

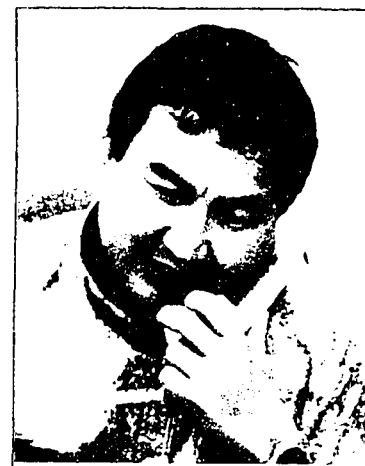
# MPLC officials sued

**By Ferdie de la Torre**  
*Variety News Staff*  
THE GOVERNMENT yesterday slapped a \$1.6 million civil lawsuit against three former officials of the now defunct Marianas Public Land Corp. for alleged misuse of travel and credit card benefits. Assistant Atty. Gen. William O'Roarty sued former MPLC executive director William R. Concepcion, former comptroller David S. Demapan and former

board member Ramon Dela Cruz before the Superior Court. O'Roarty said as MPLC officials and directors, the defendants violated their fiduciary duty, provisions of the government Ethics Code, Planning, Budgeting and Auditing Act, procurement regulations, and MPLC policies. The complaint said Concepcion, who served as executive director in October 1988 until August 1994, took numer-

ous trips at the government's expense. The trips, which were more personal vacations, included visits to golf resorts in Hawaii, Japan and the Philippines. Prior to embarking on these trips, Concepcion reportedly received cash advances. He failed to liquidate his advances by adequate receipts, resulting in excess of \$42,900 damages, said O'Roarty in the complaint.

Concepcion allegedly used his MPLC credit card for unauthorized personal entertainment expenses at hotels and clubs in the CNMI such as Aqua Resort, Coco Club, Shadow Club, and Coral Ocean Point. O'Roarty said the former executive director also used the credit card to make charges for personal items, including jewelry, electronic equipment, books, clothes and personal travel. "He did not submit documentation to support his expenditures and he received per diem at a higher rate than properly authorized by the MPLC board of directors," according to the prosecutor. As a result, Concepcion caused



*William R. Concepcion*  
the government to suffer in excess of \$67,517 damages. The government sought from

**Continued on page 6**



'Win-Win situation.' Guam Gov. Carl T.C. Gutierrez (left) and CNMI Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio take on a friendly grip signifying their resolve to maintain neighborly cooperation in the Marianas. The two chief executives met yesterday at the Coral Ocean Point Hotel about the CNMI's fiber optic cable project.

## Governors of Guam, CNMI move towards cooperation

**By Mar-Vic C. Munar**  
*Variety News Staff*  
GUAM Governor Carl Gutierrez said yesterday he is willing to withdraw the Guam Telecommunication Authority's objection to the CNMI's fiber optic cable project as soon as disagreements

over the issue are settled. For his part, Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio vowed to resume cooperation with the sister island.

The two governors were in cordial mood as they emerged from an hour-long meeting at Coral Ocean. The underground cable project caused rift between the governments of CNMI and Guam.

"We're brothers not competitors," Gutierrez said in front of reporters. "It is not against the CNMI that we put a stop to GST making an application for license," the Guam governor said. "We just said hold it a little bit until we clear things out."

Gutierrez said as soon as the two governments come to an agreement "we can pull the brake, withdraw our objection and move forward."

"There's a path to make this a win-win situation," he added.

Gutierrez said he wants Guam to have a "say" in the license GST is applying for. He hinted that Guam

government was not happy about GST's entering into a negotiation with the private firm AT&T instead of GTA.

"That's one of the issues that we need to answer," Gutierrez said. "AT&T is sitting on federal

**Continued on page 6**

## Public warned about 'cellular phone scam'

**By Mar-Vic C. Munar**  
*Variety News Staff*  
A BUSINESSMAN exposed yesterday the modus operandi of a group of Chinese individuals who allegedly offer CNMI callers long distance cellular service to China and the Philippines at rates much lower than those of telephone companies.

Robert Campbell said this was the same racket Saipan authorities thought they have busted with the arrest of four Chinese men a year ago.

"It looks like the scam is recurring," Campbell said. "These two Chinese guys are wandering around Garapan area looking for prospective clients."

Reports of the apparent cellular phone scam has been brought to the attention of the Micronesian Telecommunications Corp.

"We suspect that fraud may be involved since the individu-

als reselling the service are not employees of MTC or authorized carriers," the MTC said in a press statement.

"We are currently investigating the situation with the advice of legal counsel and our corporate security unit."

The scheme goes like this: A caller would place an overseas call using the lines that belong to MTC or other phone companies. The caller would be charged a flat rate which is much lower than the rate charged by telecommunication companies.

The caller may use the phone as long as he or she wants. After charging the caller, the owners of the cellular phone units would then keep the money without paying the phone company of bills that may run up to thousands of dollars.

**Continued on page 6**

## Marshalls seeks US probe of human radiation experiment

**By Giff Johnson**  
*For the Variety*  
MAJURO-Marshalls Foreign Minister Phillip Muller asked a U.S. Senate committee to launch an investigation into radiation experiments conducted by United States laboratories, and hospitals on Marshall Islanders to lift the veil of secrecy that continues to surround the 67 U.S. nuclear tests conducted in the Marshall Islands between

1946-1958. In testimony before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee yesterday, Muller beseeched the committee to take action on the findings of President Clinton's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, which concluded that:

- the 1954 Bravo hydrogen bomb test was only one of many nuclear blasts that exposed Marshall Islanders to radiation,

and

- that more than four atolls were exposed to fallout-findings that directly contradict information provided by the U.S. government since the 1950s.

The Advisory committee recommended that an independent panel be formed to review all U.S. government scientific data and medical records relating to the Marshall Islands because:

**Continued on page 6**

**Weather Outlook**

Partly cloudy with isolated light showers

# China fires another missile

By PATRICIA KUO  
TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - China fired a missile toward Taiwan on Wednesday, according to U.S. officials, ending a four-day hiatus in testing.

The USS Bunker Hill, an Aegis-class guided missile cruiser, electronically monitored the firing of a Chinese M-9 missile into waters southwest of Taiwan, according to a Pentagon official in Washington who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The missile was fired shortly after dawn. It was unarmed and splashed into the "southern box" test firing zone previously designated by the Chinese, the official said.

Unlike at least one missile firing last Friday into a test firing zone north of Taiwan, this test did not carry the weapon over the territorial waters of Taiwan, according to the official.

Crewmen aboard the Bunker Hill used a Spy-1 radar system to track the test firing.

Taiwan's Defense Ministry said about 10 ships of various types were seen conducting formation drills on Tuesday, and about 10 warplanes practicing air cover, surveillance and bombing runs near Dongshan and Nan Ao, on China's southeastern coast.

The exercises are part of China's campaign to intimidate Taiwan into dropping what it sees as a campaign to go independent and abandon the doctrine that China and Taiwan are one country.

Taiwan has put its 400,000-strong military on heightened alert, and the United States is moving warships and aircraft carriers closer to Taiwan. China has claimed that Washington is conspiring with Taiwanese separatists.

China has said it will fire live ammunition, but Taiwanese has not confirmed it was being used.

In an indication of Taiwan's caution against letting misunderstandings escalate the crisis, the Defense Ministry Tuesday strongly denied Taiwanese newspaper reports that Chinese actions already had violated Taiwan's airspace.

It denied a report that the Chinese warplanes approached the Taiwanese side of the Taiwan Straits, and another report that one of the missiles China fired Friday crossed over northern Taiwan.

China's exercise began at about noon (0400GMT) and was staying within its designated area, outside Taiwan's half of the straits, the Defense Ministry said.

It said bad weather apparently prevented more aircraft from participating.

The announcement, reported on radio and television, came during the evening rush hour and seemed to have no effect on the traffic-clogged streets of Taipei, where people have had months to get used to Chinese missile tests and war games.

The exercise follows up the testing of three missiles near Taiwan Friday, and is being held in a 6,600-square-mile (17,000-square-kilometer) rectangle that stretches to the mid-point of the Taiwan Straits.

The rectangle lies off the southeast Chinese coast and is 30 to 70 miles (50 to 115 kilometers) from Taiwanese islands.

The military says it expects the exercise to include anti-submarine measures, anti-ship and anti-aircraft missiles, artillery and bombing runs.

It also says China might follow up with a separate amphibious landing exercise.

Police said Tuesday they had completed an islandwide cleanup of bomb shelters.

Taipei police have been inspecting basements, underground parking lots and other structures that can serve as shelters, and posting yellow stickers to point them out to the public.

The Taipei municipality has asked the capital's 2.6 million people to clear their basements, many of which have become storage rooms.

In Quemoy, a Taiwanese island about a mile (2 kilometers) from the Chinese mainland, soldiers trimmed hundreds of trees to give their artillery units a clearer view,

the China Times reported. The trees were planted after China stopped shelling the island.

Beaches that opened to swimmers in recent years were closed again, the report said.

The United States is moving warships closer to Taiwan in a tacit effort to cool tempers, insisting they are coming only to observe and "be

helpful if they need to be," as U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher put it. The U.S. move was welcomed by the Taiwan government, but drew a mixed reaction in Taiwanese newspapers.

"It is pleasing news to those of us who have always stressed that Washington would never sit idly by as Communist China bullied Tai-

wan," political analyst Wei Yung wrote in the United Daily News, one of Taiwan's largest newspapers.

"But Taiwan's security is built on the triangular relationship of Washington, Beijing and us. If Chinese-American relations deteriorate" over Taiwan, "we will be the one to suffer eventually."

## Asia shudders as China rattles saber at Taiwan

By JOHN LEICESTER  
HONG KONG (AP) - From tiny Hong Kong to faraway Australia, Asia is watching nervously as China-Taiwan tensions escalate. The fears that a misstep by either side could spark conflict that would disrupt the region's march toward prosperity.

No one thinks China seeks war. But what if a missile strays, hitting Taiwan? Or Chinese troops fire near Taiwanese soldiers hunkered down on islands in the Taiwan Straits, including some within sight of the Chinese mainland?

"The real risk here is the risk of misunderstanding or miscalculation," Alexander Downer, Australia's new foreign minister, said Tuesday. China "risks imperiling the economic well-being and security of the entire Asia-Pacific region," said The Nation, a newspaper published in Bangkok. The dispute brings into sharp focus Asia's dilemma over how to accommodate the conflicting aims of two major trading partners.

In recent years, some Asian leaders have shown their eagerness for

Taiwanese trade by defying China's diplomatic blockade and allowing Taiwan's president, Lee Teng-hui, to visit unofficially.

To commentators in some countries, Washington may have heightened the risks - not lowered them - by sending warships near Taiwan, including the aircraft carriers Independence and Nimitz, due in the area in about two weeks.

The Hongkong Standard wondered whether U.S. officials acted wisely, asking: "Did they realize that deploying U.S. Navy ships to the area was like waving a red rag to a bull?"

Australia told Beijing on Tuesday that "the current situation is heightening regional concerns about security," Downer said.

Indonesia also expressed concern, but said it believed Taiwan and China were aware that a clash would hurt both sides.

The Philippines, which has its own disputes with Beijing over territorial claims in the South China Sea, called for restraint and began preparations for evacuating the estimated 100,000 Filipinos working in Taiwan.

One of the mildest responses came from Japan, which urged both sides to exercise restraint.

"We have to be on good terms with both China and Taiwan," said Hiroshi Hashimoto, a Foreign Ministry spokesman.

In Hong Kong, about 50 protesters including legislators converged on the Xinhua News Agency, China's de facto embassy in the colony. Some carried placards marked: "Chinese should not attack China."

Gov. Chris Patten's Cabinet, the Executive Council, was being briefed regularly on the crisis, and the colonial government said it hoped for an early and peaceful resolution.

Hong Kong has profited greatly as a middleman for trade between China and Taiwan, which do not recognize each other and have no direct air or shipping links.

A Chinese attack on Taiwan would devastate Hong Kong's confidence in China's ability to conduct a smooth recovery of sovereignty over the colony next year.

## US House passes legislation to cut foreign affairs budget

By JIM ABRAMS  
WASHINGTON (AP) - The House passed a bill Tuesday directing the State Department to spend fewer taxpayer dollars overseas and ordering President Clinton to eliminate at least one major foreign affairs agency. The focus of a year-long struggle between Republican Senator Jesse Helms and Clinton's administration, the bill is a compromise worked out in House-Senate negotiations last

week. After passing the House by a 226-172, largely party-line vote, it goes to the Senate. The White House says Clinton will veto the bill as congressional infringement upon the president's foreign policy authority.

Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has held up legislative action on diplomatic nominations and treaties for months in his effort to break administration opposition to his plan to reorganize the State Department and eliminate three independent agencies.

Helms said \$1.8 billion could be saved if the functions of the Agency for International Development, the United States Information Agency and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency were incorporated in the State Department.

Under the compromise worked out last week, Clinton must abolish one of the three agencies.

In another attempt to make the bill more palatable to the White House, House-Senate negotiators dropped language that would have denied foreign aid money to any family planning group involved with abortion. Democrats said the bill was still unacceptable.

The bill authorizes \$13 billion

over fiscal years 1996 and 1997 for the State Department and related agencies, a \$500 million cut from present levels. Targeted for the reduced spending are U.S. payments to international organizations and peacekeeping abroad.

The legislation provides full funding for Israel and Egypt and authorizes \$426 million over two years to fight the international narcotics trade. It also meets the administration request of \$435 million over two years for the Peace Corps.

Responding to recent tensions with China, it authorizes the United States to provide defense material Taiwan needs to defend itself and initiates regular broadcasts of Radio Free Asia into China.

But the compromise omits language in the original House-passed bill that would have required the secretary of state to establish a special envoy to Tibet, saying instead only that such an appointment is permitted. China's sovereignty over Tibet is recognized by the United States and all other major nations.

In a provision aimed at Turkey's blockade of Armenia, the bill bars U.S. aid to nations that block delivery of U.S. humanitarian aid.

# Floating casino project doubtful

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday expressed doubts over the floating casino project planned by Yoshiya Phils., Inc. saying it may not push through anymore.

In a press conference yesterday, Tenorio said he is no longer counting on the proposed gaming boat venture due to seemingly unreasonable concessions being asked by the Manila-based developer.

"I doubt very much if they're coming to Tinian at all," said Tenorio. "I got a feeling that they are not serious anymore about their project."

Tenorio's pessimism is borne out of a letter the company sent last January listing a number of conditions the CNMI government should meet before it could commence the project.

## Yoshiya demands too much to handle

Responding, Tenorio said some of the conditions delineated by the company were unachievable due to financial and legal constraints.

"There are some things I cannot commit to because they are under the control of our legislature and there are other things that I cannot do because the Commonwealth cannot afford them," the governor said.

"I understand that Yoshiya has legitimate concerns about doing business in the Commonwealth. We want to give you all reasonable help and assurance that we possibly can, but I, as governor, am constrained by our laws," Tenorio added.

The Yoshiya letter dated January 24th, signed by Yoshiya president and board chairman Masakazu

Kobayashi, talked about how transportation, marketing and infrastructure constraints could make an impact on the endeavor's viability.

For the project to be feasible, quite a number of concerns has to be addressed by the host government.

Yoshiya Phils., a subsidiary of a Japanese firm, entered into a memorandum of agreement with the CNMI Government, the Municipality of Tinian and the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission on the planned floating casino venture.

According to Kobayashi, the company has thus far committed \$45 million to acquire an ocean vessel which is being built in Pensacola, Florida as a casino and entertainment center.

In addition, the company president pointed out that some \$20 million more has been committed to acquire another ocean vessel which is being fitted out as a hotel ship for the use of prospective casino customers.

According to Kobayashi's letter, Yoshiya intends to submit a formal licensing application to the Commission as soon as possible but that a positive response is needed on its conditions.

For instance, Yoshiya wants the CNMI government to immediately revoke all casino licenses previously issued by the Commission to non-performing license holders.

Yoshiya further required that no more new licenses be issued other than its own for the five year period commencing from the date the application is submitted.

"Yoshiya shall be given an exclusivity period of five years to operate its project from the start of operation before any other licensees may enter into the Tinian market," Kobayashi said.

Another condition spelled out by Yoshiya involves tax concessions.

The company requires the Tinian

municipality to reduce the combined 13% gambling revenue taxation to 6.5% for the initial three years of operation. In addition it also seeks that the withholding tax on the repatriation of earnings to a foreign investor be waived.

Another concern Yoshiya had was the lack of transportation amenities for casino patrons so the company wants government to subsidize transportation costs.

"The subsidy may be made in the form of an annual tax credit to be offset against the 5% business gross revenue tax payable by Yoshiya to the CNMI government," said Kobayashi.

Finally, Yoshiya also requires that the CNMI prohibit video lottery terminals on Saipan as long as casino operation is illegal on Saipan.

"The above conditions are critical to the success of the first real gaming venture in the CNMI. We respectfully seek your due consideration and agreement to those conditions," said Kobayashi.

## Two sue US State over passport claim

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff

TWO Chuukese men yesterday asked the court to compel the United States Secretary of State and the US government to issue them passports after their applications had been rejected.

Simon Ilal, 73, and Herman Rauby Okaruru, 66, claimed in their complaint before the District Court that they were qualified for US passports under the Covenant to establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union with the United States of America.

Both Ilal and Okaruru were born in Chuuk (formerly Truk), but they emigrated to the CNMI in 1947 and 1950, respectively. Ilal registered as voter in 1975 and Okaruru in mid-1950, it was claimed.

The complainants said the US government refused to issue them passports unless they "provide 'satisfactory' verification of the dates and places of their births."

However, they said they could not produce the necessary documents because they (documents) "do not appear to exist."

"It is arbitrary, capricious,

and unreasonable for the government to require documentary evidence of birth on an outer island of Chuuk (Weno Island) . . . at a time when said place was under Japanese authority and considering that World War II intervened causing much disruption in lives and the existence and maintenance of the documents," the complaint said.

Ilal and Okaruru said the State Secretary and the US could not demand documentation that "does not exist."

The government's demand for the requirement, Ilal and Okaruru added, infringed on their right to travel and deprived them of their "Constitutional rights in derogation (belittling) of the law."

They said they had suffered and would continue to suffer "irreparable injury from the government's action," including the right to freedom of travel and association.

They asked the court to declare a judgment recognizing them as US citizens entitled to US passports.

They also asked the court to enjoin the defendants from "denying prompt issuance of (their) passports."

## CRM readies permit for IOTA's galleon salvage bid



Pedro Q. Dela Cruz

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff

THE Coastal Resources Management board yesterday made known its willingness to approve the proposed archeological excavation of the Spanish galleon *Santa Margarita*, which sank off the coast of Rota in 1601.

IOTA Partners, Inc., which applied to undertake the salvage project, submitted its permit application package to the CRM last Jan. 16 yet.

"We have to dispose of this project," said Commerce Secretary Pedro Q. Dela Cruz, a member of the CRM board during yesterday's board meeting, as he moved for the approval of the excavation project.

Other members expressed no objection. John Gourley, IOTA environmental consultant, said he believed the project was approved in principle, and that the signing of the permit is only a matter of time.

The project's initial documentation had been completed, he told the Variety.

He also said they would know whatever additional requirements they are to submit after the permit is signed.

The cost of the excavation project is estimated at \$1 million. The commercial value of the finding has not been determined yet. An appraisal committee composed of a representative from IOTA and another one from the CNMI government will be created for the purpose of finding out the value of the historical find.

According to IOTA, special equipment and procedures would be used to preserve the condition of the recovered artifacts, considering their historical and monetary value.

"Standardized archeological mapping and excavation procedures would be utilized during all phases of the salvage operation," the IOTA Environmental Protection Plan submitted to the CRM stated.

It added that a separate archeological plan addressing the technical aspect of salvage operations and artifact conservation procedures was being developed. This would be approved by the Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, a federal agency.

*Santa Margarita* was one of two ships that left the Philippines in July 1600 and met strong storms in the western Pacific.

It was badly battered and floundered aimlessly for nearly eight months until it reached the island of Zarpapa (Rota) in February 1601, according to an account in the book *Fray Juan Pobre in the Marianas 1602* by Driver (1993).

## E.O. 96-1 dies after House votes to reject

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio's latest executive order reorganizing the CNMI government is now history.

The House of Representatives meeting in session yesterday approved Senate Joint Resolution 10-3 to effectively prevent Executive Order 96-1 from being implemented as CNMI law.

The House's adoption of the joint resolution was the remaining action needed to quell effectivity of the EO, in as much as the Senate has already rejected the order.

In a session Monday, seven senators out of eight present voted in favor of SJR 10-3. Had the House rejection failed, the EO's effectivity would have pushed through.

Under the Constitution, an executive order becomes law 60 days after submission to the Legislature unless modified, or disapproved by both houses through simple majority votes.

EO 96-1, submitted by Tenorio last January 17, seeks to fine-tune the governor's previous reorganization order, EO 94-3, to further promote the efficient administration of our government.

Specifically, the EO would have provided for the following:

- Restoration of certain authority to the Civil Service Commission.
- Regularization of existing excepted service employment.
- Provision of safeguards and limita-

tions for future excepted service contracts.

-Removal of the Secretary of Finance and the Special Assistant for Management and Budget from the CJC Board of Directors.

-Restoration of the Board of Professional Licensing and the Historical Preservation Review Board to their previous status.

-Fishing in the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone will be subject to law, rather than a 1981 executive order.

-Administration of the government health and life insurance programs to rest with the Retirement Fund.

The rejection of the EO was seen coming in as much as lawmakers be-

lieve some of its provisions conflicted with constitutional mandates.

"Many provisions of EO 96-1 exceed the scope of the governor's constitutional reorganization powers," the resolution read.

"The Legislature further finds that those provisions of EO 96-1 with which the Legislature agrees would be better accomplished by legislation," it added.

In a related development, three pieces of legislation were introduced during yesterday's House session to enact acceptable provisions of the rejected EO.

House Bill 10-178, authored by Rep. Oscar M. Babauta seeks to bring back administration of the

CNMI scholarship program to the Northern Marianas College from the Governor's Office; Personnel Management Office under the Civil Service Commission; and the Historic Preservation Office back to the Department of Cultural and Community Affairs, among other provisions.

Another measure, House Bill 10-179 transfers administration of the Government Health and Life Insurance Programs to the NMI Retirement Fund. House Bill 10-180 also amends the law to allow for the administration of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. by the Commonwealth Development Authority.

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



GI KONSIDERASION areglamenton lai para i publiko, sumen impottante gi patten lehislatura na u estudiaye ginen fakto na paketen infotmacion hafa man tineteka kosake siña manmamatinas antao na disision gi hechuran proposition lai.

I rason na sumen presiso este na inestudia yan inadahe i pot para un suheta dañosa siha na asunto gi publiko yangin u efektibo ennao na areglamenton linahyan.

I lehislatura ha appruueba mafotman i Wage & Salary Review Board pot para u estudiaye ya una' halom hafa sinedaña yan rekomendasionña pot i presente na dibate gi bandan sueddo. Debi i lehislatura de u nañga ennao na ripot antes de u famatinas disision sa' gaige gi halom ennao na dokumento kanaha' todo infotmacion ni ha neseseita antes de u famatinas fitme na disision.

Komplikao yan sentido i asunto rason na hagode todo patte gi ekonomian yan linala' taotao Marianas. Estague' na rason na debi u guaha mas inadahe gi konsiderasion sisteman sueddo. Ti propio na pot guaha sumañgan na u mahatsa i sueddo na ensegidas para ta embrasa ennao na ginagao. Mauleg na intension lao faisen maisa hao kao siña i sisteman ekonomia ha sustene ennao na subrida.

Kanaha todos mañgonfotme na mauleg u guaha subridan sueddo. Lao ni uno tumuñgo hafa i propio na figura gi este na diniseha. Estague' na rason na debi i lehislatura u nañga nina' halom i WSRB 'nai gaige propio siha na infotmacion kosake u guaha antao yan responsable na disision gi fina' proposition lai pot sueddo.

Sige de hu espaha hafa na besis 'nai mauudai i trenta sentimos na subrida gi sakan. Ni uno tumuñgo ginen mano mage ennao na figura. Mas konfotmeyo' na buente ma hala ha' ennao na kantida ginen un tuhoñg ya makonfitma komo propio para subrida. Lao tai pisu na figura ayo mina' mas gaddon i presente na dibate pot sueddo.

Hu agradese i sichuasion kada membron i lehislatura ni hineheño nu este na asunto piot ginen i administrasion yan Congresson Estados Unidos. Hu diseseha mohon na este na asunto u madeside gi hilo' nina' siñan ekonomian Marianas osino hita ha' manmasapet i nuebo na lai pot sueddo mas ke hafa siña sinestene nu i ekonomia.

Sumen bonito na mensahe i guaha hatsadan sueddo. Lao hafa baliña ennao na hatsada yangin gi ultimo besis ha huchom pettan memegaña na industria guine sa' esta ti ha lañga i nuebo na gaston sueddon empleaño? Dispues, ni uno bumibisis pot para u faliñgo ganansia. Yangin puro ha' maliñgo dumikta pottamonedan bisnesmo, naturat na siempre un huchom pettan bisnesmo petmanente.

I mahuchom 'nos kuantos na industria suffisiente para una' litiko rinikohen kontribusion tax. Este na chetnot siempre u mamta' publikamente gi hechuran taya' finkas yan chochu' para i taotota. Estague' na rason na debi u guaha dispasio yan estudio na disision ginen i manmamatinas areglamenton publiko pot sueddo.

I mapleneneha na sueddo industria (Industry Wage) i mas aseguro na chalan 'nai siempre u maestablese sueddo gi todo kategorian chochu' ya gi mismo tiempo hana' fan safu todos industria guine. Yangin hilo imbidio na para u madiside este na asunto, añogho na lamegai na industria siempre u fan silensio halom ofisinan niha sa' ha huchom pettan niha petmanente.

Hahaso ha' na gigon machom pettan 'nos kuantos industria guine, hita siempre u mapagaye todo i maliñgon kontribusion tax ya dañgkulo dinidaho na mas apas tax ginen i betsata i propio na satbasion. Esta ha makat i kinalamten memegaña gi taotota. Taya presiso na u guaha minasapet yangin man matachoñg i lehislatura ya ha estudiaye fakto na infotmacion ginen i mananañga na ripot ginen i Wage & Salary Review Board.

Dispues klaro na gi kada guaha dibaten finkas sa' mas mumenos i rinikohen kontribusion tax gi sakan, ensegidas man ensinayao hit para ta kubre ennao na chinatsaga ginen otro klasen industria. Kontodo dibaten casino gambling mafato publikamente ya sige hit man argumento na siña este na industria ha saba i gueko na fondon pottamonedan Marianas. Hu komprende ha' lokue i mientras sige ta adbansa bintahaña este na industria, memegaña gi entre hita ti mañgontento rason na guaha mas tintaña este na asunto fuera ke salape.

Afanielos, hafa binabaña i para ta adelanta hafa guinahata pago pot para ta satba i hinemlo' ekonomian tano'ta? Soyu' i representanten yan senadot miyo na u masuppota i mapropopone na Industry Wage kosake tafan sige mona sumatba pareho sustansiao siha na asuntun linahyan. Si Yuus Maase yan Ghiliso!



JACK ANDERSON and MICHAEL BINSTEIN  
**WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND**

## Is Customs Service obstructing justice?

WASHINGTON — U.S. authorities think they've struck gold with their capture of Juan Garcia-Abrego, the first drug trafficker to make the FBI's 10 Most Wanted List.

These officials are hoping that the kingpin who ran a \$10 billion drug empire will help crack dozens of other criminal cases in the United States, and help show complicity by some Mexican government officials.

But Abrego's revelations may also embarrass an American agency on the front-lines of the drug war: the U.S. Customs Service. As we reported last March, the Customs Service has allegedly derailed both state and federal efforts to prosecute a former U.S. official who has been accused of having links to cocaine smugglers working for Abrego.

The official in question is former Col. Richard Brito who once headed the National Guard's drug interdiction program in Texas. Brito had been under indictment for perjury since 1992. But the charge was recently dropped by a judge because the case had still not gone to trial. The local district attorney Tuck McLain, has appealed the ruling.

"Since Abrego may be talking now, I hope it will provide fodder for my cannon," McLain told us.

Last year McLain's predecessor—David Barron—told us his case against Brito had been stymied by Customs officials. Barron accused Customs of launching a smear campaign to discredit and fire his chief witness, Customs agent Kevin Cleary, in order to prevent him from assisting in the case.

According to Cleary's attorney, Kent Schaeffer, Customs officials are worried that they might have gone too far to harass Cleary and to protect Brito from prosecution. Documents we've obtained, along with evidence gathered by a congressional subcommittee, support Schaeffer's view.

The Customs probe of Brito began in 1989, when he was running the National Guard's drug interdiction program in Texas, which gave him unlimited access to classified information. Cleary became the lead agent in an investigation designed to find out if Brito was helping his two younger brothers, Billy and Mario Brito, who had been implicated in a 1987 cocaine smug-

gling operation. Cleary gathered evidence indicating that the two younger Britos had discussed drug protection they received from a brother in the military and influence they had with customs officials along the Mexican border.

Cleary also learned that Billy and Mario often dined with Abrego, and helped develop his security system. The two brothers were eventually indicted on state drug charges. One brother was convicted and fled to Mexico, the other fled before his state trial began. In 1991, Billy and Mario were both named as co-defendants with Abrego in a federal drug indictment.

But Cleary's efforts to target Brito were met with hostility from Customs officials. Sources say Cleary was constantly harassed, denied promotions and detailed to other duties. Federal prosecutors in south Texas, however, basically corroborated Cleary by writing two draft indictments charging Brito with perjury and obstruction of justice in connection with his brothers' cases.

The U.S. Attorney in Houston declined to prosecute Brito in February 1992, but interference from Customs may have played a role in that decision. While a former prosecutor involved in the decision says the indictment was "too vague" to be proven, congressional investigators have questioned why customs officials strongly urged Houston prosecutors to decline the case.

In September 1992, Barron charged Brito with perjury stemming from testimony he gave at the state drug trial of one of his brothers. In 1994, a special military panel weighed in with a report concluding that Brito was involved in drug smuggling activity with his brothers.

But as Barron prepared to bring his perjury case to trial that year, Customs officials repeatedly blocked requests for Cleary's assistance in the case. Finally, in August 1994, Customs told Cleary he was being fired.

Brito's attorney, Charles Cate, has said his client was unfairly hounded by Barron and Cleary. Cate said Brito "didn't know anything about 'his brothers' drug activities, and called the military report "completely erroneous.

## • Feature Embarrassed about reading?

The following is the first of a two-part series contributed by Mr. Pellegrino for Variety readers. - Ed.

By Anthony Pellegrino  
Education Committee  
Chamber of Commerce

AS YOU sit back and read this article you probably do not realize the valuable skill and special ability you are exercising. The ability to read is taken for granted by many of us. We seldom think about the important role it has in our lives. Think for a moment if you were not able to read. Would you have the current position you have? Would your life be easier? Would you get promotions? Would you be as knowledgeable in current affairs?

John worked for me several years. He knew all aspects of the business, was well liked and could be trusted. So when my manager left one day, I decided to promote John into the managerial position. With the promotion came an increase in salary. All went well for about a week. Then John started to complain that his fellow employees wouldn't listen to him. He began to come in late. Almost to the month John quit without an explanation.

I learned later that John abruptly resigned because his literacy level was very low. As long as he didn't have to read reports or write memos, he was fairly secure. But when he became manager his low reading and writing comprehension were exposed. The other employees quickly noticed that and ridiculed him until he left out of frustration. I lost a trusted and value employee and John is somewhere working today perhaps not realizing his deficiency in reading.

Sarah was eighteen when she graduated from high school. Instead of going to college she chose to enter a company as a clerk. After remaining in the same position for about three years, she noticed that a friend of hers who had recently entered the company was promoted above her in less than three months. When she asked for an explanation from her supervisor, she was told that her literacy level was too low to promote her to a more responsible position.

Both employees had the same problem. They could not read well. They spoke fairly well but when they had to read their confidence fell apart. Adult literacy is more wide spread than most of us realize. To tell someone that he is a poor or slow reader is perhaps one of the most serious insults we can give. Also the poor reader is never more embarrassed than when he is asked to read aloud.

Reading is the gateway to success in life. I personally feel that there is no other quicker vehicle to success in life than the ability to handle the written word well. Unless we are able to read well the world will pass us by, not only in our work place but in our personal life as well. We are besieged with a plethora of reading material daily. Unless we are able to cope with it we will fail in our endeavors.

Recently I came across a startling headline in a Los Angeles newspaper that blared out: "Learn to Read, Stay Out of Jail-Failed Teaching Methods Help Breed Criminals" written by Matthew Robinson of the

Investor's Business Daily newspaper. I want to share some of the revealing facts about reading that Mr. Robinson brought out. Hopefully it will help us realize that we are faced with a similar problem. Also hopefully we will begin to do something to solve the problem thereby helping our community to a more successful life.

The National Adult Literacy Survey in 1993 found that nearly half of America's adults are poor readers, or "functionally illiterate." They can't carry out simple tasks like balancing checkbooks, reading drug labels or writing essays for a job.

Another study by the United States Justice Department in 1993 revealed that 21 million American can't read at all, 45 million are marginally illiterate and one-fifth of high school graduates can't read their diplomas.

While in school some of us somehow struggle through our courses and somehow manage to receive our diploma, and that ends the problem of poor reading because we do not have to read anymore. Others develop a lifetime love of reading and strive constantly to improve it. But as cited above huge numbers of people remain mentally handicapped throughout their lives. But it doesn't have to be that way. Learning is a lifelong endeavor.

Look at more alarming statistics in the US gathered by the Washington Literacy Council concerning the inability to read well; more than three out of four of those on welfare, 85% of unwed mothers and 68% of those arrested are illiterate.

Functionally illiterate adults cost \$224 billion a year in welfare, crime, job incompetence, lost taxes and remedial education. Three-fourths of the nation's biggest 500 firms provide some level of remedial training for their workers. That costs about \$300 million a year and affects eight million workers. An estimated \$5 billion a year in taxes goes to support people on unemployment who can't find work due to illiteracy.

Government and academic data show that illiteracy is a big part of delinquency. About three in five of American's prison inmates are illiterate. Experts agree that literacy breeds frustrations, which often leads to a life of crime. Michael Brunner, an educator specialist and who conducted the Justice Department study, has compiled several studies that link reading failure and delinquency based on visiting 10 juvenile facilities in six states.

Are we experiencing the same problems in the US? Is there a correlation between delinquency and literacy? Is their a similar frustration faced by a resident when he goes for a job interview is often rejected? Could low reading ability be one of the reasons why resident workers are so often not hired or if they are hired are placed in menial jobs? Are the schools spending sufficient time teaching students to read? Are the slower readers given extra help? Do we have programs to help slower adult readers to improve themselves? Will our society benefit if we help the illiterate or functionally illiterate adults?

To be continued

# NMI end of cable not of Guam's concern-Tenorio

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

IT IS up to GST Telecom, Inc., the company seeking to do the CNMI's planned fiber optic cable project, to negotiate with the Guam government with regards to the Guam end of the landing cable.

This was from Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio who yesterday maintained his position that the Guam government has no right to delve into the CNMI end of the said project.

In a press conference yesterday hours before his meeting with Guam Gov. Carl Gutierrez, Tenorio was adamant that it would be unruly for Guam to try to influence or hinder CNMI negotiations with GST.

"I am just going to tell him (Gutierrez) that they must stay out of our domestic affairs. Basically, the project we negotiated with GST is for the benefit of the CNMI. Frankly, I don't want anybody from the outside telling us what's good for us," said Tenorio told island media.

The CNMI government, which has recently signed a submerged land lease agreement with GST on the cable installation, is seeking legislative and federal approval for the endeavor.

But before such approval could be secured, Guam Telephone Authority filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission objecting to the project, an action that irritated Tenorio.

After learning of GTA's



Froilan C. Tenorio

move, Tenorio stopped all cooperation efforts with Guam. It was a move that got harsh reactions from Guam officials.

The submarine cable work, which is deemed necessary for state-of-the-art yet less expensive telecommunications services in the CNMI, was given to GST with the understanding that other carriers will be able to lease the telecommunications circuits once they become functional.

Gutierrez came in yesterday afternoon to meet with Tenorio on the project in an apparent gesture seeking to end the word war that has ensued between the two island neighbors.

The meeting between the two governors was ongoing as of press time.

Meanwhile, during yesterday's press conference, Tenorio disclosed an offer made by GST to Guam for the right to land the proposed cable on the territory.

The offer, extended by GST director of operations Jack Lewis, proposes a one-time landing fee of \$200,000 and a \$12,000 annual lease payment for the required easements, rights of way and access to Guam's Tanguisson international cable station complex.

Commenting on the GST offer, Tenorio said it is but right for GST to negotiate with the territory for the Guam end of their project.

"I don't care who they are negotiating with over there. The submerged lands lease that we signed was only for our submerged lands which ends midway between Rota and Guam," said the governor.

According to Tenorio, instead of going straight to FCC, GTA should have worked out the fee offer and other concerns with GST.

"If Guam does not like it, they should negotiate with GST. I don't know whether GST should be negotiating with the government of Guam or the federal government as far as submerged lands are concerned.

"The fact is, we have nothing to say about the Guam end of this cable. I have nothing to say about it. If the government does not like the lease and if they have a voice as far as the other end of the cable, then they should negotiate with GST to amend their lease with us and we will listen," said the chief executive.

As to complaints that the cable will through military-owned property on Guam, Tenorio said that is GST and Guam's business.

# HUNGRY?

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# Tinian council seeks US DOT support

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff  
THE MUNICIPAL Council of Tinian is seeking the US Department of Transportation's support for the airport improvement project in the island.

West Tinian Airport's runway. The money for the airport project is being requested from the Federal Aviation Administration. Through a resolution passed last week, the local municipal council urged the transportation department to support the CPA's fund request.

The CPA's project, according to the Council, is designed to make the West Tinian Airport an international facility and a major port of entry. The ultimate objective of the improvement project is to "encourage investors to establish businesses on

Tinian," and "to meet the changing need of our expanding visitor industry." The establishment of casino gambling on Tinian is expected to attract tourists to the island.

"The projected increase in tourism activities, especially the Japanese market will place greater demands upon airport services and facilities for both current and future operations," the Council said.

## MPLC . . .

Continued from page 1

Concepcion a total of \$654,286 in damages, plus interest.

O'Roarty said Demapan, a comptroller for MPLC, made unauthorized charges that were credited to personal travel but unsupported with receipts.

Demapan received per diem at a higher rate than properly authorized by the MPLC Board, resulting in \$4,321 damages.

The prosecutor said Demapan did not have formal training or experience in real estate appraisal prior to his employment as a comptroller.

While he served as a comptroller, O'Roarty said Demapan attended numerous seminars in the United States and Canada for real estate appraisers which were beyond his duties.

He received salary and compensation for expenses for these seminars, per diem and transportation costs.

After attending real estate seminar in Florida, Demapan secured a contract with MPLC to act as reviewer of real estate appraisals for one year at \$123,000 or almost four times his annual comptroller salary of \$38,000.

Three days after his formal resignation, Demapan signed his contract to review real estate appraisals

for \$123,000. In July 1993, he received \$24,000 for just signing the contract, said the complainant.

During the eight months between July 1993 and February 1994, O'Roarty said Demapan received more than \$91,500 from MPLC.

As a real estate appraisal reviewer, the defendant received excess compensation for work not provided in the contract.

By not performing according to the terms of his contract, he caused the government to suffer \$84,000 in damages, the prosecutor pointed out.

The Attorney General's Office demanded \$652,516 in damages, plus interest from Demapan.

Meanwhile, O'Roarty said Dela Cruz, former Tinian Representative to the Board of Directors, used credit card issued to him to pay for unauthorized personal expenses and did not submit documentation to support his expenditures.

Dela Cruz charged travel expenses for trips on which he also received per diem, causing \$24,823 damages.

The AG sought \$328,698 payment from Dela Cruz.

## Governors . . .

Continued from page 1  
property and we want to make sure that the coming into Guam through federal properties does not include Guam in any interaction."

Tenorio said Guam's uncertainty about its jurisdiction over several lands around the island also posed a problem.

"I always think that Guam has control over their waters and with that, all they have to do tell GST 'we won't allow you to come to Guam unless you go back to the CNMI and remove the three-year moratorium provision,'" Tenorio said.

Another condition set by Gutierrez for the withdrawal of GTA's complaint is the GST's adherence to certain provisions of the newly signed Telecommunication Act.

As soon as the condition is met, Gutierrez said GST would be allowed to continue with their laying of the cable.

Guam invoked the Act in opposing the exclusivity clause stipulated by GST in the lease agreement.

But Tenorio said he believes the exclusivity clause is not an issue under the new law.

"I don't agree with their position. The exclusivity clause is not an issue in the Telecom Act but he (Gutierrez) insists that this is an issue," Tenorio said.

The governors hope to settle the issue outside the Federal Communication Commission.

## Marshalls . . .

Continued from page 1  
said Muller," it is a conflict of interest for the Department of Energy to provide the Marshall Islands government and citizens with its assessment of who is and is not adversely affected by radiation.

"Obviously, it is in the best interest of DOE to maintain that the smallest number possible are affected by radiation."

The Marshall Islands has made repeated attempts to gain access to medical records of Marshallese patients treated in the U.S., but U.S. government laboratories have not turned them over, Muller said. "The Marshall Islands government has also been denied access to entire collections of DOE documents, despite that fact that many of these documents are unclassified."

Muller said that the Marshall Islands supports an independent review of U.S. scientific data by the National Academy of Sciences and asked the committee to "instruct the DOE to fund an independent review of all DOE, and DOE contractor reports, studies and medical records pertaining to the Marshall Islands."

Muller also asked the Senate committee to develop legislation to expand medical care and treatment programs for all Marshall Islanders exposed to U.S. nuclear testing, not just the four populations that the DOE claims were affected. Currently, the U.S. funds a medical program limited to Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap and Utrik. "Ailuk, Likiep, wotho and other atolls have lingering medical problems associated with radiation exposure that must be addressed," he said.

Muller highlighted Ailuk, a northern Marshall Island about 300 miles downwind of Bikini, as an example of the failure of the U.S. government to respond to medical needs. "The people of Ailuk Atoll were exposed to dangerous levels of radiation from the Bravo Test (in 1954)," he said. "Their exposure warranted immediate evacuation, yet the U.S. government purposefully decided not to evacuate the atoll because of its large population of 401 people. No attempt has ever been made by the U.S. government to address the medical needs of the Ailuk community which was exposed, never evacuated, and left to live, reproduce and subsist in a radioactive environment."

The Marshalls foreign minister said that there are "numerous questions pertaining to human radiation experiments in the Marshall Islands which remain

unanswered by the U.S. government."

U.S. government scientists used Marshall Islanders in "tritium water and chromium-51 injection experiments" but "we still do not know how many people, or who the individuals from Rongelap and Enewetak are," Muller said.

Officials U.S. government documents indicate that Marshallese were used in both thyroid and genetic experiments at Cleveland General Hospital and Case Western University, Muller said.

Other possible experimentation involving Marshall Islanders includes radiation inhalation and bone marrow transplants "which need to be investigated," Muller said.

"Marshallese subjects were sent to universities and laboratories throughout the United States for undisclosed medical procedures," Muller said.

"They were subjected to these procedures at the exact same time when the Atomic Energy Commission was at the peak of its human radiation experiments, at exactly the same facilities which experimentation is now confirmed to have taken place."

Muller listed 12 U.S. government laboratories and hospitals, and several university hospitals including Walter Reed Army Hospital, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to which Marshall Islanders were sent by the Atomic Energy Commission medical program during the 1950s and 1960s.

"Because translators and medical records were almost never made available, the Marshall Islands government needs Congress assistance in finding out exactly what procedures Marshallese people were subjected to in these facilities," Muller said.

"I can think of no logical reason for dispersing Marshallese subjects to so many different U.S. facilities, unless it was to participate in each institutions' experimentation projects," Muller said. The Marshall Islanders are "weary of being radiation victims," Muller said. The nation wants to become self-reliant. But this goal cannot be achieved "if we are constantly relying on DOE for our care, analysis of well-being, and access to only the information DOE wants to give us."

The Marshall Islands wants to address "all illnesses associated with radiation exposure, such as reproductive problems, cataracts, and liver disease, and not simply the illnesses DOE narrowly focuses on, such as thyroid disease."

## Public . . .

Continued from page 1

As soon as the MTC—or other companies for that matter—cut off the line service, the owners would apply for another line, assuming different names and different addresses.

They would start the "business" all over again.

Campbell would not identify the Chinese men involved in the scam, but he said he could identify the cars they are using.

Campbell said he had tried to call the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the case but the agency ignored it.

"An FBI agent told me that MTC has the technology to protect its business from this kind of problem and that if they (MTC authorities) don't use it, then that's their problem," Campbell said.

In February last year, four Chinese men were charged before the Superior Court in connection with the "cellular phone scam."

MTC, meanwhile, sought the public's cooperation.

"Anyone who is approached by individuals offering such service is advised to ask for their name, address and phone number as well as the name, address and the phone number of the company they work for," MTC said.

"If foul play is suspected, contact MTC at 234-1036 or the FBI at 234-9934."

# L&T files motion for contempt



David G. Banes

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. has filed again its motion to hold lawyers Theodore R. Mitchell and Jeanne H. Rayphand and Rep. Stanley T. Torres in contempt for allegedly violating the Superior Court's disqualification order.

David G. Banes, counsel for L&T, said Mitchell and plaintiffs Rayphand and Torres were given six opportunities for Mitchell to

stop acting as counsel "behind the scenes."

Instead, Banes pointed out, Mitchell and plaintiffs acknowledged the possibility of contempt, challenging L&T to seek such an order from the court.

"In order to maintain order and preserve the dignity of this court, plaintiffs and Mitchell should be held in contempt of court," said the L&T counsel.

The Superior Court issued a ruling on Jan. 25 disqualifying Mitchell as counsel for plaintiffs in the taxpayer's lawsuit for conflict of interests.

Banes said the order was clear that Mitchell cannot act as plaintiffs "behind the scenes" attorney.

Despite repeated warnings, Banes claimed, Mitchell has persisted even in issuing press releases showing his continued involvement the day after his disqualification.

Last March 1, L&T, through counsel Steven P. Pixley, asked the court to adjudge Mitchell in contempt for violating court's order.

Five days later, L&T withdrew the motion with no reasons indicated in the notice.

Reacting to the withdrawal, Mitchell said: "L&T chickened out."

Torres and Rayphand, through Mitchell, sued the government and L&T questioning the lease of land which

is located across Navy Hill Road where L&T is planning to build the Pacific Mall.

Meanwhile, Associate Judge Edward Manibusan denied Mitchell's motion to represent Rayphand and Torres against a move by three taxpayers to intervene into the case.

Manibusan said plaintiffs

have had since Jan. 25 to obtain a substitute counsel, but did not make effort to do so.

"Instead, plaintiffs have attempted to chip away at the court's unconditional order disqualifying Mitchell by repeatedly petitioning for leave to have Mitchell represent them," Manibusan said.

## Spent shells at crime scene came from 'washed' rifle

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE SPENT shells recovered at the crime scene during the June 10 San Roque shooting came from the same gun which was cleaned up at the Obyan Beach.

This developed as ballistic results from Guam Police Crime Laboratory were disclosed to the jury yesterday at the ongoing trial for murder suspect Alvin A. Camacho in the Superior Court.

John Tyquingco, Guam Police firearms identification examiner, explained that through comparisons in the microscope it showed consistencies that the shells came from the 22-cal. semi-automatic rifle.

Tyquingco said the gun was in good condition and clean when it was forwarded to him by Saipan police for test.

The "gun expert" claimed that the rifle was capable of firing a cartridge when he conducted a function test.

Alvin Adriano, son of a police official, testified Tuesday that he

and Camacho went to the beach a day after the shooting to clean up the rifle.

The purpose of cleaning was to make it appear that the gun was not used or fired.

Paul T. Ogunoro, a former police officer who used to handle the murder case, said Adriano surrendered the gun to him on June 13.

The gun seems to be a key evidence for the defense as witnesses, including one victim wounded in the incident, identified Camacho as one who shot at the Tanapag group.

Camacho's lawyer, G. Anthony Long, earlier pointed out that his client did not fire a gun based on the results of gunshot residue test conducted by a crime laboratory in Texas.

The shooting killed Jeffrey A. Omar and left three others wounded.

Camacho was charged with murder in the second degree, three counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, and illegal possession of a firearm.

## 2 men arrested in motel fight

TWO men were arrested during a fight at Joy Motel in Garapan Tuesday night.

Arrested for assault and battery were Chon Ho Shin, and Young Choi Jin, both 56-years old.

Shin allegedly punched a 31-year-old man while Jin assaulted two persons, including a woman.

No other details were given in the report.

In Garapan, an unidentified person broke into a diving shop and took two wallets belonging to three men Tuesday afternoon.

The wallets contained \$1,140 cash and 5,000 yen.

Meanwhile, the Attorney General's Office filed criminal charges against a man who beat two persons last Dec. 3.

John Reyes Castro was charged with two counts of assault and battery before the Superior Court.

The court summoned Castro to appear for a hearing set on April 1.

Court information showed that the defendant assaulted Daniel Charles Aregis and Dahlia Palma Aregis. (FDI)

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# F. Polynesia to return 5 seized ships

By CHRISTOPHE MARQUAND  
PAPEETE, Tahiti (AP) - French Polynesian authorities this week will return five Greenpeace ships seized last fall in high-seas protests of France's nuclear testing program.

The international environmental group had demanded the return of the five vessels. They were boarded and confiscated by authorities after the ships strayed too close to France's underground nuclear test sites in the South Pacific.

Authorities said they would hand over three impounded vessels on Wednesday - the Vega, the Manutea and the Ribaude - and would return the Rainbow Warrior II and the MV Greenpeace next week.

Twelve Greenpeace crew members, Greenpeace legal representatives and a surveyor will leave Tahiti on Wednesday for Mururoa Atoll to collect the three yachts.

French authorities agreed only

Tuesday to the presence of a Greenpeace-nominated surveyor, who will assess the safety of the yachts, after many months of negotiations by Greenpeace.

The three boats will head for Papeete for further assessment of their condition before Vega and the Ribaude head to New Zealand and Manutea to the United States.

Crews for the MV Greenpeace and Rainbow Warrior II will fly to Hao atoll next week. Their destinations will be decided once their seaworthiness has been assessed.

The French navy had heavily patrolled the waters around its two underground test sites on Mururoa and Fangataufa Atolls, about 1,200 kilometers (750 miles) southeast of Tahiti.

Navy commandos boarded and seized the ships after they entered the 20-kilometer (12.5-mile) exclusion zone around both atolls.

Greenpeace staged a colorful

"peace flotilla" last fall aimed at pressuring France to cancel up to eight nuclear blasts. On Jan. 29, the French government announced an early end to the program, two days after its sixth and most powerful test.

Greenpeace and the nations of the South Pacific had lashed out at France

for the blasts, which broke a 2 1/2-year international moratorium on nuclear testing.

France contended the tests were needed to check its nuclear arsenal and develop computer simulation that will make actual detonations unnecessary in the future.

President Jacques Chirac has said France never again will test nuclear weapons and will be among the first nations sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty later this year.

## Aussie fake notes alert

AUSTRALIAN Federal Police are warning that counterfeit Australian notes could be circulating the Pacific Islands. An Australian Federal agent is in the Cook Islands as part of a Pacific alert that will take him to 15 regional countries, RNZI reports.

Officer John Murray says the islands aren't used to dealing with forged currency and it isn't the island way to be suspicious or cause offence. Counterfeit 100-dollar notes have surfaced in Fiji and Vanuatu. About 400-thousand dollars in fake notes have been discovered in Australia between October last year and January this year....Pacnews

## Swordfish spears Fiji man to death

A FIJIAN man bled to death after he was speared in the face by what police believe was a charging swordfish. The man's left cheek was pierced in the freak incident on the Gau coast, the Daily Post reports.

18 year old Meli Kalakala of Nukuloa village in Gau, was found by a cousin, unconscious and bleeding profusely. He died soon after the incident at the weekend. The fish, a

Long Tommy or Saku - escaped.

Grahame Southwick, managing director of the Fiji Fish Company, says it is common for saku to jump at boat lights. He says they are only a metre long and weigh around three to four kilograms. But their sharp bills are usually six to eight inches long.

He says with their combined size, weight and speed, saku are capable of inflicting injury....Pacnews

## Okay sought for fighters

PAPUA New Guinea's police minister, Castan Maibawa, is to seek cabinet approval to empower resistance fighters on Bougainville to help security forces quell the recent rebel uprising, NBC reports. The minister has already received a briefing on the number of pro-government resistance fighters on the island and is preparing the necessary papers for a special cabinet sitting to declare them special constables.

Mr. Maibawa's move comes following renewed clashes between rebels and PNG security forces, resulting in the death of a policeman and a soldier. He says he is totally disgusted to see that while the country is trying to restore peace on the strife-torn island, rebel elements are resisting these efforts....Pacnews

## Police alert on in Coroka

IN PAPUA New Guinea, Coroka police are on red alert to ensure problems do not arise over the Coffee Industry Corporation issue, NBC reports, Provincial Police Commander, Steven Touilly says officers have been assigned to patrol the town and the CIC office complex, and ensure the safety of corporation staff.

He says although the tension in town is easing as a result of the sacking of the corporation's Chief Executive officer, police will continue to closely monitor the situation. Police had expected problems when it was revealed that the corporation planned to pay out \$US18 million to the Western Highlands based company, Panga, in an out-of-court settlement....Pacnews

**Buckle-Up Saipan!**

# MP Lini vows to fight gov't injustice

VANUATU MP Hilda Lini says she will continue to fight against injustice in government, parliament and the Supreme Court in order to uphold the constitution. She made the statement following the government's decision to ban lawyer Roger De Robillard from returning to Vanuatu.

Mr. De Robillard was the lawyer for the former government of Serge Vohor, and represented it in the court case against the election of Maxime Carlot Korman as new prime minister. Ms. Lini, who was the leader of government business in the former

government, says it is obvious that the Korman government is depriving her, Serge Vohor and Walter Lini of their constitutional right to have a lawyer.

She says claims that Mr. De Robillard led a delegation into parliament house are without founda-

tion. As an eyewitness she says she is prepared to give evidence that Mr. De Robillard went to parliament only at the invitation of the acting speaker.

The Port Vila MP says his deportation confirms fears by local ex-

atriate lawyers about representing Vanuatu politicians. Ms. Lini believes the real reason behind the deportation is fear by Mr. Korman and his cabinet of the appeal against the court decision....Pacnews

## Lae chief pleads innocense to 12 corruption charges

IN Papua New Guinea, Lae City Authority chief and former Nawae MP Timothy Bonga, has pleaded not guilty

to 12 out of 16 corruption charges against him before a Leadership Tribunal, the Post-Courier reports. He pleaded

guilty to the facts, but not the legal consequences of the remaining charges.

Francis Kuvi, counsel for the State, says he will call 10 or 11 witnesses, including former prime ministers Paias Wingti and Rabbie Namaliu.

Mr Bonga entered the pleas after the tribunal rejected submissions from his counsel that all documents and witnesses' statements obtained by the Ombudsman Commission in relation to the allegations were privileged and therefore not available to the tribunal.

At least two of the charges relate directly to an aborted no-confidence motion in parliament in 1992. Mr Bonga is accused, together with others, of issuing a series of excessive and unreasonable demands to the government as compensation for loss of entitlements and benefits for voluntarily stepping down from their ministries....Pacnews

## Ex-Manus premier contests open seat

IN Papua New Guinea, the former premier of Manus, Steven Pokawin, is contesting the by-election for the Manus open seat, left vacant by the death of Martin Thompson last month. Mr. Pokawin says that's what the Manus people want, and that's what people in parliament also want: quality leadership at the national level, the Post-Courier reports.

Recently, Mr. Pokawin had been one of the premiers of New Guinea Islands provinces including Sinai Brown (East New Britain), Bernard

Vogae (West New Britain) and Samson Gila (New Ireland) who were branded as rebel premiers for bitterly opposing the reforms to the old provincial government system.

The four premiers vowed to continue working as a pressure group and, where possible, to also contest the 1997 national election. They were also involved in plans to break away from the rest of PNG to form a new country, to be known as the Federated Melanesian Republic. The plans were never implemented....Pacnews

## PNG nixes settlement

THE Papua New Guinea government has already taken steps to prevent the Coffee Industry Corporation from implementing a board decision to settle a 25-million kina (US\$18 million) damages claim out of court. The government has engaged the services of a private law firm to take up the case, the Post-Courier reports.

A police mobile squad has moved from Mt. Hagen to Goroka to help local police guard the CIC headquarters.

People have expressed anger at the CIC board decision to settle the dam-

ages claim by Panga Coffee out of court. Gurnine MP and leader of the League for National Advancement, John Nilkare, has called on prime minister Sir Julius Chan to intervene and set up a judicial inquiry into the CIC.

Members of the 2,000-strong Southern Highlands Smallholder Growers Association have backed calls by Wewak MP Bernard Narokobi for an investigation into the coffee industry. The association wants the board dissolved and CIC management suspended pending an investigation....Pacnews

## Gov't ban on foreign fish ships supported

TONGA'S former principal fisheries officer, Semisi Fakahau, believes the government's policy of banning all foreign vessels from fishing in Tongan waters is the best way to safeguard the country's fish resources, Radio Tonga reports. Semisi, who is fisheries specialist at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London, is being hired by the Tongan government to consult on the development of the Kingdom's fishing industry.

He will be in Tonga for 6 to 9 weeks, based at the Ministry of Fisheries office at Soppu. Semisi says the

country's tuna resources have yet to be tapped. Although there are 8 tuna fishing vessels operating in Tonga, he says the industry has more room to improve and develop.

Semisi also says the proposed privatization of pearl oyster farming is an excellent move towards better economic development.

He believes training of Ministry of Fisheries staff is of critical concern, because it must have skilled workers to adopt modern fishing technology and equipment....Pacnews

## Prison complex for 300

THE Solomon Islands government is to build two large cell blocks which can house over 300 prisoners at the Central Prison in Honiara. The complex will consist of a remand centre, a juvenile detention centre, an induction unit for convicted adults and three wings for short, medium and long term prisoners, RNZI reports.

The prison complex will cost US\$7 million, which has been raised from local sources. The government unsuccessfully sought funding from Australia, Japan, the Republic of China and Britain.

Police and national security minister, Victor Ngele says prisons are not popular with aid donors.

## PNG-Malaysia air pact

AN air services agreement between Papua New Guinea and Malaysia will be raised by the prime minister, Sir Julius Chan when he visits Malaysia early next month. The prime minister is tentatively expected to visit Malaysia in the first week of April, although an official confirmation of the trip is yet to be made, NBC reports.

Sir Julius has indicated discussions about the air services agreement will be on his agenda, as part of the

government's plans to develop PNG's tourism industry. PNG and Japan are also in the process of concluding an air services agreement following Sir Julius' visit there last month.

Other issues he will raise during his Malaysian trip include agricultural and forestry developments, Malaysia's primary industry minister, Dr. Lim Keng Yaik has indicated his government is willing to help PNG develop its rubber and oil palm projects....Pacnews

## PM Tofilau airlifted

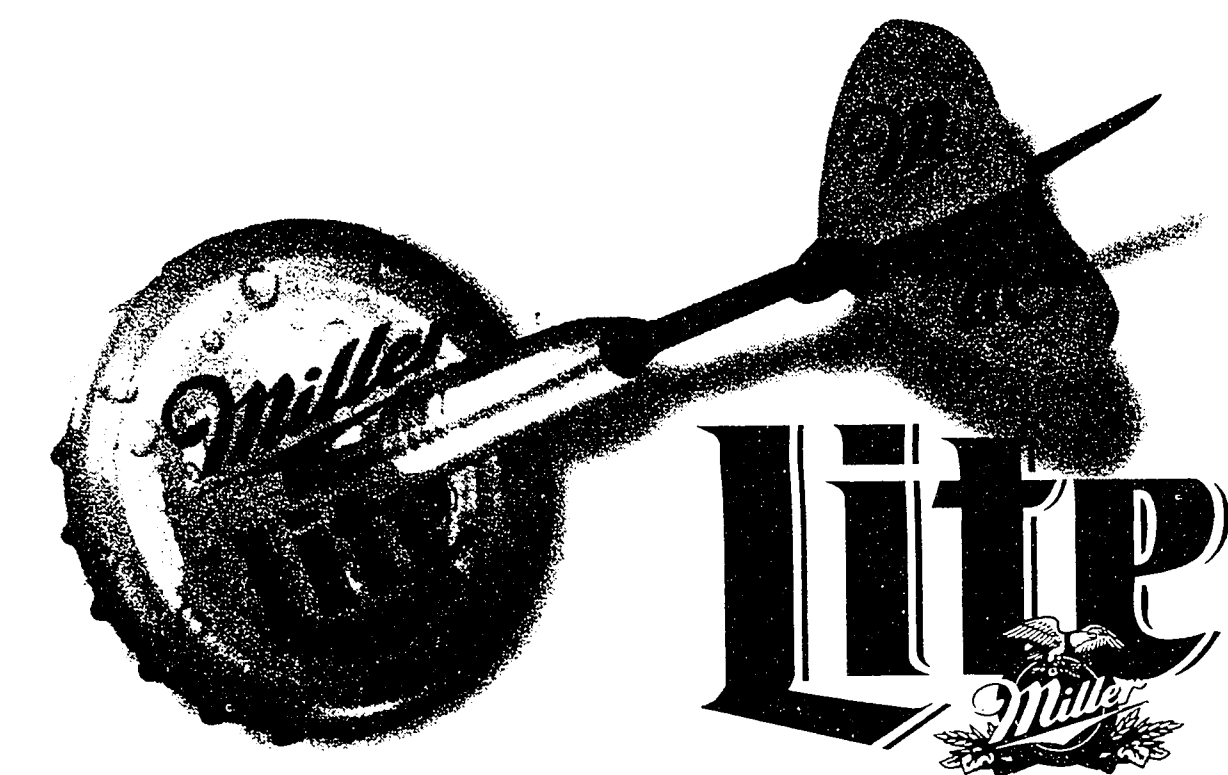
AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) - Western Samoa's Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana was flown to New Zealand on Wednesday morning for a medical checkup on his heart after suffering breathing difficulties.

The 71-year-old Tofilau is the oldest member of Western Samoa's Parliament, which has elections due late in April. This incident is bound to raise more questions about his





ability to hold office.

Tofilau takes regular medication for a heart problem since undergoing a quadruple bypass operation.

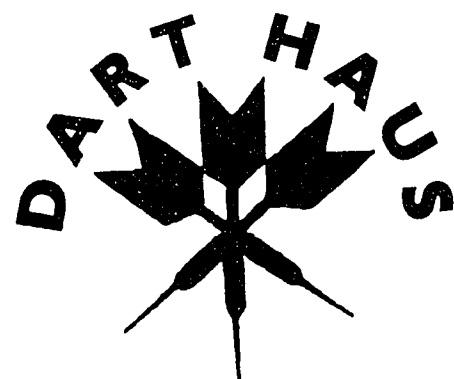
On Sunday, Tofilau was airlifted by helicopter to the National Hospital in Western Samoa from his home on Savai'i, and transferred to Auckland on Wednesday, New Zealand's Radio National and a National Hospital spokesman said.



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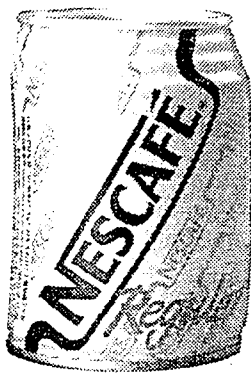
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# Dole wins Florida, eyes sweep

## Speculations start on choice for VP



Bob Dole

By JOHN KING  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Bob Dole won Florida and expected to sweep six other Republican primaries Tuesday to tighten his hold on the party's presidential nomination and allow him to turn full attention to President Clinton.

Speculation was also revving up on whom Dole would pick to run for vice president.

A voter survey showed the Senate majority leader handily defeating Steve Forbes and Pat Buchanan in Florida, the first of the "Super Tuesday" states to close its polls.

With 98 GOP delegates, Florida was one of the twin treasures in Tuesday's balloting, second only to Texas and its 123 delegates.

In addition, there were Republican primaries in Oklahoma, Mississippi, Louisiana,

Tennessee and Oregon, the sole non-Southern state on Tuesday's slate. Oregon's balloting was conducted by mail, with drop-off boxes set up for procrastinators who waited until Tuesday's deadline.

At stake in the seven primaries was the biggest single-day Republican delegate pool of the season, 362 in all.

Buchanan and Forbes both conceded Dole was in for a big day, but ignored fresh prodding from Republican leaders to clear the field.

"Even though some people say there's a certain candidate who has it all wrapped up, it's my belief that it's important to get the issues before the voters," flat-tax advocate Forbes said in Illinois, one of four heartland states with primaries next week.

"We are going to go all the way and do battle for the party," Buchanan said en route to Ohio, where he blamed Dole-backed global trade deals for lost industrial jobs.

Many Republicans already were bored with the seeming inevitability of Dole's nomination and had moved on to debating whom Dole should pick as a running mate.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, for example, said retired Gen. Colin Powell was a top prospect, ignoring protests from Buchanan because Powell

supports abortion rights. Gingrich also cited Michigan Gov. John Engler and California Attorney General Dan Lungren as "perfect examples of the kind of people who I think would be terrific."

Dole said it was too early for such speculation. As for his Republican rivals, Dole hoped that his edge would be so lopsided by Wednesday that they would think anew about quitting.

Dole began with 392 and was aiming to end the day with nearly three-quarters of the 996 delegates needed to clinch nomination. Forbes had 73 and Buchanan 62 to start the day.

Common to the electorate in all seven states voting Tuesday was a jaundiced view of the federal government. Asked how often they trusted Washington to do what's right, only a fifth of Republican voters said "most of the time." Six in 10 said "sometimes," and one in 10

checked "never."

Taxes and the deficit were the most important issues, according to voter surveys. As was the case in earlier states, Dole was viewed by most as the only Republican with a chance to beat Clinton, yet half said Dole had no new ideas.

For once, there was a tad of drama on the Democratic side: Clinton had no major opposition but was closing in on mathematically clinching renomination.

Dole was in Washington, tending to his duties as Senate majority leader, looking for a Republican legislative strategy to help him boost his standing against Clinton. "Not yet," Dole answered when asked if he was ready to declare himself the de facto nominee. "I'm very cautious."

Dole spent most of his "Super Tuesday" campaigning trying to home in on Clinton, reminding voters they never received

the balanced budget, middle class tax cut and welfare reform that candidate Clinton promised in 1992.

In contrast, Dole pledged to quickly deliver those items and more, promising to eliminate several Cabinet agencies and shift power wholesale from Washington to the states.

But first, Dole has some catching up to do; national polls show Clinton with a double-digit lead in a head-to-head matchup, and even many Republican voters were skeptical of the Kansas senator's prospects against the Democratic incumbent.

"He will probably get nomination, but he's not enough to beat Clinton," said Tennessee contractor Hamilton Cartwright, who voted for Forbes. "Republicans need a stronger candidate."

Dole hoped to prove skeptics wrong with a vigorous focus on Clinton in the coming week - as he campaigns in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin, always major battlegrounds in presidential contests.

## Voters split over impact of foreign trade, immigration

By CONNIE CASS  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Voters in Tuesday's Republican primaries were evenly divided over the effect of foreign trade, a key issue in maverick Patrick Buchanan's campaign.

Just as many thought foreign trade created jobs in their state as shared Buchanan's position that it costs jobs. One-tenth said it has no effect.

About half of voters said the United States "should always welcome some immigrants." Four in 10 said the country can't afford any new immigrants at all, which is Buchanan's position.

Republican primary voters in Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Oregon were interviewed by Voter News Service, a consor-

tium of The Associated Press and the television networks ABC, CBS, CNN and NBC. The partial sample included interviews with more than 5,000 voters for a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points. Voters were interviewed as they left the polls, except in Oregon, where people voted by mail. Oregonians were interviewed by telephone.

Delegates selected in the primaries will attend the Republican National Convention in August, where they will nominate their candidate to face President Clinton in the Nov. 5 election.

Overall, two-thirds of the primary voters thought Senate Majority Leader Dole could beat Clinton.

Tony Wilson of Portland, Oregon, voted for Dole partly to shore up the expected nominee. "I think there's value in momentum for our

party," he said.

The collection of mostly Southern states had a high percentage of Christian conservatives. The religious right made up 35 percent of Tuesday's voters - as many as in any state to cast primary ballots this year.

Dole won half of their votes. One-third voted for Buchanan, who relies on the religious right as the base of his support.

Overall, almost two-thirds said they were more concerned by the nation's moral problems than by the economy. But economic worries were evident. Voters ranked taxes and the federal budget deficit as top issues, with about a quarter choosing each. The economy and jobs, taken together, came next. Dole won in all three categories.



Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., takes his seat prior to a hearing of the committee's Balanced Budget subcommittee, on Capitol Hill. Last Friday, at 93 years and 94 days, Thurmond became the oldest person to ever serve in the U.S. Senate. He was first elected to the Senate in 1954. (AP Photo)

# 2 US servicemen file appeal on rape case

TOKYO (AP) - Two American military men filed appeals Wednesday in their conviction and sentencing in the abduction and rape of an Okinawan schoolgirl.

The case fueled opposition to the heavy U.S. military presence on Okinawa and strained the U.S.-Japanese security relationship.

A third servicemen convicted in the attack did not

immediately join in the appeal, and was reportedly weighing whether to do so.

Marine Pfc. Rodrico Harp, 22, and Kendrick Ledet, 21, were appealing the guilty verdict they were given last Friday at the Naha District Court. Harp was sentenced to 7 years in prison, Ledet 6 1/2.

The two are appealing the case to the Fukuoka High Court, which is also in Naha,

an official at the lower court said by telephone.

It was not known if the higher court would hear the appeal, or when it would announce a decision.

The abduction and rape of the 12-year-old Okinawan girl last September has sparked outrage in the southern island of Okinawa, which despite its small size houses more than half of the 47,000 U.S. troops stationed in Japan.

Navy Seaman Marcus Gill, 23, was also considering appealing his 7-year sentence and wanted to consult his family first, Kyodo News reported.

He has until March 22, two weeks after the ruling was handed down, to file an appeal.



Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret, left, exchanges greetings in a noisy room with former first lady Nancy Reagan Wednesday evening, March 6, 1996, at a reception and dinner honoring the princess in Beverly Hills, Calif. (AP Photo)

## Indonesia promises free food for children

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) - The government will provide free food for 2.1 million schoolchildren in a bid to eradicate malnutrition in this nation of 190 million people, an Indonesian official announced Tuesday.

"The program will increase by about 20 percent the calories and protein needed by the children," said Minister of State Ginandjar Kartasasmita.

He said the program to feed students in rural areas will cost \$30 million. Indonesia has 29 million children in elementary schools.

The minister said malnutrition is the second highest killer of infants after infection, with 58 deaths for every 1,000 babies born in the country.

He said 40 percent of children under age 5 suffer malnutrition. An estimated 30 percent of school-

children suffer from anemia and about 65 percent of them are infected with intestinal worm diseases.

## 40 dead or missing as ferry sank

HONG KONG (AP) - More than 40 people were killed or missing in two separate ship sinkings on China's longest river, a Hong Kong newspaper said Wednesday.

A passenger ferry, the Xiao Shan Cheng, capsized and sank on the Yangtze River on Monday, apparently after it collided with another vessel, the Chinese-language Ta Kung Pao reported.

More than 40 passengers and crew were dead or missing near Chongqing in western Sichuan province, it said. It was similar to another ship sinking near the city late last year.

As of Monday night, 55 people, including seven crew, had been rescued, and two bodies recovered, the newspaper said.

Another ship capsized and sank near Chongqing on Tuesday, the newspaper said, adding that details were sketchy and the accident was still under investigation.

Sichuan traffic police said that since February, 12 major traffic accidents have killed 161 people and injured 252, the newspaper said.

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# Troops pick on Chechen snipers

**GROZNY, Russia (AP)** - Russian troops attempted to pick off rebel snipers operating in the Chechen capital Tuesday, but the separatist fighters defied efforts to drive them out of the city.

At least nine Russian soldiers were killed and another 11 were wounded during fighting across the separatist republic since Monday. There was no word on rebel casualties.

Grozny remained without water and power, although officials said Tuesday they hoped to be able to restore electricity in the city within the next several days, the Interfax news agency reported.

A large rebel force attacked Grozny last week in the worst fighting in the Chechen capital in a year, and government troops have yet to drive the rebels completely out of the city.

A top Russian official on Monday harshly criticized government

forces for allowing the rebels to penetrate the city.

Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov accused both Russian troops and Moscow-backed Chechen police of "outrageous negligence" in allowing the attack in the first place and poor coordination in fending it off. Kulikov's ministry formally took control of the Chechen operation from the army last year, when the government claimed the main military action was over and Interior Ministry troops would "mop up" remaining "bandits." President Boris Yeltsin was reported Monday to be on the verge of firing his defense minister, who urged him to send troops into Chechnya 15 months ago and boasted a single regiment of paratroopers could defeat the rebels in two hours.

The bungled war to end Chechnya's self-declared inde-

pendence has hurt Yeltsin's reelection chances, and Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has increasingly been seen as a political liability.

Accusations of incompetence and corruption have dogged

Grachev for years. Underscoring corruption in the army, the Interfax news agency reported Monday that soldiers sold a tank and armored personnel carrier to the rebels for \$6,000 last week.

The report said 39 soldiers man-

ning a checkpoint near Shali in eastern Chechnya sold the military vehicles to the rebels after having a party with them on Saturday. There have been numerous reports during the war of troops selling weapons to the rebels.

## Summit task saving Middle East peace from terrorism

By EILEEN ALT POWELL

**CAIRO, Egypt (AP)** - World leaders hoping to save the Middle East peace process gathered in Egypt Wednesday with differing visions on how to confront terrorism.

President Clinton hastily arranged the "Summit of the Peacemakers" last week after four suicide bombs killed 62 people in Israel and threatened to unravel the peace process.

As nearly 30 delegates arrived in the Sinai resort of Sharm el-Sheikh on Tuesday, there were markedly different expectations on what the meeting might accomplish.

Israeli Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said he expected "concrete results," including "a complete mechanism among countries... sharing of intelligence information, technology and even certain kinds of legislation." Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, on the other hand, will argue that terrorism is not just a security issue but a political one as well.

He was expected to call for help in improving the economic well-being of his people and to end Israeli oppression of the 3 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Poverty, blockade and collective punishment breed violence and will not solve the problem," said a draft of Arafat's speech circulated Tuesday. Israel suspended peace talks with the Palestinians and Syria following the deadly bombings. It also closed its borders with the West Bank and Gaza. The attacks were blamed on the Muslim militant Hamas movement, which opposes the Israeli-Arab peace process.

The solid response to the invitations by co-hosts Egypt and the United States indicates that an anti-terrorism agenda has hit a responsive chord. Leaders from Russia, Europe, Japan and Canada are attending, as are all the Gulf states and many North African nations.

"Terrorism has become an international phenomenon," Mubarak said in a pre-summit interview. "Countries must gather, meet and agree on a united stance because terrorism now threatens everyone."

But Arab countries, especially those that have not yet made peace with Israel, may not endorse any agreement that makes it appear that the main beneficiary is the Jewish state.

"What constitutes terrorism is very subjective, and the ones setting the

definitions are the more powerful political forces," said Walid Kazziha, a professor of political science at the American University in Cairo. "In other words, terrorism is what the United States and Israel calls terrorism, not necessarily what Syria or what the Palestinians would call terrorism."

Each country brings its own, unique problems to the table. Bahrain, Algeria and Egypt are battling Islamic extremism.

Western nations, on the other hand, have not been united in the past in efforts to control rogue regimes.

The United States has tried to isolate Iran and Libya, which it accuses of supporting terrorism. But European trading partners have not been willing to follow suit.

Iran, Libya and Iraq have not been invited, and Syria and Lebanon refused to attend.

"Is it possible for the international community to allow Israel to shuffle the cards in such a way that... occupation becomes one of its rights and resistance to occupation becomes terrorism?" said a commentary on official Damascus radio Tuesday.

## UN should keep weapons inspectors in Iraq longer

By EDITH M. LEDERER

**LONDON (AP)** - The United Nations should keep searching for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq for the next 15 to 20 years because Baghdad wants to acquire them again, the chief U.N. weapons inspector said Tuesday.

"These weapons are very important for exerting power - to establish again Iraqi dominance in the Gulf and possibly to undercut the peace process," said Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission charged with destroying Iraq's nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

He told an international conference on Kuwaiti prisoners of war that Iraq's refusal to allow U.N. weapons inspectors to search two sites in the past five days demonstrates that five years after the Gulf War Baghdad still wants "to keep its options of weapons construction alive."

The Iraqis relented after lengthy negotiations with the U.N. Security Council that delayed inspectors from entering the Irrigation Ministry for 15 hours and a compound used by the Republican Guards for 18 hours.

Ekeus said the value Iraq places on acquiring weapons of mass destruction must be exceedingly high, because it is willing to forego more than \$15 billion a year in potential oil revenues, and that is "an important reality" that the United

Nations must recognize. Baghdad also shows its priorities by putting aside large amounts of money to try to import banned weapons and components, instead of using the funds to feed the population, he said.

Ekeus said the U.N. commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency "have jointly managed to clean out most of the prohibited weapons of mass destruction from Iraq," and destroyed Baghdad's ability to produce them.

"The existing capabilities of Iraq are very limited," he said.

But "there are... hidden, little, dirty things and we are going after them very, very aggressively," he said.

Last fall, Iraq had to disclose some secret weapons programs after the defection of Saddam Hussein's son-in-law, Hussein Kamel al-Majid, who was in charge of the country's weapons program.

Iraq admitted that just before its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 it worked on a crash program to acquire one usable nuclear missile, Ekeus said.

U.N. inspectors discovered Iraqi design plans for long-range missiles to deliver biological and chemical weapons, with ranges up to 3,000 kilometers (1,775 miles), enough to reach Moscow, Paris, Bonn and Ekeus' hometown of Stockholm.

"Iraq has not succeeded yet to produce such capabilities. But it is something which, of course, gives us concern," he said.

"We have a very serious concern that Iraq still is retaining and hiding biological warfare agents which it produced before the war in its secret biological program," Ekeus said.

Last fall, Jordan blocked a major shipment of missile components to Iraq. U.N. inspectors pressed the Iraqis and learned that an earlier shipment had gotten through. The inspectors dredged up the highly sophisticated weapons and components from their hiding place on the bed of the Tigris River, Ekeus said.

He said the monitoring system set up by the U.N. commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency to prevent Iraq from acquiring these weapons has worked. Surveillance cameras discovered Iraqis taking some machines they were not allowed to use and starting to produce missile components.

He said the monitoring system - including cameras in production facilities, chemical sensors, aerial surveillance with U-2 spy planes and teams of specialist inspectors - "must stay in place," even after the remnants of Iraq's weapons programs are destroyed.



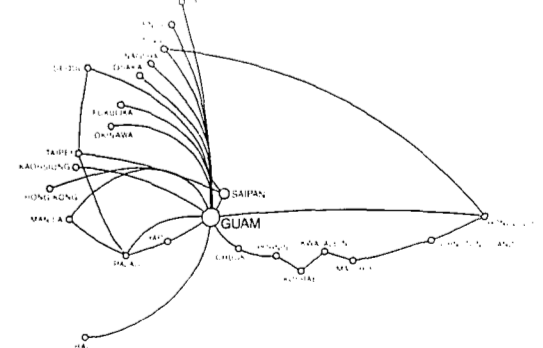
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**Correction of Public Notice**

The Advisory Commission on Compensation of the Governor, Lt. Governor, Legislator, Justices and Judges, Resident Representative to the United States and Mayors, will meet on **Thursday, March 14, 1996 at 9:30 a.m. in the Governors's Conference Room, Main Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan.**

Interested persons are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Tel. 664-23900.

Herman T. Guerrero, Chair  
March 11, 1996

# Tension mounting in Lebanon

By SHIBLI ABI-ASSI  
**RASHAYA, Lebanon (AP)** - Shiite Muslim guerrillas staged fresh attacks in an Israeli-held enclave Tuesday, heightening tension on the eve of a U.S.-sponsored international summit to counter terrorism in the Middle East.

Security sources said guerrillas of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah detonated a roadside bomb as pro-Israeli militiamen patrolled the eastern edge of the enclave in south Lebanon, which Israel calls a "security zone."

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the attack followed mortar and tank fire duels between the guerrillas and Israeli troops in the volatile region.

Hezbollah, or Party of God, claimed responsibility for the bomb and the clashes. It said in the exchange of fire, an Israeli

armored car was destroyed and an outpost set ablaze.

A communique released by the group in the town of Rashaya claimed there were several Israelis killed or wounded, but security sources in the enclave said they had no reports of casualties. Also Tuesday, a dissident Palestinian leader opposed to Yasser Arafat's self-rule authority said that volunteers for more suicide attacks against Israel were being trained in Lebanon. Wednesday's summit in Egypt is a response to suicide bombings in Israel which have killed 62 people since Feb. 25.

Col. Munir Makdah claimed his group was training "dozens" of would-be bombers in the Ein el-Hilweh refugee camp on the outskirts of the southern port city of Sidon.

"We are making them human bombs and they will be detonat-

ing themselves against Israeli targets," Makdah told reporters.

Makdah, who split from Arafat's mainstream Fatah group in 1993 after the PLO-Israeli peace agreement, is notorious for making threats he has no means to implement. He has been striving for a role in the Palestinian opposition, but without much backing.

Makdah and nine other anti-Arafat factions backed by Syria have called for a daylong strike Wednesday to protest a crackdown on militants of the Islamic Jihad and Hamas fundamentalist groups in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It will coincide with the summit in Egypt.

Hamas has claimed responsi-

bility for the wave of suicide attacks in Israel. World leaders, including President Clinton and his Russian counterpart, Boris Yeltsin, will meet in the Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheikh Wednesday. They are expected to renew commitment to the Middle East peace process and pledge to fight the forces opposed to it.

# Turkey's new government wins vote of confidence

**ANKARA, Turkey (AP)** - Premier Mesut Yilmaz's new center-right coalition government won a vote of confidence Tuesday in Parliament to end 11 weeks of political uncertainty.

The coalition, made up of Yilmaz's Motherland Party

and ex-premier Tansu Ciller's True Path, was formed under pressure from business circles and reportedly the military, to bar an Islamic Party from power. The army considers itself the guarantor of Turkey's modern secular system.

The 550-member parliament

voted 257 to 206 for the government, according to an official count. Eighty abstained and the rest were not present.

The coalition is still a minority rule with a total of 261 seats. Ciller and Yilmaz overcame years of personal enmity to agree on a rotating premiership deal handing the position to Yilmaz for the rest of this year. Ciller will take over for two years and then hand back to Yilmaz in the fourth.

The failure of earlier talks between the two rivals pushed Yilmaz to negotiate with pro-Islamic regime Welfare, a prospect which alarmed NATO-member Turkey's key allies in the West and its own secularists. Welfare, which advocates moving the overwhelmingly Muslim nation away from the West and closer to the Islamic world, came first in Dec. 24 general elections, but won only 158 seats.

The coalition government, which supports speedy privatization, will have a tough time instituting its program with strong opposition from Welfare and the Social Democrats.

Former premier Bulent Ecevit's Democratic Left Party, with 75 deputies, backed the minority government by abstaining in the confidence vote.

But Ecevit doesn't fully back the government's program, opposing privatization and the presence in Turkey of a western allied force protecting Iraqi Kurds from Saddam Hussein.

Yilmaz said last week his government would lift martial-law alike emergency rule in the war-stricken Kurdish dominated southeast.

Turkey still faces a human rights problem, mainly linked to its tough military campaign against the Kurdish rebels.

Novelist Yasar Kemal received a 20-month suspended sentence last week for an article criticizing the government's handling of the Kurdish insurgency.

Yilmaz also plans to restore the country's economic ills, hampered by some 80 percent inflation and 20 percent unemployment.

# Tax on men proposed to compensate rape victims

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)** - Men as a group should be taxed to compensate rape and sexual abuse victims, who currently have to sue for damages in court, a women's support group suggested Thursday.

Rape Crisis group spokeswoman Toni Allwood told a Parliamentary committee her suggestion "might prompt decent men in society to stand up and condemn sexual attacks" on women.

Allwood said if legislators wanted a "specific fund for compensating victims," a "general tax could be imposed on all males."

Under New Zealand's Accident Compensation plan, lump-sum payments by the government to victims of sexual attacks were abolished in 1992.

In the past, Allwood said such payments could "help a victim move to a safe, new location, invest in training to gain economic independence, or invest in education lost during the period of abuse."

Allwood clashed with the committee chairman, Max Bradford, when she suggested that when victims had to go to court to seek compensation it meant "society was condoning

a hideous form of prostitution, in which a man could abuse someone for years, and then pay out through the courts."

Bradford said the courts were a more appropriate means for seeking compensation for sexual crime victims. There was no logic in the society as a whole paying through accident compensation.

Allwood said legal action was not open to a victim with no money or resources.

A tax on all males was the alternative.

"In the bulk of cases, men are the perpetrators of rape and sexual abuse," she said.

# Babies recover after gene therapy for brain disease

**AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP)** - Two Connecticut youngsters suffering from a rare and fatal degenerative brain disease are recovering from a pioneering new surgical technique in which a synthetic gene was inserted into their brains.

Two-year-old Alyssa Mushin of Derby was back to her old self, alert and happy, before leaving New Zealand on Wednesday, the swelling from brain surgery at Auckland Hospital having gone down.

Alyssa and 19-month-old Lindsay Karlin of New Fairfield were brought to New Zealand by their parents for a world-first brain treatment last Wednesday.

A synthetic gene was inserted into the girls' brains in an experimental attempt to stall the effects of Canavan disease, a rare disorder that is most common among Jews and people from Saudi Arabia.

Canavan disease hampers the normal function and development of the brain by destroying nerve cell sheaths.

Ideally, the new genetic material will take over from faulty ones and halt the degeneration.

The key figure behind the treatment, Professor Matthew During, said the girls were progressing well.

During, the new head of molecular medicine at the Auckland Medical School, led the team that pioneered the therapy at Yale University Medical School.

When he returned to New Zealand, the families followed him. Each family raised US \$150,000 for the experimental therapy.

On Tuesday night the Mushins, and Helene and Roger Karlin, were preparing to fly home.

"It's been more than worth it," said Eileen Mushin as she and her husband, Mark, packed their bags.

The science teacher said she was

guarded about prospects for Alyssa. There is only a tiny chance the gene therapy will curb the degeneration caused by the disease.

Neither Alyssa nor Lindsay can walk or talk, and they are not expected to live past the age of 6.

The girls will have regular brain scans when they return to America, to determine just how well the synthetic gene in their brains is working.

Along with their hopes for the girls and the best wishes of New Zealanders who sent cards and flowers, the Mushins will take home a little something extra.

Mushin had two tiny shirts printed with a message that only the youngsters could wear—"Our parents took us to New Zealand and all they bought us were new genes."

# Kind thief returns loot to his victim

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)** - There will be no questions, though police said the answer is someone preferring a clean conscience to cash.

Jamilah Musa's jewelry and cash were wrapped in a bundle and returned several days after they were stolen. The New Straits Times reported Wednesday.

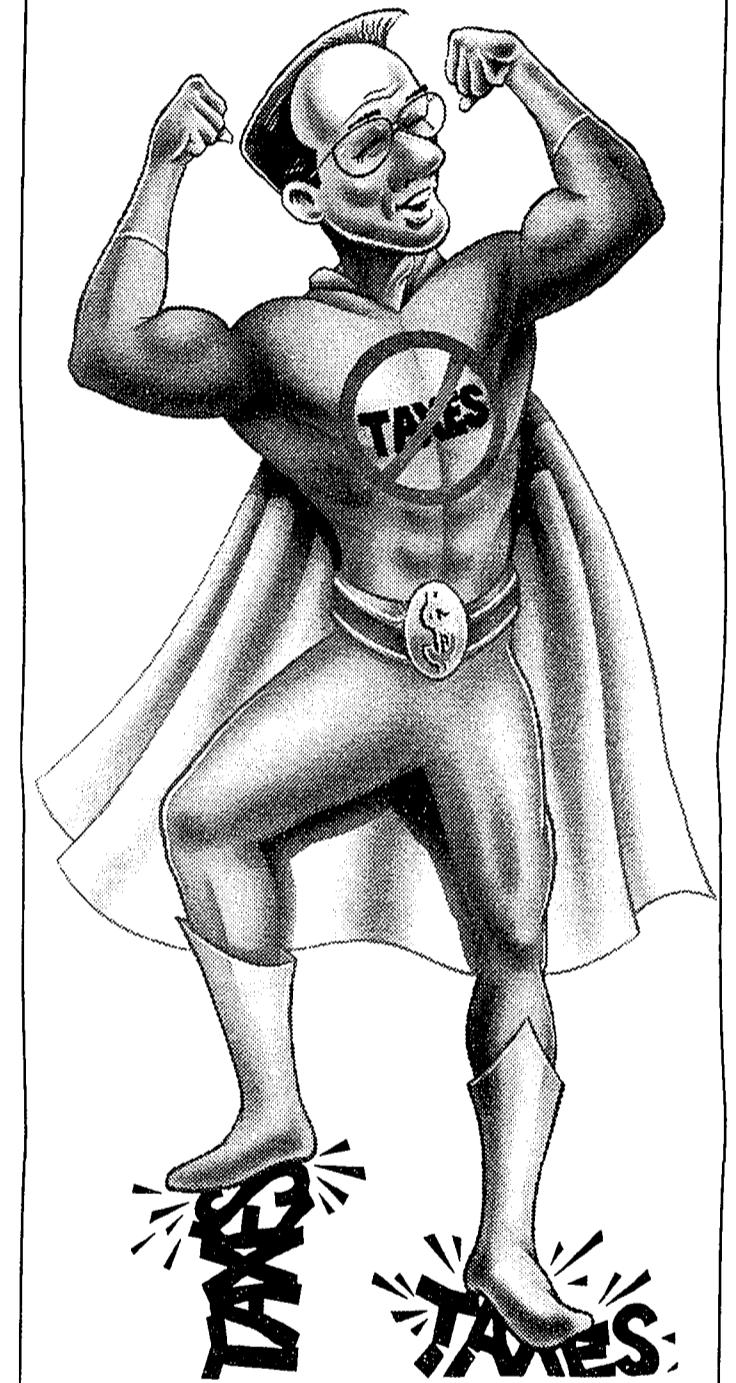
Musa, 62, had given up hope of seeing jewelry worth 3,700 ringgit (\$1,541) and 500 ringgit (\$204) cash taken from her house in Kuala Trengganu, 300 kilometers (180 miles) northeast of the capital.

She was pleasantly surprised when she stumbled upon a cloth bundle at the back of her house Tuesday, five days after the theft, Trengganu state police public relations officer Superintendent Mokhtaruddin Idrus said. Unfolding it, she found the cash and jewelry intact.

"This is one of those rare cases where the thief decided to return the loot," Mokhtaruddin said.

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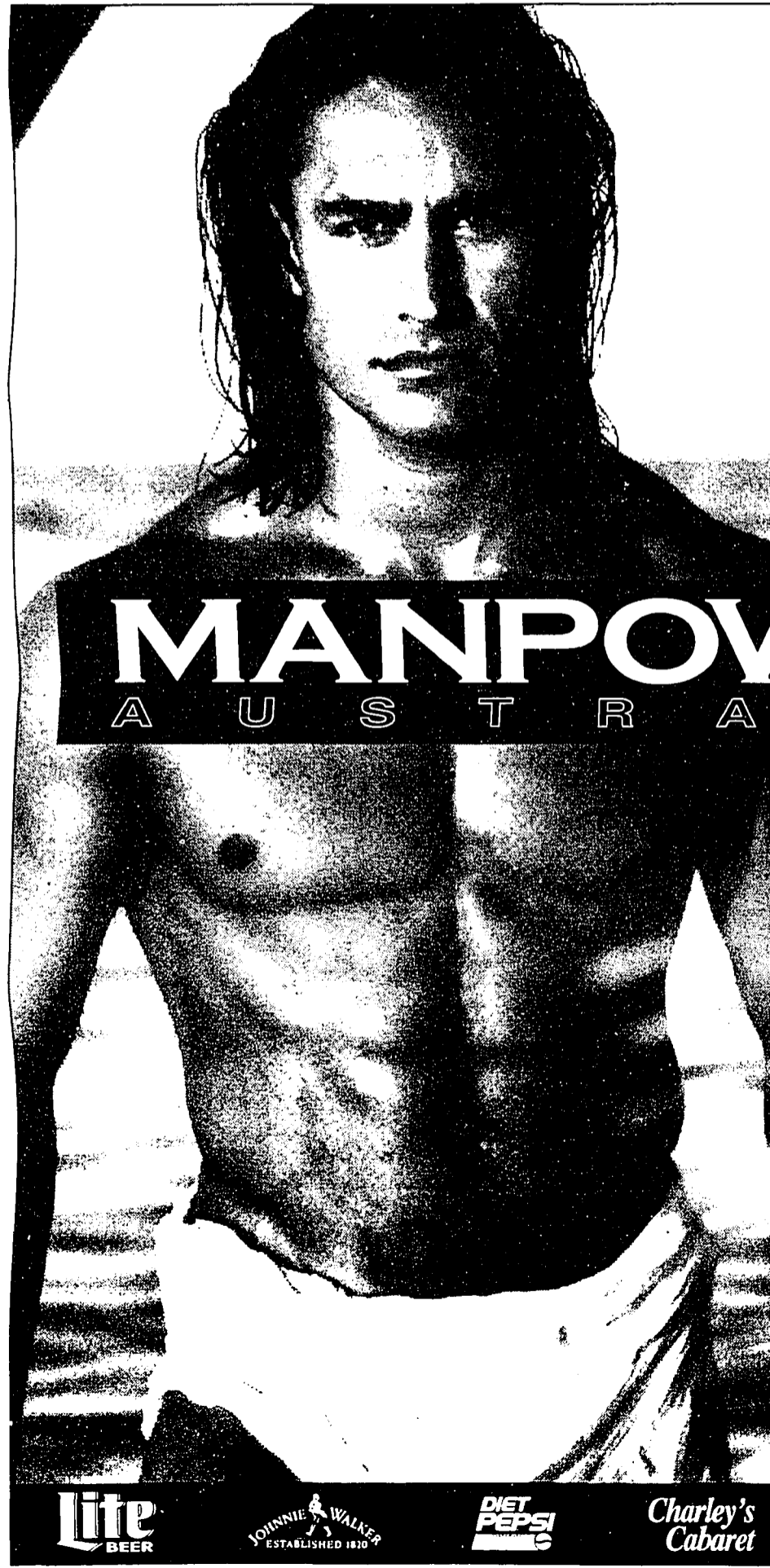
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# Crime sows terror in Guatemala

By CHRISTENA COLCLOUGH  
**GUATEMALA CITY (AP)** - Soldiers in armored personnel carriers are patrolling Guatemala's streets to quash a wave of kidnappings, violent deaths and torture - crimes which many blame on former military officers and police.

President Alvaro Arzu says the increase in crime is at least partly due to his efforts to improve Guatemala's human rights record and clean up its notoriously corrupt army and police forces.

Since he took office two months ago, police have re-

ported more than 50 cases of kidnapping, 600 car thefts and an average of eight murders a day. Those cases prompted Leonardo Franco, who directs the U.N. human rights monitoring mission, to note "it appears all the demons in Guatemala have been unleashed."

In a recent interview, Arzu acknowledged that crime surged after he took office on Jan. 14, and again after his government purged key members of the military high command and 118 police officers, some suspected of links to organized crime.

"It is difficult to determine

which event prompted an increase in violence, but definitely the day after the change of power, violence escalated immediately and is continuing," Arzu said.

"It is also difficult to attribute it exclusively to the (military) changes, but undoubtedly is related in part," Arzu said.

In a stinging report released earlier this week, the U.N. mission blamed much of violence and ongoing human rights abuses on state security members.

The mission reported an increase in death threats directed against government investigators and judges, "especially when the

alleged participation of police or military is under investigation."

Still, Arzu's forces are making headway.

Last week, a member of the police anti-kidnapping squad was himself charged with kidnapping, and police arrested a army reservist charged with the November 1995 torture and murder of Mexican U.N. employee Lucinda Cardenas.

Last week, investigators searched the home of Col. Mario Salvador Lopez Serrano, a commander accused of human rights abuses, and said they found a stolen car and a motorbike.

Over the weekend, a military lieutenant and captain were arrested for possession of a stolen car, which they said had been purchased.

Arzu says he is taking measures to put criminals behind bars - even if they are part of the armed forces, once essentially untouchable.

"During my government the law will be the same for ev-

eryone without exception," he said. "Transgressors will be punished."

Guatemala's high crime level may have continued for so long because few people serve time for their offenses.

Bar, restaurant and nightclub owners in the capital complain business is off this year, with people afraid to venture out at night.

"If they come at all, they eat quickly, so as they can get home earlier because they are scared," said Cesar Samayoa, who operates a Guatemala City restaurant.

Although joint military and police operations have had some success in fighting crime, Guatemalans remain skeptical of less-than-drastic measures.

"Unless the existing death penalty is put into action for kidnapping, people will not change," said high school teacher Thelma Lopez, whose father was kidnapped 22 years ago and hasn't been seen since.



Prosecutor Rhonda Saunders displays photographs showing graffiti on the walls of the cell of convicted Madonna stalker Robert Dewey Hoskins, during court session in Los Angeles. Graffiti read "The Madonna", "I Love Madonna," and "Madonna Love Me," Sentencing scheduled for March 6 was delayed until March 22. (AP Photo)

## Ex-officials await verdict in poisoning that killed 500

By CIARAN GILES  
**MADRID, Spain (AP)** - A five-month trial ended Tuesday for seven former government officials accused of negligence in a food poisoning case that killed more than 500 people.

Dozens of friends and relatives of victims of the early 1980s poisoning case gathered outside of Madrid's National Court for the final day in which the state attorney urged the three-judge court to absolve the ex-officials.

Lawyers for the victims have asked for jail sentences of up to 11 years for the seven.

It was not known when a verdict could be expected.

Convictions would almost certainly force the government to compensate the victims of the poisoning or their families.

More than 500 people are believed to have died in 1981-82 and an estimated 20,000 people still suffer after-effects from consuming what they believed

to be cooking oil, but was found to be adulterated rapeseed oil, a lubricant.

The oil, imported from France, was sold in working-class suburbs of Madrid and outlying areas.

The seven on trial were officials from health, food and agricultural departments during the government of the Union of the Democratic Center prior to 1982.

In 1989, 16 people were tried and convicted for their roles in importing, treating and distributing the bogus oil.

But each declared bankruptcy, and although the court awarded damages, neither the victims nor their families received any money.

The state attorney argued Tuesday that the 1 billion pesetas (\$ 8 million) paid out by the government in medical treatment in the early 1980s constituted compensation for the victims.

## Union calls for day of protest

**PARIS (AP)** - Stung by a nearly 12 percent unemployment rate, the head of one of France's most powerful labor unions called Tuesday for a day of protests March 29.

Louis Viannet, influential boss of the General Labor Confederation, urged French workers on RTL radio to take to the streets to show their displeasure.

France's jobless rate rose another notch to 11.8 percent in February, and more than 3 million people are out of work. Viannet said the March 29 protests would push for "full employment."

Viannet's union represents pub-

lic-sector workers, but he called Tuesday for private-sector employees to join the demonstrations.

"Job eliminations are expected at Pechiney, Renault, Danon, Thomson and Aerospatiale, and it's a veritable hemorrhage," he said, naming some of France's top companies.

The demonstrations will come two days before the Group of Seven largest industrialized nations hold a "jobs summit" in the northern city of Lille. The G-7 leaders, meeting April 1-2, will discuss job-creation measures and other economic issues.

# Journalists 'struggling' in Cuba

By JAMES ANDERSON  
**HAVANA (AP)** - The phone rings every half-hour or so in the house of jailed journalist Rafael Solano. When his family answers, there is only silence. They say the state has rigged a machine to call repeatedly, robbing them of sleep and keeping them on edge. Only recently did security agents pull back from the house.

So goes the vigil for Solano, a reporter who was arrested Feb. 27 and charged with "delinquent association," which carries a three-year sentence.

"Don't you worry. They are doing their job and I am doing mine," Petronila Morales, 60, quoted her son as telling her at Villa Marista prison. "The worst that can happen is three years."

Solano is among a new breed of independent journalists in Cuba, where the communist government has long controlled all news media. Disillusioned with the state media's failure to chronicle many aspects of Cuban life, a group of journalists created three independent news agencies last year. They file their dispatches by telephone, with foreign travelers and on the Internet.

But they do so at their own peril. Journalists repeatedly have been arrested or detained in recent months and accused of disseminating propaganda, associating with dissidents or receiving U.S. government funds.

Solano, director of the Habana Press news agency, has been arrested six times in the past 10 months. Roxana Valdivia, an independent reporter in the central city of Ciego de Avila, has been jailed several times and told to leave the country or face another prison term.

The Paris-based organization Reporters sans frontiers, or Reporters Without Borders, sent a letter to Presi-

dent Fidel Castro on Monday demanding Solano's unconditional release and an end to threats against Valdivia.

Some independent journalists acknowledge they are in frequent contact with the Concilio Cubano, an umbrella group for more than 130 anti-Castro organizations in Cuba, the United States and Puerto Rico.

They also admit receiving books and newspapers from the U.S. Interests Section in Havana. Their telephone interviews with the U.S. government-funded Radio Marti, which broadcasts news from the United States to Cuba, don't endear them to Cuban authorities.

But they insist that they are not working to topple the government or for any opposition movement.

"We are not delinquents. We are journalists. We are not spokesmen for whatever party," said Jose Rivera Garcia, assistant director of the independent news agency Cuba Press.

The decision to leave the official press is a difficult one. Reporters give up paying jobs and their domestic audience. They often don't know who abroad will hear their message.

Cuba Press' director, Raul Rivero, abandoned a career with the government news agency Prensa Latina and an official writers' union to go it alone. He was fed up with constant blame of the U.S. economic embargo for Cuba's problems.

"It's a type of suicide," Rivero said. "This was a difficult enough process for me."

Rivero collects handwritten, typewritten and telephoned dispatches from 14 reporters throughout Cuba. Colleagues in the official press also give him news. His fourth-floor Havana apartment functions as his office, equipped with a manual type-

writer and telephone.

Rivero thumbs through folders of copy filed by his correspondents. A story on academic freedoms. Another on Cuban baseball. A music review. "I insist that they use their names," he said. One writer, Reynald Soto, is in prison, serving a two-year term for propaganda. He files his reports by letter through his wife.

Rivero relays some of his news in interviews with Puerto Rican and mainland U.S. radio stations. He also dictates stories to Nancy Perez Crespo, a book publisher in Miami, who tries to sell them to foreign and domestic newspapers. A volunteer in Washington, D.C., puts some of the dispatches on a World Wide Web page on the Internet.

Rivero was one of about 50 reporters and dissidents who were detained on Feb. 24, the day of a canceled Concilio meeting and the shutdown of the U.S. civilian aircraft. He had been detained before and knows he may be again, even if the government has tolerated limited free speech over the past year.

"Paranoia is part of the repression," he said.

Anxiety and cigarette smoke fill the small living room of Rafael Solano's home, where his mother Petronila, sister Nancy and colleagues Julio Martinez-Garcia and Joaquin Torres Alvarez wait for word of Solano. Nancy brings out a photo of Rafael receiving a journalism prize from Spain's King Juan Carlos.

"They say that the journalists are delinquents. My brother had a very good career," she said tearfully. "He was so clean, so strong, dedicated only to his career."

## OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

PACIFIC SECURITY ALARM announces a vacancy for the position of **Operations Assistant** at the Saipan, CNMI Branch. This highly visible position requires extensive knowledge of Microsoft Words, and Excel as well as general office duties including some accounting and collections experience. High school diploma required. A college degree would be a definite plus. Extensive compensation package includes vacations, holidays, and medical plan. Please apply at PSA, Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa.

## Tinian Job Vacancies

The West Tinian Airport of the Commonwealth Ports Authority is looking for applicants for the following positions:

**One (1) General Maintenance**  
**One (1) Weather Observer**  
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The minimum qualifications of a **Security Officer** is graduation from high school or GED and must have law enforcement experience or related field.

The minimum qualifications for a **Weather Observer** is graduation from high school or GED. Experience in air traffic control or weather observer are preferred but not mandatory.

The minimum qualifications for **General Maintenance** is graduation from high school or equivalent and must have experience in routine terminal repairs and maintenance procedures.

Applications forms are available at the West Tinian Airport Manager's Office. Applications must be submitted along with an updated police clearance dating back five years. For more information, please call 433-9296. The deadline for submission of applications is 4:30 p.m. on March 15, 1996.

*First Year Death Anniversary*

**Maria Victoria Sablan Tudela**

Better known as "Vicky"

Parents:  
 Roman Muna Tudela & Ana Sablan Tudela

**Will start: March 17, 1996**  
**Time: 8:00 pm nightly**  
**Will end: March 25, 1996**

Mass will be on the same day March 25, 1996 at San Vicente Church at 6:00 pm. Dinner will follow at their resident in Dandan near Ben-ki-too Store.

Rosary is said nightly at the parents resident in Dandan.

Thank You

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Department of Labor & Immigration

## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE SECRETARY of Labor and Immigration puts the general public on notice that the Department will be holding public hearings in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Senatorial Districts regarding proposed amendments to the Alien Labor Rules and Regulations, published in the Commonwealth Register, Volume 17 Number 12 at pages 13874 through 13906 on December 15, 1995. The hearing dates and locations will be as follows:

Location	Date	Time	
The Roundhouse Songsong Village ROTA	March	13	6:00 pm
PSS Cafeteria San Jose Village TINIAN	March	14	7:00 pm
Multi-Purpose Center Susupe SAIPAN	March	15	7:00 pm

The general public is invited to present oral or written testimony with regards to the proposed amendments. Interested parties should contact the Department of Labor and Immigration on Saipan, Tinian or Rota for more information. Parties who intend to present oral testimony at these hearings are requested to submit a written copy of their testimony at the hearing.

Si Yu'us Ma'sae

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

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# Court frees land reform advocate

**By GARY RICHMAN**  
**RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP)** - When authorities threw Deolinda Alves de Souza into jail in January, they intended to crush the movement of peasants demanding property promised by the government. Instead, the frail, outspoken leader of the landless became a hero, causing even more trouble for the government by sparking protests across the country while she was behind bars.

On Tuesday, she walked out of prison after Brazil's highest appeals court voted 5-0 to release her and three other peasant leaders on \$666 bail. The four still face charges of "organizing mob action," the legal pretext the government often uses to arrest political activists.

"The public outcry over these leaders in prison is a sign that the people can organize themselves at the grassroots level to make up for a lack of government presence in the agrarian reform," said Judge Ademar Maciel. Souza was surprised by the decision and said the first thing she wanted to do is eat ice cream with her son, according to her lawyer, Meire Orlandini. Souza was making the boy a birthday cake when police arrested her on January 25 at a peasant's encampment.

An arrest warrant also was issued for Souza's husband,

Jose Rainha, the top leader of the movement, and another activist. Tuesday's court decision dropped the warrants against the two men.

"This is a victory for social justice in Brazil," said Senator Eduardo Suplicy, a leader of the leftist Workers' Party. "Democracy here is indebted to this courageous woman who showed the country how the cards are stacked against the downtrodden."

Souza and her husband represent 12 million peasants asking the government for land. President Fernando Henrique Cardoso pledged to give land to 40,000 families a year when he took office 15 months ago, but the peasant leaders say the government was moving too slowly.

Rainha and Souza organized peasants nationwide into encampments bordering idle private and public lands to pressure the government into speeding up agrarian reform.

The wealthy wanted to see the streets of Sao Paulo last Friday to rally in front of the Justice Department for her release. More than 300 landless women cut fences and invaded the Sao Domingos farm atop tractors in western Sao Paulo, the country's richest state.

In the Amazon rain forest state of Para, 700 armed peasants invaded private lands because of the arrest. Gunmen have been reportedly hired by land owners to get the peasants off, a common practice in Para.

And in Brasilia, the country's inland capital, Brazil's five female senators and 34 congresswomen gathered to protest "the act of government insensitivity."

Even President Fernando Henrique Cardoso spoke up

against the jailing: "The lesser the number of innocent people in jail, the better," he said recently.

The skewed distribution of land is at the root of rural violence in Brazil, where 88 percent of the land belongs to 20 percent of the people. The poorest 40 percent own just 1 percent of the land.

"She was ordered to prison by rich landowners," congresswoman Marta Suplicy, the senator's wife, told the Associated Press. "She was a victim of corruption: a hostage of the government."

Souza had returned to her jail cell in the Alvares Machado Penitentiary on Tuesday, after spending ten days in a hospital to treat an ulcer made worse by her hunger strike. The Women's Union, a non-governmental organization, charged that Souza has been mistreated in prison. "Agrarian reform in our country is taking place at the grass-roots level, from the bottom of society up," said Judge William Patterson on reading the Tuesday court verdict. "We all have something to learn."

## Women released to end hostage ordeal

**By JUAN ZAMORANO**  
**SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)** - Two European women kidnapped three months ago from a Costa Rican resort and held for a \$1 million ransom have arrived in the Costa Rican capital weary but unharmed.

German tourist Nicola Fleutchaus, 24, and Regula Susana Siegfried, 50, a Swiss national who lives in Costa Rica, were released Tuesday in a remote jungle near the Nicaraguan border, said government Security Minister Juan Diego Castro.

"The government is very satisfied with this outcome," he said at a news conference in San Jose, the capital. The women reportedly came to the release site in two boats, accompanied by a relative and the Rev. Eduardo Bolanos, a priest appointed by the government as mediator.

Relatives of Siegfried declined to say whether the families had paid money to the kidnapers.

In Europe, authorities expressed relief at the end of the hostage ordeal.

"I'm very pleased that this long and dramatic story has finally come to a happy end," Swiss Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti told journalists. Germany's foreign minister Klaus Kinkel said he was greatly relieved.

"They spent nearly one-fourth of a year in the hands of heavily armed kidnapers, never knowing whether they would see their families again," Kinkel said. Kinkel thanked Costa Rican authorities as well as investigators with Germany's Federal Criminal Office and Werner Hoyer, a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official, for their assistance.

For weeks, the government and the family tried to contact the so-called Viviana Gallardo Comando, a group believed comprised of Costa Rican and Nicaraguan criminals, which claimed responsibility for the abductions.

## Yeltsin OKs arms sale

**MOSCOW (AP)** - President Boris Yeltsin Tuesday approved limited arms sales to countries in the former Yugoslavia starting this week, the president's press service said.

Yeltsin's decision to allow the sale of arms starting Thursday was based on a U.N. Security Council resolution adopted in November which suspended bans on some light weapons and equipment as

part of the Dayton accords, the press service said.

A ban on the sale of heavy weapons, ammunition, mines, combat planes and helicopters remains in effect, but will be dropped after June 11 if the Security Council does not pass a new resolution.

The press service did not say if Russia would resume full-scale arms sales after the June date.

**Marianas Variety News**

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**THE PASSPORT OF KIM MINJUNG WAS LOST IN GARAPAN AREA. IF FOUND PLEASE CALL TELEPHONE NO. 234-0344**

**FOR SALE**

1993 Toyota T100 4X4 Red with 36,000 miles, AC-CD Player-Cruise Control - Topper painted to match - New Tires - asking \$14,900.00 OBO -322-6422

1991 Subaru Legacy Station Wagon with 55,000 miles, AC - Cassette Player, Power Package - Cruise Control - Mica Ruby Color. Asking \$6,000.00 -322-6422

**FOR SALE**

IBM Aptiva M55 100MHz Pentium processor, 1.6GB Hard Drive, 16 MB Memory Expandable to 128MB, Quad Speed IDE CD-ROM drive, 28.8K bps data, 14.4K bps fax modem w/Speak-erphone and 17" Nokita Color Monitor...

**BOTH BRAND NEW AND STILL IN THE BOX \$3000.00 Firm Tel. no. 322-6422**

**Employment Wanted**

**Job Vacancy Announcement**

02 LAUNDRY WORKER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: FABRICLEAN OF CNMI, INC. dba Marianas Cleaners Tel. 234-6239/5323(3/28)Th223271

01 SECURITY CONSULTANT-Salary:\$3.50-\$4.50 per hour  
 Contact: PACIFIC SECURITY ALARM, INC. Tel. 234-5626/235-5067(3/28)Th223272

03 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.00 per hour  
 05 MAINTENANCE REPAIRERS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 03 MASON-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 05 HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: BIEN SEIKO INC. Tel. 322-7410(3/28)Th223273

01 REFRIGERATION & AIRCON TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$3.50 per hour  
 02 ELECTRONICS MECHANICS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: SAM CORPORATION dba Sam Electronics & Watch Repair Tel. 234-5419(3/28)Th223274

01 ELECTRICIAN (MAINTENANCE)-Salary:\$3.00-\$4.00 per hour  
 Contact: S.T.R. CO., LTD. Tel. 234-8395(3/28)Th223275

01 TRAVEL AGENT-Salary:\$800-\$1,000 per month  
 Bilingual in Japanese language  
 Contact: R & C TOURS SAIPAN, INC. Tel. 234-7430(3/28)Th223276

01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary:\$1,500-\$4,100 per month  
 Contact: SAIPAN BOTANICAL GARDEN CO., INC. dba Saipan Botanical Garden Tel. 234-3488/256-7780(3/28)Th223277

01 WAITRESS (N.C.)-Salary:\$2.75 Per hour  
 CONTACT: ACTIVE CORPORATION dba BLUE LAGOON NIGHTCLUB Tel. 233-4807(08/3/28)Th223278

01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary:\$4.50-\$4.75 per hour  
 01 CONSTRUCTION WORKER-Salary:\$3.50-\$4.75 per hour  
 Contact: HAWAIIAN ROCK PRODUCTS CORPORATION Tel. 322-0407(3/28)Th223279

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$5.20 per hour  
 Contact: PACIFIC HOME APPLIANCES CORPORATION Tel. 234-9380(3/28)Th223287

01 AIRCON MECHANIC-Salary:\$600-\$1,100 per month  
 Contact: SAMSUNG ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 234-9380(3/28)Th223288

02 TRAVEL COUNSELOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: LEADER CORPORATION Tel. 234-0421/235-2440(3/28)Th223285

02 TOUR COUNSELOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: POINT LAND MASTER, INC. dba Woorea Travel Service Tel. 235-2464(3/28)Th223286

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$600-\$900 per month  
 01 SALESPERSON, GENERAL -Salary:\$2.75-\$3.00 per hour  
 Contact: BB'S CORPORATION dba K-World Shop Tel. 235-3890(3/28)Th223284

03 SALES PERSON-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.05 per hour  
 CONTACT: MICRO PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. dba Saipan Grand Hotel Tel. 234-6601/3 ext. 112(3/14)Th5852

06 FAST FOOD WORKER-Salary:\$3.00-\$4.25 per hour  
 Contact: J.C.A. INC. dba McDonald's of Saipan Tel. 235-8761(3/14)Th5853

01 HOUSEWORKER-Salary:\$250 per month  
 Contact: D.S. CORPORATION-EO, DAE SUN Tel. 235-4456(3/14)Th223054

01 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary:\$1,100-\$1,900 per month  
 Contact: SHIMIZU CORPORATION Tel. 234-5438(3/14)Th223047

02 FRONT DESK CLERK-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.15 per hour  
 CONTACT: MICRO PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. dba Saipan Grand Hotel Tel. 234-6601/3 ext 112(3/14)Th5863

01 AUTO BODY PAINTER-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.35 per hour  
 01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.35 per hour  
 Contact: TASI TOURS & TRANSPORTATION INC. Tel. 234-7121(3/14)Th5848

01 ELECTRICIAN (H.E.)-Salary:\$3.00 per hour  
 01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$500 per month  
 Contact: KIM, SUNG SEO dba Kae Poong Corp. Tel. 234-9018(3/14)Th223056

01 MANAGER, PRODUCTION-Salary:\$3,500 per month  
 04 SUPERVISOR, PRODUCTION-Salary:\$1,500 per month  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$1,000 per month  
 08 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 08 OPERATION ASSISTANT-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 30 CUTTER, MACHINE-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 04 TRIMMER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 04 WAREHOUSEMAN-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 06 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 10 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 220 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 08 GARMENT INSPECTOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 30 IRONER, GARMENT FACTORY-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: N.E.T. CORPORATION dba Suntek Manufacturer Tel. 235-8662(3/14)Th223058

15 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 250 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 35 IRONER, GARMENT FACTORY-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 10 GARMENT INSPECTOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 08 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 06 COOK-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 10 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 04 WAREHOUSEMAN-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$1,000 per month  
 05 SUPERVISOR, PRODUCTION-Salary:\$1,500 per month  
 35 CUTTER, MACHINE-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MID, INC. (MIDI) dba World Tex Manufacturing Tel. 234-7851(3/14)Th223057

01 REPORTERWRITER-Salary:\$600-\$900 per month  
 01 STRIPPER-Salary:\$3.00-\$6.00 per hour  
 04 PRESS OPERATOR-Salary:\$3.00-\$6.00 per hour  
 02 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.00-\$6.00 per hour  
 Contact: YOUNIS ART STUDIO, INC. Tel. 234-9797/6341(3/14)Th5872

01 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CORP. Tel. 235-5086/92(3/21)Th223150

04 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.85-\$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: MARU ICHI, INC. Tel. 256-9402/287-6278(3/21)Th2234164

01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MARIANAS RENTAL CORPORATION Tel. 234-8338(3/21)Th223149

01 SALES CLERK-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 05 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: LUZVIMINDA S. INDALECIO dba Jacie's Manpower Agency Tel. 235-3687(3/21)Th223143

01 ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
 03 (GAMEROOM) ATTENDANT -Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: PHILIP SONG ENT. LTD. dba Winners Club Gaming Room Tel. 234-6789(3/21)Th223145

**Classified First**

01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 01 GENERAL MAINTENANCE-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MR. ARSENIO N. FLORES dba Arsenio Enterprises Tel. 234-3572(3/14)Th223053

01 BUTCHER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 01 SALES PERSON (GEN. MOSE)-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: KOREA TRADING CORPORATION dba K-Store Tel. 288-2700(3/14)Th223049

04 TRIMMER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 08 MANUFACTURING MANAGER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MID, INC. (MIDI) dba World Tex Manufacturing Tel. 234-7851(3/14)Th223071

01 ARCHITECTURAL DRAFTER-Salary:\$4.00-\$5.00 per hour  
 Contact: HERMAN B. CABRERA dba Herman B. Cabrera & Associates Tel. 234-1778(3/21)Th223148

03 TOUR (COORDINATOR) COUNSELOR-Salary:\$3.00-\$7.00 per hour  
 Contact: TRIANGLE CORPORATION dba Triangle Tour Tel. 234-3488(3/21)Th223153

02 SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.00-\$5.00 per hour  
 Contact: B.J.C. CORPORATION dba BJC Discount Store Tel. 235-0388(3/21)Th223154

02 TRAVEL AGENT-Salary:\$3.00 per hour  
 Contact: FRED REIMAN/PHIL PAYNTER dba Offshore Marina Sports Caller Box PPP 167/Box 10000 Saipan

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$4.00 per hour  
 Contact: RENATO G. AZUCENAS, MYRA'S TRADING CONST. & MANPOWER SERVICES Tel. 234-3193(3/21)Th223142

01 TOUR GUIDE-Salary:\$1,000 per month  
 Contact: SAIPAN KORESCO CORPORATION Tel. 288-6001(3/21)Th223140

01 COOK-Salary: \$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MARIANAS SEASIDE DEV. CORP. dba Bras Restaurant Tel. 234-6666(3/21)Th223162

01 GENERAL MAINTENANCE-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: AA ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Tanapag Service Station Tel. 322-4447/3149/0609(3/21)Th223156

01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: GREGORIO F. BORJA dba Friendly Ent. Tel. 234-7450(3/21)Th223157

01 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CORP. Tel. 235-5086/92(3/21)Th223150

01 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MARIANAS RENTAL CORPORATION Tel. 234-8338(3/21)Th223149

01 SALES CLERK-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 05 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: LUZVIMINDA S. INDALECIO dba Jacie's Manpower Agency Tel. 235-3687(3/21)Th223143

**Classified First**

05 COOK-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 20 WAITRESS (RESTAURANT)-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: CHAMORRO DEVELOPMENT CORP. Tel. 233-1980(3/21)Th223146

02 ASSISTANT MANAGER-Salary:\$800-\$1,800 per month  
 Contact: EASTERN BEDEL CORPORATION dba KIM'S Office and Plan Consulting Tel. 235-2200/0405(3/21)Th223152

10 WAITRESS (N.C.)-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 02 TOUR GUIDE MANAGER-Salary:\$3.00-\$7.00 per hour  
 Contact: ROK FACTORY CORPORATION Tel. 235-0405(3/21)Th223155

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$2.90 per hour  
 04 TRASH COLLECTOR-Salary:\$2.90 per hour  
 Contact: CNM, INC. dba Trash King Tel. 234-3961/235-5766(3/21)Th223141

01 MANAGER-Salary:\$600 per month  
 01 BARTENDER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: NEZU AND BANE CORPORATION dba Club Cadillac Tel. 233-2808(3/21)Th223163

04 CAFETERIA ATTENDANTS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 04 COOK-Salary:\$3.30 per hour  
 02 DRIVER (CATERING)-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MARGARITA KINTOL Tel. 288-0964(3/28)Th223229

01 FOUNTAIN SERVER-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.50 per hour  
 Contact: BIG DIPPER ICE CREAM Tel. 234-9352(3/28)Th223259

01 MAINTENANCE MAN -Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 01 WELDER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: VARGAS CORPORATION Tel. 235-0297(3/29)Th223260

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$3.75 per hour  
 Contact: ELIZABETH M. MENDIOLA dba F.P.J. Enterprises Tel. 233-3808(3/28)Th223262

02 GAME ATTENDANT-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: GOLDEN BIRD CORPORATION Tel. 233-1041(3/28)Th223263

26 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
 Contact: MICRONESIAN GARMENT MFG., INC. Tel. 234-6236(3/28)Th223258

01 CARPENTER-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: EMILIO P. QUIATCHON dba E.Q. Construction Tel. 234-8827(3/28)Th223254

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$4.00-\$5.77 per hour  
 Contact: PACIFIC EAGLE ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 234-7914/1210(3/28)Th223255

02 CONSTRUCTION (LABORER/HELPER)-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.05 per hour  
 Contact: YCO CORPORATION dba YCO Servistar Hardware/Liberty Plaza/Liberty Sportshoppe Tel. 235-6604/5(3/28)Th5938

01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary:\$1,500 per month  
 01 CHIEF COOK-Salary:\$800 per month  
 01 ASSISTANT CHIEF COOK-Salary:\$700 per month  
 04 NIGHT CLUB WAITRESS-Salary:\$488-\$1,000 per month  
 Contact: STRINGSTONE ENTERPRISES INC. dba Bistro Tel. 322-5417(3/28)Th223257

**CAR WASH**

**Car wash, shampoo, wax, oil change**

**call: VTI Car Service  
Tel. 233-0694/0498  
Garapan, Middle Road**

**Experienced waitress needed - part time only**

Contact: Saipan Sunset Cruise, Inc.  
Tel.# 234-8230 / 233-8231

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**(1) ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER**

DUTIES: Assist the General Manager in his responsibilities for the general supervision, operation, and management of entire business activities of the corporation such as advertising, sales promotion, budgeting, procurement of personnel, act in the absence of the general manager. Assist in the review of operating cost and quality service, and must be able to communicate with Japan Office, read/write/speak Japanese. Must have computer skills, must be a college graduate with 4 years experience in the supervision of staff, sales, and marketing.  
Salary: \$1200.00-\$5400.00/monthly  
Contact:  
TASI TOURS & TRANSPORTATION INC.  
P.O. BOX 1023 SAIPAN NP 96550  
TEL# 234-7121 ASK FOR DAVID GITLOT

**WANTED ROOMMATE**

A roommate, preferably female, to share a house in Seritoes with two other women. The house is a large three bedroom house and two baths and a spectacular view. Rent is \$575.00 plus utilities. Deposit is negotiable. Available April 1. Please Contact Kelly at 682-2879 or Kandee at 664-2367 for more information.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**CIVIL ACTION NO. 96-10**  
IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR ADOPTION AND CHANGE OF NAME OF

HERSHEY P. MUNA, HEIDI P. MUNA, and APPLE PEARL P. MUNA  
 Minor children,  
 By: RICARDO SN MUNA, Petitioner.

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

Date: April 4, 1996  
Time: 1:30 pm  
Judge: Manibusan

Please take notice that at 1:30 p.m. April 4, 1996, or as soon thereafter as can be heard, this Court will hold a hearing at the Superior Court house in Susupe for the specific purpose of:

1. Determining whether a decree of adoption of the minor children Hershey P. Muna, Heidi P. Muna, and Apple Pearl P. Muna, should be granted to petitioner herein.

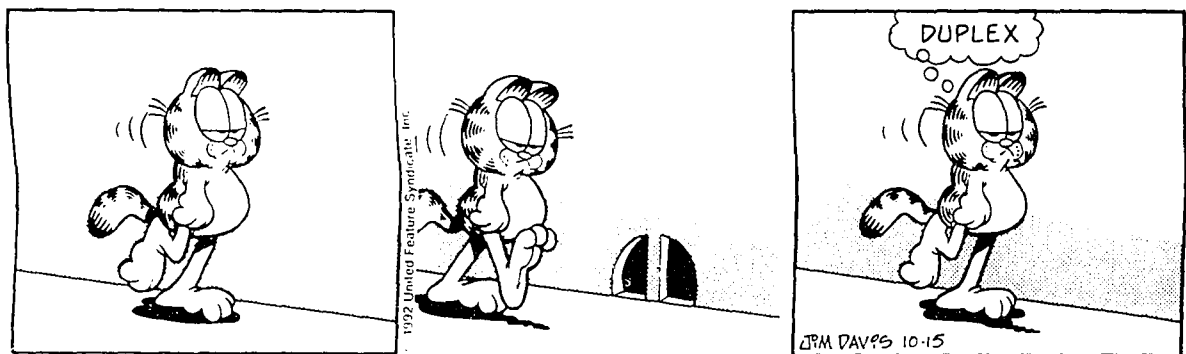
2. Affording any party adversely affected an opportunity to be heard.

Dated this 7th day of March, 1996.  
 /s/ Deputy Clerk of Court  
 Superior Court

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 willing to try almost anything. You may have learned this lesson during your youth when opportunity was minimal and you were no doubt eager to take advantage of anything that came along.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 1 Pallor 4 Billboards 9 Yalie 12 Call day 13 Experiment 14 Wrestling pad 15 One issue of a newspaper 17 Revises 19 Ripped 20 Monty Hall's specialty 21 TV's Margaret Houlihan 23 Least steady 27 Fluff the hair 29 Carrier and note 30 Heiden ID 31 Ending with velvet 32 Eats 34 Before 35 Filmdom's Serpico (init.)

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes 'Answer to Previous Puzzle' and 'KidSpot' logo.

Nuggets player suspended for not standing at anthem

DENVER (AP)—Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf, the Denver Nuggets star who has refused to stand during the national anthem this season because of his Islamic beliefs, has been suspended without pay by the National Basketball Association.

University, embraced Islam in 1991. Last summer, he was the keynote speaker at an Islamic conference of 700 in Orange County, California.

Judge denies Jordan's killer to address jury

LUMBERTON, North Carolina (AP)—A judge refused to let the man convicted of killing basketball star Michael Jordan's father speak to the jury that will decide whether he should be executed.

As you consider this case, do justice, love mercy," Bowen said, referring to the Book of Micah.

Muster ...

won in Philadelphia 1982-85. Muster first took over the top spot following a Davis Cup week when there were no ATP Tour events played.

Jose event, which was played one week later this year. Novak led 4-2 in the first set before Muster fought back to force a tiebreak by breaking Novak's serve in the eighth game.

Bruno still an underdog champ

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AP)—Frank Bruno will be the champion for the first time in a heavyweight title match when he fights Mike Tyson.

was thought to be finished after he was stopped by Lewis. But he refused to retire, stopping Jesse Ferguson in one round in his only fight in 1995 and winning on two quick knockouts before challenging McCall.

Mauleg ...

Ray Seman went 4-for-4 with two RBIs as D'9ers scored unearned runs. The win improved D'9ers to 4-3, while Amigos had their third defeat in a row out of six games.

1st Annual Pepsi-PABA Basketball League Schedule of games table with columns for Date, Time, Div., Matchup, and Team.

DATE BOOK

March 14, 1996 Today is the 74th day of 1996 and the 84th day of winter.

tronaut-airline executive, is 68; Michael Caine (1933-), actor, is 63; Quincy Jones (1933-), musician-composer, is 63; Wes Unseld (1946-), basketball player-coach, is 50; Billy Crystal (1947-), comedian-actor, is 49; Kirby Puckett (1961-), baseball player, is 35.

12 MONKEYS THE MOVIE HOUSE Showtimes 234-FILM Thurs: 7:00, Fri: 7:00, 9:45; Sat: 3:00, 7:00, 9:45

NFL ...

White is on record as saying the project, budgeted at \$220 million to \$250 million, should be built on the lakefront site where 64-year-old Cleveland Stadium stands.

Please note that postponed games will be scheduled on a later date. If on May 19 and 26 there will be a sweep the 2nd game will be automatically moved to 3:30 p.m. and the 3rd game will be moved to 5:00 p.m.

# SPORTS



## Mauleg posts 7th straight victory

AMIGOS lost its game with D' 9ers by one run in a costly last-inning error during the Saipan Softball Association men's fastpitch game opener last Tuesday.

Both teams were tied at eight all after seven-and-a-half innings

### 9ers score down-the-wire win over Amigos

of play when Joe "Pepe" Tenorio made a single that allowed Ben Sablan to reach home plate—the winning run—after an Amigos error, 9-8.

The error was the last of 13

errors Amigos team had in that game.

D' 9ers escaped past Amigos' 5-3 lead after two complete innings of the game that had stand-offs in the fourth, fifth and at the

top of the seventh innings.

Amigos' Jeff Cabrera opened the game with a lead-off solo homer but D' 9ers' Jess Peterson countered with an RBI triple. An error added D' 9ers chance to score two runs.

After a scoreless second inning, Amigos sparked four runs on five hits at the top of the third which

was rebutted by D' 9ers with one run, 5-3, in their half of the inning.

D' 9ers tied the score for the first time when they scored two runs in the bottom of the fourth, 5-5, on three errors.

After a scoreless third and fourth inning, Amigos sbwved some life at the top of the fifth when Jess Manibusan led off with a double

**Continued on page 23**

## Loners take game one of ladies' series

IN game one of the best-of-five roeball series, the Loners defeated Sisters and Cousins Association, 43-17, in four sets.

Loners took the first three sets: The first set, "scratch" 12 to 1; the second set, "match" 15 to 6 and skunked SCA in the third, 14-0.

Sisters and Cousins Association was in the lead, 10 to two in the fourth set when time ran out.

There were 14 aces, seven xunks, 12 kees and two goals scored in the game.

Joan Elimas of the Loners was the game's heavy hitter with five aces, three xunks and three kees for 22 points.

Jennifer Saimon scored most for SCA with three kees.

Game two will be played Tuesday next week.

The Marianas High School Pugua Court is reserved today for

the practice of the Micronesian All-Star Rocball Team.

The All-Star team will represent MHS in the upcoming 10th anniversary of the International Cup at 1 p.m. on Friday against the Miyazawa High School Triang team from

Yokohama, Japan.

Duty Free Shoppers will sponsor the sports shirt for both the host and visiting teams.

Pacific Trading Company will sponsor the commemorative plaque and the tournament trophies.

## NFL owners approve city deal

CLEVELAND (AP)—National Football League owners gave final approval Monday to the league's deal with the city, and Mayor Michael White got the word directly from commissioner Paul Tagliabue.

White took the call on a speaker phone in a room packed with reporters, city officials and members of the now-defunct Save Our Browns committee.

Tagliabue congratulated White and Browns fans, and said he is looking forward to attending the first game in the new stadium. White said the Save Our Browns

campaign is now closed and a new effort is under way to get the new stadium built.

"I'm very pleased to announce that our historic agreement with the city of Cleveland received final NFL approval today here at our annual meeting," Tagliabue said from Palm Beach, Florida.

The comment resulted in a cheer and loud applause.

The deal means Cleveland will no longer oppose Art Modell as he moves his football team, which used to be known as the Cleveland Browns, to Baltimore. Cleveland

**Continued on page 23**

## Muster wins Mexican Open, recaptures no. 1 ranking

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Thomas Muster reclaimed the No. 1 ranking from Pete Sampras on Sunday by defeating Jiri Novak 7-6 (7-3), 6-2 to win the Mexican Open for the fourth time.

Muster, who on Feb. 12 became the 13th player to hold the No. 1 spot in the 23-year history of the rankings, was passed by Sampras after one week at No. 1.

Sampras won the Sybase Open in San Jose, California on Feb. 18

to grab the top spot, but Muster's win Sunday, coupled with Sampras' withdrawal from the quarterfinals in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, because of a sprained right foot, catapulted Muster back to No. 1 by 19 points on the ATP Tour computer.

"It was good to win today because it proved I can be No. 1 by my own power," said Muster, a clay court specialist from Austria

**Continued on page 23**

## Becker beats Costa

INDIAN WELLS, California (AP) — Australian Open champion Boris Becker, battling swirling winds and Carlos Costa, was upset 6-3, 7-5 Tuesday in the Newsweek Champions Cup.

Costa's victory was his second straight second-round shocker in the Newsweek Champions tournament.

Last year the Spaniard, currently ranked 38th in the world, upset Jim

Courier in a second-round match.

The fourth-seeded Becker is a two-time winner of the Champions Cup, capturing the tournament in 1987 and 1988.

Earlier Tuesday, second-seeded Conchita Martinez won her third-round match at the companion Evert Cup. Martinez defeated Japan's Ai Sugiyama 6-0, 6-3.

## Soccer group needs volunteer officials

THE newly organized Commonwealth Youth Soccer Organization (CYSO) needs adult volunteers to coach, officiate, or assist the organization in other ways.

A non-profit volunteer organization, CYSO was recently organized so that eight and nine-year-old boys and girls in both private and public schools can play the sport and have fun.

The soccer board members—

composed of Tomasa P. Coleman, Regina Flores, Tom Kinsky and John Robinson— are encouraging volunteers to join them for fun and exercises while helping the youth.

Those interested may call the Governor's Office for Youth Affairs at 235-2397, or visit its office at the Afetna Square, beside the Mayor's Office in San Antonio.

## SSA meeting

THE coaches and managers of the ongoing Saipan Softball Association Men's Fastpitch League will have a meeting at 5 p.m. this

afternoon at the Gilbert C. Ada gymnasium conference room to discuss the second round schedule of games.

## Registration for BANMI island-wide basketball on

THE Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands is now accepting teams interested to join the island-wide men's and women's basketball leagues.

Interested teams must turn in their entry fees to BANMI secretary and treasurer Mike White or president Tony Rogolifoi on or before April 17. Entry fees are \$800 for the men's league and \$500 for the women's teams.

A meeting of all team representatives will be held April 17, 5:30 p.m., at the Gilbert C. Ada conference room. One representative from each team must attend the meeting.

To be discussed in the meeting are the games schedule and ground rules, and a new board of directors will be elected.

For further information, call Mike White at 234-6547, or Tony Rogolifoi at 234-1001.



A Japanese tourist tries the newly developed Kingfisher Golf Links in Talufofo which is set for grand opening at 1 p.m. tomorrow. The fourth full course in Saipan was designed by Senior SPG player Graham Marsh. Its clubhouse will soon offer top-of-the-line golfing merchandise and accessories. The course offers a more challenging round of golf because of its natural obstacles.

**Photo by Sony Daleno**

### SGA Ace of March result

Laolao Bay Golf Resort  
West Course

Name	FB	BB	G	H	LN	R
Ed Manibusan	37	38	75	6	69	
Frank Castro	38	38	76	6	70	
Brian Reyes	38	39	77	9	66	
John Babauta	38	40	78	8	70	
Ed Mangiona	40	39	79	13	66	ACE
Mei Sablan	37	42	79	10	68	
Fred Camacho	40	40	80	9	71	
Charles Reyes	41	40	81	13	68	#3
Ray Diaz	44	38	82	12	70	
Manny Sablan	39	44	83	8	75	
Rex Palacios	41	45	86	12	74	
Art Camacho	43	43	86	15	71	
Tony Salas	45	41	86	9	77	
Max Castro	41	46	87	20	67	#2
Peta Reyes	45	42	87	12	75	
Ike Villanueva	45	42	87	15	72	
Froman Demapan	43	46	89	20	69	
Sonny Flores	44	46	90	15	75	
Lou Duenas	49	42	91	15	76	
Bern Aldan	45	47	92	19	73	
Joe Jones	42	51	93	20	73	
Norbert Sablan	47	48	95	18	77	
George Duenas	53	49	102	30	72	
Ray Salas	58	48	106	16	90	

FB-Front Nine, BB-Back Nine, G-Gross  
LN-Low Net score, R-Ranking

ACE of March champion is Ed Mangiona. SGA congratulated Mangiona for a superb performance. The SGA Ace of April is tentatively scheduled on April 13.

All members are advised to call the following officers if you wish to participate in the next tournament: John Babauta 235-0818, Ray Diaz 322-6581 and Brian Reyes 234-1618.

Application for the Sister Remedios Third Annual Golf Tournament is now available at all golf courses.