

Stores under watch for food stamp violations

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

AT LEAST 10 big stores are now being closely watched by authorities on suspicion they accept food stamps for alcohol and cigaret purchases.

Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Thomas A. Tebuteb said the move was recommended by US mainland authorities to ensure that stores with high food stamp redemption rate are not trading such merchandise for the coupon.

He added his office has gathered that the illegal activity is being practiced by store owners and has become a concern to the Department.

"We are keeping an eye on all stores that are 'high redeemers' to ensure that they are com-



Thomas A. Tebuteb

plying with our regulations," Tebuteb said.

"We've gathered that they they may be accepting food stamps for the merchandise," he added.

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Filipino nurse sues CHC, gov't

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A NURSE filed yesterday a \$1.6-million lawsuit against the CNMI government and a male technician at the Commonwealth Health Center who allegedly assaulted her.

Maria Cecilia Evangelista, a Filipino nurse at CHC, sued CHC's operating room technician Jerry Hall, CHC, the government, and the Department of Public Health Services.

Evangelista demanded \$1,650,000 in compensatory damages against the defendants for battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, negligent in-

fliction of emotional distress, negligence, breach of the duty to protect an endangered or hurt employee, and breach of the duty master to control the conduct of servant.

The complaint filed before the Superior Court through Evangelista's counsel Timothy H. Skinner, stated that the first assault occurred during the last quarter of 1995.

Evangelista was performing her duties at DPHS when Hall intentionally placed his hands on her right arm in an offensive manner, the complaint said.

Hall then squeezed the nurse's upper arm firmly and pushed her

into a container of surgical instruments for the purpose of hurting her, the complaint added.

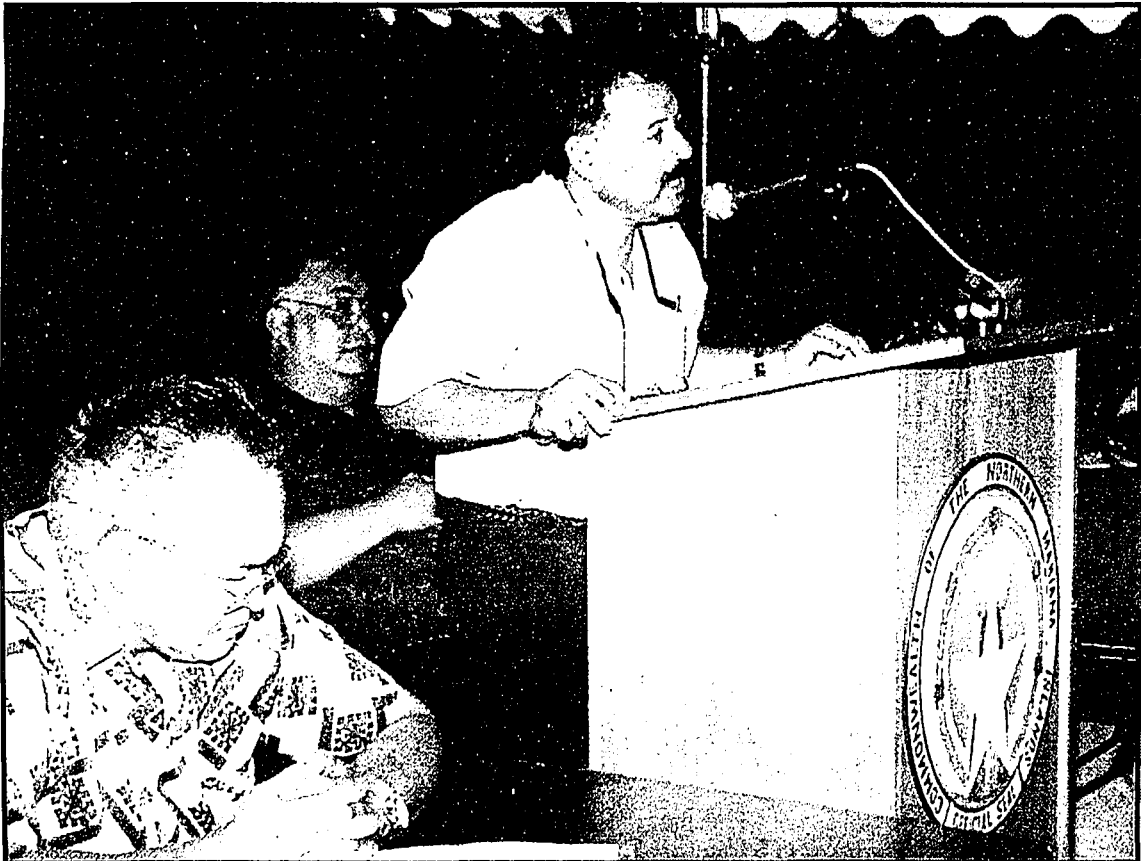
The defendant, the complaint said, was acting within the scope of duties as an operating room technician for DPHS when the incident happened.

The second incident happened last Nov. 8 when Hall allegedly maliciously threw in a violent manner a dirty piece of linen at the face of Evangelista.

Evangelista, who was doing her duties at CHC at the time, sustained an abrasion on her face.

The technician also grabbed the nurse's wrists and twisted her arms,

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Health Secretary Isamu J. Abraham answers a question during Tuesday night's village meeting in Kagman. Most of the questions raised by residents to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio and his department secretaries concerned Kagman's infrastructure needs. See story on page 3. Photo by Jojo Dass

CRM 'unlikely' to approve garment factory at Kobler

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

A PROPOSED factory adjacent to the Koblerville Elementary School will likely not get a permit from the Coastal Resources Management Office, it was learned yesterday.

The Top Fashion Garment Factory is in the same, even worse, situation as the Joo Ang Apparel whose application was disapproved because its proposed factory was adjacent to a headstart school in Dandan.

"It seems to me that it's more likely that it will be denied than (a permit) will be granted," CRM Deputy Director Peter J. Barlas told the Variety.

A public hearing on the Top Fashion application will be held Tuesday next week at Koblerville Elementary School at 6:30 p.m.

Last Oct. 30 Board of Education chair Don A. Farrell wrote a

letter of opposition to CRM Director Manuel C. Sablan.

"A garment factory poses numerous serious problems involving the safety and education of children," Farrell told Sablan.

"In particular," Farrell added, "we foresee significant increases in traffic, pollution and noise, and a detrimental impact on the existing utilities infrastructure and visual environment."

Also, 283 parents, teachers, and concerned members of Koblerville Elementary School signed a petition against the factory addressed to Director Sablan.

They cited similar reasons as Farrell's.

In the case of Joo Ang Apparel, 65 residents in the Dandan area also signed a petition objecting to the proposed factory's siting.

The petition plus the objections of people who came to the hear-

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FBI asked to probe alleged coverup on Tinian burglary

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

LAWYER Bruce L. Jorgensen has requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to look into a Tinian burglary case that is allegedly not being properly investigated by the local police.

In a Dec. 2 letter to FBI field agent Steven Stokes, Jorgensen claimed CNMI officials are not prosecuting the suspects or taking other steps to solve the crime.

He alleged that the civil rights of his clients, Jose (who co-

signed Jorgensen's letter) and Mary Charfauros, have been violated by the CNMI government's "misconduct."

Asked for a comment, acting Attorney General Robert Dunlap yesterday said that he has "nothing to say" until he has discussed the issue with Public Safety Commissioner Jose M. Castro.

The Variety called up Castro's office yesterday, but was told the commissioner was not available.

According to Jorgensen's letter, a business establishment



Bruce L. Jorgensen

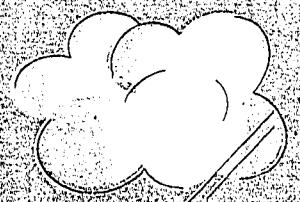
owned by the Charfauros was burglarized last March, resulting in the loss of jewelry valued at around \$13,000 and some \$10,000 cash.

The burglary was immediately reported to Tinian DPS officials who allegedly "indicated" that they already knew the identities of the suspects.

The officials reportedly said that an arrest would be made "soon."

During the following weeks, Continued on page 16

Weather Outlook



Partly cloudy with isolated showers

NASA launches Mars probe

By MARCIA DUNN
CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP)-NASA launched a spacecraft to Mars early Wednesday carrying the first-ever interplanetary rover, a six-wheeled cart that will roam the frigid Martian surface in search of rocks.

The Mars Pathfinder began its 310 million-mile journey atop an unmanned rocket that lifted off at 1:58 a.m. local time (0658 GMT). It was the third try; launch attempts earlier in the week were stymied by bad weather and a computer failure.

Pathfinder is the second probe to be sent to Mars by NASA in the past month.

The Global Surveyor took off on Nov. 7, the first of 10 U.S. spacecraft to be sent to the Red Planet over the next decade in hopes of determining whether life ever existed there. A Mars

spacecraft launched one week later by the Russians plummeted from orbit, adding to scientists' anxiety over the flight of Pathfinder.

If all goes well, Pathfinder should beat the slower Global Surveyor to Mars by two months, landing on July 4, 1997.

It would be the first time in 21 years that a spacecraft has landed on Mars.

The \$196 million Pathfinder, hailed by NASA as a new-wave bargain spacecraft, will aim for an ancient flood plain strewn with rocks. It will be a direct strike - no orbiting the planet first, as did the Apollo moon landings or the Viking probes.

A parachute will slow Pathfinder as it plunges through the Martian atmosphere. The parachute will drop away, and large air bags will inflate to cushion the

impact.

Several hours later, the petals on the spacecraft are to unfold. Two ramps will pop out, and the 10 kilogram (23-pound) rover - named Sojourner - will amble down to examine nearby rocks and beam back information about their composition as well as color images.

NASA wanted to try this novel landing approach as practice for the all-important robotic mission

planned sometime in the next decade to dig up Martian dirt and rocks - and return them to Earth.

Three-legged spacecraft like the twin Viking landers would never be able to land safely on such rocky terrain, the type of place NASA wants to ultimately scout for possible signs of life.

That strategy was reinforced in August when NASA scientists announced they had found supposed

evidence of primitive life in a Mars meteorite. By coincidence, the rocks in Pathfinder's targeted landing spot are about the same age as that prized 4-billion-year-old meteorite.

NASA had until the end of December to launch Pathfinder. After that, scientists would have had to wait until late 1998 or early 1999 when Earth and Mars are back in the necessary alignment. That's when the next Mars probes will be launched.

Clinton first US president to have line-item veto powers

By TOM RAUM
WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bill Clinton will wield a potent new weapon as he faces a Republican Congress in his second term: the line-item veto.

Starting Jan. 1, Clinton will be able to use his veto pen as a scalpel. He becomes the first U.S. president permitted to excise from spending and tax bills specific items he doesn't like - from Pentagon weaponry to unnecessary bridge and dam projects - while leaving the rest of the legislation intact.

In the past, presidents had to either hold their noses over an offending part and sign the overall bill, or veto it entirely, sometimes risking unpleasant consequences, like government shutdowns.

While it could be months before Clinton gets a spending or tax bill on which to apply the new powers,



Bill Clinton

administration aides are already crafting a strategy to make use of it along with Clinton's more traditional veto powers.

"He is clearly prepared to use the line-item veto for the purpose for which it was intended: to cut out wasteful

spending, and unnecessary benefits on the tax side," said Larry Haas, spokesman for Clinton's Office of Management and Budget.

A quicker test of Clinton's 1997 veto strategy could come over a replay of the president's veto last spring of a bill to ban a type of late-term abortion that critics describe as a "partial-birth" procedure.

That veto was sustained. But Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, a Republican, has pledged to resurrect the legislation early next year.

The addition of line-item veto power could significantly enhance his ability to negotiate with and confront the Republican Congress.

Republicans have been actively pressing for this power since Ronald Reagan's presidency and it was a top item in their 1994 "Contract With America" as they seized control of both chambers of Congress.

Taiwan proposes anew to hold talks with China

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - Taiwan is for the first time offering talks with China to prepare for formal negotiations on ending their 47-year rivalry.

The semi-official Straits Exchange Foundation said Tuesday it had sent the proposal to its Chinese counterpart, the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits, on Monday.

The two groups handle contacts in the absence of formal ties.

Foundation chairman Koo Chen-fu said the overture also repeats Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui's offer to exchange visits with his Chinese

counterpart, Jiang Zemin.

Last year, China suspended talks between the two organizations in protest at Lee's visit to the United States.

China claims sovereignty over Taiwan and opposes any moves by Taiwan to raise its international profile.

Taiwan rejects China's call for talks on reunification, insisting that contacts be confined to practical problems like fishing disputes and illegal immigration.

The latest proposal goes further by suggesting a meeting could lead to political talks.

Tenorio goes to 'grassroots'

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
THERE was no "jampacked" crowd to greet Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Tuesday night at Kagman's basketball court, but residents who showed up said the turnout was "pretty good."

"We're very excited about the governor being here and listening to our concerns," a resident told this reporter. "I hope they came up with this idea earlier."

One after another, Kagman residents told the governor the need for roads, bus stops, sewer improvement, power - and of neighbors who throw their trash just about everywhere.

There was no discussion of politics.

For more than two hours, Tenorio and his department secretaries answered questions, announced plans and even bantered with the residents.

The governor's Public Information Officer Mark Broadhurst said Tenorio was "satisfied" with the

Cabinet men answer concerns of villagers



Benigno M. Sablan

meeting.

"He's at his best when he's talking to the people about delivering better government services," Broadhurst said.

He said the governor's next village meeting will be held in

Koblierville on Dec. 17.

Among the administration officials who joined Tenorio Tuesday night were Public Safety Commissioner Jose M. Castro, Health Secretary Isamu J. Abraham, Public Works Secretary Edward DL. Guerrero, Labor and Immigration Secretary Thomas O. Sablan, Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Benigno M. Sablan, Finance Secretary Antonio R. Cabrera, Special Assistant for Planning and Budget Eliseo D. Cabrera and Commonwealth Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos A. Shoda.

The governor on Monday said he decided to hold his first village meeting in Kagman because he knows that residents there "have a lot of concerns."

Tenorio first disclosed the plan to conduct once-a-month village meetings in the State of the Common-



Edward DL. Guerrero

wealth report he mailed to legislators early this year.

Tenorio, in an earlier interview,

said the village meetings would allow the people to directly air their problems and concerns to their governor.

Most of the time, people in the community are not comfortable to call his office and talk about their problems, Tenorio said.

"This way, I'm giving them the opportunity to ask me about anything. This way, I can hear from them directly," Tenorio said.

The governor, however, dismissed suggestions that the village meetings are part of his re-election campaign "gimmicks."

"I don't believe in that," Tenorio said. "We should enjoy life and not worry about getting reelected before the year of the election. As far as I'm concerned, election is next year and I will not worry about that."

Sablan non-committal on food benefits for workers

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff
LABOR and Immigration Secretary Thomas O. Sablan Tuesday said he will confer with the Department's lawyers on the feasibility of a policy directing employers to voluntarily grant their respective non-resident Filipino workers food allowance.

"I would like to look into that [food allowance]," he said.

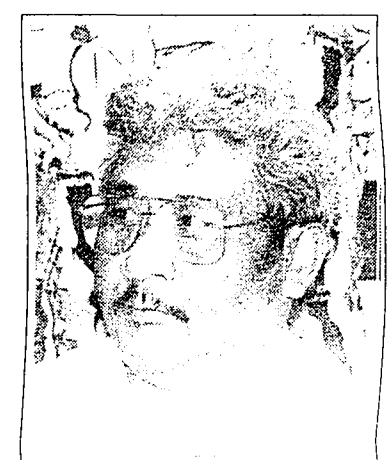
"I like to sit down with key people regarding the matter," he said.

According to the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, host countries should shoulder the Filipino workers' housing and food expenses.

This, said Jesus Varela, Philippine Labor Attaché to the CNMI, is being required by virtue of the Philippine Migrant Workers' Act of 1995 which came following the hanging of Flor Contemplacion, Filipina domestic helper in Singapore.

All host countries, Varela said, has been complying with the said Philippine law except for the CNMI.

Granting food allowance to CNMI-based Filipino migrant workers, it was gathered, has thus far been a mere option for employers.



Thomas O. Sablan

Sablan said there are at least two hotels which subscribe to this.

"I will discuss this with the lawyers," said Sablan explaining that the issue is a "tough" and "delicate" one.

The Philippine officials' pronouncements were made amidst reforms reportedly being implemented at the Department of Labor and Immigration.

These reforms according to Sablan, were being effected to safeguard the rights and welfare of legitimate non-resident workers.

There are an estimated 72,000 non-resident Filipino workers in the CNMI. The bulk of which are dispersed in the manufacturing and services sector.

Tinian mayor signs accord for \$15M road, sewer projects

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff
THE local government of Tinian and a private company have forged a preliminary agreement on the \$15 million road and sewer construction project in the island.

Under the terms of preliminary agreement signed on Dec. 1, the final contract will be signed as soon as funding is made available.

The company Shanghai Electric Corp-Saipan Development Inc., under the contract, has agreed to construct new roads for a total distance of 8 miles, and to build sewage treatment plants, main sewer pipelines, and sub-sewer pipelines.

Present during the signing of the contract were Tinian Mayor Herman Manglona, Rep. Joaquin Adriano, Councilman James A. Fleming and representatives from Shanghai Electric Corp, Saipan Development Inc, Shanghai Industrial Investment (holdings) Company Ltd., Clever Link International Company.

The local government is targeting the revenues from the casino operations, as well as the Covenant money to fund the road and sewer projects.

On Sept. 4, the joint delegation of Tinian passed a resolution setting aside \$1.6 million per year "for the next 15 years out of the one-eight capital improvement allocation for Tinian to construct as

aside \$1.6 million per year "for the next 15 years out of the one-eight capital improvement allocation for Tinian to construct as sewer system and roads" in the island.

The Tinian municipal council played its part by approving on Nov. 14 a resolution "to appropriate a (fixed) deposit of \$1.7 million from FY 1997 and \$1.6 million per million for the next 15 years" out the revenues that will be generated by casino operations.

"The casino is expected to start generating revenues by September 1997 and construction of road and sewer system is therefore

slated to begin as soon as the final contract is signed," a press release from the Tinian Mayor's Office said.

The press release quoted Manglona as saying: "This is a very exciting prospect for the municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan. Our infrastructure needs serious and immediate attention, and we are delighted to be able to enter a preliminary agreement with these companies."

Once the financing agreement is arranged, the mayor added, "we will be able to enter into a final contract with these companies in the amount of \$15 million and provide the infrastructure that the municipality desperately needs and that the people of Tinian have been waiting for so patiently for so long."

Manglona wrote to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio on Dec. 2 seeking the central government's "support and blessing for the project."



Tinian Mayor Herman M. Manglona and other island leaders clasp hands with officials of SEC-SDI after signing an agreement on a road and sewer improvement project on Tinian.

DECEMBER SPECIALS

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ALL BEER,
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AND WINE

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SUSUPE (FORMERLY LEN'S RESTAURANT)
MONDAY & TUESDAY
FOOTBALL AND HOTDOGS
HOURS: 12:00 NOON TO 12:00 MIDNIGHT

Court nixes lawyers' bid to represent estate executor

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
THE SUPERIOR Court has denied the application of two California-based lawyers seeking admission to represent Larry Hillblom's suspended estate executor Bank of Saipan.

Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro turned down the applications of Kathleen V. Fischer and Raul Kennedy, both attorneys at the law firm of Morrison & Foerster in San Francisco.

Castro said he has already granted the application of Seth M. Hufstetler and Rachel Krevans, two lawyers at the Morrison & Foerster for the same

purpose.

In light of these two admissions and the fact that Bank of Saipan's counsel, Rodney J. Jacob, is available to appear on BOS behalf, the judge said, neither the Bank nor the applicants have demonstrated a need for the services of two additional lawyers at this time.

Last Aug. 20, the lower court issued a remedial order, reinstating BOS will full powers as executor.

The court, however, required BOS, as among the eight conditions to comply with, to replace Joe Waechter with William I. Webster as the executor's representative.

FORUM

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

TR's Marianas
by: John DelRosario

Lai hutnaleros para hutnaleros
MEGAI kaosa 'nai i taotaota pumalopu' dañgkulo na gasto gi dibatde na manera pot problema empleao niha sa' i lai matuge' para benefision taotao hiyoñg. Sen taya' chachalanña 'nai siña un' defende direchomo ya achogha' dinanche hao, mas guaha bintahamo yangin kontento hao man apase mutta ke un' mumuye gi kotte.

Yangin gai muchacha hao, pues adahe na un'tago' ennao na prohima hafa taigüe gi kontrata. Pago yangin ha boluntario sebisiona, pot fabot nafitma papet na ha chogue i checho' boluntariamente. Gigon malefa hao no este na patte gi obligasionmo, hago dadada' gi uttimo besis sa' siempre ha presenta este halom gi Depattamenton Labor yan Immigration.

Solu mikeble hao ya malago hao prumueba kaosamo dibuenamente gi menan i kotte 'nai gai bale hafa intensioñmo. Lao hombre este na disision, i abugao mangana sa' debi un' apase pot tiempoña osino tinalo hao gi halom mismo kotte. I kuestion: Hafa na taya' probision proteksion man-emplelea gi halom leblon lai hutnaleros 'nai siña ha reskata reputasionña yan direchoña? Kao para ta kontinua este na finatso kontra i empleao ni rumesponsasable ni haanen empleañoña?

Debi u guaha areglo para yangin masoda' na i empleao man isagüe. Ennao na areglo debi u inkluso manera 'nai empleao umana' mutta ya yangin gi uttimo besis ayo ha' malagoña i para u hanao tatte gi tano'ña, pues guiya u responsable nu i fletña yan u apase tatte i gaston amuña. I presente na areglamiento, mampos dañgkulo na puddet tananae' i empleao ya kulan hita i esklabo deste tutuhon. Diskriminasion este na lai!

Hu suspepecha na esta i Filipino yan Filipinas man afanagüe hafa chachalanña i para u fan mama' keble sin u fan machocho'. Kulan industria buente este na checho laime 'nai dispues de ha riköhe salape', ha bira siha ya man apatte nu i salapemo ni kanaha' un'puno' hao gumana yan todos i masahalommo. Presiso na deste pago mona tatutuhon kumuestiona todo atmos bandan chalan gi Deni' kao guaha manera 'nai siña este na finatso ma' aregla ensegidas.

Afañielos, gi maseha hafa na lai debi u guaha justisia pareho ha' para i kehante yan makehahaye. Ti justisia i masusesede pago sa' un'patte ha' hafafama. Deste tutuhon, i man-emplelea i kriminat segun i matuge'ña i presente na lai hutnaleros. Todo klasen babarias guaha 'nai ninæ' ancho na chalan i empleao fuma' si kopas i amuña. Ya i mas namatman i guaha 27 na membron lehislatura huyoñg halom gi offisinan niha kulan tañga yan bachet gi pinadesen i mismo taotao ni ha represententa guihe na kuetpon guma'.

Hafa i problema?

HITA nu i botadot lamayot patte problema guine na chinatsaga. Un' tuñgo ha' na kritikak memegaiña na asunto ni fumafana' hit pago. Un' tuñgo ha' lokue' na i satbasion problemata debi ta entrega ayo siha na señores yan señoras i man mehalom yan ha tuñgo hafa sentimenton i taotao gi señgoñg siha. Lao 'nai matto i ora un' repite i mismo finatso 'nai man bota hao sa' pot parentela osino hihot na amigo. Estague' tutuhon linache gi masatban asuntun linahyan.

Kumeke ileglo na yangin fatso i manera 'nai ha dispacha un' sustansiao na asuntun publiko i lehislatura, chamo na palagpag sekosmo sa' hago patte gi problema 'nai un' matka papa' i kandidato 'nos pot kualifikasionña lao pot atunño osino parientes. Sesso hu repara na memegaiña 'nai manmalefa hita na hita primera besis i problema sa' hita muna' fan halom i rumespresenta hit pago yan i alacha siha na tiempo. Kao propio na para un' e'esalao 'nai hago mismo i problema? Fan man hasso pot un' rato ya in ebalua i asunto ni hu presenta pago.

Hu komprende kabales na i asunto ni hu diskukute trahiba ti preparao memegaiña na botadot umeksisia dibuenamente. Dispues, rason na hu mente este na finatso sa' todos asuntun linahyan hu estudiadiaye hafa merituña yan dismerituña gi teneteka na atitkulo. Hasan 'nai huna' halom sentimenton petsonat osino ti dicho siha na asunto. Hu apattayo' ginen i asunto kosake siña hulie' kabales entero litrato. Eksisia este sa' siempre mas klaro hinasomo gi inebaluan asuntun linahyan. Si Yuus Maase!



Holy Land Prepares for Jesus' 2,000th Birthday

By HILARY APPELMAN
NAZARETH, Israel (AP) - Jesus' 2,000th birthday is approaching, and hopes are high that millions of Christians will come to the Holy Land to celebrate.

But new turmoil in the Middle East could spoil the party. "We all understand that tourism is linked to peace," Ilan Oren, director of 2000 planning in Jesus' hometown of Nazareth, said this week. "All this will happen only if the peace process goes on."

In anticipation of a flood of pilgrims, Nazareth is undergoing a dlr\$ 100 million facelift. On stone streets where Jesus once may have walked, asphalt and cement are being stripped and replaced with limestone. New hotels are sprouting up along the Mount of the Precipice, where the Bible says angry townspeople tried to throw Jesus off a cliff. In Bethlehem, Palestinian officials are scrambling to make plans for the millennium - including replacing a tour bus parking lot with a spacious piazza at the site where Jesus is believed to have been born.

Religious leaders and tourism officials in Nazareth were thrilled by an unprecedented papal decree encouraging pilgrimages to the Holy Land in 2000.

Israel's Tourism Ministry estimates that between 4 million and 7 million visitors could come to the Holy Land - especially Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Nazareth - in 2000, up from an annual average of 2.5 million.

The country seems ill-prepared to handle such an influx: Its airport can serve 4 million people a year at most, and it only has 38,000 hotel rooms, with another 12,000 under construction.

Having turned over control of Bethlehem to Palestinians a year ago, Israel is focusing its millennium efforts on Nazareth, a long-neglected Arab-populated city of 60,000 in the Galilee.

A complete overhaul of the city is under way, aimed at renovating the old parts of the city, connecting Nazareth's religious sites with scenic walkways, and ending the perpetual traffic jams in front of the two churches of the Annunciation - one Roman Catholic, one Greek Orthodox - where Christian tradition holds that the angel Gabriel told Mary she would give birth to the son of God.

Planners hope the renovations - which include plans for as many as eight new hotels - will double the number of annual visitors here, currently about 900,000.

The goals are much the same in Bethlehem - where a committee is working on an "emergency master plan" for renovations - and looking for international donors.

Sweden has pledged \$2.5 million to rehabilitate Bethlehem's old city - construction is to start in May - and Italy and Germany have pledged another \$2 million. An international competition is planned for the redesign of Manger Square, currently a parking lot.

Hind Khoury, an economist on the planning committee, says the city faces two major problems: Lack of money and experience on the Palestinian side, and Israel's political and economic closure of the city, which has left Bethlehem surrounded by Israeli army checkpoints and guard posts.

"It looks like a battle zone - who would want to come here?" she asked on Tuesday.

During deadly clashes between Palestinian police and Israeli soldiers across the West Bank in September, Israel blocked tour buses from entering Bethlehem, forcing pilgrims to walk to the city through Israeli military positions.

Political uncertainty in the region - aggravated since Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took office this summer - has made it almost impossible to attract private investment from abroad, said Khoury, who hopes the celebrations will create pressure for change.

If not - "if the situation goes on without peace... many people may not come," said Monsignor Kamal-Hanna Bathish, head of the Vatican's committee on 2000 celebrations in the Holy Land.

Political unrest already has hurt tourism here. After record years in 1994 and 1995, tourism to Israel dropped sharply in 1996 following suicide bombings in the spring and worsening relations with the Palestinians after Netanyahu's election in May.

Tourism officials hope the millennium celebrations will help. But "it depends on what happens in the region," said Mark Feldman of the Zionsours travel agency in Jerusalem.

"The year 2000 is a powerful marketing tool to bring pilgrims here. ... But if there's danger, pilgrims are no different from any other tourists. They won't come."

Variety letters policy

Letters to the editor must carry the full name and signature of the sender, with a telephone number for verification. Unsigned and "Name Withheld" letters may not be published. Letters addressed to other publications or to third parties and those endorsing particular political candidates are being discouraged. All letters are subject to editing and remain the property of the Variety.

Sablan on Tenorio's line-item veto plan:

'We're willing to compromise'

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
SENATE President Jesus R.

Sablan yesterday said any line-item veto on the fiscal year 1997 budget bill will be "care-

fully reviewed" by the Legislature.

"We'll look at it, we'll review the situation and if drug rehabilitation is not funded then we have to compromise and sit down with the governor," he said.

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio on Tuesday said he may have to line-item veto portions of the fiscal year 1997 budget bill which, he added, reduced the funding for the Attorney General's Office (AGO) by half a million dollars.

Passed by both the Senate and the House of Representatives Friday, the budget bill was only sent to the Office of the Governor yesterday.

The bill had to be reviewed after discrepancies were discovered in Tinian's budget

worksheets. Tenorio on Tuesday said AGO needed the additional funding to hire more competent staff.

"I don't know how we can fight crime over here if we have this mentality that (AGO) should not have competent and sufficient staff," he said.

"Unless we have good attorneys it will be costing us money because then we'll lose cases in court. (For) me, nothing is more important than (having) a competent (AGO)."

Sablan, however, said the fight against crime should include a "war against drug abuse." (See related story in this issue.)

The governor said if he can not restore the cuts made on the AGO's funding level, he

will include additional money in a revised budget he will be submitting.

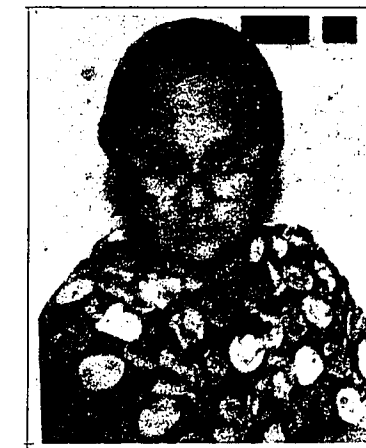
During deliberation on the budget bill Friday, several legislators said they would vote for an override if Tenorio vetoes the bill.

The new budget bill would allot \$204,981,600 for the government's operations and programs, and would provide for the hiring of 118 new government full-time employees (FTEs).

The bill does not include the Public School System's budget of close to \$42.5 million, which was appropriated out of a "piecemeal" budget passed last month.

The original budget bill, which the governor branded as "not balanced," was vetoed early in October.

'Reduced AGO budget to benefit anti-drug effort'



Jesus R. Sablan

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

THE LEGISLATURE reduced the budget of the Attorney General's Office to give additional funds to the CNMI's anti-drug abuse campaign, Senate President Jesus R. Sablan said yesterday.

Sablan (R-Saipan) was reacting to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's statement Tuesday that he may have to line-item portions of the fiscal year 1997 budget bill.

Tenorio said his staff is not yet through reviewing the bill passed by the Legislature Friday, but he was already told that the budget for the Attorney General's Office (AGO) has been reduced by half a million dollars.

The budget bill would give AGO almost \$3 million for fiscal year 1997.

But according to Sablan, the funds were "taken" from the ad-

ditional \$10 million revenues and not from the agency's original budget.

He said Tenorio may be contradicting himself in saying that AGO should have more money to get more competent attorneys.

"If that's the case then the governor should concentrate on building up AGO and not contracting out the AGO's work," Sablan said, referring to the hiring of former attorney general Sebastian Aloat who will get at least \$180,000 a year as a special legal consultant of the governor.

Sablan said the governor "should put his money where his mouth is."

"He should just put back the \$180,000 into the AGO," he said.

The problem, Sablan added, is not in AGO, but "out in the streets."

He said one of the leading causes of most crimes is drug addiction. To better address the CNMI's crime situation, Sablan said, the Legislature will soon talk with the appropriate government departments and agencies "to tell us where we should really spend money to fight crimes."

The FY 1997 budget bill would appropriate \$350,000 for drug rehabilitation, which Sablan calls an "important component in the fight against drug abuse."

Tenorio, in an Oct. 29 letter to Sablan and House Speaker Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), said AGO will need an additional funding of \$534,000.



Jackie Sizemore of Marianas High School reads her first-place essay during Saipan's Education Day celebration.

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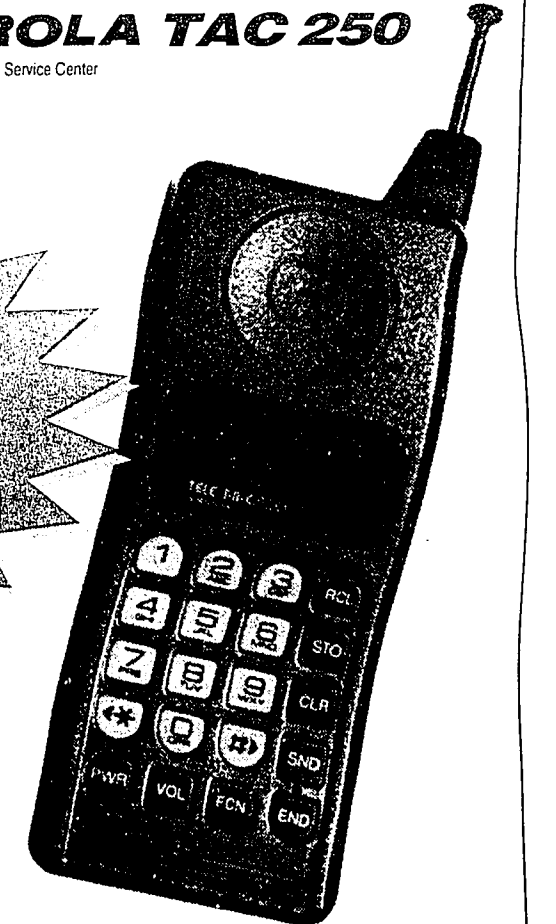
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Torres doubts dock's strength

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff
THESEAPORT being built in Puerto Rico is a KB bridge waiting to collapse, a ranking government official has alleged.

In his letter to Victor Hocog, Commonwealth Ports Authority Chairman Victor Hocog, Rep. Stanley T. Torres [Ind-Saipan] said cracks, "that may go all the way down the bottom," can already be seen on the side of the dock's concrete edges, allowing sea water to seep in, rust the steel bars and eventually weaken the structure.

"I do not know how long our dock will hold with that kind of inferior material," said Torres in his letter.

"I have a gut feeling the dock will not last twenty years just like what happened to KB bridge in Palau," he

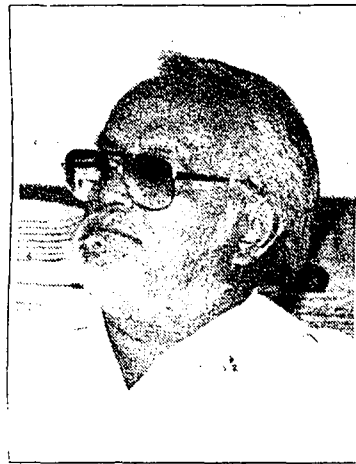
added.
Torres said sources point to the grade of aggregate used in the construction.

"Did they [CPA] check the grade of material before using it?" he asked.
Hocog and CPA Executive Director Carlos A. Shoda, their secretaries said, were off island and could not be reached for their reactions yesterday.

The Variety managed to interview CPA Deputy Director Jose Aldan through.

He laughed off the allegations saying the project is being done by a "competent" firm taking the necessary measures to ensure the seaport's durability.

"I don't understand where he [Torres] got his information," he said. "We can assure the general public



Stanley T. Torres that the CPA has taken measures to ensure safety," he added.
"The construction firm is using quality materials," he assured.

He said the CPA has hired services of the Efrén F. Camacho Engineers-Architects Co., a construction management firm which is monitoring the construction on a daily basis.

The seaport is undergoing a major overhaul to make it bigger and fit for cargo traffic.

Construction, which is being done by Samsung Corp., began, Aldan

said, early this year and is expected to be completed by July next year.

It will be recalled that Palau's KB bridge, which connects the islands of Koror and Babeldaob, collapsed last September allegedly due to substandard materials used in its construction. The incident killed two motorists and injured two others.

CNMI to get emergency food and shelter grants

THE NORTHERN Marianas Islands was awarded of \$65,000 in federal funds under the Emergency Food & Shelter National Board Program to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the area, a news release said.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Council of Jewish Federations, Catholic Charities, USA, National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, and United Way of America which will provide the administrative staff and appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high need areas around the country.

A Local Board made up of representatives from the Mayor's Office, the Division of Youth Services, Carolinian Affairs Office, Karidat, Youth With a Mission, Department of Health Services, Ministerial Alliance, the NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross, and the Saipan Community Church will determine

how funds awarded to the NMI are to be distributed among the Emergency Food & Shelter Programs run by local service organizations in the area.

The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds available under Phase XV of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local governmental or private voluntary organization chosen to receive funds must: 1) be non-profit, 2) have an accounting system and conduct an annual audit, 3) practice non-discrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have voluntary board.

Qualifying organizations should be submitted to the Local Board Chairperson no later than December 12, 1996.

Further information on the program may be obtained by contacting Ms. Angie Guerrero, Local Board Chairperson at telephone number 234-6981 or 234-7928.



Acting Speaker Jesus Attao and DPS officers watch the kids during a ceremony for the community policing program at Upper MIHA yesterday. —Photo by Ferdie de la Torre

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES GUAM AND SAIPAN INFORMATION AND FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS

The Pacific Northwest Catholic universities invite you and your parents to information and financial aid workshops in Guam and Saipan.

ADMISSION INFORMATION will be available with representatives from Gonzaga University (Spokane, WA), Seattle University (Seattle, WA) and the University of Portland (Portland, OR).

There will be a general College Fair and individual information sessions for questions.

There will also be a FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP for parents and students intending to apply for scholarships and financial aid. Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (F.A.F.S.A.'s) will be available. This Financial Aid Workshop will provide information regarding policies at all three universities.

Please join us and experience the value available to you at Catholic universities in the Pacific Northwest!

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES INFORMATION AND FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS

Guam
Wednesday
December 4
Hyatt Regency Guam
The Grand Ballroom

Saipan
Friday
December 6
Government of Saipan Building
Multi-purpose Room

6:30 p.m.: COLLEGE FAIR
7:00 p.m.: INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS
8:00 p.m.: FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Kobler PTA meet

THIS is to inform all Parents, Guardians and Teachers of Koblerville Elementary School that the next PTA Meeting has been scheduled for

Thursday, December 5, 1996, at the School Cafeteria beginning at 6:00 pm. All are urged to attend this important meeting.

CPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the Commonwealth Ports Authority Board of Directors, hereby give notice that the regular meeting of the CPA Board of Directors will be held on Monday, December 16, 1996 at 10:00 a.m. at the CPA Seaport Office Conference room, Charlie Dock, Puerto Rico, Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes (November 8, 1996)
- II. CORRESPONDENCE
- III. COMMITTEES REPORT
 1. Finance Committee
 - a. Adoption of Financial Statements
 2. Seaport Facilities Committee
 3. Airport Facilities Committee
 4. Other Committee (if any)
- IV. EXECUTIVE REPORT
- V. OLD BUSINESS
 1. Jack Atalig's Relocation
 2. Taxi Operator Dress Code
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
 1. Bid Award - Parallel Taxiway A
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)
- VIII. (Executive Session) LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

Is/Victor S. Hocog
Chairman, Board of Directors

November 27, 1996

Employers reminded on duty to pay for worker health cost

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff
DIRECTOR Joaquin Taitano, of the Medical Referral Office, reminds employers of their obligation to shoulder all medical expenses of their alien workers.

Citing Public Law 7-34, Taitano said the employers' liability also include the costs of referral and evacuation of the workers who are referred to off-island hospitals for treatment.

Taitano said he had to issue the reminder because many employers use as an excuse their ignorance of the law in an attempt to avoid their obligations.

The law also provides that the employers shall be responsible for

CNMI author launches new children's book

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff
PACIFIC night, moonlit beach, clatter of coconut fronds, salty air...a bonfire flickers on the face of storyteller.

Find out how the coconut tree and the sailboat arrived in Micronesia; how the monster lizard transformed the island of Yap; how Bikar stole the magical aao from the mouth of the monster eel.

These are some of the six legends featured in Nancy Bo Flood's latest book entitled *From the Mouth of the Monster Eel, Stories from Micronesia*.

Flood, a teacher and psychologist, will launch her book on Dec. 7 at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library.

From the Mouth of the Monster Eel is the newest title in the World Stories series published by Fulcrum Publishing.

Fulcrum said in a press statement that *From the Mouth of the Monster Eel* is "the only collection of ancient Micronesian legends ever published for children."

It is, the publisher said, an "authentic re-telling of adventure, creation and courage (that) give readers of all ages a delightful, unique experience with Micronesian oral tradition."

Flood said the 50-page illustrated book contains ancient folklore from Palau, Yap, Marianas, Chuuk and Marshall Islands.

Flood is an avid story collector who believes that legends "hold the magic and mystery of other people's—or generation's—beliefs."

"While teaching in Micronesia, I collected indigenous legends and learned all I could about the culture. I then re-told selected myths with goal of staying true to the spirit and beliefs of the culture while adding suspense and setting," Flood said.

Flood has written six books which includes nonfiction text for middle-schoolers titled *Working Together Against World Hunger*. She also wrote *Born Early: A children's Story About Premature Birth, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas*. Her two other books *Coping with Weight*, and *Counseling Children: A Handbook of Practical Strategies*, are scheduled for release next year.

From the Mouth of the Monster Eel will soon be available at Bestseller, and Lollipop Store for \$15.95 a copy.

Tenorio: CHC nurses must take, pass national exams

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
GOVERNOR Froilan Tenorio wants every nurse working at the Commonwealth Health Center to pass the National Council Licensure Examination.

Tenorio told Department of Public Health Services Secretary Dr. Isamu J. Abraham that in order to assure the continued high quality services, nurses must pass either the NCLEX licensed practical nurse (LPN) examination or the NCLEX registered nurse (RN) test.

In his Nov. 18 memorandum, the governor explained that the examination includes both government employees and those hired by manpower service contractors.

"Since LPN is the easier of the two tests, most nurses will probably want to sit for this exam," he said.



Froilan Tenorio

The governor said he wants to make the requirement effective March 1, 1997 citing that some nurses may need time to study and some may not be able to pass it.

"This will give everyone enough time to study, and will give employers enough time to replace those who

clearly will not be able to pass," Tenorio stressed.

After March 1, he said no nurse should be accepted for employment at CHC unless she either already has passed the NCLEX or takes and passes it within 60 days of arrival.

Nurses who have not passed the test by March 1, the governor said, will be subject to dismissal for cause.

"Leave to your discretion whether a nurse who fails the test should be given a second chance, but please keep in mind that our goal is to have a high standard that is consistently enforced," Tenorio told Abraham.

The chief executive pointed out that the requirement should be incorporated into every contract that CHC makes with manpower service providers.

"If they do not pass the test by March 1, their contract should not be renewed," Tenorio said.



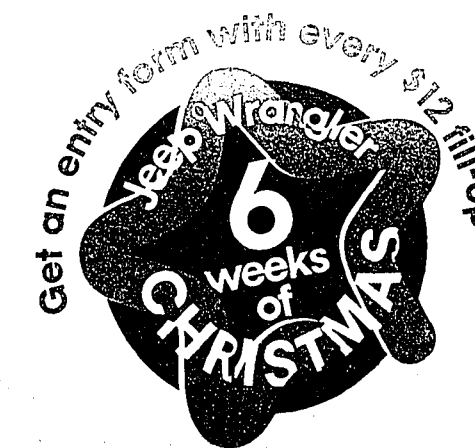
On the 2nd week of Christmas Mobil gave to me... a Townhouse Shopping Spree...

Lucienne A. Lontor of San Roque

2 Joeten shopping sprees



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Grand Prize drawing January 4, 1997

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3. Return completed form to the drop box at participating Mobil service stations and Keico Motors.

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- 1 \$2,000 Duty Free Gift Certificates - 12/6
- 2 Weekend stays at the Hyatt - 12/13
- 4 Joeten shopping sprees to fill a cart with up to \$500 of Joeten merchandise - 12/20
- 1 1996 Jeep Wrangler
- 1 Certificate for FREE Fuel for a year
- 1 Certificate for FREE Automatic Car Washes for a year
- 1 Certificate for FREE Mobil 1 Oil Changes for a year

Weekly drawings will be held at 1pm at the CMG San Jose Mobil service station. Grand Prize drawing will be held at 1pm on Saturday, 1/4/97 at the Beach Road Garapan Mobil service station. Winners will be notified by telephone.

Disclosure: *All entry forms must be received by 1/3/97. Game open to all legal Saipan residents, ages 16 and up, with a valid C.N.M.I. driver's license, except the employees and immediate families of Mobil Oil Marianas Islands, Inc. and its affiliates, subsidiaries, vendors and consultants for this promotion. No purchase necessary. For a free entry form, see the official rules posted at every participating Mobil service station and Keico Motors. Odds of winning depend on total number of entries received.

Mobil The energy to make a difference.

US Congressional staffers here

THE CNMI IS AGAIN PLAYING HOST TO TWO groups of visitors from Washington, DC who arrived in the Commonwealth yesterday.

According to a news release from the Administration, one group consists of staffers of key Members of Congress similar to a group that visited the CNMI last

February. The other is a DC-based think-tank group on a fact-finding mission in the islands.

"We are pleased to be going to the Commonwealth at the Governor's invitation. We have heard about the economic successes in the Marianas, and in the coming days we will have an opportunity to look into the basis of

the prosperity there with an open mind," said Marc Lampkin, counsel for the House Republican Conference, from Washington before departing for the CNMI.

Among the visiting congressional staffers expected are: Bill Simmons, Professional Staff Member of the House Resource Committee; Dan Walsh, Legisla-

tive Director for Representative Wayne T. Gilchrest (R/MD); George Fishman, Assistant Counsel Subcommittee on Immigration & Claims, House Committee on the Judiciary; Kevin Fitzpatrick, Legislative Director for Representatives Steve Chabot (R/Ohio); Roger France, Chief of Staff for Representatives Charles Taylor (R/NC); Duane Gibson, Counsel, House Resources Committee; Michael Jimenez, Associate Staff, the Appropriation Committee, Representative Jim Kolbe (R/AZ).

On the other hand, representatives of the Institute for Justice, a Washington, DC think tank, is also said to be here for its fact-finding mission.

The Institute specializes in strategic litigation and training in public interest advocacy and seeks greater protection of economic liberty, school choice and the free exchange of ideas, the release said.

"We have heard of Gov. Tenorio's interest in issues of school choice and school vouchers. We hope we can provide some

assistance in this and other areas," said Clint Bolick, Vice President of the Institute for Justice, from Washington.

Other members of the Institute for Justice group aside from Bolick include Ron Bailey, Senior Producer, New River Media, Kellyanne Fitzpatrick, President of The Polling Company and political analyst for CNN; John Fund, member of the Editorial Board, the Wall Street Journal, and Nina Shokrati, Director of Outreach Programs for the Institute of Justice.

Both the Congressional Staffers and the Institute for Justice group were to be briefed by Governor Tenorio, members of his administration, members of the Legislature as well as the Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee.

The visitors will also have the opportunity to meet staff of federal government agencies and departments in the CNMI.

Other plans call for a visit to Tinian and tour of a garment factory and nonresident workers barracks.

Police hunt 4 youths who attacked guards

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE POLICE have been hunting down four male youths who allegedly assaulted two security guards at Nikko Hotel in Marpi Sunday night.

One of the victims in the assault, a Filipino, was seriously injured and taken to the Commonwealth Health Center and later to a hospital in the Philippines.

Public Safety Information Officer Sgt. Franklin Babauta said investigators have already identified the suspects described as locals.

Initial investigation showed that a security guard went to

the pool site after he was informed that four persons were swimming.

The guard told the four to leave because the pool was supposedly closed at the time.

As the four were leaving the pool, the guard followed them.

One of the suspects approached and kicked the guard from behind. Another suspect punched him.

When the guard fell, the suspects punched and kicked the victim repeatedly.

Another guard came but two suspects also assaulted him.

All four suspects fled.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

December 3, 1996

ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI Council for the Humanities invites the general public to attend a grant writing workshop. The workshop will focus on how to prepare a grant application for a humanities project. The public will also have the opportunity to review the Council's program and make comments and suggestions. The workshop is free and open to everyone. Place, date, and time as follows:

Tinian	December 11, 1996 - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	NMC Campus Room F
Rota	December 12, 1996 - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Art Gallery Building
Saipan	December 17, 1996 - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Conference Room

For more information, please call ron Barrineau at 235-4785

HUD okays \$.9M CDBGs for CNMI

THE U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Honolulu, has approved funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act for the Community Development Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$904,000 for Fiscal Year 1996-97.

According to a news release from NMHC, the Grant will be used for the following community development projects in the Commonwealth.

- Rota, Section 8 septic tank system
- Rota, Pinatang Park and Pool Rehabilitation

- Islandwide Pathway System, Segment #1 from Garapan to San Jose, Saipan.

The Rota Section 8 Septic Tank System will be upgraded to resolve the overflowing waste which flows to the Housing Subdivision. NMHC has kept the overflowing problem under control by having frequent drainage of the septic tank.

The CDBG funding will address the problem on a long-term basis, said NMHC.

The project is expected to benefit all families living in the As-Liyo Subdivision and neighboring areas.

NMHC has an Invitation to Bid for the project and the closing date for all bids will be December 23, 1996.

The Rota Pinatang Park and Pool Rehabilitation project will make the Park fully compliant to ADA requirements and will provide accessibility to the Park for the disabled from the entrance and down to the pool.

Also, the pool will be rehabilitated to make it functional and suitable for public use, the pool is designed to use ocean water and will be equipped with a natural pool cleaning system and water slide.

The bid for the project is in process and will close on December 20, 1996.

This project will benefit the entire population of Rota and including the scenic attraction and facilities which

can also be enjoyed by tourists. The project was designed by DEV and Associates.

The Islandwide Pathway System, Segment #1 project will run from Garapan down to San Jose Village.

The walkway will be at least 10 feet wide and will include benches/resting stops.

This project is part of the Commonwealth's Master Plan to provide a connecting system throughout the island. The Islandwide Pathway System is under the auspices of the Office of the Governor, Planning Office, under the guidance and coordination of Evelyn Tenorio, Special Assistant for Planning.

There is also an Invitation to Bid being announced for the project which is scheduled for closing on December 16, 1996.

Questions concerning any of the above CDBG projects may be directed to the NMHC Office in Garapan at 234-9447/7689 from 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

La Fiesta festival of lights



TOURISM industry leaders join Miss CNMI Katie Williams and Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus in turning on some 800,000 holiday lights during a ceremony to kick off the "4th Annual San Roque Festival of Lights" last Thanksgiving Day. After pressing the big red ball at La Fiesta's Jamboree Plaza, the lights simultaneously turned to the delight of the crowd throughout La Fiesta mall, Hotel Nikko and all along the roadway in San Roque. The Festival of Lights will continue through January 5.

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Parade to cap Drug-free Week at Hopwood

A PARADE from Mt Carmel church to Hopwood Junior High School tomorrow morning will wrap up Hopwood's annual Drug-Free Awareness Week activities, PSS announced in a news release.

Hopwood's students, teachers and staff have been involved in the week's activities, which are aimed at providing appropriate education on the psychological, physical, social, financial and emotional impact of drug use and abuse on the community and on the world.

Several activities have been planned in the effort to help both children and adults confront the problem of drug abuse and, of course, help them "just say no" to illegal drugs.

This Friday's parade is scheduled to start at 8 am. The parade will start at Mt Carmel church and head down Beach Road to the Hopwood campus.

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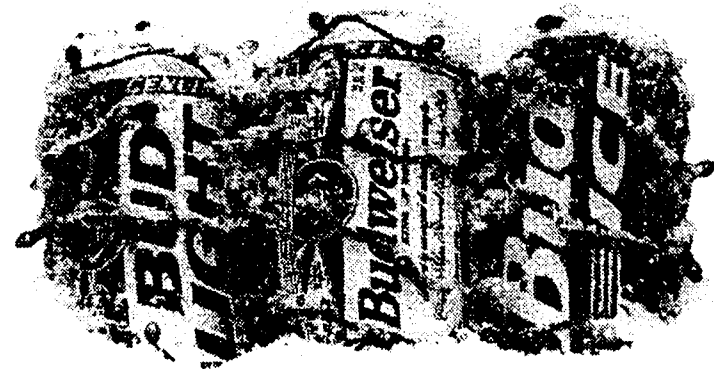
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FRESHNESS IS ALWAYS IN SEASON



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PRICE COSTCO

You could WIN a \$200 Gift Certificate

Fill out an entry form for our Weekly Raffle every Friday starting November 29 to December 27, 1996 and you could WIN a \$200 shopping spree at **PriceCostco***

Non Weekly Raffle Winners are still eligible for Grand Raffle.

GRAND RAFFLE DRAWING on Dec. 27, 1996

Grand Prizes: Budweiser Cooler & Neon Light



LAST WEEK RAFFLE WINNER of \$200 Gift Certificate Juan S. Kapileo

Happy Holidays To All!



* Do not have to be present to win. Winner will be contacted by MARPAC Sales staff.

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DECEMBER 6, 1996



BUD FAMILY OF BEERS \$2.00 ALL NIGHT

- Raffle Prizes to be given away
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- Door open at 6:00pm

Gov't shuts down radio stations

By JULIJANA MOJSILOVIC
BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) - Authorities muzzled two independent radio stations Tuesday in an attempt to squelch growing opposition to Slobodan Milosevic, even as more than 100,000 protesters rallied against the Serbian president. Demonstrators hurled snowballs at the state-run media buildings in the

15th straight day of protests against Milosevic and his decision to annul Nov. 17 local elections that appeared to have been won by the opposition. Milosevic's propaganda machine, which at first ignored the protests, went on the offensive, dismissing the demonstrators as terrorists, vandals and a "handful" of desperate people. Minutes before the protesters were

to begin their march through the capital Tuesday, independent radio station B-92 and the student-run Radio Index went off the air. A government ministry statement said B-92 had been shut down for operating without permission. The station, always highly critical of Milosevic's autocratic rule, had applied several times - without success

- for an official frequency. Authorities began jamming B-92's signal more than a week ago. Radio Index had its signal jammed on Tuesday. The two stations had been the only ones to broadcast direct reports of the anti-government protests. Both could only be heard in central Belgrade. "Now Serbs are under a total media blockade," said B-92's news director Veran Matic. "Milosevic is afraid of the truth, and he'll try to hide it as long as possible."

Matic said his station would continue its work through leaflets, on the Internet and by setting up loudspeakers. The station also was negotiating with the Voice of America and other international broadcasters to carry its programming, he said.

The moves against the radio stations left many Serbs dependent on foreign short-wave services for objective reporting on the demonstrations. Neither they, nor satellite-transmitted foreign television news-casts have been interfered with.

Opposition leaders chose to interpret the action against the radio stations as a victory - evidence that in their stand-off against Milosevic, the Serbian president had been the first to blink. "Milosevic is provoking the whole world. He has lost his mind," opposition leader Vuk Draskovic said.

State-run TV has broadcast only brief coverage of the protests, followed by commentaries attacking the opposition as foreign spies and enemies of the state.

The state-controlled newspaper Ekspres Politika accused demonstrators of calling for "terrorism, arms, bombs and rocks," while the Vecernje Novosti accused them of

throwing Molotov cocktails. "Those who haven't been at the demonstrations and get their news only from Serbian TV are likely to believe it," sociologist Dragana Babic said. "And they may soon organize themselves and move against the demonstrators."

Milosevic spokesman Ivica Dacic accused the opposition of "working against Serbia and its people" and called the protests "destructive and violent."

Though Milosevic has threatened a crackdown, police so far have refrained from taking widespread action. Police announced Monday that more than 30 people had been arrested for damaging property.

Police were deployed Tuesday in parks and side streets but stayed away from the protesters. The independent Nasa Borba daily said reserve police were being mobilized across Serbia. The official Serbian police force numbers about 80,000 policemen.

Several Supreme Court judges have lent support to the protests, publicly distancing themselves from court rulings to annul the local elections. In Portugal on Tuesday, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel warned that the European Union may suspend aid to Belgrade because of the election annulment.

French rate of unemployment stays at 12.6%

PARIS (AP) - The number of French jobseekers declined in October by 12,000, but the country's unemployment rate remained at a post-war high of 12.6 percent, the Labor Ministry said Monday.

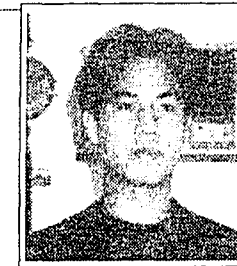
Just over 3.1 million people were looking for work, up 5.3 percent from the same period a year ago, the ministry said.

Many economists had predicted an increase of 10,000 to 25,000 new jobseekers. The greatest improvement came in the category for men aged under 25, where the number of jobseekers declined to 290,900 from 294,800.

During the past 12 months, however, the number of young men seeking jobs has risen 7.5 percent.

Unemployment is seen as the country's biggest social issue, a major factor behind low opinion ratings for Prime Minister Alain Juppe and continuing labor unrest.

Happy Birthday



DEL

From Nestor
 Barkada & Coco Staff

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP) - Rescuers evacuated 750 people from an island off Papua New Guinea's remote northeast coast Wednesday as a volcano continued to erupt.

Four people, including a 7-year-old girl were killed after being hit by flying debris on Manam Island, National Disaster and Emergency Services director general Leith Anderson said.

Manam lies about 12 miles (19 kilometers) off the coast of Madang province. The volcano blew its top on Tuesday after rumbling for about a month.

The decision to evacuate was made after the eruption intensified. Anderson said 17 people were injured, three seriously. All were hospitalized.

Details of damage were sketchy. But he said there were fears that two, possibly three, villages had been wiped out by red hot ash or lava flows. One of the communities feared destroyed was Budawa village, whose residents were relocated after a similar eruption destroyed their homes 40 years ago. Anderson said five vessels were

Volcano eruption kills 4

used to ferry people to the safety of the mainland. Water, food and health supplies are being flown to makeshift camps for the evacuees. There were no plans to evacuate another 6,000 people, who live on parts of the island unaffected by the eruption, he said. Witnesses reported a huge plume of ash and smoke had risen from the volcano, which also spewed out hot

lava and rocks. Volcanologists reported that the central vent of the volcano erupted early Wednesday about 24 hours after two other vents exploded into life. "A lot of ash is being forcefully ejected into the air up to about 1,000 meters (3,280 feet)," said Benjamin Talai, assistant director of the Rabaul Observatory. He said rocks of up to two meters (6 1/2 feet) wide were being blown from

the vents and hot ash flows, which travel at speeds of up to 100 kilometers an hour (60 mph), were cascading down volcano's slopes, he said. The Madang Catholic Mission, which co-ordinating emergency services at for evacuees, said most of the injured had been burned by falling rocks. The Manam volcano erupts regularly. The island had to be fully evacuated in 1956.

Palau denies it plans to seek Taiwan ties

KOROR, Palau (AP) - The government of the Pacific island of Palau is denying a report it plans to establish diplomatic ties with Taiwan. Taiwan's official news agency, the Central News Agency, reported Monday that President Kumio Nakamura planned to visit Taiwan this month to discuss the issue. "That statement did not come from the president," presidential spokesman Román Yano said Tuesday. "He hasn't made that decision yet."

Palau has diplomatic relations with more than a dozen countries, but it has not established ties with either mainland China or Taiwan. China considers Taiwan a renegade province and won't establish ties with countries that recognize Taiwan. Taiwanese investors and government officials have been very active in Palau, and some speculate that Taiwan is offering investment and financial assistance to Palau in return for diplomatic recognition.

Journalists to face parliament panel

SUVA (PNS) - Fiji's daily newspaper, the Fiji Times has been summoned to appear before the Parliamentary Privileges Committee today for the publication of a confidential report on Fiji citizenship. The report was prepared by a sub-committee of the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Constitutional Review, the Fiji Times reports. Deputy Secretary to parliament Mary Chapman says the Fiji Times publisher

Alan Robinson, editor Samisoni Kakaivalu and senior reporter Jon Nata would have to show cause why they should not be dealt with by the privileges committee under section 20(c) of the Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Act. Under the Act any person found guilty of using confidential parliamentary documents is liable to be fined a maximum of 400 Fijian dollars (\$US293), or in default of payment, a maximum of two years imprisonment or both fine and imprisonment. Chapman said the person who had leaked the report would be dealt with once it was brought to their attention.

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Rabi row over woman elder

SUVA (PNS) - Some people on Rabi Island want the first woman elected to the island council removed because they say a woman cannot be an elder under Banaban custom. The move led by outgoing chairman of the Rabi Island Council, Tekoti Rotan, is likely to be resisted, the Fiji Times reports. It will be opposed by the village which elected the woman, Makin Karoro, and by the new council which is likely to be headed by Fiji's former permanent secretary for primary industries John Teaiwa. Karoro came out fighting Tuesday night and vowed that she would take up the chairmanship, "if the people want me". The protesting group is threatening to seek relief from the court if the matter is not resolved by the new council.

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Chan: Court to deal with slay plotters

PORT MORESBY (PNS) - Papua New Guinea's prime minister, Sir Julius Chan, says PNG defence force soldiers implicated in Bougainville premier Theodore Miriung's murder must face the courts. He said Tuesday the courts would now have the responsibility of ensuring that justice was done, Post-Courier reports. In a statement Chan said the findings of Justice Thirunavukkarasu Suntheralingam in his preliminary report on the assassination are gravely troubling. The report implicated six to seven soldiers and one or two members of

the resistance force in the murder of Miriung on October 12. The prime minister said his intention in seeking the assistance of the Commonwealth Secretariat for the inquiry was to ensure impartiality. He said his intentions have been achieved and he believed there was no bias against the Defence Force. Sir Julius said as to the concern expressed by members of the Defence Force that their side of the story was not heard, the courts will now have the responsibility of ensuring that justice was done. The report implicated six to seven soldiers and one or two members of

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NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
INVITATION TO BID

Governor Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus C. Borja, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the construction of the "ROTA SECTION 8 SEPTIC TANK SYSTEM" at Songsong village, Rota, MP Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Bids in duplicate must be marked "CDBG-Construction, Section 8 Rota", and must be submitted to MaryLou Ada Sirok, Corporate Director, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, until 2:00 P.M., local time, Friday, December 23, 1996 at which time and place, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any Bids received after the above time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

A bond of 15% of the total bid price must accompany the bid. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 514, Saipan MP 96950. The bidder is required to submit with his/her proposal, 1) a copy of CNMI issued, current Business License; 2) updated Financial Statement; 3) listing of existing and past projects including completion dates; 4) listing of manpower with copies of CNMI-issued Work Permits; 5) listing of equipment(s).

Specifications and Plans of the project are available on or after November 25, 1996 at the NMHC Office in Saipan. A non-refundable payment of \$250.00 is required for each set. A Pre-Bid Conference for this project will be held at the NMHC Conference Room on December 02, 1996 at 10:30 A.M.

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

Attention is also called to the Labor Standard Provisions for Wage Rate Determination of the CNMI. Classification and Salary Structure Plans, and payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Contract Documents must be paid on this project.

All bid documents received shall be the sole property of the NMHC with the exception of bid bonds, certified check or cashier's check with will be returned to bidders in accordance with section "Instruction Bidders" page 1-2, paragraph no. 05, Bid Guarantee.

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

MaryLou Ada Sirok
 Corporate Director

ENTER IT&E's \$26,000 RAFFLE GIVEAWAY

Prizes Include:
 1997 Toyota Tacoma Pick-Up Truck
 Round Trip Ticket For Two from Continental Micronesia
 45" Mitsubishi Color Television
 White Westinghouse X-large Capacity Washer & Dryer
 Fuel for 1 year from Saipan Service Station*
 and much, much more...

Drawing to be held at IT&E's 10th Anniversary Beach Celebration at the Civic Center Beach Park, December 7, 1996

Call IT&E @ 234-8521 for details

Prizes Contributed by: Microl Corporation, Continental Micronesia, Micropac, Inc., Sablan Enterprises, Pioneer Guam, Saipan Service Station, IT&E Overseas, Inc., Town & Country, Budget Car Rental, CNMI Travel, Marianas Variety, Saipan Cable TV, Saipan Tribune. This event is solely sponsored by IT&E. Saipan residents must be present to win. Open to all CNMI residents 18 years or older. Some restrictions apply. *\$10.00 of gas per week for 1 year.

Reach Out IT&E
 Providing the CNMI 10 Years of Excellence in Service

IT'S IT&E'S 10th ANNIVERSARY BEACH CELEBRATION!

Join the fun as IT&E celebrates 10 years of excellence in service in the CNMI.

\$26,000 Raffle Giveaway!
Free Food and Drinks!
Live Entertainment!
Fun for the Entire Family!

Live Performances by:
Frank Bokonggo, High Octane & Last Minute Band

Festivities begin at 10am on December 7, 1996 at the Civic Center Beach Park

GUPOT PARA TODOS HAMYU!

This event is solely sponsored by IT&E. Saipan residents must be present to win in raffle drawing. Open to all CNMI residents 18 years or older. No alcoholic beverages are permitted during this event. Some restrictions apply.

Reach Out IT&E
 Providing the CNMI 10 Years of Excellence in Service

White House readies for holidays

By **SONYA ROSS**
WASHINGTON (AP) - There's a party going on in the White House - well, inside a gingerbread house in the White House.

It's a party of candy people, and a close look reveals a confectionary reveler in a pink ballgown who looks just like first daughter Chelsea Clinton and a sugary version of Socks the cat poised on a window sill.

The party actually is a scene from "The Nutcracker," this year's Christmas theme for the scads of decorations lining the walls, halls and mantles of the White House for the holiday season.

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton gave a preview tour Monday, pointing out 19 Christmas trees that dozens of volunteers festooned with 42,000 white lights, pixies, toy soldiers, sugar plum fairies and mouse kings of various stripes acting out scenes from the classic holiday ballet.

The Victorian-era gingerbread house, iced with marzipan and chocolate, has two Nutcracker sentinels posted outside.

It took White House master pastry chefs Roland Mesnier and Franette McCulloch five months to create it.

"It's all edible. All 80 pounds (36 kilograms) of it," Mrs. Clinton marveled - and quickly added that her family doesn't plan to gobble it down. "It's too beautiful to eat."

Sticking to her holiday mood, Mrs. Clinton declined to discuss her role in her husband's second term. "Smell that gingerbread!"

You can actually smell it when you get close," she replied when a reporter asked whether she would take on the new welfare law next year.

The Clintons chose the Nutcracker theme because it is an integral part of their family Christmas tradition, said White House social secretary Ann Stock.

The official White House tree, an 18.5-foot (5.5-meter) Colorado blue spruce erected in the Blue Room, contains a pair of hand-carved wooden ballet slippers like those worn by Clara, the little girl who sets the plot of the Nutcracker in motion with her dream on Christmas Eve.



First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton walks along side a horse-drawn wagon at the White House carrying the White House Christmas tree. The National Christmas Tree Association presented Mrs. Clinton with the tree, an 18 1/2-foot Colorado Blue Spruce, grown in Coshocton, Ohio, which will grace the White House Blue Room during the Christmas season. AP Photo

UN body seeks patent protection for Internet

By **ALEXANDER G. HIGGINS**
GENEVA (AP) - The 160-nation U.N. body that oversees the billion-dollar world of copyright and patent protection began a conference Monday to catch up with sweeping changes in music recording, computers and the Internet.

The three-week conference was organized after it became obvious that something had to be done to protect authors' and performers' rights in a day when the latest song or computer program can be "downloaded" at the click of a computer mouse.

Delegates to the conference organized by the United Nations' World Intellectual Property Organization, undertaking the first major revision of international copyright law in 35 years, will be working on three treaties to protect:

Literary and artistic works. The rights of performers and producers of "phonograms," now most commonly CDs and audio cassettes.

Producers of data bases. The national delegates will be closely watched by industry representatives, who see fortunes at stake in an area that is difficult to regulate.

They will have to deal with issues on how to protect rights in an era when national borders have been made irrelevant by the Internet.

The negotiations "will have a critical impact on the future growth of the \$ 40 billion global music business," according to the recording industry's trade association IFPI, the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry.

The industry said music delivery is still in its infancy on the Internet, but that within five years it could take away 15 percent of the business from traditional record stores.

In Europe alone, that could amount to a loss of \$ 2 billion if the industry is unable to share in the proceeds, IFPI said.

2 Singaporeans get arrested on smuggling raps

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) - Two Singaporeans have been arrested trying to smuggle more than 70,000 pills of the drug known as "ecstasy" into Indonesia through Jakarta's international airport, police said Monday.

Yu Ching Teng, 30, and Kei Teng Chuan, 45, were arrested at Sukarno-Hatta International Airport Sunday night after arriving from Hong Kong, customs officer Eisenhower told The Associated Press.

The drugs found with Yu and Kei were hidden in toys, airport customs chief Nisfu Hasbullah was quoted as saying by Suara Pempbaruan.

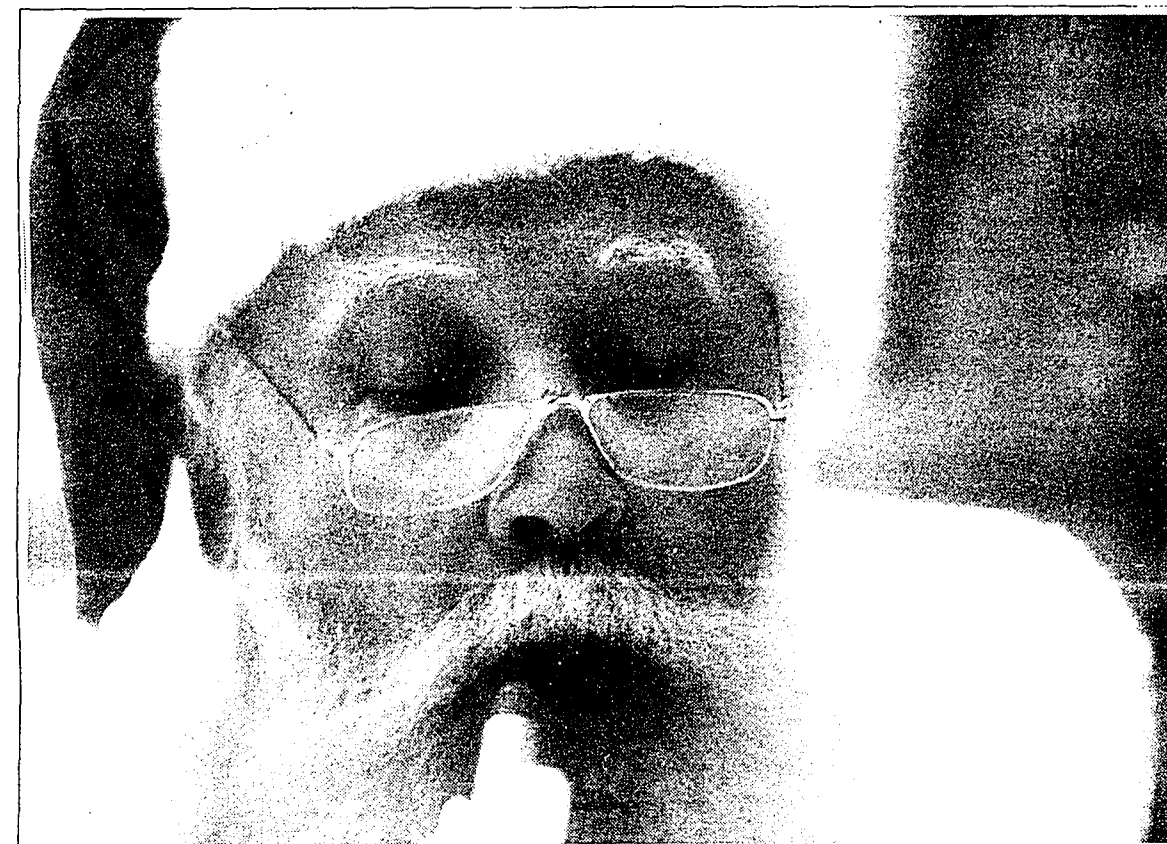
Yu was carrying 51,612 pills, while Kei had 18,819, said Eisenhower, who like many Indonesians uses only one name.

The popular music industry plays a leading role in the negotiations, in part because the main consumers are often young people interested in and capable of "surfing" the World Wide Web and listening to or downloading songs.

The same up-to-date, youthful interest applies to computer programs, but the literary world also sees problems for itself in years ahead and wants to pin down the rights for "uploading" books and articles so that Web browsers can take advantage of them.

Data bases present a slightly different problem because they do not necessarily pass the "originality" test that would give them copyright protection, U.N. officials said.

But producing data bases by collecting information from different sources "also requires considerable investment" and should be protected, the officials said.



"Santa Buster", Buster Killion, who is also a computer networker for Wells Fargo Bank, applies the finishing touches to his Santa costume before going out to work in a small in San Francisco. Killion was attending the Western Services School graduation as he does every year to encourage the new Santas. AP Photo

Death and Funeral Announcement

Fredrick Mangarero Sablan

August 04, 1968 - November 30, 1996

Was called to his eternal rest on Saturday, November 30, 1996, at the tender age of 28 years.

Predeceased by his Mother: Maria Mangarero Sablan

His spirit and memories will live within the hearts of his family who include his:

Father:
Ignacio M. Sablan

Brothers and Sisters:
OSCAR M. & MARCIA E. SABLAN (Emery/Becky-Daniel/Emery Jr., Antonio, Mariano, Nicholas, Maria Carmela)
ERNEST M. & ELIZABETH C. SABLAN (Sonny, Eric, John Peter, Ernest Jr.)
ELEANOR S. & HERMAN S. CRUZ (Rodney/Yvonne, Gordon, Jeffrey, Yulin, Yvette, Gary, Yolanda)
JEANNETTE S. & ELI MESA (Irene-Braydyn Elijah, Alma, Nalene, Katherine)
ESTHER S. & MICHAEL A. FLEMING (Chancie, Colleen, Mikey, Thomas)
FELIX M. & CATHERINE I. SABLAN (Jared, Sean, Justin, Seth)
LOUISE SABLAN CONCEPCION & WILLIAM ADA (Shannette, Naomi, Keith-Sean Cody, Joanne-Richard, Aileen)
HERBERT M. SABLAN (Samantha)
VICTORIA S. & BRIEN S. NICHOLAS (Brien Jr., Brandon, Cameron, Eiren)
LILLIAN S. & JAMES A. ADA (April, Jamilyn, Alexia Martina)
AGNES M. SABLAN (SAM)
CARLOS M. SABLAN

He will also be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Daily mass is being said at 6:00 a.m. at the Kristo Rai Church in Garapan.
Rosary is being said at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Herman S. & Eleanor S. Cruz, at 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. daily.

Last Respects may be paid on Saturday, December 7, 1996, from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the above residence. Mass of Christian burial will be offered at 3:00 p.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.
Interment will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

US consul in Canton killed in car accident

BEIJING (AP) - The U.S. consul general in Canton, Philip T. Lincoln Jr., has been killed in an automobile accident in south China, the U.S. Embassy said Tuesday.

Lincoln was on an official trip in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on Monday when the accident occurred, the embassy said in a statement. A local government official and the driver also were killed, it said.

Lincoln was traveling to Nanning, the capital of the region, the state-run Xinhua News Agency said. Its report and the embassy statement did not give the cause of the accident.

Lincoln, a Michigan native, took the post in August after serving in Beijing and other Asian cities.

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- TAXES, OTHER GOVERNMENTAL FEES AND OTHER CHARGES ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNER.
- WINNERS WILL HAVE UP TO JANUARY 20, 1997 TO CLAIM THEIR PRIZE. PRIZES NOT CLAIMED BY THIS DATE WILL BE FORFEITED.
- SHELL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL THE PROMOTION OR TO SUBSTITUTE THE PRIZE OR MAKE ANY OTHER CHANGES FOR ANY REASON.
- MUST BE 18 YRS. OR OLDER TO PARTICIPATE.
- PRIZES WILL BE DRAWN AT 3:00 PM ON DECEMBER 20, 1996 AT THE SHELL MARIANAS OFFICE IN PUERTO RICO. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND.
- THE LAST CHANCE TO SUBMIT ENTRY FORMS AT ANY OF SHELL'S SERVICE STATIONS WILL BE UNTIL THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 19, 1996 OR NOT LATER THAN 12:00 NOON AT THE SHELL MARIANAS OFFICE IN PUERTO RICO.
- SHELL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDITIONS OR WARRANTIES OF THE PRIZE. SOME PRIZE RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

GO WELL GO SHELL

After bombing, Parisians brace for another wave of attacks

By JOSEPH SCHUMAN
PARIS (AP) - Almost 1,000 soldiers and police patrolled train stations, airports and other public places in Paris Wednesday after a bomb transformed a crowded subway car into a burned-out wreck.

In further reminders of last year's anti-terrorism measures that followed a wave of bombings, border controls were stepped up and security was tightened in big cities across the country.

Every three minutes, commuters at subway stations Wednesday morning heard an announcement reminding them of the previous night's bombing and telling them to be vigilant.

There was still no claim of responsibility for Tuesday's rush-hour bombing, which killed two people and seriously wounded at least 35 others, seven of them critically. About 50 others were slightly hurt.

"Everyone had the impression these kinds of attacks were over," said computer consultant David Coulot, 29, at a bus stop not far from the site of Tuesday evening's rush-hour blast.

"It's anguishing because wherever we are there's no shelter," he said.

The explosion took place near

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the famed Luxembourg Gardens on the RER regional line that shuttles thousands of commuters in and out of the French capital.

The powerful bomb was in a 13-kilo (28-pound) gas canister - the signature device used in the wave of 1995 bombings that killed eight people and injured more than 160 in subway cars and marketplaces.

Interior Minister Jean-Louis Debré immediately ordered the reinstatement of last year's anti-terrorist operations.

In the hours after the blast, 400 soldiers and police were patrolling train stations, airports, tourist sites and other public places in the capital. Five hundred more joined them Wednesday morning, radio reports said.

"The government and I are determined to fight against terrorism in all its forms," President Jacques Chirac said Tuesday night. "No stone will be left unturned."

Europe 1 radio, citing sources close to the investigation, said the canister - like the 1995 bombs - was packed with nails, and that one of the bodies was mutilated by the shrapnel.

But on Wednesday morning, RTL radio reported that none of the wounded had shrapnel injuries.

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Knights . . .

Continued from page 20

The Knights increased further their lead to four before the Dreamers scored a point.

With the score pegged at 13-10, Tina Sablan served an ace to give her team the match point. The Dreamers tried to put further resistance but a long return by Joan gave Mt. Carmel the match, 15-10.

In the second set, the Knights leaned on its two captains, Jacoba Castro and Dionne Santos to in the crucial stages of the game to ensure that a third set won't be needed.

Mt. Carmel jumped to a 8-1 lead courtesy of Santos. The Lady Dreamers, with Sandra serving, rattled four points, to rouse up the sizeable crowd at the Ada Gym.

Sandra served two consecutive aces to force coach Cuisson to call for a timeout.

After an error by Joan, the Knights strung up four straight points to put up a commanding 12-5 advantage.

A Shiela spike to the middle cut the Mt. Carmel's lead to six points. The match took a complete twist when the Dreamers' service found their mark and the Knights failed to contain them, not to mention several unforced errors on Mt. Carmel's part.

With Sandra, Shiela and the rest of the team showing teamwork the Dreamers mounted their last rally to come within four, 14-10.

The Knights finally won the match after several sideouts when the Dreamers made long return.

FBI . . .

Jorgensen said, Mr. Charfauros was contacted by other Tinian residents claiming to know the identities of the suspects who had been "repeatedly overheard expressing their confidence that they would avoid arrest, prosecution and conviction for their crime."

The suspects are said to be closely related to senior Tinian DPS officials. The callers were also quoted as saying that the jewelry stolen was being offered for sale on Tinian and Saipan.

Jorgensen said that all these information were then reported to various Tinian DPS officials including one who assured Mr. Charfauros that the suspect would be arrested and the case solved "this week."

However, "no arrest has occurred." Recently, Jorgensen said, a Tinian DPS official told Charfauros that the police "lacked sufficient funds to perform an off-island follow-up investigation."

One of the suspects is believed to have "fled" to Rota.

Tinian DPS has likewise refused to give Mrs. Charfauros copies of all police reports on the incident and the Charfauros's written statements given to the police.

Tinian DPS allegedly said they will not release any documents without authorization from the Attorney General's Office.

"Given . . . the CNMI government's position, I believe that FBI assistance is not only warranted, but essential," Jorgensen said.

Stores . . .

Continued from page 1

Tebuteb refused to divulge names. He said though that the watch is island-wide.

"We regularly check them [storeowners] . . . we visit them, we go over their inventories. . . we're saying that if you're a 'high redeemer' then we have to be knocking on your door to make sure that you're complying with our regs," he said.

If caught or found guilty, store owners, he said, face revocation of business permits.

Most of the "hundreds" of stores on the island, Tebuteb said, are being ran by Korean nationals. He however refused to say whether those on the watchlist are

Filipino . . .

Continued from page 1

lifting her off the floor.

The plaintiff suffered from intense and severe physical pain, bruises, scratches and contusions to her wrists and arms.

Prior to the assault, Hall had previously been accused of assault, battery and sexual harassment by other DPHE employees, the complaint read.

These allegations of prior physical abuse and harassment, the complaint stated, were known to Public Health director, DPHE Secretary Dr. Isamu J. Abraham, Deputy Secretary, Greg Calvo, and medical director, Dr. Beth Fox as well as other administrators at DPHE.

Abraham, Fox, Calvo and other administrators at DPHE allegedly did not investigate or simply ignored Hall's past conduct.

The complaint said that in December 1995, a CHC employee complained to Fox and other doctors regarding an incident wherein Hall allegedly grabbed her by the throat and shoved her up against a wall.

Hall allegedly told the employee that she was "just another bitch that he was going to have to deal with."

Fox told the employee who complained of Hall's acts that "no one is willing to document against Jerry (Hall)."

When contacted yesterday, Abraham said he would remain silent because he has not seen the lawsuit yet.

Abraham, however, hinted he had been conducting his own investigation to find out the truth.

The secretary said he has assured that all DPHE employees are properly taking care off in the system to avoid a lawsuit.

CRM . . .

Continued from page 1

ing in October led to the CRM board's decision to revoke the permit which had earlier been granted.

also operated by the said national.

To be part of the system, the DCCA, Tebuteb said, requires that a store has \$100,000 taken as assurance it won't eventually fold up.

Food stamps, as the term implies, should only be used for the purchase of basic consumer commodities and fishing gear, Tebuteb said. The system is implemented to help legitimate unemployed and underemployed US citizens in the CNMI. Funding is derived from the federal government.

"The CNMI is unique in that it is the only one engaged in the fishing-gear-for-food-stamp trade," he said.

This, he said, was meant to enable stampholders to catch sea produce for the meal table.

When this employee informed Fox that she was willing to document Hall's physical abuse toward her, Fox answered, "You can't," the complaint said.

Fox further stated that "no one should have to put up with sexual harassment, but it happens. Now, we need to figure out if it is something you can tolerate."

"DPHE maintains a custom and policy of indifference towards Hall's physical, verbal, and mental abuse of DPHE personnel, and actively discourages affected DPHE personnel from documenting Hall's improper and unlawful conduct as an employee," said the complaint.

DPHE and the CNMI government breached this duty of master to control the conduct of servant by failing to exercise control over Hall and by continuing to employ him despite his known prior conduct.

Hall's acts are utterly uncivilized and outrageous that cannot and should not be tolerated in a civilized society, the complaint added.

When contacted yesterday, Abraham said he would remain silent because he has not seen the lawsuit yet.

Abraham, however, hinted he had been conducting his own investigation to find out the truth.

The secretary said he has assured that all DPHE employees are properly taking care off in the system to avoid a lawsuit.

hold a public hearing to get the "exact nature of the people's concerns" and ensure that whatever decision the board makes would be done after receiving the input of the public-at-large.

But Barlas said "it seems as though the board is leaning towards denial of the permit application simply because there's been a lot of opposition expressed by the public and certain public officials."

The applicant is reportedly ready for a negative action on its application as it has reportedly started looking for an alternative site for the factory.

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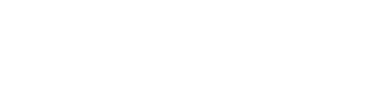
01 BEAUTICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
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Employment



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03 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05-4.50 per hour
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02 TOUR COUNSELOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: SAIPAN AIR SERVICE, INC. dba Seoul City Tour Tel. 235-8283(12/19)Th226969

01 BEAUTICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: JOSE T. TAROPE dba Majo's Beauty & Barber Shop Comb Tel. 235-2815(12/19)Th226971

03 COOK-Salary:\$4.00 per hour
Contact: GREGORIO B. & NATALIA M. MAGOFNA dba MCM Snack & Fastfood Service Tel. 234-8282(12/19)Th226973

01 SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$600.00-800.00 per month
Contact: JESSICA P. CAMACHO dba Pacific Pearl Enterprises Tel. 234-6204(12/19)Th226972

05 AUTOBODY REPAIRER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
05 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: AUSIA INTERNATIONAL INC. Tel. 235-0971(12/19)Th226974

DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication
NOTE: If some reason your advertisement is not correct, call us immediately to make the necessary corrections. The Marianas Variety News and Views is responsible only for errors in correct insertion. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time.

01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
03 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
01 ARCHITECT-Salary:\$1,000.00-1,200.00 per month
01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
01 WELDER-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
01 IRON WORKER(STEELMAN)-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
Contact: BLACK MICRO CORPORATION (12/12)Th63487

30 GARMENT WORKER-Salary:\$2.90 per hour
Contact: ONWEL MANUFACTURING (SAIPAN) LTD. Tel. 234-9522(12/12)Th226879

05 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER-Salary:\$2.90-7.00 per hour
05 (IRONER) PRESSER MACHINE-Salary:\$2.90-3.50 per hour
05 CUTTER (MACHINE)-Salary:\$2.90-3.50 per hour
03 CUTTER (MACHINE) SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$2.90-10.00 per hour
75 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.90-3.50 per hour
02 GROUND MAINTENANCE/GROUNDSKEEPER-Salary:\$2.90-3.50 per hour
03 MAINTENANCE MECHANIC-Salary:\$2.75-3.50 per hour
04 SECURITY GUARDS-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour
04 SECURITY GUARDS-Salary:\$3.05-3.50 per hour
Contact: SAKO CORPORATION Tel. 234-2341(12/12)Th226871

01 TOUR GUIDE-Salary:\$800.00 per month
01 TRAVEL AGENT-Salary:\$800.00 per month
01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary:\$1,800.00 per month
Contact: FANTASY LAND CORPORATION dba Fantasy Tours Tel. 235-3647(12/12)Th226875

01 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary:\$700.00 per month
Contact: JACINTO C. CRUZ dba Cruz Sanitation Services Tel. 234-0456(12/19)Th226965

01 SEWING MACHINE MECHANIC (REPAIRER)-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
01 WAREHOUSE, SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$6.00-8.00 per hour
03 PRESSER, MACHINE-Salary:\$2.90-4.00 per hour
Contact: HANSAE (SPN), INC. dba New Star Corp. Tel. 234-5296(12/19)Th226966

02 PRODUCTION MANAGER-Salary:\$6.00-10.00 per hour
Contact: WINNERS CORPORATION Tel. 235-1805(12/19)Th226967

03 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05-4.50 per hour
Contact: MIRAGE (SPN) CO LTD. Tel. 234-3481(12/19)Th226968

02 TOUR COUNSELOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
Contact: SAIPAN AIR SERVICE, INC. dba Seoul City Tour Tel. 235-8283(12/19)Th226969

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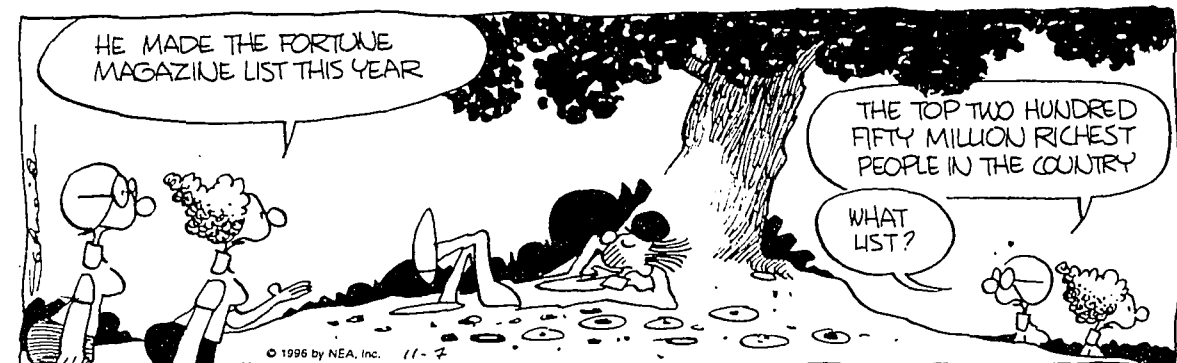
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PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
In the matter of the Petition for the

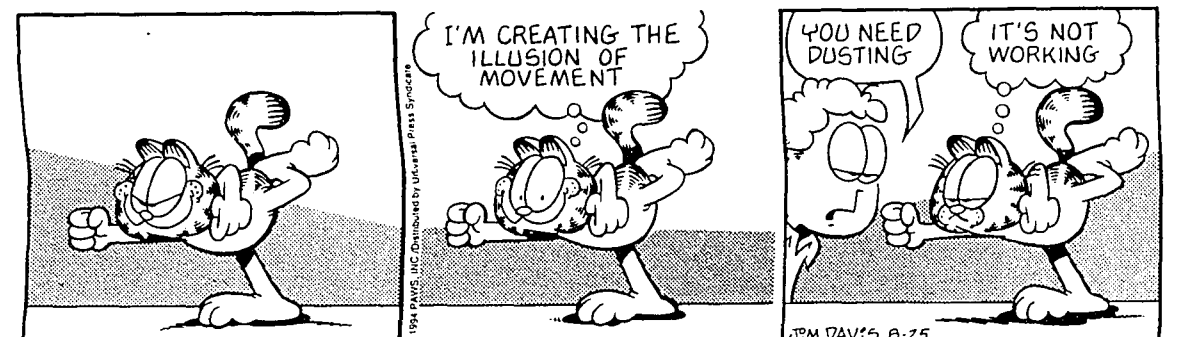
EEK & MEEK®

by Howie Schneider



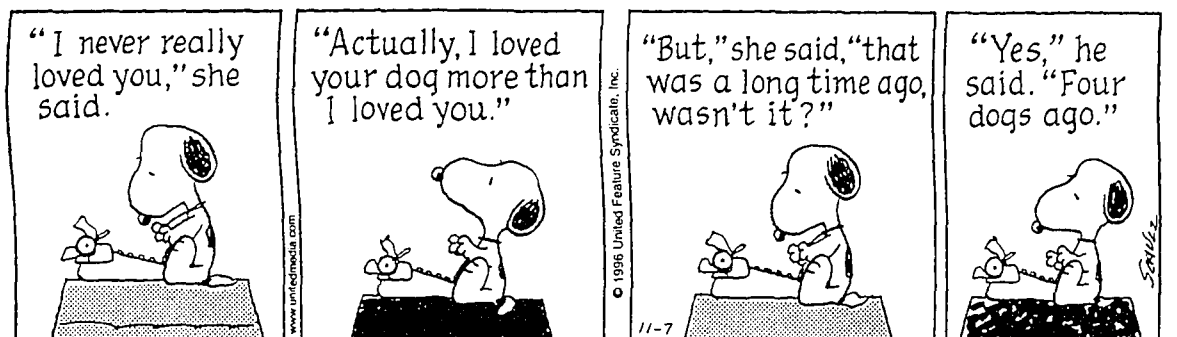
Garfield®

by Jim Davis



PEANUTS®

by Charles M. Schulz



STELLA WILDER

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder
Born today, you are the one most likely among all those born under your sign to work for peace, harmony and balance in your affairs and the affairs of those around you.

read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.
FRIDAY, DEC. 6
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — The spotlight will be on domestic affairs today, and you will be well-equipped to handle any minor emergency that someone brings to your attention.

in order to profit fully.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may not be able to wait for authority figures to make a decision on an issue you've brought to their attention recently. Assert your independence.

CLOSERS

A group of kittens is called a kindy, which is derived from the verb kindle, meaning to give birth.

The thickest part of the Antarctic ice cap — about 15,670 feet — is near the Russian research station Vostok.

Parents with children addicted to "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers" should know that the bad guys include Rita Repulsa, Lord Zedd, Squatt, Goldar and Finster. Their bidding is done by contemptible gray foot soldiers called Putties.

Earth Tip: Throwing away two aluminum cans wastes the same amount of energy as filling one can with gasoline and pouring it on the ground.

There have been more than 5,000 changes in U.S. tax law since 1986.

The American dollar sign is often said to be derived from the letter S superimposed on the letter U. In fact, the sign is a descendant of the Spanish abbreviation "ps" for "pesos."

Because founder Robert Baden-Powell believed in ambidexterity, the Boy Scout handshake is performed with the left hand.

Many Native Americans were quite fond of eating cicadas. The insects are delicious when dipped in batter and fried in butter until golden brown. Serve with cocktail sauce.

London's Fortean Times keeps track of bizarre happenings around the world. The magazine predicts that 1995 will be at least 3.5 percent weirder than 1993 and cites an incident in Sweden as proof that these are strange times.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 UK broadcasters
4 Pieces out
8 Icelandic writing
12 Exclamation of surprise
13 "First Knight" actor
14 Scene of miracle
15 Heat unit (abbr.)
16 — Khomenei
18 Taiter
20 — Valley, CA
21 Shepherd ID
22 DC VIP
23 Fiber plant
27 Stadium cheer
29 — Vegas
30 Colorado park
31 — art
32 — Ben
33 Opp. of SSW
34 Yes, in Cancun
35 Dinner course
37 Ms. Arthur
38 Tea
39 British machine gun
40 — paddle (swim stroke)
41 Violent whirlwind
42 Diana —
44 Peaceful poem
47 Mechanism
51 "Thin Man" actress
52 Verve
53 Oliver Twist word
54 Yoik —
55 Baking —
56 Archer
57 "Winter of Antiface" author
5 Lock opener
6 Exchanges
7 Surgical thread
8 Overshadow
9 Pigeon pea
10 Genetic material (abbr.)
11 Joyful exclamation
17 Hindu chant
19 Sullivan ID
22 Droop
24 That thing
25 Mary Hart's "ET" co-star
26 — minor
27 Former Supremes lead singer
28 — on the back
29 Cover
30 Spanish queen
32 Handkerchief
33 Not pos.
36 French article
37 — Red Sox
38 Sri Lanka's former name
40 TV offering
41 Hypothetical force
43 Alternative word
44 Two words of under-standing
45 An Anderson
46 "Lolita" actress
47 Roman bronze
48 Middle East
49 Cushion
50 Coiffeuse

Grid for crossword puzzle with clues and answers.

KidSpot™

SCHOOL DAZE
TEACHER: "BILLY, OPEN YOUR GEOGRAPHY BOOK AND TELL US WHERE WE CAN FIND SOUTH AMERICA."
TO LEARN BILLY'S ANSWER, FILL IN THE DEFINITIONS, THEN WRITE THE LETTERS IN THE MATCHING NUMBERED BLANKS BELOW.

MICHAEL DOUGLAS VAL KILMER
THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS
Showtimes 234-FILM
Thu: 7:00, Fri: 7:00, 9:30; Sat: 3:00, 7:00, 9:30

National Basketball Association

Bulls edge Bucks, 107-104

NEW YORK (AP)—Sasha Danilovic went 7-for-7 on 3-pointers, and the Miami Heat won their seventh straight road game and eighth straight overall with a 99-75 victory over the New York Knicks on Tuesday night.

pointers in the fourth quarter, as Sacramento beat Minnesota.
The Timberwolves also lost star Kevin Garnett, who severely sprained his left ankle in the first half when he landed on another player's foot after grabbing an offensive rebound.

DeHere, replacing injured Malik Sealy, helped bring the Clippers back from a 10-point first-half deficit. Loy Vaughn had 23 points and 15 rebounds, both season highs, for the Clippers.

first game back in Los Angeles since being traded last summer by the Lakers.
Lakers 110, SuperSonics 106
In Inglewood, California, Shaquille O'Neal, a 45 percent free-throw shooter, made two from the line with 43 seconds remaining and finished with 32 points

as the Lakers beat Seattle.
The Lakers' third straight victory and eighth in 11 games pulled them within a game of the Pacific Division-leading Sonics, who have lost seven of their last 10 regular-season games against the Lakers. O'Neal added 14 rebounds and seven assists.

Hawks 105, Celtics 95
In Atlanta, Dikembe Mutombo had 21 points, 14 rebounds and nine blocks as Atlanta beat Boston.
Mutombo had seven points and five blocks in the third period when the Hawks outscored the Celtics 29-17 to stretch a 47-45 halftime lead to 76-62.

Bulls 107, Bucks 104
In Milwaukee, Michael Jordan scored 40 points and the Chicago Bulls used a 19-5 run at the start of the fourth quarter to beat the Milwaukee Bucks.

SGA Ace of the Month
THE SAIPAN Golfers Association (SGA) will hold its December Ace of the Month Tournament this coming Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Marianas Resort and Country Club.

JTG...
Shirley's Coffee Shop, however, was the biggest gainer for the week. Lodged at tenth prior to its matchup with IT&E, Shirley's scored the night's third shut-out victory to move to sixth with 44-48 slate.

CMPG and Shirley's Coffee Shop had the best marks. O'Doul's had 751; CMPG, 872 while Shirley's racked 2,124 and 2,520 pins for the high scratch and high handicap games, and the scratch and high handicap series.

Cavaliers 93, Raptors 74
In Cleveland, Terrell Brandon scored 18 points to lead Cleveland over cold-shooting Toronto.

Hornets 89, Clippers 96
In Los Angeles, Terry DeHere, making his first start of the season, scored a season-high 25 points as the Los Angeles Clippers snapped a six-game losing streak.

7900 Junior High School Flag Football
THE Public School System's 1996 Junior High School Flag Football featuring three teams kicks off this coming Saturday, Dec. 7 at Hopwood Junior High School.

No...
Marketing totes a 7-9 slate, good for eighth.
Wushin fiery show was greatly boosted by Jess Rebusada's red-hot performance. Rebusada, the league president, not only scored a sweep by rolling 277, 293, 711 and 759 pins for the four events but also set new records in the all events.

10-6 after a 3-1 win over L&W. Panthers had three 1,000 pins plus to raked in a total of 3,076 pins, the highest for the week in the team's high handicap series.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
STATE REHABILITATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
This is to inform the general public that the State Rehabilitation Advisory Council will hold its first regular meeting on Wednesday, December 11, 1996 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Joeten/Kiyu Public Library. Interested persons are welcome to attend.

MARIANAS VISITORS BUREAU
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
POSITION: Trades Helper I
LOCATION: Tinian
DUTIES: To assist Field Operations Division in the general maintenance of tourist sites. Encompassing duties will include mowing, bushcutting, trimming, planting, trash collecting and other duties as may be assigned.

SPORTS



1996 Youth Volleyball League

Knights give Dreamers wake-up call

By Erel A. Cabatbat
VarietyNewsStaff

THE MOUNT Carmel Knights survived the Lady Dreamers' repeated comebacks in the game to hack out a 15-10, 15-10 victory last night in the Girls' Senior Division of the 1996 Youth Volley League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym.

The Knights went off to a good start in the first set by taking an early 4-0 lead. The Lady Dreamers managed to score their first point of the game after a sideout to cut the Knights' lead into three, 4-1. In the ensuing play, a service error by the Dreamers gave the Knights the chance to increase their lead.

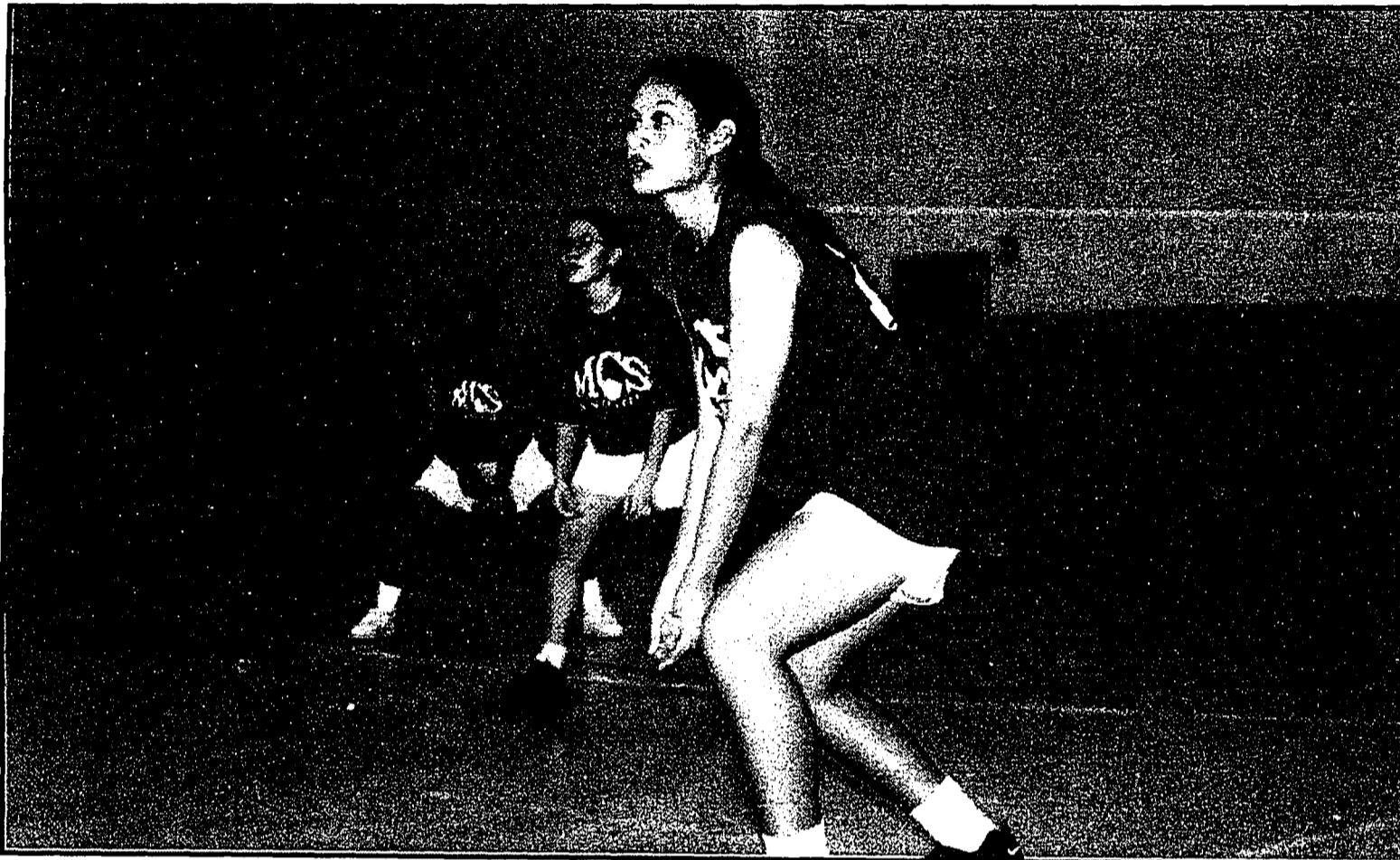
Relying on excellent serving, Mount Carmel rattled four straight points to move up by seven, 8-1. A service error by the Knights broke their momentum.

The Dreamers, however, committed an error of their own for a sideout. In the next play, the Knights gave back the ball on a missed opportunity.

With the Dreamers serving, the Knights fell to a maze of errors to give their opponents a chance to rally. The Dreamers pounced on several good breaks by scoring the next four points to cut the lead in to three, 8-5.

The Knights broke their brief silence by scoring on a long return by their opponents before another service miscue.

Behind by four, the Dreamers had another 4-0 run after the Knights committed error after error to tie the game at 9-9 all.



READY FOR THE BALL—Mt. Carmel Knights' co-captain Jacoba Castro prepares to return the ball against the Lady Dreamers in last night's game of the 1996 Youth Volleyball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym. The Knights won in straight sets 15-10, 15-10. (Photo by Erel A. Cabatbat)

A mini spike from Mt. Carmel's Jacoba Castro stopped the Lady Dreamers' strong comeback.

Mt. Carmel coach Rose Cuison

sued for time in the face of the Dreamers' searing rally. The ploy seemed to work as the Lady Dreamers' next serve fell short and touched the net for

an error.

The Knights came up strong in their next two services to post two point lead and some breathing spell,

11-9. Another sideout ensued but the Dreamers failed to cash in because of successive long services.

Continued on page 16

Adam and Eve Mixed

JTG blanks Country House to grab lead

Results for Week No 23 of 24 12/03
Adam and Eve Mixed - Saipan Bowling Center
Handicap

Pos	Tm#	Team	Won	Lost	Pct	TotPins	Ave	Gm	Ser
1	5	JTG Enterprises	61.0	31.0	66.30	53527	775	861	2483
2	2	Country House	57.0	35.0	61.96	53475	775	875	2493
3	3	V&J	46.0	46.0	50.00	52594	762	895	2471
4	9	CMPG	45.5	46.5	49.46	52617	762	883	2453
5	6	Martha's Poker	44.0	48.0	47.83	52826	765	882	2599
6	12	Shirley's Coffee Shop	44.0	48.0	47.83	52617	762	881	2520
7	8	Paras Enterprises	43.5	48.5	47.28	52371	759	851	2453
8	7	Kan Pacific	43.5	48.5	47.28	51178	752	860	2484
9	4	E.P.C. Int'l	43.0	49.0	46.74	53450	774	892	2531
10	10	O'Doul's	43.0	49.0	46.74	53358	773	915	2496
11	1	IT&E	42.0	50.0	45.65	52804	765	883	2541
12	11	Joker's	38.5	53.5	41.85	51589	747	861	2415

By Erel A. Cabatbat
VarietyNewsStaff

JTG ENTERPRISES routed erstwhile co-leader Country House (CH), 4-0 to take a commanding four-win advantage going to the position round of the Adam and Eve Mixed Bowling Tournament at the Saipan Bowling Center.

JTG shot games of 728, 803 and 735 for a total of 2,266 pins as against C.H.'s 710, 747, 722 for a 2,179 pinfall aggregate. The scintillating win

boosted JTG's title drive as they only have to win one game out of four in their rematch against CH in the position round in the final week of the league for the title. JTG is now sporting a league's best 61-31 win loss slate. CH, on the other hand, totes a 57-35 tally.

V&J jumped to third, replacing Martha's Poker, after scoring a 3-1 victory over Kan Pacific in the lanes 7 and 8 action. V&J, now with an even 46-46 mark, had 803, 765, 810 for a

total of 2,378 and lost only in the second game in their head-to-head showdown.

Kan Pacific dropped two rungs lower in the overall team standings at eighth with 43.5-48.5.

CMPG had a remarkable climb in the standings, moving from eighth to fourth, after thrashing Martha's Poker, 4-0. With the victories, CMPG's slate improved to 45.5-46.5. Martha's fell to fifth with a 44-48 tally.

Continued on page 19

Sportsbits

NMASA Meet postponed

THE regular monthly meeting of the Northern Mariana Amateur Sports Association (NMASA) scheduled today, 6:30 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym Conference Room has been moved to next Thursday, Dec. 19 at the same time and venue.

For more information, call Louie Waboi at 234-1001 or 234-1002.

ERRATUM

IN yesterday's issue, we mentioned that the cash prizes for the top three gross finishers in the six flights of the Retalawash Golf Association's (RGA) 4th Sid K. Peter Memorial Golf Tournament will be \$500, \$400 and \$300. It should have been \$500, \$400 and \$200. Our apologies to RGA.

Continued on page 19

No major changes in team standings

By Erel A. Cabatbat
VarietyNewsStaff

THERE were no major changes in the current team standings in the 4th week of the Friday Intercommercial League at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Saipan Stevedore (SS) maintained its two win advantage over second-running Wushin Corporation after winning its first two games against Duty Free Shoppers, 932-928 and 1,049-984 pins before DFS came back in the third game. DFS rolled 1,110 as against Wushin's 1,036 pins to avoid a shutout. The league's leading team eventually won the matchup with its superior pin total of 3,017 or a five-pin lead over DFS. SS leads the 12 team pack with 14-2 win loss slate while DFS can only show a dismal 4-12 card.

Wushin Corp. matched SS's effort by scoring the same winning margin against Advance Marketing. Wushin had big games of 1,064 and 1,004 pins to compensate for a second match loss by just three pins for a total of 3,043 pins. Wushin held on the second slot with a 12-4 slate. Advance

Continued on page 19

11/24/96 10:10:00