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Why it was 'scrapped?'

Tenorio says 902 'going nowhere'



Froilan C. Tenorio

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday said he had to terminate Section 902 negotiations with the Clinton administration as it was "going nowhere."

Tenorio was reacting to law-

yer Vicente Salas's statement Friday that the governor's decision to scrap 902 talks was "not wise."

"I have the right to terminate (it), and I'm sorry I appointed him in the first place," he said.

Together with the governor's consultant Brenda Tenorio, Salas represented the Northern Marianas in discussions with the federal government on U.S.-CNMI relations, as required by Section 902 of the Covenant.

After receiving a letter from President Clinton, who said he favors the federalization of the CNMI's minimum wage and immigration policies, Tenorio on Wednesday an-

Continued on page 20

PSS may lose all US grants

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE PUBLIC School System stands to lose all federal grants for its major programs unless it complies with special education requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act, according to Board of Education chairman Don Farrell.

"We have received a federal warning. We have not been meeting federal requirements on special education. We don't have enough special education teachers that we need," Farrell said in an interview with the Variety Friday.

At present, PSS is receiving grants for nutrition services, staff training and development, and



Don Farrell

drug-free programs from the Department of Education. PSS is reportedly getting about \$1.5 million for special education program.

Grants for private schools' special education and anti-programs are also directly channeled through PSS.

"We don't have all teachers that we need such as speech therapists, and those who work for sight and hearing impaired," Farrell said.

Farrell said PSS continues to face difficulty in recruiting special education teachers from other states because of low salary rates being offered in the CNMI.

"These are expensive, highly trained talented people and because of the low salaries that we've been offering, we can't get them to come out here," Farrell said. SPED teachers "are getting a good

Continued on page 20

Gov't, former MPLC named in \$3-M suit

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A COUPLE has filed a \$3-million suit against the CNMI government and the defunct Marianas Public Land Corp. over alleged illegal taking of their land.

Gregorio and Bernadita Cruz, through counsel Juan T. Lizama, asked the Superior Court to declare that the defunct MPLC (now called DPL) violated its fiduciary duty in getting their land and exchanging it for less valuable real property.

The couple in their suit filed Friday sought the court's declaration that MPLC has inversely condemned their five hectares homestead land in Lao Lao to their damage.

The plaintiffs requested the court to adjudge them the fee simple owner of the Lao Lao property pursuant to the Agricultural Homestead Act of 1980.

According to Lizama, the plaintiffs' actions arose when public lands were managed by MPLC and its Board of Directors.

Lizama in the complaint stated that MPLC and its Board ceased in Jan. 1995 as a result of an Executive Order signed by Gov. Froilan Tenorio on reorganization of government departments and agencies.

The lawyer said that in 1966, plaintiffs, by oral permission from the Trust Territory Government, "homesteaded" the land in Lao Lao

Continued on page 20



The Serenaders perform a cultural song during Friday's opening of nightly entertainment at the American Memorial Park for the month-long Liberation Day 1997.

Photo by Ferdie de la Torre

MVB will never propose prostitution, says Santos



Alvaro Santos

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

THE Marianas Visitors Bureau denied yesterday its managing director, Anicia Q. Tomokane, had proposed the legalization of prostitution in the CNMI.

In an interview, Deputy Managing Director Alvaro Santos said a published news story (not in the Variety) quoting Tomokane was put out of context.

Tomokane was off island and was scheduled to return late yesterday.

But late yesterday afternoon, Tomokane confirmed her position of favoring legalization of prostitution if there is no better solution to stamp out solicitation.

A faxed copy of Tomokane's letter to Women's Affairs Special Assistant Remi Sablan was received by the Variety.

In the letter, Tomokane said, "I have seen that solicitation continues despite your (the critic's) protests in the early period of the controversy until today. My position, if no one has a better one

(solution) to this, is to legalize, contain within a certain designated area, charge a very high license fee, and monitor it for health, criminal elements, and other potential problems that it will certainly pose if not controlled."

Santos quoted Tomokane as saying that "the information that she shared with that reporter (came out) incomplete."

Santos explained that the writer of the news story "chose

Continued on page 20



Hijackers surrender

By **TERRENCE PETTY**
COLOGNE, Germany (AP)
 Two hijackers demanding freedom for the Turk who shot

Pope John Paul II in 1981 surrendered at Cologne's airport Monday, freeing about 80 crew and passengers on board.

An airport spokesman said the two men surrendered their weapons and left the Air Malta airplane nearly three hours



An Air Malta airplane stands on the tarmac at Cologne Airport early Monday. The Boeing 737 with 80 passengers and six crew on board was hijacked on its way from Malta to Turkey by a lone hijacker who claimed to have a bomb. AP

after it landed in Cologne. None of the passengers or crew were hurt.

"The two kidnapers came out of the airplane with their

hands up and surrendered to police," said spokesman Wolfgang Klapdor. One of the men had claimed to have a bomb, but police said it appeared that it was a fake.

Police spokesman Werner Schmidt said that the hijackers were Turkish, and that they were pressing for the release of Mehmet Ali Agca, a Turk jailed for shooting the pope in 1981.

Continued on page 4

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Teener gives birth at prom

ABERDEEN TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP)—A woman attending her high school prom gave birth in a restroom, left the baby in a trash can and returned to the dance floor with her boyfriend, authorities said.

Chaperones and medics tried to resuscitate the full-term baby but it was pronounced dead at a hospital.

The baby was found Friday night by a maintenance worker who had been told there was blood on the floor of one toilet stall, said Monmouth County prosecutor John Kaye.

The worker found blood splattered on the walls, toilet and floor, and the trash can containing the baby's body was inside the stall.

Autopsy results were to be released Monday, Kaye told the Asbury Park Press.

"We're treating it as a potential homicide," he said. "In a case like this, the issue tends to be whether this was a stillborn baby or alive birth."

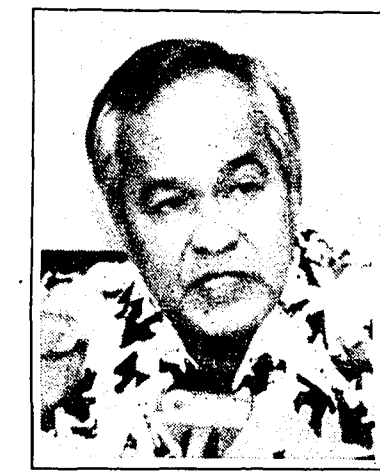
After giving birth, Kaye said, the 19-year-old woman returned to the ballroom at the Garden Manor catering hall, danced with her boyfriend and even requested a song from the band at the prom for Lacey Township High School.

After police identified her as the mother, the woman was taken to Bayshore Community Hospital in Homdel, Kaye said. The

Continued on page 4

Postal office lease vetoed

By **Zaldy Dandan**
 Variety News Staff
AS "promised," Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio vetoed Friday a bill that would allow the executive branch to enter into a land lease agreement for a new U.S. Postal Service facility in Chalan Kanoa.



Froilan C. Tenorio

Tenorio yesterday said that the veto was "embarrassing," as a USPS representative was on Saipan for the signing of the lease agreement, but Senate Bill 10-88 contained "lots of unconstitutional provisions."

He said the language used in the bill was ordering the CNMI governor to do something. "They can't do that. (The bill also states) that if I didn't (sign the lease) by a certain date the

lease would take effect anyway. "Where the hell are they getting these ideas?"

He said those who drafted the bill probably wanted to enact a

law without going through the constitutional process.

The Senate, moreover, attached a lease agreement to the bill, Tenorio said.

"Now what if USPS says they want to make changes, (for example) a comma, a word or a period—then what?"

Rep. Stanley T. Torres (Ind.-Saipan) said Friday that he will urge for an override if the governor vetoes the bill, but according to Tenorio, he was given assurance that the House

will pass a "better" bill for the land lease.

"The Senate thought they could force me to sign that bill into law, but they're not going to push me around," he said.

One of the governor's legal counsels yesterday said it is likely that the Senate intentionally drafted a bill "so unacceptable that the governor would have no choice but to veto it, after which the senators would blame him for not signing the lease."

However, a lawyer working for the Legislature said Thursday that the CNMI has been standing in line waiting for the USPS funds for the postal facility project, "and now that we're close to getting it, the governor's ego stands in the way."

With the April 18 override of Tenorio's veto of a bill that transferred his authority over public lands to a yet to be formed Board of Public Lands, all public land transactions are on hold.

CUC completes water metering on Tinian



Timothy P. Villagomez

Villagomez said. The executive director said he had instructed the Saipan staff to proceed with the necessary citations and inspections.

The Tinian staff, he added, was working hard to ensure that all customers are metered.

Villagomez also reported that issues delaying the \$10-million contract for the Telesource power plant would hopefully be resolved soon.

The CUC board, meanwhile, has a new deputy director for CUC Rota, Antonio C. Reyes.

Reyes was introduced to the CUC board during its meeting last June 3 held on Tinian.

Reyes met last June 4 with Villagomez and other managers for a briefing on CUC overall operations insofar as they are relevant to CUC Rota.

There are at present four ongoing waterline projects on Rota. Three are in Sinapalo and one in Songsong.

—Rick Alberto



William S. Reyes sixth graders wait for their turn to receive their certificates during Friday's exiting ceremony held at the Multi-purpose Building in Susupe.—Photo by Ferdie de la Torre

Justice Atalig wants fraud claims dropped

By **Ferdie de la Torre**
 Variety News Staff
SUPREME COURT Justice Pedro M. Atalig has asked the Superior Court to dismiss the fraud claim against him in connection with a lawsuit filed by the government over an alleged land grab on Rota.



Pedro M. Atalig

Atalig, through counsel John T. Lizama, stated that CNMI government has alleged fraud years after the statute of limitations on that claim has already run out.

"That claim is stale, and the statutory law and the public policy underlying it compel the court to dismiss plaintiff's fraud claim against Atalig," according to Lizama in reply to government's response to motion for partial judgment.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Thomas Clifford has stated on behalf of the government that under the common law rule, the CNMI limitations statutes have no effect on the Commonwealth's fraud cause of action against Atalig.

Clifford accused the justice of attempting to hide his fraudulent misconduct behind the statute of limitations.

In Atalig's response, Lizama said the government claims that the two-year statute of limitations applicable to fraud claim in the complaint is not applicable because it is the sovereign seeking to enforce a public right.

This rule, Lizama pointed out,

is not applicable to this case because the CNMI, although sovereign, is suing on behalf of or in the place of an entity (Marianas Public Land Corp.) against which the limitations period had already run.

"In other words, the CNMI has stepped into the shoes of MPLC. The CNMI's status as sovereign does not somehow revive the limitations period applicable to its fraud allegations. That particular cause of action is now time-barred just as it would be if MPLC was plaintiff in this action," said the lawyer.

Lizama said the statute is applicable against government because MPLC acted in a proprietary capacity in managing public lands.

MPLC, like any other municipi-

pal or public corporation, was subject to the statute and government is therefore now time-barred from alleging fraud, he pointed out.

Lizama said Atalig gave MPLC a written notice of the estate's claim to the full area of the land in mid-1989, and government cannot now claim that the statute of limitations was tolled until 1995.

Lizama explained that Atalig, in his capacity as attorney for the heirs of Maria B. Atalig, informed MPLC by July 31, 1989 letter, that his clients were seeking land which "although the title determination listed the land areas as six hectares upon actual survey with the Japanese monuments located the total area is 161,430 sq. meters."

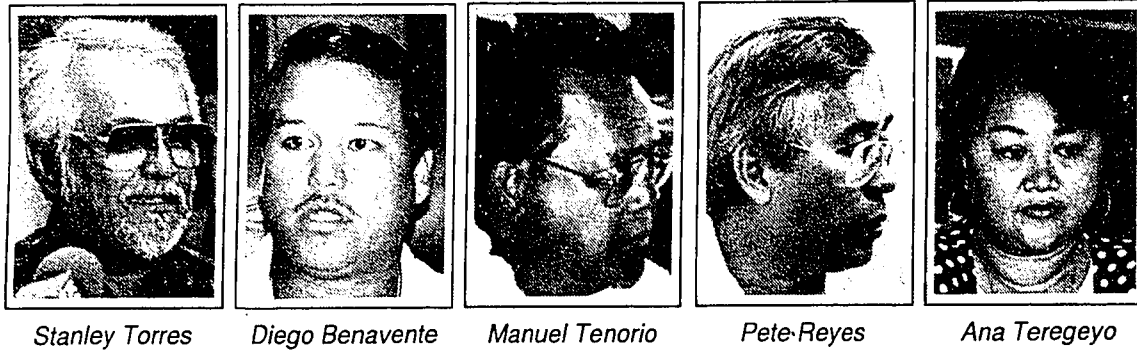
Atalig's letter gave MPLC clear notice that the land sought by the heirs was larger than previously thought by any of the parties, Atalig said.

"It is irrelevant whether plaintiff CNMI now construes the July 31st letter as not providing every fact necessary for MPLC to have established allegations of fraud in 1989. A plaintiff need not know every fact relating to the claim before the statute begins to run," he said.

In this case, Atalig said although Atalig's letter supplied MPLC with all necessary facts and even invited the agency to ask questions, "MPLC did nothing."

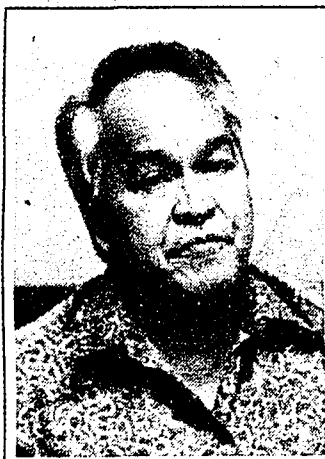
Torres vows to kill BIDI deal

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff
REPRESENTATIVE STANLEY Torres yesterday vowed to "kill" the Bird Island project even as he requested House Speaker Diego Benavente to disallow the chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and two other members from having further engaging in de-



Stanley Torres Diego Benavente Manuel Tenorio Pete Reyes Ana Teregeyo

Tenorio: 'Conflicts' should be addressed during vote



Froilan C. Tenorio

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday said the "conflict of interest" allegations against three House members reportedly supporting the 135-hectare Bird Island resort project should be raised when the legislators are already voting on it.
"The way to address this is on the floor," Tenorio said.
"(These legislators) should stand up and declare they have conflicts of interest and therefore they cannot participate in discussion and they cannot vote on it."
At present, however, Tenorio said the legislators conducting a public hearing have the obligation to find out everything about the \$50 million resort project.
Tenorio added that Council of Arts and Culture chair Carmen C. Gaskins herself has "conflict of interest" as far as public lands are concerned.
"I think for anybody who has received a homestead lot, he or she shouldn't be talking about (the leasing) of public lands because we need the revenues from the leases in order to pay for homestead programs."
"(Gaskins) has homestead already, (but) what about the people who don't? Where will the Board of Public Lands get the money for the homestead program if we don't have this public land leases?"
As to lawyer Ken Govendo's statement that the proposed lease rent of 3 percent of gross receipts is "too low," Tenorio said aside from the 3 percent, BIDI would also pay 5 percent of gross receipts.
"By the time they finish paying taxes, they'd be paying as much as 15 percent of gross receipts," he said.

"We've been using 3 percent because I think it's reasonable. He added that even lawyer Ted Mitchell, who has sued the governor over other land lease agreements, "is not bothered by (the rate) but by the minimum rent" a lessee has to pay the government.
Conflicts
It was Gaskins and Rep. Stanley T. Torres (Ind.-Saipan) who, on Friday, said at least three of the 8-member House Committee on Natural Resources have "conflict of interest" in the Bird Island project.
Gaskins, in her testimony, said the committee chair, Rep. Manuel A. Tenorio (R-Saipan), is the brother of the project contractor, former Lt. governor Pete A. Tenorio.
Torres, for his part, told the Variety that one committee member is the spouse of a Bird Island Development, Inc. (BIDI) board director, while another member is "compare" to BIDI president and project manager James Lin. (see related story in this issue)
Both Gaskins and Torres oppose the land lease agreement.
In her testimony before the committee Friday, Gaskins said the deal "will bankrupt our children's future..."
Gaskins, Torres and 13 other legislators are urging that the land for project should be reserved for the thousands of homestead applicants.
However, most of those who testified during Friday's hearing were in favor of the land lease proposal.
David Wiseman, counsel to the Hotel Association of the Northern Marianas, Inc., said the group supports any project that will enhance CNMI tourism.
Yvonne Reyes-Gomez, a teacher aide whose testimony was read by her sister Yvette, said the land to be used for the project is not fit for homesteads.
She said though she is also concerned about public lands, she will not prefer to live in a jungle, referring to the land Bird Island wants to lease.
Those opposing the land lease have told the Variety that Reyes-Gomez and another "pro-Bird Island" witness are the children of committee member, Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan).
But Reyes-Gomez yesterday said her father has nothing to do with her testimony.

liberations about the undertaking for alleged conflict of interest.
"The integrity of the House is at stake here," said Torres in his letter to Benavente.
Torres said Natural Resources Committee Chairman Manuel A. Tenorio's brother, former Lt. Gov. Pete Tenorio, is a consultant for the Bird Island Development Inc.
Rep. Ana S. Teregeyo's husband, Joaquin, according to Torres, is also listed as a BIDI officer while Rep. Pete Reyes is a "compare" to BIDI president and project manager, James Lin.
Such relationships, Torres argued, constitute a "direct financial and personal" conflict of interest on the part of the three ranking House leaders.
Torres also expressed disappointment over Tenorio's refusal to inhibit himself from the Committee's deliberations on the project.
"Because Chairman (Manuel) Tenorio is so close to his brother Pete, I assumed the Chairman would recuse himself and let the Vice Chairman take over."
"But since that did not happen, it now becomes your responsibility not to allow Rep. Manuel A. Tenorio to take any further actions in the Committee or on the floor on this issue because of personal conflict of interest," stressed Torres.

Benavente was urged to "ensure that no one with a personal or financial conflict of interest is allowed to vote" on the \$50 million BIDI project.
He maintained that the project should be allotted for homestead applicants instead.
"Definitely, I will dedicate all my time and efforts to have the project killed... put to rest," Torres said.
Tenorio, in a phone interview, denied he has a conflict of interest.
"I am not involved in the project at all. I am merely conducting a public hearing to know whether or not we should approve the lease that they (BIDI) are asking for," the chairman insisted.
"Under the circumstances, I don't have a conflict of interest. I have no stocks in the company. I don't have any personal benefits," he said.
Reyes, for his part, dismissed Torres's call as merely "noise being made in an election year."
"The only reason he (Torres) is making noise is because it is an election year," he said.
Reyes and Torres are both running this election year for seats in the Senate representing Saipan.
"I don't want him (Torres) to gain political mileage at my expense," he said.
Reyes assured that his being a "compare" with Lin does not constitute a conflict of interest, noting how he filed a bill calling for a moratorium

on the garment industry despite his relationship with Lin who, at the time the bill was set in motion, had at least four pending license applications.
Reyes authored Public Law 10-9, the Garment Industry Moratorium Act which was vetoed by Gov. Froilan Tenorio on April 4, but was overridden by the House and the Senate last year.

The law put a cap on the number of allowable garment factory workers while ensuring that no new garment factories will henceforth be established.
"He (Lin) is my compare but I still did that (garment law)," Reyes said.
Variety also tried to reach Teregeyo for her comments on the matter but was told by her secretary that she was still in a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 1998 budget as of press time late yesterday afternoon.
It was not known if the House Committee will hold another public hearing on the project.
The Committee members, following such hearings, will deliberate among themselves whether or not to allow BIDI to push through with the project.
BIDI reportedly has already thrown in a total of \$450,000 for the project with \$200,000 spent on advanced rental payment, and another \$250,000 paid on project-related activities like the preparation of a master plan, the drilling of three deep wells, survey of the property and off-island trips for consultations on the master plan and visits to similar resort areas.
Lin has vowed to have the project done by the year 2000 if it is approved by both the House and Senate.

Man injured in Airport Road shooting

A MAN was reportedly injured when a security guard shot him in DanDan yesterday afternoon.
Sketchy reports indicate that the victim, described as a local, suffered gunshot wounds on the head and was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center.
Sources identified the suspect as Manuel Aldan Sablan,

29, of Tanapag.
The Variety learned that the incident occurred at the parking lot of Herman's Bakery along Airport Road between 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Initial investigation showed that the victim had just got into a car and was preparing to back-up when Sablan came and shot him with a rifle.
Sablan then chased and

grabbed the victim's woman companion who tried to run away.
Responding Sgt. Franklin Babauta pulled over Sablan's truck near Joeten DanDan.
The woman was unharmed and the gun was recovered.
The motive behind the shooting was not yet known as of press time.
—Ferdie de la Torre

Hijackers. . .

Continued from page 2

They had demanded a television interview to publicize their demand, indicating they would surrender immediately after speaking to the media, Schmidt said. However, the drama ended before any interview was arranged.
Five passengers, including an elderly woman with heart trouble,

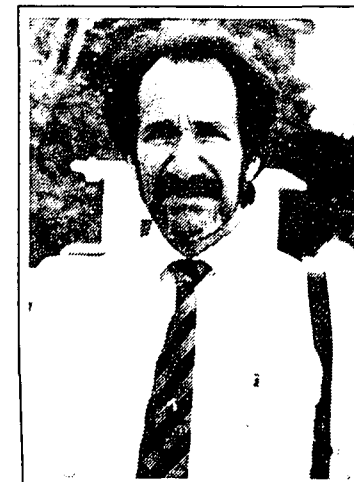
were released about an hour after the flight landed. Schmidt said the more than 80 passengers on board included 17 Turks, 32 Libyans, 32 Maltese, a Russian and an American. Airport spokesmen said there were also six crew.
Police, who carried out negotiations with just one of the hijackers, initially believed he was acting alone.
The airport was notified by the pilot around 3:30 a.m. that the Boeing 737 en route from Malta

to Istanbul had been hijacked and was headed to Cologne, a spokesman said.
Teener. . .
Continued from page 2
woman, whose name was not released, remained hospitalized Sunday.
Authorities would not say how she was identified as the mother of the 6-pound, 6-ounce, 19 inch baby.

Tinian seen as ideal for casinos

TINIAN, obscure it may be, has all the factors that make it a perfect venue for casino development, according to Saipan lawyer David Wiseman.
"Who is to say that the little-known island of Tinian will not become the Las Vegas of the tropics," Wiseman wrote in the maiden issue of Gaming Law Review, a New York-based legal journal.
Wiseman represented the Tinian Gaming Commission when it was questioned in court by the CNMI's central government a few years ago.
Wiseman said Tinian's geographic advantage, namely its proximity to big Asian cities such as Shanghai, Tokyo, Manila, and Hongkong, could be a "key a

casino's success."
"The Commonwealth's proximity to Asia places it within a combined gross domestic product equal to \$2.9 trillion," Wiseman wrote.
Another important factor, the lawyer added, is the stability assured by presence of the American flag and the rule of the U.S. law which "creates a safe business environment, permitting investment to flourish."
At least two huge casino hotel projects are being planned on Tinian. They are the Tinian Marine Resort, initiated by a local investor, and the Tinian Dynasty Hotel, proposed by Hongkong Overseas Entertainment.
Another big casino project pro-

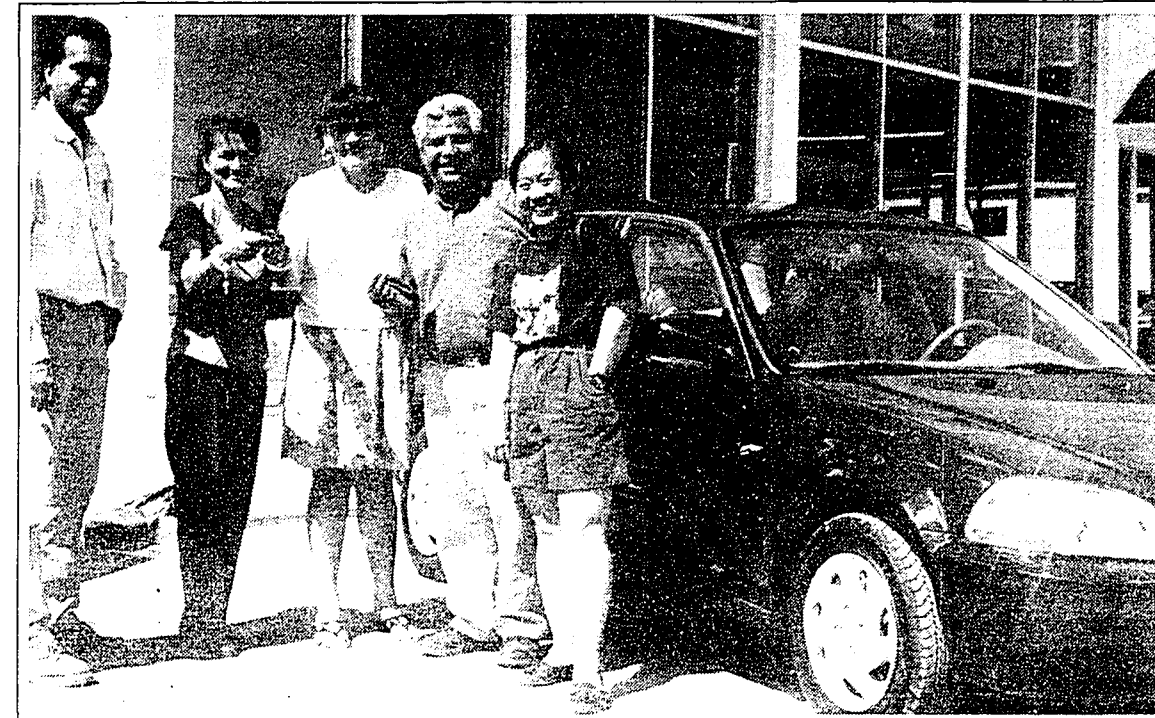


David Wiseman

posed by Hu's Investment Inc. fizzled out after Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio scrapped the preliminary

lease agreement because of the Taiwan company's failure to replenish a check representing security deposit.
The casino industry in the CNMI was first conceptualized in 1979 when the Northern Marianas Islands Legislature enacted a law allowing casinos to operate on Saipan. However, it didn't take off because of an overwhelming anti-gambling campaign.
In 1985, the Constitution was amended, in which the people were empowered to establish gaming in their respective senatorial districts through the initiative process.
Wiseman recalled that this provision paved the way for the en-

actment of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act, which at the same time established the Casino Commission.
"Unfortunately, these regulations infringed on several other central government department functions," Wiseman said.
"Much of this encroachment was unnecessary and seemed to be motivated by a determination to wield absolute control over casino operations," he added.
The central government sued the commission.
An agreement was later reached, which gave rise to what is now called the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989. (MCM)



Northern Marianas Beauty Pageant Association treasurer Ginney Reyes (2nd from left) turns over last week the keys for the 1997 Honda Civic to Sally Blanco Villanueva who won the pageant's grand prize raffle. Also in photo, from left, Joeten Motor sales manager Rodney Cabrera, Joeten Motor general manager Ned S. Ariola, and NMPBA vice president Bibine Forrester.—Photo by Ferdie de la Torre

HAPPY 1ST BIRTHDAY
to our Precious Miracle Baby

Britney Alayne Dlg. Camacho
From: Dad, Mom, your brothers Joshua, Christian, Henry Jr. and DJ and the Deleon Guerrero and Camacho families

NMHC: Law allows MPLT to issue loans

THE Northern Marianas Housing Corporation has stated that the law of trusts allows the Marianas Public Land Trust and its trustees to make the loans to NMHC.
David A. Wiseman, counsel for NMHC, said there is nothing to stop MPLC from complying with Public Law 10-29 and 10-49.
In NMHC's opposition to defendants' motion to dismiss, Wiseman explained that P.L. 10-49 (Home Financing Act) was signed into law amending P.L. 10-29.
Wiseman said this law authorized MPLC to loan \$10 million to NMHC for use in making housing loans to low income families and homesteaders of NMI descent.
The lawyer pointed out that MPLC and its trustees have not met their burden to sustain their motion to dismiss.
NMHC sued MPLT and its trustees Juan S. Torres, Vicente M. Calvo, Maria H. Agun, Joaquin I. Pangelinan, and Herman R. Guerrero.
The suit stemmed from MPLT's decision to refuse to sign a \$10-million loan intended for low-income families and homesteaders.
MPLT Board Chairman Juan S. Torres earlier explained that MPLT and its trustees feel they cannot sign the loan documents without exposing them to serious liability. (FDT)

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S.210 up for US Senate vote

A BILL that contains an extra \$1 million in law enforcement funds for the CNMI is moving toward a vote in the US Senate, perhaps as early as this week, Resident Representative Juan N. Babauta disclosed.

S. 210, authored by Senator Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska), was amended by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee on May 21 and reported ready for Senate action last May 28.

The increased law enforcement money was requested by CNMI Washington Representative Juan N. Babauta and included by Murkowski in a similar bill in the last Congress and again this year.

"These are funds that will help us fight the worsening

Bill contains \$1M extra for CNMI law enforcement



Juan N. Babauta

problem of drug abuse," Babauta says in a news release from Washington, "a

problem that is touching everyone of us in the CNMI.

"I'm glad to see the bill moving forward. It contains basically non-controversial items and I expect the Senate to approve it. Then we'll be shifting our energies to getting it through the House," he said.

The amendment Babauta sought changes the share of money the CNMI gets from the Byrne criminal justice program.

Currently, the CNMI receives only one-third of a State share of the Byrne monies.

The amendment will give the CNMI a full State share, just

ceived a full State share, but lost it in 1988.

Information provided by the U.S. Department of Justice shows how much the CNMI lost when the law was changed and how much the CNMI will gain from the amendment.

Funding dropped from \$502,000 in FY88 to only \$97,000 in FY 89. Since then the share for the CNMI has risen to \$457,710—almost where it was in FY88—but still only one-third of what Guam and the Virgin Islands receive.

If the CNMI had received a full State share in FY97, its total grant would have been about the same as Guam and the Virgin Islands—approximately \$1 million greater.



Frank Murkowski

like Guam and the Virgin Islands.

Originally, the CNMI had re-

Cing says MTC shouldn't even be charging interisland rates

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

MICRONESIAN Telecommunications Corp.'s announcement that it is reducing its interisland rates to 15 cents per minute is "not enough," Sen David M. Cing said yesterday.

Cing (D-Tinian) said MTC should not even be charging any inter-island rates.

He added that according to law, the rates on Saipan should apply on Rota and Tinian.

"I appreciate their intention, but this is not the understanding when we voted

for the bill that gave MTC the submerged land lease for its fiber optic cable," he said.

MTC officials who testified before the Legislature stated that the fiber optic will lead to lower prices.

"But now they're making excuses, saying there's ambiguity in the law's language," Cing said.

He added that he will pull out the minutes of the session to prove that the intention behind the legislation was to have a unified rate for the entire CNMI.

The Variety was unable to seek MTC comment on the

matter.

As of yesterday, MTC's inter-island rates were reduced to 15 cent per minute following the inauguration of the fiber optic cable service.

In a media release, MTC general manager Del Jenkins said subscribers will notice that their phone connections with the other islands are now clearer.

Likewise, connections will be easier to make, "as the new fiber optic equipment allows for a great increase in the number of lines operating between the islands."

House lawyers: Scholarship schemes may prompt suits

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE LEGAL counsels for the House of Representatives have recommended that residency requirements for government scholarship grants be either scrapped or reduced, saying they are likely to bring about legal problems.

Legal counsels Richard Counts and Maya Kara singled out the teacher's college scholarship law and the school voucher bill which they said violate both the United States and the CNMI Constitutions.

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio has expressed willingness to take the risk of being questioned in court.

"How do we know if it's unconstitutional unless they pass it, I sign it, we implement it and let somebody challenge it," Tenorio said in an interview with reporters.

Tenorio added that "the legal counsels in the Legislature should be the last ones to talk about unconstitutionality" because the Legislature itself has been passing bills that are "full of unconstitutional provisions."

Kara and Counts, meanwhile, have warned that the teacher scholarship, and the school voucher measures are likely to be invalidated when challenged in court. This may also entail criminal liability, they added.

"(G)overnment agents who violate people's constitutional rights can also be criminally liable and sentenced to federal prison as was the case with Rodney King's police abusers," Counts and Kara said in a May 29 memorandum to Speaker Diego Benavente.

The Teacher Scholarship Bill, signed into law last month, provides for a three-year residency requirement for eligibility.

Tenorio, Benavente and Senate President Jesus Sablan have signed a memorandum of understanding in which the

legislative leaders agreed to amend the newly signed law to extend the residency requirement to five years.

"A one-year residency requirement is permissible, but anything beyond that has been held by the U.S. Supreme Court to be explicitly unconstitutional," according to the House lawyers.

Rep. Heinz Hofschneider's "Parental Choice Program" bill, otherwise known as school voucher system, seeks to establish distribution of free vouchers ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,000 to students who are U.S. citizens and have been residing in the CNMI for two years.

Counts and Kara said both the U.S. and CNMI Constitutions acknowledge every person's right to "a free public elementary and secondary education within age and educational levels provided by law."

This right, the legal counsels said, "can only be limited by law on the basis of age, but not residency or alienage."

"The U.S. Constitution prohibits the conditioning of eligibility to attend tuition free public schools on the basis of U.S. citizenship, nor can legal or even illegal aliens be kept from attending (public schools) on the basis of their alienage," the legal counsels said, citing several pertinent U.S. Supreme Court jurisprudences.

In a 1982 ruling on Zobel v Williams, for example, the Supreme Court asserted that "A state's objective to reward citizens for past contributions based on the number of years of their residency or domicile in the state, or by preferring established residents over new residents, is not a legitimate state purpose..."

The House lawyers said the constitutional problem in the school voucher bill can be resolved by scrapping the residency requirement, and making it available also to foreign students.

RP moves to reverse industrial slowdown

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Philippine President Fidel Ramos has ordered the immediate implementation of a six-point plan to improve the performance of the country's industries and prevent a slowdown.

Cesar Bautista, secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry, said he formulated the plan because of "worrying downturns" in the performance of local industries which could derail the country's effort to attain 8 percent growth this year in its gross national product.

"We have confirmed that hard data such as consumption of utilities and industrial fuel are registering worrying downturns," Bautista said over the weekend.

Both are indications of economic performance.

The plan aims in general to promote investment, reduce business costs, and provide tariff and non-tariff protection to industries with considerable growth prospects.

It includes a restructuring of tariff rates, the rationalization of government incentives for investors, a moratorium on new duty-free outlets, and a liberalization of the country's shipping industry.

The plan was formulated after a series of consultations with the private sector, Bautista said.

He said it won't require the introduction of new policies but only a "recalibration of existing policies."

Last month, the government reported that the lackluster performance of several industrial subsectors led by manufacturing weighed on economic growth in the first quarter.

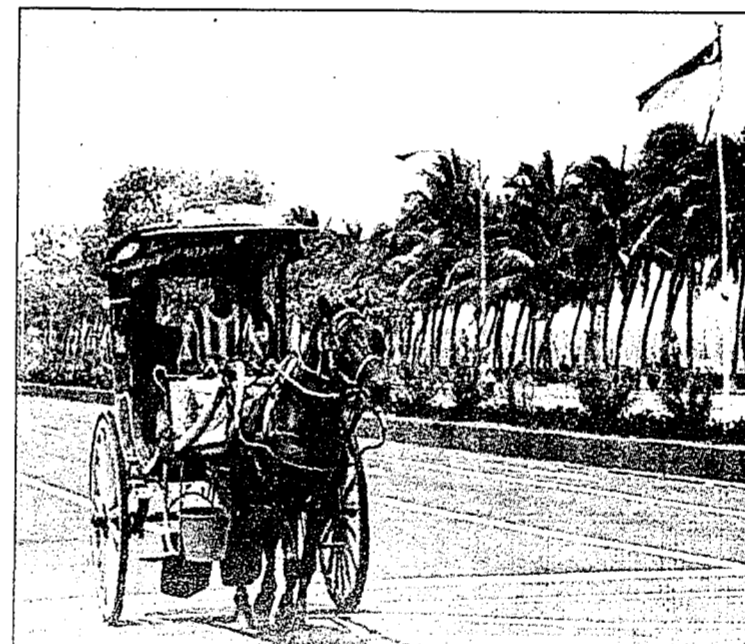
GNP grew 6.1 percent in the quarter compared to the year-earlier rate of 6.9 percent, while the gross domestic product grew 5 percent compared with 5.1 percent a year earlier.

Both GNP and GDP measure a country's total production of good and services, but GNP also includes money transfers from overseas. The manufacturing sector grew only 2.3 percent versus the year-earlier rate of 4.9 percent, the government said.

The industrial sector as a whole posted a slower growth rate of 3.8 percent in the first quarter versus 6.1 percent in 1996.

Bautista said the performance of the manufacturing sector in the first three months of 1997 was "below expectation."

He said the economy's robust growth depends mainly on the industrial sector because agriculture "will remain the lowest contributor to economic growth for the time being," owing to possible problems with farm productivity.



A horse-driven carriage, locally known as calesa, plies a major street in Manila Sunday as a Singaporean flag flaps behind. Singaporean Prime Minister Go Chok Tong is scheduled to arrive in the country Monday for a two-day visit. The ties between the two countries was marred by the hanging of Filipina domestic helper Flor Contemplacion in Singapore in 1995.

30 people charged in Ozone disco blaze

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Twenty-four city government officials and the six disco owners have been charged with graft for allegedly evading building inspections of a disco razed in a fire that killed 162 people.

In charges filed Thursday, the chief government prosecutor Aniano Desierto said the city engineer of suburban Quezon City and 13 other city officials did not carry out the proper inspections of the Ozone Disco Pub.

Six other officials granted business permits to the disco without any inspections, the prosecutor said. The six disco owners were charged with violating the anti-graft law.

There were no charges of money exchanging hands, and none of them

were charged with bribery. If convicted of the three counts of graft, the disco owners and the officials face up to 45 years in prison each.

More than 350 people, mostly students, were in the disco when the fire broke out March 19, 1996. Investigators say the disco had no working fire exit, the main door may have been locked, and sparks from an overloaded electrical system set the insulating foam on the walls ablaze.

About 90 people survived the blaze, the worst in Philippine history.

Relatives of the victims welcomed the new charges. But they were angry that Quezon City Mayor Ismael Mathay, who issued a mayor's permit to the disco, escaped prosecution.

Imelda hits Supreme Court for tax decision on Marcos assets

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Imelda Marcos criticized the Supreme Court on Friday for upholding the government's seizure of 11 parcels of land belonging to the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos.

"This is incredible," Mrs. Marcos said in a statement of the ruling Thursday upholding a 1994 appeals court decision. "This relentless persecution of the Marcos family is beyond human cruelty."

The Supreme Court said it backed the lower court decision declaring an inheritance tax assessment of 23.4 billion pesos

(dhrs 900 million) because the Marcos family failed to question it within the required 30 days.

The inheritance tax was assessed on the land in the central province of Leyte after Marcos died in exile in Hawaii in 1989.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue attempted to auction the property in 1993, but there were no bidders. The government acquired the 11 parcels of land.

The Supreme Court decision did not state how much the property was worth. The Marcos family has 15 days to appeal the ruling.

Marcos, who ruled the Philip-



Imelda Marcos

ines for 20 years, was overthrown in a "people power" revolt in 1986.



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Stanley Tudela Torres

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SHAKAQIAT
MD. KAMDUZZAMAN
ABDULLAH-AL-MAHMUD L.C. 96-181

LUISA PAMINTUAN - L.C. 97-095
AUGUSTO REYES - L.C. 96-234
LEVY GAMIT &
PEDRO PALO - L.C. 95-329

You are hereby notified to appear at the Department of Labor and Immigration, Hearing Room, 2nd Floor Afetna Square Bldg., San Antonio, Saipan. Failure to appear within ten (10) days will result in dismissal of your case and Order of Repatriation. Above-mentioned name should report to the Hearing Office at the Division of Labor.

Dated this 6th day of June 1997.

/s/ **THOMAS O. SABLAN**
Secretary of Labor and Immigration

Program beautifies MHS campus

By Laila C. Younis
Variety News Staff
A TOUCH of beauty was added to Marianas High School campus thanks to a pilot program called Landscape and Design headed by MHS teacher Dan Simpson.

Underneath the dolphin mural on the MHS Library, a garden of different plants surrounded by a rock wall and maintained by a computerized water system was put up by students of the program.

"The project was designed by the students. They participated in a hands-on experience developing the project", said Simpson.

The project also provided a round of educational skills for the students. They learned terms for botany, basic construction practices, elements of design, record keeping, as well as practical mathematics and science.

"The students also visited sites so they could see professionally-done manicured landscaping and we can comment on it together. They also took trips around the island to see natural landscaping so they can get the idea of how to recreate such beautiful scenes", Simpson said.

"We were impressed with the hard work the students put into the project. I would demonstrate the technique and they would follow it through, every phase of it", Simpson said.

Simpson, a history teacher at MHS has 20 years of experience in professional landscaping and design. Based on his experience, he describes the cost of the project as "very minimal".

"The project would cost four times as much if it was contracted", he added.

Contribution from private companies also made the construction of the project a lot easier.

"The contractors at a Suicide Cliff (project) allowed us to take the left-over rocks. Wong Sung Contractors loaned us a tractor to move the soil to the site. And Tropical Ground Nursery as well as Calvo's Nursery helped in identify the right kinds of plants to plant," said Simpson.

The program consisted of three MHS students, Jennifer Somal, John Mark Shadock and Alden Igisar. The program was offered off-track for two weeks and the students will receive credit for their participation.

The students worked for eight



MHS teacher Dan Simpson shows program participants how to install the automatic water system. The new landscape program has been initiated to beautify and green the MHS campus.

hours each day for ten days until the project was completed last Monday.

Simpson hopes that with the success of the first project, the program would be placed in the school's curriculum so more students can sign up for the course.

"The response from other students

has been tremendous. Many have been asking when they can take the class. We are really excited about this", he said.

The program was started as a part of enhancing "Dolphin Pride," a concept encouraged by MHS Principal Jim Denight.

"It is considered an enrichment class. Students are learning life skills that they can use throughout their lives. And when other students see improvement, they appreciate and enjoy it. We have a master plan to beautify the entire campus. And so far, it has been a real success", Simpson said.

Business sector 'appalled' by US President's letter, says Chamber

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

THE CNMI business community is "appalled" over the letter sent last week by US President Bill Clinton expressing his desire to have the Commonwealth's labor and immigration policy taken over by the federal government, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday said.

"The community is deeply concerned... appalled and in distress. We have come a long way in developing our economy," Sablan said.

"But we're not shaky because we don't think the US is so short-sighted on us to let it happen. We have friends in Congress who won't allow it (takeover) to happen," he added.

What businessmen are worried about he said, is the foreseen mass repatriation of CNMI's 30,000

non-resident workers.

"When that happens, we'll have a disaster in our hand," cried Sablan.

The Commonwealth has a local population of 22,000. The available working age labor pool is a mere 7,900 of which 5,528 are absorbed by the public sector.

The private sector, on the other hand, has 30,000 positions to fill. It will take about 70 years, Sablan said, before CNMI citizens may be able to satisfy the private sector needs.

For his part, Local 5 spokesperson Elwood Mott said placing the Commonwealth's labor and immigration affairs under federal supervision will "only add a new layer of bureaucracy" that doesn't even "immediately alleviate the problem."

"You don't just wave a magic wand and say it is under control. People have to sit down, identify

the problem and resolve it. I believe necessary reforms should be made.

"We are for a system that will eliminate the abuses," he stressed.

Citing concerns on "certain labor practices," Clinton, in his May 30 letter to Gov. Froilan Tenorio, announced that federal immigration and minimum wage laws "should now be applied to the Commonwealth."

Clinton said he will work with Congress to impose the federal laws "in a reasonable and appropriate manner."

Tenorio, in a press statement released last week, said the US Immigration and Naturalization Service has already revealed that they will send home all alien workers after they finish their contracts once the takeover goes full swing.



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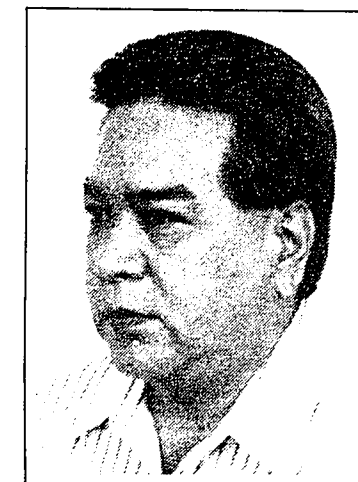
Clinton letter worries HANMI

THE HOTEL Association of the Northern Marianas Islands (HANMI) is taking seriously President Clinton's statement that he wants to see the federal government take control over immigration and minimum wage laws in the Commonwealth.

In a letter this week to its members, HANMI President Ron Sablan said it is important for everyone to understand that the letter from President Clinton constitutes a "stern warning."

However, he said, it does not necessarily mean that there will be any immediate changes.

Sablan cautioned members not to make any important decisions at this time as a result of the news reports "until



Ron Sablan

we know more."

Sablan also wrote to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio expressing the organization's support for the governor's decision to do whatever is necessary to main-

tain control over immigration and minimum wage laws.

Sablan told the governor that the hotel association would like to participate in any negotiations between the Commonwealth and federal governments.

Sablan, in his memo, further asked the association's members to update their statistics about hotel employees in the Northern Marianas, as this information will play an important role in future talks with the federal government.

Recent figures compiled among HANMI members indicate that approximately 70 percent of hotel personnel in non-management positions—roughly 1,700 people—are non-resident workers.

In a special meeting called

among hotel association officers yesterday, it was agreed that the organization would take immediate steps to further develop its human resources committee, which is made up of hotel HR and personnel managers.

A conference will be planned in the near future for the committee to meet and prepare plans for more recruitment of U.S. citizens and the possibility of a phase out of alien workers over time.

"We are really going to need to support and rely on human resources staff, who are the most knowledgeable about the laws regarding human resources and ways to recruit," said Mustaffa Issa, general manager of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The Association also discussed ways to step up its long-range plans for recruitment by exposing more of the islands' youth to hotels and careers in the hospitality industry.

One such program already begun by the Association is "Camp Mahoben," a summer camp for youth that is scheduled to begin later this month.

Signups will continue for the program, designed for children ages 5 to 12 on Saturday, June 14 and 21. For more information, contact Joe Taitano at Hyatt Regency Saipan at 234-1234.

MHS Class of '77 to meet

THIS IS to announce the Mt Carmel Class of 1977 will be meeting this Saturday, June 14th, 1997 at 9:00 am at the Town and Country Restaurant in Gualo Rai. Important matters on the agenda include the reunion dinner, family picnic, and others.

For more information, please contact Tony Flores (234-6087), Vicky Benavente (234-6153) or Tessie Duenas (234-6615).

1982 Class reunion meeting

MHS Class of 1982 will be having their meeting on June 12, 1997, 6:00 p.m. at Yataimura Restaurant next to Remington Club.

For more information, please call Dorothy Seman at 234-8953(w) ext. 2350 or Francis Ulloa at 234-3800(w).

Island-wide brownout hits Saipan

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

A FAULTY oil purifier caused a four-and-a-half-hour island-wide blackout yesterday morning on Saipan.

People relying on electricity were not able to cook their breakfast.

The power outage also meant many customers of Commonwealth Utilities Corp. missing their morning baths.

The power failure started at about 5:30 a.m. and by 10 a.m. power was restored.

The CUC traced the outage to a short in an oil purifier on one of CUC's 13-

megawatt generators.

"The short, in turn, caused a power surge resulting in the safety shutdown of the other generators in CUC's main power plant at Lower Base," the CUC release said.

The CUC said its crewmen who "worked diligently" to restore power "as quickly as possible" should be commended.

It also apologized for any inconveniences the unexpected outage had caused.

Many office workers, who usually cook their lunch before going to work, were forced to buy packed lunches.

Other employees also said they had to go to the houses

of friends or relatives with water tanks to bathe.

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio was observed to be in a bad mood as a result of the blackout.

When someone asked him about the blackout, he told the person to ask instead a particular senator whom he had met earlier in the day and who was one of the legislators who rejected his executive order reorganizing the CUC into two separate entities—one for water and sewer and another for power.

The new structural setup could have prevented blackouts like yesterday's, he said.

The CUC itself had raised several concerns on the

splitup of the CUC into two agencies.

The governor said those opposing the splitup had assured him that "nothing is going to happen to the power."

With the island-wide blackout, an irked Tenorio said, "They better not have any blackouts again from now to election."

Tenorio also wanted to know from the Department of Public Safety why no policemen were mobilized to direct traffic at intersections during the blackout.

Many employees came to work late because of traffic jams in busy intersections.

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Western Samoa PM sues newspaper

APIA (Pacnews)—Western Samoa's prime minister Tofilau Eti Alesana is suing the Samoa Observer Co. Ltd, publisher of the Samoa Observer and the Sunday Samoan newspapers for (US\$199,203.18) for defamation.

The lawsuit against Savea Sano Malifa was for allegations made in a story in the Sunday Samoan on December 8 last year.

The lawsuit claims "the plaintiff's political and personal reputation has been seriously injured and he has been exposed to ridicule and contempt."

It also alleges that the Samoa Observer Co Ltd and Savea acted in flagrant disregard of the plaintiff's rights in the expectation that the rewards of doing so would outweigh any adverse legal consequences.

Chief Justice Tiavaasue Palefatu Sapolu has rejected a defence petition for particulars to be provided to elaborate on 12 points made in the statement of defence. But he granted that the plaintiff should specify what he is asking for in exemplary damages and general damages - and to give details of why he is asking for the US \$199,203.18.

Poor turnout for Fiji union march

SUVA (Pacnews)—The members of the public took part in a march organised by the Viti National Union of Taukei Workers in the Fiji capital Suva Saturday in protest against the review of the 1990 constitution. The march, which

ended at the Sukuna Park in the city centre, was closely monitored by police. The Fiji Times reports.

Union Secretary General Taniela Tabu said that he had written to Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka to inform him of the

Elsewhere in the Pacific

Singirok raps appointment of new defense force commander

CANBERRA (Pacnews)—The dismissed commander of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force, Brigadier General Jerry Singirok, has spoken out against the appointment of Brigadier General Leo Nuia as the new commander.

Brigadier General Singirok told Australian SBC television that the appointment should have been delayed until a new government was formed after the national elections

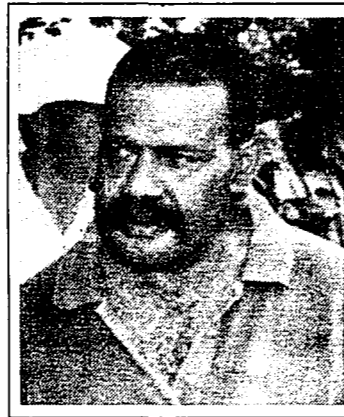
which begin next Saturday.

Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan announced Brigadier General Nuia's appointment on resuming office last week after being cleared by a judicial inquiry into the Sandline International mercenary contract.

Brigadier General Singirok whose allegations of corruption sparked off the inquiry also questioned whether the PNG Defence Force troops would be loyal to Brigadier General Nuia.

"I've always maintained that loyalty is a two-way thing. I cannot ask the men to be loyal to the new commander. It's up to the men to be loyal to the new commander," he said.

Brigadier General Nuia commanded PNG troops on Bougainville in the late 1980s and early 1990s. He earned a reputation as a military hardliner and was



Jerry Singirok

dubbed the 'Butcher of Bougainville' by the secessionists. For many years he has been a professional rival of Singirok.

Solomons hospital may close due to cash woes

HONIARA (Pacnews)—One of Solomon Islands' biggest hospitals, the Seventh Day Adventist Church-run Atoifi Hospital, in East Malaita, is facing closure of some of its medical services due to financial problems.

The hospital's medical superintendent, Doctor Chester Kuma, says while running costs had been increasing in the last few years, funding from both the church and the government had been decreasing.

Kuma said the situation has got to a stage where normal hospital services can no longer be sustained. He says Atoifi Hospital will be forced to reduce or close some of its services if it does not receive any assistance by the end of July.

Doctor Kuma says the hospital which serves most of the populous island of Malaita as well as patients from all parts of the country, is therefore appealing for assistance from the public including diplomatic missions to maintain its services. Among other things, Atoifi Hospital provides satellite clinics, outpatient clinic, inpatient, surgical, paediatric, obstetric and various other curative and preventive health services.

Cocoa output dips

PORT MORESBY (Pacnews)—Cocoa production in Papua New Guinea's East New Britain province has dropped by over 50 percent as a result of destruction of cocoa trees by Cyclone Justin earlier this year. And, this is resulting in the laying-off of workers by plantations and cocoa exporting companies until the cocoa production levels pick up again, NBC reports.

PNG's major quality cocoa exporter, AGMARK, revealed this saying the buying levels at their depots in Rabaul and Kokopo have dropped dramatically. AGMARK's manager, Ben Irina, says their Rabaul depot which normally buys about 30 tonnes of cocoa a day is now only receiving 10 to 15 tonnes, while the Kokopo depot which buys 12 to 15 tonnes a day is now getting only 8 to 10 tonnes.

Illiteracy growing in Marshalls

By Giff Johnson
For the Variety

MAJURO—Marshall Islands educators, worried by increasing illiteracy among younger islanders in this north, are taking action to promote what they describe as "life skills" needed for youth to successfully cope in a modern economy.

The decline in literacy in the Marshall Islands has prompted the College of the Marshall Islands (CMI) to create the country's first community-based task force to raise

awareness about the need to promote reading and writing skills, particularly focused on the younger generation.

"The task force is raising awareness about the importance of being literate in today's world so that people become human resources, not human liabilities," said task force member and CMI's adult education director Biram Stege.

The task force is working to stimulate more interest in what is widely seen as the diminishing level

of reading and writing skills among Marshall Islanders—in both English and Marshallese languages, Stege said.

Literacy, she said, isn't just knowing how to read and write: it's all about being able to live a good life. Being literate will open a thousand doors to a person's future, she said. But right now, education statistics show that at least 10 to 15 percent of elementary age school children are not in schools. Ebeve Island Mayor Wilmer Bolkeim said he believes that the percent of out of school elementary age children is much higher in Ebeve, the overcrowded bedroom community that provides labor for the U.S. Army missile testing range at Kwajalein.

One third of graduating eighth graders in the Marshall Islands cannot continue on to secondary school for lack of classroom space in public and private schools.

College President Alfred Capelle

observed that even an advanced nation like the United States is facing a huge literacy problem that is actively attempting to improve. "If a country like the U.S. is concerned about literacy levels, so should we be," Capelle said.

In a developing nation, people need to be able to read and write to function in a modern society, he said. But there is a serious problem here that needs to be addressed by the whole community, he said.

"The result of the primary and secondary school system's weakness in teaching reading and writing shows up at the college," Capelle said. "It's why we have so many developing programs (to improve basic skills) for incoming freshmen."

Part of the reason for declining literacy is that Marshallese custom of adults telling stories to children is disappearing, she said. "And nothing has taken its place in

Marshallese culture," Stege said. "So children are growing up and not being read to or told stories."

"A lot of the health and social problems in the Marshalls stem from lack of literacy. Because people can't read and write, they have no sense of who they are, no confidence in themselves."

Stege said that the task force isn't only emphasizing English language literacy, but understanding of both languages. "A lot of Marshallese know how to speak, but they can't write in Marshallese," she said.

"We need to develop English and Marshallese equally," Capelle said.

The task force goal, he added, is "to make the whole nation aware of the literacy needs. It's not just for the college. We want it (literacy needs) to be a topic that is more actively addressed by the community."

Solomons issues ultimatum to Australian consortium

HONIARA (Pacnews)—The Solomon Islands government has given an Australian based power consortium an ultimatum to sell its three power generators now in the country to the Electricity Authority, or pack them and leave the country. A spokesman from the Prime Minister's Office says the stand was taken at a meeting with the Lunga Power Consortium in Honiara last week.

According to an agreement signed last year, the Solomon Islands Electricity Authority would have to pay about \$US5.8 million to the consortium for the lease of the three generators in two years.

But the government has rejected the agreement since it valued the three generators at only \$US1.45 million and it would mean after

having spent four times more than they were worth, the Electricity Authority would still not own the generators.

But the government spokesman said since the generators are already in the country, the government would try to negotiate a direct purchase under a better arrangement.

He said Honiara is experiencing a worsening power crisis and something had to be done immediately to alleviate the situation.

The spokesman said the problem has come to a stage where the government even had to temporarily waive a prohibition order on an executive of the Consortium, Denis Reinhardt, to enable him to attend last Tuesday's meeting in Honiara.

Bishops appeal for release of MP

PORT MORESBY (Pacnews)—The president of the Catholic Bishops conference in Papua New Guinea, Bishop Ray Kalisz, has pleaded with the Bougainville Revolutionary Army to release its prisoners. Bishop Kalisz was particularly concerned with the capture of Bougainville MP John Momis after initially releasing him, NBC reports.

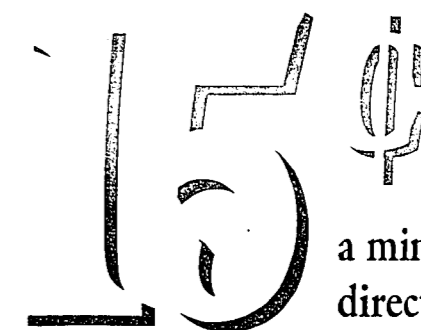
Bishop Kalisz said after the euphoria of the good news on Momis's

release, his recapture by the BRA factions is a terrible let down for everybody. He said in God's name the Bishops conference begs the captors to release their prisoners including the other five hostages. Bishop Kalisz also urged all Christians to continue their prayers adding that despite the setback, Christians must not lose faith in God.

BRA leader Francis Ona has

denied media reports claiming the release and recapture of Momis. According to Ona these media reports are inaccurate and false. He also emphasised that no ransom was demanded for the release of Momis and his supporter James Billy. He said these reports have created confusion and misrepresentation of the Bougainville Interim Government and the BRA.

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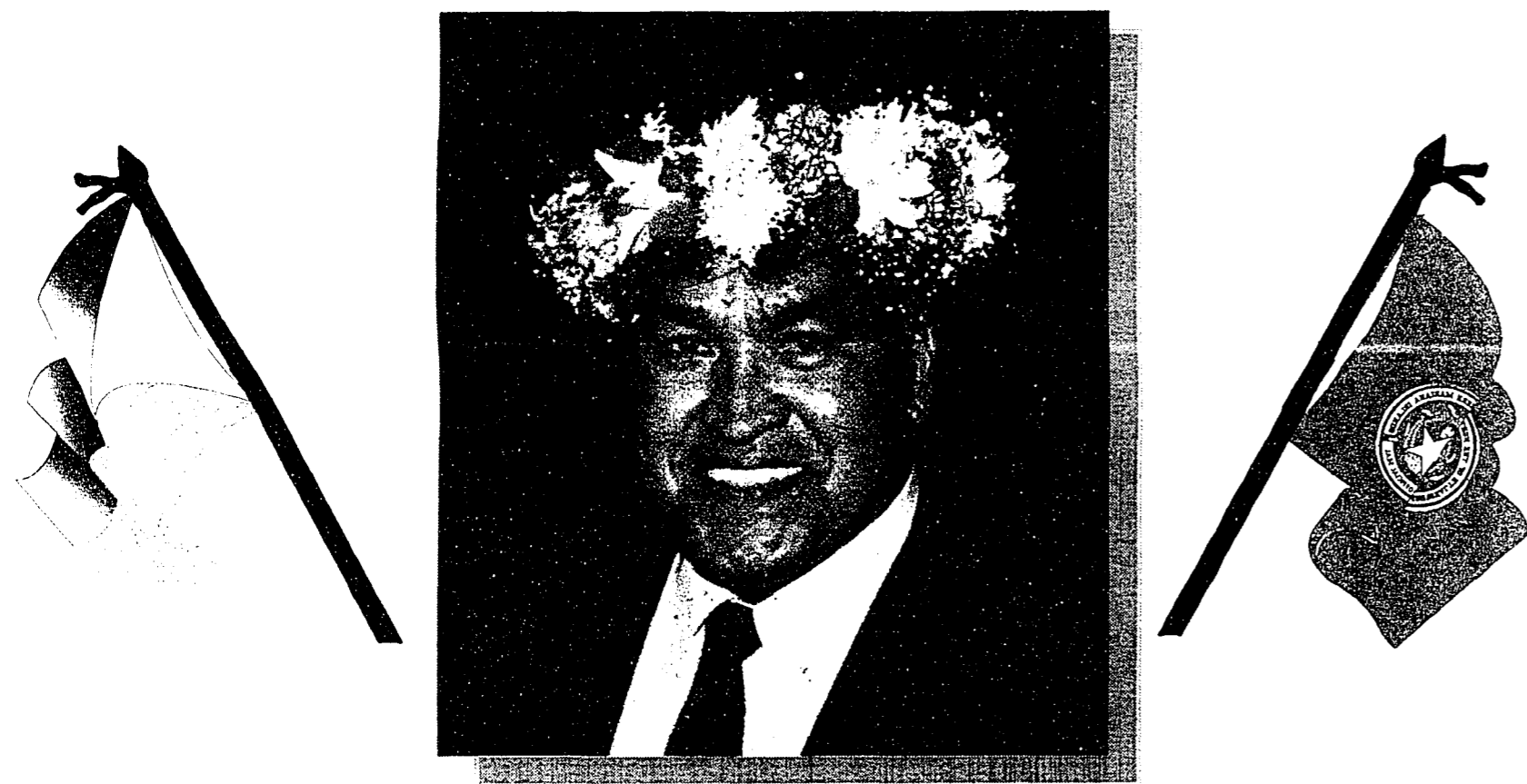
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SA LAHAT NG MASISIPAG NA MAGGAGAWANG PILIPINO

Karamihan sa inyo na nakarinig o nakabalita na, ako ay nakatanggap ng sulat, pirmado ng Presidente ng Estados Unidos, si Presidente William "Bill" Clinton. Ayon sa nilalaman ng sulat, ang gustong mangyari ng Presidente ay mapailalim sa batas ng U.S. Federal immigration at naturalization, gayundin ang batas na U.S. minimum wage sa Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, kung saan kayo ay nakatira at nagtatrabaho.

Nalaman ko rin na karamihan sa mga Pilipinong naririto sa CNMI ay mukhang hindi naiintindihan ang ibig sabihin ng nilalaman ng sulat, at sa kanilang paniniwala ay isa itong tagumpay o kapanalunan para sa kanila. Nalaman ko rin na karamihan sa kanila ay naniniwala na ang gobyerno ng Estados Unidos ay pahihintulutan silang manatili sa CNMI at mabibigyan sila ng karapatan upang maging U.S. citizen. Kung ang plano o balak ni Presidente Clinton ay magtagumpay. Hindi ko alam kung sino ang nagkalat ng maling balitang ito! Dapat ninyong malaman na ito ay hindi totoo!

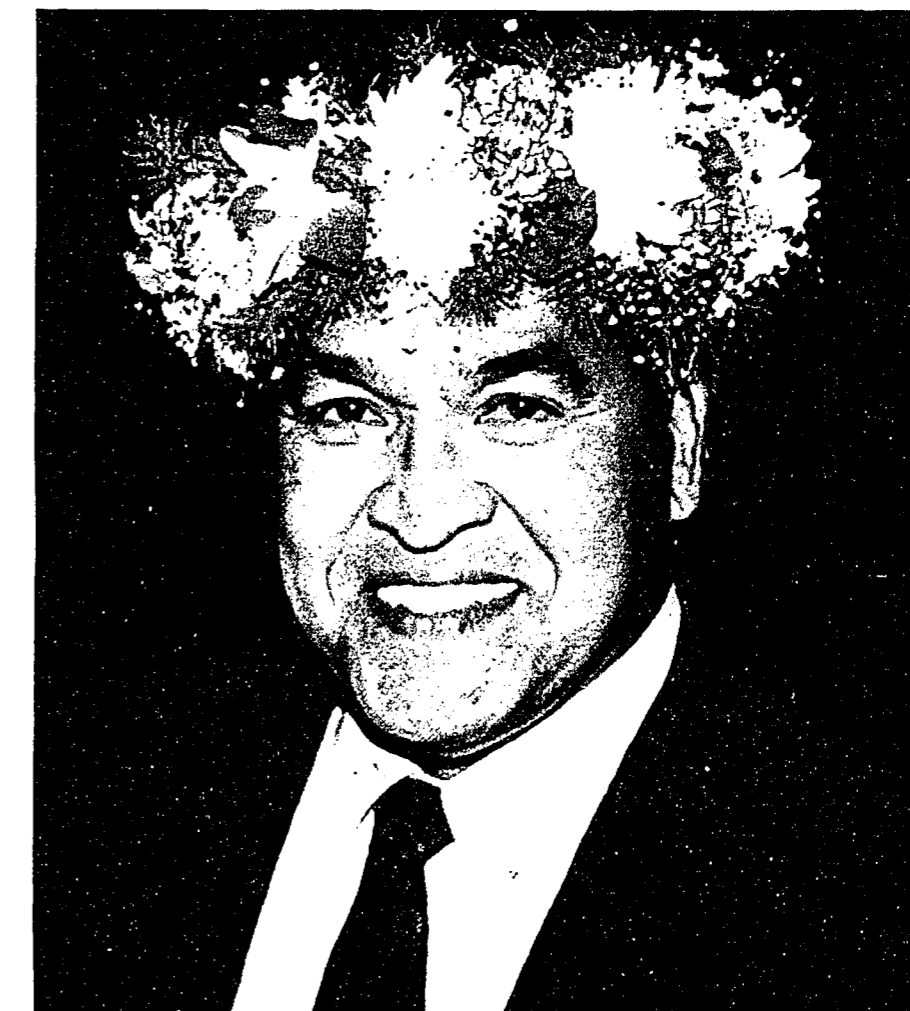
Sa panig ng mga taong nagpapayo kay President Clinton, ay napakarami na nang dayuhang manggagawa dito sa CNMI. Sinasabi din nila na mga U.S. citizens lamang ang puwedeng magtrabaho. Ang bilang namin ay hindi sapat para mapunuan at mapatakbo ang mga hotels gayundin ang iba't-iba pang mga negosyo. Samantalang pinasalamatan ng CNMI ang lahat ng manggagawang mga Pilipino, kabilang ang mga dayuhang manggagawa sa iba pang bansa na tumutulong para sa pag-unlad ng aming ekonomiya, dapat ninyong malaman na iba naman ang nararamdaman ng ilang tao sa Washington D.C.

Kung magtatagumpay ang plano ng Estado Unidos sa pagkontrol ng CNMI immigration at iba pang importanteng batas, alam na namin kung ano ang gustong magyari sa inyo ng gobyerno ng Estados Unidos. Ito ay ibalik kayo sa inyong bansa. Ang pabor na plano ng U.S. INS ay ideport kayong isa-isa. OO, pahihintulutan kayong tapusin ang inyong mga kontrata, pero hanggang doon na lamang. Sa ilalim ng batas ng U.S. Federal, ilang daang maykakayahang manggagawa lamang ang puwedeng makapunta at magkatrabaho sa CNMI. Ang mga walang kakayahang manggagawa na nagkaroon ng magandang pagkakataon na maging maayos ang kanilang mga sarili dito sa CNMI ay hindi pahihintulutan ng I.N.S.

Sa maraming taon na nagdaan, ang mga politiko sa Pilipinas at Estados Unidos ay nagsabi sa inyo na sila ay tutulong o tumutulong upang ipagtanggol kayo laban sa anumang abuso dito sa CNMI. "Ang ma aktibista para sa karapatang pang tao" ay nagsabi din na sila ay magtatanggol sa inyo laban sa anumang abuso dito sa CNMI. Ngayon ay alam na ninyo na ang pagtulong na ginagawa sa inyo ay tanggalin kayong lahat sa inyong mga trabaho at pauwiin kayo sa inyong bansa. Nasa tabi kaya ninyo sila upang mabigyan kayo ng trabaho o kaya naman ay pakainin ang inyong mga pamilya, kapag sumakay na kayo ng eroplano pabalik sa inyong bansa???

Sa kabutihang palad, ang Kongreso ng Estados Unidos ang magpapasya kung dapat bang ang CNMI ay mapailalim sa batas ng Federal. Siniguro na sa atin ng matataas na pinuno ng Kongreso sa Estados Unidos na hindi nila pahintulutan na mangyari of maipasa ang nasabing batas. Gusto ng mga nagkakaisa at karamihan kong mga kababayan na pahintulutan kayong tumira at magtrabaho ng payapa kasama namin dito sa CNMI. Naniniwala ako na ang kasalukuyang sistema ay kapwa at malugod na pakinabang para sa Commonwealth ng Northern Mariana Islands at ang mga masisipag na bisitang manggagawang Pilipino. At gusto kong manatili ang inyong kakayahang makatira at makapagtrabaho dito sa CNMI hanggang gusto ninyo at kailangan kayo sa inyong mga trabaho.

Mabuhay ang Pilipino! Salamat Po.



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Elderly, kids hit most by famine

By GEORGE GEDDA
WASHINGTON (AP)—Adults over 50 and children under 5 are the North Koreans hardest hit by acute food shortages, an American humanitarian relief expert said Sunday after spending five days in that country.

Andrew Natsios, a vice president for World Vision, a U.S. relief and development organization, said he was struck by the absence of North Koreans over 50 on the streets of Pyongyang and outside the city.

Natsios said he was told by a senior North Korean official that the above-50 population remains indoors because they are for the most part too weak to go outside. Natsios, a former chief of foreign disaster assistance for the U.S. Agency for International Development, described his impressions in a telephone interview with the Associated Press from Seattle. He left Pyongyang on Saturday.

He said acute malnourishment was afflicting up to 40 percent of children he visited at a Pyongyang



Orphaned North Korean children eat food rations delivered by the Red Cross to an isolated village in Hwangehe province in North Korea. The International Red Cross announced that North Koreans are now in the brink of widespread famine. AP

center for abandoned and orphaned children that was described as the best in the country.

At a similar center south of Pyongyang, half the children were acutely malnourished, he said.

Natsios said the North Korean

said, the North Koreans were "too embarrassed" to let him see the full extent of the hunger problem. He was allowed only a "peek" during his five days there.

When he stopped to chat with a peasant outside Pyongyang, the man was eating a small cup of "rice gruel" that had the appearance of "a watered down version of oatmeal," Natsios said. The concoction was supplemented with grass and leaves.

During a two-hour drive to the north of Pyongyang, he said, he saw no other vehicles — reflecting an acute gasoline shortage — and no animals except for one pig and nine oxen who were working the fields.

The shortage of animals suggests widespread slaughters have taken place for human consumption.

Asked what he his recommending to donor countries, Natsios said, "A massive infusion of additional food aid immediately." He said World Vision has been urging a U.S. donation of 300,000

tons. Responding to two U.N. World Food Program appeals this year, the Clinton administration has pledged about 72,000 tons, some of which was delivered last month.

Natsios also rejected the argument of some that North Korea should be denied food aid because this only strengthens the North Korean army, which is within striking distance of 37,000 American soldiers protecting South Korea.

"No political purpose is served in starving a bunch of little kids to death," he said.

JAL airplane from Hong Kong hits turbulence, eleven hurt

TOKYO (AP) - A Japan Airlines plane hit severe air turbulence over central Japan on its way in from Hong Kong late Sunday, leaving 11 people injured, police said Monday.

One of the injured, 33-year-old flight attendant Atsuko Taniguchi, remained unconscious from head injuries at a hospital near the airport in the western city of Nagoya, local police said.

Three of the other 10 injured people - two passengers and another flight attendant - suffered broken pelvises. The other injuries were relatively minor.

The turbulence hit while JAL flight 706 was approaching Japan to make its landing. The cabin attendants were circulating in the plane to make sure the passengers had their seat belts fastened. There were 169 passengers and 11 crew aboard.

The injured passengers were apparently in the bathrooms or were returning to their seats when the plane started to shake up and down, local police said.

The turbulence was not spotted by radar beforehand, and the forecast was cloudy at the time. The plane landed safely at Nagoya's airport 25 minutes after the turbulence hit.

Nagoya is 269 kilometers (168 miles) west of Tokyo.

Report: Foreign investment in Indonesia down

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) - The government approved 302 direct foreign investment projects in Indonesia during the first five months of 1997, down 36 percent from the same period last year, it was reported Monday.

The Bisnis Indonesia newspaper quoted Investment Minister Sanyoto Sastrowardoyo as saying that the decline was due to the general election last month.

In terms of value, the approvals totaled \$13.7 billion, a 25 percent decline from \$18.4 billion last year, the report said.

Of the 302 projects approved, 151 were export-oriented.

Congo may get US aid



US Ambassador to the United Nations, Bill Richardson listens to a welcome song from Rwandan refugees at a transit camp outside the eastern Congolese town of Kisangani, Saturday. Richardson is on a three day follow-up visit to the recently renamed Democratic Republic of Congo. AP

By ALEXANDRA ZAVIS
KINSHASA, Congo (AP) — Congo's new government may receive military cooperation from the United States as an incentive to adhere to human rights standards, U.S. envoy Bill Richardson said Sunday.

President Laurent Kabila, anxious to retain the Western goodwill he garnered during his seven-month war to oust Zairian dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, agreed this weekend to allow U.N. officials to freely investigate the alleged massacre of refugees.

Kabila's forces previously had blocked access to areas humanitarian groups believe became killing fields during the civil war.

Congo's new leader made the commitment during a meeting Saturday with Richardson, at which time he also raised the prospect of military aid.

"He (Kabila) was very interested in

military cooperation, because he said he was the minister of defense," Richardson told The Associated Press on Sunday.

Kabila rules by decree, and has accepted all the principal powers in the new Congo for himself.

Richardson said the United States was open to Kabila's proposal. "I think we want cooperation between our militaries," he said, adding that for now it would be restricted to technical advice on military organization and possibly some training.

Richardson's military advisor, Col. Rich Roan, said communication and joint exercises would be considered down the line.

"All of this of course is completely contingent on the establishment of a military that respects civilian rule," Roan said Saturday.

A senior U.S. administration official traveling with Richardson, speak-

ing on condition of anonymity, said the United States was seeking "something more institutionalized" than what Congo has now in terms of a military.

The army is currently made up of the eastern rebels that fought the war and defectors from Mobutu's army, and reportedly is backed by military advisers from neighboring countries, including Uganda and Rwanda.

Richardson said Kabila had agreed to prosecute those who violate human rights and give full access to aid agencies trying to help tens of thousands of Rwandan refugees in Congo.

"He wants to put the issue of humanitarian problems that confront him behind him," Richardson told the AP before returning to the United States. "(Kabila) knows that he won't get international support if he doesn't put the humanitarian problems behind him."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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(05/19/97)

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Furthermore, priority consideration will be accorded to U.S. and CNMI Residence, who are economically disadvantaged pursuant to the Poverty Income Guideline. Therefore, all Applicants must possess U.S. Passport, Birth Certificate, or other legal documentation such as adoption papers.

Deadline for submission are as follows:

Saipan June 20, 1997 Tinian June 13, 1997 Rota June 11, 1997

To ensure fairness, application will not be accepted after the aforementioned established date per island.

/s/FELIX NOGIS
JTPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Graphics

Bishops: Spare McVeigh



Members of the prosecution team Larry Mackey (left) Beth Wilkinson (second left) and Vicki Behenna (right) wait outside the U.S. Courthouse in Denver, Colo., with two unidentified FBI agents Friday after the prosecution rested in the penalty phase of the Timothy McVeigh bombing trial. AP

By JIM ABRAMS
WASHINGTON (AP)—Catholic bishops on Sunday spoke out against capital punishment and urged that the life of Timothy McVeigh be spared. Catholic politicians, including Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating, differed, saying the man convicted of the Oklahoma City bombing deserves to die.

"Let's look at this moment as a wonderful moment of opportunity," said Bishop William Skylstad of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in arguing against the death sentence for McVeigh. "Compassion and mercy are a tremendously creative act," he said on "Fox News

Sunday."

A Denver jury this week continues to hear arguments on whether McVeigh should be executed for the 1995 bombing attack on the Oklahoma City federal building that took 168 lives.

The Catholic Church has long had a policy of opposing capital punishment except in the most egregious cases. Cardinal Bernard Law of Boston, interviewed on ABC's "This Week," said church doctrine calls for the sparing of lives if "bloodless means are sufficient" to defend people against aggressors and protect public order.

Beyond that, Law said, there is the question of what capital punishment does to "a society where there is an ever greater spiraling of violence."

Denver Archbishop Charles Chaput put out a statement on his Internet site Friday condemning capital punishment. "Killing the guilty is still wrong. It does not honor the dead. It does not enoble the living."

Keating said he hoped that "I don't get driven into the sea because I am a Catholic" for supporting the death sentence for McVeigh. He said on Fox that most lay Catholics would agree that the perpetrator of the Oklahoma City bombing deserved to die. "How many babies do we have to see killed before it is jus-

tified?" he asked.

Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., also a Catholic, said on ABC that there has never been a more appropriate case for the death sentence. "There has to be punishment and punishment in this case can only be the death penalty."

Skylstad, of Spokane, Wash., acknowledged that a large majority of Americans, and most Catholics, are in favor of capital punishment. But he said that "we as bishops feel there is a need to

continue to sensitize our people to the reverence for life."

Some religious leaders outside the Catholic Church have also used the McVeigh case to speak out against capital punishment.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, speaking on CBS' "Face the Nation," said McVeigh "makes the toughest case for one to defend the principle" of opposing capital punishment. But he said ultimately the concept of an eye for an eye "leaves us blind and disfigured."

Couple goes up against tobacco

By CATHERINE WILSON
MIAMI (AP)—Stanley Rosenblatt vividly remembers the pretrial session in which he proved a doctor on trial for malpractice had shimmied through a transom to alter a pathology report inside a locked office. That's all the doctor's insurance company needed to hear. It promptly settled.

The Miami trial lawyer relishes the memory but 20 years later still won't reveal just how he proved the doctor's athleticism, as if explaining might give an advantage to a future courtroom opponent.

"He is a person that looks with a jaundiced eye on every fact, every aspect of every case," says Bob Montgomery, who represented the doctor's insurer. "He makes absolutely sure it is bulletproof."

Rosenblatt, who has become rich winning multimillion-dollar cases, is involved in the biggest case of his career. He and his wife are representing flight attendants suing the nation's five major cigarette makers for illnesses blamed on second-hand smoke in cabins. They are seeking \$5 billion.

Jury selection moved slowly last week, but Rosenblatt isn't sweating it. He's waited six years for the case to get to this point.

Inside the Dade County courtroom, Susan Rosenblatt, his wife and co-counsel, sits with him and their lead plaintiff, American Airlines attendant Norma Broin.

Across the room, a dozen or so tobacco attorneys line the walls and spill into the spectators' area.

Reporters have compared the courtroom duel between the Rosenblatts and the cigarette makers to David fighting Goliath. The Rosenblatts like the analogy because it gives them a chance to remind everyone who won.

Indeed, counting them out, even against an industry that has never paid a penny in a product liability case, would be a mistake. As a plaintiff's counsel, Rosenblatt has few peers. He pronounces himself one of the nation's best trial lawyers, admits it sounds conceited, but says it's accurate.

Colleagues agree. "I'll give it to you in a nutshell," says attorney Sheldon Schlesinger, who's known Rosenblatt more than 30 years. "He's a warrior. He wins his cases because he's dedicated to his client's cause. He's prepared. He's knowledgeable. He's articulate."

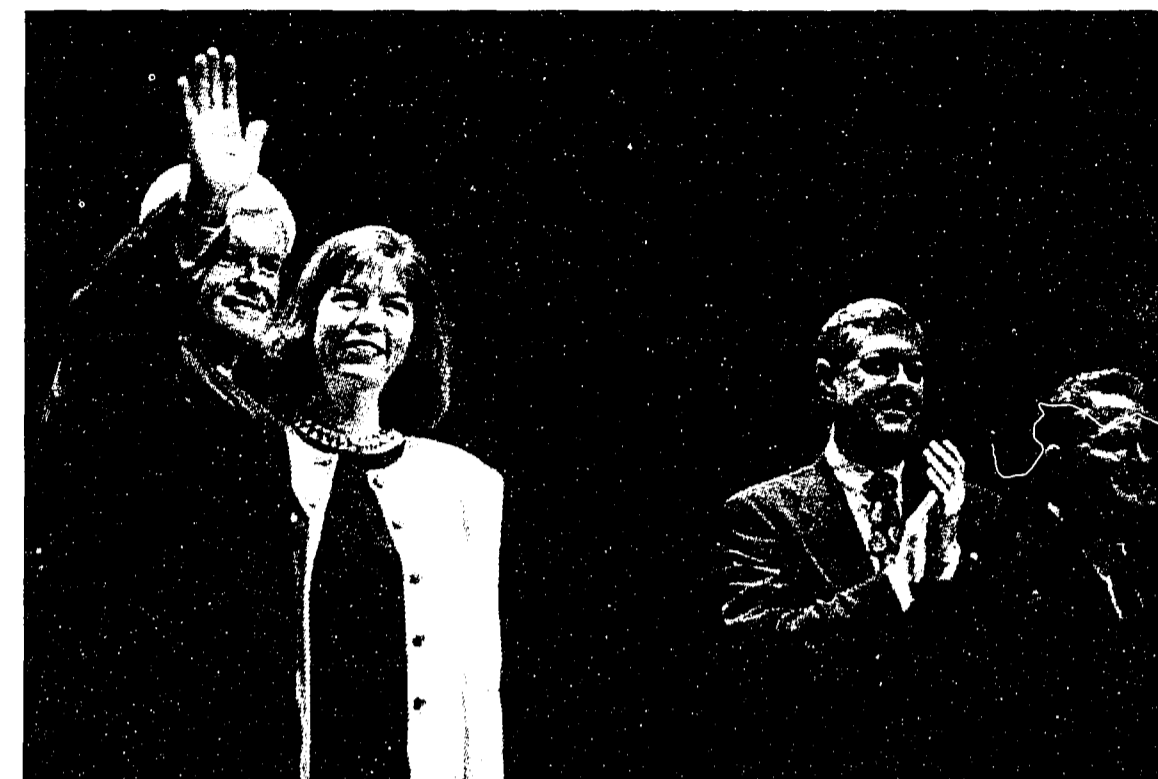
Long removed from his native Brooklyn, Rosenblatt kept the bravado of the street. Preparing for trial, he interviewed some of the nation's top cigarette executives about smoking, then released transcripts to news organizations.

The sometimes acrimonious depositions show the executives being evasive and holding to long-held industry beliefs that smoking isn't addictive and teenagers aren't the targets of advertising. In one deposition, James Morgan, president of Philip Morris Co., testified that tobacco is no more addictive than Gummy Bears candy.



Attorneys for the plaintiffs Stanley and Susan Rosenblatt discuss second day jury selection in the tobacco trial in Miami in this June 3, 1997 file photo. The two are representing flight attendants suing the nation's five major cigarette makers for illnesses blamed on secondhand smoke in cabins. They are seeking \$5 billion. AP

Gingrich tests new Republican tactic



House Speaker Newt Gingrich waves after conducting a "National Town Meeting" at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Fla. Saturday as his wife Marianne, and Rep. John Linder and Rep. Mark Foley look on. Gingrich told about 2,000 of the GOP faithful that Republicans are right in the congressional battle over a veto-threatened \$8.6 billion bill. AP

By WILL LESTER
BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP)—House Speaker Newt Gingrich is test-marketing the "national town meeting," the Republicans' newest tactic to reach supporters in a setting favorable to the GOP's most articulate spokesman.

At a weekend town meeting of 2,000 Republicans, one of the faithful asked the Georgian why Democrats are better than the GOP at selling their message.

The speaker, who stayed away from the limelight and reflected on such questions for several months after the 1996 elections, gave him an earful. "There's two reasons," he said at the Saturday night event at Florida Atlantic University. "One's us, and the other is the nature of the modern media."

Republicans spent so long fighting against communism and big government and the like that they had little experience at running things when they took over Congress in 1994, he said.

"We haven't really had the responsibility of running things since the 1920s," he said, noting Republican presidents long had to work with Democratic Congresses. "I think you will see us getting better and better at communicating our ideas."

And he offered this "I say this with no hostility" view of the media:

"The modern media have an attachment to the negative. There are good things happening all over the world. But pick up the newspaper or watch television. It's negative, negative, negative. If it isn't negative, it doesn't exist."

He said the press is not attuned to modern conservative ideas, and "we aren't like anything they've ever covered."

Gingrich said people in the news business are out of touch with the world around them. "They all get together in the same room and share the same ideas," he said. "The least diverse place in America today is the newsroom."

The speaker, who has been emerg-

ing publicly in the last two months after his self-imposed low profile, said he's noticed a recent change in news coverage.

"There's a breaking in the ice," he said. "I won't say yet that it's a spring thaw."

Gingrich's poll numbers plummeted after a government shutdown in late 1995 and battles over budget cuts last year. Now, under pressure to resume his public role as the party's visionary, he has turned over much of the day-to-day management work in the House to Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas to free him as the party's communicator.

The town meeting, televised by C-Span, neatly filled the bill. A former history professor, Gingrich likes to talk at length about his theories of government, an approach that has been proved very effective at GOP fund-raisers.

The town meeting has the advantage of allowing Republicans at all levels to attend for free, with a money-raising event possibly attached at subsequent events.

Rep. John Linder, a fellow Georgian and chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, was delighted to have Gingrich kick off the town meetings.

"He's always been the best at explaining what our vision is and where we're going," Linder said. "He's clearly been the best fund-raiser this party has ever seen."

Gingrich spent the weekend touring the Everglades, holding baby alligators for the cameras, and in Miami reassuring nervous immigrants that they will not be treated harshly under Republican-inspired laws. On Sunday, he spent much of the day in Florida in private meetings.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are soliciting competitive sealed proposals from private individuals and firms licensed to perform janitorial and maintenance services for its central office in Garapan, Saipan. The office has an area of 4,215.58 square feet. Proposals must be submitted to Ms. MaryLou S. Ada, Corporate Director, no later than 10:00 a.m., Monday, July 7, 1997. Interested proposers pick up copies of the Janitorial/Maintenance Service Specifications from the NMHC Office anytime from 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Inquiries may be directed to Edith C. Fejeran, Office Manager at 234-9447/7689/7690.

NMHC reserves the right to waive any informalties and to reject any and all proposals in its best interest.

/s/ MARYLOU S. ADA
Corporate Director

PUBLIC HEARING

The Public School System is pleased to announce that a public hearing on the FY 1997-1999 Child Care and Development Fund Service Plan will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at the Head Start Conference Room located on the fourth floor of the Nauru Building. All pre-school, child care providers and schools with after school programs as well as interested members of the public are urged to attend this hearing.

The service plan will also be available for review and public comment for thirty days after the public hearing. Copies may be obtained from Tim Thornburgh, Federal Program Coordinator, at the Federal Programs Office at 664-3789/3790

/s/ WILLIAM S. TORRES
Commissioner of Education

The Commonwealth Law Revision Commission
Will Hold a
Special Meeting
Thursday, June 12, 1997, 2:00 p.m.
Commonwealth Supreme Court Conference Room
Susupe, Nauru Building, Second Floor

- AGENDA**
- Preliminary Matters
 - Call to Order and Roll Call
 - Proof of Notice of Meeting (voluntary compliance with Open Government Act, 1 CMC § 9901 et seq.)
 - Old Business
 - Approval of Minutes of November 21, 1996, Special Meeting
 - Continuing Services; Sales of Publications
 - New Business
 - New Staff/Commencement of Administrative Code Compilation
 - Update on Electronic and Paper Publishing Projects
 - Fiscal Year 1998 Budget Request
 - Proposed Legislation
 - Proposed Commission Policies
 - Other Business
 - Adjournment
For Further Information, Contact the Commission
Susupe, Nauru Building, Second Floor - Tel.: 235-5890

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Office of the Mayor
PUBLIC NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID

Pursuant to Chapters 3 & 4, Title 6 of Saipan Municipal Code, the office of the Mayor of Saipan hereby issues Notice of Invitation to Bid for the operation of Bingo and Batu for a period of one (1) year commencing on July 4, 1997, to July 3, 1998.

The minimum bid for a Bingo License is \$2,000.00. The minimum bid for a Batu License is \$500.00.

All bids shall be accompanied by a deposit of twenty percent (20%) of the total amount bid. The deposit shall be in the form of a postal or express money order, cashier's or certified check, or bank draft, payable to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Treasurer, Saipan, MP 96950. All bids must be sealed and submitted to the Office of the Mayor of Saipan on or before 3:30 p.m., June 20, 1997. No bid will be accepted after 3:30 p.m., June 20, 1997. All bids submitted on time will be publicly announced at 4:00 p.m., June 20, 1997, at the Mayor's office at Aletna Square Building in San Antonio, Saipan, MP 96950.

For application forms and information, please come by or call the Mayor's office at telephone Nos. 234-6208, 234-6280, or 235-7304 between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and between 12:30 p.m. and 4:40 p.m., Monday through Friday.

/s/ JESUS S. DELEON GUERRERO
Mayor of Saipan

PARA TODO I FAMILIA YAN MANATUNGO I DIFUNTO SIHA AS

BENEDICTO S. TAISAKAN
5 yrs.

ANDRES T. IGISAIAR
4 yrs.

JESUS S. TAISAKAN
1 yr.

GABRIEL IGISAIAR
1 yr.

I Lisayon kumpleanos i finatai niha esta matutuhon gi Junio dia dos (June 2) gi oran alas ocho gi pupuenge guato gi Kapiyan Immakulada Korason de Maria giya Chalan Laulau. I Lisayon finagpo para alas dosse gi taloane gi Junio dia dies (June 10) guato gi Kapiya. I misa para mismo ha'ane gi oran alas sais despues de taloane guato gi guma Yu'us Kristo Rai giya Garapan. Utinatye nui sena gi mismo lugat.

I tinayuyut miyo yan finaton miyo masen agradese.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase yan Ghilissow

Ginen I Familia

EU launch set in 1999

By PAUL AMES
LUXEMBOURG (AP) - The new French government is determined to stick to the timetable and conditions for introducing a common European Union currency by Jan. 1, 1999, relieved EU finance ministers said Sunday.

"The French confirmed they are in favor of the euro and they are in favor of the date," Irish Finance Minister Ruairi Quinn said after the ministers' dinner meeting.

Doubts about the fate of the single currency project have arisen in the past two weeks because of election promises by the new left-wing government in France and Germany's inability to plug a big budget shortfall.

Ministers here brushed aside speculation that the EU will be forced to delay the launch of the euro or risk having it emerge as a financial weakening instead of the strong global currency they envisaged.

"The euro will be launched on

EU finance ministers to stick 40 timetable

Jan. 1, 1999 and France and Germany will be members," said Jean-Claude Juncker, Luxembourg's prime minister and finance minister.

New French Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn declined to talk to reporters after the three-hour dinner on the eve of the ministers' regular monthly meeting Monday.

But other ministers said he had reassured them France remained committed to joining the European Monetary Union on time and in compliance with the Maastricht Treaty, which outlines conditions for nations adopting the euro.

"It is quite clear the French government is in favor of the EMU process and respects the Treaty of Maastricht," said Dutch minister Gerrit Zalm, who chaired the meeting.

However, it remains unclear how France intends to meet the

criteria for joining.

The Socialist-led government won elections last week on pledges not to impose unpopular tax hikes and spending cuts considered essential for France to cut its budget deficit to levels required for entry into the EU currency bloc.

Instead, Socialist Prime Minister Lionel Jospin has called for a "flexible" interpretation of the criteria for joining the single currency.

Jospin is also insisting Italy and Spain enter EMU alongside France and he wants EU governments to have more power to counterbalance the future European central bank.

Such ideas seem sure to lead to a clash with Germany, where there is deep opposition to any moves seen weakening the currency that will replace the mighty mark.

Germany's own efforts to slash its own deficit of 20 billion marks

(\$11.8 billion) are reeling from two recent setbacks: The government was forced into a humiliating retreat from its plans to revalue national gold reserves, and also reported a new post-war unemployment high of 11.4 percent that will add to welfare spending.

In a speech Sunday in Frankfurt, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl warned against a delay in the euro, saying it would hurt his country's economy.

A delay would drive up the value of the mark because financial markets would seek refuge in the solid German currency, Kohl said. That would hurt German exports, the bedrock of Europe's biggest economy.

French and German participation in the single currency is essential if the euro is to achieve its aims of fully integrating Europe's economies to boost trade and form a united trade bloc to compete

with the United States and Japan.

"If France and Germany do not qualify, I don't think we can start monetary union," said Luxembourg's Juncker.

EU members hoping to join have until the end of this year to narrow their budget deficits to below 3 percent of gross domestic product, get debt down to 60 percent of GDP, and hit targets of low inflation and interest rates.

France is expected to push the EU to use a loophole that allows nations to join the monetary union if their deficits are falling "at a satisfactory rate" toward the 3 percent target.

With the criteria relaxed, all EU nations could be free to join except Greece which has no chance of getting near the targets and those like Britain, Denmark and Sweden that are likely to choose to stay out.

A broad-based euro shared by nations with less-than-tight finances, however, would likely lack the strength and stability the Germans crave.

Irish PM concedes defeat



John Bruton

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK
DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — Prime Minister John Bruton, who led Ireland through a period of unprecedented economic prosperity, conceded narrow defeat Sunday in national elections.

His loss means that opposition leader Bertie Ahern, a 45-year-old populist Dubliner who has vowed to bring peace to Northern Ireland, will likely be tapped to head a new coalition government.

Though they have different styles, Bruton and Ahern concur on the big issues of the day — cutting crime, taxes and unemployment — and the country's overall course is not expected to change markedly under the new leadership.

With all but one seat decided from Friday's election, Ahern's Fianna Fail, traditionally the largest party, won at least 77 seats in the 166-seat Dail, the lawmaking chamber of parliament.

That gave him four seats more than Bruton's three-party coalition, which has governed since December 1994. The reversal fit a trend dating to 1969 in Ireland: No administration, regardless of record, has been re-elected.

Fianna Fail, however, will not on its own be able to reach the 84-seat plateau needed to govern. It will require support from its campaign partners, the small Progressive Democrats, who fared badly with just four seats, and a few loose-cannon independents with Fianna Fail sympathies.

Bruton's conservative Fine Gael party won more than 50 seats, but support for his principal ally, the Labor Party, collapsed. He wished Ahern "the best of luck."

"It looks as if the Fianna Fail-Progressive Democrat combination has a better chance of getting the majority when the Dail meets," Bruton said on national radio.

The election is a bittersweet end for Bruton, whose term coincided with the strongest economic growth in the 75-year history of independent Ireland. Ahern, minister of finance in previous Fianna Fail-led administrations, claimed credit for the boom.

Bruton, whose party did worse than expected in 1992 elections, was considered an improbable choice for prime minister. But in 1994 when a Fianna Fail-Labor coalition collapsed in acrimony, he found himself thrust into the job.



Ireland's Fianna Fail party leader Bertie Ahern and running mate Marian McGinnis celebrate at a counting centre in Dublin, late Saturday as votes in Ireland's national election were counted. Ahern is on course to become Ireland's new Prime Minister. AP

1994.

Sinn Fein has complained that Bruton was too sympathetic to Northern Ireland's pro-British Protestant majority, and it hopes Ahern will put more pressure on the British government in negotiations on the province's future, which resumed last week in Belfast. Nine Northern Ireland parties are taking part, but Sinn Fein is barred because of the IRA's resumed hostilities against British rule.

Ahern has been the only southern Irish party leader to maintain direct contact with Adams since June 1996, when the IRA killed an Irish detective during a bungled robbery.

Ahern said Sunday that Sinn Fein's recent electoral successes — it won two seats in British Parliament and took a record number of places on the Northern Ireland council — were "based on a peace strategy."

"I think now they have to prove that's what they were talking about, the peace strategy. We need the unequivocal restoration of a ceasefire — on a permanent basis," he said.

27 hurt in N. Ireland riots

BALLYMENA, Northern Ireland (AP) — Protestant rioters clashed with police early Sunday after breaking into a Catholic church, leaving dozens of officers injured in some of the worst Protestant violence this year.

The rioters forced their way into Our Lady's Catholic church late Saturday night, several hours after 60 Protestant fraternal order bands taking part in a traditional summer parade marched through the town. The church was empty at the time.

Police fired plastic bullets in a bid to scatter the crowds, who threw gasoline bombs, stones and other missiles.

Twenty-seven officers were injured during the four-hour clash in Ballymena, northwest of the capital, Belfast. Two officers were hospitalized, one with head injuries after being hit with a concrete slab.

Weekly picketing by Protestant militants outside Our Lady's church began in September after Catholic militants blocked Protestants from marching through Dunloy, a mostly Catholic village northwest of here.

Police said Sunday that six people had been arrested in connection with the violence, which spread to other parts of town after the mob was ejected from the church. Rioters hijacked a car and damaged a gas station.

Marches each summer by Northern Ireland's three Protestant fraternal groups are a source of sectarian friction between Protestant and Catholic militants.

On June 2, a Protestant gang beat an off-duty policeman to death outside a pub in Ballymoney, a mostly pro-British Protestant town 50 miles northwest of Belfast, in apparent fury at police rerouting of traditional Protestant marches.

OFFICE OF THE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT
Office of the Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE
(06/03/97)

SUMMER JOB

This is to inform all high school students that the **GOVERNOR'S JTPA OFFICE** is soliciting one hundred (100) applicants for the youth vacation employment training program.

Given the critical need of establishing work experiences for students exiting the school system, priority consideration will be accorded to **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AGES 16 & UP**, who are below the poverty income guideline (economically disadvantaged).

However, depending on the availability of local funding, the program may accommodate those students who are considered high income (within the same age range) to fulfill the 100 slots.

Deadline for submission is **FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1997**. No application will be accepted after the established date.

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

RESPECTFULLY,

/s/ FELIX R. NOGIS
JTPA Executive Director

xc: Public Information Officer

OFFICE OF THE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT
Office of the Governor

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Governor's JTPA Office and the Trainees, I would like to take this opportunity in extending our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the following firms for your strong commitment and participation in according Employment and Training opportunities to our indigenous work force in an effort of finding meaningful employment.

TAN HOLDINGS CORPORATION
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IT&E, SAIPAN OFFICE
TRIPLE "J" SAIPAN, INC.
MARIANAS PRINTING SERVICES, INC.
SAIPAN DIAMOND HOTEL
FAS MOVING & STORAGE
BPR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
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SAFETY FIRST SYSTEMS, INC.
SAIPAN E TOURS
PACIFIC ORIENTAL, INC.
MWAR MWAR CENTER
KAN PACIFIC SAIPAN, LTD.

Your willingness for such undertaking, exemplifies a shared commitment that this is a social issue, therefore, we must work collectively on efforts to enable our people to become contributing members of our community and not reliant on welfare programs. I hope that in the future should the need arise for an additional staff, you would consider us to assist on the matter.

For those firms that are interested in "getting involve" on such worthy endeavor, contact Mr. Ray Cruz or Mr. Richard Santos at 664-1702. Once again, Si Yu'us Ma'ase', Ghillisow, and Thank You for your continued support and good luck in your business endeavor.

/s/ FELIX R. NOGIS
JTPA Executive Director

Marianas Variety
Classified Ads Section

DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication
 NOTE: If for any reason your advertisement is incorrect, call us immediately to make the necessary corrections. The Marianas Variety News and Views is responsible only for one incorrect insertion. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time.

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 03 TOUR COORDINATOR (COUNSELLOR)-Salary: \$850.00-1,900.00 per month
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07 COOK-Salary: \$3.05-3.50 per hour
 01 MAINTENANCE MANAGER-Salary: \$10.09-12.00 per hour
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 01 WAITRESS, RESTAURANT-Salary: \$3.10-3.50 per hour
 02 ELECTRICIAN-Salary: \$3.05-3.30 per hour
 01 MAINTENANCE WORKER (REPAIR, BUILDING)-Salary: \$3.05-3.30 per hour
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02 SALES CLERK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
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 01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$1,000.00 per month
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 01 GROUND MAINTENANCE/GARDENER-Salary: \$3.25 per hour
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 06 BARTENDER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
 10 WAITRESS, SUPERVISOR RESTAURANT-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
 05 DESK CLERK-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
 10 WAITER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
 10 BUILDING MAINTENANCE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
 20 CARPENTER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour
 03 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary: \$7.00 per hour
 06 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
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MVB...

Continued from page 1

to include only certain portion of the full text of the interview which made it look as if Ms. Tomokane is advocating the concept of legalizing prostitution."

Santos said he was told by Tomokane that one portion of the interview left out was her statement that prostitution should be stamped out from the CNMI.

The story had drawn censure from Special Assistant for Women's Affairs Remedio R. Sablan, the critic referred to whom Tomokane responded through a letter dated yesterday. Sablan had asked the managing director to take back her statement.

"Whenever Ms. Tomokane speaks in public, it reflects

the Marianas Visitors Bureau," Sablan said in her letter to the MVB board last June 3.

She said the MVB should review Tomokane's statements if they were the opinion of the MVB.

Santos said the MVB in the first place should never be involved in any move, if there ever be, to legalize prostitution in the CNMI.

"While we are in the business of promoting the CNMI, we are not promoting such an illegal act," Santos said.

Tomokane, in her response to Sablan, also said the MVB is supporting multi-agency efforts to eliminate prostitution in the CNMI.

"I do understand the negative and socially unacceptable issues associated with this profession. At the same time, I am more than willing to hear

and support measures that will entirely wipe this profession off the CNMI. Do you have one?" Tomokane said in her letter.

Tomokane noted that the enforcement of the anti-prostitution law "is the problem and if that could be rectified, my full support goes to the revision of the existing law."

"In the absence of such a law and, subsequently, the ability of our law enforcement agencies to carry out their duties, legalizing it (prostitution) is the next possible solution," Tomokane said.

Tomokane also said "several officials and politicians as well as private individuals" had echoed her views even before she attended a World Tourism Organization meeting on the growing problem of sex tourism in the Philippines last May.

Gov't...

Continued from page 1

Lao.

Plaintiffs and members of their family, Lizama explained, improved the land homesteaded beginning in 1966 and continuously occupied the property until 1990.

Plaintiffs homesteaded the land prior to Jan. 9, 1978 and occupied the property continuously for agricultural purposes through Feb. 9, 1981, he said.

Lizama pointed out that pursuant to the Agricultural Homestead Waiver Act of 1980, plaintiffs' homestead land was vested in 1981.

The lawyer said from 1966 to 1980, plaintiffs and their children actively farmed the land.

Lizama said in 1980 plaintiffs family built a farm house

on the homestead and lived there to on or about 1989.

Plaintiffs sought title of their homestead land from MPLC since 1980.

"In 1980, to have access to government equipments to clear the homestead, plaintiffs applied for a grazing permit. Plaintiffs applied to the government to have his homestead cleared after obtaining the grazing permit on three occasions," Lizama said.

Lizama said denying the homestead violated plaintiffs' right under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the US Constitution and of the CNMI Constitution.

The homestead land was taken and exchanged for certain private lands, he said.

"MPLC did not institute any condemnation proceedings with respect to plaintiffs'

homestead, nor has any payment whatever been made or offered to plaintiffs," the lawyer said.

At the time plaintiffs were seeking their homestead, Lizama said, MPLC was exchanging roadways and wetlands for valuable lands through land exchange.

MPLC, however, Lizama added, denied his clients' homestead to accommodate certain land exchanges on an "as desired" basis.

"MPLC's action in denying plaintiffs their homestead in order to accommodate certain land exchanges was arbitrary, capricious, and constitutes a complete disregard of plaintiffs' rights," he said.

The couple asked the court to order DPL to execute a quitclaim deed to them for the land homesteaded.

PSS...

Continued from page 1

deal in the states," he added.

SPED teachers in the CNMI receive the same salary levels offered to regular teachers. Rates offered in continental U.S., Farrell said, are 25 percent higher than the CNMI's offer.

"We're asking the Legislature to authorize us to pay salary that is sufficient to attract people who are trained in special education," Farrell said.

Dan Phillips, PSS public information officer, said PSS is authorized to hire nine related services specialists including audiologists and speech therapists.

Information on the number of vacancies in these positions are

not available as of press time.

Phillips said PSS is expecting to serve about 90 new children in the SPED Program in school year 1997-1998.

"As far as how PSS copes with the lack of special education teachers, the PSS provides the best possible services that it can and continues to make every effort to upgrade the program so that it will be in compliance with all legal requirements," Phillips said.

Ray Mafnas, assistant to the board, said accreditation groups from California, in their reports released recently, have also nudged PSS on public schools' noncompliance with ADA requirements on building structure.

"Many of our school buildings don't have ramps for students in

wheelchair," Mafnas said. "One reason for this is because we don't have technical experts to work with us on special education services."

Phillips, meanwhile, said Helen Eano, an official from the Office of Special Education Programs of the US education department, mentioned the potential penalty of withholding grant money as a result of noncompliance with federal requirements.

"As far as I know, PSS has not received any formal written warning," Phillips said.

However, he added, "it appears that while the penalty of withholding federal grant money is possible, it is likely to happen in good faith efforts to resolve compliance issues."

Tenorio...

Continued from page 1

announced that he is scrapping the 902 talks.

"There's no more need for it," he told reporters yesterday.

"There seems to be no progress, and I didn't see the federal government coming out with any solution to the issues being discussed, so why keep the talks going on?"

Among the issues raised by the CNMI was the possibility of denying automatic U.S. citizenship to children born to alien workers.

Tenorio yesterday said that if he "insists on doing something about it, I'll do it through statute. I have my own ideas (on how) to do it."

However, the governor is not ruling out the resumption of the 902 talks.

For example, he said, if the

President insists on imposing federal immigration and minimum wage laws on the CNMI, Congress might recommend negotiations through the 902 process.

U.S. House Majority Leader Dick Armye (R-Texas) and Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Texas) on Thursday assured the governor that any federal takeover proposal will be rejected by the Republican-dominated Congress.



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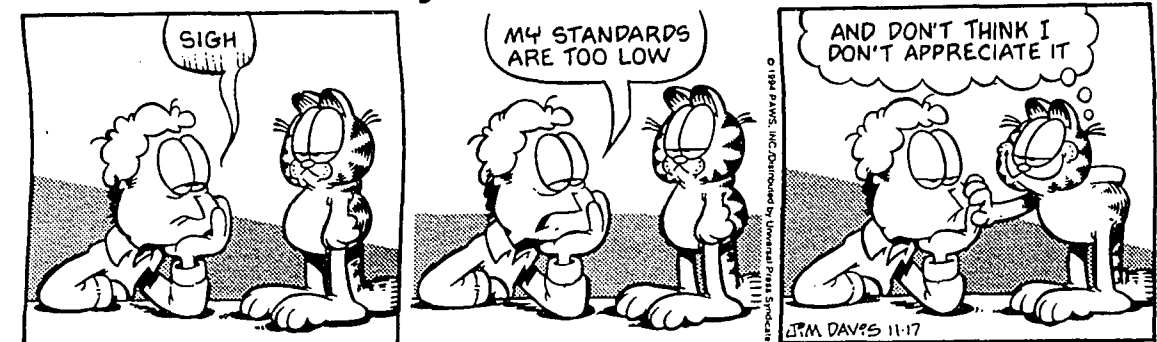
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STELLA WILDER

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are sometimes a rather self-destructive person, but not because you are negative...

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11 GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You mustn't take what others are saying about you today too much to heart...

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You may find that you've taken on one too many responsibilities at this time...

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Others are likely to gravitate toward you today to bask in the warmth of your personality...

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You may find yourself waiting for someone else to come through for you before you can come through for a third party...

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Give yourself a little more time to reach your goals today and you'll enjoy the process more than usual...

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — The prospects are bright for the future, but today you may feel as though a dark cloud is following you...

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Now is the time to work more closely with others...

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Follow your instincts when it comes to romance today — but be warned that anything you say or do can be held against you at any time!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — What you say about another today must reflect your true feelings, or confusion is likely to ensue...

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Collaborate with others if you so choose, but realize that there are certain things that you can only do on your own in moments of solitude...

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Early reports have you in the lead at this time, but one of your closest competitors is gaining fast...

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Take care that you don't do things with your money that you will regret later. Now is the time for saving, not spending...

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Take care that you don't do things with your money that you will regret later. Now is the time for saving, not spending...

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS (rights) 1 Oscar winner 6 Goddess of peace 11 Colture 12 Half mask 14 Actress 15 "The — Are Ringing" 17 Doctor's asst. 18 Many oz. 19 Oblique 20 Flightless bird 21 Math term 22 Centers 23 Formal dance 24 More frightening 26 Ruffie 27 Coat with precious metal 28 Completed 29 Vines 31 Deprives of (rights) 34 Word with leaf or mine 35 Courted 36 Estrada ID 37 Caustic substance 38 Sobs 39 Nahoor sheep 40 Violent whirlwind 41 Martin Lawrence role 42 Kiln 43 Race faster than 45 Seaport in Italy 47 — or reason 48 Chores

Answer to Previous Puzzle: ABCS LET ABEL GAIT ONO AUTO EDGARS TARSAL DEARY COSTA REAR GENE TY S NAKED SRI TO PET AD CUP BIGOT TEA AMAD NATE ECTAL ERECT CLINIC BLYTHE HAND BOA SEAN ODAY SHY TROT

KidSpot™ by Dick Rogers

THE PUZZLER: SO, YOU WANT TO KNOW IF MY DOG HAS A LICENSE? I'LL TELL YOU IF YOU CAN SOLVE MY PUZZLE... COPY, IN ORDER, THE EVEN-NUMBERED LETTERS IN THE SPACES BELOW.

WHEN YOU CAN'T BREATHE YOU CAN'T SCREAM ANACONDA IT WILL TAKE YOUR BREATH AWAY THE MOVIE HOUSE Showtimes 234-FILM

1997 NBA Finals

Jazz wins equalizer

By CHRIS SHERIDAN SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — With the NBA Finals' direction hanging in the balance, Karl Malone shook off his history of playoff foul line failures and made the two biggest free throws of his life. The shots gave Utah a three-point lead with 17 seconds left, and the Jazz went on to beat the Chicago Bulls 78-73 Sunday night to even the finals at two games apiece.

with the Bulls after four games. It was the second-lowest scoring game in NBA Finals history, and the Jazz won it in part by holding the Bulls without a point over the final two minutes and scoring the game's last nine points. Michael Jordan had a chance to tie it with six seconds left, but he missed an off-balance 3-pointer that would have made it 76-76. Malone rebounded the miss and fed the ball out, and Bryon Russell went in for an uncontested slam that confirmed Utah's stirring victory.

them?" Utah coach Jerry Sloan said. "You've got a 50 percent chance he'll miss it. You have to have a little bit of luck." Malone ended up with 23 points, 10 rebounds and six assists. Teammate John Stockton made big play after big play over the final 2+1/2 minutes to lead Utah back from a five-point deficit. Things looked bleak for the Jazz after Jordan went in for an uncontested fast-break dunk with 2:38 left to make it 71-66.

1997 Palau / Marpac Men's Slowpitch League

Bombers stun Turtles, 11-4

TEAM STANDINGS: Division A: Turtles 12, 3; Ambassadors 10, 5; Koror Tigers 10, 5; Warriors 10, 4; Red Torch 8, 7; UMDA G. Force 7, 6; Tarzans 6, 9; Budget Angaur 6, 9; MGD Kabekel 5, 8; Hustlers 5, 9; Cool Running 4, 11; OK&A's 4, 11.

Eddied Benjamins scored 3 times, David Yaneris scored twice, Mike was 3 for 4 with a 2-run homer and scored 3 times, Anton Iriarte was 4 for 4 with 2 doubles and a triple and scored a run, Tony Luzzama doubled an hit a solo homer, Willard Saimon doubled and scored twice and Wilson Saimon hit a rare three-run homer to lead Senyevins offense. Steve Coleman hit a 3-run homer and Joe Camacho was 3 for 4 with three runs scored to lead MGD Kabekel.

EPC...

Continued from page 24

after rolling 865, 803 and another 803 for a three-game series of 2,471 pins compared to Athlete's Foot's 750, 750 and 656 for a pin aggregate of 2,156 to jump from third to first in the overall standings. The victories gave EPC, composed of Becky Cabrera, Cathy Muna, Becky Reyes, Bernie Sablan, Jess Cabrera, Jack Muna and Sidd Rebusada, a 55-33 win loss slate or a two and half wins advantage over JTG.

Compiled by Patrick Tellei for the Variety

Koror Tigers 19, Thai House Stingray 14

In the first game of the day, Koror Tigers defeated Stingrays by score of 19 to 14. Cowley Ngraidong was 4 for 5 and scored 4 times, Ray Saka was also 4 for 5 a 2-run homer and scored 3 times, Sherman Ngraidong was 3 for 5 with 2 doubles and a triple, Nick Koshiro was 3 for 4 a 2-run homer and scored 3 times and Alex Tudela added a 2-run homer to lead Koror Tigers offense.

Tres Rai 7, Tarzans 0, Odesangel finally won one after so many close calls in the last few weeks, an 11 to 3 victory over Cool Running, Dennis Rengul hit an inside the park homer and scored 2 runs, Wilber Ngotel scored twice and Marino Hiroichi added 2 more runs to lead Odesangel win a game and end their losing streak. Crosby, Pete and Melvin scored the three runs for Cool Running which had been cold lately.

Senyevins 17, MGD Kabekel 11, Senyevins remains in the first place after defeating a tough MGD Kabekel in 7 innings of play, 17 to 11. Alfonso Luzama homered and scored twice,

Luv U Man was trailing 8 to 3 after 6 complete innings when they exploded for 6 runs including the winning run for come-from-behind 9 to 8 victory over Ambassadors. In that 6 run 7th inning Bill Camacho singled and came home on Bill Benavente homer, Ray Castro singled and scored on Boc A's inside park homer and Nelson T. and Greg A.

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Camacho...

Continued from page 24

strrikeouts in one game in the 1997 season after he fanned 15 Saipan Stevedore batters last May 20. He also struck out the first six batters he faced, during a game against San Roque D-9ers, a feat yet to be duplicated by another Senior League pitcher.

He also figured in a game wherein he held the opposition without an

scored the last 2 runs for the victory. Earlier in the 3-run fourth inning, Jerome Attao singled and scored on JJ Attao's 2-run homer and Bill Benavente singled and scored in Ray Castro double. Tony Moreham homered and Finley Ngewaki scored 2 runs to lead Ambassador's offense.

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had identical rounds of 42s to register an 84 gross. His -9 handicap enabled him to finish the tournament just three strokes behind. Ben Lizama completed the top five finishers after touring the greens with a 76 net.

Lizama had rounds of 42 and 49 for a gross 91. A -15 handicap gave Lizama the net score. The top four golfers received cash prizes for their winning efforts.

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CLOSERS

Paper manufacturers recycle the holes punched out of looseleaf paper in a variety of ways. Some use the paper in other products, such as toilet paper or boxes and one manufacturer boils it to power its machines. Robert Moses never learned to drive a car, despite playing the chief role in the design of many New York City bridges, tunnels and parkways. A lightning bolt generates temperatures up to 30,000 degrees Celsius — five times hotter than the surface of the sun.

In 1872, one fourth of America's horses died from a viral epidemic. Earth Tip: With spring upon us, millions will be heading for the beach. Plastic bags and six-pack holders kill millions of fish, sea mammals and seabirds each year. So be sure not to add to the millions of pounds of trash that is left on our nation's beaches each year. Three of Theodore Roosevelt's four sons were killed in wars. Predictions for the 1960s at the 1939-40 New York World's Fair included: People do not care much for possessions. Two months of paid vacation is

the norm. Cars are air-conditioned and cost as little as \$200. Federal laws forbid wanton cutting of wooded hillsides. The first work of fiction to be blessed by a pope was the 1880 best seller "Ben Hur." Breastfed babies are happier and less prone to disease than their formula-fed counterparts. They are also less prone to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. New Orleans traditional jazz, played by the likes of Jelly Roll Morton, Johnny Dodds, Louis Armstrong and Nick LaRocca, is considered the first jazz style.

SPORTS



IAAF World Championships

Ogumoro to compete in Greece



John Ogumoro

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff
SEVENTEEN-year old John Ogumoro has been picked to represent the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the 6th International Amateur Athletic Federation's World Championships from August 1-6 in Athens, Greece. In a letter sent by IAAF Secretary General Istvan Gyulai to the Northern Mariana Islands Track and Field

Federation, Ogumoro will go to the Athens Games after his name was selected, along with several junior athletes from all over the world, in the World Athletics Draw held last June 1 in Athens.

When Ogumoro learned of his selection, he "just went crazy".

"I got so pumped up. I didn't expect it. I know it was all by luck but it's great. I'm very excited to go to Greece," the Marianas High School

12th grader added.

The MHS student was selected among several thousands of athletes around the world who participated in the World Athletics Day held last month. He is set to compete in the 100m event in the Athens World Championships.

Ogumoro's coach Elias Rangamar said that this is the first time that an athlete from the CNMI was chosen in the draw. "This is definitely a big

development for us, especially to John who will be competing in one of the world's biggest track and field events," Rangamar added.

The IAAF will pay for Ogumoro's travel, accommodation, insurance and other expenses.

Prior to his selection, Ogumoro competed in the Guam 1997 Inter-scholastic Track and Field Championships. He represented Saipan in

Continued on page 23

May Athletes of the Month

Camacho, Pangelinan honored

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

THE NORTHERN Mariana Islands Olympic Committee and the Northern Mariana Amateur Sports Association named Greg F. Camacho and Xenavee Pangelinan as the islands' May Male and Female Athletes of the Month.

The two sporting bodies likewise cited Senior League pitcher Kevin Kapileo and swimmer Jennifer Pierce as the Male and Female Student Athletes for the same period.

Camacho was the unanimous pick in the Male Athlete category after guiding the CNMI All Stars to a bronze medal finish in the softball competitions of the recently concluded 1997 Arafura Games held in Darwin, Australia.

Camacho slammed eight hits in 18 appearances at the plate, for a .444 batting average. He also belted a homerun and scored 10 runs aside from knocking in seven RBIs in leading the CNMI offense.

Camacho likewise turned in a perfect 1.000 fielding average to win the softball tournament's coveted Most Valuable Player award.

At present, he plays for the undefeated and defending champions Saipan Stevedore Mauleg team in the ongoing 1997 Saipan Men's Fastpitch League and for the defending champions Toyota Wheels in the Major League.

Pangelinan, the 1996 Female Ath-

lete of the Year, reaffirmed her status as one of the islands' most promising swimmers after beating teammate Jessica Jordan in winning the High Point Trophy in the A Championships Swim Event in Guam last month.

She set several records that include four 13-14 age group benchmarks, two Senior Guam Swim League standards and five Saipan yardsticks in her winning run.

Two weeks later, Pangelinan competed against the best in the Oceania Region in the 2nd Oceania Swimming Championships in Brisbane, Australia.

She entered the finals in each of the seven events she competed and at the same time setting five new records in the 13-14 age group and three national NMI standards.

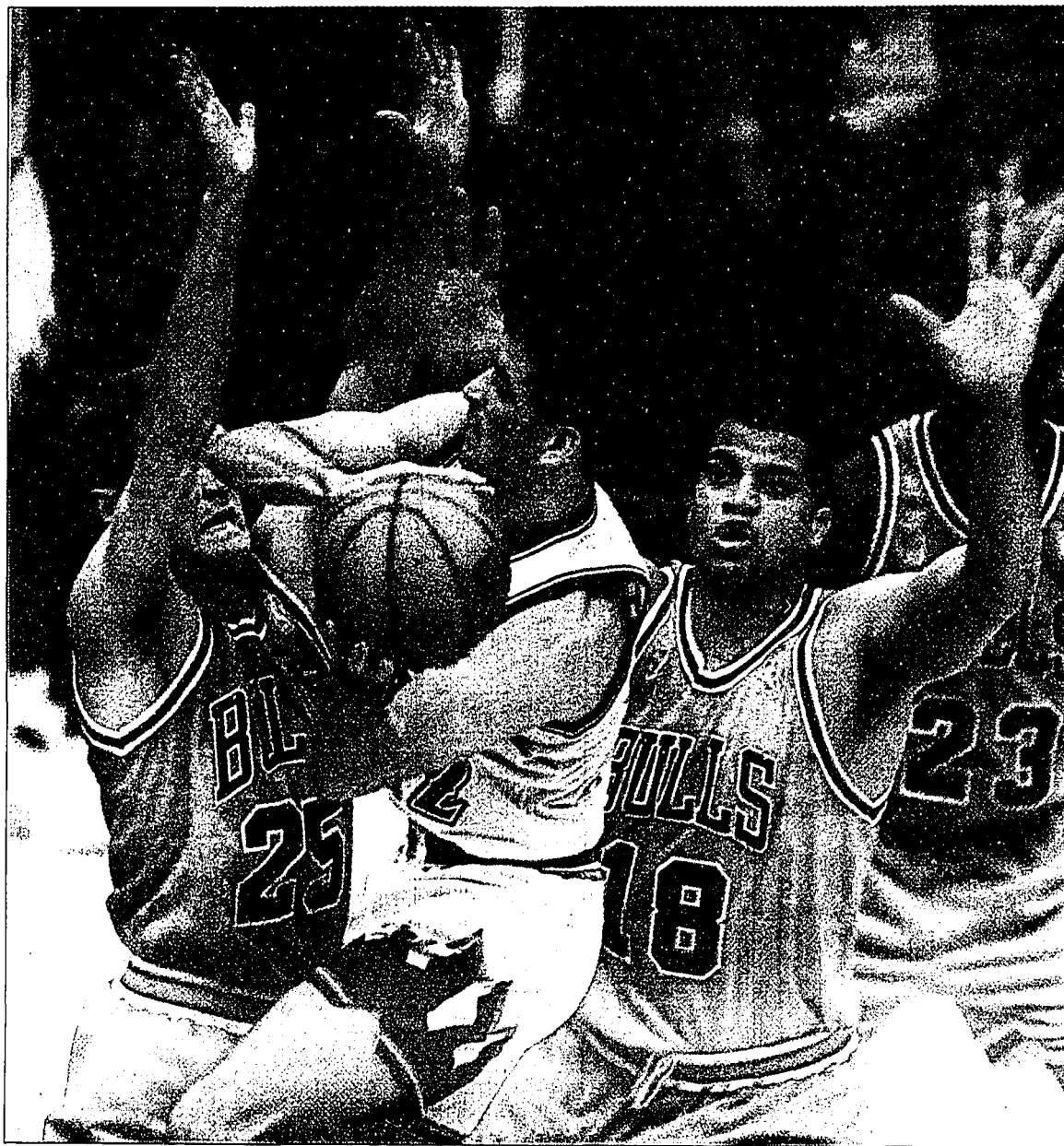
Kapileo took the Male Student Athlete Award after turning in impressive statistics while manning the mound for the Tanapag Braves in the 1997 Senior League Baseball at the Francisco M. Palacios Ball Field.

The Braves' starting pitcher is currently leading the league's strikeouts and the earned run average departments with 58 and 1.64 ERA respectively.

He is averaging 11.6 strikeouts per game aside from setting several feats.

Kapileo has recorded the most

Continued on page 23



Utah Jazz's John Stockton is hemmed in by Chicago Bulls' Steve Kerr (25) and Brian Williams (18) as he goes to the basket during the second quarter of Game 4 in Salt Lake City. The Jazz won, 78-73 to tie the series. (See the story on page 19) AP

AGC's monthly golf tilt

Irinaka wins May Ace

Leaderboard	G	H	N
Yasu Irinaka	83	11	72
Karl Reyes	86	13	73
Jess Stoll	91	17	74
Mel Sablan	84	09	75
Ben Lizama	91	15	76
Jack Lizama	94	16	78
PJ Igitol	93	15	78
Dave Igitol	96	14	82

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

YASU IRINAKA shot a net 72 last Sunday to win the Amigo Golf Club's May Ace Tourna-

ment held at the Marianas Country Club by one stroke.

Irinaka assembled front and back nines of 40 and 43 to gross an 83. His -11 handicap gave him a seat in the season ending "Amigo of the Year" tournament by one shot.

Cong. Karl Reyes wound up second after netting a 73.

The Republican legislator shot a 45 in covering the first nine

Continued on page 23

Adam and Eve Mixed

EPC grabs lead as JTG loses

Adam and Eve Mixed Team Standings

Pos	Tm	Team	Won	Lost	Pct	Totpins	Ave	Gm	Ser
1	7	EPC Int'l	55.0	33.0	62.50	51201	775	865	2482
2	6	JTG Enterprises	52.5	35.5	59.66	50668	757	900	2570
3	4	Team #5	52.0	36.0	59.09	50608	766	921	2508
4	9	Baskin Robbins	50.0	38.0	56.82	50471	764	886	2396
5	4	O'Douls	49.0	39.0	55.68	50699	768	881	2493
6	11	BCMPG	48.0	40.0	54.55	50897	771	899	2570
7	3	Martha's Poker	47.0	41.0	53.41	51056	773	919	2527
8	10	Paras Enterprises	44.0	44.0	50.00	50365	763	909	2520
9	8	Marianas Star	40.0	48.0	45.45	47840	759	863	2388
10	12	V&J	38.5	49.5	43.75	50423	763	893	2518
11	2	Athletes Foot	26.0	62.0	29.55	49282	746	861	2416
12	1	Kan Pacific	22.0	66.0	25.00	44640	744	846	2381

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

EPC INTERNATIONAL blanked Athlete's Foot, 4-0 then watched erstwhile leader JTG Enterprises lose to an upstart V&J squad with the same score to grab the lead going to the last two rounds of the Adam and Eve Mixed Tournament at the Saipan Bowling Center.

EPC accomplished the sweep

Continued on page 23

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