

Champion Destinations

Destination of the Month: Submitted by Bruce Hood of Bruce Hood Travel, downtown Milton

Mexico - Mythical - But Lovely!

It's hard to believe - but there are still many people out there who wouldn't think of going to Mexico for their vacation, because of a past memory of their own, or more likely have been told of others who got the famous "Montezuma's revenge" when they visited the multi-choice country south of USA. On top of that, violence in some parts of the country gets wide-spread coverage in the news, so this adds more fuel to a reason for not considering Mexico, despite the many wonderful beaches, colonial streets, colourful marketplaces, and historic places to visit.

As for the 'troubles' with violence they are having mostly in one area of Mexico - remember it is a very big country, and this activity is taking place away from tourist or historic areas you would visit.

I GOT SICK!

On my first visit to Mexico many, many years ago (Puerto Vallarta - still one of my favourite places, such a beautiful mix of the old and the new) - I got sick! Yes, I fell victim to that 'revenge' thing, and probably rightly so, for the amount of food and drink I had that was 'different' to my normal type and amount. And this is the catch - we are in a country with a third world designation, and end up eating and drinking the drinks and their produce without any caution. Therein lies the problem - as in any place and even here at home, we can't overdo it in any one area of food or drink, or we will likely have problems! And things have changed there.

In Mexico, and many other countries too, the best guideline is - 'DON'T DRINK

THE WATER' (the locals don't drink it either - everybody drinks bottled water!), and as well, don't eat foods which have been washed in it. (The hotels and resorts have installed water systems which produce 'safe water' they use for drinking and cooking.)

Places like ACAPULCO, CANCUN, COZUMEL, IXTAPA, LOS CABOS, MANZANILLO, MAZATLAN, PUERTO VALLARTA, COPPER CANYON, LA PAZ, GUADALAJARA, MEXICO CITY, and in the past year the YUCATAN cities of MERIDA and PROGRESSO, are just some of the many locations I have been to over the many years since that first visit. NOT ONCE SINCE HAVE I BEEN SICK! So, the answer is - you can go there, have a wonderful time and enjoy this very interesting country, including the food and drinks, without a fear of illness - you just have to be careful of what and where you eat and drink, and the quantities, as you should anywhere you go!

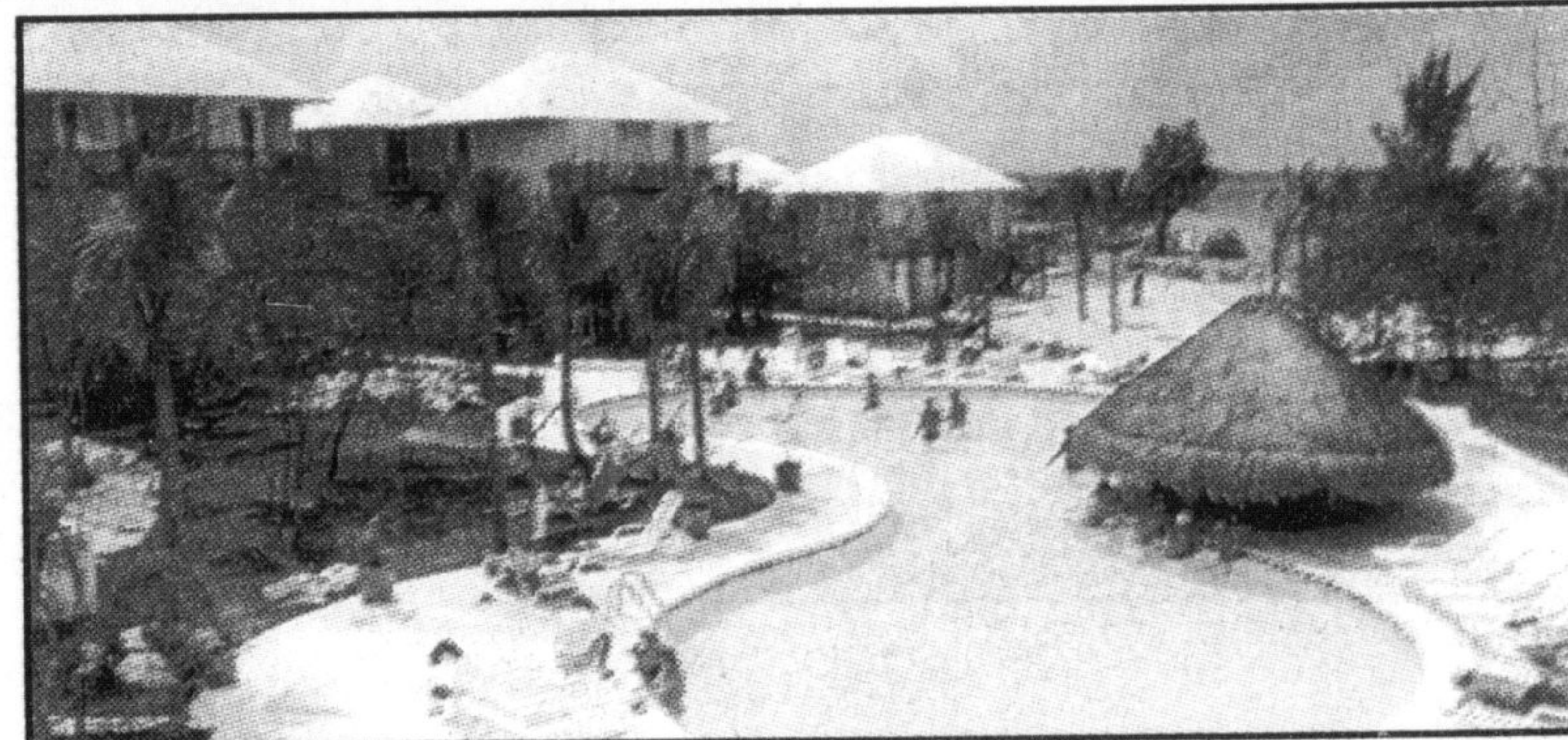
SO, PLAN TO GO!

There are so many great resorts, ecotours, a train trip through Copper Canyon (not to be missed!), a cruise on the Mexican Riviera, or see the ruins in the YUCATAN Peninsula. WORLD OF VACATIONS has added a brand new property here - all inclusive style MAYAOTEL BEACH RESORT, on the Gulf of Mexico, and only minutes from the many Mayan ruins throughout the area. I spent some time in the Yucatan this past winter, and the beaches, the historic sites, the architecture, and most especially the people, all made the visit really special

- a great place to go to.

FOR THE GOLFER, SIGNATURE VACATIONS has added a new property at SAN CARLOS north of Mazatlan on the west coast of Mexico, and golf is included in the package! Or SUNQUEST'S beautiful LORETTO property on the BAJA PENINSULA is another worth a look.

*There are lots and lots of other ways to VISIT MEXICO,



and as many great memories to bring home with you, and share with others, which will not likely include the 'm.r.' we mentioned earlier!



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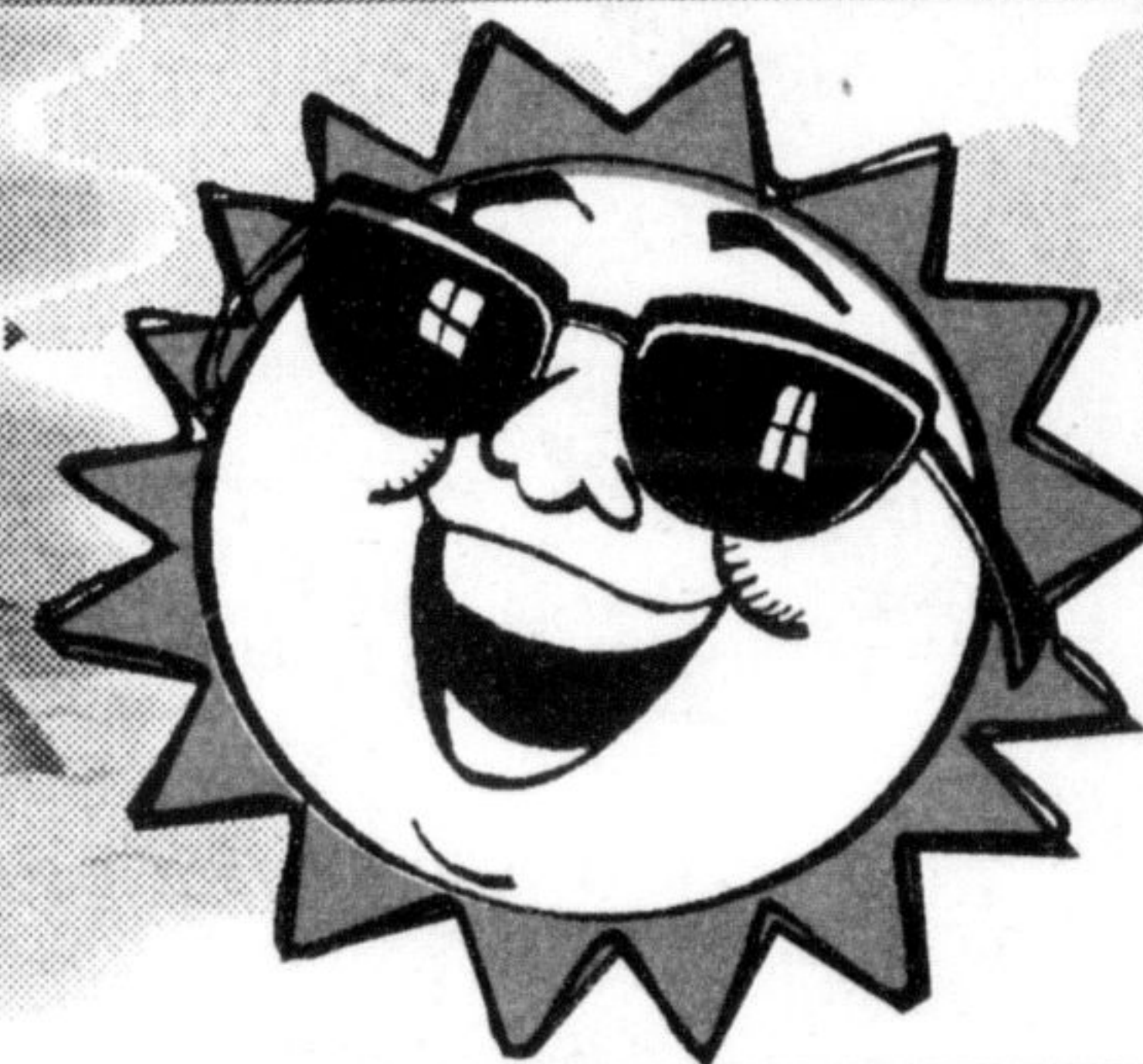
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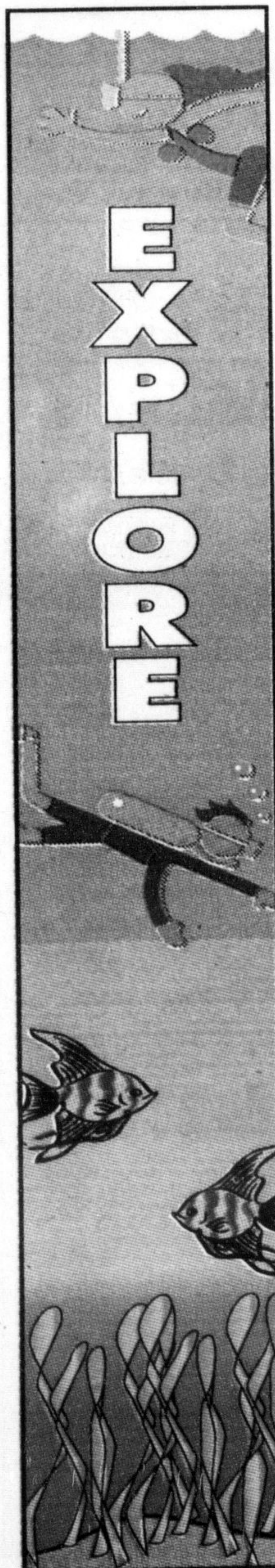
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