



# Marianas Variety News & Views

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## Chun hints OSHA 'bias'

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

A FORMER area director of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration yesterday said the federal agency has been inspecting the CNMI and Guam more frequently, and has imposed stiffer penalties compared to similar violations cited elsewhere in the United States.

### Ex-official: Employers 'not told' they may 'refuse' inspectors entry

Walter Chun, now a certified safety professional in Hawaii, said that OSHA has also not been educating employers in the CNMI and Guam on what their rights are.

For example, Chun said employers have the right to contest OSHA's citations, and can deny

entry to OSHA inspectors.

Likewise, employers have the right to be informed of what is going on during an OSHA inspection.

"There is indiscriminate treatment of employers in the CNMI and Guam, and it appears that OSHA's inspection here has in-

creased in frequency compared to the rest of the nation," Chun said.

He added that the types of violations OSHA is citing in the Marianas are different from what they cited elsewhere in the United States.

"They've assessed higher penalties and they have not been able to provide any consultation and educational services to teach people what their responsibilities and rights are."

As a result, Chun said, CNMI and Guam employers have been unable to exercise their rights.

He said he found out about the apparent "discrepancy" in OSHA's enforcement statistics.

On Guam alone, OSHA collects \$1 million a year in terms of penalties, Chun said, "and that's not the same (elsewhere in the United States)." (see related story in this issue)



Walter Chun

Asked why he thinks OSHA is apparently treating the CNMI and Guam in a different way, Chun said, "It's probably politically-related, but I can't figure it out. There's no logic why it's happening."

A possible remedy, Chun said, is establishing a local OSHA

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Members of a visiting US Congressional delegation pay a courtesy visit to House Speaker Diego T. Benavente yesterday. The group, composed of six congressional staffers and two media representatives, arrived Monday for a four-day visit.

## Cabrera to keep DOF post while heading Tenorio's flat tax panel

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio has formalized the appointment of Finance Secretary Antonio Cabrera as head of a Special Projects Committee that will conduct a comprehensive study of the planned flat tax system in the Commonwealth.

The governor allowed Cabrera to keep his departmental position, even as deputy Finance Secretary Gabriel Camacho will be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the department during Cabrera's "absence."

Earlier, Tenorio said he would take Cabrera out of the Finance portfolio to concentrate on the flat tax job.

Tenorio is proposing the implementation of a flat tax system based on a 10 percent rate.

"The flat tax system will provide a uniform tax rate which will increase the Commonwealth's tax revenue, lower the individual and corporate burden, and attract for-

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## Former owners of hotel allege coercion, assault

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE FORMER owners of Oriental Hotel in Garapan filed yesterday a \$1-million countersuit against a businessman who allegedly harassed them in order to collect money and control some of the hotel's shares.

Goo Ho Cho and his wife Yong Cha Yi, shareholders and owners of World Trading Corporation (WTC), and International K.S.T. Enterprises Inc. (IKST), sought punitive damages against Jong Hyeon Choi.

Cho and Yi, through counsel Pamela Brown, sued Choi, owner of World Brothers Corp. (WBC), for alleged harassment, coercion, extortion, assault and

false imprisonment.

In the counter-complaint filed in Superior Court, Brown stated that Choi as president of WBC invested \$300,000 in IKST for the establishment of gaming operations at the Oriental Hotel which was then owned by WTC.

Brown said that when IKST was able to commence gaming operations, Choi began demanding the return of WBC's investment from Cho, personally.

Choi demanded \$500,000 payment plus 200% penalty from Cho, who refused on the argument that the debt was IKST's debt and not his.

During the next several months, Brown said, Choi "invaded Cho's right of privacy,

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## Young accepts invitation to visit NMI

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

MEMBERS of the U.S. House Resources Committee will visit the CNMI this year.

Committee chair Don Young (R-Alaska), in a letter sent yesterday, has accepted Resident Rep. Juan N. Babauta's invitation to come here and look into the changes that have happened in the CNMI since the committee last visited it in 1989.

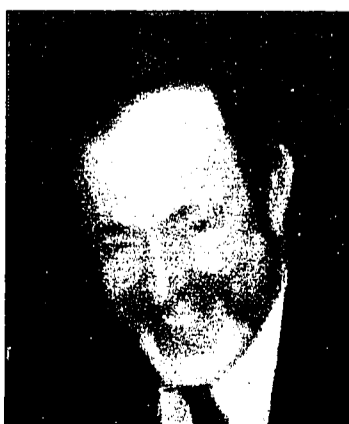
"This is very good news," Babauta said in a media state-

ment.

"This is the House chair and committee most important to the CNMI. (It's time for them to see for themselves what the Commonwealth looks like."

However, it is not known whether Rep. George Miller (D-California), the ranking Democrat of the committee, will join Young in the visit.

The CNMI's most vocal critic in Congress, Miller was among the committee members who visited the CNMI in 1989.



Don Young

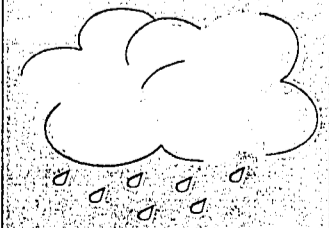
Young, in his letter to Babauta, said he is optimistic that he and the other committee members will be in the CNMI during the current session of Congress, which usually ends in October, or in the beginning of the next session, which is in December or January.

"A trip (to the CNMI) will give the committee an opportunity to hear directly from the (local) people," Young said.

Babauta has been asking Young to visit the CNMI since last year,

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## WEATHER Outlook



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers

# 'Greater peace in Europe'

By RON FOURNIER  
PARIS (AP) - It came as a shock to NATO leaders when an interpreter quoted Boris Yeltsin as saying that weapons aimed at NATO countries "are going to have their warheads removed."

Popping out of their seats, U.S. officials scurried out of the room and quickly determined that the Russian president did not promise to dismantle his country's warheads during a summit meeting with Western leaders Tuesday.

What he actually said in an unscripted second visit to the lectern at the Elysee Palace was this: "After having signed the documents I am going to make the following decision. All nuclear warheads aimed at NATO countries will be taken off combat duty today."

This was a much less significant - mostly symbolic - pledge to no longer point weapons at countries on NATO soil, but Western officials called it a welcome surprise.

"It is a confidence-building measure not to have these missiles targeted," White House press

## Yeltsin promises missiles won't target NATO



President Clinton, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, French President Jacques Chirac and NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana (front, from left) pose for a group picture at the end of the NATO-Russia summit in Paris Tuesday. On back row are from left, Spanish Prime Minister Jose-Maria Aznar, Jean-Claude Juncker of Luxembourg and Dutch Prime Minister Wim Kok. AP

agreement was largely symbolic because missiles could be re-targeted on U.S., British or Russian cities within minutes in a crisis.

U.S. officials did not know how many Russian missiles are targeted at NATO soil. Britain already has a no-targeting pact with Russia. France is expected to benefit the most because large numbers of Russian missiles are pointed its way, U.S. officials said.

Typically playful and unpredictable, Yeltsin reveled in his role at center stage as he joined 16 NATO leaders, including U.S. President Bill Clinton, to sign an accord between Moscow and the military alliance formed 48 years ago to curb Soviet ambitions.

Setting aside deep reservations about NATO expansion toward his borders, Yeltsin said the agreement "will protect Europe and the world from a new confrontation."

"This is ... a victory for reason," he said. "No doubt this is peace in Europe - peace after the Cold War."

The Russia-NATO agreement, which gives Moscow a voice but not a veto in NATO affairs, is designed to ease Moscow's anger over plans to incorporate former Soviet allies into the military alliance.

Yeltsin, clowning for the crowd of diplomats and politicians, heaved a mock sigh and smiled

secretary Mike McCurry said.

Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, said Yeltsin promised to take further steps to build NATO's trust.

Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov hinted at one step: "Talks will be conducted to

remove the warheads from those missiles altogether."

Yeltsin's announcement was an extension of the January 1994 U.S.-Russian agreement no longer to aim their long-range nuclear missiles at each other.

At the time, experts said the

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## Despite high court ruling, Clinton may be spared embarrassing trial

By LAURIE ASSEO  
WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bill Clinton could still be spared an embarrassing trial in a sexual-harassment lawsuit despite a Supreme Court decision allowing the case to proceed.

Paula Jones, a former Arkansas state employee, is suing Clinton, claiming he propositioned her in a hotel room while he was governor in 1991. He has denied the charge and his attorneys have sought to delay the trial until after his term ends in 2001. But on Tuesday, the United

States' highest court ruled unanimously that the U.S. constitution does not shield a sitting president from having to face lawsuits over acts unrelated to his official duties.

"Like every other citizen ... (Jones) has a right to an orderly disposition of her claims," Justice John Paul Stevens wrote for the court.

However, Stevens also spoke of "the high respect that is owed to the office of the chief executive," and he concluded: "A stay of either the trial or ... (pretrial fact-finding) might be justified by considerations that do not require the recognition of any constitutional immunity."

Jones' lawyers exulted over the ruling, and a friend of Jones said Jones "just screamed and yelled and cried" with delight. The lawyers said an apology and admission from Clinton might still head off a trial.

The president's private lawyer, Robert S. Bennett, said in a statement, "We are confident that the case ultimately will be resolved in the president's favor."

The case returns to U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright, who took a law school class from Clinton when he taught at the University of Arkansas law school.

The judge wasted little time after the Supreme Court's ruling,



Paula Jones

saying she expected Clinton to respond to Jones' lawsuit within two months. Soon afterward, Wright said, she will file a scheduling order setting a trial date and imposing various pretrial deadlines.

Typically, such a case could go to trial in as little as 14 months, the judge noted. But she also said in a statement the trial date could be later, depending on extenuating circumstances.

Wright had ruled in 1994 that Jones' lawsuit should be delayed until Clinton left office although pre-trial fact-finding could begin. But the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed, ruling in January 1996 that the case could go to trial during Clinton's presidency.

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# Another 'colleague' letter

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

CITING the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's recent in-

## Miller continues anti-CNMI campaign among House members

spection of CNMI "labor camps," U.S. Rep. George Miller has said that

the Commonwealth's more than 30,000 alien workers continue to be

"in peril."

In another "Dear Colleague" letter to members of Congress, Miller (D-California) said OSHA inspection of "CNMI labor camps, garment factories and construction sites" found more than 500 violations.

Half of the violations are classified as serious, he added, "meaning they could cause death or serious injury!" But instead of addressing "these well-documented illegal conditions, (Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio) has orchestrated a million dollar-plus public relations campaign to counter the negative press," Miller said.

He added that after the "all-expenses paid trips to Saipan, five-star hotels [sic] and personal tours," the guests from Washington D.C. "have reported that the foreign workers 'seem happy.' Federal labor inspection officials were less impressed."

Miller said OSHA's findings should convince other U.S. representatives that "Congress cannot delay taking action to ensure that all workers on U.S. soil live and work in safe environment and are fully protected by U.S. laws."

He then urged the other congressmen to support his bill, H.R. 1450, which would prohibit the CNMI from using the "Made in USA" label on its



George Miller

garment products.

Miller's bill would also federalize local immigration and wage policies.

He added that more than 40 of the 435 voting members of the U.S. House of Representatives have co-sponsored his legislation.

Reacting to the OSHA inspection report, Tenorio, in a paid advertisement published Tuesday by the Variety, said that it is about time the agency look into the CNMI.

The inspection, he added, is not "bad news."

"(Local) employers should get busy cleaning up barracks and our own Division of Labor should make sure that housing provided to contract workers meets legal standards...."

## Cing bolts Tinian Unity Party

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

SENATOR David M. Cing yesterday announced that he is no longer supporting Tinian Mayor Herman M. Manglona's reelection efforts, and instead is backing up former mayor Ike Quichocho, the Republican who beat Cing in the 1985 election.

The Tinian Democrat added that he has also ceased to be a member of the Unity's coalition ticket.

"I just can not tolerate a person who confuses me at a time like this," Cing said, referring to Manglona's apparent support for Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio.

Cing is supporting the Republican gubernatorial candidate, former governor Pedro P.

Tenorio.

Cing said leaving Unity, which backed him in the 1995 elections, was a "difficult decision," but, he added, "we also need to restore integrity in the Tinian Gaming Commission."

He did not elaborate. Calling Quichocho one of Tinian's "best mayors ever," Cing said his candidate's top priority once elected will be to clean up the Tinian Gaming Commission.

Elected in 1985, Quichocho was mayor from 1986 to 1990.

After a petition to recall him failed, Quichocho quit politics, and did not run for reelection in 1989.

Cing said then senators Manglona and Jose P. Mafnas, now the chair of Tinian Gaming

Commission, wanted Quichocho ousted.

If that happened, Cing added, he would have succeeded Quichocho, being the candidate who got the second highest vote in the 1985 mayoral election.

"But I stood by him (Quichocho), because that's not how I want to become mayor," Cing said.

Aside from Manglona—a Republican who is running as Unity candidate—and Quichocho, another Republican, Sen. Henry DLG. San Nicolas has also declared his candidacy.

Cing said Quichocho may run as an independent.

The Variety was unable to reach Quichocho and Manglona for a comment.

## IOTA salvagers list the artifacts recovered from Sta. Margarita

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff

A GOLD bead, 10 complete copper ingots, 37 complete copper nail heads, and 8 garnets are among the initial finds from the sunken Spanish galleon Santa Margarita in Rota, an artifacts summary prepared by treasure hunter IOTA Partners showed.

The other finds are: 245 groups of earthenware shards; one porcelain plate, one porcelain jar lid, and 663 groups of porcelain shards; 127 groups of colored glass beads and five glass beads; 27 groups of copper ingot fragments; 19 incomplete copper nail heads and 18 groups of copper nail head fragments; one iron anchor and five groups of iron nail fragments;

Four groups of lead fragments; 52 groups of collected ballast rocks (many more were left at site); 19 groups of ship's timber; four bones; one shell fish hook or fragment of native jewelry; six seeds; one ship's caulking; and four unidentified items.

Lynn Knight, an IOTA consultant, said there has been no appraisal made as to the value of the recovered artifacts. Earlier estimates of the total value of the artifacts in the sunken 17th-century vessel range from \$200 million to \$400 million.

The salvage operation of the 400-year-old ship, which started in May last year, will cost about \$1 million.

Knight said divers involved in excavation project worked from May to October last year. This diving period was still interrupted by many breaks ow-

ing to weather disturbances and hitches in administration.

"Last year's diving season was a very good learning experience for IOTA," Knight said, however.

She explained that IOTA tested different methods of excavating the ship. Factors like sea current and sand shifts had to be considered.

The hand method of excavation was primarily used.

"It was a very slow process," Knight said. "Excavation had to be carefully done to protect the artifacts and the marine environment."

Knight said they hope to resume the excavation operation soon.

"The divers will try new methods that they believe will be faster. For example a large jackup barge (with legs, as contrasted to the floating barge) will be used to give them a bigger and more safe and stable work area," Knight said.

"This should greatly improve the efficiency of the operation," she added.

Knight said it is difficult to say how long the salvage operation would last, pointing out that the operation is actually a discovery process. She likened it to gold or mineral mining.

She also said the completion would depend on the weather.

"The IOTA Partners is taking a financial risk in undertaking this venture, but we believe the historical treasure is there," Knight said.

"We're hoping it will be successful not only for the investors but also for the CNMI which will get 25 percent of the value of the artifacts," she added.

Santa Margarita was one of two large ships that sailed from the Philippines in July 1600.

It met strong storms in the Western Pacific, floundered aimlessly for nearly eight months until it reached Rota in February 1601.

It is believed that the ship overflowed with cargoes during its last voyage.

Divers were convinced that they had found Santa Margarita when they discovered clavos, or decorative copper nail heads, which were commonly used as ornaments on churches and public buildings between the 15th and 17th centuries.

"Those recovered (clavos) on Rota could have been part of the ship's superstructure, used to hold the vessel's frame together," an IOTA excavation update stated.

IOTA also said the 663 groups of recovered porcelain shards "are unquestionably part of the great ship's cargo."

Samples of the over 1,000 red, green, yellow, blue, aqua and clear glass beads recovered from the Santa Margarita wreck site were analyzed by the Philippine National Museum, which found that some beads are Dutch, some Chinese, and some from other areas in Asia.

The recovered gold bead measures about nine millimeters in diameter. The IOTA divers expect to recover more gold during the deeper excavations this year.

According to IOTA, gold, being a very heavy metal, sink deeper into the wreck's remains.

## Filipino worker group planning 'mass action'

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

A GROUP of Filipino workers will stage a candle light parade coinciding with the celebration of the 99th anniversary of the Philippine Independence to dramatize their support to compatriots locked in disputes with their respective employers.

Vic Perez, spokesperson of the Confederation of Filipino Workers said rally organizers are also contemplating on simultaneously holding a "noise barrage" to express concern over the reported increase in the number of labor complaints filed by Filipino employees.

"We are still in the organizing phase. We expect the plan to receive overwhelming support from the community," he said.

"We believe that there can never be a genuine independence for as long as a vast majority of the workers are being subjected to various violations of their basic rights," he stressed.

The move came amidst an ongoing deliberation in the Philippines on possible measures that could be taken to protect Filipino workers from abuses in the Commonwealth.

Philippine Labor officials, including Attache Jesus Varela, has convened the meeting called by President Fidel V. Ramos to determine the extent to which CNMI-based Filipino workers are experiencing rights violations from their employers.

The discussions began last May 15.

Philippine Consul Julie Heidemann said the talks were precipitated reports indicating a 102 percent increase in the number of Filipino work-

ers who have filed complaints — mostly involving unpaid wages and long working hours — against their employers for the first quarter of this year alone.

The Consulate has monitored and documented a total of 151 complaints filed by a total of 374 Filipinos during the first three months of this year.

The same period of last year saw 91 cases involving 178 workers, Consulate records showed.

Employers, however, frown on the reported increase saying Filipino workers resort to filing complaints against their employers as their work contracts near expiration to have their stay in the Commonwealth prolonged.

"The simple reason why so many (Filipino workers) complain is this: When you complain, you get to stay. Why do they want to stay? Because many (of them) like it here on Saipan where they have an opportunity to earn a better living than in the Philippines," said Lynn A. Knight, advisor of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, in a recent letter to Senate President Jesus R. Sablan and House Speaker Diego T. Benavente.

Perez however refuted this saying workers felt "conductive" to file the complaint as the contract's validity period ends than have it done earlier and face retaliatory actions.

Citing a CFW review on the matter, he said all 151 complaints were "legitimate" ones.

He admitted thought that "a number" of workers observe the practice. "And we are discussing it with them," he said.

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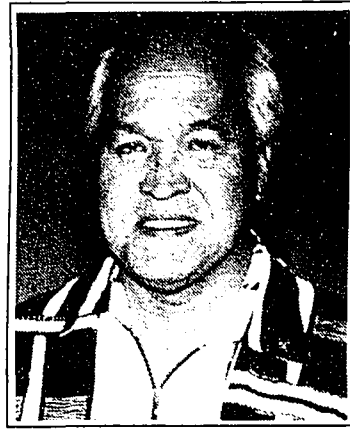
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# School-choice measure submitted

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio is sending to Legislature a bill that would give all parents the final decision on where their children will go to school.



Froilan C. Tenorio

The bill, which is set to be sponsored by Rep. Heinz Hofschneider (I-Saipan) to replace a "choice" measure he had previously introduced, has already won bi-partisan support and within the educational community, a news release from the Administration said.

The proposed law would provide a fixed amount of money to parents of eligible children, who would then decide whether they would attend public schools.

Although the proposed law does not state a specific amount for the "scholarship", figures ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,000 were mentioned.

According to the release, a two-year CNMI residency requirement is being planned.

The bill also warns that

schools that attempt to charge tuition in excess of actual costs of education may be disqualified from the program.

During a meeting last Friday with members of the CNMI House of Representatives, a stateside group of educators and school choice advocates cited San Vicente Elementary School as a good example of the potential positive effects of a choice program.

For many years, San Vicente has been known as a progressive and better-than-average school on Saipan prompting parents to violate district rules to bring their children there.

Under the new "parental choice scholarship program," each student would bring the amount of the voucher to the school, where the money would stay, to be used for possible new classrooms, maintenance and the hiring of additional teachers as needed.

Other public schools would have to upgrade performance to compete with each other and with the private schools.

Clint Bolick, Vice President of the Institute of Justice and an attorney who is now litigating the major school choice/voucher cases on the mainland, said the universal nature of the proposed CNMI law would make such a challenge difficult.

Under such programs, thousands of students are able to

attend religiously affiliated institutions without violating the U.S. Constitution.

"It is more sweeping and comprehensive educational reform package in the United States," Bolick said, "and it's the program I would most like to defend before the U.S. Supreme Court."

## Governor to attend Hawaii meeting of US Presidential Commission

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio is currently in Hawaii for a meeting with selected members of the local and American Pacific government and private sector members of the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure, the Administration disclosed.

Under Executive Order 13010, issued by President Bill Clinton, a charter was established to designate infrastructures that are critical to the security of the nation and to assess their vulnerabilities.

The charter gives examples of critical infrastructure as telecommunications, electrical power systems, gas and oil production, banking and finance, transportation, water supply systems, emergency services and other services which contribute to, or directly effect, the continuity of government.

The Commission was also charged with the responsibility of recommending a comprehensive national policy and implementation strategy for protecting vital infrastructures from both physical and cyber threats.

The commission is also responsible for proposing statutory or regulatory actions to effect the recommended remedies.

According to the release, the governor is attending the meeting to gain early insights into this important government program and to safeguard the Commonwealth's infrastructure as well.

Upon his departure Tenorio said he was pleased he was selected to attend such an important meeting.

"As we move forward into the 21st Century now is the time to plan ahead and take all measure possible to prevent terrorism," said the governor.

The meeting is being held this week at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Participants will examine the many issues connected with the work of the Commission.

**BUCKLE-UP SAIPAN!**

## Pohnpei special election

By Marilyn A. Johnson  
For the Variety

THE NATIONAL Election director, Max Mallarme, declared a special election for Pohnpei State to be held July 2.

The special election is called for under FSM election laws to replace vice president last Sunday.

If you are at least 30 years old

on the day of election and has been a citizen of the FSM for at least 15 years and a resident of Pohnpei for at least 5 years, you are qualified to run for this seat.

To date, Director Mallarme has not released any information on filing procedures for those interested in running for this seat, nor information on how to obtain absentee ballots.

## Borja, McPhetres:

# 'Covenant to withstand challenges'

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

THE COVENANT that established the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands can withstand any constitutional challenge as it always did in the past, acting Gov. Jesus Borja, and trust territory archivist Sam McPhetres said yesterday.

"There have been several attempts to try to question the provisions in the Covenant, and these provisions were upheld by the Supreme Court," Borja said during a human and civil rights forum the Aqua Resort Hotel sponsored by the CNMI Council for the Humanities.

"The Covenant will certainly withstand any constitutional scrutiny," Borja said in an interview with the Variety.

Borja was reacting to a dissertation published this year in Canberra, Australia, by University of Guam Prof. E. Robert Statham, who "revived" the issue about the inconsistency of the Covenant with the United States Constitution.

Statham's piece titled "The Confederal/Federal U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands: A Paradox of Independent Dependency," stated that the Cov-



Jesus Borja

enant created a political structure in the CNMI that is "unknown in constitutional terms."

He mentioned among other things the provision that restricts ownership of CNMI properties to indigenous citizens, which Statham said violated the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The CNMI Supreme Court had resolved this issue by upholding Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution.

Borja, a former Supreme Court Justice, recalled that when the Covenant was being negotiated, drafters of the treaty did recognize the inconsistencies of certain provisions with the

U.S. Constitution.

"But they recognized that this is a unique kind of situation that is worth putting into the Covenant because they felt that the court would uphold it," Borja said.

Statham also raised the issue about the CNMI people's non-involvement in the political system on a national level.

"We don't have the right to vote for president, Senate and congressional members, and everybody is aware of that. But that's what the document is all about: we give a little, we receive a little," Borja said, adding that "I don't like to see any changes to the Covenant at this time."

Meanwhile, McPhetres frowned at Statham's work, suggesting it was a product of poor research as it contained several "inaccurate information."

McPhetres noted that Statham did not mention any reference to the legislative history of the Covenant, and



Sam McPhetres

other circumstances surrounding the establishment of the treaty.

"He did not say why (the negotiators) did the way they did it, and under what circumstances," McPhetres said.

"The Marianas was able to negotiate certain situations in the Covenant which under other circumstances would be unconstitutional," McPhetres said.

"But because it was negotiated

between an entity that had inherent sovereignty and the U.S. they could negotiate whatever they want," said McPhetres, who was coordinator for international organization during the trust territory period.

McPhetres said the treaty became legal when the U.S. Congress approved it.

He added that the validity of Article 12 was further strengthened by the high court's ruling.

"The Supreme Court said it was an internal matter to the Northern Marianas," McPhetres said.

"When Congress approved the Covenant, the provision which allowed the Northern Marianas to protect land from alienation was made valid and legal," he added.

In the first place, he also said, the land alienation provision had precedents in Alaska, Hawaii and the Indian Reservation where the ethnicity factor, as in the case of the CNMI, had to be addressed.



Guam lawyer Ladd Bauman, (from left) human rights advocate Eric Grégoire, Philippine labor official Fred Biolina, and Guam professor Gerald Berkley-Coats answer questions from audience during human rights forum sponsored by CNMI the Council for the Humanities held Wednesday at the Aqua Resort Hotel.

## Region should have own rights charter, says Guam professor

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

ASIA and the Pacific region should establish their own human rights charter that would fit their own culture and customs, according to a visiting professor from Guam.

Europe, Africa, and America have their own human rights charter, while Asia and Pacific are the only regions that don't have any, Dr. Gerald Berkley-Coats said.

Coats spoke yesterday at a human rights forum sponsored by the CNMI Council for the Humanities.

The day-long forum, held at the Aqua Resort Hotel, discussed, among others, the "nature of human rights and civil rights in a democratic society."

Coats said, in the absence of regional charters, Asian and Pacific countries that are members of the United Nations are guided only by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which he said, "does not take into consideration individual customs of these areas."

"I think it will definitely benefit the nations of the Pacific and Asian regions if they have their own charter so that they can weave into this charter the customs of their islands," Coats said.

Coats said since Asia is enjoying economic boom, it tends to attract global attention, thus the need for it to build a pleasing image.

Asia is currently dealing with human rights violations in China, Burma and Indonesia. Observer expect Hong Kong to be placed in a similar situation as China sets foot on the island in July to retrieve it from British rule.

In the afternoon, the panel com-

posed of human rights lawyers, and human rights advocates and government representatives discussed the human rights situation in the Commonwealth.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

# SUMMER JOB

(05/19/97)

In an effort of according training opportunities for schools on the "Single Track" system, the Governor's JTPA Office is hereby accepting applications for the following number of Trainees (Ages 16 years & Up) for respective island throughout the Commonwealth:

Island	Slots	Contact	Office	Phone
Saipan	50	Gina Wesley/Rose Pua	JTPA Office	664-1700
Tinian	50	Gena Villagomez	Personnel Office	433-0032
Rota	50	Tina Manglona	Labor & Immig.	532-4003

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

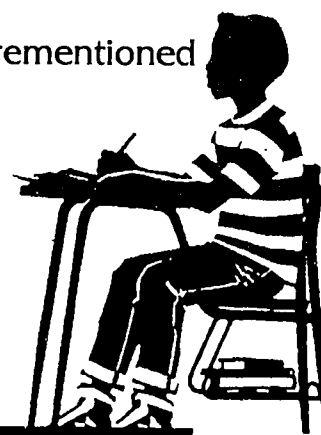
Deadline for submission are as follows:

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

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

*J. Nogis*

FELIX NOGIS  
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# Court OKs Dueñas plea bargain

**By Rick Alberto**  
Variety News Staff  
THE United States government has dropped two illegal-drug counts contained in a complaint against Raymond Tudela Dueñas (earlier identified in the Variety as Raymond Dueñas Tudela), charging him only with one count of distribution of a controlled substance.

Under a plea agreement approved by the federal district court, the US moved to dis-

miss the charges of conspiracy to import a controlled substance and conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance.

The US claimed that Dueñas delivered between two and three grams of crystal methamphetamine, or ice, to a "cooperating witness" on Sept. 27, 1995.

However, the total quantity of distributed ice attributed to Dueñas for consideration of sentencing was between 10

grams of ice is five years, while the maximum jail sentence is 40 years.

According to the plea agreement, any sentence imposed will include a term of at least five years of supervised release in addition to the term of imprisonment.

During the change of plea proceedings last Tuesday, Dueñas did not appear in court, and Judge Alex R. Munson had to call a one-hour recess to locate him.

Defense counsel Julianna Sandvold said Dueñas was all the while waiting a call for him to go to the court.

Munson set the sentencing of Dueñas for Sept. 4.

The defendant remained temporarily out of detention on personal recognizance.

Sandvold asked the judge that Dueñas' curfew be shortened by an hour, allowing him to be home by 7 p.m. instead of 6 p.m., but Munson denied the request.

# Judge upholds search of defendant's car as 'lawful'

**By Ferdie de la Torre**  
Variety News Staff  
THE Superior Court has denied a motion to suppress evidence against a woman who was charged with her aunt for allegedly passing crystal methamphetamine to an inmate at the Division of Corrections.

Associate Judge Miguel Demapan ruled that the search conducted by the police at defendant Jessica Lizama Leon Guerrero's car is lawful.

Demapan said inventory searches that serve as a pretext to

obtain incriminating evidence are by its nature frowned upon by the courts.

The facts in Leon Guerrero's case, however, is different, said Demapan in his order issued yesterday.

In this case, the judge pointed out that Leon Guerrero was arrested and her car was parked in a police parking lot with its window partially down.

Leon Guerrero was charged with conspiracy to deliver a controlled substance ("ice"), possession of a controlled substance ("ice") with intent to deliver, possession of a controlled substance ("ice"), and possession of a controlled substance ("marijuana").

Court information showed that Leon Guerrero was arrested on April 10, 1996 with her aunt Rose Leon Guerrero Keene when they visited Vicente Leon Guerrero at the DPS Male Detention Facility.

Keene handed a plastic bag containing groceries and alleged "ice" for her brother Vicente to a police officer.

During Tuesday's hearing, Brien Sers Nicholas, counsel for

Leon Guerrero, asked the court to suppress all incriminating evidence seized by the government as the search was illegal.

Nicholas said it is undisputed that no search warrant was ever issued by this court permitting any law enforcement officer to conduct a search of defendant's vehicle.

In his response, Assistant Atty. Gen. James Norcross said the government concedes the defense's point that a search warrant was never issued because the drugs in the car were only found as a result of an inventory search, thus no search warrant was ever needed.

Demapan said the police have the authority to secure the vehicle of the arrestee and to make sure that the contents are properly accounted for.

"The extent of the search shall be determined by directives. In this case, there is a standard procedure set up by the Department of Public Safety on how to do an inventory search and the scope of the search," Demapan said.

Nicholas also moved to dismiss count IV (possession of a controlled substance), citing that count II charges Leon Guerrero with possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

"Both charges refer to the same alleged controlled substance which was seized from the car in this case," Nicholas stated.

Norcross explained that count IV is not a lesser included offense of count II.

"This substance was that which was delivered to DOC officer in detention..." Norcross said.

Norcross said count IV is simply possession of a controlled substance charging the defendant with possession of ice found in her purse and rental car.

In denying the defense's motion to dismiss, Demapan said these two charges are not the same.

"The court finds that count IV is not a lesser included offense of count II. There is the element of intent to distribute which makes the two charges distinguishable," said the judge.

# Pacific group formed to address drug abuse

**By Ferdie de la Torre**  
Variety News Staff  
MEMBERS of the US Pacific jurisdiction have formed a group to train professionals to become substance abuse and mental health counselors and educators.

Joseph Kevin Villagomez, director for the Division of Mental Health and Social Services, told the Variety yesterday that a steering committee was created to address the certification process for substance abuse/mental health professionals within the Pacific jurisdiction.

During a meeting in Koror, Palau between last May 15 and 19, Villagomez said it was decided that the official name of the steering committee will be "Pacific Substance Abuse and Mental Health Initiative" (PSAMHI).

The director said the committee is comprised of representatives from CNMI, Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and American Samoa.

PSAMHI's vision statement, Villagomez said, "is a Pacific organization dedicated to culturally appropriate substance abuse and mental health training for counselors and educators."

He explained that part of PSAMHI's mission is to establish and maintain collaborative relationships and partnerships at the community, jurisdictional, national, regional, and international levels.

The addiction specialist vowed that his office will work closely with the Northern Marianas College in order to attract wider range of individuals interested in the field.

"The primary reason for certifying counselors is not to place them in the Division of Mental Health but rather to place them out in the communities," he said.

"For example, the CNMI Government is about to implement the Drug-Free Workplace program. A component that PSAMHI address is to train individuals in each of the government



Joseph Kevin Villagomez

agencies to have a representative train for their Employee Assistance Program (EAP)."

Villagomez pointed out that the school system could also have their own counselors get trained to better assist students who have a drug/alcohol problems.

The director hinted that CNMI will host the next PSAMHI Steering Committee meeting in November 1997.

Villagomez said the committee also voted to have the first training in the CNMI in early 1998.

# NAP: Less foodstamp recipients may mean improving economy

**By Jojo Dass**  
Variety News Staff  
THE FIRST half of this fiscal year registered a monthly average of 3.5 percent decline in the number of households seeking foodstamp program assistance.

And this, according to Nutrition Program Assistance Director Patricia de Beer, may be an indication the economy is getting better.

Less foodstamp beneficiaries, she said, means less jobless people.

"That's my conclusion... that show we look at it," she said.

NAP records showed that the number of foodstamp applicants dropped 20 percent from 1,075 in October 1996 to 858 last month.

"I think this (decrease) is significant," said Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Thomas A. Tebuteb, for his part.

The records showed that the number of applicants have decreased, from 1,075 in October to 961 in Nov. and then on to 937 in Dec.

By Jan. this year, the number of applicants has further dipped to 886



Patricia de Beer

dip deeper as the economy reportedly continues to grow.

Adding to this projected decline is the estimated 500 legal immigrants who, de Beer said, may not anymore benefit from such subsidies following the US Congress' enactment of a law requiring stiffer criteria for welfare.

The new welfare scheme, specifically known as the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, only allows immigrants with five year permanent residency to be program beneficiaries.

Immediate kin of these immigrants will also have their income and resources counted for the latter's eligibility.

These, de Beer said, would mean immigrants will be finding it difficult to acquire eligibility.


Tebuteb is scheduled to leave for San Francisco next month to represent CNMI government in talks with the federal government which will be done to determine the extent to which the new law will impact on local foodstamp beneficiaries.

before sinking lower to 882 in Feb. and even more lower in March at 853.

A decrease in approved applications went along with the decrease in applicants as 6,370 of the 6,629 foodstamp applicants acquired the welfare aid.

As of last month, a total of 3,280 households were receiving foodstamps, a figure 20 percent lower than last October's 4,087.

The decline in the number of foodstamp applicants is expected to




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# Kiribati in urgent need of engineers

**TARAWA (Pacnews)**—Kiribati is inviting two electrical engineers from Australia to assist in speeding up the restoration of electricity on Betio, south of the capital Tarawa.

Betio experienced a blackout after a fire at the main power house a fortnight ago, Radio Kiribati reports.

Local engineers have successfully switched on the power after repairing the damage and replacing the cable wires connected to the main switch-board that was completely destroyed.

The power resumption, however, is not yet in full capacity and there are some areas on Betio, including government offices and private enterprises, still without power.

President Teburoro Tito says government is very concerned about the long power cut on Betio and has requested the Ministry of Works and Energy to help in the matter.

# Elsewhere in the Pacific

## PNG candidates own illegal guns?

**PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP)** - Dozens of candidates in next month's national election, including five government ministers, have illegal high-powered firearms that could be used to intimidate voters, according to confidential police and military reports.

The firearms are mainly in the coastal Morobe province and five Highlands provinces, according to reports in The National and Post-Courier newspapers published Wednesday.

The weapons include assault rifles, and there were reports of villagers and criminals possessing dynamite and grenades.

According to the intelligence reports, an Asian logging company smuggled a consignment of guns into Morobe two months ago, the Post-Courier said.

The intelligence reports described Morobe's capital Lae as a "very dangerous place" and added, "Hence anyone pursuing criminal elements or candidates with criminal support will no doubt be threatened."

Enga province in the Highlands, traditionally the scene of the worst election violence, is said to be tense because of the influx of arms.

"The entire province is volatile and infested with high-powered weapons due to the aggressiveness of the local people and the high rate of arms smuggling and accumulation," one report said.

"These arms are speculated to be used during and after the election."

One sitting member of Parliament allegedly has large supplies of guns and ammunition and his supporters are assaulting, threatening and intimidating voters, the reports said.

The National newspaper said many sitting MPs and candidates named in the reports had allegedly employed known dangerous criminals to campaign for them.

The elections run from June 14-28. Most candidates are focusing on local issues of patronage and influence, and allegations of government corruption are rampant — though almost everyone is running on an anti-corruption platform.

National parties are not as influential as local loyalties and issues.

## Manam islanders face starvation

**PORT MORESBY (Pacnews)**—Papua New Guinea's Manam Island is facing yet another disaster, but this time it is a famine which will last for another five to six months, according to a World Vision relief team which visited the island recently.

The team discovered that the people of Manam Island were facing starvation because the debris from the lava has sunk into the gardens, solidifying and creating a concrete layer over the food crops, making it impossible to plant new gardens, The National reports.

When the Manam volcano erupted in December last year, an entire village was buried under hot lava, resulting in 13 deaths and burn injuries to several others including children.

Four other villages were covered with mud falls and the remaining 10 villages, experienced hot ash falls which destroyed the food gardens.

Deputy coordinator of the provincial disaster and emergency services office, Philip Sawyer, said only five villages have been badly affected by the food shortage. He revealed that food supplies and water tanks are still being distributed to the villagers on Manam island.

## Death toll in RP storm up to 33

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** - Twelve more people, including three rescuers crushed by a landslide, were confirmed dead Tuesday as the toll rose to 33 from powerful winds and rains that pummeled wide areas of the Philippines.

At least four people remained missing.

The Office of Civil Defense said more than 77,000 people in metropolitan Manila and outlying provinces fled their homes and were housed in about 50 government shelters Monday at the height of the flooding and heavy rains spawned by a tropical depression.

Rescuers continued to search for the four missing people buried in landslides or washed away by rampaging floodwaters.

Meanwhile, rains abated and the storm - the first of the rainy season - moved away after crossing the country's northern region.

Police said the new deaths included three rescuers who died when another landslide hit them in Olongapo City, north of Manila, as they searched for three children buried by an earlier slide. The bodies of two of the children were recovered later Tuesday but the third remained missing.

Ten other rescuers were injured in the landslide, police added.

Also in Olongapo, a 2 1/2-year-old boy drowned in knee-high water inside his house as his mother was trying to keep their possessions from getting wet, police said.

The Philippine navy reported that one of its rescue teams recovered the body of a woman who fell into an open manhole hidden by floodwaters near a shopping mall in Quezon City, part of metropolitan Manila.

Red Cross officials reported that the bodies of two fishermen - a father and son - were retrieved in the sea off Cavite province, south of Manila. Three more storm-related drownings were reported in the Manila area.

On Monday, disaster officials reported that 21 people had been drowned, electrocuted or crushed to death by collapsing walls.

The heavy rains and flooding forced the government, stock market, schools and most offices to shut on Monday.

Confusion continued at Manila's international airport Tuesday as it remained without power after a main generator was submerged in Monday's floodwaters.

Hundreds of angry passengers jammed the airport's departure area trying to retrieve baggage or seek information about diverted or delayed flights.

The airport was closed Monday after the power failure cut off electricity throughout the main terminal, including X-ray machines, computers and movable passageways to planes.

## RP lowers '97 inflation target

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** - Philippine economic planners Wednesday revised downward their predictions for average inflation in 1997 to between 5.2 percent and 5.7 percent from an original target of 6 percent to 6.5 percent.

In an overview of the Philippines' economic health, the National Economic and Development Authority noted that inflation over the first quarter averaged 4.7 percent.

This was, NEDA said, "way below what the government expected" given the recent deregulation of the oil industry and a rise in the minimum wage.

April inflation was 4.6 percent.

NEDA said that with continued prudent monetary policy, a healthy fiscal balance and the absence of cost pressures, the inflation outlook for the months ahead appears "very positive." NEDA officials earlier said that no inflationary pressures are expected in coming months.

# According to US-EPA study Marshalls need waste system

**By Giff Johnson**  
*For the Variety*

**MAJURO**-A United States study recommending the Marshall Islands adopt a comprehensive approach to waste management that would include an incinerator to reduce the amount of solid waste going into landfills in Majuro, the nation's capital.

The U.S. EPA said that it would cost an estimated \$3.5 million to establish a long-term landfill site, construct an incinerator and purchase the garbage collection equipment required to keep Majuro clean.

Prepared for the Ministry of Resources and Development and U.S.

Ambassador Joan Plaisted, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report observed that the "current practice of disposing solid waste in open dumps located on reef flat areas presents public health, environmental and aesthetic problems which are detrimental to the well being of the community and may hinder future plans to build a tourism industry."

The EPA report is right on the mark in terms of tourism, "Garbage was the number one complaint of everyone in the group," said Paul McBride, coordinator of the first American package tour of sports fishermen to visit Majuro. "It is almost impossible to travel anywhere on the atoll without seeing piles of trash. The visitors agreed that they enjoyed their visit to the islands, but added that Majuro will have a difficult time establishing itself as a general tourism destination until it solves this problem."

The amount of waste needing disposal is growing, with the expanding population in the capital, which is projected to more than double to 65,000 in 20 years. Currently 29,000 people live here. But if an incinerator is used to dispose of the burnable trash, the amount of solid waste needing disposal could be cut by two thirds, the EPA said.

Without incineration, Majuro will have to dispose of an estimated 115 tons of garbage every day in 20 years. But with incineration, the volume could be reduced to about 35 tons daily, or about what is being dumped every day now, the EPA reported.

Region IX EPA director Norm Lovelace, a co-author of the report, cautioned that an incinerator by itself is not the answer to the waste disposal problems in Majuro.

"Majuro's waste issues is much larger than an incinerator," Lovelace said during a recent visit to Majuro. "An incinerator is a tool in the arsenal to combat waste."

The first priority, he believes, is to get a system organized. A major current problem is "who's in charge?" he asked. There are three or four agencies involved in collection, disposal and monitoring of waste in Majuro.

The EPA report urges the establishment of a landfill that is properly organized and prepared with adequate revetment to prevent waste going into ocean or lagoon areas.

"Majuro needs to develop a disposal program for the long haul," he said. "No single site will last for 20 years, but several could last for at least 10 (with proper preparation)."

Lovelace said that it is up to the Marshalls to decide how it wants to proceed. The EPA, he said, "will bend over backwards to help out. We like to be constructive."

What to do about waste is an increasingly critical problem not only in Majuro and Ebeye, the Marshalls two urban centers, but throughout Micronesia, according to Lovelace.

"It's a major issue everywhere," he said.

Because of Guam and Saipan's large populations, it is a huge problem there, he said. Saipan, he said, is now planning incineration to reduce the skyrocketing volume of garbage. In Palau, the government recently created a task force to review the problem and make recommendations for solutions, he said.

According to reports from Pohnpei, that island has recently contracted the management of its public dump to a private company.

## Japan invites FSM tourism proposals

**HONOLULU (Pacnews)**—The Federated States of Micronesia has been invited by Japan to request grant funds for tourism infrastructure improvements, including airport expansion.

During this month's Second Japan- FSM Roundtable Talks in Tokyo, FSM Secretary of External Affairs Asterio Takesy was encouraged by Japan's Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda to submit funding proposals that would permit one of the FSM airports to accommodate wide-bodied aircraft.

The funds would be used to rebuild and lengthen the chosen airport's runway and to make terminal improvements. The goal of the aid project would be to improve FSM earnings from tourism.

Pohnpei offers tourists the ruins of Nan Madol, while Chuuk contains the remains of dozens of World War Two ships and planes in a lagoon popular with divers.

Other matters discussed during the Tokyo talks included the further development of cooperative fisheries and agricultural activities.

It was noted that a Japanese company now is cultivating Pohnpei pepper in the FSM for export to Japan. The third series of FSM-Japan Roundtable Talks is tentatively scheduled to take place early next December.

## Pohnpei conference adopts 12 resolutions

**HONOLULU (Pacnews)**—A three-day State and National Leadership Conference convened by new FSM President Jacob Nena in the capital of Palikir has adopted twelve resolutions pertaining primarily to business and fiscal development.

Included is a request to Continental Air Micronesia to reduce airfares throughout Micronesia and for the FSM national government to investigate cheaper air service for the entire northern Pacific region.

Participating in the top-level meetings, chaired by President Nena, were the state governors from Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap, FSM Congress leaders, and the speakers of the four state legislatures.

Other resolutions pertained to improving ship transport among the FSM islands, reforming banking laws, and requesting the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia to establish a six-member committee to coordinate preparations for renegotiation of the 15-year Compact of Free Association with the United States. Negotiations are scheduled to begin in 1999.

## SPF eyes political reform for region

**PORT MORESBY (Pacnews)**—A Forum representative says the South Pacific Forum has begun to take active interest in Local Level Government reforms in the region. Dr Julie Delforce said in Port Moresby Tuesday, the South Pacific Forum has been concentrating more on finance and economic matters and not much attention given to the political reforms in the region, reports NBC.

Dr Delforce is attending the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) as a co-host and says the conference has the opportunity to put issues of decentralisation and local government changes firmly on the regional agenda.

Meanwhile, the director of the CLGF, Carl Wright, has indicated proposals are in place to hold a Commonwealth Local Government Summit prior to every Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting (CHOGM).

The first summit is expected at this year's CHOGM in Britain in which a Commonwealth Declaration of Local Government Good Practice will be finalised.



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Marianas Variety Newspaper now is distributed daily in many outlets in Koror, Palau and in Kolonia, Pohnpei.



According to French Left:

# Juppe exit won't alter plans

By CHRISTOPHER BURNS

PARIS (AP) - Having lost its favorite target in France's legislative elections, the leftist opposition contends Prime Minister Alain Juppe's plans to resign change little about the right's plans to govern.

Meanwhile, speculation mounted on who would replace Juppe, who said Monday that he will quit after Sunday's runoff as a result of the left's surprising victory in last weekend's first round.

President Jacques Chirac was to address the nation Tuesday night in a bid to recharge the campaign for his governing conservative coalition, struggling to survive amid record 12.8 percent unemployment.



Alain Juppe

"Chirac dissolves Juppe," headlined both the leftist daily Liberation and the popular tab-

loid Le Parisien. Chirac dissolved the National Assembly to call the elections, and Juppe was the next step.

But the departure of Juppe, who has served since Chirac was elected two years ago, "will not modify things much," Communist leader Robert Hue said Monday.

Socialist leader Lionel Jospin told Europe 1 radio Tuesday that if the right "doesn't know what to do to save the situation, we know what we want to do."

Countering the right's free-market reform and austerity aimed at spurring the economy, Jospin has proposed youth jobs programs and shorter work weeks with the same pay to spread jobs

around.

The center-right coalition on Sunday suffered its worst election defeat in nearly four decades, after the left pounded away at Juppe as the reason for the record jobless rate.

Leftist parties took 40.6 percent of the first-round vote, while the right took 36.4 percent, though it remained unclear if they could win enough seats in the runoff and put their differences aside to form a coalition.

"It seemed clear to me that the French couldn't understand that you can begin a new stage with the same prime minister," Juppe said on RTL radio Tuesday.

Juppe said a leftist victory in the second round is "a possible hypothesis but not probable," adding a victory by the right is "equally possible, even probable."

The right is hoping to get out the vote Sunday, after last nearly one-third of the electorate sat out last weekend's balloting.

Should the left win, Chirac will be forced to share power with a Socialist prime minister. That

would surely be Jospin. Such a "cohabitation" could slow France's bid to join the planned launch of the euro, the single European currency, in 1999.

President Clinton, meeting Tuesday with Chirac at the Elysee Palace shortly before the signing of a NATO-Russia accord, was asked by a reporter if he would give the French president advice on how to govern with a divided government.

"Hey, he still has another election yet," Clinton said of Chirac. "He doesn't know if he will have a divided government or not."

Chirac need not formally accept Juppe's resignation because he dissolved the National Assembly and the Cabinet on April 21, calling legislative elections nearly a year early in a bid to get a mandate for grueling economic reforms required to join the common European currency.

The first-round vote suggests the president's plans may backfire. The right held 464 - 80 percent - of the National Assembly's 577 seats before the election.

## Pope heads meeting on abortion in Germany



Pope John Paul II

in Germany should continue to participate in a counseling system for mothers considering abortions.

Under the law, pregnant women seeking abortions need certification showing they know about offers of help for mothers and children.

The German church, saying many women have changed their minds about an abortion as a result of the counsel system, has been resisting pressure from the Vatican to drop out of the system.

The Vatican said Tuesday's meeting was requested by the bishops.

Taking part were Cardinal Angelo Sodano, the Vatican's secretary of state and other top Vatican officials, and 27 German bishops.



On the fifth anniversary of the bread-line massacre, an unidentified survivor shows her grandson the place where she was wounded standing in line for bread, in Sarajevo, Tuesday. The massacre, the first in a series of mass atrocities during the siege of the Bosnian capital, took 17 lives. AP

# Taiwan protests to Japan

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - Taiwan on Tuesday condemned Japan's aggressive blocking of protesters from a disputed island chain, and Chinese nationalists demonstrated outside Japan's mission in Taipei.

Monday's confrontation between the Japanese coast guard and sea-borne protesters from Taiwan and Hong Kong was the roughest so far in a series of standoffs over the Diaoyu, or Senkaku, archipelago, which is claimed by Japan, China and Taiwan.

The islets, midway between Taiwan and Okinawa, are uninhabited but straddle sea lanes and fishing grounds and have unleashed a surge of nationalism in Japan and China, compounded by bitter memories of World War II.

They are an embarrassment to all the governments involved, which would clearly prefer to resolve the dispute quietly but cannot entirely ignore public opinion.

## Condemns Japanese tactics in islands dispute

The matter is "highly complicated" and a peaceful resolution will take time, Taiwanese Vice Foreign Minister Chen Chien-ten told reporters.

But no international territorial dispute can be solved by non-peaceful means, and "unnecessary measures such as interdicting with aircraft and ships will only complicate the situation and raise tensions," he said.

Hiroshi Hashimoto, Japan's Foreign Ministry spokesman, told reporters: "The Senkaku islands are legally Japanese territory, and we have no intention of changing our position on that."

Asked about the islands at a regular news briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang never mentioned Monday's incident beyond referring to "recent tensions."

He accused the Japanese government of inflaming tensions over the islands by encouraging right-wing Japanese to land on them and thereby "invade China's sovereignty."

He urged the Japanese government to curb the rightists and resolve the dispute through negotiations.

On Monday, Japanese coast guard ships - about 60 by the protesters' count - blocked, nudged and collided with a fleet of 28 boats carrying Hong Kong and Taiwan campaigners who wanted to land on the islands and tear down a lighthouse and markers put up by Japanese nationalists.

Protesters said four boats were damaged, including one from Hong Kong carrying 30 protesters, whose bow was holed in a collision with a Japanese patrol boat. Two Hong

Kong men were returned to a protesters' boat after they jumped aboard a Japanese vessel.

A Japanese coast guard spokesman who requested anonymity said some Japanese ships did bump protest boats. But, he said, "that was because there were many boats in a small area; it wasn't deliberate on our part."

The Taiwanese Foreign Ministry said Monday it formally protested Japan's "unfriendly behavior" and "invasion of our sovereignty."

In Taipei, protesters clashed briefly with police when they tried to storm the Japanese mission.

They burned and threw eggs at reproductions of Japanese flags.

Chou Hua-cheng, captain of one of the damaged Taiwanese fishing boats,

said he would file a lawsuit in a Taiwan court for damages and injuries he claimed were inflicted by Japanese sailors after he jumped aboard their ship to demand compensation.

The Japanese spokesman said no one was injured or arrested.

In Hong Kong, the South China Morning Post urged the protesters to stop their expeditions.

"History has many examples of international crises stemming from some small, private event which escalated out of control," it editorialized.

But the Hong Kong Standard called it "a fight that must be taken up by all Chinese everywhere."

The paper said the Japanese, who invaded China in World War II, "massacred thousands and subjected thousands more to inhuman pseudo-scientific experiments, are still squatting on Chinese soil."

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## DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE Request For Proposals RFP97-0131

Pursuant to the authority set forth in 1CMC 9301 ET SEQ, "The Commonwealth Lottery Commission Act" as amended by Section 307 (a) of Executive Order 94-3, the Secretary of Finance is soliciting proposals from parties interested in providing additional lottery type games at locations throughout the Commonwealth. Proposals will be analyzed to determine the feasibility of implementing additional lottery games as well as who are the most qualified applicants to provide such games. It is possible that no additional licenses will be issued following this analysis. The Secretary has determined that the annual license fee imposed for any Lottery Operator's License issued to any proposer selected to provide lottery games under this Request For Proposals shall be \$150,000.

The review criteria established by the Secretary include, but are not limited to: the location(s) where a lottery will be conducted; the volume of anticipated sales; the income to be generated for the benefit of the CNMI Government; the percentage of lottery sales which will be returned in the form of a prize pool to participants holding winning tickets; the amount and source of prize monies to be paid; the local ownership involved in the lottery; the previous lottery experience of the proposed lottery operator, the type of game proposed; the type of agreement and length of contract proposed; and other similar matters.

Any interested party should submit an expression of interest regarding this matter, in writing to:

Lottery Administrator  
Office of the Secretary of Finance  
Department of Finance  
Capitol Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

The deadline for submission of response to this solicitation is June 23, 1997 at 4:30 P.M. at the Office of the Secretary. Any response received after this deadline will not be considered. After review of timely filed responses, the Secretary will further examine those proposals initially determined to be promising.

The Secretary reserves the right to reject any and all response to this solicitation if, in his sole discretion, doing so serves the best interest of the Lottery Commission Act in particular, and the CNMI Government in general. Pursuant to 1CMC 9310, contracts under this Act are specifically exempt from any requirement of competitive bidding and are not subject to the laws generally applicable to public contracts.

/s/ ANTONIO R. CABRERA  
Secretary of Finance

## China: Australian business in Hong Kong safe after turnover

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) - Australian business interests in Hong Kong will be safe after China resumes sovereignty over the British colony next month, Chinese Vice Premier Zhu Rongji said Wednesday.

Speaking at a luncheon hosted by the Australia China Business Council, the Chinese economic chief said his country had "the ability and confidence to ensure long-term stability and prosperity of Hong Kong."

"The legitimate interests of Australia in Hong Kong will be fully guaranteed," Zhu said.

"China will unswervingly implement the principle of 'one country, two systems' ... Hong Kong will enjoy a high degree of autonomy, will be administered by Hong Kong people and retain its current social system, economic system and way of life," he said.

Zhu said the Chinese were confident "cooperation between Australia and Hong Kong in the economic, trade and other fields will develop further."

He also said he hoped "people of vision in the Australian community" would invest in China's

development.

"Australia has a considerable edge in some of China's priority areas for economic development such as agriculture, energy, mining, transportation and telecommunications," he said.

A small, orderly group of demonstrators waited outside the main entrance of the Inter-Continental Hotel before Zhu made his speech, chanting slogans demanding freedom for Tibet and Turkestan, but the vice-premier did not see them as he was brought in by another entrance.



Pupils of the pro-China Fukien Middle School in Hong Kong take Chinese lessons in this March file photo. While other schools emphasize science and economics and use English as their teaching medium, the pro-China schools teach in Mandarin, mainland China's language, fly the Chinese flag and celebrate China's national day. AP

The Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport is looking for applicants for the following position:

## GENERAL MAINTENANCE HELPER

The employee is responsible for assisting higher class employees in performing both daily scheduled repairs and maintenance procedures and specific phases of special projects. This class is an apprentice and entry level with an opportunity to develop the skills necessary to perform effective repairs and maintenance procedures.

The minimum qualifications for this position is graduation from high school or GED with strong desire to establish a career with the Commonwealth Ports Authority and interest in attaining essential skills to become proficient in terminal repairs and maintenance work.

The minimum pay is \$471.73 bi-weekly, or 5.90 an hour.

Application forms are available at the Ports Police Office on the first floor of the Arrival Building or the CPA Administration Office on the second floor of the same building. The deadline for submission of applications is May 30, 1997 at 4:30 p.m. Applications must be accompanied by an updated police clearance dating back five years. For more information, please call Tel. 664-3500.

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GARAPAN STORE

# Protestors to defy Kabila ban

By KARIN DAVIES  
KINSHASA, Congo (AP) - Opposition activists have pledged to hold a protest march in the capital in defiance of President Laurent Kabila's ban on political activities in the Congo. Organizers of Wednesday's planned march said the self-proclaimed president and his ruling alliance are no better than the nearly 32-year dictatorship they deposed.

"They claim to be liberators, but it is as if they have taken us from one prison cell to another prison cell," said Raymond Kahungu Mbemba, a leader of the youth movement of the opposition Union for Democracy and Social Progress. "We cannot accept that."

But Foreign Minister Bizima Karaha defended the hard-line stand of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo against opposition groups.

"We cannot have democracy if

there is no peace," he said Tuesday. "We cannot have development if there is no peace, so anybody who wants to create instability is an enemy of democracy, is an enemy of development, is an enemy of progressive forces."

Congo's 46 million people "want food, they want medicine, they want to go to school. They won't achieve that by creating chaos," he said.

The Alliance announced a ban on public meetings and protests Monday and warned that violators would be considered "enemies of the liberation of the Congolese people and be punished to the fullest extent of the law."

The ban was the latest restrictive policy by Kabila since his fighters seized Kinshasa May 17, ending Mobutu Sese Seko's dictatorship. Kabila banned political parties outright in some parts of Congo during his eight-month sweep across the



National secretary of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS) Youth Movement Raymond Kahungu Mbemba (center) calls Tuesday for a march against the Alliance of Laurent Desire Kabila after it decreed that all demonstrations are prohibited. AP

country. Interior Minister Mwenze Kongolo said soldiers would break up any march Wednesday and arrest those who took part.

"We need to show the people that we are marching that we are serious in what we're saying and what we're doing. That's very important in establishing order," Kongolo said.

South Africa's President Nelson Mandela, who unsuccessfully tried to arrange a peace settlement between Kabila and Mobutu, said the new government's policies were understandable.

"I think that dealing with a country which has been under dictatorship for more than three decades, it is quite reasonable for him to ensure that law and order is stabilized before he can

say 'I want all political parties to function,'" Mandela said Tuesday in Cape Town.

Two visiting U.S. congressmen, Donald Payne and Tom Campbell, agreed.

"It is not inappropriate in a tense time for a government to insist on a period of calm," said Campbell, a Republican from California.

"For 32 years you had a person who reigned and robbed and stole," said Payne, a Democrat from New Jersey. "In one month, people are expecting miracles. I don't think it's unreasonable for the government to say at the present time we should have a suspension temporarily on demonstrations."

The ban on political activity does not specify punishment, but Kongolo,

the interior minister, said anyone arrested for marching Wednesday would probably be taken to a military camp "where we can detain them for awhile and then let them go."

Most of the protesters support Etienne Tshisekedi, a longtime Kinshasa opposition leader whom Kabila passed over in forming his new government. Tshisekedi had demanded to be prime minister, saying his years of standing up to Mobutu had earned him the powerful post.

Kongolo said Tshisekedi's intransigence cost him a role in the new government, but said he was encouraging Kabila to meet with Tshisekedi to appease his followers.

State-run radio said Kabila would be sworn into office Thursday at the People's Palace, where parliament meets.

## Clashes erupt as Taliban enforces code

By KATHY GANNON  
MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan (AP) - Taliban soldiers clashed Tuesday with their new Uzbek allies who helped them capture northern Afghanistan this week, as the zealous Islamic army began to enforce its restrictive Islamic code on the recently won territory.

Scuffles broke out as bearded Taliban troops tried to disarm soldiers loyal to Malik Pahlawan, the

Uzbek general who led last week's revolt that overthrew northern warlord Rashid Dostum.

On Monday, Taliban tanks blazed away at Pahlawan's armor outside Mazar-e-Sharif Monday in a brief exchange. There was no immediate word of casualties.

It was the first sign of strain in the alliance that toppled Dostum on Saturday and drove Dostum into exile in Turkey.

In Kabul, a Taliban spokesman Tuesday claimed the capture of Takhar province, the former stronghold of the ousted Afghan president, Burhanuddin Rabbani.

"All the people of Takhar revolted against Rabbani and welcomed the Taliban," said the spokesman, Wakila Akhmad Wutukal.

The Taliban radio, Radio Shariat, said residents of Takhar "voluntarily raised the white flag of the Afghan Islamic Government." Foreign aid agencies, who have radio contact with the area, could not confirm that the Taliban was in total control, however.

Rabbani, who governed until the Taliban captured Kabul last September, was reported to have fled to Tajikistan and then to the Iranian capital of Tehran, said the Interfax news agency, reporting from the Tajikistan capital, Dushanbe.

On Monday, the Taliban pronounced edicts restricting women to their homes and instructing men to grow beards.

A cleric reading the decrees over the loudspeakers of a venerated Muslim shrine said women cannot attend school, cannot work, and cannot leave their homes unless accompanied by a man. Music also was banned.



Talibans in Mazar-e-Sharif radio their comrades staging an operation against Hazara Shiites at Naseerabad, Tuesday. Heavy fighting broke out as the thud of rockets reverberated throughout the area. AP

# Texas tornadoes kill over 30



A motorist waits as a huge tornado cuts across Interstate Highway 35 at Jarrell, Texas Tuesday afternoon. At least nine people and possibly 16 were killed and scores more injured as several tornadoes swept Texas. AP

By CHIP BROWN  
JARRELL, Texas (AP) - Tornadoes ripped through central Texas from Waco to Austin, wiping out an entire subdivision in this small town, killing at least 30 people and injuring scores.

Between 50 and 70 homes in the Double Creeks Estate were leveled by one of several twisters to hit four counties about 4 p.m. Tuesday.

"It's not there anymore," said sheriff's deputy R.B. Raby. "I don't know of anything anyone can do. It's just a flat, vacant field."

Thirty people were confirmed dead at a temporary morgue set up at the volunteer fire department and rescue workers planned to search for survivors throughout the night.

Bits of clothing hung from barbed-wire fences, telephone poles were snapped in half and a tractor-trailer lay on its back in the middle of a field. Hearses trickled in as rescue workers began retrieving bodies.

Stunned residents covered in mud wandered around in the rain, crying and consoling each other.

Max Johnson, pastor of the Jarrell Baptist Church, worked to comfort

frightened children.

"It's hard to know what to say, because right now no one knows who's missing and who's dead," Johnson said. "In a town this small, there's probably not one person who did not know someone killed in this tragedy."

The swath of destruction was about a mile (1.6 kilometers) long and 200 yards (meters) wide, officials said.

Jarrell, a town of less than 1,000 people, was largely destroyed by a tornado in 1989 that killed one, injured 28, and severely damaged or destroyed 35 homes and 12 mobile homes.

"This is worse," said Janine Brock, a lifelong resident. "It's going to be awful. They're going to have to bury so many people."

The violent storms killed at least two others elsewhere in the region.

In Austin, one person was killed when a tornado destroyed two homes around Lake Travis, and a woman drowned in a creek during a storm, city spokesman Carlos Cordova said.

The storms began in Bell and McLennan counties, about 60 miles (100 kilometers) north of Jarrell.

## NY mayor nixes Russian housing expansion in city

By JACK SHANAHAN  
NEW YORK (AP) - The Russian government is trying to expand the Bronx compound where it houses diplomats, but Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said they should first respect city laws and pay their representatives' backlog of 40,000 parking tickets.

Bronx neighbors have complained that the expansion plan - which would add four new towers to an existing 20-story apartment complex in the Riverdale section - will destroy the residential character of the neighborhood.

Giuliani said Monday that he has no interest in seeking a compromise with the Russians. But, the mayor said, "there is a solution to the bad relations they have with New Yorkers. Pay the tickets. Go into parking lots and pay instead of trying to park all over the city and block traffic."

"And, when you're drunk and beat up a police officer, take

responsibility for it. Don't run away from it," he added, referring to a December incident which touched off a battle between City Hall and U.N. diplomats over unpaid parking tickets.

"If you do that, like other governments do - like our government does - you'll have the respect of the people of the city of New York," Giuliani said.

As part of the proposed \$60-million expansion, the Russians have promised to knock the top ten floors off the existing tower.

A person answering the phone Monday evening at the Russian Consulate said the office was closed and no one was available to comment.

The 20-story residence was built by the then-Soviet Union in 1974. Any expansion requires city approval. The mayor said one parcel that the Russians want to use is planned as a street under municipal zoning laws.

about 3:45 p.m. and moved into Williamson County just north of Austin.

"It was unbelievable," said Thomas Soliz, a Williamson County resident. "You just look up and there it

is." Interstate 35, the main north-south freeway in Central Texas, was closed around Jarrell.

Elsewhere in Williamson County, part of a grocery store's

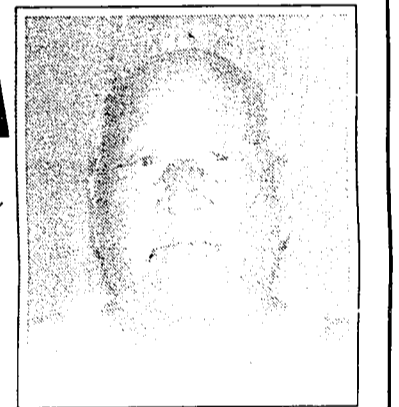
roof was blown off in Cedar Park, causing the building to collapse. At least eight people were hurt and one was missing in the rubble, said county spokesman John Sneed.



Bill Stentz, right, stands in the remains of his home near Moody, Texas, Tuesday after several tornadoes cut a swath through at least three Central Texas counties from Waco to Austin. AP

## Death & Funeral Announcement

### JOAQUIN BORJA "DASU"



Born: March 20, 1924  
was called to his eternal rest on  
May 22, 1997 at the age of 73.

#### PREDECEASED BY:

Wife: Rosa Hocog Borja; Son: Misael H. Ogo; Daughter: Andresina H. Borja; Sisters: Antonia B. Cruz/Federico T. Cruz, Angelina P. Rios/Francisco Rios Steward; Brother/Sister-in-law: Asinto B. Peredo/Rosa Peredo; Brother-in-law: Juan B. Peredo, Vicente Hocog

#### SURVIVED BY:

Wife: Timotea B. Borja; Son: Joaquin B. Borja, Jr.; Daughter: Andresina B. Borja  
Children & Souses/Grandchildren: Angie M. Ogo (Michael M. Ogo, Crispin M. Ogo, Eugene M. Ogo, Betty Jane M. Ogo & Sara M. Ogo); Jesus Hocog (Jessie Clarence T. Hocog); Ignacio H. Borja/Rose G. Borja (Misty Rose G. Borja & Joaquiline G. Borja); Candido H. Borja/Remy T. Borja (Rose Fatima T. Borja); Maria H. Borja  
Brother-in-law: Jose S. Bacarizas  
Brother/Spouse: Jesus B. Peredo/Uriki S. Peredo  
Sister-in-law: Ignacia Cepeda

He is additionally survived by numerous nieces, nephews & relatives.

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at the residence of Candido H. Borja in Dandan homestead.

Last respects may be paid on Friday, May 30, 1997 from 8:00AM to 2:30 P.M. at the above residence. Mass of christian burial will be offered at 3:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Burial will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your thoughts & prayers is greatly appreciated.

Island Florist Funeral Services  
Tel. 235-1001

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, the Board of Governors of the Commonwealth Museum of History and Culture, announce that it will hold a board meeting at 10:00 am on 30 May 1997 at the Governor's Conference Room.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow the board to organize and to draft by laws. Additional information concerning this meeting is available from the office of the Governor at telephone number 664-2282.

/s/ HERMAN T. GUERRERO, JR.  
Executive Assistant to the Governor

### COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

## INVITATION FOR BID

IFB97-008

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed bidding for the Procurement of computers for Garapan Elementary School. Specification requirements are available at the Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan during normal working hours except Holidays.

A non refundable fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) must accompany the bid. The twenty five dollars maybe a certified check a cashier's check or other forms acceptable by the Public School System and made payable to the P S S Treasurer. The bidder is required to submit a copy of his business license.

All bids must be sealed and facemarked "IFB97-008 with an original and duplicate copy and submitted to the Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., June 16, 1997 at which time and place all bids will be opened and read aloud. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. The Public School System reserves the right to award on a single or multiple award or to reject any or all bids if its to the best interest of the Public School System. All inquiry to this IFB announcement may contact the Procurement and Supply Office at telephone number 322-6401.

/s/ William S. Torres  
Commissioner Of Education

/s/ Louise Concepcion  
Procurement & Supply Officer

# N. Korea food stocks running out

BEIJING (AP) - North Korea's public food stocks, already exhausted in some parts of the hunger-stricken country, will run out by June 20, a U.N. official said Tuesday.

After that, people will be dependent largely on foreign food aid, food imports, and whatever roots, weeds and other nourishment they can scavenge until harvests are gathered later this year, said Rolf Huss, a U.N. World Food Program official.

Huss, who visited North Korea May 17-27 to assess the scale of the nation's food shortages, said he saw malnourished children and adults but did not see people dead

from hunger.

Communist North Korea hands out what little grain and other staples it has relatively evenly through a public distribution system, meaning people are gradually starving together, aid workers say. They fear widespread famine without large-scale food aid before this summer.

Huss said rations are now down to 100 to 200 grams (3.5 ounces to 7 ounces) a day, "which is definitely too little to sustain good health."

"The fear is that the whole population is gradually going down," he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

North Korean officials say the last public stocks of grain and other staples will be handed out by June 20, and already have been exhausted in some areas, Huss said.

Those last rations might last two to four weeks, so "coming into July, the food stocks in the central stores, the provincial stores, will be finished," he said.

Already, "you see people collecting weeds, roots that are edible," he said. "You see it everywhere, not only in the countryside, but also in the cities, in the

parcs."

Seaweed is also harvested as food in coastal areas, he said.

"They cope better than other people would do in the same situation," he added.

Even so, Huss said North Koreans will starve without more food aid.

"I can't see that without additional food you can avoid a serious problem," he said.

Based on the findings of his latest visit, Huss said North Korea will have a food shortfall of

1.1 million tons this year, despite food imports and food aid from the WFP and other groups.

The WFP is trying to raise 200,000 tons of food, the maximum it feels it can distribute effectively.

On Monday, the South Korean Red Cross pledged to deliver 50,000 tons of food, enough to feed 600,000 people for six months, by August.

North Korea's food crisis was precipitated by severe floods in 1995-96 that ruined harvests.

## Toyota recalls Japan vehicles

TOKYO (AP) - Toyota Motor Corp. said Wednesday it is recalling about 260,000 cars, mainly sport utility vehicles sold in Japan, because of two faulty parts.

Included in the recall are 2,000 vehicles shipped to Latin America and 5,800 sent to Europe. The recall does not affect any cars sold in North America.

The greatest portion of the cars affected by the recall, 170,000, had rubber plugs for engine coolant that

were found to be leaky, which could cause the engine to overheat.

The affected models, which were equipped with Toyota's 1KZ engine, included certain editions of the Land Cruiser, Hi Ace, Granvia and Hilux vehicles.

Another 74,000 vehicles were found to have problems with a spill control valve, which controls fuel injection in the engine. Toyota said a coil in the valve might break after extensive use, causing the engine to stop.

Those models included the Land Cruiser, Hi Ace, Hilux, Emina-Lucinda, Crown and Mark II. The last two models are sedans.

An additional 14,000 cars had both problems.

The vehicles with the rubber plug problem were produced between Dec. 23, 1994, and Feb. 24, 1997. The vehicles with the valve problem were made between June 1, 1994, and Oct. 7, 1994, and between June 1, 1995, and August 9, 1995, the company said.

Brown also said that on May 21, 1997 at 6:30 p.m., Cho went to E Yuan Apartments in Garapan at the request of Choi to discuss settlement.

According to the complaint, Choi demanded payment from Cho, who explained that he did not have money now but would in the near future.

Later that evening, the countersuit alleged, Choi called in a man, who on Choi's order, "locked the door, turned off the lights, forced Cho into the bathroom and tied the latter's hands with a rope."

Choi then allegedly told Cho that "tonight, you and I die. We will go to Bansa Cliff and you and I will die!"

Choi then left the bathroom and returned with a Japanese sword and shouted he was going to cut Cho on every part of his body, the complaint said.

Cho then allegedly forced

alcoholic drink down Cho's throat despite the latter's protest.

Choi reportedly left when his brother entered the bathroom and told him this was not the way to get his money.

"Not until some other men entered the apartment did Choi allow Cho to leave the bathroom and remove the rope from his hands. Choi then forced Cho to drink more alcohol while shouting for Cho to draft an agreement to pay \$460,000 and to sign the agreement. Cho refused," the 15-page document read.

Choi then reportedly wrote an agreement stating that Cho would pay him \$160,000 by the end of June and demanded that Cho sign the agreement.

For fear, Cho signed the agreement, said Brown.

She added that Choi entered an additional sum of just above

Cho's signature which increased the amount by either \$200,000 or \$300,000.

Brown said Cho later passed out only to be awakened at 10:30 p.m. or four hours later. He was told to leave the apartment.

Last March, Korean investors Jong Chul Go and Duk Man Kim sued Cho, Yi, WTC, and IKST, seeking \$397,500 in damages for fraud and breach of contract over a pachinko slot machine deal.

Eric Smith, counsel for Go and Kim, said his clients gave Cho \$148,750 representing half of the total amount as agreed as initial payment under the agreement to invest in a pachinko slot machine business.

It was not clear whether WTC still has shares in Oriental Hotel as the ownership of the hotel has reportedly been taken over by the Tan Holdings Group as of April 28.

## Chun...

Continued from page 1

office in the CNMI and Guam. "You have to apply for it and it will take a while to develop, but it'll be better to start now."

When told that a CNMI legislator has asked OSHA to exempt the CNMI from its regulations, Chun said "I don't think that's viable."

OSHA's regulations, he added, are applicable in the entire United States, and the agency has enforcement authority.

Not true OSHA's Region 9 director of enforcement and investigation yesterday denied Chun's allegations, adding that the agency has been doing its inspection in the Marianas "by the book."

Leonard Limtiaco, who is based on Guam, yesterday said

Chun may be entitled to his own opinion, "but I think he should know better."

Limtiaco said OSHA has always consulted with Guam and CNMI employers before and after an inspection.

He added, "We tell them their rights and we give them pamphlets that explain what OSHA is all about and why we are doing inspections."

"What we've been doing (in the Marianas) is not different from what is being done in the U.S."

He said the higher penalties OSHA imposed on some Guam and CNMI employer are for repeat violations.

"We strictly follow all the regulations," Limtiaco said.

Chun, who arrived Friday, is scheduled to return tonight to Hawaii where he is the certified environmental compliance man-

ager of Occupational Safety and Health Services, a private company.

A former OSHA area director, Chun left the agency after 25 years of service in the federal government.

He said he visited Saipan to look into the facilities of a garment factory's new building to ensure that it meets government standards.

An agency under the U.S. Labor Department, OSHA was created by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, during the presidency of Richard M. Nixon.

OSHA's mission is "to save lives, prevent injuries and protect the health of America's workers."

According to its fact sheet, more than 100 million workers and their 6.5 million employers are covered by OSHA's regulations.

# Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section

## Employment Wanted



01 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary: \$600.00 per month  
01 ARCHITECT-Salary: \$600.00 per month  
Contact: PHILIPPINE GOODS CONSTRUCTION, INC. dba Gen. Const., Contractor Tel. 234-6485(6/5)Th65948

01 CARPENTER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
01 MASON-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
Contact: JG SABLAN WATER & ICE INC. Tel. 234-3221(6/5)Th65967

04 MASON-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
04 CARPENTER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
Contact: SABLAN REALTY & CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. Tel. 234-3221(6/5)Th65968

01 TRUCK DRIVER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
01 H.E. MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
04 H.E. OPERATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
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01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$4.35-4.60 per hour  
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01 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.05  
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02 TOUR GUIDE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
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01 GEN. MAINTENANCE WORKER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
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01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$1,000.00 per month  
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01 COOK-Salary: \$3.30 per hour  
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01 OPERATION MANAGER-Salary: \$3.05-5.00 per hour  
01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.05-5.00 per hour  
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.05-5.00 per hour  
Contact: A & B ENTERPRISES SAIPAN, INC. Tel. 235-4897(5/29)Th229326

03 TOUR GUIDE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
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01 (BEAUTICIAN) HELPER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
01 BEAUTICIAN-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
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10 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
05 IRONER-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
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02 ALUMINUM FABRICATOR-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
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05 FISHERMAN-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
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02 GENERAL MAINTENANCE-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
Contact: LORETA RANGAMAR dba Joyce Enterprises Tel. 234-1774(5/29)Th229313

01 COOK-Salary: \$3.25-4.17 per hour  
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01 A/C REFRIGERATION MECHANIC-Salary: \$3.25-4.17 per hour  
03 WATER-SALARY: \$3.05-4.17 per hour  
Contact: PACIFIC MICRONESIA CORP. dba Dai-ichi Hotel Saipan Beach Tel. 234-6412(5/29)Th65867

03 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary: \$3.20 per hour  
05 GENERAL LABOR-Salary: \$2.90 per hour  
03 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$800.00-1,000.00 per month  
03 SECRETARY-Salary: \$3.05 per hour  
05 FOREMAN-SALARY: \$3.20 per hour  
03 ELECTRICAL ENGINEER-Salary: \$875.00-1,300.00 per month  
03 MECHANICAL ENGINEER-Salary: \$875.00-1,300.00 per month  
03 CIVIL ENGINEER-Salary: \$875.00-1,300.00 per month  
03 HEAVY EQUIPMENT CRANE OPERATOR-SALARY: \$3.20 per hour  
05 CARPENTER-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour

03 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
05 ELECTRICIAN-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
05 PLUMBER-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
05 MASON-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
03 ACCOUNTANT-SALARY: \$800.00-1,000.00 per month  
Contact: TELESOURCE CNMI, INC. Tel. 233-4501(6/5)Th229402

01 ACCOUNTANT-SALARY: \$4.50 per hour  
01 MASON-SALARY: \$3.31 per hour  
Contact: PACIFIC EAGLE ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 234-7914(6/5)Th229403

01 GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPAIRER-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
Contact: Y & P INC. Tel. 235-5566(6/5)Th229404

06 CARPENTER-SALARY: \$2.90 per hour  
06 MASON-SALARY: \$2.90 per hour  
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03 ELECTRICIAN-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
07 CARPENTER-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
04 MASON-SALARY: \$3.05 per hour  
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SAIPAN ALUMINUM & GLASS CO. Tel. 233-2410(6/5)Th229408

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## Young...

Continued from page 1

when the Alaskan agreed to support the creation of a CNMI non-voting delegate seat in Congress.

"I think that people here will want to thank Mr. Young personally for his strong support for equal representation for Northern Marianas," Babauta said.

## Former...

Continued from page 1

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, who has disagreed with Babauta on other policy issues, have told reporters that he welcomes Babauta's inviting members of the U.S. House Resources Committee, which has oversight jurisdiction over insular areas, to visit the CNMI.

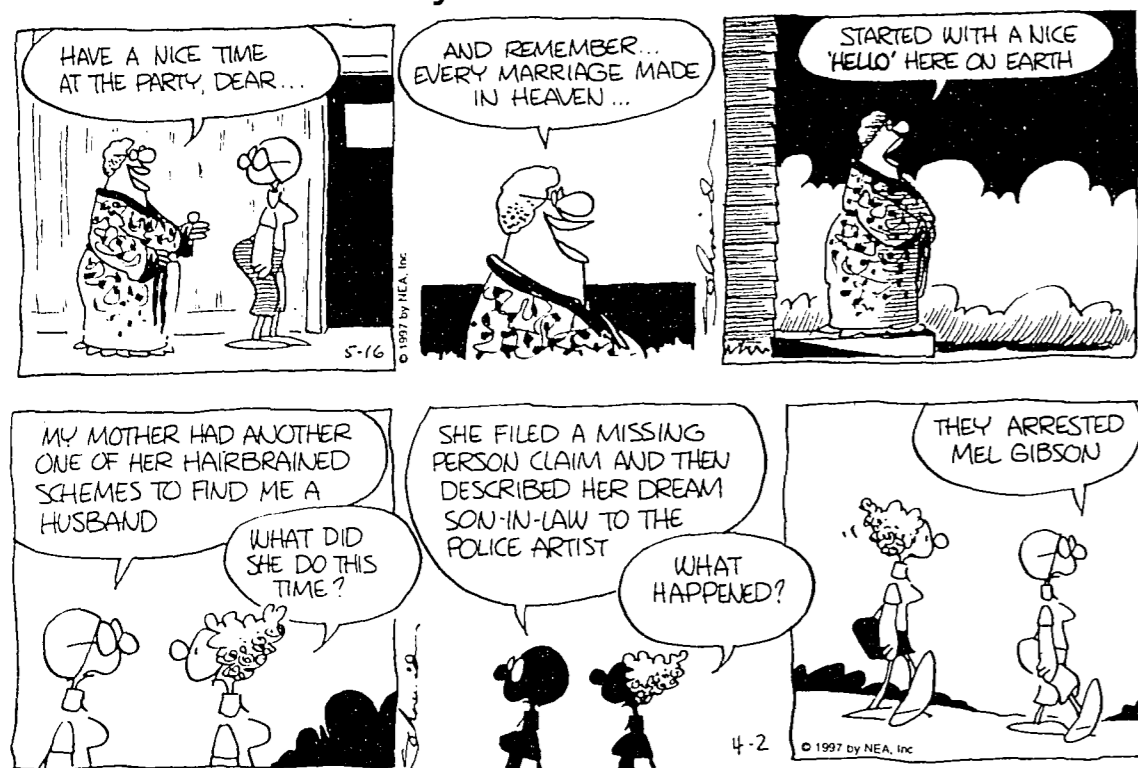
Tenorio, in an earlier interview, said he will ask Miller to conduct public hearings in the CNMI.

## Cabrera...

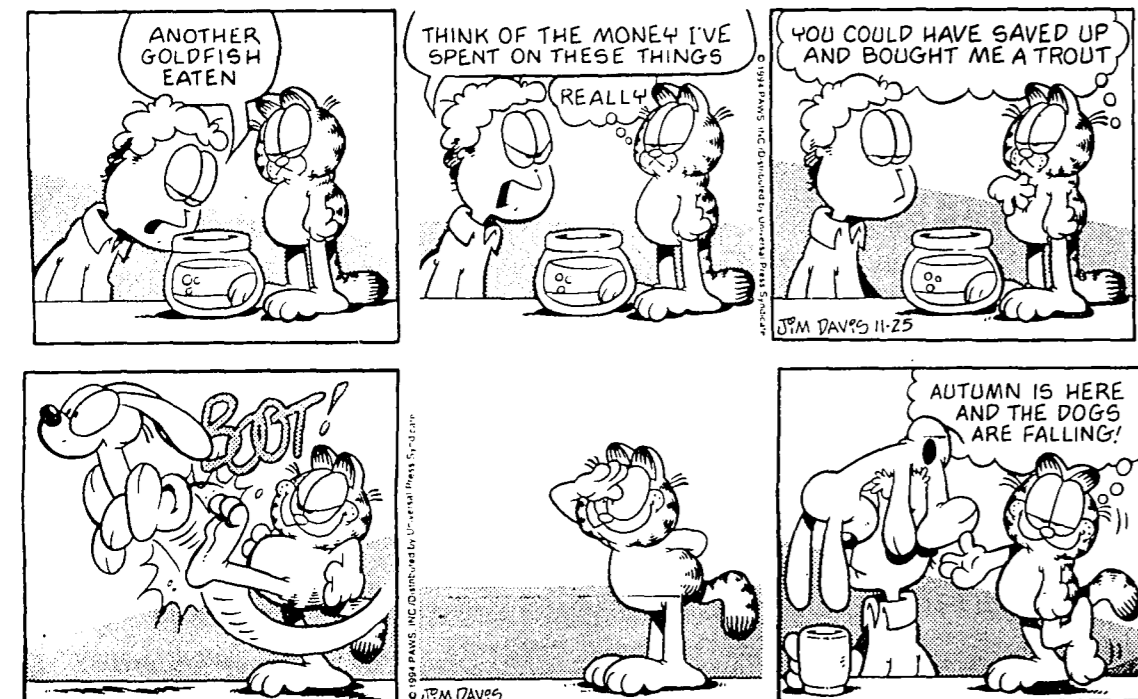
Continued from page 1

eign investors to the Commonwealth," the governor stated in his May 27 memorandum.

EEK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



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DATE BOOK

May 29, 1997
Today is the 149th day of 1997 and the 51st day of spring.
TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1660, England's Charles II was crowned, marking the restoration of the English monarchy.
On this day in 1790, Rhode Island became the 13th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

On this day in 1973, Tom Bradley was elected the first black mayor of Los Angeles.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Patrick Henry (1736-1799), American patriot; G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936), writer; Oswald Spengler (1880-1936), writer; Bob Hope (1903-), comedian, is 94; T.H. White (1906-1964), writer; John F. Kennedy (1917-1963), U.S. president; Al Unser (1939-), auto racer, is 58.
TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1985, 39 soccer fans were killed when a riot erupted during a match between England's Liverpool club and Italy's Juventus in Brussels, Belgium.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!" - Patrick Henry
TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1896, more than 3 inches of rain fell on Cloverdale Ranch in Nevada.
SOURCE: 1997 Weather Guide Calendar, Accord Publishing, Ltd.
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Stella Wilder's "YOUR BIRTHDAY" will resume next week.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Boxer Max
5 TV network
8 Mardi
12 Ireland
13 Deface
14 Ms. Falana
15 Kind of cheese
16 Individual
17 Wollhound
18 Courtyards
20 Pathways
22 Diamond ID
23 Feminine suffix
24 Former Celtics great
27 Something attended to first
31 Boxing great
32 Lower forelegs
33 CD-
34 Making apertures
36 Phi - Kappa
37 Linden namesakes
38 "Magnum."
39 She was one of "Charlie's Angels"
42 Addams Family Uncle
46 Take for a (swindle)
47 Call - day
49 Labor Day mo.
50 Garfield's pal
51 Dine
52 Robert -
53 Caresses
54 Grads-to-be
55 Pegs for Tiger Woods

Answer to Previous Puzzle
WHO ARIAT PLOP
HEN JIBE EIRE
AIR ABOLITION
TRUER ALLS
SI DRY HOSS
FGH CID ROSIE
LE IAN MAP CHL
ERROR PIE GHA
DEAN VEX BL
INIT APEAR
PIZZERIAS ELA
BRIE UTAH SLY
SAPS SERE EYE
DOWN
5 Biblical character
6 Forbid
7 Originating
8 TV's Starsky
9 Cylinder
10 Wing-like
11 Without
12 Hypothetical force
21 Belonging to Judge Lance
23 Moran and Gray
24 - relief
25 - Fly Away?
26 - de Janeiro
27 Philadelphia
28 Anger
29 Youngster
30 - Sumac
32 Remain
35 - Company
36 "Day by Night" star
38 H.S. gym class
39 Cut short
40 Conceal
41 Revise
42 Domino
43 Distant (comb. form)
44 Fencing sword
45 Hwy's.
48 Sailor

KidSpot

CONNECT THE NUMBERED DOTS TO MAKE A PICTURE. TO FIND ITS NAME, PUT THE FIRST LETTER OF EACH NUMBERED DRAWING IN THE BOXES.
THERE WAS A
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
NAMED BRETT. HE LIVED IN THE BAMBOO FORESTS OF CHINA AND TIBET.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

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NBA West Finals

Jazz beats Rockets, 96-91

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - The MVP finally had the kind of game everyone was waiting for. Karl Malone broke out of an eight-day bout with mediocrity Tuesday night, scoring 29 points in his most productive offensive game of the Western Conference finals as Utah defeated Houston 96-91 in Game 5.

Malone, who shot 11-for-22 from the field - including 7-for-11 in the second half - also shut down Charles Barkley defensively to move the Jazz within one victory of the U.S. National Basketball Association Finals. "This one right here was so-so as far as I'm concerned," Malone said. "I can do better."

Malone, who had been saying "I'm due" for the better part of a week, grabbed 14 rebounds, shot 7-for-8 on free throws and handed out four assists. Several of his shots were rally-killers in the second half, when the Rockets refused to go down easily despite falling behind for good in the second quarter.

Malone, who averaged 27.4 points on 55 percent shooting this season but just 22 points on 43 percent this-

also locked up the victory with two free throws with 13 seconds left that gave Utah a 96-89 lead.

"Sometimes you forget what Karl Malone can do for your team, but when the game's all done you notice. He came up with a heck of a game tonight," Jazz guard John Stockton said. "I knew Karl was going to come back ready to play." It was the 22nd straight home victory for the Jazz, who haven't lost at the Delta Center since Feb. 23. They will look to wrap up the series Thursday night in Houston, but they'll have to become the first team to win a road game in this series.

Six Utah players scored in double figures. Stockton had another strong game with 17 points. Bryon Russell scored 13, Jeff Hornacek 11 and reserves Howard Eisley and Antoine Carr had 10 each.

Hakeem Olajuwon scored 33 points for Houston, while Clyde Drexler had 15 and Matt Maloney 14.

Barkley, who unsuccessfully tried to draw Malone into a trash-talking duel in the first half, finished with just 10 points on 3-of-6 shooting. And he

did almost nothing after making two 3-pointers in the first 3 1/2 minutes of the game.

"I thought it was the best game we played in the series," Barkley said. "We got our butts kicked the first two times we played here, and in this game we had a chance to win. That will be encouraging for me on Sunday (a possible Game 7)."

Part of the reason for Barkley's poor showing was Malone, who held his ground against Barkley in one-on-one isolations better than he did last weekend when the Rockets won two straight games to tie the series.

Malone also found the range on his turnaround jumper, which has become his bread-and-butter shot.

"If he keeps making that fadeaway jumper, I'll shake his hand after the series and say good luck against the Bulls," Barkley said.

Malone's performance put the Jazz in position to go where they've never gone - the NBA Finals - after four appearances in the conference finals over the past six years.

Pangelinan... Continued from page 20

the other newest members of the elite batting club.

Moses tallied four hits in 14 attempts to crash the top 10 at seventh with a .286 norm while Kapileo is in ninth batting .267 on 4 of 15 swings for the Braves.

Sablan, on the other hand, is tied with San Roque's Jeremiah Suel for the 10th spot with similar .250 norms. Leeroy Camacho and Joe Flores comprised the rest of the league's leading batters with their .294 and .286 averages.

In the pitching category, Kapileo followed Michael's lead jumping from nowhere to grab the lead from Jonathan DL Santos and Robert Bansil. Kapileo took the lead after improving to a league's best earned run average (ERA) of 1.64.

The Tanapag mainstay gave up 13 hits and six earned runs in 25 1/3 innings.

Bansil remained at second with his ERA of 2.06 while DL Santos dropped to third. DL Santos gave up nine hits and five earned runs in the previous week as his ERA soared from 1.34 to 2.47.

J. DL Guerrero is in fourth while Pua fell from third to fourth.

1997 CNMI Senior League Baseball

Table with columns: Name, Team, AB, H, Avg. Batting Leaders-Based on 11 or more times at bat. Includes names like Michael Pangelinan, Eric Lizama, Robert Bansil, etc.

DL Guerrero gave up four hits and three earned runs in six and 2/3 innings for an ERA of 3.15 while Pua yielded 11 hits and five earned runs in nine 1/3 innings for a 3.75 ERA.

Suel kept his lead in the runs department with 10 while Flores and Camacho are still sharing the pace in

the doubles with two apiece. In other categories, Hans and Suel are still on the triples division with two apiece while Bansil and Lizama likewise share the top spot in the homerun department with two homers each.

Lizama, however, is all alone on top the RBI race with nine.

Santos... Continued from page 20

Espirito settled for the runner-up purse worth a total of \$345 in cash and valuable prizes. It included a \$150 cash prize, a custom detailing job compliments of Tires to

Go and a Corner Pocket Shirt.

In the battle for third, Sablan outclassed Durumpili to finish third in the tournament. For his efforts, Sablan won a \$30 cash prize, a bottle of Seagrams 7 and a shirt.

Durumpili took home a t-shirt for his fourth place performance.

A total of 14 players, that included Rico Nisazar, Senen Pangelinan, Agie Agular, Terry Huber, Wayne Shimabakuro, Allan Leung and Joe Mantanona, competed in the tournament sponsored by Corner Pocket, Budweiser, Tires to Go and Seagrams 7.

Race... Continued from page 20

The two finalists battled to a close match in the first set before Tiosejo took a one set lead with a 7-6 victory. In the second set, Tiosejo secured the beginners' title with a 6-2 win.

In the Women's 4.0, Matty halted Yuko Kobayashi's title bid to take the title.

In the Mixed Doubles events, Race teamed up with Mingy Kim in outclassing the Ely and Matty Buenaventura tandem to win the 6-6 for the title.

Kana Aikawa won the Girls' 12

5.0 title.

Jesse Remington and Ganiere needed to go through the full route before subduing the stubborn pair of Earl Maslin and Shenbu Furra for the 3.0 crown.

Remington and Ganiere took the first set, 6-2 but Maslin and Furra came alive in the second set, 6-4 to forge a deciding third set.

In the final set, Remington and Ganiere played steadier in the homestretch to hack out a close 7-6 win for the title.

Kana Aikawa won the Girls' 12

and under by drubbing Mae Suzuki, 6-2, 6-4 while Ramsey Lemachi took the Boys' title with a 6-0, 6-2 win over Gave Boyer in the finals.

In the 18 and under divisions, Eun Sung Jang edged Tadishi Yoshimura in three sets, 7-6, 3-6 and 6-4 to take the Boys' crown while Kim outplayed Momoko Kobayashi, 6-0, 6-4 for the Girls' title.

A total of 100 players from Guam, Japan and Saipan saw action in the three-day event.

Braves... Continued from page 20

of the 11 batters he faced in the last 3 and 2/3 innings as the Braves silenced the Mariners the rest of the way for their fourth win in five starts.

Mike Pangelinan led the Braves

JV Pangelinan and Anton Torre knocked in one RBI apiece.

Overall, the Mariners' pitching rotation yielded 12 hits that resulted in nine earned runs.

Reyes paced the losing team with a 2 of 3 attempts at bat with two runs.

The Mariners are still winless in five games.

Despite... Continued from page 2

No sitting president has ever testified in open court, the justices noted.

"The high respect that is owed to the office of the chief executive, though not justifying a rule of categorical immunity, is a matter that should inform the conduct of the entire proceeding," Stevens said.

He said the court did not decide whether a judge could compel the president to appear in court at any specific time or place.

"We assume that the testimony of the president... may be taken at the White House at a time that will accommodate his busy schedule and that, if a trial is held, there would be no necessity for the president to attend in person, though he could elect to do so," Stevens wrote.

Jones, who has been living in Los Angeles for about three years with her husband, was described by a friend as jubilant. "The two of us just screamed and yelled and

cried," said Susan Carpenter-McMillan.

Jones' lawyers, Gilbert Davis and Joseph Cammarata, called the ruling a resounding victory. It shows that "she was willing to stand up against privilege, power and position to redeem her reputation," Davis said.

A settlement of the case without trial might be possible, the two lawyers said. "Some kind of admission (by Clinton) ... and something that could be interpreted as an apology would certainly go a long way" toward reaching a settlement, Davis said.

Clinton's lawyers still can seek dismissal of Jones' claim on other grounds.

Jones says Clinton summoned her to a Little Rock hotel room in 1991, exposed himself to her and asked her to perform a sex act. He was governor of Arkansas at the time and she was a state worker.

She sued in 1994 and is seeking \$ 700,000 in damages.

Clinton has denied ever having an encounter with Jones and has said he cannot recall whether they ever met.

'Greater'... Continued from page 2

wide as he signed the Russia-NATO accord. He pointed at a camera above his head and waved. And he sealed the deal with a kiss - planting a loud, wet one on the cheek of NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana.

Clinton and Yeltsin steered clear of their differences. The Russian leader has said NATO promised to keep nuclear weapons out of the new NATO territories; the United States says no such promise was made, although the alliance has no plans for such weapons or permanent combat troops in new NATO states.

With criticism heavy in Russia and the United States, Clinton said, "This new NATO will work with Russia - not against it."

French President Jacques Chirac said that with the accord "we will be turning the page on half a century of lack of understanding, of confrontation of division on our continent."

The agreement also was hailed by Eastern European leaders hoping to gain entry to the alliance. "The charter means Russia's silent agreement to NATO expansion to the East," Polish Foreign Minister Dariusz Rosati said.

NATO plans to invite new members at a July 8-9 meeting in Madrid. Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary are leading candidates.

# SPORTS



## 1997 Senior League Baseball

# Braves take solo lead

Team Standings	W	L
Tanapag Braves	4	1
San Roque D-9ers	3	1
S. Stevedore Cougars	3	2
UIC Mariners	0	5

**By Erel A. Cabatbat**  
*Variety News Staff*  
 THE TANAPAG Braves routed the UIC Mariners, 21-4 last Tues-

day night to take the solo lead in the 1997 CNMI Senior League Baseball at the Francisco M. Palacios Ball Field. The Mariners were only in the game in the first two innings before the Braves leaned on a hot batting streak in the last three innings to break away from the close game.

UIC was ahead by two, 3-1 going to the bottom of the second when Emilio Manahane and JV Pangelinan drove in one RBI single each to ignite a six-run Tanapag blitz as the Braves took the lead for good, 7-3.

After a scoreless third inning, Harlan Reyes scored in the top of the fourth as the Mariners trimmed

the Braves' lead into three runs. It proved to be the team's last stand.

In the changeover, Manahane and Delbert Pua scored one run apiece as the Braves increased the advantage to five, 9-4.

Good defense by the Braves kept the Mariners scoreless in the next inning.

Despite its big lead, Tanapag

continued to pepper the Mariners' bullpen with hits.

Holding a 10-4 advantage, Hans Pua and Cris Pangelinan delivered two RBIs each to highlight a crippling 11 run Braves' explosion in the bottom of the sixth for the final score.

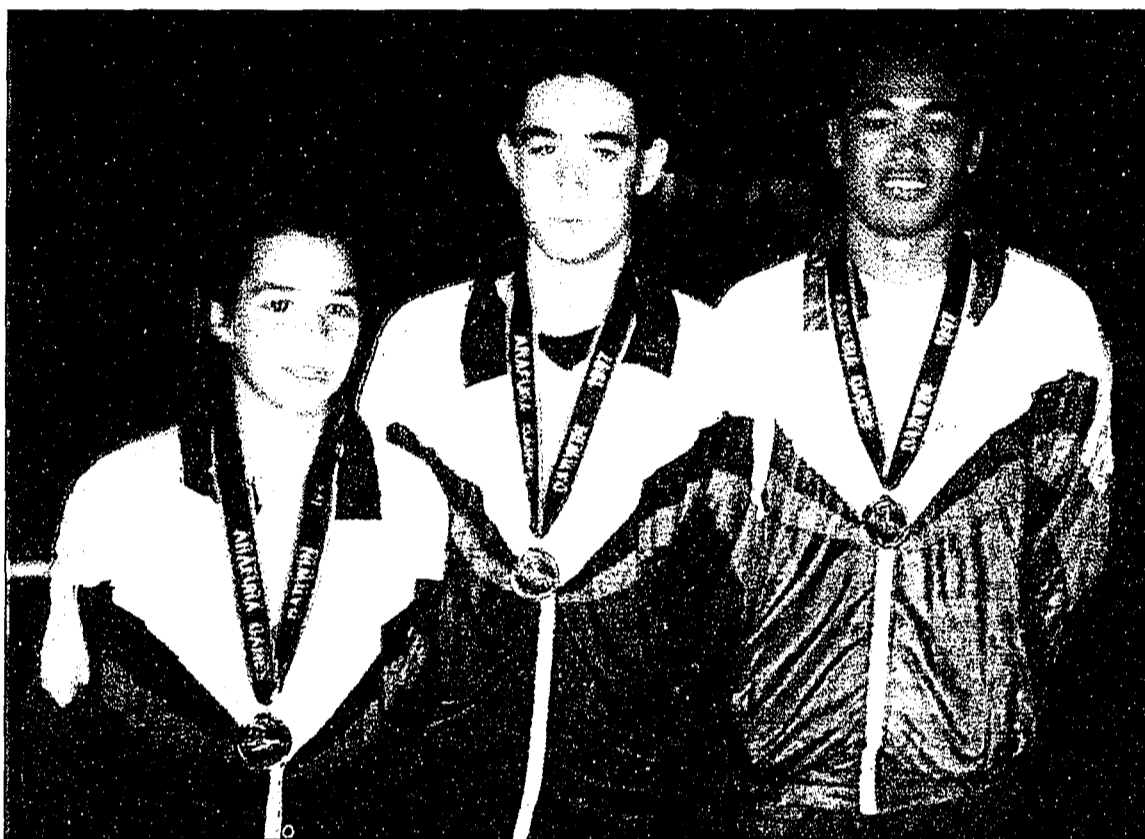
Kevin Kapileo struck out eight  
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### 16th Annual DFS Micronesian Championships Race, Lee Sang win 5.0 titles

**By Erel A. Cabatbat**  
*Variety News Staff*  
 JEFF RACE and Wendy Lee Sang beat their respective opponents in the finals to rule the Men's and Women's 5.0 divisions of the recently concluded 16th Annual DFS Saipan Micronesian Championships at the Pacific Islands Club's Tennis Court. Race defeated doubles partner Peter Sinclair in straight sets, 6-1, 6-0 to win the men's crown for the third straight year. In the women's action, Lee Sang prevailed over Michelle Ganiere, also in straight sets, 6-1, 6-2 to take the title. Other winners include Guam's

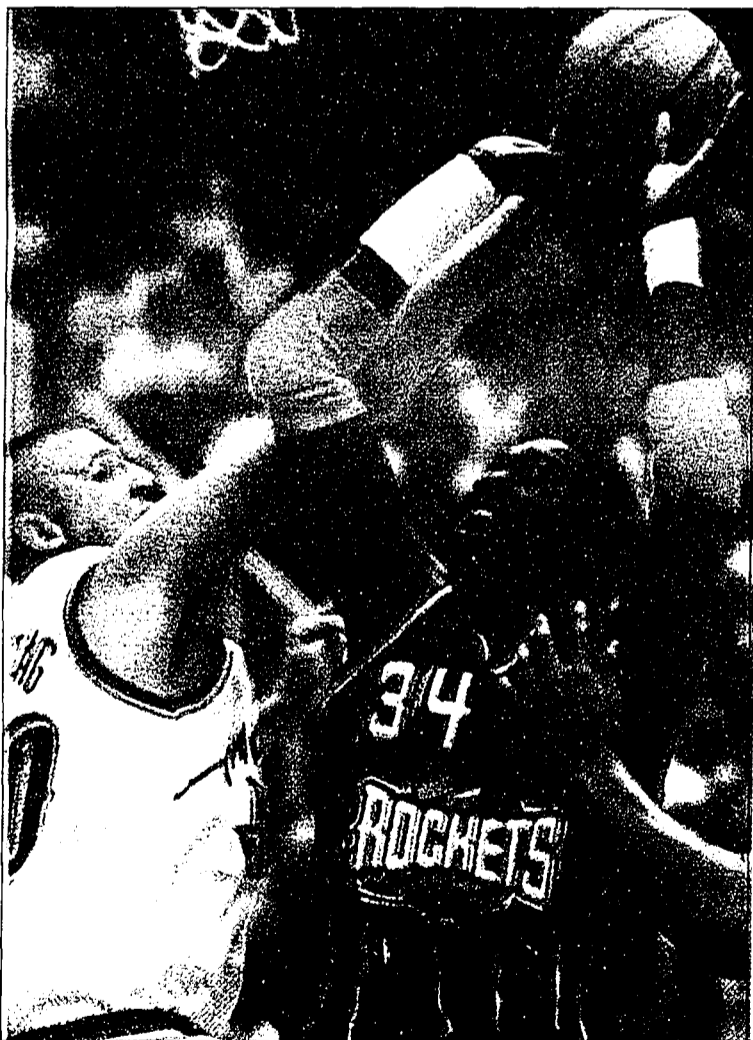
Curt Wyatt, Bong Gamab, Ely Buenaventura, Nonie Tiosejo and Matty Buenaventura. Wyatt bagged the 4.0 title after beating local bet Franz Reksid, 6-4, 6-3 in the finals. Gamab joined the winners' circle by outlasting Eddie Tanghal, 6-2, 6-3 to win the Men's 3.0 division. Buenaventura came out of an early retirement in trouncing Kitagawa, 6-1, 6-4, in the finals of the Men's over 40 division. Tiosejo registered one of the upsets of the tournament by beating Rhoda Smith in a two set thriller in the Women's 3.0 bracket.

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CNMI's pride—Tracy Feger (from left), Justin Pierce and Jacoby Winkfield proudly show the medals they won in the recently concluded 1997 Arafura Games held in Darwin, Australia. Feger won a bronze in the 100m backstroke, Pierce, a gold in the 200m breaststroke and Winkfield, a silver in the 100m breaststroke.

Photo courtesy of Bill Sakovch



Utah Jazz Greg Ostertag fouls Houston Rockets Hakeem Olajuwon during the first period of the fifth game of their NBA Western Conference Finals in Salt Lake City. The Jazz won 96-91 to take a 3-2 lead. AP

### Santos rules 9-ball event

**By Erel A. Cabatbat**  
*Variety News Staff*  
 ERIC SANTOS outplayed Roger Espiritu in the finals to win the Corner Pocket/Budweiser Race to Seven Billiards Tournament held recently at Corner Pocket in Garapan. Santos came up with the clutch shots in the championship game to frustrate Espiritu and take the \$500 top prize and a Corner Pocket shirt. Santos opened his championship run by whipping Tom Castro in the first round to enter the semifinals. In the round of four, Santos whipped Randy Sablan to enter the finals. Espiritu, on the other hand, trounced Apol Javier in his first game then drubbed Roy Durumpili in the semifinals to clinch the other finals' berth.

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### 1997 Senior League's statistical race Pangelinan, Kapileo grab driver's seats

**By Erel A. Cabatbat**  
*Variety News Staff*  
 BOOSTED by his 4 of 5 performance in his last game, Michael Pangelinan grabbed the batting leadership from Eric Lizama while Kevin Kapileo emerged as the new pacesetter in the pitching category in the 1997 CNMI Senior League Baseball at the Francisco M. Palacios Ball Field. In the latest statistics given by LL Deputy Administrator Tony Rogolifo, Pangelinan improved to a league's best .625 after belting 10 hits in 16 plate appearances for the Tanapag Braves. What made Pangelinan's feat more significant was the fact that the Tanapag slugger is not even included in the previous week's top 10 batting list. Tanapag's awesome win over

the Mariners (*see related story*) also catapulted two other Braves in the top five of the batting order. Hans Pua and Cris Pangelinan jumped to the fourth and fifth spots after hiking their batting norms to .353 and .333 respectively. Pua knocked in six hits in 17 attempts at bat while Cris slammed six hits in 18 plate appearances. Lizama, who played idle for the whole week, dropped to second in the overall standings with his .571 norm after racking eight hits in 14 attempts at bat for the Saipan Stevedore Cougars. Robert Bansil of the San Roque D-9ers remained in third with a .462 average after connecting on six hits in 13 swings. UIC Mariners' Adwayne Moses, Kevin Kapileo and JR Sablan were

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