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'Garment scam' bared

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

THE DEPARTMENT of Labor and Immigration yesterday arrested at least seven alleged overstaying and illegally employed Asian nationals found doing subcontracted jobs at an "underground" factory in As Lito.

The arrests, said DOLI Secretary Thomas O. Sablan, bolstered suspicion that a number of garment firms has opted to farm-out jobs to illegal aliens instead of directly hiring them and risk being fined for violating labor and immigration laws.

Spinning-off certain production phases to illegal aliens working in nondescript residen-

Illegal aliens found working in 'underground' factories



Thomas O. Sablan

tial places situated away from main road arteries, Sablan added, came supposedly as a

consequence of "routine checks" being done by labor and immigration operatives.

Such inspections, he claimed, have thus far netted 60 such foreigners.

"I believe this is a new scam," Sablan said.

"In this method, undocumented workers do the cutting of materials which are then transported to the factory," he

explained.

"Since we periodically check illegal aliens in the garments sector, factory owners must have thought it is better for them to let these workers do the job outside," he further said.

"That way, the factory's operation is not jeopardized nor are they being imposed penalties for hiring these workers," he stressed.

Sablan said the arrests have triggered an ongoing probe meant to determine the extent to which this practice is being observed by garment firm owners.

"We're still trying to get the source," he said.

Six of the arrested foreigners are female Chinese nationals, the seventh is a male Thailander.

DOLI, Sablan said, is now processing these foreigners' papers for immediate deportation.

Ash Wednesday marks start of Lenten season

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

"THOU art dust and unto dust thou shalt return."

This is the reminder that priests and lay ministers will utter today, Ash Wednesday, when they place blessed ashes on the faithfuls' foreheads in Catholic church rituals.

Ash Wednesday signals the start of the Lent season which precedes Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday this year falls on March 30.

The placing of ash on the forehead symbolizes death and sor-

row for sin.

For Catholics, who constitute the majority of CNMI local residents, today is a day of fasting and abstinence.

The Church prescribes and observes fasting and abstinence only twice during the calendar year, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. But on all Fridays of the Lent season, abstinence is required.

Abstinence means faithfuls should refrain from eating meat. Faithfuls aged 14 and up are bound to follow the Church law

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Bishop Tomas Camacho (center) leads prayers during blessing rites for the Saipan portion of MTC's fiber optic cable laid down off Aguingan Point yesterday. Others in photo are (from left) MTC General Manager Del E. Jenkins, MTC External Affairs Manager Vic Borja and Speaker Diego T. Benavente. Photo by Rick Alberto

MTC completes cable job

Jenkins says he welcomes competitors

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

MICRONESIAN Telecommunications Corp. completed laying yesterday the third and final leg of its undersea fiber-optic cable

stretching all the way from Guam to Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

The cable landed on Saipan's Agingan Beach near the Coral Ocean Point shortly before noon.

The Tinian-Saipan cable laying was preceded by the Guam-Rota and Rota-Tinian cable layings.

MTC General Manager Del E. Jenkins, meanwhile, welcomed the entry of more firms desiring to install undersea fiber-optic cable in the CNMI.

Jenkins reacted to the published report the other day that GST had expressed a renewed interest in laying a cable to Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

"As we stated all along, competition is good. We welcome competition in the marketplace. I think it's certainly good for the consumers. It helps us provide the best quality and lowest price avail-



Del E. Jenkins

able," Jenkins said.

Yesterday's cable-landing ceremony at Agingan Beach was attended by Speaker Diego Benavente and Rep. Pete Reyes and MTC officials. Chalan Kanoa Bishop Tomas Camacho also conducted a blessing rite.

The cable has the capacity to carry 192,000 long-distance voice
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Borja writes Murkowski on S.210:

'Compacts do not apply in the NMI'

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

ACTING Gov. Jesus C. Borja has told a U.S. senator that the CNMI "strongly objects" to a U.S. Senate bill that may be read as allowing Freely Associated States citizens free access into the Commonwealth.

Borja, in a Feb. 6 letter to U.S. Sen. Frank H. Murkowski (R-Alaska), said the CNMI does not consider the Compacts of Free Association as applying to the Northern Marianas.

The CNMI, he added, can suspend all future immigration from FAS.

Borja also objected to the bill's section 2 which he said would lead to the "review" of



Jesus C. Borja

the need and purpose of developing and maintaining the American Memorial Park in Garapan.

He added, however, that the CNMI "commends and supports" the bill's section 2.
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WEATHER Outlook



Partly cloudy with isolated showers

Jury verdict on Simpson:

\$25M in punitive damages

By LINDA DEUTSCH
SANTA MONICA, California (AP) - A jury heaped \$25 million in punitive damages on O.J. Simpson for the slayings of his ex-wife and her friend, saddling him with more than twice the debt even his pursuers say he can pay.

Monday's judgment is on top of \$8.5 million in compensatory damages awarded last week when the jury repudiated Simpson's murder acquittal and found him liable in the 1994 slaying deaths of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

The decision marked yet another milestone in the 2 1/2-year legal saga that transfixed the United States and still ex-



O.J. Simpson leaves Los Angeles County Superior Court in Santa Monica, Calif., after hearing the verdict in the wrongful-death civil trial against him. Simpson was found liable in the deaths of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman. The same jury has slapped Simpson with \$25 million in punitive damages. AP Photo

poses its racial divisions - from the acquittal by a mostly black jury to the wrongful death verdict from a mostly white panel.

"Finding O.J. Simpson liable of the murders and acting with oppression and malice was one of the easiest decisions I have ever had to make," said juror No. 11, a white woman in her 30s who wasn't identified by name in a news conference.

Juror No. 266, a theater stage manager in her 40s, said she simply didn't believe Simpson's testimony. "Everything as it related to the evidence - the shoes, the hitting, where the gloves were, the sweatshirt."

As for Simpson's claim he was framed, juror No. 186, a white man in his 20s, said: "There's just no way anyone could have planted all that evidence - it doesn't make sense ... there's no way."

The jury, characterized by the media as mostly white and contrasted with the mostly black jury that acquitted Simpson of murder, said race had nothing to do with their decision.

Unlike the liability verdict, the decision on punitive damages was not unanimous. The only person with black ancestry on the jury, a Jamaican-born man who is half-Asian, was the lone vote against punitive damages. He was joined by one other juror in also voting against the amounts.

Simpson was not in court for the verdict and watched reports on TV in the snack bar of a suburban golf course where he snacked on a chili dog. He didn't appear to be watching closely,

and the volume was low, said a bartender who refused to give her name. She said friends ribbed Simpson about the verdict, and asked for the bar television at the Knollwood Country Club in Granada Hills to be turned up.

The courtroom was hushed and there were none of the outbursts that marked last week's verdict. Fred Goldman, the victim's father who had championed the civil court battle against Simpson, sat silently wiping his brow. His wife, Patti, and daughter, Kim, showed little emotion.

Ms. Simpson's estate, whose beneficiaries include her two children now living with Simpson, was allotted \$12.5 million of the punitive damages. Goldman's father got another \$12.5 million, while his mother, Sharon Rufo, did not ask for punitive damages. The long-divorced parents will split the \$8.5 million in compensatory damages for the loss of their son's love and companionship.

"The money is not the issue," Goldman said afterward, "it's making certain that the man who murdered my son and Nicole is held responsible - that's happened."

"This was for justice," said Kim Goldman. "We always knew the truth would come out."

Added Goldman attorney, Daniel Petrocelli: "I thought it was important to stand up to Mr. Simpson in front of the jury, to call him a killer, to treat him like a killer so the jury could call him a killer."

Continued on page 20

L&T counsel on mall case ruling:

'It is not all over yet'

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff
L&T Group of Companies has been knocked down in the first round of the legal battle involving the Pacific Mall case, but the Supreme Court's decision Monday has not doused the company's hope to bounce back.

"Although this is a legal setback, the case is not over," L&T's lawyer Steve Pixley said in a press statement.

Pixley was reacting to the high court's decision to reinstate Rep. Stanley Torres and Jeanne Rayphand as plaintiffs in the land case, and Ted Mitchell as their attorney.

The high court's ruling was a complete reversal of Superior Court Judge Edward Manibusan's disqualification order against Mitchell, and the replacement of Torres and Rayphand with intervenors Nicolas Sablan and Alexandro Tudela.

The high court has given a go-signal for the Superior Court to proceed with the trial of the case.

"My clients, are of course, extremely disappointed with this decision," Pixley said. "In addition to costing my clients hundreds of thou-



Steve Pixley

sands of dollars, this litigation has delayed the construction of the proposed world class shopping facility."

The case involved a taxpayers' suit filed in the Superior Court by Torres and Rayphand against Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio and L&T in connection with the lease of a 38,574 square meter public land in Navy Hill where the Pacific mall was to be built.

Rayphand and Torres said the property was leased way below its fair market value.

"Perhaps the biggest losers, how-

ever, are the citizens of the CNMI. This project can do nothing but benefit the people of the Commonwealth. It will provide the citizens with world world class shopping. It will provide first class movie accommodations," Pixley said.

The project, the lawyer added, "will generate revenues in the form of taxes, rents and tourist dollars."

The Superior Court had disqualified Mitchell, acting on L&T's allegation that the lawyer had a conflict of interest when he demanded a legal fee of \$2.2 million out of the settlement offer.

Describing the disqualification order as "too drastic," the Supreme Court has ruled that the legal fee issue has become moot when Manibusan moved to prohibit

attorney's fees in the settlement. The Superior Court had also disqualified Mitchell because he had "demonstrated an attitude of animosity that had rendered productive settlement discussion an impossibility; (and) that he has burdened the court with unnecessary motions and heightened the cost of litigation for all concerned."

The Supreme Court said, however, it is not its policy to consider antagonistic behavior as a ground for disqualification.

Pixley said he "completely disagrees with the legal reasoning of the Supreme Court."

However, he said, "as an attorney, I am obligated to comply with this decision." "Accordingly, we will comply with the mandate



Ted Mitchell

of the Supreme Court despite our belief that Mr. Mitchell was quite properly disqualified by Judge Manibusan last year," he added.



COUNTDOWN. Workers rush the completion of the 2-kilometer portion of the Monsignor Guerrero road. Public Works Secretary Edward DL Guerrero said the project, planned to be done by Dec. last year, will be completed March this year. Photo by Jojo Dass

Crime Stoppers tips in '96 more than doubled



Arnold K. Seman

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
CRIME Stoppers' tips in 1996 more than doubled the numbers of the previous year resulting, among other things, with the seizure of \$1.6 million of illegal drugs.

Crime Stoppers Coordinator PO2 Arnold K. Seman told the Variety yesterday that their 1996 annual report showed they received 188 "fruitful" tips.

Seman said with last year's tips, 33 cases were closed, 14 persons arrested, \$115,000 worth of stolen property including heavy equipment were recovered.

Out of 188 calls received through Crime Stoppers Hotline 234-7272, narcotics topped with 56 followed by 16 extortion cases and 15 illegal aliens.

Seman said the narcotics seized were 107 pounds of

marijuana worth \$1.6 million and 18.2 grams of "ice" worth \$10,920.

The coordinator said of 10 persons arrested for narcotic charges, two were charged federally and eight others before the Superior Court.

In 1995, 79 legitimate tips were received, 24 cases were closed, 19 persons apprehended, and \$23,215 narcotics confiscated as compared to 1994 with 23 calls, six cases closed, 11 persons nabbed, and \$705,000 drugs seized.

"Based on our final report and records we have an increase number of calls. A lot of people are caring for the community. They are helping out the community by informing proper authorities about wrongdoings," Seman said.

Seman urged the community to make use of the Crime Stoppers program, which has been proven a "great help to the community in the long run."

Seman said since he took over the position as coordinator last July, nobody demanded for monetary rewards.

"The people did not call to get paid. What they wanted is just to help out. That's basically what we asked from the community...of course there is a reward (for callers)," he said.

Crime Stoppers, a local non-profit organization controlled by a civilian board, was a pet project on Saipan Rotary Club in 1989.

Castro revokes Hillblom Trust lawyer's admission to court

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
SUPERIOR Court Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro issued an order yesterday revoking the admission to the court of Larry Hillblom Charitable Trust's counsel for flagrant disregard of court's order.

Castro said W. Scott Thomas who was admitted to the court to represent Hillblom Trust Board Chairman Peter J. Donnici failed to comply with Associate Judge Timothy Bellas' order issued last Feb. 4.

Castro said Bellas sanctioned Thomas in the amount of \$1,000 to be paid to the court by Feb. 6, 1997.

As an alternative, the presiding judge stated, Thomas was asked to issue a written and unconditional apology to lawyer Michael Dotts for misrepresentations made to the court.

"The written apology was to be filed and served on all parties by Feb. 6, 1997. To date, Mr. Thomas has neither paid the \$1,000 sanction

nor filed the written apology to Mr. Dotts," said Castro in the order.

Bellas said Thomas leveled serious ethical and character allegations against Dotts that were unfounded and unreasonable when he alleged that the lawyer (Dotts) might submit an altered order to the court.

Dotts is counsel for petitioner Josephine Nocas.

Kaelani Kinney has also sought for a full-blown investigation into serious accusations hurled by Thomas that Kinney's lead counsel David Lujan had extrajudicial contacts with Castro.

In a motion filed Monday, Lujan requested the lower court to require Thomas to appear and to show cause why the Trust counsel should not be held in contempt for not complying Bellas' order.

Lujan underscored the need for a drastic remedy, including revocation of Thomas' admission, citing that the Trust lawyer "has proven beyond any doubt that he lacks character, is totally devoid of



Alexandro Castro

morals and is simply not fit to continue practicing law in the CNMI."

Meanwhile, Castro ordered yesterday that the hearings on Feb. 13 and 14 concerning Hillblom estate Special Administrator William I. Webster's testimony about estate administration shall be closed to the public.

Only interested parties will participate in the hearing, said Castro without elaborating his order.

Valentine's Special



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



"The True Land of the Free"

An American who lived in Asia moved back to the mainland US (New York) after five years abroad. A friend quizzed "How is it, living in the land of the free?" He replied: "I miss it".

Jeff Wise wrote an essay about "The True Land of the Free", including how America is seen by nations the world over as a promoter of liberty, while others, rightly, view the US as a "nation of rule-bound party poopers".

In his first week back home, he ran into a thicket of rules, exclusions and prohibitions in trying to secure a place to stay. He said that tenants "have a raft of legal protections and many pay only minuscule annual rent increases, regardless of market conditions". He related that in the US, "it's nearly impossible to open a bank account without proof of residence—a signed lease—and you can't get a lease without a bank account, which you can't get without a lease".

Wise recalled his experience in Hong Kong where rental prices spiral upwards and tenants have few rights. "Yet developers leap at the chance to put up a new building, and the papers always seem to be full of rental listings. To open a checking account you just hand over some money. Similarly, you can start and run a business in Hong Kong with fewer restrictions than in New York".

He discovered other forms of liberty as he traveled around Southeast Asia. "In the Philippines, I found out about true freedom of the press". Unlike most American cities, the Philippines has a large and contentious press, "one that delights in printing just about anything. There are more English-language dailies in Manila than in New York City, and more interesting stories, too".

Said Wise: "All around the region I found a freedom rarely discussed in the US: the freedom to work. Despite the lack of worker protections—or perhaps because of it—opportunities abound at the low end of the pay scale. He said human rights activists call this "exploitation" while economists call it "job creation". He questioned why would the world's most coddled work force leave behind their "guaranteed health care and unemployment benefits to work in a city (Hong Kong) with no minimum wage? "Because there is work aplenty", he declared.

Wise noted that "Americans have many rights, but these are not the same as freedoms. The more rights people arrogate themselves, in fact, the more restricted they become". Said he: "A spell in a US city becomes a lesson in how the explosion of 'rights' has eroded common civic freedoms". All kinds of rights have exploded into the public stage, including the right to a harassment-free work place which means that "you cannot freely make jokes". In his view, all these rights tie-up even businesses in a "regulatory knot".

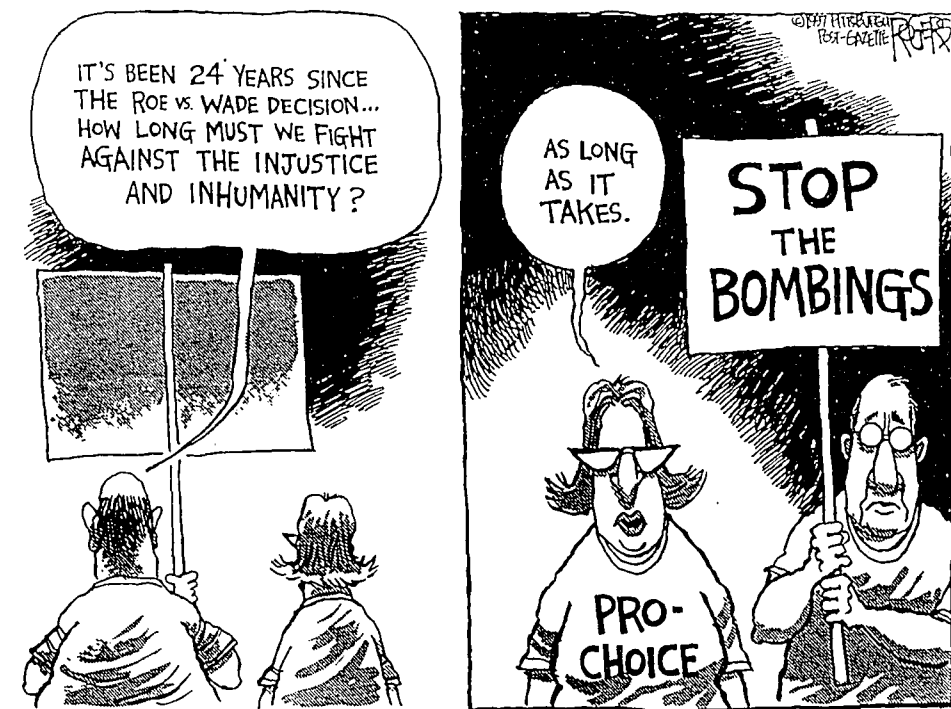
Asked Wise: "Are Americans bothered by their lack of freedom? Yes, and they complain about it. But they tend to miss the true nature of their problem. It isn't government or some vague conspiracy that is fencing them in. It's themselves. Americans are hobbled..." by all sorts of fear and they "think they can legislate these worries away. In the end, they just paint themselves into a corner".

He pointed out that it is the "US, through its moral leadership and military might, that has made possible many of the freedoms Asia now enjoys. Some authoritarian governments note the discrepancy and criticize the US for failing to practice what it preaches. They have a point. But if Americans have proven themselves hypocrites, that doesn't mean we should step down from the pulpit. It just means we should start taking our own advice".

It should be noted that the economic success of the NMI blossomed when we opened the floodgates for investments, large and small, from investors from Japan and East Asia. It was a choiceless decision undertaken to cushion the impending nose dive in annual revenue collection. We had the time since then to take a firm grip at development and "plan for" their eventualities. But we were too busy bickering, if not, nurturing our well oiled sense of lamafiana. What we finally ended up with was unbridled development. In short, we were lost in the shuffle for we wanted nothing else but to polish-up our forte on everything that is government. We have basically left the private sector to investors from distant shores. And we need not futher than the payroll of the local government where most indigenous people are employed. Ask yourself if this exercise is healthy.

I have also looked into the number of locals who have taken out loans with the Commonwealth Development Authority. I wanted to find ways to assist them in their efforts to develop their business ventures. Unfortunately, most have sold-out to foreign businesses. I quizzed myself what must have been the underlying motive or reason for selling out. Simple: We weren't prepared for long hours of hard work. It was better to sell-out now and take the time to bask in our usual comfort zone of Lite Beer and burned meat at some beach. How interesting an attitude which subsequently explodes into fits of frustration when others, to whom we have sold our businesses, have made it beyond our dismal expectations.

Through the years, I've learned the font and follies of our people. We are fond of defining what our problems are on basically anything under the sun. And, believe it or not, nobody can match this indigenous ability in fault finding. More often than not, we bask in our follies of lamafiana hoping that someone would creep-in to clean our mess. This attitudinal deficiency must change! Think about it.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

2 MHS teachers react to Feger letter

Dear Editor:
This letter is written in response to Mr. James Feger's article on ACT dated February 7. It was with great dismay that I was to read what was probably the most unethical series of comments made by a professional in education that I have seen in a very long time.

His comments regarding ACT are not the issue of this letter, however, and more importantly, it is his comments that are of concern.

The mere fact that Mr. Feger would go so far as to infer that I and my fellow colleagues do not work as hard and do not provide a quality education to the students we teach indicate that he indeed must not enjoy his task as acting principal at MHS and undoubtedly has no qualms about disrupting cohesiveness among staff and administration.

How are we to follow a leader that views us as unequal and lesser beings. Are our students then not the product of a lesser education and then not as smart as those in a single track system?

He says he cannot be a part of an organization that advocates inequity, yet he chooses to be the instrument of those who are in his opinion unequal in talent.

I am quite sure that there aren't too many teaching professionals out there who would say that one group of teachers works harder than others, we all strive for excellence in the classroom.

As to his comments on four and a half months' vacation being "demanded," that is absurd in so much as the contracts we sign are developed by the BOE and PSS, we have nothing to demand.

The issue of 190 days versus the 156 should not be one of instructional days but of instructional hours and time on task with the students, as we in year round school do work a longer day and where time on task, as stated in the federal requirements, is the issue, we both meet requirements.

The comments he made about year round teachers having

an opportunity to teach intercessions at a hundred dollars a day and single track not having that opportunity, I beg to differ as we both have the opportunity to teach during our vacation period, whether it be summer school or intercession for the same funds. As someone who has taught in both calendars as well as probably all my colleagues, I cannot help but feel that Mr. Feger is wrong in his assessment of the facts.

I questioned myself what his motivations were for writing such a statement. Does he want another job with a single track school? Does he indeed think that little of his staff and students at MHS? I wonder if it is even politically motivated.

I am thinking each day of these comments made by Mr. Feger and I am both appalled and hurt. I have traveled to some forty-three different countries and over twenty-seven different island provinces both teaching and researching educational systems throughout the world.

I have attended colleges for eight years full time to gain my talents. I believe that through my experiences and practice I have an incredible ability to reach my students and that I indeed provide quality education to those whom I teach. In all my experience I don't believe I have come across a principal that talks of his staff as Mr. Feger has.

I would expect the least a formal apology by Mr. Feger for his remarks regarding the single track teachers working harder and providing better quality education than those on year-round system.

I believe my brothers and sisters in education throughout the world at every grade level in every school calendar agree that we are all in this together, our quest for educating our children today so that they can become the leaders of tomorrow and not be sown into the biases of mankind as Mr. Feger has represented in himself.

I hope that all teachers will not lose sight of the task at hand even when those above in the hierarchy fail us.

CRAIG H. GARRISON
Teacher, MHS

Misrepresentation doesn't solve problem

Dear Editor:
I am a long time teacher (36 years) and a short time resident. I have been the chairman of the Department of Special Education at MHS and taught in eight states, including the tundra area of Alaska as well as Central America.

I have never been alluded to as a poor teacher or as one who was just in it for the money.

I am not a tourist. I am a professional teacher that likes small schools in interesting places and I go where I am wanted and needed. I have enjoyed everywhere I have taught and the same is true of Saipan.

Until I read the letter to the Editor in your paper I was not aware of an organization called ACT. I have not been invited to join or take part in any discussions in which they were involved to the best of my knowledge.

When I was recruited I was made aware that MHS was on a multi-track system. From past experience I was aware that that is a difficult situation and that there has to be a lot of give and take to make it work.

It seems that we have no choice at MHS, there simply are not enough classrooms. We are in need of another classroom for our OJT program in the Special Education Department. It simply is not available.

We all look forward to better teaching and learning conditions. But I use the motto, "Don't Blame or Complain, Find a Solution," from a workshop years ago with Dr. Holt. It serves me

V. ANN QUICK, M.S.
Teacher, MHS

Cing insists Tinian long neglected



David M. Cing

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

SENATOR David M. Cing yesterday said that he has been complaining about the CNMI central government's "indifference" to the needs of Tinian since 1992, and will continue doing so if the island remains "neglected."

Cing (D-Tinian) had earlier faulted the Tenorio administration for not including Tinian in the Overall Economic Development Plan (OEDP) submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

According to Commerce Secretary Pedro Q. Dela Cruz, however, Tinian's leaders should be blamed for their failure to meet the deadline for submission of project proposals.

Dela Cruz added that though Tinian was not mentioned in the first draft they sent to EDA, the Tinian water project was included in the plan's second draft.

Cing later told the Variety that he apologizes to Dela Cruz if it was true that Tinian was included.

"But the fact remains," Cing said yesterday, "that Tinian is always given a low priority whenever the central government asks for federal money."

Cing said during the Eight Legislature (1992-94), he had pointed out that since 1981 there have been 20 EDA projects with funding levels totalling \$5.83 million—none of which went to Tinian.

Recently, he said, the CNMI was given \$26 million in federal funding for roads improvement, but "not a single cent was allotted to Tinian and Rota."

Governor Tenorio, in earlier interviews, denied neglecting the development needs of Tinian.

Suspect in fatal shooting skips preliminary hearing

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

MURDER suspect Oscar R. Babauta waived yesterday his right to a preliminary hearing to determine whether there is probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against him.

When Babauta, through counsel Ted Mitchell, informed the Superior Court of his decision to waive the preliminary hearing, Assistant Atty. Gen. Nicole Forelli did not object.

Associate Judge Miguel Demapan said that based on the representation of counsel, the preliminary hearing shall be vacated.

Demapan set an arraignment on Feb. 18.

The judge said Babauta shall remain in the Department of Public Safety detention facility without bail on the charge of first degree murder.

Babauta, a Public School System employee, was tagged as the suspect in the killing of his cousin, Jose Boki Babauta.

Court documents showed that Jose was driving a van last Feb. 1 in As Matuis with his wife and other relatives when another ve-



Oscar R. Babauta

hicle driven by Oscar Babauta passed by in the opposite direction.

While the two vehicles were passing each other, Oscar Babauta showed his middle finger and loudly swore at Jose.

Oscar Babauta followed the van then fired a rifle, fatally hitting Jose in the head.

The dispute among the Babauta clans started over an argument between Juan Boki Babauta and his uncle Jesus M. Babauta at a cockfight in Talafofo on June 11, 1995.

Youth violence topic on Jon Anderson Live

THE RISING amount of violence by CNMI's youth is the forefront of discussion for the guests on tonight's edition of Jon Anderson Live.

Joining Jon on the program are Connie Cabrera, Child Protective Service Supervisor at the Division of Youth Services, Dan Roberts, who works in Foster Care Services at DYS, and Shaifon Robbins, a counselor at W.S. Reyes Elementary School.

The guests will be discussing the problems, and what can be done to curb future youth related crime.

All will be taking your calls and comments on this edition of Jon Anderson Live.

Jon Anderson Live is a talk show where viewers can call in with their comments and questions on the issues that matter in the CNMI. Jon Anderson Live airs every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. on KMCV Channel 7.

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Judge orders two men to answer kidnapping raps



Miguel Demapan

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

SUPERIOR Court Associate Judge Miguel Demapan ordered yesterday the two Chinese to answer charges in a case where a woman was mauled, locked up, kidnapped and robbed.

During a preliminary hearing, Demapan found probable cause to believe that Ming Su and Ge Ai Ping committed the charges of two counts of kidnaping, two counts of burglary, theft, and assault and battery.

At the hearing, the government represented by Assistant Atty. Gen. Ross Buchholz presented one witness and submitted seven exhibits which were admitted into evidence.

Defendants Su and Ping, represented by their respective counsel David Banes and Bruce Berline, did not present any witness.

Demapan said after hearing the testimony of the witness and listening to the arguments of counsel and considering the evidence presented, the court finds reasonable and probable cause to believe that the defendants committed the crimes.

The judge set an arraignment on Feb. 18.

Court documents showed that the victim, described as a Chinese worker at L&T Garment Factory, suffered serious injuries during the incident which happened last Nov. 8 in an apartment in Garapan.

Ping, victim's former roommate, knocked on the latter's door and asked

Attention all GED graduates

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For more information contact Fe Y. Calixterio at tel. no. 234-3690 ext. 1723.

if she (victim) would take a letter back to China for her. The victim was scheduled at the time to return to China the following day.

When the victim opened the door, Su and another male suspect Li-Kai Chen barged into the room.

The suspects demanded money, mauled the victim, and ripped the latter's necklace from her neck. Ping acted as a lookout.

Chen and Su tied the victim's arms behind her back, shoved a towel into her mouth and wrapped her face with tape.

The two male suspects transferred the victim to another apartment two doors away where they locked her in the bathroom for several hours.

The jury trial for Chen was set on April 27, 1997.

Adult enrollees for San Antonio

Adults 16 years old and up can sign up for adult education classes at San Antonio Youth Center (Manhoben) from 3:00-7:00 p.m. February 24 to 27, the San Antonio Adult Education program announced.

For any information contact Charles Gray at phone nos. 234-0543/5267.

Search on for missing man

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

SEARCH and rescue operations have been conducted to locate a man who was believed to have drowned at Marine Beach in Kagman Sunday night.

Personnel from the Department of Public Safety Boating Safety and Emergency Management Office, have been scouring the vicinity of the beach to find Juan Litulumar, an employee at the Procurement and Supply.

Police said the 35-year-old Litulumar was walking with two companions along the reef looking for sea crabs Sunday night.

While the three were on their way back, a big wave struck them. Litulumar was swept away to the sea while his companions managed to hold.

On the other hand, the search and rescue operations for the missing Korean tourist who was believed to have drowned off Chalan Kanoa

beach were stopped Friday with no trace of the victim's body.

Meanwhile, a Japanese tourist plunged to death while a teenager reported suicide cases Friday at Agingan Point and Kagman.

During yesterday's press briefing, DPS Information Officer PO3 Cathy Sheu identified the suicide victims as Tokumitsu Hori, 64, and Darrow P. Sablan.

Initial investigation showed that Hori parked his rented car at Agingan Point and walked along the cliff Friday morning.

Hori went back to his car and drove it in reverse on the cliff line down into the ocean.

Responding Boating Safety personnel retrieved the tourist's body. Emergency medical technicians tried but failed to revive the victim.

In Kagman, Sablan was found hanging by a relative at a residence Friday before dawn.

No other details were given.

MCV launches TV shopping channel for Saipan viewers

MARIANAS Cable Vision has launched TVSN, or the Television Shopping Network, a live 24-hour shop from home channel 27 that comes to Saipan via-satellite from Sydney, Australia.

According to a news release from MCV, the new station projects a resemblance between TVSN, and QVC, an American cable shopping channel.

TVSN offers a wide assortment of products to choose from, including sporting goods, jewelry, collectibles, electronics, cookware and home decorating items.

To order goods from TVSN, Saipan residents can call 234-2255,

which is a toll-free number.

When the dial tone is heard, simply dial 3606, and the caller will be linked to an operator in Sydney.

Although prices listed on TVSN are in Australian currency, Saipan residents will pay in U.S. dollars, which means that you will be only paying about 80% of the list price (.80 Australian cents roughly equals \$1.00 U.S.).

MCV viewers will find TVSN on channel 27. The Arts and Entertainment network, previously on 27 has moved to channel 36. The numbers to call TVSN can be found on channel 41, the information channel. For more information, call 235-4MVC during normal office hours.

House passes 6 bills

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

THE HOUSE of Representatives on its fifth day of session yesterday passed on first and final reading six bills, which now go to the Senate.

The House will resume its session today, and is expected to consider 16 more pieces of legislation.

The bills passed are:
• House Bill 10-14, "To permit off-island students and armed forces members to acquire rights to homestead." Main sponsor, Minority Leader Dino M. Jones (D-Saipan).

• H.B. 10-26, which would impose stricter penalties on reckless driving. Main sponsor, Majority Leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan).

• H.B. 10-104, which would allow the renewal of motor vehicle registration through mail. Main sponsor, Vice Speaker Jesus T. Attao (R-Saipan).

• H.B. 10-114, which would imposing a "more serious"

criminal penalty on vehicular homicide ("hit and run"). Main sponsor, Attao.

• H.B. 10-208, which would exempt CNMI citizens above 55 years of age from paying government fees for fishing and hunting licenses, medical and dental services, vehicle registration and operator's license. Main sponsor, Attao.

• H.B. 10-221, which would no longer require members of the police force from assisting the Courts in serving legal papers. Main sponsor, Rep. David M. Apatang.

The bill got the favorable recommendation of the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, but during yesterday's floor discussion, some members expressed concern over the proposed law's possible effects on the Courts' workload.

Still, the bill was passed 11 to 7, unlike the five other bills which got the unanimous support of a "more serious"

CHC goes 'baby-friendly'

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE Commonwealth Health Center will celebrate Valentine's Day on Friday by launching its "baby friendly" policy, according to a press release from the Breastfeeding Volunteer Assistance group.

The Breastfeeding Policy for Healthy Newborn Infants was signed by Public Health Secretary Isamu Abraham, and adopted

by the Department of Public Health on Dec. 24, 1996.

The policy, upon recommendation of the World Health Organization, aimed at increasing the number of breastfeeding mothers to 40 percent by year 2007.

"The strong campaign to increase the number of mothers breastfeeding stems out of the need to inform women that breastmilk is far superior to any

other infant formulas or milk," the group said.

Health experts say breast milk is the most balanced and complete food for the first four to six months of a child's life, and that breastfeeding reduces the mother's chances of getting breast cancer.

"Breast milk can protect babies from getting diarrhea and respiratory illnesses. Breast milk is always available, convenient, economical and at the right temperature," said the group which was created following the adoption of the breastfeeding policy.

At 10 a.m. on Friday, mem-

bers of the volunteer group will visit "new mothers" at CHC's Maternity Unit "to offer support and help share useful techniques for a successful breastfeeding experience."

For more information about the group's breastfeeding program, call Heidi Yelin at 235-5825.

Tenorio questions RP Consulate's 'mandate'



Pete A. Tenorio



Julia Heidemann

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

A CONSULTANT for Gov. Froilan Tenorio yesterday said the Philippine Consulate should focus on labor-related concerns and not "hide behind the curtain of 'foreign affairs'" in order to "divorce" itself from this task.

In a letter to RP Consul Julia Heidemann, former Lt. Gov. Pete A. Tenorio claimed that while matters of foreign affairs between the Philippines and the US "are entirely the responsibility of both governments," the Consulate's establishment was made "for purposes that has absolutely nothing to do with these affairs."

Tenorio, who was among those who framed the Covenant, explained that the reason for requesting RP Consulate presence, through the US State Department, was "economics."

He said the CNMI is engaging RP because it needs the necessary manpower to help achieve its aim of attaining a "higher standard of living under the American flag."

"While Article I, Section 104 of our Covenant provided the United States the authority over foreign affairs in the CMMI, it was not that article itself that provided the official authority for your office's existence in the CNMI," Tenorio, the governor's consultant for Economic Development and Federal Relations, argued.

He stressed that it was Article IX, Section 904 of the Covenant "that actually made possible the establishment of RP Consulate in the CNMI."

"The need for workers, the right to participate in international programs, including participation in international organizations that address issues of economic social, scientific and cultural concerns,

are lumped together under Section 904.

"Thus, the presence of RP's Consulate in the CNMI appears to have only one purpose and that is to interact with our government on labor and other non-foreign affairs matters," Tenorio stressed.

Tenorio recommended that the Philippine government "communicate" with the US State Department for a "re-definition of your role in the CNMI as a Consular office."

He said that since the Consulate does not issue passports locally; does not process papers for political asylum seekers; and, does not deal with ambassadors, it, as far as administering foreign affairs matters is concerned, "has absolutely nothing to administer."

On the contrary, he said the office appears to be engaging in trade and economic activities such as the collection of fees for labor and immigration documents for Filipinos and the enforcement of foreign currency remittance policy, all of which are being done "under the color of 'foreign affairs' function."

Tenorio also recommended that the Consulate, in its effort to focus on labor-related concerns, cooperate with the CNMI in addressing problems arising from the deployment of Filipino non-resident workers in the Commonwealth by:

* assisting the government in identifying and arresting overstaying and illegally employed Filipinos; and

* providing financial assistance to defray repatriation or deportation costs of Filipino workers.

The Variety tried to reach Heidemann for her reactions but her secretary said she was out on an official meeting.



Valentine's Day
Friday, February 14th 1997



Japanese Valentine

Express your love in Japanese this Valentine's Day at Miyako with an authentic Kaiseki valentine's menu for just \$70.00 per person. Or, try an assortment of sushi and sashimi from the sushi counter. A la carte also available. Dinner from 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

THE CHINESE RESTAURANT

Chinese Valentine

Express your love the Chinese way this Valentine's Day. Chef Ng has prepared an exquisite set menu for just \$45.00 for adults and \$22.50 for children 12 years and under. A la carte also available. Dinner from 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.



Valentine's Day Dinner

Giovanni's is the perfect place this Valentine's Day. For only \$45.00 or \$55.00 treat your Valentine to a romantic five course menu. Also, Banfi Asti champagne for only \$26.00 per bottle. Experience the romance this Valentine's Day at Giovanni's. Limited a la carte available. Dinner from 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.



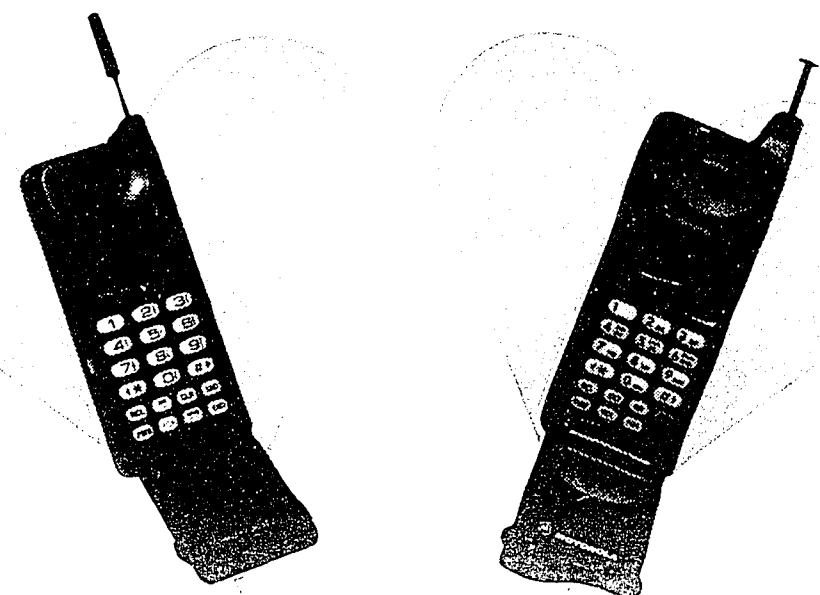
Valentine's Day Dinner

Give your lover the choice and celebrate Valentine's Day in style with a sumptuous seafood barbecue buffet. And of course all the Budweiser family of beers included. Only \$28.00 for adults and \$13.00 for children 12 years and under. Dinner from 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

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For reservations or inquiries, please call 234-1234 ext. 26



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Pacific News Round-up

Nauru parliament set to name new president

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) - Voters in Nauru, once one of the world's wealthiest nations per capita but now sliding toward poverty, have re-elected all four men who served as president late last year to Parliament.

Government-owned Nauru Broadcasting said Monday that Rueben Kun, Bernard Dowiyogo, Lagumot Harris and Kennan Abeang all kept their seats in the 18-member Parliament in a general election held Saturday. On Tuesday, Parliament will meet to select a new president.

In the largely clan-based politics of this and other Pacific islands, it probably will be one of the four former presidents, or a close ally.

But Nauru's fundamental problems seem beyond simple politics, as this tiny island that got rich by exporting the guano that migrating seabirds deposited over tens of thousands of years slips toward penury.

Most of the island has been reduced to a rocky mess after about a century of the strip-mining of phosphate, used as fertilizer in Australia and New Zealand.

Mining, which is expected to stop before the end of the century, earned Nauru billions of dollars in royalties.

However, much of the money has been lost through bad investments, swindles and mismanagement. Dowiyogo was ejected from the presidency in late 1995 as the economy slid downward, replaced by Harris.

Harris held on for a year but Dowiyogo regained the presidency in November 1996. Weeks later, however, he was toppled by Abeang, who was ousted himself in December 1996 by Kun.

Nauru is a remote lone island lying just south of the equator, some 1,900 miles (3,050 km) northeast of Australia, or 2,770 miles (4,460 km) southwest of Honolulu.

It has a land mass of only 8 square miles (20 sq. km.) and a population of about 10,000.

Volcanic dust affects Wewak

PORT MORESBY (Pacnews) - The township of Wewak in Papua New Guinea and surrounding areas along the east coast of the mainland are currently affected by volcanic dust emitting from the Manam volcano. Wewak police chief Labi Giosi says schools in Wewak may be closed as the all-purpose water tanks used by the schools are covered with dust, the National reports.

He says the town is still getting dust and health authorities have been informed to caution people on what measures to take to avoid the dust.

However, Boram hospital chief executive officer, Linda Thompson says the situation is not serious as the moment. The dust is a result of Saturday's Manam volcano eruption.

Tonga to get Japan grants

SUVA (Pacnews) - Nine projects in Tonga will receive assistance from the Japanese government under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP) programme for the financial year of 1997. The projects, which include six for the education sector, two water supplies and one to assist the disabled, will receive a total of 190,367 US dollars.

A statement from the Japanese embassy in Suva says the assistance is part of Japan's efforts to help improve people's livelihood and to increase the opportunities available to the grassroots community. The GGP programme has proved to be an effective component of Japan's Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) as it targets smaller community-oriented projects which have direct benefits for grassroot people.

Solomons patrol boat attacks care center

PORT MORESBY (Pacnews) - A Solomon Islands patrol boat, Auka (04), is alleged to have open fire on the care centre on Bougainville's Ratan Island last week. Security forces forward tactical commander, Colonel Tarua Falaniki, who confirmed the attack, says Ratan is a few kilometres off the Sirowai coast on the PNG side of the border, the National reports.

Col Falaniki says there was no apparent reason for the attack as the small island care centre only accommodates civilians. He said the Solomon Islands patrol boat had fired at the care centre after unsuccessfully giving a chase to the sailors. Col Falaniki says the sailors were on the PNG side of the border and the reason for the chase and attack with a 50-calibre machine gun is not known.

However, there were no casualties. Meanwhile, Solomon Islands acting police commissioner and field commander John Homelo denied the attack. He said his men based at Losung Island had given chase to nine members of the Bougainville rebels who were travelling in a twin-motored boat.

Homelo said his men tried to intercept the boat as it was travelling towards Komelai, which is in Solomon Islands territory.

Air Pacific pilots in Fiji plan strike

SUVA (Pacnews) - Local pilots with Fiji's international airline company, Air Pacific, are planning a strike action that may cripple the airline.

The plan was revealed by a senior airline pilot who said Air Pacific is paying local pilots about 50 per cent less than overseas pilots on long haul destinations, the Fiji Times reports.

Pilot members of the Fiji Airline Pilots' Association (FALPA) will vote at their annual general meeting at the Suva Travelodge Hotel tomorrow on whether to take strike action or not. Sources close to the association say the pilots were determined to go on strike "to teach the airline a lesson".

The senior pilot who wants to remain anonymous says Air Pacific pays its local pilots salaries which are less than half the salaries they are paying their Australian and New Zealand pilots for long haul flights like to Los Angeles. He says it costs Air Pacific about 15,000-Fijian dollars (\$US10,000) for an expatriate pilot on a five-day return flight to LA, while it pays less than half for the local pilot.

Survey on foreign investment set

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

THE Department of Commerce is slated to conduct this month a survey which should help the government gauge the impact of foreign investments in the CNMI.

According to the Department of Commerce's Business Development News, the survey will involve "going out to visit business establishments owned by foreign investors who have been in business for at least two years or more."

"This survey will assist us in evaluating the impact of 'foreign investment' in the CNMI," the commerce department said.

It said the social, economic and environmental impact of those businesses would be particularly looked into.

The CNMI has become an attractive place for foreign investors because of certain trade advantages including free US customs duties and lower minimum wage than is prevailing in the US mainland.

The CNMI also qualifies under the US Harmonized Tariff Sched-

ules to export certain eligible goods to the US duty free. Exports destined for the US are also exempt from the 22 percent surtax imposed on other exports from other countries.

The US is obligated to seek favorable treatment for exports from the CNMI. Certain articles from the US shipped to the CNMI are also not subject to certain federal excise taxes. Foreign investors in the CNMI are dominated by Koreans, Japanese and Chinese.

3rd annual MATHCOUNTS competition this Saturday

THE 3RD annual CNMI MATHCOUNTS Chapter Competition will be held this coming Saturday, February 15th, at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe from 8 AM to noon, the chapters said in a new release.

MATHCOUNTS is a National program that tries to get students interested in math by posing fun and interesting questions.

It also allows students to work as a team to sharpen their analytical abilities.

The competition is divided into four different rounds. The first round is the "Sprint Round" which poses 30 difficult questions that must be answered within 40 minutes. The second round is the "Target Round."

In the Target Round there are 8 questions. The students are given two questions at a time and are allowed 6 minutes to answer each pair of questions.

The Target Round is followed by the "Team Round" in which students compete in teams of four and work together to solve the problems. The Team Round has 10 questions which must be answered in 20 minutes.

Students are allowed to use calculators in the Target and Team Rounds.

The final round is the "Countdown Round" which is set up like a game show where the top ten students compete one at a time against each other in front of the audience.

The best students from each school will advance to the Commonwealth Championship on March 22nd and the top four students from the Commonwealth Championship on March 22nd and the top four students from

Oleai Valentine event

OLEAI Elementary School is holding its Valentine's King and Queen Coronation Dance on Friday, February 14th, 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Admission is \$1.00 per person. Refreshment are on sale.

It's tax time again!

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance, Division of Revenue and Taxation yesterday announced that the 1996 Individual and Business Annual Tax Forms are now available for the 1996 filing season.

In a public notice, the Division said the forms are available for pick-up at the revenue and taxation central office located in the Dandan Commercial Center.

Taxpayers in Rota and Tinian may get forms at their respective revenue and tax district offices, the notice said.

All taxpayers are being reminded that the correct Social Security Number (SSN) is an important information required on the tax return and in all documents attached to the tax return.

"Please verify your SSN. If you don't have a SSN, apply for one immediately. Contact the Social Security office for more information," the notice read.

Taxpayers are also urged to file early, as soon as all necessary and required documents have been received.

It listed due dates as follows:

Form 1120CN-Corporate Income Tax Returns	March 17
Form 1120CS-SUB-S Corp. Income Tax Returns	March 17
Form 1040 Series-Individual Income Tax Returns	April 15
Form 1065/1065CM-Partnership Income Tax Returns	April 15

For questions or additional information, contact the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1000-1.

GCA tops Academic Challenge

THE 1997 Academic Bee Challenge (Elementary Level) was held on Saturday, February 1, 1997, at the CNMI Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Seven teams, representing both public and private elementary schools, participated in this academic competition.

The Academic Bee Challenge was conducted as a team event, with three members of each team competing in three rounds. Questions were asked at random from the core subject areas - Reading, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Geography, Current Events, and NMI History.

At the end of the third round, Grace Christian Academy won first place. Team members included Christopher Pangelinan, In Hyul Kim, Angelica Flojo, Lynn Aidan, and Dean Palacios.

Oleai Elementary School came in second place. Team members for this school included Joshua Mayers, Vina Claire Saures, Ronnel Gamboa, Clarissa Mobel, Ji Min Kim and coach Ms. Monica Huff.

The third place team was Mount Carmel School with team members Hedwig Hofschneider, Rossane Ariti, Norean Sablan, Pasqual Deleon Guerrero and coach Mrs. Jovie D. Manzanilla.

The first, second and third place teams were awarded a school trophy, individual trophies, school supplies and team cash award.

Each student that participated was awarded a frisbee, cup, and memo board courtesy of GMHP.

The National Honor Society of MHS undertook this service project to provide healthy academic competition between the elementary schools, to promote education in students, and to act as role models for the elementary students.

Elaine Sasamoto and Merced Ada co-chaired the committee that organized the event.

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SAIPAN PAGING

'Tele-medicine' coming to region

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

IF THE Department of Interior's proposed telemedicine program takes place, patients in the CNMI would be

able to have their diseases diagnosed via long-distance consultation with off-island doctors.

Dave Ecret, special assistant for telecommunications, said yesterday

the department's plan to interlink hospitals in the Pacific rim through a video telecommunication system is moving ahead.

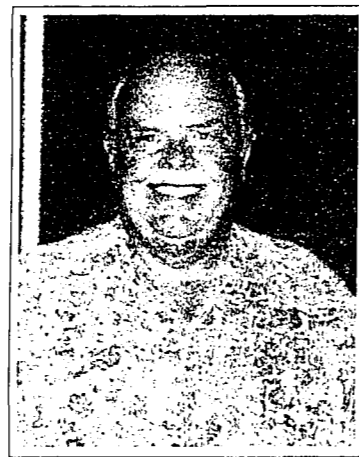
With the telemedicine system doctors in various parts of Micronesia will be able to engage in a conference through the system.

"The physicians can converse through a television set. They'll be able to look at the chart and x-rays, discuss the patients' condition, and make recommendations," Ecret explained.

Ecret said DOI official John Votipka had met and discussed the department's plan with telecommunications officials from various island governments who attended the Pacific Telecommunications Conference held in Honolulu last month.

The proposed program, Ecret said, is a package deal that will cover the CNMI, Honolulu, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau.

"DOI is trying to find where the department and the (Federal Communications Commission) can help," Ecret said. "We're still in the preliminary procedure."



Dave Ecret

The telemedicine project, Ecret said, was experimented in Texas, where the program "has been proven effective and successful."

Ecret said the Commonwealth Health Center would have no problem about educating its doctors about the system since most of them are familiar with telemedicine.

"Doctors here are pretty much educated on telemedicine. They learned it in the states," he added.

The system is being used in several parts of the U.S. mainland, Ecret said, "but this is something new to us and other islands in the Pacific rim."

The cost of telemedicine setup, Ecret said, is more affordable than the present system.

"Right now, we do have the ability to communicate with physicians from off-island but it's very expensive because we do it by phone," Ecret said.

Even with reduced long-distance rates, Ecret said, consulting with doctors from other islands costs the government a big amount of money for overseas calls.

The government also spends about \$30 million a year on patients who are referred to off-island hospitals under the government's medical referral program.

The telemedicine project, Ecret said, will be covered by FCC's universal services.

FCC's universal services provide subsidies on telecommunications.

"A lot of new things are happening now and it's ideal time for us to be part of the 21st century and bring things into their proper perspective," Ecret said.

Region's experts gather here to discuss disaster management

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

CLOSE TO 50 delegates from different aviation groups and government agencies in the US mainland and the Pacific yesterday began a two-day conference held to enable island-states prepare a "pre-planned" damage-control program that can be activated in times of disasters.

"We tend to pull the ropes in different directions when disaster happens, so to speak," said Ed Henry, a representative from the US Department of

Transportation who was among a panel of speakers during the conference.

The conference is a joint project of the US Department of Interior, Pacific Basin Development Council, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Federal Aviation Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Agency and is being held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

"With a pre-planned program, we can make a step-by-step procedure and do things systematically thereby reducing errors," he added.

"If we have a plan in place, we will know what we need to do ahead of time. We want to be pro-active in our response and not reactive," he stressed.

"We want to reduce the people's misery," he added.

Pre-planning includes having a set

of measures to be undertaken in times of "predictable" disasters like hurricanes and a slowly rising floodwater; or "immediate" ones like earthquakes and other natural disasters; technical disasters like oil spills; and terrorist attacks.

The measures, falling under the State and Regional Disaster Airlift program, entail participation of all concerned US government agencies including the Department of Defense and the FAA.

The conference, held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, resumes today with participants from Pacific island-states being expected to draw up a plan in case disaster breaks out in their respective areas of jurisdiction.

"Cyclones do pass in this area so I guess plans should be made to cover the matter," Henry said.

After weeks of deadlock in Palau

Rudimch takes Senate helm

AFTER weeks of political wrangling over the leadership, the Palau Senate voted Sen. Isidoro Rudimch as its new president, the Tia Belau reported in its latest issue.

Deadlocked weeks back at seven-seven supporting Sen. Penter Sugiyama and Sen. Santos Olikong for the presidency, senators last Feb. 5 compro-

mised on Rudimch, one of the nine senators from Koror State.

The new Senate leader comes from a large and prominent family in Koror and Airai and is one of the few millionaires in Palau, the Tia Belau said.

He owns KR Shopping Center, Sure Save Mart, KR Hardware, Midtown Service Station, KRFM Radio and has holdings

in apartments and lands in Koror and Airai.

Described as a quiet and devout Catholic and family man, Rudimch is familiar with leadership tussles.

He has been in the Sugiyama faction during the Senate power struggle for the past four weeks along with Senators Haruo Esang, Roman Yano,

Laurentino, Ulechong, Daiziro Nakamura and Sam Masang.

Rudimch is considered a close ally of President Nakamura and Vice President Tommy Remengesau.

Also elected last Feb. 5 were Youlbaob's lone senator, Haruo Esang and Seit Andres as Senate vice president and floor leader, respectively.

Quoting sources, the Tia

Belau reported that Sen. Olikong resolved the leadership dispute by handing the position to Rudimch before leaving for Honolulu to attend to a sick daughter.

Committee chairmanships are yet to be filled and it remains to be seen who will get the coveted Ways and Means (Money) Committee chair between Senators Fritz and Elechong.

Diplomatic protocol hampered by US, local regulations in FSM

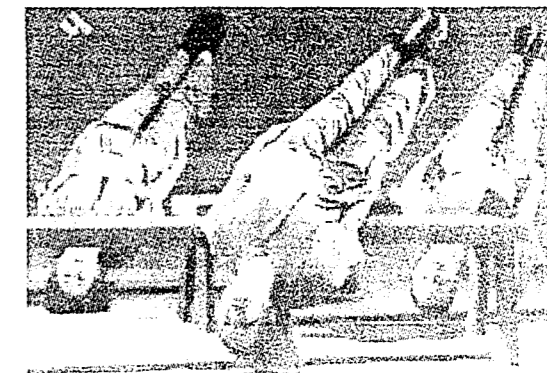
PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSMIS)-Acting President Jacob Nena Yap State he has learned through consultations with the Department of External Affairs that Diplomatic Protocol Procedures in the FSM States particularly in the State of Yap are being hampered due to Federal Aviation Administration, FSM National Government and State requirements.

Nena said, "Our National Government and State requirements perhaps can be waived so that diplomatic immunities and privileges be accorded to Diplomats while traveling in the FSM. However, US Federal Aviation Administration regulations is something that still need to be clarified with the US Embassy here in Pohnpei."

Civic Affairs is confined to protocol matters in the State of Yap," Nena said.

"By copy of this letter," he said, "the Department of External Affairs will be so informed of this delegation of authority. Please inform your departments and/or agencies that are involved in the agreement of this new set up."

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To resume work on nuke reactors Int'l consortium is headed to N. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - A 30-member international survey team will visit North Korea next week to resume work on building two substitute nuclear reactors in the communist country, Seoul government officials said Tuesday.

The team, made up of scientific experts and officials from the United States, Japan and South Korea, will arrive Feb. 22 in Sinpo, a port city on North Korea's east coast where the new reactors will be built, they said.

The dispatch means that work on building the \$5 billion reactors will be back to normal after a five-month lapse. Plans to send a survey team last October were suspended because of an incursion by a North Korean submarine into South Korean waters a month earlier.

South Korea, as the main financial backer of the project,

refused to send experts unless North Korea apologized for the submarine incident. North Korea did apologize in December, clearing the way for the team's visit.

South Korean officials said the survey team plans to stay in North Korea for about five months, during which it will conduct various technical and geological tests at the plant site. It also will negotiate with North Korean officials on various administrative issues, including communications and infrastructure for outside workers to be used for the project, they said.

The two light-water reactors are a reward for North Korea's freeze of its Soviet-developed graphite-moderated reactors, which were suspected of being used for weapons development.

Western-developed light-water reactors produce far less weapons-grade plutonium.

An international consortium, called the Korean Peninsula Energy

South Korea displeased over lawmaker's expulsion

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - South Korea expressed its displeasure Monday over the expulsion of one of its lawmakers by the Burmese government last week.

Kim Sang-woo, a member of the National Congress for New Politics, the nation's largest opposition party, was thrown out of Burma after being temporarily detained at the Rangoon airport Thursday.

Kim has said he was bruised when Burmese officials "grabbed, pushed and shoved" him onto the last flight of the day to Bangkok,

Thailand.

Ryu Kwang-sok, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Asia-Pacific affairs bureau, called in Ambassador U Phone Myint to express the government's displeasure, the ministry said. Ryu also asked that Rangoon explain its actions, it said.

Kim has said he had planned to meet with Aung San Suu Kyi, the leader of Burma's embattled democratic opposition, during the visit.

Burma is ruled by a military regime that seized power in 1988 after violently suppressing pro-

democracy street demonstrations.

It held a general election in 1990, but refused to turn over power to the winners, Mrs. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy.

The military government has been criticized by the U.S. State Department as one of the world's worst human rights violators.

Without specifically saying why Kim was refused entry, Burma said Friday that Kim "blatantly interfered in the internal affairs" of the country during his last visit to Rangoon in June 1996.



Chinese soldiers stand at attention with water buckets and wash rags before marching off to clean another section of roadway barriers in downtown Beijing. Soldier and police details were deployed throughout the city cleaning public places before Feb. 7, the Lunar New Year Festival. AP Photo

Hashimoto asks why gov't was not notified

Uranium bullets use irks Japan

By YURI KAGEYAMA
TOKYO (AP) - The U.S. Marines' use of uranium bullets on the southern island of Okinawa has angered Japan, but officials say they were more dismayed the American military took a year to notify them.

The U.S. military acknowledged Monday that its jets mistakenly fired 1,520 uranium bullets during shooting practice near the island. U.S. officials said the bullets posed no threat.

But it wasn't clear why the military waited until Jan. 16 to tell Japan about the gunfire at a firing range on an uninhabited coral island in late 1995 and early 1996.

"It's not that the level of radioactivity is the problem," Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said in Tuesday's Mainichi newspaper. "Rather, the problem is they took so long to inform us."

The incidents occurred at the height of tensions on Okinawa over the heavy U.S. military presence there and the rape of a schoolgirl by three U.S. servicemen.

Monday's disclosure, by dealing a further blow to Japanese trust in the U.S. military, could also hobble already troubled efforts to shift some of the American troops on Okinawa to other parts of Japan.

Okinawa's governor was furious at the delay in notification. "They keep saying they will make improvements, but it never happens," Masahide Ota said Monday. "When I start wondering how much longer this kind of thing is going to continue, I feel miserably depressed."

But the Japanese government also stalled the disclosure, hastily calling a news conference only after the report of the bullets first surfaced Monday in The Washington Times newspaper.

Japan also failed to tell local Okinawan officials until after the news-



Ryutaro Hashimoto

paper report, the Asahi newspaper said in Tuesday's editions.

The U.S. military in Japan said in a statement that it has informed Tokyo that "it regrets these incidents and the late notification." But officials said the bullets posed no danger, and are only as radioactive as old color TV sets.

"These are conventional weapons, the gunnery range is isolated, and we felt this should not have caused undue concern," U.S. military spokesman Lt. Col. Kevin Krejcarek told The Associated Press.

Some Japanese were not convinced. "This is outrageous. The U.S. military often tries cover-ups. This time, the notification came so late. It is insulting," Meisuke Kohirumaki, who works with a group opposing the U.S. military presence in Japan, told Asahi.

The uranium bullets are not classified as nuclear weapons. But Japan, the only nation to sustain an atomic bombing, is extremely sensitive to anything radioactive.

Uranium rounds are not allowed on training ranges in Japan under U.S. Marine Corps policy, although they

are used during exercises on approved ranges in the United States.

An AV-8B Harrier aircraft fired the 25-mm rounds - each containing 5.2 ounces (147.4 grams) of depleted uranium - because they had been incorrectly labeled, the

U.S. government said. Uranium is used in some ammunition because it can pierce armor and other hard material.

The delay in notification seemed contrary to reforms announced by the United States in December to

make U.S. troops less of a burden on Okinawa.

A major element of the reforms, promised as part of a renegotiation of the U.S. military presence on Okinawa, was to provide more timely information on aircraft accidents.



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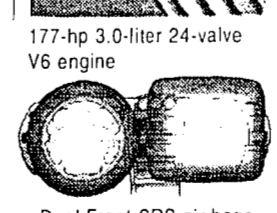
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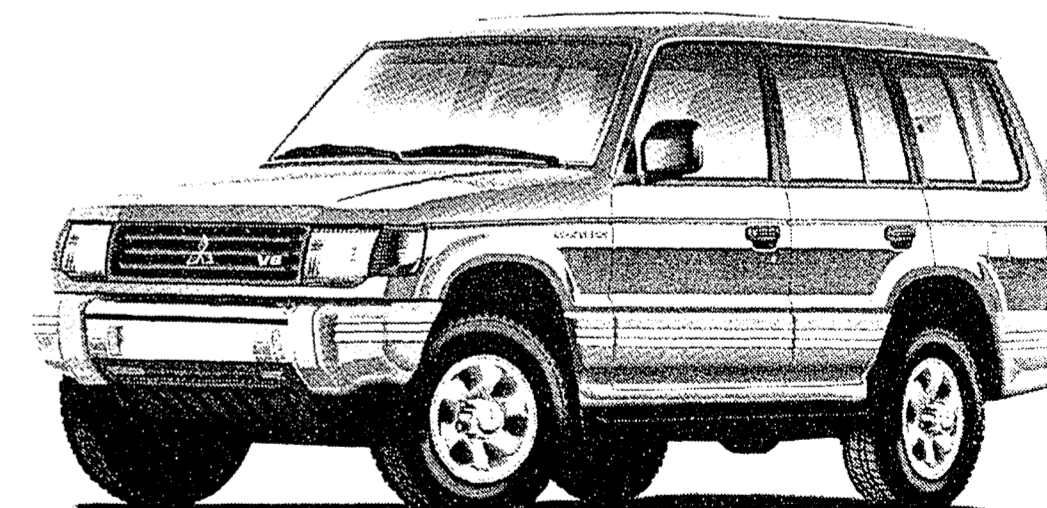
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Houston firefighters watch as the rubble from a collapsed wall at Northline Mall is moved in Houston. The collapse killed three people and injured seven.

INS tracks illegals willing to depart

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT
WASHINGTON (AP) - For the first time, America's immigration service is tracking the number of undocumented immigrants found inside the country who agree to leave without a legal fight.

While the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service long has released statistics on illegal aliens barred from entry at the border and those it has deported, it never tracked voluntary removals.

Now the agency will plug into its computers the information from paper arrest records so it can keep track of those arrested through worksite raids or other means who agree to leave the United States without going through the judicial system.

This will give the agency "for the first time an accurate and complete picture of INS removal efforts away from the border," said INS general counsel David Martin.

The announcement comes at a time when the agency's record in detaining and deporting illegal aliens has come under attack. Just last week the INS reported the undocumented immigrant population has reached an estimated 5 million, and it swells by an average 275,000 people annually.

The INS last year removed 68,000 people by deportation or other judicial means and expects to deport 93,000 this year. Some 100,000 others agree to return home voluntarily each year.

Rep. Lamar Smith of Texas, chairman of the House Judiciary immigration subcommittee, has voiced frustration with the statistics the INS keeps on illegal aliens.

The lawmaker welcomes "anything in this vein that really does help Congress in its oversight of INS," Allen Kay, a spokesman for Smith, said Monday.

Report: Military air traffic control official blamed in closed encounter

NEW YORK (AP) - A military air traffic controller was partly to blame for a close midair encounter between two National Guard jets and a passenger airliner, The New York Times reported Monday.

"We know what happened, basically," a civilian investigator told the newspaper on condition of anonymity.

On Wednesday, a civilian air traffic controller directed a Nations Air 727 en route to Kennedy International Airport from San Juan, Puerto Rico, through restricted air space.

When a Navy controller sought to clear the zone for military use, the civilian controller reported that the 727 and a United Parcel Service DC-8 were passing through the zone.

Investigators said they don't think the military controller transmitted the details of the locations of the two civilian planes to the F-16 pilots.

The Navy controller "went through the motions of finding out what kind of aircraft are there," the investigator said, but then "just turned loose the F-16s."

At least one of the military planes approached the 727 from behind to try and visually identify it, a standard military procedure.

But the plane's automatic collision avoidance system sounded and the pilots swerved to avoid the possible encounter, injuring three people in the cabin in the process.

The UPS plane, which did not have the collision avoidance equipment, did not report any close encounters in the flight.

US blasts Sinn Fein on violence

WASHINGTON (AP) - Showing fresh impatience with the Irish Republican Army's political ally, Sinn Fein, the U.S. State Department renewed its appeal that they renounce violence to facilitate the peace process.

"People who throw bombs ought not to be allowed at the peace table," spokesman Nicholas Burns said Monday.

"We've seen, over the last couple of months, too many acts of violence, indiscriminate acts of violence that take innocent people's lives," Burns said.

"In that respect, we very strongly support the position of the governments of the United Kingdom and also the government of Ireland."

Sunday was the anniversary of an IRA bombing in east London that killed two people, caused massive damages and ended the IRA's 1994 cease-fire.

He also debunked a report that White House may be recalling the U.S. ambassador to Ireland, Jean Kennedy Smith, because of dissatisfaction with her performance. She is the sister of President John F. Kennedy.

He said a report in the London Daily Telegraph offering that suggestion is "dead wrong."

Clinton economic report to Congress:

Low inflation, low jobless rates

By DAVE SKIDMORE
WASHINGTON (AP) - Low unemployment rates need not produce rising inflation, President Clinton said Monday in his annual economic report to Congress.

"The combination of unemployment and inflation is the lowest it has been in three decades," Clinton noted in a message that accompanied the report.

And there is no reason that cannot continue, said the report, produced by the president's Council of Economic Advisers. Just as high inflation and slow economic growth - stagflation - coexisted in the late 1970s, low inflation and strong growth can go hand in hand, it said.

Although the administration has generally refrained from criticizing the Federal Reserve, the argument seems pitched at the politically independent central bank, which controls key short-term interest rates.

The Fed has not raised short-term rates in two years. But minutes of its meetings show policymakers were concerned about tight labor-market conditions and were poised to slow the economy by raising interest rates at the first sign of an inflation outbreak.

As recently as a few years ago, economists believed that an unemployment rate consistently below 6 percent - the so-called natural rate of unemployment - would

Man executed for rape-slay

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) - A man who raped and killed a 19-year-old woman, then stuffed her body into the trunk of his parents' car, was executed by injection.

Richard Brimage Jr., 41, was put to death on Monday months after he halted any further appeals on his behalf. He was pronounced dead eight minutes after the lethal drugs began flowing into his arms.

Brimage lured former homecoming queen Mary Beth Kunkel to his parents' house in 1987 to rape her, court records show.

He injected her with cocaine and jammed a sock down her throat when she struggled. Investigators found her bound body two days later, stuffed in the trunk of his parents' Cadillac, after Brimage's uncle, a state judge, told police he saw evidence of the struggle.

Brimage, an electrician who was on parole after serving time in prison for forgery, was working for Miss Kunkel's boyfriend at a nearby Lockheed plant and brought her home under the pretense that he had some tools for him.

He was convicted in 1988. A state appellate court threw out the conviction in 1994, saying the body couldn't be used as evidence because the search was illegal, since Brimage's uncle didn't own the home.

trigger inflation as employers paid higher wages to retain experienced workers and raised prices to cover the cost.

But the jobless rate - 5.4 percent in January - has been below 6 percent since September 1994, with little evidence of worsening inflation, the report noted. It argued that the natural rate of unemployment has moved closer to 5 percent.

The Council of Economic Advisers thus is forecasting that, on average, inflation will be held to 2.7 percent and the unemployment rate to 5.5 percent through 2003.

If valid, that means the best labor market for job seekers in seven years need not be sacrificed to protect lenders, bond investors, people living on fixed incomes and others hurt by inflation.

The report offered several explanations for the decline in the natural rate of unemployment: "The work force, on average, is aging and more mature workers switch jobs less often."



Bill Clinton

Workers' aspirations for higher wages have not caught up with the improved productivity growth of the last few years.

Increased competition, caused by regulatory reform and new trade agreements, helps keep inflation wages.

The report also disputed what has been a hallmark of Federal Reserve policy under Chairman Alan Greenspan - the notion that interest-

rate increases should be pre-emptive, slowing the economy and easing potentially inflationary strains before prices actually start to accelerate. The theory is that it would take a more wrenching slowdown in growth to squelch inflation once it starts climbing.

But the White House report advocated a "cautiously expansionary policy" and said "in today's stable environment, runaway inflation is not a threat."

Moreover, the report strongly argued that a long-cherished goal of the Federal Reserve - zero inflation - would harm the economy far more than it helped. Encouraged by Greenspan, Sen. Connie Mack, a Florida Republican, and other conservative lawmakers have proposed legislation to make price stability the sole focus of monetary policy.

But, the report said, "in a zero-inflation world, layoffs would be more common." That's because businesses facing stiff competition now can allow inflation to eat away at the real

value of the wages they pay without resorting to layoffs.

Eliminating inflation also would remove an important Federal Reserve tool for fighting recessions - stimulating economic growth and borrowing by lowering interest rates below the rate of inflation.

Zero inflation "would be a permanent boon to people with large cash holdings - many of whom live abroad or are engaged in illegal activities," the report said.

It also took notice of several controversial issues, including a projected shortfall in the Social Security Trust Fund and an upward bias in the Labor Department's Consumer Price Index, but did not endorse any proposed solutions.

Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Joseph E. Stiglitz, who starts a new job at the World Bank on Tuesday, told reporters the administration concedes there are biases in the CPI. But, he said, "there is debate about both the magnitude and the best way of addressing those."

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Israel to free Palestinian prisoners



Benjamin Netanyahu,

By HILARY APPELMAN
JERUSALEM (AP) - Israel's Supreme Court cleared the way Monday for the release of 23 female Palestinian prisoners, throwing out an appeal by families of Israeli terror victims.

The women, whose release was promised in the interim Israel-Palestinian agreements signed by the previous Israeli government, were expected to be freed Tuesday. Yasser Arafat planned to greet them in the West Bank town of Ramallah following their release from the Tel Mond prison in central Israel.

A Palestinian official said Monday Israel would free 29 women - six more than the Israeli figure - by Wednesday. Israeli and Palestinian officials met Monday in Tel Aviv to discuss the release, Palestinian sources and media reports said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, meanwhile, held a Cabinet session to discuss plans for further Israeli troop withdrawals from rural areas of the West Bank.

Under the accords, the first three such handovers to Arafat's govern-

ment is supposed to take place by March 7. The extent of the withdrawals, which is not specified, threatens to become the next major stumbling block in the peace process.

David Bar-Illan, Netanyahu's top aide, said no decision has been made on the scope of the withdrawals.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai stressed at the Cabinet meeting that Israel alone is responsible for determining the size of the withdrawals.

"We can hand over to the Palestinians only two dunams (half an acre, or 0.2 hectare) of land if we decide to do so," Israel's Army radio quoted him as saying.

The United States, which mediated the most recent round of Israel-Palestinian talks, backs Israel's position that it is responsible for designating the extent of the withdrawals - but the Palestinians insist the question must be negotiated by both sides.

At present, Arafat's autonomy government has full control over only 3 percent of the West Bank - the major cities - and limited power in 24 percent.

Netanyahu met with Arafat on Sunday night to discuss disputes over implementation of the Israel-Palestinian accords.

Officials said Israel would remove one sticking point by releasing the Palestinian women prisoners. Both sides said the release was expected by Tuesday.

Jamila Abu Daho of Ramallah, whose younger sister Rula has been jailed for nine years for helping murder an Israeli, said Monday that she was afraid that the family would be disappointed once again.

"This thing has been going on for two years now," she told The Associated Press. "They always say



Yasser Arafat

that the prisoners are coming out - and there's always a technical reason why they don't."

"We're afraid to be hopeful." There was some confusion over which women are to be released.

Israeli officials have said they hold 23 women arrested before the September 1995 signing of the Israel-PLO interim accord; but the Palestinian list includes women arrested later, they said.

Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erakat told The Associated Press Monday that he expected 29 prisoners to be released within the next two days.

"We were informed that tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, 29 women prisoners will be released," he said. He did not explain the discrepancy.

In the past, the women prisoners refused to be released as long as any of them remained behind.

Although his approval is not needed, Israeli Justice Minister Tsahi Hanegbi said he opposed the releases of those prisoners who were involved in killing Israelis. He said, "I am convinced that this shakes the rule of law and... our ability to deter murderers in the future."



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Foreign gift ban elicits doubts

By DONALD M. ROTHBERG
WASHINGTON (AP) - Get foreign money out of American politics is a rallying cry of the current drive to rewrite campaign finance laws. President Clinton wants to do it and congressional Republicans agree.

But is it fair to tell legal aliens who work and pay U.S. taxes that they cannot contribute \$100 to the campaign of the congressman who represents them as well as citizens in his district? Or contribute to his opponent if they want a change?

Under the proposed change in campaign finance laws, small noncitizen contributors are lumped in with the Indonesian landscape architect who gave \$450,000 to the Democratic National Committee.

In his State of the Union message last week, Clinton urged Congress to support bipartisan legislation that he called "tough and fair reform." He singled out the provision that would "ban contributions from noncitizens."

Moments later, the president referred to the same people in a more sympathetic way when he called on Congress to "restore basic health and disability benefits when misfortune strikes immigrants who came to this country legally, who work hard, pay taxes and obey the law."

"To do otherwise is simply unworthy of a great nation of immigrants," he said.

Sen. John McCain of Arizona is the Republican leading the drive to change campaign finance laws. He has used the example of the landscape architect to argue for banning noncitizen contributions.

The DNC returned the money when Arief Wiradinata could not explain where it came from. Wiradinata has since returned to Indonesia and is out of the reach of U.S. investigators.

"If they're citizens, then we have extradition procedures," said McCain. "If they're not citizens, there's no way in the world we can force them back."

But is the problem citizenship or is it six-figure contributions that roll in as unlimited "soft money" gifts to political parties?

"If the Indonesian couple had given \$450 rather than \$450,000, we would not be having this debate," said Fred Wertheimer, former president of the public interest group Common Cause. Wertheimer continues to campaign for banning soft money as president of a new organization called Democracy 21.

"The larger issue in play here has to do with the size and potential purpose of the questionable contributions that came in, rather than the source," he said.

T. Alexander Aleinikoff, a law professor at the University of Michigan who specializes in immigration issues, said the proposed ban would raise "some interesting constitutional questions about whether Congress



Bill Clinton

could bar permanent resident aliens from contributing to elections."

He pointed to past Supreme Court rulings that noncitizens have First Amendment rights and that political contributions are a form of free speech protected by that amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The counter-argument is that the court also has upheld laws barring aliens from voting. If people are not allowed to vote,

this argument goes, doesn't it follow that they should not be allowed to give money to political campaigns?

Criticizing the proposed ban, Aleinikoff said that "without a lot more evidence, a law like that would needlessly stigmatize immigrants who are participating in a way we hope they will participate when they become citizens."

With all the recent publicity given big-money contributions to both parties, many activists of foreign birth - whether citizens or not - were reluctant to discuss the issue.

But during last fall's campaign, Akram Choudhry, a naturalized citizen and businessman from Montclair, New Jersey, said he thought all the questions directed at contributors with foreign-sounding names amounted to "racism."

"We need to get ethnic people involved in the process, not scare them," he said.

In an interview earlier this year, Norman Mineta, a former Democratic congressman from California who is of Japanese ancestry, decried the "Asian Pacific American-bashing going on in the press about fund raising."

Addressing Asian-Americans at an inaugural ball, Mineta said: "There are unfortunately many people who continue to see Americans of Asian and Pacific islands ancestry as somehow foreign."

McCain said what Congress does will depend on how much heat members get from the public.

"It depends on whether the pressure keeps increasing or not," he said.

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Minimum - Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, or Non-Accounting Bachelor's Degree and 1 year audit experience.

Preferred - Certified Public Accountant; audit experience in one of the following areas: public sector (federal, state, or local), public accounting, or internal auditing; ability to use standard business software programs (preferably WordPerfect for Windows, Microsoft Word, Quattro Pro or Excel) to prepare reports, memos, summaries, and analyses.

Application forms and position descriptions may be picked up from OPA's office at J.E. Tenorio Bldg., Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan. Visit OPA's web site at <http://www.mtcnmi.com/community/opa/index.html> for further details.

Applications may be submitted to OPA's office or may be mailed to the following address:

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR
P.O. BOX 1399, SAIPAN, MP 96950

Copies of official school transcripts, diploma, certificates and other documents supporting education and training claimed must be attached to the application. Failure to attach these documents may result in disqualification.

OPA IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.



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IMMEDIATE JOB OPENING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

Network Administrator Accounting Clerk

We are looking for highly motivated individuals to join our team. All interested parties please submit their resume at our office. Located in the Joeten Shopping Center Susupe 2nd Floor or call

235-4724



Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation (MTC) is seeking a SUPERVISOR - CUSTOMER SERVICES (CBC)

This position is responsible to the Manager Customer Services for directing and coordinating the daily activities of the customer Billing Center customer contract work force toward achieving the mission and attaining company objectives. Direct and supervise CBC Collections Administrator, service representative and clerks in the handling of customer billing inquiries, the negotiation of adjustments, and the collection of billed revenues.

A college background in Business Administration or related field of study combined with experience as a first line supervisor in CSOC or Plant Service Center is desirable. 3-5 years experience in the following: Service order procedures, related service standards, employee coaching and evaluation programs, practices and procedures, strong supervisory and managerial skills.

Human Resources Office
Micronesian Telecommunications Corp.
P.O. Box 306
Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: 670-234-6600
Fax: 670-235-9559

MTC is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer
Application or resume must be received by the Human Resource office on or before February 18, 1997.



SECUREWEST INTERNATIONAL (Saipan) The Pacific professional security company

Due to a significant expansion to our operations in Saipan, we are now seeking good caliber security officers with a background in military, law enforcement and/or Security. Applicants must be a Saipan resident (US citizen). Only those officers who can demonstrate dedication and loyalty need apply.

In return, we offer the following:

- Excellent wages
- Health Insurance contributions
- Vacation and sickness pay
- Holiday pay at double rate
- Full security training
- No uniform deposit
- Excellent career opportunities

Police clearance a must (90 days or less)

Applications are available at the Ambyth Shipping & Trading Office Westpac Building, Middle Rd., Puerto Rico or phone 235-3238 for more information

WANTED ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

We're looking for an individual to join our team!
The ability to handle multiple tasks, and heavy phone volume is a must.
The successful candidate will be a self-started, organized, out-going personality with excellent PC skills.
The ability to successfully interact with people of varied backgrounds, experiences and cultures is critical.

To join our high-caliber team providing quality banking services to the people of CNMI, submit your resume to:

BANK OF SAIPAN

P.O. Box 690
Saipan, MP 96950

OPEN POSITION

A. REPORTERS/NEWS WRITERS

Journalism graduate with good command of the English language and at least two to four years work experience for a daily newspaper.

Salary based on knowledge and experience.

B. GRAPHIC ARTISTS

Art school graduate with at least two years work experience in an advertising agency, newspaper or magazine, or printing establishment.

Salary \$3.35 - 3.65 per hour

C. PRINTERS/PRESS OPERATORS

With at least two years work experience in offset printing establishment; operates small and large presses.
Salary begins at \$3.35 - 3.75 per hour

D. SIGN - MAKING ARTISTS

Material use experts with knowledge of sign design and paint, use of computer for graphics, vinyl cutter and digital printer.
Sign maker has knowledge of variety materials use for sign construction display and posting.

Salary begins at \$3.35 - \$3.75 per hour

Interested applicants should send resume with photo, clippings, samples of work and supporting letters from previous employment to:



YOUNIS ART STUDIO, INC.
Publisher
Marianas Variety News & Views

YAS SIGNS SYSTEM
P.O. Box 231, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Warplanes attack cargo ship

By NIRESH ELIATAMBY
COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) - Sri Lankan warplanes strafed a foreign cargo ship with rockets, believing it was carrying arms for Tamil Tiger guerrillas, military officials said Monday.

None of the Cuban crew of the "MV Caribbean Queen," flying the flag of Cyprus, were hurt in Sunday's attack, said the officials, speaking on condition of anonymity. No arms were found on board.

The ship was on its way to Colombo, Sri Lanka's capital, and in international waters 24 miles (38 kilometers) off the rebel-held town of Mullaitivu, when it was sighted shortly before dusk on Sunday by a reconnaissance plane watching for arms smuggling.

The reconnaissance plane called up warplanes, which set part of the ship ablaze with rockets and cannon fire, said the officials.

It was not known whether the warplanes tried to contact the ship by radio before attacking.

The Cyprus Shipping Registry listed the ship as a tanker owned by Caribbean Queen Shipping Co. of Cyprus and managed by Naviera Poseidon of Cuba. The Sri Lankan military officials said it had unloaded sulphur at the Indian port of Calcutta, and was on its way to Europe via Colombo.

Sri Lankan warships later escorted the ship to Trincomalee on east coast, the navy's largest base. Sailors who boarded and searched it early Monday have so far found nothing suspicious, officials said.

Since 1983, the Sri Lankan military has been fighting rebels who want a Tamil homeland in the north and east of the island nation.

The rebels allege widespread discrimination by the majority Sinhalese, who control the government and the military, against minority Tamils.



LE BON MARCHÉ

is seeking a candidate for the position of
Deputy Store Manager

Attractive salary, plus benefits.

Interested applicants should submit their resume to:

**MANAGER
 LE BON MARCHÉ
 P.O. BOX 708 CK
 Saipan, MP 96950**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

ROTA HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND ADDITIONAL DREDGING PROJECT

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to perform earthwork in conjunction with the ROTA HARBOR MAINTENANCE AND ADDITIONAL DREDGING PROJECT, CPA Project No. CPA-RS-001-96 located at the Rota West Harbor, Rota, CNMI.

This Project, in general consists of marina expansion dredging (by others) south of the commercial dock to the revetted mole causeway between Anjota Island and the existing boat slips. The volume of dredged material is estimated at 25,000 Cubic Yards. The Contractor awarded this Project will assist the dredging effort through the removal and disposal of all material dredged. Two disposal sites have been permitted. The primary disposal site consists of spreading and compacting dredged material at Anjota Island. An alternate disposal site exists behind the Rota High School gymnasium and shall be used in the event the primary disposal site reaches capacity. Spreading and disposal of material shall be in accordance with the locations and details provided in the construction drawings and specifications.

Proposals submitted must be available for acceptance for a period up to 60 days after the designated date for opening of proposals. CPA may award a contract on the basis of the initial offer received without negotiations. Therefore, the initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms.

The contract award, if it is to be made, will be based on the pay items as listed in the proposal form. The proposal shall show each construction cost item separately in accordance with the plans and specifications. Proposers are required to submit qualification statements with their proposals. The CPA will evaluate the proposals on factors that include pricing, responsiveness, the contractor's level of experience and reliability of equipment to perform this operation without delay.

Proposals shall be received no later than 2:00 p.m. March 07, 1997 (local time) at the office of:

The Executive Director
 The Commonwealth Ports Authority
 Saipan International Airport
 P.O. Box 1055
 Saipan, MP 96950
 Tel: (670) 664-3500
 Fax: (670) 234-5982

A pre-proposal meeting will be held at the Rota Harbor at 11:00 a.m. on February 21, 1997. All questions must be submitted in writing or by fax to reach the above address no later than March 3, 1997.

Proposal documents are available from the CPA with payment of a non-refundable amount of \$35 per set. Cashier's and certified checks or money orders shall be made payable to:

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
 P.O. Box 1055
 Saipan, MP 96950

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with Section 3.2(7) of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

Signed:
CARLOS A. SHODA
 Executive Director
 Commonwealth Ports Authority
 Saipan, CNMI

February 7, 1997

Hutu rebel ambush kills 8

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) - Hutu rebels ambushed a convoy of minibuses, killing at least eight people and wounding three others in northwestern Rwanda, witnesses said Monday.

Two witnesses - a foreign aid worker and his Rwandan driver - said uniformed Hutu rebels stopped a convoy Sunday of three minibuses about 25 kilometers (16 miles) north of Kigali, ordered the passengers out and started shooting at them.

"The roadblock was across the road. The driver from the front vehicle ran back to where we were parked and said the soldiers were emptying the minibuses," said Jake

Fortney, a Canadian working for the Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA).

"The soldiers dragged all the people out and started shooting at everybody ... I didn't know what was happening," Fortney's driver, Mike Mugumye said. "A lady shot in the chest ran towards me saying they're killing everybody on the bus."

Moments later, soldiers from the Rwandan army showed up, the shooting stopped and the rebels apparently ran off, said the ADRA workers, neither of whom was hurt.

No comment from the government was immediately available.

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation that the CUC Human Resources System shall be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Lower Base, Saipan is looking for applicants for the following position:

BUDGET ANALYST IV

The employee assists in the annual budget preparation in coordination with all functional divisions. Coordinates and assists functional divisions in data gathering and preparation of justifications for budget submission. Interprets and transforms budget information in accordance with uniform chart of accounts. Monitors the obligations incurred by all functional divisions and ascertains impact on budgetary limitation for operations and capital improvement projects. Coordinates with functional divisions any budget constraints, budget adjustments, and variances arising from day to day operations. Prepares and distributes to functional division budget verses expenditures monthly report. Assists in the certification of funds availability for contracts dealing with personnel and other expenditures. Coordinates with functional divisions the funding phase of grant awards from federal grantor agencies. Assists Account Receivable/Payable section in account reconciliation. Issues quarterly allotment advice to functional divisions. Monitors employees' salary that they are within budget. Performs other duties as assigned. The minimum qualifications are BA degree from an accredited college or university with a major in accounting. Five (5) years general ledger accounting experience, preferably with a governmental or private utility or company equivalent to the size and scope of CUC. Must be proficient in electronic spreadsheets and word processing. Must meet both minimum education and experience requirements and pass qualifying accounting test. Copy of degree, official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the application.

STARTING SALARY: \$911.78 B/W, depending on experience.

This announcement closes on February 19, 1997. Applications are available at the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Lower Base, Saipan, the CUC Rota or Tinian office. Applications must be accompanied by an updated police clearance and a copy of the high school diploma.

/s/TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
 Executive Director
 Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Colombian army placed on alert

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) - Thousands of police and soldiers went on alert across Colombia on Monday because of fears of rebel attacks during a planned strike by state workers.

Hundreds of thousands of employees, including teachers, prison guards and oil workers, were expected to protest for higher wages beginning Tuesday.

They deny government charges that leftist rebels are manipulating their protest.

American Airlines and Continental Airlines canceled all flights Tuesday between Colombia and the United States - a total of seven - because of the work stoppage.

No other international airlines canceled flights, said Martin Gonzalez, a civil aviation spokesman. He said the Bogota airport will be running Tuesday, if necessary with air force aid.

International coffee futures jumped

to the highest point in almost two years Monday, partly because of concern the strike will paralyze shipping. Colombia is the world's second largest coffee producer.

Authorities said they intercepted a radio conversation between two leftist guerrilla chiefs agreeing they should carry out actions to mark the strike.

"There's no doubt that the strike is infiltrated by the rebels," Interior Minister Horacio Serpa said.

The armed forces were ordered to stay in their barracks and all leave was suspended. At least half a dozen police and soldiers were wounded in several rebel attacks around Colombia on Sunday and Monday.

Leftist guerrillas, whosay they represent the poor, have fought the state for decades.

Union leaders say the government is trying to discredit their demands,

which include a 21.6 percent wage hike in line with 1996 inflation. They also want an end to the government's privatization program.

The government originally offered salary increases of 13.5 percent, with one-time bonuses for some workers. Talks broke down Sunday.

Fearing labor unrest, many Bogota

residents flocked to supermarkets to stock up on food Monday.

City officials banned the sale of alcohol and the carrying of guns even with a permit until Wednesday. Motorcyclists were ordered to ride alone in the capital of 7 million.

During Colombia's worst years of drug violence, hitmen often rode in

pairs on motorcycles. One pulled the trigger, and the other weaved the bike through traffic in the getaway.

The education ministry suspended classes for more than 5 million students at state schools until next week. About 240,000 state teachers were expected to walk out. Some private schools also closed.

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NMC RFP 97-141

PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLES

Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja through the Northern Marianas College (NMC) is soliciting proposals from qualified automotive dealers for the procurement of 2 (two) Utility Vehicles for the Land Grant - Extension/Research Program. This purchase involves a trade-in of a (used) 1992 Subaru Legacy Station Wagon license plate no. NMI-31, and a 1990 Toyota Corola Station Wagon license plate no. NMC-16. The specifications are as follows:

2 Units Four wheel drive Utility Vehicle Closing Date: February 14, 1997

Body type:	5 Door Utility Vehicle
Engine size:	6 Cylinder
Displacement:	3.0 Liter or greater
Transmission:	Automatic
Steering type:	Power Assist
Brake System:	Power Front and Rear Disc
Other Features:	Air-con, AM/FM radio, Spare tire, Jack and lock wrench, shall be equipped with "all terrain" tires.

1 (one) unit shall be CIF Tinian Campus, and the other 1 (one) unit shall be delivered to the As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

The 2 (two) Vehicles must have a one year maintenance and warranty agreement, must be rust proof/undercoated and safety inspection be done prior to delivery.

All interested parties shall submit their proposals in a sealed envelope marked NMC RFP no. 97-141, to Mr. John T. Flores, building "N", Business Office, Procurement division, no later than 12:00 noon, Friday, February 14, 1997.

The Northern Marianas College reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in the proposals if determined by the College to be in its best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the NMC.

/s/Harris Lawrence
 NMC Comptroller

/s/John T. Flores
 Procurement & Property Manager

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

JESUS TYDINGCO

Born: April 16, 1949
 was called to his eternal rest on Friday,
 February 7, 1997 at the age of 47.

He is predeceased by his:
 MOTHER: Cecilia Tydingco FATHER: Jesus S.M. Ichihara (Guam)
 STEPMOTHER: Carmen Borja Ichihara

He is survived by his:
 WIFE: Rosa Rios Tydingco (Dasu)
 CHILDREN: Rose & Raymond Tydingco Grand Kids (Kyoshi, Keolani)
 BROTHERS & SPOUSES: Daniel & Aida Tydingco, Jose B. Ichihara & Mary Cepeda, Antonio B & Connie Ichihara, Jesus B. Ichihara & Lucia Peredo, Francisco B. Ichihara & Antonia Camecho, Juan B. Ichihara & Gail Joseph, Ramon B. Ichihara & Barbara Reyes, Joaquin B. Ichihara & Vivian Benavente
 SISTERS & SPOUSES: Ana Tydingco, Rita I. & Joe Leon Guerrero, Lucia I. & Rudy Rosario, Dolores I. & Edward Sudo, Carmen I. & David Mendiola
 IN-LAW & SPOUSES: Annie & Vic Vergara, susana & Mike Tokyo, Lucas Rios, Beatrice & Mike Troup, Armando & Sarah Villafuerte, Julius & Basie Villafuerte, Christopher Villafuerte, Dorothy Villafuerte.

He additionally survived by numerous Grandchildren, Aunts, Uncles, Nieces, Nephews and Cousins.

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at their residence in China Town. Last respect may be paid on Saturday, February 15, 1997 at his residence beginning at 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mass of a Christian burial will be at 4:00 p.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa. Burial will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Dangkulo Na Si Yu'u Ma'ase Pot Todu I Tinayuyot Miyu Ginen I Familia Siha.

TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
 Executive Director

Albania rioting turns to worst

By SANTIAGO LYON
VLORA, Albania (AP) - In the worst rioting in a month of unrest, anti-government protesters attacked police lines, beating some officers and setting uniforms, guns and shields ablaze in a bonfire. Police in this southern port city fired into the air and fought with the rock-throwing demonstrators

in Monday's confrontations. Two people were killed and 81 injured, state television said. The violence came as anger over the collapse of high-risk investment schemes has turned into anti-government sentiment. Many believe that President Sali Berisha's ruling Democratic Party either directly benefited from the

shady ventures or should have acted sooner to control them. Prime Minister Alexander Meksi went on national television Monday to urge Albanians not to join the unrest "that aims at pushing Albania into economic collapse." Later, after a 10-hour meeting of leaders of the ruling Demo-

cratic Party, Meksi said parliament would pass a law - possibly as early as Tuesday - that would allow the government to call in the army to protect Vlora's port and other public buildings. Meksi called the law a partial state of emergency. While drafted for Vlora, it could apply to other towns if rioting spreads. The raging riots proved nearly impossible to contain Monday after protesters attacked police, who responded by firing in the air. Some stood on the roofs of buildings and threw stones on the crowd.

State television said two men were killed Monday, but gave no further details. It said 81 people, including policemen, were treated at hospitals, most with head injuries. The first apparent victim of the unrest was a man who died of a heart attack on Sunday.

On Sunday in Vlora, 60 miles (95 kilometers) south of the capital, clashes injured 15 policemen and 15 protesters, according to ATA. Monday morning, a crowd of about 7,000 people attacked 100 riot police and managed to isolate

about 20 officers who fled into a building, where they were stripped of uniforms, guns, helmets and shields.

Then the crowd surged toward a police station, throwing stones and carrying flaming sticks wrapped in rags.

The government has blamed leftists for the rioting, claiming they want a return to communist rule.

The Forum for Democracy, a loose group of opposition parties, said the government would exploit the unrest to create "a police state."

Vlora's violence followed the beating of opposition leaders Sunday in a Tirana cafe. Uniformed men attacked the politicians, who have criticized the government's handling of the pyramid investment schemes.

For decades, Albania was the poorest country in Europe, but it had made economic progress since Communist rule ended at the end of 19

91. Economists now say that much of that progress was based on the investment funds, which have wiped out many Albanians' savings and tempted many to sell homes and invest everything in companies that promised three-digit annual returns.

The schemes paid off early investors with the proceeds of those who came later, until the schemes collapsed with the flow of new capital ran out.

Jury...

Continued from page 2

It took the jury five hours over two days to arrive at the punishment amount, ignoring the portrayal of Simpson as a tapped-out pariah and siding with a plaintiffs' lawyer who urged jurors to "Send a message ... you can't kill two people and get away with it."

The attorneys never asked for a specific amount in punitive damages but said it should be enough to hurt Simpson and to force the former American football star to relinquish his luxurious lifestyle.

The \$33.5 million in total damages dwarfs the \$15.7 million that plaintiffs estimated Simpson is worth, based on the predicted \$ 3 million he stands to make every year for selling his name, likeness and trademark. The estimate is important because under California law creditors can take up to 25 percent of future wages.

Leo Terrell, an attorney who is an outspoken advocate for Simpson, grimly escorted Simpson relatives out of the courthouse to a car.

"They're angry," he said. "This is against the law. You can't award more money than the man is worth. This award is wrong."

Before the plaintiffs can claim their money, the judge must decide whether the awards are reasonable, or inflated by irrational passions. He can pare them down if he chooses.

Peruvian hostage crisis

Explosion rocks rebel-held compound

By LYNN F. MONAHAN
IMA, Peru (AP) - On the eve of talks between leftist rebels and the government, the guerrilla commander holding 72 hostages is warning that the negotiations do not necessarily mean an end to the crisis.

Rebel chief Nestor Cerpa said Monday his group was willing to talk but remained firm in its demand of freedom for jailed Tupac Amaru comrades.

"The start of talks will not necessarily be the beginning of a solution to the conflict overall if the government does not pay attention to our demands," Cerpa said in a statement sent via shortwave radio.

Rebels have insisted that the government release about 400 of their comrades as a condition for freeing the hostages - a demand President Alberto Fujimori has rejected.

Cerpa also accused Fujimori of threatening to use force if the talks do not produce results, claiming the president was trying to use the talks as a "psychological weapon."

He warned that the government was underestimating the rebels' resolve.

Fujimori said Sunday in London that Peru would "exhaust all pacific measures so that the way out will not be using force."

He reiterated that he would consider force only if hostages were harmed.

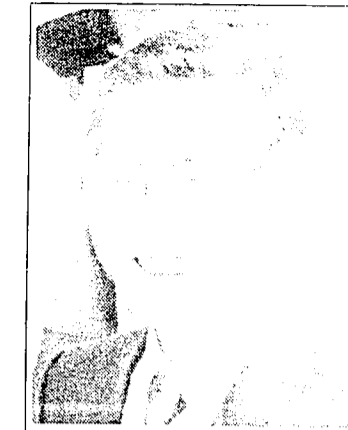
The atmosphere around the Japanese ambassador's residence was tense Monday as police stepped up security in the area and an explosion was heard inside the compound early in the afternoon.

The explosion was apparently caused by a grenade thrown by one of the rebels. Red Cross doctors who were inside the residence when the blast occurred said no one was injured.

Initially, police said it appeared

the explosion came from a land mine set by the guerrillas, but later a TV cameraman who has been in periodic radio communication with the rebels said it was caused by a hand grenade. The cameraman said he said not know which of the rebels inside the compound he had spoken with, but said that person told him the guerrillas were fed up with police harassment coming from a house next to the diplomatic compound.

Interior Minister Juan Briones confirmed that rebels caused the explosion, but he did not provide details. He also said guerrillas fired a burst of gunshots. It was the second explosion at the residence since it was taken over Dec. 17 by the heavily armed Tupac Amaru guerrillas, who burst into the diplomatic



Alberto Fujimori

compound during a cocktail party.

On Dec. 26, one of the ambassador's dogs tripped a mine and was died in the blast.

The guerrillas have fired shots about a half-dozen times since the crisis began, mostly as warn-

ings to police who had walked too close to the compound.

In preparation for Tuesday's talks, police moved journalists back from one of their vantage points near the compound, saying they were too close to the house where talks are to take place.

The private house where the meetings will be held is across the street from the ambassador's residence. An armored car will shuttle rebel representatives between the houses.

The Tupac Amaru rebels last met face-to-face with the government's negotiator, Education Minister Domingo Palermo, on Dec. 28. Since then, talks have stalled because of the impasse over rebel insistence that their comrades be freed. The sides have been exchange-

ing messages through intermediaries.

Cerpa, who commands about 14 followers holding the residence, is not expected to take part in the first stage of talks, but may join later.

The rebel negotiator is expected to be Cerpa's right-hand man, Roli Rojas Fernandez, known as "El Arab" (The Arab).

Besides Palermo and Rojas Fernandez, others at the talks will be Red Cross representative Michel Minig; Archbishop Juan Luis Cipriani; Canadian Ambassador Anthony Vincent; and Terusuke Terada, a Japanese official.

Those four are considered "guarantors," whose duty ostensibly is to serve as witnesses to guarantee that whatever is agreed is carried out.

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation that the CUC Human Resources System shall be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Lower Base, Saipan is looking for applicants for the following position:

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ROTA

Develops and executes the Operation and Maintenance Programs for Power Generation, Power Distribution, Water and Sewer, including Administration Services, Billing and collection. Develops a comprehensive program to provide for adequate power, water and sewer services to the people of Rota and continuous operation of the CUC owned and operated facilities. Develops materials, equipment and manpower requirements and recommends the same to the Executive Director of CUC. Prepares reports and cost studies for the Executive Director of CUC. These reports primarily consist of periodic progress reports, monthly narrative reports and special problems which may be affecting the progress of the functional divisions involved. Reviews the budget proposals and approves final budget submitted to the Executive Director for his approval or disapproval. Discusses problem areas with the Executive Director affecting the operation and maintenance of the CUC Rota Branch Office and operations and recommends the same improvements. Makes recommendations for organization and staffing. Evaluates the performance of the division managers and supervisors, and take corrective action as necessary to ensure good morale, discipline and productivity. Performs other related duties as assigned.

Starting Salary: \$1,615.38 B/W, depending on experience.

This announcement closes on February 19, 1997. Applications are available at the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Lower Base, Saipan, the CUC Rota or Tinian office. Applications must be accompanied by an updated police clearance and a copy of the high school diploma.

/s/TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
 Executive Director
 Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation that the CUC Human Resources System shall be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Lower Base, Saipan is looking for applicants for the following position:

ACCOUNTANT IV (General Ledger Accountant)

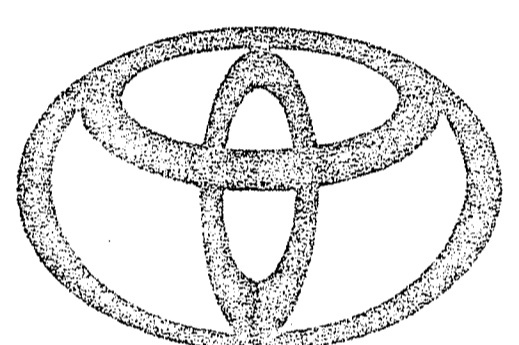
The employee maintains the general ledger on the OrCom System. Coordinates with A/P, A/R, Payroll, Fixed Assets, Work Orders, Treasury, Billing and Inventory module managers to ensure all modules are closed and distribution reports are submitted on a timely basis. Maintains subsidiary ledgers on all balance sheet accounts not maintained by other modules. Ensures that all subsidiary ledgers are reconciled to the general ledger on a monthly basis. Revises the General Ledger Chart of Accounts in the OrCom System, if necessary. Also, creates or changes the financial statement controls & formats in the OrCom System as directed by the Chief Accountant. Prepares and posts all monthly, quarterly and year end adjusting journal entries. Prepares monthly, quarterly and year end financial statements for review of the Chief Accountant. Performs monthly bank reconciliations of all bank accounts. Provides accounting support to external and internal auditors during audits. Performs other duties as assigned by the Chief Accountant. The minimum qualifications are BS/BA degree from an accredited college of university with a major in accounting. Five (5) years recent general ledger accounting experience, preferably with a governmental or private utility or company equivalent to the size and scope of CUC. Two (2) years experience preparing complete financial statements for review by management. Must be proficient in electronic spreadsheets and word processing. Must meet both minimum education and experience requirements and pass qualifying accounting Tests. Copy of degree, official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the application.

Starting Salary: \$868.34 B/W, depending on experience.


This announcement closes on February 19, 1997. Applications are available at the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Lower Base, Saipan, the CUC Rota or Tinian office. Applications must be accompanied by an updated police clearance and a copy of the high school diploma.

/s/TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
 Executive Director
 Commonwealth Utilities Corporation


Introducing



THE 1997 TOYOTA Land Cruiser



Pairere #1 TOYOTA



Microl Corporation
 An Incape Motors Company

at the corner of Beach Road and Chalan Mnsr. Guerrero in San Jose. Call us at 234-5911 or Fax us at 234-6514.

Cuba train crashes into locomotive

MEXICO CITY (AP) - A passenger train crashed into a locomotive in eastern Cuba, and a number of people were feared dead and injured, the Mexican government news agency Notimex reported.

Notimex quoted the Interior Ministry as saying the crash occurred outside in the village of Caguasal, 450 kilometers (280 miles) east of Havana, the Cuban capital. Caguasal is near the town of Ciego de Avila.

According to the report Monday, the train was carrying military conscripts and was bound from Santiago to Havana.

It crashed into a locomotive belonging to the Ministry of Sugar.

No further details were immediately available.

Airline seeks to avert strike

By KATIE FAIRBANK
WASHINGTON (AP) - With 90,000 jobs and travel plans for more than 200,000 people a day in the balance, American Airlines and its pilots turned to a federal mediator Monday in an effort to stave off a weekend strike.

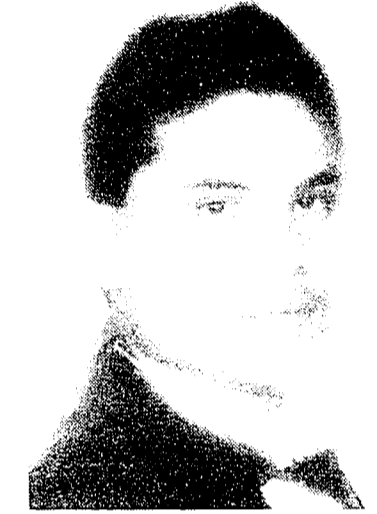
a federally mandated cooling-off period, the pilots have threatened a strike and the airline has said it would shut down. That would hobble a fifth of America's air-travel capacity, leaving ticketed passengers without a ride.

airline and the Allied Pilots Association at a downtown hotel. The Fort Worth, Texas-based airline has promised to try to accommodate passengers by helping them find seats on other airlines if a strike is called.

The National Mediation Board asked for the same from the two sides in the talks. "I think we're going into this with an open mind," said mediation board chairman Kenneth Hipp.

American and the union, which represents only the pilots, are butting heads over compensation and job security, although other contract issues could be discussed.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT



In his death, Dé now joins his:

Grandparents: Estephania Blas Reyes Sablan, Pedro Lizama Pangelinan

His peaceful spirit and memories will live in the hearts of his:
Parents: Juan Reyes Sablan and Maria Pangelinan Sablan
Sister: Leslie P. Sablan
Brother: Johanzem P. Sablan
Son: Keoni Joseph Borja

Grandparents: Jesus Aguon Sablan and Modesta Cruz Pangelinan

He is additionally survived by numerous uncles, aunts, nephews and nieces.

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at the residence of Juan Reyes Sablan and Maria Pangelinan Sablan in Kagman II.


Last respects may be paid on Saturday, February 15, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at San Vicente Church. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 4:30 p.m. on the same day. Burial will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

DARROW JOHN PANGELINAN SABLAN, JR.

Darrow John Pangelinan Sablan Jr., lovingly known to his families and friends as "Dé" was called to his eternal rest on Saturday, February 8, 1997 at the age of 19 years.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

In loving memory of



Nicolas M. De Leon Guerrero

We, the family, invite all relatives and friends to join us in commemorating the First Anniversary of his passing unto eternal life by attending the nine day Eucharistic celebration at 6:00 p.m. at San Vicente Church, beginning on February 9, 1997 and ending with a Memorial Mass on February 17, 1997. Dinner will be served following the Memorial Mass at the San Vicente Church patio.

Your attendance is gratefully appreciated.

Helen S. Leon Guerrero
Anna Leon Guerrero-Sullivan & Brian Sullivan

The pilots, who have not had a basic wage increase since 1993, are asking for raises more than double what the company offered in a tentative contract.

The company had agreed to increase salaries by 3 percent this year and 2 percent in 1999. It also had added stock op-

China's grain demand seen as an export opportunity

By JOHN D. McCLAIN
WASHINGTON (AP) - China's fast-growing demand for grain will provide an opportunity for exporting nations rather than threaten world supplies, an agricultural research group contends.

An International Food Policy Research Institute report said Monday that although China's imports of grain will reach historic highs, the nation's production also will increase, preventing worldwide shortages and higher prices.

Exporting nations, especially those dealing in wheat and corn, stand to benefit from these trends, according to the report. The United States produces almost half of the world's grain exports. "Increased demand for grain in China offers opportunity for major grain exporters such as the United States, Canada and Australia, but it poses no threat to world food markets," said Mark Rosegrant, an institute research fellow and co-author of the report.

The institute said alarms have been sounded recently that population growth, rapid industrialization and economic expansion would sharply boost grain demand in the world's most populous country, draining international markets and inflating world food prices.

The study forecasts that China's demand for grain will total 450 million metric tons in 2000, rising to 513 tons in 2010 and 594 million tons in 2020.

At the same time, domestic production in China will rise to 420 million tons in 2000, 486 million tons in 2010 and 570 million tons in 2020.

As a result, grain imports will reach a record 24 million tons in 2000 and increase to 27 million tons in 2010 before leveling off at 25 million tons by 2020, the report projects.

"It appears that China will neither empty the world grain markets nor become a major grain exporter," the report concludes.

The institute said rising meat consumption in China will drive the grain demand as consumers more that double their meat, poultry and fish consumption. But it forecasts grain as food will decrease.

Share prices close lower in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AP) - Share prices in Hong Kong closed generally lower Monday after five consecutive sessions of gains.

The Hang Seng Index, the market's key indicator of blue chips, fell 16.96 points, or 0.12 percent, closing at 1,3643.54. The Hong Kong market was closed on Thursday and Friday because of the Chinese New Year holidays.

Turnover amounted to 7.633 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$978 million), up from Wednesday's 7.247 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$929 US).

Brokers said share prices rose in early trading before falling on profit-taking.

"The market is quite thin. When it opened higher, it attracted selling pressure and there was no support to hold prices up," said Frederick Tsang, head of Hong Kong research at PrimeEast Securities (HK) Ltd.

Among losers, Sun Hung Kai Properties fell 2 Hong Kong dollars to 91.00, Cheung Kong fell 1.50 dollars to 74.25, Swire Pacific "A" also fell 1.50 dollars to 70.00, and Hutchison Whampoa fell 1 dollar to 58.75.

Going against the trend were banking shares. HSBC Holdings rose 5.50 dollars to 189.50, and Hang Seng Bank rose 25 cents to 93.50.

Dollar rallies as Europe worries

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. Treasury secretary Robert Rubin's musings about how long the dollar has been strong seem to have had the same impact on global financial markets as Alan Greenspan's comments about "irrational exuberance."



Robert Rubin

First a bit of turmoil, then business as usual.

The high-flying dollar was jostled after Rubin signaled a change in administration policy Friday.

But after one of the widest one-day swings in some time, the dollar ended the day Monday about back where it began before all the excitement started.

And many analysts were predicting the U.S. currency is headed higher still in the months ahead.

Rubin's comments Friday were followed by a joint statement Saturday by finance officials of the world's seven richest industrial countries.

Following a meeting in Berlin, the group sought to slow the dollar's rapid rise by expressing the unanimous view that "excess volatility (in currency markets) is undesirable."

But currency markets basically shrugged off the statement, pushing the dollar up from its midday lows against both the mark and the yen. In late trading in New York, \$1 was buying 122.78 yen or 1.6560 marks.

"Markets are basically coming to the conclusion that the G-7 doesn't have very much to back up its communique," said David Gilmore of Foreign Exchange Analytics in Essex, Connecticut.

"The economic fundamentals still seem to be very supportive of the dollar."

The reaction was very similar to the sharp selloff Greenspan triggered in global stock markets in December when he openly speculated about whether stock values had been pushed too high.

However, when investors became convinced that Greenspan was not ready to start raising interest rates to prick a speculative bubble, stock prices in the United States resumed climbing to record highs.

The U.S. dollar is benefiting from the fact that the American economy is growing much faster than its two big rivals, Japan and Germany, which are struggling to emerge from prolonged periods of weakness.

The economic sluggishness means Japan and Germany can't support their currencies by raising interest rates and with growth so strong in the United States, the Federal Reserve

isn't likely to cut U.S. rates. Rather, the next move for U.S. rates is expected to be an increase later this spring, further widening the positive differential investors can earn on their U.S. investments.

A strong dollar is good for American consumers because it keeps inflation pressures at bay and makes Japanese cars and other foreign products cheaper.

But it has been a headache for U.S. manufacturers, especially makers of autos, computers and heavy equipment that compete most directly with Japanese imports.

After hitting post-World War II lows against both the Japanese yen and German mark in the spring of 1995, the dollar has been surging. It is now up 50 percent against the yen and 20 percent against the mark.

After months of complaints by automakers, Rubin on Friday signaled a subtle shift in U.S. policy. While he still maintained that a strong dollar was in America's interests, he noted for the first time that "we have had a strong doo brake the dollar's rapid increase."

"Rubin and the other G-7 officials were concerned that the dollar was going too high, too fast," said Bill

Bertha, a senior currency trader at Mellon Bank in Pittsburgh.

But Bertha predicted the dollar is likely to rise still further in coming months. He said it was likely the G-7 would next try to intervene directly in currency markets by selling dollars and buying other currencies.

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Happy 3rd Birthday
NINA MARIE P. GUERRERO
From Family

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

HOME PROGRAM

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) would like to remind the general public that the NMHC is currently accepting "Preliminary Applications" for the CNMI's FY 96 HOME Program. The HOME Program avails funds for rehabilitation and repair activities on residential dwelling units owned and occupied by very low-income families.

Financial assistance is available to eligible homeowners primarily through low-interest (3% fixed rate) direct rehabilitation loans of up to \$15,000, with a maximum repayment term of fifteen (15) years. Deferred rehabilitation loans will also be available, but only in situations where the applicant(s) demonstrates a critical need for financial assistance and proven lack of financial resources for repayment of amount requested.

If you would like more information about the HOME Program, please contact our Central Office on Saipan at telephone numbers 234-6866 or 234-9447. Rota and Tinian residents, please call our Field Offices at 532-9410 and 433-9213, respectively.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID


ITB NO.: ITB97-0071
FOR: PROCUREMENT OF A VEHICLE
OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 26, 1997 TIME: 2:00 P.M.
GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ARE SOLICITING COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF A VEHICLE. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).

/s/ EDWARD B. PALACIOS
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

First Anniversary

We, the family of the late

ANTONIO C. TOMOKANE, JR. (BLANCO) "TONY"



Invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayer for our beloved one. Daily Mass will be offered at 6:00 A.M. at Kristo Rai Church beginning February 09, 1997 to February 16, 1997.


Rosary will be said nightly at 8:00 P.M., at the family residence in Middle Road, Garapan beginning February 09, 1997 through February 16, 1997. On the final day February 17, 1997 Rosary will be said at 12:00 Noon and the Mass of Intention will be offered at 5:00 P.M. at Kristo Rai Church. Dinner will follow at the family residence.

Thank You
The Family

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

We the family of the late

PETRA IGLESIAS MACARANAS



invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayer for our beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother in commemorating her first year in the eternal life.

Rosary will be said nightly at 7:00 p.m. at Andy Macaranas' residence in China Town starting from Thursday, February 13 through February 20th.

On the final day, Friday, February 21st, Rosary will be said at 12:00 noon. The Mass of the Resurrection of her soul will be offered at 6:00 P.M. at Kristo Rai Church in Garapan. Dinner will follow at her residence in China Town.

Please join us in prayers
Dangulo na si yu's ora'se
Gimen & Familia

Compacts...

ports" Murkowski's position giving the Commonwealth the same treatment as states in the distribution of federal drug enforcement funds.

Murkowski is the chair of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which is conducting hearings on a bill he and Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii) introduced. S. 210 would amend the Organic Act of Guam, the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, and the Compacts of Free Association.

Borja, in his letter, said the bill's section 9—which concerns eligibility for federal housing assistance—"presumes that...the Compacts allow FAS citizens free access into the Commonwealth."

The Compacts have a provision that allows FAS citizens to enter and reside in the United States without regard

to specific sections of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which is federal law. Borja said the law is not applicable to the CNMI. "We want very much to welcome our neighbors to our shores," he said. "But...we cannot welcome other peoples when it will unfairly burden the Commonwealth's people and economy. If the United States would keep its promise under the Compact, there would be no need for section 9 in your bill."

Borja said the section should be withdrawn until the federal government and the CNMI have discussed the issue through consultations as provided by the Covenant Establishing a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union With the United States.

Citing a provision of the

Compacts, the CNMI, Guam and Hawaii are asking the federal government to pay for the socio-economic costs involved in allowing FAS citizens into their jurisdictions.

The federal government, however, has maintained that it has no legal obligation to pay.

The separate "compacts of free association" the United States signed with Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands granted U.S. citizenship to the people of these jurisdictions.

MTC...

calls made simultaneously, according to MTC officials. It will be activated by the end of this month, officials said.

The cable activation will put an end to long-distance calls through satellite and microwave which only allow up to

200 simultaneous calls. This limited number of calls that can be made at any one time is the reason why sometimes a caller has to wait for a certain period of time when all the circuits are busy.

Jenkins said the cable-laying project took four and one-half years to complete.

The cable will be interconnected to MTC's network and opened up or leased to "any and all that wish to use its facility," he said.

Guam serves as the cable hub site where majority of international cables interconnect. "What this will do is bring the CNMI digitally and connect it to the rest of the world," Jenkins said.

Vic Borja, MTC manager for external affairs, who lobbied strongly for MTC to be granted a franchise before the legislature, expressed his elation at the completion of the undersea cable laying. "I'm very happy that the

submarine fiber-optic cable finally landed on Saipan for the future of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas. Everyone will be benefited, we have long awaited this..." Borja said.

Reyes is also credited for being instrumental in the realization of the MTC project, being the chair of a House subcommittee on fiber optic cable which junked the contract awarded to the GST by the administration giving it the benefit of a three-year exclusivity.

Reyes recalled that the subcommittee members were in a quandary which to choose among the telecommunications firms applying for the contract to lay a cable.

"I was a little responsible in pushing through the MTC cable because they were ready to go and their application had been on hold for over three or four years at the time," Reyes said in an interview.

Reyes said he was not supportive of the idea of exclusivity "which was what GST and the executive branch wanted."

Ash...

on abstinence. The law on fasting allows only one full meatless meal during the day. Two other meatless meals are allowed, but they should be less than full meals.

The Church also allows intake of liquids, including milk and fruit juice, in between meals.

People aged 18 to 59 years are covered by the law on fasting, but the Church does not oblige them to fast if their health and ability to work are affected.

The Church also encourages self-imposed fasting on all weekdays of Lent. Masses with blessing and imposition of ashes will be said at the Mount Carmel cathedral at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. today.

During the Lent season, the Church encourages the people to do more acts of charity like visiting and caring for the sick and the needy, and alms giving.

Catholics are also urged to go to confession. During Lent the local Church also asks the different parishes to contribute to the Catholic Charities Appeal, or CCA. Contributions go to help the bishop of Chalan Kanoa meet the costs of administering to the spiritual and temporal diocesan needs as well as of providing the education and formation of seminarians, permanent deacons, and priests in the diocese.

The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the necessary funding and/or required approval to enter into legally binding arrangements to complete the entire project.

CUC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defect in said proposals, or any of them, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

CUC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defect in said proposals, or any of them, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

SAY NO TO DRUGS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC RFP 97-0015 February 12, 1997

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive proposals from responsible Architectural/Engineering firms capable of designing the upgrade of electrical overhead 7.97/13.8 kV distribution lines and secondary services in the Villages of Chalan Kanoa, Garapan, Gualo Rai, San Antonio, San Jose, San Roque, San Vicente, Susupe and Tanapag to correct problems caused by low voltages, excessive outages and property encroachments of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's electrical system. The work included in the statement of work will be on the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), approximately 150 miles north of Guam.

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the CUC Procurement & Supply Office in Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), or have the statement of work faxed or mailed upon request.

Offerors shall provide a certification signed by a principle of the company stating that the company has in the past, and is currently, in compliance with all applicable CNMI and federal labor laws. Should the company be unable to provide such certification, the company must provide a written explanation as to why, including a description of any violations of such labor laws and any remedial action taken. Failure of the company to provide the certification or explanation is grounds to reject the entire proposal.

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

Six (6) sets of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked CUC RFP 97-0015, to Mr. Frank T. Flores, Special Advisor, at CUC, Material Management Division, P.O. Box 1220, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 3:00 p.m., local time, Friday, March 14, 1997.

Proposals will be evaluated and selections made based on cost (50 maximum points), experience (45 maximum points), and design schedule (5 maximum points).

Selection shall be made in accordance with CUC's Procurement Regulations Selection 4-102. Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals and such revisions may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

CUC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defect in said proposals, or any of them, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

For further information, contact Technical Service Manager, Mr. Michael W. Randall, P.E., at 322-4033, Ext. 30.

TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CUC RFP 97-0016 February 14, 1997

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive proposals from responsible Architectural/Engineering firms capable of assisting CUC in the procurement of an additional 80 MW of generation for the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Offerors must:
• have experience in assisting an electrical utility in determining the size and type of generators to be used in an environment like Saipan in order to provide the most reliable power;
• be able to assist CUC with the environmental and licensing concerns; and
• be able to assist CUC in preparing bid documents and contracts for the purchase of a generation plant for a build, operate and transfer generation plant agreement; or a build, operate and own generation plant agreement.

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the CUC Procurement & Supply Office in Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), or have the statement of work faxed or mailed upon request.

Offerors shall provide a certification signed by a principle of the company stating that the company has in the past, and is currently, in compliance with all applicable CNMI and federal labor laws. Should the company be unable to provide such certification, the company must provide a written explanation as to why, including a description of any violations of such labor laws and any remedial action taken. Failure of the company to provide the certification or explanation is grounds to reject the entire proposal.

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

Six (6) sets of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked CUC RFP 97-0016, to Mr. Frank T. Flores, Special Advisor, at CUC, Material Management Division, P.O. Box 1220, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 3:00 p.m., local time, Tuesday, March 18, 1997.

Proposals will be evaluated and selections made based on cost (40 minimum points), qualifications of principal and staff (25 maximum points), qualifications of personnel assigned to the project (25 maximum points), and project completion time (10 maximum points).

Selection shall be made in accordance with CUC's Procurement Regulations Selection 4-102. Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals and such revisions may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the necessary funding and/or required approval to enter into legally binding arrangements to complete the entire project.

CUC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defect in said proposals, or any of them, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ
Executive Director

Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section

Employment Wanted



Job Vacancy Announcement

01 OPERATIONS ASSISTANT-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour
Contact: MICHIGAN, INC. Tel. 234-9555(2/12)W227654

02 COMMERCIAL CLEANERS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 HOUSEKEEPING-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 GENERAL MAINTENANCE-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: MANUEL R. & GLORIA L. MESA dba M & G Enterprises Tel. 288-1780(2/12)W227651

01 PURCHASING AGENT-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: MARIANAS EXCHANGE INCORPORATED dba Auto Parts Supply Co. Tel. 234-9531(2/12)W227652

03 MASON-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
03 CARPENTER-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
01 STEEL WORKER-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
Contact: ROLAND G. JASTILLANA dba Arjay Construction Tel. 234-7666(2/12)W64114

01 OFFICE MANAGER-Salary:\$800.00-2,500.00 per month
03 COOK-Salary:\$3.05-6.50 per hour
01 HOUSEKEEPING, CLEANER-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
01 AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.05-4.50 per hour
Contact: SUWASO CORPORATION dba Coral Ocean Point Resort Club Tel. 234-7000(2/12)W64102

01 WAITER-Salary:\$3.05-3.48 per hour
Contact: SAIPAN HOTEL CORP. dba Hala Dai Beach Hotel Tel. 234-6495(2/12)W64104

01 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 JANITOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: MAI THAI INC. dba Mai Thai Restaurant Tel. 233-2552(2/12)W227649

05 WAITRESS (Night Club)-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
05 DANCER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: A AND CENTERPRISES, INC. dba Club X Tel. 233-2599

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.50-4.00 per hour
Contact: GENERAL SALES, REPAIR & MAINT. CORP. Tel. 288-2711(2/12)W227646

01 SALES CLERK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: MONIKA STAFFLER dba Monika's Gallerie Tel. 233-4402(2/12)W227645

03 HELP MAINTENANCE REPAIR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: ANTONIA R. NIAZ KHAN dba Stones Enterprises Tel. 256-5559(2/12)W227644

01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.50 per hour
01 AUTOBODY FENDER-Salary:\$3.50 per hour
Contact: A.C.C.S. CORPORATION dba Car Town Tel. 235-9411(2/12)W227643

01 ASST. MANAGER-Salary:\$800.00 per month
01 COOK-Salary:\$4.20 per hour
05 WAITRESS (Night Club)-Salary:\$3.05-3.75 per hour
Contact: MALLIE CORPORATION dba Tokyo Tower Lounge Tel. 235-8680(2/12)W227648

01 COMPUTER PROGRAMMER-Salary:\$500.00 semi-monthly
01 COMPUTER ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$350.00 semi-monthly
Contact: SAIPAN COMPUTER SERVICES, INC. Tel. 234-9110 227585

01 CAMERA WORKERS (Photographers)-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: ROWENA Q. ANDRES dba Marianas TV Production Tel. 235-1010(2/12)W227657

01 TRAVEL COUNSELOR-Salary:\$1,200.00-1,500.00 per month
02 TOURIST INFO. ASST. CLERK-Salary:\$6.00-7.00 per hour
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$6.00-8.00 per hour
01 MARINE SPORTS INSTRUCTOR-Salary:\$2,000.00-3,000.00 per month
01 TRAVEL COUNSELOR-Salary:\$1,200.00-1,900 per month
01 TOURIST INFO. ASST. CLERK-Salary:\$1,200.00-1,500.00 per month
Contact: PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT INC. Tel. 322-8876(2/5)W227542

01 COOK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: BOBBIE'S CORPORATION Tel. 233-8931(2/19)W227726

01 CONSTRUCTION WORKER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: IKE'S HOUSE & LAND RENTAL & CONSTRUCTION dba Farming/Fishing Co. Tel. 234-0779(2/19)W227727

01 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary:\$4.00 per hour
Contact: HENRYK. PANGELINAN AND ASSOC. INC. Tel. 234-5236(2/19)W227725

01 ASST. MANAGER-Salary:\$1,000.00 per month
Contact: TRI-ALL INTERNATIONAL CORP. dba Wholesale/Retail/Snack Bar/Foreign Exchange Tel. 234-1603(2/19)W227749

05 COOK-Salary:\$3.05-5.00 per hour
Contact: AUNTIE MAG'S FOOD CATERING SERVICES, INC. Tel. 288-0964(2/19)W227729

02 BEAUTICIAN-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
04 MASON-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
04 CARPENTER (FINISHING)-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
Contact: JOHN C. DELEON GUERRERO dba J's Enterprises Tel. 234-9892(2/25)T227806

01 CONSTRUCTION WORKER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: CHAMORRO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Tel. No. 288-0606(2/26)W227834

01 MANAGER-Salary:\$3.50 per hour
Contact: EEA CORPORATION Tel. 288-6192(2/26)W227828

01 COOK-Salary:\$3.05-4.00 per hour
Contact: PACIFIC RESORT SERVICES, INC. dba E'SY Kitchen Tel. 234-0692(2/26)W227830

01 PAINTER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: J & L ENTERPRISES Tel. 233-5847(2/26)W227831

02 CARPENTER-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
Contact: TAC INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTORS, INC. Tel. 234-7833(2/26)W64344

02 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
01 WAREHOUSE WORKER-Salary:\$3.05-3.30 per hour
Contact: TRANSAMERICA CORPORATION Tel. 234-7833(2/26)W64343

02 MASON-Salary:\$2.90-3.05 per hour
01 SUPERVISOR, CONSTRUCTION-Salary:\$4.00-7.75 per hour
Contact: YCO CORPORATION dba Yco Servistar Hardware/Liberty Plaza/Liberty Sportshoppe Tel. 235-6604(2/26)W64328

01 SALES CLERK-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: JUAN T. HOCOG dba J&R Hocog Enterprises Tel. 256-7673(2/26)W227824

32 SINGLE NEEDLE MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
01 ASSISTANT FACTORY MANAGER-Salary:\$1,000.00 per month
17 IRONING WORK (MACHINE PRESSER)-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
56 OVERLOCK SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
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INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB97-0066
FOR: PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLE
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GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ARE SOLICITING COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF A VEHICLE. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).
/S/EDWARD B. PALACIOS
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT
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ITB NO.: ITB97-0067
FOR: PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLES
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DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP97-0068
FOR: SECONDARY ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT
OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 1997 TIME: 2:00 P.M.
GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ARE SOLICITING COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR SECONDARY ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP PROPOSAL FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).
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ITB NO.: ITB97-0069
FOR: LEASE OF VEHICLES
OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 1997 TIME: 1:00 P.M.
GOVERNOR FROILAN C. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS C. BORJA, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ARE SOLICITING COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS FOR THE LEASE OF VEHICLES. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.).
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STELLA WILDER
YOUR BIRTHDAY

By **Stella Wilder**

Born today, you are a strong, forceful individual, but you have been blessed with a sensitivity that keeps you from behaving like a bull in a china shop. You balance your natural impulses and your instincts quite well, and you always seem to behave in just the right way in any given situation. Indeed, others often look to you to determine how they should behave. It would not surprise anyone who knows you well if you became a teacher, because you thrive on working with others and helping them to develop their potential to the fullest possible extent.

You have a creative streak, and you should accept this fact if you want to be content. Business acumen alone will not be enough for you. You will have to develop other talents as well if you hope to live a well-balanced life.

Also born on this date are: Joe Don Baker, actor; Arsenio Hall, comic, TV host; Bill Russell, basketball player; Franco Zeffirelli, director; Scott Turow, author.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding para-

graph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

THURSDAY, FEB. 13
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Now will be a good time for you to give back to others a little of what you have received from them in the past. Try to be polite when entering new circles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — You will not be in the mood for monkey business today. You must draw a line and insist that others follow your example when things get complicated.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You will have to be creative to overcome an obstacle that is thrown in your path today. You can do it, but it may take extra time.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You should keep careful records of everything you do, everywhere you go and every penny you spend today. Soon, someone will want you to explain everything.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may feel as though you have nowhere to go, but in fact the door is open to you and you can explore freely if you feel inclined.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — There is no reason for you to be timid and hide in your shell today. The dangers that have lurked in

the past have all vanished by now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You will need a little quality time with someone who helps you to answer tough questions. If you extend an invitation, it will be accepted.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — The prospect of being unprepared is something you cannot accept. Get to work, and make sure you consider all possibilities as you rehearse.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today, you should focus on the things that you can control easily. Now will not be a good time to try something new.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Even though you may find yourself in unfamiliar territory today, you can rely on your skill and instincts to see you through. Enjoy the adventure!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — "Promises, promises." That is what you'll be saying as you receive a guarantee from someone who hasn't come through yet. Try to remain be patient.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Why be so negative? You may seem as if you are in good spirits, but someone close to you will see right through the facade.

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CLOSERS

COLUMN CLOSERS

The basic monetary unit of Iceland is the krona, and its chief fractional unit is the eyrir.

Environmental influences can cause a frog's sex to change from male to female or vice versa.

Nonsmokers dream more than smokers.

On average, cars have 15,000 parts.

The word "malaria" means "bad air."

Although vitamin K is available in a variety of vegetables, it is also produced by intestinal tract bacteria.

People visiting their doctor in the United States complain of insomnia more than any other ailment.

The United States was the world's No. 1 producer of oil as recently as 1964.

If harnessed, the energy contained in a hurricane could replace all the electrical power used in the United States for six months.

On July 4, 1776, King George III of England wrote in his diary that nothing important had happened that day.

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ACROSS

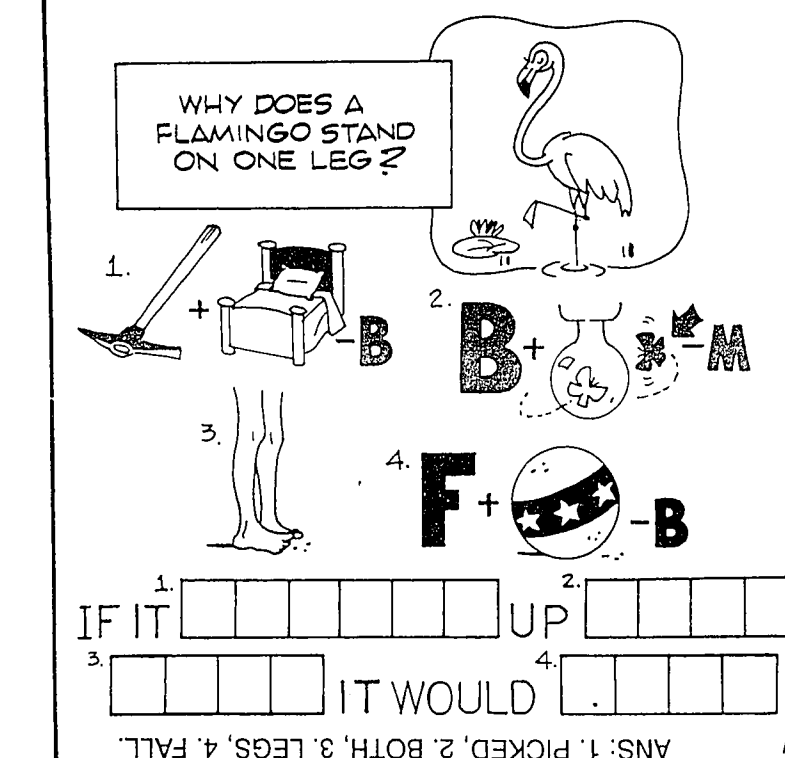
1 "Yours, Mine and..."
5 Swine
8 — storm
12 Crude metals
13 Actress Alicia
14 Joint
15 Non-profit TV
16 Strikes across the face
18 One (Scot.)
19 Anton ID
20 Unlocked
21 Faeroe Islands whirlwind
23 "ink" star (inits.)
24 A Ryan
26 Unwarranted
28 — closet
29 No — ands or buts
30 Explosive (abbr.)
32 Singer Pinza
33 Cry from Casper
34 Costa —
35 Xmas mo.

DOWN

1 Fumbler's exclamation
2 City
3 Legal matter
4 Spielberg ID
5 Eddie Van —
6 — even keel
7 Hiatus
8 Karan ID
9 Ms. Merkel
10 Part of paragraph
11 Set up (golf ball)
16 C — (cable news)
17 "My Three —"
20 Bread spread
22 — Marinaro in readiness (2 wds.)
25 Sci-fi prop
27 Practical
28 Headed the pack
29 Debt-note abbr.
31 — "Baby"
33 Prohibit
34 Edges
36 27th US pres.
37 Pie a la —
39 Olivier ID
40 Don Johnson on "Miami Vice"
41 Paintings
42 Aid in diagnosing (hyp. wd.)
44 — "Cadillac"
45 Summer month
46 More or —
48 Sea bird
50 "Who — That Lady?"
51 Deli bread
53 Clark ID
55 — Corral



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Will he behave?

The Worm is back!

By **MIKE NADEL**

CHICAGO (AP) — Scottie Pippen says Dennis Rodman cares only about Dennis Rodman. Michael Jordan says he and Rodman "have no relationship."

Chicago Bulls coach Phil Jackson, however, is warmly welcoming the Worm back from his latest suspension. Rodman returns to action tonight against the Charlotte Hornets after sitting out 11 games for kicking a cameraman.

"He's a very easy person to have on the team. We've got a lot harder guys to have on the team than Dennis," Jackson said Monday without revealing who they might be.

"That's the thing people don't understand. He does his job, comes to practice and keeps his mouth shut. He works hard. He is never delinquent."

Of course, Jackson doesn't enjoy having to coach around the NBA rebounding leader's suspensions—which now number three, for a total

of 19 games, in 1½ years with Chicago.

"When you get to rely on a person as dominant as he is and he's not available, then it is a problem," Jackson said. "We had a brief chat, Dennis and I, just to reiterate that there have to be some stipulations about his behavior. We just can't risk the possibility that he's not going to be here for the playoffs."

Pippen doubts that Rodman will change at all.

"All I know is that Dennis doesn't give a damn about most things," Pippen said. "I'm not sure he's capable of learning any lessons from his suspensions. I don't expect him ever to change, because if he did, he wouldn't be the Worm, the personal-

ity he has invented for himself."

The cross-dressing, hair-dyeing, referee-baiting forward helped the Bulls win the NBA title last season. And Rodman has promised to demonstrate his love for Chicago fans by donating his salary from the next 11 games to charity.

So he'll probably receive a loud ovation tonight at the United Center.

sportsbits

Weightlifters and Bodybuilders Meeting

THERE will be a very important re-organizational meeting for both weightlifting and bodybuilding federations on Tuesday, February 18, 1997, 5:00 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium Conference Room.

If you are interested in serving on the board, competing or just helping out, we ask that you attend this meeting.

The organizations exist because of the presence of a constitution. The

past year, however, there is no activity for both federations and it is the main reason why it is important to revitalize both sports. International fees are due and payments should be made to enable the associations to receive any benefits from the International Federations.

For further information contact Bill Sakovich or Ray Kapileo at 234-1001 or 234-1002.

Cliff...
Continued from page 28

challenge of Maggie San Nicolas and Jun Escosta. Both San Nicolas and Escosta netted 18 fishes.

Marcelino Biz's 22.92 pound total haul gave him the title in the Total Weight Division. San Nicolas placed second with a 20.93 total catch while Masga came in third with 18.51 haul.

Entry fee is \$25 and the deadline for submission of application forms will be on Friday, Feb. 14 at the Visitor Information Center in Tinian.

For more information, contact the MVB Office at 664-3200/1 or fax at 664-3237 or visit the office located at the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

4th Annual...
Continued from page 28

NMITF president and one of Saipan's top triathletes Stuart Smith said that "organizers are expecting the participation of at least 100 triathletes from Japan, 20 from Guam, 10 from Rota and at least 10-15 campaigners from Saipan."

Taro Shirato of Japan and Saipan's very Susan Burr won last year's overall title. Shirato and Burr lead the favorites as they bid for back to back titles.

The participants will start the triathlon competitions with the Swim event at Dive Rota in East Harbor, then they will proceed with the Bike run starting from Song Song towards the Rota Airport then back for the day's final event, a 10 KM run.

The first event starts at 7 a.m. Packet pick-ups and pre-race briefing will be given on Friday, April 4 at the lobby of the Pau Pau Hotel.

Cash and spot prizes plus other valuables await winners from the overall winners up to the 40th finishers in the Men's and the top 10 participants in the Women's side. An awards party will be held at 6 p.m. of the same day.

Padres...
Continued from page 28

of last season that there wouldn't be a four-man outfield rotation again in '97. Towers said he's spoken with several clubs in the last month about a deal for Henderson.

"It would be very difficult to break the season with both Greg and Rickey," Towers said. "I think sometime in spring training it will work its way out."

The Padres are willing to help another team with Henderson's \$2 million salary. He can earn another \$1.5 million in plate appearance bonuses.

"Hopefully this thing works out to where everybody is happy," Vaughn said. "It was just a bad situation where you have four guys who are used to playing every day."

Entry fees are pegged at \$30 for individual or \$60 for a team composed of 2 to 3 individuals on or before March 24. If applications are submitted after March 24, it will become \$60 for solo participants and \$100 per team. The entrance fees include T-shirt, awards party and guaranteed great time.

Entry forms are available at Hornet in Guam, Athlete's Foot and the Marianas Visitors Bureau in Saipan.

For more information, call Stuart Smith at 235-9443 or the NMITF at 256-0292.

Arbatchakov...
Continued from page 28

In his only eighth bout as a professional, he won Japan Flyweight title. Since then, Arbatchakov has established a reputation as one the most feared fighters in the Flyweight division. His 22 wins with 15 kayoes attest to that fact.

Arbatchakov is currently fighting for Mr. Kanehira's Kyoie Boxing Stable and is married to Kayoko, a Japanese citizen.

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SPORTS



Sullivan, Burr rule SCS Fun Run

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff
BELYING his age, Dr. Steve Sullivan showed his younger rivals that he is in tip-top condition by ruling the Saipan Community School 5 KM fun run held recently at the American Memorial Park.

The 49 year-old affable doctor covered the distance in 17 minutes and 53 seconds to win the overall in the Men's divi-

sion while multi-awarded runner Susan Burr ruled the dis-taff side clocking 19 minutes and 54 seconds.

Sullivan beat three runners from the 25-29 age bracket. Craig Potter, Eric Gilman, and Chris Nelson arrived in second, third and fourth respectively. Potter who topped his age division, clocked 18:14 while Gilman covered the distance in 18:27. Nelson ar-

rived in 18:43.

Lawyer Steven Pixley won the Overall Master Category by arriving in fifth overall. The veteran runner submitted a time of 18:46.

Lyn Corella bagged the Women's Masters title by submitting a clocking of 27:16.

Audra Winkfield won the first runner up honors after crossing the tape one minute and 27 seconds behind Burr.

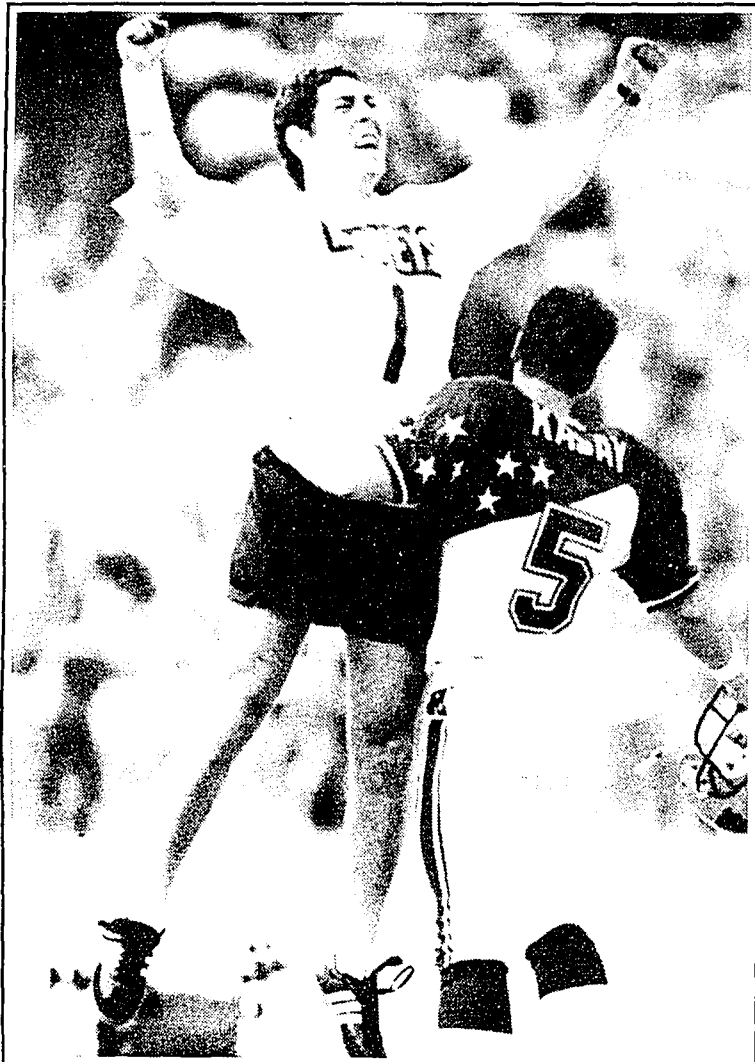
Government Prosecutor Frieda Leonard arrived third with 22:31.

Other winners include Jeremy Winkfield and Ada Almond in 10 and under; Hugh Tait and Audra Winkfield in the 11-14 bracket; Leo Wania and Eun Jong Jee in the 15-19; Chau Nguyen in the Women's 20-24; Pam Maslin in the Women's 25-29; Leonard and Bill Early in the 30-34; Darrell

Robb and Patricia Halsel in the 35-39; Mike Granoinetti and Christy Schweizer in the 40-44.

Jangi Changi Wyan and Chris Santos topped the 45-49 age division while Howard and Margaret Tait ruled the 50-54 division.

Greg Brindley and Audrey Smith bagged the 55-59 titles and Ron Smith edged Dick Weil for the 60 and above Men's crown.



Lance Alstodt, a 26-year-old investment banker from New York City, is hoisted aloft by Carolina Panthers kicker John Kasay after Alstodt kicked a 35-yard field goal for a \$1 million prize as part of a Hershey's national promotion at halftime of the Pro Bowl game held recently at Aloha Stadium in Honolulu. AP Photo

WBC Flyweight Champion Arbatachakov arrives today

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff
REIGNING World Boxing Council Flyweight champion Yuri Arbatachakov is due to arrive aboard a Northwest Airline at 2:15 p.m. today for a two-week training.

Arbatachakov, who won the WBC title by beating the reigning Thai champion in June 23, 1992, is currently unbeaten in 22 professional fights.

Since winning the crown, he

has made nine successful title defenses.

Arbatachakov was born in Russia 30 years ago and was the youngest son in a family of four sisters and one brother.

He started boxing at the age of 13 after his brother convinced him to join a boxing club.

At 20, a Russian trainer saw his potential as future champion and gave him the opportunity to improve and polish his skills.

He compiled an amazing 165

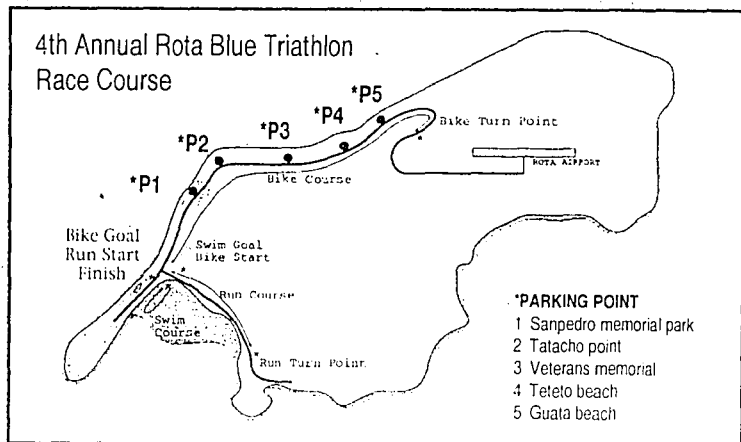
wins against 21 losses as an amateur the highlight of which came when he bagged the All Russia and European Championships in his weight division in 1989.

In November of the same year, Arbatachakov along with four more boxers came to Japan.

For the next two years, he won 10 bouts by knockouts, pounding his opponents into submission.

Continued on page 27

4th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon up



By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff
THE Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation is set to hold the 4th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon on April 5.

The Rota Triathlon, considered as the best Tri-event in the Pacific, is a gruelling test of endurance, stamina and skill for both Men and Women. It is composed of 1.5 kilometer (KM) swim, a lung busting 40 KM bike and a 10 KM Run.

Continued on page 27

Cliff fishing set in Tinian

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff
THE 15th Annual Tinian Cliff Fishing Derby is slated to be held this coming weekend, Feb. 14-16.

The three-day angling event is sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Bureau and the Tinian Mayor's Office. It is expected to attract at least 50 fishing enthusiasts from Korea, Guam and the CNMI.

Participants will vie for top honors in the biggest fish, most variety and total weight categories. The anglers will attempt to land the biggest snappers, skip-jacks, groupers and barracudas in designated fishing sites along

Tinian's shoreline cliffs for three days.

In last year's competitions, Tinian anglers dominated the three categories by bagging the top three places in all the divisions.

Ludy Antiller won the first place in the Biggest Fish bracket by landing a 20.93 pound barracuda to edge Winsley Lagbey who caught a Dog Tooth Tuna weighing 18.73 pounds. Edward Quinchocho placed third with a 10.57 pound Red Snapper catch.

In the Most Variety category, Leon Masga hauled in a total of 26 different species to beat the

Continued on page 27

Padres sign Vaughn for \$15 M

By BERNIE WILSON
SAN DIEGO (AP)-Home runs and harmony were in evidence Monday when slugger Greg Vaughn agreed to a three-year, \$15 million contract with the San Diego Padres.

The once-tense negotiations between the Padres and Vaughn's agent, Eric Goldschmidt, warmed up last week. The deal allows the two sides to avoid an arbitration hearing on Friday and keeps Vaughn behind his good friend, Had Vaughn gone to arbitration, he likely would have left as a free agent after this season.

"I think everybody was a little tired and worn out," Vaughn said. "They were happy to have me, so we put the last three months behind us and got it done."

"I'm just glad it's over with," Vaughn said. "Now I won't have \$300 phone bills talking to Cammy, returning his calls telling me to get a deal done." Vaughn will make \$4 million in 1997, \$5.25 million in '98 and \$5.75 million in '99, with \$850,000 deferred without interest.

That makes the actual value worth slightly less than \$15 million.

Looking to add power for the stretch run, the Padres acquired Vaughn from the Milwaukee Brewers in exchange for three players on July 31. He hit 10 of his 41 homers after the trade, but batted just .206 as he shared time in left field with Rickey Henderson.

Vaughn vowed to overcome those disappointing two months.

"It's behind me and I'm looking

forward to moving on and '97 being a lot better year for myself and the San Diego Padres," he said. "If I can play like I'm capable, I think I make the team a little stronger."

The defending NL West champion Padres are one of only four teams in the majors with at least two players who hit 40 or more homers in 1996. Caminiti set a Padres' record with 40 homers, and said Vaughn's presence helped him post big numbers in August and September.

"Ken Caminiti and quite a few of our other hitters are very excited to know that he'll be surrounding them to help them out," general manager Kevin Towers said.

Towers made it clear since the end
Continued on page 27