

TOKYO STEEL PROTESTS SEMIS PLACING

MEMBERS of the Tokyo Steel Orchestra are protesting what they deem "unequal treatment" at the Panorama semi-finals held on Sunday at the Queen's Park Savannah. Arranger Keith Salcedo said the band was not given a musical prelude, out of the 45 bands which entered and as such, neither the judges nor the audience were aware of what they were about to play.

Salcedo stated they were asked for the tune at the same time when they

were preparing to perform, so by that time, it was too late. He added that he is concerned about the comments from one of the judges whom he believes has a grudge against the band.

"We believe that it is a very deep rooted thing that occasioned this judgment," Salcedo said.

He said the members were so upset by the results that they are contemplating legal action.

Pan Trinbago president Patrick

Arnold said that the musical prelude was for the crowd and the judges are aware of the steel orchestra's choice of music. He added that although "Tokyo is responsible for giving the sound man the music," other bands have played without a musical prelude and have gotten into the final round of the competition.

He pointed out that there are even bands with original compositions who do not use any musical prelude.