



The St. Croix Avis

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125TH YEAR

SAINT CROIX U. S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

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TEN CENTS

Union Threatens Action If Workers Disciplined

(AP)—Roy Gottlieb, Executive Director of the Virgin Islands Labor Union, says in a letter to the Commissioner of Public Works that if any of the 25 Public Works employees who have stayed off their job to protest the transfer of an office manager are suspended or dismissed "the full weight of our organization will be brought to bear in their behalf."

Gottlieb told The Associated Press that "we don't want to over-react" to what he called a "gross violation of the law which the Acting Governor is sworn to uphold." Acting Governor Cyril E. King originally ordered the transfer of Public Works Business office manager William Farrington "in the interest of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the department."

Employees of the office marched on Government House, with a petition calling for Farrington's return, and have since remained away from work. In a letter to the protesting employees over the signature of the department commissioner, the 25 were ordered to be back on their jobs today or face "disciplinary consequences."

The union claims that King violated the law because the transfer of Farrington is a demotion. Virgin Islands law requires that in the event action is taken to demote a government employee, charges must be preferred. This was not done in this case.

In his letter to Commissioner James Huston, Gottlieb says that the Government Employees Association of the union "hereby challenges the Acting Governor's order to effect the transfer of Mr. William Farrington from the Department of Public Works to the Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs."

'RECOVERY DAY' OBSERVED IN V.I.

Yesterday was a legal holiday in the Virgin Islands. Local government employees and bank employees, along with those in a number of island businesses, enjoyed their fifth consecutive day off, reports Associated Press.

The day is called Easter Monday, and a check with a number of clerics disclosed that as far as could be determined the day has no particular religious significance.

One priest said he thinks it is (Continued on page 12)

Farrington's transfer also involves the shifting of two other government employees, James Francis and Rufus Graham. Gottlieb states that both Francis and Graham "have made it clear that they are unwilling to accept their new assignments."

In a letter, Gottlieb said that on orders from King, a Finance

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Hotel Execs Repeating 'St. Croix Calling'

Prompted by the success of last years "St. Croix Calling," a group of the island's hotel men will repeat the project May 4-17 who, armed with 13,024 pieces of brochures extolling St. Croix, they will visit the mainland to call on

travel wholesalers. Dressed in identical uniforms, they plan to visit the mainland twenty agents each day. Cities to be covered include Miami, St. Louis, Chicago, Toronto, New York, cities in New Jersey and Connecticut, Boston, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Atlanta.

The cost of the project is being paid for solely by the hotels and in no way is the government involved.

Heading the group is George Thomas, manager of the Buccaneer. Charles W. Golt, owner-manager of Cane Bay Plantation, is handling stateside publicity, while Victor Gilbert, President of King's Alley Hotel, is clearing hotel reservations and handling local publicity. Hertz Rent-a-Car of St. Croix has volunteered to pay the cost of the rented cars used throughout the trip.

Among those going on the trip, in addition to the abovementioned, are Lon Southerland Jr. of Grapetree and Beach Hotels, Reg-

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4 Tents Stolen From Scout Camp

Four new Boy Scout wall tents valued at \$60 each have been stolen from the Great Pond Scout Camp at St. Croix. The tents are bright yellow, green and blue.

Vandalism has been going on at the campsite for some time with no one being apprehended as yet. Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the tents or know of person and persons having possession of the tents should notify the Department of Public Safety at Christiansted or Jaime Garcia, District Scout Executive, at 772-0934 or Samuel B. King, Scout Executive at 774-2752.



THESE TWO CO-EDS from the Virgin Islands are reigning as queens on the Morgan State College campus in Baltimore, Md. At left is Miss Phyllis L. Wallace, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lupercio Wallace of St. Thomas who was elected by the ROTC cadets as Miss ROTC. At right is Miss Olympia L. Vessup, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eric F. Vessup of Christiansted, who is Miss Overseas. A graduate of Christiansted High, Miss Vessup was in the band, glee club, Career Club, Future Homemakers of America, captain of the drill team, a cheerleader, Girl Scout, on the Youth Council, the yearbook staff and in Youth Fellowship. She is majoring in sociology.

BRITAIN DENIES ANGUILLA CHARGE

LONDON AP) — The British government has denied a charge by Anguillan leader Ronald Webster that it went back on an agreement made between Webster and Britain's Lord Caradon.

Speaking in Puerto Rico on his way to New York, Webster said the new British Commissioner on Anguilla, Anthony Lee, had dissolved a seven-man council and declared martial law.

The Foreign Office in London said yesterday nothing has been done that did not adhere to the plans worked out by Webster and Lord Caradon. The seven-man council of islanders had been dissolved by Lee, but under the new agreement all of the council members were re-instated.

The Foreign Office also denied that British Army Engineers on Anguilla were occupation troops.

It said the men are making improvements on the island and training islanders to take over after they leave.

Webster is expected to work out the problems at meetings with Lord Caradon in New York this week.

