

More Park, Beach Funds Coming

Guam's park and beach development plans have been given a boost by U.S. Department of the Interior priorities that will increase the availability of federal funds for acquisition and accretion of play areas here.

Director of Commerce Joe Diego said yesterday that the program will greatly enhance Guam's recreation land plans appropriation was a meager

\$6,000 compared to other years. It ran as high as \$99,888.55 in 1966 and \$71,816 last year.

"The new emphasis under the direction of the Department of Interior will work hand in glove with Guam's own programs," Diego said. He said both his department and Land Management have already outlined this year's projects and estimated the cost. With the hope of more funds, Diego said, such projects as the Dededo Botanical Garden will be more than a plan on paper this year.

Park and recreation plans here also encompass the acquisition of military land that has been declared excess and turned back to the Interior Department. Nimitz Beach is one such example, Diego said. With the Interior Department's action to open federal properties - now under-utilized - by the public, "Nimitz Beach will belong to GovGuam by the end of this year," he said.

The method of acquiring land from the military here will remain the same, Diego said. The military must first declare an area "excess" which then goes to the Department of the Interior. GovGuam must apply to Interior to acquire that area, Diego said.

Another federal area that can become GovGuam's is Two Lovers Point which is now leased by GovGuam annually. Funds for recreation development here will be matching "50-50" Diego said. Before, the funds were outright grants.

Five major projects compiled by Land Management and Commerce will be submitted for Interior Department approval later this month. Diego feels these projects could all be federally funded - with

GovGuam sharing the expense - this year.

The \$1.65 million Agana Boat Basin plan is a joint venture project of GovGuam and the Army Corps of Engineers, which has committed \$1 million under the Rivers and Harbors Act. GovGuam will eventually pay \$650,000 by the time it is completed in the next two years. Phase I for this year will cost GovGuam approximately \$50,000.

A scenic route and park identification plan will be designed as a self-guided tour to the most popular destinations. The \$48,000 project will include printing brochures in English and Japanese.

A \$50,000 proposed master plan for an Ypao Beach Park improvement will be submitted to the Interior Department for approval. The overall cost for the project will total \$479,000 and will be constructed in fiscal 1975.

A botanical garden and plant nursery, costing \$37,085, is planned for this year. The project will incorporate 120 acres of GovGuam land now partially utilized as a small nursery to provide a stock of ornamental plants for the park system here.

Although Nimitz Beach Park is earmarked as part of the federal Pacific National Historical Park, immediate improvements are necessary. They are enhancing the parking lot and building a beach pavilion. This will cost \$45,000. GovGuam maintains some 89 acres of beach property, with private holdings amounting to 63 acres. The military owns 51 acres of beach property, according to local Department of Commerce figures. With the new emphasis on acquiring recreational areas, funds can now be directed to buying

private property for parks use



TONY TAN and his algae vacuum

Ronck At Work

First and foremost in the Northern Pacific is the apparently changing status of many of the Micronesian Islands, the Northern Marianas especially, and the obvious eventual demise of the Trust Territory of the Pacific.

Secondly, we view Japanese prime minister Tanaka's visit to the Asian countries that rim the Western Pacific with mixed emotions, especially when one of the subjects of his visit in the Philippines presumably concerned the possibility of Japanese defense of Southeast Asia. Of course, Tanaka's welcome in Thailand was less than enthusiastic, and may spell out changes in Japanese policy throughout Southeast Asia. We doubt that, in the foreseeable future, this policy change will include much for defense.

Many people believe that, after Vietnam, the U.S. influence in the Pacific is dissipating among the winds and currents of the world's greatest ocean. These same experts feel that if the U.S. does bow out, militarily, or economically, a vacuum would be created, and Japan, Russia, or China will rush in to fill it. We're not so sure.

It may be that the smaller nations of the Pacific, under the leadership of Australia, and New Zealand, will be trying the fill that vacuum with some kind of alliances of their own. First it was Australia's Prime Minister Gough Whitlam who kicked over many of the British Commonwealth traces and served notice that the Down Under continent was making its own trade and defense alliances. . . . come what may. It has done so, with both Red China and Hanoi. Australia and New Zealand are similar in nature, and now both seem to be searching for some alternative political and economic grouping in the Pacific. New Zealand's Norman Kirk is now off on a month-long Asian and island junket which may whittle out the beginnings of a common market of the South Pacific.

Experts believe that this new grouping, if it should form, would include Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia (which is island and Asian both), Fiji, Nauru, Western Samoa and Papua New Guinea. Eventually, it was said, such an organization might extend to the Philippines, Japan, Taiwan, and perhaps mainland Asia. At first, however, the nucleus will be the insular nations of the southern Pacific basin. The size of this region is larger than North America—although most of it is under water. It still makes up a major geographic and economic unit of the world's surface.

People of the world, used to power blocks like Europe, the U.S. and Japan, tend to forget that the nation called Indonesia contains the fifth largest population concentration in the world, over 120 million people, and that the continent of Australia possesses huge quantities of mineral resources, mostly untapped, or that New Zealand stands as one of the world's most efficient producers of meat, dairy and wool products, or that a large proportion of the world's supply of coconut oil, fish and phosphate is gleaned from the waters and islands flung across the Pacific, or that New Guinea, the world's second largest island, is perhaps the last great untapped frontier.

The day of the super-power dominance in the Pacific is over, and we believe that is true even with the U.S., although establishing the Marianas as a U.S. Commonwealth should shake up the other power-that-be around the Pacific. In the place of such super-powers, Kirk sees a regional unity wherein "the force of ideas, idealism and justice should replace naked power and conflict."

Fifty years ago the Pacific was fragmented among the major powers of the world, Great Britain, primarily, the U.S., France, Germany, and to a lesser degree, Japan. Then came the war, and almost total Japanese domination, broken up by U.S. at the cost of hundreds of thousands of lives. The U. S., Britain and France retained dominance for a while, but Britain faded fast, and France, while holding onto its islands, doesn't seem qualified to stay as a Pacific power. The U.S. seems to be pulling back at least in defense. It may be that Australia and New Zealand can forge some sort of regional union, or it may be that the Japanese will move back in to fill the vacuum. In either event, power in the Pacific, as it was before seems to have dissipated, and in the years immediately ahead, we'll see more winds of change. The people of Guam could do worse than watch with interest as these new unions, these new areas of interest unfold. JCM.

Those High Rises.....

Just a few years ago the idea of a high rise on Guam would have been ludicrous.

Now we have a half dozen or more buildings that fall into that category. And it's obvious that fires occur in high-rise buildings just like they do in other buildings—but surely they are much more difficult to fight. There has been no high-rise fire yet, and let's hope there never will be.

Everybody just assumes that architects, and engineers, and our fire department knows what they are doing, or they wouldn't allow this sort of building to be constructed in the first place. It wouldn't hurt for the territorial officials to go over building codes, to make sure

has recently experienced the SID of her six week old son, Aaron Bonito Ryan, it is my wish that a clarification be made. It was erringly reported in the Pacific Daily News that my son died of "accidental suffocation." The tragedy of Sudden Infant Death is not a freak accident. It strikes healthy, strong infants every 53 minutes in the U.S. yearly. It is estimated that between 10,000 to 35,000 infants aged one week to seven months die of this disease in a short year's span in the U.S. alone.

There is a great deal of research presently being conducted but very little is actually known as to why so many lives are claimed, yet SID is the number one cause of death in infants after the first week of life. It is a definite disease entity that is not accidental, predictable or preventable. Sudden Infant Death has no symptoms and it strikes all races and social classes. Investigators have affirmingly shown that suffocation is not a responsible factor. Nor is it caused by vomiting or choking.

A tremendous influx of erroneous interpretation and misinformation about SID widespreadly finds its way into the news media. The greatest misrepresentative cause is "suffocation in the crib." It is extremely wrong to mistakenly relay this to misinformed people. It can cause additional grief and pain for bereaved parents. I am not just speaking for myself but for thousands of mothers across the nation that have been subjected to such grief. I strongly urge anyone interested in receiving extensive

York 10036.

/s/Patricia Ryan

Dear Sir:

Through this medium, I would like to personally thank in behalf of the officers and members of the Santa Rita Youth Club the following individuals for their kindness and generosity in donating funds and candies to the children of Santa Rita. Had it not been for their willingness to help, the distribution would never have been possible.

The individuals are: Mr. and Mrs. Gil Santos, owners of the Santa Rita Market, Speaker F. T. Ramirez, Vice Speaker W.D.L. Flores, Senators J.U. Torres, P.J. Bordallo, F.G. Lujan and Mr. and Mrs. Esteban Torres.

We also would like to give thanks to the Fire Division of the Department of Public Safety for the use of their fire truck

Dear Editor:

The jingle goes, "Keep America Environmental Protection" While the movie ads went on to There's sex galore, starting to There's also murder, mayhem, If you can't trust Kung-Fu Who can you trust?" "Bring grandma along, don't forget We have some "goodies" that But on your way to the movie: Please don't litter We set the example Come and see our place glitter So I ventured to movies— And I was dismayed The place was immaculate Just like they said It wasn't long, though, before They do clean the area, but What lesson is this for all to see The censor's approval of violence When the jingle continues, "Keep Mind, land or air—why what

Sorry About TI

By Art Buchwald

WASHINGTON—For the first time in my life I am terribly embarrassed. At Christmas, a few weeks ago, I gave all my readers a present. It was the comet Kohoutek. I told you all that if you looked up in the sky from Christmas until January 31, you would see it. It was your comet, and it was given to you as a token of appreciation for how nice all of you had been to me in 1973.

You can imagine my consternation when I discovered the other day that Kohoutek had not been delivered, and I have received many letters of complaint asking where it was.

I immediately called the Universal Star Co. to find out what went wrong. After a dozen calls I finally managed to get the sales manager in charge of comets on the phone.

After I had explained the problem, he said rather tersely, "Kohoutek, Kohoutek? Oh yes, here it is. Your comet was recalled. It had a faulty tail and a bad paint job. We're trying to make repairs on it now."

"But," I protested, "I was promised a dazzling display of celestial brilliance which would fill the

thing since emerged from magnificent century. Y breathtaking

"Yes," said agency did there was a there—it's just "Well, I back."

"We can't if we refuse to see Koh Co. would get

I became I shall write Co. is a first comets."

"We're sorry exchanged for everybody