castro/Julie San Nicolas Camacho Castro; Rodrigo Mundo Castro/Pang; Tomas Castro Tenorio/Joseph Reyes Tenorio Jesus pangelinan Mafnas (†)/Sue Pangelinan Tenorio Mafnas; Jose Pangelinan Mafnas/Ever Legaspi Mafnas; Maria Mafnas Rosario/John P. Rosario; Therisita Pangelinan Mafnas; Antonio Pangelinan Mafnas/Cynthia Taitano Castro Mafnas

Thank You for your Vote of Confidence!
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In Australia

Many dream of a republic

SYDNEY, Australia (AP)—Iranian immigrant Susan Ghaemi lived in Australia for almost 10 years before becoming a citizen.

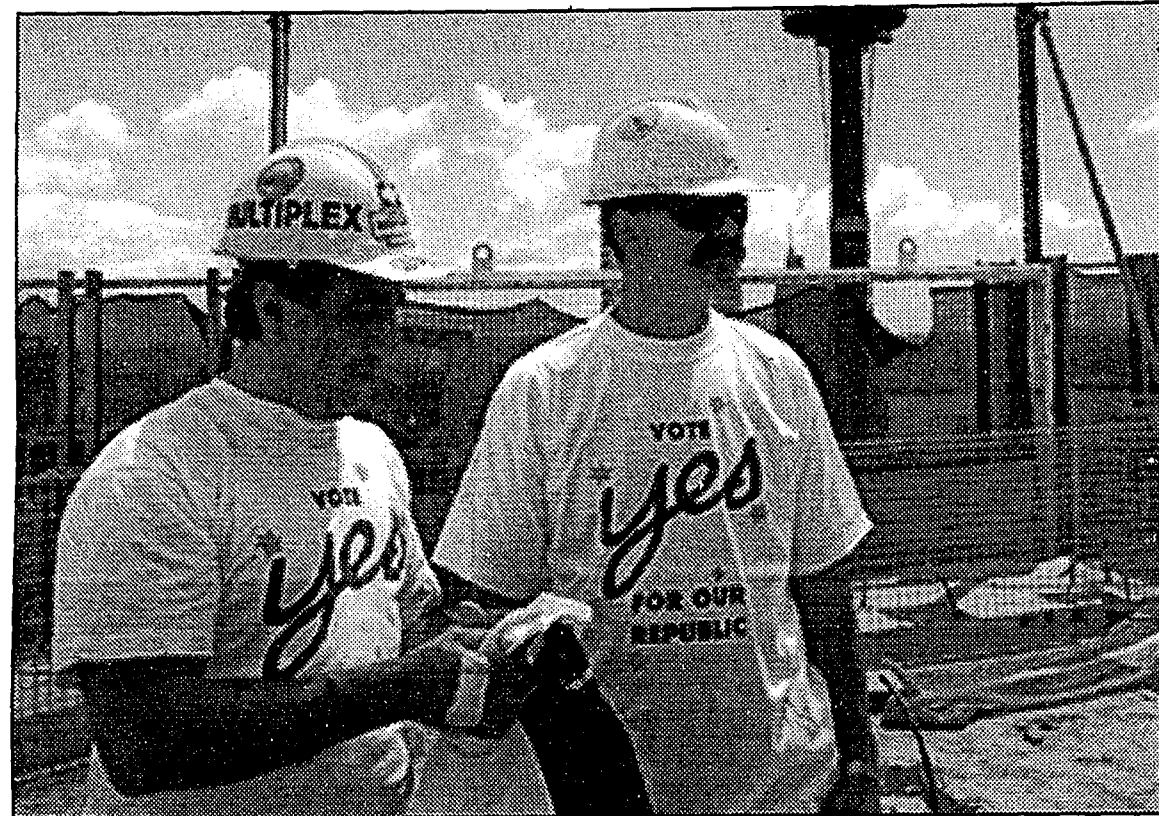
It wasn't any lack of love for her adopted home that delayed Ghaemi's decision for so long. It was that in becoming a citizen, she had to swear allegiance to a foreign monarch.

In one of the few lingering links with former colonial ruler Britain, immigrants becoming Australian citizens must swear alle-

giance to Queen Elizabeth II — the country's official head of state.

"I really hated doing it because the British are not popular in Iran and are associated with exploitation in Iran and throughout the Middle East," Ghaemi said.

Of Australia's almost 20 million people, 23 percent were born overseas. When Australians vote Nov. 6 on whether the country should have its own president as the head of state and become a republic, Ghaemi — like many



Sydney city building workers wearing their yes t-shirts in support of the yes vote in Sydney Thursday. The historic referendum vote will be held Saturday when Australia's 12.3 million voters will vote yes for a Republic and a elected president or vote no to keep the Monarchy with the Queen as Australia's head of state. AP

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School Year 1999-2000 (1st Quarter)
In Alphabetical Order

Seniors	Juniors	Sophomores	Freshmen
A Honor	A Honor	A Honor	A Honor
1. Calvo, Beato	1. Manglona, Pearl	1. Bautista, Joshua	1. Apatang, Trina Jae
2. Mendiola, Janalyn	2. Manibusan, Francine	2. Catubuy, Demy	2. Atchico, Carla Cyril
3. Mendiola, Antennille	3. Masga, Man-soo	3. Sabangan, Jacinto	3. Atalig, Pauline
4. Sablan, Marcela	4. Mundo, Anally	4. Songsong, Jesse	4. Manglona, Tamara
B Honors	B Honors	B Honors	B Honors
1. Atalig, Marlinda	1. Apatang, Nobert	1. Barcinas, Nathan	1. Atalig, Antoinette
2. Charfauros, Adelaída	2. Atalig, Dina	2. Barcinas, Tanica	2. Atalig, James
3. Hartsock, Earl	3. Barcinas, Janice	3. Calvo, Sabia	3. Atalig, Jerrydine
4. Llana, Lonnie	4. Calvo, Joeweda	4. Cabrera, Jaime	4. Atalig, Juana
5. Mendiola, Gavin	5. Castro, Cass	5. Camacho, Joseph	5. Bass, Daniel
6. Mendiola, Nook	6. Cruz, Alviyn	6. Hocog, Inas	6. Bautista, Cherry
7. Ogo, Donicio	7. Fujihiara, Beverly	7. Hocog, Larry	7. Blair, Jarret
8. Ogo, Henry	8. Hocog, Tito	8. Macabenta, Christopher	8. Cabrera, Joycelyn
9. Ogo, Vicente	9. Hocog, Vianney	9. Manglona, Franklin	9. Calvo, Dennis II
10. Ogo, Jamie	10. Manglona, Jackie	10. Manglona, Molly	10. Campos, Lutania
11. Ramos, Joleen	11. Manglona, Jermaine	11. Maratita, Christopher	11. Castro, Tisha
12. Taisacan, Nathan	12. Manglona, John Anthony	12. Mereb, Pilar Rita	12. Cruz, Alexandra
13. Taisacan, Shellywyn	13. Maratita, Julynn	13. Muna, Andra	13. Dela Cruz, Paul
	14. Mendiola, Angie Lynn	14. Neth, Tracy	14. Manglona, Anabelle
	15. Mendiola, Maryanna	15. Ogo, Joseph Jr.	15. Manglona, Brandon
	16. Pangelinan, Jerry	16. Ogo, Riva	16. Manglona, Wilbur
	17. Paul, Lester	17. Sikebert, Roselinda	17. Ogo, Troy
	18. Quitugua, Roseannie	18. Taisacan, Abraham	18. Pangelinan, Rutherford
	19. Santos, Jelani	19. Toves, Crishanti	19. Pendergrass, Pilar
	20. Taimanao, Audrie		20. Taisacan, Sherrylyn
	21. Tebia, Abigail		21. Taitano, Deandra
			22. Vallera, Dominique

other immigrants — will be voting yes.

Last year, the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia, the national umbrella group of various migrant organizations, overwhelmingly endorsed the proposed switch to a republic.

Randolph Alwis, the federation's chairman, said the British monarchy is viewed as monocultural, a slap in the face to Australia's cultural diversity and multiracial mix.

"We all know the monarchy stands for a certain group," Alwis said. "It does not reflect diversity and has a bias against women. It's time for our own head of state."

Australia has been independent since 1901, but like many Commonwealth nations, it still recognizes the British monarch as its head of state.

Under the proposed new system, the president would be elected by a two-thirds parliamentary majority. The position would hold the same, largely ceremonial powers as the Queen's current representative in Australia, the governor general.

Australia's immigrant population hails from around the world. More than half of its foreign-born residents are European, one-fourth are Asian and others hail from Africa or the Middle East. Thiam Ang, an immigrant of Malaysian-Chinese descent, thinks having a president would promote inclusion.

To be Australia's head of state under the current system, he said, you have to be British, Anglican and a member of Britain's Royal House of Windsor.

Not all migrant groups are on the same side, though. Abraham Constantin, chairman of a group called No Republic of Cultural Diversity, said many migrants like Australia as it is and don't want change.

The CNMI REFORM PARTY is proud to present its officers and candidates to the CNMI voters.



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The reform party is focused on reforms
for a better government
and a better livelihood for our people in the CNMI.
Please vote reform to make the needed changes.
The Reform Party and its candidates is united in strength.

Please join us at our final rally on Nov. 3, at 6:30PM
at the Koblerville basketball court.

Thank you, Si Yuus Maase, Olomwaay,
and Maraming Salamat Po.

CNMI REFORM PARTY

In Myanmar

Troops threaten to shoot migrants

MAE SOT, Thailand (AP) — Myanmar troops threatened to shoot a batch of migrants sent back home by Thai authorities Wednesday at the start of a planned mass repatriation of illegal workers, Thai officials said.

Thai authorities then brought the 200 Myanmar migrants to another point on the Moei river border between the two countries that was not being manned by Yangon's troops and sent them into Myanmar.

The long border was closed by Myanmar, also known as

Burma, a month ago in retaliation for Thailand allowing student militants who stormed the Myanmar embassy in Bangkok Oct. 1 go free. Relations between the two countries are at their lowest point in years.

The border closure complicated Thai plans to send back hundreds of thousands of migrant workers starting this week in an effort to cap the number of foreign laborers from its poor neighbors — Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos.

"Myanmar knows well Thailand starts expelling illegal

worker this month. No matter what, we will send them all back home," said Police Col. Preecha Suwansorn, chief of immigration police in Mae Sot, Tak province, 370 kilometers (230 miles) northwest of Bangkok.

The Thais have been sending home thousands of workers secretly at ungarded crossings in recent weeks. But in the initial repatriation undertaken openly Wednesday, the three big passenger boats loaded with about 200 migrants had to come back across the river to Thailand.

Preecha told reporters that

armed Myanmar soldiers had threatened to shoot anyone who stepped off the craft and on to their river bank, near the Myanmar border town of Myawaddy, which lies opposite Mae Sot.

In Myanmar, a government spokesman, on customary condition of anonymity, said that immigration issues "should be discussed at the regular border meetings where government officials from both sides meet."

There are about 1 million foreign workers in Thailand, mostly from Myanmar. Most stay illegally. Human rights groups say many have fled oppression by Myanmar's military government.

Two years ago, Thailand allowed employers in 37 provinces to hire migrants to work in 18 business sectors, including rubber plantations, rice mills, factories, fisheries and construction.

But in a bid to ease unemployment among Thais during the country's economic crisis, Bangkok has now set a limit of

87,000, effective from Wednesday, on the number of foreign workers from Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia.

In Tak province alone, there are an estimated 50,000 Myanmar workers in factories and about 30,000 more employed in agriculture and services.

To the dismay of local businessmen in the province who can hire migrant workers for a fraction of the cost of Thais, only a few thousand will be allowed to work inside the province under the new regulation.

Authorities in the province are now gearing up for a mass repatriation. A holding center for thousands of illegal workers they plan to round up from this week has been set up in Mae Sot.

At least 100 immigration police have been sent to the province from Bangkok to beef up the local force, preparing to search more than 600 factories in Tak, said Police Maj. Chatree Hiphong, deputy chief of immigration police in Mae Sot.



German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder (right) is greeted by players of "aikido," an art of self-defense derived from judo, as he visits to Nippon Budokan Hall in Tokyo Tuesday to see Japan's traditional bushido martial arts. REUTERS

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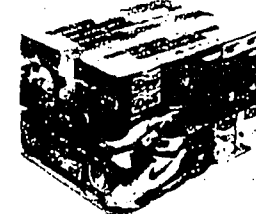
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Our People...

MARIA "Malua" TAISAKAN PETER
House of Representative

MALUA

"Because I was born and have lived here all my life, I understand the needs and interests of our community. I am committed and have acted on many important issues such as fighting for our schools, our youths, and our families."

Malua has served in the Legislature for six (6) years. She supported fiscally responsible policies and works with common-sense. She works with an open mind and a big heart. Her most recent accomplishment is the establishment of the Youth Learning Center in Garapan.

.... Our Values

Re-Elect Peter, Maria Taisakan "MALUA"

OFFICIAL COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS 1999

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 3 - A

SPECIMEN

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make an X or ✓ within the box before the candidate's name.
2. If you wish to vote for a person whose name does not appear in the name of the person under "Write-In". Write in the person's name in full and make an X or ✓ within the box.

CNMI REPUBLICAN PARTY	INDEPENDENT	CNMI REFORM PARTY	CNMI DEMOCRATIC PARTY
CANDIDATES FOR THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT (SAIPAN AND THE ISLANDS NORTH) - VOTE FOR ONE (1) ONLY			
☐ TENORIO, Juan Panglima (Morgen)		☐ GUERRERO, Ramon Santos (Kumoi)	
WRITE-IN			
CANDIDATES FOR HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES THIRD ELECTION DISTRICT - VOTE FOR SIX (6) ONLY			
☐ FITIAL, Benigno Repeli	☒ PETER, Maria Taisakan (Malua)	☐ QUITUGUA, Joaquin Teraja (Jack)	☐ OLOPAI, Maximo L. (Timmo)
☐ HOFSCHEIDER, Heinz Sablan (Incumbent)			☐ CAMACHO, Luis Salas (Mang)
☐ TORRES, William Sablan (Lee)			☐ SABLAN, Isidro Atafig (Sid)
☐ TORRES, Estanislao Tudela (Stanley)			
☐ FAISAO, Melvin Lawrence Odoshi (Incumbent)			
☐ ATTIAO, Jesus Torres (Incumbent)			
WRITE-IN			

Latin leaders:

'US drug war failed'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S.-led military-style war on drugs is a failure and should be changed to focus more on ending the demand for drugs and drug money, a group of prominent Americans and Latin Americans said today.

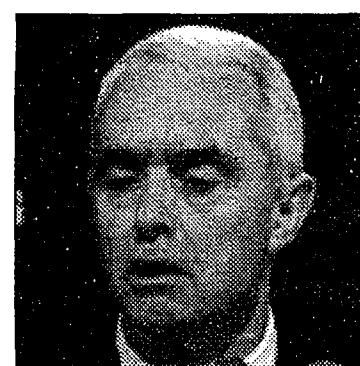
"The escalation of a militarized drug war in Colombia and elsewhere in the Americas threatens regional stability, undermines efforts towards demilitarization and democracy and has put U.S. arms and money into the hands of corrupt officials and military ... units involved in human rights abuses," the group said in a letter to delegates to this week's drug strategy conference.

The 13 signers of the letter included jurists, doctors, artists, religious leaders and three former Latin presidents - Belisario Betancur of Colombia, Violeta Chamorro of Nicaragua and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Oscar Arias of Costa Rica.

"As you meet to develop hemispheric drug strategy, it is time to admit that after two decades, the U.S. war on drugs - both in Latin America and in the United States - is a failure," the letter said.

Despite spending tens of billions of dollars for raids on drug labs, crop eradication and arrests and imprisonment at home, "today in the U.S., illicit drugs are cheaper, more potent and more easily available than two decades ago," it said.

The signers urged officials at



Barry McCaffrey

tending Thursday and Friday's drug conference to consider policies that will focus more on reducing consumption, expanding drug treatment programs, and promoting economic development to decrease the reliance on drug income among

people who produce it.

The letter was released at a press conference organized by the Washington-based Criminal Justice Policy Foundation, which pushes for reform on crime issues.

Officials said it was unclear whether delegates to the closed-door meetings would speak against the U.S. anti-drug approach because they rely not only on military aid that comes with it, but fear jeopardizing trade and other relationships with the United States.

"Can there be an earthquake in drug policy ... in one year, five years ... this is the challenge," said Eric E. Sterling, president of the foundation.

"But it's unrealistic to expect a

country to thumb its nose at the U.S. on such a high-profile issue."

The White House office for drug policy said it was unaware of the letter to delegates but pointed to a 13 percent drop in drug use among U.S. youths last year.

"What they are protesting is exactly what we have been doing, so we find the protest somewhat disingenuous," said Bob Weiner, spokesman for Barry McCaffrey, who directs the White House office.

Weiner said the office has increased programs for prevention and treatment. "If they look at our national strategy, Goal No. 1 is to educate and enable young people to reject illegal drugs," he said.

Canadian freed in Nicaraguan

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — A Canadian mining engineer and Nicaraguan soldier who had been held captive by a guerrilla group for 34 days were freed Wednesday, a human rights group said.

The Nicaraguan Human Rights Center said Manley Guarducci of Canada and soldier Orlando Rocha were freed by the Andres Castro United Forces, which had seized the two men Sept. 30 at the Capitan mine near the town of Bonanza, some 185 miles (300 kms) northwest of the capital.

A Center member, Javier Perez, said the two were turned over to the group's president, Vilma Nunez de Escorcia, at 2:10 p.m. (2010 GMT).

"They are safe and sound. Their health is good," he told The Associated Press by telephone.

The Front initially demanded \$1.5 million in ransom as well as aid promised by the government during a 1997 demobilization by the group, made up of former Sandinista soldiers.

The government said it refused the demands. Guarducci works for the Canadian mining company Henconic.

SUPERIOR COURT COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Commonwealth Superior Court announces the following vacancies:

1. **Deputy Marshal Intern**
Examination Announcement No. 99-152
Opening Date: 10/29/99
Closing Date: 11/13/99
Location: Saipan
2. **Marshal**
Examination Announcement No. 99-182
Opening Date: 10/29/99
Closing Date: 11/09/99
Location: Saipan
3. **Administrative Officer II**
Examination Announcement No. 99-183
Opening Date: 10/29/99
Closing Date: 11/09/99
Location: Saipan

For further information on Pay Levels, Duties, Qualification Requirements, and other Conditional Requirements, contact the Office of Personnel Management at any of the following locations:

JM Building, Garapan
Saipan, MP 96950

Songsong Village
Rota, MP 96951

San Jose Village
Tinian, MP 96952

The Commonwealth Superior Court is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer



Prison guard Arlene Ferreira Resende is freed after being held hostage by prison inmates at the Provisional Prison House in Goiania, Brazil Wednesday. Inmates who seized six guards are demanding cars, weapons and money in exchange for the hostage guards. So far, two of the six hostages have been released. AP

Brazilian inmates take hostages, air demands

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — Inmates in a western state ended a 40-hour-long prison uprising Wednesday evening after police agreed to transfer the insurrection's leader and improve prisoner conditions, officials said.

The prisoners had been holding six guards, including a pregnant woman, hostage since Monday when 20 inmates tried to shoot their way out of the prison's front door at the Provisional Prison House in Goiania,

800 kilometers (500 miles) northwest of Sao Paulo.

The inmates retreated and seized hostages when guards opened fire. One guard was shot in the leg.

A prison guard admitted to receiving a 2,000 real (\$ 1,030) bribe to smuggle two .38-caliber revolvers to Osmar Martins, the uprising's leader, the O Popular newspaper reported.

Martins gained notoriety as one of the kidnappers of Wellington Camargo, brother of the pop singer Zeze Camargo and Luciano.

Kidnapped nearly a year ago, Camargo was rescued by police after nearly three months in captivity.

Prison rebellions are common in Brazil, where conditions are poor and overcrowding is chronic. In the cell block where the rebellion took place, some 250 inmates were crowded into a space designed to hold 130 people. It was the third rebellion this year at the Provisional Prison House.

Group: There's free press in Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A U.S.-based media watchdog group said Wednesday that the right to free speech is being respected in Venezuela, but warned that a proposed constitutional article on "truthful information" could lead to a crackdown on journalists.

Danilo Arbillia, vice president of the Miami-based Inter-American Press Association, said a delegation from the group concluded after a two-day visit that Venezuela's media is operating freely and without pressures from the government of President Hugo Chavez.

But he said the controversial article on "truthful information" should be removed from a proposed magna carta that a Constitutional Assembly is writing.

"There are many elements that could conspire against the freedom of the press" if the article is adopted, Arbillia told reporters.

He added that high-level officials the delegation spoke with indicated the article may be dropped from the proposed constitution, which is to be voted on Dec. 15 in a national referendum.

The article has provoked controversy from local and international media groups that say it would be a threat to the free press. Some members of the assembly, which is dominated by Chavez backers, said the

measure was aimed at encouraging better journalistic ethics among some media owners who use their publications to promote their own economic or personal interests.

Chavez, a former paratrooper

who led a failed 1992 coup attempt and was elected president in December, has said he is against the measure, though he criticized some media owners for allegedly biased reporting.

PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB00-0012

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Director of Procurement and Supply, are soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified individuals or firms to provide water testing:

- 1) of a stormwater drainage;
- 2) and of effluent in a constructed wetland

The scope of work for the project may be obtained at the Division of Procurement and Supply in Lower Base, Saipan during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Bids must be submitted (one (1) original and six (6) copies for each bid) to the Division of Procurement and Supply in a sealed envelope marked ITB00-0012. The opening will be on December 3, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. Any bids will become the property of the Division of Environmental Quality.

All inquiries should be directed to Fran Castro or Clarissa Tanaka of the Division of Environmental Quality at telephone number (670) 664-8500/01, or e-mail: fran.castro@saipan.com or clarissa.tanaka@saipan.com.

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director of Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID

ITB00-0001

OPENING DATE: November 15, 1999

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors and the Division of Procurement and Supply, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids from licensed companies in the Commonwealth engaged in providing building maintenance services to provide Building Maintenance of Twenty (20) Section 8 Housing Units - "AS NEEDED BASIS" in San Jose Village, Tinian, MP, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Sealed bids in duplicate must be marked "ITB00-0004, Building Maintenance of NMHC Housing Units in Tinian", and must be submitted to the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 3:00 P.M., local time, Monday, November 15, 1999, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received after the above time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Bid specifications and Scope of Work for the project are available on or after Monday, October 18, 1999 at the NMHC Central Office in Saipan or at the NMHC Field Office in San Jose, Tinian, MP 96950, from 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except NMHC holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference for this project will be held at the Tinian NMHC Office on Wednesday, October 20, at 9:30 a.m. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour housing subdivision project site and/or inspect units upon request.

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

The Commonwealth government reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in the sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest. All bids will become the property of the Commonwealth government.

For information, contact Frances H. Diaz, Field Office Representative, NMHC Office at 433-9213 during regular business hours, 7:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

/s/ JUAN S. TENORIO
Chairman of the Board

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director, Procurement & Supply

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

SECOND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR DESIGN, PROCUREMENT & INSTALLATION SERVICES
FOR AN AUTOMATED PUBLIC PARKING CONTROL SYSTEM
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Design, Procurement and Installation services for an Automated Public Parking Control System at the Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A scope of work and conceptual design layout plan are available for pick-up on or after October 27, 1999 at the CPA Engineering Department, Saipan International Airport. Those proposers that have secured the package for the first RFP may use the same documents in preparation of their proposals.

Interested proposers must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their proposals no later than 4:30 p.m., November 10, 1999. Late proposals will not be entertained.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

a. Design showing plans and specifications.	5%
b. Procurement proposing brand names, deliver schedule, manufacturers and suppliers warranties, maintenance requirements and parts availability.	15%
c. Construction, installation and training time frame.	10%
d. Proposed price	70%

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:

Mr. Carlos H. Salas
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ ROMAN S. PALACIOS
Contracting Officer/Board Chairman

October 25, 1999
Date

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Glenn M. Songcuan

Nov. 7, '99

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and Xedred

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Beer of the Islands

THINK WHEN YOU DRINK

Oslo parties see tough issues

OSLO, Norway (AP) — In the next 100 days, the Israeli and Palestinian leaders will have to answer the one hard question they avoided for so long: What price are they willing to pay to make peace?

In a Mideast summit that ended Tuesday night in Oslo, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat promised U.S. President Bill Clinton to work hard to formulate the broad outlines of a peace treaty by Feb. 13.

Barak and Arafat agreed to hold frequent one-on-one talks once they return home. Clinton, in turn, offered to host the last, crucial stretch of the negotiations, around January or early February, if he feels enough progress has been made to guarantee success.

But despite the good will and warmth generated by Clinton in the two-day Oslo meetings, there was a sense of trepidation. The two sides are as far apart

on the issues — final borders, Jerusalem, Jewish settlements, Palestinian refugees — as they were six years ago when they made first contact in the Norwegian capital.

At the same time, the negotiators will no longer be able to stall in hopes of avoiding a major crisis. Failure is a real possibility, albeit one that neither side has contemplated in public.

The summit's aims were modest, considering the task ahead, and Clinton said it was a success.

"I feel that we have revitalized the peace process and we've got these ... framework talks off to a good start," Clinton said after meeting together with Barak and Arafat.

The leaders sealed their resolve with a friendly, though botched three-way handshake, with Clinton in the middle, his crossed arms outstretched.

The president said he won a promise that Israelis and Palestinians will "avoid public com-



Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak stands in front of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat after a memorial ceremony for slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Oslo, Norway on Tuesday. AP

ments or actions which will cause enormous difficulty for the other side in the next hundred days or so."

Clinton appeared to be referring, among other things, to Jewish settlement expansion in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Palestinians say the settlements are illegal and impede their dream of gaining full independence in those territories, which border Israel.

Barak has approved new homes in settlements at a faster pace than his hard-line predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu. Arafat has complained that Israel is pre-empting the outcome of the negotiations.

A U.S. administration offi-

cial indicated that Clinton did not ask Barak to freeze construction, as Arafat has demanded, and instead urged the two sides to resolve the dispute as part of their framework talks.

The negotiations will begin Monday in the West Bank town of Ramallah. The teams, headed by Palestinian Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo and Israeli diplomat Oded Eran, will meet for four straight days, then report back to their leaders.

U.S. mediator Dennis Ross will fly to the region twice a month and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will make one, possibly two trips to the Middle East before February.

Clinton, who hopes to earn a place in history as the Mideast peacemaker, plans to monitor the talks closely from Washington, and speak to the leaders by phone in times of crisis.

In the final stretch, he will decide whether to invite Arafat and Barak to another, perhaps open-ended summit to wrap up the agreement. Barak has pledged a final agreement by next September.

The Oslo summit had been convened, in part, to pay tribute to Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister who was assassinated Nov. 4, 1995, by an ultranationalist Jew.

In a ceremony at Oslo's City Hall, Arafat, sporting his trademark military-style khaki jacket, saluted a portrait of Rabin, who had spent much of his life fighting the guerrilla leader.

In another emotional highlight, Rabin's widow, Leah, turned to Barak and Arafat during a banquet at the royal palace and asked them to fulfill the dream of peace for which her husband gave his life.

"It's up to you now. Is that too much to ask?" said Mrs. Rabin. In an interview with the Israeli newspaper Maariv, published Wednesday, Arafat said that "Leah Rabin moved me to tears."

The summit turned peaceful Oslo into a fortress. Police officers toting assault rifles patrolled downtown streets, some accompanied by fierce-looking German shepherds. Norwegian police are usually unarmed.

The Norwegian news agency NTB wrote in a lighthearted commentary that "in the service of peace, we had to fill the streets of Oslo with more armed men than we have ever seen in peacetime."

PUBLIC NOTICE

The CNMI Supervisory Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System will hold its regular meeting as follows:

DATE : Thursday, November 18, 1999
TIME : 1:00 PM
PLACE : Pacific Gardenia Hotel, Conference Room

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF SUBGRANT APPLICATIONS
- V. OLD BUSINESS
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

Regular meetings are open to the public. All interested persons are welcome to attend. Please call the Criminal Justice Planning Agency at 664-4550-7 for more information.

/s/ Presiding Judge Edward Manibusan
Chairman, CNMI Supervisory Council

/s/ Harry C. Blanco
Executive Director, CJPA

DANGKULO NA SI YU'US MAASE

Nothing could be worth more than a person's loyalty, dedication, and commitment. You have demonstrated all these from the day I declared my independent candidacy for a House seat in Precinct IV. My wife Jackie and I, along with our children, take this time now to express our most heartfelt appreciation to all of you.

Thank you for listening as I expressed my concerns and issues that directly affect our people and our islands, both through the media and in the meetings and gatherings held throughout the different villages. Your support and participation in my fundraising were heartrending. Most of all, just knowing that you believe in me has been very inspirational and lends the more reason for me to seek election to the House of Representatives, Precinct IV, on November 06, 1999.

To my committees and their families, dangkulo na si Yu'us Maase for the wonderful job that you have done. Your untiring efforts and determination have been fueling me all along. To our families, relatives, and friends, both here and in other places, thank you for all the support, the words of encouragement, your generosity, and all the other kind gestures that you have shown.

PLEASE VOTE / POT FABOT BOTA

QUITUGUA (JQ)
USTO S.

PRECINCT IV HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TOGETHER, ENSURING OUR FUTURE

Together, we can ensure our future. With your help and support, I can and will represent you well in the next Legislature. I humbly ask for your support and assistance in convincing other family members, relatives, and friends to vote for me. Let us all exercise our right to vote on November 06, 1999.

JUSTO S. QUITUGUA (JQ)

BIO-DATA

Educational Background

- Master's in Education (University of Hawaii-Manoa)
- Bachelor of Arts - Magna Cum Laude (University of Guam)
- Hopwood High School (Saipan)

Professional Experience:

- Independent Legislative Consultant (1995-present):
11th CNMI Legislature (Representative David M. Apatang)
10th CNMI Legislature (Representative Maria "Malua" Peter)
9th CNMI Legislature (Senator Eusebio Hocog)
- Delegate to the Third CNMI Constitutional Convention (1995)
- PSS Deputy Commissioner of Administration (1990-1994/retired)
- PSS Deputy Commissioner of Instruction (1983-1989)
- Language Arts and Mathematics Consultant (1980-1983) Guam Department of Education
- Instructor, University of Guam Continuing Education (1985-1995)
- Classroom Teacher (1969-1980):
Marianas High School
Hopwood Junior High School
Oleai Elementary School
San Vicente Elementary School
Chalan Kanoa Elementary School
Garapan Elementary School
San Roque Elementary School
- Instructor, Adult Basic Education (1974)
- Senior Clerk, Dr. Torres Hospital (1969)

Honors/Awards:

- East-West Center Grantee
- Magna Cum Laude, UOG
- Chi Omicron Gamma, UOG

Dean's List, UOG

- Dean's List, CCM
- Certified teacher, Guam
- Resolution #30 (16th Guam Legislature for Devotion to Educating the Students of Guam)
- Who's Who in American Education
- Who's Who in the West
- Personalities of America
- Men of Achievement
- Two Thousand Notable Americans
- International Biographical Roll of Honor

Professional Organizations:

- ASCUS
- ASCD
- East-West Center Alumni
- UOG Alumni
- Research Board of Advisors (American Biographical Institute, Inc.)

Professional Training/Seminars:

- Fair Hearing Course (Basic) - NMI Retirement Fund/Workers Compensation Commission
- Environmental and Erosion Control - DEQ
- Curriculum Leadership, NWRL/CAPE
- Board Administrators, National State Board Association
- Performance Standards and Appraisal System, CNMI Personnel
- Administrative Educational Leadership, UOG
- Program Evaluation, Interface
- Strategic Planning Institute, Honolulu
- School Level Improvement Plan, Guam DOE
- Bus Driver Certification, Guam Public works

Chief School State Officers, Oregon

- Language Institute, Guam
- OSEP Leadership, Seattle, WA
- Close-up Foundation, Guam
- Curriculum & Instruction for Supervisors
- Interpacific Fellow (PIC) Board
- School Accreditation
- State Education Advisory Council, Member & Chairman, Governor's Appointee
- DOE Reclassification Guideline Task Force
- DOE Five Year Plan Task Force
- GED Administrator

Major Platform Issues:

- ✓ Education/Scholarships
- ✓ Economy
- ✓ Environment
- ✓ Youth/Sports Activities
- ✓ Your Ideas and Suggestions

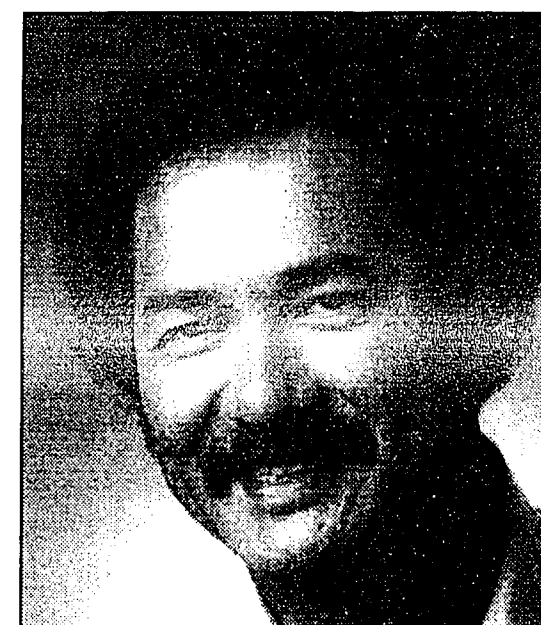
Family:

Spouse: Jackie A. Quitugua

Parents: Gabriel Rios Quitugua and Vicenta Deleon Guerrero Songao

Grandparents: Joaquin Cruz Quitugua and Agatha (Aguida) Salas Rios Justo Songao and Maria Salas Deleon Guerrero

Parents-in-law: Juan Crisostomo Ayuyu and Maria Taimanao Manglona



PLEASE VOTE / POT FABOT BOTA

QUITUGUA (JQ)
USTO S.

PRECINCT IV HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TOGETHER, ENSURING OUR FUTURE

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NOVEMBER 6, 1999

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 4 - B

SPECIMEN

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. Make an 'X' or '✓' within the box before the candidate's name.
2. If you wish to vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, write in the name of the person under "Write-In". Write in the person's name in full and make an 'X' or '✓' within the box.

CNMI REPUBLICAN PARTY	INDEPENDENT	CNMI REFORM PARTY	CNMI DEMOCRATIC PARTY
CANDIDATES FOR THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT (SAIPAN AND THE ISLANDS NORTH) - VOTE FOR ONE (1) ONLY			
☐ TENORIO, Juan Pangelinan (Morgan) (Incumbent)	☐ GUERRERO, Ramon Santos (Kumo)		
WRITE-IN			
CANDIDATES FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOURTH ELECTION DISTRICT - VOTE FOR TWO (2) ONLY			
☐ PANGELINAN, Thomas Basa (Tom)	☒ QUITUGUA, Justo S. (JQ)	☐ MESTA, Josephine Deleon Guerrero	☐ JONES, Egreido Mendola (Dino) (Incumbent)
☐ CEPEDA, Frank Guerrero (Incumbent)	☐ SABLAN, Domingo Manglona		

POT FABOT BOTA
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FORD				
96 3 DR A FORD WINDSTAR	ABZ-332	Blue	\$16,145	\$12,195
96 3 DR A FORD WINDSTAR	ABZ-342	Green	\$17,295	\$12,195
96 4 DR A ESCORT	ABZ-282	Red	\$9,665	\$6,295
96 4 DR A ESCORT	ABZ-272	Red	\$9,740	\$6,295
96 4 DR A ESCORT	ABZ-262	Red	\$9,540	\$6,295
96 4 DR A ESCORT	ABZ-252	Red	\$9,665	\$6,295
96 4 DR A ESCORT	ABZ-232	Purple	\$9,465	\$6,295
96 4 DR A ESCORT	ABZ-202	Red	\$9,465	\$6,295
HONDA				
96 3 DR STD CIVIC DX HATCHBACK	ABC-960	Silver	\$11,275	\$7,850
96 3 DR A CIVIC DX HATCHBACK	ABC-950	Black	\$11,875	\$8,300
96 2 DR STD CIVIC DX COUPE	ABC-970	Red	\$11,825	\$8,495
TOYOTA				
96 2 DR STD TERCEL	ABV-292	Silver	\$8,875	\$5,975
96 2 DR STD TERCEL	ABV-322	Silver	\$8,800	\$5,975
96 2 DR STD 4WD PICK-UP TRUCK	ABZ-151	Red	\$13,530	\$9,695
NISSAN				
96 4 DR A SENTRA	ABF-875	Beige	\$9,725	\$6,850
96 4 DR A SENTRA	ABV-382	Gold	\$9,975	\$6,995
96 4 DR A SENTRA	ABV-372	Ruby Pl	\$10,325	\$7,195
MAZDA				
96 4 DR A MIRAGE	ABV-352	Blue	\$9,560	\$6,195

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Iraq says 7 die, 78 hurt in blast

BAGHDAD, (Reuters) - Iraq said on Wednesday seven people were killed and 78 wounded in an explosion near a military base belonging to an Iranian exile group in Iraq.

"A severe blast took place near one of the military bases of the Mujahideen Khalq in southern Iraq and the incident led to the martyrdom of one and wounding of 24 from our brave armed forces, and six martyrs (killed) and 54 wounded from Mujahideen Khalq Organisation," the official Iraqi News Agency quoted an official spokesman as saying.

The spokesman blamed an unnamed country for the incident which took place at 7:30 p.m. (1630 GMT) on Tuesday.

"This terrorist and brutal act which is the responsibility of a foreign state confirms that those behind it are determined to pursue their aggressive policy," the spokesman said.

"While condemning this aggression on its lands and sovereignty, Iraq maintains the right to respond at the time it sees proper," he added.

Earlier on Wednesday, the Mujahideen Khalq group said Iran had fired Scud missiles at their camp in southern Iraq, killing five people.

Mujahideen Khalq spokesman Faeed Suleimani said several more people were wounded when the missiles hit Camp Habib, 45

km (30 miles) north of Basra, on Tuesday night. The camp is 35 km (22 miles) from the Iranian border.

"At first assessment of the explosion, five members of Mujahideen were killed and several others were injured," Suleimani told Reuters. "We have been told by the Iraqi authorities that Iran fired Scud missiles at Camp Habib last night."

He did not say how many missiles were fired, but said the attack left a crater about 12 metres (40 feet) in diameter and six metres (19 feet 8 inches) deep.

A Mujahideen statement later said: "A number of Iraqi nationals were also killed or wounded near the Habib base camp."

The Mujahideen Khalq uses Iraq as a springboard for attacks inside Iran and has several camps equipped with tanks, heavy guns and helicopter gunships close to borders with Iran.

Their bases have been the target of air and rocket attacks by Iran. Their office in Baghdad, now ringed by a concrete wall, has weathered several mortar and bomb attacks.

Iran appears to have stepped up attacks on the Mujahideen since earlier this year, when the group claimed responsibility for assassinating the Iranian armed forces' deputy chief of staff, Lieutenant-General Ali Sayyad Shirazi.



Saudi Arabian Minister of Defense Prince Sultan Bin Abd Al-Aziz Al Saud (right) and U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen answer questions during a news conference at the Pentagon Tuesday. Prince Sultan said Afghanistan would be better off without Saudi-born Islamist Osama bin Laden, but stopped short of demanding that he be turned over to face U.S. terrorism charges.

REUTERS

British MP takes pro-Iraq stance

AMMAN, (Reuters) - A convoy led by British MP George Galloway arrived in Amman on Wednesday en route for Baghdad, the final destination of a two-month journey to muster support for the lifting of U.N. sanctions against Iraq.

The member of parliament from Britain's ruling Labour Party urged Arab leaders to meet and call for the immediate lifting of sanctions imposed on Iraq for in-

vading Kuwait in 1990, saying it was the only way to end the needless suffering of the Iraqi people.

"Nine years is a very long time, especially that every six minutes an Iraqi child has died," Galloway said during a meeting with Jordanian MPs led by Speaker Abdul-Hadil al-Majali.

"I believe we desperately need a summit of the Arab leaders...to call for the lifting of sanctions," he added. "This embargo will end

here in Arab countries by united Arab action."

Galloway's group, travelling aboard a double-decker London bus, left the British capital in early September and drove through France, Spain and North Africa en route to Iraq.

They arrived in Jordan over the weekend and were to start the final leg of their journey to Baghdad, a 900 km (550 mile) drive, on Friday.

Macedonian Cabinet reshuffle underway

SKOPJE, Macedonia (AP) — Hoping to improve the ruling coalition's image in the upcoming runoff in presidential elections, the Macedonian premier announced plans Wednesday to reshuffle his Cabinet.

The move by Prime Minister Ljubco Georgievski, who heads Macedonia's biggest party, VMRO, comes days after the party's presidential candidate was strongly outpolled by a rival former Communist in the first round of balloting for the presidency.

Georgievski also replaced nine local party heads in municipalities where VMRO presidential candidate Boris Trajkovski failed to win the majority of the vote last Sunday.

Trajkovski was outpolled by more than 24,000 votes by former Communist Tito Petkovski, now of the Social Democrats, according to final official results released Wednesday. The two will face each other in the runoff on Nov. 14, because Petkovski did not win absolute majority needed for the outright victory.

In addition to the changes in the Cabinet and within the party, VMRO is expected to intensify its campaign ahead of the runoff hoping to annul Petkovski's strong lead.

"Thank you for warning us!" Trajkovski told a crowd of supporters at a Tuesday rally. "We

take your punishment as a warning about the government's work and we are moving to correct that."

Macedonians accuse the VMRO-led government of corruption and failure to solve the country's immense economic problems. Many people also criticize the government's alleged willingness to bow to ethnic Albanian demands for more rights and virtual autonomy in western Macedonia, where they form a majority.

The ethnic Albanians make up one quarter of Macedonia's two million people and relations between them and majority Slavs have been strained since the Kosovo crisis earlier this year.

Georgievski's center-rightist coalition came to power last November, after beating the former Communists in parliamentary elections. The coalition government includes 13 VMRO ministers, eight Democratic Alternative members and five representatives of a radical ethnic Albanian party.

Both of VMRO's coalition partners warned serious changes in the government were necessary, following the first run of the presidential elections.

The final winner will succeed President Kiro Gligorov, who led Macedonia peacefully into independence from former Yugoslavia in 1991.

Palestinians seek Y2K assurances

NABLUS, West Bank, (Reuters) - The Palestinian Authority has asked Israel for assurances that any Y2K problems will not hinder its delivery of electricity, especially in Bethlehem which is playing host to millennium celebrations.

"It is our responsibility to make sure that we rank high in their priority, or we get some kind of an

assurance or a promise that we will be ranked high," Ghassan Qadah, senior technology adviser at the Palestinian Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, told Reuters on Wednesday.

"For example the line that feeds Bethlehem...we are asking that that line gets high priority of not being disturbed."

Palestinian-ruled areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip depend on Israel for 98 percent of their electricity supply, he said.

"If the Israelis have to shut electricity on certain areas in the West Bank, the last one to happen should be Bethlehem. We are meeting with the Israelis to make sure we have decent assurances," Qadah said.

3RD SENATORIAL DISTRICT

GOP Candidates

PRECINCT I - HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Karl Tudela Reyes



Ana Sablan Teregeyo



Manuel Agulto Tenorio (Brown)



Herman Tudela Palacios

FOR SENATE



Juan Pangelinan Tenorio (Morgen)

PRECINCT II



David Mundo Apatang



Martin Borja Ada



Diego Tenorio Benavente



Oscar Manglona Babauta

"PROVEN LEADERS"



Benigno Repeki Fitial



Heinz Sablan Hofschneider



William Sablan Torres (Lee)



Estanislao Tudela Torres (Stanley)



Melvin Odoshi Faisao

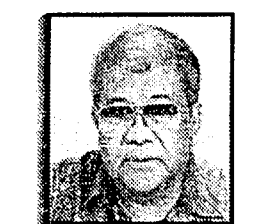


Jesus Torres Attao

PRECINCT IV



Thomas Basa Pangelinan (Tom)

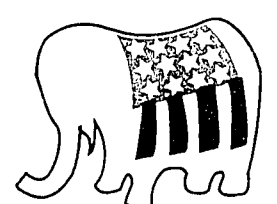


Frank Guerrero Cepeda

VOTE REPUBLICAN

ON NOVEMBER 6, 1999

Paid for by GOP, Regina T. Ramsey - Treasurer



Please Re-Elect HEINZ HOFSCHNEIDER



Dear Friends:

On behalf of my family and members of my Committee to Re-Elect, I extend my sincere appreciation to all of you for your vote of confidence this election. Let us all go out tomorrow to exercise our precious right to vote. Once again, Thank You, Si Yuus Maase & Olomwaay.

Heinz S. Hofschneider/Committee to Re-Elect

Paid by John S. Tenorio (Santiago)

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12 sessions - 6 weeks \$84.00

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Tuesday & Thursday 5:15PM - each week starting Nov. 9th

with Yoga Class Registration - A FREE trail membership at Golds
Class Size Limited
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YOGA INSTITUTE OF SAIPAN
Instructor: Bryan Jones-Betty McDonald

Belated Happy Birthday

ALANLOY

FROM TITO

France has new finance chief

PARIS (AP) — The newly appointed French finance minister said Wednesday he would continue the economic policies of his predecessor who resigned amid allegations he held a fictitious job.

Former Budget Minister Christian Sautter was named as a replacement for Dominique Strauss-Kahn, who announced his surprise resignation on Tuesday.

"I'm replacing an exceptional man in exceptional circumstances," Sautter told reporters after a ministerial meeting.

Sautter, a Socialist and a key player in France's move to the European single currency, also had a government post during the 1980s in former President Francois Mitterrand's administration.

"I'm going to try with all my means to continue the economic and industrial policy that Dominique Strauss-Kahn has put in place very successfully for two and a half years," Sautter said.

Strauss-Kahn had played a key role in the government's battle against unemployment.



Newly-named Finance Minister Christian Sautter is mobbed by reporters as he leaves the Elysee Palace Wednesday. AP

He also oversaw an ambitious privatization program.

Strauss-Kahn, who had been in office since June 1997, faces allegations he received the equivalent of \$ 100,000 for a fictitious legal consulting job with a student health insurance fund.

He has denied any guilt in the affair, saying he had no option but to resign so as to fully focus on fighting the allegations.

Socialist Prime Minister Lionel Jospin has left the door open for Strauss-Kahn's eventual return to the government.

As Russia presses attacks

Civilians flee Chechnya

SLEPTSOVSKAYA, Russia (AP) — Thousands of frightened civilians mobbed a key border crossing Wednesday, pleading to escape from Chechnya as Russian jets and artillery hammered the breakaway republic.

Russian Defense Minister Igor Sergeev vowed that Russian forces would take control of the entire Chechen territory. He said that the Russian army "is planning to free not only the city of Grozny from terrorists, but all of Chechnya," the Interfax news agency reported.

"This is the task that has been set for us," he was quoted as saying on a trip Wednesday to the Central Asian nation of Uzbekistan. "The president and government have provided their support."

The crossing from Chechnya into the neighboring republic of Ingushetia was closed early Wednesday despite about 4,000 refugees milling about on the Chechen side.

"They bomb us, they kill us, they don't differentiate between militants and civilians," said Zara Dudayev, clutching her baby and weeping. She said that her parents and a brother had been killed in Russian airstrikes against the Chechen capital Grozny.

Russia closed the crossing last week. On Wednesday, Russian soldiers allowed just about 20 people to leave Chechnya and about 100 into the battered territory to try to rescue relatives and possessions. On Tuesday, it had allowed 150 out of Chechnya and 300 to travel in the other direction.

A woman was killed and six people were injured Tuesday when people in the increasingly desperate crowd pushed and shoved toward the front, trying to break through a line of Russian troops.

Women, children and elderly people fought to stay on their feet, and some fell on the coiled barbed wire that the Russian military had strung across the road to prevent refugees from entering Ingushetia.

NTV television reported that the line of cars carrying would-be refugees snaked back into Chechnya for 17 kilometers (10.6 miles) on Tuesday. However, on Wednesday, many who had stood for days on the border gave up and started returning to their homes in Chechnya.

Since Russia began bombing Chechnya on Sept. 5, saying it aimed to wipe out Islamic militants, some 200,000 people have fled to neighboring Russian republics, severely straining those poor regions' resources.

The humanitarian crisis plus the severe damage wreaked on Chechnya by Russian bombs and artillery are increasingly worrying and angering the West. But Russian leaders have



Chechen people pass by a Russian APC as they leave Gudermes, second largest city of Chechnya. Russia opened several border crossings with Chechnya, officials said, allowing people to flee Russian air and rocket attacks after they had been blocked from leaving the area for some days. AP

waved away western criticism and pressed forward with their offensive. Russia said Tuesday that its troops had surrounded Gudermes, Chechnya's second-largest city, and made gains around Grozny.

Russian warplanes also pounded the town of Argun, about midway between Grozny and Gudermes, and hit Grozny's outskirts and several villages in western and southern Chechnya, Chechen officials said.

Chechen Deputy Prime Minister Kazbek Makhachev said Wednesday that Russian planes were buzzing over major highways, indiscriminately firing at cars and trucks.

"Pilots seem to get a cynical pleasure in pursuing cars as moving targets," he said.

Carcasses of burned vehicles litter Chechen roads, and many drivers confirm that traveling by car has become increasingly dangerous.

Residents of several southwestern villages have reported cases of marauding by Russian troops, said Chechnya's Prosecutor General Salman Abakov. The claim could not be independently confirmed.

Bombing in Grozny destroyed an arms depot, the Russian headquarters claimed. About 100 militants have been killed in airstrikes over the past two days, the federal command said Wednesday, according to Interfax.

Rebels attacked Russian forces 11 times on Tuesday and

early Wednesday, but the troops suffered no losses, the Russian military said. However, the military is widely believed to be giving misleading casualty figures.

In Moscow, the respected Sol-

diers' Mothers Committee said Tuesday that a recent inspection tour of the region showed that Russian troop losses were more than four times as high as the 133 deaths officially acknowledged.

Chechen President Aslan Maskhadov has said more than 3,600 Chechens have died in the fighting, mostly civilians. Russia says its targeting only rebel positions and that it does not intend to hurt civilians.

To the Voters of Precinct No. 4

Good leadership starts at home.

Sometimes it takes more than a savvy politician to make a good leader: It takes a father, a husband, an uncle - a person who knows the value of family.

Uncle Justo's dedication, sincerity, thoughtfulness, and supportive nature has built a strong family with an even stronger foundation.

On Nov. 6th, our uncle needs your support. The qualities he possesses make him a strong and effective leader for the House of Representatives.

Thank You.

Therese, Ann, Rosario, and Eusebio Hocog Jr.



PLEASE VOTE / POT FABOT BOTA

QUITUGUA
USTO S. (JQ)
PRECINCT #4 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TOGETHER, ENSURING OUR FUTURE

I Famagu'on Ta....I Sengsong Ta Our Youth....Our Villages

"The road is long....There are mountains in our way....But we climbed every step of the way."

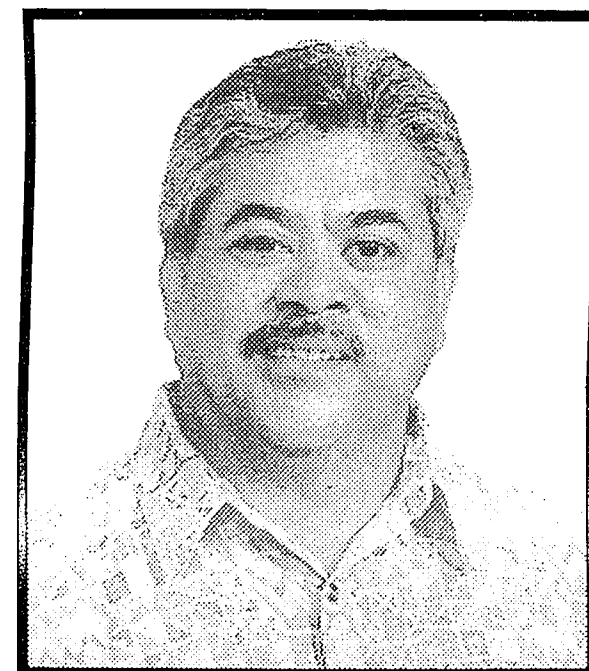
Families, Relatives, Friends, Neighbors, and Classmates in Precinct 1:

Over the past 3 months, we've been working together long and hard in our journey to promote my candidacy as the newest and youngest aspiring Representative for Precinct 1 under the Republican Party. The campaign trail has been fascinating and I thank you all for the privilege of meeting with you and listening about the needs of our youth and families in our villages in Precinct 1.

You've generously given of your time, resources, help and ideas to help support my candidacy as the newest and youngest amongst the 6 Republican Party candidates in Precinct 1. For your loyalty and support throughout our campaign, I extend my most humble appreciation. I will forever remain grateful.

As a former teacher and program officer for various government programs for our youth, I reiterate my commitment to tap existing non-profit organizations, government agencies and businesses in an effort to promote and create healthy village-based youth activities after school and in the weekends. Only by empowering our youth in our villages to exercise their God-given talents and abilities for student leadership in clubs, healthy sports competition and teaching family and cultural values can we foster their potential and dreams to become responsible, law abiding and goal-driven citizens. Let us join hands and work together for their future.

This Saturday, November 6, 1999, I once again humbly ask for your VOTE of Confidence and for the opportunity to serve you in the new CNMI Legislature. I truly believe that only by working together can we achieve success. On behalf of my families and the Committee to Elect Martin Borja Ada' (TUHU' - FEGU'), I honor and salute all of you. May God Bless You! SI YU'US MA'ASE - OLOMWAAY - KMAL ME SOULANG - SALAMAT PO



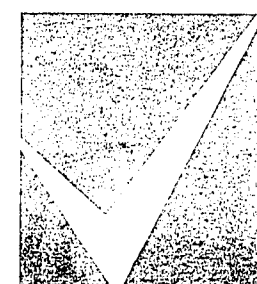
BOTA Republican! BIDA MARIANAS! BIDA WAN NOBEN!

Education:

1976 Mt. Carmel High School
Graduated Salutatorian
1970-1976 Student Council Member, Vice President, President
1984 Northern Marianas College, AA Liberal Arts
1986 University of Guam, BA, Elementary Education

Professional Experience:

1988 - Present :Researcher/Consultant, 11th CNMI Legislature
1990 - 1997 :Public Information Officer, Saipan Mayor's Office
1989 - 1990 :Chief of Procurement & Supply, Public School System
1988 - 1989 :Vice Principal, Garapan Elementary School
1987 - 1988 :School Counselor, Garapan Elementary School
1982 - 1983 :Statistics Specialist, Department of Community & Cultural Affairs
1983 - 1984 :Information for Juvenile Clients, Department of Youth Services
1978 - 1982 :Teacher, William Reyes, San Vicente, San Vicente, Oleai and Pagan
Adult Basic Education, Marianas High School & Division of Corrections,
Saipan Instructor (Conversational Chamorro), Northern Marianas College



ADA, MARTIN BORJA

Paid for by the Committee to Elect:

Ana DLG. Flores, Chair; John Oliver Gonzales, Vice Chair;
Florentina Agulto, Treasurer; Gerard B. Salas, Secretary;
William C. Ada and Frank 'Sonny' Flores, Advisors

Study: Taste drops as people get older

WASHINGTON (AP) — The kids keep pushing away the spinach and broccoli? Wait a few years.

U.S. researchers say sensitivity to bitterness in food appears to decline with age, making vegetables more palatable as people grow older.

A study to be published in Health Psychology found that women were less sensitive to bitter-tasting food as they got older and showed an increasing preference for vegetables, whole-grain foods and beverages such as coffee and tea. Their like for fruits, meat and dairy products did not change with age.

"Taste is the driving factor" in what people decide to eat, said study author Adam Drewnowski, director of the nutritional sciences program at the University of Washington. "Your preferences will change with age."

He presented his research Wednesday at an Agriculture Department conference on dietary behavior. Scientists hope that by better understanding why people choose certain foods, they can improve nutrition and stop the nationwide increase in obesity.

"The fact is that unhealthy living and obesity shortens lives and has the opportunity to make you sick for a longer period of time," Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said.

Studies have found a number of factors influence what children and adults eat, includ-

ing their previous experience with different foods, their culture and family environment and their activity level. For example, people who exercise a lot tend to consume more fat and sugar.

But researchers also have been finding a strong inherited tendency to like or reject different types of food. Healthily foods like broccoli, brussels sprouts and mustard greens, which are naturally bitter anyway, can seem especially so to people who are particularly sensitive to bitterness.

Drewnowski's study, conducted at the University of Michigan, tested the taste sensitivity of 329 women, ages 21 through 84, who went to a breast-care clinic for examination, diagnosis or treatment. Such sensitivity is measured by response to a thyroid medicine called 6-n-propylthiouracil, or PROP. The women, none of whom had surgery or chemotherapy yet, also were asked what food they liked and what they actually ate.

There was a close correlation between the decline in sensitivity to bitterness and what foods the women liked and ate. "Age was the best predictor of healthy diets," the study concluded.

Additional research must be done to determine whether food preferences and taste sensitivities in males change to the same extent, Drewnowski said.



A dog owner talks to his 3-year-old black pit bull Angus after a fight against the more experienced Dino (below) in a dog fight pit in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. AP

Two modes of treating backaches both effective

BOSTON (AP) — Spinal manipulation by osteopaths appears to work about as well as conventional medicine at curing lingering back pain.

About 5 percent of U.S. physicians are osteopaths. Unlike M.D.s, they frequently use spinal manipulation as part of their treatment, especially for lower back pain.

In Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine, osteopaths and M.D.s from Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago and the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine reported the results of a study intended to see which approach worked better. Many studies have shown that

most backaches go away within a month, no matter what kind of treatment sufferers get. So the new study was conducted on those who had been in pain for at least three weeks but less than six months.

The doctors randomly assigned 83 patients to get osteopathic manipulation and 72 to get conventional treatment, which consisted of painkillers, muscle relaxants and anti-inflammatory drugs. Three months later, there was no difference in how the two groups felt. Pain decreased by half in both.

The only significant difference was that the osteopathic patients took less medication.

Osteopathic medicine is intended to restore health by improving circulation. Its manipulation is somewhat similar to chiropractic, which is intended to heal by relieving obstruction in the nerves.

Otherwise, osteopaths do everything that M.D.s do. In an editorial in the journal, Dr. Joel D. Howell, an M.D. from the University of Michigan, theorized that part of the success of osteopathic manipulation comes from the fact that practitioners

touch their patients. Many believe that personal contact with a physician can be an important part of the healing process.

New hair sprouts from transplant cells

LONDON, (Reuters) — British researchers have given new meaning to the term "hair-raising experience".

In what could herald a new approach to treating baldness, scientists at Durham University in northern England have transplanted cells from a male hair follicle and grafted them on to a woman's arm where they sprouted new hair in a matter of weeks.

Although the research was designed to test whether the graft would be rejected by the unrelated woman, the researchers were pleased by the surprising results.

"It does show the potential of being able to induce new hair follicles in human skin which I don't think has been done before," Colin Jahoda said in a telephone interview.

But the Durham biologist added that an application for reversing receding hairlines and helping the follically-challenged was still a long way off.

"It is a big jump from establishing a biological principle to cosmetically acceptable hair production," he added.

In a letter to the science journal Nature, Jahoda and his colleagues said normally the foreign cells would be rejected by the recipient. But the scientists suspect the cells taken from the base of follicle may have some type of immune privilege which allows them to mix with foreign cells.

So instead of being cast out by the woman's immune system, the male cells interacted with her cells to create new follicles.

"The cells have got instructions to tell other cells to create the structure," explained Jahoda. "These cells instructed the host cells to make a new follicle."

DNA samples taken from the newly sprouted hair contained the Y male chromosome, proving that the new hair was from the man's cells.

The research also holds promise of improving scientific understanding of tissue rejection but the new hair sprouted from the transplanted follicle cells may generate the most interest.

Scientists battle E. coli

ALBANY, New York (AP) — A hundred cows awaited judging in a fairground barn. Groomed and pampered, they were the pride of their farms.

One harbored a deadly germ. But nobody knew that. Not until later, when medical sleuths figured out what killed a 3-year-old girl and a 79-year-old man, and made more than 1,000 other people at a local fair terribly sick.

The malignant microbe at the Washington County Fair was *Escherichia coli* 0157:H7. Within less than a decade, the bacterium has gone from relative obscurity to major health threat, causing outbreaks of disease linked first to fast-food hamburgers, then lettuce, apple cider, alfalfa sprouts, and other foods. At the fair, it infected drinking water.

A war has been waged on many fronts against the toxic bacteria since 1993, when an outbreak at Jack-in-the-Box restaurants in the U.S. Pacific Northwest infected more than 700 people and killed four.

Regulators have tightened meat inspection requirements. Health officials have issued cooking and sanitation guidelines. Medical researchers have developed better diagnostic tests. Legislators have proposed the creation of a new federal food safety agency.

But some scientists and consumer advocates say the ultimate solution may be to rout the enemy from its headquarters: the gut of the cow.

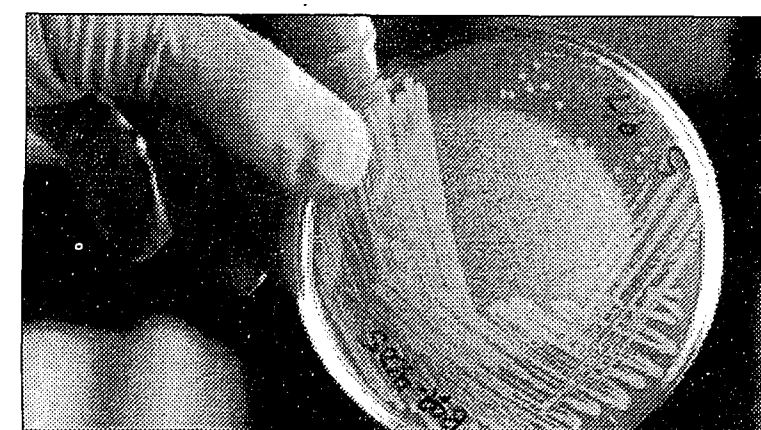
"We're trying to completely eliminate it from cattle at some point," said Dr. Robert Elder, a U.S. Department of Agriculture microbiologist in Clay Center, Nebraska.

Normally, *E. coli* bacteria are beneficial inhabitants of the intestines of humans and other creatures. But 0157:H7 is a mutant strain. In humans, it destroys the intestinal wall and can cause hemolytic uremic syndrome, or HUS, which attacks the kidneys — sometimes fatally.

Scientists believe the mutant strain was created when a virus infected benign *E. coli* and gave it a string of DNA from *Shigella* — a bacterium that causes severe, bloody diarrhea. In both *Shigella* and *E. coli* 0157:H7, as few as 10 germs can cause illness; by comparison, it takes about a billion salmonella bacteria to make you sick.

An estimated 73,480 people a year are infected with *E. coli* 0157:H7, and about 600 of those cases are fatal, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The outbreak at the end of August at the Washington County Fair, 33 miles (53 kilometers)



This is a petri dish containing *E. coli*, the bacteria that killed a 3-year-old girl and a 79-year-old man at the Washington County Fair in upstate New York, shown in this Sept. 8, 1999 photo. AP

north of Albany, resulted when a fairground well was contaminated by manure from a nearby cattle barn, according to investigators from the state Health Department and the CDC. Genetic testing indicated that the *E. coli* came from the digestive tract of a single cow, said Kristine Smith, a Health Department spokeswoman.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture is sponsoring several research efforts aimed at ridding cattle and manure of toxic forms of *E. coli*. Compl short-term tactic against *E. coli*

Vitamin makers settle for \$1.2B

WASHINGTON (AP) — Corporate buyers of bulk vitamins presented to

a federal judge the details of a proposed \$1.2 billion settlement with vitamin makers over alleged price-fixing.

"It's the largest class-action antitrust settlement in the country," Jonathan Schiller, a lead attorney for plaintiffs in the case, told reporters Wednesday.

The parties presented the agreement to U.S. District Judge Thomas Hogan late Wednesday. Hogan is expected to rule Thursday on preliminary approval of the agreement and

schedule hearings for final approval.

The lawsuit alleged that seven vitamin makers oversaw a nine-year conspiracy that caused hundreds of food and beverage companies to pay artificially high prices for vitamins A, B, C and E. The higher prices were passed on to consumers of products ranging from

breakfast cereal to peanut butter.

The settlement involves the world's largest vitamin makers Hoffmann-La Roche of Switzerland, BASF AG of Germany, Rhone-Poulenc SA of France; and

Daiichi Pharmaceutical Co., Eisai Co. and Takeda Chemical Industries Ltd., all of Japan.

A smaller company, Hoechst Marion Roussel, is also involved in the settlement.

The six large companies account for about 80 percent of bulk sales of the most popular vitamins.

Schiller said in a telephone interview that the hundreds of companies involved in the class-action will receive an average of 18 to 20 percent reimbursement of the purchases they made between 1990 and 1998.

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3. COAT, TIGER STRIPE, NEW
4. COAT, PORTUGUESE CAMO, NEW
5. COAT, KHAKI, NEW
6. COAT, OLIVE DRAB, NEW
7. PANTS, FATIQUE, OLIVE DRAB, NEW
8. PANTS, KHAKI, NEW
9. MANY OTHER ITEMS

Friday, Saturday, Sunday - November 5,6,7

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of Aging Department of Community and Cultural Affairs MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

The CNMI Office of Aging, on behalf of Governor Pedro P. Tenorio, Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, and the Secretary for the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, wishes to acknowledge, recognize, and extend its profound and sincere appreciation to the following individuals, companies, and government agencies for their contribution, donation, assistance, in making it possible for our Man Amko to participate in the 12th Annual National Ground Golf Tournament.

PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. (PDI)
JAPAN GROUND GOLF ASSN. (JGGA)
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SENATOR PETE P. REYES
REP. MANUEL A. TENORIO
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REP. ANA S. TEREGEYO
REP. BERNADITA SEMAN

Ana Digt Flores
Director, Office of Aging

New clue to TB virulence

LONDON, (Reuters) - U.S. scientists said on Wednesday they had found a new clue to the way tuberculosis, which kills up to three million people a year worldwide, infects the lungs.

The bacterium that causes the infectious disease must produce a lipid molecule, or fatty substance called PDIM, for it to grow in the lungs. Without it, the disease cannot propagate.

"This work is the first to establish definitively that exported lipids are required for the bacteria to grow in the lungs," said

William Jacobs, a microbiologist at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in New York.

"By understanding how it actually works, we'll know more about how to combat it better," he said in a telephone interview.

Jacobs and his colleagues, whose work is published in the latest edition of the science journal *Nature*, believe the unique lipids in the bacterium that causes tuberculosis play key roles in making it the world's most successful pathogen, infecting 10 million people each

year.

"What really distinguishes tuberculosis as a pathogen is that it passes from person to person by aerosol infection, but it first has to invade the lungs to propagate," said Jacobs.

Despite an effective treatment for tuberculosis, the disease still kills more adults worldwide than malaria and AIDS combined. Twenty-two countries, mainly in Asia and Africa, account for 80 percent of the global cases of the disease.

The emergence of drug-resis-

tant strains of tuberculosis, an increase in the number of HIV sufferers who are particularly prone to TB and population growth have compounded the problem.

Jacobs, his colleague Jeffery Cox and collaborators at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and Colorado State University found the lipid by creating mutant strains of the TB bacteria and infecting mice with them.

After harvesting the bacteria from the lungs of the mice, they looked for strains that failed to thrive. They found three strains that grew in the liver and spleen but not in the lungs. All three contained mutations on the tuberculosis genome where the genes responsible for making

PDIM are located.

Further studies showed that a defective gene called *mmpL7* could not transport PDIM outside the cell wall where it encourages infection.

"This finding established that PDIM is required for virulence, and has to be exported from the cell," Jacobs said in a statement.

He and his team are working on 11 other genes in the same family as *mmpL7* that they suspect are also involved in transporting lipids for the TB bacterium.

"We believe that we will be able to determine the function of all these lipids and to gain significantly greater understanding of the pathogenesis of the tuberculosis bacillus," he added.

Prozac may be a treatment for premenstrual syndrome

WASHINGTON (AP) — The popular antidepressant Prozac also should be approved as a treatment for a severe form of premenstrual syndrome, advisers to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration decided Wednesday.

Premenstrual complaints, ranging from breast tenderness and bloating to anxiety and mood swings, affect 3 percent to 5 percent of women of childbearing age. But doctors say there is a more severe problem called premenstrual dysphoric disorder, or PMDD, which causes a smaller number of women such symptoms as poor concentration, depression and anger.

Doctors already routinely prescribe a number of antidepressants, such as Prozac, Zoloft and Celexa, to treat PMDD. The FDA has not specifically approved them as PMDD treatments, but it is legal for doctors to prescribe drugs for any purpose.

However, if the FDA were to approve an antidepressant as a PMDD treatment, then the manufacturer would get the added bonus of being able to advertise the drug directly to consumers.

On Wednesday, the FDA's scientific advisers voted unanimously that Prozac should be approved as a PMDD treatment. The FDA is not bound by the advice but typically follows it.

In one study, Prozac cut by two-thirds PMDD patients' scores on a mood test that measured their depression, tension and irritability.

Side effects, including nausea, insomnia and headache, were similar to those all Prozac users face.



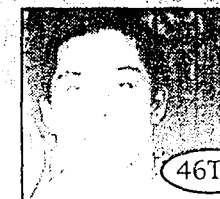
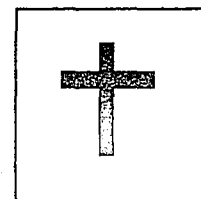
Cherry Austin (right) looks up to her mother Kay Burt with a picture of Burt's father Charles Kilgore (left) in Dallas, Monday. Burt will receive her daughter's kidney next week, three decades after her father gave her a kidney in an era when transplants were far more mysterious and far less common.

AP

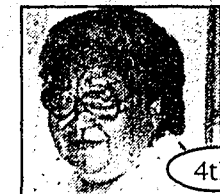
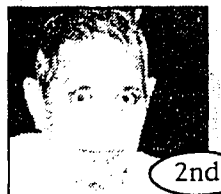
JOINT DEATH ANNIVERSARY



ANTONIO C. CABRERA MARIA R. CABRERA



ALEJANDRO R. CABRERA ANTONIA A. CABRERA JESUS R. CABRERA



JUAN R. CABRERA VICENTE R. CABRERA JULIANA T. CABRERA

The family of the late ANTONIO CAMACHO CABRERA (T'AN) and MARIA REYES CABRERA wishes to inform all relatives and friends that the Joint Death Anniversary will start on November 04, 1999 thru November 12, 1999. Daily Mass at 6:00 am is at Kristo Rai Church and nightly Rosary is at 7:00 pm. at Mr. and Mrs. Ando and Vickie R. Cabrera's residence next to the CNMI Museum.

Your presence and prayers are sincerely appreciated.

On the last day, mass will be at 6:00 am at Kristo Rai Church and breakfast will be served right after the mass at the Kristo Rai Social Hall. Also, at 7:00 pm on the same day, the last nightly Rosary will be said at 6:00 pm at Mr. and Mrs. Ando and Vickie R. Cabrera's residence. Dinner will be served. You are all invited. Thank You for your prayers.

Un sen Dangkulo na si Yu'us Ma'as'e ginen I Familia

VERONICA NAPUTI ACOSTA

January 16, 1914-October 29, 1999
was called to her eternal rest on Friday,
October 29, 1999 in Saipan at the age of 85.

In her passing she now joins her:

†Paternal Father: Luis P. Lizama

†Mother: Theresa N. Lizama

†Husband: Jesus N. Acosta

†Daughters: Maria N. Acosta & Maria M. Acosta

†Brother: Juan N. Lizama

†Sister: Flora N. Aldan

†Sister: Ana L. San Nicolas

†Brother In Law: Joaquin San Nicolas

†Son In Law: Calisto A. Crisostomo

She is survived by her:

Children and Grandchildren: Francisco N. Carmen C. Acosta (Elizabeth), Dolores A. Miguel P. Agullo (Diego, Alice, Joseph, Frances, Ben, Nicolas, Linda)

Jose N. Juana A. Acosta (Thelma, Jesse, Veronica, Melissa, Joseph)

Soleidad A. Jesus Blas (Patrick)

Ana A. Crisostomo (Joseph, Annie, Bernita, Calisto, Evelyn)

Theresa A. Johnny D. San Augustin (Patrick, Michael, Eric)

Antonio N. Zenaida F. Acosta (Michael, John, Marites, Frankie)

Rosa N. Acosta (Patrick)

Margarita A. Willy Brown (Veronica, Billy, Jesse)

Brother In Law: Mariano Aldan

Sister In Law: Francisca G. Lizama

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at their residence in Chalan Kanoa Dist. #2. Her remains will be taken from the CHC Marquetta to Mt. Carmel Cathedral for final viewing and Saturday, November 06, 1999 at 8:00 a.m. Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Burial will follow immediately at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Your prayers and presence is appreciated.

Discovery launch delayed

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — Space shuttle Discovery's flight next month to the Hubble Space Telescope has been pushed back a few more days, this time because of engine trouble.

One of Discovery's three main engines must be replaced because of a broken drill bit left in a coolant chamber, NASA said Wednesday.

Discovery had been scheduled to blast off Dec. 2 on a 10-day

mission to carry crucial replacement parts for Hubble. The original October launch date was scrapped because of wiring repairs.

"We're not going to make Dec. 2, that's for sure," NASA spokesman Rob Navias said Wednesday.

Navias said he anticipates a launch delay of just a few days. It will take 10 days to replace the engine, but the work will set back other launch preparations.

The drill bit ended up in the engine chamber during routine maintenance last spring, Navias said. Shuttle managers decided Wednesday to replace the entire engine as a precaution.

The last thing NASA wants is debris inside a shuttle main engine, even a drill bit only 1.25 centimeters (0.5 inches) long that weighs less than a gram.

During Columbia's launch in July, hydrogen fuel seeped from three ruptured tubes in the right

engine nozzle after a 2.5-centimeter (1-inch) pin came loose inside the engine and hurtled down through the combustion chamber, damaging the tubes.

An exposed wire also caused a short circuit during the same Columbia flight, and NASA ordered a fleet-wide inspection that uncovered exposed wire in 57 places in Discovery, leading to last month's flight delay. The exposed wires have since been repaired.

NASA also spent Wednesday double-checking thermal tiles on Discovery, after a batch of tile material was found unsuitable for flight. All of the shuttle's tiles checked out fine.

If NASA does not launch Discovery by mid-December, the mission will be bumped into the new year. At the end of December, the computers in Mission Control must be shut down and loaded with new software that is Y2K compliant.

Malaria research launched

GENEVA (AP) — The United Nations' health agency on Wednesday launched a foundation aimed at encouraging research into malaria drugs.

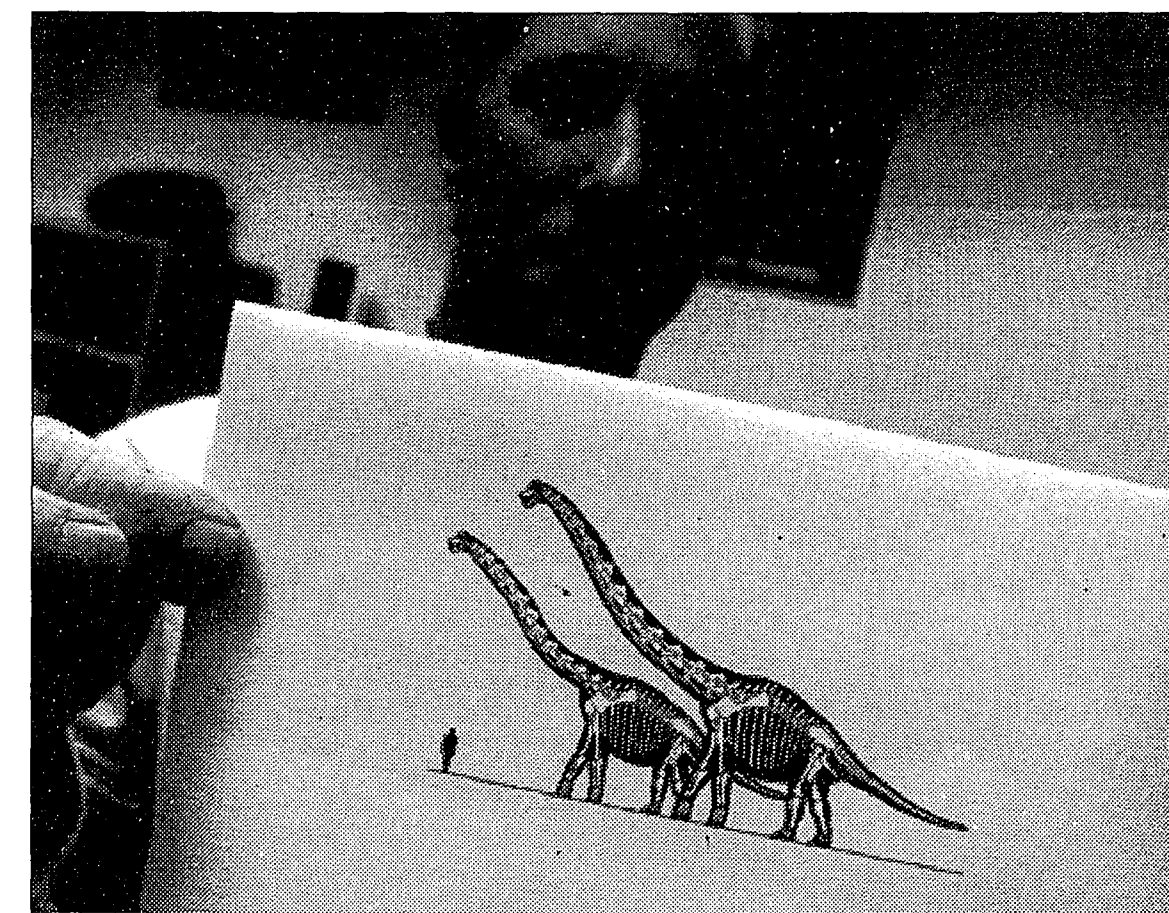
The Medicines for Malaria Venture, whose sponsors include the World Bank and the Rockefeller Foundation, aims to put one new anti-malarial drug onto the market every five years, at a price which the world's poorest countries can afford.

MMV has been created because the increased costs of developing and registering pharmaceutical products, coupled with the prospects of inadequate commercial returns, have resulted in the withdrawal of the majority of

research-based pharmaceutical companies from investment in tropical diseases," said Gro Harlem Brundtland, director-general for the World Health Organization.

Mosquitoes are growing more resistant to insecticides as are parasites to drugs. WHO says malaria kills about 1 million people a year worldwide, behind only AIDS and tuberculosis among communicable diseases. Almost all malaria deaths are in Africa, and most victims are children under the age of 5.

To meet its objectives, the foundation needs to raise some \$15 million a year by 2001, and then \$30 million a year afterwards.



Richard Cifelli, the Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology at the Oklahoma Museum of Natural Science in Norman, Okla., displays, Wednesday, a drawing of the recently discovered new species of dinosaur. The drawing shows the size of the new animal compared to a man or what was previously believed to be the largest dinosaur.

AP

Old bones point to huge dinosaur

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Bones found in southeastern Oklahoma were from a 60-ton, 60-foot tall giraffe-like creature that is among the biggest dinosaurs ever discovered, a paleontologist said today.

A report on the Sauroposeidon - or thunder lizard - is expected to be presented in the March issue of the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, said researcher Richard Cifelli of the University of Oklahoma.

Matt Wedel, senior author of the paper, named the new find after Poseidon, the Greek god normally associated with the sea but also with earthquakes.

Cifelli called the creature "among the biggest or arguably the biggest" dinosaur ever.

"This guy took that general Brachiosaurus trend and pushed it to the max," he said. The better-known Brachiosaurus was about 45 feet tall. Cifelli said the Sauroposeidon had a neck that was conservatively 40 feet long.

He said there was an "incredible compromise between making the neck strong enough to function and also be light enough

so that you can lift the whole apparatus up."

The remains were found in 1994 in Atoka County. Cifelli said he gave them about a year ago to Wedel, who was then an undergraduate student looking for a research project.

The first report was of a rib an inch wide and 5 feet long, he said. The largest of the vertebrae found was 5 feet long.

"It looked like a trunk of a tree," Cifelli said.

Apart from the neck bones, scientists have been unable to locate the rest of the animal's remains.

"I feel like the rest of it still has to be there somewhere," he said.

Cifelli said there are different ways of measuring the biggest dinosaur. The Sauroposeidon was definitely the tallest and definitely had the longest neck, he said. He said there were probably heavier and definitely longer dinosaurs.

The dinosaur was from the early Cretaceous period and was found in beds that are about 110 million years old, Cifelli said. At that time, the Tyrannosaurus rex was just emerging in North America.

First Anniversary Rosary

We, the family of the late

† JOSE TORRES
CHARFAUROS

(JOE BAKULO)

March 19, 1943 - November 11, 1999

Would like to invite our family, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 1st Anniversary Rosary of our beloved husband, father and grandfather.

Rosary will be said nightly at 8:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday, November 3, 1999 at their residence in Marpo, Tinian.

On the final day, Thursday, November 11, 1999 the Anniversary Mass will be offered at 5:30 p.m., San Jose Church followed by the Final Rosary at 6:00 p.m. in Marpo, Tinian

(Dinner will be served.)

Please join us in Prayers.
Si Yu'us Ma'ase
THE FAMILY

Sporty Spice basks in solo spotlight

LOS ANGELES, (Reuters) - Attention Spice Girl fans: Sporty Spice is getting her turn at bat.

After the last few years sharing the spotlight with her colleagues, Sporty Spice - aka Mel C, aka Melanie Chisholm - has taken a break from the bubbly pop sensation to release her first solo album.

"Northern Star" (Virgin), credited to Melanie C., comes 18 months after Ginger Spice, aka Geri Halliwell, caused an international incident by quitting the band. Halliwell went on to make a solo record, promote it heavily and watch it sink without a trace, at least in the United States.

Spice Girl detractors, and there

are many who consider the group to be a portent of the Apocalypse, cheered. Backed by their nebulous "irl Power!" slogan, Sporty, Posh, Scary, Baby and Ginger sold millions of records worldwide, but the Halliwell affair exposed fractures in the band. Chisholm's album is in the critics' sights now, but it stands a

better chance of success.

First, Chisholm is considered the best singer in the band. Second, she collaborated with some of the hottest songwriters and producers in the business. And third, nobody would confuse it with the bubblegum pop of the Spice Girls, whose primary audience consists of preteens.

That was evident at Chisholm's recent show in Los Angeles, where 5-year-old girls found themselves jostling with grown men for prime space in front of the stage.

A spiky-haired Chisholm, swapping trademark athletic gear for knee-length camouflage breeches and a Clash T-shirt, brewed up one of the oddest juxtapositions in rock 'n' roll history. After delighting the tykes with the annoyingly catchy Spice Girls hit "Wannabe," she brought out former Sex Pistols guitarist Steve Jones to help her perform a plucky version of his group's 23-year-old punk anthem "Anarchy in the U.K."

Maybe the Apocalypse is indeed at hand.

But Chisholm, 25, is deadly serious about her new album, in which she digs deep into her psyche to produce some remarkably personal and poignant tunes.

"A lot's happened to me in the last few years, being with the Spice Girls," Chisholm told Reuters backstage a few hours before the L.A. gig. "I had quite a lot that I wanted to express, so it was nice being able to do it this way."

She remains committed to the Spice Girls, whose new album is due out next year, but she says of her day job: "It's a completely different vibe. We're just having a laugh, it's more fun, it's not as personal."

She loves the girls and the time they spend together. "But if something did change, life's too short to do something you don't like doing."

Liverpool-raised Chisholm,

whose formative musical influences range from her mother's Motown record collection to 1980s pop duo Wham, cited Madonna's techno-oriented "Ray of Light" album and rock bands Garbage and Blur as major touchstones in the making of "Northern Star."

Recording the album in Los Angeles, which she told the audience was her "second home," she hired such luminaries as Madonna's "Ray of Light" collaborator William Orbit and rap/metal mogul Rick Rubin. She wrote the lyrics and helped out on the melodies, but not being an instrumentalist she left that part to the experts.

True to the Spice Girls "Girl Power" ethos, some of the songs are strident tunes of self-empowerment directed at errant lovers, such as opening track "Go" and "Going Down." But she also touches on themes such as neediness, insecurity and her penchant for destructive relationships.

"It's like an emotional roller coaster. Everybody has down days. It's very 'Girl Power' to be able to admit that to people," she said.

She even gets a little political with "If That Were Me," about a homeless person. She says she has always felt strongly about homelessness and has become more outraged about it now that she has just bought her first home.

"I'd like to get involved (in social issues), find out more, especially in England now because I pay a lot of tax and I want to know where that tax is going. I'm quite happy to pay that and help people less fortunate."

But ask her for views on European Monetary Union or British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and she'll deftly plead ignorance and a willingness to learn. The avowed socialist was brought up in an household where it was simply "Tories are baddies and Labour are goodies."

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) hereby calls a Special Meeting on Friday, November 5, 1999, at 10:00 AM in the CUC Conference Room on the 3rd floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. The Agenda is as follows:

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda

II. SAIPAN 80-MEGAWATT POWER PLANT PROJECT, CUC RFP 97-0025

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Section 13, subsections (4), (5), (6) and (7), some discussion of the above may be under Executive Session. All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ ROSARIO M. ELAMETO
Chairperson

November 2, 1999

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Food and Nutrition Council

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the CNMI Food and Nutrition Council hereby gives notice that the regular meeting of the Food and Nutrition Council will be held on **Wednesday November 10, 1999, at 1:30 p.m. at the CE Room (room next to cafe)** of the Department of Public Health.

The following items are on the agenda for the above referenced meeting:

Preliminary

- Roll Call
- Adoption of Minutes

Chairman's Report

- Progress Report
- Water Master Plan

Old Business

- Council's Position Statement on Betel Nut Use
- Media Plan

New Business

- 2000 Budget
- December Nutrition Strategy Plan

Adjournment

/s/ Pamela Mathis
Chairwoman

Date: November 3, 1999

YOUTH ENRICHMENT CENTER



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Sessions	Dates (Saturdays, 9:00AM - 11:00AM)	Grade Levels
I.	Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27, Dec. 4, 11	5th and 6th
II.	Jan. 6, 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12	7th and 8th
III.	Feb. 19, 26, Mar. 4, 11, 16, 25	4th, 5th and 6th
IV.	April 1, 6, 15, 22, 29, May 6	9th and 10th

Sessions I, II, and IV READING COMPREHENSION & CRITICAL THINKING
Session III ACCELERATED MATH

All interested parties please contact Dora P. Borja at 483-4932.
Please leave a message if no answer.

Rare dollhouse-sized Bible sold at auction

LONDON (AP) — A copy of what may be the smallest Bible in the world fetched 18,000 pounds (\$ 29,500) at auction Wednesday.

Known as the Thumb Bible, it measures only 1.75 inches by 1.25 inches (4.45 cm by 3.18 cm) and is believed to be one of only three in existence, said auctioneer Dominic Winter.

Simon Finch Rare Books, located in London, secured the Bible by a telephone bid that

was 2,000 pounds (\$ 3,280) below what the auctioneers expected the book to sell for.

"Our estimate was punchy and to get anything like it for such a high price was a very good achievement," said Winter, who is based in Swindon, west of London. "There were just a small handful of people bidding for it, which wasn't surprising because of the price. It's got fairly limited appeal as well."

The miniature Bible was written in verse by poet John Taylor in 1614, and was discovered recently by an English woman who collects dollhouses. The woman, who was not identified, found the Bible among the house furnishings.

Christie's in New York sold one of the other two copies in 1989 for \$ 22,000. The other copy is in Aberdeen University in Scotland.



Media magnate Rupert Murdoch (left) is photographed with his new wife, Wendy Deng at Flemington racecourse, Melbourne, Australia Tuesday. If recently remarried media magnate Rupert Murdoch has any more children, they would have a long wait before they get their hands on his global empire.

Murdoch's ex-wife Ana has remarried

NEW YORK, (Reuters) - Anna Murdoch, the ex-wife of media mogul Rupert Murdoch, has married financier William Mann.

Murdoch wed Mann over the weekend in New York at St. Patrick's Cathedral, according to media reports.

Her divorce from the publishing titan, who is reportedly worth in excess of \$5 billion, became final in June after a 32-year marriage.

Rupert Murdoch, the 68-year-old chairman and CEO of News Corp., married his third wife Wendy Deng, 32, shortly after. Deng resigned as a vice president at News Corp.'s Asian satellite television business Star about a year ago.

Mann, 72, is a widower and CEO of Henry Mann Securities.

News of the Murdochs' split in April 1998 sparked concern

among News Corp. shareholders since the Murdoch family owns a controlling interest in the company.

Wall Street was soothed when Anna Murdoch resigned as a director of News Corp., with the family's stock now residing in trusts for the Murdoch children.

Calls to Rupert Murdoch's spokesman were not returned.

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Recommendations:
Eat high-fiber foods, such as fruits, vegetables, and whole grain products. Eat fewer high-fat foods. Maintain normal body weight. And live long and prosper.



Glover hits cabbie attitudes

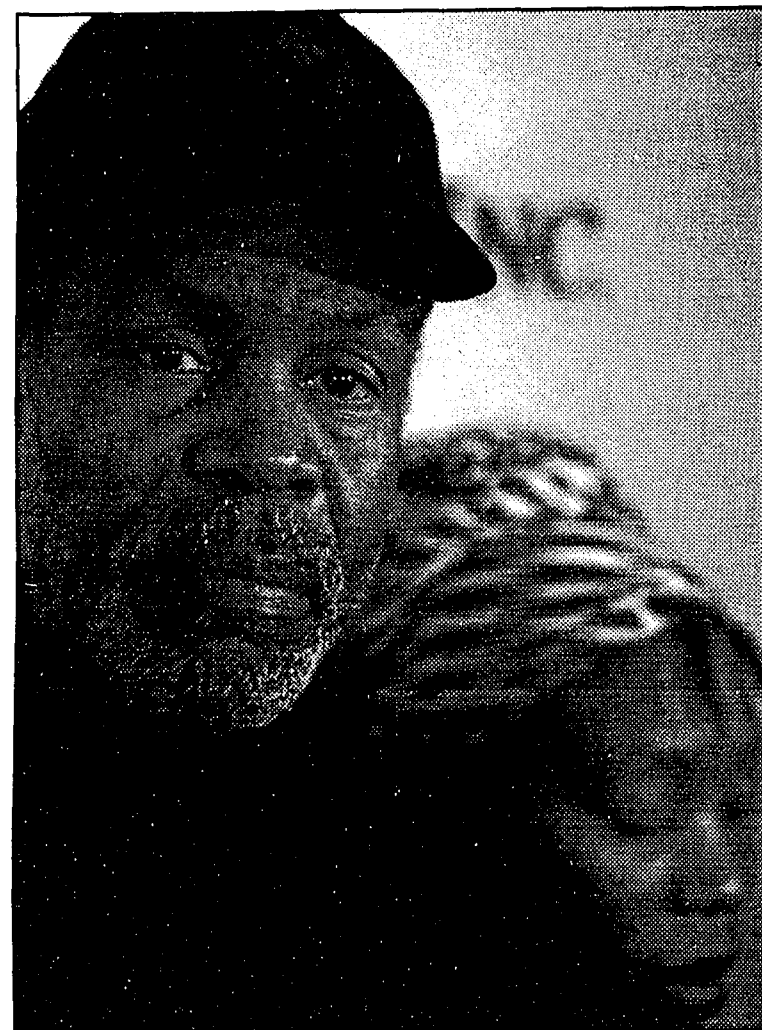
NEW YORK (AP) — The black man stood on the corner, his daughter by his side, trying to hail a cab. One passed by, then another, then another — five in all.

The man was actor Danny Glover, and with each passing cab, he got angrier and angrier.

On Wednesday, Glover met

with officials of the Taxi and Limousine Commission to propose better diversity training for drivers. "The breaking point was to stand outside on 116th Street and have five cabs pass me up," Glover said Wednesday during a news conference outside TLC offices. "I was so angry."

Standing with his daughter, Mandisa, a senior at New York University, he added: "The fact that my daughter's here to go to school, it really upsets me that if she's standing on the corner waiting to get a cab, she can't get a cab... The fact that I'm a celebrity, the fact that I'm visible, al-



Actor Danny Glover, with his daughter Mandisa Glover, holds a press briefing after filing a discrimination complaint with the Taxi and Limousine Commission in New York, Tuesday. Glover got into a confrontation with a driver who refused to let him sit in the front of the car. AP

lows me to draw attention to this."

Glover's lawyer, Randolph Scott-McLaughlin, said they plan to meet with TLC officials to discuss having new cabbies meet with black New Yorkers as part of their training, and to help the TLC develop a new training video.

The TLC made no commitment in response to Glover's offer.

"It's too early to say," said TLC spokesman Allan Fromberg.

"The whole discussion is only a few hours old," New drivers undergo an 80-hour training, and one day is already devoted to "sensitivity training," which includes discussions of prejudices, the driv-

ers' own ethnicities, and explanations of the rules and penalties for refusing fares.

Glover, 52, best known as the co-star of the "Lethal Weapon" movies, lives in San Francisco but visits New York frequently.

He is not the first prominent black man to complain about discrimination from cab drivers. In 1994, former Mayor David Dinkins described watching a cab pass him by on Park Avenue only to stop nearby to pick up a white passenger.

"It happened to me before I was mayor, and it happened to me since," Dinkins said in a telephone interview Wednesday.

NAACP considering TV network boycott

NEW YORK (AP) — Claiming there is an ongoing "whitewash" at the four major U.S. television networks, the president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced plans for a viewer boycott that would single out the worst offender.

Kweisi Mfume condemned "the dearth of blacks and other minorities both in front of the camera and behind the scenes" and pledged "to begin the new century with old-fashioned activism."

The boycott would hit one network — ABC, CBS, NBC or Fox — from New Year's Day through the February ratings sweeps, a period when audience numbers are used to set advertising rates.

"Nothing short of a real and

measurable effort by the networks will prevent us from going forward," Mfume said Wednesday.

He said his organization on Monday would present the four networks with "verifiable goals and timetables" for enhancing equal opportunity and promoting diversity.

It plans to hold a public hearing on segregation in the TV industry in Los Angeles Nov. 29, and NAACP leaders would make a decision about the boycott sometime afterward.

Mfume focused on the paucity of black actors on the networks' slate of new fall series during the NAACP's annual meeting in July, and the networks set about announcing new black and other minority characters.

Packard Bell lays off workers

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Packard Bell NEC Inc., once the largest U.S. maker of personal computers for consumers, is pulling most of its home PCs from stores because of millions in losses.

The computer manufacturer also said Wednesday that it will lay off 1,600 employees in Sacra-

mento by the end of the year. Among those losing jobs will be 12 of the company's 13 senior executives, including chief executive Alain Couder.

The company will stop selling its consumer PC models in stores, except for its Z1 desktop. It is looking into selling over the Internet or through other chan-

nels and will continue to sell NEC brand business systems.

"We've got some great products, but it's more niche products than it is volume products and we don't think we're in the environment to survive in the low end of the PC side of the business when computers are going for \$499," spokesman Ron Fuchs said

Wednesday.

The withdrawal follows IBM's decision last month to stop selling PCs in stores and focus instead on doing business over the Internet.

The Packard Bell pullout closes an era of rapid U.S. decline for the company, which had fallen to No. 6 in the domestic market by last summer, according to researcher

Dataquest. Packard Bell lost \$650 million last year and couldn't sustain losses, Fuchs said.

Like other PC makers, Packard Bell has been hit hard by fierce price wars and rising computer parts prices. But the company also had a mixed record with customers because of computer quality problems.

Japan stocks rise in early trading

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese stock prices advanced early Thursday on a rally in high technology issues after an overnight rise on Wall Street. The U.S. dollar was higher against the yen.

The benchmark 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average gained 267.73 points, or 1.49 percent, to 18,259.69 in the first 30 minutes of trading. On Tuesday, the average closed down 4.96 points, or 0.03 percent.

The dollar bought 104.88 yen, up 0.10 yen from late Tuesday in Tokyo but below its late New York level of 104.95 yen overnight. Financial markets in Japan were closed Wednesday for a national holiday.

On the stock market, prices opened higher as high technology issues and communications-related stocks advanced in line with the rise Wednesday on Wall Street of the Nasdaq Composite Index to a new high.

The Nasdaq closed 46.88 points higher Wednesday to 3,028.51. It was the first close above the 3,000-point level for the technology-laden index. The Dow Jones industrial average finished 27.22 points higher at 10,609.06.

Among early gainers were issues of NEC Corp., which soared following reports that the company had decided to effectively liquidate its troubled U.S. unit Packard Bell NEC Inc.

NEC shares were up 116 yen (\$1.11), or 5.8 percent, at 2,100 yen (\$20.2) in early trading.

The broader Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section was up 21.93 points, or 1.40 percent, to 1,592.74 points. The TOPIX closed up 8.32 points, or 0.53 percent, on Tuesday.

Incurrence dealings, the dollar remained higher against the yen, though it shed some of its overnight gains in early trading on moderate buying of the Japanese currency, traders said.

In other currencies, the euro was traded at 110.44 yen, down from 110.50 yen late Tuesday in Tokyo.

The yield on the benchmark 10-year Japanese government was unquoted in early trading. On Tuesday, it settled at 1.7500 percent and its price stood at 100.42.

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

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW00-IFB-005

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Department of Public Works and the Public School System, are soliciting sealed bids for the Completion of Sinapalu Elementary School, on the island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work, plans, specifications, and bid package will be available on or after Monday, October 25, 1999 at the office of EFC Engineers & Architects, 3rd Floor, Bank of Hawaii building, Puerto Rico, Saipan. A non refundable cost of two hundred eighty dollars (US\$280.00) is required for each set; payment must be made to EFC Engineers & Architects in the form of cash or cashier's check and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package.

A Pre-Bid Conference meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, October 28, 1999 at the project site in Sinapalu on the island of Rota. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing to the Director of DPW Technical Services Division, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, Tuesday, November 23, 1999 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened.

An original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, Tuesday, November 23, 1999 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened.

A bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 4466." Bid Bonds must be executed by a U.S. Treasury listed bonding company or a CNMI authorized agent thereof.

The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government. Such bidder will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Payment and Performance bonds must be executed by a U.S. Treasury listed bonding company or a CNMI authorized agent thereof. Performance time for completion of this project is two hundred twenty-five (225) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at five hundred dollars (US\$500.00) per calendar day for each day that the project is delayed beyond the established completion date.

The project is funded in part by a grant from U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA) with local matching funds pred by the CNMI Government. Award of a contract is contingent upon funding approval from DOI/OIA.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JUAN B. CEPEDA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

/s/ RITA H. INOS, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW00-RFP-004

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Department of Public Works and the Public School System, are soliciting sealed proposals from Architectural/Engineering firms for the Construction Management of the Marianas High School Gymnasium Completion on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after Monday, November 8, 1999 at the DPW Technical Services Division, Lower Base, Saipan. The period allotted for the construction Contractor to complete the project is 320 calendar days. As such, the services of the construction manager shall be for 320 calendar days.

A Pre-proposal Conference meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Monday, November 22, 1999 at the DPW Main Office Conference Room, Gualo Rai, Saipan. Any questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. to the Director, Technical Services Division, Lower Base, Saipan on the date of the Pre-proposal Conference.

The evaluation factors for proposals, with their relative importance, will be as follows:

1. Current workload of firm - 10%
2. Ability to commit staff to the project - 10%
3. Qualifications of key personnel/staff - 30%
4. Past experience on similar construction management work - 30%
5. Price - 20%

One original and three copies of proposals must be submitted in a sealed package no later than 2:00 p.m., Monday, November 29, 1999 to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA) with local matching funds provided by the CNMI Government. Award of a contract is contingent upon funding approval from DOI/OIA.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in a proposals in the interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ JOSEPH P. ROSARIO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ RITA H. INOS, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Civil Service Commission hereby gives notice that the Board will meet on Wednesday, November 10, 1999. The Board will convene at 9:00 a.m., at the Commission's Conference Room in Saipan. Additional information concerning this meeting is available at the Commission Office, Building No. 1211, Capitol Hill, Saipan. The Commission may also be reached at phone numbers 322-4363 and 322-6954 or fax number 322-3327.

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - October 8, 1999
- V. CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. OLD BUSINESS
- VIII. LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT (Executive Session)
- IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- X. ANNOUNCEMENT
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ VICENTE M. SABLAN
Chairman
Civil Service Commission

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOOD & BEVERAGE CONCESSION FOR WEST TINIAN AIRPORT

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals from interested firms and/or individuals to operate a food and beverage concession at the West Tinian Airport. Interested firms and/or individuals are encouraged to specify in their proposal the types of products and/or services they intend to offer to the traveling public and how to best use the space available. The area of the space available is 430 square feet, and is centrally located at the newly renovated West Tinian Airport. This space is available for inspection between 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Proposal packages can be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Saipan International Airport, P. O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, or at the office of the Ports Manager West Tinian Airport Tinian, MP 96952. A set of the proposals package may be obtained for a fee of \$30.00. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. A pre-bid conference shall be held on November 12, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. at the West Tinian Airport conference room located at the office of the Ports Manager.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) must receive all proposal no later than 2:00 p.m. November 30, 1999 in order to be considered for the award. In evaluating proposals, CPA will consider (but not limited to) the following criteria:

1. Financial Proposals
2. Management Team
3. Capital Investment
4. Design Rendering
5. Services or Merchandising Mix
6. Customer Services
7. Pricing

The successful and unsuccessful Proposers will be notified within thirty (30) days after November 30, 1999.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Herman R. Bermudes at 664-3531.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals in accordance with Section 3.2(7) and 4.1 of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ CARLOS H. SALAS
Executive Director

November 1, 1999
Date

Ways of Wonder

MARTIN Gardner edited a book called Great Essays in Science. Among contributions by such noted scientists as Einstein, Fermi, Oppenheimer, Darwin, and others there is a wonderful essay by Gilbert Keith Chesterton (1874-1936) called The Logic of Elfland.

Chesterton was not a scientist. He was a brilliant and prolific writer of imaginative fiction. His works, such as The Man Who Was Thursday, The Club of Queer Trades, The Ball and the Cross are truly a delight to read. If you haven't yet discovered Chesterton, I strongly urge you to take the leap into this wonderful world of genius and imagination. You won't be disappointed. And thank your lucky stars for Amazon.com.

But what is Chesterton doing in a book of essays on science? Well, it's because The Logic of Elfland is an artful essay on the play between the logical constraints on our thinking and the use of fantasy and imagination in discovery and creativity. Both sides of the brain are neces-

sary for intelligent vision, and whether you are artist, poet, or scientist, what Chesterton has to say is seminal and enlightening. There is an artist, poet, and scientist in all of us, whether we know it or not, and Chesterton has a way of reminding us of the forgotten child, full of wonder and joy, that may be slumbering in the dim shadows of our unconscious.

Chesterton begins his essay by noting, rhetorically, that what he believes in are fairy tales. He finds them entirely reasonable and full of common sense. He says, "...Compared with them religion and rationalism are both abnormal, though religion is abnormally right and rationalism abnormally wrong." It is interesting to compare this idea with the words attributed to a Chamorro resistance leader in the late 1600's: "They call our history a heap of fables. But have we not the same right to call theirs a collection of absurdities?"

What we call "reasonable" or "logical" or "rational" are expres-

sions which, minimally, do not violate the basic laws of logic and mathematics. Such laws are, for example, the Law of Identity, which says that P is P is a necessary truth. Or the Law of Contradiction, which says that P and not-P is a necessary falsehood. Such laws are assumed in all our communication, which would be impossible without them. And from such general principles follow other necessary truths, such as if A is greater than B, B must be smaller than A. In the words of Chesterton,

"...if the Ugly Sisters are older than Cinderella, it is necessary that Cinderella is younger than the Ugly Sisters... If Jack is the son of a miller, a miller is the father of Jack."

Logicians call such necessary statements those which are true in all logically possible worlds, and a world is logically possible if it is logically consistent, no matter how wild. "You cannot imagine," says Chesterton, "two and one not making three. But you can easily imagine trees not growing fruit; you can

imagine them growing golden candlesticks or tigers hanging on by the tail." Even God cannot violate the laws of logic. Can an omnipotent being make a stone she cannot lift?

The infinite range of logically possible worlds leaves a great range for the roaming imagination to explore. Einstein imagined his was riding on a beam of light when he discovered the laws of relativity, and who knows what wild dreams Newton was having when the apple hit him on the nose? To see things in new ways, to discover and grow intellectually, takes the infinite expanse of logically possible worlds, and the boldness to use your imagination to explore new paths.

Chesterton's point, I think, is that we often mistake this logical necessity, which puts constraints on our thinking or expression, with the so-called empirical laws of science and the physical world. The laws of science are not deductive,

but inductive generalizations from limited experience.

From the logical point of view, such empirical truths are a subset of all possible worlds, called the naturally possible worlds. That is, those which are compatible or contain the same laws of nature as the actual world.

But from the Humean perspective, what are these "laws of nature" but the expression of observed regularities. We observed one thing following another, but we never observe the necessary connection between the events. I let go of the ball, and it drops, but I never see the force of gravity which holds the yo-yo of motion. The point is that natural necessity is an evolving, changing construct or model by which we interpret our experience. And that model is not sacrosanct; not logically necessary.

Psychologically we tend to develop mind sets. Almost unconsciously we develop habits of perception and expectation. Then we are in the danger of living in a self-created world that has lost all its enchantment, its novelty and potential to surprise us or catch our interest. In the words of Chesterton:

"We have forgotten what we really are. All that we call common sense and rationality and practicality and positivism only means for certain dead levels of our life we forget that we have forgotten. All that we call spirit and art and ecstasy only means that for one awful instant we remember that we forget."

Puzzles

1. When Zeus turned Io into a cow, he said to her, "I will turn you back to a beautiful woman, if you can find two numbers whose difference and quotient are both equal to eleven." Can you help Io and find the numbers?

2. The magician gave her apprentice the following division: AHHA/A = BHHB. Then she told her to find the digits that replace the letters. Can you help the apprentice?

3. In an old, out of the way used book store, Socrates came upon a series of books called, The Secret of the Universe, which were published at seven year intervals. The seventh book, the last in the series, noted that the sum of the publication years totaled 13,524. The publication date of the first book was faded out, but based on this information, Socrates was able to tell the date of publication of the first book. Can you equal the wisdom of Socrates?

Answers To Last Week's

Puzzles

1. There were two winners for the princess's hand:

The cube of 300 diminished by the square of 5000 is two million. And so is the cube of 129 diminished by the square of 383.

2. If you chose the digits 7 and 8, you would get the keys to the pearly gate.

3. The pauper gave the dimensions 17/21 by 37/21, and he was a pauper no more!



Gecko Corner
..... Samuel Gugliotta

Turner pledges anti-AIDS funds

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — Anti-Aids programs in Madagascar, Jordan and East Africa are among 45 new projects to receive millions of dollars in funding from the United Nations Foundation, the charity funded by U.S. media mogul Ted Turner.

Announcing details of the grants at a news conference here Wednesday, the foundation's president, Timothy Wirth, said a major project would also be launched in central Africa to teach people the value of the rain forests.

Projects to eradicate polio and



Ted Turner

stop children from smoking would also benefit, he said.

The foundation, which this

week held its first meeting outside the United States, will give an exact breakdown of how the grants — totaling more than \$50 million — will be allocated in a few days.

It is one of two organizations set up to administer Turner's 1997 donation of \$1 billion to United

Nations causes. The gift was in the form of Time Warner stock and will be paid out in 10 annual installments of about \$100 million. Turner is the vice-chairman of Time-Warner and the founder of CNN.

The foundation's mission is to support the U.N.'s goals and ob-

jectives and to promote a more peaceful, prosperous and just world. Excluding the grants made this week, it has allocated more than \$137 million to U.N. agencies dealing with child health, conservation, peace, security, human rights, women and population issues.

Know . . . Continued from page 10

titute of students, as Education Commissioner Rita H. Inos explained.

"Maybe we should attack the attitude... maybe teachers should focus their efforts in changing the attitude of the students and parents would, on the other side, help them because majority of the time, the parents are with the children," he said.

Marja Lee Taitano, Rota: "Everything is a priority."

Up for re-election, incumbent BOE member Marja Lee Taitano is in it for "public service," she says.

Having served under the Board of Regents and the State Board since 1982, Taitano is witness to many educational issues CNMI has been and is surrounded with. In this regard, she plans to go through them, one by one.

One of the concerns she feels should be looked into is the PSS Food and Nutrition Services.

Taitano claims the program needs to be "re-evaluated."

"The Board needs to re-assess the food program and all layers that comprise it," she said.

The busing situation in the CNMI also needs looking into, according to Taitano.

"We have to work on how we can use federal funds to enhance the system... because obviously, we are not getting enough money to run PSS," she said.

Taitano stressed that every issue with regard to the education of CNMI's future leaders is a priority.

"Everything is a priority but we need money to run the schools and its programs. With the current situation now, where 97 percent of money goes into personnel... this needs to be looked into," said Taitano.

The decline in reading skills among upper grade level students, as magnified in the recent SAT9 (Stanford Achievement Test — 9th Edition) results, is something which has "cultural" roots, according to Taitano.

"Reading doesn't mean the ability to decode language. Kids now lack the specific skills to learn the complexity of the English language. And I think we need to teach our kids how to incorporate English in their thinking mind. To rationalize the use of it, other than superficially read-

ing and writing it..." she said.

Taitano said that SAT9, an assessment based on foreign standards, has some aspects in it that are alien to local children.

"Culturally, they cannot identify with the philosophical nuances of that test, and thus, they rate low on the test," she said.

"I think we should teach our kids critical thinking. A lot of this is a left over from previous foreign administrations—it affected the thinking of our people," said Taitano.

Taitano also plans to correct the misconception that "vocational jobs" are second class compared to "thinking jobs."

"We are always stressing and paying much attention to our college-bound students... but what about students who are only willing to go to a community college and pursue a different career, involving working with their hands?" said Taitano.

She explained that "builders" are just as significant members of the community as "thinkers."

"Builders should not be placed in the lowest paying scale among all professions in society. It shouldn't be like that. After all, we need plumbers and electricians in the community too," said Taitano.

One BOE accomplishment that Taitano is especially proud of, during her last four years in the position, is being able to change the criteria for teacher certification.

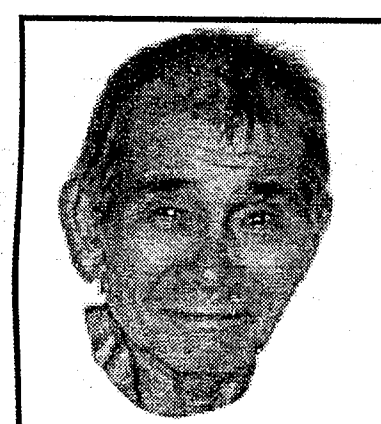
She said that PSS now can actually do an FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) finger print check on teachers to determine if they have no past records.

"The criteria for teachers is now different. This time, we require that teachers need to know about the culture that they're teaching in," she said.

Taitano is currently serving her first elected term on the state board and has high hopes on serving another term.

Current BOE members Anthony Pellegrino and Vice Chairwoman Frances Diaz will continue to serve the remainder of their tenure for the next two years.

Meanwhile, incumbent Board Chairwoman Esther Fleming is also running for re-election but was regrettably unavailable for an interview with the Variety.



RAMON CRUZ CASTRO

Familian "Marceliano"

March 25, 1918 to October 31, 1999

of Rota, was called to his eternal rest at the age of 81

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

In passing, He now joins his:

Wife: **MERCEDES MESNGON CASTRO**
Parents: **JOAQUIN VILLAGOMEZ & ANNA CRUZ CASTRO**
Grandson: **WOODWARD TAITANO CASTRO**

He will be missed and remembered in the hearts of his

Children & Spouses:

JOAQUIN M. & KAREN CASTRO (Joaquin Hercules & Renee, Jeanette & Robert) - Colorado
ESPIRANZA C. & MANUEL CHONG (Patricia & Greg, Manuel Jr. & Jessica, Jesse & Ariora, James & Salomea, Frank, Craig, Jeffrey & Ester, Angela & Peter, Reynold & Scott) - Guam
ISABEL S. & RAIMONDO H. MANGLONA (Dec.) (Ross & Julie, & Roddy) - Rota
ROSA C. & SENATOR EDWARD U. MARATTA (Edward Jr. Cheryl & Antonio Jr., Peter Ray & Dominic)
LINDA C. & ROMEO G. CINCO (Ryan & Frances, Rommel, Richard, Rhoda Blair, Rayween, Ivan, Raenalyn) Rota
LORETTA C. & WILLIAM DOLPH - Oregon
RAMON M. & FLORA T. CASTRO (Ramon Jr., Ladonna, Cassaxel, Tishalyn, Woodward)

Rear Son: **LARRY A. BARCINAS**

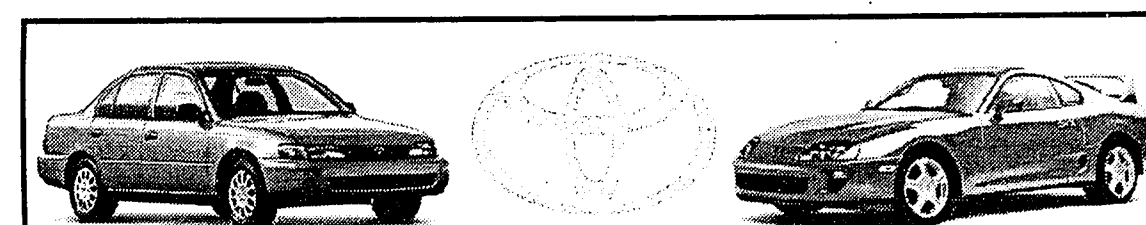
Brothers & Sisters In-Law: **Segundo C. & Virginia Q. Castro,**
Gregorio C. Castro (Dec.); Ignacio C. (Dec.) & Ines M. Castro

Sisters & Brothers In-Law: **Maria C. & Baldomero C. Mendiola (Dec), Emilia C. & Ignacio A. Manglona (Dec.)**

He is additionally survived by numerous great-grand children

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00p.m. at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Romeo G. Cinco in Teneto, Rota.

Family viewing will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 1999 starting 8:00a.m. Holy sacrifice of Mass will be offered that same day at 3:00 p.m. at San Francisco de Borja Church.



USED CARS SALE

STOCK#	CARS	MODEL	LIC.#	SELL
CARS				
C98-004	1991	BUICK CENTURY	ABA-217	1995
U99-069	1991	BUICK REGAL	AAT-097	2995
U99-075	1991	FORD CROWN VICTORIA	AAV-213	2795
C99-002	1989	BMW	ABO-853	3795
U99-171	1995	TAURUS WAGON	ABC-366	6995
TOYOTA SEDANS				
C99-016	1997	CAMRY	ABL-095	12995
U99-191	1996	CAMRY	ABU-852	13995
U98-231	1995	CAMRY XLE	ABA-877	12995
U99-234	1992	CAMRY XLE	ABO-173	6995
U98-269	1991	CAMRY LE	AAZ-411	2595
U99-100	1990	CAMRY	TAXI-756	3495
U99-155	1990	CAMRY	TAXI-639	3995
C98-036	1991	CAMRY	AAW-175	2995
U99-163	1996	CELICA GT L/B	ABF-248	13495
U99-175	1994	CELICA GT L/B	ABO-002	11995
C99-001	1996	COROLLA	ACA-232	9995
U99-208	1995	COROLLA	ABU-921	6995
OTHER SEDANS				
U98-189	1993	MAZDA 626	AAV-127	4595
U99-192	1991	NISSAN 240SX 2DR COUPE	AAZ-392	6995
U99-150	1996	ACCORD EX	ABD-747	12995
U99-030	1995	HONDA CIVIC	TAXI-642	5995
U98-270	1990	HONDA ACCORD	ABD-992	3995
U98-205	1992	DIAMANTE	AAX-706	4595
U99-205	1991	PRELUDE	ABW-502	6995
U99-204	1996	INTREPID		10995
PICK-UP TRUCKS				
C99-015	1993	4x2 EX-CAB	ABH-917	4995
U99-202	1991	4x4 EX-CAB	AAS-327	4995
U99-225	1990	4x4 EX-CAB		5995
U99-156	1997	T100 4x2	ABC-490	13995
U98-016	1995	T100 4x4 EX-CAB	ABU-872	10995
SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLES				
U98-013	1996	RAV4 2DR	ABF-948	10995
U98-094	1990	4-RUNNER	AAM-139	7495
U97-034	1991	4-RUNNER	AAV-815	7495
U99-240	1997	4-RUNNER	GERT	7995
C98-003	1991	4-RUNNER	AAZ-125	7495
U99-133	1992	4-RUNNER	ABH-811	7995
U99-223	1994	4-RUNNER	ABA-306	12995
U99-153	1994	4-RUNNER	ABO-382	12495
U98-081	1995	4-RUNNER	ABD-668	13995
U99-090	1994	LANDCRUISER	ABS-471	23495
U99-130	1991	LANDCRUISER	AAU-118	12995
C99-019	1996	PREVIA	ABG-983	12495
U99-243	1996	PATHFINDER	ANKIE	16995
U98-074	1989	PATHFINDER	AAS-291	2495
U98-054	1991	MAZDA MPV	AAV-795	3995
U99-255	1991	MONTERO (AS IS)	AAV-226	3995
U99-062	1996	CHEROKEE	ABK-150	9495
U99-162	1995	JEEP CHEROKEE	AAX-899	10495
U98-199	1990	JEEP LAREDO	ABL-013	5595
U99-181	1992	TROOPER	ABE-766	9495
U99-093	1995	ISUZU RODEO	ABW-161	11495



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Canada bonds end weaker

TORONTO, (Reuters) - Canadian government bonds ended weaker on Wednesday, losing steam after last week's rally as players were wary ahead of the release on Friday of U.S. and Canadian employment data.

Canadian bonds were lagging U.S. treasuries, with yields popping above those on the U.S. yield curve.

On the domestic market, some selling pressure emerged from new supply. The province of British Columbia issued a C\$500-million 10-year bond. There was talk the province of Ontario was planning an issue 10 years or longer.

Canada's benchmark 30-year bond due June 1, 2027, fell 55 Canadian cents to C\$124.59, yielding 6.138 percent. The U.S. long bond shed initial losses and rose 3/32, yielding 6.136 percent.

The Canadian long bond yield traded 0.2 basis point above the U.S. yield after trading 3.9 basis points below the U.S. level at the previous close.

Major economies are shifting toward tighter credit.

The European Central Bank and the Bank of England are expected to raise interest rates at their policy meetings on Thursday. The Reserve Bank of Australia raised the official rate by 25 basis points to 5.0 percent on Wednesday.

The U.S. Federal Reserve said in its October Beige Book that some slowing is noted in the U.S. economy. Labour markets remained tight, but prices were stable, it said.

Despite this report, the market still expects the Fed to raise short-term rates by 25 basis points at its next policy meeting on November 16 to pre-empt inflation.



German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder (second from right) and Shanghai Mayor Xu Kuangdi (left) applaud at an opening ceremony of the new production line for construction of bodywork at Shanghai Volkswagen on Wednesday, November 3, 1999 in Shanghai. AP

US did not intervene in currency markets

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. monetary authorities did not intervene in foreign currency markets in the third quarter despite the dollar's declines against the Japanese yen and the euro.

The disclosure that the Federal Reserve Bank of New York took no action came Wednesday in a report to Congress. A copy was made available to reporters in New York.

The New York Fed acts as the agent for the U.S. Treasury and the entire Federal Reserve system in executing U.S. foreign exchange policy by buying and selling dollars in the open market.

The last time it intervened was on June 17, 1998, when the Fed sold \$ 833 million to support the then-foundering yen.

The report said that in the July-September quarter, the dollar fell 12.1 percent against the Japanese yen and 3.2 percent against the euro, which is the single currency launched in January by 11 European countries.

During the quarter, the Bank of Japan said several times that it intervened by buying dollars and selling yen to try to hold down the Japanese currency's appreciation.

A stronger yen could threaten a recovery from a severe recession by making Japanese exports more expensive abroad and, consequently, less competitive. It also reduces the dollar-denominated earnings of Japanese exporters when converted back into yen.

The report said the dollar's depreciation "mainly reflected prospects for more-balanced global growth, particularly among the major economies."

Europe has been reporting stronger economic growth in recent months, while Japan has registered increasing inflows of investment funds as its economy recovers from the Asian crisis.

The yen hit a 3 1/2-year high, reaching 103.72 to the dollar on Sept. 23. It reached an all-time high against the fledgling euro of 108.70 yen to the euro the following day, the Fed noted.

In late New York trading Wednesday, the dollar bought 104.95 yen.

Funerals big business on web

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Caskets for sale on the Internet. Web sites, software and national directories for funeral homes. Online obituaries and videos to preserve a loved one's memory.

Death is a burgeoning industry in cyberspace.

"This is the future," said Jack Clarkson, the marketing director of Heavenlydoor.com, who was among those gathered here this week for the annual convention of the National Funeral Directors Association.

Heavenlydoor.com lists everything from casket makers and monument makers to virtual gravesite visits.

It's all designed to help customers in a difficult time while increasing profits for funeral providers, Clarkson said.

"People say the Internet seems like kind of a cold way to plan a funeral. But we think this takes the cold out and still leaves the personal part in," he said. "They can do this at home without a lot of pressure."

Many companies also create special memorials to the deceased. Celebrate a Life.com features

online obituaries and CD-ROMs that hold pictures, messages and mementos.

"We're trying to take the old and marry it with the new," said Robert Robinson, the company's executive vice president. "We do this for the non-techies, and for families that travel all over the world and aren't near the deceased."

A spokesman for the 14,000-member funeral directors association said e-commerce - along with stores that sell caskets at wholesale prices and other funeral-related businesses - still isn't a significant part of the industry. About 35,000 caskets were sold via the Internet last year, only a fraction of the 1.8 million coffins sold overall during that time, said spokesman Ronald Troyer.

But Troyer, a 31-year veteran of the business, said he expects technology to bring more changes as aging baby boomers, comfortable with computers, begin to ponder the inevitable.

"We still see a lot of funeral home directors reluctant to join the technology age," he said. "That is going to change in the next five

to seven years."

The increase in nontraditional funeral service providers has prompted the funeral directors group to push for stronger federal controls. The 14,000-member association wants tighter regulation on Internet companies, wholesale casket sellers and casket makers that also provide caskets, said Kelly Smith, another association spokesman.

The Federal Trade Commission requires funeral homes to provide a written copy of a general price list to customers. Nontraditional funeral-related companies currently are not required to follow the so-called "funeral rule."

"Our concern is that the customer ought to be protected no matter where they shop," Smith said.

A funeral home can be fined up to \$10,000 for a first-time rule violation and face possible sanction by a state licensing board.

"We think to protect consumers, these same types of requirements should be extended to everyone providing funeral services," he said.

New Argentine gov't to shake up state healthcare

BUENOS AIRES, (Reuters) - Argentina's President-elect Fernando de la Rúa plans to restructure the country's chaotic and corrupt state health service, PAMI, which bleeds money to fraud and is sometimes unable to pay hospitals to attend pensioners.

"We are looking to reorganize and renew the PAMI. It needs to have a new shape and our teams are working on that," Cecilia Felgueras, who coordinates education and welfare policy for De la Rúa, told local radio.

Accompanied by a team of lawyers, Felgueras went to the PAMI's Buenos Aires headquarters earlier in the week to gather information in preparation for Dec. 10, when De la Rúa is due to take over from President Carlos Menem.

Felgueras gave no details of the reorganization, although she said her team was looking at healthcare models in France and Germany. She said all corruption allegations against the PAMI would be pursued.

De la Rúa, of the centre-left Alliance, beat Menem's Peronists with almost 50 percent of the vote in the Oct. 24 presidential election. One of

his key promises was to crack down on corruption of the sort widely believed to infest the PAMI, which stands for State Assistance Programme for Retired People and Pensioners, is supposed to provide medical care for more than four million retirees who make monthly payments.

Despite annual income of more than \$2 billion, the PAMI runs a monthly deficit of about \$40 million and has to cobble together bank loans to keep its collective head above water.

A 1995 audit estimated that it lost \$40 million a month to fraudulent claims by nonexistent retirees, that it was wildly overcharged for medical services, and that up to a third of its registered clinics did not exist.

The PAMI's current head, Victor Alderete, has been identified by Vice President-elect Carlos Alvarez as "one of those responsible for corruption under Menem" and faces several accusations of criminal activity.

The PAMI has long attracted the attention of corruption investigators, and one former head from the early 1990s, Matilde Menendez, even had

to explain in court why the PAMI paid her hairdresser \$5,000.

"It is corrupt from top to bottom," Carlos Imizcoz, spokesman of the Argentine National Coordinating Committee of Retirees and Pensioners, told Reuters.

Private clinics earlier this year refused to attend pensioners for several days in protest at the failure of the PAMI to pay them for their services.

In some underfunded hospitals, patients are obliged to tip nurses for their attention, said Imizcoz, who at the age of 81 was himself in hospital just months ago.

Menem privatised much of Argentina's health care system early in his 10-years in office, and better-off workers receive world-class attention in return for payments into private funds.

But millions of pensioners who paid into the state system for decades when Argentina was a wealthy country were left out in the cold. Some 500,000 retirees have incomes of \$150 a month or less in a country where the cost of living is higher than in parts of the rich western world.

LOCAL HIRE
Marine Engine Mechanic
• Minimum of two years experience
Interested Applicants may apply in person at the
P.D.I. Main Office
Telephone No. 322-8876

FOR RENT
APARTMENT & COMMERCIAL SPACE
Location: Garapan near DFS/Hard Rock Café
• San Vicente Area
2 - Bedroom Fully Furnished
Split Type A/C on all Bedroom
Including Dining, Living & Kitchen
Laundry Facilities, Spacious Parking
"MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE"
Phone: 235-7171/7272 Cell: 287-7070

HOUSE FOR RENT
2-Bedroom located in Fina Sisú
Utilities & cable incl with rent
(\$500/month)
Call Gina 288-1720
Maria 288-6471 for info.

FOR RENT
(2) Bedroom, (1) Bedroom Apartment.
Fully Furnished, Laundry Room, Security Gate w/ Intercom, 24 hrs. hot water, High quality and cheap price. Located in Koblerville
Modern Apartment
Contact Person: Mr. Wu 288-8484 or page 234-4228

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,
vs.
Joaquin Q. Castro and Margarita A. Castro, Defendants.
Civil Action No. 98-3388

AMENDED SECOND NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on June 25, 1999, the Commonwealth Superior Court issued a Writ of Execution, ordering the Director of Police, Department of Public Safety of the Northern Mariana Islands, to sell, in the manner provided by law, all of the rights, titles, and interests of Defendants to that certain real properties, described as follows:

Lot No. 042 E 08, situated at 1-Denni, Saipan Municipality, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and containing an area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on Drawing No. 042 E 03 and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 93-1411 on April 23, 1999, a fee simple mortgage, first and second mortgage.

Lot No. 042 E 010, situated at 1-Denni, Saipan Municipality, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and containing an area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on Drawing No. 042 E 03 and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 93-1411 on April 23, 1993, a fee simple mortgage, first mortgage.

Lot No. 042 E 12, containing 2,500 square meters, more or less, as more particularly shown on DLS Check No. 042 E 04, a parcel split of 042 E 09, which was recorded as File No. 93-3461, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Lot No. 042 E 13, containing 2,500 square meters, more or less, as more particularly shown on DLS Check No. 042 E 04, a parcel split of 042 E 09, which was recorded as File No. 93-3461, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

NOW THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, November 24, 1999, at 10:00 A.M., at the office of the Director of Police, Department of Public Safety of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will sell at public auction, all the rights, titles, and interests of the defendants in and to the aforementioned real properties.

FURTHER NOTICE is hereby given that the terms and conditions of the sale will be as follows:

1. The right is reserved to establish minimum bids for the above-described real property. Such minimum bids is set at Five Hundred Forty-Three Thousand U.S. Dollars and NO/100 (\$543,000.00). However, the Commonwealth Development Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, for any reason.

2. It will be required that a deposit of 10% of the purchase price be paid on the day of the auction. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture of the buyer's rights, title and interest in the aforementioned property will revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

DATED, this 22nd day of October, 1999.
/s/ VICENTE I. SEMAN,
Director of Police
Department of Public Safety
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Northern Marianas College VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Vacancy Announcement No. 99-017

Position Title : COMPTROLLER

Pay Level & Step : Ungraded

Annual Salary : \$50,000.00

Location : President's Office

Opening Date: 11/03/99 Closing Date: 11/17/99

Nature of Position: The Comptroller is the financial manager of the institution and shares responsibility with other College administrators for the management and safeguarding of its assets. Working in a multi-cultural environment, the Comptroller directs the operations of the Finance Office and Procurement Office and reports to the Director of Finance and Administration.

Minimum Qualification Requirements: A bachelor's degree in accounting, finance business administration or related field and six (6) years of increasingly responsible accounting experience including the preparation of financial statements, and three (3) years of experience in supervisory capacity. Must be a Certified Public Accountant. Must be familiar with CNMI and federal tax regulations and with requirements under OMB Circular A-133.

Must be able to work independently and effectively while handling multiple tasks. Must also be able to work in an environment with diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

HOW TO APPLY: Employment Application forms are available at the Human Resources (H/R) Office of the College. Submit applications to the H/R office, together with official school transcripts, diploma or certificates, and police clearance not later than the closing date of the Announcement.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The CNMI Youth Advisory Council will hold its regular meeting as follows:

DATE : Thursday, November 18, 1999
TIME : 8:00 AM
PLACE : Pacific Gardenia Hotel, Conference Room

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
- V. OLD BUSINESS
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

Regular meetings are open to the public. All interested persons are welcome to attend. Please call the Criminal Justice Planning Agency at 664-4550-7 for more information.

/s/ Presiding Judge Edward Manibusan
Chairman, CNMI Supervisory Council

/s/ Harry C. Bianco
Executive Director, CJPA

STORE FOR SALE
GOOD LOCATION
CALL: 288-2431

APARTMENT FOR RENT
DELA CRUZ REAL ESTATE, NAVY HILL
TWO (2) BEDROOM APARTMENT
FULLY FURNISHED
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
233-1064 OR 322-1949

HOUSE FOR RENT
A Two Story, Five (5) Bedrooms,
Two (2) Bathrooms, Covered Car Garage,
Close to the Ocean with Large Yard
Located at Lower As Teo
is available for rent
Please call and leave your name and
contact number at telephone number
235-1839

LOCATION! LOCATION!
2 SELECT COMMERCIAL SPACES
FOR RENT
ON BEACH ROAD, GARAPAN,
SAIPAN.
First Floor, 1,050 sq. ft. space
and Second floor, 1,100 sq. ft.
space at \$1.10 per sq. ft.
Large parking area on site.
Call: 233-1837 or 233-0456
for information.

SPECTACULAR VIEWS
House Lots for Lease • 1,500 sq. m. lots •
Mt. Tapuchao • View Managaha Islands •
Road Access • Electricity • Water
• Payment Accepted • 54.95 year lease
Please call Lisa at Tel. 234-5684

New Management!
MYRA'S
RESTAURANT and KARAOKE LOUNGE
NOW OPEN for Business
Across TOWN HOUSE and besides PINOY EXPRESS
SERVE: BREAKFAST, LUNCH and DINNER
Tel. # 234-2720

STORE FOR RENT
FREE 1st Month rent \$475.00/mo.
(330 sqf) ideal for Flower, Barber/
Beauty, Gifts, or dried goods. Prime
Location, Beach Rd. CK 234-1233

APARTMENT FOR RENT
One Bedroom - \$295/mo.
Furnished • 24hr. Water • Cable TV • Ideal for Single
Location: As Teo - Close to Valley Inn (One unit available)
Studio Type - \$250-275/mo.
Rental includes power and water • air conditioned • has own
bathroom • 24-hour security • 24 hr. service • 24 hr. security
Location: Chalan Kanan
For inquiries call: 235-3864 or 288-1525

Interested in a career selling Avon?
Leslie Rideout, Avon District Sales
Manager will be in Saipan on
November 9. If you would like to
meet with Leslie, please call Mimi at
256-2011 to schedule an appointment

APARTMENT FOR RENT
• 2-Bdrm near Coral Ocean Point and
Koblerville Elementary School
• Fenced location, aircon in each bdrm,
refrigerator, stove, water heater
• Water, trash collection and sewer paid
• Electricity not included.
235-4341 after 5:30 p.m.

ROTA
FOR RENT OR LEASE
Retail/Commercial Building
In Song Song Village -
Good Location. \$500 per month
Call/Fax (671) 734-1213

FOR SALE
1996 HYUNDAI SONATA
This car is in excellent condition with
low miles, fully loaded & tinted.
WAS \$6,500
NOW \$6,000
Call 322-5911 leave message

LEAVING ISLAND SALE
Household Items,
Sega Genesis and Books
at good prices
Please contact Loraine or Tanya at Tel. 233-2462

MILLER ESTATES
APARTMENT FOR RENT
- 2 BEDROOM
- FULLY FURNISHED
- ONE AIRCON (18,000 BTU)
- 24 HOURS WATER
- BACK-UP GENERATOR
Contact No. 322-3793

FOR RENT
Commercial Space - \$350.00
Building For Lease
Apartment - 15 Units
Store - 3 Units
Down payment - \$30,000.00
Monthly - \$2,750.00
Location: Koblerville Call: 288-9430 (Evening) 287-9430

FOR RENT
Restaurant/Mini Mart
Apartment
CALL: 233-4378

LAND FOR LEASE
5,000 sq. m. (San Vicente area)
Can be sub-divided to 1,000 sq.m.
Call 235-1350 (Mr. Cho);
235-3207 (Mr. Lee)

Exercise, not necessarily to lose weight,
but to enhance circulation.

Marianas Variety

Classified Ads Section

Employment Wanted



PUBLIC NOTICE

All interested resident workers are urged to register at the Dept. of Labor & Immigration, Division of Employment Services for the job/s being advertised in which you are qualified and available. For further assistance, please call Alfred A. Pangelinan at Tel. 664-2078.

02 ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN-Salary: \$3.05-4.50 per hour
Contact: SAM CORPORATION dba Sam Electronics Tel. 234-5419(11/12)F33277

01 COMPUTER SPECIALIST (TECHNICIAN)-Salary: \$5.00 per hour
Contact: COMPUTER WORLD TECHNOLOGY, INC. Tel. 235-2684(11/12)F81389

01 (GENERAL) MANAGER, FOOD SERVICE-Salary: \$1,700-2,000 per month
01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: CITY CORPORATION dba CNMI Jook Restaurant Tel. 287-2878(11/12)F33258

01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: MADAN S. HEMLANI dba Lovis Emporium Tel. 234-6846(11/12)F33260

01 COOK-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour
Contact: MARGARITA R. TENORIO dba Dr. Jack's Bar & Grill Tel. 234-3021(11/12)F33261

01 STOCK CONTROL CLERK-Salary: \$3.05-3.75 per hour
Contact: UNIVERSAL GROUP DEVELOPMENT INC. dba Halan Market Tel. 235-6242(11/12)F33262

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$528.57-800.00 per month
Contact: WORLD CORPORATION Tel. 323-5686(11/12)F33263

01 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.50 per hour
Contact: MARIANAS SEASIDE DEVELOPMENT CORP. dba Bras Restaurant Tel. 234-6666(11/12)F33264

01 BAKER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: LFP CORPORATION dba Marg's Kitchen Tel. 234-3706(11/12)F33217

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.-Salary: \$3.25 per hour
Contact: SBR ENT. INC. dba Lizelle Beauty Parlor Tel. 235-4536(11/12)F33269

01 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary: \$3.25-4.50 per hour
Contact: FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY Tel. 322-9088(11/12)F33270

01 SALES CLERK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: UNI TRADE SAIPAN INC. dba Yours Video Rental Tel. 234-8772(11/5)F33185

01 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.30 per hour
Contact: EASTERN HOPE CORPORATION dba Keeraku & Rakuen Rest. Tel. 233-4242(11/5)F33165

01 X-RAY TECHNICIAN-Salary: \$5.25 per hour
01 ARCHITECTURAL DRAFTER-Salary: \$3.05-3.25 per hour
01 MANAGER (SALES AND SERVICE) STORE-Salary: \$600.00 per month
Contact: ROLANDO G. BIGALBAL dba RB Electrical & Construction/Arbes Enterprises Tel. 234-9855(11/5)F33196

01 PAINTER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 MASON-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: CARLOS N. DOWAI dba Tanapag, Builders Const. Tel. 322-3214(11/5)F33167

01 GRAPHIC ARTIST-Salary: \$3.85 per hour
Contact: YOUNIS ART STUDIO, INC. dba Marianas Variety News & Views Tel. 234-6341(11/5)F81243

02 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 AUTO ELECTRICIAN-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: SAIPAN AUTO SUPPLY CO. INC. dba Sasso Service Plus Tel. 234-8379(11/5)F33168

01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: PACIFIC ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 234-6144(11/5)F33169

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$1,000.00 per month
Contact: BEN'S INTERNATIONAL CORP. Tel. 288-2828(11/5)F33193

01 CARPET LAYER-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour
Contact: MECHILLE CORPORATION dba Tong Yang Carpet/BIF Furniture Tel. 234-1361(11/5)F81263

01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: MIDWEST TRADING CORPORATION dba Kareena's Retail Tel. 235-8752(11/5)F33200

01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
Contact: CONSTRUCTION & MATERIAL SUPPLY, INC. dba CMS, INC. Tel. 234-6136(11/5)F81256

01 DELIVERY ROUTE TRUCK DRIVER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: RAINWATER-SAIPAN, INC. dba Water Treatment Company Tel. 234-8461(11/5)F33189

01 YARD WORKER-Salary: \$3.40 per hour
Contact: SUSANA T. MAFNAS dba Traveller's Lodge Apartelle Tel. 235-5121(11/5)F33190

06 COOK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 MANAGER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: GREEN HILL CORP. dba 369 Restaurant Tel. 233-8369(11/5)F33175

01 MANAGER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: GREEN HILL CORPORATION dba 369 Noodle House Tel. 233-8369(11/5)F33176

01 SECURITY GUARD-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 SEWER (HAND)-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: MARDE DLC. PALACIOS dba Marvin's Tailoring, Janitorial & Security Services Tel. 234-2815(11/5)F33174

01 CHIEF MECHANIC-Salary: \$1,000.00-1,750.00 per month
Housing allowance \$200.00 per month
Gasoline allowance \$50.00 per month taxable.

01 SUPERVISOR, AUTOMOBILES REPAIR-Salary: \$3.05-7.45 per hour
Housing allowance \$200.00 per month
Gasoline allowance \$50.00 per month taxable.
Contact: STS ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 235-3760(11/5)F33182

01 GAS ATTENDANT-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: C.O.L.T. INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION dba Mobil Middle Road Tel. 233-5275(11/5)F33179

01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: ANAKS, INC. dba The Fun Shop Tel. 233-0385(11/5)F33180

01 WAREHOUSE WORKER-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
Experience & trained w/hazardous materials, waste operation & emergency response.
Contact: MOBIL OIL MARIANA ISLANDS, INC. Tel. 322-9453(11/5)F33181

02 SECURITY GUARD-Salary: \$3.05-3.25 per hour
Contact: SABLAN ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 234-1558(11/5)F33183

02 STORE (SUPERVISOR) MANAGER-Salary: \$3.05-3.75 per hour
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$800.00-1,000.00 per month
01 CASHIER-Salary: \$3.05-3.75 per hour
01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: EVERTRUST CORPORATION dba 123 Discount Store Tel. 233-4242(11/5)F33164

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: CYBERLAND INTERNET CLUB Tel. 235-3068(11/5)F33166

05 ATTENDANT, ARCADE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: LUIS P. & MARIA S. CRISTOSTOMO Tel. 235-5847(11/19)F33368

01 FRONT DESK CLERK-Salary: \$3.05-3.25 per hour
02 WAITER/WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour
02 GROUNDS GARDENER-Salary: \$3.05-3.25 per hour
Contact: MICRONESIA SYSTEMS, INC. dba Plumeria Resort Tel. 322-6201(11/19)F33369

03 SUPERVISOR (AVIATION REFUELLER)-Salary: \$3.05-6.50 per hour
Experienced & trained w/ hazardous materials, waste operation & emergency response.
Contact: MOBIL OIL MARIANA ISLANDS, INC. Tel. 234-7796(11/19)F33366

01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05-3.15 per hour
Contact: M.S. VILLAGOMEZ INCORPORATED Tel. 234-6108(11/19)F81484

02 SECURITY GUARDS-Salary: \$3.05-3.45 per hour
03 COOK-Salary: \$3.05-4.00 per hour
Contact: DIAMOND HOTEL CO., LTD. dba Saipan Diamond Hotel Tel. 234-5900(11/19)F81475

01 CONSTRUCTION WORKER-Salary: \$3.05-3.15 per hour
Contact: LUIS TAIMANAO CAMACHO FEED STORE CORP. dba L.T. Camacho Feed Store Corp. Tel. 234-7497(11/19)F33366

01 OPERATIONS, ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05-4.30 per hour
Contact: MICHIGAN, INC. Tel. 234-9555(11/19)F33360

03 MACHINE OPERATOR (CONTINUOUS FORM)-Salary: \$3.05-3.20 per hour
03 COOK-Salary: \$4.00 per hour
01 OPERATION MANAGER-Salary: \$3.50 per hour
02 WAITER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
12 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
Contact: MARIANA CORP. INC. dba Beach Garden Rest. Tel. 236-4021(11/19)F33354

01 SUPERVISOR, RESTAURANT-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour
Contact: EASTERN HOPE CORPORATION dba Keeraku & Rakuen Rest. Tel. 233-4242(11/19)F33359

Pacific Security Alarm, Inc.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- Security/Fire Alarm Installer
- Sales Consultant

Knowledge of electronics a must. Salary based on experience.

Apply in person at
PSA Office
As Lito Road, Koberville
Tel. # 234-5626

SAVE WATER

DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication

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

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIA H. REYES
Plaintiff,
VICENTE AGUON REYES
Defendant.

SUMMONS

TO: VICENTE AGUON REYES

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file with the Clerk of Court for the CNMI Superior Court, any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. Thereafter, you are required to serve a copy of your filed Answer upon the Law Offices of Timothy H. Skinner, whose address is Post Office Box 5588 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with the Summons, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated this 20th day of August, 1998.

/s/ JOVITA C. FLORES
Clerk of Court

IMMEDIATE HIRING: OUTSIDE PARTS SALESPERSON

- Local hire only.
- Sales ability preferred.
- Automotive parts knowledge necessary.
- Must have police clearance and valid CNMI driver's license.

Package benefits include Basic Salary & Commission, Medical Insurance, 401-K Retirement Plan, Paid Vacation and Sick Leave.

Last day to apply is November 6, 1999, not later than 4:30 P.M.

For more information, please contact:

MR. NOEL TAIACAN

or

MS. LYNN E. DANCOR

TRIPLE J SAIPAN, INC.
DISTRIBUTORS • REPRESENTATIVES • CONSULTANTS
2nd Floor, Triple J Auto Care Center
Middle Road, Gualo Rai • Tel. Nos. 234-1795 / 235-7180

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: 10/25/99 Closing Date: 11/15/99

Position: Park Operations Clerk, Park Operations Assistant
GS-0303-05/06 Promotional Potential: GS-07

Salary: \$20,588 per year - \$33,151 Annual

Announcement Number: WRO-99-145-MPP; WRO-99-145-DEU

Duty Location: AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK, SAIPAN

Area of Consideration: Federal Governmentwide/All Qualified Persons

For more information, see the U.S. Office of Personnel Management Web site at www.usajobs.opm.gov, or contact Sha Ervin, American Memorial Park, (670) 234-7207 for copies of vacancy announcements.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Quiet Two (2) Bedrooms • Three (3) Bedrooms • Swimming Pool Tennis Court

KANNAT GARDENS
(NEAR NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE)

235-5686 (8:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Weekdays) 235-9630, 234-3849 (6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, Everyday including Sat. & Sun.)

REDUCED TO SELL!!

STATESIDE-STYLE HOME w/ fenced yard; 4Bdrm/2Bath, 2-Car Enclosed Garage, Central A/C with all major appliances, Gas stove/water heater, 2000 gallon rainwater reserve, Best water pressure on Saipan! Oceanview and Breeze, Quiet, Friendly Neighborhood, Owner Financing, Available December \$175,000 USD
Pls. call 233-3990 for appointment.

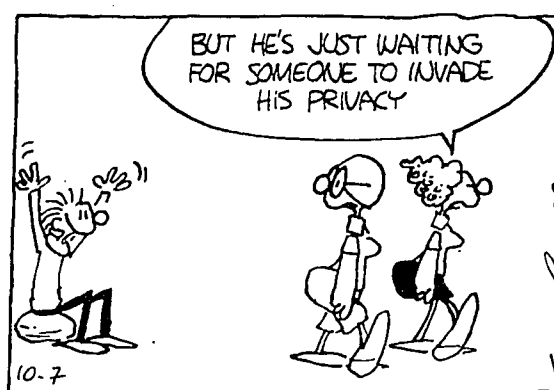
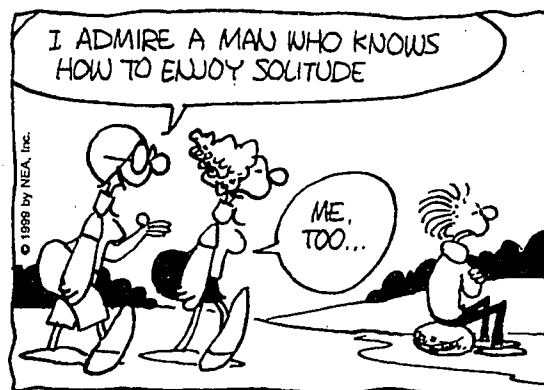
LA LUZ SAIPAN CONDOMINIUM

Now offering Affordable Rates!

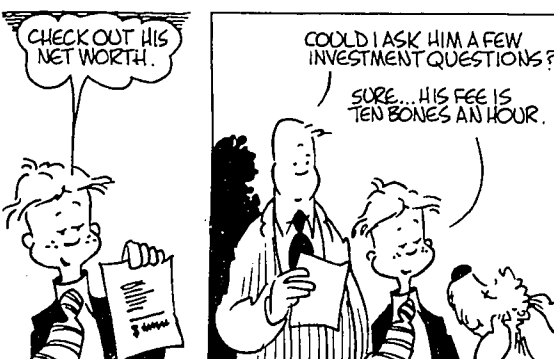
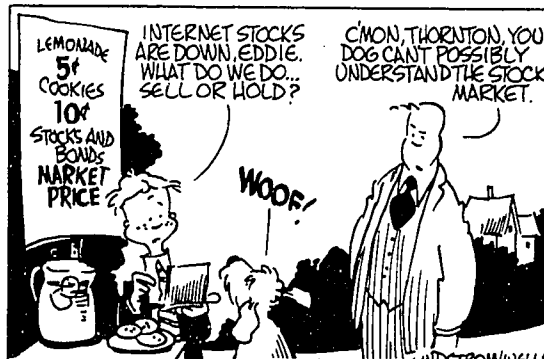
- Fully furnished spacious studio-type and 2bedroom units
- Security guard and housekeeping services
- 24 hour back-up generator, coin-operated laundry facilities
- Individual water heater, swimming pool and barbecue area
- Accepts long term rental w/ full maintenance
- Short term rental available @ \$30.00/day including tax

Location: Lower Navy Hill, Saipan
Tel. Nos. 322-2406/323-2406

EEK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

BORN today, you must be prepared to face more than your share of criticism, particularly in the professional arena. You are destined to ask of others, time and again, that they abandon the ideas of the past and work instead toward a new goal. This agenda may actually be quite threatening to those who don't wish to work as hard as you do each and every day. It will take a great deal of strength and even more emotional stability to be you, but you have both of these traits in abundance, and you will feel quite centered more often than not.

You have a great deal of sex appeal, and though success in love may prove elusive to you for a time, it won't be for want of trying! Indeed, you may gain a reputation as something of a heartbreaker before you finally settle down with that one person who can bring you a real happiness.

Also born on this date are: Tatum O'Neal, actress; Vivien Leigh, actress; Art Garfunkel, singer; Roy Rogers, cowboy, singer, and actor.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

— Your innovative approach today may threaten some, but most will recognize that you've got something going and will want to join you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You may have to "start over" in some respect today, but later on you'll discover that you're completely caught up and can now move forward.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Take advantage of a social occasion today to announce a new plan. You'll cause quite a stir when you reveal all your secrets.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — The news you receive today is neither good nor bad. Your own perspective, combined with your expectations, will make all the difference at this time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — You can afford to take things a little more seriously at this time. Certain people are eager for you to become more involved.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You may not be able to secure permission for doing something that has been on your mind for some time. You'll have to change your plans.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

— You mustn't wait too long today before responding to a surprising piece of correspondence. Open the doors of communication very wide at this time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You're too quick to think about what's coming next, when you haven't really put the finishing touches on what you're doing right now.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — A combustible situation can be eased, provided you are willing to admit to a mistake early in the day. You mustn't be stubborn or selfish.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Someone may be asking more from you today than you had anticipated, but you are able to come through regardless. Don't complain!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Something legendary is likely to have a major impact on you today, though there may be many questions to answer before the mystery is solved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Take care that you're not too eager to get back on your feet today after a period of rest or recovery. There's no reason to be hasty.

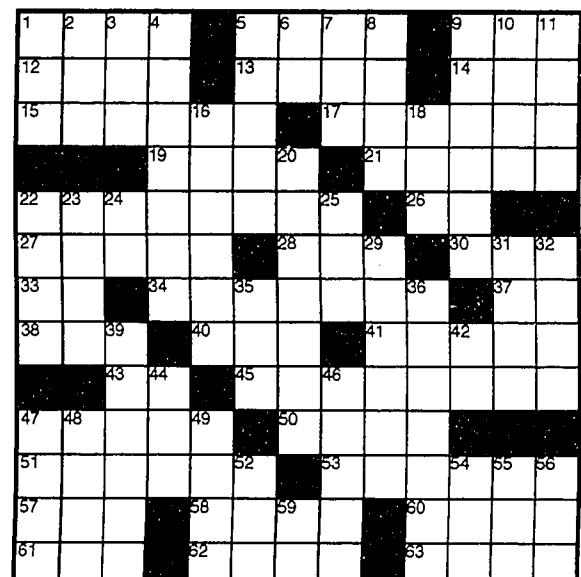
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 — Pound
- 2 Fish eggs
- 3 Prefix with second
- 4 Earth (comb. form)
- 5 To give back
- 6 Result
- 7 Roman
- 8 Shooting-range cry
- 9 Hall or Byrnes
- 10 Elevator name
- 11 Long, heroic poem
- 12 In addition
- 13 Article
- 14 J-M linkup
- 15 — Hammerstein
- 16 Expression of pain
- 17 — de Cologne
- 18 And not
- 19 Scow
- 20 Negative

DOWN

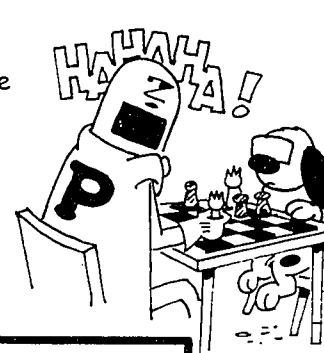
- 1 Make a mistake
- 2 A Caldwell
- 3 Game official, for short
- 4 Apart
- 5 — Previn
- 6 Sun god
- 7 Wildebeest
- 8 Fumbler's exclamation
- 9 Horrified
- 10 Unskilled laborer
- 11 Decays
- 12 Man's name
- 13 H.S. course
- 14 Became too big for
- 15 Cook in the oven
- 16 W. Coast coll.
- 17 Between Vt. and Me.
- 18 Decays
- 19 Man's name
- 20 Planets' paths
- 21 Pigs
- 22 Female sheep
- 23 Female deer
- 24 Capital of New Mexico (2 wds.)
- 25 States
- 26 Concerning
- 27 Fall mo.
- 28 Tears down
- 29 Expression of joy
- 30 Lend a —
- 31 One who is idolized
- 32 Prepare flax
- 33 — code
- 34 Full-house (abbr.)
- 35 DDE opponent
- 36 Nickel symbol



KidSpot™ by Dick Rogers

THE PUZZLER

My pooch likes to challenge me to a game of chess. To learn why he's not all that smart, cross out all the A's and B's in the grid. Read the left-over letters.

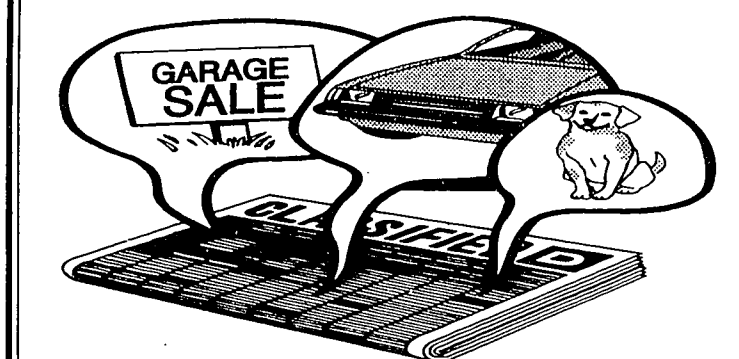


A I B A W I A N
M O B A S T B A
O F A B T H B E
B A T I B M A E

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Marianas Variety

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House. . .

Continued from page 1

with. Tenorio said there should not be another two years of a Republican-dominated Legislature if the economy is to rebound.

Like the Democrats, Tenorio

has attributed his party's "good" chances of success to the current economic crisis.

"It's the economy, dam it," he said.

Tenorio, who is eyeing the 2001 gubernatorial race, has earlier said his plans to run depends largely on the results of Saturday's elections.

Democrats. . .

Continued from page 1

"strong" throughout all the four Saipan precincts but is coming "strongest" on precinct one where there biggest number of voters are—an estimated 5,000 of them.

He said at least five Democrats will make it in precinct one, three in precinct three. Jones, who represents precinct four, said he is confident he will be "returning to the House."

"(We) are united. We are going out, reaching to the grassroots. We may not have the money to appear on TV but the house-to-house is doing good. We are picking up," said Jones.

Jones said the Democrats will immediately work on two general framework of public service if they happen to turn the table against the Republicans: developing human resources and conserving natural resources.

Martinez. . .

Continued from page 72

won the AL wild-card and upset Cleveland in the first round of the playoffs before losing to the New York Yankees.

When he strained a back muscle and left in the fourth inning of Boston's postseason opener, Cleveland rallied to win.

But the Red Sox came back to win the series 3-2, with Martinez pitching six hitless innings in Game 5. He entered in the fourth inning with the score 8-8, and the Red Sox went on to win 12-8.

"Once I got in, that's all I needed. I wouldn't come out," Martinez said then. "I wasn't going to let go. I wasn't going to."

Martinez then beat Roger

Clemens 12-1 in Game 3 of the AL Championship Series, the only loss for the Yankees in their last 19 postseason games. Martinez struck out 12 in seven shutout innings, a Boston record for the postseason.

He didn't allow a runner past first in his final 14 1-3 playoffs innings, with hitters going 2-for-45 (.044) against him with two singles, five walks and 22 strikeouts.

And because of the back injury, he was pitching without his best fastball.

"I'm hurting in every pitch I throw," he said. "But it doesn't matter how much I hurt. If I can throw the ball over, and get one out and get the team to win a game, I'm going to do it. That's what I'm here for."

Cavaliers. . . Continued from page 72

DeClercq sealed the win with a dunk for Cleveland.

Sura, who has been booed mercilessly at home the past two seasons by Cavs fans unhappy with his play and long contract, scored 9 points in a 17-1 run that helped Cleveland open a 69-54 lead with 3:27 left in the third quarter.

But with Marbury on the bench, the Nets rallied and cut it to 80-77 with 6:26 left in the game on two free throws by Van Horn.

Despite making just one of their first 16 shots from the floor and 4 of 21 in the second quarter, the Nets trailed by only 46-41 at halftime.

Marbury, who attempted 34 shots on Tuesday night, was 1-for-10 from the field before hitting two straight jumpers and scoring six straight points during an 8-0 run late in the half that brought New Jersey within 42-39.

Notes: Sura, a notoriously poor free-throw shooter, went 8-for-8 from the line. . . Cavs rookie Andre Miller added 7 points and seven assists in 21 minutes. . . Marbury scored 13 of his points on free throws. . . Cavs forward Danny Ferry played in his 662nd game for Cleveland, moving him into second place on the club's career list. Only Bobby "Bingo" Smith (720) has played in more games. . . Several members of the Cleveland Browns, including running back Terry Kirby and safety Corey Fuller, attended the game.

You can avoid accident, if you... Drive Safely



Voters. . .

Continued from page 1

wealth Constitution.

It seeks to amend Article XVIII, Section 5 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

Offered by Senate Pres. Thomas P. Villagomez and Sens. Ricardo S. Atalig and Juan P. Tenorio, SLI 11-1 has been a subject of debate among concerned CNMI residents.

Marian Aldan-Pierce, for example, is urging voters not to take action on SLI 11-1, saying if a local family is determined by the Board of Elections not of NMI descent, the decision could lead to the immediate forfeiture of their land to the government under Article XII. Moreover, she said it is not an easy task for the government to determine which voters are of Northern Marianas descent and which are not.

Senate Legislative Initiative 11-4, meanwhile, proposes to establish an office of finance within the Legislative Bureau to control and regulate the expenditure of public funds by the Legislative Branch, thereby amending Article II, Section 17 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

SLI 11-4 also seeks to amend Article IV, Section 9 of the Commonwealth Constitution by establishing an office of finance within the Judicial Branch to control and regulate the expenditure of public funds by the Judicial Branch.

The said legislative initiative also seeks to remove the Department of Finance's control and regulation of public funds appropriated to the Legislative Branch and Judicial Branch, thereby amending Article X, Section 8 of the Commonwealth

Constitution.

The Judge's Retention Initiative, meanwhile, asks voters whether Judge Timothy H. Bellas of the Superior Court be retained in office or not.

Under a Constitutional amendment ratified in the November 1997 elections, the question of whether CNMI justices or judges will be retained shall be put to a vote at a general election immediately before the end of that justice or judge's initial term of office.

Bellas, whose term as judge expires on year 2001, is seeking to serve another six-year term on the bench as a trial judge.

The Tinian Popular Initiative seeks to ask voters whether they approve the proposed local law entitled "Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Act of 1989."

Among the provisions of the proposed local law is a two-term limit to the commissioner of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission, as opposed to the current one-term limit.

This initiative will be voted upon by Tinian registered voters only.

The Rota Local Initiative, meanwhile, gauges registered Rota voters' approval on the establishment, regulation and control of casino gambling in Rota.

Under the proposed local law cited as the Rota Casino Act, a Rota Casino Administration (RCA) will be established within the Office of the Mayor of Rota. The RCA will be having the general responsibility for the implementation of the Act, among others.

This initiative will be voted upon by registered Rota voters.

But while there are a total of five legislative initiatives up for vote, there seemed to be a lack of public information on

them, a concern shared by the Board of Elections itself.

Gregorio Sablan, Board of Elections executive director, yesterday disclosed BOE's earlier plans of educating the public on the legislative initiatives. Due to existing laws, and lack of manpower and funding, he said BOE could only do so much.

"Earlier on in the year, I look at the law and I would have liked to take the position and promote public education but my office is made out of five staff. I don't have the resource. . . I tried to announce as much as possible that there are initiatives. That's the best I could do. . . And I don't know if I am authorized by law to conduct a public education," said Sablan.

Sablan also said BOE is not in a position to urge voters whether to vote "yes" or "no" on any of the legislative initiatives. He also said if registered voters are unaware of the initiatives, they have the option of leaving the initiative ballots blank.

"I am not taking in position; I am only asking the people to come and cast their vote. . . If they don't know, then they leave it blank, and if they don't know (and) they vote yes, that's their choice. My job is to make sure the ballots are there for them to cast their votes," said Sablan.

The CNMI-wide legislative initiatives need majority of the votes cast by registered voters. Failure to get a majority vote will result in the natural death of the initiatives.

For the local Rota and Tinian initiatives, meanwhile, 2/3 of the qualified voters are needed for them to be passed.

acting laws geared towards providing employment opportunities to local U.S. citizens and a gradual end to its dependence on foreign labor.

The Republican-led Legislature, for its part, passed bills meant to revive the ailing economy, including one proposing to create a free trade zone on Saipan.

It however failed to pass a sound budget for the current fiscal year.

Nonetheless, the party may be credited for the law allowing the Commonwealth Development Authority to float a total of \$60 million in bonds to match federal money for capital improvement projects.

Observers predict the Northern Marianas will be in for a construction boom once the CIP starts rolling in, expected by the first quarter of next year.

candidate from Rota, Glenn H. Manglona, running against the incumbent Senate president.

At the Republican-dominated House of Representatives, some 41 candidates are slugging it out for the 18 seats open.

The incumbent party fielded 18 of them, mostly incumbents. The Reform Party has seven candidates, including former Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Anicia Q. Tomokane, while the Democrats has 12.

There are also at least four candidates running as independents, including former Lands and Natural Resources secretary Benigno M. Sablan, whose ticket with former Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja lost to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan in the November 1997 gubernatorial

elections.

There are 16 candidates for the municipal councils and four for the Board of Education.

Voters will also decide on at least two Senate Legislative Initiatives — SLIs 11-1 and 11-4. Those on Tinian and Rota has respective local popular initiatives to vote on too.

Bellas's retention now depends on the ballots. A Constitutional amendment ratified in the November 1997 elections mandates that retention of judges will put to a vote at a general election immediately before the end of that judge's or justice's initial term of office. Bellas term expires on 2001.

Opposition to the amendment has repeatedly warned that subjecting a judge's term to an election politicizes the judiciary.

NBA returns to Japan

TOKYO (AP) — NBA rebound champion Chris Webber is hoping to capitalize on the home team advantage when the Sacramento Kings open their season against the Minnesota Timberwolves this weekend.

Nevermind that the home venue is the Tokyo Dome.

"Maybe the referees will treat us like a home team," Webber said Thursday after the Kings held their first practice here.

"Maybe the crowd will root like a home team crowd."

The Kings and Timberwolves arrived in Tokyo Wednesday for a pair of games Saturday and Sunday. The Kings have been designated the home team for the first game, and the Timberwolves for the game Sunday.

The NBA has sent teams to Japan every two years since the Phoenix Suns and Utah Jazz opened their 1990 season with a pair of games in Tokyo.

The games have proven popular with the Japanese fans, and in 1996 were moved to the Tokyo Dome, where the New Jersey Nets and Orlando Magic played to capacity crowds of nearly 40,000.

Full houses are expected for both games, and if the players can get over their jet lag, this weekend's event could offer Japan's growing legion of basketball fans a high-scoring, flashy match up.

Minnesota won three of the four games the teams played against each other last season. Led by Kevin Garnett, one of the most

versatile players in the league, the Timberwolves are seen as a strong playoff contender.

Garnett said he was still a bit tired from the trip, but expected to be ready for the games.

"I don't see it as a problem, but who knows," he said.

But if the Kings can live up to their reputation for energy and speed — and hit the 100-point

mark — they may steal the show.

Sacramento was the only team in the NBA last season to average 100 points a game, and went 23-5 for the games in which they scored over 100 points. Webber, the team's leading scorer with a 20-point per game average, led the NBA in rebounds with 13 per game.

"We practiced well today (Thursday)," coach Rick Adelman

said. "I don't think there is an advantage. Both teams had to come a long way to get here. I think you just have to adjust."

The San Antonio Spurs were originally scheduled to play the Timberwolves, but as the reigning NBA champions the Spurs were obliged to go to Milan for the McDonald's Championship instead.

Yankees' Cone files for free agency

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Right-hander David Cone, who pitched a perfect game this season and was a starter on all three of the New York Yankees World Series winners this decade, was one of five players who filed for free agency Wednesday.

Also filing were relievers Greg McMichael of the Oakland Athletics and Jim Corsi of the Baltimore Orioles, Toronto Blue Jays outfielder Brian McRae and veteran right-hander Dwight Gooden, who was forced to declare himself a free agent after the Cleveland Indians decided not to exercise their option on him for the 2000 season.

Cone, who allowed the Atlanta Braves just one hit in seven innings in winning Game 2 of the World Series, has already expressed a desire to return to the defending champions and is seeking a two-year contract.

The 36-year-old Cone went 12-9 with a 3.44 ERA in 31 starts in 1999 and pitched a perfect game on July 18 against the Montreal Expos. He struggled after the perfect game but bounced back in October, winning his two postseason starts.

Since coming to the Yankees in a trade with Toronto during the 1995 season, the crafty 13-year veteran is 60-26 and has helped the Yanks win championships in 1996, 1998 and 1999. Cone, who has also pitched for the New York Mets and Kansas City Royals, won the 1994 American League Cy Young Award.

A total of 80 players have filed for free agency since the declaration period began last week, including Mets first basemen John Olerud, Cincinnati Reds slugger Greg Vaughn and Indians closer Mike Jackson.

Agassi gets No. 1 ranking

PARIS (AP) — Pete Sampras injured his back and withdrew from the Paris Open today as Andre Agassi clinched the year-end No. 1 ranking for the first time.

Agassi, who was ranked 141st in the world nearly two years ago, becomes the 10th player to finish the year No. 1 since the rankings began in 1973.

Winner of the French and U.S. Opens and a finalist at Wimbledon, Agassi clinched the ranking when Sampras pulled out of the Paris Open and Yevgeny Kafelnikov lost his second-round match at the indoor tournament.

Sampras, playing his first match since Aug. 20, when he hurt his right hip during a match at Indianapolis, beat Francisco Clavet 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4) Tuesday night. Kafelnikov lost to Lleyton Hewitt 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

Sampras wouldn't speculate

on how long the back spasms will sideline him, although tournament physician Per Bastholt said he would be out 10-15 days.

Sampras said the injury isn't as serious as the one just before the U.S. Open.

"The spasm is bad enough to stop me playing, but not so serious as the disc injury," he said. Sampras had finished No. 1 for a record six straight seasons. He is ranked No. 3, trailing No. 1 Agassi and No. 2 Kafelnikov.

Sampras wants to play in the ATP World Championship in Hanover, Germany, starting Nov. 22.

"I haven't made any decisions," he said. "I will go home and play it by ear, but the World Championship is a huge event and I will do whatever I can to play. But my health is my job."

Sampras, who isn't assured a place in the World Champion-

ship even if fit, began to worry about his back during the middle of the second set.

"My left side got tighter and tighter. I felt it get worse and there was a complete spasm," he said.

Sampras, who herniated a disc Aug. 29 while practicing for the U.S. Open, clutched his back after a smash during the third set.

"I hit an overhead and felt it stabbing me. It was quite a scary feeling, but I knew it was muscular and not the disc," he said. "When I got back to my hotel I had a hard time even getting around my room. Last night and this morning I reached the point of no return."

Sampras, a two-time champion of this tournament, said he considered defaulting against Clavet.

"But in a competition I have a lot of pride," he said.

Tiger vs. World in Tour finale

SOTOGRADE, Spain (AP)

— Along the winding Mediterranean coast toward Valderrama are several billboards of a larger-than-life photo of Tiger Woods, eyes peering down as he invites one and all to meet him for the final World Golf Championship event.

That's about what it comes down to this week.

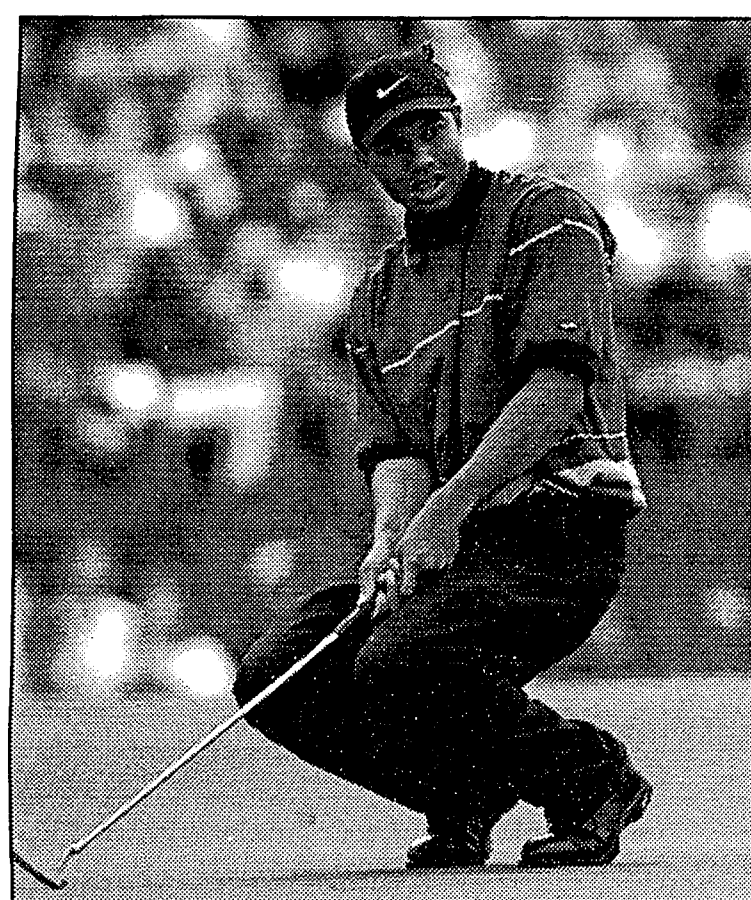
The American Express Championship, which begins Thursday on the course where Woods had the greatest setback of his career, is more of a world challenge than a world championship.

Even in a field of 62 top players from the five major PGA Tours around the globe, the challenge has never been so succinct.

Can anyone beat Woods?

Recent history suggests otherwise. Since winning the last WGC event in August, Woods has played only two tournaments and won them both, including a four-stroke margin last week in the Tour Championship against the 28 top money-winners on the PGA Tour.

A victory this week at Valderrama Golf Club would make him the first player since Ben Hogan in 1953 to win four straight tournaments, and the first to win eight PGA Tour-san-



Tiger Woods, of Windermere, Fla., reacts after missing a birdie putt on the 17th hole during the final round of the Tour Championship in Houston. AP

tioned events in one season since Johnny Miller in 1974.

If the pressure is mounting, Woods seems impervious to it.

"I go to every tournament to try to win, regardless of what

the expectation of the public is," Woods said. "And this year, I've done a pretty good job of accomplishing my goals. Hopefully, this week I can do it again."

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SPORTS

WBC title fight on Guam a 'brawl'

Variety News Staff

TOMORROW's World Boxing Council (WBC) minimum-weight title fight between Juanito Rubillar of the Philippines and Nico Tomas of Indonesia is expected to be an old-fashioned brawl and "slambang" affair which will entertain the crowd no end.

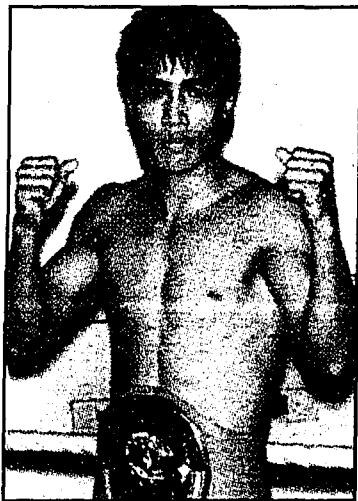
According to promoter Gabriel Elorde Jr., both fighters are brawlers who prefer to slug it out in the ring.

Rubillar is the reigning WBC minimum-weight international champion while Tomas was a former International Boxing Federation (IBF) champion.

"I met Nico in Japan where he won a match by knockout in two rounds. He said he will knock out Juanito in less than five rounds. Juanito knows about this and said he is prepared for a slugfest," Elorde said.

Although Rubillar is cagey about revealing his strategy, Elorde said the Filipino champion is fond of going for the kill early in his fights.

In the Philippines, Elorde said the fight has gained keen interest and many Filipinos are hoping that



WBC minimum-weight champion Juanito Rubillar will defend his title tomorrow at the UOG Fieldhouse.

Rubillar will retain his title.

Another interesting thing about the fight is the fact that Tomas is a right-hander while Rubillar is a southpaw. Elorde said fights of this nature are always exciting and never predictable.

"It's anybody's game. I think it will come down to conditioning because both are talented fighters," Elorde said.

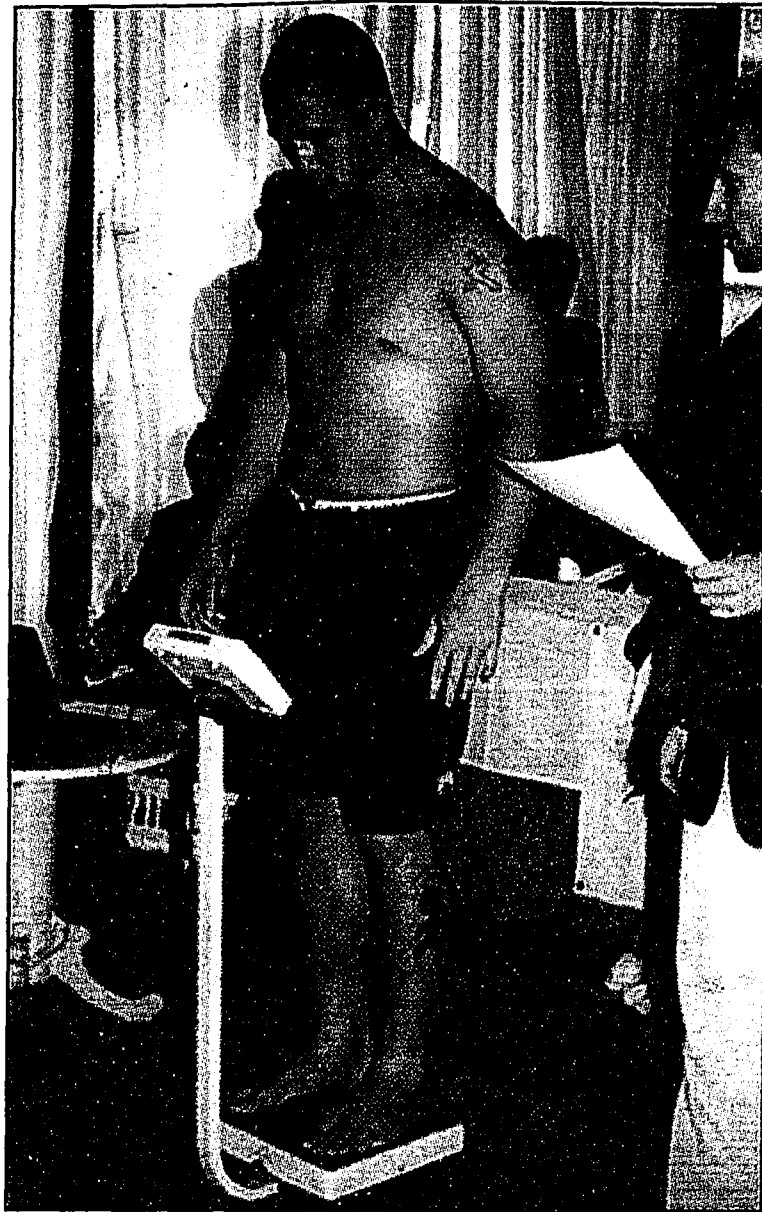
The other fights in the undercard are also expected to be crowd-pleasers, Elorde added. "The fight of Guam fighter Phil Charlson should be especially exciting because his Korean opponent is a former Korean champion," Elorde said.

Andy Padilla of the Binalonan Association of Guam, the co-organizer of the fight, said the matches should place Guam on the boxing map once more. He said the fight marks the first time that Guam will have a world title fight in 10 years.

"We hope this fight will stimulate boxing on Guam. This will be good for our youth and our boxers. We hope Guam can be the venue for more boxing matches in the future," Padilla said.

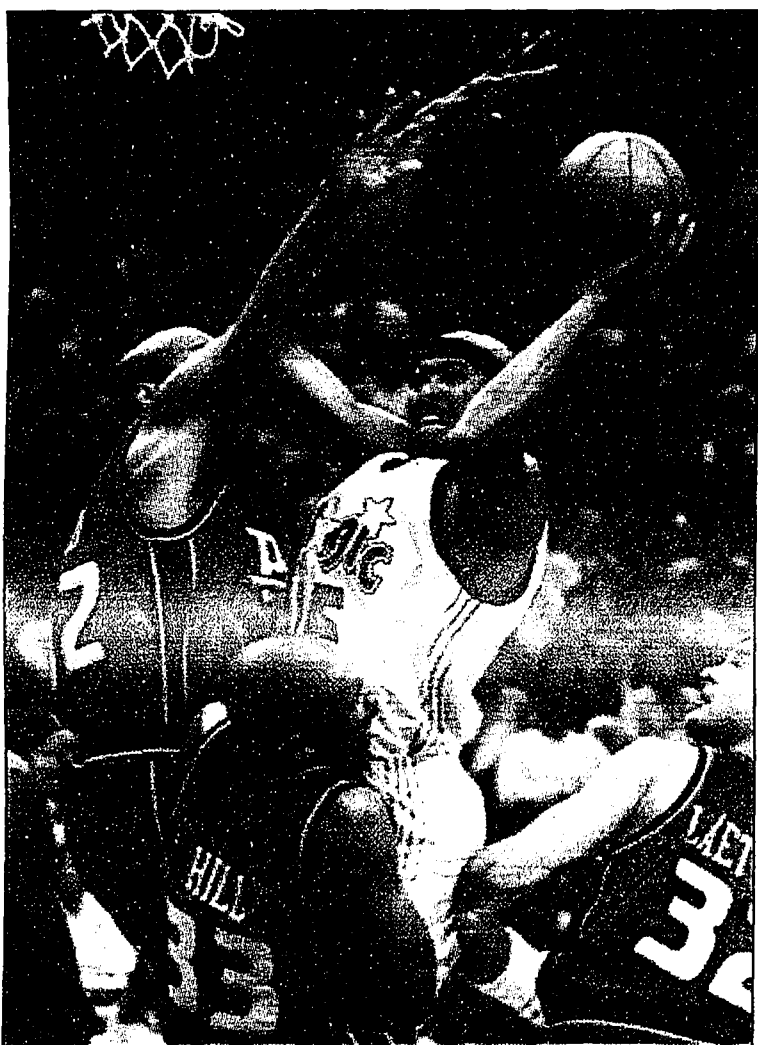
Tickets for Saturday night's fights at the University of Guam Fieldhouse are available at National Office Supply, Rambies restaurants, Johndel Supermart, Bridgestone Pacific Tire, PIA Marine, and Gold's Gym.

Tickets are priced at \$20 for general admission, \$50 for reserved seats, and \$100 for VIP seats.



Local favorite "Big" John Calvo tipped the scale at 240 pounds during the official weigh-in at the Onward Agana Beach Hotel. Calvo will meet Mark Huetson of Alabama in tonight's XIV Superbrawl at the UOG Fieldhouse. Ten matches are scheduled for the event.

Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza



Orlando Magic forward Chris Gatling (center) puts up a shot over Detroit Pistons defenders Don Reid (left) Grant Hill (33), and Christian Laettner (32) during the first quarter Wednesday night at the Orlando Arena in Orlando, Fla. AP

Cavaliers stop Nets, 97-90

CLEVELAND (AP)—Shawn Kemp had 27 points and 15 rebounds, and Brevin Knight added 16 points Wednesday night as the Cleveland Cavaliers won their home opener, 97-90 over the New Jersey Nets.

Kemp, who carried the Cavs last year when center Zydrunas Ilgauskas went down with a season-ending injury, once again did it all as Cleveland made it a winning home debut for first-year coach Randy Wittman.

Stephon Marbury led the Nets with 27 points, but shot just 7-



for-25 from the floor and had six turnovers and just one assist. Keith Van Horn added 20 points and Jamie Feick had 13 rebounds for New Jersey, which shot just 34 percent from the field.

Andrew DeClercq had 12 points and nine rebounds and Bob Sura added 13 points for Cleveland, which has won six straight and 12 of 13 over New Jersey.

Wesley Person's 3-pointer with

5:53 left gave the Cavs an 83-77 lead before Marbury brought the Nets back by scoring 11 straight points to bring New Jersey within 87-86 with 3:03 left.

Knight's baseline jumper with 1:58 remaining gave Cleveland a 91-88 lead, and after Marbury was called for a charging foul on New Jersey's next possession, Kemp grabbed a rebound in traffic and was fouled.

He made both free throws to put the Cavs up by five points, and after another Marbury miss,

Continued on page 70

Martinez picked as player of the year

NEW YORK (AP)—Pedro Martinez overwhelmingly won The Associated Press Major League Player of the Year award Wednesday after a dominating season that saw him lead the big leagues in wins and ERA.

The Boston Red Sox pitcher received 56 votes in nationwide balloting by sports writers and



broadcasters. The second-place finisher, Atlanta third baseman Chipper Jones, got just 14 votes - one-fourth the total that Martinez received.

Cleveland outfielder Manny Ramirez was the only other player to reach double digits, getting 12 votes.

Martinez, a 28-year-old right-hander, was in his native Dominican Republic and was not immediately available for comment.

He became the first Boston player to win the award, going 23-4 with a 2.07 ERA in 31 starts and striking out a league-leading 313 batters in 213 1-3 innings.

He is only the second pitcher to win the award, which began in 1988, joining Atlanta's Greg Maddux, the 1995 winner.

Martinez, traded from Montreal to Boston in November 1997, was the anchor of the Red Sox, who

Continued on page 70

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